

A Limerickman's Diary by Observer

Limerick Choral and Operatic Society

Will honour memory of Limerick tenor

ON Thursday next, October 26, at 4.30 p.m., a plaque to the memory of Joseph O'Mara will be unveiled by the Mayor, Alderman G. E. Russell, at Ozanam House, Hartstonge Street. This tribute to one of the world's great operatic tenors is paid by the Limerick Choral and Operatic Society, and it marks the 40th anniversary of O'Mara's death.

Joseph O'Mara devoted his life to the revival of public interest in grand opera, and it is fitting that his memory should be perpetuated by the members of the Limerick Choral and Operatic Society, who over the past decade have given unselfishly of their time and energy to the same cause. The Society's Public Relations Officer, Mrs. Mai McCann, told me yesterday: "Our tribute is to the memory of a great operatic tenor and, as an operatic society, we are proud to carry on the great musical traditions of this remarkable man."

She added that the Society had always felt that O'Mara's memory should be marked in some tangible way. They decided to have a plaque (suitably inscribed) erected at Ozanam House, where Joseph O'Mara resided for some years. The unveiling ceremony will, more or less, coincide with the Society's annual festival of grand opera which opens at the Savoy Theatre on November 15 next. After the ceremony there will be a reception in Cruise's Hotel for the members of the O'Mara family and the sponsors and guarantors of the

opera festival. The Society's gesture in honouring the memory of this great Limerick man, who won fame for his country and native city in the world's great cultural centres, will no doubt be deeply appreciated by the Limerick public. And it should do much to further the cause of grand opera in this city which has such a magnificent musical tradition. The Society has issued invitations to the following members of the O'Mara family to attend the unveiling ceremony. Mrs. Eileen Carton, Dublin; Mrs. Nora Cussen, Kildare;

Mr. Etienne Rynne, Galway; Mr. Michael O'Mara, Patricks-well; Mr. Frank and the Misses O'Mara, Ennis; Rev. J. O'Mara, S.J., Dublin; Rev. P. O'Mara, S.J., Dublin; Mrs. B. McMahon, Ennis; Miss Kate O'Brien, England; Mr. Jack O'Mara, Limerick; Mrs. Anne O'Mara, do.; Mrs. D. McMahon, do.; Mr. Peter O'Mara, do.; Miss Patricia O'Mara, do.; Mr. G. Barrett, Kildare, and Mrs. Ruth O'Mara; Mr. and Mrs. B. Carton; Mrs. Liam Flanagan, Mr. and Mrs. M. Carton, and Mr. and Mrs. Kelly, all of Dublin.

Brilliant record as player and referee

Latest Lines in Art

"THE Limerick team must put everything they have into the game if they are to stand up against Clare in the League." This is the opinion of Sean O'Connor, who refereed the Oireachtas hurling final between Clare and Kilkenny at Croke Park last Sunday. On to-morrow Sean will line out at left-full-back on the Cloughaun team that meets St. Patrick's in the County Senior Football Final.

Sean, who has made his name as a player and referee, began his hurling and football career with Lansdowne Rovers and won a juvenile hurling championship medal in 1946. Two years later he began his long innings with



He believes the Limerick City Board, of which he is Asst. Treasurer, did an excellent job this year despite being handicapped by shortage of pitches.

Limerick artist Ann Fitzgerald is spending a month in New York, where she is having a busy and exciting time. And, if her effort to break into the American market succeeds, her stay will be a lucrative one, too.

She has high hopes for her latest line in art—decorative tapestries for hotel lounges—which she is exhibiting in a New York gallery.

The tapestries have ancient Irish motifs, such as events from the "Diarmuid and Graine" epic, figures from the Book of Kells and a number of other early Irish and mediaeval sources done in

FAMILY