

# Will re-open for dancing in November

## STELLA IS SOLD

### BINGO TO GO ON

THE Stella Ballroom is to re-open for dancing in November. This well-known Limerick entertainment landmark has been purchased for an undisclosed figure by Mr. William Bird and family from the proprietors, Messrs. McDonagh and Co., and after a complete renovation has been carried out, the venue will again cater for dancing as well as bingo patrons.

Mr. Bird told our reporter to-day that every modern amenity will be installed to bring the Stella back to its former glory as a dancing centre in addition to maintaining its regular attraction for bingo patrons.

Just 30 years ago the Stella first opened its doors as a dancing centre and prior to its ceasing to exist as such a couple of years ago it rated as one of the best-known ballrooms in the country. For many, the Stella was the headquarters of the dancing world and for hundreds a dance at the Stella was something not to be missed. The Stella had an atmosphere all its own and some of the leading bands and orchestras in the country played there.

A new dance floor is to be laid and this and a new lighting system will be second to none.

#### SOCIAL ATTRACTIONS

Bingo patrons, of course, will continue to enjoy their regular sessions at the Stella. These gatherings have become one of the leading social attractions in the city and the new proprietors will see to it that it remains as such.

The Stella from now onwards will become an entertainment centre and will, it is hoped, be open on every night of the week

either for dancing patrons or bingo enthusiasts.

The Bird family have, for years, been associated with the entertainment life of this country. Birds Amusements are known the length and breadth of the country and since taking over the running of the bingo sessions at the Stella they have introduced a new sense of atmosphere into proceedings.

Mr. Michael Twomey, who has managed the Stella for the past four years has been invited to continue in this post under the new management. Messrs. Norman and Buddy Bird will have particular responsibility in catering for the dancing public, while Mr. and Mrs. William Bird, Senior, will continue to look after the interests of the bingo clientele. Mr. William Bird, Jnr., and Miss Marion Bird are other members of this family, while another son, Sandy, is in the hotel business in Kerry.

Body will be flown

### GARDAI HONOURED



Group pictured after the presentation of medals and certificates, to members of the Garda Síochána by the I.S.P.C.A. for meritorious service in the protection of animals, in the Town Hall. Included are Supt. P. J. Murphy, Mayor Feeney, Chief Supt. J. S. Flynn, Mr. E. Hawkins, Field Officer, I.S.P.C.A.; Garda John Harmon (silver and bronze medals).

Did not see the speed limit sign

NEW CASH AND CARRY STORE FOR LIMERICK

Speeding to Shannon

A Co. Kilkenny man, Joseph Neary, Main Street, Urlingford, told Justice M. de Burea at Friday's sitting of Limerick City Court that he exceeded the 30 m.p.h. speed limit on the Ennis Road on August 1st last because: "I was bringing a Yank to Shannon Airport and we were

### Pope can decide age to retire

The Vatican yesterday assured the Church's bishops that will not automatically be required to give up their dioceses on reaching the age of 75.

Archbishop Pericle Felici, secretary-general of the commission for implementing the work of the recent Vatican Council, said in a statement clarifying the position that Pope Paul would examine each case individually.

The statement said the Pope "reserves to himself the right to examine each case by itself, in view of a definitive solution, to be taken in the spirit of the Vatican Ecumenical Council and taking into due consideration all the circumstances."

Vatican observers said disquiet has been caused among some elderly cardinals and bishops who are reluctant to adhere to Vatican Council recommendations that all those with pastoral duties should retire at 75.

Pope Paul backed this recommendation in a letter on August 12, giving guidelines for implementing various results of the Council.

### Askeaton seek Harbour Board's aid

A letter was read by Mr. W. J. Knight, General Manager, at yesterday's meeting of Limerick Harbour Board Commissioners from Askeaton Parish Muir na Tire Guild regarding the proposed development of Askeaton and its waterway into a major tourist attraction and seeking the Commissioners' aid in dredging the lower stretch of the River Deel.

In the course of the letter it was stated that the Guild wanted help from the Commissioners in dredging the lower stretch of the River Deel because it was planned to stage many tourist attractions in Askeaton in 1967, and they included a first-class regatta with teams from Northern Ireland and England competing in sailing competitions and