

White Christmas for Tuesday Blue

By LEADER REPORTER

FIVE YOUNG Limerickmen are guaranteed a white Christmas but there will be little cake or turkey as members of the pop group Tuesday Blue sweat it out in Montreaux, Switzerland, where they are making their debut album with E.M.I. America.

"Three quarters of the album has been completed and E.M.I. are really excited—they believe that it has the potential to be the debut album of the year in America next year", says their proud manager, Hayman Harris.

In March after months of work, Tuesday Blue will release a single to be followed later by the album.

If both are successful—and E.M.I., who are pumping initially a quarter of a million dollars into the group, have no doubt but that they will be—then it should be stardom and plenty of world-wide gigs and money for the Limerick group.

It has been a very contrasting four years for the group who were on the brink of quitting when they got a breakthrough on television and were spotted by Adam Clayton of U2 who asked them to record a single on the Mother label.

"I remember us playing to just one person at one gig and to just 10 on another occasion", says drummer Ray Fean from Shannon; brother of guitarist Johnny Fean of Horslips fame.

The group were in Limerick last week and before they flew back to their Swiss base where they are recording with producer Dave Richards—who has worked with Dave Bowie, the Rolling Stones and many others—they spoke to the *Limerick Leader*.

One of the most striking and admirable things that can be said about these five ambitious and extremely talented young men is their tremendous pride and love of their home city.

Limerick is very important to



A golden future beckons Tuesday Blue, who are spending a White Christmas at Montreaux (from left): Dave Keary, Ray Fean, Ralph Lindheim, Tom Jones and Mike Ryan.

Mike Ryan, Belfield; Tom Jones, Clare Street; Ray Fean, Shannon; Ralph Lindheim, Raheen, and Dave Keary, North Circular Road.

All are very articulate. They hold contrasting views on different subjects. Unlike many groups they have no real image or gimmick. They have varying hairstyles highlighted by Ray's long locks and Ralph's gell-back look.

"Our ambition is not to fill Madison Square Garden but the Savoy in Limerick. . . Limerick has taken so much out of us", explained plain-speaking Ray.

They say it is very hard for groups no matter how talented to break through in Limerick, and recall playing to just one person in the Round House pub and around 10 in the Pitz Bar in the Savoy on another occasion.

They are confident in their own ability without being pushy and when asked, Mike, who is the lead singer, says: "Yes, we think we

will make it. There is no point in saying otherwise".

"We will have Christmas Day off as the producer will want to spend it with his family, but after that it will be back to work", Ray pointed out.

While all will miss their families at Christmas it will be that bit harder for keyboards player Tom Jones, the only one of the group who is married.

"It is fairly lonely, okay", he offers as he goes on to tell a hilarious story about their efforts to survive without "Ma's home cooking" in their two apartments.

They take turns at the chore. When Tom decided to roast a chicken and Ray intervened to help, the end product was smoke billowing from the cooker, the fire alarm going off and the local brigade arriving at the flat for the emergency.

Some days they can be working for 12 hours or longer but they do get breaks when the producer is

working solely with one of the group.

On the social front they have been reserving most of their energies for their work and getting to bed early but have managed to meet Eugene Chaplin, son of the great actor Charlie.

He showed them around the grounds of his home and they, as Mike put it, "had a great chat about his father".

Mike writes most of the group's lyrics and one of the songs, "Open Your Eyes", is all about Limerick and the many fine aspects of the city.

While Hayman Harris might be slightly biased in his view, many agree when he says: "The band could be the biggest thing to ever come out of Limerick, they could put Limerick on the world map. Hopefully Christmas next year they will be coming home to have a couple of concerts to packed houses in the Savoy".

Ten month sentence for car offence

"DON'T go down there. That f...er will ring the cops," was the warning overheard by a Detective Garda in plain clothes as he passed two youths near Barrington Street on December 3.

Detective Garda Daly told Limerick District Court that he kept an eye on the two youths after that.

Before the court was Patrick Tucker, 15 Griffith Avenue, Ballinacurra Weston, charged with getting into a mechanically propelled vehicle at Crescent Lane without the consent of the owner, with the larceny of £6 from the car and with malicious damage to the window of the car.

Previous

The court was told that the defendant, who resided with his elderly mother, had previous convictions but had stayed out of trouble for four years.

Garda Daly said that he saw the two youths going into Newenham Street and then saw the defendant going down O'Connell Street and doubling back.

"I went back to Barrington Street and both of them returned to the same place," he said.

Both youths, he said, were wearing gloves.

He saw the defendant's accomplice put his back to a car, heard a smash, and saw both of them opening a back door. He saw the defendant keeping a watch on Barrington Street while the accomplice got into the car and searched around. He saw the man putting something in his pocket.

Detective Daly said that £6 missing from the car was found on the accomplice.

Replying to Mr. John Hayes, solicitor for the defendant, he said that he had seen both youths leaning against the rear door of the car.

Justice Reilly imposed a ten month sentence.

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VEC CUT MEANS CLOSURES: CLAIM

By LEADER REPORTER

LIMERICK'S smaller vocational schools will have to close completely under the proposed budget and class-ratio proposals of the Department of Education, the Teachers Union of Ireland has claimed.

In other schools, practical sub-

demonstration classes.

"Over the years, County Limerick VEC has built up a stock of equipment comparable with anything to be found elsewhere in the country", he said, and described the equipment as the most modern available. These items of equipment would be left idle, while the teacher merely lectured the class, he added.

CHAMPION MUSICIAN MAKES DISC DEBUT

By LEADER REPORTER

IT'S DOUBTFUL whether or not Brian Boru's royal fort at Kincora ever resounded with fiddles and reels, but Killaloe's All-Ireland champion accordionist Martin Connolly has dedicated his first record to the "Fort of Kincora".

Making the record, with Amer-

brought up in".

He has a vast collection of fiddles and reels, many of them with incredible sounding names like "The night before Larry was stretched". Many were collected on his tours in the US.

He and his wife Claire and children Karl and Damien now live in Killaloe.

"The fort of Kincora" was recorded at the Denis Allen studio in Limerick.

If you want to Drink
That's your Business.

If you want to Stop
That's our Business.

CONTACT
Alcoholics Anonymous
PHONE 311222.