

Minister comments on 'Regional' HOSPITAL TO KEEP STATUS

LIMERICK Regional Hospital is not to be downgraded, says the Minister for Health, Mr. Sean Flanagan, in a letter to the Mayor of Limerick, Councillor Jack Bourke.

The Mayor had asked the Minister to clarify the situation regarding the future of the hospital.

The text of the Minister's letter—dated September 5th—was released by the Mayor yesterday.

It says:
"Dear Mayor Bourke,
"I have your letters of 20th August and 2nd September regarding the future status of Limerick Regional Hospital, Dooradoyle."

Mystified

"I must say straight away that I was completely mystified as to how a suggestion could have got about that the status of the hospital was to be reduced. As you know, I have indicated agreement in principle with the recommendations which have been published in the report of the Consultative Council on the General Hospital Services. In dealing with the Limerick area the report says (para. 9.40):—

"The general hospital service for this area, at present provided from a variety of hospitals should have its central focus on a major General Hospital in Limerick City. We consider that this hospital should be developed on the present Regional General Hospital site. It should provide a large part of the community bed requirements of the area together with the specialised services as described in previous paragraphs."

Services

"The specialised services recommended by the Council in the case of Limerick include, in addition to expanded radiology and pathology services, paediatrics, orthopaedics, ophthalmol-

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Eoin O'Kelly, President, Rotary Club of Limerick and Shannon, presenting a cheque for restoration work on St. Mary's Cathedral, to Very Rev. M. J. Talbot, Dean of Limerick. Also in the picture is Mr. Martin Pennington, Chairman, community service committee, Rotary Club of Limerick and Shannon.

Injured in mine fall

Joseph O'Connell, Ballygrauque, Nenagh, is detained in the Co. Hospital, Nenagh, with injuries received in a 40 foot fall in the mine shaft at the Silvermines, Nenagh, over the week-end.

O'Connell, a playing member of Nenagh Ormond R.F.C., is said to be in a satisfactory condition.

TIPP. GROUP PLAN TO HONOUR HURLER

THE Tipperarymen's Association in Limerick plan to make a presentation to the prominent hurler, Mick Roche.

The outgoing treasurer, Mr. Eddie Lawrence, said at the A.G.M. that the player had ren-

Suggestion

A suggestion was made from the attendance that a charity dance should be held to raise money for the annual contribution to a charitable organisation.

It was decided to refer the question of organising "45"

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Hyde Rovers, who qualified for the semi-finals of the Evans Cup by beating Crofton Celtic (Cork) by 6-1 at Pearse Stadium on Sunday.

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HOSPITAL TO KEEP STATUS

FROM PAGE ONE

ogy, ear, nose and throat, dermatology (out-patients) and routine isotope facilities in the nuclear medicine field. Specialist facilities in obstetrics and gynaecology would, of course, continue to be provided in the Regional Maternity Hospital.

"I do not think I need to say more to dispose of the suggestion that there was any proposal to lower the status of the hospital in Dooradoyle.

"As regards the motion for consideration at Friday's meeting of the health authority, I wonder if the objection to the Council's recommendations on the location of Regional Hospitals arises from an argument about titles or from something more fundamental.

"The Council used the description 'Regional Hospital' in reference to the particular functions of the hospital and to its position of association with a medical school. This is clear from the description of the Regional Hospital given in paragraphs 3.23 to 3.29 of the report. (These paragraphs read in conjunction with Chapter 6 of the report, dealing with specialist services, explain the basis on which the Council arrived at the conclusion that Regional Hospitals, as defined by them, should be established at Dublin, Cork and Galway only.)

Advanced

"I regard the Council's recommendations about the necessity to concentrate specialist in-patient services, particularly in the case of advanced work, as their most significant recommendation.

"They have argued most convincingly that this should be done both in the interests of the patients and as the only effective way of bringing together the variety of specialisms and skills which are increasingly required in the performance of advanced work.

"I do not know what arguments will be advanced in support of the motion, but I would suggest that the health authority would be ill advised to adopt it unless they can cite a body of expert medical opinion in support of it. This, I think, they are unlikely to find.

"Indeed, it was remarkable how wide the agreement was about the soundness of the main theme of the Council's report when it was discussed in conjunction with the annual general meeting of the Irish Medical Association.

Bord na nOg Fixtures

October 6:

At Dean Punch Park, 11 a.m. Under-15 Hurling League semi-final: Eire Og v. St. Brendan's. Ref. W. Hurley.

At Dean Punch Park, 12 noon. Under-15 Hurling League (play off): St. Patrick's v. Treaty Sarsfields. Ref. W. Hurley.

October 12:

At C.B.S. Field, 3.30 p.m. Under-15 Hurling League semi-final: Old Christians v. St. Patrick's. Ref. D. Jackson.

At Shelbourne Park, 3.30 p.m. Under-15 Hurling League semi-final: Old Christians v. Treaty Sarsfields. Ref. B. Cobbe.

October 13:

At C.B.S. Field, 12 noon Under-15 Hurling League Qr Final: St. Brendan's or Eire Og v. Old Christians. Ref. P. Quilligan.

Water ski-ing championship

Wicklow water ski-ing team which competed in the first inter-county championships to be held in Ireland, was placed second out of an entry of eight.

The championships were held at Rosstown, Co. Donegal, and Wicklow team who lost to Down consisted of David Kenny, Roger Steadman and Kevin Cavey.

DOG CARDS

FRIDAY'S DOG CARD (8.15 p.m.)

525 yards flat — Ballygaddy Jet, Comongi, White Idea, Tommy's Glory, Sweeney's Maid, Mannons Pride, Little Hubert (reserve).

525 yards flat — Betting Wonder, Daisy Ticket, Hidden Foam, Pride Souvenir, Francis St., Rosmore Robin, Rahona Lodge (reserve).

550 yards flat (1st heat, 1st round, Irish St. Leger, 1968) — Sunset Boy, Itsamint, Widows Damsel, Top Linen, Xmas Island, Open Prairie, Robell Rocket (reserve).

550 yards flat (2nd heat, 1st round, Irish St. Leger, 1968) — Itsacindy, Pots Stile, Sharp Eye, Teletype, Philotimo, Glashawee Dancer, Buddys Book (reserve).

550 yards flat (3rd heat, 1st round, Irish St. Leger, 1968) — Flaming King, Foinavon Lassie, Kilpeacon Bride, Wenlock, Acropolis, Itsaria, Nipa, Dancer (reserve).

550 yards flat (4th heat, 1st round, Irish St. Leger, 1968) — Smiley Wonder, Movealong Fred, Gemdee, Drumnageon Mick, Pops Punter, Perjaezai Bird, Konneally's Trip (reserve).

525 yards flat Nap's Pride, Carrigeen Ace, Booba Lady, Flying Bill, Finnee Laddie, Dunkven Look, Lubaghs Joy (reserve).

SATURDAY'S DOG CARD

(8.15 p.m.) is:

525 yards flat — Farran Quail, Dick The Hawk, Carry On Rio, Lieutenant, Todd, Carrigeen Doll, Michael's Yarn, Noble Furze (reserve).

525 yards flat — Hello Duckie, Squinting Valley, Brownie Girl, Appletown Brook, Bara Brith, Benutty's Rose, Spun Yarn (reserve).

550 yards flat — fifth heat, first round, Irish St. Leger — King's Justice, Westcliffe Road, Kylera Chieftain, Skips Reject, Wairling Swift, Fawnlogue, Carbo-cort (reserve).

550 yards flat — sixth heat, first round, Irish St. Leger — Brensha Wonder, Flaming Liberty, Top Novel, Parish Flash, Step-it-out Bill, Roundtower Ville, Ploverfield Mary (reserve).

550 yards flat — seventh heat, first round, Irish St. Leger — Possible Repl, Bawnogue Tan, Wonder Tale, Myross Master, Luska, Chieftain, Regular, Revenue Prince (reserve).

550 yards flat — eighth heat, first round, Irish St. Leger — Knockrour Fawnie, Annsattie, Prairie Fame, Whistling Betty, Banna Beauty, Victor's Class, Whew Whew (reserve).

525 yards flat — Peaceful Sis-ter, Hillside Escort, Maigue Maggie, Spike, Ike, Greethath Wonder, Thank You Con, Castle (reserve).

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