

City's Largest Single Building is Officially Opened by Mayor

THE LARGEST single building ever constructed in the Mid-West Region for office use—Sarsfield House—was officially opened by the Mayor of Limerick, Cllr. Clem Casey on Wednesday evening.

Before Mayor Casey cut the tape the building was blessed by Fr. F. Moriarty, Parish Priest of St. Michael's, with prayers by Rev. W. Empey, Dean of St. Mary's.

Members of the Limerick City Council in their robes of office attended, as did the city manager, Mr. Tom McDermott and other corporation officials.

Sarsfield House was completed in two stages. The corporation staff have been in occupation of the first section for some two years.

The completion of the second part of the building this month afforded the opportunity of transferring additional services to the new extension.

"Sarsfield House is the largest single building ever constructed in the Mid-West Region for office use. As an enterprise, it shows faith in the role of the city as a centre for the provision of services needed by the great industrial base of Limerick city and Shannon Airport," Mayor Casey told the gathering.

Historic

The building was built by Construction Ltd., to the design of Messrs. O'Reilly, Architects & Planners; the technical services being designed by Gibson and O'Connor.

The building stands on a very historic site. The Curraghour Mill occupied the major part of the site until the early 'sixties.

"The construction of this

block has been of special importance in the renewal of this section of the city. A short few years ago the obsolescence of the Watergate area extended to Patrick Street and threatened the very heart of the city with decay," Mayor Casey said.

Continuing, he said that the reclamation of Arthur's Quay; its redevelopment as a car park and new buildings such as Sarsfield House has revitalised the whole area which is once again a popular business precinct of the city.

Major

"This building in particular emphasises the need for major buildings in order to maintain city standards of restoration. Further plans for Rutland St. and Michael St. are well advanced and the next few years should see the replacement of some of the ruinous buildings in these two streets.

The rates, finance, computer, engineering and per-

sonnel offices will now all be based in Sarsfield House. The ground floor of the Town Hall is being reconstructed as a city council chamber, with much needed facilities for the members of the public. This work should be complete within a few months and the council chamber equipped and in use early in the New Year.

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Alcoholics Anonymous

Two open public meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous will be held in Limerick in the next week.

On Sunday night there will be an open meeting at the Salesian Convent and on Tuesday night next the regular monthly open meeting will be held at the Social Service Centre, Henry Street.

Both meetings will start at 8.30 and admission is free. Anybody with a drink problem, or who is associated with a person with a drink problem, will find the meetings of particular benefit.

