

LAST WORD by THE LISTENER

ANYONE MOURN CITY COUNCIL?



Councillor Kiely: to the rescue.

MINISTER'S BUSY DAY

THE MAYOR, Cllr. Coughlan, asked who killed the last Dublin City Council?

Alderman Michael Lipper, agreeing that they should bury politics on the issue, referred to previous erosion of the council's powers (in health matters) and asked were the council to be reduced to being agents for faceless people?

He agreed with the deputation to the Minister for Local Government.

You might think (being intelligent) that seeing the Minister for Local Government was not only an urgent business, but an easy move, as the said Minister will be in Limerick to officially open the de Valera Housing Park for Civic Week.

Maybe some of the councillors hadn't got as far as that event in the Civic Week brochures which the Mayor bestowed on them that night.

At one point during the meeting, Deputy Steve Coughlan could be seen perusing the brochure with parental pride.

After Senator Ted Russell said that he agreed with the delegation, the Mayor outlined the Minister's busy schedule the day he'll be here to open de Valera Park.

The Mayor said: His No. One engagement will be opening de Valera Park, in Thomondgate, at 4 p.m. and he'll be at the Band Parade that evening.

MORE IMPORTANT

IT WOULD largely be a question of whether the Minister for Local Government would have time, the Mayor told them.

Isn't this (the housing maintenance cutback) more im-

portant than the Mayor (Kemmy) was speaking as a union official or as a councillor.

Deputy Coughlan cracked: "We'll never know."

The Mayor told Cllr. Kemmy that any "we" used by him must mean only the city council.

"I'm not a kept man," retorted Cllr. Kemmy.

"You'll speak as a councillor in this council, you'll get enough coverage otherwise at the Trades Council," the Mayor told Cllr. Kemmy.

Senator Russell got back to the delegation to the Minister, if he could see them.

"No sense or logic doing that stock," said Deputy Coughlan.

"Didn't Blaney come down?," remarked Councillor Kemmy.

"You weren't around then," retorted Deputy Coughlan.

Have we a proposition or an amendment (about the deputation) asked Cllr. Bromell.

NO FREE LOADING

THE COMPOSITION caused argument. Two from each party, recommended Deputy Coughlan, adding: "Sin a bhfuil."

But it wasn't all there was. Cllr. Crowe proposed the addition of Cllr. Kemmy. The Mayor (adamantly): "Two each plus myself."

Cllr. Bromell: "Cllr. Kemmy is the only trade unionist here."

Deputy Coughlan shot this question across to Cllr. Clem Casey: "A unionist?"

For extra measure, Deputy Coughlan quipped: "There's so many unionists now—a Paisleyite unionist, or what?"

Cllr. Casey's reply was inaudible. But it brought from Deputy Coughlan: "Oh, an IRF Unionist."

The Mayor remarked that an extra councillor on the delegation would up the cost.

Not to worry, Cllr. Crowe remarked, if Cllr. Kemmy went there would be no free-loading—he paid his own expenses.

Deputy Coughlan (with sarcasm): "Make ye way, the Precursor comes."

The Mayor agreed to let Cllr. Kemmy join the delegation.

PRAISE FOR CROWE

AFTERWARDS, Cllr. Frank Leddin got in a good spiel on the need for a Garda substation to prevent vandalism in Southill.

Alderman Lipper thought that not enough was being done in sports for youth—a much more effective way of preventing vandalism.

Up in Caledonian Park, the Saturday before, Alderman Lipper saw over 1,000 young-

Paintings of local interest for Limerick exhibition

LIMERICK'S MUNICIPAL ART GALLERY in Pery Square will hold an exhibition of paintings as a contribution towards Civic Week. The exhibition will be open on 15th March, 1976, and continue until the end of the month.

Among the exhibits will be works by William Palmer, including portraits of members of the Unthank family who were well-known merchants in the Limerick area and lived in St. John's Square.

Their family vault is in St. John's Cemetery.

Portraits of George Unthank; his wife, Elizabeth; and their daughters, Margaret and Elizabeth, are on display.

The artist, William Palmer, was born in Limerick in 1763. He studied art in London and was a pupil of Sir Joshua Reynolds. His pictures were accepted by the Royal Academy in 1784 and in 1788 his portrait of Louise "Maid of the Haystack" became so famous that it was engraved and circulated as a print.

Palmer returned to Limerick subsequently and worked as a portrait painter. Many of his portraits were in miniature. He died at the age of 27 and was buried in St. John's Cemetery.

Jeremiah Mulcahy, A.R.H.A., was born in Limerick city and in 1842 opened a school of painting at 19 Catherine Street. He was supported in his efforts by Lord Monteagle, Lord Muskerry, Sir Aubrey De Vere, the Earl of Dunraven and the Knight of Glin.

Mulcahy moved to Dublin in 1862 and exhibited his works there until 1878.

In 1875 he was elected as associate member of the R.H.A. He died in Dublin and his remains were buried in Limerick in 1889.

Two of the Mulcahy works on display will be "Limerick Landscape" and "Curragh Chase".

St. George Hare was born in Limerick at No. 3 Pery Square in 1857. He distinguished himself as a portrait painter and exhibited his works in London and in Europe. A portrait of Lady Nash, first exhibited at the Society of Oil Painters' Exhibition in London in 1903, and "Still Life" will be on display.

The latter was presented to the gallery by Mr. Dermot O'Brien, P.P.R.H.A., in 1937.

Douglas Alexander was born in Limerick. Son of Samuel Alexander, he worked in Messrs. J. & G. Boyd's, but

his first love was painting. He established himself as a painter of landscape, using the beautiful scenery of the West of Ireland as his theme.

Alexander died in Dublin around 1940. Two of his landscapes will be on display in the exhibition. One of the paintings, "Connemara Landscape", was presented by the artist in 1937 for the gallery collection and the other, also depicting scenes from Connemara, is on loan from Miss Nash.

The Alexanders were a well-known Quaker family.

DERMOT O'BRIEN, P.P.R.H.A., was grandson of William Smith O'Brien. He was given the Freedom of Limerick in 1936. It was at a function in his honour that the building of the Municipal Art Gallery was proposed.

His paintings on exhibition include "Portrait of Joseph O'Mara", distinguished Limerick operatic tenor; and "Desmond Castle".

JOSEPH HAVERTY (1794-1864), born in Galway, was a frequent visitor to Limerick where he found the subject for his famous picture, "The Limerick Piper".

The subject: Patrick O'Brien, from Labasheeda, Co. Clare, who became blind around the age of 25 years. His only outlet, due to his handicap, was music.

Others.

Also on display will be a lithograph from an original oil painting owned by the Gore Booths of Lassadell House.

A copy of this painting was commissioned by William Smith O'Brien, who later presented it to the National Gallery in Dublin.

Also in the gallery collection is a portrait of Daniel O'Connell and a portrait of Dr. Kane, Mayor of Limerick, 1852-1857. During Dr. Kane's Mayoralty the O'Connell Monument was erected (1857).

The exhibition will also include two paintings by Sean Keating, P.P.R.H.A., a portrait of Most Rev. Dr. Edward Thomas O'Dwyer, and a portrait of the Fenian, John Daly.

Other works will include a portrait of Catherine Hayes (artist unknown) and Limerick landscapes.

Caherconlish farmer