



wanted a bicycle from Santa Claus—her mother is still going to buy the bike and give it to one of the family's rescuers, Sister Mary from Corbally, to be handed on to a needy child.
The family that won't give up: page 3.

CITY MEAT PLANT IS GIVEN THE THUMBS UP

BY LEADER REPORTER

LIMERICK FARMERS are to back the call from trade unions in the city for the continued operation and development of the local Clover Meats factory, which employs about 300 people.

The general manager of the society, Mr. Dermot McDermott, has given an assurance that the beef line at Limerick will be made operational "as soon as numbers are good enough to keep it going."

He has given a firm commitment that the Limerick plant will not be phased out, provided that it continued to operate efficiently and show a profit.

Mr. McDermott told a meeting, organised by the County IFA at Cruise's Hotel, Limerick, that he was confident for the future of the plant, provided that working arrangements which had been agreed, continued to work.

Directors

The meeting was also attended by directors of Clover Meats, Mr. Michael Power, Mr. Eugene O'Sullivan, and Mr. Pat Hennessy, who said that the Limerick plant was an important part of the Clover Meat Group and they were very anxious to see it operating efficiently and profitably.

Pressed by farmers on the future plans of the society for the Limerick factory, Mr. McDermott said: "Limerick is an important part of the Clover Group. Whatever money is required will be spent to keep the factory going, provided the stock numbers are there and that it is operating successfully."

There was a strong feeling throughout the meeting, presided over by Mr. Wm. Cagney, county chairman of IFA, that the Limerick factory was needed to service the area because of the high cost of transporting animals to Clonmel or Waterford.

Efficiency

However, there was also a strong view that farmers were not prepared to "throw money down the drain" and that if they put their hands in their pockets to contribute £1,000,000 to the society, efficiencies would have to be operated at all levels.

Mr. Sean Finley, national chairman, IFA, livestock committee, said that the IFA had decided in principle to support the Clover Meats share campaign, but there were a number of qualifying points which have to be met to satisfy the association members.

Mr. John P. McCarthy, chairman, Golden Vale Marts Ltd., said that the issue of share capital for the Clover Group was so crucial that it could not be allowed to fail. It would be a disaster for the country if the plant was to go to outside ownership, and for farmers if they were to lose control of it.

Collection

Mr. Michael Power said that the collection of share capital would commence immediately after Christmas and go on in the county for about a month. They were aware that it was a difficult time of the year to get money from farmers, but they had provided special arrangements to suit all farmers who wished to get involved.

The meeting was also attended by Mr. Brian O'Shea, I.A.O.S.



RESCUE HERO Mr. Paddy McMahon with his wife, Moira, and sons, Kevin (left) and Brian, relax at their home at Brookville, Clareview, Limerick, this week, following the drama at Limerick Docks.

Mr. McMahon, sub-officer with Limerick Fire Brigade, saved a man following the fatal accident there on Monday night when a car plunged into the freezing water killing two of the occupants.

Within about seven minutes of a call for help to the fire station, Mr. McMahon was in the water doing what he described as "part of my job."

When he arrived at the docks "there were people there throwing lifebuoys out to someone in the water but they could not reach him," Mr. McMahon disclosed. "He must have been half way out in the dock."

"There was a ship across the way with some of the crew on the deck. People were shouting at them to lower a boat but they did not seem to understand. So I decided to enter the water. I knew the water would be cold, but I was lowered in at the quay wall—I did not jump in," he explained.

He removed most of his clothes so that he could get to the man as quickly as possible.

"It paid off," he went on. "I took a lifebuoy with me." When he arrived at the man in the water he assured him he would be all right. "He must have had instruction on how to stay afloat," Mr. McMahon said. "He must have been in the water for a while and he made no attempt to swim. He lay on his back with his arms out."

When Mr. McMahon got to where the man was in the water he assured him that he

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St. John's Cathedral—Christmas Eve: Confessions, mid-day to 9.30 p.m. Christmas Day: Mass, midnight, 8 a.m., 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and mid-day.

St. Mary's—Christmas Eve: Confessions, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Christmas Day: Mass, midnight, 8 a.m., 8.30 a.m., 9.30 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and mid-day.

St. Munchin's—Christmas Eve: Confessions, 2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Christmas Day: Mass, midnight, 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and mid-day.

Ballynanty Community Hall—Christmas Eve: Confession, 11 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Christmas Day: Mass, midnight, 10 a.m. and 11.30 a.m.

St. Patrick's—Christmas Eve: Confessions, 10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. and 7 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Christmas Day: Mass, midnight, 10.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m.

St. Joseph's—Christmas Eve: Confessions, 11 a.m., 12.30 p.m. to 1.30 p.m., 4 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., and 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Christmas Day: Mass, midnight, 8 a.m., 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11.15 a.m. and 12.15 p.m.

Monaleen—Christmas Eve: Confessions, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Christmas Day: Mass, midnight, 9 a.m., 10.30 a.m., 11.30 a.m., and 12.30 p.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes—Christmas Eve: Confessions, 2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Christmas Day: Mass, midnight, 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., and mid-day.

Our Lady of the Rosary—Christmas Eve: Confessions, 2.15 p.m. to 3 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Christmas Day: Mass, 8 a.m., 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 12.15 p.m. and 1.15 p.m.

Church of the Holy Family—Christmas Eve: Confessions, 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Christmas Day: Mass, midnight, 8 a.m., 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and mid-day.

Raheen—Christmas Eve: Confessions, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m., and 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Christmas Day: Mass, midnight, 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 12.15 p.m.

St. Paul's—Christmas Eve: Confessions, 2.30 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. Christmas Day: Mass, midnight, 8.30 a.m., 10 a.m. and mid-day.

Meelick—Christmas Eve: Confessions, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Christmas Day: Mass, midnight, 9.30 a.m.

Parteen—Christmas Eve: Confessions, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Christmas Day: Mass, midnight, 8.30 a.m., 11 a.m.

St. Munchin's College—Christmas Day: Mass, mid-day.

Church of Christ the King—Christmas Eve: Confessions, 7.30 p.m. Christmas Day: Mass, 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and mid-day.

Redemptorists—Christmas Eve: Confessions, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m., 9.30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Christmas Day: Mass, midnight, 6.30 a.m., 7.30 a.m., 8 a.m., 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and mid-day.

Church of the Sacred Heart—Christmas Eve: Confessions, 7.30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Christmas Day: Mass, midnight, 6 a.m., 6.30 a.m., 7 a.m., 7.30 a.m., 8 a.m., 8.30 a.m., 9 a.m., 9.30 a.m., 10 a.m., 10.30 a.m., 11 a.m., 11.30 a.m., mid-day and 12.30 p.m.

Augustinians—Christmas Eve: Confessions, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Christmas Day: Mass, 8 a.m., 8.45 a.m., 9.45 a.m.,

IN BRIEF

More cuts unlikely

Although the E.S.B. has prepared a national "programme" of zones and sub-districts to experience power-cuts, should load-shedding occur at peak times, it is likely that no power cuts will occur in Limerick over the Christmas holiday.
This is due partly to the fact that industry will have closed down—a major user of power—and partly that the Limerick area is now one of the scheduled areas for "cuts" during peak time—it had its turn under the rota system to be cut off earlier this week.

Next week's newspapers

This is the last newspaper to be published by Limerick Leader Ltd. before December 29th, when the usual Wednesday issue of the Limerick Leader will appear. Next week's county and city editions of the weekend issue of the Limerick Leader will be published on Thursday and Friday, respectively.
The Limerick Chronicle will

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CARAVAN CRUX: WALKS URGED

ADER REPORTEK
TING legislation is inadequate to deal the hazard caused caravans which are in the Fair Hill Rathkeale, it was this week.
Mr. Paul Robinson, secretary, added that law is changed much achieved by co-operation consultation between selling people and the community.
ounty Council has re- that they have no move caravans which uped into Fair Hill. residents are up in

arms as they fear the situation in Fair Hill poses a threat as a health and fire hazard.
It has also been alleged that the jobs of 450 people are being threatened with the danger of a disease outbreak and that there is a constant risk of explosion because of the widespread use of gas in caravans.
Rathkeale Community Council have alleged that the thoroughfares are open sewers.
Local county councillor, Mr. Sean Hayes, who has raised the problem at council level, has been informed by the county secretary that the council have no power to move these caravans and can only prosecute for breaches of the bye-laws.
These prosecutions are brought through the courts, but unfortunately, because of the time lag involved and the penalties imposed these do not have the desired effect," said Mr. Robinson.
He added that the health authorities had been in touch with the situation over the years and they had not confirmed that there was a health risk involved and no action had been taken on these lines.

Allegations

Regarding the allegations about caravans posing a fire hazard, Mr. Robinson informed Mr. Hayes that last year fire precaution notices were served on the occupiers of caravans and also notices warning them of the danger of fire. The position here again, added Mr. Robinson, was that the council must wait for a period of time to afford the occupier an opportunity of rectifying the situation. It was only after the expiration of this period that enforcement could begin, and by the time the case came to court "the situation no longer exists."

He concluded his written reply to Mr. Hayes by saying: "As I outlined above, the existing legislation is inadequate to deal with the present situation. I think that until the law is changed much could be achieved by co-operation and consultation between travelling people and the settled community."

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