

# City band goes marching to glory

By LEADER REPORTER

LIMERICK CITY'S most successful pipe band – the Curragour Pipe Band – are on the look-out for experienced pipers and drummers as they continue their trail of success since their promotion to Grade 2.

Last September, the band were promoted to the highest grade in piping in the Republic of Ireland.

Out of the 40 pipe bands who compete in the Republic only six are deemed to be of Grade 2 quality – they include Howth St. Laurence, St. Laurence O'Toole, The Black Raven and the legendary Fintan Lawlor, all from Dublin, and their great rivals from Cork, St. Finbarr's, and our own Curragour Pipe Band from Limerick.

## Results

With their competition results to date it looks likely that the Curragour Band will feature at the top of the Champion of Champions list at the end of the season – this is a roll of honour for bands and is based on contest results throughout the year.

They have already won first and second place at the Munster Championships and second at the Leinster Championships.

And the drum corps have also won the Munster drum corps championship for the second year in succession.

The band have in their ranks some of the best solo pipers and drummers in Munster. Pipe Sergeant Christy Bromell has dominated senior piping for the last two years.

Drummer Jim Nestor took second place in the Munster intermediate solo drumming championships, while Drummer Sergeant Tom Carroll took first place in the competition. Because of their success these players were invited to take part in the inaugural East of Ireland solo championships at Howth.

The Curragour Pipe Band have gained many fans as a result of their Sunday morning practices in the People's Park.

"We are always on the look-out for experienced pipers and drummers", said Pipe Major Michael Egan. The band now has a class of eight drummers in training under the instruction of Drum Sergeant Tom Carroll. These drummers range in age from eight to twelve years. The band also hope to initiate a piping class this September.

This Saturday the band will hold their flag day in the city and they wish to thank all those who supported them during the year.

The band have a special word of thanks for Very Rev. David Browne, P.P., Our Lady of Lourdes, and St. Michael's Scout Troop.



Flashback: The Curragour Pipe Band at Limerick's St. Patrick's Day Parade this year.

## FILIPINO DR TELLS OF FOLK MEDICINE

By LEADER REPORTER

A RETURN to folk medicine is being encouraged in poor areas of the Philippines, where 60 per cent of the people never see a doctor or a midwife, a young Filipino doctor told a public meeting in Limerick organised by the Irish Filipino Association.

Dr. Jimmy Tan, who studied at the University of Manila, and who has devoted his life to community-based health programmes in the Philippines, said that there was a new respect for native herbal cures and acupuncture.

Dr. Tan told the *Limerick Leader* that their aim was to teach people self reliance, and because the cost of products from multinational drug companies was prohibitive, they had been forced to assess the value of traditional medicine.

## Responding

The people who had been ashamed of using herbs and acupuncture were now responding to the new programme.

"Herbal medicines and massage



Dr. Jimmy Tan.

O'Brien and Fr. Brian Gore. Fr. O'Brien was due to have visited him in Mindinao when he was arrested.

Dr. Tan was attending a conference in Oxford on urban poor and community health organised by Oxfam and the London School of Tropical Medicine.

He was invited to Ireland by the Irish Filipino group and to Limerick by Redemptorist priests with whom he had worked in the Philippines such as Fr. Frank Connan of the Redemptorist Retreat House, North Circular Road.

## Killaloe tragedy

The funeral of the Limerick man who was drowned on Tuesday while working on his cabin cruiser at Pier Head in Killaloe took place this Thursday, following Requiem Mass in Parteen Church, to Mount St. Oliver Cemetery. Mr. John Murnane, aged 35, Gracelands House, Riverbrook Lawn, was drowned when he fell from the boat he was painting at around 2 p.m. on Tuesday.

He is survived by his wife, Jeanne, daughter of men's outfitter Mr. Billy Higgins; and his two sons, Johnny, 7, and Harry, 5. Mr. Murnane, who once ran his own bar in Gerald Griffin Street, had a record store in Spaight's Shopping Centre. He is also a former secretary of Limerick United and Wembley Rovers soccer clubs. He won prizes for his humorous scripts in the "Tops" competitions.

## 'An absolute disgrace'

The Mid-Western Health Board was described as "an absolute disgrace" by Mrs. Madeline Taylor-Quinn, T.D., at this week's meeting of Clare County Council in Ennis. The criticism of the board followed a disclosure by

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programme will be pro- all of the participants. Each region will again be enter two teams with a resenting each troop. Limerick regions will be d in this year's competi-

PAUL REGION: St. osephs unit — Members aver and Cub sections ial trip to Galway on last Everyone agreed that 2 tour was a most experience. Special ic to the leaders on their organisation of the y were Mary O'Dwyer Barrett. St. John's ders. Marion Cosgrave, ler, St. Johns', Lillian and Catherine Clancy, ders, St. Joseph's, John ub leader, St. Joseph's.

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I proud of it: Mr. n at Shannon in 1984.

play, addressed her in rds: lead thy high duty to e world the might of auty and stamp God's tuly on the struggling

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RICK J. FLYNN

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