

DEATHS

FOLEY—Limerick, I. 1984, at St. John's Michael, 4 Good Shep. Very deeply regretted brothers, Liam and Ge. Mary; aunt, sister-in-law, nephews, nieces and friends. May be removed from Cross Home to St. John's C. Monday evening, at quiet Mass tomorrow at 11 o'clock. Funeral at Mount St. Laurence C.

HANLEY—Limerick, I. 1984 (sudden): St. Joseph's Street (la & Co.). Very deeply his loving brothers, wives and friends, R.I. from Griffin's Funeral Home, at 7 o'clock. Re tomorrow, Tuesday, Funeral afterwards at Laurence Cemetery. vate please.

MADDEN (nee Duff) ber 2, 1984, at tl Hospital, Annie, re Ruarnard House, C. Clare. Very deeply her loving sons, daug sons-in-law, daug grandchildren. May be Removal from Cre Home, to Clonlara Monday evening, at Mass tomorrow, Tu o'clock. Funeral aft Doonass Cemetery. vate

O'CONNOR—Limer 1. 1984, at Hospital, Jack, la Street, Pennywell. Very deeply regrette sons, brothers, s brothers-in-law, ney relatives and friends in peace. Removal Funeral Home to Cathedral this Mon 8 o'clock. Requiem row, Tuesday, at afterwards to Moun Cemetery.

QUINLIVAN (nee Limerick, Decembe deny), at Barringt Frederica (Ricka), Road, North Gar deeply regretted husband, Jim; so Jimmy; daughters, Marie and Ruth; br law, daughter-in-law, nephews, nie and friends. May sh Removal from C Home, to St. Joh this Monday evening Requiem Mass to day, at 12 noon. wards to Mount Cemetery.

VAUGHAN—Lir cember 1, 1984 a Hospital, Mary Va 26 Mary Street, regretted by her Tom; sisters-in-l nieces, relatives R.I.P. Requiem M Church tomorrow. o'clock. Funeral after St. Laurence Ceme



The Mayor of Limerick, Alderman Frank Prendergast, holding up a flare for the Christmas lights to be switched on.

Tribute to a great oarsman

DURING its 114 years of competing on the river, Limerick Boat Club has had thousands of oarsmen representing it, the greatest of whom was Bruce Murray, said life vice-president Mr. Tony Tynne over the weekend.

We were proposing the toast to the crews at the club's annual stag dinner at the club premises on Sarsfield Bridge. He declared:

"In the colours of black and white our crews have graced the waters of Ireland since 1870 . . . one hundred and fourteen years unbroken service to the sport of rowing, an achievement we can be justly proud of. From our first win at O'Brien's Bridge Regatta in 1870 — crew members: Charles McDonnell (bow), Irby Brady (2), Arthur Fitzgerald (3), William McDonnell (stk), cox Henry Pennington — to our twelve wins this season under the captaincy of Niall O'Brien, thousands of oarsmen have represented the Boat Club in that 114 year period. This brings to mind that lovely rowing verse by Tom Hughes:—

"The backs that bend together,
The steady stroke and long,
Now lively on the feather,
Now through the water strong,
The wind that lasts forever,
The pluck that never dies,
Will bear them through the struggle,
And bear away the prize.

"To the captain and crews of 1984 I say you have served your club well and to quote a former president, Jim O'Neill (R.I.P.): 'Tradition is being well maintained'. We were founded to row and promote the sport of rowing and that must always remain our goal.

"Bruce Murray, in my opinion, was the greatest clubman to emerge in the first hundred years of our history. He joined the club in 1873. He rowed for 15 years and became cox, coach, captain, president, and served as hon. secretary and treasurer for 49 years. A truly remarkable record, you will agree. His crowning glory came in 1927 when he coached the Boat Club senior crew to win the Senior Union Championship of Ireland. He also stroked the first Boat Club crew to row in an eight in 1877, this being the first time that eights were rowed in the South of Ireland.

Bruce Murray always had a meeting with the crews at the start of the season, at which time he offered the following advice: 'Success comes not by wishing, but by work'. This is the tradition we want you, young sportsmen of 1984, to continue.

"I would like to congratulate our sisters clubs on their

victories this year, especially St. Michael's on bringing two championships to Limerick and the magnificent performance of the lightweight at the World Championships in Montreal. To Justin Sherin and Dermot Henihan, I say 'Well done!' Your club has raised the standard of rowing in Limerick. May I also wish Castleconnell Boat Club every success next season.

"Having been involved with oarsmen, particularly schoolboy crews, during the past twenty years, I believe the future of rowing is secure. At present we have 26 schoolboys rowing with us, apart from novices and seniors, and these will be the men who will guide us to our 125th year in rowing in eleven years time. Bruce Murray, in his secretary's report on the 7th March, 1914, wrote: 'To the rowing man your committee would say that if you undertake your rowing with zest and pursue it with vigour, even should you not at once be successful in gaining the laurel wreath, you will be conscious of having done a manly act and more than likely of paving the way to success in the future'. To the oarsman I say these words are as apt today as they were 70 years ago.

"The sport of rowing in Limerick is steeped in tradition, covering 400 years of rowing between the four clubs, which makes Limerick rowing unique in the annals of Irish rowing.

"Gentlemen, would you please rise and toast the crews of the past, the present and the future."

Mr. Tony Barry, vice-president, proposing the toast to Limerick Boat Club, said the club had an unbroken tradition of rowing for 114 years: the clubhouse was not only a landmark but an historic building in itself.

The club captain now had, he said, 38 oarsmen in training and 12 wins to his credit. The ladies' committee, which had conducted a number of fund-raising projects, deserved to be recognised.

"The expense of rowing is very high", he told the gathering. "We could cut the cost of transporting oarsmen to regattas with members' transport.

"The cost of an 'eight' is now £7,000: the 35 per cent VAT is crippling, though."

Mr. Dick Roche, life vice-president, proposing the toast to the guests, offered belated congratulations to Ald. Frank Prendergast, T.D., Mayor of Limerick on his election to Daill Eireann.

"Frank", he went on, "is a member of an old Limerick family, one of whose ancestors held the office of High Sheriff many years ago."

Welcoming the president of the Irish Rowing Union, Mr. John McGeehan, he said the union was inclined to "put all

its eggs in one basket": the clubs were being penalised a little by the promotion of rowing at national level.

He also welcomed the representatives of the sister clubs in Limerick, and congratulated Mr. Dermot Henihan as Munster vice-president, who was convener of the lightweight squad.

In a special tribute to the new Castleconnell Boat Club, he praised Mr. Jimmy O'Neill and his brothers, Gerry and Hugh — all long-time members of Limerick Boat Club — who had now founded the club at Castleconnell: all, he said, had been brought up in a great rowing tradition.

The speakers were introduced by the president of Limerick B.C., Mr. P. A. McKenna, who also proposed the first toast of the night, that to Ireland.

Ald. Frank Prendergast, T.D., replying as Mayor to the toast to the guests, said that Alan Topler, the author of "Future Shock", had pointed out that a person of 80 years had seen more technological advance in his time than had been seen previously since the time of Our Lord.

To put the tradition of Limerick Boat Club in perspective, he said, as much as 14 years after the club first put its crews on the water, Limerick Harbour Commissioners were discussing whether they should have electric lighting at the docks: the horse was the fastest mode of transport on the roads, the car, with the aeroplane, television and radio, were not even dreamed of.

"It is particularly fitting that Niall O'Brien should be captain this year, when you bear in mind that his grandfather was Mayor of Limerick in the best years of Limerick Boat Club", he declared.

He continued: "In the Shannon, we have one of the great waterways of Europe, and it is great to see the traditions of rowing and watermanship kept alive and strong. It has always struck me, when people look at the Norfolk Broads in the middle of England, where you have no great waterway like the Shannon but thousands of pleasure boats, that it is sad that we do not have enough boats on the Shannon."

Commenting on a point raised from the floor about the new bridge, Mayor Prendergast said that £500,000 had been allocated this year already.

The approach road on the north side had already been started, and it was expected that the bridge would be completed in 1987.

He paid a special tribute to the late A. J. "Bertie" Wixted, and described the sport of rowing as one which blended so greatly the heritage of the past, the vision of the future

and the need to do something in the present.

Mr. John McGeehan, president of the Irish Rowing Union, said that it was on club rowing that the sport survived: when the union was trying to finance international rowing, there was a tendency for people to leave things to the executive. In fact, he pointed out, the executive members themselves were already heavily committed in serving their clubs.

With the advent of John Holland as national development officer of rowing, he pushed the idea of a seminar, which eventually proved to be an immense success. This could, he advised, be followed by smaller seminars at local level.

He congratulated the Irish crew which came only fourth behind the Spanish, Danes and Italians this year at international level: such opponents as they faced were financed by millionaire companies such as Fiat, etc. Ireland had in the past four years achieved two "fourths" and two "sevenths" in its placings — a considerable feat.

In the past three years, four new clubs will be affiliated to the Rowing Union, one of them being the Castleconnell Boat Club, whose crew he looked forward to seeing in the St. Michael's "Head".

Mr. Billy Carmody, the new president of St. Michael's, said it was a splendid year for Limerick Boat Club: "Their victories were splendid and many".

He said his memories of rowing went back to the 1940s — great years for Limerick Boat Club: Brendan Hanrahan was cox of most of the senior crews and among the other personalities who were at the dinner this night were Dick Roche, Charlie O'Connor, Pete Lawless, Billy Griffin and Des Anderson.

Boat Club wins this year included: Head of the River at New Ross, Fermoy and Galway; Senior C-8 at Neptune and Trinity Regattas; Junior B-4 at Athlone, Limerick and O'Brien's Bridge; Senior A pairs at Limerick and Athlone Regattas; Senior B pairs at O'Brien's Bridge Regatta, and Senior B-8 at Fermoy Regatta.

THE site once earmarked for a new general hospital at Childers Road, Limerick, should be used to provide better facilities for the elderly, the Minister for Health, Mr. Barry Desmond, said at a press conference in Limerick this Monday.

He was speaking at the opening of the NIHE Social Research Centre's conference on the elderly in rural areas.

"Having stopped that unnecessary development, I believe that funds will now be channelled into community care. "I am trying to stop the building of institutions."

Mr. Desmond intimated that sites such as the one at Childers Road could be used for the building of day-care centres for the elderly.

The Minister further indicated that legislation is currently before the Dail to have all nursing homes registered.

"I am wholly dissatisfied with the situation, but constitutionally it will be necessary to register all private hospitals before we can change legislation."

In his opening address to the conference, Mr. Desmond said that he was concerned that some health boards were spending less on the home help service for old people than the amounts allocated in their budgets.

Runner breaks leg in car smash

Limerick international cross-country runner Paul Moloney, who broke his leg in two places in a car accident on Saturday night, was stated to be "fairly comfortable" in Cork Regional Hospital this Monday.

Mr. Moloney, who was the second Irishman home in the recent Galeshead international cross-country race, was injured when his car skidded on an icy patch and overturned into a field outside Dromina, Co. Cork, on Saturday night.

Mr. Moloney dragged himself from the wreckage and crawled back on to the roadway before being brought to Cork Regional Hospital.

THE ARAMI PERFECT GROOMER

Hospital worker dies in accident

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