

LIMERICK'S NEW LUXURY CITY THEATRE OPENS ON SUNDAY NEXT WITH ALL-STAR STAGE SHOW

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THE New CITY THEATRE, which opens on Sunday next, January 18th, has been entirely renovated and modernised by the owners, Four Provinces Enterprises, Ltd. The latest modern stage-lighting and equipment are being installed. The new switchboard for the stage weighs a half ton and was flown specially from London to Shannon Airport on Thursday. The stage equipment will be second to none in Ireland. From this, it will be seen that the policy of the City Theatre will be to present as many stage-shows as possible. However, as the management are determined to present only entertainment of the highest possible quality, it will not be possible to have stage shows every week. When first-class stage shows are not available, the best procurable film programmes will be presented.

Lorcan Bourke, managing director, is a man of life-long association with the theatre. His father, the late P. J. Bourke, was a famous actor-producer in the days of repertory seasons at the Queen's Theatre, Dublin, so that one might say that Show business "runs in the blood."

Eventually, Lorcan Bourke took over the management of the Queen's Theatre, where he presented many record-breaking shows for a number of years. Later, he took over stage-direction and production at the Olympia Theatre, Dublin, which, under his direction, soon became the most popular house for stage shows in the City. He is also the proprietor of the firm of P. J. Bourke, the theatrical costumiers. He has many other interests connected with entertainment, such as Strand Electric Co., suppliers of all theatre equipment, and the Four Provinces Ballroom, Dublin. The stage productions at the City Theatre will be under his personal supervision. His son, Jack Bourke, will be manager.

Michael Scott, designer of Dublin's new Bus Station, and well known as one of Ireland's greatest authorities on architecture, has designed the alterations to the City Theatre. Mr. Scott is also a great friend of the Theatre. He is a member of the Council of the Irish Catholic Stage Guild and designed that Club's fine premises in Marlboro' Street, Dublin.

Louis le Brocquy, the brilliant young artist and designer, has flown from London, and is at present designing some of the interior, decorative detail of the theatre, which will include a style of ornamentation used in Ireland in pre-Celtic times. Mr. le Brocquy, by the way, has a great interest in recent discoveries of ancient sites and implements in Ireland, and is of opinion that, if sufficient work is done in the matter of excavation and investigation,

Ireland (and he mentioned County Limerick in particular) can rival Greece in archaeological interest.

For the first week, commencing January 18th, the Theatre will present the Butlin Show, "Holiday Hayride." The star is Jack Cruise. Jack first achieved some fame years ago for his excellent burlesque act in which he satirized the Fitzpatrick Travelogue Films. Complete, with the appropriate Fitzpatrick drawl, he delivered a commentary on the City of Dublin, illustrated by slides made from photographs taken in the early eighties. He had previously made quite a mark as a straight actor, but his successful effort in the comedy line decided his fate and, from that time onwards, his fame as a comedian of the first rank increased by leaps and bounds.

Following several seasons at the Olympia Theatre, Dublin, he presented "The Butlin Show" at Mosney Holiday Camp so successfully that he was back the next year and is due back again this summer. In between these seasons, he has toured most of the principal towns in the country with "Holiday Hayride" and his fresh, clean style (he is one of those artistes who can keep his audience in high good humour without ever reverting to the slightest vulgarity) endeared him to the hearts of his audiences everywhere. His droll stories and quaint humour as "John Joe Mahockey from Ballyslapdashamuckery," are both brilliant and original.

His Company also includes the popular Vera Montgomery of stage and radio; Michael Molloy, the popular tenor; Noel and Ursula Doyle, Brenda Carr, the ace accordionist; Benny Craven, the well-known impressionist; Ronnie Tomlinson, The Oswaldis, and The Flanagan Rythm Girls.

CITY THEATRE

SEXTON STREET, LIMERICK

★ Four Provinces Enterprises, Ltd.

PROUDLY ANNOUNCE

Gala Opening, Sunday, January 18

WITH SENSATIONAL STAGE SHOW—

"HOLIDAY HAYRIDE"

THE FAMOUS BUTLIN SHOW

WITH A HOST OF STARS

FEATURING

JACK CRUISE

IRELAND'S OWN COMEDIAN. CLEAN AND CLEVER.

★ VERA MONTGOMERY

Stage and Radio Singer.

★ MICHAEL MOLLOY

Popular Tenor.

★ NOEL AND URSULA DOYLE

Entertainers.

★ BRENDA CARR

Ace Accordionist.

★ BENNY CRAVEN

Impressionist.

★ RONNIE TOMLINSON

★ THE OSWALDIS

★ THE FLANAGAN RHYTHM GIRLS

★
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