

# LIMERICK LEADER

No. 12,382

MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 1953

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## DELIGHTFUL TREAT FOR LIMERICK AUDIENCE

Delightful only tamely the splendid treat the audience in the city last night by MacEwan, the soprano exponent of sh airs. A house every part thoroughly recital, which was Patrick's Monaleen MacEwan sang no fifteen songs, which ber of encores, and olaidhe contributed number. The loud the applause which item showed the on of all present, encing the opening programme, Father he should first of lordship the Bishop, O'Neill, for gracing his presence. This visit of himself and idhe to Limerick in rs and they had on got a very cordial did not know, he whether this was opularity or to the r, Cowper.

## PROGRAMME

me of the concert parts, each being r groups of songs as

van—"Island Moon," if Moray," "Ho Ree, le Wee Girl," "Mary

olaidhe—"A Spailpin ho Lo Tholl," "Sile

Ewan—"The Skye "The Rowan Tree," yre,"

Scolaidhe—"Jackets Where Glory Waits a Bonnet Trimmed

## TWO

olaidhe—"Mairin de an Dubh," "Ma a Piobaire,"

Ewan—"The Lewis sional," "An Island "Westering Home,"

olaidhe—"The Three e Road to Bally- Is Far From the

Ewan—"The Young O Bethlehem," "Mow- y."

## ENCORES.

o insistent demands an sang as encores, ut Brown Maiden," Of The Waters," The Isles," "Bonny e" and "I Know My

Scolaidhe gave the "The Three

## New City Theatre Has Auspicious Opening

"I AM happy to be here to-night to formally open the City Theatre. I take this opportunity to congratulate all concerned on a fine job of work and the citizens on having, after a lapse of 30 years, a regular theatre once again."

So said the Mayor (Mr. K. Bradshaw) when, last night, he declared open the City Theatre, Sexton Street. The capacity audience gave the Mayor a great ovation when he came before the footlights.

His Worship began by apologising for being late, explaining that he had been engaged at a conference arranged to effect a settlement in the bakery dispute. "You will be glad to learn," he said, "that there will be no strike" (loud applause). "This is a lovely theatre," he continued. "For years the city was in need of such a building and Mr. Lorcán Bourke has now provided a long-felt want. I'm sure that the citizens will give him the support that his enterprise deserves. The opening of a theatre of the proportions of this building is a big venture, a venture that calls for courage and enterprise. Mr. Lorcán Bourke has these qualities and because he has, Limerick has got this really beautiful home of the legitimate stage."

### "INDISPENSABLE"

The Mayor said that a fully equipped theatre was indispensable to any organised community. Limerick had been badly handicapped in this respect for the past three decades and now that the void had been filled he was confident that the City Theatre would be, as popular with the citizens as was the old Theatre Royal before it was destroyed by fire.

"In conclusion, let me say," said the Mayor, "that if Mr. Lorcán Bourke has good reason to be proud, the citizens of Limerick have much more reason to be. It is my pleasure to formally declare open the City Theatre and to wish it every success and a long and honourable career." (applause).

Mr. Lorcán Bourke, in a brief speech, thanked the Mayor for his tribute and said that it would be the aim of the proprietors to give Limerick the very best shows that it was possible to produce. He and those associated with him were well aware of the high repu-

tation enjoyed by Limerick audiences, who were recognised to be amongst the most critical and discerning in the world. The City Theatre productions would be such as to stand the test of that criticism. The opening show, sponsored by that distinguished and celebrated artist—Jack Cruise—was merely a foretaste of what was to come (applause).

### A FULL HOUSE.

Long before the opening hour, a big crowd had collected outside the theatre, and when the doors opened at 8 o'clock the staff, working as an efficient machine, marshalled the gathering most expertly. Within twenty minutes every seat was occupied.

The brilliant lighting system and the subdued scheme of decoration or, in modern parlance, decor, were features that made an instant appeal. Strange characters on the walls abutting the stage, resembling gigantic chalk marks, caused no little surprise and speculation. What were these things—what did they signify? Monolithic symbols, of course. Dating back to the dawn of history, they were almost lost in their antiquity. Now, however, they have been copied and used in the scheme of decoration in the most modern of playhouses.

The show put on last night was, without doubt, one of the best ever seen in Limerick. Jack Cruise was the centre of gravity, the pivot around which the whole production went with gusto and verve. It was bright and colourful and with talent galore. It would be invidious to pick out any of the artists for special mention, all were so good, but no one will grudge a pat on the back to that very fine tenor, Mr. Michael Molloy. He sang his numbers with a sweetness of voice and a clarity of diction that mark him as a vocalist of high order. Miss Vera Montgomery, the well-known radio singer, also gave a delightful performance as did, indeed, all the others.

This excellent show is on for the remainder of the week, beginning at 8 o'clock each night.

## OBJECTION TO COLOURS OF SHOW ROSETTES

A RED rosette to a bull! That was the theme of a serious discussion at last Saturday's Limerick Co. Council meeting.

The meeting agreed to make the following grants available to County Shows this year: £244 to Limerick; £90 to Newcastle West; £43 to Shanagolden; £30 to Dromcollogher; £43 to Hospital; £25 to Ballingarry, and £35 to Killfinane.

Mr. J. J. Collins, T.D., Chairman of the Limerick Co. Council, said he opposed the grant to the Limerick Show Society because he had learned that the rosette for the first prize in all the events was red and that the Championship of the Show rosette was red, white and blue. The emblems had been green up to a few years ago.

### "AN INSULT."

"This might appear trivial to some people," he said. "Personally, I think that in 1953, after 32 years of freedom, the colours of such emblems should not be as offensive or insulting to our national ideals as these are. This year we have all parties organised in An Tostal. These colours are an insult to these people; they are the colours of an outside power at whose hands we have suffered sorely. I oppose this grant unless we get some satisfactory explanation from the Show Society."

Chairman (Mr. P. Maguire, Co.C.)—Hear hear.

Mr. J. J. McNamara, Co.C.—I know a little bit about this. The colours were discussed at a Show Committee meeting and it was decided that to change the colours would cause considerable confusion. A red rosette for first prize is the colour at every show in the country.

Mr. Collins—It was green up to a few years ago.

Mr. McNamara—It was decided to change that and have a red, white and blue rosette, and the man who suggested that was as good an Irishman as anybody here.

### NO PRESCRIPTIVE RIGHT TO ANY COLOUR.

Mr. J. W. Canty, Co.C.—No country has a prescriptive right to any colour. I am sure if you ask the Show Society Secretary for an explanation you'll get a satisfactory reply.

Mr. Martin Gleeson, Chief Agricultural Officer, said that grants were made to Show Societies on the understanding that they would comply with certain conditions. If these conditions were not complied with the grants were withheld. "You can make this allocation conditional on the Limerick Show Committee changing the colours of their rosettes," he said.

Mr. McNamara—You will cause a lot of confusion.

Mr. D. P. Quish, Co.C.—I think the colours of these rosettes are recognised internationally and that the Show Society will not depart from them. Certainly if I thought there was anything in this directed against the patriotic feelings of the people I would be all for the suggestion of Mr. Collins. But I have

## CITY BAKERY DISPUTE