

Limerick Chronicle

1766 — THE OLDEST NEWSPAPER IN THE REPUBLIC — 1969

203rd YEAR

TUESDAY, JULY 8, 1969

LIMERICK
INTER-CONTINENTAL
FOR
YOUR
WEDDING

Limerick Chronicle
(Established 1766)

Tuesday, July 8, 1969.

VANDALISM

THE shocking desecration of the graveyard in St. John's Square is the latest addition to an almost unbelievably long list of outrageous acts of vandalism in Limerick. It is yet another symptom of a terrible sickness that is creeping through certain sections of society.

BUT "creeping" is the wrong word. For vandalism, let's face it, is spreading through our city like wildfire. Trees have been uprooted. There has been wholesale destruction of riverside amenities. Even our ancient buildings have not escaped. A plaque was recently ripped from King John's Castle.

ONE could go on and on detailing the deeds of criminal lunatics in our midst. Suffice it to say, however, that hoodlums are on the rampage in Limerick. And, more important, many of them are getting away with it. The question is: what can be done to stop this savagery?

SOME observers feel—and not without justification—that District Justices should impose stiffer penalties. But the whole of the answer does not lie in the courts. The public have a vital part to play. They should co-operate with the Gardai whenever they witness vandalism. Parents must educate their children to respect their neighbours property.

**BUY
LIMERICK-
MADE
FIRST AND
GIVE MORE
EMPLOYMENT**

Printed and published by the proprietors, The Limerick Leader Ltd., on the evenings of Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 54 O'Connell St., Limerick.

**PETROL...
NOW
Collect the Better Value**

STAMPS

THE MAYOR of Limerick, Ald. Steve Coughlan, T.D., to-day condemned what he termed this "horrible and despicable act" which led to the desecration of the Church of Ireland graveyard at St. John's Square.

Ald. Coughlan said: "To think that the dead are not even allowed rest in this day and age is, indeed, a sad thought. I sincerely hope that those responsible for this dastardly act are brought to justice."

A tomb was opened. The remains of at least six persons were removed. Bones were scattered around the vicinity.

Council

The Mayor said that he intends to raise the matter at tonight's meeting of the City Council.

He added that it was all the more embarrassing when vandals picked on the religion of a minority to wreak such havoc.

Mr. Bobs Walsh, Rector's Warden, who discovered the damage while cutting grass, said skulls had been smashed, as also were skeletons. He thought the raid had either been carried out for pure blackguardism or else to obtain lead from coffins.

Attempts had also been made to open another vault.

The skulls had, obviously, been broken and teeth removed for the removal of gold fittings.

The lead linings of the coffins had also been taken away.

Gardai

Limerick Gardai under Supt. L. Wren are carrying out an intensive investigation.

A three-cwt slab at the entrance to the vault was forced open with the starting handle of a car and a length of piping was used also as a lever.

The tomb was that of a well-known family in Limerick 100 years ago named Unthank. They were wealthy merchants who resided in Thomas Street and inter-married with the Scanlan family, also engaged in the merchant trade.

The desecration was described as "scandalous" by Very Rev. Dean Talbot, who recalled that in Clarina Churchyard some time ago a similar desecration occurred.

**LIMERICK
MILL IS
SOLD FOR
£90,000**

THE NEWTOWN Mount-perry multi-storey mill in Henry Street, Limerick, was sold on Monday by Messrs. Rank (Ireland) Ltd., Dock Road, to the St. Munchin Development Company.

The sale of the property includes the whole of the block down to the Dock Road.

It is understood that the site will be developed for office blocks with possible hotel accommodation.

The buildings and grounds were sold for a sum stated to be in the region of £90,000.

Messrs. Ranks confirmed today that the sale had been effected.

A spokesman for the company, however, declined to say whether or not Messrs. Ranks contemplated further development but added: "We are always looking around."

The Newtown Mount-perry Mills have not been used for many years beyond being used as a storage depot during a heavy harvest season.

UNIVERSITY ELECTION

Four Limerick students were among the 22 newly-elected members to the U.C.C. Students Representative Council. They are: Noel Walsh, Ballygarry, Co. Limerick; Vincent Mulrooney, O'Connell Ave., Limerick; Thomas Mulqueen, Clarina, Co. Limerick; and



Mr. Bobs Walsh, Rector's Warden, pictured with some of the skulls that were smashed by thieves who broke into a vault.

DISGUSTING BULLY, SAYS JUSTICE

LIMERICK City Court was told by a witness that he was nearly choked by a man who threatened him.

Stephen McCarthy, 6 Raheen Square, Ballinacorra Weston, pleaded not guilty to demanding money with menaces from Patrick O'Reilly at Nicholas Street

key. The defendant caught him by the coat and brought him to the toilet.

Joseph O'Donovan, publican, said that the defendant was in company with four other men. They came in at 11 p.m. on June 27, looking for drink.

The witness refused first, but they persuaded him to give them one drink.

McCarthy ordered the drink and insisted that O'Reilly pay. The defendant caught O'Reilly

Body found on mountain

The body of a man was found on The Scalp, Enniskerry, Co. Wick.