

## 30 Years Ago

### STRIKE CAN CRIPPLE CITY

THE city of Limerick will be brought to a complete standstill on Monday next if a threatened strike by members of the Local Government Workers Union comes into effect.

Strike notice has been served on the Corporation and is due to expire on Friday night.

A Limerick Chronicle reporter learned today that over 600 officials will be involved and pickets will be placed on all local government establishments.

These include the Town Hall, Strand Barracks and the other branches of the administration except the Limerick Fire Station.

A spokesman for the LGU told our reporter that the action had been taken as a result of three years' frustration in trying to get an adjustment of salaries for two long-serving members of Limerick Corporation.

The spokesman emphasised the fact that they had no dispute with the city manager who had been most helpful and considerate throughout the various phases of the negotiations.

"Over 100 members of the union, representing 600 workers met last night and unanimously agreed to take strike action on Monday next," he said.

If the strike takes place, Limerick will be without water, sewerage facilities, rent collection and rate collection.

Cleansing services will also be brought to a halt and all work on housing maintenance will stop. It is not known yet whether last minute talks will take place in the city.

## From the files of the Limerick Chronicle, founded in 1766, the Republic's oldest newspaper

### TOP LEVEL TALKS ON OFF-SHORE OIL

A team of experts from England are in the Midwest today and tomorrow for top level discussions with all interested parties in the extraction of off-shore oil. They are being hosted by Allied Irish Banks and are working in liaison with the Regional Development Organisation.

A reception was held in the Limerick Inn this week to announce the arrival of the team from the Off-Shore Centre in London.

Mr Tom Nesdale, regional manager of Allied Irish Banks said that they were thrilled and delighted to sponsor the visit.

"Our job is to help you all here and we are very proud to be associated with the major oil companies. We have an oil section since 1975 and this is available to all companies both home and abroad, connected with the growing off-shore oil and gas industry," he said.

Allied Irish Banks commissioned a special report "on servicing for hydrocarbons exploration and production off-shore Ireland" which was officially released at the function.

## 40 Years Ago

### SHANNON IS DOING BOOMING BUSINESS

WHILE reports from many parts of the country, including Dublin and Cork, might suggest a disappointing tourist season to date, there is no

doubt that Shannon International Airport and the Shannon region generally have become the bright spots in the national tourist trade.

More people are flying into Ireland through Shannon; more and more are availing of the Bunratty Castle and Knapogue Castle tours; the duty-free shops are doing an exceptionally good trade and there is every indication that by the end of the season, the figure representing the number of people using Shannon Airport will have exceeded half a million for the year. This will be a worthwhile record.

The number of passengers using the airport is up by 15 per cent while the tours show an increase of 10 per cent to date. More than 20,000 people have already availed of the Bunratty and Knapogue Castles tours and the bookings for the remainder of the season indicate a remarkable increase in these figures.

A spokesman for Shannon sales and catering division told our reporter that everything pointed to a record season where they were concerned.

### O'CALLAGHAN'S TANNERY TAKEOVER

A WELL-KNOWN Limerick businessman has purchased the premises formally known as O'Callaghan's Tannery which ceased production last month and resulted in some 40 people being thrown out of employment. As yet, it is not known whether the concern will be redeveloped as a tanning industry or whether it will be used for some other

purpose.

The purchaser, Mr Michael Keane, is a director of Limerick Shoes Ltd and is also director/secretary of P Keane and Sons, bakers and confectioners.

In an interview with the Limerick Chronicle this morning, Mr Keane stated that he had purchased the premises for a considerable sum. He hoped to give employment to at least 20 people but as yet he could not state in what capacity the premises would be used.

This is tremendous news for Limerick for it means additional employment for many. The redevelopment of the premises alone will mean work for skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labourers, while at least 20 people will be employed when the premises re-open.

There is keen speculation in Limerick that the new owner may redevelop the industry as a tanning concern, particularly because of his connections with Limerick Shoes Ltd.

## 50 Years Ago

### FUTURE PLANS FOR REFUGEES AT KNOCKALISHEEN CAMP

EIGHT Hungarian refugee families who had applied for admission to Australia were interviewed in Knockalisheen camp, County Clare, yesterday, by Mr Stewart Jamieson, charge d'affaires of the Australian Embassy in Dublin.

He told reporters that 15,000 Hungarian refugees had been

admitted to Australia direct from Austria. "Where refugees have moved from Austria to other countries and have applied for admission to Australia," he said, "we have to treat them as migrants, that is to say, we treat them exactly as Irishmen who wish to emigrate to America."

Only the eight families who had applied were being interviewed. He did not know what were the prospects of their admission to Australia or when a decision would be made. The eight families were also being medically examined.

Mr Jamieson, who was accompanied by Miss P Williams, secretary to the Embassy, and Messrs M Phillips and J Redford of the Australian Emigration Service, London, spent over three hours in the camp.

It has been learned that the camp may be closed and that the 350 refugees who have been housed there since last November will be sent to various centres. It is believed that the plan to move the refugees indicates that the Government and the Red Cross Society are giving up hope of getting them away to other countries before next winter.

### REDUCED DEFICIT ON WORKING OF THE SHANNON FISHERIES

THE 30th annual report of the ESB states that on the Shannon Fisheries the sales of salmon and eels, the leasing of angling rights and miscellaneous income amounted to £20,897 as compared with

£17,077 in the preceding year. The recorded run of salmon was 12,542 — over 3,000 more than the previous year. There was also an increase in the quantity of eels taken. The year's trading showed a deficit of £8,913, which is £2,242 less than last year.

Successful experiments were carried out in the use of containers in which salmon were packed individually for shipment and in the use of cardboard packs to replace wooden cases. Salmon packed in individual polythene containers arrived at overseas markets in better condition than when packed in contact with one another and with melting ice. It was found practicable to use cardboard containers for fresh salmon when the fish were prepackaged in polyethylene. The costs of cardboard containers were less than those of wooden salmon boxes of similar capacity and transport costs were low because of the reduced weight.

Experiments were carried out in the killing of salmon by electricity as opposed to the normal system of clubbing the fish.

### TRAGIC DEATH OF MR ROBERT HERBERT, CITY LIBRARIAN

VERY deep regret has been occasioned by the news of the tragic death of Mr Robert Herbert, city librarian. Mr Herbert left his home on Sunday morning for a short fishing expedition on the river Mulcair at Boher and some time in the afternoon, when he had a conversation with a passerby, his found was found face downwards in about two feet of water. Artificial respiration was applied without success and then the body was removed to Barrington's Hospital, where an inquest will be held on Thursday next.