

# River Shannon filled in

INSURANCE, legal and maintenance problems have forced Limerick Civic Trust to fill in the magnificent miniature of the River Shannon at the Potato Market.

And while the miniature has been filled with gravel instead of gushing water, Civic Trust boss Denis Leonard is examining a number of options regarding the attraction.

"We are doing some research on it and hope to get a durable see through cover, where people could actually walk over it", he explained.

The miniature depicts the rise of the Shannon with a fountain, the three lakes and the river going out into the estuary.

"Of course costs will be a factor but hopefully we will be able to go ahead with something".



The miniature of the Shannon at the Potato Market

Meanwhile the market which has seen little activity since last month's official opening by Taoiseach Charles Haughey, should be fully operational by September.

Mr. Leonard is finalising plans to open the market

with stalls each weekend.

Even without any stalls big crowds have been visiting the market and walking over the O'Halloran bridge each day.

"We are just finalising plans and will have stalls

with arts and crafts and home made products", said Mr. Leonard this week.

He is also looking at the possibility of having music and band recitals and open air theatre at the market.

## Restore

It cost £382,000 to restore and Mr. Leonard feels that it will be money very well spent once the facility starts operating fully.

He hopes that by early September all the behind the scenes work will be completed and that the market will open.

The stalls will probably operate on a Friday, Saturday and maybe Sunday morning. "We have not fully decided on that yet", he explained.

"A huge amount of people have been using the Potato Market and visiting it since it opened", he added.