KNIFE ATTACK ON
EX-MAYOR

By AIDAN CORR

FORMER Mayor of Limerick, Paddy Kiely was still recovering to-
day following a vicious attack when he was struck with a
sledgehammer and a jagged-edged carving knife.

"It was one of the
most terrifying ex-
periences of my life," the
former Fianna Fáil coun-
cillor said this morning.
as he relived the horror
of the assault which took
place as he came from a
house in Creavé Park,
Moyross at 7.45 p.m. on
Friday last.

"There were two
assailants, maybe three,
and each had his face
disguised with a balac-
claava. I had just sat into
the car, which was
parked outside the house,
when one of them kicked
the door and nearly
knocked it off the hinges.
The next thing I remem-
bere I was being pulled
out of the car and thrown
down on the ground.

This is the fifth occa-
sion that the local insur-
ance agent has been
attacked and robbed.

"One of them hit me
in the face with the
sledgehammer while the
other slashed both of my
hands with the knife.

They then snatched the
money, which totalled
between £400 and £500,
from me and made off
into the darkness," said
the Scottish Legal Insur-
ance Company
employee.

Residents of the area
were soon on the scene
and Paddy was brought
into a nearby house
where first aid was
administered while the
ambulance and gardaí
were on their way.

"Fortunately," said
Paddy, "I did not lose
consciousness and I
would like to thank the
residents of Creavé
Park, the gardaí and the
staff of the Regional
Hospital for their consid-
eration and care."

Paddy Kiely has been
a long serving figure on
the local political scene,
being Mayor of Limerick
in 1972/73 and secretary
of the Fianna Fáil Com-
hairle Dáil Ceann-
stithe, east Limerick
executive, since 1959.

He has also acted as
director of elections for
the party on numerous
occasions and has given
a lifetime of dedicated
service.

"Attacks such this are
a sad reflection on the
society in which we
live," continued Paddy,
"and it makes one won-
der where the solution to
such violence lies. "Even
if these criminals are
captured, what kind of
sentence are they going
to get? Maybe the time has
come to bring back the
bitch."

"There have been a
number of similar
assaults in the past few
months," he told us from
his home in Pennywell,
"and it makes one won-
der if the same gang are
involved. Personally I
will feel very nervous in
the future as I go about
my business which is
centered mainly in the
sprawling residential
areas of the city."