



MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1987

PRICE 15p

Death of former Mayor and Labour Deputy



Mick Lipper

THE former Mayor of Limerick and Labour T.D. for Limerick East, Mr. Michael Lipper, died at his home at 11 Greenhills Road, Garryowen, on Saturday night.

Mr. Lipper who was 55 years of age had been ill for a short time before his death.

For 25 years Mick Lipper was an integral part of the political scene in Limerick. He was first elected to Limerick City Council in 1960 and was returned to the council at every election up to 1985 when he retired from the council.

In 1968 he contested the

by-election in Limerick East as a Labour candidate and was defeated by just 2,000 votes by Desmond O'Malley to fill the vacancy created by the death of Donogh O'Malley.

In 1973 he was elected Mayor of Limerick opposed on the nomination of the then T.D. Steve Coughlan. He was seconded by Cllr. Frank Leddin.

In his inaugural speech as Mayor, he declared: "As far as I'm concerned, housing, industry and employment are the priorities, but I have no carbon copy to put forward to these solutions."

In 1977 he achieved the

pinnacle of his political career when he was elected to Dail Eireann as an Independent Labour candidate. He polled 5,224 first preference votes in that election.

In October of 1977 he became a member of the Labour parliamentary party.

In 1981 he lost his Dail seat when he polled 2,905 first preference votes and when he was eliminated his votes helped to elect Ald. Jim Kemmy.

He is a former member of the Mid-Western Health Board and Limerick City VEC.

A life long member of Pike

Rovers and as a player played at centre forward. He played for the League of Ireland and played senior soccer with Limerick, Transport and Sigo Rovers.

He is survived by his wife Peg, sons Michael, Barry and Adrian and daughters Marian and Sandra.

The removal will take place this Monday evening from Lynch's Funeral Chapel, Upper Gerald Griffin Street, to St. John's Cathedral at 8 p.m. Requiem Mass at 1.30 p.m. this Tuesday with funeral afterwards to Mount St. Laurence Cemetery.

Tributes to Mick Lipper

IN a tribute today Mayor Tim Leddin described the late Michael Lipper as "a very friendly man and a man who was always in touch with the problems of the people of Limerick."

"He was a devoted family man and of course he was an excellent mayor. I recall when he was mayor, bringing some Polish friends to see him. I recall well his demeanour: it so greatly impressed that Polish group," said Mayor Leddin.

Former Mayor Frank Leddin, who sat on the city council for 25 years with the late Michael Lipper, and who is now chairman of the Limerick East Constituency Council of Labour, said: "I knew Mick Lipper as a man to work with —

never against. He was very dedicated and a sincere public representative.

"He will be a big loss to the Party in both Limerick city and county as he was a trojan worker," he added.

Mr. John McLaughlin, worker director of C.I.E., said that he first got to know Mick Lipper when he was a clerk with the company in Nenagh.

Mr. McLaughlin said that he worked very hard in ensuring that Frank Prendergast was elected to Dail Eireann. "However, my first recollection of him was of a cheerful man — a man that you always knew was around the place."

Former mayor and alderman, Tommy Allen, described the late Mick Lipper as an extremely hard working man.

SHIP CAPT DEFENDED

By CONOR KEANE

THE Limerick sea captain at the centre of the Italian police inquiry into a major arms haul is most likely an innocent party, a former colleague told the Limerick Leader this Monday.

Capt. John "Jack" Scallan (48) from Limerick, and his British first officer Richard Murdy (40), were ordered off the 10,000 tonne Fathulkhair and questioned by police after the 14 tonne arms haul was made.

However, Mr. Jim Wallace, president of Limerick Trades Union Council, who once worked with the Strick Line shipping company at the same time as Capt. Scallan told the Limerick Leader that he knew Capt. Scallan and would be more than surprised if he was involved in any wrong doing.

were a number of ways that the arms cargo could have found its way on board the Dubai bound tanker.

Firstly, Mr. Wallace said that the items could have been incorrectly described on the ship's manifest and that the captain would not normally inspect the contents of cargo crates.

Finally, Mr. Wallace said that all arms cargoes required an "end user" certificate and perhaps this was not in order.

Mr. Wallace also said that "legally a captain was more responsible for his ship than say the managing director of a company.

"If he is being detained it is purely a legal device to hold the ship," he added.

Avenue, within the next few weeks.

Capt. Scallan now lives in Liverpool with his wife Patricia, aged 49, and their 22-year-old daughter Stephanie. A brother Oliver is a priest with the Mill Hill Fathers in Belfast and a sister Mary, now lives in London.

The ship on which the arms were found is owned by United Arab Shipping com-

Accused