

New mayor to 'push' on city limits

MAYORAL ELECTION

By DYPHNA BRACKEN

AN extension of the city boundary is to be vigorously pursued by the city's newly elected mayor Cllr Dick Sadlier.

An economics lecturer at Limerick RTC, Cllr Sadlier was elected with the support of the Labour Party by nine votes to four for Cllr Joe Harrington.

Cllr Harrington was supported by Alderman John Gilligan, Cllr John Ryan (DL) and Cllr Jack Bourke (FF).

Fine Gael whose leader on the Council, Cllr Gus O'Driscoll criticised the lack of rotation of the mayoralty led his party out of the chamber before the call of votes.

In his mayoral address, Cllr Sadlier, who lives in Castletroy but represents Ward Four, said he intended to pursue vigorously and at least, ensure that the case for a boundary extension was significantly advanced during the coming year.

"Limerick is the third largest city in the Republic and it is most important that this position be retained," he claimed.

"Suburbs which are now adjoining our city and in which many residents regard themselves as city people, must surely be included within our boundaries," he claimed.

"It is entirely illogical," he said "that a city, denied the opportunity to expand its boundary for some 43 years, is yet expected to fund the necessary infrastructure of the expanded areas."

The office of Mayor, fortunately he said in his opinion, does not carry with it executive powers.

It does, however, he said, enable significant influence to be exercised and, if harnessed and channelled positively, can project the city in a manner that reflects well, not just nationally, but also internationally.

"I will endeavour to ensure that Limerick is, at all times, shown in the best possible light and that the natural advantages and many modern facilities of the city are promoted on as wide a platform as possible," he promised.

Over the last decade, he said, significant progress has been made in improving the physical environment of

the city. Indeed the success of the inner city redevelopment programme must now be the envy of every other city in the country.

"It is an outstanding example of what can be achieved given the fullest co-operation between central and local governments, and private enterprise - our economy surely demands more such initiatives," he claimed.

However, he added, we must continue with this progress and ensure that the impetus was maintained.

He described it as particularly gratifying that the King's Island project is in place and that the Hunt museum is scheduled for completion in the autumn of 1995.

He paid a special tribute of Dr Edward Walsh, and said the concert hall development is an enormous boost and a magnificent facility to Limerick and is surely without parallel in many of the capitals of the world.

While it is an exciting time in the development of the city, he admitted that there are also many problems to contend with.

"Unemployment must remain at the top of the list until meaningful inroads are made in this regard," he emphasised.

While appreciating that there are no easy solutions or quick fixes it has to be repeated, he said, at every available opportunity, that economic success must be defined in terms of people at work.

"An economy that does not serve the people has

failed and the dignity of work is something in which every person is entitled to participate," he claimed.

Mayor Sadlier described the loss of the status of Shannon as a major blow to the region and said it is now imperative that all interest groups work closely together to develop and promote the airport and avoid any further undermining of this valuable and essential facility.

How the vote went

The following is the result of the vote: For Cllr Sadlier: Aldermen Jim Kemmy and Sean Griffin and Cllrs Kieran O'Hanlon, John Quinn, Jan O'Sullivan Frank Leddin, Judy O'Donoghue, Frank Prendergast and Cllr Sadlier.

For Cllr Harrington: Cllr John Ryan, Alderman John Gilligan, Cllr Jack Bourke and Cllr Harrington.

In a clear message to Minister Brian Cowen and to Aer Lingus, Mayor Sadlier said: "We expect to see commitments already given honoured in full and we will settle for nothing less."

"Any dilution, change or alteration will be firmly resisted every inch of the way," he warned.

"I am strongly of the view that the board and

senior management of Aer Lingus have a lot to answer for and suggest to the Minister that if he first concentrated his efforts in this area he might subsequently find it considerably easier to deal with the workforce," he added.

On the environmental, Mayor Sadlier promised to focus his concern and attention to ensure that the Longpavement is closed.

Air quality in the city, he claimed, must also be addressed sooner rather than later.

Throughout the coming year, the Mayor promised to make a special effort to support voluntary initiatives, community and otherwise, and to recognise the tremendous past work of senior citizens.

Concluding, he said, the election of Mayor is always an interesting occasion in the city. He paid a special tribute to two former mayors, Ted Russell and Steve Coughlan.

He referred to the city's long, noble and, at times, troubled history and said that even though the past cannot be changed, everybody in their own way, can shape and influence the future.

Conscious of the honour bestowed on him, Mayor Sadlier admitted that he was tremendously proud of his native city and looked forward very much to working in close harmony with all members of the Council and with the manager and staff.

He paid a special thank you to his wife Mary; daughter Aoife; son Eoghan and his mother Aggie for their help and support.



Limerick's new Mayoress; Mary Sadlier

Kemmy praises P stance in council

THE Progressive Democrats were the only party to come forward when the Labour party set about building a democratic structure following the elections, Alderman Jim Kemmy said.

Sadlier honest — Kemmy

ALDERMAN Kemmy, congratulating Cllr Sadlier on his election described him as "hardworking and most importantly, honest". "Even though the philosophies are polls part we have shown that we can work together for the benefit of the city," stated the Alderman.

Cllr John Quinn who seconded Cllr Sadlier's nomination thanked the members of the Labour party who had ensured his election.

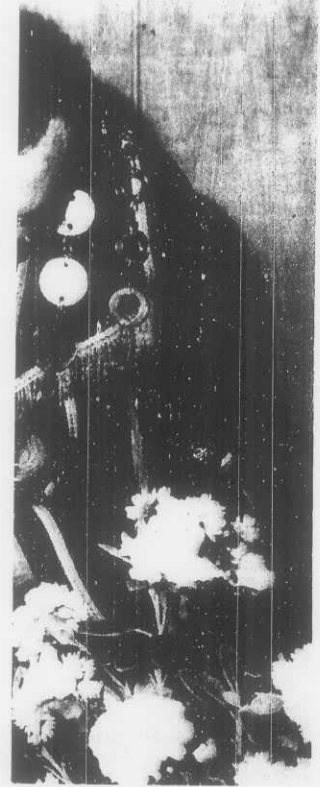
Cllr Jack Bourke said he had no doubt as to the abilities of Cllr Sadlier to perform the duties of mayor.

He explained that he voted for Cllr Harrington because of his record on the Council. "And I do think that as this is the 25 anniversary of Southill that it would be good to have a mayor from that area".

Cllr Bourke said it would have given him equally given him no trouble to vote for Cllr Sadlier who he claimed came from a Fianna Fail background.



Limerick's new Mayor, Councillor Dick Sadlier.



Mayor: 'Commercial'



Mr: Jan O'Sullivan. (LL)

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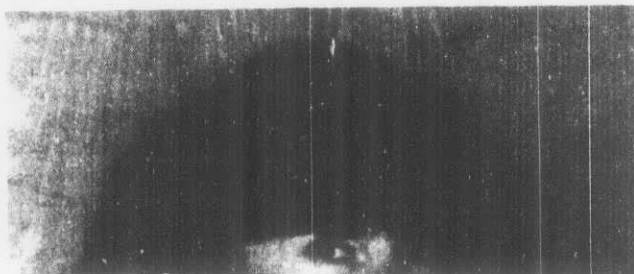


MAYOR Sadlier signs the book.

Outgoing Mayor: 'controversial'

OUTGOING mayor Jan O'Sullivan was praised for her presence of mind during two controversies during her mayoralty by Alderman Jim Kemmy.

Not wishing to mar the occasion with recriminations, Alderman Kemmy



New 'pus limi

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