and
s the

ared
ness
aces.
e of a
with
t was
e last
have
ner's
that
to go

orpo-
con-
it the
eased
out 12
y last

imposed a price hike and we will be applying one of around 2.5p from Monday April 3," he said. It is a brewery increase so all money will go to the brewery, not the publican. It is up to the publican though as to how much extra he adds to the base increase. There are no restrictions regarding price increases for a publican."

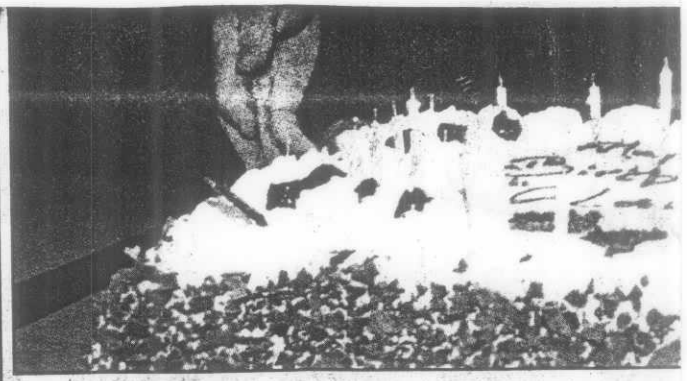
Last Christmas' increase of 10 pence on the pint is understood to have gone to the publicans.

A number of publicans confirmed to the Limerick Leader that they have received a letter from the brewery informing them

other prominent members also denied that they knew of any price increase.

A spokesperson at the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment confirmed that there are no price controls on the sale of alcoholic beverages. "But since last September, prices have to be displayed on the door or inside the door of a pub listing the prices of various drinks," said the spokesperson. "This way consumers can vote with their feet as to whether they want to pay the price or not."

Guinness draught products include the black stuff, Harp, Smithwicks, Budweiser and Carlsberg.



Holding Mick Galwey and the Munster team at bay, Peter C
ty this week

raining
SE, BARRINGTON
MERICK
computer
ecently been
s the only
ified
nical
on
enter
Vest region
. . .
orate
ning
tion
d
d
er
Novell.
EDUCATION
AUTHORISED CENTER
INCLUDE . . .
97 / Office 2000
e
ffice
ng
t /
s
g
nsai
I.S/ISO 9002/EN 29002
tion please contact
Egan on
10599 or
a.egan@cara.ie

McCourt is accused in new row over sacristan

By IAIN DEMPSEY

ANGELA'S Ashes author Frank McCourt was back in controversy this Thursday for what was termed his "hurtful" description of a city "gentleman."

The family of one of the characters in McCourt's novel Angela's Ashes spoke out for the first time at the way in which their beloved family member was treated in the book.

The daughter of Stephen Carey—who Frank McCourt says slammed the door in his face when he wanted to become an altar boy—has called the author's treatment of her father as "unjust" and "hurtful."

In the best-selling book, McCourt tells of how he and his father walk to St Joseph's Church to see the sacristan, Stephen Carey, about young Frank becoming an altar boy. When they knock on the door, Stephen answers and McCourt tells in his book: "Stephen Carey looks at him, then me. He says, We don't have room for him, and closes the door. Dad is still holding my hand and squeezes till it hurts and I want to cry out."

But the Carey family have lashed out, saying that McCourt portrayed their beloved late relative as a heartless man.

"We thought it was unjust and hurtful what Mr McCourt said about my father," said Marie Siegel, daughter of Stephen Carey speaking from her home in Friedrichsdorf, Germany.

Stephen Carey, former sacristan of St Joseph's Church, upon receiving the Papal Benemeranti Medal

"We want the people of Limerick to look on my father with kindness and not with malice. He spent his life in the church and was a great benefit to Limerick and its people."

Marie's daughter Diana Peckham also wants to clear her grandfather's name.

"Stephen Carey is portrayed in the book as a cold and heartless person who slams the door in the face of a poor boy who wants to be an acolyte," said Diana. "In these few words by Mr McCourt, a very decent and caring man has been damned in the eyes of many readers around the world. Stephen Carey was in fact a great parish clerk, dedicating his life to the church and to the community, for which he was awarded the Papal Benemeranti Medal."

"I admire anyone who can make a success of his life from such a hard start and I do not wish to detract from his status as a writer," said Diana of Frank McCourt. "I am, however, stung by the injustice that the book is sold as a work of non-fiction, when even Mr McCourt himself admits in interviews that he has embellished imperfect memory."

Stephen's daughter Marie, who grew up on St Joseph's Street but has been living in Germany for the past 20 years, was the eldest of nine children. Her father died in 1981 and she said that the Carey family were hurt by Frank McCourt's portrayal of her father. She commended Dr Tom Ryan, one of Ireland's most respected oil painters, for standing up for her father in a recent interview with the Limerick Leader's Jimmy Woulfe. In the interview, Dr Ryan commented: "I was an altar boy in St Joseph's where Stephen Carey was the parish clerk. I think McCourt was malicious in the way he portrayed Stephen." Grand-daughter Diana added: "The Carey's also suffered the loss of two infants who would undoubtedly have lived had they been born into our modern age. He did not blame fate or others for the things that went wrong in life: he gathered strength and carried on. Times were hard for everyone. He had enormous faith and lived his life in accordance with Christian principles."

"Stephen Carey was always a gentleman and viewed the world with compassion," concluded Diana. "He is part of Limerick history and represents all that is commendable in the Irish spirit."

This little pig fly on Saturc

By PATRICIA FEEHILY

THIS little piggy isn't going to the market - just yet. He's going to Cameroon!

On this Saturday he will join a consignment of 40 other 'Babes' at Shannon, en route to a new home in Africa.

It is the first ever airlift of Irish pigs to a poor country by the Limerick city based Third World Development Agency, Bothar. Over the years, Bothar has sent thousands of farm animals - dairy heifers, goats and chickens, to boost the economies of undeveloped countries from

Uganda
But t
first pig
David
accompa
on their
Africa
them ov
ilies. "T
tributed
same p
applied
said.
"The
spring c
turn be
selected
The
tened
native
and the
to educa
childre
Camero

Niamh Lillis, Corbally, helps with airlift to Africa

LIMERICK LEADER & LIMERICK CHRONICLE: the only newspapers printed and published in Limerick