



nd Championship at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, last Saturday. St. Alphonsus, are some of the bell-ringing group—Left to right oll (Rector), D. Benson, Rev. Father Norris, J. Neville, L. Benson, N. Newman, J. O'Neill, N. Crowe and L. Hickey. The members of ve Benson, Noel Crowe, Tony Curtin, Liam Hickey, Liam Benson, (ure) Hugh O'Brien.

Alphonsus Bellringers Championship

competition was won in Dublin last Saturday by the on. The other teams in the final, St. Patrick's, Ballyed the North of Ireland and the East, respectively, and Alphonsus group for the fourth time.

ar, taken down in 1947 and recast into a peal of ten with one stationary bell, and were rehung after a period of eleven months. They are regarded as being one of the best ten bell peals in Ireland or England.

Touring teams frequently visit the Limerick towers, and quite a number of enthusiastic bell ringers spend their annual vacation ringing at the various towers throughout the country. Next August two touring teams—one from St. Paul's Cathedral, London will visit Limerick.

DAVE BENSON

The oldest member of last Saturday's championship team, Mr. David Benson, has been ringing the bells of Mount St. Alphonsus for 61 years. Last year, on the occasion of his diamond jubilee as a bell-ringer with the church, he was presented with a magnificent gold medallion. His golden jubilee of membership was marked by the late Pope Pius XII with a medal and certificate.

Dave's sons, Liam and Paddy, have also a long association with the tower. Liam, who is 26 years ringing, was a member of the four Murphy Cup championship teams, and has been identified with all the successes of the group since it entered competitive ringing in 1952. Paddy Benson was on

the winning Murphy Cup team of 1957. Paddy, who is now in Canada, was a well-known member of the College Players. The conductor of the team, Jack Sciascia, is a member of a family who have a long tradition in music in Limerick. His great-grandfather, who came here from Italy, was a gifted musician.

The Secretary of Mount St. Alphonsus bellringers, Paddy Hanley, is the only other member of the team, with Liam Benson, who has won the Murphy Cup four times. Two other great ringers, Joe and Tom Cleary, occasionally call to the tower to practise.

In charge of the team is Rev. Fr. Norris, C.S.S.R., and two other Redemptorists who are both active ringers are Rev. Fr. Magnier, C.S.S.R., Limerick, and Rev. Fr. O'Donnell, C.S.S.R., now in Galway. Some noted bellringers of the past at Mount St. Alphonsus were Dan McNeice, Michael Doyle, the Guinas, Jack, Joe and Tom Mulqueen and the Hickeys. They have all passed to their reward, but Dave Benson assures me that they lived to a ripe old age. "Bellringing is a very pleasant exercise, and a certain amount of physical work goes with it," he says. He prescribes it as an aid to longevity, and Dave, who can still win Irish championships after 61 years of practice at the art, is a living proof of his assertion.

THE tenth President of the Christian Brothers Schools Past Pupils' Union is Councillor Frank Glasgow. Much of the work during his year of office will be in preparing for the 150th anniversary of the coming of the Christian Brothers to Limerick.

Plans for this notable anniversary, which will be celebrated in 1966, are not yet finalised, but Frank told me "you can take it that this very important event in the history of Limerick will be marked in a very fitting way."

The 1916 Insurrection, another big event in the history of Ireland and in the history of Limerick, will also be celebrated next year and there may be a tie-up between the two anniversaries, as the pupils of the C.B.S. played a big part in the fight for Irish freedom.

The new president of the union is well known in Limerick and, indeed, far outside it for his work in the national movement, for his interest in the Irish language and for the very active part he has played down through the years in civic affairs.

He joined the Fianna in 1911 and was a member of that body and of the Volunteers up to 1924. During the fight against British rule, he served two years imprisonment, most of which was spent in gaols in England, and he was interned for a year during the Civil War.

GAELIC LEAGUE

Frank joined the Gaelic League in 1912 and, after being awarded a Gaeltacht scholarship, he studied in the Ballingearry Irish College and in a number of other institutions in the Fíor-Gaeltacht. In the years between he has acted on the local branch; in 1923 he was secretary, in the '40s treasurer and, finally, president in the late '40s and early '50s.

He was treasurer of Cumann Dramaíochta Luimni and president of Clann na hEireann. He is a member of Feile Luimni and of the advisory panel of the Limerick Arts Council; a vice-president of the Limerick Choral and Operatic Society, and is treasurer of the Old I.R.A. and the Old Fianna. During the Emergency he served for six years in the Local Defence Force.

Frank has served continuously on the Limerick City Council since he was first elected in 1950 and he filled the office of Mayor during 1961-'62.

He is son of the late Mr. Patrick and Mrs. Mary Glasgow, of Limerick, and his family has a long connection with the Christian Brothers' Schools here. He himself entered as a pupil in 1910, and his grandfather, father, brothers and sons were also educated in the C.B.S.

Frank's year of office will be a very important one in the history of the C.B.S. Past Pupils' Union and he will have the good wishes of the many thousands of the schools' "old boys" in Ireland and throughout the world in his work.

Councillor Frank Glasgow, who succeeds Mr. Anthony Brummell to the Presidency of the Christian Brothers Schools

Limerick man Captains London-Irish

Twenty-three-year-old Limerick man Leonard Dinneen has been elected captain of the famous English rugby club, London-Irish, for the season 1965-'66.



Leonard, who is son of Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Dinneen, received his early education at St. Philomena's School, Limerick, and, on the completion of his studies at Crescent College, joined the editorial staff of the Limerick Leader and Limerick Chronicle. After 18 months at newspaper work he took up employment in 1960 with the Bell Punch Company Ltd.

He was aged 11 when he got his introduction to rugby at Crescent College. Early trophies included an under 15 cup medal, an under 17 shield and a Limerick City Cup.

On leaving college, Leonard joined Old Crescent R.F.C. and numbers among some of his victories a Transfield Cup medal. Guesting as juvenile with Young Munster he won an under-18 cup medal.

At the commencement of the 1961 season, Leonard made his debut with London-Irish. He was picked for the fourth of the club's eleven teams, but so brilliant was his play in the opening match that he was immediately promoted to the first team.

With London-Irish he has built for himself a name as one of England's best prop-forwards. In the season concluded he played with great distinction on the Buckingham County side.

In 1963 he was chosen for the Munster team against Ulster in Belfast. The match was a scoreless draw, but Leonard was omitted for the remainder of the season because Munster already had two formidable prop-forwards in Mick O'Callaghan and Gordon Wood.

He was unlucky not to be included in the 1964-'65 Munster team, but as captain of London-Irish he will be in the limelight and must be in the running for the highest honours.

Leonard has also been prominent in other sporting spheres. Rowing with Limerick Boat Club for Crescent College he won a Schools' Cup in Athlone. He played cricket, hockey and tennis with Catholic Institute, and with Crescent played on the club's first tennis team. He is married to the former Miss Kay McGuinness of Limerick. They have two boys and live in Denham, Buckinghamshire.

of County Markets open this month