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Michael Noonan joins the Cabinet



At Leinster House this week (from left): Mr. Noonan's sister, Mrs. Joan Fitzgerald; his mother, Ann, and his wife, Florence, and his sister, Mary.

Deputy Tom O'Donnell arrives at Leinster House for the start of the 24th Day.

Minister Noonan at the Gresham Hotel after receiving his seal of office and attending his first cabinet meeting.

LEADER BRIEFING

Murder Squad comb Limerick

By LEADER REPORTER

A MAJOR comb-out of housing estates in Limerick city was continuing this Friday as Murder Squad detectives and local gardai continued their hunt for the man they want to interview in connection with last Saturday's double murder in the city.

Samuel McCarthy and his brother, Thomas, were killed after a fight broke out in the Treaty Bar, Thomondgate.

Thomas (24), married, with one child, and Sammy (21), single, who lived near each other at Colmille Street, St. Mary's Park, each received one blow from a knife, gardai believe.

Gardai have been interviewing people all week and many searches have been carried out. A knife found in being examined by forensic experts.

There were many tearful scenes at the funeral of the brothers this week at Mount St. Laurence Cemetery.

Fatality

An elderly man, Mr. William Quigley, single, Curragh-lahan, Cappamore, was dead on admission to Limerick Regional Hospital, following an accident involving a motor vehicle at Farnane, Cappamore, this Wednesday night.

Tree fall

Communications in Bruree were disrupted this Friday when a tree fell on a line near the village. A Post-Office spokesperson said that it was hoped to have the line repaired before noon.

Lightning strikes twice?

The electricity supply in parts of Limerick was interrupted at tea-time on Friday last by an unusual double fault—thought to be brought about by lightning. Supply stations at Carrigrohane and Newport were damaged within an hour of one another and approximately 6,000 consumers were affected to varying degrees.

Half of this number had been restored by E.S.B. crews within half an hour, and 2,000 more within a further 15 minutes. Approximately a thousand users in the Castletroy-Newport areas were further affected up to 8.00 p.m.

Bingo bus tragedy

One woman was killed and 14 people were removed to Limerick Regional Hospital following an accident involving a mini-bus and a car at Crean, Bruff, on Saturday night last. The dead woman, Mrs. Mary Hartnett, a widow, Speare Street, Kilmallock, was travelling in the mini-bus which was taking bingo patrons to Meenas.

Still detained in hospital are Mrs. Grace Burke, Inchclare, Croom. She was removed from the Regional Hospital to Croom Orthopaedic Hospital where her condition this Thursday was stated to be "satisfactory". A spokesman at the Regional Hospital this morning described the condition of Mr. John Lyons, a passenger in the bus, as "comfortable".

Next week

The county edition of next week's week-end issue of the Limerick Leader will be published on Wednesday. The city edition will appear on Thursday. Correspondents and advertisers are therefore requested to submit copy a day earlier than usual.

PRIORITY SECURITY FOR NEW MINISTER

By JIMMY Woulfe and CONOR KEANE

STRICT SECURITY measures are being mounted in the Gouldavoher area, where the new Minister for Justice, Mr. Michael Noonan, resides.

Armed detectives will be on 24-hour duty outside his house. Top priority security is always enforced for holders of this Government office and it is expected that extra Gardai will be drafted into Edward Street Garda Station to form a special security detail.

The Minister's official car will also be escorted by a Special Branch car.

Speaking about the security arrangements, Mr. Noonan said: "I am a private kind of person. I don't like the idea of having heavy security around me all the time, but I suppose that it's necessary and that is the advice I have got."

"I am sure I will get used to it."

Cavalcade

The Minister will have an escort of another kind when he arrives at the Hurlers on the Dublin Road at about 6.30 this Friday evening.

Hundreds of Fine Gael supporters will form a cavalcade into the city centre where a celebration function will be held in Cruise's Hotel. It is expected that the Minister will then go to his home area where neighbours plan to have bonfires blazing.

Just one hour before the 24th Day convened, Mr. Noonan was still in his ground floor office when a call came from Chief Whip of the Fine Gael party, Mr. Sean Barrett.

"Garret wants to see you in his office," was the message, and it signalled the big breakthrough in the short political life of the former school teacher from Loughlin.

Within minutes of the Cabinet being announced, security measures were launched at his home in Gouldavoher, which will now be under constant surveillance.

Mr. Noonan said he would be working closely with the Taoiseach and the Attorney General as part of his brief.

Mr. Sutherland, he said, would be working with him in the very important area of law reform.

In the area of law and order, Mr. Noonan said, his job would necessitate him briefing the Taoiseach on a day-to-day basis.

One local issue which now will be dealt by him in his new role is the old problem of wandering horses.

"There is a Law Reform Commission report and that is available. I will submit that to the Minister for Agriculture to get his comments regarding legislation," Mr. Noonan commented.

Mid-West

Mr. Noonan is the only representative from the Mid-West in the new Cabinet.

He told the Limerick Leader that he was very surprised that he was appointed Minister for Justice, but added that he had been hoping that he would, in fact, be included in the Cabinet.

He was not willing to discuss any detailed action he would take as Justice Minister until he had been fully briefed.

"Obviously I will be working very closely with Garret Fitzgerald and I will also talk with my predecessor, Mr. Jim Mitchell," added Mr. Noonan.

Limerick West's Fine Gael

Turn to page 2

Bonfires will blaze this Friday

By PATRICIA FEEHILY

BONFIRES will be blazing in Gouldavoher this Friday, night to welcome home the new Minister for Justice, Mr. Michael Noonan.

Excited neighbours have applied to Limerick County Council for permission to give the new Minister the traditional homecoming.

"We will all be waiting to see the first State car entering Gouldavoher Estate," said neighbour, Mrs. Margaret Doyle, who also added that they were all "thrilled with Michael's appointment".

At school

Further up the road, Mrs. Mary Donohoe, who went to school with the Minister for Justice in Glin National School—years ago, said: "There's great excitement here since his appointment was announced. We were all waiting anxiously to hear the news, and you could almost hear a spontaneous cheer in Gouldavoher when it was announced."

Mrs. Donohoe added that Michael's wife, Florence, was a wonderful neighbour, and looked after the Donohoe children recently when there was a bereavement in the family.

Young Kenneth Doyle said that he was delighted because his friend's father was now a Minister, and the police were guarding his house.

Another neighbour, Con or Shannahan, said: "We're all delighted. He taught most of our family at the Comprehensive school."

Florence

"It's fantastic," said Mrs. Ann Griffin for Florence. She's a lovely person."

And the man who first proposed Michael Noonan as a Dail candidate, Mr. John Campion, said: "It turns to page 2"

O'Donnell disappointed but 'very philosophical'

By EUGENE PHELAN

FINE GAEL front runner, Mr. Tom O'Donnell, admitted this week that he was "disappointed" at not being included in the new Cabinet.

"But I am more disappointed for the 9,000 people who voted for me than for myself personally," said Mr. O'Donnell, who has served Limerick in the Dail for the past 21 years.

And the Euro-T.D. added: "I will absolutely not take a junior-ministry—I refused one in 1981 as I felt, as I do now, that my contribution is at Cabinet level."

Strasbourg

This Thursday Mr. O'Donnell was in Strasbourg for vital discussions on the budget as well as a debate on aviation which could have serious repercussions for Aer Lingus.

Before he jetted off he admitted that he had been optimistic about getting a Cabinet post.

But, he said this Wednesday: "I am very philosophical. You have to accept ups and downs in politics. I am going to get on with the job."

And he went on: "Whether in Government or Opposition, back bench or front bench, in Europe or the Dail, my first priority will always be to the people of Limerick and the Shannon region."

Mr. O'Donnell revealed that he would continue to work in Europe and the Dail for the next year and a half until the European elections. What then?

Co-operation

The former Gaeltacht Minister also stated: "I wish to congratulate Michael Noonan on his appointment and assure him of my full co-operation."

Mr. O'Donnell said that he had no intention of retiring from politics and would continue to represent the people of Limerick.

Mr. Fagan: brainwave: who care for the aged in England, Scotland and Wales and they have given full approval to the idea.

All accommodation is free, and breakfast is also provided. Continued Mr. Fagan: "Irish hoteliers depend a good deal on trade from



Britain and I think this little gesture will go a long way towards forging links that have been broken over the years."

Recession affects Fr Kavanagh campaign

By LEADER REPORTER

LIMERICK Redeemtorist, Fr. Vincent Kavanagh, who is trying to feed 1,400 families this Christmas, said this Friday that donations were down slightly this year.

"We again have got a magnificent response and have an awful lot, but I have noticed a little bit of a decline since last year," said Fr. Kavanagh, who blamed the recession.

So far he has received four cattle, four pigs, three sheep, about 35 turkeys and many more chickens and numerous other donations including money to buy food.

Through his 200 volunteers food will start to be distributed in the city and county on Monday, but any contributions will be taken up to Christmas Eve.

"This year it is a little harder for people to give with the recession biting, but we would ask them to make that extra effort," said Fr. Kavanagh.

On Limerick screens now

Steven Spielberg's "E.T.—The Extra Terrestrial" opened at the Carlton Panoram Cinema this Friday afternoon. The Jane Fonda-Kris Kristoferson co-starrer, "Rollercoaster", also opened this Friday at the Central Studio.

Patrons are requested to note that these two films will be shown this Friday and Saturday, although they were advertised to open on Sunday. "E.T." will also be the late show this Friday and Saturday at the Carlton Panoram.

Weather

Although temperatures will rise to about six degrees in the Limerick region this Friday afternoon, it will become cold with widespread frost again at night. This will continue into early this Saturday but there will be return to wet weather with milder conditions in the afternoon.

Hands across the Irish Sea

Britain and I think this little gesture will go a long way towards forging links that have been broken over the years."

A rush of enquiries is expected. Considering that upwards of 30,000 made application last year from Ireland alone we will be surprised if we don't have double that number from Britain."

Approaches have already been made to Mr. Fagan to promote similar holidays for Americans in 1984.

All this doesn't mean that old folk at home have been forgotten. Over 1,000 places are to be made available to them in 1983 and there are no restrictions.

"We will be glad to welcome them in summer,"

U.S. business magnate is Santa to Shannonside

By LEADER REPORTER

THE LARGEST Santa sleigh ever to arrive in Limerick—331 crates of toys from America—was unloaded at the Redeemtorists' this week.

Hundreds of Limerick children will have their Christmas morning expectations realised thanks to the generosity of Irish American, Mr. Pat Doyle, owner of the McDade chain of stores in Chicago, who sponsored the consignment.

With the help of Are Lingus and LEP travel, the 331 crates of new toys were transported from Chicago to Shannon and from Shannon to a storehouse at the Redeemtorists.

The toys, valued in the region of 30,000 dollars, have already been allocated to poor children in Limerick, and will be distributed during the coming week by members of Fr. Vincent Kavanagh's Christmas Poor Fund committee.

Mr. Doyle, whose generosity previously benefitted poor children in Belfast, this year decided to extend his help to the poor children of Limerick.

Mr. Joe English, head of the Limerick Association in Chicago, who is a close friend of Mr. Doyle, also played a vital role in getting the toys for the Limerick children.

Fr. Kavanagh, commenting on the assignment, said it was "spontaneous generosity" on the part of Mr. Doyle.

He pointed out that it was Mr. McDade who first put forward the idea of helping the poor children of Limerick.

"The size of the gift is a measure of the man's generosity," said Fr. Kavanagh.

"It is a typical example of an Irishman making it good abroad, and at the same time not forgetting his less well-off friends at home."

DEATHS

MANNIX (Limerick). De 16, 1982. Patrick, 7 Gratia Mulgrave Street, (late of C.E. Co., Old J.R.A.). Very regretted by his loving nieces, relatives and R.I.P. Removal from Funeral Home, Gerald Street to St. John's Church Friday evening at 6.30 R. Mass tomorrow Saturday 10 o'clock. Funeral Saturday 11 o'clock. Mount St. Laurence Cemetery.

MOLONEY (Limerick). 16, 1982. (suddenly) ringtons Hospital, Niall, 68 Park, Corbally and Mt. Garage, Dublin Road. Very regretted by his loving Bridie, daughters Anne Helen, Maevae, Maureen, Rosemary, brothers-in-law relatives and friends. R.I. removal from Griffins Funeral to St. Mary's Church this evening at 7.30 p.m. R. Mass tomorrow Saturday 11 o'clock. Funeral Saturday 11 o'clock. Mount St. Laurence Cemetery.

Post days

This Saturday is the last day for posting letters to Britain. Monday next is the last day for posting letters and parcels for the provinces.



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