

DESMOND O'MALLEY SPEAKS

I don't try to put any image of me other than as I am



LIMERICK PRICES SURVEY RESULTS

HERE ARE THE results, announced this week, of a prices survey in Limerick by prices inspectors of the Department of Industry, Commerce and Tourism on behalf of the National Prices Commission.

1. **Carrots** Class II. Price range in Supermarkets 16p to 20p per lb. Prevailing Price 19p per lb. Price range in other shops 10p to 20p per lb. Midrange 19p per lb.

2. **Potatoes** All good quality. Price range in Supermarkets 19p to 24p per lb. Midrange 21p per lb. Price range in other shops 17p to 20p per lb. Midrange 19p per lb.

3. **Tomatoes** All good quality. Price range in Supermarkets 14p to 24p each. Prevailing Price 19p each. Price range in other shops 10p to 20p each. Prevailing Price 15p each.

4. **Cauliflower** Class I. Price range in Supermarkets 40p to 45p per head. Prevailing Price 42p per head. Available in 2 shops only. Price range in other shops 30p and 35p per head. Prevailing Price 30p and 35p per head.

5. **Onion** Class II. Price range in Supermarkets 15p to 21p per lb. Prevailing Price 18p and 20p per lb. Price range in other shops 12p to 14p per lb. Midrange 14p per lb.

6. **Cabbage** Class I and II. Price range in Supermarkets 18p to 24p per head. Midrange 22p per head. Price range in other shops 10p to 20p per head. Prevailing Price 15p per head.

7. **Brussels Sprouts** Class II. Price range in Supermarkets 40p per lb. Available in 2 shops only. Price range in other shops 30p and 35p per lb. Prevailing Price 30p and 35p per lb.

8. **Tomatoes** Class I. Price range in Supermarkets 40p to 45p per lb. Prevailing Price 42p per lb. Price range in other shops 30p and 35p per lb. Prevailing Price 30p and 35p per lb.

9. **Onion** Class I. Price range in Supermarkets 15p to 21p per lb. Prevailing Price 18p and 20p per lb. Price range in other shops 12p to 14p per lb. Midrange 14p per lb.

10. **Cauliflower** Class I. Price range in Supermarkets 40p to 45p per head. Prevailing Price 42p per head. Available in 2 shops only. Price range in other shops 30p and 35p per head. Prevailing Price 30p and 35p per head.

QUALITY SUITES

New Line Charleville
(Near Technical School)

PUBLIC NOTICE

on March 10 we will be moving our business to

SOUTH MAIN STREET

HALF-PRICE

So hurry offer closes Sunday March 9, at 6 p.m.

Open daily: 10-6 (Lunch 12.30-2.00) Sunday 1-6
Free delivery within 50 miles

FOR COOKING, HOT WATER AND CENTRAL HEATING.

This sturdy cast-iron cooker in a modern design makes cooking easy with cast-iron hotplates, double oven doors and thermometer.

Burning coal, wood or turf, it is light on fuel.

It gives plenty of steaming hot water at all times and supplies enough heat to feed up to six radiators.

Full range of spare parts available.

De Dietrich solid fuel cookers and room heaters are available at your local A.M. store.

PROMPT DELIVERY

JIM MARSHALL & CO. LTD.
42, Upper William Street, Limerick
Tel. (061) 46192 - 48892.

A Taste of France

AT JURY'S

Commencing March 6th, every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

the **COPPER ROOM** in JURY'S is going **FRENCH**

ENJOY THE BEST OF FRENCH CUISINE AND WINES IN A RELAXED ATMOSPHERE.

For reservations, call Michael in the Copper Room

'Phone 55266

FRENCH MENU — £3.50

Usual A La Carte Menu also available

Limerick County Council

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1958

Temporary Closing of Roads Regulations, 1956

Limerick County Council hereby gives notice of its intention to close Co. Road No. 211 between Ballinlough 3 roads north and the junction of road 211 and 868 at Ballinlough for a period of one month from 8th April, 1980, in connection with the Maigue Drainage Scheme.

An alternative route is available via Co. Roads 209, 867 and 868, i.e. from Ballinlough 3 roads North via Ballinlough 4 roads and Ballinlough 3 roads to Ballinlough 3 roads middle.

Any person may lodge an objection with the Council to the proposal to close the road not later than 5 p.m. on Thursday, 12th March, 1980.

P. O'CONNOR
Acting County Secretary.
County Buildings,
80/83 O'Connell St.,
Limerick.

MR. DESMOND O'MALLEY, Minister for Industry and Commerce, went for election to Limerick City Council once. He will never do so again. In an interview with the Limerick Leader he said he found the experience on the city council to be frustrating and at times nauseating and he thought very little could be achieved by being a member of the council.

Educated at the Crescent College and later at U.C.D., Mr. O'Malley qualified as a solicitor with the Law Society, then practised in Limerick, with his father originally, and after he died with his uncle until 1968. The sudden death of Donogh O'Malley led to a by-election and Desmond was approached then by a lot of people to contest that election.

"I thought about it for a while," he explained, "and I decided that I would. At that time, I didn't really foresee myself spending a lot of time in politics. They were really only pushing me to go and stand for the by-election because they felt I had a better chance of winning it than anyone else. And I thought I might be released out of the situation when the next general election came around."

"But by that time everyone seemed to take it absolutely for granted that I would stay on. And I was asked to stand for it by that stage as well. I decided I would stay because I had assumed myself and I had a certain obligation to my father's family. I could not give it up, even though, quite honestly, when I did stand at that time I was enjoying being there as much as a year or two."

Immediately

"I was elected again then in the general election in '69, and immediately afterwards I was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Taoiseach, so, once that had happened I had, I suppose, burned my boats to a fair extent and my level of commitment was too heavy then to allow me to withdraw too readily. Less than a year later then, I was Minister for Justice and I was of very much at the centre of things."

"And I have remained there since, either in government or opposition."

Mr. O'Malley had thought of standing for election to the city council in 1969 or 1977. He was asked to stand by a number of people but he was in considerable difficulties in his law office in Limerick at the time.

His father had died just a short time before and he had problems trying to get straightened out in the practice because his father had died unexpectedly and Desmond had to take over an enormous volume of work, which he had not really anticipated.

So he could not stand.

"At that stage I told them until I get things sorted out to a greater extent I would not stand," he said. "I did stand then when we were in opposition. I stood in 1974 for the corporation and finally I stood, in 1977, in government. It was against my better judgement and looking back on it I think it was an error. I made and it was an error in Limerick Corporation to make any kind of useful contribution at all. I was there three years on it — I found it by and large an unpleasant experience."

"The meetings there were really tedious. I felt I was wasting my time being there and I think everyone else was, to a great extent. The meetings were very badly conducted. There was little control or order in them at the time, and, to a very great extent most of the meetings devolved into just personal slanging matches. I didn't involve myself in these to any great extent but I found them very frustrating and at times nauseating to be sitting there listening to some of what went on — a fair share of which, incidentally, never appeared in newspapers. I'm not blaming the newspapers for it, either, because there were things there that they just couldn't report."

'Nauseating'

"I found it really frustrating and at times it was nauseating experience and it was an error I made and I wouldn't stand for the Limerick Corporation again."

When asked if the Corporation had a useful role to play, Mr. O'Malley said: "Potentially it has but it doesn't play it. I think that one should contrast the Corporation and the county council. The Limerick County Council is a much superior body in my view at the moment, in the conduct of the meetings and the way business is done there and the degree of co-operation between the members and the officials and between the members themselves is very much higher. It is a more workable body in every sense of the word. I think it achieves a great deal more. It has none of this constant silly acrimony that goes on in the Corporation."

But what can be done to improve the Corporation? "About the members of the actual council — that's a matter for the public as to who they want to elect. That's just democracy and there is nothing that can be done about that, except that people not re-elect some of these members who make a real mess of it."

"Now I am out of touch with the present council I don't know what way things are at the moment."

"There are some people who were there in the past who are not there now and that may have improved the situation — I don't know. I can't pass any judgement on the present one. I am talking about the one of which I was a member. Hopefully things have improved somewhat, but I don't know if they have improved as much as they should."

"But it is satisfying and very interesting."

Referring to the part played by the press in the life of politicians, Mr. O'Malley said that they were conscious of the role of the press — but some people were to a much greater extent than others.

"I am one of the ones who, if you like, worries least about it. Some people tell me that in my statements I should cultivate the press — which I don't do. Now I have never met any other people I know go to enormous lengths to cultivate the press and believe it is almost the most important thing they should do but my belief is not that — it is that I should get on and do my job and do it properly."

"And if even half of what I do get out there is reported the people will feel sufficiently pleased about that to re-elect me — as they have four or five times."

Mr. O'Malley's public image — for many people — is one of a capable man, who is in control of his department, who he appears to be a bit "gruff" when dealing with people.

"I suppose I do," he said, and added that he did not mind this image. "You know, I have said before and probably will have to say again, that I don't go out of my way to try to put across any kind of image of me other than as I am. Although a lot of people feel I should be a bit 'gruff', so I'll just leave it at that."

Achievement

But other politicians find that the local press in particular can play a very important role in their aspirations. Mr. O'Malley agreed that the local press had a part to play in his scheme of things. "It has but I don't go out of my way to cultivate either the local or the national press. As I said, some other people do, and I think the facts are there to be seen, by any one who wants to see them around Limerick today — and it is not promising to newspapers or statements in newspapers that have put two or three thousand jobs into this city in the last two years. It is achievement and it is there to be seen."

"You know I could be pouring out a lot of words about it but I prefer to get on with the job. I am in a department which is too big and too busy for me to be able to spend a great deal of time promoting myself. I feel that I have an important job to do and I want to get on and do it."

Mr. O'Malley was not too concerned at the effects of not giving a large volume of information to the press from the point of view of the next election. He thought it might have some effect on his chances but he didn't think people were that foolish. "They know that if I was not there in this job over the last number of years that Limerick would be a much poorer place than it is now. It is now a matter of embarrassment for me at the Government, when these factories come up. Quite honestly, it is. I am attacked in a kind of friendly way but I am conscious of the fact that the Western half of County Limerick hasn't progressed as well as the half that is nearer the city. Much more will have to be done for that."

Dark horse

Mr. O'Malley also felt that more would have to be done for North Tipperary, particularly, as well as parts of Western and Northern Clare which are still quite weak. And that is only about this region alone. Places like Donegal and Leitrim need very particular help, he explained, and all the border counties can be difficult to get industry for.

There is also a high degree of stress in the way that I would like to be still at home I was 70. I would have preferred to have got out if I were to live that long to give myself some time to relax because it is a fairly constant strain.

Duplication

"But there would be one management structure to cover the two. Because it's only if you add the population of the city and the county that you get a unit which is of sufficient size to make it economic to have."

"It seems to me unnecessary that there should be a duplication of many of the engineering services and whole lot of services of that kind that could more efficiently be administered as one unit than duplicating them."

But is that likely to happen? Mr. O'Malley said he did not know but added: "It is a thing that can't happen overnight but I think it is a thing that the Department of the Environment should study and if it has been found necessary and desirable in Dublin, which is considerably bigger, both city and county — very considerably bigger — than Limerick, I think it should be very strongly considered here. It would be a more efficient administration of Limerick as a whole. I believe the city is too small to be separately administered."

Mr. O'Malley said that he was constantly approached by people — even when out for a quiet Sunday afternoon walk — and about having questions of people coming to see him every time he was to Limerick.

As well, that is part and parcel of the life. You have to be seen by the public, and you have to be seen by the public. That's the norm, if you like, and if you don't like it you are always free to get out. If you get yourself elected you have to accept that this is part of the normal thing.

In a way it is a pity because a lot of the people coming in here now need help. They need help and they shouldn't really need help with it in a sense. And it is not really to the credit of me that they should be coming but they don't really have anyone else to go to. I don't mean to be personally but they tend to go to politicians and I think that perhaps some of that has been engendered by politicians themselves, who seek to give the impression that people won't get certain things if they don't approach somebody.



Mr. Desmond O'Malley, Minister for Industry and Commerce.

pit. Does he see himself like that? "I suppose I do," he said, and added that he did not mind this image. "You know, I have said before and probably will have to say again, that I don't go out of my way to try to put across any kind of image of me other than as I am. Although a lot of people feel I should be a bit 'gruff', so I'll just leave it at that."

Referring to the part played by the press in the life of politicians, Mr. O'Malley said that they were conscious of the role of the press — but some people were to a much greater extent than others.

Some months ago, when the Taoiseach, Mr. Jack Lynch, resigned his post there was talk that Mr. O'Malley might be a dark horse who could join the contest for leadership of the Fianna Fail party. What actually happened was that Mr. O'Malley did not run, but he was a serious contender at any stage.

He explained: "I was asked by about ten deputies to stand and present myself strongly. Some of these were people who afterwards told me that they voted for Mr. Haughey. More of them I think would have voted for Mr. Colley."

"If I had stood I don't know how I would have done, but I felt a sense of commitment to Mr. Colley and I felt it would be unfair to him and rather disconcerting if I were to oppose him in that election at that time. And I didn't do it although I certainly had to give it some thought because I was approached and pretty strongly pressed. But that was my view and I had given a commitment to Mr. Colley and that I felt that I should see that through."

"Now, if I am still around whenever there is a situation arises again, well I would not then at that time have, probably, any commitment to anyone else and I would feel free to stand. Of course I can't really foresee that because I don't know when it will be, it might be in a few years and it might be a long time before I do it. I might be out of the Dail — or be dead, or anything, at that time. I don't know."

He did not think that the party had changed very much since the change of leadership although there had been some changes. He was surprised at how few changes there had been.

What about ideological views? Had Mr. O'Malley any very strong views on that? "I don't, no," he said. "Not at all, but his job."

"If you try to improve the economy of this country with a view to improving services generally in the economy, because everything else is a bit of a hindrance to the success or otherwise of the economy. The degree of wealth that can be generated by industry, by agriculture and by services in pure leads to better standards in social welfare, education and housing. It is a bit of a hindrance to the success of the economy and makes it you are not going to significantly improve services for the less well-off people in the community."

Referring to the benefits of this oil company, Mr. O'Malley said that one should first of all bear in mind that petrol is quantitatively a relatively unimportant oil product — only about 16 per cent of the oil, in fact, consumed as petrol. The main purpose of setting up the oil company was to try to ensure that the country had a secure supply of oil products for this country.

"The other main purpose is to try to bring into this country some element of competition in oil, which we never had," he continued.

"I think oil companies are going to become less significant over the next decade. The real significance will be with national oil companies and an increasing proportion of oil will be brought on a direct government-to-government basis. And we are in a very fortunate position in Ireland in regard to this. Our relations with virtually every producing country in the world are very good. We have a non-colonial background and we have a warm and close relationship with them, and they are much more likely to seek to trade with a country like us — than they are some of our more powerful neighbours."

"It is a matter of regret to me, really, that a national oil company wasn't started here years ago, because I think it would now be in a very strong position if it had happened."

Eventually this oil company will refine its own oil — within about ten years, Mr. O'Malley stated.



Mr. Desmond O'Malley, Minister for Industry and Commerce.

Referring to the benefits of this oil company, Mr. O'Malley said that one should first of all bear in mind that petrol is quantitatively a relatively unimportant oil product — only about 16 per cent of the oil, in fact, consumed as petrol. The main purpose of setting up the oil company was to try to ensure that the country had a secure supply of oil products for this country.

"The other main purpose is to try to bring into this country some element of competition in oil, which we never had," he continued.

"I think oil companies are going to become less significant over the next decade. The real significance will be with national oil companies and an increasing proportion of oil will be brought on a direct government-to-government basis. And we are in a very fortunate position in Ireland in regard to this. Our relations with virtually every producing country in the world are very good. We have a non-colonial background and we have a warm and close relationship with them, and they are much more likely to seek to trade with a country like us — than they are some of our more powerful neighbours."

INTEREST RATES FOR DEPOSITS OF £2,000 TO £9,999

NOTICE ACCOUNTS	REPAYABLE ON DEMAND	THREE MONTHS' FIXED
13 1/2% P.A.	16% P.A.	15 1/2% P.A.
14 1/2% P.A.	7 DAYS' NOTICE	15% P.A.
15 1/2% P.A.	ONE MONTHS' NOTICE	

These rates apply to deposits by residents of the State. The rates applicable to deposits of less than £2,000 and from £10,000 upwards and to deposits by non-residents are available on request.

COMMERCIAL BANK

THE COMMERCIAL BANKING CO. LTD.
53, O'Connell St., LIMERICK
Head Office: Harcourt St., Dublin 2.
Branches: College Green, Dun Laoghaire, Waterford and Cork.

MORAN'S
Charleville and Newcastle West

ANNUAL MARCH SALE

Commences Friday, March 6

In many lines, we offer prices which we have had over two years.

MEN'S AND BOYS' WEAR

With every gent's suit purchased, we offer a 10% shirt, tie, shoes, socks and underwear.

Gent's Cords	£2.50
Kiddies Cords	£4.50
Clubman Shirts	£4.50
Gent's Knitwear	£2.50
Gent's Cardigans	£4.50
Army Jumpers	£2.50
Boys' Army Jumpers	£2.50
Boys' Heavy Knitwear	£2.50
Gent's Shetland Cardigans	£5.50
Gent's Rally Jackets	£5.50

Fantastic range of girls and baby knits from £1.50

10 per cent off ladies coats, slacks and suits

Gent's Shoes	£2.50
Kiddies Shoes (4-11)	£2.50
Gent's Clogs	£2.50
Ladies and Gent's "Trekker" Shoes, only	£2.50
Ladies "Clarks" Runners	£2.50

As Blankets, Sheets and Bedspreads are all going on May 1st, now is a good time to stock up with quality value.

American Cotton Fitted Sheets: Single, £4.99 pair, double, £8.99 pair.

Pillow Cases, each 75p

Fitted Nylon Bedspreads 95p

Hand Towels, from £1.75

American Hand Towels (large) £1.75

Wintery Blankets, from £3.95

Cellular Blankets, from £3.95

Pure Wool Blankets, from £10.95

WE ARE NOW SOLE AGENTS FOR STARTER SHOES IN CHARLEVILLE

ST. ENDA'S COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Kilmallock Road, Limerick

ENROLMENT AND ASSESSMENT DAY 1980/81

Enrolment, and Assessment of Pupils for the 1980/81 school session in St. Enda's Community Comprehensive School will take place on Saturday, March 8, at 9.30 in St. Enda's. Subsequent to assessment by our Guidance Staff individual interviews with parents will be arranged.

Signed: Patrick O'Connor, Headmaster.

Indus Cod Fingers 10's

Indus Beef Burgers 4's

All Large Pans 3

oke cans

The Giant

Persil A

Posies Fac Tissues

Whiz Firelighters

3 Hands Wash Up

Tropic

Twinn

Clinic Shan family

Lux & large