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COUNTY EDITION

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1987

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Dail deputies for the East



Des O'Malley PD



Willie O'Dea FF



Peadar Clohessy PD



Jim Kemmy DSP



Michael Noonan FG

Dail deputies for the West



Gerry Collins FF



Michael Noonan FF



John McCoy PD

DESSIE DOES IT

Two seats for PDs in Limerick E

By JIMMY WOULFE

THE POLITICAL landscape of Limerick East has been redrawn by the Progressive Democrats.

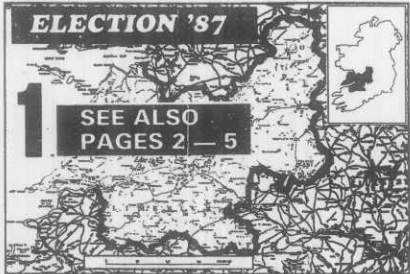
Taking two of the five seats, Mr. Desmond O'Malley's party captured the seat of Fine Gael stalwart Tom O'Donnell in one of the sensational results of Election '87.

And Alderman Jim Kemmy reclaimed the Left seat in Limerick East trouncing Labour outgoing candidate, Cllr. Frank Prendergast.

A red faced Fine Gael organisation had to wait until the 13th count to get its only seat in either Limerick constituency, when Minister Michael Noonan was declared elected at 3.55 a.m. this Thursday.

But Limerick East has been the crowning glory for Mr.

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SHANNON DAWN



NEWS LINES

New Yorkers Jeffrey and Maureen Marshall were captivated by the beauty of the morning when they flew into Shannon on Honeymoon. So much so that they decided that if they ever had a daughter she would be named in memory of that magic moment on September 8, 1985. Now they are the proud parents of a new baby girl (pictured). And her name? Shannon Dawn. Delighted airport chief Liam Skelly is sending a baby's bottle suitably inscribed by Galway Crystal to little Miss Marshall, in Forest Hills. Mrs. Marshall (nee Murphy) is quietly proud of her County Tipperary ancestry. And Mr. Marshall is also a good friend of Ireland. Given a choice, he will fly only by Aer Lingus.



Proud parents, Jeffrey and Maureen.

Anglers pay pollution bill

By MARTIN BYRNES

THE MEMBERSHIP fee of the Deel Anglers Association has had to be doubled to help restock the river and its tributaries. All life was exterminated early last summer over a dozen miles of river as a result of the deposition of slurry by some farmers.

This Monday, members put the first 5,000 trout in from the Black Bridge to Felghan's Bridge.

"The Authorities should inspect farmers' silage facilities and slurry lagoons early in the season," commented Mr. Matt Scallan, who added that no farmer was taken to court arising from last year's wipe-out. He said that inspection after a major kill achieved nothing, and that major kills were becoming a depressing annual spectacle.

Non-members

The non-members' trout permit fee was also required to be increased to £5, he said.

The association has expended many thousands of pounds over the past decade to try to regenerate fish life



The Limerick Leader of June 28 last.

in the river which has been rendered lifeless almost annually.

"It's a losing battle, and it could be a great river and a fine asset to West Limerick," commented Mr. Ger-

Weather

Although there is a slight risk of a light shower of rain or sleet in the Limerick region this Thursday, with winds very light and variable, there will be little or no rain up to early next week, with sunny spells daily and light north-easterly winds becoming south-easterly. There will be frost most nights with some early morning fog.

And one in Limerick W as well

By MARTIN BYRNES

THE GREATEST shock in the general election in Limerick was the loss of the West seat which Fine Gael had held at every general election for forty years.

The successful candidate, Mr. John McCoy, Progressive Democrat, of Newcastle West, battled it out to a nail-biting fifth count, late into the evening at Rathkeale Community Centre.

Earlier, outgoing Fianna Fail deputies Messrs. Gerard Collins and Michael Noonan retained their seats, although the Fianna Fail tally was down by almost 2,000 votes, leaving them with 51.3% of all votes cast.

Fine Gael astonished even themselves when having more than a quota, they failed to take a seat. The Fine Gael vote, at 9,464, was 9.96 per cent down on their 1982 showings.

Transfers

The reason that Fine Gael failed was evident in the transfers, where loyalty and the problem of non-transferable papers combined to preclude a Fine Gael seat.

The new West Limerick deputy, Mr. McCoy, attributed his success to the terrific work undertaken by his party workers who, he said, had



The moment of election for the man of the moment: Cllr. McCoy at Rathkeale.

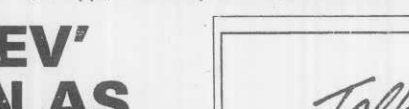
Picture: DERMOT LYNCH

shown immense dedication, even though his chances of success had been greatly underestimated.

"Sometimes we even doubted it ourselves," he said, "but I did not decide to accept the invitation to run until I was certain of the calibre and ability of those with whom I would be working."

Mr. McCoy commiserated publicly with his fellow-townsmen and Fine Gael poll-topper Councillor Michael Finucane who, said Mr. McCoy, was with him all the way to the last fence, and

Ministers in the making: Deputies O'Kennedy (N. Tipp.) and Gerry Collins (Limerick W.).



Leader reporting team at the N. Munster counting centre: Jimmy Woulfe (News Editor), Dermot Lynch, Tom Keowne, Martin Byrnes, Mary Keowne and Conor Keowne.

he regretted that it was Mr. Finucane who was the man to lose out in the end.

For the first time in many years, there were seven candidates contesting West Limerick's three seats. This was due to the entry of the PD's and Mr. Pat Brennan of the Labour Party, but mainly to the fact that outgoing deputy, Cllr. Willie O'Brien, was not seeking re-election, and three Fine Gael candidates offered themselves as possible replacements.

"There will be a lot of questions asked within the party, and we will have to find the answers," said defeated Fine Gael candidate Cllr. Finucane.

Defiantly

He defiantly told supporters that answers to those questions would have to be found and he confidently predicted that, with a better-managed campaign, the Fine Gael seat would return to the party in West Limerick no matter when or how soon an election was next called.

Cllr. Finucane stated that he himself would seek to be a candidate in that race.

Initially, Fine Gael chose two candidates for this election. However, after lobbying, and at first refusing, the Fine Gael national executive decided to add the name of Cllr. James Houlihan, Bruree, to the ticket.

It is the failure to transfer among the candidates which Fine Gael members are bitterly blaming for the failure to attain a seat.

This was disputed vigorously by the add-on candidate Cllr. Houlihan, who stated:

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Deenihan scores in North Kerry

A PHENOMENAL first count vote of 10,087 by Finuge man Jimmy Deenihan ensured that Fine Gael recouped a seat in the Kerry North three-seater for the first time in 10 years.

However, his performance, the best of any F.G. candidate in the country, nearly resulted in the eclipse of Labour party leader Dick Spring who defeated outgoing Fianna Fail

T.D. Tom McEllistrim by just four votes after a recount. Fianna Fail's Tralee based Denis Foley was elected along with Deenihan and Spring, ending the 64-year reign of the McEllistrim family Dail dynasty in North Kerry. Pundits are still trying to figure out just how the captain of the Kerry four-in-a-row All-Ireland football winning

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I AM IN NO WAY BITTER: O'DONNELL

"A PROMINENT Fine Gael man came up to me and said that I came into politics a gentleman, and I am going out a gentleman," said a disappointed Tom O'Donnell, when he spoke with journalists after the first count result.

Mr. O'Donnell said that before the election started he knew that there would only be one Fine Gael seat.

"I have my own ways of assessing things," he added. "My personal inclination and family advice was to call it a day. But I changed my mind because three senior members of the party appealed to me not to concede a seat before the election."

Hardest

"So I put all personal considerations aside and fought the hardest campaign ever to try and hold the two seats. I did this for Fine Gael. I had nothing to gain. This was my thing for Fine Gael, full stop."

"I pulled out all the stops to take two seats. I am happy I made this contribution. I said to myself that if Fine Gael got a bad result I would never forgive myself. I am very disappointed for the party. We are now back to square one, but I hope to live to see the day when there will be two seats for Fine Gael in Limerick East."

"I am in no way bitter. At the end of the day I put myself on the line and it did not work, and I can be happy that nobody can blame me."

"I did not desert a sinking ship, and I am quite philosophical about the whole thing," said Mr. O'Donnell. Mr. O'Donnell added that the biggest problem he had in the last ten days of the



The face of defeat: Mr. O'Donnell at the Greenhills.

campaign was to try and convince people that his seat was not safe. He also said the massive swing to the PDs was a major factor in his losing his seat.



Adding bite to the Fianna Fail campaign

BYRNES ON THE BALL

PREDICTIONS BY Limerick Leader staff man Martin Byrnes, which raised many eyebrows when broadcast on the RTE programme Day By Day a week ago, came true. In the three constituencies where he gave forecasts, Byrnes boldly predicted a P.D. seat for John McCoy in West Limerick at the expense of Fine Gael, and two P.D. seats in Limerick East. He was the lone commentator who marked in an as-you-were situation in Clare.

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LEAVYS

'UP DEV' AGAIN AS FG HOLD 2 IN CLARE

By TOM BROWNE

ALTHOUGH a strong performance by the Progressive Democrats in County Clare made a significant contribution to Fine Gael retaining its two seats, the most notable feature of the robust campaign in the four-seater constituency was the victory of Miss Sile de Valera for Fianna Fail, who was elected at the top of the poll.

Miss de Valera's victory on the sixth count, when Donal Carey, Fine Gael; and Brendan Daly, a former Fianna Fail poll-topper, were also elected, was celebrated in scenes reminiscent of the old days in the Banner County, when her grandfather headed the poll over a long succession of elections from the historic

1917 bye-election to 1959. The once-familiar shout, "up Dev", unheard before by many of the new generation, re-echoed through the crowded count centre, as Miss de Valera, known to some as "the lady from Dublin", was carried shoulder-high by her jubilant supporters, a few from the older generation who remembered the exciting elections of the past when Clare returned "the Chief" at the top of the poll.

Thrilled

Miss de Valera was visibly thrilled by the occasion. She whispered to her cheering supporters: "I'm thrilled. It's a proud moment. It's all very exciting."

Four years earlier, Miss de Valera, after defiantly calling for a re-count in which she was

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Congratulations



Vanquished Cllr. Prendergast congratulates victorious Aid. Kemmy.

Talking Shop

The blue of Spring skies is reflected in this classic 3/4 length jacket by Smith and Brown.

In a warm wool mixture to combat those fresh spring breezes, cleanly cut with expansive shoulders, deep plunge collar and even deeper pockets, neatly fastened in double breasted style... a beautiful classic look for your classier moments.



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