

LIMERICK
INTER-CONTINENTAL

FOR
YOUR
WEDDING



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1766 — THE OLDEST NEWSPAPER IN THE REPUBLIC

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 1970

204th YEAR

Limerick Chronicle

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SATURDAY, JAN. 10, 1970.

91 LIMERICK STAFF SIGN DECLARATION

Ninety-one members of the Post Office Engineering Union in Limerick have signed a declaration disassociating themselves from all statements made by their union on the subject of the visit of the South African rugby team "on the basis that they were

misrepresentations of members' views." The declaration adds: "Any statements made specifically concerning Limerick staff were grossly incorrect as the said staff were not consulted regarding this matter."

Conscience

THE primary purpose of trade unions used to be to protect workers from exploitation by employers. That, after all, is why they were formed. Now, however, with the virtual extinction of slave-driving bosses, the unions are playing a more positive role by concentrating on improving working conditions and increasing co-operation in industry — or at least, they should be.

IT IS regrettable, therefore, that something which has absolutely nothing to do with the day-to-day running of industry — about which unions should be primarily concerned — is dividing the trade union movement. "Top brass" trade unionists who insist on making the Springboks visit a live trade union issue have a lot to answer for.

THE anti-Springbok brigade justify their actions by quoting an obscure resolution carried years ago. That is just not good enough. Trade union leaders have no mandate to bring pressure to bear on members in a matter of personal conscience. We are happy to report that the rank and file are telling them so in no uncertain manner.

Three months

for theft

Joseph O'Sullivan, 32 Monabher Road, Ballynanybeg, Limerick, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment by Justice M. de Burca at Limerick City Court yesterday. He was convicted of feloniously stealing a lady's purse, value 5/6, and cash amounting to 15-15-0, the property of Albert Lawlor, from the Commercial Guest House, Catherine Street, on December 22 last.

Advantage

"I have played rugby all my life and I could never leave Limerick to see top teams play because I could not afford it, but now I have an opportunity of seeing a touring team and I am going to take full advantage of the visit," was the remark of one working man to a Limerick Chronicle reporter.

At least one man has sent in his resignation to the I.T. & G.W.U. while others have expressed their disgust at the attitude of Conor Cruise O'Brien and Dr Noel Browne in Wednesday Report on R.T.E. this week.

Limerick Council of Trade Unions was split this week over

Boks' visit splits the trade union movement!

THERE IS growing resentment in the trade union movement in Limerick against the action of executives issuing recommendations to members without consulting as to their feelings with regard to the visit of the Springbok touring side.

There have been sharp divisions and during at least one meeting of the I.T.G.W.U. in Limerick there were hot exchanges and no decision made.

The resentment amongst workers in Limerick who have been interested in rugby all their lives is growing.

And many have said that they will not be dictated to by anyone and reserve the right to attend the match in Limerick if they so wish.

The question of whether the Council should officially take part in the Anti-Apartheid demonstration in Limerick on Wednesday next.

By a tight vote to six the Council decided to participate in the protest parade.

Mr. Ken McCoormack pointed out that a man who wanted to go to the match had the right to do so — there was also the right to peacefully demonstrate.

"I want the message to go out that this protest will be peaceful," he stated.

Mr. Tim Leddin, president of the Post Office Officials' Association, in a statement to the "Limerick Chronicle," said that he was travelling to take part in the protest in Dublin today. "I am doing this," he said, "as a result of the recommendations made by the Irish Congress of Trade Unions and as a protest against Apartheid."

STABBED WITH A PENKNIFE, DJ TOLD

LIMERICK City Court was told how two 16-year-old boys were stabbed with a penknife by a youth at a dance in Cruise's Hotel on the night of December 29 last.

Thomas Buckley, junr. (17), 81 St. Ita's Street, St. Mary's Park, Limerick, pleaded guilty to assaulting Joseph Casey, 2 Verona Road, O'Connell Avenue, Limerick, and Dermot Cosgrave, "Limeyle," Ballinacorra, Limerick, thereby occasioning them actual bodily harm.

Inspector Joseph Owens, William Street Station, prosecuting, said that Joseph Casey and Dermot Cosgrave went to a dance in Cruise's Hotel.

About 11.30 p.m., the defendant and another youth approached Cosgrave and asked him what was he looking at. Cosgrave "got a head into the face" and Joseph Casey went to Cosgrave's assistance.

Buckley then produced a penknife and stabbed Cosgrave on the left shoulder. Then he stabbed Casey on the left and right shoulders and the right

collar bone. Buckley left the dance hall and threw the knife away. Cosgrave had to receive one stitch in hospital.

Casey had to be detained in Barrington's Hospital for two days.

Inspector Owens told Justice M. de Burca that the doctor did not consider the injuries very serious.

The injured parties did not know the defendant. There was no apparent reason for the assault. Buckley had previous convictions.

Det. Garda Christopher Ryan said that he, with Det./Sergt. J. Sullivan, arrested Buckley the following day at his job. The defendant, in their opinion, was suffering from some mental disorder.

He staggered into the patrol car and did not seem to remember what had happened at all.

Buckley's father told Justice de Burca that his son was in need of some mental treatment.

Justice de Burca marked the facts proved and adjourned the case for a week to enable the defendant to be examined by a psychiatrist in St. Patrick's Institution, and receive a report on his mental condition.

Teenager ordered to

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