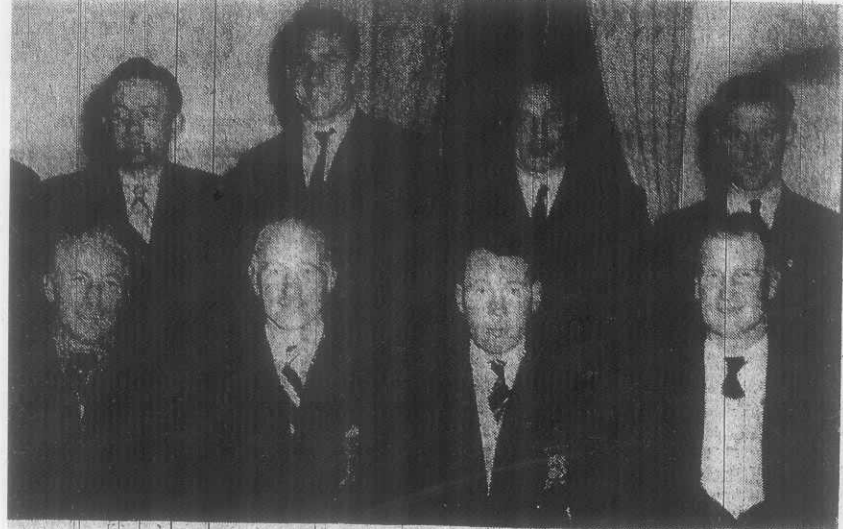


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LIMERICK

ISED SUCCESSFUL TOURNAMENT



Limerick Co. Board who organised the very successful boxing tournament held in Sarsfield Barracks last night. Murphy, Mr. C. Higgins, Mr. K. Quinn, Capt. M. Breen, Comdt. G. A. Mulligan. Back row (l. to r.)—Mr. D. Meaney, Mr. M. O'Neill, Mr. Enda McNamara, Mr. J. O'Neill and Mr. Michael Arthurs.

Department's Refusal To Approve Committee's Ploughing Grant

MEMBERS of the County Committee of Agriculture were informed at Saturday's monthly meeting of the Department's refusal to approve of the Committee's contribution of £27 10s. made to a team drawn from Macra na Feirme to compete at the National Ploughing Championships in Tramore next month. After discussion, the matter was referred back to the Department.

Mr. P. Maguire, Co.C. (Chairman) presided at the meeting. Discussion arose when Mr. M. Gleeson, C.A.O., read a letter from the Department regarding the Committee's contribution of £27 10s. to the Macra na Feirme team entries to the National Tractor and Ploughing Championships to be held at Tramore in February. It went on to state that while the approval was given to the contribution of £10 in former years they could not approve of the bigger sum.

PROPOSITION. Mr. J. J. McNamara said that the matter should be referred back to the Department for approval in view of the fact that this would not happen in future. It was not proposed to send tractors again to the championships.

Mr. M. Clery—Therefore, the question of the extra contribution will not arise again. Mr. McNamara proposed and Mr. Sean Hartney seconded that the Department accede to the Committee's request.

Mr. J. English thought that the Committee should give all support possible to these tractor owners who were entering for the championships. By giving the increased grant to these competitors to enter in the tractor class they were doing a good service to the county, for they were now into the age of mechanisation.

Mr. Clery said that young farmers' clubs in the county were of the opinion that the support given them by the Committee was in fact negligible and at the minimum compared with committees in other counties. He was of opinion that greater encouragement and moral support be given to young farmers to compete in such important championships. While the teams they sent forward could not always figure among the prize winners, they soon achieved the distinction

Thrilling Rescue Of Woman From Shannon

HUNDREDS of people witnessed a thrilling rescue of a woman from the Shannon in the vicinity of the Limerick Co. Board who organised the very successful boxing tournament held in Sarsfield Barracks last night.

Famous Priest-Singer's Final Recital Was A Compliment To Limerick

INTERNATIONALLY famous priest-singer, Very Rev. Sydney Canon McEwan, paid Limerick a most gracious compliment last night when in the Savoy Cinema he gave his last public recital. His farewell concert, in which he sang 19 well-known airs, was fittingly patronised by a full house attendance.

"It's time I was going; it's time I passed on." With these parting words at the conclusion of his 19-song recital in the Savoy Cinema, Limerick, last night, one of the great lyric tenors of the present era passed out of the public scene. To Reverend Sydney Canon McEwan, internationally famous, it was a heart's desire to choose Limerick as the venue for his last public appearance as a singer. It was a gracious compliment; and it was fitting that the response to his generous gesture should come by way of a tremendous ovation from a full-house patronage.

MEMORABLE CONCERT This celebrity concert, in aid of the St. Patrick's-Monaleen Church Building Fund, will remain evergreen in the minds of Limerick people. It was memorable for the simple reason that Canon Sydney graced the public stage for the last time. For 30 years he adorned the realm of high-class singing, and he brought to bear in it a personal charm that endured with the same freshness throughout that long span of time. Wherever he went, he was a favorite, and his voice, with the superb quality of a great artist, was used unparagonably in the cause of charity. Four times he came to Limerick, and on each occasion the St. Patrick's-Monaleen Church Building Fund benefited.

Father Sydney's close friend, Very Rev. Dr. J. Cowper, P.P., St. Patrick's, said before the commencement of last night's concert in which, incidentally, Maire Ni Scollai and Kitty O'Callaghan (accompanist) played notable and successful parts, that it was the last public appearance ever of Canon McEwan. It was an honour for them that the great singer should have decided to sing his last concert there. "We wish him every success and every blessing in his retirement as his pastoral labours in the Highlands," said Dr. Cowper.

CANON MCEWAN'S TRIBUTE TO LIMERICK AND CORK Canon McEwan, whose appearance on the stage was marked by a great burst of applause, said he felt he could not "hang up his harp, so to speak, without saying farewell to the South as he did to the North. The two places dearest to his heart were Cork and Limerick, and he wanted to finish up in Limerick.

After opening with "Island Moon" and finishing with "The Road to the Isles," he left the stage amidst thunderous applause. It was a most sincere demonstration of affection for a singer who did not spare himself to please; and he certainly sang his farewell with ringing tones of gladness rather than sadness, at the thought of the wonderful reception Limerick had given him.

His CONTRIBUTION Every air was sung by him with such depth of feeling and sweetness that it would be difficult to select them in a distinctive order of merit. By the time he had reached his fourth song, "Westering Home," he was in great voice. It was in the latter part of the programme that the audience had the pleasure of hearing the popular Irish traditional melody, "The Meeting of the Waters," which, he said, he liked best of all of the Irish airs.

There was a nice sparkle of rhythm in the Scottish number, "Ho Reo, Ho Reo, Little Wee Girl," and a grace and dignity about his singing of that lovely air, "O, Bethlehem," which he rendered previously in Limerick. It was appropriate that his closing group of songs should be Irish and Scottish. Perhaps it was only natural that he should end on a Scottish note with those highly entertaining airs, "Mary Shaw," and then "The Road to the Isles."

The supporting artists, Maire Ni Scollai, also pleased immensely in her singing of 14 traditional airs. An outstanding number was "The Three Flowers." The arrangement was by the accompanist, Miss Kitty O'Callaghan, whose playing also gave the celebrity concert another touch of success.

NEW LOOK FOR SOLDIERS

French soldiers are to wear a new uniform, which will be more practical and comfortable.

First Venture Of Its Kind In Co. Limerick

The Kilmallock Branch of Macra na Feirme will hold a drama festival this year, commencing on February 17, and the adjudicator will be Mr. Dan Doyle, Limerick County Librarian, who has officiated at many drama competitions and festivals in the county (writes our Kilmallock correspondent). During the festival there will be two competitions for Macra na Feirme teams, one an open competition for which any Branch of Macra may enter, and the other will be for the Limerick Section of the National Amateur Drama Competition of Macra na Feirme, which will be confined to teams from County Limerick. In addition, there will be individual acting awards.

This is the first venture of its kind in County Limerick, and possibly in the country, and the Kilmallock Branch are to be commended for their efforts. It is likely that there will be a very high entry, because in the past years drama competitions have found much favour amongst Macra branches in the country, and the standard of acting has been very high in these competitions.

Limerick Port Kept Busy

Limerick Port continues to be busy. Last week proved one of the busiest periods for some time. This afternoon, the S.S. "Killybegs" with a total tonnage of over 11,000, arrives from Cork. She will discharge 2,000 tons of grain. The Galtee and Mulcair are at present discharging general cargo from Antwerp. The "Nestor," an Italian vessel, has finished discharging a cargo of grain.

IN AID OF WORTHY CAUSE

The annual collection in aid of the worthy cause, the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, will be held outside all the churches in the city on next Sunday, the 25th January. This collection was to be held on the 28th of December but was postponed in favour of the Parish Clerical Collection held on that date. The Society is in great need of funds at the present time and is now depending entirely on the generosity of the public. M. P. Riordan, T. J. Smalle, Hon. Officers.

RABBITS UP "NORTH"

The Minister of Agriculture in the Six Counties says that rabbits are threatening a serious and more a major pest in that area. He says that the farmers there did not take full advantage of myxomatosis a few years ago.

POSTAL SERVICE

Speaking at the annual dinner of the Waterford Branch of the Post Office Workers' Union, Mr. Ormonde, Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, said that redundancy in the Post Office was now practically at an end and recruitment to the clerk grade would recommence shortly.

PRESENTATION TRIBUTE

Mr. Dan Breen, T.D., will be presented with a portrait of himself in July's Hotel, Dublin, on Wednesday. Painted by Sean Keating, the portrait was commissioned by a committee of Dublin and Tipperary men.

BANTAM HEN

A bantam hen, owned by Mr.