

ALL OUR YESTERDAYS

NEWS REPORTS FROM THE FILES OF THE LIMERICK LEADER, FOUNDED IN 1889



Last hurrah: The last audience at the Savoy Theatre pictured in March of 1988. The great theatre which hosted some of the top music acts in the world closed at the same time as Barrington's hospital. A sad week for Limerick.

FORTY YEARS AGO

MEAT SOLD CHEAP Militant farmers block main street

Traffic was kept out of the centre of Limerick on Saturday for a time as 20,000 farmers - double the expected number - protested against falling incomes. Farmers and their wives from all over Munster were told that if the pre-set demonstrations did not bring satisfactory Government action, they should be prepared to act as they had in 1966 when they blocked the roads in all cities and towns in the country. The protest march, which

was over a mile and a half long, included tractors, farm machinery and farmers carrying placards. Some of the placards read: "Chicken costs £1.25, a calf for £1", "1973 Bullock £130 - '74 £55", "1973: Cow £120 - '74 £50" and "Brussels wake up - Farmers deserve justice." Before the march got underway from St John's Square, a token sale of farm produce, in which farmers sold their produce at the actual price they received, was held. About 120 people purchased meat, potatoes, carrots and turnips. A pound of beef was sold for between 16-20p.

LIMERICKPORT Deputation on port rates issue

In an effort to improve the position of Limerick and other west-coast ports, a deputation is to go from the Harbour Board to the Government to discuss freight rates. They will be accompanied by public representatives from this and other west-coast areas, as well as the harbour authorities from the western seaboard. At present, there is a freight for ports in the west.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

RELIGION Bishop appeals for funds

"I feel that if all who are in regular employment pay the equivalent of two hours' wages, the hoped for amount will be obtained." This was stated by His Lordship, Most Rev. Dr. H. Murphy, Bishop of Limerick in his annual appeal for donations to help pay off the outstanding debt on the new Diocesan College in Corbally. The work on the building is now complete. The accounts are not yet finalised, but at present the debt stands at more than

£150,000. "The bank interest is, therefore, very great, and it will be to our benefit to reduce the debt as speedily as possible. Otherwise the total payment will be much increase," said his Lordship. "It is for this reason that I have asked that the amount contributed by each parish should be increased this year by one third of what it has been in recent years. If this is done and if all continue to support college campaign in other ways, there is every hope that the debt will be fully cleared in five years." So far £300,000 out of the £450,000 has been collected.

CRIME Eugene can smile again after theft

Young Eugene Cantillon of 11 James Street, Limerick has reason to feel happy this weekend. He has recovered the bike that was stolen shortly after he had purchased it out of the savings he gained by working during his summer holidays. The Limerick Leader featured the story of the stolen bike and within a few hours the machine was located and returned to its owner. Thirteen years old Eugene wrote to the Editor with the good news.