

RECORD TRAFFIC HANDLED IN THE SHANNON ESTUARY

By **DYMPHNA
BRACKEN**

THE Shannon estuary including Foynes har-

ADARE CHEF

AN ADARE chef today opened the Second Annual Celebration of Irish Cuisine in Washington DC.

Gerard Costello, executive chef at Adare Manor, will be the first of four Irish chefs to preside in the Powerscourt Restaurant of the Phoenix Park Hotel, where he will prepare two gala dinners. He will be there for a week.

The cuisine celebration was launched to dispel some of the misconceptions about Ireland's culinary accomplishments, and has drawn widespread media attention, as well as good crowds.

Mr Costello was selected on the basis of his outstanding reputation, and that of Adare Manor. He holds a number of prestigious culinary awards, including a Gold Medal in the National Salon Culinaire of Ireland.

bour handled over 30 per cent of the nation's sea trade, in 1992.

Almost 6.4 million tonnes of cargo was handled at the various marine terminals - an increase of 115,000 tonnes or 1.8 per cent over throughput in 1991.

Tom O'Dowd, chairman Limerick Harbour Commissioners, told the January meeting of the board that the record traffic in the harbour in 1992 is a source of great satisfaction to the

Commissioners and to him personally.

"In 1992 the levels of activity at all facilities were very satisfactory and augur well for the future," he said.

This is the tenth successive year in which increased traffic has been recorded.

Over the last 10 years harbour throughput has shown a spectacular six-fold growth from just under one million tonnes in 1982 to over six million to-day.

Around 25 per cent of the total seaborne trade of the

state moved through the harbour in 1992.

The Shannon Estuary including Foynes handled over 30 per cent of the nation's sea trade.

"This highlights the importance of the estuary as Ireland's major harbour area in terms of the volume of goods handled," said Mr O'Dowd.

These returns, he suggested, are most encouraging against the background of the Taoiseach's initiative spearheaded by Con Power

and the Department of the Marine in promoting the Shannon estuary as the focus for the establishment of Ireland as an economic bridgehead between Europe and the rest of the world.

"This continuing commitment and drive from central government considerably enhances prospects for attracting additional trade and industry to the estuary," said Mr O'Dowd.

"The Commissioners look forward to co-operating fully with the agencies

involved in the marketing campaign and playing their full part, as they have always done in the past, in endeavouring to ensure its success," he concluded.

Michael Hoctor, general manager, informed the meeting that the satisfactory level largely arose from the increase in shipments to the ESB at Moneypoint.

The indications are that cargo throughput in 1993 will maintain its current level of over 6.25 million tonnes.

BYRNES ON TUESDAY

Who the blazes was Blaise?

RIGHT, we have Gerry Fleming on the television giving out the weather.

And he smirks and tells us that we can expect a high of 1,024 hectopascals.

Ya wha? Hectopascals! A measure of air pressure.

Fine, sez you. We had a few of them things at home, but the wheels fell off of them.

made several discoveries about the way barometers work. Hence his connection with barometric pressure.

But, by then, he was already so knackered from overwork that he would never see a healthy day again, and he gave up the ghost when he was about forty. He had spent the last half of his life as a religious recluse, swearing all science to be the work of the Devil, no

tricity? By making steam, of course, and passing the steam through a stationary steam engine to drive the turbines - that's how. So he deserves his place as the chap in whose honour electrical resistance is measured.

And a 13-amp fuse? Named after **Ampère**, and defined since 1893 (you'll love this one) as that unit of electric current which, when passed through a standard solution of silver

The unit of static electricity (capacitance) is the 'farad', after **Michael Faraday**, the man who first made the link between electricity and magnetism.

The unit of radioactivity is the 'curie', after French Nobel-laureate husband and wife physicists the **Curies**.

Lots of elements are named after scientists, such as **Einsteinium**, **Mendelevium** and **Nobelium**.

Dulce of nature are also dedicated