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Clockwise from top left: Clrs. Hayes, Noonan, Sheehy and Ald. Kennedy.

LIMERICK COUNCIL MEMBERS

By CONOR KEANE

In Limerick local government circles this week many county and city councillors who are travelling to a conference are being victimised because of the English resort.

Seven county councillors and three city councillors — are to travel to a National Housing and Town Planning Conference which starts on Tuesday

Limerick gives, gives, gives for Ethiopians

By TRICIA FEEHILY

An overwhelming display of compassion and compassion for starving people in Ethiopia, Limerick's L. fund has been raised by £25,000 in its first week alone.

The momentum was maintained, as the first Irish of food and medical supplies left on Wednesday for Addis Ababa, on a



Rose of Tralee opens Parkway £5m shops complex



By JOHN O'SHAUGHNESSY

THOUSANDS OF SHOPPERS and well-wishers converged on the new £5m. Parkway Shopping Centre this Thursday morning for the official opening by 1984 Rose of Tralee winner, Diane Hannagen.

"An overnight miracle", was how Mr. P. J. Power, manager of the centre, described the birth of Limerick's sparkling 25-unit complex, referring to the complete transformation inside five months of the former Parkway Motel.

The only disappointing feature for the developers was that Justice Minister, Mr. Michael Noonan, was unable to attend. He was detained in the Dail on the Criminal Justice Bill, but has promised to visit the centre at 7 p.m. this Thursday.

Contractors

The many contractors engaged in the project worked over the holiday weekend and right round the clock on Wednesday to have the centre ready for the official opening.

Vans and lorries were seen to ferry goods into the Parkway at a spectacular rate over the past few days and by 9 a.m. this Thursday most shops were fully stocked.

Indeed, Dunnes, who occupy over 30,000 sq. ft., were fully stocked up at the weekend.

All but five of the units opened at 9.30 a.m. this Thursday. Dunnes have taken a further two units of around 1,000 sq. ft. each for household goods and toys and will open next Thursday. Harrison's Jewellers and John's Hairdressing Salon will open on the same day.

There is still one unit available for letting, but it is anticipated that this will be taken shortly.

Combined

Back to Mr. Power: "Considering the size of the place — there is a total of 70,000 sq. ft. — we encountered no major hitches and no praise is high enough for the building contractors, general workforce and traders who all combined to get us open on schedule."

Upwards of 200 people will be employed at the centre, and this will be increased when the banking institution and building society opens later this year.

The opening hours at the centre are 9.30 to 6 p.m. and from 9.30 a.m. to 9.30 p.m. on Thursday and Friday.

A monster hamper is being given away in a free competition this weekend. Shoppers are invited to guess the number of red bricks used in the building and the sender of the first correct entry opened will receive the prize.

Gardai were out in force this Thursday morning to ease the traffic congestion.



Dunnes Stores staff ready for the opening of the Parkway Shopping Centre this Thursday. Picture: OWEN SOUTH

Uproar as cllrs. discuss itinerants

By LEADER REPORTER

A GOVERNMENT proposal to make the county manager responsible for the housing of County Limerick's itinerant families produced one of the most acrimonious debates ever in the Council Chamber.

Objections from councillors to having their function in the matter eroded led to a bitter personal confrontation between, on the one hand, Fianna Fail Councillors Michael O'Ceallaigh and Michael Collins, and on the other, Deputy Willie O'Brien, Fine Gael.

The chairman, Cllr. Liam Hickey, threatened on several occasions to have the meeting adjourned, as words flew between the parties. Cllr. O'Ceallaigh threatened to take legal action after claiming that his professional capacity as a teacher had been questioned.

Decided

Eventually the council decided on the advice of Cllr. John Griffin to discuss the itinerant problem at a special meeting in Rathkeale, where the travelling population is said to be 700.

The row began when Cllr. O'Ceallaigh described a department circular letter advising them of the new policy as "despicable" and "another blow against democracy."

"It's like something that emanated from the Krem-



Deputy O'Brien, who withdrew his controversial remark about Cllr. O'Ceallaigh.

"It's a good job you're non-political," interrupted Deputy Willie O'Brien.

When Cllr. O'Ceallaigh reacted angrily, Deputy O'Brien said: "I would hate to send my children to school to you. You're a disgrace — an animal."

Cllr. Michael Collins intervened and asked to have "that ignorant Deputy

O'Brien removed." Deputy O'Brien replied that the day the Collinses got the better of him "would be a sad day."

Bitter rejoinders followed, and Cllr. O'Ceallaigh announced that he was going to pursue the aspersion on his professional capacity in the courts.

"Is it in the minutes?" he asked the chairman. "I'm calling a — no to witness it."

Repeated

When Deputy O'Brien repeated that he wouldn't be quelled by a Collins, Cllr. Collins called him the "lowest tramp in the council chamber."

Chairman: "We're a strange crowd to be trying to solve the itinerant problem."

Cllr. Nancy Wheeler suggested that the meeting should be adjourned until everyone had "regained their sanity."

Cllr. Collins said that Deputy O'Brien "isn't dealing with marital breakdowns here," and Deputy

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