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Limerick Leader

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1963

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Todds taken over by Switzers of Dublin HUGE BUSINESS DEAL

NO BY-ELECTION BEFORE CHRISTMAS

LOOKING slightly tired, but smiling broadly, An Taoiseach, Mr. Sean T. Lemass, arrived home this afternoon following his ten-day tour of the United States. The 63-year-old leader of the Government stopped off at Shannon, en route to Collinstown, and first to greet him was Mr. D. B. O'Malley, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance. In an interview, he said he could not see the possibility of a by-election before Christmas.

It was an unexpected stop for An Taoiseach at Shannon and he availed of the opportunity to have an Irish coffee.

He walked from the aircraft to the inner lounge, where he sipped his coffee with Mr. O'Malley, Mr. Matthew McCloskey, American Ambassador, and Mr. Brendan O'Regan, Chairman, Airport Development Company.

Mr. Lemass told our reporter that he felt the tour had been an unqualified success and said that the highlight for himself and Mrs. Lemass had been the wonderful reception given them at the White House by President Kennedy.

He had been on his feet for the past 36 hours, and despite his obvious fatigue quipped with those present. He laughed heartily at a cartoon in a Sunday morning paper and remarked: "I'm a bit fatter now."

A BIG BLOW

In serious vein for a brief moment, he said that the death of Ald. J. Galvin, T.D., Cork, had been a big blow to himself, as he had been a close friend of the late Mr. Galvin. He described him as an indefatigable worker.

When asked about the likelihood of a General Election he remarked: "I'd have to think that one over on the way to Dublin." When told that the leader of the Labour Party, Mr. Brendan Corish had taken umbrage with some of his remarks in America to the effect that that party were conservatives, Mr. Lemass said, smiling: "They are, anyway."

A reporter suggested that there was no re-election and the Taoiseach said, "definitely not."

Mr. McCloskey stated that Mr. Lemass had made a tremendous impact in America and his visit was worth more to Ireland than hundreds of pounds spent in advertising. He had been an outstanding success as had Mrs. Lemass.

Finally, Mr. Lemass stated that he felt quite contentedly that as a result of his trip many more leading American industrialists would set up in Ireland. As he boarded his plane he waved enthusiastically at hundreds of schoolchildren who cheered him all the way from the terminal to the aircraft and

Over £750,000 involved

ONE of the biggest business deals in the history of the city was finalised in Dublin to-day when Switzers signed the take-over of Messrs. William Todd & Co. Ltd., O'Connell St., one of the biggest department stores in the South of Ireland.

The deal means the transaction of 27,000 shares of the 40,000 held in Todds by the Buckley family of Cork. A number of shares, it is understood, will be held by the Murray family and Mr. A. Brown, Managing Director of the firm.

The entire transaction runs into £750,000. Todds was burned down in a fire in August, 1959, and reconstructed at a cost of half-a-million pounds.

There were a number of bidders in the market, including two local concerns and Great Universal Stores of Great Britain. Messrs. Todds, however, considered it desirable to keep the firm in Irish hands. It is believed it will continue to operate as a departmental store.

The first part of the deal was signed in a Cork hotel last Wednesday and the final signatures were to be put to it in Dublin to-day.

ISPC PUBLIC MEETING

A public meeting in connection with above will be held in Cruise's Hotel on Wednesday next, October 23rd, at 4 p.m. The speaker will be Mr. Brian P. Cullinan, Public Relations Officer. All who are interested are cordially invited to attend.

PRICE OF SUGAR INCREASED

The price of raw sugar increased in London by 15s 4d to 25s. This is the second highest price since the peak was reached last May. The price of refined sugar would not be affected in Ireland.

Mr. Patrick McClellan, London, producer for the Limerick Choral and Operatic Society's season of opera, on his arrival at Limerick on Saturday. At the station to meet him were (left to right) Mr. Michael McInerney, chairman; Mrs. Mai McCann, F.R.O.; Mr. Philip Madden, secretary, and Mr. Eamon Henry, stage manager.



Mr. Louis Elliman, Managing Director, photographed with Mr. G. M. Conroy, Mr. J. L. Hastings, and Mr. C. Halley, directors, at the formal opening of the new Banqueting Suite and Savoy Restaurant to-day.

New banqueting suite opened

THERE was a capacity attendance to-day at the Savoy Cinema, Bedford Row, when Mr. Donogh O'Malley, T.D., formally cut the tape and opened the new Savoy Restaurant and Banqueting Suite.

The new restaurant and suite are included in an overall plan for the modernisation of the Savoy Cinema and Restaurant in Limerick. It has been designed to attract both tourists and generate new local trade. Limerick is the nearest city to Shannon Airport and on the route to the majority of tourists to the south and west of Ireland. It is also the main centre of a developing industrial area, with a wealthy farming hinterland.

The self-service restaurant is the first of its kind in the area and follows the pattern of similar restaurants which have proved successful in the Savoy and Metropole in Dublin.

The new banqueting suite has accommodation for 150 diners, 300 dancers and is equipped for fashion shows and mannequin shows, etc. At the opening were Mr. Louis Elliman, managing director, Mr. C. M. Conroy and Mr. J. L. Hastings, directors.

Mr. C. Halley introduced the guests. Full report in to-morrow's Limerick Chronicle.

Mr. O'Malley congratulated the directors on their initiative and described Limerick as the city of the future with the greatest potential for development.

Mr. J. L. Hastings, director, announced that the Company would be awarding a scholarship to the value of £250 for a Corn-Chef.



A young lady who stole a spot all her own in this production was Miss Terry Kelly as Azuri. Her dancing was superb and at times so convincing that one felt all the fire and fury of the desert. She is to be heartily congratulated on mastering such a difficult act together with a portrayal of a character whose ability rested much of the responsibility for the stier-

HIGH PRAISE FOR CITY DANCER

"She has very fine footwork and a nice relaxed style," said Mr. Proinsias O'Connell, one of the adjudicators on Telle's Eireann's new programme—The Joe Linnane Show—when commenting on the dancing of Miss Brenda Gorey, 22, Singland, Garryowen, Limerick, who opened the first series of the National Talent Competition, which will go on for the next few weeks.

The prize is £100, plus two tickets on an Air Lingus Boeing to the World's Fair, 1964, in New York.

Many Limerick viewers had an opportunity of seeing 18-year-old Brenda Gorey perform very competently and her performance was greeted with great applause. Mr. Proinsias O'Connell, commenting further, said it was an excellent presentation and impressed him very much.

This talented Limerick girl is well known throughout the country, having been successful in many festivals, and last year she was awarded the dancing prize in the Inter-Firm Concerts Competition in Limerick for the best dancer. She is a pupil of the Celine Fenny School of Dancing.

However, despite her wonderful performance, the adjudicators gave their first vote to the musician, the Honky brothers, from Milton-Malby Co. Clare, who, too, were very good and accomplished performers and should go a long way for the big prize.

Several other Limerick performers were auditioned recently and will appear in the programme in the coming weeks.

DESERT SONG A BRILLIANT SUCCESS

"THE Desert Song" will go on record as one of the finest productions staged by the Cecilia Musical Society in Limerick. It had its first run at the Crescent Assembly Hall last night and the enthusiastic reception it received augurs well for the week-long run of this grand old favourite from the music of Sigmund Romberg.

The first impression I got shortly after the opening was that this was a fully professional production. It is hard to appreciate that it is the work of an amateur society—a fact that stands out as a truly fine tribute to a brilliant group of young men and women.

This is a bright and breezy presentation with a selection of songs such as "One Alone," "The Ritz Song," "Romance," "The Desert Song" and "I," all of which have long been firm favourites and a story that is loaded with comedy and romance.

A word of praise to all connected with the production. They may well feel justly proud. Nothing was out of place at any stage of the opera, and, above all, the orchestra is to be congratulated on a performance that was a major contribution to the success of this presentation.

A special word of praise to each of the following and to the members of the chorus: Guest Conductor, Rev. Kevin O'Gorman, B.Mus.; Musical Director, Miss Terry Eglington; Director of Production, James Sexton; Stage Manager and Lighting, Louis de Courcy; Assistant Stage Manager, Patrick Tobin; Assistant Stage Technicians, J. Clarke, G. Higgins, P. Murray, M. Storey; Costumes, Messrs. P. Bourke, Dublin, and Cecilia Wardrobe Committee; Dancing, Miss Peggy Gowen; Scenery, painted by Sean Cowman, Leo Hogan, Charles O'Donovan; under direction of Mr. J. O'Donovan.

CHORUS (Riffs, French Soldiers, Spanish Girls, Soldiers' Wives, etc.) Misses Olive Brick, Clodagh Carolan, Marie Carr, Hilary Carlton, Marilyn Clancy, Yvonne Elliott, Kay Flannery, Pauline Green, Frances Kelly, Ann O'Keefe, Ann O'Neill, Rita O'Shea, Angela O'Sullivan, Pat Ryan, Ann Waldron. Messrs. Oliver Ball, Tony Collins, Gerry Gibbons, Michael Leahy, John Leonard, Larry Moloney, Pat O'Connor, Pat O'Flaherty, Roy O'Sullivan, Tony McMahon, Joe McSwaney, Paddy McRedmond, Ray Sheehan, Anthony Tuthill.

DANCERS Misses Paula Donnellan, Margaret Flannery, Mervyn Griffin, Carmel O'Neill, Maureen O'Sullivan, Kay Walsh. One final comment. I will go to see "The Desert Song" again this week. All too seldom do we get such brilliant entertainment in Limerick. T.T.

WINE TASTING IN LIMERICK

On Wednesday next, Monsieur M. Charlot, Commercial Counsellor to the French Embassy, Madame S. Perrandin, Director of the French Government Tourist Office in London, and the Limerick French Wine Committee will hold two wine tastings, one at 3.30 p.m. and the second at 7.30 p.m. in the Ballroom at Cruise's Hotel, Limerick. The evening wine tasting will be followed by a presentation of tourist films. The Mayor of Limerick, who will honour this occasion with her presence, will be presented with a "Diplome d'Ami de Paris" on behalf of the Mayor of Paris.

CAR PILE-UP Three cars were involved in a collision on the Corbally road yesterday evening. The cars were travelling in the same direction, into the city, when the accident occurred. Nobody was injured and the cars were slightly damaged.

STOLE CYCLES FROM GARDA

THIS is an odd sort of and I cannot understand the mentality of the defaulter said Justice Hurley at Court after hearing evidence in a case in which P. Andrews O'Donnoghue, Arney, Ennis, pleaded guilty to stealing at Lifford, Ennis July 17, a bicycle valued at the property of Garda J. Kelly, Ennis, stealing October 7 at Abbey St. E. a bicycle valued at £1, the property of Garda M. A. McQuinn, Ennis, and on October 20, Ardara, Ennis, being possession of a bicycle at £5, the property of P. Fursey O'Connor, Newma-on-Purgus.

Justice Hurley imposed suspended sentences of months imprisonment on charge and told the defaulter that he should be thankful the Garda, who were sent to him. "You appear as a honest kind of fellow, I hope you will keep your nose out of drink again," said the Justice.

Supt. P. Flanagan told Court that Garda Kelly's bicycle disappeared from outside his residence some months ago. There was a search for other bicycles as a reward was offered. The number was filed down the side of the wheel to which the Garda remains at the station yard until when defendant came and took the bicycle. The Garda followed him and defendant admitted taking it. Two other bicycles were found in defendant's home. He was a hardworking boy there was nothing against before this.

RACING WYE

145—
LE MADEAL (7/1) 1
Castagna (10/1) 2
Tungston (8/1) 3
Ben Gets Buay (9/4 f.) All 10 ran.
115—
KING RIFF (20/1) 1
Ickmeida Street (8/4 f.) 2
Cameronia Kid (100/7) 3
Pinchall Prince (9/4 f.) All 10 ran.
145—
FRENCH BEAM (7/1) 1
Lording (7/4 f.) 2
Quel Diablo (11/4) 3
All 9 ran.
115—
JIM'S BOY (23/1) 1
Avatino (5/4 f.) 2
Springmount (100/0) 3
All 12 ran.
145—
CHEERS REQUESTED (6/7 f.) 1
Fleopole (15/2) 2
Back Chai (100/8) 3
All 7 ran.

BIRMINGHAM

100—
MANN BELLE (10/1) 1
Five Feathers (7/2) 2
Sparkling Princess (15/2) 3
10 ran.
150—
PURE BOG (5/4f) 1
Fleary Skipper (23/5) 2
Princess Diane III (20/1) 3
14 ran.
100—
RONBURGH (100/7) 1
Shelley Spa (4/1) 2
Tom Tit (18/1) 3
12 ran. Proper Prada 11/4 f.
150—
COVENTRY EXPRESS
Count Gardens (100/7) 1
Cricket II (100/7) 2
19 ran. Merlan 2/1 f.
4 o'c—
GELERT (10/1) 1
John Cameron (8/2) 2
Cheverton (100/8) 3
Connamara Kidd (11/4 f.) All 13 ran.

French Wine Tasting
A few places still available for tickets for a French Wine Tasting at Cruise's Hotel on Wednesday, Oct. 23, at 3.30 and 7.30 p.m. Please apply for tickets the following day—
P. O'Malley & Co. Ltd.
J. Quin & Co. Ltd.
W. H. White & Co.

Apology
to Mac D's Ltd.,
Proprietors, Stella Ballroom

The "Limerick Leader" wishes to apologise for, and deeply regrets any inconvenience caused by, its announcement in last week-end's "Limerick Leader"—Stella Ballroom to close.

The only change in policy is that the Management have temporarily suspended dancing.

All functions already booked at the Stella will be held as arranged and enquiries for Dinners, Socials, Flower Shows, Meetings, Fashion Shows, etc., will have immediate attention.