

## CONVICTED OF DRIVING WHILE DRUNK

Joseph Egan, Brittas, Pallasgreen, a farmer and married man with a family, was convicted by Justice D. F. Gleeson in the City District Court today of driving while drunk and of dangerous driving at Muirgrave Street, Limerick, on the 24th Oct.

The Justice intimated that he would send him to prison. He disqualified him for 12 months from holding a driving licence and fined him £15.

Supt. J. B. O'Neill prosecuted, and Mr. D. G. O'Donovan, solicitor, was for the defendant.

### DOCTOR'S EXAMINATION.

Dr. John Holmes said he was called to John Street Garda Station on the night of the 24th October and arrived there at 10.15 p.m. He examined the defendant who gave a full account of the accident and was steady and did not sway. The defendant did mutual tests in a satisfactory manner. At the time he examined him he was capable and competent to take control of a motor car. There was a slight smell of liquor from him.

Patrick Hayes gave evidence of being told at the Limerick Dog Track that his pick-up truck, which he had parked outside the Fair View Stores, Muirgrave Street, was after being damaged. He later saw it facing up against the window with a Prefect car underneath the rear of it.

Witness saw the defendant there and thought he was under the influence of drink.

### GUARD'S EVIDENCE.

Guard Buckley gave evidence that the defendant appeared to be very drowsy and dazed at the scene. The defendant said he was suffering from arthritis in the legs and had to walk very slowly. The defendant said he saw a car coming against him with very strong headlights and it swerved into him. Witness formed the opinion that the defendant was drunk and incapable of driving a motor car.

Cross-examined, witness said that the defendant was drowsy and dazed when he saw him standing against the wall after the accident but he agreed that the impact appeared to be comparatively severe.

Guard O'Connor and Sergeant Murray gave supporting evidence.

### DIRECTION REFUSED

Mr. O'Donovan asked for a direction on the driving while drunk charge.

The Justice replied—I am satisfied that he had sobered up at the time when Dr. Holmes examined him, but he was not sober at the time of the accident.

The defendant said he arrived in the city at about 4 o'clock and before he went to the Elm Motors he had two pints of stout. Later he had two more pints and that he was all the drink he took. He started for home at about 7.55 p.m. and stopped at Mr. Hartney's grocery shop in Muirgrave Street to buy sweets for his children.

That was the last stop he had. He had eleven years driving experience. When he reached the Mental Hospital that night a car was coming against him and another car was also coming against him with the full headlights on. As he drove on, one car came over to his side, he thought, to pass the other car. Witness was travelling at about 15 m.p.h. and he pulled in. He did not see the van at all and had the crash, which was not pretty severe, and then applied the brakes. He denied staggering subsequently. He suffered from arthritis.

Cross-examined, witness said he had only four pints of stout and no whiskey. He did not see the truck until he had it struck.

Superintendent—Why didn't you see the truck on the road?—I could

## Ancient Silversmith Craft Has Been Restored To Limerick

IN the month of June, 1958, a small group of Limerick businessmen, all residents of St. Munchin's Parish, met at the home of one of their number to consider a proposal aimed at helping the economic advancement of the city.

Subsequent meetings were held to which other businessmen were invited, and, after very full discussions, and when exhaustive investigation of the proposal had been made, it was reluctantly decided that its implementation was not then practicable. This, however, did not end the matter. It was there and then decided that some positive action ought to be taken and five members of that small group handed themselves together with the object of starting an industry, no matter how small its beginning.

In silver work, particularly, Limerick's craftsmen excelled and the old Limerick marks were known throughout Europe. During the troublous times of Limerick's Siege, however, the ancient art died out and all the work previously done disappeared in the meantime. The earliest Limerick silver products now extant date from the second quarter of the eighteenth century. There are some very fine examples of Limerick silver on show in the Municipal Art Gallery.



Our picture is that of a silver cup and spoon made by Joseph Johns, a celebrated silversmith. He was Mayor of Limerick in 1773.

There followed then a period of casting about; various ideas were formulated, followed up, and finally discarded until eventually the pattern of the industry-to-be emerged. It was decided that the old traditional Limerick craft-work precious metals, gold, silver, bronze, brass, etc., be revived.

### COMPANY FORMED

In the meantime, a Company was formed, under the name of Cosmacs Limited, with registered offices at Ennis Road, Limerick. The five men who control it, and who are its first directors, explored its possibilities and found that the field which their Company could cover was enormous. Manufacture of religious objects, church metal furnishings, souvenirs and ornaments, all came within their scope, and from the commencement they had also included Cosmacs' marble as a medium for their work, when fully exploited, produce excellent results.

Now, in reviving the manufacture of objects in precious metals, the promoters of Cosmacs Ltd. are restoring to Limerick a craft that was once Limerick's glory. It could be said that what old Waterford glass was to Waterford, Limerick silver was to Limerick. There is, however, this difference to-day, that there are more examples of old Waterford glass to be found than there are of old Limerick silver. Even before the 17th century, Limerick was a very well-known centre for the exercise of the goldsmith's and silversmith's

craft. How do the new products compare with those of similar firms in Ireland to-day? From the work produced at the Ennis Road factory it is clear that the aim of the Company's Directors—to have only the best possible work produced there—has been achieved. They realise that there are no short cuts to success. They have not only invested in a policy of technical perfection but they have also invested in a policy of quality and feel sure that their products will meet recognition as such.

The examples of beautiful metal work to be seen there have been judged by those competent to assess their quality as unsurpassable to-day. It is obvious to anybody, even if their knowledge be not profound, that the newly registered Limerick mark, C.L., stamped on this firm's products, means that the articles produced are of the very highest standard and that the Company's workers are very worthy successors to the old Limerick silver craftsmen.

It is certain that no stone will be left unturned to extend the scope and influence of the new Limerick silver and its allied crafts.

At an inaugural function to be held shortly the names of the Board of Directors of the new Company will be disclosed, together with that of the Manager, who, it may be disclosed, enjoys an international reputation as a silversmith craftsman.

## FINES ON CARAVAN DWELLERS IN BANNED AREA

THE caravan dwellers in a 501-acre area in the Watergate locality, from which they have been banned by an Order made on the 25th February last by the then City Manager, were each fined 5/- by Justice D. F. Gleeson in the Limerick District Court to-day.

Summoned before the Court were: Thomas Moran, c/o caravan at the rear of 7 White Wine Lane, Limerick; John McCarthy, c/o Caravan, Michael Street; Michael Cauley, of the Hut, Michael St.; Stephen McCarthy, of the Hut at rear of 7 White Wine Lane; Christina McCarthy, of the Caravan, Charlotte Quay, Limerick; and William Thomas, the living wagon, Watergate, Limerick. The last named is living in the same place for the past 35 years.

Mr. M. B. O'Malley, solr., appeared for the first five named defendants; and Mr. Martin Tynan, solr. (Messrs. M. Tynan and Co.) was for William Thomas.

Mr. W. J. Duncion, City Solicitor, prosecuted on behalf of the Limerick Corporation.

Evidence in these cases was heard last week.

The Justice, in a lengthy judgment, said that there was justification for the prosecution and held that the Order made by the Corporation and in force under Section 31 of the Local Government Sanitary Services Act of 1948 banning temporary dwellings at sites within the area described, was not ultra vires.

### FIRST PROSECUTION

Mr. Duncion said that this was the first prosecution in Limerick under this Order, but a distinction must be drawn as Mr. Thomas had been there for a long number of years. All the defendants had got over in that it was now legislation, but particularly Mr. Thomas.

Justice—What is the maximum penalty for a first offence?

Mr. Duncion—It is £25.

Justice—Would you be satisfied with a nominal penalty?

Mr. Duncion—Yes.

Justice—If there are further prosecutions, there will be substantial penalties.

Mr. Tynan—I propose to ask you to fix recognisances in the case of Mr. Thomas.

The Justice fined each of the defendants 5/-.

Justice—You don't want costs, Mr. Duncion.

Mr. Duncion—No, your Worship.

Justice—I am glad to hear that. Recognisances were fixed in all cases in the event of appeals.

## PORT OF LIMERICK Recent Arrivals and Departures

Arrivals—Jacob Rusch (Rotterdam), fertilisers and general; Derrymane (Liverpool via Galway), general.

Sailings—Mulkair (Liverpool via Felix, Renfrew); Wilmshin (Arklow), light; Jacob Rusch (Shigo), part invassa.

## WORDS OF THANKS

The Ladies' Association of St. Vincent de Paul offer their most sincere thanks to those who helped them to run their card drive on November 3. Their thanks are due to the many people who so generously gave prizes for the "45," bridge and rummy, and for their raffish. They also wish to thank the management and staff of Cruise's Hotel for their assistance and co-operation, and all who came

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