

# ideo osed

the man who bought this video put the young lads up to steal it. They got very little out of it."

In the case of another burglary involving a video valued at £740, a Limerick man was sentenced to three years imprisonment when he pleaded guilty and asked to have 19 other charges taken into account.

Judge Gerard Buchanan told the accused that he had "a horrifying record in a city where crime is on the increase".

Giving evidence in the case, Detective Sergeant Browne said: "The taking of videos has almost become a way of life. 90 per cent of the people of Limerick buy them knowing that they have been stolen."

## THE LISTENER

# cillors ie media

Limerick crime feature.

However, it would ensure fair play for all to have the press at these meetings.

Even if councillors were to be painted warts and all Cllr. G. O'Driscoll agreed that there should be no gagging of the press and that the meetings be open to the public and that all councillors have the right to attend.

Cllr. Casey, for openers, said he had mixed feelings about the open meetings motion. When Cllr. Bourke spoke to him about it, Cllr. Casey asked Cllr. Bourke to cool it.

**TAKE DISC PARKING**, for instance. The local papers were against the Corporation City Council plan for it. This, he opined, was because the local papers hadn't carried out surveys about disc-parking, he continued.

Cllr. Casey (in his inimitable folksy style) treated everyone to a list of journalists' far horizons trips. They'd go to Paris, London and Belfast. Why, this very week, there was a Limerick Leader journalist in Miami about greyhounds, he informed everyone.

There was a danger that with the public press present, things would regress to the time when Dail Eireann seats for 17 (or more years) was the reward for some councillors playing to the gallery, Cllr. Casey said.

Cllr. Upper cracked: Leave Stevie out of it-a reference to colourful, ebullient former City Councillor and Teachta Dala, Steve Coughlan.

Alderman Kenny's crack seemed to hint that some councillors only got seven or seventeen-months in the Dail, with, or without, resorting to playing to the gallery.

Cllr. Upper got back in again with: "Leave it to Paddy and Clem"-meaning the front page publicity Cllrs. Madden and Casey got over their anti and Pro-Haughey views.

**IMPERTURBABLE**, Cllr. Casey went on to say that while he might be critical of the local press people-and they critical of the councillors-local press people were decent skins and he maintained palmy-walsh relations with them, despite all the aggro.

If he was to be critical at all, it was to mention that he found out that many Limerick citizens were devoid of a sense of humour. At one meeting, he had jokingly remarked "To hell with the general election, the rugby match is more important," and he got hauled over and over and over the coals for it by

## Scout Notes

A.G.M. of composite management committee

The first A.G.M. of the Management Committee will be held at St. John's Scout Hall, 4 St. John's Square, Limerick on Wednesday 21st February 1983 at 8.30 p.m.

Regional officers and unit delegations of 2 persons are invited to attend the A.G.M.

**Unit leaders/Commissioner P.T.C.**  
The above P.T.C. will be held in Cruises Hotel on the 11th/12th March. Those who intend participating in the course should apply to Dublin. The booking fee is £12.

**Munster P.L.'s weekend camp**

The Munster patrol leaders' weekend camp will take place at Castleconnell campsite, Co. Limerick from Friday 15th to Sunday 17th April 1983. All units will be circulated in the immediate future giving full details of the event. It promises to be a camp to remember.

**John Paul region New Unit**

A new unit in Rathkeale was formed on last Saturday. They are commencing with a cub pack and they are in the hands of our development team at present. We wish them every success.

**Vote of Sympathy**

We wish to express our sincere sympathy to Michael Sheehan unit leader, St. Paul's unit on the recent death of his mother. May she rest in Peace.

**St. Michael's unit Cub section**

The cubs were treated to Video show of E.T. on last Sunday. We wish to thank John O'Neill for showing the films. Mr. Power will be showing a film of Shannon Airport on next Sunday morning. The Regional Commissioner Niall Carty will be inspecting uniforms on this Saturday night.

**Scout section**

The troop held a training session in preparation for the orienteering competition which consisted of running and cycling. Further training will take place this weekend. Scouts are to be in uniform this Saturday night and they should also bring along their running gear.

**Venturer section**

The alterations to the games room will be completed this week. Many thanks to Venturer David Ryan on his excellent work. Motor cycle instruction is this week's activity. There will be orienteering and training on this Sunday.

**Fundraising**

The unit are holding a Church gate collection on Sunday 27th February. The Venturer section are organising a sponsored cycle from Dublin to Limerick.

**Congratulations**

Congratulations to P.L. Thomas Hayes, Holy Family unit Southill who achieved a time of 70 minutes on the A course of Thomond's orienteering event was held at Carragh Chase recently.

**Bereavement**

We were deeply saddened to learn of the untimely death of Jim Hally's wife, Mrs. Hally is a former Chief sooth and is the present National Director for development. We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to him and his family.

## Spring Fair

From page 1

and visitors alike. Great credit was due to the organisers and exhibitors.

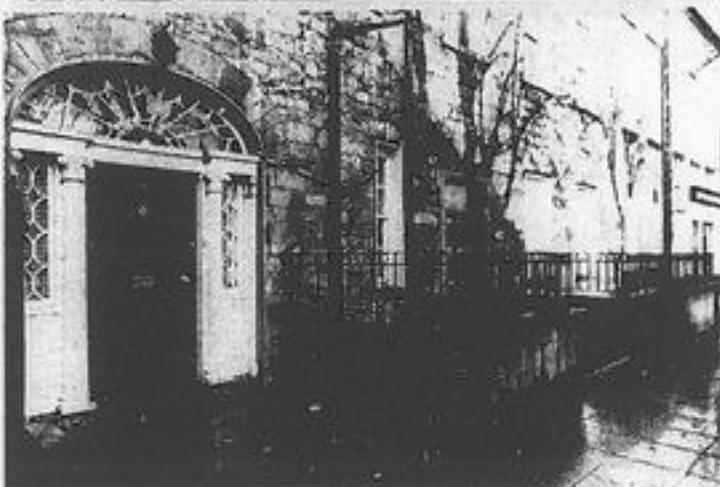
"The continuing success of the Fair is a tribute to the initiative and dedication of many, and the people of Ireland, and towards the Limerick region in particular.

He added: "I commend Limerick are rightly proud of it," said the Minister.

Ms. Liz Ryan, organiser, described the Fair as "a gigantic exercise in co-operation."

She paid tribute to the exhibitors and said the Fair succeeded in showcasing the

## PHOTONOTES OF OLD LIMERICK



## The old rectory

**THE SAINT JOHN'S SQUARE house (above)** is exceptional, as unlike all the square's other Queen Anne style houses, it has a Georgian style doorway. The woodwork of the door, its sidelights and fanlight have all the typically Georgian delicacy.

It's No. 3 Saint John's Square, on the right hand side, looking from the Old St. John's Protestant Parish Church end.

It once was Saint John's Rectory. Canon Frederick Langbridge, who was Rector of St. John's Protestant Parish Church, from 1883 until his death in January, 1922, was the last rector to reside there.

Canon Langbridge is still ecumenically remembered with affection by most of the older generation of St. John's parishioners. Although born in Birmingham, his sympathies were with the predominantly Catholic and nationalist people of this Irishtown-Garryowen parish.

We gave outstanding examples of Canon Langbridge's sympathy with his Catholic and nationalist neighbours and his love of the theatre in a recent instalment on Old St. John's Protestant Parish Church.

We mentioned that he was a prolific poet, his verses were published in a volume entitled, "A Cracked Fiddle", long regrettably out of print. While most of Canon Langbridge's poems are forgotten, his memory as a poetic luminary is assured by two oft-quoted lines:

These lines are: "Two men look through prison bars/One saw only mud/the other sees the stars". And to prove how they have won Canon Langbridge evergreen fame as a poet, they are enshrined in the latest edition of *They Encyclopedia Britannica*.

Canon Langbridge had two daughters. One of them, Rosamund, was a novelist. One of her novels was inspired by Limerick city and St. John's Parish in the early years of this century.

Among the affectionate local memories of Canon Langbridge is one of his charming customs of giving delicious pancakes to Catholic and Protestant children at the Rectory every Pancake Night.

When Canon Langbridge died in 1922, he was buried directly opposite the West

Door of his beloved Old St. John's Protestant Church.

This epitaph is on his tomb: "Wherever simple folk love and pray and trust Behold, the House of God, the Gate of Heaven."

After his death, St. John's Parish was united with Trinity Church (Catherine Street, now the Head Office of the Mid-Western Health Board) and the Reverend T. Waller was appointed Joint Rector. The last Joint Rector was Rev. Canon R. Nash, who was appointed in 1940. Old St. John's sadly closed as a place of Divine Worship in the late 1960s.

Around the early 1940s, St. John's Protestant Parish School, at Bushy Lane, in Lower Gerald Griffin Street (opposite the now defunct City Dispensary) closed.

In the mid-1850s, Rector James Elmes appealed for funds for St. John's Protestant Parish School - outside help from affluent city co-religionists was vital, as his own parishioners were mostly badly off.

Rector Elmes (in his appeal) described the school as being under the Board of Scriptural Education and said that anyone was free to visit the school and find confirmation of the teachers' fidelity to this line of instruction.

In Canon Langbridge's time as rector, concerts for funds in aid of the school were held in the school. The outstanding artistes were Mr. John Ellis Goodbody (of the managerial staff of Bantynes famous flour mills, Roches Street), and Mr. James Alexander, of the well-known Alexander's grocery store, at Alexander Corner - at the junction of William Street and Patrick

Street.

James Alexander (whose family also were ship chandlers and proprietors of a Twine Factory at Old St. Francis Street, off Munster Street), was the father of Douglas Alexander, RHA, a contemporary of the outstanding other Limerick born artist, Sean Keating.

Douglas Alexander achieved fame for his West of Ireland landscape studies - and one of these studies can be seen in the Limerick Municipal Art Gallery's collection.

St. John's Protestant Parish School, which was beside Bushy Lane, Lower Gerald Griffin Street (opposite the now defunct City Dispensary) closed.

In the mid-1850s, Rector James Elmes appealed for funds for St. John's Protestant Parish School - outside help from affluent city co-religionists was vital, as his own parishioners were mostly badly off.

Rector Elmes (in his appeal) described the school as being under the Board of Scriptural Education and said that anyone was free to visit the school and find confirmation of the teachers' fidelity to this line of instruction.

In Canon Langbridge's time as rector, concerts for funds in aid of the school were held in the school. The outstanding artistes were Mr. John Ellis Goodbody (of the managerial staff of Bantynes famous flour mills, Roches Street), and Mr. James Alexander, of the well-known Alexander's grocery store, at Alexander Corner - at the junction of William Street and Patrick

It's now St. Patrick's Hostel for old men. No visit to St. John's Square would be complete without seeing the lovely plasterwork designs that embellish the old rectory's interior. They include floral motifs and fascinating lyre (Grecian harp) patterns. Just nicely press the doorbell, and the courteous caretaker will let you feast your eyes on these lovely things.

Photo: JOHN F. WRIGHT.

Text: SEAMUS O

CINEIDE.



The French have a word for beauty...

**LANCÔME**

WEEK

FROM

Monday, February 21

TO

Saturday, February 26