

Senior Soccer: Financial Situation Improves

£1,000 GATE LIKELY AT MARKETS FIELD ON SUNDAY

And then for Shamrock Rovers!

Limerick's financial troubles, while still extremely serious, may be solved as a result of the present successful run in the League.

Against St. Patrick's Athletic last week, they took over £800 at the gate, the first time they "cleared" their commitments at the Markets Field this season. These commitments, according to Club Secretary, Jack Touhy, amount to £380 for a home game.

There was a tidy profit on that game, and on Sunday, another £300 was handed over to the Limerickmen. This, naturally, was not a net profit, as wages and expenses had

to be paid out of it.

£1,000 GATE
But next Sunday at the Markets Field, the club should at last find themselves turning the corner. Jack Touhy is confident of a £1,000 gate for this all-ticket game. The record gate proceeds for a Markets Field match was £1,000 for a Cup tie against Waterford in 1966, but an increased (1/-) price was charged on that occasion. There is no intention of making such an increase for Sunday's game against Dundalk, but Mr. Touhy is confident that about 6,000 people will pay a sum of four figures

to see the game, and this will keep the club happy.

MILLTOWN

Win, lose or draw, Limerick will still head affairs when they travel to Milltown to meet Shamrock Rovers. "Waterford and Shamrock Rovers played to a £2,300 gate at Milltown recently and we are confident that we can top the £2,000 figure as well," said Mr. Touhy. "But we need the money badly. The Waterford game the following week should also bring in a sizeable profit, especially if we keep up our results of recent weeks."

IMPROVEMENT

Despite the improvement in the financial situation, there is no question of delving into the transfer market. The Club just cannot afford it, and anyway, they are pleased with the side at present. "Eleven of the twelve players used on Sunday are resident in Limerick, and this is a very happy state of affairs," says Mr. Touhy.

Limerick have now gone eight matches without defeat, and this success means a great deal to the Club, who at present cannot pay their staff by cheque. Things are that bad.

—C. N. MULQUEEN.

SOCCER FEVER SWEEPS THE CITY!

LIMERICK SHOW THE WAY WITHOUT A PLAYER-MANAGER

By TONY PURCELL

AFTER seven series of matches in the League Championship Limerick have the unique distinction of leading the table without a player-manager. And the Club's remarkable run of successes in the past two months is due to the will-to-win spirit and determination of all the players. A record attendance is expected to pack the Markets Field next Sunday when Limerick line out against formidable opponents, Dundalk.

Shannonside supporters are urged to get their tickets immediately as the game will be a sell-out. Tickets are on sale at the Savoy Cinema, Bedford Row, from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Soccer fever is really sweeping the city at the moment and the players of Limerick A.F.C. deserve the greatest credit for recent successes. And present indications are that the Shannonside supporters will be able to improve their poor financial position considerably if they can overcome such clubs as Dundalk, Shamrock Rovers and Waterford. They are guaranteed of £1,000 "gates" in their next three games.

With Shamrock Rovers dropping a valuable point to Drogheda, Limerick have strengthened their position at the top of the table. They are three points ahead of St. Patrick's Athletic and Shamrock Rovers.

BEST DISPLAY

Sunday's victory over Cork Hibernians before a 1997 "gate" was unquestionably Limerick's best performance of the season, and if the compact defence can maintain the magnificent form in the vital games ahead of them, then they will concede very few goals indeed. Goal-keeper, Kevin Fitzpatrick, proved against Hibernians that he is the best in the League of Ireland at the moment, and there can hardly be two better wing-halves than the brilliant

Al Finucane and Joe O'Mahoney.

When one realises that the Limerick defence had a dreadful record in the Shield—they conceded 35 goals in 11 matches—Al Finucane, in the role of unofficial player-manager, has done a splendid job and is obviously getting the full response from the players. The defence has a wonderful record in the League—only five goals conceded in seven matches.

LOCAL PLAYERS

An interesting fact surrounding Limerick's winning run is that the team is comprised of all local players, with the exception of Peter Mitchell, the Dublin-based centre-forward Joe Burke, who is only 18 years, is developing into a fine right-back, and with more experience in this higher grade of football will make his presence felt. Another newcomer to League of Ireland this season, outside-left, Patsy Doran, has acquitted himself very well in his three games to date, notably against Hibernians, when he paved the way for Limerick's first goal. Sean Byrnes, in his new position at centre-half, has surpassed all expectations.

Next Sunday's game with Dundalk should be a real thriller. The Co. Louth club hit top form against Bohemians by scoring six goals. The Markets Field encounter is an occasion that should not be missed by all sports enthusiasts.

ROYAL CINEMA

PARAMOUNT PICTURES ANNOUNCE ALL THIS WEEK

The Rio Grande runs red when Blue changes sides.



Blue
Terence Stamp
Joanna Pettet
Kari Malden
Ricardo Montalban

Screenplay by Meade Roberts and Ronald M. Cohen • Story by Robert M. Coover
Produced by Judd Bernard and Irwin Winkler • Associate Producer Patricia Casey
Directed by Silvio Narizzano • Paramount Technicolor • Music by Marco Fracastoro • A Paramount Picture

PLUS . . .



PARAMOUNT PICTURES PRESENTS
ROGUES GALLERY
An A&W Pictures Production
STARRING ROGER SMITH • GRETA BOLDWIN • DENNIS MORGAN
EDGAR BERGEN • BRIAN DONLEVY • FARLEY GRANGER
CASTING BY MALA POWERS • RICHARD ABLEN • JACKIE COOGAN • JOHNNIE BAY
Screenplay by STEVE FISHER • Directed by LEONARD HORN • COLOUR • A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

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