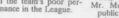
Pays up to

# Soccer shock as 2 reveal resignations

IN A SHOCK STATEMENT this Thursday, Mr. Noel Murphy of Castleconnell, announced that he was about to tender his resignation as a director of Limerick City F.C. to Mr. Pat Grace, chairman. And Mr. Pat Cronin, of Askeaton, who had responsibility for match programmes, indicated that he was severing his connection with the club. Meanwhile, Mr. Grace has threatened to sell the Rathbane gounds to property speculators if, he says, the public are not prepared to support the club.

In an interview with the Limerick Leader Mr. Murphy and Mr. Cronin said their resignations would be in the post to the club this Thursday afternoon.

Mr. Murphy, who was previously associated with the
defunct Limerick United
and then teamed up with
Limerick City on their
formation, said he had
become very disillusioned
and was not at all happy
with operations at Rathhane.



time has come for me to get out," he commented.

Mr. Murphy said that the public were beginning to ask questions of him — "and the truth is that I was not in a position to answer them honestly."

It was wrong, he said, that the team should be subsidised from the fund.

He pointed out that it was

He pointed out that it was costing in excess of £3,500 to run the club per fortnight during the playing season.

Signing off: Mr. Murphy (left) and Mr. Cronin. The average home gate was around £600, which left a shortfall of almost £3,000 over the same period. "The money has to come from somewhere and I can only conclude it is coming from the lottery," he added. All other clubs have an AGM—why not Limerick City?" asked Mr. Murphy, who will now be notifying the League of Ireland that he will no longer be representing Limerick City.

Mr. Cronin told the Limerick Leader that he was prompted into his decision because of an alleged statement to him from Mr. Grace that he would build houses at Rathbane, withdraw from the LOI and concentrate on a reserve team in the Munster Senior League.

The Cronin said he was concerned at the club's poor image and claimed that he found it difficult to get the business community to advertise in the match programme, which, he added, was being run at a profit. Mr. Cronin told the Limerica

#### The board

The other directors of the club, in addition to Mr. and Mrs. Grace, are Det. Sgt. Michael Browne and Mr. Michael Bourke.
When contacted by the Limerick Leader on the allegations made by Mr. Murphy and Mr. Cronin, Mr. Grace agreed that funds from the lettery were made available towards the running of the team.
He said that from previous

He said that from previous experience with Limerick United, he arranged to have the grounds at Rathbane purchased in his own name, and that he in turn rented it out to Limerick City.

If anybody in ...imerick, he continued, wrshed to become involved with Limerick City AFC, they were quite entitled to do so — "but first they must be prepared to put up money."

Soccer, he said, had cost him a small fortune.

When Mr. Cron n's allegation

small fortune.
When Mr. Cronn's allegation
that he (Mr. Grace) may
build houses at Rathbane
was put to him, Mr. Grace
revealed that if the public
didn't want succer at Rathbane then he would be
prepared to sell the property.

### Developers

"I have ten acres up there and have already been approached by property developers," he said. And he further revealed that he had two auctioneers to value the property.

Mr. Grace said he was surprised to learn of Mr. Murphy's resignation.

As regards holding an agm,
Mr. Grace said that Limerick City FC was not a
limited company and there-Turn to page 2

By John O'SHAUGHIN

bane.
He emphasised that his resignation had nothing to do with the team's poor performance in the League.

### Meetings

NEWS

LINES

Mairtin Mac Aodha, manager of the Limerick

Launching

His decision, he added, was prompted because he felt he served no function. "I am only called to meetings to endorse decisions already taken by the chairman and his wife, Anne Grace, who is club secretary and treasurer. I have never been allowed to voice an opinion and when I asked questions, I was overruled," he claimed. If, Murnby stated that he was

Mr. Murphy stated that he was not alleging any impropriety.

He said of the club's weekly lottery: "When the lottery was launched the public was told it was for development work at the ground. My information is that Mr. Haymen Harris, commercial manager, has handed over upwards of \$400,000 to Mr. Grace in the two and a half year existence of the lottery, and expenditure at the ground in that time has been no more than

the ground in that time has been no more than £100,000, and that includes the initial outlay in the purchase of the property from Old Crescent RFC. I have been told that the proceeds are being directed towards the running of the team, which is contrary to what the lottery was set up for."

for."

Mr. Murphy said that there were 10,000 subscribers in county and city at £1 per week, and after expenses and prize money had been met, there was a weekly profit of £3,000.

Since the club was formed, he said, there had been no said, there had been no annual general meeting and neither had a statement of accounts been presented. Neither had he been con-sulted on transfers, signings or free releases. I am not alleging a mis-appropriation of funds—I am merely questioning the

appropriation of funds — I am merely questioning the purpose of the lottery, and I think as a director I had a right to know where the money was being spent." Claimed

As a businessman, he added, he was embarrassed at the direction the club was

taking.

He claimed he had never been told where as much as 1p was being spent. "Too many things have happened which I did not like and the

BEALINAIO



By MARTIN BYRNES

EFFIN'S TEN-YEAR wait

EFFIN'S TEN-YEAR wait for a water supply is nearing an end, the county engineer, Mr. Andy O'Connell, announced this week. The County Council is to seek to buy a well and headworks from Cork County Council.

The source, which is in Jamestown, Co. Limerick, was used until lately as part of the Charleville supply. Now, because Charleville has an improved supply of its own, the Jamestown unit is own, the Jamestown unit only serves the Ballymac group scheme in County Limerick, and a handful of houses along the pipe route to Charleville.

#### **Townlands**

In the meantime, Effin and its surrounding townlands of Garrycoonagh, Garryderk, Ballynagoul and Thomastown have been trying to find a suitable source. There are 230 houses in the area to be served, and the daily demand is for 46,000 gallons. In addition, the farming demand is put at 35,000 gallons, making a total daily demand of 131,000 gallons.

As luck would have it, the

demand of 131,000 gallons.

As luck would have it, the capacity of the little-used Jamestown well is 150,000 gallons a day. There is an associated bore-hole source which can provide an extra 14,000 gallons a day. Mr. O'Conneil believes that this source would be quite satisfactory to meet the needs of

## Watermain The preliminary report has, however, been sent to the Department of the Environment by Mr. O'Connell's office, so that no undue delay would be caused from Limerick's end.

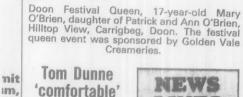
the people of the Effin area.

Negotiations are in being with Cork County Council for the purchase of the headworks, which the County Council here prices at about £60,000. However, there is a delay relating to Cork's need to clear wayleaves and other legal paperwork.

The work, if approved, would involve the laying of about 2½ miles of eight-inch and six-inch trunk water-

## **VERY DIM** ERY CLEVER

DIM COSY, ALL COTTON TIGHTS KEEP YOU MEGA-WARM IN WINTERMINIS FE OF



A file is being prepared for submission to the Director of Public Prosecutions by detectives at Henry Street head-quarters, Limerick, who have interviewed two men while investigating the assault on Tom Dunne, the Munster junior hurling star from Adare, on Sunday of last week, September 27. He had intervened as a peacemaker in a fight between two men, at about 10,20 p.m. at the junction of Catherine Street and Thomas Street.

His condition at Barrington's Hospital was described this Thursday as "comfortable." gion d we

## Aidan Tuttle

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Mr. Aidan Tuttle, aged 48, of Ennis, a former turf accountant who was well known in Limerick business and sport circles, died unexpectedly early this week.

### **Ideal Homes**

The Ideal Homes Exhibition at Moylish Sports Centre will be officially opened this Thursday by the Mayor, Tim Leddin, at 4 p.m.

Sce page 35.





Looking for gold . . . Michael Daly, managing director of Estuary Fuels Limited, turns pirate to publicise this Sunday's Treasure Hunt from the Crescent Shopping Centre sponsored by his firm to raise funds for Mungret soccer club.

INTERNATIONS