

DENIES NG TO :USE SSUE'

At a later stage, witness went on, Mr. Sheridan had told him that he believed Mr. Capper had his stamp "I met him in Ballinastoe and asked him if he had the stamp and he reacted in a casual manner", he said.

Dermot Sheridan said that he had been a vet at Blackwater for 16 years. He acknowledged that the cattle cards and export certs in question were not correct.

At that time the cards would be taken into the office and checked by various staff. He would sign them but he would not have checked the details against the field books. That would have been done by his secretarial staff.

Signature

Replying to Mr. Nix, he said that he did not insert any details apart from his own signature. At the time, he went on, he was testing a lot of animals for export. The two farmers whose herd numbers were on the cards had animals tested quite often by him.

He told the court that the stamp he reported missing was his ordinary signature stamp: "The stamp U 19 was in my possession until the end of 1985. In fact I came back to Killaloe and used it the day I was interviewed by Mr. Hayes".

He said that he had attached some significance to the loss of his signature stamp because "information came to me that a person had used my stamp, I went back to the office and found that it was missing. Then I went to Martin Kenirons".

In further reply to Mr. Nix, he said that he had some difficulty with a member of his staff, a girl who would have done most of the updating of the cards. "When I came in every evening they would be left for signing in the in-tray".

Replying to Mr. O'Sullivan, witness said that field books had been destroyed in a fire on his premises. The reason why he mentioned the fire at all to Mr. Hayes was because he had asked for the field books. "Certainly not", he replied to a suggestion that he was trying "to confuse to issue".

He denied saying that his date stamp had ever been stolen. A previous date stamp had been stolen, he said, but not the U 19.

When asked to explain how the cards in question indicated that he had carried out tests on the cattle, he said that Mr. Capper had come to his office looking for export certs for all the cattle he had purchased. He said that he himself was not in the office when Mr. Capper arrived.

Defendant denied that he had been requested to prepare false documents. He had signed the cards left for him by Capper.

When asked by Mr. O'Sullivan why he had told Department officials that a mistake had been made, he said: "At that time I was unaware of the situation regarding Mr. Capper".

Instructions

Defendant said that this cattle should not have been exported. "Our instructions are that animals may not be tested within 45 days of another test. Anyone looking at these cards could see that there were two tests within ten days".

Peter Monaghan, district veterinary officer at Ballybay, said that a permit had been issued by his office for the movement of cattle by Mr. Robert Capper. Capper took approximately fifty cattle over the border on the day in question.

John Brown, who worked as a secretarial assistant to Mr. Sheridan, gave evidence that a few field books had been destroyed by fire. Replying to Justice Reilly he said that this meant that there were no



Soccer club keep lottery

LIMERICK CITY F.C. are to continue to benefit from the weekly lottery, it has been confirmed by Mr. Haymen Harris (above), who organises the £3,000 per week moneyspinner. Mr. Harris and his 40 agents had threatened to pull the plug following the controversy which surrounded the resignations of Noel Murphy, director, and Pat Cronin, programme editor (writes JOHN O'SHAUGHNESSY)

Mr. Murphy had complained that some monies from the lottery were directed towards team affairs, rather than ground development.

Mr. Harris confirmed at the time that there had been a falling off in the number of subscribers and he feared for the future of the lottery.

Chairman

He called upon the chairman of the club, Mr. Pat Grace, to clarify the situation and to outline future policy, and when that was done last week tension between the two parties eased.

According to the lottery organiser, numbers levelled out over the past few days. "We have had a total drop-out of about 300 and now that Christmas is around the corner I feel that we can make up on the shortfall", Mr. Harris told the *Limerick Leader*.

This was traditionally the time of year, he added, when people liked to have the opportunity to win money.

Furthermore, his agents found a more positive response on their calls this past week.

Research had shown them that 60 per cent of subscribers were not concerned where the profits from the lottery were spent.

Now that he has been invited onto the board of directors, Mr. Harris expects that he will have a stronger voice.

Attendances

"Hopefully we will shortly reach the situation where attendances will improve and the team will be able to go ahead and concentrate on developing the ground from the lottery proceeds", he declared.

It is his intention to have a look at the entire structure of the club and to insist that he has a say where lottery profits are spent.

Mr. Harris is waiting on the presentation of accounts, as promised by the chairman. "It is only when I see them that I will know what direction I can take", he said.

It is understood that the accounts will be finalised inside a few weeks.

One of Mr. Harris' first tasks will be to see where costs can be pruned. It is estimated that inside the last three years Limerick City's expenditure has topped the £450,000 mark, of which the lottery generated an approximate £370,000.

Returned for trial

Martin Kirby (34), 31 O'Callaghan Avenue, Killeely, was returned for trial on bail to the next sitting of Limerick Circuit Criminal Court on charges of receiving a television set, value £350, the property of Philip Bolger, knowing the same to have been stolen, between September 11 and 12 last, and receiving Waterford Glass and one cushion to the value of £500, the property of Michael Hocter, knowing the same to have been stolen, between September 11 and 12 last, by Justice M. Reilly at Limerick rural court.

Mr. Ger O'Neill, solr.,



The Minister for Justice, Gerry Collins, T.D., cuts the tape to officially open the new Roxboro Garda Station, watched by Commissioner Laurence Wren, and Supt. Liam Quinn (left).

LIMERICK FARMERS PROTEST AT DEAL

By MARTIN RYAN
Agricultural
Editor

ANGRY farmers have accused directors of the ICMSA Investment Society of a "complete sell-out" of farmer interest in "a secret deal" on shares in Shannon Meat in Rathkeale. More than 150 shareholders attended a stormy three-hour annual general meeting of the society at the River Room Motel, Newcastle West, this Wednesday night and strongly condemned the £802,000 deal with the Goodman International Group for the 29 per cent shareholding in the factory.

Shareholders demanded that the society's accountants identify the people whom they met in concluding discussions on the deal.

They also demanded to know whether the president of the ICMSA at the time, Mr. Con Scully, "was aware" of what was happening.

Private

The private meeting was presided over by Mr. William Biggane, Charleville, chair-

the Shannon shares until the farmers insisted on discussing the matter under any other business.

Mr. Terry O'Connor, director, read a report to the meeting. Copies were not made available to the shareholders.

Confirmed

He did not disclose the sale price, but this was later confirmed at £802,000.

Six reasons were set out by the directors for their decision.

They were: (1) Shannon Meat was not capable of development; (2) By disposing to the Goodman group they would establish better competition for livestock; (3) Shannon Meat had cash problems with their bankers from time to time; (4) The profit

spoken of was over £400,000 but there was substantial interest charges; (5) They wanted to safeguard interest of shareholders in the society; (6) They did not want a Clover Meats situation to develop.

Speakers

During the meeting observers in the hotel frequently heard shouting during heated comments from speakers at the meeting, and shareholders emerged from the room shortly before midnight divided on the rights and wrongs of the sale.

It was decided that decision on re-investment of the money should be deferred until after discussion at regional and executive meetings of ICMSA members in Limerick, Tipperary, Kerry and Cork.

'JUS DEL SO DIS

By LEADER REPO

CONTENDING that delayed is justice Justice M. Reilly acc dismissed on merit against Joseph Body Cosgrave Park, Moy driving with a conce

Castletro

Last Saturday was vic for the Monaleen U15 when the defeated Na Pi the city U15 hurling final; to bring the trophy to l for the first time. This we Monaleen GAA club wi to St. Vincents, Dublin U hurling and football team Vincents players will various houses in the are participate in matches o and Monday against Mo Monaleen. Altogether it an outstanding weekend activity in Monaleen.

The Monaleen GAA drive was won last week Murphy and partner of I Road.

The first steps in the tion of the new studer modation building at Pla taken last week when fe erected in the field, op entrance to NIHE, del area which will be invol

A very large number o attended the annual Ma beginning of the college Tuesday night in the pari of Our Lady Help of C Fr. Gerry Myers, SDB, (NIHE, was chief cor assisted by priests of the

Recent births and bap baby Ronan Crotty, son ew and Margaret Crotty drive; baby Kieran Egan Michael and Breda Egan Drive; baby Kate Enright of Con and Mary Castletroy, and bab McInerney, daughter o and Siobhan McInerney laws.

The first AGM of (Help of Christians 40th Troop CBSI was held la the gate lodge of Milfo In his address Unit La Hyde, College Court, ou unit's successes during

The scout unit won the quiz and came secon regional shield competi cubs came third in thei quiz and also attended Mount Mellery. A speci committee was electe coming year: chairma Devlin, Avignon; secre McGuire, Monalee treasurer, Ena O'Briee wood. Marie Hartnett, Sidhe, and Margaret Heidelberg, were electe mittee members.

The strength of the unit is 11: 24 cubs. It was in tim future plans are envisag increase in activity d coming year. A special t

Kidnap shock Limerick cou

AS GARDAI SEARCHED the woodlands of Countv Limerick this