

ailed. "We have found it very difficult to get our young members integrated into local youth clubs."

"Organising meetings were poorly attended and the leaders just said that they'd o uy and see about it," Mr. Ellis said.

Now the wheelchair bound young people in the city have formed their own youth club with the help of six young people employed by the Association under the youth employment scheme.

Welcome

"They hope to show the way themselves" Mr. Ellis said, adding that he believed the reason why the other youth clubs had shied away from extending an open armed welcome to the disabled was because they didn't know how to cope.

"Nobody knows better than a disabled person himself what is or is not an obstacle, and nobody would be quicker to tell you if he couldn't do something," the Wheelchair Association chairman said.

The Wheelchair Association's group of young workers under the leadership of Ann Duggan are just completing their first six months with the Association during which time they have visited the disabled throughout the city and environs in their homes and in hospitals, and have suggested ways in which their lives could be improved.

The group is also finalising a survey of all accessible buildings in the city, from shops to doctors surgeries to public offices.

The survey will be published later in the spring.

Dublin trailing in the popularity stakes with U.S. visitors and the trend is continuing.

During 1985 traffic between New York, Boston and Shannon increased by 30 per cent and was up only seven per cent into Dublin.

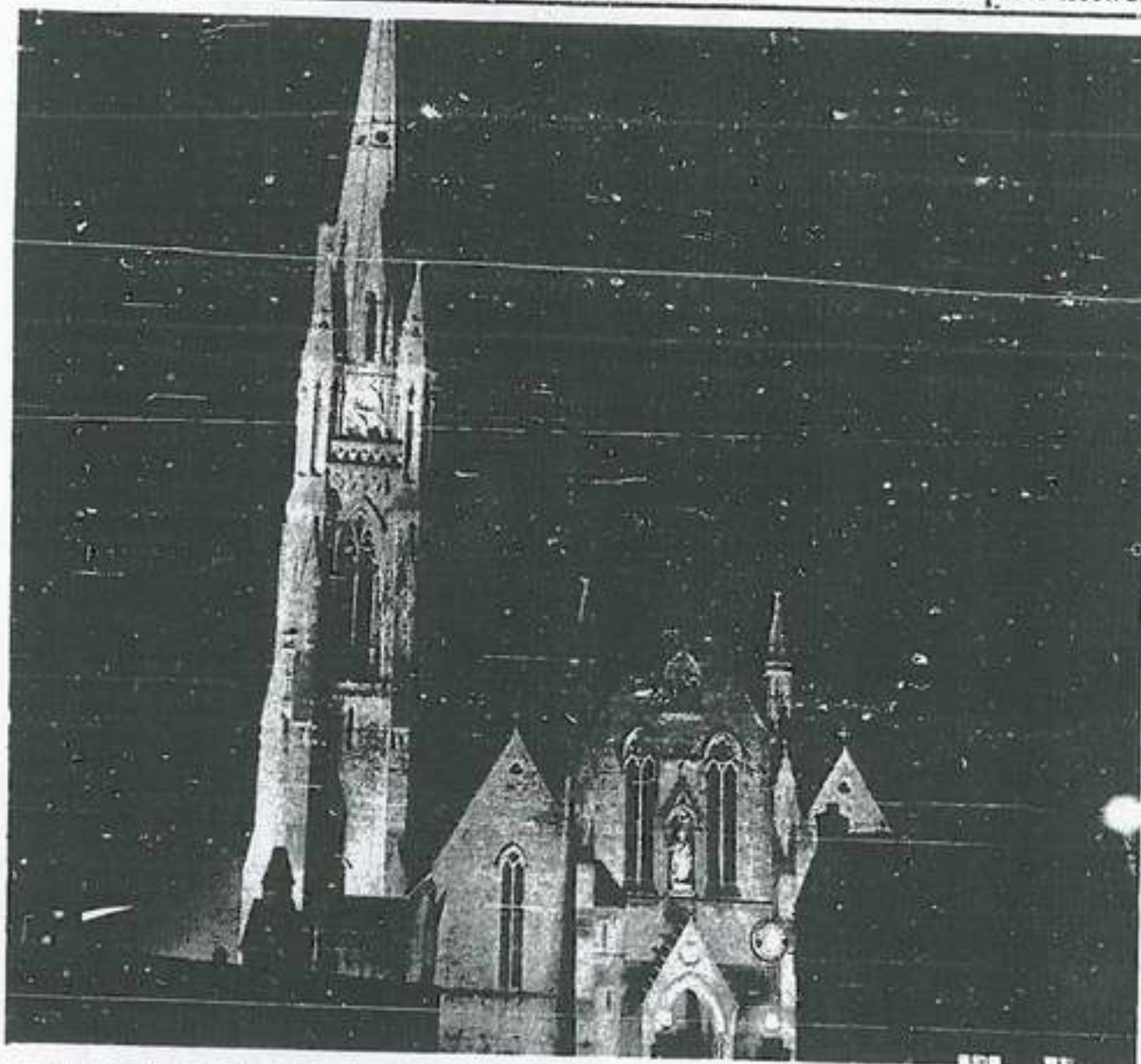
"The sizeable increase in our Shannon traffic underscores our continued commitment to Shannon

assistant chief executive-commercial Mr. Cathal Mullen said commenting on the figures.

In all it was a record year on the Atlantic for the national air carrier with a 21 per cent increase in traffic which Aer Lingus predicts could see the company make a profit or break even on this route for the first time in over 10

But a 25 per cent increase in capacity over the Atlantic in 1986 could prove difficult. However, Aer Lingus are determined to remain the market leaders on the North Atlantic.

A total of 345,000 passengers crossed the Atlantic with Aer Lingus in the last 12 months and a massive 2,200,000 people on its complete network.



A floodlit St. John's Cathedral, lighting up the winter skyline, at the weekend.

Picture: DERMOT LYNCH

A £20,000 LIGHTING SYSTEM FOR ST.

JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

The system also lights up the cathedral proper from lamps placed at 7 or 8 strategic points.

Said parish Administrator, Father James Ambrose: "The lighting is really for the city."

The lights were installed by the Londra Electrical Company, in Limerick, under the supervision of Mr. Don O'Malley, lighting engineer, to a design scheme by Mr. Joe Dalton, of Patrick J. Sheahan & Partners, architects.

Mr. O'Malley worked in conjunction with the E.S.B. and the multi-national electrical company, Philips. Other interests were involved, including Mr. Michael Nash, of Croom, who carried out the necessary trench work for the cable-laying.

The total cost reached £20,000, but it is not yet known if the civic authorities will contribute to the installation or running costs from a tourism point of view.

Continued Father Ambrose: "The lighting will be in permanently. We hope to have a time-switch soon, and then it

is hoped to have the lights on between 7 and 12 midnight. The lights are in only since the Saturday before Christmas."

He said that the spire could be lighted separately from the cathedral proper, and that the lamps themselves were carefully placed at about 7 or 8 vantage points.

It is not yet known exactly how much the lighting will cost to run, but it should, it is expected, work out at about £2 to £3 an hour.

"They were first put on for Christmas Eve and Christmas Night," commented a member of the local clergy.

Said Father Ambrose: "We are very please with it, and you can see the cathedral from all round, a good distance. It is a great civic building for the city, apart from being a cathedral, along with St. Mary's and King John's Castle.

"The spire is one of the most graceful and highest in the country.

"It is understood that the lighting had been mooted for quite some time, and that Bishop Newman liked the idea."

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