

UIN'S OFF-ALLES
 JW OPEN TE EVERY NIGHT

EXPRESS
 24-HRS. TAXI & MINI CAB SERVICE
47777
 MIN. FARE STILL £1.45.

Limerick



Leader

CITY EDITION

Vol. 98. No. 17468

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1986

PRICE 50p English Edition 50p

FIRST SOUTHERN BANK LTD
 Pays up to 10% ON DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

School strike nears end

Primary school pupils in 51 schools in the Limerick city branch areas of the I.N.T.O.—including 20 in the county—return to their classrooms this Friday following their teachers' third three-day strike.

Mr. Tom O'Sullivan, branch secretary, said that the position of the I.N.T.O. would be reviewed at their annual conference in Tralee following the Easter weekend.

Liquidator

An order was made in the High Court in Dublin this Tuesday appointing Mr. Laurence Crowley as liquidator to the Shannon bus building factory GAC Ireland, at the request of the company.

Deaths

Deaths are on page 2.

CHUNK OF SPIRE FALLS 100 FEET ONTO FOOTPATH

LEADER SPECIAL

By LEADER REPORTER

A THOROUGH STRUCTURAL check of St. John's Cathedral has been carried out after a slab weighing several hundredweight crashed over 100 feet from the steeple this Thursday afternoon.

Cllr quits party over robes issue

By PATRICIA FEEHILY

A ROW over the wearing of ceremonial robes of office for St. Patrick's Day events in Limerick has cost the Democratic Socialist Party one of its three City Council seats.

Cllr. Tim O'Driscoll, who resigned from the party this week, said: "That for me was the last straw."

Former chairman of Moyross cumann of Fianna Fail and the first defector in the city from that party in support of Deputy Des O'Malley, he says that he is now "an independent member of the city council."

He admits that he has had various disagreements with DSP policy since his election last June.

Unwritten

But the biggest disagreement, he said, was "the unwritten policy concerning the wearing of the robes of office."

"I consider the wearing of robes on religious and ceremonial occasions appropriate in adhering to the tradition of our ancient city," he told the Limerick Leader.

The DSP's unwritten policy not to wear the robes on any occasion placed him, he said, "in a catch 22 situation."

"I found that I could not participate in the ceremonies at all on St. Patrick's Day. I would have had to robe for Mass at Sarsfield Barracks. I sought guidance from the party and to my dismay the response I received was extremely disappointing."

"That, for me, was the last straw. In keeping with our ancient traditions I believe that the robes of office should be worn, and as a councillor, I



Cllr. O'Driscoll.

ment on Cllr. O'Driscoll's action because, he said, "we

had a gentleman's agreement on a statement to be issued afterwards."

The statement briefly announced that Cllr. O'Driscoll had left because of "differences with party policy."

Cllr. O'Driscoll refused to comment on rumours that he is seeking membership of the Progressive Democrats, who have now opened an office at 9 Cecil Street, Limerick.

DANCERS START TO ARRIVE IN CITY

By LEADER REPORTER

LIMERICK CITY was this Friday set for one of its greatest ever bonanzas with the arrival of the first of 2,500 dancers who are taking part in the World Dancing Championships.

"Every hotel and guest house in the city is booked out, I am begging people to put them up," said hard-working accommodation secretary, Ms. Breda McInerney.

Distance means nothing to these dancing enthusiasts, coming from Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, the United States and many parts of Ireland.

Biggest ever

"It is the biggest entry ever for the championships," said Ms. McInerney.

The stone crashed onto the pathway at Garryowen Road at about 3 p.m. Although it smashed the footpath, the slab remained almost totally intact.

Nobody was injured. A spokesman for the Diocesan Office told the Limerick Leader this Friday that the slab appeared to come from a section about half-way up the steeple.

"About half-way up the spire there are four round spires and in between those is an upside down v-shape stone and a cross on it, and this came away," he said.

High winds

"It may have been blown down by the high winds. It weighed a few hundredweight and fell onto the footpath on Garryowen Road outside the Cathedral walls."

Garryowen Rd. was closed off all evening while steeplejacks from Essco Collins inspected the steeple and the damaged area.

Said a company spokesman: "We have inspected the damage and have given a quote for the repair work, but we can't say any more."

The diocesan spokesman stated that the Cathedral was in a safe condition and everything was secure.

The spire is over 100 years old.

Weather

Strong winds and rain, locally heavy, will extend quickly across the Limerick region late this Friday evening. Saturday will be cloudy with outbreaks of rain, some heavy and persistent, with a clearance likely in the afternoon marked by squally showers. Winds on Saturday morning will be strong to gale force 8, south-westerly, veering westerly in the afternoon. Gusts of strong gale force 9 are likely throughout the day. Sunday onwards will be changeable, cool and windy with considerable rainfall each day. Winds generally fresh westerly, occasionally reaching gale force, frost likely some nights.

Next week



Squaw?

Just the outfit for our March weather... Caroline Jones models Pa O'Donovan's creation. With him in the background is Rachel Manaha who recently designed the front cover for the Incorporated Law Society of Ireland's monthly Gazette. All three are students at Limerick School of Art and Design.

Picture: JOHN F. WRIGG

CELEBRATING SAINT PATRICK'S WEEK

Full houses at Civic Week '86

By LEADER REPORTER

FULL HOUSES HAVE been the trademark of all events for the year's Civic Week Festival programme, which culminates this weekend with the eighth annual Church Music International Chorus Festival.

"We are very happy with the success of the week to date," said co-ordinator, Mr. Fergus Quinlivan.

The fireworks display attracted a huge crowd, much bigger than previous years, and it was a full house for Maureen Potter, the Army Band concert and the wine tasting event.

An exception to the full-house rule was the Golden Voice contest at the Mary Immaculate College this Thursday. The auditorium was less than half full.

"It just goes to show what happens when there's no television coverage," said on visitor.

Tickets were £5 each.

This weekend 30 choirs from throughout Ireland will participate in seven categories, including male choirs, mixed church, youth and school choirs and female choirs.

Strikebound

However, one school choir had to withdraw from the competition.

"We have 11 school choirs participating but the Presentation Convent Choir withdrew due to insufficient time available to prepare their pieces as a result of the teachers' strike," said Mr. Quinlivan.

Disappointment was expressed by the organisers of the St. Patrick's Day Parade at the lack of participation on the industrial front.

"Of the 20 floats only eight floats were from industrial concerns," said parade organiser, Mr. Gerry Joyce.

"We did achieve the spectacle we set out to achieve and we are satisfied with the result."



Mary Clark, soprano, of Howth, winner of this Thursday's Golden Voice contest. The event, broadcast by RTE Radio, was composed by Michael McNamara. The prize of £2,500, received by 25-year-old Mary from Mayor Pat Kennedy, is the highest in the country for a competition of this kind. She also took the Catherine Hayes Trophy for the best female voice. The Joseph O'Mara Trophy, for the best male voice, went to Sandycove baritone Jack O'Kelly (28).

man of the adjudicators, Mr. Seamus Gubbins, said that he would have preferred a bigger entry and hoped to get a bigger one next year.

Chief Marshall for the civic parade was Comdt. J. Ryan, with Mr. P. McNamara in charge of the industrial section.

Judges for the event were Mr. Gubbins, chairman of the Civic Trust; Mr. Jack Bourke, Shannon Development; and Mr. Tom Hayes, county development officer.

Results: Best overall entry, Aughinish Alumina, with Irish Cement second.

garth, Co. Down.
 Best Dressed Overseas Band: Burrellson H.S. Band, Texas.
 Category winners:
 Brass Band (senior) Nenagh Brass Band.
 Accordion (senior): St. Patrick's Band, Drumgarth, Co. Down.
 Fife and Drum (junior) Queen of Peace, Limerick.
 Brass and Reed (senior) Turn to page 2



No!

f1

When Limerick robes are smiling

DER REPORTER
 CK LADIES re- throughout the land beauty, will be eye to the men this never in the long Savoy Theatre ick will so many yes have been as is on this Friday ght for Sight smil- competition orga- Junior Chamber in

association with John Player Tops will be held during the interval of performances in the Savoy.
 Registered as a charity in 1984, the Irish Fight for Sight Campaign was launched early in 1985 to organise a national campaign for protection of sight.

Italian shoes
 For the elegant woman
 Available in a variety of styles and colours
 All £69.99