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IN BRIEF



Supt. Gerry Higgins who since June of this year served as private secretary to Commissioner Laurence Wrenn, has been appointed Superintendent at Henry Street, Limerick. A native of Mohill, Co. Leitrim, Supt. Higgins served as an inspector at Henry Street from 1979 to 1985 and was transferred to the office of the Commissioner on his appointment as Superintendent in February 1985. Prior to 1979, Supt. Higgins served in the training centre in Templemore; as a sergeant in Limerick from 1970 to 1977, and also in Adare and Askeaton stations. He is married with two sons, Declan and Gerald.

Suzanne nervous of home town concert

By PATRICIA FEEHILY

THE Grand Piano has been hauled in from the N.I.H.E., and all is in readiness for what should prove a memorable musical experience this Friday night in the Crescent Hall — Suzanne Murphy's first concert in her native Limerick.

Only minutes after she had turned down an urgent request to step into a leading role in Covent Garden tonight, the famous soprano told a press conference at the Limerick Inn: "I told them that I was singing in Limerick tonight."

Completely devoid of the temperamental opera star image, Suzanne confessed that this Friday night will be "a daunting experience" for her.

"I'm quite nervous," she said. She and her accompanist, Belfast born Ingrid Surgenor charmed every-

one at the press conference this Thursday, many of whom remembered her as a young girl working in a local insurance office, and singing in the chorus of Cecilian productions.

"Fame hasn't changed her one bit," said Fr. Stephen Bates, S.J., President of the Cecilians, who knew her first as a young child playing with her sister and brother in Kilkee.

Dedication

Suzanne herself recalled her first big part with the Cecilians as "Adele" in *De Fledermaus*. "Somebody got sick and dropped out. No, I wasn't nervous then. I was gasping to get the part," she said.

Fr. Bates said that she showed such dedication and determination then that "you'd even hear her exercising her voice in the corridor during the intervals."

Recently, when she sang in Vienna,

she was amazed to find her old tutor, Veronica Dunne, in the audience. Her professional operatic career, which began with the Irish National Opera Company in 1974, has taken her all over the world, even to Russia.

Next on the bill are leading roles in Vancouver and Pittsburg.

Totally unassuming, she said that she was surprised to hear that her first concert in Limerick had been booked out six weeks ago. So she readily agreed to an encore on Sunday night.

She will also sing at the 11.30 a.m. Mass in the Crescent Church on Sunday. "If there's a full house then I'll take 10% of the plate," she quipped.

Her mother, Mrs. Una Murphy, of North Circular Road; her brother, Michael, and sister Mrs. Noelle Bannon of Tullamore, will be in the audience tonight to see Limerick give a tremendous reception to one of its most famous daughters.



Talking of times gone by... internationally renowned soprano, Suzanne Murphy, who is in Limerick for two concerts at the Crescent Theatre talking to Fr. Stephen Bates, S.J., President, Cecilian Musical Society. Suzanne was a former member of the Society. Picture: OWEN SOUTH

MINISTER UNFOLDS 170 JOBS

Weather

Persistent and locally heavy rain is forecast for this Friday by the Met. Office in Shannon. Cold weather is expected tonight with some ground frost and temperatures are expected to fall to around 0°C. Some sunny spells are forecast for Saturday with showers. It will be drier on Sunday and Monday with some showers.

Building jobs with broken furniture

LIMERICK Society of St. Vincent de Paul have started a novel scheme in the city which is creating employment and also providing furniture for



DEATHS

COPLEY — October 29, 1986. at St. Joseph's Hospital, Lucy, late of Mill Road, Corbally, Limerick. Very deeply regretted by her loving brother, George; nephews, nieces, relatives and friends. Removal from Griffin's Funeral Home, Gerald Griffin Street, to St. Mary's Cathedral this Friday at 2.30 p.m., followed by Service at 3 p.m. Interment immediately afterwards in Cathedral Cemetery. "Safe in the Arms of Jesus". (c) **CROTTY** — October 29, 1986. at Barrington's Hospital, Patrick