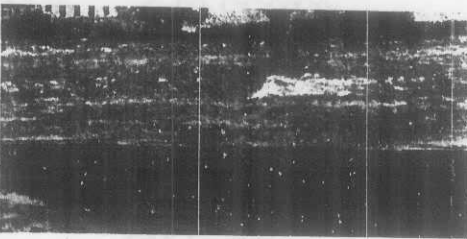


The building, which is intended to aesthetically blend in such mediaeval city monuments as St Mary's Cathedral and King John's Castle, despite its modern architecture, will accommodate not only the civic offices, but also the city museum and additional law courts and ancillary rooms.

Total cost of the project, which is providing employment for about 100 on the construction site itself, and an additional 80-100 off-site, is put at £6 millions.

The river side of the buildings, fronting on to the Curragour Falls will have a small landscaped park which will eventually form part of the planned riverside walk from King John's Castle to Sarsfield Bridge and, later, to the docks.

The restoration of the old Newgate Prison, which gave that quarter of the city much of its old-world ambience and which could have accommodated the civic offices, was found on a survey to be too expensive.



Top security prisoners called to hearing

THE City Courthouse will be the scene of top security on Monday December 12th, when a number of charges of alleged assaults on prison officers are heard in a special sitting by Justice M Reilly.

The defendant, Seamus Rooney, of 1H, St Mary's Mansions Dublin, has requested the presence of ten defence witnesses, whom the gardai have described as "high security prisoners"

They include Michael and

John Cunningham in prison on charges relating to the Jennifer Guinness kidnap.

Justice Reilly agreed to the defendant's request to issue witnesses summons to the prisoners involved, and he also agreed to a request from the gardai to hold the court on a special day because the security implications.

Request

The Justice however refused a request from the defendant to have the Limerick prison Visiting committee also called

as witnesses.

The Defendant is charged that on February 15 last at Gouldavoher, he committed common assault on Michael Donegan, Stephen Quinn and Gerard Ryan, and that he escaped from lawful custody, and that he caused damage to a glass door to the value of £25.

He is charged with assaulting prison Officer Tim Keane, who had accompanied him to Mountjoy Prison on January 18.

Death of Jack Meehan

The death occurred suddenly over the week-end of Jack Meehan, 30 Nicholas Street. A baker by trade, he was employed in latter years in Fultex. A well-known rowing personality, Jack was a 100-year-old member of Athlunkard, a club in which he served in every official capacity. He stroked A.B.C. to its greatest Quin Cup victory, when at Limerick Regatta in 1951, in a thirteen boat start, they defeated UCD, then national maiden eight champions.

He is survived by his wife, Lan, daughters and sons, including Peter, captain of the Young Munster senior XV. A huge concourse of mourners attended the removal of remains last evening. The funeral Mass has been put back to 3 o'clock tomorrow (Tuesday) at St. Mary's, with funeral afterwards to Kilmurry Cemetery.

this week

THE regional final of the 1989 "Entertainer of the Year" award takes place in Fibber McGees on Wednesday, November 23, at 8.30 p.m. The competition being run by the Lions Club in association with RTE and Allied Irish Banks, involves those in the over 55 category.

Qualifiers from the Limerick finals were Bernadette O'Connor, Janesboro Senior Citizens Club, Clem McCloskey and Steve Dillon, both of Vises Court Senior Citizens Club. The qualifiers from this regional final will be featured on RTE's afternoon program-

me "Live at Three".

December 11 is an active day for the Limerick Lions Club with two activities being held at the Limerick Inn Hotel. The finals of the Youth Award Scheme are being hosted by the club and our annual poker classic is also being held - details are available from the club, which can be contacted at the Limerick Inn Hotel.

Other activities before Christmas include our church gate collection on December 17 and 18, and the RTE Radio 2/Lions Food Appeal which will be held at Quinnsport in the Crescent Shopping Centre, on 8-10 and 15-17 December.

An Oige trip

THE Thomond Regional Group of An Oige, which has been very active in recent months with outings to Foulksrath Castle, Mountain Lodge, Ballydavid Wood and Indrebhain youth hostels, are off again next week-end to Dublin. It's an outing organised to the 'Millennium City' of Dublin. They will stay in Morehampton Road youth hostel for two nights and an exciting week-end's programme has been planned. They depart from Limerick on the 6 p.m. train from Colbert Station on Friday night and return home on

Pilgrimage

Pilgrimage to Knock on Sunday, 4th December, 1988. Buses leave Knock Shrine Bureau, Bedford Row, at 9 a.m. Booking by ticket now at the Bureau, Tel. (061) 49458.

Sunday night, November 27. The cost for the week-end is £16.75, £13.75 for under 18 years and this charge covers the train fare and two overnights in the youth hostel.

Poet-Rector Archdeacon Ross-Lewin is remembered



Pictured outside Archdeacon Richard Sargent Ross-Lewin's former residence in Castletroy (left to right) Micheal Deegan, Micheal Toomey, Bridget Lynch, Angela Brennan, Maureen Sparling, Maura Clancy, Kathleen McMahon, Mary Murphy, Ann Kenneally, Theresa Walsh and Maura Fitzgibbon.

STUDENTS of Engineering at the Unemployed Centre continue their very interesting and highly successful study at Richard Ross-Lewin.

Although the study they undertook in mid-September, came under four distinct headings—1. The poet's Ecumenism; 2. Love of all Nature; 3. Deep Desire for Peace and Unity; and his obvious 4. Witticism; this week they have been concentrating on his intense interest in the wars of the nineteenth century.

Study

Because of his study of every aspect of the engagements in which the Irish regiments took part, especially the 8th Royal Irish Hussars (cut to pieces in the famous Charge of the Light Brigade), the Connaught Rangers and the Munster Fusiliers, he became an authority on military his-

tory.

Among the poems relating to war are, "The Sunny Isle of Martinique", "A Soldier of Clare", "The Gallant Baltic Fleet", "The Night Before Inkerman", "Quis Separabit", "The Magnificent Irish Soldier", "The Innish Killing (27th) Monument, Omagh", "The New Crusader", "God Speed the Fighting Fifth", "A Spanish Retrospect", and "India Rule Versus Irish Rule".

Through the help of Josephine McCabe and Siobhan Hickey of Limerick County Library, the students and their tutor Maureen Sparling have succeeded in securing a volume of information concerning the Ross-Lewin ancestry, dating back to 1621, from the Clare County Library in Ennis.

In a book entitled, with "The Thirty-Second" in the Peninsular and other Campaigns by Harry Ross-Lewin of Ross Hill, Co. Clare and printed in Dublin in 1904, the

introduction delves very deeply in the history of the Ross-Lewin family. On a more general theme, the introduction also records that the family "was famous alike for the beauty of its women and the wit and bravery of its men."

"We are highly delighted that through our study", states tutor Maureen Sparling, "to have come in contact with two Limerick women whose maiden name was Lewin."

They are Ms. Patsy Brosnan, a teacher in Ard Scoil Mhuire, Corbally, and Ms. Maureen Ronan of Adapt.

Birth

The Ven. Richard Ross-Lewin was born in 1849, he was the son of Rev. George Ross-Lewin of Rose Hill, Co. Clare, a family that owned considerable property in that county, and gave many of its sons to the army and navy.

He himself served for many years in the Royal Navy before taking Holy Orders in 1877.

He was installed in the incumbency of Kilmurry, in 1886, and this charge he held to the time of his death in 1921. In 1919 he was appointed to the Archdeaconry of Limerick.

He was a prolific and versatile writer, and took a great pride in his native County Clare, to which many of his verses refer.

Many members of his family distinguished themselves in some of the great wars of the nineteenth century, including the peninsular and Crimean engagements.

He himself devoted most of his spare time studying every aspect of the engagements in which the Irish regiments took part, especially the 8th Royal Irish Hussars (cut to pieces in the famous Charge of the Light Brigade), the Con-

naught Rangers and the Munster Fusiliers. Thus he became an authority on military history.

His little book of poetry was published in 1907 by George McKern and Son. McKern's were old parishioners of Kilmurry and lived in the beautiful Roselawn House, now demolished in connection with industrial 'development' in the area.

Poems

The poems are simple, but attractive, and deal mainly with great military engagements. He takes great pride in England's prowess in the field of making additions to her Empire at any cost. While he might be regarded as quite fair in his "Night before Inkerman" an Irish patriot (if there is any of the breed left) might take exception to "Omdurman". On the whole he was himself a brave soldier and it is only natural for a poet

to muse about the great military engagements of the past.

His collection of poems is well interspersed with delightful pieces on local themes. This is in direct contrast with the work of his great friend, Canon Langridge, Rector of St. John's (d.1922) whose much larger poetry collection contains not a single piece on a local subject.

Richard had beautiful views of his "Own Darling County of Clare", the countryside in which he was brought up, from the heights of Monaleen and Kibbanc, where he found much inspiration for the nostalgic little pieces.

He was a great ecumenist, long before the word came into common parlance, and counted many Catholic clergy among his close friends.

He was a regular visitor to St. Mary Magdalen's well (the Patroness of the parish) on 'Pattern Days' and took part in the devotions with his Catholic neighbours.