LIMERICK LEADER
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1944

Things That Matter

The feeding of the peoples of Europe is a problem that is at present receiving the serious consideration of different governments. The carrying out of this gigantic work presents not a few difficulties by reason of the fact that many countries, ever since the Free Trade era, have relied on imports for essential commodities. Now, as the result of a cataclysm that has shook the world, the public conscience is awakened to the evils of this disastrous policy. It can be taken for granted, therefore, that Free Trade, in its full implications, is a dead letter. For the future nations, in their own interest, will be constrained to adopt measures to supply adequate food at least for their own peoples.

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The eyes of the peoples of Europe were first opened to the immediate danger that beset them in the matter of food supplies by the World War No. 1. It was then demonstrated in a very striking way how much they were dependent on the outside world for their very existence and, as a result, steps were taken to correct the errors of Free Trade. But what was done in that direction between 1919 and 1939 was not nearly progressive enough to make countries self-supporting and, consequently, starvation is an ever-present danger over the greater part of Europe. When peace comes it will be found that if millions are not to die for want of food far greater strides will have to be made along the road of self-sufficiency.

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It is common knowledge that the populations of certain European countries are in dire want because of their dependence on supplies from outside sources. The question now is—what means will be at hand for provisioning these hungry millions when the war is over! Indeed, the situation in that regard is anything but reassuring. It was thought that the international wheat pool reserves, which are being held in the United States, would be sufficient to meet the world's post-war needs. But as part of these reserves are being used for feeding live-stock in America, where animal production is being developed on a large scale, the quantity likely to be available for relieving destitution in Europe will be much less than was originally anticipated.

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From all this it will be seen that for many years to come, at least, nations, out of absolute necessity, must themselves produce indispensable food supplies. The moral is fairly obvious for our own farmers, for should they fail to grow a sufficiency of food for the population a state of things too horrible to contemplate would ensue. The farmers have risen to the occasion during this grave emergency. Due to their untiring endeavours, they have stood between the people and hunger. Yet, the farmer is capable of doing much more, not only in his own interest but in the interest of the country as a whole.

COUNCIL'S FEARS

Mulkear Drainage Scheme

HINT OF RETROSPECTIVE LEGISLATION

An interesting discussion took place at the meeting of the Limerick County Council on Saturday, Mr. J. W. Canty, Chairman, presiding, regarding the Mulkear Drainage Scheme.

At the invitation of the Council the Deputies for the constituency and Senators attended the meeting.

The **Law Adviser (Mr. R. G. O'Sullivan)** submitted a lengthy report on the recent proceedings in the High Court concerning the Mulkear and Cappamore drainage scheme. He outlined the history of the case concisely.

The **County Manager** said the Deputies were invited to discuss what was the next step the Council should take. They were afraid the Government would bring in retrospective legislation to rectify the position of the Board of Works to make their award legal. The County Council would regard that as a very serious step and wanted the Deputies to do their utmost to prevent the imposition of the final award by means of an Amending Act.

Ald. Bourke, T.D., said the Mulkear scheme as carried out by the Board of Works was a bad job. If the advice of their engineer had been taken at the time things would have been better. He (Ald. Bourke) would be prepared to approach the Parliamentary Secretary regarding him not to interfere with the ruling given by the High Court.

Mr. D. O'Briain, T.D.—Do you think there will be retrospective legislation?

Co. Manager—Well, there was a hint.

Senator D. J. Madden said that a new Drainage Bill was being introduced by the Government which was welcomed by every section of the community and great credit was due to the Government for the undertaking of such a measure. In Co. Limerick, however, the Mulkear drainage scheme, estimated to cost £22,000, was carried on by the Board of Works until it reached a figure of almost £40,000. The work was continued by the Board of Works against the better judgment of the Co. Surveyor (Mr. T. F. Ryan), a judgment which was completely borne out by the High Court. If the charges of these drainage schemes were to be placed on the county ratepayers they would be impossible, especially in view of the fact that a national drainage scheme would become a national charge on every county in Ireland. His suggestion was that the Deputies should endeavour during the Committee Stages of the Bill to secure that the Co. Limerick drainage charges would become part of the main charges of the national scheme. That would relieve the county ratepayers of the burden which it was contemplated to place on them as a result of a badly carried out scheme of drainage in the county.

Mr. M. J. Keyes, T.D., said the Council could not anticipate the Government's action in connection with the Mulkear drainage scheme. He believed if the Government was to attempt to set aside a decision of their own courts, there would be no respect for such courts. If the Government was to attempt to make a retrospective clause in connection with the Mulkear scheme, it would be contemptible. Mr. Smith, the Parliamentary Secretary, had indicated before the County Council took action in the High Court that retrospective legislation would be introduced, but he was slow to bring it now that the High Court had so emphatically upheld the County Council, that he would do that. In connection with other T.D.'s, he would do everything he could to see that the laurels of victory remained with the Council.

Mr. G. K. Bennett, T.D., said Limerick ratepayers should feel indebted to the Co. Council and Mr. T. F. Ryan, Co. Surveyor, and the Co. Manager, for their interest in the matter. Anything useful that could be done in the matter would have to be done before the Bill was introduced. The best plan would be for a deputation of the Deputies, Senators and Councillors to meet the Parliamentary Secretary and ask him to have an insertion made in the Bill covering the situation. The Mulkear scheme was not good, and he believed the present condition should be ventilated publicly to show the scheme was not a success. They had all read on Friday's papers that in parts the Mulkear houses were flooded and cattle and crops carried away.

Mr. R. Ryan, T.D., said that the people were in danger. Instead of an improvement having been made in the scheme it was much worse than ever it was.

The Mayor (Ald. J. Reidy, T.D.) said the only indication they had at the moment of the Minister's intention of introducing legislation was his statement to the deputation. That might be bluff and it might not be. He would suggest that a small committee of the Council be set up to keep in close touch with the situation and with the Deputies, and then they could formulate any plan they considered necessary.

Mr. D. O'Briain, T.D., said he agreed that any attempt to bring in retrospective legislation would be most unfair. He agreed with Senator Madden that a deputation should be appointed. He did not agree with Deputy Keyes regarding the interview with the Parliamentary Secretary. He thought that the latter had touched on the subject rather lightly. He (Deputy O'Briain) had been speaking to Mr. Smith after the last case, and he felt that the Secretary would be pleased to meet a deputation.

Mr. Fitzsimons said that all the talk had been about East Limerick and there had been nothing about West Limerick, which had the same complaints regarding flooding.

The Co. Surveyor said that the only hope for the Mulkear scheme was incorporation in the National scheme.

Mr. O'Briain—Does the Law Adviser think that the Mulkear scheme is not included in the National scheme?

The Law Adviser—I don't think it is.

On the proposition of **Mr. Cleary**, seconded by **Mr. McCarthy**, it was decided to appoint a deputation to interview the Parliamentary Secretary.

It was decided that Mr. McCormack, Mr. Ryan, the Co. Surveyor; the Law Adviser and Co. Manager, together with the Co. T.D.s and Senators, would form the deputation.

The Chairman thanked the T.Ds and Senators for coming and contributing to the debate.

CITIZEN'S RIGHTS

Town Planning Scheme

ANOTHER REPLY TO CITY COUNCIL

(To the Editor, "Limerick Leader")

Dear Sir—I read with interest the recent discussion at Limerick Corporation re town planning. Surely our City Fathers should not be perturbed at a little wholesome criticism or feel aggrieved that the electors should voice critical opinions on a matter of such far-reaching importance to the city.

The fact that the Corporation are, to say the least of it, flirting with the idea of demolishing property worth anything up to a quarter of a million pounds at the public expense entitles the ratepayers to a big say in the matter, and such proposals or criticisms as they may make, even anonymously, deserve the closest study and consideration.

It is all very well to consider in cold blood the demolition of valuable property which is not one's own, but if any member of the Corporation owned a prosperous business premises in the threatened area he would hardly view the proposal with the same complacency.

It must be admitted that it would be practically impossible for the large number of firms dispossessed by the operation of part of the proposed scheme to secure equally well-situated premises, and when, as in most cases, the success of a business depends on its location one can visualise the hardship which would attend the wiping out of well-established business premises in a busy thoroughfare.

Circumstances to-day are very different to those which obtained when Newtown Pery was planned, as those old time planners had not to think of the circumvention or removal of a built-up area as the site for the new town was largely virgin soil which presented no obstacle to the symmetrical lay-out of the city extension at that time.

The Arthur's Quay site as a city centre has been more or less turned down on the question of cost which at the worst would not be twenty-five per cent. of Mr. Manning Robertson's alternative plan.

When in Bray some time ago I noticed that very heavy concrete blocks of 20 to 30 tons were being made and placed in position with the aid of a travelling crane, so as to form a sea wall. I suggest that the erection of a retaining wall of this type at Arthur's Quay is worthy of consideration. If it is effective as a barrier to the sea at Bray it would hardly fail as a boundary to the dead water at Arthur's Quay.

The filling in of the reclaimed area with clean rubbish, even though it took four or five years, would involve little outlay, and the site could be made so attractive a centre that a complementary scheme for the erection of good class flats on the cleared site of the old houses, which, incidentally, would hide the unsightly backs of the Patrick Street houses, should prove an economic undertaking.

Yours truly,
"PUBLIC OPINION."

COLLAPSED IN STREET

An elderly man named Frank Crimp, with an address in Alphonsus Street, collapsed on the pavement outside Messrs. J. McMahon's sawmills this morning. He was brought into Messrs. McMahon's office, where life was found to be extinct. The body was subsequently removed in a Fire Brigade ambulance to Barrington's Hospital mortuary. Deceased was a caretaker by occupation.

IRELAND'S BIRTH RATE.

Just how low is Ireland's birth rate may be seen by comparison with other countries:—

Portugal, 27.7; Japan, 30.6; Roumania, 30.8; Russia, 39; Ireland, 22.3, says Rev. P. Donnelly, B.A., B.D., in his essay, "Population Trends in Ireland," which won the Coffey Prize Essay Competition, 1944.

CITY TRAGEDY

Butcher's Sad End

FOUND DYING IN KITCHEN

A sad tragedy occurred in the city during the week-end, as a result of which a 44-years-old butcher employed by Mr. John Kelly, 4 Parnell Street, has lost his life. The dead man, Michael Moloney—had been employed by Mr. Kelly for 25 years. Early yesterday morning he was found lying in a back kitchen of his employer's house by the housekeeper. There was a wound in his head and a humane killer lay beside him. He died in Barrington's Hospital last evening.

Sitting without a jury, Mr. J. S. McNeice, solicitor, Deputy Coroner, to-day, held an inquest touching on the circumstances of the death of the deceased.

Supt. Colleran conducted the Inquiry.

Mary O'Brien, 6 Sarsfield Avenue, Garryowen, said she was employed by Mr. John Kelly as housekeeper at 4 Parnell Street. She worked there by day and went home at night. On Sunday last she arrived at Parnell Street at 8.50 a.m. and some time later went to the back for some water. On coming back she saw the deceased lying on his side in the back kitchen. He was fully dressed and there was a pool of blood under his head. Witness called him, saying, "Mikie, Mikie, what happened you?" He replied, "I did it myself." Witness saw the humane killer beside him. She went out and told Mr. Hayes, deceased's uncle, who lives nearby, and he got the priest and doctor. Witness saw deceased at about 7.15 p.m. on Saturday evening, when he went to his room after having his tea. Deceased was in Mr. Kelly's employment for the past 25 years. Deceased had never complained to her of any ill-health or worries.

James Hayes, 22 Gerald Griffin Street, said he heard what had occurred at about 9.45 a.m. yesterday, and on going into the house at 4 Parnell Street he saw the deceased lying on the floor. Witness was a friend of the deceased, but no relation. He spoke to deceased, who was being treated by ambulance men. Witness asked him what happened and he replied: "I had a few pints and it happened at about 3 o'clock." He said there was no worry on him. Witness had often heard deceased complain of his stomach, but not seriously.

Patrick Moloney, publican, 42 Catherine Street, a brother of the dead man, said deceased called to his premises at about 9 p.m. on Saturday. He left at 10.30 p.m., having had about three drinks in the meantime. He was in normal health when leaving with two other men. On the previous Sunday Guards visited the house while his brother was there but nobody blamed him for he being the cause of the Guards coming. On the Monday he was worried but witness told him not to worry. That was the incident referred to in a note left by the deceased. The note, which was addressed to his sister, was as follows:

"Dear Mary, my loving sister, what I have is yours, in the Post Office. I have been driven to this over what happened on Sunday. I am innocent. I am blamed for touting. I never harmed anybody. I hope the tout will be found when I am gone. John Kelly, I am sorry to be parting this way."

Detective-Sergeant J. Murphy gave evidence of visiting 4 Parnell Street on Sunday morning, where he found deceased lying on the floor with a humane killer beside him. He accompanied deceased in an ambulance to Barrington's Hospital, where he was attended by Dr. Crowe. Witness took possession of a note found in deceased's pocket. He saw Mr. Moloney since he died, and identified the body.

Dr. Francis Crowe, House Surgeon, Barrington's Hospital, said there was a wound in the deceased's head, and death was due to shock and haemorrhage.

John Kelly said deceased had worked for him as a butcher for 25 years. Witness had the humane killer for the purpose of the business, and deceased, who did all the killing, kept it in the back kitchen. Witness last saw deceased at 6.30 o'clock on Saturday night. He was then quite normal. Witness never saw him abnormal.

Sergeant D. Griffin said he went to 4 Parnell Street yesterday morning and took possession of the humane killer (produced). It was of the cap and bolt type and there was a spent cap in the chamber. The bolt, which was capable of penetrating 1½ ins. of timber, returned to its normal position after being fired.

The Coroner said that up to Sunday morning's occurrence the deceased had not shown any suicidal tendencies, but when found by the housekeeper in the back kitchen was obviously suffering from a self-inflicted wound which subsequently caused his death. It was also obvious that deceased was worried over the incident of the previous Sunday evening and mistakenly was under the impression that he was responsible for any trouble that would arise as a result of the Guards' visit. He (Coroner) was satisfied that at the moment deceased used the humane-killer his mind was unbalanced as a result of the worry.

The following verdict was returned:—"That deceased died from shock and haemorrhage caused by a punctured wound, which was self-inflicted whilst temporarily insane."

The Coroner tendered sympathy to Mr. P. Moloney, the other members of the family, and to Mr. Kelly.

Supt. Colleran, on behalf of the Gardai, associated himself with the Coroner's remarks.

GETTING NEARER

Fighting On Reich Frontier

STALIN WON'T ATTEND CONFERENCE

The highlights of the latest activities on the Western Front are as follows:—(1) Patrols of the American 1st Army in Belgium, commanded by General Hodges, are sounding out the German defences in front of the Siegfried Line as American guns send 155 M.M. shells into Germany proper. (2) American reconnaissance planes are reported to have landed in German soil. This news comes from the little Belgium town of Verviers, about 16 miles south-west of Aachen. (3) On the Meuse-Escaut Front, General Patton's patrols are fanning out and are reported to have taken the fortress city of Nancy. (4) General Dempsey's British Second Army, striking out from a bridgehead on the Albert Canal, claim to have captured intact the town of Beeringen, about 11½ miles from the Dutch frontier.

A statement issued to-day by the German High Command states that seven men, tried by the People's Court for participation in the plot of July 20th to take the Fuehrer's life, have been sentenced to be hanged.

Reports from Russia state that the Red Army continues its drive through the Aegean Highlands. A counter-attack by the Germans was repulsed with such heavy losses that the Germans are reported to have fled, leaving behind them guns, ammunition, tanks, etc., in their anxiety to escape the onward advance of the Russians.

In Roumania the Russians claim the capture of the important railway town of Swintu.

It is reported from East Prussia that the Russian advance into German soil is proceeding rapidly.

It is reported from Quebec that the conference between Mr. Churchill and Mr. Roosevelt, due to take place shortly at Quebec, will be dominated at first by matters of military importance. It is announced that later on Mr. Anthony Eden and Mr. Cordell Hull will attend. Marshal Stalin was invited to the conference, but declined the invitation owing to "pressure of duties."

It is stated, however, that all decisions arrived at by the conference concerning Russia will be communicated to Stalin immediately.

LORD ABBOT INTERRED

When the Abbey bell tolled on Saturday farmers left their fields and business people their shops to join with the members of the Cistercian Order in the last solemn rites at the funeral of the Right Rev. Dom MacCarthy, the third Lord Abbot of Roscrea. Mourning from Mount Melleray, Mount St. Joseph and New Ross were the Co-Adjutor Archbishop of Cashel and three Bishops led a procession of clergy from all parts of Ireland, at the obsequies. An Taoiseach knelt at a pric-dieu at the Gospel side of the nave during the Requiem Mass. Others present were General Mulcahy, T.D.; Connadil, Sean Brennan A.D.C. to An Taoiseach; Dr. T. F. O'Higgins, T.D.; Dan Breen, T.D.; An Seabhac and An Fear Mor.

SPENT £6,000 IN 18 MONTHS.

At Donegal Court, before District Justice O'Hanrahan, a well-dressed young man named Terence Henry McKay, of no fixed abode, appeared on remand in custody charged on two counts with, as alleged, obtaining by false pretences two sums of money amounting to £12 from Charles Anderson, Bandoran. Mr. Duffy, solicitor, for defendant, said the latter was bequeathed £6,000, which was paid out to him on attaining the age of 21 years. He spent the £6,000 in 18 months. The Justice imposed two concurrent sentences of three months imprisonment on each charge, not to be enforced unless the accused was convicted on a charge of dishonesty within three months.

BANKS (IRELAND), LIMITED

At a meeting of the Board of Banks (Ireland), Limited, held on Friday, the 8th September, 1944, it was resolved to recommend a final dividend on the ordinary share capital of 3d. per share, less income tax, in respect of the financial year to 1st January, 1944, payable to holders of such shares registered on the 30th September, 1944. Dividend warrants will be posted on the 6th October, 1944.

CLONBONNY BRIDGE AGAIN

Mr. A. O'Neill's (Cappamore) Clonbonny Bridge won his first heat of the Laurels at Cork Track on Saturday night. Clonbonny Bridge was winner of the Greyhound Derby this year at Dublin and runner-up in the St. Leger at Limerick.

'PLANE DOES 700 TO 900 M.P.H.

It is now learned, states a News Agency report, that the new German jet-propelled twin-engined plane shot down over the Albert Canal on Saturday was capable of a speed of 700 to 900 m.p.h.

Dr. C. E. Mahoney will be absent from 10, The Crescent until Monday, 18th.

THE SECRET OUT

Dr. O'Dwyer's 1916 Speech

HOW IT WAS PRINTED

The circumstances under which the famous speech of the Most Rev. Dr. O'Dwyer, delivered when the Freedom of Limerick was conferred on him in 1916 was printed, though banned by the British Military Authorities, were revealed at the last meeting of the Clonmel Corporation.

Mr. McCann, proposing a vote of sympathy with the family of the late Mr. D. O'Shea, a Clonmel printer, revealed that the late Mr. O'Shea was the man who got printed in secret the address delivered by the late Most Rev. Dr. O'Dwyer, when the Freedom of the City of Limerick was conferred on that illustrious prelate in 1916—an address, publication of which was banned by the British authorities at the time.

Dr. O'Dwyer, Councillor McCann narrated, on discovering the printer's identity, presented him with a copy of the "History of the Diocese of Limerick," inscribing on a page: "To Daniel O'Shea with the Bishop of Limerick's thanks and blessing, Christmas, 1916."

This book, with copies of the famous speech and correspondence regarding the "friendly printer," were to-day in the 1916 Collection in Dublin.

Mr. McCann added that contact was made with the late Mr. O'Shea by Mr. Michael O'Callaghan, who was later to be assassinated by British Crown Forces. For obvious reasons the speech could not be printed in Limerick, Dublin or Cork, but Mr. O'Shea took on the job and executed it.

The Mayor (Mr. R. Murphy) associated himself with the resolution, and said he was surprised at Councillor McCann getting the information about the printing of the late Dr. O'Dwyer's speech. He (Mayor) thought no one knew that but himself.

In the course of further remarks, the Mayor said Dr. O'Dwyer wanted to make Mr. O'Shea a present in money, but the latter refused it. His Lordship then made him a present of the "History of the Diocese of Limerick," inscribed in his own handwriting. The speech couldn't be got printed in Belfast, Dublin, Cork, Waterford or Limerick. Three days after it was printed in Clonmel it was delivered in Monaghan by a woman.

Other members having paid high tribute to Mr. O'Shea's memory, the vote of sympathy was passed in silence.

CLANN NA hEIREANN

Already Clann na hEireann sailings have become a pleasant memory. The winter will not, however, present any difficulty, as the plans for this season will be shaped at the general meeting to be held at Cruise's Hotel, by kind permission of the management, on Thursday evening next at 8 o'clock, sharp. All members and intending members are requested to attend on time. Signs are not wanting that these ventures will be successful, as the Clann intend holding a ceilidhe in St. Michael's Temperance Hall. Full particulars will appear in the advertising columns of this paper at a later date.

P. O hEigeas.

CAPUCHIN FRIARY RUIN

(To the Editor, "Limerick Leader.")

Sir—Readers of your popular journal may like to know that the old Capuchin Friary ruin stands at the rear of Nos. 10 and 11 Hunt Street, close to Garvey's Range. I have examined the interior and found it most interesting. Two city clergymen, who visited the old building some time ago, were of the opinion that it can be classed as a national monument. The old bell, dated 1685, is now in a Protestant church—but Although I trust that the Old Limerick Society will not allow this ruin to be demolished by vandals. It is already in danger from what I can see.

CITIZEN.

SIX MONTHS FOR WIFE BEATER

"This is a nauseating affair. I don't think I have come across a worse case in my 22 years coming here," said District Justice Flood at Thurles Court when he sentenced Michael Ryan, Knicken, Holycross Road, Thurles, to six months imprisonment for causing grievous bodily harm to his wife.

KILMALLOCK SPORTS FIELD

A scheme involving the expenditure of a large sum of money is contemplated by some Kilmallock Gaels for the purpose of carrying out improvements to the Sports Field there. It will include having the pitch properly surfaced and having a wall erected around the field.

DEATH.

Moloney—September 10th, 1944, Michael Moloney, 1 Parnell Street. Deeply regretted by his sister, mother, sister and brothers. R.I.P. Remains will be removed from Barrington's Hospital to St. Michael's Church this (Monday) evening at 6 o'clock (S.T.). Funeral to-morrow (Tuesday) at 1 o'clock (S.T.) to Kildimo Cemetery.

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