

40 YEARS AGO

NEW MAYOR STEVE COUGHLAN WANTS PROGRESS IN HARMONY

PROGRESS in harmony...that is the aim of Limerick's new mayor, Ald Steve Coughlan TD, who this week listed as his number one priority for progress the co-operation of all the people, not alone of Limerick, but of the entire region.

In an exclusive interview with the Limerick Chronicle, Ald Coughlan said that for too long petty bickering between various parties and sectional interests had held back the progress of Limerick and the region.

"Now, however, it is time to shed ourselves of this idea of one-upmanship and we must all put our heads together and work for the betterment of each other and of our city," he said.

Ald Coughlan said that Limerick was about to become the centre of massive expansion.

"This will only come, though, if all interests work as a team.

"Our motto should be 'ask not what I can get out of this, but rather, what I can do to improve Limerick.'"

"By doing this we shall all share in a better Limerick where certain sections at present seem doomed to remain in the wilderness of the forgotten ones."

Ald Coughlan said that it was imperative that Limerick shed its parochial attitude and got down to working and playing its part for the advancement of the region.

The Regional Development Association had very big plans in store and it was up to each area to play its part in advancing the development of the region industrially, socially and economically.

The mayor said he intended to press very strongly for the erection of a third bridge across the Shannon.

"This must come sooner or later and why not sooner?" he asked.

On housing, Ald Coughlan said that the position in Limerick was far more advanced than in any other centre.

"This is not to suggest that everything is perfect. We have a big housing problem at present but I am confident that by this time next year we will have covered a great deal of ground in helping to properly house our people.

"I know of instances where several families are living in the one house under the most appalling conditions but, please God and given the cooperation of all, we shall solve our problem to such an extent that inside two years everybody who wants a house will be able to get one," he said.

Ald Coughlan said that Limerick seemed to be on the crest of an industrial wave.

"We must all work hand in hand with that most progressive of bodies, the Shannon Free Airport Development Company, in helping to create more and more jobs."

MOGUL MINING IN COUNTY LIMERICK: NO COCK AND BULL STORY

MOGUL, the mining concern, is to start operations soon in County Limerick.

Some six years ago, the Limerick Chronicle published a story about mining possibilities in the region of Ballysteen, Pallaskenry, County Limerick.

The Chronicle stated that there was great potential in the area as far as lead/zinc possibilities were concerned.

For technical reasons, exploration there by Mogul Mines was suspended.

But now, with those technical difficulties overcome, Mogul is about to embark on "considerable expenditure in association with another major Irish producer in the lead and zinc possibilities at Courtbrown townland, County Limerick".

The townland concerned is between Askeaton and Pallaskenry



The Lyric Cinema, pictured some time in the 1950s. This is one of a number of pictures from the Sean Curtin Collection that is currently hanging in the Allied Irish Bank premises 106-108 O'Connell Street in Limerick.

Photographs for the Memories pages in the Limerick Chronicle should be addressed to Gerry Ryan, Limerick Chronicle, 54 O'Connell Street, Limerick, by noon on Friday prior to publication. Please enclose a caption and a stamped addressed envelope

with Ballysteen right in the centre.

Many years ago, Ballysteen was the centre of a silver discovery, but because of the lack of finance, operations were suspended.

The remains of the old mine can be seen in the lands of Denis Naughton, Ballysteen, former chairman of Limerick County Council.

A report on the start of operations appeared exclusively in the Limerick Chronicle.

The Chronicle report was described as "a cock and bull story".

Mogul will begin operations in the near future.

Preliminary explorations have already taken place and as a result, full-scale exploration is planned.

The same company will also carry out full scale work on some old mines in Kerry and Cork.

International Mogul, with plenty of money now coming from the mines in County Tipperary, is in a very strong position to undertake further works.

At the end of 1968, its balance sheet showed current assets of \$3,600,000 and investments in other companies with a market value of around \$27 million.

50 YEARS AGO

THIEVES £500 HAUL: LIMERICK JEWELLERY PREMISES RIFLED IN DARING MORNING RAID

RINGS and watches to an estimated value of £500 were stolen from the jewellery premises of Messrs Maurer, O'Connell Street, in the early hours of this morning.

Although the premises are situated on the main street of the city, the thieves worked so expeditiously that nothing was known until two assistants in the shop, Mrs McGrath and Ms Barron, arrived at the usual time this morning and discovered ring pads strewn on the floor.

Gardai under Supt JB O'Neill and Sgt John Hanrahan were immediately called and found that a quantity of rings and watches had been removed from the window and from a glass show case inside which had been prised open.

A hasty examination showed that the total value of the articles taken - including the rings, watches and gold charms - was at least £500.

It is not known how the thieves climbed up the two-storey building but they gained entry through a window on the roof and broke through the upper room into the shop beneath.

The thieves, however, appeared to have worked hurriedly because a considerable quantity of valuable diamond rings were left untouched.

Messrs Maurer's was broken into in almost an identical manner about three years ago and on that occasion the thieves got away with jewellery worth over £3,000.

On that occasion, they were more discriminating and picked and chose as they pleased.

The gardai spent a considerable time in the shop this morning seeking fingerprints and a full-scale investigation is proceeding.

The shop proprietor, Mr Maurer, was on holidays in Rosslare at the time of the daring raid but on being informed of the occurrence arrived back in Limerick this afternoon.

MAYOR'S WELCOME TO GALWAY FISHERMEN

THE Mayor Alderman J Carew TD extended an informal welcome to ten Irish-speaking fishermen from Carna, Connemara, at Matthew Bridge on Tuesday.

The men had sailed from Kilkeel, County Down in five reconditioned boats which have been given to them by Gael-Linn on a "pay-as-you-catch" basis.

The boats will be used by the men to catch scallop, shellfish and lobster.

The pilot of the five-boat fleet is Mr Jimmy Richard, a Howth fisherman, whose mother comes from County Limerick.

Travelling as a passenger on the boats is Miss Eibhlin ni Bhriain of Gael-Linn, the only woman on the voyage. She is a native of Galway.

The boats are reconditioned and specially equipped for fishing on the West Coast. They were once owned by Kilkeel fishermen and range in age from 10 to 20 years.

The Mayor paid a warm tribute to Gael-Linn in helping the expansion of our valuable fishing industry.

Due to a gap in the archives of the Limerick Chronicle, no Memories are available for the months of February to July 1979