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Dungarvan Leader

AND SOUTHERN DEMOCRAT

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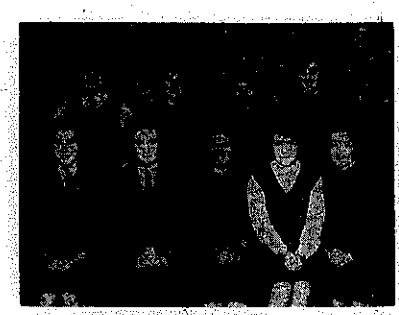
VOL. 26. No. 1308 SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1964

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PENSMAN takes you Behind the Spotlight

A MYSTERY CLEARED UP
Since the report of the County Council meeting held in January 20 was published, a big number of people have been mystified by the statement of the Chairman, Mr. Charles Curran, when he told the members of the Council that it would be possible to provide a supplementary estimate of £27,000 for road works without it having any impact on the rates.
Despite his assurances to the Council that it would be possible to raise this sum without having recourse to the rates many members expressed doubt at the time, and one member, Councillor Lennan, went so far as to say it would be an impossibility.
Mr. Curran remained secretive about the entire affair and would go no further than to tell his colleagues that he had gone into the matter very thoroughly with the County Manager and that if the Council passed the supplementary it would not increase the county rate.
Despite the aura of mystery which surrounded the entire affair, the Council agreed to take a leap in the dark and pass the money.
It can easily be understood then why so many people continue to be mystified as to how, in a nutshell, it is possible to conjure up £27,000 from nowhere.
Close as I follow Local Government affairs myself I failed to understand how it could possibly be done either. I suspected that there was a snag somewhere unless this fairy godmother to whom Councillor Lennan referred during the discussion did in fact exist. Seventeen thousand pounds is not hay, and if it could be raised in an easy fashion as the County Chairman assured his colleagues it could then I thought this could be the solution to all our rate problems.
But alas my dream burst when I began to make closer inquiries into the matter. I know that money raised each year out of rates together with the grants following them for roads have to be expended in that financial year. If £27,000



The Competitors who took part in the Waterford County Final of the National Fish Cookery Competition held in the Vocational School, Dungarvan—front from left—Mary Sheehan, Clara Donnelly, Phyllis Giffey (winner), Maureen Heffernan, Avril Power, Rack—Martina McGrath, Anne O'Sullivan, Norreen Power, Phyllis Murphy.

was to be provided with only two months of the financial year remaining, it would take a pretty big project to swallow it up within the time limit.
I followed this line of investigation and the sum total of the information I gathered was that the £27,000 was not going to be raised at all in actual fact; it was merely a book entry to cover the grants issue. And I understand that in regard to the grants that the time limit also operated against these so that the status quo will exist.
It is all very complicated and difficult and should give the public some vague idea of the problems which the ordinary members of the Council are up against when they come to grapple with the rates problem.

A FABULOUS CONCERN
The word fabulous is one which is very much overused and little appreciated these days, when practically everything is fabulous but truly, last week I had a view of a really fabulous concern, when with a number of Editors of Irish Provincial and National newspapers I was the guest of Lord Elvedon and his co-directors at a dinner and tour of the Guinness Brewery.
From the moment we were received at the entrance until we left some hours later everything went with geared perfection. Nothing was left to chance but everything was done so meticulously as to be almost unnoticeable.
I was greatly impressed by all I saw and pleased with the hospitality my colleagues and I were afforded.

IN SERIOUS MOOD
I have been at quite a number of annual dinners in recent weeks and if I have any words of criticism at all to utter about these functions they merely refer to the contents of the post-prandial speeches. I suppose it is difficult for a speaker or an organisation to pass up so good an opportunity as a dinner gathering without using it to get over certain points of view. But continuing the item I started last week with news items from

DIocese of Waterford and Lismore Lenten Pastoral

SPECIAL REGULATIONS FOR LENT, 1964

Owing to the fact that Lent will begin rather early this year, it has been decided to make the following mitigation of the Lenten fast and abstinence:—
1—Ash Wednesday (12th February) will be a day of fast and abstinence.
2—There will be neither fast nor abstinence from Thursday, 13th February up to and including Sunday, 15th March, apart from the usual Friday abstinence, which, of course, will hold good.
3—From Monday, 2nd March, up to midnight on Holy Saturday, the usual Lenten fast and abstinence will be obligatory, except on Sundays and St. Patrick's Day.

BISHOP'S HOUSE, WATERFORD, 7th FEBRUARY, 1964.

Very Reverend the Bishop, Patricians and dear Brethren,
The holy season of Lent is approaching once more, and at this time of the year the Church starts us to prepare ourselves, by reflection, prayer and penance, for a worthy commemoration of the Mysteries of our Redemption—the Passion and Death and the Resurrection from the dead, of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. During Lent we ought to give ourselves ample time and opportunity to think over, in a prayerful manner, the life and work of Christ. Our Redeemer. For it is His life and His work that has saved us from the consequences of sin, and we should secure hope for all eternity. We shall enjoy the result of what Christ has done for us, if we do each one of us.
Jesus Christ, and no other one, is the Founder of our religion. He is truly God, and He is truly man. He is the Creator and the Saviour of the world. He is in the very first page of His Gospel: "All things were made by Him and without Him nothing was made."
We are followers of Christ, we are Christians because we have believed in His teaching; we are born again because we have received His grace in our souls; we have pledged ourselves to follow Him, and we are His disciples. The first disciples of Jesus, the Apostles, were Christians, and they were His followers. They heard His teaching with their own ears; they were baptized in His name; they were used to live the way of life that He taught them. This is what constituted a follower of Christ then; this is what will always constitute a follower of Christ, a Christian. And it is only to those who are His true followers that He has promised eternal life.

Recently we have been deeply struck by an extraordinary action of the Vicar of Christ, the representative on earth of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in making pilgrimage to that land, and to those places where Our Lord, Jesus Christ, lived, where He was born, where He was baptized, where He was crucified and where, after His death, He rose from the dead, glorious and immortal. Listen to the words of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, who said: "I will go back to that land that will always be called Holy." It is a pilgrimage of prayer and penance, for a more intimate and vital contact with the Mysteries of Redemption, and to proclaim ever more clearly to men and women in our first message to the City and the World that only in the Gospel of Jesus is the way to eternal life and to the Kingdom of God.

The day after these words were spoken, Our Holy Father went to Nazareth, and on the very spot where the Angel Gabriel from Heaven greeted the Virgin Mary, on the very spot where the great Mystery of the Incarnation was accomplished, where the Word became flesh and dwelt amongst us," the Holy Father celebrated the Sacrifice of the Mass, and pausing to speak His thoughts that filled His heart in those moments, he said: "Nazareth is the school of initiation into the understanding of the life of Jesus; it is the school of the Gospel. Here one learns to observe, to listen, to meditate, to penetrate into the profound and mysterious meaning of that simple, humble, level apparition of God among men. Here one learns the way by which we can enter into the understanding of the Gospel."

THE GENTLE MAIDEN
There's one that is pure as an And fair as the flowers in May. They call her the Gentle Maiden, wherever she takes her way. Her eyes have a glance of sunlight, As it brightens the blue sea. But more than the deep sea's pressure, The love of her heart I crave. Though parted afar from my dawning, I dream of her everywhere. The song of her voice is about me, The spell of her presence there. And whether my prayers be granted Or whether she pass me by, The face of that Gentle Maiden Will follow me till I die.

NO MOVE ON BUILDER'S OFFER
The Council held last Friday night meeting of the County Manager concerning the property of the Council behind signs which, when leased to the late Mrs. Minnie Griffin. The order was made on an application from Mr. E. O'Brien, Building Contractor for the acquisition by him of this property in exchange for a right-of-way to the beach at Abbeyside.

The Town Clerk Mr. P. Doyle stated that the right of way offered by Mr. O'Brien was a held bounding the graveyard at Abbeyside Church. He added that an amenity scheme for the development of Abbeyside was recently referred to Bord Fáilte to enable them to indicate what grant they would be prepared to give for the purpose and no reply had yet been received.

The Manager's Order directed that Mr. O'Brien be informed that his application could not be considered until the Council was in a position to decide on the proposal to develop Abbeyside in the light of what grants might be available.

SYMPATHY
The Council voted sympathy to Garda William Giblin, and family on the death of Mrs. Giblin to the husband and relatives of Mrs. Agnes Donovan, Cahill, Brugha Place, and to Mrs. Keane on the death of her stepson, Mr. Maurice Keane.

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PROTEST AT BORD FAILTE'S ACTION

Waterford Excluded From New York Exhibition

Arising from the reading of a letter from Bord Fáilte inviting an entry for Dungarvan in this year's New York exhibition at last Friday night's meeting of Dungarvan Urban Council a protest was made at the exclusion of County Waterford from the photographs of the Irish scene viewed by the Irish Tourist office in New York to the planners of a New York exhibition.
Mr. J. Kenneally, who raised the matter, said he understood that every county in Ireland with the exception of Waterford had been mentioned and he proposed that no further action be taken until they gave a satisfactory explanation of the position.
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FINANCIAL MENAGE

On that a survey of delinquent rates be carried out in the town. The Council decided to enter the competition and to await a report on the survey.

CHORAL SOCIETY CONGRATULATED

On the following of Mr. R. Walsh, the Council congratulated the Dungarvan Choral and Band Society for their recovery of their former glory. The choir they staged before Christmas. Mr. Walsh said that the choir was the best ever and thanks were due to Mr. Jim Patterson, President of the Society, and to Mrs. Gertrude Morrissey, the Musical Director.

Move In Brick Drainage Scheme

Mr. Sean Ormond, T.D. has received the following letter from Mr. Donogh O'Malley, Parliamentary Secretary for the Minister for Finance: "I wish to refer to your recent enquiry concerning the river Brickey drainage scheme. I am advised by the Commissioners of Public Works that tenders for the work will be invited early next week."

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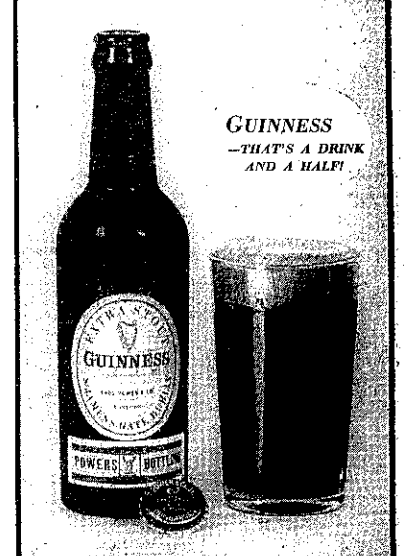
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