

NEW ERA COMMENCES TODAY

IRELAND IN THE E.E.C.

SYMBOLIC TREES MARK ENTRY

By Irish Press Reporters

IRELAND became a full member of the European Economic Community at midnight last night. The occasion was marked by simple tree-planting ceremonies in Dublin and other parts of the country. At Charlemagne Buildings in Brussels this morning, the Irish Ambassador to the EEC, Mr. Sean Kennan, who today becomes our Permanent Representative, will hand in documents showing the Irish Government's agreement to a number of EEC appointments. There will be no formal ceremonies, however, in Brussels today where it is a public holiday.

INSIDE TODAY

Special supplement
on our entry to
the E.E.C.

Also today

Peace call
Taoiseach and Cabinet echo the Pope's call for peace. Page 4

Foreign Press
Insists that Mr. Nixon must sign the Paris peace pact now. Page 5

Inflation
DA chief warns that many jobs will be lost unless inflation is curbed in New Year. Page 6

Local Government
Local Government Reorganisation: In the first of four articles, Dan Coen outlines how the Greater Dublin area is currently managed. Page 11

Finn Harps take over

WATERFORD, who topped the League of Ireland table last weekend when they beat Finn Harps, crashed 3-1 to Cork Hibernians at Flower Lodge yesterday and drop to second place.
Back at the head of affairs are the Donegal side, who defeated Limerick at Ballybofey. Report: Page 18.
Full Irish and English racing service on Page 14.

WEATHER

A deepening depression to the south-west of Ireland is moving northwards.
Forecast for 6 a.m. to midnight: Mainly cloudy but bright intervals in some eastern areas. Outbreaks of drizzle or rain in the south and west at first, later spreading eastwards. Extensive fog, especially in the south, clearing reaching the west coast in the evening. Moderate to fresh southerly winds becoming strong during the day, veering westerly with the clearance. Mild.
Further outlook: Temperatures near normal, but showers or outbreaks of rain in some areas. Lunchtime weather reports yesterday included the following temperatures in Celsius and Fahrenheit:
Cork, drizzle, 10, 50.
Dublin, cloudy, 11, 52.
Shannon, cloudy, 12, 54.
Dixon Hempenstall, 111 Grafton Street, Dublin. Barometers. (Adv.)
MAIL 1199 any time twenty-four hours a day for the latest weather forecast for the Dublin area.

URSCEALA

Jumbo rescue of fog-bound passengers

A SPECIAL Aer Lingus Jumbo jet flew 400 people from London to Dublin last night, after they had been stranded due to the cancellation of four other flights from Heathrow Airport due to fog.

Heathrow's earlier fog hit a BOAC jumbo which turned back with engine trouble 500 miles out from London. The Boeing 747 was diverted to Prestwick and its over 150 passengers were later taken on to New York by another jumbo.
The fog diverted aircraft to Gatwick, Prestwick, Shannon and Continental airports. An airport weatherman warned that more fog was expected last night. Temperatures grew short as huge queues of passengers built up at bars and restaurants.

Cancelled

Later, BEA said that nearly 5,000 passengers had been hit by the weather conditions. A spokesman said that 90 services had been cancelled and 36 diverted to other airports.

Bomb alert

Over 1,000 dancers were evacuated from a large ballroom at Hotel Nuremore, Carrickmacross, early yesterday as a result of a bomb alert. Gardai searched the ballroom and hotel but nothing was found.

The documents which Mr. Kennan will hand in will signify formal Government approval to the appointment of Dr. Hillery as the Irish member of the EEC Commission, the appointment of new judges to the European Court, including the former Chief Justice, Mr. Cearbhall O Dalaigh, and to the changes in the Accession Treaty consequent on Norway's decision not to join.

In Paris today, Ireland will deposit the Instrument of Accession to the European Coal and Steel Community which along with the Common Market and Euratom make up the EEC. Ireland will make the first tariff cut to abolish duties on EEC imports on April 1 and finish the process on July 1, 1977. The first step in aligning our duties on imports from non-EEC countries with the Community's common external tariff will not be made until January 1, 1974, and the alignment will be completed in July, 1977.

And in a special EEC supplement in this paper to mark our entry into Europe, the Taoiseach, Mr. Lynch, says that the justifiable pride which we can feel in taking our place as a free and equal partner in this great European adventure, is tempered by the sorrow caused by the continued strife and disunity among Irishmen.

Dr. Hillery is expected to move to Brussels on Wednesday, but the first meeting of the new 13-man Commission will not be until Saturday and Sunday. It is at this first meeting that the new Commissioners, presided over by M. Ortoli of France, will divide the 20 portfolios which they will administer for the next four years.

Official IRA admit killing RUC man

THE RUC constable who was shot dead in Lurgan last month after delivering presents to an 11-year-old girl who had earlier been injured by a police vehicle, was killed by the Official IRA, and not by the Provisionals, as had been widely supposed at the time.

It was learned yesterday that the police patrol, when withdrawing from the Kilwille Estate after delivering the presents, surprised a group of Official IRA men who were transferring weapons at the time.

A gunfight ensued, in which Constable George Chambers was shot dead.

Official Republican sources claimed yesterday that the police had opened fire and that the unit involved had no choice but to retaliate.

The Officials "deeply regretted the incident, since they are currently observing a ceasefire and, in any case, regard policemen as targets not normally to be attacked."
They emphasised that the fatal incident was not an ambush.

Formal speeches

On the same day in Luxembourg Mr. O Dalaigh will be sworn in as a judge of the European Court, along with his other new colleagues. The Minister for Justice, Mr. O'Malley, will be present with his EEC opposite numbers for the formal opening of the court's new building.

The new Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Lenihan, will be in Brussels on January 15 for the

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At Christ Church...



Ringling in the New Year at Christ Church.

By MICHAEL SCRIVENER
TQ. THE traditional chimes from the bells of Christ Church Cathedral the citizens of Dublin gathered in their thousands to welcome in the New Year.

The crowd, numbering from 5,000 to 8,000 was one of the largest and best-behaved seen in Christ Church Place for several years. There were the traditional — but, fortunately, rare — cases of bottle-throwing,

but more from good spirits than nastiness.

As the bells rang out on the stroke of midnight, somewhat muted because of the noise of the large crowds, hands were joined and Auld Lang Syne rang out over the night air.

The majority of the crowd was of the younger age group but a few of the older generation turned up. There was one itinerant woman there

with her two-month-old baby which she had brought along to "hear the joy bells."

Because we enter the E.E.C. today, a crowd of French students and visitors gave the occasion a European air.

The Garda blocked the area off 15 minutes before midnight and watched good-naturedly the antics of the festive people as they welcomed in yet another New Year.



NEW YEAR BABY: This one, a boy, was born at ten seconds past midnight in the Coombe Hospital. He weighed in at 6 lb. 4 oz. and was born to Mrs. Eileen Murphy, of 10 Sycamore Drive, Dundrum, Co. Dublin, is pictured here with nurse Evelyn Gallagher from Arranmore Island, Co. Donegal. The New Ireland Assurance Company is giving £1,000 educational endowment policies to ten babies born since midnight.

—Another Picture: Page 8.

Martin McGuinness held at Bridewell

TWO OF DERRY'S leading Republicans, Martin McGuinness and Joe McCallion, will appear at the Special Criminal Court in Dublin today to face charges under the Offences Against the State Act, the Firearms Act and the Explosive Substances Act.

A garda spokesman at Letterkenny said the two men were arrested on Saturday night at Cappry, almost three miles from Ballybofey, near a garda road check.

He said that a car stopped about 100 yards from the check-point and two men got out and left it. But they returned some time later and were detained by garda officers.

McGuinness (22) led the Provisional Republican Movement in Derry for the past 18 months. Last summer he was one of six leading Provisionals flown to London to meet the Northern Secretary of State, Mr. Whitelaw.

After the meeting, the abortive truce with the I.R.A. was negotiated and in the British Commons later, Mr. Whitelaw told M.P.s that none of the men he had met was wanted for criminal offences.

A spokesman for the Derry Brigade of the Provisional I.R.A. last night condemned the arrest and said in a statement that Mr. McGuinness never made a state-



Martin McGuinness

ment to the effect that he had personally shot five British soldiers. This statement on B.B.C. television news, is completely

untrue. No statement to that effect was ever made by him.

Since Operation Motorman, Mr. McGuinness and other leading Republicans from Derry, have been living in Buncrana. It is believed that McGuinness regularly crossed the Border back to Derry for meetings.

McGuinness and McCallion arrived at the Bridewell Garda Station, Dublin, last night in a convoy of five Garda squad cars containing about 20 uniformed gardai and Special Branch men.

Garda at the Bridewell said the men were being held under Section 30 of the Offences Against the State Act.

In the North a senior British army officer commented unofficially last night: "It is great news. This chap has been on our wanted list for some time."

No extradition order has been placed with the Dublin government by the RUC, but such a request could soon be on the way.

Car blown up by Army

Army experts from Finner Camp detonated explosives found in a Ford Cortina car with an Antrim registration at Cappry, near Ballybofey, on the main Donegal-Ballybofey road, on Saturday night. The car also contained a quantity of bullets.

The explosion damaged the roofs of nearby buildings and smashed windows. A hole was blown in the road and a water main was burst.

Blast alert at Agnew home

Police and British military rushed to the home of the Derry Republican, Mr. Kevin Agnew, last night, after an anonymous telephone caller had warned that a bomb would go off there. Mr. Agnew lives near Maghera.

The Agnew family was out at the time and security forces found a five-gallon drum with a burned-out fuse attached to the back of the house.

Catholic homes petrol-bombed

A woman received a burn on the arm when three Catholic homes were petrol-bombed in the Whitehill Estate in Bangor late last night. It was the first time that there was any evidence of sectarian trouble in the estate, which is mixed.

Four shotguns and one Browning pistol were stolen in an armed raid on a house out in Carrickfergus late last night. No one was injured.

Coombe Hospital wins the baby race

ONE of the first babies of the New Year was born to Mrs. Eileen Murphy of 10 Sycamore Drive, Dundrum, Co. Dublin, at ten seconds past midnight at the Coombe Hospital.

At five minutes past 12 a baby was born to Mrs. Evelyn Sisk of 110 Loran Avenue, Santry.

The first New Year baby born in Cork arrived at the Bon Secours Maternity Hospital two minutes after midnight. The baby, a boy weighing eight-and-a-half pounds, was born to Mrs. Marjorie Buttner of St. Teresa's, George's Street, Michelstown. The baby is Mrs. Buttner's first.

At stake in the New Year baby race were ten educational endowments worth £1,000 each. The New Ireland Assurance Company is offering the free, fully paid-up endowments to the first ten babies born since midnight on the occasion of Ireland's EEC entry.

The first twins arrived at 12.01 at Bedford Row Maternity Hospital in Limerick. Both are boys and they were born to Mrs. M. Keating, wife of a farmer, of Mount Anglesby, Clogheen, Co. Tipperary.

Back at the Coombe Hospital in Dublin, Mrs. Mary Clinton, of Marzestown, Skerries, had a baby girl at 1 a.m.

And at 1.55 in the Regional Maternity Hospital, Galway, Mrs. Margaret Browne, of Kibbeg Upper, Clonbur, Co. Galway, had a baby girl.

Bomb scare

Thousands of people turned out in cities and towns all over the country last night for the traditional ringing-in of the New Year.

In Dublin, an anonymous telephone call to the gardai claimed that a bomb had been planted in a car parked beside a Christmas tree opposite G.P.O., a few hours before the ringing-in ceremony.

Hundreds of people were leaving public houses in the O'Connell Street area as gardai began clearing the street.

The operation was a little difficult since many of those emerging were well advanced in merriment.

Gardai traced the call, which turned out to be a hoax, to a coin box beside a shopping complex in Arlene, north-east Dublin. The suspected car had a British registration.

Traffic, including buses, was diverted out of O'Connell Street while the scare lasted, and traffic jams built up in all the streets behind O'Connell Street.

Medallions

The Irish Council of the European Movement is presenting a specially designed Europa medallion to every child born in Ireland today, New Year's Day.

Applications for the medallion may be addressed to the Irish Council of the European Movement, 27 Merrion Square, Dublin 2, by parents of children born between 12 midnight last night and 12 midnight tonight.

Rugby match not in doubt, say English

THE ENGLISH rugby team will travel to Lansdowne Road for their match against Ireland on February 10, the president of the English Rugby Union, Mr. Dicky Kingswell, said last night.

A British Sunday newspaper had reported yesterday that Middlesex County unanimously agreed to forward a recommendation that England ban the match, as Wales and Scotland did last year.

"Yes, I know all about a Middlesex County move to stop the game, but we have made our travelling and hotel arrangements and they stay as they are," said Mr. Kingswell.

It is understood the England party have a big booking at the Shelbourne Hotel, Dublin. The Middlesex representative on the English Rugby Union, Mr. Bert Agar, agreed yesterday that Middlesex was opposed to the Ireland-England match, but denied the newspaper's statement that their decision was unanimous.

"That is wrong. It was definitely not unanimous. Please don't press me to say whether the voting was close, I will only say it was not unanimous."

Sandy Sanders, chairman of the England selectors, said yesterday at Twickenham: "I am not aware of any players who might have reservations about going. The union will make a decision in due course, but at the moment, as selectors and players, we are planning for the match against Ireland."

Friday's full executive committee will consist of more than 50 members.

Full report: Page 18.