



TOMÁS BAIRÉAD PAPERS

GP2/126

Galway County Council Archives

Connacht—and Connaught in this instance

virtually means West Gal-

CONNACHT way—is rapidly coming to

WRITERS. the fore in the production of

Irish books, some, at least,

being of outstanding merit. I have often

wondered what are North, South and East

Galway doing? It has been said that the

best Irish in the county is in the Tuam

and Glenties areas; but I can recall

only a few Irish books written by persons

born East of the Corrib, while books by

authors born West of Galway must now

run into dozens or possibly scores. I have

often wondered what is the explanation.

Are lakes, mountains, rivers and the sea

necessary to stimulate the imagination?

Or are these who live in the flat country

without the same creative ability or the

urge to write as their western brethren?

I have also heard it asked what has Gal-

way city—the capital of the Gaeltacht—

with a population which must be now

approaching 20,000, done in this matter.

It may be said that Padraic Ó Conaire was

a Galway city man. But if he had not

lived for a long period in Connemara

would he have ever done anything?

* * * *GA 126*
I am told that the influence of "An Beal

Beo," by the late Tomás

AN BEAL O Maile, is already notice-

BEO." able in some schools and

colleges. Tomás Bairéad,

whose recent book of short stories,

"Connacht na Chinnúna," has been

such a great success—the first edition, I

hear, is almost sold out—is responsible

for another volume of short stories.

Although there may be a few stories in

the first book—and I am not so certain

of that either—slightly better than any in

the present volume, the originality,

technique and language are remarkable,

while refreshing variety suggests that the

author is equally at home in town and

country. Indeed, variety is one of the

things that make those two books stand

out among books in modern fiction. I do

not know who is responsible, but I thought

it rather curious that each collection con-

tains thirteen stories. With almost 250

pages of large type, the new book is ex-

cellently produced by An Gum. The title

is "An Geall a Bricéadh"; price, 2s.

Gd. *Gen. TRIBUNE 9/2/38*

other people would come along looking for schools.—The chief executive officer was directed to inform the applicants of the Department's view on such matters.

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At Roscommon District Court on Tuesday, before Mr. J. P. Kenny, D.J., Patrick Lyons, Cloonlara, summoned for a breach of the School Attendance Act, was fined 7s. 6d.—The following defendants were fined for similar offences: Patrick Coyte, Coolshaughtna; Patrick Davis, Feeragh and Peter Gilleran, Kinnitty, 2s. 6d. each; Thomas Kedian, Newtown, 5s.—Guards Egan, Grady and Brady were the complainants.

No Lights.

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The following defendants were fined at Roscommon District Court on Tuesday for having used unlighted vehicles on the public road at night: Martin Crean, Ballymurry, 3s. 6d.; Michael Killian, Cloonsellan; Thomas Thewlis, 8s.; Thomas Kenne, Roundfort; Michael Coyle; Galey; Joseph Keane, Newtown; Thomas Fox, Cloonecraft; Michael Breheny, Corderry; Hugh; John Neilan, Creemully; Michael Nolan, Kilnacloghy, 2s. 6d. each; Robert Hagan, Curraghmore, 3s.; Thomas Dempsey, Stonepark; John Fetherston, Ballygaldia; Charles McTerpan, Corry; Patrick Gardiner, Clooneundra; John Farrell, Carrowbane, and Josephine Kelly, Gallagh, 2s. each; Edward Campbell, Ardsallagh; Martin Murphy, Ballinboy; James Gillooly, Derrycunny; Thomas Mannion, Aughlaghbeg, and Thos. Kelly, Anrattybeg, 1s. each.—Guards Costello, Grady, Christol, Murphy, Moely, Gregg and McMurrough were the complainants.

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Rev. Father Devino and Rev. Father Harris, of the Redemptorist Order, are presently conducting a two week's retreat at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Roscommon. Mass is celebrated each morning at 7.30 a.m. and the evening devotions, consisting of Rosary sermon and Benediction of the Most Holy Sacrament are held each evening at 7.30 p.m. The Masses and various religious exercises connected with the retreat are extremely