

quite sure what book he wants, but he feels that if only he can find the book he will recognise it in a moment. The quest is not an easy one, because the books with really attractive titles are not infrequently the worst. The cheap and sensational book obtrudes itself on the unpractised eye and attracts. The journal may be described as a market place for exchange of ideas where the soundness of each reader's pet theories may be tested in notes and queries, so that he may be tempted to read a little further, if only in the hope of defeating his opponent next time. It is, perhaps, too much to expect that most readers can indulge in disinterested discussion on political problems, just now, but most people can discuss their favourite books reasonably, and learn to see other aspects which they had not noticed in their own reading. The librarian will know individuals who frequent his shelves and who would be anxious to meet others with whom they might exchange their views and from whom they may catch other enthusiasms.

This, then, is the object of THE GALWAY READER—to encourage the reading of good books of every kind and above all to encourage the general reader. The County Library provides the material for reading, but with the very varied nature and standard of the books on its shelves, the greater, therefore, the difficulties of the general reader. Galway being a university town it has been found that the professional student can look after himself both in the County Library and in the University Library. The journal helps borrowers to become discerning readers, and by developing taste leads the reader from the elementary to the advanced.

Criticism that a high proportion of Children are leaving Irish rural schools in an illiterate condition is constantly being made in the daily newspapers. It is charged against the Department of Education that it fails to provide an education consistent with the needs of rural life. It seems to have followed too closely the pattern of an out-moded system and the curricula followed have been too bookish. The kind of education traditionally given has often completely unfitted pupils for the pursuit of rural occupations. Undoubtedly many rural children leave school to-day without having developed a taste for reading and this position provides sorrowful testimonial to the apathy shown by the Department to the development of school libraries. The critics of the system ask the education authority to give careful attention to the special needs of rural school children and suggest that the same consideration be given to the necessary facilities for reading. The failure to develop a modern attitude in dealing with the needs of youth has left them with no effective power to compete with the cinema, dance hall, commercialised sports, radio, etc. It

is still pitiable to see the lack of direction, the inability to concentrate energy and talent, and the downright stupidity on the part of the Department of Education which seems to remain indifferent to efficient library work among school children and young people in our rural areas. When will it realise that the future of youth service depends on a lead and on the spirit of co-operation in village life?

It has been impossible to ignore the rapidly increasing preference among the reading public of all ages and tastes for biography and autobiography. The historical books published during 1948 are concerned for the most part with the war and the years immediately preceding it. The travel books range north, south, east and west allowing the armchair traveller to encircle the globe with the minimum of effort. There has also been shown an increasingly engrossed interest in political and social problems. This year has seen the development of a new scheme for social service and, with the important plan for Marshall aid which has begun to operate, many timely publications on these subjects have appeared.

The following figures show the numbers of books taken by readers for home reading. Fiction, as is natural, heads the list throughout the branches, centres and headquarters:—

| | Non-Fiction. | Fiction. | Juvenile. |
|--|---------------|------------------|----------------|
| Issued at the County Headquarters | 34,558 | 42,014 | 7,874 |
| Issued at the Ballinasloe Branch | 9,510 | 18,482 | 1,481 |
| Issued at the Tuam Branch ... | 8,951 | 18,558 | 1,252 |
| Issued at Centres ... | 2,678 | 6,585 | 2,905 |
| Totals ... | 55,697 | 85,639 | 13,512 |
| Total figures of issues at the County Headquarters ... | | | 84,446 |
| " " " " " " Ballinasloe Branch ... | | | 29,473 |
| " " " " " " Tuam Branch ... | | | 28,761 |
| " " " " " " Loughrea Branch ... | | | 12,168 |
| | | Total ... | 154,848 |

It was proposed by County Councillor M. Kitt, seconded by County Councillor M. Quinn, and
Resolved—That the County Librarian's Review be accepted.

Resolved also—That the Committee congratulate the County Librarian on the production of THE GALWAY READER.

(Minutes Nos. 165 to 167 inclusive).

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING, HELD ON SATURDAY, THE 2nd DAY OF JULY, 1949.

Present: Alderman Miss M. A. Ashe; County Councillor James Brennan; County Councillor M. Carty, N.T.; County Councillor J. J. Cunningham, N.T.; the Very Reverend P. Canon Glynn, B.A.; County Councillor Sean Glynn; Urban Councillor M. Keane; County Councillor T. King; John Moroney, N.T.; County Councillor Tadh O'Shea, N.T.; Senator and County Councillor Martin Quinn; and County Councillor J. J. Ruane.
Chairman of the Meeting: The Very Reverend P. Canon Glynn, B.A.

168. Election of Chairman for the Year 1949-50: It was proposed by J. Moroney, seconded by Senator M. Quinn, and
RESOLVED—That the Very Reverend P. Canon Glynn, B.A., be elected Chairman of the Committee for the year 1949-50.

169. Election of Vice-Chairman for the Year 1949-50: It was proposed by County Councillor T. King, seconded by Urban Councillor M. Keane and
RESOLVED—That County Councillor J. J. Cunningham, N.T., be elected Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the year 1949-50.

170. Donations:
RESOLVED—That the Committee's thanks be tendered the following donors:—

Donor.
 The Zinc Development Association, London.

Nature of Donation.
 Z.D.A. Abstracts: monthly reviews of recent technical literature on the various uses of zinc and its products, together with other material of interest. (A series of publications of great value not only to students but to painters, mechanics and builders.)

Portumna and District Development Co., Ltd.

A copy of the complete programme of the Portumna Civic Week, 1949. (A veritable mine of information on the present and past events in the history of Portumna.)

Tempo, London.

A quarterly review of modern music.

Senator R. M. Burke,
 Tuam.

Facsimiles of National MSS. of Ireland, photozincographed by Major-General Sir Henry James, R.E., F.R.S., Director-General of the Ordnance Survey, 1874.

Libraries.

Annual Reports: Sligo County Library, Meath County Library, Wexford County Library, Carlow County Library, Waterford County Library, Leitrim County Library, and the Central Catholic Library, Dublin.

171. Twenty-fifth Annual Report, 1948-1949: It was proposed by County Councillor J. Brennan, seconded by County Councillor J. J. Cunningham, and

RESOLVED—That the Twenty-fifth Annual Report, circulated each member, be adopted.

172. Quarterly Report:

RESOLVED—That the Quarterly Report submitted by the County Librarian for the period ended 30th June, 1949, be adopted:—

Book stocks tend to improve and the possibilities of giving readers good guidance and all that is implied by librarianship are greater than ever before. From every angle it is important to utilise all available opportunities for calling attention to the facilities afforded by the County Library Headquarters, Branches and Centres. This is not a matter of preaching to the converted. There is throughout the county a big section of the population who are unaware of the full range of library facilities available to them, and young people are always coming forward and requiring to be told of the value of the libraries.

In the case of the information service available to an enquirer, a problem is posed. Information, that is the answer to a question, is needed. Firstly, it must be defined and understood; secondly, a suitable source of information must be traced and located; thirdly, the data must be abstracted. Sometimes the enquirer is capable of doing all this himself, but usually it has to be done by the County Librarian, and this information and reference work requires time, wide sympathies and understanding. Every effort is made to exploit our resources, to secure from the enquirer a precise definition of his needs—a matter doubly important if the enquiry has to be passed on to other libraries.

An appeal is again made, and the co-operation and help of the members of the Committee and the general public is necessary, for complete sets or odd numbers of the County and City of Galway newspapers of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, particularly *The Tuam Herald*, *The Illustrated Loughrea Journal*, *The Galway Vindicator and Packet*, *The Galway Mercury*, and *The Galway Express*. These newspapers are contemporary with the events they describe, and while it is one thing to read about the past from the text book, it is quite another thing and, in a way, more important, to read about it from contemporary sources. The old newspapers tell us, if not the whole story, tell us in a vivid and incredible way what no historian can do so well. The advertisement columns of these papers add also a good deal to our learning and to our delight. There may be those who do not care for the notices of academies where "the globes" and other accomplishments were taught, or of invitations to join the Connaught Rangers for a fine outing during the summer. These papers, therefore, have a permanent value.

The following figures show the total number of books lent for home reading during the quarter ended 30th June, 1949:—

| | Headquarters. | Branches and Centres | Total. |
|------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Adults ... | 21,878 | 27,110 | 48,988 |
| Children ... | 6,435 | 8,063 | 14,498 |
| TOTAL ... | 28,313 | 35,173 | 63,486 |

| | Non-Fiction. | Fiction. | Juvenile. | Total. |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Headquarters ... | 6,683 | 15,195 | 6,435 | 28,313 |
| Ballinasloe ... | 2,325 | 4,881 | 1,487 | 8,693 |
| Loughrea ... | 1,759 | 3,749 | 787 | 6,295 |
| Tuam ... | 2,159 | 4,549 | 1,971 | 8,679 |
| Centres ... | 2,485 | 5,203 | 3,818 | 11,506 |
| TOTALS ... | 15,411 | 33,577 | 14,498 | 63,486 |

173. Offer of Book Covers : The County Librarian submitted a letter from Hearn's Advertising Service, Ltd., Willesden, London, offering to supply a quantity of protective Book Covers free of all costs. The County Librarian pointed out that a previous experience of a similar offer from a Dublin firm led to legal proceedings, which cost the Committee a substantial sum in damages and costs.

RESOLVED—That the offer of Messrs. Hearn's Advertising Service be declined with thanks.

174. The Galway Reader : It was proposed by the Very Reverend P. Canon Glynn, seconded by Senator M. Quinn, and

RESOLVED—That the members of this Committee having watched with growing interest the way in which THE GALWAY READER has preserved its standard of ability in writing, freshness of outlook, and physical presentation, tender cordial congratulations to the County Librarian and his contributors on a fine achievement, with the hope that a long series of the same high quality will follow in subsequent numbers.

175. Closing of the County Library Headquarters on a Fixed Half-holiday : It was proposed by County Councillor J. Brennan, seconded by Alderman Miss M. A. Ashe, and

RESOLVED—With the object of attaining full advantage of the services of the recently appointed assistant and to eliminate the staggering of the Library Staff's weekly half-holiday, that the County Manager be requested to revert to the closing of the County Library Headquarters on each Tuesday from one o'clock in the afternoon.

176. Portumna Branch Library :

NOTED—The County Manager's intention to establish a Branch Library at Portumna.

177. Minutes :

RESOLVED—That the Minutes of the last meeting, circulated each member, be taken as read; and that they be signed. (Minutes Nos. 168 to 177, inclusive.)

and costs.

Patrick Flynn
22nd Oct 1949.

LEABARLAINNA CONNOAE NA SAILLIME
COUNTY GALWAY LIBRARIES

All communications should be addressed:

S. J. MAGUIRE
SECRETARY AND COUNTY LIBRARIAN
(and the following number quoted)



COUNTY LIBRARY HEADQUARTERS

GALWAY

14th Oct. 1949

A Chara,

A quarterly meeting of the County Galway Libraries Committee will be held in the County Library Headquarters, the County Court-house, Galway, on Saturday next, the 22nd October, 1949, at twelve-thirty o'clock in the afternoon, when the following business will be dealt with:-

1. Minutes of the last meeting.
2. Donations.
3. Reports.
4. General.

Is mise, le meas,

S. J. MAGUIRE,

County Librarian.

To each member of the Committee.

To the County Manager.

To the County Secretary.

To the Town Clerks of Galway and Ballinasloe.

To the Editors of Newspapers published in the County.

LEABARLAINNA CONNOAE NA SAILLIME
COUNTY GALWAY LIBRARIES

All communications should be addressed:

S. J. MAGUIRE
SECRETARY AND COUNTY LIBRARIAN
(and the following number quoted)



COUNTY LIBRARY HEADQUARTERS

GALWAY

24th Oct 1949

A Quarterly Meeting of the County Libraries Committee, adjourned from the 22nd instant, will be held on Saturday next, the 29th day of October, 1949, in the County Library Headquarters, the County Court-house, Galway, at the hour of twelve-thirty o'clock in the afternoon.

AGENDA.

Already issued to members.

To each member.
To the County Manager.
To the County Secretary.
To the Town Clerks of Galway and Ballinasloe.
To the Editors of newspapers published in the County.

Is mise,

S. J. MAGUIRE,
County Librarian.

LEABARLAINNA CONNDAE NA SAILLIÉ
COUNTY GALWAY LIBRARIES

All communications should be addressed:

S. J. MAGUIRE

SECRETARY AND COUNTY LIBRARIAN
(omit the following number quoted)



COUNTY LIBRARY HEADQUARTERS
GALWAY

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF A QUARTERLY MEETING HELD ON
SATURDAY, THE 22nd DAY OF OCTOBER, 1949.

Present:- County Councillor James Brennan; County Councillor
M. Carty, N.T.; County Councillor P.J. Colleran; County Councillor
J.J. Cunningham; N.N.; The Very Rev. Canon Glynn, B.A. (Chairman);
County Councillor Sean Glynn; Urban Councillor M. Keane; County
Councillor T. King; County Councillor M. Kitt, N.T., T.D.; J. Moran, N.T.;
County Councillor Tadg O'Shea, B.A., N.T., Alderman J. Owens; County
Councillor M. Quinn; and County Councillor J.J. Ruane.

Apologies:- Intimation of their inability to attend were received
Alderman Miss M.A. Ashe, Co.C.; and from C.I. O'Flynn, Esq., County
Manager.

Chairman of the Meeting:- The Very Rev. P. Canon Glynn, B.A., Chairman.

178. Minutes of the last meeting:- Resolved - That the minutes of
the last meeting, circulated to each member, be taken as read; and
that they be signed.

179. Vote of Sympathy and Adjournment of meeting:-
It was proposed by County Councillor James Brennan, seconded
by County Councillor J.J. Cunningham, and
Resolved - That the deepest sympathy of the Committee be
rendered the widow and other relatives of the late Councillor
William Carrick.

Resolved also - that this meeting stand adjourned until
Saturday, the 29th day of October, 1949.

(Minutes Nos. 178 to 179 inclusive).

Patrick Glynn
27th October 1949

Galway County Council
(COUNTY LIBRARIES DEPARTMENT)

**MINUTES
OF THE PROCEEDINGS**

OF

Quarterly Meetings

HELD ON

Saturday, 22nd day of October,

AND

Saturday, 29th day of October,

1949.

Arthur J. Ryan
Athlone Printing Works Co. Ltd. 1742/49
3rd Dec. 1949

**LEABARLAINNA COMROG NA GAILLIMHE
COUNTY GALWAY LIBRARIES**

All communications should be addressed:

S. J. MAGUIRE
SECRETARY AND COUNTY LIBRARIAN
(and the following number unless)

**COUNTY LIBRARY HEADQUARTERS
GALWAY
26th Nov. '49**

A Chara,

A Quarterly Meeting of the County Libraries Committee will be held on Saturday next, the 3rd day of December, 1949, in the County Library Headquarters, the County Court-house, Galway, at the hour of twelve-thirty o'clock in the afternoon when the following business will be dealt with:-

1. Minutes of the last meeting.
2. Donations.
3. Estimates for the year 1950-51.
4. Reports.
5. General.

Is mise, le meas,

S. J. MAGUIRE.
County Librarian.

To each member of the Committee.
To the County Manager.
To the County Secretary.
To the Town Clerks of Galway and Ballinasloe.
To the Editors of newspapers published in the County.

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF A QUARTERLY MEETING
HELD ON SATURDAY, THE 22nd DAY OF OCTOBER, 1949.**

Present : County Councillor James Brennan ; County Councillor M. Carty, N.T. ; County Councillor P. J. Collieran ; County Councillor J. J. Cunningham, N.T. ; the Very Rev. P. Canon Glynn, B.A. (Chairman) ; County Councillor Sean Glynn ; Urban Councillor M. Keane ; County Councillor T. King ; County Councillor M. Kitt, N.T., T.D. ; J. Moroney, N.T. ; County Councillor Tadg O'Shea, B.A., N.T. ; Alderman J. Owens ; County Councillor M. Quinn ; and County Councillor J. J. Ruane.

Apologies : Intimation of their inability to attend were received from Alderman Miss M. A. Ashe, Co.C. ; and from C. I. O'Flynn, Esq., County Manager.

Chairman of the Meeting : The Very Rev. P. Canon Glynn, B.A., Chairman.

178. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING :

Resolved—That the minutes of the last meeting, circulated to each member, be taken as read ; and that they be signed.

179. VOTE OF SYMPATHY AND ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING :

It was proposed by County Councillor James Brennan, seconded by County Councillor J. J. Cunningham, and

Resolved—That the deepest sympathy of the Committee be tendered the widow and other relatives of the late Councillor William Carrick.

Resolved also—That this meeting stand adjourned until Saturday, the 29th day of October, 1949.

(Minutes Nos. 178 to 179, inclusive.)

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF A QUARTERLY MEETING
HELD ON SATURDAY, THE 29th DAY OF OCTOBER, 1949.**

Present : County Councillor James Brennan ; County Councillor Michael Carty, N.T. ; County Councillor P. J. Colleran ; County Councillor J. J. Cunningham, N.T. ; the Very Reverend P. Canon Glynn, B.A., Chairman ; County Councillor Sean Glynn ; Urban Councillor Michael Keane ; County Councillor Thomas King ; County Councillor Michael Kitt, N.T., T.D. ; John Moroney, N.T. ; Co. Councillor Tadg O'Shea, B.A., N.T. ; Alderman Joseph Owens ; County Councillor Martin Quinn ; and County Councillor James J. Ruane.

Apologies : Intimation of their inability to attend were received from Alderman Miss M. A. Ashe, Co.C., and Councillor John Burke.

In Attendance : C. I. O'Flynn, Esq., County Manager.

Chairman of the Meeting : The Very Reverend P. Canon Glynn, B.A., Chairman.

180. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING :

Resolved—That the Minutes of the last meeting, circulated each member be taken as read ; and that they be signed.

**181. CLOSING OF THE COUNTY LIBRARY HEADQUARTERS
ON A FIXED HALF-HOLIDAY :**

Noted—The approval of the County Manager to the closing of the County Library Headquarters each Tuesday from one o'clock in the afternoon, as the staff half-holiday.

182. DONATIONS :

Resolved—That the Committee's thanks be tendered the following donors :

| Donor : | Nature of Donation : |
|--|--|
| Phillips Electrical (Ireland) Ltd., Dublin. | Vols. 8, 9 and 10 of <i>Phillips Technical Review</i> : a publication on Lighting, Electronics, X-Ray, and other technical subjects. |

Thomas Walsh, M.A., M.D.,
etc., Professor Emeritus,
Taylor's Hill, Galway.

(1) Minute Books, Roll Books, etc., of the Galway Sinn Féin Club, the Galway Volunteers, and the Galway Local Security Force ; (2) Photographs of the original Claddagh houses, soon to be demolished.

| | |
|---|--|
| Capt. William and Mrs. Power, Quarry House, Galway. | 30 vols of Fiction, 1 vol. of Travel, 3 vols. on Gardening, and 1 vol. of Poetry. |
| John J. Waldron, Esq., Tuam. | (1) A copy of Sir Richard Cox's <i>Hibernia Anglicana</i> , 2 vols., (2) a Scrap-book History of the Irish Volunteers; and (3) two photographs of the Franciscan Abbey of Ross. |
| The Electricity Supply Board. | Twenty-second Annual Re- port. |
| The Hospital Library Council, Dublin. | Twelfth Annual Report. |
| Donegal County Library. | Annual Report, 1948-49 |
| Cork City Public Library. | do. |
| City and County Borough of Belfast Public Libraries. | do. |
| Kilkenny County Library. | do. |
| Waterford County Library. | do. |
| Gottlieb Ritz, Esq., Sonoma, California, U.S.A. | <i>The Gospel of the Kingdom, etc.</i> |
| The Zinc Development Asso- ciation, Oxford. | <i>Z.D.A. Abstracts</i> : monthly re- views of recent technical litera- ture on the various uses of zinc and its products. |

183. THE GALWAY READER:

Noted—The approval of the County Manager to the continued publication of *THE GALWAY READER*.

184. NEW COURSE IN SOCIAL SCIENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, GALWAY:

Resolved—The students attending the new course in Social Science at the University College be informed that Book Lists and books recommended for the course are available at the County Library Headquarters and through the Irish Central Library for Students.

185. RADIO EIREANN AND THE GALWAY READER:

Resolved—That the Committee's thanks be tendered to the General Features Officer and the Reviewer of Radio Eireann for the favourable reviews of *The Galway Reader*.

186. COUNTY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT:

The County Librarian submitted his report on the work of the Libraries for the Quarter and Half-year, respectively, ended on 30th September, 1949:—

The proportionate small number of ratepayers who use the County Libraries to whose support they contribute has been a problem for most County Librarians. In County Galway, while there is available 26.7 volumes per 100 of the population served, only 20.9 per 100 of the population are availing of the service. In the U.S.A., on the other hand, one of the accepted traditions of every town, large and small, is the public library. There library activities are usually taken so much as a regular sort of thing that they find only occasional mention in the local column of the weekly newspaper. Here and there along the countryside is an exception, a local situation with telling values. News about it may, or may not, have passed beyond the county limits, but still there is a story there that in its essentials confirms the belief that, despite all the distractions of to-day's fast-moving world, the American is more likely than not to be a prospector for information, ideals, and understanding. The big factor in the development of county libraries in the U.S.A. has been the live interest of citizens in the project, which, in turn, has brought forth stimulation from outside sources. Evidence is accumulating that the county libraries have firmly established themselves, that citizens give them solid support for the contributions they make to the individuals and to the community as a whole. When the whole county area of Galway is covered by the school library service, and close contact maintained with all schools to ensure that all children are introduced to the junior library as soon as they are able to read, and to the adult department at the age of fourteen, we may look forward to an intelligent reading public for the future and with accepted traditions as high as those in the U.S.A.

One would expect that the leaflet and poster would greatly increase the general public's awareness of the potentialities of modern public libraries, and should contribute to the development and extension of public library services. These media by themselves being found insufficient your County Librarian has co-operated with Muintir na Tire and the Young Farmers' Clubs, at shows and in halls in promoting active public library participation in the work of these two institutions. These organisations present the Galway County Libraries with specific opportunities for developing discussions, stimulating reading, arranging exhibits, etc., on various themes common to the two bodies, and by promoting discussion of the part the County Libraries should play in such adult education programmes.

The staff of the County Libraries serve the community of the City and County of Galway at all levels, and in all spheres of interest. They deal with the collection, recording and active exploitation of all types of written and recorded materials. Their work requires special skills and technique in the classification, organisation and exploitation of books and data. They endeavour to promote the habit of reading and the wider distribution of books, and it is to be recorded that readers are now keeping them busier than before. Readers are of all ages with an infinite variety

of tastes and interests, and the following tables show the number of books lent for home reading in the City and throughout the County :—

(1) For the Quarter ended 30th September, 1949.

| | Branches and | | | Total. |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|
| | Headquarters. | Centres. | | |
| Adults | 26,691 | 33,074 | | 59,765 |
| Children | 7,851 | 10,837 | | 18,688 |
| Total | 34,542 | 43,911 | | 78,453 |
| | Non- | | | |
| | Fiction. | Fiction. | Juvenile. | Total. |
| Headquarters | 8,166 | 18,525 | 7,851 | 34,542 |
| Ballinasloe | 2,836 | 5,954 | 2,064 | 10,854 |
| Loughrea | 2,146 | 4,574 | 1,210 | 7,930 |
| Tuam | 2,634 | 5,550 | 2,655 | 10,839 |
| Centres | 3,032 | 6,348 | 4,908 | 14,288 |
| | 18,814 | 40,951 | 18,688 | 78,453 |

(2) For the Half-year ended 30th September, 1949 :—

| | Branches and | | | Total. |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| | Headquarters. | Centres. | | |
| Adults | 48,569 | 60,184 | | 108,753 |
| Children | 14,286 | 18,900 | | 33,186 |
| Total | 62,855 | 79,084 | | 141,939 |
| | Non- | | | |
| | Fiction. | Fiction. | Juvenile. | Total. |
| Headquarters | 14,849 | 33,720 | 14,286 | 62,855 |
| Ballinasloe | 5,161 | 10,835 | 3,551 | 19,547 |
| Loughrea | 3,905 | 8,323 | 1,997 | 14,225 |
| Tuam | 4,793 | 10,099 | 4,626 | 19,518 |
| Centres | 5,517 | 11,581 | 8,726 | 25,794 |
| Total | 34,225 | 74,528 | 33,186 | 141,939 |

Expenditure for the Half-year ended 30th September, 1949 :—

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|----|---|
| Salaries and Wages | £875 | 18 | 5 |
| Books, Binding and Periodicals | 1,722 | 16 | 6 |
| Transport and Travelling | 100 | 11 | 0 |
| Rent, Maintenance and Repairs | 175 | 1 | 0 |
| Other Expenditure | 40 | 7 | 7 |

Total Expenditure £2,914 14 6

Resolved—That the County Librarian's Report be adopted.

187. BALLINASLOE BRANCH LIBRARY :

Noted—The following report of the County Librarian on his attendance at a meeting of the Ballinasloe Local Library Committee :—

I attended at a meeting of the Ballinasloe Local Library Committee on 27th October, 1949, at which the following recommendations were made, viz. :—

(1) That a small printed notice be inserted in each book drawing attention to the bye-laws and regulations relative to the defacing and the negligent treatment of books ;

(2) That 100 books be exchanged on 1st November and 1st December next, and on the first day of each month afterwards, 60 books ;

(3) That a copy of the bye-laws, rules and regulations be exhibited in the Branch Library, and that copies, if possible, be supplied the readers at the Branch.

188. REPORT OF THE DELEGATES TO THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND AT LIMERICK, SEPTEMBER 26th—30th, INCLUSIVE :

The County Librarian submitted a report from the delegates on their attendance at the Annual Conference of the Library Association of Ireland at Limerick :—

Report of the Delegates on their attendance at the Conference of the Library Association of Ireland held at Limerick from the 26th-30th September, 1949 :—

One wonders at times whether the four full days of learning and discussing at conferences is not too much, and whether the mental and physical indigestion resulting lessens the value of such conferences at a whole. The impression was heightened at Limerick by the fact that the 1949. Conference will be remembered as a sober, factual affair. We took stock of our position and weighed up the many and difficult problems of the future. Nearly every paper concerned not only nearly every librarian, but also nearly every member of a library committee, from problems of provision for special groups to mundane matters of economic administration and bookbinding.

One thing was finally and absolutely proved : that pre-printing some papers should be a characteristic of all conferences. Not only would preprinting enable a delegate to choose from any of the sessions the paper he really wants to hear discussed, but it would also mean a much better and well-informed discussion which would add something to the paper and enlarge it. Some papers tended to fall almost flat because their necessarily complicated exposition could not easily be taken in and be intelligently discussed.

We had an easy beginning. We began the conference with the reception of Professor F. E. Hackett's address. Our reception by

the Corporation and County Council of Limerick, the Bishop of Limerick and the Minister for Local Government was, as one might expect, excellently done. The President's (Professor Hackett) handling of the Annual Meeting was masterly.

We had a pleasant relief from technicalities in a paper by Mr. Robert Herbert, Librarian, Public Library, Limerick on "Minor Literary Characters of Limerick." Urbane, master of his subject, he is a specialist in deft aside. One can imagine no greater contrast than a discussion on "The Library and the Countryman," but it proved quite stimulating. A debate on the annual report drew out the unfortunate position in Ireland which has arisen over the subject of archives, local history, local literature, newspapers, and local documents generally. Your County Librarian pointed out that the Galway County Libraries had through *The Galway Reader* and other media set a headline in a modest way by endeavouring to stimulate an interest in and the collection of such material. In a review of the work of Municipal and County Libraries arising from the Library Council's Questionnaire, your County Librarian referred to the difficulty of securing premises in the larger centres of population throughout the county for use as Branch Libraries and recommended compulsory acquisition. Miss E. Power, suffering from the desire we all have to put into a paper more than it will contain, did her best to conceal several nuggets in a deal of dross, but her plea for clearer leads on policy and more exchange of information deserved attention. It is to be regretted that Miss Power's paper was not preprinted. It required both discussion and elucidation. Some of her practical suggestions were oversimplified. Replanning an out-of-date building, for instance, is not just a matter of the application of beaver-board and flourescent lighting, and surely a librarian should think in terms beyond a hammer and a pot of paint.

Other subjects discussed were: The Reference Library; Disinfection of Books; Types of Library Van in Use; Book Funds; Professional Education Facilities for Library Assistants; and Some Reflections on Irish Publishing.

In conclusion, after hearing a large percentage of a full audience of Irish Librarians and Library Committee delegates discussing immediate problems with knowledge and confidence, we came away feeling that the future will be more progressive and that the aims of the Public Libraries of Ireland are in safe hands.

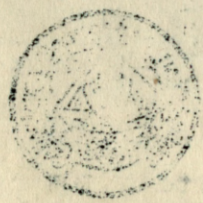
JAMES J. RUANE,
MICHAEL CARTY,
S. J. MAGUIRE.

Resolved—That the Report of the delegates to the Annual Conference of the Library Association of Ireland be adopted.

(Minutes Nos. 180 to 188 inclusive).

LEABARLAINNA CONMOAE NA SAILLIME
COUNTY GALWAY LIBRARIES

All communications should be addressed to:
S. J. MAGUIRE
SECRETARY AND COUNTY LIBRARIAN
(and the following number quoted)



COUNTY LIBRARY HEADQUARTERS
GALWAY

Under the heading - Books, Periodicals and Binding - it is recommended to provide 7,000 books at an average cost of 7s.11d per volume which will amount to £2,770.16.8. It is to be noted that no provision is made for a possible increase in the price of books. American publications due to the devaluation of the pound have increased by 40%. Periodicals are down at £20 and Binding at £275, giving a total of £3,045.16.8.

Salaries and Wages provide for annual basic salaries; one increment of £15, three of £10, the appropriate temporary bonus payable to the Headquarters Staff, to two Branch Librarians at the rate of 4s.2d per week, and to one Branch Librarian at 3s.6d per week. A sum of £182 provides for the payment of seven Branch Librarians at the recognised rate of £26 per year. The total sum under this classification is £1,969.12.4.

Administration Charges represent: Transport £20; Travelling Expenses £287.18.0; Stationery, renewal of equipment, etc., £210.5.0; Heating, Lighting, Cleaning, Repairs, etc. £428.18.0; Fittings, equipment, shelving for new Branches £120.0.0; 3½ doz. chairs (at £8.5.0 per dozen) £28.17.6; 7 tables (at £3 each) £21.0.0; Painting, cleaning, etc., at Headquarters £450.0.0. The total sum estimated is £1,546.18.6.

LEABARLAINNA CONMOAE NA SAILLIME
COUNTY GALWAY LIBRARIES

All communications should be addressed to:
S. J. MAGUIRE
SECRETARY AND COUNTY LIBRARIAN
(and the following number quoted)



COUNTY LIBRARY HEADQUARTERS
GALWAY

Under Other Charges items covered are: Fire and Other Insurances £20; Telephone £20; National Health and Unemployment Insurance £103.2.8; Postage £23.0.0; and Sundries £10.- a total of £186.2.8.

ANNUAL ESTIMATES, 1950-51

| Estimated Expenditure: | £. | s. | d. |
|---------------------------------|--------|-----|----|
| Books, Periodicals and Binding. | 3,045. | 16. | 8. |
| Salaries and Wages. | 1,969. | 12. | 4. |
| Administration Charges. | 1,546. | 18. | 6. |
| Other Charges. | 182. | 2. | 8. |

Total Estimated Expenditure

£6,744. 10. 2.

Estimated Income.

| | £. | s. | d. |
|---|--------|-----|----|
| From Rates. | 6,344. | 10. | 2. |
| From other Sources, (Subscriptions, Fines and Replacements) | 400. | 0. | 0. |

Total Estimated Income.

£ 6,744. 10. 2.

leabharlanna comhoige na gailtine
COUNTY GALWAY LIBRARIES

All communications should be addressed to:
S. J. MAGUIRE
SECRETARY AND COUNTY LIBRARIAN
(and the following number postal)



COUNTY LIBRARY HEADQUARTERS
GALWAY
25th. Fe. 1950

A Chara,

A Quarterly Meeting of the County Galway Libraries Committee will be held on Saturday next, the 4th day of March, 1950, in the County Library Headquarters, the County Court-house, Galway, at the hour of twelve-thirty o'clock in the afternoon, when the following business will be dealt with:-

1. Minutes of the last meeting.
2. Donations.
3. Reports.
4. General.

Is mise, le meas,
S. J. MAGUIRE.
County Librarian.

To each member of the Committee.
To the County Manager.
To the County Secretary.
To the Town Clerks of Galway and Ballinasloe.
To the Editors of newspapers published in the County.

Galway County Council
(COUNTY LIBRARIES DEPARTMENT)

MINUTES
OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF A

Quarterly Meeting

HELD ON

Saturday, 3rd day of December

1949.

Athlone Printing Works Co. Ltd. 2011/50

Handwritten notes:
up v. 1/1/50
3 50
GA

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF A QUARTERLY MEETING
HELD ON SATURDAY, THE 3rd DAY OF DECEMBER, 1949.**

Present : County Councillor James Brennan ; County Councillor Michael Carty, N.T. ; County Councillor J. J. Cunningham, N.T. (Vice-Chairman) ; the Very Reverend P. Canon Glynn, B.A. (Chairman) ; County Councillor Sean Glynn ; Urban Councillor Michael Keane ; County Councillor Thomas King ; County Councillor Michael Kitt, N.T., T.D. ; John Moroney, N.T. ; County Councillor T. O'Shea, N.T. ; Alderman Joseph Owens ; County Councillor and Senator Martin Quinn ; and County Councillor J. J. Ruane.

Apology : Intimation of his inability to attend was received from County Councillor P. J. Colleran.

In Attendance : C. I. O'Flynn, Esq., County Manager.

Chairman at the Meeting : The Very Reverend P. Canon Glynn, B.A.

189. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING :

Resolved—what the Minutes of the last meeting, circulated each member be taken as read ; and that they be signed.

190. DONATIONS :

It was proposed by the Very Reverend P. Canon Glynn, seconded by J. Moroney, and

Resolved—That the Committee's thanks be tendered the following donors :—

| Donor | Nature of Donation |
|---|--|
| Kilkenny County Council | Annual Report for the Year ended 31st March, 1949. |
| Cork County Library | ditto |
| Cork County Library | Bulletin, Autumn, 1949. |
| Reverend T. J. O'Connor, P.P., Mullagh, Loughrea | 3 vols. of Fiction. |

Thomas Walsh, Esq., M.A.,
M.D., etc. Professor
Emeritus, Taylor's Hill,
Galway

Daniels, F. Mathematical Preparation for Physical Chemistry; Thompson, C.J.S. The Mystery and Art of the Apothecary; De Kruif, P. Microbe Hunters; Lorand, A. Old Age Deferred; Dublin, L. J. Population Problems in the United States and Canada; Cronin, M. General Ethics; Schmalhausen, S.D. The New Road to Progress; Fisher, R.A. Statistical Methods for Research Workers; Pearl, R. Introduction to Medical Biometry and Statistics, 1923 ed.; Lambert, S.W. and G.M. Goodwin. Medical Leaders from Hippocrates to Osler; Bowley, A.L. Elements of Statistics; Goodnow, M. Outlines of Nursing History; Walker, K. Sex and a Changing Civilisation; The Autobiography of a Scientist: Being the Memoirs of Doctor Henry Manure, Professor of Archaeology, Palaeontology and Egyptology at Derbytown University, as recorded by his Amanuensis; Pearl, R. Introduction to Medical Biometry and Statistics, 1930 ed.; Neuburger, A. The Technical Arts and Sciences of the Ancients; translated by Henry L. Brose; and Libby, W. The History of Medicine.

191. ESTIMATES OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1950-1951:—

The County Librarian submitted details of the estimated receipts and expenditure for the year 1950-1951 as follows:—

Under the heading **Books, Periodicals and Binding**, it is recommended to provide 7,000 books at an average cost of 7s. 11d. per volume which will amount to £2,770 16s. 8d. It is to be noted that no provision is made for a possible increase in the price of books. American publications due to the devaluation of the pound, have increased by 40%. Periodicals are down at £20 and Binding at £275, giving a total of £3,065 16s. 8d.

Salaries and Wages provide for annual basic salaries; one increment of £15, three of £10, the appropriate temporary bonus payable to the Headquarters Staff, to two Branch Librarians at the rate of 4s. 2d. per week, and to one Branch Librarian at 3s. 6d. per week. A sum of £182 provides for the payment of seven Branch Librarians at the recognised rate of £26 per year. The total sum under this classification is £1,969 12s. 4d.

Administration Charges represent: Transport, £20; Travelling Expenses, £287 18s. 0d.; Stationery, renewal of equipment, etc., £210 5s. 0d.; Heating, Lighting, Cleaning, Repairs, etc., £428 18s. 0d.; Fittings, Equipment, Shelving for new Branches, £120 0s. 0d.; 3½ dozen chairs (at £8 5s. 0d. per dozen), £28 17s. 6d.; 7 Tables (at £3 each), £21 0s. 0d.; Painting, Cleaning etc., at Headquarters, £450 0s. 0d. The total sum estimated is £1,546 18s. 6d.

Under **Other Charges**, items covered are: Fire and Other Insurances, £20; Telephone, £20; National Health and Unemployment Insurance, £103 2s. 8d.; Postage, £33 0s. 0d.; and Sundries, £10—a total of £186 2s. 8d.

ANNUAL ESTIMATES, 1950-51.

Estimated Expenditure.

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|----|---|
| Books, Periodicals and Binding | ... | ... | ... | £3,065 | 16 | 8 |
| Salaries and Wages | ... | ... | ... | 1,969 | 12 | 4 |
| Administration Charges | ... | ... | ... | 1,546 | 18 | 6 |
| Other Charges | ... | ... | ... | 182 | 2 | 8 |
| Total Estimated Expenditure | | | | £6,764 | 10 | 2 |

Estimated Income.

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|--------|----|---|
| From Rates | ... | ... | ... | £6,364 | 10 | 2 |
| From Other Sources (Subscriptions, Fines and Replacements) | ... | ... | ... | 400 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Estimated Income | | | | £6,764 | 10 | 2 |

It was proposed by County Councillor Sean Glynn, seconded by County Councillor Michael Carty, and

Resolved—That the estimated receipts and expenditure as submitted by the County Librarian be altered to read:—

| | | |
|--|--------------------|--------|
| Books, Periodicals and Binding altered from | £3,065 16s. 8d. to | £2,800 |
| Salaries and Wages to remain as shown at | ... | 1,969 |
| Administration Charges altered from £1,546 18s. 6d. to | ... | 1,400 |
| Other Charges altered from £182 2s. 8d. to | ... | 200 |

Total Estimated Expenditure to read ... £6,369

Estimated Rate Demand altered from £6,764 10s. 2d. to ... £5,969
Estimated Receipts from Other Sources to remain at ... 400

Total Estimated Receipts to read ... £6,369

192. REPORTS :

The County Librarian submitted his report on the work of the Libraries since the last meeting of the Committee. The report covered a period of two months ended the 30th November, 1949 :—

Replies to a detailed questionnaire issued by the Library Council of Ireland were completed and furnished showing the work of the Libraries up to 31st March, 1949, and embodying many recommendations for the development of the Libraries—Headquarters, Branches, Adult and School Centres throughout the county, and the efforts to secure a library, art gallery and museum for the City of Galway.

Several requests were received from places as far apart as the Universities of Pennsylvania, Harvard, Boston College, and Los Angeles ; and from individuals in Great Britain and the United States, for copies of THE GALWAY READER. It is to be regretted that No. 1, of Vol. 1 of the journal was out of print and that only comparatively few copies of subsequent numbers were available.

10 applications for new Centres were received ; and the work of organising additional Branches continues. In several cases great difficulties are being experienced in finding suitable premises. Several buildings have been offered for use as a City Library, Art Gallery and Museum. One was found unsuitable and the others offered are being inspected and will be reported on at the next meeting. The following figures show the number of books lent for home reading during the two months ended 30th November, 1949 :

| | Headquarters. | Branches and Centres. | Total. |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------------------|--------|
| Adults | 19,026 | 23,606 | 42,632 |
| Children | 5,612 | 7,728 | 13,340 |
| Total | 24,638 | 31,334 | 55,972 |

It was proposed by County Councillor M. Carty, seconded by County Councillor Glynn, and

Resolved—That the County Librarian's report be adopted.
(Minutes Nos. 189 to 192 inclusive).