

LEABHARLANNA CHONNDAE NA GAILLIMHE
 GALWAY COUNTY LIBRARIES

	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>
Number of Books sent to Branches and Centres:	6486	8281
Number of Books returned from Branches and Centres:	6817	7443
Number of Books sent to Bindery:	1780	3458
Number of Books returned from Bindery:	--	2180
Number of Books added to Stock:	1531 F 773 J <u>671</u> NF 2975	2434 F 1751 J <u>1103</u> NF <u>5288</u>
Number of Books withdrawn from Stock:	1094 F 1015 J <u>42</u> NF 2151	2047 F 1618 J <u>346</u> NF 4011

Galway County Council Archives

LEABHARLANNA CHONNDAE NA GAILLIMHE
GALWAY COUNTY LIBRARIES

Quarterly Report of County Librarian to period ended 30th September.

AHASCRAGH OPENING

Since the last meeting of the Committee a new Branch Library was opened at Ahascragh in the premises of Mrs. Concannon. This brings the number of Branches in the County including the Galway City Branch to 23. The initial stock supplied was 1,300 volumes. Judging by the demand and interest shown at the opening, this Branch should prove very popular in the area. The Branch was Blessed and formally opened by Very Rev. Archdeacon Brennan of Ahascragh. Among those who attended at the opening were Councillors M. Kitt, P. Galvin, J. Riddel and many of the local schoolteachers.

FURTHER NEW BRANCHES

Arrangements are now almost completed for the opening of the Kilconnell Branch. Glenamaddy Branch was transferred to a new premises during September and is now functioning satisfactorily. Due to the need for economy in expenditure it is doubtful if any further Branches will be opened within the present financial year. It will, therefore, be possible to concentrate on effecting improvements at the present Branches. Many of these are not at all satisfactory. The premises of some are very unsuitable and an effort should be made to seek better accommodation. I refer in particular to Athenry, Dunmore and Spiddal. The premises being used were the only ones available at the time of establishing these Branches but it might be possible now to rent more suitable accommodation. Other Branches could be greatly improved if small renovations were carried out. These would include, Abbeyknockmoy, Ballygar, Woodford and Killimor. Further the shelving at many Branches is not suitable. It is hoped to bring about some improvement in this regard in the near future. Stacks at present being made will be supplied to Clifden, Oughterard, Headford, and Spiddal and the floor stacks at these Branches will be transferred to the new Woodquay premises for use there.

BOOK ISSUES

Book issues at all Branches, a schedule of which has been circulated, are not as satisfactory as they might be and a vast improvement at several Branches is desirable. A general improvement in premises and a more organized and frequent system of exchange would in my opinion produce better results. It would, therefore, be more desirable to concentrate for some time on improving the present service and in ensuring that each Branch justifies the present expenditure on its maintenance, in the volume of service which it is providing, rather than to continue in the opening of further Branches.

LEABHARLANNA CHONDAE NA GAILLIMHE

GALWAY COUNTY LIBRARIES

Minutes of Meeting of County Library Committee held on 18th October, 1956.

PRESENT

County Councillors, John Dowd, P.J. Galvin, R. Joyce, T. King, M. Kitt, M. Mannion, J.J. Ruane, James Riddell Esq., J. O'Connell Esq., Thomas Clarke Esq., F. Mullen Esq., N.T., J.J. Nestor Esq. and Laurence O'Toole Esq.

In the absence of the Chairman Very Rev. P. Canon Glynn, the Vice Chairman Councillor Michael Kitt took the Chair.

8/1956 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting as circulated to each member be taken as read and that they be signed.

9/1956 NEW BRANCH LIBRARIES

Arising out of the Report of the County Librarian a discussion took place regarding the position relating to the opening of further new Branches and the effect of the reduction in the Book Fund under the present economy drive on the programme for the present year. Finally, it was proposed by Mr. Thomas Clarke, seconded by Councillor John Dowd and resolved that it be recommended to the County Manager that in view of the slow progress up to the present in the opening of Branch Libraries scheduled and the savings effected in recent years in the County Library allocation that the Book Fund for the current year be not reduced under the economy drive.

It was pointed out by the County Librarian that no further Branches with the exception of Kilconnell which was ready for opening, could be opened within the present year if the Book Fund were reduced but he suggested that an effort could be made to acquire premises in as many areas as possible so that Branches could be opened in these areas early in the new financial year.

It was then agreed by the meeting that premises should be acquired without delay in as many areas as possible where Branch Libraries were overdue.

10/1956 STATISTICS

The Statistics for the half year ended 30th September, as circulated were considered.

11/1956 NEW BRANCH LIBRARY BUILDING AT BALLINASLOE

Further to discussions at previous meetings regarding a suitable site for a Branch Library Building at Ballinasloe, Clr. Galvin informed the meeting that the Urban Council did not at present have any site which they might present to the County Council but that at a later date they might be acquiring sites on part of the Conroy Estate. It was then proposed by Clr. Galvin and seconded by Mr. J. Riddell that the County Manager be requested to consider arranging with the Urban Council for the acquisition of a site on part of the Conroy Estate next to that purchased by the Dept. of Posts and Telegraphs, for the purpose of erecting a Branch Library.

12/1956

Clr. M. Kitt proposed that the Committee offer its Congratulations to the Galway Football team on their All Ireland victory. The resolution was seconded by Mr. J. Riddell. Mr. J.J. Nestor and Councillors Galvin and Mannion also associated themselves with the motion.

Patrick Glynn
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LEABHARLANNA CHONDAE NA GAILLIMHE
GALWAY COUNTY LIBRARIES

Book Issues for nine months ended 31st December, 1956.

BRANCH	1956	1955
Galway City ...	84,228	73,142
Abbeyknockmoy ...	3,094	3,109
Athenry ...	3,206	2,626
Ahascragh ...	1,212	-- (opened Oct. '56)
Ballinasloe ...	17,562	11,894 (closed 2 mths)
Ballygar ...	6,489	8,218
Carraroe ...	4,932	4,094
Clifden ...	4,564	4,762
Craughwell ...	1,760	-- (opened June '56)
Creggs ...	3,194	-- (opened Feb. '56)
Dunmore ...	7,159	7,186
Glenamaddy ...	805	2,166 (re-opened Sept. '56)
Gort ...	10,557	2,364 (opened Nov. 55)
Headford ...	2,510	2,572
Kinvara ...	4,890	1,049 (opened Nov. 55)
Kilconnell ...	218	-- (Opened Dec. '56)
Killimor ...	3,867	2,871
Loughrea ...	10,192	6,560
Moylough ...	4,120	1,775 (re-opened Aug. '55)
Oughterard ...	4,241	5,136
Portumna ...	6,681	5,340
Spiddal ...	4,019	3,457
Tuam ...	11,466	11,197
Woodford ...	4,752	7,002
	205,718	166,520

Increase over same period 1955 39,198

Percentage Increase 24%

LEABHARLANNA CHOMNDAE NA GAILLIMHE
 GALWAY COUNTY LIBRARIES

Statistics for nine months ended 31st December, 1956.

	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>
Numbers of Books sent to Branches and Centres	15,733	12,750
Number of Books returned from Branches & Centres	13,277	9,676
No. of Books sent to Bindery	5,888	1,780
No. of Books returned from Bindery	5,200	100
No. of Books added to Stock	3,284 F 3,943 J <u>1,643 NF</u>	3,474 F 1,474 J <u>1,022 NF</u>
	8,870	5,970
Number of books withdrawn from Stock	2,047 F 1,618 J <u>346 NF</u>	1,094 F 1,015 J <u>42 NF</u>
	4,011	2,151

LEABHARLANNA CHONNDAE NA GAILLIMHE
GALWAY COUNTY LIBRARIES

County Library Headquarters
Courthouse,
Galway.

15th April, 1957.

Minutes of Meeting of Library Committee held on 11th January 1957, at 4.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Very Rev. P. Canon Glynn, Alderman Miss M.A. Ashe, Alderman F. Coogan T.D., Councillors M. Carty, John Dowd, S. Glynn, Richard Joyce, Thomas King, Michael Kitt, M. Mannion, J. O'Connell, Martin Quinn, J.J. Ruane, and F. Breathnach; Thomas Clarke Esq., Sean Moroney Esq., Frank Mullen Esq., Tadhg O'Shea and L. O'Toole.

13/56 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Resolved that the minutes of previous meeting as circulated to each member be taken as read and that they be signed.

14/56 NEW BRANCHES:

The County Librarian reported that a new Branch had been opened at Kilconnell. Mr. T. Clarke inquired about the delay in opening new Branches in the Connemara area. Councillor J. O'Connell spoke at length on the present condition of the existing Branches. He suggested that instead of opening any further Branches the Committee should concentrate on improving the service in the areas at present served. He did not think that the present system of book distribution was satisfactory. The Representatives from the Connemara area were not in agreement with Mr. O'Connell and it was proposed by Mr. Thomas Clarke and seconded by Alderman Miss Ashe that arrangements be made, as soon as possible, for the opening of Branches at Carna, Roundstone and Kilonan. Mr. O'Connell moved an amendment that the opening of further Branches be postponed for 6 months. As there was no seconder to Mr. O'Connell, Mr. Clarke's proposal was declared carried and the County Librarian was directed to proceed with the opening of Branches in these areas, as soon as possible.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Dowd and seconded by Councillor M. Kitt that Eyrecourt be added to this list. Councillor S. Glynn proposed that Williamstown be included. Councillor J.J. Ruane seconded this.

It was agreed by the meeting that Eyrecourt and Williamstown Branches be opened, as soon as possible, after the three Connemara Branches.

15/56 ESTIMATES: The estimates for the County Library Service for the year 1957/58 were considered. It was agreed by the meeting on a proposal of Mr. J. O'Connell, seconded by Councillor M. Carty that they be recommended for adoption by the County Council.

16/56 STATISTICS:

The Statistics for the nine months ended 31st December, 1956 as circulated were considered.

17/56 TRANSPORT:

Due to the large increase in the number of Branches in recent years and the proposed additions in the coming year it was agreed by the Committee that the present system of transporting books to Branches and Centres would have to be reviewed with a view to effecting improvements. The County Librarian was directed to submit his views on the problem at the next meeting of the Committee.

LEABHARLANNA CHONNDAE NA GAILLIMHE
GALWAY COUNTY LIBRARIES

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18/56 CONGRATULATIONS:

It was proposed by Mr. Tadhg O'Shea and seconded by Mr. Sean Moroney that the Committee extend its congratulations to Mr. P. White on his appointment as County Librarian to Donegal County Council.

Michael P. O'Con. 4/5/57.

To the County Manager,
Chairman and Members of Galway
County Library Committee.

A Dhaoine Uaisle:

I beg to present to you my Report on the work and progress of the Galway County Libraries Service for the two-year period ended 31st March, 1957.

The extension of the service during the period under review followed the same pattern as in previous years, that of concentrating on a programme for the development of Branch Libraries throughout the County as initiated by the late County Librarian, Mr. S.J. Maguire, and continued during the first of the two years reviewed under the direction of Mr. P.J. White as Acting County Librarian. While progress over the past number of years has been steady, there are still some twelve areas within the County awaiting the provision of a Branch Library service. When these have been provided the results originally envisaged by the Committee of no populous area within the County being further than 4 to 5 miles from the nearest Branch Library will have been achieved. On the present rate of development it is expected that this position will be attained within three years.

NEW BRANCHES: There are now 23 Branch Libraries in Galway County under the supervision of paid part-time Branch Librarians, of these 6 were established during the two years reviewed. Branches at Gort, Kinvara and Greggs were opened in the latter half of 1955/56 and Branches at Craughwell, Ahascragh and Kilconnell were added during the past year. In all cases Branches are accommodated in premises rented exclusively for the purpose. The programme for the coming year is directed principally to the provision of Branches in the Connemara area and already premises have been acquired at Carna, Roundstone and Kilronan, while suitable accommodation is still being sought in the Clonbur, Leenane and Renvyle areas. With regard to

the older Branches, an effort was made during the past period to improve on the existing accommodation. More suitable premises were rented at Oughterard and Moylough and renovations were carried out at the Tuam Branch during 1955/56 while new premises were rented at Athenry, Glenamaddy and Ballinasloe during the past year. Better facilities are still needed at Dunmore while the Branches at Abbeyknockmoy, Ballygar, Killimor and Woodford require certain minor improvements. A standard type of book stack is now being produced for supply to all new Branches, 48 of these were delivered during the past year. Efforts to have Branch Library Buildings erected at Ballinasloe and Loughrea have so far been unsuccessful but it is evident that these Branches must be built in the near future due to the high cost of renting present premises. Rent on Branches has now become a heavy item in the County Library's expenditure and I would suggest that in formulating future policy the Committee should give consideration to a building programme for towns of a certain size.

GALWAY CITY: The inadequate accommodation at Galway City Branch and Headquarters was alleviated to a considerable extent during the past year. Three rooms in the old County Clinic were provided as a separate County Headquarters and all work in connection with the supply and return of books for Branches and Centres, the withdrawal of books and the handling of books for rebinding was transferred there on 1st November, 1956. The premises also acts as a stock room. Extensive alterations were carried out at the Courthouse premises to effect the provision of a separate Children's Library, a Reference Room, a Librarian's Office, a new entrance and Charging Desk, and an Accession's Department. New lino has yet to be laid and the building has yet to be painted. The shelving in the main Library was also increased to carry some 5,000 additional books. Despite the fact that these alterations were in progress for over three months the Branch remained open to the public throughout, and great credit is due to the staff at the Branch, who

not alone survived the usual busy atmosphere, but, who also succeeded in issuing 15,500 more books than in the previous year despite the inconveniences. The public are also to be congratulated on their co-operation and forbearance during this "topsy-turvy" period.

Work on all new Books such as accessioning, classifying, servicing and cataloguing is now carried out in a separate room at the Courthouse Building before transferring them to the new Headquarters for distribution. This is proving a very satisfactory arrangement and reduces the possibility of errors in general routine to a minimum. Author catalogues are maintained for all additions under Non-fiction, Fiction and Children's Books and a separate classified catalogue is being built up for Non-fiction. A separate location card is also provided for each Non-fiction Book added to stock. A Catalogue of these is now forming the nucleus of what ^{it} is expected will grow within a short period to form a complete Location Catalogue for all Non-fiction stock at Galway City and Branches. Each Non-fiction book is now being recorded in this manner when it is returned to Headquarters for exchange. A well maintained Location Catalogue is an essential tool in any County Library service particularly one with as many Branches as the County Galway service. Without it, it becomes almost impossible in practice to trace the whereabouts of a particular book at a particular time. This catalogue is being housed at the Headquarters Building and when built up it will be possible to handle an efficient "Special Request" service. A separate Author and Classified Catalogue was also provided during the past year to the Reference collection. This Collection which, at present, consists of over 2,000 volumes is devoted chiefly to works relating to Ireland and contains many very valuable items. The General Reference section though small is fairly comprehensive.

BOOK STOCK: Over 12,000 volumes of obsolete stock chiefly Non-fiction were removed from the Galway City Branch and all Non-fiction was re-classified and white-inked on spine during the period under review. The General Stock which was considerably

augmented is now in a very clean and attractive condition and contains over 11,000 books for adult readers. An effort was also made during the past year to improve the stock at Branches throughout the County. The new Headquarters made this possible and we were able to prepare and despatch a total of 7,763 Books to Binderies within six months, and handle the return of 5,638. In the two-year period over 10,000 Books were delivered to Binderies. In the same period almost 11,000 Books were discarded as Worn Out. This work of clearing worn out material and rebinding must continue at the same rate for at least another year. By then it is expected that all stock will be in a reasonably good condition. The total stock at 31st March, 1957 was almost 90,000 but when it is realised that of these at least 20,000 are still either due for rebinding, beyond repair, or antiquated the effective stock stands at around 70,000.

TRANSPORT: The number of Books issued to Branches and Centres, and returned over the past two years was almost double the amount for previous years. This increase resulted from the greater number of Branches to be served. The total movement of books was over 67,000 volumes all of which were transported by Coras Iompair Eireann. This number falls far below the actual number required in order to service each Branch with a proper degree of efficiency but with the present method of transport and the projected increase in future number of Branches, it is doubtful if any improvement can take place. The new Headquarters allows for the quicker despatch, and handling of returns but this improvement is yet not fully satisfactory. The introduction of a more flexible and better organised system of transport must be considered by the Committee in the coming year. The cost of providing such a system will be the main consideration in deciding on its adoption. While it may be claimed that the present method is cheap, allowance must be made for the fact that if books for Branches were being delivered or returned in sufficient quantities the method of rail transport would not be the cheapest. At present to send one

box containing approximately 75 books to Creggs Branch and have a box returned costs about 15/-. There are already 11 or 12 Branches as far distant as Creggs.

REGISTRATION: The number of Registered readers at the Galway City Branch increased from 2,046 in 1954/55 to 2,192 in 1955/56 and to 2,428 in 1956/57, an increase of nearly 400 or 20% in the two years. Half of this increase was in the Childrens section. The number of children registered at the end of last year was 496. The total number of registered readers in the County 1956/57 was 6,950. This figure represents the actual number of people who completed application forms and paid their registration fees between 1st April, 1956 and 31st March, 1957. The actual number using the Library service would be probably three times this figure as it is a general practice, particularly in the County area, for one member of a household to become a registered reader and to borrow books on behalf of the family. The colours of each year's tickets are changed so that out-of-date tickets may more easily be detected. The present elaborate system of registration to which the staff and public are obliged to adhere militates to a considerable extent in discouraging people from making more use of the service provided. In the latter half of each year registration drops to nil as many people are adverse to paying a fee and having a form completed by a guarantor in order to be permitted to borrow books for a few months. I respectfully submit that the cost of collecting this fee in stationery involved and the loss of staff time in issuing receipts and checking returns is far greater than the amount involved and if abolished entirely would without any cost to the local authority make for a smoother and better run service and one more availed of by the public.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT: The Statistical Tables at the end of this report give a quantitative analysis of the two years working of the service and are self explanatory. The number of books issued at Centres are not recorded because no records are available from these points of service. The number of Centres have not shown any

great increase over previous years as many are closed each year with the opening of new Branches. It is hoped that the time is not far distant when Centres will be provided only for special groups such as clubs and institutions that can not be suitably served by Branches, and for schools outside Branch Library areas.

STAFF: The past year saw many changes in the staff at Galway City and Headquarters.

Mr. P. White who acted as County Librarian for the period 1955/56 resigned in February last on his appointment as County Librarian to Donegal County Council. His successor Mr. P.J. Moynagh takes up duty early in the new financial year. Miss B. O'Flaherty and Miss U. Simpson both permanent Library Assistant resigned towards the end of 1956/57 to take up other work. Their places have been filled by two temporary assistants pending the holding of a competitive examination. So many changes on a small staff cannot make for efficiency of service particularly in Library work where a knowledge of Books and Library routine comes only after a number of years. Miss Simpson had, in fact, taken the 1st year of the Fellowship Course provided by the Library Association of Ireland and had passed one of her examinations. Two other members of the ^{staff} /Mr. T. Sharkey and Miss M. Kavanagh are to be congratulated on passing their examinations for the same Course. Miss M. Kavanagh and Mr. T. Sharkey are now engaged on their final year towards Fellowship of the Association.

CONCLUSION: In concluding this report I should like to express my thanks to the members of the Library Committee for their co-operation and advice during my first year as Librarian. I also wish to record my thanks to the County Manager, Assistant County Manager and County Secretary for their assistance and guidance throughout the year.

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TABLE I
GENERAL STATISTICS

	<u>1955/56</u>	<u>1956/57</u>
1. Population (1951)	160,204	160,204
2. Rateable Valuation	£589,573	£ 591,340
3. Product of ld. in £1	£2,456	£ 2,464
4. Expenditure per head of Population	1/5½	1/7
5. Total expenditure on Library Service	£11,773	£13,634
5(a) Receipts from Registration Fees & Fines	£ 698	
6. Number of separate establishments		
Galway City	1	2
Branches	20	23
No. of Centres	39	41
7. Number of staff		
<u>Full time</u>		
(a) Librarian & Assistants	6	6
(b) Clerk Typist	1	1
(c) Attendant	1	1
<u>PART TIME</u>		
Branch Librarians	20	23
Total paid staff	<u>28</u>	<u>31</u>
8. Book Stock		
Books added to Stock	11,277	9,683
Books Withdrawn	3,345	7,342
Total Stock at 31/3/56 & 31/3/57	<u>87,221</u>	<u>89,562</u>
9. Number of volumes per 100 Population	53.3	55.8
10. Total Issues	<u>233,974</u>	<u>290,867</u>
11. Issues per 100 of Population	146	181
12. Registered Readers *		
Adult	4,850	5,200
Juvenile	1,550	1,750
Total	<u>6,400</u>	<u>6,950</u>
13. Cost of Library Service in £1 on Rates	4½d.	5½d.

* N.B. -- Figures include only those readers registered within each of the years 1955/56 and 1956/57.

T A B L E 2

BOOKS ADDED TO STOCK

			<u>1955/56</u>	<u>1956/57</u>
000	General Works	...	38	50
100	Philosophy	...	32	26
200	Religion	...	88	93
300	Social Sciences	...	218	147
400	Languages	...	36	24
500	Natural Science	...	75	75
600	Useful Arts	...	429	202
700	Fine Arts	...	382	92
800	Literature	...	229	988
900	History, Geography, Travels & Biography	...	976	845
F	Fiction	...	5593	3306
J	Juvenile	...	<u>3181</u>	<u>3765</u>
	TOTAL	...	11277	9683

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Galway County Council Archives

T A B L E 3

BOOKS WITHDRAWN FROM STOCK

		<u>1955/56</u>	<u>1956/57</u>
000	General Works	1	55
100	Philosophy	---	2
200	Religion	6	8
300	Social Sciences	11	48
400	Languages	--	9
500	Natural Science	15	19
600	Useful Arts	23	28
700	Fine Arts	15	20
800	Literature	12	272
900	History, Geography, Travels & Biography	113	283
F	Fiction	1967	4222
J	Juvenile	1182	2376
	TOTAL	3345	7342

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T A B L E 4

BOOKS IN STOCK

000	General Works	...	1688	1683
100	Philosophy	...	407	431
200	Religion	...	1736	1821
300	Social Science	...	2138	2237
400	Languages	...	517	537
500	Natural Science	...	1063	1119
600	Useful Arts	...	3402	3576
700	Fine Arts	...	3300	3472
800	Literature	...	9453	10169
900	History, Geography Travels and Biography	...	12457	13019
F	Fiction	...	37520	36604
J	Juvenile	...	13540	14898
	TOTAL	...	87221	89561

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T A B L E 5BOOKS SENT TO BRANCHES AND CENTRES

	<u>FICTION</u>	<u>NON-FICTION</u>	<u>JUVENILE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1955/56	9,208	4,379	3,087	16,674
1956/57	11,024	4,470	5,359	20,853

BOOKS RETURNED FROM BRANCHES & CENTRES

1955/56	6,797	3,087	1,881	11,765
1956/57	9,700	4,479	3,780	17,959

T A B L E 6BOOKS SENT FOR REBINDING

1955/56	1,760	221	300	2,281
1956/57	6,071	391	1,301	7,763

BOOKS RETURNED FROM BINDERY

1955/56	--	100	--	100
1956/57	4,455	512	671	5,638

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T A B L E 7

SUMMARY OF BOOKS ISSUED AT GALWAY CITY
AND BRANCHES 1955/56

<u>BRANCH</u>	<u>NON-FICTION</u>	<u>FICTION</u>	<u>JUVENILE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Galway City	16,491	65,788	19,774	102,053
Abbeyknockmoy	338	3,192	629	4,159
Athenry	295	2,755	763	3,813
Ballinasloe	4,496	10,432	1,331	16,259
Ballygar	723	5,355	2,166	8,244
Carraroe	875	4,157	649	5,681
Clifden	1,075	4,289	1,169	6,533
Dunmore	768	5,796	3,531	10,095
Glenamaddy	210	1,754	1,225	3,189
Gort	987	4,153	1,748	6,888
Headford	261	2,700	646	3,607
Killimor	307	2,022	708	3,037
Kinvara	531	2,124	726	3,381
Loughrea	1,657	5,393	2,454	9,504
Moylough	524	1,711	934	3,169
Oughterard	424	5,008	1,458	6,890
Portumna	599	4,377	2,457	7,433
Spiddal	690	3,144	1,396	5,230
Tuam	1,618	10,026	4,233	15,877
Woodford	411	6,568	1,953	8,932
TOTALS	33,280	150,744	49,950	233,974
PERCENTAGE:	14.2	64.5	21.3	100

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T A B L E 7a

1956-1957

<u>BRANCH</u>	<u>NON-FICTION</u>	<u>FICTION</u>	<u>JUVENILE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Galway City	20,973	70,000	26,737	117,710
Abbeyknockmoy	377	3,012	667	4,056
Ahascragh	197	3,124	928	3,249
Athenry	423	3,265	1,787	5,475
Ballinasloe	5,525	14,683	2,689	22,897
Ballygar	698	5,252	2,588	8,538
Carraroe	852	4,630	1,074	6,556
Clifden	589	4,178	1,988	6,755
Craughwell	208	1,638	1,084	2,930
Creggs	235	2,053	2,286	4,574
Dunmore	772	5,218	3,574	9,364
Glenamaddy	100	1,077	531	1,708
Gort	2,237	9,742	2,875	14,854
Headford	150	2,726	679	3,555
Killimor	120	3,516	1,402	5,038
Kilconnell	119	1,332	890	2,341
Kinvara	779	3,859	3,075	7,713
Loughrea	1,953	7,347	4,560	13,860
Moylough	1,032	2,877	2,022	5,931
Oughterard	350	3,980	1,481	5,811
Portumna	926	5,132	3,240	9,298
Spiddal	603	3,464	1,533	5,600
Tuam	1,210	10,558	4,075	15,843
Woodford	309	4,832	2,070	7,211
TOTALS	40,737	176,495	73,635	290,867
PERCENTAGES:	14	60.6	25.4	100

 ...

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 1955/1956

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
	£		£
From Rates:	11,075	Books	5,010
Registration fees, Fines etc.	698	Binding	334
		Periodicals & Subscriptions	40
		Salaries and Wages	
		Galway City	3,100
		Branches	1,490
			4,590
		Rent, Heating, Lighting, Cleaning, Renovations and Repairs:	
		Galway City	187
		Branches	737
			924
		Contribution to Library Council	218
		Other expenditure incl. Printing, Stationery, Petty Cash, Telephone, Transport and Travelling expenses	657
	£11,773		£11,773

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 1956/1957

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
	£		£
From Rates:	12,862	Books	4,360
Registration fees, Fines etc.	772	Binding	761
		Periodicals & Subscriptions	61
		Salaries and Wages	
		Galway City	3,469
		Branches	1,880
			5,349
		Rent, Heating, Lighting, Cleaning.	
		Galway City	220
		Branches	699
			919
		Renovations Repairs and Fittings.	
		Galway City & Branches	1,201
		Advertising, Printing and Stationery	170
		Transport & Travelling Meetings, Co. Librarian, and Book Transport	475
		Petty Cash & Telephone	98
		Library Council	218
		Sundries	22
	<u>£13,634</u>		<u>£13,634</u>

County Librarian

LEABHARLANNA CHONNDAE NA GAILLIMHE
GALWAY COUNTY LIBRARIES

County Library Headquarters,
Courthouse,
Galway.

23rd July, 1957.

Minutes of Meeting of Library Committee held on Saturday,
4th May, 1957.

PRESENT: Alderman F. Coogan T.D., Very Rev. M. Canon McDonagh,
Councillors M. Carty T.D., M. Kitt, T.D., John Dowd, Sean Glynn,
Richard Joyce, Thomas King, Seamus Layng, M. Quinn, J.J. Ruane,
Furse Breathnach, James Riddell, T. Clarke Esq., F. Mullin Esq.,
S. Moroney Esq., J.J. Nestor Esq., T. O Seaghda Esq., Laurence
O'Toole Esq., and M. Higgings Esq.

In the absence of the Chairman, Very Rev. P. Canon Glynn, the
Vice Chairman Councillor M. Kitt, T.D. took the chair.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. McDermott, Assistant Co. Manager, S. Bohan,
County Librarian and T. Sharkey, Assistant Librarian.

19/56 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Resolved that minutes of previous meeting, as circulated,
to each member, be taken as read and that they be signed.

20/56 ANNUAL REPORT:

The annual Report of the County Librarian for the years
1955/56 and 1956/57 was considered. It was proposed by Mr. T. Clarke
seconded by Councillor Kitt and resolved that the report be adopted.

21/56 BOOK TRANSPORT:

As directed at the previous meeting the County Librarian
submitted his views on the problem of transporting books to Branches
and Centres. He outlined the various methods in use in other
Counties and the approximate cost and relative value of each method.
After a long discussion on the systems outlined and the suggestions
of several members on the adoption of one or other of these methods
the committee decided to postpone making any recommendations to the
Co. Manager until the matter had again been discussed. The County
Librarian was asked to continue with the present system of C.I.E.
transport for the present.

22/56 NEW BRANCHES:

The Co. Librarian reported that premises for new Branches had
been acquired at Carna, Roundstone and Kilonan and that Branch
Libraries would be opened there without delay.

23/56 DELEGATES TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF L.A.I.:

On the proposal of Councillor S. Glynn, seconded by Alderman
F. Coogan T.D., Councillors M. Carty T.D. and M. Kitt T.D. were
nominated as delegates to the Annual Conference of the Library
Association of Ireland to be held in Sligo from 27th to 31st May.

24/56 CONGRATULATIONS:

A vote of congratulations to 3 members of the Committee,
Councillors M. Carty, M. Kitt and F. Coogan on their election to the
Dail was carried unanimously by the meeting on the proposal of
Mr. T. O Seaghda.

*Mail P.O. Cen.
27/7/57*

LEABHARLANNA CHONNDAE NA GAILLIMHE
GALWAY COUNTY LIBRARIES

Statistics for Quarter ended 30th June, 1957.

BRANCH	F	J	M-F	TOTAL
Abbeyknockmoy	569	184	53	806
Ahascragh	816	205	43	1064
Athenry	748	557	106	1411
Ballinasloe	2594	798	1040	4432
Ballygar	1115	444	85	1644
Carna	51	16	19	86
Carraroe	912	203	300	1415
Clifden	1465	419	154	2038
Craughwell	382	274	42	698
Creggs	662	572	52	1286
Dunmore	694	501	107	1302
Glenamaddy	303	149	30	482
Gort	2129	646	425	3200
Headford	549	199	19	767
Kilconnell	743	517	-	1260
Killimor	159	107	4	270
Kinvara	1183	907	152	2242
Loughrea	1710	852	294	2856
Moylough	571	445	181	1197
Oughterard	876	221	87	1184
Portumna	1512	717	295	2524
Spiddal	607	234	131	972
Tuam	2039	693	264	2996
Woodford	1414	877	51	2342
Galway City	16128	6295	5100	27523
TOTAL:	39931	17032	9034	65997

Quarter ended 30th June, 1957. Same quarter '56

Sent to Branches and Centres:	5212	4438
Returned from Branches & Centres:	6589	2797
Added to Stock	3339	2232
Withdrawn from Stock	2727	--

LEABHARLANNA CHONNDAE NA GAILLIMHE
GALWAY COUNTY LIBRARIES

Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Library Committee held on 27th July. 1957.

PRESENT: County Councillors M. Carty, T.D., M. Kitt T.D., John Dowd, P. Galvin, S. Glynn, R. Joyce, T. King, M. Mannion, M. Quinn, J.J. Ruane, Councillor J. Riddell, Commissioner J. O'Connell, T. Clarke Esq., M. Higgins Esq., F. Mullen Esq., T. O'Shea Esq., and L. O'Toole Esq.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. T.F. McDermott, Assistant County Manager, S. Bohan, County Librarian and P.J. Moynagh, Assistant Librarian.
In the absence of the Chairman, Very Rev. P. Canon Glynn, the Vice Chairman Deputy M. Kitt took the chair.

1/57 ADJOURNMENT: At the outset of the Meeting Councillor S. Glynn proposed that the Committee express sympathy with the Nestor family of Dunmore on the death of Mr. J.J. Nestor a long-standing member of the Committee who had died since the previous meeting. He felt that the Committee should show some mark of respect to the memory of Mr. Nestor. Mr. Higgins seconded this proposal. It was then proposed by Deputy M. Carty, seconded by Deputy M. Kitt and resolved that the meeting adjourn for one hour.

2/57 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: On the resumption of the meeting it was proposed that the minutes of the previous meeting, as circulated to each member, be taken as read and that they be signed.

3/57 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN: It was proposed by Councillor S. Glynn, seconded by Deputy M. Carty and resolved that Very Rev. P. Canon Glynn be re-elected Chairman of the Committee for the year 1957/58.

4/57 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN: It was proposed by Councillor S. Glynn and seconded by Deputy M. Carty and resolved that Deputy M. Kitt be re-elected Vice Chairman for the year.

5/57 REPORT OF COUNTY LIBRARIAN: The County Librarian reported:
Branches: New Branch Library opened at Carno; Mrs. Geoghegan appointed Branch Librarian. Kilronan and Roundstone Branches ready for opening.
Staff: The appointment of Mr. P. Moynagh F.L.A.I. as Assistant County Librarian.
Headquarters: Renovations and redecoration almost completed at Galway City Branch. Erections of shelving and renovations at Woodcasy premises partly completed.
Galway City Branch: Deputy M. Carty proposing the adoption of the County Librarian's reports welcomed Mr. P.J. Moynagh as Assistant Librarian and complemented the County Library staff on the re-organization and renovations which had been carried out at the Galway City Branch. Mr. M. Higgins seconding the proposal also referred to the vast improvements made at this Branch.

6/57 STATISTICS: Figures for the number of books issued at Branches for the quarter ended 30th June, 1957 and other statistics were circulated at the meeting. Commenting on these figures Mr. J. O'Connell stated that he felt that the Annual General Meeting was an appropriate time for a reconsideration of the Committee's policy in regard to Branch Libraries. He did not feel that the Committee had any definite policy. He himself disagreed with the present scheme for the opening of a lot of new Branches. He felt that the present exchange system was inadequate and that Branches would have to receive an exchange of books much more often and in greater quantities. The County Librarian explained that with the Assistant County Manager's approval an additional service to that already in existence was now being provided which would give double the normal exchange of books at the 7 largest Branches. He stated that the biggest problem at present was that the public was not availing itself to the extent which it might of the facilities offered and he felt that a scheme for the advertising and popularising of the service should be embarked upon. He stated that the percentage of the population of Tuam who are registered readers was only 5%. With the exception of Gort, where the percentage was over 20%, the number of registered readers at all the other towns was also very low. The percentage for Galway City was around 12½%. The County Librarian was requested to give the number of registered readers at each Branch in conjunction with the statistics for Books borrowed, at the next meeting.

LEABHARLANNA CHONNDAE NA GAILLIMHE
GALWAY COUNTY LIBRARIES

QUARTERLY REPORT OF COUNTY LIBRARIAN FOR QUARTER
ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1957.

NEW BRANCHES: Since the last meeting of the Committee two new Branches were opened to the public. The Branch at Roundstone under the control of Miss Carmel Connolly was declared open by Rev. F. Kennedy on 10th September. The Branch at Kilronan was officially opened by Rev. F. Varley P.P. on 14th September. The Branch Librarian is Miss Una Lundy. Both Branches have an initial stock of almost 1,000 books with a particularly good stock of Irish Books. The number of registered readers at both branches to date is very satisfactory. Already there are 130 registered readers at Roundstone and 100 registered readers at Kilronan. This brings the number of Branch Libraries West of Galway City to 7 and the total number in the County to 27. A map of the County will be circulated at the meeting showing the location of the present Branches and those other areas where the Committee have recommended that Branches be established.

OTHER PROGRESS: At the last meeting of the Committee methods of popularising the Library Service and attracting the public to make greater use of it were discussed. With this in view it has been decided on the authority of the Assistant County Manager to alter the present regulations covering the registration of borrowers. The new system will come into operation on the 1st January, 1958. As from that date all children attending schools both National and Secondary and Vocational Schools will be allowed to become registered readers without any charge. Adults will be allowed 3 tickets instead of 2, as at present, and there will be no distinction between fiction and non-fiction in the use of tickets. At present adults are allowed one fiction ticket and one non-fiction ticket each. Membership will be valid for one year from date of joining instead of the present system where the registration period dates from 1st April to 31st March. Increased membership is envisaged by the introduction of these changes. At present practically no registration of readers takes place in the last 3 or 4 months of each year, as readers who might wish to join in the months of December or January feel they have a grievance when informed that their membership will expire the following March.

A list of all schools and the principal teacher of each, within a radius of 2 miles of each Branch Library in the County has been compiled. Circulars will be sent to these during the month of December informing them that there will be no registration fee for children as from 1st January, 1958, and requesting them to bring this to the notice of their pupils.

SCHOOL LIBRARY SERVICE: It is also proposed to develop the School Library Service as from 1st January. The service at present is rather haphazard. About 40 schools get a selection of books by box, but apart from these and those schools within close proximity of Branch Libraries, the remaining schools have no service.

It is proposed to allow the principal teacher of any school outside a radius of 2 miles of a Branch Library to make a selection of a maximum of 50 children's books from his nearest Branch Library for use in his school. The Branch Librarian will operate the system and be responsible for the issue of the books to the teacher and their return. The teacher will be allowed to change his selection 3 times in each year. He will also be responsible for the carriage of the books to and from the Branch and the payment of any book lost or destroyed. If each Branch were to serve only 10 schools in this manner the number given a service would reach 270 which added to those schools within a radius of 2 miles of each Branch would mean that practically all schools in the County could avail themselves of a Library Service. The advantage of operating the system in such a manner would be (a) Headquarter's staff would not have to devote their time to the packing and sending of boxes to schools. (b) Cost of carriage would be eliminated. (c) Teachers could satisfy themselves in their selections. The only difficulty at present apparent in introducing this system is the small stock of children's books at Branches. The minimum stock would have to be 600 Children's Books, but we hope to reach this figure next year. We expect that the present stocks are large enough in most Branches to, at least, introduce the scheme and stocks will be augmented as the demand increases.

LEABHARLANNA CHONNDAE NA GAILLIMHE
GALWAY COUNTY LIBRARIES

County Library Headquarters,
Courthouse,
Galway.

31st October, 1957.

A Chara:

A Quarterly Meeting of the Galway County Libraries' Committee will be held in the Bar Room of the Courthouse at 4 o'clock, on Friday, 8th November, 1957.

Mise, le meas,

S. BOHAN,

County Librarian.

A G E N D A

1. Minutes of previous meeting (herewith).
2. New Branch Libraries.
3. Quarterly Report of the County Librarian.
4. School Library Service.
5. Any other business.

To each member of the Committee
To County Manager
To Assistant County Manager
To County Secretary
To Town Clerks, Galway and Ballinasloe
To Editors of Local Newspapers