

This particular issue of the North Munster Antiquarian Journal is in general a very interesting and enlightening number.

Rev. John Ryan, S.J., D.Litt., deals with the O'Briens in Munster after Clontarf, throwing some very useful light on the period which his contribution covers. In an illustrated article, Mr. J. N. A. Wallace describes a carved stone monumental pillar at Bantry, Co. Cork, and does so in his usual competent and thorough manner. West Limerick Gaelic Poems, edited by P.O.N., are taken from manuscripts in the handwriting of O'Curry and apparently dating from the period 1815-1835, when that great Gaelic figure was an official attached to the Limerick Asylum. Recent acquisitions from County Clare in the National Museum are dealt with in an illustrated article from Dr. Joseph Rafferty, who describes some very interesting objects discovered in various parts of the Banner County.

LOUGH GUR EXCAVATIONS.

Under the modest heading, "Miscellanea," a number of writers—Mr. Herbert, Mr. Dermot F. Gleeson and Mr. R. Wyse Jackson—contribute some very interesting Notes. In reference to the excavations at Lough Gur in 1940 a great deal is told of the links with the past found in that historic area. It is mentioned that in 1940 alone the Lough Gur excavations produced over 18,000 fragments of pottery as well as hundreds of other objects. "In general," we are assured, "the excavations here give most valuable information on the early cultural and social history of this country."

Reviews of books also form an interesting feature of this issue of the Journal, which is admirably printed and turned out by the "Limerick Leader," Ltd., for the North Munster Archaeological Society and is excellent value for the price of 5/-, at which, it is on sale.

BOUND OVER

DEPRESSING TYPE OF CASES

When two soldiers named Private David O'Sullivan and Private Michael Madden, were charged at Ennis with the larceny of two bicycles, District Justice Gleeson said that during the last three months a whole string of soldiers had been charged with similar offences and it could not be allowed to continue. It was a most unsatisfactory and depressing type of case to deal with, as he did not like to have to send young soldiers to jail.

An officer, who gave evidence of character, said they received plenty of complaints as to the stealing of bicycles but could not do anything to prevent it.

The Justice bound the defendants over to be of good behaviour for twelve months.

O'Connor, aged about 50 years, a civil bill officer, was taken into custody.

At a Peace Commissioners' Court subsequently it was revealed by Supt. Mulcahy that accused had made a statement.

HELD IMPORTANT POSTS

DEATH OF MR. JAMES P.

MACNAMARA

It is with very sincere regret that we chronicle the demise of Mr. James P. MacNamara, former Director and Curator of the City Free Library and Museum, which took place in the Co. Infirmary last night. The deceased, a member of a brilliant family, was son of the late Mr. Martin MacNamara, Supervisor, G.P.O. He was educated at the Christian Brothers' School, and later passed on to Mungret College, where he distinguished himself in classics. His erudition was at once recognised and he secured appointments, in turn, on the professorial staffs of St. Munchin's College, St. Patrick's College, Dungannon, and St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny. In 1906 the Limerick Corporation appointed him Director and Curator of the City Library and Museum, a position he held until 1937, when he retired on superannuation.

The news of the death of Mr. MacNamara, though he had been in failing health for the past two months, will come as a surprise to his hosts of friends and the citizens in general. A man of many excellent traits of character, he was held in very high regard and esteem by all who knew him. It can be said of him with all truth that he was one of "nature's gentlemen"—kind, affable, courteous. His relations with the public, both in his official capacity and as a private citizen, were always of the happiest. Though never obtrusive and shunning anything in the nature of ostentation, he possessed a keen sense of humour and his witticisms made him a most jovial and lovable companion.

To his bereaved brothers, Mr. Martin MacNamara, overseer, G.P.O., Limerick, and Mr. Frank MacNamara, Principal, Technical Schools, Arklow, and the other members of the family we tender our deepest sympathy in their bereavement.

The remains will be removed this evening at 7 o'clock to St. Michael's Church and the funeral will take place to-morrow (Thursday) at 3 p.m. to Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery.

BIG INCREASE

IN RAILWAY RECEIPTS

The Great Southern Railways Co. traffic receipts for the twelve months ended January 2nd, 1942,

ance was efficiently carried out by the Superintendent, H.A.O., Mr. Clifford.

In the Public Health section receipts, payment and bank balances for each half year are also set out. For the half year ended 30th Sept., 1936, the receipts (including demand on County Council) amounted to £30,816 1s. 7d., payments were £32,483 10s. 8d. and the credit bank balance was £6,539 6s. 9d. For the last half year under review (30/9/40) receipts totalled £42,983 18s. 6d.; payments, £43,767 3s. 6d. and the credit bank balance was £5,986 13s. 9d.

COTTAGE RENT ARREARS.

Arrears of rent on tenanted labourers' cottages show that for the year ended 31/3/37 when the number of cottages occupied were 4,515, the arrears amounted to £4,222 14s. 7d. At 31/3/38 cottages occupied were 4,781 and arrears £3,289 9s. 6d.; 31/3/39, 4,987, and arrears £2,776 19s.; 31/3/40, 5,064 and arrears £2,284 17s. 10d.; and 31/3/41, 5,269 and arrears £2,071 19s. 5d.

"Whilst noticeable progress has been made," says the report, "where cottage rent collection is concerned water rent collection showed no improvement. Out of a collection of £1,828 17s. 11d. for the half year ended 30th Sept., 1940, only £744 19s. 3d. was collected, leaving £1,040 8s. 8d. outstanding. It is hoped that all these arrears will be collected in the current half year under the new arrangement whereby caretakers of water services have been made responsible for the collection of water rents.

COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDERS.

"Compensations and other outgoings in respect of cottage plots acquired under the 1933 and 1936 Compulsory Purchase Orders, not yet availed of for the purposes of the Labourers Acts, should be recovered and lodged, or alternatively, the plots should be used for the purposes for which they were originally acquired."

The auditor in conclusion expresses indebtedness to the secretary, accountant and other members of the office staff for the assistance received from them during the audit and adds that the accounts were presented for audit in a satisfactory manner.

NEW EXPLOSIVE

Japanese newspapers say that a special high-grade explosive was used in the attacks on Hawaii and on the Prince of Wales. Admiral Matsuoka, former Director of Naval Armaments, told the "Nichi Nichi" that it is capable of penetrating 16-inch armour plating. "A single hit on any part of an enemy warship with a bomb containing this explosive is sufficient to send it to the bottom," he said.

PETROL LICENCE ISSUE

Petrol licences have been issued to date to all motor owners who