

## A DARING EXPERIMENT

Three little books just published will, if adopted universally for instruction in primary schools in this country, do much more work for the teaching of Irish to infants and lower grades than any Irish text book of their kind issued to date.

Tadhg O Seaghdha, Principal Teacher of Kilbolane National School, Charleville, the author of the 3 volumes, has covered a wide field of research into the requirements of elementary students of the language. His most valuable work is "Aobhinn Beatha an Scolaire," the title and contents of which are undoubtedly based on a beautiful and well-known piece of Irish poetry. In this, he deals as extensively as the book's 42 pages permit, with the ordinary subjects of children's conversation—their daily lives and environment—aiming at a sound, Christian juvenile outlook, as well as at a solid method of teaching a language to the very young and unlearned.

In his other two volumes—"Me Fein Is Mo Shaothar" and "Feilmeoireacht na Bliadhna"—Mr. O Seaghdha serves the dual purpose of teaching a language and, in the first case, of giving city youngsters a knowledge of the trades and professions for which they are destined, and, in the second, providing for country children necessary instruction in the main rural occupation of farming.

The three volumes are extensively and attractively illustrated in concurrence with their literary contents. Considering them in detail, they constitute a daring experiment into the desirability of departing from the past standard Irish orthography and adopting the unorthodox system of easy spelling of words, about the advantages of which some Irish literary men have recently expressed doubt. Whether or not the new system of spelling words phonetically is a beneficial one, Mr. O Seaghdha's works will be warmly welcomed in the cause of the purpose at which they aim.

"Aobhinn Beatha" and "Feilmeoireacht" are published by "The Nationalist," Clonmel, at ninepence each; while "Me Fein Is Mo Shaothar," published by Paramount, Cork, is priced at eight pence.

### POSTAL PROMOTION.

Mr. Laurence O'Neill, formerly of 25 Catherine Street, Limerick, who in recent years was Postmaster at Ballinasloe G.P.O., has been transferred to Carlow on promotion. Before going to Ballinasloe, Mr. O'Neill was attached to the Limerick G.P.O. as Overseer.

Each act, with its accompaniment, was also a very popular artist, and his playing of some choice well-known pieces enhanced the programme. Accompanying him in a vocal role, as well as dancing and skipping routines, was a young lady, titled "Elsie." Both were first-class entertainers.

A very interesting talent competition was won by Miss Duggan, who sang Gounod's "Ave Maria" in very pleasing style. The community singing at the interval, which was led by Mr. Stanley Bowyer at the organ, was also another bright feature. The members of the Stella Maris Players made a reputation for themselves by the way they presented the well-known and amusing sketch "Tactics."

In connection with the concert given in the Savoy on the previous Sunday night the name of Paddy Harty, vocalist, was omitted. He rendered "One Love Forever," "The Boss Of The House," "Say a Little Prayer."

## DEATH OF MR. HUGH WEIR

The death of Mr. Hugh Weir, M.P.S.I., Mullingar, where he carried on a successful business as chemist, recalls memories of the early pioneer days of the Limerick Gaelic League, of which he was one of its most active members. During his residence in Limerick he was an employee of the well-known firm of compounders and chemists, Messrs. McMahon Day, O'Connell Street.

A cultured and gentle soul, he was held in the highest esteem by his colleagues of the Limerick Branch. He was a member of the Archaeological Society of Ireland. Some years ago he published a booklet entitled "Antiquities of Westmeath."

To his son and numerous relatives deepest sympathy is extended.

## CHILDREN MUST NOT BE VICTIMISED

When fining parents of children for not sending them regularly to school, District Justice Hurley said at Kilkee District Court that while he was adjudicating in that Court he would not allow children to be victimised by the misguided action of their parents in keeping them from school either to do chores around the house or coddling them. Children treated in such a manner would not thank their parents when they grew up and realised that during their young days they had been left in complete ignorance of the existence of educational facilities, and were not compelled to avail of them.



### BIG SHIPMENTS.

Big shipments of grain for Limerick are due to arrive in the port during the next few weeks. One vessel, the "Sea Trader," with a cargo of 4,000 tons of maize, is at present at Beigh Castle, while a second ship, with 4,600 tons of wheat, is due to-morrow. Altogether, some five ships carrying thousands of tons of wheat and maize have been chartered by Ranks (Ireland), Ltd., but, unfortunately, two or three of these vessels cannot, even after being lightened, come nearer to the city than Beigh Castle, simply because the draught of water in the channel course is not deep enough to permit their passage with safety.



### NEED FOR HURRY.

The scheme for the development of the port and river should be speeded up if Limerick is not to lose valuable trade. The fact that certain vessels, because of their size, cannot be berthed in the port is to be deplored. Certain rival Southern harbours would be delighted to get these vessels—a fact that should be ever present in the minds of those charged with the heavy responsibility of modernising our port. Mr. J. P. Goodbody, Managing-Director, on behalf of Messrs. Rank, has repeatedly urged that the river be deepened and no doubt further reference will be made to port development at the annual meeting of his firm on Friday, at which Mr. J. V. Rank, Chairman, will preside.



### WE HAVE A CLAIM!

There are many of the opinion that the ancient gold ornaments recently unearthed in a field near Feakle should have been deposited in the Limerick Museum rather than in the National Museum, Dublin. After all, as Limerick is the capital of Thomond, our Museum has a moral, if not a legal, claim to those pre-historic ornaments. But everything must go to Dublin! But we should not accept this dictum lying down, as it were. The authorities of Limerick and Clare should demand the return of the Feakle ornaments to the capital of the ancient Kingdom of Thomond.