REEMEN OF LIMERICK

mpressive Civic Ceremony

New Art Gallery Opened

L'merick, yesterday, the Free-Limerick was conferred on Mr. Keating, R.H.A., and Mr. J. M. B.L., former District Justice. Flood, who retired from the in March, 1947, after 25 years ted the Freedom in recognition efforts for the advancem ural and artistic life of Limed in particular for his work in ning in Limerick the first pro-Art Gallery in Ireland

Ceating, a native of Limerick s voted the hanour by the City in recognition of the high he holds in the world of art appreciation of his efforts and the establishment of the Limenicipal Art Gallery, which was opened yesterday afternoon Bishop of Limerick, Most Rev.

Council Chamber was deco ith shrubs and flowers, and members of the City Council carlet robes, presented a most

ertificates of Freedom were in beautiful mahogany mounted with the Arms of

kets were executed by Mr. M. hile Miss M. O'Neill, formerly er at the City Technical In ection it should be of interest nat Mr. Keating was a pupil Neill when he was a student at the City Technical Insti-

emony was divided into two First, the Freedom was c Mr. Flood by the Mayor (Mr.

RK FOR LIMERICK.

or said it was a great privipleasure to him to be in the conferring the Freedom of on Mr. Flood, who for a f a century discharged with nction the duties of District Limerick. To that office he en the country had just he responsibility of building ministration. It was a diffidischarged with great cred; rlood, who throughout his the law an interpretation n and humane. He won hy and affection of the established for himself a in the hearts of all, irreclass or cresd. The keenly alive to the feelcitizens when Mr. Flood the Bench, and decided to appreciation by the only power-to confer on him of the City.

GROUND BROKEN.

went on to refer to Mr ivities in connection with ment of the Art Gallery it it was through his efforts ound was being broken in on of art in the provinces. Freeman, continued the worked quietly and unobthe poor in Limerick, and would be glad to know went to Dublin he had nted Chairman of the St Paul Conferences of Irewished the new Freeman of happiness and hoped tinction conferred on him ld always bring him happy (Applause.)

urke, T.D.; Ald. J. Rcidy, r. M. J. Kayes, T.D., en-Mayor's remarks. cate of enrolment as Free

n read by the City Manahigh it was presented to the Mayor, amidst loud

HIG HHONOUR.

lly Justified

Schools' Drama Festival

to a successful conclusion night. During the ten 1 it was held thirty-eight

were presented by pupils ry, Secondary and Voca-

ival is unique of its type, no competitive element,

m is the fostering of the

rough a most pleasant

of might Day D O Delain

le stage,

Roll of Freemen, said that the ceremony taken place, the inserame as a Freeman of the of Limerick, was the te the Corporation could an, and the highest honour ld receive at the hands of ion. His name had been those of great Irishmen Some had received the rair services to the nation, Isaac Butt, Parnell, n modern times the great to Limerick but to Ireland.

colourful setting at the City Irishman Eamon de Valera. The Free dom Roll also had the names of great Mannix and Dr. O'Dwyer, and cele-brated laymen like Dermod O'Brien and Joseph O'Mara, He (Mr. Flood) Archbishor not lay claim to any of the qualities of these men, but their names enhanced the dignity conferred on him for such small services as he was able render to the City of Limerick (Applause.)

Mr. Flood went on to refer to the Art Gallery, and said that in its estab-lishment he was only acting as agent for the Corporation, which had to given credit, first for building the Gallery, and secondly for providing funds requisite to the fine collect on or pictures in it. Limerick now had omething to be really proud of. was fully conscious that he did not merit all the generous things said about him by the Mayor and his old friends on the Council. But he had been thought worthy of the honour of becoming a Freeman of Limerick, and was, with all humility, proud of the distinction which was so highly valued

Since he came back to Limerick continued Mr. Flood, he had been touched by the goodwill and affection shown him by the citizens. It was good to feel apparently that in the administration of the law he had left no sores, and no words could convey how much he valued the great honour conferred on him that day, and he would gard the occasion as the greatest oment of h's life. (Applause.)

A NOTED ARTIST.

The conferring of the Freedom or Mr. Sean Keating was then proceeded

The Mayor said that Mr. Keating, native of the city, had shed lustre of his name and on the city of his birth since his entry into art as a career He had made an indelible mark in his profession, and the City Council deeply appreciated his distinction.

Keating had given to the nation and the world paintings of Irish I'fe which reflected the true spirit of the people and the real character of the country. He was well worthy to be enrolled a reeman of his native city.

Ald. D. Bourke, T.D., joined with the Mayor in paying tribute to Mr. Keating, as d'd Mr. M. J. Keyes, T.D., and A.d. J. Reidy, T.D.

Mr. Keyes said the entirens had fol lowed with pride the growth of Mr. Keating's repuation as an artist and looked forward to his achieving even

looked forward to his achieving even greater distinctions. They were proud that he was a product of the Municipal Technical Institute in his youth.

The City Manager then read the Certificate of Enrolment, after which it was placed in its casket and presented by the Mayor amidst prolonged appliation.

Returning thanks, Mr. Keating said could not adequately express the deep feelings which he had at the great honour conferred on him in becoming Freeman of Limerick, He was proud of his Limerick or gin, and felt that the Corporation must be the first body of its kind to confer such a distinction painter. Limerick was a city of dign'ty and manners. He always felt its atmosphere, and also that Limerick people had a vivid imagination and only needed a vivid vocabulary to be entirely distinct ve. A great honour had been done him, but he felt that it arose from the city and was part of city. He thanked the Mapor and City Council for their kindness to him as a Limerick man, and d'd not hesitate to say that the Technical School gave him the chance that he might not have got otherwise

MAYORAL LUNCHEON.

Subsequently the Mayor entertained he new Freemen, the members of the City Council officials and Press repre sentatives to luncheor in the Royal George Hotel

PRESENTATION TO MR. KEATING. During the afternoon a motor was presented to Mr. Sean Keating by the Mayor at the Chamber of Com-

merce on behalf of a group of citzens, wishing to pay a personal compliment to the noted artist, who, in the words of Very Rev. Canon Moloney, P.P., V.F. was prodigal in his gifts not only

Enjoyable Fare ssful Venture

Savoy Concert

A concert in aid of St. Patrick's Church Funds at the Savoy on Sunday n'ght was well patronised. The con-cert items were varied and the fare

cert tems were varied and the lare provided was highly ejoyable. The St. Patrick's Boys' School Choir, conducted by Mr. Tadg O Ceallaigh, contributed some delightful choral items, while solo contributions were given by M'ss Maura Naughton, Miss Josephine Scanlon and Mr. Louis

Irish dancing was gracefully per-formed by pupils of the Green School,

ART GALLERY

Formal Opening

Bishop's Addi ss

The Art Gallery was o hed by the Bishop, Most Rev. Dr. | Welll, in the afternoon. The attenda de included the Mayor and Corp ration in civic robes, and a very dinguished gathering of citizens.

In the course of his at tress, the Bishop said the opening of h Munic', pal Gallery of Art was a great and significant occasion. "There is a significance for us here in Limerick in the fact that the great has the statement of t fact that this event has not taken place perhaps, could not have occurred and, perhaps, could not have occurred until the middle of the twentieth cen-tury. The chequered history of our country offer, I suppose, a sufficient explanation. It may be till to speculate new as to what progress, ve should have made in the cultivation of the have made in the cultivation of the arts if circumstances had en more

Dr. O'Neiil said—"It sees clear, at any rate, from our earler to by that our people were endowed than artistic temperament, which bund not-able expression in illuming on metal work, etc, examples of which survive in our museums. Be that as may the day has come at last when Limerick takes this great step forward in cultural progress, and if the delay in its coming seems to demand some explanation we certainly do not need to explain or apologise for the event we now celebrate. If civilisation means anything it means the diffusion of the highes ideals of truth and beauty.

THE ARTIST'S MEDIUM.

"The artist, whatever his medium may be, whether he be poet or painter, or music an or sculptor or architec one who sees certain aspects of truth or beauty more vividly, who is impressed by them more dept and who expresses what he sees at a feels for the uplift of us all. He a great artist when he has the depet impressions and when he is response to the pest impressions and when he is response to the control of the pressions and when he is response to the control of the pressions and when he is response to the control of the pressions and when he is response to the control of the pressions and when he is response to the control of the pressions and when he is response to the control of the pressions and when he is response to the control of the pressions and when he is response to the control of the pressions are the control of the pressions and when he is response to the pressions are the control of the pressions are the pressions and when he is the pressions are the p pressions and when he is militer of the medium of their expression, therefore, I am proud to have been preside at this opening cer mony.

"The Church has always been patron of the arts and I have no doubt that she will continue in the role. If the Church in Ireland has sometimes been reproached for lack of batronage, the explanation is not fan to seek. Existence comes first, and twe have ample signs, especially in the progress of the art of stained glass, that with better times our artiss will secure more and more ecclesiastical encourmore and more ecclesiastical encouragement. But the Church Plust not be alone in this. The opining of a gallery will result in the opining of people's minds, and I am confident that the events of to-day will have frieaching tribute to the well-being of pur native artists."

Mr. Flood, who was firmly re ceived, said that the opening of the Art Gallery marked the culmination of years of effort. The project was first mocted in 1937, but owing to shortages of materials and other difficulties work was held up for a very long time.

He was very glad to have witnessed the opening of an Arr Gallery in Limerick, and desired to any tribute to the architects, Messrs. Callaghan and Geraunt, and to the billding contractors, Messrs. Thornbury He con-gratulated the Limerick Corporation on their encouragement of the projec and on the fact that it was unique in having provided funds for the building and also for the acquisition

valuable collection of jaintings, Mr. Flood said he also desired to thank the many Irish artists who had donated specimens of their work, and private donors who had een most generous. He regretted that some of the original workers for the Gallery, including Mr. Dermod O'Brien P.R.H.A., and Mr. Paul Bernard, for many years the treasurer, were no longer alive to witness the fruits of their labours, and he wished to pay a sincere tribute to Mr. J. Johnson, Hon. Secretary, who did all he donkei work in the early years, at who had done his work faithfully an zealously.

Mr. Flood concluded by paying tribute to the help given by Mr. Robert Herbert and his staff, and said that the future of the Gallery was safe in the hands of Mr. Herbert who would be the curator

Mr. Johnson proposed a vote of thanks to the Bishop for attending to open the Gallery, and in doing so appealed to the public to support the work of Mocal painters, who were gaining rapid distinction

Mr. Sean Keating seconded the proposition, and the Mayor, in a few well-chosen words, conveyed it to Dr.

O'Neill,

In reply, Dr. O'Neill expressed the pleasure it gave him to be refrom the ceremony, and said it his his hope that the Municipal Art sailery would go from success to success. Tea was then served the large

The electrical installations—said to be of the highest and most up-to-date character—were carried ut by the Limerick firm of Messrs, busack and Shanahan, Electrical Contractors, Bed-

G.N.R MEN NOT TO STRIKE

Taxation Suggestion

Company Not Subsidised

Replying to recent suggest ons made by members of Limerick and other County Councils that C.I.E. mechani-cally propelled vehicles should be specially taxed because of the alleged specially taxed because of the alleged extensive damage done to county and main roads, Mr. L. A. Luke, Public Relations Officer to C.I.E., wrote as follows to a meeting of Limerick County Counc'l on Saturday, at which Mr. J. W. Canty Chairman, presided:

"It is observed from Press reports that, in connection with estimated expenditure on roads for 1948-49, a penditure on roads for 1948-49, a suggestion was made at some County Council meetings that this Company

should make a special contribution, "I have been directed, therefore, bring to the notice of all Co. Council the figures and facts which indicate the true position regarding use of the roads by public service vehicles as compared with owned I should be obliged if you would bring these figures and facts to the notice of your Council, whose members, I am sure, would wish to consider them in the interest of fair play for an essential industry.

THE C.I.E. ROAD FLEET.

"The figures quoted below relate to road vehicles registered in this State (apart from Government-owned and other exempt vehicles, which totalled 2,496) in August, 1947, the latest date for which comparative figures could be obtained. The total number of mechanically propelled lorries and vans of all types used for general and agri-cultural haulage, but excluding agricultural tractors and ultural tractors and engines, was 9,389; the number of C.I.E. road reight vehicles was 709; total number f mechanically of mechanically propelled vehicles used for general and agricultural haulage, of more than five tons unladen weight, 96; C.I.E. road haulage vehicles of more than five tons unladen weight, number of road vehi licensed to draw trailers, 197; road vehicles licensed to draw trailers road vehicles licensed to draw trailers, 88; number of private c.rs taxed, 52,187; number of hackney and taxi carscars taxed, 5,399; total number of 'buses registered, 816; number of 'buses operated by C.I.E., 652; local rates paid by C.I.E. per annum, £85,826.

"In addition to local rates, this Company pays several hundred thousands pounds annually to State funds in

pounds annually to State funds, in licence duties, Customs and Excise duties, income and other taxes.

"Even if each of the 18,680 vehicles not owned by the Company moved only one ton of merchandise and ran only five miles on each working day of the year they would carry just three times as much, and run nearly three times as far, as the whole C.I.E. road freight fleet in 1947.

WHOLLY FOR PUBLIC USE.

"The Company's vehicles are operated wholly for public use. All goods offered for conveyance are accepted at the published rates, whatever their nature, weight or the distance they are required to be carried, and whether or not their convenyance appears to be an economic proposition.

"Stone, gravel, cement, pitch, sand and other materials used for cons-struct on of roads, for the use of the whole public including the Company's competitors, are darried on the Company's railway system at Class Irates. That is to say, they are carried at rates below those which would be charged for the services of any ordinary commercial concern, but which are fixed at low figures because of the importance to the public of minimum charges for the conveyance of such materials. The Company does not receive and has never received one penny in subsidy from the Government."

Mr. M. J. K. Dore remarked that as the figures given in the letter were for last August, they did not apply If the figure for the number of C.I.E. trailers licensed was true then every one of these vehicles must be operating in Munster there were s n in County L'merick alone.

Strictly, he said it was not true that as not subsidised, because the fact that all of its competitors were eliminated was as good as any subsidy, given, perhaps, in a subtle way The letter was marked "read" with-out further discussion.

SPRING TILLAGE.

WEST LIMERICK FARMING **OPERATIONS**

Throughout West Limerick the farming community took full advantage of the dry spell of weather to deal with seasonable work on the land, and at the moment the sowing of corn crops is practically complete in all districts. Preparations for the sowing of main crop potatoes has already begun, and in some instances there are a few who have taken a "dare" against May frosts, and have already put in the tubers. The majority of farmers, however, consider that it is yet too soon for

planting, despite the encouraging weather conditions now prevailing. The 'sowing of early varieties for local marketing is considered a paying proposition, and is being undertaken by some on an extensive scale

PRESIDENT TO OPEN FEILE

C.I.E. REPLY GOOD PROSPECTS

The Salmon Season

Trout Anglers' Tax

Salmon fishing in the Shannon near Limerick is extremely good this year, according to the monthly report of Inspector Michael Breen read to the monthly meeting of the Limerick and District Board of Fishery Conservators held on Thursday evening at which Mr. Liam Forde presided.

Other members present with the Chairman were: Messrs. A. J. Blood-Smyth. Sor.; T. P. Sheridan, S. F. Ebrill, John Grant, A. Hourigan, T. P. Shanahan, J. J. Carroll and Dermot O'Brien. Mr. John Daly. Clerk, was in attend-

A recommendation from the Financ

A recommendation from the Finance Committee advised the Board to increase the duties on anglers in order to meet the new financial commitments of the Board, due to the disappearance of its credit balances.

Mr. Blood-Smyth said that as the recommendation affected a number of persons, and as it was of a most important nature, he felt it should come before the next meeting of the Board in the form of a notice of motion from that meeting, in order that all the members, some of whom were not members, some of whom were no present that day, might have an opportunity of discussing the pros and consofthe proposition of the Finance Committee.

Mr.Shanahan remarke, that trout

mittee.

Mr. Shanahan remarke, that trout anglers were not subject to a tax. He thought that was unfair and that a duty should be put on trout fishers as well as other types of anglers.

Chairman—It is a pity they could not be made subject to a duty of even 5/.

Mr. Blood-Smyth said that provision for the imposition of such a duty was provided in the new code of fishery regulations, but it was never enforced. It was ridiculous, he said, to have Acts passed and then not to enforce Immediately their provisions. A great example of this type of procedure was the fishery regulations regarding fresh water fishing which, though passed nine years ago, were not brought into force until last January.

It was decided to adopt Mr. Blood-Smyth's suggestion to have the recommendation of the Finance Committee adjourned to the next meeting, and meanwhile to have the recommendation circulated to all the members of the Board.

A letter from the Department re-

he Board

A letter from the Department referred to a discussion at the previous meeting of the Boara regarding the proposed improving of the conditions for ascending fish in the Allaghaun near Abbeyfeale, and stated that the matter was under technical examination at the moment, and in the near future it would be the subject of a discussion between a Pepartmental Engineer and the Limerick County Surveyor.

No action was taken on the letter.

G.P.O. Arrangements

Good Friday, 26th March-There will be a morning delivery of letters and parcels in the city area. No delivery in rural areas. A general night mail despatch of letters will be made at 9.30 p.m. ,and the city letter boxes will

be cleared in connection therewith.

The Public Office (Cec'l Street) will open for the transaction of graph and Telephone business and for the sale of postage stamps from 9.0 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Continuous telephone service will be provided.

Old Age Pensions and Widows' and Orphans' Pensions falling due for pay-ment on Good Frilay, the 26th March, will be paid on or after Thursday, 25th

Easter Saturday 27th March-Normal services. There will be a general delivery in all rural areas.

Easter Monday, 29th March-There will be no delivery of letters or par-cels, but general Day and Night Des-patches will be afforded The latest times for posting at the Head Office (Cecil Street) to ensure inclusion in these mails will be 245 present in these mails will be 2.45 p.m. and 9.0 p.m., respectively. The city letter will be cleared in connection

with the 9.45 p.m. despatch.
The Head Office (Cecil Street) will be open for the transaction of Telegraph and Telephone business and the sale of postage stamps from 9.0 a.m. to sale of postage stamps from 9.0 a.m. to
10.30 a.m. Continuous Telephone service to subscribers will be maintained.

British Pensions and Allowances falling due for payment on Monday,
29th March will be paid on or after
Thursday,
The Post Office Savings Bank will be closed on Monday.

Rollicking Comedy

A rollicking comedy, 'Johnny's Britches,' by P. J. O'Dea, will be presented at the Playhouse by the College Players on Easter Saturday and throughout the following nine nights. This is an excellent piece of rustic revelry which has been played with considerable success in many parts of considerable success in many parts of the country. The caste includes:— Misses P. Graham, B. Lawless, Mrs. P. McMahon, Messrs E Gallivan, J Gould, F. Lawlor, M. O'Riordan.
A one-act comedy, 'The Proposal,' will also be presented.

BARRINGTON'S HOSPITAL.

Current Review

People and Events

COUNTY RATE.

The county rate for the ensuing financial year will be a shilling in the £ less than at present, a reduction in expenditure of £24,000. The Manager, on the other hand, estimated for an in-crease of £80,000 to meet the increased demand on poor law services. Council considered that, described by Mr. Dore as squandermania, should cease, and suling the action to the word, lopped off the official estimate, as well as cutting a slice off the sum provided last year. It rests with the Minister to say whether or not t provisions made is sufficient. T Council is satisfied that it is, but would be wiser to let last year's estimate stand.

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LIMERICK AND HANDBALL.

The game of handball and Limerick's place in its development was mentioned in this column a short while While discussing the subject over the air in the interval a Dublin supwould lend over to the conclusion that handball had never a place in the sporting calender of this city and county. Had he perused the records and not relied solely on memory he would have seen the contribution made by Limerick men to the game, and the part enacted by John Bowies, the late Tom O'Brien-Kelly, Solicitor, and others in its furtherance as a popular feature some years back.

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MISS VINCENT.

A personality in radio broadcasting in Dublin last week was Miss Vincent, of the B.B.C. She is a daughter of the late Colonel Vincent, Summerhill, Castlecomell, the friend of King Edward VII., and a sister of Mrs. Aylmer Cleeve, formerly of Shelbourne House, and now living in London Miss Vincent has travelled for Vincent has travelled far and wide on behalf of the B.B.C. and has many stories to relate of her experiences in the remote East. A high intellectual lady, she is a keen student of passing events and spote in an armony and spote events, and spoke in an inter-her Castleconnell home and the vil-

UNIQUE.

It is not every day, in fact extremely seldom, that L'merick provides a double civic ceremony. This happened yesterday when the Corporation assembled in the forenoon to present the Freedom of the Borough on Mr. Sean Keating and Mr. Joseph M. Flood, and in the afternoon when the Municipal Art Gallery was opened by the Bishop, Most Rev. D. O'Neill. Both functions were complimentary to each other, inasmuch as the Freedom was ferred for services to art, By Mr. Keating as painter, and Mr. Flood as being primarily instrumental in having the Galelry established and in collect ing the works now on view in the building.

OUTSTANDING.

Limerick, in the words of the Bishop, has given a lead in the sphere of municipal pre-occupation, initiated a cultural institution of incalculable value to the community. The pictures displayed represent the works for the most part of contemporary Irish artists, who include fellow-citizens—Keating, Doran and Ryan—who received their first lessons at the Limerick Technical Institute School of Art. Yesterday's proceedings mark an epoch in the intellectual life of the city, a significant move along the road to educational progress as understood in the modern sense—an outstanding instance of civic enterprise.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

Not, however, the last mileston : is essential to our cultural well-being ally and artistically that a School of Music be established, as in Dublin and Cork, under the Vocational Education Act For reason no provision was made for this amen'ty in the Act, apart from the cities mentioned. The Vocational Committee pressed the Minister some time ago on the question but without avail. It cannot be left there at Mr O Derrig's unsympathetic att'tude. His successor in office may be more amenable to reason, to see the matter from the angle of putting the youth of Limerick in the way of a musical career, instrumentally or vocally.

THE MAYOR,
While on the topic of Art and Music, it is opportune to pay a tribute to the Mayor who carried through an arduous day of ceremonial with considerable day of ceremonial with considerable personal dignity. His Worship's ad-dresses at the conferring ceremony were happily pirased and devoid of unnecessary verbiage, and the entire proceedings were replete with atmosphere. The informal luncheon for the two new Freemen was a happy thought and most pleasantly arranged, and the Mayor further distinguished himself in his skilful management of the ceedings at the formal opening of the Gallery. A heavy day's work, indeed, and very well done,

SAILS FOR UNITED STATES.

Rev Father Alovsius O.F.M. Fran-

LIMERIC

TUESDA A PUB

The traditi ferring the F individuals is occasions. It that a city can and it is, there out only at mor The Liner ck result of an im yesterday at th been enhanced distinguished 1 of the city who the art work gentleman, who citizens for que who is mainly that Limerick Municipal Ar There will, I citizens to take money expender was an unnec there are so m more utilitaria attention. It n however, that property of the erected and stoc and secondly as should be the rig ing community. mooted away world conditions ducive to cultura now, and it was f that the work ha at that time. Od ment of an Art would have been generation, and remained all the necessary to apole ficent building w of the finest colle the country. A Rev. Dr. O'Neill, ceremony-"if cit thing, it means highest ideals of t Church had alwa arts, and he had r tinue in that role was responsible

rick's cultural a It should return rich

RANKS (IRELA

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J. M. Flood, B.

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City than any other

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Gallery is another i

At a meeting of t (Ireland), Limited, the 19th March, 1 having in mind the of making up Ac cember to August, r mend a Final Divid nary Share Capital. less Income Tax, period of eight August, 1947, which, Div.dend of 3d, p paid, makes a total per Share for this equivalent to the sar Dividend as that dec payable Shares registered 1948. Dividend

BALLYNEET

posted on the 23rd A

The annual general

Ballyneety (County of the Irish Country tion, the following C mittee were elected yearr:—President, l Vice-President, Miss Treasurer, Mrs. O'R M'ss Maureen Kirby; Miss Rita O'Donnell