

two years at that he decided to take the old advice and "Go West."

BOULDER DAM

They were building the Hodver (Boulder) Dam on the Colorado River that divides Arizona and Nevada. Mick joined in the work, and sometimes, below the river bed, in temperatures of 140 to 150 degrees, he tould almost pour the sweat out of his shoes. It was dangerous work, too In a fail he fractured his back, shoulder leg and skull. To-day the completed Boulder Dam rises 727 feet—three times the height of the spire of the Redemptorist Church.

RANGERS

Mick was five years working on Boulder Dam when he decided to sit for Civil Service examination for entry to the policing department of the U.S. Government Rangers. He was successful and his first post was in Boulder City Later, he graduated at the F.B.I. National Academy.

n 1957, when they were building another big dam on the Colorado River in connection with the Navaho Indian Reservation, Mick went up there as a seasoned officer to work as Chief of Police. He also did public relations work, and remained there up to his retirement last month.

And now, after an adventure filled life on two Continents, he enjoys a physical vigour and mental alertness that any

Decimal Currency

The Minister for Finance is in-viting suggestions on the vexed problem of conversion to decimal currency, and what appears to be a very good one comes from Mr. J. A. O'Car-roll, radio and television engi-neer, 48 O'Connell St.

The British are converting the f into a hundred parts, but the more sensible approach may be made in Ireland of converting the 10/- note into a hundred parts.

hundred parts.

Mr. O'Carroll suggests that the penny be made a cent. The Irish "dollar" — if we may call it that—would be worth 8/4 in terms, of our present currency, with sub-divisions of one cent, five cent, ten cent; 25 cent and 56 cent pleces. Pennies may be converted into dollars by dividing by 100: a simple process by using the decimal point.

An added advantage of blevel.

decimal point.

An added advantage of his suggested system, Mr. O'Carroll says, is that no fractions are involved. All existing slot machines will continue to function, making the cost of eventual conversion very small and very gradual. And a simple mental calculation is only required to estimate existing costs in the new medium. For example, a gailon of petrol at 5/10 would be 70 cents, or a packet of cigarettes at 4/10, 58 cents.

Problems connected with the 21

Problems connected with the 21 per cent, turnover tax would be correspondingly simple.

De correspondingly simple.

Two dollars 40 cents of the Irish
currency would equal an English pound. "Under this system, Ireland would have her
own currency." Mr. O'Carroll
told me. "We are the only independent country in Europe
that has not a currency of its
own."

Feile

Elizabeth Barry, the well-known elocution teacher and adjudi cator, has presented s trops for the competition in the Junior Dramatic Section of Feile Luimni. The presentation was originally intended for Duologue, but the Committee decided that a Junior Dramatic Section would cover, a wider range. There is al-ready a Senior Dramatic Sec-tion in the Felle competitions:

In the course of her expe n the course of her experience as an adjudicator at the Felle, Miss Barry has been very impressed at the high standards in the elecution

She feels that if more scope for competition was, provided for the different age groups in English verse-speaking a much larger entry would re-

Miss Barry, who is an Associate of Trinity College, London, is a native of Nenagh and received her early education at the Brigidene Convent, Mountrath. For two years she studied electrion under taught in Miss Ryan's school in Dublin.

Subsequently she returned to Nenag; and opened her own school where she has some sixty pupils. She also teaches in the Mercy Convent, Porreturned in

She is at present studying for the Licentiate of Trinity Col-lege, London, and hopes to take her examination next December.

Miss Barry will be among a number of teachers who will attend the general course in speech training which will be conducted by Deirdre Ryan in Limerick in the autumn.

Charles Harper is holding an exhibition of his paintings at the Thomond Galleries, Cecil Street.

Exhibition by Gifted

ONE of our leading young artists, Charles Harper, is presenting the first one-man exhibition at the Thomond Gallery in Cecil Street. A visitor to the Gallery this week was Major Chomeley Hanison of Woodstown House, County Waterford, where Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy is holidaying.

Many interesting personalities attended the opening by Mr. Brian Geary, solicitor, of the exhibition last Monday evening. The proprietor of the Gallery, Mr. George poole, and its new curator, Kate Hennessy, were courteous hosts. The painters parents, Charlie and Bridle Harper, and his sister Mary, a beautician, came from Dublin, where they now reside, and renewed acquaintanct with their many, old friends in Limerick.

Charles Harper was born, 1943, in Valentia Island, where his father, Charlie, was a member of the wartime censorship staff at the famous radio station. The Harpers came to reside in Limerick when Charlie senior was transferred to Ballygireen Radio Station. Charles completed his secondary education at the Crescent College, and later studied at the School of Art.

During his art studies in Lime-rick his most influential teachers were Mr. McEyoy

and Mr. Mannering, and of them he says: "They were great teachers who gave their studies at an early age." An artistic fraternity was growing in locally, and among is members were a number of fellow student painters like Jack O'Donovan' and George Vaughan. "Anner Fitzgerall, Lana Hogan and others who have since gained distinction in different artistic fields; Charles became a cartoon film traince at Herr Fischenkoesen's studie in Badgodesberg on the Fhineland. While a student there he did animation for film cartoons, painted the attractive local landscape, and visited the inspiring gallery at nearby Cologna. Returning to Dublin he worked as animation artist on some cartoons produced by Fischerkoesen's Irish studied in Northumberland Road.

In the years that followed, a

land Road.

the years that followed, a course at the National College of Art secured for Charles his Associateship. A scholarship to the Graphic Studio enabled him to learn graphic art under Patrick Hickey, whom he rates as one of the best graphic artists in this country.

AWARD

Then followed one of his most moving triumphs. His etching hased on a theme from "The Divine Comedy" won him the award in the Hallain Government Dante Competition.

A copy of this etching, priced at 10 gns., may be seen at the present local exhibition.

Before he did his prizewinning "Dante" etching, he had read all the great Florentine's

all the great Florentine's poetry poetry charles won another award for his painting, "Execution," which depicts the shooting of James Connolly, the 1916 leader. This was his entry for the 1916 Golden Jubilee Competition.

the 1916 Golden Jubilee Competition.

Asked to comment on the impact that an event like the 1916 Fising, and its personalities, made on a young artist, he said: "It's impossible to react in his same way as the older generation. But one of my generation would like to see them realised differently from the way the older generation would wish."

Charles, who has already exhibited at the Municipal Gallery, Dublin, and with the Young Artists' Foundation in Cork, has had excellent sales and some distinguished buyers among pulvate pirchasers are the Chief Justice (Carbialli O Dalaigh) Gerald Davis, a Dublin painter and art dealer, Monsieur Cadonet.

Messrs. Jordan Marsh, cwncis of one of Boston's largest stores, included his painting in their exhibition of Irish artists. Recently, Mrs. Cabill Fitzgilbon, a New York art connoiseeur, hought one of his paintings for the Irish propulate Centre in New York's most exclusive shopping area. The exhibition at the Thom-ind Galleries will continue to July.

TWELVE-YEAR-OLD IS GOOD ALL-ROUNDER

TWELVE-YEAR-OLD Liam Ryan of Claughaun Court, Garryowen, is showing exceptional promise in soccer, Gaelic and athletics, and put up a fine performance in the recent St. Patrick School Sports.

second to Tony Wallace in three events a the sport, the 100, 220 and 440 yards, and Lance McGrath was third. In the high jump under 12 competition Liam

le takes with hurling and Gaelle football, and is regular goalkeeper on St. Patrick's school teams. Last year he helped them to victory in the Keyes Cup. After defeating St. Mary's and St. John's in earlier rounds they went on to beat St. Brendan's in a memorable final.

ther members of the successtul team were Tom Marsh
(St. Patrick's Road), Lance
McGrath (Garryowen),
Martin Griffin and Tony Walace (Garryowen), Pat Harry
Pennywell), Sean Burke
Dublin Road), Mick Broderck and Kieran Markham
Dublin Road), and Sean
Close (St. Patrick's Road).

Patrick's also Patrick's also were successunit the schools junior hurlng final against St. Brenan's. Liam was in his favunite position as goalkeeper
hroughout the series. But in
ne of the games leading to
ne than he didn't have even
ne shot to stop so well did
the winners' defence play.

is now in his final year at patrick's and hopes to win orther successes in the sen-grades when the new sea-n gets under way. He is ry appreciative or the bea-

Mr. Ger Tierney, trainers to the schools' hurling and foot-ball teams.

Soccer is another sport in which Liam texcels and this season he is one of the stars in Fairview's onder-12 team. He plays in goal but is also an accomplished forward and hopes to heip his club win the under-13 Cup this season. His uncle. Mr. Ger O'Shea, is Chairman of Fairview.

SCOUTING

For the past five years Liam has been a member of St. Patrick's Boy Scouts, and next week he is off to Lismore with the troop for the annual

He has won several medals in athletic events with the scouts and was on the St. Patrick's tug-o'-war team that won the Scouts' Shield. Doing excellent work for the troop are, he says, Scoutmasters Mr. McNamara, Liam Gaffney and: Tom Piggott.

Also camping in Lismore with Liam are his friends, John Hannon, Mick Carey, Brendan Kenny, Gerard Sheehan and Dermot Cleary. They will have two weeks under canvas

Liam is eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Ryan, His aisters, Phyllis (15) and Rossleen (13), are attending St. Mary's His brother, 9-year-old Michael, is a pupil of St. Patrick and and is also a



Nenagh elecution teacher, Miss Elizabeth Barry, with the Amhardann Cup which she presented to Felle Initial for Junior Dramatic Scho (Verse Special)