

ng to Monsignor the Association. Castlefarm, Hos-Patrick's College, as ordained to the Ann's Cathedral.

## eyhound port ive

to the acumen of Bord Con officials, the grey-export trade has now d the million pound and a recent exploration ne Continental markets tes that this figure may e exceeded next year. r, despite the tireless made by the Board to te the sale of Irish ounds in countries like United States, Sweden, Spain, there is no on or desire to com-against private enter-in the home or foreign its. The aim is to pro- the export drive and oncern of the Board is a that buyers get good With this end in view, elicity campaign will be d in Italy, Spain and n, and everyone inter-in the sport in these ries will be made aware e remarkably great ies of the Irish grey-i.

## IN PALMA

or four years ago I had teresting evening's sport track meeting in Palma. one was very helpful dly, and though nobody word of English nor I rd of Spanish, an ani- conversation on various ts of the sport was car-on for over half-an-hour! st betting is in general r in Italy and Spain some of the greyhounds tracked so frequently in eight-dog races that a ble estimate of form is ssible. Large staffs are rally employed, particu- where the hare is hand-ated, and, as the dogs on sand, the tracks are d and hoed after practi- every race. As regards ng, horse meat is rather ult to come by in Spain, Irish and American pro- foods, which require ooking and have plenty alories, are in increasing and. acks are equipped with photo-finish and some closed-circuit TV. to ate market fluctuations. h greyhounds in general smaller in stature than r Irish counterpart and, esequently, they can negot-bends with greater ease. Valencia, for instance, the k is so small that the nt distance carries six is; the equivalent here ld be two. nimum bet is five pesetas h, in our money, is t 7d. However, as five as can buy a glass of dy in Spain, the mini-a bet is not as small as ay seem!

# Interesting Lecture by Limerick Novelist

SECONDARY, vocational and national teachers, and a large number of her readers heard Miss Kate O'Brien, the eminent Limerick-born novelist lecture on "Avant-gardeism in Modern Literature" at the Savoy Restaurant.

Reminding her audience that we had recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of the 1916 Rising, Miss O'Brien said she felt very honoured on being asked to give the lecture, because the literary inspirations of that Rising were themselves avant garde. Politically speaking, the shots fired in Easter Week rang round the world, and from them the great British Empire received its first mortal blow.

Douglas Hyde, a modest scholar in pursuit of a dying language, had gathered from the Connacht peasantry a treasury of religious songs, drinking songs and love songs. It was on one of these journeys to collect poems and folk-lore that Hyde, through Lady Gregory, was introduced to Yeats.

She herself remembered the freshness and excitement of reading Hyde's poems as a student at Laurel Hill in the early years of the century.

There she read his "Love Songs of Connacht"—with the Irish text on one side, and the English translation alongside it. Alas, she had forgotten most of them and her Irish, but the memory and inspiration of the poems and the language remained. Yeats, who was to become the most disciplined poet of the English language, passed through a Dublin still suffering after the Rising, and from Merrion Square he went to live in Thoor, Ballylee, in County Galway. Here, near where he met Hyde years before, he wrote his later poems. These poems in which are to be found "bitter hardness for each right word," put European poetry into a modern mould.

## MODERNS

Dealing with other modern Irish writers, Miss O'Brien said they seemed to have a quality of unschooled avant gardeism. Shaw was a moralist, rather than an artist; Joyce was lonely and proud; O'Casey, a very compassionate dramatist; Beckett, a dramatist and novelist who talks to himself and is concerned with man's absurd situation; indeed, this modern Irish writer is so influential as to be enjoying a vogue of discipline amongst French novelists and dramatists just now.

The new school of young Irish novelists and poets are saying new and revolutionary things. This richness of the Irish in producing writers was no recent growth. In the 18th century, Congreve, a Kilkenny-

man, gave the English theatre some of its best plays; William Carleton in the 19th century gave us our first urgent novels which had their inspiration in Catholic depths. To-day there are our poets like Thomas Kinsella and others, novelists like Edna O'Brien, Paul Smith and, among the dramatists, Brian Friel.

Miss Kate O'Brien was one of the Irish delegation at the Congress of European Writers in Rome in 1955. The aims of this organisation, which was founded by the Italian writer, Gina Angelatti, are to safeguard the right of writers on both sides of the "Curtain" to portray mankind's problems in the present argument between opposing philosophies.

## ATTENDING

Among those present at Miss O'Brien's lecture was Connie

Hagl-Trapp, a cousin of the famous Austrian singing family. Connie's aunt was Mrs. O'Sullivan, herself a member of the O'Mara family of Strand House, wife of the late Dr. Willie O'Sullivan and a relative of Joseph O'Mara, the famous operatic singer. Connie Hagl-Trapp was on a visit to Limerick as a guest of Mrs. Anne O'Mara, Strand House.

The lecture, which was held under the auspices of the Association of Secondary Teachers of Ireland, was under the Chairmanship of Mr. Tony Brommell, National President. Mr. Donal O'Conchubhair, of the Diocesan Teaching Staff, presided. Miss Eileen Egan, art teacher and artist, proposed a vote of thanks to Miss O'Brien, which was seconded by Mr. Sean Nunan.

## A LIMERICK BALLET DANCER

PRETTY 20-year-old Miriam Doran may open a school of ballet in Limerick this year. Last November she opened a similar school at the Community Centre, Drumgeely, where she also gives lessons in physical culture.

Miriam started Irish dancing and the ballet at the age of four. Since then she has won many championship events at feiseanna all over the country and has taken part in a number of ballet displays. With her school at Shannon she has achieved a life-long ambition to teach the ballet, and she holds classes there on two days of each week. Her school recently gave two very successful ballet displays for charitable objects.

Her pupils range in age from two years to fifteen. "The ballet gives children a graceful deportment," she told me; "they like the ballet so much that they never miss a lesson." The physical culture or "keep fit" lessons are equally popular with women. A course usually takes eight weeks and the lessons can be practised subsequently at home to help preserve one's figure.

Miriam's hobbies are dancing, sketching, tennis, classical music and tapestry work. She is a daughter of Mrs. Ann and the late John Doran, 3 Belfield Gardens, Ennis Road, and was educated at Laurel Hill and the High School of Commerce. She worked at the Tourist Bureau, Shannon, and Dubuathur Park he-

fore taking up her present employment as Secretary to the Irish Import and Export Company and Irish Souvenir Company, Limerick.

Miriam has two married sisters, Mrs. Terry Hogan, Adare, and Mrs. Ann Maher, Caherdavin. Her brothers are Brendan, who is studying quantity surveying, and Noel, who is a Bank official.

## Salmon Fishing Holiday

In Limerick recent way home to N after a month's sal holiday in Ireland George Shuler.

The moose and the very often be the unwelcome companion wide open space United States an and George decide a change, he woul "civilized" fishing

In Ireland he met people, enjoyed the scenery and good caught very few s the rest of us, he v with the weather only four really fi told me: "The r running too high weather was too harsh."

But, with a fisherm ism, he hopes things to come a back with the sal again. "I found t surprisingly inexp told me. "The bigg air freight and tion was very priced. Fishing is considerably che what one can find salmon waters in

He had a week on water, went from Nore, to the Do and the Shannon very good trout pensated to some the disappointing ing.

Ireland's finest w for many years George flew out fr last Saturday. Ar one that got awa luck of the sport

