



Members of the Organisation of National Ex-servicemen (ONE) at a wreath-laying ceremony at the monument in Pery Square

Servicemen are honoured at wreath-laying ceremony

By AINE FITZGERALD

A LAMENT played by world champion piper and former army captain, Michael Egan, was met with a respectful silence during a special ONE wreath-laying ceremony and Mass held in honour of deceased members.

The ceremonies, which took place at the monument to ex-servicemen on Pery Square and the near-

by Dominican Church, were attended by ONE branches from all over Munster including the Cork City Branch, the Kilmallock Branch, the Cobh Branch, the Ballincollig Branch and the Tipperary Branch.

"It is only right that these ex-servicemen are honoured. A lot of them, when they left the armed forces, could have gone into retirement but instead they joined the ex-servicemen to look after others who may have fell on hard times," explained Joe O'Mahony, secretary of the Patrick Sarsfield Branch.

In a gesture of respect

to the deceased, an array of flags, including the tricolour which was carried by Denis Fogerty, were dipped at the site of the monument which is located close to the home of the ex-servicemen on James Street.

In a rousing speech, Cllr John Gilligan praised the Patrick Sarsfield Barracks for the work they are doing for the homeless ex-servicemen and spoke of the importance of keeping the spirit of the deceased ex-servicemen alive.

"I went to the Lebanon with the army a number of years ago and I was absolutely amazed by the

way they were treated out there. They were given a guard of honour in Beirut for their work and they were spoken of in glowing terms by the other soldiers," said Cllr Gilligan.

"We should never forget what ambassadors ex-servicemen have been for our county and country," he said.

The general salute was later sounded by Nicholas Byrnes of Cork before the parade was led off by piper Michael Egan and marched around the block to the Dominican Church.

"There was a great turn-out from all over



Deputy Mayor of Limerick, Cllr John Gilligan laying a wreath at the Organisation of National Ex-servicemen Monument at Pery Square on Sunday morning

Munster and we out thanks have to go out to the Munster Branches for making the journey," said

Mr O'Mahony. The last post was sounded after Pat Lowe of the British Legion said

the exhortation, before the congregation made their way to the Precinct Bar for refreshments.



Members of ONE at the wreath-laying ceremony at the ONE monument, Pery Square on Sunday morning last