

## Obituary

The death of Tom Manning on 31st August, 1969 will have been mourned by the entire Forest Service.

He trained in Baunreagh under Paddy Barry from 1924 to 1926 with one of the first groups to be accepted to man the infant forest service.

After acting as assistant in Clonmel, Kilworth, Glencree and Delgany Forests, he was appointed in charge of the three forests Glencree, Roundwood and Delgany in 1933. In 1934 he opened Urlingford Forest, transferred to Glen of Aherlow in 1936 and opened Cong in 1939, when he was promoted Head Forester. In 1941 he was appointed Inspector in Galway, moved to headquarters in 1'46, became Senior Inspector in 1953, Inspector General in 1957 and retired in 1966.

His rapid rise was an acknowledgement of his exceptional ability, his balanced judgment and his complete 'unflapability', no matter what the crisis. His reputation was laid as a forester when he handle such delicate matters as land agitation and labour problems at Urlingford and Cong with consummate skill. He accumulated too a vast and surprising knowledge of both the forests and their managers which he used to good effect in matters of administration, promotions and transfers.

He was a quiet man, never seemed to hurry and never let work get ahead of him he was very interested in people, a keen observer, a good listener and a pithy and humorous commentator. His interest in Gaelic games was well known; he was a regular attender at Croke Park. Not so well known was his interest in literature and gardening. He had a deep attachment to his home county of Tipperary and it is fitting that he should now rest in Kilcash in the midst of the woods in which he grew up and which he later tended as a forester. "*Si monumentum requiris, circumspice*".

T. McEVOY.