

THE GAELIC ECHO

Special All-Ireland Football Final Number

DUBLIN, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1941.

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KING PINS OF FOOTBALL

Kerry and Galway fill the Role

KERRY AND GALWAY—Gaeldom's greatest drawing cards—face each other once again for the blue riband of the Gaelic football world.

Twice already have these grand old Gaelic counties clashed in the deciding tie for the highest honours in the game, and with a victory claimed by each, Sunday's Croke Park meeting may rightly be described as a rubber game.

"Who'll win?" is the question debated to-day, and on Sunday we will probably see this question answered on the Croke Park sod.

No two counties in the history of the game have held such a glamorous appeal for the public, and to the Kingdom kickers and their sturdy rivals from the West go the honour of having drawn a record crowd to Croke Park. This was in 1938, when, at the first meeting of the Connacht champions and the men from The Reeks, over 10,000 paid for admission, and "House full" had to be hung out as thousands more clamoured for admission to a game that was a classic exhibition of orthodox Gaelic football.

Sunday's game has much in common with that of three years ago, as in 1938 Kerry were bidding to equal Dublin's record of fourteen All-Irelands, and Galway proved the stumbling block.

STRIVING FOR RECORD.

Kerry are now striving for a record all their own as victory on Sunday would place the Kingdom one step above all others in the All-Ireland honours list. Galway stayed their record equalling bid three years ago and Galway say that they will now torpedo their record-making hopes.

Other memorable struggles between the counties in Championship and League help to add to the widespread interest in this clash between the Champions and their Western challengers is rearing.

PROPHETS WERE RIGHT.

From the earliest games of the 1941



W. DILLON (Kerry Captain).

Championship the prophets have practically all plumped for a Kerry-Galway final.

Since Galway successfully withstood the Mayo challenge to their Connacht title at Roscommon, Western followers were confident that the Tribesmen would once again throw down a challenge to the champions for a title which Kerry won back two years ago and successfully defended in 1940 against their rivals of Sunday.

Each side had narrow squeaks on their way to a final which for Kerry marks their twenty-fourth occasion figuring in the deciding tie for a football blue riband while it is Galway's seventh.

Galway's closest shave was against Roscommon in the Connacht final while Kerry had one of their luckiest escapes in the semi-final against Dublin.

KING PINS OF GAME.

Both teams, however, more than redeemed themselves in their next appearances, for Kerry at Tralee beat Dublin by a dozen points, and in the same hour Galway played football that sparkled and scintillated in an amazingly facile defeat of Cavan.

To-day the Kingdom stalwarts and their equally sturdy challengers from over the Shannon are the king pins of football. No two counties of recent years have filled the role so well, for in the last four championships Kerry and Galway have carried off the honours.

Kerry have won three of the four, and are making their fifth appearance in a row—a record which has only been eclipsed by Wexford, who, from 1913 to 1918, appeared in the deciding tie at Croke Park six years in succession.

Wexford won four out of the six titles—a string setting up a record that was not equalled until Kerry in 1929-1932 won four All-Irelands.

KERRY'S BOGEY.

Kerry are out for a new record on Sunday and when the Kingdom footballers set their hearts on a record it is hard to stem their progress.

Galway, however, have proved Kerry's bogey on more than one occasion, the most notable being the All-Ireland final of 1938 and the National League of 1939-40.

There is the same old confidence as of old in the Kerry camp, but there is also a healthy respect for the Western champions, whose confidence is also at its zenith, consequent on their smashing victory over Cavan.

Only a point divided the counties in their two last meetings, Kerry winning the All-Ireland final by the slenderest margin at Croke Park and later repeated their win by the same narrow margin in the League at Listowel.

Enthusiasm is, as is only to be expected, at boiling point in both counties, and even with limited travel facilities Sunday's rivals will have strong followings to cheer them on.

TO LEAD GALWAY



JOHN DUNNE (Galway).

THE LINE-OUT.

KERRY

(Green and Gold)

D. O'Keefe
(O'Rahillys)

W. Myers (Killarney) J. Keohane (Geraldines) T. Healy (Mitchels)

W. Dillon (capt.) (Dingle) W. Casey (Dingle) E. Walsh (N. Kerry)

S. Brosnan (Dingle) P. Kennedy (Geraldines)

J. Walsh (Shannon Rangers) T. O'Connor (Dingle) P. B. Brosnan (Dingle)

J. O'Gorman (Stacks) M. Kelly (Geraldines) C. O'Sullivan (Garda)

Subs.—M. Lyne, J. Pierce, T. Lawlor, S. McCarthy, G. Teahan, T. Landers, A. McAuliffe, and J. J. Falvey.

GALWAY

(Maroon and White)

J. McGauran
(U.C.G.)

M. Raftery (U.C.G.) P. McDonagh (Ballinasloe) D. O'Sullivan (Oughterard)

F. Cunniffe (Garda) R. Beggs (Wolfe Tones) J. Duggan (U.C.G.)

C. Connolly (Ballinasloe) D. Kavanagh (U.C.G.)

J. Hanniffy (Army) J. Dunne (Capt.) (Geraldines) J. Canavan (Ballinasloe)

E. Mulholland (W. Tones) P. McDonagh (Rosaveel) J. Burke (Army)

Subs.—J. Casey, J. Flavin, P. Thornton, P. Mitchell, C. O'Connor, B. Nestor, L. Kitt, and J. Lynch.

NO STRANGERS TO CROKE PARK

WITH their blushing honours thick upon them, the footballers of Kerry and Galway face each other on Sunday at Croke Park in the 1941 All-Ireland Final.

The majority of the players will be no strangers to the Jones's Road pitch as the fifteen Kerry men listed for to-morrow's eagerly awaited struggle helped in the defeat of Galway in last year's final. Eleven of the Galway men were on the team which lost by a point in the 1940 decider, while ten took part in the replay with Kerry in the 1938 final.

Dan O'Keefe, the Kerry culbair, has five All-Ireland senior medals to his credit, while Johnny Walsh has four.

Seven of the Kerry men—Joe Keohane, W. Myers, W. Dillon, T. Healy, S. Brosnan, C. O'Sullivan and T. O'Connor—have won three All-Irelands, while Murt Kelly, W. Casey, E. Walsh, P. Kennedy and J. O'Gorman have a brace apiece.

John Dunne and Dinny O'Sullivan of the Galway side each hold two All-Irelands, while J. McGauran, M. Raftery, F. Cunniffe, D. O'Sullivan, R. Beggs, C. Connolly, J. Burke, E. Mulholland, John Dunne and P. McDonagh helped in the defeat of Kerry in the 1938 final.

Murt Kelly (Kerry) and Bobby Beggs (Galway) were on the Dublin team which lost to Galway in 1934.

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CROM ABU

17 GOOD MEN BLAZED A TRAIL

For Kerry's Record Bid

SEVENTEEN good men and true set Kerry on the road to what has now become a record-making bid when away back in 1905 they met and beat Kildare in the 1903 final. Memorable games those three meetings of the "Short Grass" footballers and the men from Boherbee, Killarney and Castleisland.

They roused the Gael out of his lethargic ways; they set the national spirit glowing with a greater fire, and they brought the G.A.A. into a prominence it never lost in the years since Tim Gorman's men beat Rafferty's white-clad footballers from Clane, Roseberry, Monasterevan and Caragh beside the Lee.

From the day that the Green-and-Gold was carried to triumph in Cork's own town, football enthusiasm has never waned in the Kingdom. There have been dark days, but the bright ones followed so quickly that defeats were forgotten in the flush of fresh victories. Great teams have come and gone, but the memory of Tim Gorman and his men will never fade, for their win over the Leinster champions set the foundation for a championship castle that has grown until it now equals the highest in the land.

POETS WERE BUSY.

In every town, village and cross-roads the feats of that first All-Ireland title winning side formed the theme for song and story. Rody Kirwan's great speed, Maurice McCarthy's brilliant saves, Austin Stack's brainy moves, were told and retold until they became sagas.

Local poets were busy, and I can still recall a couple of verses from a song extolling the men who played in Tipperary Town:



KERRY TEAM WHICH BEAT DUBLIN AT TRALEE.

"Here's to the brothers Gorman,
The boys from Boherbee;
To Dick Fitz from Killarney,
And John Thomas from Tralee.
To Kissane, Lynch, Patsy Dillon,
R. Kirwan and D. Breen,
And to good old Maurice McCarthy,
True men of Kerry's seventeen.

Here's a health to Austin Stack,
And Charley Duggan too;
Con Healy and Den Curran,
Gael both staunch and true,
John Buckley and Tom Sullivan,
Whose likes were never seen,
And last not least McCarthy D.
True men of Kerry's seventeen."

Great teams came after and greater honours were brought home to the Kingdom, but in the hour of triumph, every Kerry Gael should honour the

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seventeen stalwarts who brought the first of fourteen titles to the Kingdom. Austin Stack, of glorious memory, led Kerry's second All-Ireland winning side that showed few changes on that which brought the first laurels home to the Kingdom.

Jack Myers, father of Bill Myers, played on both winning teams, as did Con Healy, father of Tadhg Healy, and Tim O'Gorman, father of Jimmy O'Gorman.

Kerry's third victorious side was captained by Tom Costelloe, from the Mile Height. It again included Con Healy, as well as the Athea man, Dan Mullane, Kenneally, and Batt O'Connor of Dingle.

Next team to win will also be long remembered in the Kingdom, for with a change or two it was identical with that which in the early Summer played a drawn game and won the replay with Louth in the Dr. Croke Cup.

To Kerry and Kildare will always be accorded the honour of taking the G.A.A. out of the slough into which it had fallen towards the end of last century, and to Kerry and Louth go the honours of having made it possible for the Association to secure Croke Park.

Seventeen good men had now become fifteen, and here again Kerry secured the honour of being the first county to win an All-Ireland under the fifteen aside rule in 1913.

The Mooncoin-led Kilkenny selection won the hurling title in 1913, beating Widger Meagher's Toomevara Greyhounds, so that the two K's share the honours of the first fifteen All-victory.

Dick Fitzgerald led the Kerry men in the three games which brought the Croke Cup and All-Ireland titles home to the Reeks. Jack Moriarty, now prominent as a veteran player and referee in North Kerry, was on the Croke Cup teams.

GREAT LEADERS.

"Dickeen," as he was familiarly known, also captained the 1914 team, and it was not until ten years later that the Kerry men, united after many months of strife, again brought back the laurels. Phil Sullivan captained this side. While next to steer the Green-and-Gold to victory was John Joe Sheehy, one of Kerry's greatest leaders since J. P. O'Sullivan led the Laune Rangers on to Clontarf Park in 1893. Joe Barrett was a worthy successor to John Joe, and then came Con Brosnan, the only North Kerry man to captain an All-Ireland side.

Miko Doyle, Tom O'Connor, and Dan Spring bring us down to Bill Dillon, the West Kerry skipper who will lead the Kerry men on their march to Croke Park to meet the challenge of Galway, champions of the West, and conquerors of Mayo, National League title holders.

THE ROLL OF HONOUR.

ELEVEN Counties have shared the honours in the All-Ireland Senior Football Championship since 1887.

First victors were Limerick Commercial, who, on April 29, 1888, beat Louth Young Irelands by 1-4 to 0-3 for the 1887 title. Last victors were the Kerry men, who, in a game of fluctuating fortunes, just pipped Galway to secure their fourteenth title.

No final was played on three occasions. First was in 1888, year of the American Invasion; second was in 1910, when Kerry conceded a walk-over to Louth; and last was in 1925, when Kerry went out on an objection after defeating Cavan in the semi-final.

The title list to date reads:—

Dublin (14)—1891, '92, '94, '97, '98, '99, 1901, '02, '06, '07, '08, 1921, '22, '23.

Kerry (14)—1903, '04, '09, 1913, '14, 1924, '26, '29, 1930, '31, '32, '37, '39, '40.

Wexford (5)—1893, 1915, '16, '17, '18.

Tipperary (4)—1889, 1895, 1900, 1920.

Kildare (4)—1905, 1919, 1927, 1928.

Galway (3)—1925, 1934, 1938.

Limerick (2)—1887, 1896.

Louth (2)—1910, 1912.

Cavan (2)—1933, 1935.

Cork (2)—1890, 1911.

Mayo (1)—1936.

na mionúir

THE curtain-raiser on Sunday at Croke Park brings North and South into opposition in the All-Ireland Minor Hurling Semi-Final.

Cork have an enviable record in Minor Hurling, and the county now ties with Tipperary, each having won four All-Irelands in this grade.

Kilkenny come third with three titles

KERRY SHARPSHOOTER



P. B. BROSINAN.

while Limerick and Waterford hold each.

Antrim, Cork's opponents on Sunday, have yet to win a minor title but reaching last year's final, the Antrim lads gave a sound display.

Antrim have held practically undisputed sway in Ulster minor hurling since 1935, and with schools competitions flourishing in Belfast, we can again look for a good showing by the Northern representatives.

Cork's last appearance in the Minor All-Ireland competition was in 1921 when they won out.

This year they received a bye from Kerry and then defeated Clare, conquerors of Limerick, 1940 All-Ireland champions. Tipperary qualified for the Munster final, but with the county ruled out owing to foot-and-mouth Cork were nominated by the Munster Council.

The teams are:—

Cork—T. Mulcahy, T. J. Looney, Murphy, M. Murphy, T. Corcoran, Lyons, C. Flaherty, D. Twomey, P. H. S. Condon, P. O'Leary, D. McCarthy, M. Kenefick, J. Morrison, F. Clear, Subs.—F. O'Brien, D. Twomey, Twomey, J. Kelly, J. O'Sullivan, and Murphy.

Antrim—M. Johnstone, J. Loughrea, W. Feeney, P. Murray, M. Butler, Kelly, B. Donnelly, S. Quinn, W. Currie, D. Cormican, J. Gallagher, A. Riordan, F. Butler, P. Carmichael, D. Maguire, Subs.—C. Vernon, A. McVeagh, G. M. Guinness, H. Harte, D. Butler, J. Murphy, F. Brady, P. McFaul.

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GALWAY LED THE WEST TO CROKE PARK

Tribesmen's Great Feats

GALWAY'S collection of football honours may not reach the huge total which has fallen to Kerry's lot, but since the earliest days of this century the Tribesmen have proved strong opposition for the best.

One of the first districts to take up the call for native games was Dunmore, which still boasts of a first-class team, with Brendan Nestor as captain.

Tuam, Athenry, Cahirlistrane, Loughrea, and later Ballinasloe, Annaghdown, Corofin, University College, Oughterard and Wolfe Tones all figured prominently in Galway football, which went on steadily improving until the Tuam Krugers reached the All-Ireland final of 1900. This was the first appearance of a Connacht team in an All-Ireland final, an honour of which Galway is justly proud.

The Clonmel, Grangemockler, Arravale Rovers, Tipperary combination, however, proved far too clever for the Galwegians, who were beaten 2-20 to 0-1 at Terenure. This, however, did not discourage the Galway men, whose tenacity was rewarded by another appearance nineteen years later, but Kildare, led by Larry Stanley, defeated a Galway selection.

HONOUR AND GLORY.

There is no record of the names of the fifteen players who represented Galway in this final, but the majority came from Ballinasloe, a town that has filled a big part in Galway's rise to football fame.

This 1919 championship, although lost by Galway, fills one of the brightest pages in the Tribesmen's football story, for it gave them the honour and glory of being the first and only team to beat Kerry in an All-Ireland championship replay.



GALWAY TEAM WHICH BEAT CAVAN IN THE SEMI-FINAL.

THE MAN IN CHARGE.

P. McKENNA, who will referee the game, is a Longford-born Civic Guard Sergeant, at present stationed in Bruff. In recent times he has handled some of our biggest games and was the unanimous selection of both Galway and Kerry as referee for Sunday's big game, for which the umpires are: G. McKeown, P. McDonnell, D. Hamilton and J. Cahill. Linesmen are S. Dalton and S. Maguire.

Kerry once again represented Munster in the All-Ireland tests, and were strongly fancied to beat Galway in the semi-final. The Westerners, however, proved a surprise packet, holding the Kerry men to a draw and winning the replay (4-2 to 2-2) at Croke Park on September 14.

The Galway team included the three Egan's, who, like the Delaneys of Laoighis and the Landers of Kerry, made one of the greatest Gaelic football family partnerships of all time.

As already mentioned, there is no record of the Galway men who lost to Kildare, but it is more than likely that the team which beat Kerry in the replay remained unchanged for the final. It was captained by T. Egan, and also included D. Egan, J. Egan, Peter Higgins, M. ("Knacker") Walsh, P. Roche, J. Hanniffy, G. Jennings, L. Raftery (Ballinasloe), M. Flannelly (Galway City), H. Burke, G. Feeney (Tuam), M. Walsh, P. McDonnell, M. Cawley (Tuam).

The Kerry men were captained by Con Clifford, with Dan Mullins in goal, while also included were Tom Costelloe, M. Carroll, J. J. Sheehy, F. O'Connor, P. Healy, M. Donovan, Humphrey Murphy, P. Moriarty, J. O'Connor, J. Baily, P. O'Sullivan, P. Sheehan, J. Dunne.

There was concrete evidence of Galway's improvement when in the 1922 final one of the best Dublin teams for many a day could only claim a two-points victory over a Galway side that was captained by "Knacker" Walsh, and included D. and J. Egan, Mick Donnellan, Tom Molloy, J. Kirwan, P. Kilroy and T. Hessian.

THE BIG FIVE.

On that Dublin team, which won three All-Irelands in a row, was the St. Enda's and Kildare man, Frank Burke, who also won an All-Ireland hurling medal with Dublin around this period. Only four others—Billy Mackessy (Cork), Sean Kennedy, Paddy Mackey (Wexford), and Jack Grace (Kilkenny-born Dublin player)—can lay claim to this honour.

Although Galway won the 1925 and 1926 Connacht titles, it was not until 1933 that they again appeared in an All-Ireland final, and from that September day at Croke Park the power of the Tribesmen has made itself felt in the Gaelic football world. That Galway appearance in fact started a golden era in Connacht football, the Western province collecting every honour possible since the day that Jim Smith's Breffni men defeated Mick Donnellan's side by four points.

SET THE WEST ABLAZE.

Defeat only helped to urge the Tribesmen to greater effort, and when Mick Donnellan retired Mick Higgins came along to skipper a Galway team which beat Dublin by two points and set the West ablaze with a football enthusiasm which has since swept all before it in Championship, League, Railway and Sigerson Cups.

Galway proved the bogey to Dublin in their bid to set up a new record of fifteen All-Irelands, and it may be a case of history repeating itself on Sunday in a Galway defeat of Kerry, leaving that title race still between the Kingdom and the Metropolis.

Forty thousand people saw Galway win the 1934 title, and when four years later Galway faced Kerry, those figures almost swelled to double, for the West was truly awake, the Connacht province almost to a man travelling in the wake of John Dunne and his men.

Kerry and Cavan set the attendance figures rocketing in 1937, but Kerry and Galway a year later sent them to the sky, for between drawn game and replay more than one hundred and twenty-two thousand people paid for admission to Croke Park.

It was a triumph undreamt of by the most enthusiastic supporter of native games, and a still greater triumph for the Galway men, who brought off a "double" double by winning their second championship on the field and beating Kerry for the second time in a replay.

Twelve months ago Galway made their seventh All-Ireland final appearance only to lose to Kerry by a point. On Sunday the gallant men of Galway re-enter the Croke Park area to challenge the Kerry men, holders of the title since 1939, and none will dispute the fact that those men from the plains of Ballinasloe, the streets of Galway City and the crags of Connemara are worthy challengers to the champions for the blue riband of the game.

THE "KRUGERS" STARTED IT

THIS trek of the Galwegians to the Metropolis has now become almost an annual affair, as in four finals, starting in 1938, the Tribesmen have appeared in three.

It is quite a while since this Galway march on the Capital started, and to the Tuam "Krugers" go the honour of being the first team to head a challenge for the football blue riband.

The "Krugers" won the 1899 Galway championship, and had the selection for the 1900 All-Ireland home final, which, however, was not played until October, 1902.

Tipperary, then a strong force in the football world, defeated the Krugers, who only scored a point, while the Tippers ran up one of the biggest tallies of the All-Ireland.

It was a failure, however, which bore good fruit, and in Galway the memory of the "Krugers" is still as

green as is the memory of the "Mitchels" in Kerry.

The "Krugers" were captained by Frank Walsh, who is still to the good, and takes a live interest in the fortunes of Galway as does Jack O'Brien, Tommie Hannon and Martin Cooney.

Dominick Hession, regarded as one of the best forwards of his time and a familiar figure whenever Galway is playing in Tuam, was also a member of the team.

The goal-keeper was Grant, but his name does not appear on the official list of players, an omission, however, that is easily understandable.

In the interval between the "Krugers" win in the Galway championship and their appearance in the All-Ireland final, the local title had changed hands, Dunmore McHales proving successful in 1900 and 1902, while the "Krugers" won in 1901.

Many people at that time held that Dunmore should have secured representation on the Galway side. The late F. B. Dinneen (Editor "Sport"), and one of the greatest G.A.A. writers since the start of the championships was severely critical of the Tuam club in not selecting J. J. Nestor, Ned Kilkenny, Andy Fox (uncle of the late Frank Fox), Martin Reddington, James Lynch and Michael Shiels for the final.

Galway, like most counties, had its football songs, and the one which proved most popular was that composed by a supporter and set to the "Legion of the Rearguard" music for the 1938 final.

The chorus ran like this:—

"Men of Galway, steady now, soon the fight begins,
We have worthy foes to meet, tho' they be our friends;
Man to man we challenge them, nought can us dismay,
Caillimh Abu our war cry up and at them,
Men of Galway.
Remember the mountains, the plains and the lakes,
Remember the crowds that come here for your sake,
Remember the cailini who wait at home and pray,
Then how can you fail, O Men of Galway!"



E. MULHOLLAND.

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MEET THE KINGDOM KICKERS—

Pen Pictures of the Champions

NO strangers to Croke Park, here are the Champions, eager and ready to defend their title and set Kerry over all in the honours list. Tall, rangy footballers, the majority played against Galway in the two memorable games of 1938, while every man got a taste of the Westerners' football craft and skill in last year's final.

Led by the raking Dingle man, Bill Dillon, they swing into Croke Park a fit and confident side—so meet the Champions.

Dan O'Keeffe (O'Rahillys), who will man the Kerry goal, is playing in his seventh All-Ireland final. Dan O, the veteran of the Kingdom side, won Junior All-Ireland honours before coming on in 1931 against Kildare. His display against Dublin at Tralee was one of the best ever given by this brilliant goalkeeper.

W. Myers (Killarney), right full-back, graduated from junior ranks in 1937. Son of an old Kerry footballer, Billy has shown all his early form in this year's championship. Holds three All-Ireland and a Railway Cup medal.

Joe Keohane (Geraldines), who fills the full-back position, learned his football in that famous Kerry nursery—Boherbee. Splendid fielder and safe defender, he gave a brilliant display in the Railway Cup games last Easter. Has three All-Ireland and one Railway Cup to his credit.

FILLED MANY BERTHS.

T. Healy (Mitchels), played Minor and Junior before securing his place at right full-back on the Senior team. Is one of the most consistent footballers playing. Son of another old Kerry footballer, Tadhg assists his native Boherbee. Holds three All-Ireland and a Railway Cup medal.

W. Dillon (Dingle) will captain the team. Is a raking footballer who will play at right back. Has filled many berths since 1937. Tall and lithe, Bill, when in form, is a thorn on the side of any attack, as he is a typical Kerry fielder and long kicker. Holds three All-Ireland medals.

W. Casey (Dingle), who fills the centre half back position, made a big name for himself last year when suffering from a leg injury he played a grand game in the final against Galway. Partners well with his club-mate Dillon. Playing in his fourth All-Ireland final.



DAN O'KEEFFE (Kerry).

A SPLENDID FIELDER.

E. Walsh (North Kerry), first made his mark against Laoighis in the 1938 semi-final, but was off the team against Galway owing to an injury. Was Kerry's best defender in the two semi-final games. Native of Knocknagoshel, Eddie comes of a well-known athletic stock.

S. Brosnan (Dingle), who will fill a midfield berth, missed through illness the honour of leading Kerry to victory in 1939. A splendid fielder and hard worker, Sean was the star of his side's victory over Cavan in the 1937 final.

P. Kennedy (Geraldines) is a worthy successor to great midfield men like Pat O'Shea, Con Murphy and Con Brosnan. A native of Annascaul, Paddy played with O'Rahillys for a couple of seasons. Was at the peak of his form against Dublin at Tralee,

and has trained hard for Sunday's game.

PIVOT OF ATTACK.

J. Walsh (Shannon Rangers) fills the right half-forward berth. A great trier, Johnny seldom plays a bad game. Has led the Shannon Rangers since that club was started. Has won four All-Irelands, as well as Railway Cup and National League medals.

T. O'Connor (Dingle) will be ever remembered for his dramatic entry as a sub in the 1937 replay against Cavan. Has filled many berths, but seems to be permanently established as pivot of the attack. Partners well with Murt Kelly. Captained the team which beat Meath in 1939.

P. B. Brosnan (Dingle) filled the full-back position in the 1938 replay against Galway, and reappeared as sub in last year's final. Scored a valuable point for his side. Was on the team which defeated Dublin in the replay at Tralee.

SCORED WINNING POINT.

J. O'Gorman (Austin Stacks), the only Rock St. representative on the team, comes of an old Kerry football family. Was on the team which lost to Dublin at Tralee in 1934. Helped in the defeat of Galway in last year's final and Dublin in this year's semi-final.

Murt Kelly (Geraldines), one of the most versatile footballers Kerry has produced for many a day, will fill the full-forward berth. Native of the Laune Ranger country, Murt played for Dublin in the 1934 final and helped Kerry win the 1939 and 1940 titles.

C. O'Sullivan (Garda), comes from Camp, but learned most of his football with Tralee C.B.S. and O'Rahillys. Scored the winning point for Kerry in last year's final. Has been moved from full to left corner, where he has more scope to exploit his artistry.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

THE publishers desire to express their sincere thanks to the advertisers for their patronage, to The Kerryman, Ltd.; The Irish Press Ltd.; Padraig O Caoimh, Secretary Central Council G.A.A., Craobh Moibhi; Sean O Ceallachain, Radio Eireann; Sean Brennan, Fionan Breathnach and many others for their co-operation.

KERRY AND GALWAY ATTRACT THE CROWDS.

KERRY AND GALWAY are the greatest box-office attractions in the country.

When the counties met in the 1938 final, the attendance was 68,950; "gate," £6,166.

Last year's final between the teams attracted a crowd of 60,824; "gate," £5,266.

Either of these figures surpasses by several thousands all previous attendance records.

They Work for Their Living And They Play The Game

"SEVEN men of Seven Trades" laid the foundation of the G.A.A., greatest amateur sports organisation in the world to-day. More than seven trades will be represented at Croke Park on Sunday when Kerry and Galway line-out for their fifteenth or fourth All-Ireland title.

Naming the trades is in fact something akin to that old game we used to play with the daisy petals, for you could go on ringing them off almost without end.

Teachers, farmers, labourers, clerks, busmen, doctors, garda, army, fishermen, post office workers, mental hospital attendants, road workers and students are represented on the sides which will battle for the 1941 football blue riband.

Jimmy McGauran, the Galway culaire, passed his final medical a few weeks ago with flying colours, and is now a fully fledged doctor. Mick Raftery, Johnny Walsh, Murt Kelly, and Sean Brosnan are teachers, while Paddy Kennedy, Charley O'Sullivan (Kerry) and Frank Cunniffe (Galway) are members of the Garda Siochana.

There are three Army men among

the thirty: Joe Keohane (Kerry), John Burke and W. Hanniffy (Galway).

John Dunne, the Galway captain, is a post office worker in Ballinasloe, and his team mate, Charley Connolly, is a mental hospital attendant in the same town.

Paddy Ban Brosnan, when not playing football for his club or county, sails the high seas off the Blaskets and Sleat Head on the "Rory," and Dan O'Keeffe, veteran of the Kerry side, and Tom O'Connor are County Council clerks.

Bill Dillon, the Kerry skipper, is a bus conductor. Dinny O'Sullivan, the Galway back, is a road worker, while J. Canavan, J. Duggan and D. Kavanagh (Galway) are students. J. O'Gorman (Kerry) is a solicitor's assistant, and W. Myers (Kerry) is a boot factory machinist. W. Casey and Eddie Walsh (Kerry) are farmers, while T. Healy (Kerry) is a shop assistant.

Teachers will be strongly represented on Sunday as Pat McDonagh (Galway full-forward), or "Cane Pat," as he is more generally known, is a member of the profession. His club is the Wolfe Tones.

Pat McDonagh (the Galway full-back) is a mental hospital attendant while Bobby Beggs is a motor man.



WHEN LAST THEY MET. START OF 1940 ALL-IRELAND FINAL.

The GREYHOUND ALL-IRELAND FINAL

FIRST HEATS: SATURDAY, 13th SEPTEMBER.

SATURDAY, 4th OCTOBER.

THE NATIONAL DERBY. £400 in Prizes. AUGUST CUP FINAL, 13th Sept. RACING EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY.

A NATIONAL SPORT and A NATIONAL INDUSTRY.

SHELBOURNE PARK IS TO GREYHOUNDS WHAT CROKE PARK IS TO HURLERS AND FOOTBALLERS.

LISTOWEL RACES

23-24-25th SEPTEMBER, 1941.

ADMISSION:
TO COURSE, 2/-; TO STAND—Gents, 7/6; Ladies, 5/-.
MOTOR CARS—5/-; RACE CARDS—1/-.

After Croke Park the popular "Island" Course will be the Mecca of ALL Sportsmen.

CUMANN LUITH - CLEAS GAEDHEAL.

Munster Championship 1941.

Senior Hurling Semi-Final

(WINNERS GET A BYE TO ALL-IRELAND FINAL)

Luimneach v. Corcaigh

(LIMERICK)

(CORK)

(All-Ireland Champions) and (National League Holders)

AT CORK ATHLETIC GROUNDS,

On Sunday, Sept. 14th.

3.30 p.m. Referee—W. O'DONNELL, Golden.

Cead Dul Isteach, 1/- and 2/-; Taobh-line, Ardan, 1/- sa bhreis.

AND THEIR WESTERN RIVALS

Spot Light on Galway

LET me introduce to you the Western Champions, challengers to Kerry in their bid to set up a new record. Like the title holders, they are a splendid bunch of footballers well worthy of the honour of appearing in an All-Ireland final. Grand fielders, every man can kick a ball out of the hand half a field's length.

The majority are familiar to the Croke Park sod, where they have played some great games.

Here they come, a gleam of defiance in every eye for while there is a healthy respect for Kerry's football prowess there is no inferiority complex so—Meet the Men of the West!

J. McGauran (U.C.G.), kept goal against Kerry in 1938 and 1940. Is one of the best ever to appear for Galway in this position. Grand pair of hands, allied to quick thinking and brainy clearances make Jimmy an obstacle to the best planned moves. Third All-Ireland final appearance.

M. Raftery (U.C.G.), a Mayo-born teacher, has rendered wonderful service to the county of his adoption. Mick is a sturdy defender, whose judgment is seldom wrong. Playing in his third All-Ireland final.

P. McDonagh (Ballinasloe), came on as a sub in the 1938 replay. Worthy successor to the great Connaire, Pat gave a brilliant exhibition as full-back against Mayo in the Connacht senior final. Has been playing like a veteran in training and is expected to do big things on Sunday.



M. RAFTERY (Galway).

WINNERS ALL!

Elvery's sports goods

For sporting value and satisfaction choose your sports equipment at ELVERY'S and enjoy the advantages of wide selections and moderate prices. We can supply you with everything you require for

FOOTBALL and HURLING

ELVERY'S

DUBLIN and CORK

Dinny O'Sullivan (Oughterard), one of the few remaining links with the 1933 team. Fills the left full-back berth and fills it so well that team supporters say that when Dinny is beaten Galway is beaten. Playing in his fourth All-Ireland.

VERSATILE FOOTBALLER.

F. Cunniffe (Garda), learned his football in that splendid Galway nursery, Ballinasloe. Played a star game in the 1938 final and still going strong. Frank will fill the right half-back berth on Sunday.

R. Beggs (Wolfe Tones) is one of the greatest all-rounders in the game. Bobby can fill any position well and is an ideal link for a great half-back line. Playing in his fourth All-Ireland final.

J. Duggan (U.C.G.), who partnered John Dunne at centre field last year, has now found a more congenial berth at left half-back. One of the most improved players in the game, Joe proved his worth against Mayo and Roscommon in the West.

C. Roscommonly (Ballinasloe) is another versatile footballer who invariably plays well against Kerry. Grand fielder and long accurate kicker, "Ship" has brought new life to the Galway centre field, where he will be partnered by

D. Kavanagh (U.C.G.), a Kerryman who has dovetailed remarkably well into this new Galway line-out. Is a brainy footballer, whose positioning was remarkably clever in the Connacht final against Roscommon. Playing in his first All-Ireland final.

W. Hanniffy (Army), helped Longford defeat Kerry in the 1937-38 League. Is another player who has fitted into the Galway ensemble. Fills the right half forward berth and is a clever footballer who will prove a handful for the Kerry defenders on Sunday. Playing in his first All-Ireland final.

UNSELFISH WORKER.

John Dunne (Ballinasloe), who will captain the team, is another link with the 1933 side. Led the Galway men to victory in 1938 and announced his retirement after last year's final. He staged a successful come-back in this season's championship. A brainy footballer who is quick to seize an opening. John will play at centre half forward on Sunday. Plays in his fifth final.

J. Canavan (Geraldines) is an ex-college and minor player, who made his first senior appearance last year. Hard worker and unselfish partner, Jarlath, who will operate on the left wing, has Mayo blood in his veins. Comes of a famous Galway football strain.

E. Mulholland (Wolfe Tones), will fill the right corner forward position. Wily schemer, whose brains played a big part in the defeat of Kerry in 1938. Eddie has shown all his old artistry in this season's campaign.

HELPED TWO PROVINCES.

P. McDonagh (Connemara) is a teacher and ex-member of Erin's Hopes. Played full back for Galway juniors, and was promoted to act as spearhead of the attack, a position he capably filled against Cavan in the semi-final.

J. Burke (Army), led Renmore to victory last year in the All-Ireland army final. Dashing footballer, John has filled many positions and has appeared on both Munster and Connacht Railway Cup teams. Fills the left corner forward berth.

ROSCOMMON COUNTY FINALS, AT CASTLEREA, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21st.

S.F.—Tarmon v. St. Patrick's, at 4.30 p.m.
J.F.—St. Patrick's v. Ballintubber or Crossna, at 3 p.m.
ADMISSION—1s.
The County Finals this year will be worth seeing.



CHARLIE CONNOLLY (Galway).

ASK ABOUT TRAINS

ASK your station master about travel facilities. He may be able to help you. Transport problems are difficult, but you may be able to help yourself by a few enquiries.

How They Fared.

HERE is how Kerry and Galway fared in their All-Ireland Final meetings:—

1938—Galway defeated Kerry by 2-4 to 0-7 after a drawn game in which the final score read:—Galway, 3-3; Kerry, 2-6.

1940—Kerry defeated Galway by 0-7 to 1-3, a last-minute point scored by C. O'Sullivan giving The Kingdom footballers victory.



J. MCGAURAN (Galway).

Ir mór an toul ar ašaid, atá déanta ašainn ac—

Tá na craob-cluicí buailte linn. Ciarraige agus an Šaillim sa com-linn ar an Domnag. Sin bliain eile, nac mór, cirta isteaé as Cumann Lúit-éleas Šaebeal.

Ói bliain maic as an gCumann, com fada agus a cuairt lion na bpóirne as iomaideacht agus teacht isteaé an airgid. So venim, dá mbar gnac bliain i, san cogad ná aicte beirdeac, agus san cogad ná comstaici taisoil, beaó stuag com mór san i bpáire an érócais so seairpi na mílte a comeaó lasmuig. Šgeal breag san, šgeal ácais ro Šaebealab.

Tá ár gcluicí fé réim is fé šraoam, fé riarad is fé easar, i nšcaé paróiste agus baile fearann, ó dl' ac' Cliaé so Connamara, is ó dontrum so oí an Dainsean.

Tá na h-oí agus na bráitire as cabrú leis na cluicí agus bíonn comórtais bun sgoi ar suibál i mbl' ac' Cliaé, Corcais, Cill Dara, Déal Féirste, Loc Šarman agus na lán ácaenna eile. Tá rian na h-oibre le feiscint i mbl' ac' Cliaé agus pós i mbl' ac' Féirste, na mionúir san dá caoir as toul i bpeabas in iomaínoicé agus i bpeit, buibeacás le Dia.

Tá fúrnór na scoláistí as véanam sár oibre ar son na gcluicí, so mór mór i gCúige Mumán agus i gCúige Connaéta. Tá coláistí ann, áin, agus is fada ó cúspóir an Šiarsais iad. In mead beic as cabrú le cluicí na nŠaebeal, is amlaró táro as iarraró cluicí na nŠall ro leacnú agus ro neartú. Tá na coláistí sin mar teactairí an Šallacais. É mar leat-šgeal acá so bfuil na cluicí Šallra com maic le cluicí na nŠaebeal. Ac, nil sa éainnt sin ac fashuim. Tá ár gcluicí féim nios anamúla, nios briogmaire agus nios fearr ná na cluicí a tús na Šasanaig leo amso agus iad i lán réim.

Tá leigéas an šgeit, nú curó ve, ar don cuma, as na Šaeóit féim. Tá túisimšceóirí ann a éureann a leandá so oí na coláistí sin, san maéchna isteaé sa éist; Šaeóit leis a veim a šcion féim ar son saoirse a oíre; is aic so mbeaó a leandá as freasual ar coláistí ná bíonn na cluicí vútcais a n-mirt ionnta agus ná cabruigeann leis na cluicí agus a túsann coirde óruim láime oóib. Ni sompla maic é, ac

So h-áiríte an fáro agus acá coláistí agus scoileanna ná tugann com-érom na féinne ro cluicí na tite seo.

Tá toul ar ašaid maic véanta ašainn, ac tá easnaí ann pós. Nil an Šaolunn com lároir agus ba éoir oi veic. Dé Domnag, i bpáire an érócais, beiró Ciarraige agus an Šaillim, dá éann ro sna comnaéte is Šaebealige dá bfuil in éirinn, as iomaí. An mberó an Šaolunn a éloisint ós na h-imreóirí ná a lué leandána? An mberó "Ciarraige abú," nú

"Šaillim ar ašaid," mar rose caá. Ni beiró, póiréar šear, ac an Déarla a steallá ro srutanna acá.

Ni veag-šompla é síro, ac oiread. Tá Šaeóilgeóirí binne ar an dá fúreann agus ar an mór lion veaime a ticeparó ó Ciarraige agus ó'n nŠaillim as feacaint ar an gcluicé. Da éoir oóib síro a véanša noúcais a cur as preabaó ar fuair na caíraé agus timéall páire an érócais com maic Cuirtois in iúl ro acá gur fíor Šaeóil iad agus gur onóir oóib an teread.

MCBIRNEY'S

(The House for Value)

DRAPERS and HOUSE FURNISHERS.

EXCELLENT VALUE in

Ladies', Gents' and Children's Outfitting, Furniture, Carpets, and Household Linens, etc., etc.

Prices Very Reasonable.

A TRIAL WILL CONVINCCE YOU.

McBirney & Co. LTD.

O'Connell Bridge, DUBLIN.

"WE'LL WIN"

Say The Kerrymen

ALMOST three years have slipped down the river of Time since Kerry and Galway first met in an All-Ireland final. This epic game was played on September 25, and yielded such a rich crop of football thrills that to-day Kerry and Galway clashes are to the Irish people what Kerry and Kildare were in former years. They have come to be reckoned as the high lights of the football world with the minimum margin separating the sides at the end of a hard hour.

The now famous rivals finished level at the end of a glorious game in 1927, and a month later Galway won the replay by three points. Since then the sides have met three times in the League and once in the championship, and the fact that at no time did more than a point separate the rivals proves conclusively that no teams of recent years have been so evenly matched.

Similarity of style and physique have made each meeting of Kerry and Galway a veritable battle of giants, and it is the memory of wonderful struggles at Croke Park, Tralee, Listowel, and Galway that made Sunday's game headline news and cross-road gossip.

THE BURNING QUESTION.

Wherever three or four football enthusiasts meet, the question "Kerry or Galway" is the chief topic of discussion. Each has its legion of followers in every part of the country. Munster naturally is strong for Kerry, while in the West there is a preponderating weight of opinion in favour of Galway's chance. Leinster and Ulster seems to be fairly divided. Dublin supporters, taking a line through Kerry's Tralee form, say that there will be no change in the title-holders, and that the Kingdom footballers will set up that new record.

Kildare and Laoighis men lean slightly towards the Kingdom, but against this there is a strong Midland vote for Galway. Cavan, like Dublin, going on semi-final form, think that Galway will win by a narrow margin, so that in the matter of public opinion there is nothing in it.

On form, too, there is little between the sides, and fortune may play a bigger part than usual on Sunday, as a lucky break one way or the other may have a definite bearing on the destination of the 1941 All-Ireland laurels.

Six meetings of the counties in Championship and League since 1938 have left things pretty much in a position of stalemate.

LEVEL PEGGING.

First meeting brought a "no decision" and Galway won the replay by three points. Next meeting was in the League at Tralee, where Kerry won by a point, and when next they came face to face in the League at Galway scores

were again level at 14 points each. The All-Ireland final of 1940 saw Kerry balance up the account in the premier competition, but only a point gave the Kerry men their fourteenth title, and when they met some weeks later at Listowel in the League, Kerry repeated their All-Ireland win by the same narrow margin.

This leaves the All-Ireland title race level while Kerry have two home wins against an away draw in the League.

Kerry hopes are high that Bill Dillon and his men will set up a new record on Sunday by winning the title for the fifteenth time. All-Ireland fever is raging in the Kingdom, and every man and woman who can collect the wherewithal is on the rocky road to Dublin to-day. It is a road the Kerry men have travelled often in this century and it is a proud achievement

to have secured fourteen championships since 1905 when the Boherbee men, helped by the Clear Air footballers as well as the Waterford bank clerk, Rody Kirwan, and Dinny Breen of the Castleisland club, made history by beating Kildare after three games.

"WE'LL WIN."

Confidence is at the zenith in the Kingdom to-day as the players have trained with a will seldom seen before in an All-Ireland. There is no minimising the Westerners' prowess, for Galway have already proved the equal of the champions.

There is, however, the feeling that this present fifteen, rated as good as any to leave the Kingdom, will bring back the laurels, and the answer to the question I put, "Who'll win on Sunday?" was, without hesitation, "We Will."

MIDFIELD STAR.



PADDY KENNEDY (Kerry).

Clar An Lae.

2.15—Minor Hurling Semi - Final, Antrim v. Cork (Dr. J. J. Stuart, Dublin).

3.30—Senior Football Final—Kerry (Champions) v. Galway (P. McKenna, Limerick).

CROKE PARK

FOLLOWING the huge success which attended the Croke Memorial Final in 1913 (draw and replay) between Kerry and Louth, the G.A.A. purchased the pitch at Jones's Road, and named it Croke Park.

Considerable improvements have since been effected in the grounds. The Hogan, Cusack and other stands have been erected and accommodation for spectators has been immensely increased. Each individual can now witness the games in comfort, and it is estimated that Croke Park has a crowd capacity of some 80,000.

Improvements are proceeding each year, so that Croke Park is one of the finest sporting arenas in these islands. The Cusack Stand, opened in 1938, is the most recent sign of the Association's progress, an ideal vantage point for thousands of enthusiasts.

THE GAELIC GAME!

Boys! field them high and grip them low,
Then drive them straight with wellset toe—
The sailing point, the lightning pass,
Where forwards swerve on verdant grass,
Those headlong goals, our Race proclaim—
Of Spartan strength this Gaelic Game!

—From "Gaelic Football."



E. WALSH (Kerry).

GAELIC FOOTBALL.

"Carbery's" Book.

DO you wish to learn of the football played in Ireland centuries before the G.A.A. was born? Do you want to study the growth of the modern game, its evolution down the years?

Then the book you require is "Gaelic Football" by "Carbery." It is written by a leading sports writer who has half a century's connection, on and off the field, with Gaelic football. There is a brief description of each All-Ireland played, together with the teams which took part. The book contains pen-pictures of leading G.A.A. personalities, players and officials, in the different counties.

All items of football interest will be found within the covers of this book, together with records' lists. No follower of the game should be without "Gaelic Football." On sale at all newsagents at 1/6 per copy.

KERRY AND GALWAY COUNTIES.

Galway has a population of 168,198, and an area of 1,467,660 acres. The population of Kerry is 139,834; area, 1,161,705 acres.

Each county has a big number of Irish speakers and a substantial area of each is scheduled a Fíor Ghael-teacht.

KERRY FORWARDS



John Walsh

Charlie Sullivan



J. KEOHANE (Kerry).

Path to The Final.

KERRY

Beat Clare, 2-9 to 0-6.
Drew with Dublin, 0-4 to 0-4.
Beat Dublin, 2-9 to 0-3.

GALWAY

Beat Mayo, 0-10 to 1-5.
Beat Roscommon, 0-8 to 1-4.
Beat Cavan, 1-12 to 1-4.

Caiteam Aimpire

YOUR wants in the way of amusements are fully catered for over the week-end.

To-night (Saturday) the Geraldines will hold their annual meeting and smoking concert at Jury's Hotel. The humble "bob" will admit you to the happy re-union of old and new Gers.

The Siamsa Mor at the Mansion House on Sunday night should prove a big attraction, as here the winning team will be presented with the All-Ireland medals.

Picture lovers will have their needs fully catered for at the Adelphi.

The Metropole will as usual be open through the day for teas, etc.

ALL-IRELAND FOOTBALL FINAL.

TO CATER FOR VISITORS THE METROPOLE Restaurant

DUBLIN

(Next G.P.O.)

Will OPEN on Sunday, Sept. 7th,

11 a.m. to 8 p.m. for service of

Lunches, Teas, Etc.

at Moderate Prices.

ALL FLOORS FULLY LICENSED.

CUMANN LUITH-CHLEAS GAEDHEAL.

SUNDAY'S ALL-IRELAND FOOTBALL FINAL—

GAILLIMH agus CIARRAIDHE at 3.30 p.m.

TYPICAL GAELIC FOOTBALLERS :: HIGH FIELDERS AND LONG KICKERS :: IT SHOULD BE A GAME OF THRILLS.

Minor Hurling Semi-Final—CORCAIGH v. AONTRUIM—at 2.15.

ADMISSION—1/- and 2/-. SIDE-LINE, 2/6 extra from 2/- enclosure only.

RESERVED CUSACK STAND TICKETS, 5/- each, may be had from Purcell's, Tobacconist, 68, Upper O'Connell Street, Dublin; or from the Association's Headquarters at Croke House, Clonliffe Road, Dublin, or at Grounds on morning of match.

ENTRANCES TO GROUNDS AS FOLLOWS:—1/- Enclosure from Canal Entrance, Jones's Road, and James Avenue and Joseph's Avenue, off Clonliffe Road. 2/- Enclosure, Main Gates, Jones's Road. Side-Line, 2/6, from 2/- Enclosure. Hogan Stand Ticket Holders, through Special Gate Main Entrance, Jones's Road. Cusack Stand—Special Entrance from James Avenue, off Clonliffe Road.



F. CUNIFFE (Galway).

"WE TOO"

Answer The Galwegians

IN all the long years while the tide of fortune ebbed oftener than it flowed, the Galway men kept their chins up like the good Gaels they are. Slowly but surely they forged their way to stellar class until to-day those men from Corrib and Suck can hold their own with the best in Munster, Connacht or Ulster.

The Galwegians have held their own in many hectic games with the Kerry-men, and it is the knowledge that their footballers defeated the present champions in 1938 and only lost by a point in 1940, that is heartening every Galway supporter and sending a big following to Croke Park.

A BETTER TEAM.

Enthusiasm is also at fever point in the West, where John Dunne and his men are strong favourites to reverse last year's verdict.

Those who saw the Connacht champions regain the 1940 Western title and successfully defend it in 1941 against Mayo and Roscommon say that this is a better team than that which lost by a point to Kerry in the 1940 All-Ireland.

Individually the Galway men are every bit as good footballers, if not a shade better than, the Kerry-men, while the Galway team work is certainly on a par with the best.

Galway may not have won as many championships as Kerry, but there is a grand tradition behind the Tribesmen, as this county of crag and stream, of plain and mountain was among the first to answer the clarion call sent out from Thurles.

SPIRIT STILL ALIVE.

The Gaelic spirit has ever been strong by the Corrib and to-day Galway hopes are as high as they were three years ago when a great team came out of the Golden West to show that Kerry had no monopoly of good old-time Gaelic football.

There is a strong blend of experience on Sunday's side for Dinny O'Sullivan, Beggs, Dunne and Raftery have been through many hard campaigns, while McGauran, Cuniffe, Connolly, Mulholland, Canavan, Duggan and Burke have already pitted their skill against the Kerry-men at Croke Park on All-Ireland final day.

Most of those players have graduated from minor ranks, while even newcomers like Hanniffy and Pat McDonagh have collected all the art and craft of the game.

This has been a remarkable final in the way of unchanged teams, as both sets of selectors have been content to leave very well alone.

Galway have all reported fit and well to battle for the highest honour of the football world—the All-Ireland Crown. They realise that they are up against one of the greatest, if not the greatest, championship teams in the country, and their pride will be all the greater if they succeed in dethroning the Champions. They are as emphatic as are the

Kerry-men that victory will be theirs on Sunday. When I informed them that the Kerry-men's reply to the question, "Who'll win?" was "We will," the Galway men smiled, while one or two remarked, "That's strange for we'll win; so how can Kerry win too?"

It is a bit of a riddle that only Croke Park can solve.



D. SULLIVAN (Galway).

Big Games to Come.

THERE are quite a few Championship games yet to be decided, and even after the All-Ireland schedule is completed we will have provincial championship finals in Leinster and Munster.

Next Sunday, Sept. 14, we have the Munster senior hurling semi-final at Cork, between Limerick (All-Ireland Champions) and Cork. This can be rated as an All-Ireland semi-final, as the winners go into the All-Ireland final by nomination.

Both sides are in training at the moment for the game, which should live up to tradition.

Galway will be in another big game next Sunday, the hurlers playing Dublin, representing Leinster, in the All-Ireland semi-final at Roscrea.

Dublin have gone into training for this game, which will be preceded by the Minor hurling semi-final—Laoighis v. Galway.

Galway are also in the All-Ireland Junior hurling final, in which they play Limerick at a venue and on a date to be fixed by the Central Council to-day (Saturday).

Kerry, too, are in another All-Ireland final, the Junior footballers having qualified to meet Cavan in the decider of this championship.

Other fixtures still to be decided are All-Ireland Minor Football final, Louth (holders) v. Roscommon; All-Ireland Minor Hurling final, Cork or Antrim v. Laoighis or Galway.

The following provincial finals have yet to be played: **Leinster**—Senior football, Dublin v. Carlow; senior hurling, Dublin v. Kilkenny; junior hurling, Wexford v. Kilkenny; minor hurling, Laoighis v. Kilkenny. **Munster**—Senior hurling final, Tipperary v. Cork or Limerick; minor hurling final, Tipperary v. Cork.

Previous All-Ireland Final Appearances of The Rivals.

KERRY.

- 1892—Lost to Dublin, 0-3 to 1-4.
- 1903—Beat Kildare, 0-8 to 0-2.
- Second replay (home final), and later beat London Hibernians, 0-11 to 0-3.
- 1904—Beat Dublin, 0-5 to 0-2.
- 1905—Lost to Kildare, 0-5 to 1-7.
- 1908—Lost to Dublin, 0-10 to 0-3.
- 1909—Beat Louth, 1-9 to 0-6.

- 1910—Conceded walk-over to Louth.
- 1913—Beat Wexford, 2-2 to 0-3.
- 1914—Beat Wexford, 2-3 to 0-6.
- (After drawn game—Kerry, 1-3; Wexford, 2-0.)
- 1915—Lost to Wexford, 2-4 to 2-1.
- 1923—Lost to Dublin, 1-3 to 1-5.
- 1924—Beat Dublin, 0-4 to 0-3.
- 1925—Disqualified on objection.
- 1926—Beat Kildare, 1-4 to 0-4.
- (After drawn game—Kerry, 1-3, to Kildare, 0-6.)
- 1927—Lost to Kildare, 0-3 to 0-5.
- 1929—Beat Kildare, 1-8 to 1-5.
- 1930—Beat Monaghan, 3-11 to 0-2.
- 1931—Beat Kildare, 1-11 to 0-8.
- 1932—Beat Mayo, 2-7 to 2-4.
- 1937—Beat Cavan, 4-4 to 1-7.
- (After drawn game—Kerry, 2-5; to Cavan, 1-8.)
- 1938—Lost to Galway, 0-7 to 2-4.
- (After drawn game—Kerry, 2-6; to Galway, 3-3.)
- 1939—Beat Meath, 2-5 to 2-3.
- 1940—Beat Galway, 0-7 to 1-3.

TOP FORWARD.



JOHN BURKE (Galway).

GALWAY.

- 1900—Lost to Tipperary, 0-1 to 2-20.
- 1919—Lost to Kildare, 0-1 to 2-5.
- 1922—Lost to Dublin, 0-4 to 0-6.
- 1933—Lost to Cavan, 2-5 to 1-4.
- 1934—Beat Dublin, 3-5 to 1-9.
- 1938—Beat Kerry, 2-4 to 0-7.
- 1940—Lost to Kerry, 1-3 to 0-7.

In 1925 Galway were declared All-Ireland Champions after beating Mayo in the Connacht Final. Kerry (holders) and Cavan were ruled out on objections after Kerry had beaten Cavan, while Mayo, nominated to represent Connacht, beat Wexford, but lost to Galway later in the Western decider.

COZAR

IF you enjoyed reading "The Gaelic Echo," tell your friends about it. Mention it to our advertisers and tell the world that the next issue will be on Sept. 27, eve of the All-Ireland Hurling Final. Orders can be sent to 14, Cearnog Parnail, Baile Atha Cliath.

August Cup at Shelbourne Park.

By "THE RAMBLER."

THE dogs have invariably proved a strong drawing card for All-Ireland football final visitors, and this year, as usual, Mr. O'Donoghue has arranged an extremely attractive programme at Shelbourne Park.

This includes the two semi-finals of the August Cup as well as Derby Trial Stakes and Sweepstakes.

The first heats of the Derby will be run on Saturday, September 13.

Chief feature at Shelbourne Park will be the August Cup semi-final in which fast timers like Brown Bank, Cool Chief, Orzel and Little Brown Rat figure. The first semi-final looks to be between Brown Bank and Cool Chief, with Carragh Lass also holding a chance. Cool Chief should be followed home by Brown Bank and Carragh Lass.

Orzel, Little Brown Rat and Bruiser's Castle look the pick of the second semi-final in which I fancy Little Brown Rat.

Listowel Races.

READERS should keep in mind the dates of the Listowel Races, 23rd, 24th and 25th September.

Three days of excellent sport over the famous Island course adjacent to Listowel are certain, because the best horses in training in Ireland will be running there. The hospitable town will be en fete and the carnival spirit will abound.

CUMANN LUITH-CHLEAS GAEDHEAL.

ALL-IRELAND HURLING FINAL

LUIMNEACH no CORCAIGH v. ATHA CLIATH no GAILLIMH

i b PAIRC AN CHROCAIG, :: SEPTEMBER 28th, 1941.

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All-Ireland Senior and Minor Hurling Semi-Finals at Roscrea, September 14.

(S) ATHA CLIATH (Laighean) v. GAILLIMH (Connacht).

(M) LAOIGHIS (Laighean) v. GAILLIMH (Connacht).

MERITS of THE CHAMPIONS AND THE CHALLENGERS DISCUSSED

SUMMING it all up is no easy task for what with unbounded confidence and two trained teams ready and eager to battle for the blue riband it is hard to answer that question you are all ready to fire at me. Luck may play a big part in Sunday's game, which I cannot see won by a big score.

There will be no clash of styles but there should be plenty of high fielding and long kicking with, perhaps, Galway introducing a little short hand-passing.

Early on let me express a wish and a hope that the football will be constructive and not destructive. Each side had its share of luck already and once again we saw Kerry's Croke Park luck to the fore against Dublin.

NO "HOODOO."

This proverbial Kingdom good fortune at Croke Park will not, however, put any "Hoodoo" on the Galway men, who even beat Kerry in a replay, and if there is any team at the moment to beat the champions, Galway is that team.

SHEET ANCHOR.

In height, age and weight, there is little between the teams. The defences on each side could scarcely be faulted, although many Galway supporters would like to see Connaire at full-back. His successor, Pat McDonagh, however, is a good young footballer who will not be flustered by the big occasion.

The Galway half back line of Duggan, Beggs and Cunniffe is the sheet anchor of the team, for it has weight, height and football craft.

The centre field of Connolly and Kavanagh will be up against their toughest proposition yet in the Kerry pair, Brosnan and Kennedy. Kennedy is a sweet, clean footballer, whose Tralee form would tip the scales in favour of Kerry in this important sector.

Connolly, too, can rise to great heights, while his partner, Kavanagh, is a canny footballer who can place a ball to the very best advantage.

KERRY'S STRONG LINE.

Kerry's strongest line will be that of Keohane, Myers and Healy, three ex-minors who have developed into the soundest full-back trio of to-day. Keohane's fielding and clearances have often been the saviour of his side, while he has capable flankers in Healy and Myers.

John Burke and Mulholland, who will fill the extreme corner positions in the Galway attack, are wily schemers and given enough of the ball they will go a long way towards taking the title to the West.

The Kerry half line was not too sound against Dublin, but Casey and Dillon improved the proverbial ton in training. This is one of the chief reasons for the Kerry confidence, but the Galway half-forward line is as good as that which helped in the Kingdom defeat three years ago.

Hanniffy is a fast, strong winger,

while Dunne's opportunism will be a thorn on the side of the champions. Canavan, too, is a hard worker, so that sound and all as is the Kerry defence, it is up against it good and hard on Sunday.

VITAL SPOT.

The Galway full line may miss Connaire but Raftery and Dinny O'Sullivan are experienced flankers for the youthful Pat McDonagh. This is going to be the vital spot for each side in Sunday's game.

If the Kerry full line of forwards—O'Gorman, Kelly and O'Sullivan—can claim a little superiority over the Western trio, the champions' hopes of setting up that new record will have grown more rosy.

We are likely to see changes in placings in the Kerry attack as we saw at Tralee, where Murt Kelly and Gega O'Connor pulled off the switch twice.

The same can be said of the Westerners who have one of the cleverest tacticians of recent times in Brendan Nestor looking for weak spots in the Kerry armour.

Brendan won the Connacht semi-final against Mayo by a couple of quick moves, and he is certain to play as big a part in the game from the line as he played on the field since 1933.

The Galway half-back line will be another stiff barrier to Kerry's record bid. The Kerry half-forward line can and may easily play better than against Dublin.

It will be a game in which there will be no place for laggards, and a game that will be dour and hard.

Backs will I think generally beat forwards while early snap scores will have little effect on the morale of the players who will not suffer from any delusions about the merits of their rivals.

WE MUST WAIT.

The Galway attack will be a more virile force than it was a year ago, but on the other hand, the playing of Murt Kelly in the full-forward position may help the Kerry attack to open up the game.

Victory will go to the side capable of spreading out the rival defence and we must wait until Sunday to see how the two sets of forwards will exploit the drawing of backs policy.

So evenly balanced are the sides that we may have another draw to add to the record number of games which marked the progress of the 1941 championship.

"Play the Game" is my final word, and "May the better team win" is my wish for two gallant rivals.

CHAIRMAN KERRY COUNTY BOARD.



MR. D. J. BAILY.

Press Opinions.

GALWAY.

The "Connacht Tribune" (Galway) writes:—

"Impartial followers of the game—even in Kerry—would not claim that the better team won last year. That slickly manipulated point sent over by C. Sullivan in the last minute of the 1940 final brought victory and defeat in a game that would have ended more fittingly in a draw. This year, G.A.A. officials in Galway hold that the Western team are better than the 'Kingdom' men and they look forward to a clear-cut victory by that 'better team'."

KERRY.

"The Kerryman" (Tralee) writes:— "Our players are battling for their fifteenth football crown, an honour without parallel in Gaelic records. On such occasions Kerry teams of the past have called up latent reserves of football prowess. They always have risen to great heights, metaphorically and otherwise. The present team has inherited these great traditions. A heavy responsibility falls upon them, but they will, once more, prove equal to the trust and will not let their county down. The All-Ireland is at stake. Kerry footballers need no greater urge. This time they fight for the greatest record in Gaeldom. They will secure it."

SPECIAL TRAINING.

In 1913 Louth introduced special training for the Croke Memorial Final with Kerry. Kerry followed suit.

Since then all counties train, specially for All-Irelands, in hurling and football.

G.A.A. "GATE" INCREASE.

The "gate" at the Kerry-Kildare All-Ireland Final, 1903 (third game) at Cork was £350.

The "gate" at the Kerry-Galway All-Ireland final in 1938 was £6,166.

Opinions From Rival Camps Show Utmost Confidence.

KERRY OR GALWAY? The question that is swamping war news and other news will be decided on Sunday at the National Stadium. It has been debated from every angle in every corner of the country since Kerry beat Dublin and Galway conquered Cavan to qualify for their third All-Ireland final meeting.

The rival followers and rival Captains are confident to a fault as one can judge by these few opinions:—

"VICTORY SWEEP," SAYS JOHN JOE.

John Joe Sheehy, old Kerry skipper, with a Croke Park glint in his eye, said: "Having gone into the merits and placings of both teams, I anticipate an hour of thrills on Sunday. I can also visualise an hour of heart-aches for the followers of both sides, as the game should be hard and close. Kerry recognising the worth of their opponents—Kerry tuned up in the All-Ireland spirit—Kerry out to capture the pinnacle of All-Ireland records—should, and will, sweep on to victory."

Bill Dillon was happy when he told us: "The lads are in great form and we are expecting a hard close game as we always get from Galway. I think that when the final whistle is sounded that Kerry will have won its fifteenth All-Ireland."

D. J. Baily, Chairman of the Kerry County Board, and a shrewd judge of form, said: "I think that Sunday's final should be a great game as both teams favour the same style of football and know each others play. I think Kerry will win but the margin will be a small one."

"NO BOTHER" GALWAY SAYS J. J. NESTOR.

Speaking to us last night, J. J. Nestor, Chairman of Galway Football Board and himself an old inter-county player, said: "The only comment I have to make in connection with the All-Ireland football final is: 'While admitting that Kerry is a wonderful football county and without underestimating their skill and 'catch and kick style,' I see no reason why our boys will not win. I spent some hours in the training camp yesterday and never saw such enthusiasm or players so fit for a big game."

John Dunne, the Galway skipper, said: "I think that this is as good a team as that which beat Kerry in 1938. We know Kerry well and realise that they are a great team but we feel that we are just a little better and that we will win the rubber game on Sunday."

Dr. O'Farrell, Ballinasloe, who has acted as medical adviser to the Galway teams of recent year, told us: "The boys are all fit. They have trained remarkably well, and it will take a great team to beat them. With ordinary luck we should win."

CHANGES IN RULES.

The early All-Ireland Finals were contested by 21 aside teams.

In 1892 the number of players reduced from 21 to 17.

In 1913 fifteen was fixed as the number.

Originally a goal eclipsed a number of points. In 1892 a goal was equal to five points, and later to three points.

DRAWN GAMES.

If teams finish level at the end of an hour's play, they have the option of playing extra time.

They are not compelled by rule to do so.

The Referee's decision as to time is absolutely final.

CHAIRMAN GALWAY G.A.A.



MR. J. J. NESTOR.

Clo buaire as muintir "An Ciarraigeac" Teo., Tralee, agus foillsige as luic "Mac Calla na nSaebal," 14 Ceannog Barnat, Dote Aca Clat.

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