

THE GAEILIC ECHO

macalla na n-*Ṣaeṓeal*

Daile Áta Cúic, Meáton *ṓoṣmáir* a 25, 1943

Luac 2p.

A 50-50 ALL-IRELAND

Between The Champions of North And West

THE LINE-OUT

FIRST meeting of Cavan and Roscommon, champions respectively of Ulster and Connacht, at Croke Park to-morrow, for the 1943 Senior Football title, will in all probability produce one of the best games of recent years.

Youth fills a big place on the rival sides, and when you have youth you are sure to have fast football.

Like the hurling game of three weeks back, it is a history-making final, as in the fifty odd years of the Senior Championship, this is the first occasion for Roscommon to reach the deciding stage. The Westerners, however, have won minor and junior honours and that they are a good bunch of footballers is admitted on all sides, for since 1941 they have been challenging Galway in the West. Cavan are the more familiar figures at Croke Park, where invariably the Breffni men play well, as they like the spacious headquarters pitch where they can swing the ball about and fully exploit their craft and skill.

The Slashers romped through the championship in the North to add to their already proud record of titles won in Ulster.

NECK AND NECK AFFAIR.

Their semi-final game with Cork was a neck and neck affair with the Breffni craft and tenacity carrying the day. It was a narrow margin but supporters of the Northern champions left Croke Park well pleased with the display of their players quite a few of whom were obviously untrained. Roscommon after readily defeating Leitrim in the West had a stiff game with Galway, who held out high hopes for three-quarters of an hour.

Roscommon's youth, however, prevailed, and after a twenty-eight years' span the County again appeared in an All Ireland Semi-final against Louth, their old rivals of Minor championship days.

It was a brilliant game between the Western and Eastern champions many of whom had met before in minor competitions.

RAPID SCORING.

Scores were exchanged with a rapidity that kept the crowd on edge and had conditions been better there is no doubt, but that it would have been a classic struggle. As it was, it was a brilliant affair, and when Roscommon left the field victors by four points they had written a fresh page of G.A.A. history as it was the first time for the county to qualify for a senior All-Ireland final. It is also the first time for Cavan and Roscommon to meet in an All-Ireland senior test and interest has been whetted because of this bid of the Western champions to add the senior All-Ireland to minor and junior titles won in recent years.

It is a final that is rousing two provinces from end to end, and ex-

citing unprecedented interest in the other two, for it is generally conceded that there is little between the teams, and that victory for either may only come at the end of a dour struggle.

Cavan, because of their great championship tradition of recent years are the fancies of many shrewd judges outside the Northern province where, naturally the Breffni men are the more strongly favoured to bring home their third All-Ireland title.

Roscommon's youth has also its big quota of supporters and South of the Boyne there are thousands who swear by this bunch of young giants from the level hands of St. Coman's County.

Supporters of the Western champions point to the steady rise of football in this historic Connacht land when to-day man, woman and child are discussing the chances and praying for the success of Jimmy Murray's saffron and blue clad footballers in their bid to place Roscommon among the elect in the All-Ireland roll of honour.

This will be Cavan's fifth appearance in an All Ireland Senior Final, and in recent years the name of Breffni O'Raghallaigh has been a prominent one in the championship records.

They favour a style of football that has much in common with that of Kildare in the palmy days of the Lily White as they can catch and kick with the best while they blend clever hand-passing and drawing the defence methods with the older style still favoured in many counties. Their forwards are exceptionally clever, while their defence generally relies on high catching and long kicking.

SHOULD BE FAST.

Roscommon football is moulded more on the style of Galway or Kerry, but the Western champions

ROSCOMMON CAPTAIN



JIMMIE MURRAY (St. Patrick's) who will captain the Connacht Champions.

can also mix guile and craft with their catching and kicking. Their forwards have weight and combine well while their centre-field, while not claiming the same experience as that of Cavan, has, in the estimation of Western supporters improved with every game.

As we had written earlier on, it should be a fast game as youth plays a big part in the rival selections.

There is no reason to doubt the staying power of either side as in the semi-finals Roscommon lasted it out better against Louth, while Cavan withstood a whirlwind Cork finish.

A fifty-fifty final we have heard it predicted in Cavan and Roscommon and a fifty-fifty game it is likely to be. Roscommon may make history in a year of many fresh pages of history, but Cavan will not be readily deprived of the honour of taking their third All-Ireland to Ulster.

It should be a clean game; a fast game, and a game that will probably attract the biggest war-time crowd to the National Stadium.

Let us re-echo the old wish that "it may be a game worthy of the great occasion," and may the better team win. Let us hope players and team supporters will remember that all Ireland's eyes are on Croke Park and that it behoves every person to give of the best in the best sporting spirit. Players will surely be the best of friends after the game, and team followers, too, should try to appreciate the brilliant passages of opponents as well as of their own favourites. Play the game should be the motto of the man on the field, and the man on the sideline, too.

FOR MINOR LINE-OUT, SEE PAGE 6.

CAVAN (Royal Blue)



J. D. Benson (U.C.D.)

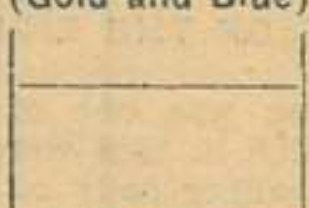
E. Finnegan (Mt Nugent) B. Cully (U.C.D & Arva) J. W. Martin (Mullingar)
G. Smith (Kill) T. O'Reilly (Cornafean) S. Deignan (C' Ser., Dub) (capt.)

J. J. O'Reilly (Curragh) M. Higgins (Mt. Nugent)

D. Morgan (Cross) P. Smith (Vet. Coll.) T. P. O'Reilly (U.C.D.)

P. Boylan (S. McD'm'ts, Dublin) Joe Stafford (S. McDermotts) T. Rogers (Arva)

ROSCOMMON (Gold and Blue)



F. Glynn (Tarmon)

L. Cummins (Tarmon) J. P. O'Callaghan (Tarmon) W. J'kson (Athlone T'n)

B. Lynch (Oran) L. Carlos (Tarmon) W. Heavey (St. Patricks)

E. Boland (St. Mgts, Dub.) L. Gilmartin (St. Patricks)

P. Murray (St. Patks) J. Murray (St. Patricks) D. Keenan (U.C.D.) (capt.)

D McDermott (Mantua) J. McQuillan (St. Patricks) F. Kinlough (Castleisland)

Subs: O. Hoare, H. Connor, H. Gibbons, W. Kinlough, D. O'Rourke.

gins will play at right half forward. T. Rogers will move across to right corner forward position, and D. Morgan will play in the left corner. E. Finnegan and P. Boylan will be first subs., respectively, for defence and attack.

Quality Footwear—



MEN

LESS TRANSPORT MEANS MORE WALKING. To-day the need for Good Quality Footwear is more essential than ever. Every pair of shoes we stock is dependable. It pays you to let us fit you, you can be assured of a good selection and reasonable prices.

Fitzpatrick's Footwear Ltd.

2 G.P.O. BUILDINGS, HENRY ST. Telephone 43686
14 STH. GREAT GEORGE'S ST. Telephone 21776
DUBLIN

Irish Tanners Ltd.
Portlaw
Co. Waterford.

The Largest Tannery in Eire.

ROSCOMMON WAITED 40 YEARS

THEY ARE NOW AS GOOD AS THE BEST

ALTHOUGH the name of Roscommon did not fill a big place in the news until recent times, this Connacht County that stretches along the lordly Shannon and touches Galway, Offaly, Mayo, Leitrim and Westmeath, has been in the van of the struggle for native games since the inauguration of the G.A.A.

Even before the great National Athletic Association came into being, there were inter parish hurling games in Rosecommon, where, strange to say, the caman was popular long before the football, and to Rosecommon goes the honour of once taking the senior hurling title from Galway.

This was away back in 1906, and it speaks well for the spirit of those Roscommon men that there are still many hurling clubs in the county and that the standard of play has shown a definite improvement in recent times.

ONE OF THE EIGHT.

Roscommon was one of the eight counties which in 1888 were affiliated to the controlling body of the newly established G.A.A., that with the exception of a break from 1901 to 1905 has always received loyal and true support from this Western county that is almost as much Leinster as it is Connacht.

In those infant days of the Association one of its chief protagonists was the late Jasper Tully, M.P., whose paper, the *Roscommon Herald*, gave enthusiastic support to the G.A.A.

Elphin, Boyle, Strokestown, Tisara, Castlereagh, Roscommon and Kilbride were among the earliest clubs to participate in the local competitions, the Elphin O'Briens winning the first football championship, and to this

victory over Galway in the 1943 final.

As in the majority of the thirty-two counties, the early days were hard ones. The task of organising the youth of the countryside was a big one, but there were earnest Gaels in every parish. G. W. Tully of Boyle was one of the earliest Secs. of the County Board, while the Treas. was James Lindsay. Roscommon supplied the first Sec. of the Connacht Council in the person of Frank Dorr, Roscommon town, who moved the first resolution imposing a ban on foreign games.

It is a tribute to the Gaels of Roscommon, often described as the county of the graziers and sheep raisers, that foreign games have never made any progress, and that to-day the national pastimes are as popular and virile as in any other part of Ireland.

There are minor, junior and senior teams in practically every parish or large centre of population, and after forty years of waiting Roscommon colours will appear for the first time to-morrow in a senior All Ireland final.

AT CROKE PARK BEFORE.

Those colours, however, have been seen at Croke Park before, and at many other venues, too, as the county minors and juniors have won All Ireland honours. On their way to these honours they have beaten teams from the chief strongholds of Gaelic football. In the 1940 junior semi-final they defeated Cavan, and going on the form shown in that game the Roscommon players feel that they again have the beating of the Ulster champions.

In the 1939 minor semi-final they beat Cork, and in the final they defeated Monaghan, while in 1941 they defeated Antrim and Louth.

Long years of hard work have brought Roscommon to its present proud position. The county is now one of the best organised in the country, with three Div. Boards carrying on competitions which are drawing big crowds.

STERLING WORKERS.

One has to go back a few years to the days when P. J. Gilhooly was Chairman and M. Brennan Sec. to realise properly the uphill task which has been surmounted by enthusiastic Gaels, who also included Fr. Tim Quigley, Frank Forde, Paddy Liddy and many other sterling workers. The advent of Dan O'Rourke, himself a splendid footballer, as Chairman, and J. J. Fahy as Sec., however, marked the real advance of Roscommon. Only those closely connected with the work of the Association in recent years can

MR. J. J. FAHY



Roscommon Secretary, who has worked hard for the games in that county.

adequately pay tribute to the work of Messrs. O'Rourke and Fahy.

Dan O'Rourke was the inspiration of the Tarmon team, while his financial assistance helped in tiding over many dark days. He placed his purse and house at the disposal of Roscommon teams for training for Connacht finals and other competitions.

The present Sec., Mr. Fahy, is another who has never spared himself when it came to a question of Roscommon on the Gaelic field.

He has even returned monies voted to him for his work as Co. Sec., and it is to his organising ability that the county owes its present proud position. There are, of course, other tireless workers such as the Secs. of the Divisional Boards and the members of the Selection Committee, who have often at great inconvenience attended meetings.

For 40 years Roscommon have waited for this proud day when the footballers of the county would stand on the Croke Park pitch as representatives of Connacht in an All Ireland senior final. That day has come and to-morrow all Connacht will be there to cheer on the men from Tarmon, Moore, Curraghboy, Knockcroghery, Castlereagh, Fuerty, and Ballymurray in their bid to follow in the footsteps of Galway and Mayo, who have already brought premier honours to the West.

In every home there will be eager hearts waiting for news of Pop and Doc of Phelim, and Jamesey of Latty, Donal Derry and the rest of the boys as they pit their skill and strength against the footballers of Breffni.

We in Roscommon realise that the task is a big one, but we have faith in our gallant men, who have already vanquished Galway and Louth.

May they prove themselves worthy standard-bearers of Connacht and Roscommon, and may victory reward them at the end of a game which we feel sure will be as good as any played at Croke Park or outside it for the All Ireland football title.

AN CLAR

1.45—Leinster Minor Football Final (1942): Louth v. Kildare.

3.15—All Ireland Senior Football Final: Cavan v. Roscommon. P. McKenna (Limerick).

A ROSCOMMON RALLYING SONG

THE following lines were written specially by a Roscommon friend for the Gaelic Echo. It is sung to the air of "Steady Boys and Step Together," and we hope that all Roscommon readers will memorise the words and sing them at Croke Park.

Now we're here in Dublin, boys,
And our hearts are full of joy,
For we know we have come up
To see Roscommon win the cup.
So steady, boys, and firmly tread,
For Croke Park we now will head,
Hip, hip, hip hurray,
The Gold and Blue will win to-day,
Hip hurray, hip, hip hurray.

If there be any of faint heart
Among Ros. men bound for the Park,
Tell them, boys, as we'll all do,
No fifteen were as staunch and true.
So onwards, boys, we'll soon be there,
Let's give them now one rousing cheer,
Hip, hip, hip hurray,
The Gold and Blue will win to-day,
Hip, hurray, hip, hip hurray.

They All Say:

"We'll Win"

AS in the case of every All Ireland Final, confidence is unbounded in the rival camps. Team supporters and selectors admit that this will probably be a close game, but "We'll win" is the last word from Roscommon and Cavan.

Roscommon say that youth and enthusiasm will carry them through, while Cavan hold that their experience will just tip the scales for a Northern triumph.

Roscommon trained at Roscommon town under Sergt. Billy Keogh, a Waterford man who had charge of the team for the semi-final with Louth.

Dan O'Rourke, N.T., P. J. Gilhooly (Sec., Co. Council), J. J. Fahy (Sec., Co. Board), were constantly in attendance to see that everything was right, while Rev. Bro. Kennedy, who saw most of the team learn the game in the local C.B.S., also found time from his many duties to impart a word of advice.

Here in brief is what they told us about their chances:

A BETTER SIDE.

Jimmy Murray, the Knockcroghery born captain, said:—

"We have plenty of experience, as most of our men have played in Minor and Junior All Irelands. We'll be fifty per cent a better team than against Louth, which should be good enough to beat Cavan, whom we all know are a great All Ireland final day team." Billy Keogh's opinion was:—

Roscommon will win and, in my opinion, will win well, as they are a fitter and more confident team than they were against Louth. Every man put his heart into the training, and if they show the same enthusiasm at Croke Park I have no doubt about the result—a Roscommon victory."

Mr. Dan O'Rourke, himself an old Roscommon and De La Salle, Waterford, footballer, was very pleased with the way the players had trained. He told us:—

"There was a great spirit here for the past fortnight with every player imbued with the victory spirit. Cavan are fine footballers, no better in fact, and if we beat them, as I expect we will, it will be a glorious achievement for a county that is making its first All Ireland final appearance."

SUPPORTERS THANKED.

Mr. Gilhooly and Mr. Fahy were also sure that Roscommon would pull through, while the players themselves thought they had a good chance, even against Cavan. Mr. Fahy desired to thank the people of Roscommon and of Connacht for their response to the Training Fund appeal.

Cavan trained at Cherrybank, Cornafean, placed at their disposal by Mr. Paul McShane, one of the founders of the Cornafean Club.

The training was done under the guidance of Sergt. O'Reilly, who trained the 1937 team, and Billy Young, who kept goal for the county in dozens of big games, including All Ireland finals.

Messrs M. J. Magee, N.T., P. Masterson and H. Smith (Co. Sec.) were among those who saw that everything was carried out according to plan.

Well, here are the opinions of a few Cavan men who should know:—

Tom O'Reilly: "It should be a good, clean game, which I think we'll win. We were not trained for the semi-final with Cork; therefore we should be a hundred per cent better team on Sunday."

John Joe O'Reilly: "You can tell your readers that we all expect a Cavan victory."

Sergt. O'Reilly: "They are all fit and well and have only to play up to the form shown in training to bring home the All Ireland."

PEOPLE'S HELP.

M. J. Magee paid a tribute to the Cavan people for their magnificent response to the Training Fund.

"We had," he said, "to start from scratch this year, but the people of Cavan made our job fairly easy. Our team is a well balanced one and our little extra experience should pull us through."

Billy Young, Pakey Masterson and Hughie Smith also expressed their confidence that Cavan would be just a little better than their opponents and that the title so narrowly missed in 1937 would be won this year.

CLUB MATES IN OPPOSITION

AS has been a frequent happening in All Irelands of recent years, club-mates will be in opposition in to-morrow's Cavan-Roscommon All Ireland Final. J. D. Benson and T. P. O'Reilly (Cavan) and Phelim Murray and D. Keenan (Roscommon) were on University College team which won the 1943 Dublin Senior football title, while B. Cully, now listed for Arva, assisted College in the Dublin Senior Football Leagues.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Secondary School, Convent of Mercy, Roscommon

Pupils prepared for Intermediate and Leaving Certificates, Preparatory College, Civil Service, and Commercial Examinations.

Leaving Certificate, 1943:
17 HONOURS, 6 PASSES
Intermediate Certificate, 1943:
44 HONOURS, 8 PASSES.

"ROSCOMMON CHAMPION" incorporating "WESTERN NATIONALIST" and "WESTERN NEWS"

Circulates extensively in Counties Roscommon, Galway, Leitrim, Longford, and Sligo.

Printers to Roscommon G.A.A.
EVERY FRIDAY. 2d.

SOUND DEFENDER



LARRY CUMMINS, a sound Roscommon defender.

north county club goes the honour of bringing the first Connacht football title to the County of St. Coman. This was in 1905, and again in 1912 the provincial title came to the county, Roscommon town supplying the nucleus of the team.

Three years later the men of Strokestown, who are once again in the county final, helped in winning Western honours, and then there was a long lapse until Jimmy Murray from Knockcroghery led the blue and gold to

ROSCOMMON'S BIG G.A.A. EVENT OF THE YEAR!

Co. Senior Football Final ST. PATRICK'S (Champions)

STROKESTOWN, 3.30 p.m.
At Roscommon, on Sunday, 10th Oct.

(Referee—Sergt. W. Kehoe)

Preceded by COUNTY JUNIOR FINAL, at 2-15.

ADMISSION — 1/- Side Line and Stands, 1/- Extra.

Gaels, this will be a Wonderful Game!

CALL TO—

MICHAEL FAHEY

GOFF STREET, ROSCOMMON
Headquarters of Roscommon G.A.A.

Best Wines, Whiskey, Liqueurs. High-class Grocers.

A HARD STRUGGLE IN CAVAN

But Breffni Football Is Now As Good As Any

THE name of Cavan has in recent years been synonymous with brainy football that has also plenty of dash in it. Time was, however, when the struggle was hard and the road rough in Breffni, and it was not until the end of the second decade of the present century that the royal blue colours were seen at Croke Park in an All Ireland Final.

This was in 1928, when Kildare, led by Bill Gannon, and including Mick Buckley, Jack Higgins, Joe Loughlin, Bill Mangan, Paul Doyle, Gus Fitzpatrick and Frank Malone, stars of those days, just pipped the Breffni men after a wonderful game.

That game set Breffni ablaze with a new fire that helped in bringing another Cavan team to Croke Park in 1933, when Galway were defeated and the first Senior All Ireland title was taken to Ulster.

MERITED REWARD.

This honour was the merited reward for well nigh forty-five years' hard work in the county that is now on a level with the best where football is concerned.

Years before the establishment of the G.A.A., football and hurling clubs were active in Cavan, and in December, 1884, it is recalled that Ballyconnell and Bailieboro met in a challenge football game in Cavan town.

Two or three years later, the Ballyconnell First Ulsters were affiliated to Cusack's infant organisation, it being claimed that, as its name implies, this was the first club to affiliate in Ulster. West Cavan was soon in

nugent, Lacken Celtic, Cavan Slashers, Drumlane Sons of O'Connell, Killeshandra Leaguers, and Cornafean Naomh Fionnain all quickly came into line.

The National Teachers, as they are today, were then the backbone of the movement for native games, and among the early members of that profession who were active, mention must be made of Michael Fox, Kill, M. Monaghan, Mullagh, and J. Mulligan, Virginia.

Athletics and football were the chief activities of those enthusiastic Gaels who braved all weather and travelled long distances on outside cars and brakes to carry the banner of the G.A.A. into every corner of the county.

FIRST TITLE WINNERS.

The first football title was won by the Maghera Mac Finns, a team from beside the Meath border. They were led by William Mulvany, a name that is still spoken of in an area where football is as popular today as it was forty-five years ago.

Like most counties, there were days when the games looked like falling back into that rut from which Cusack and his contemporaries pulled them, but round about the start of the present century a new Co. Committee was formed, with Mr. J. F. O'Hanlon as Chairman.

Among those who attended that meeting was Mr. Andy McEntee, well known to Gaels in every part of Ireland.

The 1903, 1904 and 1905 titles were won by the Drumlane O'Connells, led by Terry Maguire.

Among the clubs which affiliated in those days of revival were Cavan Slashers, Virginia, Belturbet, Bailieboro, Castletarra, Anna, Kildalton, Cross, Mullahoran, Mullagh, Lacken, Killeshandra, and it was Lacken Celtics, drawn from the Bailieboro country, that succeeded Drumlane in 1908.

WEST CAVAN IN THE NEWS.

Killeshandra Leaguers had also won the title in 1907, so that in those early days West Cavan was able to hold its own with the best. Round about 1908 a club sprang up in the West that was later destined to play a big part in Cavan's rise to fame. This was Cornafean, drawn from the Killeshandra parish, the county title coming seventeen times to this country district that has given the county such champion footballers as P. J. Masterson, J. P. Murphy, Billy Young, Tom O'Reilly, and John Joe O'Reilly. Bailieboro Shamrocks, Virginia Gaels, Kingscourt Stars, Templeport, St. Aidans, Cavan Slashers and Mullahoran have also taken senior honours,

OUR NEXT ISSUE.

NEXT issue of "The Gaelic Echo" will be the Christmas Number. It will be on sale December 11th and will include a review of the activities of the 1943 season Championship and Railway Cup games. Seasonable stories, poems, etc., will also be a feature of this number, which may be obtained from 14 Cearnog Parnail, Baile Atha Cliath (price, 2d., by post, 3d.), from Eason's, Dublin, or from News Bros., Cork, and from most County Secretaries.

but always there has been Cornafean as the backbone of Cavan's football challenge to all Ireland.

DREW RECORD CROWDS.

Twenty years ago Cavan held Kerry to a point in an All Ireland semi-final at Croke Park, while in 1931 it was only by two points that Kildare won the semi-final tie at headquarters.

NET MINDER



J. D. BENSON, who guards the Cavan net.

The full force of Cavan football was felt around those early years of the last decade, Kerry being beaten in the semi-final and Galway in the final of the 1933 championship, while in 1935 the Breffni men avenged some earlier defeats at the hands of Kildare, when they defeated the Lily Whites by four points in an All Ireland final that drew a 50,000 attendance.

Two years later Cavan shared with Kerry the honour of attracting a record crowd to Croke Park, and many people hold that when Kerry and



P. LYNCH and M. J. MAGEE, two Cavan stars of yesterday, who now help with advice.

Cavan again meet in an All Ireland final the 1933 record of almost 69,000 will be smashed.

It has been a long and a hard fight since the days that Thos. O'Reilly affiliated the First Ulsters to Cavan's fourth All Ireland final appearance, but Breffni football today is something to be proud of, and that it can hold its own with the best is clearly exemplified by the fact that since 1933 Cavan has qualified for four finals. Cavan has been one of the G.A.A.'s greatest drawing cards, and in 1933, when the county met Galway, new attendance records were set up. These were smashed in 1935, and again exceeded in 1937.

Great footballers have from time to time played for the county that has Senior, Junior and Minor All Ireland titles, an honour shared with Louth, Dublin, Kerry, Tipperary and Mayo.

May the games continue to prosper in Breffni, where native pastimes have at all times received unstinted support, and where the cult of the foreigner has never caught a grip.

CORNAFEAN:

A CLUB WITH A HISTORY

CORNAFEAN! How often have I heard that name! Like Ahane, the 'Barrs, Boherlahan, Erin's Own, Glen Rovers, and a few others, it has run long and loud over our playing fields, for the famous West Cavan club has won many honours for itself, its county and province.

Some of the greatest exponents of football have learned the art in this cradle of native games.

Hearing the name so often I was always under the impression that Cornafean was a village, say like my native Asdee, so you can imagine my surprise to find on paying it a visit last week that Cornafean was just a country district without a telephone or a public house.

KEEPING THE FLAG FLYING.

Getting there under present conditions was a bit of a job but it was an achievement that left a feeling of pleasure for here was a country district keeping the flag of native games flying far higher than in many a big centre of population.

Almost thirty-six years ago (Sunday, October 20, 1907)

Cornafean first raised the banner of Irish Ireland when a meeting was held to form a branch of the Gaelic League in the district which to-day is a household word in every part of the country.

Cumann Naomh Fhionnain was the name given to the branch and a remarkable story hangs round the naming of the branch.

By "SEAN."

Round about this time an old man living in the townland of Mullyambly in the parish of Ballintemple a mile or so from Cornafean told the neighbours that a stranger had appeared to him one day out in the fields with a message that an old neglected well nearby, used as a drinking place for cattle was St. Finnan's Well and that it should not be abused. The place was immediately cleaned up and railed in, and has since been preserved as St. Finnan's Well and St. Finnan's Branch of the Gaelic League was an outstanding success.

Three months later it was decided to follow the example of some of the Dublin branches which catered for the national games, then rapidly coming into their own.

The Cornafean Athletic Club was formed in January, 1908, and the Club colours, red with a green Celtic cross were selected.

JERSEYS FROM TRALEE.

The late Austin Stack was friendly with Mr. John P. Johnston and though the son of old Kerry Fenian, a set of jerseys was procured from the Kerry Knitting Co., Tralee.

Although hurling or "Common" as it was called in West Cavan was

popular in the district long before the formation of the G.A.A. the Cornafean club drawn from the parishes of Killeshandra, Kilmore, and part of Ballintemple took more kindly to football and it was decided to enter a team for the 1908 championship.

This was won by another West Cavan team, the Lacken Celtics, but in 1909 Cornafean won its first of many Cavan senior titles, for the familiar colours were also carried to victory in 1910, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1918, 1920, 1928, 1929, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1940, and 1943, while junior honours were secured in 1914 and 1917.

The Club invariably sent players to don the county colours, and in recent years it has been the backbone of Cavan's, Ulster and All Ireland championship bids.

It had the unique distinction of having two men on the Tailtean team of 1924: P. J. Masterson, (now a priest in California) and Captain (now Major) J. P. Murphy.

Cornafean men have played on practically every Ulster Railway Cup team since 1927 and on to-morrow the club will be represented as Tom O'Reilly, his brother, John Joe come from Cornafean. "Gallen" Fitzpatrick, and Maguire on the list of subs. have also donned the red and green colours.

PROUD RECORD.

It is a record of which any county might be proud and while Cavan has other great teams playing the game, Cornafean is certainly the sheet anchor of the county.

It has been Breffni's rallying point when it came to the Ulster or All Ireland tests, and for the past fortnight all eyes have been on the district where the Slashers have trained in Paul McShane's field, practice ground for the first Cornafean team.

The third generation of Cornafean footballers is now helping to keep the flag flying in West Cavan where of course Arva, Killeshandra Leaguers and Lacken Celtics have also proved their worth.

Long may the games prosper in Cornafean where every schoolboy is a prospective All-Ireland footballer, and every old man a keen judge of what a good player should be.

COLLEGE STARS

SHOULD "P. P. Gallen" and "A. Culligan" turn out for Cavan to-morrow, the majority of the two teams will be ex-college footballers. St. Patricks, one of the chief nurseries of football in Cavan, will have quite a few ex-pupils on the Ulster champions side, while Roscommon C.B.S., to whom Roscommon football owes much, will be well represented on the Connacht side. This is a tribute to the great work being done by the All Ireland and Provincial Colleges competitions.

A NORTHERN STAR



TOM O'REILLY, the greatest footballer Cavan has ever produced.

step, Kildalton Wolfe Tones, Anna Sons of Usnagh, Milltown Owen Roes, the Dreadnoughts and quite a few others being active in this area. East Cavan, too, did its part in those days, and on November 1st, 1887, the Mullagh Breffni Club held a Sports meeting that roused the whole of the ancient land of the Clan O'Raghallaigh. Bailieboro Home Rulers, Maghera Mac Finns (first champions) and Virginia Sarsfields were early affiliated, while Knockbride, Mont-

For those who appreciate the best

PADDY

GRAND OLD IRISH WHISKY

21/- buys this de luxe SILK-AND-WOOL SHIRT with 2 collars

These smooth-fitting, hard-wearing Silk and Wool Shirts are to-day's best shirt value at 21/-. Tailored on comfortable, smart lines, and with two collars, they are available in the following attractive designs: Blue/navy, blue/wine/black, grey/wine/white, green/wine/white, green/bottle/white, grey/bottle/white stripes. In sizes 14½-17½, 21/-. Larger sizes, 1/- per size extra. Fourteen Coupons.



TOOTAL DE LUXE TIES

Crease-resisting, in spots, stripes, checks and plain shades. **2/11**

GALLIGAN'S HENRY ST., DUBLIN.

HISTORY-MAKING WESTERNERS

Fit And Ready For A Strenuous Final

FOR the first time in the history of the Championships the men of Roscommon make their bow to the public in an All-Ireland Senior Football Final. We have, however, met the majority before, as in recent years minor and junior honours have been captured by this bunch of brilliant young footballers. Practically every player has graduated from colleges or minor competitions to the hard school of Connacht football which has given us eight all-Ireland finalists since 1932. Victories over Galway and Louth have given them heart for their biggest test, and with every man as fit as he could possibly be made, it is no wonder that there is a confident look in their faces as they troop on to the Croke Park sod, cheered by thousands of supporters who have travelled many miles to

MEET AND GREET THE MEN OF ROSCOMMON.

F. Glynn (Tarmon), who keeps goal, is a native of Castlerea, and a decorator by trade. Was on the 1940 junior team and guarded the net in three Connacht finals against Galway. Played well in the All-Ireland semi-final, and has satisfied everybody by his displays in training. Aged 27, Frank is 6ft. 1in. tall and weighs 12.7.

L. Cummins (Tarmon) comes from Curraghboy, and is the giant of the team. Helped his county to win the 1939 Minor All Ireland. Played Junior in 1941, and was sub. same year on senior team. Played a big part in the defeat of Galway and Louth this season. A great pair of hands and a long punt makes Larry one of the most valuable members of the team. Is also a Railway Cup player. Aged 21; height, 6ft. 2ins., and weight, 15.5. Larry is a fitter by trade.

J. P. O'Callaghan (Tarmon) is better known as "Doc." Starting from Minor ranks, he was on the 1940 All Ireland Junior team and played Senior in 1941, 1942 and 1943. Also on 1941 Connacht Railway Cup team. Learned his football in

Summerhill College (Sligo) and starred for Connacht in Colleges games. Doc. gave a brilliant exhibition at full back in the closing stages against Louth. Aged 27; height, 5ft. 11ins., and weight 12.9, he is on Roscommon Co. Council clerical staff.

W. Jackson (Athlone Town), who fills the left full back berth, is a newcomer to senior ranks. Native of Castlerea, Willie first came into prominence in Army games; gave a polished display in the Connacht final, and was in sparkling form against Louth. Aged 23 years; height, 5.8, and weight 12.7. Willie is an Army Sergeant.

B. Lynch (Oran) learned his football with Roscommon C.B.S., that great Western nursery of native games. Brendan was on the 1939 and 1941 Minor teams. Has football blood in his veins, as three of his uncles, Fr. Tim, Jim and Paddy Quigley, played for the county. Brendan, who plays at right half back, is also an Army man. Age 20; height, 5.10; weight, 13.7.

W. Carlos (Tarmon) started his brilliant career with Roscommon C.B.S. Liam while still a schoolboy had climbed the dizzy heights to fame, as he won two All Ireland football and one hurling medal with Connacht Colleges. Played as a schoolboy in the 1941 Connacht final against Galway, and has been on the senior team since that memorable game. Is also a good athlete. Only 19 years, Liam weighs 14.8; is 5.11, and is still a student.

W. Heavey (St. Patricks), who will fill the left half back position, is the stylist of the team. Native of that old Roscommon stronghold, Fuerty, Willie was on the 1940 Junior All Ireland team and played in the 1941, '42 and '43 Connacht finals. "A farmer's life is the life for me." Willie told us he ploughs and sows, reaps and mows on his Fuerty farm. Aged 27 years; height, 5.8, and weight, 11.7.

E. Boland (St. Margaret's, Dublin) is a native of Castlerea and played for Tarmon up to recently. Was on the 1940 junior team, and like the majority of his team-mates, played in the 1941, '42 and '43 Connacht finals, and was on the 1941 and '42 Connacht Railway Cup teams. Is a sound midfield man, without being brilliant. Aged 22 years; height, 6.0, and weighs 13.6.

L. Gilmartin (St. Patricks) is a native of Ballymurray. Captained the 1939 Minor team and, coming in as sub. against Galway in this year's Connacht final, swung the game around in his county's favour. Is also a hurler who assisted Roscommon C.B.S. Has a grand catch and raking kick. Liam is playing great football in current Army competitions. Age 22; height, 6.1; and weight, 13.3.

THE MEDALS FOR THE ALL-IRELAND FINALS WERE MADE BY

JOHN MILLER Goldsmith and Jeweller,
17, Duke Street, DUBLIN.

Medallist to Central Council, Munster, Leinster, Ulster and Connacht Councils, County Boards, Sports Committees, etc.

THE WESTERN STARS



THE ROSCOMMON TEAM AND SUBS., WITH SERGT. W. KEOGH, TRAINER.

GREALY'S HOTEL, ROSCOMMON. A.A. & R.I.A.C.

'Phone—14.

P. Murray (U.C.D.) is another of that brilliant band of schoolboy footballers and hurlers produced by Roscommon C.B.S. Won two football All Irelands and one hurling All Ireland with Connacht Colleges and won on the 1939 Minor team. Native of Knockcroghery, hot spot of the Black and Tan war in Roscommon. Phelim claimed a big share in the College victory in the 1943 Dublin Football Championship. A versatile footballer, who can fill most berths, this dark-haired youth will operate at right half forward to-morrow. Age 20 years; height, 5.10, and weight, 11.7. Phelim is a student of U.C.D.

J. Murray (St. Patricks) will act as pivot of the attack. Is a brother of Phelim and a well known business man in Knockcroghery. Was on the 1940 Junior team. Jimmy, who will captain the side which he led to victory over Galway and Louth, is immensely popular among players and public in Roscommon. A hard worker and clever distributor of the ball, he is invariably to be found in the van of every Roscommon forward move. Fair haired and sturdy, he is 25 years, is 5.8 and weighs 12.0.

is unselfish to a fault. Age 24; height, 5.8, and weight, 11.7.

J. McQuillan (St. Patricks) is a native of Ballyforan, and will fill the spearhead berth. Made his first appearance in senior ranks this year, but had plenty of experience with the minors and juniors, for whom he played many stylish games. An Army man, Jack assists Curragh Command in Army Championships. Age 23; height, 5.9; weight, 12.9.

F. Kinlough (Castleisland) is a native of Shannon Bridge, an Offaly-Roscommon border parish. Although young in years, Frank has tasted football in four counties, as he played minor for Galway while a student of St. Jarlath's, Tuam; was on the 1938 Connacht College team. Played senior for Offaly in 1940, and now with his native Roscommon he has become the scoring machine of the side. A Dept. of Agriculture official, Frank assisted Castleisland in this year's Kerry Championship. Plays in the left corner; he can fill any position in attack. Age 21; height, 5.11; weight, 12.0.

CRAOBH AN CEITINNIGH

FORTY-TWO years ago Craobh an Ceitinnigh was founded by four Munstermen. From its inception it took a leading part in Irish-Ireland activities and as Batt O'Connor says in his book "With Michael Collins in the Fight for Irish Independence," — "The Keating Branch came to earn a great reputation as a nursery of patriots." So it was that 85 per cent. of the male members of the Branch took part in the Fight for Freedom. This inter-connection between the language movement and the broader national movement will form the central theme in a display in Messrs. Cleary's window next week when an exhibition dealing with the work of the Branch will be held. It will be shown that men like Cathal Brugha, Tomas Aghas, Austin Stack, Sean MacDiarmada — members of the Branch — worked and fought for both Freedom and Language. The exhibition will dwell on every aspect of the Branch's activities, football, camogie, music, drama, youth clubs, propaganda, etc. Readers of the "Echo" should be especially interested in photographs of the 1903 "Keatings" hurling and football teams. Camogie was founded in the Branch and a picture of the first two camogie teams should excite the interest of our present camogie-wielders.

This exhibition is an effort to bring home to the people the fact that there is a fight in progress—a fight between two civilizations. For an Irishman, the first step in that fight is to learn and speak his own language. That done, the rest will come in due course.

IMPORTANT ROLES



J. P. O'CALLAGHAN ("Doc") and W. HEAVEY fill berths in the Roscommon defence.

D. Keenan (U.C.D.) is a native of Elphin, and a son of John Keenan's, well known member in Irish Racing and Greyhound circles. Donal was on the 1940 Junior All Ireland team and is one of the best wing forwards playing to-day. Gave a grand display against Galway in the Connacht final. Takes all the close-up frees and has registered many scores for his native county and for U.C.D. Was on the 1943 Railway Cup team. Age 23; height, 5.10; weight, 11.12.

D. McDermott (Mantua) made his first senior appearance for the county this year. Was selected in 1942; he had to cry off owing to injuries. Helped U.C.G. to win two or three Sigerson Cups. Dr. Derry is a clever forward who teams well with his partners, as he

COUNCIL MEETINGS

THE Leinster Council meets today (Saturday) at Barry's Hotel (3.30). Included on the agenda are (1) appeals by Daingean F.C. v. Offaly Co. Board; Camross S.H.C. v. Wexford Co. Board, and St. Patricks F.C. v. Meath Co. Board; (2) report of Grounds Inspection Committee.

The Central Council meets this (Saturday) evening at Croke House, 7.30.

Arrangements will be completed for to-morrow's All Ireland Final.

High-class Ladies' and Gent's Outfitters

IGOE & CO.

AGENTS FOR:
AQUATITE RAINCOATS,
TWO OWLS CLOTHING,
BATTERSBY HATS

THE RECOGNISED HOUSE FOR VALUE.

MAIN STREET, ROSCOMMON.

John P. Dolan & SONS

Victuallers and Poulterers
PRIME BEEF,
MUTTON, LAMB & PORK.

Caterers to Roscommon County Team.

Church Street, Roscommon.

HERE ARE THE BREFFNI MEN

Brimful of Confidence for the Big Test

MAKING their fifth appearance in a Senior All-Ireland Final, the Breffni men are no strangers to the National Stadium, where their "Royal Blue" has been familiar for many a day. There is scarcely a player of the fifteen who has not some honour to his name. Colleges and Minor All-Irelands have been won by quite a few of those footballers who to-morrow will be the idols of every Northerner and there is certain to be a big Ulster following to cheer on the Slashers, who will be led by John Joe O'Reilly, Ulster Railway Cup captain of 1942 and 1943. There is a confident sparkle in their eyes as they troop on to the Croke Park sod, so here are

THE MEN OF BREFFNI

J. D. Benson (U.C.D.), who will guard the Breffni net, is a native of Killeshandra and a University College student. Kept goal for Ulster in the 1943 Railway Cup final and for College in the Dublin football championship. Won Minor All Ireland, 1938, and Colleges All Ireland, 1939, Ulster Junior, 1941, and Ulster Senior Medals, 1942 and 1943. Is a goalie who shines when under pressure. Age 22; weight, 12.0; height, 6.1.

E. Finnegan (Mount Nugent), who is listed for the right full back berth, played against Kerry in this position in the 1937 final. An exceptionally sound defender, who has helped his county to win many Ulster honours. Toured America three times with Cavan teams. Age 26; weight, 13.0; height, 5.10.

B. Cully (Arva), who fills the full back berth, is a product of Ulster Colleges football, and well known to Dublin crowds, as he has played for University College. Was on the Ulster teams of 1941, 1942 and 1943; won Minor All Irelands, 1937 and 1938, and captained Ulster Colleges team, 1937 to 1939. Is one of the most improved full backs of the moment. Age 23; weight, 13.10; height, 5.10.

J. W. Martin (Mullingar) is an Army man, who comes from Templeport. Has played on Cavan Junior and Senior teams since 1936. A versatile player, who can fill both positions in defence. Age 24; height, 5.10; weight, 12.4.



THE CAVAN TEAM WHICH WON THE 1935 ALL-IRELAND TITLE.

G. Smith (Kill) is as sterling a right half back as is playing today. Helped Ulster to win the 1942 and 1943 Railway Cups. Jerry is a Creamery Manager, whose age is 25; weight, 12.0, and height, 5.9.

WON MANY HONOURS.

T. O'Reilly (Cornafean) is one of the big figures of the game in every sense of the word. "Big Tom," as he is better known, has won every football honour, and has captained

Cavan teams in recent years. A clean footballer, whose one idea is to play the game. Tom was born in Derries, Killeshandra, and has been on every Ulster Railway Cup team since 1933, when he helped Cavan while yet a boy to win its first All Ireland. Has filled every berth from full back to full forward, and filled them all well. Was the match winner against Cork. Is a farmer who weighs 14.10, and is 6.0½ in height.

S. Deignan (Civil Service, Dublin) is a native of Mullagh and an Army man who played for Leinster Colleges while a student at St.

1941 and 1942 Railway Cup teams. A grand opportunist, he will be a big worry to the Roscommon defence. Age 24; weight, 13.0; height, 5.11½.

P. Boylan (Sean McDermotts, Dublin) played with Cavan Slashers for some time and was on the 1935 team which beat Kildare, and on the 1937 team against Kerry. Holds nine Ulster medals and is still a useful right corner forward man, as he has shown in the Dublin Championship, in which he assists "Seans." Paddy is one of the most popular members of the team. Is a Dublin Bakery em-

MAY FILL BERTHS.

"P. P. Gallen" and "A. Culligan," two students who played against Cork, are doubtful at the time of writing these Thumb-nail Sketches. May be able to turn out.

"P. Gallen" (Cornafean) operated at left full back against Cork. Played with Cavan Colleges team 1939 and 1940, and was on Cavan senior teams 1941, 1942, and 1943. Age 23; weight, 13.7; height, 6.0½.

"A. Culligan" (Mullahoran) helped Cornafean to win Cavan Senior title in 1940 and 1941, and was on the successful Mullahoran team in 1942. Played in Ulster Senior Championships, 1941 to 1943. A splendid midfield man, who fields well and kicks with plenty of length. Age 22; weight, 13.10; height, 5.11½.

THE 1935 CHAMPIONS

RECORDS OF THE RIVALS

CAVAN.

Won All Ireland Senior titles 1933 and 1935.
 Won All Ireland Junior title 1927.
 Won All Ireland Minor titles 1937 and 1938.
 Won Senior Ulster titles 1887, 1889, 1891-9, 1905-6, 1908, 1915, 1918-20, 1923-26, 1928, 1931-37, 1939, 1943.
 Won Ulster Junior titles 1915-22, 1927, 1932, 1936, 1938, 1940-41.
 Won Ulster Minor titles 1937-38.
 Won Dr. McKenna Cup 1936, 1940, 1943.

ROSCOMMON.

Won All Ireland Junior title 1940.
 Won All Ireland Minor titles 1939 and 1941.
 Won Connacht Senior titles 1905, 1912, 1915, 1943.
 Won Connacht Junior titles 1929, 1932, 1939-40.
 Won Connacht Minor titles 1939, 1941.
 Won Connacht Football League 1941-42.

CAMOGHUIDHEACHT

FOLLOWERS of Camoguidheacht, and, of course, these are legion, will have a first class attraction at Cork tomorrow in the All Ireland semi-final between Cork and Galway.

The winners play Dublin in the final on Oct. 17, and in connection with this game efforts are being made to publish a special number of the Gaelic Echo, to which well known writers on the game will contribute.

Can you help by influencing some advertiser friend of yours to take a space in this Special Number?

ULSTER COLLEGES ANNUAL

THE Ulster Colleges Convention will be held tonight (Saturday), at Barry's Hotel, Dublin (8.45 p.m.). The balance sheet shows a credit balance of £55 6s. 4d., which is very satisfactory, considering that at the start of the season there was a debit balance of £2 7s. 2d. Thanks is expressed to the Ulster Council for a grant of £25, which, with percentage of gate receipts, made up the total income.

Colleges affiliated were St. Patrick's, Armagh; St. Patrick's, Cavan; St. MacCartan's, Monaghan; St. Colman's, Newry; St. Mary's, Dundalk; Newry C.B.S.; Monaghan C.B.S., and De La Salle, Downpatrick.

Winners were: Cardinal MacRory Cup, St. Patrick's, Cavan; Cor Rann na Feirsde, St. Mary's, Dundalk.

CRAOB AN CEITINNIS

SAOSAL SAEOULAC;
 SAOTAR SAEOULAC.

IRISH CLASSES FOR ALL.

Enrol now, 46 Ceannóg Bannell

IN THE CORNER



PADDY BOYLAN, who is likely to be seen in the right corner.

Finian's, Mullingar. Won Minor All Ireland, 1938, and Ulster Senior medals with Cavan 1941, 1942 and 1943; on the Ulster Railway Cup teams of 1942 and 1943; originally played at full forward; he moved to left half back. Simon gave a brilliant display against Cork. Age 21; weight, 13.8; height, 5.10.

J. J. O'Reilly (Curragh), who will captain the team, is a native of Cornafean and brother of Big Tom's. Ulster Colleges and All Ireland 1937 and 1938. Plays at centre field; he is also a sound half-back, as he demonstrated against Cork, when he changed with his brother; captained the successful Ulster Railway Cup teams of 1942 and 1943. Age 24; weight, 12.7; height, 5.11.

M. Higgins (Mount Nugent) comes from the Kilmalick country, and is a farmer, who shaped well as a Junior in 1941. Helped to win Ulster Senior titles in 1942 and '43. Was on the right wing against Cork and may return to that berth to-morrow. Age 20; height, 13.8; height, 5.11.

D. Morgan (Cross) is one of the veterans of the side. Helped Cavan to win its first Senior All Ireland in 1933 and has had a ten years' unbroken sequence with the team, for which he has secured many scores. A clever winger, Donal learned his football in that great Cavan nursery, St. Patrick's College. Filled the left corner forward position against Cork and may be moved in there again to-morrow. Height, 5.11; weight, 12.0.

P. Smith (Veterinary College), who fills the centre half forward position, played in the 1937 final against Kerry. Native of Drumkilly, Paddy comes of a well known football family. Played Junior 1936 and was also on Ulster Colleges and Railway Cup teams. Won 1942 Cavan Senior Championship with Mullahoran. A tireless worker who can be very effective. Age 26; weight, 12.0; height, 5.8.

T. P. O'Reilly (U.C.D.), native of Dromlane, is a law student who helped College to win this year's Dublin Senior Football Championship. Won All Ireland Minor and All Ireland Colleges medals 1937, and Ulster Junior medal 1938. Played Senior 1939 to 1943 and was on

Leaving nothing to slip across to

MCBIRNEYS

Forty Paces From O'Connell Bridge

Let the Gargoyles on the O'Connell Bridge lamp-posts remind you that you are beside Dublin's best Value and Variety in Drapery Goods.

What the Man on the Street Thinks

WHAT the man on the street (and we class ourselves as one) thinks of this All Ireland Final may be of interest. We know that Roscommon expect their youth to win and that Cavan think their experience will do the trick, but in our opinion far too much is being made of these factors, for generalship will play a vital part in the game.

Roscommon have no monopoly of youth, and neither has Cavan of experience, as the majority of the Cavan men are around the twenty-five years mark, while the majority of the Roscommon men have been playing top grade football for four or five years.

FIT AT GREYHOUNDS.

Roscommon beat Galway, a strong recommendation enough, but Galway were untrained while Roscommon were as fit as greyhounds.

Roscommon sparked against Louth, but then Louth supporters say that conditions were against their players, who like it hard and dry.

Against this, we will say that a good team should be able to win on a wet day as well as on a dry one, and that all this is problematical.

Roscommon, however, were the better players, as we count fielding and kicking against the Wee County, and we are inclined to agree with those who say they were a far better team at Croke Park than in the Connaught final.

CLEVER TACTICIANS.

Cavan's clever tacticians had a try-out with Louth and, short some of their best players, beat them, and say that on this form they would also beat Roscommon.

Roscommon counter this argument by saying that challenge games are no standard by which to judge, and quote a Geraldines (Dublin) selection as beating a strong Louth team, while a week later Louth trounced a full Dublin side that included thirteen of last year's All Ireland winners.

To all this we would say that there is a vast difference between challenge games and All Ireland finals, and that the team that can keep its head will have a decided advantage at Croke Park tomorrow.

For at least two-thirds of the Cavan team tomorrow will be the biggest test of their careers, but they will have the advantage of a blend of experienced players who will curb any tendencies of the youths to become flustered.

The fifteen Roscommon men are making their first All Ireland appearance, but then they have players like Doc Callaghan, Keenan, Murray and Cummins and Heavey who have been through many tough games.

CAVAN CLEVER.

Cavan forward work is a by-word, the clever, weaving methods of the Breffni men being hard to counter. Roscommon, too, have no bad attack, and if their half line lives up to expectations there will not be a whole lot in it.

In the semi-final against Cork, Tom O'Reilly pulled the game around for Cavan, as he has done on many a previous occasion. The question is will the Cornafean man fail some day to prove the magician, and if he does will Cavan fall too?

He has been the inspiration of the team for three or four years, and will be Roscommon's biggest obstacle tomorrow. A grand fielder, he is a typical Gaelic footballer, as his clearances always carry great length.

He will be flanked by two good footballers, Jerry Smith and Deignan, and this half back line will probably be the mainstay of the whole Cavan side.

PLENTY OF SPEED.

It will be faced by a Roscommon trio that has plenty of speed and experience, as the Murray brothers and Donal Keenan have played enough first grade football to give them that coolness so necessary in an All Ireland final. If they can hold their own with Big Tom and his flankers, then Roscommon might win its first senior title.

Centrefield is another problem that is hard to solve. Boland and Gilmartin would want to be at their best to beat John Joe O'Reilly and his partner. Gilmartin is a hard trier: not a stylist, but he gets his hands to most balls that fall at centre field, and if Boland can take advantage of the breaks that are likely to come his way, there will not be a whole lot in it here. In fact, there will not be a whole lot in it anywhere, and maybe we would see another draw so level are the chances.

Cavan were the early "favs.," but opinion has been veering about in favour of Roscommon, whose youthful enthusiasm may just pull them through. We should, however, remember that Cavan are a great All Ireland final day team, and if they are beaten at all it will not be without a stern struggle, as those Breffni men fight to the last kick of the ball.

WE HAVE LOST A FRIEND.

SINCE our last issue we have lost a very good friend and worker in the person of Phil McMahon, who since the establishment of "The Gaelic Echo" acted as its Advertising Representative. Phil died in Mercers Hospital on September 7th and was buried in Glasnevin on September 9th. Much of the success of the Echo was due to his untiring labour in the canvassing of ads. From the first moment the subject of the Echo was broached, he became an enthusiastic worker. His death at the early age of 56 years, removes a familiar figure in the advertising world.

Born in Tralee, Phil joined the Irish Volunteers in 1914 and in 1916 he was one of the special messengers sent to the Provinces in connection with the Rising. Arrested at the surrender of the Republican forces he was tried by field-general courtmartial and sentenced to death, a sentence that was commuted to penal servitude for life. After spending some time in various English prisons he was released with the other Sinn Fein prisoners, but was re-arrested for a speech delivered in Co. Louth. He was a fellow-prisoner of Tom Ashe during the hunger strike in which the Ashbourne leader lost his life and gave evidence at the inquest. He was also in prison at a later date and presided at Sinn Fein Conventions prior to the 1918 General Election. In those years he was the friend and confidant of Austin Stack, Michael Collins and other leaders and was appointed Food Controller by the First Dail. Although he held advanced National views up to his death, he preserved his early friendships with prominent members of the different parties.

In recent years he devoted his attention to advertising and did most of the canvassing for G.A.A. and Gaelic League publications. At the time of his collapse he was engaged on the G.A.A. Annual and the Oireachtas Programme. His unexpected death was widely regretted for, as somebody remarked at his funeral, "You should be in bad form if Phil did not make you laugh."

Prominent I.R.A. men of 1916 and subsequent years followed his tri-colour draped coffin to Glasnevin, where there was a firing party to render the last honours to a gallant soldier and a good friend.

Gaels everywhere with whom he came in contact will, we are sure, regret his death as much as we do, for he was a loyal supporter of native games and scarcely ever missed a match at Croke Park on Sunday morning or afternoon.

Go dtugaidh Dia Solus na bhFlaitéas da Anam.

A FUTURE FOR CORK FOOTBALL

Remedy The Faults And They'll Beat The Best

CORK football, as well as Cork hurling, has filled a big place in the news these past couple of months. The Leemen's achievement of defeating Kerry in a replay focussed attention on the rise of football in a county that at one time boasted some of the greatest teams and players in the game. Who has not heard of Billy Mackessy, Charlie Paye, Mick Mehigan, or of the Nils, Lees, Clondrohid, Macroom, Dunmanway, Fermoy and Dromtariffe?

They were household words thirty years ago, and even up to 1914 or 1915 Cork football could hold its own with the best, and Cork teams, when they played challenge or championship games, were first-class attractions.

"God be with the Lees," I heard an old Leeside fan remark one day after Tipperary had beaten Cork in a Munster championship game, and I'm sure there were many there ready to re-echo: "And with Nils, Fermoy, Macroom and Dunmanway."

LEES IN THE VAN.

Drawn in those far-off days from members of the teaching profession, drapers' and grocers' assistants, the Lees blazed the trail for other great championship teams like Middleton and Clondrohid, and in the early days of the All Irelands, Middleton won honours for the county, while Clondrohid, Dromtariffe, Dunmanway and Nils reached All Ireland finals. Cork won Munster titles in 1890, 1891, 1893, 1894, 1897, 1899, 1901, 1906, 1907, and 1911, and it was in 1911 that the Leemen won their second All Ireland football honours when Mick Mehigan led the black and red clad Lees selection to victory over Antrim.

Dromtariffe, that Duhallow area that has always produced great footballers and athletes, was active in the early days of the Association, and before them, too, as they played "Peil" or "Caid" around this Cork-Kerry border country seventy years ago.

Dromtariffe and Lees must have been the first teams to ever play extra time under G.A.A. rules. They finished level, after an hour, in 1888 for the 1887 title, which Lees won after a half hour's extra time.

Clondrohid, who lost the 1891 final to Dublin Young Irelands, would today be declared champions, as the score was:—Dublin, 2—1; Cork, 1—9, but in those days a goal outweighed any number of points.

HALCYON DAYS.

Those were glorious days for Cork football, and only a few are remembered between half a dozen years.

All centres, and along the Blackwater they played a clever game that gave them fame and honours for many a day. Nils, too, that Cork City Club that challenged the Lees for supremacy in "Cork's own town," produced quite a number of first class players and carried the Rebel County to the 1901 (home) final, which Isles of the Sea won.

Billy Mackessy, Con McCarthy, J. Murphy (capt.), P. Daly, M. Connors, T. Hartigan and S. Murphy were among those who played in that final (decided in 1904), and when Lees brought the title to Cork in 1911 Billy Mackessy, a Lees man himself, was on the team, as was Jack Young of Dunmanway, whose sons to-day are first-class footballers and hurlers.

That was the last occasion for Cork

to win the Southern title until 1928, when Tipperary, conquerors of Kerry, were beaten by a side that later lost to Kildare in the All Ireland semi-final.

ON THE UP-GRADE.

Fifteen more years sped by before Munster medals came to Cork, but for the past two or three seasons it was evident that football in the Rebel County was on the upgrade.

In the 1942 Munster final, at Tralee, the young Leeside footballers played so well that keen Kerry judges admitted that with forwards and experience Cork would be a menace to the best.

This season Cork showed themselves to be as good as most teams playing, for after holding Kerry to level scoring they won the replay, and then only lost to Cavan by a point.

This, certainly, is an achievement to be proud of, as Kerry and Cavan for long have been the giants of the game.

How to bring about the little extra improvement essential to victory in the All Ireland tests will be the big problem in the next few months for Leeside mentors.

NEW PLANS WANTED.

A new plan of campaign, based on the cultivation of craft and guile, should be inaugurated.

Train the forwards to draw the opposing backs and to distribute the ball to a well placed partner.

Tell the centre field men that wild kicking is no use after grand catching, and more than any, instruct the backs to cover up without hauling or mauling an opponent, as close up frees are invariably gift scores.

Train one man to kick close up frees, getting him to strike just the ball and so ensure that which golfers practice.

Remember that present day football is all brawn, and that brain is an important factor. Speed is of little use if, after getting the ball, you wait for a rattle at an opponent. Get rid of the ball, but get rid of it with a purpose, for it is the score-board man counts at the end of the hour.

You may come home and say you had the better of the play, but this gets you no medals or no glory if the score is against you.

If you had the better of the play, there was something wrong with your team work, and to correct this you should devote more thought to training.

There is a future for Cork football, and if the little faults are remedied then another All Ireland should be on its way to revive fresh memories of the Lees, Nils, Fermoy, Macroom and other great clubs of former years.

PATH TO THE FINAL

ROSCOMMON	
Beat Leitrim	2—12 to 1—3.
" Galway	2—6 to 0—8.
" Louth	3—10 to 3—4.

CAVAN	
Beat Tyrone	4—10 to 1—3.
" Monaghan	2—3 to 0—5.
" Cork	1—8 to 1—7.

THE MINOR FINAL

LOUTH and **KILDARE**, two of the Leinster football strongholds, meet in the 1942 Minor Final as a curtain-raiser to the Cavan-Roscommon game at Croke Park, to-morrow. Selections are strong and confidence unbounded, so that it should be a thrilling prelude to the eagerly-awaited senior game. The teams are:

LOUTH (Red)

P. Rogers (De La Salle)

P. J. Grist (Cooley)	T. Mulligan (Gael)	J. Blake (De La Salle)
P. Quigley (Y. Irelands)	J. Cullen (St. Mary's Coll)	D. Ryan (St. Mary's Coll)
B. O'Dowda (capt.) (De La Salle)	P. White (Cooley)	
P. Donnelly (Drogheda C.B.S.)	J. McArtain (St. Mary's)	M. Reynolds (Ardee)
C. O'Brien (Drogheda C.B.S.)	O. Burke (Ardee)	H. O'Rourke (Cooley)

Subs: P. McKenna (Drogheda C.B.S.), P. McNally (Gael), M. Duffy

KILDARE (White)

J. MacShortall

G. Hayden	P. O'Farrell	A. O'Sullivan
J. Nevin	T. Hickey	J. Byrne
T. Fox	B. O'Connor	
D. Conlon	F. Purcell	T. Fulham
R. Cullen	J. Monaghan	J. Grehan

Subs.: P. O'Brien, P. Dunne, J. Murphy, W. O'Brien, M. Byrne, J. Dowling, J. Madden, J. Haugh.

(Round Towers, Dromiskin), G. Kieran (Drogheda C.B.S.), J. McCabe (Dundaigh C.B.S.), P. Gaffney (Ardee).

An tSúm

An Interesting Selection from Our List.

Deaca Theobald Wolfe Tone 5/- (A superb translation of a standard biography).

Ribeard Emmet 2/- (Translated by Niall O Domhnaill)

Parnell 5/- (The Chief's Life Story told by León O Broin—Illustrated).

Deaca Seám Misteit 2/6 (Niall O Domhnaill's gripping story of this great Irishman).

Deaca Domhnaill Uí Conaill 4/- (Illustrated—Domhnaill O Suilleabháin)

Pádraig Mac Piarais 5/- (Illustrated—Seamus O Searcaigh)

Obtainable Through Any Bookseller

OR DIRECT FROM
FOILLSEACÁM RIALTAIS,
3-4 SRÁID AN COLÁISTE,
BAILE ÁTA CLUAC.

An TOIREACTAS

23^{as} 50 30^{as} DEIRE FOŠMÁIR

1 tSÍ AN ÁRO-MÁOIR, ÁT CLUAC.

★

CLUAC AN OIREACTAIS I SPÁIRC AN CRÓGAIS

DIA DOMHNAIS, 24^{as} DEIRE FOŠMÁIR.

TÁITTE ISTEAC 1/-.

★

DÍ 1 LÁTAR.

Féile Mór an Oireáctair má' Saéal Tó Cabruig Léite

Cu a ciallúgeann an tOireáctas nua-se a léigheoir?

An eagla nac mór é vo spéis san Oireáctas nó gur beas an ceolas cruinn acá agat in a taobh tá fonn orm tú a mealló agus vo sum a muscaite sa MÓR-FÉILE SAÉDEALAC seo ag Saédealaib.

Si an tOireáctas an insticiúro 's tabaictai i ngluaiseáct na Saéuilge —insticiúro acá préamúigte go maic anois agus go bfuil trarvisiún fíor Saédealaic ag baint leis. Nuair a h-ai-bunúigead an féile seo sa bliadam 1939 taobúig Saéuil émeann leis agus vo báir bí féile ann a muscaite misneac agus a leac ácas ar Saédealaib ar fíro éireann. V'é an seen-Oireáctas in a aicdreic é.

Dunúigead an tOireáctas ar ucús in úige Connrad na Saéuilge sa bliadam 1897 te caoi a tabairt vo Saédealaicóirí a teact te céite uair in aghar na bliadna cún tairbe na Saéuilge. V'éirig leis agus leanaó vo bliadam in úiaró bliadna. Vo réir mar a bí sé ag dul in aois bí sé ag dul i bpeabas agus ba fairsiú go raib gac uile gne ve'n Saédealaicás vá spreagaó agus vá coóú fá'n a comince. Da trémise ar leit i saogal na tíre gac bliadam é, trémise an Oireáctais nuair a bailúgead laóca na Saéuilge, pili, scéaluróce, ceoltóirí, rinneóirí agus na céarta nac ieo, cúig ionca na féile ó ceitre áirioib na héireann agus fíú ó'n mbreacain úig agus ó Saédealaic na háiban. B'íod mórtas ag Saédealaib as an b'féile

a bí aca agus tá beo cúnne fós ag sean-oidriúcte i ngluaiseáct na Saéuilge ar úraorbeáct agus ar spiorad na h-ocáirí sin. Va eesneim mór mar sin meac agus imteact ar fead tamait an féile ró-tábaictac so.

AISEIRGE AN OIREÁCTAIS.

V'aiseirig an tOireáctas, ántac, agus veinead áitbeoicant air sa bliam 1939. Ar cuiread An Coiste Snóca ve Connrad na Saéuilge cún cúig véas ve Cumann Saédealaic teactairi cúig com-Coiste an Oireáctais go veanáe sa bliadam 1937. Slacóar comante te céite agus te beannaict an pobail beairtúgead an tOireáctais vo cún ar siudal aris. V'éirig leis an ierraict agus tug an féile vo commórad i mí na Samna, 1939 nua-misneac agus meanman vo Saédealaib. V'é an tSean-Oireáctas in a aicdreic é.

Leanaó ve'n Oireáctas bliam i n'oiaró bliana ó som agus cuiread i n'oiaró a céite le'n a méir agus le'n a t'ioncur. Sé an tOireáctas anois an tionól Saédealaic is mó agus is tabaictai in aghar na bliana.

Tá vá gne móir ve'n Oireáctas—gné na geomórtas—agus gne na féile. Veintear tuairm is £300 in a ionlán vo taigrisint mar úais-eanna v'iarráictai ar úrámaí, ar p'laróeact, ar ceól, ar scéala vo ceapó. Tá ve báir na vuaiseanna san gniosad te fašail ag ušóair agus ceoltóirí agus, vá bíim san, tá cur i teabaró a céite te tírri-eaict agus ceól na héireann.

CLUIDE AN OIREÁCTAIS.

Beiró féile na bliana so ar siudal ó'n 23ad go 30ad Veire Fošmar agus le'n a linn beiró ceól is úrámarbeáct, caróream is teact te céite v'óg agus aosta. Cuirfeair tús te himteactai an Oireáctais oróce Sašairn 23ad Veire Fošmar i v'úig an Áro-Maoin. Léigfeair úro an Oireáctais, béarfer oráro an Oireáctais agus bronnpar na vuaiseanna ar luét buaróte ins na comórtaisi éagsaíla. Teáris na noscaite beiró Mór-Cúirm Ceoil na féile ag a mberó an tairbeántas is feárr gur féirio a cún ar fašail íoir ceól gúta agus ceól uirlise. Cúro mór ve'n ceól seo is ceól nua-éapca nó nua-šléasta é. Dia Domnaig beiró Cluide an Oireáctais i b'páirc an Crocaig agus Coismeaict P'lobaireácta ag Iol-Duínúib cašair agus comvrae áca Cliač. Beiró tuairm is vosaen burdean páirteaic agus šléasanna nua vá šeimim áca. Oróce Domnaig beiró ámarclann na Mainstreac Lán go voras nuair a léireópar vuais-úráma an Oireáctais. V'é an tairbeántas so, te sum bliadna anuas, an léiriú be ealašanta ve úrámaí Saéuilge a veinead ar ároán publróe.

FÁILTIÚ OIFISEAMAÍL.

Si Fáiltiú Oifiseamaíil an Oireáctais a bíonn ar siudal oróce Luain i v'úig an Áro-Maoin an gne is suairbeántaisi agus is tairneamaige ve'n Oireáctas. Bíonn ve šnác sluaš mór Saédeal i látair agus

FOR HANDBALL FANS

TOMORROW (Sunday) morning the All Ireland Senior Singles and Doubles Handball finals will be played at the Depot Court, Phoenix Park. The games and times are:—

Senior Handball Singles: Kildare (J. Dowling) v. Roscommon (J. Gaughran), 10.30 a.m.

Senior Handball Doubles: Dublin (John and Austin Clarke) v. Cork (Keogh and Walsh), 11.30 a.m.

Both finals are the best of seven games of 21 aces, and it is expected that they will provide plenty of good handball.

SIAMSA MOR

(OFFICIAL ALL-IRELAND RECEPTION CEILIDHE)

Mansion House

DIA DOMHNAIGH, 26/9/43

Rinnce, 7.30—11.30.

CEAD ISTEACH — — — 2/-

Ceol Fhuireann Colmcille.

b'íonn ceól is rinnce, siamsa is caróream ann. Rašairc é a cuiread ácas ar éróirde aoimne.

Ar an Luain agus ar an Máirt beiró comórtaisi ároán v'iomaróeoirí ó'n n'Saédealaic. Beiró na healadó-antóirí vutcašaca te cloisint ag šadail vo scéalarbeáct, ámránaró-eaict, portairbeáct agus v'amráin saotair. Tagann Munntair na Saédealaic áca ag a šcairóe te céite oróce Máirt cún tae a ceiteam agus caróream a veanáim i b'pocair a céite.

B'íonn v'lué-baint ag an úige leis an Oireáctas Dia Céarócome agus Dia Dardaome. Laete na n'óg a tugtar orca agus bíonn tionól fé leit vo scoláirí na m'Dun-Sgol agus tionól eite vo scoláirí na Meán-Sgol agus na Céaró-Sgol. Saédealaicóirí vutcašaca áhám a bíonn i látair agus caiteann siad trémise tairneamaic i v'ceanna a céite ar cuiread Coiste an Oireáctais. Is mór an maiteas a tagann as na tionól seo agus n'í veimeann iao-san a bíonn sé v'ad áca cuiread v'fašail veairmáir air go ceann i b'p'aró.

CEÓL ÚRÁMA NUA.

An bliadam seo beiró gne úr-nua, léireópar ceól-úráma nar tíorał "Loscaó na Teamnae." Ceol-úráma acá bunúigte ar scéal ó'n v'f'ianaróešac. Éamonn Ó Šall-cošair a ceap an ceól agus Šeán Delamere a scrióó an teaber vo v'earla agus Donncaó Ó Laošaire a cún leagan Saéuilge air. Seo an céaró ceól-úráma bunúšasac sa Saéuilg a ceapó te vašaró bliam anuas.

Is íomóa gneite eite a bíonn ann te linn an Oireáctais. comórtas p'icéille, tairbeántas ealašán, léigheáctai, tairbeántas ve peicciúirí reaca agus céiróe an Oireáctais mar veire ar imteactai na seacé-maime.

Is mór an oboir a bíonn ar siudal ag Coiste an Oireáctais. Is cos-tasac an oboir i. Iarrtar ar gac Saéuil com-oidriú linn. Is féirio, leis san a veanáim má bíonn sé i látair ag an b'féile nó sintiúš a cún cúig Ciste an Oireáctais, 14, Cear-n'óg Šarnait, Vaite áca Cliač.

Cumann Luith Chleas Gaedheal.

Sunday's Great Football Final: CABHAN v. ROSCOMAIN

AR A 3.15 A CLOG.

The Game you've been waiting for. Grand Football. Thrills Galore.

LEINSTER MINOR FOOTBALL FINAL AT 1.45 P.M.

CILL DARA v. LUGHBHADH

Admission, 1s. and 2s. Side Line, 2s. 6d. Extra from 2s. Enclosure. Schoolboys, 3d. and 6d.

HOGAN STAND COMPLETELY BOOKED OUT.

Reserved CUSACK STAND Tickets, 5/- each, may be had from:—Purcells, Ltd.; Tobacconists, 68 Upp. O'Connell St., Dublin; Clerys, Ltd., O'Connell St., Dublin; or from Association's Headquarters, Croke House, Clonliffe Rd, Dublin. Phone, 72095. Also on sale at Croke Park on morning of match.

ENTRANCES TO GROUNDS AS FOLLOWS:—1/- Enclosure, from Canal Entrance, Jones' Road, and from James Avenue and Joseph's Avenue, off Clonliffe Road. 2/- Enclosure, from Main Gates, Jones' Road. Side-Line, 2/6 extra, from 2/- Enclosure only.

HOGAN STAND TICKET HOLDERS through Special Gate, Main Entrance, Jones' Road. CUSACK STAND TICKET HOLDERS, Special Entrance from James' Avenue, off Clonliffe Road.

STILL MORE VICTORY SONGS

WE present yet another of our Victory Songs series with this, our third All-Ireland Football Final Number. We regret that they are not more varied, but while Counties like Cork, Kerry, Tipperary, Kilkenny and Kildare can give us plenty of material, it is regrettable that we have had a poor response from Cavan, Meath, Galway, Waterford, Clare and other strongholds of the game. We wonder if the poets of those counties have been silent, or is it that readers are too careless to respond to our appeal for songs of victory or defeat? Victory songs have been one of our most popular features, but we cannot keep it going unless we receive assistance in the way of songs and ballads, so search your memory and if you can recall any old verses, or new ones, write them down and post them to us.

Kerry and Kildare, names to conjure with when Gaelic football is being discussed, gave the Gaelic Athletic Association its first uplift. The three games played in 1905 for the 1903 title focussed nation-wide attention on games which up to then did not receive the patronage they deserved. The gate receipts from the three games (one at Tipperary town and two at Cork) helped to wipe off debts which were handicapping the Association.

Kerry and Kildare became household words, and as the meetings of the counties became more numerous the crowds grew, for the struggles between the Green and Gold and the Lily Whites were always classics.

Kerry won their first All Ireland when they beat the Short Grass men at the third meeting in 1905, but Kildare had their revenge two years later when, at Thurles, they beat the Kingdom footballers by double scores (1-7 to 0-5).

To perpetuate this first triumph of the Lily White colours, a Kildare priest in New York wrote the following lines, which are sung to the air of "The Men of the West."

We are indebted to Mr. Andrew K. Allen, Aghrim, Co. Wicklow for

THE MEN OF KILDARE.

Sure, Paddy, you've bothered my ears, lad,

About teams you have known in your day,

From Limerick, Wexford or Cork, lad,

Or those boys from beside Dublin Bay.

You've boasted of bold Tipperary, And of Kerry's proud Kingdom so fair,

But I fear there's a want in your memory,

Or you'd say: "Here's to gallant Kildare."

In Thurles beloved by the Gaels, boy, And there rests the Lion of the Fold,

Then men of Kildare took the field, boys,

Against Kerry's proud champions of old.

Thousands surrounded the lines, boys, And quick beat the hearts of them all,

When the teams stepped on to the sward, boys,

Mike Crowe followed close with the ball.

'Midst loud cheers the struggle commences,

"Buck" Kennedy opens the score, Scarce dies the sound of our cheers

When the same gallant lad add' two more.

For Kerry, Tim Gorman works bravely To raise the white flag in the air,

But that great little bit of steel—Losty,

Sends over two more for Kildare.

With the score six to one at half-time, boys,

The lads from the Kingdom resumed,

They were sure they would win with the wind, boys,

But, 'faith, soon they saw they were doomed.

When Conlon goes in for a goal, boys, I ne'er saw a scene half so fair,

And the tears of joy streamed down my cheeks,

As I roared myself hoarse for Kildare.

Here's to Merriman, Conlon, and Cribben,

Two Murrays, Fitzgeralds and Scott, To the Kennedys, Kehoe and young Kelly,

And to Losty, the best of the lot; To Rafferty, Connolly and Bracken,

To Gorman, who played a great game, They're all worth the toast of the night,

And with pleasure we'll give them that same.

Then here's to the men of Kildare, boys,

Those gallant Gaels, loyal and true, All Ireland may echo the cry, boys,

I'm asking for: "Kildare Abú."

Cavan and Kerry, when they met for the 1937 title, drew a record attendance to Croke Park. The teams finished level at the first meeting, Kerry winning the replay, which also attracted a huge crowd.

A Limerick reader of *The Kerryman* (K.M.C., Cappamore) penned a few verses after the drawn game.

These were published in *The Kerryman* of October 9, 1937, and because of Cavan's re-appearance in the All Ireland final for the first time since the drawn game and replay with the Kingdom, they may be of interest just now:

A HEALTH TO KERRY.

We cheered them to the echo, Those players brave and bold,

Those peerless sons of Kerry, Who wear the Green and Gold.

We cheered for "Roundy" Landers, 'Till we could almost cheer no more,

We cheered for gallant John Joe, Who for Kerry got first score.

Then we'll drink a health to Kerry, To those matchless heroes brave,

To the Green and Gold they proudly wear,

And the land they'd die to save; Then here's to Kinnerk, Dillon, Myers,

Three Kingdom heroes bold, Here's to matchless Mike Doyle,

Who led the Green and Gold.

Good luck to brave young Kennedy, A star at centre-field,

And to Brosnan and Fitzgerald,

Who to no opponent yield; Three cheers for peerless Danno Keefe,

Who guards the Kingdom's net, And Walsh, Keohane and Healy,

Whose equal we've not met.

For the gallant Landers brothers, Two idols of the game,

For Sullivan and O'Donnell, Who also share the fame;

We'll drink to every member Of that young and glorious band,

Who 'gainst the might of Cavan, Made such a glorious stand.

To those stalwart sons of Kerry, I send this wish sincere:

That they may wear the football crown In this, the Jubilee Year;

When again they face the Slashers, May they cover their proud name

With all the honour to be won In Ireland's ancient game.

SING A SONG.

SING a song of some old-time or present-day football or hurling game and, having sung it, write it down and post it to

"THE GAELIC ECHO,"

14 Cearnog Parnail,

Baile Atha Cliath

for inclusion in our Victory Song series.

The three games between Kerry and Kildare are but memories with many, but in almost everybody's mind there are vivid recollections of the three great struggles between Cork and Kilkenny for the 1931 All Ireland hurling title.

The stern, marathon struggle, which eventually ended in victory for Cork, has often been etc'd. with outstanding passages, embellished by the tellers.

The following lines, penned in a railway carriage by Eamonn de Barra, on his way home after Cork had won, were published in *The Southern Star*.

Cork's recent win over Antrim gives fresh interest to the song, which is sung to the air of O'Donnell Abu.

THE ALL-IRELAND HURLING CHAMPIONS, 1931.

Victory for Cork! And Croke Park wildly echoes

The full-throated cheers of the jubilant crowd.

Cheers for the victors, cheers for their vanquished foes;

Of Cork and Kilkenny, all Ireland is proud!

Stalwart 'gainst stalwart plays, Fiercely the battle sways,

Thrice-fought ere victory determined could be.

Now is this final bout, Proved 'tis beyond all doubt,

That Ireland's best hurlers are bred by the Lee!

Eddie's our captain! Scion of true Coughlan breed,

That backboneed the "Rockies" through many decades;

Deft, daring, dauntless—with ash-craft and dash and speed—

Well does the foeman dread his lightning-like raids!

Long shots with flying swing, Ground balls that race the wing,

Longer and faster as fierce goes the game;

The back-men he helps to clear, To forwards he sends up near,

An All-Ireland Captain who well merits the name!

Kilkenny's keen forwards can tackle and hit as well.

But Cork's backs unflinchingly keep them at bay;

Defenders more dauntless ne'er held fast their citadel

Than "Marie" full-back and in goal "Ballyhea!"

On left wing and on the right "Fox" Collins and Madden fight

The game of their lives, tho' with head-wounds they fall;

Jim Regan stands like a rock, At half-back 'gainst shock on shock,

He blocks, parries, drives and plays man and ball!

Fast, furious hurling—clashing of ash 'gainst ash,

As "Hawker" O'Grady falls maimed in the fray;

Young Garrett replaces and joins in with fiery dash,

With Jim Regan and Barry—a right gallant array!

And up with the forwards ranged

Dinny Barry Murphy's changed, Where his sure, dexterous shots are beginning to tell;

Clancy, the Mallow man, Comes of no fallow clan,

His charges are testing the Noremens right well!

At midfield the tussles at times rise to epic heights!

Giant Jim Hurley, with Mick Connell on flank,

Emerging triumphant from many "no-quarter" fights,

Win cheers even joined in by enemy rank!

Spearpoints of forward line, Brothers Aherne combine,

Unequalled for brilliance—famed "Balty" and "Gah!"

While hurling with speed and weight, Paddy Delea is great!

For one and for all, let us shout loud "Hurrah!"

Most thrilling of finals this, in hurling's long history!

Cork and Kilkenny—grand rivals the twain!

Thrice-fought All-Ireland! Thrice-great the victory!

In this greatest of clashes of brawn and of brain!

Cheers for the Noreside men, Soon may we meet again

Sons of Kilkenny—true Gaels every one!

And now fill your lungs once more, For one long, resounding roar!

Cork's champion hurlers of nineteen thirty-one.

A HISTORIC DOCUMENT

THE following lines are taken from a document that today is historic. It is the Rules and Objects of the Castlereagh "Edward Duffy" Branch of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The first lines on this document are:

"A CHLEAS LUITHE GALLDA! FAGAIDH AN BEALAC."

("Foreign Games Clear the Way!")

Then there are spaces for the names of President, Treas., Sec., Captain and Committee, while at the bottom we have the old, old prayer: Go Saoraidh Dia Eire.

On the back are:

"Rules, Constitution and Objects."

(1) To support and popularise Irish Games and Pastimes.

(2) Each member shall pledge himself to support Irish manufacture, as far as possible, in his household and dress.

(3) To discourage the reading and circulation of low English literature, the singing of English songs, the attending of vulgar English entertainments, and to combat in every way English influence, which is doing so much to injure the artistic tastes and refinements of the Irish people.

(4) To encourage the study of the Irish language, history and music.

This all reads very much like Sinn Féin as many of us knew it in more recent times.

Inside is the Poem written by O'Donovan Rossa in his cell on hearing of the death of Edward Duffy, a fellow political prisoner. Sent secretly to the Nation, the poem appeared on January 1st, 1870.

We give a few verses of this tribute to a true soldier of Irish liberty:

"That whisper through the grating has thrill'd through all my veins, Duffy is dead, a noble soul has slipped the tyrant's chains,

And whatever wounds they gave him, their lying books will show

How tenderly they treated him, more like a foe than foe.

Still sad an' sore was yours, Ned, mid the ja's of your race,

With none to mess the cold, white hand; with none to soothe the face;

With none to take the dying wish to homeland, friend or brother,

To kindred mind, to promised bride or to the sorrowing mother.

I tried to go to speak to you before you passed away,

As you were dying so near to me and so far from Castlereagh,

But the Bible-mongers turned me off when at their office door

I asked last month to see you, Ned, I'll never see you more,

If spirits once released from earth could visit us again,

You'd come and see me here, Ned, but for this we look in vain,

In the dead house you are lying, and I'd wake you, if I could, But they'll wake you in Loughglynan, Ned, in the cottage by the wood."

(We are indebted to Mr. F. Forde, Castlereagh, for this document, issued in connection with the first G.A.A. Club organised in that town).

"No more I'll join the crossroad dance, Or mow the blooming clover,

Or share the joys with the girls and boys

When the harvest day is over, No more upon the hurling field

Will Sunday evenings find me, But far away from all that's gay

And the sport I've left behind me."

—"Slíabh Ruadh."

C. L. C. G.

IRIS LEABAR bliantúil, '43 (Sá Ulainn)

An t-son leabar amháin a tugann eolas iontán ar imteachtai cluái na nGaeleal.

The 1943 G.A.A. Annual

is in course of preparation.

MANY NEW FEATURES AND TABLES.

The 1942 ANNUAL was sold Out in Ten Days.

RESERVE YOUR COPY OF THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL.

Price 1/6; Postage 3d. extra.

Le fáil ar

P. Ó CAOMH, 80 Rámaróe, Teac An Crócaí, Baile Áca Cliac.

G. A. A.

Sunday's All-Ireland Football Final

CABHAN v. ROSCOMAIN

Official Programmes

The only Official Programmes are those bearing the Association's Crest and Secretary's Signature.

24 Pages - 3d.

Cló bunaithe as muintir "An

Ciarratseac" Teó., Traísi, agus

foillsíte as luic "Mac Calla

na nGaeleal," 14 Cearnóg Par-

naic, Baile Áca Cliac.