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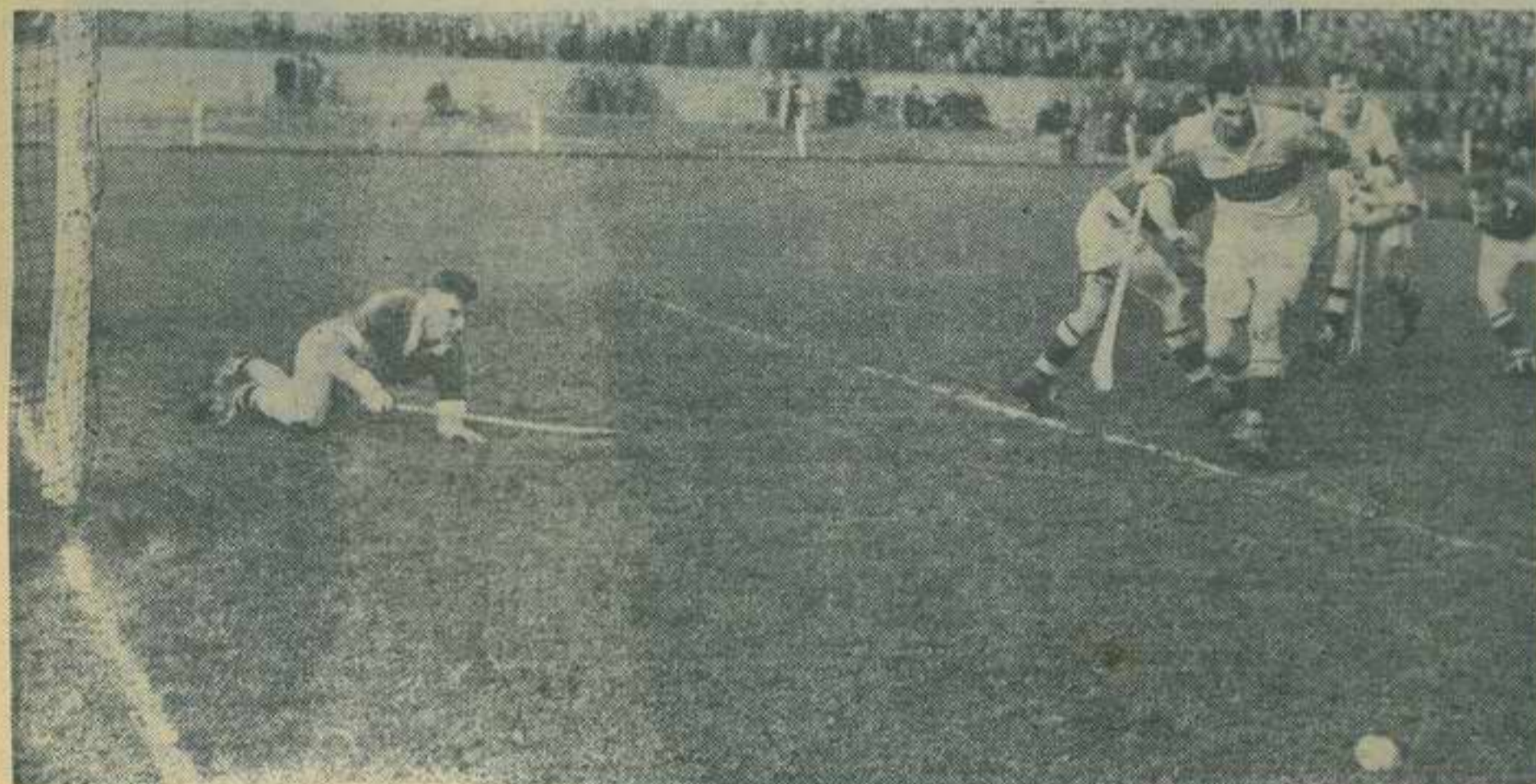
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Wexford forwards sweep ahead in the Oireachtas Cup Final in which the All-Ireland Champions beat Kilkenny.



A point for Derry in the Junior All-Ireland Semi-final.



P. Cuneen, Limerick goalkeeper, looks to be faking a rest after saving a shot from the Clare forwards.



One of the Dublin players seems to have mistaken someone's head for the ball during the Dublin v. New York game.



Gerry Gorman of U.C.D., the Irish 880 Yards record holder.



Kilkenny v. Wexford in the National League.

[All pictures by courtesy "Irish Press."]

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THE MIGHTY 'FOWLER' MCINERTNEY

By SEAN O'NEILL

WHO has the longest consistent record of inter-county hurling? The answer may be debateable, but at least here is mine and it sure will be hard to beat: "Fowler" McInertney of the County Clare. His inter-county hurling career began in 1914 and continued without a break until 1933, a total of twenty seasons; and here is his story, the story of one of the all-time greats of the hurling field.

PARISH STAR AT 16

At the age of 16 "Fowler" was a star on his parish team, O'Callaghan's Mills, and two years later he was chosen as centre half-back for the Clare senior team. That was 1914 and the hurling fever had gripped the county. Limerick, Tipperary and Cork all fell before the onslaught of the Claremen until they reached Croke Park to do battle with the men of Laois, but there was no stopping of the men of Clare and they won their first and only All-Ireland title. So at the age of 18 "Fowler" stood among the elite of the hurling world.

Lean Years

The years that followed were lean ones and with the War of Independence the men of Clare found the Lee-Enfield a more suitable weapon than the Camán. In 1922 McInertney joined the newly formed Garda and played for the then famous Dublin Garda

Club. On account of there being no declaration rule he also had to play with Dublin. At first he played at centre half-back, but later on he moved to the full-back position to become the outstanding full-back of that period. His duels with the great Tipperary full-forward Martin Kennedy are still spoken of. In 1924 and '27 he helped Dublin capture the All-Ireland crown.

From 1922 until 1931 the 'Fowler' hurled for Dublin, but in his heart he knew that there was only one county which mattered; his



Once again that deadly hand of Willie Rackard reaches out to grasp the ball and halt a Clare attack in the Oireachtas Cup semi-final. Clare, the holders, were beaten.

Co Champion's Heavy Defeat

"DIXIE"

BIGGEST surprise of the Camogie Winter League in Limerick was the heavy defeat of County Champions Croagh at the hands of their old rivals Adare at the Croom Gaelic Grounds recently.

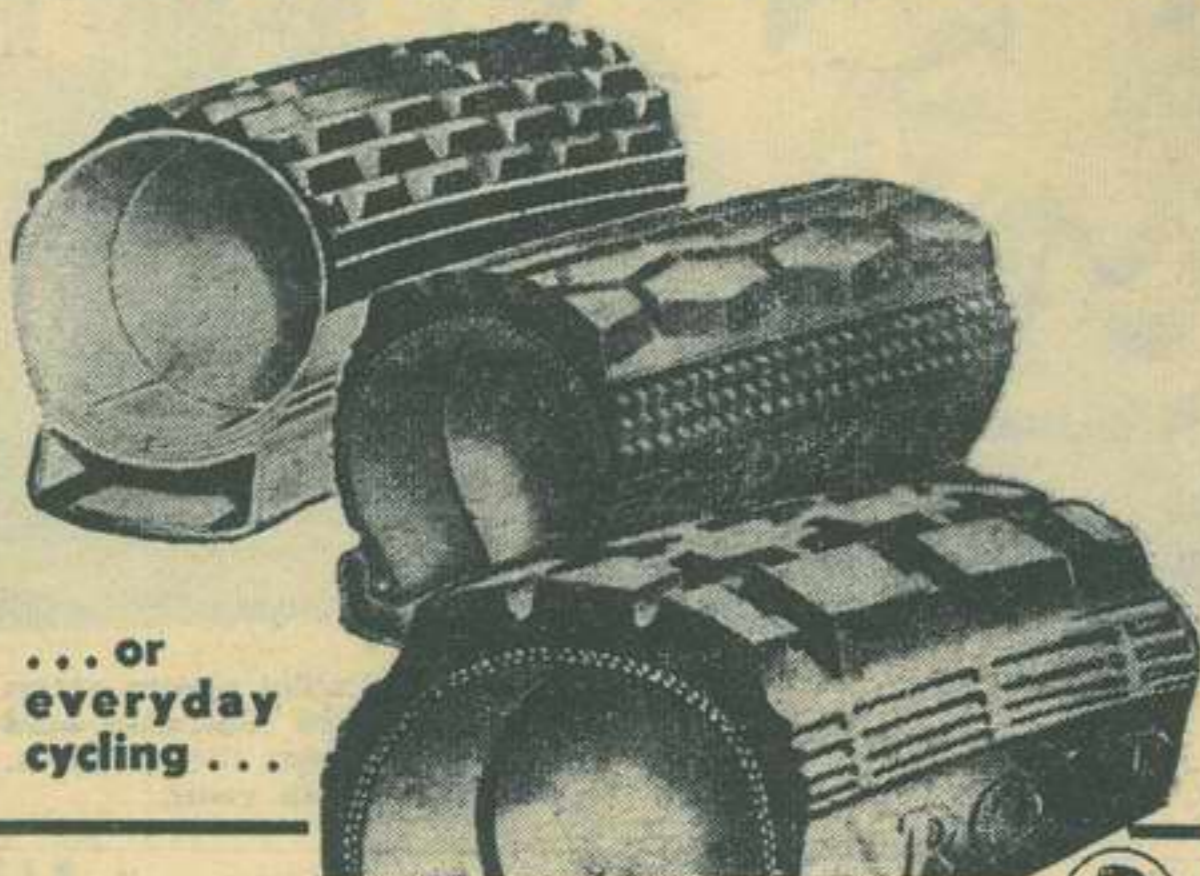
Croagh, who were very impressive in winning the 1955 County Championship, were never a match for their neighbours, who were not flattered by their 7-2 to 2-2 victory. These winter games are doing great work for camogie by the Shannon, and we can expect a much improved display from the callini in green and white in the 1956 Munster Championship.

Elected For 11th Year

Congratulations to that very capable and popular Chairman of the Cork County Athletic Board, Mr. Paddy Desmond of Donoughmore, on his re-election for the eleventh time as Chairman of that Board. An honest man, a sincere man, an enthusiastic man; that is Paddy Desmond, a man of few words and yet one who can and does command respect from those who work with him in the cause of Athletics. Definitely the right man in the right place. Paddy has done much towards raising Cork to the dignified place it now holds in Irish Athletic circles.



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native Clare and so in 1932, with the new declaration rule now in force, he returned once more to the saffron and blue.

With the mighty "Fowler" in their midst once more, the Clare men rallied with new confidence to field a team studded with great hurling stars for the Munster championship. The team was Dr. Tommy Daly (goal), Jumbo Higgins, r.f.; "Fowler," f.b.; J. J. Doyle, l.f.; J. Houlihan, r.h.b.; Dr. Jim Hogan, c.h.; Larry Blake, l.h.; M. Falvey and J. J. Gleeson, c.f.; Tom McInertney (brother of "Fowler"), r.h.f.; Jim Mullane, c.h.f.; Tom Burnell, l.h.f.; M. O'Rourke, r.f.; Tull Considine, f.f., and E. Conroy, l.f.

In Munster there was none to beat them and so they faced Galway in the semi-final in what turned out to be a sensational game. In the first half it was all Galway and at half-time they led by 13 points. In the second half Clare rallied and had five points to spare at the end.

Nineteen Years After

So it was that 19 years after winning his first All-Ireland the mighty "Fowler" stood again in Croke Park in an attempt to gain his second with his native county. This time he was not so lucky and Kilkenny won by three points after a hectic struggle, with Clare missing an open goal in the last second of the game.

1933 saw "Fowler" again in the Clare jersey, but not feeling fit enough to give his best he retired to take his place with the immortals of our native games.

NOTE—The name "Fowler" had nothing to do with the game, it was an old family name which came down from his great-grandfather who was a noted fowler or gun-man.

"Dixie" Names His Hurling Stars

IN last month's issue I gave you my football heroes, and having studied the form of the many players throughout the season, I will now put in print what I consider to be the top ten of the 1955 hurling year.

1. Billie Rackard, Wexford.
2. Jim English, Wexford.
3. Dermot Kelly, Limerick.
4. Jimmy Smith, Clare.
5. Nicky Rackard, Wexford.
6. Jimmy Duggan, Galway.
7. Jimmy Carney, Clare.
8. Joe Salmon, Galway.
9. Billie O'Neill, Galway.
10. Nick O'Donnell, Wexford.

Billie Rackard, by his wonderful displays at centre half-back, played

a major role in all Wexford's victories, while the cute, long-striding Jim English, also a Rathnure man, is undoubtedly the best right half-back in the game to-day. Remember his wonderful game against Limerick?

Dermot Kelly was the Shannonsiders' hero and his display in the Munster final when he had a personal tally of 1-12 must be rated fantastic.

Opportunist Jimmy Smith had a major role in Clare's victories over Cork and Tipp., while Wexford's one and only Nick Rackard could not be denied a place amongst the big guns of the hurling year.

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More Athletic News On Radio Eireann

Says DONAL MURPHY

IT is a disturbing reflection that the great advance in athletic competition in 1955 was not accompanied by any increase in interest shown by the vehicle for news most used by the sporting public—Radio Eireann.

Some examples of the poor service accorded followers of the sport by our National Station are recalled. At the All-Ireland Senior Cross-Country Championship in March, Tipperary made sporting history by winning their tenth title, despite expected close challenges by Galway and Dublin. Mick Cleary became the only individual to have won eight All-Ireland medals.

But the 6.30 news ignored the story, though it broadcast Spurrer's 880 yards world record accomplished in U.S.A. and miscellaneous home results of other sports.

UNIVERSAL INTEREST

The All-Ireland track, field and cycling championships on July 30 and 31 provided a plethora of racing thrills and statistical curiosities, including two new records—material for a commentary in the best traditions of Irish Radio Sport.

Granted athletics and cycling have not at the moment the same general appeal as team games, yet it is worth remembering that, because there were over 146 participants from all over the 32 counties, there were many times more families, clubmates, friends and casual acquaintances of the competitors with an immediate and personal interest in this fixture than there would be for any team game.

There was, indeed, a five minutes summary each night at 11.25 excellently treated by Mr. Dan Lyons—but 6 hours after the finish.

The best known sports meet in the country—Guinness'—had announced an attempt on the week-old record by a star field including the popular figures of holder Gerry Gorman and arch-rival J. J. Kelly. The attempt was successful, yet the 6.30 bulletin did not carry the result, though it treated water polo, cricket, soccer and motor-racing.

CROSS COUNTRY RESULT IGNORED

On the Sunday of the All-Ireland Decathlon championship R.E. did announce the result (without the

lachain's very full review of G.A.A. games hardly fit coverage of a National fixture.

Some blame must be laid on the shoulders of the N.A.C.A. for failure to make official representations for improvement of the service.

Though G.A.A. results get 15 minutes review at 10 p.m. every Sunday, that Association's Munster Council was not slow to make a public protest when R.E. failed to announce certain results at 6.30 one Sunday recently.

IMPORTANCE OF RADIO COVERAGE

Our officials should realise the importance of Radio as a medium of publicity, and goodness knows we need every syllable of that precious commodity.

Personal proof of the powerful influence of the spoken word is that when a member of a certain club was mentioned in the half-way results of the Decathlon on Saturday's 6.30 bulletin there was more discussion among sportsmen in his town than was aroused by printed reports of club members' achievements during the seasons.

Now is the time for our officials to take steps to ensure sufficient coverage of athletics, cycling and cross-country in the next season.

third placing, however) in the 10.15 bulletin which many interested must miss because of engagements at that hour.

Not alone does Radio Eireann fail to arrange for collection of our athletic news for broadcasting at the peak listening hour, but when the result of the Junior cross-country championship was phoned from a provincial venue in February the caller was told firmly that it would not be included in the 6.30 news.

It was included in the last few seconds of Mr. Sean Og O Ceal-



Wexford v. Kilkenny in the National League.

A Kingdom Star Of To-Morrow

By SEAN O'NEILL

HAVE you ever asked yourself what keeps teams like Kerry, Cork and Tipperary always on top? They may be beaten one year, but there they are again the next year, a little changed maybe, winning the title. The answer, of course, is the amount of young talent appearing each year, giving the selectors plenty to choose from. When a man is found slipping, they are not forced to retain him until someone else is found to take his place, because there is always some young man "ready, willing and able" on the spot.

On the display of each of the Kerry fifteen in this year's All-Ireland final one would be inclined to imagine the same fifteen there for quite a while, but this will not be so, because some of these men who a few weeks ago seemed irreplaceable will have to be replaced by next season, and nobody realises this better than the Kerry mentors, so they have a crop of young players under their eye to choose from when the time comes. Probably the best of these young men and the most likely to be chosen first is Tom Long of Dingle.

AUTOMATIC CHOICE ON COLLEGE'S TEAM

Tom, now training to be a teacher in St. Patrick's Training College, Dublin, was playing with Paddy Bán Brosnan on the Dingle senior team when most young footballers of his age were trying to win juvenile medals.

Educated in Dingle C.B.S., Tom got a scholarship to Ballyvourney Preparatory College at the age of fifteen, and from his first year was an automatic choice for the College team. In 1953 and 1954 he played centre-field for the Munster Colleges interprovincial team. 1954 also saw him in Croke Park giving Kerry a centre-field pull in the Minor All-Ireland Final.

64 Years of Waiting

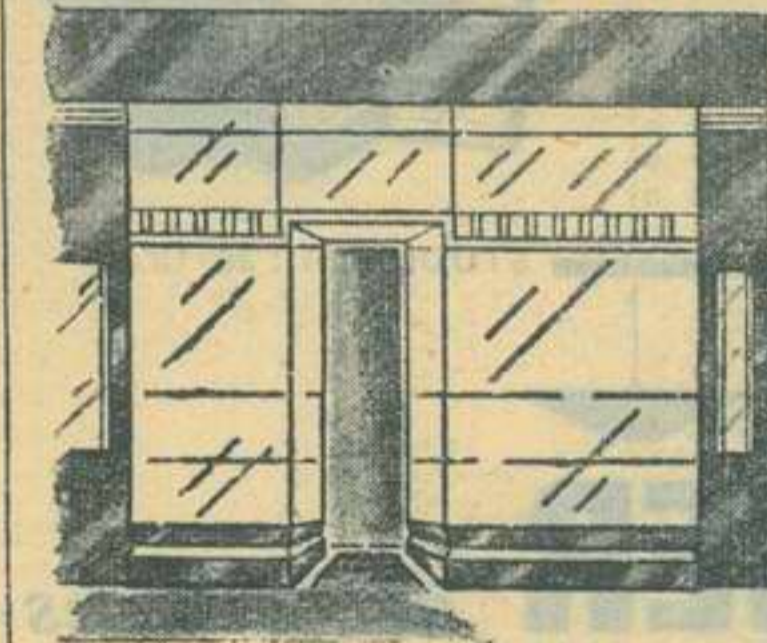
After a lapse of 64 years the County Kerry Senior Hurling Championship has returned to Ballyduff. By beating Kilmoyley in the final this season, they regained the title, which they last held in 1891, the year that Kerry won it's one and only All-Ireland Hurling Championship.

One of the interested spectators at the game was Paddy Carroll, who played on the 1891 Ballyduff team, and won an All-Ireland medal with Kerry that year. Following the game, Paddy was chaired from the field, and was presented with the Championship Trophy—a fine gesture to a wonderful sportsman.

FEATHERS IN HIS CAP

Now Captain of St. Pat.'s "Erin's Hope" team, Tom has two feathers in his cap, one for mastering John McKnight of Armagh in the semi-final of last year's Duke Cup competition, and the other for getting an edge over Kerry Captain John Dowling in a challenge game. All this is well known to the Kerry selectors, so watch out for Tom Long of Dingle.

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POWERS
THREE SWALLOW
WHISKEY

A Revival by the Feale "DIXIE"

ABBEYFEALE, holders of six County Senior Football titles and in the days of the Fr. Casey one of the leading clubs in Munster, again hit the headlines a few Sundays back with a hard-earned victory over Galbally in the minor football decider. This was their first victory in the under-age grade and victory was all the sweeter seeing that they were contesting their fifth final. One of the best teams ever to win the title; more should be heard of lads like Miceal King, Liam Downey, Eamonn O'Connor, Cyril Hobbs, Patsy Tumulty, Conny McMahon and Collins. Young King is one of the cleverest footballers in the county at present and he has been wearing the Fealeside colours in senior, minor and juvenile ranks since he was 14.

Galbally, too, were a grand side and the tie was much closer than the final scores of 3-8 to 2-5 suggest.

K.A.A.

JUNIOR GAELS' PAGE



A Great Limerick Gael Passes On

BY J. P. CROWLEY

The ranks of our great old-timers are thinning rapidly. Now another link with the great days of Limerick hurling just before the turn of the century has been broken, with the death of Patrick Butler of Cappamore, at the age of 82. Patrick hurled with the Kilfinane, Limerick team in 1897 which won the All-Ireland crown against Kilkenny, and also the Croke Cup in the same year. During his career, Patrick also played with the Cappamore and Araglin teams, and was always renowned for his fair and brilliant hurling.

Only one man now remain of the great Kilfinane team of 1897, and that is Pat Mulcahy.

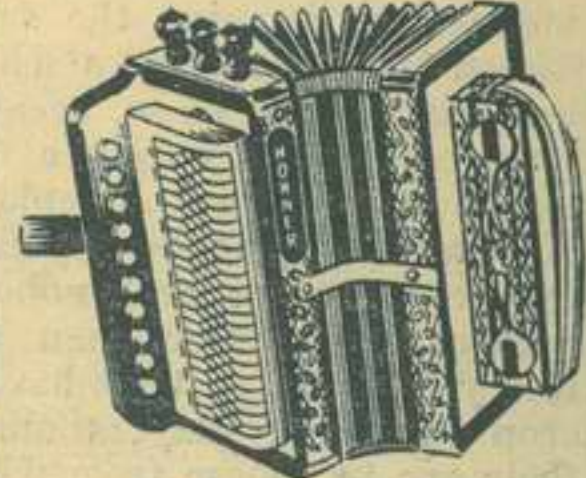
Patrick Butler was a great Gael, and he will be sadly missed in his native Limerick. May he rest in peace. Sligo.



Anxious moment for Limerick in their National League game against Clare.

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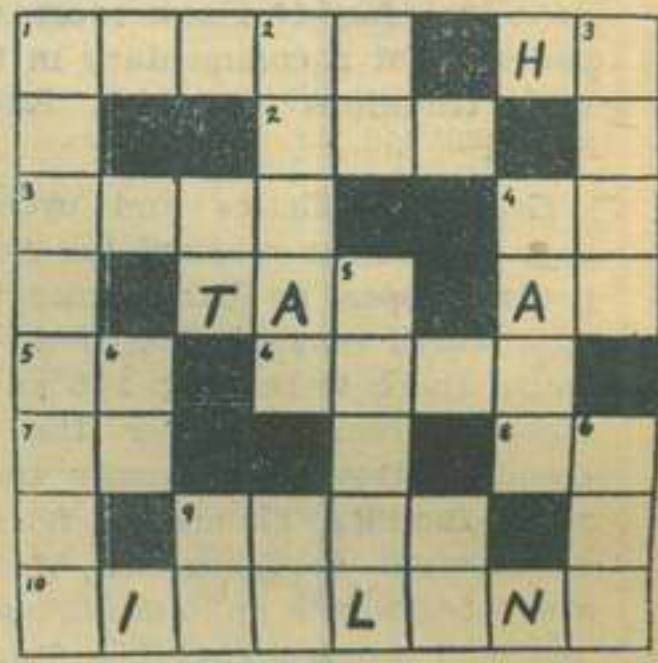
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- 1.—All entrants (boys or girls) must be under 17 years at date of entry.
- 2.—Prizes will be awarded to the first three correct solutions opened.
- 3.—All entries must be accompanied by Entry Form properly completed.
- 4.—The closing date is December 15th, and the Editor's decision is absolutely final.
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- 3rd Prize.—Silver Medal.



CLUES

Across.—(1) This player was shot dead by Black and Tans during a match in Croke Park. (2) A girl's name. (3) Sailors don't work on it. (4) These letters mean "Doctor of Medicine". (5) Not a nice way to speak of your father. (6) This town is in Kildare, the home of the "Lily Whites". (7) The All-Ireland Finals are played in, or —, Croke Park. (8) This kind of man doesn't drink. (9) A false God. (10) The best players are often on it — or so you'd think!

Down.—(1) Everybody looks forward to them. (2) A boy's name. (3) Pádraigh Pearse named his school at Rathfarnham in honour of Saint —. (4) You will find this on a ship. (5) Christmas is the time for this kind of song. (6) Something worn around a man's neck.

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Ashbourne Prospects

Preparation are already under way in Galway University for the forthcoming Ashbourne competition. The Ashbourne Cup is, of course, the less famous sister of the Sigerson and Fitzgibbon Cups, in other words, the trophy for Inter-Varsity Camogie Competition.

For the last few years U.C.D. has carried home the cup, but then competition existed solely between Cork and Dublin. Last year Galway hitherto the outsiders, astounded everyone (including themselves, if I may say so) by holding Dublin to a 4-4 draw. Dublin went on to win the competition which is run on the League basis.

Three of Galway's best have this year left the ranks but some promising newcomers have been discovered among the first years

to take their places. Among them is Minnie Mac Sweeney, niece of Cork's well-known personality "Big Jim" Hurley.

The home ground will be an added incentive to the Galway girls when the competition is played next February. We look forward to a closely contested competition played in its usual sporting spirit.

Blood Will Tell

Donal Whelan, who figured on the Waterford team that went under to Wexford in their National League clash, is a grandson of the late Dan Fraher, one of the pioneers of the G.A.A., and also a famous old-time all-round athlete.

Colleges and Schools

UNDER the guidance of the former Cavan star, Professor John Wilson, St. Euman's College has made great strides in recent times, winning the Rannafast Cup for the first time this year, and having an imposing list of successes already in the Dr. MacRory Cup (the Senior Competition) during the past few weeks.

The Presentation Brothers' Schools, Letterkenny, are also doing great work for the games, while the De La Salle Brothers' Schools, Ballyshannon, have for ever been a nursery of national aspirations. The new High School, Donegal Town, under Professor E. B. Cleary, is also doing solid work, so that with a plan for organising a separate Board for the Technical Schools, Donegal would appear to be building on a rock foundation for greatness in the future.

Donegal will be a strong force in next year's competitions. Although unsuccessful, much has been learned from the Lagan Cup competition. Tironaill, on the march, can bring to the county on the playing fields the glory that their Chieftains won in days of old.

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OLYMPIC YEAR AHEAD

By FIONBARR CALLANAN

On the 1st December next year the concluding athletic events of the 1956 Olympic Games will be held. It is quite certain that the next twelve months will be greater than any year to date so far as performances are concerned. Greater even than 1955, which, though not yet ended, far outshone any other year. It would be difficult to forecast the outstanding features of next year, but we can quite easily review the happenings of 1955 which had more than its share of excitement.

NEW RECORD HOLDERS

Dealing only with individual track and field events, 29 new entries will appear on the list of world-records. On no less than 25 occasions athletes beat the previous best performances, while four athletes equalled the previous records.

VERSATILE HUNGARIANS

Playing a very major part in this renovation of the record books were three Hungarian middle-distance runners, Istvan Rozsavolgyi, Laszlo Tabori and Sandor Iharos. At the moment they are in Australia, having gone there to gain experience of track and climatic conditions at the time corresponding to that at which the Olympics will be held next year. They have also revealed that they have another purpose in making such a long journey—they are anxious to break John Landy's world record for One Mile! The amazing thing about this trio is that any one of them could be the one to break this record, and it is quite likely that they will achieve their object.

THE ASTOUNDING IHAROS

Most versatile of these Hungarians is Iharos who now holds five world records. He is co-holder of the 1,500 Metres record and has an exclusive claim to the records for 3,000 metres, 2 miles, 3 miles and 5,000 metres. Iharos trains for ever four hours daily, beginning at 6 o'clock in the morning, and he has to fit his training sessions in with his duties as a lieutenant in the Hungarian Army. Now 26 years old, he has indicated that he will run in both 1,500 and 5,000 metres events in Melbourne, and many will fancy his chances of bringing off this double.

Iharos achieved all his records this season and so heads the list of record breakers for 1955. But Emil Zatopek, who made three records his year, still heads the all-time list because he now holds nine world records made in the last five or six years. This great Czech runner holds every track record from 6 miles upwards, and though it now seems likely that his younger rivals can beat him over the shorter distances he is almost a "certainty" to retain his Olympic marathon title next year.

While on the subject of world record holders it is interesting to list those talented enough to hold more than one world record:

- Emil Zatopek (Czechoslovakia) ... 9 records
- Sandor Iharos (Hungary) ... 5 records + 1 relay record
- Mel Patton (U.S.A.) ... 3 records + 2 relay records
- Jesse Owens (U.S.A.) ... 2 records + 1 relay record
- Dick Attlesey (U.S.A.) ... 2 records
- Istvan Rozsavolgyi (Hungary) ... 2 records + 1 relay record
- Laszlo Tabori (Hungary) ... 1 record + 1 relay record
- Herb McKenley (Jamaica) ... 1 record + 1 relay record

DECATHLON STAR

A really bright new star emerged at Kingsburg, California on the 10th June last. This was the first day of a Decathlon contest which resulted in a new world record for 19 year old negro Rafer Johnson. He scored a total of 7,983 points to beat the previous figures of the great Bob Mathias by 96 points. His performances were as follow:—

100 metres, 10.5 secs.; long jump, 24' 6 1/2"; shot, 45' 3 1/2"; high jump, 6' 0 1/2"; 400 metres, 49.7 secs.; 110 metres hurdles, 14.5 secs.; discus, 154' 10 1/2"; pole vault, 12' 8 1/2"; javelin, 193' 10 1/2"; 1,500 metres, 5 mins. 01.5 secs.

ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Johnson must be a strong candidate for the title of "the athlete of the year" on the strength of his Decathlon record. In my own opinion his chief rivals for that honour would be Rozsavolgyi and Iharos. Rozsavolgyi's record of 5:02.2 for 2,000 Metres was the greatest track performance of the year, while the all-round brilliance of Iharos certainly entitles him to very serious consideration. It is very difficult to compare these varied achievements, but if I was really pressed to decide, I think that I must nominate Sandor Iharos as my "Athlete of 1955."

Well-Known Athletes Bereaved

The recent death in Kibbaac Thomas, Co. Waterford of Miss Mary B. Kirwan caused much regret throughout Co. Waterford.

Miss Kirwan was a sister of the well-known athletes, Messrs. Percy, Rody and James Kirwan.

Percy and Rody Kirwan were well-known jumpers round the turn of the century and won numerous championships between them. They have not missed an Olympic Games since they began travelling to them early in the century. Mr. James Kirwan was a well-known inter-county hurler for Waterford.

Footballer Emigrates

SOUTH KERRY football followers will regret the fact that Peter McDonnell, a member of the Waterville team, has left to take up his abode in England.

Huddersfield Becomes Home Of The Irish in Yorkshire

"Padraig Pearse C.A.A. Club played a leading part in the life of the Irish Gaels in Huddersfield." So said Secretary Sean Conroy when presenting his report at the club's first annual meeting held recently.

He outlined the club's success in the past year and said it gave to the Irish lads in Huddersfield an opportunity to play their national game and the large numbers of functions held by the club in St. Patrick's Hall during the year had never been seen before.

The club sent £30 to the Irish flood victims fund, ran a cello for poor Irishmen in Bradley Sanatorium and helped towards the local Lourdes sick fund.

"We have a playing pitch which we improved during the year, and with more work this coming year

we will have the finest laid-out pitch in Yorkshire. We have over 100 paid members. We produced a first class football and hurling team, the latter which were beaten in the championship final by title holders, Leeds. In all we have the finest club in Yorkshire which is due to men like Rev. Fr. Quirke, C.C., St. Pat's, a native of Milltown, Co. Kerry; the chief founder, Mr. Dennis Collins, another founder who hails from Abbeyfeale, Co. Limerick.

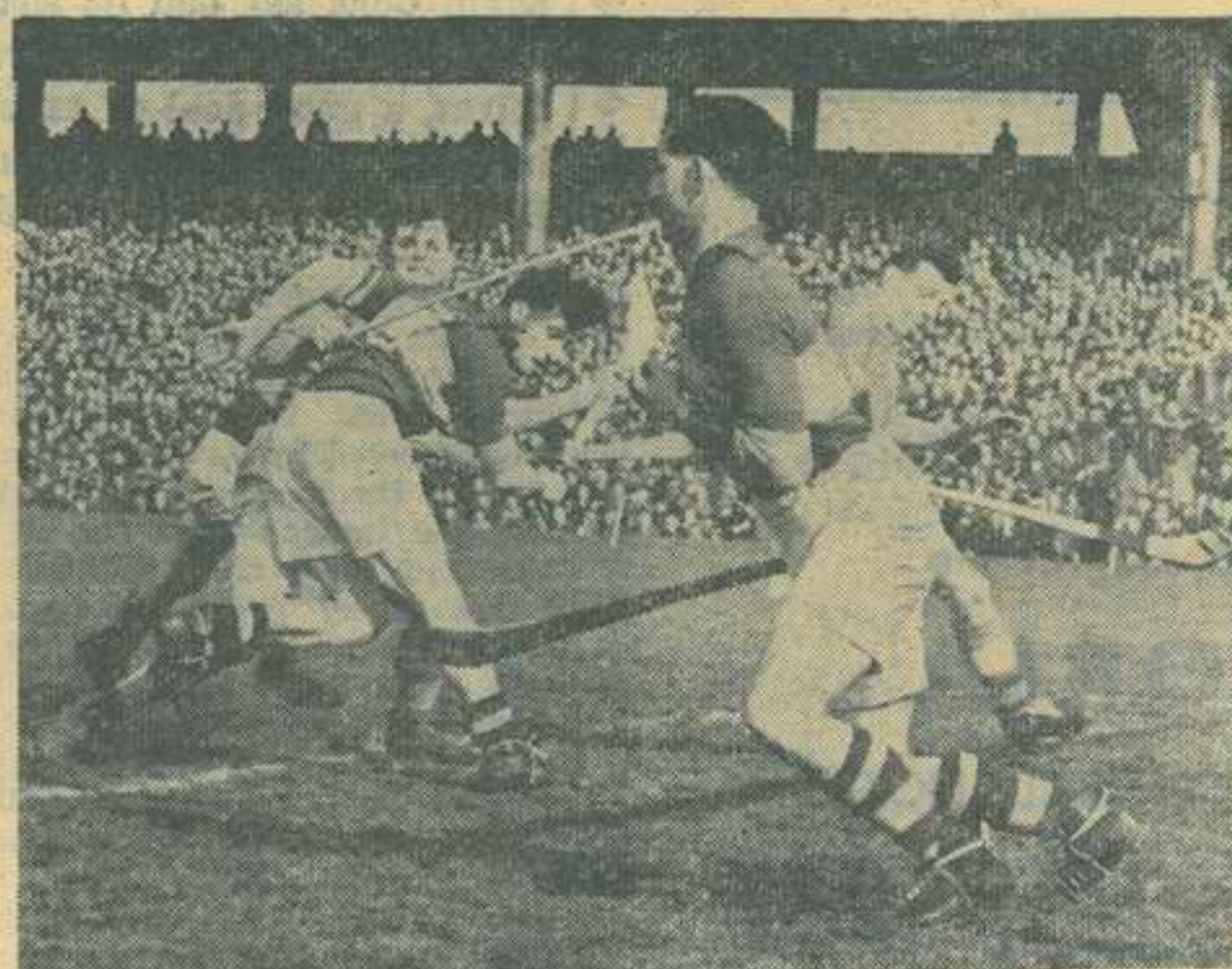
"Mr. Hickey (Ennis, Co. Clare) who had to retire from the secretarship in the middle of the year was a big loss to the club but still has his heart and soul in the club's success and of course on the hurling field.

"Last, but not least, Mr. Johnson, in him we have a fine chairman."

Of course, Sean Conroy did his best to see that the club would be on top with the best of clubs. Sean, who hails from Ballymacward, Co. Galway, was the first to introduce hurling to Huddersfield and the teams display in the League and Championship was greatly due to him. Sean also introduced the "Gaelic Echo" in Yorkshire where it is read by a large number there. In all it is the finest club in Yorkshire.

Officers elected for the coming year:—President, Father Quirke (Kerry); Vice-President, Fr. McSweeney (Cork); Chairman, Mr. T. Johnson (Cork); Vice Chairman, Mr. P. Heneghain (Mayo); Secretary, Sean Conroy (Galway) Asst. Secretary, Mr. J. Costello (Galway); Treasurer, Mr. D. Collins, Limerick.

For best results advertise in "The Gaelic Echo."



Flashback to the National League Final of 1950 between Cork and Tipperary.

J. P. O'REILLY

ANTRIM'S ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

J. P. O'REILLY of the J. Green Cockade Athletic Club has just completed what must be the most successful season of any athlete in the country this year.

Besides winning the Ulster Pentathlon title he took second in the Hop-Step-and-Jump, and third in the Long Jump, at the All Ireland Youth Championships. At the Ulster Senior Meeting he carried off the Hop-Step-and-Jump title and was second in the Long Jump, while at the Ulster Juniors he was crowned Long and Hop-Step-and-Jump Champion, and secured runners-up medals in the High Jump and the Relay.

Strangely enough, the name O'Reilly does not appear on the list of Antrim Champions, 1955, but he did not compete in vain as he came home second in the High Jump and in the Hop-Step-and-Jump. Finally, to end a great season he took major honours in the Long Jump and in the Hop-Step-and-Jump at the Cardinal D'Alton Games.

Can any other athlete in the country better this record?

Brother Against Brother

By "DIXIE"

THE popular Limerick and Ahane hurling brothers, Sean and Dick Leonard, figured on opposing sides in a recent Limerick City Inter-House game. Sean, the county full-forward, played an important part in Distributive Workers victory over the Local Officials with whom Dick, the Ahane captain and county hurler, had a good game.

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CORK JUNIORS COMPENSATE FOR SENIOR DEFEATS

By "RAYMOND"

"LOOK out for Cork Senior Footballers when the Senior Hurlers are beaten, and look out for the Juniors when both the Senior Hurlers and Senior Footballers are beaten." That statement has become almost axiomatic in G.A.A. lore, and not without good reason, for a season seldom passes that Cork doesn't win one or other of the All-Ireland Championships; if not a Senior Championship, then a Junior one—or perhaps a Minor.

The season that is just over is an excellent case to point. Rather surprisingly, and entirely unexpectedly, beaten by Clare in round one of the Hurling Championship, and a trifle unlucky to lose to Kerry in the Munster Senior Football Final at Killarney, Cork was then out of the Senior Championships. But not out of the All-Irelands, however, for with a vigour and zest characteristic of the county, the Juniors and their mentors set themselves to compensate for the downfall of the Seniors. And well they did so, for both the Junior Hurlers and the Junior Footballers, both well balanced, well-trained, enthusiastic teams, fought through to, and finally won, first the Home Finals and eventually the All-Ireland Finals in their respective grades. So that once again Cork has had its share of All-Ireland honours in 1955. And what is perhaps more encouraging to Corkmen themselves, a good deal of excellent material has been discovered in these Junior teams from which the obvious gaps in the Senior teams may be filled up in 1956.

WITHIN THE COUNTY

Within the county itself a very healthy state of affairs has existed during 1955. The County Board, ably officered by Andreas O Scannall and the ageless Sean O Murchu, the famous Sean Og of the '20's and early '30's, greatest of Cork's many great full-backs—under the masterly guidance of such men as these, and Vice-Chairman Sean Barrett and Registrar Con Murphy (and not many counties can boast so fine a collection of notable ex-players among their Boards), Cork Board and Cork County G.A.A. affairs generally have had an unusually successful season.

In the various hurling grades throughout the county a total of 201 teams entered for the competitions. This total included 18 Senior teams, 11 Intermediate, 56 Junior, 52 Novice, and 64 Minor teams.

NOT COMPLETED

A few of these competitions have not been completed at the time of writing. Of those completed, the following are the winners and runners-up:

Senior Hurling: St. Finbarrs; Glen Rovers.

Intermediate Hurling: Youghal; Mallow.

Minor Hurling: Nemo Rangers; Awbeg Rangers (Buttevant).

In the football grades there was a total entry of 197 teams: 22 Senior, 68 Junior, 52 Novice, 55 Minor. The result of these championships, which have been completed to date, are:

Senior Football: Lees; Macroom.

Minor Football: New Rangers; St. Fachtna's (Rosscarbery).

For administrative purposes, the county has been divided into 8 divisions: Beara (the historic Beara of Donal O'Sullivan of Dunboy), South-East Cork, Mid-

Cork, East Cork, North Cork, South-West Cork, City, Duhallow. Competitions have been completed in all divisions and the following are the Divisional Champions:

Beara: H. Nil; F. Urhan.

South-East: H. Ballinhassig; F. Carrigaline.

Mid-Cork: H. Canovee; F. Aghabullogue.

East Cork: H. Castlelyons; F. Cobh.

North Cork: H. Ballyhea; F. Mitchelstown.

South-West: H. Coursey Rangers; F. Darrara.

City: H. St. Finbarr's; F. Delaney Rovers.

Duhallow: H. Banteer; F. Millstreet.

Congratulations Tony

Congratulations also to the Cork and Munster left full-back, Tony O'Shaughnessy, on his recent marriage, which he celebrated a few days after he had won the Cork Senior Hurling Championship with The Barrs. Regarded as the best man in Ireland in his position, Tony's greatest hour was in the 1954 All-Ireland Final when he played the most inspired game of his life against gallant Wexford, the man, perhaps more than any other, who helped "Christy" to win that eighth medal of his.

By way of levelling matters for Christy, it may be remarked that Tony did more than one man's part towards the downfall of the great Ringie and his fellow Glen Rovers in this year's county final.

Cork Track And Field Champions

The Senior County Champions for the years were:
100 Yards: S. Quinlan, St. Finbarr's A.C., 11.2 secs.
220 Yards: Tom Cavanagh, Fermoy A.C., 23.2 secs.
440 Yards: Tom Cavanagh, Fermoy A.C., 54.4 secs.
880 Yards: G. Horgan, Temple Hill A.C., 2 mins. 11.3 secs.

1 Mile: T. Geary, Ballymore, 4 mins. 42 secs

Long Jump: Larry O'Donnell, St. Finbarr's A.C., 20 ft. 6 ins.

High Jump: Mick Allen, Rising Sun A.C., 5 ft. 9 ins.

H.S. and Jump: Bob Dwyer, Ardroom A.C., 47 ft.

Discus: J. Cashman, Ballymore A.C., 97 ft. 10 ins.

Shot: J. Cashman, Ballymore A.C., 35 ft. 2 ins.

Javelin: Larry O'Donnell, St. Finbarr's A.C., 134' 10".

56 Lbs.: C. McCarthy, Drimoleague A.C., 22 ft. 10 ins.

"56" O.B.: C. McCarthy, Drimoleague A.C., 13ft.

St. Finbarrs Take Athletic Cup

Outstanding Athletic Club in the county for 1955, as for some years past, was St. Finbarr's Club, Cork. The final figures for the County All-Round Cup (the "Cade" Cup) show how far ahead of all other clubs the "Barrs" were at the end of the season. The figures for the ten leading clubs in the county are:—

St. Finbarr's A.C., 247 points (a record total).
Ballymore A.C., 143½ points.
Millstreet A.C., 135 points.
Blarney A.C., 120½ points.
Rising Sun A.C., 95½ points.
Fermoy A.C., 85 points.
Carrigrohilly A.C., 76 pts.
Old Abbey A.C., 52 pts.
Star Wheelers C.C., 50 pts.
St. Finbarr's C.C., 46½ pts.

In addition to capturing the "Cade" Cup for the season's best total of winning points, St. Finbarr's A.C. also won the O'Duffy Cup which is presented each year for the club which scores the most points at the County Championship meeting.

And to wind up a most successful season St. Finbarr's took three of the first four places in the County Decathlon Competition in which the final placing were:—

- (1) P. Hennessy, Barrs (Cork's "Athlete of the Year").
- (2) J. Curtin, Barrs (son of Maurice Curtin, ex-Hammer Champion).
- (3) Peter Carrigy, Blarney A.C.
- (4) Larry O'Donnell, Barr's A.C.

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—Leinster Junior
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th.—Inter-County
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a.—Leinster Senior
p at Kilkenny.

Around The Cork Clubs

The big city clubs are so publicised and so well known that nothing more than a brief resume of their activities seems necessary, for, like most of us, my personal sympathies are more with the under-dog, a fact which explains why I gave more space and attention to the less-advertised county clubs.

Hurling:—County Champions, St. Finbarrs, fielded out three teams—senior, junior, minor. The senior team put out Blackrock in the opening round of the Championship, and eventually met and beat Glen Rovers in the County Final. An old club, "the Barrs" won their first county championship as early as 1899, and they have always been prominent in Cork hurling since the innovation of the G.A.A. as an organised Gaelic force.

Glen Rovers: Mention of this fabulous club immediately conjures up a long litany of famous hurling names and personalities—Jack Lynch, Paddy O'Donovan, Jim Young, the Buckley brothers, Dave Creedon, John Lyons, Vin Twomey, Joe Hartnett, Christy

John O'Grady. No championship has come the way of "The Rockies" since their three-in-a-row wins in 1929, '30, '31, but a resurgence of the old "Rockies" spirit and a revival of the Eudie Coughlan-Seán Og days is due to this historic club.

Sarsfields: County champions in 1951 for the first and only time, "Sars" were beaten in this year's quarter-finals by "Bars." With much promising material available, the Riverstown Club may easily do better next year for young players like Billy Barry, Pat O'Leary, Mick O'Leary and Bobby Lotty (nephew of the great Allan), look like developing into a power in Cork hurling in the near future.

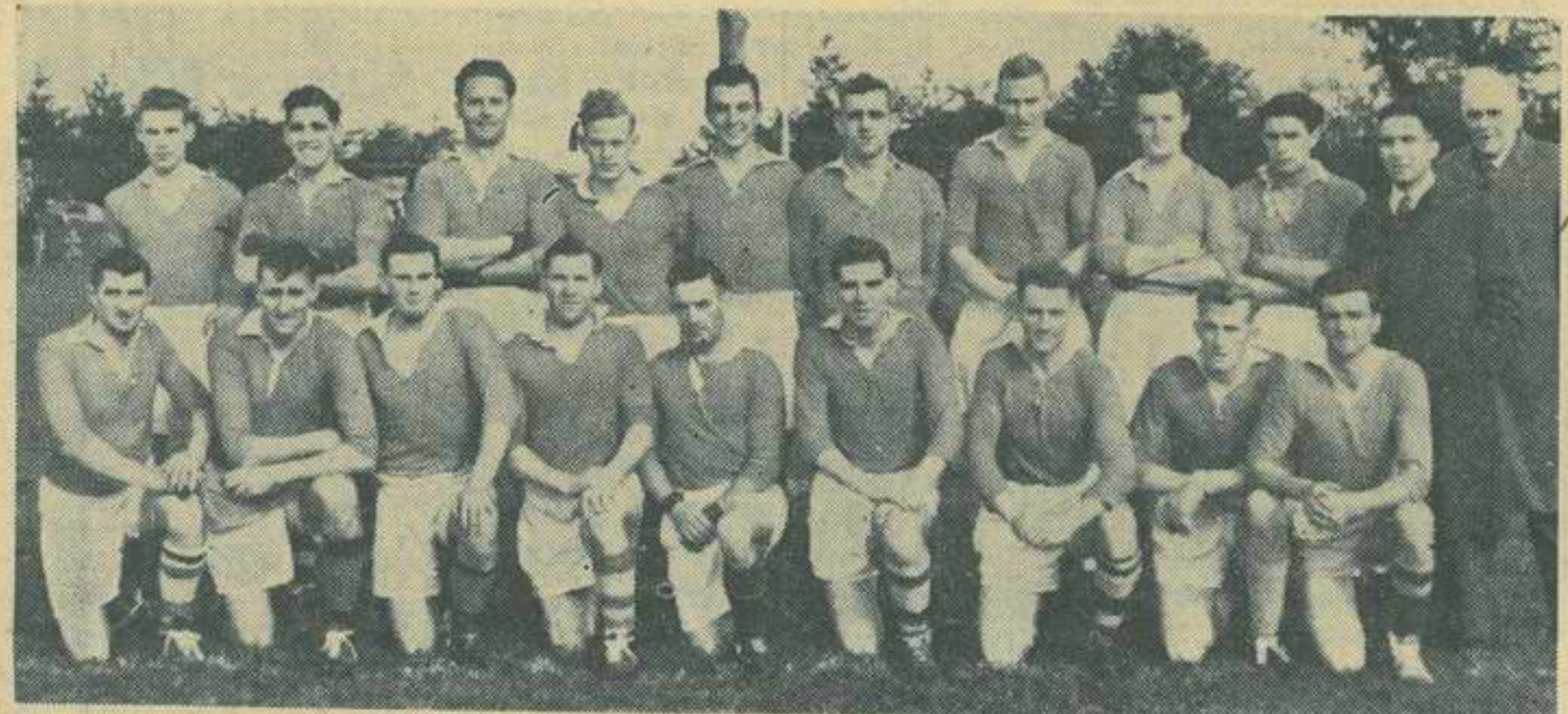
Nemo Rangers: A "coming" club this which fielded out its three teams in 1953: senior, junior, minor. The seniors fell before "Sars" early in the championship, but the club's minors went on to win the County from Awbeg Rovers, a fact which indicates that very soon now the "Rangers" will be a force in Cork hurling—in Cork football, too, for the

Lees Win Football Crown

On the Football side, Lees are the 1955 County Champions—and Lees are the first name to appear in Cork football records as county champions in 1887. In 1886, 1902, 1904, 1914, 1922-'23, this old club again took the county title.

This year they beat Carrigdhonn in Round I, and went on to put out Garda and Carbery, beating Macroom in the county final. The club fielded out three teams—senior, junior and minor—in the various championships. Well-known names on the senior side are "Weesh" Murphy, Nellie Duggan, both Beara men, Donal O'Sullivan, the county senior full-back, and Eamonn Boland of Roscommon.

Collins: The Army team which includes such men as Ned Roche, John Cronin and Jim and Eamonn Young, all of whom are All-Ireland medal holders, beat Garda in Round I of the championship, but owing to a technical slip-up they were later disqualified from the championship when it was discovered that one of their players,



The Cork football team that met Carlow in the National Football last year.

Ring—and a platoon of others who helped to place Cork in the place it holds as Ireland's premier hurling county.

In 1955 the club's senior team reached the county final, but an insufficiency of matches in the course of the season found the team unusually unfit, and, after forcing a replay with Barrs, they were eventually beaten for the title. The club fielded out four teams, senior, intermediate, junior, minor.

Blackrock: Oldest and one of the most famous of present-day clubs, home of a squadron of famous hurling figures, county champions as early as 1891, Blackrock has fallen on lean times in the last couple of decades. Yet "the Rockies" always field out their three teams, senior, junior, minor, with never-failing regularity. This year their seniors went out in Round I before "the Barrs" despite the best efforts of Tom Furlong, Des Hayes and Mick Cashman. A big loss to the club was the departure to his native Tipperary of their fine goalie,

Nemo minor footballers also won the 1955 county title, beating the good Rosscarbery side in the final.

U.C.C., perhaps better known as a football club, had its senior and junior hurling teams in the 1955 championships. Unluckily for the seniors, they met, and were beaten by, Glen Rovers in Round I—but then "The Students" are never at their best at that particular period of the season with the inevitable examinations always in the offing to keep them off the playing fields, a remark that applies equally to the College football team. College hurlers have yet to win a County Championship, but the footballers won the title in 1920 and again in 1927 and 1928.

Carrigtuohill: Another old club that has been in senior hurling for many a year and which won its "County" in 1918, this is the home of the redoubtable pair, Willie John Daly and Matt Fuohy. This year the senior hurlers went out in Round I before Muskerry Divisional team.

John O'Boyle, had not been properly transferred to the club. "The Soldiers" have won their "County" in 1939, '51 and '53, and usually field both senior and junior teams for the championships.

"Barrs" are almost as prominent in the football sphere as they are in that of hurling. This year the club put three football teams on the field—senior, junior and minor. The seniors went out before the Carbery Divisional side in Round I. Notable players on the side are Bob Nutty, a Dublin man by birth, Pat Woods, Timmy Cronin, and the versatile Tony O'Shaughnessy.

St. Nicholas's, counter-part of Glen Rovers, have been a big force in Cork senior football since they won their first title in 1938. Champions in 1954, they were beaten by Clonakilty in the first round of the 1955 championship in the best club match of the year in Cork county. Well-known names on the "Nicks" side are Christy Ring, Donie Donovan, Jim Lynam, Joe Hartnett, Gerald Lenehan—and it may be recorded that many a Cork hurling supporter traced back Cork's defeat by Clare in the subsequent inter-county tie to that St. Nicks-Clonakilty match, for the injuries that incapacitated both Christy Ring and Joe Hartnett in the Clare match were sustained against Clonakilty a few weeks earlier.

Vincents are a youngish club in senior ranks, and have yet to reach their best status. In 1955 they put senior, junior and minor teams in the championships. The senior side beat Imokilly in Round I, then drew with Macroom and were beaten in the replay. Their most prominent men are Christy and Brendan O'Shea, Murt and Gerry Lucey, "Chuck" Barry and Rory O'Connor.

A county club which fielded its senior hurling and senior football teams in 1955, as well as junior

Tony Retires

FERMOY-BORN Sergeant Tony Flannery, who has been trainer to An Ceard Cath hurling team for the past two years, has retired after 24 years' service in the Army.

A well-known athlete in his younger days, Sergeant Flannery won Junior and Senior County Hurling medals with Galway. In the two years he has tained the hurlers from An Ceard Cath, the Battalion has won the All-Army Hurling Championship.

All Sergeant Flannery's friends in Galway hurling and handball circles will wish him luck in his civilian life.

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CORK CLUBS

hurling and football teams is Bandon. Both its senior teams went out of the championship early, the hurlers before Avondu, and the footballers to Duhallow. One of their seniors, Denis Donovan, has been Cork's senior football full-forward as well as the county hurling full-forward on different occasions. Denis is also a bowlplayer of considerable note.

"Man of the Year": Who may be correctly described as Cork's "Man of the Year" in both codes? Well, general opinion is the one and only "Ringle" is still Cork's greatest hurler, and so the honour must still go to him.

In football, Nellie Duggan gets the vote, for the great Beara near-veteran continues to out-play and out-shine the best of them. But his choice would probably not have been so automatic were it not for the injury suffered by young Sean Moore (a broken ankle) in the Dublin-Cork League match last April. Sean was then in capital form, but has been out of the game until recently when he helped Cork defeat Kerry in the current League.

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FORMED IN CO. CLARE**

A Cross-Country Club has been founded in Kilmurry-McMahon with Very Rev. Fr. O'Kennedy, P.P., as President. Other officials are:—M. McMahon, Chairman; M. Meaney, Treasurer; B. Fitzgerald, Secretary and M. Daly, P. J. Cleary, K. Studdert, B. Frawley, M. Frawley, P. McMahon, S. Burns and M. Studdert.

**BALLYDUFF AND KERRY
HURLING**

Present at the Kerry Hurling final was Mr. Paddy Carroll, the sole survivor of the last Ballyduff team to win the Kerry title in 1891. The attendance at the match was approximately 13,000.

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**HURLING
RESURGENCE**

A hurling resurgence seems to be taking place in Toomevara, one-time home of the famous "Greyhounds." So far this year they have won the Juvenile League competition, the Intermediate hurling title and in the minor they lost narrowly to Nenagh, and finished up by winning the North Tipperary junior title. With all that material to choose from next season the Greyhounds should be a big force in Tipperary hurling once more.

IN MEMORIAM

The sympathy of the Gaels of Tipperary goes out to the widow and young family of Chris Doran, former well-known and popular Thurles Kickhams hurler, who died suddenly at his home after coming home from a swim. When the Kickhams club was formed back in the early 'thirties Chris Doran became one of its most noted hurlers and figured in memorable matches against such clubs as Thurles Sarsfields, Moycarkey and Boherlahan. He won many medals with the Kickhams and also with the London Brian Borus Club. Peace to his soul.

**BISHOP OF CORK
LAUDS ATHLETICS**

Speaking at the annual convention of the Cork N.A.C.A. in the County Council Chambers recently, His Lordship, Most Rev. Dr. Lucey, Bishop of Cork said "When people speak of brightening up country life, they seem to think mostly in terms of a picture house in every parish, a dance hall in every parish hall, etc. To my mind, games like hurling or bowl playing, sports meetings and the like can do far more than these commercial enterprises to make life in the country attractive. There is nothing like outdoor recreation for young people, and when out of doors, the more we have in games, rather than at them—in sports meetings rather than at them, the better."

His Lordship concluded by saying that in particular, he was glad to find the N.A.C.A. so strong in Co. Cork.

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**Jerome, Pride of
Caherciveen**

PROUDEST man in the picturesque fishing village of Caherciveen these days is Jerome O'Shea, holder of the County Senior Football Cup won by South Kerry recently. Jerome, of course, is no other than the schoolteacher who delighted the Croke Park thousands last September with his magnificent fielding and lengthy clearances. His superb display against Dublin won him Sports Star of the Week, no mean distinction, especially as he was figuring in his first senior final.

In the county final against North Kerry he had a grand game at centre half-back and he completely subdued the popular Tom Costelloe. South Kerry waited a long time for the title and much credit for the 1955 success goes to their tall blond-haired captain.

His greatest ambition now is to bring the Sam Maguire Cup to the fishermen in 1956.

News Flash

Mick Herbert, famed Limerick hurler of a few years ago, has joined his former clubmate Mick Mackey on the Limerick senior hurling selection committee.

The Tipperary Post Office football team really did some "stamping" at Bansha a few weeks ago when they routed the Dublin P.O. team 1-10 to Dublin's 1-2.

Two thousand people at Fitzgerald Park, Fermoy, saw a young Youghal team capture the Cork Intermediate hurling title a few Sundays ago. They beat Mallow convincingly to the score of 4-6 to 2-5. The outstanding feature of the game was a point being scored by Micy Fahy, the Mallow goalkeeper, from a clearance quite near his own goal.

Note.—From 1943 to '46 Mick was a star on the St. Flannan's College Ennis team which in that period won an All-Ireland Colleges and two Harty Cup titles.

Five Tipperary men played on the Dublin senior hurling team which lost to Wexford in the recent National League encounter. They were Phil Shanahan (Toomevara), Mick Ryan (Moyn), Christy Hayes (Two-Mile-Borris), Jim Prior (Borrisoleigh) and Paddy (Croke).

Tipperary were not the only ones to give a hand to the Lees club to capture the Cork football title as Eamon Boland and Eamon Donohue, both of Roscommon fame, had quite a say in Lees' win. Boland was at midfield and Donohue played in the right half-forward position.

St. Patrick's Still on Top

ALTHOUGH Treaty-Sarsfields won the final of the current season's juvenile hurling competition in County Limerick to bring their total number of wins in this competition to four, St. Patrick's with six wins—their most recent in 1953—still top the list. Young Irelands with three wins are lying third, and joint third, also with three wins, are Cloughaun.

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JIMMY KENNEDY OF NENAGH — ONE OF TIPPERARY'S GREATEST

By S.O'N.

For the past decade and a half Christy Ring has held the lime-light as Ireland's greatest hurler, but for one short period of that time, from June 1948 until September 1950 he was overshadowed by one man—a man who came to the forefront suddenly and left it more abruptly still. A man who believed that the skill and accuracy of Ring could be equalled if not excelled and went ahead to prove it on his own, that the man to do it Jimmy Kennedy of Nenagh.

PLAYED FOR DUBLIN

Jimmy was a product of St. Fannan's College, Ennis, and later went to University College, Dublin. His hurling craft was quickly noted by the Dublin mentors and immediately he was persuaded to declare for Dublin.

In that year, 1948, Dublin swept through Leinster to reach the All-Ireland Final, thanks to the scoring spree of their Tipperary man. In the final they faced an All-Ireland hungry Waterford fifteen who carried the day, but the star of the hour was the tall lightly built Nenagh lad.

DECLARED FOR TIPPERARY

By this time the Tipperary selectors were demanding Kennedy's allegiance and so in 1949 Jimmy fielded for the first time in the saffron and blue of his native Tipperary and from that day never looked back. Excelling each game with the next, establishing memorable scoring feats, Kennedy led Tipp. in a blaze of glory to Croke Park to face Laois in the All-Ireland final. The story was the same—a field-day for the Nenagh man, and the title for the Premier County.

The National League title and a trip to America followed.

In 1950 the Championship was of the same pattern only this time Kilkenny were the victims in the final.

RETIREMENT MYSTERY

Kennedy and his deeds were the toast of the Gaels, but as soon as the goblets were empty Jimmy Kennedy had vanished from the playing fields never again to appear. His retirement has remained to this day a mystery to all followers of the game.

Tipperary Men Star in Cork G.A.A.

The joke in Dublin is that Corkmen are running the city, but as far as winning Cork Co. Championships goes, Tipperary is having a big say with Mick Ryan, former Tipperary centre forward, being the inspiration of St. Finbarrs victory over Glen Rovers, and Mick Cahill, former Tipperary football forward snapping vital scores for Lees in their football county final victory over Macroom.

TIPPERARY v. GALWAY IN THE NATIONAL LEAGUE



Paddy Anglim of Tipperary — A Giant of Irish Athletics

By RAYMOND

Recently I asked a Kildare born friend of mine, a keen follower of Athletics, whom he considered the most memorable figure in Irish Athletics in the very fertile period, the late '20's and early '30's, the period that saw the O'Callaghans, Shanahan, Bermingham, Gore, Healy, O'Connor, Eustace, Moore, Doyle, O'Malley, Britton and a dozen others of their calibre at their peak. After some cogitation, a few hums and many haws, he plumped for that great Tipperary performer, Paddy Anglim. And who that ever saw the versatile Paddy in action can find it in his heart to contradict him?

Winner of first prizes in as many as NINE events, 100, 220, 440, High Jump, Long Jump, pole-vault, shot, javelin and 120 yards hurdles, Paddy must have been one of the best all-round athletes of our race. His favourite events were, however, the long jump, and the pole vault. In the long jump Paddy

won the Irish Championship seven times between 1928 and his retirement from Athletics in 1937. Between the years 1929 and 1934 he was never beaten in the Irish Championship pole vault. In the same period he returned figures for the long jump that were equalled nowhere else in Europe in those days.

A farmer's son of renowned athletic stock, Paddy was a man in years before he became aware of his own athletic capabilities. His first victory on an Athletic field came in the 100 yards, and signalled his entry into the Garda Force by winning the long jump championship of the Force on the very first day that he entered the Depot in Phoenix Park.

His best effort in the long jump was 24 ft. 5½ ins. made in Tipperary in 1934, but the big "blow" of his life came in 1932 when he failed by 1½ ins. to reach the 24 ft. minimum required to qualify for a place on the Irish Olympic team for Los Angeles.

Tipperary to the Fore in Cycling

Tipperary in winning the recent inter-county road race which was held in Clonmel, have proved once again that they are a force in the cycling field. The Tipperary team consisted of Brendan Lynch, Tom Ryan and Frank Whelan. The individual winner was Bernie Sheehan of the Limerick Road Club. The Limerick team were second.

"LIKE FATHER LIKE—"

BY RAYMOND SMITH

Keeping up the tradition of a famous Thurles hurling family is Jimmy Doyle, whose two goals and eight points against Galway in the All-Ireland Minor Hurling final made him the talk of Gael-dom. Jimmy is son of Gerry Doyle (former well-known Sarsfields and Tipperary goalie and trainer of the Tipperary minor team) and nephew of the famous Tommy Doyle. At fifteen years of age, young Doyle won his place on the Tipperary minor team last season as goalie and gave many brilliant displays between the posts. If Tipperary had beaten Dublin in the All-Ireland final he would have been one of the youngest minors ever to win an All-Ireland medal. He got his Munster medal all right.

This year he proved that he is a born hurler by showing equal ability in attack and, indeed, his scoring feats have made his name a household word in hurling circles, even though he is now only sixteen. In the All-Ireland final scores flowed with an ease that was deceptive from his magic stick. No other player on the field could match him for ball control. There was grace and style in everything he did. Tipperary are very fortunate in that Jimmy Doyle is young enough to play minor for another two years. He certainly has a very bright future.

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Antrim Football Monopolised By O'Donovan Rossa and St. Johns

By TONY MacNAMEE

IF the Antrim County Hurling and Football teams did not go very far outside the county this year the Clubs made up for it within, to such an extent that the Leagues and Championships have been completed in almost all divisions in record time. Here are the winners in the different sections:

HURLING

Senior Championship: O'Donovan Rossa. Runners-up: Ballycastle McQuillans.

Junior Championship: Glenariffe Ossians. Runners-up: O'Donnells.

Minor Championship: Loughguile Shamrocks. Runners-up: St. Galls.

Senior League: St. Johns.

Junior League: O'Donnells.

Minor League: O'Connells.

FOOTBALL

Senior Championship: O'Donovan Rossa.

Junior Championship: O'Donnells.

Minor Championship: Not played yet.

MONOPOLY BY TWO CLUBS

For more than a dozen years Antrim Senior Football has been monopolised by O'Donovan Rossa and St. Johns. Now these two hold the Senior Hurling League and Championship between them. Rossa knocked out St. Johns in the Championship semi-final but the Johns got sweet revenge three weeks later when they nailed Rossa in the League, the only defeats each had in the season. In the interests of hurling, I hope that neither will hold the same dominance that they have held in football.

McDONALD OUTSTANDING

The Championship Final between Rossa and Ballycastle was up to the usual high standard of previous games between these teams, and the big crowd enjoyed every minute of it. The pitch was in splendid order and the game was played at breathtaking speed from throw-in till final whistle. There were some grand players on both sides, but S. McDonald, the Rossa skipper, was the dominating personality in the thirty.

Casement Park has been the subject of a lot of criticism from the day it was first mentioned, and it is much too grandiose. But it has brought about one big thing—a tremendous improvement in hurling. True, Cork ousted Antrim rather easily there in the Junior Championship, but the home team was really too bad that day to be true to form. When they met Wicklow a few weeks later they simply did as they pleased and toyed with them as the Southern Hurlers used to toy with Antrim at Croke Park.

If Rossa beat O'Donnells in the Senior League decider, and they are long-odds-on favourites, they will have won their 11th (or is it 12th?) League Championship. Is it any wonder that Senior Club Football draws such small crowds? There just is no competition.

JUNIORS PULL BIGGER CROWDS

How different is the picture in the rough-and-tumble of Junior football among the



Seamus McFerran of Belfast, President of G.A.A.

MacRory Park brigade. Best crowd-puller in the county is the Beringer Cup, which is confined to purely Junior Clubs. The standard is usually poor, but there is competition, and competition is the life of sport. How often have I come down from Corrigan Park from watching a senior match in company with a handful of spectators, to meet thousands pouring out of MacRory Park from a junior game.

Antrim's Senior Football team, which has not been seen for many months, drew a good crowd to Casement Park for their challenge game with Tyrone. They won 6-4, but the victory did not give the fans much to shout about. It was a victory by omission. The Tyrone forwards missed at least four open goals, and Antrim took the six chances they got.

FIRST VISIT TO CASEMENT PARK

Perhaps I was wrong in saying the County team was responsible for the size of the crowd for the Tyrone game. I almost forgot that the Beringer Cup Final between Sarsfields and Geraldines was played before it, and a Beringer Cup Final when played in its native MacRory Park always packs it. Many of the habitues grumble because it was moved to Casement Park this year, and they grumbled a lot louder before the game was over. It was Geraldines' first visit to Casement Park, which is about twice the size of MacRory Park, and they were lost. Sarsfields, with the advantage of having played there for three consecutive Sundays, were never in danger of finishing second best.

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GWEEDORE NOW HAVE 8 TITLES

By HUGH DALY

IT is now practically fifty years since the first competitions inaugurated by the foundation County Board of Donegal, under the patronage of the late Cardinal O'Donnell (then Dr. O'Donnell) got under way, directed by that ardent Gael, Very Rev. Dr. Maguire, president of the committee. Since that, much progress has been made and to-day, Tironaill has taken its place among the foremost counties in the country.

True, the county has yet to win its first Ulster Senior football championship title, but few will disagree that during the past seven years enormous strides have been made since the winning of the Lagan Cup in 1952, when the senior team contested an All-Ireland National League semi-final at Croke Park for the first time, giving a very gallant display against Cork. In that year, too, the juniors won the Ulster junior championship, and repeating their

success last year, went on to the "Home" final against Kerry at the National Stadium.

This progress was followed up this season when the seniors, for the first time in ten years, contested the Ulster senior championship semi-final in which they were unlucky to be defeated by the eventual champions, Cavan.

In addition to the County Board, the vast area of the county is administered by five Divisional Boards, and a Hurling Board. In all, there are eight local competitions, including two in hurling. Increased attendances at the great majority of games this year shows that solid Dunfanaghy area, where under the leadership of Garda M. MacNeela, a new Board has been set up, and many new areas developed.

SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP
When Gweedore, Ireland's sole Irish-speaking team, defeated St. Eunan's in the senior county championship final in September, they took leading place on the winners' list in the county, with eight



DONEGAL JUNIORS OF 1954.

titles. Founded some twenty-two years ago, the Club has provided more inter-county players than perhaps, any other. Hudie Boag Gallagher, and Hughie "Tim" Boyle played for Ulster on several occasions.

The Erin's Hope team which is drawn from the twin towns of Stranorlar and Ballybofey, won the junior championship this year, defeating Downings in the final. They also contested the minor county final. Cathal Hannigan, Paddy Murphy, and Ben Griffin, the hard-working Gaels who keep the club going, can feel proud at the work they have carried out.

In winning the minor football championship, Creeslough proved what enthusiasm and organisation can really do. A few years ago, no team competed from this area, but Garda McNeela changed all that with a local competition which resulted in the fielding of one of the finest combinations ever seen in Donegal.

PROUD RECORD

Ardara have a long and proud record in the G.A.A. and it comes as no surprise that the county chairman, Domhnall Mac a' Bhaird should have had the pleasure of seeing the juveniles win their first title in this grade this year from Creeslough. Ardara is the home of that great Donegal player, Frankie Brennan, who was a member of the Ulster team this year.

HURLING

Fifty years ago, South Donegal was a stronghold of hurling and it would seem that the wheel has taken the full turn again, for after a very lean period, both the senior and juvenile championships have been won by Donegal Town and Ballyshannon, respectively. Donegal defeated Letterkenny after one of the greatest ever games in the code, and Ballyshannon retained the championship with a facile win over Burt.

NEW COMPETITION

Providing six playing members for the senior county team, St. Eunan's, Letterkenny, had a very successful year. A new competition organised by the club in aid of the finances of O'Donnell Park brought all the ace teams of the Province into competition in which St. Eunan's defeated Gweedore in the final after a drawn game and hectic replay against St. Enda's (Omagh) in the semi-final. In the county league, they met their old rivals, Ballyshannon in the final, which the Ernesiders (Ballyshannon) won on Sunday after a gripping contest.

Bundoran has been ever faithful to the G.A.A. and after a lean period, their victory over Lifford in the final of the junior county league will give them a big fillip. They will now have greater support from callini of the Camogie Club organised on Sunday last by Edward Quinn, former Donegal representative on the Ulster Council, and one of the leading Gaels in the county. Another great Bundoran worker, Sean Meehan, has big plans for the further development of the Gaelic Park.

Focus on Ulster



Selectors Should Pick New Cavan Team

There was a time in Cavan football, writes our Cavan correspondent when it was a proud and great honour to wear the blue of the county, but apparently those days are gone forever. At least that is what it looks like in recent months. Time and again this season, the Cavan selectors have nominated men to represent the county in League games, and some of these men have been so unmindful of the honours conferred on them, that they failed to turn out for Cavan. We had a disgraceful exhibition of this lack of interest in the county team, when Cavan met Mayo recently at Castlebar, when quite a number of the selected players failed to make an appearance. My suggestion is that the Cavan Co. Board should do something about this without any further delay. What I would do, if I could have my way is "fire" every man on the Cavan team, who thinks so little of the honour of wearing the county jersey, and field an entirely new team.

We have some fine youngsters in Cavan football to-day, who would jump at the chance of wearing the Cavan colours. Give them the opportunity, and forget about the "big names," who seem to have forgotten the pride they once had in wearing our blue.

ANNUAL CONVENTION

The Annual Convention of the Co. Down Board of the N.A.C.A. is to be held in Newry on December 4th.

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McMAHON CUP FOR NEWRY

To the huge delight of their large and voiciferous following Newry C.B.S. won the McMahon Cup for the first time when they defeated St. Mary's C.B.S., Belfast, 5-6 to 0-2.

The Newry boys always had the measure of the opposition and their stars were McAlinden, Crossey and Lundy. Best for the rather bewildered Belfast boys were McCrory and O'Connor.

JUNIOR LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

Kilclief are 1955 Junior League Champions of County Down, and as a result of their success will step up to Intermediate ranks next year.

One of the big Northern surprises of the month was the defeat of O'Donovan Rossas by St. John's in the Antrim senior hurling tie. The game was a close and exciting one with St. John's getting eventually to win by 2-6 to 2-3.

Donegal's Roll Of Honour, 1955

- Senior Football Championship—Gweedore
- Junior Football Championship—Erin's Hope (Stranorlar).
- Minor Football Championship—Creeslough.
- Juvenile Football Championship—Ardara.
- Senior Hurling Championship—Donegal Town.
- Juvenile Hurling Championship—Ballyshannon.
- Senior County League (football)—Ballyshannon.
- Junior County League (football)—Bundoran.

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The Year in Galway G.A.A.

By M. O'SULLIVAN

WITH the decision of the Senior Football Championship recently enthusiasm subsided in Gaelic ranks, though discussion of the results proceed even yet. That is a profitless aftermath, however. Here is the list of champions in the various grades but at the time of writing the Minor and Junior hurling decisions have yet to be reached.

- Senior Football Champions— Tuam Stars.
- Senior Hurling Champions— Liam Mellows (Galway).
- Minor Football Champions— Ballinasloe.
- Minor Hurling Champions— Unfinished.
- Junior Football Champions— Carrantryla.
- Junior Hurling Champions— Unfinished.

For the second year in succession Tuam Stars won the Co. Senior Football title by defeating Ballinasloe at the Kenny Memorial Park, Athenry. It was the best County Final in years and Tuam's victory ranks them as the outstanding Club in the county for an number of years back. It was

their third time winning the coveted Frank Fox Memorial Cup and last year they brought off the unique double of championship and League honours. Hats off to the gallant victims Ballinasloe, they certainly put up a great battle against such strong opposition and with players like Daly, D'Arcy and ex-minor Ryan, they can look forward to next years championship with confidence.

HARD LUCK ARMY
Hard luck team of the year was Army who were narrowly defeated by the champions. Actually those two teams met twice in the series, at the first attempt Tuam won but on an objection a reply was ordered. Tuam once again displaying their do-or-die spirit won the re-play by a margin of three points. Many supporters of both sides maintain that the "Soldiers" should have won at the second attempt, but they suffered a big handicap by an early injury to Dublin and Leinster star Cathal O'Leary, who was very subdued as a result, for the rest of the game.

Liam Mellows (Galway City) emulated a similar feat as that of the football champions by winning the hurling crown for the second year also in succession. This was a ding-dong struggle, with the lead exchanging hands on many occasions until two minutes from the end when Paraic O'Donoghue, son of former President N. O'Donoghue

clinched the issue for the city boys with a great goal. The 1st Battalion Renmore rallied their forces in one desperate attack on their opponents goal, but the final whistle deprived them of any further scores and the men from the city were champions for 1955.

After defeating Gort by a convincing margin (13 points) in the Co. Junior Football Semi-Final many shrewd judges predicted a County Crown for the E.S.B. club but Carrantryla confounded the critics by defeating the west-board champions in the decider on Sunday last. Chief architect of the E.S.B.'s rise to fame was former hurling star Sean Duggan, and it wasn't his fault that his side lost. However, with players of his calibre and backed by stars Prendergast, Curran and Lyons the electricians are tipped to go one better next year.

ONE-WAY TRAFFIC
It was one-way traffic in the County Minor Football Final, where the city side St. Kieran's were completely outclassed by a polished Ballinasloe fifteen. This setback should in no way interfere with the future prospects of this gallant Galway city fifteen, who have done very well with their limited resources. Formed about two years ago this club also took part in the Junior and Senior competitions but during the year they lost many of their prominent players due to emigration.

Connacht Commentary



West Galway Junior Football Champions

ALTHOUGH Oughterard were regraded from senior status this year, they found the E.S.B. fifteen too good for them in the final of the West Galway Junior Football Championship. The final result was: E.S.B., 0-8; Oughterard, 1-4.

Outstanding for E.S.B. were Gallagher, Prendergast, Duggan and Cunniffe. The Oughterard stalwarts included Burke and Conneely.

Sligo Revival

A big resurgence in athletics is expected very soon in Sligo when a County Board is to be formed to direct the athletics of the county. Big man behind the revival is Bert Nicholson of Ballaghaderreen.

Eamonn Boland

Speaking of Eamon Boland, the same man must, I think, hold the record for playing with different clubs. He has played for a total of five different clubs. Tarmon and Kiltoom in Roscommon, St. Margaret's, Dublin, a Meath club and now Dees in Cork. (I do know a man who has bettered it, but on account of he having done it all in one year I better not mention his name).

Gerry Fit Again

The good news has just reached us that Gerry O'Malley of Roscommon and Connaught fame, is now fit again and will be seen very soon in the Roscommon jersey once more.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Kilchreest on winning the South Galway junior hurling title, and also to Ennis C.B.S. in making a sensational debut in the Harty Cup. They beat Charleville C.B.S. by 11-10 to 2-1.

Lease for St. Kevin's Park?

The Gaels of Castlereagh are all putting their names to a memorandum to urge the Town's Trust Committee to grant a lease of St. Kevin's Park to the local club so that it can be developed into a pitch suitable for large inter-county games. So come on Pat, put down your name.

May Play With Roscommon

It is reported that Roscommon will have their former minor star, Leo Duffy, now a Garda in Limerick, on their declaration list for 1956. It seems Leo is playing great stuff in Limerick and it is felt he will add much of the punch that is lacking to the Roscommon attack.

CAMOGIE AT TUAM

A NEWLY-FORMED Tuam camogie club means that the County Galway town will see the local cailini engage in challenge games with other clubs in an effort to bring back this game to the popularity the founders of the new club believe it will have in Tuam.

MAYO NEWCOMERS

Much is expected from Mick Stewart and Paddy Gavin, two stars of the 1953 Mayo minor football team which won the All-Ireland. At present they are under the watchful eye of the Mayo selectors and it is hoped that they will add much wanted punch to Mayo's attack.

My Vote

Dear Sir—My vote as the outstanding Gaelic player of the year goes to Dan McInerney (Clare), who, in my opinion, gave several outstanding performances this year.

Yours sincerely,
J. O'DONNELL.



Tommie Boland of Galway makes a great save against Kilkenny in their N.L. tie.

'Stars of To-Day And To-Morrow'

BY "SIDE LINE"
To those who saw this year's junior hurling semi-final, Galway's Mick Cullinane needs no introduction. The stylish long-striking mid-fielder who dominated exchanges in that sector was none other than one of Galway's most promising hurlers of to-day, Mick Cullinane, the pride of Gurloughmore. Tall, well-built, equally effective with both left and right, Mick has played centre field and on the left wing in both half and full forward lines on county teams.
He loved hurling from boyhood, and being encouraged by his first medal at the age of eleven, practised diligently until at seventeen he was honoured by the county selectors for the minor team of from success to success and on the

1950. Since then he has gone Connaught Railway Cup team of last March we find Mick at left-half forward playing on no less a personage than Pat Stakelum. He represented Galway in the Oireachtas and Birt Gold Medal Tournament this year and was nominated a substitute on Galway's all-Ireland team which went under so courageously to Wexford.
Mick is one of the brighter lights of U.C.G. hurling team which participated in the Fitzgibbon Cup Competition. He is a second-year student of Agriculture and has a brilliant future stretching before him in this sphere, also.
May we wish this modest unassuming young man every success in the future and may his sportsmanship, and good nature both on and off the field continue to be second to none.

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