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Gaelic ECHO

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HALPIN'S TEA

is rich in the
cup

Kept Munster To The Fore

THIS month Sean O'Neill lists five men, who he thinks were outstanding figures in Munster sport. Do you agree with him?

1. **CHRISTY RING** — the Cloyne master of the caman, who in 1956 added to his glorious reputation and who proved himself greater in defeat than in victory. Still "the greatest of them all."

2. **SEAN MOORE**—a young man who in one year's football has become one of the great centre-field men.

3. **PAUL FITZGERALD** — a true fighting son of the Kingdom, who won from his fellow-county man, Gene Mangan, the title of "Ireland's greatest wheeler."

4. **JIMMY DOYLE** of Tipperary, only eighteen. Yet, I think that Jimmy is next to the great Christy as the year's most outstanding hurler. With many of the attributes of the "maestro" himself, who can tell but some day he will fill his shoes.

5. **PADDY O'DRISCOLL** — the rock of the Cork defence, evergreen and ever sound; he proved himself the year's most consistent player.

A Record

Ennis Eire Og's veteran right corner back, Gerry Moroney, completed an imposing record in this year's Clare hurling final. By adding the senior hurling medal to his list he has now won every honour from juvenile up to senior in both hurling and football. Winning the senior hurling medal was Gerry's ambition.

Suspended

Two Limerick junior hurling teams Castletown and Feenagh, Kilmeeady have been suspended for a period of six months following an investigation by a special inquiry Committee into an incident in a championship game played in Rathkeale on September 9.

Title After 25 Years

By LEESIDER

BLACKROCK are the 1956 Cork Co. Hurling Senior Champions. A few Sundays ago, at the Cork Athletic Grounds, they inflicted a 2-10 to 2-2 defeat on Glen Rovers. They last won the title in 1931—twenty-five years ago. This is a strange fact, considering that between 1889 and 1931 they were champions twenty times in all.

Hurling tradition hangs thickly about this pretty fishing village situated in the suburbs of Cork, and bounded on one side by the Marina, on the other by Blackrock Castle and Lough Mahon.

Since 1887, when the first Cork Co. Championship was won by Cork Nationals, the name of the Rockies has been to the forefront in Gaelic affairs.

They won their first title in 1889—67 long years ago. They repeated the success in 1891 while in 1893 they won their first All-Ireland defeating Kilkenny (Confederation Selected) in the final 6-8 to 0-2.

Many names which appeared in this line-out afterwards became household words not alone in Cork but wherever Gaelic games were discussed.

The Rockies were county and All-Ireland champions again the following year defeating a Dublin Rapparees selection in the All-Ireland final. They won out in Cork again in 1895 but lost the title to Ballyhea in 1896 but were back again to take the title in 1897 and 1898.

In 1903 Rockies won the county and All-Ireland title once again. "Outsiders" such as Jamesy Kelleher, Bill Hennessy and Jerry Desmond of Dungourney; Billy O'Neill of Sarsfields; 'Daw' McGrath and 'Rooker' Keffe of Redmonds and 'Patcheen' Sullivan and 'Bacchus' Leary of the Bars helped of course to defeat Kilkenny and London-Irish in the All-Ireland series.

The Cork Championship was again Blackrocks in 1908, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1920, 1924, 1925, 1927, 1929, 1930 and of course 1931 their last occasion until this year.

During these years the wearers of the green and gold were in the height of their glory and included such hurling greats as 'Gah' and 'Balty' Ahern, Eudie Coughlan, 'Marie' Connell, Paddy Delea and Jim Hurley.

It is of interest to recall that in 1930 Rockies met Glen Rovers, then appearing in their first Cork Co. Final and defeated the Blackpool



A mid-field clash in Cork County Championship final between Rockies and Glen Rovers.

men 3-8 to 1-3.

Who would have dared to forecast on that day the complete transformation that was to come over the entire pattern of Cork hurling.

Long, Lean Spell

Who could have foreseen that the victors of that afternoon had but one more triumph ahead before they were to encounter a long period of defeats, while the vanquished were to become the proud holders of a reputation second to none in the county.

The name of Coughlan will forever be connected with hurling and with Blackrock. 'Parson' Coughlan was captain of the team which won the Cork title for the first time, while his son Eudie was captain of the 1931 team.

'Carbery' recalls in his 'History of Hurling' that a father and six sons of the Coughlans played on the same Blackrock side.

Sean Og Murphy, who died last June, R.I.P., was another great Rockies' stalwart and won fame as a full back. Billie Mackessy, Paddy Meighan, Steve Riordan, Georgie Garrett and 'Hawker' Grady were others who helped to give Blackrock their great reputation.

In recent years John Quirke, Ted Sullivan, Paddy Hayes, 'Fox' Ahern and Derry Hayes amongst others have tried unsuccessfully to win a "County" for Blackrock.

Great Honour

And so Mick Cashman had the honour of being captain when his team regained the Co. championship after a quarter of a century.

He got great support from brother-in-law Jim Brohan, Paddy Philpott, Seamus Hearne of Wexford, 'Roundy' Horgan and goalkeeper Noel O'Connell, a son of the famed 'Marie'.

Gaels everywhere hope, I am sure, that this famous village will have many more successes in the future. It is my earnest hope that in September, 1957 a Blackrock man will lead Cork to another All-Ireland victory and bring the cup back to familiar surroundings in Blackrock.

THE IRISH TREAT US BEST
In a widely read English daily newspaper a survey is being made of the position with regards to coloured people and the treatment meted out to them by their "white" brothers.

All Africans seem to be in agreement with the statement of a Jamaican student who states that the English spurn them but "the Irish and Jews treat them best".

CORK LOST TITLES BUT GAINED HONOUR

(By TONY O'HAGEN).

THREE All-Ireland final defeats in successive weeks—hurling, camogie and football—was Cork's unhappy lot in 1956, but, though the Southerners lost the titles, they won a legion of friends and admirers.

Now ranking high with their renowned skill and fighting spirit is a new level of sportsmanship, which should prove a shining example to all.

Those Cork men and girls have shown us that defeat can be a really glorious thing, not, perhaps, as all-rewarding as victory but certainly as satisfying if accepted in the real sporting manner.

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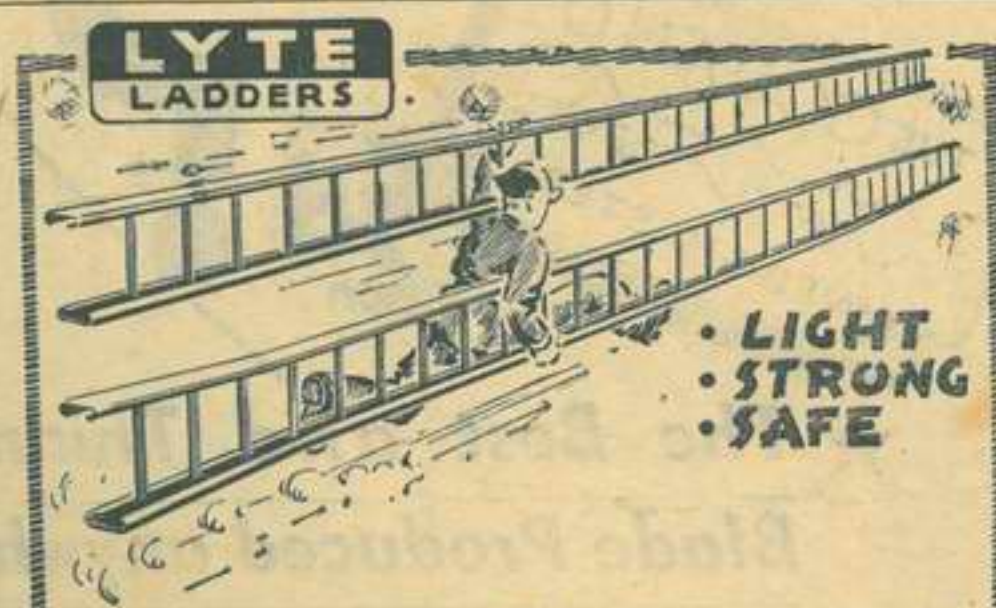
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From Cork

(BY LEESIDER)

HURLING in Fermoy received a great boost recently when the local juvenile (under 16) team won the North Cork Championship, defeating the holders, Mallow by 7-9 to 4-1. The club's other successes were: Under 14 football and Minor football, while the under 16 foot ballers contest the final of that competition in the near future.

Three players who took part in the recent All-Ireland Football Final, played junior and minor football for Glanmire in the Cork Championships. They are Donal O'Sullivan, now with Lees, Sean Moore, Glenview and Billy O'Neill, Galway's left half forward.

Turning out regularly in Cork Inter-firm games is Dan McInerney, the Care full back, Dan, a building contractor, has been working in Cork for the past eighteen months. Recently McInerney's defeated Cargaline Pottery in the semi-final of the League competition.

Paddy O'Driscoll, Cork's right full back in football is also a good hurler. He plays with his home team Russell Rovers, Ballycotton. He won an All-Ireland Junior Hurling medal with Cork in 1951, Paddy, who represents Garda on the Cork Co. Board is also a member of the Board's G.P.C. and is much in demand as a referee.

In a recent Bowling tournament at Glamire, many well-known Gaelic personalities including Pat Barry, "Micka" Brennan and Denis Bernard took part.

The Kildorrery Club has recently acquired a new playing pitch at a cost of approximately £1,350. Nearly half this amount has been raised through local subscriptions while the Cork Co. Board has guaranteed a bank loan of £600. The North Cork Divisional Committee also gave a substantial subscription.

This year's East Cork Junior Hurling final between Carrigtwohill (winners) and St. Catherine's, Conna, attracted a record gate of over £300.

St. Coleman's minor footballers of Macroom who defeated St. Nicholas in the County final will not get the trophies. They had, they claim, unwittingly played an illegal player in the earlier rounds, but when they discovered their error they did not play him in the final. Despite their frank admission to the county board, the competition was declared void. The club are appealing to the Munster Council.

Like Father

LARRY BLAKE, of the Banner County, is a man whose name crops up every time we speak of the great hurling years of the late 'twenties and early 'thirties—years which are considered by many to be the greatest in the annals of caman history.

Larry, although small in stature, was one of the giants of his day, and his feats of hurling, together with those of Tull Considine, John Joe Doyle and the mighty "Fowler" McInerney, are memories ever to be cherished by Claremen.

Larry's heart must have filled with pride a few Sundays ago when his son, Michael, gave one of the most brilliant displays seen for many a day in the Banner County.

ALL-ROUND PLAYER

Only 21, Michael, like his father, has proved himself an all-round player. With Faughs minor footballers he won a county title, and for a number of years he and his brother, Larry (who, although more like his famous father than Michael, has not completely lived up to his early promise), have been the mainstay of the Eire Og team.

Improving steadily from year to year, Michael got his big opportunity last July when he was selected at centre half-back on the Clare senior team to play Limerick in the Munster senior final.

True to family tradition, young Blake rose to the occasion and gave the Limerick star the game of his life.

EAST KERRY CHAMPIONS



The Presentation Monastery (Killarney) team which won the East Kerry schools' championship by defeating Rathmore in the final. Back row (from left): Rev. Bro. Justin (trainer), Cean O'Connell, P. Healy, F. Healy, S. Healy, J. Looney, C. Moroney and Bro. Gerald (Superior). Middle row: T. McCarthy, J. Healy, S. McCarthy, K. McCarthy, J. Mahony, M. Leary and S. O'Brien. Front row: S. O'Connor, E. O'Donoghue, S. Griffin and G. Cylinane.

TWO TITLES FOR MOUNT SION

Mount Sion made it a great double in Waterford football recently when they won the senior and minor titles. In the senior game they beat a gallant Dungarvan fifteen by 3-2 to 2-4. Outstanding for the winners, in one of the finest football displays seen in the Deise country for some time, were D. Roche, Hayden, Grimes and Walsh, and for Dungarvan, McHugh, Coyne and Goode.

An interesting feature of the game was the amount of prominent Waterford hurdlers on either side. Mount Sion had Seamus Rowe, Grimes and Flannelly, and Dungarvan had Queally, Liam Shalloe and the evergreen Jackie Goode.

In the minor game, Mount Sion won their first title by the margin of two points over last year's champions, Ring. This also was a thriller with the title-holders leading 1-4 to nil at half-time.

In the second half Mount Sion took command of mid-field and slowly but surely reduced the lead until only one point remained. Then came a great goal in the closing minutes by Fred O'Brien to make it a Mount Sion double.

An old and very unsporting habit practised by a number of clubs throughout the country is the playing of "mystery" players (usually wearing caps) imported from a neighbouring county.

Well this practice was handled by the Cork and Limerick County Boards jointly when the Mitchelstown Club, Co. Cork, learned that three of their players had played in the Limerick junior football championship. Mitchelstown reported the matter to the Cork Co. Board.

New Blood

Birr Club are looking for new blood. The young men of the parish are being encouraged to join and give a helping hand in an extensive plan of development for the next few months.

The plan of campaign has a two-fold object in view: (1) The promoting and expansion of national games and pastimes and (2) to raise sufficient funds to improve St. Brendan's Park. Young blood is needed, so how about it.

Athletic Double

A very unusual athletic double was scored recently by Pat Benson, of Croom, when at the Limerick novice championship sports he won the 440 and the 56lb. without follow events. Reminds one of Dr. Pat O'Callaghan winning the hammer and then the high jump.

A Criticism Of Critics

Referring to an incident in a Limerick hurling game, Rev. Father D. McCarthy, C.C., Chairman of the West Limerick Board at a recent meeting condemned "those critics who criticized the whole Association because "one or two fell by the wayside".

Pointing out that each year from 4,000 to 6,000 teams play approximately 15,000 games and just because there are three or four incidents of significance, ill-famed critics jump to their feet in protest.

He would like to protest on behalf of the G.A.A. generally, and especially the West Limerick Board against this mentality.

Munster Colleges' Draws

For the 16th year in succession Rev. Bro. Murray of Doneraile C.B.S. was elected Chairman of the Munster Colleges Council at the recent annual general meeting held in Mallow.

The following are the draws for the coming year—

Harty Cup (S.H.) (1) "A"—Rockwell v Farrenferris; "B"—St. Colman's v Limerick C.B.S.; "C"—Mount Sion v Flannans; "D"—De La Salle v Ennis C.B.S.; "E"—Thurles v Sullivan's Quay.

(2) "A"—Dungarvan v Doon; "B"—North Monastery v "A"; "B" v "C"; "D" v "E"
Corn Na Mumhan (S.F.)—(1) "A"—St. Michael's, Listowel v St. Flannan's; "B"—Limerick C.B.S. v Pallaskerry.

(3) "A"—St. Augustine's, Dungarvan v Clonmel; "B"—Tipperary C.B.S. v De La Salle.

(3) "A"—Colaiste Iosagain v Cahirciveen; "B"—St. Brendan's v Tralee.

(4) "A"—North Monastery v St. Colman's; "B"—Winners of "A" v Sullivan's Quay.

Winners of each division to play-off. Semi-finals—Winners of 2 v 3 and 1 v 4.

Wedding

Congratulations to well-known Limerick hurler, Donal Broderick, on his recent marriage to Miss Betty O'Dell, of Pike Street, Dromcollogher. The marriage took place at Dromcollogher parish church.

same Again . . . and Again . . . and Again . . . ! **Smithwick's Ale**

Monaghan A Coming Power In Football

(By PEADAR BYRNE).

THEIR recent success over Kildare in the All-Ireland Junior Football "home" final, pin-pointed Monaghan as a coming power in football. In beating the Lily Whites, the Farneymen took their first All-Ireland "home" title, and now that they have tasted the fruits of victory, they will be anxious to set the seal on their performance by beating — in the final proper.

The meteoric rise of Monaghan has taken the average follower by surprise, but not so the county's able legislators.

In fact, to them goes a major portion of the bouquets. By striking the right blend of youth and experience, they have lifted Monaghan's football stock from the doldrums and have given the county a great match-winning run that culminated in that historic victory over Kildare.

Every member of the team played his part in bringing the title home but towering—in every sense of the word—above the rest, was that great full-back, Ollie O'Rourke. In his prime, O'Rourke was one of the best defenders in the country but somehow he never seemed to get among the honours list.

Down through the years, the big Inniskeen man has rendered his county sterling service but never was he seen to more devastating effect than during the recent Junior campaign.

MEDAL AT LAST

How fitting it was, therefore, that an All-Ireland medal should come

West Wicklow Convention

The annual convention of the West Wicklow Board G.A.A., will take place at Blessington during the first or second week of December. Outgoing officials are:—

Chairman—Hugh Byrne, M.A. Vice-Chairman—Martin Reilly (Hollywood); Treasurer, Andrew Toomey (Donard); Secretary, Denis Kelly (Dunlavin); West Rep. to Co. Board, John Allen, Selection Committee—Peter Brophy (Baltinglass), and Peter Whelan (Rathdangan), Member of the Finance Board—Peter Whelan.

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Tit-Bits

From The

Counties

ONLY formed last year, the Killucan minor football club won this year's county championship and already are talking of forming a senior club. This would fill a long felt want in the area as many locals were forced to play with other senior clubs outside the area.

Castletown-Geoghegan brought the Westmeath Senior Hurling Championship to the south of the county for the first time since 1923. In doing so they defeated Richardstown, who were well fancied. The Southern Clubs in the county will get great encouragement by this breaking of the northern teams monopoly in this competition.

Two prominent members of Longford Senior County team — Tom Murtagh and Seamus Smith—who were married recently, received presentations from the County Board.

Longford have three very attractive home fixtures in the 1956-'57 National Football League. On November 4, they play Cavan at Pearse Park, and on November 25, Meath will be visitors. Longford entertain Mayo in the New Year.

Longford boy, Seamus Smith, is starring at full back for Franciscan College, Gormanstown, on this year's junior team. Only 16 years of age he has played with Longford county minors in tournament games and is expected to win his place in the Leinster championship next year. He is brother of Colm, now with Cavan, and Kevin and Dermot both Longford county players.

Three Longford men played on the London team defeated by Monaghan in the All-Ireland Junior Football Final—Johnny Lynn and Christie Greene, both from Mostrim, were at midfield, while the third member, Tony McWade, a native of Drumlish, came on as a substitute. Tony played with Longford minors in '52 and '53.

Hugh Byrne, Rathdangan, is present chairman of the Wicklow Co. Board G.A.A. He holds the same position on the West Board. Hugh is also vice-chairman of the Leinster Council, where his outspoken views are much appreciated by all. A well-known footballer of former years, he was equally proficient as an athlete.

Wicklow gaels extend deepest sympathy to their former Railway Cup footballer, Paddy Lennon on the death of his mother which took place recently.

The Fr. Lucey Cup tournament is at present occupying the attention of West Wicklow Gaels down Blessington way, and to judge by the interest and enthusiasm shown by all concerned this competition promises to be a huge success. Present holders of the trophy is Blessington.

THE victory of the Syddan footballers over Skryne in the senior football final at An Uaimh was a pleasant surprise for the football supporters in the Royal County. More particularly so because of the return to active service of the old star Paddy Meegan who scored 1-3 of his side's total and had a hand in other scores as well.

Syddan last held the title in 1952, and included in the present side are many promising young players, especially Terry Moore who was really outstanding. Others who took the eye were S. McKenna, G. Clare, P. Duff and T. Farrelly.

The O'Brien clan were well represented on the Skryne side with Miceal, Tom, Sean and Dom.

It is 33 years since Castletown-Geoghegan last won a Westmeath hurling title. By defeating Rickardstown 3-8 to 1-3, recently they are now the new champions.

The Castletown club are already represented on the county selection and the change of title holders will have little effect.

Offaly Co. Board will have their hands full when they tackle the aftermath of the county football final between Tullamore and Cloghan.

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Focus on Ulster



THE planning of Casement Park set Antrim Gaels eagerly awaiting the day when their footballers would have a playing pitch on which they could exploit their craft to best advantage. The park has been a reality for many years, but what of the footballers?

Over the past few years, football in the county has gone from bad to worse, and at present their stock has reached rock bottom.

Their much discussed failure to participate in last year's National League meant that they had little opportunity for building a team, and few were surprised at their unimpressive exit from this year's championship.

What is wrong with the Antrim footballers? This is the burning question. If anything, the playing membership has increased since the late forties, when Gibson, Armstrong, O'Hara and Co. put Antrim on the map in Gaelic football.

I believe they are in a rut and beaten before the throw-in — a disease not readily cured. What is needed is a tonic in the form of new blood. So Antrim, awake now, because all Ulster is the poorer since your lapse.

The saffron caman wielders are still to the fore. The ladies, after a spell of many years, have gladdened the Northern hearts with their cap-

ture of the All-Ireland crown at the expense of Cork.

Although this game was exciting, the standard of hurling fell short of that witnessed in the game against Dublin at Casement Park. But few will disagree that this was a classic and will be talked of for years to come. Congratulations, girls.

There are mixed feelings in Antrim at the entry of their hurlers into Division I of the National League, especially in the company of Tipperary, Clare and Galway. In past seasons they were successful in Div. II., and I fail to see them disgracing themselves in the premier section.

Individually they will hold their own with any, but teamwork is lacking, and only a series of games against better class hurlers will improve this.

Many county hurling and football teams have built their teams around versatile college lads, and in due course Antrim will reap the reward of the present Ulster Colleges' Hurling Leagues, recently inaugurated.

In spite of the few teams competing, the standard of hurling is surprisingly high, and more and more boys are being won over to our national game.

ANTRIM GAMES

Loughgeil Shamrocks have climaxed a very successful year by adding the Antrim Senior Hurling Championship to their many other trophies.

The final at Casement Park against the holders, O'Donovan Rossa, was one of the best for years.

The Belfast representatives were completely at a loss to counteract the close marking by the Loughgeil defence and were, if anything, flattered by the final score of 0-11 to 2-2.

The All-County League has not been decided yet. St. John's are undefeated to date, but in their remaining games with O'Donovan Rossa, St. Gall's and Ballycastle, they could easily lose two points and so necessitate a play-off with Shamrocks, who have only lost two points.

BRENDAN BARRY, St. Gall's and Antrim hurler, who received a serious injury in the early summer, has recommenced work, but it is rumoured that he has given up the game on medical advice.

PAT MULLANEY, Antrim and Ulster hurler and footballer, will be inactive for some time as a result of a leg injury received recently. Many will remember his recent display v. Kerry at Croke Park, when he scored a total of 1 goal and 6 points. Antrim will miss him for their forthcoming League programme.

London Calling

BY EAMONN LEAHY.

NEWS item of the year in Irish circles here is the foundation of the first ever Athletic Club under N.A.C.A. Rules in London. Formed six weeks ago, the new club has been the subject of praise in many English newspapers, not least being "The Catholic Times." Permission to name the club after the late Cardinal Bernard Griffin was given by His Lordship, Bishop Craven.

Sincere thanks must go to the Marist Fathers for their generous gesture in putting their well-equipped hall at the disposal of the club. Staunch support has come from Rev. Fr. Rynne, S.M., who is responsible in no small way for the success of the organising meetings.

OFFICERS:

Hon. Pres., Rev. Fr. Rynne, S.M. (Leitrim); Vice-Pres., Rev. Fr. McNamara (Cork); Chairman of the Lond Co. Board, G.A.A.; Chairman, Eamonn Leahy (Tipp.); Sec., P. Ryan (Carlow); Treas., P. Lacey (Carlow). Committee: P. Collier (Croom, Co. Limerick), Brian Bell (Dublin), Michael O'Sullivan (Kerry, Chairman St. Anne's Gaelic Football Club), P. J. Broderick (Limerick).

TO ORGANISE GAELTACHT PEOPLE

Down from Glasgow has come Paid MacFadden, of Donegal, with a view to bringing Gaeltacht people in London together. Paid, who was Secretary of the G.A.A. and Gaelic League in Glasgow hopes to form an Irish speaking G.A.A. Club in London.

CONCERT

A Variety concert was held in Cricklewood early in October. Proceeds went to the Travelling Fund of the famous Kavanagh Academy

of Irish Dancing. Chief artists were: The Clancys—A Breath of Old Ireland; Johnny McCauly, Ireland's singing cowboy; Tommy Mac, comedian; and Ted Kavangh (Derry), 5 times All-Ireland Step Dancing Champion, and Miss K. Tobin, soprano.

Touring England at present are: Maxwell Sweeney and Proinnsias Connluain of the Radio Eireann Mobile Unit. They are recording emigrants' views on the way of life, interest in the Irish Language and games in England. Proinnsias is a fluent Irish speaker and conducted most of the recordings in Irish.

The Cumann Gaelach re-opened their Saturday night Ceili at the Servite Hall, Fulham Road, on Saturday October 6. Guest artist at the opening Ceili, was Eileen Moran, noted ballad singer. At the piano was William Rollinson, Chairman of An Cumann Gaelach.

FEIS LONNDAIN PRIZES PRESENTED

The special Ceili for the presentation of prizes was held in Seaton Place in October. Over one hundred young children were present and friendliness was the keynote. A word of praise to the winners and the contestants in general.

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AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL REVIEW



Kevin O'Kelly, M.Agr., Sc., of Clonganny House, Clonevan, has joined Messrs. W. and H. M. Goulding, Ltd., as an Agronomist to help in the development of an Agricultural Advisory Service. Mr. O'Kelly, who is a graduate of University College, Dublin, farms a substantial acreage in Co. Wexford, and has extensive experience of agricultural conditions at home and abroad. For several years he was Senior Inspector of Agriculture in the Sudan Government.

Dutch Methods On Irish Farm

TWENTY acres of Irish carrots on an Irish farm; who ever heard of such a crop? And yet it could be seen in South County Louth this year along with 30 acres of cabbage. This is at Rokeby Hall near Ballymakenny, on the road from Drogheda to Annagassan, where a very progressive gentleman from Holland and his wife are doing unusual things with the land.

Now, Rokeby Hall was built for a Protestant Primate of Ireland. It was, and is, a fine mansion but as an estate was not noted as anything out of the ordinary. There was a great deal of timber which made fine cover for game.

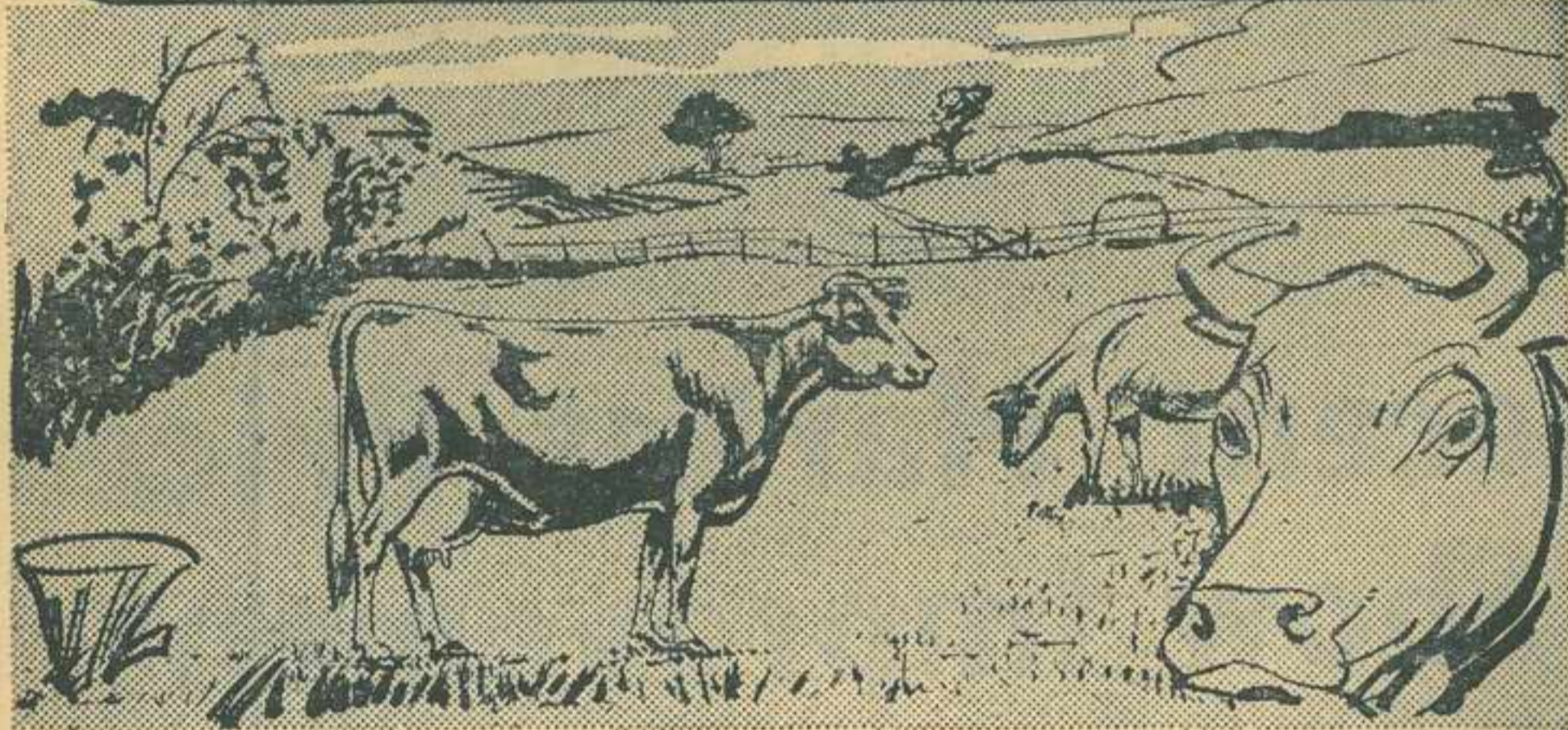
All that is now changed. The Dutchman, with machinery that startled the smaller local farmers, pulled the remains of the felled trees out by the roots, levelled the place, ploughed in slag and other chemicals to produce, last Spring, acres of lovely daffodils for the market as well as millions of bulbs for the seed merchants.

Fields, which had previously grown grass, grain and root crops down through the years, were scientifically treated, with results which amazed the local farmers.

The 30 acres of carrots were never thinned and never allowed to grow to maturity but were harvested when, as thin as a pen, to be exported for tinning. One never sees a portion of a mature carrot in a tin, I think.

In this country we have, for generations, been sowing cabbage seed and transplanting the result to other ground, with space to reach mature heads. That is not the Dutch way. At Rokeby Hall a machine spaces the seeds some six inches apart and every second plant is pulled out with a special tool (except where this is not necessary through failure of a seed to germinate), with the result that a head of cabbage is produced directly from the seed in much shorter time and with far less labour. Wonderful what can be done on land with knowledge, capital and modern machinery.

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Beet growers have ordered 72 500 tons of Pressed Beet Pulp under their 1956 Beet Contracts — an excellent testimonial as to the value of this product as an efficient and economic stock feed.

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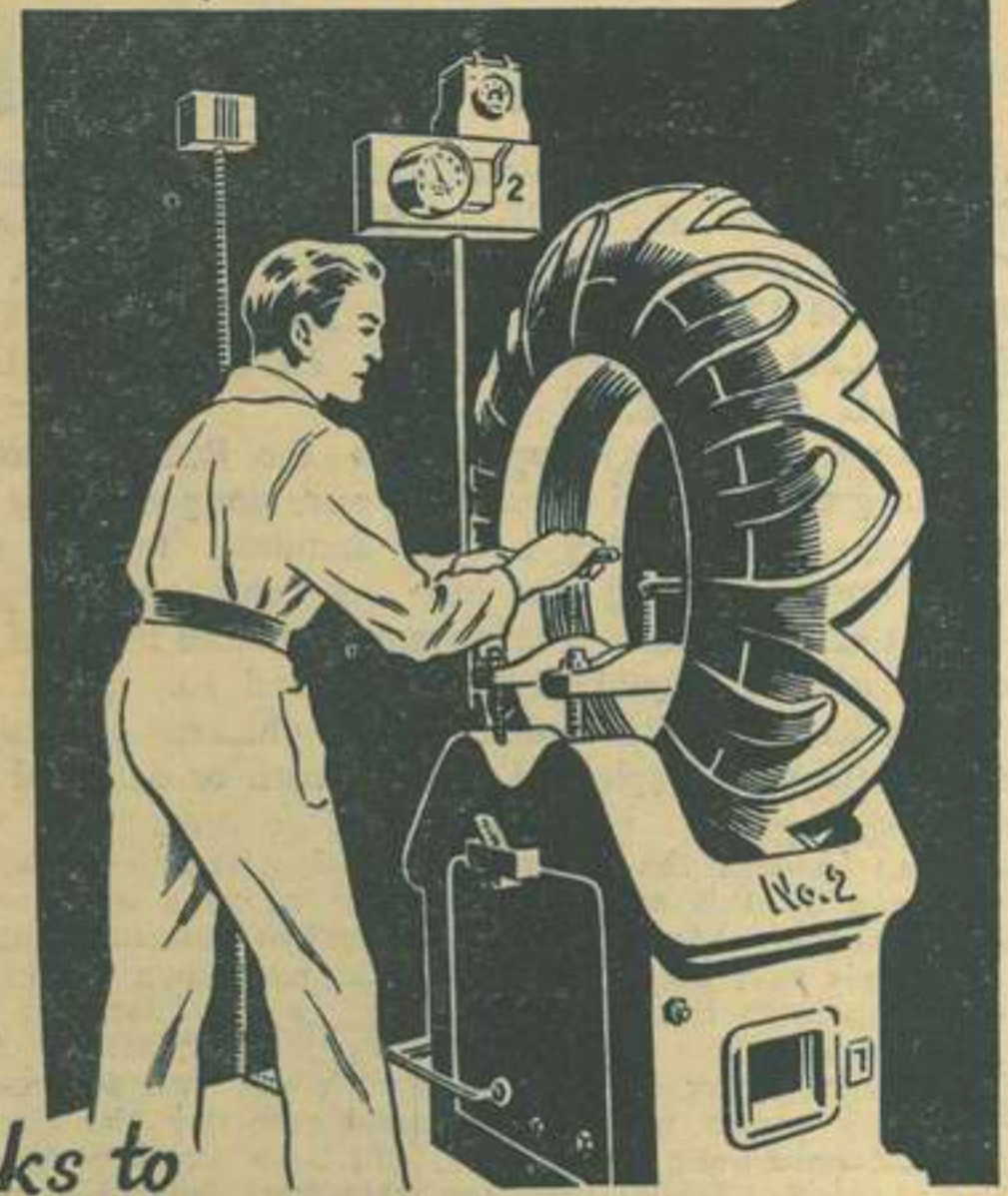
*** £2 per ton, plus fourpence per ton mile delivery charge.**

Farmers wishing to avail of this exceptional offer should apply at once to the Manager of the Thurles Sugar Factory for terms and conditions of sale. 2 tons of Pressed Pulp are equal in feeding value to about 2½ tons of mangels.

NOW IS THE TIME FOR FARMERS TO PLACE THEIR ORDERS AND ENSURE A SUPPLY OF THIS VALUABLE AND CHEAP STOCK FOOD.

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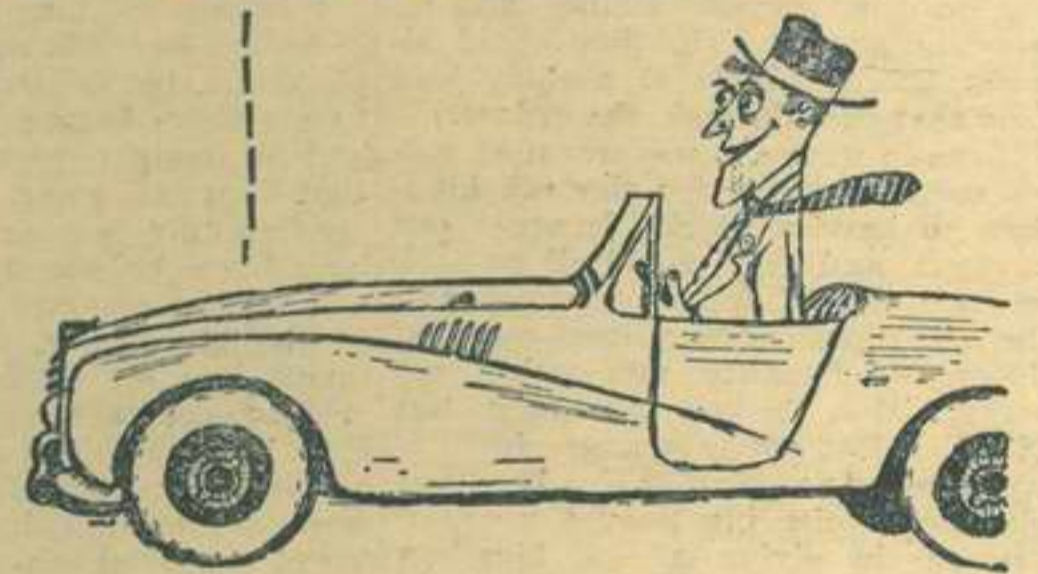
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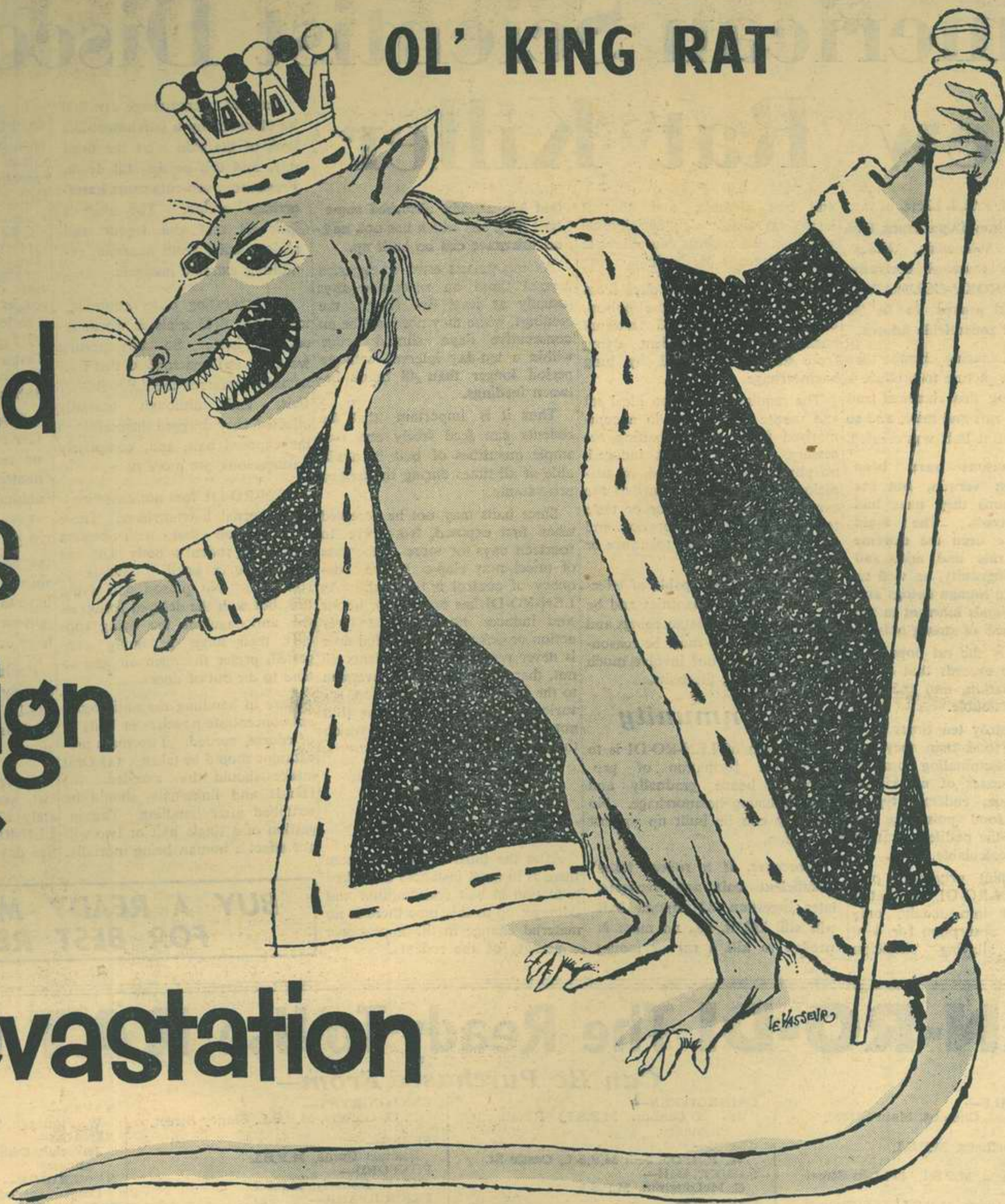
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Rats And Money

..... Rats!
They fought the dogs and killed the cats,
And bit the babies in the cradles
And ate the cheese out of the vats,
And licked the soup from the cook's
own ladies."

Robert Browning.

Much has been written, and rightly so, about the diseases spread by rats and the danger to health that they constitute but less attention has been given to the simple economics of the situation. There is no question but that the presence of rats effects the whole economy of a country.

It has been definitely established that in civilised countries, even where the people have become rat conscious, that the rat population outnumbers the human population. Thus a conservative estimate would place the rat population of Ireland at over the 3,000,000 mark. Similarly it has been shown that the average rat does £8 worth of damage per year. From these two simple, established facts the annual damage caused by rats in this country can be estimated at over £24,000,000.

We then find ourselves in the absurd position that while the government impose levies in order to close the gap between our imports and our exports (the advisability or otherwise of the system does not arise here) and with the same end in view exhorts us to save, we at the same time, feed to rats sufficient of our production, or dearly bought imports, to close that gap. Surely the longer we think about it the more we realise the complete absurdity of the position.

We have readily available a simple means of overcoming our financial difficulties — a means which doesn't cause unemployment, does not increase the cost of any commodity and which at the same time, improves the health of the country without cost to anybody. From a national point of view it would be madness not to avail of it.

When we consider the destruction from the point of view of the in-

dividual the result is the same. It simply means that every man, woman and child in Ireland is spending £8 per year keeping rats as pets. Surely then, rats are one luxury that we cannot afford and, unfortunately, a levy on luxuries will not stop them destroying our production.

The only alternative is to kill the rats and in this case the cost is negligible compared with the cost of keeping them. A tin of Ratero costs only 4/6 and this is sufficient to make 5 lbs. of bait at a total cost of about 15/-. This small sum will rid an average sized farm, a small factory, etc., of rats and expending another few shillings per year will keep it clear of rats.

The use of RATERO is perfectly safe provided ordinary common-sense precautions are taken. When used as directed there is no danger to children, domestic animals or farm animals. This safety factor has to be compared with the ever present danger when rats are pre-

sent. A newspaper report stated that in Limerick, children were being paid twopence for each dead rat but it is hardly possible to credit this as surely no responsible person would tempt young children to handle rats, either dead or alive. Dead rats should never be handled as they are still capable of spreading disease and when the body gets cold the rat lice leave it and seek new feeding grounds.

If then, there are such obvious advantages in eliminating rats, why are there not more efforts made to attain that end? Chiefly because people do not believe that it can be done so easily and at such a low cost. The efficiency and simplicity of the method was clearly demonstrated in Ballybay, Co. Monaghan, where the first rat week in Ireland was organised. During their Rat Week RATERO was the chief rat bait used and the results were highly successful and obvious to everybody in the town.

Tobacco Wholesalers Visit Dundalk

TOBACCO wholesalers from all over Ireland travelled to Dundalk, where they were the guests of the chairman and directors of Messrs. P. J. Carroll & Co. In addition to a big number from Dublin, some of the party had travelled from Cork, Wexford, Gorey, and one from Belmullet, Co. Mayo. They were members of the Irish Wholesale Tobacco and Match Traders' Association, led by their president, Mr. Patrick Redmond of Dublin.

At the company's factory in Dun-

dalk the party was welcomed by the chairman, Mr. James M. Carroll, and by directors of the company, Mr. Walter J. Carroll, Mr. C. A. Carroll, and Mr. K. C. McCourt.

In a tour of the factory, the visitors were shown the modern machinery which is used to produce the millions of cigarettes which the firm provides for the Irish market and for its rapidly expanding export trade. "Almost human" was the description one visitor applied to machines which package and seal cigarettes at a fantastic rate. And the visitors saw, also, skilled workers who follow the ancient craft of making cigars by hand.

Of particular interest to many of the visitors were the brands of cigarettes produced in Dundalk and which find a ready market in Burma and other Far Eastern countries. Cigarettes packed in air-tight tins for distant markets were seen. Pipe tobaccos of various blends, and snuff in several intriguing "flavours," including peppermint, excited interest.

When the visitors had toured the factory they were taken across the border to Rostrevor and entertained to luncheon. Later they toured the Cooley Peninsula.

The Town Of Monaghan Co-operative Agricultural & Dairy Society Limited

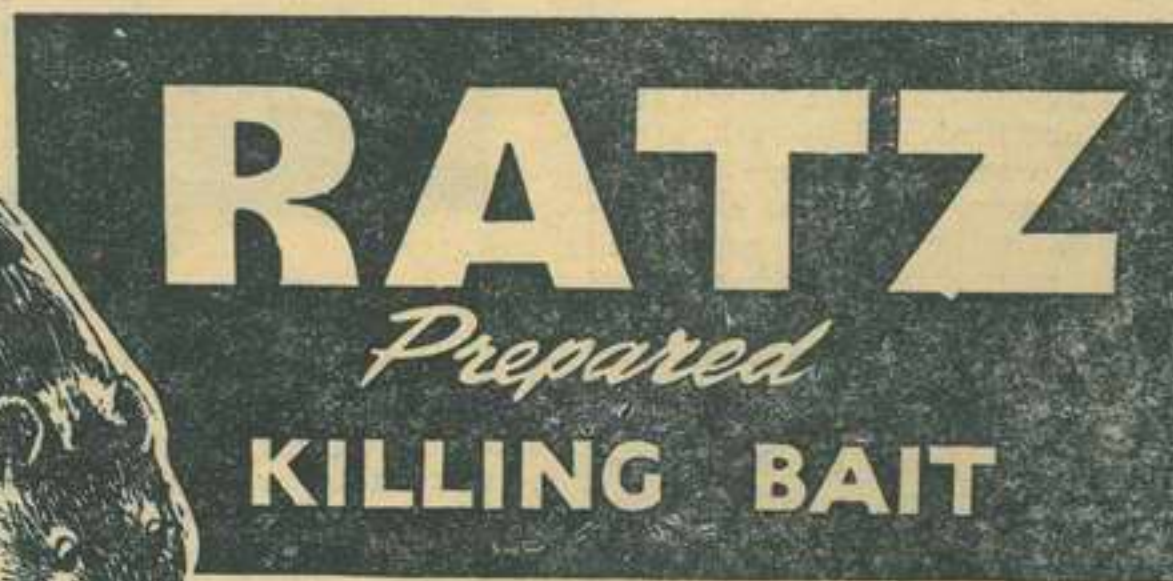
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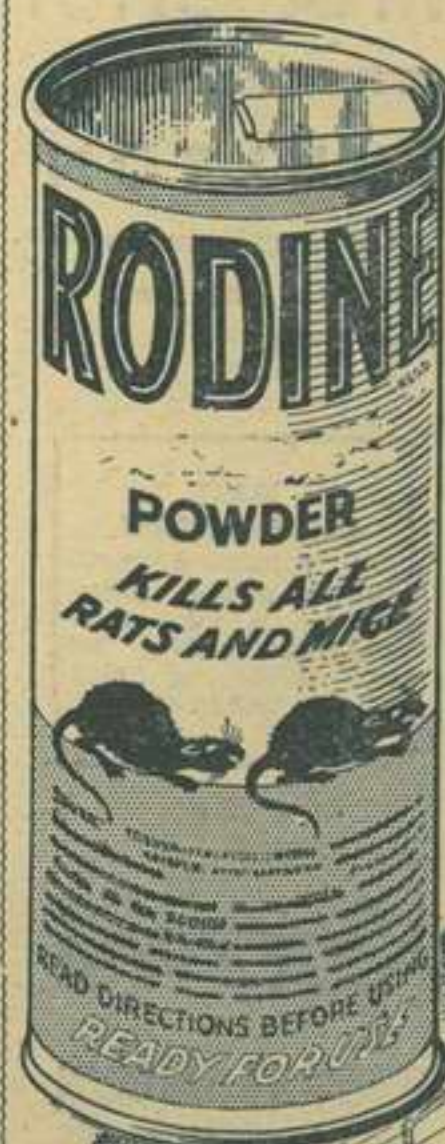


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Easy to apply it is ready for use and should not be mixed with food or other substances. Rodine Powder is supplied in special containers in three sizes. 3/3, 7/6, 15/9. Also available for those who prefer to mix their own baits, Rodine Powder Concentrate in 7/- containers to make 10lb. of ready-to-use baits.

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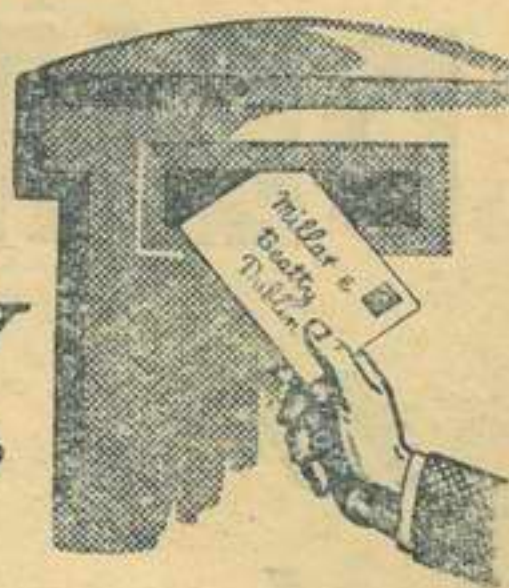


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Strictly Feminine

Edited By "Maura"

Autumn Fashions Newest Line In Stockings

IN July the top fashion designs showed very exotic, expensive and absolutely lovely to look at clothes for Autumn.

For most women such glamorous creations remain inside the glossy magazines. However, since July the large shops and manufacturers have been busy modifying their styles and trends and adapting them to average demands both in materials and prices.

Harper's Show

Recently I attended a showing by Harper's of Henry Street, and Georges Street, I was particularly interested in their dresses — woollen and corduroy — all excellently finished off and all in truly lovely colours.

For 79/11 there is a most elegant fine-tweed sheath dress, on simple straight lines very suitable for the 20-30 age group or for the smart matron.

It has a short v-neck and wide stiffened cummerbund type of belt, fastening in front with a button. This is an extra good "value-for-money" buy.

Homespun Dresses

The homespun shaggy tweed dresses at 5 gns, were also excellent value, in delightful shades — pink, blue, beige, lime and grey.

These had a neat tailored rever buttoned to the waist, belted with straight skirt with knife pleat at back.

Apple Growing In Munster

FARMERS in Co. Cork and Co. Waterford have of late taken part in a new industry, i.e., the growing of apples for commercial use. Two main factors are responsible for this—the appointment of Mr. M. Cregan, B.Agr.Sc., as horticultural instructor to the area, and the setting up of Dungarvan Fruit Growers' Association.

During the first week in October Mr. Cregan gave a very interesting lecture in Grange (Fermoy) N.S. When he pointed out that Irish-grown apples, when properly cultivated and suitably packed and graded, could exceed in purity, quality and flavour the imported product. He stated that the Bride and Blackwater areas were particularly suitable to the growth of apples.

Up to now farmers were slow to develop their lands for the growth of apples, mainly because of the waiting period of five to six years before any return is obtained. However, after this period, when in full production, an annual return of £50 to £60 per acre can be optimistically expected. The initial cost of planting has often been a deterrent also, but the Department will allow a grant of £25 per acre to offset this.

Afterwards Mr. Cregan took the party to the farm of Mr. John Shinnick, Johnstown, where he demonstrated the proper manner of growing on Mr. Shinnick's 7½ acre apple farm. He pointed out that sufficient space should be allowed between trees to allow for power spraying. He also enumerated the various apple-tree pests and methods of eliminating them.

Dungarvan F.G.A. handle all the fruit and convert it to marketable products. Up to now we have spent £150,000 annually on imported American apples. With a sustained effort on behalf of the industry by farmers and cottiers, not only around this area but throughout the country, this £150,000 can be saved and a prosperous industry built up.

The colours were so lovely and in such good taste that you'd be more than tempted to wear one of them to a very informal dance.

Wool and Lurex makes its appearance in very attractive dresses for the older woman; slim skirt, the pleats in a panel in front, which shows only when walking, trim bodice with revers and white pique detachable collar and cuff piping.

The colours are: grey gold, grey caramel, and grey blue—the price, £5 10s. 0d.

Corduroy

In the corduroy section the colours again were striking, yet delicate — Italian pink, winter rose, orange lily, caramel cream, black and navy.

There is a large variety of designs; gathered skirt, pleated skirt with side pockets and round necklines, V-necklines, horseshoe and square necklines.

Prices vary from 68/9 to £5-5-0.

Tartans are very popular this season, Harpers have again quite a large range—from the delightful "Dress Stewart"—the off-white plaid with yellow, blue-black and green stripes, it costs £5-6-3.

The very smart green, black and blue tartan—the Black Watch, and the one that we all know, if not by name by colour, bright red with blue, black, yellow and green lines—the Royal Stewart.

All the tartans are in a variety of styles and prices range from £4-19-6 to £5-6-3.

For the more frivolous, is a party dress, short, shot-silk, for 4½ gns. Empire line bodice, softly pleated circular skirt in wonderful night shades, blue, amber, kingfisher and red. The photograph below shows a black street velvet afternoon frock, very elegant and young—it has a V-neckline, and slim sheath fitting and sells at 6½ gns.

KAYSER have introduced their newest line to Ireland recently. "The Charmed Line" Nylon Stockings.

This stocking has many advantages, a twin-thread construction, which gives sheerness plus strength, the toe ladder stops, which prevents runs at the most vulnerable part of the stocking and stay-put heels, which ensure absolute tailored fit and keeps seams pencil straight.

Added to all these is a replacement guarantee with each two pairs of stockings purchased, if 3 out of the 4 stockings become faulty within 60 days of purchase.

These stockings come in three shades at three prices, 8/11, 9/11 and 10/6.

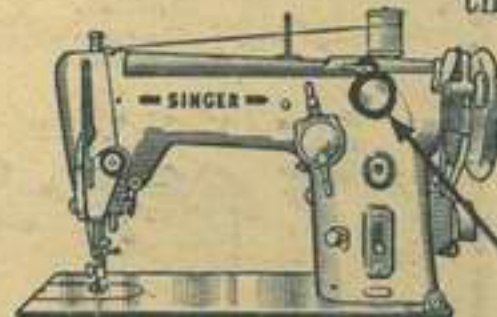


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SUSAN is ready for the party, as pretty as a picture, wearing the frock Mummy made on her Singer 306. Just look at the dainty smocked bodice with its variety of fashion stitching, set off by a lace-edged underskirt. Mummy makes her own clothes too: the blouse is very professional from monogrammed pocket and scallop-edged collar and sleeves to the neat buttonholes; and the skirt is tastefully decorated with flowers in appliqué. The smart home has mother's personal touch everywhere. The dressing table and stool are quilted, corded, and their drapes relieved by twin needle two colour stitching. She patterned the self-coloured curtains with appliqué leaves and then neatened the edges with blind stitch hemming. All of these techniques, taking hours of laborious hand sewing, are yours automatically with a Singer 306 Swing-Needle Machine. You just put on the appropriate fashion disc . . . and the Singer 306 does the rest automatically! Ask the Singer girl for a demonstration, and also to show you the range of lightweight sewing machines at your local Singer Sewing Centre at:



These Dishes Should Please Everyone



MANY of you are familiar with the appetising dishes for which Dublin Airport's Restaurant has become justly famous. This month the man responsible for these delightful meals, Chef - de - cuisine JAMES FLAHIVE, gives you two of his favourite recipes.

German Apple Tart

Ingredients: 1lb. Flour, 1lb. Margarine, Castor Sugar, 1 Yolk of Egg, Water, Apples, 1/2 Lemon, 2 Whites of Egg.

Method: Sieve the flour into a basin. Rub in the margarine lightly, and add 1oz. of castor sugar. Beat the yolk of egg, mix into it about 1 tablespoonful of water, and add this to the pastry, using more water if needed to make it into a stiff dough.

Roll out on a floured board, line a buttered, shallow tin with it, prick the pastry with a fork all over, and bake in a hot oven.

Have ready some nicely stewed apples flavoured with grated lemon-rind. Turn the pastry out of the tin, and fill with the apple mixture.

Beat the whites of egg very stiff, add a little castor sugar, and cover the apples. Dredge with castor sugar, and bake in oven until lightly brown.

Time required—30 minutes.
Sufficient for 4-5 persons.

Savoury Beef Stew And Dumplings

Ingredients: 1lb. Lean Beef, 1 1/2ozs. Margarine or Lard, 1 1/2ozs. Flour, 1 Onion, 1 Carrot, Piece of Celery, 1 Turnip, 1 pt. Water, Salt, Pepper.

For Dumplings: 4ozs. Flour, 2ozs. Suet, Salt, Pepper.

Method: Melt the fat in a saucepan. As soon as it is hot, put in the sliced onion, diced vegetables, and the meat sliced small. Fry them brown, then add the flour and let it cook until brown, stirring all the time. Add the water, salt and pepper. Simmer for 1 hour. Add the dumplings, and cook for 1/2-hour longer.

To make the Dumplings: Chop the suet, sieve the flour into a basin with a little salt, mix in the suet, and add just sufficient cold water to make it into a stiff paste. Divide this into eight portions; make each piece into a ball.

Time required: 2 hours.
Sufficient for 3 persons.

COOKERY CORNER

IN IRELAND, WE HAVE ALL THE ADVANTAGES OF AN AGRICULTURAL COUNTRY—VEGETABLES ON SALE ALMOST GARDEN-FRESH, HOME-KILLED MEAT, FRESH EGGS, ETC., ETC.

Yet, in how many households do you see the BEST being made of these commodities?

While tinned or packaged foods are excellent in themselves and are quick and foolproof to prepare and serve, none of us uses them all the time.

Is it unpardonable to let almost all the nourishment of fresh vegetables go down the kitchen sink simply because we don't bother to find out how to cook them properly?

Do YOU ever turn to another page in your cookery book rather quickly when you see the words "pass through a sieve" or "wisk the yolks and whiten separately"? Do you know the EXACT meaning of the common culinary terms, like "boiling," "simmering," "basting"? Don't you think it is time that housewives started to educate themselves to the values of different foods and to the correct cooking methods?

We pride ourselves on many things, but have we anything to be proud of in our home-cooking?

* * *

CULINARY TERMS

BASTING means keeping the surface of the food you are cooking

moist by spooning liquid or melted fat over it at intervals. This is important when roasting meat in the oven.

BOILING means cooking food in a boiling liquid. We often call food "boiled," which is actually "poached" or "simmered."

POACHING means cooking in a liquid which is below boiling point. Usually we bring liquid to boiling point, place food in it, and reduce heat to below boiling point.

SIMMERING means cooking food at below boiling point; only a very occasional bubble should appear on the surface of the liquid.

My Man From The Fields

HALF AN HOUR AGO HE WAS HERE, LOOKING AS IF HE HAD BEEN TUMBLING THE WILD CAT IN THE CORN-FIELD INSTEAD OF SWEATING IT OUT TRYING TO GET THE LAST STACK HEADED BY SUNDOWN.

If you saw him! Or if any of my girlhood pals saw him! Many of them married men who know more about topping a pencil than heading a stack. They live where no scent of the new-mown hay penetrates through mellowed brick homes and front doors are ever closed.

Would I Swap?

Thraneens never litter their kitchen floors and hayseeds from shirts never pierce the soap bubbles on wash-day. Enough golden oat grains to feed a decent hen, doesn't fall from boots that have trod on corn all day, on to the bedroom carpet at night time.

Dear me! Nothing like that ever happens in the mellowed houses or to the well-groomed men within. Not like any man from the fields. Ah, but he doesn't always bristle like this. It's just that 'tis the hurried harvest time, but the gathering of the grain will soon be over.

Does he suffer in comparison and would we swap him? **No! No! No!**

No Measure

With the fields around him, he lives close to them. The motherless foal, the small, twin lamb, the ailing calf are his especial care; care multi-

plied a thousand times in his efforts for us, his family.

The flowing milk pail, the huge potatoes that bounce from the stalks on to the warm, dark earth, the cheque got for stock and crops are urgent to him because of the security they mean for us. He doesn't measure food or love: he has heaps of both.

Still, I'm thinking of the length it took me to get out the thraneens, chaff and bits of straw from the wash tub. Would it be as hard to get ink off?

To The Glen

And I had planned to visit "Gleannin a' ceo" early today and pick enough blackberries for about thirty pounds of jam. In the little glen, the berries are as big as outside thimbles—glossy black, full of juice and goodness.

Before I took the pen and scratched my head to write this, I put on flat-heeled shoes ready for the expedition and had found a good wattle to lob down the top-most branches where the berries always are the best.

So, booted and be-wattled, I'll be off, or I won't have enough jam to share for the next month with my man from the fields.

K. O'BRIEN.

Gadgets

THIS gaslighter is a real boon to the housewife with a gas oven; it has a long burner which lights the OVEN GAS without getting your fingers burned.

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From personal experience the battery lasts almost a whole year.

It costs 10/6 (replacement battery, 3/-) and can be got in most hardware shops or garages stocking Ever-Ready batteries.

A very useful inexpensive gift for the newly-weds or the woman who always finds herself without matches.



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For your Sunday joint or your Christmas turkey, this Pyrex baster is just the thing—you can baste without taking the joint from the oven.

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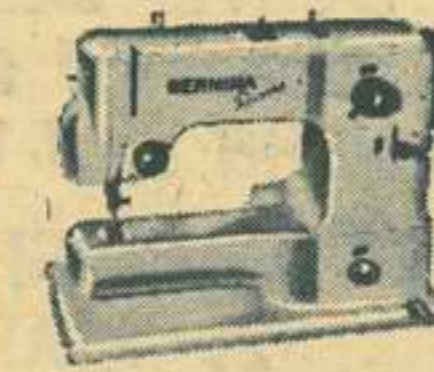
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ATHLONE FIRM'S NEW ENTERPRISE

THE story of Broderick's Model Sunshine Bakery is a typical example of a long-established concern which, thanks to a progressive policy of keeping well abreast of all new developments in machinery and techniques, enjoys as fine a reputation to-day as it did when it was founded 150 years ago.

From the beginning, the bakery has been in the hands of the same family and conclusive proof of the constant high standard of quality which family management usually entails, may be found in the many gold medals and other trophies have been awarded the products of this bakery at Dublin and London exhibitions over the past 30 years. Bread from Broderick's bakery is known as far away as Achill. A sizeable fleet of vans serves clients within a 70-mile radius of Athlone, including the whole of the Midlands and much of the West of Ireland.

"FRIARY PAN"

The bakery is noted, too, for its distinctive "Friary Pan" designed long ago for the local Franciscan Fathers and still popular with the townspeople of Athlone.

The bakery is located at Connaught Street, Athlone, and here again the management's progressive policy is obvious in the modern premises and in the up-to-date machinery which has been installed during the past two years.

The present site of about an acre is occupied by a large, single-storey building measuring 18,000 square feet, of which no less than 1,600 square feet is devoted to the flour store, with a storage capacity of 2,000 bags.

To facilitate line production all departments are aligned in direct working order on the ground floor. Thus the making of bread is a continual process from the time the flour enters the store room until the warm, brown loaves are piled on the trays of the delivery vans.

From the store the flour goes to the blender. This is made of mild steel with cast iron ends, and has a mixing blade which carries the flour to the foot of the elevator. The trunk of the elevator is filled over with steel sheets which per-

form the double function of preventing flour discharge and of promoting cleanliness and hygiene.

CLEANLINESS

The flour passes from the elevator's special stamped steel buckets into the sifter. This is constructed so that maximum sifting and aeration is achieved by the removal of all foreign matter and the breaking-up of all hard lumps. Once again, hygienic conditions are promoted by the body of steel panels which can be easily removed for cleaning and inspection. A special refuse box caters for overalls.

The dough mixer, or kneader, has a two-sack capacity. The bowl is made entirely of sheet steel and is heavily tinned on the inside so that the finish is clean and smooth. A neat canopy of mild steel covers the bowl and is hinged to the elevating drum so that it can be raised by the operator for inspection. The carriage registering device is arranged to resist the lifting reaction while the kneading arms are in action, and the carriage is locked by an electrically-controlled pin which ensures that the machine will not start until the bowl is in correct position.

When the dough has been properly kneaded and mixed, it goes into the divider, where it is measured off into units of different weight. The disc of the divider is of hydraulic cast iron with four measuring chambers which are fitted with gunmetal liners. The feed roller in this machine is equipped with a gear by which the supply to the measuring chambers is controlled to suit the consistency of the dough.

When it leaves the divider, the dough is ready for its passage through the overhead travelling prover, which is completely encased in sections of mild steel, welded and bolted together.

The main conveyor chains, which are of the heavy roller kind, have been specially constructed to carry the trays, and are equipped with screws so that the tension can be adjusted as required. The trays themselves are of cast alloy with linen pockets which are held

securely in place by spring clips and birch rods. The covers easily can be removed for cleaning and laundering, so that the interior of the prover is always fresh. In addition, it is fitted with air fans for drying tray cloths.

When they have passed through the prover, the trays are tilted automatically and the loaves are emptied from the pockets on to a conveyor band. The loaves of dough are now ready for the moulders, which are of different types, according to the eventual shape the loaves will assume.

HAND-MOULDED

The bread is moulded again by hand after this automatic moulding, for Messrs. Broderick feel that bread produced completely by automatic means is inclined to be flavourless and so have retained many experts of earlier staffs to carry on this process, which ensures an exceptionally fine flavour.

Messrs. Broderick have also the sole right in the Midlands and West of Ireland for Vioroid Radiation Process, by which a special violet-ray treatment used for dough enhances the loaf-making qualities of our native wheat.

The bread now goes into a steam room for a further period of maturing. The brick steam press is lined with white glazed brick and the doors' side frame and lintel are galvanised with a quick-locking device fitted to the doors. The roof is supported by T-beams with coke breeze roof and celotex sheets on the underside to absorb condensation. Wet and dry steam coils are controlled by valves on the outside and a steam tap is installed near the drain.

The final stage now is reached, and the bread goes into the ovens. It emerges warm and brown, and ready for the delivery vans. Al-

though the remainder of the plant is powered by electricity, the ovens run on oil, which is generally accepted as being one of the most efficient and hygienic methods nowadays. Indeed, modern baking methods represent a great improvement on older days when it was necessary to start stoking furnaces at midnight to have the fires in proper working order by 6 a.m. the following morning. Now only an hour's preparation is needed. Broderick's Bakery is known to-day throughout the West and Midlands of Ireland, and between bread and confectionery the business gives employment to close on 60 people. A staff benefit scheme operates whereby each man contributes 1s. weekly and the management contributes 1s. per man per week. This forms a fund which can be drawn on in case of accidents, sickness and other emergencies.

National Co-Operative Council Meets

THE Mansion House, Dublin, housed the opening of the Third Co-operative Week of the National Co-operative Council. The President of the Council, Mr. B. O'Carroll, speaking at the outset, said that men and women of higher ideals were wanted in the Co-operative Movement and if they joined the ranks it could only result in the betterment of their country.

The Lord Mayor, Councillor R. Briscoe, T.D., who formally opened the meeting, aptly described the Co-operative Movement as a pool arrangement for the common good that should not be used as a medium of profit for any individual or group of individuals.

Dr. P. Moran, Vice-President of the Council, who presided, then introduced Rev. Father Corcoran, S.M., who addressed the meeting on the subject of co-operation.

During the course of his address, Father Corcoran said that to him our

fishing industry was somewhat of a mystery. "Spanish trawlers find it profitable to come all the way from Spain to fish off our coast, while our fishing industry appears to languish, although there are fish all around us. The bigger part of our fishing fleet appears to consist of row boats. It is easy to visualise a different situation where we have a properly equipped fleet of trawlers and well established associated industries such as fish canning and preserving, and boat-building."

We must take to ourselves, he said, the words of the Holy Father. "In a Democratic State civic life imposes stiff demands on the moral maturity of each citizen." Continuing, Father Corcoran stated: "One should not fear to recognise that many citizens, even those who call themselves Christians, share the blame for Society's present confusion. There are facts that demand a definite re-

fishery industry was somewhat of a mystery. There are financial frauds that have repercussions on the moral life, social and economic equilibrium of the country."

In conclusion, he stated that other countries demonstrated to their people by means of film-strips what could be accomplished through co-operation. These films should be shown to the Irish people. In addition, a film-strip should be made depicting what has already been achieved in this country through the Co-operative Movement. "Example is worth a great deal more than even words, and few who see the advantages of co-operation in other places or in other walks of life can remain blind to the advantages in their own spheres."

Dr. Moran, speaking towards the close of the meeting, assured his audience that the Council's aim was to educate the people to the advantages of co-operation.

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More Co-Operatives In Rural Ireland

(G. M. McNAMARA).

THE structure of Ireland's rural communities is changing, and we need more co-operative movements among rural dwellers to meet the needs of the population living through this era of social change.

Not so many years ago the comparative isolation and independence of rural communities were the chief characteristics of rural structure. The "Emergency Period" of the '40's however, marked a period of transition in both the social and economic life of Rural Ireland.

Social progress has brought about, in some degree, the closer integration and the greater interdependence of rural people and groups with one another, and between rural and urban groups. It has depended largely on the evolution in the individual and in the groups of those qualities that contribute, not to their own efficiency in narrow competition, but to their association in more and more highly organic interdependencies. But at the same time it has guarded, and in some directions enlarged, the rights and freedom of the individuals.

It is important for us to grasp readily what the implications of such social progress are. In the first instance, there is the obvious link of homogeneity forged within the community itself; a factor which must eventually lead to some type of co-operative movements within that community. Secondly, there is the state of affairs which admits of a tolerable amount of personality-

isolation among the individuals of the community; but it is no longer a frustrating isolation which stultifies individual initiative, either ultimately preventing, or even retarding progress.

In the older atmosphere of isolation which seemed to have been commonplace, say, a century ago, or even later, there was little or no effort made towards aiming at any satisfactory standards of value in the minds of the people, individuals, or families. There was little courage or discretion in the face of uncertainties of all kinds; no great desire to acquire knowledge or skills in farming, home-making or other occupations.

In the twenty-six counties of the Republic, approximately eleven million of its seventeen million acres are devoted to agriculture or agricultural production, while more than half the total population of that area lives on the land. Of the nation's 380,000 farms, 280,000 are less than 50 acres in extent. These small farms are worked mainly by the farm owners and their families. Roughly 357,000 out of the approximate half-a-million agricultural labourers engaged on the land are members of farmers' families also.

It has been noted in Ireland, as in most other countries, two distinct forms of development may be recognised: one spontaneous or voluntary, emanating from the basic tendency of society to form into groups for the development of common objectives; the other having its mainspring in the social and economic measures of central or local government.

Since World War II, the emphasis has been to foster such movements here in Ireland as Muintir na Tire, Young Farmers' Clubs, and the Irish Countrywoman's Association, which, incidentally, is the oldest of the three movements, having been founded in 1910. The growth and spread of these movements have been rapid, but scarcely rapid enough and widespread enough to keep pace with the changing complexity of rural structure. However, a contributor to a recent study of this theme remarks hopefully . . . "there is every reason to hope that the growth of voluntary organisations, and in particular the keen interest displayed by the youthful generation of farmers in everything pertaining to their calling, will create new opportunities for a healthy extension of useful voluntary movements among rural populations."

On the other hand, while social and economic progress is the recognised keynote of the present-day rural community, mention must be made of the adverse role which current emigration is playing inside the heart of the rural population. Coupled with this emigration problem is the "flight from the land." Both must be considered by any movement which

tends to act as a consolidation agent towards the bettering of existing conditions, or the maintenance of improved standards of living of the rural community as a whole.

One hundred years ago more than 80 per cent. of our population was rural; to-day it is less than 60 per cent. If we remember that our urban population has shown a marked increase over the period, we can readily appreciate the fact that our rural population has decreased by almost 64 per cent. Both Arenberg and Kimball, in their masterly Study of an Irish Rural Community, have shown that this decrease is not entirely due to the economic conditions obtaining within the community itself. For the "Flight From the Land" they look elsewhere, only strangely enough, to find it, in common with the findings of many other commentators, within the schools, where, they maintain, "there is a tendency to turn the minds of our young people towards a way of life with little sympathy or love of the countryside."

It is not altogether the fault of our schools, we should think; but the fact remains that there is an urbanising of the rural mind under way. For co-operative movements there is the vital role of arresting such a growing philosophy of urbanisation. Our agricultural economy must be re-orientated against such adverse influences.

Such a re-orientation can only be done effectively within the rural community itself, and accordingly rural, or farmer co-operatives are the best agents for this, because a farmer co-operative movement has the useful influence of being able to do more than merely help; by its nature it promotes all forms of education, and the history of the co-operative movement both in towns and in the country, shows that there is a natural affinity between the needs that give rise to the co-operative movement as such, and educational needs. Again: co-operative movements among farmers are only one of the many types of rural group through which a proper knowledge of agricultural pursuits may be disseminated. Of their very nature, leading to mass discussion, if administered and guided in an informal manner such groups must benefit by the records of the research of others, or propose, or create new problems for research. They are effective because we find that those who usually join such groups are the go-ahead type of rural citizen. In effect they are conducive towards, firstly, the development of the individual within the group, and, secondly, through mutual discussion, they are conducive towards the evolution of all democratic attributes.

From the point of view of the purely domestic aspect of rural life, organisation is necessary to reduce costs, while at the same time making existing services effective. One means towards this end, for instance, is, of course, to help and guide farm women and girls to acquire all the knowledge and skill that can be applied in creating good homes. Particularly they should be put in a position to learn the selection and preparation of foods for better nutrition, practical hygiene, child-care, first-aid and simple nursing.

All this through the vehicle of co-operatives; nor must one forget the recreational side. People are interested in recreation as the most important matter after the vital hungers. Thus a recreational co-operative is also a necessary adjunct to any other forms of co-operative movement that may be in existence.

This is the heyday of co-operatives and there is a growing need for more and more!

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Her son, Rathmore Wonder Ellajan, by Elmwood Wonder Jan R.M., is used as senior stock bull, and his first three daughters to have completed lactations have given the following yields:—
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Rathmore do. Viola: 12,068 lbs. 365 days; 3.91 p.c. at 2 yrs. 3 m.
Rathmore Flo 2nd: 11,322 lbs. 365 days; 3.96 p.c. at 2 yrs.

These three heifers, now in their second lactations, have respectively reached 85lbs., 75lbs. and 73lbs. per day; calving within 14 months.

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Dam: HORWOOD GREY, R.M.P., by Terling Tempest R.M. (32) out of Lavenham Grey 166th, by Fintloch Gay Lad R.M. (38), a grandson of Terling Marthus R.M. (55). Horwood Grey R.M.P. 2nd to herd companion in milking trials, Cork Show, 1953, giving 62½ lbs. 3.95 p.c. as second calver. Prize winner every time shewn, and gaining 45 points out of possible 50 for udder appearance and first in inspection in the Production Inspection Class, Cork Show, 1956. Has yielded 7,840 lbs. in 112 days and still giving 63 lbs. daily present lactation.

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Some may ask what of our beef trade. The improvement of the dairy industry at the expense of the beef trade would not be the ideal solution, but there is no need to have any fears in this regard. Trials have been carried out in Britain on these lines and the experience gained has shown that beef production will not suffer as a result of increases in the number of Friesian cattle. Great benefits would follow to both branches of the trade from an extension of the number and further improvement in the quality of the animals. The quality at present is high and our breeders are doing great work in bringing about further improvements. They are enthusiastic and their enthusiasm is producing good results.

The importance of the cattle trade as a factor could scarcely be exaggerated. If the beef and dairy products are to be sold on world markets at competitive prices, providing a satisfactory margin of profit for the producers, it is essential that great consideration be given to the type of animals that should be produced.

In one respect the country is most fortunate, for it has a growing group of breeders of Friesian cattle who have proved the value of this breed. They have shown that Friesians are ideally suited to our needs.

Taking dairy cattle generally throughout the country, the average yield is approximately 450 gallons. It has been established that herds of Friesians could double and even treble this yield. There are cases on record where this breed has averaged over 1,000 gallons and yields of 850 to 1,000 gallons are quite common.

These figures serve to emphasise in a practical manner how milk output could be increased without even increasing the number of dairy cattle in the country. The development of Friesian herds would mean more milk for every

acre under grass and more milk per man employed on dairy farms.

Some may ask what of our beef trade. The improvement of the dairy industry at the expense of the beef trade would not be the ideal solution, but there is no need to have any fears in this regard. Trials have been carried out in Britain on these lines and the experience gained has shown that beef production will not suffer as a result of increases in the number of Friesian cattle. Great benefits would follow to both branches of the trade from an extension of the number and further improvement in the quality of the animals. The quality at present is high and our breeders are doing great work in bringing about further improvements. They are enthusiastic and their enthusiasm is producing good results.

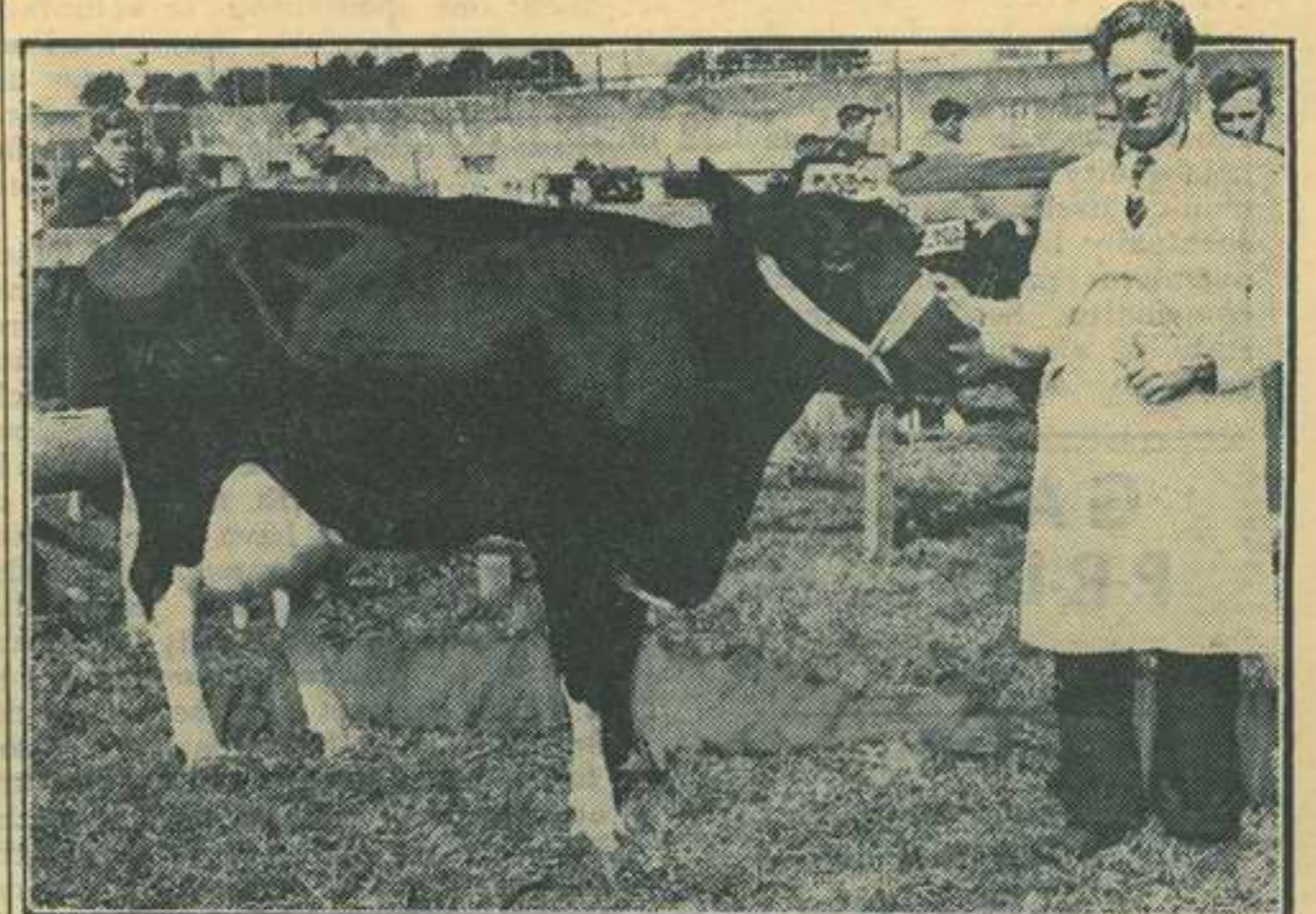
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Bellahill Alanna's Pol, owned by T. C. Jones Henry, Sligo.

Bellahill Nesceen Leo, owned by Viscount Brookeborough.

Present Stock Bull is Cormoat Friesma Theo, Champion Dublin, Balmoral and Ballymena, 1956. His dam and G. Dam are 2,000-gallon R.M. Show winning cows. His sire's 15 R.M. daughters averaged 11,406lbs. 4.1 p.c. B.F.

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by this great sire and out of a 4 per cent. family.

DAVID CALDWELL

Bellahill House, CARRICKFERGUS, Co. Antrim.

Emly Young Farmers Lead

IF you ever happen to be in the locality of Emly any night of the week—Saturdays and Sundays excepted—just inquire for the local Parochial Hall. There you will find a group of young farmers from Emly and district sawing, planing, etc., for they are members of a woodwork and carpentry class. The class is the product of the joint efforts of the Vocational Education Committee and the local branch of Macra Na Feirme.

It is certainly a fine sight to see what is turned out here. Products include horse-drawn cars in light modern style, kitchen cabinets, meat safes and numerous other items for household furnishing, and farm equipping. Some of the goods are sold to local buyers, and some are retained by the makers for their own use. Great credit is due to the Vocational Education Committee for providing the necessary funds to make the venture possible, and supplying local woodwork instructor, Mr. Coleman, a native of Cork. Praise is also due to the local Macra Na Feirme club who are sparing no effort to make the Rural district of Emly one of the foremost in the country. Its club officers are: Pres., Ailbe O'Kelly; Chairmen, John Purcell and Patrick Merrick; Treas., Thomas Quish; Sec., Laurence Ryan.

J.C.L.

Still Expanding

THE Killeshandra Dairy Society, Ltd., Cavan, having rebuilt their auxiliary creamery at Gortermone, have also built a large store beside it, for the supply of hardware, feeding stuffs, etc., to the farmers and milk suppliers in the area. Started close on half a century ago, this business is rapidly expanding.

Another Victory For Irish Enterprise

AGAINST the strongest possible competition from all over the Continent, an Irish company, **IRISH MEAT PACKERS, LTD.**, have secured the plum contract of supplying meat to the American forces in France and Germany. The Company already hold contracts with the American forces in Casablanca and England.

The new contract secured by Irish Meat Packers calls for the supply of 1,700,000 lbs. of beef, chilled primal cuts for Uncle Sam's forces in France, and for those stationed in Germany 750,000 lbs. of boneless frozen box beef. The contract is renewable every six months. The current one secured by the Irish Company commenced in October and deliveries are made weekly.

This is the first occasion that this order has come to Ireland, as on previous occasions German and Dutch companies were the suppliers.

The advantages of this contract are so numerous that one just does not know where to begin; for instance, all payments are made in U.S. dollars; the advantages here are obvious. Secondly, all the beef delivered under this contract will be Irish, and as market prices are showing a tendency to drop, due to the falling off in demand by English and Continental buyers, it means that Irish farmers have a readymade market here on their own doorstep.

A point worth noting here is that if the Irish farmer were to sell his cattle at home instead of selling them on the hoof for export, he would be doing Ireland and her people a real good turn. He would be helping to provide em-

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WINTER



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doing a service to himself.

Irish Meat Packers give employment to 250 people and so are helping in the most practical way possible to stem the tide of emigration.

Mr. Terry Kennedy, joint General Manager of I.M.P., feels that with the whole-hearted co-operation of the Irish farmer, his company could enlarge on their existing contracts, thereby ensuring a continuity of new markets for Irish cattle and at the same time providing more employment.

The directors of Irish Meat Packers are men who know their business, and include such well-known names in the cattle world as Jack Keogh, George Mullan, Frank Quinn, Noel Cuddy and Jack Carlin—an assurance that the farmer dealing with I.M.P. is dealing with a company run by men who know their job.

ployment not alone in the cattle industry but in other countries which are dependent on cattle for their raw materials—the boot and shoe industry, for example, in which there is an enormous potential export market.

Briefly, the position is that if the Irish farmer sells his cattle at home he is providing employment, he is keeping the money in the country, and the more employment provided the more money there is in circulation. An employed man will have more money to spend on food, meat, vegetables, etc. So really the farmer who helps to provide employment is not only doing a service to his country, he is also

The Balanced Ration And Animal Nutrition

The study of animal nutrition goes back to the period of Antoine Lavoisier 1743-94, and this famous French Scientist is frequently referred to as its founder. The guillotine, however, ended his career and, at the same time, undoubtedly set back for many years this work. Whilst much was done in the interim period it was not until the turn of the present century, when vitamins were discovered, that rapid progress began.

The research workers at last had a firm basis to work on, and their studies progressed from the proteins and carbohydrates to the new vitamins and the mineral element. Much knowledge has been gained, but there is still a great deal of research work to be done to fill in the gaps which unavoidably develop from time to time.

How does this affect the farmer? The answer to such a question is at once simple, and at the same time very complex. Past generations kept livestock and used various foods with moderate success without intimate knowledge of their properties, but little or no thought was given to the finer details of the efficiency. To-day "efficiency" is the keynote of the farmer's daily work, otherwise his banking account would balance on the wrong side. Our forefathers could afford to use eight or nine pounds of cheap pig food to gain one pound of pork, but we to-day must get that one pound of bacon from about three pounds of feed. The demand for food from a rising population is increasing, and becoming more discriminating—hence the change from pork to bacon as an example.

As research work progressed man reaped the benefits and the farmer is now able to support the nation better than previously. In the poultry industry egg production has in-

creased and yet most of our commercial egg producing flocks are maintained indoors simply because research provided the formula of feed requirements.

From the information discovered over the years our present-day balanced feeds were formed—feeds that are computed to provide all the nutrients necessary for maintaining and replacing body tissue, and providing for work whether it be egg production, lactation or meat. These rations supply the necessary amino acids, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals. The millers of to-day can offer to the farmer balanced feeds and, no doubt, as the years pass on gaps will be filled in, but the endeavour will always be greater efficiency and economy, or less food consumed for more liveweight gain, or more production.

These advances were made possible by the discovery of vitamins over the last forty years while at the present, thanks to the brilliant and untiring work of scientists, we enter the era of "Medicated Feeds". Knowledge of vitamins and minerals advanced the prevention of deficiency, diseases and now we can control those of the bacteria and virus types. Progress has been made and we can rest assured that the future will unfold even more problems for the benefit of mankind in general.

Economy prompted research for the more economic use of livestock food consumption, with the result that the farmer became aware of the advantages of a "Balanced Feed", which resulted in the falling off of the use of, what would be termed to-day, "straight meals or feeds". Therefore, Provender Milling calls for modern machinery, as well as an up-to-date laboratory, staffed by highly experienced scientists.

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Whither Dublin?

(By "DUBGAEL.")

ON THE EVE OF ANOTHER CAMPAIGN TRULY MAY WE ASK: "WHITHER DUBLIN?" DID WE WITNESS IN CARLOW THE END OF AN EPOCH—THE ST. VINCENT'S EPOCH? OR ARE WE ON THE THRESHOLD OF A NEW AND GLORIOUS FOOTBALL ERA FOLLOWING OUR THREE-IN-A-ROW ALL-IRELAND MINOR FOOTBALL WIN?

Surely a happy augury for the future was the superlative display of our youthful stars who, in completing a wonderful treble, won our fifth All-Ireland Minor title.

Congratulations to the Minor Board officials and selectors for their sterling work in keeping the Blue and White standard proudly aloft.

And let us commend, too, the brave spirits of Leitrim on their grand showing and their refusal to be discouraged despite their failure down the years.

If we accept the theory that great senior teams are born in the minor grades, we are due a purple patch on inter-county fields. Yet we find, with the notable exception of the St. Vincent's player, Sean Joyce, and a few others, the stalwarts of the 1954 and 1955 minor teams have yet to make their mark on the senior team. This shows how difficult the transition, at least in Dublin, from minor stardom to senior status. Indeed, our Boards would do well to take cognisance of the serious fact that many of our teenage stars are "lost" after their minor days.

However, there are at least two or three ex-minors certain to be honoured soon, and, indeed, if the players on this year's team live up to their great promise we will have a reservoir of talent to draw from.

NOT DOMINANT

It is now apparent that while St. Vincent's are still champions, their complete domination of the football scene is broken. Yet they should supply the bulk of our county team in 1956-7.

Even the "anti-club" selection adherents have come to recognise the fact that with the exception of three or four, the St. Vincent's players are the best available.

This is only to be expected until such time as our other parish clubs shake off their lethargy and strive for the same degree of organised proficiency as has the champions.

When may we expect O'Tooles again to produce players of the calibre of the McDonnells, Synotts, "Allo" Breslin and Bobby Dempsey?

And it is a long day since their near neighbours and great rivals, St. Joseph's, gave us a Mickey Wellington and a Paddy Mulhall; or the

saggart St. Mary's supplied a Paddy Bermingham for our county team.

For too long have Vincent's been forced to shoulder the burden. And when we can wed the vitality and skill of the Marino side to the heart and tradition of our older parish strongholds, then we should field the unconquerable combination.

In humbling provincial champions, Kildare—doughty opponents always on their own territory—to capture the O'Byrne Cup, the Dublin team (experimental as it was) proved that were we not so cruelly hit by the injuries received on the American Tour, we might well have contested the All-Ireland final. However, that's another day's work.

Galway's classic All-Ireland win over gallant and sporting Cork in a truly great final, was acclaimed by the critics as a triumph for the "Dublin style" of football.

But the irony for Dublin is that we, after the magnificent Leinster

Final performance of last year, reverted, because of ill-advised criticism, to the catch and kick brand of football, with disastrous results.

The Metropolis extends heartfelt congratulations to the Western champions of Ireland, and reserves a special pat on the back for ex-Vincent's player, Joe Young, on achieving a life's ambition with his adopted county.

Incidentally, what a magnetic attraction a Galway v. Dublin challenge would be at Croke Park! And what a wonderful experience this game would be for Gaeldom and a glorious opportunity to help some deserving charity.

SAME SYSTEM

The County Board decided at a recent meeting, after lengthy discussion, to continue with the Board Selection Committee of five members, viz., two from the county champions and three selected from the Board.

Chairman Tom Russell (St. Brigid's), zealous Joe Farrell (St. Agnes) and the former Dublin football star, Brendan Quinn (Parnells), were re-elected unopposed as the Board's representatives on the Football Committee.

We are tempted to put the question: If St. Vincent's lose their title, will the present system of picking native Dubliners be continued?

In hurling, the three outgoing members, Dr. J. J. Stuart (U.C.D.), Pat Farrell (Faughs) and Mick Leahy (Eoghan Ruadh) were again elected to the Selection Committee, which is completed by two members from St. Columba's.

In the light of past experience, it behoves our selectors to persevere with our Dublin-born players if we are ever again to take our rightful place in the sun.

Further Laurels

Waterford-born Jim Foley, who has been chiefly instrumental in reviving the G.A.A. in Watford, gained further laurels at New Eltham when his team Glen Rovers, defeated Cu Chullains in the semi-final of the Intermediate Hurling Championship, and thus qualified to meet Sarsfields in the decider.

AN CUMANN CABHRACH recently held a very successful Ceili in Hammersmith. The proceeds were for a most deserving cause. The music rendered was first class and the large crowd had a very enjoyable evening.

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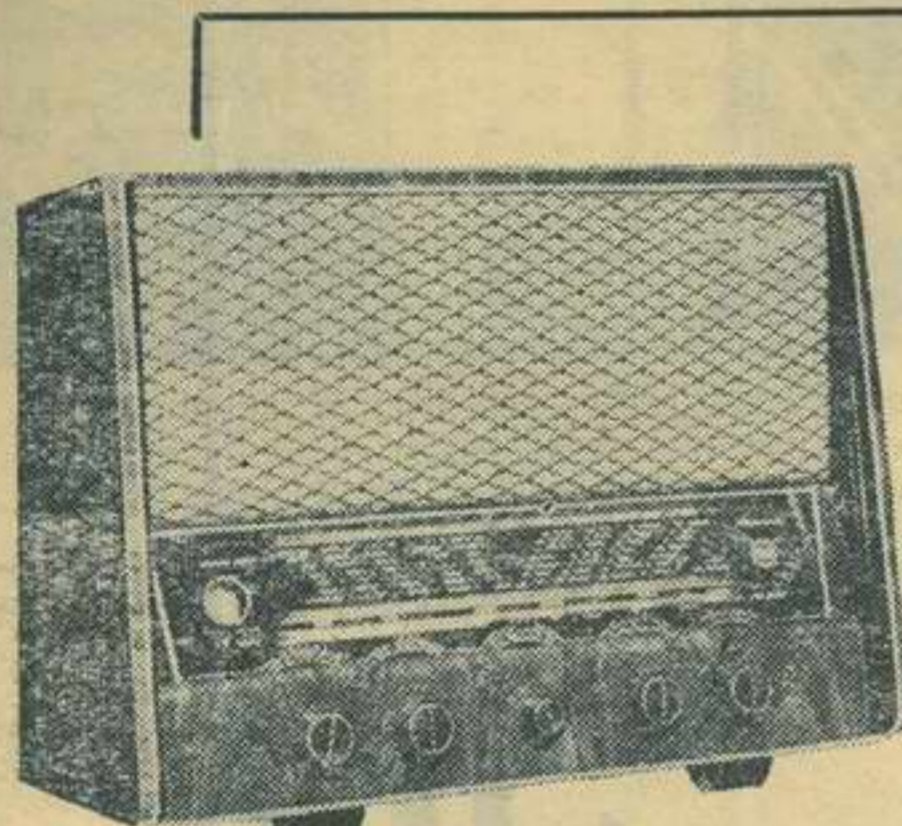
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5-valve Table superhet with highly selective performance on short, medium and long wavebands. 8 inch heavy duty speaker. 18½ inch 3-colour dial, 20 x 15 inch wlnat cabinet. Price, £27. Other models include the L-50, £31; TR6-50, £40; UR6-50, £47.

Pilot
RADIO AND RADIOGRAMS

All the above models are available with 8 valve chassis incorporating both V.H.F. and A.M. circuits at £6 extra.

BASKETBALL

WESTERN Command came into prominence in the basketball world in 1941, when, in the final of the All-Army Championships, they defeated Military College to gain their first major trophy.

Western Command showed a real fighting spirit that day and that same spirit has prevailed with their teams throughout the years. The men who refused to say die were: T. O'Connor, Bill Jackson, Dan Reddin, Peter Molloy and Skep Sheriff. To join them later on, came that real fighting man himself, Tommy Keenan.

Western Command won the first ever interprovincial championships. They played and defeated the visiting American Flotilla "Fresno". In the Army their record is most impressive, for, they have won the All-Army Championships no less than 10 times in 16 years.

With such players on their roll to-day as J. Murray, G. Keyes, C. Moran, J. McLaughlin, and old established stalwarts like Paddy Sheriff and Jim McGee to see they don't go wrong, Western Command have the right amount of youth and experience to make it tough for any opposition.

New Dressing Rooms For Birr Ground

"A FURTHER chapter has been written in the annals of Offaly G.A.A. — this time in stone and cement". So said Rev. E. Vaughan, C.C., Coolderry, Chairman, Offaly Co. Board, after he had formally blessed the newly erected dressing rooms and offices at St. Brendan's Park, Birr.

Formally opened by Mr. M. Kehoe, Wexford, Past President of the G.A.A., the new dressing rooms are bright, roomy and all amenities for the comfort of players, including showers. The cost was £5,000.

Mr. Kehoe, speaking first in Irish, said he was deeply honoured in being asked to open the new dressing-rooms, which were on a par with any in the country. He expressed the hope that in the not too distant future the same facilities would be afforded players even in the most remote districts.

To mark the occasion, Coolderry, Offaly Senior Hurling Champions, and Lorrha — fresh from their encounter with Thurles Sarsfields in the Tipperary Final—played in a challenge game for a valuable set of trophies which went to the Tipperary men, the final score being 3-9 to 2-4 in their favour.

ANTRIM'S NINE GLENS

A Lovely Bit Of Gaelic Ireland

UP on the fringe of Antrim lie the Nine Glens, and in those same Nine Glens you can find people who have never surrendered their Irish heritage. You can hear the language of the Gael spoken, see the national hurling, football or camogie games played with zest, and hear the tales of our ancient heroes told around peat-burning fires.

It is little wonder that in the early years of this century the eyes of that band of enthusiasts who had recently established a branch of the Gaelic League in Belfast turned to the Nine Glens as a fruitful harvest field. The district was well worthy of being chosen as a starting place for the regeneration of Irish culture, steeped as it was in history, folklore and the traditions of the exploits of men like Cuchulainn, Ossian, the McDonnells, McQuillans, McAuley's, and in gentler stories of the holiness and scholarship of the monks of Glenarm, Layde, Ardclinis or Bunamargie.

Nature has been very lavish in her gifts to those Nine Glens, yet no two are alike. The wealth of the fuchsia-bushes blooming in Glanaan, for instance, being unequalled in any other Antrim glen, and the serene loveliness of Glenariff differing from the wild beauty of some of her sisters, while the tree-clad slopes of Glenarm are the best-wooded in the country, in comparison with another of the nine where whins and heather contend for mastery.

The people of these glens differ as much as do the Glens themselves, a difference due to the various "plantations" and the intercourse between the Antrim men and their fellows on the Scottish coast.

These various infiltrations are today marked by the differences in English dialect, from the Elizabethan of Glenarm to the Ayrshire Scots of Glencloy, the Hebridean accent of Glendun or Glentaise, and the

more modern English of Glenariff (Irish alone was spoken in this glen till about 1850).

So the Gaelic Leaguers contacted some of the Gaels of the Glens, men like John McNeill, and his brother James, John Clarke ("Benmore"), Roger Casement, and Andy Dooly, and the Glen's Feis or Feis na nGleann was founded.

The first Feis day was on Thursday, June 30, 1904, and was the occasion of the biggest assembly of Glensfolk ever known, augmented, too, by many people from other parts of Ireland. Oddly enough, a glance at the names of some of the most prominent participants shows that they had not previously been actively Gaelic in act or utterance, but it seemed as if they were prepared to play their part in Ireland's resurgence.

Let us list some of them—Sir Horace Plunkett (who delivered the oration); Francis J. Biggar; Miss Barbara McDonnell; Sir Hugh Smiley; Ronald McNeill (later Lord Cushendun); Dr. Douglas Hyde; Sir Daniel Dixon (remembered as a Lord Mayor of Belfast); Miss Margaret Dobbs (now an internationally-known Gaelic scholar); Stephen Gwynn, and Miss Ada McNeill.

That was surely a memorable "Hosting of the Gaels" and for over half a century Feis na nGleann has continued to be a rallying-place for those who take pride in their country's fight to retain its native culture, and are ready to add their contribution to this generation's struggle to keep our native speech, games, and general way of life, so that we may be really ourselves, and not a poor imitation of the people of another land than our own.

£100 Prize Uncontested

THE Oireachtas Literary competitions have yielded their usual rich harvest of Gaelic Literature, but much to the disappointment of the committee the £100 offered for a history of the Gaelic Athletic Association was, not only unclaimed, but uncontested. In the four years that this competition has been listed on the Oireachtas programme only one entry has been submitted. This entry did not fulfill the requirements of the adjudicators' and was sent back to the writer for revision. It has not been re-submitted since.

The requirements specified in the Syllabus are — "That the material describe the background, development, influence and function of the Association. A series of dates and statistics is not what is required, but a survey that would be of interest to the average reader of Irish. It would be required to have an introduction dealing with the state of Native Games before the year 1884".

Athlone's New Grounds

AFTER MANY VISCISSITUDES THE ATHLONE G.A.A. CLUB HAS AT LAST GOT A HOME FOR ITS GAMES. FOR THE PAST FIFTEEN YEARS IT HAS RENTED NO FEWER THAN FIVE DIFFERENT FIELDS, NONE OF THEM VERY SUITABLE, FOR ITS GAMES.

But that is all happily ended now — like the "old woman of the roads" it has got a house of its own.

A little over two years ago the Westmeath County Board with the approval and help of the Leinster and Central Councils of the G.A.A., purchased about thirteen acres of land from Mr. W. J. Young, adjacent to the Longford road and astride the Urban Boundary.

After all legal difficulties had been overcome a Development Committee was formed and it was decided to proceed with the first stage of the programme.

This involves the levelling and draining of the pitch and to a lesser extent the ramping of same together with the building of the entrances and erecting gates.

Plans and specifications for this initial stage have been drawn up by the engineer and architect. The Holycross Land Reclamation Company, Tipperary, are now in process of carrying out this contract.

A good deal of the work has been completed to date and if the weather remains favourable it should be fully completed by Christmas.

The scheme also provided for something which is to be recommended to all large grounds — the provision of a practice pitch alongside the playing pitch. This ensures that the playing field proper will never become too cut-up or worn and will also provide for the continuing of the games throughout winter months.

The new park will be a great boon to players and people in and around Athlone. They could never see an inter-county or inter-provincial game unless they travelled long distances.

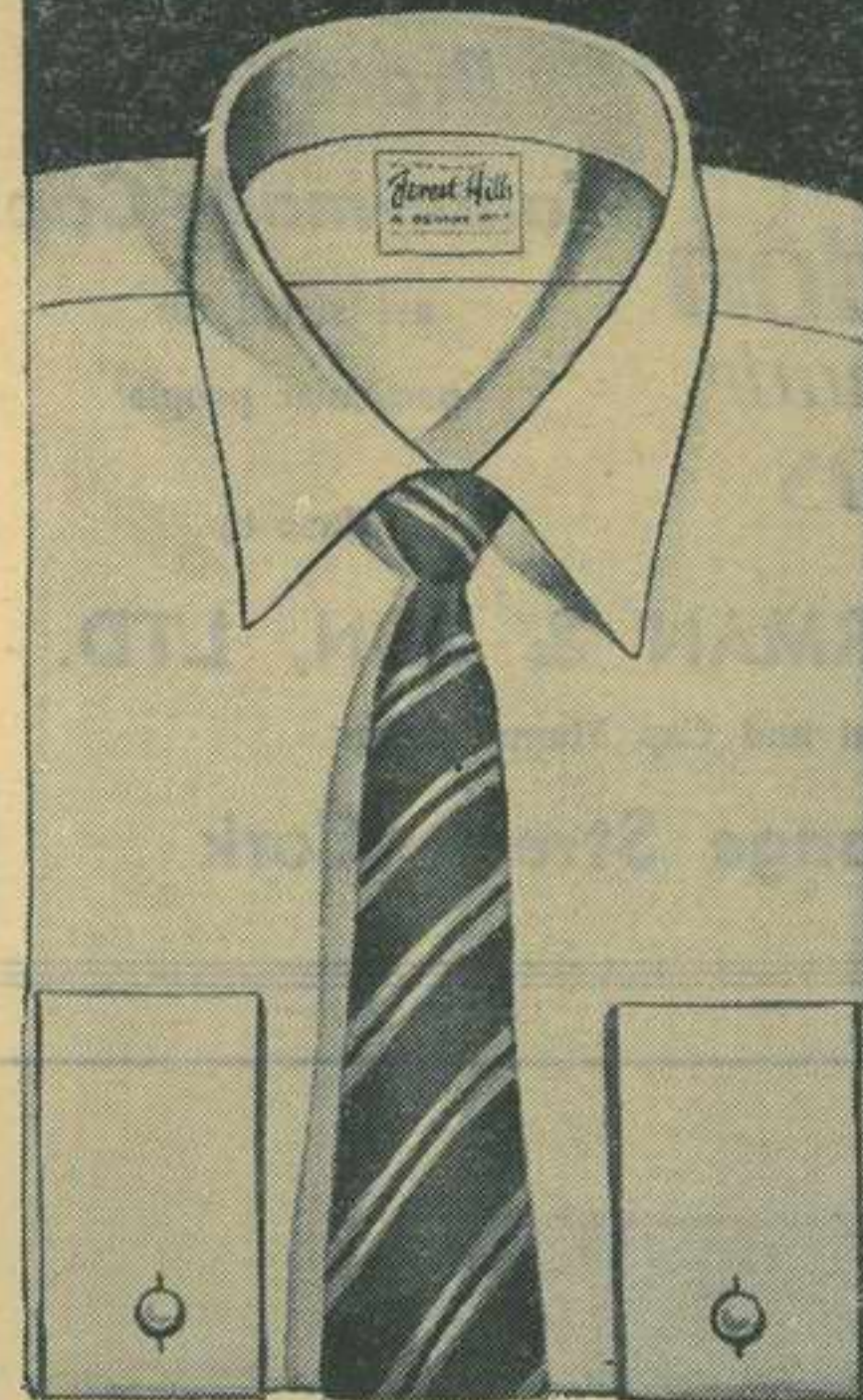
It is the intention of the Development Committee to provide a first-class playing field and everything possible is being done to raise funds.

Famous School Flourishing

SITUATED on the slopes of Moyne Hill, in the parish of Dromard, overlooking the main Cavan-Longford road, stands St. Mary's Apostolic School. It was founded over half a century ago.

At present with four teachers—Fathers Faughnan, Lavin, Reilly and McGee—and over one hundred scholars, this famous school is flourishing. Many young men from Longford, Leitrim and Cavan, who received their early education here and later went forth to preach the Gospel in foreign lands, were well-known on the football fields of Ireland.

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JUNIOR GAELS' PAGE



AS BEFITS A SCHOOL IN WHICH MICHAEL CUSACK ONCE TAUGHT, THE GAMES OF THE GAEL WHICH HE LOVED AND FOSTERED HOLD PRIDE OF PLACE IN C.B.S. ENNISCORTHY. WEXFORD'S RECENT ALL-IRELAND SUCCESSES HAVE GIVEN AN ADDED FILLIP, ESPECIALLY SINCE SUCH RENOWNED PLAYERS AS PADGE KEHOE, ART FOLEY, TOM DIXON, TED BOLGER AND TIM FLOOD ATTENDED THE SCHOOL.

To cater for the different age groups in the primary schools, two Street Leagues are run in Autumn. On an average six matches are decided each week. The Seniors (11-14) compete for a silver cup donated by Mr. T. J. Larkin of Enniscorthy.

The Juniors (under 11) in a similar Street League compete for Corn Setanta.

Each of the 400 boys taking part in these competitions is assured of a game per week. These Leagues also serve as a pointer in the selection of the School team for participation in the C.B.S. Primary Schools Hurling League.

Last year Enniscorthy gained their first victory in this League.

In the off season the Secondary boys keep fit by competing in a six-team School League for "Corn Uí Lorcaín", a magnificent silver trophy of uncommon design also donated by Mr. T. J. Larkin.

This League helps to prepare the boys for both the Leinster Colleges Special Junior Hurling Competition and the C.B.S. Secondary Schools' League, in which New Ross (present holders), Wexford C.B.S. and Gorey C.B.S., also compete.

Some 120 Secondary boys participate in these competitions and as many of them come from nearby towns and villages they help to form the nucleus of teams in their own parishes later on.

An annual handball tournament catered for the boys favouring this game. This year it is hoped to provide two special trophies to replace the Harwood Shield won outright this year by P. McGrath.

A Tribute To The Minor Champions

By M. O. DUBHGHAILL

THE All-Ireland inter-county minor series has ended with over-facile victories for so long established champions as Tipperary hurlers and Dublin footballers.

Even though by now their successive victories are becoming monotonous, a tribute is in order to these teams and their mentors.

Ever since the opening of the school year, programmes of college games have been filtering through from the four provinces.

In all centres the picture is highlighted by accounts of additional teams and increased numbers engaging in inter-secondary school competitions.

JARLATHS HAPPY

Few college sides can face the championship with such happy prospects as St. Jarlath's of Tuam. To begin with, they are in the enviable position of having six of last year's side again in action. Of these, three—Nolan, Moran, Healy—again man their last line of defence.

Moreover, what college team enjoys such a wonderful spur to greater effort? I refer to the outstanding performances of the Bishop Street trio, Stockwell, Purcell and Mangan, in the Galway All-Ireland football victory.

The age-limit change for MacRory Cup contenders should add much to the attractiveness of all Ulster Colleges' games this season.

For many years now we have sought out the Ulster fixture list with renewed hopes. Hopes for what? Quite simply for this: We sought some signs or indications that hurling was making even slight progress in the non-hurling counties. Alas! vain hopes.

STATIC POSITION

Incidentally, the Connacht Colleges' position shows the same static position—same colleges, year in year out, entering hurling sides for their competitions.

Here, indeed, is a problem that should be tackled at once with vigour and determination.

The removal of these hurling weaknesses is too big a project for the Colleges' Councils. Indeed, it will take all the best efforts of the Central Council to effect any appreciable progress in our generation.

All agree that it is a matter of urgency that should be tackled at once on a basis of long-term planning.

INCREASED ENTRIES

Leinster and Munster team entries for the various competitions in both codes are well up on other years. Indeed, the problem for their respective Colleges' Councils might well be difficulties of finding sufficient suitable dates for so many games.

I hope that spectator attendance will show a marked upward trend, especially for the senior Sunday encounters.

As I have repeatedly pointed out, those who miss these games often miss much that is of the best and purest in Gaelic activities in both codes.

So if you are in a frame of mind for resolution making, let one of these be to see colleges' games if and when possible. Should you be disappointed with any of the fare served, I shall take responsibility.

Enterprise

BREAFFY G.A.A. Club, who have won the West Divisional Junior Championship for the past two years are this year sponsoring a nine a side Winter League.

The idea is to promote the game in the area and five teams from neighbouring villages have entered.

Breaffy have produced many fine footballers over the past decade and last year gave Mayo their brilliant minor star Mick Kennedy.

Mick captained the Mayo team and was chief architect of their victory in the Connacht final.

The officers of this active club are: Chairman, P. Golden, who is also Chairman of the West Divisional Board; Hon. Secretary, Mattie McEllin, and Hon. Treasurer, Francis Quinn.

They are the first country club in Mayo to sponsor a league and we congratulate them on their initiative.

Tributes Paid To Fr. Scott

Rev. Father Joseph Scott, Chairman of Mallaranny G.A.A. Club, has left his native Mayo to work among our Irish emigrants in Huddersfield.

He was a keen G.A.A. fan and to the Mallaranny Club particularly, his loss will be a big blow. He took a keen interest in the juveniles and the revival of the Co. Juvenile Championship was largely due to the appeal he made at the 1955 County Convention.

At the annual convention of the Mallaranny Club on Sunday, Oct. 14, glowing tributes were paid to Fr. Scott.

Leitrim Minors' Hopes Are High

HAVING lost heavily to Dublin in the final at Croke Park, the Leitrim boys are by no means disheartened. They hope for a brighter future next year. The best for Leitrim were Murray, McGowan, McIntyre, McWeeney, O'Donnell, Feehily and Fallon.



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Two Teams From Same School Reached Final

A NEW football competition (under 14) for East Kerry Schools, was inaugurated in 1954, with Fr. Bob Murphy as Chairman. Presentation Monastery, Killarney, won easily that year. Since then, Presentation Monastery has entered two teams. Last year one team entered the final but was beaten by Rathmore.

This year the Fitzgerald Park Committee presented a beautiful silver cup for the winners. The second Monastery team entered the final this year and avenged the defeat of their school-mates of last year when, after a hectic game, they defeated Rathmore. Thus the 'Mon' is the first name to be inscribed on the new trophy.

TWO TEAMS IN FINAL

In the same competition for under 16's the "Mon" had the unique dis-

inction of having its two teams in the final.

Fr. White (ex-Cork), Dick Clifford Jackie Lyne and his brothers Denny and Fr. Michael, Johnny Culhedy, Tadgh Lyne, Bill Myers, Timmy Leary, Donie Murphy, Paul Russell, Jack Myers and the late Dick Fitzgerald are some of the past and present Kerry stars who learned their football at the Presentation Monastery, Killarney.

This year the Kerry Schools' Sports were revived and 'Presentation' captured many prizes. The Griffin Cup for the school scoring most points was won by Killarney.

The I.N.T.O. Cup for the best individual athlete was won by Sean Healy of New Street, who as centre half back figured prominently on the football team.

His long jump of 16' 5" must be a record for an under 14.

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Galway's Year Of Superb Achievement

(By D. J. KELLY).

CHAMPIONS are feted, and rightly so, for the trail from a first round provincial championship game to the splendour of an All-Ireland final is a long and treacherous one.

There are many pitfalls along the way, many heartaches and anxieties. A star player is injured or ill or is not available for some other good reason—and a new problem arises for the team handlers. But it is these problems and the solving of them which makes the winning of a premier title all the sweeter.

So let us pay tribute to Wexford and Galway, our champions in hurling and football, respectively, for this memorable year. Both have proved themselves worthy title-holders—have shown the physical strength, the skill, determination, stamina, endurance and, above all, the will to overcome adversity.

Wexford won their first hurling title in 1910 and their second in 1955. Forty-five years in the wilderness, but they made those years seem short by the manner of their return to prominence.

Years of trial and error rewarded the Slaney selectors when they eventually found the winning blend last year, and their sound judgment was confirmed by Wexford's truly magnificent record in the leading hurling competitions.

Galway last won the Sam Maguire Cup in 1938 and though, periodically, it looked as if their long wait was over, they merely flattered to deceive.

In 1952, the Corribmen sent a brilliant minor team to Croke Park and the "shadows" of greatness, at last, took on substance. Another minor title followed in 1953 and the gloom which had pervaded the Western outpost for so long gave way to bright promise.

They had experienced men in

Jack Mangan, Tom Dillon, Sean Purcell, Tom McHugh and Frank Stockwell, while the Army contributed Jack Kissane, Billy O'Neill and Joe Young.

Then the schools and colleges gave Johnny Keely, Jack Mahon, Mickey Greally, Frank Eivers, Matty McDonagh and Gerry Kirwan to the county team, while a spell with Dublin Garda brought the best out of Gerry Daly.

Father O'Dea and Father Mahon, former county star and

captain of the 1938 winning side; John Dunne, Joe Sweeney and company emerged as the men who would guide the destinies of the side, and by their careful planning and judicious switches a potential title-winning side was moulded.

The scene was set. The cast was assembled. The audience, yes, and critics too, followed the "show" through whirlwind performances at Castlebar, Tuam, Sligo and Croke Park. And on Sunday, October 7, the curtain came down amidst wondrous applause on a great year, a year of superb achievement by the men of Galway.

Around Co. Louth

LOUTH'S popular mid-fielder Peadar Smith was married recently to Miss Sheila Donnegan, Dublin Road, Carlow. The couple are just back from their honeymoon which was spent touring Ireland. A native of Drogheda, Peadar now lives in Athy.

Mickey Palmer, Westport's crack cyclist, further enhanced his reputation by winning Ras Ballina, sponsored by the local N.A.C.A. club.

The death took place recently of Mr. T. Fahy, Breaffy, who was in his young days a well-known athlete. He was father of Tom Fahy of the present Breaffy club.

If the efforts of Garda Sean Con-sidine succeed Louth will have a new hurling club, Sean, who is at present stationed in Julianstown, hopes to start a club there. Sergeant P. Tuohy, who gained popular recognition with the caman in his native Clare and later with Meath will undoubtedly be the backbone of the club while Garda P. Murphy, also an inter-county hurler with Cork in the early '40's is also anxious to lend a hand.

ST. COMAN'S, HOLLYMOUNT, collected their first Mayo Junior Championship crown when they defeated **BALLYHAUNIS** in the County final at Castlebar, recently.

Mayo Briefs

MAYO County Board are seriously concerned about the continued downward trend in attendances at inter-club games.

It has been suggested that emigration is the main cause for this state of affairs but it is also pointed out that Kerry are as badly hit by emigration, yet they can boast 13,000 people at their county final.

Congratulations to Michael Basquill, the Connacht lightweight champion, on his splendid performance in the Duggan Shield. He was one of the Western province's two winners. This red-headed Castlebar boy has a real future in the fistic world.

St. Mary's Cycling Club (Castlebar) has just completed its first year and Secretary M. Kilcourse reports a very successful year. The club has 30 active members and although it is not well off financially, its successes make up for this lack.

Gussie Foy, T. Heneghan and T. Devereaux have trophies from Connacht competitions. The club sponsored a 50 mile Connacht Open competition for the "Barcastle" Cup as an end-of-the-season race and the winner was T. Mangan, Lought, Co. Galway.

U.C.G.'s County Players

By "Full-forward"
THE coming year sees an extraordinary depletion in UCG's inter-county players, particularly in hurling circles, where every player of note has either graduated or left for another University.

First on the list, is Seamus Cullinane, well-known Castlebar, Galway and Connaught defender, who, having advanced to the teaching ranks will now expend his energies in leading the youth of Galway City along the thorny path of learning. Seamus' steadying influence will indeed be missed and a full-back of equal coolness and resourcefulness will be very difficult to find.

Last year's captain and centre-half back, Frank Daly has also taken his departure. Frank, hailing from Cork, is better known in football circles, having helped UCG to a Sigerson Cup victory two years ago.

STANDS OUT
 One incident, above all other, stands out prominently in my memories of Frank Daly. In 1954, as captain and full-back on the College hurling team, he was also a regular full forward on the Cork Senior football team.

When the Munster Railway Cup (football) team was chosen Frank was picked as full-forward. The date for the Railway Cup semi-final, unfortunately, coincided with the Fitzgibbon Cup games. Typical of the man, he chose the less illustrious position and played in the Fitzgibbon Cup games.

KEEPING TO MUNSTER
 Another Munsterman to strengthen the College ranks is Waterford-born Paddy O'Donoghue, of Liam Mellows and Galway County fame. Having graduated in Science, Paddy will also be leaving college.

He is a son of Vincent O'Donoghue who was the ex-President of the G.A.A.

Another player well-known in Galway circles is Eddie Fallon, who has graduated in Arts.

The remaining county player we could boast of, Micky Cullinane of Turloughmore and Galway, who, while not having yet arrived at graduating stage will also be unable to lend his services.

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ENQUIRIES INVITED

Dear Sir,

The G.A.A. can be proud that in Michael O'Hehir they have a Radio Commentator who can do full justice to our great national games.

But somebody should tell Michael to cut out the boring repetitious greetings, which he broadcast over a world-wide radio network at half-time during the finals.

Instead, let us have a summing up of the first half, or better still, let us hear the music of those wonderful Artane lads, which was always a half-time feature on All-Ireland day.

L. THOMPSON,

Cork.

Dear Sir,

Since the All-Ireland final the critics have extolled, ad nauseam, the football virtues of the Galwegian Sean Purcell, in describing him as "the outstanding centre-forward of our time."

While giving all credit to Sean on a great All-Ireland display let it go on record that the greatest centre-forward of our generation is still the one and only O'ly Freaney of Atha Cliath.

The Dublin master tactician pioneered the scientific pivotal style of play that has won praise for Purcell, and, indeed, full marks to the Tuam star for modelling his game on the style of the brainy O'ly.

But I do say that the critics never give a "fair do" to the great Dublin sportsman.

OLLY FAN,

Dublin.

WHAT'S YOUR VIEW?

Dear Sir,

I wish to use your great paper to publicly thank the GAA authorities for their courage and unselfishness in postponing the All-Irelands on account of the polio epidemic then raging in Cork.

This noble act may have caused considerable inconvenience and financial loss but it showed how deeply concerned the leaders of the GAA were for the health of our people.

That magnificent gesture in a time of crisis won for the GAA the thanks of Dublin city and the admiration of the country.

GRATEFUL DUBLIN FATHER.

Dear Sir,

Please allow me, a neutral Meathman, to pay tribute in your very popular Gaelic sports paper to the young sports of Leitrim, who put up such a creditable performance against odds on favourites Dublin in the minor All-Ireland final.

The city "prima Donnas" had everything in their favour, including a home ground advantage and a highly partisan and vociferous following.

The Dublin forwards' insatiable appetite for scores in the second half, when they had the game well and truly sewn up, only served to break the hearts of the gallant Leitrim lads.

Just what were the "glamour boys" trying to prove?

I noticed, too, how unkindly the Dublin team accepted the referee's decisions, who, in my opinion, was far too lenient with the Dublin tactics.

A special bouquet to the boys from the bogs and the boreens, glorious in defeat, for giving such an object lesson in sportsmanship.

PLAY THE GAME.

Dear Sir,

The modern snobbish practice of designating a player's rank or professional status is a manifestation of a class consciousness repugnant to the ideals of the Gaelic Athletic Association.

As a "commoner garden five eight" of our great democratic association I appeal to the "powers that be", through the medium of your widely read paper, to cut out this obnoxious and retrograde practice.

When I buy a programme I pay my money to find out the name, number and placing of a player not to learn if he is a T.D., Doctor, Army Captain or Docker.

Why must we ape the Rugby Union in this matter?

DEMOCRAT.

Dear Sir,

First, I would like to take this opportunity of congratulating you on producing each month such an excellent Gaelic sports paper.

Having had the good fortune to have seen the majority of the big games in a memorable GAA year, I have no hesitation in saying that, while Christy Ring is still the "Daddy of them all" in hurling, my star of stars is Galway's Frank Stockwell.

By the way, I was delighted to see the suspension on that grand little player Des Ferguson lifted, who, from what I saw, got such a raw deal that day in Carlow.

TUAM GAEL.

Leagues Promise Stirring Games

By DES KEEGAN

WITH the championships over, our thoughts now turn to the National Leagues which, this year, bring with them a trip to America for the winners. With such a prize dangling before them, this competition should provide stirring games over the early winter and spring months.

The Lagan Cup which, of course, is Division I, looks like ending in a close finish with Ulster champions, Tyrone and Derry, providing the opposition. The rivalry between the two counties has gained in intensity over the past few seasons, but I think Tyrone will add to their Ulster championship success by qualifying.

Cavan will be attempting to win their way back to the limelight, but they will have strong opposition in Division II, from such as Meath, Mayo and possibly Sligo.

If Mayo could recapture their form of last year they would undoubtedly win out here, but replacements have not been up to the standard and performances have been more than disappointing.

Sligo, too, after promising much, disappointed and one feels that it will be some time yet before their undoubted talent is developed to the required level.

That leaves old rivals, Meath and Cavan. Both are capable of big things, and if the Breffni men can find one or two players to bolster their fortunes at midfield and defence, they should prevail.

GREAT STRUGGLE

Div. IV. should provide another titanic struggle between a Kerry out for revenge for their Munster final defeat and Cork, who will be anxious to confirm that win. Cork's All-Ireland final defeat, notwithstanding, I think they will again account for the Kingdom.

On the hurling front, Wexford will have "hot" competition in Div. I, from Cork and Kilkenny, but here again I believe championship form will prevail and the Slaneysiders will thus emerge to meet Tipperary, who, despite the presence of Galway and Clare, still look too well equipped in Div. II.

Although it is still early for such predictions, one feels that the promise of a trip across the Atlantic will bring out the best in the competing sides this year.

That being the case, I take Tyrone, Cavan, Galway and Cork to qualify for the semi-finals of the National Football League, while it seems almost certain that Wexford will find themselves opposed to Tipperary in the hurling decider.

WICKLOW SENIOR FOOTBALL FINAL

St. Patrick's have once more reached the final of the Wicklow Senior Football final. Ballincor (South Winners) play the winners of the West District for the right to meet last year's champions in the final. Present Co. Secretary George Nichol's in his first year of office has had a busy year, but the manner in which he has carried through his difficult task has earned the plaudits of all Wicklow gaelic.

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Dear Sir,

Please grant me a little space in your admirable "Gaelic Echo" to protest against the so called "ground combinative" style of football, which has become all too fashionable in recent years.

This alien influence on our native game is anathema to our football heritage.

In my time, when men were men, our gaelic heroes strove for the sky and, unlike the disciples of the modern cult, were not afraid to give, or take, an honest-to-goodness shoulder charge.

OLD TIMER.

Handball Affairs

By Ballplay

FOUR teams now remain in the Baltinglass handball tournament, St. Mary's (Saggart) Clonmore (1956 Carlow Champions), Round Towers (Kildare) and Ballymore-Eustace (Kildare Semi-Finalists) Draw is: Ballymore-Eustace v Clonmore; Round Towers v St. Mary's. The winners receive valuable wrist watches.

Wicklow gave several Irish Champions to the game in the years gone by, notably M. O'Neill and L. Sherry, of Bray, while this season, its representatives in the inter-county series, though failing to take a title, gave many fine displays.

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