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VOL. 6. No. 5.

MAY, 1957.

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**TIPPERARY MAY WIN
A TRIP**

By SEAN P. FLYNN

TIPPERARY OR KILKENNY FOR THE NATIONAL HURLING LEAGUE TITLE? THIS IS THE QUESTION THAT HAS SET ALL GAELDOM A-GUESSING AND RAISED MORE THAN USUAL INTEREST THROUGHOUT THE LENGTH AND BREADTH OF IRELAND.

The winners earn the right of an American trip, to play in the St. Brendan Cup final, next October. This thought alone should be incentive enough for the two teams to serve up a tremendously exciting game.

At the time of writing, the line-outs have not been announced, but I expect there will be very few changes from the teams which did duty against Clare and Waterford respectively.

I thought Tipperary showed a very welcome return to top form when they disposed of a very strong Clare challenge some weeks ago.

Their forwards were particularly impressive, shooting with surprising accuracy and wasting very little time with fancy hurling.

Paddy Kenny, in the corner, surely one of the cleverest forwards in the game, is a menace to any defence, and may prove too much of a handful for Kilkenny's Walsh.

In the other corner, Larry Keane is always on the alert for the slightest chance; his snap goals have often pulled the game out of the fire for Tipp. on more than a few occasions. At centre-forward, Phil Shanahan really hit the high spots against Clare, he should have a rare set-to with John Sutton. This may be one of the highlights of the game.

So much for the Tipp. forwards, what of their backs and centre-field?

Mickey Byrne, Michael Maher and John Doyle are a dour-tackling trio, from whom very few soft scores can be expected. Their experience, coupled with their tenacity, should give goalkeeper



St. Finbarrs, Cork, who defeated St. Vincents, Dublin, 3-10 to 2-5 in the Cork Churches Building Fund Tournament at Cork recently.

"Blackie" Keane all the confidence he may need.

The half-line, consisting of Jimmy Finn, Pat Stakelum and Tony Wall, shows very little weakness and should be able to supply their forwards with plenty of the ball.

At centre-field, Ryan and O'Meara should more than break even with their Kilkenny counterparts. This section may well be the deciding factor of the match; superiority here for Tipperary would put them well on the road to victory.

Kilkenny will start favourites. Their recent victories have been most impressive, particularly their crushing defeat of an up-and-coming Waterford fifteen.

In goal, Ollie Walsh, although inclined to be too spectacular, can be relied upon to make his customary amazing saves.

Paddy Buggy, Johnny McGovern and Jim Walsh form the nucleus of a very strong back division. It will be interesting to see how they fare against the quick-striking Tipp. forwards.

Against Waterford Mick Kenny was in devastating form; how will he fare against Pat Stakelum? I doubt that he'll be allowed the same scope. An upset there could take quite a lot of the sting from the Leinster side's attack.

In a final summing-up, if Ryan can reproduce his recent form at centre-field, and receives his usual able assistance from O'Meara, I look to the Munstermen to gain the laurels by a very narrow margin.

* * *

At the 73rd annual general meeting of Thurles G.A.A. Club, the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Thomas Barrett, reported that during the past year the number of games in which the club participated constituted a record.

Last season Sarsfields again proved themselves to be the leading hurling club in the country. Their most notable achievement was winning of the Co. Tipperary senior, junior and minor hurling championships.

Officers: President, Mr. William Leahy; Chairman, Very Rev. C. Lee; Secretary, Mr. Tom Barrett; Treasurer, Mr. Jim Maher.

The Gilligan Memorial hurling final which was played in Kenny Park, Athenry on Sunday, March 31st, between Turloughmore (County champions) and Castlegar, ended in a draw. This was a real, good game of fast hurling, so the final should be worth seeing.

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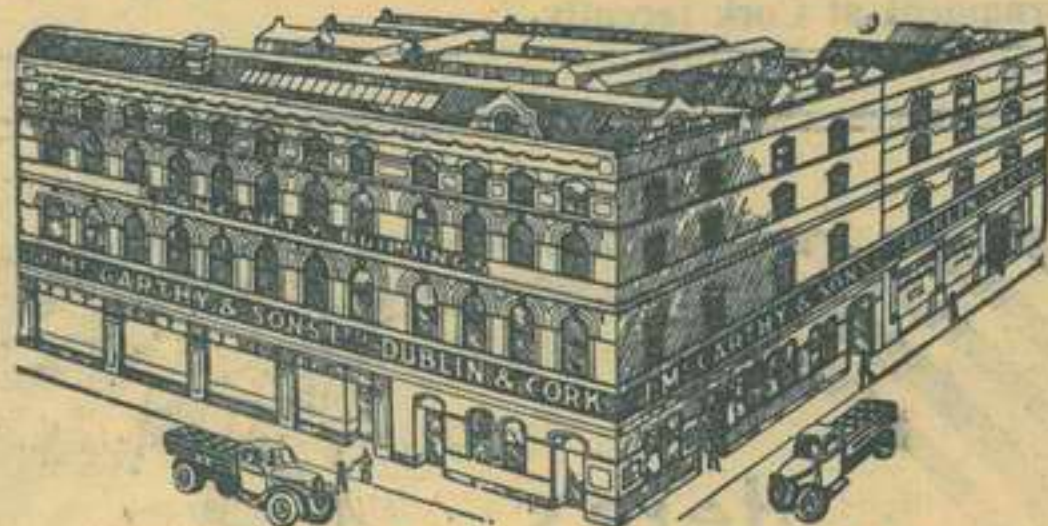
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**BIG QUESTION FOR
COMMITTEE**

TO spend or not to spend a £500 grant from the Connacht Council is the big question for the St. Coman (Roscommon) Park Committee. The pitch, scene of many a thrilling Connacht final since its opening in 1936, has been under four to nine inches of water since November last, due, it is thought, to the collapse of the underground drains. The committee has decided not to spend any of the grant until it has received the report of the engineer on the probable cause of the flooding.

The members of the committee are to be congratulated on their practical, commonsense approach to the problem—if the report does not hold out a more-than-average hope of a successful operation, the grant will not be availed of.

**GREAT CARLOW
HURLER**

CARLOW hurling followers may well be thankful that the Barrow flows between Tinnehinch and Graignamanagh because if it did not they might not now be able to call on the services of Billy Walsh, a young man who should go far up the hurling ladder.

Is the first round of the Junior Championship against Wicklow he was the man of the match scoring one goal and five points.

Its not the first time for Billy to hit the headlines, because in his student days at Knockbeg College he was on both hurling and football teams and was captain of one of them when Knockbeg won the coveted Colleges double some years ago.

**TIPPERARY
PARS**

(BY "PREMIER")

BIGGEST upset of the year in Tipperary G.A.A. circles was Old Bridge's sensational victory over neighbours, Clonmel Commercial, in the Tipperarymen's Cup football competition.

Commercial, who won out the 1956 county senior football championship, were regarded as certainties for this game, and scarcely the most ardent Old Bridge supporter could have entertained hopes of toppling the champions.

The better team won on the day's play, but the Clonmel side were caught rather unawares and over-confidence may have been the cause of their downfall.

Last year Commercial had one of their best seasons ever, and along with winning the county championship also won the Tipperarymen's Cup. In this their Silver Jubilee year, despite this set-back, they hope to win even further honours.

Officers: President, Mr. John Condon, T.C.; Vice-President, Mr. Sam King; Chairman, Mr. George Pyke; Vice-Chairman, Mr. Harry McGrath; Secretary, Mr. Willie Fitzgerald; Treasurer, Mr. Michael Donnelly.

* * *

Killusty (South) recently won out the Co. Tipperary junior football championship of 1956 by defeating Boherlahan (Mid) in the final at Thurles. Veteran of the Killusty side was full-back Mick Byrne who has been playing football for 27 years.

* * *

Sean Cleary, captain of the Clonmel Commercial's senior football team is one of the country's best known referees and had charge of the whistle in last year's Munster football final between Cork and Kerry. A Tipperary inter-county footballer, he is also a former Irish long jump champion.

* * *

The following is the draw for the Mid-Tipperary senior hurling championship which will shortly be in full swing: Boherlahan v. Eire Og; Moycarkey-Borris v. Holycross; Thurles Sarsfields (holders) a bye. First semi-final: Thurles Sarsfields v. Boherlahan or Eire Og. Second semi-final: Moycarkey-Borris or Holycross v winners of losers group.



Tipperary right full, M. Byrne, looks on approvingly as his goalkeeper, M. Keane, brings off a good save during the N.H. League match at Thurles recently.

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Clare Gaels Have

Confidence

(BY SEAN O'NEILL).

FOR the first time in eight years Clare Gaels are looking forward to a Munster football championship with an air of confidence and hope. At last after years of utter oblivion it is felt that this year they are going to shake off that hoodoo which has surrounded them since that day in Ennis in 1949 when they surprised Kerry with a five point win.

Three weeks later they lost to Cork in the Munster final and since then Clare have never survived the first round.

Main reason for this air of expectancy in the Banner County is the improvement of the team in each outing over the past two years and then the fine display against Kerry in the National football League division decider, when Clare held the issue in doubt until the last ten minutes of the game.

It was in 1952 that the first ray of hope seemed to shine for Clare football, when in that year the County minor selection defeated Kerry and reached the Munster final.

The following year they went two steps further and reached the All-Ireland minor final and it is to these young men of '52 and '53 that Claremen are now entrusting their hopes.

This Clare team, as one would expect, is young, the average age is just over twenty two.

In goal Cyril Jones of Miltown-Malbaw, although only twenty, has proved that he possesses all the attributes of a great net minder.

Covering him is a capable trio in Cotter, Guthrie and Connell. Cotter, 26-year-old veteran of the team has been selected for Munster on a number of occasions. Guthrie, formerly of Lisdoonvarna has made a name for himself in the Metropolis playing with O'Tooles and the dashing Senan Connell, star of Clare's 1952 minor victory over Kerry, has, during the past two years shown great form in Dublin and Clare.

At centre half-back, Martin Queally is giving his county as efficient a service as he gave St. Patrick's Training College in last year's Dublin Championships and on the wings are James Power of Doonbeg and Francis Meaney of Kilrush.

At centre-field Michael McGrath,

a star of the 1953 minor team and Sean Liddy of Cooraclare, make a high-flying and dashing pair.

Garda Peadar Lynch, formerly of the Dublin Westerns' club and Clare's only representative on this year's Munster selection, leads the attack with Flan Meaney and Tom Murphy completing a speedy half forward line.

Clare's only non-native Garda Tommy Noone is at full forward and many Clare Gaels often feel like sending Commissioner Costigan a personal letter of thanks for giving them the fast moving and high-catching Tommy.

On his right is Vincent Flynn and top of the left is fleet-footed Pat Carey, of Kilrush, whose dashing elusive style is second only to Frank Stockwell himself.

These are the young men in whom the Gaels of the Banner County place their confidence and I understand no expense is to be spared in preparing for the championships.

Practice games with leading Leinster teams and with All-Ireland Champions Galway are already arranged, so just watch out you Kerry and Cork mentors for Cusack's County is on the march.

Jottings

Seamus Healy, Carrick-on-Suir, recently returned to New York after a three months holiday in Carrick. During his holiday Seamus (who is a well-known cyclist) rode with the local cycling club, Carrick Wheelers which he helped to found some years ago and won one major race. In all his other outings he never failed to secure a place.

Theo English, the well-known senior inter-county hurler, is the only member of the Tipperary hurling team to have lined out with this year's county football side. He is a member of the Marlfield Hurling Club, and last season won a county senior football championship medal with Clonmel Commercials

Here and There In Connacht

Biggest surprise in Galway Senior Football League was the 1-8 to 0-4 defeat of Ballinasloe by Ballygar. It was the manner in which the victory was achieved, rather than the score, that has made the "border" team more than hopeful of emulating Clonbur, who took League honours in 1956. Jackie Coyle, of All-Ireland fame, was scorer-in-chief for Ballygar.

* * *

Galway Vocational Schools' football team defeated their Sligo counterparts, 7-1 to 3-4, in the first round of the All-Ireland Vocational Schools' Championship. Sligo were runners-up in this competition a few years ago.

* * *

Work is proceeding rapidly in providing seating accommodation for between 3,000 to 4,000 spectators in Duggan Park, Ballinasloe. The work is expected to be completed in time for the National Relays to be run there on June 2nd. The improvements scheme also includes fully-equipped, modern dressing-rooms, and when the full programme is completed, Galway will have its third up-to-date stadium, capable of housing important G.A.A. fixtures.

* * *

Kinvara Hurling Club have succeeded in getting a playing pitch—a long felt want. Ideally situated between Kinvara and Dooras, it measures about four acres and has been purchased, subject to approval by the Land Commission, from Mr. Peter Curtin, Geata Ban.

* * *

Knockcroghery, Co. Roscommon, cailini have formed a camogie club. Twenty-three turned up for the first trial match and attendance at subsequent practice even greater. To solve an obvious future problem, it has been decided to enter two teams in the forthcoming county championships.

* * *

Undismayed by their defeat by Meath in the League, Leitrim Gaels are building for the future. Trial games for their Junior players are being held in an all-out effort to find the best selection to do duty in this year's championship and to build up a strong reserve of promising talent for the senior side.

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An exciting goalmouth melee during the recent colleges match between Ballyfin and St. Kieran's at Athy.

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CURRACH RACES SOON

— "ORO MO BHAIN" —

PREPARATIONS are almost complete for the National Currach Championships to be held at SALTHILL, Galway, at the end of the month. Last year an estimated 70,000 spectators thronged the spacious promenade to watch the races, while lines of parked cars, bearing the registrations of every county in Ireland, stretched out the BARNÁ road and all that in spite of a stormy, wet week-end!

And what a thrill that vast crowd got as they saw and admired and cheered to the echo, the skill, courage and stamina of the contestants as they handled their frail craft on that wind-swept, turbulent, white-capped, angry sea. Skill was needed to come safely from the yawning troughs between the seven-foot high billows that swept resolutely towards shore; courage was a "must" to face such an angry

By Liam S. O h-Oistin.

sea in those "canvas-covered baskets", as my Dublin friend termed them; stamina—and what stamina—to battle with straining back and heaving breast, tortured muscles and spray-stung eyes against wind and ocean and driving rain! This was no place for weaklings or novices, and that the spectators fully realised this was amply demonstrated by the rousing applause given to all the crews but especially to the magnificent winning team from LEITERMORE, who appeared fresh enough after their flying finish to undergo the same ordeal again.

This is, indeed, the greatest of all days for the GAELTACHT folk who gather there from the far-flung strongholds of the living spoken tongue, to watch their own neighbours and representatives pit their skill and strength and strategy against their counterparts in a game and pastime—the danger only adds spice—that is essentially and necessarily part of the GAELTACHT, where the people still use the CURRACH—this "canvas-covered basket"—in their daily battle to wrest a living from the Atlantic. Here can be heard "teanga binn ar mathar", spoken by the visitors from the Gaelic-speaking districts as it should be, and is spoken—fluently, richly, idiomatically; without reference to grammar-books or difference of dialect. What a living, unrefutable reply to cynics, pedants and diehards.

An interesting entry, this year, is a crew from the U.S.A., in their currach, specially made for them in KERRY. They will not, however, compete in the National Final, but in an especially designed race. The National tests are confined to "home" counties where county championships, under the rules, have decided the county representative. The following counties will be in action: GALWAY (holders), MAYO, DONEGAL, CLARE, KERRY and ARAN (classed as a county). I often wondered at the absence of a CORK team—could it be possible that, at last, a sport has been discovered which holds no attraction for such a great sporting county? A more acceptable explanation may be the distance of CORK'S Gaeltacht areas from the sea.

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Stage Is Set

Says Sean O'Callaghan

THE STAGE IS SET FOR THE NATIONAL LEAGUE FINALS ON MAY 12th (HURLING), IN WHICH TIPPERARY AND KILKENNY ARE THE CONTENDERS, AND ON MAY 26th (FOOTBALL), WHEN GALWAY PLAY KERRY FOR FINAL HONOURS.

All thirty-two counties were concerned in the football competition, the only notable exception being Limerick, who dropped out before the finish without completing their full round of games.

The American trip, which is the main prize for the winners, led to spirited rivalry. One of the great features regarding the League this season was the uprise of counties

One or two positional changes in the team was all that was required, and everything was right, but there were none, and that was how it was.

Everything so far as Tyrone was concerned was different. The type of game, the standard of play and, last but not least, the manner in which the game was controlled.

Tyrone first of all blew up the myth that the Purcell-Stockwell partnership was unbeatable. Stockwell was well and truly blotted out. Purcell, however, had an answer—he did the scoring himself! Only for him there would have been no Galway victory.

One may be pardoned for asking the question: Where did all the frees awarded against Tyrone come from, or what were they for?

Nothing like this happened in the game between Kerry and Cavan, when the frees for the whole game were about half. Yet, the Tyrone-Galway game was contested in a

tion to have this game played at Limerick was to help in financing the Festival of Music and opera to be held in the city next October.

The teams concerned would have paid their own expenses and would have flown into Shannon.

The hurling tournament organised on behalf of the Limerick Diocesan College Building Fund has been abandoned.

This has been brought about by the refusal of the Cork Co. Board to grant permission to Blackrock H.C., Co. champions, to compete, and the withdrawal of Mount Sion, Waterford Co. champions.

The major point at issue is that rugby football, as well as hurling, is played in the present St. Munchin's College.

Six teams, including Limerick title-holders, Cappamore, Kilgarvan, Co. Kerry, were included in the draw.

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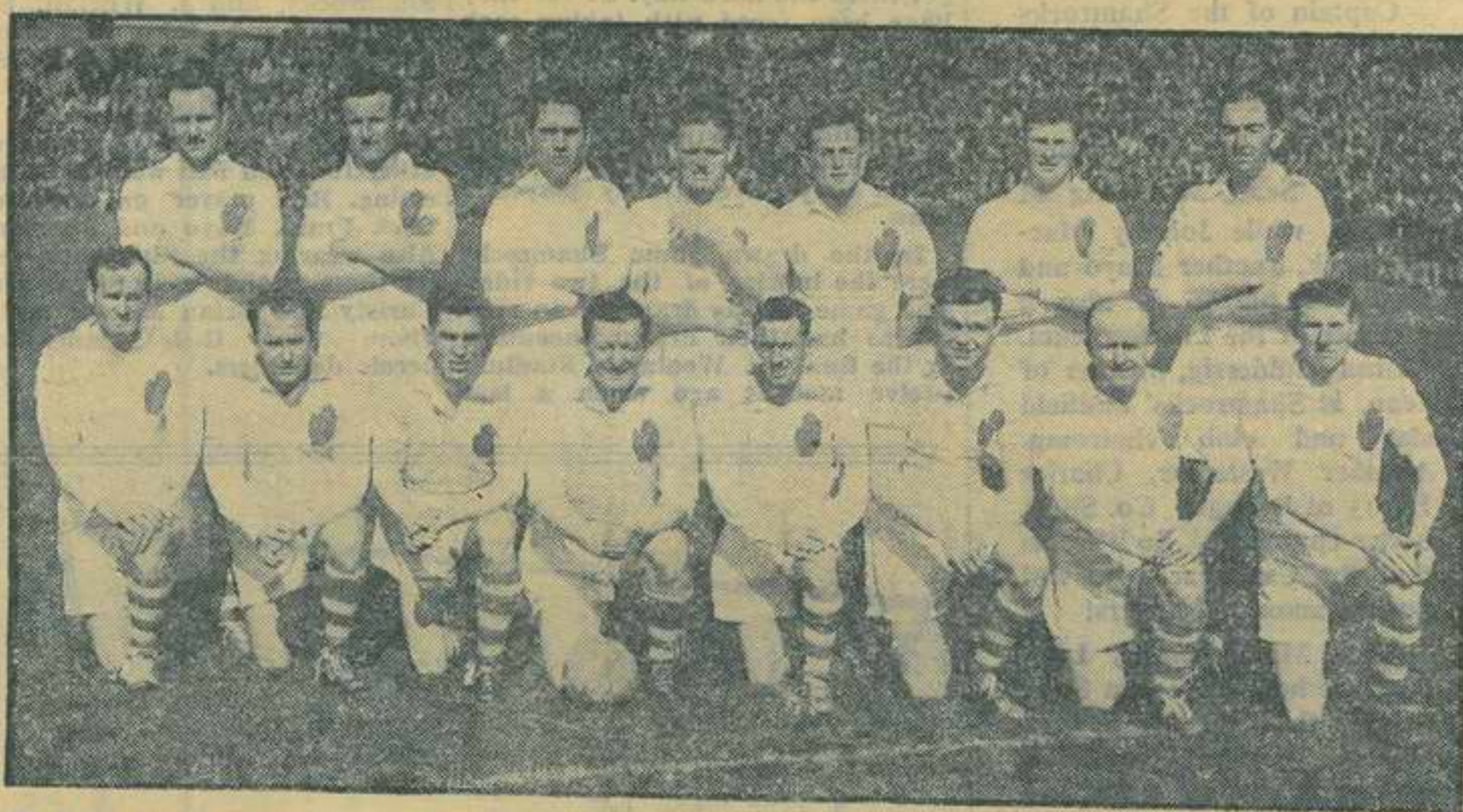
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GALLANT LOSERS . . . The Tyrone football team which put up a great fight against Galway in the National League clash at Croke Park recently.

formerly regarded as being in the lower category.

Leitrim, for instance, was a case in point, but notwithstanding previous disappointments, Leitrim this year rose to great heights in the League and were unlucky losers against Meath in their most vital game at the close of the competition.

A run of success in this competition is a good omen for the future, and there is every reason to look forward to the days ahead when the present fifteen may cause an upheaval and wreck the championship hopes of some of their more fancied neighbours.

There is no cause for any uneasiness in the Leinster Group either. Louth, I should say, did remarkably well.

They finished level with Dublin in their tussle at Drogheda. The spirit in which this game was contested was very poor, and for no valid reason.

Wicklow scraped up well also, and with Meath and Dublin on the fringe of championship class, behind the Section winners, I think the majority of the counties can face up to 1957 championships with plenty of confidence.

Ulster stood two chances of having a team in the final. Cavan won their section and Tyrone did likewise.

Cavan's failure by one point against Kerry in the first semi-final was no disgrace.

They have the remedy in their own hands to make the necessary improvements for the major campaign which lies ahead.

My own opinion about Cavan's failure is that the Cavan mentors were asleep on the side-line. "The Kerry men were wide awake."

sporting manner!

Anyway, Galway won and more luck to them, and so far as Tyrone were concerned, they lived up to their reputation and they had no regrets.

Even if Tyrone had reached the final, Galway would have gone to the United States one way or the other, and that goes for their game against Kerry as well.

The special Congress assured Galway of the trip as champions, but Galway, good sports that they are, want to go as league holders, and I really think they will so as such.

The hurling final between Tipperary and Kilkenny presents a real poser; here again the trip is the main item of concern.

The high scoring totals which both counties achieved against last round rivals are a matter for reflection at a later date. Kilkenny beat Waterford 7 goals 11 points to 1-2, and Tipperary accounted for Clare 5-8 to 3-4.

Both games were played under the worst possible conditions, and the winners made light of these handicaps.

Kilkenny produced a brand of hurling recalling their palmiest days, and Waterford were never in the hunt.

Tipperary, like Kilkenny, are unbeaten in the league, and have assembled a grand team, and so they meet with untarnished records.

The Munster Council made two recent decisions that have caused plenty of discussion.

An application by the Limerick Development Association to stage an exhibition baseball game at Limerick Gaelic grounds between two American Army teams from West Germany was turned down on the plea that the playing of such games on the Gaelic grounds at Limerick was contrary to the articles of the Association.

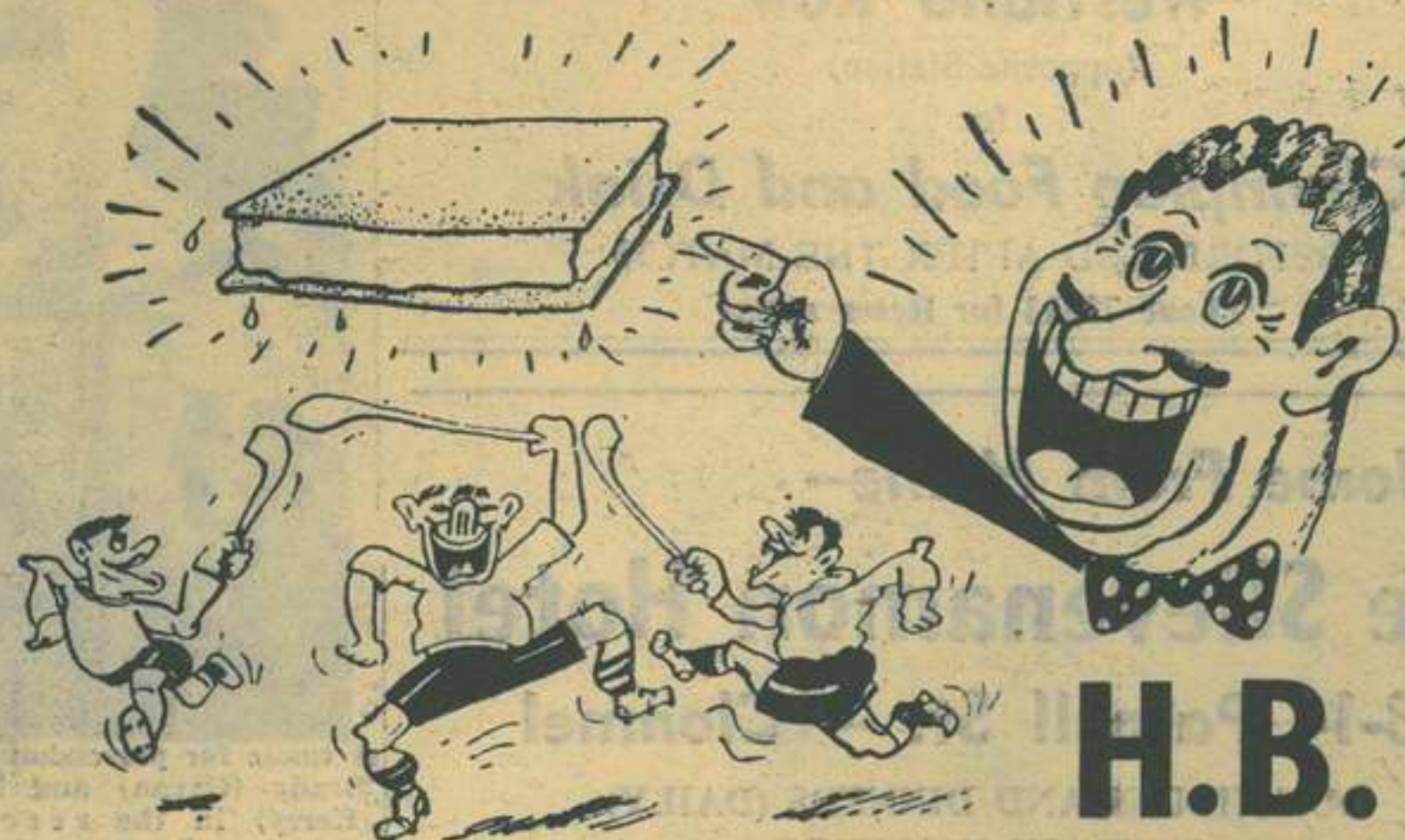
One delegate recalled that an American rugby game was played at Croke Park in aid of charity.

This speaker added that he was of the opinion now that such permission should never have been given. The main purpose of the applica-

Munster Council in the first instance, and as the chairman stated at the time, clubs taking part would require the sanction of their own Co. Boards.

The view was expressed at the meeting that while there was nothing whatever wrong so far as the organisers of the tournament were concerned, they could not be a party to the promotion of foreign games in the college.

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Cross-Channel Invitations

IT is becoming a common-place occurrence for football title-holders in the Western counties to visit England to play challenge or friendly games with the leading teams across the Irish Sea. Tuam stars set the pattern with games in London, and this year Elphin, Roscommon champions, visit Warwickshire, while Castlebar, Mayo title-holders, plan a game with Shamrocks, London., on August holiday.

Captain of the Shamrocks team is Josie Kilbane of Achill; vice-captain is former Mayo All-Ireland sharp-shooter, Sean Mulderrig of Ballina, while Johnny McCormack, another Mayo and Castlebar player, is also a member of the London team. Ciaran Mulderrig, brother of Sean, is Shamrocks' midfield star and club chairman. Another Westerner, Charles Henry of Bellaghy, Co. Sligo, is vice-chairman. So it seems that the Castlebar boys will not be among strangers!

Sean MacDermotts, London, are hosts to Tuam Stars for the third successive year, and the Galway standard-bearers are great favourites with the London Gaels, in spite of the fact that the "Stars" always win. But the result is only a secondary consideration—the social aspect is regarded as being of much more importance, and perhaps they are right!

LIAM S.



A tussle for possession between Phil Brady (Cavan) and Mick Murphy (Kerry) in the recent National League game.

TIPP. FOOTBALLER

Only Tipperary footballer chosen on Munster's Railway Cup football selection was Liam Boland, of Clonmel. Liam was a substitute on the teams which played against Connaught and Leinster. He was a member of the Tipperary minor football team which was defeated by Dublin in the All-Ireland final of 1956.

Rocky Road To Woolwich

By LONBEACON

If St. Monica's footballers are to figure in the Tipperary Cup final at Woolwich Stadium on Whit Monday for the second successive year it would seem they are destined to get there the hard way. So far they have been faced with taking each obstacle twice before qualifying for the semi-final. They have had to defeat Naomh Micheals a second time in the first round before clashing with Shamrocks, the holders, with whom they have already played a draw.

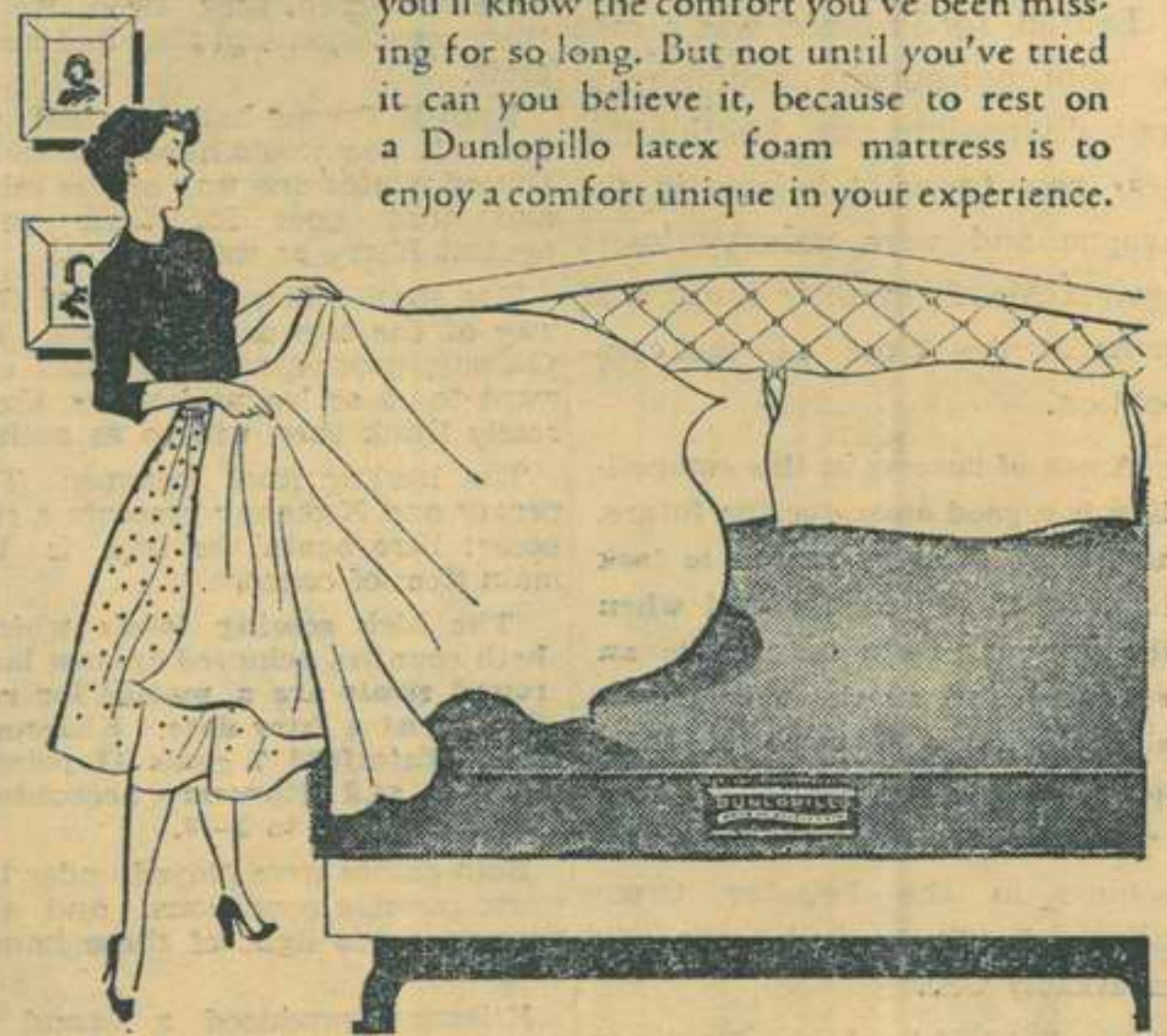
In the drawn game Shamrocks were the luckier of the two sides. The game had as dramatic an ending as had their drawn encounter in the final at Woolwich Stadium twelve months ago when a last

minute Kit Carroll (Wicklow) goal earned his side a replay which they won.

Duels between the Dublin county players at midfield—Des Carroll, Shamrocks; and J. Whelan, Saint Monica's; and John McCormack, Shamrocks; and G. O'Keefe, Saint Monica's the Mayo county pair, who not only found themselves on opposite sides but also opposing each other for each ball were most interesting. Best player on view was Mick Frain, Mayo and Shamrocks. Also wearing the Shamrock jersey for the first time were Sligo's Paddy Christy and Brian Milmoie both of whom were their teams most heroic defenders.

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The Coughlans Of Blackrock

(By P. D. Mehigan)

MANY FAMILY GROUPS ADORN THE RECORDS OF G.A.A. CHAMPIONS DOWN THE YEARS, BOTH IN HURLING AND FOOTBALL; BUT I DOUBT IF ANY GROUP OF BROTHERS WERE SO FORMIDABLE AS THE GREAT COUGHLAN BROTHERS FROM THE SALMON-FISHING VILLAGE OF BLACKROCK TWO MILES BELOW CORK CITY.

One of my earliest introductions to Cork City hurling was through a photograph of the famous "Rockies" team—Cork County champions of the early nineties. That ancient photograph showed the father and five sons playing in the same senior team!

Mr. Coughlan senior had passed so his reward when I joined the Blackrock Hurling club in 1904; but I had the pleasure of knowing all five sons and I played on the same senior teams as three of them. All were magnificent hurlers!

The Coughlan (pronounced Caalon in Cork) family were skilled salmon fishers in the Lee estuary, owing several (five or six ear) boats specially built for river work.

They lived in frugal comfort; they were quiet, orderly men who led peaceful and industrious lives. They were held in high respect in their native village—upright, high-principled, honest men.

Early in the G.A.A. history, the fame of the Coughlan's of Blackrock had spread from Mizen Head to Innishowen and form the Skelligs Rocks to Ben Eadar.

The eldest brother, Patrick ("Parson") Coughlan had retired from hurling when I came on the scene as a youth of 19. He was generally acknowledged as the greatest defender of his period.

When Redmonds were champions of Cork in 1892, Pat and Denis Coughlan were on the side that won the All-Ireland championship of that year.

This was a vintage period for Cork hurling and the Coughlan brothers played a great part in the winning of three All-Ireland championships in a row—1892, 1893 and 1894, just before the great sides

from Limerick (Kilfinane) and Tubberadora (County Tipperary) loomed up. Blackrock as county champions selected the teams in 1893 and 1894.

The five Coughlan brothers: Pat, Denis, Jerh., Dan and Tom were all well-built stalwart men. Pat was 5ft. 11ins. and a master of strategy. A strong, fearless man, he revelled in the close hard clashes of his period.

All five were well-behaved even in most exciting circumstances. Denis Coughlan stood over six feet tall—a magnificent figure of a man when training with Redmonds in the open Park (Cork) for the All-Ireland final of 1892.

Denis Coughlan, meekest of men, happened accidentally to hit a colleague and friend at a vital part behind his ear when both pulled on a falling ball. The injury proved fatal.

Denis ("Lyonsie") Coughlan took it to heart so seriously that he pined away and died shortly afterwards. Old hurling critics told me in my younger days that Denis Coughlan was the greatest hurler of the lot.

Big Dan Coughlan, the third of the famous brothers, was one of the finest wing full backs I have ever seen play. He was 6ft 1ins. tall and carried a huge chest and shoulders. His strength was immense yet he depended almost entirely on skilled ball-play.

In a championship match in Johnny Butler's at Turner's Cross, Cork, I saw Dan Coughlan lift a ball on his own line; the wind and fall were with him and he let fly—that ball hopped over the far line 140 yards away!

When salmon fishing declined on the Lee estuary, Dan Coughlan emigrated at the height of his hurling career.

Next I remember was "big Jerh" another quiet and what is known as a harmless man. Jeremiah stood 6ft. 1ins. in height. He did not hurl a lot in his young days, but when pressed into action with the Blackrock senior team, he made a fine hard-hitting centre forward—another stalwart hurler.

Youngest of the lot was Tom Coughlan who captained Blackrock during some of their most successful years early in the century.

Tom, known to all and sundry as "Honest Man" was a beautifully built man of about 5ft 10ins. and weighing close to 13 stone in his hurling togs. He usually played at centre back and there was tremendous relief in his pucks. Like all his brothers Tom Coughlan was a masterly hurler.

He was one of three Blackrock men selected by Dungourney when they went on to win the All-Ireland final of 1902 and he figured prominently at centre back on a great Blackrock side which won the All-Ireland final of 1903—one of the finest hurling sides that ever adorned the game.

Patrick Coughlan's sons, Eugene and John, grew to be very able hurlers. Eugene was perhaps the greatest winger that Cork county has ever sent out; he captained the famous 1931 Cork side that defeated Kilkenny in an epic final after two draws.

He won four championship finals and was never out of a Cork selection whilst he was playing. John Coughlan made his name as a goal-keeper and was in Cork's winning teams of 1926 and 1931.

Tom Coughlan's sons were also fine hurlers—one of them, before his ordination as a Capuchin showed wonderful skill.

Many groups of hurling brothers have appeared in the club and county ranks of the G.A.A. and I hope to recount their records in these columns.

But the five Coughlans made their mark on hurling history in a formative period of the game's development.

They were magnificent physical men and all were master hurlers. Better still, they were sober, high-principled men, honest and hard-working; they were spoken of by clergymen and laymen, as an example to the young men of what good Christian Irishmen should be.

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New Wexford Hotel Is Wonderful

(GAELIC ECHO STAFF REPORTER)

FOR SEVERAL YEARS THE TALBOT HOTEL, WEXFORD, HAS BEEN FAMOUS FOR ITS SERVICE, GOOD FOOD AND MATCHLESS POSITION. THESE FACTORS PLUS THE PROGRESSIVE MANAGERIAL POLICY FOLLOWED BY THE OWNERS, MESSRS. J. J. STAFFORD & SONS, LTD., HAVE MADE IT A GEM AMONG SOUTH-EAST COAST HOTELS.

Established over a quarter of a century the Talbot Hotel is a first-class tourist hotel in season and a favourite commercial centre patronised all the year round by travellers from all over the country.

Continual improvements would seem to be the motto of the Talbot Hotel and each Spring sees a fresh

advance as the management look to it that part of the hotel is redecorated each year.

COMPLETELY REMODELLED

Large scale renovations were undertaken this year and visitors will now find the interior completely remodelled and a new first floor wing built on to extend over the neighbouring Talbot Garage.

Of special interest is the new Festival Lounge, favourite meeting place for visitors to the Wexford

Festival. This lounge is beautifully furnished and opens on to a water-garden. Two large bay windows are draped in heavy red curtains which contrast with the mushroom walls and cream ceiling. Banqueting room is provided for 200 people.

Commercial travellers are specially catered for by a private sitting room and a commercial room comfortably decorated in oak tones. Built in combination desks and comfortable armchairs make this room a delight for travelling representatives.



The attractively-designed entrance hall and reception desk in the Talbot Hotel.

(Photo by courtesy Independent Newspapers Ltd.)

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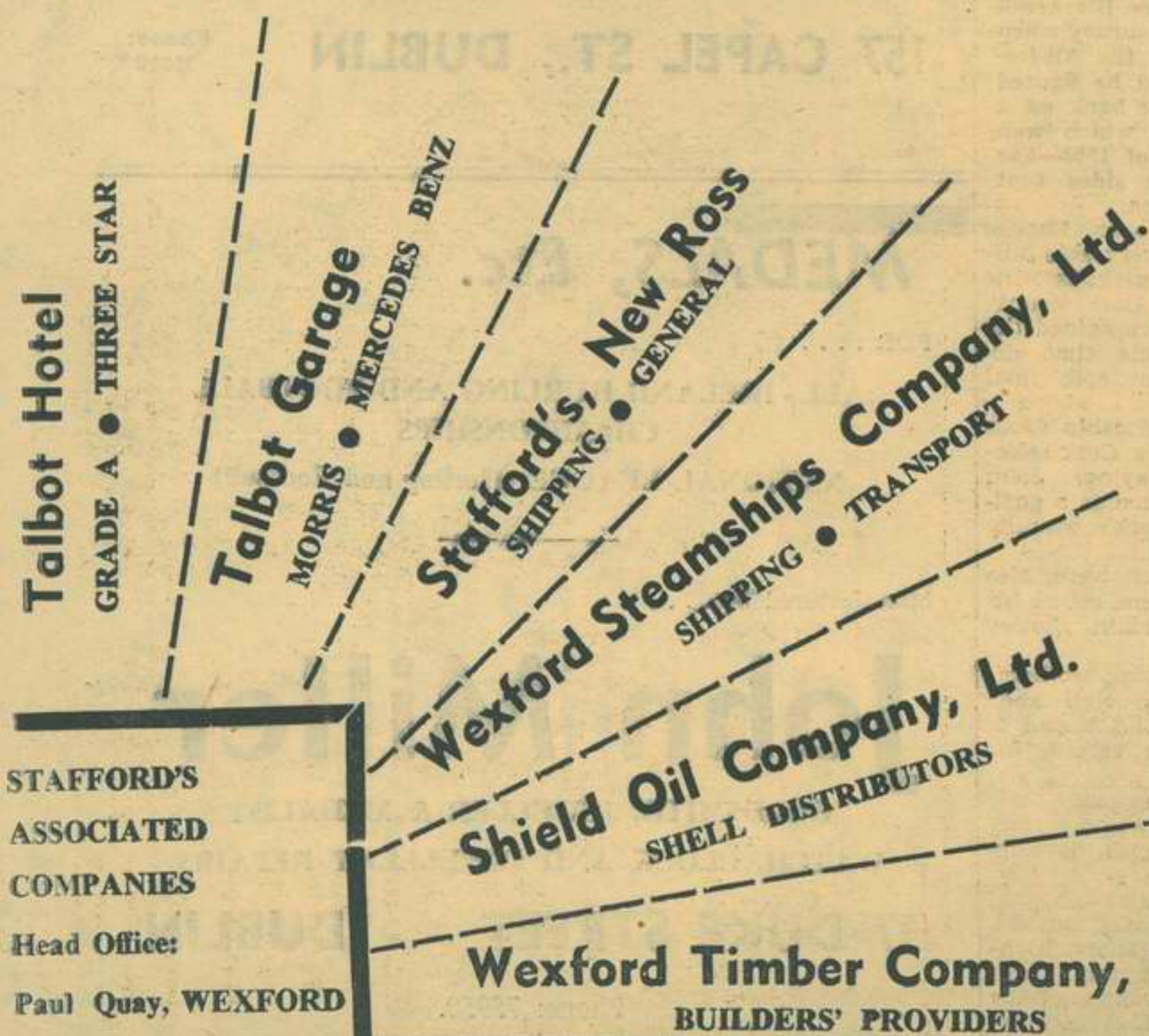
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WAKE UP AND START LIVING!

In a hard hitting article "Plowman" criticises the conservative attitude of some farmers and says—

"WE don't want our way of life upset. We are doing all right as we are." How often do we hear the cry when some new plan for the improvement of farming is produced? It simply means that we don't want to do anything to improve our methods or techniques and we certainly don't welcome any system which entails a little more work.

It is particularly maddening to find this excuse in use in Irish farming circles, for it carries with it the suggestion that things are all right, that there is no need for doing any more than is already being done.

In fact, the word "life" in this context for too many of our people living on the land is out of place, and should be ousted by the word "existence". For that is what very many of our people in the poorer districts have.

POOR REWARD

They work hard, they make a little money; they work harder and make a little more, but any day is too short, and any life is too short for them to make a decent living by the methods they use.

They have accepted this state of affairs for generations; they have grown up steeped in a resignation, an apathy, an acceptance that is the poison of ambition.

Nobody wants them to try to make big fortunes from their land; no-

body suggests that it could be done, but it is suggested that by thinking, by reading, by listening, they will learn that they could really live.

By "live" is meant more than keeping healthy in body. It means keeping that, plus an interest in social affairs, an interest in culture, in government, in progress, in amusement, in art or music or both.

If this sounds too high-flown for the Irish farmer it is because the whole nation has accepted for too long the idea that the farmer should be a 'hick', a 'clod-hopper', something barely living, less than a real man and little more than a beast.

This acceptance would be understandable if it had never been proved that things could be very much otherwise. In almost any job, the man who is efficient is the man with most leisure.

He is on top of the job. He gets his work done systematically, according to the latest ideas, gets the best results from it, and

thereby earns the most money.

The farmer is in a peculiar position vis-a-vis any other profession. He has the most complicated kind of job, he has the greatest scope for flexible working, he has only himself to drive him, and he has as much assistance at his hand as any man could wish.

There is no shortage of knowledge about how to farm properly. The newspapers, specialist magazines, the radio, all of these give him information regularly in floods.

He has the advisory services, manned by specially trained men, at his elbow. If he has not in his head the canker of conservatism and of apathy, he can do things for himself that are not possible for many men in other jobs.

Yet all too few are doing them. True, the demand for advisers is growing, but do the farmers who ask for advice always take it?

The demand for a T.B. eradication scheme is so vocal that anybody would be justified in thinking that there is hardly a farmer in the country who wouldn't avail of it.

Yet we have counties with as low as 5 per cent. of their herds being tested. And this at a time when the market for untested cattle is shrinking almost daily in Britain.

The "way of life" is too often a way of death. Deserted farms of an area like North Leitrim demonstrate the truth of this.

Progressive men find themselves stymied by the fact that neglected neighbouring farms are growing weeds that re-infest clean fields. They find it difficult to keep sheep because neighbouring deserted farms have fences not worthy of the name.

We have some good catch

EYESPOT LIKES COLD WEATHER

By Our Agricultural Reporter
EYESPOT is one of the fungus diseases that attack corn crops, and it is encouraged by having a too thick stand of corn or by a heavy growth of weeds around the base of the crop.

This condition means that the amount of moisture in the air at the bases of the corn stalks is very high, which is the ideal breeding ground for fungus of any sort.

Apparently, the eyespot infestation is also related to cold weather at the end of April and early May. It caused considerable losses of corn in 1955, but was negligible in 1956, but might easily become a nuisance this year.

The aim of preventive measures is to avoid the moisture-laden atmosphere and the ground level of the growing crop, which can be done by a harrowing at the right time, or by killing weeds off with a suitable spray.

Good control of this trouble is given by spraying with sulphuric acid sprays.

phrases that the farmers might put in place of "way of life" and until we begin to see that instead of actually being a way of life, farming is the Open Sesame" to a way of really living, progress in many parts will be slow.

Ewes For Selling

SHEEP have been selling well during the past winter, with a good demand for mutton, and many of the early lambs produced during late winter and early spring have come on the market.

If the market continues good, farmers should aim at getting lambs weaned early so that ewes not intended to remain on for breeding, can be marketed in good condition after shearing before prices drop.

There is usually a drop in sheep prices in June and July, and if ewes are kept suckling their lambs too long they will not have a chance to make flesh enough to catch the early trade before the seasonal drop occurs.

If the ewes are sold off early they leave grass, which will grow on for other purposes and be worth more.

DON'T OVERWORK THE COW!

THE mating of cows should not be the haphazard affair that most of us are inclined to think it, as it is governed by factors over which the farmer can have some control, writes "Plowman."

For instance, lack of phosphorus in the diet will cause infertility, and this can be cured by feeding with meat and bone meal, or by applying phosphatic manures to the land.

One rule about mating cows should be followed: Never mate a cow on the first heat if this comes less than six weeks after calving. It is better still to leave nine to twelve weeks between calving and the next mating.

If the cow is brought to the bull or given an insemination too soon after calving, she may not have returned to normal and is likely to miss.

The mating time is often governed by the milk policy of the farmer, but the bull or A.I. should not be blamed when a cow mated too soon after calving does not come in calf.

In tests, the highest conception rate to first inseminations—72.2%—was obtained with cows which had been rested for 120 to 150 days after calving.

At the other end of the scale a rate of only 48.9% was obtained with cows rested for 30 days.

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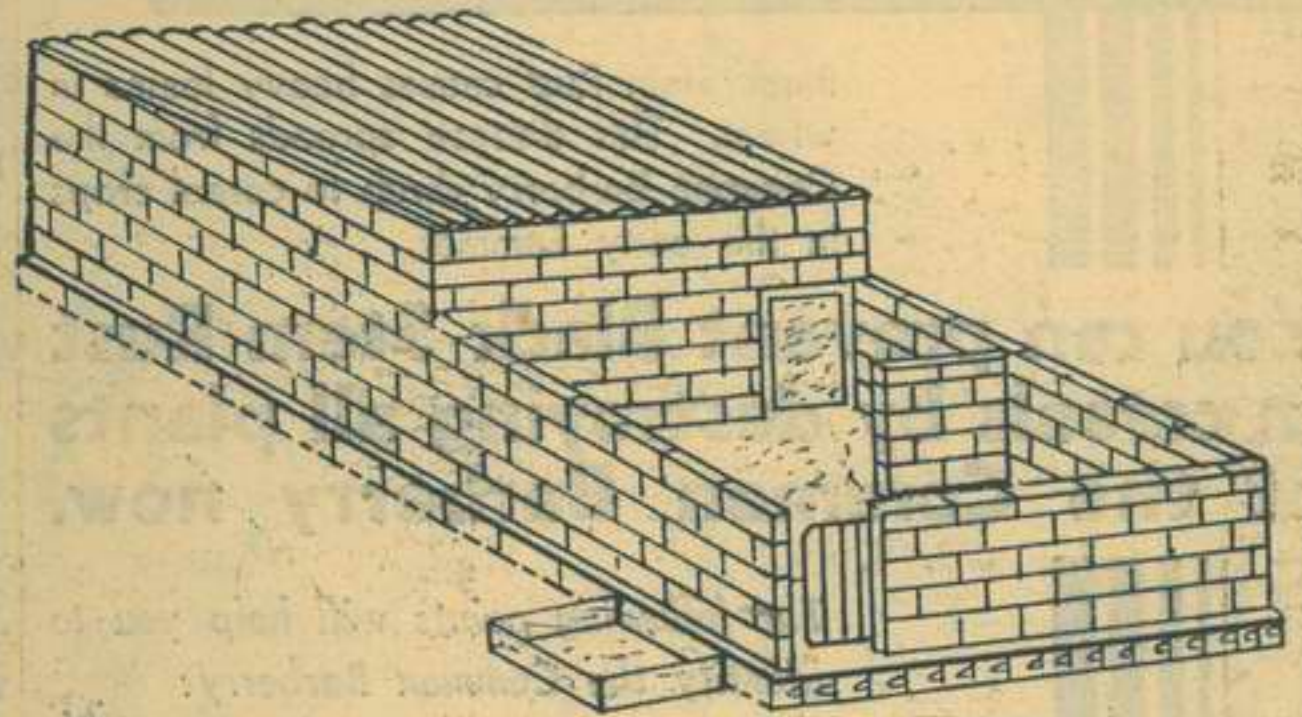
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The following points will help you to identify the Common Barberry:

- Leaves have spiny edges and branches have thorns arranged in groups of three.
- Outer bark is grey; inner bark is bright yellow.
- If unchecked, the plant grows into a large bush, 10 feet or so in height, and produces bunches of long, bright red berries in the Autumn. It loses its leaves in Winter.

If you have any difficulty in distinguishing Common Barberry (*Berberis Vulgaris*) from harmless ornamental species of Barberry ask your Agricultural Instructor or Parish Agent to help you.

*BARBRÓS AŽUS BREASAL-ÓÁ NÍ
A ŠABANN le céile*

SPRING SHOW'S MESSAGE TO FARMERS

(Gaelic Echo Staff Reporter)

THE ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY'S SPRING SHOW REPRESENTS THE MECCA OF EVERY LIVESTOCK BREEDER IN THE COUNTRY, AT LEAST A MECCA WITHIN THE HOME SHORES. SOME OF THEM NOURISH THE AMBITION TO WIN AT THE ROYAL SHOW IN BRITAIN AGAINST THE CREAM OF THE MOST FAMOUS HERDS IN THE WORLD.

Because of this position held by the R.D.S. Spring Show, it may be valuable to examine a few points about this annual event.

One of the things that critics of our livestock always remark upon at our big shows is that every class in the livestock exhibits has too long a "tail."

In other words, there are always numbers of animals who deserve to be brought to our premier Irish show, but perhaps more than half of the total number come without any hope whatever of winning a prize.

The chance of winning is the only justification for the expense of entering the show, although many breeders will want to sell their animals at the R.D.S. and can only do so by entering them in the classes.

They are not likely to get much, if any, more for them that way than if they sold them privately or at special breed sales.

By keeping these unworthy animals out of the Spring Show, and indeed the March Bull Show, breeders could ensure that only the cream of our stock would be seen at Ballsbridge.

This would be important from the point of view of impressing visiting breeders and others likely to buy some of our animals or their progeny later on.

Shows and sales act as shop windows for our stock, and it is a foolish trader who puts his poor goods in the window with the best, where the poor will look even poorer than they actually are.

Last year American buyers came here to buy Aberdeen Angus breeding stock because they had been impressed by the quality of the blue-grey and black store cattle seen in the big English markets, which had come from this country. There are eyes watching all the time, and we should remember that.

SEEING THE SHOW

The best can only be got out of the Spring Show, or any other of the same dimensions, if the visitor plans his visit. With the catalogue in his hand he can decide to concentrate on those sections which interest him most.

The breeder will, of course, be leaning on the railings of the rings, whether he has an animal entered or not, so that he can see how the different blood lines and the skill of the owners in showing them, are doing under the judges' eyes.

Many men spend the whole of the judging time without moving from the one spot, much to the discomfort and annoyance of their families, who expect to be trotted around the grounds and shown things.

Nowadays the farmer finds a far wider interest in the show than he did a generation or so ago. His mode of life has come closer to that of the town-dweller, with home comforts, modern amenities, motor cars, tractors and all the other items of machinery and equipment that have crowded the market in recent times.

However, it often seems that farmers visiting the show, particularly

younger farmers, tend to concentrate on the machinery paddock to the exclusion of other things which would be just as instructive.

A time spent listening to the judges' remarks after the award of breed prizes would be well worth while. It is not often that a farmer gets the chance to hear an expert explain the points of high-class stock, and it ought not to be missed.

For a young fellow trying to learn the points of pedigree stock, there is nothing like seeing the animals at close quarters.

He often sees Major So-and-so's first prize animal in the paddock near the owner's house at home, but that may be a field away from the road, and he would need binoculars to pick out the finer points.

After the prizes have been awarded the rosettes are usually hung on the winners' stalls, so they can be visited individually.

The proud owner may even be in attendance, and he will be ready to talk, as a rule, about the animal, its breeding and how he brought it on.

The only thing, there is often some reticence about its feeding, but that is more in fat stock shows than ordinary ones.

The highest concentration of interest for farmers is usually in the Department of Agriculture stand, and this year the new space beside the Simonscourt road has been taken over by some of the Department's exhibits, along with those of the Electricity Supply Board.

Any really interested farmer or far-

mer's son can spend hours on these two exhibits with considerable profit to himself.

This year they will have a number of live animals in them, illustrating various points about stock-raising, nutrition and disease.

Last year one of the most useful exhibits was the pens of cattle and pigs showing the benefits of proper feeding and dosing for parasites, but it was largely stultified by the fact that it was badly placed.

This year there will be no reason why every farmer at the show cannot see these exhibits and get their full impact. Included will be fat lambs, to show the type of thing the market demands, and the sheep farmer should take this in carefully, as the fat lamb trade is one in which he can take a big and profitable part.

Rural electrification has grown so widely throughout the country that it is essential for any farmer to visit the E.S.B. Show in the Simonscourt Road enclosure.

Here he can see the latest methods of using current for better and more convenient farming—electric dehoring, pumping equipment, and other gadgets for the farm, as well as the things that make the life of the farmer's wife or daughter easier within the house.

Pre-fabricated pig houses will be one of the main items in the E.S.B. show, with heating arrangements, infra-red lights and other attachments designed to increase the efficiency and profit of pig-rearing.



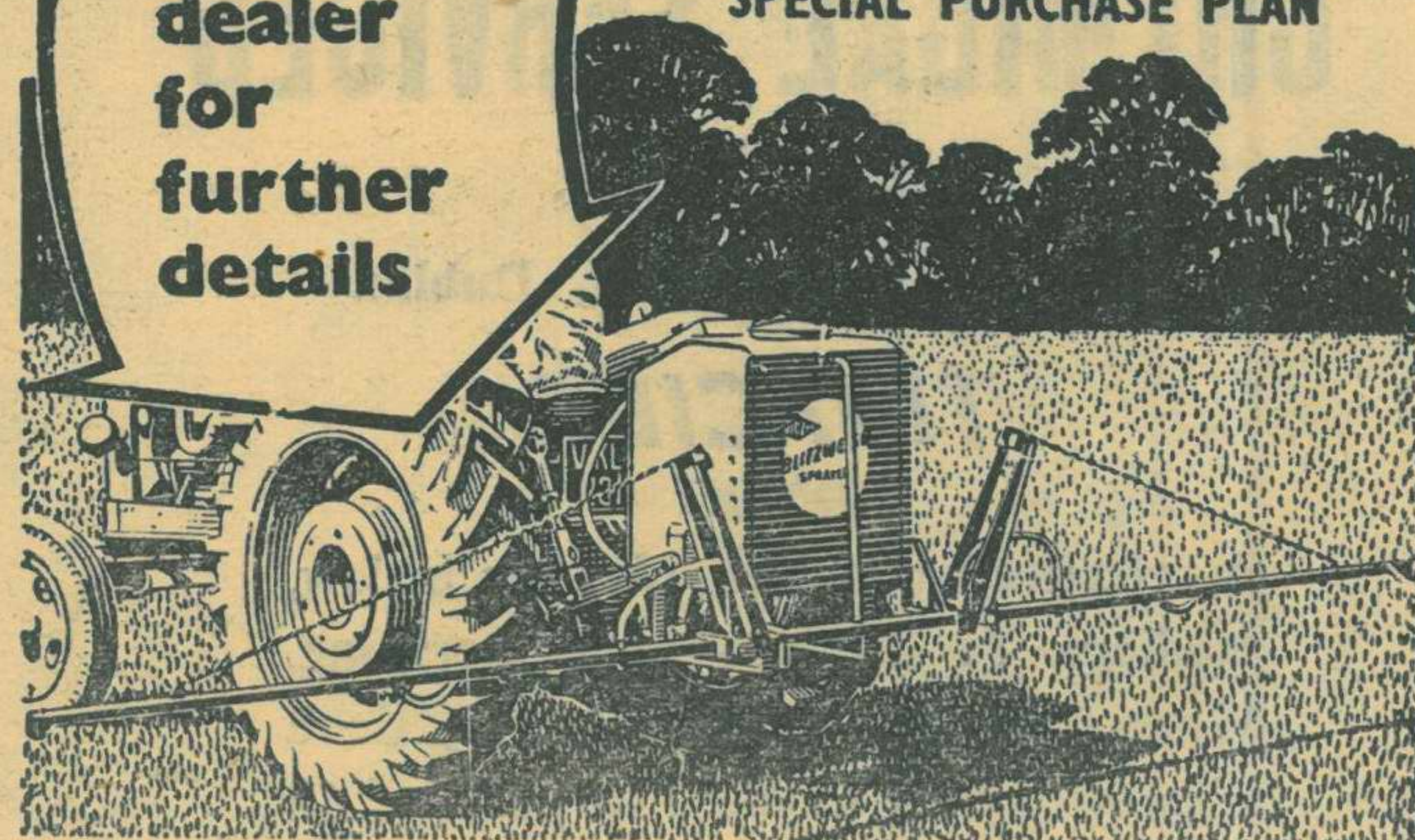
50-gallon all-welded steel tank internally treated with anti-corrosion resin-enamel. COPPER SPRAY bar laid in protective steel channel.

EFFECTIVE SPRAY width 19' 6". Folds into five sections for easy stowage.

SPECIAL DEVICE for height adjustment by hand, NO TOOLS required and many other new features including

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Output Increased With Controlled Grazing

By "FIELDSMAN"

IF YOU TELL SOME FARMERS THAT BY CONTROLLING THEIR GRAZING THEY CAN INCREASE THEIR OUTPUT FROM GRASS BY AS MUCH AS 30 PER CENT. THEY WILL SMILE INDULGENTLY AND RESERVE THEIR OPINION OF YOUR ABILITY TO TALK ON THE MATTER AT ALL.

But it is the foolish farmer who neglects this obvious development of any farming policy that includes good grass, or indeed any grass at all.

It is not only the new leys that can benefit from controlled grazing. Old pastures will improve, too.

There is plenty of grass available on all farms at the moment, but it is obvious on many farms that the spring flush is not being fully exploited.

Where fields are small it is easy to control the grazing, which means seeing that no field is punished heavily, and that grasses and clovers are given their chance to revive and give more feeding after a while.

On farms with small fields all that is necessary is that cattle be taken off each field in turn, shutting up the last grazed to recover, and thus working the herd around the pastures, which are benefitting from the cropping and the manure being dropped on them, plus any fertiliser applied.

Most farms, however, are not so conveniently made that this can be done, and the electric fence is used

to break up big fields into smaller sufficient, and often one across the middle will do.

On the more progressive farms the electric fence is standard equipment and many have two.

For strip grazing two fences are necessary, one keeping the cattle out of the part of the pasture they have already grazed and the other limiting the amount of new grass they are allowed on to.

The "back fence" is that protecting the already eaten pasture, and this is moved on past the other to whatever distance is required, when the strip being grazed has been eaten off sufficiently. Thus each fence in turn becomes the back fence or the forward fence.

Fields are divided up according to their size in this way, and though the moving of the fence and the cattle on to the next strip may take half an hour of a man's time each day, the increase in output is usually worth it.

The whole farm benefits from this system, as the grass is top-dressed to revive it after grazing, and the animals are leaving their dung behind all the time.

A big field can be divided up by semi-permanent electric fences fixed at intervals. Usually two will be

Supposing the field to be divided into three sections of equal size by two fences, the sections can each be grazed on the strip system by the use of wires.

On the section between the top end of the field and the first electric fence a part—say, a third of the section—is wired off by a wire hooked on to the electric fence at right angles and supported on insulated posts and running up to the end ditch.

By contact with the electric fence this wire becomes electrified and retains the cattle in the top corner of the field.

The cattle can be allowed to graze another third of this section merely by moving the wire and its insulators along and setting it up one-third of the way from the side of the field again.

In this way each section of the field is grazed in turn, and each is kept shut off by the semi-permanent electric fences, so that it can be manured to revive the sward before the cattle start the round again at the top corner.

This method gives the least trouble in moving the fences, and it will pay on old pastures as well as new leys.

Roscrea Bacon Factory

THE dedication page of the Brochure issued by the Roscrea Bacon Factory, Ltd., on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the foundation of the Factory—the first farmers' Co-operative Bacon Factory in Ireland—reads: "This Brochure is dedicated to the memory of the founders of the Roscrea Bacon Factory, Ltd.—to those men who, fifty years ago, despite unbelievable difficulties, and with courage and unshakeable confidence in the worth of their endeavour, laid the foundation stone of the Roscrea Bacon Factory, Limited—the first Farmers' Co-operative Bacon Factory in Ireland, on the 29th day of April, 1907. One by one they have passed away from us but the seed they planted has blossomed to full maturity. May it ever remain a monument to their zeal and enterprise. Deo Gratias."

Behind that simple dedication lies a story—a story of courage and determination to succeed when the obstacles seemed unsurmountable; the story of an endeavour to establish a native industry at a time when efforts to sponsor native industry were neither popular nor profitable.

MOST PROGRESSIVE

On the celebration of its Golden Jubilee the concern stands as one of the most progressive in the country. Killings average over 50,000 pigs each year—a considerable proportion of them being supplied by the members. The spirit of co-operation which animated the founders is still to the fore in present-day management and nowhere is that spirit more evident

than in the factory's big bonus scheme. Realising that profit-making is secondary to service to its members, the Society distributes more than 50 per cent of its annual profits in the form of pig bonuses to supplying members.

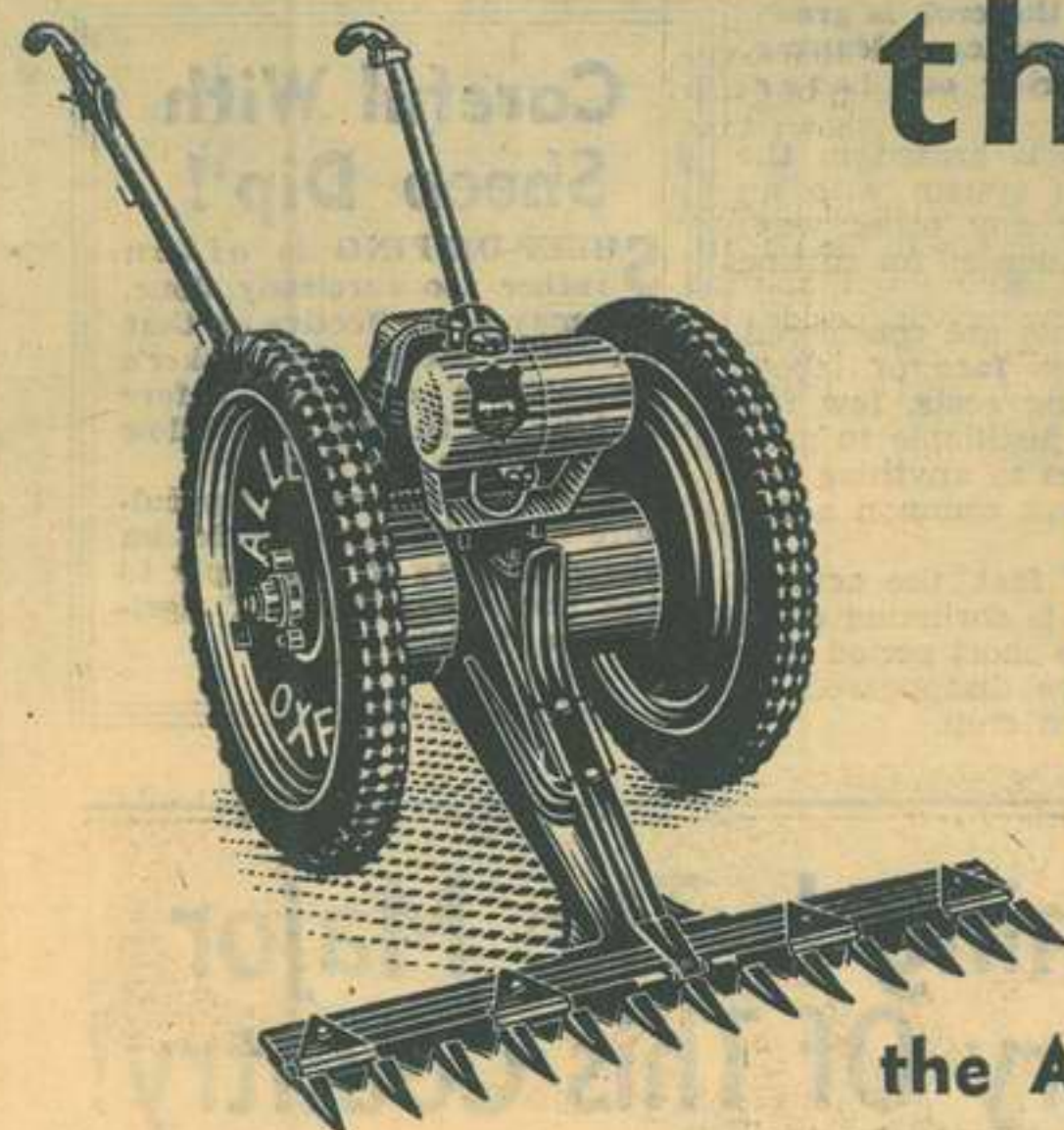
Annual output at the factory is valued at almost a million pounds and the products—"Roscrea" Bacon, "Roscrea" Sausages, Puddings, Lard and Sundry products—are in keen demand. Roscrea Bacon has an excellent standing on all markets, including the export market, and "Roscrea" Sausages are one of the most popular brands of meat products on the Irish market.

The industry now affords constant and well-paid employment to more than 100 employees. It is the proud boast of the Society that it has never engaged in a trade dispute in the fifty years of its existence.

The concern is controlled by twenty directors, each representing the shareholders of a particular district. The President of the Board of Directors is the Ven. Archdeacon Molloy, P.P., V.F., Killaloe, who has been associated with the Society for some thirty years. The concern has 3,500 shareholders supplying up to 20,000 pigs each year.

RAGWORT

A KILLER that often escapes is ragwort or book-lawn. Last year it killed numbers of cattle in Co. Cork. Its characteristic yellow flower is not hard to recognise, yet it is very common all over Ireland. It grows close to the ground when young, but later sends up a long flowering stalk. It is not destroyed as a poison by drying, and often poisons stock when fed in hay. It can be controlled effectively by cutting or, better still, pulling in early July.



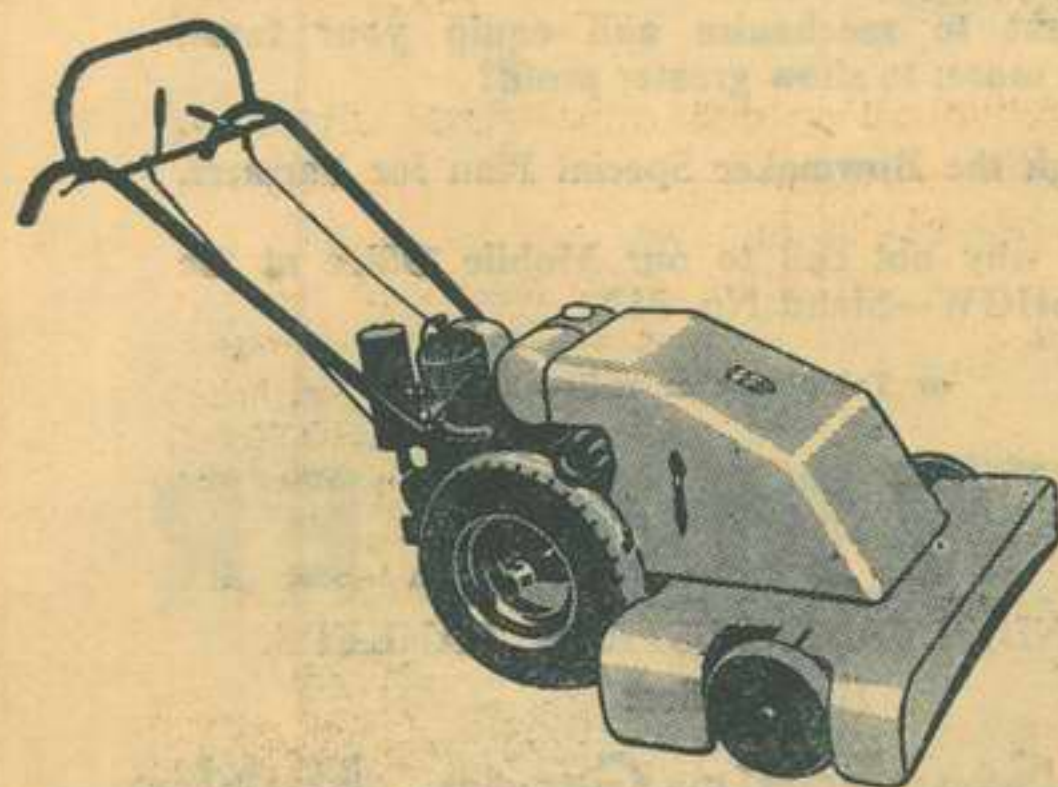
the ALLEN Motor Scythe

ALL OVER THE WORLD THE ALLEN IS DOING GREAT WORK CLEARING COARSE GRASS, SCRUB, BRACKEN AND ALL KINDS OF ROUGH GROWTH. HOWEVER ROUGH THE GROUND, IT DOES THE JOB WITH SPEED AND EASE. A NUMBER OF ATTACHMENTS ARE AVAILABLE WHICH MAKES THE ALLEN AN "ALL-PURPOSE" MACHINE.

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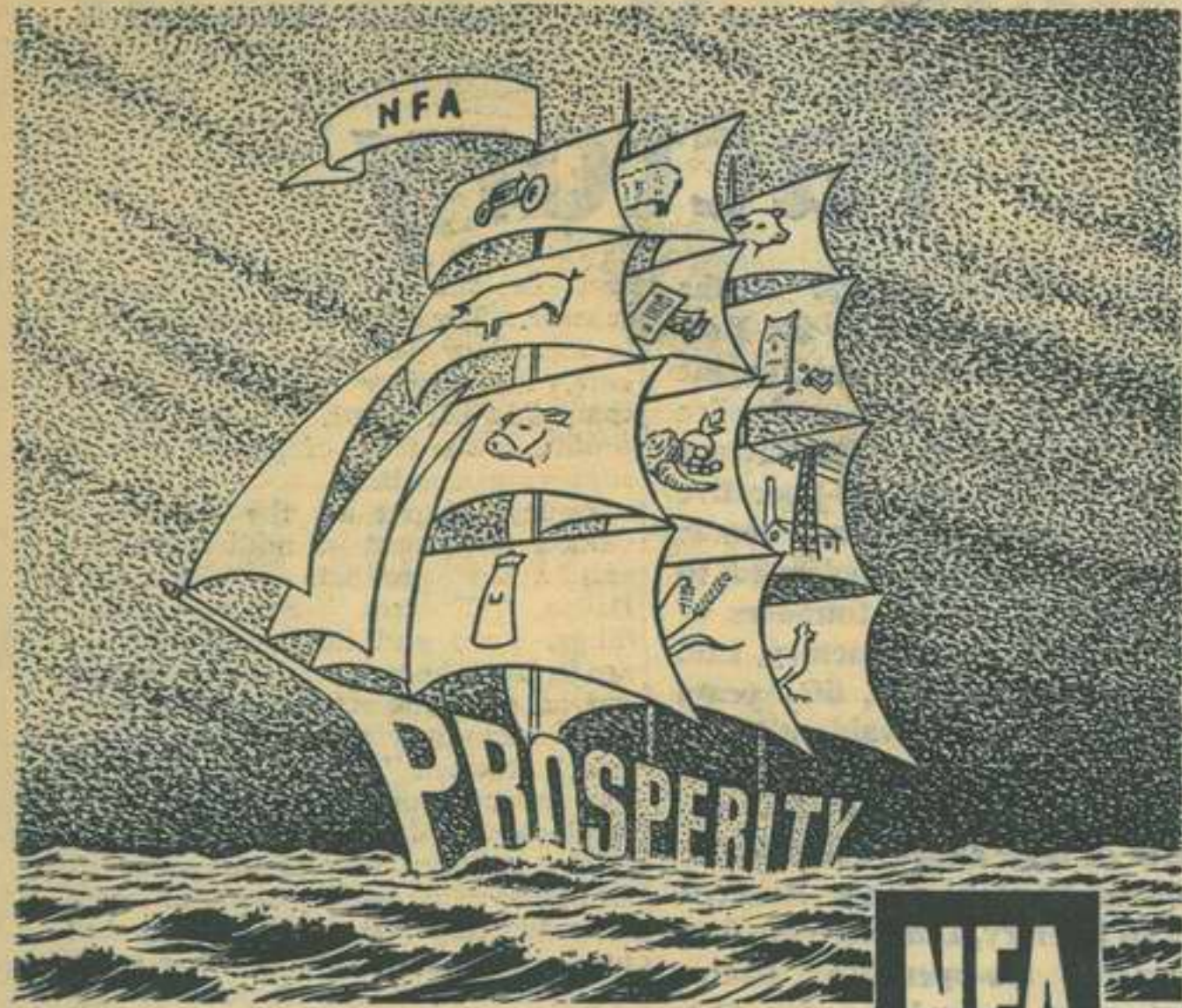
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Can You Afford These Roots?

By "PLOWMAN"

THERE is a shortage of labour in many farming districts which has had its effect on the thinking of the farmers concerned. They have begun to avoid growing crops that they feel they may not be able to harvest in time, and one of the things which has come under serious review from this angle is the root crop.

If we consider all the operations that are involved in getting the mangles or turnips or fodder beet from the seed stage through its full growth, and then to the animals it feeds, we can see that all along the line it is one of our worst consumers of labour and time.

After the usual tillage operations the ground for roots must be opened in drills and farmyard manure spread, or rather this is the most usual procedure on Irish farms.

The drills are opened, the manure spread in them and the drills closed again. The seed is then sown, and it may be necessary to waste half a day borrowing a horse for this job. Then the weeding, thinning and moulding up have still to be done.

Then comes the harvesting of the roots, often in bad weather, making everybody concerned miserable and resentful, resulting in slower work.

That is not the end of the hard labour. When the roots are needed for feeding they have to be taken from the pit, loaded on to a cart or trailer, carried to the farmyard, pulped and the pulp carried to the animals.

Apart from the labour consumption, there is the fact that the growing of root crops involves the use of the ground for the whole year.

Although yields of 50 tons of mangolds and 40 tons of turnips can be got to the statute acre, the usual

is around 20 tons, and this is equivalent to about two tons of barley of feeding variety.

It takes a good crop of barley to give two tons to the acre, but there are other considerations. Barley can be undersown to give grazing in the autumn and early winter, and the field will be in grass for a time in the spring, thus giving feed at both ends of the season, whereas the root ground is incapable of doing this.

The labour content of barley-growing is much smaller, which means that men are released for other work. Also, roots are mainly carbohydrate (starchy) foods, whereas barley supplies a good deal more of the more valuable protein foods.

The modern alternative to roots is kale or rape, which will give yields approximating in value to about 30 cwt. of barley, or a little more. They are, however, better balanced foods than roots, containing good quantities of proteins.

The kale and rape ground will also have given grazing in the early part of the year plus, possibly, a cut of hay or silage before the ground is ploughed.

Also, the sowing can be done with the combine drill on the flat, thus eliminating much of the cultivating necessary for roots. Weeds in kale and rape are not troublesome, and while the crop is growing it has an excellent cleaning effect by smothering out later weed growth.

If kale or rape is grazed in the field on the strip system with an electric fence (or any other way) there is no labour needed for cutting and carting.

If all these points are considered, particularly in the face of labour shortage and rising costs, few farmers will find it justifiable to grow turnips or mangles to anything like the extent that was common a few years ago.

As a matter of fact, the acreage under these roots is shrinking every year, and within a short period they probably will have disappeared altogether as a farm crop.

NITROGEN HELPS CORN

THE late spring and wet weather around sowing time caused some difficulty in getting fertilisers well placed when sowing with the combine drill.

This may be found to have caused a difference in the stand of corn in some fields, and it would be advisable to do something to offset this, as it could lead to a drop in yield at harvest time.

One way is to give the corn a top-dressing of nitrogenous fertiliser during the next few weeks.

The yellowing (often called "foxiness") of corn will usually indicate a shortage of Nitrogen, and even crops which do not show a good deep green colour may be in need of a dressing.

BIG DIFFERENCE

The application of 1 cwt. or 1½ cwt. of Nitrogen can make a difference of two or more cwt. of corn to the acre.

Rolling the corn field will also help, as it consolidates the ground around the roots and allows the plants to get more nutriment from the earth.

Careful With Sheep Dip!

SHEEP-DIPPING is often rather too carelessly done, and may be ineffective on that account. Read the maker's instructions carefully before making up the dip and follow them all the way through. The Department of Agriculture will send you a leaflet on sheep dipping if you apply to the Secretary, Dept. of Agriculture, Dublin.

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HOW TO MAKE GRASS GROW IN THE SPRING

By "PLOWMAN"

THE price that cattle are making over the past few weeks leads farmers to think of the amount of feed they can have at their disposal this year, so that they can cash in on the good prices, if they are maintained.

This is the regular cycle, but turn-over with cattle is slow and it is not always the man who buys at the dear time can sell in it.

However, that is the chance that is taken by the stockman and those who rely on cattle for their main income.

The profit from cattle is made when the animals turn the grass and other feed into meat without taking too long about it.

On good pastures or good winter feeding of silage and/or hay, the two-year-old or a little over is fit for market and will probably show a good profit, whereas if he had to be kept for another year he would be a loss.

So the aim for the efficient stock-raiser is to have good feed on which the animals will thrive without setbacks and make market weight at an early age. At that age they will show their quality, and quality is what the buyers are looking for these times.

The best grass does not grow without help, in spite of what many farmers believe.

Alternative

If you find good grass growing without help, you can be certain that it would be far better if it were to get a bit of assistance from a dressing of manure.

Anything that takes away the grass is depleting the fertility of the field which grew the grass. Hay removes a lot of the good from the land that grew it, and that good must be put back if the land is to maintain its ability to produce good hay.

Stock grazed on grass takes away some of the good of the land, although not so much as hay, since they are leaving behind them the dung.

Farmyard manure will help meadows and pastures, but it has to be reserved for the root crops on most farms.

So the alternative is an artificial fertiliser. If there is a modern type of rotation being carried out on the farm, the grassland will get its dressing of farmyard manure, as well as what is dropped by grazing animals, but old-type farmers keep permanent pasture which is really permanent, and much of it has not felt a plough in living memory.

This type of thing can be helped to some extent, but the sward that has been laid down with a proper mixture of grass seeds will give better returns for artificial manure applied at the right time.

Soil Test

This is not to say that it is waste of time applying manures to old pastures—far from it. The bulk of material that can be added to the yield of these old pastures has a definite use on all farms, provided stock are not expected to do as well on it as on properly managed grass.

To get the best out of a dressing of fertiliser, the land under the grass must have a proper lime content. Otherwise the fertilisers will not be able to give their full effect.

So to operate a proper grassland manuring programme, it is advisable to get a soil test and base your purchases of manures on that, in consultation with your agricultural adviser.

At this time of the year farmers will be most interested in top-dressing as a means of getting that extra bit of growth at the right time.

A nitrogenous fertiliser is usually used for this purpose—a hundred-weight or two to the acre—and can be applied up to the end of April. Much heavier dressings are some-

times used to increase the carrying capacity of the grass, especially where there is little or no clover in the sward.

In New Zealand, on the other hand, most farmers rely on clovers to supply all the Nitrogen they need, or rather they farm to the level of the nitrogen supplied by healthy growths of clover in all fields.

To avoid wastage in using nitrogenous fertilisers it is important to apply them when the grass can make use of them. In other words, it is only waste to apply them in the winter or too early in the spring, when the grass is not growing or ready to grow.

In spring the farmer will know when the grass is beginning to waken up as it were, and he can apply his nitrogenous manure so as to give it a boost which will give him grazing earlier than if he waited on the natural process.

The "early bite" is one of the most important provisions of the good farmer, because it saves him often from having to buy in feed after a hard winter during which his store has run low.

Farmers who expect a miracle from top-dressing with nitrogenous fertiliser are often disappointed. They are usually bad farmers whose fields are suffering from general shortage of nutritive elements, including lime, so that the nitrogen alone can do little to improve them.

Best Grass

The best grass comes only on land that has been built up in fertility during the tillage break, sown with a proper mixture and managed so that it does not deteriorate. There are no such things as miracle-working artificials.

In New Zealand, grassland farmers nearly all rely on clover to provide their fields with nitrogen, which it takes from the air.

This is the most economical way of getting this essential element, but it needs well-balanced fresh pastures, reasonably free from weeds, correct in lime status, as well as for other nutrients and humus content.

If the clovers cannot fully develop there will be a loss in all the sward, and it needs careful management to achieve the best results.

Old pastures and meadows will give more hay or silage for winter feeding, allow more stock to be carried over the winter months, if they are top-dressed with 1 or 2 cwt. of nitrogenous manures.

They also produce silage in a shorter period than if not top-dressed, thus allowing a longer grazing period on them, which is a double gain.

BLACKLEG

BLACKLEG is a fatal disease of young cattle and may be present without being suspected on the farm until animals die without apparent explanation. It can be avoided by having the young animals injected by the veterinary surgeon.

It persists in the soil and may be released where new drainage work or bull-dozing has brought up earth that has been buried for some time, the disease being carried to the stock in the water draining from the new openings.



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SPRING SHOW ROUND-UP

(GAELIC ECHO STAFF REPORTER)

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"Reducine" is a well proven remedy for all types of lameness in Horses, Cattle and Sporting Dogs and has been on the market for over sixty years, having been invented and perfected by the late T. D. Lambert, F.R.C.V.S.

Such conditions as Strains, Splints, Spavin, Thoropin, Wind Galls, Capped Hock, and many other inflammatory conditions will react favourably to treatment with this famous Irish remedy. Reducine can be obtained from all Chemists and Saddlers, and will be on exhibition at the Spring Show at Stand No. 4.

BOWMAKER (IRELAND) LTD.

Bowmaker (Ireland) Ltd., the old established Industrial Bankers, have a new innovation in the way of stands, their "stand" being a "Mobile Office", where their normal business can be transacted in private "on the spot" by any would be customer.

The "Mobile Office" is an attractive caravan situated in the Machinery Paddock. Any visitor to the Show, who sees some piece of machinery or a very attractive car that he "must" have, can go along there and then and talk about facilities to one of the Bowmaker Branch Managers or representatives, who are in constant attendance.

The idea of having a Hire Purchase Company at hand should appeal to the many exhibitors—facilities so readily available may just be the deciding factor in making that extra sale!

I.C.I. (EXPORT) LTD.

The Stand of Imperial Chemical Industries (Export) Ltd., of 3, Sth. Frederick St., Dublin, features the animal health remedies manufactured by the Pharmaceutical Division of Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., and the crop protection products of Plant Protection, Limited. Many of these preparations are, incidentally, made in Galway and manufactured according to the formulae of the companies mentioned.

The veterinary remedies include the combined worm and fluke preparation "Minel", the worm remedy "Phenovis" which is now mineralised and has added Copper and Cobalt for the control of certain mineral deficiency diseases, and the ever popular "Sulphamezathine" Sodium Solution 16 per cent for the treatment of Coccidiosis in chickens.

Among the preparations shown by Plant Protection, Ltd., are "Agroxone" K, the original hormone weedkiller, "Mergamma", the double-action seed dressing and "Perenox", the prepared copper potato fungicide.

Advisory staff are at all times available on the Stand.

JOHNSTON MOONEY AND O'BRIEN LTD.

Johnston Mooney and O'Brien Ltd., will, as usual, be exhibiting a wide assortment of their Plain and Fancy Breads and Confectionery at their Stall in the Main Hall. It was for bread and confectionery such as will be exhibited, which won for them the Irish Championship Cup, three Gold, one Silver and one Bronze Medals at the last International Bakers' Exhibition at Olympia, London. This is an unprecedented achievement.

They also, as you doubtless know, are the manufacturers of the increasingly popular X.L. Animal and Poultry Foods which include compounds for Cattle, Pigs and Poultry at all stages of growth and condition.

THE OWEN ORGANISATION

The Owen Organisation, a combine of many famous manufacturers of agricultural implements will be showing a large range of manure

spreaders, buck rakes, Grain Drier Burners, tractor attachments, transport boxes and disc ploughs at the Spring Show. Their Stand number is 479.

RECOLD REFRIGERATION CO.

The Recold Refrigeration Co.'s Stand No. 91 in the main Hall Annex, displays the latest in Ice Cream Cabinets, Dual Purpose Cabinets, Counter Display Cases and General Refrigeration requirements. Worthy of special mention is the Dual Purpose Cabinet which is a combined Ice Cream and Food Storage Cabinet. Likewise their Vision Refrigerated Display Counter with Wearite Top is unique in that the complete Cabinet is one unit, the compressor being incorporated in the Cabinet itself, thus saving valuable space and giving a more attractive looking Refrigerator.

CARTHORN (1949) LTD.

A representative range of the popular "Lyte" Aluminium Ladders will be shown by Messrs. Carthorn (1949) Ltd., Commercial Buildings, Dame Street, Dublin, at their Stand No. 448, Simmonscourt Extension.

"Lyte" Ladders, manufactured from specially extruded sections of aluminium alloy, have the tensile strength of steel but are only one third the weight of wood. In addition to this valuable quality "Lyte" ladders are also rust-proof, fire-proof, and unaffected by climatic conditions or age; also non-warping, splinter-free, and extremely easy to keep clean.

The careful, correct, design of "Lyte" ladders, based on years of testing and development, is backed up by workmanship of the highest quality—stringently tested at every stage of manufacture. The result is a finished product which, for strength and reliability in operation, combined with pleasing functional appearance, is second to none.

BOOTS PURE DRUG CO., LTD.

More and more farmers are beginning to realise the value of selective weedkillers and Boots Ltd., have an excellent range to choose from. These

include "Cornox D" and "CORNOX M". Also on view are "COPPESSAN" spray for the protection of potato crops from blight, "Dieldrin" sheep dip, "Safersan" pig worm powder, and "ISO-CORNOX", a revolutionary new weapon in the fight against cleavers (Robin-run-the-hedge), that most destructive weed.

(CONTD. ON PAGE 7)

Aran Bed-rock Farming

"THE (Aran) soil is almost paved over with stones, so as, in some places, nothing is to be seen but large stones with wide openings between them where cattle break their legs (Historian Roderic O'Flaherty, in 1684). "The people themselves, so fine natured, genial and intelligent, are more worthy of regard than all their monuments . . . To see the careful way in which the most has been made of every spot available for the growth of produce might correct the impression so generally entertained that the native Irish are a thriftless people. Here, where they are left to themselves, notwithstanding the natural sterility of their islands, they are certainly a very superior population—physically, morally and even economically—to those of the mainland districts (Sir Samuel Ferguson, President of the Royal Irish Academy, in 1852).

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NEW PRESIDENT FOR M. N. A. F.

SPRING SHOW ROUND-UP

(Continued from previous page)
NITRATE CORPORATION OF CHILE, LTD.

Helping the farmers to increase production of crops is the main concern of the men on the Chilean Nitrate Stand. They are the link between the farmers of Ireland and the high, hot desert of Northern Chile, from whence natural nitrate comes.

Nitrogen is one of the three main plant foods. Plants, like men, need a balanced diet, but intensive cultivation tends to exhaust the natural reserves of soil vitality. To redress this Chilean nitrate is used to restore any shortage of nitrogen.

125 years of successful use have proved the value of Chilean nitrate, for in addition to nitrogen and sodium this natural nitrate contains vital trace elements which are essential for high yields of good quality.

TOWNSEND FLAHAVAN SEEDS

Featured at the Spring Show this year for the first time is the firm of National Repute, Messrs. Townsend Flahavan Seeds Ltd., Kilmacthomas, Co. Waterford. Since its formation in 1950 this Company has expanded considerably and is now one of the leading Seed houses in Ireland. Though its slogan is "Safety in Seeds", this might be more accurately described as "Service with Seeds", as this enterprising firm is specialising in personal Advisory Service to the farmers of the country.

JOHN ALLEN & SONS (OXFORD), LTD.

John Allen and Sons (Oxford) Ltd. have a comprehensive range of Motor Scythes, rotary sickles, Garden Sweepers, and Factory Sweepers on display at their stand.

OSMOND & SONS (DUBLIN) LTD
 The firm of Osmond & Son (Dublin) Ltd., are showing a full range of their world-famous veterinary medicines. These include Sheep Dips, Cattle Oils, Chill and Fever Drinks, Mange and Maggot Oils, Ringworm Ointments and Disinfectants.

PAUL & VINCENT

This year Paul & Vincent, Ltd., Ireland's leading animal food and fertiliser manufacturers are breaking new ground by arranging a comprehensive display of livestock on their new stand space in the Simmonscourt enclosure at the R.D.S. Spring Show.

Their main stand, will be as always, in the Main Hall, just to the left of the entrance door, and their new stand in Simmonscourt is merely another effort by this progressive organisation to assist the

farming community, by demonstrating the use and value of high quality compound foods in the more efficient production of farmstock.

Paul & Vincent, Ltd., are the oldest exhibitors at the R.D.S. and all their farmer friends and merchant customers will be as welcome this year as in the past to either of their two stands.

McGEES OF ARDEE

McGee's of Ardee are showing some revolutionary self-propelled combine harvesters in addition to their usual range of farm and industrial machinery, these are the Allis-Chalmers Gleaner model and the Fahr M-D-L model, respectively.

HAMMOND LANE IRONFOUNDERS

Hammond Lane Ironfounders Ltd. will have on view a comprehensive range of "Jubilee" Cookers, "Well-wood" Cookers, "Autovector" heating stoves, Milk Cans, and Milk Bottle Crates, Galvanised Buckets and Refrigeration Cabinets.

TOKN GRASS PRODUCTS, LTD.

Grassmeal—the revolutionary animal feeding stuff—will be the dominant feature of the stand of TOKN Grass Product, Ltd., Edenderry. The special merit of grassmeal lies in its content of Carotene, the substance from which vitamin A is manufactured.

VIGZOL LTD.

"Blitzweed", a new weedkiller is the star attraction at the VIGZOL stand. A selective weedkiller of the hormone type, it is especially formulated to give quick acting ability over a wide range of weeds at a low application rate. A special VIGZOL "Blitzweed" sprayer for tractor attachment is also on view.

JAMES LARKIN, LTD.

The well-known firm of James Larkin, Mount Merrion, Dublin have buck rakes, cock lifters, disc harrows, lubricators and ploughs on display, together with the relevant accessories.

FISONS PEST CONTROL, LTD.

Staff will be available at Fisons Stand to advise on the use of weedkillers, insecticides, seed dressings and fungicides for agricultural purposes and also top spraying machinery. Fisons extensive range of weedkillers etc. will be on display.

DAVID MALONE, LTD.

The complete range of animal foods manufactured by David Malone Ltd., are on view. Especially worthy of note is the now famous "ERIN" pig concentrate, which has a remarkably high vitamin content.

THE election of Mr. P. T. Donnelly, Chief Agricultural Officer of Co. Kildare, to the presidency of Macra na Feirme, suggests that the organisation is anxious to have at its head a man with ideas and energy.

Paddy Donnelly has made a name for himself in the most progressive agricultural circles because he is always thinking ahead rather than following the lead of someone else.

He was born on a 200-acre farm at Cadamstown, near Birr, Offaly, and his father, Bryan Donnelly, is one of the best known stock-raisers in the Midlands.

After the National School, Paddy went to St. Flannan's College, Ennis, and later to Mount St. Joseph's Roscrea. A year in the Albert College put him on the road towards the study of agricultural science. He graduated as a Bachelor of Agricultural Science with honours from U.C.D. in 1940, being released from Army duties (he joined the Regiment of Pearse while in college and served during part of the Emergency) to do his final examination.

The first chance to apply his academic knowledge in a practical way came when he was appointed an instructor in Co. Waterford in 1942.

From there he went to the South Riding, Co. Tipperary Committee as a permanent instructor and later became assistant C.A.O. He was appointed C.A.O. in Co. Kildare in 1951.

Paddy Donnelly is a big man, physically and mentally, and was a leading athlete in school, college and Army. As well as a hurler and boxer he became cruiser-weight champion of U.C.D. and the Army.

A founder member of Macra na Feirme, Mr. Donnelly has always advocated a live, progressive policy, and the formation of the film unit was one of the things in which he has been most interested. He is now chairman of this section and we can expect further expansion, provided money is available.

As an agricultural adviser, Paddy Donnelly is a man made for his job. He realised at an early stage in his career that the single item call on a farmer was of very little value and that what most farmers need is advice on how to run their farms as whole enterprises.

This has given rise to his enthusiasm for farm-planning, a practice that seems destined to achieve a revolution in Irish agriculture within a few years.

He is, however, far from one-track-minded, and while his farm planning is working out in the successful pilot farms established throughout Kildare, he is encouraging farmers to talk, to listen, to look and to learn through their five senses.

Discussion clubs, museum plots, illustrated talks, farm walks and lively debates are a feature of advisory services in Co. Kildare, where a team of instructors is working with enthusiasm under the C.A.O.

"Over-the-ditch education" is one of the things Paddy believes in, and wherever he can he augments his verbal or theoretical advice with actual demonstrations that prove his points.

In a number of places he has sparked a few people into activity that changed the faces of their farms and of their profit accounts and gradually the influence is spreading.

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PLEASE NOTE

Notification of animals due for insemination in the morning should reach the Office not later than 11 a.m.
Notification of animals due for insemination in the afternoon should reach the Office before 12 noon if possible.
No guarantee of a visit can be given if calls due for insemination in the afternoon are not received before 2.30 p.m.

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Dublin and Cork District Milk Boards CATTLE BREEDING SERVICE

Users of the Service are kindly requested to assist in evaluating the transmitting potential of individual bulls by completing form hereunder in respect of as many A.I. bred calves as possible and forwarding completed form to the appropriate Board:

DUBLIN DISTRICT MILK BOARD, 64 Lower Leeson Street, Dublin.
or CORK DISTRICT MILK BOARD, Western Road, Cork.

Date calf born (approx.)	Eartag No. of Dam	Colour, sex and general quality of calf

NAME ADDRESS

The assistance of a Board Officer, in completing the form, will be available on request.

Information regarding location of A.I. bred heifers (in calf or in milk) will be greatly appreciated.

A.I. IS HERE TO STAY

(By A Special Correspondent)

ALTHOUGH THE PRINCIPLES OF ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION HAVE BEEN KNOWN FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS, THEY WERE NEVER APPLIED TO THE CATTLE BREEDING INDUSTRY ON A LARGE SCALE UNTIL AFTER THE FIRST WORLD WAR.

The Russians were the first to appreciate the vast potentialities of this revolutionary system of breeding cattle, and by the early 'twenties they had re-stocked their depleted herds, which had been decimated during the savage war that had ended some years before.

Artificial insemination, or A.I., as it is commonly called, did not arrive in Ireland until 1946, when the Ballyclough Co-op., Co. Cork, gave it its first trial.

It did not catch on immediately but when farmers saw the fine cattle that resulted from these early experiments, they were quite willing to try the idea.

At present there are nine main stations and about 50 sub-stations serving the Twenty-six County area, and the following table clearly shows the growth of the use of A.I. in Ireland over the past ten years.

Year.	Cows Serviced.
1947	374
1950	11,300
1953	92,000
1956	280,000

Although a bull usually services 50 to 150 cows per year in natural breeding, the phenomenal total of 1,000 cows can be serviced by a single bull by means of A.I.

It is obvious, that as a bull can be put to so much use in the course of a year, it is economic to pay up to £3,000 for a yearling bull of the right strain. These bulls are of a dairy breed pedigree with a high milk inheritance.

Unfortunately, the fact that a bull possesses a high milk inheritance is no guarantee that he will pass this quality on to his progeny, just as a renowned singer or boxer does

not necessarily transmit his attributes to his children.

ADVANTAGES

The four great advantages of the A.I. service are:—

- (1) A cow belonging to the poorest farmer is put in calf by a bull of world repute for a very nominal fee.
- (2) A.I. obviates the spread of genital diseases through mating.
- (3) By not having to keep a bull, the farmer can afford to keep an extra cow, which means an additional profit of £60 approximately a year.
- (4) The use of A.I. cuts the risk of accidents on the farm. A bull has a deep-rooted instinct to kill, which is liable to break out at any time. A year never passes without somebody being gored to death on our farms.

It is usual for the yearling bull to be used extensively for the first year at an A.I. station, but it is used at a very reduced rate during the second and third years.

If the milk yields of the bull's progeny are satisfactory the bull is used at a very high rate for the rest of his fruitful life.

A new technique only recently introduced is the Deep-Freeze Semen Bank. Semen can be preserved in the bank and used when required—sometimes long after the death of the bull.

Many countries carry on a lucrative trade in semen. Recently I spotted a report in a farming journal, which told of a consignment of semen from an English bull, which was already dead, being flown to New Zealand to fertilise a cow there.

ENEMIES OF NEW GRASS

WHERE IT IS INTENDED TO UNDERSOW CORN WITH GRASS SEEDS, AND THESE HAVE NOT ALREADY BEEN GOT IN, THE FIELD SHOULD BE EXAMINED TO SEE THE EXTENT OF THE WEED INFESTATION.

If this is bad, the situation can be improved by a run of the harrow, after which the grass seed can be evenly broadcast and rolled to cover it in.

If the undersowing is intended for a permanent pasture, the earlier the sowing the better, as this will ensure a better stand of grass.

Badly weeded fields could be sprayed with selective weed-killers, but it is important to follow the manufacturers' instructions in using these.

TERRIBLE JOB

Less than 20 years ago the removal of weeds was one of the worst jobs on the farm, hand-weeding being often the only way of managing it properly.

Now these selective weed-killers have made it easy, as they get rid of all weeds if used in time, and thus give increased yields of corn, often adding two or three hundredweight to the statute acre.

The smother effect of bad weed growth is considerable, while the weeds also feed on nutrients, which have been bought to feed the corn.

Modern low-volume spraying machines have taken a lot of the drudgery out of the job of spraying, as they cut down the amount of water that needs to be carried to dilute the chemical.

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Sheep Maggots Are Dangerous

THE fact that many of the maggots, grubs and such forms of life that become parasites of farm animals are the early stage in the life of flies is not always appreciated.

In olden times there was a sort of mystery wrapped around these things, and they were regarded as forms of life that occurred spontaneously, as eels and other things were supposed to do.

However, science has shown where these things fit into our farming practice, and in the process has shown the weak points at which these pests can be attacked.

Most of these forms of life have a cycle during which they change from one thing to another, like the butterfly which develops from an egg to a caterpillar, then to a chrysalis, and then to a butterfly, which starts the cycle over again.

The aim of scientific war on these things, then, is to knock out one part of the cycle, whether by direct destruction or by interfering with its feeding or reproduction.

The sheep maggot is the middle form of the green-bodies fly known as the "green bottle," through occasionally "bluebottle" maggots are also found on sheep.

The fly, after being fertilised by the male, lays about 50 eggs in the wool of the sheep, in a cluster, and fastens them to the wool with a kind of cement.

In her lifetime, a single female may lay up to 500 eggs, so it is easy to see how flies of this kind can easily reach the proportions of a really serious pest if unchecked.

From the eggs the maggots develop, and they are so made that they can actually eat the flesh of the living sheep, and ultimate death is the fate of the animal if the attack is allowed to go without treatment.

Lambs and younger sheep are more subject to attack than older animals, and sick or lame sheep, or those with dirty, greasy wool, are more likely to have maggots than sheep that are being well looked after.

If the maggoty sheep dies the carcasses should be buried without delay to prevent the flies developing. But earlier measures can be taken to prevent such a catastrophe.

Dirty wool should be removed from sheep as soon as noticed, and where maggots are removed from an affected sheep they should be destroyed. Spraying with a weak solution of sheep dip every 14 days will keep the flies off, but the most effective method is dipping.

This ensures that the whole of the fleece is impregnated with the solution and that there is no weak spot on to which flies can lay their eggs.

It has been found that clipping the wool away from the sheep's crutch helps to avoid infection, and in Australia many of the big sheep producers do this as a regular part of the war on sheep flies.

Dipping should be carefully carried out according to the instructions of the dip-makers, and there is a leaflet obtainable from the Department of Agriculture which explains the job in plain language.

SIGN OF BAD ROTATIONS

YELLOWING, or a reddish tinge ("foxiness") in corn, especially oats, towards the end of May or early June may be due to an attack of eelworm.

It usually shows in ground that has been sown with corn for a number of years in succession and on which the principle of proper rotations has been neglected.

Where the attacks of eelworm is severe, and it looks as if little of the corn will be harvested, it is better to cut your losses, plough it in and sow a root crop or temporary grass.

Mangles, turnips or kale can be sown; or, if a temporary ley is put in, it will give silage cuts of reasonable bulk.

If the attack of eelworm is very mild the crop may be nursed along to give a reasonable yield by fairly heavy top-dressing of nitrogen—but only where the attack is really light.

The nitrogen enables the plants to grow in spite of the pest, which attacks the roots and kills off the plants in time.

The way to deal with eelworm is to avoid it by practising a proper rotation which gives each field a rest from corn for a couple of seasons or more.

The same applies to the beet eelworm, which caused great damage in Co. Wexford a couple of years ago on land that had been continually cropped with beet for years.

Experimental work is going on with bacteria which are parasites of the eelworm, and this approach may lead to a new attitude to the whole problem.

Early Hay Is Best

MAKE up your mind this year to cut your hay earlier. It is far better in feeding value if cut before the seeds take all the good out of the leaves and the rest of the plant.

Food value lies mainly in the leaf. You could also think of trying out tripod hay this year. Make a few tripods during the next few weeks and see how they work out.

Letter To The Editor

Sir,
As a person who has dealt with juvenile and minor footballers and hurlers for some time, I agree with Peadar Byrne's sentiments.
Too often, I have seen a lad whom I thought had all the makings of a top-class player in a few years time being ruined by being introduced into the junior grade.

The real fault, is, of course, in the system of grading. My idea is, when your senior days are over, hang up your boots. It is the tough—now slowed-up—old-timers who cause most of the trouble. They try to

make up for their lack of speed and failing dexterity by a kick-and-rush, devil-take-the-hindmost brand of football (not so much in hurling), which is, of course, the ruination of a good minor.

Many is the unwary youth, who full of tricks and speed, springs into the attack only to find himself on the turf withering in agony. No, I think senior grade is a far better bet. Skill and speed are indispensable factors if a player wants to keep his place on a senior county team.

SEAN DOYLE,
Ballyfermot.

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THE CHOICEST OF BREEDS AVAILABLE

Among the SHORTHORN bulls are those picked from the Groby, Barnelms, Gratwicke and Islip Herds, including a Histon bull by the now famous HISTON DAIRY PREMIER, who is improving daughter yields by 161 gallons.

The average of 11 heifers sired by the beautifully proportioned bull ISLIP WILD BARITONE is 6,988lbs. in their first lactation.

Included in the FRIESIAN Stud are sons of Thurlow S. Marius, Pewsey Priamus and TERLING PROCTOR. The latter is improving daughter averages by 189 gallons.

The HEREFORD and ABERDEEN ANGUS sires are all prize winners, and are carefully chosen as suitable for Cross Breeding.

The Office opens from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on Sunday from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. All "noticed last evening" calls must reach us before 10.30 a.m., otherwise they cannot be treated as urgent. All other calls must be in before 2.30 p.m., otherwise they may not be attended to until the following forenoon.

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CORK DISTRICT MILK BOARD

Cattle Breeding Service

The Board's Calf Marketing Service is available on request, for the cartagging of heifer calves of dairy breeds for future identification to sire and dam. This service is entirely free to all cow owners in the Board's licensed area, which embraces, roughly, the district enclosed by a line extending from Oyster Haven, via Upton, Farran, Inniscarra and Blarney, to Carrignavar and thence to Carrigtuoill.

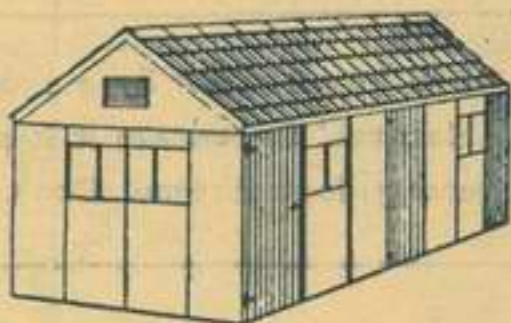
The insemination service also is available on level terms to all cow owners (whether registered with the Board or not) within the licensed area. Station should be notified immediately cow is noticed "on heat."

Phone "Cork 24202."

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Our Hereford and Aberdeen Angus bulls include many R.D.S. prize winners.

PEDIGREES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

IMPROVE YOUR HERD BY AVAILING OF A.I.

ALL-IRELAND HURLING RECORDS

FOR those interested in keeping records, the following list of All-Ireland finalists and winners should prove useful. The first-named are the winners:

1887—Tipperary (Galway); 1888—Unfinished; 1889—Dublin—Kickhams (Clare—Tulla); 1890—Cork (Waterford); 1891—Kerry (Waterford); 1892—Cork (Dublin); 1893—Cork (Kilkenny); 1894—Cork (Dublin); 1895—Tipperary (Kilkenny); 1896—Tipperary (Dublin); 1897—Limerick (Kilkenny); 1898 Tipperary (Kilkenny); 1899—Tipperary (Waterford); 1900—Tipperary (London Desmonds); 1901—London-Irish (Cork); 1902—Cork (London); 1903—Cork (Lon-

don); 1904—Kilkenny (Cork); 1905—Kilkenny (Cork); 1906—Tipperary (Dublin); 1907—Kilkenny (Cork); 1908—Tipperary (Dublin); 1909—Kilkenny (Tipperary); 1910—Waterford (Limerick); 1911—Kilkenny (Limerick); 1912—Kilkenny (Cork); 1913—Kilkenny (Tipperary); 1914—Clare (Laois), 1915—Laois (Cork); 1916—Tipperary (Kilkenny); 1917—Dublin (Tipperary); 1918—Limerick—Wexford; 1919—Cork (Dublin); 1920—Dublin (Cork); 1921—Limerick (Dublin); 1922—Kilkenny (Tipperary); 1923—Galway (Limerick); 1924—Dublin (Galway); 1925—Tipperary (Galway); 1926—Cork (Kilkenny); 1927—Dublin (Cork); 1928-29—Cork (Galway); 1930—Tipperary (Dublin)

1931—Cork (Kilkenny); 1932—Kilkenny (Clare); 1933—Kilkenny (Limerick); 1934—Limerick (Dublin); 1935—Kilkenny (Limerick); 1936—Limerick (Kilkenny); 1937—Tipperary (Kilkenny); 1938—Dublin (Waterford); 1939—Kilkenny (Cork); 1940—Limerick (Kilkenny); 1941-42—Cork (Dublin); 1943—Cork (Antrim); 1944—Cork (Dublin); 1945—Tipperary (Kilkenny); 1946—Cork (Kilkenny); 1947—Kilkenny (Cork); 1948—Waterford (Dublin); 1949—Tipperary (Leix); 1950—Tipperary (Kilkenny); 1951—Tipperary (Wexford); 1952—Cork (Dublin); 1953—Cork (Galway); 1954—Cork (Wexford); 1955—Wexford (Galway); 1956—Wexford (Cork).



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What's Wrong with Dublin?

By PEADAR BYRNE.

THE records show Dublin as one of the greatest football counties in the country. In fact the Metropolitans are second only to famed Kerry in the All-Ireland roll of honour, having captured 15 titles to the Kingdom's 17.

Take another glance at the record book, however, and you will discover that 1942 was the last year in which the Blue Riband of Gaelic football rested in Dublin.

In other words, the Metropolis, for all the formidable teams they have fielded in the interim, have been in the football wilderness for the past fifteen years, as far as titles were concerned.

And that's what has supporters seeing red just now. Fifteen years is a long time to have to wait for success, and Dubliners are getting a little tired of seeing their efforts thwarted year after year.

STILL A FORCE.

True, St. Vincents have done a lot to put Dublin back on the football map. Almost single-handed they have taken on the cream of the country, and although they failed to notch a title, they gave warning to all and sundry that Dublin were still a force to be reckoned with in the football world.

The Marino men served up some regal football but always there was something missing. When the machine clicked, the "Vins" were a devastating unit; but when it back-fired, there never seemed to be anyone who could marshal the disorganised forces.

The steely backbone which is a vital part in the make-up of provincial teams is missing. A few men who can "rough" it when the going

is tough are a great asset to any team. The Dublin teams of recent years just didn't have any such players, and consequently when the heat was really on, they were usually found wanting.

And this is where supporters are clamouring for a major overhaul in the present method of selecting Dublin teams. Introduce players from outside the city, they say, and the "Blues" will soon be back on the winning trail. And somehow, I am inclined to agree with them.

Don't get me wrong. By players from outside the city I don't mean playing non-natives. The days when Dublin teams were known as "Irish selections" have now gone, and let us hope they will never return.

TALENT ABOUNDS.

Let the selectors utilise the talent that abounds in the more remote parts of the county. Teams like St. Mary's Saggart, St. Margarets, Erin's Isle and O'Dwyers play vigorous, yet scrupulously fair, football. These are the men to restore Dublin's football prestige.

But don't discard the St. Vincent's men entirely. Throw in five "outsiders" with the Marino men and you'll have a blend fit to match the best in the country.

Remember, the victorious 1942 team was powered in the main by South County players. A little tactful probing by the present selectors could well set the bonfires blazing once again on the banks of the Liffey.



The Dublin defence goes all out to stop Cork forward Christy O'Shea from scoring in the recent tussle between these counties.

New Pitch For Crumlin

ON October 31 next, Dublin will have another new playing pitch capable of catering for County Championship and National League games. The new pitch will be at Stanaway Park, Crumlin, and in charge of construction is well-known footballer and hurler, Des. Ferguson.

Des's job is to build four modern pavilions and a wall around the pitch, which is itself ready for use.

It is also hoped to build a stand over the pavilions and terracing on the other end of the pitch.

FOR YOUR DIARY

The Games And The Dates In Connacht

May 19—J.F. at Charlestown Galway v. Leitrim; Roscommon v. Sligo.

May 26.—Four-County Hurling: At Charlestown: Mayo v. Sligo; at Roscommon: Roscommon v. Leitrim.

June 2.—J. F. Semi-final: Mayo v. Roscommon or Sligo; if Roscommon at Castlebar; if Sligo at Ballymote.

June 9.—S.F. at Roscommon: Roscommon v. Mayo.

June 16.—Four-County Hurling Final: Venue to be arranged.

June 23.—S.F. at Carrick-on-Shannon: Leitrim v. Sligo; M.F. at Roscommon: Roscommon v. Mayo.

June 30.—S.F. and M.F. semi-finals: Galway v. Roscommon or Mayo; if Roscommon at Roscommon; if Mayo at Tuam.

July 14.—Senior and Minor football finals at Pearse Stadium, Galway.

July 21.—Junior Football final: Venue to be arranged.

Junior Hurling Final—Date and venue to be arranged.

Did you know?

Sweat House

More numerous in the North but found throughout the country, always beside a stream, the Sweat House is not an uncommon sight. Generally circular in shape, with its walls gradually closing in to form the roof, it resembles a small crude beehive hut, so common in West Kerry. It was used for treatment of rheumatic diseases. Profuse sweating was induced by heating the interior with turf fires and this was followed by a plunge in the cold stream. This treatment was also used by the local girls to beautify their complexions before going to a fair or village dance. Such buildings are, from the simplicity of their construction undateable. Although many examples are not more than a century or two old, it is generally held that such buildings were originally built outside the span of recorded history.

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Handball Spotlight

(BY J. K. CLARKE).

Cork City Handball Club

(From our Correspondent)

MR. M. O'HALLORAN, CHAIRMAN, PRESIDED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CORK CITY HANDBALL CLUB, HELD RECENTLY. HE PAID TRIBUTE TO D. SLOCUM AND J. PARKER WHO HAD BROUGHT HONOURS TO THE CLUB AFTER A VERY LONG SPELL.

The Club, he said, had a great tradition, and for years was the rendezvous for such notable players as the late Judge Dunn and Oliver Drew.

The Chairman appealed to the younger members to keep up the proud tradition of the club and to devote more time to their playing. Handball was the best "fitness" game to-day, and even those who played it for that purpose alone, were not frowned upon by the Committee and were, in fact, quite welcome to the use of the Court within limits.

A handball club, however, was mainly for those whose ambition was to become representative players, otherwise there would be no worthwhile progress.

Continuing, the Chairman informed the Board of the forthcoming visit of Mr. Harry Hyde, New York Athletic Club, who intends playing a series of matches throughout the country.

Harry was born in Cork, is the present Junior Champion of America. During 1954, he had visited the country and defeated some of the best players available here.

Following a long discussion, the Club agreed to place on record their appreciation of Harry's visit, and to assure him of their best support at his matches.

The Treasurer's (Mr. J. Parker) report, which showed a credit balance, was unanimously adopted.

THE recent presentation of an award to John Ryan, of Wexford, as the outstanding handballer of 1956, directs attention in a special manner to the achievements of one of the most outstanding players in modern times.

John was born at Rathnure, in Enniscorthy, nearly 30 years ago, but did most of his playing at Barn town, where he drives a tractor on a farm.

He came into prominence in 1947, when he won the Irish minor (under 18 years) softball singles title.

In the following year, he took the Irish junior singles title in the same code, but had to wait four years—till 1952—for his first success in senior grade. In that year, he took three of the four Irish titles—the two singles and the H.B. doubles, partnered by John Doyle—thus sharing with J. J. Gilmartin, of Kilkenny, the distinction of winning both senior singles championships in one year.

SETBACK

In 1953, he experienced a setback, losing two of these titles—the S.B. singles and H.B. doubles, but retaining the premier event—the H.B. singles.

In 1954, he regained the H.B. doubles and S.B. singles, but lost the premier title to A. Clarke (Dublin). He also won the newly inaugurated All-Ireland Gael Linn Cup competition, an event in which 180 of our leading softball men took part.

Two years ago, he successfully defended the S.B. singles and H.B. doubles titles, and became joint winner of the All-Ireland Tostal S.B.D. Competition, with C. Delaney as partner.

Last year saw him again successfully defend his S.B. crown and the All-Ireland Gael Linn Cup, thus bringing his total of All-Ireland Championship gold medals to 13, 11 of them in senior.

FOUR SENIOR TITLES

The National S.B. doubles title is the only one that has so far eluded him, although he figured in the final of it no later than last season.

Incidentally, J. J. Gilmartin (Kilkenny) is the only player in the his-

tory of this great game who won all four senior titles—a feat performed brilliantly in 1939.

Will 1957 be John Ryan's year to equal that record? All the signs give the Wexford man an outstanding chance.

Generally speaking, Ryan is considered a temperamental player, liable at any time to strike an off day and to throw it there, as it were; but when in form he is without peer in Ireland, especially in singles.

He has most of the attributes that make a player great—strength, accuracy, court-craft, good use of either hand as demanded by the Irish game, and a commendable sense of gentlemanly conduct in the court, which endears him to all.

He is still young enough to win many further National titles for his native county, and who can tell, he may yet surpass even the all-time record of 25 Irish championship successes set up by that prince of ball-players, J. J. Gilmartin.

With a trip to America in the offing this year, Ryan's chance of adding International laurels to his honours list is a distinct possibility.

The conditions, however, under which he may be called upon to play could prove a deal different from those to which he is accustomed here at home, especially in relation to the size and structure of the American court, which is popularly indoor, with wooden floor, 20 feet shorter and 10 feet narrower than ours.

SMALLER BALL

Then a smaller and different type of India-rubber ball, from the impact of which it is necessary to protect the hands with padded gloves, is a likely further handicap; while the fact that our players here have not developed the over-hand stroke, especially on the left or weaker side, could prove a set-back in a small court.

However, with a little foresight, and special practice, these difficulties could be countered.

Connacht Handball Council

Chairman, Michael Hannon, Sligo; sec. and treas., Steve Casey, Galway.

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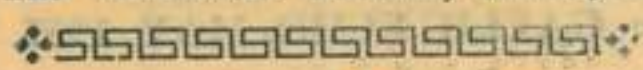
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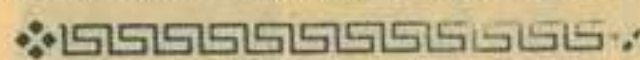
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A Piece Of Good Advice

NOW that the evenings are stretching out like a gander's neck, hurlers and footballers alike will be getting out their gear and preparing for the day when their teams will be starting the championship race, writes Slaneyman.

Even now some young lads are swallowing their teas in a hurry in order to get a run while there is still a little light on the sky.

And from experience I believe there is nothing better than the

feel of a hurley or a football and the hope that we will make the team whatever the grade in the championship.

And to the young aspirant I would say: if you have been inactive during the winter get in all the practice you can and that goes for some of the older ones, too.

Because if you practise hard you will be bound to come under the selectors eye and if they see a lad making an honest endeavour they will not pass him by in favour of someone who is not so keen to practise.

The best practice of all is match play; and an active club will see to it that its players get plenty of

matches and always (if possible) with teams that are a little better than themselves.

Another good way to practise if you cannot get a full team together is, a seven-a-side or back and forwards with a couple of lads out-field pucking in or kicking in as the case may be and it is always a good plan to have a couple of balls too, so that everyone will be kept going. So much for match play.

To those who have hurling and football ability but lack speed I would recommend plenty of running and above all, short sprints. The sprints are the only sure way of building up the extra speed so necessary for a top-class team.

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Behind the Kerry team lay the memory of generations of green and gold jerseyed players, whose record was impregnable, whose fight back from apparently impossible positions has become a bye-word.

At half-time in that game, Cavan were leading 0-7 to 0-2; playing spectacular and winning football. Kerry disorganised and playing badly. What other team could have so completely turned the tide in the second half but Kerry

Were the shades of the great ones of the past out there among them in the second half; was Con Brosnan pulling down those high balls at centre-field for his successor, and another great Kerry midfielder in the making, Mick O'Connell; was the great old-time place-kicker Dick Fitzgerald, controlling Tadhg Lyne's equalising point from a free; John Joe Landers presiding genially over

'Pop' Fitzgerald's winning point? That imponderable—tradition—was behind the Kerry men. When they trooped out for the second half, they cannot have had any very sanguine hopes of victory, but that great round of recoveries against the odds which has been a Kerry stock-in-trade over the years, subconsciously fortified them, spurred them on, and won for them.

This thing tradition, which is so mysterious in its content, had as certain a hand in the outcome of the game as any of the players; a sixteenth way for Kerry.

The effect of a tradition stretching into the past is a psychological one; it breeds confidence and helps the present generation in an unconscious, subtle kind of way. We cannot define it, nor can we anticipate its effect.

But without any doubt we can see in retrospect the points at which their great forbears urge on the flagging men on the field.

The line of great players, who have donned the colours for years seem to instill a quiet confidence, a steady influence in a crisis, the little extra incentive in the moment of uncertainty about the victory.

Influence

Perhaps the greatest and most impressive indication of the influence of tradition, albeit an illusive influence, is the number of important games, in which, when the issue was close, the victory went to the side backed by a long line of conspicuous achievement.

How many years did it not take the present great Wexford hurling machine to establish itself, simply because it had no background. Probably as good then, individually as they are now, they lost in the All-Ireland series year after year.

Inexperienced, like new wine which has not settled, they could not grasp the initiative from teams who were no better than them, but who had that wonderful, steadying tradition-laden atmosphere at their backs.

The whole essence of the influence of tradition is something in the nature of a superiority complex in those who possess it; an inferiority complex in those who have not got it.

That is a vastly comforting and confidence-giving frame of mind. This psychological effect is especially noticeable in games between teams where the result in the past has invariably been one-sided.

Underdogs

If the underdogs take the lead, and even if they work a winning position, a sort of inability to believe their own good-fortune undermines them and causes them to give away scores in a queer spirit, almost of fatalism.

So tradition does mean a lot, and all over things being equal it is the deciding factor. Cork hurlers and Kerry footballers know all about it, and it probably means more to them than to the other counties, for they head the list of achievements, factually speaking.

As in players, so in spectators there is the effect of tradition. Those who are soaked in it, who wade through the star-names and the big occasions, are so often concerned with great deeds done that the attitude of mind is transferred, as it were, and they become inspired with confidence in the present.

The newcomers, however, have a band of highly excited supporters, for they live in fear and hope for the outcome, wondering whether their players can do it—not knowing like their tradition-soaked brethren they certainly can do it, the only question being will they do it.

HAVE WE FAILED?

ASKS MAC LUA

THE purpose of the Gaelic Athletic Association is to foster in the hearts of Irish men and women a love for what is their own—country, language, culture and games.

It was for this purpose that the Association was founded, and it is for this purpose and this purpose alone it must function.

To-day, with a membership totalling almost a quarter of a million, the G.A.A. stands supreme as the largest body, be it political, professional or otherwise in Ireland.

But the question we must now ask is: Has it succeeded? At a moment's thought we might say "Of course, it has; look at the membership and the popularity of the games," but further consideration will prove otherwise.

The Association has succeeded in growing to an enormous strength. It has expanded probably further than even Michael Cusack visualised. In this respect, it has succeeded

in striking fashion, but when one remembers that the games were intended to constitute only a part of that programme, which includes our language and culture, it is apparent that there is much to be achieved yet.

Over the years, the energy of the Association has been spent in fostering our native games and success has crowned these efforts. Football is now at a peak of popularity and hurling, although not as widely played, is definitely getting a grip in the midlands and in the North.

The task of fostering our games is completed; they are with us to stay. But the same cannot be said about our native language and culture—these are dying a slow death. Until the G.A.A. plays its part in arresting this decay and our national heritage is restored, it cannot claim to have fulfilled the aspirations of its founders, Cusack, Davin and Croke.

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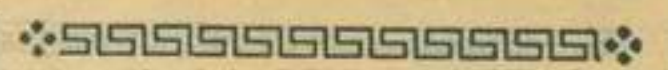
WHIT weekend is the date for the Fifth WORLD FLY FISHING COMPETITION, sponsored by the Castlebar club and the venue, of course, LOUGH MASK. Each year has proved more successful than the preceding one, due tribute to the efficiency and hospitality of the promoters. This year the Castlebar club have gone all out to increase the numbers of

over-seas competitors, and to emphasise the international character of the competitions, are offering in addition to the usual prize-fund of £500, a special prize of £100 to the best entry from abroad.

Fishing on the lake has improved considerably within the past few years, since the results of the praiseworthy activities of the INLAND FISHERIES have come

to light in the form of big fish and big catches with remarkable consistency. Angling in the area, as a result, has been given a tremendous fillip and existing clubs report their highest ever membership, while three new clubs have affiliated from the Ballinrobe area.

It is expected that the hosting of anglers in Castlebar at Whit will break all previous records.



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Mayo Needs Some Scoring Forwards

By LIAM S. O h-OISTIN.

"WANTED—SCORING FORWARDS" might well be the cry of the Mayo selectors as they see the hard work and earnest endeavour of stalwart backs and a brilliant mid-field pair come to naught because of the scarcity of scoring forwards.

And what type of "baste", you may ask, is a "scoring" forward? Are not, or should not, all forwards be "scoring" forwards? To answer the second query first: there are two types of player termed "forwards" in present-day football. (1) The type who can play football, but can't shoot for "nuts"; (2) The type who can play football, but can also shoot points! The second type is what I term a "scoring" forward—a species fast becoming extinct in Gaelic football but especially in Mayo.

GOOD LUCK SCORING

The first type of forward mentioned often does the supplying for the "scoring" forward and has been known, on occasions, to have been mistaken for one of the latter, but more often than not, he has been selected in the attack because nothing better is available. He may get scores but you and I—yes, and he himself—know that it was good luck rather than good guidance that sent the ball over the bar. So that for any team going out on a field to feel happy about the outcome, at least three SCORING forwards are necessary, forwards who can be reasonably certain, in four cases out of five, that they can send the ball where they intend it to go.

As footballers, Mayomen are second to none, a tribute which

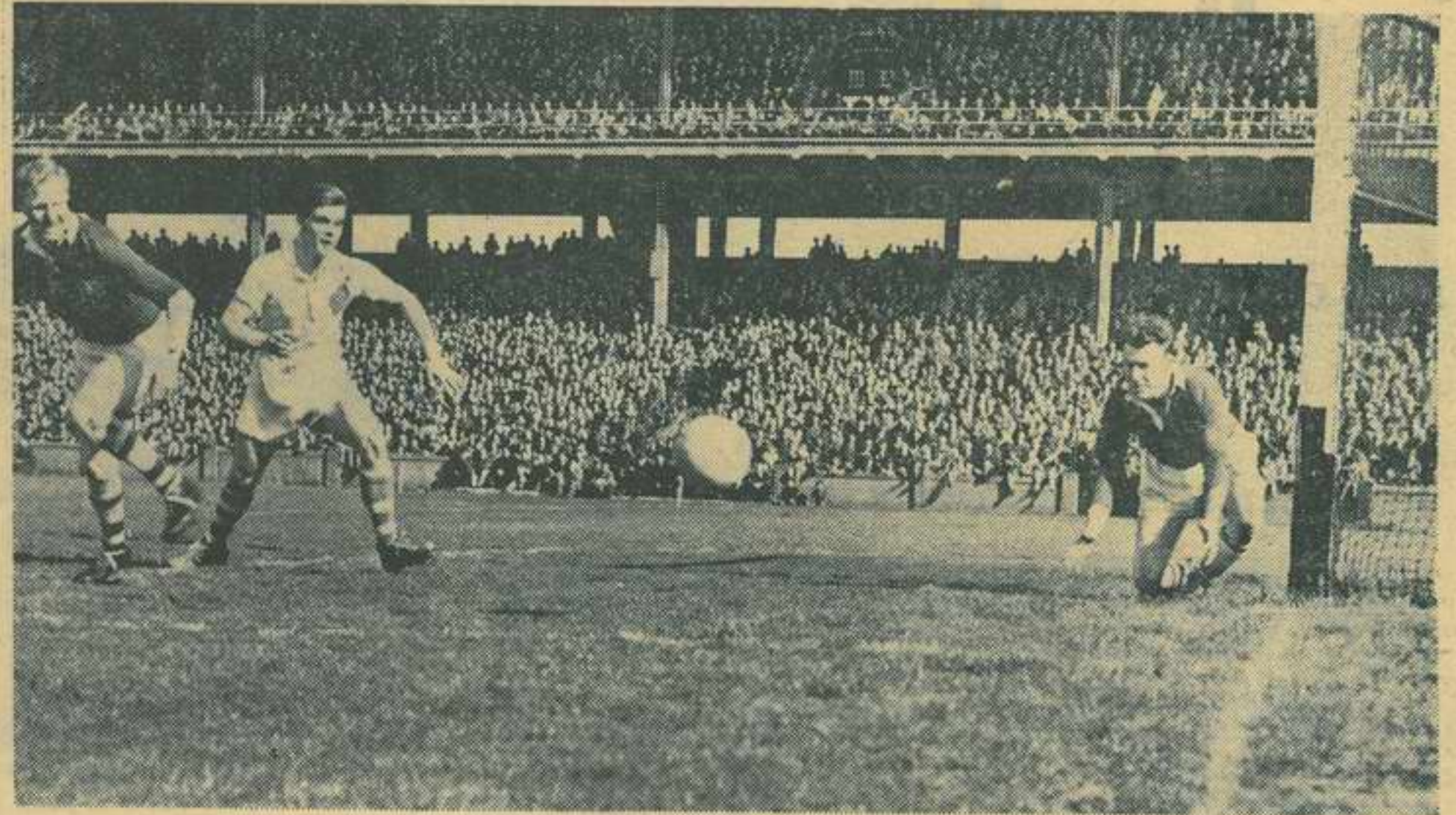
can, in all fairness, be also paid to the present crop of players. But the indisputable fact remains that the present attack lacks the finish so necessary to bring scores and to achieve the success that the hard work of the other sections of the team so richly deserve. The fault, may, in part, be due to some members being played out of their best positions, but to my mind, the fault primarily lies with the players themselves who should not rest happy until they have mastered their trade, in this case, accurate shooting.

ASSIDIOUS PRACTICE, and nothing else, can produce the results and to young earnest players this should not be an im- or unreasonable request.

MY SELECTION

Hoping, then, for the best, and trusting to the youth of Mayo to strive for the standard of marksmanship attained by such as JOSIE MUNNELLY, GERALD COUR-ELL, PADRAIG CARNEY, TOMMY HOBAN or PETER SOLAN, I try my hand at selecting "my" Mayo team for 1957:

E. R. O'Neill	W. Casey	B. Keane	J. MacAndrew
F. Fleming	J. Duffy	E. Moriarty	J. Nallen (capt.)
W. Shannon	J. T.	T.	T.
O'Connell	MacDonagh	Quigley	B. R.
MacLoughlin	Davey	MacDonnell	C.



Galway goalkeeper Jack Mangan crouches low to seal off the corner of his goal from this low Tyrone shot in the recent National League clash between these counties. On left, Tyrone full-forward, Frank Higgins, has slipped inside Galway full-back, Gerry Daly.

Connachtman's Ramblings

By "FEAR SIUIL."

SEAN FLANAGAN, out of the game since last June, made a welcome come-back in the deciding match in Group A of Mayo Senior League and contributed in no small way to East Mayo's decisive win over North Mayo. Sean filled a new role, for, playing in the strange (to him) position of centre-half forward, he scored 1-4 of his side's total. Queried as to future intentions, his reply was: "No—just filling in for Alec Slattery!"

Paddy Prendergast will, it is rumoured, assist his native Ballintubber in this year's championship. His presence on the team could pave the way for another all-out effort to win the county title.

Sean Wynne, star goalkeeper of Mayo's All-Ireland winning sides in 1950 and 1951, made a successful re-appearance in his old position recently. Aably fronted by Willie Casey, he turned in a performance reminiscent of his best days. The fact that he has been out of the game for the past two years did not seem to have had any effect on his eagle eye, his uncanny anticipation or his brilliant net-minding.

Henry Kenny, member of Mayo's 1936 All-Ireland team, and Sean Flanagan, captain of 1950 and 1951 teams, have other things besides All-Ireland medals in common. They are Mayo's representatives on the Connacht Council and are both T.D.'s for South Mayo.

And talking of T.D.'s—Connacht hold a strong football hand in Dail Eireann with Mick Donnellan, All-Ireland winner with Galway in 1934, and Jack MacQuillan, winner of medals with Roscommon in 1943 and 1944 as fellow-deputies of the Mayo men.

Congratulations and best wishes go to brilliant Galway defender, Tom Dillon, on the occasion of his marriage. Go mairidh se a nuaiocht!

Craughwell is to lose one of their star hurlers in Frank Connolly, who is going to the U.S.A. Frank was also a County Galway hurler and is sure to be missed.

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New Extension To College at Bray

(Gaelic Echo Staff Reporter)
WITH all the talk of recession in the building trade and a standstill in construction work it is our pleasant duty to confound the pessimists and report the opening of a new £75,000 extension to the Presentation College at Bray, Co. Wicklow.

The two storey extension which is attached to the old school contains five classrooms, four dormitories, an assembly hall, four dressing rooms, in addition to the latest in toilet facilities.

ADDITIONAL ROOM
As well as providing additional room for boarders, extra sleeping accommodation is also provided for the staff.

Many revolutionary features are incorporated in the new assembly hall which covers an area of 2,700 sq. feet. The use of special acoustic plastering on the walls, thus ensuring first quality sound reproduction, is of particular note.

Carlow Junior Hurlers Advance

AFTER being beaten in the first round every year since 1935, Carlow's junior hurlers have at last crossed the "first fence." At Dr. Cullen Park on the first Sunday in April, they beat their neighbours, Wicklow, in a hard-fought game, and so qualified to meet Wexford in the second round at Ennis-corthy.

Is Carlow hurling on the

upgrade, one may ask? It may well be—perhaps they are getting an infusion of the hurling "fever" that is sweeping Wexford and Kilkenny of late.

What are Carlow's chances against Wexford? If they display the same fighting spirit as was evident in their game with Wicklow, they should be on the right side of the scoreboard at the finish of the series.

Clear That Ball!



Clearing the lines... Ballyfin's goalkeeper, Tom Bowe, takes a puck at the ground ball to relieve pressure during the St. Kieran's onslaught at the recent match between these two colleges played at Athy.

The final of the Moynihan Cup senior football tournament played at Clonmel recently resulted in victory for St. Finnan's, Ardfinnan, over St. Patrick's, Drangan. The tournament was sponsored by the Old Bridge club, Clonmel, and Ardfinnan are the first winners of the trophy.

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JUNIOR GAELS' PAGE



Appearance In Croke Park of Ulster College

BY ULSTERCOL
THE APPEARANCE IN CROKE PARK, FOR THE FIRST TIME OF ST. COLMAN'S COLLEGE, NEWRY, MARKS A HIGHLIGHT IN THE FOOTBALL CAREER OF THAT SCHOOL, FOR THIS IS THE FURTHEST A VIOLET HILL TEAM HAVE EVER GONE IN SENIOR FOOTBALL, AND THE HOGAN FINAL BRINGS TO A CLOSE THEIR MOST SUCCESSFUL SEASON EVER.

The pros and cons of that game have been fairly well discussed by now, but enough to say that St. Colman's are convinced that were they to re-live that hour against St. Nathy's, they could reverse that verdict in a big way.

The team was mainly composed of veterans of Ulster colleges' senior football over the past three years, and featured such stars as P. T. Treacy, Tommy Keenan (captain), Larry McArtan, Liam Watson and Leo Murphy, not to speak of Dan McArtan, Fintan Mussen and Pat O'Hagan.

Nearly all the others have seen action in junior football, and played on the side which captured the Rannafast Cup last year (1955-56). All of them are well below the age limit, and it is only fair to say that they owe their success in no small measure to 'old hands' like Watson, Murphy, Keenan and McArtan, who returned for a second year in senior grade.

Unfortunately, next year's selection, though respectable enough, can hardly hope to go the length of the present team, as most of the best men will be departing at the end of the year.

But although St. Colman's juniors were narrowly defeated by the present season's ultimate winners, Abbey C.B.S., Newry, the college lads, nevertheless, face the future with confidence, for in

their victorious Corn na n-Og side they feel they have the nucleus of a future All-Ireland 15 and are determined to see Croke Park more than once.

It took three years of patient, solid endeavour before a team of this calibre could evolve, and the credit for this achievement must surely go to the 'men behind the scenes' Father J. Treanor and Dr. Jim Fitzsimons.

When one considers that, taking boarders and day-boys together, St. Colman's number no more than 160 strong, the task of these two men will be appreciated.

However, the boundless energy and ardent enthusiasm with which they tackled it, has had its reward. Not only did the Newry College win the coveted MacRory Cup and the Corn na n-Og, but just to show that they can hold their own in

the academic field, they retained the Ashbourne Shield for the second year in succession.

That leaves three trophies on the shelf in St. Colman's this year. No mean achievement for the smallest college in Ulster, if not in the country!

Words Of Wisdom

"HISTORY has never been made by the millions—the few who sacrificed themselves did all that the world is proud of."

—William Rooney.

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K.A.A.

Craughwell junior grade A was knocked out on Sunday, April 7th, in the first round of the South Galway hurling championship by Ballindereen. Craughwell was trying out some of their minor players.

Clonmel Cycling Club is sponsoring a 300 miles—3 day Road Race in three stages on June 8, 9, 10, covering Munster and South Leinster.

ST. NATHYS AHEAD IN HANDBALL

ST. NATHY'S College, Ballaghaderreen, handball team look like emulating the feat of their championship-winning Senior football team, if one is to judge by their facile victory over Roscommon C.B.S., in both Senior and Junior grades. The college's tradition in handball goes back to the inauguration of the series and for many years the Connacht Colleges title was but a forerunner to the late CARDINAL MAC RORY shield, trophy for the All-Ireland tests, finding a resting-place for yet another year on the Ballaghaderreen College sideboard. In K. Sheridan, who played in both tests, Senior and Junior, J. Moloney, and F. MacGrath, St. Nathy's have handballers worthy of its great tradition.



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But choosing a piano exactly suitable to one's needs is not always an easy task, so don't neglect to take expert advice: it is to be had for the asking at McCullough's Ltd., 56 Dawson Street—a firm which has made piano selling a speciality, and where an expert staff has been gathered together over the years.

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With full-back Ned Roche (No. 3) back in the goalmouth to help Dan O'Neill and centre half-back Tom Moriarty ranging nearby, the odds were against a goal, but the Cacan forward, doubling back outfield, seems content with a point as the ball goes sailing over. (A goalmouth incident in the recent thrilling tussle between Kerry and Cavan).

**MUST THEY
EMIGRATE?**

Says SEAN O'NEILL
RECENTLY we had the spectacle of two of the country's most versatile players, Des. Ferguson and Norman Allen, of Dublin, joining that long list of emigrating Gaels.

A last minute offer of work kept Des. Ferguson at home, but Norman Allen is gone—gone from the county he served, the home and friends he loved and the games he played so well, and we, the members of the Gaelic Athletic Association, are to blame.

Over the past ten years Norman gave our native games much of his spare time. He rose from the minor ranks to become one of the brightest stars in both Leinster football and hurling.

Sunday after Sunday we saw him at Croke Park, Parnell Park, or wherever Dubliners were in action. He gave us pleasure, something to watch and admire.

He gave Dublin every ounce of his strength and energy and shared in her glorious hours, and in return for this we gave him the emigrant ship.

But, then, Norman Allen was not the first and surely he will not be the last, but being one of our most prominent members, he represents all the others, both of the past and future.

We the members of the Gaelic Athletic Association are part of Ireland's biggest and most widespread organisation, an organisation with unlimited influence, resources and

contacts, so why not let's use them—not alone to protect the Association and repay its members for services given, but also to protect and safeguard our country and its future.

An example has been set by the Dublin County Board in the case of Des Ferguson, who is now in charge of the development of the new £15,000 Crumlin pitch, but this, I am sad to say, is the only such prominent example.

I do not suggest that all unemployed members should on threat of emigration become the immediate liability of the Association.

This would be fantastic, but I would very definitely suggest that it is the duty of the G.A.A., from junior club to Central Council level, to strive to the utmost of its ability and influence to protect its members from the curse of the emigrant ship.

**Clare Island
Match**

CLARE Island, ocean-girt stronghold of sea-queen, Grace O'Malley, lying off the west Mayo coast, made G.A.A. history by staging a home match in the Louisburgh parish competition, held annually for the Austin O'Toole Memorial Cup. This was the island's first essay in the competition and they celebrated the big day by defeating the holders, Louisburgh town, 4-7 to 2-7.

The mainlanders brought two boat-loads of supporters, but the islanders, who had trained assiduously for the game, scored a resounding victory which sent their stock soaring and marks them as strong contenders for Cup honours.

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