

Gaelic **echo**

Focus On
Northern G.A.A

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The Stars Of 1957



SEAN CLOHOSEY



By the voting of the Gaelic Echo sportswriters Chris ty Ring is the outstanding G.A.A. personality of the year.



KATHLEEN MILLS



PHIL GRIMES

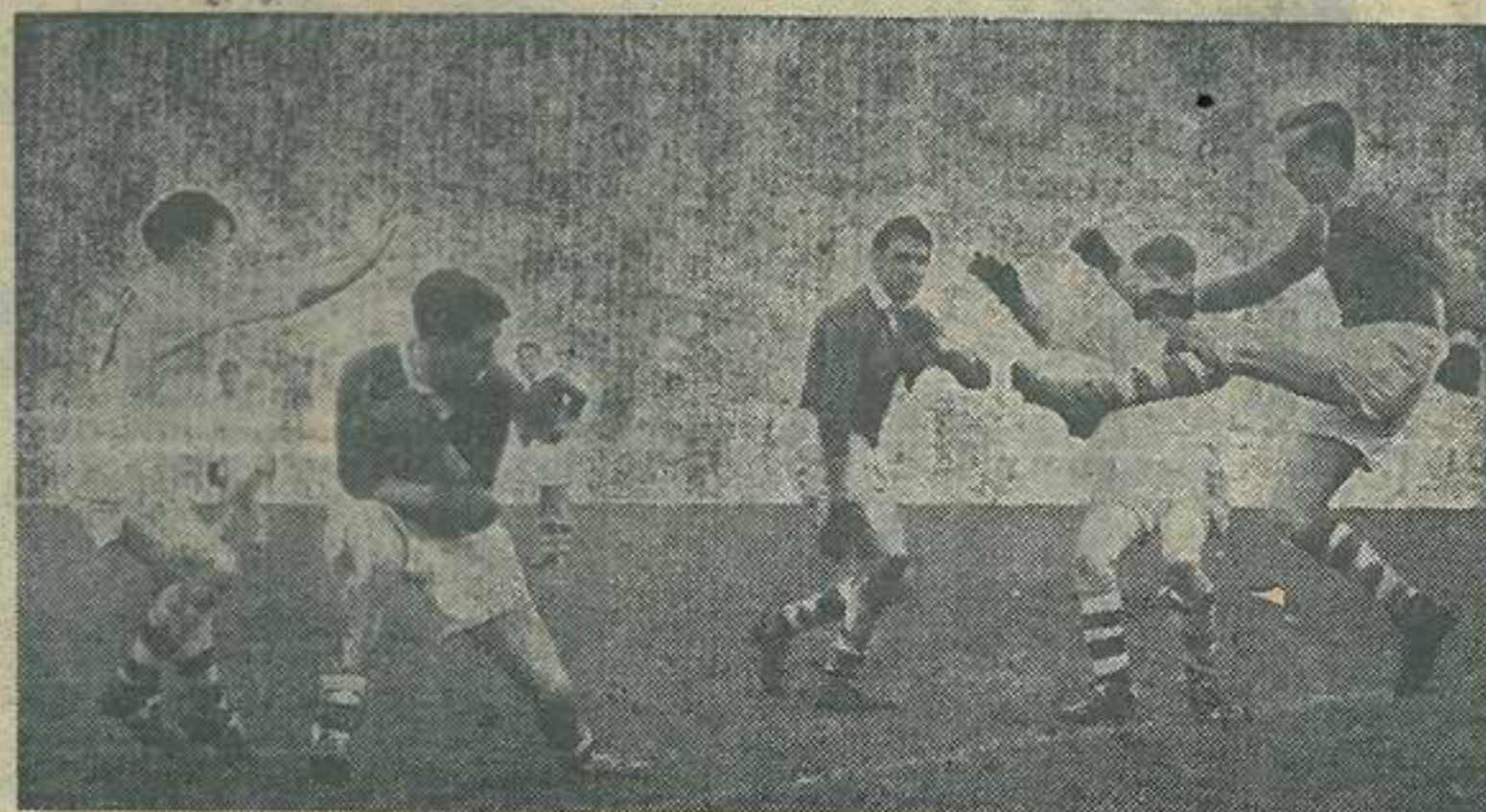


JACK MANGAN



Denis Hyland of Carlow, Irish champion and record holder was probably the outstanding N.A.C.A. athlete of 1957.

WHERE IS THE BALL ?



£100 ENTRY-FREE

G.A.A.

FIND-THE-BALL
COMPETITION

THIS SUNDAY
IN

Sunday
Review

(This is NOT an entry form)

MEET MASTER L-O-N-G . . . Tony Barry

IN last month's ECHO I wrote about Parry O'Brien and the great things he did for shot-putting. Now get wise to a guy who, before he's through could make O'Brien look like a novice.

His name is Dallas Long, a good-looking 17-year-old from the same stable that produced Jim Brewer, the first high-school 15ft. vaulter ever. Long started shot-putting last year and at 6ft. 4ins. and weighing a meaty 15½ stone, had a best of 61ft. 5ins. Pretty good. But came the close-season and Dallas started on a pro-

gramme of weight training to build up strength. Well, with five months to go to the start of the track season, Long, now weighing a hefty 16st. 11lb., has had practice flips of 65ft. 2ins. (12lb.) and 55ft. 7ins. (16lb.). He doesn't know much about the discus yet but is learning. He recently threw over 180 ft. By next season we should know if that junior discus can be thrown over 200 ft.

The future? Coach Verne Wolfe predicts marks of between 66ft. and 70ft. for the 12lb., and between 56ft. and

60ft. for the 16lb. weights for Long, who won't be 18 until next June, and that's good enough for me. Remember, Wolfe is the man who brought Brewer through a season of injuries and psychological pressure and got him over 15ft. in the last meet of the season.

And before anyone starts any nonsense about over emphasis of sport in the States, I should mention that Long is near the top of his class in all subjects—which is more than some of our sports-minded schools can claim for their stars.

Patrick Brian Writes On Glorious Come-back Of Louth Star . . .

Tom Conlon

THE BONFIRES WERE BURNING WITH ADDED ZEST IN STRABANNON, CO. LOUTH, ON THE NIGHT THAT THE "WEE COUNTY" TOOK THIS YEAR'S ALL-IRELAND SENIOR FOOTBALL CROWN AGAINST CORK . . . AND TO FIND THE REASON ONE DOESN'T HAVE TO LOOK VERY FAR. FOR ONE OF THE GIANTS OF THAT MEMORABLE CROKE PARK VICTORY WAS FAIR-HAIRED TOM CONLON, THE 32-YEAR-OLD NEAR-VETERAN OF THE SIDE, WHO HAS GIVEN UNYIELDING SERVICE TO THE PARISH OF STRABANNON.

"I AM AS PROUD OF TOM AS IF HE WERE MY OWN SON." THAT WAS WHAT A SPOKESMAN FOR THE "CELEBRATION COMMITTEE" TOLD ME.



And well they might be . . . for smiling Tom helped them to win one junior and two senior county trophies.

Many were inclined to write Tom off as a senior player, when he failed to find a position on the team that travelled to Navan for a first round Leinster Championship game. And the surest man of the lot was Tom!

But selectors are funny people . . . and Tom was drafted back into the side at centre full for the team to meet Wexford!

And from thereon in he made the position—and rightly so—his own.

Against Cork he had probably his most majestic hour; for he handled with a cool assurance of a circus tight rope walker; placed the leather with the accuracy of an eye of a hawk, and in those final hectic minutes he defended with the strength of an ox, and the heart of a lion.

He was a man among Men!

"That man would break your heart" was what one of the Cork players said to me after the match—one of the most nerve-tingling I have seen for many years.

Tom's early football days followed the pattern of most famous men . . . picking up an odd minor or junior medal . . . but nothing to set the County alight.

But then came 1944 . . . and the senior mentors decided to give him a run at midfield.

Frustration

The following five years were rather frustrating for the Castlebellingham farmer, and would have made many a less stout-hearted player hang up the boots.

For the mentors could not quite make up their mind about Tom . . . and the result was that he was more often off the team as on it!

In 1950 he toggled out against Kildare at Croke Park . . . his first ever Championship appearance for the senior side! They waltzed through the opposition in Leinster . . . but found Mayo too good for them in the All-Ireland final.

But the name of Conlon was now flashing across the sports pages of the National newspapers.

At long last, Tom was in!

Three Railway Cup medals came his way in '52, '53, and '54 . . . and in the middle year he was also honoured by being selected on the Ireland team that defeated the Combined Universities.

And at the moment there's no sign of Tom taking a back seat from Inter-County Football: "I'll be there as long as they want me".

That's the attitude of Tom Conlon, a modest and unassuming 'natural' who came up the hard way.

And that's the spirit that has brought the "Wee County" back into football limelight . . . and I'm told that's the spirit that keep them there!

"We are out for the double". Those were the parting words of a Louth official, who I met the other day.

OUTSTANDING



Consistently fresh, firm and satisfying

**Top 10
of
1957**

By PHILIP RODERICK.

- 1 Christy Ring (Cork).
- 2 Stephen White (Louth).
- 3 Jim McDonnell (Louth).
- 4 Johnny Kiely (Waterford).
- 5 Sean Purcell (Galway).
- 6 Ollie Walsh (Kilkenny).
- 7 Billy Dwyer (Kilkenny).
- 8 Sean Moore (Cork).
- 9 Jack Mangan (Galway).
- 10 Niall Fitzgerald (Cork).

* * *

By PATRICK CARVER.

- 1 Christy Ring (Cork).
- 2 Sean Moore (Cork).
- 3 Jack Mangan (Galway).
- 4 Stephen White (Louth).
- 5 Micky Kelly (Kilkenny).
- 6 Sean Purcell (Galway).
- 7 Johnny Kiely (Waterford).
- 8 Paddy Driscoll (Cork).
- 9 Joe Duggan (Athletics).
- 10 Mick O'Shea (Limerick).

* * *

By JIMMY MAGEE.

- 1 Stephen White (Louth).
- 2 Ollie Walsh (Kilkenny).
- 3 Sean Purcell (Galway).
- 4 Des. Ferguson (Dublin).
- 5 Kevin Beahan (Louth).
- 6 Joe Cunningham (N.A.C.A.).
- 7 Mick O'Connor (Waterford).
- 8 Christy Ring (Cork).
- 9 Kathleen Mills (Camogie).
- 10 John Barron (Waterford).

* * *

By HUGH O'DONNELL.

- 1 Sean Purcell (Galway).
- 2 Mick Kelly (Kilkenny).
- 3 Ollie Walsh (Kilkenny).
- 4 Tom Conlan (Louth).
- 5 Mick O'Shea (Limerick).
- 6 Phil Grimes (Waterford).
- 7 Jim McKeever (Derry).
- 8 C. Ring (Cork).
- 9 Jim McDonnell (Louth).
- 10 Jimmy Smith (Clare).

* * *

By BOB DOLAN.

- 1 Sean Clohosey (Kilkenny).
- 2 Christy Ring (Cork).
- 3 Kevin Beahan (Louth).
- 4 Ollie Walsh (Kilkenny).
- 5 Dinny Hyland (Athletics).
- 6 Peter McArdle (Athletics).
- 7 Sean Purcell (Galway).
- 8 Paddy Driscoll (Cork).
- 9 Denis Heaslip (Kilkenny).
- 10 Jimmy Doyle (Tipperary).

* * *

Personalities of the Year

Picked by the Sportswriters of the Gaelic Echo



Top: Louth, All-Ireland Football Champions.

Middle: Cork, Munster Football Champions.

Lower: Galway, Connaught Football Champions.

AND BY OUR VOTING
TOP MAN
IS

Christy Himself



**Top 10
of
1957**

By LIAM S. O h-OISTIN.

- 1 Stephen White (Louth).
- 2 Michael Og Morrissey (Waterford).
- 3 Ollie Walshe (Kilkenny).
- 4 Jimmy Doyle (Tipperary).
- 5 Sean Purcell (Galway).
- 6 Tom Conlon (Louth).
- 7 Hopper McGrath (Wexford).
- 8 John Ryan (Wexford).
- 9 Mick Greally (Galway).
- 10 Brid Reid (Dublin Camogie team).

* * *

By DON FINLAY.

- 1 Mick Kenny (Kilkenny).
- 2 Sean Purcell (Galway).
- 3 Jim McDonnell (Louth).
- 4 Stephen White (Louth).
- 5 Christy Ring (Cork).
- 6 Frank Stockwell (Galway).
- 7 Seamus O'Reilly (Cycling).
- 8 Frank Donnelly (Tyrone).
- 9 Eddie Devlin (Tyrone).
- 10 Kevin Prendergast (Rockwell and Clonmel A. and C.C.).

* * *

By BRIAN McDONALD.

- 1 Jack Mangan (Galway).
- 2 Ollie Walsh (Kilkenny).
- 3 Joe Cunningham (Athletics).
- 4 Christy Ring (Cork).
- 5 Seamus O'Reilly (Cycling).
- 6 Jimmy Doyle (Tipperary).
- 7 Sean Purcell (Galway).
- 8 John Kiely (Waterford).
- 9 Kevin Beahan (Louth).
- 10 Frankie Donnelly (Tyrone).

* * *

By C. BYRNE.

- 1 Des. Ferguson (Dublin).
- 2 Sean Purcell (Galway).
- 3 Ollie Walsh (Kilkenny).
- 4 Stephen White (Louth).
- 5 Christy Ring (Cork).
- 6 Joe Cunningham (Athletics).
- 7 Kevin Beahan (Louth).
- 8 Frank Donnelly (Tyrone).
- 9 Kathleen Mills (Dublin Camogie Team).
- 10 Josie Munnally (Mayo).

* * *

By CON KELLY.

- 1 Christy Ring (Cork).
- 2 Kathleen Mills (Dublin).
- 3 Ollie Walsh (Kilkenny).
- 4 John Ryan (Wexford).
- 5 Joe Cunningham (Dublin).
- 6 Frank Ward (Dublin).
- 7 Mick O'Shea (Limerick).
- 8 Iggy Jones (Tyrone).
- 9 Jack Mahon (Galway).
- 10 Frank Baird (Dublin).

* * *



Jack Mangan, Galway goalkeeper, well up in our top 10 of the year.



Ollie Walsh, Kilkenny goalkeeper, one of the top 10 G.A.A. personalities of the year.

Athletic Oscars For 1957

PRESENTED BY FRANK SALES

Sprints: C. Vaughan (St. Finbarr's)—440 dominance, near record.
Mid-Distance: B. O'Sullivan (Limerick Regional)—6 All-Irelands.
Long Distance: D. Lennon (Banbridge)—Celtic and All-Ireland Marathons.
Jumps: G. Geraghty (Nenagh Olympic)—All-Ireland Colleges, Youths' and Senior titles.
Throws: D. Nugent (Armagh)—near record.
Cycling: F. O'Sullivan (Fermoy)—track champion.
Best All-Rounder: Decathlon title, P. Naughton (Nenagh Olympic).
Best Army Athlete: M. Farrell (Southern)—Javelin record.
Best Collegian: K. Prendergast (Rockwell)—Shot Record and title; Discus title.
Best University Athlete: J. K. O'Neill (U.C.D.)—440, 880 Double.
Best Youth: J. P. Reilly (Green Cockade)—Long and Hop-Step jump records.
Best All-Round Club: Nenagh Olympic.
Athlete of the Year: Benny O'Sullivan.

Biggest Surprise: Gene Mangan's 440-5 miles P-P All-Ireland double—for a former Ras Tailteann eight-day winner.
Most Overdue Success: Joe Cunningham's two slices off the mile record.
Idea of the Year: Relay of the Pennsylvania Baton to Ballinasloe.
Spectacle of the Year: The closing parade of the Catholic Students' games.
Saddest News: Death of the 1906 Champion and Flag-bearer, Peter O'Connor.
Heaviest Blow: Emigration of Benny O'Sullivan, Tom Riordan and Liam Gleeson.
Most Novel Feature: Louth-London International.
Hardest Luck: Albert Harding's leg injury before championships.
Champion Runner-up: Joe Parker—All-Ireland 100 and 300, Leinster 60.
Best Veteran: J. J. O'Donnell—relay record (4 x 20)—years after 220 record, still standing, and on the same track, Ballinasloe.
Star Exile: Peter McArdle—New York cross-country wins.



“ní hé lá na saoi
lá na rcolb”

The thatched house may be a thing of the past but the meaning of this proverb has lost none of its force. Now is the time to learn all about CIVIL DEFENCE if you want to be prepared to meet the danger. It will be too late on “lá na gaoithe” if the wind blows the deadly fall-out cloud over our country. Remember, in any emergency one trained Civil Defence worker will be worth a dozen untrained.

EVERY MAN AND WOMAN OVER 18 YEARS CAN ENROL AS A CIVIL DEFENCE VOLUNTEER. Volunteers will be assigned to Warden, Rescue, Casualty (First Aid), Fire-fighting and Welfare Services. Training will occupy only about two hours a week. Your Corporation or County Council will tell you how to enrol.



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ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

Highlights of Track and Field During 1957

By TONY BARRY

SPRINTS: There wasn't much to crow about in this department this year. The biggest noise was the controversial 60 yards in the All-Ireland meeting which was awarded to the young Newry man, Chew. The over-publicised re-run was won easily by Owen Dalton who also won the championship 100 yards, Chew giving a gutless performance to finish 4th, after being in front at 60 yards.

Crocked as a result of a motor-bike smash, Albert Harding did not reach the heights of the previous year and Tony Murphy seemed to find Army life too tough for good performances.

Over 440 yards, Corkman Charlie Vaughan ran the year's fastest with 50.0 seconds. On a bad day he just beat out Tim Foley in the All-Ireland in 51.3. Foley had several good runs and appears good for inside 50.0 next year. Also he is the only man produced in the last couple of decades who looks capable

with some hard work, of shifting Tisdalls 54.2 mark.

MIDDLE DISTANCES: It is now two years since Jimmy O'Neill ran 1-58.3 when just out of school. Whilst, admittedly, he wins most of his races, he has not improved on that clocking. That he is capable I don't deny, but it seems that O'Neill has had more than a bellyful of track and talks of quitting very soon. This is not the attitude that produces good times.

In the long run it is the hard workers—like Christy Brady of D.C.H.—who will wind up on top. Brady had a best of 1-56.6 in a race in which everyone ran for a fast time—progress at last.

Joe Cunningham took a long time to get into shape, but once he did he was well-nigh invincible. He gave a great display of confident front-running to take the All-Ireland mile crown and capped it by getting Barry's record with a

time 4-13.8. With his strength and the courage to run a 53 second first quarter Cunningham could take Gorman's record of 1-53.8 for 880 yards. And the speed derived from this sort of work would take him under 4-10.0 for the mile.

Christy Brady had a best mile of 4-18.0 and actually beat both Cunningham and his record in taking the All-Ireland 1500m. in Cork—time was 3-58.0. Generally though, he appeared to be at a psychological disadvantage with Cunningham.

Promise

The All-Ireland runner-up, Madden from Derrydonnell showed great strength—he has run 4-20.0, whilst the rather inexperienced U.C.D. lad from Louth, Donal Cullen has plenty of potential. All-Ireland Youths champion, O'Riordan from Tralee, has emigrated to the United States.

Over 2 miles, the best was 9-21. by Cunningham, who can do much better.

DISTANCES: There was not much activity over 3 miles although

A Big Find

an early eye-catcher was Pascal Morris from Wexford who took the Co. Dublin title with a good 14-49.0. However, the big find in the distances was young Benny O'Sullivan from the Regional Club in Limerick. Another inexperienced lad, O'Sullivan took the All-Ireland 4 mile in 19-55.4 which included an extravagant first mile of 4-35.0 (!) and an exhausted last one of 5-10.0. Had he kept to a 4-50.0 schedule he looked capable of wrecking McArdle's 19-38.6 record. Next season he should get this and the three-mile record. Harry Gorman of St. Augustine's also ran very well in an otherwise unexciting year.

HURDLES: The N.A.C.A. are to be congratulated on introducing the 440 hurdles as a championship event. If a few 51/52 second 440 men would concentrate on this event the record would soon be improved upon. As stated above, Foley looks quite capable of doing this. Over the high-sticks, Jack Whelan was again supreme, though young Mick Lanigan from Waterford will prove dangerous within the next two years.

JUMPS: There was extremely good jumping at the All-Ireland Youths meet in Dundalk. John Reilly of the Green Cockade club took both Long and Treble jumps with very fine efforts of 22' 9" and 46' 8". The runners-up, G. McShane and R. O'Dwyer were also excellent with 22' 3" and 45' 2", respectively. I have heard no comments on the conditions in Dundalk but Reilly's four jumps over 22' and the failure of these three to reproduce their superlative performances elsewhere tells its own tale. Generally, the jumping was poor and in the Hop, Step only the much improved Inchi-

core man, J. J. Higgins, who took the All-Ireland title from Rory O'Dwyer with 46' 4" gave a good account of himself.

I liked the 5' 11" win of the schools champ, Geraghty, jumping for Nenagh Olympic, in the All-Ireland Senior. In the vault, Hyland, though getting a new record, 12' 5", in Cork, was rather erratic. Of all the vaulters the most promising was Brian Gallagher of U.C.D. He appears to have the required amount of gymnastic ability and if he learns to swing could soon replace Hyland as top man.

Heartbreaking

THROWS: For an Irishman to have to say that there are no weight-men in the country, is heartbreaking. But, there it is. Joe Duggan, a real veteran took the All-Ireland shot with 43' 4 1/2" whilst Nugent, the javelin winner was well over 100' behind the world record. Middle Distance runners can improve quite a lot without expert coaching but not field-events men. Until the NACA institutes a really scientific coaching school matters will not improve.

A Big Laugh

DECATHLON: The All-Ireland title was won by Paddy Naughton of Nenagh Olympic with 4,990 points, thanks mainly to his ability on the track. The laugh of the year came in the Cork County decathlon championships when it was announced that Sean Moore had won the 100M in an excellent 10.1 secs!!!

Shame-faced attempts by newspapermen to explain away their ignorance by crying "misprint" fell flat, because both the papers and the officials had awarded Moore 1,377 points for his 100m, which is the correct figure for a 10.1 effort.



Owen Dalton (U.C.D.), Irish 100 yards champion for, 1957.



Our picture shows the Louth players and Co. Board officials who were feted at a function in the Town Hall.

THE MEN OF 1957

— by —

DON FINLAY
CON KELLY
MAC LUA
JIMMY MAGEE
BRIAN McDONALD
PETER BYRNE
BOB DOLAN

Mick Kenny Had His Greatest Season

By DON FINLAY

Star of the Kilkenny team which defeated Waterford by one point in the All-Ireland senior hurling final was undoubtedly centre-forward Mick Kenny.

Whenever the Noresiders seemed like falling by the wayside it was Mick Kenny who, with heartening scores at crucial periods, rallied his men and won for himself a place amongst the ranks of the Kilkenny immortals.

But it is not on this game alone that I select Mick Kenny as my outstanding G.A.A. personality of 1957. All through the season he was the livewire of the Kilkenny attack, while his magnificent sportsmanship throughout the year was an example to all.

This was definitely Mick Kenny's greatest season. An absentee

from the Kilkenny team for a considerable number of years, the 32-years-old Callan man proved to be an exception to the theory that they never come back.

With his return to the county team in the winter of 1956, Kilkenny really began to go places. His tally for 1957 was 12 goals 44 points (80 points), and as he plays centre-half back for his club most, of these scores were secured with his county.

Next to his All-Ireland senior medal, Mick's proudest possession is the County Kilkenny senior medal he won with John Locke's of Callan. Only last month he crowned a great season when he captained the Callan men to county honours. He is an army sergeant attached to the 13th Southern Battalion, and resides at 23 Baron Park, Clonmel, with his wife and family.

EAMONN YOUNG TOPS MY LIST

By BOB DOLAN

In another year nominating my G.A.A. personality of the year would have caused me little thought, let alone difficulty.

This year, for some unknown reason, I really had to rack my brains. At first some of the players who fitted across the year's headlines came to mind. Would it be Christy Ring, Sean Clohosey, Jimmy Doyle, or perhaps one of the football supermen, Sean Purcell, Stephen White or Paddy Driscoll?

But no. I just couldn't fix in my mind any outstanding memory of any of them!

Then, like a flash, I thought of Eamonn Young. Yes, this was the man for me.

I remembered Eamonn's ever-active, bobbing figure on the sidelines wherever Cork's footballers were in action; his work behind the scenes; the disappointments he must have felt when two All-Ireland titles slipped through his hands and, above all, his sporting and gentlemanly attitude, both on and off the field.

HERE SURELY THEN WAS MY G.A.A. PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR.

* * *

THE MAGIC OF STEPHEN WHITE

By JIMMY MAGEE

It was half-time in the All-Ireland football final. Cork were leading Louth by two points, 1-4 to 0-5. Louth's re-arranged half-back line had been "under the weather" and it looked on the cards that Cork would really find those gaps in the second half.

But no. Immediately after the interval came one of Louth's master switches. Stephen White to centre half back, Peadar Smith on his left.

And from that moment, right to the full-time whistle, the magic of White's football provided my thrill of 1957.

How the switch had its effect on Louth! White's fielding, long kicking, speed, positional play and, above, the never-say-die spirit lent untold help and encouragement to the gallant full-back line of Reilly, Conlon and Meehan.

TO SHINE IN THAT COMPANY IS REALLY SOMETHING, BUT TO EMERGE AS THE MAN OF THE MATCH IS A NEVER-TO-BE-FORGOTTEN ACHIEVEMENT.

Add "Red" Meehan's last-minute save to that half hour's football magic and you have the reason why this was my thrill of 1957, a difficult choice when I could have taken Ollie Walsh's goalkeeping (in any game you like to pick) or Joe Cunningham's mile record. But I've made my choice, and there it stands.

CHRISTY ALL THE WAY

(By CON KELLY)

I have not got the slightest hesitation in plumping for the one and only Christy Ring.

My reason for this is not due to any outstanding game he played during the year. We are so used to tip-top performances from him that they have become expected.

No. The reason I vote for him is that I think he set a headline for courage and determination by coming back after his injury.

How many men of Ringy's age

would have thrown in the sponge when given such a one hundred per cent. excuse for pulling out. Not so the Corkman. He came back and is still able to teach the youngsters a lesson or two.

Those who wrote him off a few months ago when he injured his wrist, got their words rammed down their throats in a most effective way when Ringy master-minded Cork's devastating rally which defeated Dublin in Croke Park in the Grounds Fund Tournament and in the process slammed home two goals and six points.

Sean Purcell Out On His Own

By MAC LUA

When future generations recall the present years, they will probably refer to them as the days of Sean Purcell. For seldom in the annals of Gaelic games has any one man dominated Gaeldom as has the Purcell of 1956 and '57.

When Galway went down to Cork in the All-Ireland semi-final we thought the Purcell era was drawing to a close—but how foolish we were.

A few short weeks later New York saw its greatest ever display

of Gaelic football, so great that most of those present pronounced the Tuam man not alone the greatest of modern years, but the greatest footballer of all time.

The choice of Sean Purcell as the outstanding personality of 1957 is a simple one.

HIS WONDERFUL DISPLAYS; HIS SPORTSMANSHIP AND HIS CONTRIBUTION TO THE JOY OF OUR EXILED GAELS PUTS HIM FAR AHEAD OF ALL OTHER NOMINATIONS.

A Glorious Year For Des.

By PETER BYRNE

Remember last March? Remember the news that shook all Gael-dom, the news that Dessie Ferguson was going to America?

Then came the happy tidings. Dessie's departure was stayed; he got the contract for the G.A.A. grounds at Kimmage, and all Dublin breathed again.

Ferguson stayed on to enjoy one of the greatest years in his star-studded career and become my top G.A.A. personality of 1957 in the process.

Mind you, that decision was not easily arrived at, for 1957 was a year studded with shining personalities and thrilling incidents.

Recall the majesty of Sean Purcell's football throughout the year, his deadly accuracy and that magnificent goal he scored off a 21 yards

free in the last of the St. Vincents-Tuam Stars encounter.

Or Stephen White's regal display in the All-Ireland final, when he stood between Cork and a hatful of scores.

And what about Ollie Walsh's many spectacular saves, which virtually carried Kilkenny to the McCarthy Cup.

Yes, any one of these men might have qualified for the top berth; but no, I award the palm to Ferguson.

The greatest all-rounder in the game, Des really hit the top in the first half of 1957, when he represented Leinster in both hurling and football and then went on to gain an Ireland jersey in football, while on the hurling front he won his place on the Rest of Ireland team.

A MAN LIKE THAT MUST BE TOPS ON MERIT ALONE.

MY OSCAR GOES TO CUNNINGHAM

By BRIAN McDONALD

When the Editor asked me to write about my sports thrill for 1957, I thought I'd have had quite an easy task in putting my finger on the big day . . . but how wrong I was.

When I got down to very pleasant chore, I found there had been very many big days in '57. Yes, you might even say it was one of the most outstanding for some time.

There's not a sporting fixture of importance you'd care to name that I didn't see, and also very many of the lesser ones.

I saw Joe Cunningham break the Irish mile record at Iveagh Grounds, Kilkenny win the All-Ireland hurling crown against Waterford, and Louth upset the odds in the football decider . . . And I could go on and on naming thrills, all glorious memories that will ripen fully in the years ahead. But that, my good friends, doesn't get me out of this difficulty. You see, I've had so many thrills that picking one out is such a problem.

But my Editor is insistent . . . so here goes.

Cast your minds back to Croke Park on All-Ireland football final day . . . Munster champions Cork ahead by a single point and only five minutes left for play.

Moving like champions . . . and then tragedy. Paddy Driscoll, who played a stormer in defence for Cork, stemmed a Louth attack with a clearance, but it was a weak one, the ball went out over the sideline.

Kevin Beahan placed the ball, and everyone of the 72,000 odd spectators expected him to tap the ball over for the balancing point. But his effort shaved the bar . . . and then came my thrill! Right corner forward Sean Cunningham, who packs 12st of fighting muscle into 5ft. 9 ins. went higher than them all and earned immortal fame by punching home the winning goal. Cork came back, but the rest is now history.

TO SEAN CUNNINGHAM GOES MY OSCAR FOR THE YEAR . . . I'LL NEVER FORGET THAT SUPERLATIVE EFFORT OF HIS.

TOMÁS U A MODHRAN

B.A., Ph.C.

COGAISCOIR AGUS CEIMICEOIR

FASCADAN, I GCOIR OTHARLANN
CORMOID, AGUS CUMHRAN

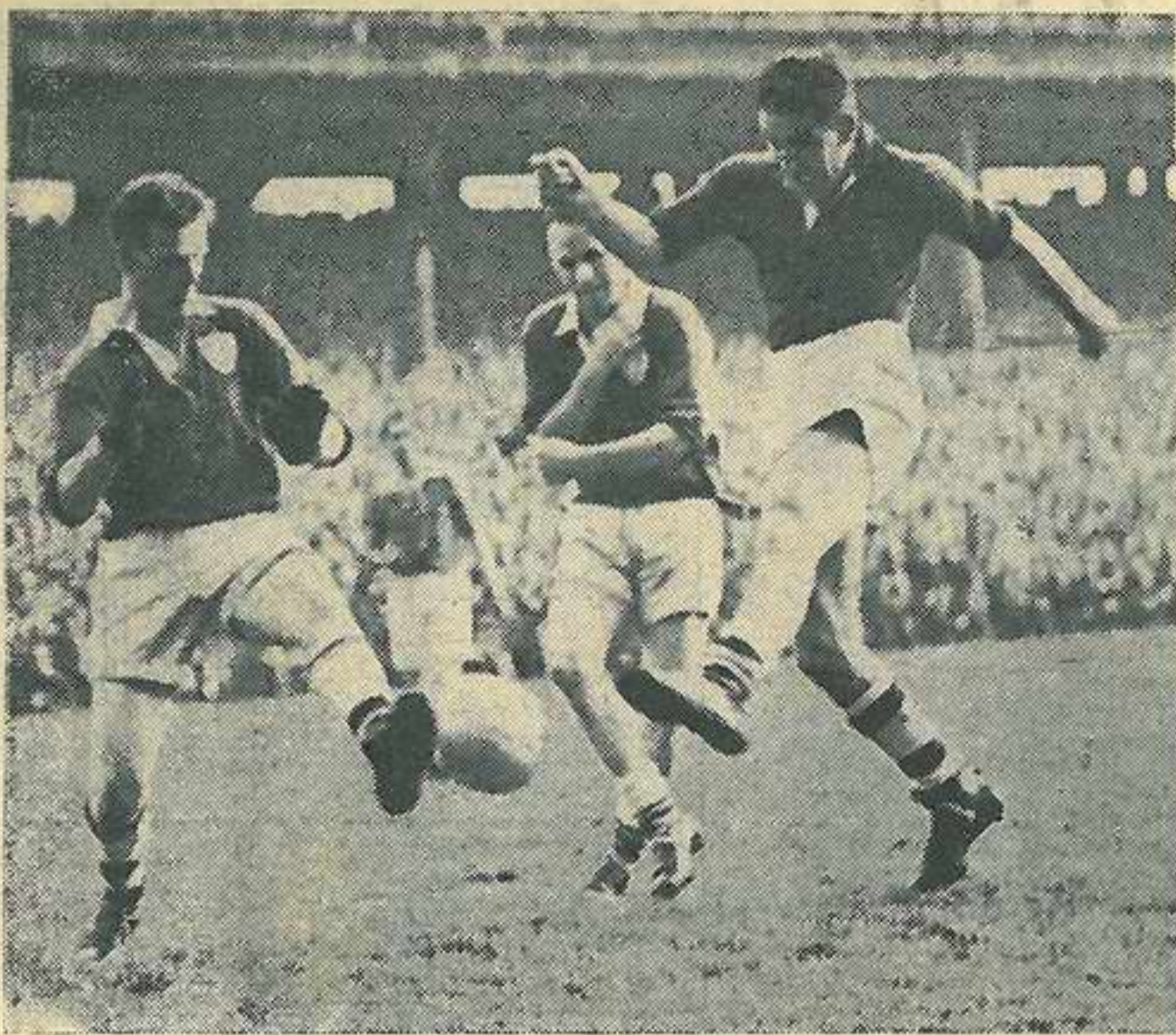
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Niall Fitzgerald drives for goal in the All-Ireland Final against Louth, but his shot is blocked down by Jim Meehan. In the back ground is Stephen White (Louth).

AS I SEE THINGS

By Sean O'Neill

THE CASE OF MR. STOCK

ONE Wednesday evening, a few weeks back, my attention was drawn to a screaming front page banner headline on one of our national evening newspapers—the one which claims to have the highest sale.

More Sputniks I thought. I quickened my step towards the seller. As I drew closer it became

Mr. Stock and a Signor Antonio Busini (who—it was clearly stated—was a technical manager of this team) did not seemingly agree over the placing of a gentleman by the name of Gunnar Nordahl on this Roma team.

After exchanging some words in an extremely gentlemanly fashion, this Mr. Stock and the Signor

But for some reason or other our top-selling evening newspaper considered this trivial job-switching in Italian soccer as an issue of national importance, something to supercede all other news of the day.

Can even the most fanciful of you imagine "Osservatore Romano," Rome's leading newspaper, with a banner headline announcing



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more evident that this startling news must be of extreme national importance.

The heavy type was lined with an impressive black border, which ran the full length of the front page, accentuating the news within.

Before the paper had changed hands I had read the first three words, which went: "I've been sacked."

What, I thought?

SURELY NOT KRUSCHEV? THE MASTER PURGER PURGED AT LAST?

It must be, I thought. Who else could make such headlines?

Jostling my way through the hurrying usual Dublin evening crowd, I reached a doorway where I could read further, and I read as follows:—

"Mr. Alec Stock, former manager of Leyton Orient (photo herewith) said in Rome last night that he had been 'sacked' as trainer of the Roma Football Club. Mr. Stock was commenting on rather conflicting statements from the club after a meeting of the club's executive, etc., etc."

I continued to read, as the point still was not clear. And having read details of statements by the said Mr. Stock, I had to turn to page eleven, where further heavy type with its adorning, accentuating black border awaited me and I continued to read details of how

shook hands and parted evidently on good terms.

Mr. Stock was not shot dead as he made his way to his car. As a matter of fact Mr. Stock was not at all perturbed with the whole business (unlike our evening paper), for he stated that as his wife and two children were only two weeks in Italy, they would do some sight-seeing.

The point in the whole story? **DON'T ASK ME. I NEVER HEARD OF MR. STOCK, THE GOOD SIGNOR, OR OUR PLAYER FRIEND NORDAHL, AND I AM SURE FEW PEOPLE IN IRELAND HAVE EITHER.**

to the populace of Rome that Pat Murphy had lost his job as secretary of Ireland's Aran Ireland hurling team; or for that matter can any of you imagine "Osservatore Romano" reporting to the same front page extent on Mr. Stock as did our paper?

BUT THEN, OF COURSE, THIS IS IRELAND, WHERE SOME PEOPLE THINK THAT THEY CAN INSULT THE INTELLIGENCE OF ALL OF THE PEOPLE ALL THE TIME ... AND GET AWAY WITH IT.

IRISH FRANCISCAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Centenary Year, 1958

(By kind permission of His Lordship, Most Rev. J. Rodgers, D.D., Bishop of Killaloe)

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I

Antrim Shock Kilkenny in Greatest Upset of G.A.A. History

Final Whistle Was Sweet Music To Antrim

By Brian McDonald

YOU MAY SEARCH THE ANNALS OF THE G.A.A. THROUGH AND THROUGH, BUT IT'S MY BET YOU'LL NOT FIND A GREATER UPSET OF FORM THAN THAT WHICH TOOK PLACE IN AUGUST, 1943.

And the best that Kilkenny could show for their relentless attacking was three points from Heffernan, Mulcahy and Walsh. That full-time whistle must have made sweet music for the Antrim men . . . and their opponents were the first to congratulate them.

MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT, THIS WAS NO FLUKE!

It was only in the closing stages that the Noremen found a couple of loopholes, but by then it was too late. Antrim had well and truly hurled their way into the sporting headlines and, what is more, they had given a tremendous filip to the game in the North.

Finest Hour

They hadn't a weak link on the team that day, and if men like Bateson, Campbell, Butler, McKeown, Hurl, Armstrong and McAllister (who was carried off injured in the second half) come in for special mention, let it be no reflection on the merits of the remainder of the team.

EVERY MAN HAD PLAYED HIS PART IN MAKING THIS ANTRIM'S FINEST HOUR.

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It was the semi-final of the All-Ireland hurling championship, with Kilkenny and Antrim in opposition at Corrigan Park, Belfast. Mighty Kilkenny, a county steeped in hurling tradition from the earliest days of the Association, had simply waltzed their way through Leinster's best, and were indeed worthy wearers of the provincial crown.

What about Antrim? Well, I honestly believe that not even their most ardent supporters gave them a chance against Noresiders. They were at long odds on that first Sunday in August, but the men of the North had other ideas. They had their hearts set on reaching their first All-Ireland final . . . and nothing was going to stop them now. No, not even the craft and experience of a fast-moving Kilkenny team, whose supporters looked on this match as a limb-loosener for the bigger test ahead.

ANTRIM—J. Hurley (Kick-hams, Creggan); J. Curry (Shamrocks, Loughell), K. Murphy (O'Connell's, Belfast), W. Graham (Ossians, Glenariffe), J. Butler (MacQuillans, Ballycastle), J. Walsh, capt. (O'Connell's), P. McKeown (Creggan), J. Bateson (Mitchell's, Belfast), N. Campbell (Mitchell's), P. McGarry (Loughell), D. McKillop (Glenariffe), J. Mullan (Rossas, Belfast), K. Armstrong (O'Connell's), S. McAllister (Glenariffe). Subs.—T. Walsh for McAllister, J. McNeill for Butler.

And so that was the position around 3 p.m. at Corrigan Park as the Most Rev. Dr. Magean, Bishop of Down and Connor, threw in the ball to start a game that caused the most sensational result of all time.

There were no "outsiders" on the Antrim team that day, all of the 17 heroes who played in that memorable match being born in the county.

Flashing stickwork, darting runs, hip to hip clashes and first time pulling, was the pattern of things in the opening minutes, and Antrim outplaying their opponents to a man.

Their supporters all but lost their heads in those hectic opening exchanges. And why? The game was only two minutes old, and Antrim had slammed home a goal. Full forward Kevin Armstrong had roved outfield . . . collected a loose ball . . . sent a long puck to left corner forward, Seamus McAllister . . . and in a twinkling the ball was bulging in the webbing!

The Mitchell's Belfast player, Campbell, sent the leather sailing over the bar, Antrim 4 points to the good.

Kilkenny stormed to the attack, and a 70 taken by Hobby Hinks was crashed to the net by Jack Mulcahy. But still no stopping the Antrim boys. Campbell struck again with another minor, and Corrigan Park resembled a madhouse as Mullan drove past the Carrickshock keeper, Gilmartin, for a beauty of a goal!

Kilkenny were clearly rattled by the dash and guile of the Antrim men, but they were not finished yet!

Before the half-time whistle, the Noresiders came back for points by Hinks, Jack Mulcahy and the immortal Jim Langton. How would Antrim fare in the second half? That was the big question being dis-

cussed during the interval. They quickly answered the scorns of their critics and at the same time gladdened the hearts of their now jubilant supporters within minutes of the restart.

They started with the same glorious abandon that shook the Kilkenny men back on their toes in the opening minutes.

Mulholland belted over a point, and then came a goal from Armstrong which made them odds-on favourites. Kevin, with the ball dancing on his stick, hinted to go right, but went left, and a snap shot found Gilmartin taking the ball out of the net for the third time.

This was the end of the Antrim scoring.

The Kilkenny men were made of stout hearts and surged back to the attack like a raging river at flood time. But Antrim had skilful and fearless gladiators in centre-field men Jackie Bateson and Campbell. Behind them Butler, McKeown and goalkeeper Hurl defended with brilliance. They were sending back the tidal attacks of the Kilkenny men with long and accurate hitting.

Time ebbing away and nothing now between Antrim and the final.

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2

Tough As Nails, Hard as Granite And Full Of Tricks

JIM McKEEVER OF DERRY

ONE OF THE FITTEST AND THE BRAINEST FORWARDS PLAYING IN THE FOOTBALL GAME TODAY IS ATHLETICALLY BUILT JIM McKEEVER, WHO STILL A YOUNG MAN WITH MANY MORE BRILLIANT GAMES IN HIM, HAS EMERGED AS ONE OF THE CLASS PLAYERS OF HIS DAY, AND HAS ALREADY ASSURED FOR HIMSELF A PLACE AMONG THE IMMORTALS OF THE G.A.A.

Tough as nails, hard as granite

and as full of tricks as a seasoned coursing hare, Jim first donned the Derry Co. jersey in '49. Throughout that year, football genius of rare quality was fermenting in his fertile brain, and the following year he was able to command a regular berth on the team.

Since then the Magherafelt-born physical training instructor has been the very backbone of the Derry team . . . and it looks as if he'll be there for many, many years to come. Take a sturdily built frame of sheer bone and sinew . . . two flashing feet that seldom miss the target . . . a pair of hands as safe as the proverbial bank . . . and a masterful brain that co-ordinates thought into high-powered action . . . and you have Jim McKeever—the Pride of Magherafelt.

And what great pleasure it gives me to record that, for all the honours showered upon him during the past eight years, Jim is still the very same Jim that played his first county game—a Dr. Lagan Cup tie—against Tyrone. Modest and unassuming, he has the broad shoulders to carry the success that is his.



Kevin Mussen

IT is difficult to speak of County Down football without referring to twenty-three-year-old Kevin Mussen, of Hiltown, South Down who, in recent years, has contributed a major share to the glory and endeavours of Mourne County football.

It was with Saint Colman's College, Newry, that Kevin first made sports-page headlines when in the late forties he was one of the brightest lights in the Ulster Colleges' competition.

An obvious choice for the county senior team when yet in his teens Kevin had only one year of inter-county football before being honoured by the Ulster inter-provincial selectors in 1953. He was then only nineteen.

In the four years that followed the displays of the stocky but fast-moving Mussen have been the consolation of County Down Gaelic in their many heart-breaking defeats.

For it is true that their story has been one of struggle, hope and then defeat, but the determination such as Down always shows to come back again and to keep on trying is surely one of the hall-marks of greatness.

Their recent display against Tyrone in the Lagan Cup final must shine as a new ray of hope for this county whose honours are few but whose heart is great. At last the reward of years of endeavour may be just around the corner and should this be so then a warm welcome to Croke Park awaits these gallant sons of Ulster.

Should that day come and many believe it will, then much of the credit will go to Kevin Mussen—the star of the County Down.

They'll argue until the cows come home as to which forward position is his best . . . but it's an argument you'll never find an answer to. For whether he's at full forward or top of the right, Jim is a thorn in any defence . . . and a mighty big one at that.

Flashing Drives

Speedy, accurate and clever, McKeever has pulled his die out of many a tight corner, and his flashing drives have warmed many a goalkeeper's hands . . . that is those who have stopped the leather before it rattled the back of the net!

No matter in what position he plays, McKeever will always turn in a memorable hour, and it's not his fault if Derry are at the wrong end of the scoreboard.

As a boy Jim played football in Magherafelt, but he never bothered about the competitive brand. Around about '48 he hit the news in a big

way with St. Malachy's College, Belfast, but they failed in the Ulster final of that year to St. Patrick's, Cavan. Jim was still there the following year, but again they came a cropper at the last fence . . . this time to St. Colman's, Newry.

At this time as well, Jim had come to the notice of the Ulster Colleges' selectors, and both years he was a member of the northern team, but they failed to win the Inter-provincial championship either year. He was first selected for the Ulster Railway Cup side in '51, and has been a firm choice ever since. The same year he was a substitute on the Ireland fifteen.

Jim has won countless other honours . . . and he's got quite a collection of trophies to show for his prowess.

And he'll win many more before he hangs up those magic boots of his.

HE'S A MAN OF WHICH ANY COUNTY WOULD BE PROUD.

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FOCUS ON NORTHERN G.A.A.

3

The Stars of the 1953 Final

KERRY—J. Foley; J. Murphy (capt.); E. Roche, D. Murphy; C. Kennelly, J. Cronin, J. M. Palmer; S. Murphy, D. Hannifin; J. Brosnan, J. J. Sheehan, T. Lynn; T. Ashe, S. Kelly, J. Lynn. Sub.—G. O'Sullivan for Hannifin.

ARMAGH—E. McMahon; E. Morgan, J. Bratten, J. McKnight; F. Kernan, P. O'Neill, S. Quinn (capt.); M. O'Hanlon, M. McEvoy; J. Cunningham, B. Seely, W. McCorry; P. Campbell, A. O'Hagan, G. O'Neill. Subs.—G. Wilson for McMahon; G. Murphy for Wilson; J. O'Hare for Quinn. Referee: P. McDermott (Meath).

TURNING BACK THE PAGES OF G.A.A. HISTORY

GLORIOUS ARMAGH

ARMAGH MAY NOT HAVE WON THE ALL-IRELAND SENIOR FOOTBALL CROWN IN 1953 . . . BUT, MY OH MY, HOW NEAR, YES, HOW VERY NEAR THE MEN OF THE NORTH CAME TO WINNING THEIR FIRST TITLE.

Who of the record OFFICIAL attendance of 85,155—it is estimated that a further 7,000 gained admittance—will forget the hushed silence that fell over Croke Park in the 24th minute of the second half.

Remember . . . Kerry goalkeeper Foley handled on the ground . . . and the "Man With Cap," Meath's Peter McDermott, blew long and clear for a penalty. Kerry leading by two points: 0-10 to 1-3.

All eyes turned to Armagh's right-half forward, Bill McCorry . . . and especially the eyes of the thousands of Armagh supporters. Yes, to my mind, this one kick decided the destination of the Sam Maguire Cup.

What would McCorry do? Cut the deficit down to the minimum by taking the point that was there for the asking. Or go for the major score?

In tension-packed moments such as these, a player is called upon to make a split decision. And McCorry did! He set his sights on the back of the net.

BUT FOR ONE OF THOSE INEXPLICABLE REASONS HE FAILED BY YARDS.

The leather went sailing wide of the posts, and with it, the hopes and ambitions of the entire Armagh squad.

But let it be made abundantly clear, I attach no blame for their defeat to McCorry. His was a most unenviable decision to make, and in the electric air that hung over Croke Park on that crisp, sunny autumn Sunday he would have been a more than mighty man indeed to have scored a goal.

By
Brian McDonald

I have dealt in length with this incident, for I am firmly convinced that this was the turning point of a truly memorable game.

It's quite a few years now since I saw my first All-Ireland, but for sheer nerve-breaking thrills, speed of action and fielding of the highest grandeur, this game will live for ever in my memory. And if the first half produced more classic football than the second, you can put it down to sheer wear and tear, for that first thirty minutes was a cracker.

Not once throughout the entire game was there even a suspicion of rancour in charge or counter-charge, and not once had Peter McDermott to issue a warning. It was wonderful to see sportsmanship standing head and shoulders above all else . . . this game was won fair and square by one of the best Kerry teams that ever played in Croke Park. And nothing but the best would have sufficed that day. Armagh were a powerful team, and I'd say would have triumphed over any other one of thirty counties.

Armagh—and who could blame them?—were all jitters in the opening quarter, but they had one man who remained unruffled in the face of relentless bombardment by the Kingdom men. He was goalkeeper Eamonn McMahon.

No Goal

McMahon turned in a performance the likes I have seldom seen equalled, but never surpassed. He stood between Armagh and complete and utter annihilation at this stage, and so well did he perform that not a goal was scored against him.

Unfortunately, McMahon was injured just before the interval and took no further part in the game. But in his spell of tenancy had given his fellow countymen time to find their feet.

Mal McEvoy was the only player in it at midfield in the first half, but on the restart in the first half, fuel and Armagh lost sway in this vital sector.

But behind McEvoy, Sean Quinn and the full line of Morgan, Bratten and McKnight were skilful and tireless workers who only bowed when exhaustion claimed them. But injury claimed Quinn first and fifteen minutes after the resumption he was on the sideline. His enforced absence robbed the Armagh defence of one of its most polished players. Yes, Lady Luck did not smile too kindly on them, McMahon and Quinn playing little over an hour between them. What of the Armagh attack? Well, it was just one of those days that every player dreads, and unfortunately for Armagh the whole six of them hit that day at the same time!

Deadly Accurate

McEvoy scored 1-2 and two of the four points came from frees. And Kerry were rock-like in defence at that time. Jas Murphy, Donnie Murphy, Colm Kennelly and Mickie Palmer can justly rank with the best Kingdom defenders of all time. Tadgh Lyne and Jackie Lyne were attackers of deadly accuracy, and Jim Brosnan and Tom Ashe were others to strike top form.

Kerry, with a slight breeze in their favour, had the first score after two minutes. A "50" by Tadgh Lyne went loose, and in nipped Jim Brosnan to notch a point. Still there was only one team in it, and after Brosnan was wide with a left-footed effort from the right wing, Ashe col-

lected touch kick by Tadgh Lyne to give them a two-point lead. McMahon earned rounds of applause by keeping the Kerry forwards at bay, and after ten minutes Armagh had their first attack; but it ended in tragic circumstances, G. O'Neill failing from a 14-yards free.

BUT HE MADE NO MISTAKE IN THE THIRTEENTH MINUTE FROM A FREE, AND FIVE MINUTES LATER McEVY SENT THE ARMAGH COLOURS SKY-HIGH. GAINING POSSESSION AT MIDFIELD, HE WENT AWAY ON ONE OF HIS DAZZLING SOLO RUNS, SENT IN A LONG BALL WHICH WAS DEFLECTED TO THE NET BY ROCHE.

Armagh two points ahead and gaining confidence with every minute. Kerry fought back like true warriors, and two minors by Tadgh Lyne left the scoreboard level. O'Neill was on the mark with another point from a free, and a brilliant point from McEvoy—he ran a "solo" of fully forty yards—left Armagh two points in front again. You could breathe the tension at this stage. Near misses by both sides until Brosnan had a point for Kerry. Half-time: Armagh 1-3, Kerry 0-5.

J. J. Sheehan hit an upright shortly after the restart and somehow or other the ball was cleared out of

the Armagh danger zone. But in three minutes, Brosnan had sent over the levelling point. McEvoy—my, how that man could jump—gained possession from the kick-out and ended yet another brilliant solo run with a point. J. Cunningham rattled over another minutes later.

And just when it looked as if Armagh might go further ahead, Tadgh Lyne gathered a touch kick by Kennelly to belt over a point. Kerry now had the bit between their teeth, but G. Wilson, who replaced McEvoy, must have learned a lot from the sideline in the first half and saved grounders and high shots with rare skill.

Glorious Armagh

But Tadgh Lyne was wearing the right boots that day, and three quick points sent Kerry into the lead. And then the game was won and lost with McCorry's miss from an never-to-be-forgotten penalty. Kerry celebrated this by snatching a point per Sheehan and another by J. Lynn. In the last minutes, B. Seely and Sheehan exchanged points.

Kerry had won their seventeenth All-Ireland title . . . and Armagh were still looking for their first. Glorious Armagh in defeat! And I hope I'm around when they do win their first title, for they deserve it.

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MY SPORTS REPORT

BY
DON FINLAY

TIPPERARY hurling followers are at the moment in a very puzzled state. Following the county's 4-4 to 0-6 defeat by Limerick in the National Hurling League, it looked as if Tipperary were fading from the hurling limelight, and most supporters of the Premier County had resigned themselves to what was expected to be a lengthy lean period.

Consequently it was no surprise that only a handful of Tipperary fans travelled to Nenagh on the following Sunday to see the home county in action against Clare.

Few visualised a Tipperary victory, but a "scrap" Tipperary team romped home easy winners on the score of 4-12 to 3-3.

The result of this game has sent new hope sweeping through Tipperary. It was obvious following the defeat by Limerick that a number of players who served their county well down through the years were definitely past their best, and that new blood would have to take their place. Few expected, however, that the newcomers would man the breach so effectively.

The most pleasing aspect of Tipperary's win over Clare was the fact that the newcomers fared so well. It is to be hoped that they will be retained for the championship, and not dropped in favour of the "has beens."

* * *

Incidentally, Limerick showed in their victory over Tipperary that they will definitely be a force to be reckoned with in the coming season. At last their players seem to be properly positioned and the team is at present playing far more

as a unit. The return of Mick O'Shea has added punch to a forward line that has speed to burn. Limerick have only to beat Kerry to win out their section of the league, and are eagerly looking forward to renewing rivalry with Wexford.

* * *

For the first time in the history of the club, John Lockes have



Ollie Walsh (Kilkenny) brings off another dramatic save against Dublin at Nowlan Park.

brought the Kilkenny senior hurling championship back to Callan. In a disappointing final they proved to be much too good for Slievruie, and delighted their supporters by scoring a truly wonderful victory.

Following the game there were great scenes of jubilation at Nowlan Park when the cup was presented to Mick Kenny, captain of the John Lockes team. Due to illness, Senator Patrick Teehan, chairman of the club, was unavoidably absent, but committee member Sean Holden made sure that he would hear a detailed account of the game by making a tape recording of events in the Radio Eireann Broadcasting Box.

Bonfires blazed on the way into Callan, and the team entered the town on a truck bedecked with the club colours. The procession was headed by a group of torchbearers, and the truck was accompanied by some 50 cars. Each member of the team got a tremendous ovation as he was introduced to the public by All-Ireland hurler Mick Kenny.

* * *

Chief topic amongst the hurlers and footballers of Clonmel at the moment is the visit of a Manchester hurling and football team to the town on Easter Sunday. The Manchester teams include a number of Tipperary exiles, and they are anxious to play two Clonmel teams. As there are a number of hurling and football clubs in Clonmel, it is likely that Manchester will be opposed by two teams of representatives from every club in Clonmel.

* * *

Colleague Brian McDonald had his facts rather muddled up when he referred to the unfinished South Tipperary junior hurling final between Kilsheelan and St. Luke's, Clonmel, in last month's issue.

He stated that the referee was "well-known Clonmel man T. Coffey," and that he had to order a Kilsheelan player to the line. This was incorrect, as the referee of the game was Denis O'Connell of Cahir. During the second half Denis ordered a Kilsheelan player by the name of T. Coffey to the line.

Incidentally, the game failed to finish as Kilsheelan would not continue. St. Luke's, who were leading at the time of abandonment, went on to contest the county semi-final, but were trounced by Newport on the score of 8-2.

* * *

Sean Power, a brother of Seamus Power and a former Mount Sion and Waterford

minor hurler of much promise, is at the moment making a big name for himself in Wexford hurling circles. He has had a few outings with his adopted county, and seems likely to gain a permanent place in the Wexford defence. He is resident in Enniscorthy.

* * *

Captain of the St. Luke's team, which was defeated by Newport in the Co. Tipperary junior hurling semi-final, was the lanky Mick Ryan. Mick's brother, Liam, was captain of the Newport team, but neither player turned out due to the death of their father, Mr. Michael Ryan.

* * *

A hurling revival has taken place in Butlerstown, East Waterford, and a team from the area will contest this year's championship. One of those responsible for the revival is 1948 All-Ireland star, Mick Hayes. Rumour has it that Mick will also stage a comeback, and he may yet be seen in the once familiar blue and gold jersey.

* * *

Thurles Sarsfield, holders of the 1956 County Tipperary senior, junior and minor hurling championships, retained two of their titles this year. They hold on to their senior and minor crowns, but in the junior semi-final were defeated by Cappawhite. Sarsfields have withdrawn from the Co. Tipperary senior hurling selection committee as they feel that the public have blamed them for Tipperary's defeats in recent years.

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The Sensational All-Ireland Hurling Final Of 1931

CORK

DRAMA!

Kilkenny

Act 1

THE TIME: A Sunday afternoon, Sept. 6, 1931.

THE PLACE: The National Stadium, Croke Park, Dublin.

CAST:

CORK

(champions 11 times): Eudie Coughlan (capt.), J. Coughlan, Eddie O'Connell, Jim Hurley, Paddy O'Grady, "Gah" Aherne, "Balty" Aherne, Paddy Delea, "Marie" O'Connell, Morgan Madden, Paddy "Fox" Collins, "Dinny Barry" Murphy and Jim O'Regan (Eire Og), Bill Clancy and Tom Barry.

KILKENNY

(champions 8 times): Lory Meagher (capt.), Jim Dermody, Martin White, Paddy Phelan, Paddy Larkin, "Flip" Larkin, Peter O'Reilly, Paddy Byrne, "Locky" Carroll, Eddie Doyle, Bill Dalton, Matty Power, and Dick Morrissey.

Referee:

Sean Robbins (Offaly) With Umpires, Linesmen, Officials, Gardai, Bandsmen, and . . . almost 26,500 "extras."

PROLOGUE:

The two counties had met seven times before in the Final and the score was four for Kilkenny, three for Cork. They last met in the 1926 Final, when Cork had an easy victory. The

Kilkenny team had nine players in their first final, while Cork fielded nine of the 1926 side. Bill Clancy was the only Cork player without an All-Ireland medal, while Matty Power and "Sag" Carroll were the only

Kilkenny players with medals.

The stage was set, everyone was ready, and at 3.20, as Referee Robbins blew his whistle and threw in the ball, it was . . . **CURTAINS UP!**

Epilogue

THIS was the first draw in the Hurling Final since the Tipperary-Dublin game of 1908. The crowd was the largest since 1922. In the opinion of many the game was the most thrilling since the Kilkenny - Tipperary match of that year. The game has been described as "the most closely contested" in the history of the Final.

The statistics of the game were:—

Cork: 11 frees; 2 "70's"; 1 goal; 6 points; 9 wides.
Kilkenny: 16 frees; 3 "70's"; 1 goal; 6 points; 11 wides.
* * *

NEXT MONTH:

ACT 2 (The Replay).

Kilkenny, playing against the blinding sun, were first to attack, but Morgan Madden drove them back and his clearance was taken by the Cork forwards.

Kilkenny backs came under hot fire but Dermody, Dalton and Co. were there to halt the experienced Corkmen.

Lory Meagher sent wide from a centre-field free.

Peter O'Reilly went down injured. Within a second he was up again. Hurling was fast and furious. Play swung from end to end at a cracking pace. Kilkenny supporters roared in excitement as Jim Dermody saved brilliantly from Jim Hurley's free.

Kilkenny went back to the attack; Dan Dunne and Lory Meagher in succession sent wide when well placed. "Flip" Larkin's fine drive was blocked down by Coughlan in the Cork goal. His clearance was gathered by Matty Power, who brought the Kilkenny followers to their feet with a well-taken point.

Their elation was short-lived. Eudie Coughlan set the example for his forwards by sending over the bar within one minute.

Then came the first "70" of the game for Kilkenny, and Lory thrilled the hearts of all with a beautiful point to give the Nore-siders the lead again. "Marie" O'Connell put the scores level once more with a neat point.

Attack followed attack.

In the Kilkenny rearguard Dermody again came to the rescue, saving from Jim Hurley. Jim was not to be stopped, and getting possession again he sent over the bar to give Cork the lead for the first time in the match.

Kilkenny came back and the Cork backs conceded a "70" to ease the pressure. Meagher dropped the ball short and Eudie Coughlan cleared well down the field.

Twenty minutes gone—score only 3 points to 2 for Cork. Spectators wondered who would crack first under the terrific pace.

Cork were again on the attack as Jim Hurley raced up the field. Paddy Byrne might have said "thus far and no further" as he saved from a Cork free. He sent the ball up the field to Matty Power. Matty's two wonderful shots were saved in rapid succession by Coughlan.

EDDIE DOYLE BLAZED WIDE FROM POINT-BLANK RANGE

O'Regan of Cork went down injured but was able to resume. "Sag" Carroll broke up a fierce Cork attack. Play swung to the Railway end, where Lory Meagher failed to score from a close-in free. He sent the ball wide.

Cork came back again and a "70" by Jim Hurley was weakly finished by his forwards. Clancy then sent wide for Cork.

Again Jim Hurley took a free—the ball went to "Gah" Aherne. He gave Jim Dermody no chance in the Kilkenny goal as he raised the first green flag of the game with a screaming shot.

Kilkenny again attacked, but the Cork backs, tackling hard and often, kept them at bay.

The whistle went for half-time with Cork leading 1-3 to 0-2. (INTERVAL MUSIC).

SECOND HALF

Spectators had barely settled in for this half when Eudie Coughlan stretched the Cork lead with a point from a 40 yards free.

Soon after Dan Dunne missed the chance of a lifetime with the Cork goal at his mercy, and Kilkenny spirits sank as Lory Meagher sent wide from a "70."

The rampant Cork forwards struck again. Jim Dermody saved from "Balty" Aherne but could do nothing about the Corkman's next effort, which went over the bar.

Cork now led 1-5 to 2 points and seemed set for victory. The Kilkenny lads "pulled up their socks" and a terrific battle in the Cork goalmouth had the crowd on tenterhooks. Madden pushed back

the Kilkenny attack and sent his forwards away. Dalton and Co. at the other end held out.

Cork's "Marie" O'Connell went down injured.

When play resumed Kilkenny attacked. Lory Meagher took a free and sent the ball to Dan Dunne. His shot had "goal" written all over it as he sent the ball on its way to the Cork net.

Kilkenny were now on fire. Chared on by followers now scenting victory, Kilkenny forwards returned to the attack and Larkin, with a grand point, left the score: Cork, 1-5; Kilkenny, 1-3.

It was all Kilkenny now, and a further point from Lory Meagher cut the Cork lead to a point.

Excitement now reached fever-pitch as Kilkenny, poised for the "kill," attacked again and again. "Dinny Barry" Murphy was now outstanding in the Cork defence.

"Sag" Carroll brought groans from his countymen with a wide, but in the twentieth minute Lory Meagher equalised from a 30 yards free.

The Black and Amber flags had just stopped waving when Dunne gave Kilkenny the lead with a point.

Kilkenny were superior in all sectors. They seemed set for victory. But Corkmen are fighters to the end. They came back to the attack more determined than ever. O'Grady was the first to pierce

the Kilkenny defence. He shot wide. Then, in the 23rd minute of the game, he equalised with a wonderful overhead stroke.

Cork NOW held the upper hand. Kilkenny appeared to have shot their bolt.

Dick Morrissey (Kilkenny) retired injured. He was replaced by Jack Duggan, the Mooncoin star. A "70" was cleared by the Kilkenny backs and Coughlan missed a close-in free. Kilkenny also sent wide from a free.

The exchanges were tough, with each team going all out for the winning score.

With Matty Power of Kilkenny and Morgan Madden of Cork struggling for possession, the whistle went for full time.

A mighty struggle was over. Both teams had lived to fight another day.

The final score was: Cork, 1-6; Kilkenny, 1-6.

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**"I ALMOST
CRIED"**

(By PATRICK CARVER)

HOW time rolls by! The other day I was in the National Library, doing a little research on a subject far removed from sport, and I called for a newspaper file for the year 1927.

That was the first year I really began to take a big interest in sport, and as I turned over the pages . . . well, I forgot about everything else, and began to read and read. And, my, my . . . how the memories came tumbling back.

Thirty years ago! Why, it seems only like yesterday. Maybe the old head is a bit clouded now, but, looking back on 1927, I think that summer was the finest I can remember.

And the men who were competing then! Gracious me, but they were ten times the size of the men in sport today.

I remember the All-Ireland hurling final that year. Cork were playing Dublin, and on the night before the match, you could get any odds you liked against Dublin winning. Cork could not be beaten, so everyone said. Just look at the men they had . . . Sean Og Murphy, Eudie Coughlan . . . "Balty" and "Gah" Ahearne . . . "Dinny Barry" Murphy, Paddy Delea . . . Jim Regan and Jim Hurley.

But Dublin, led by the immortal Mick Gill of Ballindereen, and helped by Pat McEnerney, the late Tommy Daly, Garrett Howard, Martin Power and Bill Phelan, all giants in my young eyes, swept through the Corkmen and annihilated them by the staggering score of 4-8 to 1-3.

I ALMOST CRIED . . . BUT WHAT CORKMAN IN CROKE PARK THAT DAY DID'NT).

I missed the All-Ireland football final that year, but at one time or another that summer, I saw all the glorious men of that period . . . Larry Stanley, Jack Higgins, Joe Loughlin, Gus Fitzpatrick and Mick Goff of Kildare . . . and Paul Russell, Con Brosnan, Joe Barrett, John Joe Sheehy and Jackie Ryan of Kerry . . . all superb footballers and outstanding sportsmen.

I remember, too, the All-Ireland athletic championship meeting in Croke Park that year . . . Dr. Pat O'Callaghan, a young, curly-headed boy, fresh up from Kanturk, won his first hammer championship . . . Con O'Connor and the late Bill Shanahan jumped feet into the air, and finally tied at the great height of 6'2" . . . Sean Lavan swept through the sprints, winning the 100, 220, 440 and 120 yards hurdles . . . Sean Keavey of Kickhams flung the javelin farther than any Irishman had thrown it before.

That summer, too, I saw the world record holder for 880 yards, Dr. Otto Peltzer of Germany, run an unforgettable race in Croke Park . . . and I was in Carlow on the day Paddy Bermingham set up a new Irish record of 151'6 1/2" in the discus.

I saw . . . but, I could go on and on, remembering those wonderful days of thirty years ago.
AND, BELIEVE ME—THEY WERE WONDERFUL DAYS.

'Do Me A Favour, Mr. Moriarty . . .

**Leave Cork
Alone!"**

Says Philip Roderick

I'M a Corkan, and when outsiders start writing nonsense about Cork and Corkmen . . . I get mad!

AND THIS WEEK, I'M "HOPPING" MAD!

Why? Just read the following. It was written by a Mr. Tadgh Moriarty in a recent British Sunday newspaper.

" . . . Weeks ago, I told you exclusively that there would be changes in the Cork football selection committee. These have now taken place . . . Eamonn Young, Andy Scannell and Roger Ryan have been replaced. . . . In recent years, Cork City clubs have complained that the city players have had a raw deal from the selectors. Now that St. Finbarr's, a city team, have proved themselves the best in the county for the second successive year, the claims of the city players will be considerably strengthened . . . I expect there will be radical changes in the Cork team next time out, particularly in the forward line. . . "

Makes nice reading, doesn't it? Now, let's have a look at the facts . . . and I went down to Cork to get them!

Explanation

Yes, it's true that Andy Scannell, Roger Ryan and Eamonn Young have gone from the selection committee. But, Mr. Moriarty doesn't explain why. I will!

Andy Scannell COULD NOT go forward for the committee, because of temporary ill-health.

Roger Ryan DID NOT go forward, either.

Eamonn Young was defeated narrowly . . . but there was a reason for it. His defeat resulted from the recent stand he made over the captaincy of the Cork team.

In the Gaelic Weekly tournament, Neally Duggan, a veteran of 14 years' service with the county team, captained Cork in the semi-final against Kerry. Eamonn Young and Roger Ryan picked him to captain the side against Tyrone in the final.

The St. Finbarr's representative disagreed. He maintained the captaincy should go to the young and newly-selected Cork forward,

Mick McCarthy of the "Barrs" Club. "Weeshie" Murphy, the fourth member of the committee, refused to give an opinion. As everyone knows, he is a club-mate of Neally Duggan's, so he was in a pretty embarrassing position.

Stood His Ground

The upshot of this argument was that the County Board demanded an explanation. The facts were duly presented, and the Board officers—and the "Barr's" representative—disagreed with the selection committee's decision.

Eamonn stood his ground . . . and, of course, suffered for it when the election of the new selection committee was made. but he was only defeated by a very small margin.

Mr. Moriarty's statement that the city clubs got a raw deal from the old selection committee is—to say the least of it—all my eye and Mary Ellen!

The following St. Finbarr's men (a city club, mark you)—George McCarthy, Eoin O'Connell, Tony O'Sullivan, John O'Driscoll, Mick McCarthy, Denis Murphy, Pat Woods and Liam McGrath—all played for Cork juniors this year.

No Raw Deal

Yet, Cork couldn't win the junior All-Ireland this year. Other Barr's men—Bobby Nutty, Donal Hurley, Denis Murphy and "Nobber" Keating, were tried on the Cork senior team . . . and failed to hold their places!

In all, only six Barr's men—Mick Carey, Derry O'Driscoll, Stanley Roche, Martin Studdert, Tim Cronin and young Lougheed—were not tried on the Cork senior and junior teams during 1957!

That can hardly be called a raw deal for city clubs—can it? And remember, Roger Ryan and Eamonn Young were on the committees that picked these men for the Cork senior and junior sides!

Mr. Moriarty predicts "radical changes, particularly in the forward line" in Cork's next senior team. Now, I know that the Cork forwards were bad during 1957, but can Mr. Moriarty nominate any promising newcomers? I'm a Corkman . . . and I can't.

And a last word. Would a man like Eamonn Young, with a record for straight dealing, who has given his time wholeheartedly to the training of the Cork team, stoop so low as to exclude deliberately a young player who merited selection on a Cork football team? Would Andy Scannell do it, Would Roger Ryan?

OF COURSE NOT! Yet, Mr. Moriarty has implied that they would.

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The Fabulous Harry Reynolds

King Of Irish Cycling

By Sean O'Brian

THE other day I had occasion to visit a tiny spot of Co. Dublin, known as Balrothery, and what glorious memories of other days it conjured up for me. To most people Balrothery is just another Irish village, but for me it's a place that flicks back the faded but unforgotten pages of memory, and with a pleasant ease.

For in the graveyard of the Old Fingal area lie the remains of the immortal Harry Reynolds, the greatest Irish cyclist of all time, and towards the turn of the last century, the greatest in the world.

I remember as a youngster watching open-mouthed as he flashed around the Irish tracks, always at the head of affairs . . . always first to the tape. There was no man here who could "live" with him. I remembered reading about his wins abroad; being one of thousands at Dun Laoghaire the

day he returned from Copenhagen—holder of the world's championship crown!

The year was 1896.

From the four corners of Ireland people came to say "thank you" to their hero. I doubt if a king ever got such a reception!

A True Irishman

Tar barrels blazed along the route to Dublin, and Finglas was in festive mood for many days and nights. He was given the place of honour in a horse-drawn carriage that led a mile long procession to Mount Street! But the wonderful welcome accorded to him that day goes further than the winning of a race.

There's a story behind it which shows in full measure what a loyal Irishman he was, and how he cut the English down to size at Copenhagen.

A year before the world cham-

pionships he decided to compete in the Surrey "One Hundred Guinea Cup." The race was at the famous Oval, and the cream of England's riders—25 in all—were there. A ten-mile scratch race, four laps to the mile, and on a grass track rated the best in the world. And, as Harry had a particular liking for grass, any Irishman would have laid Dublin to a postage stamp against him losing.

Their judgment was right!

He "slept" on the wheels of the leaders for most of the journey, but he wasn't asleep at the vital stage. Half a mile from home he 'let go'. He jumped the field with the speed of a rocket. Head down, and working his legs with fork-lightning speed he left his rivals 'standing'. So fast did he travel around the final lap, that a new quarter mile record went on the books. The race officials had no option but to award him the valuable gold medal, but the Cup was never to be his.

TO KEEP THE CUP HE WOULD HAVE HAD TO WIN IT TWO YEARS IN SUCCESSION. BUT THE ENGLISH UNION IMPOSED A BAN ON HIM COMPETING IN ENGLAND A FEW MONTHS AFTER THE SURREY RACE! THEY KNEW HE HAD THE MEASURE OF THEIR STAR MEN.

That unfair decision strengthened the resolve of the Irish Association to send him to Copenhagen. There he took the title in the proverbial "hack."

However, that day, he won more than a race; he struck a blow for Irish freedom.

The race over, he was making his way to the Royal Dias to be presented to the King of Denmark, when the military band struck up "God Save The King." And, as if to add insult to injury, the Union Jack was fluttering in the breeze. Harry was more than annoyed. He threw his bike on the ground, and through an interpreter told officials that he would not allow England to claim his victory as one for the Empire. After a hurried consultation the matter was settled. A green flag was hoisted, and an Irish air echoed throughout the arena. He saluted the flag, walked to the Royal Dias, where he shook hands with the King!

Modesty

When he stepped off the boat at Dun Laoghaire he knew the cheers that rent the air were not for his win alone. When he arrived at the committee rooms in D'Olier Street, the crowd roared for their idol to make a speech. He was so excited that all he could whisper was "Thank you." Excited did I say? Modesty would be a better word, for in all his years at the top, the late Harry Reynolds was the last to talk about his wins, yet he was the first to praise a rival.

Many are the stories told about his prowess as a cyclist, and the numerous trophies he won.

But the story I like best has got nothing to do with his feats on the track. It was quite a common thing for him to race—and beat—the train from his native Balbriggan to Skerries, and to ride up the steep hill of Barnageera—backwards!

But the incident I refer to was a "race" between himself and a



Frank O'Sullivan of Fermoy, one of Ireland's outstanding cyclists in 1957.

clergyman from Balbriggan to Skerries! The clergyman was very fond of speeding in his car, and one day, just outside Balbriggan, he passed Harry, who was out for a quiet training spin. What better pacing than the Reverend's car, thought Harry, and off he went. A couple of miles later he gave a friendly wave as he shot by the car.

This didn't please the clergyman, so down went the boot, and out came the throttle! Minutes later he returned the "friendly" wave—from in front! But Harry could go faster than the best of cars in those days, and he tucked in behind the Reverend's car until nearing Skerries.

He put the head down in that

determined way of his, and got those famous legs working. In a twinkling he had taken the lead, and led the "charge" into the home straight!

If Harry was tops with the pedals, he was also "tops" in voice, and not alone did he sing to Italian and French audiences, but he sang to them in their own language! Ireland, England and Copenhagen were not the only countries to see him hit the tape first; for he also found time to visit and compete in America, New Zealand and Australia.

It's a good many years since he cycled his last race, but time will never dim the memories of those lucky enough to have known him.

"Willie's Tobacco Fund"



(By PADDY HANLY)

IN the November, 1957, issue of GAELIC ECHO I told you the story of Willie Leonard, famous Commercials star from 1900 to 1926; the man who played for Dublin in two All-Ireland hurling finals but never won a Gold Medal.

Willie, as you remember, had a leg amputated last Christmas twelve months, and having made a wonderful recovery during the summer of 1957, was looking forward to the All-Irelands when he was forced to return to hospital once more.

I called to see him in St. Kevin's Hospital early in November with a copy of the GAELIC ECHO and discovered to my deep regret that his other leg had been amputated also.

This second operation was carried out while his story was going to press.

Willie is now convalescing, and, to use his own words: 'My only enjoyment now is a few pulls of the 'ould' pipe, chats with my friends about the games of the past, and a little reading.' So I have a suggestion to make.

What about a little fund for "The Little Man"? Let's call it "Willie's Tobacco Fund." If we get together and collect a few pounds for him we could keep him in tobacco for a while. We could ensure that he gets his GAELIC ECHO every month. You all realise what a few bob could do for a man with only the old age pension coming in each week.

Willie gave staunch and faithful service to the G.A.A., so I feel that all you sportsmen will give generously towards his fund. If you send your subscriptions to me at 91, New Ireland Road, Rialto, Dublin, or in c/o GAELIC ECHO, 13, Parliament St., Dublin, I will see that he gets them. Every subscription will be acknowledged by me.

So please do your best to help this 77 years old Gael, who is fighting harder than ever before in his life against the odds.

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SOUTHERN MAIL

By
HUGH O'DONNELL

WITH Nick Rackard on the sideline, Christy Ring is the oldest man in big-time hurling. Many Munster Gaels are wondering how long more the Cloyne wizard will grace our fields.

I have heard this topic being discussed at least half-a-dozen times recently and when ever I was asked my opinion my answer was: "Ring will not retire until he gets medal number nine."

I see no connection between Nick Rackard's retiral and a possible Ring hanging up. Nick, after a wonderful career, had passed his best and had shown it in his last few outings. On the other hand, Ring is still far ahead of any forward in the game.

Why not consider the retirement of any of our top-class players rather than Christy's. Not one of them is as good as he is now, and not one will ever be.

You ask me how I can be so confident that Ring will collect his ninth All-Ireland medal. I have five reasons, and they are:—

1. Unlike all other hurlers, Ring is hurling itself; he knows every

right or wrong was a matter of opinion and not a matter for the Council.

That the Ban, or rule 27 of the Official Guide, may be considered wrong in certain quarters we have no doubt, but that the Munster Council, and especially its chairman, should consider the rights and wrongs of the ban as a matter of opinion is indeed out of keeping with the high positions they hold in the Association and indicates a poor concept of the principles and ideals of the Association.

* * *

The Clonbony, Co. Clare, N.A.C.A. club seem to be quite an industrious bunch of lads. At its recent general meeting the treasurer's report stated an income of £300-5-10 for the past season. Expenditure was £278-10-10, leaving a balance of £21-15-0.

These surely are astounding financial figures for a small country club.

* * *

The Gael-Linn Cup, with its new approach to the game, has given great impetus to handball since it



Art Foley of Wexford—one of the greatest goalkeepers of modern hurling—has now emigrated to America but intends to keep up his hurling in the New World.



Dublin v Kilkenny at Nowlan Park. Tony Young, Dublin full-forward appears to be well held by Jim Walsh, the Kilkenny full-back.

move, twist and trick, and not alone does he know them, he can do them!

2. Ring's whole concentration is on one thing—hurling. This is probably the secret of his greatness.

3. Ring, even at 37, is an extremely fit man, and there is no reason to believe he will lose this fitness in the next few years. And even if Christy did slow down to a walking pace, what team would not grab him? A walking Ring might be out of the game for fifty-nine minutes, but there would always be that one minute when he would be there for the vital score. Then, of course, there are the frees, and as we have seen him score a point kneeling down, he would be invaluable for these alone.

4. Cork are never long out of the top and are sure to be back in a year or two.

5. Ring is the greatest hurler of all time. He is Ring the doer of the unprecedented, the genius of hurling, the mastermind of clever play, the craftsman supreme. He stands alone—unchallenged and unchallengeable.

* * *

In dismissing the appeal of two Southern Command officers against the decision of the Tipperary Co. Board to suspend them for alleged playing of foreign games, the chairman of the Munster Council is quoted as having made a statement which, to say the least of it, is amazing.

He is reported to have said that whether the foreign games rule was first presented in 1954. Already this year's competition is under way with a record entry of players.

Tuamgraney (Co. Clare) club contribute the almost unbelievable entry of forty players to the competition this year headed by Pat Kirby who, in the opinion of quite a few shrewd judges, may cause a surprise this year.

In 1956, Kirby was narrowly beaten by John Ryan and last year Des Dillon, who has twice won the cup, had only two aces to spare over his young fellow Clareman.

It could be third time lucky for Kirby who, incidentally, scored the winning point for Clare in their thrilling senior hurling game with Waterford some weeks back. And just a reminder for all competitors and officials—all games in this competition must be played. No postponements are allowed.

* * *

Hero of the Shanagolden v. Crough-Kilfinny Limerick junior football game, played a few weeks back at Rathkeale, was John Mulvihill.

Shanagolden were three points in arrears with time almost out when John slammed home the equaliser necessitating a replay.

It often happened before, you say. No, it did not, not when the hero was a veteran who had bid farewell to his 48th birthday.

Another addition to the ever-increasing list of G.A.A. emigrants is Garda William O'Connell, a native of Kilcock, Co. Kildare, who in recent years had made quite a name for himself in Tipperary football circles. With Clonmel Commercial, he won a Co. Championship medal, and after his transfer to Carrick he helped the local team win the South Tipp. junior title.

Garda O'Connell has left for Southern Rhodesia, where he will join the police force there.

* * *

To raise funds for a new G.A.A. pitch, Lahinch (Co. Clare) Gaels had a novel idea when they organised a Clare v. Galway box-tournament, held at the town's Sluagh Hall.

The venture proved a great success, and now the club can commence work on the new pitch.

* * *

Many Munster Gaels, and especially former opponents, will be glad to hear that the great Terry Leahy still goes on.

In the final of the New York Championship it was Terry who saw Kilkenny through with a last-minute point against Tipperary. The final score was Kilkenny 3-4, Tipperary 2-6.

Junior ECHO



QUESTION BOX . . . DES. FERGUSON

Interviewed by Jimmy Magee

Jimmy—What was it like to teach John Gregson hurling, and did he show any promise at the game?

Des—It was very enjoyable. John was an apt pupil and took a great interest in the game. After only a week's training, he was quite good.

Jimmy—About how many matches have you played, hurling and football, in the past seven years?

Des—I play an average of 40 to 45 games per year, which gives a total of about 290 games in 7 years.

Jimmy—Which do you prefer. Hurling or football.

Des—Very hard question to answer. It all depends on what form you are in or how long since you last played either game.

Jimmy—Is it true the you were born in Co. Down?

Des—Yes, I was born in Castlewellan, Co. Down, and came to Dublin at the age of five.

Jimmy—What are your tastes in music?

Des—I like to listen to good singers, not TOO high-brow though.

Jimmy—My colleague here in "Gaelic Echo", Patrick Carver puts the next one. Did you like New York and what were your impressions?

Des—Well, not in the same class as home; certainly the weather and heat were very severe on our players. And then parties and functions don't lend themselves to good football. Indeed football became secondary after the main game. Naturally, you meet friends and relations and the lads enjoy themselves. Oh, yes! It was a great trip and we were treated very well.

Jimmy—What was your biggest disappointment and your greatest thrill?

Des—The first one's easy—losing the 1955 All-Ireland to Kerry. My greatest thrill was about three years ago when St. Vincent's beat Garda in the Co. Dublin championship.

Jimmy—Are you interested in any other sports?

Des—Yes, boxing.

Jimmy—If you weren't on the Dublin team, which counties would you like to play with in both games?

Des—Kerry and Offaly in football. Wexford and Cork in hurling.

Jimmy—What are your favourite playing positions?

Des—Right half back in hurling and right half forward in football.

o o o

Now, readers, if you have any questions you'd like Jimmy to put to his subject, why not drop him a line, c/o "Gaelic Echo", 13 Parliament Street, Dublin.

o o o

Next month, Tyrone's Sean Donnelly will be in the box.

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BEST IN THE WEST

by
**LIAM
O h-OISTIN**



Roscommon in action in the National League.

MAYO folk, especially down Belmullet way, showed more than usual interest in the trial game, staged by the Ulster Council, before selecting the Railway Cup football team to represent the Northern province.

The reason? Honoured at right full back on the West selection was the Donegal full back, S. O'Reilly, whose birthplace is Belmullet and who wore the Mayo junior jersey with distinction three seasons ago. Now a member of the Gardai and stationed in Tir Conaill, O'Reilly has blossomed out into a first class defender and is regarded by Donegal supporters as one of the finest backs ever to wear the county colours.

People of his native county recall that John Forde and Paddy Prendergast, two stalwarts of the glorious '48-'51 period, also served a period of apprenticeship in the Donegal jersey before being recalled to wear the green and red. They fervently hope that, in the case of O'Reilly, history will repeat itself.

* * *

Talking of the Gardai recalls the many Mayo men who were members of that admirable body and who were also excellent footballers. Old-timers can remember Dick Creagh, brilliant full back; Dick Hearn, for many years cruiserweight champion of Europe, who won provincial titles in football in two provinces—Connacht and Leinster; or Pat Halpin who, incidentally, was Louth-born.

The great teams of the thirties saw Georgie Ormsby, half back and mid-fielder, and sharp-shooting forward Peter Laffey help Mayo to their record-making run of six National Leagues in a row, plus an All-Ireland title and another title in the

League after dropping out of the competition in 1940. The 1948-'51 era saw brilliant Garda members in Paddy Prendergast, star full back; mid-fielder Paddy Irwin and that peerless full forward, brainy Tom Langan.

The present team boasts of Bill Shannon, a midfield star in the making, following in the footsteps of his predecessors. Other members of the force now serving—and making a good job of it—with other counties, are Dan O'Neill of Castlebar and Seamie O'Donnell of Charlestown, who played such major parts in Louth's 1957 championship win.

J. O'Connell of Swinford, at present stationed in Dublin, is yet another of senior inter-county standard who has figured a few times in the green and red and seems earmarked for further honours. What a team Mayo could field if the four 'O's—O'Neill, O'Donnell, O'Reilly and O'Connell were to join forces with fellow Garda, Shannon, on the lone-out of their native county.

* * *

The cloud of mystery concerning the Gerry O'Malley case has not yet cleared. It may be remembered that O'Malley, in the U.S. during

the recent American tour, was proposed by the Irish party as a suitable referee for the football game, the St. Brendan Cup decider, but was turned down by our American friends as being "illegal".

Yet, a few days later those same officials who ruled him "illegal" included him on their team to meet Galway in a subsequent match. Selected on his return home to play for Roscommon against Laois and Dublin, he did not turn out on either occasions.

O'Malley is either illegal or legal—he cannot be both. The New York G.A.A. authorities should be asked to clear the air they have befogged and not leave a player of O'Malley's calibre in doubt as to his position. Personally, I consider it most unfair to the player to leave the puzzle unsolved.

Knowing Gerry as I do, to be a sportsman without compare, I can only conclude that if he has made himself illegal, as we are led to believe, then he did so unwittingly. Perhaps his accusers on the far side know how.

ONE WAY OR ANOTHER THE FARCE HAS GONE TOO FAR ALREADY—WE DEMAND THAT THE O'MALLEY CASE BE DEALT WITH AND THE PLAYER'S NAME CLEARED.

* * *

Roscommon town has two football clubs, St. Comans and Eoghan

Rua. Eoghan Rua, founded a few years ago by former Roscommon All-Ireland player Owensie Hoare, won the county junior title in 1955 and graduated to senior ranks in '56, reaching the final only to taste defeat at the hands of the holders, Elphin.

Now, public opinion among supporters of both clubs think that the time is ripe for amalgamation and offer the following cogent reasons for their proposal—

1. The population of the town is not great enough to warrant the existence of two teams: hence both teams are weak.
2. The poor displays put up in this year's championship by both teams prove argument No. 1.
3. In 1957 the town possessed the most promising minor material for years but the existence of two clubs, drawing on this material, made the winning of a county title—highly probable if there was only one team—utterly impossible.

So far efforts to bring about an alliance have failed—due to headstrong opposition of some officials of both clubs. Could not a compromise be reached by having only one minor club? Oh yes; the name of this minor club?

Sorry, I had not thought of that! Have the GAA authorities in

America, or should I say New York, begun to realise at last that, sooner or later, the Central Council would get 'browned-off' of their juggling with indiscriminate invitations to Irish teams and their irresponsible, unreasonable 'goings-on', contrary to the conditions laid down and agreed to by both parties re tours, official or otherwise?

An exile friend of mine thinks they have, because the latest rumour in GAA circles the other side, is that the next invitation will be to the London-Irish to send a team across the Atlantic to compete for a trophy to be known as the O'Donnell Cup. One tribute that must, if reluctantly, be paid to our exiles that they are never stuck for an idea, however revolutionary.

* * *

Former Sligo forward, Joe Masterson, is a busy man these days busily preparing with his many willing and enthusiastic helpers, for the annual Western drama festival in his native Tubbercurry, where it is now recognised as the premier event of the year.

Following the example set by Castlebar Mitchells, Tuam Stars and Elphin, Bornacoola—Leitrim champions for '57—are playing a game in Britain against Yorkshire in the spring.

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PLAIN SPEAKING

This Delany Worship Makes Me Sick

By **KELLY**

YES! I REPEAT. ALL THIS DELANY WORSHIP MAKES ME SICK.

To read the tripe some sports journalists write you would think that Ronnie Delany was the only Athlete Ireland ever had.

The Ronnie this and Ronnie that we have had to put up with was bad enough but a new low was reached by an Irish Sunday paper recently when they published a picture of Delany's brother Joe under the heading "Ronnie's Brother Gets Married."

By the way, the said Joe Delany has such a great belief in the future of this country that he has emigrated and is now living in Canada.

Do not think that I have a knife in Delany. That is not true. I believe that he is a great runner even if he has not made any contribution to Irish athletics other than winning an Olympic title.

However, I take a very poor view of those idolatrous pressmen who genuflect every time they hear his name.

The trouble about these men is that they have not got a clue about athletics apart from what they see at the Clonliffe "beanos". To them the NACA is a dirty word which must not be mentioned in print.

Although there is a great conspiracy on foot to hush it up two Irish athletes, both NACA men, are making a great name for themselves abroad. They are

Cork's Eugene O'Sullivan and Louth's Peter MacArdle who are breaking records in Australia and America respectively.

MacArdle, by the way, as well as breaking records is studying at Fordham University. He is working his way through college and earns his keep as a busman. No athletic scholarships here. Damn it all old chap the cad is in the NACA.

Although O'Sullivan could have a place on the Australian Olympic team, if he wanted it, he refused as his first loyalty was to Ireland. The Irish Olympic Council rewarded this by a point blank refusal to consider him even though he was on the spot and all it would cost them was five bob for a singlet.

THE SPACE WASTED ON JOE DELANY WOULD BE BETTER USED TO PUBLICISE EITHER MACARDLE'S OR O'SULLIVAN'S FEATS ABROAD. THEY RARELY GET MUCH MORE THAN A LINE OR TWO ON THE STOCK EXCHANGE PAGE.

* * *

Why do people always have to abuse privileges and as a result have them withdrawn? Over the years various GAA tournaments with prizes like suit lengths, bicycles, watches and wireless sets, have been organised and naturally enough have been very popular with the players.

Needless to say some people, especially those outside the GAA have objected to these tourneys on the ground that they infringed the players' amateur status. As the awards have always been in kind rather than in cash the defenders of these competitions have been able to stop them from being banned.

However, due to the thoughtless and in my mind stupid action of the promoters of the recent Rhode seven-a-side, the opposition may have got the weapon to stop future tournaments for anything better than leather medals.

THE RHODE PEOPLE GAVE PRIZE BONDS AND IN ANY MAN'S LANGUAGE THEY SPELL C-A-S-H.

* * *

Dublin have beaten Roscommon in the National League and in spite of the fact that Roscommon are pointless, the talk about the Dublin football machine is blossoming out in the sports columns again.

Why can't the scribes leave Dublin alone and treat them just like any other team?

I am sick and tired about hearing of this wonderful Dublin

~~~~~

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machine which to my mind seems to get out of gear just when it is needed most.

Please, lads, give us a break.

* * *

Somehow or other I have never had a great respect for the Dublin Co. Board NACA. I have always had the idea that the members of the Board were more interested in themselves than in promoting the NACA.

The fact that the NACA have only one annual sports meeting in Dublin and that is only there because it is financed by the Guinness's Athletic Union, has always helped to keep that suspicion alive. However their latest action has convinced me.

They have sent a motion to Congress asking that all events be either scratch or short limit. No handicaps for these pot-hunting gentlemen.

DID YOU EVER HEAR THE LIKE?

The only hope for Irish athletics has been the NACA's attitude in catering for the average athlete. Now the Dublin Board wants the NACA to join the Billy Morton three-ring circus.

To quote a well known radio personality: "Not on your Nanny."

* * *

I have always been convinced that anyone with a brain in his head would not be a racing cyclist. A motion on the agenda of the recent NCA Congress did nothing to change my mind.

It was from the Clonmel Cycling

Club and suggested that Ras Tailteann only be promoted every second, third or fourth year.

Did you ever hear such stupidity? After years of adversity, the NCA has succeeded in establishing a race which catches the public imagination and focusses the eyes of the country on cycling for one whole week. Now just as it is really established some cyclists want to knock it on the head.

Fortunately the motion was defeated.

* * *

Pity the poor Louth Co. Board GAA. Their magnificent All-Ireland win has them up to their ears in trouble.

The cause of it all is the question of where they are going to present the medals. The various towns are almost having a shooting war in an effort to get the honour.

I don't think much of the Drogheda man who wrote a mealy-mauily paragraph in the local paper on the subject. It read—

"It would appear that our little town is completely in the shade with regard to these matters and there doesn't seem to be anyone that can fight our case at Board meetings."

POOR DROGHEDA!

Alone and unprotected with all those other wicked towns plotting against it.

I wonder how much Drogheda contributed to the Louth training fund?

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The Bob Dolan Column

Has All-Ireland Title Gone To Louth's Head?

IS it true what they're saying about Louth? On all sides it is being said that they are "bad winners". You know what that means—in plain language, they have swollen heads.

THAT ALL IRELAND TITLE HAS GONE TO THEIR HEADS.

Said a Kerryman I met at Croke Park a while ago: "Yerra leave them alone, sure they're not used to winning All Irelands!"

Is all this criticism justified? Have the Louth county board and supporters behaved badly since they won the Sam Maguire cup? Have they left that victory go to their heads?

I THINK THEY HAVE!

I made allowances when Dublin Press representatives were told that "the Louthmen could hold a reception without them". "Heat of the moment" I said to myself. "Everybody is excited". But I couldn't help but tuck it away in the back of my mind as a black mark against Louth.

Refusal

Then, later on, came the news that despite the fact that Dublin's chairman, the popular Danno Mahony, made the journey up to ask the Louth County Board if the team would play Dublin in a challenge at the opening of the new Lorcan O'Toole Park, Louth had refused.

What made it hard for Dublin to stomach this refusal was the knowledge that when Dublin were in the limelight, no worthy cause was refused the team's services.

As a Dublin official said to me at the time: "Why have Louth suddenly become so uppish". They must forget that last year's Leinster championship final win was the first time they had beaten Dublin in five years.

Of course, it is only human to sit back and enjoy life when you have an All-Ireland won but one more



A snap from the 1957 All-Ireland hurling semi-final between Waterford and Galway at Croke Park.

game wouldn't have exhausted the players. The trouble is if you refuse, it can do you a lot of harm."

THIS I REGARD AS ANOTHER BLACK MARK AGAINST LOUTH.

Then we had — and are still having—the rounds of functions and presentations that have the traders broke and the players and officials in a whirl.

Trader Broke

These celebrations are all right. But what about the Drogheda shopkeeper who said: "These collections for presentations have me broke. I've already paid out about a fiver and with trade as it is, I can't

afford that much. Finally, there was their refusal to play Kerry in a challenge game, which was in aid of the Austin Stack Park Fund. Surely, this is carrying things too far?

Are the players to be put in a glass case until the important matches come along, then powdered, puffed and shaved they will enter the arena to the howls of their frenzied supporters?

At the moment, that's the way it looks but I hope good sense will prevail and that a more gracious and sporting attitude will be adopted.

* * *

LET it go on record, by the way, that Galway, too, refused to play Kerry. Their excuse was that their players were tired after a heavy season, climaxed by the American Tour.

I suppose that there is some justification for their outlook but, surely, neither Louth nor themselves are confined to just fifteen men — or are they?

* * *

Trials A Farce

I think the Leinster Railway Cup trials are just a farce! What do the selectors hope to gain from them? Surely there is no better way of evaluating a player's form than by watching him in action in serious competition.

He may have one day bad, one day good but over three or four games he will certainly show whether he is worth his place or not.

Apart from the dreadful conditions in which the first trial was played, it was obvious that the players did not treat it seriously.

And when you analyse it, you can't blame them. Out they go, North v South Leinster; for what? A PLACE ON A TEAM TO MEET LOUTH IN A FINAL TRIAL!

Now, this is where the real silliness comes in. Here we have a team of shreds and patches strung together to face the best team in the country — they won the All-Ireland didn't they?

And it's quite on the cards that Louth will whip this hotch-potch selection — no offence to the individual players concerned. And then what?

Will we have an all-Louth Leinster team or will the selectors once again disregard the information, if any, gained in the trial and follow their noses as of yore?

WE SHALL SEE. BUT ISN'T THE WHOLE SET-UP FARCICAL!

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of "Modern Athletics"

MEN

100 yards/100 metres	secs	secs
R. J. Morrow (U.S.A.)	9.3*	10.2
D. Sime (U.S.A.)	9.3	10.2
I. Murchison (U.S.A.)	9.3	10.2
L. King (U.S.A.)	9.3	10.2
M. Germar (Germany)	9.3	10.2

200 metres/220 yards (curved tracks)

M. Germar (Germany)	20.5	20.4
E. Collymore (U.S.A.)	20.7	20.6
T. Buš (U.S.A.)	21.0	20.9
L. Bartenyev (U.S.S.R.)	21.0	20.9
B. Nilsen (Norway)	21.0	20.9
C Kaufmann (G'many)	21.1	21.0
R. J. Morrow (U.S.A.)	21.1	21.0

Note—Times of Germar and Collymore were made on a 500 metres track

400 metres/440 yards

T. W. Courtney (USA)	46.3	46.0
C. L. Jenkins (USA)	46.5	46.3
M. Larrabee (USA)	46.5	46.3
R. McMurray (USA)	46.7	46.4
G. Davis (USA)	46.8	46.5
M. Spence (SA)	46.8	46.5
T. Tobacco (Canada)	46.8	46.5

800 metres/880 yards m. s. m. s.

T W Courtney (USA)	1 46.5	1 45.8
R. Moens (B'gium)	1 46.7	1 46.0
D. Bowden (USA)	1 47.2	1 46.5
D J N Johnson (GB)	1 47.3	1 46.6
A Sowell (USA)	1 47.6	1 46.9
R Delany (Ireland)	1 47.8	1 47.1
S Jungwirth (Czech)	1 48.2	1 47.5
M A Rawson (GB)	1 48.2	1 47.5
J V Paterson (GB)	1 48.2	1 47.5

1,500 metres/one mile

S Jungwirth (Czech)	3 56.0	3 38.1*
D G Ibbotson (GB)	3 57.2*	3 39.2
O Salsola (Finland)	3 58.3	3 40.2
O Salonen (Finland)	3 58.3	3 40.2
O Vourisalo (F'land)	3 58.4	3 40.3
D Waern (Sweden)	3 58.5	3 40.4
D Bowden (USA)	3 58.7	3 40.6

3 miles/5,000 metres

V. Kuts (USSR)	13 05.0	13 35.0*
D G Ibbotson (GB)	13 20.8	13 50.0
Z Krzyszkowiak (Poland)	13 25.0	13 55.8
M Szabo (Hungary)	13 51.0	13 51.8
G Janke (Germany)	13 52.0	13 51.8
A Lawrence (A'tralia)	13 54.0	13 54.2
P Bolotnikov (USSR)	13 54.0	13 54.4

6 miles/10,000 metres

G Knight (GB)	28 06.0	29 06.4
P Bolotnikov (USSR)	28 10.0	29 09.8
V Kuts (USSR)	28 10.0	29 10.0
A Lawrence (A'tralia)	28 16.0	29 16.4
N Pudov (USSR)	28 19.0	29 19.6
J Desyatchikov (USSR)	28 20.0	29 20.4
Y Zhukov (USSR)	28 20.0	29 20.4

120 yards/110 metres hurdles

	secs	secs
M Campbell (USA)	13.4†	13.4
E Gilbert (USA)	13.4	13.4
L Calhoun (USA)	13.5	13.5
W Stevens (USA)	13.6	13.6
M Laur (Germany)	13.7	13.7
A Robinson (USA)	13.8	13.8

400 metres/ 440 yards hurdles

J Culbreath (USA)	50.5*	50.2
C Potgieter (SA)	50.7	50.4
G Davis (USA)	50.9	50.6
I Ilin (USSR)	51.4	51.1
T S Farrell (GB)	51.4	51.1
Y Lituyev (USSR)	51.4	51.1

High Jump

	ft. in.	metres
Y Stepanov (USSR)	7 1*	2.16
V Sitkin (USSR)	7 0½	2.15
I Kashkarov (USSR)	7 0½	2.14
F Smith (USA)	6 11½	2.115
D Stewart (USA)	6 10½	2.105
C E Dumas (USA)	6 10½	2.089

Long Jump

G Bell (USA)	26 7	8.10
H Grabowski (Poland)	25 7½	7.80
E Shelby (USA)	25 6½	7.78
I Ovanesyan (USSR)	25 5½	7.77
C Hamilton (USA)	25 5½	7.76
J Valkama (Finland)	25 4½	7.74
J Gamble (USA)	25 3½	7.71
F Herrmann (USA)	25 3½	7.70

Pole Vault

M Gutoski (USA)	15 9¼*	4.82
R Morris (USA)	15 2½	4.64
D Bragg (USA)	15 2½	4.64
R E Richards (USA)	15 1½	4.61
J Rose (USA)	15 1	4.60
J Brewer (USA)	15 0½	4.57

Triple Jump

O Ryakhovskiy (USSR)	53 5½	16.29
K Tsiganov (USSR)	52 7½	16.04
E Kehris (USSR)	52 5½	16.00
L Shcherbakov (USSR)	52 5½	15.98
D Yefremov (USSR)	52 5½	16.00
A Tyerkel (USSR)	52 4	15.95
Y Chen (USSR)	52 3½	15.94
A F da Silva (Brazil)	52 2½	15.92

Weight

M Nieder (USA)	62 2	18.95
W. P. O'Brien (USA)	60 10½	18.55
D Owen (USA)	59 5½	18.13
J Skobla (Czech)	59 2½	18.05
D Vick (USA)	58 8½	17.89
H Lingnau (Germany)	57 3	17.45
K Bantum (USA)	57 2½	17.44

Hammer

M Krivosov (USSR)	218 10	66.70
H Connolly (USA)	216 3	65.91
A Hall (USA)	213 0½	64.93
Z Bezjak (Yugoslav)	212 4½	64.73
M Ellis (GB)	211 9½	64.56
F Tkachev (USSR)	211 1½	64.36
Y Nikulin (USSR)	210 10½	64.27

Discus

J Ellis (USA)	191 2½	58.28
A Oerter (USA)	185 4	56.49
R Babbka (USA)	185 0½	56.41
W P O'Brien (USA)	183 3½	55.89
J Szeceanyi (Hungary)	180 7½	55.05
O Grigalka (USSR)	180 6	55.01
A Baltushnikas (USSR)	179 10½	54.83

Javelin

E Danielsen (Norway)	275 7½	84.00
V Kuznetsov (USSR)	274 8½	83.73
J Kopyto (Poland)	273 6½	83.37
V Tsubulenko (USSR)	273 5	83.34
J Sidlo (Poland)	272 3	82.98
F W Held (USA)	267 3½	81.47
M Maquet (France)	264 5½	80.60

WOMEN

100 yards/100metres

	secs	secs
M Mathews (Australia)	10.5	11.4
V Krepkina (Russia)	10.6	11.5
N Dyekonskaya (Russia)	10.7	11.6
T Buyanova (Russia)	10.7	11.6

Linear Metric

	secs	secs
G Popova (Russia)	10.7	11.6
M Itkina (Russia)	10.7	11.6
H Blowemhof (Holland)	10.7	11.6

200 metres/220yards

M Mathews (Australia)	23.4	23.2*
B Cuthbert (Australia)	23.7	23.5
G Kohler (Germany)	24.1	23.9
M Itkina (Russia)	24.1	23.9
N Boyle (Australia)	24.1	23.9
A Kobranova (Russia)	24.2	24.0
H Armitage (Britain)	24.2	24.0

400 metres/440 yards

M Itkina (Russia)	54.1	53.6*
A Khomutova (Russia)	54.9	54.4
U Donath (Germany)	55.2	54.7
P Lasareva (Russia)	55.4	54.9
Y Parlyuk (Russia)	55.8	55.3
T Avramova (Russia)	55.8	55.3
800 metres/880 yards m. s. m. s.		
Y Yermolayeva (Russia)	2 06.6	2 05.6

800 metres/880 yards m. s. m. s.

N Otkalenko (Russia)	2 06.8	2 05.8
D Leather (G.B.)	2 07.8	2 06.8
U Donath (Germany)	2 08.6	2 07.6
D Levicka (Russia)	2 08.6	2 07.6
Otel (Rumania)	2 08.9	2 07.9

800 metres/880 yards m. s. m. s.

N Yeliseyeva (Russia)	10.8	
G Kohler (Germany)	10.8	
G Bystrova (Russia)	10.8	
E Fisch (Germany)	10.9	
Eiberle (Germany)	10.9	
C Kop-Gastl (Germany)	10.9	

High Jump

I Balas (Rumania)	5 9¼	1.76
T Chenchik (USSR)	5 8½	1.75
I Balas (Rumania)	5 8½	1.73
T Funyoung (China)	5 8½	1.74
M Donaghy (N Zealand)	5 6½	1.685
T Hopkins (G B)	5 6½	1.68

Long Jump

N Kazmina (Russia)	20 7¼	6.28
B Weigel (N Zealand)	20 5¼	6.23
G Bystrova (USSR)	20 2¼	6.16
A Seonbuchner (Germany)	20 2¼	6.15
E Krzesinska (Poland)	20 1	6.12
V Maremae (Russia)	20 0½	6.11
V Krepkina (Russia)	19 9¼	6.03

Weight

G Zybina (Russia)	53 4½	16.26
T Tishkyevich (Russia)	53 2½	16.23
Z Doynikova (Russia)	53 0½	16.17
M Kuznetsova (Russia)	52 11	16.13
V Sloper (N Z'land)	52 9¼	16.10
T Press (Russia)	52 1½	15.89

Discus

N Ponomaryeva (Russia)	181 0½	55.19
T Press (Russia)	174 5	53.16
I Begliakova (Russia)	170 8½	52.04
S Mertova (Czech)	169 0½	51.52
A Solotuchina (USSR)	169 0	51.51
D Muller (Germany)	168 3½	51.30

Javelin

G Zybina (Russia)	179 9½	54.81
A Brommel (G'many)	176 5	53.60
I Jaunzeme (USSR)	175 10½	53.60
U Figwer (Poland)	174 9½	53.28
D Zatopkova (Czech)	175 3½	53.41
M Diti (Rumania)	171 10½	52.38

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Ever hear of the Kiltteely football team?

Whether you did or not, you won't be hearing about them for the next six months.

Why?

Because the East Limerick G.A.A. Board have suspended them for that period. Pretty rough, you'll say. But here's what All-Ireland hurling referee Sean Gleeson told the Board.

"Three minutes from time, in the East Limerick junior football semi-final at Hospital, between Caherline and Kiltteely, Caherline scored a goal which left them leading by 2 points—2-3 to 2-1. As the umpire raised his flag for a goal, a Kiltteely player rushed in and struck him with his fist . . . and kicked him as he fell. **THIS UMPIRE WAS GENERALLY ASSAULTED BY THE KILTEELY PLAYERS AND SUPPORTERS, AND WERE IT NOT FOR THE ASSISTANCE GIVEN HIM BY JOHN HEELAN, CAPTAIN OF CAHERLINE, AND ROBERT WRIGHT, THEN THE UMPIRE'S LIFE WOULD HAVE BEEN JEOPARISED.**"

And this team only got six months!

I say they should have been suspended for life . . . And I mean that.

Charlie Quits Refereeing

Yet another prominent G.A.A. referee has decided to quit . . . and all because of another one of those all too frequent brawls.

He is Charlie Smith, chairman of the famous Kickham club.

Charlie is a familiar figure at Dublin club matches, and he'll

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still be one . . . but not as a referee.

The other week, Charlie decided on a "busman's holiday," and went out to Finglas to watch his club against the local Erin's Isle. It's now history that no referee turned up (no praise for the Dublin Co. Board), and on the flip of a coin, Charlie was nominated for the job.

There's very little I'd like to try and teach Charlie about refereeing . . . but some of the bright boys on the line thought otherwise!

Eventually the encouragement from the sideline spread to the pitch, and the ball became incidental! Charlie got fed up blowing the whistle, and 12 minutes from time called the match off. "This has finished me for good," says Charlie. And I don't blame him. G.A.A. refereeing has become quite a hazardous business these days.

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Booked For Stardom

It looks as if youthful high jump star, George Geraghty is booked for stardom . . . but as a Gaelic player!

Roscommon's best display in the N.F.L. was their showing against All-Ireland champions, Louth. And it was George who made the Leinstermen work right hard for their two points winning margin. He played centre-field that day, and showed his forwards the way by belting home a late goal.

"We don't know yet where his best position is," a county official told me, "but he'll be a handy man to have around for the coming championships," he added.

I'd say George would be quite some boy to outjump! Hate to try it.

Tribute To Art From Nick

Prior to his departure to the U.S. the other week, Art Foley was given a farewell dinner by his club, St. Aidan's, at Ennis-corthy. And the Wexford G.A.A. County Board also remembered the heroic work that goalkeeper Foley had done for the county

down through the years. The Chairman of the Board, Mr. Sean Brown, said: "His displays will



NICK RACKARD

be talked about for many years to come."

And from that prince of full forwards, Nicky Rackard: "There's one memory of Artie that will always stand out above all others . . . that of his left-hand stopping a Christy Ring special in the dying minutes of the '56 All-Ireland final."

Yes, I remember that well. It was the save of a lifetime. His loss is not alone Wexford's, but also one of the Gaelic Association.

Some Donkey!

Four years ago, Eddie Murray, of Derryadd, Roslea, made the best investment of his life. He forked out £6 for a friendly donkey named Jack, and now he refuses to sell it . . . not even for £500! The reason? Jack has proved himself the speediest donkey in the whole of Ireland, and at the blushing age of eight years, looks like staying that way for some time.

For 23-year-old Eddie he has won close on £200, and at Clabby collected a cool century when winning the International Derby against 140 other starters!

"I'll sell Jack for nothing less than £800" says Eddie. Will Mr. Cecil Magwood, a shopkeeper close to the Murray home, who is acting on behalf of an English syndicate, step up his offer of half a thousand?

I never thought I'd see the day when the poor donkey was so valuable.

* * *

"Did you ever in all your life meet an Englishman that could not talk English? Did you ever meet or hear a Frenchman that could not talk French? Did you ever meet an Italian who could only speak German? You never did. Those things do not exist. They are contradictions in terms. You must come to Ireland, you must come to the land of anomalies, the land of contradictions, to find a person professing himself an Irishman, and yet unable to speak a word of the language of Ireland." Who said that? Patraic H. Pearse at a Gaelic League Rally in Westport, Nov. 24, 1907.

Enough said!

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NEWS VIEWS INTERVIEWS

When Tipperary returned home with the St. Brendan Cup from New York, the natural outcome should have been joy and laughter all round. But was there?

Listen to one Tipperary official—“This New York trip seems to have marked the end of the road for some of our greatest stars. I can tell you the joy of having won our games in America was quickly dispelled when Mickey Byrne, Pat Stakelum, Phil Shanahan and Jimmy Finn, all announced they were going to pack in hurling. Naturally, we shall try to persuade them to change their minds but at the moment the outlook for Tipperary hurling is anything but bright.”

That was bad enough but worse

Twenty years on the road and still going strong—that's Johnny Fitzgerald's proud record in Limerick football. Johnny, a member of the Treaty Sarsfields team that beat Kilmallock in the County Final of 1937, has lost little of his craft with the passing years and was one of the stars of the Treaty team which won the City Junior Football Championship this season. Where's my gun!

University student by day, busman by night—Dundalk's running machine, Peter McArdle, continues to

“You are going to be a very big loss to Irish cycling”—so said Mr. Phil Brady, President of the North Kildare Club, when he presented a wallet of notes to Mr. Berney O'Brien, the well-known cyclist prior to his departure to Canada. May we wish you good luck, Bernie, and God speed.

They don't have any more plumbing worries up Louth way these days. Not since popular Louth footballer, Peter Judge, decided to go into the pipe-mending business. Strikes me Peter will do fine if he seals off the holes in the pipes just half as well as he has often sealed off the holes in the Louth defence.

BILL FALLON'S COLUMN

was to follow. A couple of days after landing, came the news that Jimmy Doyle, greatest young hurler in the country, was thinking of going to America in the New Year.

“I would like very much to settle down there” says Jimmy, “and if I do I will have the choice of some very good jobs.” Somehow I think those words confirm Tipperary suspicions that Jimmy will be New York-bound very soon.

And if Doyle does decide to go, don't be surprised if he is accompanied by at least three other Thurles players who were members of the recent American party.

From captain of the Dublin senior football team to chairman of the Dublin Co. Board in one jump—that is the proud boast of genial 'Danno' Mahony.

And 'Danno'—he spends his spare time looking after motor cars—did such an excellent job in his first term of office, that he



was unanimously re-elected chairman at the recent Dublin convention. Among the many things he had completed was the 1953—no, it's not a misprint—Senior Football League while he also managed to have the new grounds at Kimmage opened during the year.

Stick to it 'Danno'—the first ten years are the hardest.

Tom Larkin must surely rue the day he walked off the field with the rest of his Kilsheelan team-mates in the recent Tipperary South Junior Hurling final against St. Luke's.

Not only did that mis-demeanour earn Tom six months 'hard' but it also cost him his place on the Tipperary team to play Limerick—and a chance of possible stardom. Still, it's by mistakes we learn.

Don't be surprised if Galway's brilliant hurling star, Joe Salmon, declares for Cork next year. Breaking with tradition, Joe has decided to live in Cork and is, I understand, being 'sounded' about turning out for the county in the 1958 championships.

Don't be sore, you Galway fans. After all, besides supplying Dublin with threequarters of its population, Cork has given Billie O'Neill to Galway hurling and football teams. And in these hard times that's a lot to be thankful for.

topple all comers in the States. In winning the New York Metropolitan cross-country championship in 18 min. 50.8 secs.—which officials claim is a local record—Peter was gaining his third win in three starts. I wonder what are the chances of bringing Peter back to run here next year?

I knew there had to be one. I knew Kerry wouldn't dishonour the name of Jack Higgins by fielding such a weak team in the recent challenge with Kildare, without a very good reason.

Kerry couldn't field a strong team . . . because they simply hadn't got the players. As County Board Chairman, Frank Sheehy, said—“Sure, we have been blamed for lack of interest and respect as a result of the recent Kerry/Kildare challenge at Newbridge. But the truth is that the team was weak because many of our players were crocked with injuries and 'flu.' Is everybody happy, now?”

There is in New York a star reporter called Jerry Mitchell. Assigned to cover the Tipperary/New York hurling match, he proceeded to describe the game as being 'dirty'. Along came a certain Irish reporter and described Mitchell's efforts as so much 'drivel'.

Yours truly was very much intrigued. So I checked up . . . and this is what I found. On the Tipperary team, Jimmy Doyle was sporting nine stitches over his left eye, Mickey Byrne received an injury which necessitated six stitches, while Tony Wall had four stitches inserted for a cut over his upper lip. I never did find out how the New Yorkers got on.

How far is Wexford from Dublin? Couldn't help figuring this out the other day when I noticed that Bill Esmonde, Secretary of the Wexford NACA Board had received a notice from the Leinster Council informing him that Wexford had been awarded runners-up medals in LAST YEAR'S Youths Cross-Country championship. Now, either of two things is wrong: I've got the wrong Wexford in mind or else the Leinster Council is twelve months behind the time. Take your pick!

One of Down's most prominent G.A.A. families was recently bereaved through the death of Mr. Thomas Leckey. A life-long member of the G.A.A., Mr. Leckey's family are cornerstones of the Association in Down, his son, Bertie, being secretary of the South Down Board for many years, while another son, James, is a prominent member of Aghaderr G.F.C.

CAN SOMEONE HELP TOMMIE?

Dear Editor,

I am fourteen years of age and I get the "Gaelic Echo" regularly. I want to ask you if you could start a Pen-Pal column for boys in your Junior Page who like hurling and football and keep photographs, pictures and books on hurling.

And would you please put my name down for a Pen-Pal. My hobbies are hurling, football, handball, running, reading. I am sure a lot of other boys throughout Ireland would agree to my suggestion.

Would you tell me of any books or annual on hurling and football available, and would you tell me also the name of any shop in Dublin who still have some copies of the Tommy Doyle book, "A Lifetime In Hurling," at 2/6. I missed my chance of getting it before as all the shops in Wexford were sold out of it.

Yours sincerely,
THOMAS O'HARA,
15 Parnell St., Wexford.



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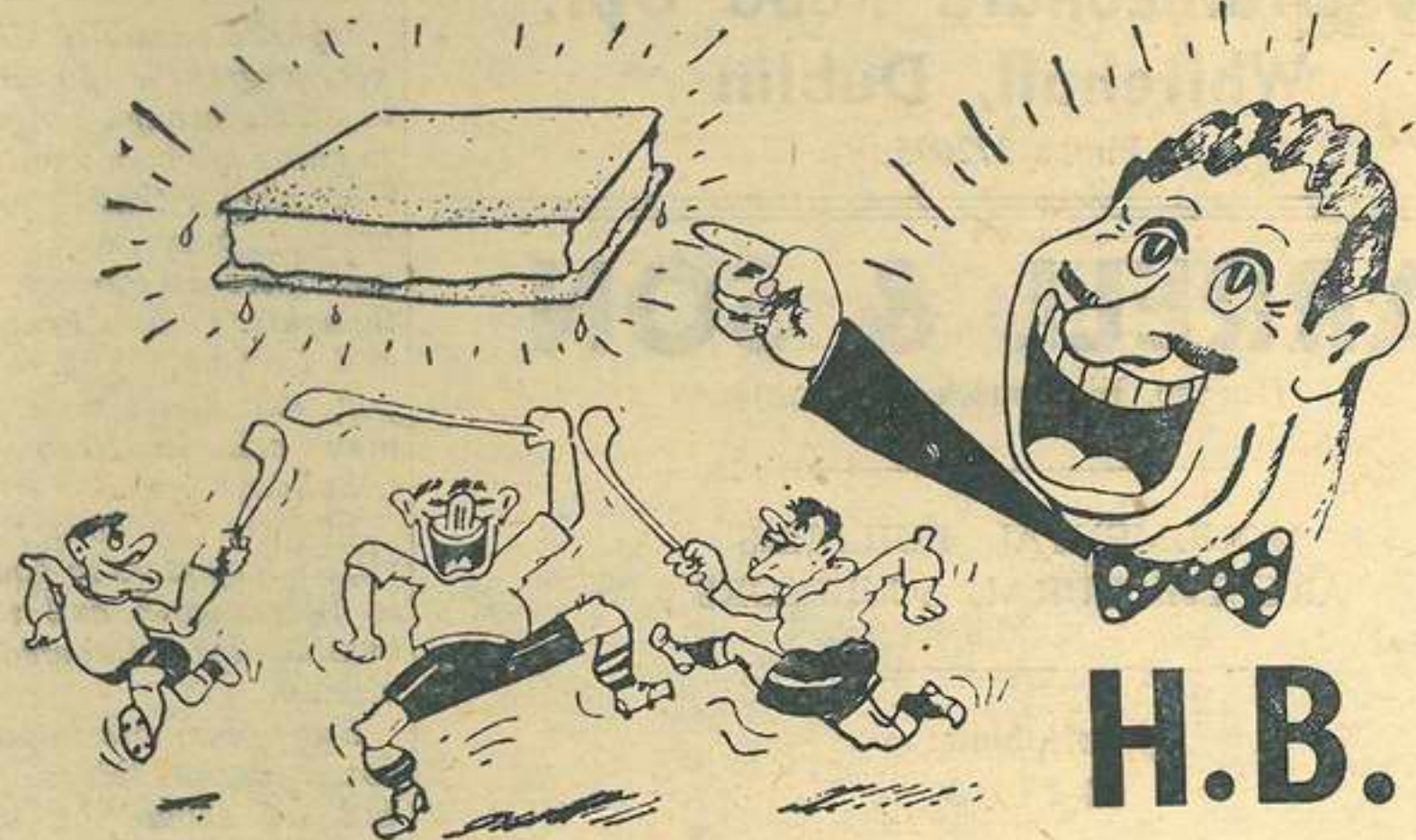
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As a school and orphanage, St. Vincent's has played a leading part in Irish life throughout the years, and has given many famous men to the Church, politics and sport.

The official opening of the orphanage took place on the third Sunday of Advent, December 14, 1856. The ceremony was performed by Abbe Scherr, who, prior to the offering of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, delivered a discourse, exhorting those present to unite their prayers with the intention of the celebration, so that Almighty God would be pleased to grant success to the undertaking. Since then the work and progress of St. Vincent's had spread far and wide, and no praise can be too high for those hard-working Christian Brothers, who have sacrificed their lives to make others happy.

And by making others happy, they have found the most perfect joy of all—happiness within oneself.

On the school side, St. Vincent's has earned for itself a reputation for turning out boys ready and fit to take their place anywhere in the world.

You'll find that many of our present day men in the limelight—aye and many of those who have since departed—all passed out of the hallowed halls of St. Vincent's Glasnevin.

In sport, which plays a most important part in making the boys of to-day men of to-morrow, St. Vincent's have always been in the forefront.

At the turn of the century,

NURSERY OF NA FIANNA

IN recent years, Na Fianna have become one of the most successful hurling clubs in Dublin Championship and League competitions.

However, few people are aware that this wonderful club has its roots in St. Vincent's School, Glasnevin, or that the majority of the players are past pupils of this great nursery.

Men like Donnie Bolger and Vinnie Bell, and many, many other famous names, began their hurling careers in St. Vincent's.

It is a boy's ambition of Na Fianna to win the Co. Dublin Hurling Championship. When that day comes—as surely it must—it will be a proud day for St. Vincent's.

'REMEMBRANCE'

Ophelia's madness did not make her forget the flowers she had loved all through her girlhood; for to quote her own words: "There's Rosemary, that's for remembrance; pray, love, remember; and there is Pansies, that's for thoughts. There's Fennel for you, and Columbine, there's Rue for you, and here's some for me; we may call it Herb of Grace O'Sundays . . ."

Flowers can be a solace to us all, as they were to poor Ophelia, to Wordsworth and to many a humble unremembered man and woman.

But even more important than flowers are the things of the spirit, and we should be worse than foolish not to remember, every day and every hour, the rare joy that music alone can give us . . . to sit in our armchair with a comfortable fire blazing, and commune with the great of the earth—Beethoven, Bach, Mozart, and all the rest of them. McCullough's Music Salons will help you towards this pleasure.

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hurling was introduced to St. Vincent's, but since competitive games were hardly then in existence, much less so in schools and colleges, the boys had to be content with matches among themselves.

But the native games did not really get into full swing until the advent of Brother Roberts in 1918. These teams flourished to such an extent, that in little or no time they were known as "The Invincible Vincent's."

OUTSTANDING

Among those who stood out in the golden era were Bertie Somerville, Bernard Crowley, Paddy Gallagher and Phelim O'Neill in hurling, while in football names like John Gallagher and Brian Moonan will be recalled with pride.

In 1920 and 21 the school captured the junior and intermediate championships both in football and hurling. Following their marked superiority in the junior and intermediate ranks, Vincents were forced to advance to the senior grade 1921.

Around this time too, Vincent's were making quite a name for themselves in the handball sphere, and Con Sullivan, Joe Scott, Phelim O'Neill and Frank Donnelly upheld

the proud tradition of the school in this branch of sport.

Skipping a few years, we find that with the growth of schools and their eagerness to play the national games new leagues had to be formed in 1926. From 1931 to '33 Vincent's won the junior hurling championships. In the middle year, Vincent's won their first cup since the formation of the C.B.S. league.

Hurling was a shade more popular at this time than football, but in '33 their junior football team met with tremendous success, and their advance assured the popularity of the big ball game in the school thereafter.

Players who were afterwards to bring renown to St. Vincent's in Leinster College competitions and to their native Dublin were included in this team: Paddy "Beefy" Kennedy, Sean Malone, Sean O'Neill, Gerry Glenn and the brothers Newcommon.

1934 was an important year in the life of sport at St. Vincent's, for that year they entered for the first time in Leinster competitions.

LEINSTER CHAMPIONS

The following year they won their way to the final of the hurling com-

(Continued on Page 23)

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St. Vincent's Of Glasnevin

(Continued from Page 22)

petition, but went under to Kilkenny C.B.S. side which included men who were to become nationally famous: Langton, Gargan, Boyle, Mulcahy and Lennon.

However the same year their footballers did better, and they won the Leinster junior cup.

St. Vincent's hit the front again in 1941, when they won the intermediate and senior cups. Four years later they took the Junior football cup.

You might say this is rather lean over a period of five years, BUT THE WINNING OF TROPHIES WAS NEVER THE CRITERION UPON WHICH THE PROGRESS OF GAMES WAS JUDGED IN ST. VINCENT'S.

At that time, they were unfortu-

nate in the fact that O.C.S. and St. Joseph's Marino had teams of exceptional ability.

No history of these early years would be complete without a mention of the Primary School, and although they may not have stacked the sideboard with shining trophies, nevertheless, they played a noteworthy part in the progress of the sport here. In recent times the school has turned out such stars as Tim O'Mahony, Mick Mangan, Des Osborne, Jim Tunney, Brendan Houlihan, Denis Roche, Kevin Markey, Brendan Morris and Tony Fitzgerald.

In 1949 Brother Collins joined the staff at St. Vincent's, and this heralded another proud era in the success story of the great Vincent's. He saw the necessity for such games in a boarding school, and his first task was to supply each boarder

with a pair of football boots and togs. In his one year in St. Vincent's the School won the Leinster Colleges junior hurling competition, and also the C.B.S. under 16 hurling league. The St. Vincent's team that won the hurling crown that year was—The Bolger brothers—Sean and Donal, J. Lowe, J. Hall, D. Harschel, D. Morgan, G. Browne, John O'Connor, K. Travers, Joe O'Connor, M. Kelly, B. Long, J. Meehan, N. Redmond, J. Mulhall, P. McBrearty P. Beare and T. Lambe.

Remember them? Brother D. F. O'Farrell writing a summary of Vincent's years in sport remembers fair-haired Donnie Bolger "as the most unselfish and most whole-hearted player that it has been my good luck to be associated with."

ATHLETICS

Athletics is another branch of sport which has received much attention at St. Vincent's; perhaps the most famous of all being John O'Gorman and Cyril Byrne, who between them won many honours around 1952 and '53.

Unfortunately space does not allow for a more detailed account of St. Vincent's, but suffice to say, they have always played the game, win, lose or draw, and judging by their successes in the past couple of years, they have mostly played a winning game!

"There'll always be a Vincent's" is indeed a true saying.

Sean Purcell Was The Man Of 1957.

—EAMONN MONGEY

It was so easy to select Sean Purcell as the G.A.A. personality of the year that I began to think of someone else! I thought of Kilkenny's Ollie Walsh, whose saves demoralised so many teams; of Tipperary's Jimmy Doyle, a minor prodigy; of Louth's McDonnell (the goal-getter), Behan (the dead-ball artist), and Stephen White (whose second-half display really won the All-Ireland).

I thought, too, of those Northern delegates whose ability and eloquence made a success of Congress.

BUT THE MORE DEEPLY I THOUGHT OF THESE OTHERS THE MORE BRIGHTLY SHONE THE LIGHT OF THE TUAM STAR. EVENTUALLY, I JUST HAD TO SELECT SEAN PURCELL AS MY MAN OF THE YEAR.

I have long held that Sean is the complete footballer—that he has all the physical requirements, all the mental requirements and the perfect co-ordination between these two.

In 1957 he proved this many times, and also showed an ability to lift his game or produce a score whenever either was most wanted.

I remember a singing goal of his against a Kerry at a vital stage of the League Final, and other against St. Vincent's.

But from all neutral accounts his display against New York was his greatest ever.

As I know New York it is the last place to select for a memorable display. As a rule it takes a player all his time to produce an average display. Not only, however, did Purcell produce his best there, he also inspired his colleagues to do likewise.

This, of course, is another of Sean's gifts: though a brilliant player in his own right he never forgets (as many other stars do) that he is primarily a member of a team.

Finally, I must mention one of his characteristics off the field—his humility. Congratulate him on a great display and he'll look both surprised and embarrassed. Listen for him to tell of some of his achievements, and you'll listen in vain.

Yes, from all aspects Sean was the personality of 1957 just as he was, in my opinion, the personality of 1956.

I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING HIM MANY TIMES IN 1958 BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT SEAN PURCELL IS JUST TOO GOOD TO MISS.

TULLA MAN IN THE GAP

JIM DERMODY, who made his name in goal for Kilkenny in the never-to-be-forgotten final of 1931, when Cork won on the third try after two draws, was born in Tulla, North Kilkenny, about a mile from Threecastles, of olden glory.

Jim went to the U.S.A. in 1924 and returned as goalkeeper for the American team against Ireland in the Tailteann Games of 1928 at Croke Park. He remained at home, first manning the gap with the sound junior team, Wellbrook, which reached the county final with Carrickshock, and later with Tulla-roan.

In the second Kilkenny-Cork draw of 1931, rated by some good judges as the greatest exhibition of all time, a long ball came down from centre-field and hopped high in front of the Railway goal. Jim took a drop-shot at the second hop and the ball went high into the crowd on Hill 16.

Later I remarked to Jim that he took a chance pulling in the way he did, especially as he had plenty of time.

Said Jim: "Tulla is a very small place, which you could hardly call a village. Yet, though there were over 30,000 people in Croke Park that day, it was a Tulla man caught that ball."

Dermody was the main obstacle between Cork and victory in those two draws. His displays placed him among the master custodians of history. But the finest of his many saves was one which he believes few people detected. Let me again quote Jim . . .

"Little Paddy Delea lashed on the ball at point-blank range. My reflexes were fast and I brought up that stick as fast as I ever did in my life. I wasn't fast enough to block down the ball, but I felt it just touching the nose of the hurley.

"This barely pushed the ball about an inch over the bar, but so slight was the touch that the bulk of the spectators did not notice the ball going out of line from Delea's stick. It was the best save I ever made. Call it an accident if you like."

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PROFILE



"Mossy" signs an autograph before the 1955 All-Irel and Final against Kerry.

'Mossy' Whelan—One Of The Best

By Frank James

Meet one of the all time greatest of Dublin football. Not an all Ireland medal holder unfortunately, but . . . if ever a record deserved one, his surely did.

And the man? Mossy Whelan St. Vincents and Dublin football star for many years—a firm favourite with Metropolitan followers.

"Pound for pound"—a great Dublin follower told me recently—"Mossy Whelan is one of the greatest players I have seen in a lifetime of football."

AND YOU KNOW I COULD NOT AGREE MORE.

Mossy is not a giant in stature, but . . . he is a giant on the football field.

His intelligence, strength, stamina, wonderful enthusiasm and glorious fighting spirit have made up for handicap of inches.

Big Heart

"Mossy has one of the biggest hearts I know"—a Vincent's player told me—"and I can give you a great example of it. St. Vincent's were playing in their seventh consecutive final, having won five in a row, and we were all out to add a sixth and so establish a new record in the history of Dublin football.

The College of Pharmacy were our opponents in the final.

I remember the day well. Rain fell heavily and the conditions in Croke Park were appalling. Mossy was our Captain that day and was his usual inspiring self. Just as well, for the Chemists were a tough nut to crack.

"Early in the second half he was involved in a collision on the greasy

surface. His leg was badly injured—it later required ten stitches—and a stretcher was called for. We were desperately upset to see him being carried off but Mossy wasn't upset in the least! Although he was in obvious pain, his exhortations to us as he was being carried off were wonderful, and eventually drove us on to a great victory."

Mossy can catch a ball as sweetly as any Kerry man and why not? After all his mother came from the Valentia.

His father provides his Dublin background and at an early age the eldest of the young Whelans was kicking football at Scoil Mhuire in Marino.

Later he was introduced to the St. Vincents Club, which was then six years in existence and from there on he played football morning, noon and night. And some weekends he played in as many as three matches.

The rest of Mossy's story is easily told. He grew greater with the passing years and to-day he is proudly recognised in every County in Ireland as a magnificent footballer and an outstanding sportsman.

AND HE IS STILL FAR FROM FINISHED.

Mossy has still an ambition to fulfill. "And that, of course" he says, "is to win an all Ireland medal. Another one, incidentally, is to complete twenty-one years playing services next year with Vincent's."

Mossy's greatest thrill of a lifetime in football was Dublin's first win in the Annual Football League. "I got a great kick out of that game," but the day Vincent's es-

tablished their six in a row record ran it very close.

And Mossy's greatest game?

"I think that was in the Polo grounds, New York against Kerry," he says.

And his favourite position?

"Looking back over the years I think I would say it was centre field where my partnership with Jim Crowley was often referred to the Mutt and Jeff combination."

Fund of Stories

Mossy, whose work takes him all over the country, has a fund of good stories. One of the best he told me was a meeting with an old footballer some years ago, who claimed to have scored a goal and a point with one kick.

"How did you manage that?" asked Mossy.

"Well it was like this" was the reply. "I took a shot at the goal, the ball hit the cross bar so hard that it burst the bladder into goal and the case over the bar!"

Another yarn he told me concerned himself. In one particular game he was getting rough treatment from an over-zealous opponent.

"Hey, easy on there, old son," said Mossy.

"It isn't rough I am at all," was the reply, "but awkward."

Regarding the football rules Mossy would like to see at least two changes.

"I feel that sixty minutes is too short for a game," he says. "Forty minutes a half would be much better. And I would also like to see the paralogram enlarged. It might help to cut down some of the rough play in front of the goal."

Plain Speaking *By Kelly*

CRE, the 26-County cycling association, which only exists in one county, is having a lean time lately. The National cyclists have them beaten to a frazzle.

Why don't they throw up the ghost and let the NCA have the international recognition it deserves?

The scene at the recent CRE congress was pathetic. No one wanted the executive positions and they had an awful job filling them. It is hard to blame the men concerned who wants to run a corpse.

The report of massed start secretary, Dickie Comerford, was a very funny affair. He paid tribute to Bert Sharkey, a great rider he said.

WHEN SHARKEY WAS IN THE NCA HE COULD NOT EVEN WIN NOVICE RACES. YET HE WAS A CRE CHAMPION.

Comerford also mentioned that teams from CRE had competed in England, Scotland, Wales, Isle of Man and the Continent. He goes on to say that they did not win any major awards.

He can say that again. They disgraced us. CRE has made Irish cycling the laugh of the world.

* * *

Dr. Crokes Football Club, Killarney, caught the Kerry Co. Board on the hop recently when they were appealing against the decision of the East Kerry Board in upholding an objection against them.

Sean O'Leary, secretary of the East Kerry Board tried to sabotage the appeal by asking if the envelope containing the appeal was watermarked.

IT HAD NO WATERMARK WHATSOEVER!

Crokes hopes looked blue for a while but their delegate M. O'Connor soon brought the scores level. He produced a Co. Board envelope which had no watermark either.

Chairman Frank Sheehy gave a judgment worthy of Solomon. He ruled that the whole thing was a matter for the East Kerry Board, so the question of watermarks could not arise.

I bet the Kerry Co. Secretary is going half blind checking his envelopes for watermarks?

IRISH OR BRITISH?

WRITING in the golf section of a review of the past ten years of British Sport, in the current edition of "World Sports," Bob Ferrier of the "Sunday Dispatch" says:

"THOUGH BRITAIN HAS HAD TWO OUTSTANDING AMATEUR PLAYERS IN RONNIE WHITE AND JOE CARR, OUR AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP HAS BEEN DOMINATED BY AMERICANS."

This is enough to make even the mildest of Irishmen see red. Once again the British are claiming an Irishman because he has hit the top.

However, hold your horses a minute. Are we really justified in blaming the British? I think not. After all Joe Carr and a number of other sportsmen represent Britain abroad so we cannot have it both ways.

If our men want to go abroad on British Teams and thus deprive real Britons of their places on the said teams we can hardly object when the British claim these men as their own.

We cannot have our cake and eat it. If British teams are good enough for these men to play on, then British Nationality is good enough for these men to play under.

Every year a unique animal appears in the sports pages of the Irish Papers.

It is the **BRITISH AND IRISH TOURING TEAM** for sports such as Rugby, Golf and Hockey. Thus do the Irish pull the wool over their own tightly shut eyelids.

Let there be no doubt about it. The only country in the World where these teams are labelled British and Irish is Ireland.

Everywhere else they are called **BRITISH**, for the very good reason that **THEY ARE BRITISH.**

If anyone is to be blamed when Irish born sportsmen are claimed by the British, it is definitely not the British, it is these wretched individuals who are prepared to deny their birthrights for a place on a team travelling under the Union Jack.

THEY ARE THE CULTURISTS AND NO ONE ELSE.

For years we have been subjected to a barrage of propaganda from sources which in many cases ought to know better so that the old catch cry of West Britannia—"No politics in Sport" has become accepted as one of the Ten

Commandments. Furthermore the proponents of this doctrine have also drummed into our heads the strange definition that anyone who stands up for Ireland in sport is introducing politics, while anyone who is prepared to compete for Britain or who is prepared to accept a fragment of Ireland for the purposes of International Sport is a "stout fella," a sportsman and all that.

These people have gone so far in indoctrinating us that a well known golfer boasted to the members of the Dublin Rotary Club after returning from a trip abroad a few years ago, that when approached by a reporter who had found out that he was from Ireland and was amazed at an Irishman playing for Britain, he had refused to comment.

THIS MAN WAS SO DRENCHED IN THIS ROTTEN PROPAGANDA THAT HE DENIED HIS HOMELAND BEFORE THE WORLD AND RETURNING TO THE HAUNTS OF HIS FELLOW "SPORTSMEN" WAS PROUD TO BOAST ABOUT IT.

It is a sorry state of affairs and we have only got ourselves to blame for it. Like the ostrich we have our heads buried in the sand.

Until such time as Irish Sportsmen are prepared to stand on their own two feet and kick out the fifth columnists from their midst, the British are going to claim our men. Why not. We are either British or Irish. Real Irish do not play on British Teams. How can any man who is prepared to play for Britain object when the British claim him as one of their own.

This applies equally to those sportsmen who follow Rugby Teams whose Anthem in Belfast is "God Save the Queen," even if they pledge mock allegiance to the "Soldiers Song" at Lansdowne Road.

It also applies to those who thong in their thousands to the same venue to cheer athletes whether they be Olympic Champions or scrubbers who are prepared to compete abroad as a 26 County side.

WE MUST BE CONSISTENT. IF WE ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE CRUMBS FROM THE BRITISH TABLE WE CANNOT VERY WELL TURN AROUND AND BITE THE HAND THAT FED US WHEN HE CLAIMS US AS HIS OWN.

The Ale for the Gael - SMITHWICK'S