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SEPTEMBER, 1964

Vol. 7. No. 9.



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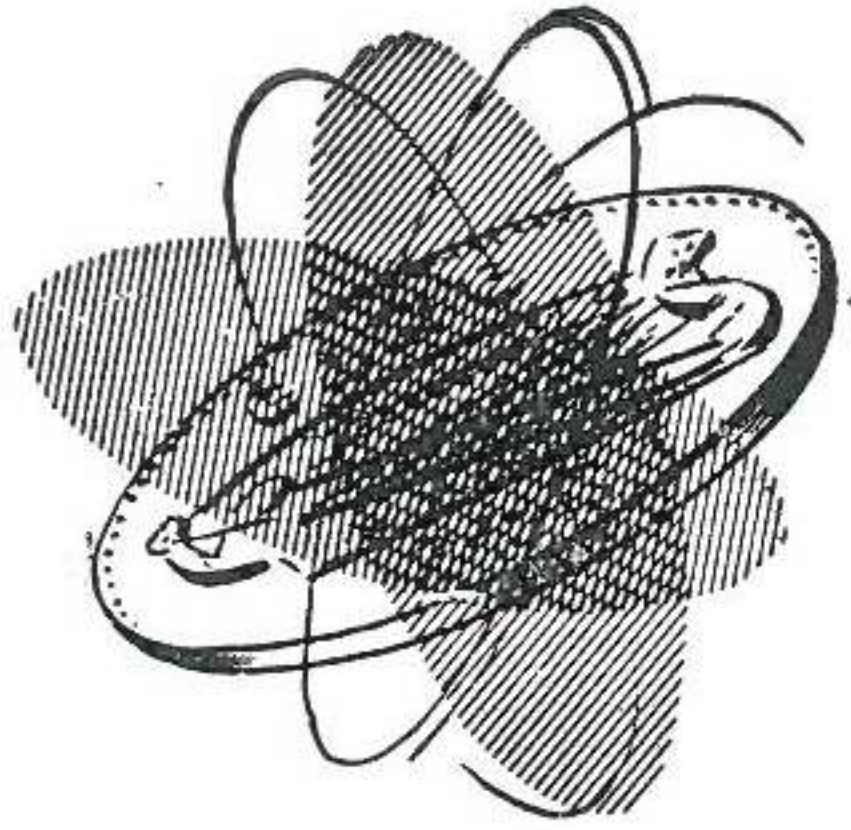
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Gaelic Sport

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THE KEY TO SUCCESS

DURING the past few months we have been featuring a series of articles by Matt Fitzpatrick on prominent Ulster clubs. As a result many readers have come to realise for the first time how greatly these clubs differ from those in the rest of Ireland.

Clubs like Clann Eireann, Lurgan, St. John's, Belfast, and Bellaghy in Co. Derry (whom we feature in this current issue), are much more than committees who arrange teams and organise matches. These clubs are in fact solid social units who provide their members and supporters with a variety of entertainments and amenities.

It is no coincidence that these same clubs are also the foremost on the field of play in their respective counties—proving that the social unit idea is very much complimentary and contributory to championship success.

It might be argued that it is not the duty of an Cumann Luthchleas Gael to provide parish entertainment, but what these progressive Ulster clubs are doing has a much wider significance. By broadening their activities they have embraced the entire concept and purpose of the G.A.A.

Clann Eireann, Lurgan, is, of course, the outstanding success but some other Ulster clubs are not far behind. By providing a community centre and kindling a community spirit, these clubs have been able to introduce and propagate all facets of Irish nationalism and culture.

This is being done in an attractive and enticing manner and the entire scheme is both educational and very much in keeping with modern international thinking on

the problems of rural communities.

The contribution made over the years by the G.A.A. to the yet unrealised dream of a Gaelic Ireland has been immense, but if every club in the country were to become a Clanna Eireann then that dream would be almost a reality.

Herein lies the key to how the G.A.A. can "move with the times" and in moving it will be travelling on the right road—not the road of shallow compromise or empty cliché but the road at whose end lies the completion of the task for which the Association was founded.

STILL TOP VALUE

IT is with great reluctance that we are obliged to increase the price of GAELIC SPORT from 1/6 to 2/-.

Our regular readers will know there has been no increase in price since 1961 and during those last three years there have been at least two rounds of wage and general production cost increases plus, of course, the recent 12% overall increase and the 2½% turnover tax.

We have done our best to carry these increased costs ourselves as far as possible, and at the same time continually striving to improve the quality and quantity of the magazine. Our present issue of 76 pages is our biggest to date and the continued increase in our circulation proves that you, our readers, are with us in our efforts to provide a magazine worthy of the 250,000 followers of our national games.

The Final of '45

**TIPPERARY WON—BUT
ONLY IN THE
CLOSING MINUTES**

By Philip Roderick

NOW, for the life of me, I could not remember the All-Ireland hurling final of 1945. Of course, the old head is not as good as it used to be . . . but still, it happened less than twenty years ago and any decent man should be able to remember back that far.

It could be—being a Corkman—that I had submerged that entire year into my sub-conscious mind. After all, remember we were going for five-in-a-row at the time and Tipperary destroyed everything by

giving us a fierce beating at Thurles in the Munster semi-final.

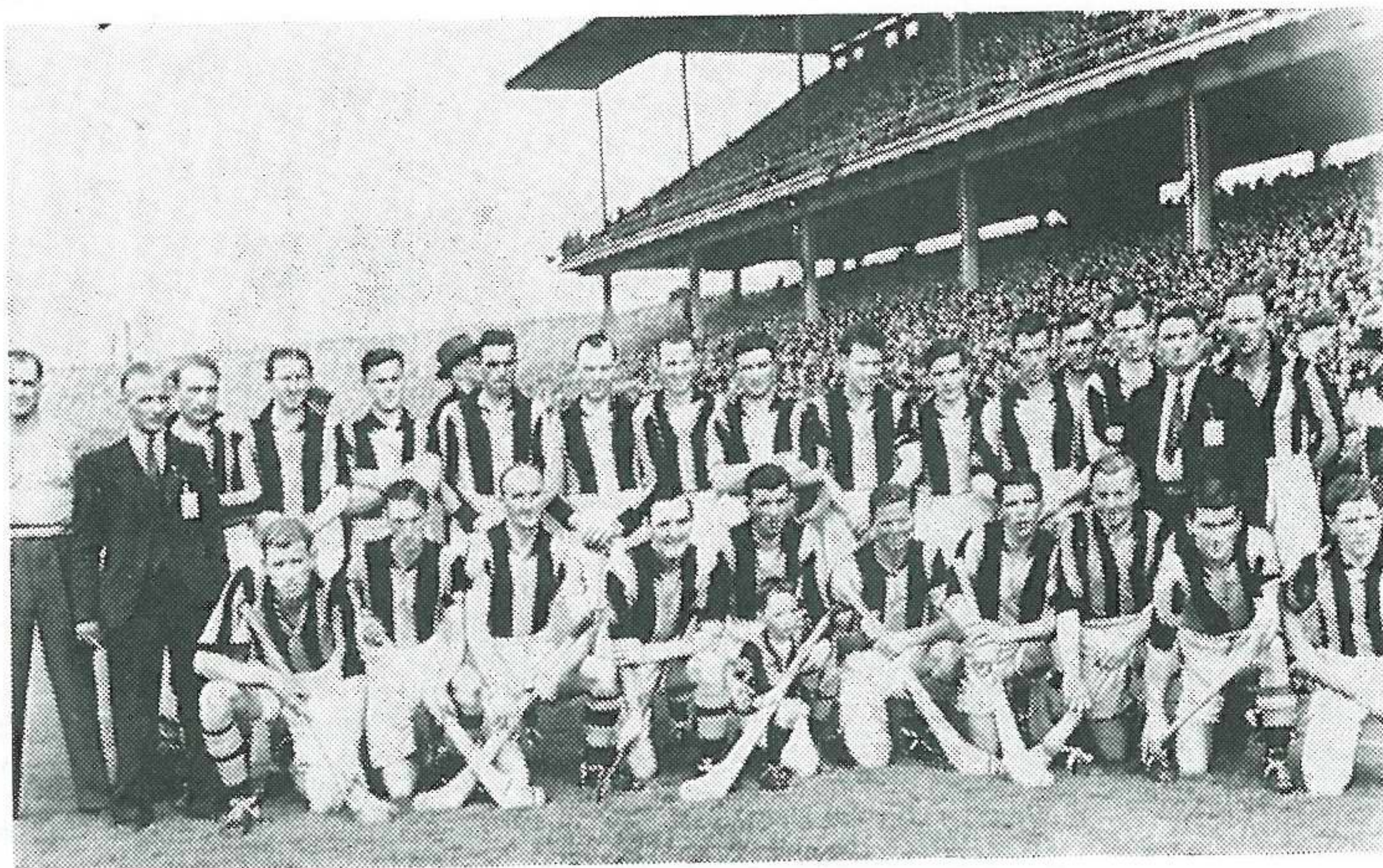
Things like that are best forgotten when you are a Corkman . . . and maybe that was why I could remember nothing about the 1945 All-Ireland final—at first.

Then I got down to some serious thinking—aided and abetted by another old stager who likes his pint as well as I do—and between us we succeeded in sorting out the year. Mind you, quite a few things happened that year, probably the

most important being that Cork beat Cavan in the All-Ireland football final. That, of course, had yet to come when we were trying to remember the hurling final. That year, too, the war ended . . . a matter of secondary importance to any good Corkman.

We finally pin-pointed the weekend and now that I look back on it . . . it was a great week-end for sport.

In company with a few other wild men from North Cork, I



● *The Kilkenny team and officials of 1945.*



● *The Tipperary team and officials of 1945.*

arrived in Dublin at 1 p.m. on the Saturday and, as was our wont, we took part in the usual pilgrimages to those hallowed spots—Tommy Moore's in Cathedral Street and the Seven Stars in Parnell Street.

At 2.30—that dreadful hour—we found ourselves out in the street . . . wandering aimlessly with nothing to do. We took a slow countryman's walk along O'Connell Street, down Westmoreland Street and then we discovered that there was a sports meeting in College Park.

I do not suppose, after all these years, that one will blame us for mentioning Billy Morton in a staunch G.A.A. journal . . . but we got our first taste that day of one of Billy's extravagant promotions. And God knows, we enjoyed it to the hilt.

That afternoon, we saw a young man from London, Douglas Wilson was his name, run a mile in around 4 minutes 16 seconds . . . and that was some travelling in those days. You can talk about four-minute miling but, I'll be honest and tell you that nothing appealed to me before or since, in mile racing, than the beautiful style of Wilson, an

extremely good-looking man, as he sped around College Park. It was something to remember.

Even better was the high jump, in which the star attraction was to be a young man from Scotland named Alan Patterson who, not so long before, at the age of sixteen, had hopped over a bar measured at 6' 3".

Patterson jumped well but, although he got 6' 1", he was tied at that height by another young man—a young man who intrigued all of us from the wild and woolly parts of Duhallow. For he was as black as the ace of spades and, believe it or not, it was the first time we had ever seen a negro high jumping. For that matter, I have a feeling it was the first time we had ever seen a negro up close.

That alone made the day for us. Prince Adeydoyin, that was his name, was a magnificent "lepper". He had not got the faintest idea of how to jump with a style, but, for all that, he made six feet look as easy as pie.

Whatever happened the following day in Croke Park, we had something to talk about when we returned home to North Cork.

Seeing "Addy" put us in the best of humour for the following day's final.

Mind you, it was not the best of finals. If I remember correctly now, Tipperary outclassed Kilkenny in the first half and were leading by about four goals at half-time.

We had more or less reconciled ourselves to a dismal second half . . . and then Kilkenny set about showing us what they could do when they put their minds to it.

Jimmy Langton and his men played like trojans in that second half and they whittled away at the Tipperary lead until they had chopped it down to four points.

But the effort had been too great and Tipperary pulled away again in the closing minutes to win by eight points.

But for the second half, it was not a final that one would treasure.

But then, we were young; we had a great week-end. We saw the All-Ireland final, we saw a great mile, we saw a negro high jumper for the first time, we had plenty to eat and too much to drink.

What more could you ask for? It was a good week-end . . . as All-Ireland week-ends always are.



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THE CASE OF THE MISSING FANS

THERE is no use hiding the fact that the attendance at the Tipperary-Cork Munster hurling final was below expectations. When the same pair met three years ago the Limerick Gaelic Grounds pot-boiled over after more than sixty-two thousand spectators had paid for admission, and the gates had to be thrown open in an effort to avert panic. Good judges say that some seventy thousand in all tried to see that game.

With the same teams in this year's final an equally big muster was anticipated and Limerick made arrangements to receive them. In the event, only forty-four thousand turned up, and now the fans are asking what happened the other twenty thousand.

Was Christy Ring the drawing power three years ago?

Did the crushing on that occasion scare many from being caught in like conditions again?

Or has the Munster hurling glamour faded, following a succession of disappointing games, and did a lack of confidence in Cork's ability keep many at home?

The deep thinking ones are saying now that had the Munster Council decided on an all-ticket final and put sixty-thousand tickets on sale that every one of them would be snapped up. I am inclined to agree with this viewpoint, but

wonder who would be left carrying the baby under such circumstances. Certainly not the Munster Council!

CLARE FASHION

Clare have treated themselves to a new set of jerseys, but what possessed them to choose the ones they did? Surely they could have found something more original than the Royal Blue with Saffron facings they donned against Tipperary.

It was most confusing to see both teams wearing jerseys so much alike—and sure the respective supporters hardly knew where they were, with all sporting the Blue and Gold.

In a province of only six counties surely we have enough colours to go the rounds. Kerry wear the Green and Gold; Cork Red and White; Waterford, White with Blue facings; Tipperary, Royal Blue with deep Gold band; Limerick Green and White. Clare formerly wore a bright Saffron colour with a deep Gold band and that was satisfactory enough, except for the spectators when Tipperary provided the opposition.

An all-Saffron jersey with White facings would be the ideal Clare choice, or they could have opted for a light Blue, like Dublin. The All-Blacks are famous in another

code, whilst several other combinations suggest themselves. There is a very definite need for much more originality in the selection of both county and club colours.

DISCIPLINE

We have heard it suggested at times that inter-county stars occasionally get away with things for which others would suffer, and that referees are at times in difficulties when dealing with prominent players, lest their absence from the county side might result in the loss of an important game.

Several Munster counties have made it abundantly clear this year that they are not influenced by any such considerations. Early on we had the much publicised Cheasty case in Waterford. Recently, Clare Railway Cup hurler Jim Cullinan was suspended for twelve months following an incident in a club game. Two leading Kerry players were out for vital matches, following trouble in the North Divisional football final.

Limerick minor hurlers, in first defence of their Munster crown, were saved from heavy defeat by their goalkeeper, who was however unable to play in the next round, receiving six months suspension in the interval because of happenings in a junior club tournament.

● TO PAGE 13

JOE LENNON by-passes the football world and reports on two notable successes by his fellow-countymen.

DOWN HIT THE HEADLINES—IN

THE Down junior hurling team which travelled all the way to Roscommon on Sunday, August 2, to play the home team in the All-Ireland semi-final, emerged winners by a single point after a very keen game where the scores

were level four times in the second half. This is the second hurling team from Co. Down to reach an All-Ireland final this year. Those of us here in the county who may have lost a bit of faith in the footballers, can take heart from the

fact that hurlers are keeping Down among the honours. The hurlers won three Ulster championships in the last five years.

I watched the Co. Down Vocational Schools team put up a valiant display against North Tipperary under atrocious conditions of wind and rain in O'Toole Park, Dublin, earlier in the year in the All-Ireland final of that competition. They had beaten Kilkenny decisively in the semi-final and were only two points behind at half time in the final. However, the North Tipperary team proved to be stronger and better able to cope with the conditions and deserved to win even though the margin was rather flattering.

In 1962, the Down junior hurlers were cruising home to the first ever All-Ireland home final against Kerry, in Tralee, when the Kerry-men shot in three quick goals in the last five minutes to win 4-8 to 4-6, and left the Down players and supporters wondering what hit them. This type of thing must not happen again. The fact that the hurlers are back in the home final this year speak very highly of the players and officials who have survived such serious setbacks to come back again with renewed vigour.

Few people outside of the county think of Down as a hurling county. Unfortunately, the same is true inside the county and despite their valiant efforts and success, our hurlers are still very much the



● *THE FOOTBALL STYLIST . . . but this month, Joe Lennon turns his attention to hurling.*

HURLING!

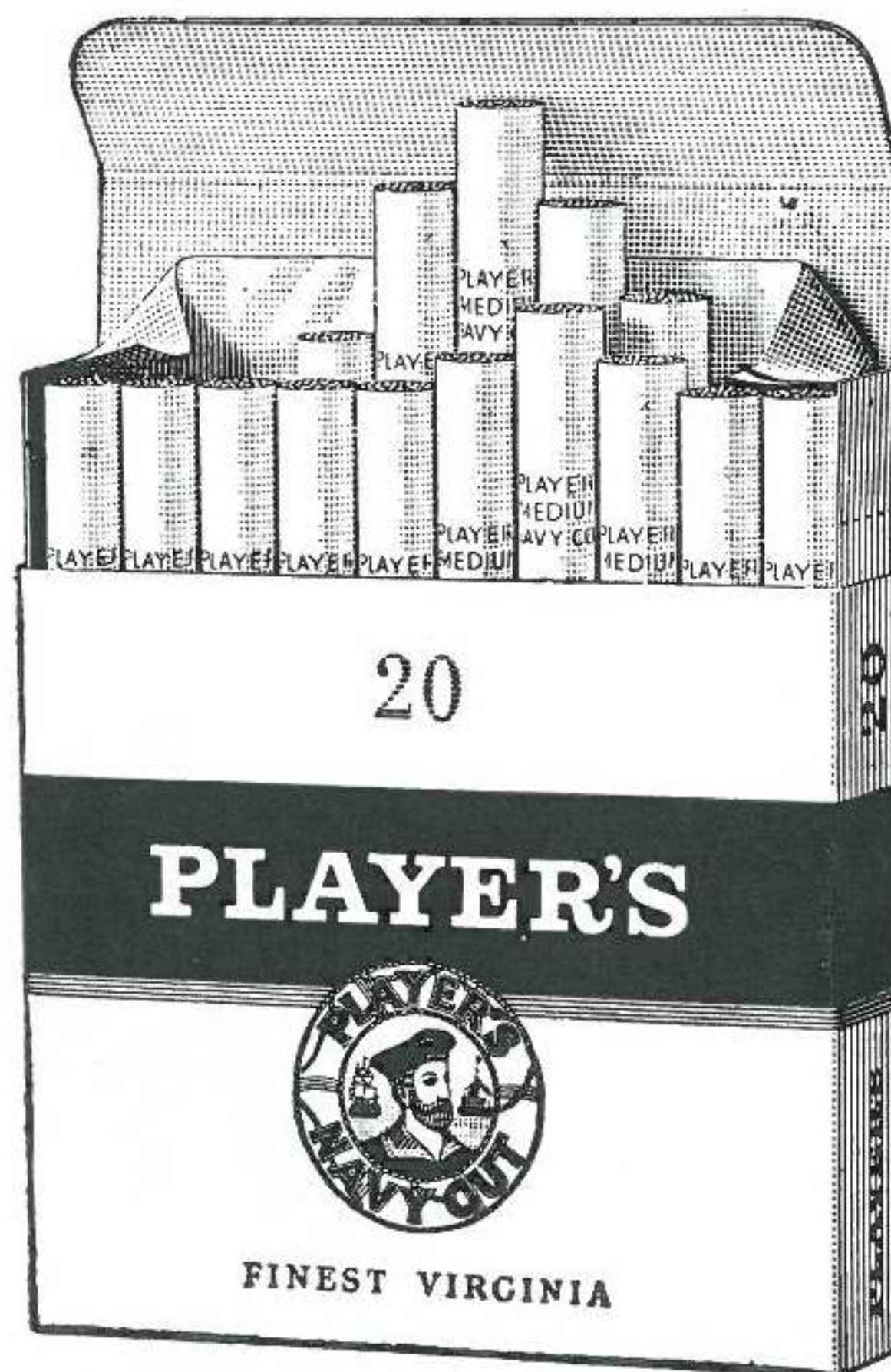
poor relations. They deserve much more support. When they turn out for this year's "home" final, I hope every G.A.A. fan in the county will go along to give them the vital moral boost which can often make all the difference in a final. So, come on then Down, how about it?

Not the least of the problems which the Down hurlers have to overcome is a geographical one. For the most part they come from a small area in the tip of the Ards peninsula only a minute fraction of the total county. Apart from John McGivern of Newry and Pat McGratton of Newtownards, all the players come from three clubs Ballycran, Ballygalget and Portaferry. So when we think of the Down hurling team, we should remember the contribution which these three clubs make. If you think of the Ards Peninsula as an index finger hooked around Strangford Lough, these three clubs would lie on the finger nail. Every time these players have to travel, they have a choice of the often dangerous boat journey from Portaferry or the long drive up around Newtownards. Even when they come by boat and car, Newry is about half the distance from Ards to Dublin.

Ever since I played in the All-Ireland handball final against the Mayo minors at Charlestown in 1952, I have never agreed with the system which allows All-Ireland

● TO PAGE 11

Only PLAYER'S please so much

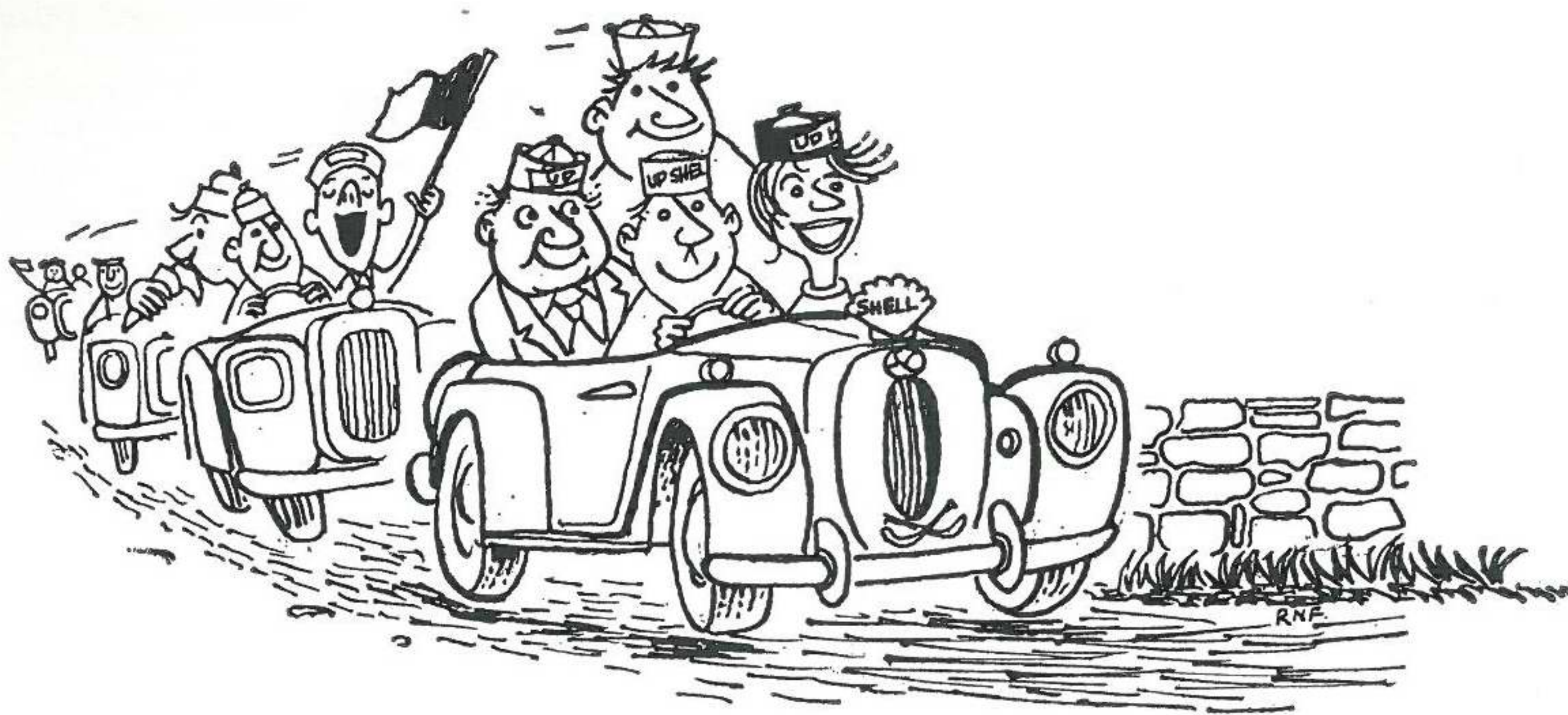


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DOWN HIT THE HURLING HEADLINES

● FROM PAGE NINE

semi-finals to be played on the home pitch of one of the finalists. Through the years, Down seems to have been particularly unfortunate in this respect. Each time the Down team reaches a semi-final or final they have to play in their opponents back yard. When this means travelling all the way from Ards to places like Tralee or Athleague in Roscommon, you can see what I mean.

If we are fortunate enough to have an All-Ireland final in Down; if the visitors are not sick of travelling before they get to Kilclief, then they will be by the time they get to Portaferry. And if they can win after that lot, they will deserve their victory.

This year's hurling team is the best ever to come out of the County Down. Recently, we have heard conflicting reports about the decline of hurling in the North. Results did not warrant conclusions drawn. In Down, there are no doubts about the situation at all. Hurling is going from strength to strength, and long may it continue to do so.

Now that the Down Intermediate schools have started a hurling league with six of the nine schools taking part, progress is assured. Mr. George McKeown, a member of the County Board for the past thirty-four years and chairman of the Hurling Board for the past twelve years, tells me they will not be satisfied until all nine schools are taking part. This is the way these hurling men are thinking.

There are now forty one hurling teams in the county—ranging from senior clubs to primary schools. If this does not read like progress, then what does.

This occlusion which the hurlers have experienced has not left them embittered or with a chip on their shoulders. On the contrary, it has produced a most desirable type of sportsman. Both the players and the supporters have earned the respect of all those they have met. As their support grows, I hope that it will continue to be ardent yet controlled, enthusiastic without being boisterous and as affable in defeat as they are in victory.



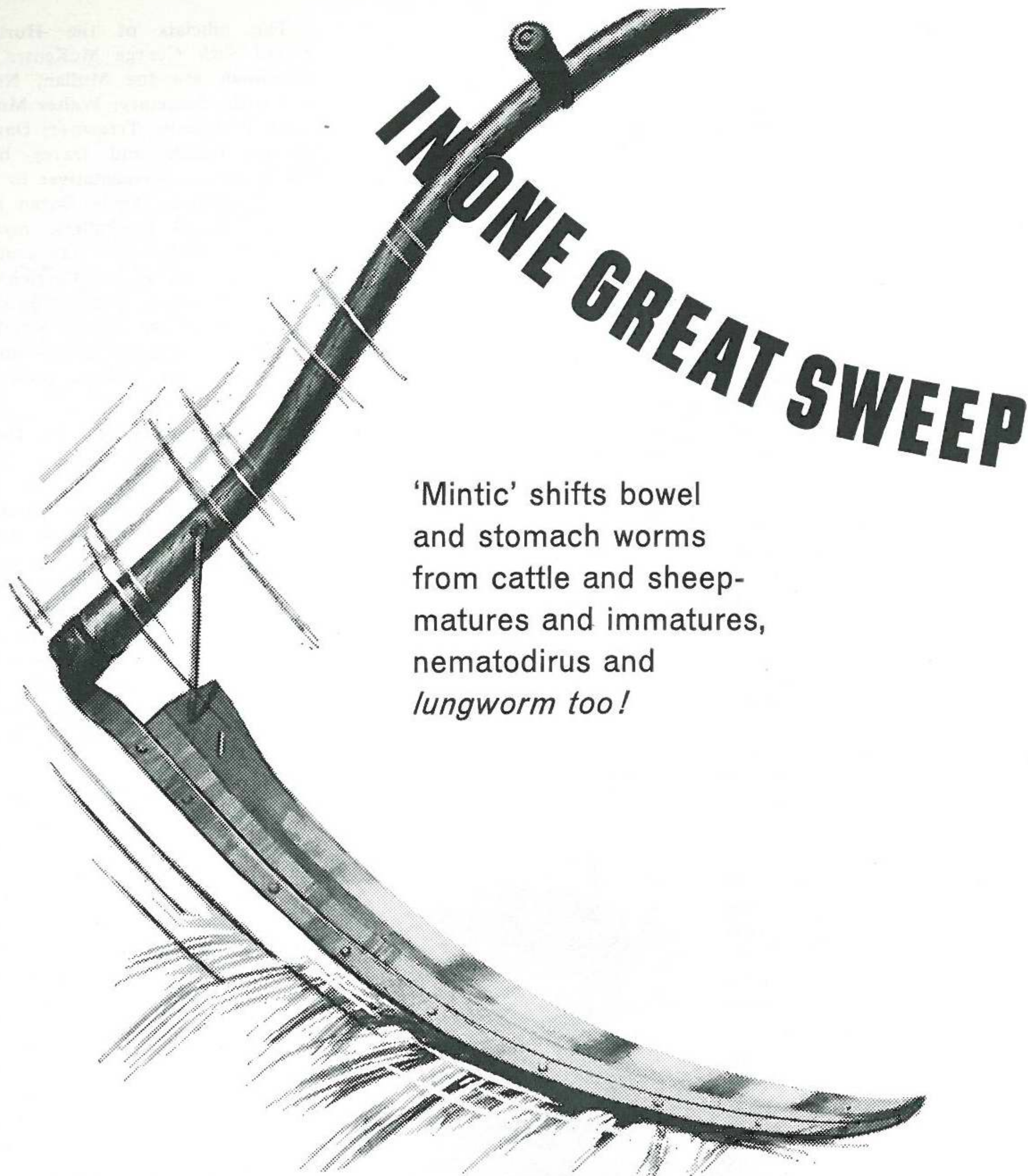
● *KIERAN CAREY . . . one of the key men in Tipperary's defence in the All-Ireland hurling final.*

The officials of the Hurling Board with George McKeown as Chairman are Joe Mullan, Newtownards, Secretary; Walter Moreland, Portaferry, Treasurer; Danny Doran, Ballela and Davey Bell, Ballycran as representatives to the County Board. Danny Doran and a few Down footballers, myself included, hurled our way around the golf course at Carrick-on-Shannon recently, and having seen how well he can use a wood, I began to have some doubts about the theory that training does not transfer.

Hurling was played in Co. Down long before the G.A.A. was founded. In Ards, you can still hear the original names "Shinny" and "Caman". My own club, Aghaderg, which won the county junior hurling league last year was one of the first and more famous of the early teams. The Newry Faugh's and Leitrim Fontenoys, Newcastle's Clanne Barca and Kilclief's Ben Dearn are names of early clubs, some of which have since ceased to exist.

Soccer was much more popular in Down than Gaelic football well on into this century. In fact, some of our officials did not find an interest in Gaelic Games until their soccer playing days were over. That's how it has been. Gaelic Games have gradually spread and are now the most popular games in the county. There is only one public handball court and the sooner we can build another eight or ten around the county the better. If every club built a regulation size alley and then put in a wooden floor and a roof, it would serve as a community centre for the whole parish.

Hurling in Co. Down is making steady progress, if it is maintained, we can reasonably expect our hurlers to emulate the footballers and win the senior All-Ireland championship—and this perhaps sooner than many people would imagine.



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● FROM PAGE SEVEN

ment. Cork also sacrificed one of their best minors in the cause of discipline.

This is a very healthy sign, indicating as it does, that winning is not the only thing. More of this in every county—and matches will be a pleasure to look at.

SEAN O'CONNELL

Seriously ill since last December, the popular Secretary of Limerick County Board, Sean O'Connell is making satisfactory progress in a Cork hospital following a heavy operation, and his

many friends in Gaeldom wish him a very speedy and complete recovery.

One of the best scoring forwards ever to don the county colours, Croom club star Sean O'Connell immediately made his mark with the great Limerick hurling side of all the talents in the heyday of the Mackeys, Timmy Ryan, Paddy Clohesey, Jim Roche, and Paddy Scanlon. He missed the American Tour and the All-Ireland victory of the same year (1936) through illness, but three years later was to appear in a different role when

elected County Secretary, a position he has held with distinction since first taking office.

I have heard him described as one of the best county secretaries in Ireland, and from close contact I can say he well deserves the title. A gentleman in the broadest sense of the term, his kindness and consideration for all he comes in contact with is universally acknowledged and commented upon.

Also Secretary of Limerick Gaelic Grounds, the work he had done in association with Canon Punch and Mickey Fitzgibbon towards making the Ennis Road pitch the best in the provinces is there for all to see. It was a colossal task transforming a rough unfenced and uneven piece of ground into the magnificent stadium of today, and will always remain a lasting monument to his energy and enthusiasm.

THOUGHTS BEFORE A FINAL

By RICHARD KEHOE

*On to the sun-drenched sward
The players stream, eager of
Mein, lithe of limb beneath
The searching battery of a
Hundred thousand eyes.*

*The cloistered heat; the skyward
Drift of smoke from seething
Stand and teeming terrace
Bear to their brittle nerves
Volcanic overtones. The low
Voice rumble, will, they know,
Within the hour erupt on every
Side; will flow about their heads and
Burn within their brains in waves
Of caustic sound.*

*Yet their's is this tumultous hour,
Of this they dreamed on quiet
Days; for this, in the soft green
Of silent fields they married
Mind with muscle, eye with ear
And garnered strength and skill
For many anxious months, now
To be freely spent in gladiatorial strife.*

*Out in the sun-soaked air
The players stride, limber
Of body, taut of mind, each
Destined to bear the burden of
Half a million hopes.*



BRIGHT BROADLEAF

Right. Name of a mighty particular Virginia. Far and away the tobacco for packing liveliness and flavour into a cigarette. The more Broadleaf you use, the better-tasting your cigarette. So when you learn Afton are all Broadleaf, it figures. This special tobacco comes on the market in precious small lots and Carrolls take a deal of trouble to get it. You won't get to realise the difference smoking casual Aftons. Better start with a whole new packet.



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EAMONN YOUNG SAYS:

I CAN'T stand pity. Give me anything but the, "We are sorry you are so bad and we hope you'll soon be improved again" type of sympathy.

On the sick bed it's bad enough to hear, but when they tell you that in a Limerick pub after they have beaten hell out of you in the hurling field an hour earlier my patience is at end.

And I wouldn't mind if they were pulling my leg but these Tipperary men were sincere in bewailing the standard of Cork hurling as portrayed in gloomy colours on the broad spaces of Limerick Gaelic Grounds in the Munster hurling final of 1964.

Before the game we were reasonably optimistic in Cork and while we felt that Tipperary had the edge on us, as we moved confidently to the third fence of the four-hurdle All-Ireland race, victory in which would put us out there in front (our rightful place) with twenty All-Irelands.

The players were training hard under Jim Barry and the selection committee satisfied with this form decided to halt the training on the Tuesday night before the game.

The cars streamed in hundreds out through Blackpool and the Corkman boisterous and merry was off to another Munster final.

At half-time the situation was satisfactory enough as we turned over with a slight breeze to our backs and a three point deficit. I felt if the centre-field pair, John Hayes and Jerry Sullivan, improved a little we could swing it and for confirmation asked Jack Lynch, hurler and state minister, what he thought. His opinion was much the same.

But instead of a Cork centre-

"I CAN'T STAND PITY—NOT EVEN FROM THE SINCERE MEN OF TIPPERARY"

NO CONDOLENCES —BY REQUEST

field improvement Theo English came back onto the scene and the Jimmy Doyle free which increased the lead to four points was for me the decisive score of the game. Remember a Cork point would have left the sides very close and would have perhaps electrified the team into a successful goal effort. After that the crowd would have gone mad and anything might have happened.

Jimmy Doyle's second free was another nail in the coffin and even I could see the writing carved with inexorable Tipperary fingers on the wall of hurling history.

When it was over we all were dejected. Denis Conroy could only shake his head. Jim Hurley—never a very quiet man—talked enough and with honest conviction. Jack Barrett another selector was down-cast and Micka Brennan was perhaps the saddest of all.

It was John Quirke who roused him out of the mood reminding him that in '35 Clare beat a fairly good Cork side by about nine goals and only three years after we were starting on the road of all-time glory that led to seven All-Ireland finals (five of them successful) in nine years. Cork are better a lot than they were in the Munster final and anyone who thinks we must wait for the minors should think again.

Apart from Tipperary's undoubted merit the greatest blow to our chances in Limerick was the fact that four or five of our best men were off form.

● TO PAGE 17



★ EAMONN YOUNG . . . "I can't stand pity."



20 . 30 . 40 . 50

**FOR EXTRA
QUALITY**





DUBLIN MISSED

JOHN TIMMONS

By **FEAR FAIRE**

BEING on holiday I very much lack the inclination to produce the usual lengthy column. So instead I will trot out a few brief comments:

- Dublin may have lost a few scores over the years, due to John Timmons over-playing the ball but one of the reasons why they lost their coveted crown against Meath was because he wasn't playing at all.

- The Clare minor footballers went to Cork under protest for the Munster final. Looking at the game one felt that they shouldn't have bothered.

- The man most likely to dominate hurling during the next decade? Undoubtedly Michael

Keating of Tipperary—provided he does not put on too much weight.

- The bringing in of Wicklowman, Eamonn Moules, for so many Connacht championship games this year can only be interpreted as a vote of no confidence in home produce.

- Facts and statistics are really deceptive when it comes to goalkeepers. Take Ollie Walsh. From three All-Ireland finals (1957, '59 replay and '63) he has conceded a total of twelve goals. Dave Creedon of Cork let in not a single goal in his three finals (1952, '53 and '54). Yet who rates the better man?

- What caused the collapse of the Clare hurlers and the Donegal footballers this year? Could it be

that they forgot to air those bright new jerseys which they got specially for the big occasion?

- Teams get fined for turning up late but what do you do regarding a team which turns up a week too early as did Leitrim recently for their under-21 championship meeting with Mayo. They arrived in Charlestown, having brought players from Cork and Dublin, to find the place deserted.

- The bravest man in County Louth? He must certainly be the County Board's President, Mr. J. J. Mathews, who single-handed took on the job of distributing this year's All-Ireland tickets. From the word go there was never any chance of the job being given to the county's senior football selectors whose mathematical qualifications are questionable since earlier this Summer when they sent in four substitutes in the Leinster championship semi-final against Meath.

- If I were a Wicklowman, which I am not, I'd be feeling sore. It was bad enough to have to travel to Tralee for the All-Ireland junior hurling semi-final, but to have the game go on as a curtain-raiser to a Kerry club game was the limit. And, of course, Wicklow lost.

- The finest faux pas so far this year was made by Coiste na Staire who wrote to Tipperary (as they did to all county boards) telling them to get on with the job of writing a history of G.A.A. affairs in the county—forgetting, of course, that the Board's Very Rev. Chairman had completed and published an elaborate history only a few years back.

EAMONN YOUNG

● FROM PAGE FIFTEEN

It's ridiculous to say they were well beaten. Their opponents were good men but no one beats a good intercounty man for the hour unless he's off form.

Why our good men were off form is another matter. To me they were either lacking in life or hasty and hurried. A man's form comes from his physical and mental condition which is toned up in preparation. Jim Barry trained the team as well as ever and he's long enough at the job to know form.

Now they're asking would Ringey make any difference. In his present physical condition he would still hold his own and get a few scores. After six months careful training I have no doubt he'd leave a big impression on this or any other game. Whether he'll

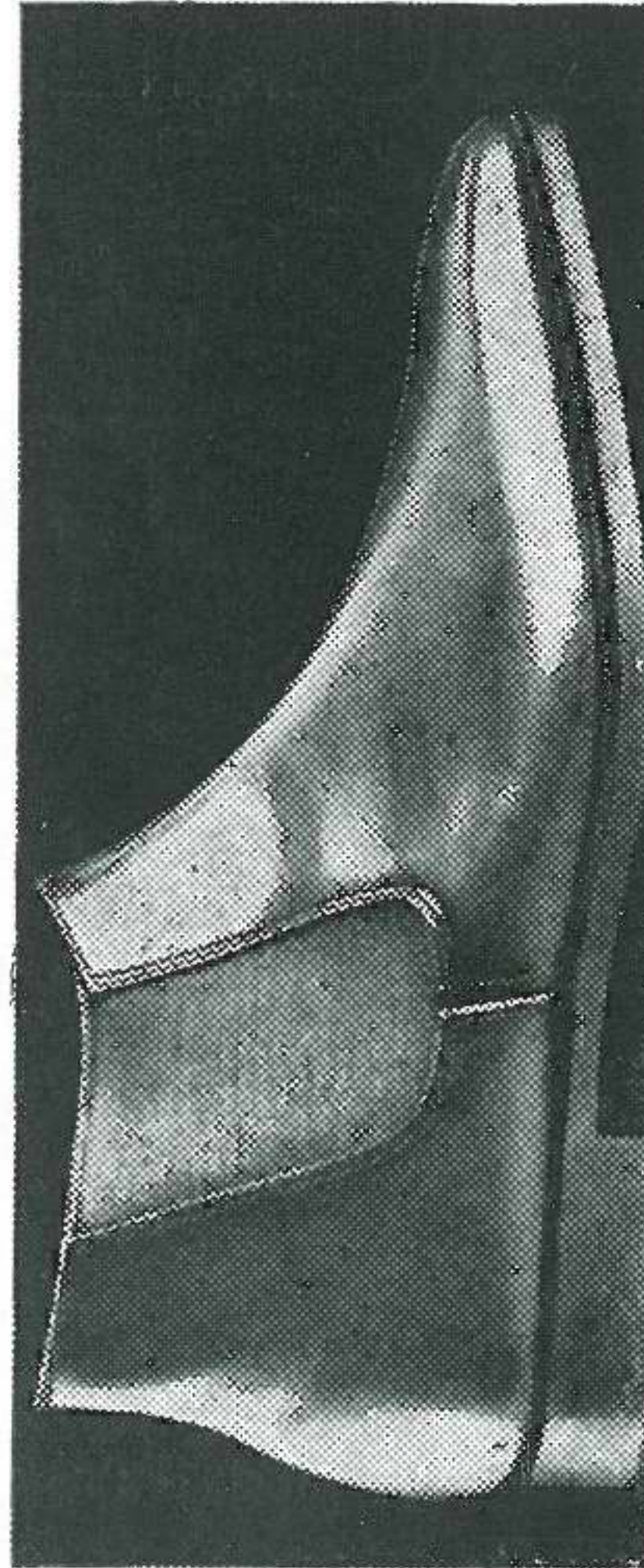
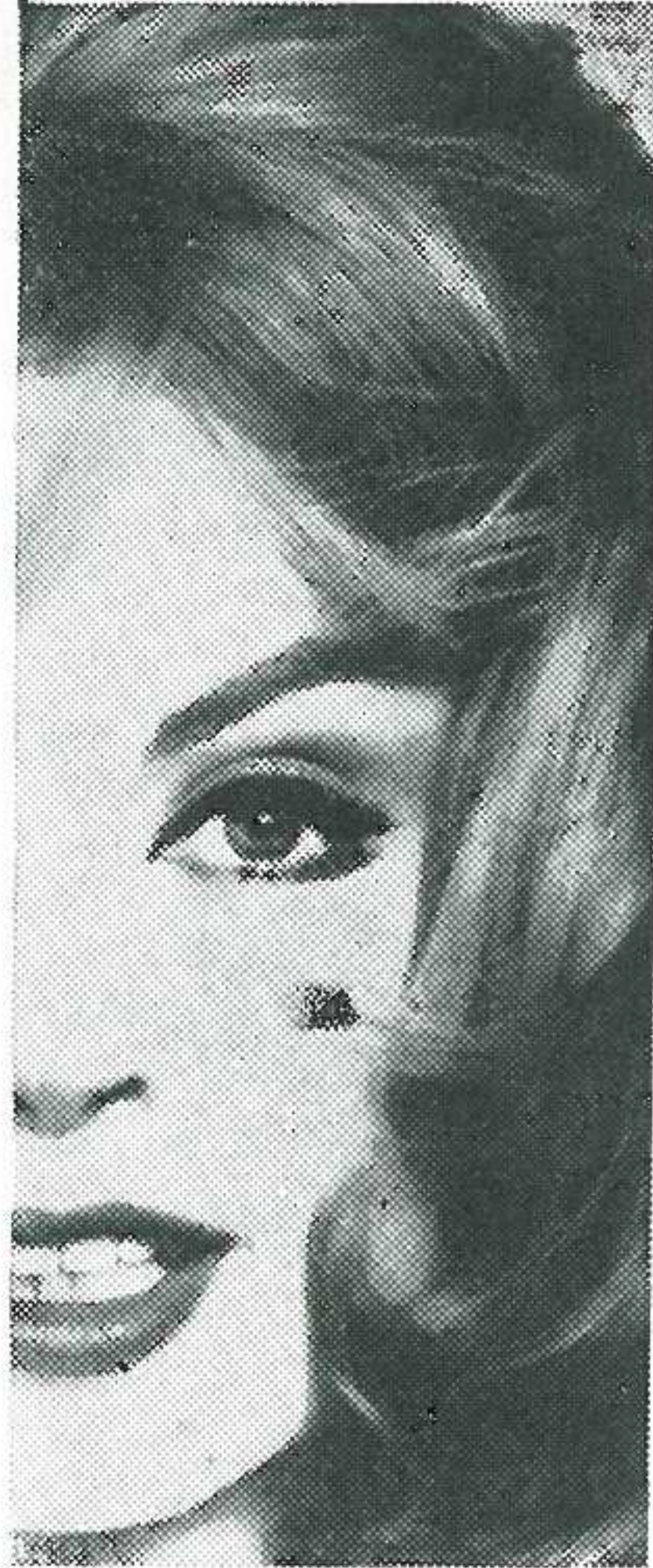
ever do that training now is something that only the boy himself can answer.

Anyway as the chairman of Glen Rovers, the great old veteran Tom Reilly, used to say "Hats off to the past and coats off to the future." Work is the answer. Hard unrelenting work, plenty of practice, self-discipline, regular matches and a firm belief in our traditional Cork hurling ability to get out there in front—and stay in front.

Meanwhile good luck in the hurling final to the standard-bearer's of Munster. May they win their twentieth All-Ireland. A taste of the lead is good for a county that has been behind so long.

It gets lonely at the top after a while.

**The most fascinating
get-together this year**



SHE

saw the name **Hardy Amies**

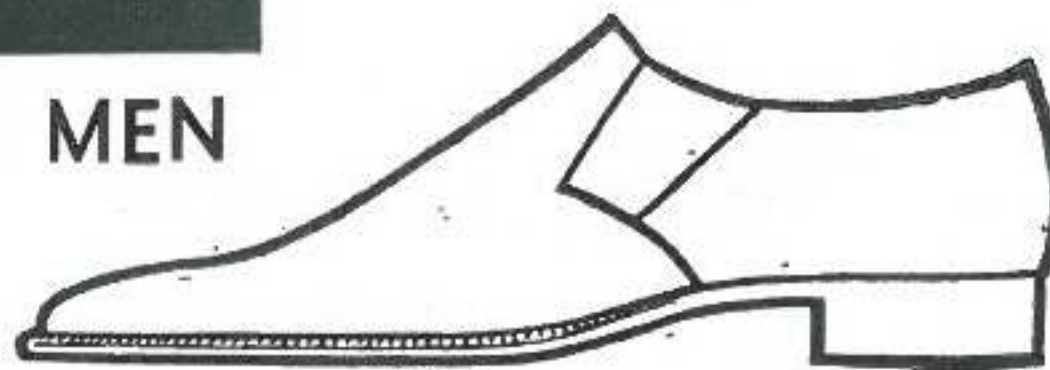
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Kilkenny will keep the hurling crown

By JIM O'BRIEN

IF the day is fine and the sod is dry the All-Ireland senior hurling crown will stay in Leinster. That briefly is my forecast for the hurling final. I look to Kilkenny's youth and speed to carry the day. However, on a soft pitch this advantage will be greatly lessened and the hard-pulling Tipperarymen will take some beating.

How about the Laois minors? They certainly proved to be the surprise of Leinster hurling this year and a fine team they are too. I saw Cork in the Munster final and agree with those who say that they are an excellent side—but it could well be because their opponents were Tipperary that their victory created such a good impression.

If Laois can hold Cork's danger-forward, Charlie McCarthy, then I believe that they have a good chance.

CARLOW FIASCO

Fear Faire had a rather good story in last month's issue concerning a three-game programme set for Skryne, Co. Meath, which resulted in quite some confusion and disappointment for spectators.

Well since then Carlow has gone one better. There were three games fixed for Dr. Cullen Park a few Sundays ago and not even one of them came off. Three teams—Pearses's, Tinryland and O'Hanrahan's could not field, so the entire programme was rubbed clear at the last minute.

Instead spectators were given two challenge games—and lackadaisical ones at that. It was very poor compensation.

Therein lies an outstanding method of never getting anywhere and losing public respect.

FEAR FAIRE

And speaking of Fear Faire (that is if one is entitled to speak about a fellow GAELIC SPORT contributor), he is certainly making his words felt in Leinster anyway.

During the past month, I have heard him being referred to on quite a number of occasions during my travels. Not all remarks were complimentary either—but when I did put in a word in his defence, it was always admitted that he had his facts one hundred per cent. correct.

What seemed to worry most people was that he did have the facts and they would prefer if he didn't.

DROGHEDA PLANS

Drogheda Gaelic Grounds is to get a face-lift. A new committee, representing all the local clubs, has now taken control of the Grounds with the long-serving directors, who had managed affairs since 1925, retiring. New men at the helm always means a new burst of enthusiasm, so we can look to big plans for Drogheda which is one of the busiest G.A.A. strongholds in Ireland.

FRANK LYNCH

Congratulations to Louth and

Leinster footballer, Frank Lynch, on his appointment as Manager of the Dundalk branch of his firm, McQuillan and Co., Chartered Accountants. Frank is one of the most consistent players in the game today and would be much more of a national star were Louth a little more in the public eye.

HAYDEN AND DOOGUE

And talking of underrated footballers, Brendan Hayden of Carlow is certainly one of these and has been for quite a few years. At present he is playing better than ever, but I won't be in the least surprised if the Leinster selectors adopt the "never-heard-of-him" attitude just as they did for the past decade with the great Ned Doogue.

I would rate Doogue as one of the great footballers of the past ten years—yet he never got his chance with Leinster. Even in the latter-part of his career he was still by far the best full forward in the province (and I say this with all due respects to Noel Delaney). Doogue proved his claim to the Leinster berth in provincial trials and otherwise, but still he was never honoured.

Now he has virtually gone from the scene but he will be remembered by many Leinstermen (and incidentally I am not a Carlowman) for what he was—one of the truly great players of his time.

• **CHRIS MURRAY LOOKS AHEAD TO THE
ALL-IRELAND FOOTBALL FINAL
AND MAKES THIS BRAVE FORECAST :**

GALWAY SHOULD WIN!

SO Galway are in the All-Ireland senior football final once again and as I saw it they well deserved the honour. Sure Meath lost scoring chances, but it was experience and craft which decided the issue—and in these vital departments Galway had the edge.

It took a good team to beat Dublin by a clear-cut margin and the Meath fifteen which contested the semi-final was a good team. All of which reflects very well on Galway's chances in the final. I certainly make them favourites.

MAYO MINORS

For the fourth consecutive year the Mayo minors have failed in their quest for the All-Ireland crown. Only once previously has the same minor team come out of Connacht on four successive years. That was 1933-'36 inclusive and it was Mayo then too. However, on that occasion they enjoyed better success, winning the All-Ireland crown in 1935. Disappointing as this series of failures may appear, the fact still remains that Mayo can look to the future with considerable confidence. These minors of the past four seasons cannot but produce an abundance of senior talent which will put the county back to the forefront in Connacht in the not too distant future.

MAYO COMPLEX

Considerably more disappointing for Mayo followers, than the defeat of the minors, was the complete collapse of the senior team against Galway in the Connacht final. Hopes were particularly high this year—especially as Galway had looked a very mediocre side in

just surviving against Sligo.

Still Mayo simply collapsed in the provincial final—sending thousands of fans into a state of deep melancholy. Personally, I don't rate that performance as by any means a true reflection of the team's football ability—but it did suggest a lack of fighting spirit and somewhat of an inferiority complex with regard to Galway. This Mayo will have to get rid of.

GERRY O'MALLEY

I was particularly sorry to see the defeat of the Roscommon junior hurling team by Down in the All-Ireland semi-final. This may well have been Gerry O'Malley's last chance of collecting an All-Ireland medal and only one point decided the issue. Still all credit to Down they came a long journey, played in their opponents home-ground and won the day.

The irony of it all, from a Roscommon point of view, was that the great O'Malley was the hero of this side. They had been well behind against Mayo in the provincial final when he came on and caused a complete transformation which resulted in Roscommon finishing worthy winners.

Against Down too the Kiltoom veteran was outstanding, and had the rest of the forwards produced anything like his form, Roscommon would have won well. It struck me

that O'Malley has quite a few years ahead of him in junior hurling . . . should he decide to stay around. Incidentally, hurling has always been his first love.

BRODIE CONNAUGHTON

Before leaving the Roscommon junior hurlers, I must pay tribute to their goalkeeper, Brodie Connaughton of Athleague, who over the years has given his county tremendous service. Brodie proved once again what a first-class net-minder he is and I hope the Connacht Railway Cup mentors took note.

GALWAY PREDICAMENT

Galway went down to Cork in the Munster intermediate hurling final at Ballinasloe—incidentally the first Munster final to be played at a Connacht venue. There was an unusual development prior to this game when the Galway selectors met at Loughrea to pick the team. It was the Monday before the game and the meeting found itself faced by the news that three of the team, all members of the Ardahan club, might not be available as a result of a game played on the previous day.

County Board Chairman, Fr. Jack Solan, left the selectors meeting and drove to Craughwell where he got a report from referee, P. Geoghegan, on the game in question. There was no doubt

CONNACHT COMMENT



● **GERRY O'MALLEY** . . . the hero of Roscommon's hurling side.

about it. Ardahan had walked off the pitch and so earned an automatic suspension of six months.

Fr. Solan then returned to the selectors meeting with the disappointing news that they would have to proceed without the three Ardahan players.

TUBBERCURRY PARK

The Gaels of Tubbercurry, Co. Sligo, have perpetuated the memory of the late Michael F. Kilcoyne in a worthy fashion. At the official opening of the new park which bears his name, Mayo and Sligo provided an entertaining hour's football. The late Michael Kilcoyne gave years of service to Gaelic Games. He was a brother of Connaught Council Secretary, Tom Kilcoyne.

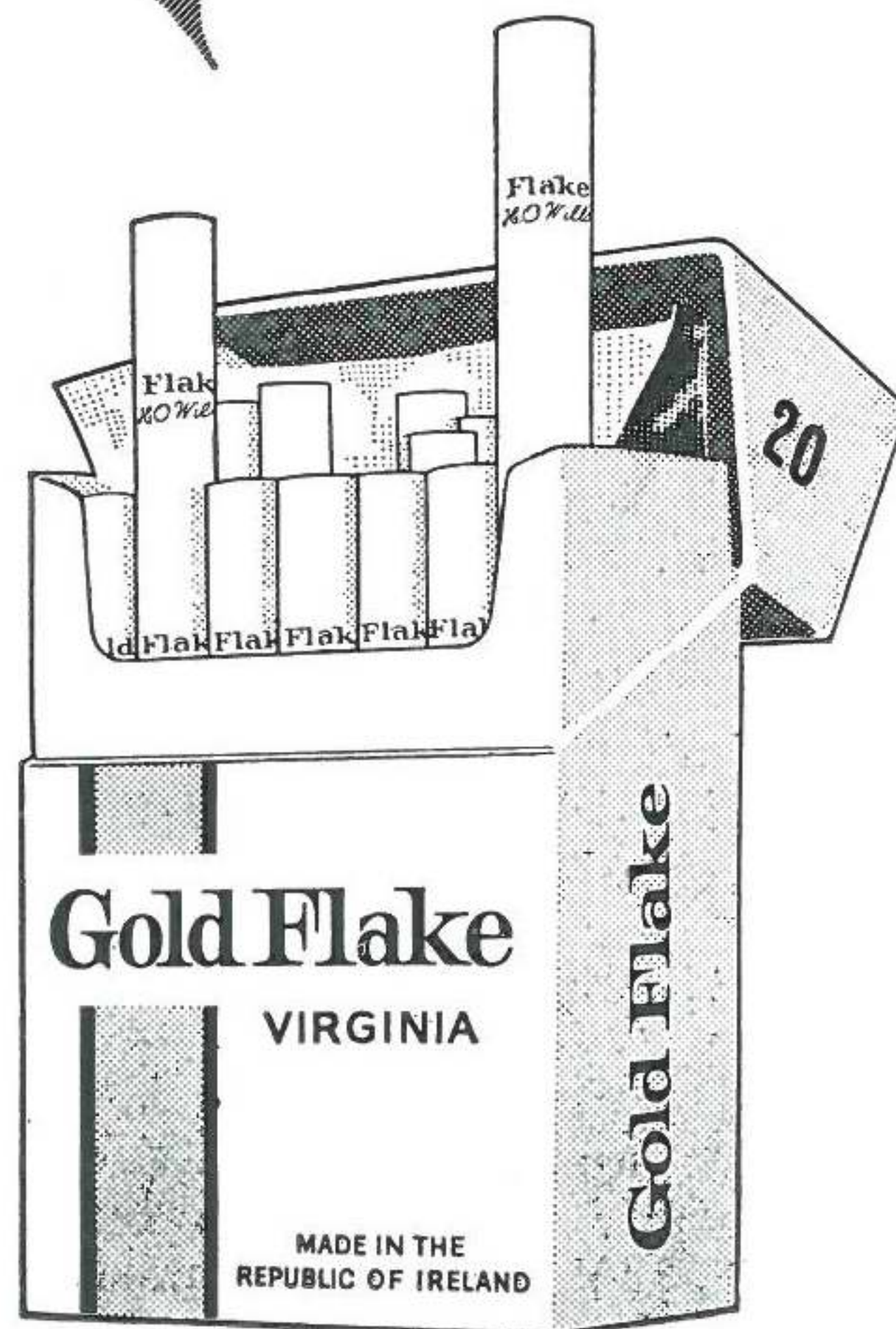
BALLINA PLANS

Ballina Stephenites, one of Mayo's oldest and most famous clubs, has issued an appeal for funds to help in developing the local James Stephens Park. A sum of £10,000 is being aimed at.

The intended development includes the erecting of a stand and modern dressing-rooms, enlarging and re-seeding the actual playing area and increasing the capacity of the grounds.

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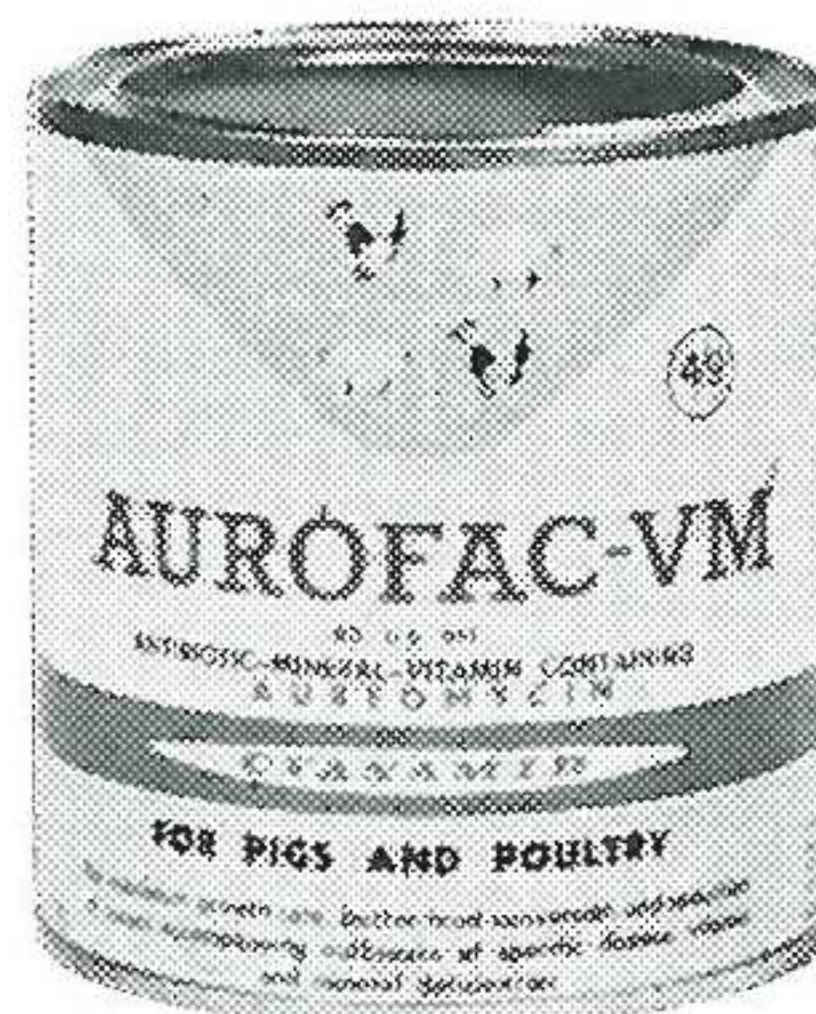
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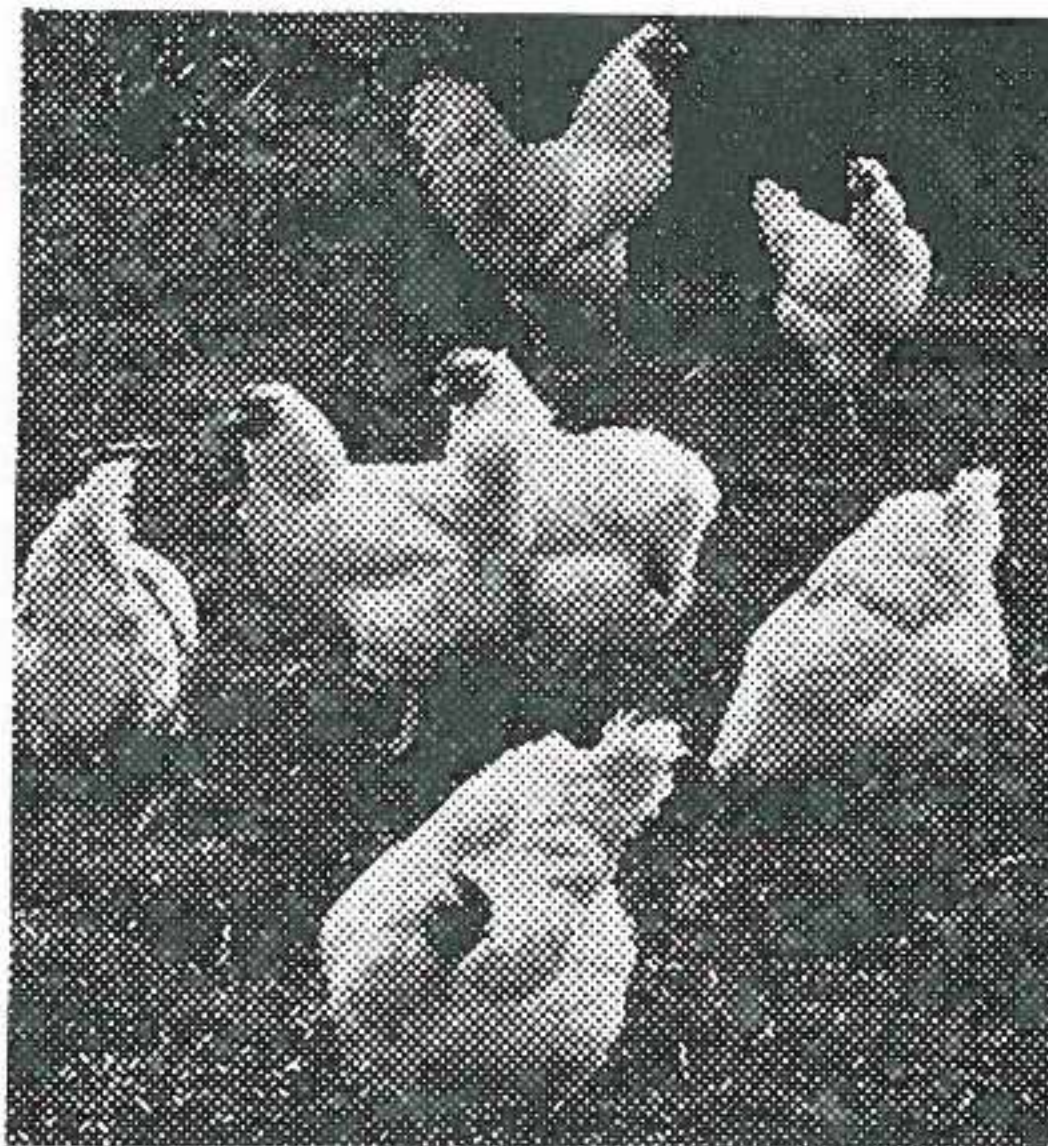
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A CHAT—THEN A CLUB

By **AGNES HOURIGAN**

WITH the intercounty games finished off quickly in all four provinces, we have had more time than usual to contemplate the camogie scene in August this year, and I must say that the progress made generally in this Jubilee Year has thus far been most encouraging.

Not alone have the All-Ireland games made progress but there has been progress too in the club competition between the various county champions for the Jubilee Cup.

The pity about the later competition is that all available clubs did not play in it, but those who did certainly gave a good account of themselves. I saw some of those games in Leinster and I must say that both St. Colman's of Offaly and the Louth banner-bearers, Kilkenny, are as good as anyone could wish to see at club level.

But, talking of clubs, I must say that I was delighted to see how St. Patrick's, Glengoole, won the Tipperary county championship by defeating Roscrea in the final. And when I say that, I do not want to be taken as being in any way disparaging to Roscrea whose record on the camogie fields speaks for itself, and who have done so much for the game down the years in the Premier County.

So when I praise St. Patrick's, I do so because they have proved my contention that a great deal can be done in a short time by those who love camogie and have a real wish to promote the game.

Because believe it or not, the St. Patrick's, Glengoole, club was not in existence only a few short

months ago. Indeed I well remember when what must have been the nucleus of the idea for such a club sprang up. It was after a Leinster Colleges' match and a certain Leinster club was talking to Anne Carroll the Callan star who lives in Ballingarry, County Tipperary.

It came up in the course of conversation that three or four more of the Callan players were also natives of Tipperary, and the suggestion was then made that they should start a club at home in their sector of Tipperary, and build it round these players.

The idea took root, several other promising players from the next Convent school in Ballingarry were recruited and this Spring the united Ballingarry side fielded out as St. Patrick's, Glengoole. They aimed high from the start and when they wanted a practice game they sent for the Dublin champions, Austin Stacks, to meet them in a try-out. Austin Stacks, with a third of their team composed of current All-Ireland stars, travelled South, and came back not alone full of praise for the hospitality they received but for the excellence of the opposition provided by the St. Patrick's youngsters.

Indeed, shortly afterwards when Austin Stacks were playing in the Phoenix Park, I talked to the Dublin players about the game and they told me that while they had beaten St. Patrick's it was only their craft and combination that had carried them to victory in the second half.

"If those youngsters keep it up,

they will make a name for themselves," said one of the Dublin All-Ireland players and so I have since followed as closely as I might the progress of the Glengoole girls. Indeed I thought they had achieved a great deal when they became champions of South Tipperary by defeating Elmville, that grand Clonmel club in a close, keen game. I also thought, however, that they would not have much chance against Roscrea in the final for I believed that the craft and experience of Roscrea would tell an inevitable tale against their young opponents.

Well, true enough, the seasoned Roscrea side held the mastery through the first half, but the youth and speed and enthusiasm of St. Patrick's told its tale after the interval and they won a sensational victory in the closing stages of a thrilling final at Templemore.

Now the moral of that story is surely this, that there must be dozens of parishes throughout the country who are potential Ballingarry's. All is wanted is the enthusiasm to form a club, to harness to that enthusiasm all the available local talent of the camogie fields and then see what progress you can make in a bid for glory.

I know that St. Patrick's had a great advantage in this, that they had a grand nucleus to build round in players who had already starred on college fields. But there must be dozens of places in the country where talented college's players are available, yet no attempt is made to build a camogie team around them.

Ballingarry has succeeded in doing so. Let every other area take them as an example and, while I do not suggest that they will all become county champions, they will be doing a good day's work for themselves, for their parish and for camogie, if they only get a team on the field, irrespective as to whether or not they ever win a game.

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Des Dillon WILL be fit for that trip to New York

WHEN we come to print with next month's edition of GAE LIC SPORT the World Handball series, will be upon us, and our team will be finalising their plans for the historic New York trip.

It is opportune, then, that we should review the position from an Irish angle and attempt to assess the prospects of our players in this unique handball show-down for the title of World Champions.

But at the outset, let us hasten to celebrate the fact, that the cloud of uncertainty, in the form of a protracted illness to one of our participants, Des Dillon, has now dispersed, and the Dublin player will travel fit and well.

About three months ago in the course of a Leinster championship game with Joe Delaney of Kilkenny, Dillon was taken ill and has not played competitively since.

I saw him train in Croke Park a few nights ago, and if one is to judge by his superior fitness and all-round handball agility, he will be a worthy representative.

Then of course, there is our number one man—Joe Mahon from the Wee County, who epitomises the characteristics we like to find in our Irish athletes — sturdiness, fitness, an unquenchable spirit. To win this trip Joe dispersed of all opposition in last year's championship.

HANDBALL

by
ALLEYMAN

So far this season, he has again been turning in first class performances and at time of writing, is still interested in three of the four championships.

The official party is completed by Joe Lynch, the genial Secretary of the Irish Handball Council, who too, is most deserving of the trip, for his contribution to Irish handball, since he took over as Secretary has been enormous.

What are the chances of our players landing the laurels?

The pessimist might say that they are slight, for the game as played at home and in America, vary in many aspects.

The playing court itself is different, normally indoor, with wooden floor, and much shorter and narrower than those at home.

Even the playing ball is smaller, made from a different type of India-rubber, and the impact of it is such that it is necessary to protect the hands with padded gloves.

In this category, however, the National Handball Committee in New York, have seen to it that our players, would not be at too much

of a disadvantage, by supplying them with gloves and handballs a couple of months ago.

Proficiency at the over-hand stroke will also be a tremendous asset, for under the American system this type of play is absolutely essential.

It is a phase of play, that our players have not developed yet, especially on the left-hand side and could prove quite a set-back.

Notwithstanding, these little draw-backs, I have every confidence that Maher and Dillon, will not let their country down.

They will reach New York a couple of days before the tournament commences and will thus get an opportunity of becoming acclimatised with their new surroundings. Neither will the fear of defeat in the first round worry them, for the New York organisers have very wisely decided to hold a round-robin in preference to an elimination tournament.

In this way, each of the five participating nations, will have an opportunity of meeting each other in both Singles and Doubles, and so leave the organisers in a position to establish a rating for each team.

Just now it is a rather difficult task to pin-point a prospective winner, for the simple reason, that as yet, a comprehensive list of the players is not yet to hand.

We can merely speculate and hope that our representatives will rise to the occasion. And why shouldn't they.

If Maher plays as well in the singles games as he does at home, then we should be assured of a major share of victories, while the Dublin-Louth doubles combination, featuring the overhand play of Dillon, could put paid to the hopes of the best.

Our men as World Champions? The experts say impossible, but they too are quite often caught on the wrong foot.

Let's hope they will this time.

The "dash of youth" will beat Tipperary

IT is not the first time, by a long chalk, that the All-Ireland final lay between the neighbours Tipperary and Kilkenny; not the first time that relations have been strained even within the same households along the border between the two counties—in Crosspatrick, Urlingford, Ballingarry, Mullinahone, Ninemilehouse, Ahenny and Carrick-on-Suir. Indeed, it appears that Kilkenny people are being constantly tried in their loyalties, for last year, the people in Ferrybank and Slieverue had to take a definite stand when it was Waterford who provided the opposition in the final.

Tipperary and Kilkenny are familiar opposition for one another.

By JAY DRENNAN

There is a healthy and spirited rivalry between them and there is an interesting clash of styles. Tipperary's country brand of hurling, honest and straightforward and unfrilled—Kilkenny's brand typifying the sophistication of style which comes naturally to those who know that they are sons of a county which has been over the generations the repository of all that is most clever and cultured in the game. They will make an interesting final.

Each county has a string of All-Ireland's under its belt, so many that the novelty has worn off, and

so that their supporters will not be screaming with the frantic fever of first-timers, but rather shouting with the full-throated appreciation of the fact that their county has a reputation which is even greater than victory. Yet, so great is the prize that no one ever gets tired of winning All-Irelands.

The teams start this game with a curious complex which one would not suspect between two such prominent teams. Kilkenny have found Tipperary an insurmountable bogey in the last quarter of a century in important finals and big games.

Personally though I place only a limited amount of importance on what has happened in years past: it is of importance, but not vital. What I do place considerable weight on is the Oireachtas semi-final between the teams last September, when Kilkenny fresh from their All-Ireland triumph, were drubbed by a vengeful Tipperary at Nowlan Park. All the rules say that a team is at its best just after an All-Ireland victory; yet, Tipperary—who had not had an important game since July's Munster final—were far the better team. What seemed to be the cause of victory was not any marked degree of superiority in hurling ability, but rather an approach to the game by Tipperary which seemed to cancel out Kilkenny's well-known skills.

In short, it is this: Tipperary's brand of hurling, first-time, rugged, strong, and, if necessary, uncompromising, has a very repressive effect on Kilkenny's more sophisticated skillfulness, which has little stomach for standing up to



● OLLIE WALSH . . . guarding the Kilkenny net.



● MICHAEL MAHER . . . one of the Tipperary defenders Kilkenny will meet as they try for those vital scores.

hard charges and first-time clashes against naturally big-boned men like the men of Tipperary.

I think that it is this difference in style which has made Tipperary so superior to Kilkenny over such a long period; and only when you go back to the days when this distinction of styles was not so evident between the counties do you find Kilkenny gaining a measure of success over their neighbours.

Last September, Kilkenny still had not the resilience to counter Tipperary's superior physical make-up; have they achieved it in the meantime. I think, that they have not quite become hard enough to take on Tipperary at their very best, and to that extent will be at a slight disadvantage. But, on the other hand, I feel that Tipperary are not quite at their very best this year—on some of them the years are catching up—while Kilkenny will have the dash of youth from players like Buckley, Henderson, and the full-forward line of Walsh, Forristal and Murphy.

In this full-forward line Kilkenny have the key to victory, for it is in their full-back line that Tipperary's hinges are rusting. These dashing boys will exploit the rustiness and win for the "Cats" their second in a row.

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TOM

WALSH



FACE TO FACE

with SEAN O'DONNELL

ONE brief but glorious hour in the All-Ireland senior hurling final of 1963 and 19-year-old Tom Walsh from Thomastown was an acclaimed national star. In the year since then this fair-haired Kilkenny youth has proven that it was no flickering flash in the pan. A star he has remained.

Tom first donned the county jersey in 1961 as a minor and he went on to collect an All-Ireland medal. He added another in 1962 and then graduated with ease into the more testing trials of senior competition. Now he tries for his fourth medal.

Here are some questions which I put to him recently:—

O'Donnell—Does the fact that Kilkenny have not beaten Tipperary in an All-Ireland senior since 1922 bother you?

Walsh—No, it does not bother me at all and I doubt if it bothers any other member of the team either. It could though have the effect of making us more determined.

O'D.—Were you nervous going out in last year's final?

W.—It may surprise you but I wasn't in the least bit nervous. This was probably due to the fact that I had played in Croke Park on numerous occasions and I had, of course, played in two minor All-Ireland finals.

O'D.—Have Kilkenny improved since last year?

W.—It is difficult to say—but we

are at least as good. I think that we are somewhat faster.

O'D.—How about experience—this will surely be an asset?

W.—Yes it will. Our visits to America and to Wembley helped considerably in that respect.

O'D.—What is a team's greatest asset in preparing for a final?

W.—Team-spirit is the greatest asset in any game, final or otherwise. Spirit includes enthusiasm to train and the will to win.

O'D.—It is generally believed that hurling is declining. Do you agree?

W.—In certain counties the standard has certainly fallen. Something out of the ordinary appears to be required to extend the game and raise the standard. It is going to be a big job but it will have to be done and the sooner it is taken on the better.

O'D.—Have you any ideas as to how it can be done?

W.—There are exceptions to every rule but normally hurling must be begun at an early age. If we accept this then the obvious thing to do is to start in the primary and national schools. But this is easier said than done. I believe a big national effort is needed. Getting hurling going in one school here and there is not enough.

O'D.—What county do you most like to play against?

W.—It may sound odd but the

answer is Tipperary. In my brief intercounty career, senior and minor that is, we have beaten them more often than not and they are usually great games.

O'D.—Who were your hurling idols when you were at school?

W.—Christy Ring was number one but Bobby Rackard, the finest sportsman of them all, was another. Also Tony Reddan of Tipperary.

O'D.—Who was the most difficult player you have played on?

W.—I would say Tom Neville of Wexford. Tom is a wonderful sportsman—always so clean and yet so difficult to outhurl. One can really enjoy hurling when playing on men like Tom Neville.

O'D.—What game gave you your greatest thrill?

W.—It is difficult to say. I certainly remember the 1961 Leinster Minor final, but I suppose last year's All-Ireland final was the real big one.

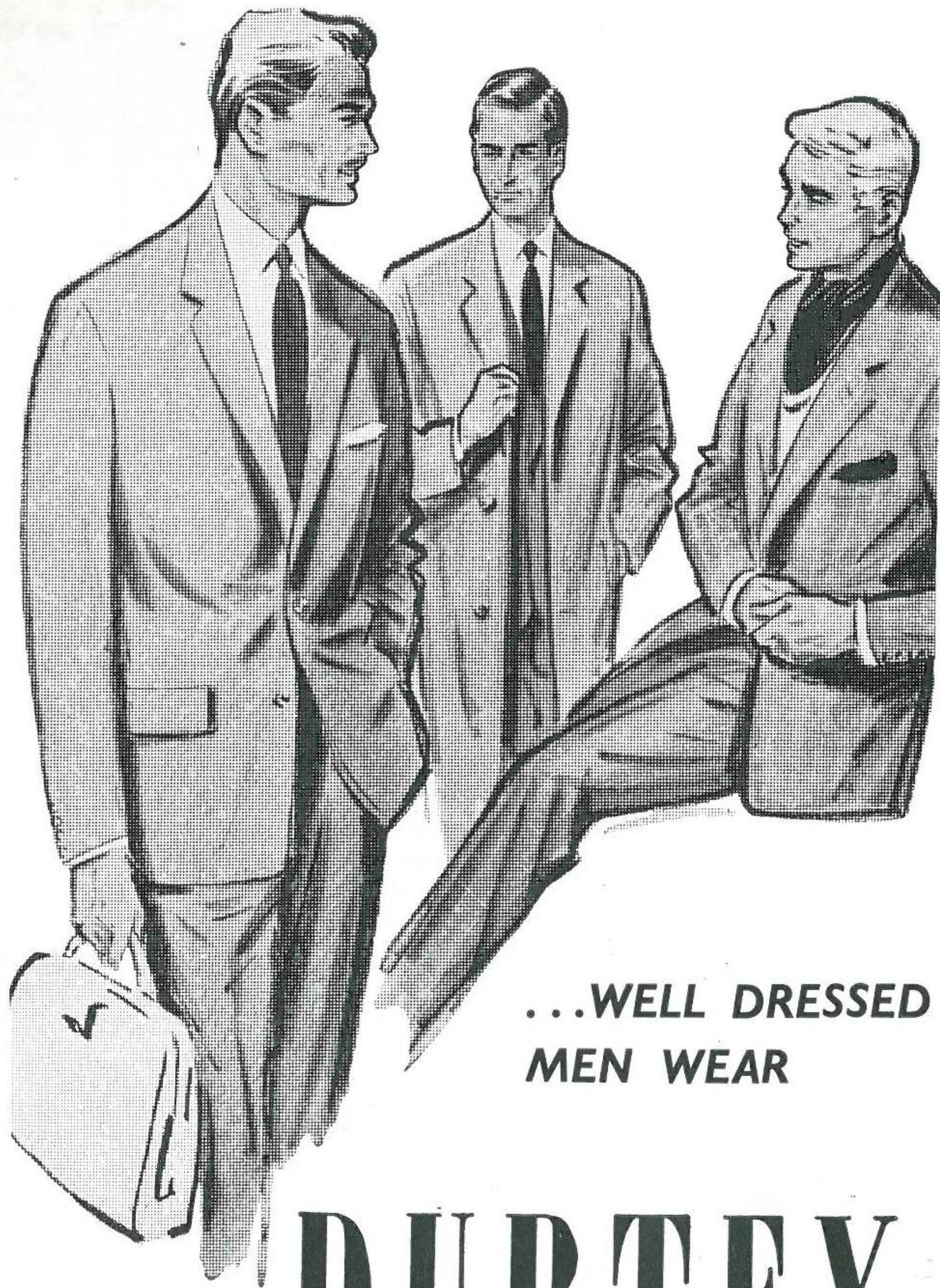
O'D.—Would you prefer to play in any other position?

W.—At first I simply hated corner forward but somehow I got accustomed to it and now I am very happy there. It is lucky number 13 for me now.

O'D.—Finally Tom, any other sporting interests?

W.—Yes. I like football and I won a county junior medal last year. I also play tennis and swim and when I get a chance, I enjoy a round of golf.

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TRADITION WILL BOOST TIPPERARY

SAYS LARRY KIELY IN A 'FACE TO FACE' INTERVIEW WITH SEAN O'DONNELL

THINK of zeal, dash, tremendous courage and fiery hurling and you think of Larry Kiely, a young man whose return to his native county has proved an invaluable asset.

For quite a few years Tipperary had been searching for a man of the Kiely mould who would inject fire into an already skilful attack. They had him when Larry came home in early 1963.

He was a Tipperary minor in 1957 and so collected his first All-Ireland medal. Still a minor in 1959, he captained the side which returned to regain the title.

While in the Cadet College in the Curragh, he threw in his lot with Kildare and was their star in the history-making All-Ireland junior victory in 1962. And then it was back to Tipperary.

Larry is now an established hurling star. He will shortly be recognised as a great horseman, for as a member of the Army Equestrian squad he is showing considerable promise. He will not, of course, be the first All-Ireland medal holder to win fame at show-jumping—the late Mick Tubridy showed how it could be done.

However, it is Kiely the hurler who is now the man of the moment and it was mainly on hurling and the awaited final that I recently spoke to him.

O'Donnell—Do you think that the tradition of not having lost to

Kilkenny in a final for over forty years' is an asset?

Kiely—Tradition is, I suppose, always an asset as long as one does not depend on it alone. This is a great Kilkenny team. We know that from experience and if we manage to beat them it will be only because we are a slightly better side.

O'D.—Many believe that the youth and speed of the Kilkenny full forward line will trouble the somewhat aged Tipperary full back line. Do you agree?

K.—If we were sure that every line would play as well as our back line there would be little to worry about. Of course, they are all around the thirty mark but that is not particularly old. No, if we lose I doubt if it will be because John Doyle, Michael Maher and Kieran Carey failed.

O'D.—You have received a lot of injuries since returning to Tipperary. Does this ever sort of curtail your enthusiasm?

K.—Injuries may make you think but only until your next game gets underway. Then you forget about them.

O'D.—How about the meeting of Tipperary and Kilkenny in New York earlier this year—can it be accepted as a pointer for the final?

K.—I don't think so. Tipperary's approach was casual by comparison with the championship.

O'D.—What game has given you most satisfaction?

K.—The National League 'home' final against Wexford.

O'D.—You have experience of hurling among the weaker counties having played with Kildare. Could you ever visualise a Tipperary-Kildare senior final?

K.—Well certainly not in the immediate future. But there is good work being done in many of the weaker hurling counties and who knows

O'D.—Had you ever a desire to be a famous footballer rather than a hurler?

K.—I was very serious about football at one time but hurling took over and now I have no football ambitions.

O'D.—Is there any particular county that you admire outside of Tipperary?

K.—Yes, I have a great admiration for Waterford. They are my favourite county to play against and I like their style and great enthusiasm.

O'D.—Who was your early hurling idol?

K.—Bobby Rackard represented everything. Not far behind I looked to Christy Ring, Pat Stakelum and Jimmy Finn.

O'D.—As a final question Larry, what do you regard as a county's greatest asset in preparing for a final?

K.—Complete harmony within the camp. This brings forth the best in a team.



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A WIN and Tipperary are the premier hurling county with twenty senior titles to their credit. They appear in their 26th final and only Kilkenny in 1909, '11, '13 and '22, Dublin in 1917 and Wexford in 1960 have beaten them in a final.

Their years of victory were:
1887—Tipperary, 1-1; Galway, nil.
1895—Tipperary, 6-8; Kilkenny, 1-0.
1896—Tipperary, 8-14; Dublin, 0-4.
1898—Tipperary, 7-13; Kilkenny, 3-10.



● LIAM DEVANEY . . . will be attempting to win his fourth All-Ireland medal.

TIPPERARY'S 26th FINAL!

by MICHAEL A. WALSH

1899—Tipperary, 3-12; Wexford, 1-4.
 1900—Tipperary, 2-5; London, 0-6.
 1906—Tipperary, 3-16; Dublin 3-8.
 1908—Tipperary, 3-15; Dublin, 1-5.
 1916—Tipperary, 5-4; Kilkenny, 3-2.
 1925—Tipperary, 5-6; Galway, 1-5.
 1930—Tipperary, 2-7; Dublin, 1-3.
 1937—Tipperary, 3-11; Kilkenny, 0-3.
 1945—Tipperary, 5-6; Kilkenny, 3-6.
 1949—Tipperary, 3-11; Laois, 0-3.
 1950—Tipperary, 1-9; Kilkenny, 1-8.
 1951—Tipperary, 7-7; Wexford, 3-9.
 1958—Tipperary, 4-9; Galway, 2-5.
 1961—Tipperary, 0-16; Dublin, 1-12.
 1962—Tipperary, 3-10; Wexford, 2-11.

The list of Tipperary senior All-Ireland hurling medalists reads:—

Six: John Doyle—1949, '50, '51, '58, '61, '62.

Five: Mickey Maher — 1895, '96, '98, '99, 1800. John Walshe—1895, '96, '98, '99, 1900. Tommy Doyle—1937, '45, '49, '50, '51.

Four: J. Maher, P. Byrne, D. Walsh, E. Maher, J. Gleeson, T. Ryan, J. O'Keefe, T. Brennan, M. Ryan, M. Byrne.

Three: J. Connolly, E. Brennan, T. Flanagan, W. Devane, J. Flanagan, J. Condon, M. Wall, T. Semple, H. Sheeley, J. Maher, P. Stakelum, S. Kenny, J. Bannon, S. Maher, P. Kenny, T. Reddan, T. Ryan, P. Shanahan, J. Finn, J. Hough, M. Maher, K. Carey, T. Wall, T. English, J. Doyle, D. Nealon, L. Devaney, L. Connolly.

Two: P. Riordan, E. Ryan, W. Dunne, J. Ryan, W. Gleeson, L.

Gleeson, T. Allen, P. Maher, P. Bourke, P. Brolan, J. Bourke, T. Gleeson, T. Kerwick, T. Kenna, J. Leahy, P. Leahy, A. O'Donnell, J. Power, P. Cahill, M. Kennedy, P. Ryan, G. Cornally, F. Coffey, J. Kennedy, E. Ryan, M. Burns, M. O'Gara, M. Hassett, S. McLoughlin, T. Ryan, J. McKenna, T. Moloughney, D. O'Brien.

One: T. Carroll, P. Burke, N. Browne, M. Carroll, J. Dwyer, J. Dunne, T. Healy, P. Leahy, J. Leahy, J. Dwyer, P. Lambe, T. Maher, A. Maher, M. Maher, E. Murphy, J. Mockler, M. McNamara, Dan Ryan, J. Ryan, J. Stapleton (Capt.), T. Stapleton, W. Kenrick, John Maher, P. Maher, F. Moriarty, P. Doherty, P. Scanlan, John Ryan, P. O'Keefe, J. O'Keefe, E. Hayes, P. Hayes, W. Maher, M. Purcell, M. Ryan, J. O'Brien, M. O'Brien, J. Hayes, J. Moclair, A. Carew, M. Dwyer, J. Fitzgerald, P. Fitzgerald, J. Mockler, Pat Fitzgerald, J. Mooney, J. O'Loughney, J. O'Brien, J. Collis-

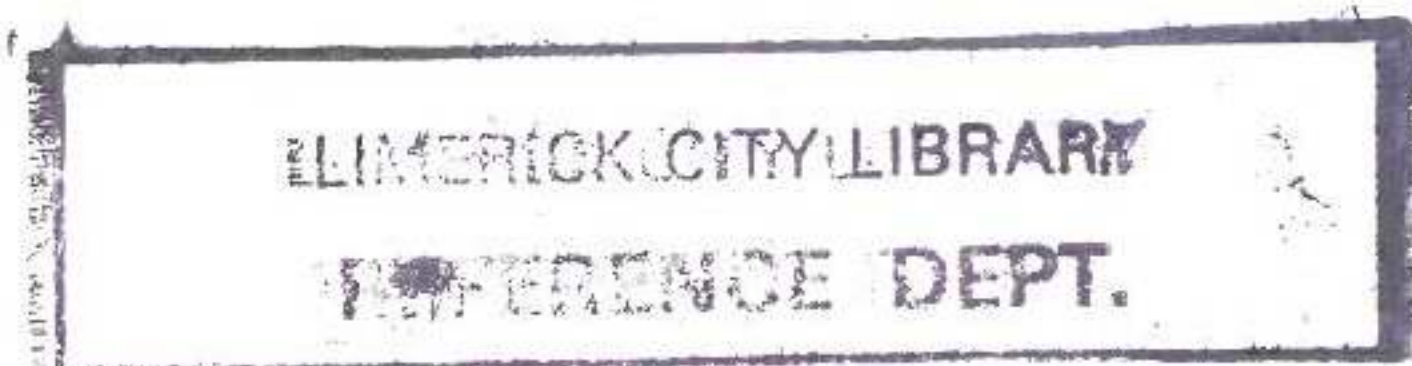
●
JOHN DOYLE...
already the holder of six All-Ireland medals
 ●



● **TONY REDDAN** . . . one of the greatest custodians ever to wear the Tipperary jersey.

son, T. Dwan, J. Doherty, W. Dwyer, J. Flavin, J. Fitzpatrick, J. Murphy, T. Shanahan, R. Walsh, D. Walsh, M. D'Arcy, T. Duffy, J. J. Hayes, S. Hackett, M. Mockler, P. O'Dwyer, P. Power, W. Ryan, M. F. Cronin, J. J. Callanan, J. Harney, J. Heeney, T. Leahy, P. McKenna, J. O'Loughlin, T. O'Meara, P. Purcell, M. Ryan. J. Cooney, J. Coffey, J. Gleeson, T. Kennedy, D. Murphy, D. Mackey, D. O'Gorman, W. O'Donnell, J. Ryan, W. Wall, J. Coffey, J. Devitt, H. Gouldsboro. E. Gleeson, Jim Maher, M. Murphy, T. Purcell, T. Wall, J. Ryan, J. O'Grady, L. Keane, T. Larkin, J. McGrath, W. Moloughney, T. Ryan.

Tipperarymen who won medals with other counties are not included. A full list of Kilkenny medalists appeared in our issue of September, 1963.



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TÁTHAR ann adeir go bhfuil an cluiche iománaíochta ag dul i léig, go bhfuil laghdú ar an gceantar ina gcleachtaítear le héifeacht é. Deintear tagairt do chontaethe mar Luimneach agus Corcaigh gan trácht ar Ghaillimh. Tagartar fosta do na contaethe “laga” nach bhfuil ag cur chuige leis an iomáint a chur chun cinn.

Achar ghearr sul a fuair sé bás, ina thuarascáil bhliantúil, thagair Pádraig Ó Caoimh, Dia lena anam, don lagachar seo eadhon, nach raibh an iomáint ag fáil cothrom na féinne ó na coistí chontae agus gurb i léig a bhí an cluiche ag dul.

Is éasca do scríbhneoir nó do thuairisceoir an scéal a innsint agus “dúirt sé dúirt sé” a bhreacadh. Is rud eile ar fad é moltaí a thabhairt agus an leigheas d’aimsiú. Thug an scríbhneoir seo go leor moltaí, maidir le iománaíocht, uaidh cheana agus glacadh le cuid acu. Déanfadh iarracht ar an scéal seo d’iniúchadh agus mo chuid moltaí a chur ós comhair mo chuid léitheoirí. Tá súil agam go gcuirfidh na léitheoirí nach naontaíonn liom é sin in iúl domsa nó don eagarthóir mar is ceist tábhachtach í seo agus is cóir do gach duine go bhfuil suim sa chluiche ársa Gaelach seo aige, a chuid smaointí a nochtadh.

Tá trí constaicí mhóra in aghaidh na h-iomána, lasmuigh de na cean-

tracha ‘na dtógtar na hógánaigh fireann le camáin ‘na nglaic, agus siad :

An Contúirt; An Costas agus an Freasúireacht.

I gcás (a) deirim “contúirt” agus ciallaíonn sé seo dhá rud. Sa chéad dul síos ceapann daoine, go háirithe na máithreacha, go bhfuil an cluiche contúirteach dá gcuid mac. Tá’s agam agus tá’s agatsa nach bhfuil aon chontúirt ann MÁ TÁ AN DUINE OILTE IN USAID AN CHAMÁIN. Seo í an fhadhb. Conus is féidir na hógánaigh a theagasc? Deirim go bhfuilimid ag an taca go gcaithfear muinteoirí nó teagascóirí a chur ar fáil ins na contaethe éagsúla—daoine atá, nó a bhí, ‘na niománaithe maithe agus go bhfuil féith agus deis an mhúinteora iontú. Daoine lán-aimsearacha a freastalódh ar cholaistí, scoileanna agus clubanna fé stiúru an Choiste Chontae atá i gceist agam; léachtaí agus scannáin in úsáid sa Gheimridh agus cleachtadh lasmuigh an chuid eile den bhliain.

Sa pharóiste agam-sa anseo Cill Mhacoda i gContae Átha Cliath bhí Donie Nealon, an tiománaí cáiliúil ó Thiobrad Árann, ‘na mhúinteoir sa scoil náisiúnta go dtí le déanaí. Cinnte is ceantar é seo nach raibh traidisiún iomána ann. Ach fé stiúru Donie is íontach an dul chun cinn a rinne a buachaillí óga agus anuraidh rugadar Craobh na Scol,



**LE SEÁN
Ó DÚNAGÁIN**

fé bhun 12 bhlian, do Chontae Átha Cliath, leo — agus níor gortaíodh éinne ach oiread.

Chaithfidh mé a rá fosta go raibh club nua bunaithe sa cheantar cúpla bliain ó shin agus chuir oifigí an chlub an-spéis go deo sa chluiche iomána agus chabhraigh siad ar ghach bhealach le Donie. Mar sin bhí an dá riachtanais comhlíonta (1) club a chuir spéis sa chluiche agus (2) oide cáiliúil leis na buachaillí a theagasc. Sa chás seo áfach thug an mhúinteoir a chuid ama saor in aisce agus ní raibh aon chostas ag baint leis an ngné seo den scéal.

Táim cinnte go bhfuil oidí mar Donie Nealon nó Gardaí Síochána nó baill de Airm nó Stáit Sheirbhísigh ag a bhfuil an iomáint ón gcliabhán acu agus atá anois fostaite i gceantracha peile a bhéadh sásta cabhrú leis na coistí chontae ‘na bhfuilid chun an cluiche a bhunú nó a shlánú.

Leanfar de seo an mhí seo chugainn.

Tipperary are NOT Kilkenny's

says **MOONDHARRIG**

ARE Tipperary Kilkenny's bogey team in All-Ireland finals? Despite all the evidence that may be called up to prove otherwise I don't think such a contention is true at all.

The facts show that Tipperary were *once* Kilkenny's bogey right enough, but that was away back in the '90's before Kilkenny had ever

won an All-Ireland title at all. The records also show that Tipperary have won the last three All-Ireland senior finals between the counties but I hesitate to accept that as conclusive evidence.


After all, take the first of these three victories, the 1937 All-Ireland final in Killarney. Kilkenny had played Cork three times in the

All-Ireland final of 1931 and then had won the titles of 1932 and 1933. They had gone on an Amercian tour in the early summer of 1934, had been beaten, on a replay, by Dublin in the Leinster final on their return, but had come back, in amazing fashion, to beat Limerick in the 'wet-day' final of 1935.

Though that was obviously their supreme effort, those Kilkenny veterans came back once again, in 1936, to reach the All-Ireland final for the fifth time in six years. But the twelve months between had made an immense difference and the Kilkennymen positively wilted in the second half.

It was the general opinion of hurling experts at the time that Kilkenny were finished and done with for the time being at least but, against all expectations, they once more came out of Leinster even though they were desperately hard pressed to beat Westmeath in the Leinster final. Then, in an amazing semi-final, in which not a goal was scored, the Noremens just scraped past Galway by 0-8 to 0-6, thanks to some wonderful points off long-range frees by Paddy Phelan from Tullaroan.

So Kilkenny's chances in that 1937 final were slim, and were hardly improved by the change of venue to Killarney. Tipperary swamped the Noreside veterans that day, but there was no sug-

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'bogey' team . . .

gestion of a 'bogey' about that victory as I, for one, am convinced that, of the top teams in Munster at the time, either Limerick or Waterford would have beaten the battle-worn Kilkennymen almost as easily as Tipperary did in that final.

In 1945, Tipperary won, for the very good reason that they were the better team, and as for the 1950 final, Tipperary won by a single point, and at any time in the second half a single puck might well have changed the fortunes of the day.

I don't see any bogey about that sequence of Tipperary victories, if three wins in the course of forty-one years from 1922 until 1963 can be called a sequence at all. Moreover, let it be remembered that Kilkenny is the only county which can boast of having beaten Tipperary three times in senior All-Ireland finals and, in fact, having beaten them in another game that was 'in lieu of the All-Ireland', and in three of these victories Kilkenny were the outsiders in the pre-match predictions.

When, in December of 1909, Kilkenny and Tipperary met at Cork in the All-Ireland final of that year, the odds were all on Tipperary. True, Kilkenny had been All-Ireland champions in three of the five previous seasons but they had not met Tipperary in any of those years.

Indeed their only clashes with

Tipperary had been in the Railway Shield series and in these games, Tipperary, when they had the selection, had represented Munster on their own and had won on two such occasions before losing in the deciding game of the series to a Kilkenny side strengthened by two 'outsiders'.

In addition, Tipperary, having won the title of 1906, had come back to win the 1908 All-Ireland defeating Dublin in a replay at Athy in the summer of 1909. They had, in the months between, gone on to win the Munster championship yet again and had routed Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final.

On the form of the Railway Shield final, Kilkenny would have been an even money chance to stand upsides with Tom Semple and his Tipperary men, but the two 'outsiders' who helped win the Railway Shield, Mike Cummins of Ballymurrin who had represented Wexford, and Bob O'Keeffe who, though a Mooncoinman, was then teaching in Dunbooyne, were of course not available.

Bob O'Keeffe, who was to win an All-Ireland medal with Laois in 1915, at the very end of a great career, and who was, some twenty years later again to become President of the Association after years in the Leinster 'chair', played on that Leinster side simply and solely as representing not a county but a



● TOMMY DOYLE . . . he won five All-Ireland medals with Tipperary.

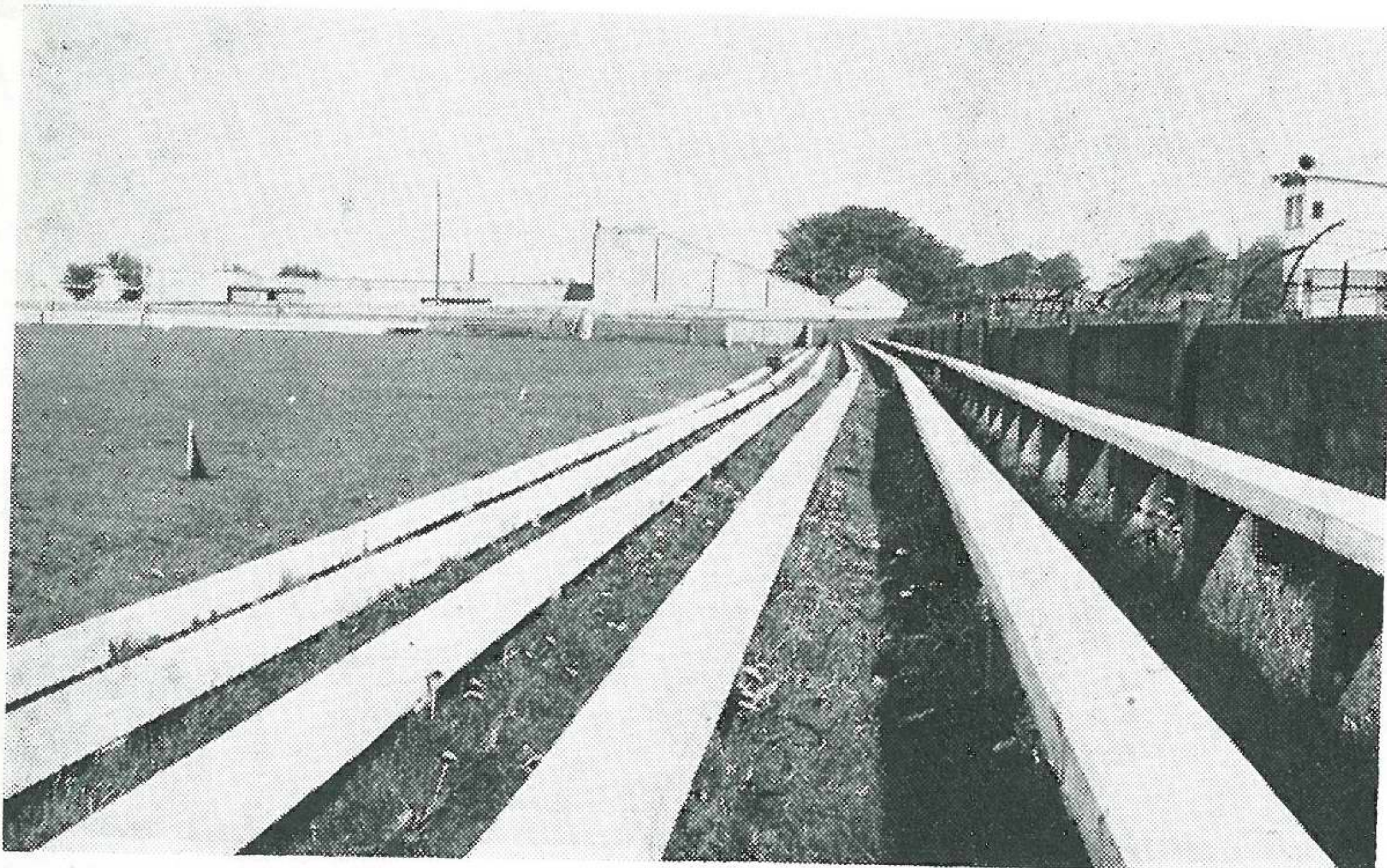
club, Mooncoin, for whom he could not play in Kilkenny championship games owing to the Rules of the time.

In addition a further handicap descended on Kilkenny before this 1909 final was ever reached—the worst handicap of all—internal dissension.

There were some differences of

● TO PAGE 39

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● FROM PAGE THIRTY-SEVEN

opinion as to whether certain players were worth their places or not, and one does not imagine that the action of county champions, Mooncoin, in sending only their own club team to play Derry in Dublin in the All-Ireland semi-final helped soothe things over. And to make the position all the more intriguing, Mooncoin ran up a tall score in defeating the Derrymen.

In any case, the upshot of it all was that a stalemate was arrived at, and some of Kilkenny's established stars refused to play in the All-Ireland final.

Undaunted, Mooncoin drafted in their own men to fill the gaps and went out to face Tipperary, on a pitch soft and sodden from heavy overnight rain. On a day of high wind the Kilkennymen astounded even their own supporters by the manner in which they played the ball on the heavy sod, staved off some fierce Tipperary rallies in the second half, and went on to win by six points.

Who was right or who was wrong in the original controversy, or what that controversy was all about has long been forgotten even in Mooncoin, but what is still vividly remembered in the Suirside parish is that, on a Winter's day in Cork five and fifty years ago, nine Mooncoin men played a major part in inflicting on Tipperary the first defeat ever sustained by the Premier County in an All-Ireland hurling final.

Four years later, in 1913, Kilkenny again upset the odds on Tipperary in the All-Ireland final of that year. The Spring had seen the Toomevara Greyhounds come storming onto the hurling scene. They raced past all opposition in the Croke Cup competition, and

ran Kilkenny's veterans ragged in the finish at Dungarvan inflicting on the Noremens the worse defeat the black and amber had sustained in the previous decade on the senior hurling fields.

Tipperary again swept past all opposition in the championship and were among the hottest of favourites ever to field in a hurling final when they faced Kilkenny in the All-Ireland decider in the late Autumn. But the Kilkennymen beat them fairly and squarely in one of the most sensational upsets ever seen on a hurling arena.

It was Tipperary's turn in 1916, though they had a stroke of luck that day for Jack Rochford cried off at the last moment, and an upset Kilkenny side got going too late, and then had their greatest star sent off.

Then in 1922, Tipperary, led again by Johnny Leahy and his Boherlahan stalwarts, were firmest of favourites to beat an unknown Kilkenny side but Kilkenny just got up to pip them on the post in what has gone down in hurling history as one of the most exciting finals ever played.

So, from 1909 to 1922 Kilkenny (with the exception of 1916) seem to have had the Indian sign on Tipperary as far as All-Ireland finals were concerned, but in all the years between 1922 and 1937 I never heard people in Tipperary or anywhere else refer to a Kilkenny 'bogey'.

And that is why I see no sense at all in referring to Tipperary as Kilkenny's 'bogeymen' where the championship is concerned. (The League is another matter, but then the League is full of 'bogeymen' for Kilkenny, as their dismal

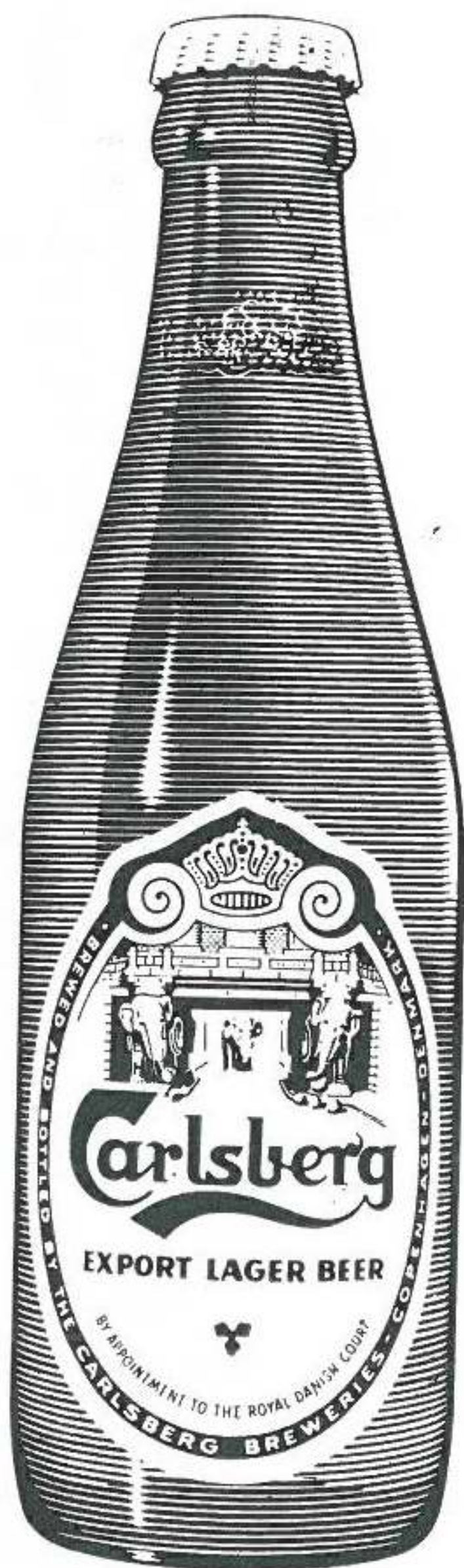


● LOCKY BYRNE . . . one of the Kilkenny stars of the 'Thirties.

record in that competition shows).

So if Kilkenny are beaten by Tipperary in this All-Ireland final there won't be any 'bogey' about it. If Tipperary win, they will win for one good reason only, because they have proved themselves a better team, and down Kilkenny way they believe that will take a bit of proving this time. Maybe we will see another 1909 sequence start in 1964.

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It must be

Tipperary!



says **PAUL RUSSELL**

IT'S Tipperary for me. I take them to win their 20th All-Ireland senior hurling title. Now mind you, I don't expect anyone in Kilkenny will be either frightened or offended by this forecast for last year I tipped Waterford and we know what happened.

I have no doubt at all but that Kilkenny are as good, if not a better team, this year than they were twelve months ago, and furthermore I attach little importance to the fact that they haven't beaten Tipperary in a final for over forty years. My reason for choosing Tipperary is purely because I am convinced that they are one of the best sides in years.

Don't be misled into thinking that they had nothing to beat in Munster—there is always a lot to be beaten in Munster. Clare were no poor side. They proved that when they thrashed Limerick. Yet they could not hold candle-light to Tipperary.

And then there was Cork. of course they looked very mediocre in the second half of the Munster final but this was only because they were matched by a much superior team.

Remember how Galway showed considerable promise early in the year. They shook the might of Munster in the Railway Cup semi-

final and with a new chairman in Fr. Jack Solan, the Westerners prepared with tremendous enthusiasm for the championship.

Who beat them? Cork did and convincingly too. The same Cork side who were so unlucky in losing to Wexford in the National League semi-final. Yet when Cork came up against Tipperary they were out-classed.

No there was nothing wrong with this year's Munster hurling championship—except perhaps that Tipperary had a great team and Cork, Clare, Waterford, Galway and Limerick had only, on average, good ones.



● **JIMMY DOYLE . . . key man in the Tipperary attack.**

I look to a classic final. Kilkenny have the youth and the hurling skill to cause Tipperary a power of trouble. I expect that at the end of the hour a few of the Premier County veterans will have known that they were in a game but it still should be Tipperary.

In English and Roche at mid-field, they have a pairing that should see them get more than an even share of the play.

Up front old hands, Doyle, Devaney, McKenna and Co. have the scoring power and it should be a big night in Thurles when it is all over.

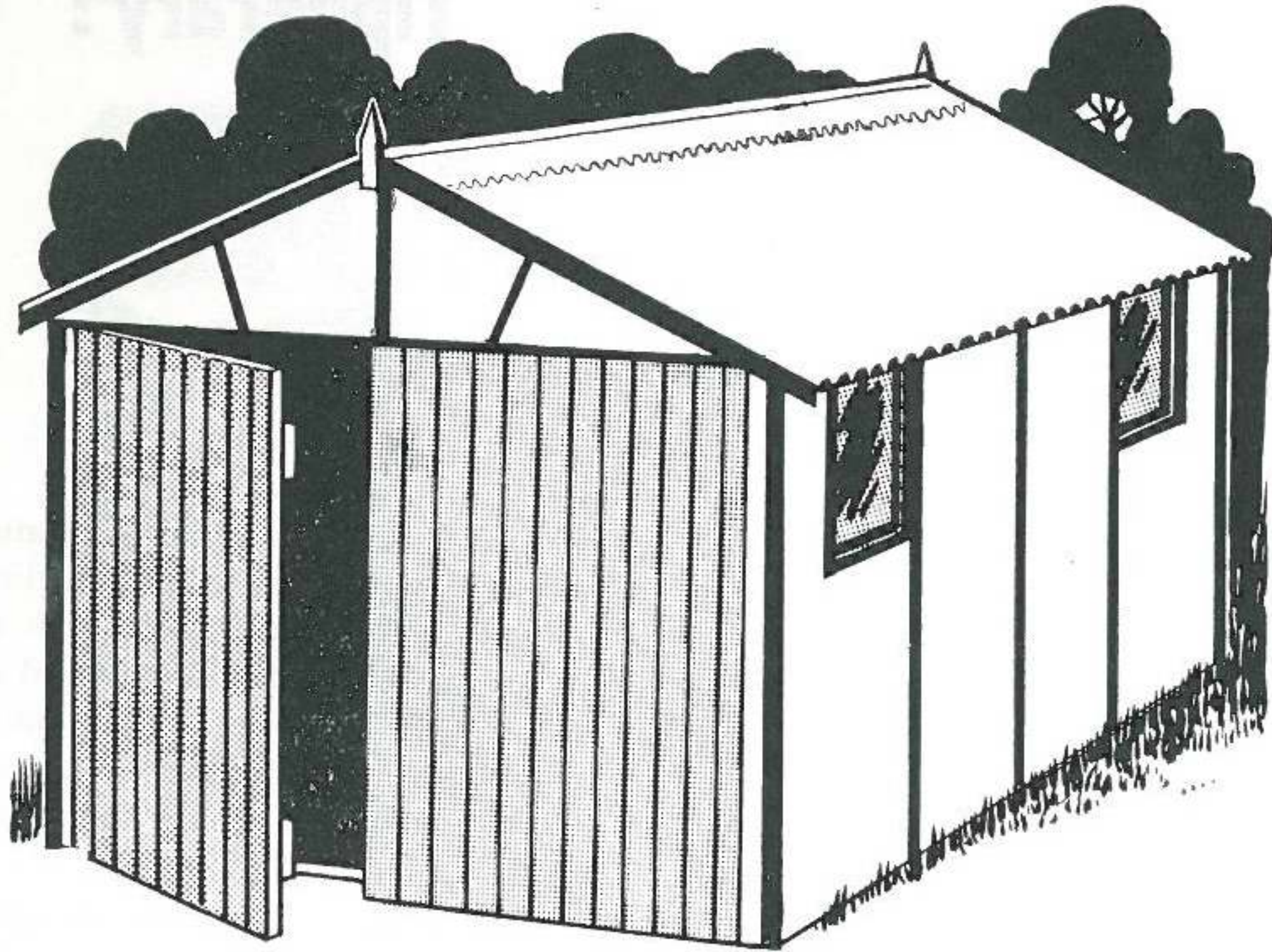
MEATH PROSPECTS

While I am in the mood for forecasting let me say that Meath are a team to watch in the National League and in next year's championship.

The Royal County didn't get the breaks against Galway—or perhaps it might be more correct to say that they didn't have the experience to make the breaks but nonetheless I was very impressed by them.

They are a young side with tremendous talent. All that is needed is more experience to knock off some of the corners and instil a little more cunning. If I were a Meathman I'd be looking forward to a fine summer and a power of travelling in 1965.

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MICK MAHER

SO it's Kilkenny and Tipperary in another All-Ireland final. That's no surprise to me. Sure, I've been watching them in All-Ireland finals ever since, as a very small slip of a lad, I saw the greatest Kilkenny combination of all time sweep to an unforgettable victory over "Wedger" Meagher and his Toomevara "Greyhound" selection—the first fifteen aside final, and played at a then very raw looking Croke Park. That was exactly half a century ago last November, so I'd say quite a big number of my present readers were hardly there that day.

The same counties met again in that year of national destiny—1916, when the Boherlahan boys, with brave Johnny Leahy at the helm, fully revenged the 1913 defeat.

But, maybe the greatest day of all was that of the 1922 final. In a pulse stirring game the Premier County men seemed assured of victory, as some impatient spectators already made for the exits. Then Kilkenny swept into command and launching a tremendous effort secured a sensational victory. Incidentally, that was the last occasion that the boys in the Amber and Black triumphed over the wearers of the Gold and Blue in an All-Ireland senior hurling final.

Tipperary hurling has distinctive characteristics of its own and a Tipperary team in a test for the greatest honours in Gaeldom is always sufficient guarantee of a game in keeping with the highest traditions of the code.

I remember a grand old Gael



KIERAN CAREY



MICK BURNS



TONY WALL

MAGNIFICENT TIPPERARY

by SEAMUS O CEALLAIGH

once telling of being in the company of a number of distinguished ecclesiastics, when the late Cardinal Logue jokingly referred to the Premier County men as the "Showmen of Ireland." To which the late Archbishop Harty replied that the hurlers of Tipperary were worthy to be the showmen of any country under the sun.

Skilful, rhythmic, and buoyant, the hurling men of Tipperary appear year after year from little villages whose only claim to fame rests in the fact that they have produced teams or players worthy to rank with Ireland's best.

These players troop across one's mental vision, quiet and kindly men, broad-shouldered, lean and tough as whipcord; fearless when defending; deer-like and daredevil when moving in for that vital goal which will bring victory.

Gallant Tipperary's place in the annals of the G.A.A. is an honoured and enviable one, for it was in Thurles that the great Association was born and baptised, after being conceived in the minds of Michael Cusack and other equally great Irish patriots of his day.

It was a Carrick man, Maurice Davin, who was elected first President, and the great Archbishop of Cashel, Most Rev. Dr. Croke, wrote the charter of the Association, when he penned his famous letter

accepting Patronage of the G.A.A.

Cusack must have known of Tipperary's great athletic strength when he selected Thurles as the venue for the foundation meeting, and in the eighty years since the G.A.A. was established magnificent Tipperary has always been in the forefront.

Tipperary men everywhere threw their weight behind the infant organisation that was not long growing into lusty boyhood, to later blossom almost precociously into full blown manhood.

Tipperary teams went forth as missionaries to spread the games which in the Premier County were popular long before Cusack and Davin issued the historic circular calling the meeting which established the Association.

Almost immediately, Tipperarymen on field and track pioneered the new resurgence, and it was fitting that the honour of having cradled the Association should be followed by another notable event, when the men of Thurles, captained by Jim Stapleton, defeated Galway to win All-Ireland hurling honours for 1887—the first championship in the history of the G.A.A.

A Moycarkey man, Tom O'Grady captained the American "Invasion" team of hurlers which visited the U.S.A. the following year; and two

● TO PAGE 45



JOHN DOYLE



THEO ENGLISH



JIMMY DOYLE



DONIE NEALON



MACKY McKENNA

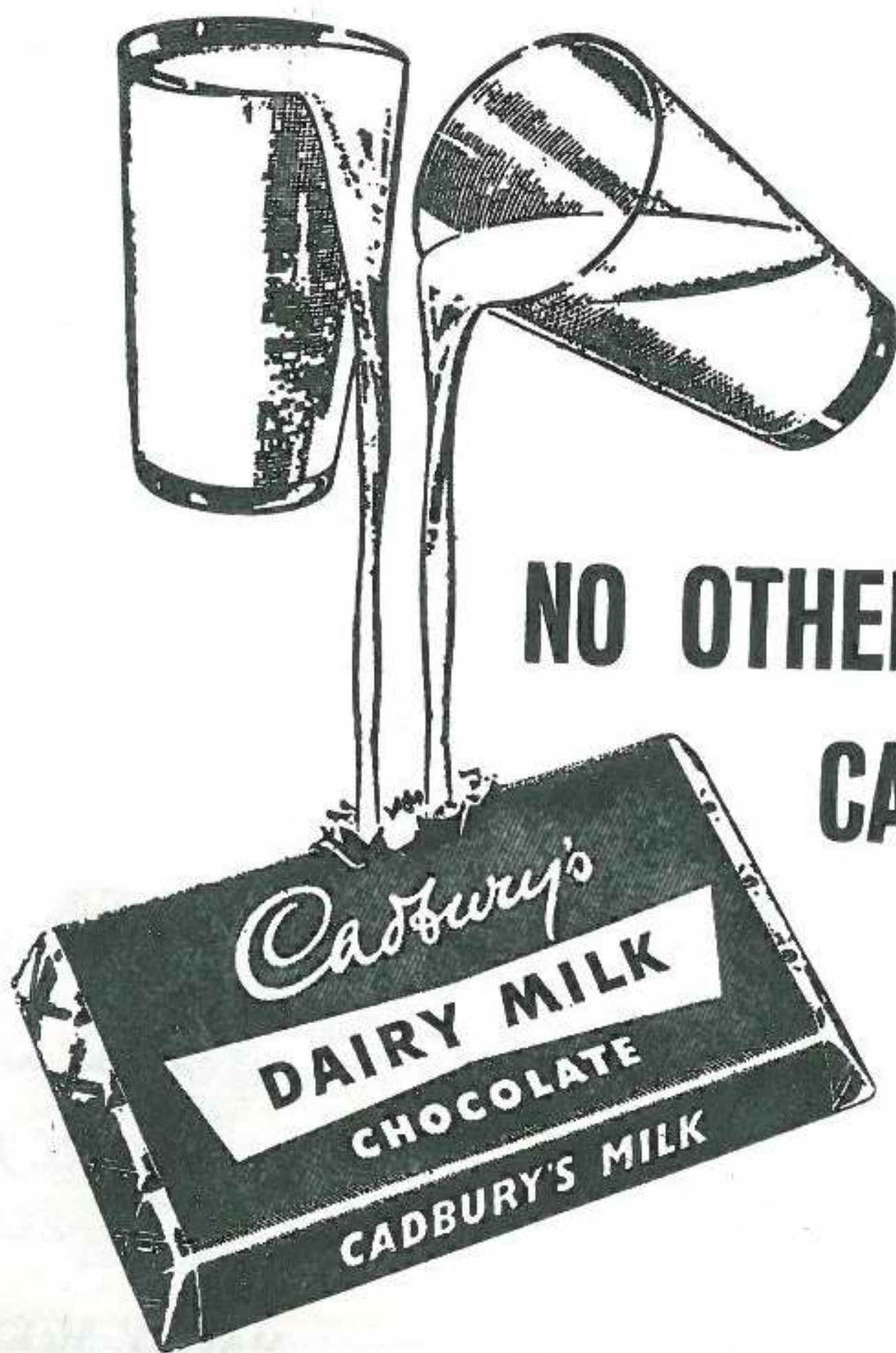
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MAGNIFICENT TIPPERARY

● CONTINUED FROM PAGE 43

years after the Thurles men won the hurling title, the Bohercrowe footballers beat Laois for All-Ireland football laurels.

Things were quiet then for a few seasons until the arrival of the great Tubberadora combination that, led by Mike Maher, won three All-Irelands in four years. Among the wearers of the Gold and Blue were the Walsh brothers, who between them won sixteen All-Ireland medals.

Denis Walsh put up a record of his own by winning the 1896 championship with Tubberadore and twenty years later helping Boherlahan capture the 1916 title.

When Tubberadora faded out, Moycarkey and Two-Mile-Borris moved into the picture to make the 1895 to 1900 period the most dazzling in Tipperary hurling history, yielding five All-Ireland victories in six years.

Cork equalled this record in the years from 1941 to 1946 but although Kilkenny have not succeeded in taking five titles in six years they have a record of their own with seven successes in the decade from 1904 to 1913.

Tipperary men set-up yet another great record by twice in six years bringing off the double — for in 1895 the Arravale Rovers won the football title, while again in 1900 the Clonmel Shamrocks added the football laurels to the hurling honours gathered by Two-Mile-Borris.

The famed Thurles Blues were the next great side to hit the hurling headlines, and led by Tom Semple they won the titles of 1906 and 1908, but Kilkenny, under Mooncoin inspiration, ended that reign in 1909. The Thurles combination included some of the greatest hurlers of their day — notably Hughie Shelley, Paddy Brolan, "Hawk" O'Brien, Tom

Kerwick, Jimmie Bourke and Jack Mooney.

The 1916 men were drawn in the main from the old strongholds of the game in mid-Tipperary, with Hughie Shelley a golden link. Figures like Willie Dwyer, Arthur O'Donnell, Paddy Leehy, Denis Walsh and Jer Collison hurled in the true tradition of gallant Tipperary.

It was not until 1925 that the Gold and Blue was again carried to victory. Boherlahan was once again the chief instrument in the triumph. Johnny Leehy led the side, with Arthur O'Donnell, the man who played in almost every position for Tipperary, in goal, and the wizard Martin Kennedy, as full-forward. Also included were Mick and Jack D'Arcy; Phil Cahill, one of the greatest wingmen of his decade; J. J. Hayes, Stephen Hackett, Mick Mockler and Paddy Leehy.

In 1929, the members of this side went on the first of the modern American tours. It was also the greatest, as they travelled from Coast to Coast, playing games everywhere. The story of that unforgettable trip was afterwards told by the late Tom Kenny of Portroe in a very readable book, profusely illustrated, but now unfortunately out of print.

Tipperary brought off the greatest feat of all times in 1930, when the Triple Hurling Crown was borne home to the county. It was a year of triumph after triumph for seniors, juniors and minors, and never did the Premier County so worthily merit the name of Magnificent Tipperary then in those summer and early autumn days of 1930, when the men and boys from every corner of the County carried the Gold and Blue to victory over all comers.

The Thurles man, John Joe Callanan, led the seniors with Tom

O'Meara in goal, and Martin Kennedy again at the spearhead position. Phil Cahill, Phil Purcell, Mick Cronin, Paul McKenna, Jim Lanigan, Tommy Treacy and John Maher, all shone in that success.

John Maher, Tommy Treacy and Tommy Butler formed the link with the team that in 1937, at Cork Athletic Grounds, put a stop to the all-conquering Limerickmen, and then beat Kilkenny in the All-Ireland final—the only one to be played outside Croke Park since it was acquired by the G.A.A. The venue for that game was the Dick Fitzgerald Stadium, Killarney, and the reason for the switch was that the Cusack Stand was in course of construction at the time.

Tipperary have won the All-Ireland senior hurling title on seven occasions within the past nineteen years, recording easily the best performance of any county in the period. This can best be judged from the manner in which the remaining titles were distributed—Cork collecting four; Wexford and Kilkenny, three each and Waterford two.

The only county to have won out in every grade of hurling and football, the Tipperary record is a really impressive one.

In hurling they have won nineteen senior, one intermediate, seven junior and twelve minor titles.

In football their honours list reads — four senior, two junior and one minor title.

Add to this their fabulous Munster record of twenty-seven senior, two intermediate, ten junior and twenty-one minor hurling titles; and in football—nine senior, six junior and three minor victories.

It is a record to be proud of—a record that stands out on its own. Hurling is bred in those Tipperary men who will have the deeds of many great teams as an incentive when they throw down their powerful challenge to Kilkenny's All-Ireland title.



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ULSTER SPOTLIGHT

By CONALLACH

WATCH OUT FOR MONAGHAN!

THERE are always "ifs" and "buts" in the wake of every championship but this year in Ulster there appears to be more than usual. Many maintain that Down would have retained their provincial crown had they sent in a replacement once George Lavery was injured.

Then there is the case of Donegal who called their only dependable place-kicker, Frankie Campbell, to the sideline and then went on to miss eight scoreable frees. Campbell scored six points against Derry a few days later in the under-21 competition.

Monaghan too took off their star minor place-kicker, Aidan Deery, in their replay against Cavan. There are those who maintain that it cost them the game. And incidently there was plenty of promising talent on display in that Monaghan minor fifteen so look out for a resurgence from this county in the not too distant future.

MINOR STARS

I saw all the minor teams in the Ulster championship and while the standard was not as high as the late 'forties when Tyrone and Armagh dominated, there were still some outstanding prospects on view.

Young Kerins of Armagh, a brother of former county player, Patsy Kerins is a very fine full-forward in the making, while T. P. O'Reilly's son, Garret, will be heard of again. Deery of Monaghan

is the best minor place-kicker I have seen in years while in Morgan, McAleer and Forde, Monaghan have other future stars. Others to keep an eye on are McKenna (Tyrone), Teague (Derry), Maxteed (Fermanagh) and Bonnar (Donegal).

While, of course, Antrim have every reason to be proud of their boys who brought back the provincial minor crown.

PAT McANDREW

Back in action on the Gaelic fields is Dr. Pat McAndrew the former Mayo star. Now a doctor in the County Hospital, Monaghan, he turns out for the local Harps team.

94 YEARS YOUNG

And talking of Monaghan reminds me of the cycling rally held in the town recently where 94 year old Owen McKenna of Tydavnet completed the 31-mile course in great style. The event, which was a praise-worthy one, was organised by Dr. M. P. O'Gorman and Seamus Cadden, President of the Ulster Council N.C.A. A week later as I was coming down from the stand at Casement Park the genial Owen McKenna was there, having enjoyed the Ulster Final.

CASTLEBLAYNEY

The re-seeding of Castleblayney Park is well on the way under the guidance of former Monaghan star, Hughie McKearney, B.Agr.Sc. It is hoped to open the park early in

1965 and this go-ahead Monaghan town will be ideally situated for some important matches.

BRIAN O'GRADY

Brian J. O'Grady, Town Clerk, Letterkenny, and Secretary of the Donegal Handball Board has been transferred to his native Cavan where he takes up an appointment as Staff Officer with the local County Council. During his stay of seven years in Donegal he worked zealously to organise handball in the county and prior to his departure he got a great send off at a reception in Letterkenny.

EUGENE McDONALD

More and more former G.A.A. players are taking up golf. Former Monaghan and Ulster footballer, Eugene McDonald, recently won the captain's prize at Clones.

HUGHIE COYLE

With New York on their current world tour is former Donegal player, Hughie Coyle, of Gweedore who plays with the Cavan team in New York. Before he emigrated a few years back, Hughie was rated a great mid-field prospect. One of a great footballing family whose brother Joe, now in Scotland, was also outstanding with Gweedore, Hughie will be seen in action at Birr on Sunday, September 20, when New York play the final game of their extraordinary tour.

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By **MATT FITZPATRICK**

DERRY football champions, Bellaghy Wolfe Tones, celebrate their 25th anniversary this year and they can certainly look back with pride on a quarter of a century of outstanding achievement.

Few clubs in Ireland are better organised, better managed or better equipped. They have their own hall, estimated to be worth £15,000, their own ceili band—the famous Green Cross Ceili Band, a library and a host of other facilities. But let us start at the beginning.

The club was born as a result of a conversation between a group of young footballers one day in the street. At the time all of them had been playing with adjoining areas and somebody suggested forming their own club. The suggestion met with unanimous approval.

One of those youths of 1939 was Brian Toner, who ever since has played a major role. One of the first to pledge support was local businessman, Eddie Scullion. The late Patrick McErlean became the club's first secretary.

In the beginning there were numerous difficulties. There was no money, no pitch, no meeting place and not even experienced men in club affairs were available, but all of these obstacles were overcome



● **BELLAGHY WOLFE TONES** . . . who celebrate their 25th anniversary this year. The club has its own £15,000 hall, a famous ceili band, a library and a host of other facilities.

by the young pioneers of Bellaghy football.

Mothers and sisters were enticed into knitting and sewing until playing attire was completed. Money was collected and a field was rented. A few months later the town staged its first major game when Derry and Armagh played to mark the opening of the local field.

Players came from across the Bann in Antrim to lend a hand—among them the Liddys, the Storeys, the Scullions and the Neesons.

The first major set-back came a year later with the passing of the loyal Eddie Scullion who was the club's first chairman. However the work went on.

Ceili dancing provided an income and when during the war years travel was restricted, the club hauled its open-air dance platform all over the local countryside and continued to run its regular dances.

In 1944 a hut was erected and so a permanent headquarters was available. Men like John Glackin, John McErlean, John Joe Diamond, Hugh McGoldrick, Barney Hughes, Dr. Glancey, Tommy Gribben and

Harry and Willie Cassidy, worked earnestly to keep the flag flying during those war years and the new hut was put to maximum use with

regular ceili dances and ceili classes as well as Irish language classes.

It was at this time too that the

● **TO PAGE 51**

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BELLAGHY CELEBRATE

25th ANNIVERSARY

● FROM PAGE FORTY-NINE

Green Cross Ceili Band was born and as far as I know they are the only club in Ireland to have such a band.

Honours on the football field were slow in coming but they did begin to come in 1948. At that stage the club was being guided by Paddy McFlynn later to become Chairman of the Ulster Council. The first titles won were South Derry minor and senior championships and their arrival urged the men of Bellaghy to even greater efforts.

In 1954 came the first of five successive county minor titles and with such a run, a major senior break-through was certain.

In 1954 too it was that my former St. Columb's College class-mate, Sean Breslin, drew up the plans for Bellaghy's Wolfe Tone Hall. Two years later this magnificent G.A.A. building was a reality—all done by voluntary labour.

To mark the completion of the hall the club went on to capture its first county senior football title. Among the star players who helped bring home the title were former minors Colm Molloy, Willie Streathorn, Harry, Willie and Dan Joe Cassidy, Tom Gribben and Peadar Kearney.

During the eight years since 1956

that senior title has left Bellaghy but twice and from 1958 to '61 they held it firm for four in a row. In recognition of this outstanding achievement the Derry County Board presented the club with a special award.

Meanwhile Dr. Hugh Glancey was chairman of the club and he got the new hall in full operation. Activities such as table-tennis, basket-ball, boxing, language and dancing classes, a dramatic club, weekly film shows and concerts, became regular club features.

The new hall is now known throughout the county and well into Antrim and Tyrone. It is a full community centre—almost a way of life for the people of the area—all of whom played their part in its erection.

It has retained its national purposes and its dances are strictly ceili and they enjoy tremendous support. The young men who met at a street corner away back in 1939 have now seen the full realisation of their dream.

You might think that having achieved so much Bellaghy would now be inclined to rest on their oars. Far from it. They say that there is much more to be done.

First on the list is a top-class pitch owned by the club itself to

replace the rented one at present held. Plans are already advanced for the new grounds.

Like many other go-ahead Northern clubs, Bellaghy do not confine themselves to narrow one-track thinking. They believe that all national games can go ahead side by side, so it is intended to build a first-class ball-alley and also an athletics track.

These are but three of the objects aimed at in the immediate future.

It would be unfair to single-out any individuals for praise in connection with this tremendous work which has been done in Bellaghy but I will be excused if I briefly mention Brian Toner who has been with the club right through and who now fills the very vital post of chairman of the entertainments committee.

A host of great families have played their part and I will list these. First must come the Cassidys—all six of them (Willie, Kevin, Brian, Dan Joe, Harry and Patsy), the Mulhollands, the Scullions, the Diamonds, the O'Loane's, the McErleans, the O'Neills and the McCann's.

Perhaps I should mention too five players all of whom have gone to a Heavenly reward. They are Francis Brennan, Tom Scullion, Brendan Joyce, Michael Mulholland and Johnnie Streathorn. Their memory will long be cherished in Bellaghy.

I will refrain from listing the numerous Bellaghy players who have given service to County Derry. They have been many.

In conclusion a word of thanks to Brian Toner and club secretary, Patsy Brennan, for having facilitated me in gathering the facts for this article. To all members of this proud club I say it has been a privilege to have been in your midst. You are a credit to Derry and to the Gaelic Athletic Association.

Next month I travel to Tyrone to visit the Omagh club.

IN NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE . . .

NEXT month's bumper issue will be on sale throughout the country not later than Tuesday, September 22, so as to give readers a complete and detailed preview of the All-Ireland football final.

It is an issue not to be missed for together with our usual team of top G.A.A. writers and per-

sonalities, we will have a number of famous guest contributors.

Might we suggest that you reserve your copy—now.

Remember too that the current issue and next month's combine to form a wonderful souvenir of the 1964 All-Ireland finals. They will make an ideal gift for friends or relatives abroad or in hospital.



AS TRULY IRISH IN CHARACTER AS CROKE PARK ITSELF . . .



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OLLIE WALSH

HE'S KILKENNY'S GREATEST ASSET,
SAYS PADRAIG O NEILL

TO be a great goalkeeper is, for many reasons, a far harder task than to be a great player in

any other position. Goalkeeping makes demands on nerves and on physical and moral bravery which

other positions do not. Show me a great goalkeeper and I will show you a man of balanced temperament and of rounded experience, a man who would not lose caste if called on suddenly to make a public speech or sing a song, who could think clearly in a maelstrom of confusion, who would find no terrors in the radio microphone or television camera, who could keep his head when others are losing theirs. Like the much-advertised hair tonic man, he would never turn a hair.

And having filled in the picture and painted the man, I now add the face of Ollie Walsh to it, and he is recognisably the same man. For, Ollie is now a truly great goalkeeper, and since he is, I note in his play all those hallmarks of the balanced, rounded, supremely cool, superbly self-confident, mechanically efficient man that a great goalkeeper must be.

Somewhere Shakespeare talked of a man who could look on the extremes of life with equal and indifferent eyes. The great goalie will look on a torrid test of all his gifts as indifferently as the prospect of a simple victory—it does not matter to him any more, for he knows his ability, he recognises the possibility of human error, and builds his skill on both these premises.

Ollie Walsh is a tremendous asset to Kilkenny; one wonders

● TO PAGE 54



● FLASHBACK . . . E. Byrne, the Kilkenny full-forward, breaks through the Laois defence in the Leinster minor hurling final despite the efforts of L. Phelan (left) and T. Byrne. Laois won by 4-9 to 3-8.

● FROM PAGE FIFTY-THREE

how many games he has turned from defeat into victory: a man of inspiration can always drive his

colleagues to unimagined heights. But, one of his main gifts—I suppose his real and essential

greatness—is that apart from any spectacular and impossible saves he makes, he never lets in the easier ones, the ones you expect any goalkeeper to save.

Every county in Ireland has a goalie capable now and again, though not, perhaps, as often as Ollie, of bringing off the almost miraculous save. But, no county except Kilkenny, has a goalie who will save all the saveable ones all the time—barring, as I said before, the human error. Other goalmen save the ball and drop it, fumble

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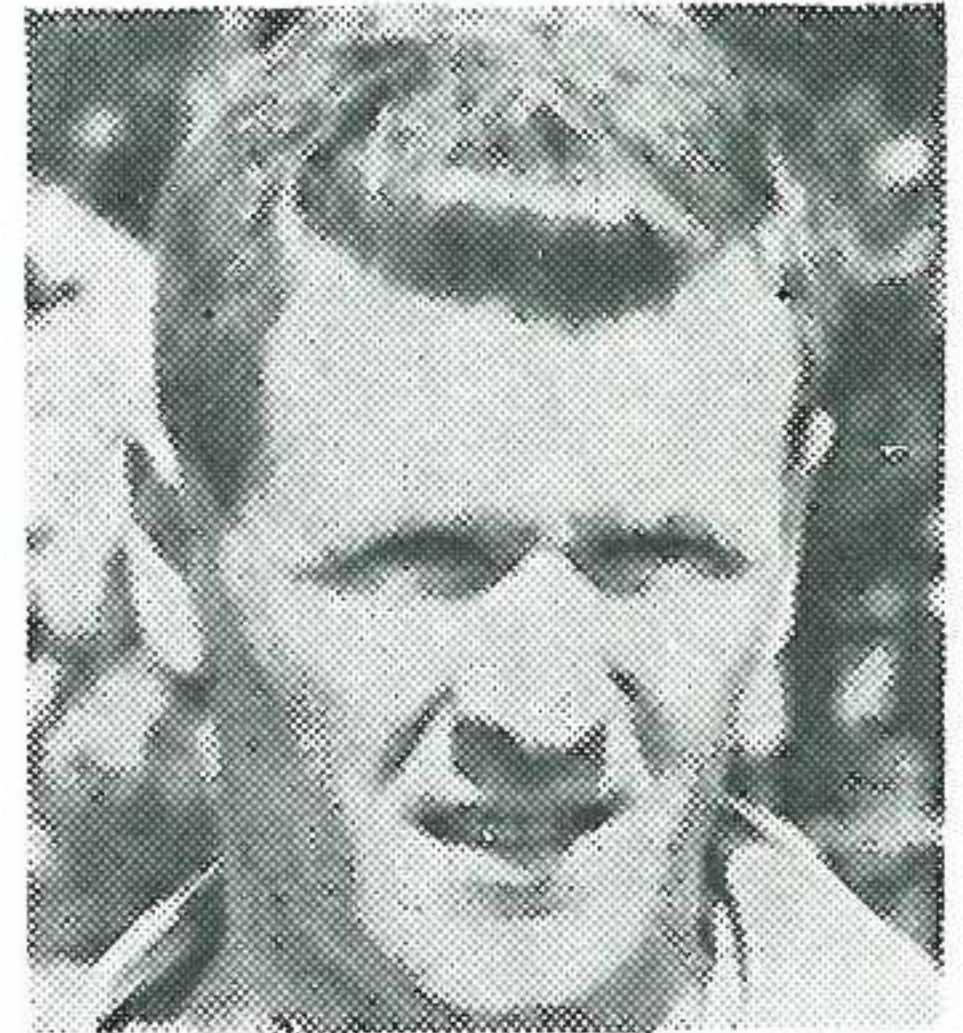
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for a vital moment the soft one, lose their nerve waiting for a rolling one. Walsh does not.

That is why he is great. And it is because he has come to terms with his own soul and its various emotions that such a state of near perfection is possible.

Add to all the goalkeeping assets the massive goal deliveries with which he peppers the opposition half-backs and full-backs,

and his impact on the playing of the game outfield becomes nearly as important as his keeping. The placing of the ball into the other fellows home territory swings the pressure and the balance of play back in Kilkenny's favour at once. In this year's final Kilkenny have a distinct advantage in the number one position. It could make the difference between winning and losing.



● **OLLIE WALSH . . .** how many games has he turned from defeat into victory?

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WILL MAYO EVER BE A HURLING COUNTY?

ASKS

EAMONN MONGEY

ON occasions in the past when I have been challenged as to my right to give an opinion on hurling—and I a footballer—I have always countered with the remark that I am the possessor of a Mayo senior hurling championship medal. The only reaction this has ever produced is a laugh—or, at best, a smile. And I suppose when one considers Mayo's present lowly position in the hurling world, this is not a surprising reaction.

Let me say at the outset that I am not setting out to deal with the present controversy between the Mayo Hurling Board and the County Board. This will be resolved in time as such controversies always are.

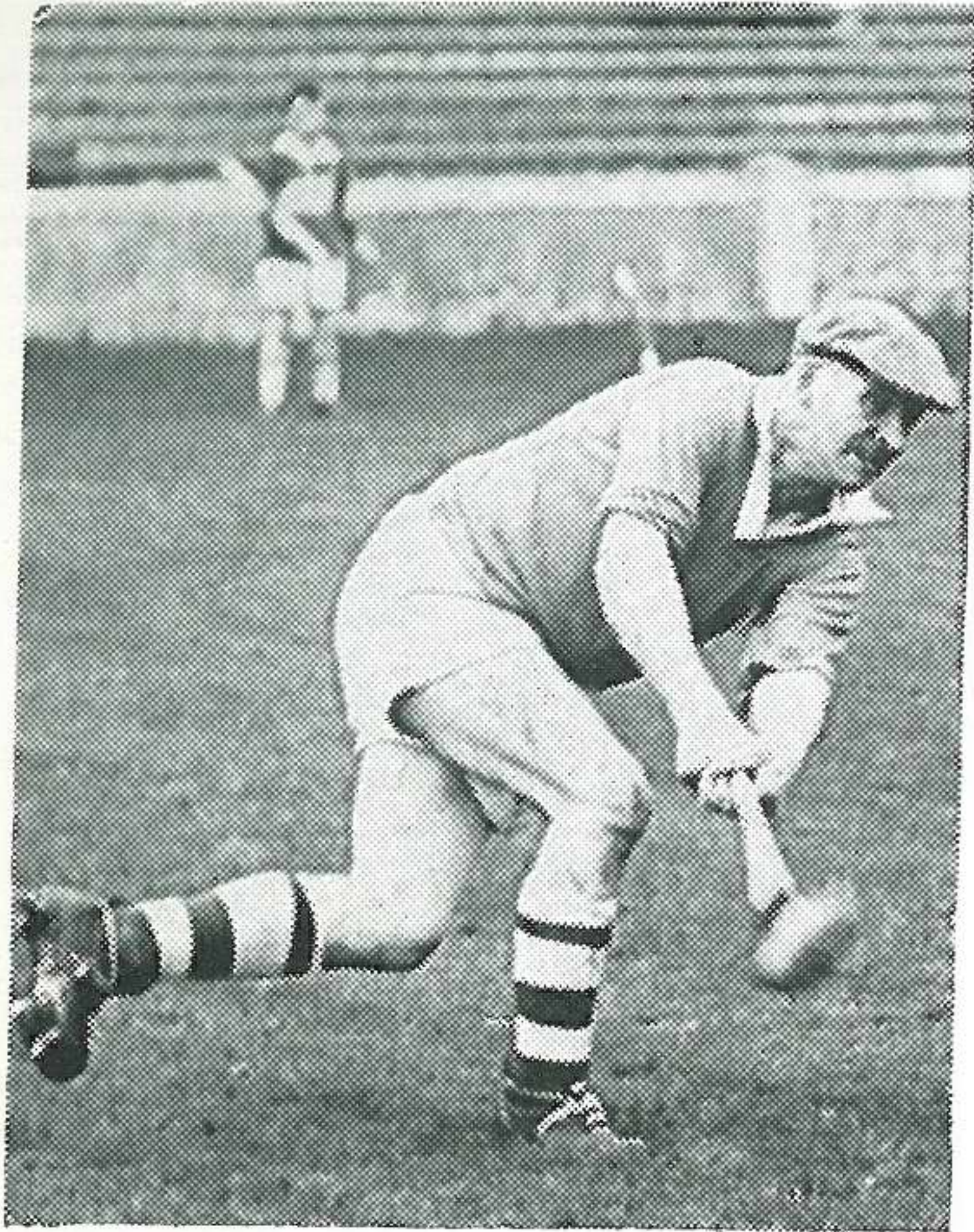
But I think now that after eighty years of the G.A.A. one is entitled to ask the question—"Will Mayo ever be a hurling county?" Any honest person must answer that it never will, if things are left as they are now.

Mayo, of course, is less fortunate than many counties in that it has not any tradition whatever for hurling. What keeps hurling going in places like Tipperary, and Kilkenny is tradition. The memory of honours won, of achievements recorded and the ever present hurley behind the door ensure the continuance of hurling in these areas. This also ensures that there will be an abundance of hurling games to be seen and played in, and a sufficiency of coaches to

● TO PAGE 58



● TONY WALL . . . one of Tipperary's key men in their All-Ireland Final meeting with Kilkenny.



● *CHRISTY RING . . . billed to play in a Castlebar challenge match, but he couldn't turn out.*

WILL MAYO EVER BE A HURLING COUNTY?

● FROM PAGE 57

encourage and help all the younger players.

But Mayo without a tradition misses all of these. There is nothing in our past history to encourage hurling, so hurlers and hurling do not develop naturally as they do in other counties. Furthermore, the lack of a senior intercounty team means that Mayo never has an opportunity of seeing the top-class hurlers in action, the regular appearance of whom would go a long way to stimulating the interest of youth in our game of hurling.

In a long experience of G.A.A. affairs in Mayo, I can recall only one senior hurling match being played in the county. That was a

What would you save? . . .

The old question—"If your house went on fire what would you save?" always brings forth a variety of answers . . . To our way of thinking the operative word is "what" signifying one single solitary item . . . It could be the cat, Uncle Bill's photo, or the piggy-bank . . . Not much with which to re-set up a home . . . Fire, burglary, water pipes, glass and certain accidents are some of the misfortunes covered by a Hibernian Householders' Policy, which costs very little more than ordinary fire insurance. Be wise with . . .

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challenge match in Castlebar about ten years ago between Galway and Cork and even that lost a great deal of its appeal when the one and only Christy Ring was unable to turn out.

But these are in a way negative factors — the absence of these things simply does not encourage hurling. There is, however, another factor — a positive factor — which actively discourages hurling in Mayo, and that is—football.

With such a football tradition in the county, it is not unnatural that every youth wants to become a footballer. The whole environment is a football environment and this envelopes both players and administrators—to the detriment of hurling. Now, I'm not saying that our G.A.A. administrators in Mayo have no interest in hurling. Indeed they have, as one can find out if one looks for an All-Ireland hurling ticket around September. But their interest in hurling is clearly subordinate to football.

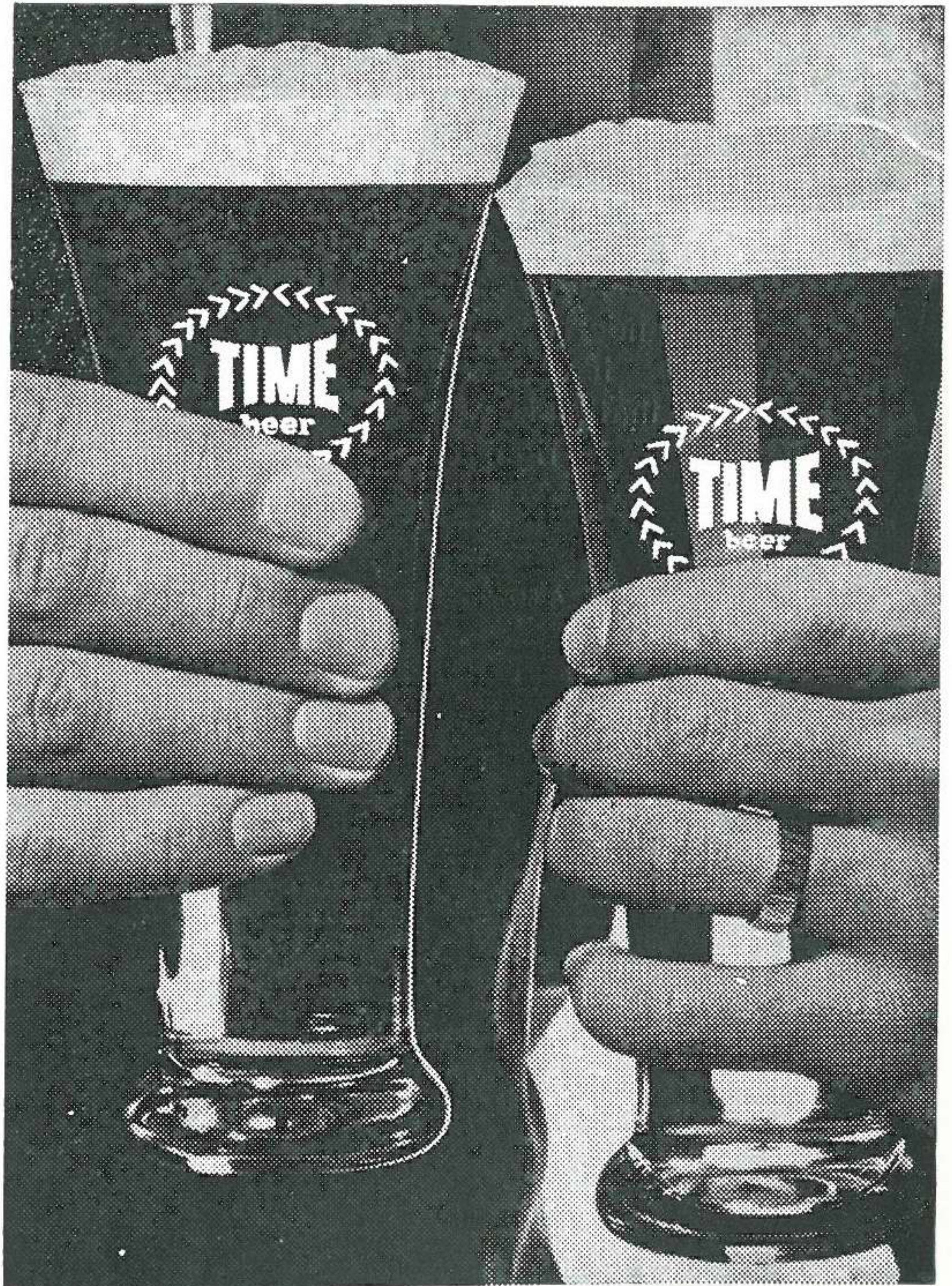
The main factors, then, which militate against hurling in Mayo are in my opinion an absence of tradition, a dearth of top-class intercounty games and a certain lack of interest due to the pre-eminent position of football. I discount the theory that emigration is a factor. (After all we have footballers). I'm not convinced that a short supply of hurleys is very material. (This can be overcome easily and, anyway, if you get people sufficiently interested, they will supply themselves). And though junior hurling can be dangerous I have never seen any proof that this is true in Mayo or that it is preventing the development of hurling in the county.

The problems as I see them in Mayo, are far from being insoluble. In my opinion they can in fact all be resolved by what has come to be known as positive action.

If there is no tradition create it! If there is lack of interest, stimulate it! If any problem arises, tackle it—don't just talk about it!

I have seen too many examples of the success of this type of action to be anything but completely convinced of its

effectiveness. Wexford and Waterford won two All-Ireland hurling titles each not because they had
● TO PAGE 61



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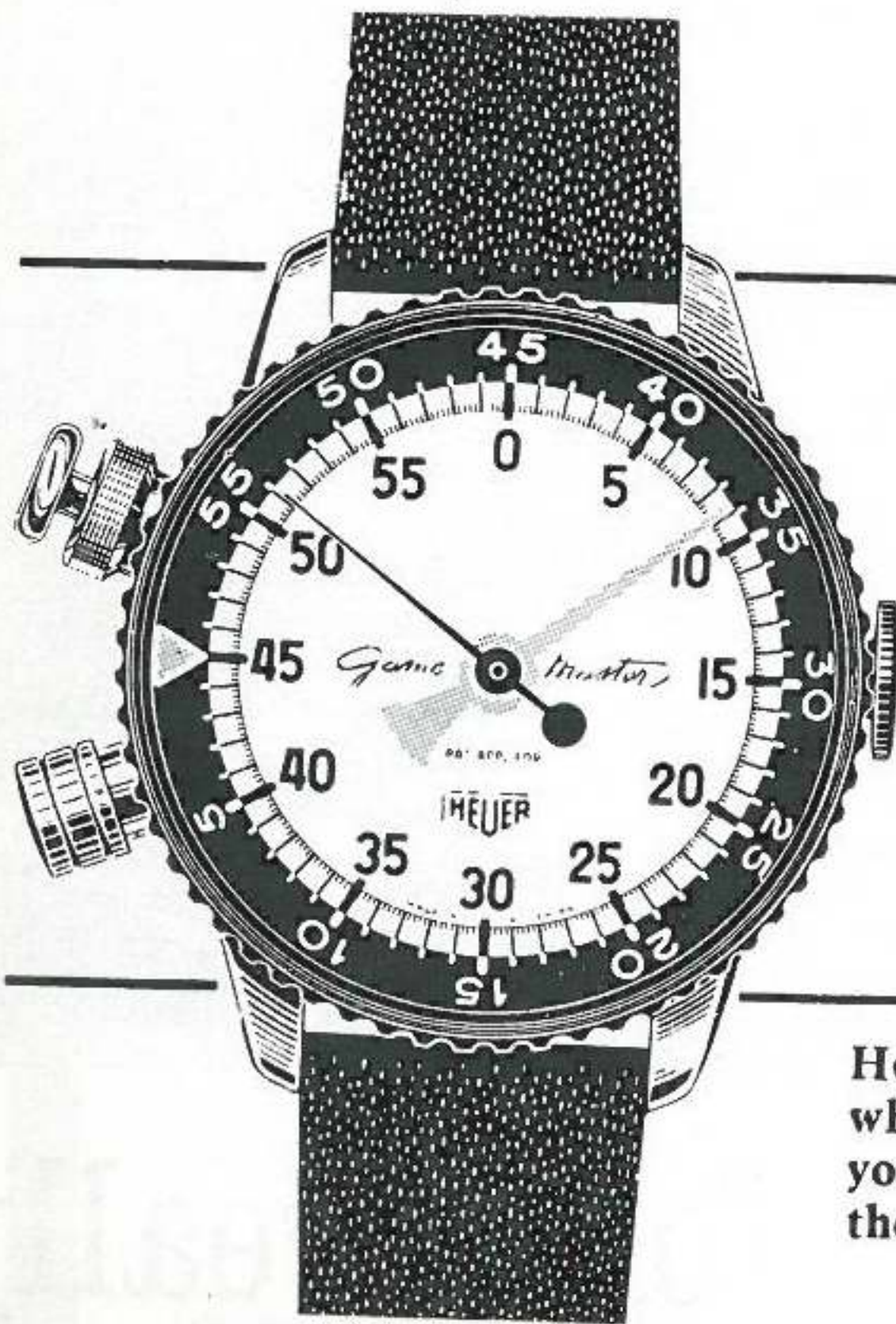
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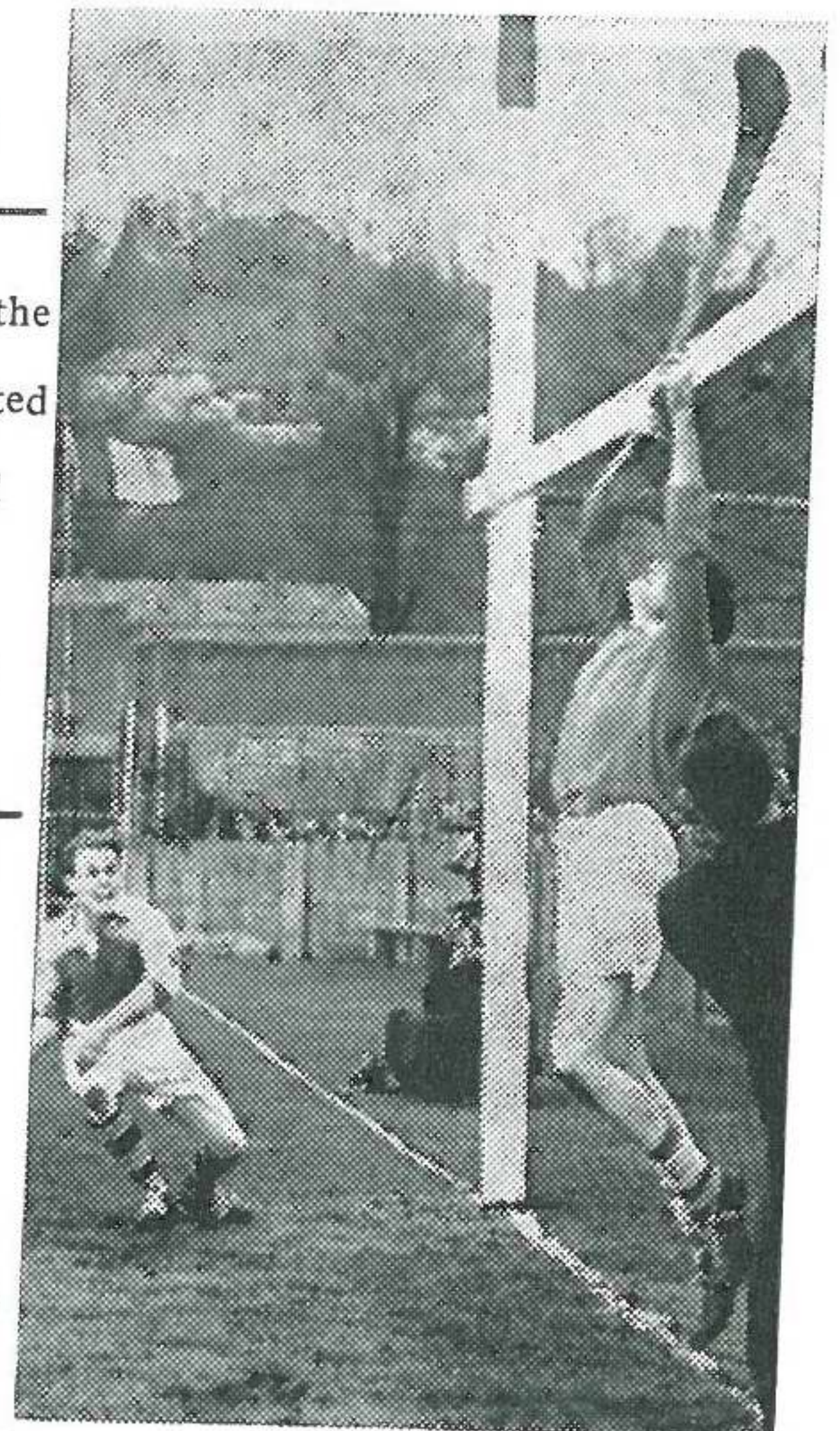
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WILL MAYO EVER BE A HURLING COUNTY?

● FROM PAGE 59

any hurling tradition, but because they wanted to win. But in doing so they have now succeeded in creating their own hurling tradition.

Even in Mayo itself there are examples to be found. I saw Belcarra, a small village with only a few hundred of a population winning county championships years ago. To-day it is in other smaller villages, like Manulla or Booreen, that most of the hurling is played.

The simple reason is that there were dedicated men in these places ready to put their all into hurling. The pity is that there are not enough of them all over the county. If there were, there would be no problem. Juvenile and minor competitions could be run. The schools could be asked to help out and gradually the big build-up would take place. Soon Mayo must become a hurling county.

To those who would say that all this is a daydream and impossible to achieve, there is the very simple answer which has been proved right over and over again—you can do anything *if you want to*.

Finally, I should perhaps refer to the present set-up in Mayo of having a separate board to organise hurling. I am satisfied that this was established in the belief that it was better to have those particularly interested in hurling controlling hurling. There is, however, an element of danger in this in that it might also be construed as “a washing of hands” by the County Board.

For that reason if this “separation” policy does not prove a success there should be, in the immortal words of the late John Foster Dulles, “an agonising re-appraisal.” It is the least we owe to hurling.



THE MAN IN THE MIDDLE . . .

. . . is Cavan star Charlie Gallagher, here receiving close attention from Down's Leo Murphy (right) and Patsy O'Hagan during the Ulster Final.

Dear Mister Roderick . . .

● BEING THE REPLY
BY ONE OF OUR
REGULAR WRITERS
TO AN ARTICLE BY
PHILIP RODERICK
IN OUR JUNE ISSUE
UNDER THE HEADING
"LIFE BEGINS AT FORTY"

By
EAMONN YOUNG

IN Ireland long ago there lived a giant. He was a mighty man, fair play for him. He high-jumped five feet eleven, ran races pretty fast when the chips were down, but best of all he heaved the sixteen pound shot a distance the other giants couldn't equal.

Then like all giants he got old and fat, turned to scribbling, and having learned to write at the local hedge-school turned to scribbling for a living, under the name of Philip Roderick because his mighty ancestors might turn in their graves should they learn that any one of the clan would descend from the giant's cave to do anything as civilised as writing.


The old giant suitably camouflaged in a new suit, dyed black hair, and well-fitting dentures wears his age well—unlike more of us far younger who didn't find life as soft. Easy for him therefore to drip acid from his pen at my expense in the June issue of this magazine.

The children having to eat, I didn't have time to answer him since.

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am he tells the country that I sing songs at parties that were out of date when he was born. With simulated nostalgia he remembers I played around with the giants of his own day and before it. Then while hoping to damn me with faint praise he drools that some sports writer says I played well in a junior football game.

For the benefit of my loyal public the facts are as follows. I have sung ancient songs at parties attended by the old giant in his wheel-chair and I'm glad to say they made him weep into his pint. They were the only ones he knew. They were passed down to me. I played with the old giants of his day. Like a good boy I brought back the ball to them, their joints being rheumatically.

The game about which the sports writer wrote was not a junior game. It was in the senior grade and as for the account of the game I didn't write it myself as Mr. Roderick suggested.

I merely called it out to the writer.

● TO PAGE 71



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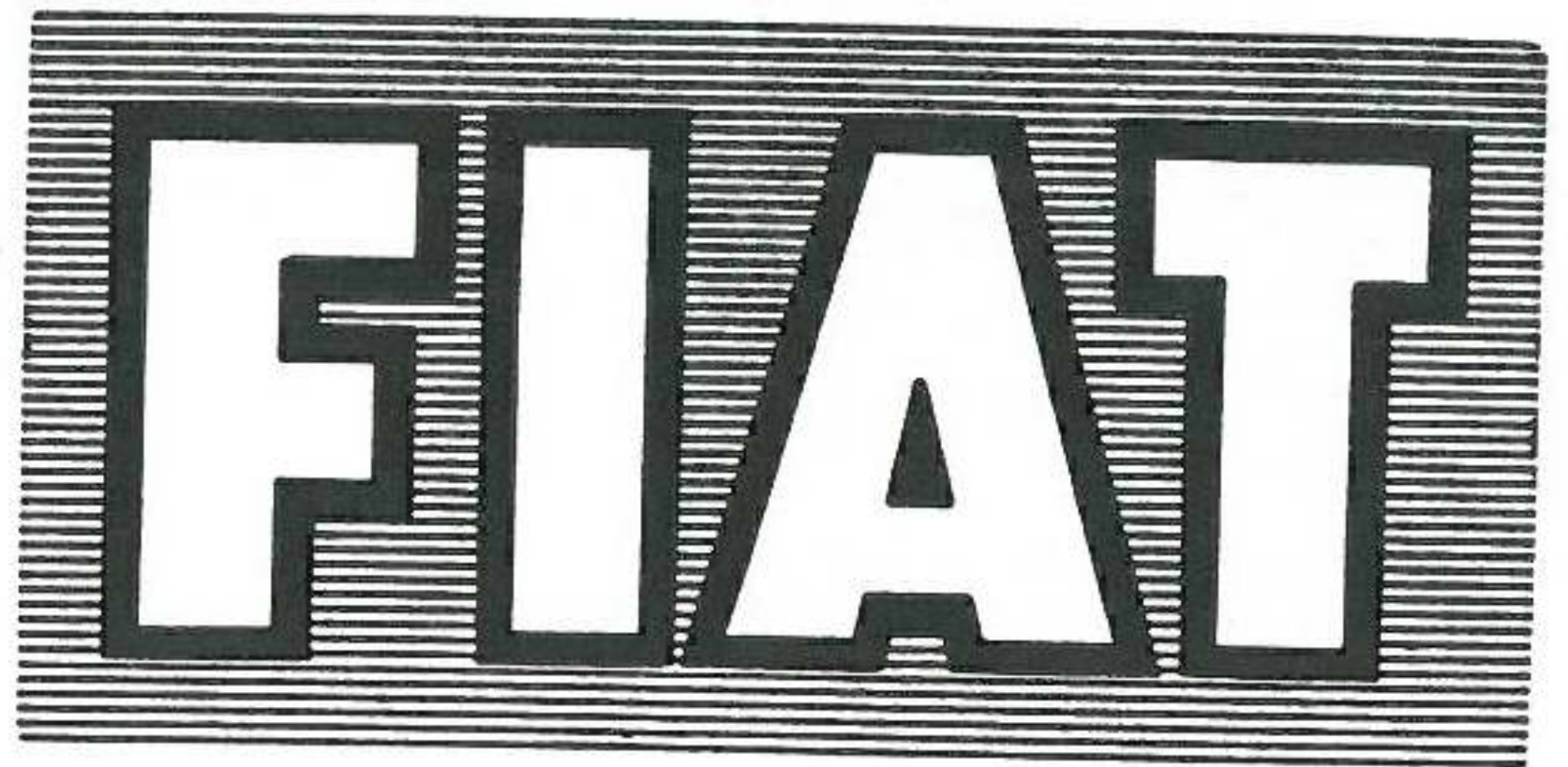
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● **PATRICK CARVER REPLIES TO THE
POC FADA CONTROVERSY AND SAYS :**

I'M STICKING TO MY GUNS!

WHAT have I done? There I was, putting up a little case for a long puck championship of Ireland at Croke Park on All-Ireland day . . . and I wind up in trouble with the clergy.

Father . . . forgive me. There was never the slightest intention in my mind of upsetting you. Nor for a moment was I advocating anything that might, in any way, detract from an Poc Fada, which, I believe, is one of the finest competitions there is in the country at the moment.

But, surely there is a vast difference between an Poc Fada and the competition I was talking about . . . as much difference as there is between a driving competition in golf and a competition over 18 holes.

No, I am going to stick to my guns. I am still convinced that we could do with a long puck competition . . . a competition that would be measured and certified, so that we could decide for once and for all who can puck a ball the farthest.

Over the years I have been involved in more arguments over the merits of Ollie Walsh and Billie

● **TO PAGE 67**



● *IT'S A GOAL . . . Dom O'Donnell (right) kicks the ball past Cork's Timmy O'Callaghan (No. 3) and Ray Cawley to score Kerry's second goal in the Munster football final.*

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● **THE POC FADA
CONTROVERSY
CONTINUED**

● **FROM PAGE 65**

Murphy. Every Corkman I know swears that there was never a man that could hit a ball as far as the Cork corner back and, indeed, I am inclined to agree with them.

Cast your minds back to those All-Ireland finals of 1942, 1943, 1944 and 1945 and think of those puck-outs that he sent high into the sky and far down beyond the 21-yard line at the far end of the field. They were a sight to behold.

True enough, I have often seen Ollie Walsh do similar things, but then, too, I have often seen Ollie wind up a good five or six yards outside the square when he finished his run and puck.

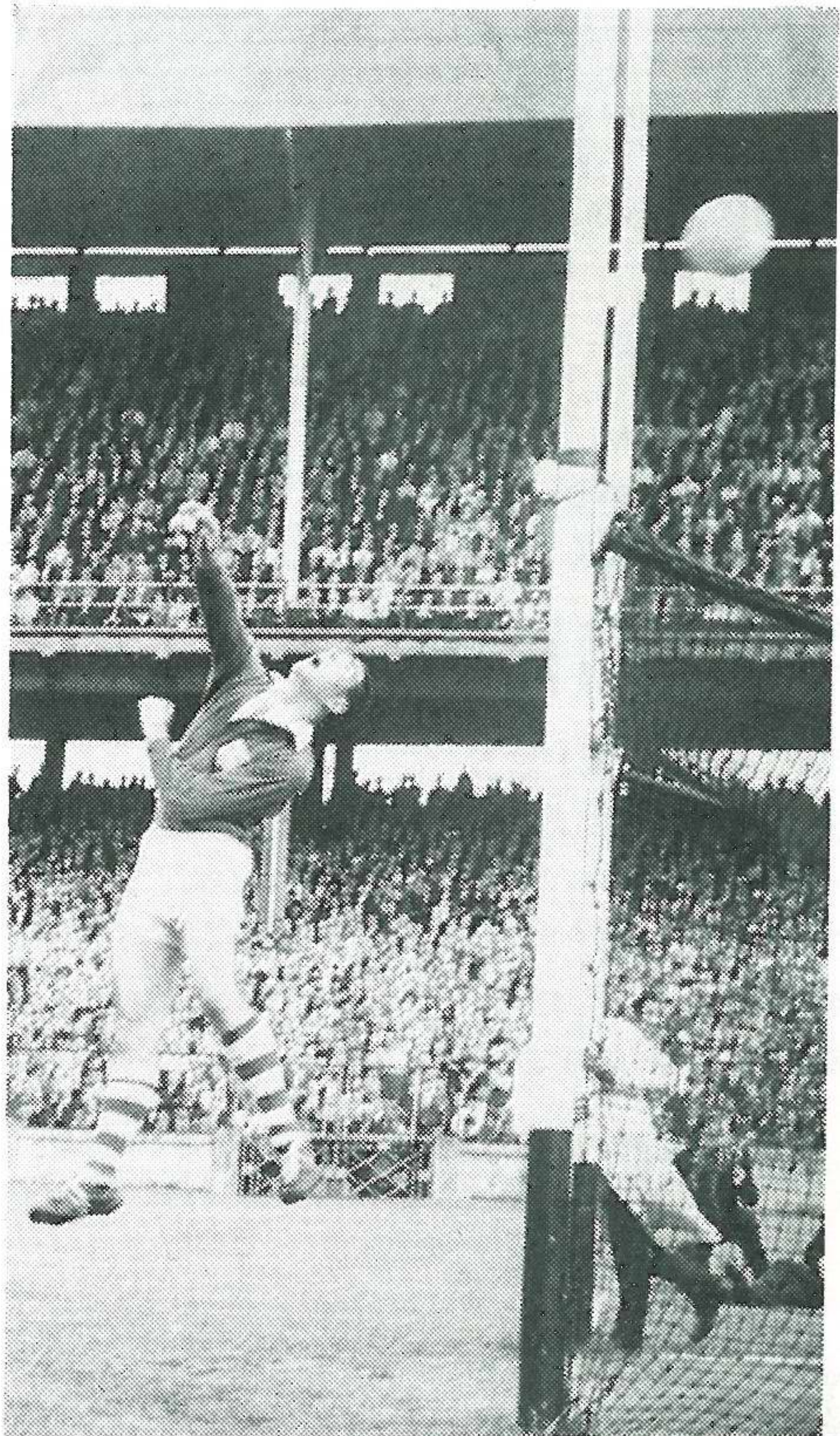
Who has pucked a hurling ball farthest?

That is a question that has never been properly answered . . . and the Poc Fada competition has not given us the answer.

I would like to see a Long Puck championship—a man to be given three tries, with the best three men going forward into a final proper. And, in my opinion, the only place to have the final of this competition is at Croke Park.

It would be an entirely different competition from the Poc Fada . . . and there is room for both competitions.

In the meantime, Father . . . as we have only the Poc Fada, I intend to sharpen my hurley, give up the drink and smoking . . . and send in an early entry for next year's competition.



OVER THE BAR!

● **DESPAIRING LEAP . . .** by Dublin goalkeeper Pascal Flynn as he turns a shot over the bar for a Meath point in the Leinster final, Meath won by 2-12 to 1-7.



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behind the Finals

TIPPERARY, represented by Thurles, beat Clare (Smith O'Brien's) by 1-7 to 0-2 in the first Munster hurling championship game ever played. Due to internal disputes Cork and Limerick were not represented in that historic championship of 1887. Tipperary's next outing was in the All-Ireland semi-final and at Urlingford they beat Kilkenny (Tullaroan) decisively. In the final, played at Birr on April 1, 1888, Tipperary beat Galway (Meelick) 1-1 to nil and so became the first All-Ireland senior hurling champions.

* * *

Kilkenny were beaten 5-10 to 3-13 by Cork in the 1905 All-Ireland final played at Tipperary. However, Kilkenny objected and were granted a replay which they won 7-7 to Cork's 2-9.

* * *

Tipperary were awarded the 1934 minor football title when the finalists Dublin and Tyrone were found to have played over-age players.

* * *

With four All-Ireland senior titles to their credit, Tipperary rank joint fifth on the football roll of honour. Below them are such counties as Mayo, Louth, Meath and Roscommon. Tipperary's years of football glory were 1889, '95, 1900 and '20.

* * *

Kilkenny too have won more football honours than many a county. They won the Leinster title in 1888, 1900 and '11. Actually they might well have won the 1900 All-Ireland football title were it not for an objection. They beat Tipperary in the All-Ireland semi-final at Carrick-on-Suir. Tipperary

objected and the Central Council ordered a replay. Kilkenny refused to take part. Tipperary went on to win the title, beating London 3-7 to 0-2 in the final.

Kilkenny have played in more All-Ireland senior hurling finals than have Tipperary. The Leinstermen have played in 29 and won 15, while Tipperary have played in 25 and won 19.

* * *

Together with winning fifteen senior hurling titles, Kilkenny have won junior titles in 1928, '46, '51 and '56; minor titles in 1931, '35, '36, '50, '60, '61 and '62 and the National League in 1932 and 1962.

The average score in an All-Ireland senior hurling final is 4-7 to 1-6.

* * *

From 1910 to 1919 there were more goals than points scored in every hurling final. The total scores of both winners and losers in those ten finals was 75 goals and only 48 points.

* * *

The highest total score in a hurling final was registered in last year's final when Kilkenny beat Waterford by 4-17 to 6-8. The second highest was the 1893 final

● TO PAGE 70

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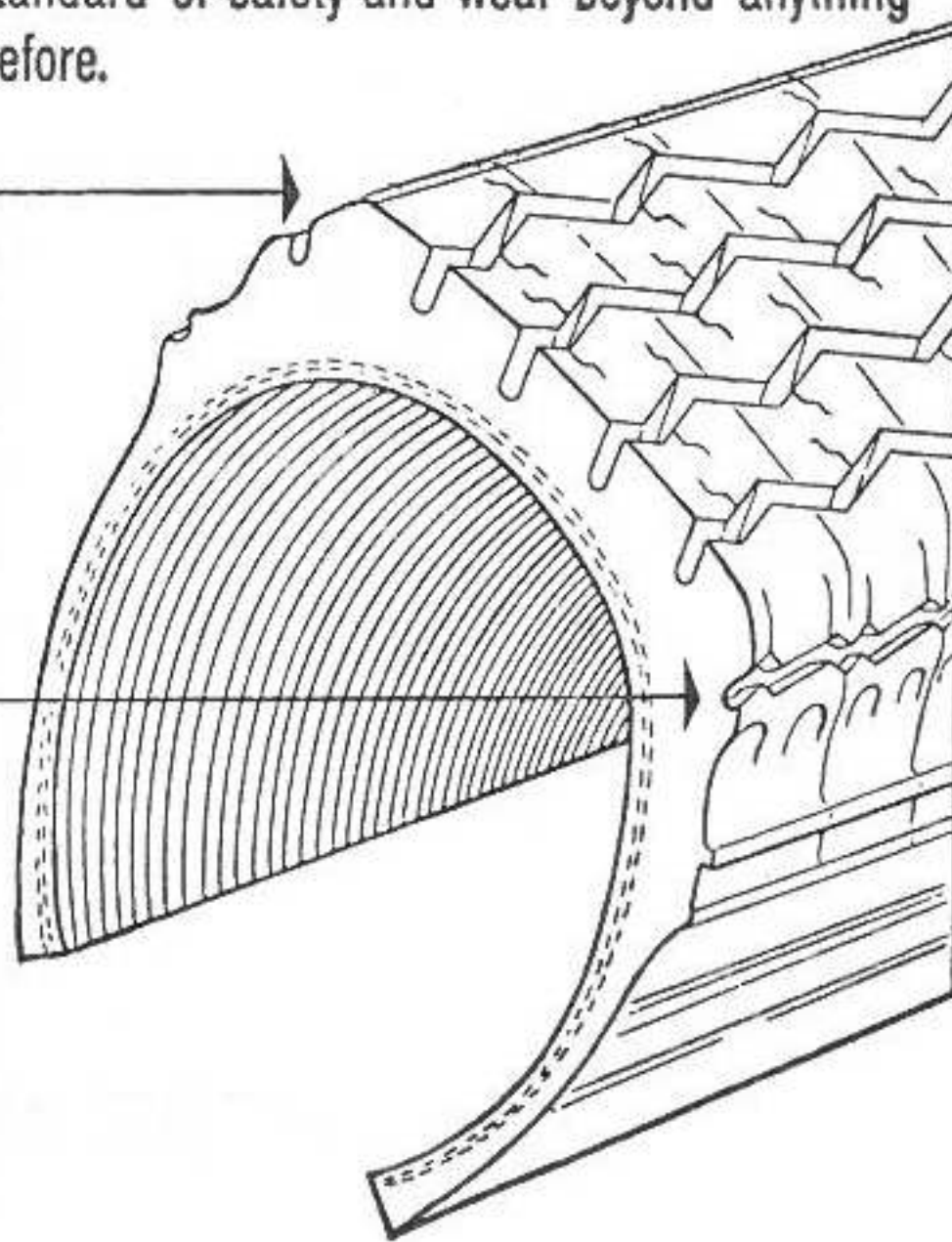
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FINAL FACTS

● FROM PAGE 69

when Tipperary defeated Kilkenny 7-13 to 3-10.

* * *

The highest team score in a hurling final was registered by Tipperary in 1896 when they beat Dublin 8-4 to 0-4. This too was the most one-sided final. Next comes Cork's 5-20 to 2-0 win over Dublin in the 1894 final. This was the only occasion on which a team scored twenty points or more in a hurling final.

* * *

There was only one point scored in the 1914 final when Clare beat Laois 5-1 to 1-0.

* * *

It is believed that seven Mahers helped Tipperary in their historic campaign of 1887—although only three of them are listed as having played in the final. The name Maher has rarely been missing from a Tipperary hurling team ever since. Kilkenny too, of course, has had its share of Mahers and Meaghers.

* * *

The Grace brothers of Tullaroan between them won seven senior football medals with Dublin. Jack was on the victorious Metropolitan teams of 1901, '02, '06, '07 and '09, where Pierce joined him on the 1906 and '07 sides. Pierce later returned to Kilkenny and won hurling medals in 1911, '12 and '13.

* * *

Should Tipperary win, John Doyle will have won seven All-Ireland senior hurling medals and will therefore join the famed Kilkenny quartet of Sim Walton, Drug Walsh, Jack Rochford and Dick Doyle, all of whom won seven in the 1904-'13 era.

* * *

The Doyle family of Mooncoin won 18 senior hurling medals. Dick won seven, Eddie six and Michael five.

COVER PICTURE

Our picture this month shows Denis Heaslip of Kilkenny in a race for possession with Tipperary's Kieran Carey and Michael Maher. A scene, which we have no doubt, will be re-enacted many times on the 6th September.

To them and to their twenty-seven team-mates, who will parade around Croke Park on All-Ireland Hurling Final day, we wish a great hour of hurling.

DEAR PHILIP
RODERICK . . .

● FROM PAGE 63

I know I don't look twenty any more. The nose has been rubbing off the grindstone too long—though like Yul Brynner I have the features to go with that type of haircut. But enough of this nonsense. The children are crying for food and someone has to work.

Carry on, Mr. Roderick, living off the fat of the land, but please leave us humble beings alone while we look for the crumbs that fall (so seldom) from your Falstaffian table.

I always call him MISTER Roderick.

My mother told me to address my elders thus.

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TOP TEN

IT'S STAR TIME FOR THE GOALIES!



● **NOEL TIERNEY**
Galway's star full-back heads the football ratings this month. Noel's performance against Meath in the All-Ireland Semi-Final will long be remembered by those of us who were privileged to witness it.

THIS month's Top Ten ratings are based on individual performances in games played from and including Sunday, July 19, to Sunday, August 9.

In hurling Tipperary players

take the honours with Theo English and Jimmy Doyle heading the list. It is interesting to note that three goalkeepers are included—Ollie Walsh, Paddy Barry and Jimmy Gray.

Galway's star full back, Noel Tierney, heads the football list as a result of his performances in the Connacht final and the All-Ireland semi-final.

These lists are compiled by our editorial staff. They form a precise monthly record of intercounty performances and from them at the end of the season we will tabulate the Top-Ten footballers and hurlers of 1964.

HURLING

1. Theo English (Tipperary).
2. Jimmy Doyle (Tipperary).
3. Tom Murphy (Kilkenny).
4. Michael Keating (Tipperary).
5. Larry Kiely (Tipperary).
6. Pat Henderson (Kilkenny).
7. Ollie Walsh (Kilkenny).
8. Paddy Barry (Cork).
9. Jimmy Gray (Dublin).
10. Mick Bermingham (Dublin).

FOOTBALL

1. Noel Tierney (Galway).
2. Pat Collier (Meath).
3. Jack Quinn (Meath).
4. Niall Sheehy (Kerry).
5. Mick Reynolds (Galway).
6. Ray Carolan (Cavan).
7. Sean Cleary (Galway).
8. Paddy Holden (Dublin).
9. John Donnellan (Galway).
10. Brendan Hayden (Carlow).

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