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JUNE, 1965
Vol. 8. No. 6.



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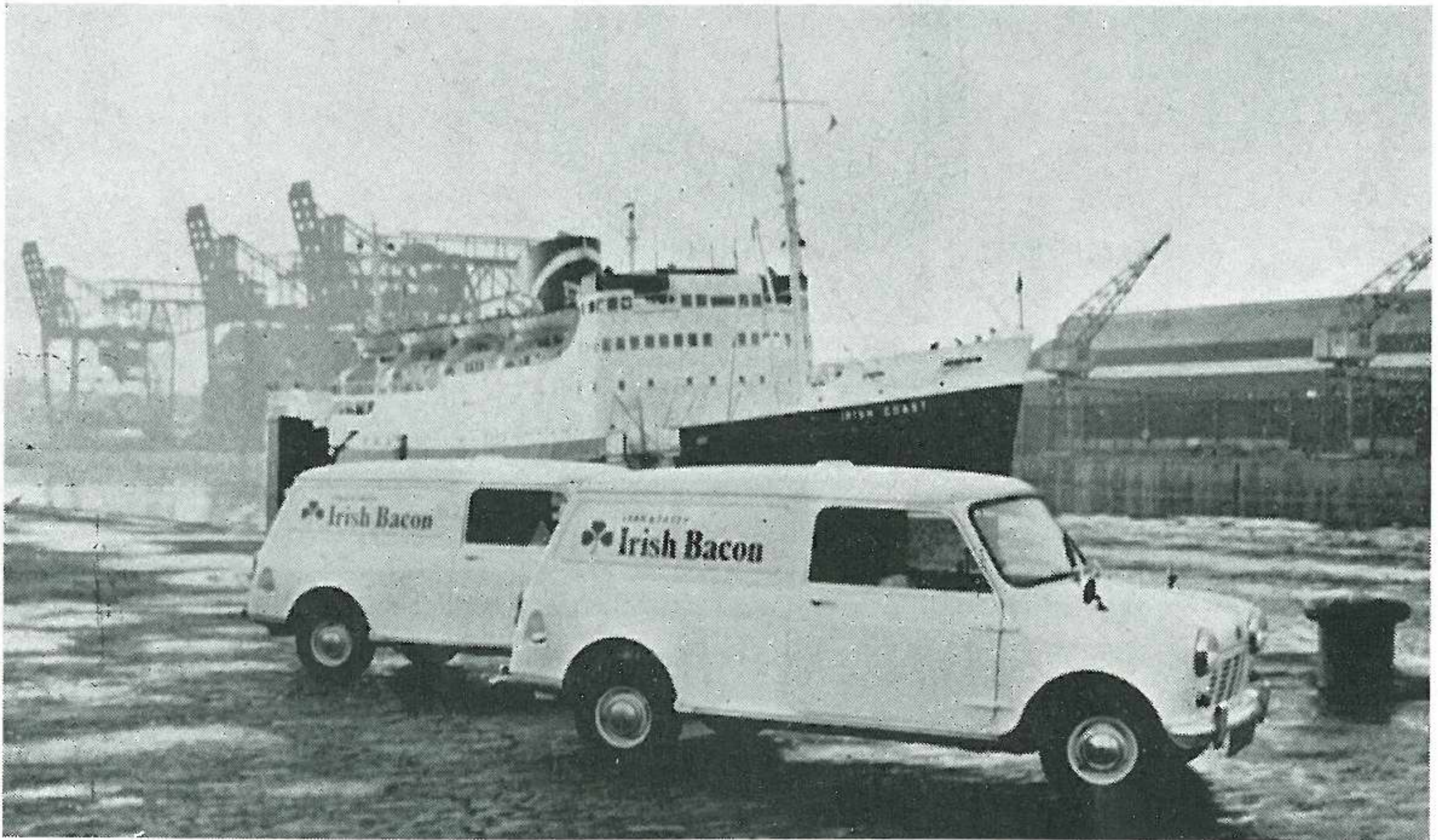
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BASIS FOR DEVELOPMENT

THERE has been much comment during the past year on the absence of modern facilities and spectator amenities at a sizable number of G.A.A. grounds throughout the country. As a result a very-much-alive consciousness now exists as to the necessity for dealing with the problem.

However, while realisation of these inadequacies is to be welcomed, it does appear to be accompanied in many instances by an unhealthy attitude which conveniently attempts to shift the responsibility for getting on with the job.

In last month's issue Jay Drennan penned a graphic but depressing description of a club ground where he recently viewed a game. Goal-lines and sidelines were marked with bits of furze, etc. This surely was an extreme example and one which is not representative of the average under-developed club ground. However, it very much helps to illustrate our point.

Lime is cheap.

The club which has not the initiative to raise a few shillings for the purchase of a bucket-full of lime is simply not worthy of calling itself a club.

Local initiative is the basic, and by far the most important, requirement in this entire task of ground development. There is no substitute for it and without it there is simply nothing which any higher authority can do.

There are scores of examples throughout the country of what

earnest local endeavour can do. What has been achieved in one village can, in most instances, be equalled in another.

Financial assistance from the Central and provincial councils has always been available. Down through the years all of the Association's surplus funds — a huge annual sum, have been ploughed back into grounds. This policy continues.

But, of course, the central and provincial funds are limited and they can never do more than complement local efforts. Furze bush markings and such like do not indicate a lack of G.A.A. concern for modern facilities, they simply damn the local club for its laziness.

All of this is not an attempt to suggest that grounds development is not a major task confronting the G.A.A. There is much to be done and there are major obstacles arising from such as the current urbanisation trends, the ever-rising cost of land and the depressed conditions in so many West of Ireland areas.

However, while the Central and provincial councils apply themselves to careful consideration of these problems, it is still necessary to emphasise that the present system of financial grants, combined with reasonably earnest local effort, is quite capable of providing clubs who own their ground with decent mid-twentieth century facilities.

The grants are always there. It is the reasonably earnest local effort that is sometimes wanting.

Gaelic Sport

Vol. 8. No. 6. June, 1965

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DOWN WILL REMAIN A FOOTBALL FORCE!

SAYS SEAN O'NEILL IN AN INTERVIEW
WITH JOHN O. GRANT

DID you know that Down star Sean O'Neill once played for Mayo? If you didn't, don't be surprised, for very few people are aware of the fact. Indeed Sean himself hardly remembers the occasion. It happened some eleven or twelve years ago when he was a pupil at the Abbey C.B.S., Newry. A league was run off between teams drawn from the first year boys. To add a touch of glamour to the whole affair the Brother in charge gave each team a county name. Captaining the "Mayo" side was the present Down captain—Sean O'Neill. Need I add that thanks mainly to the brilliance of their captain, "Mayo" won that competition easily.

This incident of schooldays was recalled to mind recently when I chatted with the Down man, for we were both pupils at the Abbey in those days. In fact I was unfortunate enough to be on the team which "Mayo" trounced in the final of that same league. To-day Sean O'Neill is a very different person, physically, from the tiny tot who drove us twelve-year-olds to distraction with his elusive body-swerve and deadly shooting, on the patches of grass and sand that made up the Abbey football ground.

Had we known then that to-day the same Sean O'Neill would be handing out similar treatment to



★ SEAN O'NEILL . . . "Down will be back".

the best defenders in the game, perhaps it might have lessened our sense of helplessness. Ever since those days spent at "the Abbey" I have regarded Sean as a footballer in a class of his own. That opinion has been more than substantiated down the years as the Down star turned in brilliant displays of football at club, county and provincial level.

Sean's brilliant displays in the various schoolboy competitions soon brought him to the notice of the Down minor selectors. In 1957

he wore the Red and Black of Down for the first time as a minor, and in 1958 was a member of the first Down minor team to win an Ulster title. In the Autumn of that same year he was selected on the Down senior team for a challenge game against a Dublin selection at Newry, and he has been a permanent fixture on the side ever since. He played a big part in Down's rise to the top, and in doing so has captured almost every honour in the game. He has represented Ulster since 1960 and has also helped Queen's University, Belfast, in two Sigerson Cup triumphs. The second of these two triumphs was labelled by one journalist as "O'Neill's Sigerson," so great a part did the Down star play in the Queen's victory. A member of the present Down Co. Champions, Newry Mitchels, he has played a major role in that club's recent success story.

My conversation with Sean ranged over many aspects of his own career, Down's success story and Gaelic games in general. When I asked him what he believed were the reasons for Down's rise to fame, he replied: "There were two main ones. Firstly, we had in the county at the time a great pool of talent. Secondly, we had the backing of a magnificent County Board, who spared nothing in their efforts to bring Down to the top."



★ PAT RICE and LEO MURPHY . . . two of the men who took Down along the victory trail. Now—can it happen again?

Sean had a special word of praise for former County Secretary, Maurice Hayes, who was in his estimation “an organisational genius.”

To the query “Are Down finished,” Sean was brief but to the point. “The present Down side is not the team that captured All-Ireland titles in 1960 and ’61. People keep forgetting that we have introduced many new players. Despite our recent setbacks, I feel Down will remain a force to be wary off,” he stressed emphatically. Looking back over Down’s many great victories, he remembers the 1962 N.F.L. final against Dublin as the game which gave him the most satisfaction.

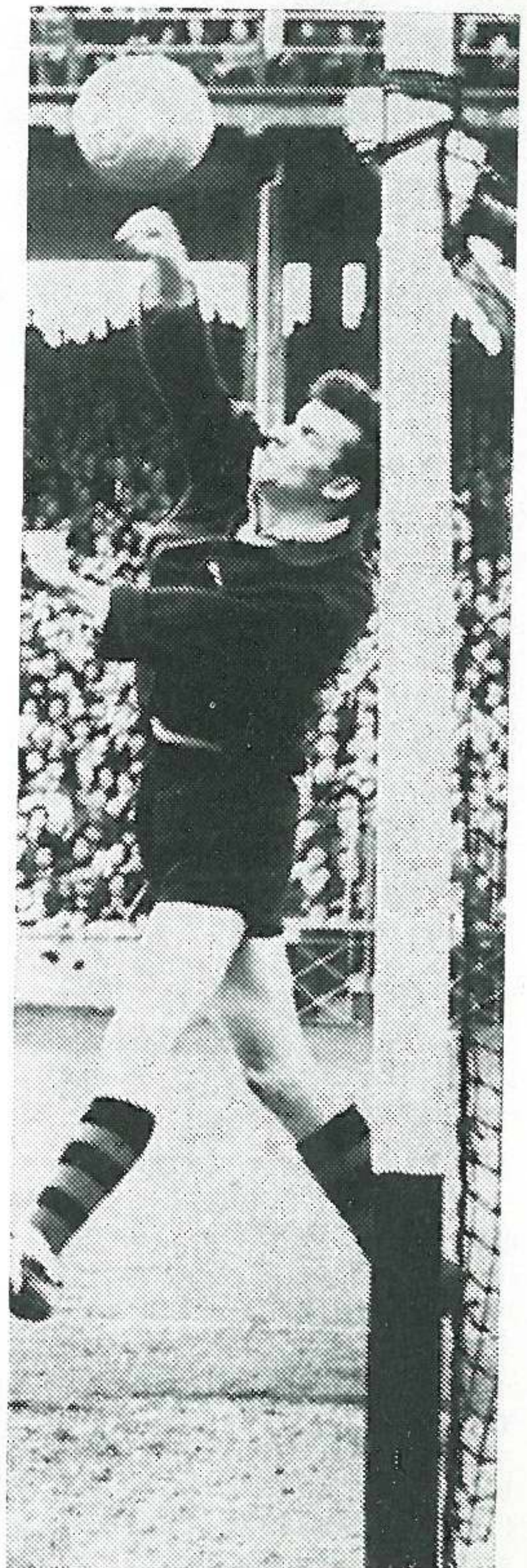
In that game it was a last minute penalty goal by Sean which snatched victory for Down, but the penalty kick aside, he remembers that game as his most exciting one. However, the All-Ireland triumph against Kerry in 1960 he will always regard as the pinnacle of his career, for says Sean, “This is what every Gaelic footballer lives for—to win an All-Ireland medal.”

Of the many great defenders he has come up against Sean rates Mick O’Dwyer (Kerry), Charlie Wrenn (Offaly) and his own county team mate Pat O’Hagan as the most outstanding.

Speaking of the game itself he believes that the rules as they stand tend to favour defence. For this reason he would like to see the “hand-pass” re-introduced. He would also like to see the parallelogram enlarged to act as a deterrent to those defenders who spoil so many fine movements by dragging down the forward who has eluded them. “Of course you cannot really blame them,” says Sean, “for after all they are in many cases saving two points by their action.”

On the question of improving the present structure of the Association, he feels that the Central Council is at the moment too large and unwieldy a body. Furthermore, he would like to see those who hold high office at provincial or county level become full-time, paid executives.

Down football is going through a testing period at the moment.



★ PATSY McALINDEN . . . in action at Croke Park. Down will be back at headquarters, says Sean O’Neill.

As one columnist put it after their recent defeat by Donegal, “Down are now back to the scratch line.” This may well be true. However with a man of the calibre and class of Sean O’Neill leading them it might well prove foolhardy to write them off completely.



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STOP!

those mid-game 'pep talks'

IN this series, I would like to deal with some of the problems which crop up during play and which can be solved along the sideline first and then in the game as it progresses.

Over the years, my experience has tended to indicate that players are not very receptive to ideas and advice in the dressing-room just before a game when there is likely to be some tension. Non-recognition of this fact leads to several undesirable states of affairs.

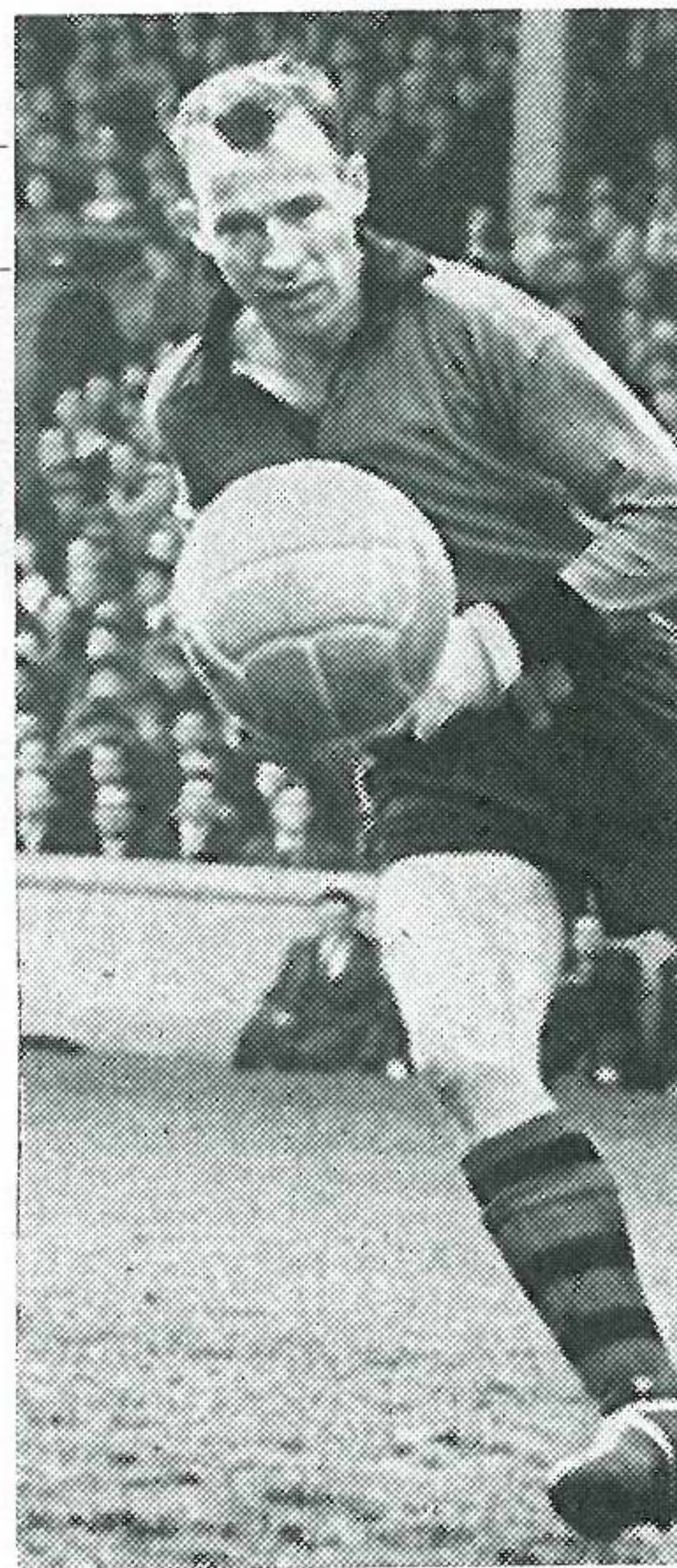
Firstly, officials are prone to give too much advice, too many tips, too many warnings and, in general, increase rather than lessen the internal tension in each player and the general atmosphere of the dressing-room. When players get to the dressing room, they should not be bothered very much by anyone. They have their own individual problems to contend with and almost all of anything which is said to them by officials should be in the nature of warming encouragement.

Very little advice is usually the best approach. Just one (or possibly two points) and they must be

specific or they will not penetrate. When too much is said, little or nothing is absorbed and this backfires to the extent that officials can become intensely annoyed when a player does something he was warned not to do or fail to do something he was told to do a few minutes previously. Some comment like "I might as well have been talking to the wall" is made and seldom is it guessed how true this is.

If a 'pep-talk' is to be given at all I feel it should be given some hours before the game or preferably after the last training session. It takes a long time for ideas to get through and so impress the mind as to produce the necessary stimulus when the physical situation arises in the game. The mind should be rehearsing well known skills and tactics and building up determination rather than trying to assimilate new facts and ideas which have never been rehearsed in practice.

Strangely enough, in football you don't fool anybody about ability—not even yourself. As far as training goes and as far as skilled



Joe Lennon

performance is concerned, I have found that I have had first of all to convince myself that I was fit and could perform various skills. Generally speaking, the player himself is the only one who really knows how fit he is.

Some players can have a bit of a complex about fitness. This will exhibit itself in many forms during training and should be dealt with right away. The other main snag is nervous tension which inhibits maximum effort. When players start making excuses for not training, that's the first indication that all is not well.

It would be extremely easy to keep on in this vein but it might be also extremely boring to many readers who may not accept that

● TO PAGE 31.

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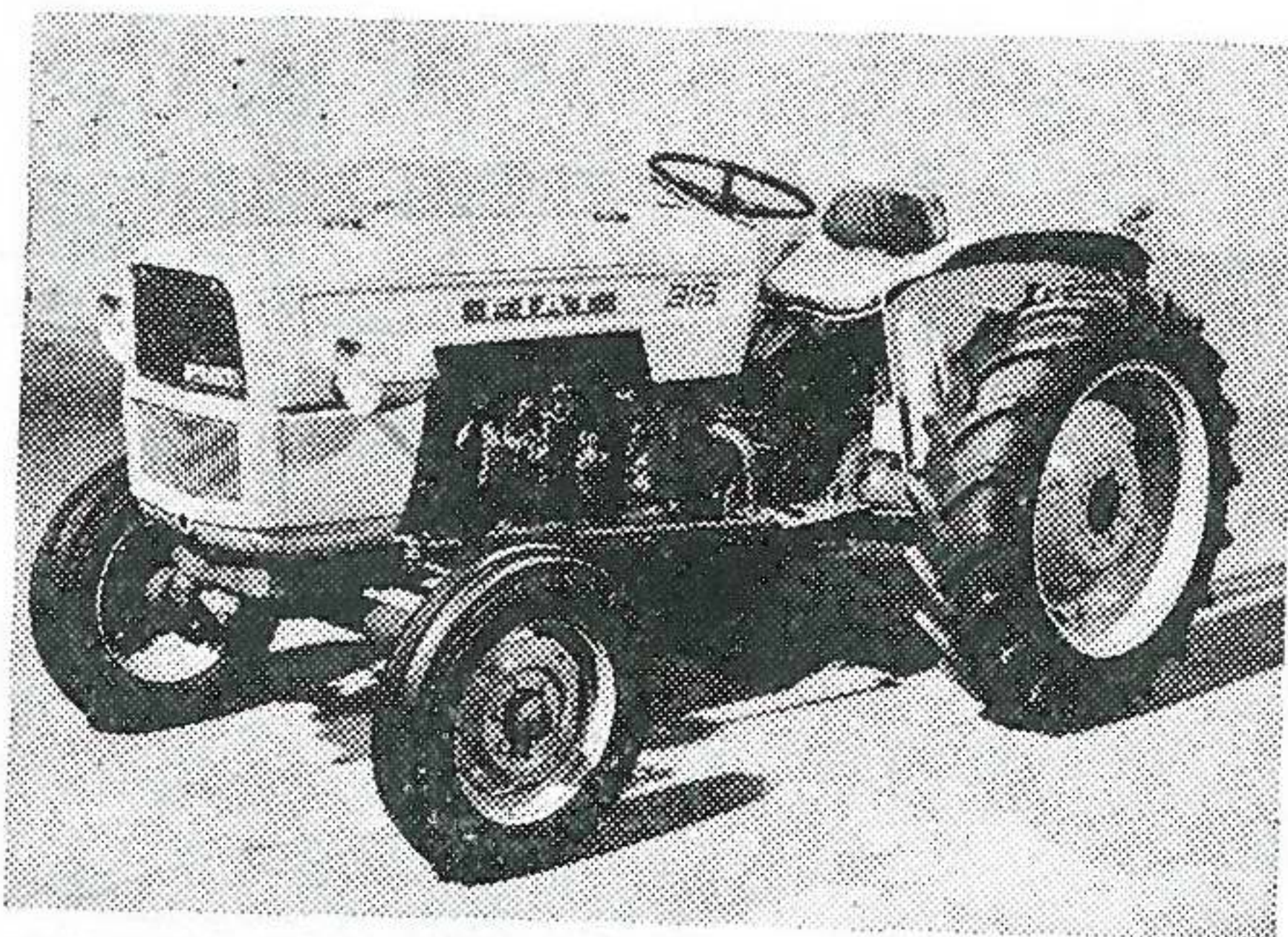
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Those after-the-match get-togethers ARE important for the players . . .

by Jay Drennan

I HAVE been for a long time talking and writing about the need for improved facilities for the players of our games and for the people closely connected with the work of putting the matches on from Sunday to Sunday through the country. We have been very slow, indeed, in the G.A.A. to realise that our Association has a social position to maintain and a social obligation to its members which does not end when the game is played and the final whistle blown.

The first awakening within the ranks of the Gaels has occurred. There is now realisation that there can be little use in commanding allegiance to the Gaelic games for a few hours of the week and then letting the many and varied social influences of an often hostile or inimical mood take over. It has taken a long time. But better late than never.

The original aims of the Gaelic Athletic Association were that it should be a pervading influence in the leisure lives of the Irish people, but as the Association grew bigger and more powerful, and expanded its arenas and the public for its games, so too did the leisure time of the public. In modern years the leisure time has quickly outgrown

the capacity of the Association to keep pace.

The gap has by now become so great that it can scarcely ever be bridged again, but, at least some of the social influences which were the plan of the Association and which must again be so if the G.A.A. is not to become merely a mammoth organiser : a sort of fixer of games which might be done just as well in large part by a computer.

The heart of the Association for players and supporters lies beyond the games as well as in them. The after-match socials and friendly drink which have been much of the secret of the grip which rugby clubs keep in certain sections of the country, have been ignored by us. Why ?

In recent times the idea of the club dinner and the get-together on occasion of the players and supporters, their wives and girl friends, is the extension of the original ideal of the Association, and the fulfilment of the present necessity. Recently in a television interview, Dr. Jim Brosnan, the far-seeing Kerry chairman with the up-to-date ideas on how the G.A.A. may be improved, gave weight to these views by saying that he felt that this was the time when we must

begin to think much more of the players by integrating them into an overall social pattern suited to the ideal of the Association.

Dr. Brosnan, doubtless realising the way the club pavilions play such an important part in the life of the rugby clubs and the club-houses in the well-being of the golf-clubs, wishes that Gaelic clubs, too, have their own club-house or pavilion on each major ground in the county in order to carry the surface energies of the playing fields into the permanent goodwill created in after-the-match get-togethers. This is a modern view; but the mere fact that it is modern should not cause the outraged abhorrence of the older Gaels. They, too, must realise how important it is.

Nowadays, it is difficult to explain to a young person why they should show their allegiance to the games of the Association, when they could reap the added benefits of good-fellowship and pleasant social atmosphere by being members of a golf-club, tennis club or rugby club. Young men (and women) have the right to expect from their association — since it is the greatest in the country and by far the most pat-

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THE SCORING WIZARDS

by OWEN McCANN

ONE of the most outstanding individual scoring achievements in G.A.A. history was recorded by Nick Rackard in a 1954 All-Ireland senior hurling semi-final, when he cracked home 7-7 for Wexford against Antrim. Not surprisingly, no player in either code has since bettered that tally.

A few months earlier, however, Jimmy Smith gave other score-getters quite an impressive target to aim at with 6-4 for Clare in a Munster championship first round tie against Limerick at Ennis. That still stands as the second highest total in either code in the past 12 years—and an all-time record for Munster.

Rackard's seven goals against Antrim is not however a unique goals scoring feat. Tom Errity also landed seven majors in an outing with Offaly in a senior hurling challenge with Galway at Tullamore in 1957, but, surprisingly enough in such grand scoring form, he failed to raise a single white flag in that encounter.

Leading the way in football is Frankie Donnelly, who chalked up 5-8 for Tyrone against Fermanagh in a second round Dr. Lagan Cup game at Pomeroy in 1956. Jim McCartan came closest to this record with 5-4, also in a Dr. Lagan Cup engagement, against Antrim at Newcastle in 1958.

A point behind McCartan and tops in championship football for the period is 5-3, recorded by Johnny Joyce for Dublin in a 1960 clash with Longford at Mullingar. That year, too, Joyce set the record for the Ireland-Universities ties with 4-2 for Ireland.

The best goals scoring achievement in football stands to the



* NICK RACKARD

credit of Eamonn Goulding, who had the ball in the net six times for Cork in a League clash with Carlow at Cork in 1957. But, as in the case of Errity, he, too, failed to notch a single minor in that tie. More unusual still is the fact that Goulding was primarily a hurler.

Here are the outstanding individual scoring achievements over the past 12 years.

HURLING

1. N. Rackard—7-7 v. Antrim Championship, 1954.
2. J. Smith—6-4 v. Limerick—Championship, 1954.

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Ever tried to buy togs in Petticoat Lane?

ASKS JACK MAHON

THE recent death of Prince Monolulu, the popular and colourful racing tipster, reminded me of the Whit Sunday that James McCartan, Sean O'Neill and myself encountered him in a crowded Petticoat Lane and how delighted he was to pose for a photograph with the three of us. It was the day after one of the annual Whit Saturday Wembley games and as always Petticoat Lane was on the itinerary of all the Irish football and hurling visitors.

Last year I visited London again, this time with my club, Dunmore McHales, and on Easter Sunday morning I walked Petticoat Lane once more. This time it was not a mere tourist attraction. I was there as a prospective buyer of a new football rig-out to replace the one I had used the previous day in a game at Maynooth College in atrocious weather conditions.

At the hotel where we stayed I was told you could get anything you required in Petticoat Lane or Middlesex Street to give it its correct name. Well this is not quite true. All I could procure was a very poor pair of football stockings and, with the looks of amazement I encountered at all the stalls on enquiring for togs, boots, etc., I must have been the first footballer ever stranded without football gear on a Sunday morning in London.

While with the Galway team in the U.S. in 1957, I had the



★ JAMES McCARTAN . . . A picture with a Prince.

pleasure of meeting Jack Dempsey the former world heavyweight champion at his Times Square Bar and Grill. It was the day after our Polo Grounds game with New York in the St. Brendan's Cup final and I sported a fine black eye as a result of an accidental punch from a team-mate. I was introduced to Jack as an Irish footballer whereupon the bould Dempsey remarked: "You a slugger, too?" I said I wasn't. "Well if you aint a slugger, you sure got slugged," he added.

Finally I remember a Summer's day in 1949 when as captain of the Dunmore McHales minor team, I travelled with the rest and a few supporters in the back of a

lorry to a place called Browns-grove, situated between Dunmore and Tuam, where we were to play our great rivals Tuam.

After winning our game, we prevailed on our driver to travel on to a "sports" in Garrafrauns some seven miles away. A few supporters had cycled to the game and decided to follow us on to the sports meeting. We set off together but quickly drew away from the cyclists.

However, a few of them chasing us blindly, managed to stay with us. Then came a sharp turn which the lorry took jerkily, and I will always remember the sight of our greatest supporter bashing straight into the stone wall directly ahead of him and somersaulting over the wall to land on all fours some yards inside the fence.

I can still see him in mid-air on his way into that field and I still burst out laughing as I did then. He could have been killed but it looked all so funny.

We stopped, went back, most of us splitting our sides laughing. He was in one piece but the bike would never see use again.

The last time I played for Galway at Wembley I met my bicycle friend on the terraces after the game and we laughed heartily at the incident on the by-road some eleven years before. It is one memory I will never forget.

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THE great clubs of Limerick were in the G.A.A. picture in the infant days of that organisation, and at least a few of them predated the foundation of the new Association.

Limerick Commercials proved themselves the glory team of the first All-Ireland football title fight—then decided on a club basis—and their winning of the crown stamped them the best team in the land. And they had at least one player—Malachi O'Brien—who so impressed a football enthusiast, who many years later could recall six decades of the Gaelic code, that he named him the outstanding exponent of that long spell.

Limerick hurlers were equally to the fore in that vital first year of the championships. A dispute within the county resulted in the formation of two boards each claiming jurisdiction and with the allegiance of the clubs fairly evenly divided a strange situation arose.

The County was drawn against Tullaroan, the Kilkenny champions, in the inaugural game of the first All-Ireland senior hurling championship. Two teams travelled from Limerick for that engagement, each claiming to represent the County. Castleconnell were led by Michael Mackey, grandfather of Caltex Hall of Fame award winner Mick Mackey, whilst Murroe was skippered by a man, whose son, Jimmie Humphries, was to captain the Ireland hurling team in the first Tailteann Games.

A meeting of the Central Council failed to compose the differences, as both sides stood by, and the net result was that no game was played, Tullaroan getting a walk-over. Michael Mackey summed it up neatly when he said: "Both teams returned to Limerick

The glory team from Limerick

with their tails between their legs".

Treaty Stones, one of the leading city teams of the early years, won the County Crown in 1891. In the opening round of the Munster championships they met Ballyduff (Kerry) and won by a point. Ballyduff objected on the grounds that time was up when the winning point was scored, and to the surprise of all the objection was upheld and a replay ordered, which Ballyduff won. The Kerry men afterwards became champions of Munster and later of Ireland—the only senior hurling title ever secured by the Kingdom caman wielders.

Limerick Commercials returned to the glory parade in 1896 by capturing Munster and All-Ireland football honours for the second time. They were captained by that renowned footballer and athlete—Glin-born Con Fitzgerald. Another noted member of the side was the Irish champion athlete Larry Roche of Dromin, who had the unusual experience of seeing a group of football admirers invade his house one day and insert a stone plaque in the wall extolling his deeds on the Gaelic field.

The next great Limerick hurling side hailed from Kilfinane. They had a tough tussle to get to the top, for they only beat Cappamore a single point, 4-9 to 4-8, in the 1897 county final.

Once there, however, they made

their mark. In the opening round of the Munster championship they beat Tulla (Clare), 2-5 to 2-3; and brought the first Southern hurling title to Limerick when they beat Cork's Blackrock, 4-9 to 4-6, in a dashing encounter at Tipperary. Back to the same venue they journeyed two months later, and success again greeted their standard when they beat Tullaroan (Kilkenny), 3-4 to 2-4, to capture All-Ireland honours. Later they capped that performance by adding the Croke Cup.

We can only touch the highlights in this short article, so we must regretfully skip plenty of worth while events until we meet the star Castleconnell side of 1910 and make the acquaintance of such lovable characters as John "Tyler" Mackey, Sean Carroll, the Herberts, Davy Conway and a host of others.

Croom, Fedamore, Young Irelands, Ballingarry, Caherline and Claughaun hit the headlines before Newcastle West moved in for a dramatic county success following which Willie Hough led a grand combination to Munster and All-Ireland triumph.

Many good judges maintain that the first half of the 'twenties witnessed the hey-day of club hurling by the Shannon. The meeting of the great city rivals—Claughaun and Young Irelands really packed in the crowds, and what terrific games

● TO PAGE 34.

★ LAST MONTH WE LOOKED AT POLITICS
AND THE G.A.A. THIS MONTH 'MOONDHARRIG'
JOINS IN WITH THIS COMMENT :

'CICERO' WAS UNFAIR **TO BRENDAN CORISH!**

"**H**OW many All-Ireland medals has Sean Lemass or Jim Dillon—or Brendan Corish? Go on answer me." So 'Cicero' ended his entertaining and provocative article on Politics and the G.A.A. in last month's 'GAELIC SPORT'.

Now with Mr. Lemass or Mr. Dillon I am not concerned at all, but I do think that, in inferring that Mr. Corish is in the same category as Messrs. Lemass and Dillon as far as Gaelic Games are concerned, 'Cicero' was being grossly unfair to Brendan Corish—as sound a man as ever pulled on the purple and gold jersey of Wexford.

Indeed, had not the death of his late father, Dick Corish, in 1945 brought Brendan prematurely from the playing fields into the political arena, who knows but Brendan might have won an All-Ireland medal?

Wexford were not all that far away from senior football honours in 1945 and Brendan Corish played minor, junior and senior football for Wexford between 1935 and 1945 and between all grades, won at least half-a-dozen county championship medals with his club, the famed Volunteers of Wexford town, in company with such men as Willie Goodison, John Morris, John O'Connor and Tim O'Leary.

Moreover, the present Labour leader was also a hurler of above ordinary merit.

So, if Brendan Corish won no All-Ireland medals, he has given years of service to Gaelic Games in Wexford both on and off the playing field and remember not alone was he a noted referee—he was the man who had to deal with the players who mounted the cross-bar to try and stop a point in a factory-league football game long ago in Wexford Park—but he also was a well-known speaker at Wexford County Conventions before the day came when he had to give all his time to politics.

Also, in listing the number of G.A.A. men who sought to win places in the Dail at the recent election, 'Cicero' shows some remarkable lapses of memory.

Surely no more distinguished All-Ireland footballers than Sean Brosnan of Kerry sought election? After all, Sean won several All-Ireland medals with the Kingdom! And surely Dr. Hugh Gibbons played beside Jack McQuillan in the Roscommon attack when the Connacht champions beat the Kerry men in the 1944 All-Ireland final?

Jim Gibbons, Michael Kitt and the Daverns all belong to noted G.A.A. families, and it is many a

year since I saw Joe Barron helping to run the old schools league in South Kilkenny—John Barron of the present Waterford team is a nephew of his.

And Leo Nealon, another candidate in Dublin, has always been a G.A.A. man too.

Nor is Jack Lynch the only hurler-cum-footballer to hold ministerial rank. Not many people may remember it now beyond myself and himself, but Charlie Haughey won Dublin minor championship medals in both games with St. Vincent's. In addition I saw Kevin Boland play hurling both for U.C.D. and for Young Irelands while Paddy Burke, as befits a native of Mayo, was a great G.A.A. follower always.

Nor should we forget Joe Christle, the organiser of Ras Tailteann.

Down Waterford way one G.A.A. man put out another, Willie Kenneally, member of one of the most devoted Gaelic families in Waterford city, taking the seat formerly held by Sean Ormonde, one-time junior All-Ireland hurler and whose son was since Waterford senior football goal-keeper.

I have not the complete list of candidates before me as I write and I feel there must have been

many other G.A.A. men on the hustings.

Of course, it is nothing new that this should be so. The G.A.A. has provided stalwarts for all political parties down the years. There is surely no need to point out that the earliest patrons, Parnell, Michael Davitt and William O'Brien were all politicians, and that many of the early officials of the Association were prominent in politics, William Field of Dublin and William Duffy of Loughrea are names that come immediately to mind. Both were M.Ps.

In the first and second Dail the G.A.A. was represented by many who had been prominent both in council chamber and playing field. Eoin O'Duffy, Dan O'Rourke, Dr. Brian Cusack, Harry Boland, Sean Etchingham and Phil Shanahan had all been associated with the G.A.A. before the Volunteers came into existence, and it is not generally known that there was no keener hurling fan than Arthur Griffith.

Indeed, of the then Dail Cabinet, Austin Stack had been a Kerry All-Ireland football captain, while both Sean T. O'Kelly and William Cosgrave had learned their hurling in the broad acres of the Phoenix Park.

Another member of the Cabinet, J. J. O'Kelly ("Sceilg") was not alone a life-long G.A.A. enthusiast but was one of those who helped to draw up the first rules for camogie. Fittingly enough one of his daughters was to win an All-Ireland camogie medal nearly 30 years later, while another is at the moment Chairman of the Leinster Camogie Council and one of the Trustees of the Camogie Association.

Finally, one man whose G.A.A. record has been completely ignored by his biographers is Michael Collins who was a tremendous enthusiast not alone for hurling and football but for athletics in his London years.

A player with above average in both codes, Mick Collins more than once played at mid-field with the London-Irish sides in All-Ireland championship hurling games in

Britain, partnered on one famous occasion in a match against Lancashire by another Corkman far from unknown on the political scene, P. S. O'Hegarty.

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WHAT'S IN A NAME?

THE ANSWER IS: QUITE A BIT,
ACCORDING TO PHILIP RODERICK

SEAMUS Ó CEALLAIGH of Limerick is a grand writer and a wonderful historian of Gaelic games . . . and, indirectly, a great man for provoking a night's good talk in a pub. Now, before I go any further, let me confess that I do not know whether or not Seamus takes a drink—if he does, it is to my eternal regret that I have never had one with him—and on the particular night some weeks ago that he provoked this good talk, he was far away down in his native Limerick and we were here in Dublin in our local out in the county.

It all started with the new series he is doing in GAELIC SPORT on the glamour clubs of former days. As you know, if you read the April issue closely, he started off with Clare. There was not a Clare man among us—and for that matter, I do not suppose that any one of us was seriously interested in the old clubs of Clare but some of the names he mentioned in his story caught our fancy, mine in particular.

I had read the article with interest and, in the course of very idle conversation at one stage of the night, I happened to mention a few of the names I had come across in it—Jack "Bacchus" McCarthy, "Sham" Spellissy and "Castor" Carmody. The nicknames had intrigued me and I wanted to find out whether any of my drinking companions had ever heard of them before. If they had, maybe they could explain how the nicknames had come about?

One famous nickname borrowed another and for the next hour or two, we were oblivious to the

● TO PAGE 21.

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★ TOP TEN STARS . . . Donie Nealon and Tom Neville.

TIPPERARY AND WEXFORD HEAD THE HURLING HONOURS LIST

THIS month's Top Ten lists are based on intercounty performances from Sunday, April 18 to Sunday, May 9 inclusive.

Tony Wall tops the hurling list as a result of his splendid display against Waterford in the National League semi-final, while Tom Neville's outstanding performance against Kilkenny in the other semi-

final merits him second place.

Heading the football list is Westmeath's Fintan Costello. In our June issue of last year he took second place as a result of another brilliant Leinster championship display.

An unusual feature of the foot-

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**TOP
TEN**

*Our monthly
guide-to-the-stars*

TOP TEN

● FROM PAGE 19.

ball list is the inclusion of three Longford players.

HURLING

1. Tony Wall (Tipperary).
2. Tom Neville (Wexford).
3. Mick Roche (Tipperary).
4. Donie Nealon (Tipperary).
5. Jimmy Doyle (Tipperary).
6. Mick Bermingham (Dublin).
7. Tom Cunningham (Waterford).
8. Austin Flynn (Waterford).
9. Tom Forrestal (Kilkenny)

10. Tom Walsh (Kilkenny).

FOOTBALL

1. Fintan Costello (Westmeath).
2. Bobby Burns (Longford).
3. Frankie McFeely (Donegal).
4. John Bosco McDermott (Galway).
5. Peter Moore (Meath).
6. Mick McLoone (Donegal).
7. John Donnellan (Galway).
8. Mick Hopkins (Longford).
9. P. J. Kennedy (Clare).
10. Sean Murray (Longford).



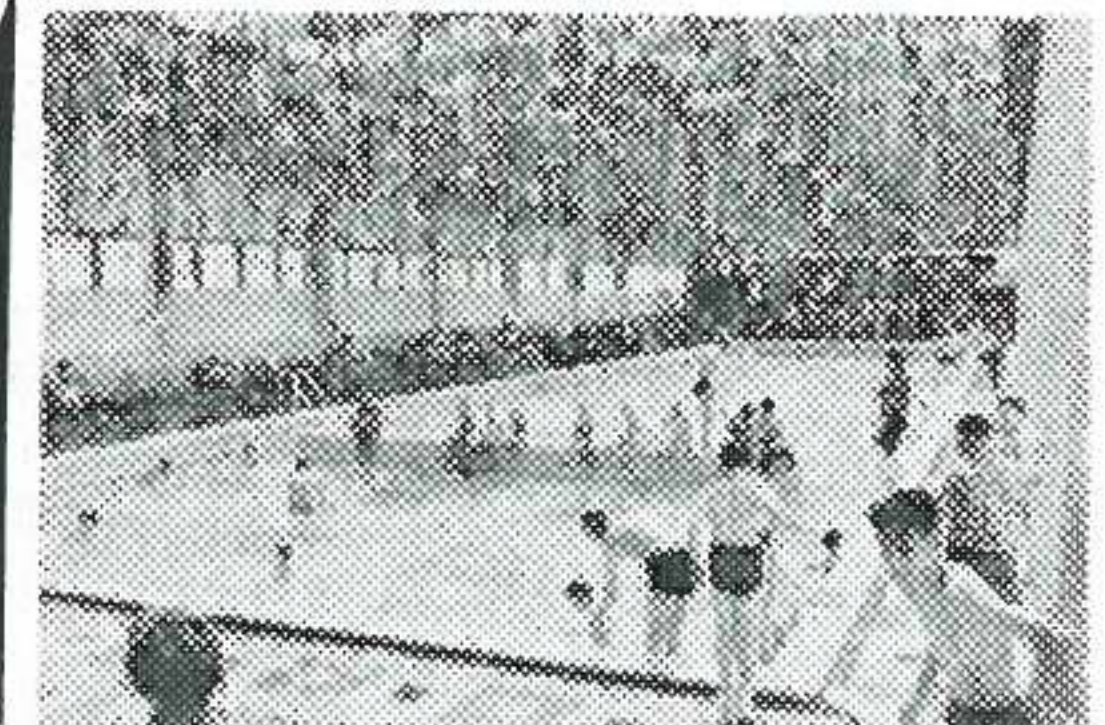
★ JOHN DONNELLAN . . . the footballing T.D. who led Galway in their League victory over Kerry.



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PHILIP RODERICK

● FROM PAGE 18.

smoke and the atmosphere; all that was good was the drink . . . and the talk.

Have you ever wondered about the nicknames that have come down to us through the years of hurling and football? Or have you, like myself, just accepted them? Perhaps, like me, you may have noticed that nowadays we have few of them, even though 20, 30 and 40 years ago, there was hardly a team in Ireland that did not have at least five or six famous nicknames in its line-up.

Cork—and you will have to forgive me for talking about my own county—had more than its share. From the beginning of hurling and football, every Cork team, in both codes has been more than liberally sprinkled with nicknames. How they came about, who started

them? . . . that is something no one has ever been able to explain satisfactorily to me.

Take the Cork All-Ireland hurling team of 1903. It had "Daw" McGrath, "Rooker" Keefe and "Bacchus" Leary. A few years later Cork had "Chat-eye" Leary, "Doudy" Kelly, the famous "Billex" Moloney and "Sonny" Jim McCarthy.

They were joined in time by "Bowler" Walsh, "Major" Kennedy, "Danix" Ring, "Love" Higgins of Cobh and many, many more.

Kilkenny, too, over the years, has come up with its quota of unforgettable nicknames . . . "Drug" Walsh, "Sag" Carroll, "Lovely" Johnny Dunne, "Diamond" Hayden and "Link" Walsh. . . . Tipperary has had its "Sweeper" Ryan, Darby "Lionheart" Collison and "Hawk" O'Meara . . . Limerick had its

"Tyler" Mackey, Clare its "Fowler" McInerney and "Dodger" Conside . . . one can go and on.

Football, in the good old days, also had its great names . . . Pat "Gardiner" Sullivan, "Hoppy" Houlihan, "Cocker" Daly, "Dowdy" Kelly, "Joyce" Conlon, "Aeroplane" Ryan . . . and a hundred others.

Nowadays we have few nicknames . . . and one must wonder why? Is it that there are fewer characters in the games to-day . . . or is it that parents are ensuring that youngsters do not grow up with the pet-names of their childhood?

That is something I cannot answer . . . but, you know, sometimes I get a little nostalgic for the great "nicknames" that were so wonderful to me when I was growing up. I think they lent a little colour to both hurling and football; a little familiarity and friendliness that we do not have to-day.

Anyway, I liked them.

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IT'S TIME WE CUT DOWN ON THOSE CONGRESS DELEGATES!

SOME members of Cork County Board had a fairly strong point when they held at a recent meeting that it was high time a revision was made in the basis of calculating the number of delegates entitled to represent each county at All-Ireland Congress.

The County was entitled to send twenty-three delegates to last Congress but they were very much short of that number when the roll was called. A similar thing happened as far as many other counties were concerned.

The Association has grown amazingly in numbers in the last forty years, and the 1,051 clubs of 1924 had grown to 3,117 by last season—a three fold increase over the period.

Representation at Congress has remained the same despite the big growth in the number of clubs—a basis of one delegate for each ten affiliated clubs or fraction of ten over five, with a single representatives for a county with less than five affiliations.

Looking over the 1964 affiliations the lowest Irish county had over forty clubs, so each could be represented by a minimum of four delegates. On the other end of the scale Cork were entitled to 23, Wexford 19, Dublin 18, Galway and Limerick 17 each. And these were in addition to the regular

county representative on the Central Council.

It costs the far away counties, particularly, a tidy sum to be fully represented at Congress and very few would grouse at a cut in representation. In fact it is the feeling of many keen students that a far more sensible approach would be the extension of Congress over a period of at least three days which coupled with a much smaller attendance would provide a more business-like approach to the many complex problems now facing the Association.

Individuals and clubs go to a lot of trouble in preparing proposals for submission to Congress. It is becoming increasingly apparent that many of them are not getting a fair deal on Easter Sunday.

Take the seventy-two motions

listed for the Sunday session this year. Much hard work went into their preparation, but what happened at Congress? They were all disposed of in less than eight hours, or at the rate of about ten motions per hour.

That gave about six minutes to each motion, and if anyone thinks that is a fair and just way of dealing with these serious proposals, well all that can be said is that they would want to have their heads examined. It may be a modern way of putting it, but surely that is the position.

Congress is altogether too rushed at present, and we have too many delegates attending who have very little interest in the proceedings. At least that is the only conclusion the serious minded could come to. The look of boredom on some is not easy to hide

**MUNSTER
MEDLEY**



**THEO ENGLISH (left)
and SEAMUS POWER**

**. . . two Munster
veterans still
going strong.**



and then the drop in attendance as the evening wears on tells its own story.

The most sensible solution I have heard is that the agenda for Congress should be circulated to County Boards at least a month in advance, and be considered by them, with the delegates getting instructions on any item of particular interest to the county.

Two delegates, in addition to the regular Central Council representative should be sufficient for counties with fifty clubs or less, with an additional one representative for each further fifty clubs, or part of fifty, over thirty. This would reduce the Cork delegation to six, Wexford five; Dublin, Galway and Limerick, four each. These, with their permanent representative should give all counties ample coverage, and permit them send dedicated men who would be prepared to devote three days to the work of the Association at top level.

It should not, of course, be all work and no play, and it is my firm belief that it is high time some social events were arranged in

connection with Congress. In this line the Association could usefully study other organisations who are in the habit of holding annual conferences. And maybe we could follow the example of some of them too by allowing Congress rotate to the different provinces. It might do a lot of good in many ways.

CHAMPIONSHIP TIME

As these notes appear the ever glamorous Munster Senior Hurling Championship is just getting into its stride—the opening ties introducing Clare v. Galway, at Galway, and Limerick v. Waterford, at Cork, on June 6. The decision of these two ties will have the road clear for the semi-finals, to which Tipperary and Cork have already been promoted.

The question most hurling fans are debating at the moment concerns the ability of the top teams of recent years—Tipperary and Waterford to hold the stage again on this occasion. This pair have ruled the roost in Munster since 1957, with Tipperary collecting five and Waterford three of the titles decided in that period.

Both have shown some evidence of the wear and tear that such long service entails. They have introduced some “spare parts” with a considerable degree of success, and at the end of last season the general opinion appeared to be that they were good enough for at least another year—if not a lot more.

The winter has been hard on them, however, and despite qualifying, as expected, for the National League semi-finals, the feeling in the other Munster counties and in Galway is that the end cannot be too long delayed now. Their argument is that the patient is the last to realise how bad he is, and nobody likes to break unpleasant news to him. On this theory they are all building hopes of filling Tipperary's shoes as Munster senior hurling champions.

Maybe they are just castles in the air, but anyway one can sense greater interest than for many a day in the forthcoming games and hopes are certainly high throughout the province. All counties are preparing earnestly—and some rip roaring games look in the offing.

WHEN ALL-IRELAND HURLING FINALS WILL BE CURTAIN-RAISERS TO RUGBY INTERNATIONALS AT CROKE PARK . . .

By CICERO

MY passing and my very casual comment last month, to the effect that what this country most needs is a national movement based on the "freedom of the individual" and led by Tom Woulfe, brought forth a most surprising reaction. Believe it or not but I have been flooded with letters.

A few of the letters decried the idea no end—but the vast majority hailed the suggestion and the following extract from a lengthy submission by Cathbárr Uas. Climéiseach of Dublin typifies the sentiments of the "fors".

An tUasal Climéiseach writes :

Dear Mr. Cicero,

May I congratulate you on your timely and thought-provoking comments in the May issue of "Gaelic Sport". I agree wholeheartedly that this country urgently needs a new liberal party and I can think of no one better suited to lead it than Tom Woulfe.

As I see it the new party would be based on liberal ecumenism and semi-practical anti-nation-

alism. This is what the Ireland of 1965 needs in this era of partially defunct crypto-extremism and quasi pseudo-patriotic sentimentality.

Liberty, equality and personal freedom I say. Michael Collins and Jeremiah P. Fitzbrackey did not die that we should be governed by outmoded ultra-radical cliches.

This dramatic new-born idea of yours requires extensive discussion and I know that the vast majority of the Irish people would heartily welcome some further comments from you on this very vital subject.

Lest any of my readers might wonder what has all this to do with Gaelic games, I would explain that elsewhere in his letter an tUasal Climéiseach made numerous points which link the entire proposed political developments with what he called "the foul and perfidious Ban".

Also by way of introduction he explained how his maternal grandfather would have been one of the

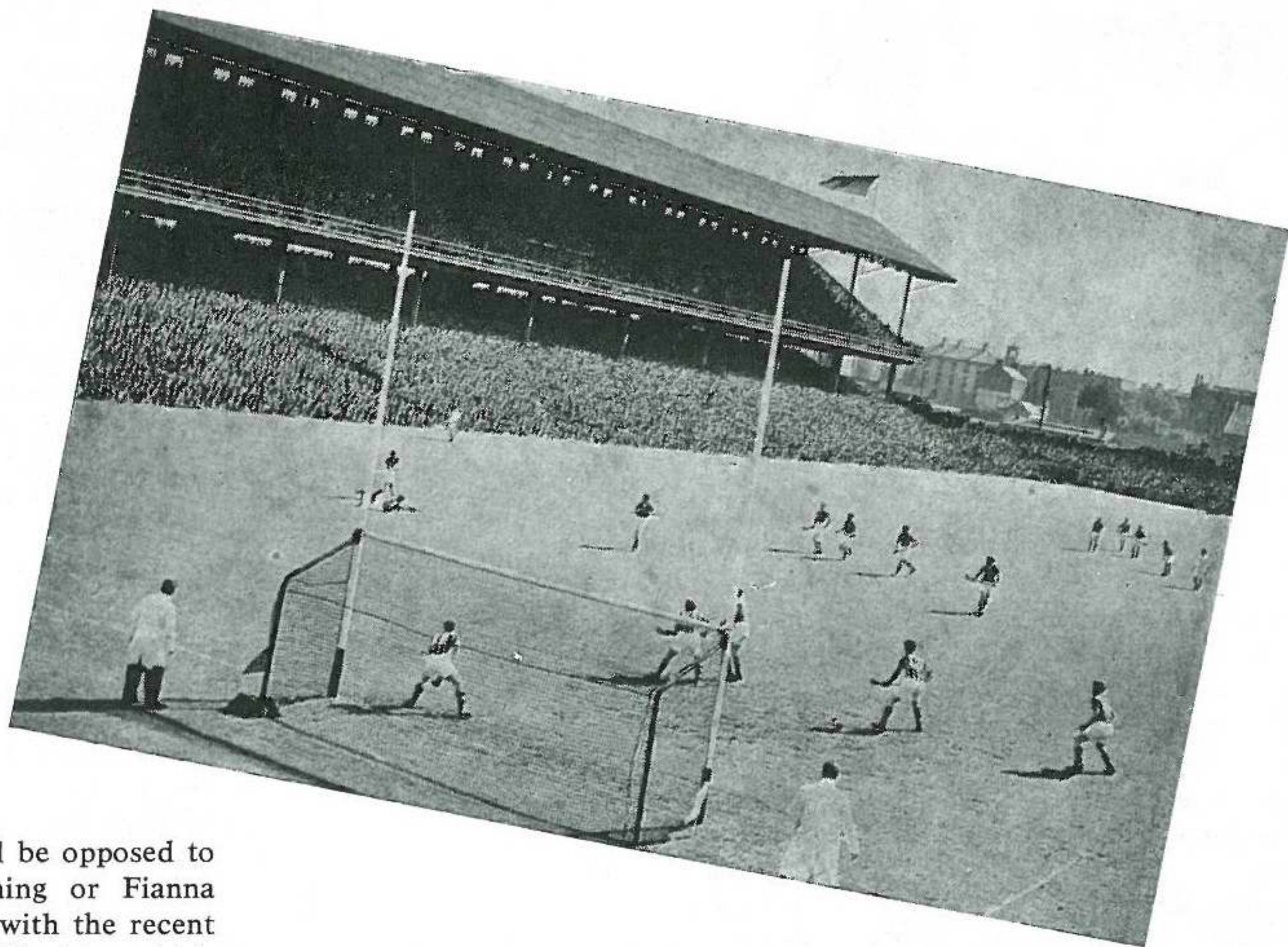
founders of the G.A.A. were it not for two punctures which befell his bicycle on that historic day of November 1, 1884.

As a result of those frustrating punctures Mr. Climéiseach's grandfather was forced to halt his journey to Thurles and it might therefore be aptly said that because of a nail immortality was lost. Historically, of course, this is a very interesting fact.

One cannot but wonder what course the G.A.A. might in fact have taken had he made the meeting. Who knows but that he would have changed the entire policy as laid down by the founders who did turn up.

Anyway let us leave speculation aside and get back to the vital subject of An tUasal Climéiseach's letter—he, and through him "the vast majority of the Irish people", want further comment from me on how this new-born political idea should be developed.

Well first let us begin with a name for the new party. Despite "Fine Girl You Are" being rather



catchy, I would still be opposed to either Fine something or Fianna something. In fact, with the recent party registration difficulties which we have seen demonstrated, I would recommend staying clear of anything which might suggest plagiarism.

"Freedom Riders" would appeal to the young—but lacks respectability, while "The Radical Liberal Party" strikes me as being too much a 19th century affair. "The Changeling Party" would not be bad—you know from the word "change", while "The Banality Party" might be even better as it so obviously suggests a deep concern for the Ban. For the time being I think that we will stick to the latter—without, of course, registering it as yet.

Now for party policy. The main appeal should spring from the fact that the party would be pro everything that was against pseudo anti-liberalism, and the first point in a sweeping 16-point programme would have to be the nationalisation of the G.A.A.

The G.A.A. would be made into a state institution with Tony O'Reilly being transferred from An Bord Baine to become chairman of An Bord G.A.A. This would, of course, mean that Mr. O'Reilly would also have to resign his directorship of Nitrigin Eireann Teo. and the Agricultural Credit Corporation—no doubt former Dublin and Clare hurler, Brendan Considine, would miss him from the latter body.

On Mr. O'Reilly taking to his new office, Croke Park would become open-common with Billy Morton being given the privilege of staging the first multi-racial sports festival there.

All-Ireland hurling finals would be switched from September to become curtain-raisers to rugby internationals, while Gaelic football and soccer would be amalga-

mated and confined to a brief season in mid-autumn—thereby giving rugby a free hand during the rest of the year.

The net result of this dynamic planning programme would be that Hector Grey would be selling Triple Crowns and supply would far exceed the demand.

Big G.A.A. bosses would be interned for a period of rehabilitation and when rehabilitated shipped to Ballybunion to work as "boots" in local hotels.

Lesser G.A.A. bosses would be sentenced to work as groundsmen at Lansdowne Road.

I don't think I need go any further. With that sort of policy "The Banality Party" would sweep the country and a new Ireland would emerge to become once again the jewel of the West.

CORK CAN MAKE THAT FINAL!

SAYS

EAMONN YOUNG

FIRST let's have facts and then draw conclusions. Cork's last All-Ireland hurling final was in 1956 when we were beaten by Wexford and Art Foley stopped a bullet from Christy Ring towards the end. Wexford were better that day and in my opinion should have had the game sewed up long before the end.

We last won an All-Ireland in 1954 when our conquerors of '56 went under. Nick O'Donnell had a collar bone broken by a mighty shot from Christy Ring; Vince Twomey, the Cork centre-back scored a great and vital point; Johnny Clifford slapped in a flying ground ball from the Nally Stand corner and that goal put Cork on the way home. Wexford got a few nice chances towards the end but a few good players wasted them.

Since then people around the country have been asking what happened Cork hurling. We all have our answers. I have given mine many a time and the cruel part of it is that no matter what we win in the future we now have missed our turn. Counties like Tipperary, Kilkenny and Cork have their hour in the sun every five years or so. They lose an All-Ireland final; they win an All-Ireland final. But they are up there with the best. We have dropped out and there goes a few All-Irelands that can never be recovered.

Right. So much for the past and

I make no secret of the fact that I, like many another Corkman, am a bit bitter. But let's look to the future and in doing so examine the present. The Cork side as presently constituted has beaten Clare and Galway, run Kilkenny and Tipperary to a point, had an intermediate championship win over Tipperary as well.

That's the sum total of our recent exploits. Nothing to write home about, is it?

The point defeat by Kilkenny was in Nowlan Park and the boys played very well. The Tipperary game was in Cork and we had a big lead at half-time. Ten minutes from the end Doney Nealon came on the field and the Tipperary forwards all began to move—mostly out of position. Our backs were coddled and the scores came. It wasn't that Cork were bad; in our inexperience they made us look that way. In short the team has beaten nothing for neither Clare or Galway are in the top class and in any case the wins over them were not in the championship.

Just now the side was engaged in tournament games with Limerick and Clare. The players are out every Sunday in club or county games, the Glen Rovers led by captain Christy Ring (who hasn't been playing very much due to an injured thigh muscle) have had a busy spell in the Munster club championship. Jim Barry has been

training Cork teams since about 1928 and is still in charge of the physical preparation.

Self-appointed selectors like myself are always picking teams and putting round pegs no doubt into square holes and we all await the first Sunday in July when our men meet Limerick or Waterford in the first round of the Munster championship.

The men available are more or less as follows: Pat Barry, a black-haired lively young man in his twenties, was the goalie. A slim lad of 21 from the Glen named Finbarr O'Neill took over. This O'Neill has class—and a very fast eye. He needs cover and that's the job of Tom O'Donoghue of Sarsfields, another in his early twenties who has tucks of enthusiasm. Tom trains very hard but lacks experience. He's a strong blocky lad of about five eight, built on the lines of the late Sean Og. He may be quite good.

Peter Doolin, of average size, a fine hurler and a resolute man, is the right corner back, and Denis Murphy, a little over thirteen stone stripped, is at left full. The new centreback is Paddy O'Connor, about twenty-one and a fair determined hurler. He's only cutting his teeth in inter-county hurling but the spirit is good. At right half back there's Paddy Fitzgerald, who has played a lot of hurling in Croke Park and elsewhere. Sean Barry a stylish ciotog is at left half back and he is a very nice hurler. Short in inches, but at left half he may not be handicapped.

Jerry O'Sullivan of the Glen who has played a lot with Cork has recently been dropped. Jerry trains very hard, winter and summer. They say he has overdone it. Perhaps. I hope he will be back for the championship. Denis O'Riordan was out with an injured wrist. He should be back in action by the time this is read. So much for the backs.

● TO PAGE 43.



FATHER DAMIEN, SS. CC.,
Apostle of the Lepers.

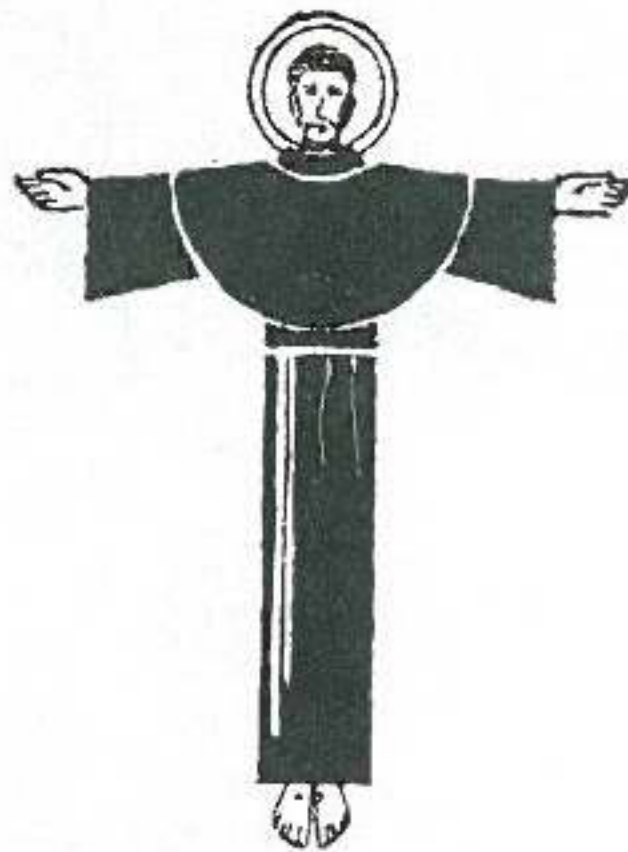
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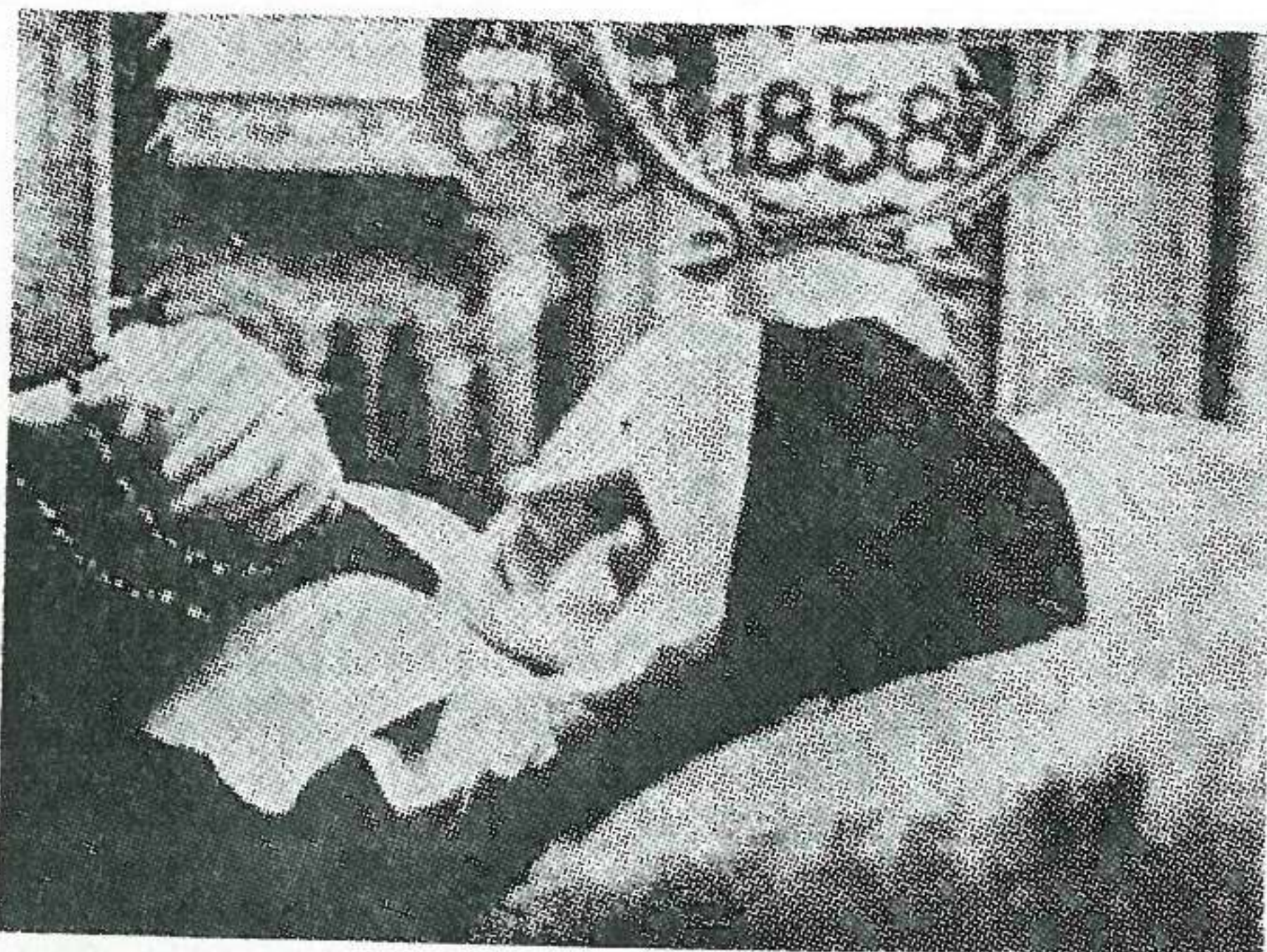
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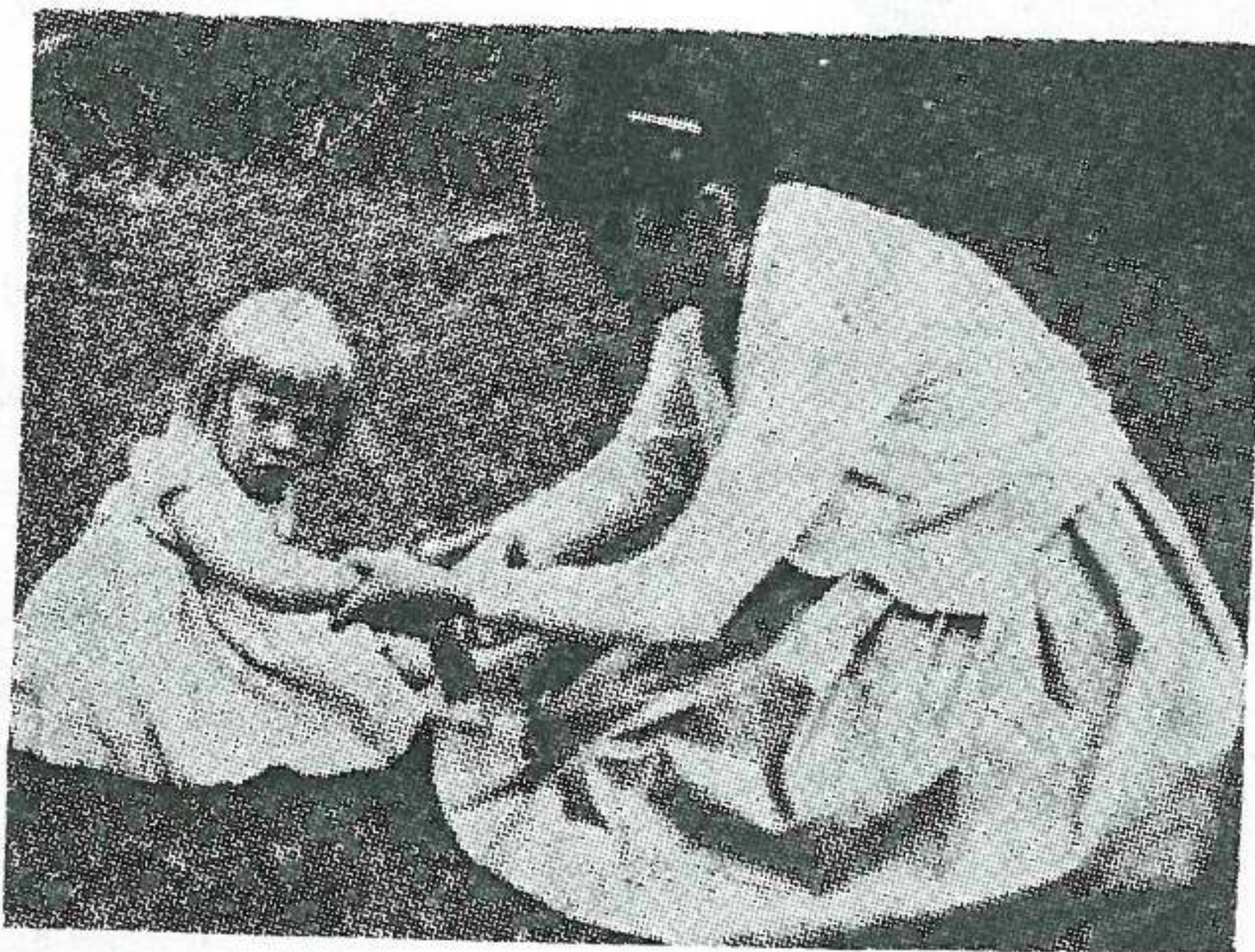
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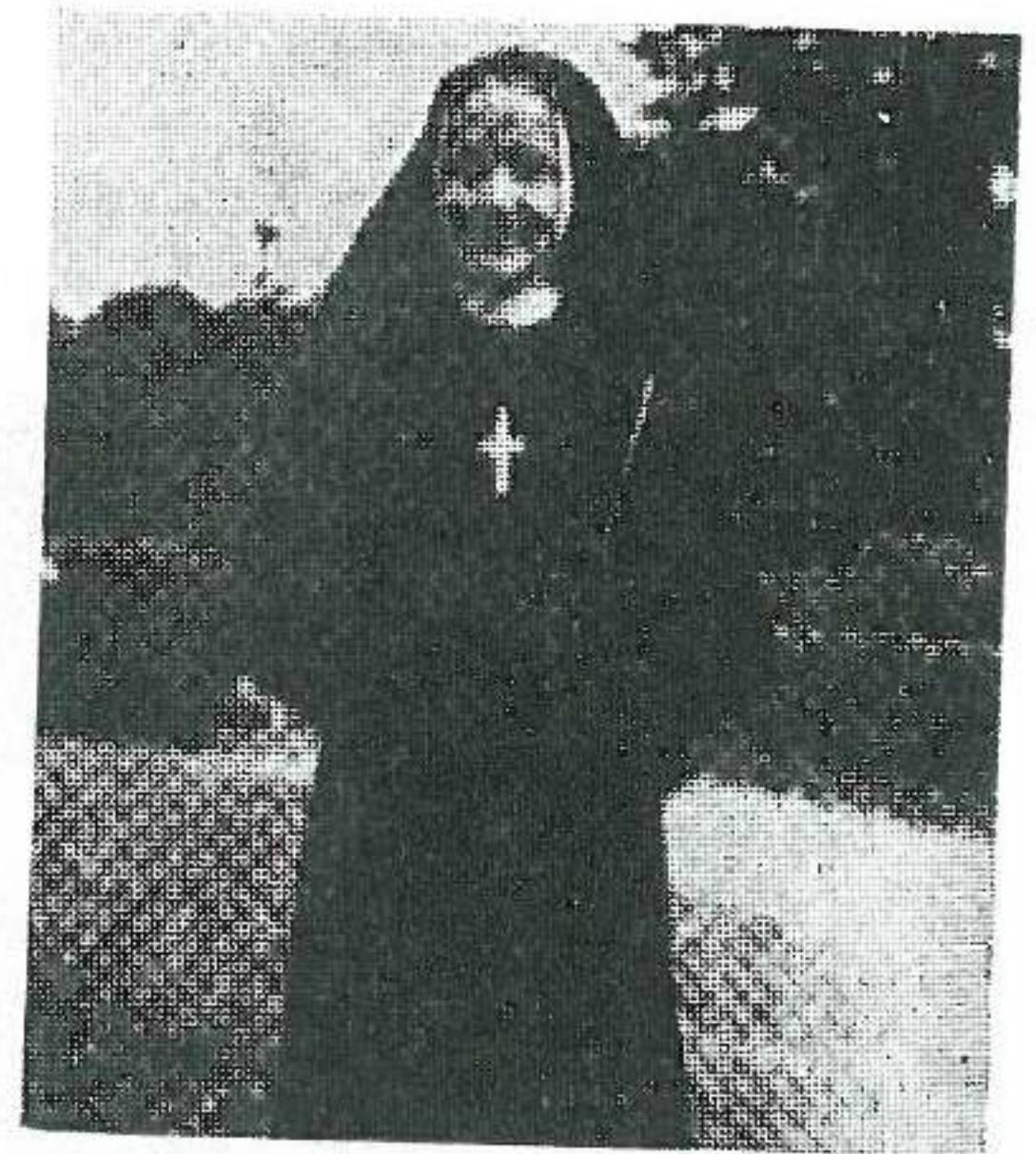


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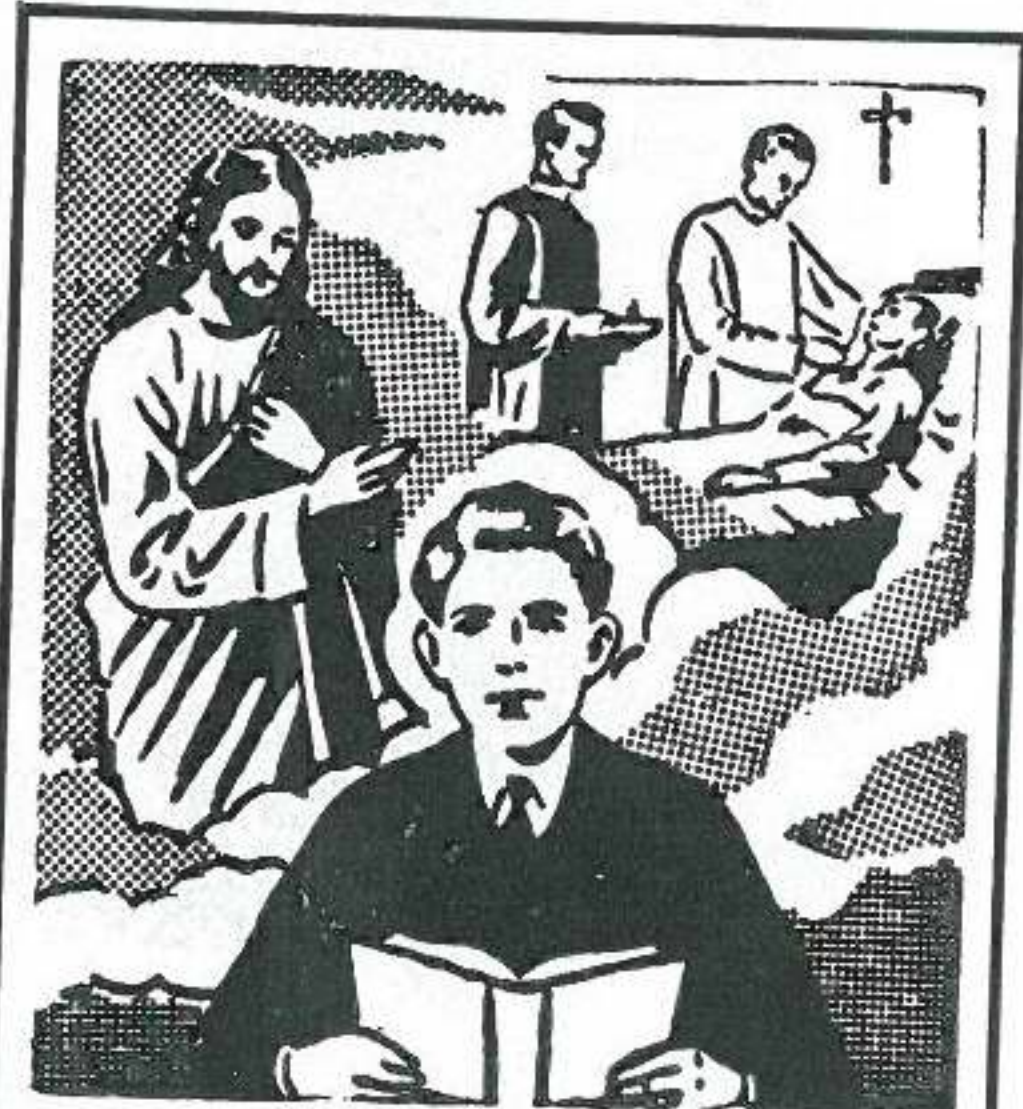
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JOE LENNON

● FROM PAGE SEVEN.

players have such feelings. However, the sooner we accept that skilled performance is a complicated issue which must first of all be explained either verbally or visually, then practised physically and mentally before we can expect good form under competitive conditions, the sooner will we start talking more common sense and less baloney in the dressing room.

If you show your players how to take a penalty kick for example, then let them practice it four or five hundred times a month, chances are they will never miss one. If you never devote any time to this particular skill, then you will have just as much (or as little) confidence in them when the occasion arises as you deserve. Once again, you don't fool anybody.

There would be fewer nervous faces and ulcerous tummies in football if we would only accept the simple fact that there is no substitute for practice.

In general then, immediate pre-match preambles should be in the nature of mental revision and if time and space permit a little physical revision also.

We have not even got to the sideline yet but then most of the problems which arise when the game starts can be solved before you do get so far if you think ahead.

By the time, your team runs out onto the field, both they and you should be confident that they are capable of performing the task in hand and that those fifteen men are the best you have to do it. If this were the case, the team manager should be able to go and have a seat in the stand and enjoy the game knowing that the players will do their best and he has done all in his power to ensure that they will.

The trainer and coach will stay with the substitutes in case of injury and to help sort out tactical plans which either need altering or replacing.

The trainer should be ever ready to attend to the winded or injured player. It should not be left to St. John's Ambulance or some such association. This is a bad habit which is creeping into Gaelic games even in Croke Park. Trainers should not allow anybody else to take care of their players (except where a doctor is needed). A good cold sponge, a bit of a rub and a few words of encouragement from the trainer can work wonders.

The coach should try (it is very hard not to) to get a side-line seat and keep it. If possible he should not pace the line haranguing each player at each move.

Now that we have the team out of the dressing room and onto the pitch, we will look at what can be done to improve the performance of the players,—next month.

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TOM NEVILLE



FACE-TO-FACE WITH SEAN O'DONNELL

AS the crowd streamed out of Croke Park following the Kilkenny-Wexford National League semi-final of a few weeks back there was probably only one point arising from the game on which one could find complete unanimity and that was that Tom Neville had a powerful game.

Playing at full-back he had a brilliant hour and proved the old maxim that a great hurler is invariably a versatile one.

But then great games and versatility are nothing new to Tom Neville. As well as being one of the finest defensive hurlers of this decade he is also a first-class footballer and were it not that hurling holds pride of place at present in Wexford, Neville would almost certainly be hitting the high spots with the larger ball. As it is he is no stranger on the Wexford football team and in fact was selected for the Leinster colleges in football some nine years ago.

I recently had this interview with the Slaneyside star.

O'Donnell—What is wrong with Wexford hurling at present?

Neville—Enthusiasm is lacking among the players. This, in my opinion, is the main trouble.

O'D.—In what way is this lack of enthusiasm evident?

N.—In training. The turn out is not what it might be and players

are simply not giving enough by way of effort and co-operation.

O'D.—Has the new hurling-revival plan any bearing on Wexford affairs?

N.—Well juvenile and school leagues have been organised throughout the county for quite some years and there is tremendous enthusiasm here and great work is being done. Wexford is certainly playing its part in the hurling revival.

O'D.—Will Wexford ever return as a football force?

N.—Looking at things as they are at present there is little indication of it. However, the tradition is still there and you never know.

O'D.—Which game do you prefer?

N.—I like them both equally well and I get maximum pleasure by playing both games. I also feel that by playing both one is less inclined to tire of playing. The variety provided by the two games is therefore stimulating and beneficial.

O'D.—Are you satisfied with the Rules and principles of the G.A.A.?

N.—Yes I am. The only change I would ask for is that goalkeepers get more protection.

O'D.—Who would you regard as your most difficult opponent?

N.—Phil Grimes, Tom Walsh,

and Donie Nealon come readily to mind and I would not care to specify more than that.

O'D.—Who were your boyhood idols?

N.—Nick O'Donnell perhaps most of all and it was a wonderful experience to play alongside him years later. Then there were the Rackards and of course, last but not least, Christy Ring.

O'D.—Which game do you like to remember most?

N.—The 1960 All-Ireland final was my first major occasion and I will always cherish the memory of that victory but oddly enough I rate the 1962 final as an even greater experience — and this despite being beaten. It was, of course, a great game, and, need I say, we should have won it.

O'D.—How about disappointments?

N.—Last year's League final against Tipperary would take beating.

O'D.—Finally Tom how about Wexford's hurling future?

N.—On recent performances it may not seem very bright but the team is now being looked after by Nick Power, a Kilkenny man who trained the victorious St. Peter's College, Wexford, side of two years ago, and it might be said that Wexford's future is now in his capable hands. Personally, I am confident that we will be back.

When the underdogs became favourites...

EAMONN YOUNG CONTINUES HIS SERIES ON THE CORK TEAM OF THE MID-FIFTIES

IN the lovely summer of 1957 Cork footballers were grimly intent on the All-Ireland trail. A year previous in the All-Ireland final Sean Purcell, Jack Mangan, Frank Stockwell, Jack Mahon, "Pook" Dillon and their comrades had just pipped us.

Now with Kerry's scalp hanging surprisingly to Waterford's belt we in turn were after the Deices in Thurles.

On a blazing day in Thurles we met them. Jackie Lyne, a great footballer, was the referee but the Killarney man was in very charitable mood that day. No doubt he didn't want anybody put off the field and that's a sporting way to look at it.

The players sensed the attitude however and before long it was a mighty tough game in which you'd be wise to get rid of the ball as soon as possible—and watch yourself thereafter.

We had warned our men not to retaliate and I'd like to set on record the restraint showed that day by Neally Duggan, the Cork captain, who himself never held the reputation of an angel or wanted it.

He played football throughout and scored six fine points out of the 0-16 to 1-2 final score.

How the side trained for the game against Galway on August 11. The hard going before the Waterford game and the attention to training thereafter had the men in exceptionally good form.

But there was a snag. Timmy O'Callaghan, a big young man from Macroom who had been selected at full back for the Munster final,

was still out of action due to a bad ankle and Denis Bernard had hurt his ankle playing for his club—Dohenys. We didn't know if the two vital men would be playing.

Galway had two changes on the champion team—Billy O'Neill and Gerry Kirwan were replaced by two good footballers—M. J. Hawkshaw and Tom McHugh. The Stockwell-Purcell combination was as slick as ever.

On Saturday evening in Dublin we had to face facts however. Tim Callaghan was fit to play but it would be madness to field Denis Bernard. His ankle wasn't up to it.

So that night we picked the team anew and made a few startling changes. We put full-back Paddy Driscoll out to centre-back to mark Sean Purcell and brought back our left half back, Dan Murray, to keep an eye on Frankie Stockwell. John Joe Henchion who had played plenty football as back and forward took Dan Murray's place. But for fear of upsetting the team, and particularly Dan Murray who wasn't a good sleeper before big games, we decided to keep the new team quiet until just before the game. When it was announced everyone was keyed up anyhow so it didn't make any difference. I thought Dan Murray was pleased to match his speed, strength and determination against the nimble Stockwell.

But that game wasn't long on when the old firm was in action and in twelve minutes had three of Galway's four points. So now we had given the champions four points up and forty-eight minutes to go.

Joe O'Sullivan, a stylish promotion from the junior team and "Toots" Kelliher got us nice points and in the eighteenth minute, when Eric Ryan floated a perfect side-line kick to the square, centre-forward Niall Fitzgerald went high over everyone in a magnificent leap to punch a darling shot to the net. Stockwell levelled but they started a grand Cork movement in which Ryan, Moore and O'Sullivan handled before Duggan blew it past Mangan for a grand score.

Eamonn Goulding went through for a fine shot. Jack Mangan saved and dashed out to clear but in came "Toots" Kelleher in that tearaway style of his and there was a sudden roar as he blocked Mangan's kick and the ball rolled towards the net. Alas it hit the upright and someone scooped it away.

Sean Purcell's point from a free sent us to the dressing-room with a 2-2 to 0-6 lead.

There was no cause for complaint. Dan Murray was staying very close to Frank Stockwell—and Murray was a very good player of the same size as his great opponent and very strong. Paddy Driscoll was out on his own marking Sean Purcell and when I asked him after the game why he had dashed out of his place for the first high ball he told me his mind was made up that every ball that dropped was going to be his.

After half-time they roasted us. Eric Ryan and Sean Moore struggling gallantly at centrefield ran into a Galway half-backline of Jack Kissane, Jack Mahon and Mick Greally that took everything before them for ten minutes. Our defence rocked on it's feet but wouldn't give in. Dan Murray breathed fire down Stockwell's neck and Paddy Driscoll even improved. It took Galway 17 minutes to get level with two pointed frees from Purcell's educated foot.

● TO PAGE 34.

● FROM PAGE 33.

Purcell and Stockwell switched. We switched our men with them and again it worked.

Then Stockwell placed Coyle and that point put the West ahead and on the road home. Twelve minutes to go and they went at it hammer and tongs with our defence hanging on for grim life.

No score for seven-and-a-half minutes. Playing to the Railway end "Toots" Kelleher was fouled. From the free Eric Ryan gathered and sent in a fifty kick from under the Cusack just beside me.

Now for it said we all. What happened no one will know but Gerry Daly left it to Mangan and the goalie didn't come out thinking, I suppose, that the full would take it. Anyway to our delight she hopped high and mighty over the bar and we were level again.

Two minutes later Cork were

given a free over on the Hogan side about twenty-five yards out. Croke Park was hushed.

Tall Eric Ryan, the Cork star that day, moved over to take the shot. This would be the shot that mattered for the clock would soon decide the day.

Calmly the midfielder moved up with those long strides of his, down went the head and away went the ball rising nicely straight and true for the posts—and right between them. The game was over. Cork by a point. We had beaten the champions and were in another final. Galway took it like true sportsmen.

We were favourites for the final, in which we were meeting Louth, but that means nothing to the average player who usually prefers to be the underdog. We got down to training three weeks before the game. This was the one that wasn't going to slip. ('Till next month).

O CEALLAIGH

● FROM PAGE 15.

they provided — soul stirring struggles that the old timers still recall with unfeigned relish. We remember some of the star figures — Dan Troy, Tom McGrath, "Twager" O'Grady, Mick Rochford (Cloughaun), Denny Lanigan, Bob McCorkey, Paddy McInerney, Mick Murphy and Paddy Hartigan (Young Irelands).

Croom, Newcastle West, Cappamore, Pallas and Rathkeale in hurling; Glin, Abbeyfeale and Knockane in football, all had their moments of glory but the team that made most impression in the second half of the 'twenties was undoubtedly Fedamore, for whom the four Clohesey brothers—Paddy, Andy, Jack and Dave; the Gleesons—Billy, Stephen and Dick; Tom Conway, Tommy Shinney and Mick Condon captured much of the stage.

Ahane ruled the roost all through the 'thirties and well into the next decade, and names like those of Paddy Scanlon, Timmy Ryan, Mick, John and Anthony Mackey, Jacky Power, the Herberts, Paddy Kelly and Mick Hickey will be long remembered by Limerick fans. In the space of seventeen years Ahane won twenty Limerick senior county crowns—fifteen in hurling and five in football—along with Munster, All-Ireland and National League hurling titles in generous measure.

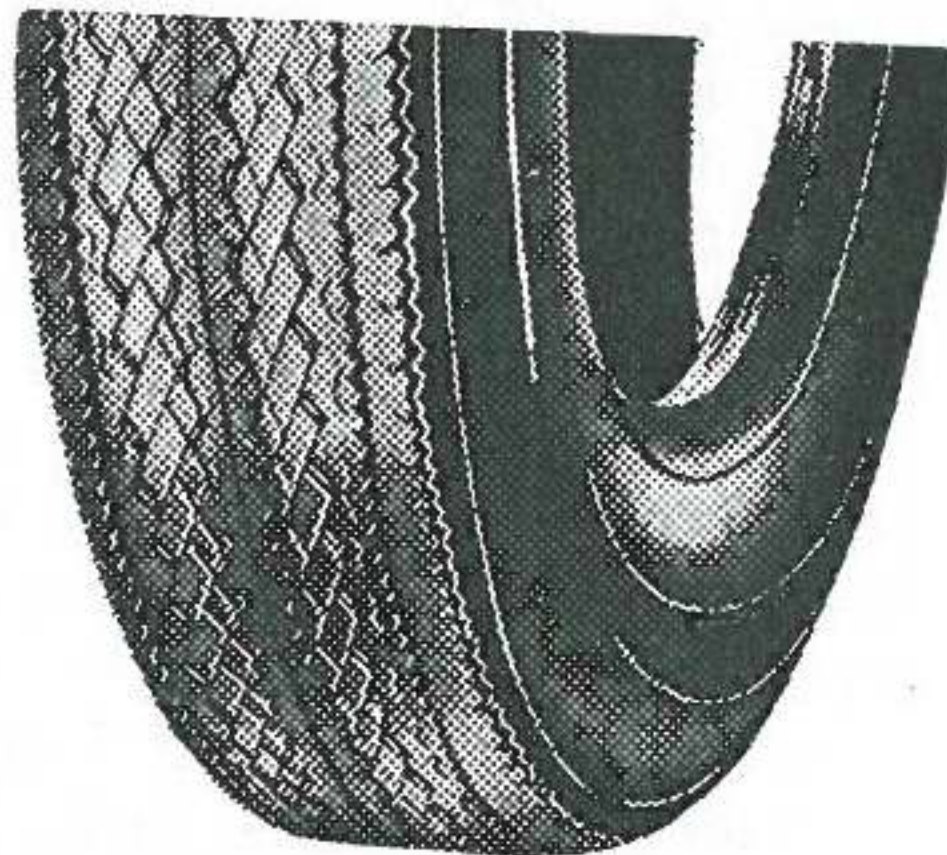
COVER STORY

This month we feature an action shot from the recent National Football League game between Meath and Mayo. With the championships now getting into full swing, many shrewd judges—even at this early stage—are forecasting that the men from the Royal County will be taking home the Sam Maguire Cup in September.

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A BOOST FOR DERRY'S FOOTBALL PRESTIGE

HEARTIEST congratulations to St. Columb's College, Derry, the new All-Ireland champions. Their victory over gallant Belcamp O.M.I. last month was narrow but nonetheless deserved. Derry football should certainly enjoy an upsurge as a result of this triumph.

While on the subject of colleges' football, the Ulster Colleges' Council is due a word of praise for having got through its vast programme for 1964-65.

The winners list reads:—

McRory Cup — St. Columbs,

McLarnon Cup—St. Patrick's, Cavan.

Ranafast Cup (J.F.) — St. Colman's, Newry.

Corn na nOg (Juv. F.) — St. Columb's, Derry.

Dalton Cup (special S.F. competition)—St. Norbett's, Kilnacrott.

Loch an Iubhair Cup (special Juv. F.)—St. Mary's, Dundalk.

Senior hurling championship — St. Mary's, Belfast.

WHAT IS WRONG

What is wrong with Down foot-

ball? How the mighty have fallen. They are now but a dim shadow of the great side of a few years ago. Can they come again or is it the end of an era?

I would say yes, it is the end of an era but they will certainly come again. Having had such a brilliant spell at the top, Down have created a tradition and a confidence in the county which will never die.

Brian Denvir now has the job of building a new team. It may take a while before the Mournemen are again back at the very top — but meanwhile they will still remain a force equal of keeping the very best on their toes.

Certainly Down will never again be a football nonentity.

GLASGOW

Latest news from Glasgow G.A.A. is that the Pearses club has been reorganised. During the great days of Gaelic games in Glasgow (1948-'55) Pearses were a very formidable side and their many duels with Paisley Gaels were hectic.

When Glasgow eventually qualified for the All-Ireland junior football final, Pearses had no less than ten players on the team.

The news that Pearses are now back certainly suggests that a major revival in Glasgow Gaeldom may be around the corner.

The big problem which the Association has to face in Scotland is the fact that many of the Irish there are involved in seasonal and non-permanent employment. Hence players come and go and it is very difficult for clubs to maintain a team.

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BRIAN McDONALD WILL PLAY WITH ROSCOMMON GAELS

● Roscommon footballer Cyril Mahon recently informed me that BRIAN McDONALD (right) the Dublin star will play for Roscommon Gaels club during the coming year, renewing football acquaintance with his former school friends from the C.B.S. in the town. He also told me that it was likely that Roscommon star footballer George Geraghty would field with Castlebar Mitchels in the year ahead.



Galway have a bye into Connacht final

IT is championship time again and we have the unusual arrangement in Connacht that Galway have been given a bye into the provincial final. This will certainly not help them in their bid to retain the All-Ireland crown for lack of competition is never an asset.

Who will they meet in the provincial final. I fancy Mayo to edge Roscommon and Sligo to have the better of Leitrim — even at Carrick-on-Shannon. Having seen Mayo defeat Sligo in the Gael-Linn Cup final, I must opt for a Mayo-Galway Connacht final—a repeat of 1964 with probably Castlebar as the venue on this occasion.

JOE CORCORAN

One Mayo footballer at present very much in form is the recalled Joe Corcoran of Ardnaree. Joe, you will recall, was a star of two years back but was not selected to tour the U.S. with the Mayo side. Then followed his premature retiral from inter-county competi-

tion. Now he is back and Mayo's best forward, nimble, brainy and accurate both from play and from frees. A decided acquisition for the green and red.

GUINNESS TOURNAMENT

Last year the Liam Mellow's hurling club organised a Hammond Lane sponsored hurling tournament confined to hurlers in Galway City. It was a marked success. This year the tournament is in progress again and now Fr. Griffin's football club have prevailed upon

Guinness to sponsor a football competition on similar lines. The more the merrier.

NED MORIARTY

Ned Moriarty the former Mayo star is making a name for himself at another game — billiards and snooker. Ned who still plays club football is now stationed in Swinford where he should help to revive interest in football as he has done in Belmullet and Kilmaine heretofore.

● TO PAGE 38.

CONNACHT COMMENT

by CHRIS MURRAY

CONNACHT

COMMENT

● FROM PAGE 37.

EAMONN CURLEY

Roscommon fans are hoping that Eamonn Curley will return to his brilliant best in the championship game versus Mayo. If he does, and he showed glimpses of old form in recent games, then Mayo had better be prepared for Curley on his day is irrepressible but one wonders has he now grown too heavy to display his true worth.

SLIGO CAPTAIN

Captain of the present Sligo team is their consistent and strong corner back from Curry, Padraic Keane. There is no more dedicated Sligoman than the former U.C.G. and U.C.D. man and I know he has strong views about the worth of



CATHAL FLYNN
Back for Leitrim.

Sligo football. Padraic is an unassuming man and well deserves the honour of captaincy.

Till next month then—slan libh.



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LOOKING AROUND

WHO said Christy Ring was old?

If he is what then of 57-year-old former Kildare All-Ireland footballer, Dermot Bourke, who is still playing football with Carbury and hurling with Broadford.

Dermot won his first medal in 1926 when he helped Carbury win the Kildare senior football title. His last medal came in 1960 when he was a members of the victorious Broadford senior hurling fifteen.

A teacher, Dermot was a member of the Kildare senior football team beaten by Kerry in the 1931 All-Ireland final.

* * *

The Tremane club, Co. Roscommon, have a novel way of raising funds. The team lines out in the bog, cuts and saves turf and then sells it. They are not, of course, the first to do this but they are at the same time no less worthy of high praise for their earnest enthusiasm.

* * *

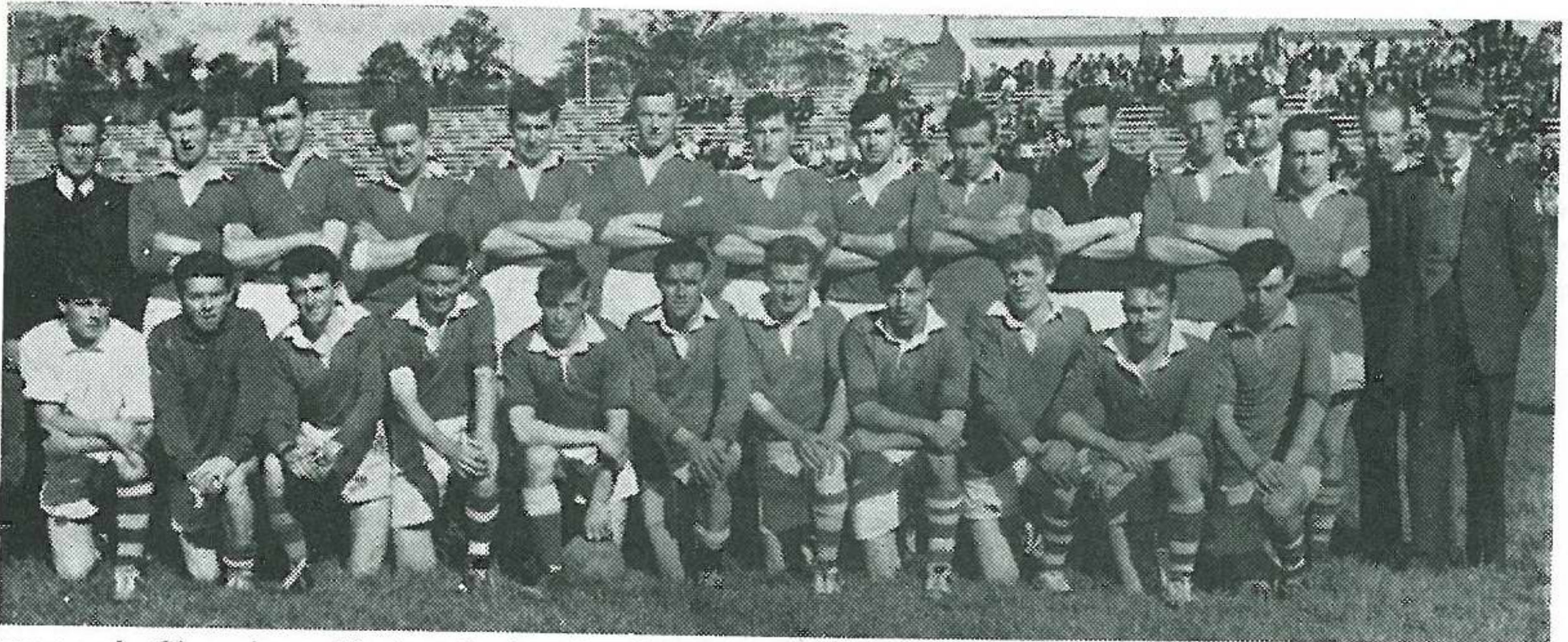
The Aer Lingus Gaelic Football team is flying high! They set out for the United States last month, had games against the Galway and Cork clubs of Boston at Dilboy Stadium, on the outskirts of the city and arrived home brandishing a new trophy presented by Tipperary-born Walter Norris.

Aer Lingus beat Cork by 5-7 to 3-12. But despite the fact that they only drew with Galway (2-7 to 1-10), they were awarded the trophy. However, the "Irish Americans" will have a chance to win it back next year.

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Fermanagh Champions, Newtownbutler St. Comgalls (Back Row, left to right): Peter Murray (Trainer), Eugene Donegan, Ciaran Murphy, Andy O'Keefe, James O'Keefe, Ignatius McQuillan, Gabriel O'Keefe, Larry Murphy, Tommy Heuston, Eddie Crudden, John Wilson, Gabriel Brock, Aidan Carron, Paddy Foster, James Caughey (Chairman). (Front Row left to right): Patsy McKiernan, Brian Wilson, Jimmy Connolly, Thomas Caughey, Vincent Sweeney (Capt.), Philip Wilson, Paddy Connolly, Eugene Heuston, Johnny McCaffrey, Terry McGorman, Patrick Caughey.

TUCKED away in a pocket of South East Fermanagh between the counties of Monaghan and Cavan is a little piece of Ireland which is heaven to me. It is Newtownbutler, a small village which down the years has played its part in the Fight for Freedom and has always kept the flag of the Gaelic Athletic Association flying high.

It was here that I first kicked a ball, first wore a football jersey and glad and proud I am to have shared in the honours won by the club—St. Comgall's.

The present club was founded in

A LITTLE PIECE OF HEAVEN . . .

by MATT FITZPATRICK

1938 by that great patriotic priest Fr. Tom Maguire, now Canon Maguire who despite his advanced age still takes an interest in the affairs of the club.

But of course there was football in the parish long before this date.

Gaelic games were played there prior to the turn of the century and down the years various clubs operated. Last year in GAEILIC SPORT I featured the team which

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DOWN MEMORY LANE

by AGNES HOURIGAN

MEMORY LANE is, in certain circumstances, a most enjoyable road on which to go strolling, and when the memories come to life it is more enjoyable still as I proved to my own satisfaction early last month at the Golden Jubilee dinner of the U.C.D. camogie club.

The University Club was founded in the year before the 1916 Rising, founded officially that is, for I was informed at the dinner that several of the students had been playing camogie in an unofficial basis for a couple of seasons before that. Ever since the U.C.D. camogie club has had a continued active existence so that now it holds the proud record of being the oldest senior club in Dublin.

In fact I heard it argued at the dinner too, that U.C.D. can claim to be the oldest senior club in Ireland for though the clubs in University College, Cork, and University College, Galway, were founded at the same time, the students in Cork and Galway have not always competed in out side competitions, U.C.D. have always fielded a side regularly in Dublin competitions.

And what a turn-out there was at the dinner, ranging from the very first captain, Mrs. Kelly to the captain of to-day, Gemma O'Neill, who hails from Ballinascreen in the County Derry. And what great stars of the game gathered there at the festive board. There names are part of the history of the game. There was Emmie Delaney, now

Mrs. Jim Lynch, who at centre-field piloted so many Dublin and U.C.D. teams to victory in the 'Thirties. There was that other great star at centre-back for U.C.D. and Dublin in more recent times, Doreen Brennan, who hails from Wexford, and there too was Doreen's great contemporary, Annette Corrigan, probably the greatest mid-field player of all-time who might to-day be challenging Kathleen Mills' record of fifteen All-Ireland medals, had she not decided, in her prime to leave the inter-county scene to up and coming players.

There was the former Aine O'Sullivan, now Mrs. Hogan and wife of the President of U.C.D. She captained the College to Ashbourne Cup victory as did Elizabeth Mulcahy, now Mrs. Gerry Beney. As for links with the G.A.A.—well the President of the U.C.D. club is Mrs. Josie Stuart wife of Dr. J. J. Stuart, former G.A.A. President and herself an All-Ireland medalist. Marcella Byrne, daughter of past G.A.A. President, Hugh Byrne, is also a past U.C.D. captain as is Noirin ni Chaoimh, now Mrs. Tempany, daughter of the late General Secretary, Pdraig O'Caomh. God rest him.

And All-Ireland medalists, we spent half the night trying to trace all the stars that U.C.D. gave to Dublin from Maire Ni Cheallaigh to Nuala Murney, and some one was always up with a new name.

We wondered too, why so many U.C.D. players in recent years have

hailed from the North, with relatively few from Dublin and the conclusion we came to was that under the present system across the Border, there are far greater facilities for University education than there are here in the Republic.

However the U.C.D. mentors believe that with the new Colleges' competitions, particularly in Leinster the traditional camogie centres will be sending more students to the Universities in future who are already keen on the game. And then they said the big problem facing the U.C.D. club will be to find enough pitches to cater for all their players in the new Belfield.

All in all it was a wonderful evening and it is interesting to note that it was an all-ladies affair. Most of those present were women well known in the professions, or else the wives of prominent and successful men. Yet they all retained as keen an interest as ever in the U.C.D. club and in the camogie game. Anyone who thinks camogie is a game for the 'Mary Hicks' should have just read the list of those who attended that Jubilee Dinner.

And just one item of gossip from the dinner, I was instructed to point out an interesting fact to 'Cicero' who wrote such an entertaining article in last month's issue. It was pointed out to me that whatever about Mr. Lemass and the G.A.A. at least the Lemass family has a camogie distinction. Peggy Lemass, a daughter of An Taoiseach, and now Mrs. O'Brien, played for the U.C.D. team that won the Ashbourne Cup some years ago at Belfield in what is still remembered as the wettest final ever played. And several people who were at that dinner the other week are personally prepared to testify that not alone did Mr. Lemass attend, but he stuck it out despite the rain until the last whistle blew.

MATT FITZPATRICK

● FROM PAGE THIRTY-NINE

won the 1917 title when Fr. John Robert Maguire was in the parish.

Before the present club was founded football activity was mainly found at Wattlebridge, a few miles outside the village and in fact the Wattlebridge Eire Ogs won the Fermanagh senior league in 1937. The following year saw the appearance of St. Comgalls and many of the players joined the town club. This left the 'Bridge without a club—a state which exists to this day.

Along with Canon Maguire the club's earliest workers were the late Peter McAvinney, Paddy Heuston, Mick Reilly and Paddy Fleming. These men all helped guide the club to the top.

At first honours were slow in coming and with the war years competitions were restricted. But

in 1942 St. Comgalls captured their first Fermanagh senior county title. Those who helped make club history that year were men like Bennie Allen, Vincent McAvinney, Peter and Michael Murray, Charlie McNamee, John J. and John Tom Lynch, Hughie Reilly and Francis Donegan.

At this period Armagh's Jim McCullagh was working in the locality and turned out on a few occasions for the club and one particular game still talked about was a tournament match at Wattlebridge between the locals and Cavan Slashers when the big Armaghman turned in a power display.

Came '44 and St. Comgall's were back again but this time with the double . . . league and championship and now strengthened by Manix and Jimmy Smith, whose brother Charlie was then playing for Meath, Newtownbutler had a club side regarded as the greatest in Ulster.

Many of the '42 side were still there but with young players like

Macarten McAvinney, Eamonn Carey now coming on the club was really strong. A feature of the 1944 team was the goalkeeper "Red" Tom Wilson, nearly 50 years young. He had been playing before most of the team were even born. "Red" was at the height of his career regarded as the finest full back in Ulster and he fittingly ended his great career in a blaze of glory.

Came next year and Eric McQuillan had the honour to captain Fermanagh in the Ulster final against Cavan. Eric later went to Shamrock's club in London where he is now an official.

A difference in the club arose in 1946 but the following year a few eager youngsters like Ignatius McQuillan, Willie Reilly, Francie Foy, Gerry McCarthy, Terry McDonagh and myself founded a minor team.

From that side grew the players who were later to restore the club to greatness.

One man who has a connection with that reformation is Ignatius (now Fr.) McQuillan who won all the honours the game could bestow and has shared in all the club's

● TO PAGE 46

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CORK CAN MAKE THAT FINAL!

● FROM PAGE 26.

At centre-field there's Ted Mahony a smallish man from Cloughduv—Dinny Barry Murphy's country. He plays with great spirit and never gives up but doesn't mark up very well so they moved him from the half back line to centre-field where his partner is a 21-year-old man with long legs and neat hurling called Justin McCarthy from Passage. There's good material here. He strikes pretty long and sometimes wide. But the material is there, I think, and he's very skilful.

Patsy Harte a tall lean man from Blackpool is a grand striker, has a neat swerve and plays in spurts. Over the hour Harte could be a star if he maintained the effort. He's accurate off frees and hand. Noel Gallagher, another polished player, is best at left wing and a hardy minor of last year named Con Roche of 'Barrs puts a ton of work into the hour at right wing. Con in his enthusiasm also hits long balls wide instead of sending them in.

In the full forward line John Bennett is the most dangerous and the Rockies man, who had a fair hour for Munster when they were beaten to their knees by Leinster in this year's Railway Cup, has steadiness, strength and fair



★ PADDY BARRY . . . a Cork hero of the 'fifties.

hurling. A lively young man of about thirteen stone named Mick Archer from the 'Barrs could be at full forward or right corner. There's great potential here I think. Not all Corkmen agree but my guess is wait 'till he is really fit and has had gained a bit more self-confidence which only wins can give.

In fact this applies to the whole team.

The last man is Bill Carroll of the Glen. This slim ciotog playing at right corner is a grand hurler who should get the scores if enough of the ball comes his way. He has a neat swerve and a good accurate shot. Add to those Jimmy Brohan who is playing pretty well and must be always remembered

for some great games. His fault is loose marking.

John O'Halloran of Rockies is doing exams. in U.C.C. He's big, strong and a good hurler. No Cork team can be picked without debating the name O'Halloran. His place is centre-field or centre-forward.

Lastly there's the lad they call the Maestro. Ringey, about to go to the States as I write, and has done a little training. He strips off fourteen stone and isn't quite as fast as he was. I don't know if he'll be considered when championship time comes for he has not been playing. I don't quite know if he wants to be considered. Naturally he doesn't want to pull on the jersey he wore so well for so long until he knows he can play his part.

So that's it.

No wonder they ask me to write about the Cork hurling team. If we don't tell the rest of the country about it on the field we must do it in print.

It's my fervent wish—and it's re-echoed by thousands down here—that soon the men in the scarlet jerseys won't need to fall back on a poor scribbler to tell the country of their deeds.

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by ALLEYMAN

THE GAME IN SOUTH AFRICA

READERS might be surprised to learn, that not alone is handball played in South Africa, but that this is the only external unit, which is affiliated to the Association at home.

Naturally enough, the game was brought to the Dark Continent by Irishmen, whose attempt at an earlier stage to promote hurling proved abortive. That was in 1932, when South Africa sent a hurling team to Ireland for the Tailteann Games, and hopes were high that the move would be an inspiration for the youth of the country to take up the game.

That particular party included six South African natives. The trip was reasonably successful though on their return to domicile, it became abundantly clear, that the original aims would not mature. The young native showed an inability to master the intricacies of hurling, perhaps, because he felt

a certain embarrassment at the high standard set by the Irish.

Thus, before it had even got off the ground, South African hurling died. The Irish immigrant now felt a complete break with the homeland, and though many efforts were made towards a revival, they met with little success. It was then decided to start handball.

A court was the first necessity but this, in turn, was made readily available by the Muldoon family, whose inclination towards Irish Nationalism ensured that finance would not baulk the venture. The alley was built in Johannesburg, where the Oblate Fathers co-operated to the full in the construction.

Between 1935 and 1950, handball flourished in Johannesburg, but then, temporary disaster struck, for the Oblate Fathers had to embark on a major re-building scheme, and the alley was

demolished. But this cloud also had its silver lining, for into the breach stepped Rev. Brother Mulholland, the first Provincial of the Irish Christian Brothers in South Africa.

He offered a site to the handball committee and by 1954, a de-luxe court, fully equipped with dressing rooms and showers had been built. Easter Sunday of that year proved to be an historic day, when the new alley was officially opened by Rev. Fr. McGrath, who was quite an accomplished player himself.

The Christian Brothers rowed in their assistance in every way, happy in the knowledge that they were both providing the young South African with healthy exercise and at the same time maintaining a link with home. A new committee was organised and with clubs formed in Johannesburg, Germiston, Boksburg, Benono, Brakpan and Florida, the game was thriving.

The native youth has also taken to it in a big way and some of them show quite skilful touches. Some of the older G.A.A. men, will I am sure, be able to recall the name Muldoon, whom I referred to earlier as the pioneers of the game in South Africa.

Brendan, in particular, who has been Secretary of the committee for many years did trojan work. Born in South Africa of Irish parentage he came to Ireland at an early age, and immediately took an interest in Gaelic games. In fact he was one of the pioneers of hurling and football in the now famed nursery of Knockbeg College.

Later on, he played for the Kickham Club and was also prominent in handballing circles. In the late twenties, he returned home to Johannesburg and immediately threw in his lot with the local club.

Nowadays, his big interest is South African handball, which he hopes to develop even more among the native youth.

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TOP SCORERS

● FROM PAGE 11.

C. Ring—6-4 v. Wexford—League, 1959.

N. Rackard—6-4 v. Dublin—Championship, 1954.

5. **S. Clohosey—6-3** v. Laois—Walsh Cup, 1956.

T. Errity—7-0 v. Galway—Challenge, 1957.

7. **B. Dwyer—6-1** v. Ulster—Railway Cup, 1962.

N. Rackard—5-4 v. Galway—Championship, 1956.

9. **D. Heaslip—6-0** v. Offaly—League, 1962.

M. Lynch—6-0 v. Wexford—Challenge, 1957.

L. Maloney—6-0 v. Cork—1959.

(T. Errity—Offaly; M. Lynch—Kilkenny; L. Maloney—Limerick.)

FOOTBALL

1. **F. Donnelly—5-8** v. Fermanagh—Lagan Cup, 1956.

2. **J. McCartan—5-4** v. Antrim—Lagan Cup, 1958.

3. **J. Joyce—5-3** v. Longford—Championship, 1960.

E. Goulding—6-0 v. Carlow—League, 1957.

5. **B. Hayden—3-7** v. Kilkenny—Championship, 1962.



★ JOHNNY JOYCE.

6. **S. White—4-3** v. Antrim—Challenge, 1954.

P. Nolan—4-3 v. Carlow—Championship, 1958.

8. **F. Donnelly—0-14** v. Monaghan—Challenge, 1963.

J. Joyce—4-2 v. C. Universities—1960.

S. Price—4-2 v. Derry—Challenge, 1964.

11. **H. Donnelly—3-4** v. Laois—Challenge, 1960.

J. Timmons—1-10 v. Munster Railway Cup, 1962.

J. Joyce—3-4 v. Mayo—Challenge, 1962.

(E. Goulding—Cork; B. Hayden—Carlow; S. Price—Antrim.)

JAY DRENNAN

● FROM PAGE 9.

ronised—at least the same standard of facility for enjoying themselves after their games and on other occasions, too.

Many prominent players have gone on record in recent years to urge this very point; sometimes, I have been sorry to note, they have not got a good hearing. Dr. Brosnan and Kerry seem to be giving a lead in this matter which will put them in the forefront of a great revolution for the better. But, then, has Kerry ever been far behind when the best ideas of the Association have been thought out?

The Kerry idea, in its present embryo form, involves building pavilions on some of the grounds of the county. The plans are at present in the blueprint stage with the architect, and there is every hope that they will be fine structures, containing, as well as the comforts for dressing and showering which have been so long and so unfairly overdue for our players, but also a bar for all to enjoy the convivial atmosphere, dining-rooms for meals, lounges and the best in the club-house amenities. I look forward with interest to the finalisation of the Kerry effort, and to the day when this beginning has been expanded into a complete social programme.

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MATT FITZPATRICK

● FROM PAGE FORTY-TWO

successes since. Now trainer of the very successful St. Columb's College, Derry, side he still finds time to appear for his club.

After the '47 reformation we entered junior ranks and won the all-county league in '49 and the junior championship the following year. Back in senior ranks the major honours were not long delayed and the senior championship was recaptured in 1954.

The year 1959 saw the title back again and with new talent like James and Gabriel and Andy O'Keeffe. In the early sixties the club was ousted in the final stages of the championship but last year the "Devenish Three-year Trophy" presented to the Fermanagh County Board by the late Joe Maguire, President of the Fer-

managh G.A.A. in New York, was back again in Acaid Gé.

The club has given its share of players to the county down the years and being a small community it is only natural that families play a great part in club affairs. The present side contains five sets of brothers—the O'Keeffe's, Murphy's, Heuston's, Connolly's, and Caughey's whose fathers and uncles also wore the club jersey.

One must mention too men like Mick Reilly, James Cadden, James Reilly (who trained us in the '50's), Charlie McLoughlin, Dessie McAvinney, and many more who all worked so hard as officials for the good of the club.

St. Mary's Park is well equipped both as a pitch and from the point of accommodation, while the local parochial hall is available to the club for meetings, table tennis,

billiards, badminton and other indoor activities.

The club runs teams in minor, junior and senior grades as well as a schoolboy side and titles in all these grades have been won by St. Comgall's. It now boasts well over 100 members and indeed the future looks bright for this truly rural club.

There are many who have not been mentioned but I would like them all to know that they have not been forgotten. To Peter Murray, Joe Brady, Phil Heuston, James and Gabriel O'Keeffe and James and Willie Reilly I say thank you for helping trace the history of our club and may many more successes come your way in the future.

Next month I pay a visit to Antrim hurling champions, Ballycastle McQuillans.

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SEÁN Ó DÚNAGÁIN

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Fiú tá roinnt aca athraithe sa chaoi nach bhfuilid ‘naaineolaithe amháin a thuille ach ‘na bhfáidh chomh maith—tig leo a rá go leasófar an Riail i gceann deich mbliana, nó mar sin, de réir na tairngreachta. Cén fáth? Mar sin nach raibh ach seachtar i bhfábhar an leasaithe i 1962 agus bhí beirt is leath-chéad i bhfábhar i mbliana!

Sin agat é, a chara, ní bheidh na bun-prionsabail céanna ann i gceann deich mbliana. Leigfidh an taosóg gach atá beartaithe agus déanta, ag an gCumann Lúchleas Gael, le sruth. I bhfad uainn an tolc.

DATHANNA

Ní fhaca mé riamh cheana é agus

n’fheadar ar tharla sé ariamh roimis sin i bPáirc an Crócaigh. Tharla sé Dé Domhnach 25ú Aibreáin nuair a bhí Iarmhí agus Ciarraí sa choimhlint sa chluiche leath-cheannais iomána (Roinn II) agus An Mhí agus Gaillimh i ngleic sa chluiche leath-cheannais peile, an dá chluiche sa Sraith Náisiúnta.

Bhí na dathanna céanna ar an bpáirc don dá chluiche eadhon, glas is órdha ag an Mhí agus Ciarraí, agus marún ag Gaillimh agus Iarmhí. Ní raibh sa deifir ach go raibh camáin ‘na lámhaibh ag na hiomathóirí sa chéad chluiche.

AN GHAEILGE

Tugaim fé deara nuair a tugtar fógra ar an gcaillaire i bPáirc an Crócaigh anois go dtuigeann furchmór an tsluaigh é — ní thugann siad áird ar bith ar an aistriúchán i mBéarla.

Tá na habairtí “imreoidh an dá fhoireann fé mar a roghnaíodh iad” agus “tá athrú amháin ar fhoirinn Chiarraí” de glanmheabhar ag beag-

nach chuile dhuine a théann chuig na cluichí móra go rialta.

Ba mhaith liom cúpla abairt eile a chlos anois is arís, cuirim i gcás nuair atá duine ag teastáil san oifig “taobh thiar d’Ardáin Uí Ogáin”. I dtaca le sin is trua nach labhrann gach Captaon fóirne, ar a mbronntar corn, cúpla focal Gaeilge i dtosach roimh dó ráiteas as Béarla a thabhairt uaidh.

AN TUS

Mar ath-imreoir lár na páirce a fuair go leor buillí sa bholg ag tosach chluiche, agus ag tosach an dara leath, fáiltím roimh an socrú nua nuair nach bhfuil i lár na páirce ag na tráthanna úd ach an ceathrar “Lár Páirce”.

Beidh deis anois ag foireann an t-é ceapann an pheil i dtosach, plean ionsaithe a chur i bhfeidhm láithreach. Táim den tuairim áfach, go mbeidh deacracht ar feadh tamaill ag moltóirí le tosaithe a bhéas ag iarraidh ealó thar an líne caoga slat secund sar a séideann siad an fheadóg.

COMHARTHA

Ag taistil dom ag deire Mí Aibreáin bhuaill mé le scata cailín ar an mbothar lasmuigh de Cill Orglain, Co. Chiarraí agus camáin á n-iompair aca. Dhá lá ‘na dhiaidh sin sa cheantar sleibhtúil idir Co. na Gaillimhe agus Co. an Chláir bhí na buachaillí ag gabháil do sliotar fé is gur bhraith a mbeatha ar an iarracht. Am lóin a bhí ann agus n’fheadar arbh’ cluiche idir-chontae é!

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PENPOINT

THE BAN DESERVES A REST SAYS EAMONN YOUNG

A Chara, — Having read your leading article in the May issue I admired as usual the very forthright way in which you, like the majority of those who support the Ban wrote about it.

Yes, Congress took the decision, and we all see that the Ban will not go just yet. But really, we have talked enough about it, and for the moment the reading public wants a rest from it. Let's get on with the games, speak the language as often as possible and buy Irish.

Also please let's not have statements like "Those people must now accept these rules (of the G.A.A.) or else get out." Such statements deplorable in their immaturity suggest that we Irish-

men are tyrannical and bigoted. I abhor such statements.

There are many men in the G.A.A. who have disagreed with the rules. They very often lived to see those rules changed and helped in the change. There are some rules I hope to see changed before God calls me. The Ban is just another.

In the meantime men like me—and there are many—have no intention of acceding to the preposterous demand of your leading article. I have no desire to start a controversy. The Ban deserves a rest—for the moment.

Eamonn Young.

Eagle Lodge,
Summerhill,
Cork.



* OLLIE WALSH

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It's Poc Fada Time Again!

THE fifth All-Ireland Poc Fada competition takes place over its now well-known Cooley Mountain course on Whit Monday, June 7. A record entry will compete in this year's event, which is again sponsored by the makers of Harp Lager.

This novel and exciting contest was first got under-way in 1961. So far Ollie Walsh has been the dominant figure having captured individual honours in 1962 and shared first prize in 1963.

Last year former Wexford and Kilkenny All-Ireland hurler, Oliver Gough, came home first, having covered the three mile course in 78 pocs.

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- ★ Hurling Final ————— July 25

GAELS OF THE PROVINCE, MAKE A
SPECIAL NOTE OF THE ABOVE DATES

PUT A TIGER IN YOUR TANK



NEW POWER-FORMULA ESSO EXTRA BOOSTS POWER THREE WAYS...

1. QUICK STARTING. New Esso Extra gives quick starting, in summer and winter, and *smooth controlled power* with that extra acceleration when you need it. **2. SMOOTH FIRING.** Esso Extra's new Power-formula improves ignition, helps your engine to fire smoothly and efficiently.

3. HIGH QUALITY. New Esso Extra has the high quality that modern cars need for peak performance. *So call at the Esso sign to-day and fill up with Esso Extra—and feel the difference.* PUT A TIGER IN YOUR TANK.

Happy Motoring!

