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GAA

# Gaelic Sport

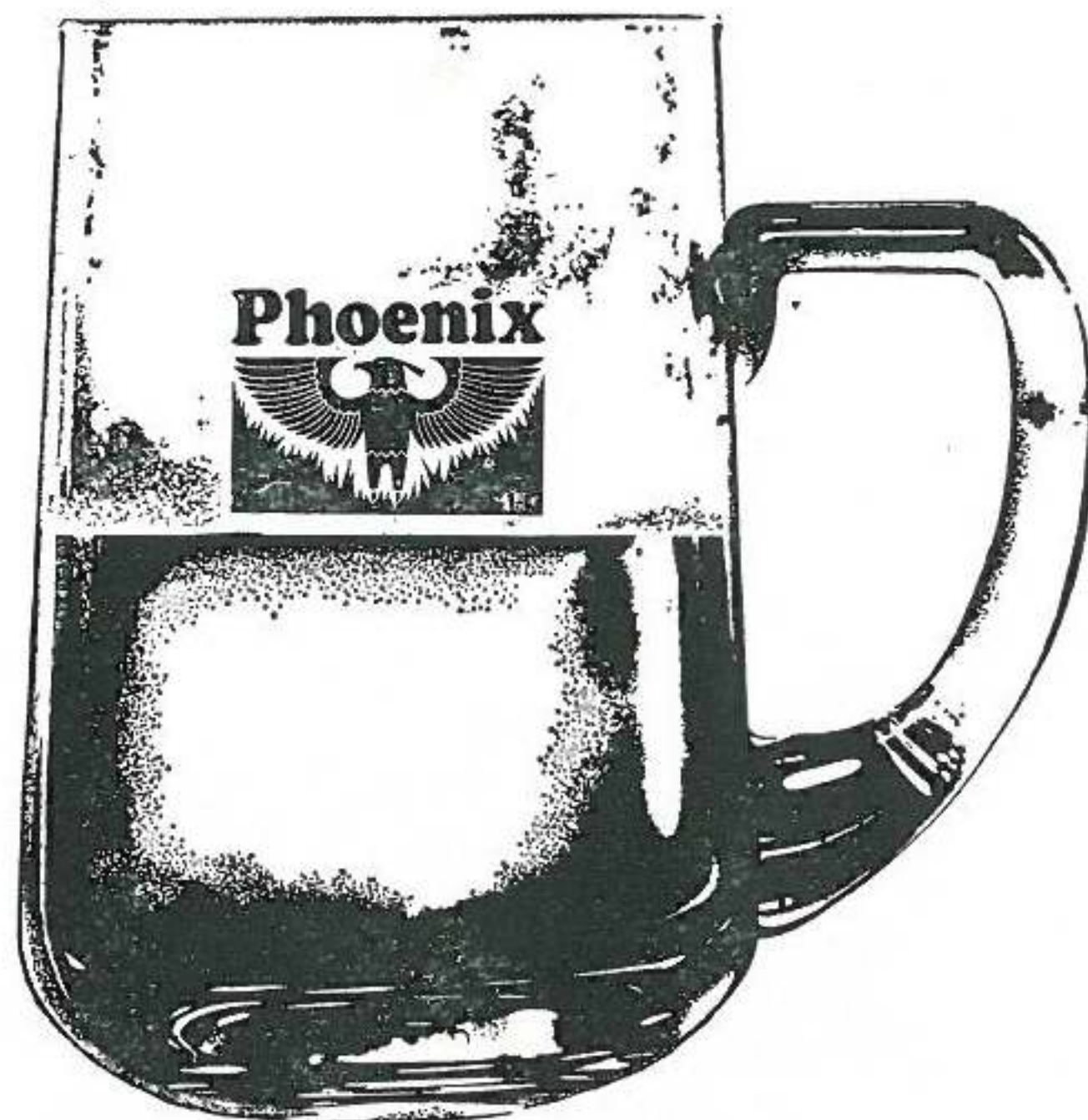


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# Gaelic Sport

Vol. 8. No. 5. May, 1965.

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## CONGRESS GIVES THE ANSWER

CONGRESS spoke in no uncertain manner and those who tried to subvert the Association had their answer. The G.A.A. is too big and much too nationally entrenched an organisation to be in the least influenced by a few amateur publicists who were so naive as to think that shoddy ballyhoo and jumbled half-truths could divert a great ideal.

These people must now accept these Rules or else get out. Certainly they must never again be allowed to wage a like campaign of abuse and subterfuge as was done in recent months. Furthermore, two and a half hours of valuable Congress time must not again be wasted by them in foolish Don Quixote-like lunges at an impregnable fortress.

Rule 27, and all akin to it, is going to remain. It is as durable as Croke Park itself. Such is the strength and the solidarity of the G.A.A. A re-opening of this question in the foreseeable future is pointless. In fact the adoption of a motion at next year's Congress which would limit discussion of this Rule to every ten years would appear a logical step.

Congress 1965 has done Cumann Lúthchleas Gael proud. It clearly demonstrated the Association's unfailing loyalty to the National Ideal and its contempt for those who would wish to tamper with it.





**JOHN DONNELLAN**  
*T.D. for Galway.*

# POLITICS

---

by **JAY DRENNAN**

**G**AELIC sportsmen have not had it very easy in recent times, when it came to making up their minds as to who they should vote for. There even came the situation when two hurler-candidates stood in the same constituency. The trend is not new, since there have often been well-known ex-footballers or ex-hurlers standing for election to the Dail and to lesser local political appointments. Yet, in this election which has just been decided, the business of having footballers or hurlers sent forward as candidates, simply because they had gained a measure of fame on the field of play, and with little obvious qualification to political life other than that, has been carried to such an extent that we shall have to take a stand somewhere.

Looking at the problem from one point of view, of course, it would seem that the selection of so many current and former Gaelic sportsmen as Dail election candidates is a compliment to the G.A.A. Certainly, that is indeed true in many cases; but, in general, there is no doubt that the reverse is the case. The G.A.A. is in a position to give something to the political parties, whereas the political parties do not

and cannot give anything in return to the G.A.A. A well-known hurler and/or footballer, who has reached the top and made his face and fame familiar to the whole country, and has particularly endeared himself to his own county folk, is a man who has inestimable value to a party.

The popularity of the great player is something special in the mind of the public: they feel that the player has been staunch on their behalf many times in the past and they are grateful to him. They would, in the fullness of their regard for the man, wish to pay him their tribute, give him their gratitude, in any way they could. If he is put before them as a candidate for election, what is more natural, more reasonable—think the political bosses—than that the games fan in the public will give him his vote.

In this way there is no doubt that the party is endeavouring to take the voter's mind off the vital economic and social problems which should be the point in the business of elections, and in the business of casting one's vote.

We are told again and again that politics in our country is still too much bound up with old issues

going back in their origins to the days of disturbance here, and issues which in this day and age are irrelevant to modern conditions. Mr. Lemass kept emphasising during the last election campaign and before it the fact that we should endeavour to take our thoughts off mundane issues and direct our attention to the great national policies in our efforts to give the proper decisions.

Yet, in spite of the urgings of all politicians of the top level that electors must vote according to the merits, political and economic and social, the same politicians and their party organisations endeavour to take our minds away from these very issues by putting before us men whose one, and often, real call in our allegiance is their prowess at a game.

Does this mean then that I am entirely against G.A.A. men taking any part in politics? Would I erect a ban or bar against all men who have made their names at games forbidding them entry into political life? Certainly not. There is, in fact, no suggestion of that in my remarks, if these remarks are studied carefully. What I am

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# AND THE G.A.A.

by **CICERO**

"HOW many All-Ireland finals has Sean Lemass or Jim Dillon played in"?, asked the man with the pint firmly clasped in his huge fist.

"None", says I.

"Well then", says the man with the pint decisively.

And of course he did have a point. I for one voted G.A.A. at the recent election and why not? At least the man I voted for is good for something. He has All-Ireland medals to prove it.

The other candidates in my area have won no medals and even if there were medals awarded for every form of activity under the sun, they still would have none. Yes I voted on merit.

If you were to listen to some you would imagine that there were a hundred G.A.A. men up for election. How many were there—fifteen to be precise and this included men long in the Dáil such as Jack Lynch, Jack McQuillan, Paddy Clohessy, Dan Spring, Henry Kenny, Paddy Lalor and Sean Flanagan. Then there was John Donnellan who was also a sitting

member in the old assembly.

The G.A.A. men bidding for seats were Sean Purcell, Willie Rackard, Donie Nealon and Des Foley (players); Sean Browne and Bob Aylward (officials) and Mick Herbert (former player). Of these only Des Foley made it.

So there was really no attempted G.A.A. *coup d'etat*. And anyway go over the list of the 15 men again. There is not a widow among them. None of them died in 1916 only to be resurrected again.

Are they not as qualified to sit as any other 15 candidates which you might pick at random. Are they not solicitors, teachers, business-men as well as being prominent G.A.A. personalities.

If 65% of the adult male population of this country (I mean 26 Counties) is associated with the G.A.A., is it therefore odd that 5% of the candidates who stood for election should be drawn from this vast section of the community.

I did not see any soccer, rugby or cricket men up. Despite Tom Woulfe's efforts it would appear that these games do not carry



**DONIE NEALON**

*Up for election.*

much weight. Come to think of it, he should have stood himself. He could have made the "freedom of the individual" his main plank.

As a matter of fact we could do with such a movement. It would be aimed at removing all obstacles which interfere with individual freedom. First would have to go the licensing laws. That a man cannot get a drink with his own money, in his own country, when he might most need it, is surely the greatest interference with individual freedom of them all.

So next time you know who to vote for.

Yes, how many All-Ireland medals has Sean Lemass or Jim Dillon—or Brendan Corish? Go on answer me.



WHEN we think of the famous G.A.A. clubs, the mind invariably turns to Cork, where some of the greatest teams ever to grace the Association are to be found.

The Cork championship was always a glamour-packed one, and even in these days when the appeal of the club has been supplanted a lot, Leaside can attract crowds to their county finals far exceeding the best that can be mustered to see the inter-county giants in action.

The traditional hurling rivals in Cork are undoubtedly "de 'Barrs' and de 'Rockies'," in the jargon of Leaside, and in the heyday of club hurling they gave us some unforgettable fare.

As an example, I could hardly find better than the county final of 1926.

When the Blackrock-led Corkmen won the All-Ireland crown that year they had ten members of the famous fishing village team on the winning side, and I was only one of legion hurling fans who rated that Blackrock side the greatest club hurling combination the Association had known.

A fortnight after their great All-Ireland triumph over Kilkenny, the Blackrock lads met their old friends from the Lough for the Cork county crown. They were all out to seal their Blue Riband success with a sweeping win over St. Finbarrs—a feat most conceded they were fully capable of performing.

I must confess that 'Barrs were always my favourite Cork club, and although I travelled to see that game I had little hope of them beating the mighty 'Rockies.

What a power-packed tussle it proved! The pace fast and furious throughout, the hurling withall well in the classical mould.

Anyway, to make a long and

# THE GREATEST CLUB TEAM THE G.A.A. HAS KNOWN

by SEAMUS O CEALLAIGH

exciting story short, the 'Rockies kept their noses in front all the time, and things were much as we expected when going into the last seven or eight minutes the fishermen led, 5-4 to 2-2, with many spectators already making for the exits. It was "all over bar the shouting."

'Barrs, however, had other ideas and in the greatest closing rally I ever remember on a hurling field they slammed home four goals in as many minutes to gain the most dramatic victory ever secured in a county final anywhere—and against the greatest club team in the game!

To name the great men that graced the Blackrock jersey would be like reciting the litany of grand hurlers—the Coughlans, O'Learys, Buckleys, Kidneys, Cashmans, Norbergs, Ahernes, Deleas, Murphys, O'Connells, Larry Flaherty, Steve Riordan, Jim Hurley and Georgie Garrett—and that does not cover a quarter of them. Some other time we will revisit Blackrock of the many hurling memories for a fuller story of this club's unrivalled contribution to this greatest of all games.

St. Finbarrs boasted its great hurling families too, the most noted of whom in the early days were the Sheehans—all six of them! One of them, Jim, captained the

team through seventy-two engagements — no mean achievement. Others to render signal service were the Youngs, O'Connell's Cronins, Rings, Stauntons, Finns and O'Learys. These with men like "Billex" Moloney, "Patcheen" Sullivan, Christy Nolan, Sean Condon and Dr. Joe Kearney figured in many unforgettable episodes that are enshrined in hurling's story.

Out of the "Parnell Split" emerged the Redmonds in 1892. They introduced some really colourful figures to hurling, including Joe Anderson, Jack Leonard, "Daw" McGrath, "Rooker" Keeffe, "Josher" Keating, "Sonny Jim" McCarthy, Connie Sheehan and Morgan Madden.

I have, however, only space for one episode from their great days. Matched against Blackrock at Passage in 1896 for a side stake of £100—a princely sum then—this "match of the century" brought the greatest crowd ever to the village. They arrived by every means of conveyance—horseback, wagonette, jaunting car, all types of vehicles of the period; whilst thousands walked the seven miles from Cork.

Bans how are you! When the field was reached the teams found it ringed by a special cordon of mounted police, and it seemed as if every R.I.C. man in Cork city and





D. B. Murphy      Jim Regan

vicinity was drafted to Passage for the day. Despite this show of force the teams insisted on playing, but a district inspector of police read the "Riot Act" on the field before the game commenced. In that atmosphere the pair played a most exciting game, which Redmonds won by a point.

Unfortunately we cannot do more than mention another of the greatest of Cork club combinations—Dan Lane's Aghabullogue men, who brought the first Blue Riband to the Rebel County.

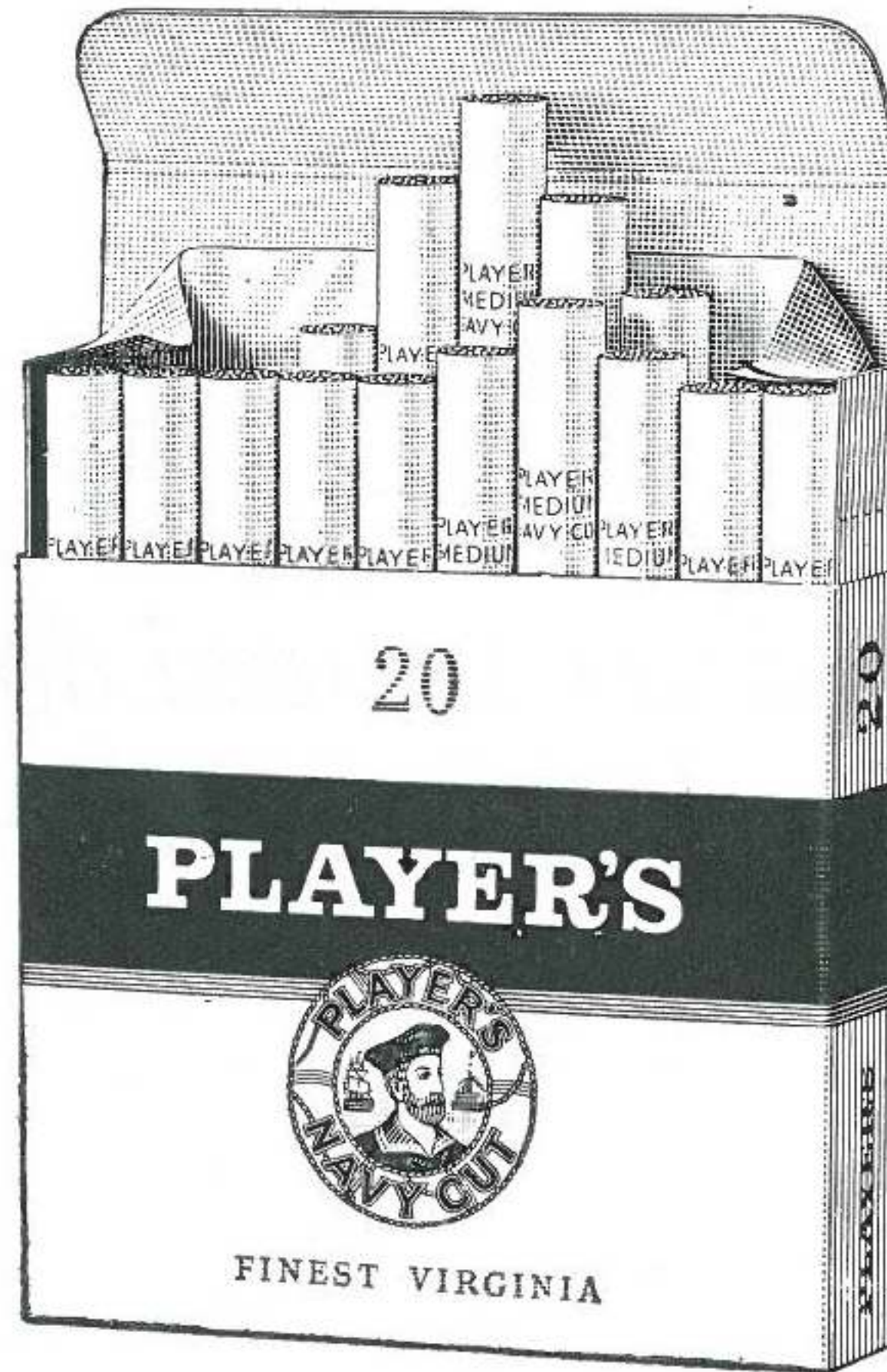
That match in which the teams of 21 a-side played barefooted at Clonturk is still spoken of as an epic. "Big Jer" Henchion was such a tower of strength for Cork that day that Wexford had three men marking him. As his partner at midfield he had Tim O'Connor, a much lighter man but a magnificent ball player. The two showed combination and power only equalled in after years by that unforgettable pairing of Jim Hurley and Micko O'Connell.

We remember other great Aghabullogue stalwarts—Tom Toomey, Tom Good, Dan Drew, the Horgans Michael and "Stonewall" Denny and other great families—the Sullivans, Buckeys, Reillys, Linehans and Riordans.

The greatest Corkman of all must have been Jim Kelleher of Dunggourney and his deeds and those of his compeers would take a

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# Only PLAYER'S please so much



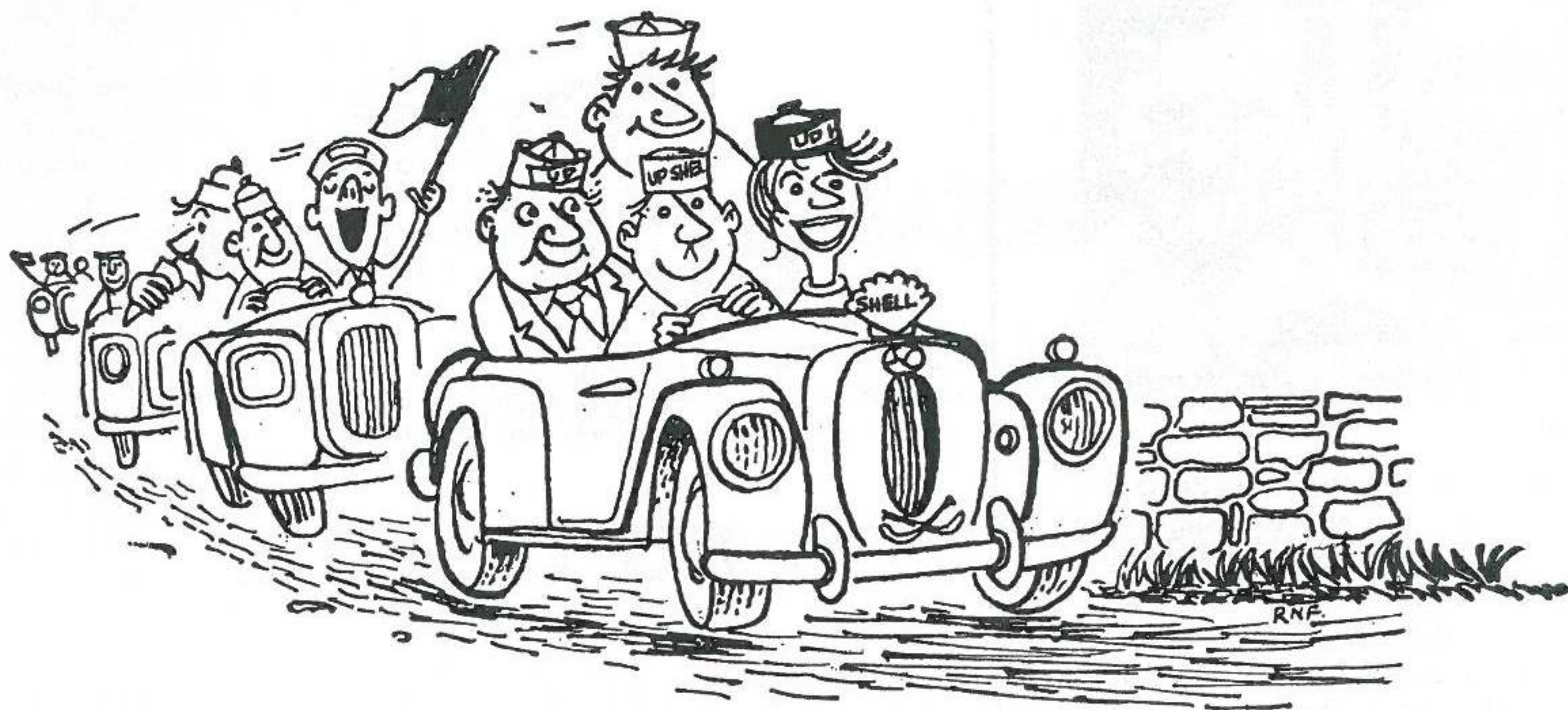
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# GLAMOUR CLUBS

## ● FROM PAGE SEVEN

special article all its own to do it justice.

Similarly with the team present day hurling fans rightly regard as the symbol of Cork club hurling, Glen Rovers did not win their first county senior crown until 1934 but a lot of Cork hurling history since then hinges around the doings of that remarkable club and some of the great men who wore the popular green, black and gold colours.

And now for an all too brief look at a few of the great football sides.

Recruited from the big Cork drapery houses, the Black and red clad "Lees" — the "Collars and Cuffs Combination" the wags dubbed them—won the first Cork county senior football crown, and between that and their last success in 1923 the world of history was made—and they had a big part in the making!

Peak period for the club came around the decade following 1902, when men like Murty O'Shea, the Adrigole schoolmaster, who used to cycle in to play for Lees and return home on his trusty bike a distance of twenty-five miles after the match; Billy Mackessy, from the Buttevant country, a fast winger who could kick points off either foot, and who played in seven All-Ireland finals in a space of ten years and was one of the select few to win Blue Ribands in hurling and football; Jerry Beckett, that unlucky Kerryman who played in four All-Ireland finals without securing a medal; the Mehigans, Mick and Dinny; the McCarthys, Bill Daly, the Lehanes from Macroom, Jack Shorten, Charley Paye, surely the greatest footballer Fermoy produced; Jack McCarthy and Dave Kelleher—all star club players in

the days when Cork had other great teams in Nils, Macroom, Fermoy, Midleton, Dromtariffe, Clondrohid and Dunmanway.

The Blue starred jersey of the Nils was worn by some colourful footballers including founder, Jack O'Leary, who was well helped by Con Joe McCarthy, reputed in his day to have the fastest pair of legs in Ireland, and who could kick ground balls to the length of eighty yards; the Coughlans, Dick and Dan; Tom Mullane; Jack and Billy Riordan and Tommy Irwin.

They were unlucky stars though for after forcing a draw with Dublin Young Ireland at Clonturk Park in the 1894 All-Ireland final they were leading the Metropolitans at Thurles in the replay by five points when a spectator struck a Dublin player and the match was unfinished.

The Central Council decided to refix the game but Cork refused to play and Dublin got the title the easy way. Cork Board gave their players a set of medals labelled "G.A.A. All-Ireland Football Championship won by Nils, 1894."

And so Corkmen were wearing championship medals for 1894 though Dublin were the title holders according to the records.

The "Mad Dohenys" the Dunmanway lads were called, and their trip to Dublin to play the mighty Kickhams in the 1897 All-Ireland final was surely a nightmare journey if ever a team had one.

Leaving Dunmanway early on Saturday morning they did not complete the two hundred miles train journey until well beyond midnight. And for all but four of them it was their first visit to Dublin.

They mounted jarvies at Kings-

bridge, with instructions to proceed to the Star and Garter Hotel. Arriving there following a dreary drive in the cold mid-February weather they were shocked to learn that no accommodation had been booked for them and none was available. Anyway, they drove around Dublin in the biting cold for well over two hours before eventually finding refuge in the Black Star Hotel in Amiens Street. Only a few, however, got beds—the rest had to lie around on sofas and on chairs until morning—a sleepless and distressing night for men forced with the task of playing an All-Ireland final at noon.

They lost, of course, and men like Tom White, Danny O'Donovan, Florence Crowley, the Lordan and Coughlan brothers never got another chance of that coveted All-Ireland prize.

I know I have left out a lot of great men and some unforgettable games and clubs but some day, please God, we will revisit Cork and make a few more embers from the fire that burns late.

## A NEW JOB FOR OLLIE

**K**ILKENNY hurler, Ollie Walsh, has been appointed Sales Representative with Beamish & Crawford, and will be responsible for the sales of Beamish stout and Carling lager in Kilkenny, Carlow and the Midlands.

Ollie, who was born in Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny, has won two All-Ireland, five Leinster Championships, one National League, two Oireachtas, three Railway Cup and seven Walsh Cup medals. And he has twice been Poc Fáda Champion of Ireland.



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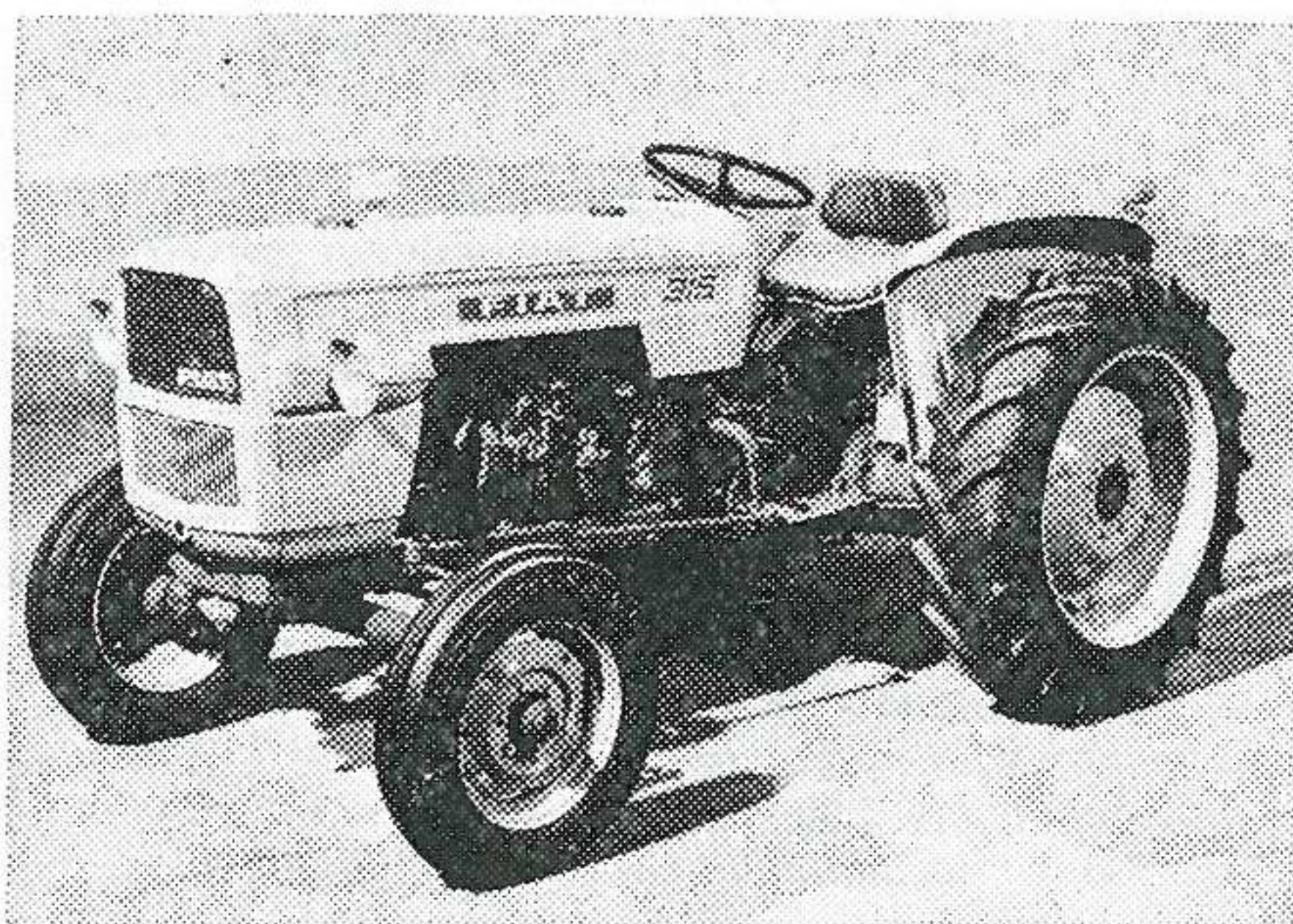
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## WELL DONE, BOYS!

by CONALLACH

**W**ELL done St. Columb's. The Derry College lived up to the highest expectations of its enthusiastic Ulster followers when they drew with Belcamp O.M.I. in the All-Ireland colleges football final. The replay is set for May 9 at Ballybay and win or lose the Derry boys will have done us proud.

A word of praise too for Belcamp. Like St. Columb's they too were appearing in their first All-Ireland final and they had every reason to return home exultant.

It is worth noting that Belcamp is the only one of the many boarding colleges in Dublin who take part in Gaelic competitions. The rest opt for imported games. The national games are beneath them. In fact most of them apply a rigid ban with regard to them.

So we in Ulster are proud to be matched against the boys of Belcamp. We know that they are worthy opponents and may the best team win on May 9.

But back to St. Columb's. This was only their second year in

Ulster colleges' competition. For years they were forced to remain out of Gaelic events and as a result Derry football was the poorer.

Still despite this the College did manage to produce great footballers like Sean O'Connell, Leo O'Neill and Frankie McFeely to name but a few—but then with 900 boys attending this was only to be expected.

However, now that they have had a taste of success we can look to St. Columb's remaining a major force in Gaelic competitions and Derry football will be greatly enriched.

In conclusion, a word of praise for Fr. Ignatius McQuillan, Reamonn Gallagher and Sean Moynihan who did so much to turn out this first-class fifteen.

### DONEGAL FAILURE

They are still in mourning in Donegal following the National League semi-final failure to Kerry. The post-mortem is endless and I do not propose to add to it except to say to my south-of-the-Border readers, who had not previously

seen Donegal, that they are a much better team than they appeared to be.

Remember too that Down were well beaten by Galway when the Mournemen made their first competitive Croke Park appearance. But they came back . . . So should Donegal.

### P. MAC CON MÍDHE

Comhgháirdeas ó chroí le Pádraig Mac Con Mídhe as ucht an ghradam a bronnadh air ar na moilibh.

Ba chúis mhór bróid dúinne in Uladh óráid an Uachtaráin ar an ócáid sin leis. Gura bfada buan iad beirt.

### BALLYMONEY

I was glad to hear of the formation of a new football side in Ballymoney, Co. Antrim. Gaelic games have but a small following in the area and I wish every success to the new club.

In the local intermediate school too a determined effort is being made with camogie under the direction of former Antrim player, Ethna Duggan and football being taken care of by Mr. Higgins of Glenrauel.

The principal of the primary school in Ballymoney is Cela Quinn, who was one of the best defenders Antrim camogie has ever had. Incidentally, I understand that a new camogie club in Toomebridge is also doing very well. The game lapsed in this area a few years back.

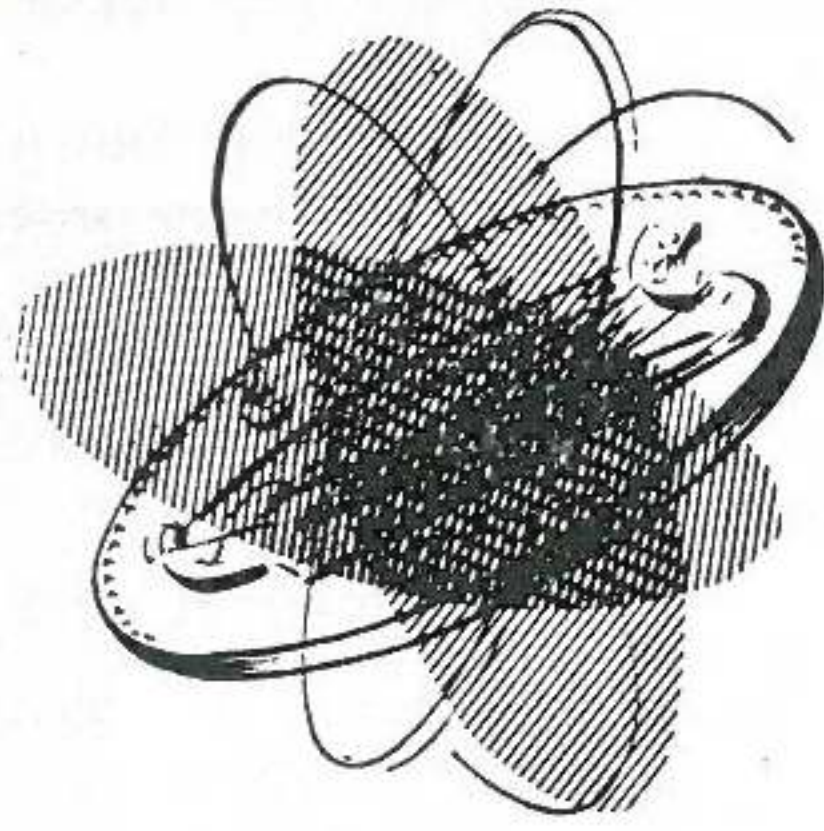
### IN BRIEF

The Gael-Linn-Wills films "Peil" and "Christy Ring" are at present doing the rounds of Ulster clubs and proving a great attraction. I am told that Gael-Linn may now make an instructional film on camogie.

\* \* \*

The passing of Fr. Soraghan, P.P., Moy, Co. Tyrone, is mourned by Gaels all over Ulster. This beloved pastor had a deep interest in Gaelic affairs.





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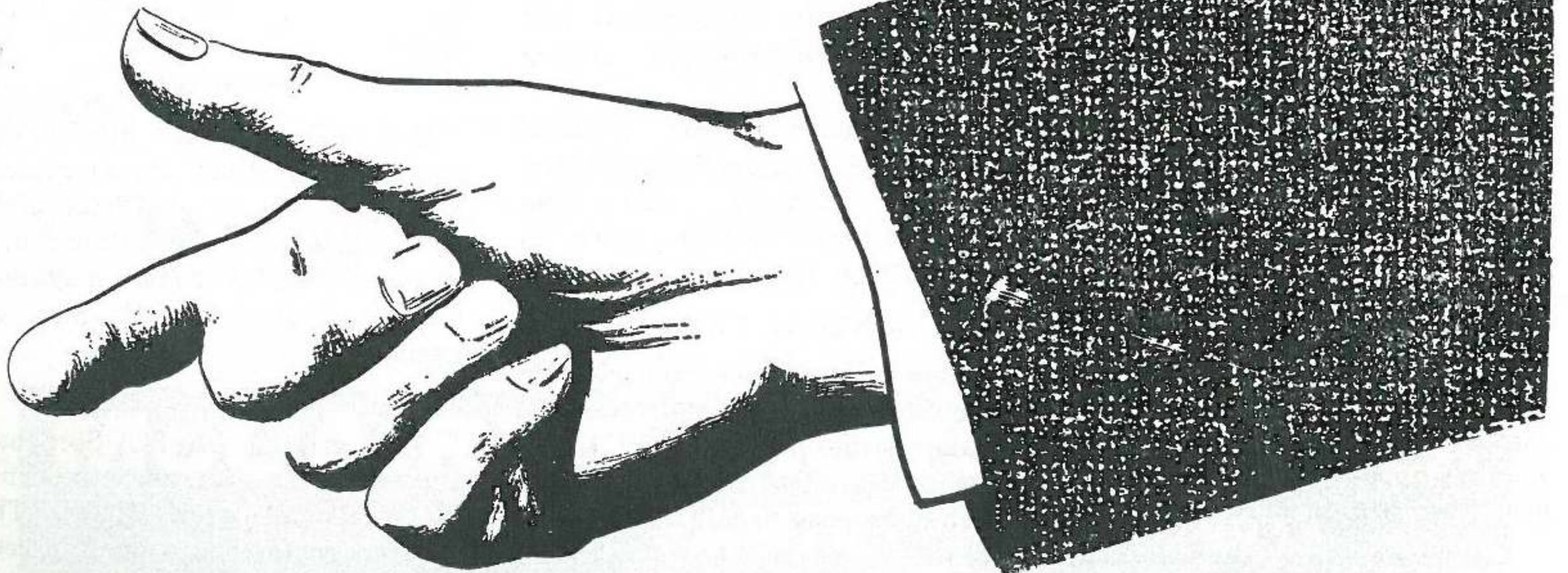
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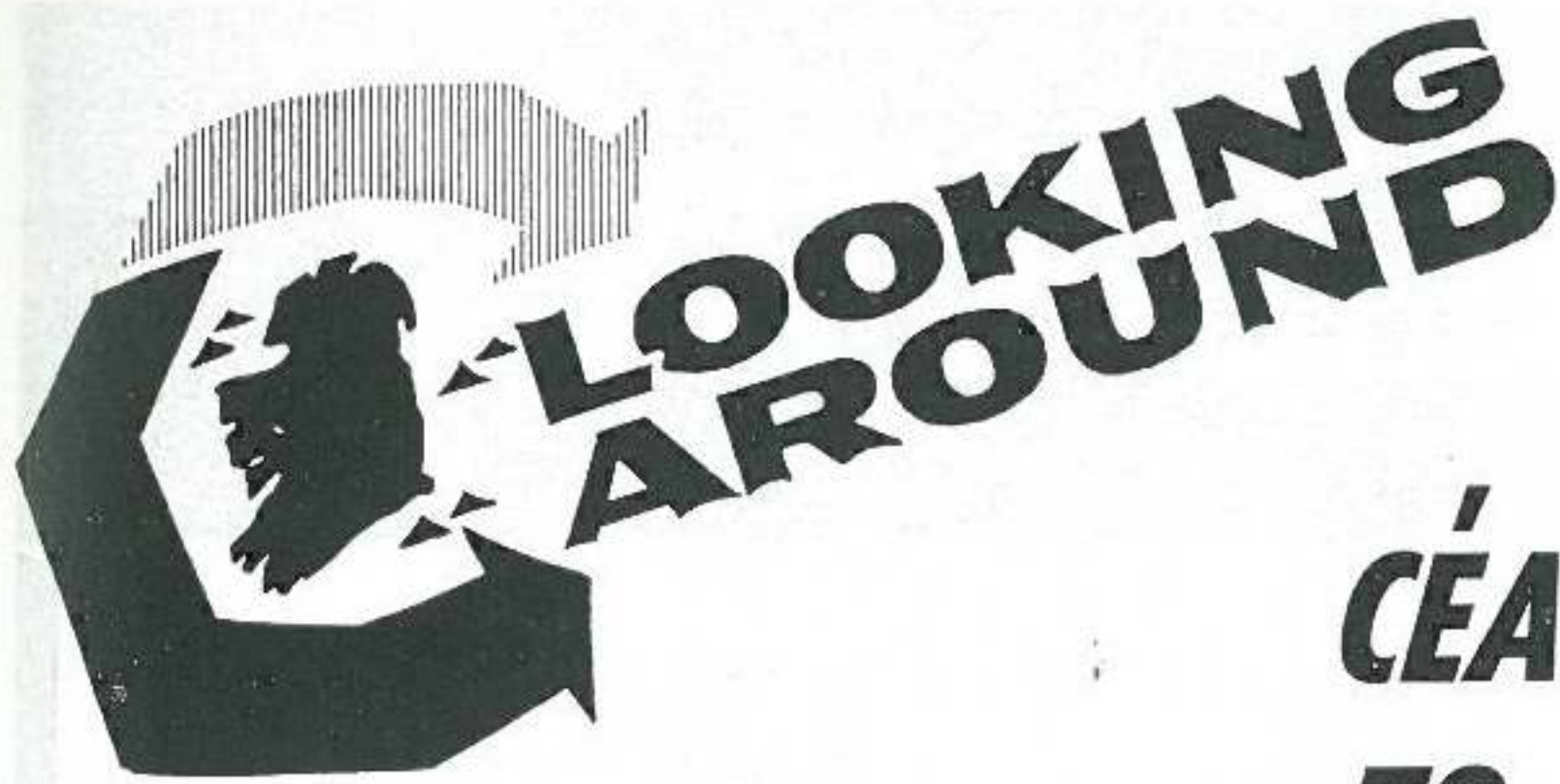
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## CÉAD MÍLE FáILTE TO THE MEN FROM NEW YORK

**A** HEARTY Céad Míle Fáilte is due to the New York hurlers who arrive to compete at Kilkenny on May 30. These exile hurlers have more than proven their worth in recent years and are a match for the best.

The New York side will be drawn from Donal O'Brien, John Murphy, Sean O'Meara, Billy Carey (Tipperary); Patrick Dowling, John Twoomey, Jerry Keating, Bernie Ahern (Cork); Pat

Kirby, Sean Custy, Michael Reynolds (Clare); Brendan Hennessy, Christy O'Connell (Kerry); Pat Hennessy, Dave Long (Waterford); Paddy Egan (Galway), Jimmy Donohoe (Offaly); Mick Morrissey, Tommy Brennan (Kilkenny); Mick Butler, Pete and Brendan Kelleher (Limerick).

Canon Punch Park in Limerick City will be ready for action in July. Situated in the heart of the City, this ground will prove a tremendous asset.

Our Munster correspondent, Séamus O Ceallaigh, hit out hard a few months back in "Gaelic

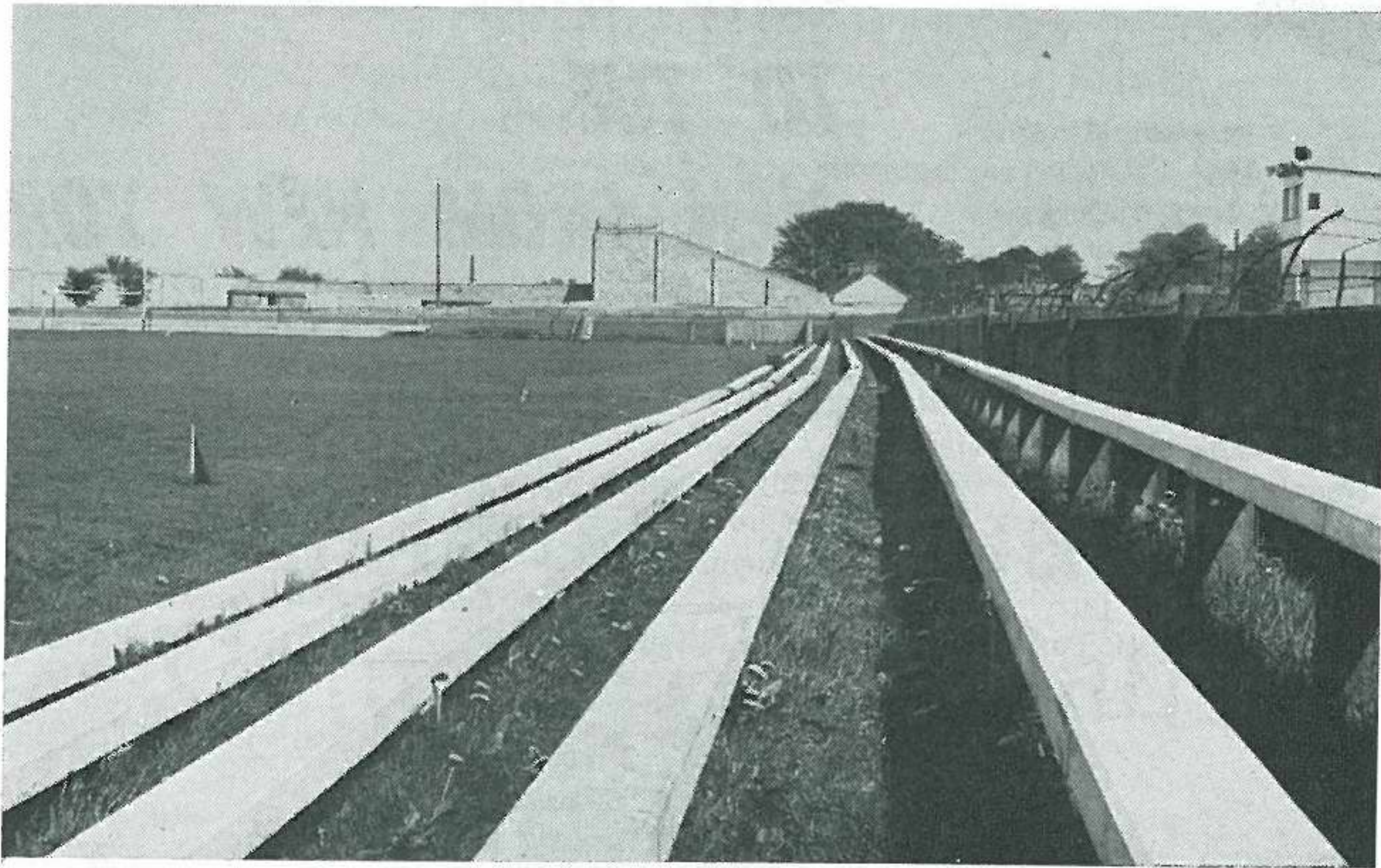
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★ *New York hurlers drew with Waterford in the 1963 National League Final, but lost narrowly in the replay at Kilkenny.*



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# AT LAST ... honours for the "lone stars" of Gaeldom

By JACK MAHON



★ JOE LANGAN

**G**AELIC GAMES will always have their share of Gerry O'Malley's, Jimmy Smyths and Jim McKeevers — great players who failed to win the honours which their talents deserved because the teams they played with were not first-class. However, a means of honouring such men has now been found and most of the twelve players who shortly travel to the U.S. to play in the Cardinal Cushing games belong to this medal-less category.

This is a very welcome innovation and long may it continue.

I was glad too that John "Kerry" O'Donnell saw fit to leave the selection of these stars to the Association of Gaelic Sports Journalists. These men spend Sunday after Sunday up and down the country watching this and that game and, even if we don't agree with them all the time, we respect their views and feel that collectively they com-

prise the best selection committee available.

Men like Paddy Downey, Mick Dunne, John D. Hickey, Val Dorgan, Paddy Purcell, Seán Óg Ó Ceallacháin, etc. deserve this honour and their first twelve nominees are well chosen indeed.

I will dwell on Connacht's three representatives of Joe Langan (Mayo), Jimmy Duggan (Galway) and Mickey Kearns (Sligo). All three are dedicated sportsmen and a credit to their respective counties. The honour conferred on them is well deserved and will rest lightly with them.

Joe Langan, the well-built Mayo midfielder cum-forward is a native of Balla and a vocational teacher. A past student of St. Joseph's College, Ballinasloe (Garbally as it is more popularly known), Joe came to prominence first with U.C.G. in the Sigerson Cup victories of 1960 and 1963. Honoured by Mayo minors in 1958, he was one of the few Mayomen to inspire in the All-Ireland defeat by Dublin.

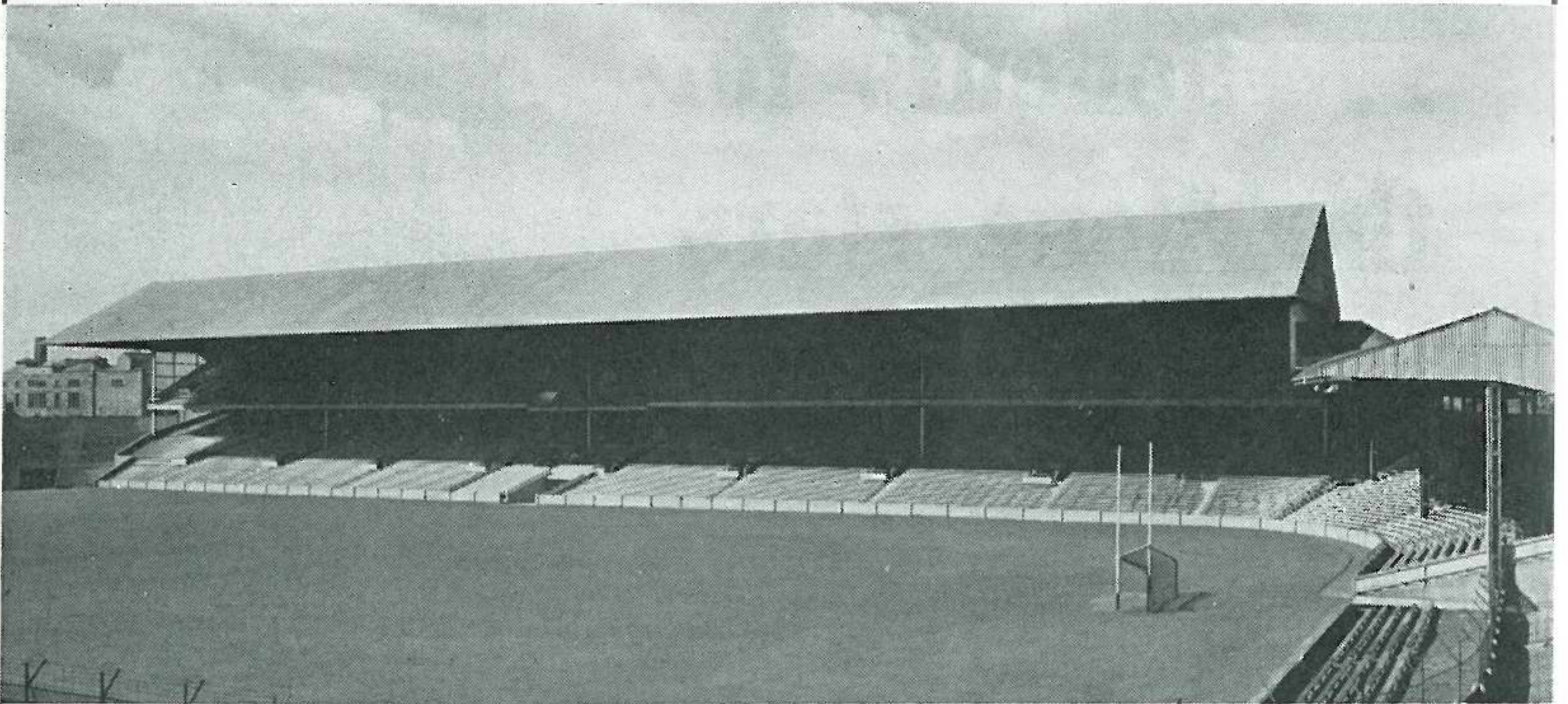
A Connacht Railway Cup player for the past two years, he gave a fine performance on St. Patrick's Day if one ignored his erratic distribution and is undoubtedly a midfielder of great potential. At present on the teaching staff of Kiltimagh Vocational School, Joe is passing on "the word" to his students and was one of the mentors in charge of the Mayo vocational schools football team this year.

Jimmy Duggan needs no introduction. He has been to the U.S. before (as has Joe Langan). He is still a top-class hurler after many many years with Galway (minor in '49, senior almost ever since), a well known referee to boot, and besides is an active administrator — being secretary of his club, Liam Mellowes, a member of the county Coiste Iomána, a Camogie Board member, City League official, etc., etc. Manager of a printing firm by profession, likeable Jimmy is one of the most popular figures in

● TO PAGE 41.



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# Ulster is the province from which the hurling tradition originated and grew . . .

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says

*An tAth. Pól Mac Seáin*

**T**H**ERE** is no hurling tradition in Ulster," say the statisticians. And unfortunately we must agree. But I, with others, taking the more accurate meaning of the word 'tradition' record that Ulster is the province from which the great tradition of hurling originated and grew, down through the centuries. I am, of course, using 'tradition' under its meaning of "things handed down to posterity, from one generation to another".

The stories of the hurling boys and men, notably Setanta, in the "Táin Bó Cuailgne" saga, are, one might say, glittering on the ornate fly-leaf of Ulster's history-book from the earliest times. And, as is well-known now, the All-Ireland Poc Fada contest is a twentieth-century link with those almost mythical contests of prowess.

It is not too much to hope that this spectacular link with Ulster's age-old tradition of hurling will help establish a hurling tradition (in the current accepted sense) in modern Ulster and in neighbouring borderlands of the northern province.

Of course, if you haven't been to a Poc Fada contest yet, the foregoing may sound no better than the belchings of an over-wrought imagination.

Around Dundalk, the nearest big

town to the Poc Fada 'territory', "land lubbers" is the contemptuous term levelled at those who haven't yet 'taken to the hills' on a P.F. outing, by those who have—the latter in turn being called by the former "crazy clod-hoppers". This year there are three opportunities for all 'land-lubbers' to become 'clod-hoppers' or forever more be at peace.

(1) On Easter Monday, members of the founder-club, Cumann Ogra Naomh Moninne, had their own three-part (under-13, 16, and 20) contest.

(2) On Sunday, May 16—An Poc Fada Idirbailte (inter-towns minor contest).

(3) Poc Fada na hEireann, as in former years on Whit Monday, June 7.

The All-Ireland event will feature in the June issue of GAELIC SPORT, so I want to tell you something here about An Poc Fada Idirbailte.

Dundalk will hold a major festival this year, May 16-23, somewhat on the lines of the Kilkenny Festival, with a varied programme of outdoor and indoor events, and it is planned to have an inter-towns Poc Fada contest for minors, with one competitor from each of about twelve to fifteen towns from Derry City to Drogheda.

May is a very attractive month, for a festival, and most inviting for mountaineering, and I feel sure that these young competitors will long remember their contest of prowess along the slopes of the Cooley Range. When I was at school under the shadow of these same lovely hills we used sing over and over again at playtime in the little school yard (within earshot of the master),

"The seventeenth of May the big Fair Day,

If we don't get a holiday we'll all run away."

We didn't get a holiday and we did run away (figuratively, at least) every seventeenth of May, for that was the annual 'Big Fair Day of Dundalk', and we wouldn't miss it for all the masters in Ireland. But like many another big fair, it is now no more, be that for good or otherwise.

But this Poc Fada Idirbailte for the teenagers of to-day will be on the 16th of May in the same county and with a pair of good binoculars on the mountain course that day, you could pick out the Fair Green skirting the mouth of the Castle-town River as it flows into Dundalk Bay. The greater part of the Fair Green now belongs to the Christian

● TO PAGE 41.





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**EAMONN YOUNG**

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*... CONTINUING THE STORY OF THE GREAT  
CORK TEAM OF THE MID-FIFTIES*



## **THE TRUTH BEHIND THAT DEFEAT BY KERRY . . .**

**C**ORK footballers were glorious in defeat when in the football final of October 3, 1956, they scored 3-7 and were still beaten by three points. Only once before—in 1948 when Mayo scored 4-4 against Cavan's 4-5 — was the losing score so high.

Training the team at the time, I was convinced that the boys would be back in Croke Park before long and told them so. Naturally then when we met our semi-final opponents, Kildare in the National League at Cork on a bright November day and beat them by 3-11 to 0-4, I could see that we would give any of them a run for it in this competition—the prize for which was a trip to New York.

More pleasing still to me personally was the flying form of my friend and fellowtownsman, Denis Bernard, who, out of sorts in the All-Ireland final because of illness, was fetching and kicking like a champion once again.

So we went off to play the Kingdom who had already accounted for Wexford and Carlow. The team did no training for the game and it was hoped that all would heed

the late Jim Hurley's written exhortation not to let honour slip.

Cork had three changes from the All-Ireland team: Liam Power the goalie, Dermot O'Sullivan and Jim Donovan replaced Paddy Tyers, Donal O'Sullivan and Tom Furlong.

In Tralee I was delighted to find our opponents in trouble. Tim Lyons and Sean Murphy were injured and Tom Moriarty wasn't well. I was sorry John Dowling, Marcus O'Neill, Ned Roche and the rest looked so healthy. Anyway there was an air of desperation in the Kerry dressing room which adjoined ours and the obvious concern on the faces of John Joe Sheehy, the late Frank Sheehy and Johnny Walsh gave me great satisfaction.

John Cronin had travelled down from Cork with Ned Roche to see the game (though for some reason he threw his gear in the boot) and when this champion centre-back who was, I knew, very far from fit lined out in his place, I felt we would soon have both Kerry and Cronin in trouble.

He soon proved me wrong for right from the start of the game

Cronin used his positional sense and craft to fill the place of dash, and before he ran out of gas by half-time had played a very shrewd sensible game which included giving one of our men, who thought he could walk through, a rattle that knocked all the good out of our man for the hour.

Mick Kerins at right half back that day was terrific and a sturdy lad named Tom Long who had been quiet enough at centre-back in his first championship that summer played a centre-field game with budding Mick O'Connell that gave us an idea of what a great player Long would soon become.

They beat us by 1-9 to 0-7 and I still remember the final point which Colm Kenneally kicked over the bar from a sixty yard free with no following wind. Frank Sheehy was beside himself with joy and I hated all Kerry men.

At the Cork County Board meeting on the following Tuesday night the late Billy Long reported on the game but a great old friend of mine decided that Billy's report wasn't enough and called on me to speak.

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**BANC na MUMHAN & LAIGHEAN  
TEORANTA**

Brainsí ar fud na hÉireann.





# A club with \_\_\_\_\_ a hard-to-equal record . . .



★ CASTLEBLAYNEY FAUGHS (Monaghan Champions, 1964): Back Row—left to right: Dick Sullivan, Tony Loughman, Tom McManus, Macarten Moore, Sean McCarthy, Richie Moore, Dinny Brereton, Gene Kirk. Front Row (L. to R.): Paddy Bogue, Nickey McEneaney, Frank Marron, Noel Carville, Peter McGinn, Eamonn Toal, Gerry Fitzpatrick.

by  
**MATT  
FITZPATRICK**

**C**ASTLEBLAYNEY FAUGHS have a proud record in Monaghan, one that will be very hard to equal. Since their formation over sixty years ago they have always played senior football and have won the Monaghan county title a record 15 times.

The present Faughs club was formed in 1902 under the guidance of Fr. Martin Clinton who worked so hard to get the club going. But Gaelic games were of course played in Castleblaney before that. In

1888 a few faithful followers founded the first club known as Castleblaney William O'Briens and later became known as the Young O'Briens.

When the present Faughs side was started it was due to the hard work of men like the late Tom Marron, the late Pat Mulligan (father of Sean Mulligan one of Monaghan's greatest ever goalkeepers), the late Willie McGrath (father of present club chairman

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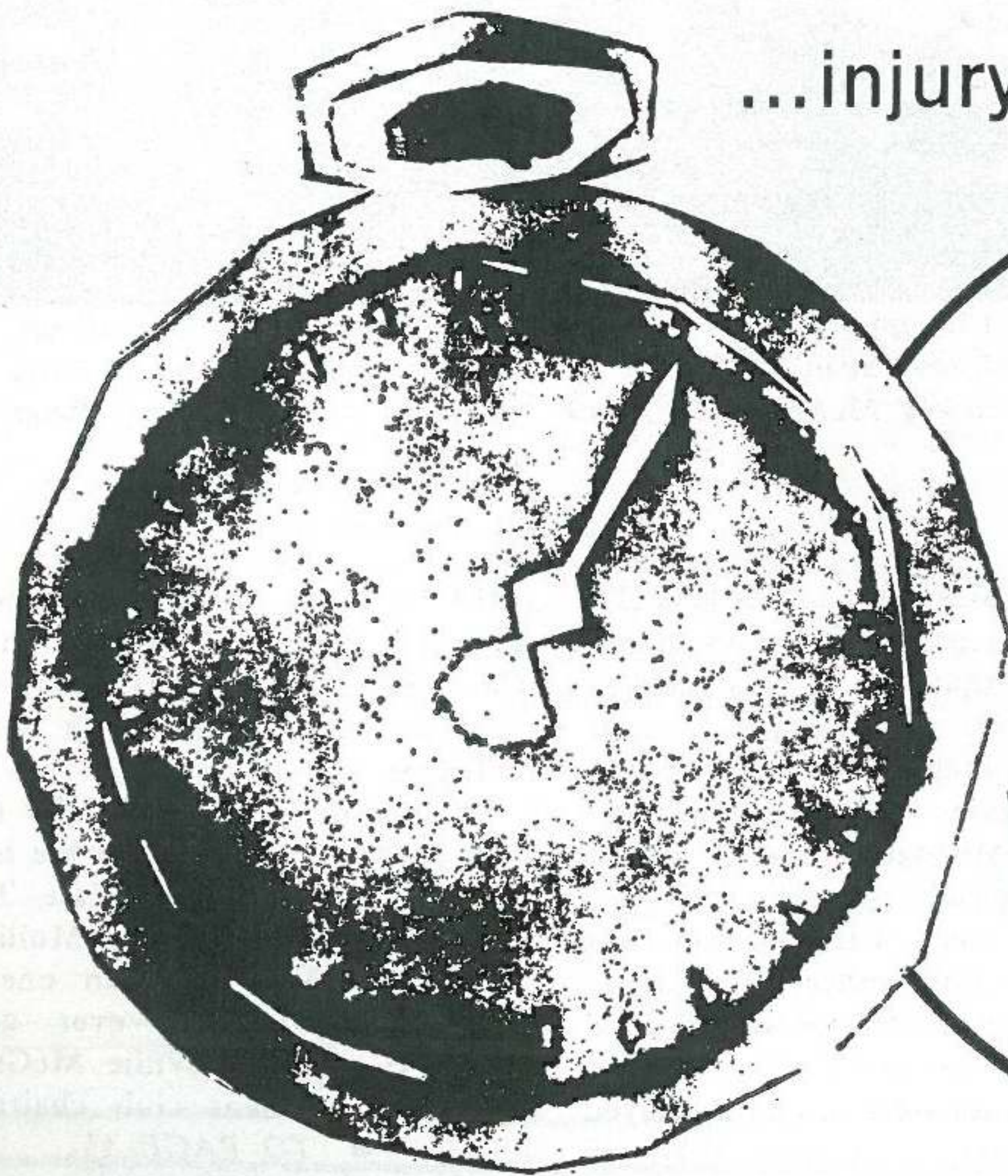
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# COLÁISTÍ SAMHRADH

le

/  
SEAN

/  
O

/ /  
DUNAGAIN

**N**UAIR a chloiseann an mac léinn an focal 'coláiste' spreagann dian-obair agus scrúdaithe chun a chuimhne láithreach. Ach ní h-ionnann sin do na coláistí samhraidh atá scapaithe ar fud na tíre go háirithe 'sna ceanntracha Ghaeltachta.

Is iontach ar fad an deis a thugann na coláistí samhraidh seo don mhac léinn lena chuid Ghaeilge d'fheabhsú. An teanga dúchais in úsáid go nádúrtha le linn cluichí, béilí, teagaisc, súgradh, paidreacha is mó a théann i bhfeidhm ar an scoláire. Ní thugann sé fé ndeara go bhfuil "múineadh" ar siúl an tam ar fad. Caitheamh aimsire is mó atá ann, dar leis, ach 'na dhiaidh sin is uile tá sé á oiliúint ag na hoidí is oilte sa tír, daoine ag a bhfuil an teanga go líonfa acu, grá thar chuimse acu don Ghaolachas agus céird na múinteorachta ar a dtoil acu. Go háirithe don mhacléinn atá ar tí dul fá scrúdú béil níl áit (nó caoi) is fearr le snas a chur ar a chuid Gaeilge ná ins na coláistí samhraidh.

Rud fóna eile fútha—táid uilig suite i gceanntracha gur féidir leis an teaghlach ar fad a gcuid saoire a chaitheamh ionntu má tá an fonn sin ar na haithreacha agus na máithreacha. Cé gur fearr gan cur isteach ar na páistí atá ag freastal na coláistí is ioma tuismitheoir a mbíonn fonn orthu bheith i ngiorracht don chlann agus a bheith in ann bualadh leo ar feadh scaithimh anois is arís.

I dtír Chonaill, i gConamara, i nDeiscirt Mumhan nó i gCúige Laighean féin tig leis an teaghlach

ar fad saoire thaitheamhach a chaitheamh. Tá na duichí go hálainn agus tá caithimh aimsire mar galf, iascaireacht, rincí agus céilithe, bádóireacht, snámh turusanna go dtí na hoileáin le fáil gan caint ar an caradas nach féidir a shárú aon áit. In Aontruim tá Coláiste Abhainn Dála; i dTír Chonaill tá Coláistí Samhraidh i Ros Goill, Fál Charrach, Cloch Cheannfhaoilidh, Gaoth Dobhair, Rann na Feirste, Loch an Iubhair, Anagaire, Teileann agus Arainn Mhór. I gConamara tá coláistí samhraidh sa Spedéal agus i gCarna chomh maith le ceann ar Inis Thiar; sa Mhumhain tá coláistí ag Baile na nGall, Fionntrá agus Baile an Sceilg i gCiarraí, ag Cúl Aodha, Trá Bolgan agus Béal Atha an Ghaorthaidh i gCorcaigh, ag Carraig an Chobhaltaigh sa Chlár, ag Rinn na nDeise i gCo. Phortláirge agus tá Coláiste Ide sa bFaing, Co. Luimní. I gCúige Laigheann tá cinn ag Baile Brighín agus ag Baile Gib i gCo. na Mí.

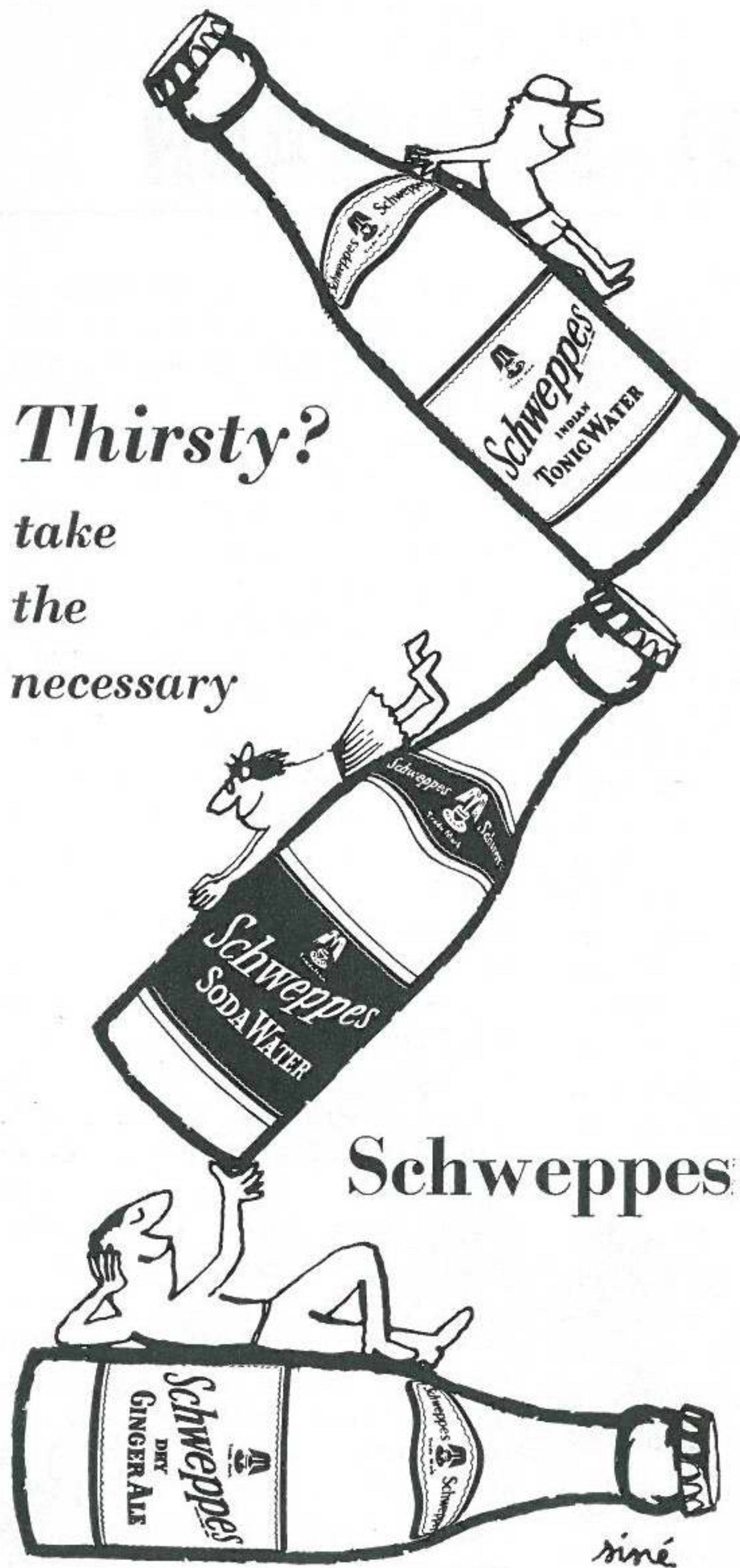
Tá lóistíní ar fáil go saor i ngiorracht gach coláiste díobh seo agus níl rud is fearr a dhéanadh duine, a bhfuil eolas iomlán de dhith air, ná na bileoga atá curtha amach ag Bórd Fáilte (ceann do gach cúige) fháil ó Comhdháil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge nó ón Bórd féin.

Ar ndóigh is iontach saor an cíos a ghearrtar ar na mic léinn 'sna coláistí ar fad. Nuair a cuirtear san áireamh go bhfuil saoire tharr bárr chomh maith le hoideachas ar fáil chomh saor sin is deacair a thuis-cint cén fáth nach mbíonn siad pldaithe don ráithe Meitheamh go Mean-Fómhair. Molaim iad agus na daoine atá 'na mbun.



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## Are we really getting value for money?

by SEAMUS O CEALLAIGH

GLANCING through the annual Report of the Munster Council we find a sum of £578 expended on grants for Gaeltacht scholarships during 1964. This was further supplemented by the different county boards, and the question arises whether the Association is getting value for that expenditure through the spread of the use of the national language in the playing fields and council chambers of the Association.

At a quick examination the answer would appear to be in the negative, for we have very little evidence of any worthwhile advance in the use of the language over the past decade, during which the Association in Munster must have expended close on £10,000 on the scholarship scheme.

It seems high time the whole thing was re-examined in the light of the results obtained, and some effort made to introduce a revised scheme that would bring more positive benefits.

The counties gave an average of £100 each in 1964, and instead of giving scholarships if this was offered as a prize to the club making the best practical use of the language throughout the year, the benefits might be far greater than under the present arrangement. They would certainly be more notable and widespread.

We have school and juvenile

boards operating now in many counties, and further ones are being set up in connection with the new hurling drive. Much of the work of these boards could be transacted in Irish without hurting anybody, thus forming a splendid foundation from which the idea could extend at a later stage to divisional and county board level.

I know there are many sincere men in the ranks of the Association, and very earnest workers, who had not the opportunities of the present generation to acquire a knowledge of the language—no matter how well disposed they were. We cannot do anything to prevent these men participating to the fullest extent in the activities of the Association and for that reason we have to move slowly.

At the lower levels, however, there is ample opportunity for introducing Irish into the everyday affairs of the playing fields, and into the discussions at the councils dealing with these games.

The G.A.A. is proud of its claim that it is a national movement in its broadest term—and not just an organiser of a few games — even purely native ones. To maintain that claim, however, it must do a

lot more than it is presently doing for the other marks of nationhood—and surely the national language ranks very high in any such work.

### HURLEY PROBLEMS

The Council also expended over £2,000 on grants for the propagation of juvenile hurling last year. The question must arise whether we are getting to the root of the problem under the existing arrangement. We are throwing away an awful lot of money on poor ash, instead of spending at least some of it in trying to improve the quality, or find some more durable material.

A hurley stick that would be virtually unbreakable, whilst retaining its main characteristics, would do much more than any of us can imagine for the furtherance of hurling. It is the big problem in the propagation of the game, and until it is solved progress will be retarded.

### MISSING ARMY

Mr. D. Maher, Chairman of Cork City Board had reason recently to refer to the poor support forthcoming from the

● TO PAGE 56.



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# What was good enough for our grandparents certainly ISN'T good enough for us . . .

says

**JAY DRENNAN**

WE can easily get away from the grass roots politics of the G.A.A. when we tend to follow the bigger games. Nowadays, all those of us who write our opinions on the games, are at pains to see the best possible selection of the games which feature most in the public eye: the games which would be the interest of the greatest possible number of the country's games followers. These games, of course, take us to Croke Park, Thurles, Tuam, Droichead Nua, Carlow, Clones, and many another ground—all with one thing in common—that they have at least the minimum degree of the facilities necessary.

Of course, even of those grounds that I have named at random, though they are among the best in the country, some have not the elementary necessity from a player's point of view — showers, hot and cold. And that, in itself, is a poor comment on things. If you cannot have the best at the top, what can be expected down the list.

The other Sunday, for instance, I went some dozen or so miles

to see a game played in a country village, where there is a strong club, to see a game between two teams for whom the village was half-way mark. It was a glorious day. The field for the game was a huge one, probably a twenty-five acre field I would estimate; the pitch was recognisable in one corner, the corner where the public road ran round two sides of the field.

Though, as I said, the club in this particular village is quite strong and has a long tradition of Gaelic games, they do not own the piece of ground on which they practice, or this field on which the match was played. They had borrowed the field, or part of it, to be exact, for the cows and bullocks who inhabited the other part of it, and who had obviously encroached on the playing surface, too, from all appearances of the evidence available.

So, they had put up the goalposts on the Saturday night, or it may have been the Sunday morning, and marked out the goal-lines and the sidelines with bits broken from the furze bushes on

the boundary fence. No lines, and no means of keeping the people away from where the lines should be. The playing surface itself, apart from the evidence of recent passage of cows, had a plentiful supply of bumps, a moderate growth of grass, considering the time of the year, and a slant across from side to side, and again down from one end to the other.

When the teams arrived they had to repair to the fences in whatever shelter furze bushes can afford at this time of the year, there to change into their togs, while fifty or more people, almost half of them women, tried their best not to notice. The clothes had to be left there in the open, a temptation and a prey for any hooligan who might fancy his chances. The road outside the field gate was chock-full of cars, blocking almost completely passage along a public road though not a main road. The fence round the ground was no better than you see round any field in the countryside; in fact, therefore, it presented

● TO PAGE 54.



# —ARE WATERFORD O



**I**N a somewhat unobtrusive fashion Waterford have climbed back into the hurling forefront. There has been nothing spectacular about it but it has been done nonetheless and on May 9 they will be at Croke Park to do battle with Tipperary in the National League semi-final.

Waterford began their League campaign on Sunday, November 8, when they had to work particularly hard to edge Dublin 2-13 to 3-8. A week later they polished off Carlow 6-10 to 1-7. Then came the break.

Spring saw the Deicemen on their toes and the vital game came on March 14 when they met Wexford in Wexford. It was a hard-fought and typical contest between these old rivals but Waterford had the edge where it counted and veterans Seamus Power, Phil Grimes and Mick Flannelly hammered home the decisive goals. It ended 4-5 to Wexford's 2-6.

Realising now that a place in the League semi-final was within their grasp, Waterford faced Limerick with confidence at Dungarvan on Sunday, April 4. However, they had to earn their victory, for the youthful Shannonsiders were a lively bunch and produced some excellent hurling.

Scores were level twice in the third quarter but it fell to Phil Grimes to decide the issue and this he did in the closing minutes when pointing three frees. Waterford were back in business.

They are a striking team these Deicemen. Nine of the current side were, for example, on the team beaten so narrowly by Kilkenny in the 1957 All-Ireland final—Tom Cunningham, Austin Flynn, Martin Og Morrissey, Seamus Power, Phil Grimes, Mick Flannelly, Tom Cheasty, Frank Walsh and Larry Guinan were then at their peak . . . but they are still going strong.

In fact some of them were veterans back in 1957. Take Phil Grimes for example. He made his senior intercounty debut in 1948 while that same year Mick Flannelly won his first of many senior championship medals with Mount Sion. Austin Flynn, Tom Cunningham and Seamus Power too had been around a long time prior to

qualifying for that final of almost eight years ago.

And of course they were all there again on those glorious Sundays in 1959 when Waterford drew with Kilkenny—thanks to Seamus Power's never-to-be forgotten goal, and then won the replay. Joe Condon and Ned Power were also there in '59.

Four years later came the 1963 final and they were still there. They had been firm favourites on that occasion but Kilkenny's youth was to triumph. Most of us expected that we had seen the end of Grimes and Co. But how wrong we were.

These Deicemen love hurling—there is no other answer. This is why, and how, they defy the years and still succeed in matching the best. It was the veterans who have carried Waterford back to Croke Park. Against Limerick it was Flynn, Cunningham and Martin Og who did most to keep the fast-moving Limerick forwards in

**By FRANK**



# IN THE WAY BACK?



## HUGHES

check, while up front Grimes, Flannelly, Cheasty and Walsh got the scores.

Against Wexford it was Seamus Power's two goals that made all the difference and so on.

How old are they? Grimes is 36. Ned Power, Seamus Power and Mick Flannelly are 35 give or take a month. Tom Cunningham is 34, Austin Flynn 32, Martin Og Morrissey 31, Tom Cheasty 30. Eight men over 30 and a few more moving towards it.

But their hearts are young and their craft they have well learned.

Heart has won more games for Waterford during the past decade than it has for any county. Every reader knows what I mean. They give, these Deicemen—to the very end and the last stroke of play. The veterans draw on last ounces of reserve—reserve which onlookers expected had long been called upon and spent.

Yes, a great heart beats beneath those Waterford jerseys.

What are their chances against trophy-laden Tipperary. The champions will certainly enter the fray firm favourites but personally I believe Waterford are well capable of creating an upset.

For one thing Tipperary are not likely to have returned to their best form. Recent displays have shown them sluggish and unfit. There was the Railway Cup final when Munster was mainly represented by the champions; the game against the Rest of Ireland, and finally the meeting with Kilkenny. All of those games were lost. Meanwhile Waterford were winning.

On the form in March and April Waterford could certainly do it. Grimes and Co. may be old but they have yet to be seen unfit. That Tipperary full back line could certainly be ousted by the Deice 35-year-olds.

The big question is, of course, how much Tipperary will have improved fitness-wise between the Kilkenny defeat on Sunday, April 4, and the League semi-final five weeks later on Sunday, May 9.

Teams over-laden with honours are not always the easiest to bring back into shape—especially early in the season. Yes this is an open game.

Speaking as a neutral, who has nothing but admiration for the men of the Premier County, I cannot but wish for a Waterford victory. In my book they deserve it—and more.

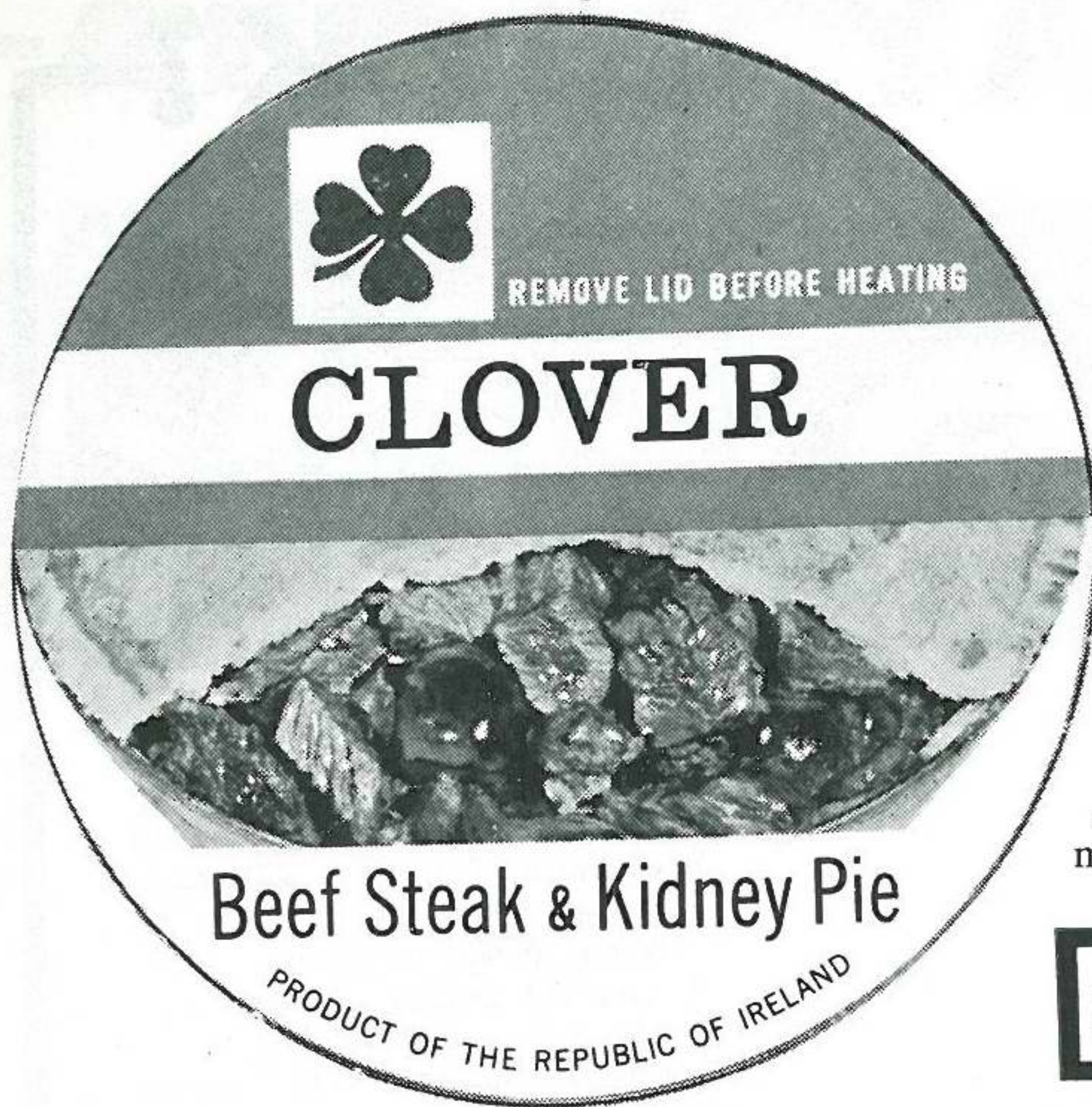
They may be young at heart but Grimes and Co. cannot go on for ever. A last hurrah in the current League would be most fitting. Men who have given so much for so long to the game deserve to go out in a blaze of glory.

But leaving aside the sentimentality there is another angle to it. These men, who have over the years displayed that ability of drawing on hidden resources when the hour called for it, are well capable of producing that dramatic autumn fire. For them this is it.

I believe they can do it.

[The Waterford team pictured above is that beaten in the 1963 final by Kilkenny.]





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# The crucial hour has come . . . and gone

by ALLEYMAN

**A** WHILE ago I wrote that the time of reckoning had arrived for handball. The policy meeting in Portlaoise before Christmas; the twenty-four motions listed for Congress, and a general air of change, that swept the country, prompted that thought. I am glad to report now, that the crucial hour has come and gone, and handball seems to have taken a positive step in a progressive direction. Annual Congress, held in Dublin, last month, ordained it so.

The concentrated efforts of a few counties to streamline the game, by way of motions adopted, will shortly bear fruit, and the season that lies ahead promises to be a spectacular one. Gone are the marathon rubbers, when players were compelled to wade through seven games of hardball and five games of softball. Instead, they will now play five and three games respectively.

This should permit an entirely new mental approach by players, a greater degree of fitness, snap action, and, equally important, more spectator appeal. As suggested by Kilkenny Chairman, Jimmy O'Brien, the new set-up will militate against the slow starter, though, in effect, every innovation has its disadvantages.

There is no doubt, however, but that the balance will be restored by the benefit accruing to players,



*REV. E. T. NEVILLE, outgoing President of the Irish Handball Council.*

who are not able to maintain an even pace for the duration of five games, or seven in the case of hardball.

In future a player cannot kick a ball. This new rule will be analysed carefully in the months ahead, for kicking had been one of the characteristics of the Irish game. Indeed, many of our players had from time to time displayed their proficiency at the art in courts abroad. But its elimination now should lead to a purer brand of handball.

Referees in particular, must also welcome this change, for the kicked shot, with particular emphasis on the drop kick, invariably aroused controversy.

The outside player, cannot in future play a short ball. This, in effect, means that if the server tosses a ball which hops within the short line and the front wall the defending player cannot return it. On the otherhand, if the server tosses two short balls, or commits two breaches of the rules in any other respect, he loses the right of service.

Equally important is the amendment of the rule which gave the player winning the toss the advantage of using his own handball for the first and successive odd games. The referee now decides on the ball to be used for the entire match.

A Kilkenny motion, that the G.A.A. Central Council be approached, with a view to erecting one or two American-type courts in selected centres was also adopted. If they materialise, Kilkenny envisage the implementation of an additional championship under international rules.

Indeed, this is absolutely essential if our players are to make their mark in competition outside Ireland. So the sooner these alleys are built the better.

On a long agenda many other motions were adopted, among them the Wicklow suggestion that the numerical strength of Central Council be increased by the addition of Provincial Chairmen, and another from the same county, that players must wear their singlets for the duration of a match.

The summer months will also see the commencement of a National League on a team basis. Finance, to defray travelling expenses, may prove a hazard to some counties, though, it could prove beneficial to counties with many top-class players, who rarely get an opportunity to show their paces at the highest level.

It could attract attention in weaker counties too, with representatives anxious to test their

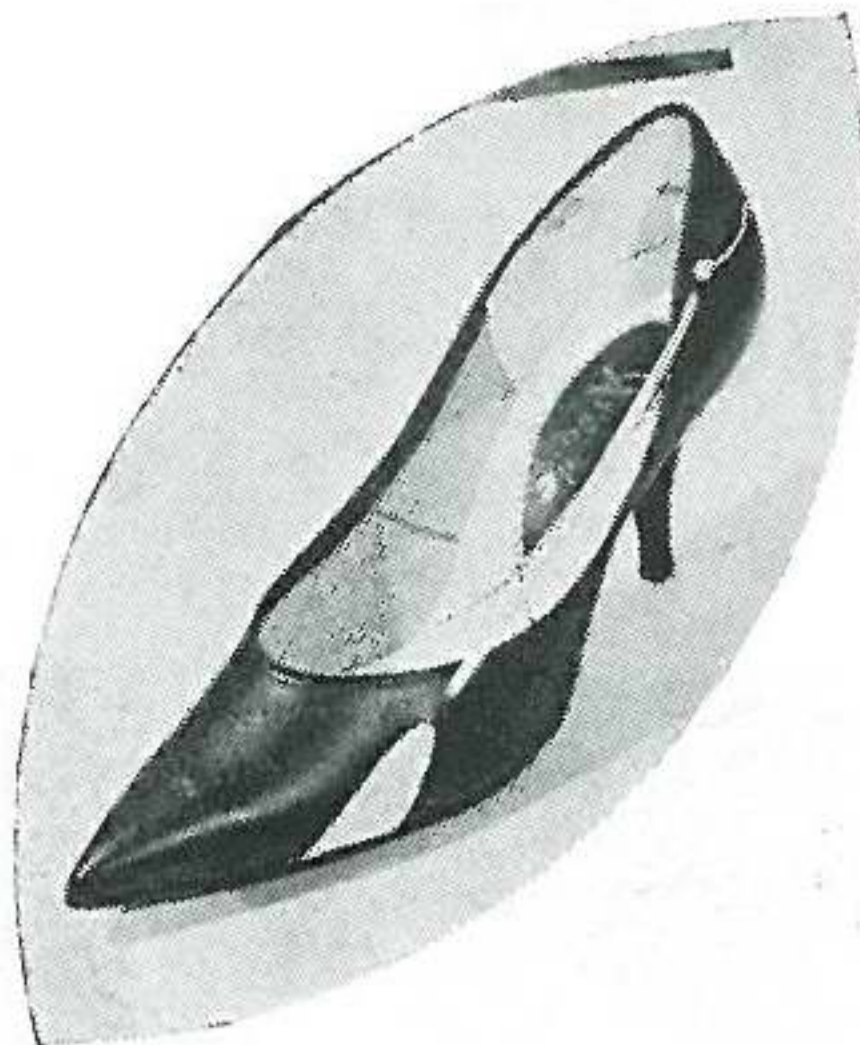
● TO PAGE 32.



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● FROM PAGE 31.

skill against well-known opponents.

Gerry McGowan the Ulster Chairman, takes over the Presidency of the Council in succession to Rev. E. T. Neville, and thus breaks the sequence of appointments of Leinster, Connaght and Munster nominees for the position.

Mr. McGowan is a long-serving member of the Council and his general experience of handball affairs should be a considerable asset.

Prior to his departure, Rev. E. T. Neville issued a thought-provoking document, in which he thoroughly analysed the game in relation, to its own component parts, and that of the G.A.A. Internally he hopes to see more dynamism by officials which would ultimately lead to solidity at county board level.

I think that the industry and initiative shown at Congress will be reflected throughout the organisation in the years ahead, thus helping to realise the ambitions of Fr. Neville.



## COVER STAR

**ON** our cover this month we feature Johnny Geraghty from Mountbellew, a young player who in little more than a year has made a strong claim to rank with the great net minders of our era.



# MATT FITZPATRICK

● FROM PAGE 21.

Liam McGrath), and three men who still survive to-day in Mickey Loughran, Peter McGrath and James Murphy.

When the club was founded it affiliated to the South Monaghan League and success came immediately. Their first year they captured the league and in 1907 they captured their first ever county title.

Ten years elapsed before the county title came their way again and also in that year of 1917 they beat the best clubs in Ulster to win a title as club champions of the province. This competition was known as the National Aid League and was competed for by the champions of the various counties.

That year too Faughs had the proud record of playing 24 games without defeat. Big men in those years were John McGinn, who captained the side from goal, just as his son Peter did last year, Mick Loughman and veterans Willie and Peter McGrath.

During the twenties the title returned 'Blaney way again but it was in the thirties that they hit their really golden period. They regained the title in 1931, held it in '32, '33, '36, '37 and '38, while they also won again in 1940 and '41. The men behind nearly all those wins were Christy Fisher and

Billy Mason both of whom played for both Monaghan and Ulster with distinction.

Other prominent players in this great run were "Dankey" Sheridan, Joe McElroy, Tom Flanagan and John Loughman, an uncle of present county player Tony, while on the '40 and '41 side were Pat Hughes and his brother, and Gerry McGrath.

In 1946 Faughs won their 13th title and helping in the win were Liam McGrath (now Chairman), Gerry Hughes, Charlie and Sean Mulligan, Pat Hughes, Brian Finn and Eddie O'Connor.

Then began a sequences of beaten final appearances and it looked as if that unlucky 13th title would never be surpassed. The fifties went past and again in the sixties the club reached the final. In fact they have appeared in every final since 1960 but it took them to '63—17 years to get over that 13th win. Last year they regained the title to make it 15.

The club runs teams in senior, junior, minor, under-16, under-14 and have won county titles in all grades. There is also a town street league in the under-14 grade with five teams competing while there is also a hurling street league.

Castleblaney in fact boasts two hurling clubs. Faughs and Eire Og. Both compete in the Mid-Ulster

League and have their own separate committees. The hard hurling workers are Eddie Murphy, Paddy McEneaney and Terry Connolly and Blaney will certainly play their part in the hurling revival.

Pride and joy of 'Blaney is St. Mary's Park, opened in 1953 and managed by the Faughs club. Just completed is the resurfacing carried out voluntarily by the club members.

There is also a camogie club flourishing but as yet no handball alley is available. However the club is contemplating erecting one. At the moment the club is in the process of getting in 1,000 concrete seats in St. Mary's Park, while their next project is to replace the existing dressing rooms with up-to-date buildings and it is hoped to have a re-opening of the Park in June.

Yes indeed Castleblaney is well catered for as regards Gaelic games and with three schools in the locality it looks like our games will continue to prosper. The three surviving founders must be proud of the work they started.

To club Chairman, Liam McGrath, I say thank you for helping me have a look at your great club and for your time doing research through the old minute books and records.

Next month I will have a look at my own former Club, Newtownbutler St. Comghalls, champions of Fermanagh.

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# Na Colaistí Samhraidh — SAOIRE 1965

## Co. Aontrama

### COIS ABHANN DÁLA.

An Scoil Samhraidh, Cois Abhann Dála, Co. Aontrama.

(Eolas ó: M. Mac an tSaoir, Main St., Portglenone, Co. Antrim).

Cúrsaí: 13 Iúil—30 Iúil, 1965. Buachaillí agus Cailíní. Táille: £10-10-0. Aois: go dtí 14 bliana.

## Tír Chonaill

### GLEANN BHARR.

Coláiste Loch Súili, Gleann Bharr, Tír Chonaill.

(Eolas ó: Éamonn Mac Giolla Phádraig, O.S., S.N., Droma Cúnga, Lios Darach, Co. Mhuineacháin).

### FÁL CHARRACH

Coláiste Naomh Fhionáin, Fál Charrach, Tír Chonaill.

(Eolas ó: Éamonn Mac Aoidh, Min Doire, Fál Charrach).

Cúrsaí: 30-6-'65 — 24-7-'65; 26-7-'65 — 19-8-'65. Buachaillí agus cailíní. Aois 10 mbliana — 18 mbliana.

ROS GOILL. 24 míle ó Leitir Ceanainn. Bus.

Coláiste Ros Goill, Na Dúine, Leitir Ceanainn, Tír Chonaill.

(Eolas ó: An tAth. Mac Earnáin, St. Patrick's Academy, Dungannon, Tyrone).

Cúrsaí do bhuachaillí agus do chailíní i mí Iúil agus Lúnasa.

### CLOCH CHEANN FHAOILIGH.

29 míle ó Leitir Ceanainn. Bus.

Coláiste Uladh, Cloch Cheann Fhaoiligh, Leitir Ceanainn, Tír Chonaill.

(Eolas ó: Sighle Ní Dhubhgáin, 4 Páirc Chluain Toirc, Droim Chonrach).

Cúrsaí do bhuachaillí agus chailíní i mí Iúil agus Lúnasa. (Bonn Uan Uladh—bonn óir i gcuimhne ar Úna Ní Fhaircheallaigh—don dalta is fear ar gach cúrsa).

GAOTH DOBHAIR. 35 míle ó Leitir Ceanainn. Bus.

Coláiste Cholmcille, Gaoth Dobhair, Leitir Ceanainn, Tír Chonaill.

(Eolas ó: An tAth. Seán Mac Eiteagáin, Doire Beag, Tír Chonaill).

Cúrsaí do bhuachaillí agus do

chailíní idir 10—18 mbliana i mí Iúil agus Lúnasa.

### ANAGAIRE

Coláiste Anagaire, Anagaire, Leitir Ceanainn, Tír Chonaill.

(Eolas ó: Gordon Mac Gill-Fhinnéin, 22 Slí Radharc na Coradh, Tigh Lorcáin, Baile Átha Cliath. 'Fon: 881711).

Buachaillí agus cailíní idir 10—18 mbliana.

LOCH AN IUBHAIR. 50 míle ó Leitir Ceanainn.

Coláiste Mhuire, Loch an Iubhair, Tír Chonaill.

(Eolas ó: An tAth. Peadar Mac Doinnléibhe, St. Michael's College, Drumclay, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh).

### COLÁISTE BHRÍDE

RANN NA FEIRSTE. 40 míle ó Leitir Ceanainn. Bus go hAnagaire, 1 míle ó Rann na Feirste.

Uachtaráin: An tAth. Mac Paróthlóin, Coláiste Mac Nissi, Garron Tomher, Co. Aondroma; Padraig Mac Conmidhe, "Blaithín," Árd Mhic Nasca, Co. an Dúin. Rúnaí: Padraig Ó Fachtna, Lann Léire, Co. Lú. Cisteoir: Ióseph Ó Searcaigh, Lannléire, Co. Lú.

The courses this year are as follows: FIRST SESSION (Children 10 to 18 on 1st. July) — 30th June — 24th July.

SECOND SESSION (Children and Adults) — 27th July — 20th August. Dates shown are the travelling dates. TERMS — Under 18: £13.

Entry Cards and any further information required may be had from: Padraig Ó Fachtna, Lannleire, Co. Lú.

TEILEANN. 30 míle ó Dhún na nGall. Bus go Carraig, 2 míle ó Theileann.

Coláiste Aoidh Mhic Bhríone, Teileann, Tír Chonaill.

(Eolas ó: An tAth. L. Mac an tSagairt, St. Patrick's Academy, Dungannon).

Cúrsaí do bhuachaillí agus chailíní idir 10—18 mbliana. Táille: £13.

Mí Iúil agus Lúnasa. Táille: £13.

ÁRAINN MHÓR

Coláiste Cróna, Áriann Mhór, Tír Chonaill.

(Eolas ó: An Rúnaí).

Cúrsaí i mí Iúil agus Lúnasa.

## Co. na Gaillimhe

### INIS THIAR

Coláiste Laichtin Naofa, Inis Thiar, Oileáin Árann, Co. na Gaillimhe.

(Eolas ó: Seosamh Mac Mathúna, Sráid na Cathrach, Co. an Chláir. 'Fon: 49).

Cúrsaí: 3-7-'65 — 29-7-'65; 2-8-'65 — 27-8-'65. Buachaillí agus cailíní. Táille: £13. Aois: 10—18 mbliana. Bíonn ranganna do thosaitheoirí ann.

AN SPIDÉAL

Coláiste Chonnacht, An Spidéal, Co. na Gaillimhe. Fón: 24.

(Eolas ó: P. Ó Foighil, Baile an tSagairt, An Spidéal. Fón: 31).

Cúrsaí: (a) 5-7-'65—31-7-'65; 2-8-'65—28-8-'65 (Daltaí Scoile idir 10—18 mbliana); (b) 5-7-'65 — 31-7-'65; 2-8-'65 — 28-8-'65 (múinteoirí agus ábhair mhúinteoirí). Buachaillí agus cailíní. Táille: £18-5-0 (scoláirí); £22-10-0 (múinteoirí). Ranganna do thosaitheoirí agus do dhaoine fásta.

CARNA

Coláiste Gaeilge Naomh Seosamh, Cárna, Co. na Gaillimhe. 'Fón: 14.

(Eolas ó: Séamus Breathnach, S.C., Cárna. 'Fón: 12).

Cúrsaí: 5-6-'65 — 31-7-'65; 2-8-'65 — 28-8-'65. Buachaillí agus cailíní. Táille: thart ar £15. Aois: 10—18 mbliana. Rang do thosaitheoirí.

Rang do thosaitheoirí.

Co. an Chláir

CARRAIG AN CHOBHALTAIGH.

Coláiste Eoghain Uí Chomhraidhe, Carraig an Chobhaltaigh, Co. an Chláir.

(Eolas ó: Buadhach Tóibín, Bóthar an Choláiste, Inis. 'Fón: Inis 314).

Cúrsaí: 5-7-'65 — 31-7-'65; 2-8-'65 — 28-8-'65. Buachaillí agus cailíní. Táille: £15. Aois: 11—16 bliana. Rang do thosaitheoirí.

Co. Luimnigh

FAING

Áras Íde, Faing, Co. Luimnigh. 'Fón: 10.

(Eolas ó: An Rúnaí, Áras Íde, Faing, Co. Luimnigh. 'Fón: Faing 10).

Cúrsaí: Seachtain na Cásca.



Daoine os cionn 16 bliana.  
Táille: £5; 13-6-'65—25-6-'65.  
Táille: £10; 29-6-'65—25-7-'65.  
Táille: £14; 27-7-'65—22-8-'65.  
Táille: £14. Buachaillí agus  
cailíní. Aois: 11—18 mbliana.

## Co. Chiarraí

### BAILE AN BHUINEÁNAIGH.

Coláiste Bhréanainn, Baile an  
Bhuineánaigh, Co. Chiarraí.  
(Eolas ó: An Rúnaí, Áras Íde,  
Faing, Co. Luimnigh. 'Fón: Faing  
10).

Cúrsaí: 28-6-'65 — 24-7-'65.  
Táille: £14; 26-7-'65—21-8-'65.  
Táille: £14. Buachaillí agus  
cailíní. Aois: 11—18 mbliana.

### CORCA DHUIBHNE.

Cúrsa Samhraidh Chonradh na  
Gaeilge, Corcaigh.  
(Eolas ó: Séamus Ruiséal, Áras an  
Chraoibhín, 13 Paráid na Díge,  
Corcaigh).

Cúrsaí: 27-6-'65—26-7-'65.

### BAILE NA nGALL. 8 míle ó Dhaingean Uí Chúis.

Coláiste Bhríde, Baile na nGall,  
Corca Dhuibhne, Co. Chiarraí.  
(Eolas ó: Muiris Ó Cinnéide,  
Baile na nGall, Trá Lí, Co.  
Chiarraí).

Cúrsaí do bhuachaillí agus do  
chailíní thar 10 mbliana. Bíonn  
ranganna do dhaoine fásta agus  
do thosaitheoirí ann.

### CEANNTRÁ.

Coláiste Fhionntrá, Ceanntará,  
Daingean Uí Chúis, Co. Chiarraí.  
(Eolas ó: Bernard Ó Lubhaing,  
"Fionntrá," Lios Tuathail. 'Fón:  
Lios Tuathail 185).

Cúrsaí: Iúil—Lúnasa. Buach-  
aillí agus cailíní. Aois: 10—18  
mbliana.

### BAILE AN SCEILIG. 10 míle ó Chathair Saidhbhín.

Coláiste Mhíchíl, Baile an Sceilig,  
Cill Airne, Co. Chiarraí.  
(Eolas ó: An Rúnaí).

Cúrsaí do bhuachaillí agus  
chailíní idir 10—18 mbliana.  
Leaba shingil ag gach páiste.

## Co. Chorcaí

### CÚIL AODHA

Coláiste Gaeilge Chúil Aodha, Cúil  
Aodha, Co. Chorcaí.

(Eolas ó: Pádraig Mac Suibhne,  
Cúil Aodha, Co. Chorcaí).

Cúrsaí: 2-7-'65 — 25-7-'65;  
30-7-'65—24-8-'65. Cailíní, mí  
Iúil; buachaillí, mí Lúnasa.  
Aois: 10—18 mbliana.

### BÉAL ÁTHA AN

#### GHAORTHÁIDH.

Coláiste na Mumhan, Béal Átha an  
Ghaorthaidh, Co. Chorcaí. 'Fón: 6.  
(Eolas ó: Seán Ó Críodáin, Ráth  
Péacáin, Co. Chorcaí).

Cúrsaí: 5-7-'65 — 31-7-'65;  
2-8-'65 — 28-8-'65. Buachaillí  
agus cailíní. Aois: 10—18  
mbliana. Rang do thosaitheoirí.

### TRÁ BOLGAN.

Trá Bolgan (Coláiste Cónaithe), An  
Geata Bán, Co. Chorcaí.

(Eolas ó: Cormac Mac Cárthaigh,  
25 Sráid Phádraig, Corcaigh.  
'Fón: 20412).

Daltaí idir 10—18 mbliana  
d'aois. Glactar le daoine fásta.  
Aifreann gach maidin, Seirbhís  
Eaglais na hÉireann gach  
Domhnach.

## Co. Phort Lairge

### AN RINN.

Coláiste na Rinne, Rinn Ó gCuan-  
ach, Sna Déisibh. 'Fón: 4.

(Eolas ó: Mícheál Ó Dómhnaill,  
Coláiste na Rinne, Rinn Ó gCuan-  
ach. 'Fón: 24).

Cúrsaí: 30-6-'65 — 24-7-'65;  
28-7-'65 — 21-8-'65. Buachaillí  
agus cailíní. Aois: os cionn  
13 bliana. Táillí: Seomra  
aonair £21; Seomra beirte nó  
triúir, £20; Suanlios £18-10-0.  
Bíonn ranganna do dhaoine  
fásta ann.

Dáil na Mumhan. Dátaí: 21—  
28 Lúnasa, 1965. Táille: £7.

## Co. Atha Cliath

### BAILE BRIGÍN.

Coláiste Phádraig, Halla Hampton,  
Baile Brigín, Co. Átha Cliath.

(Eolas ó: Éamonn Ó Murchú, Col-  
áiste Phádraig, Teach Y.P.,  
Rotunda, Baile Átha Cliath 1.  
'Fón: oifig—47770; baile—334051).

Cúrsaí: Buachaillí: 20-6-'65—  
10-7-'65. Táille: £17-10-0;  
Cailíní: 11-7-'65 — 31-7-'65;  
1-8-'65 — 21-8-'65. Táille:  
£17-10-0. Ranganna do thos-  
aitheoirí.

### BÁILE ÁTHA CLIATH.

McGuire's College, 5 Rae Gardnair,  
Cearnóg Parnell, Baile Átha Cliath  
1. 'Fón: 46644.

(Eolas ó: Éamonn Ó Murchú, 5  
Rae Gardnair, Cearnóg Parnell,  
Baile Átha Cliath 1. 'Fón:  
334051).

Cúrsaí: 5-7-'65 — 16-7-'65;  
19-7-'65 — 30-7-'65; 16-8-'65—  
27-8-'65. Buachaillí agus  
cailíní. Táille: £3-10-0. Aois:  
12—18 mbliana.

## Co. na Mí

### BAILE GIB.

Coláiste Bhaile Gib (Coláiste Cón-  
aithe), Baile Gib, An Uaimh, Co.  
na Mí.

(Eolas ó: E. Ní Chearbhaill, 46  
Cearnóg Parnell, Baile Átha Cliath  
1. 'Fón: 41358, idir 7.30—9.30  
(p.m.).

Aois: 10—15 bliana. Taisteal  
saor in aisce.

### AN UAIMH.

Coláiste Éanna na Mí (Coláiste  
Cónaithe).

(Gach eolas ó: Filis Ní Raghail-  
laigh, An Cheardscoil, An Uaimh,  
Co. na Mí. 'Fón: An Uaimh 47).

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# **£90,000 Development Plan For Thurles Gets Underway . . .**

by **JOSEPH BURKE**

**T**HE £90,000 development scheme at Thurles Stadium gets under way and it is fitting that it should do so on the 80th anniversary of the foundation of the G.A.A. When completed the new grounds will stand a proud monument to those far-seeing men who met at Hayes's Hotel on that Saturday afternoon eight decades ago.

Thurles is certainly well worthy

of the honour which the new park development plan has bestowed upon it. Not alone was the progressive Tipperary town the cradle from which was born our Association but over the years it has remained a centre-point in G.A.A. activities.

For many of the early years the

● *TO PAGE 38.*

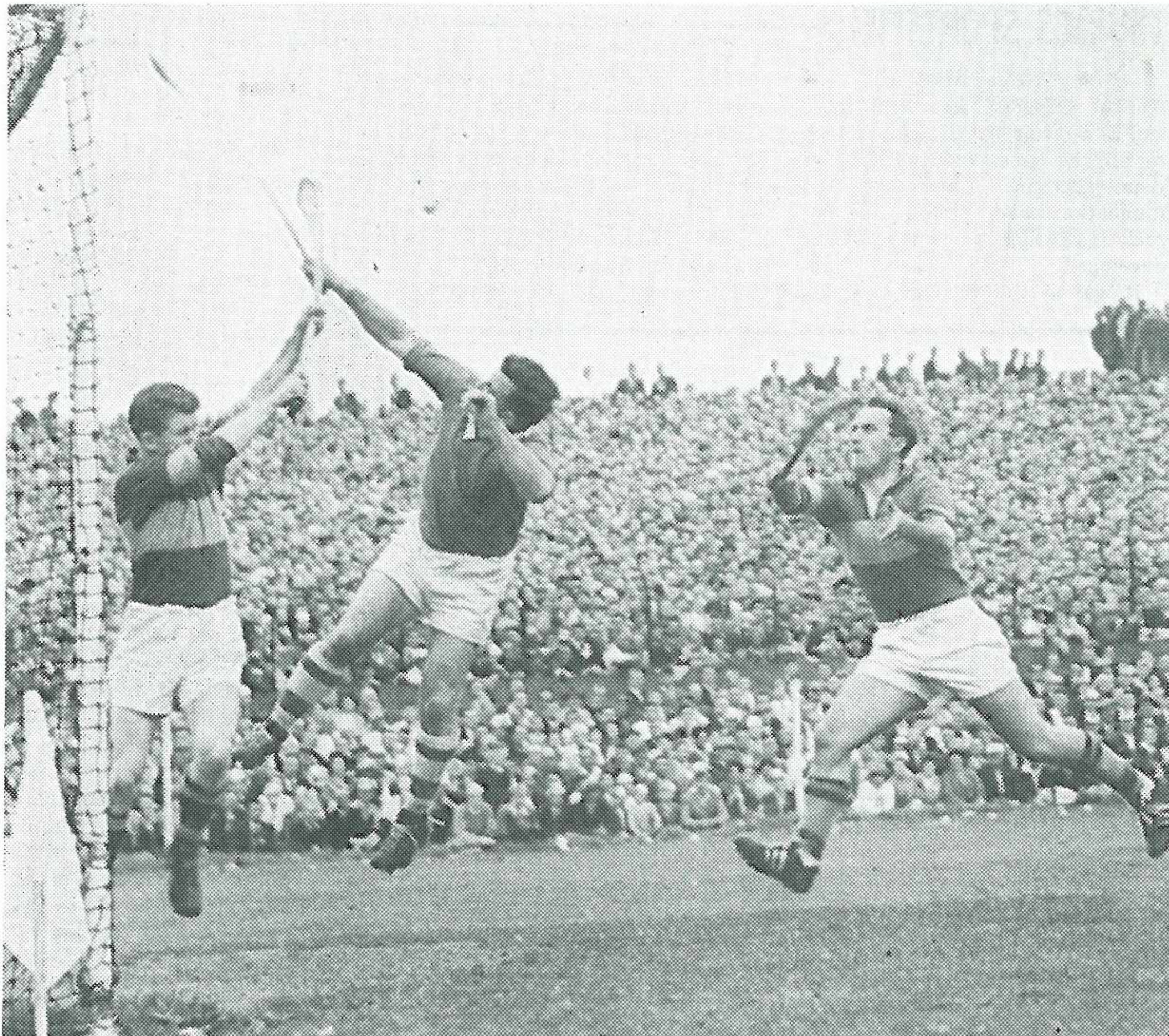
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the shape  
it always  
tastes supreme. . .**

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**Ice Cream**





## THURLES SPORTSFIELD

● FROM PAGE 36.

Annual Congress was held there and as a result Thurles played host to all the great figures of those years—the men who laid the foundation from which the Association which we know to-day developed.

It was at the Thurles Congress

sessions that the policy and the rules which have guided the G.A.A. in its growth, and which are still cherished to-day, were formulated. In short it might be said that not alone was Thurles the cradle of the Association but it was also its fountain-head.

Progress was to eventually

dictate that Congress should move to Dublin and there it has remained ever since but I should not be at all surprised if the Gaels of Ireland decide in twenty years time to return to Thurles for the 1984 Congress and thereby fittingly mark the Association's 100th anniversary.

But then there has always been more to Thurles than just historic meetings. More great games have probably been played there than in any venue in Ireland—outside of Croke Park, of course.

It has been the scene of dozens of Munster hurling finals and over the years its green sod has borne the imprint of every hurling hero from Jamsey Kelleher to Christy Ring.

Oddly enough Thurles has been the venue of an All-Ireland football final—but never a hurling decider. The 1905 football final was played there, on June 16, 1907 to be precise, with Kildare beating Kerry 1-7 to 0-5.

It was Kildare's first football crown and it brought them revenge for their defeat by Kerry in the 1903 'home' final—a game which required no less than two replays.

But then Thurles has yet another great honour to its credit—it won the first-ever All-Ireland senior hurling title.

It was the men of Thurles—the Stapletons, Mahers, Carrolls, Leahy, Ryans and Co., who defeated Galway (as represented by Meelick) at Birr on April 1, 1887 to bring to the Premier County the first premier award.

Eighteen years later another great Thurles side led Tipperary to victory in the All-Ireland Final of 1906 and they repeated the feat in 1908.

Yes, Thurles has a unique and glorious G.A.A. history and it certainly is well fitted to receive the great honour which now comes its way. When completed the new Thurles Stadium will rank second only to Croke Park.

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## EAMONN YOUNG

● FROM PAGE 19.

Still smarting under the lash of defeat I told the truth very bluntly. The men didn't train; they should have. I went further and gave the opinion that the only effort some of them had made was to read Jim Hurley's circular.

I'm sorry now that I spoke the truth. It would have been so easy to say that the men had been so accustomed to collective training since February that they didn't feel like training on their own. That too would have been the truth. As one can guess my popularity didn't worry me. That finished our League hopes for 1956-'57 and in the following May Kerry met Galway in the final to be beaten by a Purcell-Stockwell goal towards the end with a score of 1-8 to 0-6.

The Kingdom put up a great show that day and let me tell you they came back from Croke Park knowing that when they met Galway again in the All-Ireland semi-final things might not be quite so easy for the champions from the West.

Meanwhile on June 2 the Kingdom travelled to Waterford for the usual first-round formality. Considering they had Jerome O'Shea, Ned Roche, Tim Lyons, Jack Dowling, Tom Long, Mick O'Connell, Paud Sheehy, Tadg Lyne and Dan MacAuliffe one couldn't blame them for feeling confident.

After forty minutes play Kerry led by 0-8 to 0-2 and it was all over. Something happened then. Waterford left the ground and, while they played cleanly, the superb goalkeeping of Gerry McCarthy, the fast hard tackling of big Matt Lonergan. Small Jim Power and captain Con Crowley in defence, the mighty fetching and kicking of Seamus Power the hurler on the halfway line, the swerving runs of Billy Kirwan, the fielding of Georgie White and the

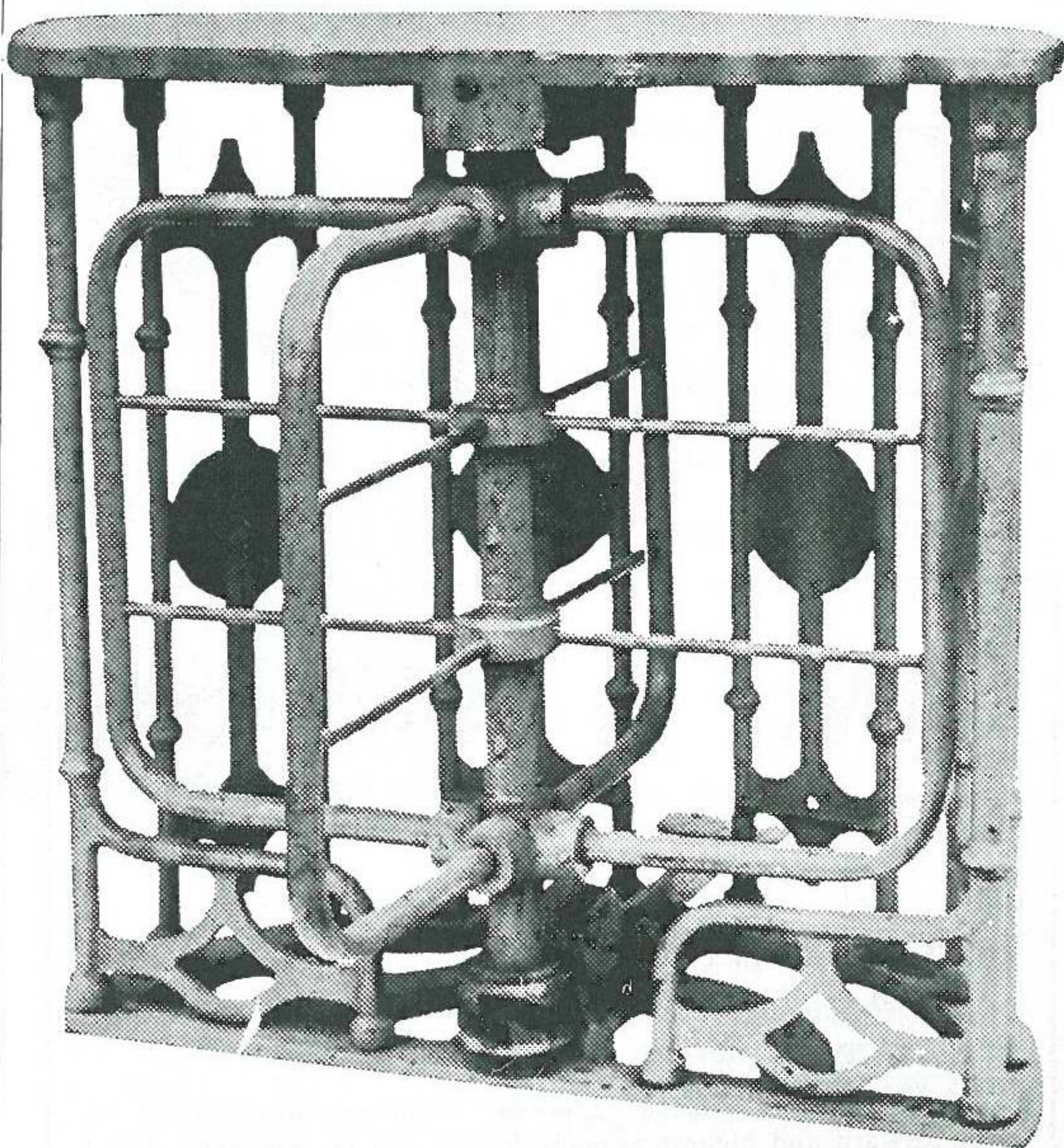
goals driven home by tall Noel Power—all combined to leave the final score 2-5 to 0-10 in Waterford's favour.

Driving I was when the radio news came on. I startled my companions with a wild cheer, for now I knew we'd win the Munster championship and get another crack at Galway.

Anyway on the following Sunday we played Clare in Rathluirc.

The ball wasn't properly pumped but even that wouldn't account for the way our men played. I had said to them (in fact everyone had said to them): "Don't forget what Waterford did to Kerry last Sunday". That day in Rathluirc the Decies side would have done the same to Cork but anyway we won by 1-7 to 0-3.

Now for Waterford in Thurles.  
(Continued next month.)



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# TOP TEN

## KILKENNY AND GALWAY DOMINATE THE LISTS



★ TOM WALSH



★ BOSCO McDERMOTT



★ JOHN KEENAN

THIS month's Top Ten lists are based on intercounty performances from Sunday, March 14, to Sunday, April 11, inclusive.

Ollie Walsh tops the hurling list as a result of a series of brilliant performances, including that of the Railway Cup final. With him on this month's hurling list are four of his all-conquering team-mates.

John Keenan tops the football list, while Donegal, despite their League semi-final defeat, have P. J. Flood and John Hannigan included.

### HURLING

1. Ollie Walsh (Kilkenny).
2. Pa Dillon (Kilkenny).
3. Austin Flynn (Waterford).
4. Tom Walsh (Kilkenny).
5. Joe Dunphy (Kilkenny).
6. Noel Gallagher (Cork).
7. Martin Og Morrissey (Waterford).
9. Oliver Mc Grath (Wexford).
10. Lar Foley (Dublin).

### FOOTBALL

1. John Keenan (Galway).
2. P. J. Flood (Donegal).
3. Enda Colleran (Galway).
4. Mick Morris (Kerry).
5. Paddy Doherty (Down).
6. John Donnellan (Galway).
7. Eamonn Creegan (Limerick).
8. Tony McTeague (Offaly).
9. John Hannigan (Donegal).
10. John Bosco McDermott (Galway).

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# THE POC FADA

● FROM PAGE 17.

Brothers, who are currently developing it into hurling and football pitches for their pupils. So, all in all, I suppose we former rebellious pupils must admit that it is a 'fair deal' all round.

## MID-ULSTER HURLING COMMITTEE

To get to the start of the Poc Fada course (by car) one branches off the Dublin-Belfast road at the Irish customs frontier post, at Carrickarnon, Ravensdale—if coming from Dundalk direction turn right without crossing the Border; if from Newry direction, turn left after crossing the Border).

This Poc Fada Idirbailte competition, with the wholehearted support of the Mid-Ulster Hurling

Committee and the clubs of the participating towns, as well as the patronage of Dundalk Festival Committee (treasurer — Louth Co. footballer Frank Lynch), will help in no small way to realise the objectives of the new Hurling Scheme, and will add a northern bite to the firmly established All-Ireland Poc Fada contest in future years—a bite which one day will be instrumental in wresting the premier award — Corn Setanta—from southern traditional hurling strongholds, and bringing it right up to the Sperrins, Cooley itself, the Mourne, Cave Hill or Errigal.

When in Dundalk, after descending to sea-level from the high spots of Cuailgne, ask for such names as Cúchulainn Terrace, Emer Terrace, Buirhevna. But go especially to see

the Dealgan fort, the home-place of young Setanta, the ceann tosaíthe of the first Poc Fada trek; and looking northwards you will see the hills of Armagh which the seven-year-old hurler crossed, as he drove the sliotar before him on his way to join the boys of the Craobh Rua in Eamhain Macha.

The beauty of the scene must surely bring the words of Pádraig Mac Piarais to mind: 'Mise Eire — sine mé ná an Chailleach Béara . . . mór mo ghlór . . . mé do rug Cúchulainn cróga.'

## JACK MAHON

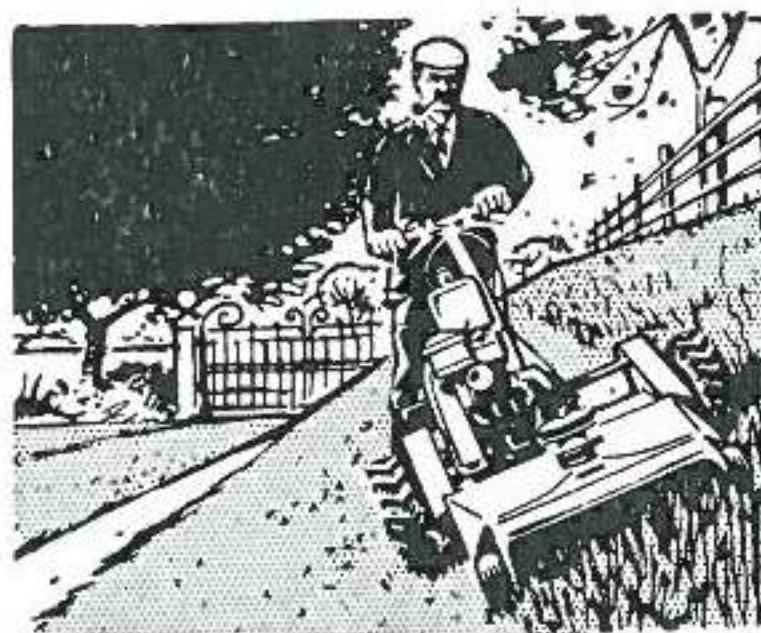
● FROM PAGE 15

Galway City. Another very worthy ambassador indeed.

Finally comes Sligo's Micky Kearns—the best Sligo footballer for many a day. The Dromard man is a deceptively frail-looking individual off the field but tremendous interest and dedication from his school days at St. Muredach's College, Ballina, has seen him progress by leaps and bounds on the football field.

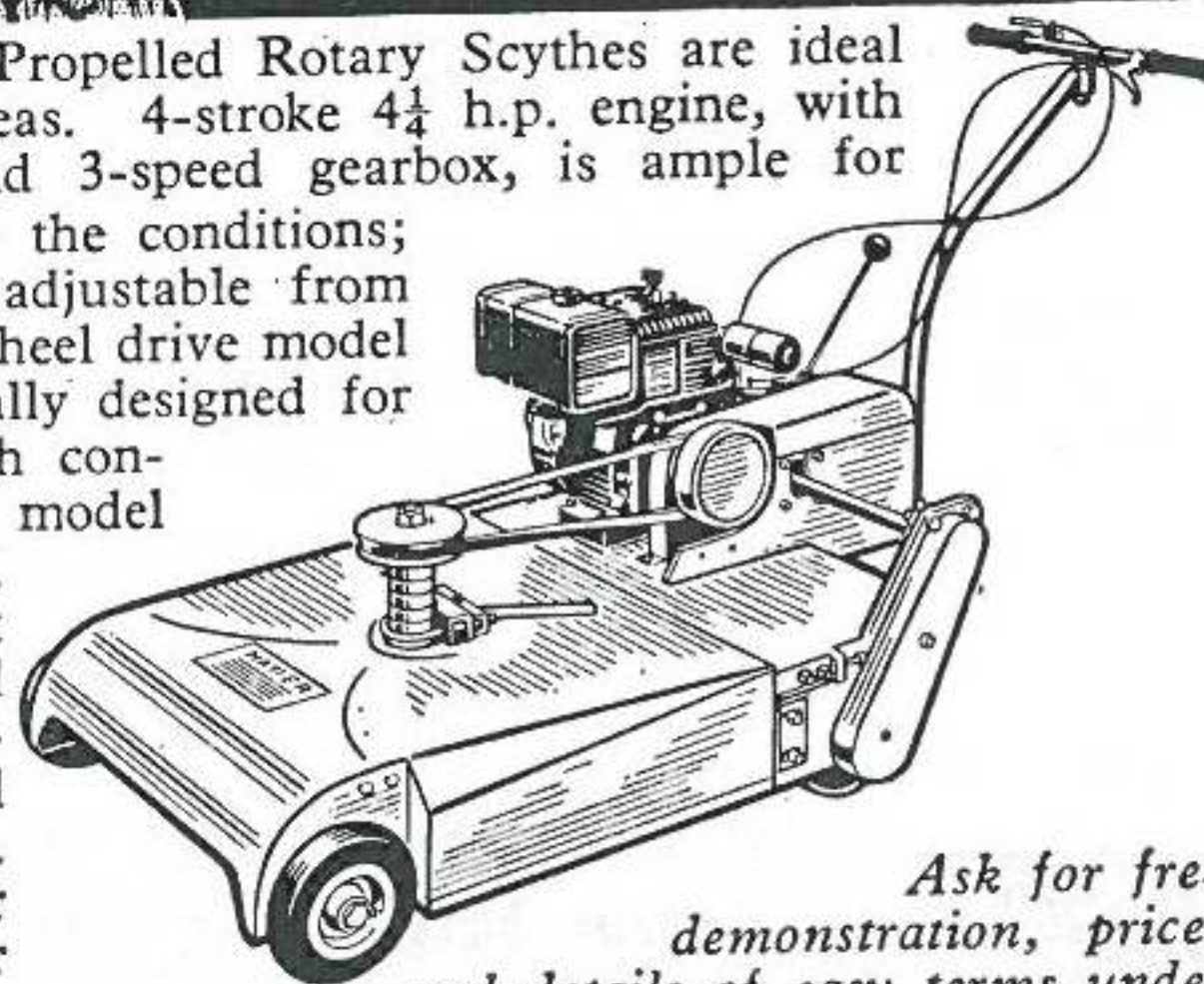
Here is a footballer who very obviously takes the game seriously—another Mick O'Connell or a Pat Donnellan or a Johnny Geraghty (pardon me for mentioning two Galwaymen but I happen to know how dedicated both Pat and Johnny are and may tell you about it in a future issue).

Though his Croke Park debut on St. Patrick's Day did not show him at his very best, Mickey still gave glimpses of his true worth and rest assured he will thrill Croke Park attendances in the future, if not in the black and white of Sligo at least in the white of Connacht. He will, of course, have to rid himself of much of his go-it-alone policy and link up more with his fellow forwards. But he is a bonny player and as a Connachtman I am indeed proud of our three ambassadors. They will do us proud.



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# GO CIE



# Let's feature Gaelic games at the 1968 Olympics!

---

SAYS PATRICK CARVER

---

POSSIBLY because he has lived in America for so long and has travelled so extensively, John Kerry O'Donnell, one of the most forceful men associated with our national games to-day, has a strong spirit of internationalism in his approach to both hurling and football.

Down through the years he has campaigned vigorously for the establishment and subsequently the retention of "international" fixtures between this country and America and last year, in an unprecedented tour, he took the New York football team on an exciting trip that embraced almost every territory in the world where there is an interest in Gaelic games.

It may be that John Kerry, a man for whom I must confess I have tremendous admiration, visualises a time when both hurling and football will be international games. Despite the games between New York and teams in this country or the annual championship ties between the winners and Britain and those here, one cannot describe either game as international at the moment.

But, with air travel as it is now and with the prospects of even faster and greater things to come, the world has become a very small



★ *Dr. Pat. O'Callaghan, who won an Olympic gold medal in 1928 and 1932.*

place. And it is evident, from the reaction of tourists who have seen the games here in Ireland and those abroad who have seen our games on television, that there is a world-wide admiration for hurling and Gaelic football.

A time may come when our games will spread strongly into other countries; it has happened in many other sports . . . and it can happen to hurling and football. So why not let the world see our games now?

In three years from now, the 19th Olympic Games will be held in Mexico and those of you who know something about the Olym-

pics will remember that provision is made in each celebration of the Games for two exhibition sports. Over the last 40 years, games like baseball, American football, lacrosse have been featured as exhibitions at various Olympic Games. So why not hurling or Gaelic football?

Lately, the Mexican organisers admitted that they are a little worried about what exhibition sports they will feature in three years time. A suggestion that bullfighting should be one of them was turned down unanimously and the Mexicans have complained that most of their national sports are already included in the Olympics as competitive sports.

They are looking for suggestions. Who better than John Kerry O'Donnell to give them one. With his influence, with his driving power, he might be the man to see that either hurling or Gaelic football becomes an exhibition sport at Mexico.

Right now, it might seem a slightly scatter-brained idea; three years from now it could be a wonderful thing.

If we are ever to have internationalism in Gaelic games, this might be an opportune time to make our first move.



# CONNACHT COMMENT

## HATS OFF TO GALWAY!

SAYS CHRIS MURRAY

**H**ATS off to the Galway Vocational School footballers who shortly bid for the All-Ireland crown against Kerry. Will they emulate the county seniors by bringing home the honours? Kerry must certainly be a lively side but I take the Galway boys to do it.

They certainly looked impressive in winning out in Connacht. They beat Roscommon 1-10 to nil in the provincial semi-final and trounced Mayo 4-8 to 0-2 in the final.

The Vocational Schools championship is at last beginning to get the prominence it deserves. For too long they had been the poor relation.

### CHRISTY TYRRELL

Galway football star, Christy Tyrrell, made his name in another sport recently when he helped U.C.G. win the Irish Universities handball championship for the Guinness Trophy. In the first



BRIAN McDONALD

round Galway beat U.C.D., then U.C.C. and finally accounted for Queen's, Belfast.

Twenty-year-old Christy from Mountbellew is certainly doing Galway proud. He helped U.C.G. win the 1964 Sigerson Cup too—as well, of course, as having been a star of Galway's 1964 All-Ireland senior football fifteen.

### BRIAN McDONALD

A familiar figure in Connacht now is Dublin's top forward, Brian McDonald. Recently appointed as Western representative for Foster Finance Ltd., Brian will prove a major attraction on Connacht football fields. He is, of course, no stranger to the West having resided in Roscommon for seven years. He was educated at the local C.B.S. and played minor hurling and football with Roscommon.

### GALWAY MOURNS

Tragedy is staying very close to Galway football. Since last we met Jack Kissane, the former county star lost his young wife, Mary. All Galway mourned the sad event. Then too Paddy Hughes of Milltown and Tom Molloy, one of the 1925 Galway All-Ireland fifteen, passed away. We tender sincere sympathy to the relatives. Go ndéanaidh Dia trócaire ortha.

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## POLITICS AND THE G.A.A.

● FROM PAGE 4

against is the deliberate introduction in constituencies which may be marginal or just a bit sticky for a particular party, of a well-known name which may cloud the vital national issues in the minds of the electorate sufficiently to gain those few extra votes which may make all the difference between winning a seat and losing one.

Footballers or hurlers, whether still playing or now finished playing careers of exceptional quality, must play the same part in politics, earn their right to be selected on the merits of their acumen, their aptitude for the life and practice of politics, and on the result of their record—either of proved political mettle from their part in local administration, or of proved legislative knowledge in some department of life in league with the political-trade union officials, for example, economists, legal and educational specialists.

But, to be a footballer, or hurler no matter how good, is not enough alone to be justly proposed to the electorate by a major political party in a major election such as the recent election to the Dail.

That is my position on this matter. I am quite clear in my mind that this ought not to be a deterrent to the many outstanding young men who play football or hurling well, who are heroes to their own countymen, and who also have the ability to be excellent statesmen, fine leaders of men in society and in policy-making.

The example of Jack Lynch, of course, makes a splendid headline for men who are invited to go forward for election to Dail: but, they ought to remember the very special qualifications academic and otherwise of Jack Lynch. And they ought to remember, too, the example of Christy Ring, who has

been mooted time out of number as a possible candidate for different parties, and who must surely have been wooed by more than one of them. He, however, has never given any indication that he was even tempted to accept nomination: and, if I know anything about the character of this greatest of all hurlers, whose very name would put him in the Dail in the morning if he wanted to run, I am sure that he will not be a Dail candidate unless or until he has satisfied himself that he has begun at the beginning, climbed the ladder of experience in grades of political life, done his homework on local and national as well as international affairs, and made himself expert in his own right at the life of politics.

I am sure that this would be his approach, for this was always his approach to hurling: practice and perfect yourself, train and learn until you are on the very top of the ladder, and then train and learn some more. That was the Ring philosophy of hurling. I know that if Christy thinks that now he may be able to give more time to other things besides hurling and if he opts for the political life, that this will be his philosophy here,

## COUNT-DOWN

HERE is how G.A.A. men fared in the General Election:—

Jack Lynch—12,852, elected 1st count.

John Donnellan — 11,109, elected 1st count.

Paddy Lalor—7,151, elected.

Dan Spring—6,645, elected.

Bob Aylward—4,996, defeated.

Paddy Clohessy — 4,812, elected.

Sean Flanagan—4,799, elected.

Jack McQuillan — 4,449, defeated.

Sean Browne—3,935, defeated.

Mick Herbert—3,804, defeated.

Willie Rackard — 3,450, defeated.

Des Foley—3,367, elected.

Donie Nealon — 3,101, defeated.

Sean Purcell—1,381, defeated.

too. And, to preserve the fair name of politics in this country, and the fair name of the G.A.A., too, from slighting comments, however unjust, the modern generation of hurlers and footballers should also adopt the Ring philosophy.

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AN GÚM



# Limerick and Mayo gave the League "prestige"

NOW the summer has come again and championship time is on the way, yet we still have the National League finals before us and I must say that nothing has done so much to change the early part of the Gaelic year as the same National Leagues.

I remember a time when the early part of the season, certainly until after Easter and often into the start of May, was almost completely dead. There might be a few remnants of competitions from the previous year to be cleared up, but these were almost always fair and easy affairs and it was almost unknown, even for a star player, to dream of getting 'into shape' before the long evenings came.

Then the National Leagues began, but at first they did very little to transform the scene. Indeed, in the early years, far too many counties took the National League too casually altogether. Even famous counties sent any old kind of team to play in important matches, and sometimes they did not bother to send a team at all, although I admit that such occasions were few.

I remember, after playing a match in the morning myself, going up to Croke Park in the afternoon for a National League game between Dublin, and I think

it was Waterford, and hearing a leading Dublin official coming through the rather sparse crowd on the steps in front of the old Hogan Stand asking "Does anyone want a game? We are short".

The fact that the League did eventually gain prestige was, to my mind, almost entirely due to two counties, Limerick in hurling and Mayo in football.

The first National hurling League final that ever seemed to catch the public imagination was played at Nowlan Park, Kilkenny, on Palm Sunday, 1933, between Kilkenny, who were then All-Ireland champions, and Limerick, then a much fancied and rising young side. Already the dynamic Mick Mackey, although he had not yet won even a Munster title, was one of the most-talked-of men in Gaeldom, and the crowds flocked to Nowlan Park to see him and his young colleagues that sunny spring day long ago.

Kilkenny, as might have been expected, outgeneralled the Limerick lads, and won fairly comfortably, but the fillip that game gave the National hurling League has never since been lost. From then, almost to the end of the decade Limerick dominated the league, but, unfortunately for the further extension of the prestige of the

competition, far too many of the finals were played down the country, when there were finals. You see, in those days all teams might be in one division, and a county that won all its matches was the clear-cut winner and there was no final as such at all.

Then came the war-years and the National Leagues finally lapsed like many another competition. But it was after the war, when the competitions were resumed on a new basis, and the finals were not alone played in Dublin, but on fixed Sundays in May, that the competition really began to become as someone has since called them "the All-Ireland's of the spring".

In football, I should have pointed out, Mayo had become even more dominant than Limerick in hurling and had all but 'farmed' the title up to the start of the emergency period.

Up to 1950, not all National League finals were necessarily played in Croke Park, although most of them were. I remember seeing Cork and Tipperary play a League final at Headquarters in 1948, in November it was, and the game was so poor that the general belief was that it was a mistake to take two Munster sides to Croke Park, as they could not muster

● TO PAGE 48.



## MOONDHARRIG

● FROM PAGE FORTY-SEVEN.

there the same keen rivalry as drove them on in their own province.

Then, on the hurling fields, came the rise of Wexford, and through their epic clashes with Tipperary (and one with Galway) the glamour that had hitherto been lacking came suddenly into those hurling League finals.

Who will ever forget the drama of the day when Wexford, battling back, were a goal behind and Nicky Rackard stepped up to take a twenty-one yard free? The big man from Killane threw his whole weight behind that shot, and no Tipperary defender saw it pass on its way to the net for the equalising goal.

But Rackard injured his knee in the effort and, as he was still being carried off around the touchline, Pat Stakelum landed the winning point from a far-out free for Tipperary with the second-last puck of the game.

Then there was the 1956 final, in which Tipperary, backed by a strong wind and heavy rain, led the Wexford men by fifteen points at half-time, and yet Wexford came back in an incredible second half to take the honours with four points to spare. And who can

forget either the wonderful final between Waterford and Tipperary just a couple of seasons ago?

Football too gained immensely in prestige as we moved into the 'Fifties, once more Mayo did much to add glamour to the league finals, with the high-light provided by Dr. Padraic Carney flying home from America first for the semi-final and then for the final against Dublin and Carlow respectively.

The greatest league final of them all was probably the 1957 clash between Galway and Kerry with an American trip at stake. The "Terrible Twins" from Tuam, Sean Purcell and Frankie Stockwell, were watched like hawks by the Kerry defenders for 55 minutes of the hour, but they snatched a wonderful goal five minutes from the end, thanks to a magnificent piece of understanding, anticipation and combination. It sent Galway to New York.

And so when the thousands gather into Croke Park this month for the National League finals, assured of seeing games that rank nowadays only to the All-Ireland finals themselves, let us spare a thought for the men who worked so hard in the early years to put these competitions in the proud place they hold to-day.

## COACHING

(Continued)

Sir,—In the March issue of **GAEIC SPORT**, I expressed an opinion about coaching in G.A.A. games. In the April issue, a Mr. J. Lennon, who took it on himself to assume that I was referring to him, expressed his opinion about coaching in G.A.A. games.

Having read Mr. Lennon's article with extreme interest and some enjoyment, I was reminded of something that the famous American track and field coach, Larry Snyder of Ohio State University, once said about one of his athletes. On being asked how he could account for the fact that his great coaching had turned Jesse Owens into an Olympic champion, Snyder replied: "I am afraid you have things the wrong way around. I did not make Owens a great athlete; Owens made me a great coach."

Remembering that, Mr. Lennon will have to forgive me if I delay my reply to his article until say 1970 or 1975. By then, I may be in a position to claim that I was right or Mr. Lennon may be in a position to prove that I was wrong. In the meantime, he has my good wishes.

PATRICK CARVER.

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## LOOKING AROUND

● FROM PAGE 13.

Sport" regarding the fact that this valuable pitch was lying idle awaiting the development which would make it playable. His article, straight to the point and pulling no punches, caused much comment and we are glad to see that what he advocated is now being done.

Limerick City needs all the pitches it can get and it is only in keeping with the present revival in the county that this long overdue task should now be nearing completion.

\* \* \*

Kilkenny defeated Tipperary 7-10 to 5-7 in their recent National hurling League game at Thurles. On the same day at Birr the Offaly hurlers defeated Kildare by exactly the same score.

\* \* \*

In preparation for the championship, Mayo are to have a series of challenge games against top sides. Meath have already been lined up.

Only senior clubs will be allowed to compete in this year's Mayo championship. Heretofore junior clubs could amalgamate for the senior championship.

\* \* \*

Former Kerry All-Ireland star, Timmie O'Sullivan, is said to be playing first-class football with the London Kingdom side.

\* \* \*

Top Westmeath forward, Georgie

Kane, had a well-deserved honour recently when he captained the Albert College to victory against the College of Commerce, Rathmines, in the P. J. Duke Cup final.

\* \* \*

It is interesting to note that the late John Joe O'Reilly trained Donegal in their National football League semi-final against Cork in 1952. Donegal lost 3-3 to 0-7 with Cork scoring three goals in the first nine minutes. This year John Joe O'Reilly's 1947 Cavan All-Ireland team-mate, Columba McDyer was in charge of the unsuccessful Donegal side.

\* \* \*

Longford Gaels are about to set-up some sort of a record on Sunday, May 9, when they stage a monster Bingo session in aid of Pearse Park. For the one session there is a top prize of £1,000 plus £750 in other prizes.

\* \* \*

Kenmare clubs—Kilgarvan, Templenoe and Kenmare have been given permission to join forces and compete in the Kerry senior championship.

\* \* \*

All-Ireland champions Tipperary will this year send a very strong side to compete in the Poc Fada championship. Due to postponement, owing to the death of Pádraig O Caoimh, only eleven counties took part in last year's competition. However, at least twice that number are expected this year.

An unusual occurrence recently at Pearse Park, Longford. There were only a few minutes to go in an under-21 game between Ballymahon and Eire Og when a flare-up took place. The referee tried to intervene but was accidentally caught with a punch to the chin. Down he went—out cold. However, he recovered to conclude the game.

\* \* \*

There are no less than 22 teams entered for this year's Limerick senior hurling championship. Last year there were only a dozen teams. The county's new Chairman, Fr. D. McCarthy, seems to be working wonders since taking over.

\* \* \*

Kenagh, Co. Longford, Gaels will soon have a new ground. Near the town and alongside the local school, the pitch could not be more ideally situated.

\* \* \*

The Enfield club, Co. Meath, have new modern dressingrooms. All the work was done by voluntary labour. This surely is a lesson to clubs. There is no point in talking about it—go out and do the job.

Also in Co. Meath—Ballinacree, near Oldcastle has a new football pitch.

\* \* \*

Mayo now has an intermediate football league and championship—for the first time in a quarter of a century.

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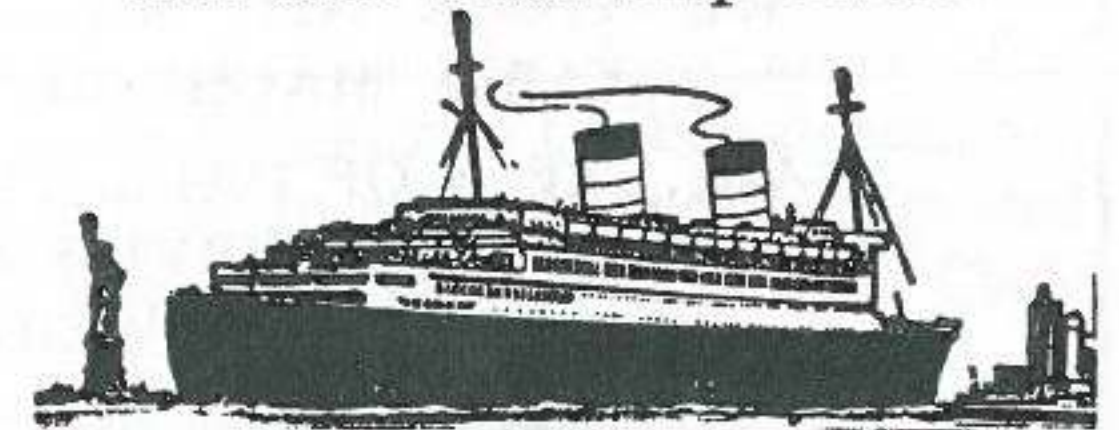
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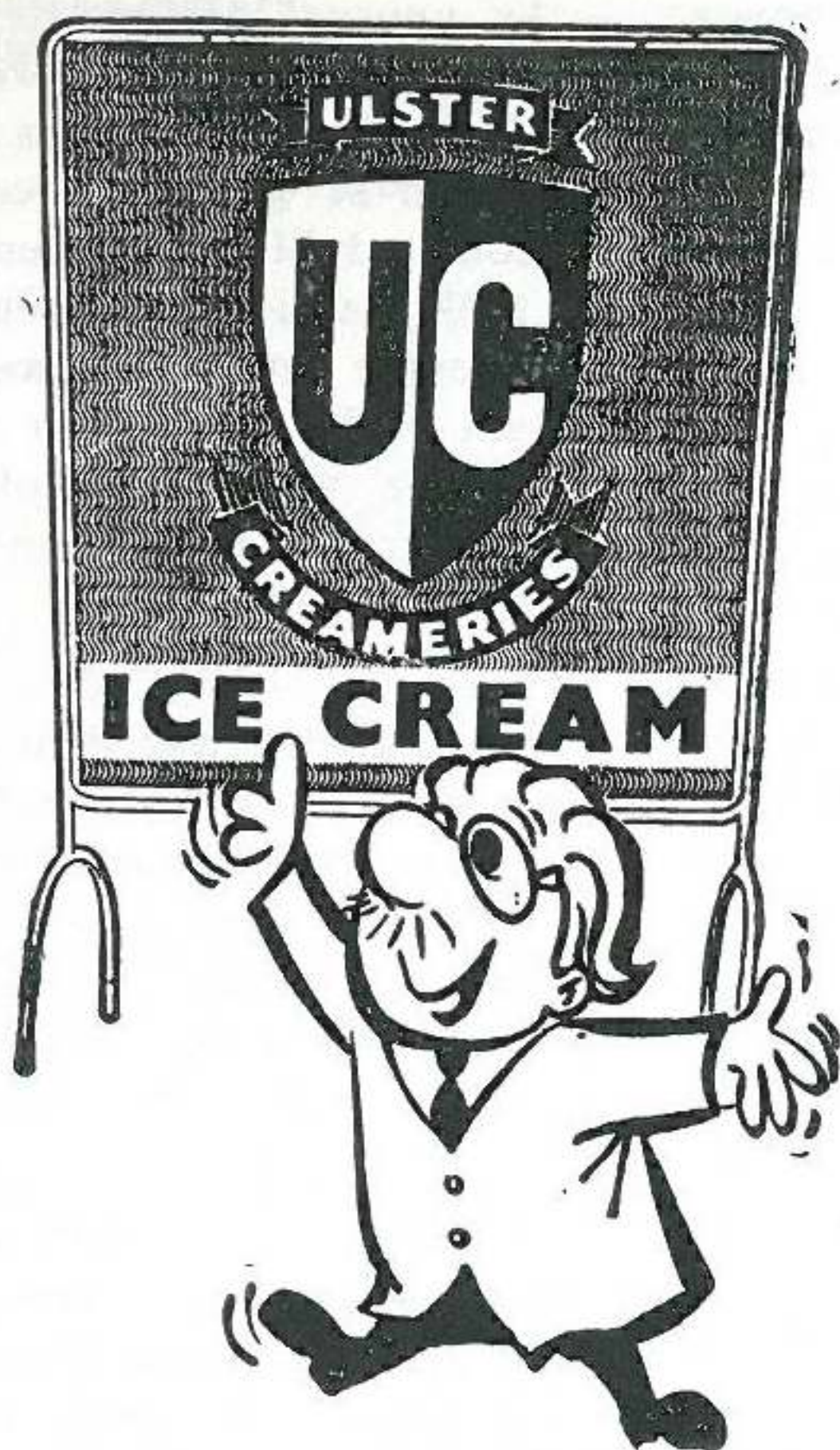


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# Now stand-by for the BIG advance

By AGNES HOURIGAN

LIKE many another, I suppose I sometimes wonder if the work we are doing, or are trying to do, is really getting us anywhere. And then I get encouragement and inspiration most unexpectedly and the future seems very rosy indeed. That was the case towards the end of March when I came across signs and tokens to prove that a great camogie resurgence is under way.

In the first place there were no fewer than sixteen counties represented at the Annual Congress, which must have been some kind of record. In the second place the reports which we there discussed prove that it is only a matter of time until we have all 32 counties active and affiliated.

In the third place, on that very same afternoon, I sneaked out of Congress and up to Croke Park to see the Dublin Colleges final and nobody could have wished for a more heartening sight. There must have been considerably more than a thousand school-girls cheering themselves hoarse for one side or the other and certainly, after seeing that, nobody could be in any doubt

at all as to the enthusiasm that is behind camogie in the Capital.

Then, shortly afterwards, I was lucky enough to attend the annual convention in Meath, a county that was re-organised only twelve months ago. And there I found still more enthusiasm and high hopes for the future. Indeed camogie is going ahead so fast in the Royal County, that, to facilitate the championship, the county is being divided into various sectors.

In addition I have recently seen the enthusiasm at some junior colleges' games, and it seems to me that, at least, camogie is at the point of making the big advance that it has so often promised but never really succeeded in achieving.

But this advance will not be achieved unless we utilise the current enthusiasm to the best possible advantage. Now is the time to get the 'derelict' counties into line, to revive the game in areas where it was once popular but has lately fallen away.

Surely Laois, with such a fine

record, even in recent years will now avail of the opportunity to return to active competition again? Surely the camogie players of Carlow will sink past differences and return to the fold? Surely the camogie players of Offaly will not remain content to see their county represented year after year by a single club? And surely Longford will avail of the current trend to rejoin the rest of Leinster?

Munster is all present and correct, but what of Leitrim and Roscommon in the West? And is it not high time that the rise of their footballers brought similar ambitions to the camogie girls of Donegal? They are reviving hurling in Cavan. What of camogie in Breffni Uí Raghallaigh?

The hurling revival through the country is bound to give a tremendous impetus to camogie too. The time to act is the present. If any girl in any part of Ireland wishes to set about forming a camogie club and does not know how to go about it, she has only to drop me a line and I will see to it that she is put in touch with people who will be willing to give every possible assistance.

The annual Congress in March showed that we already have over 270 affiliated clubs in the Camogie Association. Even one extra club in every county during 1965 would give us over 300 clubs at the end of the year. Surely that is a very modest mark at which to set our sights?

And now let me take this opportunity of welcoming the new President of the Association, Miss Lily O'Grady of Cork, a unanimous choice to succeed another devoted woman from Munster, Miss Chris O'Connell from Limerick.

Miss O'Grady, until recently Chairman of Munster Council, is both capable and enthusiastic. The Association will continue its forward march under her guidance.



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# SEAN O'CONNELL

## FACE-TO-FACE WITH SEAN O'DONNELL

**H**AD Sean O'Connell been born in a prominent football county he might well be as famous to-day as his fellow-clansman from Valentia. Derry's O'Connell is truly a great footballer — one of those players with that extra class which puts him among the elite, but the pity is that rarely has he been given the opportunity to display his talents outside of his native province.

A county minor and junior in 1956, the tall Derryman had his moments of glory in 1958 when the county slipped briefly into the lime-light. This year again he was back in Croke Park when Ulster won both of their Railway Cup games. As a result many who had forgotten the flying Derryman are once more mentioning him when they speak of the top men of our time.

Last St. Patrick's Day was a particularly happy occasion for Sean. At last he had won a major award at Croke Park and while disappointment was just around the corner in the Lagan Cup competition he can still look back with pride on the early half of 1965.

Now 27, Sean has many years of top-class football ahead of him. Let us hope that Croke Park will not have to wait so long again for his return.

I recently put these questions to him:

*O'Donnell—How do you explain*

*Derry's inconsistency in recent years?*

O'Connell—It is difficult to say. The 1958 side was a good one had it been kept together, but many of that side, such as Jim McKeever, Peter Smith, Owen Gribben, Patsy McLarnon, Brendan Murray, Patsy Breen, retired and the result has been that we have since failed to put together a winning combination.

*O'D.—How do you see Derry's football future?*

O'C.—Right now I see no great performances around the corner but in a few years time things could be different. St. Columb's College is what the county has long been waiting for and many of the current College heroes will be Derry stars of to-morrow. Derry's football future looks particularly bright in my opinion now that St. Columb's is there to provide the necessary nursery. A county needs such a nursery and you will find that most leading counties have one.

*O'D. — Many Ulster players favour 13 a-side football, do you?*

O'C.—I do and I very much look forward to the day when the change is made. I also believe that there is too much emphasis on mid-field play at present and that full use is not being made of the ball. Thirteen a-side would lead to much more spectacular and intelligent football.

*O'D.—What game do you most like to recall?*

O'C.—Well that is an easy one—the 1958 semi-final in which we beat Kerry.

*O'D. — Did you think Derry would win in the final?*

O'C.—Any team that beats Kerry in a semi-final has every right to fancy itself in a final. Yes, I suppose Derry were a bit too sure of themselves.

*O'D.—What players gave you your hardest games?*

O'C.—Mick O'Dwyer and Patsy O'Hagan I should think—two fine footballers and sportsmen.

*O'D.—Do you see a future for Derry under the new Hurling Scheme?*

O'C.—There could be. At least the vast majority of other Ulster counties are starting from the bottom like ourselves and I believe Derry will keep pace. Of course, if St. Columb's College would take to the game we might even steal a march on some of our neighbours.

*O'D.—Who were your boyhood idols?*

O'C.—Jim McKeever stood above them all with me and I still rate him to have been the greatest mid-fielder that I have seen. It was a great pleasure to finally join him on the Derry team.

*O'D. — Any other sports interests?*

O'C.—I like golf and basketball—both of which help me keep fit.



● FROM PAGE 27.

not the slightest problem to even a child of two or three. The receipts at the gates could not have reflected the number who actually saw the game, whether inside without paying, or outside without entering.

The game as it happens was a reasonable enough exhibition from two fair teams, brisk and vigorous with good knocks given and taken. But, coming back to such venues for games after several years, during which I only saw a few local games, the situation was really brought home to me as regards facilities. The G.A.A. still apparently sticks to its guns that what was good enough for our grandparents is good enough for us.

And though this may be so in some respects, for there are things which never change, it simply will not do in this age when every counter-ing form of entertainment presents its product in the best possible setting and manner. Something must be done, and done at once, in order to give better facilities to those who play the games, not even considering what was once good enough.

To-day the player feels entitled to, (and is entitled to) the best in playing facilities. When everything else is presented to the youngsters as the most desirable thing wrapped up in the best presentation and made as attractive as possible, the G.A.A. still

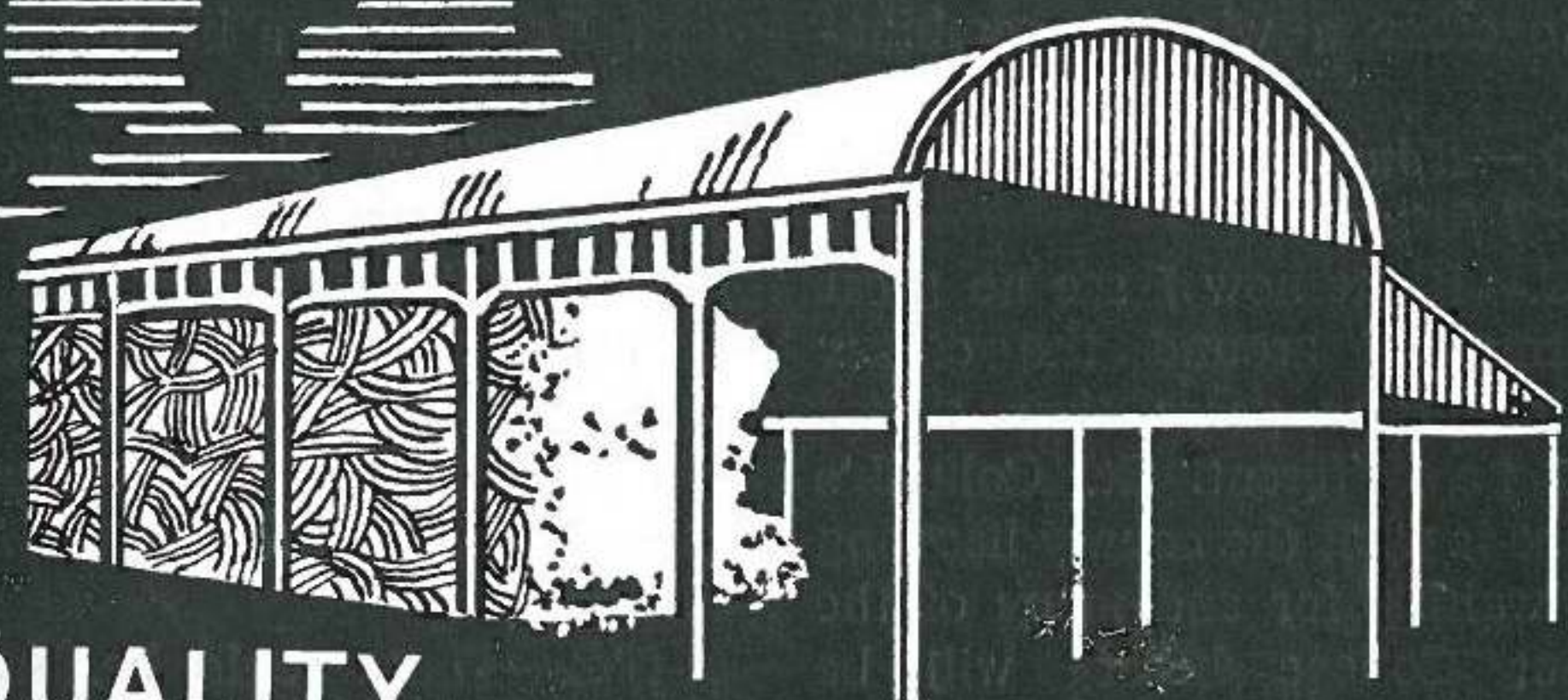
presents its wares in no better manner than they did at the turn of the century, as far as games like this one the other Sunday go.

There is, of course, Croke Park and several other show-pieces to blind the ordinary supporter into the idea that the best was being presented to him and to the players. But, for the one game played in the plush surroundings of, say, Croke Park, how many are played on the same Sunday throughout the country, in the inadequate, ante-deluvian and unhygienic methods which have stood still over the years, keeping the Association in stagnation.

Youth has the right, nowadays, from an organisation as powerful and far-reaching as the G.A.A., that he be given the facilities that he would have a right to receive in any other aspect of life, in any other medium of entertainment. The cinema and the dance-hall have not stood still, expecting as a right that the fans will come, but have modernised their halls and made them more comfortably up to the minute. The G.A.A. is pressing the youngster's allegiance too far when it expects of him that he will continue to play and maintain his enthusiasm in circumstances no better than his grandfather enjoyed.

Youngsters to-day simply will not stand for that sort of treatment. They want the best, and they must have it. It is not hard to seek for the marked lack of the burning enthusiasm which modern youth show for the games in comparison with the last generation.

The G.A.A., in this day and age, must combat the rising attractions of the other forms of enjoyment, by giving what is needed: new and



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better facilities for the games. Parish clubs ought to have their own field; ought to be able to work on their field until it is adequate in every way and as progressive as possible. John Joe Sheehy talked at the Munster Council of floating a loan, emphasising that something must be done to provide good grounds everywhere, with good facilities, in order to catch the attention of the youth. The youth about whom it was said by another delegate, that it might well be too late already to capture it fully. A playing field for every club, with dressing room and showering facilities, must come first and before all other priorities, if the roots of the Association are to be preserved intact.

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# MUNSTER MEDLEY

● FROM PAGE 25.

National Army in Cork for hurling and football, and stated it was a regrettable position and one which was with them for some time. Unfortunately, the same situation exists in Limerick, and is in sharp contrast to the position in other days, when Army teams were very prominent.

They won championship honours in both Cork and Limerick in the past, and Army men contributed handsomely to many aspects of Gaelic endeavour.

It is hard to believe but that we still have many very sincere men in the ranks who are every bit as Gaelic minded as those who did such wonderful work for the games in the past. I'm sure they need only a reminder to arouse them to a sense of their responsibility, and that as a result and within a very short time the Army lads will be

back with teams capable of making their mark in any company on hurling of football fields.

## LIMERICK RESURGENCE

Limerick have launched an all out drive to get back in the hurling limelight, and as a first step the new County Board Chairman, Rev. D. McCarthy, C.C., made an earnest appeal to all the traditional hurling parishes to return to senior ranks.

The response has been most gratifying—so much so that the twelve clubs who participated in the 1964 Senior Hurling Championships are now joined by another twelve, with the result that an all time record muster of 24 teams will contest the 1965 championship.

In a bid to raise the status of the competition and to whip up increased interest the County Board have come up with the idea of designing a distinctive trophy

peculiar to Limerick—something on the nature of the Cuchulainn or Caltex Award—for presentation to the individual members of the winning team.

Local artists are already at work producing their ideas of what this trophy should look like, and when the different drawings are available it is the intention to put them before the clubs, who will then choose the most suitable one.

Limerick footballers not to be outbid by their hurling brothers launched their own campaign for recognition, and in the space of a few short weeks rose from near oblivion to a leading place in the football world.

They won for the county the first National League section trophy to come to Shannonside since the establishment of that competition and followed this up by giving Kerry the fright of their lives in one of the most exciting tussles ever waged in the Divisional final.

The County Board now intends to seek games for the team with some of the leading football counties before they play in the Munster Championships, in which they are competing in senior grade for the first time in many years.

Limerick has a sound football tradition and were the first county to win the All-Ireland senior football title, a success they repeated nine years later.

A few first-class games in Limerick would do a lot to consolidate the present revival and put the County back as a top football force. When the present reconstruction job for Limerick Gaelic Grounds is completed the field will be second to none in the provinces and will have a seating capacity exceeding even that of Croke Park. It would be the ideal venue for an All-Ireland or National League semi-final—and one or two matches of this nature would certainly work wonders now.

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