

GAELIC NEWS

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The Keenan brothers Tommy (left) and John from Dunmore who will be in the Galway team to face Meath on August 9.

- The G.A.A. And Sunday Racing
- Report From Gaelic Park
- Lessons From The World Cup
- Any Hope For London?
- Whither Down Football?
- Pull-out Picture Supplement For Children

Following Down's defeat in the first round of the Ulster championship Tony McGee answers the question:

Is It Down And Out?

AT the top for a dozen years and then suddenly, "crash!" What would be your reaction if this happened to you? Well just to find out how people in that position do react I sounded out a number of the Down players and officials after their defeat at the hands of Antrim in the first round of the Ulster senior championship.

This is the first season since 1958 that the Mourne County has missed the Ulster final. The last Sunday in July had become something of a fixed date in their supporters' diary—even before the championship started at all. Three of the Down players — Joe Lennon, Sean O'Neill and Dan McCartan — have taken part in every Ulster final since 1959, and, in '58 McCartan and O'Neill (who played in the minor final that day) were reserves.

But back to the present situation and the views of former All-Ireland corner back and present-day selector George Lavery. "We have been beaten in important games before now. After this happens we have a meeting of both players and officials and analyse what exactly went wrong. When this is thrashed out everyone feels the better of it and a new spirit spreads throughout the camp."

Ex-chairman Paddy O'Donoghue was another who was far from despondent about Down's defeat. "I shed no tears over it," he told me. "If a county wants to beat Down, then it is much easier to do it in the first round than in any other. Antrim took their chance this year but that doesn't mean we are finished. Far from it. Make no mistake, we will be back and in the near future too."

The players have mixed feelings on the defeat, but, while they were all bitterly disappointed, they were united in their approach to the future. They all shared the opinion that the future was as rosy as ever and after their unexpected "holiday", they would be back with a new confidence in the National League.

Naturally there seemed to be a greater feeling of disappointment amongst the younger players but one of the "older stock" skipper Tom O'Hare was a

downhearted man after their early exit from the championship.

Tom said: "I don't know what would be best for the county to do now. I think that probably the absence of the boys in America had a demoralising effect on the team in general. Another thing — most of the team won all the honours they could in a short time. The League final defeat put us back a lot."

"But possibly this defeat will have a good effect. The break from training and being out of the lime-light for a couple of months might do us good. Certainly, I can't see Down ever going back to the pre-1960 days. Down has set too high a standard for that. The boys feel that they have let both the county and themselves down and I think we will make our presence felt in the forthcoming League. Still I am very disappointed that during my reign as captain we won nothing."

Amidst all the feeling that Down are out but not Down — if you see what I mean — I did talk to one County Board official who thought that it could be another dozen years before the Mournemen would

again make an impact on the national scene. But this man was alone in his thoughts.

Sean O'Neill told me he was not over depressed but concerned and he suggested that the county should look for a new approach. "I expected us to put up a better show than we did."

look at the panel and discard those, possibly myself included, that have nothing further to offer. The boys that aren't really putting everything into their game should also go and my priority would be to establish a really first class half-back line.

"Down players now have

something they will have to fight for it from the beginning," said Hilary.

One way or another, it definitely looks as if there is an awakening in Down to the fact that there is now stronger opposition than ever in Ulster, let alone the rest of the country. The return from America of key players Colm McAlarney, John Purdy and Ray McConville, will undoubtedly bolster the county's chances in the League and instill a confidence in the side that was lacking against Antrim.

I wouldn't be at all surprised either if new faces appear regularly in the red and black either.

But never can I see Down in the foreseeable future becoming the wooden spoonists again because tradition dies hard, and whilst Down's is a recent won tradition, it is there nevertheless. As someone said the team of 1960 and '61 set a standard and all Down sides since then have been and will continue to strive to emulate and surpass these standards.

One thing seems certain now — that the Mourne people realize they have a new kind of job to do. They are prepared to do it and pull themselves back to the top. What price Down for the 1971 National League title?



Joe Lennon . . . 'The selectors would want to discard those who have nothing further to offer.'



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But there was a lack of drive, a sluggishness and the approach to that Antrim game was far too casual," said Sean.

O'Neill also pointed to the fact that the minors had been neglected in recent years and now a drive was on in the county to give these lads more attention. Sean said: "No doubt there is plenty of talent in Down and it will have to get a chance to prove itself."

Everyone seemed to be in agreement that the break from the usual twice-per-week training sessions would help to sharpen the team and that a "New Down" would appear in the League. Sometimes after a defeat such as this there are announcements of retirements, but none of the Down men has ideas in this direction.

However, Joe Lennon said: "The Down selectors would now want to take a

to worry about the first round the same as any of the others but there are some shrewd officials in Down and I'm sure they have already got down to brass tacks. A feeling of remorse is not a bad way to start off a new competition," added Lennon.

Hilary McGrath, who is one of the younger set and who has not yet won any national honours, admits to "feeling a bit sick" after the League final. But he says they will be hard to beat in the '70-'71 League and he forecasts that there is at least two All-Ireland titles in the present Down panel.

"Our defeat in the championship, whilst very disappointing at the time, will make us more determined for the future. I think we are too good a team to be knocked out like that. Because of a levelling up of standards in Ulster, Down now know that to win

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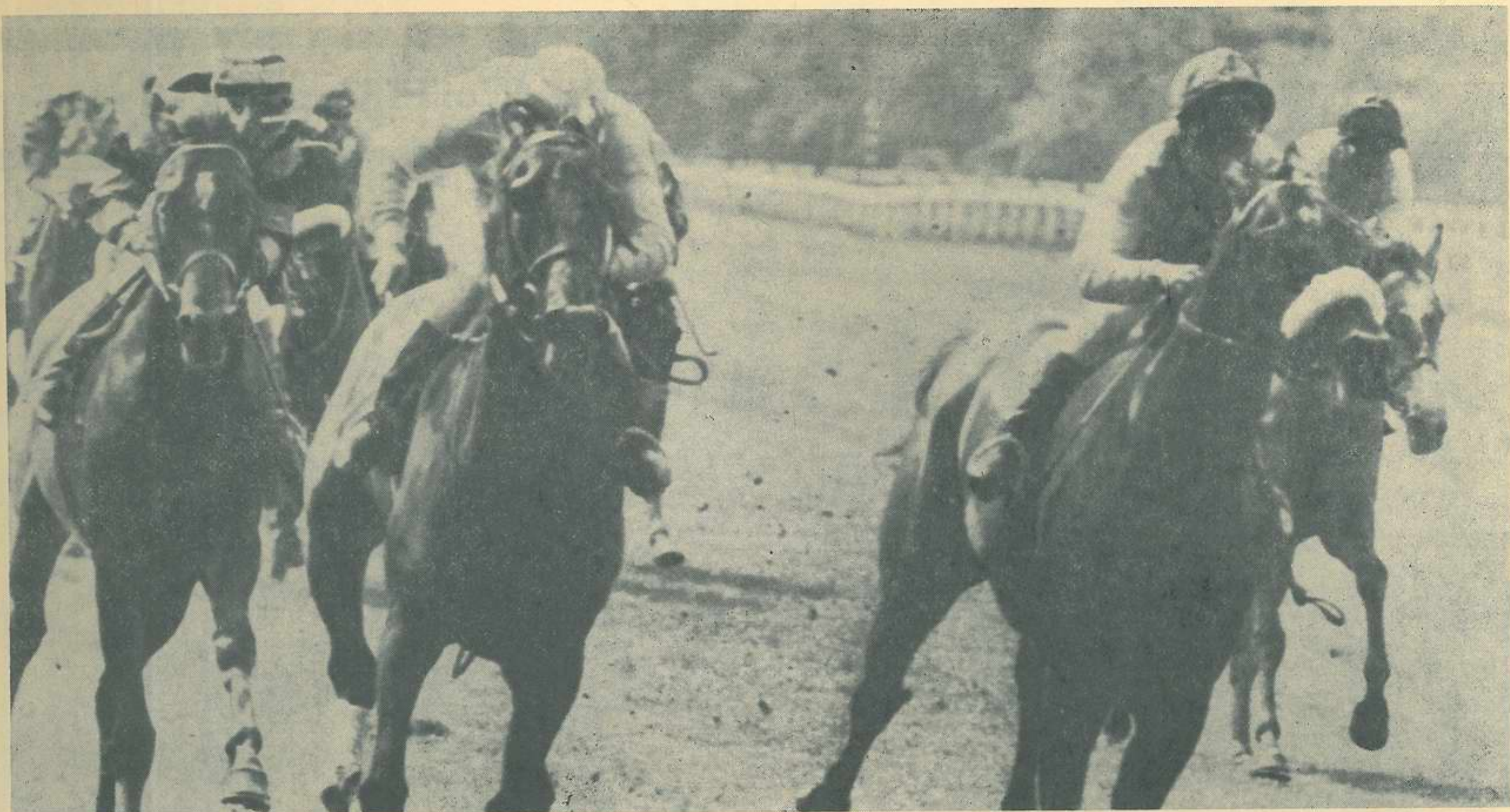
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Sunday Racing—A Threat To Our Games

AT the Irish Sweeps Derby at the Curragh on June 27 last, I counted 35 intercounty footballers and hurlers. Doubtless there were many more G.A.A. members at the Curragh that day, and it would indeed be an informative exercise to ascertain just what proportion of G.A.A. members are also active supporters of horse-racing.

At the moment, when Gaelic games are mainly played on Sundays, a day when racing is not allowed in this country, these statistics might not be so important, but they take on added significance when we learn that eight racecourse managements in this country have applied to the Turf Club for Sunday racing dates in 1971, as alternatives to Saturday or mid-week dates.

Former Armagh star Jimmy Whan said to me recently that, in his opinion, Sunday racing would almost sound the death knell for Gaelic games. Before analysing this opinion, we must try to estimate the chances of Sunday racing becoming a reality in the immediate future.

Basically there are two factors governing any decision on Sunday racing in Ireland. These are the attitude of the Governing Body of the sport in Ireland, in this instance the Turf Board, and secondly the attitude of the Irish Hierarchy. The Government, too, would have an interest in so far as Sunday racing would affect the tourist trade among other things.

Taking the hierarchy first, their attitude was best clarified at a plenary

council meeting in Maynooth in 1966, when they specifically banned Sunday racing. In order to change this decision, the hierarchy would, at some future meeting, have to have unanimous agreement and this, in turn, would have to be ratified by Rome.

By a Statute of the Church, Catholics are forbidden to run or attend horse racing, greyhound racing or pony trotting on Sundays or church holidays. But race meetings on holydays are a common occurrence and the local bishop has authority to grant permission for these.

The basis of Church opposition to Sunday racing is probably the fact that betting is involved but in the ever increasing liberal climate in which we live, it is quite reasonable to assume that this form of opposition would soon disappear.

Earlier this year point-to-point race meetings were held on Sundays in Mallow, Croom and Punchestown and they were phenomenally successful from the point of view of attendances. When some of the hierarchy were approached on the subject, no definite answer was given, one way or the other. But the fact that no outright rejection

was signified indicates that there is, at least, a possibility that there will be a change of heart on the part of the bishops.

The people who will be most interested in pushing Sunday racing are the racecourse executives, many of whom are at the moment facing grave difficulties in their struggle to keep certain tracks in operation. Sunday racing could save

present state the G.A.A. is ill-prepared for competition from yet another competitor, it having already not fared very well in its recent battles with Sunday soccer and other recreations.

Racing on the Sunday would first of all hit G.A.A. games attendance wise, especially at provincial final and All-Ireland semi-final and final time each

REPORT

by

EUGENE McGEE

some of these from extinction, especially those who depend on the farming community for patronage.

There are many problems to be sorted out before the Turf Club and the Racing Board can give the go-ahead to these racecourse executives, but general opinion in the trade suggests that Sunday racing within a year or two is, at least, an even money chance (no pun intended!).

If Sunday racing does become a reality, what will the effect on Gaelic games be? The only thing that is certain is that it will not do them any good. In its

year, when the flat racing season would also be at its peak.

It is from the point of view of publicity that the G.A.A. might suffer most and this could prove to be very dangerous indeed for the Association.

For instance, the games could not expect the same coverage on Monday mornings, if there was a big Sunday race meeting to be covered as well. We get a taste of this at the moment whenever there is a major golf tournament on Sundays and Gaelic games yield pride of place in the sports pages.

The G.A.A.'s relations with Telefís Éireann could also be seriously affected by Sunday racing and it mightn't be for the better either! The fact that there would be alternative live sport available for televising would very much weaken the bargaining power of the G.A.A. with R.T.E. while, at the same time, it would be vitally important that the G.A.A. should not allow racing to take over the television screens every Sunday afternoon.

In recent years, the various racecourse executives have been making a major effort to sell racing as a family attraction rather than as a sport for men only. They have been very successful in their efforts and therefore their sport would score heavily over Gaelic games where 'the wife and kids idea' is tolerated rather than accepted gratefully.

Forewarned is forearmed, or at least this should be the case, and as far as G.A.A. authorities are concerned, now is the time to act in order to safeguard its position as the dominant Sunday sports body.

One necessity which could be attended to is the ensuring of a stake in Sunday television by negotiating long term, say five year, contracts now when the G.A.A.'s bargaining position is so much stronger.

If, and when, Sunday racing does come to Ireland,

the G.A.A. will almost certainly lose out, but the extent to which this happens, depends on how the Association faces up to the problem now.

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Two Reactions to the World Cup T.V. Saga

Can Peil Ever Provide A

PARDON the pun, but the World Cup has saturated the atmosphere with its terminology and with star-names, and it will be a little while before things are the same again. Indeed, should they be the same again? Are there headlines here for us to copy in our games; are there objectives for us to strive after?

There are many aspects to this question, and I cannot pretend to have satisfied myself on all of them or even formed clear and confident judgment on them. But, there is one overriding factor which needs thought — the situation which has arisen which means that a competitive soccer tournament in Mexico can so grip the attention of the public all over the world that it becomes a major talking point and a matter of intense interest to a very large sector of the people.

There is here a point which really does not so much concern the question of star players or great games, or what code they are played in, but rather the effect of today's narrowing world on the lives of those in any part of it. Whether it is sport, or whether it is business, or human behaviour (or misbehaving) in all their various forms, the question arises whether we have any longer the opportunity allowed us of ignoring what others think and pursuing what we surely know to be right and suitable for us.

Is there a moral question involved in the exercise of power which today does not take so much the shape of battalions and gun-boats but the persuasive word and the alluring picture either in television, radio or the public press? Are we back to the old days of power struggles, empires and empire-builders, except that it is all being done in the suave method of projecting of images through the mass media? It is once again a matter of "Might is Right," and where the most powerful television and newspaper companies declare what the less powerful shall absorb and project?

Very well, so it is an age of supra-nationalism, where the tendency is to power groupings whether in trade and commerce or in the so-called "Cold War." We are committing ourselves to the Common Market with all that we think it means and all that we may find it out to mean in the years ahead. But, does not supra-nationalism, by definition almost, involve the rightness of the more powerful.

The United States of Europe was not an invention of the little powers of this life, nor could they be the instigators of such a move. It had to come and had to be pressured by the powerful forces. Its objectives have been pushed through by the powerful forces, and while bending over backwards to convince the little ones of

the fair play they will enjoy, if it comes to a critical crunch it is their power which will sway the decision.

Right, then, let us get back to the point. The superbly presented World Cup, the hysterical lionising of individual stars, the furore over little, unimportant incidents, the building up of a world tension, the straining of all eyes on a few individuals, is this for us? I believe that the watching and the enjoying of the competition was both highly delightful entertainment, excellent and exciting viewing, instructive even in the games playing sense, but should it become a way of life for me?

Ought I to be so carried away with the star quality of men like Pele and Beckenbauer, Muller and Riva? What can they mean to me? When the television screens are empty and the competition all over, where will they all be? Shall I ever see them again? Does their projection as heroic figures complete my fulfilment?

And how must the G.A.A. react to the pressures of modern life which are tending to take the decisions of what people shall watch and participate in out of the sphere of their influence? Do they react by facing the problem square on and fighting it in an open show of force? But, how can they, when they have few of the modern means of pressure at their disposal and when so much more than a mere game of football is involved in the World Cup.

Former Armagh County Chairman Dan McAreavey says :

Nationalistic Appeal Is Not Enough In 1970

WHILE it is extremely unlikely that the Jules Rimet trophy will ever be played for in Croke Park, only those members of the G.A.A. who are prepared to live in cloud-cuckoo land can ignore the events on television during the three weeks of the World Cup — and the lessons to be learned from them.

The saturation coverage of the World Cup soccer tournament has obviously posed many problems for the Association which it will ignore at its peril.

How will Irish youth react to the latest magic carpet trip down Mexico way? How can the G.A.A. compete with the glamour of this type of competition? How can a very small country preserve particular games in the teeth of the most expensive and professional publicity war ever waged on behalf of another code?

For far too long the Association has relied on a

nationalistic appeal in encouraging the youth to take up the native games. This may be an impeccable motive but is it sufficient for the seventies? A realistic assessment of the position would seem to indicate that it is not.

As the president of one of Ulster's most famous colleges told me recently: "What answer are we to give when boys ask why they must play Gaelic football or hurling instead of soccer or rugby?"

And he warned: "Yesterday's reasons are no longer sufficient for today. Unless we bring the most professional approach to the organisation and conduct of our games we are certain to lose out heavily when tomorrow's players make their choice."

It would be tedious to elaborate once again the litany of faults which the Association continues to tolerate; those haphazardly arranged fixtures, the late starts, the intermin-

able intervals, that conduct which at least in a minority of games does credit to nobody, all those legal quibbles and technicalities. But why go on? It has all been said before.

On the vital television front I do not know all the facts about the negotiations between the G.A.A. and the authorities, particularly R.T.E. However, it seems to me that a marriage must be arranged here if the Association hopes to retain its impact.

The present flirtations are but an apology for the key role which this medium could play. Seriously is that weekly 20-minute Gaelic Report effort on Telefís Éireann the best the Association can muster after all these years? How those responsible for this programme miss the excellent copy available never ceases to amaze me.

But perhaps the recently-issued club membership regulations — clearly

defining who is a member of the Association and who is not — will bring a new breath of freshness, a new vitality, a new urgency; that is if all members exercise their rights and really introduce democracy to the corridors of power.

Frankly, I have often wondered about the G.A.A.'s claim of being the most democratic organisation in the world? Do sufficient members really interest themselves in the legislative side to justify such a tag? Are meetings not unduly influenced by the best orator? It is just a thought! One way or another the onus is on members to see that the wishes of the majority really obtain.

As I say, Jules Rimet is never likely to enter Croke Park but it is up to the G.A.A. members to see to it that Sam Maguire's tenancy really symbolises the mecca of a great national organisation.

Ridiculously enough, national pride is one of the driving forces behind this internationalised game in this supra-national world. What a laugh and what a contradiction in the basic terms of the supra-national ideal that at this moment the great appeal of soccer and the constant appeal of the Olympic Games is not in the taking part but in the winning — and not just in the winning (for there is nothing wrong with wanting to win), but in the winning for one's country.

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Jim Bennett's View

ny Peles ?

here. Television companies the world over have been outgunning one another for years past to gain the best kind of coverage: because sport, in the first place, makes the best kind of television — live drama not canned situational stuff — which appeals to the largest segment of audience, or at the least the most vociferous and extroverted segment of its audience.

The returns are crucial to television, because they come in the form of high registration in the audience research surveys; which, in turn, registers with the advertisers. (I take television as an example, because it is most immediate, but the same is true for all the media of communications, since they are all, in this day, prostituted in some respect to the money of big business — Jack Dowling was trying to make a point like this when he left Telefís Eireann, but he could hardly be heard for all the noises off).

The creation of stars is a semi-communicative function. Give me a Mick O'Connell and let him contract to sell his soul and physical presence to the people of the world; give me freedom from the G.A.A. caution about star-making, some editors who couldn't care less about ethical behaviour, the freedom to exploit him on film, and I'm damned if I will not create a figure to conjure with.

I admit that there is the obstacle of the game which O'Connell plays being Gaelic football and not having the international medium for transference of his image. But, was the game of soccer or the image of Pele, Bobby Moore, or Jair more important in projecting an interest in soccer in American audiences. The Yanks didn't give twopence for the game — look what has happened to every big money effort to press interest in it on the U.S. people — but they were intrigued by the personalities.

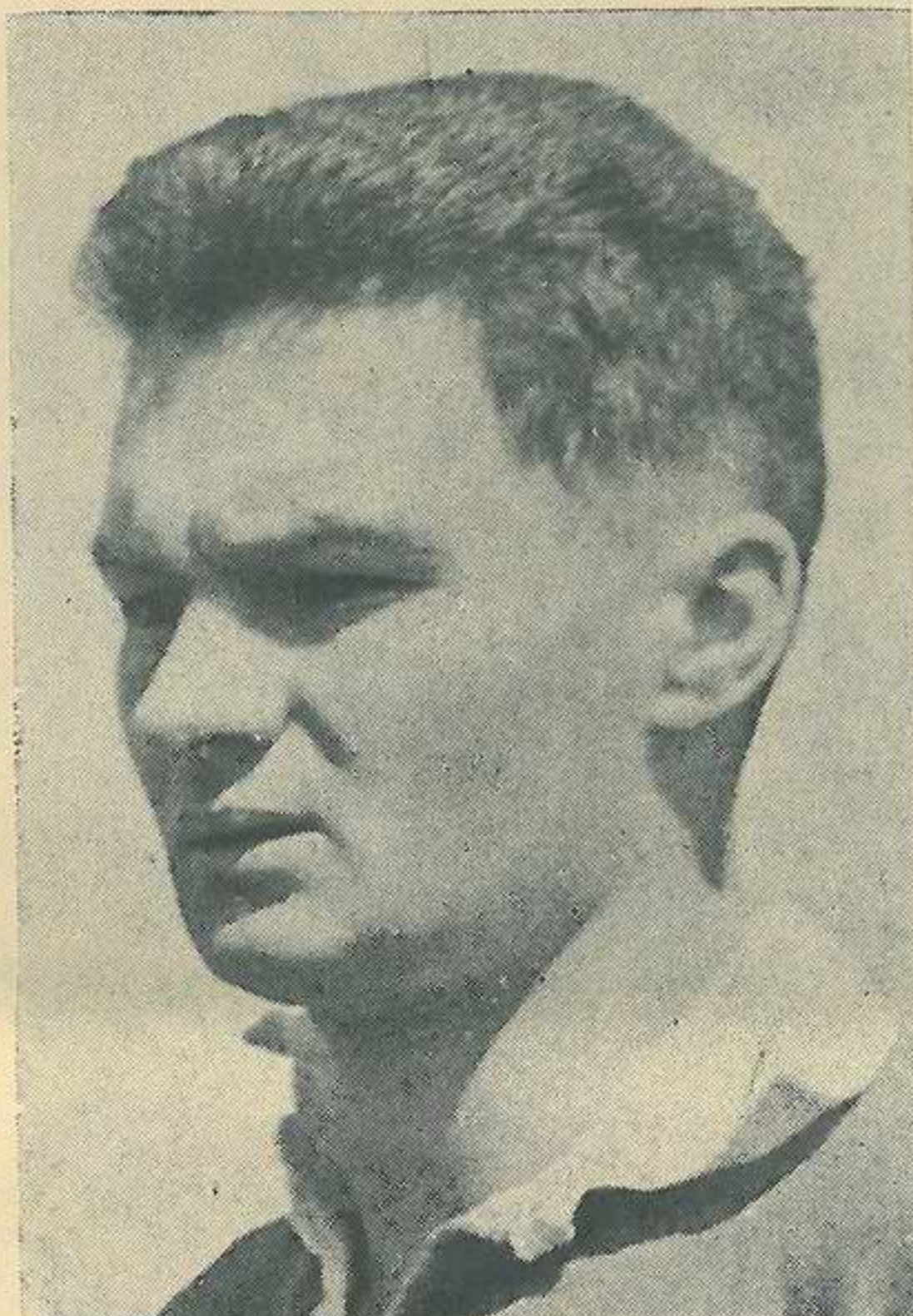
So it comes to this: Do we want to make our top men into miserable depersonalised men like Pele, who lives in fear for the lives of his wife, daughter and unborn child, and who knows that his own stardom has already committed his children to a caged life where their personalities will be stunted by the circumstances of their birth?

Because that is essentially what it is in professional sport at any level, but a thousand times more at the heightened degree of the World Cup and of international soccer. You get paid — yes! But, what you sell is not merely your skill or your talent or your expertise, as in ordinary jobs. You sell your whole life and that of your family to the world: you put in a picture-window for the world to come and stare as you eat and work and play and make love and fight.

Even for an All-Ireland man, even a man like O'Connell who has had the greatest burdens placed on his privacy by his fame, he can at least tell the tiresome ones to "F . . . off", if and when he so wishes. He is still his own man.

Then this is a world where big business rules; and that sordid fact of life makes you think that the amateur will only have a role of no significance in the end of all. Look at what the word "amateur" has become in the last twenty years — from its proper meaning of a "Lover — one who does something because of his pleasure in doing it" to the sense it bears in many circles today: "An inefficient person — a sort of do-it-yourself man, untrained and unskilled in the correct method." It is a symptom of the way of the world. A insight into the precise pressures which can be brought to bear by the values of today's world.

So what can be done? I would direct attention to something else which appears relevant to the situation. Take soccer, since it is possibly the most widespread sport in the team sense (and this must be what we aim at considering): the countries which excel as well as the countries where unconditional commitment to the sport is given are those like Germany, Brazil, Italy, France,



Mick O'Connell

Russia, Mexico, Argentina, Uruguay, Sweden . . . not Ireland, the U.S., Australia, Canada. Why do one lot of countries fight it, while others embrace it with full-hearts?

Surely those who do are all secure in their own identity because they speak their own language and, therefore, enjoy all those other aspects of distinctiveness which we call loosely "culture." They do not give a twopenny damn whether they play soccer or not from that point of view of distinctiveness. They could equally take any game (and it would be the most international, preferably) fashion it to their own form, talk about it in their own language, surround it with their own conventions and enthusiasms — like the Brazilians with their half-belief in witchcraft, or the Italians with their half-belief in their formalised devotion to the Blessed Virgin and the saints.

They have all made the game their own, imposing on it their own style — was there much similarity, really, between the approach of the Brazilians, say, and the Rumanians?

But, the United States, Canada, Australia, ourselves — the English speaking peoples, you might say, finding they lack the prime distinction of language, from which all else follows, have to fight their battle for identity on some other, less perfect, front. The Yank stands firm on the merit of his American football or baseball — rejecting such "pommie" games as soccer, rugby and even cricket as an emasculated form of baseball.

Canadians stake an identity on their ice-hockey; Australians of the true blood place their belief in their Australian football; Welshmen, casting round desperately for a prop to the language, set upon rugby to which, like the Americans and cricket, they gave a dimension of native cult and working-man appeal and a "language of the scrum" unknown to the original public-school frolic.

And, like those others, we fight for our identity on a games front, betrayed largely by those who might have made the language a mark of confident distinction. They (or we) did not want to — it's as simple as that — for you will only do what you want to, and what you really want, you will do.

Now, we are in precisely this position with the games. Do you want them? Yes? O.K. Then, do something to show that you want them, and that you will ensure that they are wanted by all. Because if you do not, how do you know that I will, or how do I know that the next fellow will?

There's no good saying: "Why doesn't the G.A.A. do this and that and the other?" "Why doesn't the G.A.A. make itself more attractive?" "Why doesn't the G.A.A. improve the standard of football and hurling?" Bull! Why don't you? You are the G.A.A.! You are as responsible as any other for what happens the Gaelic games; just as you were as responsible as any other for what has happened the language.

Do you want identity — even that self-conviction that is about all Gaelic games can give us in the restricted sphere of its operation? If you do, you must work for it, wish for it, desire it, and make your part in consummating that desire. (This, incidentally, is not a pro-Ban argument — it is positive and in no degree negative or even bothered about other games at all — and the Ban never entered my mind until now). But, if you don't, I can't, and the G.A.A. can't, and Ireland can't be something distinct and even a little confident in this distinction. It's like Kitchener on those World War I posters: "THE G.A.A. WANTS YOU."

And, if you do not give, the Association can only become amateurish, as the efficiency of big business and the selling society moves in upon it with its dehumanised stars brushing their teeth with "Blanko" and deodorising themselves with "Stinko."

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Importance Of Grain Drying

THE basic principle of Grain Drying is to blow air through a quantity of grain. This performs two functions: (a) It passes through the grain extracting a certain amount of moisture in its passage; (b) it carries this moisture away from the grain out into the atmosphere. The relative humidity (R.H.) of the air used for drying will be the deciding factor on the amount of moisture a given volume of air can extract over a pre-determined period.

The R.H. of air, expresses as a percentage the relation of the amount of moisture per-

BY JIM CANNING

centage in a given volume of air at full saturation, i.e. at 100% moisture content. R.H. during rain can be very high and this can be even higher during dense fog or particularly damp weather. On the other hand, on a very dry day the R.H. can be as low as 35%.

For Grain Drying in this form, it is very often necessary to artificially change the R.H. in order to speed up drying operations. The R.H. of the air is brought down, which raises the temperature of the air and thus its powers for extracting and absorbing the moisture from the grain. This process also causes the grain kernels to perspire which makes it easier for the air to extract the moisture during its passage.

This all sounds very involved but if we stop and take a look at grain in its natural state in the field, we will more readily understand what happens. When grain is approaching the ripe stage, it will be easy to detect the moisture content by plucking off an ear.

At 7 a.m. to 9 a.m., it will, when rubbed out, be found to be clammy and obviously moist. If a further ear is plucked off on the same day at, say, 1 p.m., it will be solid and dry — assuming of course that it is a dry sunny day.

Again, if we go through the same performance at 10 p.m. at night, the grain kernel will

ing in a very hot, dry climate, this will not be necessary, but both here in Ireland and in Britain the chances of a prolonged very dry spell at the right time are few and far between!

In the early 'thirties, a considerable amount of research was carried out in England on the possibility of artificially

corn all came in at once to be dealt with, and this resulted in a tremendous pile-up and complete chaos at the mills.

(b) The farmers were completely at the mercy of the the buyers regarding price and in a bad season when wet grain was piling up, they often had to accept very low prices for their wet corn. The posi-

mer at harvest time. Grain can also be combined right through the day from morning until dusk — knowing that even if it is a bit wet, it can be rapidly, efficiently dealt with by the dryer.

STORAGE DRYING

Storing grain and drying it in the silos is a very popular way of drying grain. It also "kills two birds with the one stone," as the grain is stored and at the same time it is dried down gently to the required moisture content. Large amounts can be dried at the same time — the idea being to blow air up through the grain from the bottom.

It has to be noted that extreme caution will have to be observed when deciding on the height of the bin and manufacturers' advice should be taken. As a general guide, it is not possible to store grain in bins of more than 10' high, where this system is being adopted.

The R.H. for "In-Bins" Drying must not be more than 65% if grain is to be dried down to 14% — the maximum moisture content at which it

can be stored in bulk for a long period. Using this system, it is normally necessary to apply some kind of artificial heat as the R.H. is seldom ever as low as 65% in this country, even under the most desirable conditions.

Also, a fairly high power fan must be used if large quantities are to be dried. Air has to pass through the bin at the rate of 16 ft. per minute, ensuring that the moisture is taken right through the bin and out at the top. It has been found that in some cases where the c.f.m. of the fan was not high enough, the moisture was taken so far out but "lodged" near the top and considerable damage was done.

However, with the expert advice of planning engineers which are normally supplied free of charge by the firms selling the equipment, this need never happen. In-Bin Drying has its limitations where large amounts of grain have to be dried quickly and no doubt this led to the introduction of the radial air flow system of in-bin drying.



Simplex Radial Air Flow Silos being filled by a high speed auger.

be moist and clammy again. This process of gaining and losing moisture will change throughout the day, depending on the R.H. of the air at any given time.

CONSTANT HUMIDITY LEVEL

It will be seen from the above that it is desirable to maintain a constant R.H. during artificial drying of grain, irrespective of what system is used. This can be done by artificially heating the air before it is blown through the grain. If however, we are liv-

drying grain on the farm before selling it to mills, breweries and seedsmen.

This has a three-fold objective: (a) If this could be done, it would relieve pressure on the buyers as most of the grain had to be handled over a very short period and very often it was found impossible to cope at all, particularly if the grain was wet after a particularly wet harvest, in which case, thousands of tons of

tion is now totally different and any farmer who grows a considerable amount of grain as a cash crop can dry and store it for sale when the market is right. He can also dry grain for his neighbours, who, in turn, can store his grain either for feeding or sale at a later more opportune time.

(c) Grain can now be cut ten days to a fortnight earlier by the combine and this spreads the load on the far-

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Fouling Is Strangling The Game

IN ten years of watching football in the four provinces of Ireland I cannot remember having watched as many downright poor-quality games as I have already seen so far in 1970.

It gives me no pleasure at all to have to say this since I am one of the dwindling minority who believes that the G.A.A.'s future as an influence on the masses of the Irish people rests almost entirely on the development of the games themselves. True, the 'in thing' at the moment is to go for clubhouses and lounge bars — they are the latest G.A.A. status symbol, where not so long ago it was the number of games you could win—and while I'm not for a moment suggesting that this social development is not absolutely necessary, I am saying that equally important is the intelligent improvement of the actual games themselves.

And here we must face the facts. The game of football is deteriorating at a drastic rate and at all levels. The only decent game of Gaelic football that I watched this year was the All-Ireland colleges' final between Colaiste Chríost Ri and the Belfast team, St. Malachys. And I think it was no coincidence that this was a thirteen-a-side game.

The greatest single threat to football as a spectator attraction is undoubtedly the increase in the free-rate in every game, until it now runs at an average of about fifty per game. By itself, this eliminates any possibility of continuous open play and the fact that even the top county teams like Kerry, Down and Offaly each concede up to thirty frees in a match makes one lose faith almost, in the game. It is now beyond any shadow of doubt that the free has now become firmly entrenched as a deliberate facet of play in Gaelic football, instead of being treated as an unavoidable accident of fortune, as should be the case.

Players are coached in the art of obtaining frees rather than being taught how to avoid them and the reason for this negative approach to my mind is quite simple. As the rules stand at the moment they can be manipulated to

BY DONAL COLLINS

control games. By and large, it pays to foul in Gaelic football and this is conclusively borne out when our game is contrasted with soccer.

Sean O'Neill or Mick O'Connell are probably the only two pure exponents of Gaelic football around at the moment, yet how often has the effectiveness of both these players been diminished by half through judicious fouling by the opposition? We can all remember the big games in which O'Connell has been fouled out of the picture and very often indeed without getting sufficient frees for his trouble. In latter years, as he has got cuter, he has learned to emphasise the foul of an opponent and so ensure that he gets his frees every time. In this way several top players are no longer prepared to 'ride' the fouls but prefer instead to take the free kick from the placed ball.

The fouling of Sean O'Neill pinpoints more clearly even than in the case of O'Connell, how a great player can be stifled at a perfectly calculable risk by even a mediocre opponent. Suppose O'Neill gets the ball ten times in a game within scoring distance of the goal. On the law of averages, he will pass to a colleague at least four times and a reasonably intelligent opponent can decide when O'Neill intends to go for a score himself. Even if he were to then foul him on every occasion when he considers he is going to attempt a score, the maximum return from O'Neill's individual efforts would be six points — providing that all six frees were converted. Again, on average, this would be unlikely when the variable factors such as distance, angle and weather conditions are taken into consideration.

Now, six points is, when one considers that Sean O'Neill on the basis of any logical comparison must at least be the equal in natural ability of soccer stars Pele, Riva or Charlton, a meagre return in terms of actual scores when we remember that the average score recorded by top class Gaelic teams is around twelve points per game.

If the retribution in terms of scores in Gaelic football was of an equivalent nature to that obtaining in soccer then we could reasonably assume that Sean O'Neill's return for his labour in our aforementioned average match would include at least four goals either from penalty kicks, because of an enlarged Gaelic penalty area, or because for the same reason, O'Neill's opponent could not afford the luxury of fouling him so often, thereby throwing away three points instead of one.

O'Connell and O'Neill may seem to be unfair and extreme examples to illustrate the castration of individual genius in present day-Gaelic football, but I believe that the opposite is true. The fact that studied and cleverly implemented fouling can shackle such great players, even if it is only on occasion, proves that it is an aspect of tactics in Gaelic football that is rampant throughout the game at all levels and is, in my opinion, the prime factor in retarding progressive thinking geared to improving the game as a spectacle.

Why should coaches spend time developing new ideas in the certain knowledge that fouling as at present covered by the rules will almost immediately cancel out the initiative.

The answer to the problem could well be to revive the Rules Committee which made such drastic recommendations last year and give them more time to come up with some life-saving, if less flamboyant alterations, to the rules of Gaelic football. And if play keeps on deteriorating at its present rate, there should be little difficulty in having rule changes passed in a couple of years time.

After all, what dying body has ever refused the kiss of life?



Galway's Last Semi-Final Appearance

It was in August 1968 that Galway played Down in the All-Ireland semi-final and the incident shown on the left took place in the last Galway attack almost at the end of the game when the score was Down 2-10, Galway 2-8.

Galway claimed a penalty but referee Paul Kelly said no and Down went on to win the All-Ireland title.



Cumann Luthcleas Gael Coisde Conndae Lonndain

The above Board on behalf of all members,
players and supporters, wish London
hurling team success in the
All-Ireland semi-final at
Croke Park on August 16th
and we feel confident they
will do us proud

Seamus O Connmhaigh,
Cathoirleach.

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BY
**FRANK
DOLAN**

THE lambs are once more
being led to the slaughter! This time "Waterloo"
is Limerick Gaelic Grounds
and not the hallowed Croke
Park sod where last year
London hurlers put up only
token resistance against
Kilkenny.

What is the point of it
all? Well, from London's
viewpoint there are two

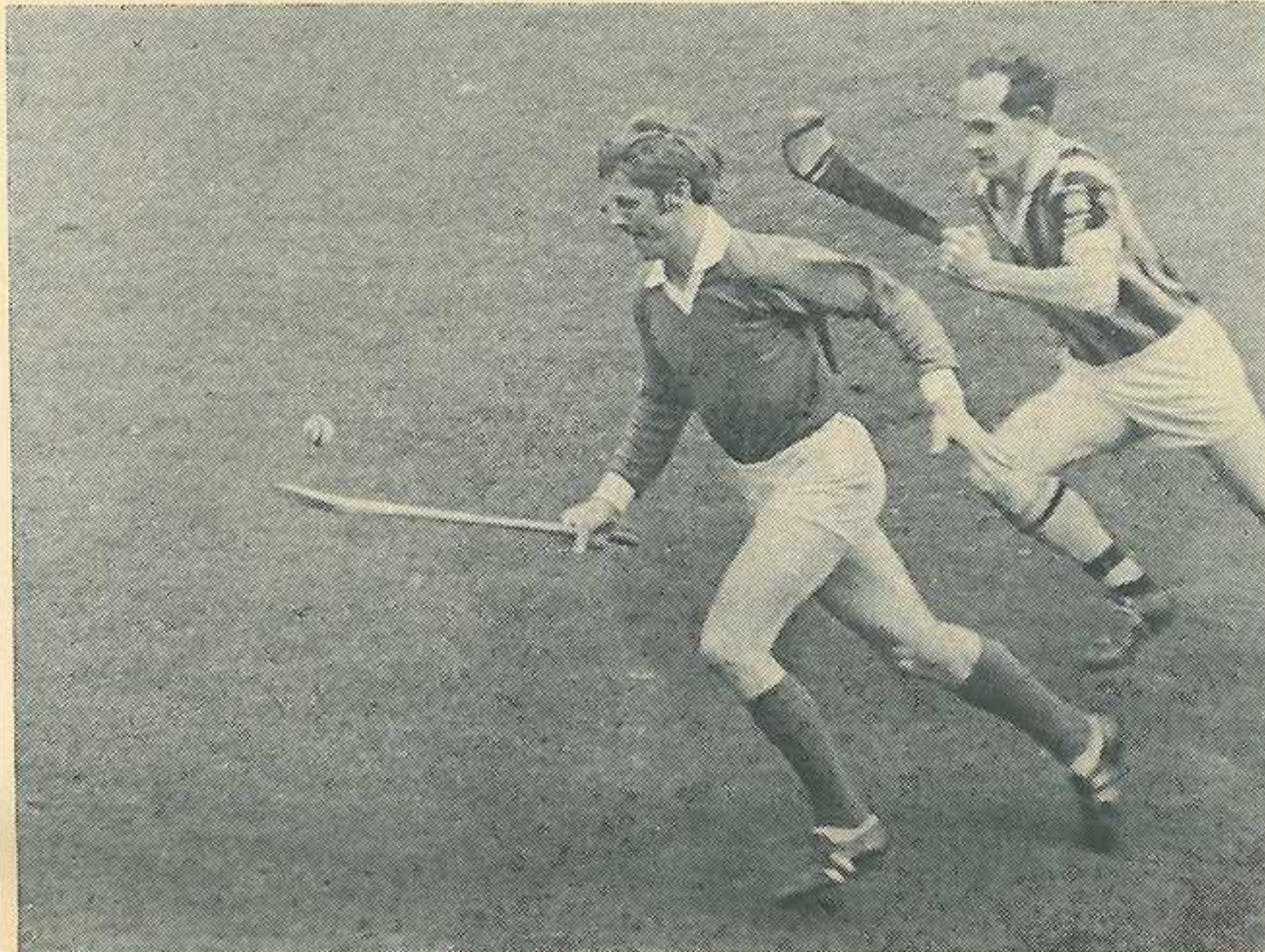
points. (1) They supported
a motion by Galway this
year which should have
given them a three corner-
ed play-off with the Con-
nacht and Ulster standard-
bearers for the right of en-
try to the semi-final. It
later transpired that, due
to some technical hitch,
this arrangement has been
shelved for at least twelve

months. Hence the meeting
with the mighty Munster
standard-bearers and al-
most certain annihilation!

Point two — London
won the All-Ireland inter-
mediate title, easily, in
1967 and 1968. What were
they then to do? Either con-
tinue to win out in this
grade, for which they were
obviously too strong or,
as the home counties do,
seek promotion and the op-
portunity of establishing
themselves in the premier
grade. They chose the lat-
ter. Last year, Kilkenny
were their opponents. But
it was no contest as the
Leinstermen scored at will.

Nothing has happened in
the meantime to indicate
that this year will be any
different! An outing with
Cork at Whit was yet an-
other massacre. No further
challenge matches have
been announced, at the
time of writing and so, it
seems, that once again a
totally unprepared side will
enter the fray against the
might of Munster.

Who are the men on
whom London will depend
to uphold their pride? Bril-
liant goalie Willie Barna-
ville is no longer available.
With no replacement of
senior county standard
around the problems begin.
The position will most lik-
ely rest between Mick But-
ler (Fr. Murphys), Willie



London's full-forward Nick Power heads for goal pursued by Kilkenny's Ted Carroll in last year's semi-final.

With every good wish to the London hurlers
in their All-Ireland semi-final bid

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London County Board Chairman Padraig O Riain.
London G.A.A. official Mick.

mentioned who does not make it in the latter position.

One can always hope for a miracle, as long as David and Goliath stories exist, but here I feel that, by compulsion, it will be a case for London of "the game's the thing, not the winning."



London Assistant County Board Sec. Michael Grealy.



Jim Bennett pictured in the Kilkeny jersey before he emigrated.

Wishing every good luck to the London hurlers in their All-Ireland semi-final effort at Croke Park on August 16th

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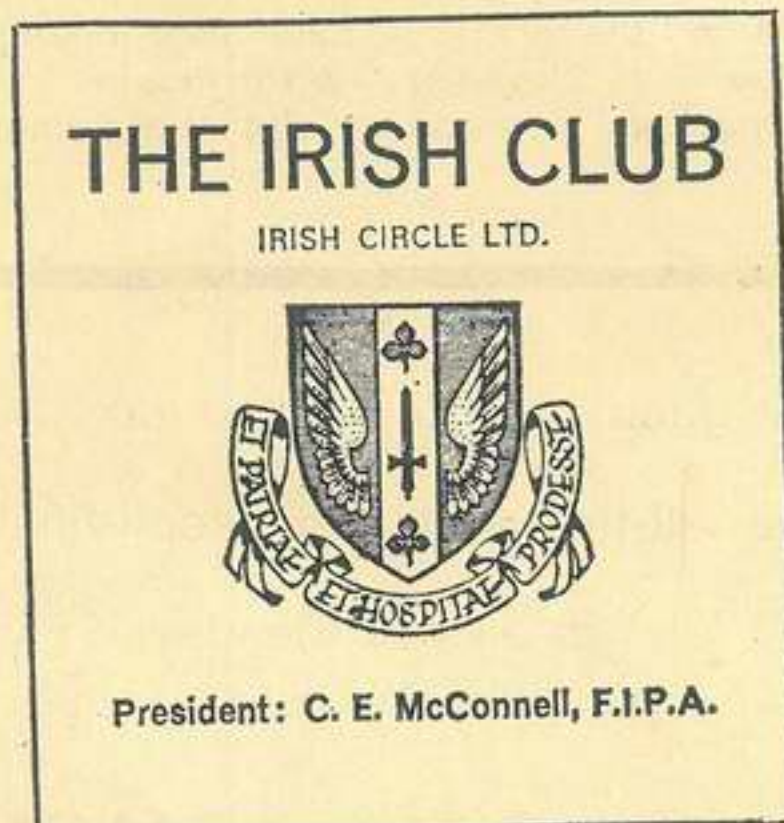
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On behalf of Committee and Members

Noel O'Connell,
Chairman.

Galway's Last Semi-Final Appearance

NOW that Galway are back again in the closing stages of the All-Ireland hurling championship I have heard several arguments as to when the Galwegians last appeared in the title-race as the Connacht representatives.

Actually the answer is clear-cut. Galway's last big-time hurling appearance was in the All-Ireland final of 1958, twelve years ago, when they took on Tipperary in the All-Ireland final at Croke Park.

By OLD-TIMER

Every hurling fan in the country was well aware that the Connacht side faced an almost impossible task on that September day. Tipperary, after a spell in the wilderness, had come back to regain the Munster title in flying style by routing holders Waterford in the final, and then narrowly got the better of All-Ireland champions Kilkenny in a great semi-final.

Competent judges that day insisted that Kilkenny played even better than



Joe Salmon

they had done when winning the All-Ireland title the previous year, but still the Tipperarymen beat them fairly and squarely and entered the final firmest of favourites.

And they had every right to be so with a team that was a balanced blend of youth and experience.

They had Moycarkey player John O'Grady in goal, a solid full-back line in Mickey Byrne, Michael Maher and Kieran Carey, a wonderful half-back trio of Jimmy Finn, young Tony Wall, who captained the side and John Doyle, while the hard-working John Hough partnered Theo English from Marlfield on the half-way mark.

Tipp had a couple of up and coming youngsters named Jimmy Doyle and Donie Nealon on the flanks of the attack, while Larry Keane and Liam Devaney were hard to hold in the full-forward ranks.

Against them, Galway sent a side that contained some great hurlers, but the years were catching up fast with some of the older members.

Though he was by nature an attacking centre-back or a raking midfielder, Mike Sweeney from Loughrea only a youngster then, was in

goal. Fintan Spillane, Pat Burke and Seamus Cullinane, who captained the side, comprised the full-back line.

Jimmy Duggan, a man who filled many positions for his county, and played well in all of them, was right half-back that day. Centre-back was an Armyman, Jimmy Fives, one of the five hurling Fives brothers from Tourin in County Waterford, but a man who did almost all his hurling in the Galway jersey. On his left was Fergus Benson while the mid-field pair were the lively P. J. Lally and Joe Salmon, one of Galway's all-time hurling greats but Joe had an awful lot of hurling behind him by 1958.

In attack the half-forward line was manned by Tim Sweeney, 'the Tim Flood of the West,' Joe Young another Army man, and formerly a dual star with Dublin St. Vincents, who had won an All-Ire-

land football medal with Galway in 1956, and Tommy Kelly. In the corner-forward berths were P. J. Lawless and Tom Conway while at full-forward was the third of the Army's 'foreign legion' on



Jimmy Duggan

this Galway side, Billie O'Neill.

O'Neill as a youngster had captained Cork to junior All-Ireland victory and had subsequently become one of the greatest Galway

stalwarts in both hurling and football. He had been full-back on the Galway teams in the hurling finals of 1953 and 1955 and had been in the half-forward line of the Galway team that won the football title of 1956.

And what of the game? It would be pleasant to record that Galway played brilliant hurling on that last Croke Park championship appearance.

It would be pleasant, but it would not be true. Galway battled gallantly all the way, but they never could match the all-round power of Tipperary and could, indeed, thank a couple of late scores for giving the score-board a reasonably respectable look at the close — Tipperary 4-9, Galway 2-5.

After that Galway vanished into Munster and never again, until now, have we had the chance to see them as a championship force.

Last Year's Debacle Against Kilkenny

With best wishes for success to the London hurlers in All-Ireland semi-final at Croke Park on August 16th

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THERE are plenty of valid reasons why London turned in a below par performance. Returning to Croke Park for an All-Ireland semi-final after a break of sixty years should have been a great occasion for London. After all it was the first hurling semi-final for eleven years and it was a novel pairing of the old and the new.

With no live television on this occasion, it would

have been reasonable to expect a crowd of at least 25,000. But what an anticlimax awaited everybody and the London hurlers, in particular, when only about 5,000 people turned up, with the result that Croke Park had that now familiar tomb-like atmosphere — far, far removed from what the Exiles must have been looking forward to for months.

But the greatest single

factor militating against London was their lack of competitive match practice. This was their undoing especially, in the early stages against Kilkenny. It no doubt accounted for the very loose marking in the London back line. Whenever one player got caught out of position, there was never a colleague near at hand to cover off for him in a manner which we would expect

from a back line used to playing together as a unit.

A similar problem existed in the forward line, where London made little headway at combined attacks, relying almost completely on individual play. At the highest level such an approach will not suffice and perhaps it is in this facet of the game that the clear cut difference between Intermediate and Senior grade is underlined.

Every good luck to the London hurlers in the All-Ireland hurling semi-final and to all our friends

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Galway Hopeful—Despite The Setbacks

TWO years ago last February the new chairman of Galway county board, Gerry Cloherty, took the first step towards giving the hurlers of his county a sense of pride in themselves when he organised intensive indoor training for a panel of potential county players.

Just one year later came the first tangible results of that initiative when an all-Galway Connacht team shocked Leinster in the semi-final of the Railway Cup in a game played at Ballinasloe. One swallow doesn't make a summer however, and most neutrals were inclined to regard that semi-final result as such until the Railway Cup final on St. Patrick's Day 1970.

That final against the best that Munster hurling could offer was a game that Galway should have won but they had to be content with a draw and a replay in Galway on Easter Sunday. Again the home side performed excellently but had to give best in the end to the greater match experience of the Munstermen.

Still Gerry Cloherty and his fellow Galwaymen were not unduly worried since their original idea when starting to train in February 1968 was to have a winning team in two or three years from then. But that partial success in Railway Cup hurling was an indication that Galway hurling was on the right road and it encouraged all concerned to go to it with renewed energy and dedication.

The next major step was the passing of a motion at Congress this year to allow Galway to opt out of the

Munster championship where they had languished for a dozen years.

The idea behind Galway's motion was that Galway, London and the Ulster champions should play off for the right to meet the



Gerry Cloherty

Leinster or Munster champions in a semi-final in alternate years but because the motion was misworded slightly it transpired that both London and Galway were committed to playing semi-finals this year. So Galway are facing Wexford on August 16.

Had the preparation of the Galway team gone ahead unhindered Gerry Cloherty would have few worries about facing Wexford or any other team for that matter. But things didn't go as planned, for last April no less than six of the county's outstanding

players left for New York to spend a six month period working there and playing for the Galway team in Gaelic Park.

They were John Connolly, Padraic Fahy, Des Coen, Andy and Frank Kenny and Tom Bohan. This meant in fact that a player from every line of the field had disappeared overnight. Naturally, there was strong resentment at all levels of Galway hurling at the action of the New York Galway hurling club for taking the best of the home play-

ers without consulting or asking permission from anybody.

However, the preparation continued unabated and hopes received a big boost with the acquisition of former Clare star Tom Ryan and Tipperary man Seamus Hogan, both playing with the Liam Mellows club. Hogan had helped U.C.G. to their first Fitzgibbon Cup victory in 20 years and this too gave a great shot in the arm to the cause of Galway hurling.

Intensive training has

been going on now for five weeks under the guidance of Paddy Fahy, a teacher from Kilbeachanty, and P.T. man Eugene Donlevy. Another useful acquisition to the panel was Frank Coffey a former star player with the county who had been in England for the past few years but has now returned home.

It would have helped Galway greatly had they qualified for the closing stages of the 1970 National League but although they beat Dublin and Clare they lost

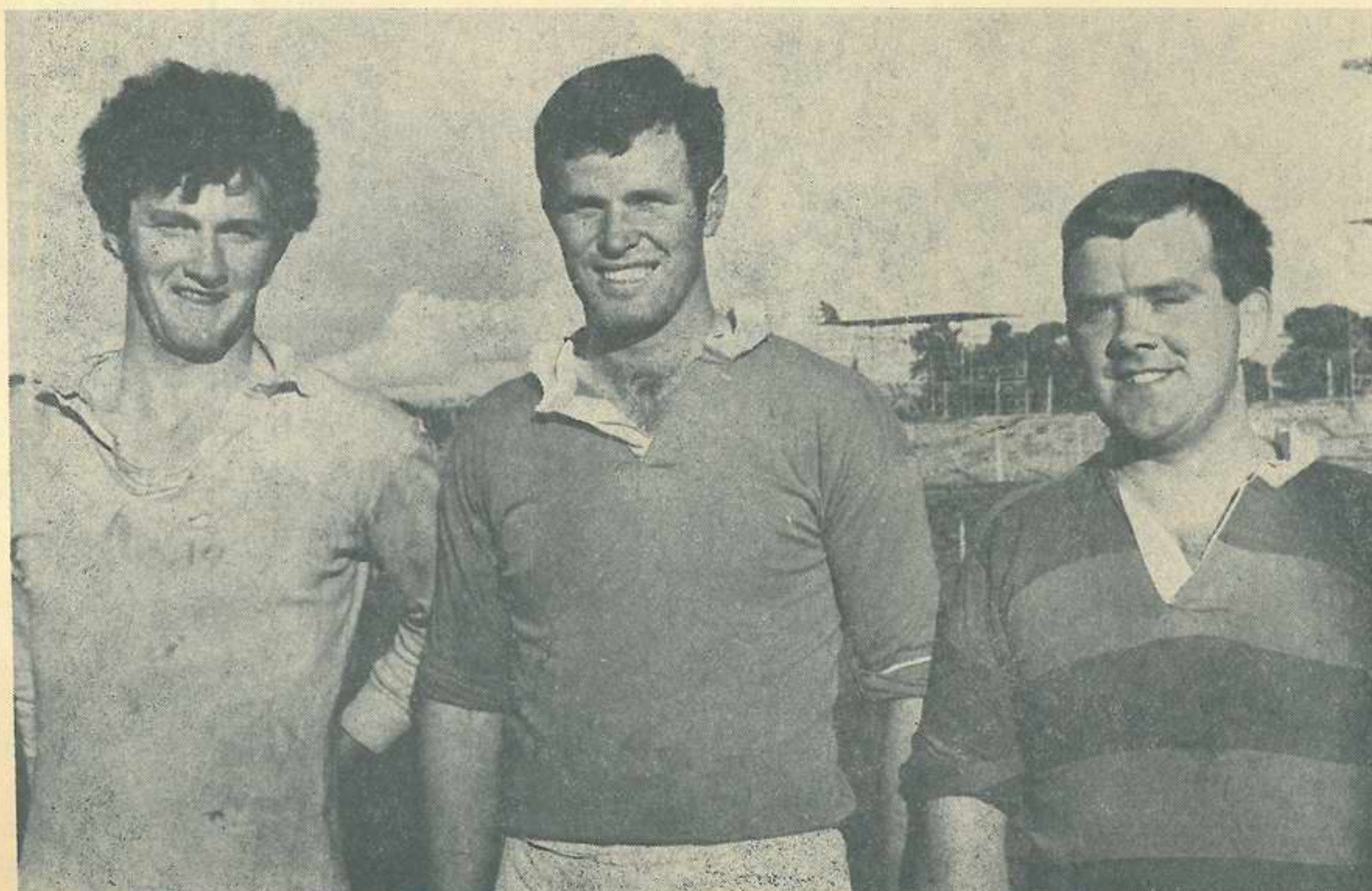
to Cork and narrowly to Limerick and so just missed getting through.

Galway are assured of plenty of support when they face Wexford especially as the game is in Athlone which is practically home venue for the Westerners.

So despite all their problems Galway are hopeful about their chances on August 16. Certainly their efforts of the past two years are worthy of reward.



Frank Coffey (left) and Tom Ryan pictured after a training session at Pearse Stadium.



Seamus Hogan (left), Michael McTigue and Tony Gavin all set for game against Wexford.



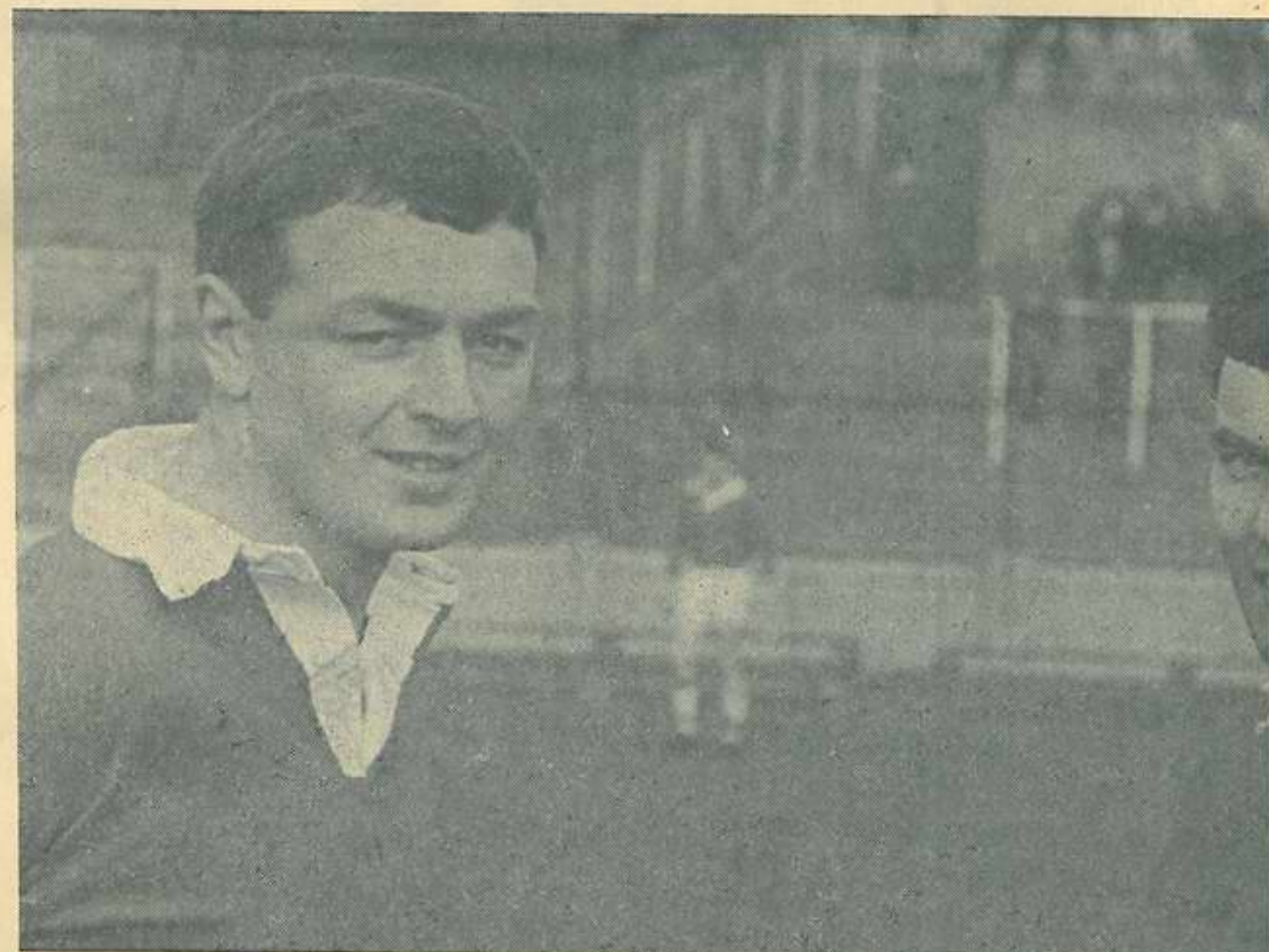
"Do you not know that the matches are longer nowadays."



JACK QUINN



MICKEY KEARINS



D. HUNT and D. COUGLAN



D. QUIGLEY



J. O'DONOGHUE

Meet The

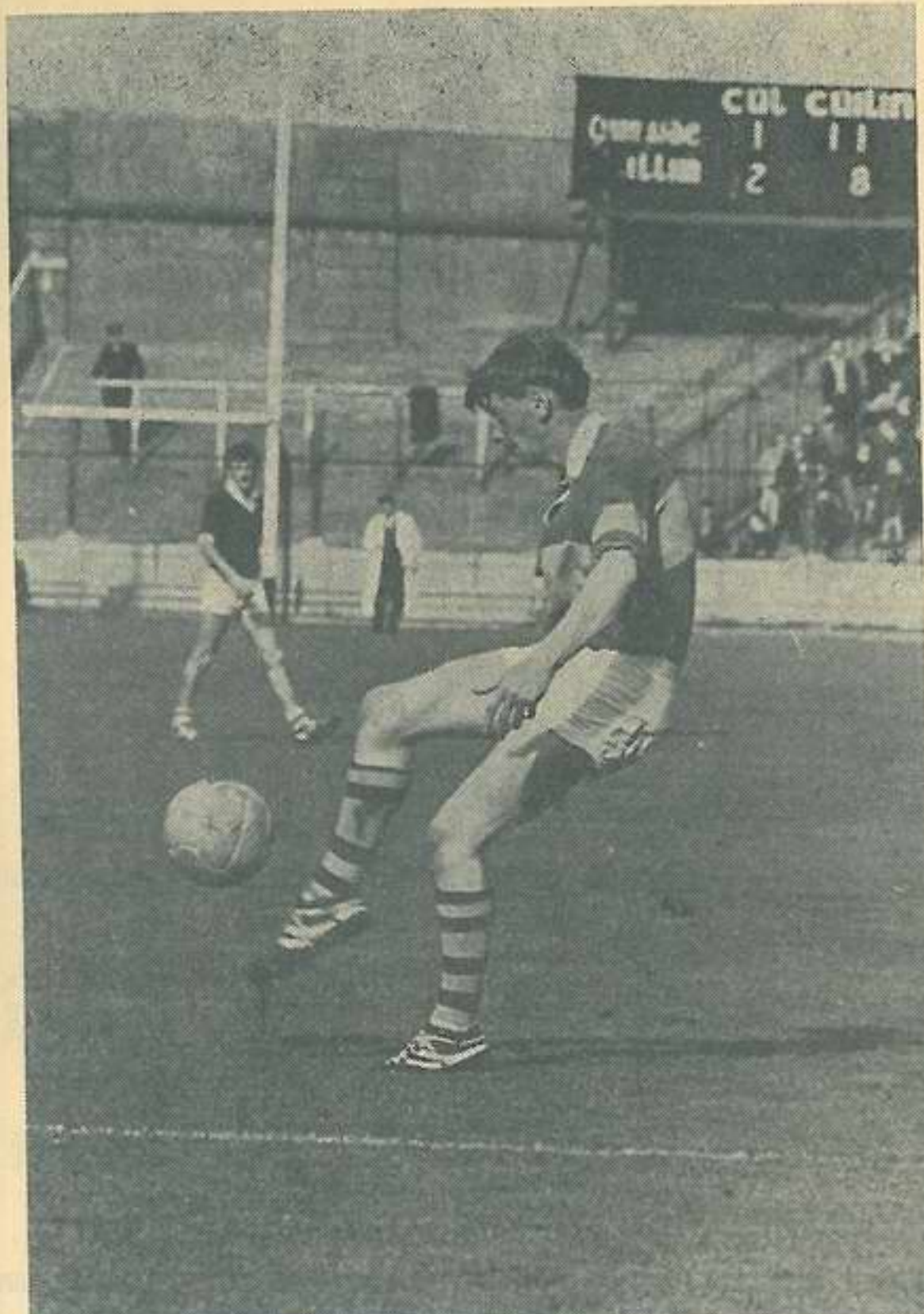
● **JACK QUINN** pictured here making one of his automatic high catches, is one of the famous Quinns who are extensive farmers at Kilbride on the Dublin border.

● **MICKEY KEARINS** who has been one of the outstanding scoring forwards for several years now is a cattle dealer in Sligo.

● **DAN QUIGLEY**, pictured with Nicky Rack, the eldest of the four Quigley brothers now playing with Wexford. He is a farmer.

● **DONAL HUNT** (left) and Denis Coughlan, two of the Cork football team, both of whom play in the attack. Coughlan is a member of St. Nicholas while Hunt plays with Bantry.

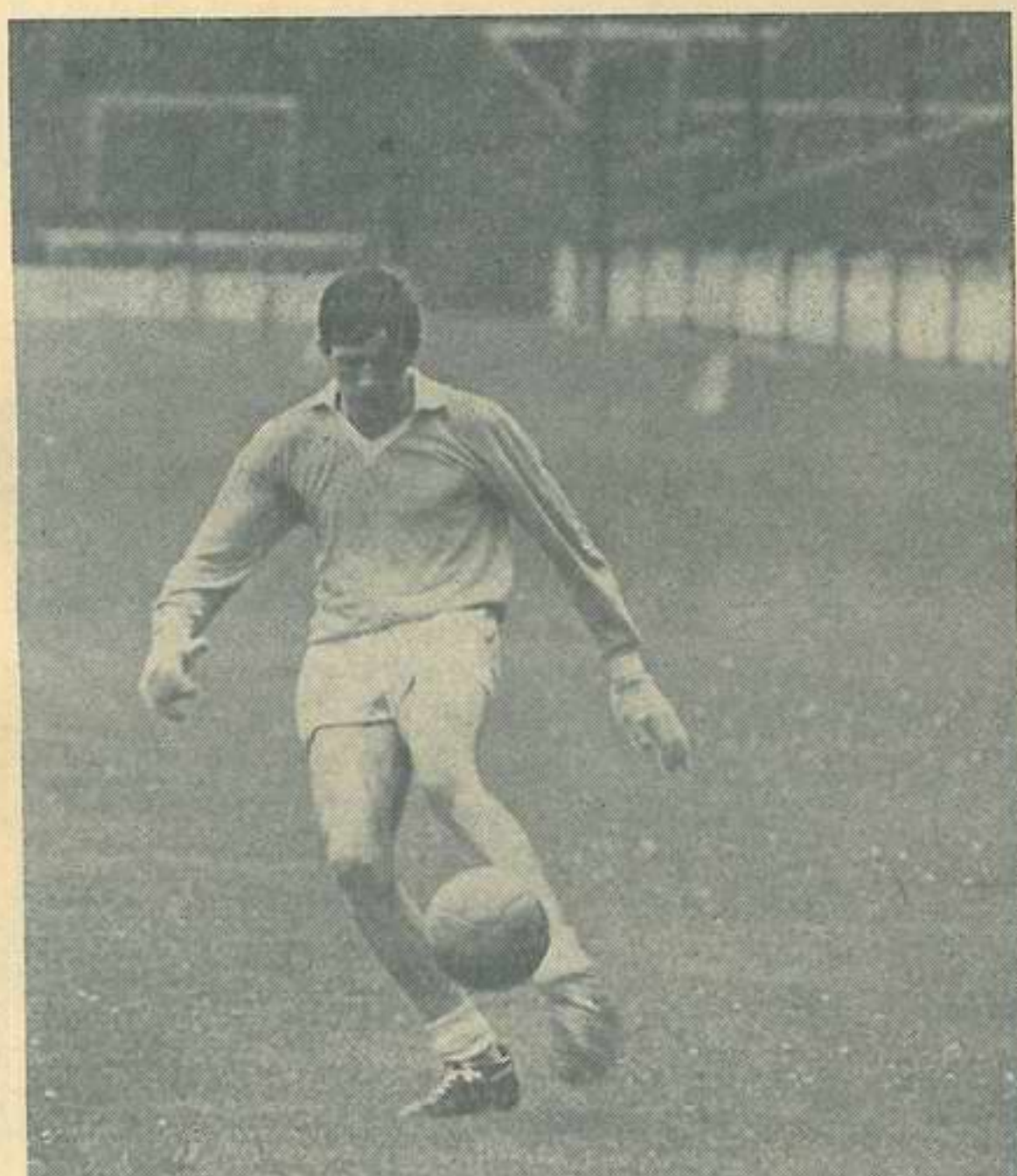
● **EAMONN O'DONOGHUE**, Kerry's left half forward, plays with Ballylongford and is a vocational teacher.



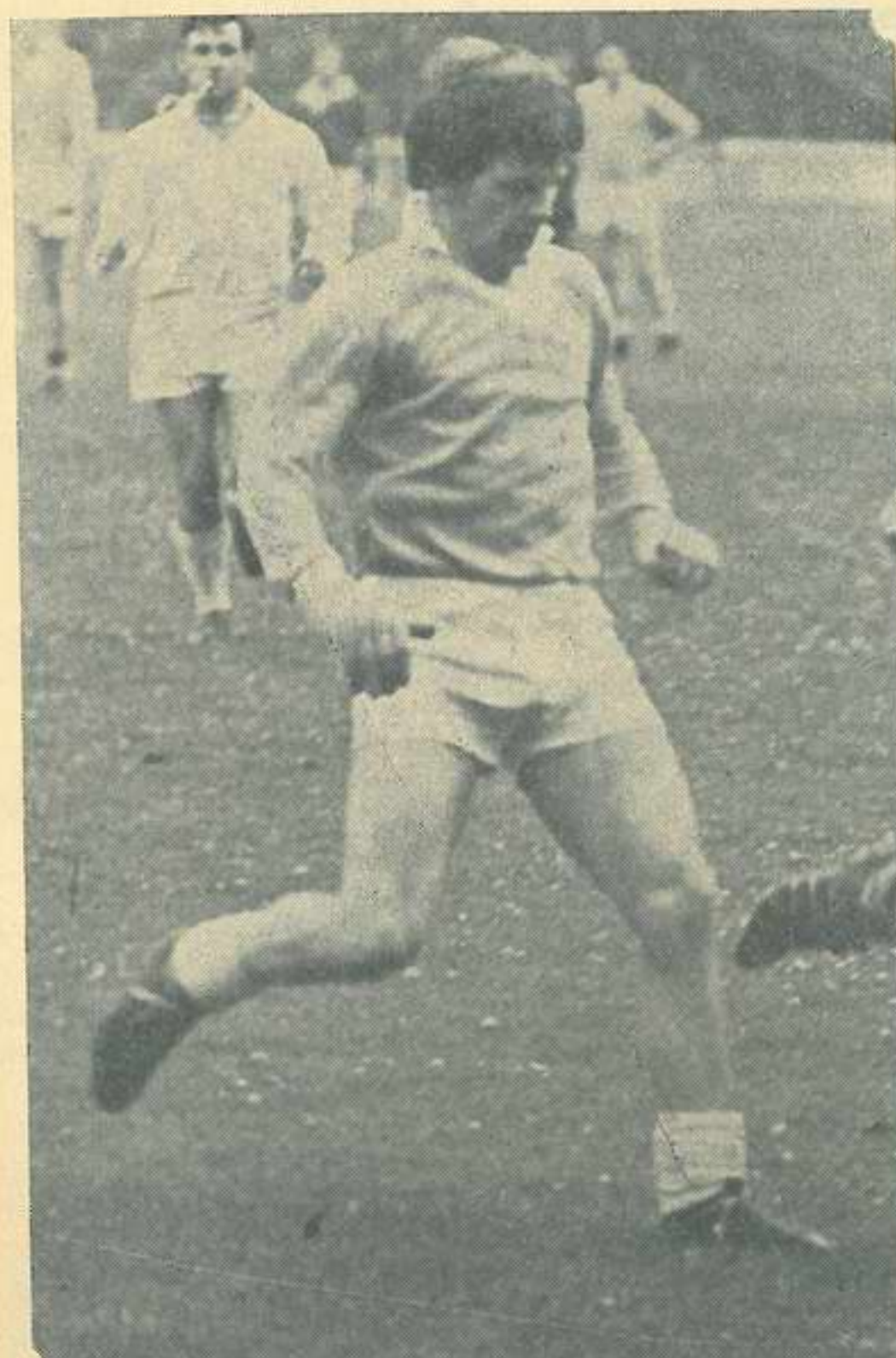
E. O'DONOGHUE



C. DUNNE



LIAM BOYLE



GERRY DILLON



MICK FALLON

Stars No. 4

- **JOHN O'DONOGHUE** plays in goal for Tipperary in football and hurling. He is an insurance agent in Thurles.
- **CYRIL DUNNE** from Ballinasloe has got a new lease of life since switching to full forward on the Galway team. Recently married, he is a Bord na Mona clerk.
- **GERRY DILLON**, is a member of the Antrim senior football panel, was full-forward on his county's under-21 All-Ireland winning side last year. Aged 20, he is a Northern Ireland Electricity Board employee.
- Twenty two year old **LIAM BOYLE** captained Antrim to last year's All-Ireland under-21 success and is now one of the stars of the county's senior side. A storeman in a wholesale wine and spirit business, he plays his club football with St. Malachys, Belfast.
- **MICK FALLON**, Roscommon's centre forward, plays with St. Brigids and is a clerical student in Kimmage Manor, Dublin.

What About Them . . . They're Only The Paying Customers

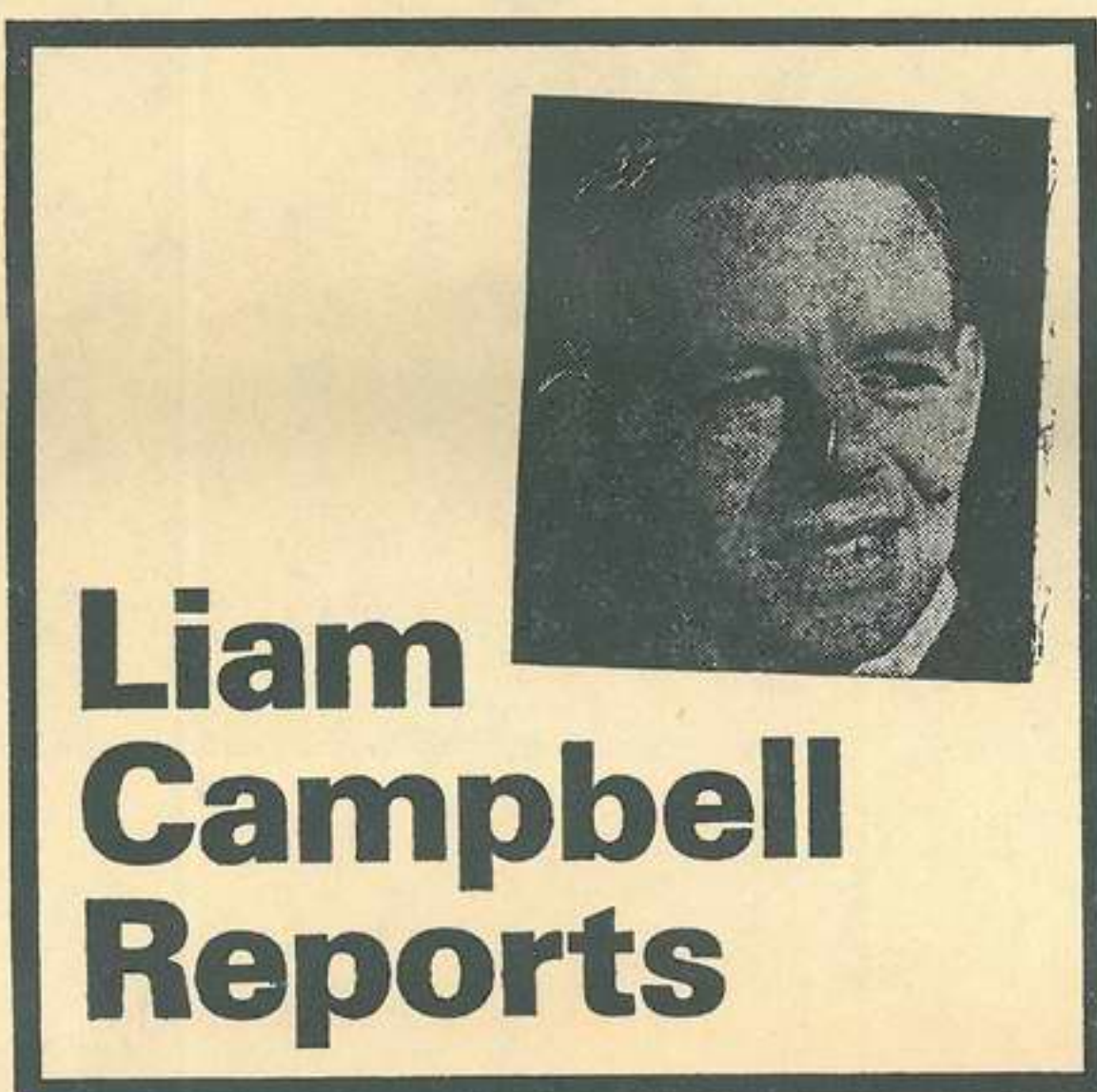
This Sums Up The Attitude Of Many G.A.A. Officials

HAVE you noticed some new trends emerging lately? I don't mean on the playing field, but rather in the press, on the radio and television, and in public pronouncements generally; I might also include private conversations in this business of trends as far as they apply to the G.A.A.

I'll give you a laudable one first: the campaign, unannounced but evident just the same, in at least one morning paper to shame people into getting games started on time. If ever there was a worthy cause, this is it. Every week now, for quite a while, we have a time-check given for the big match of the previous day. Hardly any need to remark that it's usually the number of minutes that the game was late, plus the number of minutes by which the allowed half-time break was exceeded.

I don't know what results, if any, this campaign will achieve. But I will say this: if it doesn't get the results it deserves the G.A.A. can start worrying in a big way. You might say that this matter of time is a small enough thing, but you'd be wrong. It is the most obvious symptom of a kind of disease from which the Association has been suffering as long as I can remember. You get the feeling that nobody gives a damn whether the game begins on time or ten minutes late, or an hour late for that matter. You ought to go to a club match in certain counties to really grasp just how late a game can start. It's small wonder that few spectators bother turning up to be insulted any more at these club matches.

Insult is not too strong a word. If a man pays his money to see a game advertised for, say, three



o'clock, he's entitled to see a game starting at three o'clock. I can hear already the howls of "but this is an amateur sport we're running" and other irrelevant comments. They are irrelevant because there's nothing amateur about the cash being taken at the gates. If you make a deal you should keep it.

Comment has been made that games (county games) which are being broadcast always start on time. Correction . . . they do not. Occasionally they may get going on time but very seldom. I agree that they are usually not so late, but that's a different thing, and if officials can chop a few minutes off the delay, why can't they go the whole way and cut out unpunctuality altogether?

Further trends include the one which is critical of the way spectators are treated in the matter of programmes. You buy a programme and it can often turn out to be a work of imaginative fiction, especially where subs are

concerned.

On one Sunday in July, at venues far apart, we had two lovely instances of this. At one, a sub. appeared wearing 17; he should have been wearing 21 according to the official programme. The confusion was all the greater when another sub. came on later also wearing 17! The second man to appear was correctly numbered, but how did the spectators know this? The short answer is that they didn't know what was going on. But sure what about them . . . they are only the paying customers.

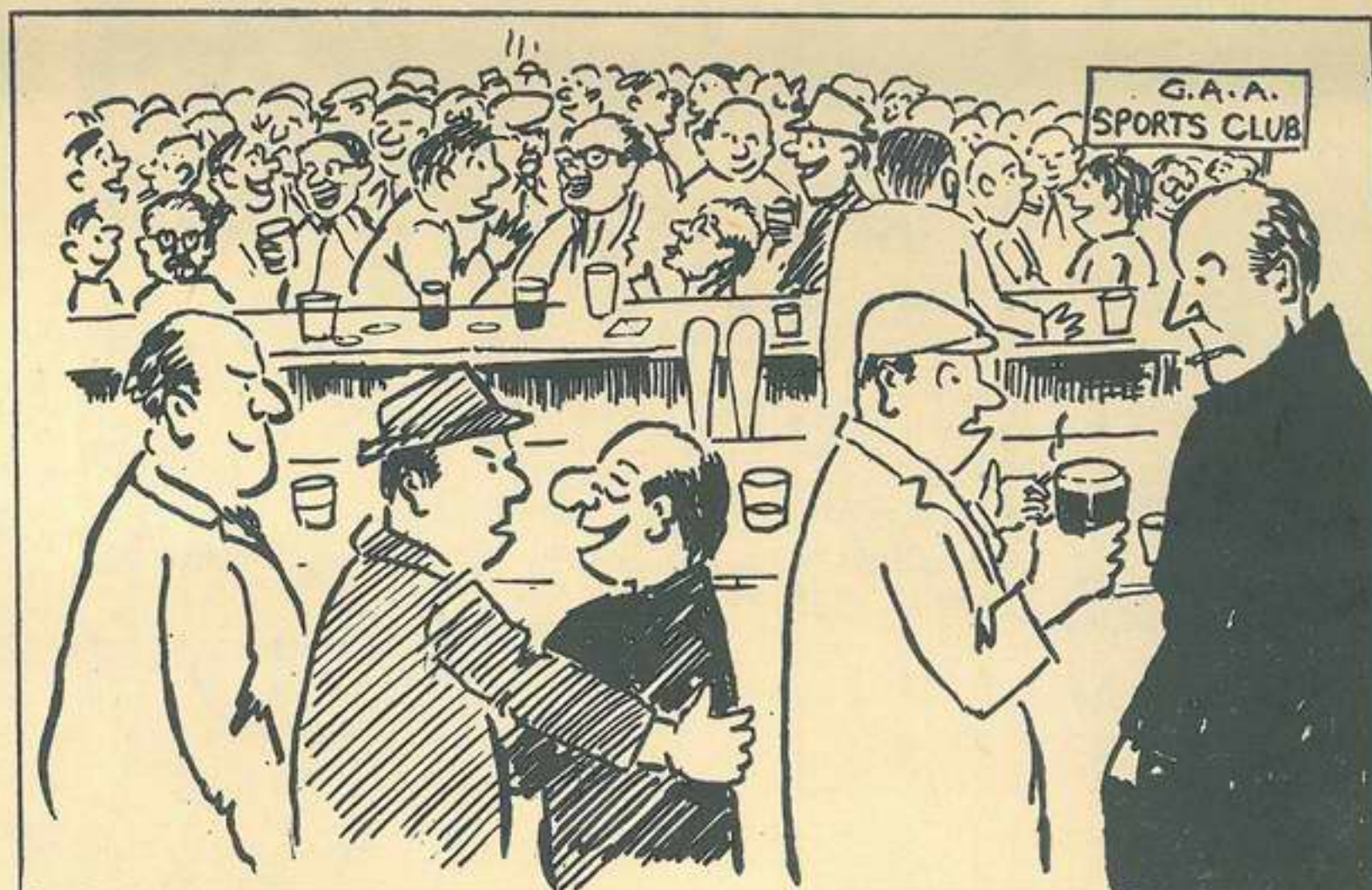
At the second venue, even better crack was to be had. A sub. was introduced to the game here, and he had no number at all! The programme at this venue I am told, cost a shilling. It wasn't worth a redundant halfpenny. Both of these games were provincial finals, so you can imagine the attitude at less important matches.

You can also imagine how a commentator feels,

glued to his microphone, when some unidentified object appears on the pitch! There's often no way of checking who the newcomer might be, and all you can do is pray that he

according to the rules to send a player on to a field in a provincial final with a jersey that is not numbered, or is numbered incorrectly. Another trend you may have noticed is the

mania for demonstrations against this, that and the other. If anybody feels like starting a protest against the aforementioned annoyances, he can count on my full support!



'Ah yes Joe, there was a sportsfield here once but the social club grew bigger so we had to extend the bar and enlarge the car park . . .'

won't score a brilliant goal before you find out who he is. If officials took just a small amount of trouble to ensure that they send their teams on the field correctly dressed everybody would feel better treated.

Personally, I have never found an official who wasn't helpful to me, but the majority just don't see the importance of the small things which all add up in the end. I remember when Paddy Flanagan retired from the secretaryship of the Westmeath Co. Board, I asked him what was the one big grumble he had with the Association as a whole. His answer was: "Lack of attention to detail." Westmeath, I can testify, were never caught out.

Furthermore, it is illegal,

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GAELIC PARK

NEW YORK REPORT
BY
AMBROSE O'CONNELL



Things Are Swinging in Gaelic Park!

SEVERAL clubs have taken full advantage of the recent rule change which allows players to travel to N.Y. to play in N.Y. Championships. This has had both a positive and negative impact on the games in N.Y. Many of the players from Ireland who have played in N.Y. recently have really helped the Gotham teams and as a result the standard of play has been greatly improved.

This was certainly evident in the two memorable clashes between Galway and Clare in the semi-final of the 1969 Senior Hurling Final. Both teams reinforced by top players from Ireland in the first meeting in May played epic hurling of All-Ireland standard. Consequently the replay drew a record crowd.

Again the hurling was classic and the fans thrilled to the glories of our game at its best. No one in the stands at least, had any quarrel with the liberal travel of players. A subsequent meeting between these same teams, with Clare minus the Irish contingent and a couple of regulars proved a disappointment for the patrons as the heroics and rivalry of the earlier games were sadly

and Gene Cusack.

On the negative side this has had some drawbacks. When local players are kept off the team to make room for more renowned visitors, (who prove poor or mediocre) there is naturally likely to be some resentment. This is at a period when no club can really afford to lose the interest of a member. It is also an expensive proposition to bring players from Ireland for a week-end and only a few clubs can bear such a financial burden. This must hurt the weaker teams.

One area where many clubs are benefiting is from influx of students for the summer months. These young players have infused new life into N.Y. clubs and noticeably as a result of their contributions the standard of play particularly in Junior grade has appreciated immensely. While the stringent immigration laws continue the student help appears to be a partial but painless solution to the problem of balanced teams. Attendance continues without noticeable change. The big games where there is something at stake always bring out the fans; ordinary Sundays draw the usual normal attendance.

Teleprompter Cable T.V. which is franchised for neighbourhood viewing in Upper Manhattan to subscribers only, has a pilot promotional program underway at present. This is an attempt on the part of the T.V. Company to bring well-rounded programs to community viewers as a promotional idea for new subscribers. The games are televised on Sundays from Gaelic Park and shown via video tape telecasts on

Monday nights. (John Byrne and yours truly do the commentaries). The project is purely experimental at this stage — no agreements etc. It is hoped that if the Company gets a good response it may continue to televise and at the



Paddy Dowling . . . well known N.Y. player and referee.

same time help the association in the way of advertising these games.

On another topic the suspension of the Monaghan Football team for a period of one year by N.Y. G.A.A. President Sean O'Hanlon as a result of incidents of misconduct in their game with Galway on May 24 certainly was a bombshell. The President reasoned that there was a complete lack of control on the management level and referred to a warning which the club had been given in June of 1969.

The team appealed the decision and was reinstated at a later meeting of the Executive Committee. Four players, however, who



Colm McAlarney . . . plays with Monaghan.

allegedly were the main culprits in the misconduct were suspended for one year and a supporter for two years.

The reinstatement of the team was welcomed by supporters as it brings the top team back into competition, and some interesting

contents can now be anticipated in the remainder of the schedule.

Another program which is presently in formation is the introduction of a Juv-

enile Minor League, mostly comprised of sons of present and former players and members of the G.A.A. There is wide interest in the idea at this point

on the part of the youngsters and if this interest can be fostered this source of talent could well be a boom to the future of the games in New York.



Jackie Devine . . . plays with Longford in Gaelic Park.

missing. Monaghan too have imported liberally which to a great extent explains why they are reigning N.Y. champions. Cavan in a recent encounter with the champs, had a star-studded selection via the air-ways route but failed badly with none of their guest players justifying the trip. These included Ray Carolan, Gabriel Kelly



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Importance Of Milk And Dairy Products

WHEN the Anglo-Irish Free Trade Agreement was signed in December 1965, probably no section of the Irish community was more concerned than the Irish dairy industry.

It is difficult now to realise the position of Irish butter exports to the British markets in the year 1959/60 was really acute; exports had been suspended from the 1st April and did not recommence until the 30th August, 1960. By January 1961 the price of Irish butter on the British market had fallen below £250 per ton. On the 29th November 1961 exports to Great Britain and Northern Ireland were discontinued until the 28th February 1962 because of the imposition by the British Board of Trade of a Penal Duty on the import of but-

ter from this country. The background to these events was the proposed introduction of a specific anti-dumping duty of 205/-d. per cwt. on exports of Irish butter to Britain. This action followed the refusal of our Government to accept a proposed quota which would have limited Irish butter exports to 4,000 tons in the six months period ending 31st March 1962. The decision of the British Government to allocate quotas to various countries was taken on the basis of complaints made by New Zealand and Denmark of butter dumping on the British market.

A White Paper issued by our Government outlined the Irish position. It emphasised the willingness of the Government to participate with other countries in finding a "fair and reasonable" solution to the problem of the over-supply of butter in the British market. It also stated that Ireland had, in fact, been voluntarily restricting exports in accordance with agreements reached under the auspices of O.E.E.D. But it added that our Government "simply could not accept" the proposed limitation of 4,000 tons. The White Paper also argued that all butter-exporting countries were subsidising their exports in some form or other. Evidence enough of this was the fact that no-producing country could possibly sell butter economically on the British market where the price had fallen as low as 250/-d. per cwt.

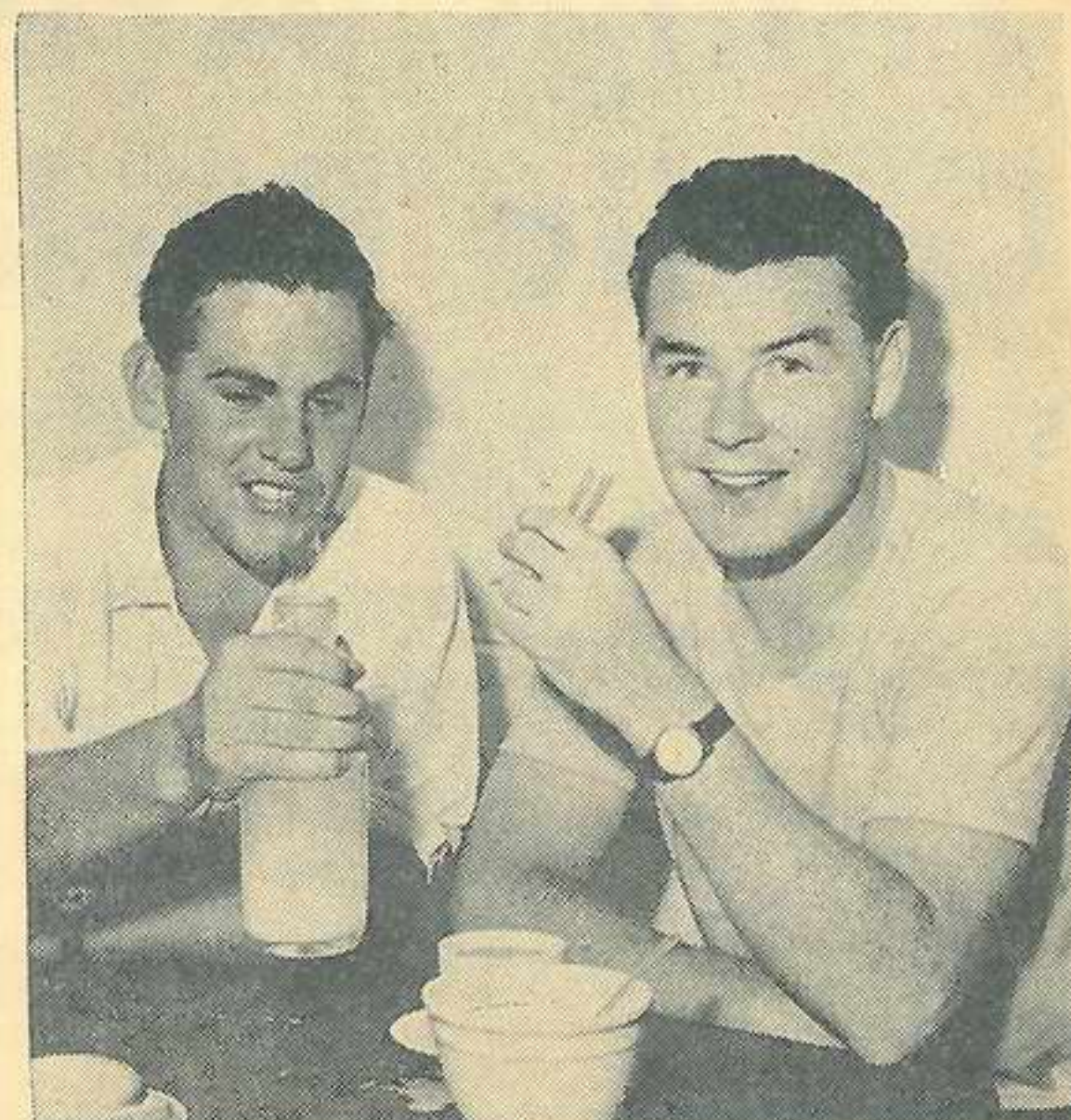
Finally, agreement was reached and our Government accepted the quota of 12,000 tons of butter to the United Kingdom. When

one considers that at that time the United Kingdom was importing a little less than half a million tons of butter the gross inequity of our share of the British butter market will be appreciated.

An Bord Baine was

ready half of that quota was going to Northern Ireland and the balance to Britain.

And so the Board struggled from 1962 to the 1st April 1966, working finally on a basic quota of 12,900 tons. Admittedly, we re-



Milk has always been recognised as an important part of G.A.A. training camps and here Galway players Tommy Brennan and Martin Newell enjoy a drink after a hard training session in Tuam.

founded on the 17th Mayceived ad hoc increases in 1961. In June 1962 the idea the amount of butter which of launching an Irish nat-we could export from time ional brand of butter onto time; however as the the British market was con-keynote of marketing is ceived. Doing so in the that your product is avail-context of such a smallable for 52 weeks of the quota was one which mightyear, you cannot make a be questioned; however, al-marketing plan which re-

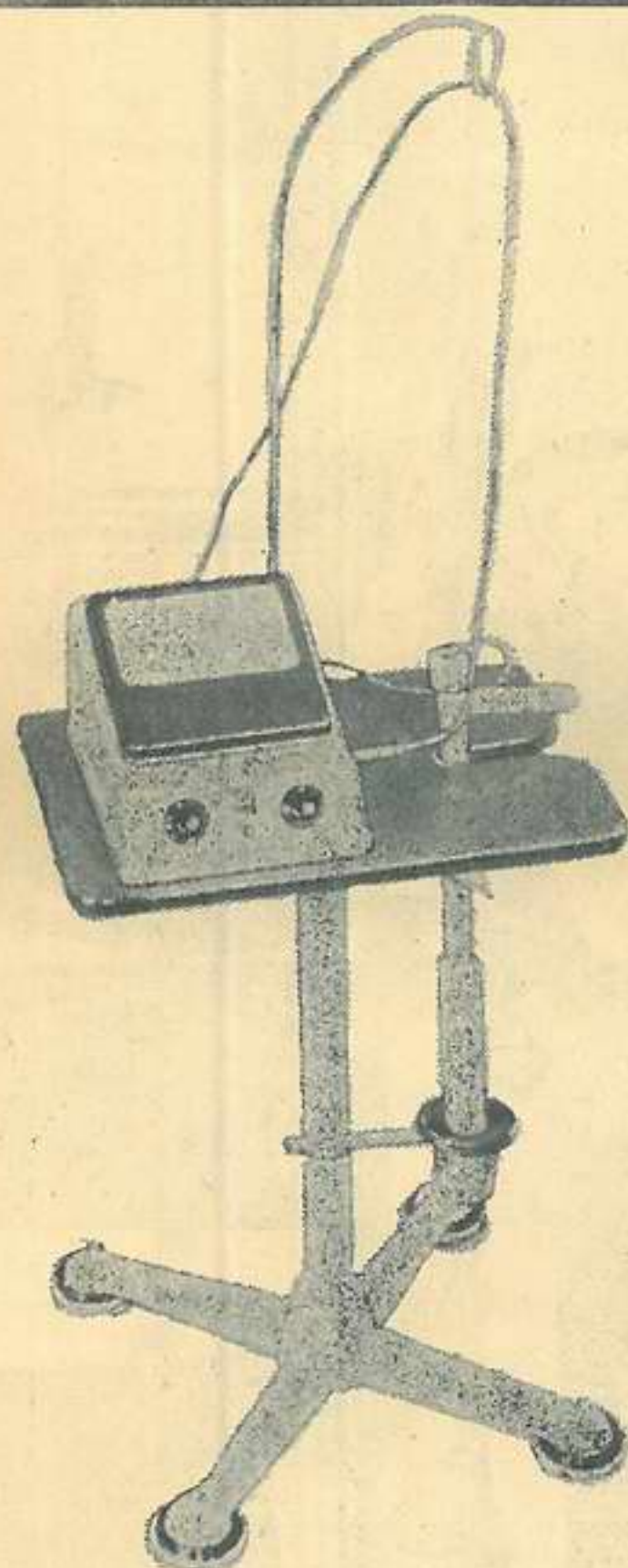
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On The Camogie Scene

WHEN Dublin beat Laois at Parnell Park in the opening round of the Leinster junior camogie championship the Dublin right winger was Veronica Fingleton, the current U.C.D. captain, who is a native of Laois. In fact, Veronica was at home on holidays at the time and drove a hundred miles for each Dublin training session.

BY AINE MEAGHER

● A most heartening feature for the future of camogie was the widespread response to the coaching course. Either directly or through the schools, more than twenty counties sent candidates and a more encouraging feature still was the fact that quite a number of nuns and physical education teachers were so keenly interested.

● A very hearty welcome onto the camogie fields at home for the former Leinster and Wexford star Margaret Hearne, who has recently returned home after working for a few years in America. No sooner was Mar-

garet home than she was out playing for Wexford once more, in the junior ranks this time. Though obviously short of training and practice, she shows that she still retains all her old skill, and we should be hearing a deal more about her in future.

● Good news from the West is that the game is making progress in Leitrim and that a county board is being set up. As anyone would well expect, one of the driving forces behind the new move is the Secretary of the Leitrim G.A.A. Board, Tommy O'Riordan, who has done so much for hurling in his adopted county.

More news from the West is that Galway will not be opposed in the senior grade this year. This means that Galway will meet the Leinster senior champions at a Connacht venue in mid-August. The All-Ireland junior semi-final between the same two provinces will also be played in conjunction with this game.

● That progressive Dublin club, Na Fianna, certainly gave

camogie a fair show in their festival fortnight which was the most enjoyable club venture in the Capital for a long time. In addition, they ran a handball competition for the ladies, an event which must have been a really unique venture for a camogie club, or a G.A.A. club for that matter.

● When Una O'Connor and Kay Lyons fielded out with Dublin in the Leinster championship this year they must have set something of a record, for they both had played on Dublin teams with Kathleen Mills, who, in turn had played on Dublin teams with some of the stars who won the first camogie All-Ireland back in 1932.

● An encouraging feature of the game in Leinster has been the revival in Louth. There the game has always been very popular, but various internal troubles have told against them in recent seasons. But this year the Louth girls certainly showed great progress on the intercounty fields, and I believe they will be an even greater force in the years ahead.



The camogie team from Foster Finance Ltd. which is at present competing in the 1970 Finance Houses Camogie League. They are the holders of the title. Back row (left to right): Miss P. Gray, Miss T. Daly, Miss E. Cummins, Miss M. Reilly, Miss E. Duff, Miss E. O'Dowd. Front row (left to right): Miss A. McLehose, Miss N. Masterson (capt.), Miss A. Hopkins, Miss Y. Murphy, Miss A. O'Brien, Miss E. Molloy.

Importance Of Milk

lies on a gamble as to whether or not there would be a drought in Australia or in some other supplying country as a result of which you may get an increase in your quota to Britain.

For this reason the signing of the Anglo-Irish Free Trade Agreement in December 1965 brought sighs of relief from the Irish dairy industry. For the first time our basic quota was increased to 23,000 tons. This prima facie may look large, but, in fact, in the previous year our exports to that market were of the order of 18,000 tons. Nevertheless, it meant that we could make a marketing plan, assured that our quota was basically sound.

Indeed the increase of our basic quota to the new figure of 23,000 tons gave us the opportunity of extending our launch of Kerrygold butter to the London market; prior to

that we were confined to the North-West, North-East, Midlands, Scotland and South-West. Our exports to the Northern Ireland market were of the order of 6,000 tons of bulk butter — in other words, not under the Kerrygold brand.

However, here we come up against the first disappointment from the point of view of the Irish dairy industry where the spirit of the Anglo-Irish Free Trade Agreement is concerned. We were well aware that it was the intention that Ireland's share of the market for dairy products in Britain should gradually expand. It was never the intention that we should stay static at a figure of 23,000 tons. Indeed, when on the 1st April, 1967, our basic quota was increased to 26,000 tons, we felt confident, in making a three-year marketing plan to the 31st March 1971, the ter-

minal date for the Second Programme for Economic Expansion, that we could work on a figure of 37,000 tons of butter into the United Kingdom market by that date.

From the 1st April 1967 to the 1st April 1970, there was no increase in the basic quota of butter from Ireland to the United Kingdom. It may seem unreasonable to isolate butter from the remainder of dairy products where our export pattern is concerned; nevertheless, one must realise that butter is a product into which surplus milk will go and is a product into which in terms of world markets, the lowest returns in such markets is attainable. In the British market, however, our price structure in the case of butter is satisfactory. Indeed we find that in many cases our butter is securing higher prices than British but-

ter on the British market. In addition, we are commanding a premium of £43 sterling per ton over New Zealand and Australia for Kerrygold Irish Butter on the British market.

In addition to the butter market, there is a strong lobby which can restrict one's activities in other British markets, like the cheese and fresh cream market, wholemilk and skim-milk powder markets and so on. If vested interests are restricted in their activities by the British authorities there should be greater openings in the British market for our products. It is estimated that we will be into the Common Market by 1973, nevertheless, even in those three years we have a lot to lose by any restriction, official or unofficial, of the "open" market for Irish dairy products in the British market.

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Sé an ceann a chonaic mise ná cluiche ceannais Laighean san iomáint idir Loch Garman agus Cill Chainnigh, agus ar ndóigh ar a tá a fhios agat bhí an lá le Loch Garman, 4-16 go dtí 3-13. Sé an fáth a luadhaim an scór chor ar bith ná go bhfuil sé soiléir ar ndóigh go mbéidh na scóranna níos airde agus gur féidir le foireann a chaillfeas ina leithéid de chluiche scór níos mó a bhaint amach ná mar ba ghádh roimhe seo chun buachaint. Ní hé sin amháin é, d'fhéadfadh foireann a bheith i bhfad níos fearr ná an ceann eile agus a bheith go maith chun tosáigh ar an gclár scóir, ach muna dtugann siad aire dhóibh féin sa cheathrú uaire deire d'fhéadfaí breith ortha go réidh.

Ní dhéanfaidh sé cúis feasta sílim a dhul ar an gcosaint ceithre chúilin chun tosaigh agus cúig noimead le dul. Sin é an uair a d'fhéadfadh cúpla cúl sleamhnú isteach nuair a bhíonn daoine ag eirighe tuirseach agus tréimhse

níos faide ama ag na tosáigh le dhul i gcleachtadh na páirce agus cá bhfuil na postaí. Béidir go gcuirfidh sé ar fhóirne coinneáil ar an ionsaí níos deimhnithe. Mheas mé féin go raibh Loch Garman i bhfad níos fearr ná Cill Chainnigh ach ní hé an oiread sin a bhí eatortha sa deire, ní moran é cúig nó sé chúillín in iomáint. A bhfaighidís cúl-in eile gach trí nóiméad déag bhíadh leo agus is beag é sin nuair a chuireann duine mar sin é.

Ar ndóigh freisin béidh níos mó leathain againn, níos mó feallanna níos mó taobh linte, caogaí, seachtófaí agus níos mó iarrachtaí ar am a mheilt ag bualadh na liathróide amach. Luíonn siad sin le réasún ar ndóigh.

Tá mé ag ceapadh go bhfeicfear taicticí nua á n-úsáid maidir le fir ionaid. Ar sin dom, tá mé ag ceapadh go béidh gádh le athrú a dhéanamh ar an riail maidir le gan ach cead a bheith triúr iondaithe a thabhairt isteach. Tá sé sin réasúnach go leor béidir i gcluiche uaire an chlog, ach cuir 20 noimead eile leis sin agus tá seans níos mó ann go ngortófar níos mó ná triúr. Má glacadh leis go raibh gádh le triúr i gcóir uaire sin duine gach 20 noimead, luíonn sé le réasún go mbeadh gádh le duine do'n 20 noimead eile i gcluiche 80 nóiméad. Ní chuirfeadh sé aon iontas orm á ndéanfaí riail go bhféadfaí cúigear fear ionad a úsáid i gcluiche 80 nóiméad, agus triúr i

gcluiche uaire an chloig, pé faid a bhéidh siad sin ar an saol.

Bhí Cill Chainnigh san fhaopach maidir le gortaithe in aghaidh Loch Garman. Bhí fear amháin gortaithe roimh leath ama agus chaith sé scathamh maith ag fáil cóir (ar an bpáirc agus an cluiche ar siúl), ba leasc leis na fir thaobh line é a thógaint

amach mar bhí fear amháin caillte acu cheana féin, agus ar ndóigh bhí rún acu Eamon O Ceithir a thabhairt isteach ní ba dhéanaí.

Mar a tharla, á dtógaidís amach é agus gan O Ceithir a chur ina áit, agus Eamon a thabhairt isteach ag leath ama bheidís sa chaoi is nach bhféadfaidís an tionadaí cúl béire a thabairt isteach nuair a gortaíodh

Oilibhéar Breathnach. Sin é an chuis a bheadh agam le cúigear, ceathrar do'n pháirc agus an tionadaí cúl-báire. Béidir go bhfeiceann tú "béidireachaí" eile annsin, ach ní déarfadh mé tada fútha go bhfeicfidh mé an dtarlóidh sé.

An gcuirfidh an 80 noimead deire leis na seanóirí an fhóirne? Beag an baol. Séard a tharlós ná go

mbéidh na sean-fhir mhaithe níos tábhachtaí ná ariamh, iad a choinneáil ar an taobh line go dtí an 20 noimead deire agus iad a úsáid annsin. Lá eile atá ar a bhealach amach ná lá an fhoirinn cúigear déag. Beidh ar fhoirne feasta ar a laighead 20 fear a bheith acu a bheas chomh maith le na cheile, 15 ar an bpáirc ag an am.



HANDBALL

THE great Joe Maher has done it again. By winning the National Softball Singles Championship, he has qualified to represent Ireland in the forthcoming World Championship and so has an opportunity of defending the crown he so deservedly won in Canadian colours some three years ago in New York. In the national championship Joe dashed the hopes of many fine players in Leinster, the challenge of the determined Kerry player, Murty McEllistram in the semi-final, and in the final Monaghan's hard-hitting Seamus McCabe, despite putting up a tremendous fight, had to give best to the Drogheda ace.

So Maher will wear the Irish singlet in the October games and there will be few handball enthusiasts throughout the country who will be disappointed at his getting the opportunity to defend his title. Before this year's All-Ireland championships commenced many people were of the opinion that Maher should have been selected to represent Ireland in the World Championships, irrespective of whether he won the All-Ireland championship or not. However, it would have been very embarrassing for the Handball Council and unfair to Maher's successor, if the Drogheda star had been beaten in the All-

Ireland championship. However, by retaining his All-Ireland title, Maher convinced everyone that he is the best man to represent this country in the World Championships. He has the technical ability, the stamina and equally important the ice-cool temperament to do Ireland proud in this international event and with still over two months left for serious training Joe has ample time to gear himself for the big event. Incidentally, many of the country's foremost players have offered to play Maher in challenge games to help build himself up for October. An interesting aspect about Joe Maher is that his club, St. Mary's, Drogheda, do not possess a handball court, so it just shows what can be achieved by determined effort.

A touch of novelty at the World Championship games will be provided by the staging of a series of exhibition games by ladies. Ireland will field a ladies team, while some of the visiting countries will also provide lady entrants. The Americans should be able to field a strong ladies team as handball is played quite extensively by women in that country. A New York City Recreation Department report shows that in that city alone about 600 women enter the City handball tournaments.

Mick McQuaid Ready Rubbed for the life of ease



Derry Clubs £36,000 Project

If you travel the Maghera road out of Toomebridge and turn left at Aughrim (that famous name!) cross-roads you'll soon arrive at a magnificent new £36,000 hall built on part of the old Toome Airfield. Across the road is a G.A.A. field belonging to the Newbridge club, Co. Derry and this hall, which was officially opened last month also belongs to the Sean O'Learys.

This club which was formed in 1925, once before had a hall that was the pride and joy of its members. But these premises were burned down approximately seven years ago and since then social activity has been practically non-existent in the Newbridge club.

Then three years ago, the committee decided it was time to do something about the lack of facilities and their efforts have now culminated in this fabulous project. But let present Chairman, Rody Gribben, tell you just how it all came about.



"Three years ago a three-man committee was appointed to look into the possibility of building a new hall and social centre. Before deciding on any type of premises, they got leaflets on different buildings and visited various halls throughout the country studying the adaptability of each. Finally, they came up with what we have now."

When I questioned Rody about where all the money came from, he told me: "We had a little insurance money after the other hall was burned but this didn't go far. We raised some by organising the usual fund-raising events but a large amount has been loaned to the club, free of interest, by locals. This has been a tremendous help," said Rody.



The new headquarters is a "square" building — in construction only — with an overall length and breadth of 100 feet. Inside there is a main hall which seats 1,000 people and this will be used for ceildhes, concerts, etc., in the first instance.

But this section of the building is dual-purpose. It has a removable stage and the complete area can then be used for badminton (two games played across the floor can be held at the same time), basketball, indeed training and many other off-the-field activities.

Incorporated in the new hall are two dressing rooms with showers for players and the referee — or trainer as the case may be — has a separate dressing room complete with shower. The girls have not been forgotten about either. They have their own dressing rooms and showers at a different end of the premises.

As well, there are changing rooms just off-stage for artists. There is also a fully equipped kitchen and a dining room.

"The committee felt that nothing less than this would be of any use," said Roddy Gribben. "It takes facilities such as these to cater for modern day club members but we are confident we now can meet their demands," he added.

It is only right that Roddy Gribben, serving his third term as club chairman just now, should have a big hand in constructing this milestone in the life of the

By TONY McGEE

Sean O'Leary club, Newbridge, which has been one of Derry's leading clubs for many years.

Roddy, along with all his other brothers, has been a leading playing member of the club for a long time and he was full-forward for Derry when they lost to Dublin in the 1958 All-Ireland final. Hugh Francis, who

was Derry's full-back for many years, was also in that team and left the county panel only last season.

Could it be a pointer of things to come that another Newbridge player, Henry Diamond, is the present Derry No. 3 man?

This year has been quite a good one for Newbridge, with success both on and off the field. Both the President, Mr. Pat Fanning and the General Secretary, Mr. Sean O Siochain were invited to the opening of the new hall, which will go down in the history of this club as the dawning of a new era.



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Extends heartiest congratulations to
the Rhode Team and Officials

Rhode Again Prove Best In Offaly

RHODE footballers from county Offaly made history this year when they became the winners of the first All-Ireland seven-a-side championship which was played at Belfield, Dublin in May. Ironically enough, the Offaly side were not county cham-

ance of veteran Paddy McCormack who scored nine points of Rhode's total.

The President of Univer-

successful in Rhode's seventy three year history.

The village of Rhode is situated five miles from

By winning the 1969 title Rhode became Offaly champions for the third time in four years and the

BY PADDY HICKEY

pions at the time but their entry was accepted because they had qualified for the belated 1969 final.

However, Rhode vindicated the sponsors decision to accept them for the competition by defeating Erin's Rovers in the county decider the following month.

In the final of the seven-a-side championship, Rhode accounted for the surprise packets of the competition, the Carlow champions Eire Og, and among their other victims were Galway champions Dunmore McHales, who were powered by the Keenan brothers and Armagh champions Clan na Gael, Lurgan. A feature of the game against Eire Og, Carlow was the fine perform-

sity College, Dublin, Dr. J. J. Hogan presented a plaque to team captain Eugene Mulligan after the game. So the present year has been one of the most



Pictured here is the Rhode team which won the first All-Ireland seven-a-side championship: FRONT (left to right): Jody Gunning, Ben Kerrigan, Eugene Mulligan, Paddy McCormack, Pat Mulligan. Back James Byrne, Brian McCormack, Kevin Malone, Martin Heavey, Pat Swaine.

Edenderry and 40 miles from Dublin and the local club was formed in 1897. Since then the club has supplied a continuous stream of players to the Offaly county teams and in 1904 when Offaly played Louth in Donnycarney (Dublin), the team consisted of 15 Rhode players.

This year club members Paddy McCormack, Eugene Mulligan and Jody Gunning have figured on the Offaly senior football team and last year Paddy McCormack and Eugene Mulligan played on the county team in the All-Ireland final against Kerry. Of course, Paddy McCormack also played in the 1961 final. Eugene Mulligan is the present captain of the Offaly senior team.

sixteenth time in all. Altogether Rhode have appeared in 27 county finals, winning 16 of them. They scored their first championship victory just three years after the formation of the club, in 1900, when they defeated Daingean by 0-7 to 0-2, but they had to wait until 1918 for their next title when they trounced Cloghan in the final by 4-7 to 1-0. This was the club's longest period in the championship wilderness and their winning margin in the final was the biggest in the club's history.

In the 1923 final, Rhode defeated Clara by 2-7 to 1-1 and then in 1927 followed the club's only run of three successive titles. In the 1927 decider, Rhode beat Ferbane by 4-1 to 2-2.

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PARAFFIN

DIESEL

E.S.B. At Full Power In Business Houses' League

THE Dublin Commercial Firms' (Business Houses') football competition which was initiated in 1963 has been attracting increasing interest each year and this year a total of 23 firms entered teams in the competition. In the final, E.S.B. regained the title which they last held in 1967. E.S.B. were themselves beaten in the semi-final by Bord Failte by 3-6 to 1-5, but Bord Failte were disqualified because of a transgression of the rules and the game was awarded to E.S.B.

On their way to the final, E.S.B. accounted for Rootes Motors by 2-9 to 1-8, the 1969 winners Aer Lingus by 2-10 to 1-11, A.C.C. by 4-9 to 0-11 received a walk-over in the semi-final and defeated U.C.D. by 4-6 to 2-4 in the final.

Many intercounty players took part in the competition and such well-known stars as Dave Bernie (Wexford), Pat Nally (Kildare), Tom O'Hanlon (Dublin) and Willie Bryan (Offaly) lined-out with E.S.B. Other county players to figure in the 13-a-side competition were Frank Murray (Brooks Thomas and Dublin), Brendan Barden (Aer Lingus and Longford) and Sean Foley (Rootes Motors and Dublin).

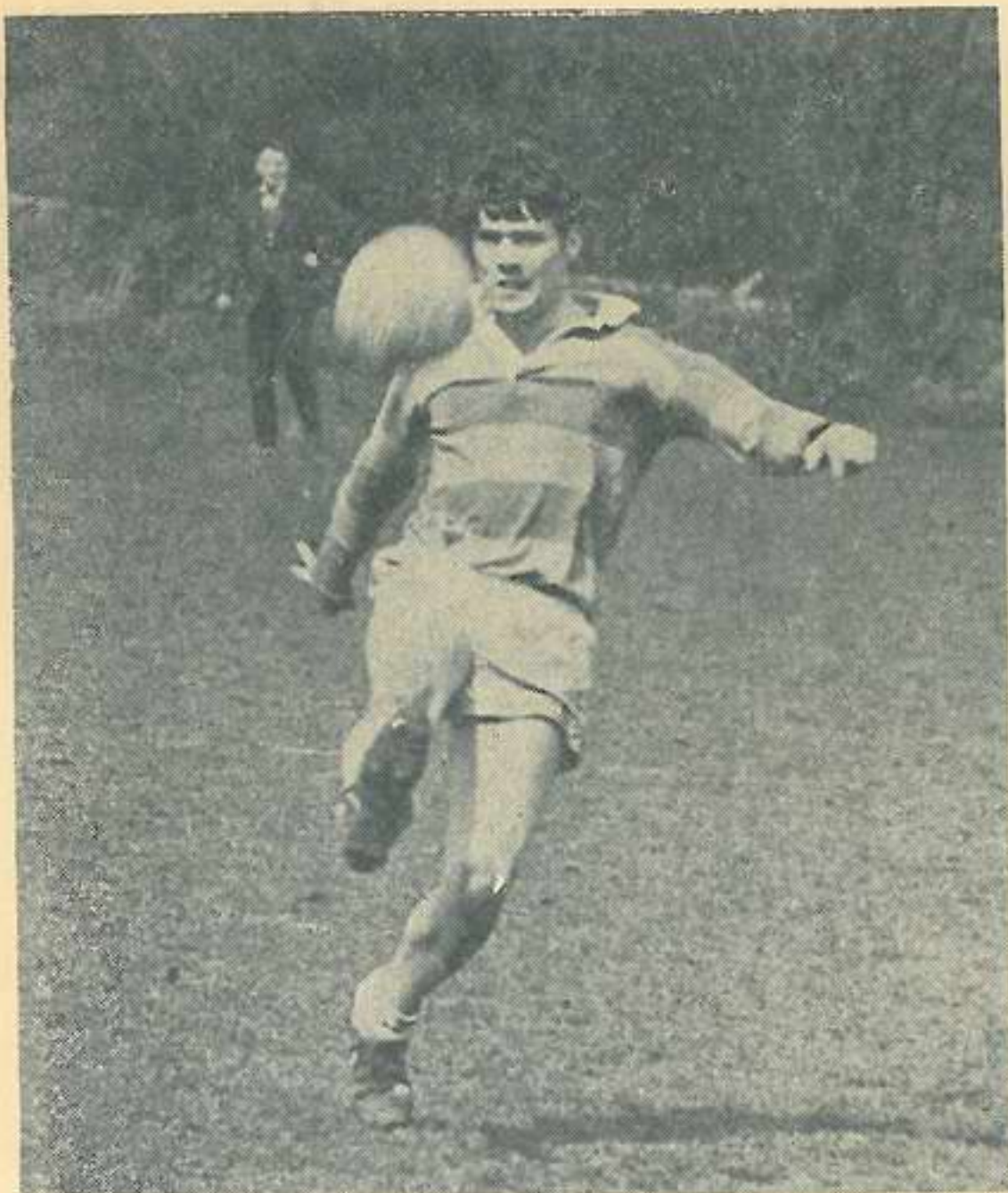
The following firms took part in this year's competition — Brooks Thomas, Bord Failte, Aer Lingus, Agricultural Credit Corporation, Clerys, E.S.B., Guinness, Hire Purchase Company of Ireland, Insurance Corporation of Ireland, Irish Life Assurance, Gouldings Fertilisers, Erin Foods, Linsons, McCairns Motors, Phillips, Lever Bros., P.M.P.A., Rootes Motors, R.T.E. John Sisk and Co., Unidare, United Distillers.

The following teams have won the championship to date: 1963 — Aer Lingus; 1964 — Aer Lingus; 1965 — John Player & Sons; 1966 — Buckley Motors; 1967 — E.S.B.; 1968 — Insurance Company of Ireland; 1969 — Aer Lingus; 1970 — E.S.B.

The E.S.B. team which played in the final was: Paddy McGarth; Aidan O'Regan (capt.); Eden Cosgrove; Dave Bernie, Pat Nally, Tom Cleary, Tom O'Hanlon, Willie Bryan, Oliver Brady, Pat Dunne, Mick Kelly, John Neville, Tom Kelly.



Pictured above is the E.S.B. team . . . winners of the Dublin Business Houses League. FRONT (left to right): Willie Bryan, Paddy McGarth, Aidan O'Regan, Tom Kelly, John Neville, Ollie Brady, Tom Cleary and Mick Kelly. BACK: Tom McNulty (sub.), Dave Bernie, Pat Dunne, Tom O'Hanlon, Eden Cosgrove, Pat Nally, Pat Stapleton and Brendan Lyons (Secretary).



Eugene Mulligan, pictured in action in the All-Ireland seven-a-side final.

They defeated Tullamore by 3-4 to 2-3 (in a replay) the following year and completed the championship hat-trick in 1929 by accounting for Daingean by 3-6 to 2-4. Rhode had to wait only until 1931 for the next title when Tullamore were their victims. The score in this game was 1-4 to 1-3 and like the 1928 final, it also went to a replay.

The men from Rhode had an eight year wait until 1939 when they defeated Daingean by 2-4 to 1-6 and they celebrated the advent of the 'forties by beating Walsh Island by 1-5 to 0-4. Other county titles were won in that decade in 1944 and 1949, when Rhode beat Tullamore and Cloghan, respectively. Tullamore went under by 2-5 to 1-5 and Cloghan conceded a walk-over.

In 1955, Rhode beat Daingean by 2-6 to 2-5 and Clara were their victims three years later when Rhode were winners by 2-10 to 2-5. The early 'sixties was a barren period in the club's history but since 1966, three titles have come Rhode's way. In 1966, they beat Clara by 0-11 to 1-7, the following year they accounted for Daingean by 1-7 to 0-7 and this year they defeated Erin's Rovers by 2-10 to 2-8 in the delayed 1969 final.

Although Rhode had only two points to spare at the end of the 1969 final they dominated the game for

most of the hour. Indeed an ironical feature of the match was that the winners led by 2-7 to 1-3, despite playing against a very strong wind in the first half. Rhode always looked the more dangerous side, despite having to field without team captain Paddy McCormack who was still suffering from the effects of an injury.

However, despite trailing by seven points at the interval, Erin's Rovers never gave up trying and scored 1-5 in the last quarter of an hour. However, their second goal — a brilliant punched effort by Sean Cooney — was not scored until the last minute and by this stage it was too late to salvage the game.

The Rhode team which played in the final was: John Kavanagh, Joe Malone Pat Kilmurray Jim Byrne, Eugene Mulligan, Martin Heavey, Patsy Murphy, Brendan O'Toole, J. J. Grehan, Jody Gunning, Sean Malone, Eddie Kerrigan, Seamus Darby, Sean Murphy, Carthage Grennan.

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A College For Goalkeepers

I suppose Tuam C.B.S. could claim some hand, act, or part in the development of quite a number of the footballers who have brought distinction to the maroon and white of Galway over the years.

BY BRIAN GERAGHTY

Watching the Galway team which defeated Roscommon in the Connacht final, I could not help thinking, however, that this famous nursery must have specialised in producing goalkeepers in the early and middle 1960's. The present Galway 'keep-

er Gabriel Mitchell is an ex-C.B.S. boy and the same goes for the past 'keeper, now in the substitutes, P. J. Smith. They were students in the C.B.S. at the same time with Mitchell in goal for the school senior team and Smith minding the net for the junior squad.

At full-forward for the school seniors at that time was Gabriel (Greg) Higgins who later won an All-Ireland medal with the Galway juniors in 1965. Guess where he figured on the county side? In goal of course!

The "Sunday Express" of July 12 carried a preview of the Galway - Roscommon Connacht final which

was played that day. It carried words to the effect that Roscommon defeated Galway when the sides last met in a Connacht final in 1962, and since that defeat Galway had slipped into oblivion! However, it went on to state that the county mentors had spent their time well — building up a new side and that the newcomers would be carrying the Galway colours in the 1970 provincial decider.

No doubt but that the author of that piece of "inside" information was conversant with the G.A.A. scene.

Just for the record, the distribution of Connacht titles during the 'sixties was Galway 6, Roscommon

2, Mayo 2. Galway went one better than in the 'fifties when the account read Galway 5, Mayo 3, and Roscommon 2.

Yorkshire championship and league winners Young Irelands are one of the teams invited to take part in the Gael-Linn Gold Medal football tournament which will be one of the attractions of the Ballinamore annual show week festival (August 9-16).

The first semi-final of this tournament will be held on August 9, at 7 p.m. with the second semi-final on August 14 (same time). The final is scheduled for 6.30 on August 16. All games will take place at Ballinamore's fine G.A.A.

park. The other teams invited to attend are Cavan Gaels, Longford Slashers and, of course, Ballinamore.

Ballinamore is the very go-ahead beauty spot in County Leitrim and the Show Week Festival is organised annually to give the people from Ballinamore and surrounding areas living abroad an opportunity to return home and renew old friendships. Needless to remark, tourists will receive a special welcome.

Amongst the aims of the week are the fostering of everything which goes to make our Irish culture distinctive, and a wonderful programme of Irish dancing, traditional music,

Irish ballads, drama and sport has been arranged.

There are other attractions also. As Ballinamore is in the middle of wonderful coarse angling territory a fishing competition has been arranged for Saturday, August 15 on Garadice Lake 2-0.

Other attractions are Pipe band competitions, an agricultural show, a talent competition, a wren boys' competition, a car rally, golf, drama and there's "rule 27 dancing" too.

If you would like further details and brochure drop a note to Mrs. Cassie Gallogly, Hon Sec., Festival Week, Ballinamore.

Around And About Ulster

If you come from Leinster, Munster or Connacht you could be excused at present for asking who is Ciaran Campbell but if you come from Ulster and the name doesn't register immediately, then you must not be a regular follower of Gaelic football up north.

Ciaran is a young man who hails from Tempo in Co. Fermanagh and who has suddenly shot to stardom during 1970. His meteoric rise to fame is in no small way connected with the great upsurge in football fortunes that swept the Erne County this summer.

Back in the 1969-70 N.F.L. Fermanagh's senior squad badly needed a "new blood" transfusion and one of the youngsters brought in was Ciaran Campbell. Although, he was still only 17 (he will celebrate his eighteenth birthday in October), Campbell was placed at full-back and became an instant success. Standing 6 feet, he is very well built and has a tremendous pair of hands, but it is his long kicking that is his greatest asset.

In a preliminary minor football championship tie against Antrim in Casement Park this year he scored a point from over sixty yards — some feat for a minor!

Last spring Ciaran was also making a name for himself in school competitions, and, at centrefield, he led Enniskillen Technical to success in the Ulster vocational championship. He then skippered Fermanagh minors to victory in the Ulster minor football league.

At centre half-back in both the junior and senior championships, he gave an excellent account of himself against Cavan and was one of the stars of the Erne county under-21 side, which created somewhat of a sensation in Ulster this year by winning the title.

Meanwhile the minor championship was still in progress and Ciaran was captaining the under-18's, again from the No. 6 berth and helping them to qualify for yet another Ulster final.

The record of young Campbell is a fantastic one and will be extremely difficult to surpass. In the short space of four months, he played in all possible grades — senior, junior, under-21 and minor — for Fermanagh; captained three successful teams in Ulster finals and played in a fourth provincial decider.

But Ciaran's success story does not end there. His club, Tempo, has also sprung to life during 1970 and had a surprising run in the senior league and championship. In the latter they knocked out holders, Teemore, in the first round. At club level, Ciaran, can as often be found in the attack — mostly at right half-forward — as at midfield or in defence.

But Ciaran is not the only one to carry the Campbell banner for Tempo and Fermanagh. He is only one of six brothers who all play football for their club and those old enough, for their county.

Oldest brother is Damien and next comes Trench House student Des — equally well-known in the boxing ring as on a Gaelic pitch. This colourful and sometimes bearded character is a founded member of the St. Joseph's Boxing Club, Trench House, and after only a few bouts, won the Ulster junior heavyweight title early this year.

Des is now half-way through a four year Bachelor of Education

course at St. Joseph's Training College and is one of the players on whom Jim McKeever is pinning his hopes on for another Universities' league crown this year. A burly 6' 2", 14½ stone midfielder, Des was also in Fermanagh's under-21 and senior sides this year.

Des was in the mass exodus of Trench House students who went to America in the summer, but he only stayed a couple of weeks. "It was breaking my heart missing all the football at home. It's not often Fermanagh players get a chance of doing so well in Ulster competitions, so I decided to come back," he told me a few days after his return.

Younger brother Adrian is another great prospect and down in the juvenile grade at present, Paul and Dominic are showing signs that the name Campbell will be uppermost in the minds of Fermanagh followers for many a long day.

Incidentally, families seem to play a big part in Fermanagh club football. Without going into the past we have the Treacys (Devenish), McGraths (Ederney), Reillys, Fitzpatrick's and Quinns (Teemore), Timoneys (Belcoo) and O'Keefes (Newtownbutler) to mention only a few, that spring to mind.

By now all members of the G.A.A. in Ulster should have read the first edition of the Ulster Council's bulletin, "Lamh Dearg." That is, if club secretaries have played their part by passing this interesting publication around.

Edited by ex-Down Chairman, Paddy O'Donoghue — who was responsible for the inauguration of the Down Bulletin whilst he was in office — this publication should bridge the gap between the council chambers and the ordinary rank and file member.

The bulletin is also intended as an exchange mart for ideas between the counties. People have been appointed in every county in the province to gather news from their area and any member of the G.A.A. is at liberty to contribute to the bulletin. Articles can be given to the county representative or sent direct to the Editor, 8 Park Lane, Newcastle (Tel. 3319).

Unfortunately, neither Antrim nor Donegal contributed to the first issue, but it is hoped that news from these counties will be included in the next bulletin, which is due out on October 1. Incidentally, if demands warrant it the bulletin may be issued at monthly rather than three-monthly intervals.

In the introduction to the booklet Ulster Chairman, Mick Feeney says: "The issuing of this first number of 'An Lamh Dearg' is a source of deep satisfaction to the Ulster Council, in that direct communication between the Council and the clubs of the province has been established. For too long the Provincial Council has been regarded by most clubs as a remote body, that represented their last line of defence in disputes with their county boards! The introduction of the Provincial Club football championship and the winter talent competition helped to highlight the need for direct communication."

There are two distinct parts in Lamh Dearg. The first gives

general information about the publication and tells us about such things as club development, grounds plans, Central and Ulster Council affairs, new grounds in the province, provincial fixtures and congratulates or commiserates with teams from the province which were engaged in the closing stages of national competitions.

The second half provides a platform for the counties. Here we have snippets of information from Armagh, Monaghan, Tyrone, Fermanagh, Derry, Down and Cavan. Some of the ideas reported are really interesting and I'm sure will help other counties with their internal affairs.

From Fermanagh we hear about the Erne county's sportsman-ship league, the trophy for which is the Fr. O'Dowd Cup; the Derry correspondent makes a plea for picture cards of stars, club colours, club pennants and All-Ireland plastic footballs to be available to the young G.A.A. followers; the second athletic day at Breffni Park and Bryansford's souvenir magazine are mentioned, while we learn that Tyrone's Policy Committee is currently compiling a history of the G.A.A. in that county.

On a sombre note, Emyvale's Seamus McCluskey tells us about the tragic deaths of a number of young players from the Farney County during the three months which the bulletin reviews.

In a lighter mood, there are also some excellent quickies and the one I enjoyed most was the denial of a rumour that Clan Eireann's new grounds in Lurgan was to be called "Murrayfield."

Distribution of "Lamh Dearg" will be made direct and free of charge to the clubs — in all counties except Antrim — by the printers C.C.P.R. Malone Road, Belfast. The various counties have supplied the editor with the names and addresses of all club secretaries in their county but the distribution of the Antrim booklets will be made by treasurer, Jack Rooney, who has asked that their quota be delivered in bulk.

Once the club secretaries have read and digested "Lamh Dearg," it is their business to pass it on to their members. If this is not done the purpose of production will be lost. Certainly, this booklet, which is the first of its kind at provincial level, is a tremendous idea and it would be a great pity if the "jackdaw club secretaries" would clog up the works.

For any member who has been unfortunate enough not to have come across a copy of "Lamh Dearg," we give the names and addresses of the various county representatives who have been appointed to gather material: Antrim — J. Rooney, 56 Sharman Road, Belfast 9. Armagh — C. Shortt, Rissan, H.B.X., Dundalk. Cavan — J. McDonnell, Drumalee, Cavan; Derry — J. McGlinchy, 4 Parker Gardens, Castledawson; P. Quinn, 12 Glenburn Park, Magherafelt; Bernie Mullan, Ballerin. Donegal — Hugh Daly, Ballyshannon. Down — P. O'Donoghue, 8 Park Lane, Newcastle. Fermanagh — Peter Quinn, Gortmullan, Derrylin. Monaghan — P. Mac an tSamhair, Hall Street, Ballybay. S. McCluskey, Emyvale. Tyrone — P. Cullen, 25 Loy Street, Cookstown.

— TONY McGEE.

Recalling 1945, Old Timer suggests that a rather

mediocre year may well have provided

The Start Of A Great Decade For Hurling

TWENTY-FIVE years is a long time to look back, but when I do get that year into something like proper focus I think I have news for a lot of people who are talking about the present-day decline of hurling. It is this. Anyone who watched, as I did, the hurling campaign of 1945 had no great reason to enthuse over the future of the game, because it was anything but a vintage year.

It began on a really sensational note with the Railway Cup semi-finals, for Ulster beat Leinster by a point in one semi-final, and Connacht were desperately unlucky not to beat Munster in the other, having being held to a draw, after throwing away easy chances of victory.

The only reason those results were not absolutely sensational was because the papers were very small at the time and the amount devoted even to such big games was almost infinitesimal.

There would, in more normal circumstances, have been a tremendous song and dance about the Leinster v. Ulster match. Beforehand, Leinster claimed the pitch was unplayable, and when they did field out, did so under protest. Anyway, they were beaten by a point after three famed forwards, one from Kilkenny, one from Dublin and one from Wexford had failed to lift the ball from three close frees in the closing minutes.

When the matter was later raised at Central Council, the fact that Leinster had played under protest was not listened to, despite valiant efforts by Wexford's Michael Kehoe.

Anyway Ulster, deservedly, because the pitch was as muddy for them as it was for Leinster, advanced to the final.

In the final the Ulster lads stayed with Munster well enough for half the hour, but there was only one team in it after the interval.

And so we moved on to Congress. It was obvious by this time that the war in Europe would be over in a couple of weeks, but Congress did not sanction a complete return to full championship activities. Instead it was decided to re-start the minor hurling championship but not the junior, so that as was common in the War years, there was a very big entry

for the senior hurling championship. Incidentally, at that Congress, a motion for an open draw in the hurling championship was only narrowly defeated.

Anyway, as it stood, there were some big scores in the early stages of the hurling series, that might well make us gape nowadays. Clare beat Kerry, for instance, by 8-6 to 0-1 and Antrim accounted for Monaghan by 7-7 to 2-4.

Down accounted for Armagh by 6-7 to 3-1, but those were only the preliminary excursions.

The big fact in hurling at that time was that Cork, having won a history-making fourth title in a row in 1944, were now bidding for their fifth successive



CHRISTY RING

crown, and made no bones at all about going to Thurles to meet Tipperary in the Munster semi-final.

It was tricky work to get to Dublin and back in the

one day those times, because, although the War was now over, travelling was still a bit precarious. But I was one of the 15,000 who made it to the Sportsfield. That was a strong Tipperary team, though not a great one.

Though they had a bit of an edge on Cork through the first half, with the fair-haired Tommy Purcell putting the shackles on Christy Ring, it looked about ten minutes after the interval, as though the long-term champions would keep on their winning way when they moved into a two-point lead.

But Tommy Doyle then moved to centreforward, made hay of the Cork defence and Tipperary waltzed on to an eight point victory over a Cork side that looked very tired of hurling indeed in the closing stages.

In the final, at Thurles, Limerick, who had had only a goal to spare over Clare in their semi-final, looked, for a brief period early in the second half, as though they might win when Mick Mackey tore through for a typical goal but Mutt Ryan swung the game back in Tipperary's favour with a couple of well-taken scores that even Mackey could not balance and Tipperary had a goal to spare in the end.

Meanwhile, over in Leinster, Kilkenny had been improving with every outing. After battling past Wexford by 2-11 to 2-4, they routed Offaly by 4-15 to 2-1 and then swept past Dublin by 5-12 to 3-4, but they should have met their Waterloo when they met Galway on an August day at Birr.

Galway that day beat Kilkenny everywhere but on the score-board... they scored thirteen times to Kilkenny's eight, 2-11 to 5-3, and yet retired beaten by a single point.

That display did not help Kilkenny's morale for the All-Ireland final against Tipperary, who had five goals to spare over Antrim in their semi-final. And it looked like being an utter and complete rout when, backed by a high wind, Tipperary were four goals clear at the interval, 4-3 to 0-3.

But the best hurling of

the year came after the interval and it was only some wonderful goal-keeping by little Jimmy Maher from Boherlahan that left Kilkenny still two goals in arrears at the close, 5-6 to 3-6.

The big surprise of the day was in the curtain-raiser, the minor final, in

which Dublin beat Tipperary, 3-14 to 4-6.

The attendance was a great one for the times, almost seventy thousand, but as I have said, the standard of hurling that season was not memorable.

Incidentally, Galway got their chance at Tipperary in October in the Oireachtas final, but again went

down narrowly in a game that was hard and exciting rather than brilliant.

But looking back on it now, I am willing to concede that 1945 laid the foundations for the great hurling games we saw time and again during the following decade.

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In The News

with Bacchus

The Name Of The Game is...?

This is a picture of some of the action in the Leinster championship game between Offaly and Longford at Croke Park.

We will give a prize of three guineas to the reader who sends us the best caption to go with this picture. Closing date, at 58 Hadington Road, Dublin 4 is August 12.



Readers Write . . .

Sir — On behalf of myself and my colleagues, who look forward to your monthly edition of GAELIC NEWS very much, I think your new idea of two pages of pictures for younger readers is great. However, we think you could improve it by including photographs of county teams with players named, especially the unsuccessful counties.

F. McGRATH,
High Park,
Tinahely,
Co. Wicklow.

Sir — As a regular reader of GAELIC NEWS, I wish to draw your attention to a couple of errors in your Meet The Stars No. 2 article. You stated that

Pat Nolan has been Wexford's first choice goalkeeper since 1960 and that he is the holder of two All-Ireland senior medals. This statement is incorrect. Pat won his first All-Ireland medal in 1956 when he was substitute goalkeeper to Art Foley. Thus he has three All-Ireland medals. He made his first appearance on the Wexford senior team in the 1957 Leinster final when he replaced Art Foley in the second half and he has been a regular ever since.

Here's wishing every success to your paper.

JOHN FALVEY,
16, Coolbawn,
Ferns,
Co. Wexford.

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To Russia With Love!

ALEXANDER GYSIATNIKOV of Russia receives An Cumann Luth-Chleas Gael Trophy from Padraig O Fainnin, President of the G.A.A. after the finish of An Ras Tailteann in the Phoenix Park, Dublin. Gysiatnikov, who is the first Russian to win the trophy, also retained the race-leader's jersey throughout the race.

The trophy incidentally, is almost similar to the more famous Sigerson Cup for university football and is modelled on the ancient Irish drinking vessel known as the mether.

While this symbolism has often been appreciated and honoured by university students, I doubt if the trophy will be put to the same use back in the taverns around Red Square.

Except perhaps it might be used to drink vodka and orange out of!

WELL DONE RHODE!

BRIAN GRATTAN

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Wasting No Time!

TOM O'Hare may not have had the honour of leading Down in this year's Ulster final but July was a month he won't forget for a long, long time. Instead of leading Down around one of the province's football pitches, he led Miss Eileen Kelly, a near neighbour from Mayobridge, up the aisle.

Tom said: "One consolation about Down's defeat was that I didn't have to worry about keeping fit during my honeymoon."

Well I suppose there is no cloud without a silver lining. Congratulations Tom.

Football Doctors

Among those who qualified as doctors from U.C.D. recently were well known footballers Willie Howlett and Thomas O'Callaghan.

Howlett was regular goalkeeper for Wexford until studies for his final exam forced him to give up the game for a while. O'Callaghan has played all grades of football for Kerry and has now taken up an appointment in Rochester, New York where, I'm sure, his services will be appreciated by the Kerry team in Gaelic Park.

ciated by the Kerry team in Gaelic Park.



Thomas O'Callaghan

Guinness is good for . . .

When Guinness recently presented a cheque for £5,000 to the G.A.A. Club Development Scheme in their brewery at St. James Gate, there were five of the Trustees of the Scheme present.

Of these, Pat Fanning, Jimmy Gray, Nick Purcell and Seamus O Riain were all wearing pioneer pins. Obviously some people still have not heard that Guinness is good for you!

Monaghan All-Stars

WHEN Monaghan played Galway in the New York League semi-final recently, their forward line read as follows: Seamus Donaghy (Tyrone), John Murphy (Down), Mickey Cole (Down); Tom McGrath (Fermanagh), Peter Rooney (Down), Mickey Gannon (Monaghan). And further upfield they had Mickey Kelly (Derry), Tony Morris (Cavan) and Jimmy Mulroy (Louth).

With such a line up they had to win, but yet they scraped home by only two points, 2-9 to 2-7. On the same day just to prove that Down are generous with their talents, Dan McCartan lined out with Carlow juniors. Jack Quinn normally plays with Carlow but on that particular day, he had a Leinster championship game with Meath in Croke Park. I'm sure Big Dan was an able deputy.



Willie Howlett

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