

97 GAA

Gaelic Sport

FEBRUARY, 1970.

TWO SHILLINGS



TEXACO AWARD WINNERS

HURLING

TED CARROLL



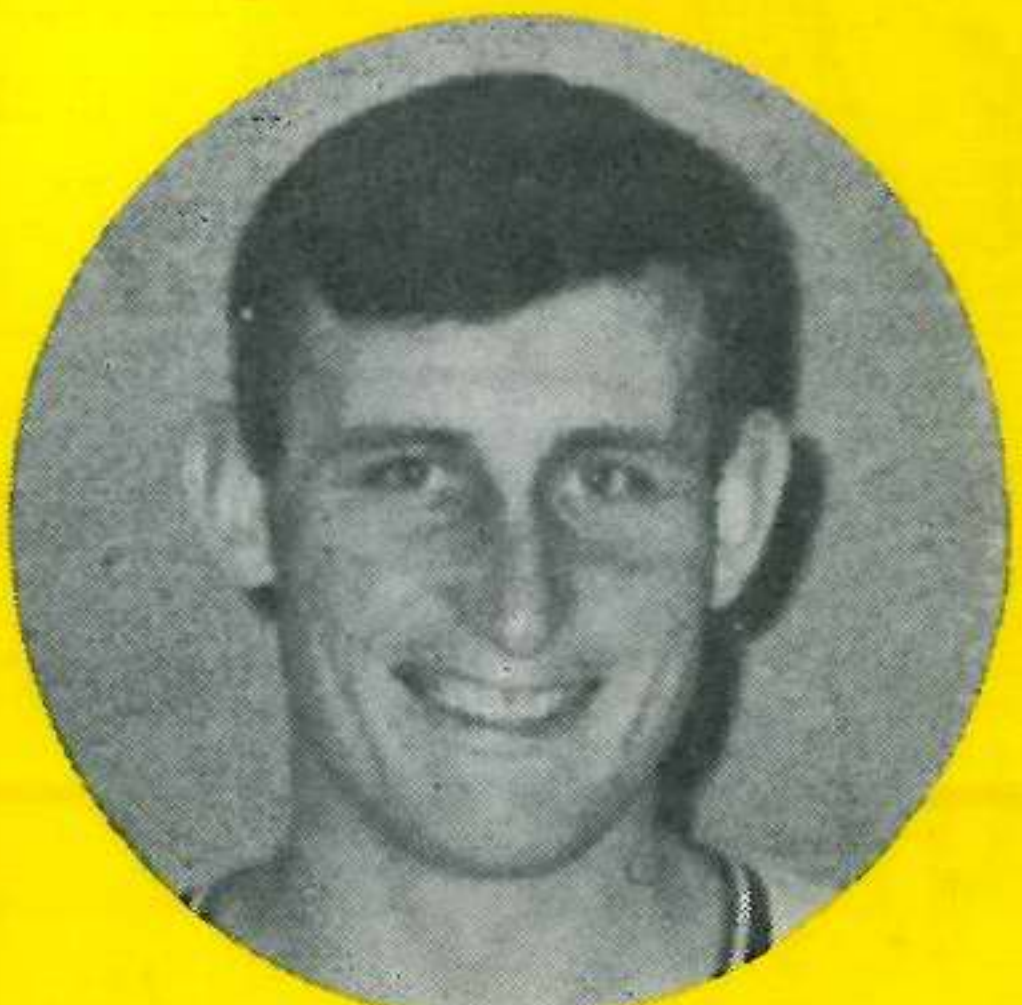
FOOTBALL

MICK O'DWYER



HANDBALL

JOEY MAHER



CLÁR LAIḂEAN, 1970

PEIL SINSIR

- (1) Longphort v. Áth Cliath—Mullingar.
- (2) Lúbhaí v. (1).
- (3) Iar-Mhí v. Laois—Tullamore.
- (4) Ua bhFáilí v. (3).
- (5) Cill Mhantáin v. Cill Dara—Carlow.
- (6) Loch Garman v. (5).
- (7) Cill Choinnigh v Ceatharlach—Athy.
- (8) An Mhí v (7).
- (9) (2) v. (4).
- (10) (6) v. (8).

Round 1 to be played on May 10, 17 or 24.
The final is fixed for Croke Park on July 19.

IOMÁINT SINSIR AGUS MIONÚIR

- (1) Laois v. Cill Dara.
 - (2) Iar-Mhí v. Áth Cliath.
 - (3) Loch Garman v. (2).
 - (4) Ua bhFáilí v. (1).
 - (5) Cill Choinnigh v. (4).
- Final (3) v. (5).

PEIL FÉ 21 BLD.

- (1) Lúbhaí v. Áth Cliath—Dublin venue.
- (2) An Mhí v. Cill Dara—Toss for venue.
- (3) Laois v. Ua bhFáilí—Portarlinton.
- (4) Longphort v. Iar-Mhí—Mullingar.
- (5) Ceatharlach v. Cill Mhantáin—Carlow.
- (6) Loch Garman v. (5).
- (7) (1) v. (2).
- (8) (3) v. (4).

First round games on April 5th.

IOMÁINT FÉ 21 BLD.

- (1) Laois v. Cill Dara.
- (2) Loch Garman v. (1).
- (3) Ua bhFáilí v. Iar-Mhí.
- (4) Áth Cliath v. Cill Choinnigh.
- (5) (3) v. (4).
- (6) (2) v. (5).

IOMÁINT MIONÚIR AGUS SÓISEAR

- (1) Ceatharlach v. Cill Mhantáin.
- (2) Cill Dara v. (1).
- (3) Iar-Mhí v. An Mhí.
- (4) Lúbhaí v. (3).
- (5) (2) v. (4).

Round 1 on May 3.

IOMÁINT IDIR-MHÉANACH

- (1) An Mhí v. Lúbhaí.
- (2) Áth Cliath v. (1).
- (3) Cill Mhantáin v. Ceatharlach.
- (4) Loch Garman v. (3).
- (5) Laois v. Ua bhFáilí.
- (6) Cill Choinnigh v. (5).

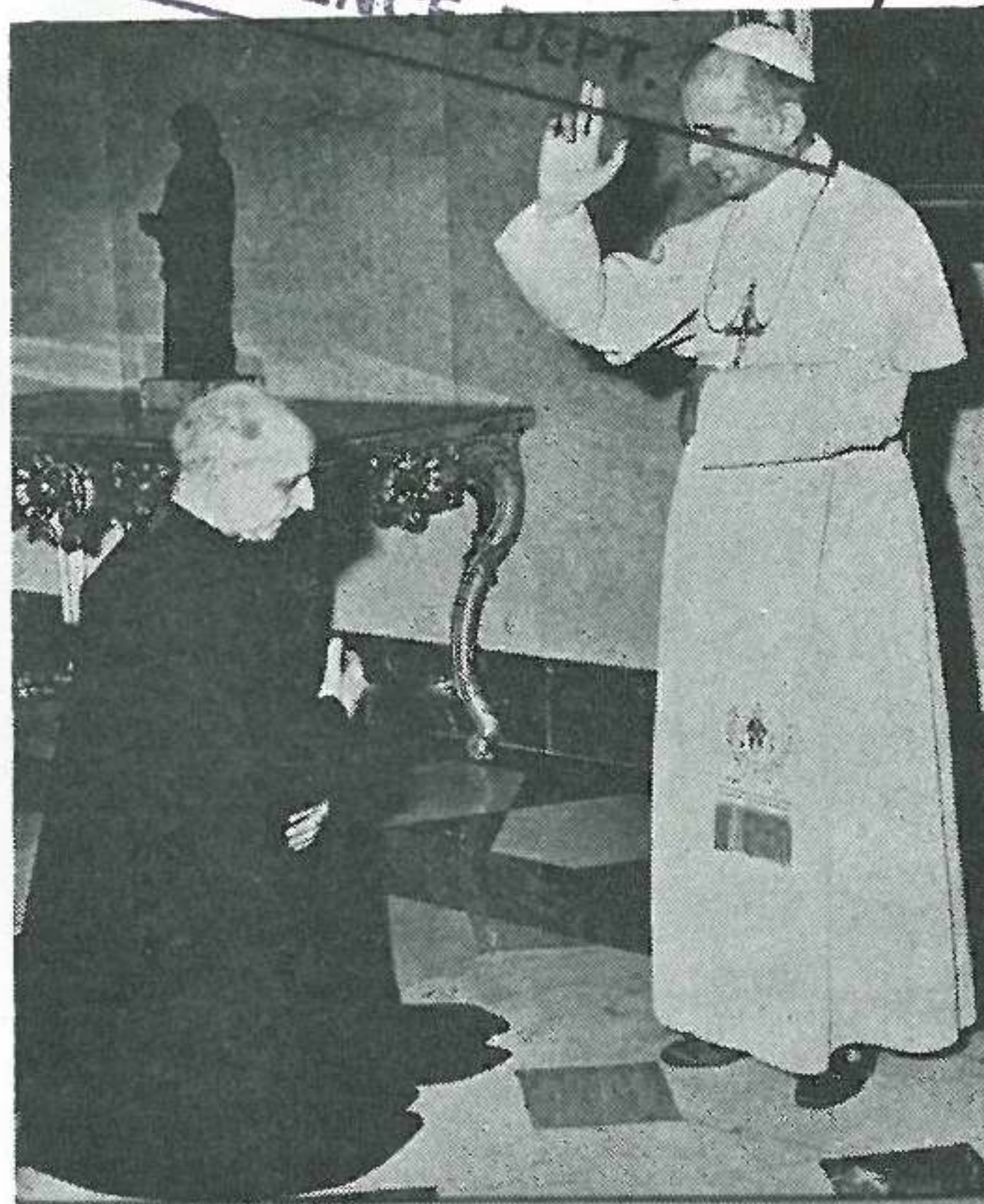
PEIL SÓISEAR

- (1) Lúbhaí v. Áth Cliath.
- (2) An Mhí v. (1).
- (3) Longphort v. Ua bhFáilí.
- (4) Iar-Mhí v. (3).
- (5) Ceatharlach v. Cill Mhantáin.
- (6) Loch Garman v. (5).
- (7) Laois v. Cill Choinnigh.
- (8) Cill Dara v. (7).
- (9) (2) v. (4).
- (10) (6) v. (8).
- (11) (9) v. (10).

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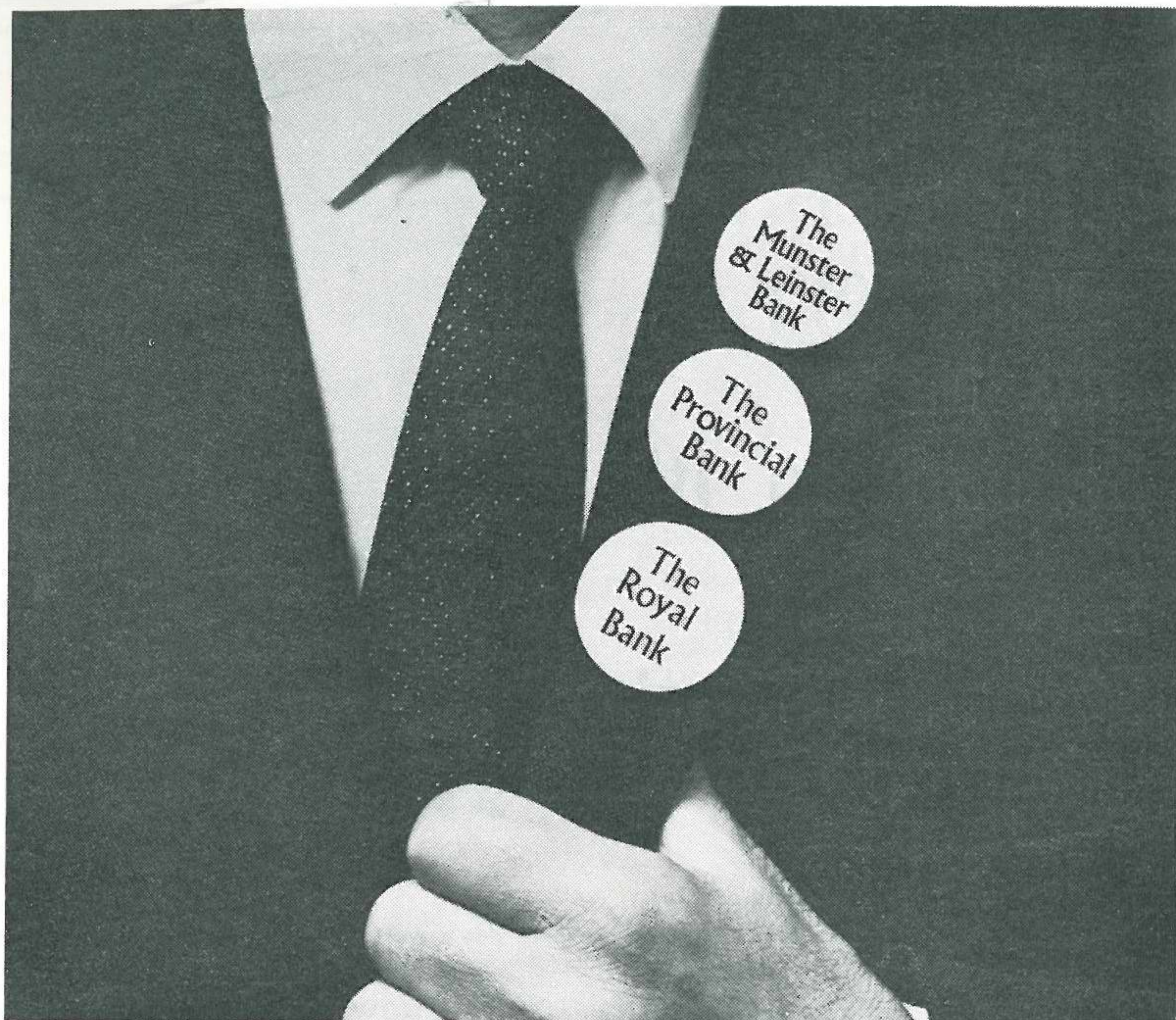
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Gaelic Sport

Vol. 13. No. 2. February, 1970.

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COVER PHOTOS

OUR front cover shows the three Texaco Award winners in Gaelic Games—Ted Carroll (hurling), Mick O'Dwyer (football) and Joey Maher (handball). The action picture shows Kilkenny's Carroll in a duel with Tipperary's Michael Keating.

STUNTMAN

WHO is Brian ("Bertie" to his friends) McRoberts? If that question were asked, say, six months ago, perhaps no more than ten per cent of the supporters of Gaelic games, or of the devotees of other sports in Ireland for that matter, would have been able to give the answer.

Now, Mr. McRoberts is almost a national (sic) celebrity. And why so? Because, having ambitions to oust the Republican Labour man, Mr. Gerry Fitt, from the West Belfast seat in the British Parliament (in the Unionist cause, of course) he needed a good stunt to get his name splashed about by the news media—and, lo and behold, he hit upon the G.A.A.

That, as the Connacht man might say, was a damn clever idea, surely. A crack at Jack Lynch and his 'Eire' government, or at little Bernie Devlin, might have been good for a couple of paragraphs in the papers but those bandwagons were crowded and the political mileage was likely to be limited.

An Irish-Ireland institution like the G.A.A., and particularly its exclusion rules, were a good bet. Mr. McRoberts got his mileage in the news media.

Some political writers have said that Mr. McRoberts picked

on the G.A.A. to reassure Unionist hard-liners who opposed his West Belfast candidature, that his heart was in the right place.

No-one suggested that it was an attempt—by indirect innuendo—to discredit the appointment of a G.A.A. man, Mr. Maurice Hayes, as Chairman of the Northern Ireland Community Relations Commission. Or, as a sports writer in *The Irish Times* stated, an odorous red herring to take the heat off the discriminatory practices on the Unionist side of the fence.

This champion of fair play has not sounded off since he was forced to abandon his incendiary plan to stage a protest, against G.A.A. "discrimination", outside Lansdowne Road rugby ground on the day that the white South African team played there. But such a political gimmick is too good to be discarded altogether. Be sure that we shall again hear Bertie's bleats when Harold Wilson dissolves the Westminster parliament.

The G.A.A. will survive Mr. McRoberts's fleabites. And if, or when, the Association ever dismantles its exclusion rules, it will not—as T. P. Murphy said in his report to the Down County Convention—be at the behest of nonentities seeking a place in the political firmament.

THE LAGGARD CLUBS SHOULD BE PRODDED INTO ACTION

By
**SEAMUS
O'CEALLAIGH**

A RECENT G.A.A. leadership course will do down in history because of the fact that the principal speaker was a nun, and the first woman to address such an important G.A.A. meeting.

Sister Stanislaus, a native of the Dingle peninsula, was well fitted for the task, and she drew from her wide experience to make some telling points.

Her plea for greater involvement of youth is timely and deserves careful study, particularly at a period when the Association is finding it so difficult to hold our young people.

In many areas we see youth of impressionable age, many of

whom were reared in the Gaelic tradition, being attracted to other codes, with very little being done to stop this drain.

Positive and immediate action is demanded and the Central Council should issue urgent instructions to all clubs setting out a policy to be pursued.

Many had hoped that the plan for club social activity would have helped materially in broadening the club horizon by involving much more of the local population, including the ladies, but the response on the part of the clubs has been most disappointing—some putting participation in the scheme as low as five per cent—a figure that reflects very poorly on club organisation and initiative.

In fact, a lot of the G.A.A. troubles can be traced back to a lackadaisical club approach, and indifferent club officials must bear the brunt of the blame for many of the schoolboys who are lost to the G.A.A.

Years ago, the G.A.A. was often the only organisation in a parish and youth had practically no other outlet. That has all changed now, yet many of our clubs are prepared to jog along as if nothing had happened and make no effort to meet the new challenges that are to be found all around them.

A code of conduct for G.A.A. clubs is long overdue, and this should include minimum requirements that must be observed in order to be recognised.

First of all, membership should be clearly defined and arranged to embrace as wide a cross-section of the community as is possible. This pre-supposes certain amenities which it should be the aim of every club to provide.

Youth must have a very special place in all club plans and there should be close liaison with the

local schools. Parish or area leagues for the Under Twelves, Under Fourteens and Under Sixteens are essential and should be made as attractive as can be devised.

Youth leadership should be encouraged and this can only be established by delegating plenty of club work to under age members. They should control, as far as possible, their own competitions and be represented in fair strength on the general club committee.

The club of the 'seventies must be very different from what we have known so far. This means that those in control must shed their conservatism and break much new ground.

A few far-seeing clubs, mainly Munster ones, have set a fine headline in this regard, and chartered a course that must prove a sound guide line to those who wish to develop in accordance with present day requirements.

This development should be ordered and for that reason I would like to see some planning body established whose duty it would be to lay out the ideal club structure.

The G.A.A. was really established to encourage the Irish way of life, but it is only now that many have come to appreciate that this can only be accomplished by involving the entire community.

Sister Stanislaus laid her finger on the cause of much of the failure in the past when she referred to the great male orientation of the G.A.A.

In almost every other aspect of present day life women can be seen to be more active and more involved, but despite the fact that many girls play camogie—the sister game of hurling—

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FITNESS FOR FOOTBALL



By JOE LENNON

WHAT a change has come about over the past decade? The training pattern of teams, both county and club, has changed out of all knowing. As you read this edition, many county teams will have already completed a month's training and numerous clubs up and down the country have begun their training also. Ten years ago, regular training sessions for club and county teams was not even thought about till March—with one or two exceptions.

One of the little unpleasant parts of winter football and winter training is the discomfort of hands and feet in cold, wet conditions, when the ball is heavy and greasy. It is important to pay particular attention to strengthening work for both the hands and feet in winter training sessions.

Moreover, in the early season after a long rest, the fingers and feet can be injured more easily because they have lost tone and strength and in addition, foot strain often results from kicking the heavy ball. So include a section in each session as an insurance against stubbed fingers and sprained ankles and strained feet.

The plain press-up does not do much to strengthen the hands. It throws a bit of pressure on the wrists but its main target is upper arm and shoulder muscles. However, if press-ups are done on the fingertips, a great deal of pressure is thrown on the fingers

and hands as well as on the arms and shoulders.

At the start it may be a bit difficult so begin with as few as four or five, and gradually work up to ten or twelve and later do all press-ups on finger-tips. Once you can do three repetitions of ten press-ups on the finger tips, you can rest assured that your hands, wrists and fingers are as strong as they need to be for the game. It only takes a couple of weeks to work up to this if you do three repetitions once a day.

I recommend a good deal of hopping exercises for strengthening the ankle and foot. Vigorous hopping throws strain on the front (shin) and back (calf) of the leg and by shortening the muscles there, increases the tension in the ligaments and tendons which cross the ankle joint. This increase in tension improves the stability of the joint, yet it maintains and even increases the flexibility of the ankle.

Ordinary skipping is a good

exercise—if you lift the feet up high enough, say, 9"-12". But hopping around on alternate feet for three periods of 30 secs. each will speed up this process enormously. Build up from there reps. of 30 secs. on alternate feet to one minute on alternate feet. Include plenty of mobilising exercises for the ankles in between the repetitions.

Finally, use a plank, a bench or a piece of rope to form a low hurdle 10'-12' long. Then hop over and along it progressively on one foot.

Aim for six successive hops on each foot over a height of 15"-18" and build up to eighteen or twenty hops.

This exercise will strengthen the ankles and feet quickly and will provide the tone and tension to overcome the stresses and strains of winter training and winter football. Moreover, it will stand you in good stead throughout the season.

See "Fitness For Gaelic Football" for more details of training hints.

● FROM PAGE 4

the G.A.A. held in the main aloof and made no effort to involve its womenfolk in any of its activities.

The task now is to develop a programme that would attract the Irish girl as much as the boy.

The structure has first to be built and that must now be the main task of our clubs. All of

them may not be able to command the resources to establish the ideal community centre out of hand but given the right spirit and leadership most of them could make a start in some local centre and build the organisation that would eventually provide the amenities that are now as essential in even the remotest parts as are electric light and running water.

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KEVIN HEFFERNAN (Dublin)

MY TEAM OF THE FIFTIES

ONE of the most regular topics for discussion in Gaelic football circles at the present time is whether the standard of play has improved or disimproved over the last few years.

Older supporters will tell you that the stars of to-day wouldn't live with the heroes of the 'Thirties, 'Forties and even the 'Fifties. On the other hand, the younger fans who weren't around in those days find such a belief hard to accept and to them, men like Mick O'Connell and Sean O'Neill are as good as any of the past idols.

Still, somehow or other the

players you idolised when growing up are inclined to stick in your mind long after you have reached maturity and often these are rated as tops when you try to select your "team or player of a lifetime".

It was in the 'Fifties I grew up and this, in my mind, was a great decade for football. Here, within a span of ten years, we had Mayo, Cavan, Meath, Kerry, Armagh, Dublin, Galway, Cork, Louth and Tyrone all challenging for major honours at some time or other. Down, of course, came to challenge in the final year of the 'Fifties, but the

'Sixties was their decade of glory.

The Editor has asked me to select my "team of the 'Fifties" and then try to figure out if it would win an imaginary match with my "team of the 'Sixties", which appeared in last month's GAE LIC SPORT.

Here are the fifteen men whom I most admired in the 'Fifties: **Jack Mangan** must be an automatic choice for the goalkeeping position because of the Galwayman's uncanny anticipation and inspiring leadership. Fronting him I would have **Paddy O'Brien**, the high-fielding Meath full-back. Paddy is rated one of the best full-backs the game has ever known and certainly the greatest I have seen. Flanking him would be **Jerome O'Shea** (Kerry) and **Sean Flanagan** (Mayo), two very dependable corner backs.

Gerry O'Malley must be one of the greatest players never to win an All-Ireland medal and his brilliant consistency throughout that decade ensures him a berth on the "team of the 'Fifties". The Roscommon star was equally at home in a wing-half or centre-half berth, but he is placed at right-half back in order to allow fellow-columnist **Jack Mahon** to occupy the number six position, which he filled so brilliantly for Galway throughout his career.

The present Louth coach, **Stephen White**, is my choice for the remaining half back position, for this attack-conscious defender was one of the main reasons why the Wee County won major honours in 1957.

Another player who would go very close for the award of "greatest player never to win an All-Ireland medal" is **Jim McKeever**. The Derry maestro must go in at mid-field and his

● TO PAGE 45



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SOUND AS A BELL!

THE red-haired, spare, rather worried-looking man in the number four jersey is such a familiar figure that a Cork hurling team would look quite strange without him. And it is the penalty of constancy to be occasionally taken for granted. On the whole, few hurlers have been so overlooked as Denis Murphy when it comes to handing out the bouquets.

It was, therefore, a pleasure to see that the GAELIC SPORT year-long points system brought him to the top of the list in a year, and at a time of the year when Cork had lost some of their initial lustre. Offhand, you would have said that it must be this or that Kilkennyman who should have the honour of Hurler of the Year, because of the great swish which the county created in their rush through to the All-Ireland, and their two victories over Cork around that time. But, even in those losing Cork performances, Denis Murphy lost no lustre and did nothing but good for his reputation as hurler and sportsman.

The steadier contemplation of 1969 as a whole would lead one to realise that Cork owned a good half of the year. Remember that, last August, we were full of Cork, and no other team looked like challenging their right to dominance in the year's rankings.

They had won the league, beating Tipperary in the process for the first time in some twelve

seasons of defeats at the hands of their ancient enemy. They had made an impression that remained fresh when out-playing Wexford; they had looked the best team in the country all the time during the Munster championships after their initial indifference against Clare. Even in the All-Ireland, they looked threatening and very dangerous for a long time, indeed.

It is true that the All-Ireland final dominates the year, and a player who plays outstandingly on that occasion, though it is quite fortuitous that he should produce top form on that day more than any other, holds the imagination. Just think of D. J. Crowley, lionised since the football final, and think then that he would never have had the chance to play that blinder if it were not for the overwhelming brilliance of the Master in all the games leading to the final.

Indeed, there would be no finals were it not that the humdrum of less important games is raised to a higher level by the

By
Jay
Drennan

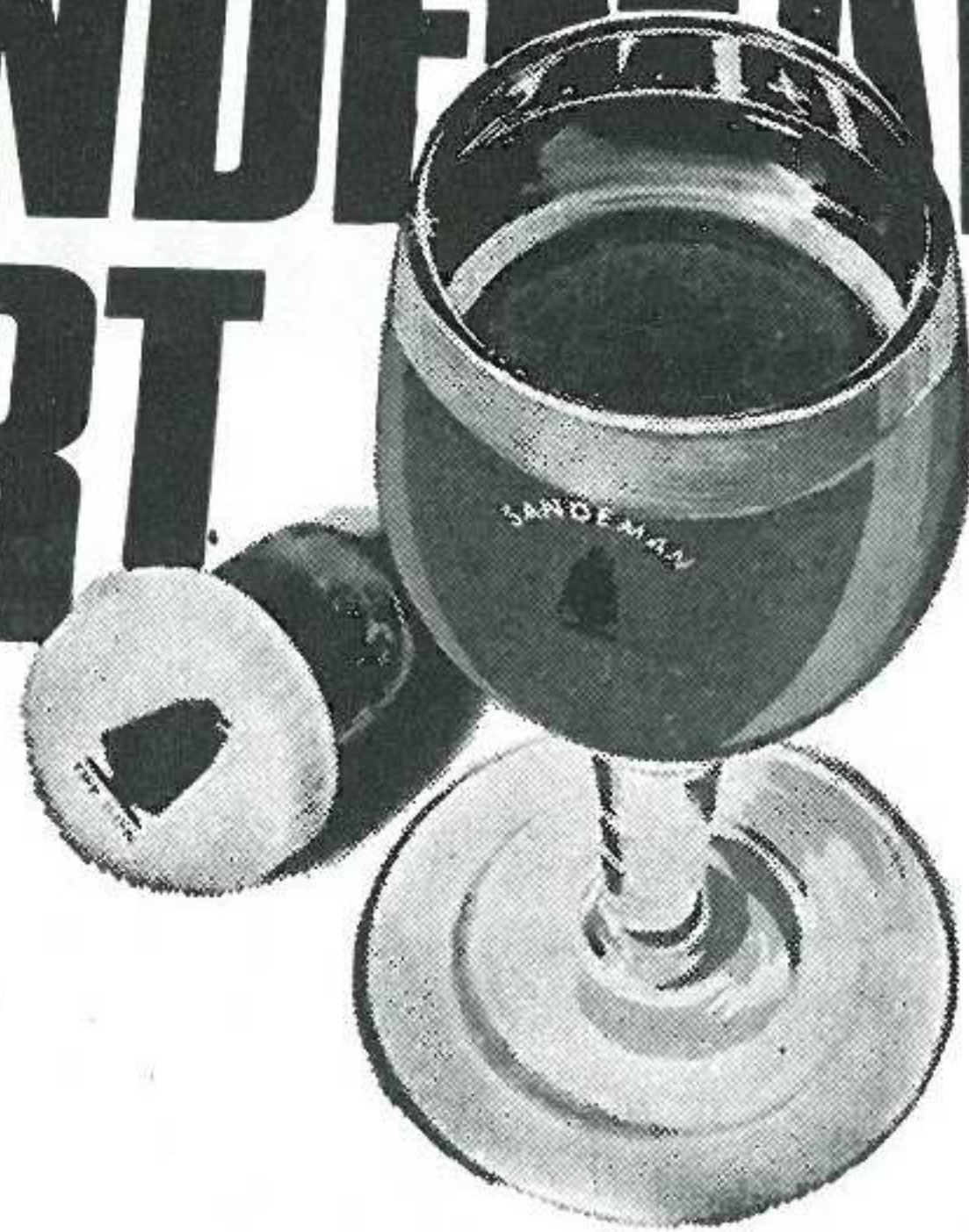
constantly sound performers who may never have the chance or the luck to capture the imagination on a big final day. In the case of Denis Murphy, who seems to have been eternally at left-back for Cork, and eternally damned to fighting losing battles against hungry Tipperary hordes, it looked for a while that his great defensive work for Cork would never yield the reward of a fitting All-Ireland medal. The county did not seem to be able to produce a team worthy of progress. And then came 1966, and the breakthrough.

It looked as though 1969 would be a justification for the doubters of 1966 who said that Cork were lucky, or that they never met Tipperary on the way, or that Kilkenny were not in top condition for the final. It was not to be so, but there was enough seen of them to prove that they are a team of real talent, and who must win if they persevere.

Munster honours have been easy for Denis Murphy to come by. He has been a regular with Munster for most of the decade. Seldom has he been other than outstandingly dependable in the highest company. There are many who would not go beyond him if they were to select a hurling team of the 1960s. Yet, he enters the '70s a veteran in

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● FROM PAGE 9

experience, but quite young in hurling years and with plenty of time, yet, to see Cork to another All-Ireland.

For a man who looks frail and more willowy than muscular, Murphy is extraordinarily tough and durable. He shirks nothing and is as close a marker as the hardest hour and the most rugged opponent would demand. But, there is equally no doubt that he prefers the intelligent and subtle approach. His interceptions are in a class which is guaranteed only by the extreme nicety with which he takes up position.

It is no coincidence that you find Denis Murphy block or cut off an approach or a pass while standing quite on his own, ten yards and more from his direct opponent. This quality has been a killer of corner-forwards and, at the same time, seems to do him less than justice, for invariably, it confers the impression: "Of course, he was wonderful, but he had nothing on him."

Intercepting and moving out in possession to study the best place for his clearance, you have the typical Murphy. But, do not forget the hundreds of other times when he has been doing downright heroics in the close defence near goal. He will play it intelligently, but he will pull with the best of them when it is a time for pulling hard.

I think that it is a very good thing that we have a chart system like that in GAELIC SPORT to make us remember the people like Denis Murphy who have played the whole year for club and county with total dedication and never failed them. That, surely, in the long run, is a more satisfying and praiseworthy thing than even to play a blinder in the All-Ireland final. Anyway, I am sure Murphy does not mind: his whole game spells his modesty and his spirit of team loyalty.

The man who never gave up

By MOONDHARRIG



MICK O'DWYER

FOR the Waterville area of South Kerry I have always had a particularly soft spot in my memory since the days long ago when my trusting family sent me away across Ireland there to learn Irish. I was supposed to be based in the summer College in Ballinskelligs but, after I had turned up at the College a couple of days, I came to the conclusion that further attendance at the set classes would be a waste of time.

So I bade farewell to the College itself, except for the evening ceilis, and spent my time variously among the fishermen and the farmers and the students home on holidays in the Cable Station, in Dun Geagan, on Oilean na gCapall, on the bogs about Brandon. And any real Irish I ever learned I got from the good folk of that section of Iveragh.

As soon as some of us had formed into a bit of a group we travelled around into Derrynane and Caherdaniel, but our main base outside Dungeagan was Waterville.

And it is the memory of those days that still comes flooding back every time that I see Mick

O'Dwyer come trotting on to Croke Park in the Kerry green and gold, because for me he typifies the part of Kerry in which I spent some of the happiest days of my youth.

What is more, the same Mick O'Dwyer has never let me down. Cast your mind back to the days when Kerry were struggling in the latter days of the '50s, it was his brilliance at left half-back that was a shining light of the resurgent boys from the Kingdom.

He was a great half-back in those days, and oddly enough the man who to-day reminds me most of O'Dwyer is another man from that end of Kerry, Mick O'Shea, though O'Dwyer was more of the attacking half-back than O'Shea has as yet proved himself to be.

Then O'Dwyer moved out of defence into attack and he has proved himself of even greater value to Kerry as a forward than as a back.

He brought to the Kerry vanguard two attributes that the younger men were sorely in need of, the cool craft born of experience, and the greatest asset any team can have in Gaelic football, accuracy from close-range frees.

But looking back on his service to the Kingdom across the years, I wonder if one of Mick O'Dwyer's greatest values to Kerry was this, that he never gave up?

Think back on the All-Ireland finals and semi-finals that Kerry lost during the 'Sixties, and who was the man who came out of game after game with reputation untarnished, whether in victory or defeat, and that man was Mick O'Dwyer, although, fair play to Seamus Murphy, the versatile Seamus was always to the fore also.

A year or two ago Mick O'Dwyer was talking of packing it up, and who could blame him, for he is not as young as he used to be and the road from Waterville to Killarney or Tralee does not get any shorter with the passing years.

But fortunately for Kerry, Mick O'Dwyer decided to stay on—fortunately in more respects than one, because I have a feeling that, were it not for his great friendship with O'Dwyer, the mercurial Mick O'Connell would have bade farewell to the inter-county football fields long ago.

The earnestness and efficiency

● TO PAGE 44



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THE TALL MAN FROM BALLERIN

HE was named at right half forward last month by colleague Noel Coogan in his football team of the Sixties. He was also a bright star of the late 'fifties, and this month he will be back again at Croke Park to play an active part in ushering the Railway Cup into the 'Seventies. His name? Seán O'Connell, of Derry.

The tall Ballerin man well deserved that honour paid to him in last month's issue. Many great players hit the headlines with high-quality football and spectacular displays during the past decade, but not many matched O'Connell over the period in turning in game upon game of that solid, dependable professional play that is one of the most distinctive hallmarks of the truly great player.

Seán O'Connell's place in Derry football can be compared to Christy Ring's in Cork hurling, and there can be no finer tribute

● TO PAGE 48

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By  
**OWEN  
McCANN**

~~~~~

Sean O'Connell



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MAKE SAVINGS YOUR

GOAL

SUCCESS on the field of sport needs planning, organisation and dedication. So it does, too, on the wider field of life. We all have some goal, some objective. It may be close or it may be distant. The future to which the young look is near. The range lengthens as we grow older. And then, alas, the future is close to us again. But there is always a goal, always something to be aimed at.

For the very young the wants are simple—a few sweets or a toy. A little later something bigger—a football, a bicycle—and maybe even for somebody also—a present for Mammy's birthday. The wants grow, to things like a holiday abroad, hi-fi equipment, a motorbike. Then the possibilities of marriage and home-making. The chance of a business venture, setting up for oneself, a better house, educating the children. We all hope for a full life and at the end security and peace. The goals are many and gradually shifting.

Whatever the goals may be, they need planning, organisation and dedication. And they need money. Directly or indirectly. And for all but a few of us, providing the money also requires planning, organisation and dedication—how to get it, how to use it, and the strength of character to deny oneself some self-indulgences to make it possible to reach the goal. It means regular saving and careful investment.

The Post Office savings ser-

vices offer a choice of ways to save safely and profitably. There are different schemes suited to different ages, different purposes, different goals. And while your money is in the Post Office not only is it safe and quickly withdrawable when needed but you have the satisfaction of knowing that it is not being used for someone else's private profit but for the good of the country.

There are Savings Stamps at 6d. and 2/- to make it easy to start saving. You can open a Post Office Savings Bank for only 10/-. Savings Certificates can be bought for as little as £1. And Investment Bonds come in £10 units. There are different attractive features about each. And tax concessions which are valuable when you're an income tax payer. Full details of all these schemes are set out in separate leaflets which you can get at your post office.

You can reach your goal only with the help of Saving. Saving means self-discipline and self-denial. You must stay with it. It needs guts. And the time to start is always NOW.

The emphasis on money and its spending is a mark of the times. Never before in history have we been subjected to such non-stop advertising—urging us all to part with pennies, shillings and mostly pounds. However, the desire for security must intervene at one time or another and it's this desire that makes us turn to saving.

Saving is vitally important to the development of our country but many savers are unaware of the fact that the small sums of money which they "put by" every week or every month have far wider implications than the benefits which accrue to them or their families. Personal saving on a regular basis—even a couple of bob a week—becomes a habit which is hard to break. Shillings quickly grow into pounds and multiply again—thereby increasing our own security.

Basic human desires are constantly urging us to seek a higher standard of living. Savings expand the national pool of capital from which the country draws to develop her industries. The more we save the more money becomes available for the setting up of new industries—ensuring a more prosperous Ireland for our children in the future. On the other hand, if the rate of saving declined, economic development would be seriously cut back and this would ultimately lead to increased taxation. Voluntary saving through Government-guaranteed securities such as the Post Office Savings Bank, Investment Bonds or Trustee Savings Banks, etc, means that not only are we lending money to the country but also we are getting good interest rates on the money. It can be seen then that saving is in fact practical patriotism, improving as it does the lot of our fellow workers and that of the entire country.

win, lose or draw

Everybody wants to win . . . nobody wants to lose and a draw means that you have only a fifty-fifty chance of surviving next time out.

Life is exactly like that; everybody wants to win but remember the old saying "It's tough at the top." The only sure way of getting to the top for you

and your family is by starting a regular savings plan and sticking to it. So get into training now . . . put something aside week by week or month by month and no matter how the team fares you'll always be on the winning side.

*Is dian an iomaíocht an saol ach
IS FEARRDE THÚ AN COIGILT*



You're better-off saving



Saving for the Seventies



BY H. E. F. HALL, *Chairman,*
National Savings Committee

I WELCOME the opportunity of contributing to GAELIC SPORT at this particular point-in-time because the new year has just dawned upon us, but more important perhaps is the fact that 1970 marks the beginning of a new decade; a decade that has potentially profound implications for every individual in our community.

During this coming ten years the Anglo-Irish Free Trade Area Agreement will have reached full maturity and our industries will be exposed to an intensity of competition in 1975 which they have never experienced in our history. Furthermore the prospects of entry into E.E.C. are looming bright on the horizon and if we join the Six during this new decade an even more exciting challenge lies ahead of us. I often said in the past that Gaelic sportsmen have always accepted a challenge and I have no doubt that the great challenge of the 'Seventies will be vigorously taken up by them.

In my view savings, however large or small, will play a greater role than ever if we are to continue our economic development in what will undoubtedly be a more competitive environment. We must make a firm resolution to build up the capital resources of the nation, the reservoir from which money is drawn to establish new industries and build schools and houses.

Government capital expenditure on housing for 1969/70 is programmed at £21,000,000 and a greater amount is likely to be allocated to housing for 1970/71. This important part of the Government's "housekeeping" allow-

THE NATIONAL SAVINGS COMMITTEE

What is it then? Very briefly it is a Committee which was set up by the Minister for Finance in 1955 to help and encourage people to save. The Committee employs a small permanent staff under the control of the Secretary who is an Officer of the Department of Finance. The Members of the Committee (eleven in all) are appointed by the Minister but they give their services on a voluntary basis. They are appointed as individuals and though they do not represent any organisation in a formal way they are representative of Employers, Trade Unions, Education and rural interests. Nearly every country has its own Savings Committee. In fact the British National Savings Committee has a permanent staff of 650 and costs 2 million pounds to run, our National Savings Committee has a staff of seven and spends 30 thousand pounds annually!

ance depends entirely on the buoyancy of the level of savings. People want better houses—it is only by increased savings that the standard can be improved. Most young married couples start out with a long-term loan or mortgage to repay on their house and without the necessary deposit saved most would have to be content with renting a house or flat for a period of years.

This reservoir of capital relies to a large extent on the individual's ability to cut down spending—especially on imported goods—and his determination to save regularly with the consequent benefits to himself personally and ultimately to the total community. His accumulated savings go to create new jobs and consequently reduce emigration and help to achieve the goal of full employment.

There is now available a wide range of very attractive Government guaranteed savings media, designed to suit every income group and I would appeal to readers of this article to study them closely because they provide an excellent opportunity of further demonstrating your patriotism in practical terms.

I believe the seventies will present us with a challenge and an opportunity; we cannot hope to meet the first and avail of the second without a determined effort by every citizen to intensify his savings effort.

the to-morrow builders



The times they are a-changin'. Fast. Even now, programmed learning is opening up new dimensions in education. The push button classroom, with its computers, its talking typewriters and light pencils, is it so far away? To-day's dream, to-morrow's reality. A reality made possible by people to whom the future is ever present. People like Hibernian, largest General Insurance Company in the country, who continue to invest their funds in an Ireland that is growing excitingly fast. When you take out a Hibernian Policy, against fire or theft or accident, you not only protect to-morrow; you help build it.

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WILSON HARTNELL

THE FORGOTTEN OLYMPIAN

THERE is a certain smugness in writing and completing a book. Perhaps an ever greater smugness when one believes that it is the definitive, last word, on some particular subject.

And when I finished off "Ireland's Olympic Heroes" some years ago and gloated when the first shiny copy arrived from the printers, I sat back with the satisfied smirk of a man who has achieved the near impossible.

There wasn't the chance of a mistake. For 15 years I had researched every last fact in that book. Everything was right. I had documented every Irish-born sports man who had ever won a medal in the Olympic Games.

I was proud of what I had done. For so many years almost everyone in Ireland had believed that our total of Olympic medals was somewhere in the region of 10 or possibly 12.

I had now produced irrefutable evidence to demonstrate beyond any possibility of contradiction that our total of Olympic medals was made up of 28 gold, 38 silver and nine bronze medals.

The euphoria only lasted for a while. True the reviewers were kind, the book sold reasonably well, even if it never became the best-seller that I vainly hoped it would be, and I got many kind,

flattering letters from all over the country.

Then, not so long ago, out of the blue a letter dropped through my letter box. It was a letter that because of a wrong address had taken a long time in coming. And it came from a famous name in Bandon—William Hales of North Main Street.

It started promisingly, with some very acceptable praise from a man who really knew his sport—and it went on in that vein for some distance.

But I sensed it. Sooner or later, we were going to come to a "but". And that "but" would bring no joy for me.

And sure enough we came to it. "But"—and it seemed to scream out—"In a work so complete as 'Ireland's Olympic Heroes,' I regret an omission from that noble band of men who have won Olympic medals."

And then Mr. Hales, whose family hold a very proud place in Cork's sporting history, went on to write in great detail of Patrick O'Flynn of Ballinadee, an athlete of the first Knocknacurra Athletic Club.

And as Mr. Hales pointed out, the said Patrick O'Flynn, wrongly named as Patrick Flynn in all Olympic history books, had won

an Olympic silver medal at Antwerp in 1920.

And, of course, Mr. Hales was right—and my beloved book did not seem quite as definitive as it had been. One omission was enough almost to wipe out all that research I had done for 15 years. And it certainly wiped away that smile of smugness on my face.

So to put the record right, here is a short version of the story told to me by William Hales of Bandon, which, at least up to 1964 at which period my book ended, now brings our total of Olympic medals to 76.

Patrick O'Flynn was born in the parish of Ballinadee on December 17, 1894, and as far as we know is still hale and hearty and living in America.

He was a delicate child, not expected to survive but apparently he grew up into a fine young man and was introduced to athletics in 1911 by the famous Bob Hales.

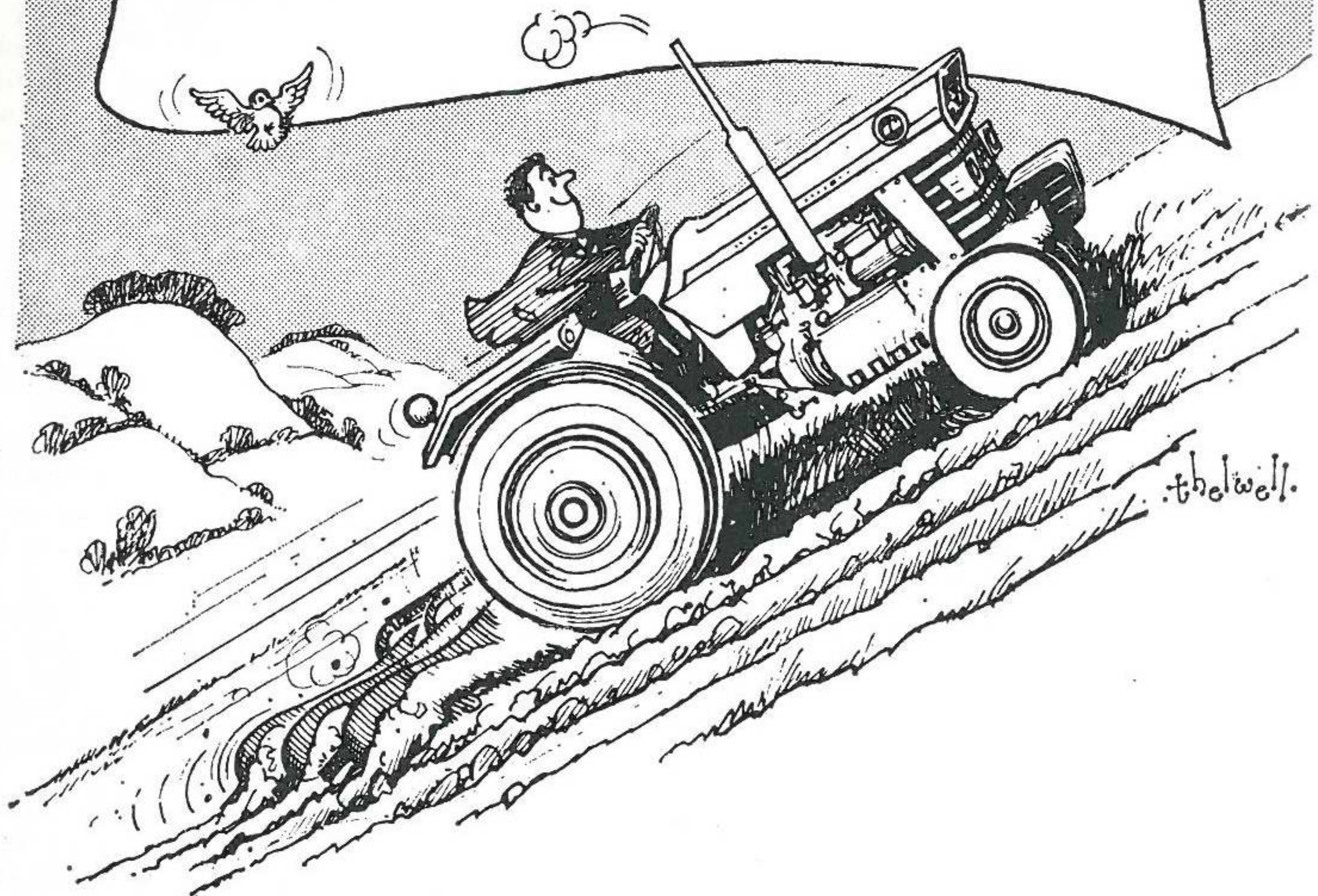
He won his first race at Ballinadee at the age of 17 and subsequently went on to win an Irish title over four miles and to represent Ireland in the annual athletics match against Scotland.

O'Flynn emigrated to the United States in 1913 and a year later, up against Olympic champion Hans Kolehmainen, he was beaten by less than a yard in the new world record time of 14 minutes 33.6 seconds for 5,000 metres.

During the next two years O'Flynn beat every top-class athlete in America and took U.S. titles in the 5,000 and 10,000 metres and would, of course, have been a certainty for the American Olympic team had the Games been held at Berlin in 1916.

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THE BUSINESS OF FARMING

EVERY year in Ireland, about four thousand young men enter farming. The majority of these grow up on their father's farm and follow in their father's footsteps as the manager of the farm. A few young men, who may or may not have grown up on a farm, buy a farm or inherit one from a relative.

Whatever occupation one takes up, one expects it to provide a satisfactory income, reasonable working hours and a satisfying social life. Opinions will differ as to what a satisfactory income is but a young man starting off in farming expects an income which, along with providing for the necessities of life, allows him to enjoy himself socially and at the same time leave a margin for the necessary investment in the farm and a little extra to build up a 'nest egg' for future needs.

Not so long ago, many people thought of farming as an occupation with long hours, a lot of drudgery and a more or less complete uncertainty about what one's produce fetched in the market place. Other people thought of farming as a way of life where a person works with nature, is his own boss and is not too concerned with income because his needs outside of farming are little.

Both of these views are out of touch with the realities of farming to-day. It is true that farming demands hard work and that on many farms where the acreage is small or the land poor, there is a limit to the size of income they

can produce. But to-day, machinery, electric power, well designed buildings and better working methods generally, have taken the drudgery out of farming. And for those farmers who have adopted them, modern



*John Keenan of Galway
... farmer and top-class
footballer.*

farming methods and techniques have greatly increased their incomes.

In the past no doubt, many farmers had to work unreasonably long hours. This need not be the case to-day. A farmer is entitled to as much leisure as anybody else. It is true that nobody has invented a five-day cow or a way to control the weather at haymaking time. But people can make silage instead of hay and research work is showing that calves do not suffer if they miss one of their Sunday meals and milk yields do not drop that much if milking is several hours late or early when a young man wants a long evening off to go to a match or play one.

Nor does farm work make one

By
GERRY O'CALLAGHAN

stiff as a result of using the 'wrong' muscles. Certainly the demands of farm work never seemed to affect John Doyle or John Keenan or Des Foley, to mention only a few.

To-day we are not short of successful farmers—men who have a good standard of living and time off to enjoy themselves. But they had to work for their success.

Just as with football and hurling, success in farming does not come in a day or a week or a year. It takes years of training and practice as well as the interest and will to succeed. To become a successful farmer, training is as necessary as it is for hurlers, mechanics, surgeons and teachers.

WINTER FARM SCHOOLS

Farming is a business as well as being an occupation demanding information and skill. A successful farmer is a man who knows his business, has a fund of up-to-date scientific information and has the skill to turn it to good account on his own farm. How does he acquire all this?

In nearly every county at the present time, young farmers are attending Winter Farm Schools. These schools are conducted during the slack farming season from November to February on one or two days a week. After attending to the morning's work on the farm, these young men come to school to learn the theory and practice of modern

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Gouldings keeping Ireland fertile





Martin Quinn, the former Meath full back, is a prominent farmer in the Royal County.

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farming. The course involves instruction in farm management, budgeting and planning, crop and animal production, agricultural engineering, farm accounts and so on, together with the basics of the biological and other physical sciences on which good farming is based.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES

We have in the country ten residential Agricultural Colleges all of which provide a year's course in general agriculture. A year at one of these colleges will certainly improve a man's farming knowledge and ability and, if he is so inclined, his hurling

or football ability as well. During recent years as a result of the demand for agricultural education the number of places available at our agricultural colleges has been greatly increased. At the present time some 600 young men are taking a one year course and a good proportion of them will be returning to farming. Each County Committee of Agriculture provides annually a number of scholarships for young men taking an Agricultural College course.

APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME

The Farm Apprenticeship Scheme commenced in 1964. The young men taking part, spend

four years apprenticed to master farmers — selected, highly efficient farmers who are doing a first class job. To be eligible, applicants must have passed the Intermediate Certificate or Group Certificate or a special examination and have completed a year successfully at an Agricultural College.

Up to 30 awards of £50 each are available each year to apprentices who reach the required standard of farming proficiency at the end of the apprenticeship. At the present time some seventy young men are taking part in the Apprenticeship Scheme.

Young people growing up in the country to-day are better off in at least two ways than were their fathers. They have better facilities for games and recreation—and they can join Macra na Feirme or Macra na Tuaithe. Macra na Feirme, in particular, caters for the special needs of young farmers. Through being a member a young man (or girl) can acquire useful farming information and he can take part in competitions such as question time, debates, stock judging and so on, all of which are enjoyable as well as being helpful experiences. Macra na Feirme is specially interested in encouraging young men to prepare themselves to be farming leaders in their areas.

THE MASS MEDIA

The farming and general press, radio and television are now active in bringing useful information to farmers. The knowledge acquired through these media is a supplement to that acquired through practice and through attending specially designed Agricultural courses.

For the future, education is a 'must' for a young man entering farming. The successful farmer of the Seventies will be a trained farmer.

The G.A.A. in the Seventies

The race is on in

THE face of Ireland is ever changing. To-day the changes are simply coming faster. In the Seventies, we of the G.A.A. must stay with the pack if we are to move to the front again in the future. I may be wrong but I think we have slipped back in the last five years.

The games themselves must continue to be examined to see if improvement can be made and we must not change for the sake of change. I have always thought that instead of putting a game change to Congress for decision we could try out that change in a special competition either before or after Congress so that observation would be based on experience more than opinion.

I have for many years been assailing this ball and chain around the ref's leg, we call automatic suspension. I may be wrong but have always felt that especially in May and June the automatic month is the chief reason the ref. doesn't put the unruly man off. Imagine being asked to ref. an evening challenge game in Tipp. or Down, say in May a fortnight before the senior team is playing in the championship. You'll do your best, but when one of the inter-county players gets cross are you going to put him off? Maybe you are but you'll try a lot of talking first, and that's not good for control. And I don't think that inter-county players are worse behaved than anyone else. If we get rid of automatic suspension the unruly chap will be on the line like a

shot and the game improved as a result. Let the committee punish him and even if he gets away lightly the important thing is that he is removed from the field before he can do any harm.

The next step should be to replace the man put off. Who is going to put off one man in a junior divisional final or an All-Ireland final? The followers would have a fit and the neutrals disgusted. Surely the important thing after getting rid of the offender is to provide manly fair

cannot control the games as they now are being played. Men are being hit behind the ref's back. In fact, they always were. The favour which thirteen aside games are gaining will probably lead to their being played more and less mayhem will be done in the square as a result, but until the minds are made up on the thirteen aside (which, incidentally, was played in Ulster colleges over thirty years ago) we should give power to one umpire to raise a red flag to call the ref's atten-

By EAMONN YOUNG

competition for all. By allowing a sub for the man put off this can be done.

I hope in the Seventies we won't see any more of this thoroughly disgusting pull-down. At the moment it pays and if I were being beaten near the goal line I wouldn't hesitate myself to wrap the arms around your man if I could get to him. But it's very wrong and looks positively terrible. The remedy is so simple I can't understand why we haven't had it long ago. If the punishment is made really severe it won't be worth the candle. Two frees instead of one, perhaps, or the resultant score counting as two, or better still, in my opinion, a twenty-one yards free in front of goal for a pull down inside the fifty and for an offence inside the twenty-one, a penalty.

It is only too true that the ref.

tion to fouling. The chap with the flag might need a garda siochana standing beside him for a start but after a while players will get used to the idea and there will be less ruaille buaille after the ball has gone.

The open draw has been suggested now for some years and no doubt about it the change would benefit the game immensely in some parts of the country. The provincial finals with all their traditional excitement would be a sore loss in other parts and for us in Munster the prospect of losing the hurling final would be a very serious one. However, a general broadening out of the game might be effected without interfering with the championship if we re-organise the league structure.

In these days of reasonably good roads travel is much easier

earnest

and faster. Now there's nothing impossible about playing Antrim and Kerry in Casement Park and having all the boys back on the job in time. If the football league was organised in the suggested four divisions with promotion and relegation according to merit we should have better and more exciting competition while if advertising were well done the gates might not only be maintained but even increased. Each team would get seven games and the struggle for promotion or to avoid relegation would be exciting. There could be no postponements of course and the dual player would have to opt for one county side or the other, which I think would be in everybody's interest.

After some experience of the open league we could consider the open draw for the championship with perhaps more arguments of weight for the particular point of view.

I often think the real reason we don't have a close season is to keep the boys away from the rugby and soccer. My particular trouble is I don't believe that these games would do any harm at all for I'm foolish enough to believe that all manly sport is good, though I do prefer Gaelic and hurling. However if we are to have a close season (should we really desire such) there must be more games played on summer evenings and perhaps less competitions.

Time was when the ordinary player didn't have enough com-

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EAMONN YOUNG

THE BIG JOUST IN CONNACHT

THE conventions are over, the promises renewed. So it is down to brass tacks again, down to planning new developments and reforms, to waxing new ideas, charting new courses and spawning new hope for all within the Association.

Victory, of course, will lead all other things on the priority lists. For there can be no denying that victory is the fillip that can only whip up the enthusiasm of the young people, and unless that enthusiasm is aroused, then all the planning and ideas in the world will be of no avail.

Perhaps then we might take a look at the prospects of victory for teams in Connacht during the coming year.

Galway, as we know, have been the kingpins in the province for quite some time. But the impetus that kept them going during their great years in the 'Sixties has of late spent itself. Beaten by Mayo in the Connacht final last year, they had a pretty tough battle to stay in the current National League. The old verve and dash seems to have at last forsaken players like Cyril Dunne, Seamus Leydon and John Keenan and the new lads brought in have not made much impact.

But that is not to say they will not be a force in the championship. The task facing them does not appear all that difficult. They have only to win one match to qualify for the final. That game is with Sligo and experience suggests that Galway will win. True, Sligo have always been a headache to Galway, even when the tribesmen were at their best. But that is as far as it went.

Sligo always gave Connacht champions close runs, but they always lost by a point or two. The breakthrough never came for them. They seemed always content to put up a good performance and hoped to draw strength from it for the following year. They never did. In fact they have always looked better than they actually were.

In the current league, Sligo have been leading their group. It should be enough to spur them on to greater effort in the championship. And this is surely the time to take advantage of Galway's lean period and to qualify for the final if they could just manage to put one supreme effort into that one match. But will they? On past records it seems they will not. They will

throw away this simple chance and return to their dreams.

So it appears Galway will be there again next July.

Who will be with them? Well, Roscommon must meet Leitrim in the first round. And again it appears that Tommy O'Riordan's team is destined for oblivion. It is tough on poor Leitrim. But what hope can there be for a county so badly hit by emigration? A time will come when the young lads on whom Tommy is concentrating will shake off the dead leaves of decay that have smothered football in Leitrim. Soon, perhaps. But not right yet.

So Roscommon will go forward to meet the champions, Mayo, in the semi-final. Roscommon have promised much in the past few years, but it has not been fulfilled. They seemed destined for big things in the National League this year, but received a jolt when they fell to lowly Limerick.

Dermot Earley told me after that match that Roscommon were over-confident when they took on Limerick that day. They had done little preparation and paid the price. But subsequent events proved that Limerick were no flash in the pan. For, in the return match Roscommon were again humbled and their morale received quite a setback.

That may be just a temporary phase and their confidence will have returned when they take on Mayo in the Connacht semi-final. And if they reach the form then which they reached against Mayo in the early part of 1969 when they thrashed them at Crossmolina, the Connacht champions will be in trouble.

I think, however, that Mayo will shade it.

And thus we are set for another derby — another Mayo-Galway final in July. I think Mayo will win that, too. Galway will not agree. Even at this moment they are preparing themselves for that battle, and if they have not been too prominent during the past few months and if the new lads have not fitted in too well you can be sure everything that is humanly possible will have been done to have them fitted in and to have them in top gear for that match.

You see, this is one battle Galway do not like to lose. Defeat by any other team is tolerable. To be defeated by Mayo is something else altogether. That is the extent of the rivalry between the sides and it has contributed enormously, much more than Galway people themselves realise, to the successes of the Galway teams during the last decade.

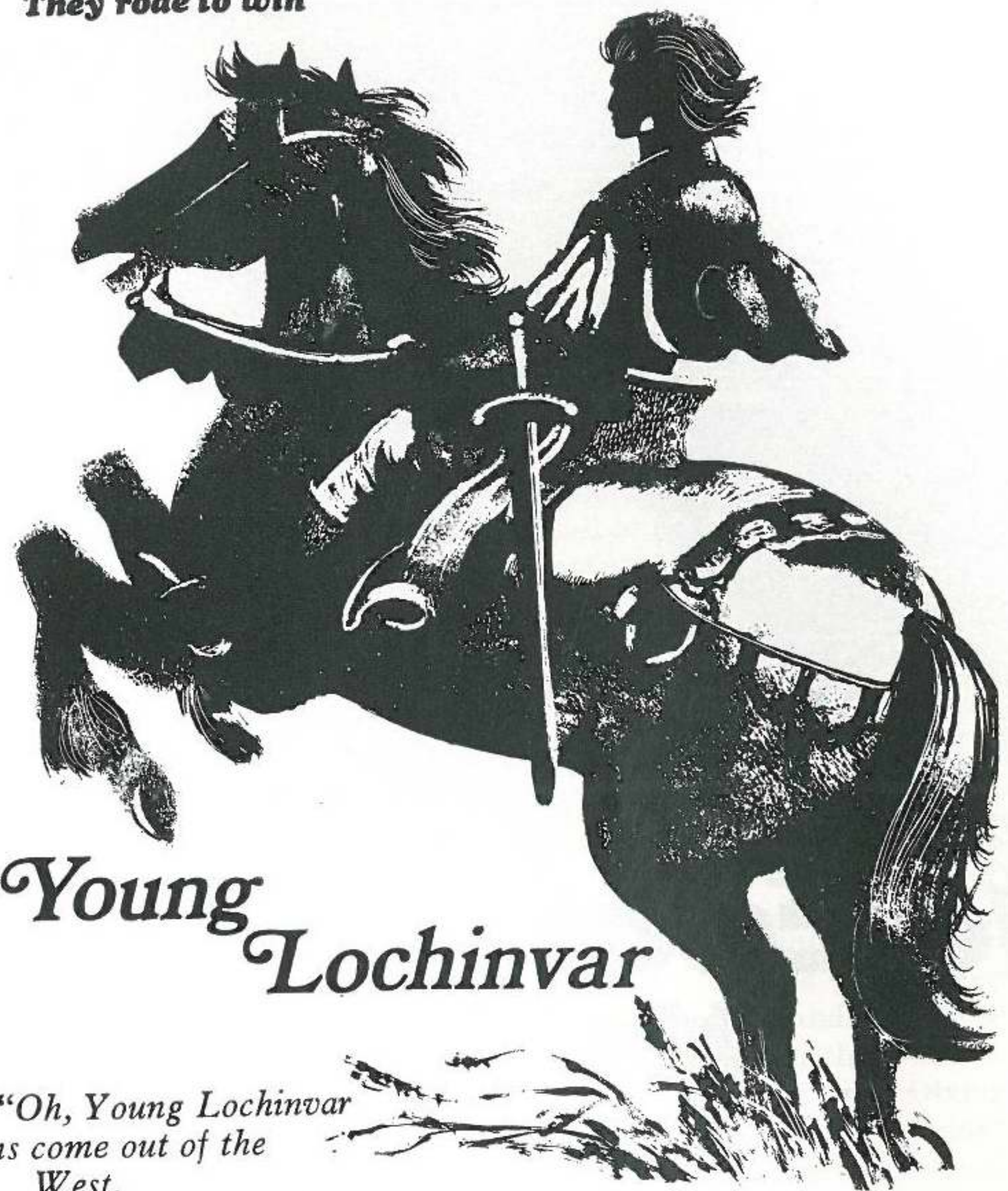
But, at last, Mayo appear to be getting somewhere. There is a toughness now in their play that had not been present before and it has brought them into a new light in the past few months. They have already qualified for the semi-finals of their League division and were the only team to tumble Kerry in big competition last year.

The younger players on the team needed the experience which they are now gathering from playing top teams in the country in their group in the League. And the older players such as Ray Prendergast, Joe Langan, John Morley and P. J. Loftus are at last receiving the support which was lacking for some time.

Of course, it is too early yet to say how far they will go—whether they are ready to win an All-Ireland title. One thing seems certain: they will take the Connacht title. And I will not be surprised if they take their first All-Ireland title in nineteen years. It is overdue.



They rode to win



Young Lochinvar

*"Oh, Young Lochinvar
is come out of the
West,
Through all the wide border
his steed was the best;
And save his good broadsword
he weapons had none,
He rode all un-armed
and he rode all alone."*

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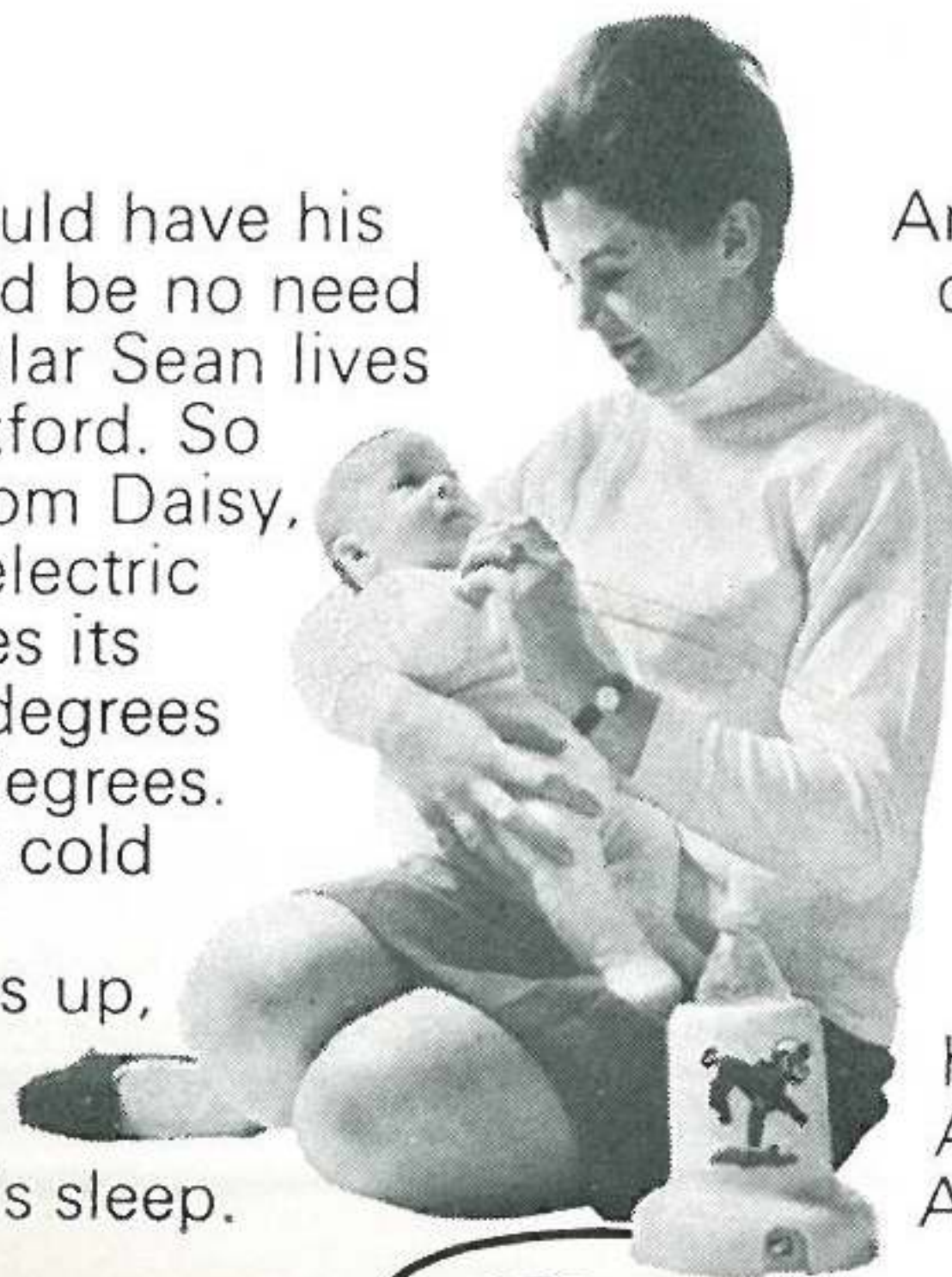


We cooled Daisy's milk this morning

And we'll warm Sean's tonight

If every single Sean could have his own individual Daisy, there'd be no need for the ESB. But this particular Sean lives in Dublin, and Daisy in Wexford. So when the milk comes hot from Daisy, it goes straight through an electric cooling plant. In two minutes its temperature drops from 70 degrees to a safe-from-bacteria 45 degrees. So that Sean's Mum buys it cold but clean.

Then when Sean wakes up, it's on with the bottle-warmer. He gets his heated milk. His Mum gets a night's sleep.



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It takes a team of over 10,000 men and women in the ESB to make sure that Daisy gets her milk cooled and Sean his warm. The same team, the same experts are working for you. Planning, generating, installing and often literally slogging away morning, noon and night.

So that when you press a switch, hot becomes cold. And cold hot. And dark bright. And wheels turn. And fires burn. And and and and and.

 a little plug
for the ESB

THE G.A.A. IN THE SEVENTIES

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petitions. Now in several places he has too many. Games are hours of tension with pre-match excitement and after match relaxation. Sport is intended for mental and physical health and the best way to promote this is not in the active field of red-hot competition but in the equally active and virile field of practice. The evening spent in pleasant ball-playing improves a man's skill and relaxes his mind. The match that may cause jubilation for one surely evokes frustration in the other. We compete too much and practise too little.

Lastly I would hope for a new thinking in the organisation or rather an extension of the new thinking which thank goodness is gaining ground. My admiration for Pearse and Connolly is, I hope, as fervent as the next man's but I no longer want the games to be the vehicle of the 1916 type of nationalism. There is no doubt that the remedy which Pearse and Connolly had for Ireland of over fifty years ago would not be that which they would employ to-day.

We must keep the G.A.A. in harmony with the social thinking of the Seventies and by placing the organisation in front of the young people continue to lead them in a persuasive, not dictatorial, fashion along the road which WE think is best for young Irish people. We must try to keep them in love with the old language, the dances, the old

stories, the old poems, and all the things which made and make the Celt just a little different, for, indeed, as Davis said, this island of ours is no sandbank.

But we won't do this by restrictive practices, for youth is ever annoyed by restrictions . . . or is our own youth so far away that we have forgotten? If you give your daughter fair freedom she'll come in at night. If you don't, she'll stay out and if you threaten to lock the door as sure as the Lord made little apples you'll be forced to carry out your threat some night or back down. I suspect in the case of the foreign games rule we have backed down.

At the moment, we have lost

the affection of a lot of thinking young people, and we can't afford it. The way to get them back on what we hope is the best national sporting road is to cast away this tired shibboleth of restriction which flew staunchly enough seventy years or so ago. When that goes as it will, the G.A.A. will never be the same again, for the remaining extremists will leave and the new leaders freed from the strangulation of class warfare, will create in the association a field where people of all classes, religions and ideas can gather to discuss or play in an association which will not only be athletic, but harmoniously—not militantly—Gaelic or Irish as well.

Meanwhile that race is on, and very soon I fancy we'll hear the bell.

THE FORGOTTEN OLYMPIAN

● FROM PAGE 19

In 1917, O'Flynn was in France with the American Expeditionary Force and was wounded in the shoulder in 1918.

He returned to athletics in 1920 and made the American Olympic team in both the 5,000 and 10,000 metres. However due to a mistake by the American Olympic committee, he was entered for the 3,000 metres steeplechase.

Despite the fact that he was little more than a novice in steeplechasing Patrick O'Flynn duly competed in the Olympic

event and finished a highly creditable second to Percy Hodges of England, then the world's top man in this race.

So Bandon has its Olympic silver medal—and my apologies to Patrick O'Flynn and to the town of Bandon for having overlooked him. How it happened, I'll never know.

Postscript: Just to put the record right, the total of medals won by Irish-born sportsmen in the Olympic Games is now 77. Chris Finnegan, who won a gold medal in boxing at Mexico in 1968, is, of course, a native of Co. Louth.

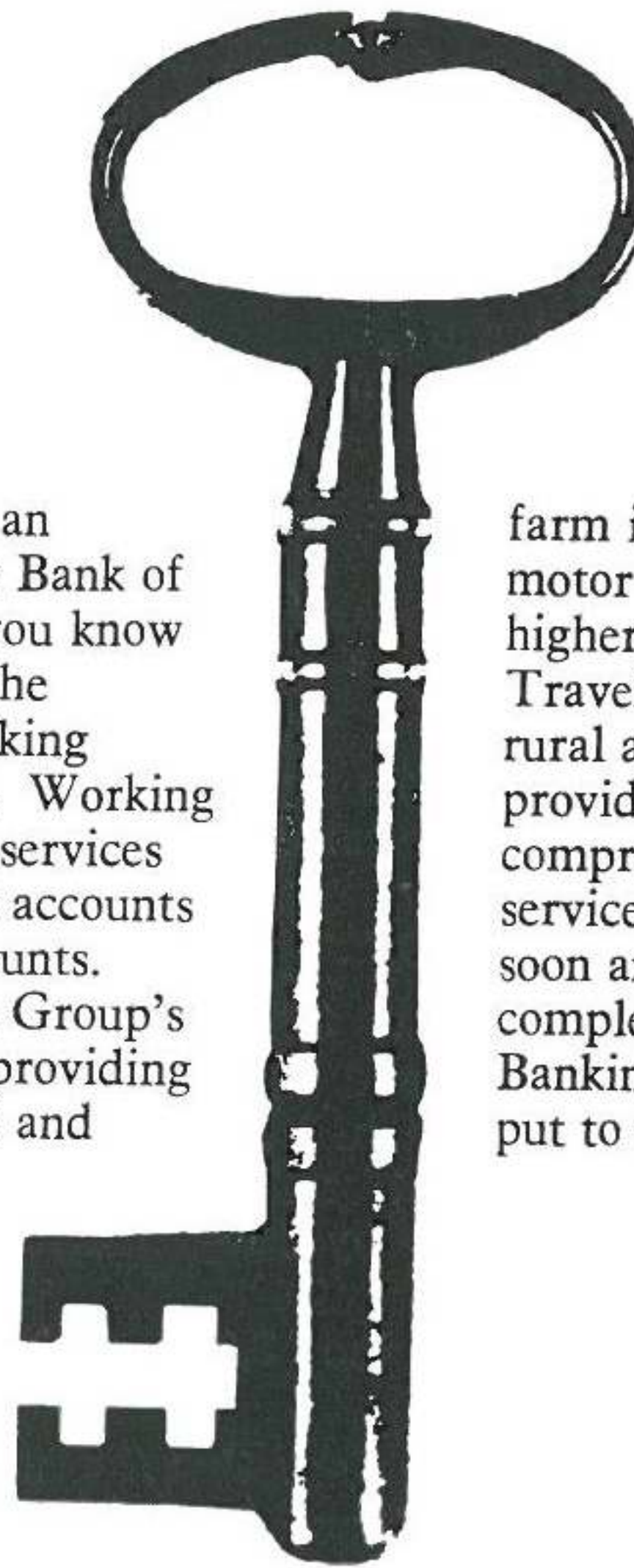
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GAELIC GAMES IN THE BANKS

By P. G. O'DONOHUE

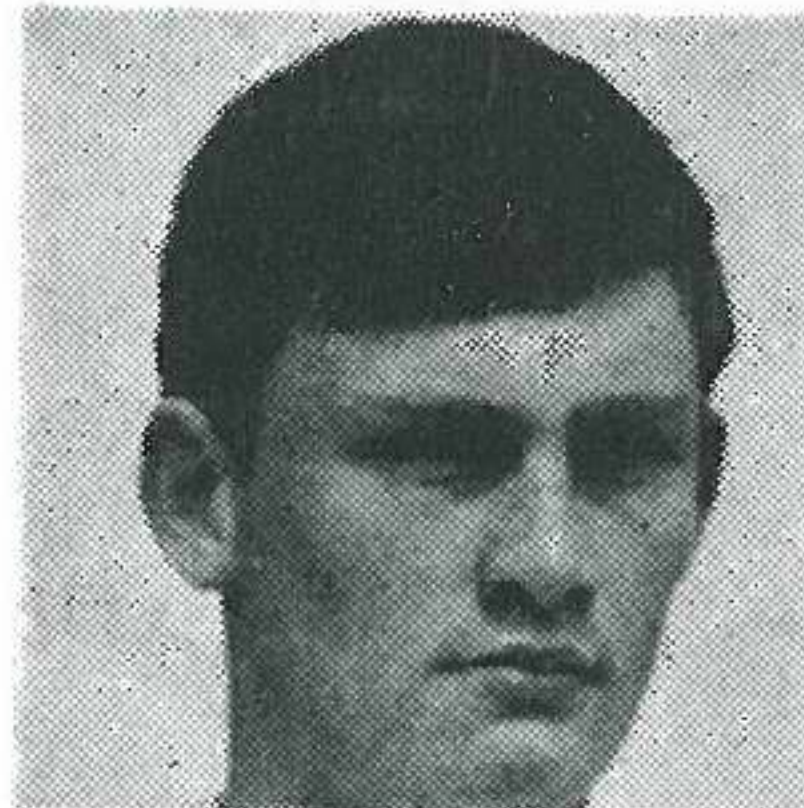
AT this time of the year, with the playing fields deserted for the time being, it is opportune to look back at the noteworthy events of 1969. Pride of place must surely go to the redoubtable men of Kerry who scaled such lofty heights and in so doing, gained the Kingdom's cherished 21st title, thus ending—and I quote Dr. Jim Brosnan—"the seven year itch."

In hurling Kilkenny entered the fray against Cork on the first Sunday in September as underdogs, but in a welter of excitement in the second half, confounded their critics and the opposition ensuring that the McCarthy Cup would rest proudly by the Nore.

Yes, they were the highlights, but what of less exalted activities? A new emphasis is to be put by all accounts on club activity and this would appear to be pretty fundamental. The clubs, as we all know, are the very life blood of the association where dedicated players and officials strive unheralded and unsung in the words of Charles Kickham "for the credit of the little village."

Gaelic games have formed an important part of the Irish Banks sporting curriculum for many years. The games have been marked by keen rivalry between the respective institutions and a standard of play which is continually improving.

The current holders of the trophy for inter-Banks football are the National Bank of Ireland, who, in a pulsating final against the Munster & Leinster, eventually triumphed by 1-9 to 0-7. The National turned over at half-time with a seven point lead but the Munster & Leinster were not going to surrender without a



*Jimmy Duggan, National
Bank and Galway.*

fight and proceeded to tack on six points without reply. Fortunes ebbed and flowed before Tommy Monahan of Cork and National, eluded the Munster & Leinster defence to place a scorching drive into the roof of the net. This was the decisive score and the National ran out deserving winners.

Best for the National were Pat Murphy of Limerick fame, Jimmy Duggan of Galway, Mick Burke, the towering Corkman, Pat Aherne of Kerry and of

course the elusive Tommy Monahan. The Munster & Leinster had distinguished performers in Denis Feeney, Dave Aherne of Cork and Barney McBride (Longford).

National team—L. Orange; P. Dwyer, T. Fitzgerald, W. Conway; S. O. Donovan, J. T. Fallon, P. Murphy; M. Burke, M. Keating; A. Cunningham, J. Duggan, P. Curtin; F. Aherne, D. Clancy, T. Monaghan.

In the hurling final the Munster & Leinster triumphed over the National, the final score being Munster & Leinster 5-7, National 4-6. It was a real thriller from start to finish and though the Munster & Leinster were the better balanced team, they can, however, thank their young goalkeeper, George Murphy (Cobh), together with midfielder Jim McAuley (Midleton), Pat Hannan, Denis Feeney and Tim McAuliffe, in particular, for regaining the trophy. The National were best served by Pat Murphy, Mick Burke and Tommy Monahan.

And what of the future? In line with major changes in industry, the Irish Banking system has been getting a face lift. The emergence of two large groups will lead to changes in the structure of inter-bank competitions but the end product will surely be the expansion of Gaelic activities which will match continued progress in the financial fields.



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Jack Mahon

Says JACK MAHON

AFTER a fair share of wrangling, objections, counter-objections and meetings galore the Co. Galway S.F. semi-final game between Corofin and Tuam Stars was replayed, Tuam winning again. One wondered why Corofin bothered to object. Anyhow the road was clear for the '69 county final between the oldest and keenest adversaries in the county, Dunmore McHales and Tuam Stars.

Anybody who knows his Galway will know of the often bitter rivalry that existed in the past between the two North Galway towns, which are just 8 miles apart and between them have always provided a lion's share of Galway football teams.

It is history now how Dunmore won a dour struggle by 1-8 to 1-6 with John Keenan and Pat Donnellan the stars supreme at mid-field, getting able assistance from Andy O'Connor, an institution in Dunmore football; Séamus Leydon and John Donnellan and Tommy Keenan the captain. The game was not without its controversy, with one of the Dunmore players lowering the tone of the game by pelting a scraw at the ball while a Tuam forward was advancing to take a free.

This type of gamesmanship should not be tolerated and merits a severe censure. In this

case it worked, for the Tuam forward missed the free and Dunmore used all their great experience to pull away and win deservedly. But this Tuam team whose officials Philip Joyce, Séamus Colleran and Seán O'Mahony have instilled a new spirit into Tuam football are going to be hard to stop this year for in Christy Kelly, Seán Lynch, Tony Canney, Mickey Byrne, T. J. Hynes, Brendan Doherty and Michael McDonnell coupled with Down star Patsy O'Hagan, current Galway goalkeeper P. J. Smith and veteran Tommy Kelly they have grand players. Besides you have captain Petie Kane, Peter Crisham and Gerry Prendergast, star minors of the past and news has just reached us that one of the greatest Tuam men of all, John Nallen will be back in Tuam on promotion in the New Year. What a boon to a rising club to have Nallen appear on the scene. His generation of football enthusiasm is as infectious as his hearty laugh.

But my main reason for writing this article is to tell of the wonderful success of the post-game dinner in the Imperial Hotel, Tuam, when the two teams and officials sat down together to dine about two hours after the game ended. Brendan Nestor, speaking afterwards said: "We wouldn't do

it 20 years ago, but it is so nice to see us get sense at last, play our games, shake hands, and sit down together to dine afterwards."

It was the officials of the two teams arranged the dinner. They can feel proud. I know we are not the first in Ireland to initiate this practice. The Westmeath County Board have been doing it for some time. Na Fianna in Dublin were gracious to their opponents in this year's Dublin County final receptions. But should not all County Boards entertain County finalists to dinner at the same table in every county in Ireland? The speeches afterwards were brief as they should be. Some of the Tuam players went out to enjoy themselves in Dunmore afterwards.

After attending this after-game dinner in Tuam, I couldn't help wondering at all the games I played in over 20 years of activity and the relatively few times (could be counted on one's fingers) that the team I played on sat down to dine afterwards with our opponents. Isn't it past time that the home League county should always play host to a visiting county team and sit the two teams to dinner together after home league games. No reason at all to prevent a very obvious requisite.

“BUY QUALITY IRISH”

LIKE going to Church on Sundays and then acting by quite another set of rules for the rest of the week, most of us are prepared to look for the “Déanta in Éirinn” label on what we buy for one month in the year—the

one containing March 17th—and let the whole thing more or less lapse for the rest of the time. Well, one of my best friends is a Frenchman who’s now an Irish citizen but no matter how long he lives here you’ll never convince

him that French is a nicer language to talk than English (Irish he places in another category altogether—and has made quite good progress with his Buntús lessons); that wine from Burgundy isn’t the ultimate thing in pleasant drinks; and that the cultural achievement of France isn’t something of which he can be intensely proud. He may in ten years time be merely a European—but he’ll be a French European.

I don’t think anyone could call me a bar-fly but like everyone else I do spend the odd social occasion in a pub. The smarter the place, the more likely you are to hear the men demanding “Scotch on the rocks” or “Scotch with a dash of soda”. What, for goodness sake, is wrong with Irish whiskey? Why has the imported stuff got such a mystique to it that in an Irish pub it’s the smartest thing to ask for? Heaven knows there are many grounds on which we can criticise Irish drinking habits.

We even feel inferior about the places where we do our shopping. It was an eye-opener to me when the French friend referred to earlier, told me he had discovered the best source of Continental and delicatessen food in Dublin to be at the Rathmines branch of Five Star Supermarkets. When we visited the place together, he pointed out to me that the sausages, salamis and patés and Continental breads which form a big part of his diet were here in a peak condition of freshness and goodness—unlike some other delicatessen speciality shops where he had been offered rather tired-looking food.

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When you buy your next suit, you can be right in step with Continental fashion and still fulfil your obligations as an Irishman by choosing a Magee cloth, or buying readymade from their own range. There's been a terrific rise in demand for Magee suits since they opened their new clothing factory five years ago in Donegal but the firm has insisted on increasing production slowly to ensure that quality control could be maintained. Nowhere else in the world will you get individually cut, handfinished suits, whether in Thornproof or Worsteds, like those in this range, not to mention the marvellous range of handwoven tweeds which Magee's make up into their own range of sportscoats. There's nothing rustic about these—in fact they're so smart that they're even more popular with modern youth than with Daddy or Granddad. And all Magee pants, whether in cavalry twill, Bedford cord, flannel, worsteds and Terylene, are durably pressed to retain a good crease for ever.

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THE QUICK-FIRE QUIZ



SHOOTING FOR POINTS

YOU should be able to take these comparatively easy chances, though some of those from awkward "angles" may throw you; and you must be quick if your chance is not to be lost. Watch the frees; they are to be taken in the time limit indicated.

TAKE A POINT

1—Offaly drew four big football games last year: can you remember them?
(Time limit: 7 seconds)

2—Who won the second leg of the World Cup Hurling competition between Kilkenny and New York, in New York?
(Time limit: 4 seconds)

3—Apart from Kilkenny, Cork hurlers suffered only one serious reverse during 1969. At whose hands, and by how much?
(Time limit: 7 seconds)

4—For what county did Seamus Morris keep goal?
(Time limit: 5 seconds)

5—On what big occasion did W. Doonan and S. Mulderrig oppose one another?

6—Who was the man who came on as a substitute for the injured Paddy Holden in the 1963 final and played a notable part in Dublin's victory?
(Time limit: 10 seconds)

7—Who was the first man in G.A.A. history to win an All-Ireland medal in both codes?

8—Tipperary beat Cork in the Munster final of 1941. They did not, however, go further in that year's All-Ireland championships. Why?

9—Can you spot a connection between Kevin Beahan, Sean

Purcell, Leo Murphy, Kevin Heffernan, Sean O'Neill, Greg Hughes and Frank Stockwell?

10—Can you spot a connection between Fr. Tom Maher, Des Ferguson, Ned Power and Donie Nealon?

GO FOR A GOAL

And watch those time limits—you have to be quick to avail of a goal-scoring opportunity.

11—Have Armagh made any Croke Park appearance in a hurling final?
(Time limit: 7 seconds)

12—When did Camogie originate, and who were its originators?

13—When was the first All-Ireland final televised, and who were the contestants?
(Time limit: 7 seconds)

14—A last minute free brought the 1947 title to Kilkenny; who pointed that vital shot?
(Time limit: 10 seconds)

20—110.

19—Sean Barrett.

18—Har Donnelly (Offaly) 120 points (7-99).

17—Jimmy Doyle.

16—Ned Wheeler.

15—Tommy Doyle.

14—Terry Leahy.

ford.

13—1962. Tipperary and Wex-

of Connradh na Gaeilge.

12—1904. Craobh an Cheitinnigh

Junior final (Home).

11—Yes, in 1965. They lost, how-

ever, to Roscommon in that

Hurling Courses.

10—The main coaches at the

film "Pell".

9—They were the stars of the

Ireland.

to go forward for the All-

winners, had been nominated

15—"A Lifetime in Hurling" tells the story of what famous player?

16—What great Wexford player was born in Laois, went to school and grew up in Kilkenny, and worked for a time in Carlow?
(Time limit: 7 seconds)

17—Who was the player who reached a total of 1,000 points for his career total during 1969?
(Time limit: 5 seconds)

18—What footballer holds the Leinster record for scores in one season?
(Time limit: 7 seconds)

19—Who is Chairman of the Cork County Board?
(Time limit: 5 seconds)

20—How many clubs in Antrim? 25, 90 or 110?
(Time limit: 7 seconds)

1—Kildare (League play-off); Cavan (All-Ireland semi-final); Mayo and Kerry (Grounds Tournament).
2—Neither; it was a draw.
3—Limerick; 3-11 to 1-6.
4—Cavan.
5—1948 All-Ireland final; Doonan was right-back for Cavan; Mulderrig left-corner forward for Mayo.
6—Paddy Downey.
7—W. J. Spain (he won football with Limerick 1887; hur-ling with Clare in 1889).
8—Cork had already won the All-Ireland when the delayed Munster final was played. The foot-and-mouth epidemic had caused the delay and Cork, the previous year's

ANSWERS

LAST YEAR'S SCORING RECORDS

Compiled by OWEN McCANN

THE Sixties went out on a high note on the scoring front with Jimmy Doyle, Mick O'Dwyer and Willie McGee the pace-setters in a list of noteworthy new record-making achievements.

Doyle earned for Munster a long-awaited first, for starting 1969 no Southerner boasted the distinction of having headed the hurling and football charts nationally outright.

Christy Ring shared the top

spot with Dublin footballer Ollie Freaney with 101 points each in 1959, and Doyle and Eddie Keher were bracketed in the premier spot in 1963 with 103 points.

The Tipperary hurler edged home last year to the coveted lead role by two points over his nearest rival, Eddie Keher. In the process he also smashed his own Munster record of 10-87 (117 points) in 17 games in 1964.

Doyle hit 11-91 (124 points) in

17 games, the third highest score in hurling. Nick Rackard (Wexford) leads with the peak for both codes of 35-50 (155 points) in 19 games in 1956, and Keher set the Kilkenny record in 1965 at 16-79 (127 points) in 20 outings.

Another distinction for Doyle is that his points score, as distinct from goals and points combined, is a new record for hurling. He held the old top score with that 1964 points tally.

The Thurles sharpshooter averaged 7.29 points a game, which is just over a point down on his best for a full year's campaign of 8.30 points in 1960. The record average stands to the credit of Christy Ring at 10.10 for 22-35 from 10 matches in that 1959 run.

Leading in the average's chart for both codes is Eddie Keher with a personal best in this regard of 7.62 points. The Noreside skipper landed the second highest score of his career at 17-77 (122 points) in 16 games.

Doyle scored in every game in 1969, with his most successful hour a 2-7 barrage against Laois at Cloughjordan in the League in November.

Mick O'Dwyer's spectacular achievements in the concluding weeks of the year also ensured another first for Munster. In 1963 Bernie O'Callaghan (Kerry) headed the nation-wide football chart with the lowest total on record at 9-52 (79 points) in 17 games. He was the first Munster footballer to fill that role, and his 1963 score also ranked as the best for the South.

O'Dwyer gives Munster a place among the "ton-up" footballers with his score of 8-96 (120

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points) in 22 games. This puts him alongside Harry Donnelly (Offaly) with the joint fifth highest score. Donnelly has the Leinster record at 7-99 in 24 games in 1961.

Mickey Kearins (Sligo) shot 2-135 (141 points) in 24 games in 1968; Paddy Doherty (Down) hit 13-97 (136 points) in 24 outings in 1960, and Charlie Gallagher (Cavan) scored 6-107 (125 points) in 20 ties in 1964, and 7-102 (123 points) in 19 matches in 1965.

The footballer of 1969 also appropriately leads the field in averages stakes at 5.45 points, well below the code's high-point though of 7.18 points by Doherty in each of his 11 games in 1958 for 11-36 (79 points) and second place in football.

O'Dwyer scored in every game last year, except against Cork in the League at Cork in April, in which he only went in as a substitute. His 2-11 against Tipperary in the League last December at Killarney is his best score.

This is just a point short of the record for a Munster footballer, recorded by Eamonn Goulding at 6-0 for Cork in a National League clash with Carlow at Cork in 1957. In hurling, Paddy Molloy scored 5-4 for Offaly against Laois in a Leinster quarter-final at Portlaoise in June—an impressive figure, certainly, but still well down the list of the big individual scores for the code.

The footballer with the best average of all in 1969 is Brendan Hayden (Carlow), who shot 5.75 points in each of his eight games for 8-22 (46 points).

As recorded in the December issue of GAELIC SPORT, Willie McGee earned a unique place in the record book by breaking the goals record for football in the Grounds' Tournament semi-final replay with Offaly. He brought his total for the year in that game to 14, one more than the

THE 1969 CHARTS

HURLING

Pts.	Score	Games	Average
124—J. Doyle (Tipperary)	11-91	17	7.29
122—E. Keher (Kilkenny)	15-77	16	7.62
98—C. McCarthy (Cork)	14-56	16	6.12
85—P. Molloy (Offaly)	15-40	12	7.08
59—P. Lynch (Wexford)	10-29	11	5.36
51—E. Cregan (Limerick)	6-33	9	5.66
48—P. Delaney (Kilkenny)	10-18	16	3.00
47—C. Cullinane (Cork)	11-14	17	2.76
42—M. Keating (Tipperary)	6-24	11	3.81
42—J. Flaherty (Offaly)	6-24	14	3.00
42—E. O'Brien (Cork)	9-15	14	3.00
42—J. Flanagan (Tipperary)	4-30	18	2.33
41—F. Whelan (Dublin)	8-17	8	5.12
39—P. J. Whelehan (Offaly)	3-30	14	2.78
37—R. Bennis (Limerick)	2-31	10	3.70
36—P. Fahy (Galway)	6-18	11	3.27
36—A. Doran (Wexford)	10-6	12	3.00

Top DIVISION II Scorer

44—T. Carew (Kildare)	9-17*	5	8.80
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*Excludes scores in Intermediate Championship.

FOOTBALL

Pts.	Score	Games	Average
120—M. O'Dwyer (Kerry)	8-96	22	5.45
104—A. McTague (Offaly)	1-101	21	4.95
103—J. Keenan (Galway)	5-88	21	4.90
91—J. Corcoran (Mayo)	5-76	24	3.79
82—J. Donnelly (Kildare)	3-73	17	4.82
73—W. McGee (Mayo)	17-22	27	2.70
69—B. Lynch (Kerry)	6-51	19	3.63
68—M. O'Connell (Kerry)	4-56	20	3.40
66—P. Buckley (Westmeath)	5-51	18	3.87
62—S. O'Connell (Derry)	4-50	16	3.87
61—S. O'Neill (Down)	6-43	18	3.38
59—G. Cusack (Cavan)	9-32	16	3.68
54—S. O'Dowd (Mayo)	1-51	19	2.84
53—M. Kearins (Sligo)	0-53	12	4.41
51—A. Brennan (Meath)	7-30	11	4.63
50—D. Earley (Roscommon)	3-41	22	2.27
47—S. Woods (Monaghan)	4-35	9	5.22
46—B. Hayden (Carlow)	8-22	8	5.75
40—P. Doherty (Down)	5-25	11	3.63
39—P. Delaney (Dublin)	1-36	9	4.33

record, and eventually finished the season with 17.

These figures include scores recorded in all inter-county games, League, Championship and tournaments, and for a county team in such games as,

for instance, Dublin against U.C.D., and Derry against Queen's, both in football, as well as in the Railway Cup, and in all of Connacht's games in the U.S. (Cardinal Cushing Tournament and challenges).



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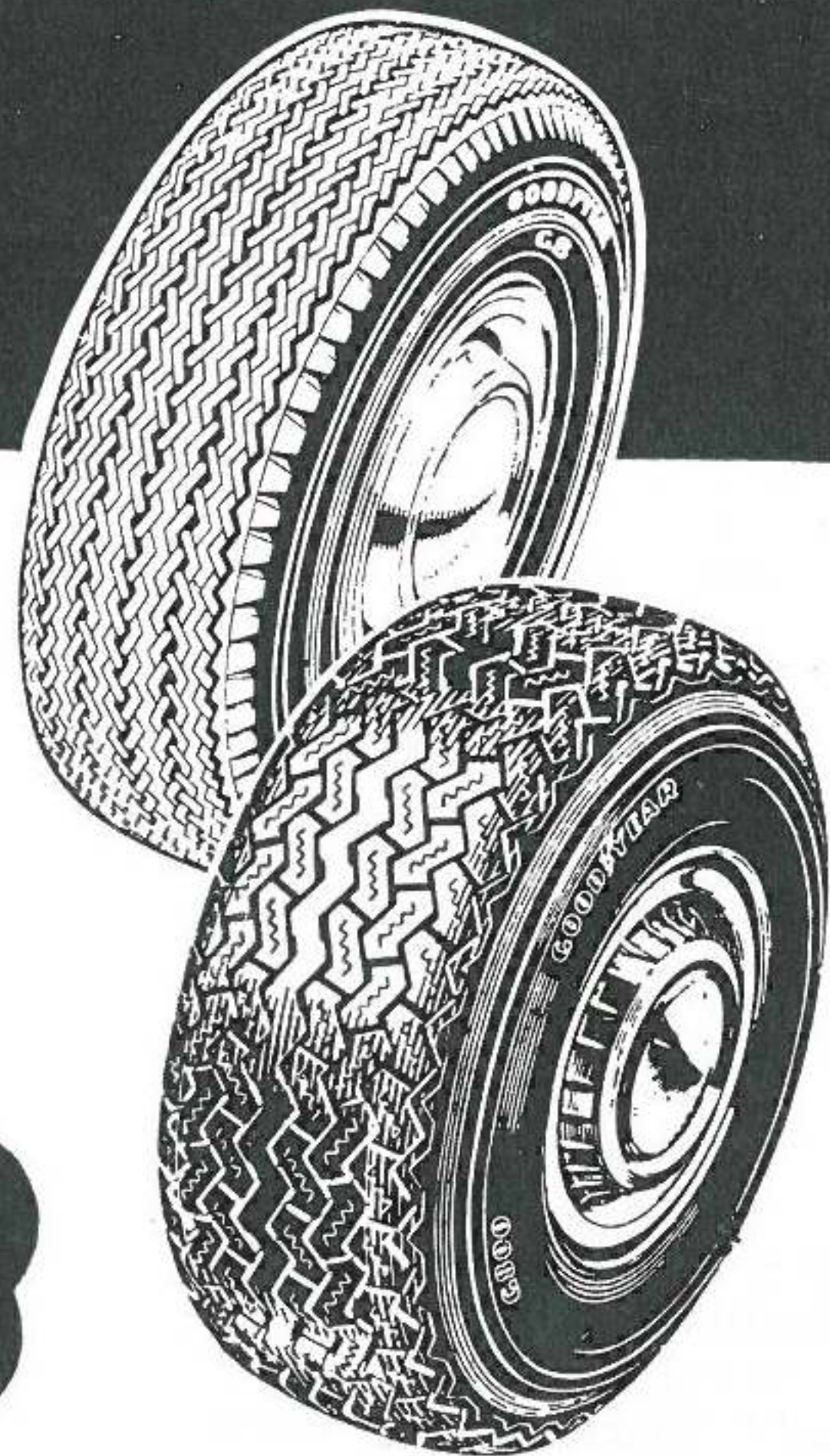
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Liz Garvan

LIZ GARVAN

OUTSIDE swimming, where we have seen youngsters win world fame before they have even reached their teens, there is no sport that offers greater inducement to the young player to make good than camogie.

In the past few years Dublin's Orla Ní Shíocháin won three All-Ireland medals while still a school-girl, and both she and Anne Carroll had the distinction of winning Schools' championships and senior interprovincial medals in the same year.

Three young players, Anne Phelan, Liz Neary and Helena O'Neill all won All-Ireland Colleges medals with Presentation, Kilkenny, and All-Ireland club medals with St. Paul's in 1969.

But the young star about whom I wish to write this month has yet to win an All-Ireland medal, although she has played in every grade at a very tender age. But Liz Garvan from Cork is a camogie player of such wonderful talent that her great days of victory must yet be ahead of her. It was, perhaps, Liz Garvan's good fortune that she is at school in St. Aloysius Convent, a famed camogie nursery run by the Mercy Order and situated on the western side of Cork city.

It was Mother Bonaventure, an aunt of Siobhan McKenna who was for many years principal, who gave the initial encourage-

ment and help, and the school in the past has produced such famed stars in the Cork tunic as Lil Kirby, Peggy Hogg, Kitty Barry Murphy, Eileen Casey, Carmel Cotter, Betty Walsh, Joan Clancy, Angela Lane and Renee Manley.

Nowadays they have won two successive Munster Schools titles and are at present heading for their third in a row. And the great inspiration of that school side through these past few seasons has been that fair-haired mid-field or wing player Liz Garvan, who, now at seventeen, is really coming into her camogie-playing prime.

It was, of course, to her advantage that the art of hurling was in the blood, for her father was a star with the Sarsfields in other days, while her two sisters have preceded her in the St. Aloysius tunic, and one of them is now full-forward for the U.C.C. Ashbourne Cup side.

Showing amazing aptitude for the game almost from the first day that she could hold a stick young Liz Garvan first hit the headlines, when, though only fourteen she starred on her school side that won both the Cork schools league and championship.

A year later she helped her school win the Munster schools' title for the first time, and was playing on the Cork secondary

team in the Munster championship. At sixteen she played on the Cork schools' selection that defeated Dublin, starred for the Cork senior side that won the Munster championship, and played well, but vainly, in the 1968 All-Ireland final that Cork lost so narrowly to Wexford. Later that season she was picked for Munster and in 1969 had another great year at all levels.

She again was the star of her school side that advanced to the first ever All-Ireland Colleges final only to lose narrowly to Kilkenny. She starred for Old Als. in the Cork County final. She played her heart out for Cork in the Munster championship and for Munster in the interprovincial final, and though she had the galling experience in being on the losing side in three finals, her worth was recognised when she gained the award of Cork's camogie star of the year.

Now, facing the 'seventies, one can confidently predict that Liz Garvan's name will figure very prominently in the camogie history of the years ahead. As she adds experience to her great natural aptitude for the game she will be an ever-increasing force, and all opponents may look out for the Liz Garvan-inspired sides from St. Aloysius, from Old Als, from Cork and from Munster, through the season, and the years ahead.

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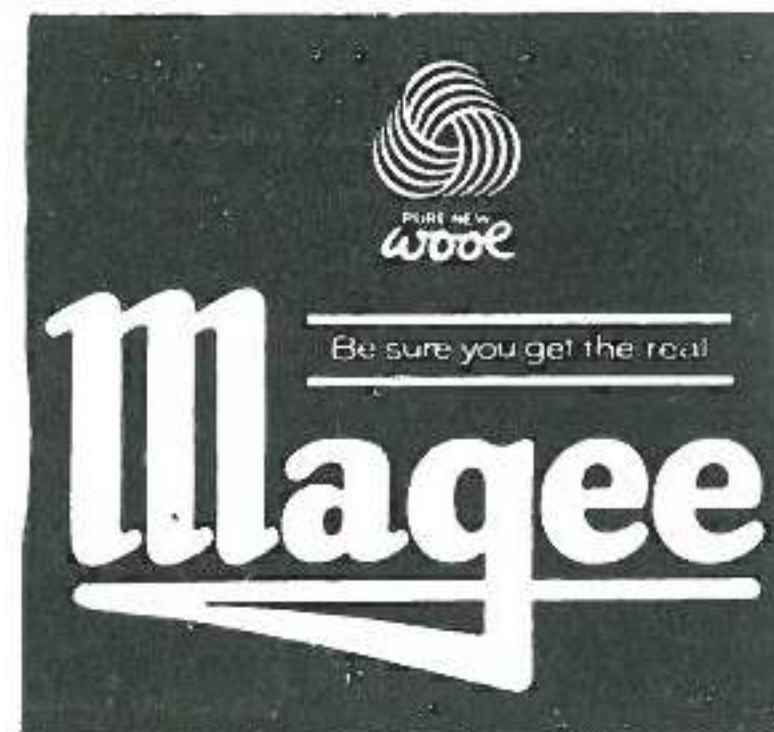
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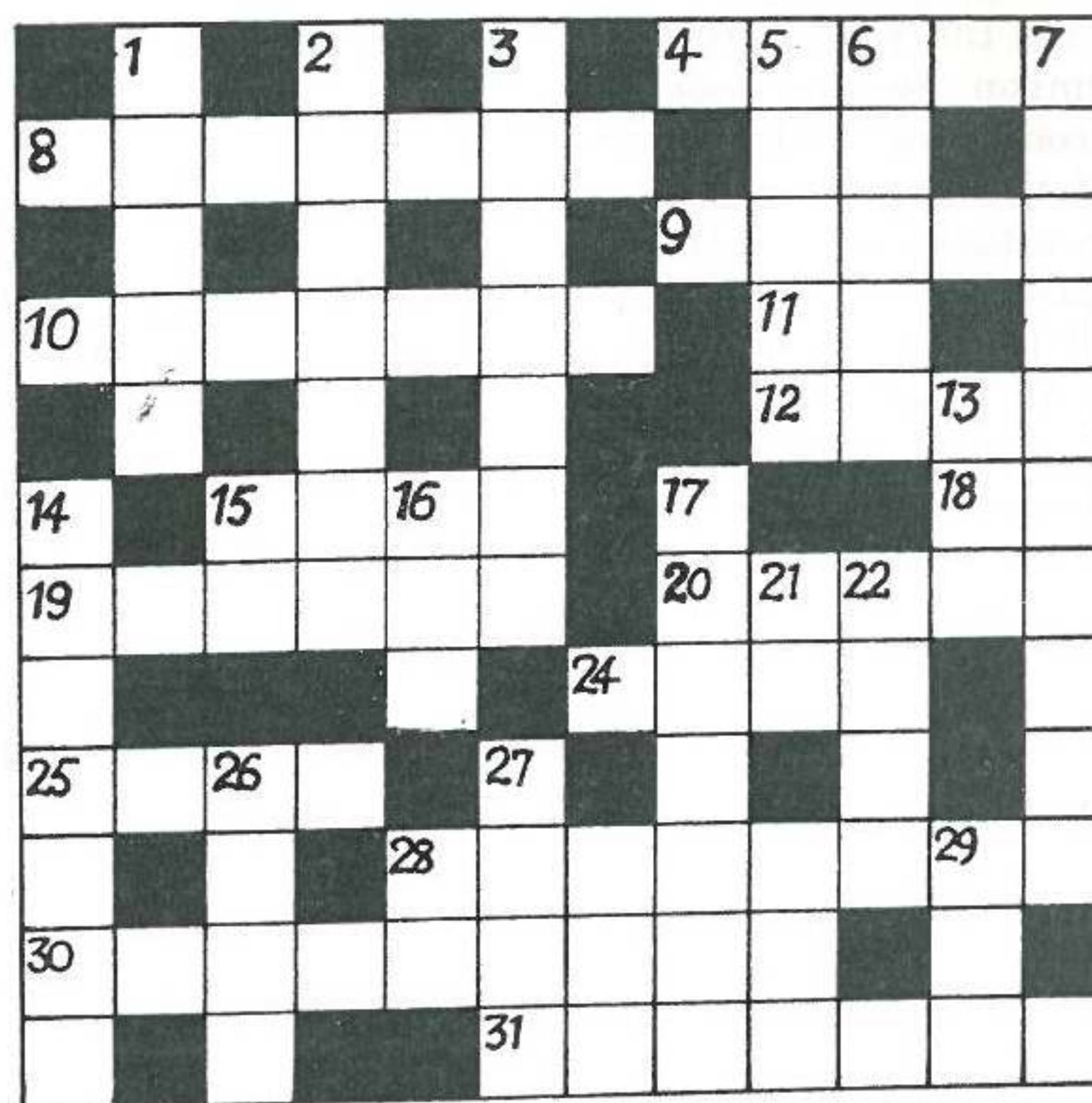
(No. 48) By PERMUTER

ACROSS

- 4—Liam is Tipperary football midfielder. (5)
 8—Popular tournament—football and hurling—held annually at Whit. (7)
 9—A Tipperary half-back of last year, or one of a pair of Longford players, one of whom has now emigrated. (5)
 10—Foreign arm of the Association with a representative at Central Council. (7)
 11—Holds the record big game score in hurling. Initials. (1, 1)
 12—Gory object spins round dizzily like a top. (4)
 15—The popular star of the side—as in a work of drama or fiction. (4)
 18—Limerick and Munster half-forward. Initials. (1, 1).
 19—Seamus is an occasional Wexford forward; John was a star corner-back and later good full-forward for Waterford. (6)
 20—Soft, boggy area in which is found priest much-concerned with Tipperary football. (5)
 24—Cloe sounds like fuel, but, in fact, is a Down forward. (4)
 25—Part of city in Meath line-out causes confused draw. (4)
 28—See 6 Down.
 30—Offaly half-back, not to be confused with a Westmeath half-back. (1, 8)
 31—Star of Kilkenny teams of the forties whose accuracy was example to all. (7)

DOWN

- 1—Runners-up in the All-Ireland final of 1958? (5)
 2—Present-day Wexford forward, or Dublin and Kilkenny full-back of the 'forties. (1, 6)
 3—Tin nose is no protection against the nervous uneasiness most players experience before a game. (7)
 5—Noted Cavan goalie of the 'thirties. (5)



- 6—(and 28 Across) Offaly midfielder—one of the most consistent in the game. (5, 8)
 7—Ard Runai an Chumainn. (1, 1, 8)
 13—In brief, a substitute. (3)
 14—Reserve Kerry goalkeeper. (1, 6)
 15—Full-forward on Louth team which lost the 1951 All-Ireland final to Mayo. Initials. (1, 1)
 16—To dispossess a player of the ball is half the same as to borrow. (3)
 17—New Louth goalkeeper who got an unexpected opportunity to show his ability in the Leinster championships. (1, 6)
 21—Little Alfred (2)
 22—Leer while you stagger after a heavy charge. (4)
 26—A rule may become confused, but it still remains a rule. (4)
 27—Earth—the quality of which is important in preparing a games' pitch. (4)
 28—Half a clip for the initials of a Dublin hurler. (1, 1)
 29—Excitement—often you get much of it about nothing. (3)

SOLUTION : PAGE 48

● FROM PAGE 11

of O'Dwyer at left full-forward was, in the end, the making of the present Kerry forward line through 1969.

As the year wore on his opportunism became more and more productive, and, before the end of the season, all his colleagues in attack had finally realised that O'Dwyer was the man to round off the scoring movements.

As proof, look at the number of scores he got in the closing stages of the year when the Kerry attack was really functioning as a unit. And the newspaper editors, who get a lot of abuse from time to time about their allocation of the annual awards, showed that they had their heads screwed on rightly this time for O'Dwyer must be taken as the man who gave Kerry the most consistent service right through the year. Now with three All-Irelands, as many

National League awards, plenty of Munster medals, one wonders how long more Mick O'Dwyer will face the big-time?

He has yet, of course, to win a Railway Cup medal, a feat no Munster side has achieved in the past twenty-one years. And he would, I am sure, dearly love to lead Waterville to victory in the County Championship final, an honour that so narrowly eluded the village side this year.

But first of all there is the Kerry trip to Australia, and it is only when that few weeks' work is finished and done with that Kerry and O'Dwyer can look forward to the home campaigns of 1970.

Personally of course Mick O'Dwyer remains modest, quiet, pleasant, soft-spoken. A family man who manages his own garage business in Waterville, as kindly a man as anyone could wish to meet.

TOP TEN

THE omission of hurling from our Top Ten rankings this month will come as a shock to readers—until it is realised that there was no inter-county hurling match played during the period under review, December 21 to January 18.

Football matches were few and far between during the same time, but there were sufficient to yield a representative and by no means unimpressive list for our chart.

The main games played in the period stated were the National Football League engagements between Offaly and Tipperary at Tullamore on December 21 and between Mayo and Tipperary at Crossmolina on January 18, and the O'Byrne Cup (1968) quarter final between Kildare and Meath at Newbridge on the latter date.

That Newbridge match produced the leader of our list. Pat Dunny was in magnificent form for Kildare, and the second of his two goals is unlikely to be surpassed this season.

Other outstanding displays were those of Eddie Webster at right full back for Tipperary in the Tullamore League tie and Willie McGee for Mayo in the same competition at Crossmolina.

FOOTBALL

- (9) Pat Dunny (Kildare)
- (8) Willie McGee (Mayo)
- (8) Eddie Webster (Tipperary)
- (8) Sean O'Connell (Derry)
- (7) Kevin Kelly (Kildare)
- (7) Willie Bryan (Offaly)
- (7) Mick Niblock (Derry)
- (6) John O'Donoghue
(Tipperary)
- (6) Pat Mangan (Kildare)
- (6) Martin Furlong (Offaly)



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partner is the great Mayo mid-fielder cum forward, **Padraic Carney**, who will be remembered by many Gaels as the "flying doctor".

On to the forwards, and the number ten spot goes to the second Louthman on my selection, **Kevin Beahan**, who rates number one as the hardest hitter of a ball ever witnessed on a football field.

On the other wing is placed the speedy Dubliner, **Cathal O'Leary**, who also had many fine hours at mid-field and if things were going badly might switch positions with Carney. The great **Sean Purcell** is an automatic choice for the task of leading the attack and this writer endorses the remarks made by Jack Mahon about the unforgettable Tuam-man in last month's GAE LIC SPORT.

Tom Langan, who, with Sean O'Neill, is regarded by most experienced supporters as one of the two great full-forwards in modern times, is another automatic choice. The present Kerry County Board chairman, **Jim Brosnan**, who, when proving himself one of big Kingdom stars in the 'Fifties, was equally effective on the field of play as he is in the chair to-day, is given the right corner-forward position. To complete the side, the number fifteen jersey goes to **Kevin Heffernan** of Dublin, whose roving tactics and deadly opportunism proved a menace to many defences.

So, my team of the 'Fifties is: J. Mangan (Galway); J. O'Shea (Kerry), P. O'Brien (Meath), S. Flanagan (Mayo); G. O'Malley (Roscommon), J. Mahon (Galway), S. White (Louth); J. McKeever (Derry), P. Carney (Mayo); K. Beahan (Louth), S. Purcell (Galway), C. O'Leary (Dublin); J. Brosnan (Kerry), T. Langan (Mayo), K. Heffernan (Dublin).

RECORD MAKERS OF 1969

WILLIE McGEE, scored 17 goals in football during 1969. Prior to this, the record for a full year's campaign was shared at 13 by Paddy Doherty (Down), 13-97 (136 points) in 24 games in 1960, and Johnny Joyce (Dublin), 13-16 (55 points) in 14 games in 1962.

Jimmy Doyle scored 91 points in hurling, as distinct from goals and points combined. Doyle held the old record at 87 points in 17 games in 1964. He also hit 10 goals that year.

The Thurles man also has a new Tipperary and Munster record. His 1964 score of 117 points was the previous best for a Southerner.

As well as Mick O'Dwyer, Jack Donnelly, Pat Buckley, Seán Woods

(Monaghan) and Vinny Kirwan (Waterford) established new county record in football last year.

The old records broken, other than Kerry's (see page 38) are:

KILDARE: 5-60 (75 points) in 14 games by Kieran O'Malley in 1959.

WESTMEATH: 6-41 (59 points) in 18 games by Tommy Monaghan in 1959.

MONAGHAN: 2-37 (43 points) in 12 games by Seán Woods in 1968. His record is 4-35 (47 points) in 9 games.

WATERFORD: 2-11 (17 points) by T. Kirwan in 7 games in 1962. New record is 2-21 (27 points) in 7 games by Kirwan.

That gives us three each from Galway and Mayo, two each from Kerry, Dublin and Louth and one each from Meath, Derry and Roscommon. How I would love to turn the clock back long enough to see this team in action at their best!

Think of the fact that brilliant performers like Aidan Brady (Roscommon), Willie Casey and Paddy Prendergast (Mayo), Sean Quinn (Armagh), Jim Crowley, Ollie Freaney and Des Ferguson (Dublin), Mick Higgins (Cavan), Peter McDermott and Brian Smyth (Meath), Neally Duggan and "Toots" Kelleher (Cork) and Iggy Jones (Tyrone) to mention a few, are unable to gain places on the team and then you know what I mean about the 'Fifties being a great decade for football.

For those of you who may have missed last month's GAE LIC SPORT, my team of the 'Sixties was: A. Phillips (Wicklow); E. Colleran (Galway), N. Tierney (Galway), T. O'Hare (Down); J. Donnellan (Galway), B. Cunningham (Meath), M.

Newell (Galway); M. O'Connell (Kerry), J. Lennon (Down); S. O'Connell (Derry), P. Doherty (Down), M. Kearins (Sligo); J. Keenan (Galway), S. O'Neill (Down), M. O'Dwyer (Kerry).

Now let's try and figure out who would win this imaginary game between those two fine sides. Measuring them man to man, there isn't an awful lot in it and some most interesting clashes loom up. How would Paddy O'Brien fare out against Sean O'Neill, or at the other end would Enda Colleran and Noel Tierney break even with Kevin Heffernan and Tom Langan?

On gauging the worth of the four mid-fielders, it is my belief that it would be level pegging. However, the front line of the 'Fifties team looks slightly more dangerous than that of the 'Sixties and on the assumption that Sean Purcell would lead them in the manner associated with his Halcyon days, my money would be on "the team of the 'Fifties" to get there with a few points to spare. Who do YOU think would win?



Joe Maher, with trophies.

MERITED AWARD FOR JOE MAHER

By
ALLEYMAN

near to winning, did themselves justice.

Maher's performances were especially praiseworthy and various clubs in New York showed an interest in signing him.

In fact, two Canadian officials—Sgt. Ed Chalmers of the Toronto Metropolitan Police and Magistrate Joseph Addison did succeed.

On a dismal day in January, 1965, Maher, in the interim having returned home and captured the All-Ireland title, set out with his wife, Doris and three children, for Toronto.

As we parted company that day Joe was emphatic that when he was successful in winning the World crown he would be home again.

Precisely three years later Joe's ambition was realised and he was back in Dublin. But in that period the great Drogheda player had expended much energy, travelled many thousands of miles and generally dedicated himself to the task on hands. In November, 1967, the World crown came his way when he beat the top American player, Carl Obert, in the final.

This was the big moment of

THE decision to include handball for a Texaco award was one of the most exciting events for those interested in the game during 1969. It is superfluous to say that Joe Maher, the reigning World champion, was a worthy recipient. In my own view, Joe has been in the top bracket of Irish sportsmen during the last decade.

A man of ambition, born in the shadows of the historic Millmount handball court (Drogheda) some thirty-five years ago, he developed the potential that was evident from an early age and eventually won the World championship.

It is significant that the Texaco

Award should come his way just now, for he will be lining out in the Irish singlet in a few months time in an effort to retain that title.

Such is the scope of Maher's career that a feature like this could not conceivably do it justice.

We can recall snippets from it. Such as picturing the scene in 1964 when Joe Maher was selected together with the late Des Dillon to represent Ireland in the World championships at the New York Athletic Club.

Our boys made the journey more in hope than confidence and, though they did not come

his career. In his description of the game Joe says that "it was all like a dream"—one of those games that comes in a lifetime.

"I couldn't put a foot or rather a hand wrong and would describe it as just about the perfect match any player in any sport could ever hope for. I managed to get 21 'kill' shots out of 25 attempts which is something in the 'hole in one' category in golf and rarely achieved. I won decisively on the score 21-6; 21-8."

It is also interesting to note that prior to returning home Joe became the first man to receive Canada's Mackenzie medal of excellence for outstanding sporting service.

And, back on the Irish circuit again, it was not long until Maher was back in full stride again. He entered the National championships of 1968 and won out in both singles and doubles. Then followed the long, hard grind of the Gael-Linn competition, which he

won also, and again took the two singles titles in 1969.

In both seasons, he had some narrow shaves but in every instance proved himself the real champion.

In the softball final of 1968 he was involved in a tremendous struggle with Murty McEllistrim of Kerry.

McEllistrim won the first game and at different stages of the second led 13-8 and 18-13. The ability not to panic at such a crucial stage eventually brought the Louthman victory.

Something similar happened in the 1969 championships when he met Jim Doyle of Dublin in an opening round.

It was one of those occasions when the Dubliner was on top of his game.

Fleet of foot, nimble in movement and consistent in butting, he pummelled the champion in two thrilling sets that saw him win the first and look all set for

victory when he led 19-10 in the second.

It is to Maher's credit, however, that when the odds were so much against him, he showed a nerve of steel and a determination that saw him literally dive for shots from the concrete surface.

He put Doyle out on four occasions at "game-ball" and finally went on to wrest the issue himself.

So far, we have only spoken of Maher in the context of latter years. But his career stretches back quite a few years. In 1956, for instance, he was at the start of the big breakthrough when he won the junior hardball singles, softball singles and hardball doubles.

Thereafter, he never looked back. In fact, since 1961 he has never been beaten in an Irish court and can lay claim to thirteen All-Ireland titles and a record four Gael-Linn successes.



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● FROM PAGE 13

to any player than that! Admittedly, if we use successes at inter-county level as a guide there is just no comparison.

But just as Ring was a major threat to every opposing team, and an inspiring general to Cork, so, too, has O'Connell for long measured up in exciting degree in this vital double-role for Derry. His matchless qualities, above all else, have for years ensured that the Ulster team, despite the lack of top-class success, just could not be taken for granted by any team. His artistry and score-getting flair have also won for the elegant Derry footballer much of that magnetism of the personality-plus player . . . the men like Ring and others who draw the crowds on their own.

I count it my particular good sporting fortune to have been "in" on most of O'Connell's senior inter-county career. I was at Clones on that July afternoon in 1958 when, as a teenager, he played a big part in a win over Down that gave a team led by mighty Jim McKeever the distinction of being the only one so far to bring the Ulster senior championship to Derry.

A month later, O'Connell provided me with one of those golden moments in sport that live for ever. In the rain at Croke Park, he clinched an All-Ireland semi-final win over Kerry when he took a pass from Phil Smith along the right wing and cracked home two minutes from time a goal that in presentation and poise ranks as one of the brightest ever seen at head-

quarters, or any other venue for that matter.

Small wonder, then, that O'Connell became such a master in front of goal. He reigned virtually unchallenged for most of the 'Sixties as Derry's score-getter supreme, figured prominently time and again in the national charts, and he has also to his credit some first-rate scoring exhibitions.

I can recall many noteworthy match-totals, and two in particular stand out in my memory. There was a superb total of 4-3 against Armagh at Dungannon in the now defunct Dr. Lagan Cup in March, 1967, and a tally of 3-1 that shot Donegal down in the Dr. Lagan Cup a month earlier at Ballinascreen.

And when the story of the most successful decade yet in the history of Ulster in the Railway Cup is written, the name of Seán O'Connell will figure prominently. He won 10 Ulster jerseys between 1962 and 1968, and leads Derry's medals winners list with three—1965, 1966 and 1968.

If All-Ireland medals have eluded O'Connell himself on the field of play, he has had the distinction of having contributed to two national championships won by Derry. For this shrewd tactician helped to fashion the county's All-Ireland titles at minor in 1965 (Derry's first national inter-county championship crown, incidentally) and at under-21 in 1968. A number of players who figured in those two title winning sides are now teammates of O'Connell in the senior squad.

I saw the long-serving Derry stylist in action in quite a few games last year. The spring is still very much in his step, he continues to create chances for his colleagues, his shooting generally is on target, and such was his enthusiasm that he also found time to fall back to help out the defence on occasions.

As a result, his recall at right-full-forward by Ulster—he was surprisingly omitted last year—for the Railway Cup semi-final with Munster at Croke Park at the end of the month, was inevitable.

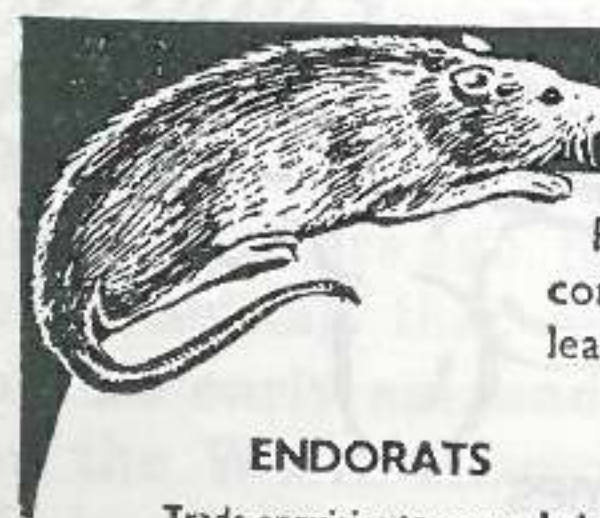
Could it be that the best wine has still to come for Seán O'Connell? Few teams in the land have such great potential as Derry. Their players have had the perfect schooling in the age-limit grades, they are generally all young, ever-improving footballers, with talent to burn, height, weight and drive.

Then, there is O'Connell himself. The master footballer on the field of play, scheming, prompting, encouraging and score-grabbing on the field of play, and working hard behind the scenes as coach in moulding and guiding this youthful outfit.

X-WORD SOLUTION

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1D	2M	3T	4M	5Y	6L	7E	8S
9W	E	M	B	L	E	Y	
	R	U	N	9B	U	R	N
10B	R	I	T	I	S	H	
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14T	15H	E	16R	O	17G		18E
19B	A	R	R	O	N	20M	21A
		B	22E	O	L	E	A
25W	A	26R	D	27S	R	E	I
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