

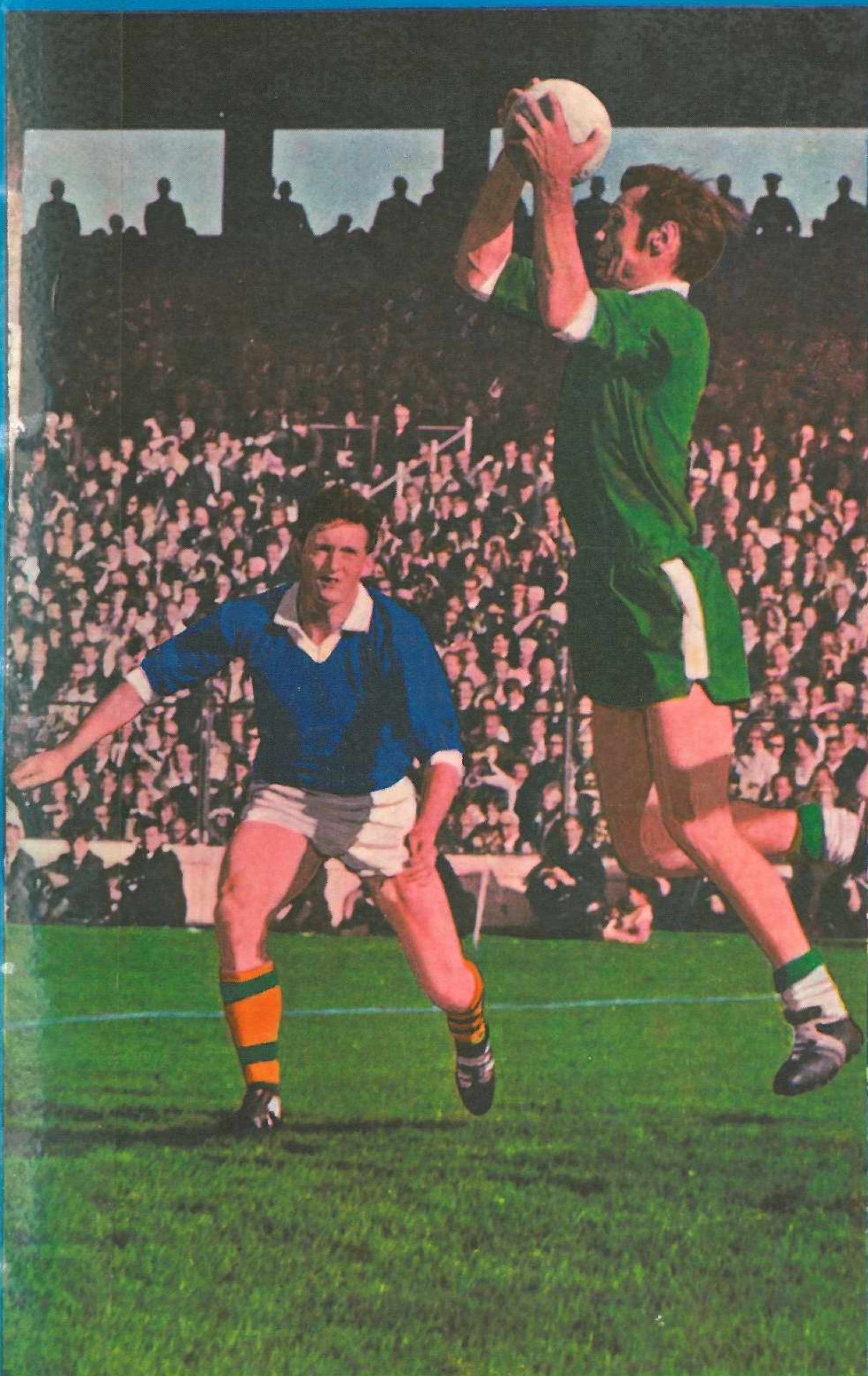
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GAA

Gaelic Sport

MAY, 1971

TENPENCE

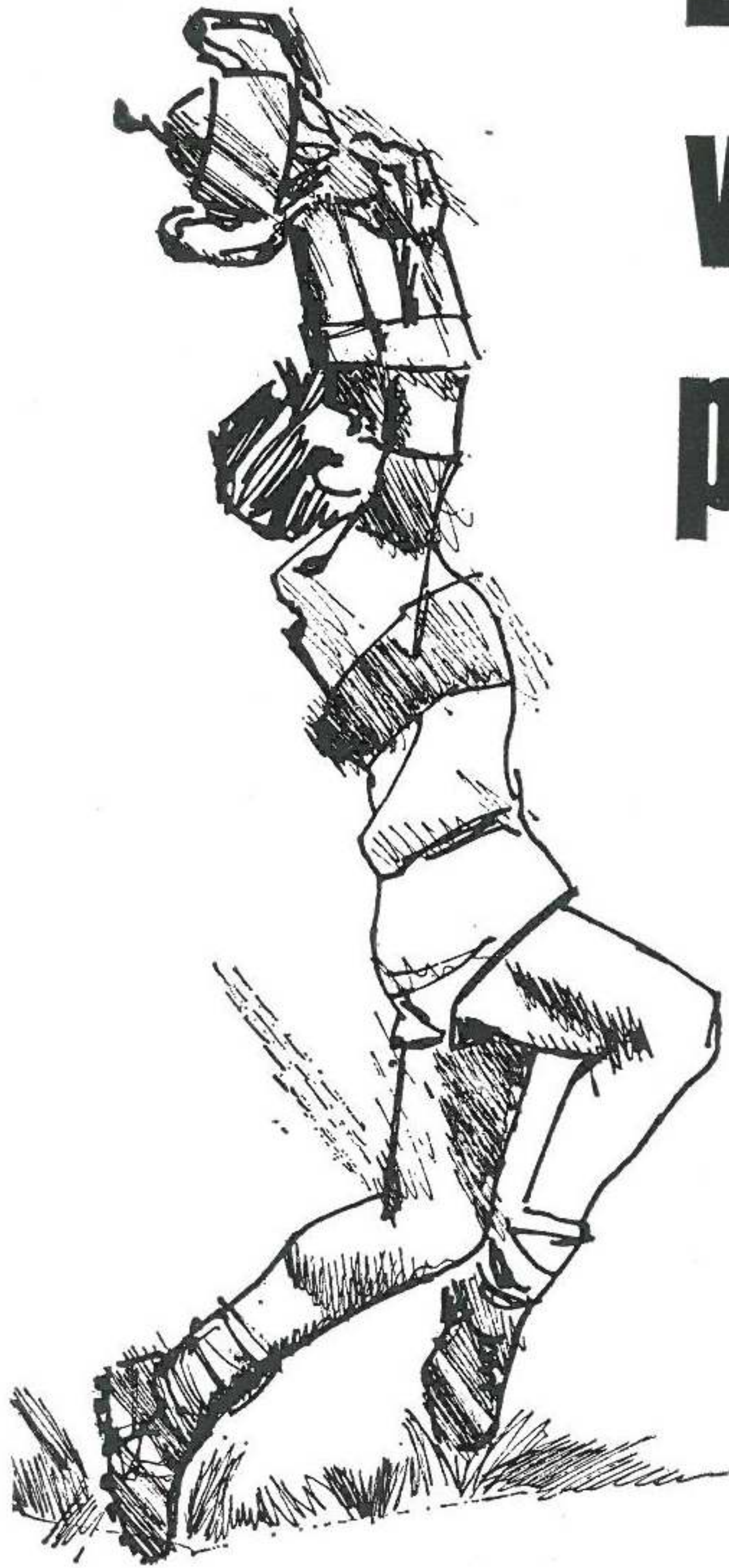


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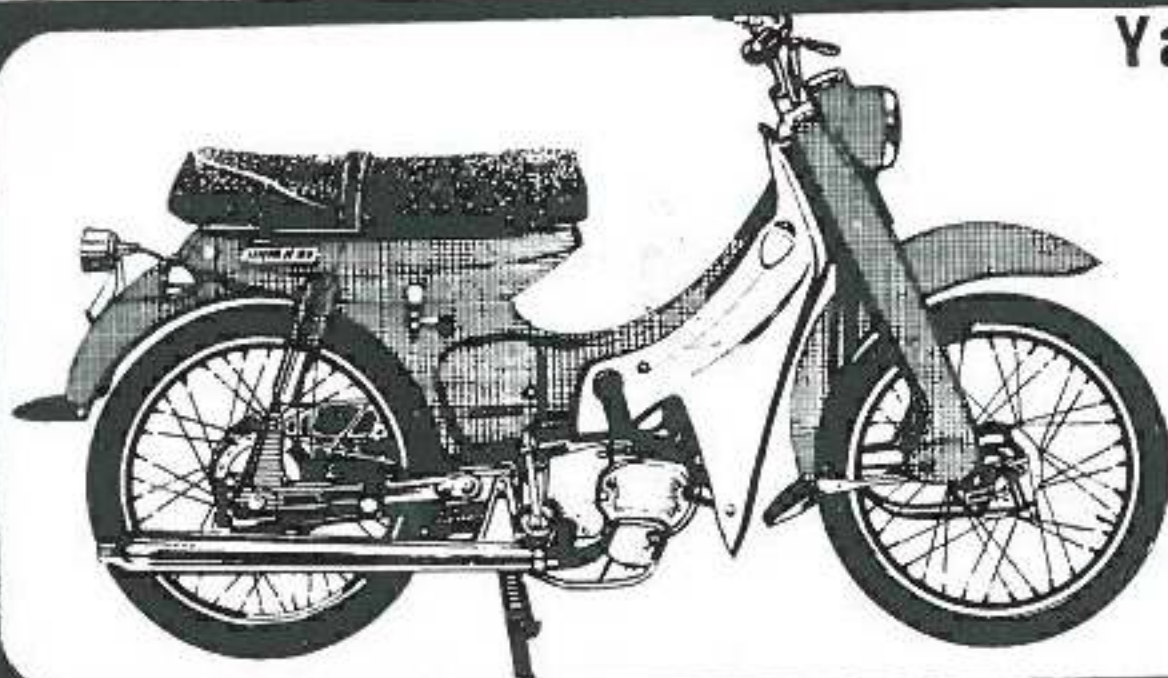
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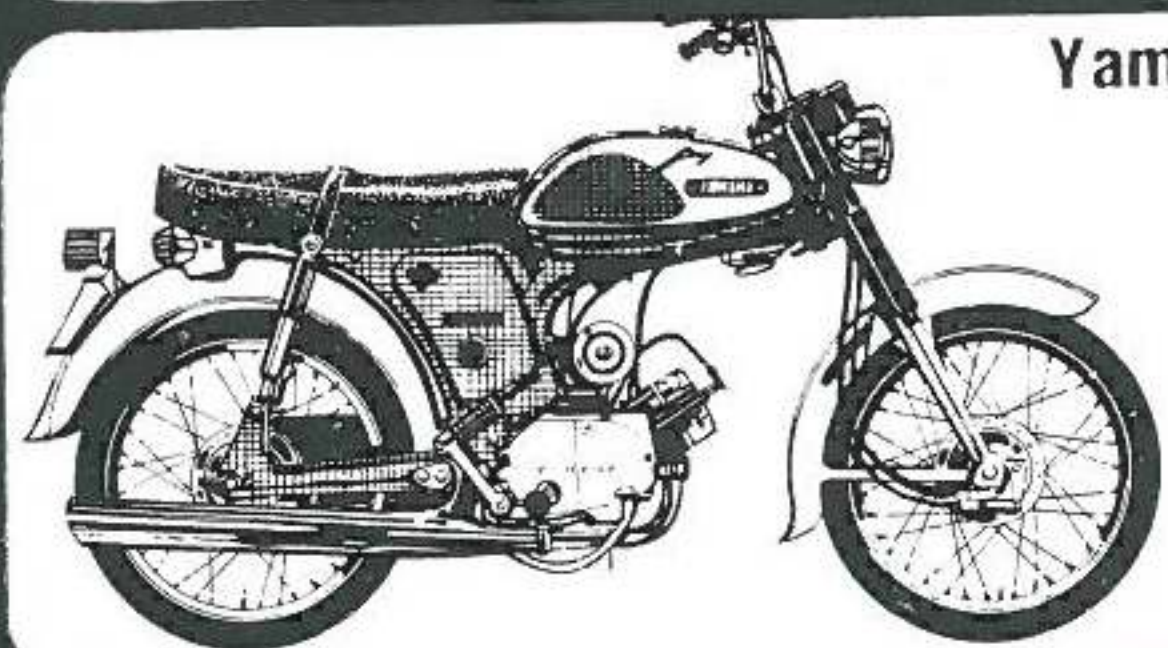


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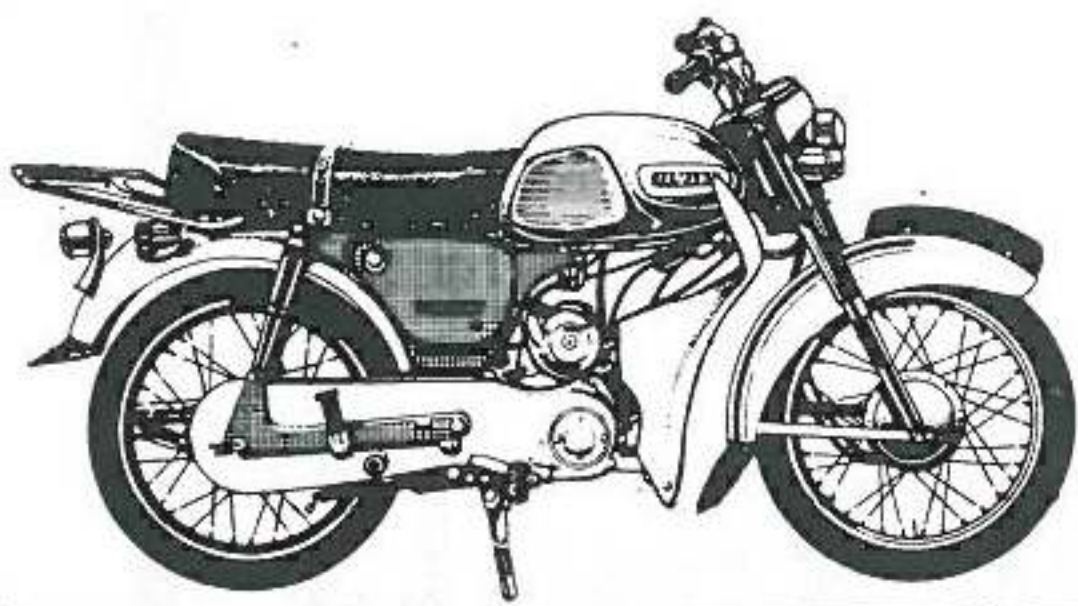
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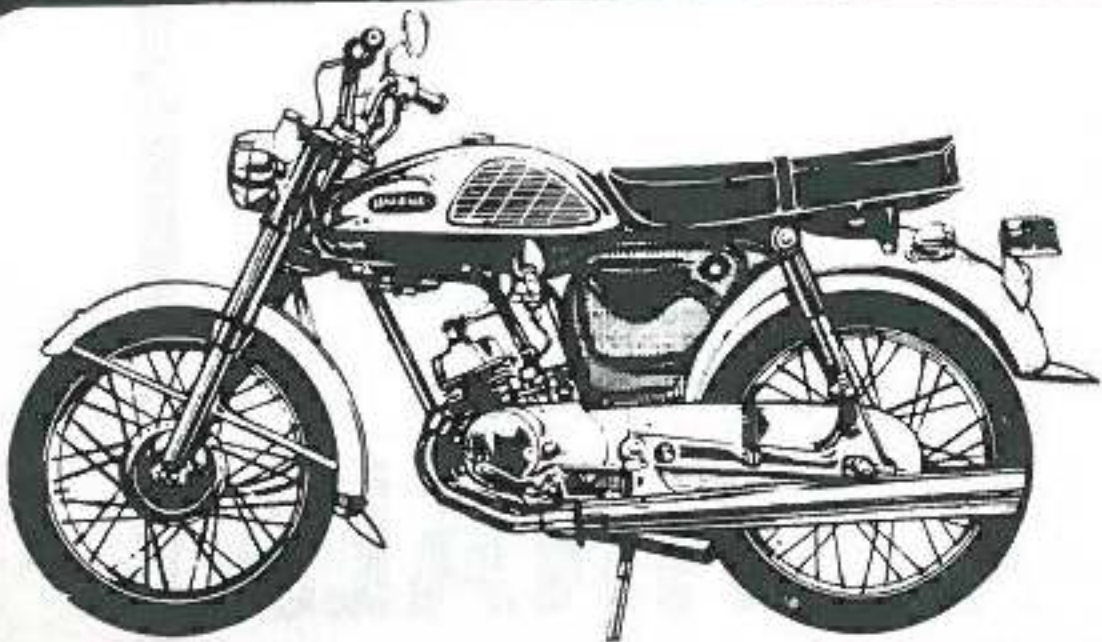
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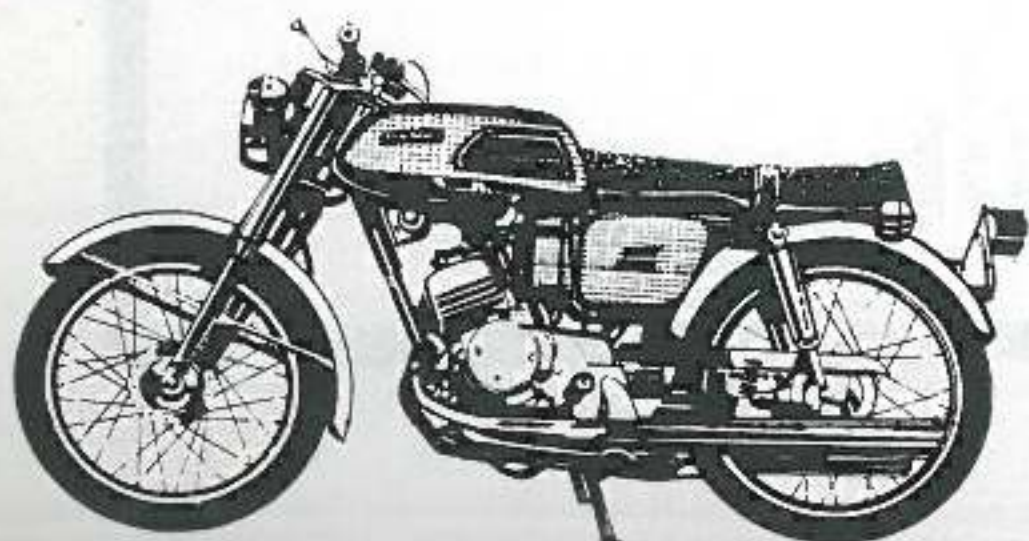
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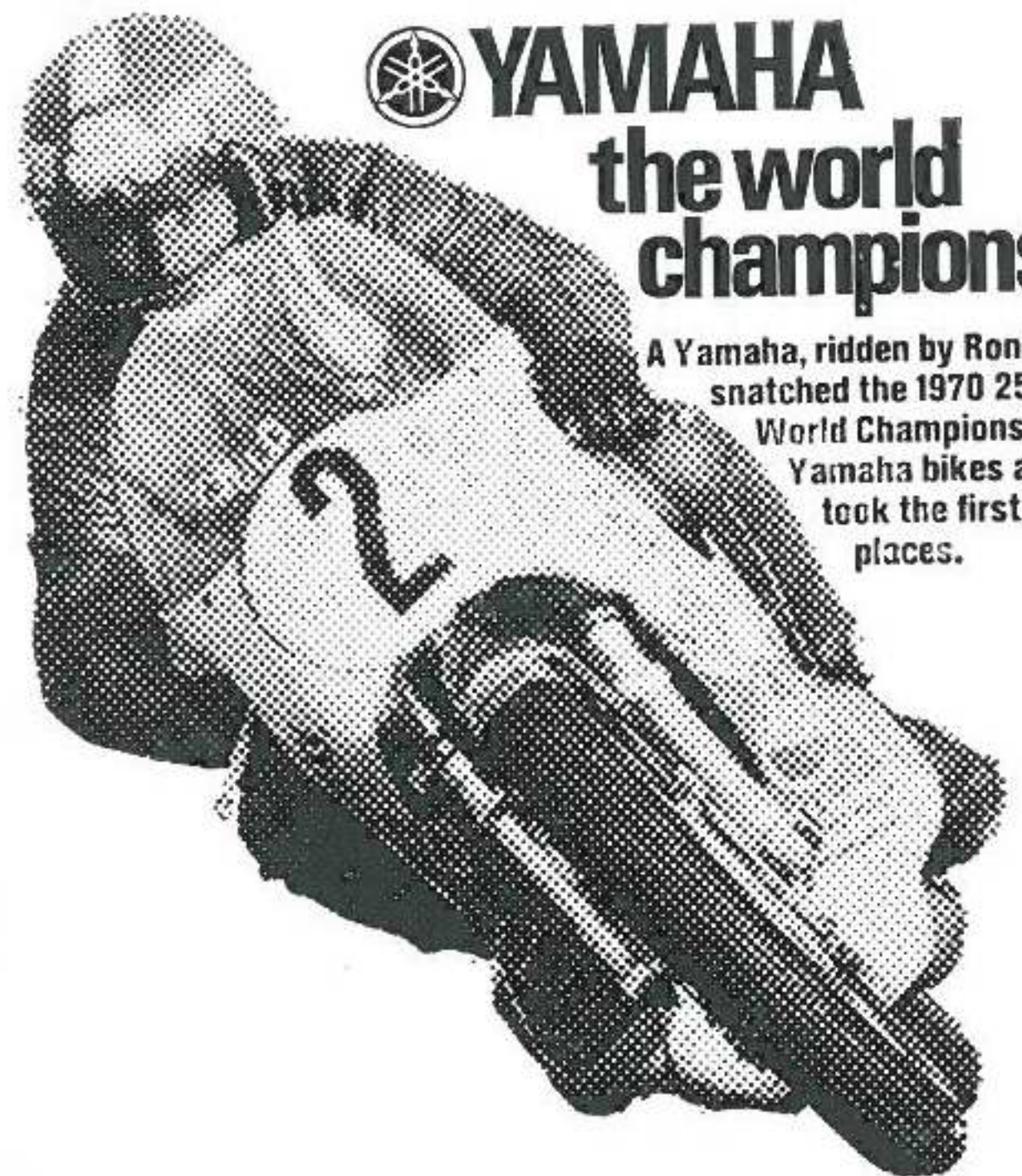
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Motorbikes continue to increase in public favour

By WAYNE EVANS

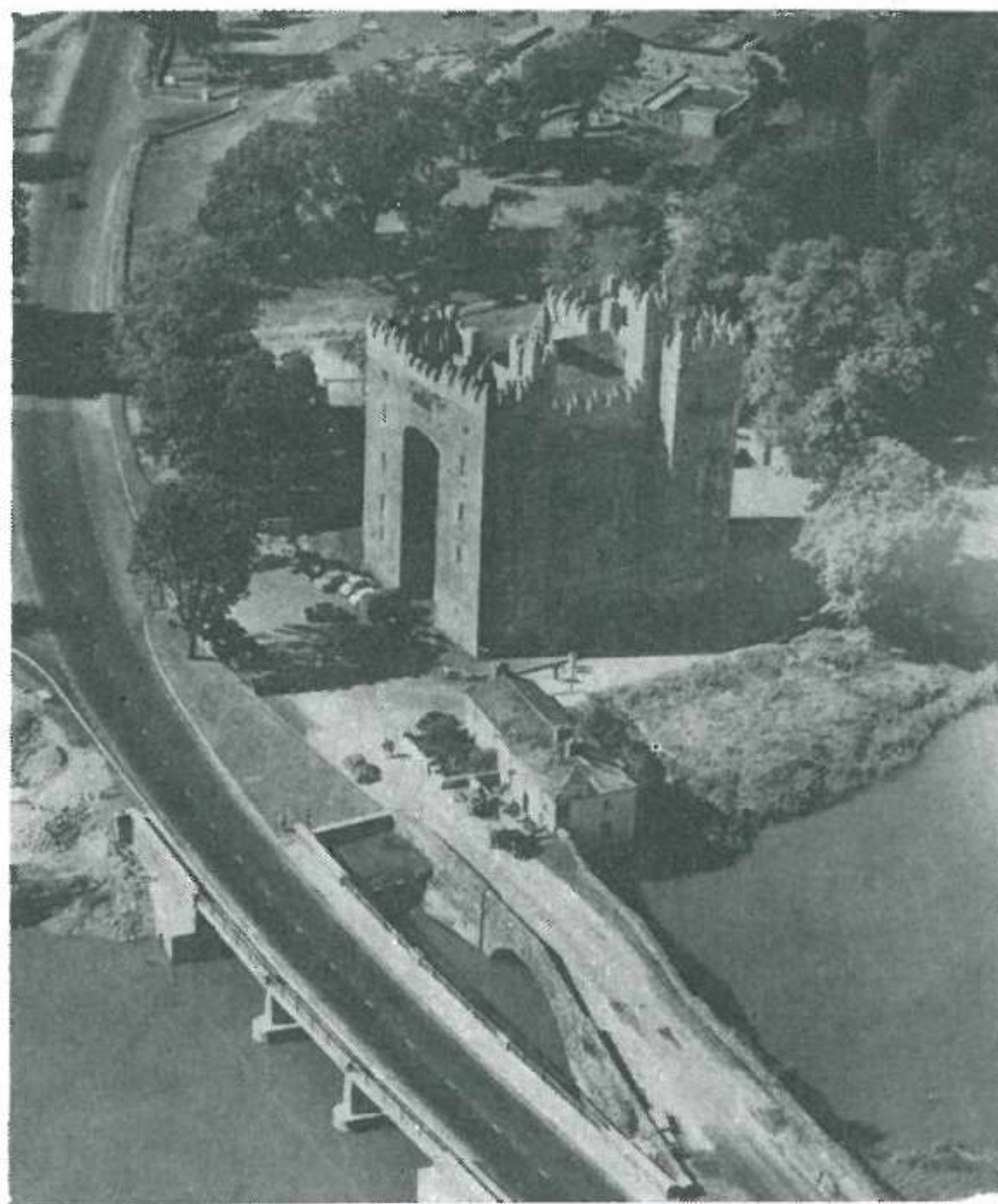
UP to a few years ago the motor bike was considered by many to be a big, dirty, oily monster. Nowadays, however, with the advent of the modern, streamlined bike, one can go-go-go in sartorial eloquence also.

Yamaha in this as in so many other fields are to the fore in the development of motor bikes to meet modern demands. These seemingly fragile machines when compared to the more fearsome monsters of yesteryear are in fact, through better design, far stronger and more reliable.

Danfay Distributors, who are Irish agents for Yamaha, had sales of 160 bikes in 1965. Now there are 10,000 Yamaha bikes on Irish roads. This gives some indication of the growing demand for bikes generally, but more clearly represents the impact that Yamaha quality and reliability have had on the Irish market.

Recently, we spoke to Danny Keany, co-founder and present Managing Director of Danfay Distributors, and a motorcyclist of championship calibre to boot. Danny told us that as an economic and fast means of transport, the motor bike has no equal. With the ever tightening grip that the traffic situation is exerting on our capital city, maybe it is in the motor bike and not in restrictive measures against car users that a solution is to be found.

In Ireland, the motor bike is still a utility item but in the United States, where so many trends originate, it is quite common for the middle aged executive to own a motor bike for leisure driving. A recent survey in the States revealed that a drop in the sales of out-board motors was matched by a corresponding rise in the sales of motor bikes. This leisure



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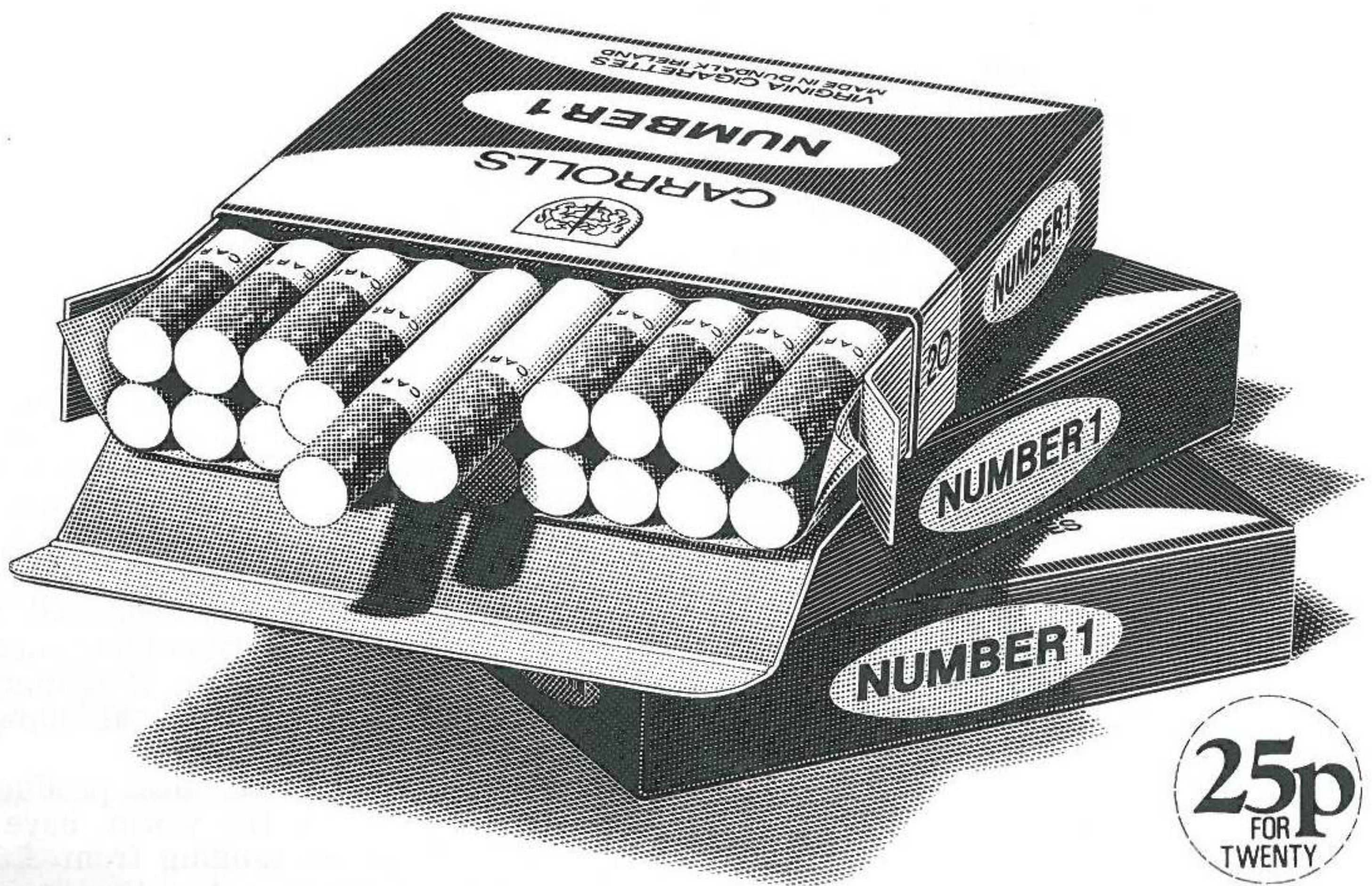
market seems to be the one in which there will be most growth in the future.

Yamaha is a better machine! This is what the Yamaha owners all over the world are saying. And it's true. More and more Yamaha bikes are being produced. Last year worldwide sales topped the four million mark. Each year the numbers of bikes sold increases and this is, to a great extent, due to personal recommendation from owners who have sampled at first hand the trouble free qualities of Yamaha allied to top quality performance. This excellence is emphasised, if emphasis is needed, by the astounding success of Yamaha in motorcycle racing. Reigning world champions, Yamaha regularly fill top places in races throughout the world.

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Vol. 14. No. 5. May, 1971

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INDEX

	Page
<i>G.A.A. in a New Era</i> —by Jay Drennan	7
<i>Ulster Viewpoint</i> —by Dan McAreavy	9
<i>Mickey Niblock: A Profile</i> —by Owen McCann	11
<i>Dunne Bows Out</i> —by Owen McCann	13
<i>Money Matters</i> —by Séamus Ó Ceallaigh	15
<i>The Leagues</i> —by Owen McCann	19
<i>Will Cork beat Kerry this year?</i> —by Eamonn Young	21
<i>Moondharrig's Diary</i>	23
<i>Seanie Barry's Departure</i> —by Philip Roderick	25
<i>Meet Jack Quinn</i> —by Noel Coogan	26
<i>Congress was a Triumph for Ó Fainín</i> —by Jay Drennan	29
<i>Paddy Mulligan Wants to Play for Galway</i> —by Patrick Carver	33
<i>Camogie</i> — by Agnes Hourigan	35
<i>Handball</i> —by Alleyman	42
<i>Top Ten</i>	43
<i>Junior Desk</i> — by Jack Mahon	45
<i>Crossword</i>	51

COVER PHOTO

OUR cover action picture this month shows Jack Quinn of Meath in possession, with Kerry's Liam Higgins ready to pounce, in case of any slip-up by the Royal County man. On our centre-page spread Noel Coogan talks with Jack Quinn. Mickey Niblock, who is also featured on our front cover, is spotlighted in this issue, by Owen McCann (See page 11).

LET'S GO!

WE know, in outline, the form which the new, post-Ban charter of the G.A.A. will take. The specifics, now being documented by the President's committee, will not be disclosed to the public until the special Congress convenes in Dublin later this month.

Pat Fanning's resolution at Congress in Belfast charted the broad headings which will form the basis of the committee's draft. These are: the national position of the Association, membership and control of grounds. When the charter is ratified by the special Congress, it will be included in the Official Guide and have the force of rule.

A number of motions which appeared on the Belfast agenda are also being considered by the committee. A couple of these propose that members be required to declare that their first allegiance is to the G.A.A. and go on to stipulate suspension penalties for breaches of such declaration.

It is hoped that the committee will not introduce suspension clauses in any shape or form. To do so would be an attempt to reimpose the Ban in new clothing. The democratic decision of Congress '71 could not be affronted in that manner.

The possibility of such a move does not exist, really. The President gave his word of honour that Rule 27 would not be re-introduced, either by the committee or the special Congress, and that pledge will stand.

A declaration of first allegiance to the national games will, however, be an essential require-

ment. It will be a positive expression of commitment. Members will be asked to give their loyalty to the Association and will then be in honour bound to keep their word.

There will be a guide-line for clubs in the application of restrictions on players in certain circumstances. These restrictions will be very necessary to the welfare of the clubs' competitive activities—as rugby and soccer have found out in their own spheres. But they cannot, of course, deny G.A.A. members the right to play—or attend—the formerly excluded games when by so doing the interests of their clubs are not endangered.

The regulation of membership will ensure that the democratic process of voting at club meetings will not be misused by factional interests hostile or indifferent to the national principles of the Association. For the same reason, the control of club grounds must be safeguarded. The possibility of a "take-over" anywhere is remote, but it must be precluded, totally.

In the future, participation in and promotion of Gaelic games will be a positive act of loyalty, a commitment without coercion.

Now that it can be seen in its proper perspective, that is a wonderful advance. The G.A.A. can only grow and prosper in this new era. The devotion of the Association to its old ideals will not be deflected or diluted.

To paraphrase a famous quotation: "We have lost nothing except our chains."



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By **JAY DRENNAN**

NOW the Ban has gone, let there be no looking back—that was, in a nutshell, the message of Padraig O Fainin at Easter. It is of the utmost importance. This is a new world for the G.A.A., and because of that it has a thousand new challenges and excitements. It gives the G.A.A. a completely new field to work in and a completely new emphasis in its workings.

In short, the new era just beginning gives the G.A.A. an immense advantage over every other kind of games organisation and, indeed, every other kind of social organisation. Even though it is almost 90 years old, it has the stimuli of a new beginning to enable it to burst ahead into an exciting new development.

Tiredness and sameness are the elements of the tedium of life; they grip us all when we have been long years in the same job or the same social situation, in the same club or working towards the same objective. Results are on the decline after the first flush of excitement and new promise: it becomes a fulfilment through known duty of obligations that seem to be getting us nowhere. Thrills of achievement are celebrated in a minor key.

So here is every organisation and sporting group in the country stuck in the middle of life: putting in the work and seeing only the marginal results of day-to-day tedium. And here is the G.A.A.—90 years almost on the clock—shuffling off an old identity and the burdens of years that go with it, and stepping out in an entirely new identity. It is a veritable reincarnation: a new life.

It is just that kind of situation, if the members can see it and can grasp it, and can see in it the excitement and opportunities that

it contains. For, essentially, the Association must become—after Easter 1971—the Association of the members. We may have thought it so before, and certainly the manner in which the Ban was deleted in the heel of the hunt was a demonstration of the power of the membership in the Association. But, it is only in that exercise of the members' voices that the very essence of their status is realised. From now on the G.A.A. is their's and it is what they wish to make of it.

No longer is there the spectre of authoritarianism overhanging them in the form of rules which block them, or in committees of the establishment which watch them with a big brotherly eye. To whatever extent that was true, it is now gone forever. The freedom which follows is complete, and in the very fact of that freedom is born a set of obligations upon members which they never had so clearly cut out for them before.

It is a question of the use or misuse of the total freedom they have won for themselves. And, first, it will now have to be realised by each club member that he is as responsible for what happens the Association, for what lines of progress she follows, as the officials of the Association's hierarchy. Such realisation must be accepted and driven home: the lesson of the removal of the Ban must be emphasised again and again.

But, the club member must realise also that in an Association in which he is not bound by disabling rules, he is also in a position in which by acting with irresponsibility he stands in a position from which he can bring the Association to ruin—or can

***The
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to burst
ahead in
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new field***

● TO PAGE 9

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● FROM PAGE 7

build it to glory. The ordinances of officials are to be understood for what they are—the words of those elected by him to issue such orders and such arrangements. If he likes them he must act on them; if he doesn't, he must still act on them, but he must do all in his power to make sure that his views are made known for the next year, either through the registration of complaint or the replacement of the officers.

It is one of the dead things about the Association that there has been less than live participation between the rank and file and the lines of officialdom. A "Them" and "Us" attitude has been built up. Inertia and hopelessness begetting an abrasive spirit of criticism on the side of the members; loss of hope that contact and corporate effort will ever be established on the part of officials. The big job is to get the lines of communication open. The officials are only the members themselves personified by those they wish to speak and act on their behalf. An understanding must exist that if they will they can change them, take on the job themselves, indeed. But, that if they will not do the job themselves, and if they honestly select the men they think will best do it, that they must then line up behind them and give them their backing.

If I were to try to find the one greatest fault in the Association over the last number of years, it would surely be that there was a gulf visible between the rank and file and the officers of Boards and Councils.

The members will never have a better chance of realising that they are, indeed, the Association than as a result of the Ban's removal. It gives a prospect that is almost daunting in possibilities if only the great mass of G.A.A. people could achieve that unity in moving forward.

ULSTER VIEWPOINT

Congress '71 was a great success

By DAN McAREAVY

THANKS to the superb leadership of president Pat Fanning, the splendidly co-operative attitude of the 300-odd delegates and the impeccable organisation by host county Antrim, the Easter Congress in Belfast was beyond a shadow of doubt the most successful exercise ever undertaken by the 87-year-old Gaelic Athletic Association.

That remains the general reaction in Ulster to an event which has carved out for itself its own particular niche in history with Mr. Fanning's handling of the crucial ban issue already assuring him an honoured place among the really great presidents.

"Let there be no sounding of trumpets as the rule disappears. Nor should there be talk of defeat. If victory there be, let it be victory for the Association," Mr. Fanning urged. And so it was to be.

Now thoughts are turning to the recommendations of the special committee—appointed to draft what virtually amounts to a new charter for the Association—and to the special Congress which will consider these proposals.

As an Armagh stalwart with more than 50 years' service to the Association behind him put it to me: "I have always believed passionately in the ban but, at the same time, change was inevitable. I am delighted that the greatest national organisation in the country, and the greatest

amateur sporting organisation in the world should be so completely united when the change has come. The G.A.A. can now go to new heights of achievement."

Yes, relief that it is over and a determination to meet the new challenges are the outstanding features of current thinking in the Province.

Personally, my only regret about Congress was that the proposal to introduce an "open draw" championship was defeated, although 50 per cent support for the idea must encourage the sponsors to come again in 1972.

Automatic suspension, too, is regretfully still with us. Having tangled with this question for years, I must confess that I am at a loss to discover how the conversion of the extra three or four counties—still needed to obtain the requisite two-thirds majority for abolition—can best be tackled. Perhaps if a trial period could be arranged with the rule set aside there would be a change of heart all round — even in the Deep South!

Nor can there be any complaints of the saturation coverage given the Congress by the Press, although I did feel that more might have been made of the president's expressed concern about the position of hurling.

"For all of us, I am sure, hurling is the very heart of the G.A.A.," Mr. Fanning declared in

● TO PAGE 10

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● FROM PAGE 9

his presidential address. "Were hurling to die, or even become merely a side issue, then the G.A.A. — for me at least—would have lost its meaning. It would no longer be the Association founded by Cusack 'to bring back the hurling'."

And he added: "Let there be no mistake about it; the state of hurling through the country gives cause for concern. But equally let it be said the big effort not merely to save hurling but to promote it and spread it in each of the 32 counties is being maintained and will be maintained."

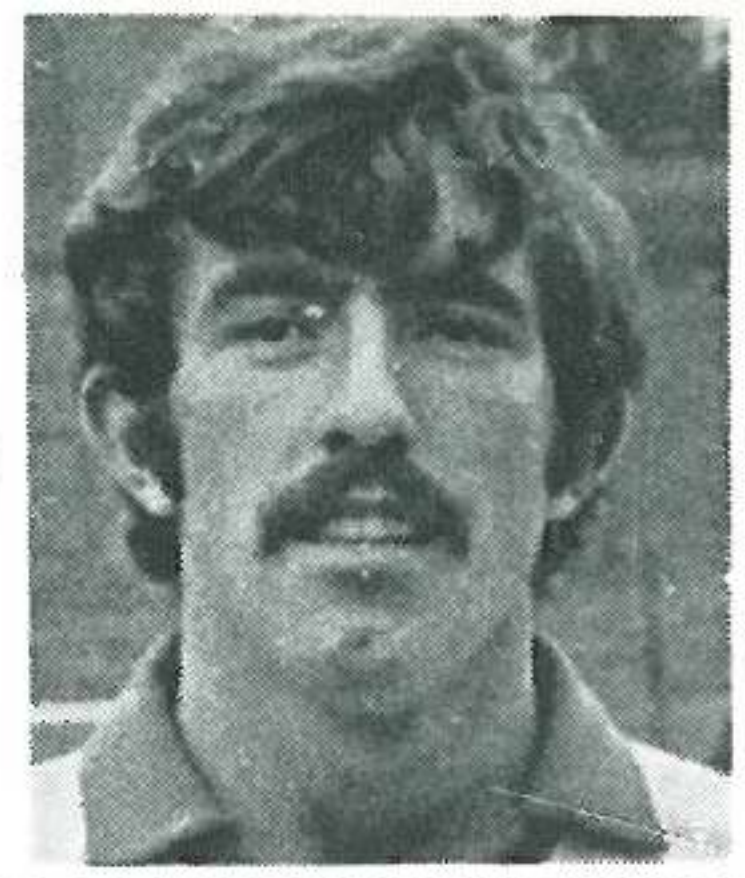
With these thoughts in mind, the mammoth under-15 hurling festival in Thurles on Saturday and Sunday, July 17 and 18, takes on a new importance. The best under-15 club side from each of the visiting 31 counties will be joined by 33 teams from hosts Tipperary in a blitz tournament over the two days, with no fewer than 224 preliminary games on the Saturday and the final stages played out on the historic Thurles sportsfield on the Sunday.

Welcoming the decision to run the tournament, Down hurling chairman Mr. Gerry Sheehan, who also leads his county's Coiste Iomana, said that the concept of the festival was one of the most imaginative ideas to emerge in the whole hurling revival campaign.

"The emphasis is on club sides and here is a golden opportunity for County Committees to dangle a very attractive prize for an under-15 competition. I sincerely hope all counties will support the idea, as it provides an excellent chance for our juveniles to learn in really top-class company," Gerry declared.

I feel that Ulster progress in the hurling revival is exaggerated. Here is a chance to revitalise those efforts.

MICKEY NIBLOCK



BY
OWEN
McCANN

FATE can be tantalisingly fickle — even to her favourite sons. Symptomatic of this is the consistency with which Mickey Niblock has been to the forefront in inter-county competitions since he first flashed his way across the scene nationally with a history-making minor team in 1965, and the noteworthy role he has played in a series of triumphs that virtually span the whole history of Derry's title achievements in major fare.

The polished Magherafelt forward has already enjoyed a rare richness of success when we compare his record with such other Derry stars as, say, legendary Jim McKeever, whose position as one of the most distinguished members of the Hall of Fame is undisputed, and whom I also rate as the greatest midfielder of my own time, Mick O'Connell not withstanding. McKeever's score in the big medals league is one Ulster senior and two Railway Cup souvenirs.

Yet, although he has still years of football ahead of him, Niblock already holds two All-Ireland medals, minor in 1965, and Under-21 in 1968, an Ulster senior award in 1970, and Railway Cup medals for 1968, 1970 and 1971. That's a very impressive haul for a young footballer from any county, but particularly for one from a county with such a modern tradition as Derry's.

However, that hard taskmaster, fate, has in latter times switched the emphasis more and more from the talents and skills of Mickey Niblock and his col-

leagues to the manner in which chances have been lost . . . chances that could transform Derry's undeniable potential into a smooth, co-ordinated outfit on a par with the best ever in football history.

I know many shrewd judges who feel that the important trophies have passed by this talented company of Derry footballers for good. I must admit that the last couple of games I saw Derry in action this year, I found their performances terribly disappointing.

Nevertheless, despite the many question marks that must now hover over the side following their draws with Meath, Antrim and Cavan in their Spring programme in the National League, I am still not prepared to say that Derry will not yet prove equal to the big challenge. They have more than most teams in their favour, not to mention the talents of Mickey Niblock.

I find a great deal to admire in the Derry forward's play, particularly his facility to place the ball. He allies quickness of

thought and action with deft, accurate touches to lay on the chances around goal as few in the country, other than the master himself, Sean O'Neill.

A great carrier of the ball, Niblock backs up his creative wiles with control and poise, and he can also engage in situations away from, as well as around, goal. He is also able to more than hold his own with the best in match-winning, clean, high fielding.

Niblock's general finishing may not currently be on a par with his good outfield work, a criticism, of course, common to all the Derrymen. At the same time, he has proven that he is not backward in going forward to punch home the goals himself, and he has, time and again, also richly earned applause for well-taken points.

The Northern interprovincial's career has so far been nicely moulded at important stages of development with the type of vital team title triumphs which can mean so much in the apprenticeship of a player.

And it is still comparatively early days in his football life, for while many are inclined to look on Niblock as something of a veteran, he is a veteran only in the playing sense, for he only won his place in the Derry premier side a little over four years ago.

Only a year after his senior

● TO PAGE 14

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● Cyril Dunne, as he looked in his heyday with the great Galway teams of the 1960s.

DUNNE BOWS OUT

By OWEN McCANN

SO the file on the scoring activities of Cyril Dunne, that spot-on finisher from Ballinasloe, now takes its place on the "For Future Reference" shelf, with the final entry of many inked in, and the goals and points harvested over the years catalogued in cold figures that conceal the many joys and disappointments in a career that is as successful in every direction as any one can find in football and hurling lore.

It is a file that provides the basics of a story that reveals Dunne as a brilliant contemporary of such greats as Paddy Doherty and Charlie Gallagher, and Jimmy Doyle and Eddie Keher, in what is, after all, the most important aspect of field games — score-making and score taking — and also as a prominent figure in some headline-making scoring achievements.

Like the free-kick exhibition that was the 1965 Railway Cup football final. Effortlessly, and with pin-point precision, Cyril Dunne pointed no fewer than 10 frees that day, and Paddy Doherty's immaculate left-foot was responsible for seven minors from placed balls. Not only that, neither player failed in that game to convert a single free!

There were many other memorable games in which the Galway ace demonstrated his brilliant art in turning to account chances both from frees and play. One of the best goals he scored, in my view, was Galway's lone goal of their 1966 All-Ireland semi-final with Cork. Ten minutes into the second half, with Galway only a point in front, Dunne cracked home a great left-footed drive for

a vitally important score.

That was not his only contribution to a win that greatly helped Galway on the road to ranking as the only Connacht county to win three All-Ireland senior football titles in succession, a run they completed against Meath in the 1966 decider. He also helped himself to seven points against Cork, and his part in the Galway win is underlined even more by virtue of the fact that he scored all but four points of his team's total.

Cyril Dunne is one of only three Galway players to reach a century of points for a full year's campaign in inter-county games, embracing all competitions and challenges, and Railway Cup ties. He reached three figures for the only time in 1964, when he took second place in Ireland in the football chart with 3.96 (105 points) in 21 matches.

That score is just two points below the Galway county record, held by Sean Purcell, who was coming to the end of a great inter-county career during Dunne's early days in the Galway football side at the beginning of the last decade. The Tuam ace blazed the record-making trail with 11-74 (107 points) in 22 games in 1958.

The third Galway member of the elite century club is John Keenan, who was Connacht's ace marksman in 1969, and third best in Ireland, with 5-88 (103 points) in 21 games. Purcell and Keenan also reached three figures only in the seasons spotlighted.

Cyril Dunne headed the Galway county chart in 1962, 1964,

● TO PAGE 14

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● **FROM PAGE 13**

1965 and 1967. He led the way in the West in 1962 and 1964, but somewhat surprisingly, never headed the nation-wide table. However, a good average of high figures over the years ensures that the Galway ace will still rank as one of the most prolific score-grabbers of them all.

In all, he played a total of 179 games in the big-time, and scored 40 goals and 534 points, or a total of 654 points. This works out at the good match score of 3.65 points.

Now, as he joins other scoring wizards of the 'Sixties in inter-county retirement, we can do no better than to say to Cyril Dunne:

"Thanks for the memories, memories of great, flashing goals, wonderful points, top-class exhibitions, controlled, cultured play that will long live with us all."

Mickey Niblock

● **FROM PAGE 11**

inter-county debut came his first outing in the Ulster jersey against Connacht at Cavan, and he has figured in each of the North's subsequent five games in the series. When we consider the proud record of Ulster in the Railway Cup, and the invariably keen competition for places in their team, this 100 per cent quota of interprovincial jerseys as a senior is a splendid tribute to the consistent quality of Niblock's football and his ever-growing maturity.

So, whatever the future may hold for Derry football, it seems reasonable to assume that, with the wealth of experience he has already garnered, and the football know-how he has perfected, as well as his own individual skills and flairs, Mickey Niblock will continue to be a dynamic force in the game.

THEY'RE A WOW!

EVEN if new attendance records for the finals of the National Leagues are not put into the record book after this month's deciders, the exciting new dimensions given to the 1970-'71 competitions with the introduction of promotion and relegation, and the new grouping arrangements, will still have paid-off handsomely in greater all-round interest and nation-wide appeal from the first to the final rounds than in any past season.

The finals will, of course, be the money-spinning games to top them all, but already more cash than ever before has flowed into the county coffers, and the keenness of the players, and the enthusiasm of the supporters throughout are the most effective answers to those who have been so vocal in their efforts to establish a wailing wall around the future of football and hurling.

The one real cause for regret now is that the spring programme was not a more streamlined one. Had a complete series of games in each code been played without fail every second week from the start of the playing year (in football, for instance, we had a month's delay between rounds five and six) the counties would now be enjoying an even greater financial bonanza. Let's hope that the lesson will not be lost for the future, as booming National Leagues put hurling and football in a stronger competitive position with other pastimes.

Be that as it may, the National Leagues have come a long way in status and nation-wide appeal since the first final was played at the Cork Athletic Grounds on May 16, 1926, when Cork beat Dublin by 3-7 to 1-5 in hurling. A year later the initial football final resulted in a 2-1 to 1-0 win for Laois over Dublin.

The biggest attendance at any League game was at the 1964 clash of Dublin and Down in the "Home" football final, when 70,126 crowded into Croke Park. The record for a football final proper is 56,515 at another meeting of Down and Dublin — that one for the 1962 title. A year later 57,180 passed through the turnstiles for the Kerry-Down "Home" final, and an estimated 7,000 gained free admission when some of the gates were forced open.

The high-point attendance-wise in hurling was reached at a memorable game in 1956, when Wexford turned a 15 points deficit at the interval into a 5-9 to 2-14 win over Tipperary before 45,902 enthralled spectators.

Mayo and Tipperary dominate the story of the Leagues, with the Connacht county holding a position that is both unique and highly impressive. Ten final appearances, ten titles—that's the almost unbelievable Mayo score! And for good measure, the county's run of six titles in a row from 1934 to 1939 inclusive is the best for both codes.

Tipperary head the titles chart

with 13 from 19 finals. Their first was as early as 1928, but they did not take their second until 1949. That win saw mighty John Doyle, from Holycross, win his first National League medal, and in 1965 he brought his score to eleven, the greatest number won by any player.

Limerick have not made an impact in the modern hurling series, but still rank as a pace-setter in the game as regards titles won in succession, with five from 1934 to 1938. The next best run is Tipperary's 1959-1961 three in a row.

Probably the most novel final of all was the football clash of 1947, in which Derry won Ulster's first crown by beating Clare 2-9 to 2-5. But Derry, who have not since inscribed their name on the list, were not the first team from the "Wee Six" to reach a decider.

In 1935 Fermanagh lost by 21 points (5-8 to 0-2) to Mayo in a tie that ranks as the one with the most decisive winning margin in football. Derry were themselves on the wrong end of the biggest barrage in a decider in 1961, when Kerry cracked home 28 points (4-16) to the Ulster team's 1-5.

Limerick's 11-6 (39 points) against Cork in 1937 is the only total by any team in football or hurling to reach two figures in goals.

The finals have generally been good value for goals. One green flag at least has been raised in all but three — 1956 (Cork 0-8; Meath 0-7) and 1960 (Down 0-12; Cavan 0-9) in football, and 1959 (Tipperary 0-15; Waterford 0-7) in hurling.

The 1960 football final has a number of other distinctions. It was the first all-Ulster one, resulted in Down's first title, and

● TO PAGE 20

By OWEN MCCANN



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● FROM PAGE 19

is the last featuring counties from the one province.

The last year a new name was inscribed on the list was in 1966, when Longford won out in football. Only two other counties have 100 per cent records in finals; Laois, who have not appeared in the concluding round since that 1927 win, and Mayo.

Galway were the first to put their name on the chart in hurling and football. They achieved that distinction in 1940, when with one hurling title to their credit (1932) they beat Meath. Cork have eight hurling titles and two in football. Dublin and Galway complete the short list with, amazingly enough, identical figures—three each in football, and two apiece in hurling.

Here's how the provinces and counties measure up in the titles chart for the National Leagues:

HURLING

29, Munster; 8, Leinster; 2, Connacht.

13, Tipperary (1928 to 1968); 8, Cork (1926 to 1970); 6, Limerick (1934 to 1947); 3, Kilkenny (1933 to 1966); 3, Wexford (1956 to 1967); 2, Dublin (1929-1939); 2, Galway (1932-1951); 1, Clare (1946); 1, Waterford (1963).

FOOTBALL

13, Connacht; 10, Munster; 8, Leinster; 5, Ulster; 3, New York.

10, Mayo (1934 to 1970); 8, Kerry (1928 to 1969); 3, Down (1960 to 1968); 3, Dublin (1953 to 1958); 3, Meath (1933 to 1951); 3, Galway (1940 to 1965); 3, New York (1950 to 1967); 2, Cork (1952 to 1956); 1, Laois (1927); 1, Derry (1947); 1, Cavan (1948); 1, Longford (1966).

The scoring returns spotlighted above do not, of course, take into consideration figures for two-legged finals. That set-up was introduced in 1965 for games featuring New York and the "Home" champions.



Denis Coughlan



Billy Morgan

WILL CORK BEAT KERRY THIS YEAR?

WILL Cork beat Kerry this year? Will anybody beat Kerry this year is an easy way of answering the question, but just for now I'll take a closer look at it.

To beat a good team in anything, you need merit and preparation and if you like, throw in a spot of luck. As an analysis of luck is beyond me I had better stick to what I can talk about.

Cork footballers might have won an All-Ireland in '67 though Meath deserved it. There are five of that Cork side left to-day—Billy Morgan, Frank Cogan, Bernie O'Neill, Denis Coughlan and Brian Murphy. All are good performers and, indeed, it may be that before the championship the big man who dropped out because of illness, Jerry Lucey, will be back.

Building on that fundamental, the competent young players who won the under-age stuff are added as bricks that have built a fair structure—at least good enough to be up with the best. And when you're up with the best it doesn't need a lot more to push a neck in front. That's all one needs to win, remember.

People have been asking for the last few years what Cork is doing with the star minors. I meet a lot of allegedly sensible folk who can't see why we have not won the last three or four senior championships. Just how naive can a sportsman be? Or do they think one can gather a senior All-Ireland like haws off a whitethorn?

What Cork has been doing with the star minors is an easy one to answer. We have been letting them grow up. Surely, nobody is foolish enough to believe that because a child (in the sporting sense) wins a minor All-Ireland, he is good enough to go in

there with Tom Prendergast or Colm McAlarney or Mickey Kearins or Shay O'Connor? The man of twenty-four who has endured the blistering of a few championships is a stronger, tougher, cuter man whose preparation is more careful and who usually has the old footballing head screwed on a lot tighter.

Of course, any team can carry a few young fellows and some are stars. God be with the days when Tommy Murphy beat half the country at centre-forward for Laois and the chap wasn't seventeen. But a team of very young men will not usually win championships, a fact the various university teams have proved often enough in the county championships.

At the moment, Cork have the good minors of yesterday, like Donal Hunt, Ned Kirby, Ray Cummins, Jim Barrett, Denis Long, Mick Scannell, Kevin Kehilly, Jim Curtin, John Coleman, Declan O'Mahony, Connie Hartnett and a few more coming along nicely. The names in several cases don't mean much to those who weren't lucky enough to be born Corkmen but take it from me they are pretty useful players all and some of them better than that if . . . Well we'll talk about the "if" later on.

It seems to me we have reasonable merit now and we could be better next year and the year after.

So now to preparation. I remember playing a very important Army game long ago. It was only between two companies, each about one hundred and fifty strong, so the standard wasn't stratospherically high. But it was mighty important. The chap I was marking was never heard of, before or afterwards. He couldn't

● TO PAGE 22

● FROM PAGE 21

kick snow off a pitch but he could run like a sandpiper.

He was trained to the ounce and I to the stone—one around each ankle. I learned a lesson in preparation that day. Of course, it wasn't known until after the game that he had fifty pounds on it. Where would a soldier get fifty pounds thirty years ago? He'd get it fast enough if the gang got together and decided to make money. But that's a digression except for the emphasis it lays on preparation.

As I write, I would back Kerry against any team in the country and it seems very likely that, in May, they will be flying also. Jacky Lyne is a good

trainer and the Kerry men, led by Jim Brosnan—and Bishop Casey—are in there behind them. Why wouldn't they, for the game is both body and soul to the average son of the Kingdom?

To catch a team like that you have to be very good and very shrewd. If Cork can match the merit, can we equal them in dedication and leadership (which a friend of mine once analysed as a subtle combination of common-sense, shrewdness and treachery)?

The men behind the scene in Cork, apart from the Board officers, who have always supported the football efforts, are Paddy Driscoll and Sean Crowley, Bernie Murphy, Owen Mac-

Auliffe and Gene Fitzgerald, along with the trainer, army sergeant, Denis Leahy.

They have two months from now to get the side into tip-top shape and there's so much to mental and physical fitness that to discuss the thing further would be a waste of time. The fact that Billy Morgan (who should be married before this column appears and to whom we all wish the best of luck) holds a diploma in physical education from Strawberry Hill is a factor in itself very significant.

So much for merit and preparation. Now there are a few smaller points.

Will Kerry be tired from their League campaign? They shouldn't be, but one can never rule out the possibility of injuries. Again, the venue this year should suit Cork—provided both teams dispose of their rather independent Munster opponents—Corkmen usually play better in Killarney than in Cork for the audience in the Cork Athletic Grounds, accustomed to reasonable success in hurling, is inclined to be critical—and often justly so—of the footballers.

But now, since the big ball players have given several good hours of fun for the few shillings, the Cork crowd will be more amiable to start and more vociferous to finish. This helps, and often upsets the other fellow.

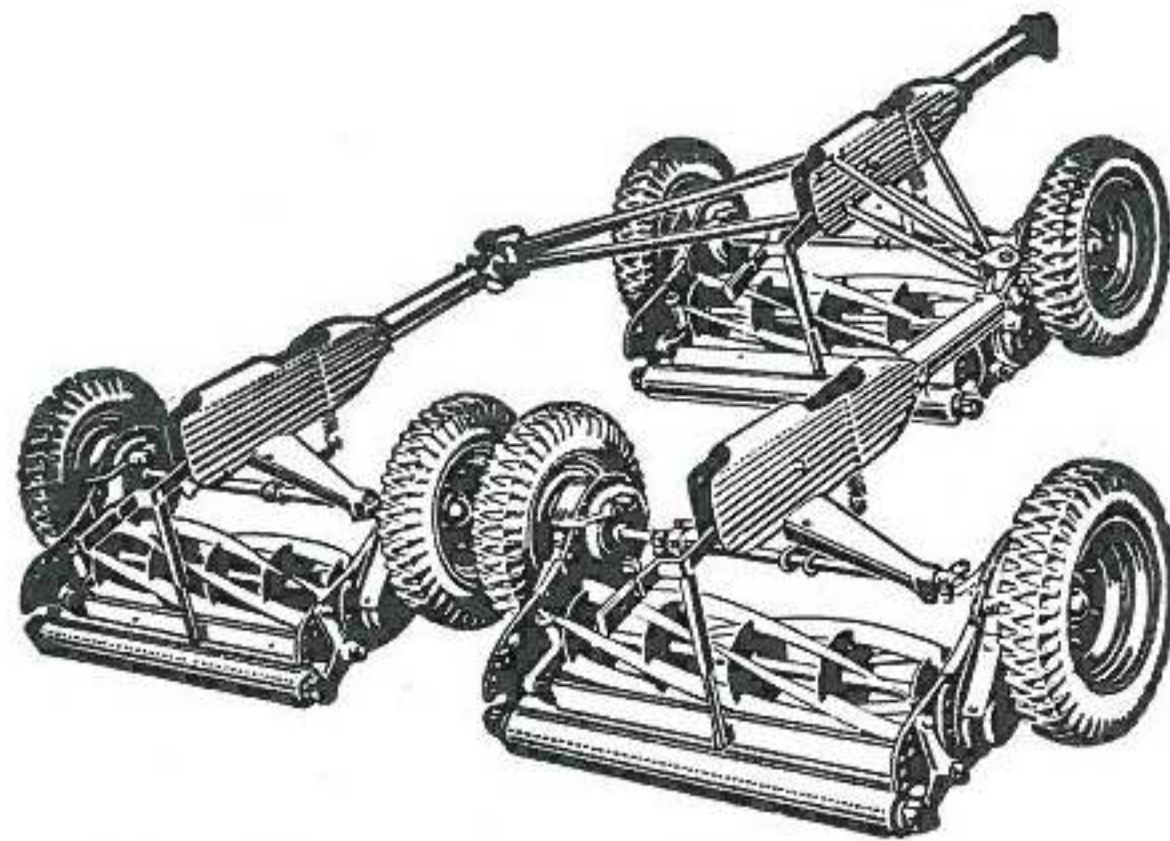
To say that Kerry are scared of Cork is foolish but to ignore the fact that, over the years, the Kingdom chaps have always looked on games with Cork as tough ones is only to say the truth. I think that Kerry play better against everyone else. In July, they will regard Cork as more formidable still, and the tension may not do them any good.

In '68, '69 and '70 I could not see Cork beating Kerry. This year I can—provided the work is done.

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NOTE

WAS SOUNDED

THE Day the Ban died was possibly as peaceful a day as Belfast has known in a long, long time. The sun shone down from a cloudless sky, the quiet of a Belfast Sunday was never more somnolent on the Malone Road, and even on the crowded floor of the Whitla Conference Hall, there was almost absolute silence as President Pat Fanning rose to put the first motion on the Agenda.

That motion, in the name of twenty-six Irish counties — was that somehow a symbolic figure? — and one English County, asked that Rule 27 be deleted. The Ban was before the firing squad.

To me, as I sat and watched, the irony of the whole situation was obvious.

For the first time Congress was being held in Belfast, and it was being held in an institution, Queen's University, maintained by the British Government, and extremely well maintained, may I add, as our quarters in the

Queen's Elms proved. The arrangements were in the capable hands of the Antrim County Board, and Antrim was one of the two Counties which voted to retain the Ban.

The Chairman, Pat Fanning, had all his years been a 'hard-liner' as far as the retention of the Ban was concerned, but he was also well-known to be a man of unyielding principle, to whom personal feelings would mean nothing when the genuine dictates of democracy had to be enforced.

Through the Hall were men whose connection with the Association stretched across the decades. Sean McCarthy of Cork had been President of the Association in the Jubilee Year of 1934 but his connection with the G.A.A. went back long years beyond that and someone said it was he who had strengthened the Ban Rules at the 1918 Congress. Padraig McNamee had been President of the G.A.A. more than 30 years

ago, and it was in his reign that Dr. Douglas Hyde had been dismissed from the position of Patron of the Association because as President of Ireland, he had in his official capacity attended a soccer international. There was Alf Murray from Armagh, who, to so many people during his Presidency, had been the focal point of what we may loosely call the pro-Ban school of thought.

Of the dedication and devotion of these men to the G.A.A. and the ideals for which it stands, and has always stood, there could be no question whatever, just as there could be no question of the similar dedication and devotion of Tom Woulfe, the Ballybunion-born Dublin Civil Service clubman, who for more than a decade has inspired the fight to have the Ban Rules removed.

But before Pat Fanning ever began to speak about that opening motion it was already obvious to the close observer that here was no Congress of bitterly divided factions, willing to fight to the death on the question of Pro-Ban or Anti-Ban. Here were three hundred delegates well aware that they faced one problem and one problem only. Were the ideals and principles of the Association to be better served by the retention or abolition of the Ban Rules? Principle was now at stake. The issue had boiled down to a question of method only.

Calmly and precisely Pat Fanning outlined the background

A previous Congress had asked that a Committee be set up to state the case for the retention of Rule 27. That Committee's report had been considered first by the clubs and then by the counties. There had been an overwhelming decision that, in effect, Rule 27 had outlived its utility. In the

● TO PAGE 31

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Seanie Barry

I SAW HIM COME AND I SAW HIM GO

BY PHILIP RODERICK

HE caught my attention the very first time I ever saw him strike a ball — and that was five years ago at the Limerick Gaelic Grounds on a day that Cork were blessed with all the luck in the world in holding Clare to a draw in the first round of the Munster championship.

At the particular moment, he was caught up in a tangle of Clare players, a lone splash of red in a ring of blue, and there was no way out—or so it seemed.

Yet, in some extraordinary way he managed to get the ball on to his hurley, stepped back and with a high, left-handed drive, short and unorthodox — somewhat reminiscent of Tom Cheasty of Waterford — he put the ball over the bar from 40 to 50 yards out.

He didn't really look like a hurler — this dark young man with the tight crew-cut, the hunched shoulders, the odd shuffling run and the unusual left-handed striking.

I didn't know who he was at the time. On the programme it said "S. Barry". But the man beside me knew a little more.

"They call him Seanie and he used to play with "Farna" in Cork. This is his first match with the senior team. But he won't be with us for long. I heard some-

where the other day that he is studying for the priesthood."

He was new to me . . . but then so too were many of the Cork team that faced Clare that afternoon. Gerald McCarthy, Charlie McCarthy, Tom O'Donoghue . . . I hadn't seen them play up to then.

And Cork that day did not play like potential champions of anything. They put on a good display in the first half, died in the second and with only seconds to go, Clare were ahead by three points. Then, from a free, and I think it was Justin McCarthy took it, Cork got a goal and there was still hope in a replay.

But, of course, everything came right after that. Cork nudged out Limerick in the second round, dumped Waterford in the Munster final and Croke Park finally got a look at Seanie Barry on All-Ireland day when Cork upset all the odds by beating Kilkenny.

It was not the greatest of All-Ireland finals but then that Cork side was not really a great one. Not in hurling certainly . . . but the fifteen men who beat Kilkenny will be remembered for a long time. They ended the long, sad years in the wilderness.

For the first time in 12 years, an All-Ireland title had been won; for the first time in 10 years a

Munster title had been won.

And these fifteen did more than win Munster and All-Ireland titles. They put Cork back into hurling and I think you'll agree that the hurling scene has been all that better over the past five years.

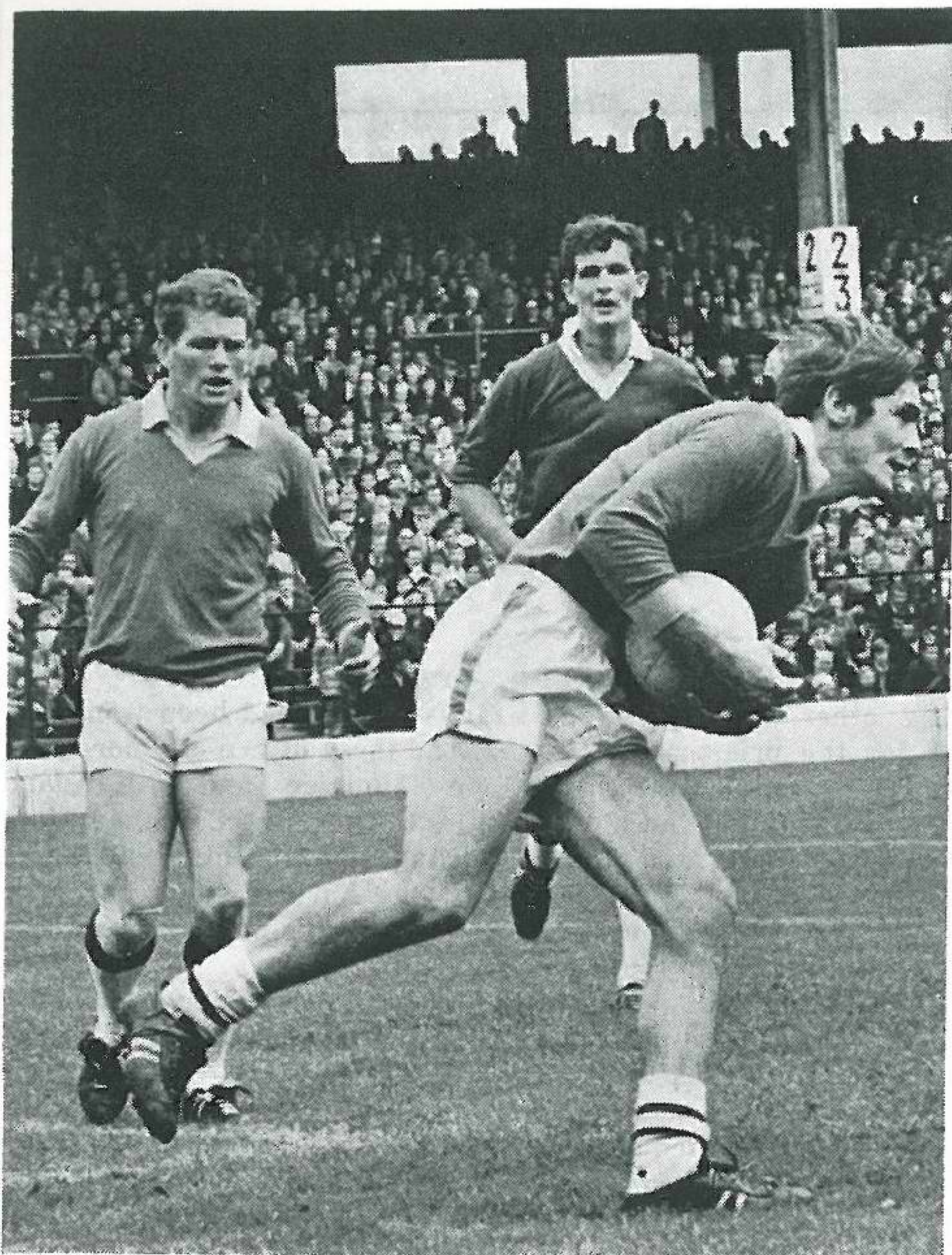
Seanie Barry played a very vital role in Cork's return in 1966 and he might have become a far more famous player but for the fact that Waterford shocked Cork in the first round of the Munster championship in 1967 and Tipperary put an end to their hopes in 1968.

And by then, of course, Seanie was immersed in his studies for the priesthood and gradually his appearances for Cork became fewer and fewer.

And now he has gone altogether. Last month at Kiltegan in Co. Wicklow, he became Father Seanie Barry and he is off to Nigeria shortly.

I was there to see his first match for Cork five years ago in Limerick and I was there, too, when he played his last match for Cork, in the Oireachtas final against Tipperary at Thurles last December.

In between Seanie Barry gave us a few fine performances to remember and those memories will always be good.



JACK QUINN

MEATH'S star full-back, Jack Quinn, is one of the finest exponents of Gaelic football playing the game at present. Like another famous Royal County star of a few years ago, Paddy O'Brien, Jack starred at midfield before being converted to the defensive role.

In 1967 the brilliant Kilbride man helped his county to their third All-Ireland title. He has also gained four Leinster championship medals, represented his province on a few occasions and a few weeks ago travelled to San Francisco to represent an all-stars team against champions Kerry. Recently I had the plea-

sure of interviewing Jack. Our conversation went as follows:—

N.C.—Which position do you prefer playing in, full-back or centre-field?

J.Q.—I always preferred centre-field but at the moment I am pretty happy lining out at full-back.

N.C.—Which of the two positions do you consider the more difficult to play in?

J.Q.—I consider the full-back position the more difficult as the standard of forward play is improving all the time. The full-back seldom gets the play coming towards him to suit him.

N.C.—You have played many

Meet J

BY NOEL COOGAN

fine games for Meath. Which, in your opinion, was your greatest ever?

J.Q.—Two games stick in my mind. The 1966 All-Ireland semi-final against Down and the '67 All-Ireland semi-final against Mayo.

N.C.—You have just returned from San Francisco. Do you think such trips are really worthwhile?

J.Q.—Very definitely. Gaelic football needs such trips as an incentive to players. Such incentives are very important, especially now that other codes are gaining in popularity.

N.C.—What are your views on the possibilities of Gaelic football becoming an international game?

J.Q.—I would like to see it becoming more international, with a world championship competition, between Ireland, England, America and Australia, taking place every year. This championship could be held in a different country each year.

N.C.—Do you foresee Gaelic football ever becoming a professional game?

J.Q.—I don't foresee it becoming fully professional as we haven't the population to support it at such a level. However, I feel there should be some payment for big match appearances, like All-Ireland semi-finals and finals. Such an arrangement would provide teams with a bigger incentive to do better.

N.C.—When you are not playing football what do you like to do in your spare time?

J.Q.—I like attending horse race meetings and also going to the seaside during the summer months.

ack Quinn

N.C.—What are your favourite television programmes?

J.Q.—I like “The Riordans” and the sports programmes.

N.C.—Are you satisfied that Gaelic Games get sufficient viewing time on R.T.E.?

J.Q.—No. I would like to see the big matches being televised in a programme lasting about three quarters of an hour on Monday evenings. The present “Gaelic Report” programme is far too short. Monday would be a better day than Sunday for showing games as more players would be in a position to see them on that day. Players could see their own mistakes and learn something from them.

N.C.—Can you name the three best footballers you have opposed in your career to date?

J.Q.—Sean O’Neill (Down), Des Foley (Dublin) and Con O’Sullivan (Cork).

N.C.—Who was your idol when you were a boy?

J.Q.—Paddy O’Brien was my idol.

N.C.—Leaving Gaelic Games aside can you name any sportsman or sportsmen whom you particularly admire?

J.Q.—Yes, I can name a few. In soccer, the Manchester United pair of Denis Law and Bobby Charlton. In rugby, the former Irish international who turned to Rugby League, Ken Goodall, golfer Christy O’Connor and jockeys Tommy Carberry, Bobby Coonan and Lester Piggott.

N.C.—Have you played any other game besides Gaelic football or are there any other games which you would like to play?

J.Q.—No, I haven’t played any

other game seriously. I would like to play a few games of soccer and rugby but I would never leave Gaelic football as I prefer it to all other games.

N.C.—Are you satisfied with the coverage Gaelic Games get in the newspapers?

J.Q.—I am not 100% satisfied. Most times, the reporting is pretty good but there is inclined to be a lot of bias towards certain counties. Every reporter should try to be as fair as possible.

N.C.—Who is your favourite G.A.A. writer?

J.Q.—Paddy Downey of The Irish Times. He is not only my favourite writer but also one of the best and fairest reporters of Gaelic games in the country.

N.C.—Have you ever felt annoyed about anything that was written about you?

J.Q.—No, I haven’t.

N.C.—What are your views on the general standard of refereeing?

J.Q.—The general standard is not good. We have some very good referees but there are too many interpretations of the rules. What’s a foul one Sunday may not be a foul the following Sunday. I would like to see coaching sessions for referees being introduced. In soccer referees have to pass an examination on the rules of the game and it would hardly be a bad idea if a similar system was adopted in the G.A.A.

N.C.—Are there any remaining ambitions which you would like to fulfil before your career ends?

J.Q.—I would like to win a National League medal, but most of all I would like to captain Meath to an All-Ireland title.

N.C.—How do you foresee this year’s All-Ireland championship going?

J.Q.—Kerry will take a lot of beating again. Still, I expect Meath to be there or thereabouts at the finish. Every team in Leinster is a danger but Offaly and Dublin may present most problems. Derry or Down should come out of Ulster while Mayo look best in the West.

N.C.—Would you favour the idea of an open draw for the championship?

J.Q.—Yes, very much so. The new National League with its evenly matched groups has proved a great success. If an open draw was introduced it would give the championship a bit of variety which it lacks at present. Teams wouldn’t have to be meeting the same counties every year. Some counties have too easy a passage to the closing stages and with the open draw all counties would have to play the same number of games to reach the final.

N.C.—In conclusion, Jack would you like to pass on a few words of advice to the many young boys up and down the country whose ambition it is to play football for their county one day?

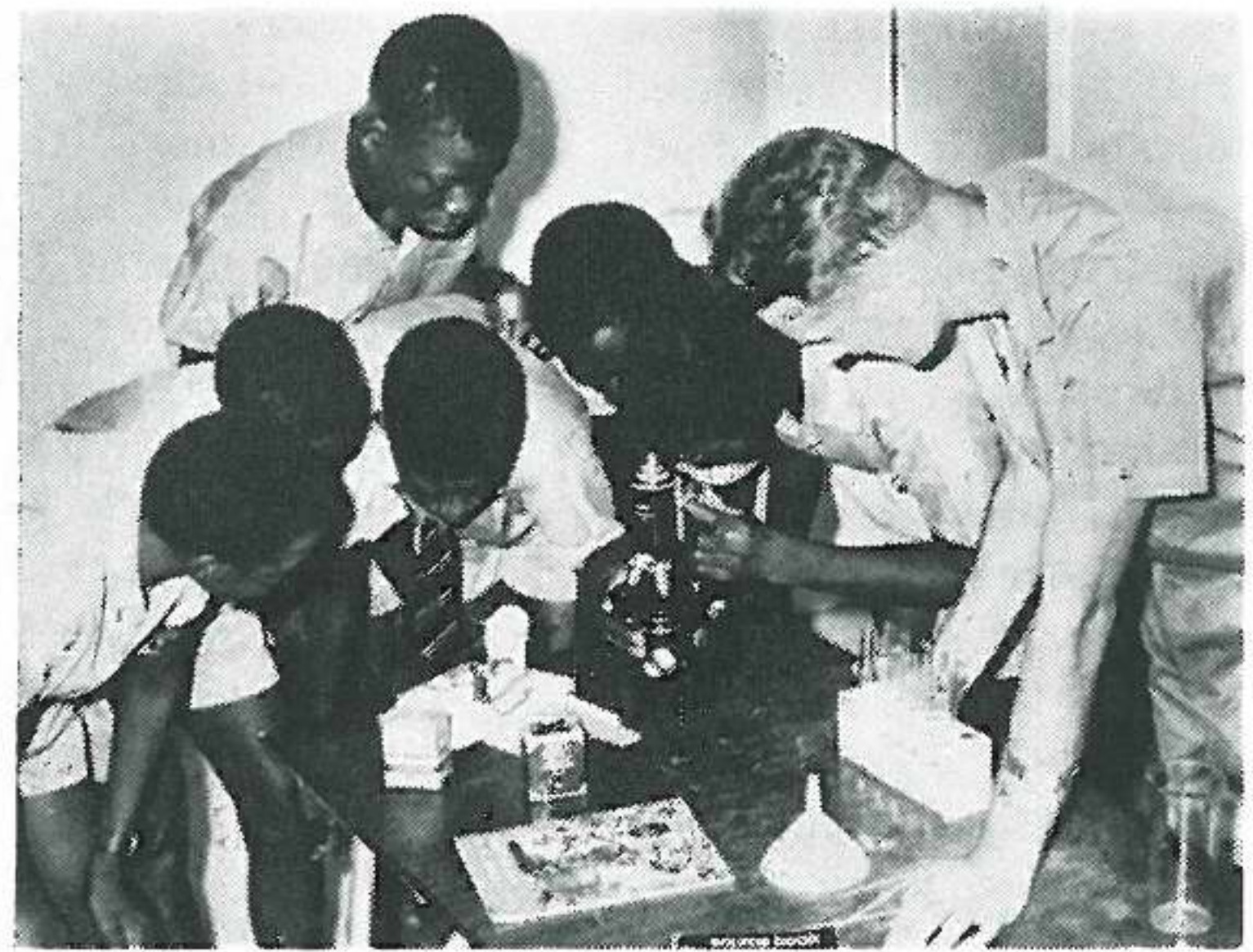
J.Q.—Constant practice and playing the game is very important. They must be willing to train hard and take advice from more experienced players. They must also be willing to be told their mistakes. But constant practice of the skills of the game is the most important thing. Skills like catching, kicking, the solo run and learning the proper method of passing the ball.

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Congress was a triumph for Ó Fainin

IT was, indeed, a momentous occasion in Belfast: unique in its situation, unique in its organisation, unique in its running, and unique in its content.

It was certainly a triumph for those who felt the Annual Meeting should go to the North, even at this troubled time, and it was no less a triumph for those in charge that everything went with seemingly propriety over the weekend. Of course, there are those who will suggest that it is an index of the relevance of the G.A.A. of to-day to the situation as it exists in the north that so few people thought it worth interesting themselves either by approval or disapproval of the doings of the Association's annual get-together.

Never has a Congress been so well organised and so well run both within and without. The comfort and convenience of delegates was given every consideration, and in this the Antrim County Board which was in charge of arrangements must get an unreserved congratulation. Within the actual proceedings, never has there been such business-like dispatch of affairs. None of the dragging boredom which sometimes has gripped portions of previous Congresses; the edge of interest maintained at all times, so that this was seen to be a worthy summit operation of the Association. For this, unreserved congratulations to Pádraig Ó Fainin, a President of the finest quality and a Chairman of sensitivity, dynamism and control.

In this regard, I think I have never seen—and I doubt if anyone else has—a President who seems to have won the admira-

tion, respect and collaboration of members in such a wide degree as Ó Fainin. He has been through a rough year in his first taste of control, but he has displayed in everything he has done a touch of inspiration — he can do no wrong. The Association which showed such a reluctance to elect him has realised that they were being over-sensitive to dangers which they thought they saw in his make-up. It was quite astonishing to see the extent to which Ó Fainin's bona fides is accepted on all sides.

And the Ban business has done nothing but strengthen his grip: those in favour of retention realise how severe a blow it is to him to have to preside over its obsequies; those who favoured deletion must, in all justice, have been lost in wonder at the manner in which he accepted the judgment of the majority, carried the tricky situation through with complete dignity and with not the shadow of ill-feeling.

More than anything else, Congress was a triumph for Ó Fainin. But, of course, it will be remembered for the passing of the Ban. Rules 27, 28 and 29 have gone. Rule 26 has remained—a signal comment on the lack of consideration given it by some of those who proposed its deletion was the manner in which it was offered as a little sacrifice to “ould dacencies.”

So, now, the Association stands Banless. What does this mean? I would hazard that it can mean only one thing in the context of the Belfast meeting—that the rods are lying in pickle for the

● TO PAGE 30

● **FROM PAGE 29**
special Congress, an occasion when O Fainin's charism will be tested once again.

There is now—officially—no attitude whatever to things of national, extra-athletic nature in the Association. Shoring up will be painful, and it will not be quite so easy as the President's assurance to avoid any effort at reintroducing the Ban rules in another guise would make it seem.

Where to draw the line—that is where the trouble starts, and that is exactly where the situation will be fought out—at the Special Congress, unless one is very much mistaken.

It is also worth considering that the Ban's demise is one thing for the rarified atmosphere of Congress where all the hierarchy of the higher orders are gathered together. To them, of course, it matters no great amount: some

find it little more than an exercise in logic or metaphysics; others see the practical side of it, but for them it is, as the President said, of little real significance in action, implying only the restatement and positive characterisation of the spirit of the G.A.A.'s national commitment.

But, to the man on the road, and the man in the street, and the lads in the fields, it is not received nor it is understandable in that rarified atmosphere of summit consideration. To them it is a modest, but significant matter of being able, now, to try out a little Soccer at practice; to consider whether they might not like to have a go at a few friendly Soccer (or Rugby) games to see how the thing feels, and to see whether it might not be worth their while entering a team in some local league to set the matter up in a more permanent manner.

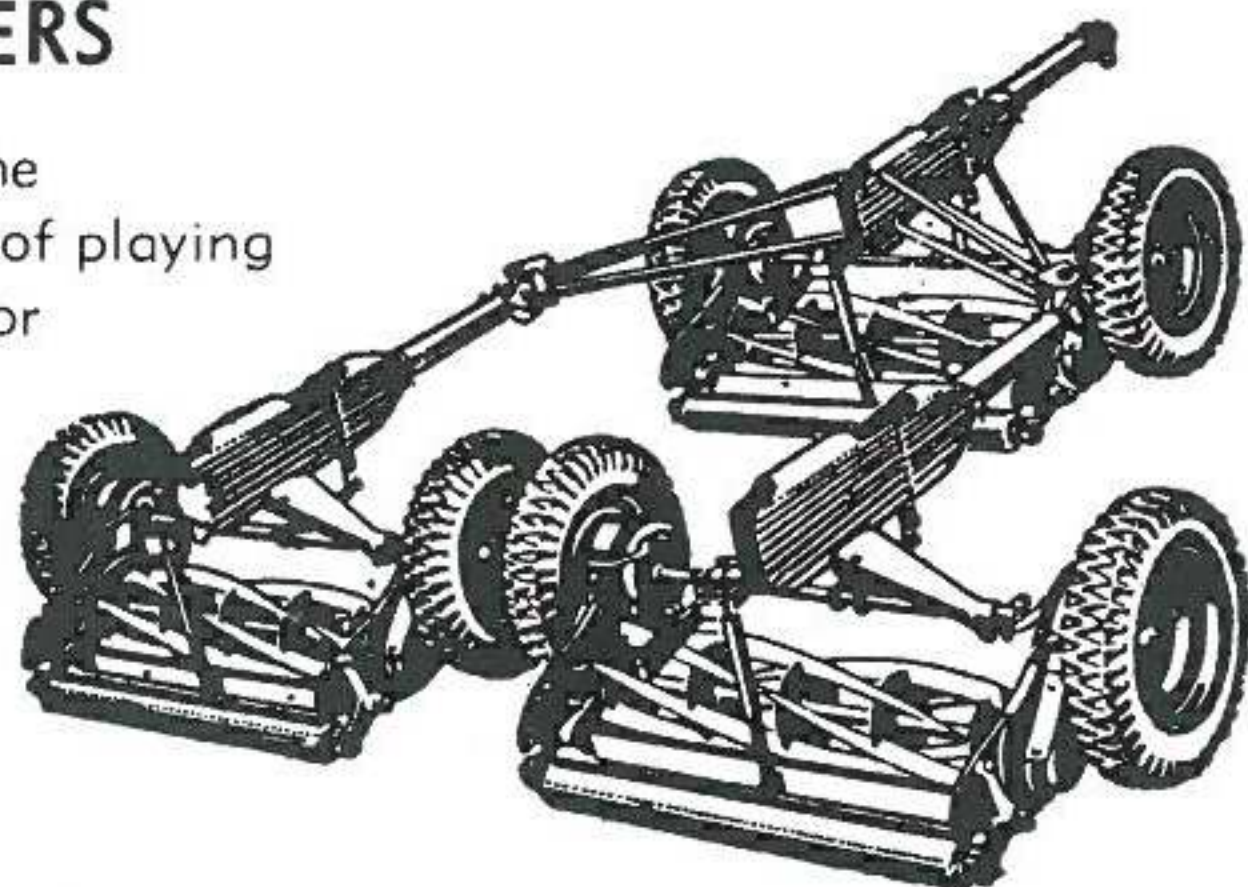
Straightaway, it will mean that they can now indulge that curiosity to watch the nearest League of Ireland team in action. No bad thing, indeed, that such a frustration should have been relieved. But, in general, it will place a further area of choice open to those who are already less than committed to football or hurling. The results are, to say the least, open to considerable doubt. Even if there is no falling off in apparent participation in football and hurling, there can hardly be an increase in the standards of play. Real dedication is required for that. In hurling, in particular. Can hurling survive, even, in such a common market of sport?

We shall not have too long to await the answers to some of these questions—trends will be obvious almost immediately. But, it must be remembered that nothing can be done to reverse the process if the decision is found to be a bad one. Cagney Cork wanted a period of trial, but they did not get it.

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● FROM PAGE 23

circumstances there was nothing more to be said. The matter had already been debated, at length, the decision had already been taken, and he proposed that the removal of Rule 27 be formally adopted, and then he had a proposal of his own for safeguarding the principles and property of the Association which he would like to put before Congress.

He asked that somebody propose the deletion of Rule 27.

The man who rose to do so was Con Shortt, a school-teacher from Crossmaglen in the County Armagh, a man whose dedication to the G.A.A. goes back, too, across the long years. Tom Woulfe seconded. There was a moment of utter and complete silence. Then Pat Fanning declared the motion carried . . . and the Ban was gone.

While the rest of us sat a little dazed, astounded that, after all the years of acrimony and dissension, the end should come like this, in complete silence, without a single hand-clap or a murmur of dissent. Antrim Chairman Jack Rooney appeared on the rostrum, briefly recorded that his home county had declared for the Ban, but assuring the delegates, the Association and the President of their full loyalty. The applause that greeted his statement obviously relieved the feelings of every delegate in the Hall.

There was only one other speaker. That great veteran, Lar Brady from Laois, objected to the procedure, but Lar was under a misapprehension, for which he subsequently and handsomely and publicly apologised to Pat Fanning. As pressure of space in the newspapers was, presumably, the reason why that apology did not get the publicity it deserved, I am glad of the opportunity of recording that apology now. And full credit to Lar Brady for it.

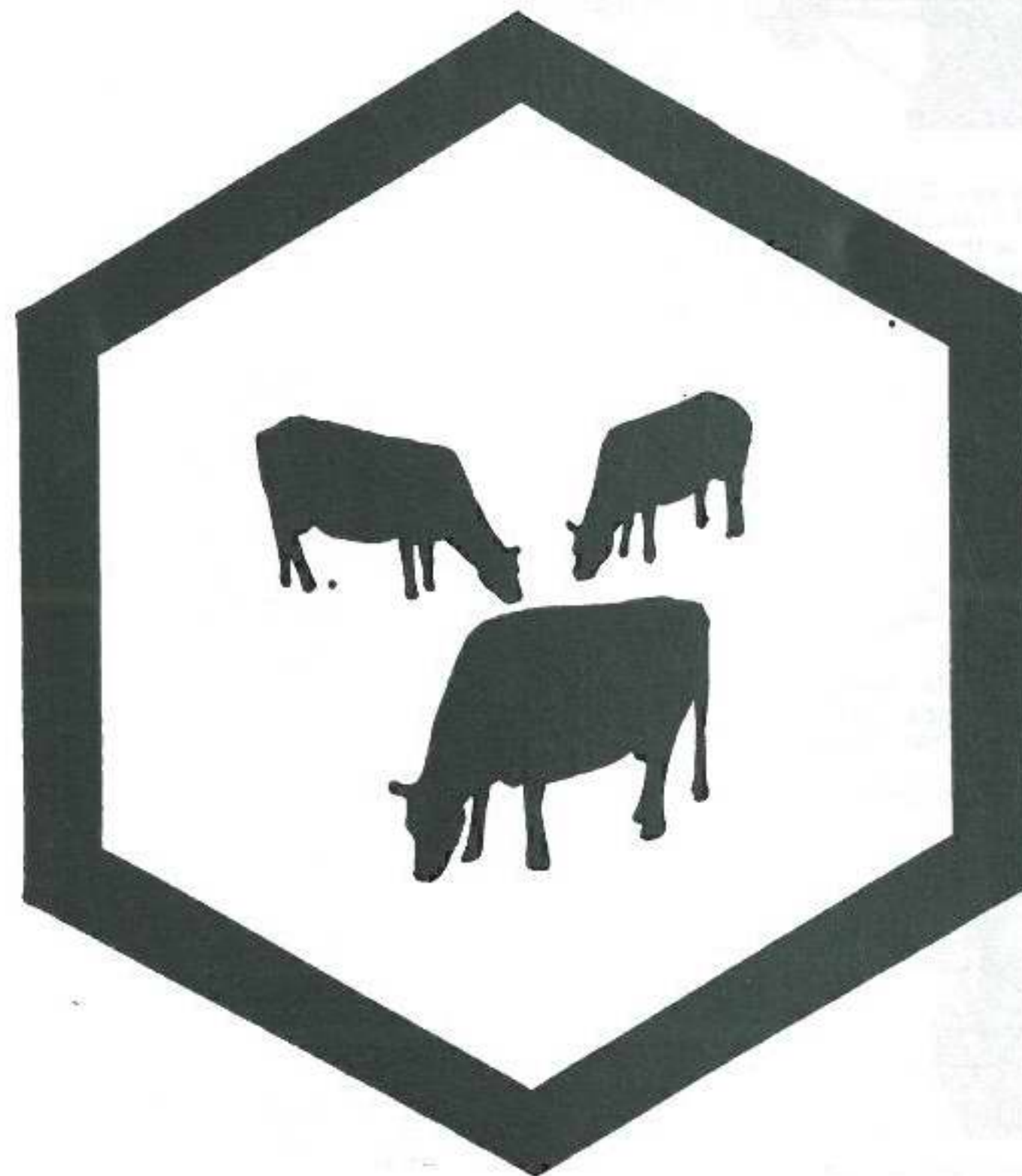
The President's proposals for a Committee to draw up a New Charter for a Special Congress were speedily approved, and we

moved on to what was thereafter the routine work of the day.

It was of particular significance that this, the most important Congress the G.A.A. has ever held in my lifetime, finished earlier than any I can remember. This meant that the Ban may have gone, but the Association still goes marching on.

The Belfast Congress is now part of G.A.A. history, but, as well as being remembered for

being the Congress at which the Ban died, it will be recalled for two other very good reasons as well; the personal triumph in the chair of President Pat Fanning, and the magnificent arrangements in every respect by the Antrim Committee which, as well as looking after the Congress preparations to the last detail provided three memorable social occasions for all who wished to participate.



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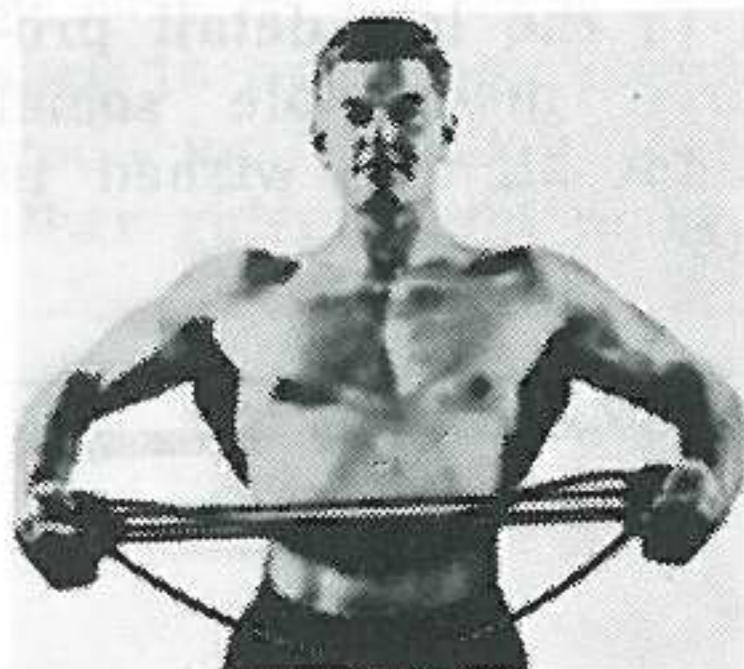
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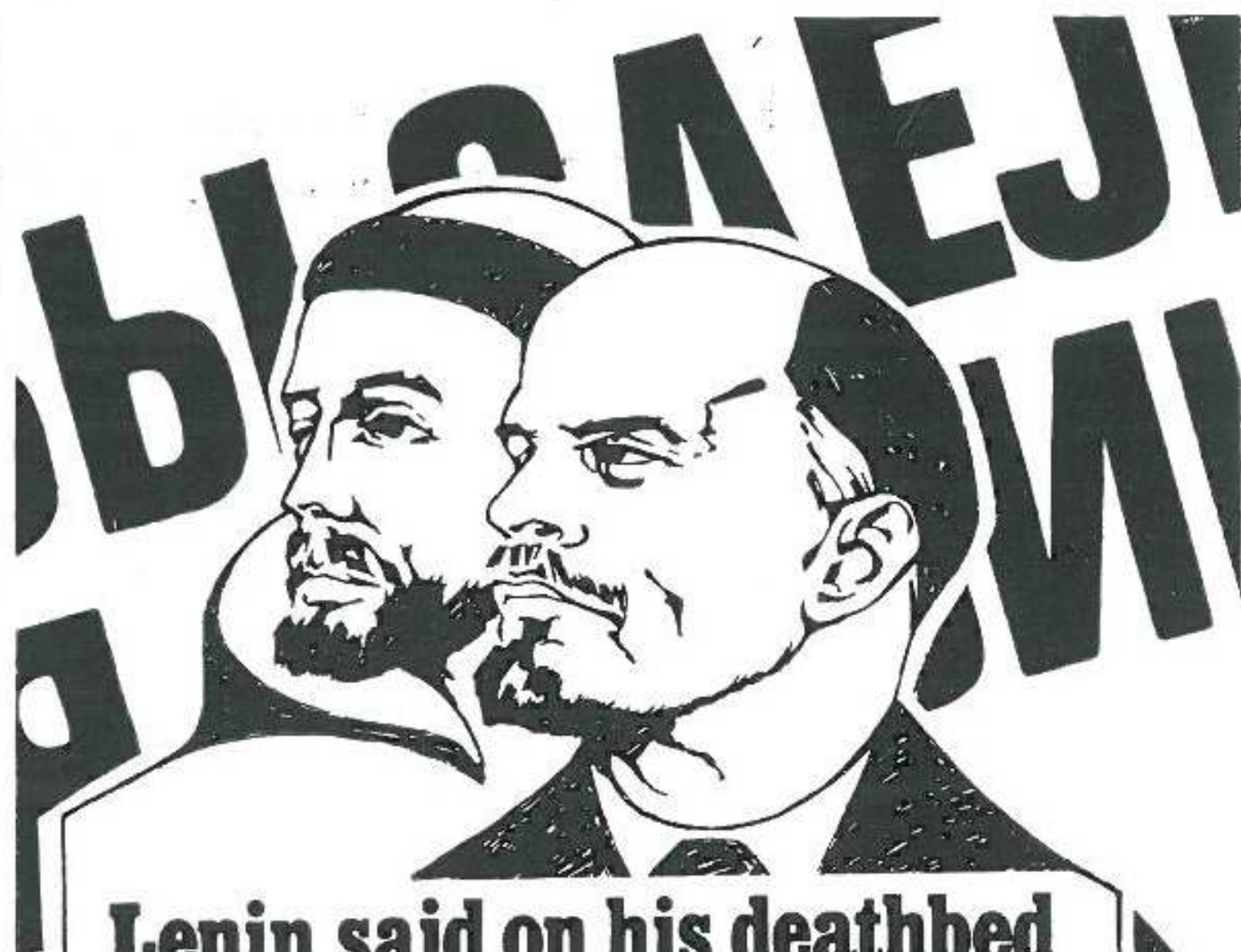


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PADDY MULLIGAN WANTS TO PLAY FOR GALWAY

BY
PATRICK CARVER

NOW that the Ban has gone, Paddy Mulligan, Chelsea's Republic of Ireland fullback, tells me that he would love to play Gaelic football again.

And, perhaps surprisingly, for a young man who was reared on the north side of Dublin, the county he would like to play for is Galway, for which, incidentally, he is qualified.

But the chances of his appearing for Galway this season must be slim—for various reasons.

"The most important one is that I am under contract to Chelsea" — he told me — "and I couldn't very well run the risk of injury during the close season. Even if I did get permission from Chelsea and I intend to look for it, I imagine they would insist on a very high insurance on me."

Then there is the very obvious fact that the vital stages of the championship season here in Ireland clash with the start of the soccer season in England.

"I don't think it would be very fair to turn out for a county in

the early games of the championship and perhaps deprive some player of his place and then disappear off at the most important stage of the championships"—he says—"And you have got to remember that the beginning of the English soccer season is now at the beginning of August."

But even if he does not get the chance to play inter-county football this year, he hopes to turn out regularly for Jimmy Magee's All-Stars in their Monday night games.

"I have played in a few of them and I enjoyed them thoroughly"—he told me—"I think Gaelic is a great game and I'm quite at home when I play it."

One of the most knowledgeable of men on G.A.A. affairs—he rings from London every Sunday night for the day's results—Mulligan believes that soccer players could give a lot to Gaelic football and perhaps help to turn it into an even greater spectacle.

"Far too often in Gaelic foot-

ball, even in All-Ireland finals, possession is thrown away by an aimless kick ahead or a kick into touch."

"Over the years, teams like Dublin, Down, Galway and Kerry have shown what can be done in Gaelic football and they are working on the right lines. But there is still room for vast improvement and I believe Gaelic could learn a lot from soccer."

Paddy hopes that Galway will come out of Connacht this year.

"If they can beat Mayo, I'd tip them to win the All-Ireland final. From what I have seen of them, Galway are improving all the time and with a few changes, they might just become the top team of 1971."

And his other teams for this year's All-Ireland semi-finals?

"Kerry will have no trouble in Munster and I fancy Derry to win in Ulster"—he says—"and if they continue to show their League form, I have the feeling that Dublin will win out in Leinster."

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NELL McCARTHY

The New President



Nell McCarthy

MISS NELL McCARTHY, the new President of the Camogie Association, will find nothing new in being chairman of a Camogie Council, as she was until twelve months ago, the long-serving chairman of the Dublin Board.

Indeed, in an official capacity she has served the game in Dublin for many years, as she was the first Secretary of Dublin's Junior Board, and then continued for a further sizeable term as Chairman of the Senior Board.

But Nell McCarthy has been all her life in the main-stream of our native games in general and of camogie in particular. She is a native of Carrigtwohill, where, naturally she first held a camogie stick in her hand, and was educated first at the local National School in Carrigtwohill and then at South Presentation, Cork, now one of the great nurseries of the game, but where, peculiarly enough camogie was not then played. While still a young girl she came to Dublin to enter the Civil Service.

Her first venture into competitive camogie was, aptly enough, through the Gaelic League club, Craobh an Cheitinnigh, and she subsequently moved to Cuchulainns before joining Celtic, a club with which she played in every grade, and has been associated ever since, having down the years held every office in that great club at one time or another.

But when her playing days were ended, Nell McCarthy was

not content to bid farewell to the playing fields.

She kept actively coaching the players who succeeded her, and played no small part in making Celtic one of the leading teams not alone in Dublin but in Ireland. She also did sterling work among the schools sides being particularly closely associated at one stage or another with Holy Faith, Glesnevin, and the Irish Sisters of Charity team from George's Hill.

It was but natural that she moved up to coaching the Dublin teams and the sides that Nell McCarthy turned out in the Dublin tunics in the 'Fifties and 'Sixties had only one fault as far as the rest of the country was concerned, they were too successful. The teams she trained won the All-Ireland title year, after year, after year.

Naturally, this unbroken run of Dublin success led to a certain loss of interest, but the sequel was that Miss McCarthy's coaching talents were eventually recognised by the other counties. She was invited to take charge of the first really open coaching course organised by Ulster Council in Orangefield in Belfast in the mid-'Sixties and it is perhaps very significant that it was when other counties began to adopt the McCarthy coaching and training methods that Dublin's long supremacy came to an end at least temporarily.

In recent years she has been giving coaching courses further

afield, notably in Kilkenny, where again the result of her teachings was quickly seen, and more recently among the schools and Colleges of the West, and of course she is still in charge of the Easter Coaching course run annually by the Dublin Board at Gormanston College.

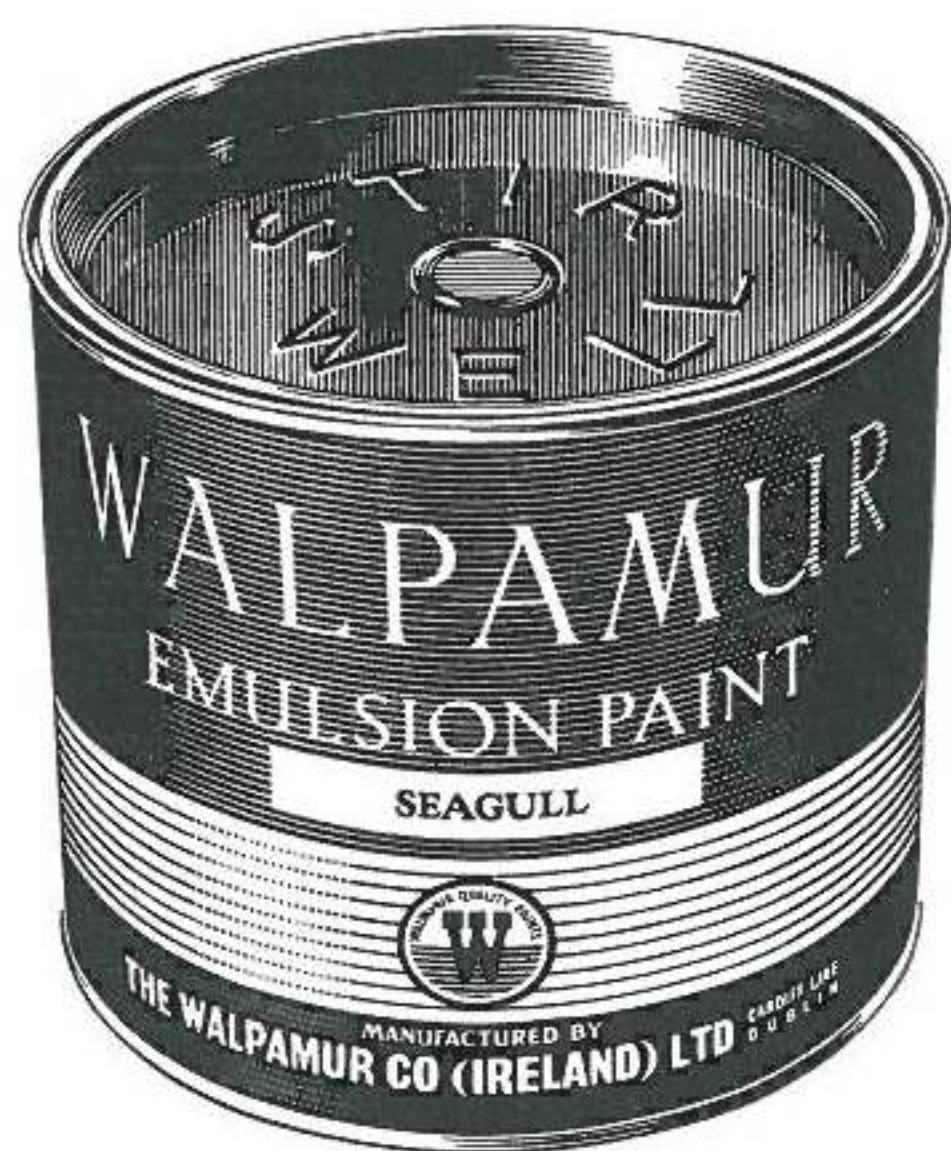
Meanwhile, just to prove she has not lost her personal touch she trained the Dublin junior side that won last year's junior title.

At other administrative levels, Nell McCarthy has never spared her time or energy, having been for long spells the Dublin representative on Leinster Council.

And yet she has managed to do all those things in her spare time for she is a busy State Servant during working hours, being in recent years a Department of Education representative first in the College of Art and more recently in the National Gallery.

But then, as I said at the start, devotion to the native games is part of Nell McCarthy's heritage. Her mother belonged to that famed hurling family, the Kennedy's of Carrigtwohill, and it was Nell McCarthy's uncle, Jimmy ("Major") Kennedy who captained Cork to victory over Dublin in the All-Ireland final of 1919, the first ever Cork win in the red jerseys. And the tradition has been kept up in a later generation, for Miss McCarthy's brother, Dan, played for Cork, and another brother, Mick, for Carrigtwohill.

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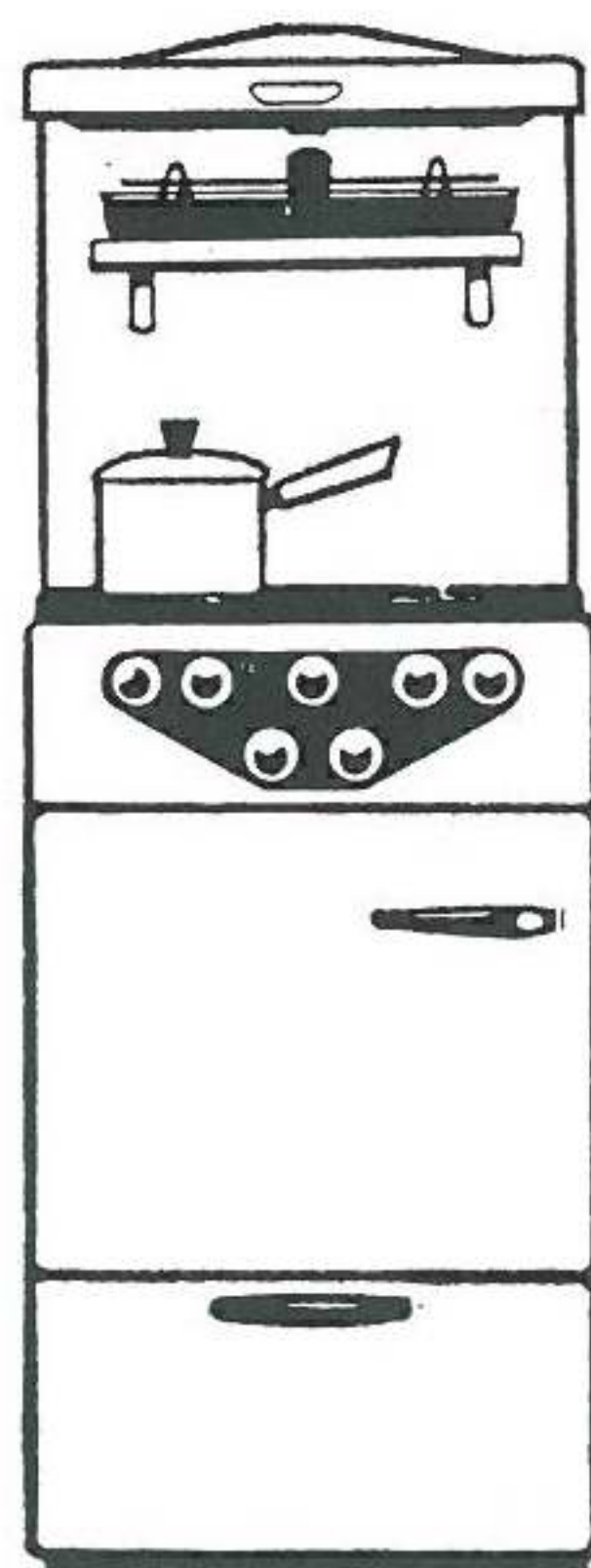
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EACH year as the days begin to lengthen and the welcome sunshine spotlights the damp spots and cracks that we had forgotten about during the Winter months, our thoughts turn towards putting our home in proper shape for the summer. If you are a woman, this comes naturally, for having been looking at the cracked paint and peeling wallpaper all winter you don't need any urging to set about rectifying matters. If you are the man of the house, sunshine can mean anything from the need to refresh yourself with long cool drinks, the chance of playing more golf, or the doubtful thrill of watching another favourite coming in second at the races. A little gentle persuasion may be necessary to turn your thoughts to redecorating your home. Yet it's all so easy. Getting started is the hardest part!

At Monsell Mitchell's store in Dublin's Pearse Street, there is a wide range of products specifically designed to suit to-day's handyman or woman. Their spacious wallpaper department which is ideally laid out for ease in choosing the right paper is one of the features of this modern and well run store. The range of wallpapers available is the most extensive in Dublin; there is something suitable for every taste and pocket.

The greatest chore that I always found in wallpapering a room was not the so necessary one of scraping the old paper off the wall but brushing the paste onto the paper. There was either too much or too little, you either

left it too long or not long enough. But now Crown Wallpapers have solved this problem with the introduction of a new range of ready-pasted vinyl paper. All you have to do is simply tear off the strip on the back of the paper and your paper is ready to go on the wall. If you can't call to Monsell Mitchell's we are happy to tell you that Crown have their own pattern books available at all leading wallpaper stockists throughout Ireland.

If you want to make your home look more attractive, out of all proportion to the amount you wish to spend, a good coat of paint is the answer. However no paint can give a finish that will both look well and wear well, unless the surface is thoroughly cleaned and all cracks filled in. For cleaning, it is always best to use a proprietary brand of cleaner, specially designed for the job, such as Crown Cleaning and Degreasing Liquid. Having begun with such a well known name, widely respected for its quality as Crown is, we recommend that you continue with a brand that has proved itself both for inside and outside work. Crown and its allied brand Duradio, both marketed in Ireland by Walpamur are on sale at Monsell Mitchell's and all leading paint and decorating shops throughout Ireland. Crown Plus Two, the polyurethane non-drip gloss paint has been described as the paint of the seventies. With twenty colours to choose from, the do-it-yourself enthusiast has a sufficiently wide range for all his needs yet is not overwhelmed

by a multiplicity of shades.

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In the kitchen, when you have it painted, papered and tiled, the old cooker in the corner will probably stick out like a sore

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● FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

thumb. You have in all likelihood never even noticed the existence of the cooker and now wish you never had. If you are considering buying a cooker, bottled gas is worth thinking about. In its installation no structural alterations are necessary. Independence of supply is guaranteed by those handy Kosangas cylinders, large or small, to suit your own requirements.

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"IF I were to devote all my spare time for the rest of my life to the work of the G.A.A., I still could not repay the Association for what it has given to me."

★ ★ ★

"I ENJOYED my trip to the States, certainly, and I was thrilled by the honours which have come my way in refereeing nearly every big game the Association had to offer me. I enjoyed also my short and quite undistinguished playing career; and while sometimes it is embarrassing to be so well-known in so many places I must say it is nice when ones efforts are acknowledged.

"But, really, you know that is the least of it. I have made the most wonderful friendships through the G.A.A. and that is one of the most important things of all.

★ ★ ★

"LET me tell you that when I was a small boy, and when visitors came to this house I used to run away and hide. I was that shy and hopeless with people. And I assure you that it was by involving myself with the games and the people who organise and play them that I was able to overcome that shyness and able to develop myself somehow. I could not have done it otherwise, I think."

★ ★ ★

● Extracts from Séamus Ó Braonáin's interview with well-known referee John Moloney, which appeared in *Our Games '71*.



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● At Lenehan's recent "Field Day", held at the Phoenix Park race-course, the company displayed a comprehensive range of grass and turf maintenance equipment. Pictured during the demonstration were (left to right): Capt. D. D. O'Connell, Secretary, Killarney Golf Club; J. A. Lenehan, Managing Director Lenehan's, and F. Lumley, Lenehan's, Capel Street, Dublin.

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IN THE WORLD OF MENS FASHIONS

It's all happening man!

By Johnny Culhain

RECENTLY I had the pleasure to attend a preview of the Dubtex range of clothes which will be selling to us en masse in a few weeks' time. The Dubtex range is most comprehensive and sells as readily in London and the capitals of Europe as it does at home. Dubtex garments are completely accepted by those in the know as the cream of today's men's fashions—and guess what? They're keenly priced, very wearable and in spite of their international appeal there is still an aura of Irishness about them, which is not surprising when you consider that they're designed and completely manufactured at the two Irish-based Dubtex plants—one in Dublin and one at Ballymahon in Longford where a super-modern factory came into operation last year.

Maybe we shouldn't be talking of overcoats this time of year—but since it was the overcoats which made the most impression during our look-in at Dubtex, let's mention them anyway. The coats I liked were rather long—about four inches below the knee or maybe a little less—and fitted. They were shaped to fit the figure, some closely, others just semi-fitted. The fabrics ranged from the sort of cloths we're all used to, right through to rather novel tapestry tweeds. What's a tapestry tweed you ask, and that's a good question. Tapestry tweed is a cloth which looks quite like

woven tapestry—as embroidered on your grandmother's chair cushions. You don't see yourself wearing that? To which I reply, give them a chance, boys. These are coats which will surely raise masculine interest.

The secret is in the stylistic formula—and Dubtex have neatly caught that blend of conservatism/plus/interest which in the humble opinion of yours truly is designed to hit to-day's Irishman in the solar plexus.

John White is the man whose marketing techniques have made Dubtex a familiar name in most of the high-class stores of Britain and Europe. He has a comfortably reassuring approach: he dresses rather quietly himself and one gains the impression that he'd be a good man to take advice from, on the subject of clothing. Dubtex aren't interested in twisting people's arms into buying what they think they ought to wear. They strive to give the public what it wants and John White can talk perceptively and with humour about the different aspects of the market. He feels it's a great thing that youngsters have the money and the self-confidence to demand the type of clothing they now like to wear. He feels it's a healthy sign that women are taking more interest in how men dress—whether they're middle-aged wives or teenage girl friends. His motto for the man who wants something

a bit different but not too different from what he's always worn is, 'Encourage him'.

Dubtex have to anticipate a year in advance what we're going to feel like wearing and here John White assures us that we'll all be wanting more casuals, more variety of colour and materials in slacks and suits, wider variety of styling, lots of blazer-type jackets—and, of course, figured overcoats.

A point of purely practical interest is worth mentioning: the new man-made fibres of which many of our clothes are now made have the definite advantage of keeping their sharp tailored outlines and not wrinkling easily in wear. They can now press the crease into Dubtex pants so that it won't come out even if you wade waist-high through the river Shannon. Many lightweight slacks can be rinsed out at home as easily as one rinses out a shirt. Which may explain why those colours like pale blue, cream and beige are now beginning to appeal even to responsible citizens of voting age.

Personally I've got my eye on a pair of slacks in a subtle mauve-beige colour—tapue, they call it. Topped off with a rich burgundy blazer, I'll stroll, so casually, along Tramore's promenade and believe you me—I won't be walking alone, not for long anyway! As the Granny used to say: "Some fellas have it, etc., etc."



J. J. Jennings

SLIGOMEN AT THE HELM

By ALLEYMAN

I SPENT an absorbing afternoon recently with two Sligomen, who are unmistakably imbued with a refreshing commitment to the G.A.A. and national idealism.

Their names, J. J. Jennings and Liam Marren, are household names in the phraseology of handball, to which they have given undivided loyalty over a long span of years.

Both are happiest when making their contribution in anonymous fashion, but, as is inevitable in all such cases, they have been baited to the echelon of top administration.

Only recently, Jennings was elected as President of the Irish Handball Council and Chairman of the new Croke Park Court Committee, while Marren was appointed as secretary of the latter body.

It is to the credit of handballers that they had the persuasion to coax both into these positions, for, I have not the slightest doubt that, under their

stewardship the already steady progress of this great handball game will gather further momentum. The Jennings-Marren partnership is on the move.

They are agreed that handball will flourish if there is a renewed effort to provide first-class playing facilities, a deeper insight by all and sundry into the benefits of promoting the game amongst youth and a recognition that the promotion of the game amongst ladies is a priority.

Jennings is adamant that, if his three-year term of office yielded nothing but a playing court in every major park in Ireland, he would be quite happy.

And unless my calculations are completely askew, he will find no obstacle too great in pursuit of that objective.

For the six-foot-six Dublin builder believes in the maxim of action first and talk afterwards.

I consider him a legend in his own time and, indeed, it would be tragic to let the opportunity

pass without digging up a fraction of his past history. An acquaintance of mine can vividly recollect his massive frame careering goalwards, toe-to-hand, jinking his way past successive tackles on the playing fields of Sligo some forty years ago.

As a hurler, he was equally agile, recognised for his raking clearances from the fringe of the square. Then again, a handballing blood has coursed his veins since the earliest years.

He has played in many a thriller and, indeed, even today, despite the many calls on his time, finds the opportunity to engage in a spot of training every week.

In 1938, he had the unique distinction of playing in the all-England Handball Championship when he was narrowly beaten by Joe Hassett.

This event has long since become dormant, but do not be surprised if, in the immediate future, the new President will attempt to have it revived.

Description fails me when I attempt to channel the sporting exploits of Jennings in the 1930-40 era.

I could easily settle for a package deal in describing him as an all-rounder in most athletic spheres. Supreme in football, hurling, handball, the list is lengthened when, in passing, I mention that he also won titles at the highest levels in boxing, swimming, diving, long and short distance running and cycling.

There was an historic day in Birmingham in the summer of 1936 when Jennings came to an athletic meeting and won the 220, 440 and 880 yards. He then tied for first place in the 100 yards, which was re-run, but again failed to yield a winner and, for

● TO PAGE 52



● Full back Pat McDonnell dashes out to clear for Cork. In the background is his team-mate, Donal Clifford, also with helmet, and the Wexford players are: Tony Doran (left) and Martin Quigley (right). The action is from last year's All-Ireland Final. In this month's Top Ten ratings Pat McDonnell comes in as joint-leader in hurling.

TOP TEN

THERE was a good deal more quality in hurling than in football during the period under

review — which was from Sunday, March 22 to Sunday, April 18, inclusive.

But then, the football programme was relatively light since mid-March.

The highlights on the hurling fields were provided by Limerick, Cork, Tipperary and Offaly. It is nice to be able to record that the stick game was in the ascendant — if only temporarily.

HURLING

- 9—C. Campbell (Limerick)
- 9—R. Cummins (Cork)
- 9—M. Roche (Tipperary)
- 9—M. Keating (Tipperary)

- 9—P. McDonnell (Cork)
- 8—J. O'Donnell (Limerick)
- 8—F. Larkin (Kilkenny)
- 8—J. J. Healion (Offaly)
- 7—M. Bermingham (Dublin)
- 7—G. McCarthy (Cork)

FOOTBALL

- 9—R. Niland (Mayo)
- 9—M. Kearins (Sligo)
- 8—J. Morley (Mayo)
- 8—D. Earley (Roscommon)
- 8—P. Gallagher (Louth)
- 7—M. Niblock (Derry)
- 7—L. Toal (Louth)
- 7—P. Brennan (Sligo)
- 6—A. McCabe (Cavan)
- 6—G. McCann (Antrim)

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JUNIOR DESK

A forum for
the
young reader

DEvised AND WRITTEn

By JACK MAHON

YOU wouldn't believe it, but Junior Desk is a year old this month. It was born in May, 1970. We have had 24 cut-outs since then. Wish we had four every month instead of two. We had four competitions during the year, interviews with Mick O'Connell and wee Charlie or Charlie boy McCarthy and Junior Desk made many friends. But better days ahead.

Next month we present another bumper competition. Full details next month and plenty of prizes. Now to our cut-outs. Wee Andy McCallin of Antrim is in the best tradition of Antrim's dual performers before him—the modern Kevin Armstrong. It is great to see Antrim football on the way back. Greater still that, in the adverse conditions that prevail in Belfast and elsewhere in our sundered six counties, enthusiasm and inspiration will out. On March 17 I was thrilled with Andy McCallin's display.

How he capitalised on Noel Coleran's miskick. The pass to Sean O'Neill, the taking of the return pass and the goal so expertly taken. His jinking, swerving run past John Morley in the second half of that game also merits mention. A most exciting newcomer to the Croke Park scene.

Leinster's greatest hurling star that day was midfielder Frank Cummins. His two left-handed long-range points from play were gems. So strong and fair. Another Paddy Moran. Wasn't the Railway Cup football final a wonderful game?

The following Sunday I travelled to Thurles to see Cork beat Tipperary in the hurling league—another fantastic game. It was my pleasure to have a long chat with Jimmy Doyle after the game. Jimmy lives just beside Thurles sportsfield, now named Semple Stadium, after the great Thurles man, Tom Semple. It

was nice to see former stars Tommy Doyle, Mickey Byrne and Donie Nealon coach their own under-21 teams in a Tipperary club championship game before the big one.

I met "The Singing Priest", Fr. Michael Cleary, at the game also and he really enjoyed it. Fr. Cleary played football for Dublin when he was a clerical student and is still pretty handy when playing with Jimmy Magee's All-Star outfit for charitable purposes up and down the country every summer.

Fr. Cleary is a great character and the amount of good work he does is not realised by young or old. How about having an interview with Fr. Cleary for Junior Desk? Now isn't that a swell idea?

On your behalf I'm accepting birthday greetings on behalf of Junior Desk. Our first birthday. May we have many more.

● CONTINUED OVERLEAF

CUT-OUTS



Frank Cummins



Andy McCallin

From the Mailbag

Agnes Brogan, Ballyknock, Bofeenann, Ballina, Co. Mayo: "Gaelic Sport has improved greatly since Junior Desk appeared. The young were being neglected. Your section is one of the most interesting when players like Willie McGee, Mick O'Connell and Charlie McCarthy read it. Did Willie send in the message yet? John Morley, Jimmy Duggan and Mickey Kearins are great Connacht players. I hope to see my picture in Gaelic Sport in the near future."

● *How could we leave out such a nice photograph of Agnes. No, Willie McGee has not sent in a message yet. But don't expect too much, Agnes. Irish footballers are naturally shy and don't ever want to appear as if they seek publicity. So it is hardly fair to expect players to write into us off their own bat. But don't be surprised that all the stars read Junior Desk. Of course they like to be mentioned. How could they ignore young Irish enthusiasts like yourself? (J.M.)*

Padhraig Mannion, Curra-maigh, Toomara, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway: "My favourite footballers are Billy Joyce, Jimmy Duggan and Sean O'Neill. I think the colourful front page of Gaelic Sport is very good. The interview with Charlie McCarthy was great. May we have more like them. Please publish my name."

● *Sure, Pdraig. So many people (older people) don't like signing their names to letters that it is nice to see young lads like yourself wanting to see your letter and name published. I met Charlie McCarthy in Thurles after the epic league game in which they beat Tipperary and he was delighted with the interview himself. Tony Maher and himself were strolling to their hotel after the game when I chanced to meet them (J.M.).*

Anthony Clancy, Knockroe, Ernistymon, Co. Clare: "This is my hurling team of the 'Sixties. Please print it: O. Walsh (Kilkenny); John Doyle (Tipperary), P. Dillon (Kilkenny), J. Treacy (Kilkenny); S. Cleere (Kilkenny), T. Wall (Tipperary), D. Quigley (Wexford); J. McCarthy

(Cork), J. Connolly (Galway); E. Keher (Kilkenny), Jimmy Doyle (Tipperary), Pat Cronin (Clare); C. McCarthy (Cork), L. Devaney (Tipperary), P. Molloy (Offaly).

● *I can't say I agree with all your choices, Anthony. Still it is a great team and would be very hard to beat. Glad you included Pat Molloy of Offaly (J.M.)*

Timothy Fitzgibbon, Aisling, Dromdiah, Killeagh, Co. Cork: "I enjoy Junior Desk very much. I was at Croke Park three times—in 1966, '69 and '70. I might go again this year. My favourite hurlers are Charlie and Gerald McCarthy, Tomás Ryan and Mick Roche. Mick O'Connell and D. J. Crowley are my favourite footballers. I wish you would print my letter in Junior Desk."

● *You'll be glad to know, Timothy, that one of your heroes, D. J. Crowley is, like yourself an avid reader of 'Junior Desk'. I met himself and his charming bride from Rathmore, while they were on their honeymoon and Din Joe was anxious to know all about 'Junior Desk'. On behalf of all you 'Junior Desk' fans we wish D.J. and his wife every happiness and good luck in their married life. We hope they had a great time in San Francisco. We will feature Din Joe in a future issue—Mick Roche too (J.M.).*

Mary Brogan, Bofeenann, Ballina, would like to see a youngster's G.A.A. magazine published at least once a year. Mary plays camogie at school in Crossmolina and would like to see cut-outs of John Morley, Johnny Carey and Tom Fitzgerald. Mary is a sister of Anne and Agnes, has two other sisters and two younger brothers, all loyal Mayo fans.

Liam Jones, Derryoran, Mountshannon, Co. Clare, feels that I should ask Junior Desk readers to interview myself. He liked the quiz in "Our Games" and the Junior Desk interviews of Mick O'Connell and Charlie McCarthy. He suggests we interview Paddy Barry, Ollie Walsh, Eddie Keher, Dan Quigley, D. J. Crowley and Cyril Dunne. "Give us four cut-outs instead of two," said Liam. His Railway Cup stars this year were Sean O'Neill, Dermot Ear-



Agnes Brogan, aged 11 years, from County Mayo, whose letter to Jack Mahon opens this month's Mailbag. And her picture is worth publishing too!

ley, Frank Cummins and Mick Roche.

Bernard Fitzpatrick, Tullassa, Inch, Ennis, Co. Clare: "I enjoy Junior Desk. My favourite teams are Wexford (hurling) and Kerry (football). My favourite footballers are Sean O'Neill, Mick O'Dwyer, Jimmy Duggan and Pat Reynolds. My favourite hurlers are Paschal O'Brien, Tom Ryan, Dan Quigley and Pat Hartigan. I play with the Kilnamona under-15 hurling team and I suggest your next interview be with John Quigley."

● *I share your admiration for John Quigley, though I noticed on March 17 that he has put on a lot of weight over the winter (J.M.).*

Declan Molan, 57 Lower Cork Street, Mitchelstown: "I am eight years old and in third class. I play football every Saturday in the Park with about 10 other boys. My Daddy referees the match. I have been to two All-Ireland football finals. Mick O'Dwyer is my favourite footballer and is also my best friend. I met Mick O'Connell and Mick O'Dwyer when they were playing in Kilkenny and was glad they won. I like watching Kerry playing but I must play for Cork be-

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cause I am a Corkman."

● *Now Declan, that is the nicest letter I've received for months. But don't be ashamed of Cork's footballers. Some of the best players I met in my own day were Corkmen—Neally Duggan, Toots Kelleher, Eric Ryan, Niall Fitzgerald, Paddy Driscoll, Dan Murray. By all means, admire Kerry. But be proud of Cork. Rebel Cork (J.M.).*

Pádraic Mac Donnchú, Cearn Mór, Oranmór, Co. na Gaillimhe: "Taithníonn do cholúin 'Deasc Shoisearach' go maith liom. Bhéinn bródúil dá bhfeicfinn pictiúr Phádraic Ó Fathaigh ann. Imríonn Pádraic le foireann Cearn Mór agus is deacair é a shárú."

● *Aontuim leat a Phádraic. Togha imreoir Pádraic Ó Fathaigh. (S. Ó M.)*

Kevin Gallen, Hazelwood, Lough Gill, Sligo: "Junior Desk

is getting better. Give us four cut-outs every month instead of two. I would like you to interview Colm McAlarney."

● *I'd love to give four cut-outs every month. You're the second reader to ask for an increased number of cut-outs this month. The Editor tells me we will have to stick with two for the time being (J.M.).*

Brendan Corrigan, Gaigue, Balinamuck, Co. Longford, thinks Jack Donnelly is the best footballer in Ireland. Perhaps readers would like to write and select Ireland's greatest midfielder of the moment. Just think of them all—Colm McAlarney, Ray Carolan, Mick O'Connell, Jimmy Duggan, Dermot Earley, Jack Donnelly, Willie Bryan . . . How about it?

READER' INTERVIEW

We received quite a number of questions from readers and the

popular choice for interview is the Galway football midfielder, Jimmy Duggan. This creates no difficulty and in next month's issue (June) we will present "Jimmy Duggan interviewed by Junior Desk readers".

There were some questions for Colm McAlarney (weren't those two goals of his great on Railway Cup final day?) and for Ray Cummins. The best questions came from Dolores Houlihan, Peter Long, Sean Piggott, Sean McMahon, Joseph Woods, Padraic Mannion and Kevin Gallen.

So get next month's copy for the Jimmy Duggan interview.

OTHER LETTERS

A very good letter from "Ciarraí", Fionn Radharc, Dublin, suggests that "Gaelic Sport" introduce a good G.A.A. Question Box. He asks "Gaelic Sport" also

● TO PAGE 48



The Lynch brothers of Kerry football fame . . . Brendan (left) and Paud, specially photographed for Junior Desk in their U.C.C. jerseys.

● FROM PAGE 47

to get a star player to write every month—a Mick O'Connell column or a Sean O'Neill column. He praised our interview with Mick O'Connell, calling it "a gem". Other things he suggests are a "Where are they now series", a coaching column and a referee's column.

Sean McMahon, Clonosey, Beltrubet, Co. Cavan, is delighted with Junior Desk, loved the interviews with M. O'Connell and C. McCarthy, admires Sean O'Neill and Ray Carolan greatly, thinks G.A.A. players should always be numbered properly according to the programme, wants more competitions and has a great ambition to become a sports commentator.

Another anonymous reader asked us to give a list of G.A.A. publications including the Roscommon and Mayo G.A.A. Year Books. He wants the price and postage of each book and where it can be purchased. In the April issue we gave a list of G.A.A. publications still available, the price and the name of the publisher in each case. Add on 10p for postage.

This month we present the list again with a few additions. If there are any other G.A.A. publications available that I have not mentioned please let me have the details and I will include them in the list. It strikes me Tipperary brought out a G.A.A. Yearbook recently but I haven't seen one. So here is the current list:

- "The Football Immortals", by Raymond Smith (8/6 or 42½p). (Publishers: Bruce Spicer Ltd., 30 Molesworth St., Dublin).
- "Twelve Glorious Years", by J. Mahon (6/- or 30p). (Publisher: J. Mahon, 29 Oaklands, Salthill, Galway).
- "Gaels in the Sun", by Peter McDermott (15/- or 75p). (Publisher: P. McDermott, G.A.A., Navan, Co. Meath).
- "Coaching Gaelic Football for Champions", by Joe Lennon (10/- or 50p). (Publisher: J. Lennon, Gormanstown, Co. Meath).
- "Our Games Annual, 1971" — Official Year Book of the G.A.A. (6/- or 30p). (Publisher: G.A.A., Páirc an Chrócaigh, Baile Átha Cliath).
- "Three-in-a-Row", by J. Mahon (2/6 or 12½p). (Publisher: J. Mahon, 29 Oaklands, Salthill, Galway).
- "Fitness for Gaelic Football", by Joe Lennon (8/6 or 42½p). (Publisher: Society of St. Paul, Athlone, Co. Westmeath).
- "The Hurling Immortals", by Raymond Smith (8/6 or 42½p). (Publisher: Bruce Spicer Ltd., 30 Molesworth St., Dublin).
- "Roscommon G.A.A. Yearbook, 1970" (6/- or 30p). (Editor M. O'Callaghan, Roscommon Herald, Boyle, Co. Roscommon).
- "Mayo G.A.A. Yearbook, 1970" (6/- or 30p). (Brian McDonald, G.A.A., Castlebar, Co. Mayo).
- "Peil" (5/- or 25p post free from An Rúnaí, G.A.A., Páirc an Chrócaigh, Ath Cliath 3).

CLUB LIBRARIES

Every club library should have copies of all available G.A.A. publications. I say this even though two of the above publications are my own. One of them, "Three-in-a-Row", is practically sold out.

CAMOGIE

It is not too late to say congratulations to the girls responsible for producing the magazine, "Camogie". I wish them every success. Anybody interested in the game should make sure to have a copy.

"SCÓR 70"

The "Scór '70" (G.A.A. Talent Competition finals) in the R.D.S. Auditorium, Ballsbridge, was a wonderful occasion—a real Irish night. There were many impressive performances but the victorious young ballad group from Mitchelstown, Co. Cork were positively the best entertainers present. A great and lovely group of schoolgirls.

At the "Scór 70", Junior Desk received many plaudits. Séamus O'Rian, our last G.A.A. President, called me aside to offer congratulations and to wish us good luck.

Everybody is taking notice of us now. Still it is nice to get the word of encouragement, to know we are being read and that our views are listened to. It is not out of place to say "go raibh maith agat" to fellow columnist Seán Ó Dunagáin, the first columnist to pay us a tribute.

I'm sure you noticed we made the cover last month—not the full cover. Perhaps we will get the whole cover to ourselves yet. Still the editor is good to us. Next month we introduce four cut-outs for the first time. We will have the Jimmy Duggan interview and yes the competition with Bumper prizes. If you have anything to write about please do to:

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This is Mayo's Willie McGee (No. 14), seen in action in last year's League final against Down, and specially printed here for Agnes Brogan (see page 46).



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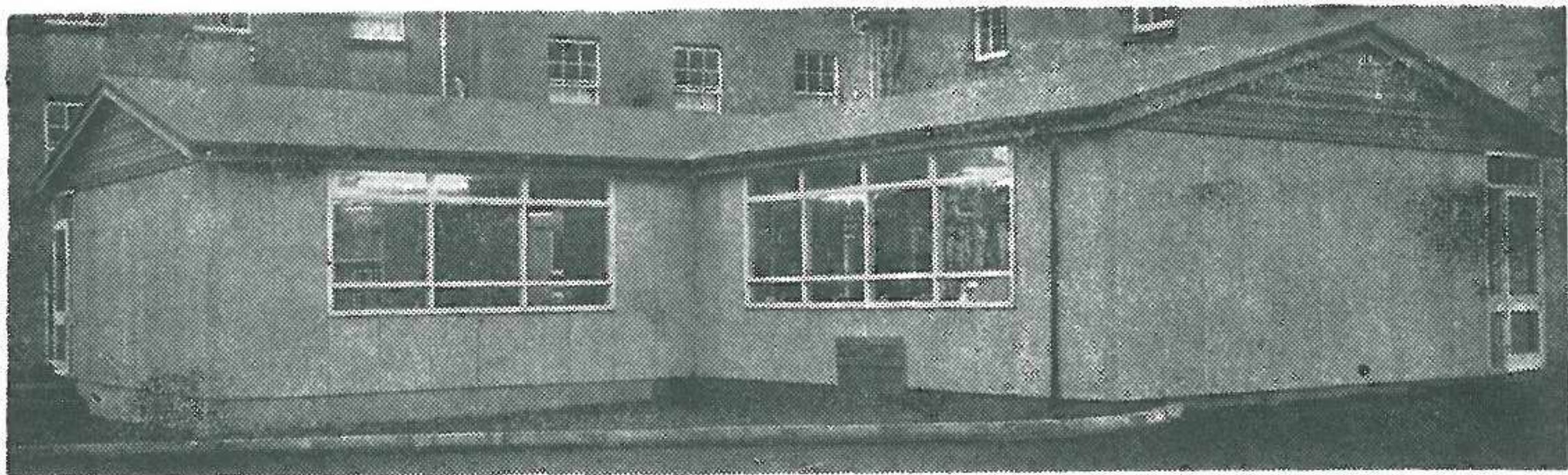
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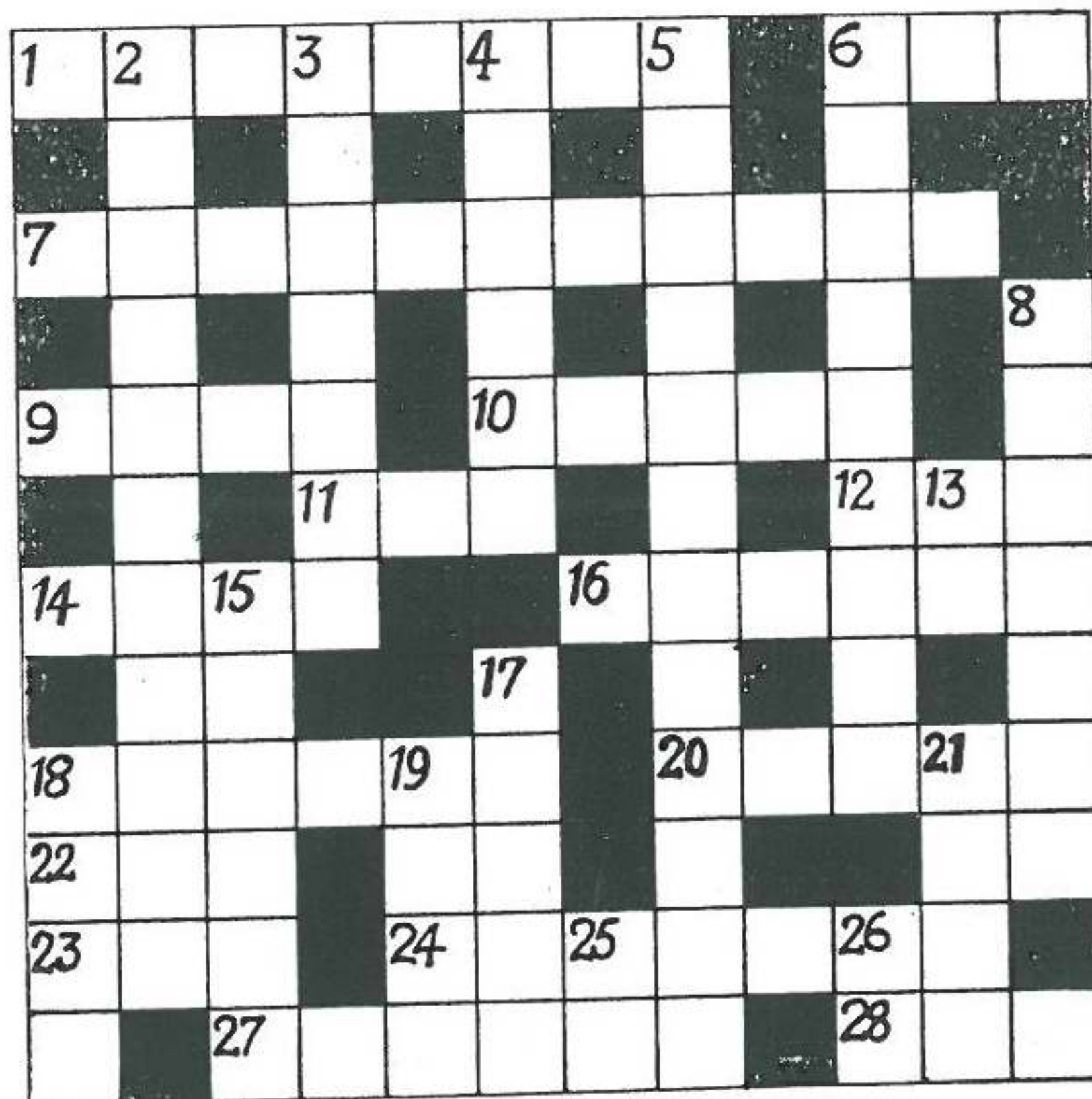
By PERMUTER

CLUES ACROSS :

1. Well-known Tipperary forward recently somewhat out of favour (1, 7).
6. (And 27 Across.) Ann, indeed, would make a dashing (occasional) defender in football for Cork (3, 6).
7. Con on verge of sin to produce a drawn result (4, 7).
9. Taking away the first part of extra payment for excellence leaves only a burden (4).
10. Midfielder (sometimes forward) for Cork in the 1950s at football (1, 4).
11. Kerry centre-forward when winning the 1962 All-Ireland. Initials (1, 1).
12. Longford midfielder turns to find this slippery customer (3).
14. The Derry Gribben who won a Railway Cup medal in 1956.
16. A journey up a mountain might be good for training (1, 5).
18. Leitrim forward and Connacht inter-provincial (1, 5).
20. Norman—a Dublin stalwart, and later a New York player (5).
22. Down full-back of the early sixties faces the wrong way (3).
23. Process by which jerseys are coloured ? (3).
24. Famous Dublin club named after the city's patron saint (7).
27. (See 6 Across).
28. The colour of the broad hoop on the Derry jersey (3).

CLUES DOWN :

2. Kerry half-back star now in charge of Trinity's football club (5, 6).
3. Men stay freely pardoned as a result of such a happening (7).
4. The narrowest of margins when a wide is kicked (6).



5. Kerry All-Irelander, son of internationally famous writer (5, 7).
6. Mayo-born centre-field for Louth in their winning year of 1957 (3, 6).
8. Occasional Mayo forward of a few years ago who seems to like Ban (7).
13. Half-back or midfielder in Mayo's great team of the early fifties. Initials (1, 1).
15. A star who had lost his sparkle (6).
17. To untie players seems rather to bring them together (5).
18. Kind of game you play signalled by Morse (4).
19. On and on, but a rather early time to arrange a game (4).
21. To remove the pressure, thus, often allows opponents to recover (4).
25. What Noel is, at heart (2).
26. Full-back for Kerry in 1955. Initials (1, 1).

SOLUTION : PAGE 52

BECKERS TEA

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ALLIED TEA BLENTERS, GREENHILLS ROAD, DUBLIN 12.

● FROM PAGE 42

good measure, he annexed the two-mile cycling event also.

There's a twinkle in his eye when he recalls some of the clashes he had, both on the playing field and in the administration room, with his Dublin business colleague, Matt Gallagher, who was an outstanding footballer himself and, for many years, was Chairman of the Eire Og club in Birmingham.

Jennings, at that stage, was in charge of the Innisfail side, but when the two teams clashed in an important tie, a serious doubt arose as to the eligibility of a couple of players on the Innisfail side. Matt duly raised an objection, but Jennings had it quashed on a technicality.

However, J.J., as he is familiarly referred to, freely admits that the rule book saved him, though Matt Gallagher accepted the decision in the sporting fashion that is his norm. Outside of the sporting sphere, Jennings also became famous as a singer, and nowadays whiles away his leisure hours by playing his guitar.

He is a woodcarver of no mean repute and, as an aside, it is no harm to mention that he designs the magnificent houses which have made him one of the most successful builders in the country. Jennings is one of a family of twelve, and also has twelve children himself.

The varied pursuits of this famed President leave little space for a few comments on Marren, who has also been to the lime-light in many spheres.

In the field of drama, his name has appeared regularly in banner headlines on the major stages of Ireland.

Indeed, those conversant with the art are convinced that he could have emerged as one of our greatest actors had he so chose.

For good measure, he has guarded the Sligo net for a number of years and has also been called upon for inter-provincial duty with Connacht.

Like Jennings, he is a member of the successful Na Fianna Club and is at present displaying his football talents, either as a high fielding full back or a sweeping centre forward.

I met these two Knights of

Gaeldom in Jennings's office at Dundrum and, as I pulled away from his site, which he calls Knocknashee, the following words of his most recent poetic composition, which he calls "Ar Teanga Binn", exemplified to me the real fibre of these men.

That we the children of a mighty race

Allow our language to decay for good,

The secret of our glorious past, The flesh and blood of nationhood.

Ireland's sons their blood have shed,

Our martyred men are long since dead.

They died that Ireland not merely free might be—but Gaelic too.

Then why do we stand idly by And watch our language fade and die.

O! Would that we in bondage still were in

And crushed by Saxon tyranny. Or sold by traitors from within,

Than it should fade — Ar Teanga Binn.

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● FROM PAGE 51

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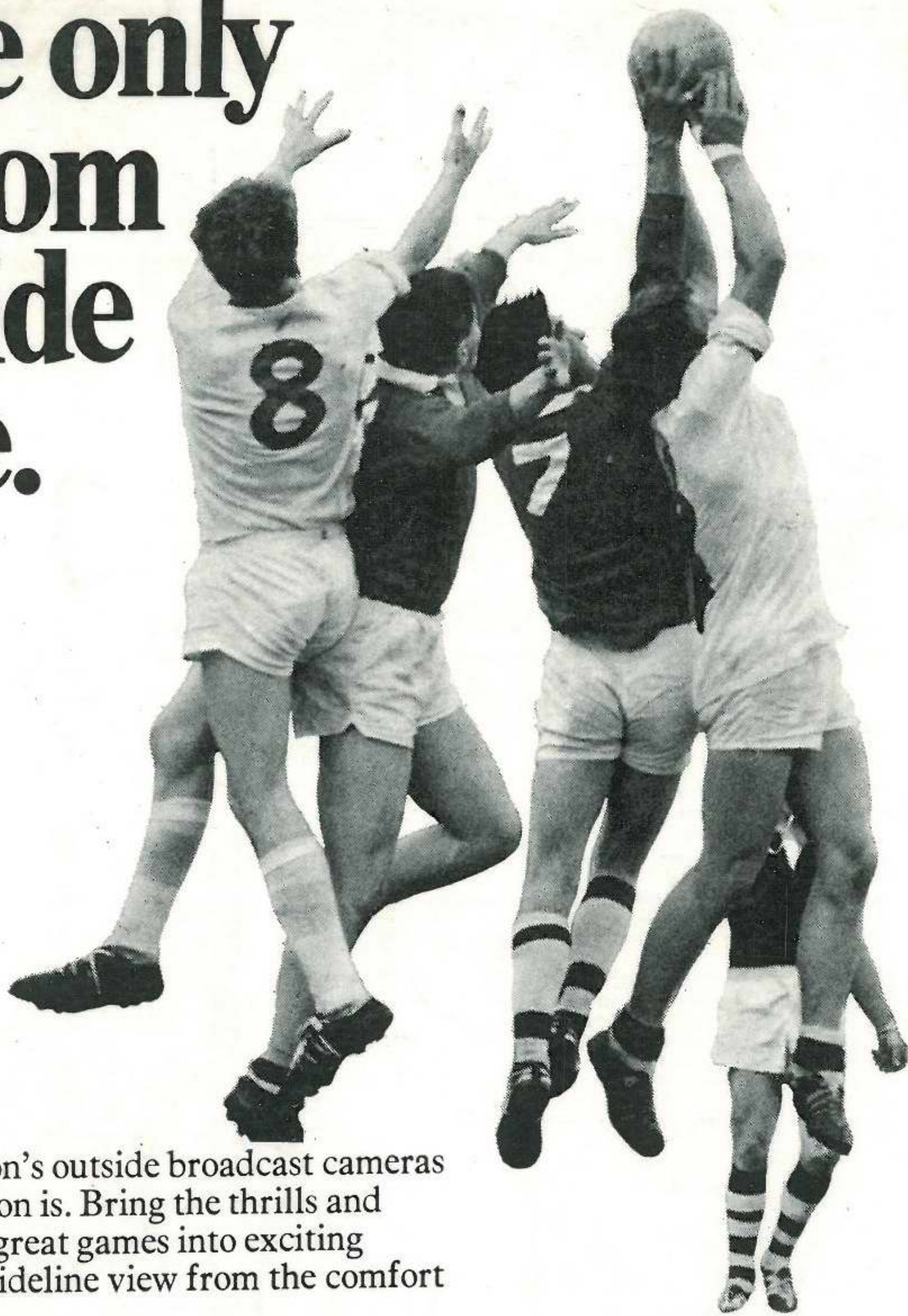
HPI

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Cork - 2 South Mall. Tel. 25371
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