

115 GAA

Gaelic Sport

APRIL, 1972

TEN PENCE



Jack Donnelly

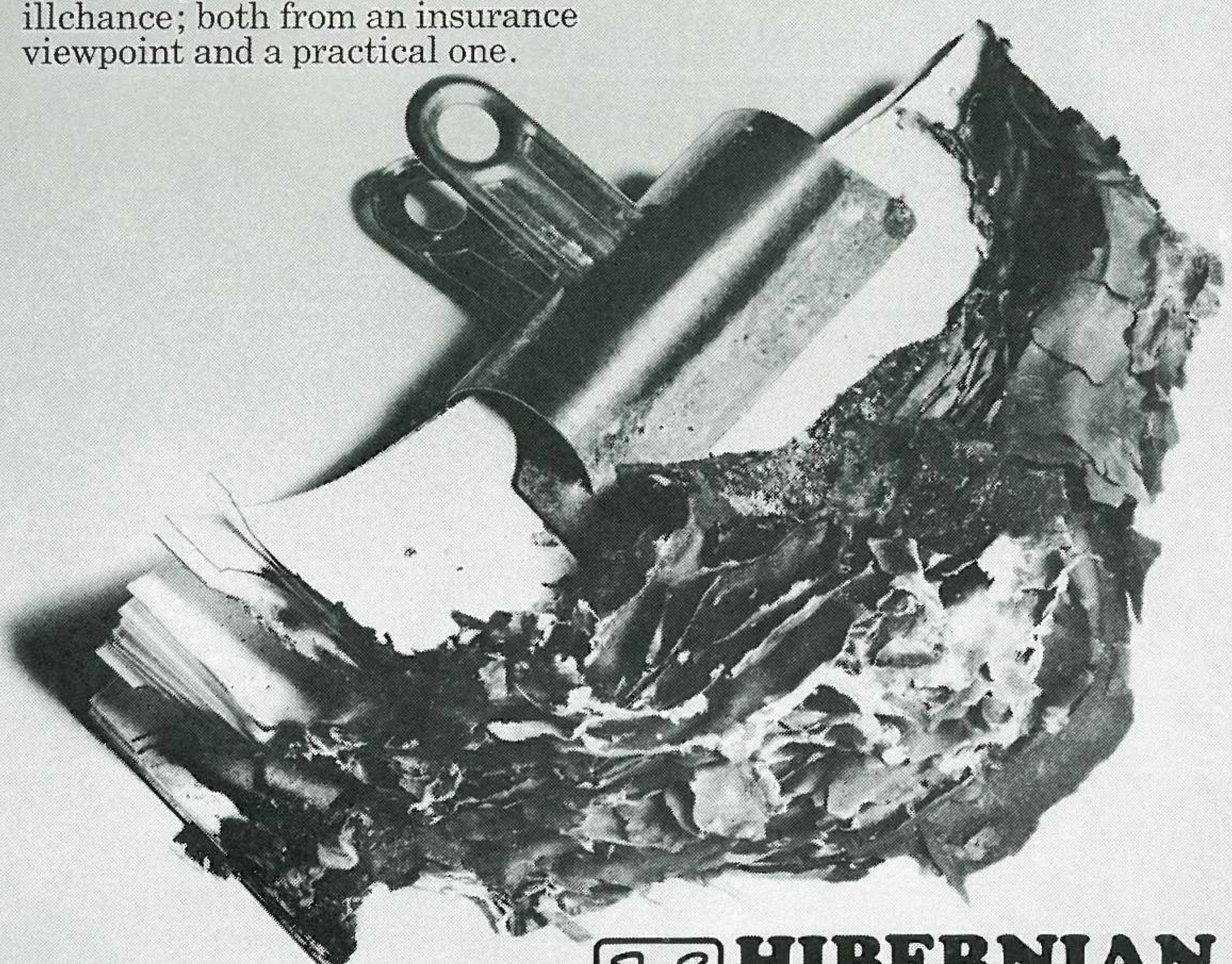
It's your flaming business.

So please don't let it get too hot to handle. Install a good fire prevention system, and check it regularly. In short, take time to look for fire risks; then eliminate them. And insure your business with Hibernian.

When you improve the everyday risks as much as you can, you'll have greater peace of mind. You'll know that you're completely insured against loss through illchance; both from an insurance viewpoint and a practical one.

As Ireland's largest general insurance company, Hibernian takes a very real interest in the health of Irish industry, through investment and through insurance cover. We know that a little care in eliminating risks can eliminate major losses too.

And, happy thought, if everyone gave some consideration to risk improvement, we could give everyone more economic cover.



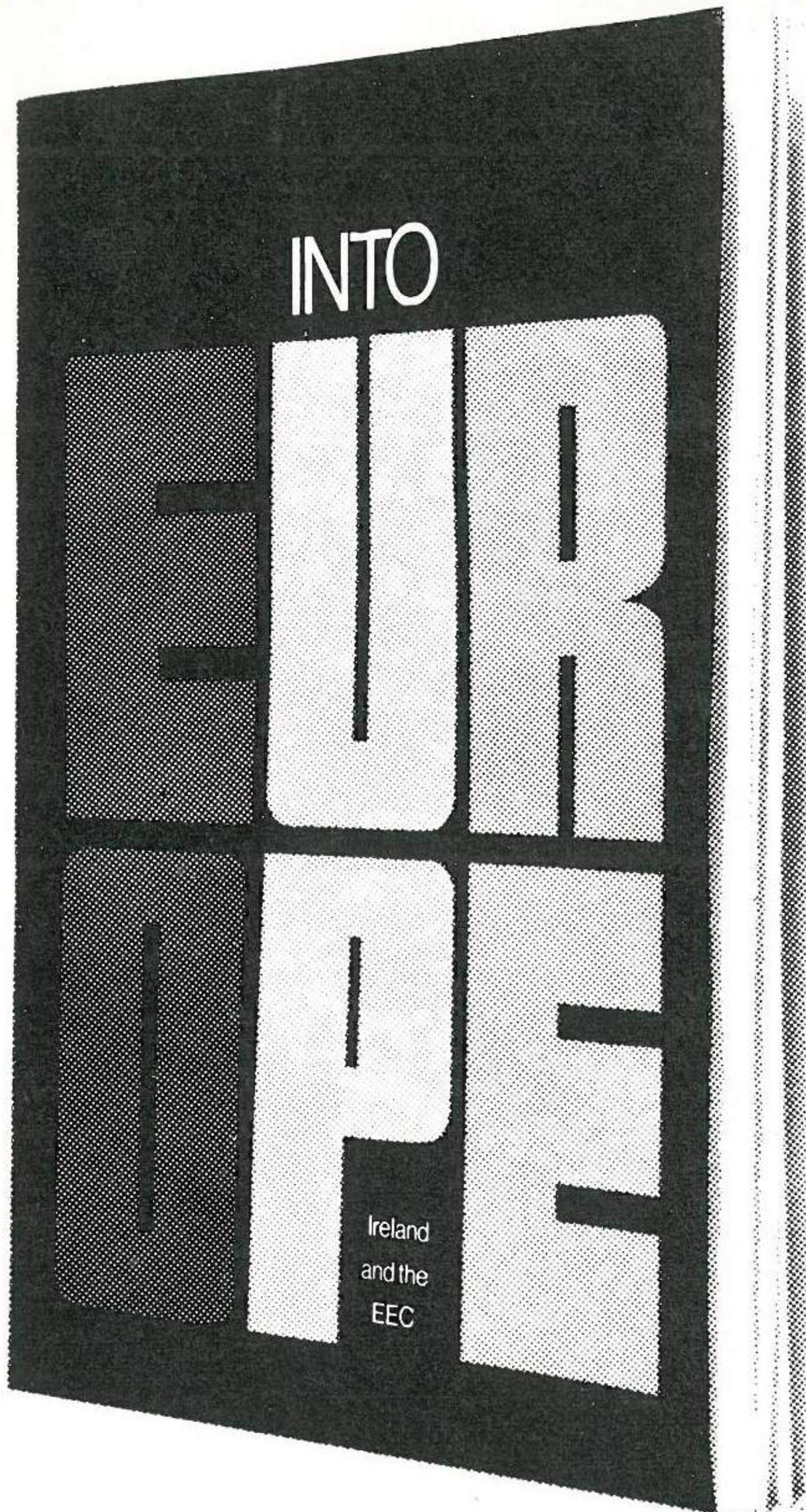
Make peace of mind your policy.



**HIBERNIAN
INSURANCE**

Hawkins House, Hawkins Street, Dublin 2. Tel 772911
And thirty-six local offices throughout the country

LIMERICK CITY LIBRARY
REFERENCE DEPT.



Your FREE guide to EEC

It is important that we should all know about our prospects in the Common Market. Here are the facts. 'Into Europe' is the Government White Paper on joining the EEC in easily understood summary form. Get this free booklet—it will help you think clearly about your future—and help you to make **your** decision on membership

'Into Europe' is at all Post Offices—post this coupon for additional copies

To: EEC INFORMATION SERVICE,
Department of Foreign Affairs, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2

Please send me.....copies of 'Into Europe'

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

**On all
grounds...**



**Allied Irish are
the people you can bank on.**



Allied Irish Banks

Munster & Leinster Bank, Provincial Bank, Royal Bank.

Gaelic Sport

Vol. 15. No. 4. APRIL, 1972

Offices :
80 Upper Drumcondra Road,
Dublin 9.
Telephone : 374311.

INDEX

<i>Outcry Against All-Ireland Ticket Scheme</i>	
—by Dan McAreavy	5
<i>Looking Forward to the Championships</i>	
— by Noel Coogan	7
<i>Kildare Needs Boost of Donnelly Comeback</i>	
—by Neil McCavana	9
<i>New Idea for the Railway Cups</i>	
—by Jim Bennett	11
<i>Scrapbook</i>	
—by Tony Reid	13
<i>Problems of the Dual Players</i>	
—by Jay Drennan	15
<i>Scoresheet</i>	
— by Owen McCann	17
<i>The Race for the Big 'Pot'</i>	
—by Owen McCann	19
<i>Is the Customer Always Right?</i>	
—by Noel Coogan	21
<i>Limerick Inquiry</i>	
—by Séamus Ó Ceallaigh	22
<i>The Man Behind the 'Mike'</i>	
— an interview with Micheál Ó hEithir	24
<i>Moondharrig's Diary</i>	26
<i>Tony Henry: Hurling Pioneer in Mayo</i>	
—by Sean Rice	28
<i>Story-time</i>	30
<i>Camogie</i>	42
<i>Top Ten</i>	43
<i>Junior Desk</i>	45

COVER PHOTO

ON page 9 of this issue, Neil McCavana has this to say about the man on our front cover—"Football needs more players with the star-plus quality of midfielder-cum-forward Jack Donnelly." In echoing these sentiments we join with all lovers of good football and sportsmanship in wishing the Kildare man a speedy return to action.

NO PANIC

THERE is a great deal of muddled thinking behind much of the criticism that has been levelled so strongly at the Central Council because of the plan to sell 2,000 Hogan Stand tickets over a twenty-year period at £100 each.

The Council may have contributed to the situation. It was, admittedly, a shock to the rank and file member to first learn of such an ambitious proposal from the daily papers. That magical figure of £100 also appears to have mesmerised many, and caused them to lose a real sense of proportion.

A good public relations job might have smoothed the way for a better reception of the plan.

Nevertheless, it is still hard to understand much of the intemperate criticism officials have been subjected to.

This is not a blow against the rights of the ordinary club member. Nor is it a concession to the monied class.

It is an imaginative venture to cushion the complex challenges of the future with an additional source of worth-while revenue. The office block that will be provided from the monies realised from the ticket sales will result in an annual flow of cash into the G.A.A. that will greatly benefit every single unit of the Association.

In short, officials are guaranteeing in real terms the financial stability of the organisation in the years ahead.

In the long run, the people who will benefit most are not those at the top, but those very club members throughout the land who are now most scathing of all in their criticism.

Furthermore, the scheme will tie up only 2,000 seats. Many appear to overlook the fact that over 30,000 seats will still be available, as at present, for each final.

So why all the fuss? Could the answer have its roots in some recent happenings? There was, for instance, the rejection by Congress two years ago of the Rules Revision Committee's recommendations in football.

Now there is a hardening of attitudes against the costly painstaking report produced by the G.A.A. Commission, and which will come up for review at a Special Congress in the Autumn.

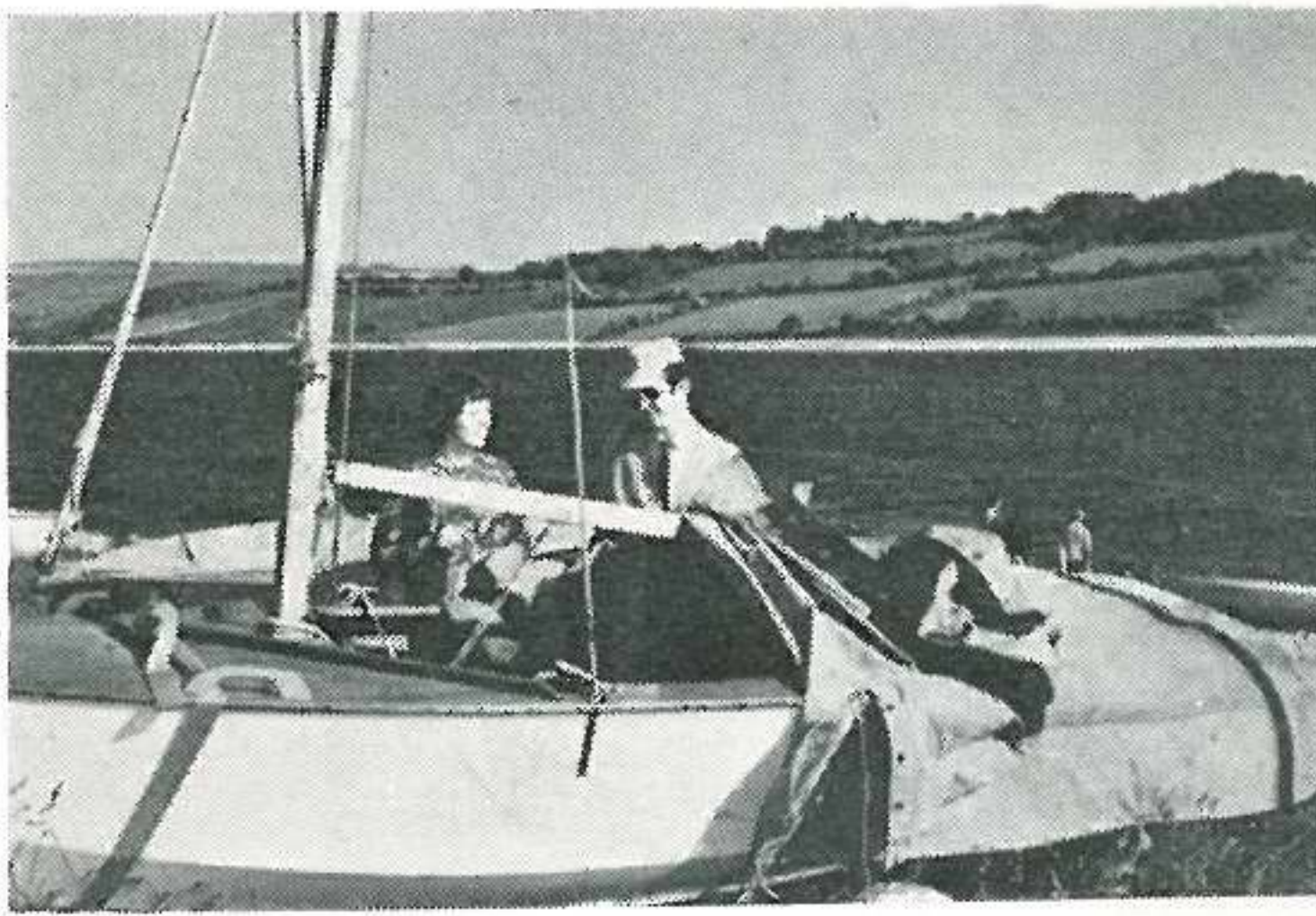
It does appear, then, that change can only come slowly, if at all, in the Association.

This time the Central Council has firmly grasped the nettle, and has set a worth-while headline in many directions as a result.

The Council deserves praise — not criticism.

A Question of Caring

Wicklow has always had the power to attract people with its beauty and its amenities. When the E.S.B. came into Wicklow, it added to the beauty. The magnificent Poulaphouca lakes came into being and have been stocked with fish to lure the angler

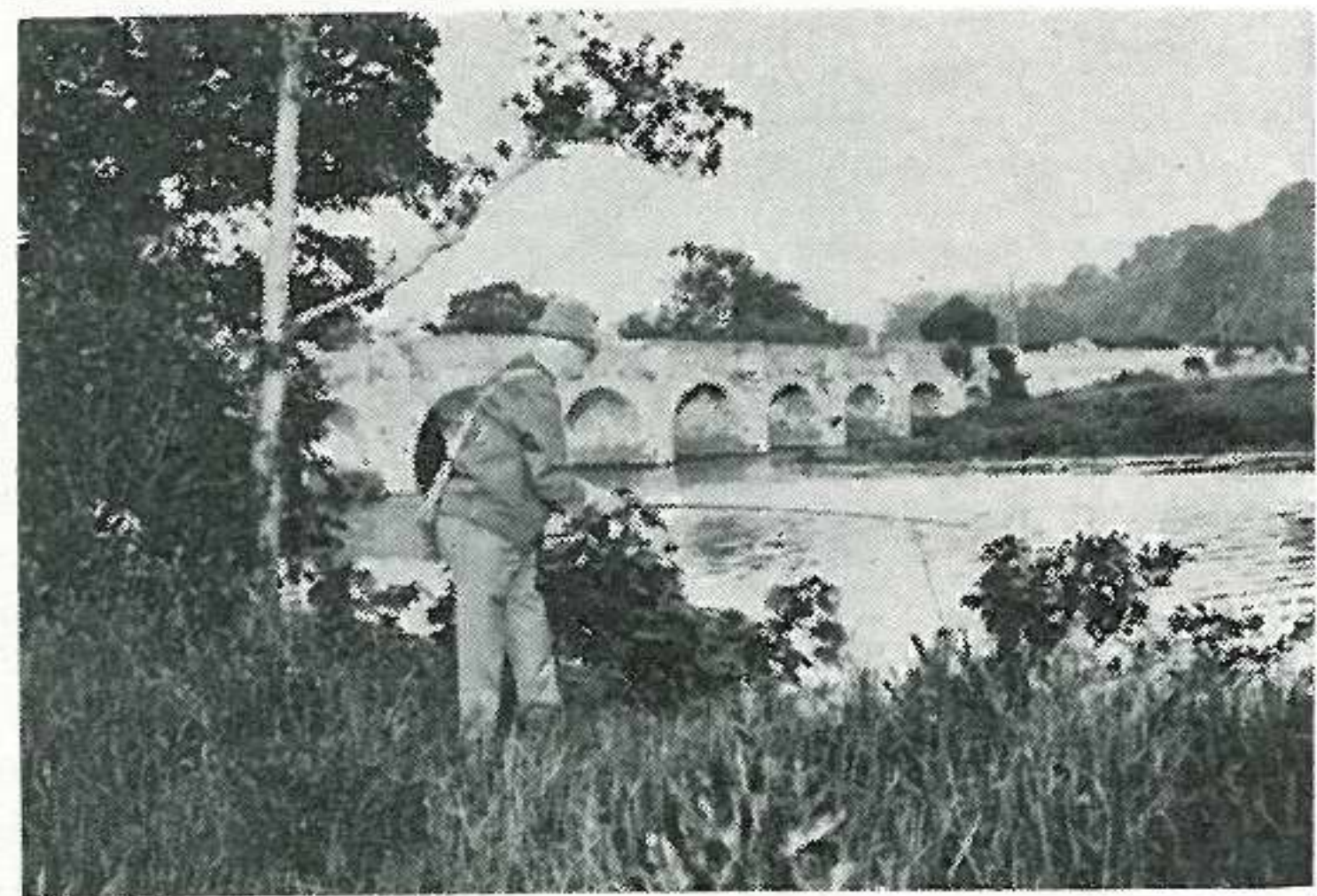


AN AMENITY IS CREATED

With the building of the hydro-electric project in the River Lee two things happened. The security of electricity supply in the Cork area was improved and a wonderful new amenity was created within a few miles of the city. To-day sailing, boating and fishing are possible on the lake at Inniscarra, on the River Lee.

GOING FISHING

The E.S.B. has always taken a vital interest in fresh water fisheries. At its hatcheries at Parteen and Carrigadrohid hundreds of thousands of young salmon and trout are reared. These fish are then planted out in the Shannon and its tributaries; the Liffey, the Lee, the Clady and the Erne.



ANOTHER TREE IS PLANTED

Just one of the thousands set every year by the E.S.B. as part of its environmental programme to keep Ireland beautiful. Landscaping, tree and flower planting at our E.S.B. stations and the development of the Rivers and Lakes at our power plants—these are just some of the ways in which the E.S.B. cares for the environment in which it serves.



OUTCRY AGAINST ALL-IRELAND TICKET SCHEME

I CANNOT speak for the rest of the country, but certainly in Ulster no issue has caused such a furore in recent years, as the Central Council's Hogan Stand ticket plan for financing the proposed office block outside Croke Park.

Indeed, if reaction at the recent Ulster convention—and elsewhere throughout the province—be any criterion it would appear most unlikely that the "Bill" will ever reach the statute book unless in drastically revised form.

Calculated to bring in a staggering £800,000 from sales of 2,000 central seats on 20-year leases at £100 each, together with a further 8,000 seats at £30 each for a 10-year period, the scheme estimates that the building will cost approximately £1 million and that annual rents will amount initially to £100,000.

While everyone is agreed that the Association urgently requires extra money, the present proposal has drawn the most outspoken comments I can recall in a reasonably lengthy connection with the Association. Candidly when I heard of the move I simply did not believe it; when I had the worst confirmed I genuinely

feared for the sanity of those legislators who had approved the big deal. I regard the whole business as a piece of naked discrimination which will really knock the stuffing out of dedicated clubmen up and down the country. I will go further and suggest that this financial brain-wave threatens to make the Hogan Stand on All-Ireland final days strictly the preserve of the cheque book brigade; a new elite—or should it be aristocracy—has been begotten.

But don't take my word for it. Down president George Tinnelly has said that the Association was built to cater for the working man and not for the snob element in their society. The sum of £100 was beyond the reach of many of their supporters and he has warned that it would cost the GAA an enormous amount of goodwill and manpower. Armagh's Tom Lynch—the man who was so instrumental in getting the Club Development Scheme off the ground—told me that the proposal to gain the cost of the office block by the sale of tickets was a Jewman's operation which should be fought tooth and nail. Declaring that it was the most ridiculous thing ever to come out of Croke Park, Lynch

called for the sacking of the entire Central Council.

Antrim chairman Jack Rooney—himself a quantity surveyor—has said that by the time the office block was completed it would have cost £1½ million when one took into account rising costs and he was doubtful if they would even get £50,000 in rent from it annually. The immediate past president of the Ulster Council, Michael Feeney feels it would be a very serious thing for the Association to mortgage the cream of their tickets for such a lengthy period as 20 years, while Tyrone secretary Paddy O'Neill reflects the opinion of many when he described the Central Council vote as a sad commentary on county committees who had not been informed in advance that the subject was being contemplated.

Ulster Council secretary Gerry Arthurs has left no one in any doubt as to his view on the matter; "It is not ideal, realistic or viable. If we are going to bring in £1 million from the sale of tickets it should be properly invested. That would bring in the same annual return without the risks involved or being responsible for an office block."

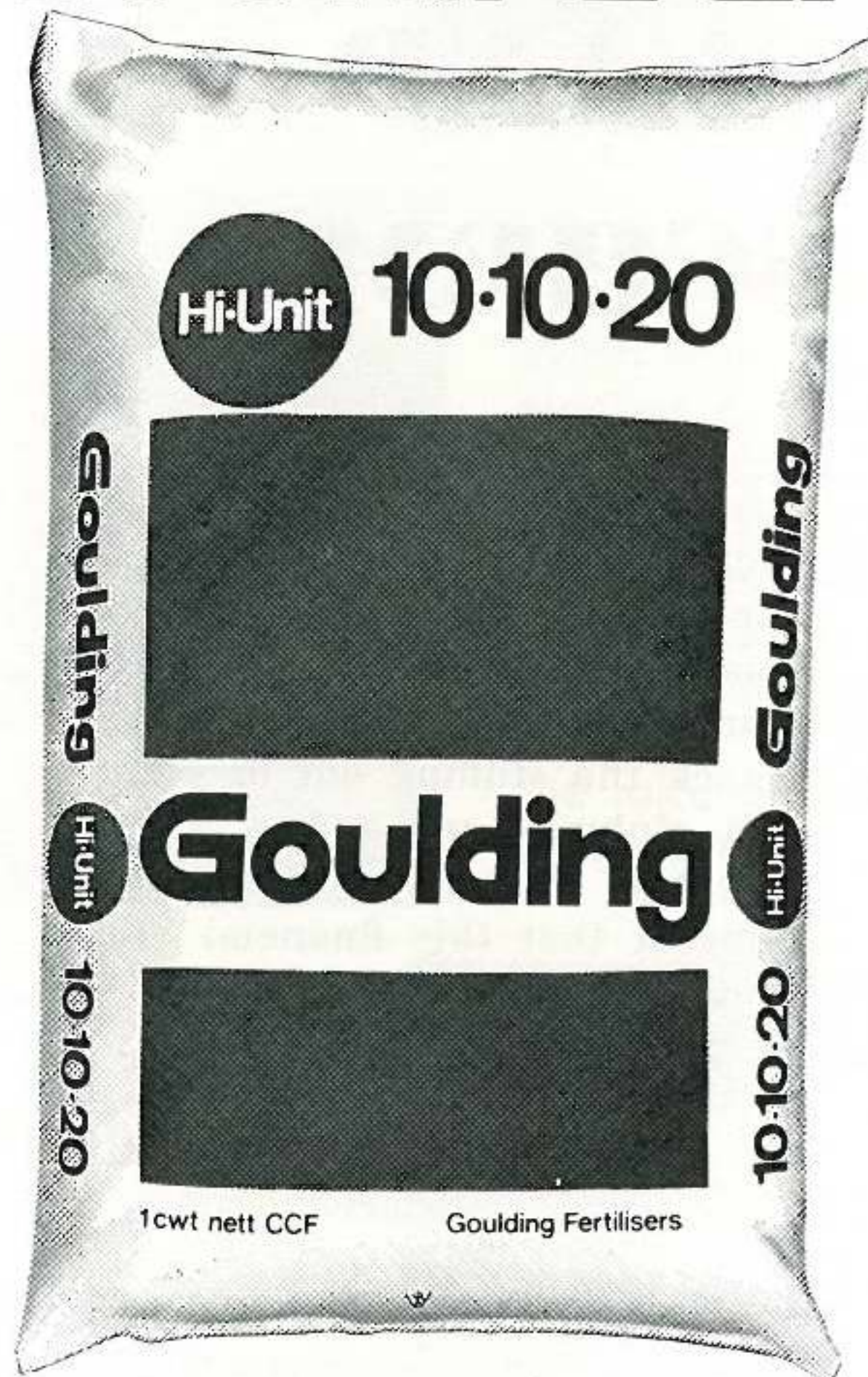
But let's take a closer look at what is actually involved for the individual member who would dabble on the new Croke Park exchange. His £100 will give him a pass to either the football or hurling finals for the specified 20 years which means, if he wishes to take in both games, he will have to find £200.

However who really wants a single ticket? I would certainly prefer to queue than go to a stand on my own. Therefore if our member wants a double ticket for both finals he will have to resurrect the prin-

● TO PAGE 7

Goulding

Hi-Unit CCF



**maintain
soil fertility
- increase
profits.**

● FROM PAGE 5

cely sum of £400! Incidentally talk of an insurance scheme to help a person out frankly sickened me. I realise that everything under the sun is now available on the "never never" but a ticket for a football or hurling match!

Serious as the financial implications of the present proposals may be I believe the outcome of the Central Council meeting poses other far-reaching considerations requiring careful scrutiny. How many members of the Council for example were fully informed about the various stages of the new scheme? How many members discussed the proposals with their counties? Or in fact had the plans been signed, sealed and delivered before the meeting?

Certainly at least one member of the Council is very unhappy about its present working. "I am totally disenchanted with what I can only describe as the new style administration which has developed in Croke Park," he told me. "The role of the Central Council, as I see it now is merely to rubber stamp the deliberations of various nominated sub-committees. The irony is that when we receive the minutes of these sub-committees for approval many of the decisions taken have already been implemented, and so it matters little whether we approve them or not."

I have always regarded the Central Council as the supreme governing body between Congresses and it would be a matter of grave concern if there should be any dilution of its authority directly or indirectly; or that its members should forget the necessity of consultation with the people whom they represent, their own county committees.

Put at its most charitable it seems to me that there has been a serious breakdown in communications on the present issue.

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE CHAMPIONSHIPS

By NOEL COOGAN

WHAT does the coming championships hold in store for various teams up and down the country?

This question and many other similar posers have been asked over the past weeks and will be asked in the coming weeks wherever Gaels gather in public houses and other meeting places.

It would not take an expert to tell us that Cork and Kerry will contest the Munster final for the umpteenth time. Surely, as good a case as any for the proposed introduction of the open draw.

The fact that Longford, as well as three other Leinster counties, would have to score seven victories before gaining possession of the Sam Maguire Cup, while Cork and Kerry need only overcome four different teams to become All-Ireland champions clearly illustrates the absurd lopsidedness of the current set-up.

While one would hardly need a crystal ball to foresee Cork and Kerry clashing in the southern decider next July, it is a much more difficult long range proposition trying to figure out which of these two great counties will go on to represent the province in the national semi-finals. The Leesiders are, of course, the reigning champions and will not relinquish their crown without a brave fight.

But, in the League the Kingdom's form was the more impressive and the men in the illustrious green and gold will be keen to fight their way back to the top. Still, there is plenty of talent in

Rebel County circles and the fruit of those great minor combinations of the last few seasons must fully blossom forth sooner or later. Men like Billy Morgan, Seamus Looney, Mick Scannell, Bernie O'Neill, Frank Cogan, Denis Coughlan, Donal Hunt and Ray Cummins can combine effectively to make it two in a row for Cork.

Should Cork come out of Munster they would meet the Connacht champions at the penultimate championship stage. Over in the West, a touch of lopsidedness is also very much in evidence, as the ultimate champions are unlikely to engage in more than a couple of encounters.

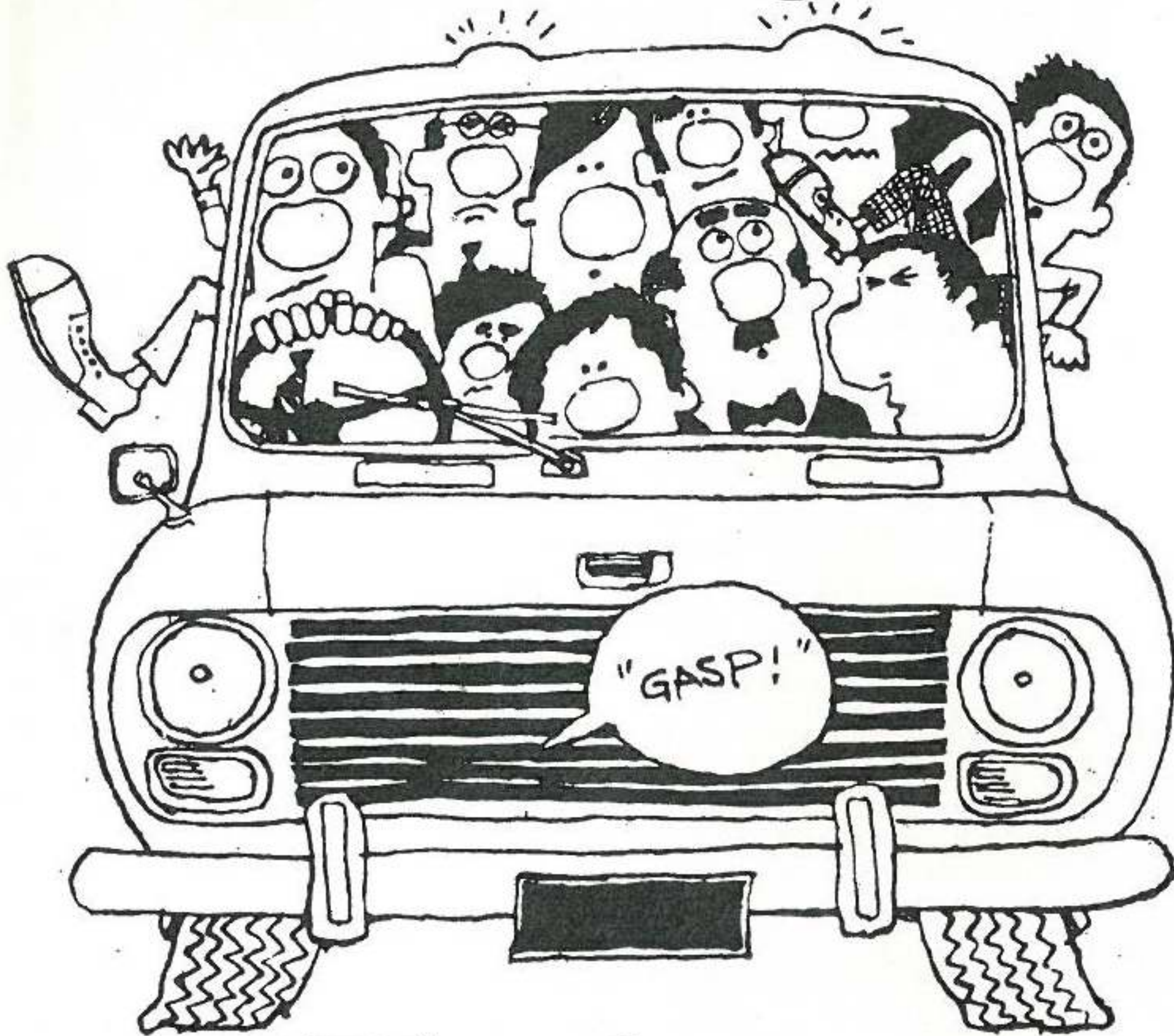
Still, the outcome is much more open here and of the five counties involved, only a Leitrim success could be considered a major shock. The fact that Roscommon have been beating rather weak opposition in the Second Division of the League makes their true worth difficult to assess.

That leaves us with Galway, Mayo and Sligo. Most neutrals would like to see Sligo taking the title. Last year they went so close, while in the League the Yeats County men won four games to take third place in the table. Mayo went one better by taking second place in the same section. Still so inconsistent have been the wearers of the green and red jerseys that one finds it hard to place further trust in them. Galway are the side that I like best in Connacht.

Up North Derry are the current talking team. At the time of writ-

● TO PAGE 8

Got a party travel problem? Or social driving worries?



CIE has the answer

CIE really can take care of your group travel requirements better than anyone—they've got the back up organisation and the facilities.

And CIE will take on any problem, social evening including dinner-dances, theatre, evening, full-day and afternoon outings. Ladies' clubs, youth-clubs, pilgrimage organisers, and all social groups. No organisation worries.

So if you're the secretary of a club or an association (or just someone who's been lumbered with party arrangements), you couldn't do better than contact CIE—the answer to party travel problems.



To CIE—Tours Department, 35 Lr. Abbey St., Dublin 1.
Please send full details to:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CLUB/SOCIETY _____

● FROM PAGE 7

ing the Foylemen are unbeaten in the League. But, like Mayo they are not the most dependable of sides. I, for one, would not care to put my shirt on them when the chips are really down.

The reigning title holders, Down, appear to have hit upon their hardest times for quite a while and it will take some effort if they are to retain their crown. Lesser guns like Antrim, Fermanagh and Monaghan hardly have what it takes, as yet.

So to my selection for Northern honours, Cavan. The Breffnimen showed some encouraging form in battling their way back to the premier section of the League. They are usually a much different kettle of fish in the championship and seldom remain long out of the honours list. Cavan are now titleless since 1969 and men like Andy McCabe, Enda McGowan, Ray Carolan, Steve Duggan and Gene Cusack can be expected to strive valiantly in their efforts to bridge that three year gap.

Should Cavan come out of Ulster I would expect them to be meeting Offaly in the All-Ireland semi-final. The Midlanders are still performing like true champions and it is going to take some team to relieve them of their crown.

Their old rivals, Meath, may give them most to do in Leinster. But teams like Dublin, Laois and Longford are all on the upgrade and can all pose problems. Still, it must be Offaly for their third provincial success in four years.

That leaves us with Cork v. Galway and Cavan v. Offaly in the semi-finals. What odds a Cork-Offaly final? Certainly the men in the tricoloured jerseys look to be the side they all have to beat and the team that does beat the mighty Midlanders, if they are to be beaten, deserve to be the new champions.

KILDARE NEED BOOST

OF DONNELLY COMEBACK

By NEIL McCAVANA

HAS football glory finally passed Kildare by? The poor showings by the county in the National League, culminating in a heavy defeat by Kerry in the last full series of games, suggests that time has all but run out for the county to effectively "cash-in" on the promise of the sparkling All-Ireland Under-21 title win of 1965.

It is not easy to pinpoint the reason for Kildare's failure to get back into the senior title winning bracket. The county rarely looked richer in exceptional talent than on that afternoon when the Under-21 footballers beat Cork in a classic for the 1965 national title, and many of the men who raised such great hopes for the future in that game did shape up well later as seniors. So, where did Kildare fall down?

That must rank as one of the great talking points of football. But whatever the theories that are advanced, I'm convinced at least of one point — the county's cause has been hit badly in recent months by the absence of that immaculate footballer Jack Donnelly.

I am not saying that Kildare would finally have got among the titles had Donnelly not been involved in an accident that has kept him out of the team since last summer. After all, one man, no matter how talented, or effective, does not make a team.

But the stylish Kildare footballer proved such a master of

the game that there can be no doubt the loss of his sparkling talents has proven a very heavy handicap for the county. He could be depended on consistently for a first class show . . . his skills and gifts marked him out as a man always deserving of special attention from the opposition.

In short, Donnelly has made an immeasurable contribution to Kildare football as a senior. All the many fine qualities that were in evidence in his play during the glory march to that Under-21 title — sure fielding, progressive football, a splendid work-rate and accurate shooting — blossomed forth so quickly that he was delivering the goods with power and precision from a very early stage in his senior career.

No where was Donnelly's work for Kildare more spectacularly put into focus than in the scoring stakes. Scores, after all, win games, and as far back as 1966, Jack was in there more than pulling his weight in this regard. In fact, at the end of the year he had the tantalising experience of failing by a mere two points to set a new county record. He shot 0-74 in 20 games, and the record then stood at 5-60 (75 points) to the credit of Kieran O'Malley in 14 games in 1959.

Surprisingly enough, although frequently on target, and also one of the best kickers of a dead ball in the country, it was still almost three seasons further on before Donnelly finally erased



Jack Donnelly

that O'Malley record from the book.

But if the wait proved somewhat longer than at first appeared likely, it was all well worth while, for Jack boosted the record up by seven points to 3-73 (82 points) in 17 games. That 1969 score by Donnelly still stands as the Kildare high point.

In keeping with Kildare's lack of fortunes on the senior title front, Donnelly's career has also been dogged by a valley period for Leinster. He has represented the province, and also played in one Railway Cup final — but that 1968 game proved a winning hour for Ulster.

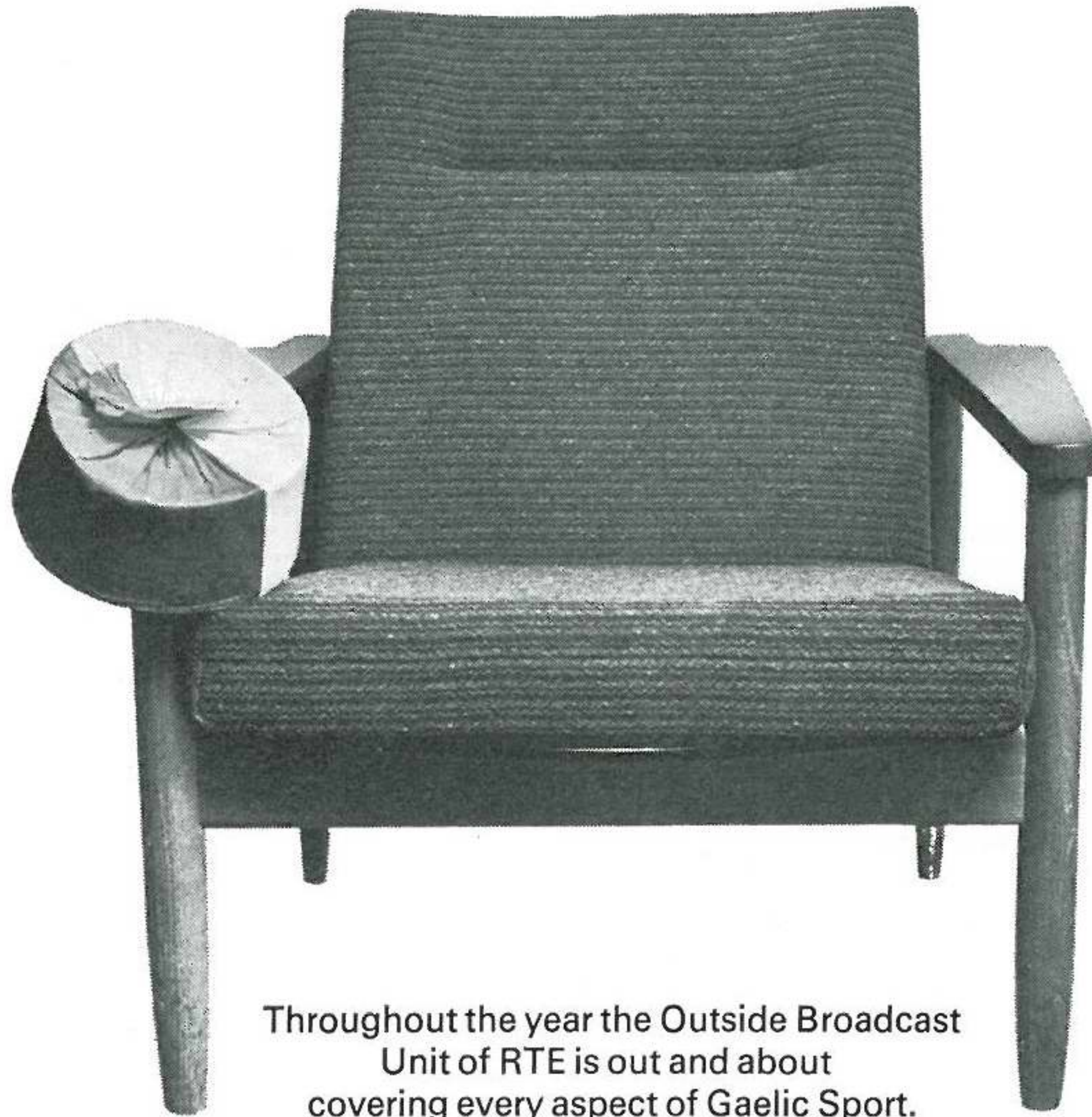
Nevertheless, despite his lack of success in the medals table Jack Donnelly has harnessed enthusiasm, natural talent, flair and a keen football brain to a degree that entitles him to stand shoulder to shoulder with the best of them — in this or any era.

Time is still on his side to enable him to shrug off the interruption to his career as a result of this accident, and to battle back again to his former position.

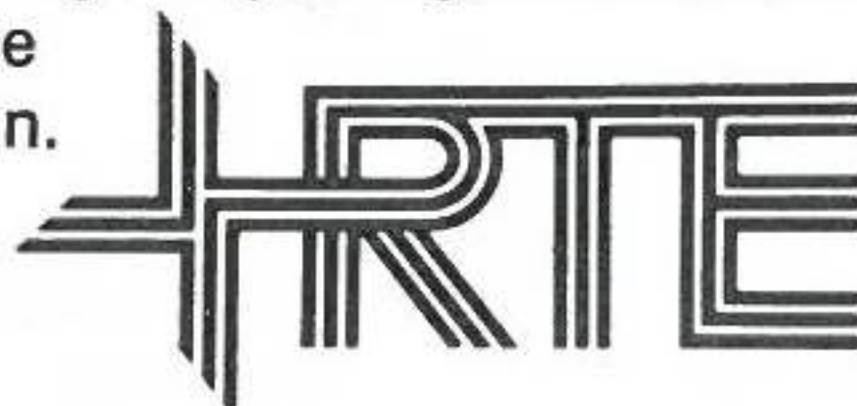
Football needs more players with the star-plus quality of midfielder - cum - forward Jack Donnelly. Perhaps it's too late now for Kildare to bring the Sam Maguire Cup home in his playing career, but one way or another, not only Kildare, but the game in general, will benefit by a Donnelly come-back.

Let's hope, then, it will not be much longer delayed.

Your grandstand seat



Throughout the year the Outside Broadcast Unit of RTE is out and about covering every aspect of Gaelic Sport. In television programmes like "Sport in Action" and "Gaelic Report", internationally-respected commentator Michael O'Hehir and the country's best-informed team of sportscasters bring all the thrills and surprises of Gaelic games right into your own living room. They regularly keep you abreast of events, with results, reports, recordings and candid interviews with players and sports personalities who make news. So you're always "in the know". Home or away, RTE gives you a grandstand seat to see your favourite teams in action. All you have to do is cheer.



NEW IDEA FOR THE RAILWAY CUPS

WE are a madly contradictory lot in our social allegiances and in the units with which we identify in our quest for our role in the extended family. On the one hand we are preparing ourselves with all due haste and with no little violence to long sacred principles for entry into Europe and towards becoming good Europeans. It is the European unit which is natural to us, we are told; this is where our natural, age-old affinity lies; the social allegiance with which we shall be most in accord and which will prove most fulfilling for us will be as Europeans.

On the other hand, at home, more emphasis than ever is being laid on the community, the parish or sub-section of a parish which may be found to have some amount of common qualities that might be used as a basis to build a social allegiance that could mean something to so many displaced persons, hermits in overcrowded cities. The Churches have been speaking all the time about this sense of community at a local level—as many communities as there are groupings with common ground on which to lean their allegiances.

Social workers are constantly telling us that their great trouble is trying to provide a central

social allegiance for misfits, so that they can identify with others and really feel that they belong to some unit of society outside themselves.

Recently, Community has become the “in word” in matters educational. If the practical follow-through for that idea is not quite what the best authorities would consider “community” to be, nevertheless the thought is there of fashioning people into more or less equal groupings on the common ground of place of residence.

On the one hand we are frantically integrating our ideas and our visions to try to make ourselves into satisfactorily composite Europeans. On the other we are equally concerned with fragmenting the population into manageable numbers, with a place and a group of social and friendship relations to hold the allegiances together.

In Local Authority affairs, also, we seem to be caught in divergent streams of opinion. On the one hand we appear to be in process of dismantling the County base of local government in favour of the region, and tourism, local development and some parts of education seem to be rooted in the same loyalty. Yet, on the other hand, again, the best

thinkers in social matters instruct us that the healthiest unit of local government on which to begin building is that of parish or local community: windy arguments on the problems of the Gaeltacht place large emphasis on the importance of such a localised unit of self-improvement.

Even the G.A.A. is frantically reaching in both directions: on the one side, earnest people tell us that unless we add an international dimension to Gaelic Games they will lose all their attraction for players whose horizons, apparently, are fixed on a world scale. Yet, at the other side of the same story, there is a group of equally vocal supporters of the theory that nothing matters but the club and that the unit of most natural and most fruitfully fulfilling loyalty is that of the club community.

It reminds one of nothing so much as that various character who frantically jumped on his horse and galloped off in all directions.

But, to try to collect one's thoughts in this matter: there seems to be a curious lack of interest or commitment to the long-established communities—county and province and nation. Whether it is evidence of a genuinely changing emphasis in our human groupings or just one of those changes for the sake of novelty which plague uneasy modern life is not clear.

How the restless shifts will affect long-tryed G.A.A. loyalties remains to be seen. Will there eventually be an end to county units?

One thing has become clear enough—the provincial loyalty is one which no longer creates any sense of identification. It is one of the reasons for the decline in

● TO PAGE 12



A day in the life of a Parsons van

Every day Parsons vans leave Howth with their cargoes of Irish manufactured Steel Equipment for town and country destinations. Included in these loads are:—

Storage Equipment — Shelving, Binning, Pallet Racking, Slotted Angle.

Clothes Lockers—For Factories, Schools and Clubs, etc.

Office Furniture—Desks, Tables, Bookcases, Filing Cabinets and Cupboards.

Next time you see one of our vans in your district, you'll know that yet another user has joined in the growing demand for Steel Equipment. Why are more and more people specifying Steel Equipment—especially Parsons Steel Equipment? Drop us a line and we'll tell you!

C.A. PARSONS OF IRELAND LTD.

Howth, Dublin. Phone 322693

A MEMBER OF THE
REYROLLE PARSONS GROUP



● FROM PAGE 11

the attractiveness of the Railway Cups—not the only one, or the most important in immediate effect, but it is an all-pervading background condition. In the summer and autumn with the provincial championships and entry of the champions into the All-Ireland semi-finals a certain temporary provincial fire is kindled. But, how do you raise a flame in the wet embers of February and March?

If, indeed, there is a future for the Railway Cup on a provincial basis, it is only in the aftermath of the artificial provincial fires of the All-Ireland series — in October.

Now a further element has entered the balance: the Universities. These selections would, in normal circumstances, be expected to contain several who might be provincial representatives. It takes one degree further from the credibility of the competition now that its natural attractiveness has declined, too.

In brief, it is difficult to see a future for the Railway Cups in the spring, but it is not right to abandon the idea entirely because I am sure there would be a considerable interest in them in October. There is a validity in saying that such a long established competition with a wealth of tradition and history should not be lightly abandoned. Would it not be feasible to telescope either Grounds Tournament or Oireachtas competitions into the Railway Cups: the revenue is not so tremendous that it would not be worth forgetting it in the hope that it brought greatly increased benefits to the special interests involved in Oireachtas or Grounds Tournaments.

It is better the competitions make more money for some other purpose, for this would mean some kind of renewal in the life of the Railway Cups—an intangible but valuable bonus.

By
TONY REID

GAELIC

SCRAPBOOK

BIGGER crowds, increased revenue, and a number of historical innovations were the features of the year 1913. Newspapers gave Gaelic games greater coverage than ever before.

At the quarterly meeting of the Central Council on Sunday, January 5, in Dublin, the Secretary reported that finances were in an extremely satisfactory state, as after accounting for all expenses, the Association showed a net gain of £829, these being the 1912 figures. Progress was also reported in the field of promoting our National pastimes from as far away as the United States of America and the Argentine.

For the first time, Championships were brought up to date, and the junior football and hurling All-Ireland titles were contested for the first time. Another step forward was the wearing of distinctive county colours which was made compulsory for all inter-county, inter-provincial and All-Ireland contests. But the most important change of all was the reducing of the number of players from 17 to 15, the big decision being taken at the Annual Congress which was held in Dublin at the City Hall on Sunday, March 23, Alderman James Nowlan presiding. It was also decided by Congress that in order to "induce our members to use our national language" a committee should be appointed to arrange to conduct some of the business each year in the Irish language.

On February 23, the newly instituted junior All-Ireland competition was satisfactorily concluded when Cork won the hurling final by beating Westmeath, 3-6 to 2-1, and Tipperary took the football title on a score of 1-4 to 1-3. Both games were well contested with the football match being particularly well fought.

A most touching ceremony in the Gaelic League Rooms in Limerick saw "Tyler" Mackey

presented with a cheque for £100 for his services to Gaelic pastimes.

The Croke Memorial games were played this year and the good work that they done for football is incalculable. Kerry and Louth survived the preliminary skirmishes and met in the final at Jones's Road on Sunday, May 4, in a match that was to put the arts and crafts of Gaelic football higher in popularity than it had ever been before. The first ended in a draw, Louth 1-1, Kerry 0-4, and the match also made history by becoming the first one played with only fifteen men on each team. Over 26,000 people paid £750 to witness this unique spectacle.

The hurling final of the Croke Memorial tournament fell below expectations, Tipperary easily overcoming Kilkenny by a margin of fifteen points.

The replay of the football final established a new attendance record for Jones's Road when just on 50,000 spectators saw a football classic. It was the greatest exhibition of football ever seen in Ireland, as Kerry, captained by Dick Fitzgerald won by 2-4 to 0-5, but the scoreboard done scant justice to a magnificent Louth team.

The championships which were now running bang on schedule produced two unusual pairings. Kilkenny were involved in both. First they had to travel to Scotland where they defeated Glasgow, 10-6 to 5-2, and later in the competition they went across to Liverpool and beat Liverpool-Irish, 4-3 to 1-3, in a surprisingly good game. There was a crowd of 4,000 at the Liverpool match.

In the Leinster final at Wexford, Kilkenny were fortunate to gain a draw with Dublin, scoring three points to Dublin's one goal. However, the Noresiders despite encountering tough opposition swept Dublin aside in the replay by 7-5 to 2-1.

In the Leinster football final Wexford ousted Louth by a point, and two weeks later they crushed Antrim by 4-4 to 0-1 in the All-Ireland semi-final and thus qualified to meet Kerry in the final.

In Munster, Tipperary and Cork met in the hurling final and the game was notable for the fact that both sides wore distinctive colours for the first time ever in an inter-county match. Tipperary togged out in bright crimson jerseys with gold collars and sleeve bands, and the front of the jerseys featured the crossed keys of the Kings of Cashel.

Cork wore saffron jerseys with blue collars and cuffs and had a large "C" on the front of the jersey. Tipperary easily won a very one-sided affair.

In the All-Ireland semi-final Tipperary met Roscommon in Dublin and galloped away with the match, winning by ten goals to one point.

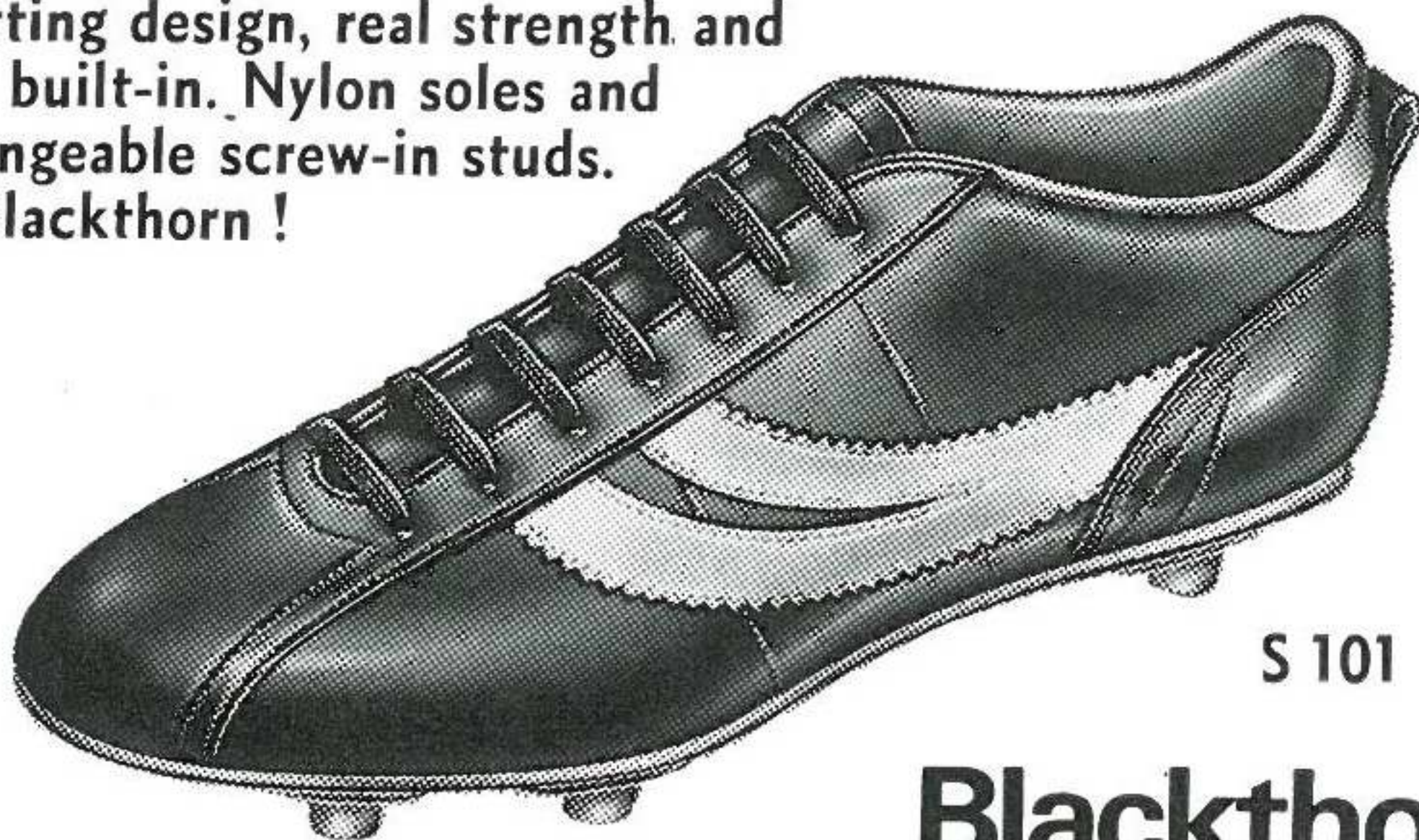
The final was played on Sunday, November 2, when Tipperary, represented by Toomevara, met Kilkenny who were represented by Mooncoin. A great game ended in Kilkenny winning their seventh All-Ireland crown on double scores, 2-4 to 1-2. On the overall play there was no doubting that Kilkenny deserved their victory.

The football final, which was played on Sunday, December 14, was played before an attendance of 20,000 who got good value for money. Despite giving their opponents a great fight, Wexford faded and eventually had to bow the knee to Kerry's vast experience. The final score was: Kerry 2-2. Wexford 0-3.

One other event that occurred in 1913 must be recorded and that was the playing of the first ever inter-county Camogie game. The match took place in Cork on Sunday, July 20, between the home county and Kilkenny and a most interesting game ended in a win for Cork, 2-2 to a goal.

BLACKTHORN UNBEATABLE

Boots that set the pace in sport to-day. Hard-hitting design, real strength and comfort built-in. Nylon soles and interchangeable screw-in studs. That's Blackthorn!



S 101

Blackthorn
Football boots

USE

truboard

CHIPBOARD
AT ALL LEVELS

Truboard (first chipboard to receive the BSI kitemark) is suitable for flooring, roofing, doors and wall panels, partitions and built-in furniture. It is rigid, rot resistant and free of grain pattern.

The fine truboard surface is pre-sanded to provide a true base for all paints and finishes.



truboard

QUALITY CHIPBOARD

For full information and samples phone or write to:—

MUNSTER CHIPBOARD CO LTD
WATERFORD TEL: 5454/7



Ray Cummins



Michael Keating



Pat Dunny



Seamus Looney

PROBLEMS OF THE DUAL PLAYERS

ONCE upon a time—and a very good time it was—games were fewer and farther between. Inter-club there was the championship; inter-county there was the provincial test and maybe the All-Ireland; the overlaps of codes and grades and intersecting competitions were so unusual as to cause special comment.

A man could forget about football and hurling for quite some time, then, even a top-star man. There would be speculation at the drying-out of spring fields as to whether he would be playing this year or whether he might not find the hardship of getting into training a bit too much after the lay-off.

A man could take a nice break from intense football with a game or two of hurling, or vice versa—it helped to pass the time. And, of course, it would be inconceivable that a man would not have proper and reasonable opportunity to change over from one game to the other and make the adjustment at leisure either for club or county.

Yet, even in those days—and it is surprising now though it caused no comment then—there were few enough of the highest quality at both games equally.

By
**JAY
DRENNAN**

*The
Taoiseach,
Jack
Lynch—
“a hurler
who
footballed.”*



Naturally, there were dual performers, as we have got ourselves into the habit of calling them, but most of them would be classified quite definitely as hurlers who also played football, or footballers who could also hurl.

Kevin Armstrong, perhaps equally talented; Jack Lynch who was, after all, a hurler who footballed; further back, Mackessy, Kennedy, Frank Bourke and several whose activities are so bound up with legend as to be obscure as regards actual quality.

Yet, the basic message is that, even in those times of fewer demands and less physical stress, the dual performer of highest quality in both games was a rare and unexpected specimen worthy of consideration as something of a phenomenon.

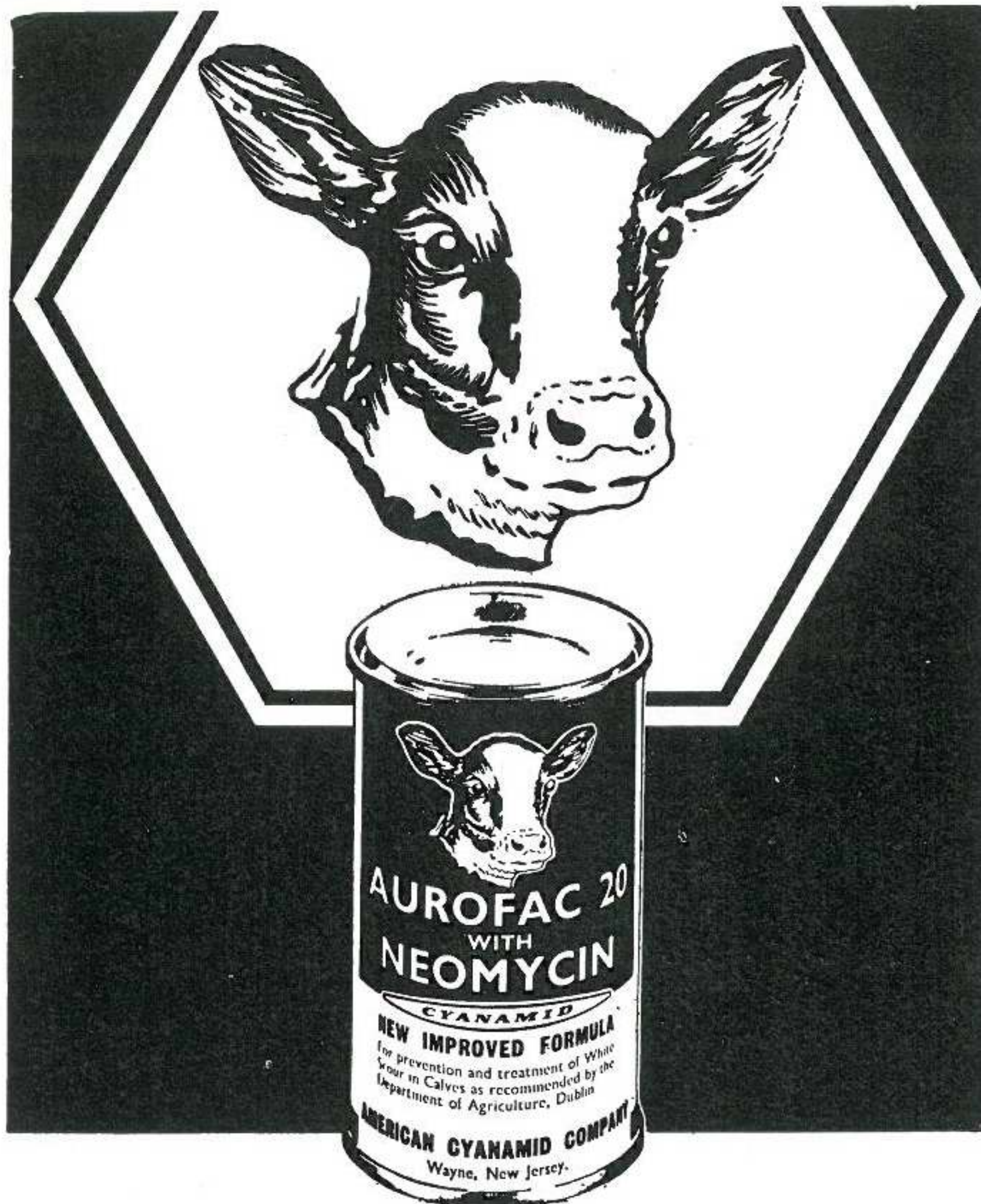
It comes, therefore, as something of a surprise to realise that the present generation should have produced some of the better specimens of the breed, especially when you consider the almost non-stop pressure which this entails. More especially when you remember the pace of modern living and the knotting demands of even the least complex of our lives.

Leisure, how are you? We have it, certainly, but we are generally so watered down by the demands of the working week that rest seems more inviting than physical recreation of the tired psyche. Further to that is the undoubted physical demands which training and playing every week place on a player and the manner in which these, in turn, can have an overflow into his working week. It seems like burning the candle at both ends.

It is not surprising that modern dual performers of the top calibre have found the going hard to sustain. Some have been forced to shift their balance of concentration — for periods, at least—on to one game; others have had to take rest cures for a certain amount of time to recharge their run-down batteries and to try to recreate an appetite which has become dulled.

● TO PAGE 16

DEAD OR ALIVE



Don't let White Scour make this vital decision. Choose life — with that great White Scour fighter, Auromatic 20. Auromatic 20 gives life to your calves; prevents White Scour or, if it has already struck, cures it. It keeps them healthy, growing and profitable. White Scour is the great enemy. Auromatic 20 the great answer. And, let's be sensible about it, prevention is better than cure. Get Auromatic 20 from your chemist today.

New AUROFAC* 20

WITH NEOMYCIN
Two powerful disease killers

* Trade Mark of American Cyanamid Co.



T. P. Whelehan Son & Co. Ltd. Finglas, Dublin 11



● FROM PAGE 15

Finally, there are those who have not conceded to any need for choosing one of the games to allow that balance, and, in the main they have burned themselves out more quickly than they might otherwise have done.

One recalls the longish period of withdrawal from one or both games which Pat Dunny has felt himself forced to undergo recently; the option by several Limerick hurlers that they will give their whole hearts to hurling even if the county football team suffers some weakening in the process. And one calls to mind the phenomenon that was Des Foley, a player of imposing class in both games who finished with top competition long before his time—either himself or his appetite burned out.

It is seldom that we have so many dual stars: Michael Keating, Seamus Looney, Connie Kelly, Denis Coughlan, Eamon Cregan, Andy McCallin, Pat Dunny . . . and, pre-eminently, Ray Cummins. Corkmen are foremost and have always been so, I think—Lynch, the Youngs, Hitler Healy, Beckett and countless old timers, and certainly Coughlan, Looney and Cummins are setting a killing pace.

Coughlan has obviously suffered from his dual activities: he was the trail-blazer of this group and it would appear that opinion could not accept that he could sustain the highest standards in both games. He was, I think, suspected of being just a bit of a dilettante — more breadth than depth, you might say. It seems that it is only now, with the acceptance of Cummins, Looney Kelly, Doherty, Simon Murphy and others as willing and able to turn in quality hurling and football at will that Coughlan is becoming accepted for what he should have always been accepted.

● TO PAGE 43

SCORESHEET

LYNCH TOTS UP THE POINTS

By OWEN McCANN

THE lion's share of the SCORE-SHEET spotlight so far this year has been captured, understandably enough, by the big and regular names in the score-grabbing stakes, but just now there is plenty of interest in circles outside of the elite.

Take, for instance, the on-the-target shooting of Brendan Lynch. The 21-year-old U.C.C. student has, of course, been punching home the goals and points in fine style for some years now, but his feats, like those of other Kerry forwards, have been overshadowed almost completely by the tremendous achievements of the ageless Mick O'Dwyer.

Looming up now, however, is the intriguing possibility of Lynch relieving the Waterville man this year of the proud ranking he has held for so long as Kerry's most prolific scorer. O'Dwyer has headed the county chart every year without a break since 1968.

In his first four outings of the year Lynch shot 0-21, at the impressive match score of 5.25 points. In the same period O'Dwyer had three engagements, and helped himself to 0-17, an average of 5.66 points.

The fact that the young Kerry winger came so close to O'Dwyer's fine match average during the opening weeks suggests that his scoring achievements in the coming months will repay watching.

Brendan, a native of Beaufort, had his greatest scoring campaign in 1970, when he shot 10-69 (90 points) in 25 games, including his appearances with Kerry

during the world tour. His best score in one game at press time was 2-3 against Clare in a challenge at Lahinch in February, 1971.

That impressive start to the current programme pushed Lynch's record as a senior to 20 goals and 196 points (256 points) from 74 games, at the rate of 3.45 points a game.

Then, there is Mick Freyne, to whom Roscommon would be looking to for scores in their National League Division II semi-final with Cavan.

Freyne's accuracy had much to do with his county's march back to the premier Division in the League. In seven appearances in the competition he put up 0-40, a tally that sends him into the coming semi-finals as the pacesetter nationally in the Division II chart.

Freyne's feats in the pre-Christmas League ties—he hit 0-25—helped him to another proud distinction. He finished Roscommon's top scorer of 1971 for all competitions with a total of 2-45 (51 points) in 11 games—the best by a footballer from the county since Don Feeley led the way in 1963 with 5-26, also 51 points, in 13 games.

Feeley holds the Roscommon county record at 3-83 (92 points) in 22 games in 1961. Will Freyne, -who was also Roscommon's top marksman in 1970, prove the man to pass out that peak?

Westmeath, too, are back in Scoresheet, thanks to the oppor-

tunism of Frank Connaughton. He was the county's top finisher last year with 5-11 (26 points) in eight games.

At press time he had played only four games, but still had equalled his 1971 goals haul. He also shot three points, for an 18 points total, and a match score of 4.50 points.

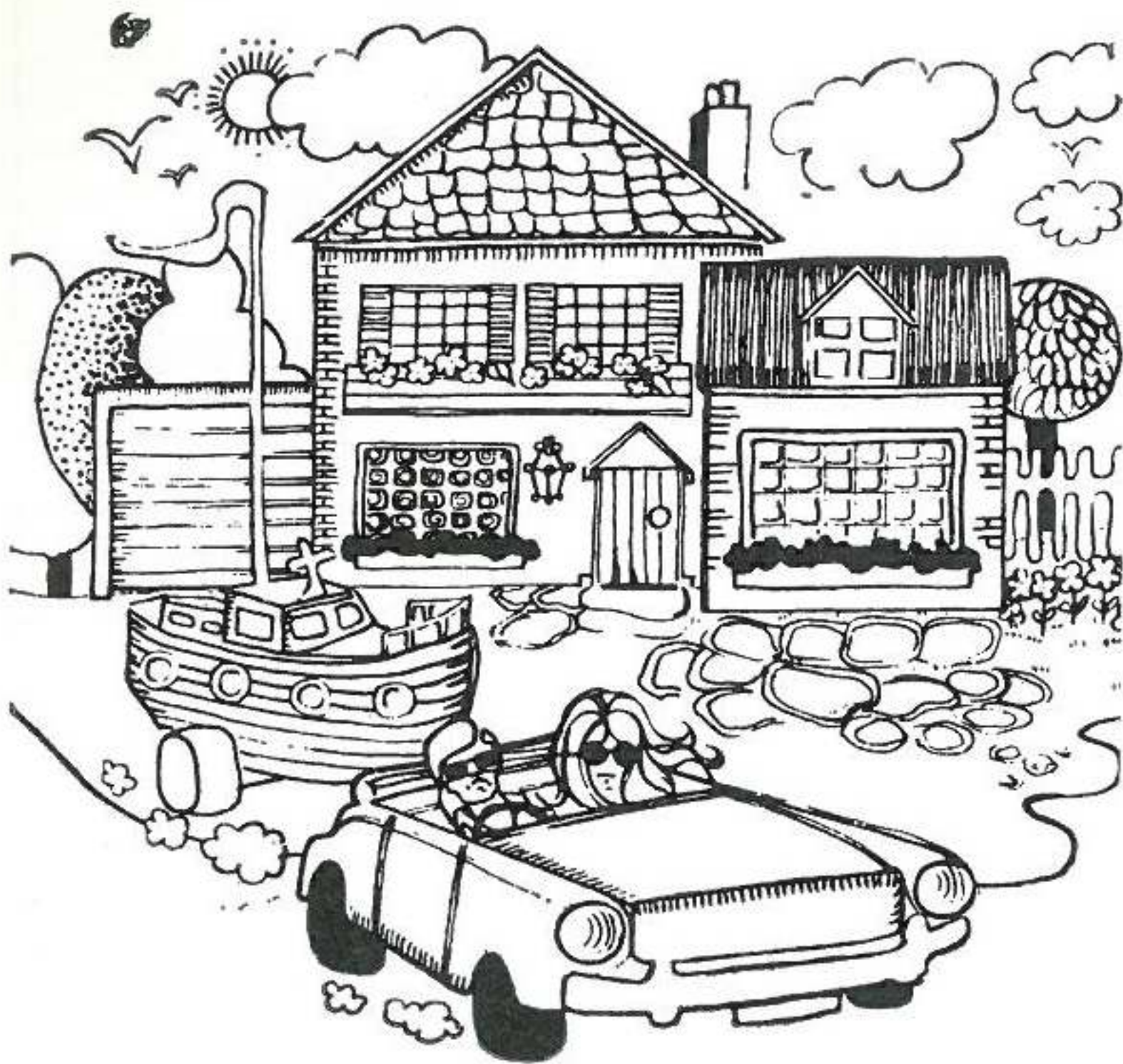
Obviously, then, Connaughton is a man who will pose problems galore for Longford in the coming National Football League Division II semi-final.

Indeed, if given the opportunities this year he could make a real assault on the county's by no means outstanding record of 5-51 (66 points) in 18 games by Pat Buckley in 1969.

Maurice Burke is making a truly blistering entry into the charts. It is doubtful, in fact, if any young finisher has had such a dramatic start to big-time scoring as this talented youngster from Corofin.

Burke was only promoted to the Galway senior football squad last autumn. But that still did not stop him from finishing the county's top scorer in the League with a splendid score of 5-23 (38 points) in six games. That's 6.33 points a game—some sharpshooting for a newcomer.

And, finally one more name to note—Peter McGinnity, who is displaying the score-grabbing flair with Fermanagh footballers. He got one of the quickest of the year so far—a twenty seconds goal against Derry in the League in February.



A little help from Mercantile Credit goes a long way.

Maybe you've been thinking about a new car. Or redecorating or extending the house. About Central Heating. Or a boat. But the ready cash may seem a stumbling block. It needn't be. With a Mercantile Personal Loan Plan you could be achieving your ambitions **now**.

You can spread the cost sensibly and repay out of income, at your own pace. And get the benefits of immediate tax relief on interest. And for AA Members even more attractive preferential rates.

Whatever you're considering—think again and think about doing it **now**—with a little help from Mercantile Credit.



MERCANTILE CREDIT
COMPANY OF IRELAND LTD.

19/22, Dame Street, Dublin 2. Tel. 756781.
Branches throughout the country.

Padbury

A DUBLIN HOLIDAY STARTS AT THE **FOUR COURTS HOTEL**

Lively, Lovely Dublin. You'll enjoy its old world charm; its swinging night life; its theatres, singing pubs, friendly people and wonderful food all the more if you stay at Dublin's friendliest hotel . . . the Four Courts — Grade A of course.

A stay there, near the city centre in luxurious and historic surroundings, costs surprisingly little.

Telephone Dublin 771161 for reservations
or write to :

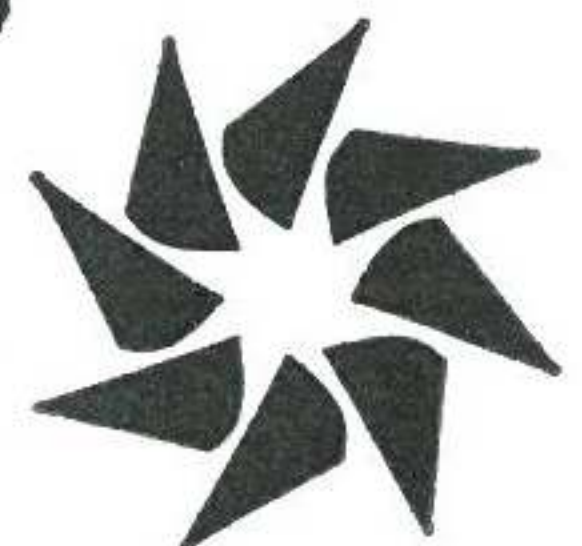
The Manager

FOUR COURTS HOTEL
INN'S QUAY, DUBLIN 7

RONSCREA

Special **PURE PORK
FOODS**

**Sausages, rashers,
bacon joints,
puddings-**



**all with that
mighty meaty flavour**

THE RACE FOR THE BIG 'POT'

THE intriguing fare promised in the National Football League semi-finals in the coming weeks tend to cloud the fact that the first shots will soon be fired in the race for the Sam Maguire Cup. So, how is the Championship race likely to shape up?

Obviously, the teams concerned with the final stages of the League are the ones to look to first as the front-runners for the All-Ireland title.

But experience has also shown that the Leagues are not always the best guides to the battles for the Liam McCarthy and Sam Maguire Cups. One has only to recall, for instance, last year's League title wins by Limerick hurlers and Kerry, and their subsequent failures in the Munster finals.

Then, there is Mayo, who will carry the Connacht standard in the coming League ties. Two years ago they lifted the League title after 16 years out of the honours' list only to crash to Roscommon in the first round of the Championship.

I have plenty of regard for Mayo. They have players of talent and determination, and a couple of good results in the League run-in could create the mood and conditions that would make Mayo very live Connacht title contenders.

But whatever the fates have in store for Mayo in their bid for League supremacy, I feel that Galway will still prove the team they will all have to beat in the West.

Although the Connacht Cham-

pions did not set the scene alight in the League, they have many assets, not the least of which is the experience gained from that 1971 final outing against Offaly.

They also have strength at the back, while Liam Sammon, Jimmy Duggan and Billy Joyce are a powerful trio to have on hand for duty around the centre of the field.

Poor finishing was the team's greatest shortcoming in the All-Ireland final last year, but one young man who is helping to bring about a new sharpness is Maurice Burke (Corofin).

Called up to senior service last autumn, Maurice, a recent county minor star, is one of the most exciting prospects around. He is fast, clever, can lay on the chances, and take scores himself, and he is improving with every game.

Sligo? It would be unwise to lightly dismiss their chances. They made life difficult enough for Galway last year, and the appointment of Michael Kearins as player-manager is a move that could pay a rich dividend.

But the more I look at the Galway, Mayo and Sligo outfits, the more I feel that at this juncture, Galway have the advantage over the others on the road to achieving the make-up and style of a



● Michael Kearins,
Sligo's
player-trainer-manager.

By Owen McCann

prospective provincial title winning combination.

The fall of Down is symptomatic of the poor all round standard of football in Ulster just now. As against that, if Derry realised anything like their full potential they could rank with the truly great teams.

But the Foylesiders have disappointed so often that it is now a gamble taking sides with them.

Nevertheless, Cavan still look to be the only serious threat to Derry's hopes of a return to the Ulster throne. The Breffni County are in a special class in the Northern title race, and the march back to Division I of the League must also prove an impetus for the Ulster series.

Cavan have also some promising young players, among them chance-snappers Oliver Leddy and Mark Goldrick, who may also help to make things hum for them in the Championship bid.

But Derry, for all their disappointments in major outings in recent years, have so much in their favour — height, collective skill, teamwork and experience. Despite what may happen in the coming League effort, and also allowing for the demands of their American visit in June, I think Sean O'Connell and com-

● TO PAGE 20

● FROM PAGE 19

pany will still manage to make it Ulster title No. 3.

What price a successful defence by Cork of the Munster crown against Kerry? Frankly, I doubt it. Kerry may have slipped a lot since they won the League title last June, but there have been some encouraging signs all the same for their supporters since the pre-Christmas failures to Offaly and Dublin.

Good wins over Galway and Kildare, the progress of up-and-coming players in Michael O'Sullivan at half back and Dan Kavanagh in attack, the spanking form of dashing Brendan Lynch are among the features that suggest to me that Kerry again look a good bet for another Southern crown.

And that brings me to Offaly. They are far superior to any side in Leinster just now, but success

in the League could be bought at a heavy price by the All-Ireland Champions.

Indeed, although Offaly folk will not agree, I have the feeling that defeat by Mayo in the semi-final later this month could well prove a blessing in disguise. I know Offaly are understandably anxious to lift their first League title . . . to maintain their great unbeaten run for as long as possible.

But look at it this way. If Offaly win the League they will be back in the U.S. in June. Even if it proves a Derry-Offaly final the All-Ireland Champions will still travel. The arrangement is that Derry will be accompanied by either the League winners, or the runners-up in the event of the Ulster county lifting the League.

Games in New York in June, following on the heels of their San Francisco engagements, and two testing League matches subsequently at home would prove a demanding run-in for Offaly for the Championship. Too demanding for a successful defence of the title? Many would feel so.

For my own part, I think that Offaly are so well equipped, and the players are displaying such a fierce determination and will to win that, given freedom from injuries, they could prove equal to all the rigours of a testing Leinster campaign.

I think Laois look the only serious danger in the East to the Champions, although from what I have seen of classy and ever-improving Dublin in recent games, they could prove a dark horse.

My four for the All-Ireland semi-finals, then, are Offaly, Derry, Kerry and Galway.

And, the probable All-Ireland Football Champions of 1972? That's a forecast that must wait for another day, as well as a preview of the likely headline-makers in hurling.

UNDER THE RULES OF RACING

CURRAGH RACES

THE HEADQUARTERS OF IRISH RACING

1972 FIXTURES

SAT. APRIL 8th	SAT. AUGUST 19th
SAT. APRIL 22nd	SAT. SEPTEMBER 2nd
WED. MAY 17th	WED. SEPTEMBER 13th
WED. JUNE 14th (E)	SAT. SEPTEMBER 16th
TUES. JULY 11th (E)	SAT. OCTOBER 21st
SAT. NOVEMBER 4th	

CLASSICS

IRISH 2000 & 1000 GUINEAS	SAT. MAY 13th
IRISH SWEEPS DERBY	SAT. JULY 1st
IRISH GUINNESS OAKS	SAT. JULY 22nd
IRISH ST. LEGER	SAT. SEPT. 23rd

ANNUAL RESERVED ENCLOSURE BADGES : £10

Junior Annual Badges (age 16-25) : £5

Free Car Parks—Railway Siding 200 yards from stands

Daily admission charges and all information, including facilities for small children.

From : REGISTRY OFFICE OF THE TURF CLUB

25 MERRION SQUARE, DUBLIN 2

TELEPHONE 61559

IS THE CUSTOMER ALWAYS RIGHT?

"THE customer is always right." So the old saying tells us. I cannot help wondering how often our own loyal supporters of Gaelic Games, the customers who pay good money to stand on the terraces or sit in the stands Sunday after Sunday, are right or wrong.

When a person buys something in a shop, and if it should happen that the item or items in question does not meet the satisfaction of the buyer, he or she may take the goods back and demand a replacement or their money back. But, in our own little world of Gaelic sport there is no such alternatives open to the fans.

Even if the standard of fare should slump to a new low ebb, the most discerning of followers would hardly be expected to ask for a refund of his admission charge. So complaints about the game being poor really only amount to wasted effort. In such a case the only courses open to supporters is to continue patronising venues until they are for-

tunate enough to witness a satisfactory hour's football or hurling or else stop going altogether.

But, on the other hand, I really do sympathise with the dedicated fans who come out week in week out in search of entertainment which never seems to get under way at the scheduled time. Let's face it, this is one of the most serious problems confronting the G.A.A. presently and I make no apology for bringing up the subject of these late starts once again.

God knows, enough has been said about this topical matter already and it appears we are no nearer a solution. Although, at the time of writing, it is early days into the 1972 season, I have already attended a few fixtures and not one of these started on time.

A glaring example of the couldn't-care-less attitude being directed towards the people the Association should be most concerned about was very much in evidence at a recent National Football League game, which I

attended. At three o'clock, the scheduled throw-in hour, there was still no sign of either side and the referee had yet to make his appearance. Really, how can the fan win?

However, it is only fair to point out that the referees are far from being the chief offenders in the case of late starts. Indeed the players are more often than not the guilty party. Still, the referees have more than enough to put up with during matches. There can be few supporters up and down the country who have not at one time or another shouted insults at the man in the middle.

But, how often are such abuses really justified? True, we have within the Association some incompetent officials and these deserve to be criticised. Also, there are many shrewd, efficient, knowledgeable referees in the ranks. Men who should be appreciated for what they are.

But, how many fans are really capable of appreciating a good referee? The fact of the matter is that there are far too many "mouths" in the crowd these days who haven't a clue about some of the playing rules and who do not hesitate to boo as soon as a decision goes against their team.

Take that afore-mentioned National Football League game for example. During the second half one of the home players, standing about five yards away from his opponent taking a "50", blocked down the kick. The referee, quite rightly awarded a 45 yards free to the visitors. But for his efforts he was booed loudly by a large section of the crowd. It certainly is hard to please some people. On second thoughts, the customer is not always right!

By SEAMUS O CEALLAIGH

A Commission to enquire into the performance of Limerick teams over the past thirty years was established at the County Convention of January, 1971. The original members were Rev. Liam Ryan, D.D., captain of the Munster championship winning side of 1955; Rev. James Neville, C.C., whose father won All-Ireland medals with Dublin in 1917 and 1920, and Munster championship renown with Limerick in 1923; Jacky O'Connell, an All-Ireland medalist of 1934; Jacky Power, who gained All-Ireland honours in 1936 and 1940; and Dr. Dick Stokes of the Limerick 1940 All-Ireland winning side. The names of Rory Kiely, chairman of the County Board, and of the writer (who subsequently acted as secretary) were added following the first meeting.

The Commission met on 22 occasions all told, and at a number of these they had consultations with representatives of the schools and colleges and of other under-age groups.

The Commission were anxious to meet the club officials but time did not permit. Instead they had the assistance of a survey carried out by the Divisional Board Secretaries of the general condition, amenities, and activities of each club in the county,—along with the populations they serve.

It was discovered that the average size of a parish in County Limerick was considerably smaller than that in Cork or Tipperary, consequently parish teams within Limerick have a much smaller population from which to draw than teams in these counties.

Given a normal age distribution of population, a parish of 1,000 would have approximately only sixty males aged 18-30, which is

the age group from which adult teams are generally drawn.

There are 68 parishes in County Limerick. Only 17 of these have a population of over 2,000 — and 9 of them are in the city, where the parish rule does not operate. Of the total of 68 parishes, the remainder are classified: over 1,500 population 14; over 1,000 population 18; less than 1,000 19. Some parishes support two clubs, and eight parishes, four of which are in the city, have no club.

Twenty-nine clubs own their playing field; 21 lease a field annually; 18 others have the use of a field.

Of this total only 8 have dressing rooms; 3 have showers; 8 have a meeting room; 2 have space for dancing and one has a bar.

The Commission regards the following elements as essential for the proper functioning of a club: (a) a supporting population of at least 1,500; (b) teams in all three grades—adult, minor, juvenile; (c) ownership of its

playing field; (d) provision of dressing room and showers; (e) an active committee.

They recommend: (a) that smaller parishes amalgamate to form one club; (b) that as far as possible there be only one club in each parish; (c) that in the city, where the parish rule does not apply, a serious effort be made to form a G.A.A. club in the several areas of large population where no clubs now exist.

The total population of the city and county is 140,000, and there are 71 clubs, or approximately one club per 2,000 population. The term "club" refers not to the affiliated unit but to the complex sharing common facilities.

Commenting on the fact that Limerick won the Munster junior hurling championship on seven occasions between 1941 and 1957, as against one senior hurling win during that period the Commission says:

This reflects the undue importance placed on the junior cham-

LIMERICK INQUIRY REVEALS MANY INTERESTING FACTS

pionship at club level within the County. For instance, in those years public interest in the junior grade was evidenced by the fact that attendances at junior championship matches within the county often exceeded those at important senior games. This over-concentration on junior teams was in our opinion a major factor leading to the decline of Limerick as a hurling force. It led to a limited competition in the senior hurling championship and had the general effect of lowering the standard within the county. Club ambitions usually extended no further than the desire to beat a neighbouring parish or at most to win a divisional title. The consequent level of aspiration was such that there was no great incentive to improve hurling standards. A change of attitude — and a consequent improvement in standard — is already discernible in the City and East divisions, and we regard it as absolutely necessary that similar changes occur throughout the entire county.

Withal the Commission feels that Limerick's hurling potential remained at a high level throughout the period, as shown by their ability on several occasions to beat the reigning All-Ireland champions. The failure was in not capitalising on these victories, and the Cork "bogey" is stressed in that Limerick played the Lee-

siders on 12 occasions between 1941 and 1971, with a single victory in the latter year — and the memory that on at least eight occasions victory could have gone to Limerick.

The Commission considers the development of the minor grade a first priority. They say that generally, up to the present, G.A.A. structure and competitions have been particularly weak in County Limerick schools. In order to compensate for this, the minor grade should have received special attention, but it too has remained weak and underdeveloped. It is a very important grade both in developing the skills of players and in building up their confidence and ability to perform with an equal chance of success against other counties. Heavy defeats at the minor level can easily create an inferiority complex which often extends into senior grade.

As a matter of urgency the Commission has already established a County School and College Board, and competitions in under-14 and 16 grades in both hurling and football are now underway, with the splendid total of 18 educational establishments participating.

The appointment of a County Manager with complete responsibility for all aspects of minor activity is recommended, as is the appointment of similar offi-

cers by the divisional Boards, and in the individual clubs. There is a directive that each club accept as one of its chief responsibilities the sponsorship of Gaelic games in the Primary schools of their area. Suitable competitions at under age level are suggested as the minimum to provide adequate team activity.

The appointment of a team manager for each of the various county teams is regarded as absolutely imperative. He should have complete responsibility for the management of the team on the field of play, including such matters as switches and substitutions.

Dealing with the local championships the Commission feels that the only way to build a well balanced senior complex is to have a fixed number of senior teams in each division — eight in the city, six in each of the other three. Initially, senior status should be decided by the divisional board in consultation with the member clubs, and thereafter it should be decided by promotion and relegation through a proposed new league to be played in addition to the championship, which should be on the knock out system.

There are many other matters of much interest in the 32 page booklet over which the report extends.

PLAYER'S

N°6

**give you
guaranteed quality**

PNSE23

The man behind the

AN INTERVIEW WITH MICHEÁL O hEITHIR

R. T.E.'s Head of Sport, Micheal O hEithir, has become so much a part of the G.A.A. scene that we have tended to take him almost completely for granted. Micheal's enthusiasm for sport is infectious. As well as carrying his listeners with him, he is obviously carried away by it all himself. His familiar greeting "Bail o Dhia oraibh go leir a chairde Gaeil" is awaited with great anticipation throughout the length and breadth of Ireland. I feel the G.A.A. is lucky to have such a wonderful commentator and I know Junior Desk fans will be delighted with this interview.

Jack—How did you become a G.A.A. commentator? What I mean is who influenced you so much in the G.A.A. direction?

Micheal—I was brought up in a home where sport — G.A.A. affairs in particular—formed the major interest. My late father trained the only Clare team to win a hurling All-Ireland (1914) and Leitrim Footballers narrowly beaten by Kerry in the All-Ireland Semi-Final in Tuam (1927). He was connected with Civil Service, Crokes and eventually with the famous St. Vincents, of which club he was Chairman—so how could I fail to be interested in Gaelic Games?

J.—You became a tremendous racing commentator as well.

Which is your favourite sport, or is that a fair question?

M. O'H.—I have been interested in racing—not gambling, but racing, since a boy, but to me the greatest sport and game of them all is hurling. It has always been my favourite.

J.—I'm giving you difficult questions but then you've seen them all but . . . Name the three best hurlers, three best footballers, and two best horses you've seen (flat, 'chase).

M. O'H.—This is a tough one.

ledge of the sport on which you are commentating. Commentaries are the result of hours of homework—or they should be.

J.—You obviously become lost in your sports to the benefit of us listeners. Just tell us what it feels like to broadcast an All-Ireland final. What planning you do, etc?

M. O'H.—“Getting lost” is that concentration I mentioned. Once a big event like an All-Ireland starts, the world to me consists of that game down there on the ground. An All-Ireland is a

By JACK MAHON

My three top hurlers are Christy Ring (Cork), Mick Mackey (Limerick) and Eddie Keher (Kilkenny). Footballers: Sean Purcell (Galway) Paddy Kennedy (Kerry) and Mick O'Connell (Kerry). Horses: Arkle ('chase), Nijinski (flat).

J.—Some Junior Desk fans have written wanting to know how to become a commentator. Any formula?

M. O'H.—It needs a dedication to work, a great deal of concentration as well as a sound know-

really big occasion demanding the best possible work on behalf of a worldwide Irish audience.

J.—How do you know the first names of all the players and the facts about them? Where they are from, their jobs, etc. Take Willie Bryan or Seamus Leydon or Mick O'Connell for instance.

M. O'H.—Here is that homework. Meeting players, officials, followers at small games as well as big ones enables one to learn bits and pieces about players. The happy co-operation between my-

'mike'



● Michael O'Hehir

self and County Secretaries all over the country has been a big help, as well as a "nose for news."

J.—Do you get "butterflies" before the big events?

M. O'H.—Always. In fact I seriously believe that if one does not feel "up in the air" before a big occasion, something is missing and wrong.

J.—What is your biggest annual event?

M. O'H.—The All-Ireland Football Final without question, because of the interest in T.V. and radio in Ireland, Britain, U.S.A., Europe, Africa, etc., etc.

J.—What game or race in all your years has given you most satisfaction? Games or races if you like.

M. O'H.—My biggest Radio/TV satisfaction was not a sporting one—but a sad, international one. This was doing the 4 hr. 55 min. commentary on the funeral of the late President J. F. Kennedy from U.S.A.

J.—Do you find the G.A.A. very demanding of R.T.E.?

M. O'H.—G.A.A. seek what they feel is their right. What bothers me is when some sections resent any other sport being on R.T.E. and then tells R.T.E. they must

not put on live G.A.A. games on T.V.

J.—Any advice for Junior Desl: readers?

M. O'H.—Keep interested in sport—not merely idolise stars—but get enjoyment from playing yourself. Sportsmanship should always be your number one consideration.

J.—Is the G.A.A. on the wane. If so why?

M. O'H.—It has been, due to sitting back too long with the feeling that it was an Association which did not need to keep up with the times. Realisation of the need for development has come and must be acted upon seriously and promptly.

J.—What do you do by way of relaxation? Or is that too private!

M. O'H.—I enjoy being with my family, I like pictures but as sport is my life it is my relaxation as well as my work.

J.—Your favourite T.V. programmes?

M. O'H.—I like to relax at the "telly", so Cade's County, Ironside type are enjoyable. I like sport, good light entertainment—it must be good to be entertainment. I do not like too many people preaching to me or at me

on T.V. on political matters—that is not entertainment.

J.—Your most embarrassing moment in sport?

M. O'H.—In the Grand National when Highland Wedding jumped Becher's Brook and disappeared from my view behind a line of people. I thought he had fallen, but quickly saw him going on to win. It was a moment of fright.

J.—Did you play any games in your youth?

M. O'H.—I played hurling in school (St. Patrick's, Drumcondra and O'Connell Schools) and also for Crokes and St. Vincents. I have several medals.

J.—In your family are ye always discussing sport?

M. O'H.—The entire family is "sports mad", as a result the most regularly discussed topic in the family circle is sport.

J.—Finally what is your greatest wish for R.T.E.?

M. O'H.—To have the facilities and equipment to extend our sports coverage of live events. Live coverage is good television and does good for a sport if the event being covered is of a standard to interest onlookers and viewers.

J.—Go raibh maith agat, Micheal.



● *John Kerry O'Donnell*

AFTER THE 'COLD WAR' — WHAT?

THE announcement in mid-February—following the visit to New York of President Pat Fanning and General Secretary Seán Ó Síocháin at which an agreement was reached with the officers of the New York G.A.A. Board led by John Kerry O'Donnell—that the “cold war” between the Association here at home and the Gaels of New York was over was as heartening as it was timely.

The end of the long-standing crux which had more or less extended back to the National Hurling League final between Cork and New York at Gaelic Park a couple of seasons ago, means that tours by Irish teams to New York and by New York teams here will be resumed through the summer. The preliminary plans have long ago been announced, with the Limerick hurlers and the footballers of Derry and of Antrim already guaranteed trips across the Atlantic, plus the National League winners or runners-up. The winners will travel if Limerick and Derry fail to collect their respective League honours; the runners-up will get the trip if the men of Limerick and of Derry do win through. But Derry and Limerick go in any case. In addition, individual players will again be allowed out to assist New York clubs, provided their services are not required by their home clubs and counties.

So far so good, but one wonders if even those steps are going to give the G.A.A. in New York the reviving draught that it seems to need very badly at this particular moment.

After the length of time since visiting sides were last seen over there, it is likely that the visits of the Irish team will bring out the crowds, particularly to see the Limerick hurlers after their great run in last year's League, while Derry and Antrim will be welcome because of the events at home. But these are, after all, non-competitive games, and it remains to be seen if exhibition games will, as well as paying their way which they should more than do, pay the way for further teams to follow. I assume, of course, that the funds from the Antrim and Derry games will go to the Fund for the Relief of Northern distress.

Moreover, one wonders if the ordinary run-of-the-mill clubs in New York can continue indefinitely to meet the high expenses involved in flying players out from Ireland to bolster up their teams.

Financial problems have, I understand, already arisen for some of the clubs who were very much “in the market” in recent years. Furthermore, the visits of New York teams to Ireland have, in recent years, been financial disasters as far as gate returns were concerned. Even in the competitive games, the tak-

ings at the matches in New York had to subsidise the corresponding games here at home.

For some baffling reason the Irish sporting public have not, since the early '50's, shown any great enthusiasm to come flocking to the turnstiles to see New York teams in action. And this despite the fact that so many of these teams have turned in such remarkably good performances on both sides of the Atlantic.

But there can be no doubt but that the games in New York need an injection of life-blood, and a massive one at that, if the games over there are to regain the vigour and enthusiasm that was inspired by the decision to play the All-Ireland final of 1947 between Cavan and Kerry at the New York Polo Grounds of happy memory.

The fundamental difficulty is, of course, that there are not enough young Irishmen emigrating to the United States nowadays to keep the New York teams up to strength. The changed Immigration Laws must take some, but not all, of the blame for this. Another reason is that, with a very much changed, and very much more affluent, society here at home, the United States is no longer looked upon by many of our young men as the Promised Land of Opportunity that it was to their fathers and their grandfathers.

So it may well be that, even

if the Immigration Laws are relaxed, the tide of emigration Westward will never again reach the proportion that once was an established fact of Irish life.

So, to build up the games in New York again, much of the work is likely to have to be done by the Gaels of New York themselves. The trouble has been in the past that far too few of the sons of the Exiles sought to practise the games of their fathers. In view of the fact that Gaelic games, on an organised basis, have been played in New York for nearly three-quarters of a century, one feels that, by now, a strong core of native-born players would have been established.

In recent years, however, good work has been done among the juveniles, and it is here, I think, that the real hope for the future lies. When native-born American teams come to the fore, the need for players from Ireland will be greatly minimised.

We have seen, through the past couple of seasons, teams of English-born youngsters play excellent Gaelic football at Croke Park against Dublin sides their own age. So, the headline is there for New York. By putting the work into fostering our games among the Irish American youth, the old traditions will really be kept alive.

But the big effort must, I fear, be made now. There is no further time to lose. The situation is already very serious indeed. Nor is it easy to see what we in Ireland can do to help. It might be an idea to send out College and under-age teams to play their counterparts in New York. It might be an even better idea to invite under-age American teams over here, and make them guests at coaching courses in Gormanston or elsewhere.

Would some of the money

spent on bringing out players from here be better used in bringing out coaches to teach the basic skills of hurling and football on home ground to young New Yorkers?

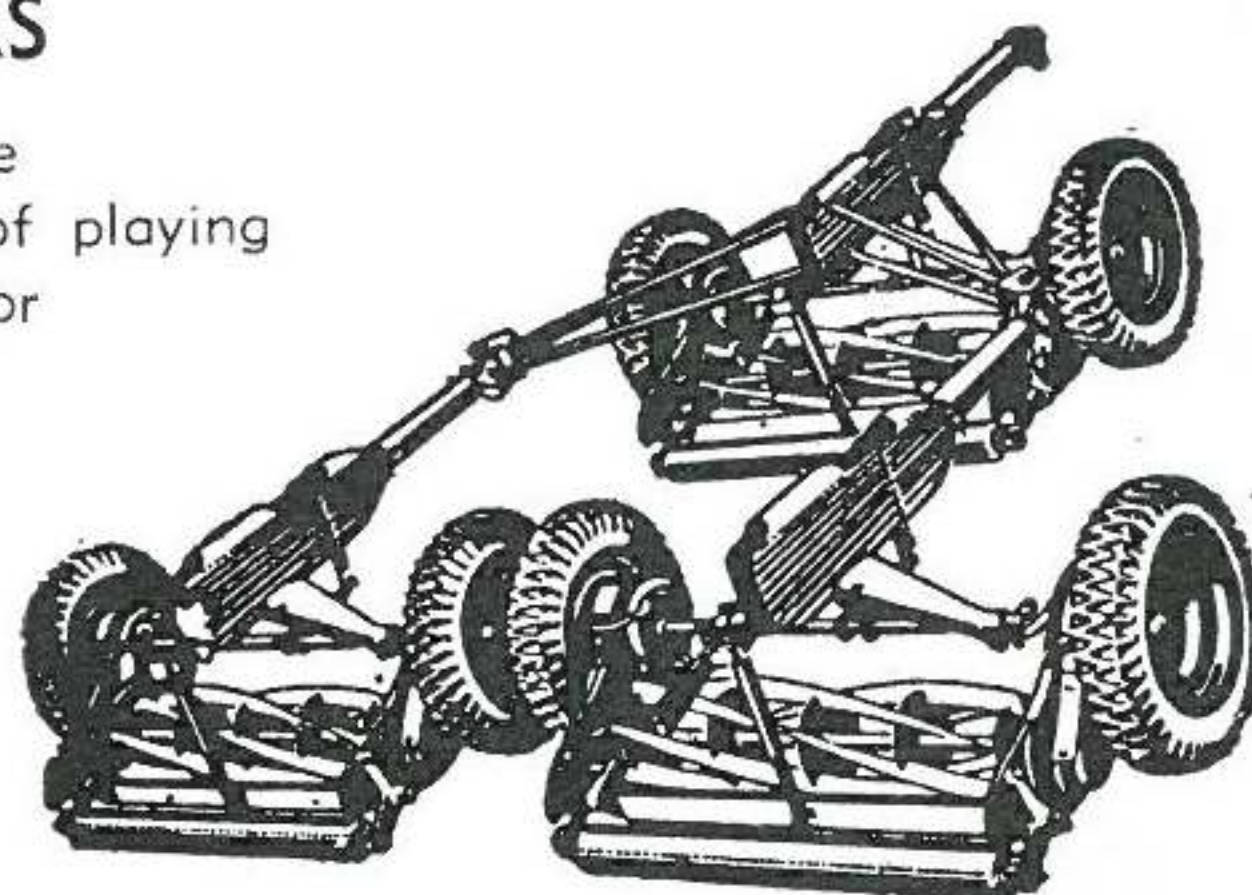
Would it be possible to get some of the American Universities, Fordham for example, to employ Irish students to act as coaches for Irish games at summer schools?

To what extent all or any of these suggestions may prove practical or practicable I do not know. They are just random thoughts that occur to me. If readers of "Gaelic Sport" have other constructive suggestions to make, I hope they will send such to the Editor. As I have already said, the situation is more urgent than many of us over here realise.

RANSOMES

GANG MOWERS

Indispensable for the successful up-keep of playing fields. Power gang or tractor gang from 30 ins. cut to 20 ft.6 ins. cut. Ideal for Chief and other four-wheel tractor owners.



30" & 36" MASTIFF

For constant cutting of large grass areas. 400 c.c. 4-stroke engine. Power to deal with two trailer units. Fitted with half speed reverse gear.

For further information on the full range of Ransomes professional and domestic mowers contact

LENEHANS GARDENING DEPARTMENT

Lenehans

STOCK IT!

Open until 5.30 p.m.
from Mon. to Sat.

Thomas Lenehan & Co. Ltd
124 Capel Street, Dublin 1
Rathmines Branch:
7, 8, 9 Rathgar Rd., Dublin 6

Tony Henry — the man who hopes to establish hurling in the football stronghold of Mayo

TONY Henry's success in hurling needs stressing. His selection and display for Connacht in the Railway Cup semi-final in February is convincing proof of the heights one can reach if the heart is willing.

You see, Tony Henry is a Mayo man. And hurling is to Mayo men what football is to Kilkenny. They simply don't agree.

He is not the first Mayo man to have played hurling with a

By
SEAN RICE

Connacht team. In 1937 Westport's Tommy Hoban was chosen . . . the only other Mayo player to have made the grade.

The difference between these two players is that Tony Henry

is a hurler exclusively. He dropped football to concentrate on hurling. Tommy Hoban had already won an All-Ireland football medal when he played hurling for Connacht.

Tony Henry was eleven when a hurling club was organised in his native parish Tooreen, a few miles from Ballyhaunis. His brother Michael was the man behind the new club.


"He played the game in Dublin and was anxious to have it organised in our parish," Tony told me.

"Like every new club there were many difficulties. We were reared to football and we knew when we started that hurling was second choice. I used to play with my brothers in a field near our home, batting the ball about.

"Gradually, as our skills developed and broadened, we got to like it, so much so that we stopped playing football altogether and concentrated on hurling."

But nowhere in Mayo had hurling caught on as in Tooreen. There were other clubs in the county, but all were dual clubs. They organised hurling teams more from a sense of duty to the Association than from love for the game. All the effort was centred round football; hurling was hit and miss, and enthusiasm was certain to wane.

Tooreen succeeded because football was abandoned. But the



9% TAX FREE

The Provident Building Society pays the highest interest rate in the country. 6% tax-free!

That's 9% gross! Can you think of a better reason for investing with The Provident Building Society?

Withdrawals? You can withdraw up to £1,000 on demand. And if you need to withdraw more than that, you can do so in a very short time.

So why don't you get in touch? Put your money where it will do the most good — for you! Call, write or phone:

The Provident Building Society

Head Office,
54 Dame Street, Dublin 2. Telephone: 770425

Also
28 Denny Street, Tralee. Telephone: 22163

Established 1893

As safe as houses!

fact that no one in Mayo was fired by that success, did not bother them. They went about their work quietly and to this day hurling is the only game played there.

"The club's policy is to concentrate on local players," said Tony. Other clubs, with players from hurling counties who were residing in the county, often beat us, but we were not interested in winning. Promotion of the game is what we sought," he said.

But despite their best efforts the game has not progressed much in Mayo. Last year, for instance, the Mayo G.A.A. Board withdrew the county's junior team from the Connacht championship because of lack of interest among clubs.

And activity within the county was confined to one competition — the senior championship. No worthwhile attempt was made to promote hurling at juvenile level.

"I do not think the team should have been withdrawn from the championship," said Tony. "The Mayo team later took part in a special league organised by the Connacht Council but were beaten by Sligo and Leitrim. Yet I believe there are plenty of hurlers in Mayo capable of producing a good team. The trouble is that many of them play football and are not available for selection for hurling matches."

"Despite the fact that Mayo has not been successful as a team, our club has played many challenges recently against teams from Sligo and Leitrim and have beaten most of them, mainly because of team effort," he said.

Against the curtain of despair in Mayo hurling the success of Tony Henry stands like a beacon.

He says top class competition is not essential to progress if dedication is maintained. "I never played in a premier national competition until I played in

January for a trial for the Connacht team."

Practise is what counts. We at home practised continuously among ourselves. And when I was selected for the trial I did not feel out of my depth.

In fact Tony Henry, playing at midfield, was one of Connacht's stars that day in the Railway Cup semi-final, and his capabilities left a deep imprint on the minds of many hurling lovers who saw him in action.

Now that he has made the grade, the 25-years-old Mayo man intends to strive harder to popularise the game in his native county.

"I intend to make an all-out effort to encourage players to take up the game. Mayo meet Sligo in the Connacht junior championship later this month and I hope to get the players to prepare for the game and maybe that will be the start of better things for hurling in Mayo."

the hallmark of
distinctive writing paper



made in Ireland for
discerning people



IRISH SUCCESS STORY

WIGGINS Teape (Ireland) Ltd., is a company that has set a headline in the utilisation of Irish manpower and raw materials that other companies could follow to their advantage and to the advantage of the economy as a whole. Best known as the manufacturers of the top quality Belvedere Bond writing paper Wiggins Teape also produce paper for such widely divergent fields as newsprint, papers for security and sweepstake tickets and computers. The Company has two hundred and seventy employees and practically 100% are Irish nationals. Many additional people are indirectly employed through the widespread use of Irish produced raw materials and services. On the eve of entry to the E.E.C. the performance of our exports is crucial. Last year twelve per cent of their total production was exported to such diverse places as Tokyo, Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur and Blantyre.

The next time you buy stationery check that it is Irish and remember by buying Wiggins Teape products you are helping to keep Irishmen and women employed in Ireland.

IT'S A SMALL WORLD

By EAMONN YOUNG

"THERE wasn't much harm in him but he was a helluva thick man," says big Dan Cronin.

"Them Knockduv fellas were always thick; they're still thick", said Tadhgeen Fitz and he going down in the pint. The Bauravaura lads in the photo above the fire smiled brightly out at us; they had won the championship, ten years ago.

"That wasn't a bad team," says Dan Cronin, closing one eye to get a better look at the captain Timmy. The fact that he was Dan's eldest and the spittin' image of the aul fella gave point to the scrutiny.

"The best Bauravaura team we ever had," said Tadhgeen. "Remember the day in Dromore after they beat Boorla Hill and Knackers Murray got a clip in the ear below in Dan Hourihan's pub after the game and the crowd milled in. Knackers' brother, the champ, was knocked to the ground after he had floored half a dozen of them and he wound his arms about his head from the forest of boots and he couldn't get up so he druv his boot through the bottom panel of the door as Hourihan was trying to shut it to shove out the fightin' men."

"Yes," says Dan Cronin, his rocky face wrinkling in the sun of a seldom smile, "and Timothy Kelliher threw off his coat and the muscles on his arms stood out like sparrows knees and he says: 'Lave him to me boys, lave him out. If he's sixteen sthونه I've a punch to knock him.' I sup-

pose Timothy was seven stone five. . . ."

"Yeah," says Fitzie, "drippin' wet."

"But they could play football, too. Remember the little priest? . . . the fella from Africa . . . He was from up the country somewhere. There wasn't a pick on him but my son Timmy always said he'd mind fleas at a cross roads. . . ."

Big Ned Moloney of Knockduv stood at full-back that day for Knockduv against Bauravaura. There wasn't any great harm in him but he'd break your leg without knowing it and his brother Colm (that's because his mother wanted him to be a priest and a dove of the church) stood at corner back. There was more harm in Colm; if he broke your leg it would be deliberate. The third brother, Hawker, was in the goal; he was no good but a proper scut. If the brothers knocked you he'd do the rest. Kick him again, he's still breathing!

The little priest was on the wing for us and a grand player. He carried the ball like a yo-yo but the trouble was that he would be got and we told him. No use. He was born that way. He slipped the hatchet-man, Colm, early in the game and then he did it again. I could see it coming for Big Ned was watching him. He came again and as he ran in the big fella came to meet him. I ran to try and drag the little man off the ball but came a bad second to fifteen stone of full back cycling hard. The small fella went up in the air like a clay pigeon and by the

time he landed whatever about the feathers the stuffing was gone.

We soldiered on till half time and having no personal love for death on the battle field — my people having all been successful publichouse poets—we were just as glad that Timmy Cronin the captain at centre-field was having another of his bad days and nothing was coming. If it had, the three Moloneys would have been by that time down to chewing the last of our subs.

Bernie Din Mick, the chairman, who always used the three names because his grandfather played hurling in Russia when he was there as a sailor, was in a terrible bout of anger at half-time. A crowd of pyzauns he called us and we wouldn't bate our way out of a paper bag and that big, useless scut of a Moloney had turned us all into a rush of drooling eejits. Alright for him; he was on the sideline. Fair play for him he could fight but it was twenty years ago.

"Put up Jimeen Meara," says one fella and Jimeen said "all right."

This character Meara was a whale of a chap. Very small but over fourteen stone. A wedge of a man with long arms and trained to the ounce on a diet of rocks, heather and wild pigeon. A grand stepdancer and a skull as empty as an eggshell. But he knew no fear. In fact he knew nothing except to follow anything that moved if you told him.

The black curls hung over his smiling empty eyes and they told

him pointing to the Knockduv goal, to move in. They turned him in that direction and he nodded. Stanley Griffin blew the whistle and the chase was on. Someone belted the ball up to the Knockduv goal and away we went in full cry, Jimeen Meara chasing the ball like a whippet. Right up to the goal went the leather and Big Ned Moloney left it to that fistful of fraternal treachery behind him. Out came Hawker and grabbed the bouncing ball but Big Ned was watching me. That was the mistake he made for around him went Jimeen Meara at sixty to the hour, his wide shoulders hunched and clung Hawker up against the goalpost. With the squel of a stuck bonham he fell and across ran the other two Moloneys from opposite sides to tear the hide off Meara. Colm the dove was about to use the boot and changed his mind, which allowed our man to duck, and the Moloney fist sailed over his ear and cannoned on to Big Ned right between the two eyes and he dropped like a sack of rotten spuds. Only for the word being wrong I'd say Colm the dove had a punch like a humane killer. Ned was all blood and roaring. Stanley Griffin ran up and off he sent Colm and Jimeen Meara while Big Ned went staggering around the square all blood and groans and Colm the dove calling him a big, useless tub of guts and the Knockduv fellas trying to hold Colm back or he'd hit the big brother again deliberately this time.

It was quiet for a while then and we stayed within a few points of them. There wasn't long to go. Our poor little priest had surfaced again and I could see by his cute little eyes that he was back to the land of the living. The game was nearly up and they were a point ahead when Big Ned, not completely right in the head at the best of times, stag-

gered out on to a high ball. I knew he would beat it down to us and he did. I shoved it over to the little priest and he carried it a small bit. Big Ned rumbled out to him, the small fella swung a fast left-footed shot, the big man slipped and fell on the kicker's foot and a small, hard, bony knee sank with what I suspect was a touch of religious fervour, like a ram's horn into Big Ned's guts. As he collapsed his roaring was the music of angels. Hawker's flying days by that time were over also and he never saw it until the shouting Bauravaura men pointed it out to him in the back of the net.

We didn't wait for the final whistle but ran mad off the field, laughing and jumping in the air.

Hi for Bauravaura and Hi for the little priest.

"Go down in that," says Dan Cronin, "and I'll stand you a drop. That was the day my son Timmy won the captain's medal and we chaired him off the field. An' his grandmother gave me thirty bob to stand to the team. Sure there was no point in spoiling it; we drank it ourselves."

In the door slipped a man. It

didn't have to open wide to admit him. He was very small and very thin. In the blue jeans his legs were like knitting needles and his neck stuck up like a chicken's out of the red polo neck. Quietly he walked up to the bar.

"A lemonade please," he said.

"It's yer man alright," whispered Tadhgeen Fitz, "the small priest from Africa . . . have he left the Church or what?"

But the small man turned around with a smile.

"Aren't you Mr. Dan Cronin? Aren't you Timmy's father . . . the captain of the football team?" he asked. "You don't remember me. I'm Paul Sloan and I played with the lads ten years ago . . . the day we beat Boorla Hill . . . and the Moloneys. I'm the priest do ye remember? And I'm back from Africa again to see ye all."

Dan Cronin pulled himself up off the stool and stood big, looking down at the priest, grasped the thin hand in his two own horny spades.

"Don't move a step now, Father," says he, "I'll go down straight for Timmy the captain. . . ."

CREATIVE STORE CONSTRUCTION LTD.

Grange Road
Douglas, Cork

Telephone 32881/6

We designed and constructed :

1. Extensions to Glen Rovers Club
2. Glen Rovers new pavilion
3. Redmonds (Cork) hurling and football club

And have other G.A.A. club enquiries.

LET US QUOTE YOU

MOTOR LOAN PLAN

The Foster Finance Motor Loan Plan will save you money on your next new car. Probably enough to tax and insure it. Just look at the special Foster benefits!

- * Lower interest rates — much lower than ordinary hire purchase charges.
- * Immediate income tax relief.
- * All the bargaining power of a cash buyer.
- * Free life cover.
- * Complete privacy.

For full details call in to your nearest Bank of Ireland, Hibernian Bank or National Bank branch. Ask at the same time about Foster Finance loans for home improvements and other projects.



Foster Finance

A Company within the Bank of Ireland Group

LINDA COLLINS TALKS WITH LEADING PERSONALITIES IN IRISH FINANCIAL CIRCLES AND SPOTLIGHTS THEIR VARIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS A BETTER STANDARD OF LIVING FOR ALL OF US

AT the moment, as my information has it, it's reasonably easy to borrow money. If the bank manager refuses you a straight overdraft he'll quite likely come up with some other scheme for you such as a personal loan or the like.

This statement may bring forth disbelieving groans from people striving with might and main to buy a house, and finding the going rough. Granted, house prices are still rising but the main, usually the only, hurdle for the buyer is saving the deposit. The Building Societies are swamped with loan applications but most of them now run very fair allocation systems whereby if you're prepared to save up your deposit with them they'll give your loan application favourable consideration. As people cotton on to the advantages which lie with the Building Societies more and more money is placed with them, in deposit or share accounts — which means they have more money to advance for loans. The fact that a handy sum like £100,000 now buys fewer houses than it did ten years ago, or even three years ago, is hardly their fault.

According to Paul Dorgan of the Civil Service Building Society lots of money is now coming the societies' way which might otherwise have found a home on the Stock Exchange. 'It's because our

interest rates are so good' says Paul. The prime aim, however, is still to snare the small saver—you and me, and the societies actually benefit more, taxwise, from running a lot of small accounts than from having a few large ones over £5,000 each. 'We're here to help ordinary people buy ordinary homes' says Mr. Dorgan.

The First National Building Society will register with you as the one which informs you that you could have taken your wife to Dan Lowry's for a few ha-pence, dined and wined her in the Shelbourne in Dublin for a couple of bob and bought her a hat for rather less than you paid for this month's issue of Gaelic Sport. If you had been prudent them times, and invested with the First National, you'd be comfortable in spite of jumps in the cost of living. It's appropriate that the First National should give us a chance to look back to old times, as it is itself the first building society ever established in Ireland. It was founded by a group of ordinary working men in 1861 and called the Working Man's Benefit Building Society.

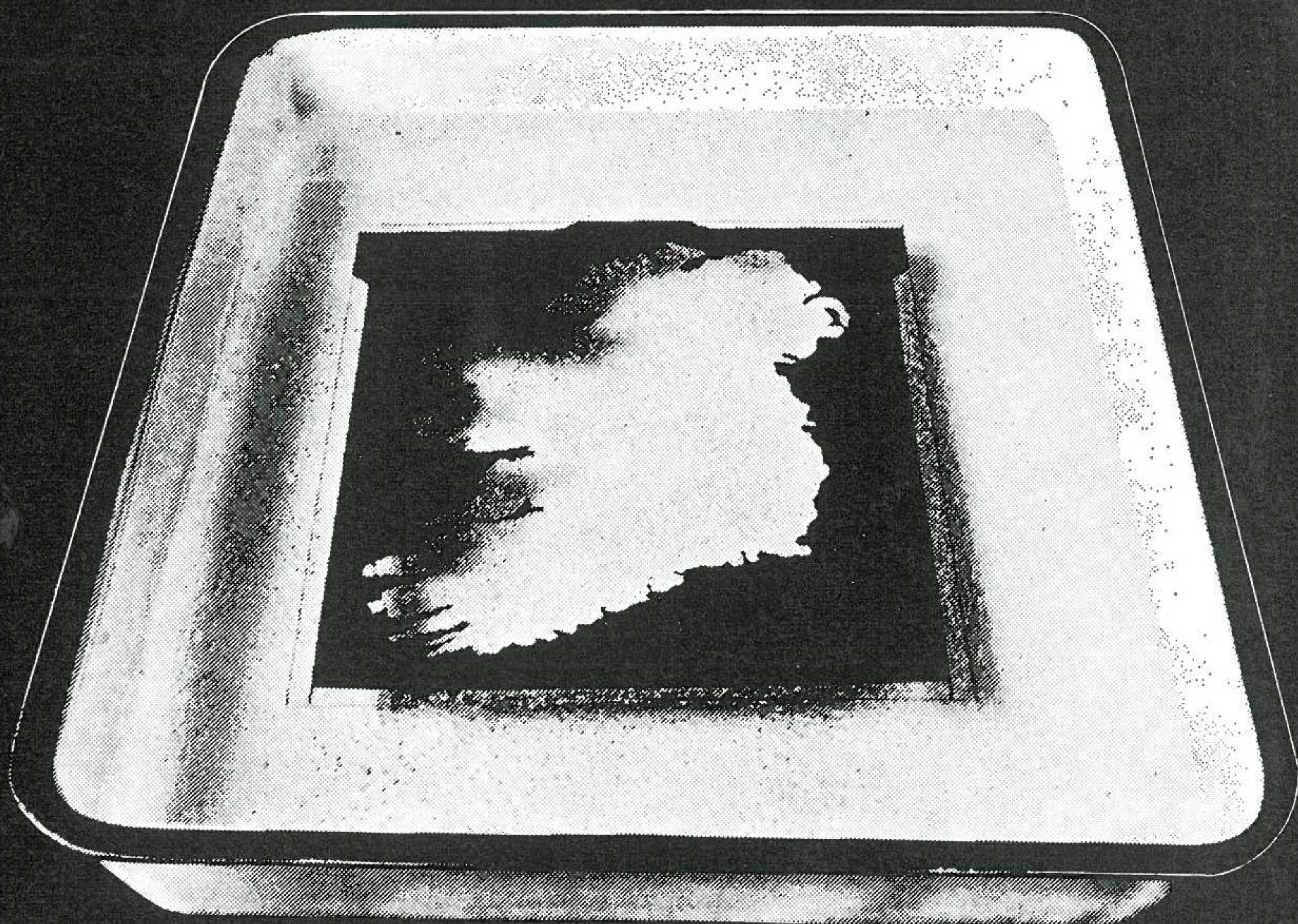
With three new Dublin branches opening shortly, and two district offices coming up in Clonmel and Kilkenny, the First National has plenty to be proud of. In spite of being such a big company, many people comment

that it still retains the friendly approach which must have characterised it when it began life a hundred years ago. Even at the imposing head office in Dublin's Grafton Street there is an intimate, informal friendly atmosphere — possibly due to the personality of the Managing Director, John Skehan, who seems to know most of the customers—borrowers and savers—personally. Sometimes, surely, Mr. Skehan must refuse an applicant a loan for good reasons — but I'm positive the 'refusee' goes away feeling a friendly glow towards the First National.

Allied Irish Banks have got a name already for enlightened sponsorship and participation in community affairs both at local and national level. Vincent O'Dea, the Assistant Marketing Manager, for instance, approached the County Librarians last year and offered to sponsor a competition for primary school children in any form the librarians liked to choose. In the event, it turned out to be an essay competition—the sort the kids love because every single participant got a prize. If you entered, you got a Certificate from Allied Irish for 25 pence. For the winners, there were more substantial prizes. Not surprisingly, response from the kids was enthusiastic.

The secondary schools weren't

● TO PAGE 35



Developing Ireland.

A clear picture of the new, modern Ireland is emerging.

Vigorous. Prosperous. Confident.

And UDT is playing an important part in its development.

By providing finance in industry, in agriculture and in the home, we help keep the economy buoyant.

And our Endeavour Award gives us a special interest in Tourism.

As a company within the United Dominions Trust Group, whose gross assets exceed £500 million UDT is helping Ireland develop successfully.

UDT 

United Dominions Trust (Ireland) Ltd., Bankers.
Head Office: Hume House, Pembroke Road,
Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.

And at Athlone, Carlow, Cork, Galway, Kells,
Kilkenny, Limerick, Roscommon and Waterford.

● FROM PAGE 33

forgotten either. Allied Irish got the well known sculptor John Behan to design a trophy which will be presented annually to the winners of the Post Primary Schools Debating competition run by the Dealgan Literary and Debating Society. Leaving Cert students participated and the five members of all eight teams got a handsome presentation of a fiver per person. The Group also works with the Irish Water Safety Association life-saving section, and presents a trophy for Secondary schools which is competed for on a country-wide basis. We mentioned their under-writing of the expenses of a significant and important study now being made of patterns of farm inheritance in Ireland in a previous article here. When this is completed it will give valuable information to sociologists and economists and make a real contribution to our knowledge of how Irish life is actually structured. On a lighter note, Allied Irish will be sending all-star teams of hurlers and footballers in May to Coventry and Birmingham. They'll play friendly matches — football in Birmingham, hurling in Coventry, and players of the stature of Eddie Keher will be taking part. Irish people working in those cities will have a rare chance to see a Gaelic game, and this is the Allied Irish way of showing the exiles that they appreciate the fact that so many of them take the trouble to do their banking business with a home-based bank.

Foster Finance is a wholly-owned subsidiary company of the Bank of Ireland Group and I jumped at the chance to put the question to J. G. B. Delaney, the Assistant General Manager, as to why his company had to come into existence at all. When these finance companies began appearing several years ago I — and I know I'm typical of a lot of other

people, asked myself what on earth they were needed for? Weren't the straightforward banks doing a good enough job and wasn't it sufficient to get on speaking terms with your bank manager without having to go through various complicated processes when you wanted a loan? Mr. Delaney gave a convincing reply: at a certain stage the Irish banks found they were losing money to the foreign companies which had had the wit to come here and set up hire purchase companies and so on. The range of services being provided by the Irish side simply wasn't wide enough, so they formed their own groups which would cater for every possible financial need. The main advantage, from the ordinary borrower's point of view, is that a loan from such a company as Foster Finance is reasonably easy to get. Foster Finance and others now advertise looking for people to lend money to. Was this a gimmick? 'No, we mean it' said Mr. Delaney simply.

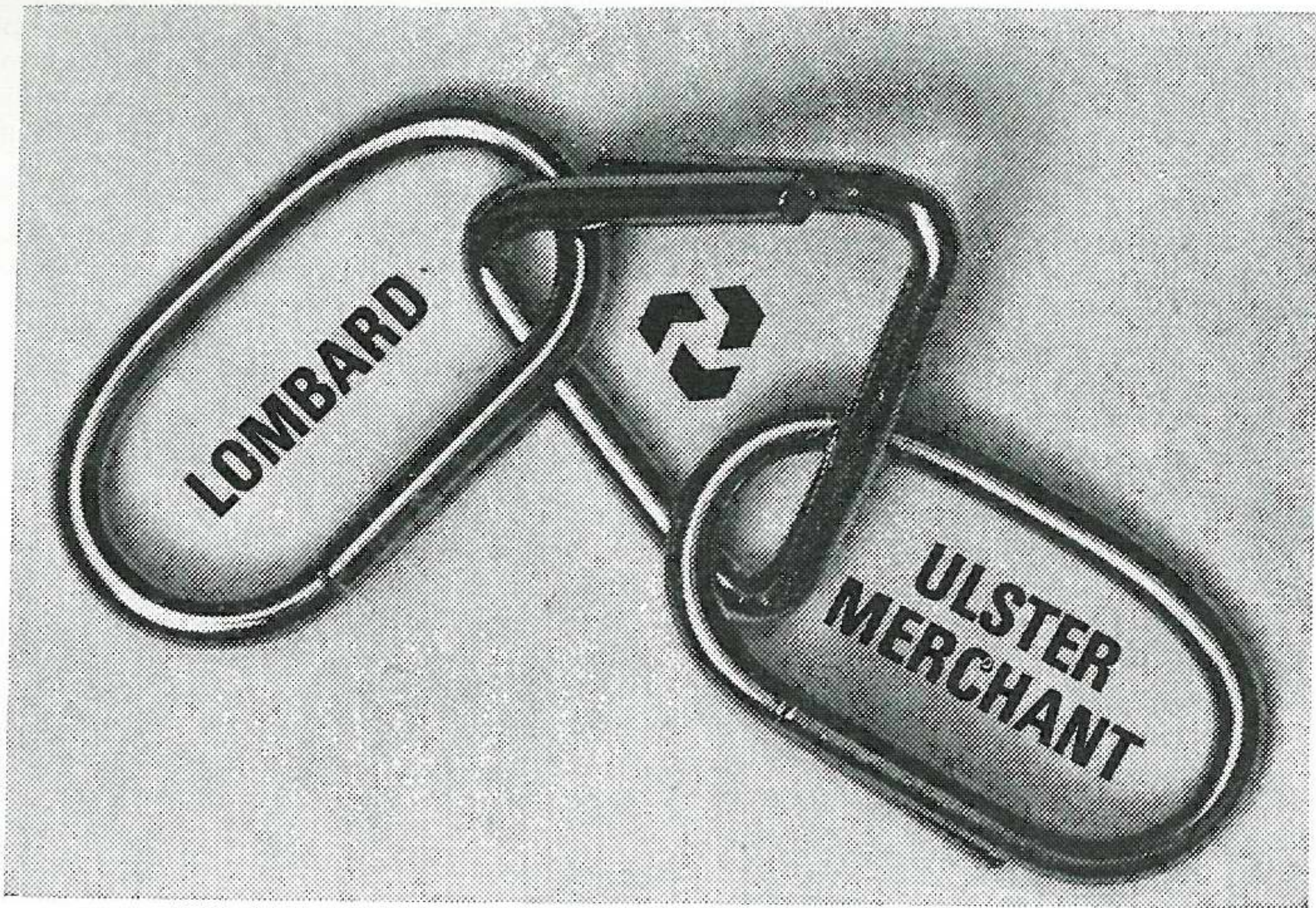
The main things they lend money on are motor loans, home improvement projects and leasing schemes. Under the old system, when you just got a bank overdraft, you were always hazy about your exact financial position and really never knew when you had paid it off. The new methods are more orderly and businesslike, with fixed monthly repayments which can be budgeted for realistically in advance. Mr. Delaney provided a quick lesson on how to handle money. On your fixed assets—your house or farm—you should borrow for as long a term as possible. The fixed assets will be increasing in value all the time so what matter if your building society mortgage has thirty years to run? On depreciating assets — that would mean a car, say, if your an individual or your factory machinery if you're a company — borrow for the short term, three to

five years; then you don't find yourself in the situation of owing a hefty debt on something which is now worth a fraction of its original cost. On the middle ground, use your bank account intelligently and regard an overdraft as a personal facility.

Foster Finance pioneered schemes like student loans, and they also have interesting features to offer like the Farm Finance plan. Briefly, this enables a farmer to buy a piece of machinery, say, for immediate cash (with all the percentage cuts that can mean) and pay for it at an interest rate which gives a fair saving in terms of cost over the traditional form of instalment credit. In common with other banking companies, they also operate a motor loan plan. It's worth stressing that this is a far cheaper way to buy a car than doing the deal on hire purchase, always provided you qualify for tax relief on the repayments — and who doesn't?

One of the most interesting things we discovered on a visit to the new offices of Lombard and Ulster Banking (Ireland) Ltd. at their new offices on the Grand Canal near Charlemont Street in Dublin was the number of players of Gaelic and hurling who seem to work for the company! The company is taking over the business previously operated by Ulster Merchant Finance (Dublin) Ltd. and Lombard Bank (Ireland) Ltd. It's a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Ulster Bank and the merger means a tidying-up operation so that business can operate more efficiently and more advantageously for customers. They have offices in Cork, Athlone, Sligo, Dundalk, Tralee and Waterford as well as Dublin, and more are planned in other major centres. In effect, the only change for customers is that the expanding branch network makes doing business with

● TO PAGE 37



A great link-up in financial circles

Two of the foremost names in finance have merged to become one of the greatest names in Ireland. The Ulster Merchant Group and the Lombard Group have got together under the wing of the Ulster Bank to form Lombard & Ulster Banking. The combined resources of both groups have been welded together to provide substantial capital for financing industrial expansion throughout all Ireland.



Lombard & Ulster Banking Ireland Ltd.

Head Office: 18/21 Charlemont Place,
Dublin 2. Phone 780611 (10 lines).
1 Dawson St., 30 Nassau St., Dublin,
and branches throughout Ireland.

● FROM PAGE 35

them more convenient, and the services formerly offered by both companies are now performed by one.

For instance, you could go to any branch of the Ulster Bank and ask to be filled in on all their deposit and loan schemes. Lombard and Ulster Banking (Ireland) Ltd. offer very attractive rates of interest to savers. You could get a gross interest rate of six per cent, for instance, which for someone who doesn't pay tax anyway, is a better deal than depositing money with a company where tax is deducted at source.

Of much interest to many of our readers will be the news that Lombard and Ulster Banking are prepared to offer financial help to G.A.A. clubs, swimming clubs, and so on for the purchase of buildings and equipment. For farmers, they can arrange repayments of loans on a seasonal basis. It can be a great help when you know the payment for the new tractor needn't be made until the big creamery cheque comes in. The same applies if you are paying for a new milking parlour, or perhaps getting help from Lombard and Ulster Banking with cattle stocks.

For contractors, businessmen and others they run an interesting leasing scheme. In effect, Lombard and Ulster Banking buy the goods and then rent them out to the users. Payments can be set off against business expenses. Home improvement loans, loans to buy your own boat or marine fittings and a special 10-year scheme run in co-operation with Maxol for those wishing to equip their homes with central heating, are on offer also.

The Agricultural Credit Corporation Ltd. doesn't need any introduction — everyone in the farming community has heard of it and many make use of the facilities it offers. Just how wide

these facilities are, however, may not be so well realised. First of all, there is an extensive spread of area officers and wherever you live, you can reach the local ACC headquarters with fair ease. Their Budget Loans are tailor-made for farmers, helping them to plan a year's operation in advance by arranging to cover their financial needs as they arise during the entire season. You write down your projected budget for

the year — expected outlay on such items as seeds, fertilisers, feeding stuffs, fuel, etc., get the budget loan and then repay from profits as they come in.

When I first took to the roads as a driver, it was done by courtesy of United Dominions Trust who financed the purchase of that first jalopy from which I gained more pleasure than any other car I have subsequently

● OVERLEAF

TRUST YOUR SAVINGS

to the friend
that's served
Irish investors
since 1861

Old friends are best



EST. 1861

FIRST NATIONAL BUILDING SOCIETY

Head Office: 105/106 Grafton St., Dublin 2. Tel. 779031/5. Dublin Branch Offices: 69 Phibsboro Rd., Dublin 7. Tel. 302607. 1 Sundrive Rd., Kimmage, Dublin 12. Tel. 974414. 83 Upr. George's St., Dun Laoghaire. Tel. 809588. Cork Office: 17 Winthrop St. Tel. 20103. Limerick Office: 64 O'Connell St. Tel. 47974.

MAXIM % m

Highest rates of interest,
maximum security for
your investments and friendly
service. Call, write or phone

Branch Offices:
47 Upr. George's Street,
Dun Laoghaire.
Telephone 808791

**Irish Civil Service
Building Society**
25 Westmoreland Street
Telephone 770983

169a Howth Road,
Killester.
Telephone 338017
Established 1864

IRISH **ics** CIVIL SERVICE
BUILDING SOCIETY
25 WESTMORELAND ST. DUBLIN 2.

● FROM PAGE 37

driven. Sentimental reasons aside, UDT are worth knowing about because they'll finance your purchase of 'practically anything at all' costing between £100 and £500 approximately. If you want to landscape your garden, buy a caravan, buy your ground rent outright, get yourself a pleasure boat, ask them about it and they will probably help. The usual home improvement and car purchase projects are also of course covered by UDT. But it's worth consulting them about more personal loans for expenditure because their Planaloan scheme is specially tailored for flexibility. If you are not within calling distance of any of their ten or so offices, write to head office in Dublin and get a proposal form.

With the current realisation among G.A.A. clubs that comfort and convenience, preferably housed in an attractive clubhouse, are important factors in

FOR LONGER THAN A LIFETIME

(Ever since we opened our Branch in 1834)

**PEOPLE IN IRISH TOWN AND COUNTRY
HAVE KNOWN US TO BE AS
GOOD AS OUR WORDS . . .
"YOURS FOR LIFE"**

Standard Life

ASSURANCE COMPANY OF EDINBURGH

Branch Offices in the Republic:

Dublin: 59 Dawson Street, 2

Dublin Manager: C. E. Thompson

Cork: 10 South Mall, Branch Manager: B. R. O'Hanlon

Sub-Offices:

Limerick: 98 O'Connell Street. **Galway:** 12 Eyre Square

Sligo: 3 Stephen Street. **Tralee:** 7 Castle Street.

Waterford: The Quay.



keeping established members and attracting young people, UDT's leasing schemes are bound to be well thought of. Besides clubs and other organisations they offer leasing facilities to schools, hospitals, convents, colleges and so on. It would take too long to give all details here but for organisational purposes the benefits of leasing are enormous, not least from the tax viewpoint. Basically, leasing is like renting. A down payment is made, one month's 'rental' is offered in advance and then the regular monthly commitment is all that must be met.

When the period of the original agreement is up, a continuation period at a reduced 'rental' can be undertaken, and this too can be extended in due time. Definitely worth investigation by harassed club secretaries who can't see their way to the outlay of a great deal of capital, but who know they could make a leasing scheme work profitably.

— INSURING — YOUR FUTURE

THERE are two basic types of life assurance and both are catered for very adequately by the Standard Life Assurance Co. whose motto "Yours For Life" sums up so well their approach to this very important matter.

The form of life assurance that most of us know is the whole life cover assurance with a lump sum payable on death to your dependants. The premium will depend on what age you enter on the policy and the sum assured. A popular form of assurance is the fixed term endowment policy with profits. It is here that the Standard Life Assurance Co. scores over many other companies. Mr. Thompson, Dublin Manager, emphasises that there are no shareholders in the company —and that all profits go to the "with profits" policy holders who are the real shareholders. Premiums qualify for income tax relief.



DEPOSITS
pay up to

7 1/2%

tax not deducted

**Agricultural
Credit
Corporation**

Harcourt Street, Dublin 2

Crown, beautiful Crown!

for the man
of property
and the woman
of taste



The Crown range now includes
a paint for almost every job.

Manufactured and marketed by The Walpamur Co. (Ireland) Ltd., Cardiff Lane, Dublin 2.



the world's finest pick-me-up

Tea is nature's own reviver . . . cools you in Summer, warms you in Winter . . . puts the heart back into you. It's the quickest, most economical refresher of all.

TEA

BUY INDIAN TEA and always buy the better blends—they're
much cheaper in the end

ISSUED BY THE TEA COUNCIL OF IRELAND LTD.

Monsell Mitchell's . . .

the decorators dream

WITH the arrival of Spring all those cracks and damp spots that we had conveniently forgotten during the previous Winter must now be attended to. If you have been looking at them all the Winter as your wife has been it will require no great urging to get on with the job of repairing the ravages of time, the weather and the family. The man of the house has a different attitude to the lengthening days accompanied by fine weather. For him it heralds the call of the great outdoors and beckons him to throw his lethargic Winter-self away and join the incurable addicts of his favourite sport or pastime who have been participating through the Winter months. More than a little persuasion may be necessary before the husband will set about re-decorating the home. Yet once started, with all the products specifically designed for the occasional handyman, the worst is over.

Monsell Mitchells in Pearse Street, Dublin, have a wide range of products available specially suited to the handyman or woman. The Wallpaper section has been enlarged recently and unlike many other shops the wallpaper stock of Monsell Mitchell is readily available for inspection by the customer. There is a large range of wallpaper available manufactured in Kildare to suit

every taste and pocket.

If you really want to take the hard work out of wallpapering Crown Wallpapers have the answer. With the introduction of a new range of ready-pasted vinyl paper all you have to do is simply soak the paper in water (a special trough is provided) 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 pattern books available at all leading wallpaper stockists throughout Ireland.

As regards painting it is important to remember that a good preparation is half the job done. 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, a proprietary brand of cleaner specially designed for the job such as Crown Cleaning and Degreasing Liquid, is best. All Crown paints and its allied brand Duradio are available at Monsell Mitchells and also at all leading paint and decorating shops throughout Ireland.

Crown Plus Two, which many would describe as the answer to the occasional handyman's prayer is a polyurethane non-drip gloss paint especially suited to the needs of the do-it-yourself enthusiast.

With a range of twenty colours

it provides a sufficient choice without confusing him with a multiplicity of shades. The super soft gel structure which makes it simple to put on an even paint film is a feature that will commend itself to all those who have wielded an occasional paint brush. Crown Plus Two gives long lasting protection inside or outside and a deep bright gloss finish that will last for years.

There are always
bargains at
"Ireland's leading home
decoration store"

- Wallpapers
- Paints
- Floorcovering
- Floor Tiles
- Wall Tiles
- Venetian or
Roller Blinds

*Super Sale from the
25 April to 12 May*

**MONSELL
MITCHELL**
**163-4 Pearse St.
Dublin 2**

50 yards from Westland Row
Railway Station

CAMOGIE COMMENT

By AGNES HOURIGAN

THE past couple of years have seen astounding progress in the spread of camogie among the Colleges and even more heartening still is to see the honours going around in the Colleges competitions. True, those two pillars of the game, St. Aloysius of Cork and Presentation, Oranmore, retained their titles in Munster and Connacht respectively, but both were beaten in the preliminary stages, St. Als by Loreto Fermoy and Oranmore by Mercy, Tuam.

These results prove that there is already a great levelling up of standards in the Southern and Western provinces.

In the East and North, however, we have had new champions already this season. In Leinster, Enniscorthy, last year's junior

champions, caused a big surprise when they defeated the holders -Presentation Mountmellick in the provincial final, while in the North, St. Louis Kilkeel, who had defeated the All-Ireland champions, Sacred Heart, Newry, at an earlier stage, accounted for Magherafelt in the Provincial final.

It is very heartening to see Kilkeel in the honours list, as the school has always been a great nursery of the game, as were the Louis Convents in Carrickmacross, Monaghan, Balla and Rathmines. It would be a good day for camogie in Leinster if we saw St. Louis, Rathmines, back in action on the camogie fields again.

Meanwhile the initiative shown when all the Irish Universities played in the Ashbourne Cup in

February has been followed up by the setting up of a Council for the control and promotion of the game in the Universities and Higher Institutes of Education. This Council was sanctioned by the Central Council of the Association and its work is bound to have very far-reaching effects.

The fact that 14 colleges of Higher Education were represented at the inaugural meeting is itself proof positive of the enthusiasm behind the idea, and the officers elected are well experienced in organisation. The President, Una Bean Ui Phuirseal, a former All-Ireland player with Dublin has been associated with the Ashbourne Cup competition for many years, and has been the successful organiser of the Leinster Colleges competitions through the past decade. She is also Colleges Representative on Central Council.

The Secretary of the new body is the dynamic Miss Jane Murphy who has already done tremendous work for the game not alone during her student days throughout the West in University College, Galway, but since her graduation a year ago, throughout the West.

She has recently been elected Chairman of Connacht Council, is an official of both the Galway Board and the Connacht Colleges Council, and her energy and enthusiasm are alike unbounded.

It is to be hoped that one of the first endeavours of the new Council will be to get the game firmly established in the Teachers' Training Colleges and in the Institutes of Physical Education. That is where camogie has been lagging badly, and if we can arouse enthusiasm among the young primary teachers and among the physical education teachers, whose role becomes more and more important with every passing year, the continued progress of the game at every level is assured.



IRISH PHOTO ENGRAVING CO. LTD.

CUFFE LANE (OFF CUFFE STREET),

Near St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2. Tel. 756121

TOP TEN

FOOTBALL

- (9) N. Clavin (Offaly)
- (9) T. O'Malley (Mayo)
- (9) O. Crinnigan (Kildare)
- (9) D. Early (Roscommon)
- (8) M. O'Connell (Kerry)
- (8) D. O'Sullivan (Kerry)
- (8) W. Bryan (Offaly)
- (7) D. Hunt (Cork)
- (7) P. McCormack (Offaly)
- (7) D. McCartan (Down)

HURLING

- (10) N. Casey (Clare)
- (9) M. Moroney (Clare)
- (9) S. O'Brien (Wicklow)
- (9) J. Ryan (Tipperary)
- (9) P. Fahy (Galway)
- (8) P. Wilson (Wexford)
- (8) N. McInerney (Clare)
- (8) F. Loughnane ... (Tipperary)
- (7) T. Henry (Mayo)
- (7) P. Hartigan (Limerick)

● FROM PAGE 16

But, what of those fellows? Are they going along a hectic course of "one crowded hour of glorious life"? The answer must be that they probably are. I think it impossible for anyone to answer the schedule which Seamus Looney has had over the last year and retain the "hip-petty-hop" physically and mentally.

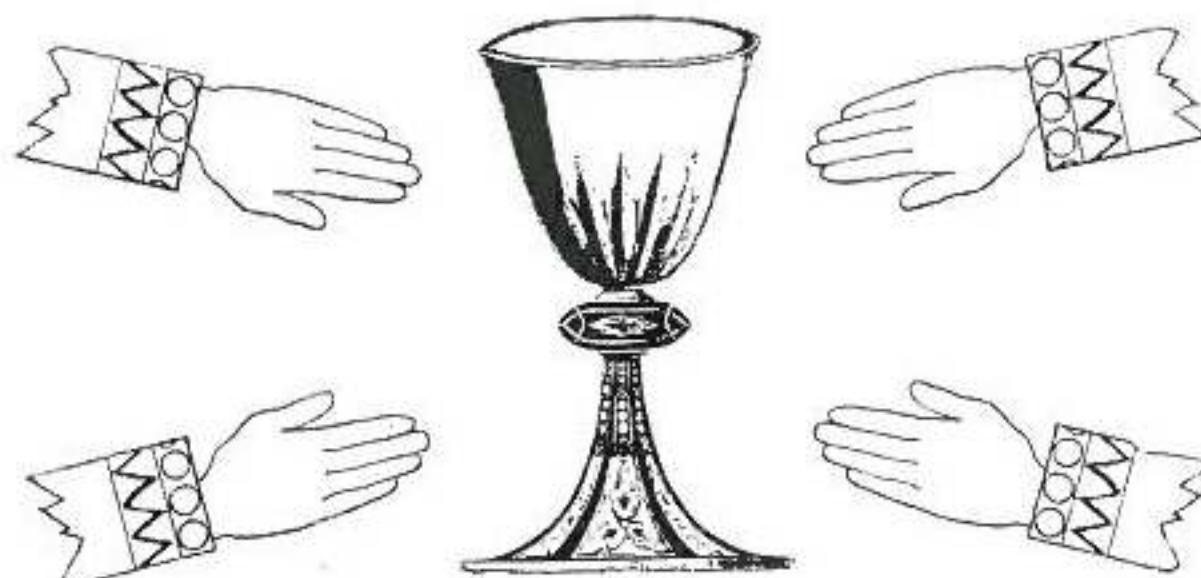
Ray Cummins has reached the very top in both games: he is a player of exquisite ball-sense, judgment and ideas; he backs that with most commendable enthusiasm and no small measure of courage. It is never easy for a marked man in attack and a marked man he must be now. One notices that he has taken a couple of heavy knocks towards the end of the year: this may be the price (quite unintentionally) that will

be exacted for his position in general esteem.

Constant pressures, constant excessive demands on him to manufacture the vital scores and knit the forwards together, must be wearing. At this standard he can never play one game as a change and relaxation from the other.

It would appear that those who do best out of playing both games are those who excel at one and play moderately or with less commitment in the other. Johnny Culloty's hurling did nothing but good for his football; Christy Ring's football took the constant merciless spotlight off his hurling for a while; Mick Mackey, Seamus Power, Lar Foley, Phil Wilson . . . have used the one in a lower key to sustain, relax from, and even renew the appetite for the other.

**SHARING
IN THE
LORD'S WORK**



**SHARING
IN THE
LORD'S CUP**

OUR Order was born into a Church renewing itself, and into a time of strife comparable with today. An exciting time. We first came to Ireland with the Normans — 1180, to Ulster, and later to Connacht. However, it is in the 20th Century that we became re-established in Ireland.

A sociologist would say that our aim, like the aim of our Founder, Saint Norbert, is to be the spiritual nucleus of the community in which we are. Our work is that of ministering in parishes, guiding, teaching, social work, and reaching out to those of all races who have not heard of Christ, of His mercy, and of His message for the world.

Yet although the world's problems are ours, for we must try to bear these for our flock, we are always objective in regard to them, through our isolation from the world's attractions and temptations. We are, above all, a spiritual community. We share authority, responsibility, and our love of God, through our community life. In this democratic community we share the sorrow and the joy, as weak and strong, reach out together towards salvation.

For those who feel they are called to our Order at Kilnacrott there is challenging and necessary work, teaching and guiding in our community here in Ireland, ministering to parish communities in Scotland, teaching, guiding, or ministering to communities in Western Australia.

Enquiries should be addressed to :

**REV. DIRECTOR OF VOCATIONS, NORBERTINE FATHERS,
HOLY TRINITY ABBEY, KILNACROTT, BALLYJAMESDUFF, CO. CAVAN**

**Stop Smoking
and win the
game of your
life**

AN ROINN SLAINTE

JUNIOR DESK



A forum for the
young reader

DEvised AND WRITTEn
By JACK MAHON

THIS month I am reviewing three County G.A.A. Year Books received recently.

County Wexford G.A.A. Review 1971 (15p). — This is Wexford's first G.A.A. Year Book and is a comprehensive survey of the Wexford G.A.A. club scene in particular. Hurling, Gaelic football, handball and camogie all receive due attention and editors Billy Quirke and Michael Donegan deserve credit on their initial publication. The centre spread photographic montage is the book's outstanding section and really captures the spirit of Wexford's G.A.A. men. Willie Murphy's determined face as he relaxes at half-time in a game or during a training session is easily recognisable.

Could I suggest to the editors that a list of contents be included in future issues. The clarity of the photographs might be improved

too. The claim in the editorial that this is "the first of its kind in the country" is untrue. We produced our first G.A.A. Year Book in Galway in 1964 and subsequently I edited three other Galway G.A.A. Annuals. Mayo, Roscommon and Tipperary have recently produced their own official G.A.A. Year Books for the second successive year. However, that said, I wish the **Review** every success and look forward to the second issue next year.

Roscommon G.A.A. Year Book 1971 (35p).—The second edition of the Roscommon G.A.A. Year Book is even better than last year's initial effort. In Roscommon they have an Editorial Board in charge of the publication, namely, Dr. Donal Keenan, Mr. Phil Gannon, Mr. Christy Hannon, Mr. Michael Mulleady and Mr. Michael O'Callaghan. It is very much a County Board production,

one they can well be proud of. This year the book is dedicated to the county's first All-Ireland junior football champion team of 1940. The cover in the county colours is a first class job.

I liked especially Michael O'Callaghan's tribute to the champion team of 1940, Brother Kilkenny's article on the footballing traditions of Roscommon C.B.S., a great G.A.A. nursery, and Christy Hannon's history of the Sigerson Cup.

These are but three contributions from a superb annual that should be a sell-out. Perhaps a few games, competitions, crossword, Roscommon G.A.A. Quiz would help the annual but this is by way of suggestion, not criticism.

Mayo G.A.A. Year Book 1972 (20p) — The best of the three, indeed in some ways the best I

● TO PAGE 46

WHAT
HAVE
THEY
IN
COMMON ?



Nicholas Clavin



P. J. Ryan



Len Gaynor



Kieran Claffey

THEY
ARE
ALL
NON-
SMOKERS

JUNIOR DESK

have seen. Of wider appeal than the Wexford and Roscommon Annuals. Is much better than last year's first effort. The cover is absolutely fab. But the book's outstanding achievement is the full-colour two page spread of the winning All-Ireland minor team of 1971. A sophisticated, top-class production comparable to the best in 'Shoot' or 'Goal' or any of the imported magazines. Castlebar Mitchels publish this annual and their printers on this occasion — Mallee & Co., Knock. Co. Mayo — deserve the highest praise. Photographs are reproduced in very clear fashion.

The paper is good. The advertisements are inclined to impose themselves on the text. The print is a little monotonous and the ad. graphics are inclined to be over ornate. But I'm being over critical. Unlike the other two Annuals, this one has a list of contents. Eamonn Mongey's "Profile of Billy Kenny"—a reproduction almost in toto of a "Sunday Press" article—is compelling reading. "The Art of Fullforward Play" by Dublin's Kevin Heffernan is an article that should be read by everyone who aspires to coaching footballers as well as all footballers eager to learn. This is the piece de resistance of the book—really great stuff.

Sean Rice's tribute to another great full-forward—Tom Langan—is another fine article. Langan was one of my favourite footballers, one of the really great players to come out of Connacht. Thaithnigh an gearrscéal le Padraic Seoghthe as Acaill go mór liom. "The Rise of Aghamore" is an article that will appeal to all rural clubs. It is a rags to riches saga—one of the great G.A.A. stories of our time.

Readers should buy all three. I give details underneath with price, including postage, as well as the address of the publisher.

Wexford G.A.A. Review 1971. (20p includes postage from Michael Donegan, 2 Mill Park Road, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford — 100 pages).

Roscommon G.A.A. Year Book 1971. (40p post free from Mr. P. Gannon, G.A.A., Castlerea, Co. Roscommon — 100 pages).

Mayo G.A.A. Year Book 1972. (25p post free from Mr. Brian McDonald, Rocklands, Castlebar, Co. Mayo — 60 pages).

INTERVIEWS

Elsewhere, you will read the Michael O'Hehir interview. I thank him on your behalf for giving me the honour of presenting this unique interview. Next in line is Offaly's Nick Clavin in the May issue and for the June issue I have already lined up Limerick's Eamonn Cregan.

Incidentally, have you read Paddy Downey's contribution to the Mayo Year Book—a really superb Downey-like (almost said Downeyesque) piece. He retells a yarn he heard at a party held in honour of John Nallen. Buy the book and read it—you'll enjoy it almost as much as if Paddy Cusack of Ballyjamesduff told it.

G.A.A. KIT-BAGS

So we are to get G.A.A. kit-bags at last. Kit-bags in county colours with the All-Ireland medal incorporated in a design on the side panels. For this major advancement give credit to dual All-Star Ray Cummins of Cork and his co-director, Ger O'Leary (All-Ireland player of 1966) who have opened "The Sports Centre" at 36 Princes Street, Cork.

As one who has campaigned for this type of thing so often in the past, it now gives me intense pleasure to announce it here. Furthermore, I compliment the two Cork G.A.A. men who have taken the risk of going into this

market. I ask you to support them in their enterprise. Ray has promised to send me on a sample kit-bag (hope it is the Galway kit-bag, Ray) in the next few weeks. The G.A.A. is on the move, buiochas le Dia, thanks to a few men of foresight and courage like Ray Cummins and Ger O'Leary.

You have the address, boys and girls. Write to them today for all details.

THAT SCARF

Readers have asked me to give further details of the school scarf I wrote about last month. They are produced at a cost of £1 each by the Sisters of Charity (Irish) of Clarenbridge, Co. Galway, under the trade name Abbey Knitwear. They are fine big scarves and are worth twice the money. Offaly, Galway, Tipperary, Cork, Mayo, Derry, you name them. Team scarves are the next thing. Over to you, Ray Cummins.

THE CUT-OUT

Our cut-out this month is Kerry's John O'Keeffe, the former St. Brendan's Killarney star. Fr. Linnane will be delighted. John really shone out in 1970 — a really strong centre-half back cum midfielder. In the Offaly game before Christmas he struck me as being overweight and unfit but of late he has begun to reproduce his 1970 brilliance. Kerry can look forward to many years of great football from this sporting son of Tralee—the home of footballers.

Mailbag

OUR "Mailbag" has become so big that this month we will be required to give quotations from letters only.

Michael Ussher, 5 Limekiln Rd., Terenure, Dublin 12: "My favourite team is Galway."

Patsy McCabe, Kingscourt, Co. Cavan: "What are the colours of Clare, Carlow and Leitrim?"

Clare (Gold and blue), Carlow (Green, yellow and red thirds),

● TO PAGE 48

CUT-OUT — — — — —



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

JOHN O'KEEFE, KERRY

● FROM PAGE 46

and Leitrim (Green, gold hoop, white collar)—(J.M.)

Tomás Mac Donncha, Cnoc, Leitirnealláin, Co. na Gaillimhe: "Tá an geimhreidh thart anois agus ta na cluichí mora ag tosnu aríst."

Paul Pimley, 11 St. Agnes Dr., Andersonstown, Belfast 11: "I live very near Casement Park and never miss any of Antrim's matches there."

James Crowley, 26 Ferndale Road, Glasnevin, Dublin 11: "I am a member of the committee of Erin's Isle Sports Club, Finglas, Dublin, with my special interest in the Juvenile Gaelic games section particularly the Under-11 and Under-13 age groups.

"Our committee would like to get in touch with some club to arrange a trip which would include matches for these age groups especially Under-11. This would be on an exchange basis."

● Any club interested are asked to get in touch with Mr. Crowley. (J.M.)

Liam Jones, Derryoran, Mountshannon, Co. Clare: "Who do you admire most outside the sporting scene?"

Among others I admire John Hume, the late Jimmy Dunne, Fr. Desmond Wilson, Mary Kenny, Garret Fitzgerald, Fr. Feargal O'Connor, Gay Byrne, Liam Nolan, the late Sean Ó Riada, Gerry Fitt, John B. Keane, a priest in the Galway diocese named Fr. Ned Crosby, June Levine, Conor Cruise O'Brien, John Healy, Des Rushe, but most of all John Hume.

● Now, there is something to chew on. (J.M.)

Anthony Clancy, Knockroe, Ennistymon, Co. Clare: "My top hurler—Babs Keating. Footballer—Tony McTague."

Noel Carty, Manager of Victors Showband: "Have you heard our record release, 'Offaly the Champions' which tells of Offaly's first All-Ireland victory, sung by Art Supple and the Victors?"

Philip Parsons, Main St., Graignamanagh, Co. Kilkenny (11 years): "Give us cut-outs of

Eddie Keher, Pat Delaney, Paddy Moran and Damien Martin."

Micheál Ó Dubhlainn, Hon. Sec. Erin's Own G.A.A. Club, Fanagown, 212 Lismore Park, Waterford: "If any club from the Galway district ever think of visiting Waterford, my club would be delighted to play them in a game."

● Now, there is an invitation. (J.M.)

Peter Reynolds (10 years), Drumdoo Hill, Mohill, Co. Leitrim: "My daddy played against Galway in 1948/49. He makes G.A.A. crests and souvenirs. I enclose a drawing of a hand-carved 1 foot high mahogany souvenir."

● Rather nice it is too. (J.M.)

Michael Donegan, 2 Mill Park Rd., Enniscorthy: "In the February issue of GAELIC SPORT, the caption should have read John Nolan not Pat Nolan as stated."

Aidan Murphy, Ballyblood, Tulla, Co. Clare: "My favourite

hurlers are Seamus Durack, Peter O'Sullivan and Paddy Barry."

Kevin Gallen, Hazelwood, Lough Gill, Sligo: "The Connacht Gaelic Games Annual was great reading."

Thomas Grant, Knockhouse, Gracedieu, Waterford: "The idea of making county jerseys in boys sizes is great."

Jimmy Cullen (12 years), Ballyvarra, The Rower, Co. Kilkenny: "I want cut-outs of Eddie Keher and Billy Murphy of Kilkenny."

Walter Walsh, The Villa, Ellsmere Ave., N.C.R., Dublin 7: "I am 10 years old and like Gaelic football very much."

So that's enough from the Mailbag this month. But keep writing to me at:

**Junior Desk,
c/o Gaelic Sport,
80 Upper Drumcondra Rd.,
Dublin 9.**

G.A.A. PUBLICATIONS

THE following is a list of G.A.A. books available, with the price, including postage attached, together with the name and address of the publisher in each case:

Tipperary G.A.A. Yearbook 1970, Price 30p (Gerry Slevin, "The Guardian", Nenagh, Co. Tipperary).

Tipperary G.A.A. Yearbook 1971, Price 35p (Same as No. 1).

Connacht Gaelic Games Annual, Price 35p (M.D. Publications, 29 Oaklands, Salthill, Galway).

Twelve Glorious Years, by Jack Mahon, Price 35p (Same as No. 3).

Three In A Row, by Jack Mahon, Price 17½p (Same as No. 3).

The Football Immortals, by Raymond Smith, 60p (Creative Press Ltd., Botanic Rd., Dublin 9).

Gaels In The Sun, by Peter McDermott, Price 85p (Peter McDermott, G.A.A., Navan, Co. Meath).

Our Games Annual, Price 45p (An Rúnaí, C.L.C.G., Páirc an Chrócaigh, Ath Cliath 3).

Offaly—The Heroes, Price 10p ("Gaelic Sport", 80 Upper Drumcondra Road, Dublin 9).

Roscommon G.A.A. Yearbook 1970, Price 35p (M. O'Callaghan, "Roscommon Herald", Boyle, Co. Roscommon).

Mayo G.A.A. Yearbook 1970, Price 35p (Brian McDonald, c/o Castlebar Mitchels G.A.A. Club, Castlebar, Co. Mayo).

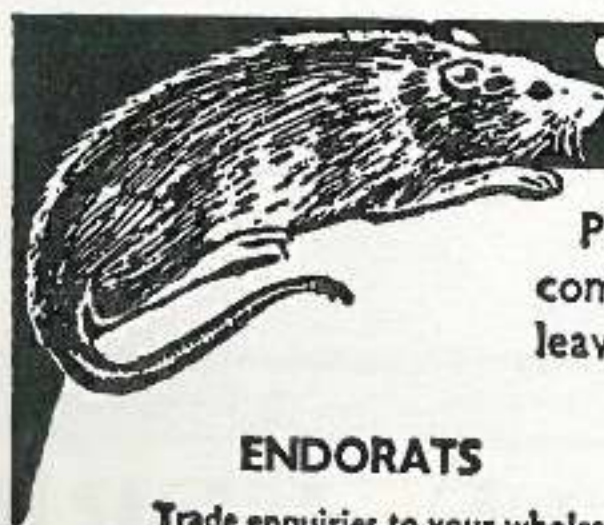
Coaching Gaelic Football for Champions, by Joe Lennon, Price 60p (Joe Lennon, c/o Franciscan College, Gormans-ton, Co. Meath).

Fitness for Gaelic Football, by Joe Lennon, Price 50p (Same address as above).

Peil, Price 25p (An Rúnaí, G.A.A., Páirc an Chrócaigh, Ath Cliath, 3).

Report of the Commission on the G.A.A., Price £1.00 (Same as above).

If there are any other G.A.A. books available please send me on details. More and more G.A.A. club libraries are being formed every week. This list is ideal for them. Ideal, too, for all the school libraries, primary and post-primary, North, South, East and West.



"ENDORATS"

Perfect because it's 100% effective in ridding your premises completely of rats and mice. Perfect because it's easy to use, leaves no trace or odour and is virtually harmless to pets and livestock. Scientifically tested.

ENDORATS

ENDOMIC

Endorats Concentrate

Trade enquiries to your wholesaler or IRISH DRUGS LTD., BURNFOOT, CO. DONEGAL

WE TACKLE MOST PROBLEMS



ALLIED IRISH FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED

Carlow - 135 Tullow St. Tel. 41248
Cork - 2 South Mall. Tel. 25371
Drogheda - 5 Peter St. Tel. 8788
Dublin - 36/37 Lr. Baggot St. Tel. 64611
Galway - 5 Eyre Square. Tel. 2048
Limerick - 92 O'Connell St. Tel. 46211
Longford - 34 Main St. Tel. 6553
Waterford - 19 The Quay. Tel. 5439

AIF



*Fine broadleaf tobacco -
the reason for
the satisfying flavour of
Broadleaf cigarettes.*



22p

BROADLEAF tipped

MADE BY P.J. CARROLL AND COMPANY LIMITED