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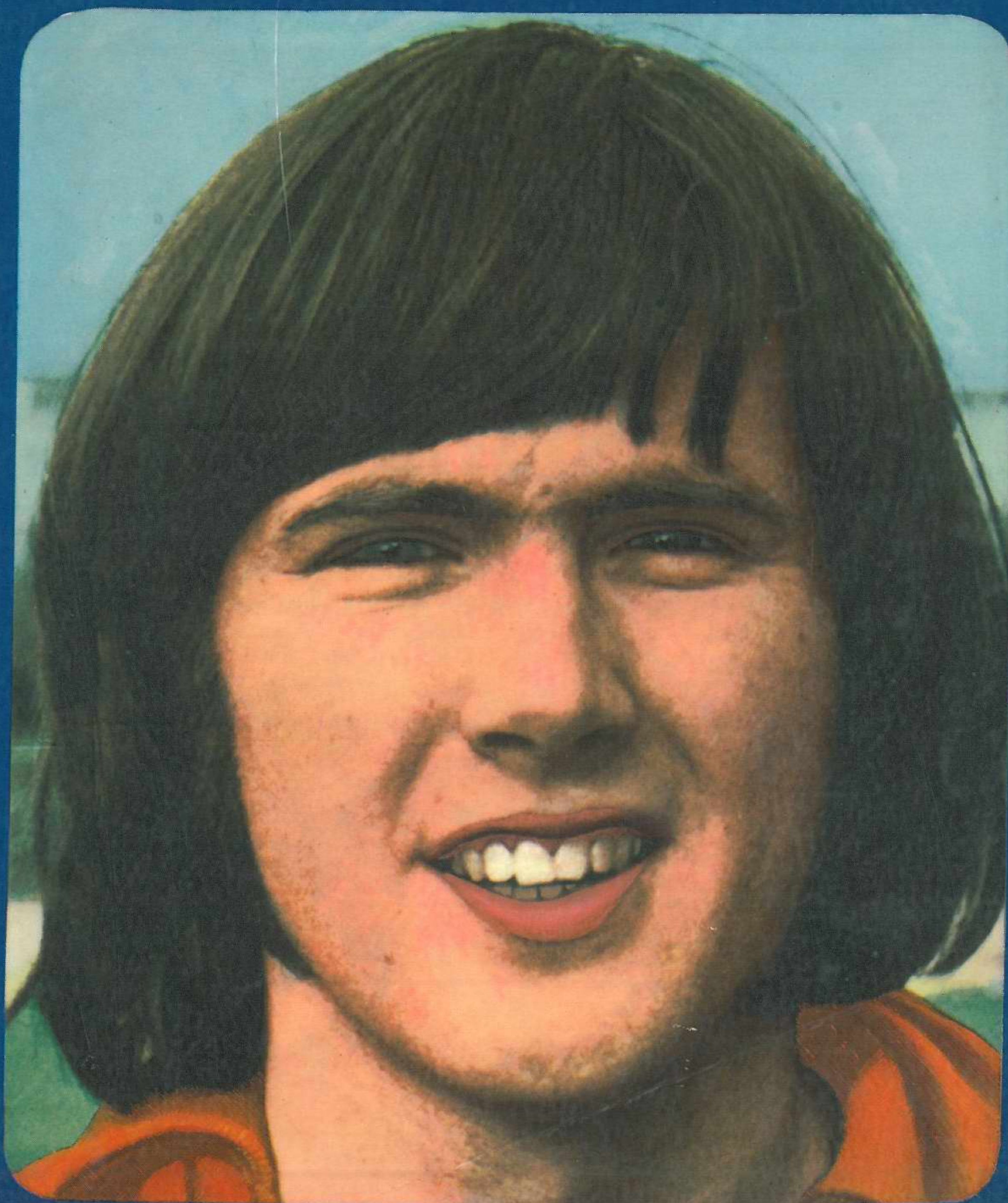
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Gaelic Sport

JUNE, 1973

TEN PENCE

IRELAND'S LEADING GAELIC GAMES MAGAZINE PUBLISHED MONTHLY



★★★★★ JOHN RAINEY, Antrim ★★★★★

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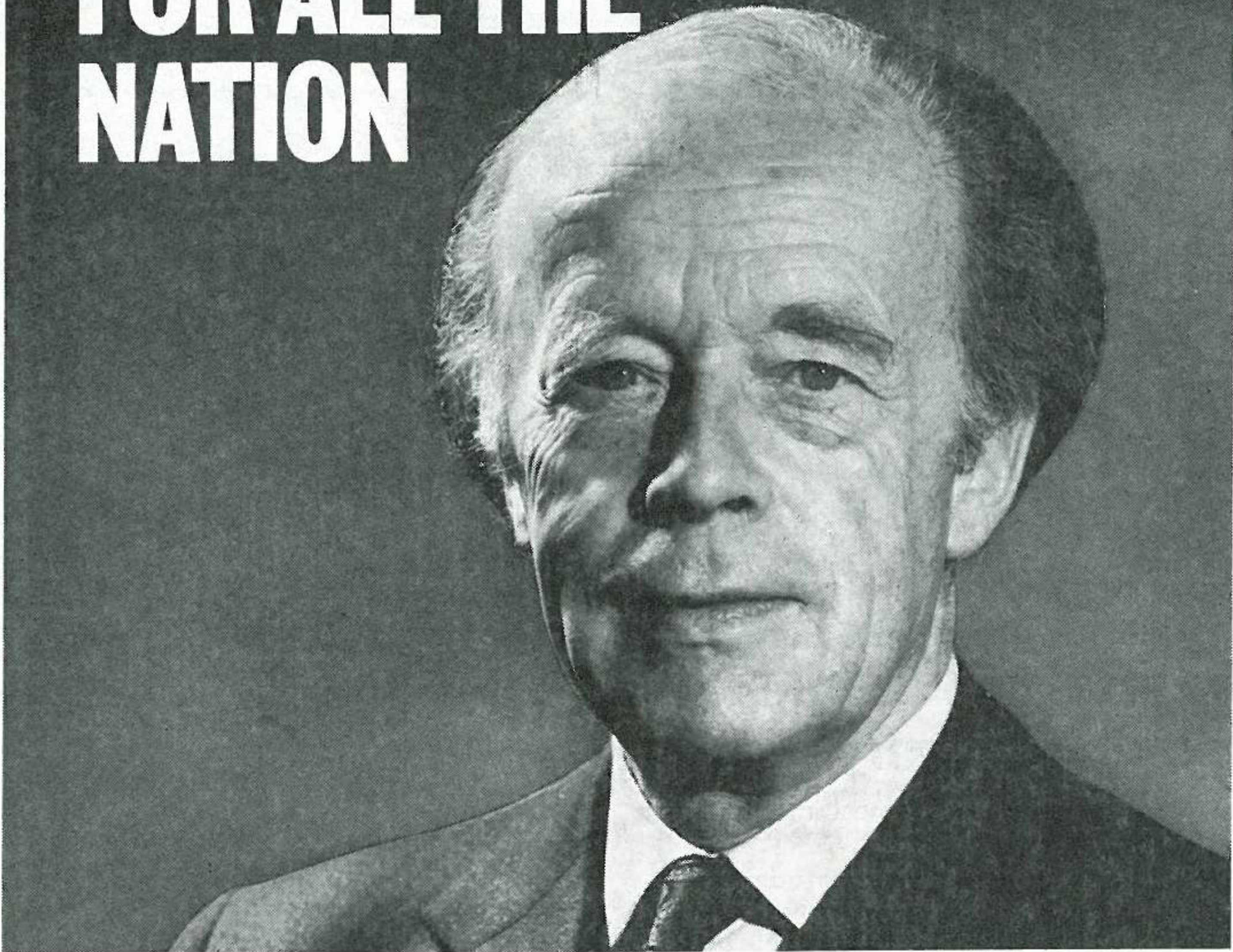
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THE NEW CHIEF

IN congratulating Dr. Donal Keenan on his election to the presidency of Cumann Luthchleas Gael, and in wishing him a successful tenure of office, we are echoing the sentiments of all members. He well deserves the trust that has been placed in him, for he has already given long and distinguished service to the Association.

This is a time of much change within the Association—change that has been triggered off by the recommendations of the Special Commission of which Dr. Keenan was a member—and his proven ability will enable the new president to further enrich the organisation with his progressive ideas and work.

It can rightly be said of Donal Keenan that he is a player's man. This is not to suggest that his immediate predecessors were ignorant of the players, or were in any way unsympathetic to their problems. But the fact that the Roscommon man was a brilliant football forward in his day (he won All-Ireland senior medals in 1943 and 1944) gives him the player's insight. This must be a very valuable asset in his make-up, especially now when it is generally accepted that there is need for alterations in the playing rules of football and hurling.

Herein lies probably the greatest challenge of all. The

games are basic to the entire success of the Association, for it is from their ability to measure up as appealing and lasting attractions with players and supporters that everything else flows.

This is a field in which Donal Keenan has been actively engaged for some time already. He is chairman of the Rules Revision committee that is examining the laws of hurling and football. His election as president must enhance the status of that committee, and help to give added weight to the body's suggestions.

Change, of course, is not necessarily progress. But few would seriously dispute that football, in particular, needs to be improved as a spectacle.

The way was opened up in this direction at the Special Congress in Dublin last December. Approval was given to waive the limitation on the revision of playing rule 68 at next year's Congress to enable the playing rules to be amended. Any rules altered will be employed for a trial period of one year.

Thus, a golden opportunity is presented to bring about a crack, at least, in the wall of conservatism that has been the hallmark of the Association's approach to change down the years.

With Donal Keenan at the helm there are good grounds for optimism.

COVER PHOTO :

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**O**UR front cover this month features Antrim's John Rainey. John, who plays with Queens University, was a prominent member of the Combined Universities Railway Cup winning side this year and we predict that this is but the first of many honours that will accrue to this young Antrim man.

AN ROINN TALMHAÍOCHTA AGUS IASCAIGH

# EDUCATION IN AGRICULTURE FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

ONE-YEAR COURSES IN AGRICULTURE are provided at the Department's Colleges at Athenry, Ballyhaise, Clonakilty and Kildalton and at State-aided Colleges at Gurteen, Monaghan, Mount Bellew, Multyfarnham, Pallaskenry, Warrenstown and Rockwell. Basic training, both theoretical and practical, is given in agriculture, horticulture and allied sciences. More specialised second-year courses are conducted in a number of the colleges; farm machinery and maintenance at Pallaskenry, pig production at Athenry, beef cattle and sheep production at Ballyhaise and Warrenstown; dairying at Clonakilty and Gurteen. Recreational activities are encouraged.

The courses are especially valuable for those who intend to return to farming and the one-year course is essential for those seeking entry to the Farm Apprenticeship Scheme. The courses are valuable also to those who intend to pursue higher studies in agriculture, horticulture or dairy science.

ABOUT 400 SCHOLARSHIPS to these courses are provided annually by County Committees of Agriculture.

A diploma course (18 months) in Pig Husbandry and Management is provided at Athenry.

TWO-YEAR COURSES IN AMENITY HORTICULTURE are provided at the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin and in COMMERCIAL HORTICULTURE at Kildalton Agricultural and Horticultural College, Piltown, Co. Kilkenny, Warrenstown Agricultural College, Co. Meath, and at An Grianán, Termonfeckin, Co. Louth.

MAINTENANCE GRANTS are awarded by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries to students attending the Amenity Horticultural Courses. A limited number of Scholarships to the Commercial Horticultural Courses are awarded annually by the Department of Agri-

culture and Fisheries and the County Committees of Agriculture.

A one-year non-residential course of instruction is also provided at the Munster Institute, Cork, for the training of young men and women, aged 17 to 25 years, as **TECHNICIANS IN POULTRY HUSBANDRY**.

CERTIFICATES are awarded by the Department to students who pass the examinations held at the end of these courses.

Short courses (up to 5 days) in pig husbandry, farm machinery and dairying are provided in some colleges in co-operation with County Committees of Agriculture.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS in agriculture, horticulture and dairy science are awarded annually by the Department.

One-year courses in **RURAL DOMESTIC ECONOMY** of value to future Farm Home Managers are provided at State-aided Schools at Ardagh, Claremorris, Gurteen, Navan, Portumna, Ramsgrange and Swinford. Training is given in dairying, poultry-keeping, household management, cookery, laundry, home nursing and arts and crafts. Recreational activities are encouraged. Certificates are awarded by the Department to students who pass the examination held at the end of the course.

Attention to **POULTRY-KEEPING AND DAIRYING** is given in the courses provided at the State-aided School of Domestic Training at Dunmanway.

About 300 SCHOLARSHIPS to these courses are provided annually by County Committees of Agriculture.

Advanced **THREE-YEAR RESIDENTIAL COURSES** are provided at the Munster Institute for young women aged 18 to 30 years who wish to qualify for teaching and advisory posts in (a) poultry-keeping and (b) farm home management.

Write to the Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (Section 24), Upper Merrion Street, Dublin 2, for full information about these courses.



Ray Carolan

# FR. BENNY HAS A BIG TASK AHEAD

**ONE** of the features of Ulster football over the last few years has been the decline of Cavan's fortunes. While the Breffni county once reigned supreme as kings of the Northern Province that is far from being the case these days. In fact the wearers of the famed royal blue jerseys have not represented Ulster in the All-Ireland series since 1969 when they last took possession of the Anglo Celt Cup.

Cavan's successes on the football fields in recent seasons have been few and far between. Such a trend is indeed quite a diversion from periods in the past when the Breffnimen more or less ruled the roost in the Northern Province.

Cavan are the proud holders of no fewer than forty-seven Ulster Senior Football Championship titles. The fact that just seven of these were achieved since the beginning of the 'Fifties clearly illustrates the fact that most of the Breffni successes were gained in the earlier days of the Association. Then when one considers that Cavan came out of Ulster only four times in the 'Sixties and not yet in the current decade you can appreciate the obvious decline in the fortunes of this once truly great footballing county.

People may argue that four provincial titles in any ten years is an achievement which many counties would be extremely

proud of. But, on the other hand, back in the 'thirties and 'forties Cavan took eight Ulster titles in each period.

Recently while browsing through some programmes in my possession I noticed a headline in the Cavan v Offaly 1969 All-Ireland semi-final issue which read, "Cavan: A New Dawn". The appropriate article stated that their turn must come again. Well it hasn't come yet and if the recent national league campaign can be taken as any sort of a guideline neither will it come this year.

In the 1972-'73 League Cavan won three games, lost three and drew one out of their seven engagements. Their victories were at the expense of Meath, Westmeath and Laois, they finished level against Fermanagh and lost to Derry, Mayo and Sligo. Bearing in mind the fact that Cavan were never League specialists, perhaps this is not such a bad record after all. But, on the

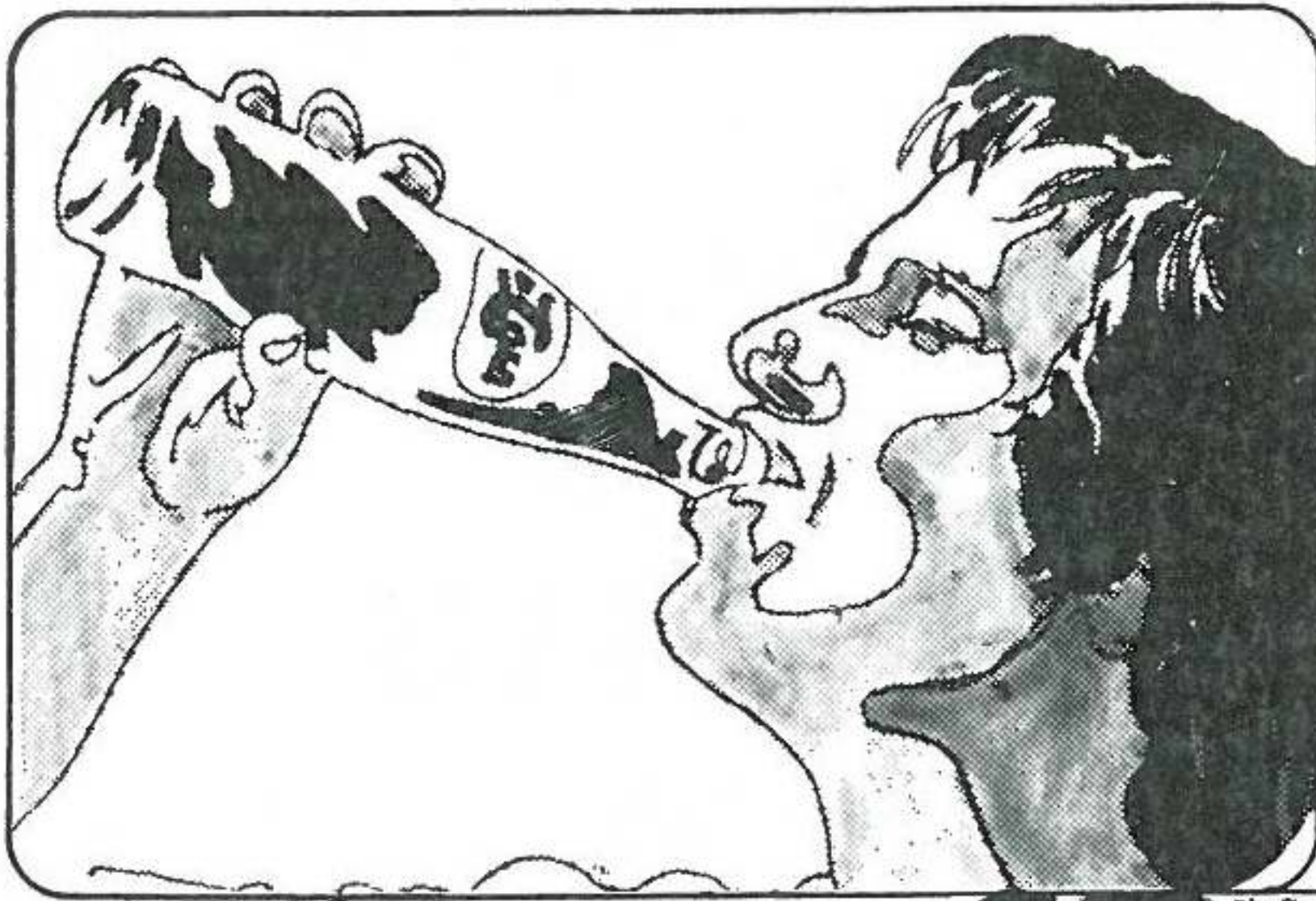
other hand, when the Ulstermen lost their second last game to Sligo the match report in one of the following morning's national newspapers described Cavan's performance as one of their worst home displays in years.

I saw Cavan playing once during that League series. That was against Meath at Breffni Park and while they won on that occasion, they looked far from great. And with Cavan's declining fortunes there also appears to be a waning of interest among their supporters or whatever is left or them. I have often been told about days in the distant past when fanatical Breffni supporters would cycle all the way to Croke Park on the day before a big match and then sleep outside the ground throughout the night to make sure to be first inside at opening time to gain the best vantage points available. The attendance at the afore-mentioned tie against Meath could easily be counted. How times have changed!

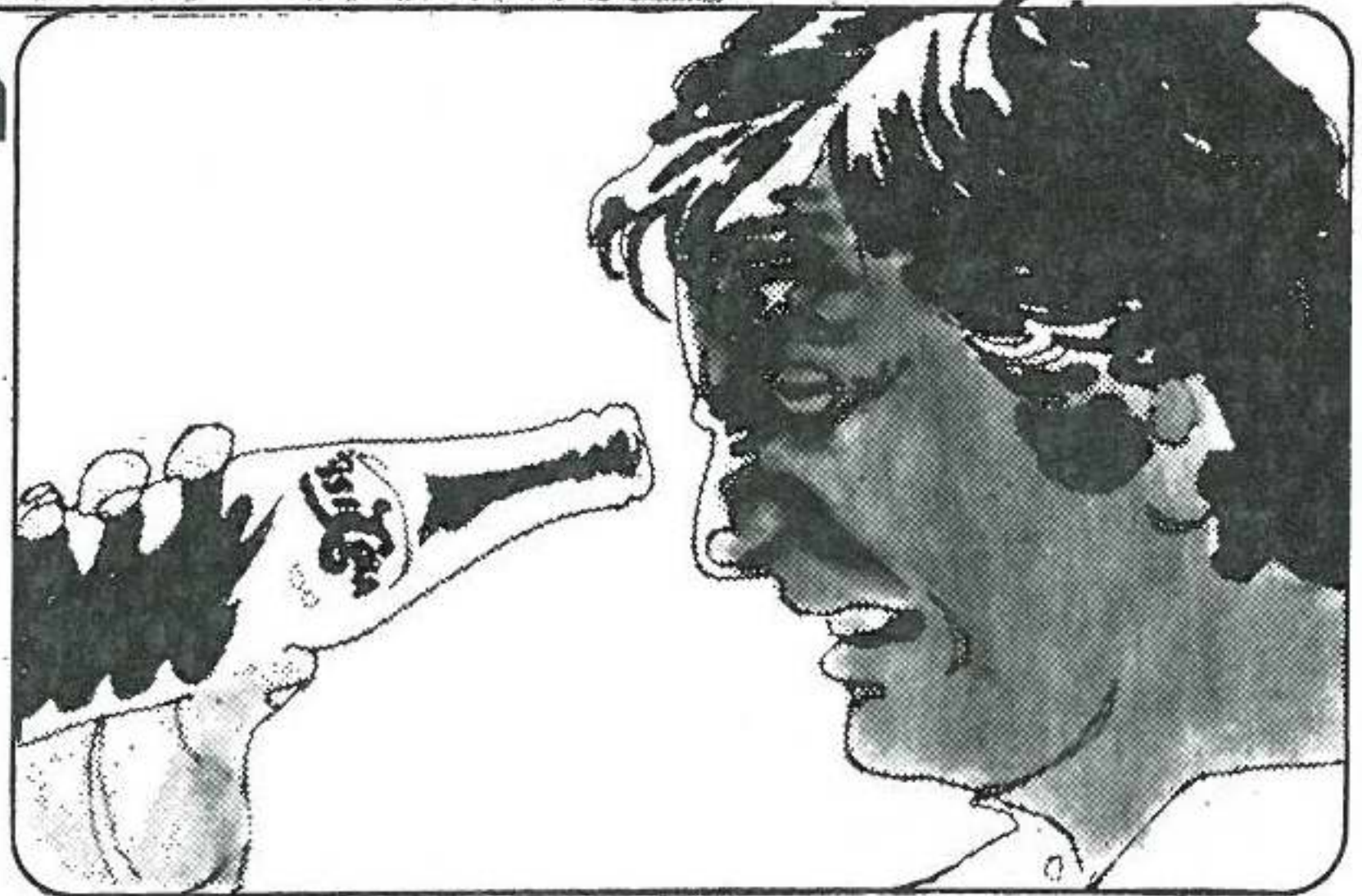
Now in an effort to rectify Cavan's slumping stock a new team manager Father Benny Maguire, has been appointed. Last year Fr. Maguire trained St. Patrick's College to bring this school their first ever All-Ireland senior football title. But his task with the county team will undoubtedly be a much more demanding one. Can he have a little more success than predecessors like Mick Higgins and Gabriel Kelly? Cavan's new boss seems very determined to do well. Most of all he wants co-operation from players and officials. And according to Fr. Maguire if this is not forthcoming then Cavan will be looking for a new manager.

A fair enough attitude by any

● TO PAGE 41



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# Top Ten

## WEXFORD STAR GAINS GROUND

**BECAUSE** of printing deadlines it was not possible to consider performances in the National Hurling League final when running the rule over the candidates for inclusion in this month's Top Ten charts. However the assessments of player's performances in the Hurling League decider, and in subsequent matches, will undoubtedly have a vital bearing on ratings in our July run-down.

Brendan Lynch was a bright star for Kerry in the League final, and his brace of valuable goals, plus three points, in a thoroughly impressive all-round showing did much to sink Offaly's League hopes. Brendan thus comes into the chart for the first time with an eight points rating.

But would Kerry still have retained the League crown without John O'Keeffe? The Austin Stacks and U.C.D. man had a tremendous game. He was in charge at midfield, except for a short spell after the interval, and his high quality work did so much to create the mood for the Kerry winning effort. As a result, he earns for himself the highest rating of the present month, and his nine points also help to push him up the over-all table to the 16 points mark.

The League final, the dominant game in the period under review, was, of course, a good one for Kerry men. There was an eye-

catching performance from Michael O'Sullivan, who went in as a substitute, and turned on the type of exciting display that leaves one impatient to see this strong-running 21-year-old student in action again.

Eamonn O'Donoghue maintained his customary solid, rather than spectacular work, and Donie O'Sullivan impressed yet again.

There was much to admire in the Tyrone-Down Division II final, and three players earn ranking from that game including our over-all leader Frank McGuigan.

In hurling, the League semi-

finals at the end of April qualify for this particular table. Last month we said that Mick Jacob (Wexford) could be the man to watch this season, and he did much to reinforce that forecast with a splendid game in the win over Kilkenny—A display that has helped him clip two points from over-all leader Francis Loughnane (Tipperary).

### FOOTBALL

|   |                          |    |
|---|--------------------------|----|
| 9 | J. O'Keeffe (Kerry) ...  | 16 |
| 8 | B. Lynch (Kerry) .....   | 8  |
| 7 | F. McGuigan (Tyrone)     | 23 |
| 7 | E. O'Donoghue (Kerry)    | 22 |
| 7 | D. O'Sullivan (Kerry) .. | 15 |
| 6 | P. Fenning (Offaly) ...  | 6  |
| 6 | G. Taggart (Tyrone) ...  | 6  |
| 6 | D. Crowley (Kerry) ...   | 6  |
| 6 | P. Rooney (Down) .....   | 6  |

### HURLING

|   |                         |    |
|---|-------------------------|----|
| 8 | M. Jacob (Wexford) ...  | 24 |
| 8 | P. Nolan (Wexford) ...  | 15 |
| 8 | S. Foley (Limerick) ... | 8  |
| 7 | F. Nolan (Limerick) ... | 7  |
| 7 | C. Doran (Wexford) ...  | 7  |
| 7 | W. Murphy (Wexford)     | 7  |
| 7 | L. Gaynor (Tipperary)   | 7  |
| 6 | F. Loughnane            |    |
|   | (Tipperary)             | 29 |
| 6 | M. Brennan (Kilkenny)   | 13 |
| 6 | C. Connaughton          |    |
|   | (Westmeath)             | 6  |



● Pat Nolan  
(Wexford)



● Brendan Lynch  
(Kerry)

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Introducing new Texaco Havoline All Temperature Motor Oil. The motor oil that's designed for the kind of driving you do today.

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can get, Texaco Havoline keeps flowing, lubricating and protecting, even protecting against rust and engine wear.

New Texaco Havoline All Temperature Motor Oil fights sludge to keep your engine healthy.



## CORK HURLING MUST DEAL IN RESULTS, NOT EXCUSES

**EVER** hear of a hurler named David Creedon? Well about 1938 he was a star young goalie in the younger Glen Rovers teams. He was good enough for any senior goal but the Glen at the time had a slim, active friend of mine named Mick Casey standing behind a tall thin man held together by pieces of barbed wire, called Danny Mat Dorgan . . . as tough to get past.

So David Creedon had to sit down as sub and watch Mick Casey whip the sliothar out of the sky. Time slipped on and Mick retired so in went Dave, saving enough shots to keep even Glenmen happy. By this time Cork had Jim Buttimer on their All-Ireland side and he was followed by Jim Porter. Then came Tom Mulcahy a star young hurler from the Barrs and he stayed. So Dave Creedon played along, the best man one could find not to wear a Cork jersey.

In 1952 there was a certain desperation about the picking of the Cork side and Dinny Barry Murphy amiable and long-seving selector (himself one of the great players) saw that Tipp were going to equal Cork's four in a row if the men in red didn't make a superhuman effort. The team trained and had as good a chance as any. The day before the first round, disaster struck; Mick Cashman the goalie was sick. Out they sped to the Barrs country for Jim Cotter also playing well in the goal. Jim also was out of action. Nothing left but Dave Creedon who after about fourteen years of good hurling had decided to hang up the boots.

"We want you David. You'll have to play." So he did. And they won the first round. And they beat Tipp in the most hair-raising hurling game I ever saw and went on to win an All-Ireland. To show that they weren't joking they repeated the process next year and then in '54 gave a great Wexford side a last bit of sophisticated advice and example before bowing out. In

the three All-Irelands the goalie, a man named Creedon played some great hurling.

The reason I tell the story is because of the Cinderella atmosphere it creates. There could hardly be anything more unlikely could there?

So today in every county you have good men standing in the shadow of the established player who got his place the hard way. None of them as far as I know were as lucky as Dave Creedon and I doubt if any will.

In Cork we are disappointed still with last year's All-Ireland in which a fine side from the Nore showed us all how hurling and virility can be combined to produce artistic efficiency. But this year we want Cork to do a spot better and at the moment to be honest it doesn't seem very likely when one considers the poor show of the side in the League and the increased tempo of the tunes played in Tipperary hills and where the Shannon river meets the sea. A friend of mine says we have plenty hurlers a fact which has been plain

as purple putty to me for some time. But quantity and quality aren't always synonymous and I doubt if we'll have the same chance as Kerry have of testing material adequately.

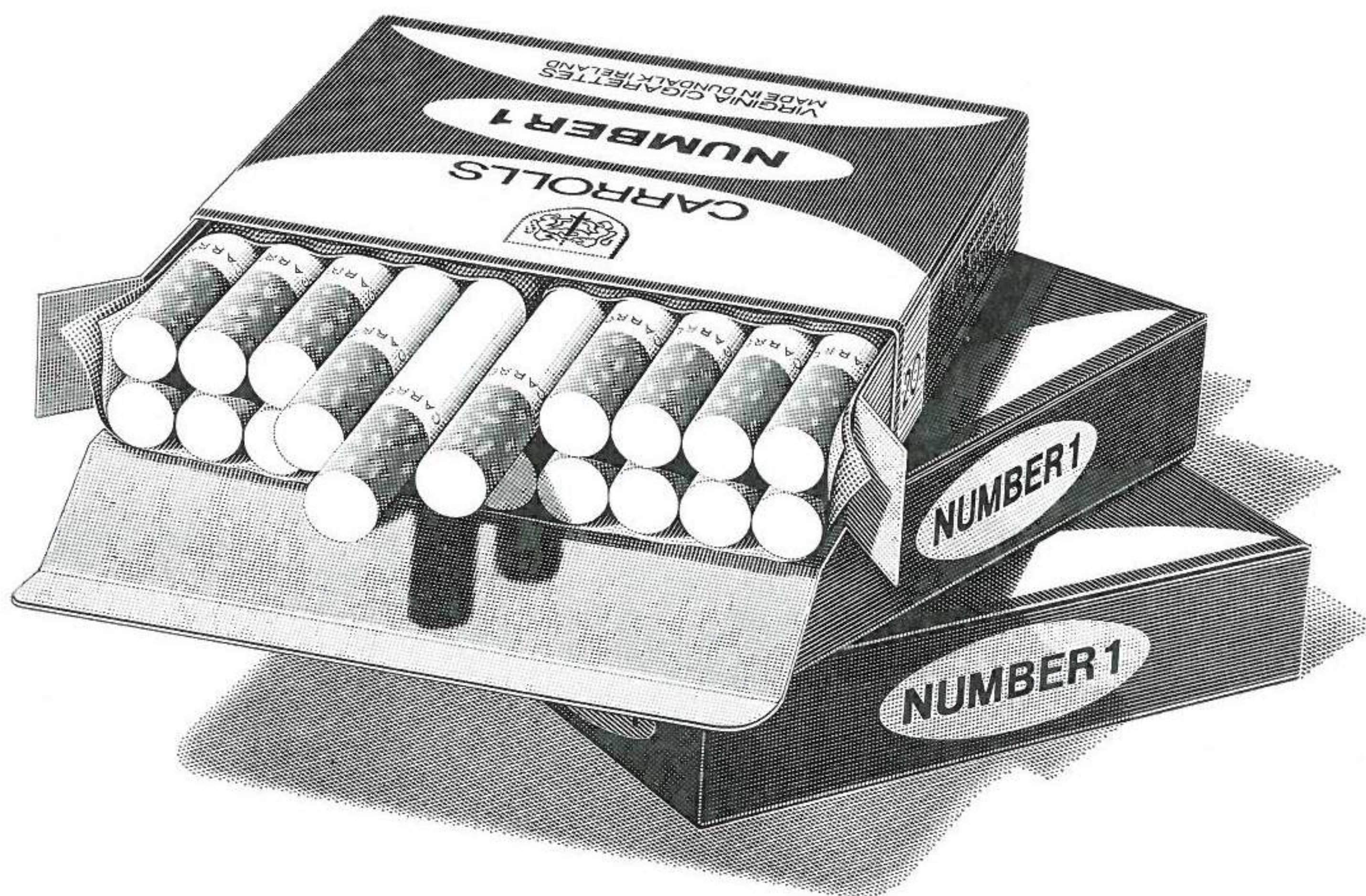
I figure we must have about thirty-five players to consider. There's the fifteen which went down to Kilkenny: Paddy Barry, Tony Maher, Pat McDonnell, Brian Murphy, Frank Norberg, Seamus Looney, Con Roche; Justin McCarthy and Denis Coughlan; Gerald McCarthy, Mick Malone, Pat Hegarty (who won't be available this year), Charlie McCarthy, Ray Cummins and Seanie Leary. Will they all make it? I don't know but just take a look at the chaps who are waiting in the wings ready to get into the big act.

Martin Coleman the very dainty goalie from Ballinhassig had a fine game against Waterford the other day and this is only one of his many good games. But Paddy Barry is as active as ever and a good goalie. At right full there's the Maynooth man Pat Barry of Glen Rovers strong, tough and a very honest stopper. He won't take Tony Maher's place but he might take someone else's. Pat McDonnell has been out through injury and may be back for the summer but in the meanwhile big twenty-one-year-old Martin Doherty has stepped in at full back and though he's more of a "second man out" he might stay around the square if McDonnell returns. Over the

● TO PAGE 11



# Carrolls Number 1 the taste of good tobacco



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PACKETS CARRY A GOVERNMENT HEALTH WARNING

## ● FROM PAGE 9

years many have said that McDonnell should be centre-back. Brian Murphy solid and dependable at left full has fair-haired John Horgan looking over his shoulder while Paddy Crowley who has played a lot in the position is always there to earn a sound sixty minutes.

Seamus Looney the centre-back of '73 hasn't been playing much this season and it is quite likely another man will have to be found. In the game against Wexford in the league Denis Coughlan had an outstanding game there but consistency not being the captain's strong point it is very doubtful if a chance can be taken in this vital position. One might get away with it at centre-field where mistakes are not usually so grievous. John Buckley is another—a young player who has a lot of under-age experience in the position and the selectors may decide to give him a run

Frank Norberg and Con Roche the men in possession at wing half back stand quite a chance of staying there. Teddy O'Brien will challenge for either position as well as a few more and there's a young lad named Vincy Buckley a nephew of that darling centre-back of the fifties showing an eager head. A crafty and stylish player.

Justin McCarthy and Denis Coughlan were the centre-fielders of last year and since then Justin has drifted out into the twilight a little. Coughlan will be on the side I think and many say he's best facing the ball where I certainly have seen him play well. That would leave the centre of the field to young John Buckley of Newtownshandrum and U.C.C. with perhaps Gerald McCarthy to partner him. Robbie O'Sullivan of Youghal, Bertie Og Murphy of Sars and Pat Moylan of the Rockies are young men who show promise.

Cork may be caught for a real centre-forward this year. Mick Malone was a tremendous man to barge past on the outside with the sliotar but he has lost some of his drive. This may be temporary however and as in the case of most of the players, the drop from the heights where they allowed a surprisingly innocent public to push them, to the depths where the same intemperate judges in defeat consigned them, may have jolted them out



Frank Norberg

Con Roche

of real hurling rhythm. If Malone returns to form he should be sound enough on the twenty-one and it could happen that the man who lost interest in hurling Willie Walsh of Youghal might make it again. Also there's Ray Cummins.

On the wings there's a fairly new man, Jack Russell, to take Gerald McCarthy's place if the Barrsman goes to centre field and one could throw in the very lively Pat Doherty of the Glen, and brother of Martin, who is also quite a centre-field prospect. With Pat Hegarty gone (and how we could use him at centre-back this year if he were fit) there's young Tom Sheehan of Mallow, a neat striker, and Connie Kelly whose strong forward style was effective two seasons ago but has since declined. Inside with Ray Cummins on the mark and the corner men of last year Charlie McCarthy and Seanie Leary available one could feel that Cork are well served here.

O'Leary is the only one of the three who was playing well in recent weeks but in the club championship we'll surely see the best of Cummins and McCarthy. Frank Cooper of Youghal is a full forward prospect and one could also consider the versatile Jimmy Barry Murphy who at nineteen is probably too young, something which can also be said of Sean Farrell of Watergrasshill, the minor centre-fielder of '72.

It's too early yet also for Robert Wilmot the big young minor player from Bandon who is a hard, fast player of direct thinking. The fact that Wilmot was on the football team in the league was no help for as always I have reservations about the dual players: they play too hard, too often, to play well often enough. When we have enough men who know training well these very good and very versatile players will get the right advice to keep them in good shape for most of the year.

I have forgotten a man who could be very important. He's not exactly new but he has been forgotten by everyone outside Cork and by many within its wide borders: name of Donal Clifford, once a star at half back and gone out of the big-time for nearly two years. Now as chairman of the Cloyne cub (where Cork selector Christy Ring played in his youth) Clifford may be back. We must wait and see.

To sum up I have mentioned thirty-two players. Thirteen of last year's are in the running again and it's up to Jack Barrett, Fr. Troy, Pat Cooney, Frank Murphy and Christy Ring to sort out the remainder. The club championship now ending and the challenge games as well as the natural desire to win the Munster championship are all powerful stimuli. We need such, and it is obvious that this year we must deal in results and not excuses.

# Mayo manager faces a mammoth task

BY SEAN RICE

**AIDAN SWORDS** has set himself a mammoth task. As newly appointed manager of the Mayo team he sets about restoring a flagging spirit to footballers in whom followers once had unshakable faith. Many probably still do. And among these is Aidan Swords himself. "The potential is there. They are a first class bunch of fellows, and if there are not good footballers in Mayo, where will you find them?" he said.

But Mayo's problem is no ordinary one. For they have not been devoid of some success in recent years. One National League title and twice runners-up is a fair enough measure of success by any standards. But the championship is the real criterion, and Mayo have not won a championship since 1951.

This is Aidan Swords' objective. And this, he is sure, he can accomplish, otherwise the Charlestown dentist would never have taken the job.

"I regard my appointment as a challenge and consider it a great honour to be asked to take control. I like the idea of working with the members of the team. They are completely different from players of ten or twenty years ago in that they are more confident, more sure of themselves and what they want to do. I see it as my job to help them achieve what they want to achieve," he said.

Swords has been given complete control of the senior team . . . an unprecedented step in Mayo football. He will be the sole selector, and will devise tactics and make changes.

His credentials will not be in question. He comes from a family steeped in sport and he himself won an All-Ireland football medal with Galway in 1956. He was twenty years old then and half-way through the game substituted for Joe Young.

He was a member of the U.C.G. team that won the Sigerson Cup in 1955, and continued to play with U.C.G. for two further years. In the three years that followed this period he played with U.C.D. with whom he won another Sigerson Cup medal in 1960.

He played with Mayo after that. But these were inauspicious times in Mayo football, and although he returned from England—where he took up practice after graduating—to assist Mayo reach the semi-final of the National League in 1961, pressure of work and training difficulties forced him to chuck the game at the age of 25.

The new manager says that the standard of football in Mayo is higher now than it has been for many years and, he said, the team which took part in the re-

play of the Connacht championship semi-final against Sligo last year was superbly fit, fast, courageous and dedicated. "They were a delight to watch and I think there is a lot to work on," he added.

That work has already begun. And a panel of players from which Mayo teams will be chosen for the games ahead has been drawn up. Not much success is yet visible. Nor could there be, for a few months does not give a new manager much time to blend a team and gear it to one's objective.

Yet, there is no doubt that Aidan Swords' ability to handle a team will be judged by many on Mayo's performance in the championship which begins this month.

The knives of criticism are sure to be drawn if Mayo lose. That could be disastrous for the new manager . . . and for Mayo. He needs a longer period with the team than the few months he has already been with them, longer even than the twelve months for which the Mayo Board have appointed him.

But he finds no crib with Mayo's supporters. "They are as good as you can get. You will find them travelling in all kinds of weather to unimportant games, so strong is their loyalty. I would ask them to judge me by the results," he said.

No one will envy Aidan Swords his new task.

## A good year for the ace marksmen

IT is proving a good year for individual scoring barrages in hurling and football. Already we have had such impressive bags as 2-8 by Francis Loughnane in Tipperary's unsuccessful Hurling League semi-final replay with Limerick, admittedly in extra time, 0-12 by Michael Kearins (Sligo) in the drawn Railway Cup football final, and 3-1 by Sean Kearney for Tipperary in a senior football challenge game with Roscommon at Roscommon.

All of which gives added point to the SCORESHEET targets that the finishers in hurling and football have to aim at in the senior provincial championships now swinging into top gear.

The provincial record that is standing longest of all is a whopping score of 6-4 that Jimmy Smyth hit for Clare against Limerick in a Munster hurling tie at Ennis as far back as June, 1954. The nearest any hurler has come to that is 19 points, achieved by Paddy Molloy for Offaly against Laois at Portlaoise in June, 1969. His actual score was 5-4.

Jimmy Doyle notched 4-3 for Tipperary in an outing against Limerick, at Cork, in July, 1960, and more recently, Charlie McCarthy had a haul of 2-9 in Cork's Munster final win over Clare last July, at Thurles. Molloy comes into the picture again with 3-5 at Mullingar, in June, 1966, in an outing against Westmeath. That year, too, Eamonn Cregan (Limerick) also hit 3-5 against Tipperary at

Cork.

In football, it is also one of "yesterday's men" who sets the pace—and it is also a blistering one here as well. Ironical, too, that at a time when Dublin lacks forwards with that lethal finishing touch in front of goal a native of the county stands unchallenged in the key position for just over 13 years now.

Johnny Joyce is the man in question. He staged a one-man demolition job against Longford, at Mullingar, in May, 1960. The St. Vincent's club man, who wore the No. 14 jersey, started off in dynamic style by flashing in two goals inside four minutes, and at the end of the hour he had a thundering 5-3 after his name.

Just under two years later Brendan Hayden was finding the target in fluent style for Carlow in an engagement with Kilkenny at Kilkenny. On an April afternoon in 1962 he bagged 3-7.

Carlow, in fact, have something of a tradition for being concerned in games featured by impressive individual scoring feats. They were on the receiving end in two other matches.

In May, 1958, Pat Nolan, of Offaly helped himself to 4-3 at Carlow, and just over two years ago Enda Condrón had a scoring spree for Laois against Carlow, at Athy. He struck a worth-while blow for the men of the modern era by crashing into the spotlight on the 14 points mark—2-8.

Last year Michael Kearins also climbed to 14 points (0-14) in Sligo's unsuccessful Connacht football semi-final replay with

Mayo at Castlebar. However, strictly speaking that game cannot be compared equally with the others listed here, as it went to 30 minutes extra time.

Just about a year earlier, however, the Sligo interprovincial hit 0-13 against Galway in another fine display of polished finishing at Castlebar in a drawn provincial final, while last June, another drawn match in Connacht earned John Tobin a place through his accomplishment in shooting 1-9 for Galway against Roscommon at Roscommon.

Up North, one of the greatest marksmen of them all, Paddy Doherty, shows the way. At Newry in June, 1965, this deadly accurate sharpshooter from Ballykinlar made a notable contribution to a Down win over Tyrone by popping up 2-7. Down were on the receiving end in the 1971 Ulster final at Casement Park, when Mickey Niblock hit 2-4 for Derry.

Last year it was the turn of a Donegal footballer to make the scene, Joe Winston's spot-on finishing brought him a bag of 0-10 and with it a prominent rating in a draw with Cavan at Irvinestown last July that helped the county on the way to their first Ulster title.

Winston eventually finished top scorer in Ulster with 0-26 from four games, and that's the best score put up in a full Northern campaign over the past five seasons.

In Munster, Denis Coughlan was the man of the hour for Cork in their 1970 Munster semi-final win over Tipperary. In a July game at Clonmel he set himself well on the road to ranking as top scorer in the South that year with 1-10. In the Munster final, the talented dual-Cork player boosted his record to 3-14,

● TO PAGE 15

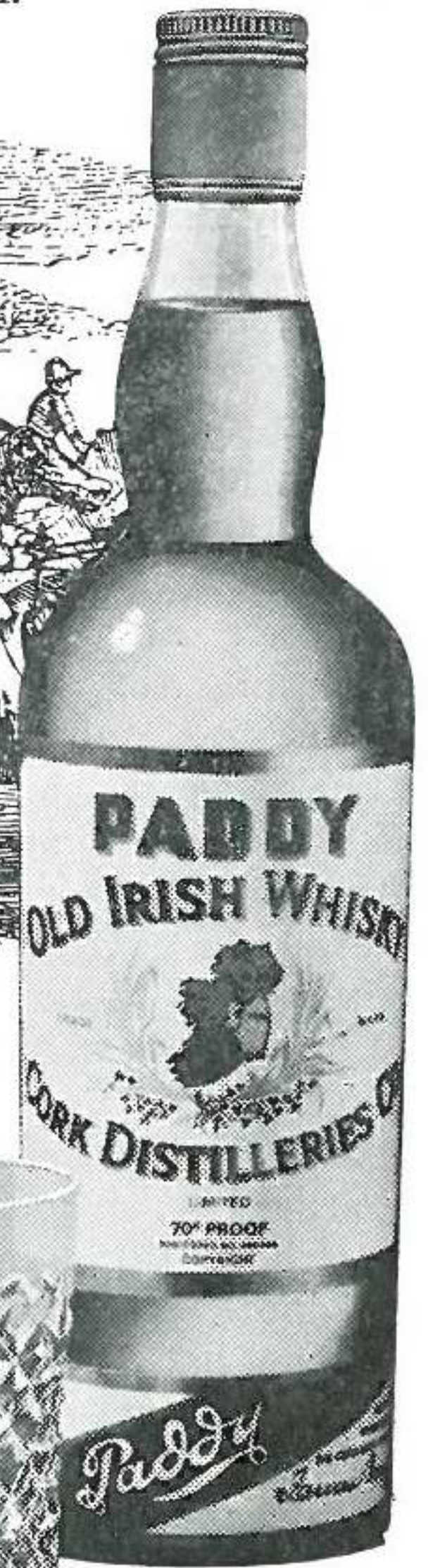
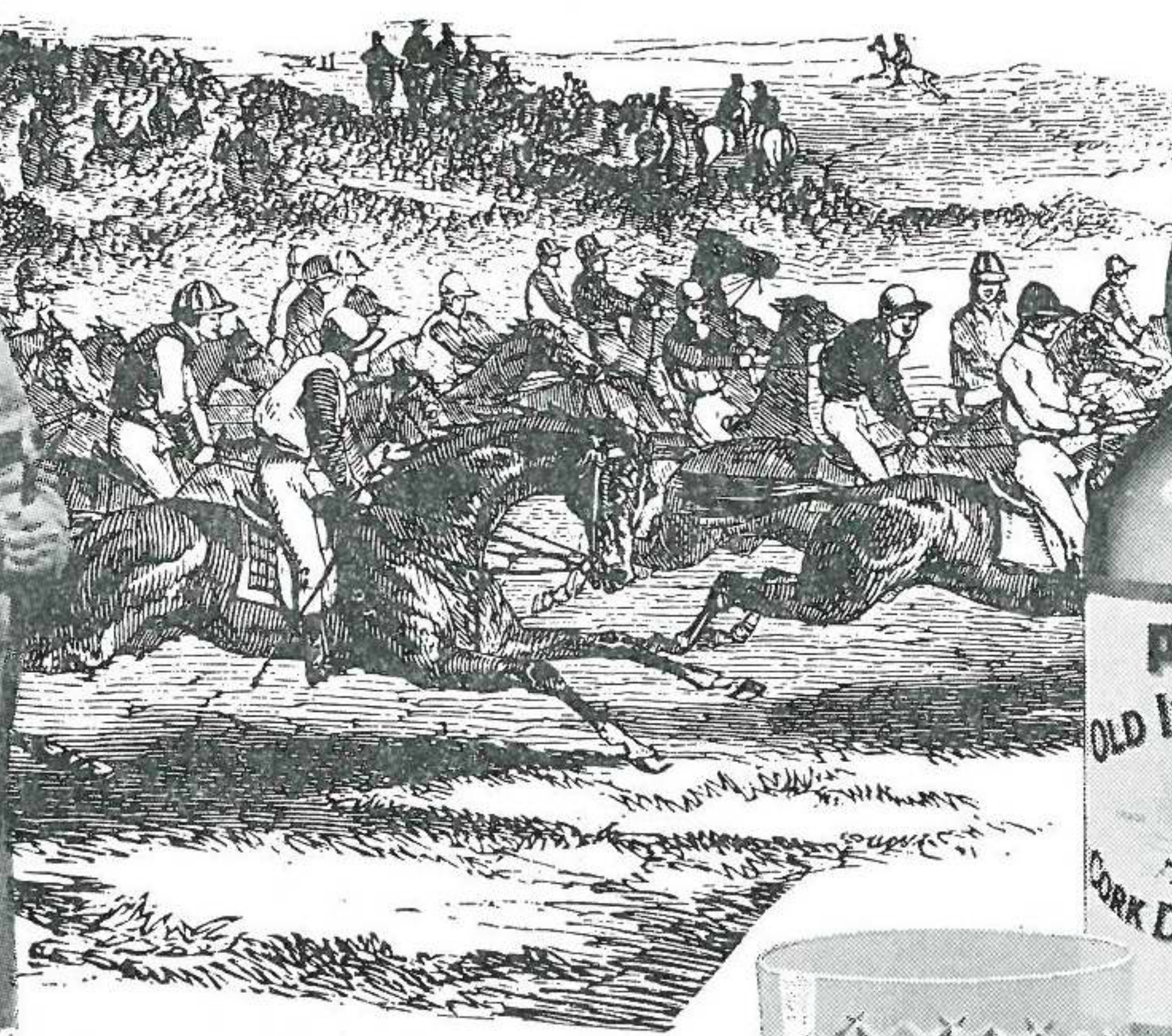
# The Internationals

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International winnings by Irish-bred horses have mounted steadily with the years and with the enormous increase in stakes. In the last decade, Irish horses have won their owners over £2 million annually.

Ireland, home of great horses, is host to an international array of owners. German, French, English, Indian, Japanese and Americans have stud farms here as well as the incomparable holdings of the late Aga Khan.



## Paddy The Thoroughbred



● FROM PAGE 13

the best in the South in the past five campaigns.

Special mention here must also be made of 2-5 by Mick Tynan in a Limerick first round win over Tipperary at Limerick in May, 1966.

Paddy Molloy, the Offaly hurler, comes back into the picture again with 8-15 (39 points) in three games, or a thundering 13 points a game in 1969—the high-point for a full season's provincial campaign since 1968.

Last year, Charlie McCarthy (Cork) scored 3-25 (34 points) in four Munster games, and Eddie Keher (Kilkenny) was in close pursuit with 4-19 (31 points) in three games.

Keher has headed the Leinster table for the last two years, while the last Wexford man to win the premier spot was Ned Buggy with a modest enough 1-15 in two games in 1970.

Richie Bennis (Limerick) put his county into the honours with 2-25 in three games in 1971, and we have to go back to 1964, surprisingly enough, for Tipperary's last chart leading year. Jimmy Doyle had the distinction with 1-10 in two games.

In Leinster football, Tony McTague has only once led the way. He had his best year in the province in 1970, when four appearances yielded a harvest of 1-28.



● MICHAEL KEARINS of Sligo — fine scoring feats for his county and for Connacht.



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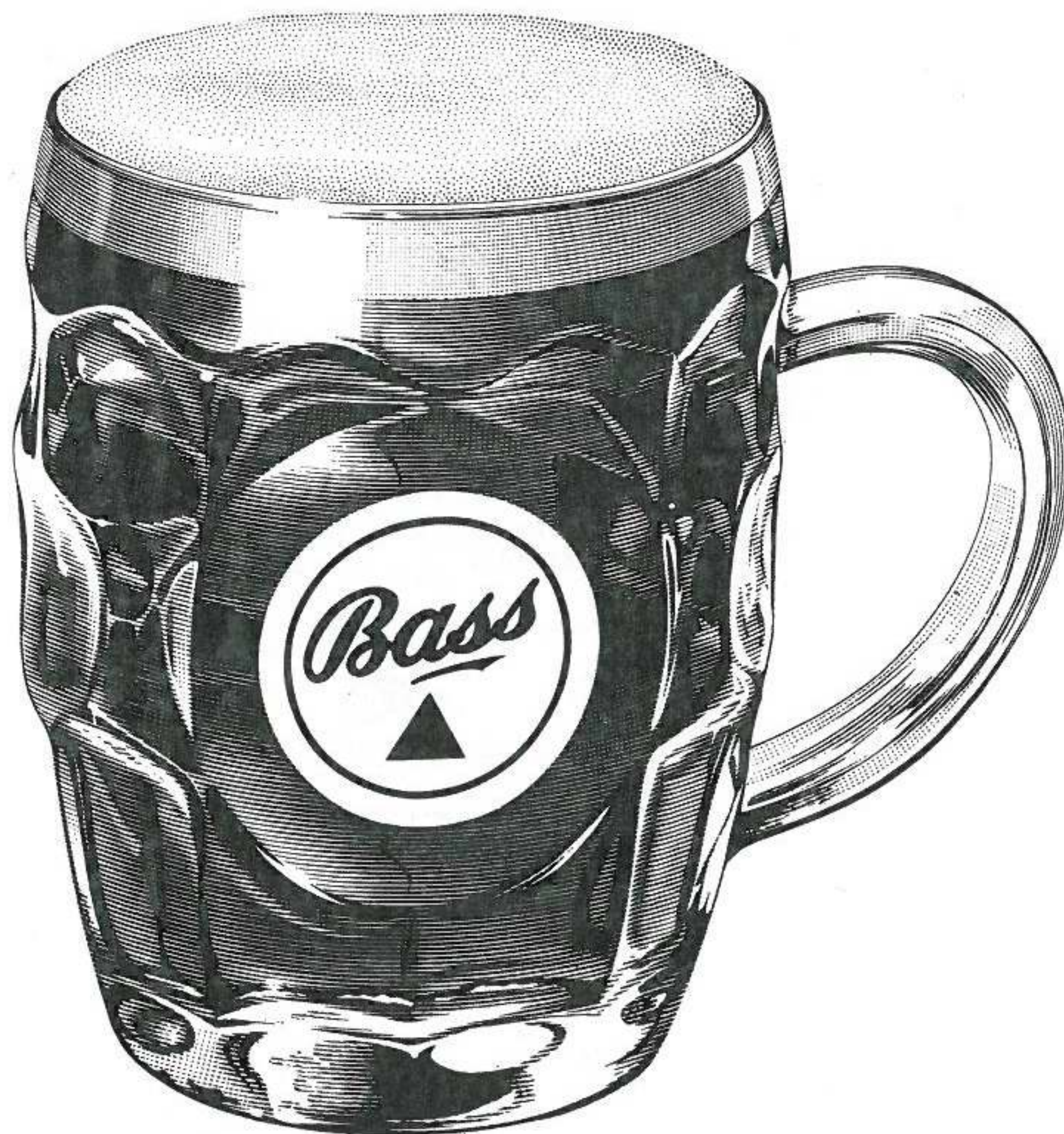
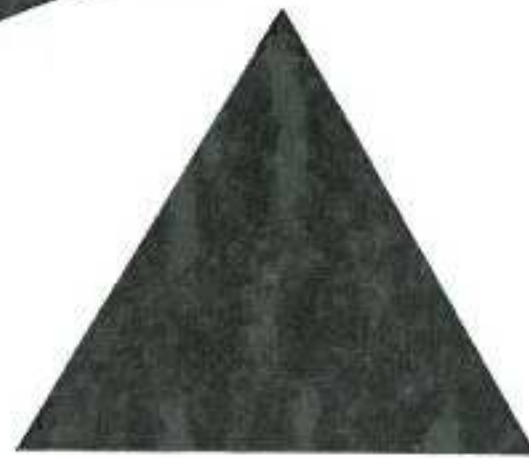
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# Kildare—the team to beat this year!



● Pat Mangan

**“ONCE the players”, quoting Pat Mangan, “have confidence, which I would say is the case now, then we will be a match for any team in the country”. Fighting words coming from Kildare’s new team manager on their championship hopes for 1973.**

No one knows better than Mangan the sorrow, and the agony that he shared over the past decade in playing with Kildare. Hailed as one of the great players of the decade, he has done more service for Kildare football—on the field—than any other individual.

A member of the brilliant 1965 under-21 side that was hailed as the next senior All-Ireland champions, he alone rose to that challenge. Say’s Pat:

“People tended to take it for granted that we would win the senior title almost immediately.” But it never materialised.

Instead, this harvest yielded only heartbreak not only for the players, but also for the unfortunate supporters! The years rolled steadily on, unrelenting in its harbouring of the prizes. Those were the barren years. Beaten in the Leinster final of ’67 by Meath, who incidentally, went on to win the All-Ireland, as did Offaly, who, in ’71 and ’72 also beat them in the Leinster final.

It became a national mystery, an enigma why this team never clicked. “Football,” says Mangan, “was then at its lowest ebb.”

But this year there is a strong consensus of opinion that this is Kildare’s year. In doing so they must overcome the team hailed as the finest in the land for this,

**By**  
**PAT MOONEY**

or any other year. In short they must overcome their old rivals—Offaly.

They have set about it in a logical and practical manner. Pat Mangan was appointed team manager, with two other selectors. Soon after that came the announcement that Irish athlete, Frank Murphy, had agreed to train them

However, their dismal league form has not dampened their hopes or aspirations for the championship. This year there is this feeling, not only among the players but the people in the county that there is real hope, not just a blind feeling.

Spurred on by the great performance of last year’s Under 21’s who reached the All-Ireland semi-finals, only to be beaten by Kerry, this present side includes an equal balance of youth and experience, enthusiasm and tact.

Brilliant young players such as Denis Dalton, Ray Sullivan and Brian Doherty are now claiming a permanent place at senior level, while experienced players, like Mangan himself, ’keeper Ollie Crinnigan and forwards

Kevin Kelly and Tommy Carew are adding that vital flavour of experienced tact.

Says Mangan “The team now is beginning to believe in themselves especially the young players”. It is now noticeable that this belief stems right across, not only Kildare, but in other pockets of football as well. Sources have whispered that Kildare are the team to beat especially around “the Banner County”!

Kildare meet the fancied Longford in their first championship encounter. This time the players are really looking forward to playing together, such is the team spirit as opposed to previous years.

But there is still that little feeling of the bubble bursting. I believe that it is as much a psychological problem as it is a football problem. I remember a certain boxer named Norton believing he could humble the great Ali—remember what happened! As the fellow said—“it’s all in the mind.”

So this is the problem that Kildare, and Mangan in particular have not only to overcome, but to substitute a winning alternative. I believe they can produce such an alternative. They have all the ingredients — the players; the talent; and the supporters, but this year they have more—the confidence and the belief to make this their year.

Kildare are the team to beat. Not only in Leinster but outside it as well. Kildare has suffered long enough from inconsistency.



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# Top of the class

By NOEL COOGAN



● Seán O'Neill

**F**OLLOWING the momentous success of the Combined Universities selection in the 1973 Railway Cup football competition, I decided to have a look through the record books and find out the fine players who represented the Universities in the past.

The first such combination lined out against the Rest of Ireland at Croke Park on February 26, 1950. This game became an annual event right through the 'fifties. The fixture was played every year without fail up to 1958. In 1959 it was not held because of re-construction work at Croke Park. The sequence was resumed in the first year of the 'sixties.

Then in 1961 the Combined Universities re-appeared with the Army as their opponents. The following year the Rest of Ireland were again the opposition. But in 1963 Kerry played the Universities in a game which marked the ending of these representative games.

**March 24, 1963 was in fact the last time that the Universities of Ireland combined as a football team until they were admitted into the Railway Cup this year.**

Now let's glance back at their performances and general personnel in the 'fifties and early 'sixties. In their debut in 1950 the Rest of Ireland proved too good on the score of 1-12 to 2-3. Notable players on the C.U. side that year included Bill McQuillan (Roscommon), Nick Redmond (Wexford), P. J. Duke (Cavan), Padraig Carney (Mayo), Jim Brosnan (Kerry), Peter Solan

(Mayo) and Edwin Carolan (Cavan). The "Rest" were powered by stars of the calibre of Paddy O'Brien (Meath), Sean Quinn (Armagh), Brian Smyth (Meath), Tony Tighe and Peter O'Donohoe (Cavan).

In 1951 the Combined Universities did so much better, failing by just a single point on the score of 0-9 to 0-10. That year the great Sean Purcell of Galway made his debut for them at midfield where he teamed up with Jim Brosnan.

1952 and '53 also saw Ireland come out on top by 2-4 to 1-5 and 4-10 to 0-7 respectively. The '53 Rest side was quite a formidable one and strange to relate both Purcell and Carney were on it. So were footballers of the calibre of Gerry O'Malley (Roscommon), John Cronin (Kerry), Mick Higgins (Cavan), Ollie Freaney (Dublin) and Tom Langan (Mayo).

**However, 1954 saw the Combined Universities gain their first ever victory in the series, winning on the score of 2-8 to 1-8.**

Among the stars of that successful side were Aidan Brady (Roscommon), John McKnight (Armagh), Denis Bernard (Cork), Sean Murphy (Kerry), P. J. McElroy (Down), Kevin Heffernan (Dublin), plus Gerry O'Malley and Ollie Freaney, both of whom had helped Ireland to win the previous year.

The Collegemen again proved superior in 1955. Winning by 1-10 to 2-5. This time Sean Purcell was at full back for them once again.

In '56 and '57 Ireland had a two-in-a-row, coming out on top by 2-14 to 3-10 and 3-10 to 3-6. Then in 1958 the Universities got back on the winning trail with a 0-12 to 0-10 victory. On the successful side that year was the legendary Mick O'Connell at left half forward. Also on that team were Jack Mahon (Galway), Jim McDonnell (Cavan), Sean Moore (Cork) and Paudie Sheehy (Kerry).

Ireland regained the honours in 1960 with a 4-5 to 3-2 success, but '61 was the Universities year with a convincing 2-10 to 1-7 win over the Army. Among their stars then were Martin Newell (Galway), Pat Donnellan (Galway), Dave Geaney (Kerry) and Sean Donnelly (Longford). The Universities turned up trumps again in 1962 beating Ireland by 1-8 to 0-6. At right half forward on that side was the great Sean O'Neill of Down.

1963 saw the Combined Universities bow out after losing to Kerry on the score of 1-7 to 4-7. On that losing team were Enda Colleran (Galway), Kevin Coffey (Kerry), Mick Fleming (Kerry) and Frankie McFeeley (Donegal).

In putting together the best combined universities players of that era I have come up with the following combination: A. Brady; S. Murphy, D. Bernard, J. McKnight; G. O'Malley, J. Mahon, M. Newell; P. Carney, M. O'Connell; S. O'Neill, S. Purcell, P. Sheehy; J. Brosnan, O. Freaney, K. Heffernan. Quite a formidable combination, you must agree.



● *OLLIE WALSH — sees little future for the Wembley Games.*

# MOST PLAYERS WANT THE WEMBLEY GAMES TO GO ON

By  
**JOHN  
O'SHEA**  
*(of the  
Evening  
Press)*

have been there eight times, and I can tell you I would not have returned after the first occasion except that I have sisters in London, whom I wanted to see.

I'm also reasonably sure that the London folk don't give a continental about Wembley at Whit. As for the matches themselves, there is no bite in them, no needle, and usually the players are taking things easy.

The only way Wembley would be a success is if you could stage say the National League semi-finals or some important event there. And would the Irish based fans stand for that? Not on your life.

### **PAT MANGAN :**

The move to bring the All Stars to Wembley was a master stroke. From a players point of view it was marvellous in that it gave the player from less prominent Gaelic counties a chance he might never have got with his own team. And, of course, it provided the public with a unique treat.

I have never found anything wrong with the Wembley games, and am always looking forward to playing there. Talk that they should be scrapped is ridiculous: they are immensely popular.

### **JOHN MORLEY :**

My only crib with Wembley is that the pitch is not suitable for a proper match: it's too small.

**W**HAT does the future have in store for the annual Whit games at Wembley? When they were initiated some fifteen years ago, they were hugely welcomed by players and spectators alike.

But in recent years, it appears the games have lost some of their appeal: the crowds have dwindled from over 50,000 to less than 20,000, while certain players have come out against the staging of this London Gaelic showpiece.

Yet, the bulk of the players with whom I discussed Wembley and its future as a G.A.A. venue at Whit were of the opinion that the event was serving a useful purpose, and should be fostered.

Here we print a selection of these views :

### **PADDY GRACE :**

I think it's a nice trip. It's very handy, the lads don't have to get off from work, and they can pack quite a bit into the week-end.

I would stress that it's primarily a trip. Who actually wins the games is not really all that important. Yet I would like them to use teams from different provinces against each other. This might inject a bit of competition into the matches.

### **OLLIE WALSH :**

I see little future for the Wembley games. I'm convinced the lads are not interested in playing there. The trip is too short. I



● *WEMBLEY STADIUM as it looked from the air, when the annual tournament of Gaelic Games started there in 1958. The roof of the Stadium has since been extended to cover all spectator accommodation.*

Yet I have found the trip a most enjoyable one, and I can honestly say that Mayo have always played as well as they were capable when in action there.

Wembley is the mecca for the host of Gaelic games followers in and around the London area at this time of year. Accordingly I would hate to see the games abandoned, as these people obviously derive a good deal of pleasure from them.

As regards a competitive element, I don't see any reason for it. The enthusiasts come along to watch Gaelic games being played by top class players, and this satisfies them. It might work out even better if the organisers ensured that they invited the most attractive teams in the country each year.

#### **PADDY FENNING**

London and America are the two trips open to Gaelic games players nowadays. Consequently I'm all for keeping both very much alive.

It's difficult to know why the 'gates' have been falling in London. Perhaps they don't advertise the games as they should. But whatever they do, they can never inject a note of competitiveness into the proceedings as the players are on a trip and will not treat the game as seriously as if it were a championship one.

#### **MARTIN QUIGLEY :**

I never played in Wembley, and am looking forward to the experience. When all is said and done, it's a trip, and players get precious little out of the game, so why stop it. I'm all for the Wembley games going ahead.

I agree they are not as competitive as perhaps they should be but there is no obvious answer to that. The visit of the All Stars though should prove tremendously attractive, since so many counties will be represented.

#### **RAY CAROLAN :**

The event is really geared for

the Irish people living in England and to that end it seems to be successful.

I do not agree that the lads take things easy and have a careless attitude about the games. The standard has always been reasonably high.

It's up to the organisers to ensure that the teams invited will provide entertaining fare. From a players viewpoint I would not like to see the tournament discontinued.

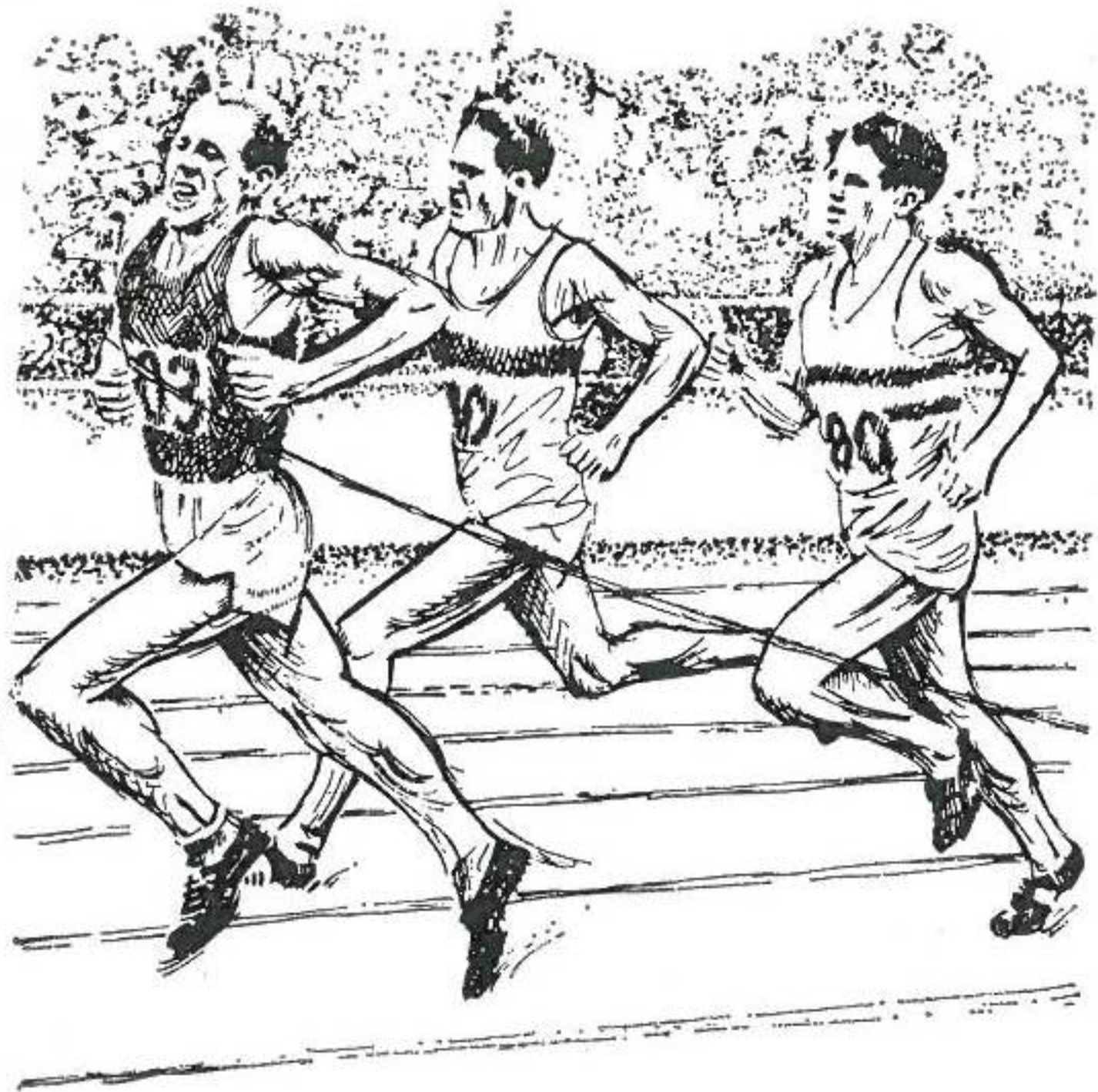
#### **MICK DWYER :**

The idea of staging the entire programme on the same day is a good one: it should create a lot more interest among the spectators. I don't see any way a competitive element might be introduced, after all the lads are over there for a few days break.

The organisers seem to be quite happy with the way things are going, so I say, why change it? The players appear to get a kick out of it too.

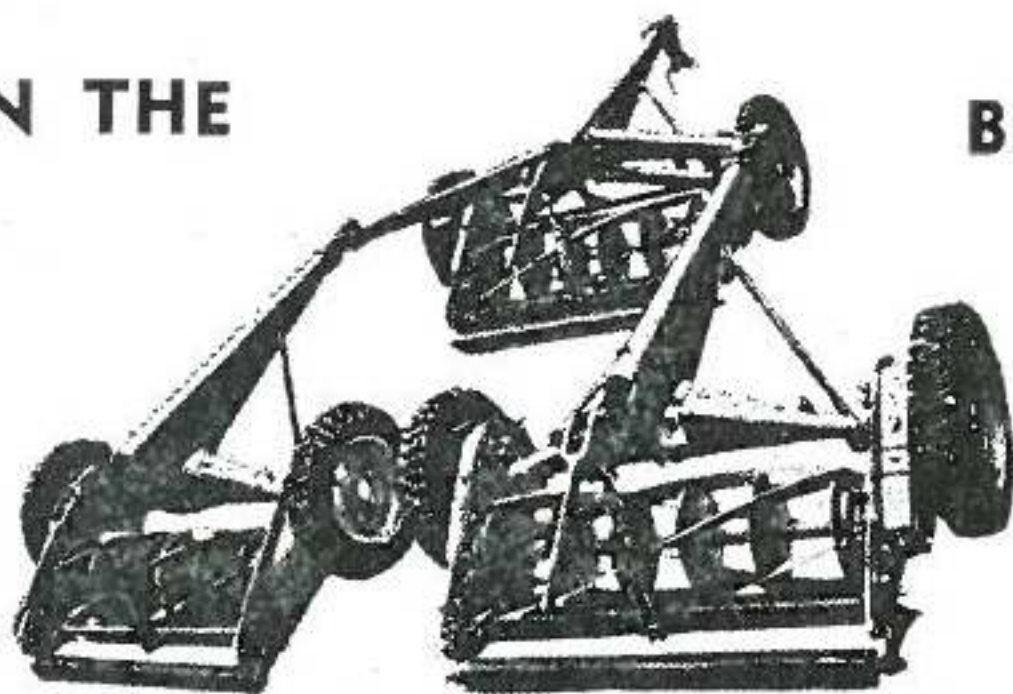
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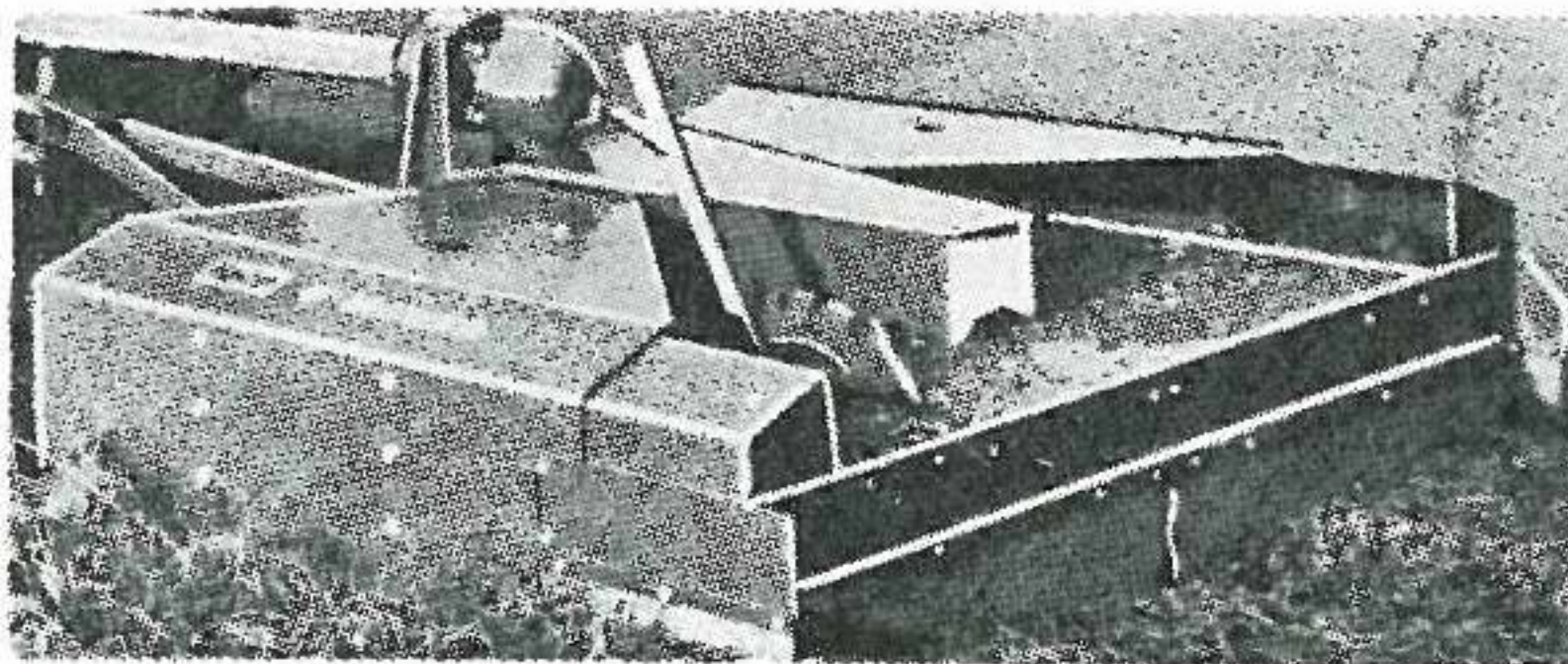
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## HYPOCRITICAL ELOQUENCE

By ALLEYMAN

**THE** misplacement of priorities in relation to handball is one of the big deficiencies of the modern G.A.A. We speak of the promotion of our games with obvious hypocritical eloquence, for frankly handball is not getting a look in.

In the rule book it takes its place on a parallel with hurling and football—in actual practice there are less than a dozen G.A.A. Clubs who attempt to promote the game. Then, in this developing age of social centres we have the position of clubs who are stating that in their plans provision will be made for such extras as squash and basketball.

It is hard to reconcile this thinking, for it immediately cuts across the ideal of providing for one of our own games. It is thus pertinent to ask the question—where, precisely, does handball stand in relation to the Association.

The answer to this question must be given loud and clear by the chief administrators of the G.A.A. The message must come clearly that the analogy between handball and the G.A.A. is not merely theoretical.

If this is not done, it is obvious that the attitude of mere tolerance by the vast majority of G.A.A. officials to handball will degenerate to the state where handball will follow rounders out of the official Guide.

It is not a course that one would favour at this stage, but unfortunately it could automatically evolve if the parent body, in its broadest sense, is not prepared to nurture its thriving but forgotten child.

The main points to consider are status, finance and administration.

It could be argued that, while handball gets passive recognition at top level, a real effort has never been made to embrace it as a useful and viable entity under the broad umbrella of the G.A.A.

In his annual report, which was presented to delegates at the Congress in Cork recently General Secretary Joe Lynch substantiates the point.

**"The stage has been reached", he stated, "when the G.A.A. as a whole, will have to spell out clearly the position of handball within the Association."**

**"If the sport is to be really developed, then there must be a full commitment from all units of the G.A.A."**

**"It is of the utmost importance that action be taken immediately as to-morrow may well be too late."**

It appears obvious that there is, not only an obligation on the G.A.A. for a statement of policy, but a determined effort to ensure that it is implemented.

This will obviously affect the terms of reference of the various departments which will be formed at Headquarters in the near future, especially in the line of public relations, development and activities.

As for the G.A.A. Credit Scheme, it would appear that its first priority in determining grants, would be towards the unit fully committed to the development of all games under the scope of the G.A.A.

The Handball Court must be first in the line of additional recreational facilities. By the same token, a big injection of finance for capital investment is also a priority.

The G.A.A. Central Council does provide a certain sum for this purpose at the present time, but it is only minimal as regards total handball requirements. As a result, clubs who have of necessity, to operate on tight budgets, are only providing themselves with the minimum essentials in court construction.

A little extra revenue could bridge the gap that divides them from the modern sportsman, who wants his game garnished with the most modern facilities.

It is of course, ludicrous to suggest that the time is not long overdue when the game needs at least one full-time administrator plus a few part-time officials.

This is not an indictment of the efforts being made at present—suffice it to say that they far surpass the normal demands of voluntary endeavour.

Today, modern handball stands proudly. It has weathered many storms successfully, made considerable progress in Ireland and, broken fervently on the international scene.

Handball is on the verge of entering the major games category. It has, and can continue to be a decided asset to the G.A.A. both as a game and a shop window on the international front.

**If the G.A.A. is really serious about promoting handball let them show it by some positive action—NOW.**

## Well practised in the skills of chairmanship

By Moondharrig

**DR. DONAL KEENAN** comes from Elphin, and in case you don't know it, that is the part of the country where they say a male child is brought from his christening to kick a ball in the Orchard Park. At least that is the way Michael O'Callaghan puts it, and what Michael doesn't know about Roscommon football isn't worth knowing. Didn't they make him Chairman of the County Board when Donal Keenan retired to flex up his muscles for the Presidential race.

Of course Donal Keenan in his childhood would have less difficulty in getting to Orchard Park than the rest of the Elphin lads. Wasn't the same Orchard Park right at the back of his boyhood home?

And yet, though his prowess was much talked of in his earliest days, when he first lined out in a championship, it was not with Elphin at all, but with a junior club in the same parish, Tully, and what was more, on that first competitive appearance, the young Keenan did not set the football world on fire.

About twelve months later, in a senior county final, Elphin took the chance of playing Donal Keenan at left half-forward.

That was his first ever senior football match, and with better

luck than he had any right to expect, he helped Elphin to a very comfortable victory. A few months after that, Dan O'Rourke, then Roscommon County chairman, with his Presidency of the G.A.A. nearly ten years ahead of him, insisted that Donal Keenan be given a run on the inter-county team. They tried him, at left half-forward, and he was to hold the post for a dozen years.

Roscommon was graded junior on the football fields in those days, of course, but they had no intention of remaining in that lowly status.

In 1939 the County won the Connacht junior championship, but failed in the All-Ireland final. In 1940 they battled their way back to the All-Ireland final again, went all the way this

time, with Donal Keenan a star of their attack and have been in senior grade ever since.

Everyone knows by now that Donal Keenan was among the leading scorers in Roscommon's All-Ireland victories in senior ranks in 1943 and 1944. But it is not always mentioned that he won four Connacht senior medals in all, regularly played for the province in the Railway Cup, and captained U.C.D. to victory the first time the students ever won the Dublin Title.

Having seen Donal Keenan right through his football career, there are two things about him that I can vouch for. He had an amazing turn of speed, and the most accurate left foot in the game. And he was equally accurate both from play and from placed balls. He was always fit—oddly enough he does not look all that much heavier nowadays—and though he seemed slight of build for top-class football, I never saw him bull-dozened out of a game. Some used to believe, as well, that, in moments of stress, he had a pretty sharp elbow to see him through.

He told me one time that only

# the ship



● Dr. Donal Keenan

once had he ever played anywhere else for Roscommon except left half-forward. That was in his last year of active service, when he moved in to the left full-forward position. As he put it himself, "it was on my way to the sideline".

But don't think that Donal Keenan will be solely a players' President. After all, if he was a dozen years in senior inter-county football, he was also for fifteen years Chairman of Roscommon County Board, three years Chairman of Connacht Council, and has been a member of every important G.A.A. Central Council body, including the old Executive and the Special Commission.

So as player and Executive and Administrator, Donal Keenan has more than 30 years of experience behind him, and indeed, one doubts if any man ever came to the Presidency with better all-round qualifications.

There is one aspect of course, that some people will query. Can a busy medical practitioner spare the time that the many duties of being President entail at the moment.

There are two answers to that.

The demands on his time cannot be any more demanding now than when he was Chairman of Roscommon Board, Chairman of Connacht Council, a member of the Executive, and a member of the Commission all at one and the same time. In fact the demands on him must be less.

Secondly I believe that he will delegate a lot of the more routine appearances, at such matters as club dinners and the like to the four vice-Presidents who, one imagines, will be quite willing to shoulder their fair share of such duties whether within or without their own provinces.

Finally, Dr. Keenan may not have the same fluency of speech as Pat Fanning.

After all there are only two other men in Ireland who can compete with the Mount Sion man when it comes to an effortless flow of lucid, fast and thoughtful eloquence. Bishop Eamonn Casey of Kerry, and Foreign Minister Garret Fitzgerald.

But Donal Keenan says what he wants to say, and says it with a minimum of decoration, and he is well practised in all the skills

of chairmanship, as a few delegates to Congress, who may have hoped to take advantage of his innocence, soon discovered.

Congress itself was of course, pretty uneventful. It could not be otherwise coming so soon after the Special Congress and the adoption of the Commission's Recommendations. But it had its moments, especially on the social side.

The singers, the dancers and the musicians, especially on the Sunday night entertainment were well worth travelling the length of Ireland to hear, and for me what a nostalgic moment when Tommy Keane sang. After all, the first time I had heard that wonderful voice was when he sang at a reception for the Waterford hurling team on the night of the All-Ireland final in 1938 at the Dublin Mansion House.

Finally, Nicholas MacCraith and his Committee did their Board, their City and their County proud in all their Congress Organisations. Everything went without a hitch after we got the loud-speaker system adjusted on the first day, and everybody concerned is entitled to take a well-earned bow.



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**D 134**

# Concerned that football should be better game

By JAY DRENNAN

DR. Donal Keenan cruised briskly with a strong following breeze into the Presidential enclosure at the Waterford Congress. A new man for a new time and a new set of challenges. A man of courage who does not bat an eyelid at the prospect of taking up the President's job left aside by O Fainin whose term bore such a rosy glow. But, it would not be Keenan's idea that he should endeavour to follow the line of the previous occupant: he realises that his gifts are different, and in the kind of whirlwind of activity that Fanning revelled he would be lost.

He is a less assertive, less physically exuberant man, who makes no great mark in the crowd or in the hurly-burly, but whose quiet, steadfast, firm clarity makes him stand out in the most select company and in the backrooms of decision.

We shall, perhaps, expect less flamboyance from his term; less innovation, less daring. But, then, that is just what is necessary now. You cannot go from thrill to thrill, or from high point to high point: even a county or club team may for a few years hit all the high spots one after another with scarcely a valley period between, but, in the end, unless the solid groundwork was being done to support the great achievements, that team will fall away and drift into obscurity with never a high spot in prospect.

The Association has been re-structured; the modern model has been carved and set up for inspection, and the working model is now in operation. The architects and the planners, the engineers and surveyors have had their day and have taken their deserved bow. Now it is up to the artisans and craftsmen to carry their plans and drawings into effect. Dr. Keenan is, perhaps, an ideal choice, therefore.

His concern, one suspects, will be to make sure that the new systems work; that the new plans will bear fruit. He will certainly be concerned that with the Association's new framework, the games will get more than normal attention to bring them to a peak of greater perfection. He has intentions for hurling; and he is concerned that football should be a better game.

Quietly, then, but firmly, and with a degree of

foresight that will surprise many, one expects Dr. Keenan to set the G.A.A. into top speed along the road into the '70s and '80s that has been built in the last Presidency.

For the moment, let us not over-scrutinise his words or expressed intentions until he has had time to settle into the most onerous job in Ireland—carried out part-time, as a labour of love as it is. Instead, a glance back at the left-legged, gangling young man whose spot-on accuracy from frees was one of the great weapons in the armoury of the great Roscommon team of the first half of the '40s.

It was interesting to hear T. P. O'Reilly pay tribute to Donal Keenan on his selection, and reminisce gently over their playing days when, as he said, Keenan often had the upper hand over T.P. and his Cavan colleagues. For, indeed, it was over Cavan—and after a replay—that Roscommon gained their first All-Ireland in 1943, and it was against Cavan in the following year's semi-final that they played one of the finest games ever by that side when racing to a 5-8 to 1-3 victory.

A host of exciting names come back to mind; Jimmy Murray, of course, the little god of those years and a man of remarkable character in captaincy and leadership; massive Bill Carlos, then a mere youth, powerful Brendan Lynch, elegant Phelim Murray; long and indefatigable Eamonn Boland and Liam Gilmartin; needle-sharp Frankie Kinlough; bustling Derry McDermott and bounding Jack McQuillan; gritty Bill Jackson; resourceful Owensie Hoare. And so many more . . . not to forget John Joe Fallon, the original roving full-forward.

It is good to see an outstanding player in the chair, who brings with him all the goodwill which a splendid playing record must mean to the man's starting prestige. There have not been as many top performers as one would imagine who later gained the Presidency. One would like to think that one of the new President's achievements will be to convince more and more retiring players that they owe much to the Association and persuade them that they have much to give and have the obligation to give it. It is among the willing workers that the possible weakness exists now.

**By MICK DUNNE (of R.T.E. Sport)**

**S**ELECTORS in every sport are resigned to the fact that no matter what they do they will not please everybody. So the sports journalists who pick the Carroll's All-Star hurling and football teams would have been more than surprised if the teams we picked over the past two years were greeted with widespread acclamation.

When we set about picking the teams public approval for our choices is the farthest thing from our minds. Over very lengthy selection sessions—there has not been a short one, yet—our sole objective is to honour the men we believe to be the outstanding ones in a particular year. But with over 100 nominations and all of these very worthy players, it is not an easy task.

The system of selection is fairly well known, I think. Thirty sports journalists, representing the national and provincial newspapers and the broadcasting services, first send in their nominations. This is to ensure that no player deserving of consideration would be overlooked. Then 11 of us sit down to pick the actual teams. Up to now, this has been done in September and October.

We believe this to be the most workable system. But there have, of course, been other suggestions. Some say there is a danger of the selectors being over-influenced by performances in the closing stages of the All-Ireland championships; others maintain that a points-system—similar to the Top Ten feature in this magazine—should be used to choose the leading ten or 12 players of the years . . . and this might include, say, two goal-keepers or two or three full-forwards.

For my part, I believe that at the climax of a long, gruelling playing-season and when the pressures are most severe—in the All-Ireland semi-finals or finals—it is a greater achievement to excel than in the relatively less

intense atmosphere of the first or second round of the championships. Finally, the selection of a team rather than a rating-list is consistent with the desire to honour the leading players in each position.

However, journalists, seeing so many matches throughout the year, may find that an outstanding performance, which impressed them so much in March or April, may fade in their memories by October—especially if the player who gave such a display is unlucky enough to be on a side dismissed early from the championship. Therefore, a mid-season review of displays is a helpful guide and the selection of the substitutes for the Wembley trip last month gave us an opportunity to do this. So we now have a list of players who turned in worthwhile performances in the first four months of the playing year. This list will be at hand when the '73 All-Stars are being picked next Autumn.

Up to now we have always regretted that the teams we pick

do not actually play a match. When the teams go to San Francisco they line-out without the All-Stars from the All-Ireland champion counties and this year this meant seven Offaly men dropping out and six from Kilkenny. Many hurling and football followers have also expressed a regret that they cannot see the All-Stars in action together, and these regrets were among the reasons which prompted us to offer the All-Stars to the London Co. Board for their annual Wembley Stadium tournament. The fact that the matches are televised live by RTE gives the public here at home a chance of watching the Carroll's All-Stars—and on this score, I might add, that the selectors are grateful to Tipperary and Kerry for releasing their All-Stars to play against their fellow countymen.

As I wrote in this magazine last month the trips to California are definitely on again next year, but it is unlikely that any change will be made in the set-up, since the United Irish Societies, who organise the San Francisco visit,

## **ST. PATRICK'S DAY TESTS FOR THE CARROLL'S ALL-STARS?**

are anxious to have the All-Ireland champions, although I believe that consideration has been given to the Carroll's All-Stars playing Rest of Ireland selections.


But how about that happening here at home? There can be no doubt but the Railway Cup competitions are finished as a public attraction and prominent G.A.A. officials are convinced they must think about some other games for St. Patrick's Day. The inclusion of the Universities has done nothing for the Railway Cup competitions as far as improving their appeal is concerned and this year's 10,500 attendance on March 17 is the second lowest in the competition.

Not everyone would agree with the abandonment of the Railway Cups, but next year the G.A.A. has a chance of having the best of both worlds, as it were. Since St. Patrick's Day falls on a Sunday in '74, the following day will be a public holiday. So why not run-off the Railway Cup finals on the Monday and keep St. Patrick's Day for hurling and football exhibitions between the Carroll's All-Stars and Rest of Ireland teams. It's certainly worth experimenting with . . . and the gate receipts could be devoted to the G.A.A.'s Club Development Scheme.

Who would pick the Rest of Ireland teams? The Management Committee could nominate the selectors from prominent G.A.A. officials—for example, a representative of each of the counties reaching the All-Ireland semi-finals with an independent chairman. These five-man selection committees could then choose their teams from all the players who did not get on the 1973 Carroll's All-Stars sides. Imagine the incentive for the players next St. Patrick's Day—the Rest of Ireland players wanting to show why they should have gained All-Star awards and the All-Stars themselves equally anxious to vindicate their selections.

As I said, it's certainly worth a try.

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# Cork proposal started Railway Cup series

THE present Railway Cup series came into existence as a result of a proposal from Cork County Board, at the All-Ireland Congress of 1926.

Interprovincial competition had, however, been in existence long before then. Actually, the first interprovincial clash took place thirty years earlier. It was one of the first occasions Irish players figured overseas — and became known as the G.A.A. "Invasion" of Britain.

The day was Whit Monday, 25th May, 1896, and the venue Stamford Bridge, London. Teams of hurlers, footballers and athletes appeared there—sent by the Central Council with the object of stimulating the spread of Irish games among the emigrants in England.

In football an Irish selection had an easy win over London's best, 3-15 to 0-3. The big interest, however, was in the hurling encounter—a first ever clash between the Irish provinces. It turned out a great exhibition of the code, well contested all the way, with Munster putting in a storming finish for victory: Munster 5-7, Leinster 2-8.

The Munster side included two world renowned athletes—John Flanagan and T. F. Kiely. To make the occasion really memorable Flanagan broke two world records with the Hammer in the Sports meeting which followed, whilst Kiely won the Long Jump in commanding style.

The Railways first became associated with inter-provincial competition in 1905, when the then Great Southern and West-

ern Railway presented two magnificent Shields to the Central Council for contest in hurling and football between the provinces. Three provinces — Connacht, Leinster and Munster participated.

The Shields were to be won twice in succession or three times in all, as was the general pattern with most trophies in those days. This happened in the case of the Shields quicker than most people expected—and was unfortunate for they provided some great games.

The football trophy had the shortest life. Leinster secured first possession when they beat Connacht 0-8 to 1-3, at Athlone, in the 1905 final, but Munster were successful in both 1906 and 1907 and so won the Shield outright. They beat Connacht 2-10 to 2-2 at Ennis in the 1906 final, and Leinster 1-7 to 1-6 at Tipperary the following year.

The initial hurling final was also played in Athlone, and in it Leinster beat Connacht 2-8 to 1-7.

The 1906 semi-final was a remarkable affair having to be played three times. The contestants were Leinster and Munster with Carrick-on-Suir the venue for all three meetings. The first day, September 23, the pair drew; the replay on November 11 was unfinished as darkness set in, but Munster won at the third meeting, 4-10 to 4-4. In the final, played at Ennis, Munster won easily from Connacht, 9-14 to 1-5.

Leinster gained absolute possession of the coveted Hurling

Shield by winning it both twice in succession and three times in all. They defeated Munster, 0-14 to 0-8, at Jones' Road in the 1907 final, and again by 2-8 to 1-5 at Kilkenny in the 1908 decider.

When the Tailteann Games were revived in 1924, interprovincial competition in hurling and football were re-introduced as part of its varied programme. Play was most attractive and aroused a lot of interest. The finals resulted—Hurling: Leinster 7-2, Munster 5-1. Football—Munster 1-5, Leinster 0-7.

It was Pdraic O'Keeffe, afterwards general secretary of the G.A.A., who as Cork delegate successfully moved the motion at the 1926 Congress for the re-establishment of the interprovincial championships. He also suggested that the finals be played on St. Patrick's Day, at Croke Park, as the most fitting way of honouring the national holiday in a truly Gaelic way.

Immediately following the Congress decision, the then Great Southern Railways re-established the old tradition of association with these competitions by offering the present Railway Cups for hurling and football, on a perpetual basis.

The first semi-finals of the new series were played in football, on 14th November, 1926. They were a huge success and very closely contested. At Ballinasloe Connacht beat Leinster, 1-4 to 1-3, and at Cavan, Munster overcame Ulster, 1-8 to 3-1. The hurling semi-final was played at Portlaoise the following Sunday, in



which Leinster beat Connacht, 7-6 to 3-5.

The first deciders were played at Croke Park on St. Patrick's Day, 1927, and got off to a magnificent start with one of the greatest hurling games, fit to rank with the best ever played. Leinster beat Munster in that classic, 1-11 to 2-6. In the football final, Munster beat Connacht, 2-3 to 0-5.

By their victory this year, Leinster won the hurling cup three times in succession for the first occasion. Munster won the hurling crown six years in a row between 1948 and 1953. In football, Leinster (1952-5) and Ulster (1963-6) share the honour of winning four years in succession.

Munster had St. Patrick's Day doubles on four occasions—1931, 1946, 1948 and 1949; a feat Leinster equalled in 1962, having previously won both titles in 1932, 1933 and 1954.

The amazing number of eighteen Railway Cup hurling medals were won by Christy Ring of Cork between 1942 and 1963. In football, the record is held by Sean O'Neill of Down, who collected eight medals between 1960 and 1971. Des Foley of Dublin is the only player to have won hurling and football medals the same afternoon—that was in 1962.

Of the forty-seven finals each in both hurling and football played since the 1927 revival, Munster head the table with thirty-nine wins, thirty-two in hurling, seven in football.

The Roll of Honour reads:

#### HURLING

##### Munster (thirty-two)

Years of victory—1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1934, 1935, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1955, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1963, 1966, 1968, 1969 and 1970.

#### Leinster (Fourteen)

Years of victory — 1927, 1932, 1933, 1936, 1941, 1954, 1956, 1962, 1964, 1965, 1967, 1971, 1972, 1973.

#### Connacht (One)

Year of victory—1947.

#### FOOTBALL

##### Leinster (Seventeen)

Years of victory — 1928, 1929, 1930, 1932, 1933, 1935, 1939, 1940, 1944, 1945, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1959, 1961, 1962.

#### Ulster (Thirteen)

Years of victory — 1942, 1943, 1947, 1950, 1956, 1960, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1968, 1970, 1971.

#### Connacht (Nine)

Years of victory — 1934, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1951, 1957, 1958, 1967, 1969.

#### Munster (Seven)

Years of victory — 1927, 1931, 1941, 1946, 1948, 1949, 1972.

#### Combined Universities (One)

Year of victory — 1973.

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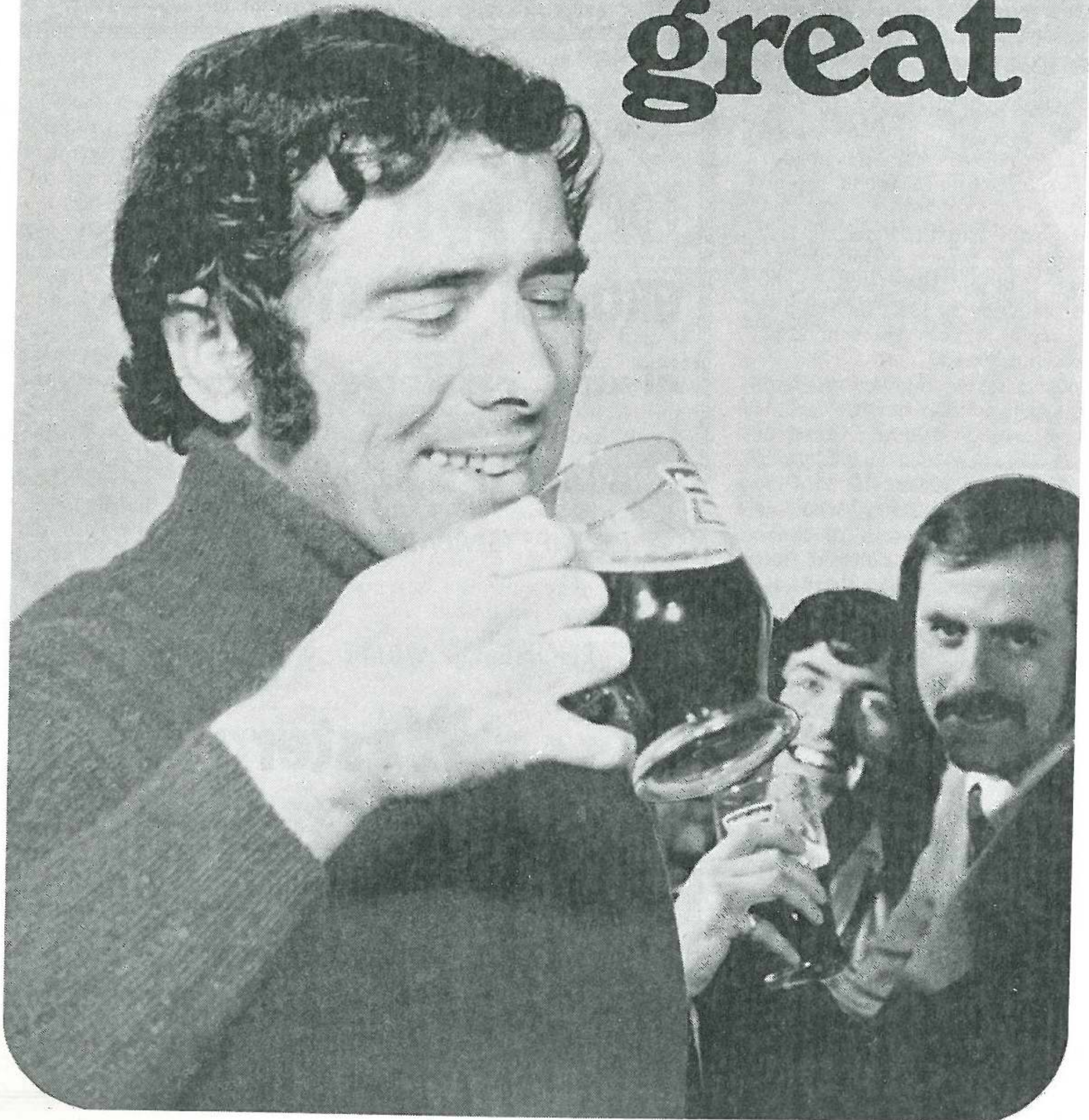
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# SAME AGAIN, PAT!

By Mitchell Allen

**T**HIS 'into Europe' business is affecting everything and everybody. Having noted the title of our article you can take it for granted that we're not going to give you a run-down on the relative merits of white wine or red, or a quick course in French telling you what just what just d'ananas means. (Though if you must know, it means pineapple juice).

No, the country hasn't switched to European drinking habits but what most of the suppliers and manufacturers tell us, with beaming smiles, is that they're feeling the effects of increased prosperity within the farming community which has come partly as a result of our entry into E.E.C. Remote spots in the West and North-West, not to mention the Dingle Peninsula are areas which have always been associated with poverty. The going is still tough in a lot of them but it has eased somewhat and there is just that little bit of extra money around which enables people to spend something on enjoyment once in a while, both for themselves and their children. In the more prosperous areas drink consumption isn't dramatically up, or anything like that, but what they call the children's sector is growing apace. The kids are sucking, swallowing, gurgling away and generally disposing of more fizzy drinks than they ever did. And devil a bit of harm it does them.

You might be inclined to see the influence of Europeanisation

in the fact that Guinness's report that many of us are now confirmed Smithwick's drinkers. Seven years ago, the Smithwick brewery in Kilkenny was on the verge of closing down which would have meant a big drop in local employment. Today there's a brewery there which cost several million pounds to erect and which is thriving, fit to beat the band. Guinness's feel it's one of their best investments and it certainly makes its contribution to the prosperity of Kilkenny.

## WOMEN'S LIB

I'm not one of those women's liberationists who demands a draught pint of Guinness on principle, and then finds she isn't able to finish it. Being the thrifty type, I prefer to have a half-pint glass of draught stout and leave the pints to the men. They are, you may not be surprised to know, still quite satisfied with them. Today's difference is that more men drink but most of them drink less—if I've phrased that in a way you can follow.

The bottled stout has its devotees and many would say the bottle itself adds something to the drink. It's a theory which could have something going for it, because glass enhances the appearance of practically any drink. I can remember when I was very small, trying to count the rising bubbles in a bottle of my favourite fizzy drink—which was of course lemonade. The way the bottle sparkled in the light of the candles at a birthday party

made the lemonade much more exciting. The Irish Glass Bottle Co. carried out a survey to find out what was the manufacturers' favourite packaging material and glass headed the preferral list. Where soft drinks are concerned, it's the transparency of the glass which gives the biggest appeal—think of the exciting sunshine-y colour of orangeade. And then, of course, when a family-size bottle is to be divided up between several children, it's easier to arrange fair shares when you can see the level dropping as each drink is poured!

Glass as a packaging material is the most hygienic that exists and while one thinks of glass as expensive—maybe because it always **looks** so good even in the most ordinary bottle shape—it isn't really so.

Now that we're all getting concerned about our environment, it is useful to know that practically all the raw materials of glass are derived from natural sources and abundantly available at little expense. Sand, soda ash and limestone are the main ingredients and another is 'cullet' or broken glass. So it makes very good sense to send back the empties because eventually they'll go back to the Irish Glass Bottle Co. to be reprocessed. And glass can't leak, rot, grow mould on itself, putrify or pollute in any way. They say the non-returnable bottle is gaining ground but let's make a plea here for the return-

● TO PAGE 35

# The see-through revolution

Luxury glass is pretty, pampered and shy. Working glass goes out into the busy world of supermarkets, stores and pubs, where people don't stand on ceremony. To succeed in business, you've got to be businesslike.

## Clear benefits

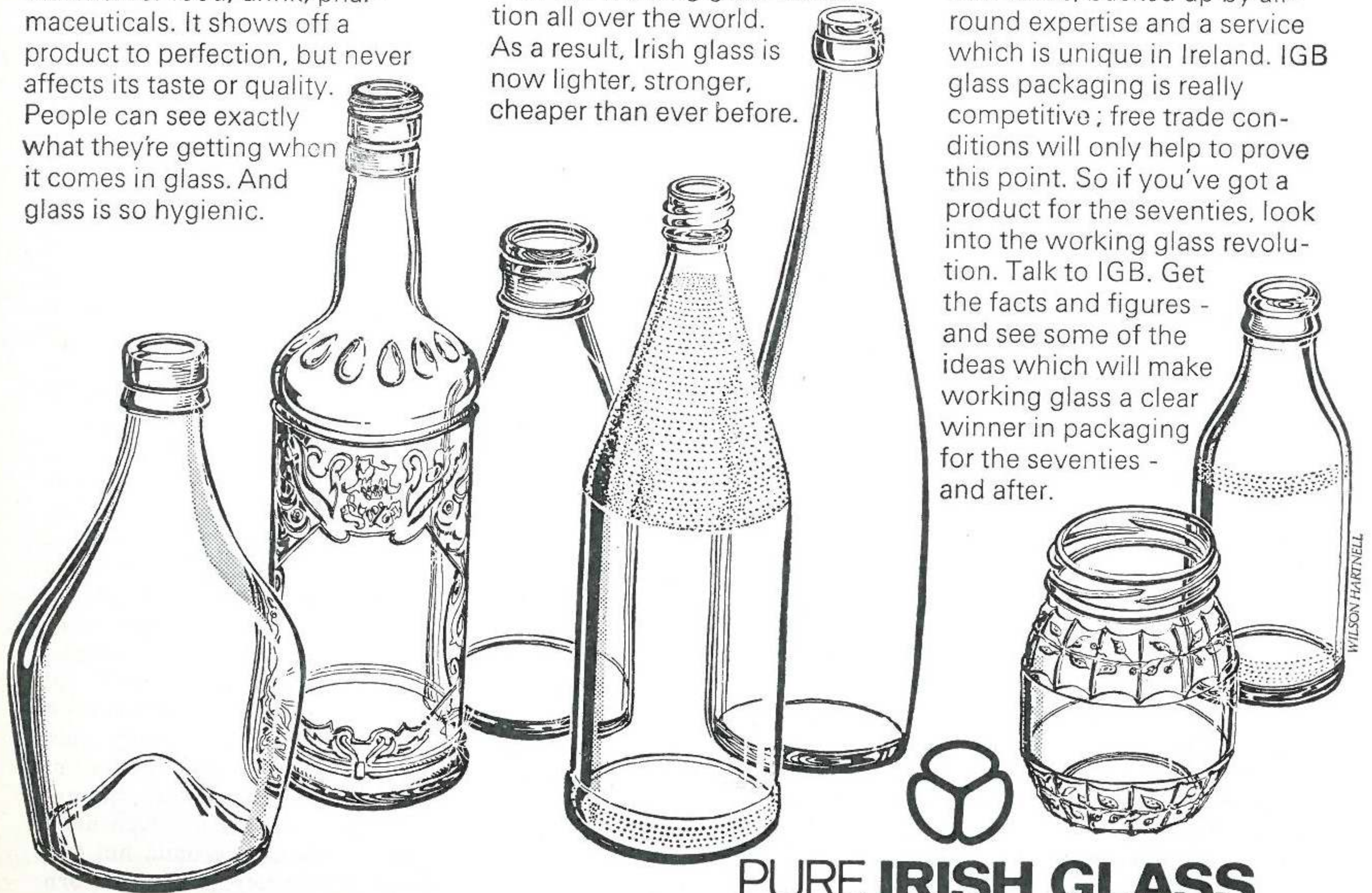
Glass has always been the most effective packaging material for food, drink, pharmaceuticals. It shows off a product to perfection, but never affects its taste or quality. People can see exactly what they're getting when it comes in glass. And glass is so hygienic.

## Self improvement

Old style glass was heavy and fragile. In a new world of fast, large-volume production lines and increased handling in supermarkets, big changes in glass were called for. In 1965, Irish Glass Bottle began to make these big changes. IGB bought new plant, developed new processes, kept in close touch with the working glass revolution all over the world. As a result, Irish glass is now lighter, stronger, cheaper than ever before.

## Outlook bright & clear

IGB are continually developing new kinds of glass - and new ways to use them in packaging. Glass has enormous potential as a selling aid; the IGB design team is exploiting that potential every day. To keep glass right out in front as the packaging medium of the seventies, IGB have got the new ideas, backed up by all-round expertise and a service which is unique in Ireland. IGB glass packaging is really competitive; free trade conditions will only help to prove this point. So if you've got a product for the seventies, look into the working glass revolution. Talk to IGB. Get the facts and figures - and see some of the ideas which will make working glass a clear winner in packaging for the seventies - and after.



**PURE IRISH GLASS**

The Irish Glass Bottle Co. Ltd., Charlotte Quay, Dublin 4.

able bottle. It makes such very good sense, from the economic and the ecological point of view.

Batchelor's Apla, the drink with the fresh apple taste, which was introduced on the market here last year, has caught on well, particularly with people who have become health-conscious. It is a fresh natural taste and is actually made from apples. The latest big news from Batchelor's is their new Leed Lemonade which they are launching just about now. It's available in 11½ ounce cans. It's a genuine red lemonade and was 'invented' originally by the Coca-Cola people. Now Batchelors are making and marketing it in Ireland and as far as I know, it's the only genuine lemonade I can think of that comes in a can. They'll be introducing it to the customers at various supermarkets round the country for the next few weeks, so you might be lucky and get a chance to sample it.

## NEW RANGE

Batchelors last October introduced their new six-ounce range of mixer drinks in easy-open cans. These including Canada Dry, tonic, white lemonade, and Cola and Bravo Orange were incorporated in the range after researchers discovered that the cans were being bought as children's drinks in many cases.

Did 7UP ever impress you as a striking name for a drink? What's killing me is that I know I heard somewhere how it got the name but I can't now remember the story. 7UP has been called the world's perfect mixer and it is in fact amazingly ver-

satile. Drunk 'soft' it's a pleasantly sweet flavour but it will also combine with practically anything, in the way of spirits. I've even drunk it in a 'pioneer's cocktail' where there were all sorts of other ingredients, plus tomato juice! 7UP is found all over the place—restaurants and hotels serve it, lounges and bars serve it, grocery shops and supermarkets sell it. As the makers say, thirst has no geographical limitations and neither has 7UP. Since it came on the market here sales have expanded rapidly and it is one of our leading soft drinks, as it is throughout the world. 7UP is sold in more than seventy-five countries in Europe, Africa, North and South America, Asia, Australia and the Pacific area. Its unique flavour is based on oils of lemon and lime and has never been duplicated.

This time last year we talked about Vodka 'N Spike, the newest vodka mix drink to hit the soft drinks market in many years. In its infancy then, Spike has grown in popularity and is now firmly established as a big vodka partner, a trend which is steadily continuing. Spike's success isn't only as a mixer, however, for the children have taken to it in a big way and are 'getting fresh' with Spike every day.

Another C & C big brand is Club Orange, by far the most popular orange soft drink in the licensed trade today, as it has been for many years. It continues to grow in popularity and its current advertising theme 'World Class Club' is not just an idle boast. C & C pride themselves on the quality of Club and they

make sure never to drop below the high standards they set themselves. In return the public has confidence in Club and it's one drink most people specify by name when ordering.

## ABOUT TIME

Readers of Gaelic Sport will have seen and admired the new Pepsi clock in Croke Park. Judging from the reactions of officials, players and spectators it is greatly appreciated and the excitement of every game is heightened as time ticks away on its enormous face. The overall dimensions of the clock/sign are twenty feet by eight. The clock face itself is a huge six feet in diameter and the simple design of the figures on it were purposely made that way for clarity.

You can easily read the time on the Pepsi clock when you're standing on Hill 16, a hundred and eighty yards away. Providing a clock of such dimensions in an sports stadium is a new departure in outdoor advertising and by doing so Pepsi have rendered a really practical service to everyone who frequents the park.

Beamish & Crawford is a name that means Bass and Bass is a top drink, particularly down around Munster. All ales are selling better these days. In fact in Munster Bass accounts for about fifty per cent of all sales in its category.

## BIG PROJECT

Beamish & Crawford are also the producers of Carlsberg and of Carling Black Label. Perhaps you've heard already about their big sponsorship project—the Carlsberg 470 Warrior Trials. If not, you surely will hear about it over the next few years because this project might end up with Ireland winning a few

● OVERLEAF

● FROM PAGE 35

medals in the Olympic games. Anybody who messes about with boats will know about the 470 Warriors and that Carlsberg have presented the Irish Yachting Association with eight of them. They'll be buying a further eight soon and as well as this Carlsberg have provided the trailers necessary to take them round the country and all 'support services'—even down to oilskins for

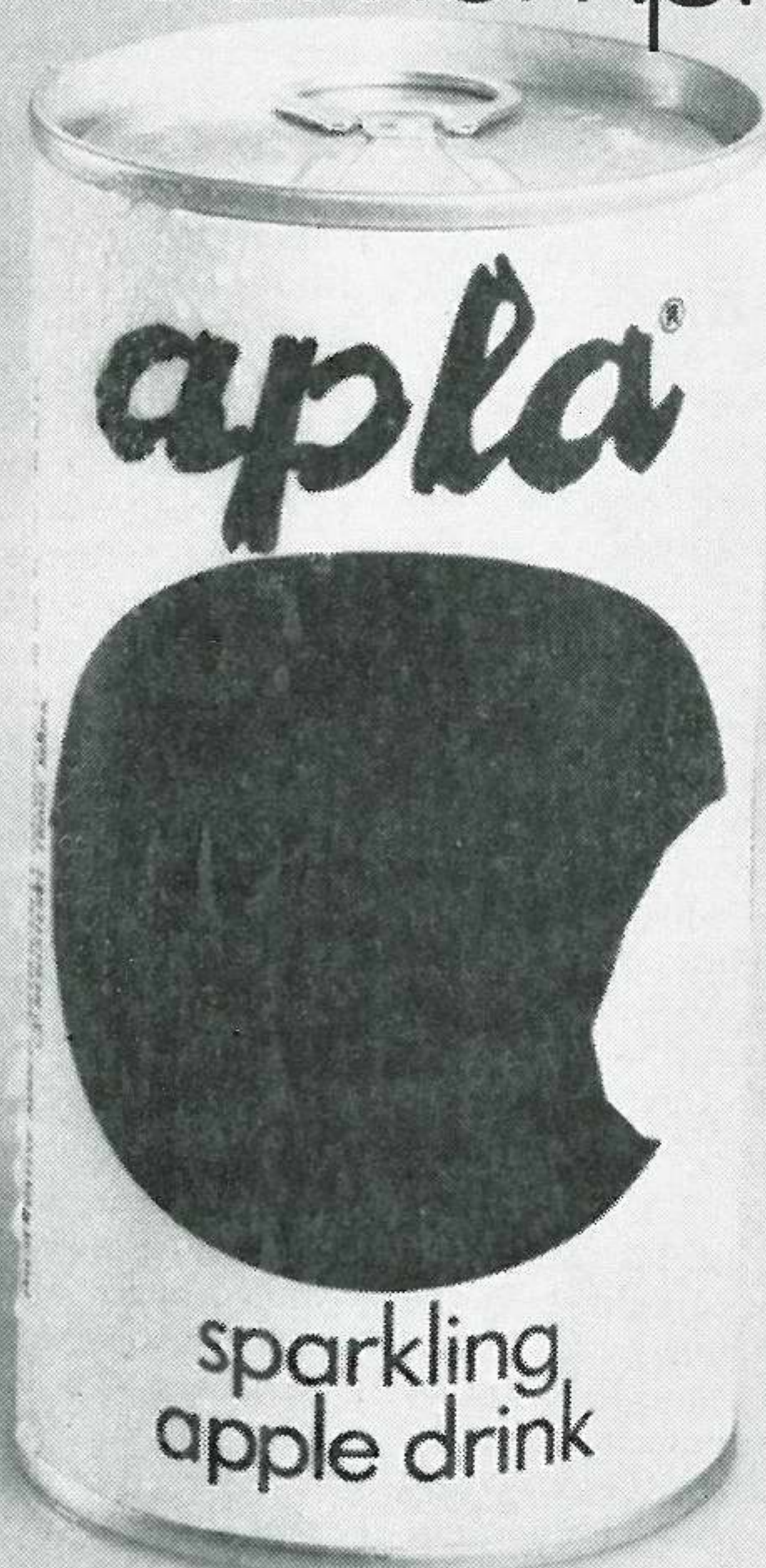
the yachtsmen. The Irish Yachting Association has thus been enabled to institute a long term selection and training programme which will produce yachtsmen for the Irish team in 1976 at Toronto Olympic Games who'll have a real chance of winning. Trials are going on at present—on a 32 county basis, incidentally—and will culminate in the National Championship in July.

Winners of two categories will

be sent to Europe (courtesy of Carlsberg of course) and will compete in events there to gain experience.

This type of in-depth sponsorship is a commendable thing and though we've space to say only very little about it here we'll all be getting more and more news of it as results begin to show! Of course we'll all hope that the Carlsberg sponsorship will lead to an Olympic win for Ireland, but even supposing it didn't, the team is bound to put up a good show and at the very least that could do wonders for our tourist business—everyone says we don't publicise our waterways enough.

We took temptation



and canned it

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## THE LADIES LEAD THE WAY

ONE sometimes wonders if the G.A.A. in certain matters, waits for a lead from the Camogie Association. This happened for instance, in the lifting of the ban on 'foreign' dancing, in the setting up of an All-Ireland club championship and a few other matters in recent years.

True, the G.A.A. has not yet, as the Camogie Association has done at its recent Congress, adopted the Open Draw for the senior All-Ireland championship but that, too, may well follow in time

But the more recent instance of the G.A.A. following in the footsteps of the Camogie people was provided at the annual Congress in Waterford when the G.A.A. elected a former All-Ireland player, a former County Board Chairman and a former Provincial Chairman Dr. Donal Keenan to the Presidency.

Just three or four weeks before, Mrs. Nancy Murray, a former All-Ireland winner, a former Chairman of her County Board and a former Chairman of her Provincial Council, had been elected President of the Camogie Association.

To add to the number of things that the two new Presidents have in common, both have been managers of their respective senior County teams. But Nancy Murray can claim the better record in this respect. She was both trainer and team-manager of the Antrim side that won the All-Ireland senior title in 1967. Dr. Keenan as manager had to be satisfied with guiding his charges to last season's Connacht senior crown, although he did guide the Roscommon lads to an under-21 All-Ireland.

Like her G.A.A. counterpart, it is therefore easy to see that Nancy Murray has been a worker for Camogie all her life, and moreover, a worker that has achieved a great deal.

Herself was a fine player, although as distinct from Donal Keenan she usually played in defence while he was a forward throughout his playing career. Nancy Murray has continued to serve the Association at every level, as coach, trainer, Secretary administrator and Executive.

Moreover, she is an extremely forthright and straightforward person, and we all look forward to seeing the present onward march of Camogie become even more remarkable under her leadership.

The Annual Congress at Galway took a very courageous but very necessary step in deciding to run the senior All-Ireland championship on the Open Draw system for an experimental three-year period. Since there were senior championships in only two provinces, any other decision would have bordered on the farcical. And the draw has certainly worked out well, since in the first round no two counties from any one province clash and though this may be a bit far-fetched, we could still see a team from each province in the semi-finals, since the original pairings are Antrim v Kilkenny, Dublin v Galway, and Wexford v Tipperary, with Cork drawn against Derry assuming that the Ulster county chooses to field in this grade.

The provincial senior championships in Munster and Leinster have not been abandoned however, and will be played out

as usual but as completely separate competitions.

Moreover, the All-Ireland junior championship will continue under the old system, with the provincial winners meeting in the All-Ireland semi-finals. The general idea at Congress was that the standard in the junior grade is improving so rapidly we should have several more senior sides soon.

But what I am wondering is this. If the Open Draw championship proves the success that it well may turn out to be, will we ever revert to the old system?

Two other very important decisions were taken by Congress. The junior All-Ireland Colleges championship already approved of, was ratified to start next year. This gives an added fillip to the Colleges competitions the enormous success of which the last few years has gone a long way towards revolutionising the entire Association.

The other, just as important because it also caters for the younger age-group, was the decision to run an All-Ireland minor championship next season. This competition will give the younger players, whose enthusiasm has been so marked in all counties, an ambition to achieve and while it will present obvious problems in administration and organisation, the benefits it will eventually confer must far outweigh the difficulties.

But the setting up of a minor championship also makes it imperative that proper coaching be provided for juveniles which makes the Coaching Course and the wide distribution of the new Coaching Film, more important than ever.

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## BUY IRISH NOW

The Central Executive Committee of the Irish National Teachers' Organisation appeals to the members of the Organisation to give their maximum support to the campaign "BUY IRISH NOW", initiated by the Minister for Industry and Commerce, and urges them by talks to their pupils, to bring the campaign and its importance in the National Economy to the notice of their parents.



**IT'S** always a great morale booster to report that things are going great guns no matter what the venture might be. Such was the happy state in which the Gaelic Athletic Association found itself in 1935 and with good reason. The growth of the games of hurling and football had reached a tremendous rate and everything looked rosy indeed for the future.

The speech-making at Congress that year reflected this feeling of optimism. The most important business at the 1935 Congress was the election of a new President and three names were proposed for the position. They were those of Mr. Sean McCarthy of Cork, the outgoing President, Mr. Robert O'Keeffe, Chairman of the Leinster Council and Mr. P. McNamee, Chairman of the Ulster Council. After some discussion Mr. McCarthy's name was withdrawn and it became a straight-forward issue between the remaining two men. After the voting was compiled Mr. O'Keeffe emerged as the new President by 90 votes to 53.

An interesting motion from Antrim was submitted proposing that All-Ireland semi-finals and finals in both hurling and football be of eighty minutes duration! Although the proposal was defeated it does serve to underline that there is nothing new about the idea that was finally adopted a few years ago.

Away from the Council Chambers the games were packing in the fans all over the country. The biggest attraction by far was the brilliant Limerick hurling combination that thrilled the spectators wherever they played. In June they destroyed a fine Laois

side by 6-6 to 2-2 to take the National Hurling League tittle for the second successive year. In the Munster championship clashes both Tipperary and Cork proved far too good for Waterford and Clare respectively. Then, in the semi-final stage Limerick once more enthralled friend and foe alike by almost contemptuously brushing aside Cork's challenge.

In the Munster final Tipperary proved just as helpless to halt the Limerick gallop as many others had found to their cost before them. Despite the big score though, 5-5 to 1-4, the Tipp. side battled bravely in a very good, clean game at the Cork Athletic grounds.

Meanwhile, in Leinster, Kilkenny were quietly progressing to a confrontation with the Shannonsiders. In fact, they coasted home in the Leinster final, beat a most disappointing Laois side that flattered only to deceive. For three-quarters of the game the Laois men tried to match the Black and Amber craftsmen but in the last fifteen minutes their side collapsed and the challenge melted away with the onset of evening.

Galway, as ever, represented Connacht's interest in the hurling sphere but they proved ineffectual against the supreme

**By  
Tony  
Reid**

team-work and solid defence of the Noremen. The crowd at Birr saw Galway lose, 6-10 to 1-8 and came away marvelling at the tremendous opportunism of the Kilkenny attack. The stage was therefore set for the big "crunch" match between Limerick and Kilkenny. It was to prove to be a game still recalled to this day in many parts of Ireland as one of the classics of hurling history.

Forty-eight thousand people braved the most vile weather imaginable for an All-Ireland final. The rain fell in sheets across the Stadium but such was the magical quality of the hurling that nobody seemed to notice too much. Fortunes swayed first one way then the other and the final result was in doubt right to the end. For Kilkenny Lory Meagher, Pat Blanchfield, E. and L. Byrne and J. Walsh were heroic, and the Mackeys, Close and Clohessy fought like demons for Limerick.

When the long whistle blew Kilkenny were champions, by just one point, 2-5 to 2-4 and just about deserving of the honour. I can do no better than let you read an extract from the pen of "An t-Iomanaidhe", writing in the "Kilkenny People." He writes: "Hail! all-conquering Kilkenny, peerless and incomparable wielders of the caman. Victory is ours! The Black and Amber flag waves exultantly, triumphantly along the banks of the Nore. What artistry of pen, what wealth of experience, what eloquence of word can paint an adequate picture of the inspiring scenes at Croke Park, that mighty saga of the Gael which saw the flood-tide of the Shannon splen-

● OVERLEAF

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dour ebb before the awe-inspiring force, the superb artistry of Noreside determination, which, before 48,000 spectators, saw the men from Osmonde cleave their way through Thomonds ranks... How futile to clothe in words this wonderful manifestation of national enthusiasm, this panorama of splendour which leaves one breathless with amazement." When one reads that type of stuff then it becomes apparent,

don't you think, that more than just hurling has lost its glamour?

It was also a good year for football with the re-emergence of an Ulster challenge from those wonderful ball players from Cavan. How the game could do with a revival of Breffni football power. Kerry decided to retire from playing for twelve months. This decision opened up all sorts of possibilities and as events showed, Tipperary won the Munster crown after a long absence

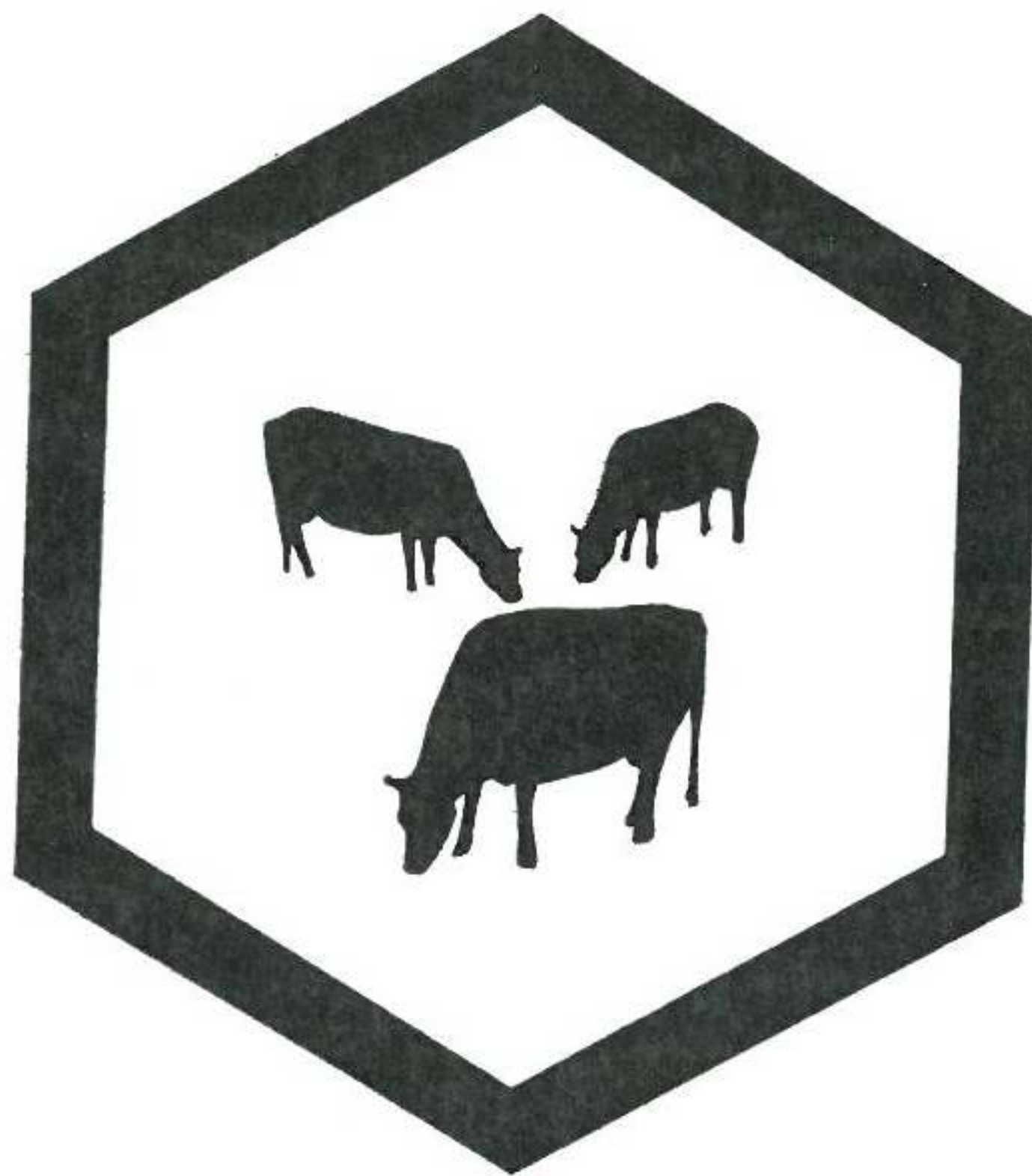
from the big-time. In Leinster, Kildare, Dublin, Louth and Meath put out fine, strong sides. In fact the Louth (1-6) and Meath (1-5) clash in the championship was one of the best games in the battle for Leinster honours that year. Mayo, who had won the National Football League title powered by such men as Munnely, Flanelly and Moclair, came through in Connacht. Cavan strolled impressively through Ulster although they got a severe fright from Donegal at Bundoran in an early round. Kildare finally lasted the pace better in Leinster and the Lilywhite banner was once again unfurled with all its old-time fervour. In the semi-finals two quick scores won for Kildare against Mayo and Cavan had to survive many moments of excitement before beating Tipperary.

The final attracted more than 50,000 fans and the gates had to be closed twenty minutes before the game commenced. The swaying, excited thousands were not let down as Cavan and Kildare produced a rip-roaring tussle, with the Ulster side in peak form right from the beginning.

Kildare were noted exponents of the hand passing side of the game but Cavan speed and team work wore them down eventually and when Magee scored for the Blues in the first thirty seconds it was a forerunner of things to come.

Cavan led by 2-5 to 1-2 at half time and were 3-6 to 1-2 ahead before the Leinster challengers put 1-3 on the board near the end, adding an air of respectability to the final scoreline which read, Cavan 3-6, Kildare 2-5.

The major difference between the sides was Cavan's greater team-work and they always looked the better side. Perhaps too, some of the Kildare men were just slightly over-awed by the occasion. Whatever the reason they never seriously threatened to make a real bid for the title and were well beaten long before the end.



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# CLIPPINGS FROM THE PAPERS

By NEIL McCAVANA

**R**OUGH play, unruly scenes and unsporting conduct are sure-fire ingredients to earn the large headlines. But what about the games up and down the country that are played in a sporting manner week in, week out? They are legion, but rarely make the news.

How refreshing, then, to come across the following paragraphs in the unsigned Gaelic Games Notes in "The Fermanagh Herald":

"Glowing reports have come in from all over the county concerning the high standards of play and sportsmanship in last Sunday's games. With the leagues having passed the halfway stage and points now being of such vital importance, there is a clear case for congratulations all round, but, come to think of it, out of the thousand odd club games now played annually in all grades in Fermanagh, the number of unsavoury encounters could be counted on the fingers of one hand.

"Rightly or wrongly the G.A.A. has always had a reputation for poor discipline. The Association's critics have always been quick to publicise breaches of discipline and some news media which cannot find space to cover the thousands of sporting encounters throughout the year have no difficulty in devoting plenty of time to the aspects which make us all ashamed.

"Many Fermanagh teams and clubs are rightly proud of their records of sportsmanship. This is only as it should be but recent incidents have caused much soul searching throughout the G.A.A.

"The happy state which exists in Fermanagh is in no small way due to the excellent work of the Fermanagh Referees' Board and its officers. When something nasty happens hundreds are inclined to "tut tut" in self righteous indignation but how many are prepared to put in the work where it really counts, at refereeing level. I have attended some of the meetings of the Fermanagh Referees' Board, and believe me, there are no more severe critics of refereeing standards than the referees themselves. Those who are so quick to level criticism should first of all ask themselves if they have made, or prepared to make, a genuine effort to help solve the difficulties. Their assistance would be most appreciated".

## THE ROAD TO BIRR

There is an old song that goes something about the "Road to Mandalay", but down Limerick way they have been talking in recent times about the road to Birr. I take the following from Sporting View in the "Limerick Leader":

"Although there is more than a suspicion that Limerick played some part in the unsatisfactory arrangements pertaining to the venue for Sunday's National Hurling League semi-final with Tipperary, it does seem that Tipperary are behaving in a rather petty and small-minded manner about the entire affair.

"They refused to toss between Thurles and Limerick, and while there may have been justification for this before the first game because of certain indecision on

Limerick's part, surely there is none for the re-play.

"What grates, then, on Limerick's sensitivity is that when their offer to toss had been turned down by Tipperary that the Activities Committee should then come along and fix the match for Tipperary's backyard. Could it be that they are trying to get back into Tipp's good books and restore some good humour amongst their ranks?

"One way or the other, Tipperary have acted in a small-minded manner with regard to the entire affair and have lost some of the respect and admiration that Limerickmen have always held for Tipperary hurling".

## Focus on Cavan

● FROM PAGE 5

standard in an age when the wearing of a county jersey does not seem to mean as much as it once did. Certainly players who do not train or co-operate with officials are no addition to any county team. A greater amount of interest and enthusiasm at all levels is vitally necessary if the days of former glory are to return to Cavan. The Breffni county is always a tough proposition in the championship and I, for one, would not be inclined to say that they are without hope this year. Especially with players of the calibre of Ray Carolan, Andy McCabe, Enda McGowan, Gene Cusack and Steve Duggan to form the backbone of the side. No, Fr. Maguire's task may not be all that hopeless.

# CHOOSING A CAREER IS

## Leaflet Guide

AS they come to the end of their school days most boys and girls have to make the first big decision in their lives—the choice of a career.

Some young people know at quite an early stage what they would like to do in life; there are others who grow up, working on a farm that will one day be their own and some whose family are in some particular business, trade or profession and who find it the most natural thing in the world to follow in the footsteps of their elders.

There are many more young people, however, who have no such ready-made career to follow and who have no definite ideas about the kind of work they would like to do.

To assist those in the latter category the Department of Labour has produced a series of leaflets telling about available careers and which are distributed to schools, libraries and youth clubs. The leaflets are also sent free to individual applicants who write to the Department's career information section, Mespil Road, Dublin 4.

The leaflets set out such basic information as where to apply, the educational standards required, the cost of training—if any—and the pay and conditions when qualified. The careers covered are wide in range; some require the payment of fees over a training period, in others there is no charge though there may be competitive examinations for entry, still more require a period of apprenticeship. For some the educational requirement is an Honours Leaving Certificate, for others national school leaving standard, while for some cases no formal standard at all is specified as essential.

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**APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 15th.**

Write for full details to Training Superintendent, Irish Shipping Limited, 19/21 Aston Quay, Dublin 2.

## AIR CORPS

THE Air Corps Apprentice School, at Casement Aerodrome, Baldonnell, Co. Dublin, was established in 1936 to provide skilled technicians for the Air Corps, and in 1956 the Army Apprentice School, at Naas, Co. Kildare was established to provide skilled tradesmen for the Army.

The Air Corps Apprentice course extends over five years. During the first two years the Air Corps Apprentice is accommodated in a hostel standing in its own grounds. He receives his training in this period in the specially provided Training Squadron. The next three years are spent working under supervision in the Corps Workshops. The trades taught are Aircraft Mechanic and Aircraft Mechanic (Electrical and Instrument). Towards the end of the two years' basic course the apprentices are encouraged to sit for junior engineering trade examinations in fitting, workshop theory and technical drawing as set by the Department of Education.

## THE ARMY

The Army Apprentice School is located in a modernised barracks in Naas which is devoted exclusively to the School. In the School the trades taught are those of Fitter/Armourer, Motor Mechanic, Carpenter, Electrician and Radio Mechanic. The Army Apprentice Course extends over a period of three years during which the apprentice follows the Department of Education Technical Schools programme for his trade. Throughout his course technical subjects are covered with a view to his taking the appropriate Junior and Senior Trades Certificate examinations.

Competitions for apprentice-

ships are held each year and the age limits are 16 to 18 years on the 1st of September in the case of Air Corps Apprenticeships and 15 to 17 years for Apprenticeships in the Army Apprentice School. The educational qualifications required are Intermediate Certificate or Day Group Certific-

ate in certain subjects depending on the trade. Applications are accepted from candidates who propose to sit for these examinations in the year of the competition.

Further information may be obtained from your nearest

● OVERLEAF

Department of Labour

## Free Leaflets on Careers

The Department of Labour has published a number of free leaflets covering a wide range of jobs. The occupations covered include industry, the professions, business careers, apprenticeship trades, catering, public services, clerical positions, social work, transport and travel as well as scientific, agricultural and technological careers.

Each leaflet describes the work involved, the educational and other requirements, the procedures for entry, pay, conditions, promotion prospects and sources for further information such as the professional body, trade union or employer concerned.

Tá leagan Gaeilge de gach bhileog ar fáil agus fáilteofar roimh comhfhreagras i nGaeilge.

Write to :

**CAREERS INFORMATION SECTION,  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR,  
MESPIL ROAD, DUBLIN 4**

stating, if possible, the careers you are interested in.

## CAREERS

### ● FROM PAGE 43

military barracks or F.C.A. headquarters or from the Department of Defence (R6B), Parkgate, Dublin, 8.

## SEAMEN

**F**OR young men who envisage a life at sea, Irish Shipping

Ltd., offers a career structure in four categories.

Candidates for the positions of deck boy and catering boy, which lead to Chief Steward and Boatswain respectively, must be at least sixteen years of age and of average intelligence. If the deck boy intends to advance beyond the post of Able Seaman or aspires to officer rank the higher his standard of education the

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There are also career opportunities for those wishing to be Engineer or Navigating Officers. The intelligence and aptitude required for these positions are understandably quite high. Candidates can qualify for entry on obtaining Leaving Certificate or equivalent with suitable subjects or an Intermediate Group Certificate of high standard. Alternatively experience of heavy engineering in industry or a suitable technical diploma or degree can also qualify for an Engineering Cadetship. There is no charge made for training given by the company and food and accommodation is provided both on land or at sea.

After completion of cadetship, opportunities are available for further training and qualifications which can lead to the posts of Chief Engineer or Captain.

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A career with Irish Shipping will involve hard work under sometimes adverse conditions but can result, for young men of character, in a sense of job fulfilment and training unequalled elsewhere.

Details of careers at sea can be obtained from the Training Superintendent, Irish Shipping Ltd., 19-21, Aston Quay, Dublin 2.



## An Roinn Cosanta

# APPRENTICESHIPS IN THE ARMY, NAVAL SERVICE AND AIR CORPS

Vacancies exist in the Permanent Defence Force for boys to be trained as APPRENTICES in—

- (i) **THE ARMY APPRENTICE SCHOOL, Naas**  
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**Age Limits:** At least 15 and under 17 years on 1st September, 1973.
- (ii) **THE AIR CORPS APPRENTICE SCHOOL, Baldonnell**  
(for service in the Air Corps)  
**Age Limits:** At least 16 and under 18 years on 1st September, 1973.

**Educational Standard:** Day Group or Intermediate Certificate. A boy who is due to sit for the Day Group Certificate or the Intermediate Certificate this year may apply, but before being appointed he must be in possession of the required educational qualifications for the trade for which he is selected.

**Latest date for receipt of completed Application Forms:**  
**15th JUNE, 1973**

Application forms and full details in connection with the vacancies may be obtained from the :

**Secretary, Department of Defence (R6E), Parkgate,  
Dublin 8.**

# JUNIOR DESK



By  
**JACK  
MAHON**

**T**HAT little colony of young Wicklow fans will be delighted with this month's Cut-out Peter Clarke of Wicklow who did so much to help his team into Division 1 of the N.F.L. for the coming year. Down the years Wicklow has always been a great G.A.A. county producing men like Jim Rogers, Gerry O'Reilly, Andy Phillips among others. Peter Clarke is another in this mould and in parading him we pay tribute to the standard of fare served up by all the teams in Division 2 (both sections) of the N.F.L. this year.

## MISS CLARE G.A.A.

Where should I find myself on Sunday night, April 15, only in the West County Inn, Ennis, Co. Clare, assisting my wife, Eileen, and Mrs. Deirdre Vaughan in the adjudication of the Miss Clare G.A.A. competition won by a very charming girl from Kilrush, Miss Noreen Twomey-Walsh. It was a very enjoyable occasion and the whole affair ran very smoothly. Hats off to the Clarecastle G.A.A. club on their initiative.

## 'OGIE' MORAN

Earlier that day I had seen Gormanston defeat St. Jarlath's College, Tuam, in the Hogan Cup final. I'll be very surprised if the two stars of that game (gate receipts incidentally were almost £1,000) "Ogie" Moran (Gormans-

ton) and Morgan Hughes (Tuam) do not become senior stars. Years ago I remember forecasting that Willie Bryan would be a great senior. Congratulations to Gormanston on their first success. Their team outfit was an absolute credit to them and an example to many of our now old-fashioned county styles. Spread the good example please. This year again I present a list of currently available G.A.A. books and will resume the "Cad Is Ainm Dó?" personality poser next month. Finally heartiest congrats. to our new Uachtarán Dr. Donal Keenan. On behalf of all Junior Desk fans I say—go n-eirighidh an bothar leis.

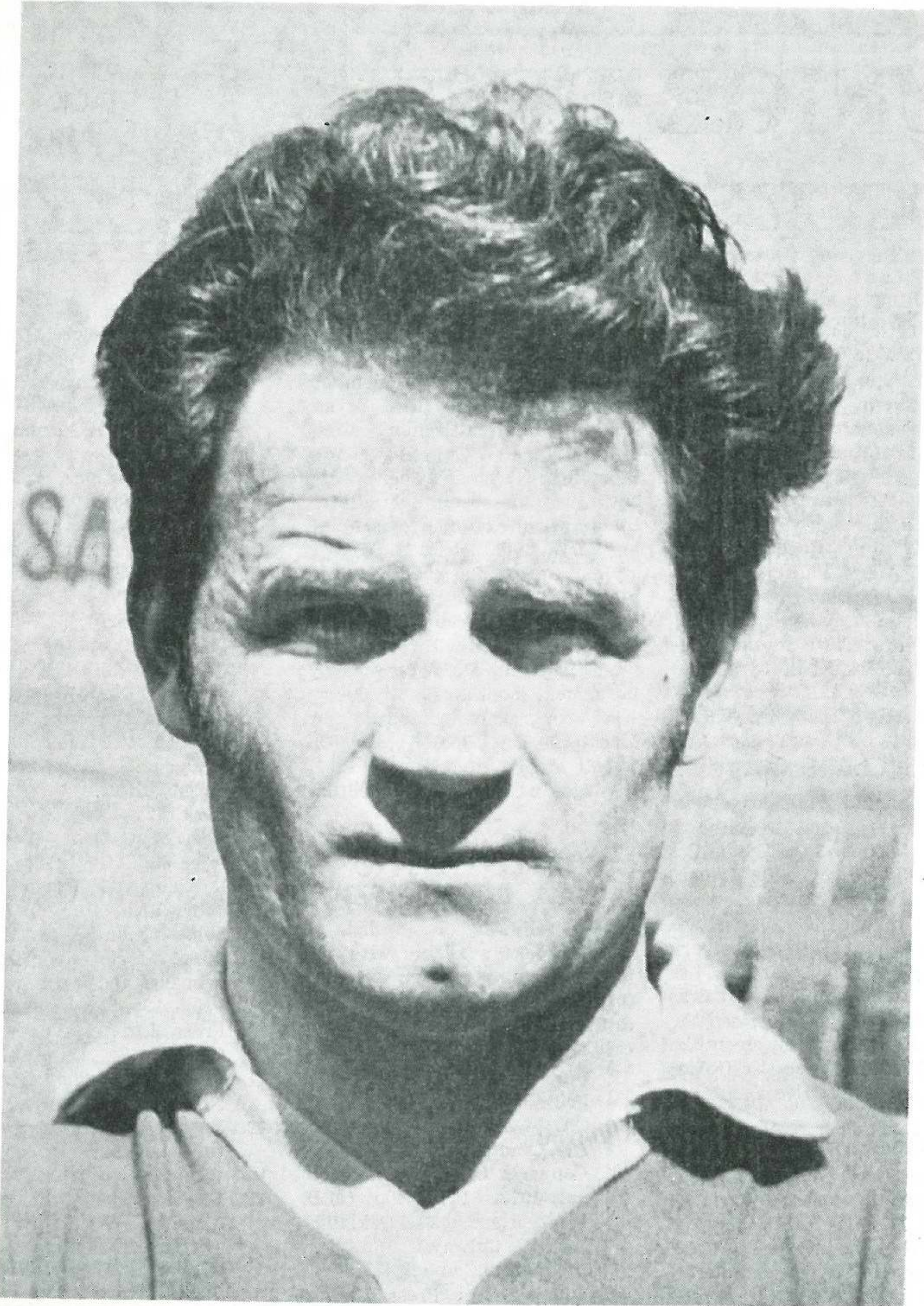
## COMPLETE LIST OF G.A.A. BOOKS (1973)

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:

1. **Our Games Annual, 1973.** Price 45p. (An Runai, C.L.C.G., Paire an Chrocaigh, Ath Cliath 3).
2. **Connacht Gaelic Games Annual, 1973.** Price 40p. (M.D. Publications, 29 Oaklands, Salthill, Galway.)
3. **Cuchulainn Annual, '73.** Price 40p. (Fostrá Press Ltd., 5 Seville Place, Dublin 1.)
4. **Fitness for Gaelic Football,** by Joe Lennon—contains 148 pages, 29 diagrams and 15 plates. Price 50p. (J. F. and A. Lennon, Gormanstown, Co. Meath).
5. **Twelve Glorious Years,** by Jack Mahon. Price 35p. (Some as No. 2).
6. **The Football Immortals,** by Raymond Smith. Price 60p. (Creative Press Ltd., Botanic Rd., Dublin 9).
7. **The Clash of the Ash,** by Raymond Smith. Price 60p. (Same as No. 6).
8. **Gaels in the Sun,** by Peter McDermott. Price 85p. (Peter McDermott, G.A.A., Navan, Co. Meath).
9. **Cork '72** — official Cork Co. Board G.A.A. Yearbook. Price 35p. (Gaelic Sport Publications, 80 Upper Drumondra Road, Dublin 9).
10. **Solo**—a monthly G.A.A. magazine for schoolchildren, primary and post primary. Price 12p per issue. (Gaelic Press Ltd., 5 North Great George's St., Dublin 1).
11. **Peil.** Price 25p. (Same as No. 1).
12. **Report of the Commission of the G.A.A.** Price £1.00. (Same as No. 1.)
13. **Gaelic Sport.** Price 10p. Yearly subscription £1.50. (Same as No. 9).
14. **Tipperary G.A.A. Yearbook, 1973.** Price 35p. (Gerry

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**OUR CUT-OUT CHOICE OF THE MONTH**



**★★ PETER GLARKE, WICKLOW ★★**



● FROM PAGE 45

- Slevin, *The Guardian*, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary).
15. **Tipperary G.A.A. Yearbook, 1970.** Price 30p. (Same as No. 14.)
  16. **Tipperary G.A.A. Yearbook, 1971.** Price 35p (Same as No. 14.)
  17. **Connacht Gaelic Games Annual, 1972.** Price 35p. (M.D. Publications, 29 Oaklands, Salthill, Galway.)
  18. **An Cul**—a quarterly magazine devoted to G.A.A. games. Price 20p. (Gaelic Press, 5 Nth. Great Georges Street, Dublin 1.)
  19. **Gaelic Stars of the Year.** Price 25p. (Oisín Publications, 4 Iona Drive, Dublin 9).
  20. **Offaly—The Heroes.** Price 15p. (Same as No. 9).
  21. Past Issues of **Our Games** available. The following issues of past **Our Games Annuals** are available. (Prices are given in all cases: 1958 (25p), 1960 (25p), 1962 (25p), 1964 (25p), 1969 (25p), 1971 (40p) and 1972 (40p). The 1962 book is most valuable as it contains statistics galore in all competitions up to that date. These are all available from An Runai, C.L.C.G., Pairc an Chrocaigh, Ath Cliath 3.
  22. **An Deiseach** (Waterford G.A.A. Yearbook, 1971). Price 35p. (Seamus O Braonain, Editor, Abbeyside, Dunganarvan, Co. Waterford).
  23. **Roscommon G.A.A. Yearbook, 1970.** Price 35p. (M. O'Callaghan, Roscommon Herald, Boyle, Co. Roscommon).
  24. **Mayo G.A.A. Yearbook, 1970.** Price 35p. (Brian McDonald,

- c/o Castlebar Mitchels G.A.A. Club, Castlebar, Co. Mayo).
25. **Roscommon G.A.A. Yearbook, 1971.** Price 40p (Roscommon Herald, Boyle, Co. Roscommon).
  26. **County Wexford G.A.A. Review, 1971.** Price 20p. (Echo, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford).
  27. **Bliain-Iris Mhuigheo**—Mayo G.A.A. Yearbook, 1972. Price 25p. (Castlebar Mitchels G.A.A. Club, Castlebar, Co. Mayo).
  28. **Kilkenny Yearbook, 1972.** Price 45p. (Same as No. 18).
  29. **Limerick's Year, 1972.** Price 45p. (Same as No. 18).
  30. **The Sean O'Heslin Annual, 1972.** Price 25p. (Published

- annually by the Ballinamore G.A.A. Club, Co. Leitrim. Copies can be had from Brendan Burns, Technical School, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim.)
31. **Mayo G.A.A. Yearbook, 1973.** (35p includes postage from Tom Courell, Editor, Castlebar, Co. Mayo).
  32. **An Deiseach** — Waterford G.A.A. Yearbook, 1973. (Price 40p does not include postage, from S. O Braonain, Editor, Abbeyside, Dunganarvan, Co. Waterford).
  33. **Offaly Gaelic Games Annual, 1973.** (35p includes postage from Editor, Rev. William Behan, The Presbytery, Summerhill, Co. Meath.)

*From the Mailbag*

**T**HIS month we are offering 6 prizes in the Prize Letter Section—a copy of the recently produced **Offaly Gaelic Games Annual** for the 6 lucky ones. So here goes.

**Liam Jones, Derryoran, Mountshannon, Co. Clare.** "I just don't know what happened the Derry team in the drawn game v. Kerry. They were definitely the better footballers and I don't know why they started the rough play. Let us hope we have no more exhibitions like this at Croke Park."

● *I didn't see the game but the attack on referee Paul Kelly and the Gardai was shameful (J.M.)*

**Michael Kirby, Lisnalty, Rosbrien, Co. Limerick.** "I think Séamus Horgan is the perfect man to take Jim Hogan's place in goal for Limerick"

● *If he gives the service Jim*

*Hogan gave to Limerick he will be very good indeed (J.M.).*

**Gerald Trainor, 893 Francis St., Edenderry, Co. Offaly.** "I think Patsy Devlin is the best referee in Ireland. Junior Desk is really great now."

● *Bufochas Gerald. Keep writing to us (J.M.).*

**John McGuinness, St. Macar-tan's College, Monaghan.** "The G.A.A. needs one good shot in the arm—a good kick in the behind so to speak to make it catch up with this fast-moving world. The Open Draw must come into operation. The bore of ever-repeating fixtures in the final stages of all major competitions must end. It is a poison to the games for one county to dominate, year in year out. The Horslips provide an example of Irish culture being able to compete with anything

● **OVERLEAF**

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and everything if only it is taken out of the darkness and presented in a new light."

● *These are but a few short extracts from a wonderful letter from John. I'm for the OPEN DRAW John too, but don't tell me that Offaly have been beating Kerry year in year out by the old system. The Horslips are very good but so are The Chieftains, Planxty and The Dubliners (J.M.).*

**Mattie McDermott, Ahane, Kilkerrin, Ballinasloe Co. Galway.** "I have just finished reading **Twelve Glorious Years** and it is excellent. This will be Galway's year, Jack. The only counties I fear are Sligo and Offaly."

● *Galway play Sligo in Tuam on June 10. (J.M.)*

**Joseph Woods, Cloneyogan, Lahinch, Co. Clare.** "In the Mayo G.A.A. Yearbook there should have been more action photos and the players in the team pictures should have been named. The book must have been aimed at the adult reader as it ignored the items of interest that capture the fancy of young Gaels. However it was well worth 30p. One other thing, R.T.E. does not give adequate coverage to G.A.A. games."

● *Like John McGuinness, Joseph had many other interesting observations. I agree Joseph that the members of a team photo should be named but as an editor myself I can assure you this is difficult at times. (J.M.).*

**Christy Roche, Emone, Caherlistrane, Co. Galway.** "The following examples present a bad G.A.A. image: (1) Lack of punctuality at games; (2) Different interpretation of rules by referees; (3) Too many self-appointed bosses of teams; (4) Too many competitions; (5) Bad accommodation for spectators; (6) No evidence of where money goes."

● *Can't agree with you on No. 6. The Balance Sheet for the G.A.A. Congress is very detailed and com-*

*prehensive and is available to anybody interested in seeing it (J.M.).*

**Mary Breen, 10 Newbridge St., Birr, Co. Offaly.** "I think the G.A.A. is a great Association but two things nettle me. (1) The treatment given to younger members, particularly College teams. Here in Birr the local Presentation College hurlers won the Division B All-Ireland Final but when they came home there was no reception. (2) Why is Mick O'Connell so special? Willie Bryan proved he is so much better than him. Less of Micko and more of the others. Keep up your good work in Junior Desk."

● *Now what can I say! There should have been a reception for the Pres. Birr hurlers (J.M.).*

**Kieron Murphy, Glen Lodge, Church Road, Greystones, Co. Wicklow.** "I hate cutting out the Cut-out because usually Junior Desk is at the back and I don't like destroying that."

● *Sorry about that Kieron but the Editor gives me the last 4 pages every month so that none of the letters will be left out. Still you have a point (J.M.).*

**Paddy White, Inchbeg, Freshford, Co. Kilkenny.** "I live near Pa Dillon and the Kilkenny minor star Mick McCarthy. The Cut-outs in colour please."

● *Editor please listen. We all want colour (J.M.).*

**Leo McGough, Brownes Hill Road, Carlow.** "I think teams should be selected to play against the Carrolls All Stars in hurling and football. The games should be played here in Ireland. How about Junior Desk readers selecting the Rest team?"

● *Well, how about it? (J.M.-*

**John White, Inchbeg, Freshford, Co. Kilkenny.** "I am only 9. It is my first time writing to you. My favourite stars are Pat Delaney, Eddie Keher and Willie Bryan. Where can I get the book 'The Clash of the Ash'?"

● *Fáilte go dtí Junior Desk, John.*

*Write to Raymond Smith, c/o Independent House, Middle Abbey St., Dublin 1, regarding the book 'The Clash of the Ash' (J.M.).*

**Terry Doyle, Ballymorris, Aughrim, Arklow, Co. Wicklow.** "Please give us a Cut-out of Martin Quigley of Wexford. 'Gaelic Report' should be brought back to the T.V. screens."

● *Martin Quigley was magnificent in the Railway Cup Final on March 17 (J.M.).*

**Gerry Walsh, 76 Rory O'Connor Place, Arklow, Co. Wicklow.** "Please give us a Cut-out of Pat Nolan of Wexford."

**Des Kelly, Ballycooge, Wooden Bridge, Avoca, Co. Wicklow.** "I am looking forward to Wicklow v. Laois at Aughrim on June 3 in the Leinster S.F.C."

**Gerry Pender, Ballymorris Upper, Aughrim, Co. Wicklow.** "Where can I get hurling helmets?"

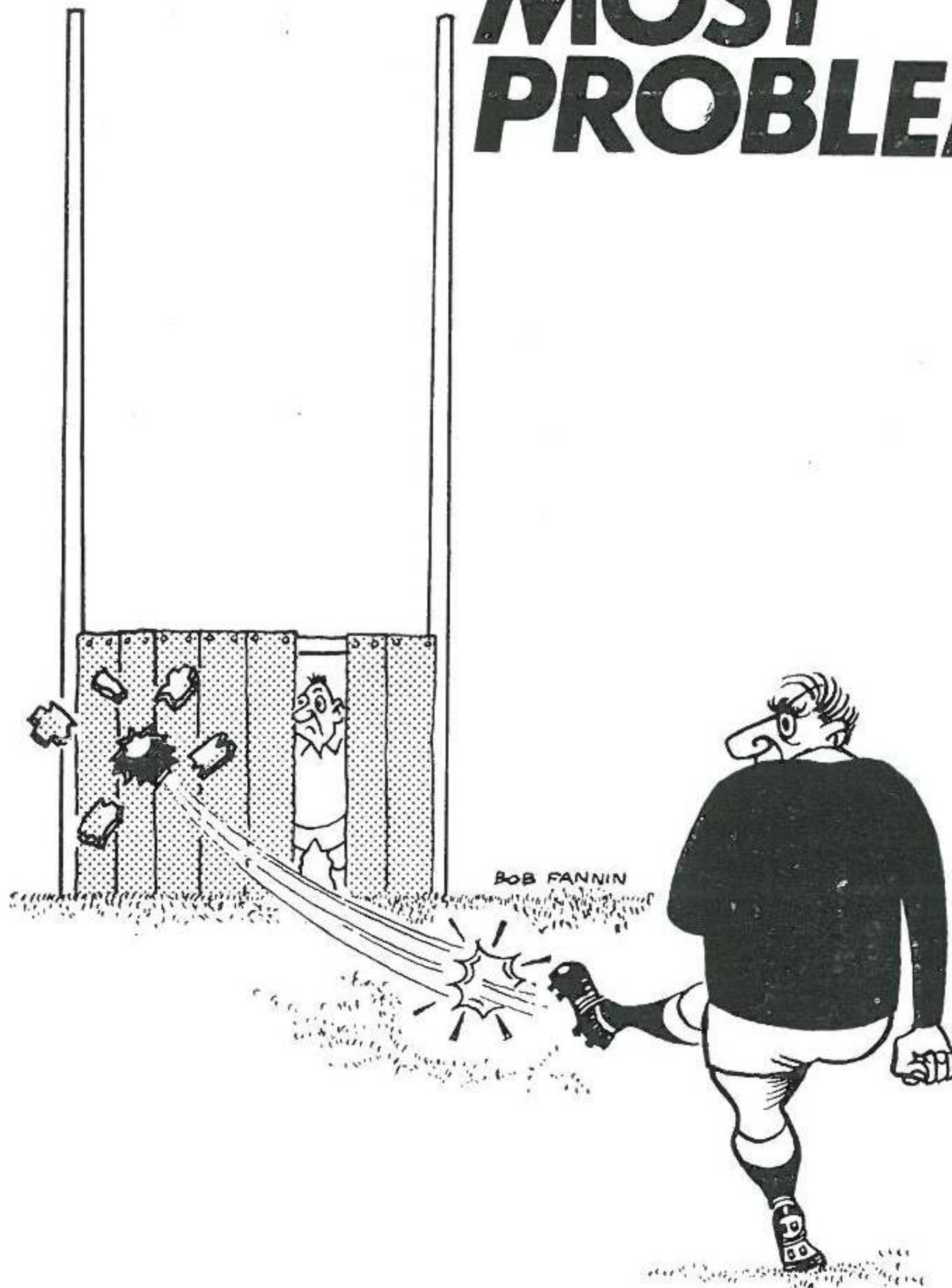
● *Any major sports shop should have them (J.M.).*

The winners of this month's Prize Letters Competition (6) are: John McGuinness, Joseph Woods (this young man is making a habit of it!), Christy Roche, Mary Breen, Leo McGough and newcomer John White. Keep writing. How about this for a topic: "My Favourite Player". Remember not more than 100 words. For the five best letters on the subject I will present a G.A.A. tie in the county colours of each of the lucky five. Write to—

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

*Jack Mahon*

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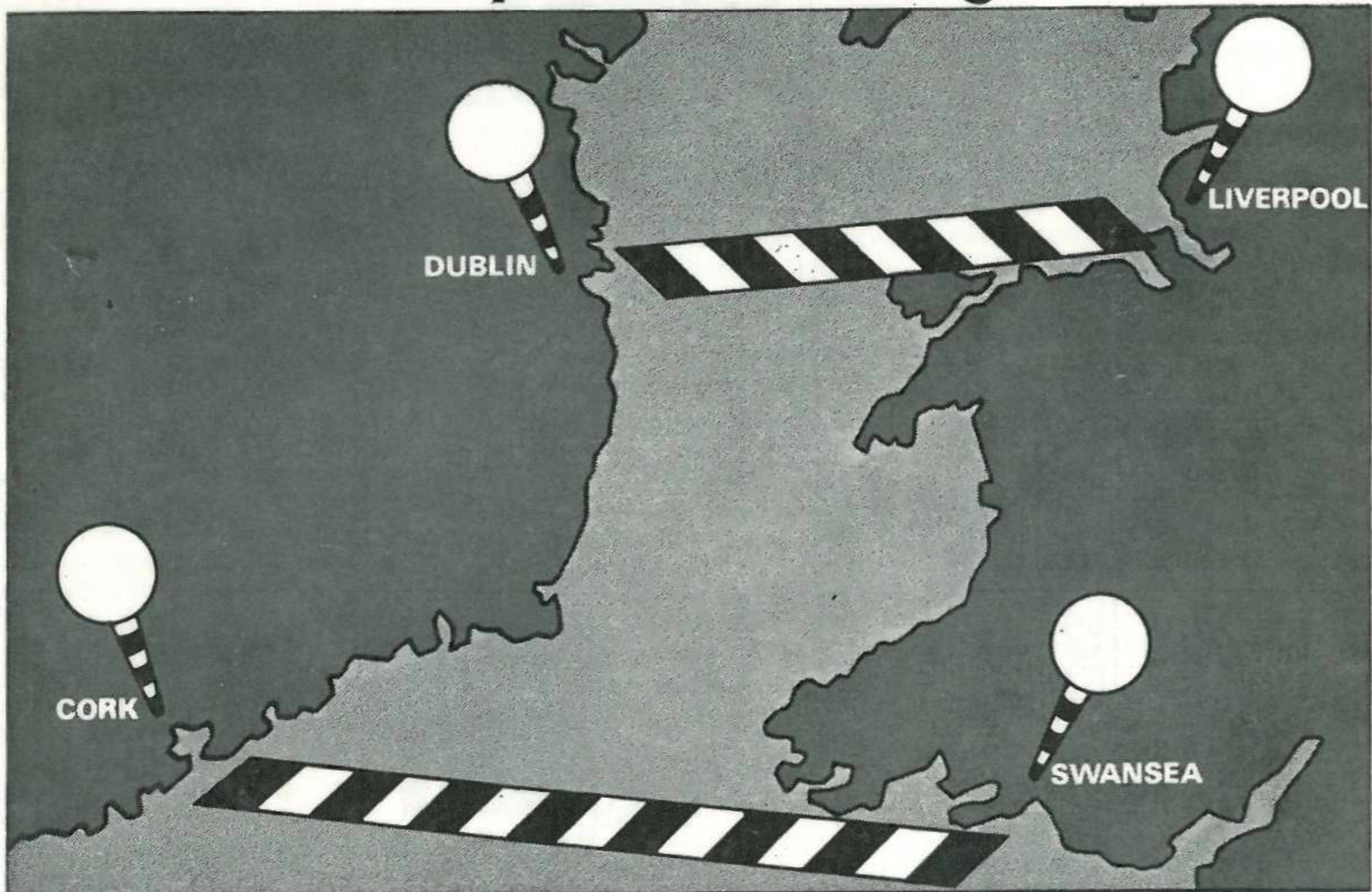
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