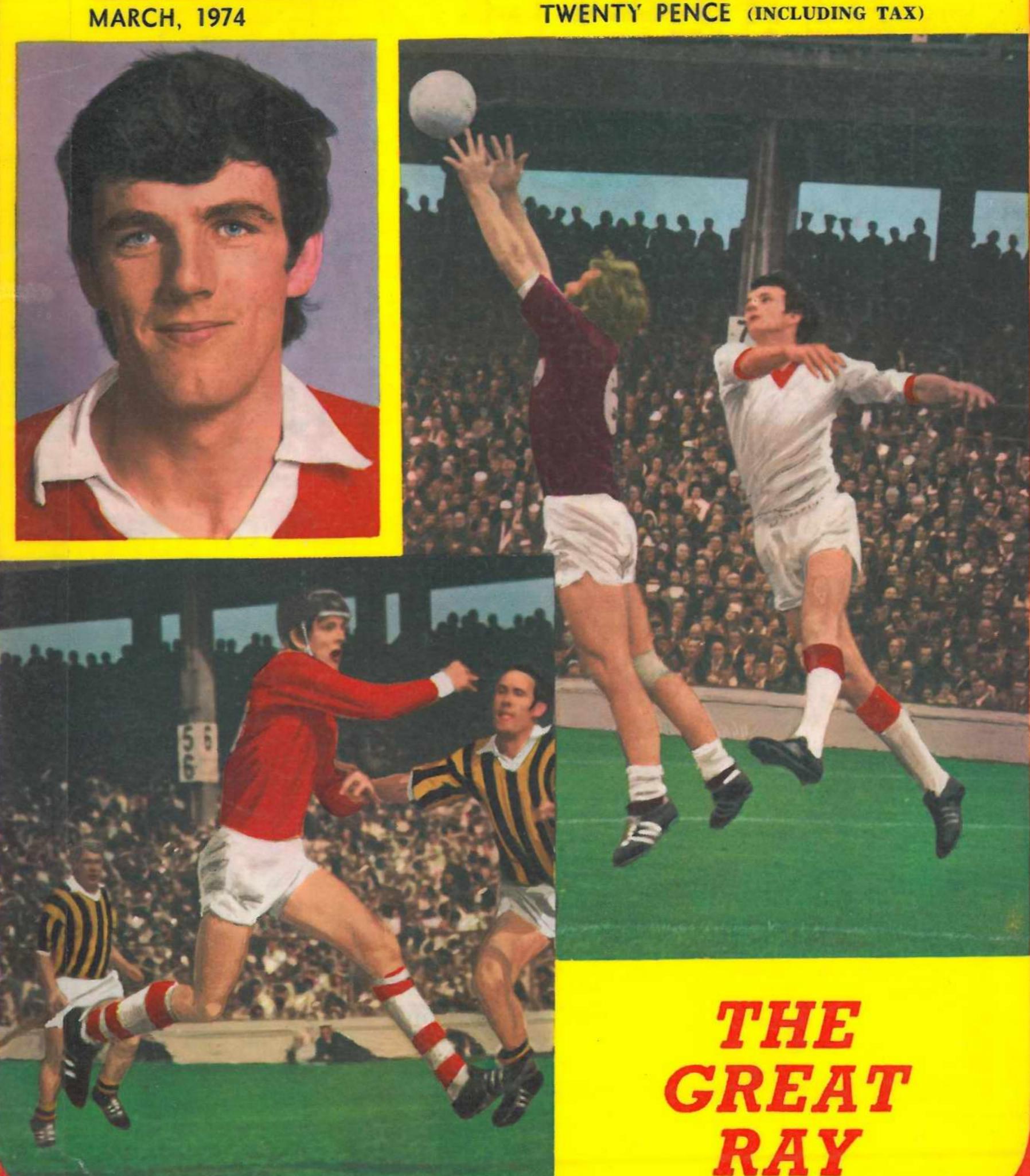
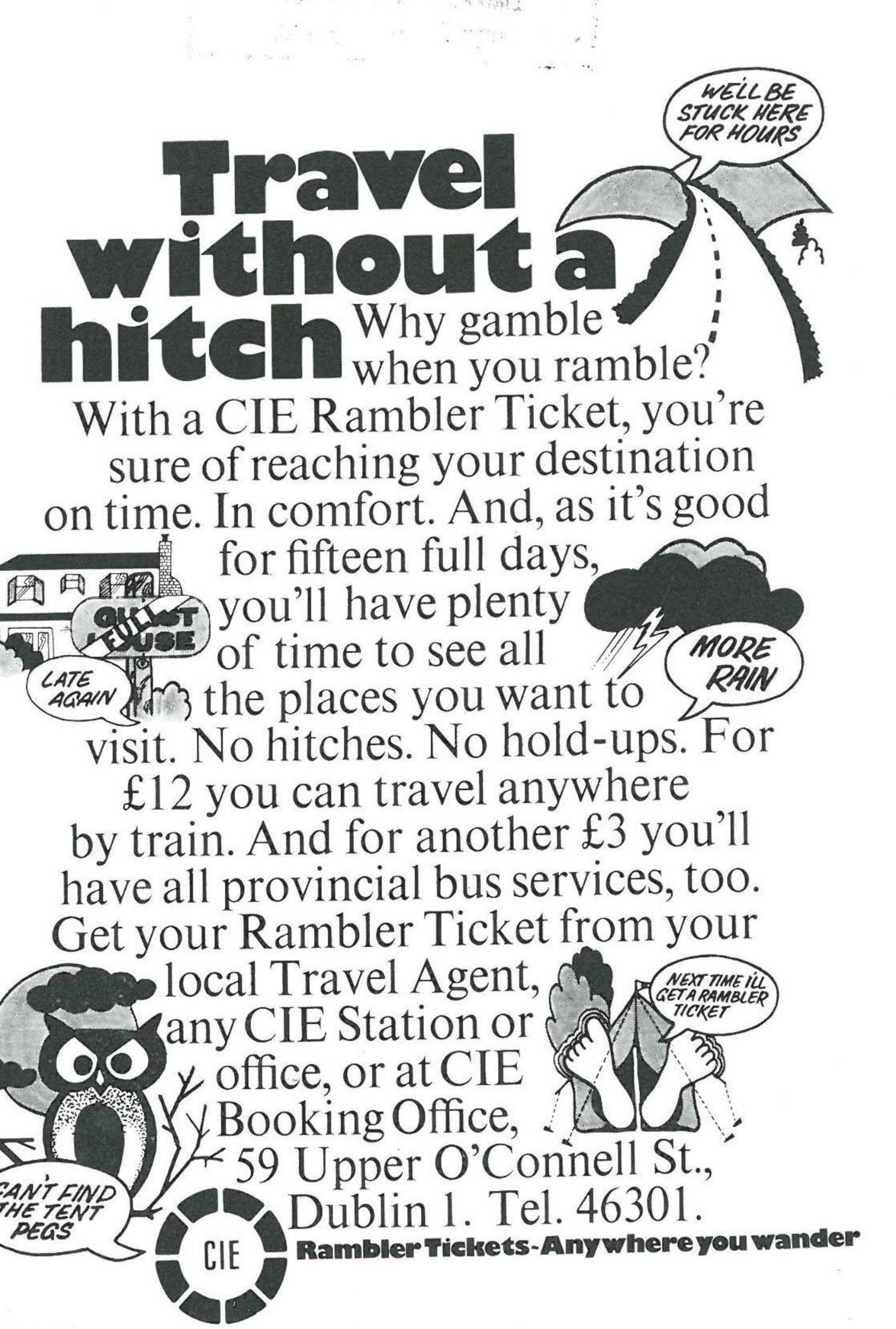
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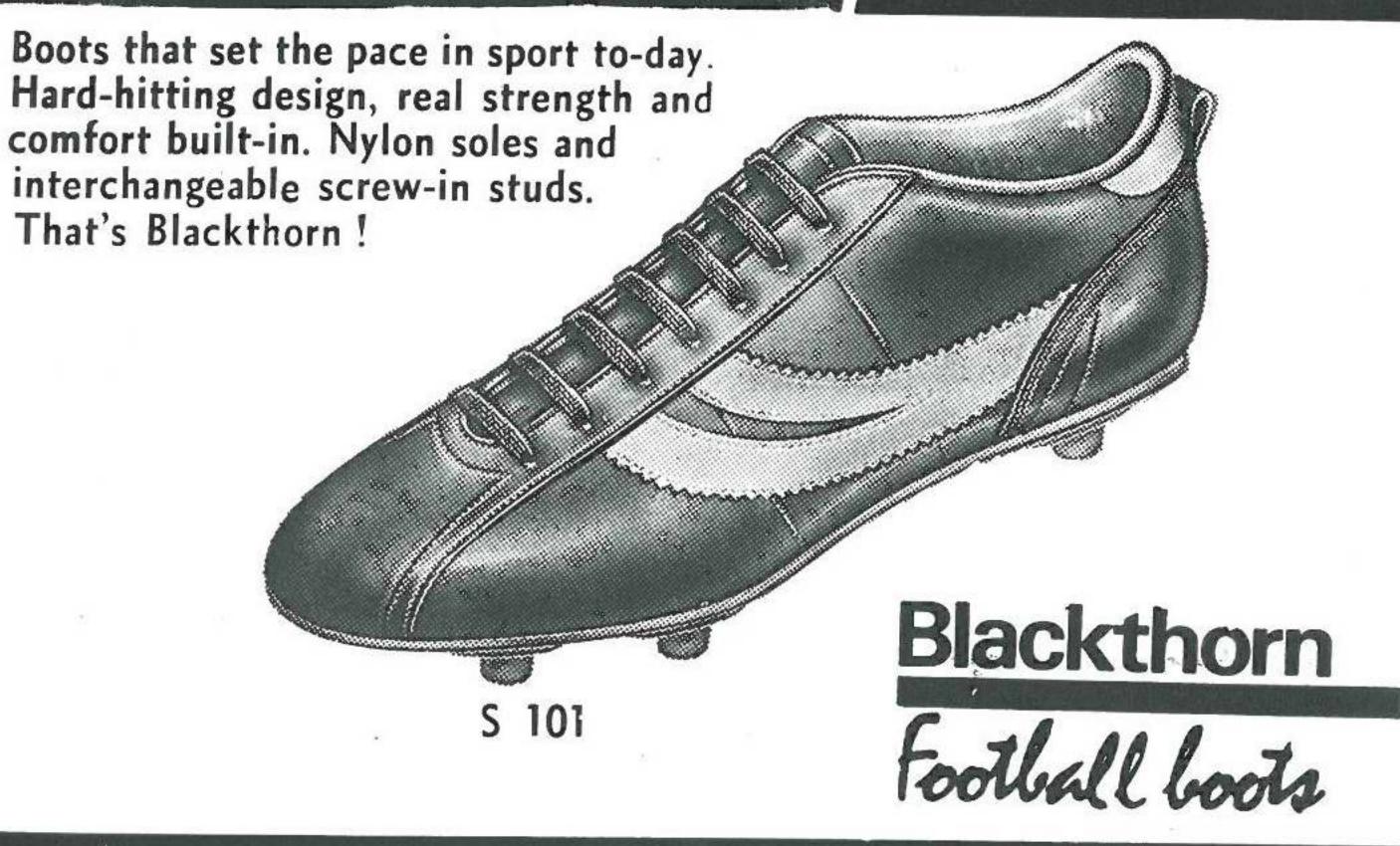
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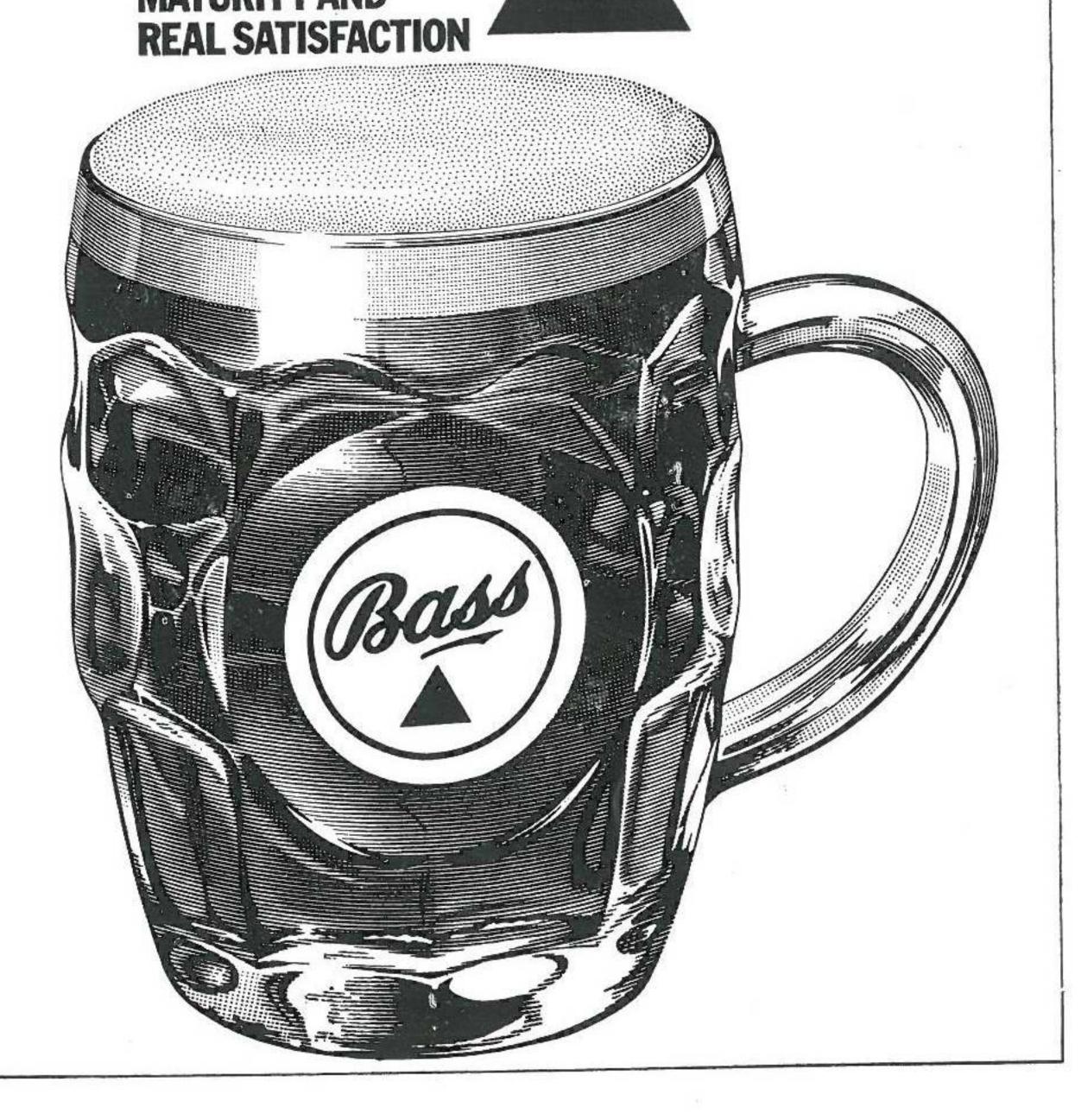
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March 1974

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APATHY

POOTBALL and hurling are two of the finest spectator sports in the world, but they are not realising anything like their genuine potential. A variety of reasons can be advanced for this, but pride of place in our view must go to apathy.

This is to be found in many guises. Take, for instance, punctuality for the starting time for matches.

There has admittedly been a big improvement in this regard in recent years, but the position is still far from being completely satisfactory. Hand in hand with this goes another frequent cause for complaint from supporters—lengthy intervals.

Apathy, too, is reflected in the failure to publish programmes for many games in the National Leagues. Programmes add greatly to the enjoyment of supporters at any match, but particularly in the case of the Leagues when the majority of visiting players are often unknown to the home enthusiasts.

Too few turnstiles in operation at grounds, sloppy attire, a lack of a public address system . . . these are other factors that add to the unpleasing side of the picture.

All are small points, admittedly, but they do much to condition a much too easy going attitude with regard to the style and the presentation of the games. And, inevitably, the Association's prestige takes a knock.

In short, all this adds up to a bad public relations job for the G.A.A., and at a time when the organisation should be doing everything possible to put its best foot forward in the face of strong competition from other fields.

Better and more efficient presentation of the games would increase respect for the Association, win additional admirers, and help to better harness the pulling power of football and hurling.

The sad part is that so little genuine effort is needed to bring this about.

It is time now that the apathy was replaced by leadership and genuine effort from all branches of the Association. The interests of the games, the organisation generally, and the supporters, demands this.

WE TOLD YOU SO

STILL on the failure of officials to come to grips firmly with a problem. In the course of our October editorial we said:

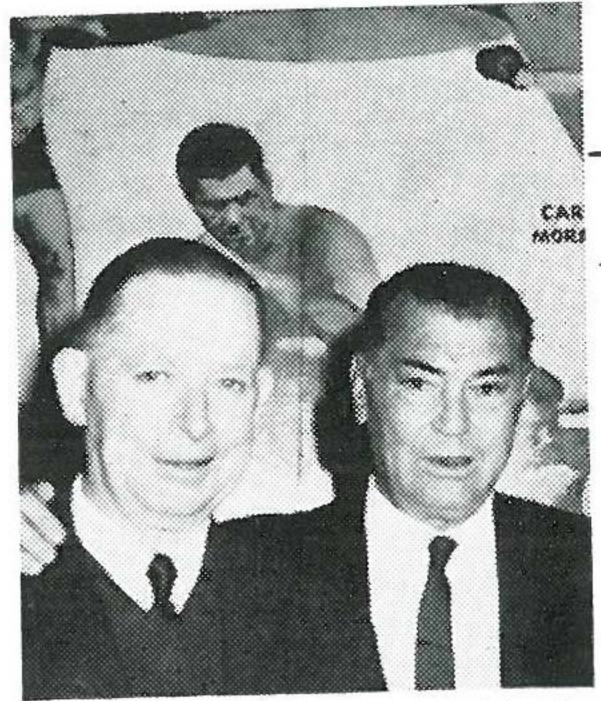
"Substitution should only be permitted when there is a break in play—and goodness knows, we have enough stoppages— This would enable the referee to take the substitute's name, and ensure

at the same time, that the man he was replacing had actually left the playing scene."

The only comment we will add now is that in a recent National Football League game a goal was disallowed because, apparently, the team that put the ball in the net had 16 players on the field at the time.

COVER PHOTO:

RAY CUMMINS, this month's cover personality, is now taking a well-earned rest from inter-county games. Followers, however, will await eagerly his return, and in the meantime, Owen McCann looks at the Cork man's great career on Page 13.



● John Kerry O'Donnell (left), who for years has advocated New York's entry to the All-Ireland senior championship—in either code. Mr. O'Donnell is pictured here with Jack Dempsey, former world heavyweight champion.

A T one time it looked as if we were destined to have a relatively quiet time at the Sligo Congress this Easter with only some divergent opinions on the proposed new playing rules disturbing the calm. Now there are signs that it could be quite a stormy weekend.

Limerick and others put forward motions which express growing concern throughout the Association about the erosion of the Central Council's power and about the actual role the Activities and Management Committees are playing in the administrative structure. That's bound to lead to some lively discussion.

Then there's to be a call for New York's inclusion in the All-Ireland hurling championship. That motion, coming from Wexford, will certainly ruffle the calm. One thing that has invariably injected heat into debates at Congress and Central Council over the last 20 years is any request for extended privileges for New York.

The Wexford motion will ask that New York be allowed take part in the hurling championship — ONLY — in the preliminary group with London, Galway and

Antrim. It will certainly find a lot of support for there is a wide base of sympathy for New York in the Association. Many delegates will maintain that New York hasn't got a lot of recognition from the Association at home in latter years. Moreover, at a time when the games in Gaelic Park are on an uncertain course because of the massive fall-off in the flow of young players due to immigration restrictions a strong case will be made at Congress that this solid gesture is needed to bolster and re-encourage New York.

A very sound argument can be put forward in support of those points and I have no doubt they will be propounded on Easter Sunday. But I advise caution. We mustn't rush into this merely out of mis-placed sympathy or unwise sentiment. We must consider this matter very carefully before taking a decision.

THESE ARE FLASH POINTS FOR SLIGO

I bow to no one in my admiration for the work being done for Gaelic games in New York . . or London, or Birmingham or any place else for that matter. I would be the last to suggest that New York shouldn't be encouraged; indeed, having enjoyed many visits to that exciting city and made many firm friendships there it would be churlish of me not to recognise the worth of their efforts. But even though my friends Terry Connaughton and Mick Morrissey - recently elected president and vice-president of the New York board - won't thank me for saying so, entry into the All-Ireland championship is not the way to do it.

As that other friend of mine from 240th Street and Broadway, John O'Donnell, knows, I have — over many years — proclaimed my belief that the National Leagues should be confined to the teams in this nation and that the All-Ireland championship should be restricted to the teams in ALL Ireland, but not outside. Now if we're talking about an ALL-IRISH championship for members of the Irish race no

matter where they reside it's a completely different matter. But up to now that's not what anyone has suggested.

My views apply equally to London as far as the senior hurling championship is concerned and to all the other counties in Britain who have been playing in the All-Ireland junior competitions up to their death this year. Just as hastily let me add that I am very definitely not against any of these bodies being in competition with the teams from Ireland; in fact, I favour it and would welcome it's expansion. But, again, not in the All-Ireland championships.

International competition possible in an Irish game only in handball — real, and not artificial, international competition as would have been the case had our contact with the Australian Rules continued. Because handball is the only one of our four native games that isn't confined exclusively to the Irish race. This month there will be an example of this real international competition when an Irish handball team takes on a Californian side that will include two of the greatest handballers in the world, Paul Haber (San Diego) and Stuffy Singer (Los Angeles), who haven't a drop of Irish blood in them.

In hurling and Gaelic football
— and camogie for that matter
— international competition is
possible only on a limited scale
as it was 50 years ago when
American and British teams of
Irish emigrants competed with a
home selection in the Tailteann
Games. This, I submit, is preferable to having the National
Leagues or the All-Ireland titles
at stake in games between teams
from outside this country and the
home winners.

It has long been a dream of mine — and others, too — to see a series between Ireland, Britain and America . . . and, effectively

America means New York, since all through the years the hurling and football strength has been in New York although there might, on occasion, be a player or two good enough in Boston or Chicago worthy of inclusion.

For one reason or another New York have always frowned on such a series. They participated very reluctantly from 1954 to '60 in the St. Brendan Cups, which were officially called the International Leagues. The counties in Britain could have no real objection to picking their best teams following their provincial championship since they did so on one occasion in the 1930s and again last year to play Donegal at Wembley.

There is one other aspect to all this: the harm that could be done to the All-Ireland hurling championship. The championship has not been improved by London's inclusion — the opposite, in fact, is the case and their semi-finals against either the Munster or Leinster champions have been regarded as farces by the paying public. Only the enormous enthusiasm that followed Limerick's

Munster championship triumph last summer — and the fact that the semi-final was practically on their own doorstep — brought a 10,000 crowd to Ennis. Certainly not public interest in London's appearance.

We must be realistic, unpalatable though that may be. New York haven't now the hurling resources to make an impression in the senior hurling championship. If they qualified to meet the Munster or Leinster champions in a semi-final over here there wouldn't be 5,000 at the game. At no time in the last ten years have they attracted a following here.

It's one thing to have crowds of 2,000-3,000 at an All-Ireland semi-final with London — since nobody takes them seriously — but it would be a different matter entirely if New York or London happened to qualify for the All-Ireland final.

The premier event in the hurling year would be ruined. We don't have too many hurling matches during the season which the public are queueing to see, so let's protect the really big attraction we do have.

Big handball test

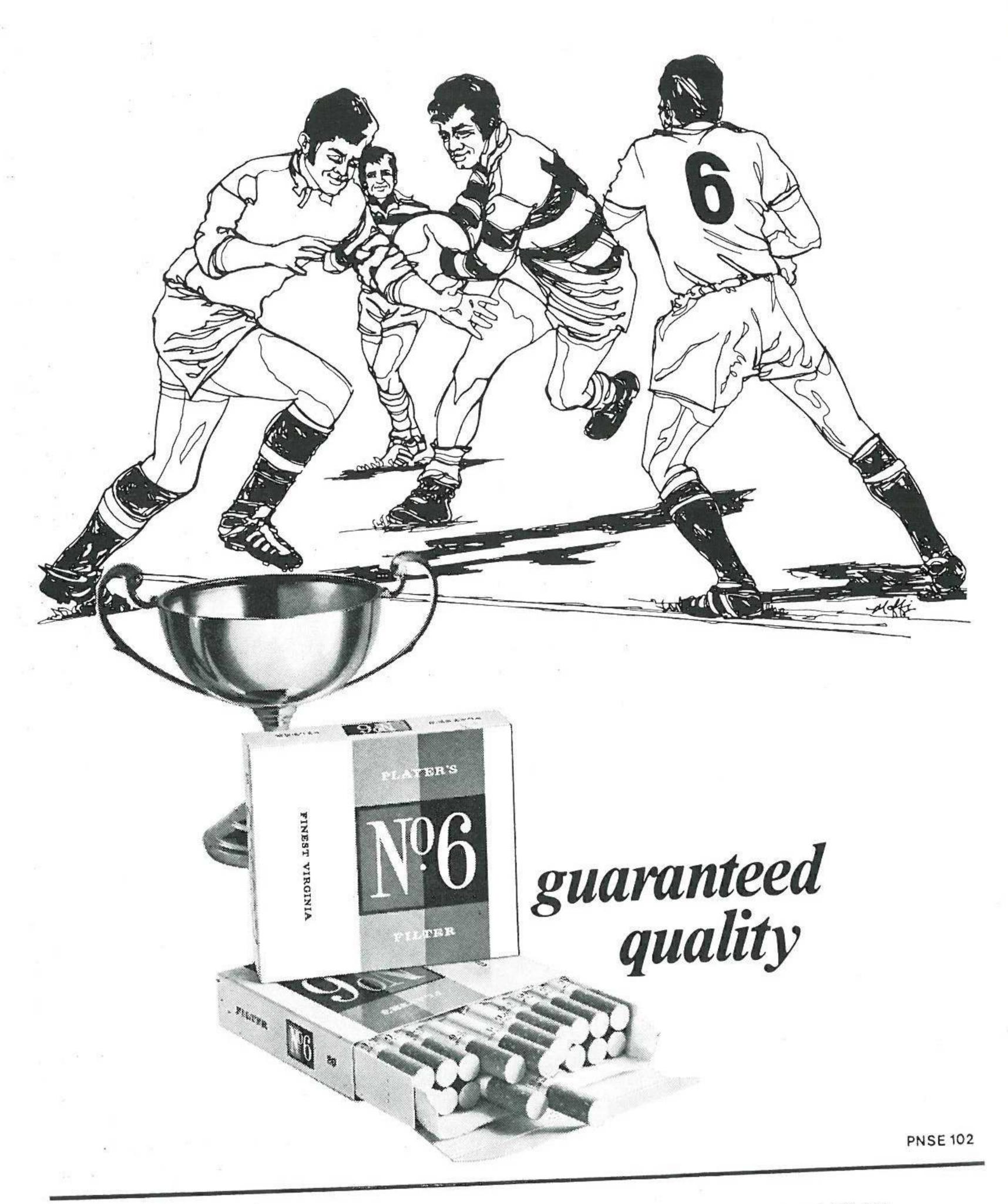
By Mick Dunne

HANDBALL history will be made this month when an Irish team visits the West Coast of America for a series of singles and doubles matches against a Californian team at the Olympic Club, San Francisco. They are Pat Kirby (Clare), Joey Maher (Louth), Murty McEllistrim (Kerry) and Peadar McGee (Mayo).

The opposition on the Californian team will include Tom Fleming, Mike Dunne and Mike Kelly (all San Francisco), Paul Haber (San Diego) and Stuffy Singer (Los Angeles).

Haber won the United States singles championship (fourwall) in 1966, '67, '69, '70 and '71 and the three-wall championship last year. Singer was the national four-wall champion in 1968.

The games will be on March 29 and 30 and the previous week Kirby and Maher will be in Knoxville, Tennessee, competing in the U.S. National championships — Kirby in the singles competition and Maher in the masters singles (for over-40s).



WHO'S HUGH GRIFFIN?

By SEAN RICE

THE selection of Hugh Griffin at left full forward on the Connacht team in January has aroused the curiosities of almost every follower in the province. For many did not even know such a player existed.

To be sure this 19-year-old's rise to prominence has been rapid. He played his first senior game for Roscommon only last October against Galway in the National League. But those who have seen him in action, and particularly players on the Galway, Offaly and Cork teams, will have remembered.

In each of these games, the young Roscommon player imprinted his talents firmly on the minds of those who watched. And if he was that bit too young, he more than made up for the inexperience by his singular determination and flair for opportunism.

These were the striking talents that had so long been tempting Roscommon selectors. He was under close scrutiny for some time, but his age was against his selection. "He has been very promising all along," said county secretary, Phil Gannon.

"We were reluctant to bring him into the senior team. We believe more can be got from players later on by holding them for a year after their minor days. But Hugh was playing so well that he could not be overlooked when the league team was being considered. He was selected for the game against Galway in which he scored a fine goal. Since then he has been steadily improving," said the secretary.

A third-year engineering student at U.C.G., Hugh is in fact a native of Galway. He was born in Athenry to Co. Clare parents, but the family moved to Roscom-

mon eleven years ago to where his father was appointed postmaster.

It was while at Roscommon C.B.S. that his football potential was noticed . . . and nurtured. He played with the local Roscommon Gaels juvenile and minor teams; won county senior and under-21 medals with the same club in 1972; played minor football for the county last year . . . and in the fall was chosen for the senior team.

It may not be insignificant that the only game which Roscommon had lost up to February was against Kerry . . . the one in which Hugh Griffin had not been playing.

So if his selection for Connacht was a surprise, few people in Roscommon will have shared it on the strength of his success within the county at such an early age.

Hugh attributes his selection on the Roscommon team to a new attitude on the part of the selectors . . . their tendency to experiment with new players and new ideas. Players like John O'Gara, David Watson and Tom Donnellan were all young and inexperienced, but the selectors gave them plenty of confidence.

He singled out coach Sean Young as the man responsible for the new and successful ideas expounded by the players in recent months. "It is generally accepted that his 3-midfielders plan caused Galway's downfall and also upset Offaly.

"But it is not just this parti-

cular match tactic that has brought us success so far. He also allows each player to develop and use his own skills

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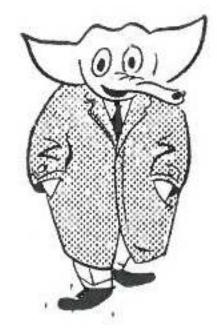
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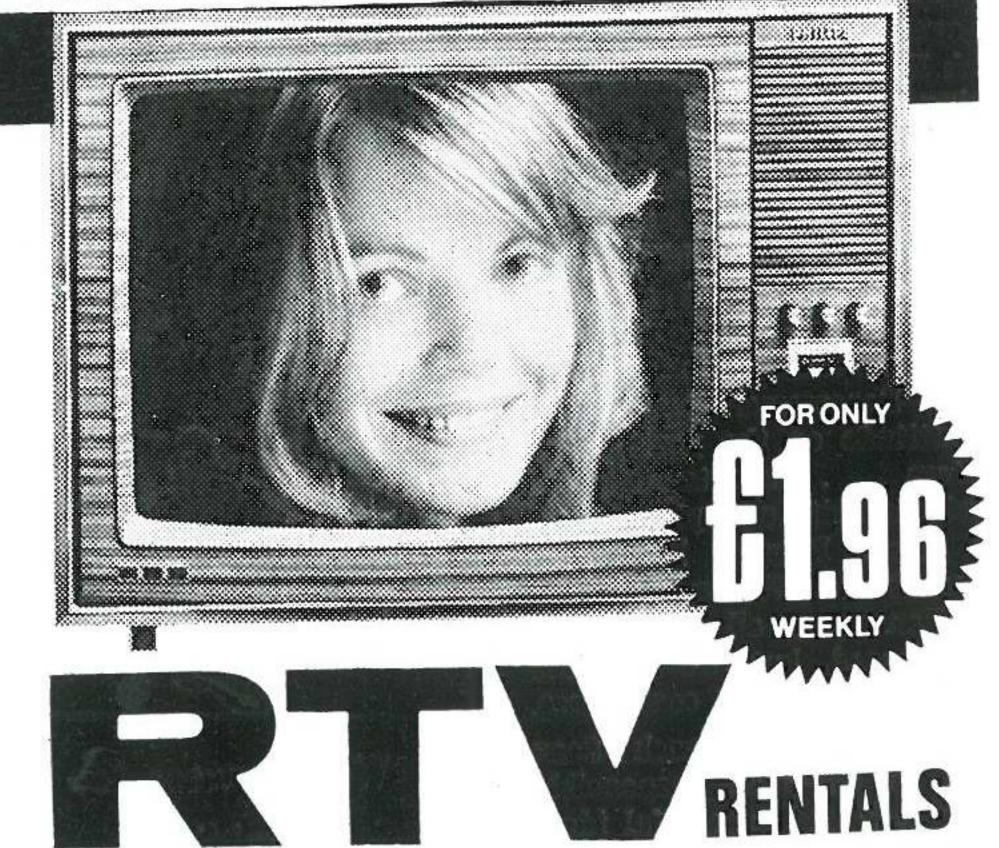
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FROM PAGE 7

within each tactical set-up."

He said their coach also encourages overlapping of half-backs and if the team could maintain the spirit which they have shown before Christmas against Galway, Offaly and the All-Ireland champions, Cork, the future would be bright. "Spirit certainly was the principal factor in our success over Cork."

He says it is not easy to maintain interest among young people in a club within which the standard of football has fallen. Interest depends on the success of the senior team within the club. In the Roscommon Gaels club young players are being catered for by means of street leagues. Each of the teams in that league has a manager who looks after all the interests of his particular team.

"This dedication could be followed by other towns in the county and I think interest among the youth could also be maintained if they were brought by their clubs to games in which the club's senior team is participating."

He agrees with all the proposed changes in the playing rules with the exception of the pick-up which he would favour straight off the ground using only one hand. "This would be preferable to the chip which is subject to different interpretations by referees. However, it is a skill that needs time to develop."

Roscommon convention decided to set aside one Sunday for the playing of games by the new rules and have asked as many players as possible in the county to take part in those games.

Hugh Griffin thinks this idea should be followed by other counties. "The new rules need to be given a chance and the players are the only ones who should make the final decision on their adoption."

THE HANDBALL SCENE

By ALLEYMAN



Joey Maher

THE Irish Handball Council has recently announced that it will be sending a national team to San Francisco with the Carrolls All-Star teams in the middle of March. The trip has now been given a real impetus by the gesture of Allied Irish Banks in sponsoring it.

The four players travelling at the invitation of the famous Olympic Club are Joey Maher (Louth), Pat Kirby (Clare), Murty McEllistrim (Kerry) and Peadar McGee (Mayo).

Pat Kirby, in fact, will be making it a dual-purpose journey, for he also contemplates competing in the U.S.H.A. National Open Championships at Knoxville, Tennesse, while Joey Maher may possibly participate in the Masters' event in the same championships.

If these plans materialise for Maher and Kirby, they will travel immediately after the American Championships to join up with McGee and McEllistrim, who, with the General Administrator, Joe Lynch, will be going on the G.A.A.'s charter flight to San Francisco.

The Olympic Club, where most of the action will be taking place, is in existence for more than a hundred years and boasts about 600 players.

The Director of the Club is Joe Hare, Mike de la Pena is the handball coach, while two Irishmen—Tom Fleming from Sligo and John Duffy, formerly a Monaghan footballer, have been very much to the fore in organising the trip.

They have arranged a full-scale California versus Ireland contest which is comprised of four singles and two doubles which will be played on March 29th and 30th.

Undoubtedly, the main attraction in this contest will be the clash of Pat Kirby and Paul Haber from San Diego, who has dominated the American handball circuit for the last decade.

He has won the U.S.H.A. National Singles on five occasions and is generally regarded as the most exciting player ever to hit the American scene.

The fact that Kirby has beaten him on a number of occasions in tournaments gives this clash impetus and, indeed, should set the standard for the entire international.

Stuffy Singer, who is ranked a mongst the first six in America, will also be in action while the remainder of the Californian side, drawn from the Olympic Club, have also made their mark at various levels.

Tom Fleming, for instance, who hails from Curry in County Sligo won the National Consolation championship in Salt Lake City in 1966, while two Irish Americans Mike Kelly, and Mike Dunne reached the quarter-finals of the National Open Doubles in Austin, Texas, last season. Kelly, a fireman in San Francisco, recently won the prestigious Firefighters American Championship.

This tour certainly adds prestige to handball and, should help to cement the relationships between the Handball bodies in the two countries.

In the same context, it is interesting to note that the game in America has recently taken a dramatic turn with the decision of the U.S.H.A. to introduce professionalism.

The first professional tournament which was held in St. Paul, Minnesota, was won by Fred Lewis and, he netted £400 for his week-end's work.

I certainly view the move sceptically, even if one must concede that all sport in America is geared towards professionalism.

It is inevitable, that the U.S.H.A. could not serve the joint masters of Amateurism and Professionalism and, that the former must lose out.

This could be a tragic mistake, because it is the rank and file player who has built the U.S.H.A. to it's present status and, likewise, will be expected to retain it there.

One must also wonder will this new move hamper the efforts to promote handball in other parts of the world.

I would think so, as it will the attempts to have it seen in the light of an Olympic sport.

Priorities have, apparently, been mislaid somewhere between the idealism of the Olympics and the mercenary nature of professionalism.

It would be better, by far, I suggest, to see it included in the Olympics rather than in the professional arena of Madison Square.



Number 1 the taste of good tobacco



The busiest young chap I ever saw



Con Roche
(Cork)

By EAMONN YOUNG

CORK were hurling with a real bite now and this time Kilkenny would have to swallow the bitter drink of defeat. The Canal goal was asking for more scores and the boys would surely provide them. Out from the Cusack side whirled a slim fast-stepping chap in the red jersey, brought the sliotar half a dozen yards and then with a ballet-dancing change of feet swung the white stick in a silver arc and away she went. When that sliotar dropped over from eighty yards I knew the All-Ireland of '72 was won. Pity I was forced to change my mind in the next fifteen minutes. But what harm. Kilkenny deserved their win and Con Roche's point took some of the gall out of the beating. In fact it still does.

This Barrsman was about the busiest player I ever saw when he was under-21. I don't go overboard for the men who are forever groaning about the number of games they have to play and who blame the G.A.A. for the list of fixtures. It isn't the Association's fault surely if a man gets picked on a lot of teams. And blaming the Association for having to play too many games is about as logical as blaming the brewers of stout for your sick head.

But Con Roche was about the busiest young chap I ever saw and I never heard him complain. Hurling and football with Cork in minor and under-21 with the multitunious demands of the great Barrs club in all grades and two codes. How he went through it I'll never know. How he played so well during that time nobody, even himself I suspect, will ever know.

Still as busy as ever this man Roche lives for playing. Never one to calculate every step he has that happy-go-lucky sporting attitude to life which is a big part of the recipe for enjoying what so many find a journey through a vale of tears. No doubt some poor devils get it a bit tougher than others but there's many a man who has little cause for the moaning he emits.

Roche hurls hard, and when the flames of real hard competition are burning the bottoms off the lethargic men you'll see Roche of the Barrs in there hitting hard and fair with body and with ash in the style of the true Gaelic sportsman. Who else but Con would have been so perfectly positioned to

hit that last second equaliser against Limerick in the recent League game. I'm sure it is this elan, this bright and cocky confidence allied to a dashing skill which has kept his slim frame intact through so many years of burning competition.

Of course that love he has for games plus the lively temperament which sees no delight in the restrictions which must inevitably follow a sophisticated society, inevitably get our friend Roche into hot water. Take the recent row with the Barrs for instance. Up to their tonsils in competition and getting ready to face the Glen the Barrs told their senior players to play no more unnecessary games. Some of the lads were playing in less important competitions and they packed up. More were driving a few fast balls to help a public-house soccer team and some of them called a halt. But one man didn't see it that way. Why place unwanted bounds to this thing called sports? And you can guess the rest.

Put up to them as it was, the club had no alternative but to dropping Con Roche for the Glen game and while I was very sorry to see a dilemma which could have been avoided by a bit of tactful bridgebuilding from both sides it was hard for me personally to suppress a smile, for I couldn't see any other player of my acquaintance being in that position except the airy man from the Barrs.

He's back again hurling as well as ever, something I never doubted anyway and I'm looking forward to seeing him waltzing his way around left half back out into the centre of the field carrying, pulling, sweeping it away and whipping the long ones right down to the other square in a way that will be remembered always by men who love this game of hurling and admire those who play it with the big open heart of the sportsman.

It was in the last minute of the game against the Glen and the Blackpool men had scored. I was delighted at that lead of a point for the time was up and the Glen were off into the final against the Rockies. Finbarr O'Neill lashed it out from the Glen goal in what would be one of the last pucks of the game. To the centre of the field it dropped and

• TO PAGE 17

Team spirit



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IS RAY THE GREATEST OF ALL DUAL STARS?

By OWEN McCANN

It takes flair, ability, drive and discipline to get to the top in any sport. To this, something extra special is also needed in the make-up of a player if he is to efficiently employ his skills in two separate codes at the highest level possible.

The talents, then, of Ray Cummins are all the more strikingly underlined by the fact that he has filled the testing role of dual player in the big-time with an authority displayed by few two-games performers in the long history of hurling and football.

Nowadays we are inclined to think mainly of the Cork man in the football sense. The memory of his great work in the Championship, and of the sterling qualities of leadership he displayed when he took over the free-kicking role during the All-Ireland final, and made such a success of the job that he shot seven valuable points, tends for the moment to cloud his wonderful qualities as a hurler.

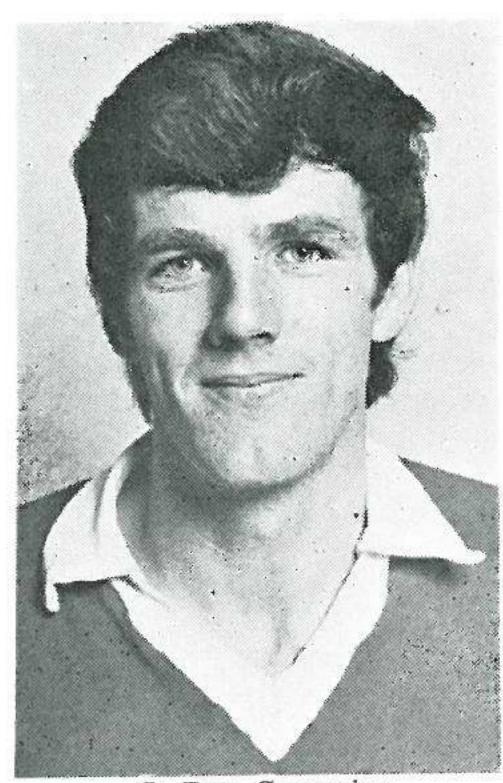
But football or hurling, it is all the same to the six-foot plus Cummins. While it's often said of a dual player that he is better at one game than the other, it would be difficult to make a bold case as whether football or huring is Ray's "strong" code. Such is his adaptability that he is invariably the polished artist in command of the occasion, whether it's working skilfully and tellingly in the hurling art, or prompting and inspiring a football scoring division.

Small wonder, then, that he is the only player to gain dual representation in the coveted Carrolls All Stars award promotion.

He was included in both selections in 1971, the initial year of this exciting scheme, found favour at full forward in hurling in 1972, and was named full forward in football last year. As a result, he also becomes the only player to gain four separate awards.

Ray Cummins, who hurls with Blackrock and plays football with the sister club, St. Michael's, was only 25 last November, but he can already look back on a career studded with major successes.

Even in his early days he was displaying in exciting measure the budding skills and techniques in football and hurling that have made him such an outstanding figure today. He won county



Ray Cummins

honours as a minor in the two games, and was full forward in the side that beat Wexford for the All-Ireland Under-21 hurling title of 1969.

But even before that national medal win he had made his mark with the county in the top rank of football and hurling. His call-up to the big-time came first in football, when he was honoured against Kerry in a National League tie in 1968.

Nor had our current cover personality long to wait after that until he took his place among the ranks of the dual senior representatives. His big chance in hurling came in the 1969 Munster senior final, when he was sent in as a substitute. Ray retained his place for the All-Ireland final, in which Kilkenny shocked the Cork men.

Since then, this exciting and gifted two-games star has served his county and the games superbly. He has had many golden moments, too.

Like a solid and workmanlike contribution to Cork's last All-Ireland Senior Hurling Championship win in 1970.

OVERLEAF

Treasures



CLONMINES ABBEY, Co. Wexford. The abbey, around which are the remains of a walled medieval town, was founded by the Cavanaghs for Augustinian hermits during the twelfth century; it was enlarged and decorated in 1385. The town was destroyed in the year 1400, but the Augustinians still had a prior at Clonmines until late in the eighteenth century. The abbey stands beside the River Barrow. A treasure from the past, but the future has treasures too . . . for lucky ticket holders.

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• FROM PAGE 13

Some months before that medal win, Cummins helped Munster to their last Railway Cup title win in hurling. Then, in 1972, he was there again to the fore when the South chalked up their only Railway Cup title win in football over the past 25 years. In the process, the big Cork ace became one of only three players to collect inter-provincial medals in football and hurling.

Then, of course, there was that invaluable contribution he made last year towards the return of the Sam Maguire Cup to Cork after an absence of 28 long years, and thereby earning for himself a further rare niche in the annals of the games. He is only the tenth man to play in winning teams in All-Ireland senior finals in hurling and football.

So, is Ray Cummins the greatest dual player of them all? That must inevitably be a matter of conjecture, but the fact that he has accomplished so much and at a time when the pressures on the players in any one game — let alone in two — are greater than ever, must make him a very strong contender for such a rating.

Be that as it may, the games are greatly indebted to Ray Cummins, whose achievements on the club front include the winning of an All-Ireland senior hurling medal in 1972. He is the type of exciting personality-plus performer hurling and football need to keep ahead of their competitors.

But, probably the most welcome and exciting feature of all is that, despite all he has achieved so far, Ray Cummins still has so much to offer the games. In the years ahead he can continue to delight and thrill supporters, whether they are from Cork or elsewhere, with the deft touches and progressive play that have made him such a master hurler and footballer.

LONDON GAELS SHOW ADMIRABLE COURAGE

THE decision of the London County Board of the G.A.A. to switch the annual Wembley Whit week-end Tournament from Saturday to Sunday is probably as practical as it is courageous. Not quite as courageous of course as it would have been some few years ago, but a reasonably brave step just the same.

The fundamental position of course is that just as long as the Lord's Day Observance Act is law, you cannot technically charge for admission to a Sunday game. So you have to charge for the programme and leave each programme bearer in free.

On the other hand, the same long-outmoded Parliamentary Act has taken a tremendous beating in the last few months since the Energy Crisis and the miner's go-slow has led to the playing of competitive soccer matches in the English Leagues on Sundays.

By May, although one presumes the English soccer season will be almost entirely concluded by then, the playing of games on Sundays in England will no longer be a nine-days wonder, so there is unlikely to be any pickets on Wembly by puritanitcal protesters.

Moreover, it has already been remarkable in England that the crowds have been turning up in far more considerable force for games on Sundays than they have been doing for matches on Saturday afternoons. The reasons for these increases are complex, and while they may be in some small part be influenced by the three-day week situation. the root-causes go back further. Many, many households nowadays have Saturday completely off in Britain, no work, no school, no need to get up on a Saturday morning. So the wife is inclined to take the husband shopping in the super-market in the afternoon, with the result that he does not get ticket-of-leave to go to the local football game as regularly as he used. Whereas, the football match on a Sunday is a different proposition.

It may be argued that those are English not Irish traits, but a fair share of the Irish have not been slow to absorb the week-end customs of their neighbours, especially those who do not work on Saturdays. Meanwhile quite a number of the Irish who do work on Saturdays are paid considerable overtime for doing so, and were therefore lost to the Wembley tournament as spectators in recent years.

In addition, it seems to me that the novelty of

seeing our own games played at Wembley has been steadily wearing off among the Exiles in Britain and that through the last few years we have been down to the hard core of hurling and football enthusiasts in London and its more immediate environs.

Now I believe that the change to Sunday, always the traditional day for G.A.A. followers to attend a game, should give the much needed boost to the attendances, while the valued sponsorship from Allied Irish Banks will remove the financial problems concerned with the tournament from the minds of the London County Board.

This year the games return to the formula of replays of the All-Ireland finals, with the hurlers of Limerick and Kilkenny lining out against one another, likewise the footballers of Cork and Galway. These games should be a tremendous attraction for those of the Exiles who had not the opportunity of seeing these games on television, or having seen the various re-runs still did not believe.

But while, quite obviously there could be no more popular pairings for Wembley, I am sorry that last year's experiment of bringing over the All-Stars was not given another try. My reason for that was the remarkable transformation in the approach of the All-Stars to the hurling games as distinct from the opening hurling encounter.

In the football match the Stars taken out of their stride by a young and ambitious Kerry squad, never really seemed to get going at all. On the other hand, the All-Star hurlers, obviously put on their mettle by the obvious exultation of the Kerry footballers, and the no less obvious determination of the Tipperary hurlers to repeat their fellow-Munstermens feat, came out and hurled to a great hour to achieve hard-earned victory.

This, especially in the second half was no exhibition game, but was played flat out and in deadly earnest. While welcoming the return to Wembley of the All-Ireland finalists, I would dearly like to see the All-Stars called out to play as a team again. I think what happened in Wembley taught them a very severe lesson.

I think the All-Stars beaten at Wembley felt they had let down their own image, even admitting that the side which lost to Kerry was missing

• TO PAGE 17

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• FROM PAGE 15

several of the men originally named as the football All-Stars of 1972.

I believe if ever again the All-Stars take the field to play as a team every man of them will give his all, and never more so than if by any chance the suggested games between the All-Stars and the Rest of Ireland, ever come to fruition.

* * *

Was I the only one sadly disappointed because the annual County Conventions paid such relatively little attention to the matter of the suggested new rules? But then how many of the counties have made any real effort to try out those new proposed rule amendments in practice anyway? Have even one quarter of the counties done so? And if that is the case how are Congress delegates going to vote for or against proposals they have never seen in action except perhaps in fleeting images on a television screen? It just doesn't make sense to me.

Outside the problems raised by the changes of administration, the clash between the Activities Committee, the Management Committee and the Central Council was certain to become obvious and the task of the Easter Congress will be to clearly define the relative factual as apart from theoretical powers of each. It is well to remember of course that Central Council is strongly represented on the Activities Committee and even more strongly on the Management Committee, which must in recent months have placed some individuals in some extremely invidious positions.

But to date we have not otherwise seen any really worthwhile motions that suggest any great step forward with the exception of one from Limerick that suggest a new President should be elected a year before he takes office. That is a very good idea, as it gives the President Elect a chance of gathering up the threads and learning the ropes. But it is not unique of course. The National Teachers' Organisation have been doing exactly this, most successfully for years and years and years.



Pat Delaney . . . Kilkenny's dual All-Star forward.

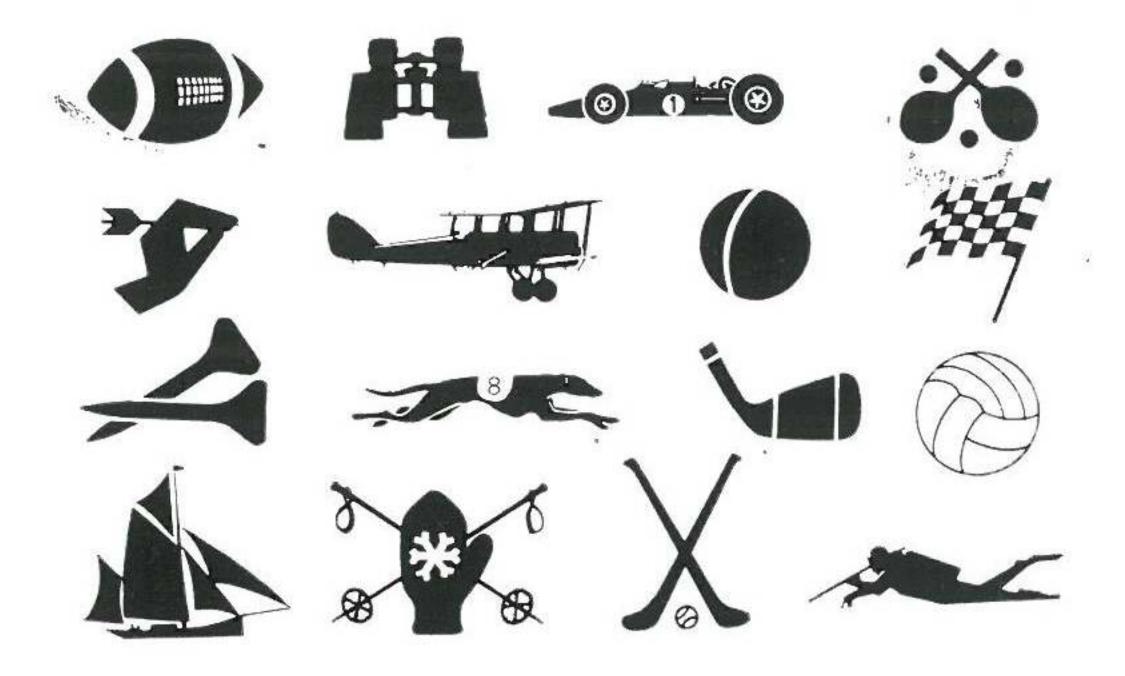
Con Roche: Busiest young chap I ever saw

• FROM PAGE 11

I waited for the final whistle. More eager than I, a Glenman lost his cool and running over to the dropping ball got entangled in a Barrsman who had not even got possession. The ref Frank Murphy, blew for a free. Eighty yards out it was. Deathly silence as Rochey stepped up to it. Ritchie Bennis did it a few months before but the chances here were even less. Quickly without any obvious care Con lifted it and struck. As always the lads behind the goal give the first message but I didn't know whether the

chaps jumping four feet off the ground were Barrs or Glen. But there she was straight and true between the posts and the Barrs selection committee broke a sixty-yards dash record to daisy-chain themselves in rapture around the neck of the striker. I'll never forget the disappointment in the faces of Christy Ring, Jim Young, Jackie Daly, and the Glen men. Hard to blame them.

You can see the courage of the Barrs committee when you realise that it was for the replay Con Roche was dropped.



Here's to enjoyment



Slainte Mineral Waters 45 Montpelier Hill, Dublin 7.



By OWEN McCANN

Tony Doran

A vintage season for spot-kickers

SOME well taken penalty goals in the opening weeks of the year, as well as a number of impressive individual goal scoring feats, and the absence of Mick O'Dwyer from the Kerry side, point to intriguing Scoresheet possibilities in the months ahead.

Let's start with penalty kicks. Last year was one of the vintage seasons in this regard with no fewer than 31 spot kicks awarded. This is the second highest annual bag since I started keeping these particular records in 1957. The outstanding year was 1958, when thirty-seven spot kicks brought 23 goals and one point.

The record for last season shows the finishers up in very favourable light. A total of 21 goals came from the spot, seven were saved, and only three were sent wide. Thus, the six extra penalties in the record-making campaign of 1958 yielded only two goals more than last year's bag.

One of the missed penalties had an extra special significance. It was the first awarded under the experimental rules, and was gained by Galway in the 29th minute of the second half of their Grounds' Tournament semi-final with Tyrone at Croke Park in November.

Later that month, Galway figured in a match that also now holds an extra special place in the penalties line-up. It was a National League tie with Wicklow at Ballinasloe, and goes into the chart as one of the few to be marked by three kicks from the spot.

The first, two minutes into the second half for the visitors, was saved. Twenty-seven minutes later the second was crashed to the Galway net by Mossie Coffey. Then, with the final kick of the game, Liam Sammon converted a penalty into a goal for Galway.

The 1958 and 1973 programmes are the only ones in which the annual tally of penalties exceeds 29. It will be interesting to see if the present campaign provides a record dimension to the colourful and exciting story of the hits and misses from the exclusive spot.

Over now to the individual goal-getting scene, and here the hurlers in particular have a whopping target to aim at. This stands at a thundering 35, and was put

up as far back as 1956 when Nick Rackard was in tremendous form with Wexford. In 19 games he also helped himself to 50 points to set a county scoring record at 155 points over-all that is still standing.

The nearest any hurler has yet come to that Rackard goal-spectacular is 24, and this distinction was earned by one of the most exciting young chance-snappers in the game today—Sean O'Leary. In 1972, his first full season in the Cork senior outfit, he scored 24-12 (84 points) in 15 engagements.

The Youghal hurler's barrage brought him two goals clear of the previous best by a Cork hurler. In 1959, Christy Ring chartered the way with 22-35 (101 points) in only ten games, and two years later he again reached the 22 goals mark. In 13 outings he also scored 38 points for a combined haul of 104 points that ranks as the county peak.

O'Leary, it will be remembered, was still eligible for the Under-21 ranks last year. And, on the way to an All-Ireland medal in the grade he grabbed the headlines in a prominent way by shooting a tremendous 2-14 in the county's semi-final win over Galway at Galway.

The premier position for hurling in the goals league last year was won with a moderate enough 17 by Tony Doran, of Wexford. However, some exciting individual shows in the opening weeks of the present year suggests that, whatever about that Rackard spectacular being finally improved on this season, the coming months will at least ensure that the series of matches will result in a bigger national bag than was the case for 1973.

The football returns for the past season were not particularly

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FROM PAGE 19

noteworthy either. In fact, the record was the poorest in the past seven years at eight goals, a total achieved by Sean Kearney (Tipperary) in twelve matches, and by Brian Doherty (Kildare) in 15 games.

This is well short of the pacesetting 17 goals that this months colour cut-out personality, Willie McGee (Mayo), reached in 27 ties in 1969.

Mick O'Dwyer has led the way in the Kerry chart every year without a break since 1968. His run is not a record — Michael Kearins took the leading role for Sligo last year for the twelfth season on the trot - but the great-hearted Kerry man's spell at the top must still rank as one of the best chapters in the annals of top scoring.

Indeed, his reign as the greatest Kerry score-getter of all time has the seal of a record-making performance. In 1970 he led the way nationally with 13-122 (161 points) in 26 games, including outings on Kerry's world tour that year, and this is now the No. One total for football nationally, and the third highest score for both codes.

Until O'Dwyer went a scoremaking with a vengeance the county record was 79 points (9-52) after the name of Bernie O'Callaghan in 17 outings in 1963.

Since then, the best by a Kerry man, other than O'Dwyer, is 90 points, put up in 25 games by Brendan Lynch in 1970. His actual score was 10-60, and he contributed to that personal best by cracking home some goals and points during the Kerry world tour.

Who will emerge as the premier Kerry marksman for 1974? That's just another of the many interesting angles that give added point to the SCORE-SHEET summary for the months ahead.

Railway Cups -----

LONG, LINGERING DEATH

By MICK DUNNE (of RTE Sport)

VERY little has been notable about the Railway Cup competitions in recent years . . . except the fact that they are dying a long, lingering death. However, there was one noteworthy feature of recent St. Patrick's Day finals: Leinster's record third successive hurling triumph for the eastern province.

Of course, this wasn't anything new for the inter-provincial hurling championship. Munster had done it several times. What's more the southern province had lengthy runs of five years (1942-'46) and six years (1948-'53). But for Leinster St. Patrick's Day 1973 was the first time they won the hurling cup more than twice in succession.

So it took Leinster 46 years of the competition to achieve the hurling three-in-a-row. Is that something Leinster people can rightly take pride in? Or is it a matter of sadness that they could accomplish this only when the competition is on its last legs?

Furthermore, what's the explanation for these three Leinster successes on the trot? Can it be that, over the last few years, they have had the better hurlers than Munster? The All-Ireland championship doesn't suggest it. Would it be that their selectors, in recent years, have picked their teams more wisely? There's no real evidence that this is so, either.

Maybe it's a case of Leinster's hurlers being just a little less apathetic towards the Railway Cup than the men who wore Munster's blue in latter years. With all due respect to Leinster, and without wishing to take from their victories, therein lies at least part of the answer.

All of which is a great pity. I have written it before that I regard the decline of the Railway Cup competitions with some sadness because, over the years, it has provided us with lots of splendid hurling and football entertainment. Especially in the late Forties and throughout the Fifties.

The hurling, of course, was usually a battle between Munster and Leinster and everyone has cherished memories of the sparkling fare they so often provided in the days when the St. Patrick's Day finals could attract 40,000 attendances.

Flashing back through the files I find my memories being rekindled of the 1954 final-not a very spectacular game, indeed a low-scoring one which Leinster won 0-9 to 0-5. But it did give us a superb display by Leinster's right full-back, Jim Hogan of Kilkenny. He had just returned following a long lay-off from the game, yet he was so brilliant that he held the great Christy Ring to three points. That surely was an achievement against the one man whose unparallelled skill and talents contributed so much to the entertainment-value of the Railway Cup finals and whose departure from inter-provincial hurling probably was one of the contributory factors of their decline. That day Hogan was vigilant, tenacious and overwhelmingly masterful.

A year later it was another Kilkenny man who sparkled on St. Patrick's Day even though Leinster lost. He was Sean Clohosey, chosen originally at midfield for his province but he lined-out on the half-forward line. Yet when Leinster were in

trouble they pulled him back to midfield and there the skill of this gloriously stylish player was seen in great abundance.

Or there was the day in 1956—yes, indeed, the 50s were great times for the Railway Cups—on which the two Wexford demons, Nick Rackard and Tim Flood, destroyed Munster. Nick got 2-9 of Leinster's total and the dynamic Flood, splendidly co-ordinating with his fellow countyman, notched 1-2.

March 17, 1962 will always be remembered as Des Foley's day—the day he became the only player to win two Railway Cup medals on the same afternoon. His contribution to Leinster's football win was significant, but it was his overpowering performance at midfield for the hurlers that made it a majestically memorable personal triumph for the Dubliner.

Ah, the sad thing is that such personal exhibitions of great skill and artistry are becoming fewer and fewer in the last couple of years of disinterested players and disenchanted paying public.

And since we started thinking about that Leinster record in '73 I wonder how many successive titles this Leinster team, picked from the last 25 years, would have achieved:- Ollie Walsh (Kilkenny); Des Ferguson (Dublin), Nick O'Donnell (Wexford), Jim Treacy (Kilkenny); Jim English (Wexford), Billie Rackard (Wexford), Willie Walsh (Kilkenny); Sean Clohosey (Kilkenny), Des Foley (Dublin); Jimmy Langton (Kilkenny), Ned Wheeler (Wexford,), Eddie Keher (Kilkenny); Shem Downey (Kilkenny), Nick Rackard (Wexford), Tim Flood (Wexford).

The friendly bank, sponsors of the Sigerson Cup, salute this year's winners

3 Uster Bank the friendly bank

MAYNOOTH COLLEGE G.A.A. CLUB AND ULSTER BANK COMBINE TO GIVE NEW STATUS TO SIGERSON CUP COMPETITION

A MAJOR event in the history of the Maynooth College G.A.A. Club, was the staging of this year's Sigerson Cup Competition for the first time, an undertaking that shows the giant strides Maynooth football has made since they first entered University competition back in 1968.

As could be expected Maynooth started shakely. It wasn't
that the talent wasn't there—
it was—but never having the
occasion to field a College team
in any competition, a sense of
team-work and team-spirit had
to be instilled into the team.
But very soon under dedicated
captain Tom Colleary (Sligo) a
great Maynooth side began to
take shape.

But it wasn't until the 1972-73 season that Maynooth made the country sit up and take notice. After an undistinguished League series, they travelled to Cork for the Sigerson. Their hopes had already taken a severe blow with the loss of Colm Mullan, seriously injured in a car crash. Mullan had been a leading figure in the team for 4 years. An inspiring captain, he combined powerful physique with brilliant flicks and ball control. But in Cork under the inspiring captaincy of Cyril Hughes and the dedication and enthusiasm of trainer Fr. Malachy O'Rourke, they almost sprang one of the shocks of the year. In the semi-final where Hughes and Mel Flanagan (Rosmagnificient were common)

they trounced U.C.C. by 2-17 to O-4, the biggest winning margin ever in a Sigerson, Competition. But in the final against U.C.D. despite trojan defensive Dan by John and work Paddy (Mayo), O'Mahoney Henry (Sligo) and Tony O'Keeffe (Kerry) they lost by 1-9 to 1-5, U.C.D's goal coming in the last minute. It was a spirited display against physically stronger opposition under wet conditions at the Athletic Grounds.

In talking about the Sigerson Cup we cannot let the occasion pass without paying tribute to the Ulster Bank, who this year generously sponsored both the Cup and the Seminar.

of: Billy Morgan, Donie O'Sullivan, Brian McEniff, Pat Mangan, Liam Sammon, Sean O'Neill and Paddy O'Hara and it was chaired by our own Junior Desk Editor, Jack Mahon. No doubt Jack will let us have a full report in our next issue.

Ahoy there - Girls!

GREAT NEWS GIRLS! Commencing in our April issue we are introducing a Ladies page—completely devoted to the news and views of the fair sex. Write to us about anything: what do you consider is lacking in the G.A.A. world from the ladies point of view Are ladies getting a fair deal? Should the G.A.A. be concerned with attracting more ladies into the Association, even at Official level?

We would like our new column to be a serious reflection of your views on anything concerning G.A.A. affairs.

marry a G.A.A. Star"? We pose this question not in a light-hearted attitude, but one to be considered seriously, bearing in mind the very many calls made on G.A.A. County Players. Apart from match days, there are the frequent training sessions, the possibility of injury, the recent trend towards more and more social demands on leading players, not to mention overseas tours.

Replies will be published in our April issue and should be sent to:

The Editor, GAELIC SPORT, 80 Upper Drumcondra Road, Dublin 9.

to reach us by March 13th. A prize of £1 will go to the writers of the three best letters published.

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The players speak out on the club tests

By JOHN O'SHEA (of the Evening Press)

WHITHER the All-Ireland Club championships? Have they a future in the G.A.A. of the 1970's and 1980's?

Organised during the months of December, January and February, the competitions have so far failed to capture the imagination of the public.

But are they getting the support they are entitled to? We discussed the club championships with several top players who in recent years have featured in the event.

Jimmy Barrett: "Play the club championship games on Saturdays, is my advise to the organisers. I think it might solve the very obvious difficulty that exists.

"To my mind I think it's one of the best competitions in the association and as such should be treated with due importance.

"In five or six years, it will be even more important and at this stage it's vital that it is not downgraded in any way. Nemo Rangers have found it very satisfying and we are anxious that it grows in status."

Garret O'Reilly: "The competition as it is run today is not realising its potential by way of gate receipts. I contend that if the games were played in the sum-

mer months, the attendances would be significantly bigger.

"The G.A.A. I think should rationalise its competitions. I would like to see the championship, League and All-Ireland club games staged during the summer. These are the ones in which people are showing interest.

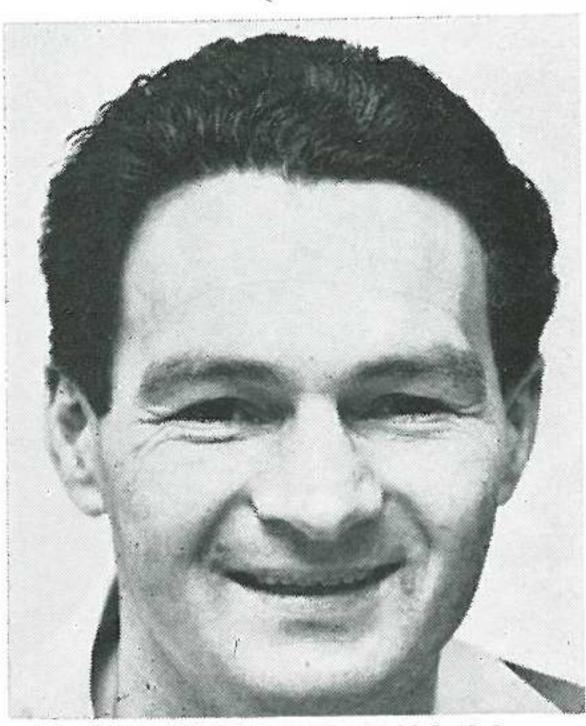
"If my club, U.C.D., played in the summer we would not be as strong as in winter, but nevertheless I think it would be a better thing for the competition.

"It's wrong that some of the best games on the G.A.A. calendar should be played out before small crowds. I'm convinced the public would become enthusiastic if the games were held at a proper time of the year."

Jimmy Keaveney: "Scrap some of the mickey mouse competitions, and lay the emphasis on building up the club championship into the biggest thing in the country.

"I think the club event is more important than the O'Byrne Cup, Walsh Cup—even the Railway Cup. It's a tremendous thing for the Association. It has brought great spirit into club sides and encouraged them to do well in their own county championships.

"Surely we can find five or six



MICK O'CONNELL

Sundays each year to stage it, instead of squelching around in the mud of December and January.

"For the player who would not normally play outside his own county, the competition provides exciting horizons.

"Perhaps the preliminary games could be held on evenings, but for 'gate' reasons I think the closing stages should be run off on Sundays.

"For some extraordinary reason the G.A.A. don't seem as keen on the competition, as I think they should be. It certainly doesn't get the support it deserves.

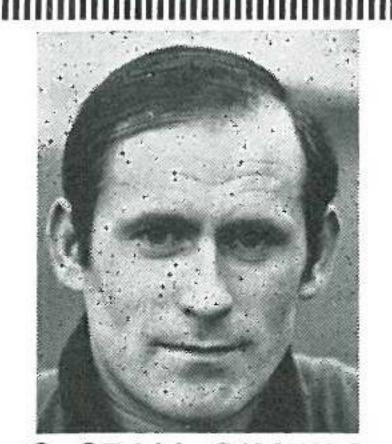
"If they don't intend to run it properly, I think it would be better if they scrapped it.

"From my experience of it I think it has fostered good relations between clubs and has helped towards improving the standard among the juveniles. For example St. Vincents and Nemo Rangers, because of their involvement in the competition have now arranged for matches between our rival juvenile sections."

Mick O'Connell: "It's a pity that

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COMPLETE LI WINNERS IN



SEAN O'NEILL

CHRISTY Ring has by far the outstanding record of any player in the Railway Cup competitions. The dynamic Cork man made 44 appearances in the Mun-

By Owen McCann

ster Blue between 1942 and 1963. and won a record 18 medals. Following are the hurling medalholders, under county headings.

MUNSTER CORK

18—C. Ring. 7—J. Quirke, W. Murphy.

6—M. Cashman.

5—D. B. Murphy, J. Brohan. 4—S. Barrett, M. Brennan, J. Young, J. Lynch, P. Barry.

SEAN O'NEILL

CEAN O'NEILL has the almost unbelievable distinction of having been chosen for every Ulster football side since 1960, and starting this year's competition he had 23 outings with the province. He recorded his best match score on his final debut in 1960 when he shot 1-5 against Munster, and has appeared at left half forward, right half forward and full forward.

3-J. Hurley, E. Coughlan, B. Thornhill, P. O'Donovan, M. Fouhy, J. Lyons, T. Kelly.

2-S. Og Murphy, J. O'Regan, M. O'Connell, G. Garrett, C. Cotril, C. Murphy, G. O'Riordan, A. O'Shaughnessy, W. J. Daly, T. O'Donoghue, J. McCarthy, G. McCarthy, M. O'Riordan, D. Murphy.

1-E. O'Connell, M. Aherne, P. Collins, P. Aherne, M. Leahy, J. Kennedy, W. Campbell, S. Condon, T. Mulcahy, G. Murphy, V. Twomey, J. Hartnett, P. Philpott, P. Duggan, P. Fitzgerald, S. Barry, C. Cullinane, A. Maher, D. Clifford, P. Doolan, W. Walsh, R. Cummins, D. O'Riordan.

TIPPERARY

8—Jimmy Doyle.

6—M. Kennedy.

5-P. Purcell, P. Stakelum, A. Reddan, John Doyle, A. Wall.

4-P. Cahill, W. O'Donnell, S. Bannon, P. Kenny, D. Nealon, M. Maher.

3-T. Doyle, D. O'Gorman, T. Treacy, J. Devitt, P. Shanahan, M. Ryan (Roscrea), M. Roche, L. Devaney, L. Gaynor, T. English.

2—G. Cornally, Jas Maher, T. Purcell, S. Kenny, J. Finn, M. Ryan (one with Leinster), M. Keating, J. O'Donoghue, N. O'Dwyer.

1-J. J. Callanan, M. Cronin, T. O'Meara, C. Keane, J. Cooney, E. Wade, J. Lanigan, J. Coffey, J. Ryan, W. O'Carroll, J. Kennedy, J. Hough, L. Kiely, N.

THE ROLL

HURLING

MUNSTER (32)—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, 1970. LEINSTER (14)—1927, 1932, 1933, 1936, 1941, 1954, 1956, 1962, 1964, 1965, 1967, 1971, 1972, 1973.

CONNACHT (1)—1947.

FOOTBALL

LEINSTER (17)—1928, 1929,

O'Gorman, P. J. Ryan, J. McKenna, J. Flanagan, J. Maher.

LIMERICK

8—M. Mackey.

7-J. Power, J. Mackey.

6—P. Clohossey.

5—P. Scanlan, Tim Ryan, R. Stokes, S. Herbert, T. McGarry.

4-M. Cross, T. McCarthy, P. Cregan, A. O'Brien.

3-M. Gibbons, T. Conway, T. Hartigan, Shinny, B. McCarthy.

2-M. Kennedy, G. Howard, (one with Leinster), P. McMahon, D. Kelly, E. Cregan (1968-1969).

1-J. J. Kinnane, P. O'Carroll, J. McCarthy, P. McCarthy, E.

p Glossary

ST OF WEDAL BOTH CODES



CHRISTY RING

HONOUR

1930, 1932, 1933, 1935, 1939, 1940, 1944, 1945, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1959, 1961, 1962.

ULSTER (13) — 1942, 1943, 1947, 1950, 1956, 1960, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1968, 1970, 1971.

CONNACHT (9)—1934, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1951, 1957, 1958, 1967, 1969.

MUNSTER (7)—1927, 1931, 1941, 1946, 1948, 1949, 1972.

UNIVERSITIES COMBINED (1)—1973.

> Cregan (1934), P. Fitzgerald, T. Cregan, M. Ryan, J. Sadlier, E. Stokes, L. Moloney, T. Casey, P. J. Keane, J. O'Brien.

WATERFORD

- 7—A. Fleming.
- 6—J. Keane.
- 5—C. Moylan, S. Power, F. Walsh. 4—J. Goode, J. Barron, M. Mor-
- rissey, T. Cheasty.
- 3-C. Ware, J. Ware, V. Baston, L. Guinan.
- 2-M. Hayes, E. Daly, D. Walsh, P. Grimes, A. Flynn.
- 1-D. Wyse, M. Curley, W. Barron, L. Byrne, M. O'Connor, J. O'Connor, D. Whelan, J. Byrne, J. Condon, M. Foley, P. Enright, E. Power, J. Kiely, M. Quealy, S. Keane.

CLARE

6—J. Smyth.

4-T. Considine, L. Blake.

3-J. J. Doyle, M. Nugent.

2-J. Mullane, P. J. Quane, M. Daly, D. O'Grady, J. Cullinane.

1-M. Hennessy, J. Harrington, T. Loughnane, P. Lyons, A. O'Brien, D. Solon, W. McAllister, D. McInerney, D. Dillon, J. Greene, L. Danaher, P. Cronin, N. Pyne, M. Considine, P. Fitzgerald.

LEINSTER KILKENNY

6—E. Keher.

4-P. Phelan, M. Power, O. Walsh.

3-P. Larkin, E. Byrne, P. Henderson, S. Cleere, P. Moran, M. Coogan, J. Treacy, F. Cummins, P. Delaney, T. Walsh.

2-E. Doyle, L. Meagher, J. Dermody, P. O'Reilly, D. Dunne, Tommy Leahy, P. Byrne, J. Walsh, J. O'Connell, Blanchfield, L. Byrne, (one with Munster), J. Langton, P. Dillon, K. Purcell.

1-W. Dunphy, J. Roberts, H. Meagher, P. Grace, R. Hinks, W. Burke, J. Mulcahy, S. O'Brien, J. Kelly, J. Hogan, P. Hayden, P. Buggy, J. Mc-Govern, J. Sutton, R. Rockett, A. Walsh, W. Dwyer, T. Carroll, J. Teehan, C. Dunne, J. Bennett, J. Millea, F. Larkin, N. Skehan, P. Lawlor, L. O'Brien, M. Brennan, D. Carroll, P. Fitzgerald, M. Kelly, S. Clohosey, D. Heaslip.

DUBLIN

5—M. Bermingham.

4-E. Wade (one with Munster). 3-D. O'Neill, Jas. Walsh, C. McMahon, D. Foley, H. Dalton.

2-Ed. Tobin, T. Teehan, D. Ferguson, L. Foley, F. Whelan.

1-T. Daly, P. McInerney, M. Gill, E. Fahy, S. Hegarty, D. Canniffe, M. Daniels, M. Butler, K. Matthews, H. Grey, P. McSweeney, H. McDonnell, N. Allen, L. Cashin, N. Drumgoole, M. Kennedy, A. Boothman, W. Jackson, N. Kinsella.

WEXFORD

4—W. Rackard.

3-E. Wheeler, T. Neville, P. Wilson, M. Browne, A. Doran, D. Quigley.

2-T. Flood, J. English, J. Mor-

rissey, N. Colfer.

1-M. Hanlon, A. Foley, N. O'Donnell, R. Rackard, S.

OVERLEAF

CHRISTY RING

HRISTY RING was first chosen by Munster as a substitute in 1941, and made his debut at centre half forward in the 1942 final, to which the province had a bye. In a 22-year interprovincial career stretching over 44 appearances up to the 1963 final replay, he scored 42 goals and 105 points (231 points), an average of 5.25 points. He failed to score in only three games.

• FROM PAGE 27

Hearne, N. Rackard, O. Mc-Grath, J. O'Brien, P. Nolan, P. Kavanagh, D. Beirne, J. Quigley, T. O'Connor, M. Jacob, M. Quigley.

LAOIS

3—C. O'Brien.

2-0. Fennell.

1—J. Byrne, P. Drennan, M. Mahon.

OFFALY

2-P. Molloy, D. Martin, B. Moylan.

1—P. Horan.

WESTMEATH

1-F. White, J. McGrath.

KILDARE

2-P. Dunny.

CARLOW

1—M. Hogan.

CONNACHT

The following was the all-Galway selection that won the province's only title in the code in 1947:

S. Duggan; D. Flynn, P. Forde, W. Fahy; M. J. Flaherty, J. Brophy, B. Power; J. Kileen, P. Gantly; J. Gallagher, H. Gordon, P. Jordan; M. Nestor, T. Kelly, S. Gallagher.

3 P. Kelly, T. Regan, H. Kenny, P. Flannelly.

2 P. Quinn, G. Ormsby, P. Laffery, J. Munnelly, J. Corcoran, W. Casey, J. Nallen.

1 J. McGowran, P. Kelly, S. Flanagan, H. Dixon, E. Mongey, P. Carney, J. Gilvarry, M. Mulderrig, T. Langan, P. Solan, N. Moriarty, J. Langan, J. Carey, W. McGee, J. Morley, P. Prendergast.

SLIGO

2 N. O'Dowd, M. Kearns.

1 P. Cavanagh, M. Christie, P. Brennan, J. Colleary, L. Caffery.

ROSCOMMON

3 G. O'Malley.

2 R. Craven.

1 B. McQuillan, E. Boland, A. Brady, D. Early.

LEITRIM

2 P. McGarty.

1 N. Blessing, C. Flynn, H. Carroll.

MUNSTER KERRY

3 P. B. Brosnan, J. Lyne.

2 J. Barrett, J. Ryan, B. Stack, P. Russell, E. Fitzgerald, D. O'Keeffe, J. Keohane, E. Walsh, P. Kennedy, T. O'Connor, B. Garvey.

1 J. Riordan, J. J. Sheehy, J. Walsh, J. Sullivan, T. O'Mahoney, J. Bailey, F. Sheehy, P. Clifford, J. Slattery, Con Brosnan, M. Doyle, J. Landers, T. Landers, P. Whitty, D. O'Connor, T. O'Donnell, C. Brosnan, D. O'Keeffe, J. McDonnell, B. Myers, S. Brosnan, T. Healy, B. Casey, J. Walsh, M. Kelly, J. O'Gorman, W. O'Donnell, D. Kavanagh, F. Connor, T. Spillane, T. Donnell, M. Funicane, E. Dowling, E. O'Connor, D. O'Sullivan, S. Fitzgerald, J. O'Keeffe, M. O'Dwyer, T. Prendergast, M. O'Connell, O'Donohue.

CORK

3 P. A. Murphy, J. Cronin.

2 E. Young, T. Crowley, C. McGrath.

1 D. Harnedy, D. Magnier, P. Cronin, M. Tubridy, C. Crone, M. Driscoll, J. Aherne, D. O'Donovan, N. Duggan, B. Morgan, D. Coughlan, R. Cummins, K. J. O'Sullivan, D. Hunt, F. Cogan.

FOOTBALL MEDAL HOLDERS — BY TOM MORRISON

ULSTER

CAVAN

6 R. Carolan.

5 T. McGuire, G. Kelly.

4 J. J. O'Reilly, J. McDonnell.

3 S. Deignan, C. Gallagher.

2 B. Cully, T. O'Reilly, G. Smith, M. Higgins, V. Sherlock, A. McCabe, G. Cusack, McGowan.

1 B. Kelly, P. J. Duke, T. Tighe, P. O'Donohue, T. P. O'Reilly, D. J. Benson, P. Smith, P. Brady, S. Morris, N. O'Reilly, J. J. O'Reilly, G. Duggan, J. Brady, T. Morris, P. Pritchard.

DOWN

8 S. O'Neill.

5 P. Doherty.

4 J. Lennon, D. McCartan.

3 T. O'Hare.

2 J. O'Hare, L. Murphy, C. McAlarney, P. Rice, J. McCartan.

1 K. Denver, K. Mussen, T. Hadden, P. O'Hagan, J. Murphy.

ARMAGH

3 J. McCullagh, J. Whan.

2 E. O'Loughlin, A. Murray, T. McCreesh.

Quinn, P. O'Neill, B. 1 S. McCorry, J. Bratten, J. Cunningham, J. McKnight, Campbell.

DERRY

4 S. O'Connell.

3 M. Niblock.

2 J. McKeever, M. McAfee.

1 P. McGuire, H. F. Gribben, F. Niblock, R. Gribben, P. Breen, H. Diamond.

DONEGAL

4 S. Hoare.

3 S. Ferriter, B. Brady.

2 C. McDyer, H. Gallagher, P J. Flood, P. Kelly, B. McEniff.

1 F. McFeeley, N. Gallagher.

ANTRIM

4 K. Armstrong.

1 W. Feeney, H. O'Neill, G. Watterson, S. Gallagher, S. Gibson, B. McAteer, S. McCallin, T. McAtamney, C. Burns.

MONAGHAN

2 V. Duffy.

1 P. McCarney, E. McDonnell, M. Moynihan, H. McCarney, J. Rice, P. McCarthy.

TYRONE

3 J. O'Neill.

2 T. Turbett.

1 B. Cullen, J. Taggert, F. Donnelly, A. Gallagher.

FERMANAGH

4 P. T. Treacy.

CONNACHT **GALWAY**

4 M. Connaire, B. Nestor.

3 J. Dunne, M. Higgins, S. Purcell.

2 F. Fox, B. Beggs, D. O'Sullivan, J. Mangan, T. Dillon, F. Evers, F. Stockwell, N. Tierney, J. Keenan, J. Duggan, J. Mahon.

1 H. Carey, M. Donnellan, D. Griffin, C. Connolly, N. Keogh, J. Young, M. Greally, G. Geraghty, J. Donnellan, M. McDonagh, E. Colleran, J. B. McDermott, P. Donnellan, C. Dunne, N. Colleran, S. Leydon.

MAYO

4 T. Burke, J. Carney, P. Moclair.

TIPPERARY

3 M. Cahill.

1 J. Williams, P. Brennan, M. Keating.

CLARE

2 N. Crowley.

1 G. Comerford.

WATERFORD

1 J. Wall.

LEINSTER DUBLIN

7 K. Heffernan.

5 J. McDonnell, O. Freaney.

3 P. McDonnell, P. Bermingham, C. O'Leary.

2 P. Hickey, T. O'Dowd, M. O'Brien, P. O'Reilly, J. Timmons, J. Joyce, P. Holden.

1 P. Russell, D. Brennan, B. Beggs, G. Comerford, P. Dowling, J. Norris, G. McLoughlin, E. McCann, I. Cavanagh, C. Crone, P. McIntyre, J. Boyle, P. Farnan, D. Foley, M. Whelan.

MEATH

4 P. Meegan, M. O'Brien.

3 T. Donnelly, P. O'Brien, K. McConnell.

2 W. Shaw, T. Meade, T. McGuinness, M. McDonnell, M. Rogers.

1 M. Geoghan, M. Nulty, J. Kearney, J. Laughran, M. Gilsenan, P. McDermott, F. Byrne, D. Taaffe, J. O'Reilly, P. Gearty, M. Grace, T. Moriarty.

KILDARE

5 P. Martin, J. Higgins.

4 M. Goff.

3 P. Doyle, P. Byrne.

2 F. Malone, T. Mulhall, T. Malone, M. Geraghty, S. Brennan.

1 M. Walsh, W. Hynam, W. Gannon, A. Fitzpatrick, P. Loughlin, D. Burke, G. Watters, M. Carolan,

LOUTH

5 E. Boyle.

4 S. White.

3 J. McDonnell.

2 M. McKeown, J. Coyle, P. Larkin.

1 W. Lawless, E. Callon, J. Quigley, O. Halpin, S. Boyle, T. Conlon, J. Tuft, H. Reynolds, S. Og Flood, K. Behan, F. Lynch, J. Thornton.

LAOIS

5 Jack Delaney, W. Delaney.

4 D. Douglas, C. Delaney.

3 D. Walsh, P. Dunne.

2 P. Bates, M. Delaney, J. Kenna.

1 N. Whelan, John Delaney, M. Farrell, J. Slater, D. Walsh, T. Murphy, F. Walsh.

OFFALY

3 G. Hughes, S. Brearton.

2 T. McEvoy, C. Wrenn, P. McCormack.

1 W. Mulhall, P. Casey, W. Nolan, J. Egan, M. Brady, S. Foran, T. Greene.

WEXFORD

3 N. Walsh.

2 M. O'Neill.

1 P. Byrne, P. Spillane, J. O'Neill, P. Nolan, A. Doyle.

WICKLOW

4 J. Rogers.

3 G. O'Reilly.

2 P. O'Sullivan, D. O'Neill.

1 J. Fitzpatrick, A. Phillips.

LONGFORD

1 J. Hanniffy, V. Tierney, B. Barden, P. Gearty.

WESTMEATH

2 M. Carley.

CARLOW

3 A. Murphy.

2 J. Rea.

1 J. Archibold, P. Whelan, J. Morris.



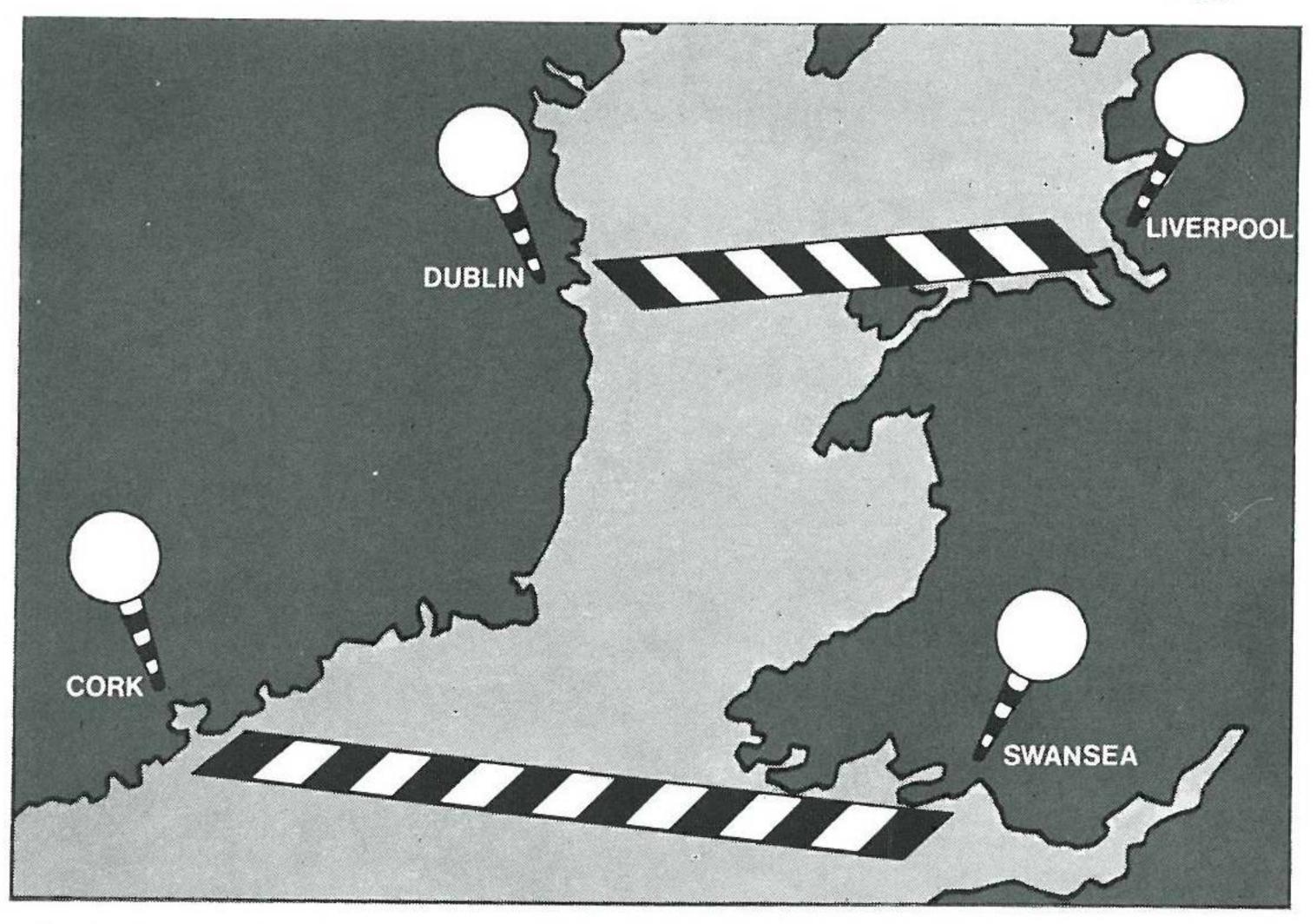
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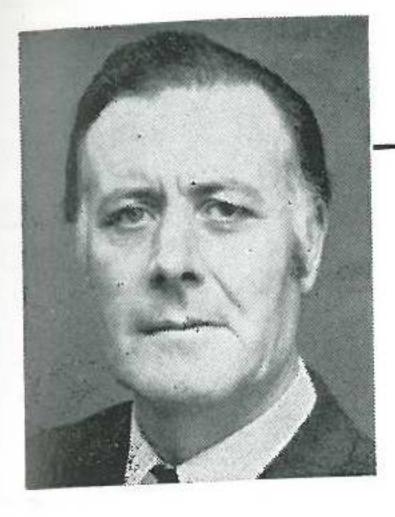
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LEAGUE SHAKE-UP!

WHILE the demand for a hard look at the new administrative set-up at Croke Park captured much of the headlines in the Ulster Convention season, I feel that the groundswell of support for a major change in the timing of the National Football League campaign has been the most significant development in our Northern close season.

Indeed all the counties which I have contacted are behind that call for a radical re-appraisal of the arrangements presently obtaining in this major competition. If democracy means anything players and supporters ought next season to be spared the ordeal of the weekly penance which the present system imposes.

Fermanagh chairman John McElholm left no one in any doubt when he told his convention that it was ridiculous to ask players and especially spectators to attend games during the winter months. He urged a much earlier start, in September or August, so that as many games as possible could be played in the good weather and also when there was an interest in the league.

It seems nonsensical, as Mr. McElholm stated, that it is costing many counties money to take part in the competition. In Fermanagh for example, the county is "hardly breaking even" on expenses alone

And a similar note was struck by secretary T. P. Murphy in his report to the Down convention.

Dealing with the National

League set-up T. P. declared: "It is not providing the financial bonanza as in previous years and some earnest thought must be given to restructuring the composition of the divisions and having games played-off at a more acceptable time of the year. It is most unreasonable to expect players to provide attractive fare and hope that spectators will face the elements in the depths of winter."

Having braved the elements more times than I care to remember supporting games in the winter period, I am unequivocally in the pro-change lobby and I sincerely hope that counties will continue to demand fresh thinking on a situation, the mystery about which is that it should have been allowed to remain so long. There is little credit in making martyrs of ourselves when there is no cause to do so.

As far as I can see the championship has been treated as some kind of a sacred cow not to be tampered with from any other source. But surely legislation must cater for the common good and at present there is what amounts to a virtual ban on inter-county activity until the championship is decided. Can anyone deny that this shows scant regard for all those counties who go out in the early stages?

However, there is no point in diagnosing the malady without prescribing a possible remedy and the most obvious solution must be to allow the champion-

ship and league to run together. Other codes have their programmes so arranged that their knock-out competitions are in tandem with the season-long leagues. Is there any good reason why a system which has stood the test of time for others has nohing to recommend it to the G.A.A.?

I have no ambition to see the glamour of the championship diluted but I am even more anxious to give the majority of our counties the break which has been denied them so long. The marrying of the two competitions seems a course which sooner or later will have to be investigated.

Nor do I underestimate the icy reception which such a plan is likely to receive. However, many cobwebs have been blown away in other areas and drastic action is called for to counter the dwindling returns from the present league set-up.

Already I can hear shrieks from the clubs about intrusion into their programmes. But do the clubs really make the most of the Sundays already available to them? Has not the so-called holiday period become a farce in the number of weeks which it is now taking in? And would it be such a bad thing if clubs played without their one or two county players? Or is winning more important than the game?

Turning to the much discussed headquarters "committee" system I could only conclude after attending the Armagh Conven-

OVERLEAF

• FROM PAGE 31

tion that if the Association ever turns to a parliamentary system of government there ought to be little difficulty in finding the Leader of the Opposition. For years a stern critic of the Establishment, Armagh chairman Tommy Lynch confirmed his position as the logical contender for that mythical portfolio when he lashed into the

present system of running the Association's affairs.

If the Croke Park "Front Bench" had been present there would have been many very red ministerial faces as the Orchard County boss really went to town on his favourite topic.

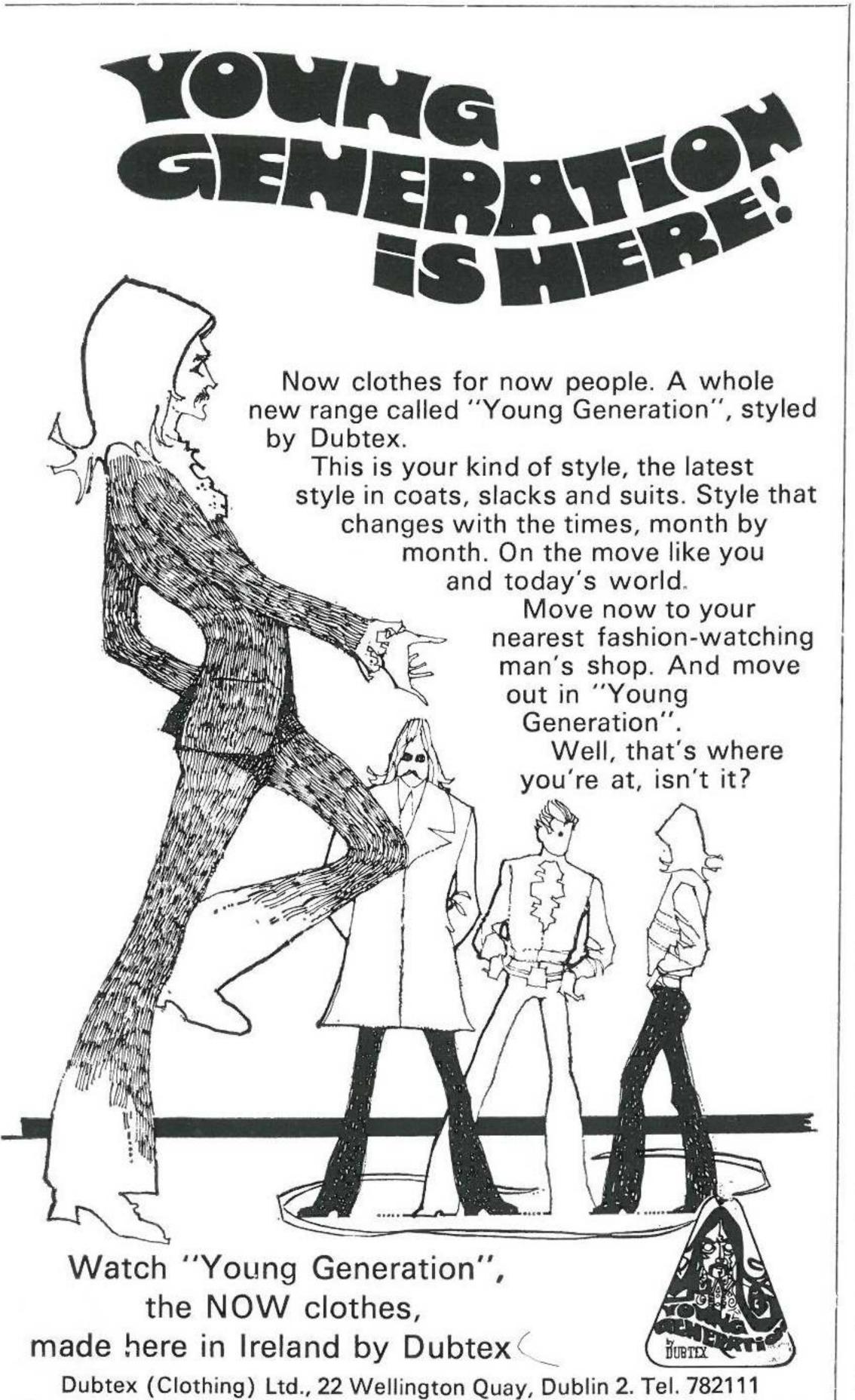
A dyed-in-the-wool G.A.A. man Lynch's patience has long since been exhausted with the lack of decisiveness coupled with a virtual drying up of information at the top.

"The Association," he declared, "is hell bent on the formation of committees, committees and more committees. We now have the Management Committee, an Activities Committee, a Development Committee and many more to boot. They seem to be obsessed with this idea. The Management Committee, composed of about a dozen members, appears to have taken over with the rest merely mouth pieces. This is bad for the Association and nothing concrete ever seems to emerge. There are reams of paper but no firm decisions."

Many other leaders from the President down have argued that the new system deserves a trial, that it is only over a year in office. This is, I suppose, fair enough but Congress is the place where the position ought to be examined in the full light of day Delegates there will be shirking their responsibility if they refuse to do so.

Incidentally, too, Armagh will be looking for a full debate on the projected office block scheme at Croke Park as a result of their motion going to Congress asking, in fact, that this project should be abandoned with the funds accumulated from the long term sale of All-Ireland tickets "going to a more feasible scheme".

Sligo seem guaranteed to be hosts to a most interesting Congress.



CAMOGIE MATTERS

By AGNES HOURIGAN

It is too early yet to comment on the recent meeting between the Central Council of the Camogie Association and the heads of the G.A.A. except to point out that such a meeting has been more than 40 years overdue.

We must of course wait and see what official announcement will be made after their next meeting as to exactly what steps will be taken to bring into effect the closer co-operation between the two Associations which the initial meeting was expressly designed to promote.

After all the Camogie Association and the Gaelic Athletic Association have exactly the same aims, objects and ideals, the preservation and and popularisation of native pastimes, and through them to promote all that is best of the culture and traditions handed down to us by the generations that have gone.

The closer co-operation that is now mooted should have been sought from the moment more than 70 years ago when first the Camogie Association began to struggle for existence.

The trouble I suppose was that for nearly half a century our brothers in the G.A.A. never really took the Camogie Association seriously. It was humoured, tolerated, perhaps encouraged in a back-handed kind of way. Right from the start of course, the Camogie Association had plenty of willing helpers from the G.A.A. at individual level. In the last couple of decades, starting with one or two here and there G.A.A. clubs began to develope Camogie branches, and thank

heavens, that trend is becoming increasingly widespread, as social centres and social commitment become bigger and bigger words in the G.A.A. vocabulary.

An increasing number of Boards and Councils now give some grants to their corresponding Camogie Boards and Councils, but while these have always been welcome, they are no answer to the real problem, which to date has been that Camogie has never been officially recognised by the G.A.A. at all.

What Camogie really needs from the G.A.A. is not doles or grants or hand-outs, but full recognition, full co-operation, and at last an acknowledgement that the women Gaels have as vital a part to play in preserving and popularising the native games and culture as have their male colleagues and don't for a moment think I am preaching about Women's Lib. What I believe is that the G.A.A. can of course help the Camogie Association, but I also believe just as strongly that the Camogie Association can help the G.A.A. and can give even greater help in the circumstances with changing which both Associations are faced in the rapidly changing times.

The days when a G.A.A. club only existed for the purpose of sending a team into the field to play matches is as dead as the days of the 'hurling home' that our grandfathers talked about. The club of the future will have to cater not alone for the relatively few hurling and football stars but in so far as possible for

all the Gaelic-minded youth of the district. The days of a club that concentrates on one Gaelic Game or another are not gone, but they are going. The Gaelic Club of the future will have to be far broader in its appeal. It will have to have hurling football, handball and camogie sections, all catering for its particular devotees, but all giving a helping hand to the other sections.

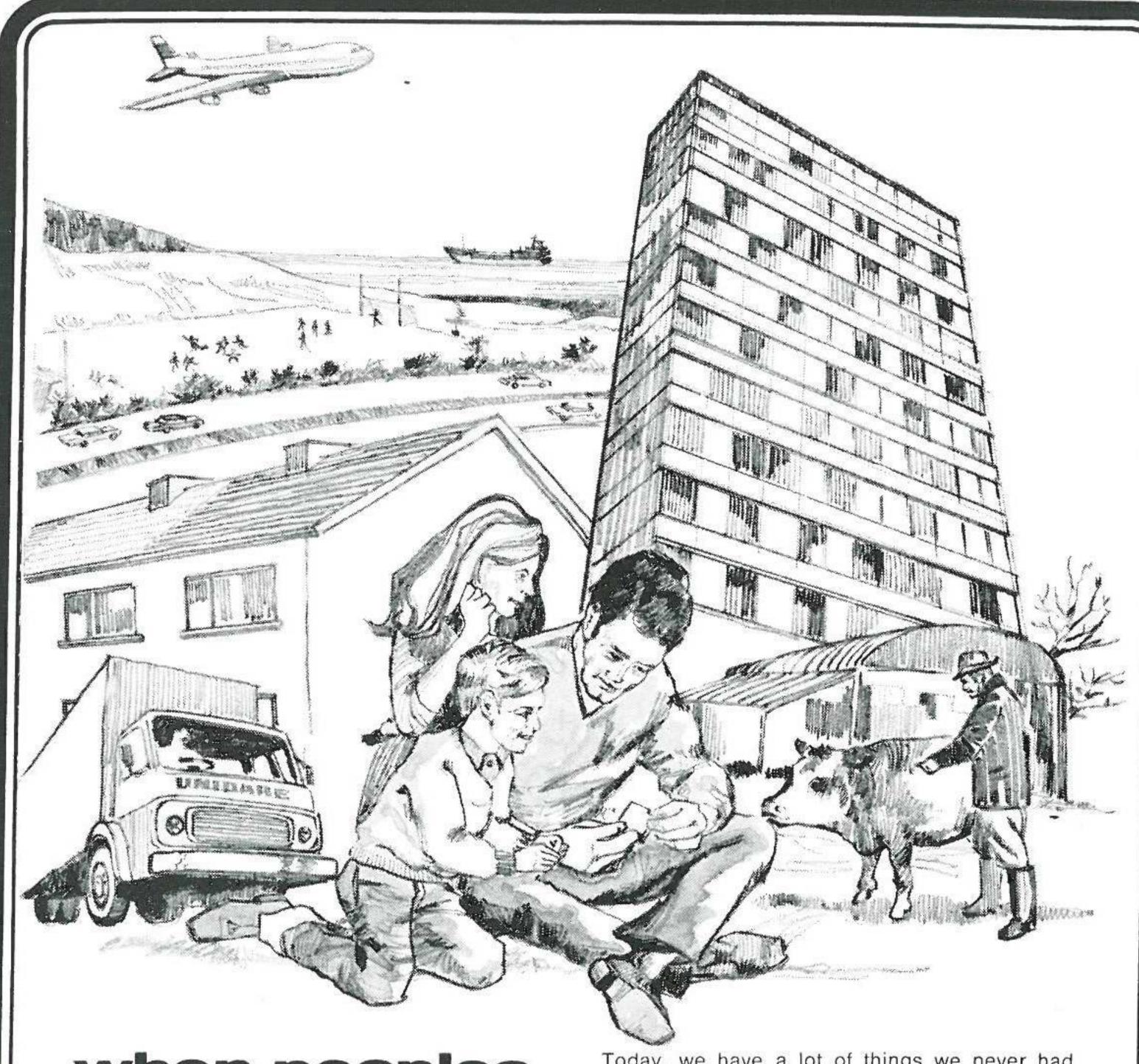
Co-operation, cohesion and mutual self-help will have to be the key words, and I would see to it also that such activities as those of Cumann na gCeoltoiri, the Gaelic League, and Irish dancing should also be encouraged within the club's activities.

To such a desirable denoument the closer links between Camogie and the G.A.A. is the obvious first step, and it has come just in time.

* * *

The forthcoming Camogie Congress is unlikely to be any more unusual than its G.A.A. counterpart, and thus far at least I have not seen any revolutionary motions for discussion. But I hear there is every possibility, that Leinster will, starting in the schools, be able to boast of having all twelve counties affiliated in the none too distant future and this is a desirable achievement that has been all too long awaited.

It is hoped that Offaly and possibly Westmeath and Carlow will field teams in some grade of this year's championship, and that will leave only Longford in the East to be brought back into line.



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I know a lady who has built up a one-woman business selling handknitted jackets to the American market. She always makes a point of carrying on her correspondence with U.S. customers on Irish-produced notepaper. A small detail but indicative of the lady's approach —she's efficient and realistic, not to mention logical. Why use something else when the Irish product is just as good? Her choice of notepaper could be Vellum, that Ancient Irish which paper creamy-smooth adds distinction to any correspondence. There's a world paper shortage at the moment but when we contacted Wiggins Teape about the awful possibility that Ancient Irish might disappear from the market, they were reassuring. They have their hands on sufficient supplies to keep customers happy for a long time to come.

Housing is a top priority, socially valuable to the community as well as a sheer prac-

A SURVEY BY LINDA COLLINS

tical necessity, and one of the firms responsible for housing more and more people is the Irish Civil Service Building Society. Their assets this year are up thirty one per cent on last year and they are confident they'll maintain this rate of growth. Financial concerns have a reputation for being impersonal but this doesn't apply to the 'Civil Service'-which is an organisation big enough to be efficient but still small enough to make you feel you count as an individual.

With both borrowers and investors, the "Civil Service" is able to maintain an excellent relationship and their eight per cent tax-free return on one's money is a fairly handy profit even for these inflationary times.

One can't save money, of course, unless one has a little surplus income to put by. A factor in ensuring that about ten thousand farm households in an area extending into the counties of Kildare, Laois, Kilkenny, Carlow, Tipperary, Wicklow, Wexford, Offaly, Meath and Co. Dublin are more prosperous now than they were say ten years ago, is Avonmore Creameries of Ballyragget in Co. Kilkenny.

In 1967 there were green fields where today 300 people are employed, and Avonmore tell us

of butter in the whole country. They supply up to thirty five per cent of the butter sold in the Dublin area. Twenty five local creameries make up the present membership of Avonmore and others will be joining soon. The valuable social spin-offs in terms of jobs, spending power etc. hardly need to be spelled out.

Avonmore Creameries have a very active social club, and Avonmore Hurling Club reached the final of the Junior Sanctuary League last year and won it. They also won the Leinster Junior Factory League last year and this year are in for the finals of the Senior Factory League.

Down south, some of Ireland's newest and most go-ahead industries are centred in Cork and surroundings. "Master Brewers Since 1792" is the inscription on the crest of Beamish & Crawford Ltd., whose brewery, near the city centre, is nowadays noted for its high degree of commercial success achieved through the brewing and selling of a range of nationally known brands of ales, lagers and stout.

Cork brewed Bass now has twenty per cent of the total ale market in Ireland. Also of course there's Carling Black Label—in six months it's increased remarkably in popularity. Beamish also successfully market Carlsberg lager, a world-

• TO PAGE 37

When it comes to saving fuel

Getting the most out of the least makes sound sense

Wise energy management helps to save fuel. By observing the set of simple rules below you can conserve energy and help to make possible the continued expansion and improvement of farm output.

For farmers here are a number of suggestions on how to conserve fuel:

AVOID WASTE FROM WATER PUMPS

- Turn off taps, when required amount of water has been drawn.
- Do not use excessive water for any purpose.
- Pump should be kept in good working condition.
- Water feed pipes to cattle troughs should be properly controlled by ballcock valves.
- All water leaks should be repaired.
- In new installations pump should be matched as close as possible to requirements.

SUPPLEMENTARY HEATING ECONOMIES

- Improve insulation level of farrowing and poultry houses.
- Eliminate draughts.

These suggestions will in the case of underfloor heating reduce the energy required to provide the necessary temperatures.

Infra red or dull emitter heaters should be switched off when not required.

GRAIN CONDITIONING AS ALTERNATIVE

Grain conditioning is a satisfactory alternative to grain drying for short term storage of wheat or for long term storage of feed barley. As it uses air at ambient temperatures its energy requirements are very low.

DAIRY WATERHEATING

Waterheaters should be well insulated. They should be controlled by thermostat and time switch. Thermostat should not be set higher than necessary.



IRISH INDUSTRY

• FROM PAGE 35

known name—but perhaps the drink most Munster men loyally adhere to is Beamish stout. Beamish & Crawford employ just on 400 people—one of the recent arrivals was Eamonn Grimes, hurling star, who is now with the company's Limerick staff as sales representative. Beamish believes in supporting local activities and through its brands Bass and Carlsberg it sponsors sports like horse-racing, hot-rodding, greyhound racing, pony trotting, darts and surfing. It has committed itself to sponsorship of the Carlsberg 470 scheme—a training Olympic programme aimed at helping young sailors on their way to the next Olympics.

Reading in the papers recently that Unidare took an order from the E.S.B. for a new electrical conductor which costs a million and a half pounds and will be used for the transmission of power to the National Grid from rew and enlarged power stations throughout the country, how many farmers realised that Unidare is the same company which makes the Aquadare pump without which life on the farm would be that much harder to cope with?

Unidare also market silage effluent treatment kits which not only get rid of the objectionable element in the waste but recycles it into valuable fertiliser. Another project under development by Unidare at the moment is water floculation—which means getting rid of iron elements that make water unusable—though that's only as far as my elementary grasp of the idea goes.

Whenever you open a foil-

wrapped pack of butter, you're looking at a Unidare product—they make the wrapping. Then there are Jetmatic boilers—neat and unobtrusive—which run central heating systems and are small enough to fit into the kitchen; Unidare storage radiators, power cables, transformers, you name it.

A total of 13,000 people is kept in employment by the Unidare group of companies in Ireland and when one considers the scope of their operations one can understand why.

There's an involvement of 150,000 people in the Irish Transand General Workers' port Union, the biggest union in the country. Though large and longestablished (it was founded in James like men 1909 by Connolly, James Larkin, Tom Foran, William O'Brien) the ITGWU operates by methods which are the reverse of cumbersome. Through its Development Service Division, staffed with fully qualified and experienced personnel, the professional ITGWU provides its members with services in the fields of education and training, indus-

OVERLEAF

ECONOMY HINTS-by courtesy E.S.B.

THE E.S.B. has some useful, practical and down to earth suggestions to make on how to cut down on electricity consumption in the home.

First item is, fit a lagging jacket on the immersion heater. It can save up to 85p a week on the bill. Keep the 30-gallon arm of the immersion switched off except when you want to run a bath. The five-gallon heater (it heats the water at the top of the cylinder) is ample for most household uses. A second tip is to put a stopper on the sink and cease to wash-up the dishes by running a continuous stream of hot water over them.

Some people think that a dishwasher is a gobbler-up of current but this is not so. When you load it up fully, it will wash the crockery more cheaply than you would manage to do so at the sink. Attic insulation, a do-it-yourself job for the home handyman, is a big saver. It keeps expensive heat in the house, rather than letting it escape to the clouds. Also, draughtproofing windows and doors cuts down on expenditure and adds to comfort. Heavy curtains are another heat saver don't forget glass doors need them as much as windows. And when it comes to cooking, plan ahead and make sure you've got an oven-load. On Sunday, for instance, you could cook potatoes and vegetables in casserole with the joint, have an apple tart or tray of scones in as well-rather than having the joint alone in the oven while three pots on top of the stove cope with the vegetables. A toaster is more economical than the grill for making toast. And when you boil something in a pot, keep the lid on. A kitchen full of steam does the decor no good, and represents wasteful use of fuel.

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IRISH INDUSTRY

• FROM PAGE 37

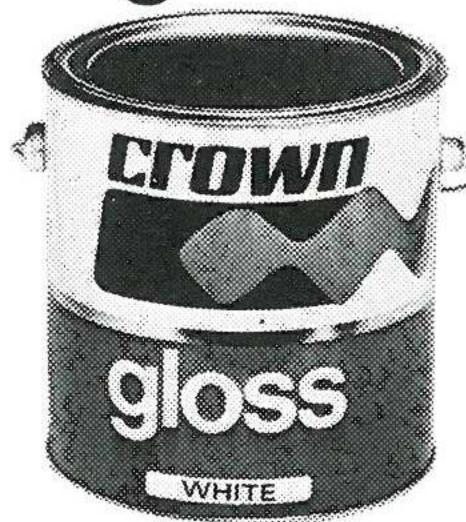
trial engineering including work study, statistical and economic research, communications, information etc. Thus the union is able to make through its members a concerted and positive contribution to economic and social progress in the community. In spite of all this, union membership dues in the ITGWU are

among the lowest in Ireland. There are 139 branches in cities, towns and villages through the thirty two counties. Social and sports amenities are maintained in the bigger centres.

March is the traditional month for doing up the house—and it's advisable to get cracking early this year since the price of paint is inevitably going to rise in the long term. This is one area where it doesn't pay to take a

chance—a bad paint can ruin hours and hours of hard work. you're wielding So if brushes, choose a product like Plus Two-made Crown Ireland nowadays and with a performance record which lives up to what it says on the tin. It is available from good stores like Monsell Mitchell, Pearse Street and South Great George's Street, Dublin, where one can also purchase things like ready-

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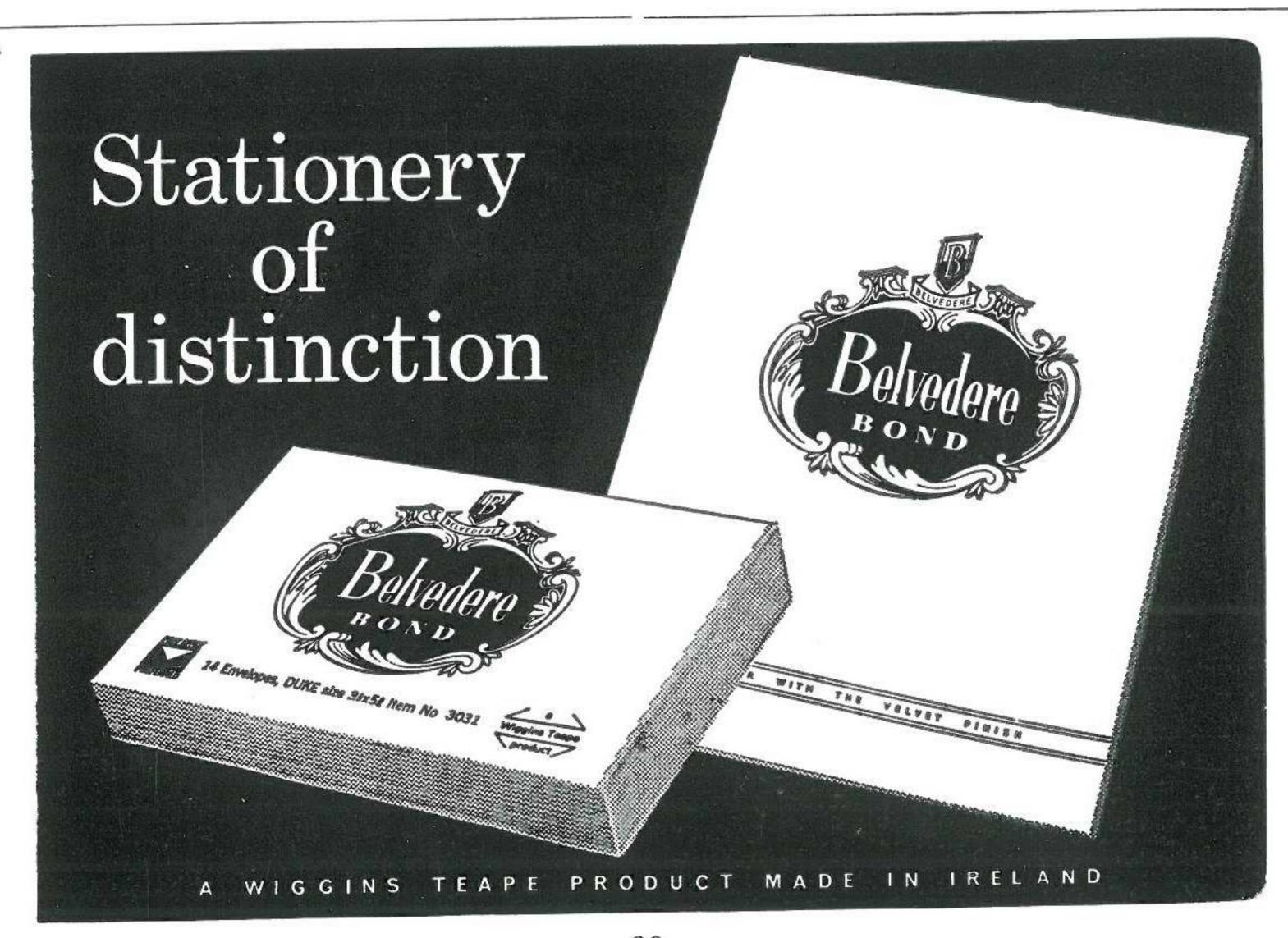
George's St. branch open all day Saturday, closed Monday. pasted vinyls by Crown. A readypasted paper cuts out most of the mess connected with wall papering and also speeds up the job.

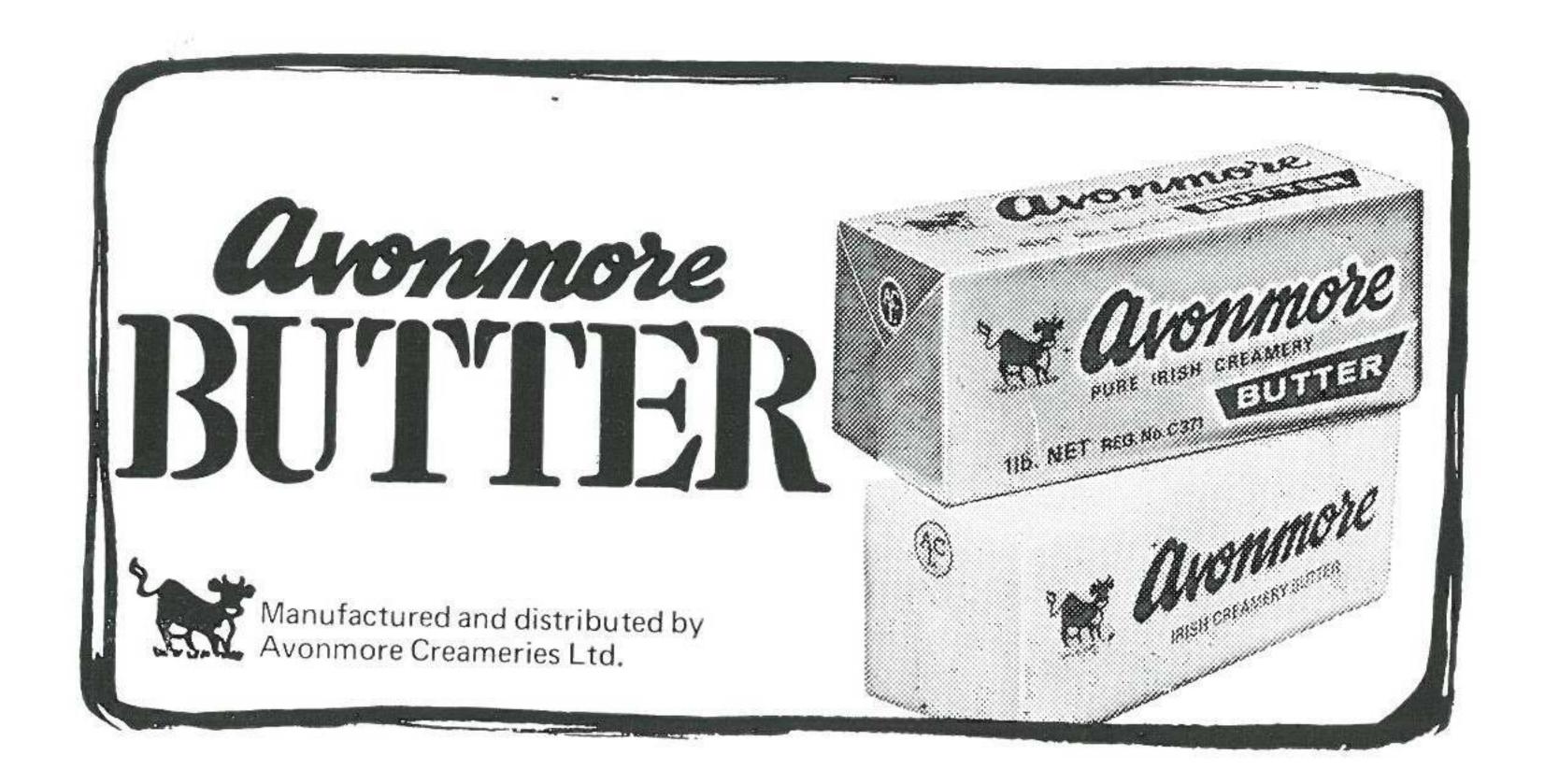
When it comes to menswear it's a more rewarding exercise than ever to buy Irish these days. Young Generation outfits by Dubtex for instance can stand comparison, stylewise, with the best the Continent can offer and when it comes to quality of making-up and fabric, the Irish garments have the imports beaten hands down. Dubtex aim at putting plenty of variety in front of their customers with Young Generation—shops get deliveries of new styles every few weeks. And they manage somehow to keep the prices within very acceptable limits. Young slacks. blazers, Generation casual sports jackets and suits are available everywhere. Keep a look-out for them in the better menswear shops.

A.I.B. sponsor Wembley games



ALLIED Irish Banks announced at a recent press conference that they will sponsor the G.A.A. games in Wembley. The games which have been a feature of the G.A.A. sporting calendar will take place during the Spring Bank Holiday week-end in England. This year will see the All-Ireland finalists of last year in action, Limerick, Kilkenny, Cork and Galway in hurling and football respectively. Pictured at the reception are: (left to right) J. E. Fitzpatrick, General Manager, Planning and Administration, A.I.B., Paddy Ryan, Chairman, London Co. Board G.A.A., Gerald O'Mahony, Regional General Manager, A.I.B., Britain, and Dr. Donal Keenan, President of the G.A.A.





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BILLES By Tony Keegan

HOW much do you know about football and hurling? Here is your chance to test your knowledge in our Finals Quiz? All the questions relate to events in the top deciders over the past year.

Score five points for each question answered correctly, and the maximum points total is 100. A score of 80 points or more is excellent. 60 points to 80 points is very good and 50 to 60 points not bad.

As this is the month of the Railway Cup finals, there is no better way to start than with these games.

1. Leinster set a hurling record when they beat Munster in the 1973 final. True or false?

.

- 2. Pat Delaney (Kilkenny) captained Leinster in that game. Can you remember who led the Munster men?
- 3. In the football final the Universities were captained by Paudie Lynch in a drawn game with Connacht, but they had a new captain in the replay. Who was he?
- 4. Michael Kearins had a regal scoring hour in that drawn match. Did the Sligo star hit 1-12, 0-12, 2-7 or 0-15?
- 5. What Western double did the Universities foil last year?

All-Ireland Football Final

6. Now cast your memory to the All-Ireland football final. Jimmy Barry-Murphy and Morgan Hughes were the youngest players in that game. They share another distinction from the decider. What is it?

7. A wing back got among the goals. His name, please?

- 8. Jimmy Duggan was Galway's only link with their 1966 All-Ireland title winning outfit. True or false?
- 9. Ray Cummins joined the select band of players to play in winning teams in All-Ireland senior hurling and football finals. Can you say why he holds a unique ranking in the elite group?
- 10. How many goals did Cork score in the game?

All-Ireland Hurling Final

11. Back to hurling, and here's a real stickler. Who won the toss in the Limerick-Kilkenny clash?

............

- 12. Richie Bennis was the top scorer in the final. Can you remember how many points he put up?
- 13. Who was Kilkenny's ace marksman?

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15. Goalkeeper in the 1963 All-Ireland minor hurling final, this hurler made a limited appearance only in last year's showpiece tie.

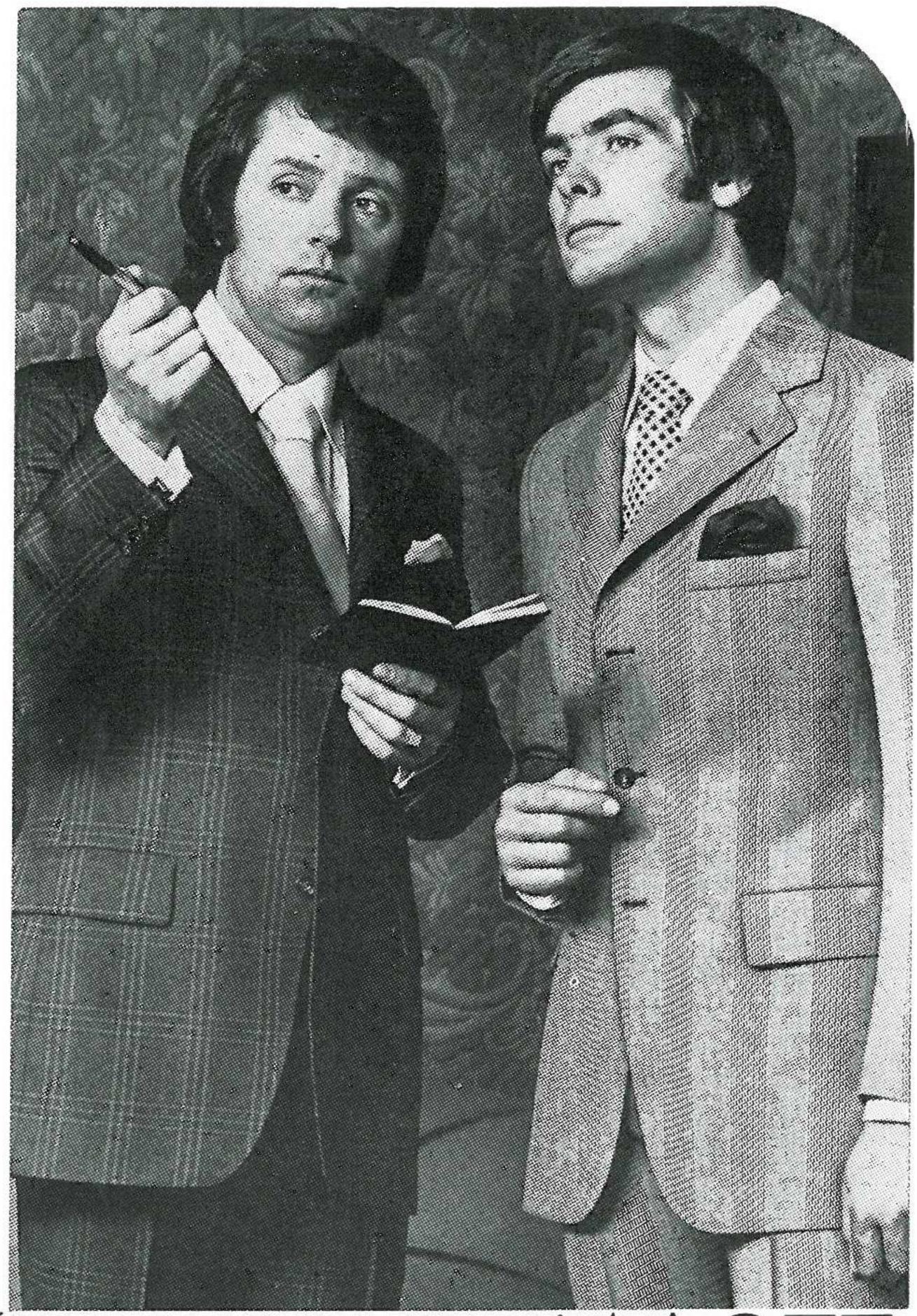
National Leagues

- 16. This player had a regal hour in one of last year's finals, but he was not included in the original team. Who is he?
- 17. You remember that Kerry beat Offaly in the football final. But was that the Munster county's second, third or fourth title on the trot?

...............

- 18. In what positions did Willie Moore and Eamonn Rea line-out for Limerick in the clash with Wexford?
- 19. Brendan Lynch scored Kerry's first goal against Offaly. Who hit the only other goal of the game?
- 20. Name Wexford's right flank of attack starting the hurling final?

ANSWERS — PAGE 48



BUSINESS MAGEE

There's depth and variety of colour and a dashing comfort in the cut of even the most sober business suit from Magee. 'Rich but not gaudy,' as somebody says in Hamlet, it proclaims the man who takes pride and pleasure in his job. Magee's skill in handling colour with comfort in their leisure clothes flows through their more formal wear too. These cloths are pure new wool. All the trousers are durably creased.

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Yes! They play football in Limerick, too.

THE editor has asked me to write on Limerick football. I could very easily dwell on the distant past and relate the very great part Limerick played in establishing Gaelic Football and the fine sport it is to-day.

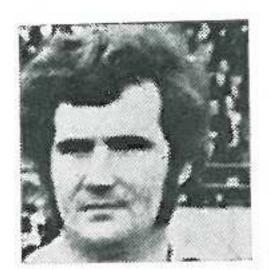
In actual fact, the Shannon-siders were first winners of the All Ireland Senior Football title and it is on record that many who saw that great combination play and who were destined to see very many more of the great combinations—some well into the present century—were convinced it was one of the most attractive sides to grace the arena, and that it had in Malachi O'Brien one of the most colourful figures the game has known.

Nine years after the initial success Limerick were back in all their glory to win another All Ireland Senior Football crown. They beat the storied Young Ireland of Dublin in that memorable decider, and again the football enthusiasts were warm in their praise of the magnificent standard set by the Munstermen.

The following season Limerick won its first All Ireland Senior Hurling title and since then any



Eamonn Cregan



Richie Bennis

big successes the Shannonsiders have gained on gaelic fields have been associated with the Caman code.

It is a strange fact that taking the county in its entirety there is more football played in Limerick than hurling. Almost every hurling parish that I know of has its football team but there are quite a few parishes where football is the only game.

The entry of twenty-four teams for the County Senior Football Championship last year

was on a par with the hurling muster, and was equally spread over the four divisions. This amounts to a greater muster of senior teams than in most of the strong football counties.

The Limerick under 21 Football Championship produced some great games during 1973 and aroused a lot of enthusiasm. Championships were also played at Junior, Minor, Juvenile and under 14 levels, and all attracted a big entry.

Many of the leading Limerick football parishes are situated near the county boundaries with Kerry, Cork and Tipperary, they participate frequently in tournaments in these counties and bring home many trophies.

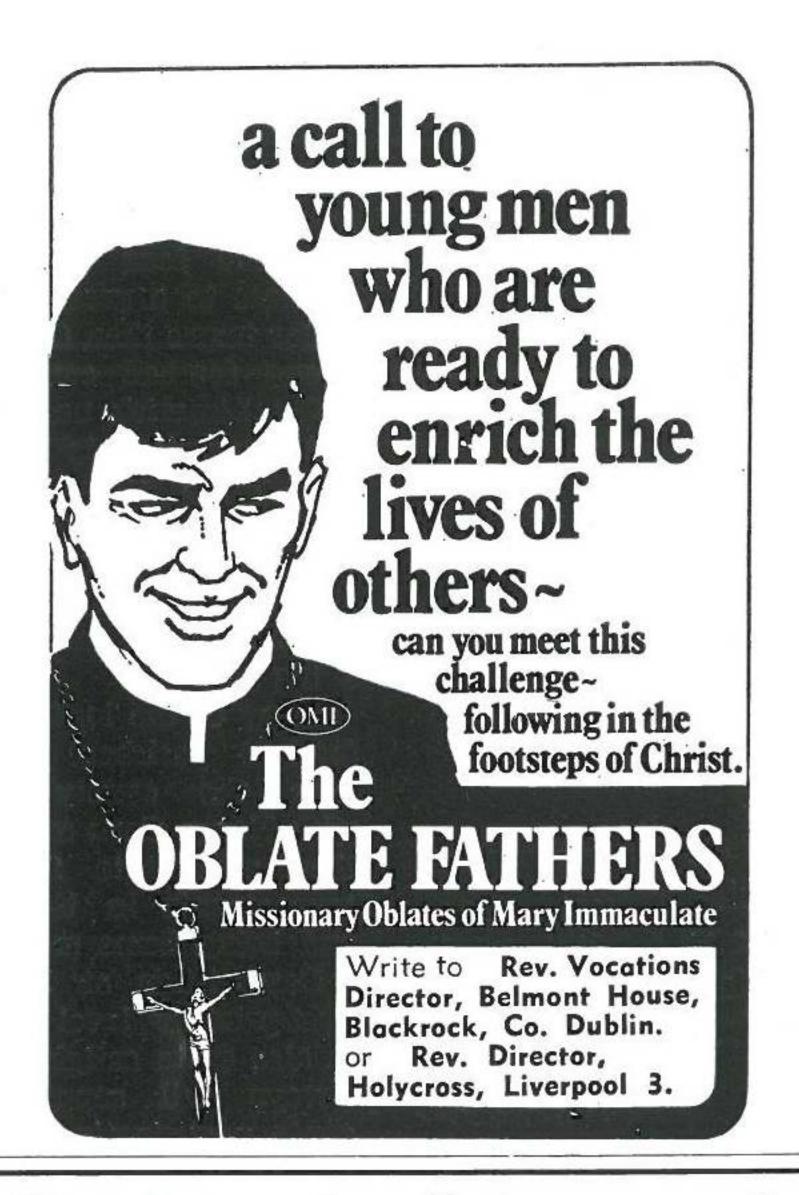
Competition at Primary and Post-primary level in Limerick is also quite satisfactory and is always well supported as regards participating teams as in hurling.

The only great difference at local level between the codes in Limerick is the degree of public patronage accorded to each. This is best illustrated in the case of the 1973 County Senior finals, played on successive Sundays at Limerick Gaelic grounds. The gate receipts for the hurling match were £2,305, whilst the football game netted £233—just a tenth of the hurling total.

It is interesting to note that the teams who were runners up for the championships — Kileedy in hurling and St. Kierans in football were both trained by the former well known Cappamore and Limerick Senior hurling star, Donie Flynn.

Limerick have probably more dual players than any other county and of the actual fifteen that won the recent All Ireland

• TO PAGE 45



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• FROM PAGE 25

a more favourable period of the year cannot be found to run off the event. The problem is I suppose that there's a glut of competitions.

"My suggestion would be that some of the lesser competitions be sacrificed. The club championship provides a lot of enjoyment for the 'ordinary' player and should be encouraged."

"I would not be in favour of playing the games on evenings during the summer as I feel this would impose huge strains on clubs with long trips to make.

Martin Quigley: "I would hate to see anything done to lessen the importance of the club championship. I believe it is an excellent competition, and one which should receive a lot more support from the top.

"There's no doubt that there's a problem finding suitable dates on which to run it. The present ones are clearly not satisfactory.

"But I see no reason why it can't be shifted to the summer months, say May or June. There's not really much point in staging it when the weather is at it's worst.

"Looking at my own club, I can say that the interest the competition has generated is quite fantastic. The way the lads prepare for the games has opened my eyes. If we trained as hard for county games, nobody would stop us.

"In brief, I believe it's a competition with a definite future. But let's have some bright suggestions from the top."

Denis Coughlan: "I'm disappointed that the competition is not treated with greater respect by the Association. It's nothing short of a disgrace the way it's pushed into the worst part of the year.

"If they don't take some decisive action, the competition will die."

• FROM PAGE 43

Senior hurling title, all but Eamonn Rea and Joe McKenna also have championship medals won with the big ball and quite a few have worn the county jersey in both codes.

Other well known Limerick hurlers that come to mind as first class football exponents include Pat Murphy, who won a Railway Cup football medal with Munster in 1972; Mick Tynan, a regular for many years on the Munster Railway Cup football selection; Mick Cregan, trainer of the team that won the recent All Ireland Senior hurling final; Con Shanahan, on the Munster Railway Cup selection this year; Mick Graham, Tony O'Brien, John Frost, Donal Manning, Jim Hogan, Jim Allis, Christy Campbell, Sean Burke, Mick Carroll, Liam Lawler, Eddie Prendeville, Bernard Berkery and Willie Nicholas.

The bulk of these lads of course, have given their first allegiance to hurling which is undoubtedly the glamour game in Limerick.

Limerick, however, boasts many football clubs where the hurling influence is not very pronounced. This includes districts like Abbeyfeale, Askeaton, Glin, Newcastle West (once a great hurling parish, now strongly football minded), Athea, Ballyhehill — all convenient to the Kerry bonder and, influence; Anglesboro', Ballylanders, Croom (another former hurling parish now more prominent in football) and Galbelly in the South, where the football tradition has always been strong; Oola, for long a football bastion of East Limerick; whilst Treaty Sarsfields who recently re-asserted their superiority in the city, and won the senior county crown are, too, mainly football orientated.

There is no lack of suitable

football material by Shannonside but the problem is one of harnessing it properly. Most of the football clubs are on the fringe of the County, but with the title holders now centred in the city it should be possible to worthwhile training arrange at Limerick Gaelic sessions Grounds, if possible in conjunction with the hurlers, in the hope that some of the enthusiasm evident in the Caman camp might rub off on the footballers.



Pat Hartigan Limerick dual star.

This is an important aspect because maybe the big football problem is a lack of enthusiasm and this applies at all levels from County Board, Selection Committees, right down to the players.

Football is the poor relation with all too many, but are the football clubs themselves a lot to blame for this situation? They should be strong enough to make the powers that be sit up and take notice if only they got together and used their power at County Board level,

where they are as numerically well represented as the hurlers.

Efforts at various Conventions to form a separate Football County Board have failed, but it was decided at the recent County Convention to set up a Committee to investigate the true position of football within the County. It is to be hoped that this will be implemented immediately, so that the position may be clarified before the commencement of the Munster Championships.

Too many of the motions passed at County Conventions in the recent past have been ignored so it is up to the footballers to insist that this particular one will not be shelved.

One of the basic needs of football as far as inter-County participation is concerned is the drawing up of a proper panel for all grades at least one month in advance of their first engagement. This is the only means by which a properly fit team can be produced—one that will have confidence in itself and, most important of all, know each other and their type of play. Too often in the past we have seen teams go out that were only picked during the previous week-and how could such combinations even give a satisfactory display, let alone win?

The County Board must face up to the situation that if football is to progress a complete change of attitude is called for. Really dedicated men must be found to act as selectors and they must be brought together very well in advance so that they may be in a position to give every player they select at least four weeks advance notice-and the opportunity collectively for adequate preparation. Should they do this I have no doubt whatever but that the material is there to put Limerick back with the best in the football world.

CORK'S NOEL MURPHY

By EAMONN YOUNG

"Why man, he doth bestride the narrow world Like a Colossus and we petty men Walk under his huge legs and peep about To find ourselves dishonourable graves."

THAT'S what the man said about Caesar. Afterwards they stuck half a dozen knives in him. Now Billy Morgan isn't exactly a Colossus and it is rather unlikely that we'll go for him with a knife but Cassius of the lean and hungry look was no more under the shadow of Caesar than a young man named Noel Murphy is kept out of the sun by the best goalie in the country just now.

Born in Bishopstown something over twenty years ago Noel Murphy after a spell at the local Presentation Brothers School, Coláiste an Spioraid Naoimh and a year in Farranferris, joined the surging throng of urgent youth which pours daily in the gates of Cork University to learn, and learn, where Finbarr taught.

Noel has played about everything for all the appropriate school and university teams and has stood in goal in contests from junior club to Railway Cup treating all of them with the stead seriousness of the earnest young man of the seventies.

Now I don't know much about goal-keeping but it is obvious that the only physical attributes one needs to save the average honest shot is a fairly quick eye, lively feet and a safe pair of hands. About three out of every five shots are like that, which doesn't mean of course that all of them are saved. But men like Noel Murphy who are intent, concentrated and yet poised in calm, usually save almost all these shots. What happens when that awful fisted ball rockets at you from an unexpected angle or when the fellow comes tearing through to hit a fast sneaky one from out of a forest of boots? That's where the lightning reaction takes over and the goalie saves without having even made up his mind to do so. I remember seeing a fine athlete eating his dinner one day long ago. The fork with a bite of meat on it was half way to a hungry mouth when his sister carrying an infant in her arms stumbled over a mat beside the athlete's chair. She fell and the child was tossed out of her arms. Your man caught the child before it hit the floor, handed the infant over and carried on with the meal, as much as to say: "Can't I have me dinner in peace?" Natural speed of reaction was there speeded up further by the careful training he was doing every day. That's what the good goalies must have, for their mistakes are much more serious than those on the half way line, or any other line.

I have seen Noel Murphy leap and turn like a trapeze artist, block down the fast one, grab it to his chest, jack-knife the body on to his feet and drive away. And I notice that the immediate follow up to the clearance is an instant back-pedal to his place between the sticks with his hands held carefully by his sides ready for the next. This attitude is completely different to the blinding style of Ollie Walsh or Noel Skehan both of whom always gave me the feeling they would love to get up the field after a clearance and hammer it home on the other side. This man Murphy has no desire to get outside the square and who is to say he is wrong?

Strange enough before Billy Morgan came on the Cork football side Brian Murphy from Crosshaven (who is not related to Noel) was doing a fine job in the goal. So Billy had to take his place in the queue and in fact he was quite friendly with Brian. Then came the day when Billy got his chance and he made no mistake. The selectors had no other solution but to drop Brian. So what did our hard man from Crosshaven do? He settled down to play anywhere and when called on to fill in at right full back he played just as well there as Morgan was playing in the goal so two problems were solved. Now Billy Morgan is superb in the goal so Noel Murphy must stand quietly at unease in the background though his career to date has shown that he certainly isn't idle and in fact the universities team provides any one with enough excitement and activity.

The Barrs pavilion was crowded to the doors when last I met Noel Murphy. Everywhere there was intense mental activity, as delegates to the Cork Convention with knitted brows studied their agendas and prepared to unleash floods of golden oratory, crisp invective, or broken-glassed sarcasm on an aud-

"Noel's style is completely different to the blinding style of Ollie Walsh (on right). This man Murphy has no desire to get outside the square," writes Eamonn Young.

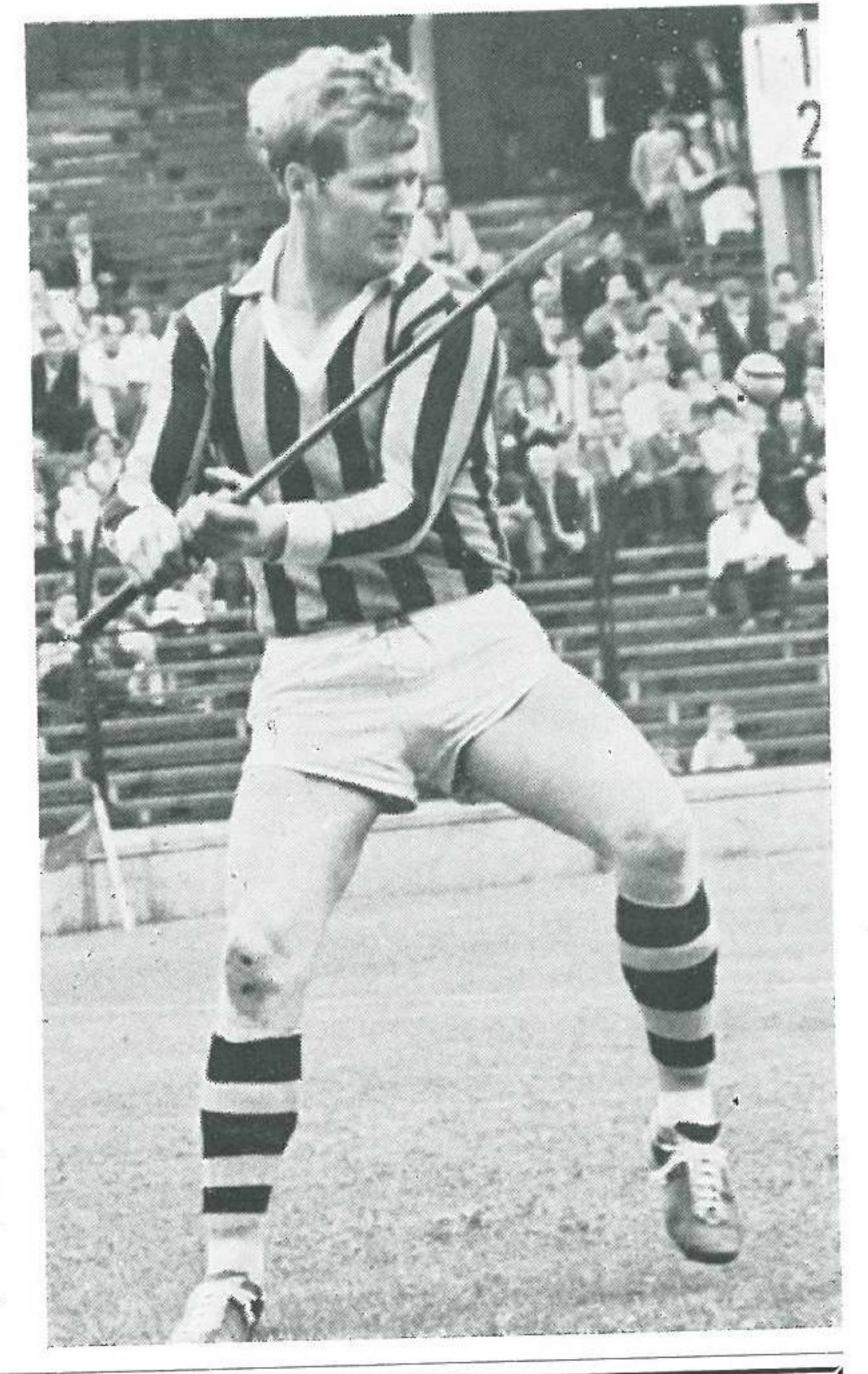
ience which approved or no, was certainly going to be attentive. On the stage a great old man, eighty-four years young named Sean McCarthy who had been elected vice-chair of the Cork Board sixty years before had just stopped speaking when for ten minutes he had advised us, after disdaining the use of

the universally used microphone.

A few minutes later his nephew Con Murphy explained very emphatically the effort needed to gather money for the great new Park in Cork to be called Páirc Uí Caoimh. Down in the body of the hall two tall young men with grave alert faces conversed quietly together. The subject was a good university motion, next to come up which would allow students under-21 to play in that competition with their own clubs and also to ask for post-graduate participation in college teams. With Dad going fine at his job and grand-uncle fluent and forceful as ever Noel Murphy felt he could get down to his own task. Of course he had plenty help. The six-footer with him was another Murphy named Con, a son of the late Weesh.

Good to see them involved in both arena and

assembly.



YOUNG MAN

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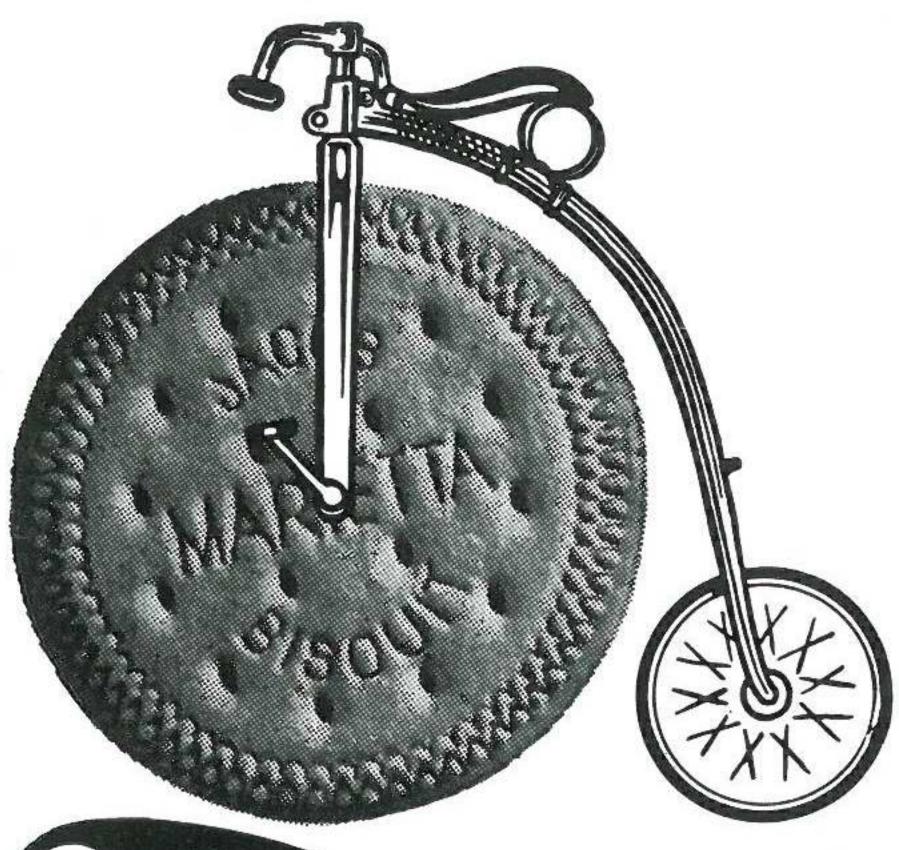
GREAT NEWS, GIRLS!

GAELIC SPORT is both pleased and proud to announce that Ann Carroll will be Editor of our new Ladies section, which will be a regular feature of our magazine, commencing in our next issue. Ann, whose record on the camogie field is probably more honourladen than any other player in the history of camogie, looks forward to



meeting with, and talking to girls of all ages in her new column.

Write now to Ann, c/o GAELIC SPORT, 80 Upper Drumcondra Road, Dublin 9, about anything. If you do not wish your name and address to appear in print, please state so when writing.



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• FROM PAGE 41

1. True. Leinster won the title for the third year in a row — a feat they had not previously achieved. 2. Denis Coughlan (Cork). 3. Brendan Lynch (U.C.C. and Kerry). 4. 0-12. 5. Dr. Donal Keenan was elected President of the G.A.A. on Easter Sunday. The following day the Universities footballers beat Connacht in the Railway Cup final replay at Athlone.

All-Ireland Football Final

6. Morgan Hughes opened the scoring with a Galway point, and Barry-Murphy was the first Cork man on the target — he scored a goal. 7. Johnny Hughes. 8. False. Liam Sammon also played in the 1966 final. 9. Cummins is the only player to win senior medals in both codes in the champion-ship and the Railway Cup. 10. Three.

All-Ireland Hurling Final

11. Limerick. 12. 0-10. 13. Claus Dunne with 0-7. 14. Paddy Lawlor, Bennettsbridge, Mick Brennan, Castlecomer. 15. Kieran Purcell.

National Leagues

16. John Quigley, who went into Wexford's team at the last minute, when Teddy O'Connor failed to pass a fitness test. 17. Third. 18. Full forward and full back respectively. 19. Brendan Lynch also scored the second goal. 20. Christy Keogh and Henry Gough.

EDITOR'S NOTE: There are a limited number of copies of "Cork "74" and "Cork "72" available from Gaelic Sport Offices, 80 Upper Drumcondra Road, Dublin 9. Price 40p each (includes postage).

JUNIOR DESK: DEVISED AND EDITED BY JACK MAHON



DEVOTED TO THE VIEWS OF OUR YOUNGER READERS

It's gales and bad weather as I write. By the time this appears we will be well into the playing season. The League semi-finalists will be known. Conventions at provincial level will be held around March. A resurgence of interest in Handball will result from the TOP ACE RTE coverage.

Mentioning RTE, can I ask ye what ye think of the Sunday night's Sports Show on RTE? The Jimmy Magee, Fred Cogley and Bill O'Herlihy chit-chat show, as I called it, when addressing the Galway Co. Convention in January. Personally, I think this chitchat show is an insult to the Irish people and should be scrapped. At the Cavan Co. Convention Jim McDonnell, an old opponent of mine, described this Sunday RTE programme in like terms. Gerald McKenna, the Kerry Co. Board Chairman had a go at the lack of proper G.A.A. coverage in the Sunday papers. He is right too. A stranger visiting our country for the first time could be forgiven for asking the question: "Have ye got any native games at all?" From the coverage we get in one Sunday media presentation is would seem as if we hadn't. If you feel as badly about it as I do, write in and let me have your views on the situation. If you have a suggestion for the Sports Editors of these papers or the Head of Sport (RTE) let me have it too. Perhaps they might read this.

CUT-OUT

Our Cut-Out this month is Mayo's Willie McGee. The man with the goal scoring power. He scored four goals in the replay of an U-21 All-Ireland final against Kerry some years ago. He has scored many great ones since. One of his goals in a S.F. League final v Kerry a few years ago was one of his best. He wrong-footed Paudie Donoghue with a superb swerve before unleashing a wonderful left-footed shot to the roof of the net. In last year's Connacht final he had some very unfortunate misses. After these his confidence was shattered. I went to see him after the game and found an old Mayo star Gerald Courell with him. Gerald knew how Willie felt and had called to see him to help him over his disappointment. One of these days Willie is going to have the net sagging again. For the man has undoubted class. He strikes fear into the hearts of all Galway supporters when Galway meet Mayo. A gentleman from head to toe, he is indeed a forward for young players to model themselves on and is a worthy Cut-Out choice.

COLLEGE GAMES

This is also the season for the college provincial finals and the Railway Cup finals too. The All-Ireland club finals are being given the stage too. It will be ininteresting to judge the impact the Club finals have on the

public. The Railway Cup competition is on the wane. It generates less interest from year to year. The public have shown their hand. We should not hold on to a loser.

The Club finals will be given their chance and should not be judged on the results of one year. County finals have now come into their own. They attract huge gates in practically every county now. The Club All-Ireland is being run better too. But at a wrong time on unsuitable pitches. We must rationalise our club fixture list too on a nationwide basis but this will come. If you have any ideas on the Railway Cup or the Club finals, let me know them too.

EDDIE KEHER

At the Carrolls All-Star banquet I had the pleasure of interviewing star Kilkenny hurler Eddie Keher. I put the following questions for Junior Desk:

- Q. What has been your greatest thrill?
- A I find this a hard one. It is easy to list them: All-Ireland Colleges Final against St. Flannan's 1957; Club county final 1968, my first All-Ireland senior 1963. I suppose if asked to choose I would say the All-Ireland win as captain in 1969.
- Q. What is the score you cherish most?
- A. The score I enjoyed most was

 OVERLEAF

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- FROM PREVIOUS PAGE
- a goal against Dublin in Kilkenny in the early days of my career. I can't even remember if it was a League or Walsh Cup game. But I think the most important was the second goal (from a free) in the 1972 All-Ireland.
- Q. Which sportsmen do you admire most?
- A. Ollie Walsh, Ray Cummins, Sean O'Neill, Mick O'Connell and Muhammad Ali.
- Q. Have you any advice for Junior Desk readers?
- A. Try to model yourself on a player you admire. Practise any feature of the game that you are weak on until you master it. Do not be afraid to make (what may appear to be) sacrifices in order to give your very best in every game.



TOP ACE PRIZES

Is the G.A.A. doing enough to promote Handball? I offered five prizes — A Top Ace Handball singlet presented by Michael O'Carroll and Mick Dunne of R.T.E. as first prize and four other handball singlets as consolation prizes. The two Michaels of R.T.E. have presented another Top Ace singlet for 2nd Prize. So we have six prizes instead of five.

First prize goes to old reliable Joseph Woods, Cloneyogan, Lahinch, Co. Clare (aged 17) who says—

"No! The G.A.A. should:

- "(1) Give more financial aid to its promotion, especially in schools and Youth Clubs.
 - "(2) Launch a nation-wide

- coaching campaign to spread handball.
- "(3) Publish handball magazines.
- "(4) Give an award to 'the best handballer' of each month.
- "(5) Appoint a committee (of handballers) who would draft plans for handball's glorification."

Second prize goes to Martin Fox (aged 11), Printinstown, Delvin, Co. Westmeath, who also says—

"No! In our school most of us do not even know the rules of handball, and I would say half of us never saw a game of handball. We know football and hurling inside out. The G.A.A. should have some coaching on handball and more ballalleys."

The four Consolation Prizes go to:

(1) Denis M. Kelly, Mill Road, Killarney, Co. Kerry—

"It is not. G.A.A. expenditure on handball is marginal. Proper facilities are lacking. G.A.A. publications do not give enough coverage of handball.

"G.A.A. clubs should work together to provide an alley for their area and then enter teams in competitions. More courts, more competitions for the young would see handball flourishing again."

(2) Patrick Leogue (15 years), Ballina, Geashill, Co. Offaly—

"The G.A.A. is not doing enough to promote handball. It is good to see R.T.E. promoting a second 'Top Ace' series. There should be a handball alley in every town and village. To promote handball County Boards should build more courts and organise more competitions for the younger people.

(3) Gerard Murray (16), Main Street, Charlestown, Co. Mayo—

"No. The G.A.A. should give

handball more publicity in G.A.A. magazines and annuals.

"The G.A.A. does not give handball enough financial backing, 90% of handball clubs lack simple facilities such as dressingrooms.

"The G.A.A. and G.A.A. clubs do very little to promote handball in schools, colleges and towns."

(4) Patricia Hogan (14½), Thome, O'Callaghan's Mills, Co. Clare—

"No, they are not. Every sportshow on TV is taken by Irish and international games, but never is handball featured. It's a popular game, even the famous film star Ryan O'Neal (sigh) plays it, so if it is good enough for the G.A.A."

The last letter was written before this year's Top Ace was featured on R.T.E. (J.M.)

MAILBAG

Gerard Dowling, 5 Upper Johnstown, Waterford — "It was very generous of the men in San Francisco to bring over four Handballers."

Bernadette Fox, Printinstown, Delvin, Co. Westmeath. — "Every time I play handball it is against my Mammy's wallpaper and then there is war."

• Keep the ball low Bernadette and you'll break nothing. (J.M.)

Michael McGrath, Ox Park, Cloughjordan, Co. Tipperary.—
"What advice would you give to a youngster who wants to be a star footballer?"

Practise the skills of the game every day. Don't smoke or drink alcohol. As Eddie Keher says elsewhere, model yourself on a star player and study his play carefully. Practice makes perfect. (J.M.)

"Down Fan" (name and address enclosed).—"Where can I get a copy of 'The Clash of the Ash'?"

Can any reader help? (J.M.)

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Paul Tobin, 11 Lower John St., Wex'ord .- "Martin Quigley is the best player Wexford has produced in the last decade."

Seamus Woulfe, 11 Foxfield Ave., Raheny, Dublin 5 .- "Junior Desk is great. I collect programmes and have now almost 30."

John Keane, Emmett Place, Youghal, Co. Cork .- "I think Cork have the talent to take the double this year. The two surprise teams of 1974 may be Waterford (hurling) and Louth (football).

Tom Moore, Walshtownmore, Midleton, Co. Cork .- "Please give us Cut-outs of Denis Coughlan

and Charlie McCarthy."

Gallen, Hazelwood, Kevin Lough Gill, Sligo .- "The G.A.A. Annuals were great this year. I think the Carrolls All-Star selections are very unfair. In the football selection only one player did not play in the All-Ireland semi-finals."

Not correct Kevin. There are two-John O'Keeffe and Anthony McGurk. But you have a good point. In fact you have hit the nail on the head here. How Sligo's Mickey Kearins was not included these past two years just beats me. (J.M.)

Denis O'Leary, Inchabeg, Rathmore, Co. Kerry .- "There are not nearly enough handball courts in

the country."

Michael Beirne, Corrachole, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim. — "My 10 top stars are Jack Cosgrove, T. J. Gilmore, Mick Rooney, Morgan Hughes, K. Kilmurray, Brendan Lynch, J. Barry-Murphy, Mossy Clavin, M. Kearins and Mick O'Rourke."

Anthony Clancy, Knockroe, Ennistymon, Co. Clare. - "Not enough is being done to promote handball where the game is

weak."

John Martin Sullivan, Middle Barrow, Ardfert, Co. Kerry .-"There should be one handball court in every big town."

Sean Nolan, Imanebeg, Barna-

derg, Tuam, Co. Galway.—"Please keep on publishing the Connacht Gaelic Games Annual and you will keep everybody in Connacht happy."

W. F. Carberry, 36 Cecil Rd., West Croydon, Surrey, England.

-"Keep up your wonderful work for Junior Desk. How my family enjoy it every month. All the best in '74."

So gratifying to get a letter like this. Go raibh maith agat. (J.M.)

John Fitzpatrick, 3441 Corlear Ave., Bronx, New York 10463 .-"My top referee is John Moloney."

Joseph Roche, Ballinure, Bartlemy, Fermoy, Co. Cork .- "Cork '74 is great."

Mary O'Grady, Ballyconnoe North, Lisdoonvarna, Co. Clare.— "Please give us a Cut-out of Frank McGuigan."

Patrick Fox, Printinstown, Delvin, Co. Westmeath. — "Every school should have a handball alley."

Michael Kirby, Lisnalty, Rosbrien, Co. Limerick-"We would need new handball courts like the Croke Park alley down the country."

Coleman, Kilmolin, Thomas Enniskerry, Co. Wicklow, writes asking the writer of the letter from Cartubber, Kingscourt, Co. Cavan, to let him have his name. He obviously forgot to include it.

The final letter is from James McInerney, Einagh, Moyasta, Kilrush, Co. Clare, who says that handball is great for keeping G.A.A. players fit during the winter months.

So we come to the end of another Junior Desk. Would like to get a copy of "The Spirit of the Glen"? Which reminds me of Christy Ring. Talk of Ring and I think of Mick Mackey and Tommy Doyle. Wonderful hurlers all.

Earlier on I have asked you to write in about the Sunday R.T.E. Sports Show. Who would you like as your Cut-out? If you have anything to say—want a Pen

Pal-arrange a fixture-write to me at-

Junior Desk, Gaelic Sport,

80 Upper Drumcondra Rd., Dublin 9.

P.S.—Isn't it great to notice the great Waterford hurling resurgence?

Jack Mahon

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WILLIE McGEE

LIFAERICS COST LIBERTY

Mayo

Age: 26

Height: 6-1

Weight:

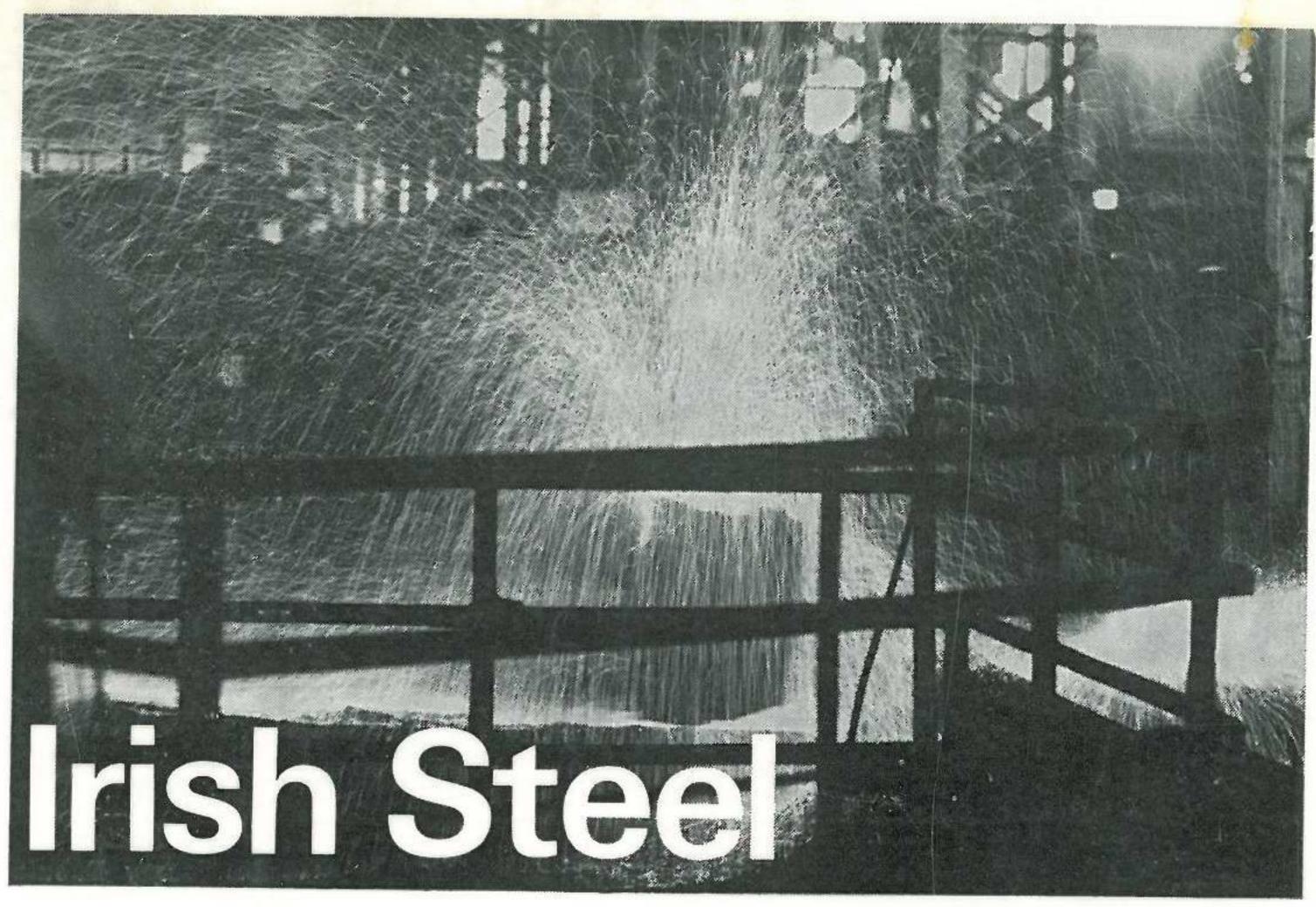
13 st. 10 lb.

Club: Garda, Dublin

Position: Fullforward. Senior Inter-County Debut: October, 1967.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Willie had a bonanza game in the 1967 All-Ireland Under-21 football final replay in which he shot four goals in Mayo's win over Kerry. In 1969 he set a new national goalscoring record for a full season's senior programme of games—a record that still stands when he hit 17 goals in 27 games. He won a Railway Cup medal in 1969, helped Mayo to their last Connacht senior title win later that year, and won a National League souvenir in 1970.

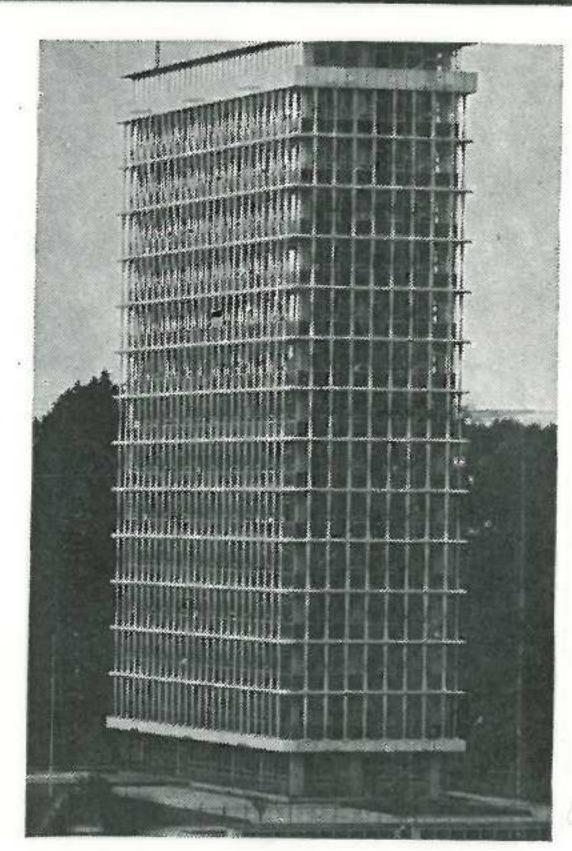


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