

# CUCHULAINN

## *Annual*



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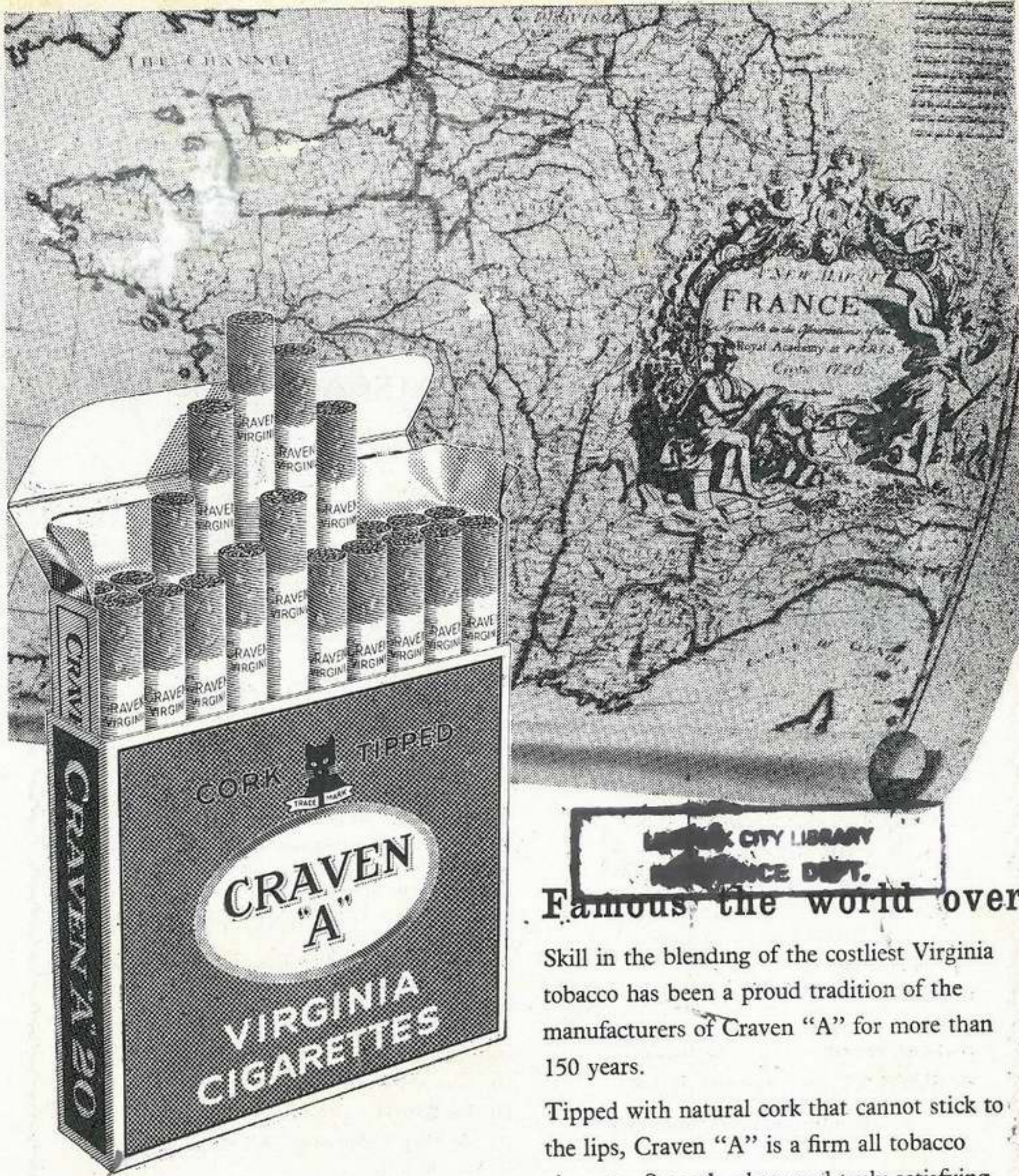
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# Cumann Lúitcheas Saedéal

## Comhairle Laijean

### clár na scluicí laijean, 1962

#### CORN UÍ BROIN:

- (1) Longport v An Mhí—Longport—25/2/62.
- (2) Lúghair v (1)—Droichead Áda—11/3/62.
- (3) Ua Bfáilí v Iar-Mhí—M. Cearr—25/2/62.
- (4) Cill Dara v (3)—Droichead Nua—11/3/62.
- (5) Cill Coinnig v Ceatharló—Ceatharló—25/2/62.
- (6) Loé Sarmán v (5)—Ros Mhic Treóin nó Inis Córtaíó—11/3/62.
- (7) Laois v Cill Mhantáin—Eadóruim Uí Broin—25/2/62.
- (8) Át Cliaé v (7)—porclaoise no blá Cliaé—11/3/62.

#### peil sinsir 7 mionúir:

- (1) Laois v Longport—6/5/62.
- (2) Iar-Mhí v (1)—20/5/62.
- (3) Cill Coinnig v Ceatharló—29/4/62.
- (4) Ua Bfáilí v (3)—27/5/62.
- (5) Cill Dara v Loé Sarmán—13/5/62.
- (6) An Mhí v (5)—3/6/62.
- (7) Lúghair v Cill Mhantáin—6/5/62.
- (8) Át Cliaé v (7)—10/6/62.

Semi-finals (2), (4), (6), (8) to be Drawn.

Ar 24/6/62 7 1/7/62: An Craob 15/7/62.

#### iomáint sinsir 7 mionúir:

- (1) Laois v Ua Bfáilí—15/4/62.
- (2) Iar-Mhí v (1)—

#### mionúir speisialta:

- |                               |                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| (A) An Mhí v Cill Dara        | } a beic socrúgáto |
| (B) Ceatharló v Cill Mhantáin |                    |
| (C) (A) v (B)                 |                    |
| (D) (C) v (2) mionúir ahiáin  |                    |

#### leat-craobáda iomáint sinsir 7 mionúir:

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| *Sinsir—(A) (2) v Cill Coinnig nó Loé Sarmán         | } ar     |
| mionúir—(D) v Cill Coinnig nó Loé Sarmán             |          |
| * (b) Át Cliaé v Fuirceann Leighe (Sinsir 7 mionúir) | } 8/7/62 |

An Craob (A) v (b).

#### peil 7 iomáint soisir:

- (1) An Mhí v Cill Mhantáin—1/4/62.
- (2) Ceatharló v (1) p. S. 7 l. S. v Iar-Mhí (l. roir meanaé)—15/4/62.
- (3) Lúghair v Cill Dara—1/4/62.
- (4) Longport v (3) peil ahiáin—15/4/62.
- (5) Cill Coinnig v Loé Sarmán, p. S. 7 l. roir meanaé—8/4/62.
- (6) Laois v Ua Bfáilí, p.S. 7 l. roir meanaé.—8/4/62.
- (7) Át Cliaé v Iar-Mhí (p.S.) 7 Aontóroma (l. roir meanaé)—1/4/62.
- (8) An Mhí v Át Cliaé nó Aontóroma (l. roir meanaé).

#### roir-meanaé (iomáint):

- (1) Ceatharló v Iar-Mhí—22/4/62.
- (2) Laois v Ua Bfáilí—8/4/62.
- (3) Loé Sarmán v Cill Coinnig—8/4/62.
- (4) Át Cliaé v Aontóroma—8/4/62.
- (5) An Mhí v (4).
- (6) (1) v (5).
- (7) (2) v (3).
- (8) (6) v (7) An Craob.

le sac uéa-ghú.





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THE MARCH OF IRISH LIFE

## On the ball . . .

For schoolboys, it is easy to dream. The lonely field becomes Croke Park, the passer-by an All-Ireland crowd, the odd shout of encouragement a thunder of approval that is listened to from the Glens of Antrim to the Kerry coast.

They may never play in Croke Park. But they are having fun, and the important thing is not how well they play but that they *do* play. Though they probably don't realise it, the money paid at the turnstiles by the big crowds provides pitches that make their sport possible.

This is why *An Cumann Iúit-Óileas Saeóeal*, the Gaelic Athletic Association,

is the greatest amateur sporting organisation in the world. It knows a schoolboys' game can be just as satisfying to play as a big match, that Sunday afternoon gatherings at parish fields are as much part of our social life as All-Irelands. There are many rungs on the ladder from the smallest to the biggest in the G.A.A., but all are equally important. Its founders set out to bring a spirit of independence to the countryside, to make people proud of their nation by first making them proud of their parish. You need never visit a playing-field to know how well they have succeeded. But perhaps you should?

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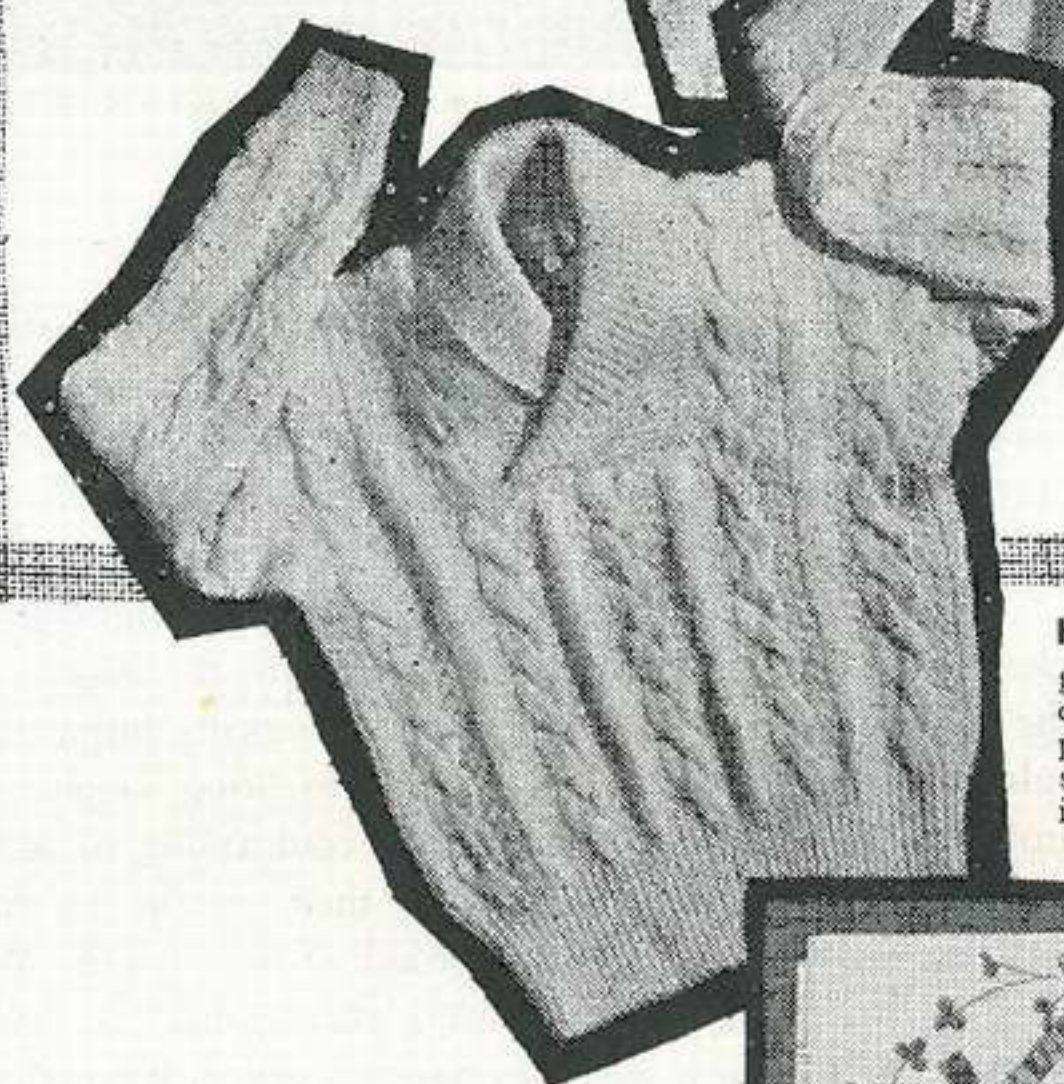
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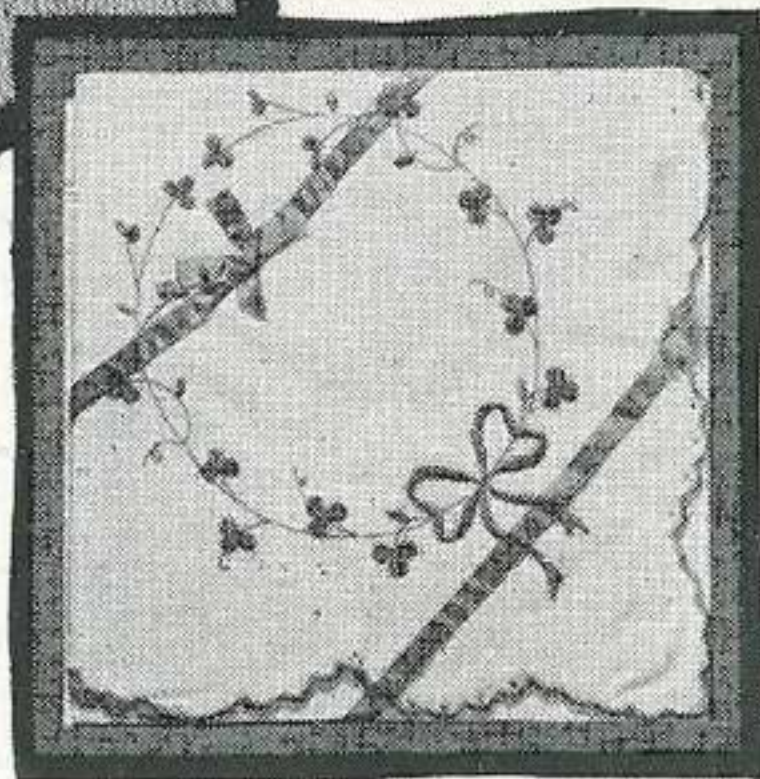
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# Cuchulainn

## Annual, 1961

### A GAELIC WEEKLY PUBLICATION

Edited by Gerry McCarthy and Joe Kelly

CÚIS átais dúinn an bliantán seo do cur le céile arís. Is dea-chair a creidiúint go bfuil blian eile imite, com tapúla sin is a rié sí, agus is féidir linn féachaint siar ar imeachtaí móra agus beaga 1961. Tá súil again go mbeid sib sásta leis an "Cuchulainn Annual" i mbliana agus go mbeirimid go leor beo ar an am seo arís. Raé Dé oraib.

It is hard to credit that twelve long months have sped since last we placed the "Cuchulainn Annual" before the reading public. In that time many new records have been written into the chronicles of Gaelic sport. While the past year was not noteworthy for the general all-round excellence of hurling and football standards, it can still take its place amongst the more successful experienced by the Gaelic Athletic Association.

Once again it is my pleasure to thank all who have helped us in any way during the year. Special mention must be made of our advertisers, writers and readers without whom it would be impossible to carry on.

Deeply appreciated also was the assistance received from the General Secretary of the G.A.A., the various Provincial Council, County Board and Club Secretaries, and the officials of the other sporting organisations with whom we were in contact during 1961.

To the Sports Editors of the Dublin and Provincial newspapers I also express a personal "Thank You" for their co-operation and courtesy at all times.

To these, and to all players, officials and followers of Gaelic games at home and beyond the seas, I extend best wishes for a happy, holy and enjoyable Christmas and God's choicest blessings in the New Year.



# PLAYER'S

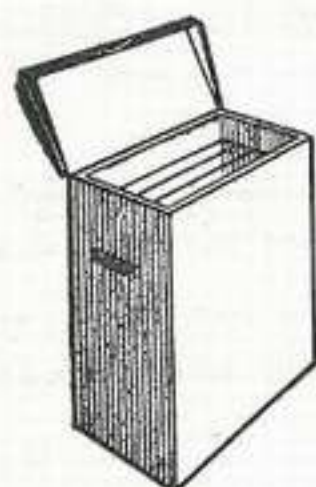
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# Réamh-Ráth

By **HUGH BYRNE**, President of  
the Gaelic Athletic Association



Tá mé an-buíoch de "Nuachtán Gael" as caoi a tabairt dom teachtairiacht do cur chuig Gael Éireann, i ngach áit in a bhfuil siad. Tabaim buíochas leis na himreoirí, leis na hoifigí, lenár luét leanúna agus le gach duine a cabraíonn linn i rith na bliana.

Séanaim comhghairdeas leis na fóirne a buaigh an éraoib i ngach sráid agus pós leis na fóirne nár buaigh. Táimid pé comaoin mór acu uilig as a ndílseacht, a nduirtacht agus as a ndea-iompar ar páirc na himeartha.

Suim gach beannacht i gcóir na Nollag is na haic-bliana ar gach duine a bhí páirteac in obair an Cumainn i rith na bliana agus a cabraíonn linn in aon tsli.

It gives me great pleasure to utilize this opportunity kindly given me by the "Gaelic Weekly" to express my sincere thanks to the players, officials and supporters of our Gaelic games for their continued loyalty to the aims and aspirations of the Gaelic Athletic Association and for their unselfish work on its behalf.

We rejoice that the Association continues to grow in strength and popularity, but this forward trend calls for increased vigilance and presents us with many problems.

We must not allow the glamour associated with the winning of our major competitions to overshadow the fact that these competitions are but a means to an end and not the end in themselves.

Our strength can be consolidated and increased by maintaining that unity and discipline which are absolutely necessary for the progress of any organisation.

When I speak of discipline I do not mean the discipline of the martinet but that discipline which comes from a real love of the games and true loyalty to the ideals which prompted the founding of the Association, and a unity which is born of allegiance to an ideal and a determination to achieve its fulfilment.

Down, by their second successive victory in the All-Ireland Football Championship, have established themselves as a team of outstanding merit, while Offaly, their opponents in that Final, must surely very soon reap the reward of their wonderful consistency and loyalty.

The game, while not reaching the high standard expected, earned special distinction for the sportsmanship displayed by both teams.

Tipperary have achieved the coveted treble of Championship, League and Oireachtas, and are entitled to rank with the greatest Tipperary teams of the past. In Dublin they met opponents worthy of their steel, and, if full time found the Metropolitans one point in arrears, the general verdict was that the honours were evenly divided.

The officers of the Dublin Schools League have reason to be proud of the success which has attended their perseverance and enthusiasm.

Leeds had its first All-Ireland when Louth narrowly beat the home team in a closely contested game. It is a great source of pleasure to all to see new names appearing as Champions of Britain. I had the pleasure of visiting London at Whit and was much impressed by the healthy state of the organisation there.

One seldom associates Kerry with Hurling, and this is perhaps due to their prominence in the Football world, hence it is very gratifying to find the All-Ireland Junior Hurling Championship finding a new home.

The All-Ireland Minor Football Championship went to Cork for the first time and deservedly so, because for the past three seasons they have fielded teams of outstanding merit. This is surely a happy augury for the future of football in Cork. I look forward to their footballers obtaining equal prominence with their hurlers.

Kilkenny had a surprisingly easy passage in the Minor Hurling, scoring a facile win over Tipperary, who have an outstanding record in this Competition. There is no doubt that the Kilkenny Minor team of this year was of outstanding merit by any standards.

## Christmas Message . . . from Mr. Steve Casey, President of the Handball Association

**I**N the past year handball increased in popularity and we are able to look back on a very successful season. We had all but three or four Counties competing in the Championships, and the standard was uniformly high.

The weather was very favourable and did not cause any upsets in the programme. To overcome unfavourable weather conditions, handball requires more covered courts, and we hope that in the near future we will have at least two or three in each province.

With the coming of Irish TV, handball should

really come into its own, as the whole country will be able to watch the game. At the moment, many people who wish to see it are unable to do so due to limited accommodation at the alleys.

Tournaments help to popularise the game, and I would like to see more being held, as they provide excellent competition. I would also like to see more handball being played in the Schools and Colleges.

Gael-Linn have done a great deal to help handball by promoting a competition for the

winter months. Judging by the increase in entries, this tournament is getting more popular every year.

Before long I hope to see handball taking its rightful place in Irish sport and towards that objective officials of the game are sparing no effort.

To all who helped the game in any way during the year gone by, I take this opportunity of expressing my deepest thanks and extend to them and to all readers best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.



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*Jarlath Carey*

*Down's Midfielder*

*says*

# IN 1961 WE PROVED OURSELVES WORTHY CHAMPIONS

**I** 960 is not likely to be forgotten by Downmen for a very long time, but, to my mind, 1961 has been an even more important year in our history.

After the delirious excitement of the previous year, when our achievement in being the first Northern team to win the Sam Maguire Cup was acclaimed and welcomed throughout the country, we set out on the arduous task of defending our precious crown as champions of Ireland.

Our success had been the fruits of many years of organisation and playing the games. Many players well worthy of an All-Ireland medal had gone before us and many officials had worked for smaller rewards. Then, in 1960, we at last achieved that blend of selectors, advisers, officials and players which made it possible for us to reap the harvest of success from the seeds which had been carefully sown and nurtured.

## SURPRISE TO MANY

It came as a surprise to many people when Down at last broke the Southern monopoly of All-Ireland titles and there are still many who think that Gaelic Football is only an innovation in our county. Nothing could be further from the truth for the story of our Gaelic games in Down bears comparison with the history of the G.A.A. in any other county.

Throughout difficult days Down has remained loyal to our native games. The history of Irish national pastimes in the county reaches farther back than the formation of the Association and we are proud of our link with Michael Cusack, who lived and taught for some time in our county.

Since then, club football has flourished and gone from strength to strength and to-day there are more than fifty clubs in the county.

Nevertheless, while we had a few successes in junior grades and in the Dr. McKenna Cup competition, it was not until 1959 that we won our first provincial senior title. Since then, there are

few who have not heard of the Down team and their subsequent success.

1961 was a year, to my mind, in which we would have an opportunity to prove ourselves worthy champions. While every county rejoiced in our victories of the previous year, many of them were now eager to test the worth of the new champions. It is a common happening in sport to support the underdogs in the hope that they will topple the favourites, and so 1961 was an arduous year for us.

## PROVED A PATTERN

Our first match in defence of our championship was against Fermanagh at Newry, on June 11. In many ways it was to prove a pattern for our games throughout the year. It was rugged and the tackling very keen with little good football.

We cleared our first hurdle by being adequate without being brilliant. Sean O'Neill returned to the side after a long lay-off and proved he had lost none of his football ability. James McCartan, Brian Morgan and Eamon McKay were outstanding.

We successfully jumped our second fence against Derry on July 2, by the same margin as in the Fermanagh match—five points. This was a fine game of fluctuating fortunes and it wasn't until the final minutes, when Down secured two points that more than a goal separated the teams.

Our only newcomer this year, John Smith, proved his worth in subduing the brilliant Sean O'Connell, and with Joe Lennon in fine form we were in the Ulster final for the fourth year in succession.

## FIVE POINTS IN ARREARS

Armagh always worthy rivals, were our opponents at Casement Park on July 23. We played the first half without an injured James McCartan and at half-time were five points in arrears.

James fielded in the second half and provided a shot in the arm with a goal from his first kick.



This was a contest of pulsating excitement right to the last kick when, with only a goal to spare, Eamon McKay courageously grabbed the ball on his goal-line and with the assistance of Leo Murphy managed to resist the intrushing Armagh forwards. Controversy still rages as to whether he crossed the line or not.

At any rate, Down weathered the storm and collected their third Ulster title in a row and Armagh had proved themselves gallant losers. Paddy Doherty with seven points to his credit had shown not for the first time his importance to our team.

### A PRIVILEGE AND HONOUR

To play against Kerry is always a privilege and an honour. More than anything else in football it is something I will look back on with joy in the years to come.

I think without a doubt that our semi-final this year was the greatest game I have ever played in, and I would like to think of it as one of the best games of all time.

Since the 1960 final Kerry had been handing out defeats to every county they had met. After their superb National League success they were again being hailed as the greatest team in the country. Down managed to overcome them at Wembley and so on August 6 it was a determined and revenge-seeking Kerry, with Dr. O'Sullivan at the helm, who turned out at Croke Park to do battle with Down.

It was my unenviable task to be marking Mick O'Connell, who was then being rated as the best mid-fielder of all time.

At half-time it was anybody's game, but in the second half few will forget the onslaught staged by Kerry's forwards. Not many defences could have resisted such sustained pressure, but the Down backs reached new heights in repulsing every attack.

### MAGNIFICENT TEAM EFFORT

Having weathered the storm, our forwards proceeded to notch the scores that counted. This victory was a magnificent team effort, with every man of the fifteen proving his value to the Ulster champions, and none more so than the full-back line of George Lavery, Leo Murphy and Pat Rice.

On September 24, Down returned to Croke Park for their second successive All-Ireland final. The great respect we have for Offaly's worth was fully justified that day. While the game was not as memorable as our semi-final against Kerry, nevertheless, the evenness of the scoring and the vim and vigour of the exchanges kept the issue open to the end. Dan McCartan, Patsy O'Hagan and Tony Hadden were heroes in this final hour.

Down were champions of Ireland for the second time and to have come through again showed that we were no flash in the pan team. It had been a hard year's football and it was very satisfactory to have confirmed the enthusiastic faith of our supporters and be champions once more.

When I dwell on my overall memories of the year my thoughts flash back to the football feast in the Ulster semi-final; the keenness, rivalry and sportsmanship of the Ulster decider; the magnificence and splendour of the game against Kerry; and the electrifying goals and rugged exchanges of the All-Ireland final.

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le Seán  
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# Teachtaireacht na Nollag

Ta bliain eile curtha dinn againn agus go deimhin ba mhor an dul chun chinn a deineadh i rith 1961. Ba bhliain i a sharaigh ar a lán slite aon bhliain eile a thainig roimpi, maidir le polasai agus modhanna forbairte Nuachtan Gael.

In aith eile san mBliantan so, do ghabhadh buiochas leo suid go leir a thug cunamh duinn. Da bhri sin, ní thogfar orm mar Leas Chathaoirleach, ma dheinim tagairt ar leith do Proinnsias Mac Sithigh ata i bhfad uainn anois, go sealadach dar ndoigh, agus Seamus O Conachtaigh ata d'eis sinne d'fhagaint chun dul i mbun Comhlucht i mBeal an Atha.

Ta treoir Proinnsias againne go foill agus guidhim Rath De ar a shaothar go dtí go mbionn se ar ais linn go leir.

Guidhim gach beannacht ar ocaid bheannuithe seo na Nollag ar Sheamus a thug tacaíocht duinn agus a sheas linn go dilis o thanaig se chugainn.

Gura fada buan sibh go leir agus go dtuga Dia go dtíochfaidh as ar n-iarrachtaí an tairghe gur mbuan linn dar gcine.

I have pleasure in wishing our readers a Very Happy Christmas and God's choicest blessings in the year 1962. This wish is extended, not only to our Founder, Very Rev. Monsignor Michael Hamilton, P.P., V.F., our shareholders, readers, advertisers, staff and our contributors, but also to those whose helpful and timely advice has corrected many mistakes, which are unavoidable in a paper such as ours, and those who have in any way helped the paper during the year.

A special greeting is reserved for our friends beyond the seas, for those many Irish men and women in all parts of the world, to whom our paper and our Annual, convey to them, news of our games and the development of our great organisation, of which we are all proud to be members.

It would be invidious and indeed undesirable to mention any one person in particular, but the Board Members of this paper, would like me, on their behalf, to acknowledge our deep debt of gratitude, for favours received, from successive Presidents of the G.A.A., from Provincial and County Board Secretaries, and in particular for the invaluable assistance and advice received from the General Secretary of the Association—Padraig Uas O Caoimh.

I send also a message of thanks to Proinnsias Mac Sithigh, our Chairman, who is in temporary residence in Nigeria, working there on an educational project for the Government of that Country.

I pay a well deserved word of thanks to Seamus Conaty for the services rendered by him to this paper as Manager/Accountant over the past few years, and who has resigned to take up another appointment.

In the six years of its existence, the Gaelic Weekly has established itself as a reasonably virile vehicle of commentary on our Gaelic activities. Fair, we believe in criticism, but strong in the assertion of the fundamental principles that underline the Gaelic Athletic Association.

Circulation is increasing and the accounts reveal that the financial difficulties of the early days are being resolved.

The Irish language is shortly to be duly recognised in a positive manner and the games in our colleges and schools will in future receive greater attention.

In that connection, I would like to avail of the offer of £10 in prizes for the best essay on: "The Ideal Gaelic Weekly" which has been offered to us by the Very Rev. Mons. Michael Hamilton, P.P., V.F., details of which will be announced shortly.

Finally, our best thanks are due to the various County Boards whose teams competed in our Tournament, and in this connection we thank in particular the Very Rev. Fr. P. Tully of Meath, Very Rev. Paddy Mahon and John Dunne, Galway, Sean Hart, Armagh and Dr. Donal Keenan, Roscommon.

Guidhim tuiscint ar aigne Gael, Misneach ar a gcroidhe agus Rath ar an saothar.

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# A GREAT YEAR FOR

◀ By **TONY WALL**, Tipperary's Centre Half-Back ▶

**T**HE Tipperary senior hurling team of 1961 may not have been the greatest ever to represent the county, but few teams from any county have done better in any particular year.

During the past twelve months, whether in League, tournament or championship, Tipp has played and beaten every hurling county of note.

A year of victory, such as this, is not accomplished by individual brilliance, for no man can be the star everyday. Instead, every one of the fifteen must play for the team and each member must maintain a high standard.

When this much is achieved, it is the ability of different players to shine a little more brightly on each occasion that keeps the victories mounting up.

Tipp's first serious encounter of 1961 was against Limerick in the league. For twenty minutes the Shannonsiders shone, but Billy Moloughney's scores upset them and at the end it was rather easy.

And so to the league final against Waterford. The Decies' victories over Dublin, Wexford, Cork and Kilkenny, and their previous encounters with Tipp, certainly entitled them to respect.

With the wind in their favour, Tipperary started in whirlwind fashion and the forwards, backed by Liam Devanney's brilliance at centrefield, had their best day of the year.

Tom Ryan, Donie Nealon, Tom and Billy Moloughney and the new 'find,' Mackey McKenna, all contributed handsomely to their team's big score.

Still, Waterford were not beaten. The Tipp defence almost cracked but a new star, goalkeeper Donal O'Brien, rose to save the day. He showed a coolness and brilliance in that game which immediately established him as a first-class net-minder.

Mick Burns was outstanding in a stubborn back-line that barely held out in the closing minutes.

Between the league final and the championship, the Wembley tournament, in which Wexford were beaten, was the most notable event.

And so to Ennis, where Galway almost created a surprise. The absence of Kieran Carey, suffering from a broken finger, and my own injured knee upset the equilibrium of the team a little and the selectors and supporters had quite a few anxious moments.

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# TIPPERARY

Still, Tipp were ahead at the finish, and all the injuries proved a blessing in disguise for Matt O'Gara got his chance and seized it with both hands.

Cork's victory over Waterford in the other side of the draw, opened the road to Limerick and that controversial Munster final. The Leesiders' installation as favourites seemed inexplicable to Tipp eyes and stiffened the determination against the old rivals.

It was at this stage that Jack Behan O'Brien took charge of the training and his enthusiasm and skill had our lads rearing to go as never before. This time it was the defence which did the lion's share.



*Jimmy Doyle . . . Tipperary would not have won without him.*

Donal O'Brien was brilliant in goal. Matt Hassett played a captain's part, and Mickey Maher and Kieran Carey, playing as never before, held the much-vaunted Cork attack practically scoreless.

In front of them, John Doyle, Mick Burns and Matt O'Gara hurled like men inspired and kept it up till the final whistle.



*John Doyle . . . the 'Holycross Hercules.'*

Theo English and Liam Devanney also contributed royally to this great rearguard, while, up front, the opportunism of Donie Nealon and the hobbling Jimmy Doyle carried the day.

After this, all thoughts were on Croke Park. Dublin were an unknown quantity and their sweeping victory over Wexford had been the surprise of the year.

Came the big day, and Dublin were no longer unknown. After a shaky start the Metropolitans were playing great stuff and the Premier County was once again in danger.

But there was a man ready to step into the breach. This time it was Liam Devanney who produced the super effort and his display that day was the match winner.

Not far behind him was Matt O'Gara, whose brilliant work and two well-taken points were badly needed.

All this would have counted for nothing but for Jimmy Doyle. Many felt that he should not have played at all.

His broken ankle was but a few days out of plaster and his mobility was seriously curtailed. Yet, without him, Tipp would have been beaten.

His two points from play, and his series of scores from placed balls, were feats which nobody else could have emulated.

The All-Ireland won, there remained the Oireachtas Cup, of which Tipp were the holders. And it took four hours of hurling before it was retained.

Two games with Galway in Pearse Stadium, and the memorable drawn final and replay with Wexford, were played before the Thomas Ashe Cup returned to Tipperary.

When it was all over, the Wexford bogey had been laid and every major hurling trophy open to them had been won by the men in the blue and gold jerseys of Tiobrad Arann.

Truly, it had indeed been a great year for Tipp.



**WEXFORD . . . INTERMEDIATE HURLING CHAMPIONS**



\* \* \* \* \*

**CORK . . . MINOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS**





# IT WASN'T A VINTAGE YEAR FOR HURLING

**T**HE past year will not be remembered by followers of hurling as one in which the game reached new heights as a thrilling, skillful spectacle. Rather will it be recalled as the year in which an unspectacularly efficient Tipperary team swept the boards clear of every available trophy and ended the season as undisputed king-pins of the caman-wielding world.

Judging from what we saw during 1961, hurling standards generally have declined and there is a tremendous gap between the leading half dozen teams and their challengers. Games were hard and closely fought rather than open and brilliant, and the emphasis for winning matches is being placed more and more on speed and fitness, rather than on pure hurling.

As in previous years, the "old firms" of Tipperary, Cork, Waterford, Kilkenny and Wexford dominated matters. True, Dublin did qualify for the All-Ireland final for the first time in nine years, but we are still very much in the dark as to the Metropolitans' real worth.

The year opened with Munster once again capturing the Railway Cup honours at Leinster's expense. Except for the closing quarter, the Eastern challenge to the South's perennial domination of this competition never

looked like disturbing the men in the royal blue of Munster.

The National Hurling League had reached a decisive stage with Cork, Dublin and Waterford in one section, and Limerick and Tipperary in the other, in line for honours.

Waterford annihilated Dublin, and then beat Cork and Antrim to make sure of a place in the final.

## LIKE MEN INSPIRED

Limerick hurled for twenty minutes like men inspired, but then collapsed and Tipperary coasted to a comfortable victory and yet another League decider.

The final in early May was a game of two halves. Backed by a strong breeze, Tipp cut lanes through a shaky Waterford defence and had run up a big lead by the time the interval arrived.

*ST. KIERAN'S College, Kilkenny, winners of the All-Ireland Colleges' hurling championship. Front (L. to R.)—P. Drennan, J. Gannon, Matt Walshe, P. Freaney (capt.), M. Tennyson, N. Rohan, J. O'Brien, M. Aylward, J. Loughnane. Back (L. to R.)—M. Walshe, N. Forristal, P. Foley, J. Delaney, R. O'Moore, J. Langton, T. Forristal, L. Holden, J. Walshe, P. Duggan, O. Ryan.*





The second period was a different story altogether. Now it was Waterford's turn to apply the pressure, and the last ten minutes were contested in a welter of excitement as a sorely tried Tipperary defence just kept the Decies men at bay.

The final whistle saw Tipp in front by three points, but what would have happened had the Waterford backs displayed similar resoluteness in face of infrequent second-half assaults is a question that will long be discussed but never answered satisfactorily.

The League champions then travelled to Wembley, where they beat Wexford, and almost before we knew it the championship was upon us.

## GALWAY'S FIRST

Galway and Clare set the ball rolling in the South and the Connacht men recorded their first victory since entering the Munster senior hurling championship. Waterford got a harder match than many expected from Limerick and the stage was set for the provincial semi-finals.

Tipperary turned back the Galway challenge in a high-scoring game at Ennis that gave rise to grave misgivings about the efficiency of the Premier County defence. However, these were soon to be dispelled in conclusive and decisive manner.

Waterford were favoured to beat Cork at Thurles, but the Rebels produced their best and fieriest display for many a day, and with the aid of a Christy Ring scoring-spree advanced to meet the "old enemy."

Putting it bluntly, the Munster final was the flop of the year. From an early stage there was only one team in it—Tipperary.

Having run up an early lead, they defied all Cork's efforts to get within



CHRISTY RING

striking distance and the Tipp rear-guard gave ample proof of its cast-iron quality by holding Cork to a single point from play.

Thus, what had been looked forward to as the game of the century fizzled out in disappointing fashion, and the record crowd present came away with only the memories of

Tipperary's ruthless efficiency and some uncalled for displays of temper to keep them company on the way home.

## THE LEINSTER CAMPAIGN

In Leinster, the preliminary sparring between the weaker counties saw Westmeath qualify for the provincial semi-final, where Dublin beat them without being unduly pressed.

The other semi-final at Croke Park resulted in a Wexford victory over Kilkenny after a high-scoring game. Andy Doyle, the Model County's towering full-forward, celebrated his senior championship debut by notching four goals and two points.

The Leinster final produced the sensation of the year. An unfancied Dublin fifteen ran Wexford off their feet in Kilkenny's Nowlan Park and relieved the vanquished of their provincial and All-Ireland crowns.

So we had the unique pairing of Tipperary and Dublin to battle for the McCarthy Cup for the first time since 1930. Public opinion held that the Munster men would win in a canter, but the "knowing ones" very nearly had to eat their words.

After a supremely dull first half, the All-Ireland hurling final exploded into life and finished in a welter of excitement with Tipperary taking their 18th crown by the minimum margin.

HAD DUBLIN THE ALL-ROUND HURLING SKILL TO SUPPLEMENT THEIR SPEED, FITNESS AND COMBINATION, I BELIEVE THE TITLE WOULD HAVE GONE TO THE LIFFEY.

## CONCLUDED SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Tipp concluded a really successful year by taking the Oireachtas Cup. Their drawn final with Wexford on a wet, breezy day was one of the best exhibitions of hurling during 1961. However, the replay was somewhat disappointing as Tipp were always in control and, though they never ran up a commanding lead, it was obvious long before the end where An Corn Thomais Aghais was heading.

To Wexford fell the honour of winning the first-ever All-Ireland intermediate hurling championship. This they achieved after an easy passage through Leinster and two

(Continued on page 76)

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No. 4. Mick O'Connell



No. 9. Billy Rackard



No. 8. Jarlath Carey

**I**t looks simple at first—this business of naming the stars of the past season. The film of memory rolls off the spool of '61; vividly, delightfully; framing the thrill-packed highlights of outstanding matches . . . and outstanding men.

It's easy to tick off the footballers and hurlers of the year in casual talk at bar or coffee-counter. But it's often a joyless job when your choice is committed to cold, irrevocable print.

There are so many to choose from; so many great players who deserve mention in the roll of honour. But how can 30 fit when there is room only for ten? Impossible.

Reluctantly, the list must be whittled down. Finally, the Top Ten emerges.

Here they are:

No one contributed more to Down's second All-Ireland football triumph than their quiet captain from Ballykinlar—**PADDY DOHERTY**. It would be very easy to overlook Doherty's colossal contribution to his county's string of victories through the year; for even his most effective work is often unobtrusive, beside the more spectacular style of a few of his team-mates.

Yet, Paddy Doherty has been Down's top scorer this year—with 6-89 (107) from frees and

from play. Without him, they couldn't possibly have reached, or won, the 1961 All-Ireland crown. This clever, fast-thinking forward, who does his job so quietly, yet with such superb efficiency, is the schemer-in-chief

seemed that Dublin must succeed, the southern officials in desperation played their last card.

They pulled an off-form Tony Wall out of the game and switched Devaney to centre half-

# THE TOP TEN

By **PADDY DOWNEY** of the "Sunday Review"

behind the slickest attack in current football.

\* \* \*

Tipperary barely escaped the catastrophic experience of two successive All-Ireland defeats when they met Dublin in the hurling final last September. And the man they can thank for that is versatile **LIAM DEVANEY**.

When Dublin piled on their blistering pressure in the second half of that remarkable decider, Tipp rocked, reeled and tottered on the brink of defeat. Ten minutes from the end, when it

back. The steep slide was halted: Devaney, in a majestic spell of grim, defensive hurling, repulsed Dublin's fiery onslaughts—and Tipp held on to win.

But the Borrisleigh man's claim to the title "Hurler of 1961" doesn't hang solely on those ten minutes of indomitable defence. He was brilliant in most of his games over the past 12 months: he was tellingly effective in all of them. He was far and away the best player on a Tipp team which bagged all the major hurling prizes of the season.



No. 3. Des Foley



No. 5. Harry Donnelly



No. 7. Des Ferguson



No. 10. Willie Nolan



No. 6. Gerry O'Malley



While Liam Devaney was Tipperary's saviour in the All-Ireland hurling final, even the most devoted supporters of the champions can hardly claim that he was the hero of that dramatic game.

DES FOLEY earned that distinction with a midfield performance so devastating that every neutral at the match felt as grieved as their fellow-spectators from Dublin at the Metropolitans' narrow defeat.

But it wasn't young Foley's fault that they failed. Never, in any sport, has one man dominated a game so rakingly... so regally.

With little assistance from his off-form partner, he waltzed through Tipperary's accomplished opposition and virtually "owned" the ball in the middle during the entire second half.

The big, bony St. Vincent's lad merited an All-Ireland medal that day more than any one of the victorious Tipp team.

\* \* \*

Had he given us just two more games like those he produced against Kildare, Roscommon and Cork, Kerry's MICK O'CONNELL would now be undisputed king-pin among the football stars of 1961.

But inconsistency in a couple of vital matches deprives him of the No. 1 spot I've awarded here to Down's Paddy Doherty.

As it was, however, O'Connell played magnificent football in many of his games for Kerry—more than enough to ensure him of a place among the top ten of the season.

Who of those lucky enough to see him will ever forget O'Connell's splendour in the drawn League semi-final against Roscommon? This, perhaps, was the nearest approach to absolute football skill any man can ever hope to achieve.

\* \* \*

The story of Offaly's progress to the All-Ireland football final is essentially a record of fitness, ability and collective, dove-tailed endeavour.

Yet, though an even balance of know-how all round was, perhaps, their most effective

quality, a few men of this Offaly side frequently stood out above their fellows.

One of these is left full forward HARRY DONNELLY, whose fantastic marksmanship has shot him into first place in this year's list of top scorers in football and hurling.

Harry scored 6-93 (111) for Offaly and (including matches for the Army) a grand total of 7-93 (114 pts.). A feat of that magnitude would entitle any man to a place among the sporting elite of 1961.

A man who can always play dauntless football in the teeth of defeat merits a place among the truly great exponents of the game. That's GERRY O'MALLEY of Roscommon.

Seven or eight years ago O'Malley was easily the finest centre half-back in football—no less a man than Sean Purcell paid him that tribute in "Sunday Review" recently. But even to-day, though his wonderful career moves to its close, the Kiltoom man is still a prince among footballers.

It was O'Malley's skill and power that, more than anything else, steered Roscommon to the League semi-final against Kerry... and later to victory in the Connacht championship. Such a genius cannot be omitted from my Top Ten of the past season.

\* \* \*

DES FERGUSON played the greatest game of a brilliant hurling career in the All-Ireland final against Tipperary. Along with Des Foley (whose display I rate one notch higher), the wiry right full-back literally hurled defiance in the face of the Munster men for the full 60 minutes.

And, indeed, one felt that had the game gone on for hours and had Ferguson continued to play with the same fierce, flaming spirit, Tipperary's all-out efforts to reach the Dublin net would still have gone unrewarded.

Des had other outstanding games during the year; he has had many during a decade in top-class hurling; but all fade beside the memory of that glorious hour at Croke Park last September.

\* \* \*

#### CLIPPED O'CONNELL'S WINGS

JARLATH CAREY, Down's big midfielder, must be numbered in this parade of the stars if for nothing else but his highly successful displays against Mick O'Connell—in Wembley at Whit and again in the All-Ireland semi-final.

In both those games, Carey "clipped the wings" of the Valentia maestro—a feat that only a couple of other players have been able to achieve over the past three years.

(Continued on page 76)

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## *Kilkenny hurlers are*

# MINOR CHAMPIONS AGAIN

By **PETER HOLOHAN** of the "Kilkenny People"

**A**RE Kilkenny taking up where Tipperary have been compelled to lay off in minor hurling? Certainly, the past two years have given some grounds for this belief, for the Black and Amber boys have scored impressive victories over the Premier County each year and there is, I believe, an abundance of material for the Kilkenny minor side in 1962.

This year's Kilkenny minor team may have been just a shade below the standard of the 1960 side. Their seven-points winning margin was certainly less than in the previous year, but the team was still a very good one and must rank among the best we have sent out on All-Ireland final day.

The strange thing about great minor combinations is that few of the players make senior grade. What is true of Kilkenny in this respect is also to an extent true of Tipperary. Of course there are exceptions.

Jimmy Doyle and Pat Stakelum of Tipp are worth mentioning, but the greatest impact a minor team ever made on the senior scene was made by the Kilkenny title-holders of 1936 who gave Jim Langton, Bobby Hincks, Terry Leahy, Jack Mulcahy, Jack Gargan and Seanie O'Brien to the senior side and all of them won All-Ireland medals in the premier grade.

Quite a few minors eventually make their way to senior ranks. Ollie Walsh, John McGovern and Sean Clohosey of the present Kilkenny senior side starred as minors but there was a gap between the time they left minor ranks and made their names as seniors.

### ONLY ONE GOT A TRIAL

Of last year's minor side only one, Pat Forristal of Glenmore, got a senior trial. Of the team that played in 1959, Ted and Mick Carroll, the twin brothers from Conahy, were tried but have not won a permanent place in the senior jersey.

Some hold that it is not quite right to rush young players from minor directly into senior ranks, but where a minor has height or weight I think it is better that he be promoted immediately if he has the ability. Eddie Keher is a good example. He is now one of Kilkenny's chief scorers.

This year's Kilkenny minors, like those of last year, won all their games fairly comfortably. Their victories were also largely centred round two players, Tom Barry, the tall, cool Callan man, and Pierce Freaney from Inistioge, the most prolific scorer we have had in minor grade for some time.

Barry, who lives in Dublin, has been tipped as likely to gain a place on the Kilkenny senior side but he shows a tendency to lag at times and his best hurling comes periodically.

### MORE LIKELY PROPOSITION

I think Pierce Freaney is a more likely proposition. All he requires is a centre-forward to break down the ball. Granted that, he has a very high scoring potential.

Freaney, of medium height and well built, is very much of the Keher school and is deadly accurate.

Another very promising minor is Phil Cullen, who plays left full-back, a position which his father occupied when he played for Dicksboro in the Kilkenny senior championship some years ago. Phil himself is a regular with the Bennettsbridge senior club team.

Of the others, time alone can tell how they will fare, but All-Ireland minor champions generally cannot be regarded as a source from which the senior selectors can draw with confidence until a couple of years at least have elapsed.

### HAD SUPPORTERS WORRIED

Like the seniors, the Kilkenny minors rarely put their best foot forward in the opening game of the campaign. They had their supporters worried for a half hour in the first game against Wexford.

At half-time Wexford led by two points, 1-12 to 3-4, but the Model County boys were so effectively pegged backed in the second half that they failed to get a score, while Kilkenny went on to add three goals and six points to their tally to win 6-10 to 1-12.

Tom Barry was the man of the match in this game and started the Kilkenny second half resurgence.

(Continued on page 77)



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# Wexford won a Special Place in G.A.A. Annals

by "Michael"

**W**EXFORD intermediate hurlers won a special place for themselves in the annals of the G.A.A. by winning the first All-Ireland intermediate title this year.

The boys of Wexford hurled with the power and skill all through the championship that had made the seniors known all over Ireland through the past decade.

The high standard of sportsmanship and determination set by the Model County hurlers in those years has been maintained by this youthful team.

When the seniors made their exit in the Leinster final, the boys in purple and gold went all out to bring home an All-Ireland title. They overcame many setbacks, having lost Phil Wilson and Andy Doyle to the senior side, and Michael Collins and, later, John Coady through injury.

They settled readily into their task and the winning of the title showed the merit of their effort. No side was ever more deserving of its reward than this Wexford intermediate team.

## DID A GOOD JOB

The selectors did a very good job and great credit is due to them. They left nothing undone all through the campaign and stuck to their guns, despite a certain amount of criticism that was levelled at them from all sides.

The clubs, too, are to be congratulated for providing such outstanding players. Here's hoping that many of this intermediate team will

figure on Wexford's senior side in 1962.

Kilkenny were first to taste the sting of this youthful Wexford fifteen and wilted before the onslaught. At Nowlan Park, Wexford ran home easy winners over a fancied black and amber team, which included five of the side that had defeated a strong Loc Garman senior team in the National League on the previous Sunday.

The Slaneymen were on top all through and led from start to finish. Except for three goals in the dying minutes, Kilkenny never looked like getting in front.

Shamrock's player, Michael Collins at corner-back was the man of the match for Wexford. His interceptions were timely and his clearances downfield were of tremendous length and accuracy.

## NOT A GREAT GAME

In the next round, the Leinster semi-final, Wexford were at home to Carlow in New Ross. This was not a great game by any means. There was little good hurling and only occasional moments of excitement.

However, it was a most workman-like display by Wexford, who fully avenged the previous year's defeat by Carlow to the tune of 6-8 to 3-7.

The Slaneymen were far too powerful for their opponents. Their defence gave the Carlow forwards little room in which to work, and the forwards, using their speed to best advantage, fairly blasted the 1960 All-Ireland junior-home champions from the field.

Johnny Creane (Hollow Rangers) was the star at centre half-back. This powerful six-footer covered a lot of ground in seeing to it that the opposing forwards did not break through.

Dublin were the next victims of this up-and-coming Wexford team, who walked out on Croke Park on the last Sunday in July eager to seek revenge for the defeat of their seniors by the Metropolitans a few weeks previously.

## THE GOING WAS TOUGH

This was a really whole-hearted game in which the going was tough from the throw-in to the final whistle. Right from the start the Slaneymen settled down and seemed to have the measure of their rivals, but a weak centre-field was the loophole through which the home side drove home fierce assaults.

Wexford were lucky to be on level terms at the interval (1-6 each) for their forwards had driven wide time and again. The excitement rose gradually from the start of the second half and reached fever-pitch going into the last quarter.

At that stage Wexford were leading by three points, but Dublin fought back and with only five minutes to go the teams were level for the third time.

The Model County made an all-out rally in the dying minutes and with renewed vigour and dash scored a goal and a point which gave them their first Leinster Intermediate title.

The Shamrock's player, Paddy Sullivan, was superb. He completely



dominated the half-back line and once again proved himself to be a tremendously whole-hearted player.

### OUT FOR A TREBLE

Tipperary now stood between Wexford and All-Ireland honours. The Munstermen were all out to record the first leg of their 'treble,' but the men from the Model County had other ideas, and went to Nowlan Park, Kilkenny, grimly determined to lower Tipp's colours.

This was a really exciting game, with good hurling all through. Tipperary proved a tough nut to crack, and, with several experienced players, settled down quickly to take a lead of ten points in the opening ten minutes.

Wexford steadily found their feet and at half-time were only five points behind (4-2 to 2-3).

On resuming, Tipp stretched their lead to six points. Then came that wonderful fight-back by Wexford,

and after twelve minutes they were three points ahead.

Scores were exchanged frequently and with time running out the Munster men went into a one-point lead and looked all set for victory. But the Slaneymen were not finished. With only seconds left they came back to equalise and the final score was 5-6 each.

It was fitting that Paul Lynch, who played magnificently all through the hour, should have notched the final point.

### SIMILAR PATTERN

The replay was again fixed for Kilkenny and followed a somewhat similar pattern to the drawn match. Good hurling was the order of the day, with both teams striving hard for victory. Tipperary got off to a flying start and led at the interval by three points (1-6 to 1-3).

Wexford made a do-or-die effort on resuming and after fifteen minutes were leading by 3-11 to 1-9. The Munster men made several switches and came back to score two goals, but the Slaneysiders had a firm grip on the game and went on to become first Intermediate champions of Ireland with the final score reading, 4-11 to 3-9.

Half-forward Johnny Walsh worked like a Trojan and proved the match-winner with his opportunism in picking off scores.

Wexford had the home venue in Wexford Park for the game against London in the All-Ireland final proper. Although this encounter never reached any great heights, there were some exciting patches of hurling.

The Slaneymen hurled like demons right from the throw-in and, with a big home following to urge them on, turned over with a 12 points lead (3-10 to 1-3).

From the start of the second period the exiles seemed to gain confidence when they introduced Bobby O'Leary at centre-field and had several rapid scores, but the Model County men again gained control entering the last quarter and went on to a well-earned victory with a final score of 3-15 to 4-4.

The man of the match was undoubtedly team captain, Larry Byrne. He ran himself to a standstill and his eye for an opening was seen to advantage on several occasions.

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NIALL SHEEHY the Kerry footballer  
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# KERRY MADE HURLING HISTORY

**I** 961 will always be remembered as the year Kerry made hurling history by winning the All-Ireland junior hurling title for the first time ever.

I felt greatly honoured at being a member of that victorious combination, for as well as realizing a cherished ambition, I had also helped in bringing about a new reawakening in hurling within the county.

Twelve months ago it was a rare sight to see a hurley or a sliotar in the hand of a youngster here in Tralee. It was all football.

To-day, that position is surprisingly reversed, thanks to the men who fought so gallantly to put their county back on the hurling map after seventy years in the wilderness.

Juvenile leagues have been started by the Christian Brothers and the Tralee Board, and by all accounts they are proving most successful.

If this new wave of enthusiasm which is sweeping Tralee typifies the rest of the county, then I feel sure that Kerry's hurling future is more secure than it has ever been.

## NEW FOLLOWERS WON

Many new followers have also been won over to the game. On the Sunday following the All-Ireland final proper (Kerry v. London), one of the biggest crowds ever turned up at Austin Stack Park, Tralee, to see the county hurling final between Ballyduff and St. Brendan's.

And not only was this game rated a memorable tussle, but the standard displayed would have done credit to many a county backed by a much greater hurling tradition.

The Kerry hurlers of 1961 were as fine a bunch of men as you could find. Goalkeeper Jerome O'Donovan played well in every game, although the only time he was really tested was against Meath in the "Home" Final.

I played at full-back in all games up to the final proper, being flanked by two Gardai, Nicholas Quill, on my right, and on my left Tom Kirby.

Both are grand strikers and it was a pleasure to play alongside them. Quill, a native of Waterford, played at full-back in the final proper, and I moved out to the right.

## FITTING

Kerry's last hurling All-Ireland was won by a Ballyduff team away back in 1891, and it was indeed fitting that a Ballyduff man should have captained this year's title-winning side.

He was right half-back, Michael Hennessy, a sweet striker with a wonderful positional sense. He played a captain's part in every game.

At centre half-back was Richie McElligott, a lion-hearted player who has given many years of faithful service to his county. A glutton for work, he turned in some magnificent displays and certainly deserve his medal.

The left half-back, Ken Dermody, learned his hurling in Tipperary and played on that county's minor team, which probably accounts for his versatility. A man who always seemed

to be in the right place at the right time, he hurled his heart out in every game.

Full marks, too, to our midfielders, Sean Healy and Sean Lovett. Healy had a particularly brilliant hour against London, and in every game appeared to be going as strong at the finish as at the start.

Lovett figured in attack until the London game and proved more than a handful for all opponents.

## UNDERWENT CHANGING

Our half-forward line underwent a lot of chopping and changing in the course of the campaign. John Barry played at right half-forward in all games, but the other positions were filled at various times by Johnny Culloty (who needs no introduction here), Mickey Joe Quinlan, Eamon O'Sullivan, Michael Hennessy, Teddy Hennessy and Pat Sullivan.

The half-forward line against London read: Barry, Teddy Hennessy and Sullivan.

Barry had a fine game in the "Home" Final against Meath, scoring a vital goal in the second half; Hennessy played his first game in the final proper and capped a grand display by scoring 1-3; Sullivan also had his first game for the county against London, and he, too, justified his selection with a first-class performance.

The front line of attack was composed of Johnny Culloty, Billy McCarthy and Eamon O'Sullivan. Culloty, in the right corner, showed some deft touches in every game.



I well remember one incident in the "Home" Final at Croke Park when he beat three Meath defenders in a tremendous melee in the goalmouth and shook the net. The goal, however, was disallowed.

Full-forward Billy McCarthy, brilliant opportunist, is worth a goal or two to any team in any game. The fact that he goaled twice against such a brilliant goalkeeper as London's W. Barnaville speaks for itself.

Last, but not least, comes left full-forward Eamon O'Sullivan. He contributed much to every success and always gave of his best.

You can take it from me that any All-Ireland is never easily won. A team must be trained to the ounce for practically every game. To trainer Jackie Power then, one of Limerick's greatest hurling sons, goes unstinted praise for a job well done.

Praiseworthy mention also to clerical student Brendan Lawlor, who unavoidably missed the London game, and to Bill Shanahan, Tony Murphy and Tony Conway who also played on the team at some stage or other in the championship.

Before we began our campaign many home followers did not entertain very high hopes for us. In fact, Antrim were odds-on to hammer us in the semi-final.

However, despite the tiresome journey to Belfast, it was we who did the hammering, and after giving a grand display of power-packed hurling won by double scores (2-10 to 1-5).

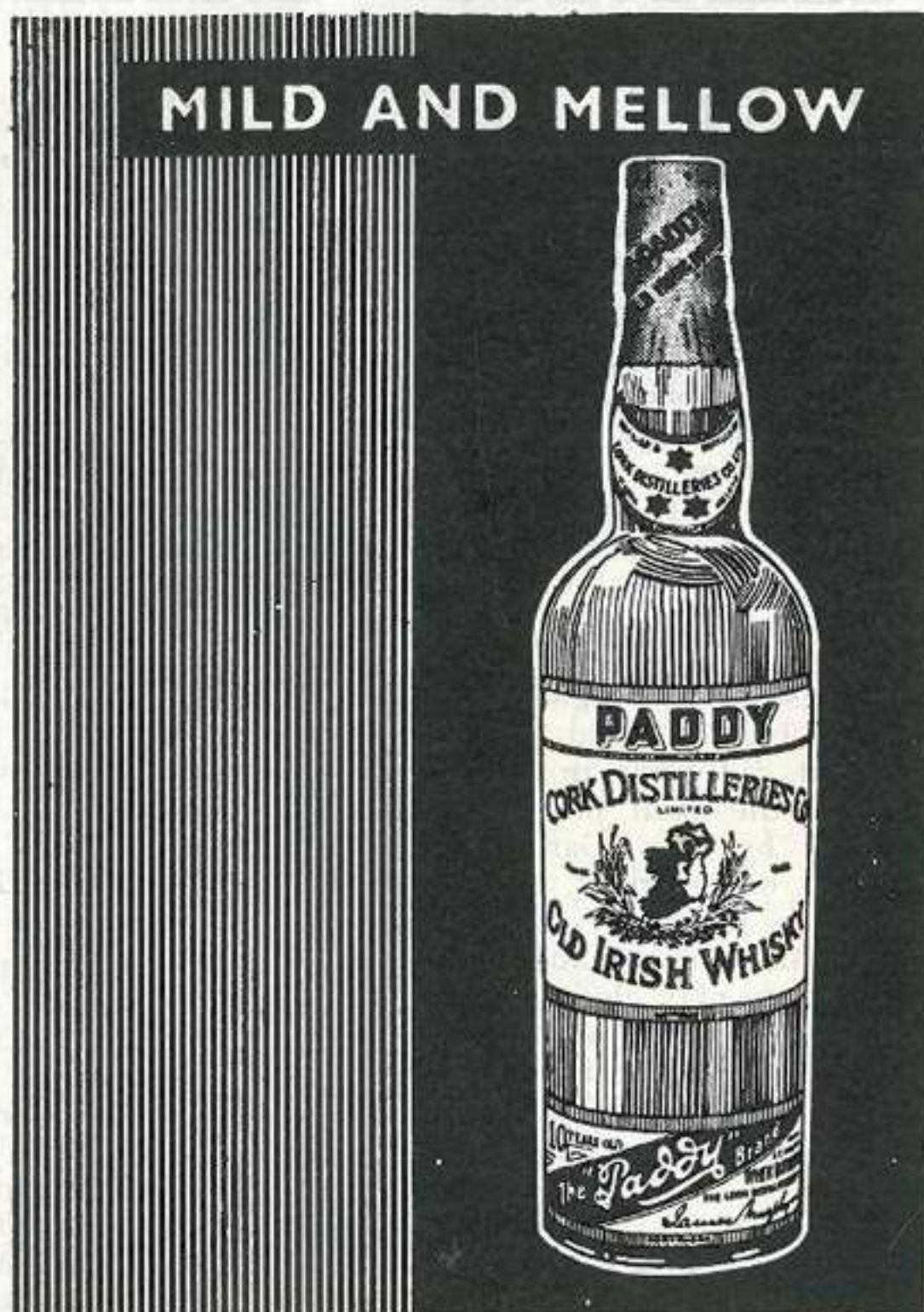
That win was a great morale-booster for us, and we approached Meath in the "Home" Final with high hopes.

As events turned out, our confidence was justified, but only just. The Leinster champions gave us a rare fright before we finally scraped home by 4-9 to 5-3.

Then came the final proper against London-Irish at our home venue, Tralee. We knew that London had a useful team, who were all out to win the title for the third year in succession.

But we were equally determined, maybe even more so, that we would not disappoint our own supporters when so near our goal. We won comfortably by 4-14 to 2-5.

What of our chances on the hurling front next year? Personally, I think they are very bright. The present Kerry team will take a deal of beating, and if they approach their outings in the Intermediate championship with the same spirit and enthusiasm, we might well be singing their praises again in twelve months' time.



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# LOUTH PROVED EVERYBODY WRONG

By SEAMUS FLOOD, Louth's  
Central Council Representative

**I**N extending a hearty "Cead Mile Failte" to the members of the Louth All-Ireland Junior football champions at Dundalk on their return from Leeds, Mr. Bernard Rafferty, Chairman of the Louth Co. Council, truthfully said, inter alia, "They had not been given any chance when they started out at the beginning of the campaign . . . They had proved this wrong."

On the Sunday previous to the opening round of the Leinster championship, Louth were anything but impressive in a pipe-opener against an Armagh selection at Crossmaglen. Yet they went on to defeat Meath (1-12 to 0-11) at An Uaimh in what was their easiest encounter of the series.

Of that first fifteen, only seven played in all the games, namely: J. Clifford, J. Butterley, M. Kelly, G. Sheelan, J. Judge, S. Goodman and F. Kirke. Those (selectors) responsible for the subtraction and additions earned their meed of praise the hard way.

So let's introduce Paddy McArdle, trainer—heroic defender of countless senior clashes; Jim Beirne—member of the last winning team (1934); Johnny Jones—tireless Mid Louth player and referee; Kevin English—county junior champions' representative and, finally, Dundalk's gift to juvenile and junior football, the hard-working Tommy Reynolds.

## SCORING HONOURS TO KIRKE

The Wee County's next outing was at Ceanannus Mor, where they created a great surprise by defeating Longford by eight points (1-10 to

0-5). To Fra Kirke went the scoring honours—he raised nine white flags—and to goalie Jim Clifford, with 'Doc' Butterly, the laurels in defence.

The losers' cardinal error was undoubtedly their tendency to try for goals when points went a-begging, especially in the third quarter.

While paying tribute to M. Kelly, N. McDonnell, M. McKeown, P. Jordan and S. Goodman for the victors, the praiseworthy efforts of Longford's P. Hanrahan, J. Donlon, M. Kelly, P. Dennigan, J. Hogan and S. Igoe must not be overlooked.

Now the path was cleared to the semi-final, with Offaly supplying the opposition at Croke Park on July 16. Stout-hearted in defence, Louth were erratic in attack, yet once Jim Judge pointed they never looked back.

Offaly never settled down to play with any confidence, and it was only in the last five minutes that they displayed any fighting qualities. It was then too late.

Jim 'Doc' Butterly proved a Trojan worker for the North Leinster men at centre-full back, as did his opposite number, Egan, for Offaly.

## LITTLE SUPPORT

The day of the provincial final arrived with keen neighbouring rivals—Dublin—as opponents and An Uaimh's fine stadium the venue. Still the old saying holds good, "No man is a prophet in his own land," and thus the Wee County standard-bearers went forth to test the skill and stamina of the mighty Metropolitans, with little vocal support.

Readers will recall that this was the day of the big match, Kerry v. Down, in Croke Park, and the attendance was indeed sparse at the Meath venue.

Whatever this Louth team may have lacked, it had confidence in its own ability and a grand fighting spirit that always showed up in the closing minutes of each tussle. August 6 was no exception!

The lads in the red jerseys got away to a splendid start and had Dublin trailing by seven points after the first quarter. The holders were far from beaten, and several switches commenced, with Somers moving to the left wing, Kinsella to the left corner, C. Fox to midfield and Burke to full-forward. The interval found Louth leading 2-1 to 0-3.

Dublin forced the pace on the turn-over and reduced their arrears. At this stage Louth brought full-forward Donnelly outfield to strengthen the middle—a move that paid dividends then and in later matches. Withstanding a powerful Metropolitan rally near the end, Louth deservedly won (2-4 to 0-8) a most enjoyable game.

## IN A SPORTING MANNER

The game was played in a very sporting manner, the pace was fast and the fourth quarter most exciting. Tops for Louth were J. Clifford (goal), Mick Kelly and Gus Sheehan, while Leo Hickey (Ballyboughal), Paddy Archbold (St. Joseph's), F. Kearney (do.) and P. Barrett shone for Dublin.

This latest triumph brought the fans around the team and a goodly crowd made Drogheda—a home venue—their headquarters on August 27 when popular Kerry visited the Boyneside for the All-Ireland semi-final.

After a spot of training a hopeful local side—still the underdogs—lined  
(Continued on page 32)





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**1** 961 was a most successful one for the Gaels of Britain from every aspect. Progress is reported from all County Boards affiliated to the Provincial Council of Britain and in all of them the standard of hurling and football continues to improve.

Administration by the various officials is first-class and extremely efficient. Championships everywhere were finished in good time, and at the time of writing every effort was being made to play off outstanding league ties.

Special tribute must be paid to the Yorkshire footballers for their superlative effort to bring the All-Ireland junior title back to Britain. Their defeat of London in the provincial final proved they were a team to be reckoned with and right well did they justify our confidence.

They were unlucky to be beaten by Louth in the final proper, and the Yorkshire Gaels have come to the forefront in no uncertain manner. They can feel justifiably proud of their efforts during 1961.

Lancashire, Warwickshire, Derbyshire and Gloucestershire are all active and thriving units of the Association whose officers are alive to the problems facing them but are prepared to spare neither time or effort to further the cause of Gaelic games amongst the exiles.

### WONDERFUL WORK

Few county boards have made such commendable progress in so short an existence as Hertfordshire under the chairmanship of Rev. Fr. O'Hanlon, who has done wonderful work in this area.

Looking back over the year, the Gaels of London have no reason to feel dissatisfied with their efforts. The intermediate hurlers failed to Wexford in the All-Ireland final, whilst the juniors were beaten by Kerry but, nothing daunted by these reverses, London will come back stronger than ever in search of further titles.

There is no doubt that Whitsuntide at Wembley has played a big part in the progress of the London Board, financially and otherwise. Revenue obtained from the Annual Wembley games helps to defray the cost of the grounds at New Eltham. And what a boon these grounds are!

All the other county boards are playing their parts to uphold the prestige of the G.A.A. in Britain. From the Merseyside to the Midlands and on to the hills and dales of Yorkshire, all are united in their resolve to uphold the traditional Irish way of life.

We must be ever mindful of the great pioneer work done for the G.A.A. in Britain by men like Jim Collins (R.I.P.), Sam Smith (R.I.P.), Jack Shalloe, Paddy O'Donoghue,

To really appreciate the progress made, one should attend at Wembley Stadium at Whitsuntide and see for oneself the vast concourse present in the arena to see the cream of Ireland's hurlers and footballers in action.

All this is made possible by the splendid help given to the Gaels here by Mr. P. J. O'Keeffe, Secretary of the G.A.A., and Mr. Hugh Byrne, the President of the Association, and all the members of the Central Council at home.

## Progress Reported From Britain

By MICK MORRISSEY, well-known London Gael

Simon McInerney and a host of others who blazed the trail. Any success that attends the Association here to-day is, in great measure, due to the efforts of those outstanding men of other years.

In the days ahead let us be inspired by their efforts and examples, and endeavour to uphold all that is noble and grand in our games.

We go forward in the knowledge that we are always striving and yearning for the days when every County Board in Britain will possess its own ground. This is no wild dream, but something that is possible. Let our aim be to realise this object.

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## LOUTH PROVED EVERYBODY WRONG (Continued from page 29)

out. Playing with a strong breeze in the opening half, Louth were only four points (1-6 to 1-2) in front at the short whistle, after putting fourteen balls wide for the Kingdom's two.

It looked curtains for the homesters five minutes from time with the scores level, 1-7 each. Louth again had brought H. Donnelly back to midfield and he placed a '50' to Gus Sheelan, who never was seen to better advantage.

The captain crossed the leather to Fra Kirke and the Clan's man lifted the roof of the net with a pile-driver that set Louth spectators into raptures. "Fra's" goal had set the seal on the Munster champions' defeat.

The game, by and large, was not as good as the Leinster final, but the exchanges were thrilling in the dying minutes when the home supporters gave their favourites terrific vocal support.

Kerry held superiority at centre-field for most of the way—and had a resourceful player in Dermot Sullivan. Other Southerners to shine were Alan Conway (full-back), Des Falvey (right-full), Pat Hussey and Bobby Buckley, who was a most active forward.

What can be said of the winners . . . who started weakly to finish in top gear? They inspired their followers with a full-blooded, all-out effort in which 'Doc' Butterly, Gus Sheelan and Oliver Coombs rose to magnificent heights in a valiant rear-guard.

Before leaving Drogheda, news came through that Galway had swamped Monaghan at Ballinasloe by 5-9 to 1-1, to leave the Connacht men our next opponents in the home final, fixed for Croke Park on September 10.

Tidings of this really sound Galway fifteen, and it was no idle gossip, poured into the Wee County. "Could the Leinster representatives stand up where the Ulster men fell so heavily" was the question on everyone's lips from Doola Gate to Narrowwater.

## SUPPLIED THE ANSWER

But robust and intelligent youth supplied the answer in due time. True, this young, lively delightful Galway combination was a treat to watch, and a credit to both their county and mentors.

This match was one of the toughest and hardest fought junior ties seen in years at the National Stadium. Lady Luck steered her prodigies through a very turbulent sixty minutes to leave

them a point (0-11 to 1-7) ahead when Mr. P. Rooney (Down) blew the final whistle.

It was a game packed to the brim with thrills, incidents, scores and a dream of an ending as Kirke pointed that last-minute free.

Congratulations to the winners and a wish for the losers. May their turn come soon.

"Next stop Leeds" was now the cry as the home champions boarded the plane at Collinstown to meet Yorkshire—conquerors of London—for the junior title and the Independent Newspapers' Cup.

It was a merry Wee County party that flew into Leeds-Bradford Airport on the day previous to the match (October 7) and the Yorkshire Board could not have done more to make the Louth players and officials happier.

Our best thanks go out to Rev. Fr. D. Stritch (President) and Rev. Fr. E. Cox (Co. Board Chairman), not forgetting Mr. M. Murphy (Kerry), Britain's Central Council Representative.

## A REAL THRILLER

The game was a real thriller, especially in the second half, with the teams level on no less than five occasions within the hour. Great credit is due to those exiles for a really wonderful exhibition of football that warmed the hearts of all present.

That the Wee County won can be mainly attributed to their better opportunities for match play. They were craftier and fitter than their opponents in the closing minutes when finishing in front by 1-13 to 1-10.

Rambling thoughts recall the Tricolour fluttering in the breeze at the Oval Grounds, Roundhay Park for the big match. . . . The stirring National airs of the Terence MacSwiney bagpipers present from Manchester . . . the joyful reunions between friends gathered in from Britain and Ireland that recall Joseph Mary Plunkett's "Lovers sigh and meet and sigh again."

Truly those Gaels in Britain are doing a wonderful job. May God bless their every effort.

Back to Ireland—and to Louth this junior victory will, it is hoped, finger-point the way for the seniors to follow ere long.



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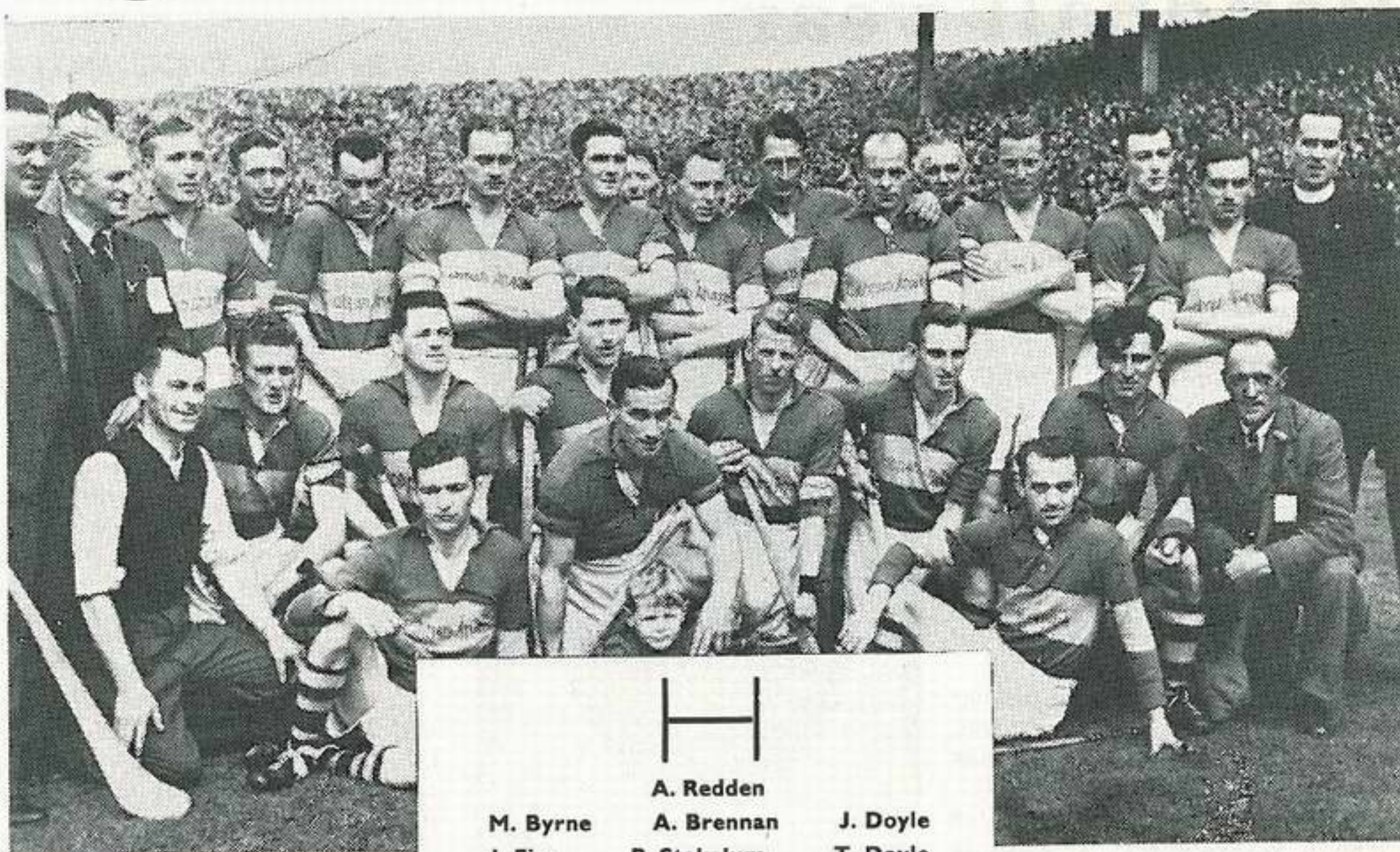
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# Remember the team?




## TIPPERARY 1950

When Tipperary and Kilkenny clashed in the All-Ireland final of 1950 they were having their second major meeting of that year. Their National League "Home" final of a few months earlier was still a vivid memory in the minds of the fans and 67,000 turned out to see the return.

For Tipperary it was more than a bid for their 15th hurling title. It was a battle to retain the championship and qualify to travel as hurling kingpins to America in October. Eight times since 1900 Tipperary had won the hurling crown, but not once in that time had they succeeded in retaining it for the second year. Now, as defending champions again, they hoped to beat the hoodoo.

But even their most ardent supporters questioned the wisdom of introducing a newcomer at right half back to mark the great Jimmy Langton. Jimmy Finn, a strapping youngster from Borrisoleigh, lacked experience for such a task, they said. Before the hour was out, however, he had given an exhibition of the hurling artistry that made

		
A. Redden		
M. Byrne	A. Brennan	J. Doyle
J. Finn	P. Stakelum	T. Doyle
S. Bannon P. Shanahan		
E. Ryan	M. Ryan	S. Kenny (Capt.)
P. Kenny	M. Maher	J. Kennedy

him one of the game's great defenders. It was a tense hour. Four times in the first half the scores were level. Just before the interval whistle, Jimmy Heffernan and Langton gave Kilkenny the lead with a brace of points.

In Kilkenny to-day this game is recalled as an occasion when faulty tactics cost a title. And undoubtedly Kilkenny would have been further ahead at half time had it not been that the desire for goals seemed to obsess their forwards.

Low shots had little chance against Tipperary that day. In goal Tony Redden was at the top of his form, although he had been under medical care since the semi-final, in which he was injured. He was fronted by an unyielding defence, in which a youngster named John Doyle, with Mickey Byrne and former forward Tony Brennan were solid as a stone wall.

By the 38th minute Tipperary had equalised

with points from the Kenny brothers, Sean and Paddy. Two minutes later Seamus Bannon put them in front, and as the game entered the last quarter Paddy Kenny put them two points up.

It was a goal-less hour and the game had run into "lost" time when Tipperary broke through. Ned Ryan's bullet-like shot for a goal was stopped by Ramie Dowling, but Paddy Kenny grabbed the clearance and crashed the ball to the net.

Kilkenny, who had sought a goal in vain up to then, succeeded when only seconds were left to play, but Jimmy Kelly's shot served only to reduce the margin of Tipperary's win. The Munster champions had conquered again. Final score—Tipperary 1-9; Kilkenny 1-8.

## KILKENNY

R. Dowling	J. Hogan	P. Hayden
M. Marnell	J. Kelly	P. Prendergast
W. Walsh	M. Kenny (Capt.)	D. Kennedy
W. Costigan	S. Downey	J. Langton
J. Heffernan	J. Mulcahy	L. Reidy

# Remember the name!





# Looking back on the Handball year

By C. A. O'CONNELL

**T**HE 1961 Irish Handball season was ushered in by the final stages of the Gael-Linn Cup Tournament.

New names appeared in the headlines at that stage, but the promise shown was, in several cases, never fulfilled. The newcomers, nevertheless, had their share of victories in their own grades, while the position in the senior division showed little change from previous years.

A sign of the enthusiasm engendered by the Gael-Linn Cup was the record-breaking entry of 856. This showed an increase of 112 on 1960.

Notable absentees from this popular tournament were National Champions, Paddy Downey of Kerry and Fintan Confrey of Louth.

After a hard-fought campaign, the number of contestants dwindled to the final eight. Among these were former Mayo minor star, Paddy Bollingbroke, who was making a most successful come-back, and the former Kilkenny Minor, and winner of the Dublin group final, Mick Sullivan.

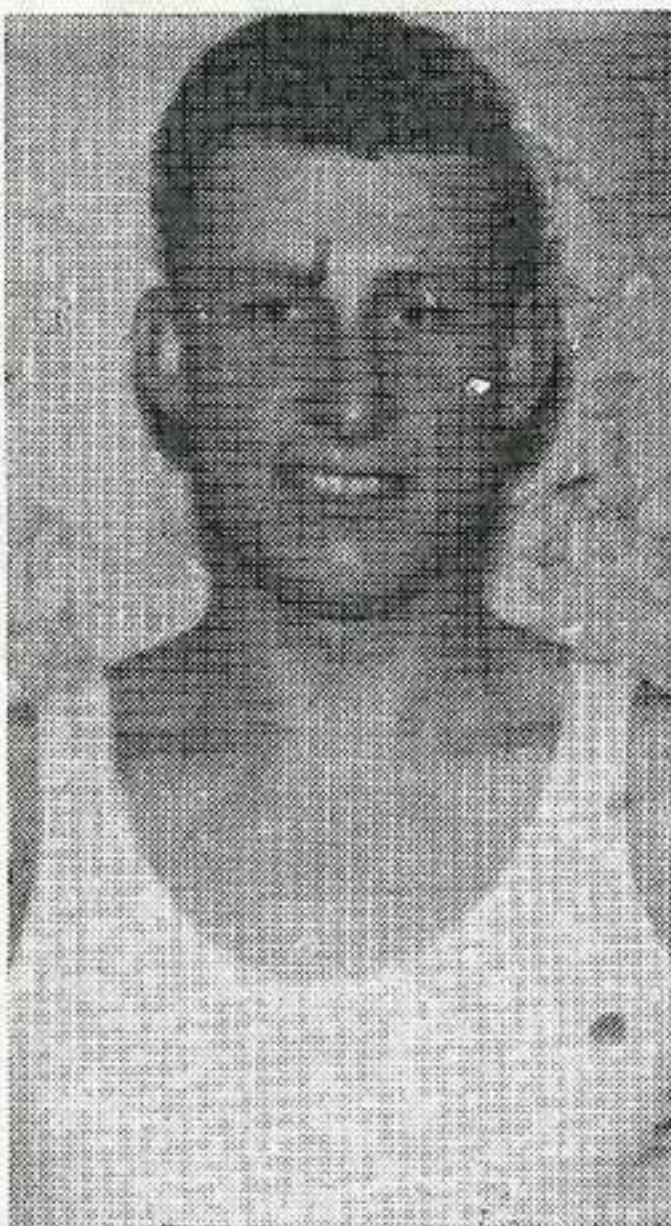
The holder, Louth's Joe Maher, Mick Kirby of Clare and Joe Delaney from Kilkenny were other notables to qualify for the final stages.

## KIRBY VICTORIOUS

At the close of a gruelling day's handball at Newport in April, Mick Kirby, the pride of Tuamgraney, contested the deciding half-hour with Mick Sullivan. Kirby emerged victorious and, thus, started the season in convincing style, in a match which was filmed by Gael-Linn.

Kerry as usual, were to the forefront in the senior championships. Paddy Downey, triple All-Ireland Champion of 1960, figured in three deciders and was successful in two.

Tipperary seniors almost made a welcome return to the list of All-Ireland champions, contesting the senior hardball doubles final after



JOE MAHER of Louth.

disposing of some tough opposition. However, the Delaney brothers, Chris and Joe, beat the Tipp men in the final and the Talbot's Inch lads thus achieved a long-sought ambition in the form of a brace of gold National Trophies.

The race between Drogheda's Maher and Tralee's Downey to win the trip to Australia in 1962 became a reality early in the season when Fintan Confrey was eliminated in the Louth County Handball Trial.

## GAINED REVENGE

Downey won the senior softball singles, which Louth held last year. He beat Joe Maher in the final, but Maher quickly gained revenge by taking the hardball singles from Kerry when he beat Downey in four straight games. At the time of writ-

ing a play-off between them has not materialised.

Jim O'Brien once again partnered Downey to victory in the senior softball doubles. The Delaney brothers from Kilkenny provided stout opposition in the final, but the Kingdom boys retained their title without being unduly pushed.

Sligo entered the winning lists after a long lapse since the "Joe Bergin" days. Des Walshe, who went so far last year, only to be pipped on the post by Kerryman Jim Donovan, made no mistake this time and won the junior softball singles, defeating a very fancied Sean McCabe of Monaghan by three games to nil.

Connacht achieved further distinction when another defeated finalist of the previous year, Mick Kelly, partnered Jim Cronnolly to bring the junior hardball doubles to Galway.

Tipperary captured the junior hardball singles when ably represented by Joe Cleary, the crown was gained at the expense of Wexford's Tom Dowd.

The junior softball doubles was won by Gene Barry and Joe Coughlan. These Offaly men went from strength to strength throughout the year and demolished the Kerins brothers from Tralee in the final.

## CLEAN SWEEP

Five youngsters from Leinster had things all their own way in the minor grade and made a clean sweep of all the titles.

Dick Lyng captured the minor softball singles when he disposed of Tipp's Michael Murphy after three exciting games. Partnered by Pat Lennon, he gave Wexford its second minor victory when they defeated Ryan and McEllistrim of Kerry in the doubles.

In the hardball singles Jack Brennan gave promise of some youthful talent stirring down Kilkenny way. He beat Sean Glynn and this denied Galway of a second title.

(Continued on page 36)



**PADRAIG PUIRSEAL**  
(of the "Irish Press")  
discusses . . .

# TELEVISION and the G.A.A.

**O**N New Year's Eve the Irish Television Service is due to open, but as yet, and it is almost November Day as I write, we have no indication as to what extent the G.A.A. intends to participate officially in the programmes which will be sent out by Telefís Éireann.

While our own television service is still an unknown quantity, there is little wisdom in speculation, but, as an ordinary viewer and, as a member of the Gaelic Athletic Association, I see no harm in stating what I think the majority of Gaels expect from the new service.

The Gaelic Athletic Association is far and away not only the greatest, but the largest, sporting organisation in the country. For that, if for no other reason, it is surely entitled to a pre-eminent position in the sports programmes of the new television service.

In addition, as it sponsors the age-old native pastimes, the G.A.A. must also hold the premier position, from the National view-point as far as sports are concerned. Furthermore, it possesses far and away more supporters and followers than any other sporting organisation, and therefore supplies a vast and ready-made viewing public.

These are surely evident and obvious facts, but, while not seeking to re-open old wounds, there is no point in ignoring the other fact that the G.A.A. has not got *Cothrom na Feinne* in the past on the National air-waves at least in the opinion of most followers of the games.

Gaels all Ireland over and far beyond the seas will welcome the appointment of Michael O'Hethir as Sports Officer, and wish him well in his new and difficult task, but, while the Gaels of the country will, I am sure, be willing and eager to co-operate with him in every way, the problem that remains to be solved is how that co-operation can be achieved to the best advantage both of the games and of the Television Service.

## LIVE TELEVISION

In the first place, there is the matter of the live televising of matches. It remains to be seen how the new service intends to deal with such matters or how much time it will have at its disposal on Sunday afternoons.

It is obvious that such telecasts would have a tremendous viewing public, since neither of the other television services available present sporting events on a Sunday afternoon, except on very rare occasions.

Therefore, it should be relatively easy to get sufficient advertising to justify televising Sunday afternoon games. But would such a development be in the best interests either of the games or of the G.A.A.?

That is one of the biggest problems and one that has many facets.

It is certain that among those—and they may be a minority, but they are an important minority—who do not follow our games at present such telecasts would add to the prestige and popularity of the National Pastimes.

On the other hand if, say, a Munster Hurling Final were being shown direct on some Sunday afternoon in summer, would not the televising of such a game hit the attendances, not so much at the match being televised, but at every other game, big and small, right through the country?

Possibly, if the day were fine, the attendance at, say, a Connacht football final or a Leinster hurling final on the same day would not be seriously affected, but, on a wet day, I feel a lot of folk would prefer to stay at home and view that Munster final on television, rather than venture out to watch the nearer game.

## ATTENDANCES WOULD SUFFER

In addition, whether the day be wet or fine, one feels that attendances at local county championship and inter-club games would surely suffer severely, and it is well to remember that the club is still the basis of the Association.

Television or no Television, the big teams and the big counties can look after themselves, but we must remember the smaller units who are also entitled to their place in the sun.

Perhaps that difficulty, and it is a crucial one, can be overcome by making a telerecording of the big game and showing it later in the evening, as the B.B.C. does with many big games across the Channel in various codes.



Certainly, whatever about preliminary games, I think it should be possible to televise the All-Ireland finals live. For a lot of folk nowadays the finals themselves are the centre-piece of a day or even a week-end out, and the attendance at finals is unlikely to be affected in any way by Television. Besides, all the pomp and pagentry of All-Ireland Day would, on Television, give a great boost to the games.

I feel that the St. Patrick's Day Railway Cup finals are also good material for a 'live' telecast.

### REGULAR SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERIES

At the other end of the scale I do think that we should see during the winter months, a fairly regular series of Sunday afternoon 'live' televising of National League games. The game need not be named beforehand and, as is done on B.B.C. radio, the second half only need be shown.

Such a system would enable us all to see in action football teams that rarely make their way to All-Ireland finals, while, as far as hurling is concerned, it would enable folk in the non-hurling areas to study the technique of the caman-wielders from Tipperary or Wexford or Cork or Kilkenny, and would thus help in the revival of the game in those places where it is at present all but non-existent.

But, whether or not a game is televised in the afternoon or a recording televised in the evening, I think most Gaelic followers expect that Telefís Éireann will give them something to look forward to on Sunday nights, in the way of a summary, on film as far as possible, of the day's events.

We do not, at this stage, expect anything as elaborate as the B.B.C. Sportsview used to be, but we do expect something better than the B.B.C. Belfast Station or U.T.V. provides for their soccer, rugby and hockey followers on winter Saturday evenings.

Several of the men who appear on these programmes, Saturday evening after Saturday evening are good personal friends of mine, but, unfortunately, I don't want to see them. I can see them any time I go to Belfast.

What I do want to see, or, rather what I would want to see if I had any great interest in the games they deal with, would be snatches of play on film from the matches they are describing, or, at least, still pictures of the players mentioned and of the play.

### PREVIEW OF THINGS TO COME

We also expect to see, towards the end of the week, a good preview of things to come on the Gaelic fields over the week-end ahead. But there

are many other aspects of television which I would like to see used to promote the games of the Gael.

For instance, I would like to see some instructional sessions by such great trainers of teams as Jim Barry, Dr. Eamonn O'Sullivan, Barney Carr or Peter O'Reilly, which would give the youngsters and, indeed, all players, a brief course in both fitness and tactics.

I would like to see the best manner of taking free kicks and even kick-outs in football demonstrated, and the same goes for hurling, though I would like also to see a kind of, hurling course for beginners' televised.

What applies to the major games of hurling and football also goes for Handball and Camogie. Neither of those sports is, of course, affected by the attendance bogey to the same extent as are hurling or football. Both should be easily 'put-over' on the television screens and both would benefit from increased publicity and prestige.

So much for the games themselves, but here's hoping, too, that the people who play them, who run them and who foster them, get their due share of the television limelight.

I would love to see a kind of 'native games miscellany' programme at mid-week that would feature folk both famous and unknown.

Great figures of the past and of the present could tell us of days gone, aye, and of days to come, Officials could talk of their plans and their dreams and old-timers could give us a little, not too much, please, of their memories of the far-off playing fields.

### THE MEN RARELY IN LIMELIGHT

But I would also like to see something of the men who rarely are in the direct limelight, but who are yet an essential part of the games, such as the groundsmen (Jimmy Curran at Croke Park comes to mind at once), or John Rock who works the score-board at Croke Park, or his father who marches in with the ball at the start of big games.

Hurley makers, football-makers, handball-makers would all have a fascinating storey to tell, referees could be given a chance of telling us their side of the story (we hear from them all too seldom, if at all), and what about the men who carry the jerseys or do all the other small jobs that get a team, big or small, on the field, and keep that team or club going through victory or defeat?

The vistas are endless. Let's hope that down the years Telefís Éireann will explore them all, as it must if it is to portray to the world the real Ireland.

Jack Byrne showed that he could win an All-Ireland without Matt Purcell. He did so in company with Jim Brown to give Kildare its share of the glory at the expense of Tipperary's youthful combination of Jim Mullins and Seamus Heapy.

Leinster was easily the most

### HANDBALL

(Continued from page 34)

successful province taking seven titles. Munster came a rather poor second, notching only three.

The "Western Awakening" was

very evident, as can be seen from the fact that they won two National crowns. Connacht did not feature on the scroll of honour last year. Consequently, this performance was a very clear indication of a revival which may well make itself much more obvious next season.



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# THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STORY

**R**ECENT developments in the Gaelic Athletic Association have generated conflicting schools of thought. A recent letter from Ireland contains the following:

"It would seem as if Kerry O'Donnell wants to control the G.A.A. on both sides of the ocean. I don't know whether he wants to become a dictator or not; you may know."

The writer of that letter had read the various versions in the Irish papers, all written in good faith by writers who do their conscientious best to be fully informed, and have no interest in deceiving. Yet, I am convinced that the widespread conclusions drawn from this fund of information are unjust, and that the story of John Kerry O'Donnell's value to the Gaelic games needs to be told.

I have known Kerry O'Donnell for several years, and have found him to be anything but a potential dictator. I would regard him as one of the most modest, self-effacing persons I have ever known.

Not even his most intimate friends know how many persons and causes have benefited by his generosity; and that is the way he wants it to be.

Here is something that he was not quite successful in concealing. Let us look at a paragraph in the October 28, 1961, issue of the "Advocate," an Irish-American paper published in New York. It comes under the heading: "Chicago News, by Sean Curran," and reads:

"All the bad features of the *Erin's Own* being stranded at Shannon got plenty of publicity through the press

and T.V., but never a word about Kerry O'Donnell from New York, who made a special flight from Dublin to Shannon to help. He offered to pay the six thousand dollars owed by President Airlines to get the Chicago group home."

Just a stray item concerning the man who has been accorded Papal recognition for his beneficence.

## PLAY-GROUND FOR EXILES

There is no better playground for Irish exiles than the bit of Ireland beside Broadway, known as Gaelic Park, thanks to the untiring efforts of Kerry O'Donnell.

In its early days it was known as Inisfail Park, and later the name was changed to Croke Park. The G.A.A. authorities in Ireland preferred that there should be but one Croke Park. It was a reasonable and proper attitude, and O'Donnell was glad to co-operate. So it became Gaelic Park.

In the beginning, its facilities were meagre, and the number of Sunday spectators was about two hundred and fifty. It was a discouraging prospect then, and only a man of vision would have the courage to link his fortunes with it.

Kerry O'Donnell was a football player and he knew that the football

and hurling men of New York needed a good sports field. With limited resources he put his energy and money into it, making improvements slowly but steadily, putting in seats, and making such other improvements as would make it a fit place for athletes and spectators.

It was slow and expensive and sometimes seemingly unrewarding; but gradually it was taking shape and doing its best to resemble his optimistic concept.

Gradually the Irish of New York began to know that they had a sports field where good games were being played every Sunday afternoon, and the crowds grew larger.

Parents brought their young American-born families, who got to like the Irish games, and told their young friends about them. Now, between the games, families and friends can enter a first-class restaurant on the premises, and have a sandwich or a meal on spotless linen-covered tables.

Soft drinks are available, and hard drinks too. Yes, there is a tavern, where those who feel so disposed can gather between games and have an exchange of views over a glass of beer. I have never seen a drunken person in Gaelic Park in all the years that I have attended.

## OPENS IN THE SPRING

When the park opens in the spring there are four games; later the number of games is increased to five,



and that schedule prevails until the late autumn, when the schedule returns to four, then three, and, in November, two senior games.

No matter how many games, the price is a dollar. The young children are free, and a mother wheeling a baby carriage into the Park is no unusual sight. The youngsters frolic on the green between games, and scamper back to their seats when the teams leave the dressing rooms.

There is time for everything and room for everybody in Gaelic Park; and yet as many as five full games are played on a fine Sunday afternoon.

Without additional fee there is dancing for those who like it. That begins at seven o'clock. The sanitary facilities are more than adequate, and very clean, and the dance floor, within the banquet hall, is spacious; the orchestra is lively and good.

The Broadway subway train, elevated at this point, is only minutes away.

The Irish in New York have a park that has about everything they could desire.

The games that are being played in Gaelic Park now are of high calibre. Kerry has a good team, but they are no longer consistently supreme.

They have not deteriorated, but the other teams have come up. Cork can field a first-class team; so can Galway, Kilkenny, Offaly, and many other counties.

The same situation prevails in hurling. Here, too, Tipperary is no longer the fore-ordained winner; Limerick, Cork, Clare and many others are top notch.

It will take good Irish home teams to beat the pick of the Park to-day, and that is all to the good. The Gaelic games have reached a high competitive level in New York.

## A CLASSIC

The Kerry-New York game in Gaelic Park a couple of years ago was a classic, and it would be nice to feel that we shall have such games again.

The average crowd in Gaelic Park to-day is seven or eight thousand, and sometimes more. About fourteen thousand witnessed the Kerry-New York game, and everyone was seated; but the Park was almost bursting at the seams.

Four hundred and twelve were seated in the banquet hall when Kerry was entertained. The best was served, and speeches were made; but the man who had set the perennial stage for such events had little to say, and was least conspicuous.

The international games were played in the Polo Grounds when that location was available. This stadium could accommodate more than sixty thousand, and the average attendance at the Gaelic games held there was about thirty thousand.

The overall outlay for the Polo Grounds is about twelve thousand dollars, and arrangements must be made well in advance. Unfortunately, this fine landmark is soon to be demolished; but I think and hope the axe will be held poised until the new stadium is ready.

## ASTOUNDING SPECTACLE

In the Polo Grounds the audience included some Americans, many of whom were seeing Gaelic games for the first time. To them the thrilling spectacle was astounding, with its fast pace, its tense atmosphere, and its thrill-a-minute action.

Here were hard-tackling players, each individual thinking for himself, with no coach to prompt, and having no such protection as that which encloses and encumbers the young athletes who play American "football."

Invariably I have made it a point to invite American friends to the international games; for I think these matches are the finest of all athletic events, and should already have attained world recognition as major sports.

Soccer is played everywhere, and Gaelic should be displayed and encouraged wherever possible, for it is a much better game.

The Irish in New York share the disappointment of the many who lament the suspension of international competition, and hope for the restoration of these fine games.

While it is my feeling that John Kerry O'Donnell has been a tremendous influence in the promotion of Gaelic football and hurling in the United States, I know too, as do countless others, that the men of the Central Council have given much, and will continue to contribute much, to

the development and propagation of these games.

I had the privilege of meeting some of these gentlemen after the Down-Offaly game in Croke Park, and know of their devotion, their sincerity, and their intelligent approach to the task that is theirs.

They, too, are not infallible. It would be a dull world if all were perfect, or if all opinions were merged into one.

There are differences to be reconciled, but I think we can rest assured that the task is well within the competence of those who will soon undertake it. The men on both sides of the present controversy are not the kind that will allow the narrow crevice of minor conflict to broaden, and destroy the much larger area of agreement.

Of course, we all regret the failure of the plans to bring the finalist teams to New York and we feel keenly the disappointment of the Artane Boys, whose visit, we feel sure, is not cancelled but postponed. The effort represented Kerry O'Donnell's supreme venture, and would have necessitated an outlay of \$110,000.

Two successful meetings in the Polo Grounds probably would have covered the bill; but the magnitude of the undertaking was a full-size challenge to a man of stature, and that man did not flinch. However, the final date for discussion of sanction was too late for the launching of such a project.

## NOT SUITABLE MONTHS

The active year of 1961 is about finished; but let us hope there are better years ahead. I do not think May and June are the most suitable months on this side.

October is ideal; it is usually a good month all over the United States. Then the weather is still fairly warm, and the playing pitch is right. The players are at their peak, and the glamour teams that make such trips should not have had time to shed their glamour.

The year has had its frustrations, but perhaps it has been productive in its own way, and with its lessons absorbed, I think we may confidently look forward to an era of mutual understanding and co-operative achievement. Toward that end let us strive.



# AS THE CAMERA CAUGHT THEM

Photos by Rory Moylan

The Quaid brothers, Jack (No. 2) and Jim, tussle for possession with Billy Moloughney (No. 14) and Donie Nealon in the vital National Hurling League game between Limerick and Tipperary in April.



This incident resulted in a controversial goal for Kerry in the National Football League semi-final replay against Roscommon. John Dowling of Kerry (on left) and Roscommon's John Joe Breslin watch Aidan Brady (No. 1) save from a punched effort by Dowling. However, the Roscommon goalkeeper was adjudged to have brought the ball over the line before clearing and the green flag went up.





Paddy Doherty proudly holds the Sam Maguire Cup aloft after leading Down to victory in the All-Ireland football final.



An anxious moment for Down supporters as ambulance men attend to Pat Rice behind the Canal goal in the early stages of the All-Ireland football final. Pat, who sustained a severe thumb injury, later resumed and played a big part in his team's victory.

Pierce Freaney (No. 12) sends the Kilkenny forwards away on one of their many dangerous attacks in the All-Ireland hurling final against Tipperary.







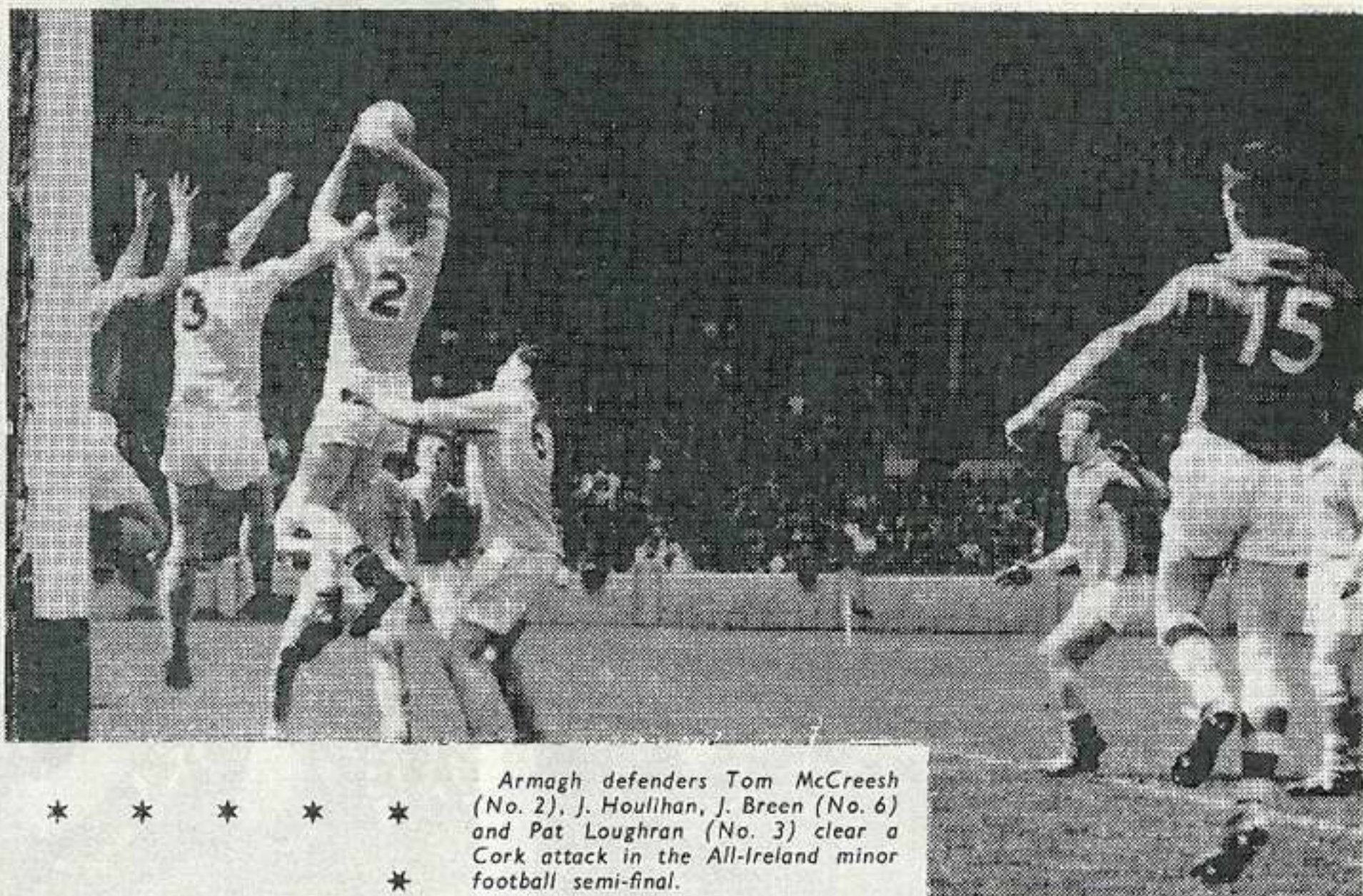
Tom Neville (No. 4), Mick Carroll (No. 13) and Pat Nolan watch the ball go over for a Kilkenny point in the Leinster senior hurling semi-final against Wexford, while Nick O'Donnell surveys proceedings from a distance.

Right—Johnny Culloty of Kerry brings off one of his many fine saves for Munster in the Railway Cup football final against Leinster.



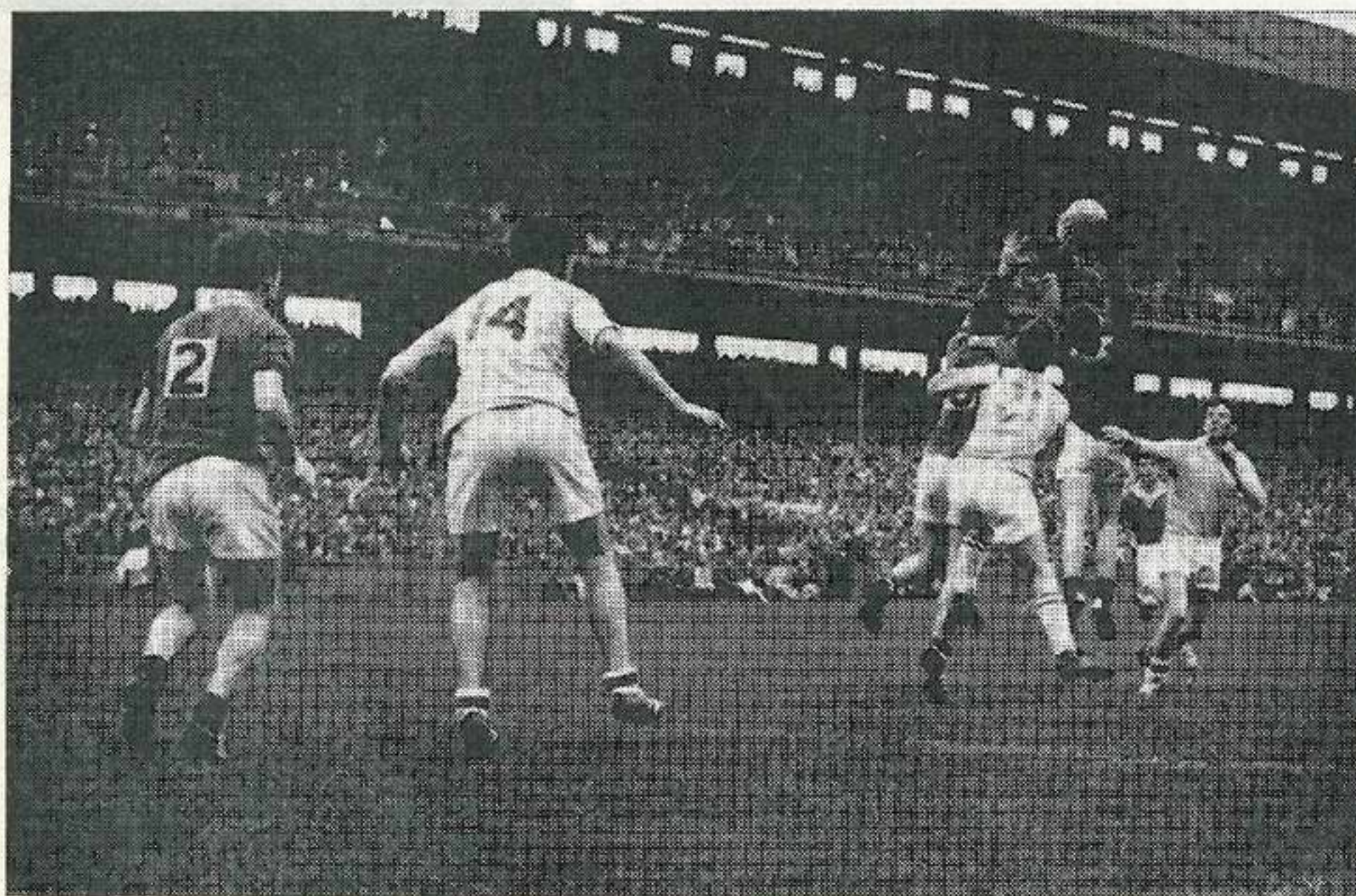
John Maher of Kilkenny clears a Wexford attack in the Leinster senior hurling championship.





Armagh defenders Tom McCreesh (No. 2), J. Houlihan, J. Breen (No. 6) and Pat Loughran (No. 3) clear a Cork attack in the All-Ireland minor football semi-final.

Eddy Carroll (No. 6) of Mayo goes high to nip a Dublin attack in the bud in the All-Ireland minor football semi-final.





Tipperary goalkeeper, Donal O'Brien, tackles Donal Whelan (No. 15, Waterford) in this Decies attack in the National Hurling League final as Matt Hassett rushes in.

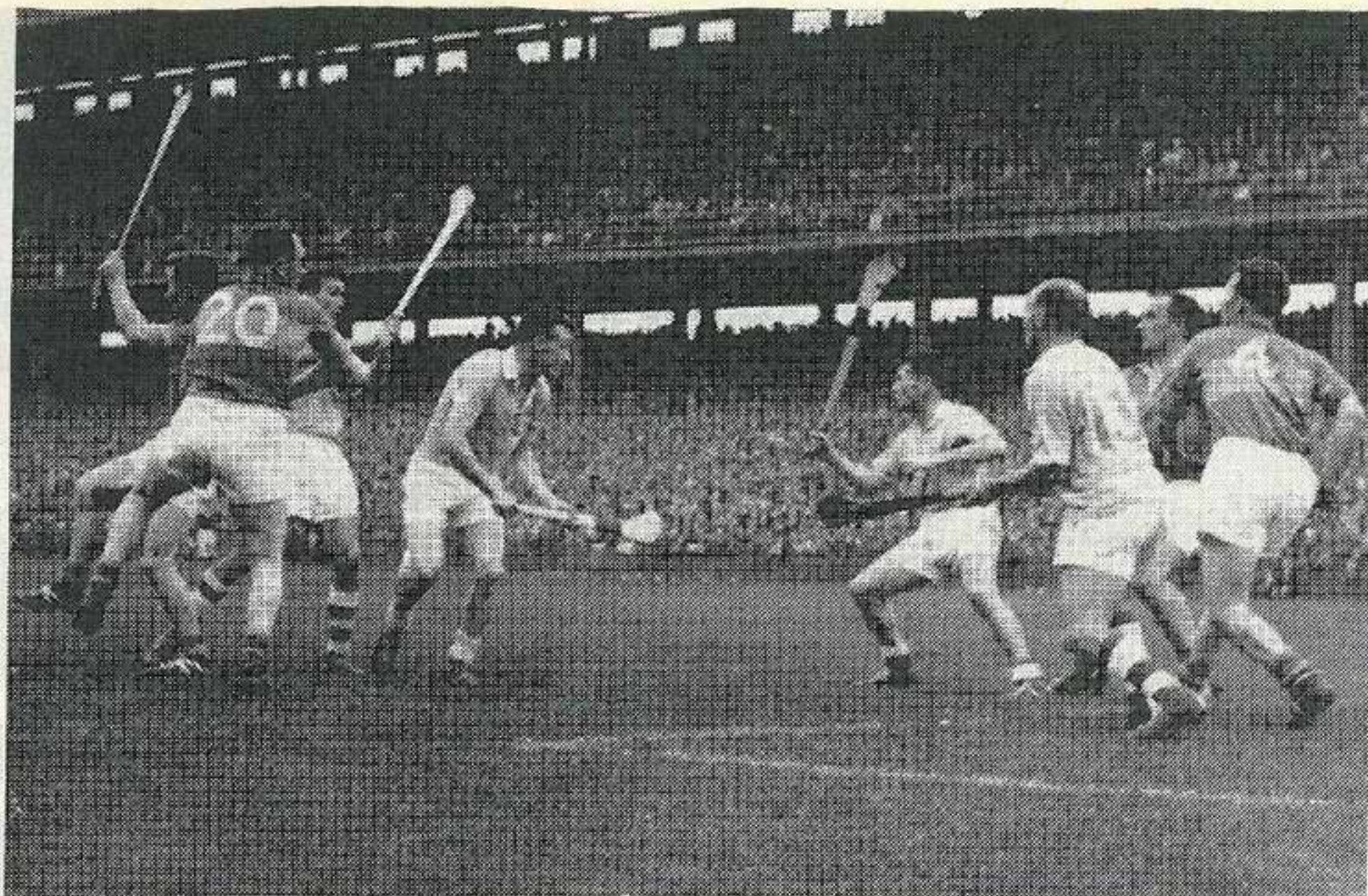


A point for Cork in the Munster final at Limerick. Donal O'Brien, the Tipp goalman, makes a vain effort to save as John Doyle and Matt Hassett anxiously look on.



Right—Mackey McKenna (left) of Tipperary and Wexford's Joe English tussle for possession in the Oireachtas Cup final at Croke Park.





★ A Dublin attack in the late stages of the All-Ireland hurling final as Tony Wall (T.), John Hough (No. 20, T.), Mick Bohane (D.), Fran Whelan (D.), Paddy Croke (D.), Bernie Boothman (No. 13, D.), Mick Maher (T.) and Kieran Carey (No. 4, T.) all watch the flight of the ball. ★

★ The Tipperary goalkeeper, Donal O'Brien (No. 1), well covered by his backs, brings off one of his many fine saves in the Munster hurling final against Cork. ★





Bustling Jim McCartan is tackled by Greg Hughes in the All-Ireland football final. John Egan (Offaly, left) and P. J. McElroy (Down) await developments.



Louth defenders Jim McArdle (left) and Jim Meehan have this situation well under control in the Leinster senior football championship against Kildare.

Below—Ray Cawley (No. 1), the Cork goalkeeper, goes high to save this Mayo shot in the All-Ireland minor football final at Croke Park.







DONAL O'BRIEN

# ALL-IRELAND SENIOR

## PATHS TO

### TIPPERARY

Tipperary, 7-12; Galway, 5-6.

Half-time, 1-8 to 1-3.

Scorers:—Donie Nealon (3-2), Jimmy Doyle (1-4), Tom Ryan (2-0), Liam Devanney (0-4), Mackey McKenna (1-0), Tom Moloughney (0-2).

D. O'Brien; M. Hassett, M. Maher, John Doyle; M. O'Gara, T. Wall, M. Burns; T. English, L. Devanney; Jimmy Doyle, D. Nealon, T. Ryan; J. McKenna, W. Moloughney, T. Moloughney. Subs—P. Murray (for Wall), J. Hough (for Murray).

Referee—G. Fitzgerald (Limerick).  
Attendance—17,000.

Tipperary, 3-6; Cork, 0-7.

Half-time, 3-3 to 0-1.

Scorers:—Jimmy Doyle (1-4), Donie Nealon (2-1), Liam Devanney (0-1).

D. O'Brien, M. Hassett (capt.), M. Maher, K. Carey; M. O'Gara, John Doyle, M. Burns; T. English, L. Devanney; Jimmy Doyle, D. Nealon, T. Ryan, T. Moloughney, W. Moloughney, S. McLoughlin. Subs—J. McKenna (for T. Moloughney).

Referee—M. Hayes (Clare).  
Attendance—60,170.

Tipperary, 0-16; Dublin, 1-12.

Half-time 0-10 to 0-6.

Scorers, Jimmy Doyle (0-9), D. Nealon (0-3), M. O'Gara (0-2), T. Moloughney (0-1), J. McKenna (0-1).

D. O'Brien; M. Hassett (capt.), M. Maher, K. Carey; M. Burns, A. Wall, John Doyle; M. O'Gara, T. English; Jimmy Doyle, L. Devanney, D. Nealon; J. McKenna, W. Moloughney, T. Moloughney. Subs.—T. Ryan for McKenna, J. Hough for O'Gara, S. McLoughlin for Wall.

Referee—G. Fitzgerald (Limerick).

*In their five games Down played before an overall attendance of 223,650. In the semi-final and final new records were established. Against the Kingdom, the 71,600 beat the previous highest of 70,150 which saw Kerry defeat Dublin in the semi-final in 1959. The old attendance record for a football final was set last year, when 87,760 saw the Mournemen defeat Kerry.*

*In Tipperary's three outings they attracted a total of 145,070. The final crowd, 67,900, was the largest ever to witness a Dublin hurling team.*



MATT HASSETT  
(Capt.)



MICK MAHER



KIERAN CAREY



MICK BURNS



TONY WALL



JOHN DOYLE



THEO ENGLISH



MATT O'GARA



JIMMY DOYLE



LIAM DEVANNEY



DONIE NEALON



MACKEY McKENNA



BILLY MOLOUGHNEY



TOM MOLOUGHNEY







## VICTORY

### DOWN

**Down, 0-12; Fermanagh, 0-7.**

Scorers:—Paddy Doherty (0-4), Pat O'Hagan (0-2), Jim McCartan (0-2), Sean O'Neill, Brian Morgan, Eamonn Lundy and Kevin O'Neill (0-1 each).

E. McKay; G. Lavery, L. Murphy, P. Rice; K. Mussen, D. McCartan, J. Smith; E. Lundy, P. J. McElroy; J. McCartan, S. O'Neill, P. Doherty; T. Hadden, P. O'Hagan, B. Morgan. Subs.—K. O'Neill (for Mussen). Attendance—5,000.

**Down, 2-12; Derry, 1-10.**

Half-time, 2-7 to 1-4.

Scorers:—Paddy Doherty (1-5), Jim McCartan (1-0), Sean O'Neill (0-2), Tony Hadden (0-2), Leo Murphy, Jarlath Carey and Pat O'Hagan (0-1 each).

E. McKay; G. Lavery, L. Murphy, P. Rice, K. Mussen (capt.), D. McCartan, J. Smith; J. Lennon, J. Carey, S. O'Neill, J. McCartan, P. Doherty, A. Hadden, E. Lundy, B. Morgan. Subs.—P. O'Hagan (for Lundy); K. O'Neill (for Morgan); Morgan (for K. O'Neill). Referee—L. Maguire (Monaghan). Attendance—18,000.

**Down, 2-10; Armagh, 1-10.**

Half-time, 1-2 to 1-7.

Scorers:—Paddy Doherty (0-7), Brian Morgan (1-1), Jim McCartan (1-0), Sean O'Neill and P. J. McElroy (0-1 each).

E. McKay; G. Lavery, L. Murphy, P. Rice; K. Mussen (capt.), D. McCartan, J. Smith; P. J. McElroy, J. Lennon; S. O'Neill, A. Hadden, P. O'Hagan, B. Morgan. Subs.—J. McCartan (for Mussen), K. O'Neill (for Lavery). Referee—L. Maguire (Monaghan). Attendance—38,500.

**Down, 1-12; Kerry, 0-9.**

Half-time, 1-5 to 0-8.

Scorers:—Paddy Doherty (0-6), Sean O'Neill (1-0), Tony Hadden and Jim McCartan (0-2 each), P. J. McElroy and Brian Morgan (0-1 each).

E. McKay; G. Lavery, L. Murphy, P. Rice; P. O'Hagan, D. McCartan, J. Smith; J. Carey, J. Lennon; S. O'Neill, J. McCartan, P. Doherty; A. Hadden, P. J. McElroy, B. Morgan. Subs.—K. Mussen (for O'Hagan); K. O'Neill (for Lennon). Referee—J. Martin (Roscommon). Attendance—71,600.

**Down, 3-6; Offaly, 2-8.**

Half-time, 3-3 to 2-3.

Scorers:—Sean O'Neill and Jim McCartan (1-1 each), Brian Morgan (1-0), Paddy Doherty (0-2), Tony Hadden and Jarlath Carey (0-1 each).

E. McKay; G. Lavery, L. Murphy, P. Rice; P. O'Hagan, D. McCartan, J. Smith; J. Carey, J. Lennon; S. O'Neill, J. McCartan, P. Doherty (capt.); A. Hadden, P. J. McElroy, B. Morgan. Subs.—K. O'Neill (for Rice), Rice (for Lavery). Referee—L. Maguire (Cavan). Attendance—90,550.



EAMONN McKAY



GEORGE LAVERY



LEO MURPHY



PAT RICE



PAT O'HAGAN



DAN McCARTAN



JOHN SMITH



JOE LENNON



JARLATH CAREY



SEAN O'NEILL



JAMES McCARTAN



PADDY DOHERTY  
(Capt.)



TONY HADDEN



P. J. McELROY



BRIAN MORGAN





**KILKENNY . . . MINOR HURLING CHAMPIONS**



\* \* \* \* \*

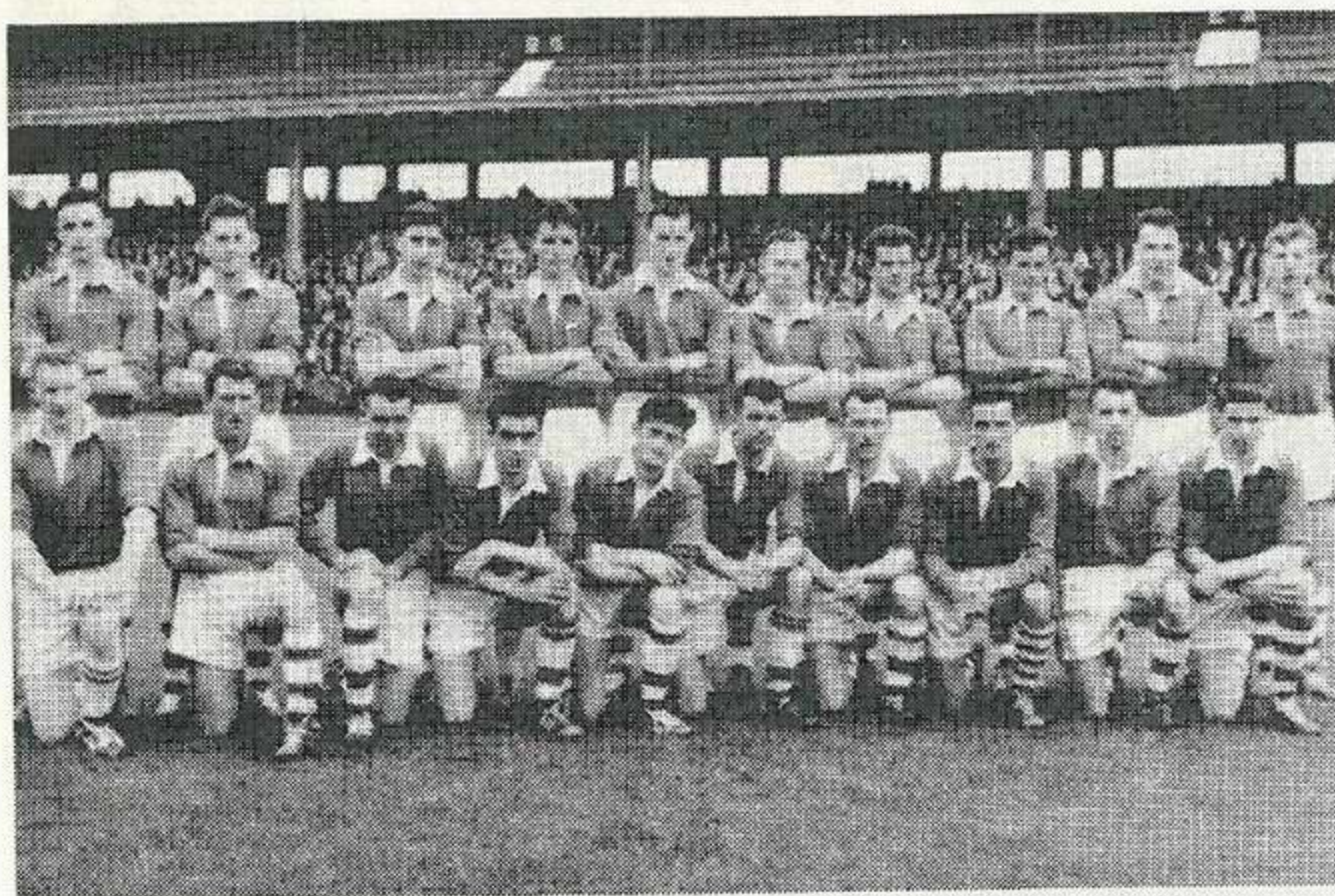
**MEATH . . . CUCHULAINN CUP FINALISTS**



\* \* \* \* \*



# LOUTH . . . JUNIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

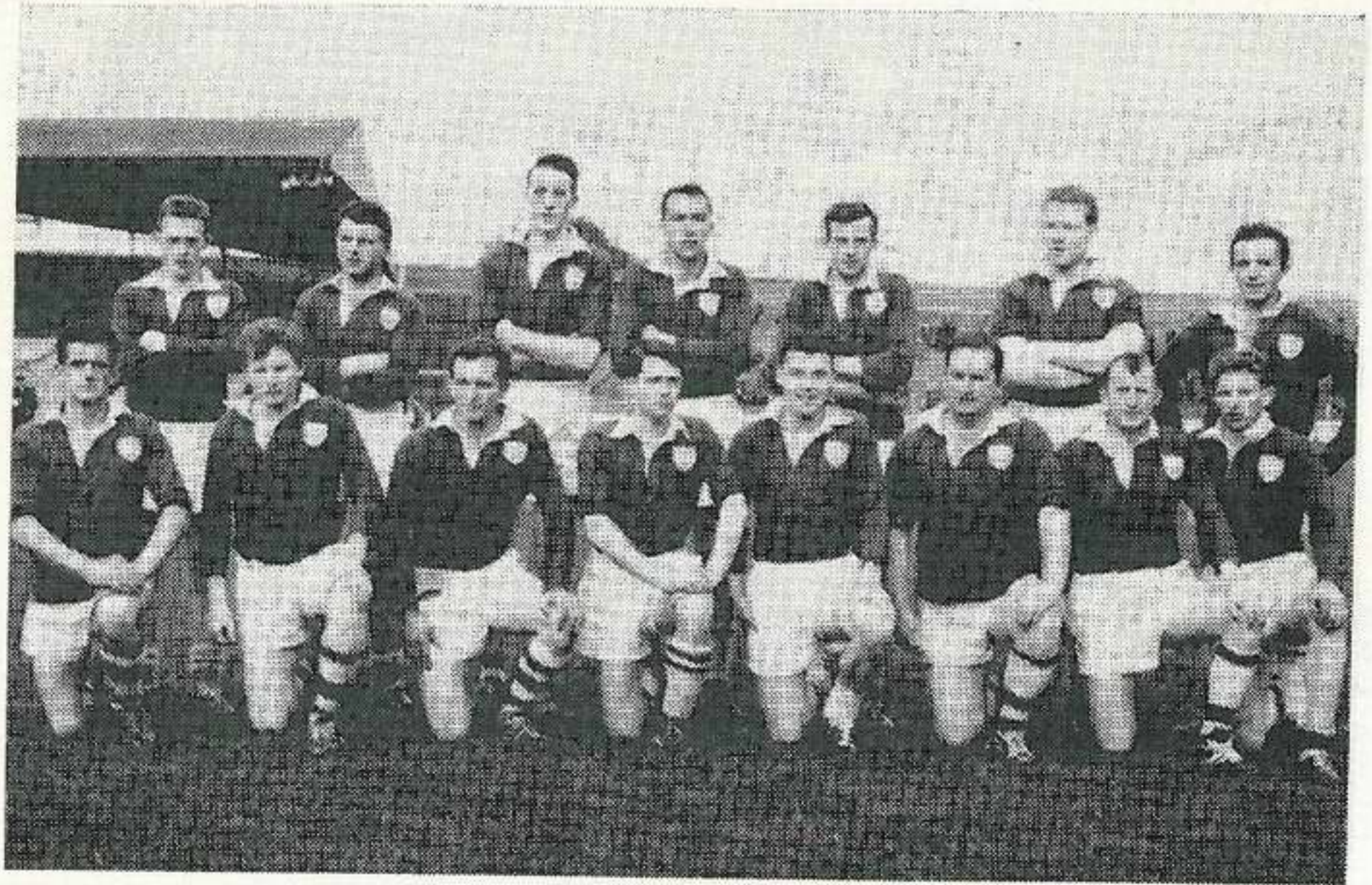


# KERRY . . . JUNIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS





**GALWAY . . . CUCHULAINN CUP FINALISTS**



**DUBLIN . . . CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS**







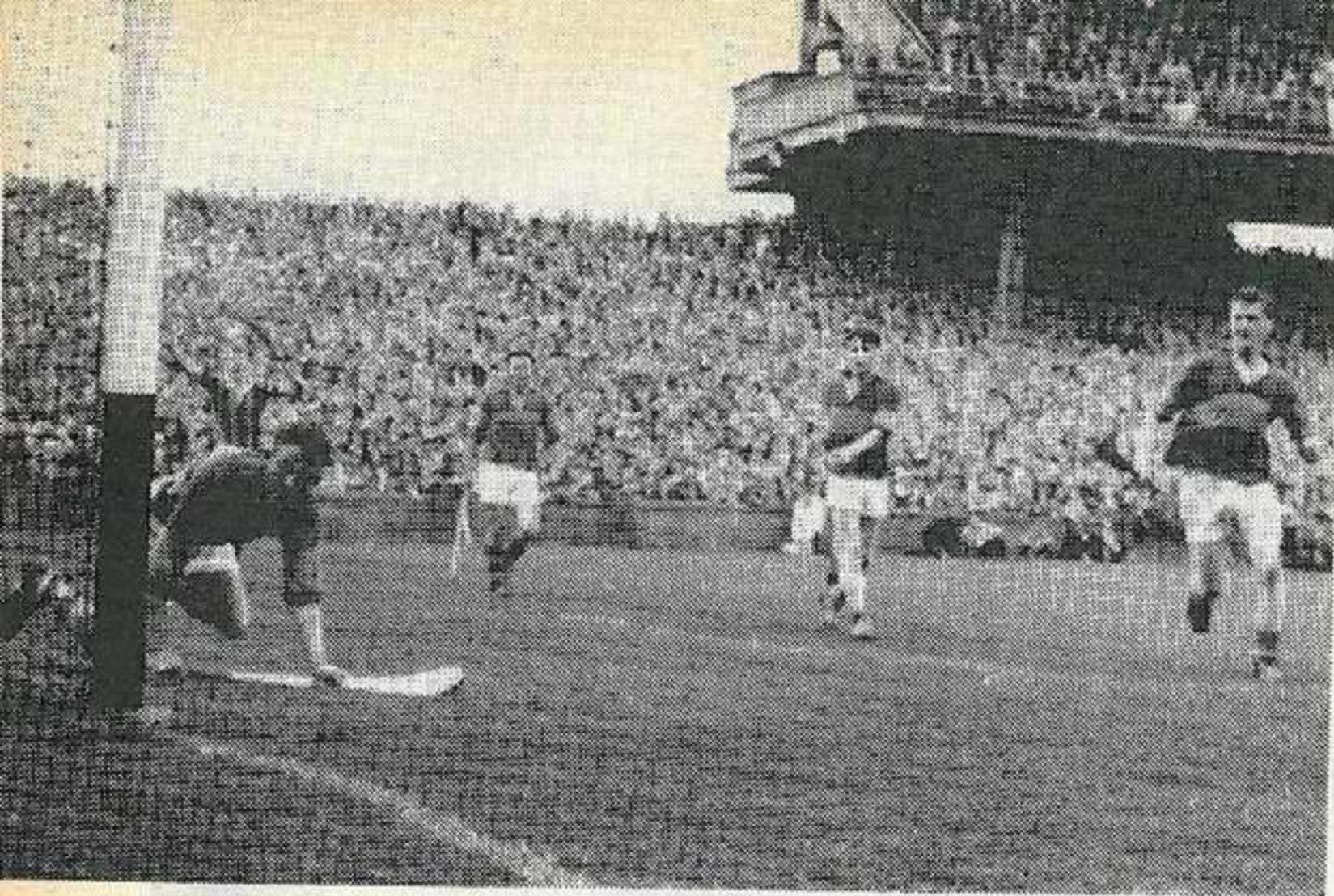
All eyes follow the flight of the ball in the National Hurling League game between Tipperary and Limerick.

Below—Dublin forwards press home an attack in the Leinster minor football final against Offaly at Portlaoise. A goal resulted from this tussle.



Mickey Bracken, Longford's brilliant left-half back, pictured in action against Meath in the Leinster championship at Croke Park.





*A Kilkenny goal in the All-Ireland minor final against Tipperary.*

★  
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*Pat Rice of Down (No. 4) went higher than Offaly's Jimmy O'Hanlon in this tussle for possession in the Grounds' Tournament final at Croke Park.*

*High pulling in the Tipperary goal-mouth between Mick Maher (No. 3) and Mick Quane in the Munster hurling final at Limerick. Awaiting the outcome is Cork's Paddy Barry.*





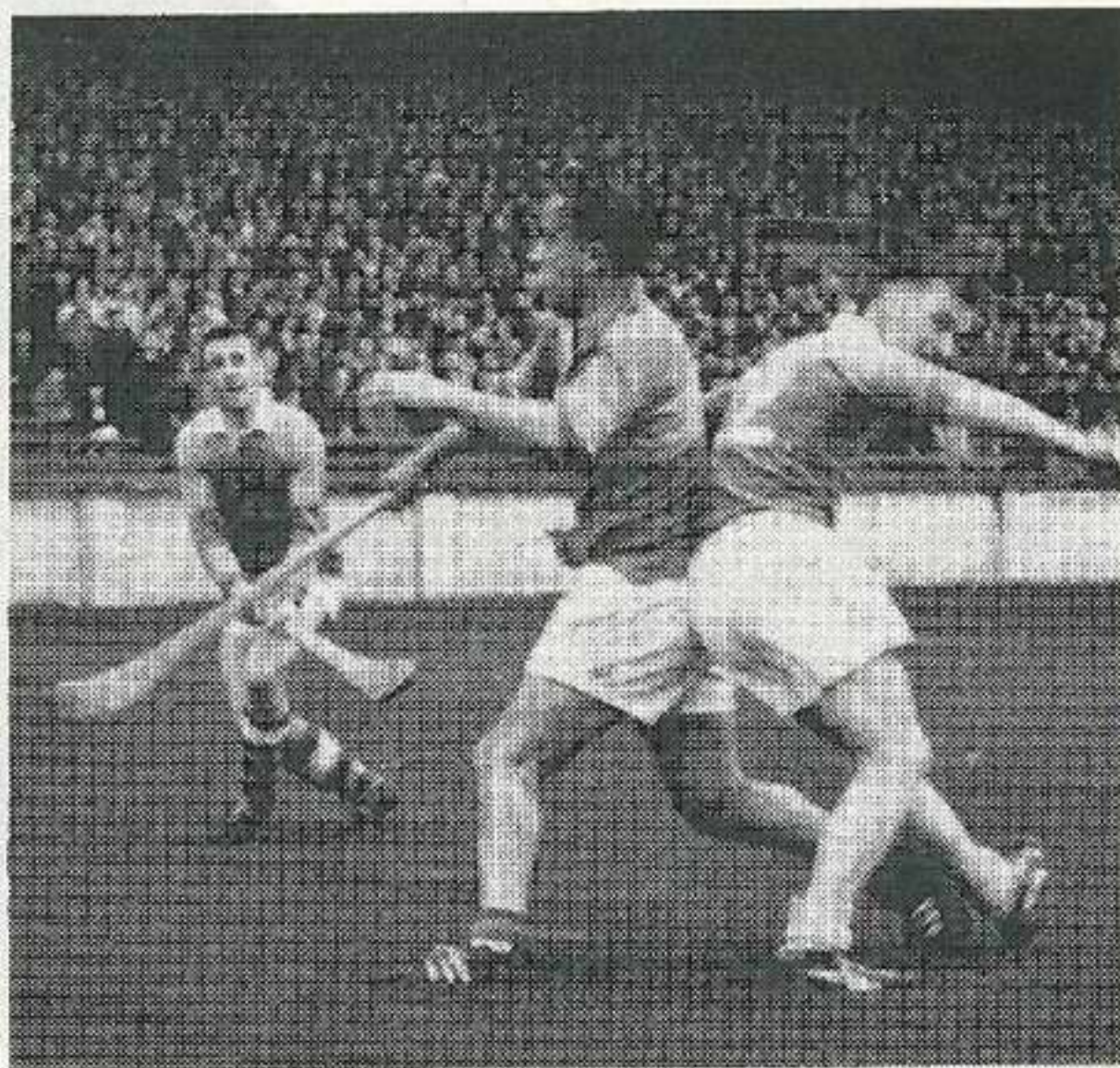
A Mayo defender about to "pick" the ball in the All-Ireland minor football final against Cork.



Below: D-E-T-E-R-M-I-N-A-T-I-O-N is written all over Johnny Egan of Offaly as he makes an interception at Croke Park in the Grounds' Tournament final against Down.



Below — Wexford's Hopper McGrath shoots for goal in the Oireachtas hurling final. Mick Maher (Tipp), John Kennedy (No. 22, Wexford) are also pictured.







Above — A narrow escape for Kildare as a Louth shot is cleared off the goal-line in the Leinster championship.

Below—Willie McGuirk of Meath (No. 4) gets possession in the Cuchulainn Cup final (Gaelic Weekly Tournament) at Croke Park despite the attentions of Galway's Cyril Dunne.

A Roscommon defender stops this Kerry attack in the drawn National Football League semi-final.





# A Great Shot In The Arm For Cork Football

By DERRY GOWAN, Chairman  
of North Cork Divisional Board  
and a member of the Minor  
Football Selection Committee.

THE game I had refereed was over and a friend came towards me. He was one of those men who love to organise boys' games and to teach them to play hurling and football. He was a Corkman and a Christian Brother.

"Will we ever win it," he queried. I detected a note of disappointment in his words. "The only one Cork never won." I knew then that he was referring to the fact that we had lost the Minor Football All-Ireland the previous Sunday.

But that was 1960, and it was hard to say then what shape our team would take for '61. Minor standards change each year due to the age limit.

We were losing great players like the McGann twins, Seanie and Dermot, Eugene O'Connor, Pat Pyne, Dan Buckley, Pat Curley, Michael O'Brien, Jim Travers, Brendan Coughlan, Doney Moynihan, Jim Burke and Billy Hanrahan.

Very few people realize even yet that we had to replace ten of that team.

However, we still had Vincie Cronin, Brendan Larkin, Gussie Harrington, Tommy Burke and John McGrath of last year's fifteen and Des Nangle and Ned Coughlan of the substitutes. But where were the boys to put with them?

The Selection Committee searched the county and watched

games Sunday after Sunday . . . and even in the evenings, too, whenever and wherever matches were played. Gradually the replacements came to light.

## TREK STARTED IN FERMOY

In Fermoy, my home town, our trek to Croke Park started all over again. Waterford, who had produced some first-class teams in recent years, were our opponents in the first round of the Munster championship.

We were beaten at half-back and centre field, which resulted in switches. Our full backs and goalkeeper gave little away and two of the forwards, Donal Barrett and Joe O'Keeffe, took the scoring honours between them, Barrett mostly from frees and O'Keeffe from play.

Of the team that played Waterford, eleven survived right up to the final. The general comment was, "This team will not win the All-Ireland."

The Club Minor Championships were in full swing by this time and many new faces were on view. Players worthy of consideration were noted and put on trial before the Munster final with Clare, who had beaten Kerry, our final opponents of last year.

Two new forwards appeared. Flor Hayes of Clonakilty was

one, and his cute, stylish play held him his place. Joe O'Keeffe had gone to England and was replaced by Tom Monahan, who earned promotion through brilliant displays with Mitchelstown Blackthorn's minor team and De La Salle College, Waterford.

We were on the look out for a centre back and moved Vincie Cronin from the corner to that berth. Des Nangle came into the team to make a new full-back line with Myles Lyne and John McGrath.

Clare seemed to lack experience and Cork went on to the All-Ireland semi-final to meet "the Boys from the County Armagh."

## LIVELY WINGER

The Ulster champions had a small, lively left winger who caused us many a sigh, particularly in the second half. His roving tactics and neat swerve made him a very difficult man to mark, but Gussie Harrington kept close to him and played him well. We again switched at centre back, and this time tried Brendan Larkin, who was a success.

One particular score by Tommy Burke at a very vital stage of the last quarter provided an inspiration for the boys and is well worthy of mention.



He secured possession about fifty yards from the Armagh goal out on the wing at the Hogan Stand side. He soloed down the wing with his opponent in pursuit. At a time when most players were tired he kept going and swung in towards the goal.

The ball left his boot, over it went and the white flag went up. A great effort.

This was a very good, close game and we earned our passage to the final.

Mayo and Dublin met to decide the other finalists. The Western champions came through rather convincingly, so much so that people rated them a better team than Cork, taking the two semi-final displays into account. They were favourites for the final, but we felt our boys would shade them in experience, and so they did.

## WORDS OF ADVICE

For the final Mick Barrett (also a selector) took the team into training for six nights and his shrewd tactics and words of advice proved of great benefit.

Myles Lyne had returned to his studies and was not available at full back and so there were switches. As in the previous year, John McGrath took over the onerous task and right well did he perform.

A new man, Jimmy O'Donoghue of Macroom, performed with great confidence and his general play was a revelation. Brendan Larkin, however, again at centre back, was the man of the match and won the hearts of the crowd for his anticipation, his positional play and his great football skill.

Tall Ray Cawley in goal brought off some wonderful saves. Frank Cogan and Ned Coughlan at centre field gave us a definite pull. Coughlan, whose training was hampered by an injury, tired towards the end, but throughout the year he was one of our trump cards and a very good captain.

Denis Philpott, Mick Archer, Tom Monahan, Donal Barrett, Flor Hayes and Tommy Burke combined to great effect in the forwards. In defence, Des Nangle, Vincie Cronin and

Gussie Harrington lent great support to McGrath, Larkin and O'Donoghue.

The game over, the players made their way to the rostrum of the Hogan Stand, where the President of the G.A.A., Mr. Hugh Byrne, presented the Tom Markham Cup to the captain, Ned Coughlan.

## WOULD THEY BE BACK?

Back across the field to the dressing room, where the Down team were getting ready for their senior game with Offaly. We wondered if the boys who had worn the red jersey so well would one day be here for a senior final.

It was very nice of the Mayo officials to come around to congratulate the team. It showed the true spirit of the games.

Back to Cork with the Cup, where our followers, who had given great support all the year, gave a tremendous welcome to the team on the Monday night. The reception by the County Board was also very much appreciated by the players and Selection Committee.

I would like to pay a tribute to the men with whom I acted on the Selection Committee. Jackie Barrett of Mitchelstown, David O'Brien from St. Nick's, Tom O'Sullivan (St. Finbarr's) and Mick Barrett (Nemo Rangers) all know their football well.

From the officers and members of the County Board we got great help. And it all added up to a very happy campaign.

Incidentally, the fact that we had seven boys from Scoil Criost Ri, Turner's Cross provided great team spirit.

This win gave a great 'shot in the arm' to Cork football, and I feel it will be reflected shortly in the standard of future Rebel County teams. Already, the minor captain, Ned Coughlan has made his mark with the senior team in the league and it is hoped that other minor players will also be ready for promotion in the near future.

And now we must prepare to hold on to our Minor crown. No easy task you will admit.

However, if we get as many thrills in the coming year as we did in '61, regardless of victory or defeat, we will be very happy, because it is the game and not the prize that counts. Up Cork!

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# Camogie had its Dark and Bright Sides

FROM some aspects the camogie season just past seems, on the surface, to have been no more than average, and yet, due to the interest taken in all provinces in the schools and Colleges, it may well prove, in a few years time, to have been one of the brightest that the Association has yet known.

Let us take the darker side of things first. In the provincial championships, competition was not at all as keen as it should have been in Ulster and Connacht. Antrim met with little opposition in senior ranks in the North, scoring easily over Derry in the final of a series which drew a very disappointing entry.

In the West, only Mayo and Galway really counted, and Galway retained their title in a hard-fought final.

Down south, however, there were continued signs of revival, all counties except Kerry taking part in the championships, while there was good news from the Kingdom that one club had affiliated while others were in the process of formation.

Clare scored a surprise win early in the series over Waterford, but failed to match Tipperary in the semi-final. Cork had a clear-cut semi-final win over Limerick and the Munster final was a good and hard-fought game in which Tipperary confirmed their recent superiority over the Cork girls, but only after a great struggle.

In Leinster, Dublin, for the first time in several years, took part in the senior championship from the start, and on their way to the title defeated Wexford, Kilkenny and Laois, the next counties in the province in order of merit. The standard was high

and Laois, surprise team of the competition, put up a far better show in the final than the scoreboard at the end gave them credit for.

So that left the four semi-finalists for 1961 the same as in the previous year, Antrim, Dublin, Tipperary and Galway. This time, Dublin took on Galway at Pearse Stadium and won after a good game, while Tipperary had surprisingly little to spare over a young Antrim side at Casement Park.

Those games were both played in July, but the Central Council failed in their bid to get Croke Park in August, although G.A.A. Headquarters was not unduly busy in that month, and so the final was not played until October.

Tipperary, who had given Dublin so hard a run in the 1960 semi-final, had very high hopes of victory this time. They got off to a flying start, but sound team-work by Dublin proved decisive and some rather needless team switches by Tipperary mentors upset their side.

Dublin won with a little to spare at the end, but this was still a very good Tipperary side. Their striking through the field was rather superior to that of the Dublin girls, but they were far less expert in their team-work.

## GREAT LOSS TO THE GAME

This victory gave Kathleen Mills her fifteenth All-Ireland medal, a record that has never been equalled nor is ever likely to be equalled in any team-game. She announced her retirement before the final, win or lose, and with her departure the game has suffered a great loss.

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Kathleen Mills holds the O'Duffy Cup after Dublin had beaten Tipperary in the All-Ireland camogie final at Croke Park. Gerry Hughes (second from left), the Dublin captain, is congratulated by Honor O'Flynn, the Tipp skipper, while Mrs. Eilis Redmond, President of the Camogie Association, looks on.



Meanwhile, the Interprovincial series for the Gael-Linn Cup had been in progress and Connacht sprang a big surprise by defeating Leinster, who had always previously won this competition, in a game played in a deluge at Galway.

On the following Sunday, Munster were very hard-pressed to defeat an unfancied Ulster side at Roscrea, so that the Connacht girls were very hopeful of success when they met Munster at Pearse Stadium, Galway, in the decider.

Again the weather was at its worst, so bad in fact that it was agreed to restrict the playing time, but Munster were good winners after a hard-fought game and thus took the first major trophy to the South for twenty years.

With two of the three games played, cursed by deplorable weather it looks as though this inter-provincial competition will again be a financial drain on the Association.

### THE BRIGHTER SIDE

And now to look at the brighter side. Both Ulster and Leinster again ran successful junior competitions. Armagh won the Northern title after a good game against Tyrone in the Final.

In Leinster, a province in which every one of the twelve counties took part in the championship in one grade or the other, Kildare proved too strong for Carlow in a good final.

A tentative suggestion that Kildare and Armagh then meet in an unofficial All-Ireland junior final was mooted, but came to nothing. This is an idea which might well be worth serious consideration.

After all if, say, Clare and Kerry were graded junior in Munster, and Sligo and Roscommon in Connacht, we could have a junior championship, the semi-finals of which could be played along with the senior semi-finals, while the junior final could be played with the senior final.

Such a move would surely be a great means of encouraging the game in the weaker counties.

### BIG STEP FORWARD

The desire of the Annual Congress to have Colleges competitions in each province was carried a big step forward last season. Ulster and Leinster ran competitions extending to several counties, while there were also championships in Cork and Galway.

That gave us champions in all four provinces, and again there was an attempt made to have an unofficial All-Ireland championship played off. Unfortunately, it was very late in the year when this was proposed and bad weather, plus the near approach of the examination season, forced the plan to be abandoned.

Perhaps we shall see such a championship given official sanction and played off successfully during the coming year.

As was the case last season, the Leinster Colleges Council aims to have its championship, for the Stuart Cup finished before Christmas, as this interferes least with the school arrangements.

### EXTENDED ITS WINGS

This year the Leinster competition has extended its wings and now, beside a strong Dublin entry, has drawn affiliations from Counties Kilkenny, Kildare, Louth, Meath and Wicklow.

The fact that the game is being taken up by so many schools and Colleges on an official basis is most encouraging, and these school teams will not only provide the nucleus of senior clubs in a very short time but will also provide the Association with good material for running clubs and County Boards in all areas through the years to come.

What the advent of television will mean no one knows, but the Central Council is willing to co-operate to the very full with Telefis Eireann. It is to be hoped that though we have not been able to have our Camogie Final dealt with in a broadcast commentary in recent years we may have it televised next season.



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# The Year in Leinster

By JIM CROWLEY

WITH hopes of a National League title blighted in the Spring, our first serious thoughts in Leinster in 1961 dwelt on our Railway Cup teams.

With more hope than confidence Leinster footballers travelled to Belfast to take on the crack Ulster team. Jim McCartan's omission was a considerable help, of course, but nevertheless the task seemed beyond our capabilities. We reckoned, however, without the Leinster defence, an almost complete Offaly crew with Dublin's Paddy Holden at the helm. They rose to the occasion in style, as did mid-fielders, Foran and Carley, and shock number one of the football year had occurred.

In the final against a determined Munster fifteen the defence shone again, and forwards like Heffernan, Beahan, Lynch, Joyce and Kenna gave the impression that they had footballled together from childhood.

We had the almost inevitable Railway Cup hurling final, Munster v. Leinster, with the almost inevitable result—a Munster victory. Perhaps fortune didn't favour us this time, as we lost a Clohessy in brilliant mood during a last quarter rally.

## WHETTED OUR APPETITES

As the days lengthened after Easter, our thoughts turned to the championship. A magnificent O'Byrne Cup final between Louth and Dublin, which ended in a draw, whetted our appetites for the duals ahead.

We got a shock early on when Westmeath, the previous year's semi-finalists, slumped to a good Longford side. Dublin travelled to Carlow to meet Wexford, and though victorious gave no indication of a repeat of '58 form.

Louth and Kildare drew a big crowd to Croke Park. Full forward Gibbons sent the Kildare fans delirious with some grand scores and the most faithful followers in Ireland went home in happy mood.

The Newbridge ground was bursting at the seams for the first appearance of the Leinster champions, Offaly. Carlow's bad League form in

the previous six months very nearly caught us and Offaly on the wrong foot.

From the throw-in Carlow warmed to their work and a disallowed goal, followed by a missed penalty, failed to quench their enthusiasm. Offaly, though visibly shaken, never wilted and scraped home. Once again Charlie Wrenn shone on the Newbridge ground against Carlow.

## BIGGEST MEATH TEAM

Croke Park again, and this time the biggest Meath team I ever saw scrambled home narrowly over a game Longford side.

We were really into the championship season now. Before a ball was kicked the semi-finals were being verbally disputed all over the province. There was little between them in appeal—Kildare and Offaly in Portlaoise, Dublin and Meath in Navan.

The sun burst forth for the Portlaoise encounter, and so almost did the venue. For a while it looked as if Kildare and Offaly could not play, so overcrowded were the sidelines.

After all the commotion, the game turned out to be much ado about nothing. Offaly romped home in unbelievably easy fashion, and as Kildare folk, shocked and stunned, made their way home some of us wondered if the Portlaoise venue could house a Leinster football final.

But on to Navan for Dublin and Meath. The opening period was like a first round of two heavies weighing each other up. The K.O. came shortly after the interval in the shape of a Behan goal and Meath never recovered. Not even John Nallen could rally them and Dublin were in their fifth Leinster final in seven years.

## CONTROVERSY RAGED

Portlaoise or Croke Park for the Leinster final? So the controversy raged. The original venue, Portlaoise, was upheld and though the stewarding was vastly improved, it did not have to cope with the attendance that would certainly have witnessed the game in Croke Park.



Against the virile Offaly men, Dublin held their own in the first half, but Offaly's dash and strength overcame the Metropolitan challenge in the second period and the Midlanders retained their title.

The hurling was largely a Dublin-Wexford-Kilkenny affair. Wexford and Kilkenny gave us another thriller, with Jim English's fine solo run along by the Hogan Stand still fresh in the mind.

But the talking-point of the game afterwards was big Andy Doyle's display at full forward for the Model County. It was Andy, county and Railway Cup footballer, who really shattered Kilkenny that day.

### PLEASANT SURPRISE

With more hope than confidence Dublin followers travelled to Kilkenny for the Leinster final. But what a pleasant surprise awaited them!

Hurling cleverly and with great heart, Dublin took everything Wexford had to offer and shocked the land with a sensational win. Paddy Croke was an outstanding success at full forward, and Noel Drumgoole held Andy Doyle scoreless.

All we wanted now was to have a Leinster county in the All-Ireland football final and anxiously we awaited the outcome of the Offaly-Roscommon semi-final.

Tommy Greene settled the issue long before the end, however, with two well-taken goals, and at the final whistle our thoughts went out to that gallant

man, Gerry O'Malley, who was as far away as ever from that Celtic Cross medal.

In the pre-final speculation we were the outsiders in hurling and football. The city lads against the famed hurlers of Thurles, Toomevara, Holy Cross and Borrisleigh was a unique pairing indeed.

### UNFORTUNATE TO LOSE

I won't accuse Tipperary of being lucky to win by a point, but I do say that Dublin were most unfortunate to lose. Much good must come from this great effort of Dublin to get into the hurling elite.

For many years we will sing the praises of Des Foley, Des Ferguson, Noel Drumgoole and Achill Boothman, who surpassed themselves in this final.

How ironic that Offaly's margin of defeat should also be a mere point! For a while in the first half Down appeared to be heading for defeat, but Jim McCartan's goal of the year turned the tide.

Nevertheless, Offaly's endeavours continued to the bitter end and victory could have been theirs in the dying minutes.

Looking back, Leinster should be proud of 1961. Dublin hurlers and Offaly footballers represented us well in the two senior All-Irelands. Kilkenny won the minor hurling title, Wexford the intermediate and Louth the junior football.

I almost forgot—and it's just as well that I didn't for we might not have got our Christmas dinners—Dublin won the camogie title. Yes, it was indeed a good year for the Eastern province.

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# CONNAUGHT

## REVIEW

**C**HRISTMAS time is here again, and Gaelic games are suspended for a period. Now is the hour for dwelling on the year gone by, and looking forward to the New Year.

This is a boom time for amateur selectors. The performances of the stars during the previous year come in for microscopic scrutiny, and arguments are plentiful as to the merits and demerits of players, teams and even officials.

The selection of provincial and representative teams is in the air, and this popular subject provides food for many an idle hour beside glowing fires. For myself, I often think that the selection of these sides provides more entertainment than the games in question.

Now, too, we must look ahead to 1962 and make our good resolutions. Preparation for club conventions is afoot and the motions that will be aired at Congress at Easter must originate from this level.

### DO NOT REALISE OBLIGATIONS

In this respect, I often feel that most clubs do not realise their obligations. Many are content with the status quo, and it is left to a small minority to provide food for discussion at County Convention level and, ultimately, at Congress.

Pressing problems concerning the Association are often glossed over, and the blind eye turned to them, so to speak.

For instance, the problem of refereeing is one that should confront all clubs. It is a fact that it is almost impossible to get a referee at all, not to mention a good one.

Surely such a question should be discussed by ALL clubs and a unified attempt made to avoid the ludicrous situation that prevailed prior to the All-Ireland football final, when the name of the referee to do duty was not disclosed until the morning of the game. This should not be allowed to happen again.

I am not acquainted with the facts of the case, but, surely, if refereeing was in a healthy state, there would be many a capable man available to handle an All-Ireland final.

The task of refereeing an All-Ireland Final should be an honour, eagerly sought by the many, instead of the doubtful privilege it now is to the few men available.

But this article is meant to review the past-Gaelic year in Connaught. It seems such a short while since I was doing the same for last year's Annual.

The first thought that strikes me is that **St. Jarlath's College, Tuam**, were just as successful in 1961 as they were in 1960. We saw the rise of **Roscommon** who ended Galway's reign as Connaught senior football champions.

A new name was added to the Connaught Colleges' senior and junior hurling trophies, namely **St. Molaisse's College, Portumna**. Connaught camogie received a great uplift, when all-conquering Leinster were beaten for the first time ever in the Gael Linn Interprovincial Tournament.

We saw a wonderful second half in the Connaught football final, and the old-timers said it reminded them of the **Galway v Mayo "Derbys"** of the thirties. A new pitch was opened in "old Kinvara by the sea."

Sligo football showed signs of a long overdue resurgence. **Galway's** senior hurlers were successful for the first time in a Munster senior championship tie. Old stars like **Purcell, O'Malley, McGarty** and **Salmon** continued to show the way.

On the sad side we had the tragic death at an early age of former Mayo star **Mick Flanagan (R.I.P.)**. This tragedy cast a gloom on Gaelic Ireland.

### THE AWARDS

Hereunder are given my Awards for 1961. It is a personal selection and will not, I am sure, meet with the approval of all Connaught readers.

**Eamonn Curley (Roscommon)** succeeds **Frank Evers** as my Connaught Sports Star. More than anybody else, he steered Roscommon to their 1961 successes. In the League, he starred against Dublin, Offaly and Galway, but it was in the drawn Semi-Final versus Kerry that he really made his name.

In the Connaught Final, too, his switch to mid-field in the second half had a vital bearing on the result.

Curley may not be the ideal centre half forward. Indeed, many, including myself, would prefer to see him operate as a back, but, what he lacks in finesse he makes up for in strength and energy and a plentiful contribution of sound football common-sense.



Roscommon had other stars, O'Malley, Moran, White, Feely and Kenny, but none bettered Curley for consistency or spirit.

Sean Purcell's great display against Leitrim at Ballinamore in the championship merits the top individual award in Connaught. But, then, we have come to expect such displays from Sean and it must be many years since some of them has not merited such a distinction.

In that particular game Purcell gave the lie to those who thought that he was "over the top," and pulverised the Leitrim defence.

### BESTRODE COLLEGE SCENE

Gerry Prendergast bestrode the College football scene in all games save the Hogan Cup final proper. Then he met a worthy opponent in Longford's Barden, but even in this test of strength his constructive play was a delight.

His display against St. Mary's, Galway, earlier in the championship has not often been equalled on a College football field. A goal of his on that occasion was one of the best I have ever seen.

Star of Connaught Colleges hurling was Jim Lane of St. Molaisse's College, Portumna, who played a major part in bringing the provincial senior hurling crown to a school that was attended by no more than 80 students. This was a wonderful achievement, and certainly showed the way to the other small colleges of Ireland. St. Molaisse's also won the junior hurling crown.

The Connaught camogie award goes to Shelia Tonry of Castlegar and Galway. All through the year she gave sterling performances on the left wing of the backline for club, county and province, her ground striking being especially crisp.

### DESERVES HURLING AWARD

Once again, Joe Salmon deserves the hurling award. No man has greater loyalty to Galway and one must admire his continued wholeheartedness and peerless style.

His stroke is still without peer and there seems to be a number of good years left in him yet.

At club level no one did better in hurling than Mickey Cullinane, of Turloughmore, who made a great return to the game and was the big man in his club's triple triumph of championship, league and Kenny Memorial Cup.

On the football front Claremorris deserve the plaudits for winning Mayo's senior title with their junior championship-winning team of the previous year. In this triumph, Mick Walsh, a great centre half-back, was the shining light.

The other awards spotlight the Galway City League, a Committee doing great work for Gaelic games; Vincent Nally, of Garrymore, Mayo's outstanding minor, who seems to have a bright future ahead of him; Michael Molloy, of Derrydonnell, who brought an All-Ireland title (N.A.C.A.) to the West; Rev. B. Kavanagh, St. Jarlath's College, Tuam, for steering his team to yet another Hogan Cup success, their fourth in all; Jimmy Martin of Roscommon for his stern and consistently good refereeing; Michael Kelly and Gerald Cronnelly for bringing a handball title to the West; Kinvara's enterprising Park Committee and, lastly, Dr. Donal Keenan for his big part in steering Roscommon to their 1961 successes.

### A FEW HIGHLIGHTS

Those are just a few of the highlights of 1961 as I saw them. At the time of writing the University competitions have not been played, so a review of these is impossible.

1962 is almost upon us, so I appeal to all readers to make one resolution and to abide by it—PLEASE make the referees' job a pleasant one.

Quit carping, and death to the infernal habit of BOOHING. Ignorant spectators are the cause of 99 per cent of the rows that occur at Gaelic games. Become better acquainted with the rules. It is surprising how little we know about the proper interpretation of the playing rules, and this applies to players as well.

Remember, there must be a referee, and that he is not, of necessity, bad, and that he is human. Try and be a help to him rather than a hindrance.

With that I wish you all a very happy and holy Christmas and many pleasant hours of Gaelic pastimes in 1962.

## Cumann Luith-Chleas Gael COMHAIRLE ULADH

### ULSTER COUNCIL G.A.A. S.F. CHAMPIONSHIP FIXTURES 1962.

June 3rd—Derry v Donegal at Magherafelt.

June 10th—Antrim v Monaghan at Belfast.

June 17th—Cavan v Armagh at Cavan.

June 17th or June 24th—Tyrone v Derry or Donegal at Dungannon or Ballybofey.

July 1st—Fermanagh v Down at Irvinestown.

July 8th—Semi-final A (Armagh or Cavan v Monaghan or Antrim).

July 15th—Semi-final B (Down or Fermanagh v Derry or Donegal or Tyrone).

July 29th—FINAL.



**F**OLLOWERS of Gaelic games in Munster got reasonably good value for their money in 1961. They saw Tipperary win the All-Ireland senior hurling crown and the National Hurling League, Cork annex their first minor football title and Kerry score in the re-organised All-Ireland junior hurling championship. And in the course of the various provincial championships they saw some good games.

But it was not all sunshine. Without doubt, many supporters will retain as their outstanding memory of the year the very disappointing Munster hurling final at Limerick. In that game Cork did very badly in the opening stages and conceded scores that took all the spice out of the fray.

What had been talked of beforehand as the greatest Munster final for years fell very flat as Tipperary swept into a commanding lead in the first twenty minutes and then dug in firmly as Cork unavailingly tried to come into the picture.

Thousands of people swore they would never again be caught at a Munster hurling final after having endured great discomfort in the vast throng (well over 60,000 packed themselves into the arena). Everywhere one met people who had been so crushed that they lost interest in the game at an early stage and would have left the enclosure if they could.

In the discussions which raged afterwards, it was obvious that the Munster Council had a big task on hands—hurling was becoming so popular in Munster that there was no ground in the province which could contain in comfort all the people who wanted to see the provincial final.

### **PROBLEM STILL UNSOLVED**

The problem is still unsolved. There are many difficulties to be overcome before a stadium capable of containing seventy or eighty thousand people is a reality. The matter is being given attention, however, and it is hoped that progress will be made in the foreseeable future.

Looking back on the Munster senior hurling championship, it must be said that only one game really satisfied the fans. That was the Cork v. Waterford semi-final at Thurles.

# **Munster had reason for satisfaction**

By **JOHN JOE BROSNAN**,  
Leading Cork G.A.A. Official and  
Correspondent.

In that game hurling was fast and furious and when, at the end of a thrilling hour's play, Cork were winners, many good judges picked them as potential All-Ireland champions.

Tipperary's semi-final win over Galway was an easy one, but left some doubts as to the merit of the winners. In a high-scoring game at Ennis the Tipp defence conceded many scores, and it was thought that the Cork attack would prove too thrustful for it in the final.

But the opposite was the case, as events were to prove.

The other hurling teams, Clare and Limerick, fared poorly enough. Clare lost to Galway in the first round and Limerick failed to Waterford.

### **RESURGENCE IN LIMERICK**

Late in the season, however, there were indications of a resurgence in Limerick. They defeated Wexford in the National Hurling League and unluckily lost to Cork by a point in the same competition. Hopes are running high by the Shannonside that old glories are about to be revived, although their heavy defeat by Waterford has caused many to doubt if this will occur as soon as was expected.

The intermediate hurling championship, which was run for the first time, provided some fairly good games. Tipperary won the provincial title but failed to advance further.

The organisation of an intermediate grade limited competition in the

junior grade to counties of moderate hurling strength, and this gave Kerry their chance of annexing an All-Ireland crown.

They defeated Meath in the home final at Croke Park and finished a great season by getting the better of London in the final proper at Tralee.

Minor hurling honours in the province once again went to Tipperary, who were expected to go the full distance. But Kilkenny proved too good in the All-Ireland final.

That game was a curtain-raiser to Tipperary's biggest win of the year—their defeat of Dublin in the All-Ireland senior hurling final. Tipp were expected to come through in independent style, and it came as a surprise when Dublin ran them very close.

But, though the margin was narrow, Tipp were champions again, and that was what really mattered.

The Munster senior football championship provided one great game—but it was so unexpected that only a moderate crowd saw it. The game in question was the provincial final at Cork, in which a little fancied home side swept into an early lead over Kerry and stayed in front for almost the full hour.

In a tremendously exciting finish Mick O'Connell forced a replay for Kerry with a long-range point.

Thousands who had not bothered attending the game in Cork—thinking it would be a flop—travelled to Killarney for the replay, and the attendance was over 27,000. But the bottom fell out of the bucket.



Kerry were masters of the situation from an early stage and were not seriously challenged by a Cork side which failed to reproduce the sparkle of the previous Sunday.

Despite Kerry's convincing win, followers of the Kingdom realised that there was a big obstacle to be met on the way to All-Ireland honours, for Down were to be the opposition in the semi-final.

And fears that Down would prove too good for the men in green and gold were fully justified. In a thrilling game at Croke Park the issue was in the balance for fifty minutes, but Down pulled out to win decisively in the end.

## NOT WITHOUT A FOOTBALL CROWN

Kerry also failed to go the distance in the junior football championship, after having beaten Cork in a keen provincial final at Dunmanway, but Munster was not left without an All-Ireland football crown at the year's end.

Supreme honours were annexed by the Cork minor football team, which defeated a fancied Mayo side in the All-Ireland final after having put Armagh out in the semi-final.

Taken all round, those in charge of the G.A.A. in Munster had reason for satisfaction at the season's end. With Limerick showing much improved form in hurling there is a possibility of a great battle for the 1962 provincial crown between four "strong" counties—Tipperary, Cork, Waterford and Limerick.

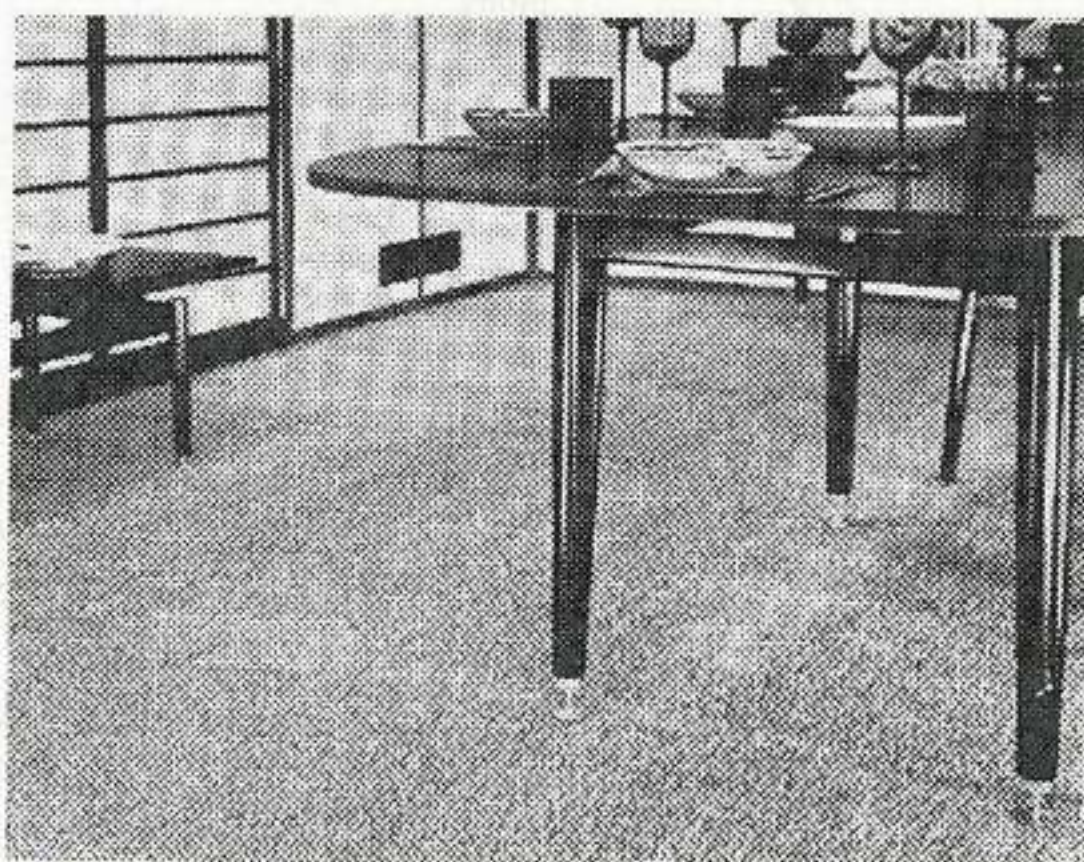
Galway and Clare cannot be discounted, of course, but they seem destined to play the rôle of outsiders.

Kerry's improvement in hurling is also welcomed, and Cork's minor win will, it is hoped, give a fillip to football in the county during the next few years.

REASONS FOR CONCERN ARE THE DEARTH OF TOP-CLASS FOOTBALL TEAMS IN THE PROVINCE AND THE LACK OF A GROUND CAPABLE OF HOLDING A CROWD SUCH AS THAT WHICH SWARMED INTO LIMERICK FOR THE 1961 MUNSTER HURLING FINAL.

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# ULSTER MARCHES ON

By **HUGH DALY**

Gaelic Sports Editor  
of the "Donegal Democrat"

**A** RECORD attendance of 38,000 at the Ulster final in Belfast's Casement Park last July, when All-Ireland champions, Down, warded off their closest challenge this year by defeating Armagh 2-10 to 1-10, and a final spurt by the Mid-Ulster county that, in the minds of their supporters, earned for them an equalising goal, were but two of the factors that pointed to the evenness of the standard of football in several counties in the province.

Earlier in the season, Derry had dethroned Down, then National League champions, and went on to the final, defeating Mayo en route, but succumbed to Kerry at Croke Park by 4-16 to 1-5.

Then, Down, hitting their true form again, knocked Derry off their pedestal in the final of the Most Rev. Dr. McKenna Cup competition after a hard and entertaining game.

By the time the date of the All-Ireland semi-final had arrived, speculation had mounted throughout the country as to Down's ability to win for the second year in succession the coveted Sam Maguire Cup.

To Croke Park we trekked, not unmindful of the fact that Kerry this year, determined to turn the scales, could be a different proposition than in the All-Ireland final of 1960.

## HEARTS BEAT FASTER

The game did not start too promisingly for the champions, but as it wore on Ulster hearts beat faster at the prospect of another big day in September. And so it proved.

Down scored 1-12 to Kerry's 0-9, to show undisputed superiority in the end. Offaly, disposing of Roscommon by 3-6 to 0-6, were again the opponents, but this time in the final.

Again, from every corner of Ulster, thousands wended their way to the National Stadium where 90,556 people squeezed in, with some 20,000 to 30,000 outside, unable to gain admission for what was regarded as the most attractive pairing of all time.

As the tempo of the game quickened to a crescendo of football, one wondered could any but super-men stand the pace.

The first half was as pleasing as one could wish, but the speed of the exchanges told its tale in the anticlimax of the second half, and Offaly's spurt near the end almost snatched victory and the Sam Maguire Cup from the Men of the Mournes.

Again Down prevailed, 3-6 to 2-8, and for the second year in succession the All-Ireland trophy went North to one of our most popular sundered counties.

## VERY SUCCESSFUL YEAR

As far as 1961 is concerned, it can be recorded as another very successful year for Gaelic games in Ulster, although we got off to a bad start in surrendering Railway Cup honours at Casement Park.

The setting up by the provincial Council of a special hurling committee should, in time, bring its reward in the spread of the game amongst the youth of counties where the accent is mainly on football.

The growth and the glory of our Colleges' competitions go hand in hand, and it may be a promising sign for the men of Breffni to see St. Patrick's winning premier honours from St. Eunan's, Letterkenny, in the MacRory Cup final.

The stronghold counties of hurling, Antrim, Down and Donegal, have put

much effort into the current drive to spread the game and raise standards, and thought, time, or money has not been stinted to gain the designed results.

Monaghan, Armagh and Tyrone have also done their share, and with expected development in Fermanagh and Derry, the stage should soon be reached for a minor hurling league as a means of attaining greater and more tangible results.

## MADE A GOOD IMPACT

Monaghan, after an interesting series of games, became provincial champions in junior football. Their senior fifteen also made a good impact in the championship and their supporters felt happy after their initial win over Antrim at Carrickmacross, but Armagh prevailed in the semi-final, after accounting for Cavan at Lurgan.

Derry had a close call from Tyrone at Ballinascreen, but went under to Down later on. Fermanagh almost caused the big shock of the championship at Newry, where they pressed the champions hard, to be beaten in the end by five points.

The minor football championship was characterised by many fine games. Donegal, following their close, thrilling win over holders, Down, at Letterkenny, were favourites to regain the title, but their failure at Ballinascreen to Derry (later defeated by eventual champions, Armagh), came as a surprise on a wet, dreary day.

At the time of writing, the Ulster Minor football league—a fine competition—has not been completed. This is due to the position that arose in one section, where Donegal, Derry and Tyrone ended level on points.



Donegal eventually won out, and then played a drawn game against Down in the semi-final at Lurgan. Fermanagh won their section and have qualified for the final.

Antrim won the junior hurling championship and retained the minor title, defeating Donegal in the provincial final at Ballybofey.

### THREE IN A ROW?

The question has often been posed since September: will Down make it three All-Irelands in a row? Or will they be deposed in 1962 by another Ulster county?

The standard of play in Ulster was never so high. That has been borne out by this year's results alone, and uneasy is the head that the crown rests on.

Since 1956, when Tyrone won their first Ulster senior championship, three new names have been added to the roll of honour, Tyrone, ('56-'57); Derry ('58) and Down ('59, '60 and '61).

Down's achievement, in bringing home two All-Ireland titles in the present and past seasons, marked them as the greatest of the "new bloods" that succeeded the once mighty Cavan in the All-Ireland series.

When they won their first title last year, I expressed the belief that here was a team that could win three championships in a row, and if they do not do that, they have already, by their achievements, contributed much towards the betterment of the Association in the province and throughout the country as well.

Everyone may not agree, but, trained to the same pitch, one could pick at least two other counties in Ulster that might have brought home the Sam Maguire Cup had they reached the final this year or last.

Because of this levelling up in standard, no one can say with any degree of certainty, who will emerge defenders of the honour of the Red Hand in 1962.

### ADMINISTRATION

From an administrative point of view, the work of the Association in the province has been carried out with the same high degree of methodical efficiency as in the past.

At the helm, as secretary cum manager, the popular Gerry Arthurs has brought efficiency in organisation to the highest possible pinnacle.

This year a new President was elected in the person of the popular Paddy McFloinn, P.T., Down, a native of Magherafelt, Co. Derry. He succeeded a teacher friend, Frank O'Neill, Coalisland, Co. Tyrone, who had filled the office with distinction for the full term.

President-elect of the Council is Donegal's Harry Carey, Lifford, a native of the Ballyshannon district, who had filled the office of treasurer with much success for a number of years.

Monaghan's Macartan McCormack succeeded Harry as treasurer and is filling the rôle with marked efficiency.

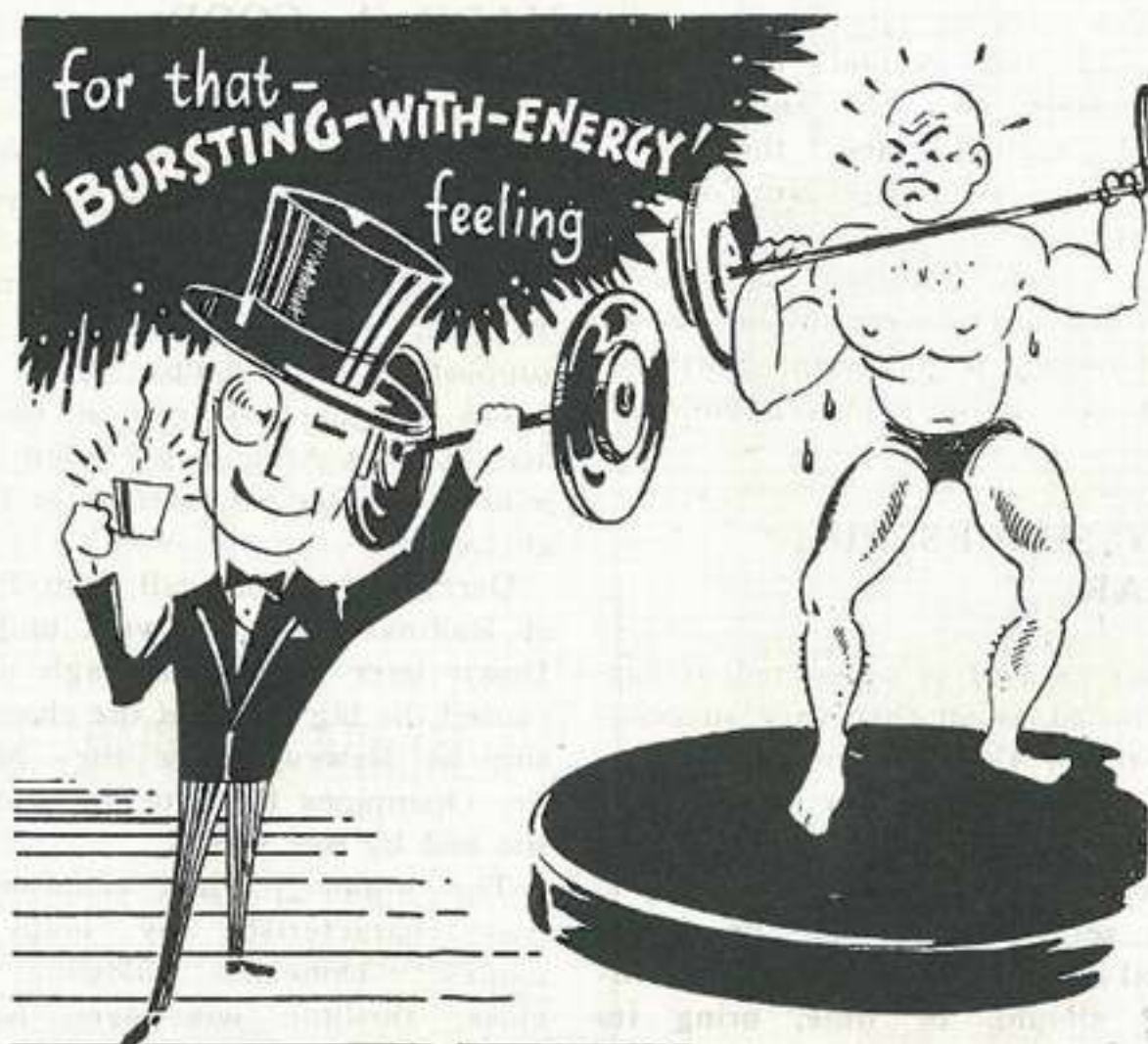
### CONDUCTED IN IRISH

All the work of the Ulster Council is conducted exclusively in the National Language, and this year again, the Council held a very successful administrative course in Irish for young legislators at Rosguil College in Tirconnail. Ulster's lead in this respect still remains as a thoughtful challenge to the rest of the country.

In the six sundered counties, no official recognition is given the Language in the school curriculum by the powers that be, yet, from each of them, the Association has no trouble in finding legislators to transact their business in the Mother Tongue at Council level.

Can this lead not be followed elsewhere?

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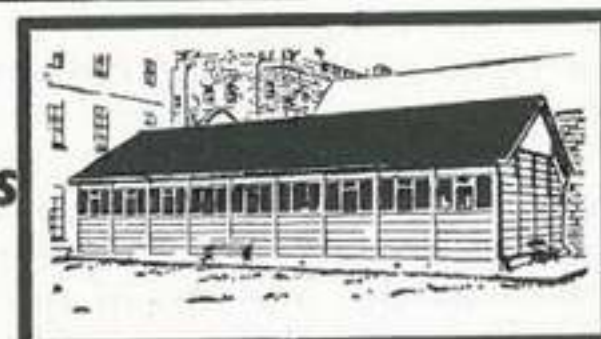
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# DOWN WERE AGAIN THE

By **MICK DUNNE** of the "Irish Press"

**O**NCE again it was Down's year in football. As in 1960, the Ulster champions, in 1961, were again the top team. But this time, nudging them ever so persistently for the right to that high rating, were the Leinster champions from Offaly.

It's an indication of the changed times in football that two counties so utterly lacking in tradition now have teams that rightly deserve to be ranked as the top two in the game. Yet, newly arrived among the game's elite though they may be, it's proof of their tremendous public appeal and drawing power that there was a new attendance record when they met in the All-Ireland final.

Never before has a record been broken unless one of the finalists was a county steeped in hurling or football tradition. Yet, when Down, appearing in their second final, and Offaly, playing in their first—two "johnnies come lately," as it were—lined-out at Croke Park on September 24, the first crowd to exceed the 90,000 mark in this country was there to see them.

Officially 90,556 passed through the Croke Park turnstiles, but it has been conservatively estimated that another 20,000, who wanted to see them, had to be turned away when the gates were finally locked.

Not only on September 24 was there striking evidence of their popularity. Five weeks later, when they clashed in the final of the new Grounds' Tournament, a 23,000 crowd saw them—and that's no mean figure for a tournament game.

## NEVER THE EXPECTED EPIC

What happened in September has now passed into the history of football. Unfortunately, their clash was never the memorable epic we expected. After a thrilling first half of crippling fast pace and punishingly rugged tackling, the game deteriorated disappointingly. The standard of football, then fell far below expectations.

It was a game in which Down's sheer determination of will won them a second All-Ireland title. Within six minutes of the start they had been forced into arrears of six points, yet 17 minutes later were one point in front.

Mick Casey delivered the first telling blow when, out of position over on the left, he took a pass from Harry Donnelly and sent in a probing shot that found its way to the net.

Peter Daly put the finishing touch on the next. Paddy McCormack soloed down the field, lofted the ball to Harry Donnelly, who shot it into the square. There, in a moment of confusion for the Down defence, Daly got his foot to the ball and sank it in the net.

But shocks like this, which might have sent another side into disarray, left Down unperturbed; even all the more determined. Soon they were hitting back. In the 11th minute, Jarlath Carey kicked ahead to Paddy Doherty, who swung the ball across the square to James McCartan on the right. From there McCartan rasped the ball to the net.

Doherty, now captain of the side, had a hand in the next one, too. From the left he sent over a cross that looked like going wide on the right. But Sean O'Neill was positioned there and, grabbing the ball, stepped out to widen his angle for a brilliant shot that left goalkeeper Willie Nolan grasping air.

## EQUALISED TWICE

By half-time, after Offaly had equalised twice, Down had edged into a 3-3 to 2-3 lead. But for long periods of the second half it was a procession of Down swoops into the Offaly area—all, or most of them, ending, inaccurately in the blackest half-hour the Down forwards have ever known.

Eleven wides they kicked to Offaly's three in that second half, and it nearly cost them dearly when Offaly, in a late all-out attempt, slowly cut into their lead.

Earlier that now famous "penalty that never was" went against Offaly, but, not at all upset by its loss, they gradually crept up on Down with fewer chances than the champions enjoyed.

They were two points behind in the last seconds when Harry Donnelly stepped up to a close-in free, but the point that came from it could not prevent Down taking their second title.

There was a time earlier in the year when many believed Down might not get that second championship. For they slumped in March to Derry in a Lagan Cup defeat that cost them their League title, and not long afterwards they lost to Meath in a challenge.

Thus they had only spectators' interest in the battle for the then-vacant League championship. Derry, their conquerors, clashed with Mayo in a novel semi-final and qualified for the final when,



# TOP FOOTBALL TEAM

after 14 scoreless minutes of the second half, Phil Stuart kicked them into a winning point lead seconds from time.

Kerry, in the other semi-final, met Roscommon and it was only a brilliant display by midfielder Mick O'Connell and a late point by Dave Geaney that earned the Munster champions a draw.

The second day only served to add further lustre to Kerry's replay record and, in a game of tragedy for Roscommon, they won 4-9 to 0-12.

The final was a rout for Kerry who overwhelmed Derry to the tune of 4-16 to 1-5 . . . that largest winning margin in a Football League final in 26 seasons.

Thus it was with considerable confidence that Kerry stepped out on Wembley Stadium, London, six days later, to meet, on their first appearance there, the Down team that had already beaten them on the two most important of the three occasions they had clashed.

But again Kerry were out of luck. On the short Wembley pitch, where they have given some wonderful exhibitions of football, Down scored a facile 4-5 to 1-7 victory.

## CHAMPIONSHIP RACE STARTED

Already the championship race had started in Leinster. Longford, ousting Westmeath, went on to meet, but lose to, Meath. In the semi-final Meath, at home in An Uaimh, held Dublin level at half-time, but then crashed to a heavy defeat.

In the other half of the draw Kildare overcame Louth and were more than hopeful when they lined-up against Offaly, who had knocked out Carlow.

But Offaly's best display for a long while gave them a 3-9 to 0-6 victory. And their Leinster final clash with Dublin, fixed for Portlaoise after an amount of controversy, gave them another easy win (1-13 to 1-8).

The Connacht championship developed into a battle between Galway, who had knocked-out Mayo and were seeking a record sixth consecutive title, and Roscommon, who had beaten Sligo. Twenty seconds before the end of a thrilling second half Galway's long reign ended when Tony Kenny kicked the winning point for Roscommon.

In Munster it was once again a Kerry-Cork final, and Cork nearly caused a shock. Only a late point by Mick O'Connell earned Kerry a replay, which they won easily the following Sunday.

Down, the holders, Derry, Armagh and Monaghan were the last four left in the Ulster championship. Monaghan collapsed at Dungannon and were beaten 5-9 to 0-5 by Armagh, but Down didn't have matters so easy against Derry.

After leading by six points at half-time, they eased up and were often hard-pressed before winning by 2-12 to 1-10.

They met an even stronger challenge in the final and it was only when Armagh's early spirit and earnestness weakened that Down scored a one-goal win.

## FOURTH MAJOR CLASH

It wasn't surprising that a new attendance record (71,573) was established when Down and Kerry met in the semi-final—their fourth major clash in 12 months. No county before had ever enjoyed such success against the mighty Kingdom. Could it continue in the face of Kerry's fierce determination to extract revenge?

Continue it did. Whatever spell Down have over Kerry worked again this time. Not even Paddy Doherty's missed penalty (goalie Culloty stopped the shot), nor Kerry's tremendously gruelling bout of sustained assaults, which forced five '50's' in quick succession, could break this spell.

Having brilliantly resisted this pressure, Down went on to score a decisive six-point victory.

There was background, too, to the Offaly-Roscommon semi-final. For it was Roscommon who, the previous November, had inflicted on the Leinster champions a defeat that deprived Offaly of a place in the National League semi-finals. Could they do it again?

Towards the end of a first half, in which Offaly often appeared strangely jittery, their supporters were a little anxious that Roscommon were about to repeat their League win. The Connacht champions led 0-6 to 1-2 at half-time.

But it was a case of Offaly reserving their best football for the second half, and when they turned on their real power they coasted to a nine-point win to which Tommy Greene and Harry Donnelly contributed second half goals.

So to the final and Offaly's narrow, one-point defeat. But five weeks later they had their revenge. In the Grounds' Tournament final, which produced football as tough as there has ever been, yet a better game than the All-Ireland final, they won 0-11 to 0-8.



# Cumann Lúitcleas Sael

le pádraig mac cón mór

**Ó** DUNAIÓÓ AN CUMANN SA bliain 1884 tá dá ghné den obair le sonnú: (a) obair lúitcleasa agus (b) obair náisiúnta.

In amannaí i saol an Cumainn cuireadh an béim ar ghné amháin de'n beirt, amannaí eile ar an ghné eile dá réir mar bí riachtanas le ceann amháin nó le ceann eile.

In 1884 cuireadh béim ar an dá rud, ós soiléir ó litir an Crócaigh atá mar

chait don Cumann.

"Is cúis le ceann de na smaointe is mó a céasann mé . . . go bfuilmís as glacadó éiginn isteach ó Sasana a curt paistín, a curt gortaí cainte, a curt droic-litriúcta, a curt ceoil, a curt rinneí, a curt nósanna, a curt cluicí agus caiteim aimsire."

Tá an soiscéal úr uilig. San alt seo amháin—an cuspóir a bí as Cumann Lúitcleas Sael ón tús, an dualgas a

bí ar an Cumann ós agus tá an dualgas sin uilig ar an Cumann go fóill. Ní hamáin sin ac tá sé ar gac don den Cumann agus ar gac ball den Cumann.

Sna céad blianta i saol an Cumainn bí troit dáingeán le déanaí as an gluaiseacht úr le aiteantas de cineál ar bit a fáil do cluicí agus cleasa-lúe na héireann.

Bí greim doct as "gaisí meáta na haimsire" ar cluicí agus ar cleasa-lúe. In ionas "liathróid láime, iománaíocht agus peile do réir rialaí na nSael," bí an lámh in uachtar as "cluicí gallta aisteaí mar leathóg, póló, crocé, cricet agus a léiteirí."

Tuig an Crócaí agus an Cíosógas an obair a bí le déanaí as Cumann a bí as iarraid cluicí tuéasaí na tíre a cur san áit ar dual dóib.

I dtús ama éuaig na paipéaraí nuaíta agus na hirisí a madao paol'n Cumann úr seo agus paol na cuspóirí.

Cé éuala a léiteirí? Bí na cluicí seo póirstineac do luét na tuaithe, b'féidir, ac cé molaíad iad a cur ar céim amháin le cluicí na n-uasal?

Agus i dtaca le lúitcleasa de, cé beirfeadh aird ar na sotairí seo a glac ordú féin rialaí a ceapad do éruinnite lúitcleasa?

Agus mar barr easaontas ar an bonas bí easaontas taobh istigh den Cumann. As léam dúinn anois stair an Cumainn sna céad blianta, is iontaí linn gur mair sé beo ar éor ar bit.

Ac éuaig sé slán sabáilte príó na pianta páis agus dá réir a céile táinig neart agus fuinneamh san eagraíocht—a buíochas sin do na píra a stiúraig agus a éreúraig i sna blianta sin.

I dtús na haoise seo caiteadh bunús ama an Cumainn ar lúitcleasa, ac táinig an t-am ar págaí an cur sin den obair le déanaí as dreamanna eile, ac, príú inniu féin, tá suim as an Cumann i gceist lúitcleasa agus tá dlúitcleangal roir Cumann lúitcleas Sael agus

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Dá réir mar fuair na cluicéi a n-áit éeart i saol an náisiúin, úirioó níos mó agus níos mó éipeact an Cumainn ar an ghné náisiúnta.

Táinig am na n-óglac. Bí baill an Cumainn as smaotiú ar anam an náisiúin cón mait le na corp.

Táinig 1916 agus cogadó na saoirse. Bí clár na gcluicéi in ainnéite siocar baill an Cumainn beiré as dul do obair eile. In a lán cásanna rinneadó complaéctai de arm na poblaécta de éclubanna, go haéirio sa tuait.

Bí obair náisiúnta le déanam. Níor éoir go mbéadó baill an Cumainn ar gcúl agus ní raib siadó ar gcúl.

Tá Doimnac na pola mar crútu asainn gur aicín náiníoe na héireann ca háit a raib saigsiúirí na héireann le páil.

Agus i rié an ama leanadó do na cluicéi nuair a bí aimear ann, acé bí an bém ar an ghné náisiúnta.

Ansin 1922 agus an Cogadó Caéaróa, nuair a bí an náisiún agus an Cumann scoilte ina dá éuit. Acé mair an náisiún agus mair an Cumann.

Nuair a táinig siocáin ar ais éuaig an Cumainn ó neart go neart. Bí pás agus méadó i ngac éuit den easgraíocht—uinnir na gclubanna, uinnir luét feicsiona, aingeadóas an Cumainn, uinnir agus stáio na bpáirceanna imearta.

Is dóca go bfuil an pás seo níos so-feicsiona i bpriób-áras an Cumainn—páirc an érócaig—ná in áit ar bié eile. Acé tá pás le feiceáil i ngac éontae, agus i ngac paróiste.

Agus ar an taob eile, tá pás agus méadó le sonrú posta. Tá níos mó

suime i gcóis na teangan agus i gcóil agus litríocht ná bíó.

Tá pios as baill C.L.G. an tábaéct atá as baint le aitébeoadó na teangan. Is leór glióct as cuntas an áro-Rúnaí 1960 a éur síos.

“Is sain-comantái beo ár náisiúntaécta iadó an teanga agus na cluicéi, agus is crútu ar dáiníreacéct ár muintire i scaoinnadó na rudaí a éugann brí agus huanaéct don náisiúntaéct an stáio bríomair ina bfuil an teanga agus na cluicéi inniu.”

Mar cumann spóirt agus caiteam ainsire níl sárú Cumainn Lúitcheas Saél ar úroim an Doimain.

Smaotiis ar an cinneam as craob na héireann i mbliana—noéa míle agus daonra na tíre faoi ceitre milliún. Níl rud ar bié ionéurta le seo le páil i otír ar bié eile.

Acé ní hé seo an éuit is tabaéctai. Is tabaéctai i bpaó go bfuil club i ngac paróiste sa tír—fir óga as imire cluicéi a otíre, as poğluim aicillíocht éoirp agus fearúlaécta, agus iadó seo a déanam u’pónn “an sean-stát Saclaé a éur ar páil arís.”

Aicíníonn siadósan gur “ar fearúlaéct a muintire atá seasaín tíre i ndeireadó éian.”

Mar Cumann náisiúnta sé C.L.G. an éumáéct is láire i saol na héireann. Cumann neam-poiliticiúil atá ann agus dá éairbe sin is láire é ná páirtí poiliticiúil ar bié.

Tá baill ann ó gac páirtí; tá siadó ann ó gac gairm-beaéca—luét oibre, muinteoirí, doctúirí—agus an ceangal atá eatorru uilig, vílseaéct don Cumann, vílseaéct do éúis na héireann—do éirinn an piarsaig—saor, Saclaé, san roinn.



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## NOT VINTAGE HURLING

(Continued from page 18)

hard-fought games with Tipperary in the home final.

The final proper against London was disappointing. On paper the Exiles looked a strong side, but they rarely troubled the Slaneysiders who achieved an historic triumph.

Antrim, Kerry, Meath and Roscommon were the semi-finalists in junior hurling. Kerry caused a mild surprise when beating Antrim in Casement Park, while Meath accounted for Roscommon in Trim.

In the home final the Kingdom defeated Meath in a see-saw game, and then ended London's hopes in Tralee to take the first All-Ireland hurling title since 1891 to "the home football."

Kilkenny retained the minor crown after a delightful exhibition in the All-Ireland final. Their great rivals, Tipperary, although vanquished, contributed in no small way towards the enjoyment of what was generally acknowledged as the best game of hurling seen in 1961.

On the Colleges' front, St. Kieran's of Kilkenny once again took the Croke Cup to this great hurling nursery, while University College, Cork, regained the Fitzgibbon Cup, beating in the process their student counterparts from Dublin and Galway.

Clubs, too, managed to make their share of the headlines. Famed Blackrock are once again champions of

Cork; Thurles Sarsfield's hold the Tipp crown; Mount Sion made it a record—equalling nine-in-a-row in Waterford; University College dominate the Dublin scene; Freshford, a new force, took over in Kilkenny, and Bobby Rackard returned to action to help his beloved Rathnure regain the Wexford title.

Looking back over 1961, only Tipperary of the top hurling counties were a consistent force. Their numerous trophies bear witness to this.

Dublin's claims to fame are founded on that Leinster final triumph and the second thirty minutes in the All-Ireland final. Before those games and since the Metropolitans' form has been mediocre.

Cork's best performance was against Waterford in the championship. There was nothing else to lead us to forecast an All-Ireland for the Rebels in the near future.

## THE TOP TEN

(Continued from page 20)

Then there was the All-Ireland final — probably the best, certainly the most effective, game of Jarlath's life: A sweeping, probing game that ultimately proved to be the biggest factor in Down's win over Offaly.

\* \* \*

For more than a dozen years the name of Rackard has been synonymous with Wexford hurling. And for a very good reason:

The great Killanne family inspired and led the revival that took three All-Ireland titles to the Slaney country between 1955 and 1960.

Two of those magnificent hurling brothers, Nick and Bobby, have now disappeared from the inter-county scene. But the third still carries on the Rackard tradition in the county jersey.

Early this year it looked as if BILLY RACKARD had reached the end of a brilliant career. But by the end of the season, the towering centre half-back was again hurling with all the power and sparkle that enriched Wexford's reputation during their best years in the middle 'fifties.

His performances against Tipperary in the drawn Oireachtas final and replay

proved that Billy is still one of the most accomplished players in the game.

\* \* \*

Choice for the last place in my Top Ten almost depended on the toss of a coin—between Offaly's Willie Nolan and Matt O'Gara of Tipperary.

O'Gara had much to recommend him: he was the hurling "find" of the year and played a few really outstanding games for the champions.

I decided on WILLIE NOLAN, however—for two reasons: (1) His consistently good displays in goal throughout a long and tough campaign; (2) his highly competent captaincy of the Offaly team from a position that doesn't lend itself to the functions of team leadership.

There it is. With regret I had to pass over men like Matt O'Gara, Greg Hughes (Offaly), Jimmy Brohan (Cork), Donie Nealon (Tipperary), Jim English (Wexford), Paddy Croke (Dublin), Jim McCartan (Down) and Oliver Moran (Roscommon).

I should have asked the Editor to make it the Top Twenty!

## PROMISED MUCH

Waterford promised much in the spring, disappointed in the championship, but finished the year by trouncing Limerick in the League to set their followers thinking in terms of titles in 1962.

Kilkenny's best form was reserved for the Autumn, when they beat Dublin and Wexford to capture the Walsh Cup, but Wexford, despite a couple of outstanding performances, seem to be going through a transition period.

Towards the year's end a Limerick revival was very much in the news. Victory over Wexford in Enniscorthy and an unlucky point defeat at home by Cork gave rise to this. Then followed that debacle against Waterford, and we were no wiser than before as to what the future holds for Shannonside hurling.

Clare and Galway gave no indications that their fortunes were on the mend and as the New Year approaches it looks as if the same teams will again dominate the scene in 1962.

All in all, 1961 was not a vintage year for hurling, yet it had its own share of memorable moments and talking points.



**KILKENNY ARE NOW MINOR HURLING SPECIALISTS—**  
(Continued from page 21)

In the Leinster final Kilkenny were strongly fancied against a Dublin side that was hard pressed enough against Offaly. They led the Metropolitans by 3-5 to 0-5 at half-time and increased their tally to 4-12 in the second half, Dublin adding but a further two points.

Pierce Freaney and, to a lesser extent, Maurice Aylward were the chief architects of victory that day.

**TOUGHEST GAME**

Kilkenny's toughest game was in the final. Though the Noresiders deserved their victory, they

had to acknowledge that 'Tipp had two goals disallowed. The winning margin was reduced to seven points, from 17 points to spare over Dublin and 13 points over Wexford.

Freaney was Kilkenny's star performer at the scoring end, but Tom Barry appealed to me as the man of the match.

Still, he could hardly have been quite up to the standard of Tipperary's half-forward, Ryan, who was the biggest stumbling block the Noresiders had to contend with.

Four of this Kilkenny team, Tom Barry, Pierce Freaney, Denis Kinsella and Sean O'Brien, won their second successive minor All-Ireland medal in September, while Pat Foley, who starred in goal in all the games, was a sub the previous year.



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SEAN MacCONRAOI, Secretary of the Yorkshire County Board, G.A.A., writes on . . .

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THE Yorkshire County Board, one of the "Babes" of the Gaelic Athletic Association, was formed in 1949 by a small band of Irish Exiles in Keighley under the leadership of Rev. Donal Stritch, a native of Ballyheigue, Co. Kerry.

It was in Keighley the previous year that the first G.A.A. club in Yorkshire was formed. It took part in the Lancashire competition and collected major honours.

The first officers of the Yorkshire Board were Fr. Stritch (Chairman), J. Moriss (Secretary), Dr. Bransfield (Treasurer) and P. Frazer (Registrar). The first clubs to affiliate were from Leeds, Barnsley and Keighley in hurling, while football clubs came from Leeds, Bradford and Keighley.

To arouse interest in hurling in Yorkshire in those early days, Fr. Stritch gave a beautiful cup to be presented each year to the Championship winners.

It has indeed been a hard struggle to place the Yorkshire Board in its present position. There were many obstacles to be overcome, such as getting grounds to play competitions, raising funds to pay for medals and other expenses.

#### BIG PROBLEM

The latter was as big a problem to the clubs as to the County Board as expenses were high, especially in the case of a hurling club. In order to defray some of the cost the Board put a levy of £5 on each club.

I doubt if many G.A.A. followers in Ireland know that "gates" cannot be taken at fixtures in Britain on Sundays, but we do have collections at games which compensate in a small way towards this.





There are only a few grounds, all of them in public parks, in which clubs can play matches in Yorkshire and from year to year, it is often doubtful whether these will be available.

When you realise that some of the clubs are up to 90 miles apart, you will know the great burden that falls on the players as they have, in nearly all cases, to pay their own way.

I have known of cases where officials have paid out of their own pockets to purchase hurleys, etc., for players in order to keep the game alive in Yorkshire.

In spite of all this the Yorkshire Board has flourished since its foundation under the guidance of men like J. B. Whittaker (Tipperary), who was Chairman for eight years, Paddy Hanrahan (Clare), Secretary for five years, Jim Hallinan (Limerick), five years' Treasurer and Danny Ryan (Tipperary), Registrar for the same period.

But perhaps the greatest shot in the arm the Board got was when Fr. Eugene Cox, a native of Dromod, Co. Leitrim, became Chairman in 1958 and Charlie Beirne, another Leitrim Gael, became Treasurer. Both men have played a noble part in Yorkshire's rise to fame.

When Fr. Cox joined the Board he had two objectives: (1) to form more clubs within the county and expand in every way, (2) to win a Provincial title of Britain. The former I am

**YORKSHIRE** footballers—winners of the junior championship of Britain for the first-time ever. Front (L. to R.)—J. Shiels (Louth), P. Marron (Monaghan), J. Grennan (Offaly), H. Keegan (Westmeath) (captain), M. Courtney (Meath), M. Neary (Dublin), P. Donnellan (Galway), L. Daly (Louth). Back (L. to R.)—T. Fox (Meath), J. Kelly (Limerick), J. Kelly (Laois), M. Jordan (Mayo), P. O'Hara (Meath), P. Beirne (Roscommon), P. Burke (Tipp).

glad to say, is indeed being achieved as we now have the largest number of clubs, 15, ever affiliated.

To achieve the latter, under his guidance the Board made an all-out effort to capture a title in football, as the standard within the county was very high. A Leitrim team was invited over to play a Yorkshire selection in Leeds in April of 1958, and gave a big boost to the games in the county when it attracted the biggest crowd up to then, at a fixture in Yorkshire.

The following year, Carrick-on-Shannon, then Leitrim Champions, made the journey to Leeds to play Yorkshire, and a Yorkshire Selection was the guests of the Carrick club a few months later in Ireland.

Slowly but surely the Board's policy was showing signs of paying off. Last year Longford Slashers, the county Champions, accepted an invitation to travel to Leeds, and Yorkshire's performances against them indicated that a title was not far off.

Here I should like to mention that all the teams that travelled to play

Yorkshire came **AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE**, and they played a major part towards Yorkshire being champions of Britain to-day.

Came the start of the 1961 campaign and the Board was more hopeful than confident that Yorkshire would reach the Provincial Final.

It is an old story now how they swept all opposition aside and captured their first title when they beat a strong London team in a hectic final.

But great things, and worries, were yet to come. Yorkshire were now in their first All-Ireland final and they had the choice of venue, in Yorkshire or in Ireland.

All hopes of staging the match in Leeds were fading until Leeds Parks Committee placed Roundhay Park at the Board's disposal, after been approached by Rev. Fr. Stritch (President).

October 8 will long be remembered. Louth beat Yorkshire by three points in the All-Ireland Junior Final on a red-letter day in the history of the Association in Yorkshire. With a little more match practice Yorkshire could easily have stolen the honours from the Wee County.

Speaking of match practice, I feel it is about time that a move was made to have the provincial final of Britain played in late September. The Rule lays down that all provincial finals must be played by the end of July.

*Continued on page 82*



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## returns

### Football

**Semi-finals—Leinster, 2-5; Ulster, 1-7.**

**Ulster**—E. McKay (Down); G. Kelly (Cavan), L. Murphy (Down), P. Rice (Down); B. Mone (Monaghan), D. McCartan (Down), J. McDonnell (Cavan); J. McKeever (Derry), J. Lennon (Down); S. O'Neill (Down), J. O'Neill (Tyrone), P. Doherty (Down), capt.; T. Haddon (Down), J. Brady (Cavan), B. Morgan (Down). Subs.—J. McCartan (Down) for Brady.

**Leinster**—W. Nolan (Offaly), capt.; P. McCormack (Offaly), G. Hughes (Offaly), J. Egan (Offaly); M. Brady (Offaly), P. Holden (Dublin), C. Wrenn (Offaly); M. Carley (Westmeath), S. Foran (Offaly); S. Brereton (Offaly), F. Walsh (Laois), J. Joyce (Dublin); K. Beahan (Louth), T. Smith (Meath), B. Hayden (Carlow).

**Referee**—J. Martin (Roscommon).

**Connacht, 1-3; Munster, 0-6.**

**Connacht**—A. Brady (Roscommon); J. Lynch (Roscommon), S. Meade (Galway), S. Reilly (Mayo); E. Walsh (Mayo), G. O'Malley (Roscommon), A. Hayden (Leitrim); M. McDonagh (Galway), J. O'Donnell (Leitrim); J. Murray (Leitrim), E. Curley (Roscommon), M. Ruane (Mayo); Don Feeley (Roscommon), S. Purcell (Galway), C. Flynn (Leitrim).

**Munster**—J. Culloty (Kerry); P. Harrington (Cork), T. Lyons (Kerry), N. Sheehy (Kerry); Seamus Murphy (Kerry), K. Coffey (Kerry), M. O'Dwyer (Kerry); T. Long (Kerry), C. O'Sullivan (Cork); E. McCarthy (Cork), J. Keating (Tipperary), P. Sheehy (Kerry), B. O'Callaghan (Kerry), J. Dowling (Kerry), G. McMahon (Kerry). Subs.—J. O'Sullivan (Cork) for Keating, F. Kennedy (Clare) for Coffey.

**Referee**—J. Dowling (Offaly).

**Replay—Munster, 4-7; Connacht, 1-6.**

**Munster**—J. Culloty, P. Harrington, T. Lyons, N. Sheehy, K. Coffey, T. Long, M. O'Dwyer; S. Murphy, C. O'Sullivan; B. O'Callaghan, J. Keating, P. Sheehy, capt.; J. O'Sullivan, J. Dowling, G. McMahon. Sub.—T. Power (Waterford) for O'Callaghan.

**Connacht**—N. Mullaney (Sligo); J. Lynch, S. Meade, S. O'Reilly, J. Donnellan (Galway), G. O'Malley, A. Hayden; M. McDonagh, J. O'Donnell; J. Murray, E. Curley, M. Ruane; Don Feeley, S. Purcell, capt., C. Flynn. Subs.—W. Shannon (Mayo) for McDonagh, M. Newell (Galway) for Hayden.

**Referee**—M. McArdle (Louth).

**Final—Leinster, 4-5; Munster, 0-4.**

**Leinster**—W. Nolan; P. McCormack, G. Hughes, J. Egan; M. Brady, P. Holden, C. Wrenn; S. Foran, M. Carley; K. Beahan, F. Lynch (Louth), J. Kenna (Laois); S. Brereton, J. Joyce, K. Heffernan (Dublin).

**Munster**—J. Culloty; P. Harrington, T. Lyons, N. Sheehy, K. Coffey, T. Long, M. O'Dwyer; S. Murphy, C. O'Sullivan; E. McCarthy, J. Keating, P. Sheehy; T. Power, J. Dowling, J. McMahon. Subs.—J. O'Sullivan for Power, D. McAuliffe (Kerry) for Keating.

**Referee**—J. Martin (Roscommon).

### HURLING

**Semi-finals—Leinster, 5-8; Connacht, 3-7.**

**Leinster**—O. Walsh (Kilkenny); T. Walsh (Kilkenny), N. O'Donnell (Wexford), T. Neville (Wexford); J. English (Wexford), E. Wheeler (Wexford), J. Nolan (Wexford); S. Clohosey (Kilkenny), D. Foley (Dublin); J. O'Brien (Wexford), P. Kehoe (Wexford), E. Keher (Kilkenny); O. McGrath (Wexford), B. Dwyer (Kilkenny), W. Walsh (Carlow). Subs.—B. Boothman (Dublin) for Wheeler, N. Drumgoole (Dublin) for Boothman.

**Connacht**—All Galway except O'Malley—S. Carr; A. O'Gorman, E. Derrivan, T. Conway; J. Duggan, S. Meade, P. Fahy; J. Salmon, G. O'Malley (Roscommon); T. Sweeney, L. Gardiner, P. J. Lally; J. Conroy, S. Goherty, P. J. Lawless.

**Referee**—G. Fitzgerald (Limerick).

**Munster, 3-13; Ulster 1-2.**

**Munster**—M. Cashman (Cork); J. Brohan (Cork), M. Maher (Tipperary), K. Carey (Tipperary); T. McGarry (Limerick), T. Wall (Tipperary), M. Morrissey (Waterford); S. Power (Waterford), T. English (Tipperary); J. Doyle (Tipperary), T. Kelly (Cork), F. Walsh (Waterford); J. Smith (Clare), C. Ring (Cork), L. Devanney (Tipperary).

**Ulster**—R. McDonnell (Antrim); E. Gallagher (Antrim), J. Dorrian (Down), G. Walsh (Antrim); E. Nolan (Donegal), H. O'Prey (Down), M. O'Halloran (Monaghan); S. Gallagher (Antrim), P. Mullaney (Antrim), P. O'Reilly (Antrim), J. McVeigh (Antrim), F. Walsh (Antrim), D. Gallagher (Donegal), T. Nolan (Monaghan), S. Wright (Antrim). Sub.—W. Moreland (Down) for O'Halloran.

**Referee**—A. McCallin (Antrim).

**Final—Munster 4-12; Leinster 3-9.**

**Munster**—M. Cashman; J. Brohan, M. Maher, J. Barron (Waterford), T. McGarry, T. Wall capt.; M. O'Gorman; S. Power, T. English; J. Doyle, T. Kelly, F. Walsh; J. Smyth, C. Ring, L. Devanney. Subs.—T. Cheasty (Waterford) for Ring, P. Duggan (Cork) for Morrissey.

**Leinster**—O. Walsh; T. Walsh, N. O'Donnell capt.; T. Neville; J. English, N. Wheeler, J. Nolan, D. Foley, S. Clohosey, J. O'Brien, P. Kehoe, E. Keher; O. McGrath, B. Dwyer, T. Flood (Wexford). Subs.—M. Walsh (Kilkenny) for Dwyer, S. Quaid (Wexford) for Keher, O. Fennell (Laois) for Clohosey.

**Referee**—J. Dowling (Offaly).



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# UNIVERSITY GAMES

## SIGERSON CUP

Semi-finals U.C.D. 2-11; U.C.C. 1-5.  
U.C.G. 1-13; Queen's 0-3.

Final U.C.D. 3-7; U.C.G. (holders) 2-7.

U.C.D.—J. Finn (Tipperary); C. Maguire (Cavan), K. O'Neill (Down), S. Murray (Longford) captain; P. McMenamin (Donegal), B. Brady (Donegal), B. McMahon (Kerry); F. O'Leary (Mayo), S. O'Loughlin (Kildare); P. Kelly (Donegal), E. Melvin (Mayo), M. O'Brien (Cork); G. Kane (Westmeath), S. Cleary (Galway), L. McEldowney (Derry). J. Healy (Kerry) was injured in the semi-final and unable to play in final.

U.C.G.—A. Kilbane (Mayo); B. Loftus (Mayo), H. McGonigal (Sligo), E. Colleran (Galway); K. Moyles (Mayo), J. B. McDermott (Galway), M. Newell (Galway) captain; J. Kelly (Roscommon), G. Glynn (Galway); J. Langan (Mayo), B. Geraghty (Galway), P. Donnellan (Galway); Des Feely (Roscommon), S. Donnelly (Longford), A. Kenny (Roscommon).

## FITZGIBBON CUP

Semi-finals U.C.C., 2-6; U.C.D., (holders) 1-6.  
U.C.G., 7-9; Queen's University, 4-1.

Final U.C.C., 5-9; U.C.G., 1-6.

U.C.C.—J. O'Donoghue (Tipp.); T. Conway (Limerick), D. Kiely (Tipp.), N. Phelan (Limerick); J. Byrne (Waterford) captain; D. Kelleher (Cork), J. Alley (Laois); O. Harrington (Kilkenny), M. Waters (Cork); J. O'Halloran (Cork), J. Blake (Limerick), M. Mortell (Cork); H. Allen (Cork); D. Flynn (Limerick), G. Gleeson (Limerick). Sub. M. Murphy (Cork).

U.C.G.—J. O'Mahoney (Galway); S. Hayes (Waterford), P. Hassett (Clare), B. Diviney (Galway); J. Lyons (Galway), M. Shaughnessy (Galway), K. Smyth (Clare); J. Whiriskey (Galway), T. Gilmore (Galway); P. J. Qualter (Galway), L. Gardiner (Galway), S. Devlin (Galway); M. Niland (Galway), T. Brennan (Waterford), M. Gardiner (Galway). Subs. S. Fallon (Galway), P. Greaney (Galway).

## Yorkshire's Rise to Fame

(Continued from page 79)

In Britain this means that the county that wins the provincial title must endeavour to keep a team in training for the best part of three months. Yorkshire this year had only one practice match from the time they won the provincial title on July 16 until they played Louth.

I feel that if the rule in the Official

Guide were altered in the interests of the provincial champions of Britain it would help the game very much. Further more, it would ease the burden of the Boards who have to keep teams fit for the All-Ireland junior finals.

The Yorkshire Board now have their sights fixed on next year's competition and are anxious to retain the Provincial honours.

My last thought before I sign off

is this. If there are any Gaels or clubs in Ireland who would like in some way or another to help the promotion of the games of the Gael in Yorkshire and other parts of Britain their assistance will be most welcome. Some of the finest men associated with the Gaelic Athletic Association are to be found in Britain, as those who are aware of the sacrifices they make to promote the G.A.A. in a foreign land will agree.





A Christmas greeting we would share,  
With Gaelic sportsfans everywhere,

With players, linesmen, referees,  
And those who serve on committees.



With "gossuns" on a minor team—  
All Ireland medal as their dream.



With he who triumphs at Croke Park  
And is the game's great patriarch.



With those who fostered the revival  
Made this the game that has no rival.

To every sportsfan that we know,  
A Happy Christmas from



K.A.A.



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## TIPPERARY (S.H.)

**D. O'Brien** (Knockavilla Kickhams); **M. Hassett** (Toomevara) (captain); **M. Maher** (Holycross); **K. Carey** (Roscrea); **M. Burns** (Nenagh); **A. Wall** (Thurles Sarsfields); **John Doyle** (Holycross); **M. O'Gara** (Toomevara); **T. English** (Marlfield); **Jimmy Doyle** (Thurles Sarsfields); **L. Devanney** (Borrislileigh); **D. Nealon** (U.C.D.); **J. McKenna** (Borrisokane); **W. Moloughney** (Kildangan); **T. Moloughney** (Kilruane). Subs. **T. Ryan** (Killenaule); **J. Hough** (Toomevara); **S. McLoughlin** (Thurles Sarsfields).

## DUBLIN (S.H.)

**J. Grey** (Na Fianna); **D. Ferguson** (St. Vincents); **N. Drumgoole** (St. Vincents) (captain); **L. Foley** (St. Vincents); **L. Ferguson** (St. Vincents); **C. Hayes** (New Irelands); **S. Lynch** (St. Vincents); **D. Foley** (St. Vincents); **F. Whelan** (Eoghan Ruadh); **A. Boothman** (St. Columbas); **M. Bohan** (Scoil Ui Conaill); **L. Shannon** (Scoil Ui Conaill); **B. Boothman** (St. Columbas); **P. Croke** (Young Irelands); **W. Jackson** (New Ireland). Sub. **E. Malone** (St. Vincents).

## DOWN (S.F.)

**E. McKay** (Dundrum); **G. Lavery** (Kilwarlin); **L. Murphy** (Kilkeel); **P. Rice** (Castlewellan); **P. O'Hagan** (Clonduff); **D. McCartan** (Glenn); **J. Smith** (Ballykinlar); **J. Lennon** (Aghaderg); **J. Carey** (Dundrum); **S. O'Neill** (Newry Mitchels); **J. McCartan** (Glenn); **P. Doherty** (Ballykinlar) (captain); **T. Hadden** (Newry Shamrocks); **P. J. McElroy** (Glenn); **B. Morgan** (Annacloy). Sub. **K. O'Neill** (Newry Mitchels).

## OFFALY (S.F.)

**W. Nolan** (Clara) (captain); **P. McCormack** (Croghan St. Brigids); **G. Hughes** (Cloghan); **J. Egan** (Dublin Kickhams); **P. O'Reilly** (Tullamore); **M. Brady** (Edenderry); **C. Wrenn** (Air Corps); **S. Brereton** (Walsh Island); **S. Ryan** (London St. Monicas); **T. Cullen** (Edenderry); **P. Daly** (Military College); **T. Greene** (Daingean); **M. Casey** (Rhode); **D. O'Hanlon** (Gracefield); **H. Donnelly** (Air Corps). Subs. **S. Foran** (Edenderry); **F. Weir**; **F. Higgins**.

## WEXFORD (I.H.)

**J. O'Neill** (Kilmore); **J. Hyland** (Shamrocks); **W. Ryan** (Hollow Rangers); **M. Collins** (Shamrocks); **W. Doran** (Buffers Alley); **J. Creane** (Hollow Rangers); **P. Sullivan** (Shamrocks); **P. Lynch** (Shamrocks); **L. Byrne** (Shamrocks) (captain); **J. Walsh** (Hollow Rangers); **N. Newport**

(St. Fintans); **T. Hawkins** (Ferns); **L. Creane** (Hollow Rangers); **J. Coady** (Shamrocks); **S. Whelan** (St. Martins). Sub. **J. Kehoe** (Cloughbawn).

## LONDON (I.H.)

**A. Morrissey** (Cork); **G. Moloney** (Tipp); **M. Kersse** (Galway); **P. Murphy** (Kilkenny); **J. Kearns** (Wexford); **D. Dillane** (Limerick); **M. Carmody** (Limerick); **W. Dargan** (Laois); **J. Redmond** (Wexford); **E. Murray** (Wicklow); **J. Kiely** (Waterford); **P. Egan** (Galway); **L. Healy** (Dublin); **J. Hickey** (Tipp); **W. Duffy** (Galway). Subs. **P. Ryan** (Tipp); **B. O'Leary** (Wexford).

## KERRY (J.H.)

**J. O'Donovan** (Abbeydorney); **N. Sheehy** (John Mitchels); **N. Quill** (John Mitchels); **T. Kirby** (Ballyduff); **M. Hennessy** (Ballyduff) (captain); **R. McElligott** (Lixnaw); **K. Dermody** (Listowel); **S. Lovett** (Kilmoyley); **S. Healy** (Kilgarvan); **J. Barry** (Austin Stacks); **T. Hennessy** (Ballyduff); **P. Sullivan** (Ardfert); **J. Culloty** (Killarney); **B. McCarthy** (Ardfert); **E. O'Sullivan** (Ballyduff).

## LONDON (J.H.)

**W. Barnaville** (Tipp); **J. Dermody** (Carlow); **J. Twomey** (Cork); **M. O'Dwyer** (Offaly); **M. Craddock** (Tipp); **P. O'Dwyer** (Tipp); **V. O'Halloran** (Clare); **T. Hourigan** (Limerick); **T. Delaney** (Kilkenny); **J. Dorgan** (Cork); **J. Ternan** (Tipp); **P. Spillane** (Galway); **W. Barron** (Waterford); **S. Somers** (Wexford); **C. Hickey** (Tipp). Subs. **J. Naughton** (Galway); **J. Organ** (Clare); **M. O'Connor** (Limerick).

## LOUTH (J.F.)

**J. Clifford** (St. Patricks, Lordship); **O. Coombs** (Wolfe Tones); **J. Butterly** (Mattock Rangers); **A. Kirwan** (Clogher Dreadnoughts); **Gus Sheelan** (St. Patricks) (captain); **M. Kelly** (Wolfe Tones); **P. Dixon** (Clan-na-Gaels); **F. Fagan** (Newtown Blues); **P. Jordan** (St. Patricks); **Jim Sheelan** (St. Patricks); **M. McKeown** (O'Rahillys); **Jim Judge** (Newtown Blues); **S. Goodman** (Walshetown Rovers); **H. Donnelly** (St. Patricks); **F. Kirke** (Clan-na-Gaels). Subs. **J. Mallon** (Newtown Blues); **L. Toal** (Clan-na-Gaels).

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## CAMOGIE HONOURS LIST

**ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIP**

<b>Winners</b>	<b>Runners-up</b>
Dublin	Tipperary

**PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

	<b>Winners</b>	<b>Runners-up</b>
Connacht	Galway	Mayo
Leinster—Senior	Dublin	Laois
Leinster—Junior	Kildare	Carlow
Munster	Tipperary	Cork
Ulster—Senior	Antrim	Derry
Ulster—Junior	Armagh	Tyrone

**GAEL-LINN CUP**

<b>Winners</b>	<b>Runners-up</b>
Munster	Connacht

**ASHBOURNE CUP**

<b>Winners</b>	<b>Runners-up</b>
U.C.D.	Queen's Univ.

**KILKENNY (M.H.)**

P. Foley (Clara); S. McGrath (Danesfort), N. Forristal (Glenmore), P. Cullen (Bennettsbridge); S. O'Brien (Paulstown), P. Henderson (Johnstown), S. Hanrahan (Danesfort); T. Barry (Moinearg, Dublin), S. Murphy (Thomastown); T. Walsh (Thomastown), D. Kinsella (Mooncoin),



Dublin's dashing camogie full-forward, Una O'Connor, who won her first county championship medal this year with Celtic.

P. Freaney (The Rower—Inistioge); J. Dunphy (Mooncoin) (captain), M. Aylward (Ballyhale), S. Delaney (Thomastown).

**TIPPERARY (M.H.)**

P. O'Sullivan (Cashel); J. Dillon (Roscrea), L. White (Kilruane), W. Eakins (Cashel); D. Ryan (Knockavilla Kickhams), N. Lane (Lorrha), P. O'Dwyer (Kilruane), C. O'Dwyer (Thurles Sarsfields), M. Roche (Carrick-on-Suir Davins); W. Nolan (Moycarkey-Borris), M. Keating (Grange), W. Ryan (Moycarkey-Borris); N. Hogan (Roscrea), G. Ryan (Moycarkey-Borris), T. Brennan (Ballingarry).

**CORK (M.F.)**

R. Cawley (Nemo Rangers); D. Nangle (Ballincollig), J. McGrath (Mitchelstown), V. Cronin (St. Finbarrs); A. Harrington (St. Finbarrs), B. Larkin (Douglas), J. O'Donoghue (Macroom); F. Cogan (Nemo Rangers), E. Coughlan (Mitchelstown) (captain); F. Hayes (Clonakilty), D. Barrett (Nemo Rangers), D. Philpott (St. Finbarrs); T. Burke (Millstreet), M. Archer (St. Finbarrs), T. Monahan (Mitchelstown).

**MAYO (M.F.)**

H. O'Brien; C. Hanley, V. Nally, B. Reape; S. Murphy, E. Carroll, G. Nicholson (captain); J. Langan, J. Madden; D. McSweeney, M. Connaughton, P. J. Mc Loughlin; J. Nealon, E. Maguire, J. Warde. Subs. D. Carroll, M. O'Malley.

**DUBLIN (Camogie)**

E. Leech (Celtic); G. Hughes (C.I.E.) (captain); N. Murney (U.C.D.), A. Hussey (Celtic), N. Timmins (C.I.E.); C. Nolan (Eoghan Ruadh), K. Ryder (Naomh Aoife), K. Mills (C.I.E.); M. Ryan (Austin Stacks), J. Kinsella (Civil Service), J. Doyle (C.I.E.); U. O'Connor (Celtic).

**TIPPERARY (Camogie)**

H. O'Flynn (Elmville, Clonmel) (captain); K. Flaherty (St. Marys, Roscrea); Peg Maloney (Roscrea), K. England (Roscrea), E. Slattery (Elmville); T. Griffin (Roscrea), B. McGrath (St. Marys, Cahir), B. Scully (Roscrea); K. Downes (Roscrea), C. Griffin (Roscrea), T. Maloney (Roscrea); T. Cummins (Roscrea).

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the All-Ireland, 1962*

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# A Christmas Message

. . . From Mrs. Eilis Redmond  
President of the Camogie Association

In this short message I wish to embrace all camogie players from the four corners of Ireland. I include also our exiles who so bravely are keeping the game going in England and the far away U.S.A.

There is no need for me to stress the importance of advancing our game in the schools and colleges, for from there will come our future All-Ireland players and potential officers.

In these days of vocational organisation there is much scope for the inclusion of our game in all parish activities both in rural and urban areas. True, it does require a certain amount of self-sacrifice on the part of promoters and organisers, but if once established it should be the aim of those in charge to ensure that at least their club will live on for ever.

The club is the basic unit and the most important by far of all aspects of the game. If we have strong clubs we will have strong councils and there will be no fears for the future of our game in the country.

Much is being done in the schools at present for the game, and in this connection Leinster Council has set a headline for the rest of the country, by introducing the game into a number of convents where it was hitherto unknown. They have followed in the footsteps of Ulster Council and formed a Leinster Colleges' Championship and it remains for Munster and Connacht to follow suit.

Then we could feel confident that from these Colleges' Councils would come suitable material to keep our game to the forefront in the Four Provinces in the years that lie ahead.

I am well aware of the scourge of emigration and the harm it has done to our game in the past, and can give that for one reason why our game is not being played in all thirty-two counties at present, but feel that with the dawning of this new era and the sound implementation of the present revival drive, our game can only advance still further.

I look to the children at present playing the game in these schools and colleges that are so well organised by the Colleges Councils, and feel that camogie is being well and truly vested in them.

In this message to all camogie players and workers for the game wherever you may be, I say, may the peace of the first Christmas be in your hearts and in your homes.

On the eve practically of my term of office expiring, I wish you all very many happy camogie days. Unfortunately, they are all too short, so make the most of them while you can.

I would like to include all past players and workers for the game and some who were young with the game when it started and are not so young now and may be ill or lonely. May you too find consolation and solace in the memory of your camogie days.

I wish my successor a very hearty cead mile failte and trust that she will have a successful term of office. During her term the Association will have reached another milestone. By 1964 it will be sixty years of age and by then I hope to see the game soundly established in all schools and colleges in the thirty-two counties.

**T**EAÓC DEIRE NA bliana tos-  
aíonn Gaeil Éireann ag  
smaoineamh ar an iliomad cluicí  
d'imríoc agus gaiscí fiúnta a  
rinnead ar fáil na hÉireann i  
rit 1961.

Sabaim pór-duitheas leotu san  
uile, iomirceoirí agus oipisí,  
as uet bliain éadae a déanam  
oi.

Is léir dom-sa a ndíograis  
agus a ndílse do díomeanna an  
Cumainn. 'Siad-san a spreagann  
suim ins na lútleasa dúcais  
sur sean le nár muintir riam,  
'siad-san, le cúlacaíocht an  
pobail, a neartuionn an náisiún.

Cruinnis stuait níos mó ná  
riam euis na cluicí ceannais i  
bPáirc an Chrócaigh, ac pé mar  
a bí i gcónaí riam is ar an  
tuait agus ar muintir na tuait  
com maí le muintir na gcraic  
atá ar seasam.

Ní háibéil a rá sur cuir na  
nuactáin agus iriseáin go mór  
leis an suim sin agus is móide  
ar mbuiochas an tsuim sin.

Suim sean agus raí ar ár  
mbaill, ní hamáin in Éirinn ac  
ibpa 1 gcéin.

## AS FÉACAINN SIAR

LE PÁDRAIG Ó CAOIMH  
ÁR RÚNAÍ



**W**HEN the lengthening shadows  
of winter cross the playing  
fields of Ireland comes the  
end of the Gaelic year. It is a  
timely moment for me to thank,  
on behalf of the Association, all  
those who have made it a year to  
remember.

Players, because of their achieve-  
ments, and officials, because they  
bear the brunt of the work, are  
easily remembered. Less easily

recalled are the many people up  
and down the country who,  
throughout the Gaelic year, un-  
failingly support their parish, their  
county and their province.

Christmas gives me a twofold  
opportunity of extending to  
supporters of our games every-  
where, both on my own behalf  
and on behalf of the Association,  
sincere good wishes for the year  
to come.



# WHERE THE 1961 TITLES WENT

## ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

	Winners	Runners-up
S.H.	Tipperary	Dublin
I.H.	Wexford	London
J.H.	Kerry	London
M.H.	Kilkenny	Tipperary
S.F.	Down	Offaly
J.F.	Louth	Yorkshire
M.F.	Cork	Mayo

## CONNACHT CHAMPIONSHIPS

	Winners	Runners-up
S.F.	Roscommon	Galway

J.F.	Galway	Mayo
M.F.	Mayo	Sligo
J.H.	Roscommon	Leitrim

## LEINSTER CHAMPIONSHIPS

	Winners	Runners-up
S.H.	Dublin	Wexford
I.H.	Wexford	Dublin
J.H.	Meath	Wicklow
M.H.	Kilkenny	Dublin
S.F.	Offaly	Dublin
J.F.	Louth	Dublin
M.F.	Dublin	Offaly

## MUNSTER CHAMPIONSHIPS

	Winners	Runners-up
S.H.	Tipperary	Cork
I.H.	Tipperary	Cork
J.H.	Kerry (only one county eligible)	
M.H.	Tipperary	Cork
S.F.	Kerry	Cork
J.F.	Kerry	Cork
M.F.	Cork	Clare

## ULSTER CHAMPIONSHIPS

	Winners	Runners-up
S.F.	Down	Armagh
J.F.	Monaghan	Antrim
M.F.	Armagh	Monaghan
J.H.	Antrim	Down
M.H.	Antrim	Donegal



**G**ROUP photographed at the dinner in honour of the Roadstone team, who retained the Leinster Inter-Factory Football League. Front (L. to R.): Paddy Somers (St. Annes, Bohernabreena), Jim Lynch (Sean McDermotts and Leitrim), Tom Keogh St. Marys, Saggart), Paddy Taylor (Sean McDermotts), Peter Clarke (Kilbride and Wicklow), Paddy McNally (Sean McDermotts), Mickey Whelan (Clanna Gael and Dublin), John Timmons (Sean McDermotts and Dublin), John Glynn (Committee). Centre (L. to R.): Willie Cullen (former Kildare Co.

footballer), Ronnie Creaven (Sean McDermotts and Roscommon), Joe Timmons (Sean McDermotts and Dublin), John Farrell (Ardclough and Kildare), Tod Dunbar (St. Finians, Newcastle), Liam Molloy (Ellistown, Kildare), Paddy Holden (Clanna Gael and Dublin). Back (L. to R.): Paddy Brady (Committee), Batt Lynch (Sean McDermotts and Roscommon), Sean Walshe (Chairman, Leinster Inter-Factory League and Roadstone Football Club), Laurence Keighery (Committee), Gerry Murphy (Sean McDermotts).



# HANDBALL TITLE-HOLDERS

## ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONS

**M.S.S.**—Wexford (R. Lyng).  
**M.S.D.**—Wexford (R. Lyng and P. Lennon).  
**M.H.S.**—Kilkenny (J. Brennan).  
**M.H.D.**—Kildare (J. Byrne and J. Brown).  
**J.S.S.**—Sligo (D. Walshe).  
**J.S.D.**—Offaly (J. Coughlan and G. Barry).  
**J.H.S.**—Tipperary (J. Cleary).  
**J.H.D.**—Galway (M. Kelly and J. Cronnolly).  
**S.S.S.**—Kerry (P. Downey).  
**S.S.D.**—Kerry (P. Downey and J. O'Brien).  
**S.H.S.**—Louth (J. Maher).  
**S.H.D.**—Kilkenny (J. and C. Delaney).

Gael Linn Cup—Clare (M. Kirby).

## CONNACHT

**M.S.S.**—Mayo (P. McGee).  
**M.S.D.**—Mayo (P. McGee and M. Kelly).  
**M.H.S.**—Galway (S. Glynn).  
**M.H.D.**—Galway (B. Hession and M. Lynch).  
**J.S.S.**—Sligo (D. Walshe).  
**J.S.D.**—Mayo (P. Bolingbrooke and M. Walshe).  
**J.H.S.**—Galway (M. Kelly).  
**J.H.D.**—Galway (M. Kelly and J. Cronnolly).  
**S.S.S.**—Mayo (E. Connolly).  
**S.S.D.**—Mayo (S. Fleming and E. Connolly).  
**S.H.S.**—Galway (S. Casey).  
**S.H.D.**—Galway (S. Casey and D. Murphy).

## LEINSTER

**M.S.S.**—Wexford (R. Lyng).  
**M.S.D.**—Wexford (P. Lennon and R. Lyng).  
**M.H.S.**—Kilkenny (J. Brennan).  
**M.H.D.**—Kildare (J. Byrne and J. Brown).  
**J.S.S.**—Wicklow (F. Quinn).  
**J.S.D.**—Offaly (J. Sheeran and G. Barry).  
**J.H.S.**—Wexford (T. Dowd).  
**J.H.D.**—Kilkenny (P. Hanlon and J. Moore).  
**S.S.S.**—Louth (J. Maher).  
**S.S.D.**—Kilkenny (J. and C. Delaney).  
**S.H.S.**—Louth (J. Maher).  
**S.H.D.**—Kilkenny (J. and C. Delaney).

## MUNSTER

**M.S.S.**—Tipperary (M. Murphy).  
**M.S.D.**—Kerry (S. Ryan and M. McEllistrim)

**M.H.S.**—Kerry (J. O'Brien).

**M.H.D.**—Tipperary (S. Heapy and J. Mullins).

**J.S.S.**—Kerry (W. Kerins).

**J.S.D.**—Kerry (N. and W. Kerins).

**J.H.S.**—Tipperary (P. Hickey).

**J.H.D.**—Tipperary (P. Hickey and T. Breedy).

**S.S.S.**—Kerry (P. Downey).

**S.S.D.**—Kerry (P. Downey and J. O'Brien).

**S.H.S.**—Kerry (P. Downey).

**S.H.D.**—Tipperary (T. Doheny and J. Ryan).

## ULSTER

**Juv.S.S.**—Antrim (A. Weir).

**Juv.S.D.**—Armagh (P. Moore and P. McKerr).

**M.S.S.**—Cavan (S. Galligan).

**M.S.D.**—Cavan (S. Galligan and P. Hopkins).

**J.S.S.**—Monaghan (S. McCabe).

**J.S.D.**—Monaghan (S. McCabe and L. Hanly).

**J.H.S.**—Monaghan (L. Hanly).

**J.H.D.**—Cavan (J. and M. Smyth).

**S.S.S.**—Armagh (H. Haddock).

**S.S.D.**—Armagh (H. Haddock and F. McCann).

**S.H.S.**—Armagh (H. Haddock).

**S.H.D.**—Armagh (H. Haddock and F. McCann).



*A typically anxious moment before every game. Referee Jimmy Martin, field-steward George Hughes and captains Jim McKeever (Derry) and Niall Sheehy (Kerry) watch the spin of the coin before the National Football League final.*



# CHAMPIONS DOWN THE YEARS

## ALL-IRELAND SENIOR HURLING WINNERS

**CORK** (19)—1890, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1902, 1903, 1919, 1926, 1928, 1929, 1931, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1946, 1952, 1953, 1954.  
**TIPPERARY** (18)—1887, 1895, 1896, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1906, 1908, 1916, 1925, 1930, 1937, 1945, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1958, 1961.  
**KILKENNY** (14)—1904, 1905, 1907, 1909, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1922, 1932, 1933, 1935, 1939, 1947, 1957.  
**DUBLIN** (6)—1889, 1917, 1920, 1924, 1927, 1938.  
**LIMERICK** (6)—1897, 1918, 1921, 1934, 1936, 1940.  
**WEXFORD** (4)—1910, 1955, 1956, 1960.  
**WATERFORD** (2)—1948, 1959.  
**CLARE** (1)—1914.  
**GALWAY** (1)—1923.  
**KERRY** (1)—1891.  
**LAOIS** (1)—1915.  
**LONDON** (1)—1901.

## ALL-IRELAND SENIOR FOOTBALL WINNERS

**KERRY** (19)—1903, 1904, 1909, 1913, 1914, 1924, 1926, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1937, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1946, 1953, 1955, 1959.  
**DUBLIN** (16)—1891, 1892, 1894, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1901, 1902, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1942, 1958.  
**WEXFORD** (5)—1893, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918.  
**CAVAN** (5)—1933, 1935, 1947, 1948, 1952.  
**TIPPERARY** (4)—1889, 1895, 1900, 1920.  
**KILDARE** (4)—1905, 1919, 1927, 1928.  
**GALWAY** (4)—1925, 1934, 1938, 1956.  
**CORK** (3)—1890, 1911, 1945.  
**MAYO** (3)—1936, 1950, 1951.  
**LOUTH** (3)—1910, 1912, 1957.  
**LIMERICK** (2)—1887, 1896.  
**ROSCOMMON** (2)—1943, 1944.  
**MEATH** (2)—1949, 1954.  
**DOWN** (2)—1960, 1961.

## ALL-IRELAND JUNIOR HURLING WINNERS

**CORK** (8)—1912, 1916, 1925, 1940, 1947, 1950, 1955, 1958.  
**TIPPERARY** (7)—1913, 1915, 1924, 1926, 1930, 1933, 1953.

**KILKENNY** (4)—1928, 1946, 1951, 1956.  
**LIMERICK** (4)—1935, 1941, 1954, 1957.  
**LONDON** (4)—1938, 1949, 1959, 1960.  
**DUBLIN** (3)—1932, 1937, 1952.  
**MEATH** (2)—1927, 1948.  
**OFFALY** (2)—1923, 1929.  
**WATERFORD** (2)—1931, 1934.  
**CLARE** (1)—1914.  
**GALWAY** (1)—1939.  
**WESTMEATH** (1)—1936.  
**KERRY** (1)—1961.

## ALL-IRELAND JUNIOR FOOTBALL WINNERS

**KERRY** (8)—1913, 1915, 1924, 1928, 1930, 1941, 1949, 1954.  
**DUBLIN** (5)—1914, 1916, 1939, 1948, 1960.  
**LOUTH** (4)—1925, 1932, 1934, 1961.  
**CORK** (3)—1951, 1953, 1955.  
**MAYO** (3)—1933, 1950, 1957.  
**TIPPERARY** (2)—1912, 1923.  
**MEATH** (2)—1947, 1952.  
**GALWAY** (2)—1931, 1958.  
**ARMAGH** (1)—1926.  
**CAVAN** (1)—1927.  
**DOWN** (1)—1946.  
**FERMANAGH** (1)—1959.  
**LONDON** (1)—1938.  
**LONGFORD** (1)—1937.  
**ROSCOMMON** (1)—1940.  
**SLIGO** (1)—1935.  
**WESTMEATH** (1)—1929.  
**WICKLOW** (1)—1936.  
**MONAGHAN** (1)—1956.

## ALL-IRELAND MINOR HURLING WINNERS

**TIPPERARY** (12)—1930, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1947, 1949, 1952, 1953, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1959.  
**KILKENNY** (6)—1931, 1935, 1936, 1950, 1960, 1961.  
**CORK** (6)—1928, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1941, 1951.  
**DUBLIN** (3)—1945, 1946, 1954.  
**WATERFORD** (2)—1929, 1948.  
**LIMERICK** (2)—1940, 1958.

## ALL-IRELAND MINOR FOOTBALL WINNERS

**DUBLIN** (7)—1930, 1945, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1958, 1959.

**KERRY** (5)—1931, 1932, 1933, 1946, 1950.  
**ROSCOMMON** (3)—1939, 1941, 1951.  
**CAVAN** (2)—1937, 1938.  
**GALWAY** (2)—1952, 1960.  
**LOUTH** (2)—1936, 1940.  
**MAYO** (2)—1935, 1953.  
**TYRONE** (2)—1947, 1948.  
**ARMAGH** (1)—1949.  
**CLARE** (1)—1929.  
**TIPPERARY** (1)—1934.  
**MEATH** (1)—1957.  
**CORK** (1)—1961.

## ALL-IRELAND INTERMEDIATE HURLING WINNERS

**WEXFORD** (1)—1961.

## NATIONAL HURLING LEAGUE WINNERS

**TIPPERARY** (10)—1928, 1949, 1950, 1952, 1954, 1955, 1957, 1959, 1960, 1961.  
**LIMERICK** (6)—1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1947.  
**CORK** (6)—1926, 1930, 1940, 1941, 1948, 1953.  
**DUBLIN** (2)—1929, 1939.  
**WEXFORD** (2)—1956, 1958.  
**GALWAY** (2)—1932, 1951.  
**KILKENNY** (1)—1933.  
**CLARE** (1)—1946.

## NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE WINNERS

**MAYO** (10)—1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1941, 1948, 1949, 1954.  
**KERRY** (6)—1928, 1929, 1931, 1932, 1959, 1961.  
**DUBLIN** (3)—1953, 1955, 1958.  
**MEATH** (3)—1933, 1946, 1951.  
**CORK** (2)—1952, 1956.  
**GALWAY** (2)—1940, 1957.  
**LAOIS** (1)—1927.  
**DERRY** (1)—1947.  
**DOWN** (1)—1960.  
**NEW YORK** (1)—1950.

## ST. BRENDAN CUP WINNERS HURLING

**TIPPERARY** (4)—1955, 1957, 1959, 1960.  
**CORK** (1)—1954.  
**NEW YORK** (1)—1958.

(Continued on page 92)



# County Champions

	Hurling	Football
Waterford	Mount Sion	Mount Sion.
Cork	Blackrock	Avondhu.
Kerry	Ballyduff	John Mitchels.
Clare	Whitegate	Doonbeg.
Limerick	Western Gaels	Oola.
Tipperary	Thurles Sarsfields	—
Galway	Turloughmore	Dunmore McHales.
Mayo	—	Claremorris.
Sligo	—	Ballisodare.
Leitrim	—	Melvin Gaels.
Roscommon	Roscommon Gaels	Clann na Gael.
Louth	—	Newtown Blues.
Meath	Kilmessan	Navan O'Mahonys.
Westmeath	Castlepollard	St. Lomans.
Longford	—	—
Dublin	U.C.D.	St. Vincents.
Kildare	Broadford	Round Towers.
Laois	Borris-in-Ossory	The Heath.
Offaly	Coolderry.	—
Wicklow	—	St. Patricks.
Wexford	Rathnure	Sarsfields.
Carlow	Carlow Town	O'Hanrahans.
Kilkenny	Freshford	—
Donegal	—	Gweedore.
Derry	—	Bellaghy.
Antrim	St. Johns	St. Johns.
Down	—	—
Armagh	—	Collegeland.
Cavan	—	Crosserlough.
Monaghan	—	Scotstown.
Tyrone	—	Carrickmore.
Fermanagh	—	Aghadrumsee.

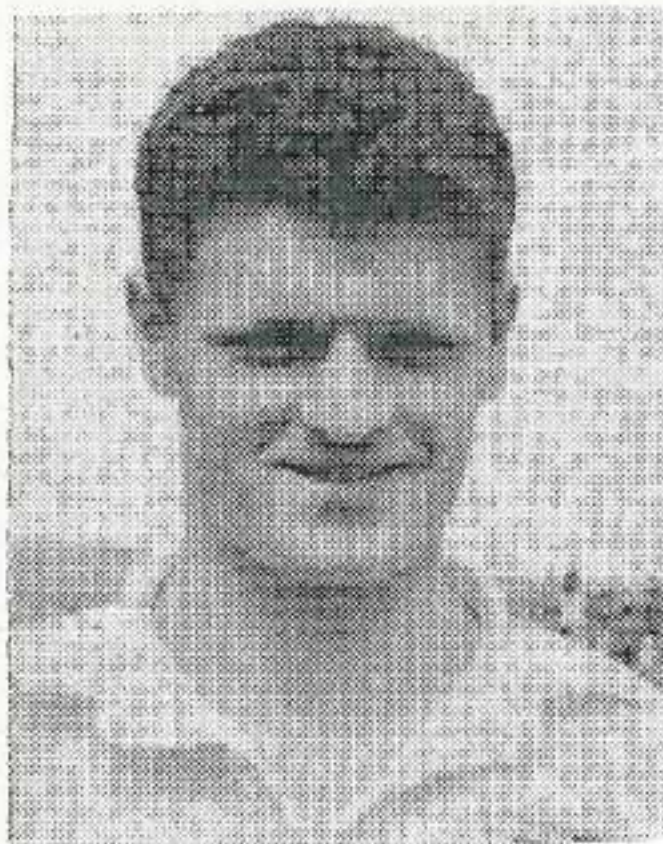


Our photographer caught Christy Ring in a relaxed mood at Croke Park on the occasion of the Cork v. Armagh All-Ireland football semi-final.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Peter O'Reilly . . . Offaly's trainer who has had much to do with the county's successes on the football field.



Carbury's Pat Cummins . . . captained the Lily-Whites in the Leinster championship.



Still going strong after fifteen years in senior inter-county football is Mick Casey, the veteran of the Offaly team.



## ASSOCIATION OF GAELIC SPORTS JOURNALISTS AWARDS :-

### O'MALLEY and DEVANEY TOP THE POLL

**D**URING the year an Association of Gaelic Sports Journalists was formed and the following officers were elected. Patron—P. D. Mehigan (Irish Times); President—Michael O'Hehir (Irish Television, Radio Eireann) Chairman — John D. Hickey (Irish Independent); Vice-Chairman — Val Dorgan (Cork Examiner); Secretary—Mick Dunne (Irish Press); Treasurer — Paddy Downey (Sunday Review).

The Association conducted a nationwide poll among its members to elect "The hurler and footballer of the year." This resulted in Liam Davaney of Tipperary getting the hurling honour and Roscommon's Gerry O'Malley the football award.

Both players will receive their trophies at a function to be held early in the New Year.

#### CHAMPIONS DOWN THE YEARS (Continued from page 90)

##### FOOTBALL

**DUBLIN** (2)—1955, 1958.  
**GALWAY** (1)—1957.  
**KERRY** (1)—1959.  
**DOWN** (1)—1960.  
**NEW YORK** (1)—1954.

##### RAILWAY CUP WINNERS HURLING

**MUNSTER** (27)—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.  
**LEINSTER** (7)—1927, 1932, 1933, 1936, 1941, 1954, 1956.  
**CONNACHT** (1)—1947.

##### FOOTBALL

**LEINSTER** (16)—1928, 1929, 1930, 1932, 1933, 1935, 1939, 1940, 1944, 1945, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1959, 1961.

**CONNACHT** (7)—1934, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1951, 1957, 1958.

**MUNSTER** (6)—1927, 1931, 1941, 1946, 1948, 1949.

**ULSTER** (6)—1942, 1943, 1947, 1950, 1956, 1960.

##### OIREACHTAS CUP WINNERS

**WEXFORD** (4)—1951, 1953, 1955, 1956.  
**KILKENNY** (4)—1940, 1947, 1957, 1959.  
**TIPPERARY** (4)—1945, 1949, 1960, 1961.  
**GALWAY** (3)—1950, 1952, 1958.  
**DUBLIN** (2)—1944, 1948.  
**LIMERICK** (1)—1939.  
**CLARE** (1)—1954.

##### GAELIC WEEKLY TOURNAMENT (CUCHULAINN CUP) WINNERS

**KERRY** (2)—1959, 1960.  
**GALWAY** (1)—1958.  
**TYRONE** (1)—1957.



John Dowling of Tullamore pictured in the new black and white referee's rig-out introduced at Croke Park during the year.

## LEAGUES, TOURNAMENTS, ETC.

National League (H)  
Do. (F)  
Dr. Lagan Cup (F)  
Dr. McKenna Cup (F)  
O'Byrne Cup (F)  
Walsh Cup (H)  
Oireachtas Cup (H)  
Wembley Tournament (H)  
Do. (F)  
Connacht M.F. League  
Cuchulainn Cup  
Grounds' Tournament (F)  
Gael Linn Cup (F)

**Winners**  
**Tipperary**  
**Kerry**  
**Derry**  
**Down**  
**Offaly**  
**Kilkenny**  
**Tipperary**  
**Tipperary**  
**Down**  
**Galway**  
**Meath and Galway in final.**  
**Offaly**  
**Galway and Roscommon in final.**

**Runners-up**  
Waterford.  
Derry  
Down.  
Monaghan.  
Longford.  
Wexford.  
Wexford.  
Wexford.  
Kerry.

Leinster Inter-Factory League (H) **Clover Meats** (Waterford).  
Do. (F) **Roadstone.**  
Dublin Inter-Firm League (H) **Bolands.**

#### ALL-ARMY CHAMPIONS

Hurling—Curragh Training Camp.  
Football—Air Corps.

#### ALL-IRELAND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS CHAMPIONS

Hurling—Limerick City.  
Football—Cork City.



# Provincial Trials

## LEINSTER TRIALS

### Football—

**Rest of Leinster 0-8; Offaly 1-3.**

**Rest of Leinster**—P. Bracken (Laois); M. Conlon (Westmeath), L. Foley (Dublin), Joe Timmons (Dublin); W. Morgan (Longford), P. Holden (Dublin), F. Morris (Wexford); M. Carley (Westmeath), M. Carolan (Kildare); F. Walshe (Laois), John Timmons (Dublin), B. Hayden (Carlow); K. Beahan (Louth), N. Dodd (Longford), K. Heffernan (Dublin). Sub. O. Fennell (Laois) for Morris.

**Offaly**—W. Nolan; P. McCormack, P. Hughes, J. Egan; P. O'Reilly, M. Brady, F. Higgins; M. Sheridan, S. Ryan; T. Cullen, S. Brereton, T. Greene; M. Casey, E. Fleming, H. Donnelly. Subs.—S. Foran (for Sheridan), Sheridan (for O'Reilly).

### Hurling—

**Wexford 2-7; Rest of Leinster 1-10.**

**Wexford**—P. Nolan; J. Mitchell, N. O'Donnell, T. Neville; J. English, E. Wheeler, J. Nolan; T. Guinan, M. Bergin; J. O'Brien, M. Lyng, J. Walsh; O. McGrath, J. Harding, R. Murphy. Sub.—A. Ryan for Guinan.

**Rest of Leinster**—O. Walsh (Kilkenny); M. Walsh (Kilkenny), N. Drumgoole (Dublin), P. Jackson (Westmeath); J. Carey (Westmeath), W. Hogan (Carlow), A. Boothman (Dublin); S. Clohosey (Kilkenny), O. Fennell (Laois); E. Bruer (Westmeath), B. Boothman (Dublin), D. Heaslip (Kilkenny); J. Lyons (Laois), W. Dwyer (Kilkenny), W. Walsh (Carlow). Sub.—J. Ayres (Kilkenny) for Lyons.

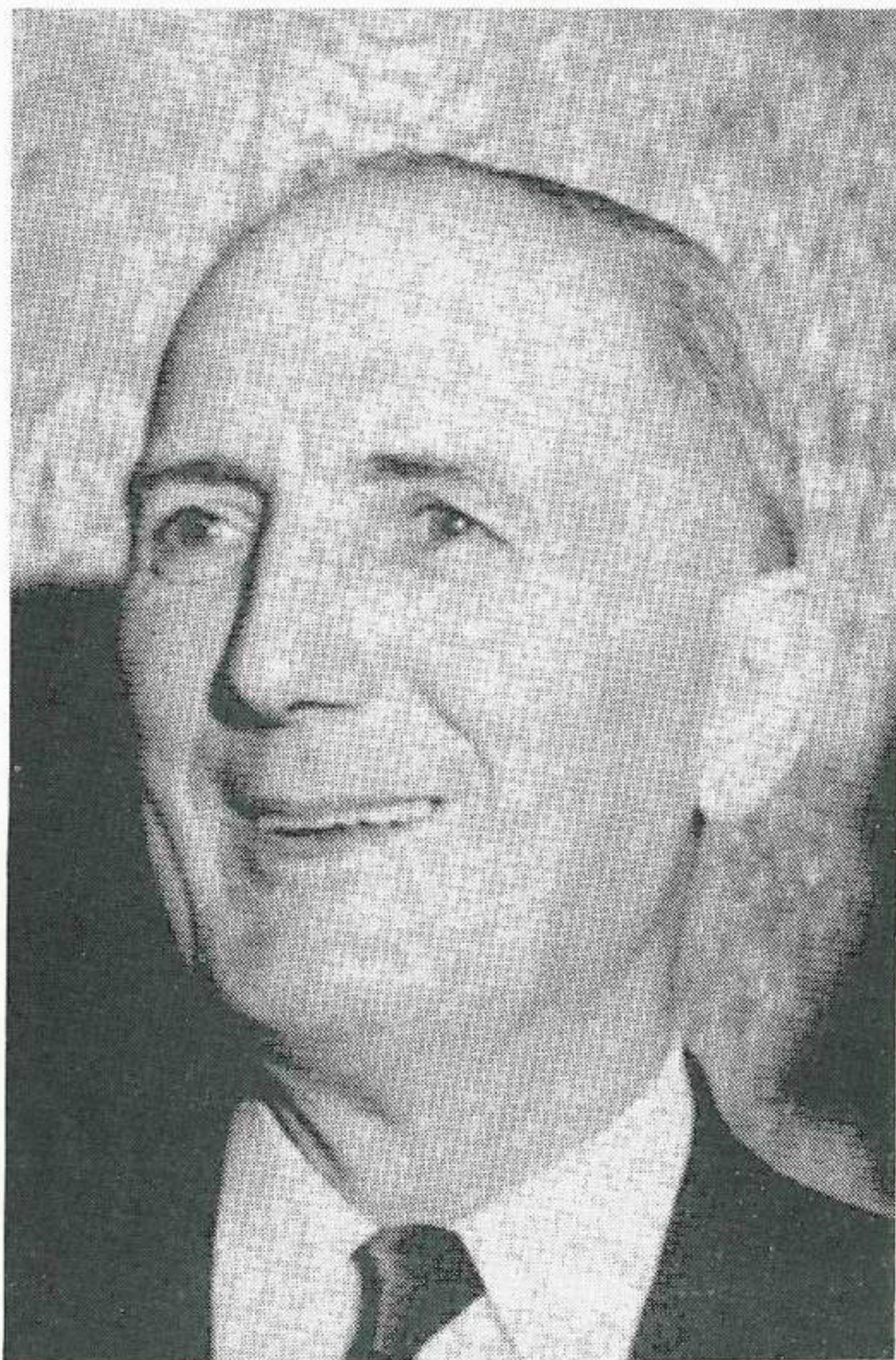
## ULSTER TRIAL

### Football—

**Down 1-8; Rest of Ulster 0-9.**

**Down**—E. McKay; G. Lavery, L. Murphy, P. Rice, K. Mussen, D. McCartan, J. Haughian, J. Carey, J. Lennon, K. Denvir, J. McCartan, P. Doherty, A. Haddon, E. Lundy, B. Morgan. Subs.—P. J. McElroy (for Haughian), P. Fitzsimons (for Lennon).

**Rest of Ulster**—S. Hoare (Donegal); G. Kelly (Cavan), F. McKnight (Armagh), B. Murray (Derry); B. Mone (Monaghan), D. Kelly (Armagh), J. McDonnell (Cavan); S. Ferriter (Donegal), J. O'Neill (Tyrone); C. Smith (Cavan), J. McKeever (Derry), H. O'Kane (Antrim), L. O'Neill (Derry), J. Brady (Cavan), F. Donnelly (Tyrone). Subs.—P. Kelly (Donegal) for J. O'Neill; O'Neill (for Kelly).



Paddy C. Downey . . . Cork-born President of the New York G.A.A.



# ATHLETICS DURING 1961

**A**THLETICALLY, numerically and financially the N.A.C.A., the All-Ireland Athletic Association, which has been debarred from International competition since 1932, can look back on 1961 as a year of progressive advancement in all Provinces.

The performances by athletes and the competition afforded them have again brought to the forefront the position of athletics in Ireland. I don't want to be a moaner year after year, but I think the time is ripe for those who oppose the N.A.C.A. to look at the position, in relation to athletics, in this country with an open mind.

The "Split" is still with us. But what is it doing for athletics in Ireland?—To be very forthright—killing the ambitions of young competitors.

To solve that problem does not require any deep study. The facts are obvious.

Every athlete in Ireland, once he reaches a certain standard, has ambitions. Yet, to-day, 95 per cent of Irish athletes are denied the privilege of representing their country, just because a small body are not prepared to row in and have an All-Ireland Association.

## MUST BE BROUGHT HOME

I do not want to open up old sores in this article but the injustice they are inflicting on Irish athletics must be brought home to those who are or have been against the re-entry of the N.A.C.A. to international competition.

They may contend that they are correct in holding their current principals, but, looking at the matter in the light of overall improvement athletically, the benefits if all Associations were one happy family, would indeed be far-reaching.

In relation to teams going abroad there would have to be no cheese-paring. They could travel where they wished, for it goes without saying that

the money would be there to finance them.

Picture the returns from the visit of, say, a small visiting team of athletes who could compete in Belfast on Saturday, Dublin on Sunday, Limerick on Monday (evening), Clonmel (Tuesday), Cork (Wednesday), Galway (Thursday), Tullamore (Friday), concluding with a bumper attraction in Dublin on Saturday—just one week's Irish tour. What would be the profits from such a venture? I'll leave it to you to decide.

But back to the year's activities. The All-Ireland championships, after a lengthy stay in Dublin, travelled South to Fermoy, Co. Cork and were a wonderful success. Sincerest thanks is afforded the hard-working Fermoy Club and Committee who organised this two-day meeting so efficiently.

## RECORDS FELL

Records fell on the opening evening when 21-years-old Kevin Prendergast, a native of Clonmel competing for U.C.D., shattered native and all-comers' records for the 16 lbs. shot with a putt of 50 feet 5½ inches.

The all-comers' record set by American Ralph Rose at Kilmallock, with a putt of 49 feet 3½ inches, on August 9, 1908 had stood for 53 years, while the native record of 48 feet 10 inches had stood to the credit of that great Banteer athlete, Denis Horgan, since 1904.

When Horgan appeared on the Irish athletic scene the mark of 44 feet 9 inches was on the books as an Irish and British record, but he kept adding to it and at Mallow Town Park on September 18, 1904, he set the mark which lasted 57 years until the burly Prendergast, who had been hovering around the mark all season, came out eventually at Fermoy to shatter it decisively.

Shortly after Prendergast's feat came another record-breaking effort by the lithe but very fit Liam Gleeson of Nenagh, when he soared over the

lath in the pole vault at 12 feet 6 inches, thus beating the old record standing to the credit of Denny Hyland of Carlow.

The competition and the cycling on the second day was also of a vintage nature. While no records were established, the large attendance got full value from a programme that was run off at lightning speed and with no time lags.

## ULSTER PROPERTY

For some years back the Marathon has been the property of Ulster athletes. We recall the monopoly which Patsy McCabe and the Lennon brothers exerted.

When they retired, Willie Morris, that great Athenry and Galway runner, after winning several track and cross-country titles, turned to the marathon in 1960 and, with his amazing stamina and wonderful devotion to the game, took the Wakefield Trophy to the West.

But back it went to Ulster this year and a very worthy winner of the crown was 29-years-old Seamus Kearns, one of nine Newry brothers who are all interested in athletics.

Seamus, who came from England to compete (he works for a concrete firm in Chessington) was indeed the "dark horse," but on his running looks fully capable of establishing another monopoly for Ulster in the event.

Always the race of the day at any meeting, the mile supplied its full quota of thrills. It was a 'rubber' championship meeting between that slightly built Dublin City athlete, Terry O'Connor, and Kevin Gormley of Phoenix Harriers.

## CAUSED MAJOR SENSATION

Earlier in the season Terry caused a major sensation when he defeated Kevin in the Co. Dublin championships. Then came the Leinster inter-



county championships and Kevin got his revenge.

At Fermoy, Terry again proved the master when wresting the All-Ireland title from Gormley by ten yards with the very promising and continuously improving Bertie Murray of Ballinree A.C., Carlow, third.

An athlete who was always in the limelight during the year, All-Ireland senior cross-country champion, John Downes of Kilmallock (he won six titles in all during 1961), won a wonderful four miles, beating such well known names as the St. Augustines pair, Harry Gorman and Matt Rudden, easily.

All in all, the N.A.C.A. would be well advised in future years to take their two-day All-Ireland championships around the country, for the support is there for such fare, and when the programme is well presented the public will always come back for more.

## OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

In addition to the National championships, other highlights of the year were the various provincial championships, the staging once again of the Dublin University-U.C.D. match, which drew a bumper crowd to College Park, the All-Ireland junior championships, the Ballinasloe relays, the City of Dublin, City of Cork and City of Limerick open sports and the All-Ireland all-round championship, won by Hugh O'Callaghan of Clonmel, a son of Olympic Champion, Dr. Pat.

In addition, we had the opening of the magnificent Lourdes Stadium at Drogheda on May 15 where Waterford-born, Kilkenny-resident Mick Lanigan got the year off to a great start by setting a new hurdles record of 14.9 seconds.

The match which marked the opening of the Stadium was a contest between the Universities' team, the President's team and the Army. It was won by the Universities, with a total of 68 points, against 51 for the President's and 24 for the Army.

The U.C.D. versus Trinity clash was a real athletic affair with each event being contested with the vigour of an international occasion. Trinity, by a margin of 14 points (87-73), deservedly won this match, revived

after a lapse of 24 years, which drew an estimated crowd of 4,000 to College Park.

This match introduced to the Irish scene Polish-born U.C.D. student, Victor Maniak, who had a string of successes to his credit during the year. He scored a fine double in the 100 and 220 yards against some very strong opposition from Bob Francis, the Trinity captain.

## BRILLIANT JUMPING

The Leinster championships at Gorey provided some brilliant jumping, both in the long jump and hop, step and jump. In the former event, 22-years-old U.C.D. student, Pat Maye, though competing under the handicap of a broken arm, got in a winning effort of 23 feet 5 inches, while John Higgins of Inchicore did 47 feet 5 inches in the hop, step and jump.

The hero of the Munster championships at Cahir was Hugh O'Callaghan of Clonmel, who won three titles, the 16 lbs. shot, Hop, step and jump and discus.

He later went on to win the All-Ireland 'all-round' under atrocious conditions in Dublin in September, in the process beating two other Munster men, Liam Gleeson of Nenagh and J. P. Curtin of St. Finbarr's, Cork.

Another athlete very much in the news throughout the year, John Downes of Kilmallock, was also successful here, taking the three miles championship.

The Connacht championships at Claremorris were also of a high standard, and we saw the Galway sprinter, Eamonn Quinn, have a very fine double, while G. Glynn was successful in the long and hop, step and jumps.

M. Molloy of Derrydonnell, who early in the year won the All-Ireland 10 miles title, was a worthy winner of the three miles, while the youthful L. Cheevers of Galway took the shot with a putt of 42 feet 1 inch.

The All-Ireland junior championships, held in ideal conditions at Iveagh Grounds, saw the stars of the future turn in a great afternoon's sport. Only record-breaker was 20-years-old U.C.D. all-rounder, Denis

Toomey, a son of former N.A.C.A. President, Sean.

In the hammer, he had a throw of 162 feet 9 inches—a wonderful feat considering the fact that he was dogged by injury throughout the entire season.

Another young star, and one who will become a big name in Irish athletics, Liam Kelleher from Kilmacud A.C., took the high jump with a leap of 5 feet 7 inches.

The most successful club at the meeting, however, was Naas. W. O'Hanlon won the 880 yards, J. Hickey won the mile and this pair, in company with W. Coughlan and J. McGrath, triumphed in the medley relay.

The City of Dublin Sports brought something new to the Irish athletic scene with a relay match between the Irish Army, which included top A.A.U. star, Noel Carroll, the Universities and Ireland.

Carroll teamed up with three prominent N.A.C.A. athletes, Harry Quirk, Mick Lanigan and Eamonn Quinn, and ran a brilliant 880 yards to win the event for the Army.

Cork City Sports was, as always, a brilliant occasion, while the newly-inaugurated City of Limerick Sports were also well supported. This is a fixture which next year will be in a position to rank with the best.

The sport in Ulster still continues to progress and all Irish athletes were more than pleased when that great-hearted Laragh, Co. Cavan, athlete, Matt Rudden, won his first All-Ireland medal when taking the two miles championship at Ballyhooley Sports, Co. Cork.

Taken all round, the year was one of continued improvement with plenty of competition being afforded to athletes. However, one point which should be noted next year by promoters and clubs is the manner in which they draft their programmes.

Programmes which are overloaded intend to drag. Consequently, the public gets bored if they are kept waiting for a particular event which may be listed late in the programme.

A nice, snappy list of events run to schedule, always proves a winner. When the meeting concludes on time the paying customer goes home happy and contented and, most important factor of all, he will return again.



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### FOOTBALL

Combined Universities 2-10; Army 1-7.

**Universities**—S. Boyle (Queens and Derry); B. O'Callaghan (U.C.C. and Cork), F. McKnight (U.C.D. and Armagh), S. Murray (U.C.D. and Longford); M. Laide (U.C.G. and Galway), B. Donaghy (Queens and Armagh), M. Newell (U.C.G. and Galway); G. Glynn (U.C.G. and Galway), F. O'Leary (U.C.D. and Mayo); P. Donnellan (U.C.G. and Galway), P. Kelly (U.C.D. and Donegal), D. Feely (U.C.G. and Roscommon); D. Geaney (U.C.C. and Kerry), S. Donnelly (U.C.G. and Longford), A. Kenny (U.C.G. and Roscommon), Sub. J. Healy (U.C.D. and Kerry) for O'Leary.

**Army**—R. Bennett (Curragh T.C. and Kildare); P. McCaffrey (Air Corps and Cavan), D. Flood (Western and Kildare), B. Kavanagh (Curragh T.C. and Westmeath); B. Bardon (Air Corps and Longford), J. Harold (Eastern and Longford), C. Wrenn (Air Corps and Offaly); C. O'Leary (Eastern and Dublin), M. Coughlan (Air Corps and Kildare); S. Kilgannon (Western and Sligo), P. Daly (Curragh T.C. and Offaly), T. Gunn (Western and Westmeath); N. Fitzgerald (Southern and Cork), S. O'Keeffe (Air Corps and Cork), H. Donnelly (Air Corps and Offaly). Sub.—C. Leaney (Curragh T.C. and Dublin) for Kilgannon.

Rest of Ireland 3-13; Combined Universities 2-8.

**Universities**—S. Boyle, B. O'Callaghan, F. McKnight, S. Murray; M. Laide, B. Donaghy, M. Newell; G. Glynn, E. Curley (U.C.D. and Roscommon); S. O'Neill (Q.U. and Down), P. Kelly, F. O'Leary, D. Geaney, S. Donnelly, A. Kenny.

**Rest of Ireland**—A. Brady (Roscommon); P. McCormack (Offaly), L. Murphy (Down), S. Egan (Offaly); J. McDonnell (Cavan), G. O'Malley (Roscommon), M. Dwyer (Kerry); M. McDonagh (Galway), M. Carley (Westmeath); T. Long (Kerry), J. McCartan (Down), P. Doherty (Down); S. Brereton (Offaly), P. O'Hagan (Down), C. Flynn (Leitrim).

**Referee**—M. McArdle (Louth).

### HURLING

Rest of Ireland 3-9; Wexford 2-10.

**Wexford**—J. Creane; J. Mitchell, N. O'Donnell, T. Neville; J. English, N. Wheeler, capt., J. Nolan; P. Wilson, M. Bergin; J. O'Brien, P. Kehoe, S. Quaide; O. McGrath, J. Kennedy, J. Walsh. Subs.—M. Lyng (for O'Donnell), O'Donnell (for Lyng), H. Doyle (for Kennedy), Lyng (for Wilson).

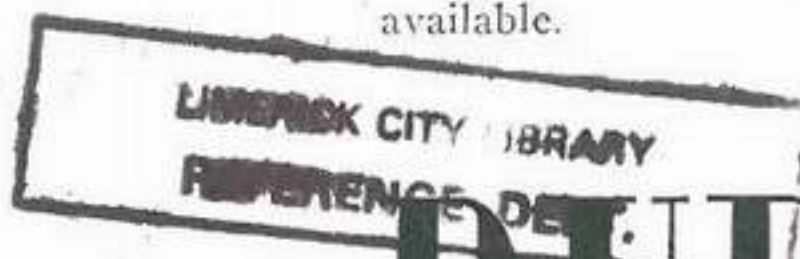
**Rest of Ireland**—O. Walsh (Kilkenny); J. Brohan (Cork), M. Maher (Tipperary), J. Barron (Waterford), T. McGarry (Limerick), T. Wall (Tipperary) capt., M. Og Morrissey (Waterford); T. Kelly (Cork), T. English (Tipperary), J. Doyle (Tipperary), L. Devaney (Tipperary), F. Walsh (Waterford); J. Smyth (Clare), B. Dwyer (Kilkenny), T. Sweeney (Galway). Dwyer and Sweeney replaced C. Ring (Cork) and S. Clohosey (Kilkenny) who cried off.

**Referee**—J. Dowling (Offaly).





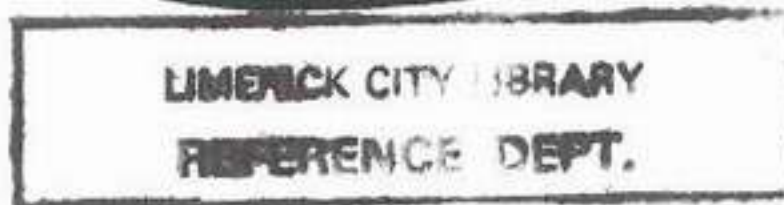
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