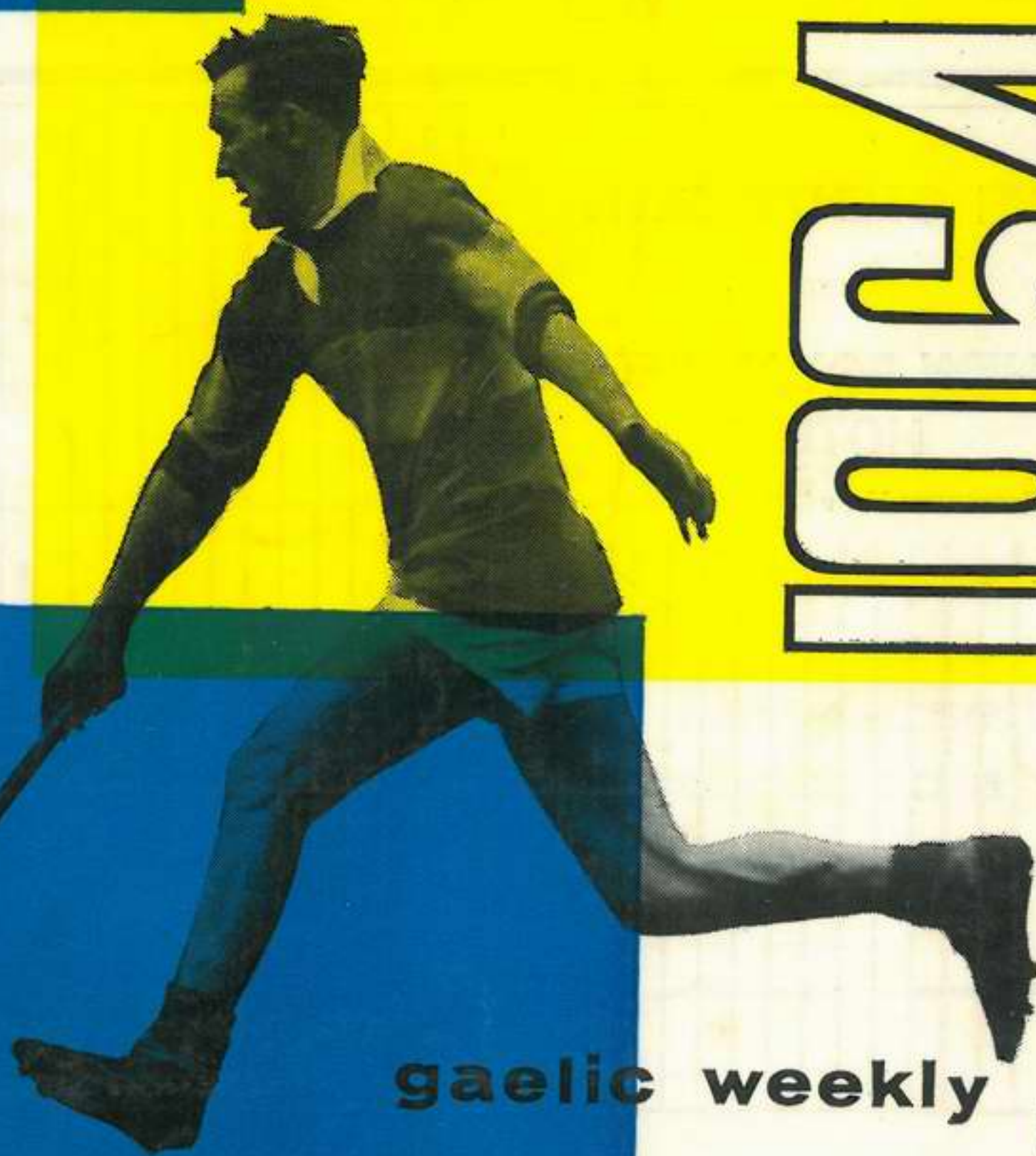




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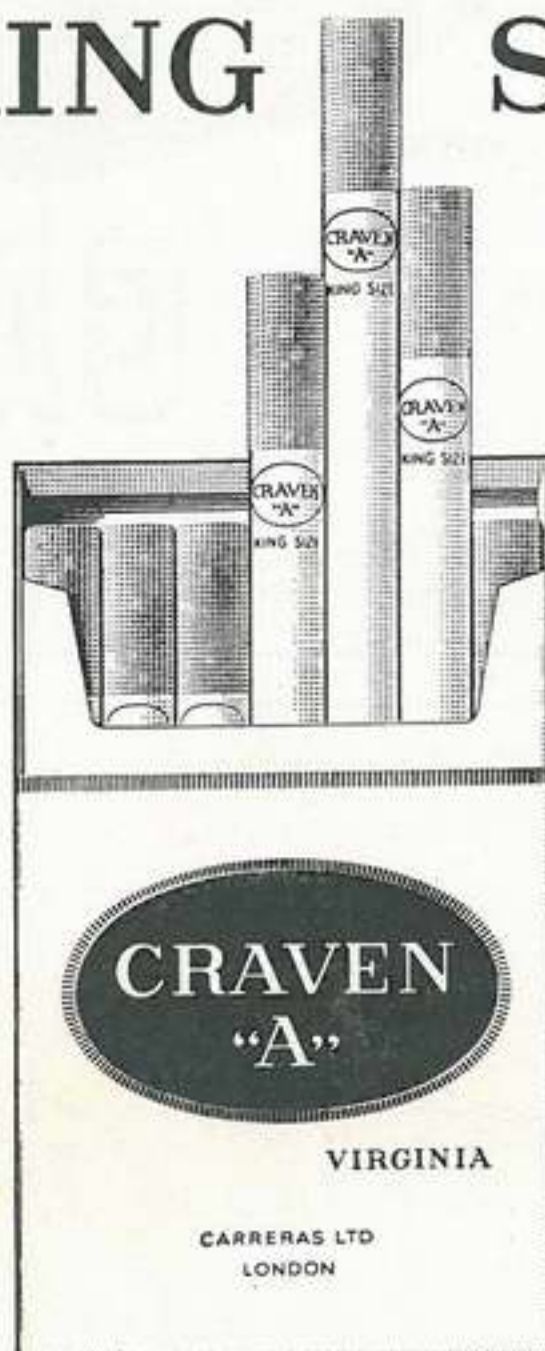
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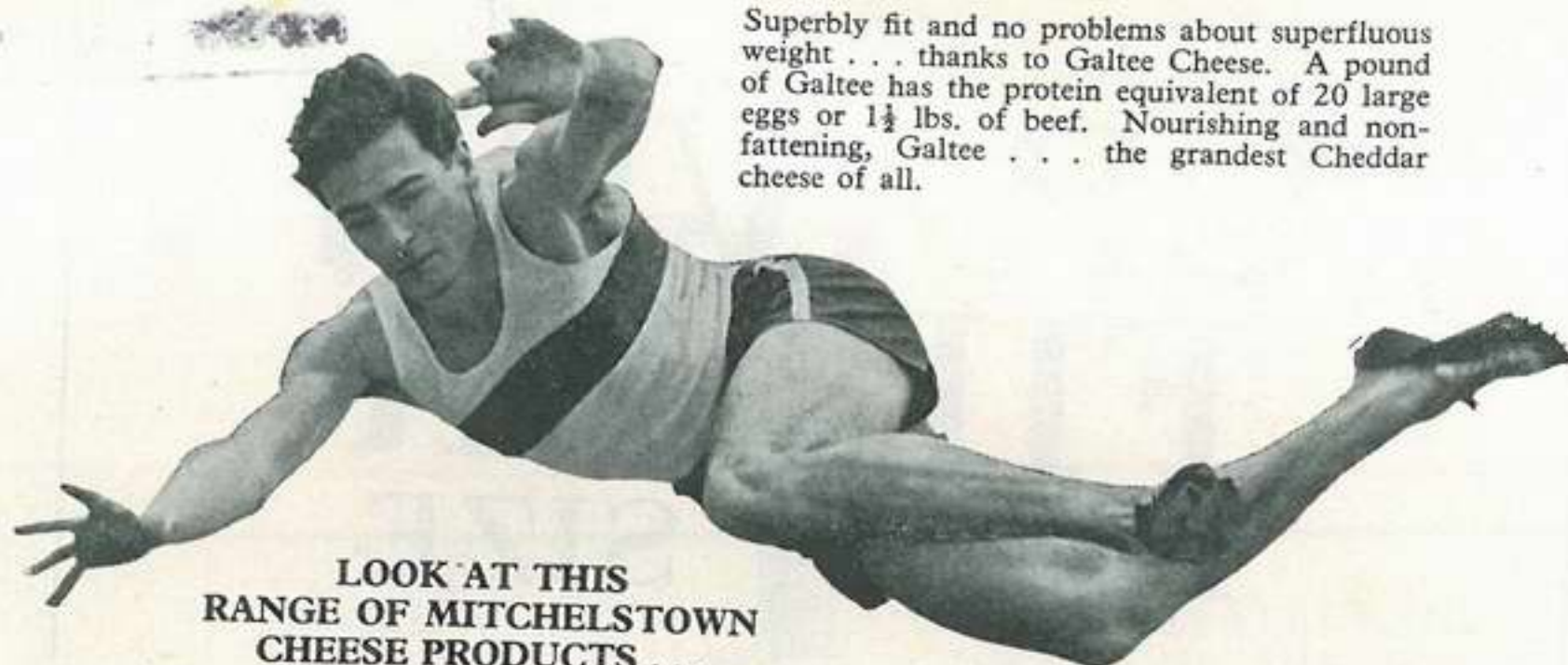
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# Cuchulainn

## Annual, 1964

A PRESS CUCHULAINN PUBLICATION

Edited by GARRETT McCABE

Layout by JOE KELLY

**I**S iomaí athrú a tháinig i gCumann Lúthchleas Gael sa bhliain 1964.

Cailliúint an-mhor ab ea bás brónach Phádraig Uí Chaoimh, an tArd-Rúnaí a rinne an oiread sin chun eagraíocht láidir tábhachtach a dhéanamh den Chumann. Solas na bhFlaitheas dá anam uasal.

Ina áit mar Ard-Rúnaí ceapadh Seán O Síocháin, a bhí ina chúntóir ag Pádraig leis na blianta. Guímid gach rath ar a shaothar agus tá siúl againn go mbeidh blianta fada in oifig aige.

Ceapadh beirt oifigeach feidhmiúcháin chun réim oibre an Chumainn a leathnú. Céim an-tabhachtach na ceapacháin seo agus is cinnte go mbeidh an toradh le feiceáil sna blianta atá romhainn.

Taobh amuigh de na hathraithe san oifig, toghadh Uachtarán nua, Alf O Muirí. I rith na bliana chruthaigh sé gur duine é a bhfuil an-chumas ann agus dearcadh an-leathan náisiúnta aige. Is treoraí é a fhágfas a lorg ar fhorbairt an Chumainn.

Tá an Plean Iomána réidh agus curtha os comhair na hArd-Chomhairle. Ní fios fós an nglacfaidh na hionadaithe leis an bPlean mar atá sé, ach is cinnte go bhfuil ré nua dóchasach i ndán don iomáint.

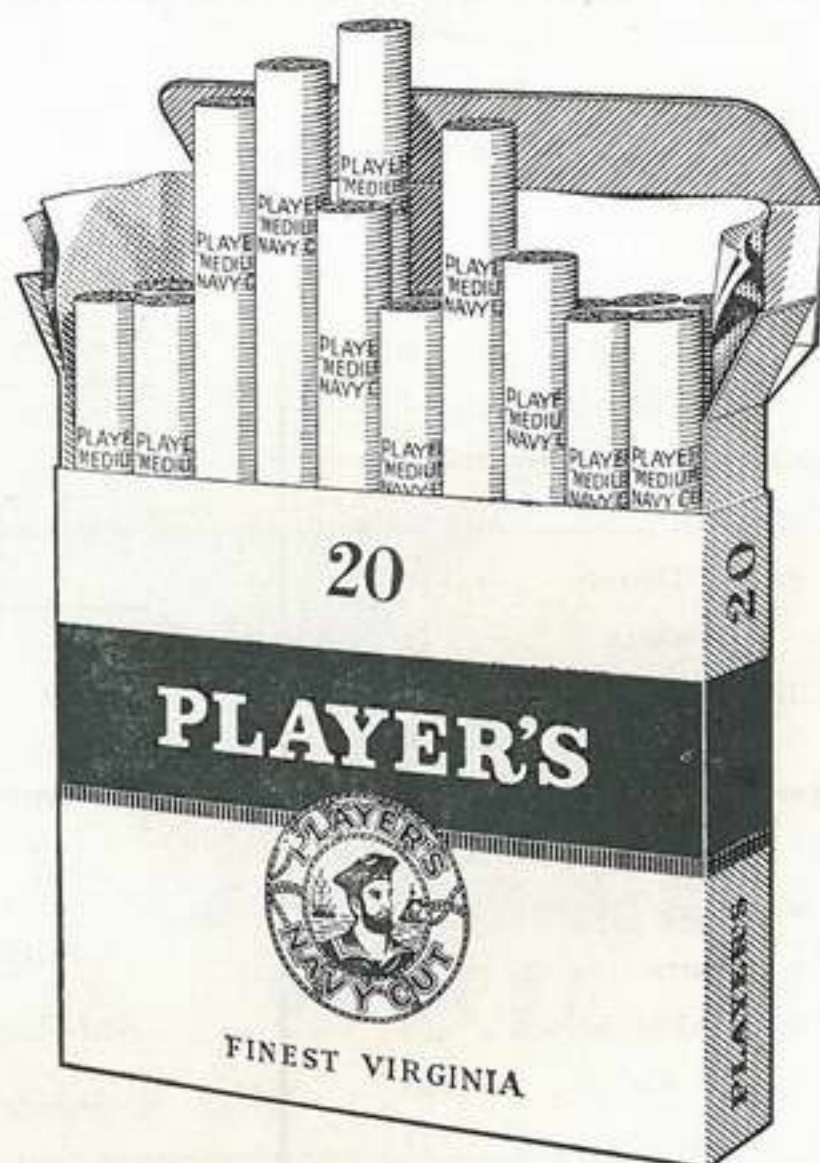
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—GEARÓID Mac CABA.



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NEW YEAR AND THANKS THEM FOR  
THEIR PATRONAGE DURING THE  
PAST YEARS*



# REAMHRA

*Alf O Muiri, Uachtaran, C.L.G.*

**T**A fáilte croíúil tuillte ag Bliainiris Chuchulainn ó gach ball de Chumann Lúthchleas Gael agus ó gach duine atá sasta tacaíocht a thabhairt do "Eire Ghaelach." Molaim os ard í ar an ard-chaighdeán atá leagtha síos aici in athbhreithiú imeachtaí an Chumainn sa bhliain atá thart agus ar an tsuim a spreagann sí i ngach gné den Náisiúntacht.

Its forward looking outlook prompts me to use this opportunity to speak to its readers of the year ahead. 1965—the first of our fifth score of years—is an important one for the Gaelic Athletic Association. It follows a year in which, because of the grievous loss that we suffered in the passing of Pádraig O Caoimh, R.I.P., there was a deeper realisation of the heritage that is in our hands. Will that realisation now spur us on to a new era of endeavour, of enthusiasm, of devotion, so that the Association in 1984 will look upon this final score of years as the time of its flowering?

Could 1965 be made memorable as the first year of a successful hurling revival? It will see the launching of a determined effort to revive in every county our greatest, most National game. The Association is now strong enough to provide the material incentives for such an effort, but is the National Spirit still strong enough to provide the individual determination that will see the hurling revival succeed. If every man and boy in our Association does his share, there is no fear of failure.

Don phobal i gcoitinne beidh 1965 in a bliain athbheochana ar dhóigh eile. Tá dea-mhéinn an phobail tugtha don Ghaeilge cheana féin, tá an Rialtas ag déanamh réidh le treoir úr a thabhairt don athbheochan sin. Tá orainne mar Chumann, agus mar dhaoine aonair, ár sciar féin a dhéanamh. Ní bheadh an Cumann seo againne dílis d'ár mbarrshamhla féin mura dtabharaimis treoir uainn féin in athbheochan na Gaeilge. Tá dualgas orainn an Ghailge a labhairt i ngach áit, ar gach lá, i ngach cuideachta.



# Teachtaireacht na Nollag

Le Roibeard Mac Caba  
Cathaoirleach, Press Cuchulainn Teo.

**T**A athas orm arís i mbliana teachtaireacht na Nollag a scríobh dár léitheoirí. Is deacair a chreidiúint go bhfuil bliain iomlán sáraithe ón am a raibh orm an obair seo a dhéanamh anuraidh.

Is fíor, áfach, go bhfuil bliain eile istigh agus sa bhliain sin is íontach an dul chun cinn atá déanta ag Cumann Lúthchleas Gael.

Do chailleamar an duine is treise a bhí againn, ach dearfainn go mbeadh athas mór ar Phádraig a fheiceáil go raibh an Cumann i ndán dul ar aghaidh fiú amháin ina éagmais féin. Is féidir a rá gurb' shin an cruthú is mó go ndearna sé éacht oibre lena linn.

Bhí an t-ádh linn go raibh duine chomh ábalta le Alf O Muirí chun teacht ina Uachtarán ar an gCumann agus cé go raibh, ó thús, dualgais an-throma air, rinne sé cion fir agus anois tá foireann nua feidhmiúcháin aige chun cuspóirí an Chumainn a chur i gcrích.

Tá súil agam go mbeidh gach rath ar Sheán O Siocháin agus a chomh-oifigigh agus, más féidir leo an scéim nua

iomána a chur ar siúl i gceart, beidh buíochas gach Gaeil tuillte acu.

Dar linne, is é an scéim sin an rud is tabhachtaí a thainig romhainn le fada. Muna n-éiríonn le Cumann Lúthchleas Gael an cluiche uasal ársa sin a shábháil agus a leathnú, ní fiú an Cumann bheith ann.

Agus sin á rá agam, tá fhios agam go bhfuil rudaí maithe eile idir lámha ag an gCumann ach ní bheidh bunchuspóir an Chumainn á choimhlíonadh go dtí go mbíonn an iomáint i réim i ngach cearn den tír.

Sibhse, a léitheoirí, a bheas ag cabhrú leis na hoifigigh chun an scéim a chur ar aghaidh, tig libh bheith cinnte go bhfaighidh sibh gach cúnamh i gcónaí ó Press Cuchulainn i "Nuachtán Gael", sna bliainirísí contae agus sa bhliainirís seo.

Is é mo ghuí go dtiocfaidh síocháin Dé oraibh uilig an Nollaig seo agus go mbeidh bliain nua faoi mhaise agaibh féin agus bhur gcúram.

---

## Ag Feachaint Siar

Le Sean O Siochain  
Ard Runai, C.L.G.

**I**S é tráth an áthais é, is é tráth an bhróin é, is é tráth na carthanachta agus an mhachnaimh é. Is mor idir inniu agus an taca seo anuraidh—do chailleamar ár dTaoiseach, Pádraig Uas. O Caoimh, idir an dá linn, agus go leor eile de Ghaelaibh dhíograiseacha a dhein éacht oibre chun Cumann Lúthchleas Gael a chur in uachtar anseo in Eirinn agus imeasc Gaelaibh ar fur an domhain. Níl slí is fearr chun ár meas orthu a chur in iúl ná a n-aidhmeanna do chur i gcrích. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha uilig.

Is é tráth an áthais agus an traoslaithe é agus glacaim leis an deis seo chun comhgháirdeas a dhéanamh le Tiobraid Arann agus le Gaillimh, le Nua Eabhrac, le Corcaigh, le hUa bhFáilí, le Ciarraí, le Loch Garman agus leis An Dún ar a ngaisce ar pháirc na himeartha. Ba mhaith liom, freisin, buíochas an Chumainn a chur in iúl do gach imreoir, do gach oifigeach, do gach club

agus do gach Coiste Contae a dhein rud éigin i rith na bliana, bíodh sé beag nó mor, cun cur le cáil agus le tionchur an Chumainn mar eagraíocht náisiúnta.

**I**T is a time for resolutions and wishes for the New Year and my three wishes for 1965 are:

That more and more clubs will intensify their efforts in providing centres of cultural and social activity in their parishes and in co-operating with other national organisations in promoting allied aims and objectives.

That the new hurling promotion drive will arouse much of what is at present dormant in the spirit of idealism in our people and "sweep the land like a mighty wave."

That all team officials and players at all levels will set their sights at the highest target in sportsmanship, at present achieved by many, and will not settle for less.



THE ROAD BACK—OR SOME LIGHT-  
HEARTED REFLECTIONS ON GALWAY'S  
RETURN JOURNEY TO THE END OF THE  
ROCKY ROAD TO CROKE PARK.

# THE ROAD BACK

BY BRIAN GERAGHTY (the Galway footballer)

I was, in my earliest days, a 'screaming' fan of one-time poet, pop scribbler and long distance walker, Tony ("m'fháimse sláinte") Raftery. "Screaming" is the appropriate word, for even to this day the neighbours are unwavering in their opinions that I was at my most torturing best when "rendering" one of the Mayoman's popular pops.

When one considers that in the interim three of these numbers have won their way into the Department of Education's Official "Top Ten" (the "Dánta Mean-Teastais"), one might show a little more respect for early genius (that's me!).

Secondly, from the moral of this tale of my early genius and humility, fathers and mothers of to-day's youth might learn a valuable lesson. Seeing that the neighbours didn't take too long to discover my extra extraordinary qualities (ear splittingly or otherwise!), I would beseech you parents of to-day not to disbelieve everything which your next-door inhabitant might hint about your beloved Johnny. Bless 'em, sure I know that he must be a delightful boy!! Now, of all the Raftery pops there was one which used to really "send me," and that was his touching ballad "Mise Rafterí an file" (Deka L.P. 314—30/-). Incidentally, I was always of the opinion that "Mise" was the poets' christian name, until my search for truth won for me a guinea on the "Dear Sir or Madam" curiosity programme of Radio Eireann fame.

## Other Love

From this ballad we learn of the poet's other love—"sport." In the following lines Raftery is referring to

his "long distance walking" — the sport at which he was best:

"Ag dul siar ar m'aistear  
Le solas mo chroí  
Fan agus tuirse  
Go deire mo slí."

"Going back on my journey" he says in the first line. Year after year this big-hearted marathon walker would make yet another unsuccessful attempt at the N.A.C.A. sponsored (strictly a Rule 27 man), energy-sapping Tour of Connacht.

His lot, however, was to be one of continual failure. One year admittedly, when the underfoot going was pretty heavy he almost led the field home. An uncontrollable autograph hunter, who evaded the police cordon, proved his downfall. Once again he had to be content with second place—the winner being the fast-finishing Connemara entry, Pádraich O Conaire (or "P. Connors," as he had been referred to on the American-styled programme).

Later it was suggested by some of the course stewards that O Conaire had made more than ordinary use of his "Asal Beag Dúbh" when going through the woody parts of the course. This objection, I might add, was overruled, but the donkey had his licence suspended for the rest of the season.

Why all this about the now-retired Raftery? Well, his sad case is similar to that of the Galway footballers in many respects, but still it differs considerably in the concluding paragraph. He failed dismally, but after many heartbreaking visits to Páirc an Chrócaigh we who kick the large sphere in the Corrib County have at long last experienced the sweetness of success. This year saw our dreams come true.

Raftery, who made Galway his adopted county set an example for us in perseverance. Why then did he fail, and we succeed?

Some say that he had too much iron in his blood for he was known to have stuck religiously to a friut diet ("Tá smeara, 's subh craobh ann"). Others claim that he lacked a good manager, and base the validity of this theory on the fact that he himself admits in his poem that he could not even follow a fixed course in these walks, thereby losing valuable minutes.

Admittedly "Fan" means "wandering," but I think that the last word in this line provides the key to the problem . . . "Tuirse" . . . "weary." Raftery failed because he had a pessimistic, sad approach which could only be doomed to failure.

Galway's approach was completely different. That determination, that "fighting spirit," without which nothing can be won was instilled into us by exemplary captain John Donnellan, but it was a happy determination.

Our training sessions were happy, joyous occasions, events more to be looked forward to than dreaded.

## Give and Take

Trying to get in a slick one at Mattie "McMuscle" McDonagh was looked forward to as much as Seamus Leydon's corner-flag points. Matthew could take and give them, and at this verbal contest it never proved easy to better this stalwart of the Primary Educational System.

Neither was it easy "to swing the lead" when Frankie Stockwell put us through those sprints and jerks.

(Continued on Page 95)





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**JOHN DOWLING, the well-known referee and Faithful County official writes on**

## Offaly's First Title

**F**ROM the Barrow to the Shannon and from Slieve Bloom to Croghan Hill all Offaly is agog with the deeds of an outstanding minor team who this year earned themselves a permanent place in the hearts of all Offalians. September 27, 1964 was indeed a red-letter day for football in the Faithful County for it marked the first taste of sweet success in the All-Ireland series and the breakthrough to what we believe will be even greater victories in the future.

The winning of the Tom Markham Cup is now history but the celebrations still continue. Each parish has honoured its own players in royal fashion and the county at large has

shown its appreciation of the players' wonderful efforts.

I will now take, step by step, the events leading up to this historic victory. About 1940 Offaly County Board formed Bord na Scol to look after the interests of boys under-14 years. The first venture of the Bord was football, which proved such an immediate success that hurling competitions were soon organised.

Later, competitions for boys under 12 were established and proved invaluable as an ideal stepping stone to the under-14 ranks.

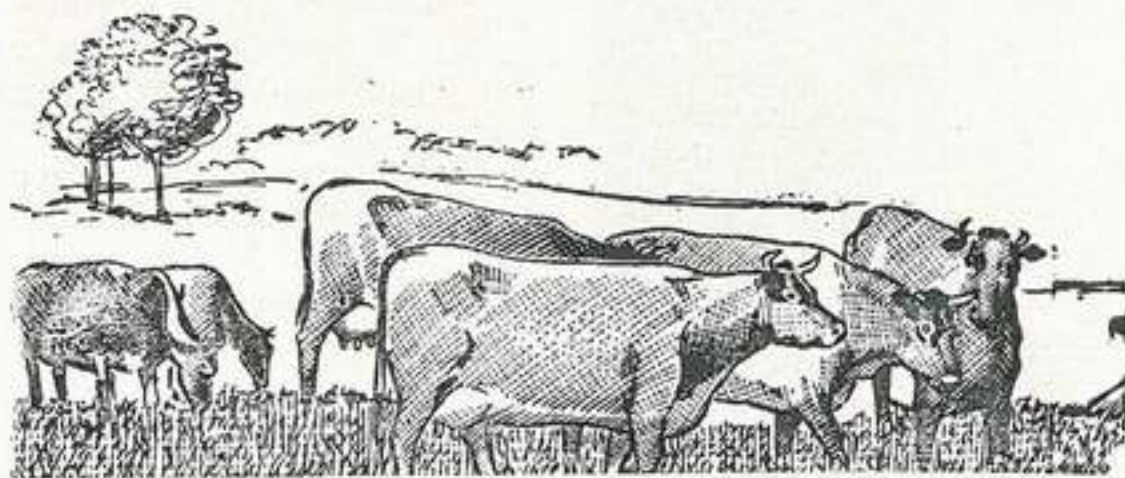
The Minor Board was also launched about the same time and its responsibilities are to foster Gaelic

Games among the 14-18 age groups and to continue to cater for the youth where Bord na Scol must finish.

The Minor Board is responsible for juvenile and minor competitions in hurling and football and due mainly to its efforts and those of Bord na Scol Offaly's position in Gaelic games has improved immeasurably. Both Boards receive financial backing from the County Board and every possible help from its officials.

Offaly had not long to wait for results from these new ventures. In 1947 the county won its first Leinster minor title and went on to take three more provincial championships before winning its first All-Ireland minor crown.

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### Panel Of 30

The 1964 campaign opened in the same manner as many others before it. The gathering together of the football talent from each club in April and the sifting of players continued until May, when the panel of players was reduced to 30. After a number of inter-county trial games the team to contest the championship was chosen and was the most representative minor team ever to wear the county colours.

Ballycumber, St. Rynagh's, Fербane, Daingean, Tullamore, Gracefield and Rhode each supplied two players, with Walsh Island supplying the remaining one. Results proved that the selectors had done a thorough job, as during the campaign they made only one change in personnel. That was during the Leinster final, when Byrne of Rhode replaced Devary of Ballycumber and retained his place for the remaining games.



First championship engagement was against Louth, and after an unsteady start the boys settled down to play good football. After a great penalty save by goalkeeper Furlong and tremendous defensive work by Mulligan, Offaly clicked into gear and ran out comfortable winners.

The next opponents were the Lily Whites and the venue was Portlaoise. Offaly started in storming fashion and, with each player in attacking mood, retired at half time with a commanding lead. At this stage it looked as if they would coast to victory.

### Other Ideas

But Kildare had other ideas. They came out for the second half in determined fashion, got on top at midfield and nearly won the day. The Offaly defence got a severe testing, but Ryan, Duffy and Coughlan enhanced their reputations, with McTeague, Gunning and McIntyre to the fore in attack.

So on to the Leinster final at Croke Park and Laois as opposition. Here it was touch and go for the hour, with Offaly lasting the pace a little better. The big Laois team proved a rare handful, but with Smith, Grogan, Greene and McTeague in rare form victory was gained by a single point.

The boys had now gained confidence and much-needed match-play experience as they faced the All-Ireland series. Training was stepped up and with the approach of the Mayo game the selectors decided to retain the team that finished in the Leinster final.

### A Question

At this stage Offaly had won all games with a good start and it left one question unanswered: Could they come from behind and win? They were the underdogs against a much vaunted Mayo side boasting many college players and after ten minutes it looked as if the critics were correct.

Mayo were five points in front before Offaly got into their stride. Settling down, they came back to whittle away the lead and go in front. Mayo fought all the way but the final whistle saw Offaly enter their first All-Ireland minor final.

In this victory Smith, Ryan, Green, Gunning, McIntyre, Byrne and McTeague were most prominent.

A course of hard training and complete attention to every detail of preparation left Offaly in fine fettle for the All-Ireland final against Cork. After an early Cork point they really settled down. Kilmurray appeared to own the ball at midfield and paved the way for great scores by McTeague. Kennedy and Bryan blazed into the game and emulated the feats of McTeague and at the interval the Leinster champions looked set for an easy victory.

But the resumption told a different tale and the first twenty minutes of the second half proved a nightmare for Offaly. A defensive blunder let the Leesiders in for a goal and they gradually reduced the lead and eventually went in front.

Then Offaly regained their earlier poise. Kilmurray came back into the game and a great solo effort ended with a point. McTeague equalised from a free. A Cork attack was foiled by Grogan, who made ground and placed Kennedy, who took his chance beautifully to score the winning point.

On the call of time Cork attacked and Furlong, with a masterly dive, saved his net. A free out resulted and Offaly were All-Ireland champions.

The team arrived home to a tremendous civic reception in Tullamore, where 8,000 people gathered to greet their heroes. It was a fitting tribute from loyal supporters.

The men behind the scenes who toiled so hard to ensure this success were: Fr. Vaughan, Chairman County Board; Rody O'Brien, County Secretary; Fr. McWey, Chairman, Minor Board and Fr. Gillooly, Team Trainer and of course, the selectors. Indeed, all concerned worked in such harmony that the happy atmosphere prevalent at all times was another contributory factor to victory.

The future looks very bright for Offaly football. With the 1964 title-winning team and other minors of the past five years available the Faithful County can look ahead to greater things.

The important thing, however, is that youngsters should not be rushed into senior competition. Neither should they be left in the wilderness. Our task must be to find the happy medium in this regard.

Given the opportunity of gaining experience, Offaly, with careful and patient handling, has the material to bring home the Sam Maguire Cup in the not too distant future.



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By **OLD-TIMER**

# HURLING'S YEAR OF DESTINY

**W**HEN the sporting historians of the future come to look at the year 1964, they may well decide that as far as hurling was concerned this was the real year of destiny, since it marked the initiation of the great scheme for the revival of hurling. And it may well be, too, that the historians will be of the opinion that the scheme for revival came just in time, as the year of 1964 was anything but an inspiring one on the playing fields.

True, it was a year that got off to a rather intriguing start, for Cork, who had surely touched rock-bottom in the previous November, when in the National Hurling League they had suffered their worst senior defeat ever at the hands of Tipperary, came out to secure a completely unexpected but entirely convincing victory over All-Ireland champions Kilkenny at a League game in Cork.

That result gave a completely new look to the hurling scene, especially when, later in the Spring, Kilkenny and Tipperary played a draw in the last game of the section.

This meant that, under the new system, Tipperary, Wexford, Cork, and Limerick, (where the game had also shown distinct signs of revival,) advanced to the League semi-finals and we looked forward to some wonderful games at this stage of the competition.

Meanwhile, the Railway Cup final, played as usual at Croke Park on St. Patrick's Day, between Leinster and Munster, produced a deal of earnest rather than brilliant play. And while Leinster were in the end, deserving winners, the chief memory we carried away was of a remarkable coincidence.

On St. Patrick's Day, 1963 Eddie Keher of Kilkenny, with scores level, failed to score from a last-minute free right in front of the Munster posts. So that game ended in a draw,

and the Southern hurlers won the replay on Easter Sunday.

On St. Patrick's Day, 1964, in the last minute, scores were again level, and again Keher stepped up to take a free roughly the same distance out.

## Compensated

This time he sent the ball sailing between the posts for the winning point, and amply compensated his province and himself for that miss the previous year.

The League semi-finals did not, however, come up to expectations. Limerick chose to play Tipperary at Nenagh and pleasant McDonagh Park drew a great hosting which, however, was doomed to see the Treatyside challenge quickly fade, and Tipperary cruise on to yet another League final.

Cork and Wexford came to Croke Park to play their game, and this too was an unsatisfactory hour. The hurling was often crude, injuries were far too frequent and though Wexford were deserving winners, they rarely showed promise of reaching the heights that had characterised so many of their previous League campaigns.

This opinion was all too well corroborated in the final itself when Tipperary swept almost untroubled to the most convincing of victories.

This, of course, was, under present regulations, only the 'home' final and Tipperary had yet to cross the Atlantic to cross ash with the New York exiles.

As a preliminary canter they defeated Kilkenny at Wembley and soon afterwards set out for the States where, for much of the hour, the Irish heroes, seemed set for an easy victory. Then came an amazing New York revival and it was only in the dying minutes that New York's cheering supporters were silenced as

Tipperary came storming back to snatch a very hard-earned decision.

Meanwhile, All-Ireland champions Kilkenny were also in America. While Tipperary were battling New York at Gaelic Park, the Noremen were running up a string of facile scores against a local side at Chicago. The following Sunday Kilkenny, in turn, moved on to New York and there caused something of a sensation at home by defeating Tipperary in a match billed over there as for, 'The Championship of the World.'

A week later the Kilkennymen endorsed their claim to that World Title, as far as America was concerned, by defeating New York, and then followed Tipperary home to take part in the sterner battles for the championship on our own soil.

Cork were soon back in the lime-light, defeating Munster champions Waterford in a sensational game, in which a long Cork lead was wiped out by a head-long rally from the men of the Decies, but Cork came back to snatch the winning score.

Tipperary came untroubled through the other half of the draw, and a traditional Munster final between Tipperary and Cork was a great magnet at their old jousting ground, the Limerick Gaelic Field. Cork recalled the veteran Paddy Barry of the Sarsfields but once again, as has been so often the case with the Leesiders' bid to come back into the hurling lime-light, promise far exceeded achievement, and, gallantly though they fought, Cork were a long way in arrears when the last whistle blew.

## Best Match

Over in Leinster, in the semi-final at Croke Park Kilkenny and Wexford served up what was possibly the best match of a rather uneven championship before the holders just got through. The Kilkennymen then had



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# A Year Of Mixed Fortunes For Cork

It was a year of mixed fortunes for Cork. There was the bitter disappointment of the collapse of the senior hurlers against Tipperary in the Munster final and the uninspiring display of the senior footballers against Kerry. But there were also the bright spots in the shape of two All-Ireland wins. The minor hurlers reached the top after thirteen years in the wilderness and the junior footballers also went all the way by defeating London at the end of a fine series of victories.

In view of the fact that hurling is Cork's traditional game the victory of the minors was hailed with tremendous delight. For many years there had been great concern at the failure of the under-age team to make its mark.

"How can we hope for good senior teams in the future," followers asked, "if the minors are not up to standard?"

There was a feeling early in the year that Cork had a minor team that might go places, and the optimism proved well founded when the boys gave a fine performance against Tipperary in the Munster final. Indeed, the minor final gave spectators at Limerick far more satisfaction than the senior game which followed.

## Scores Level

It was tit for tat in the first half and the scores were level (Cork, 2-6, Tipp 1-9) at the interval. Again in the second half there was very little between the teams, but the Cork forwards were better at picking off scores than their opposite numbers and they added eight points against Tipp's goal, leaving the final score 2-14 to 2-9 in Cork's favour.

The game brought to light two Cork players of exceptional talent—Charlie McCarthy at right full forward, who score a goal and nine points, and midfielder Con Roche, who impressed as a good prospect for a place on the senior side in a few years' time.

This was, however, by no means a two-man Cork team. There were competent players in every sector, with Willie Murphy shining in defence and Denis Hurley, Kevin Cummins and Liam McAuliffe giving McCarthy great support in attack.

The All-Ireland final, in which Cork met Laois, was an anti-climax. The Cork boys were competent and confident but the Leinster champions failed completely to live up to previous performances and the result was a disappointing, one-sided game.

## Flying Start

Cork got off to a flying start with a goal by Kevin Cummins in the first minute. At half-time they led by 3-3 to 0-4. Then, soon after the resumption, they threw the Laois boys off balance with a spate of goals and at the hour's end the scoreboard read 10-7 to 1-4 in their favour.

Needless to say, there was great jubilation when Kevin Cummins went up to the Hogan Stand to receive the All-Ireland cup, for thirteen years is a long time for a leading hurling county to wait for a minor title.

The Cork junior footballers first raised hopes of an All-Ireland win when they defeated Kerry in an exciting Munster semi-final at Macroom. This game saw the emergence of a very promising new player in the person of Johnny Carroll, who was promptly snapped up by the senior selectors and so was lost to the juniors for their remaining matches.

## Competent

That game against Kerry showed that Cork had a tough, competent side that boasted some fine individual performers. Among these was Tommy Burke of Millstreet, who was to prove the main score-getter right through the campaign.

The Munster final against Clare saw Cork well on top all the way through and the next game was

against Roscommon. Cork were clearly the better side here and were well ahead at the final whistle.

Meath provided strong opposition in the All-Ireland home final and it took two hard-fought games before Cork advanced to the final proper.

This was played at Cork on October 24. It was a hard game which provided plenty of excitement but was disappointing from the football viewpoint. London looked the better side in the first half, at the end of which they led by 2-3 to 0-3, but Cork came well into the picture on the resumption and Tommy Burke's accurate place-kicking was a big factor in bringing them well up on the scoreboard.

## Vital Goal

It was also a kick by Burke into the square that resulted in the vital goal, which came when Hugo Casey boxed the ball to the net.

Cork clung to a point lead in the closing stages despite strenuous efforts by the exiles to close the gap. On a few occasions the London forwards made the mistake of trying for a goal when a point would have brought them level, and the final whistle saw the home side still in front.

So near and yet so far sums up the efforts of Cork's minor footballers, who went within a point of adding another All-Ireland title to the county's 1964 list of successes.

Bloodless victories over Waterford and Clare in Munster saw them enter the All-Ireland series as something of an unknown quantity, but they proved themselves in an exciting semi-final against a highly-rated Antrim side.

Leinster champions Offaly provided the opposition on All-Ireland Day and when the Cork boys trailed by eight points at the interval not even the most fervent Southern supporter held out hopes on an exciting finish.

(Continued on Page 88)



# Cumann Lúit-éleas Saédeal

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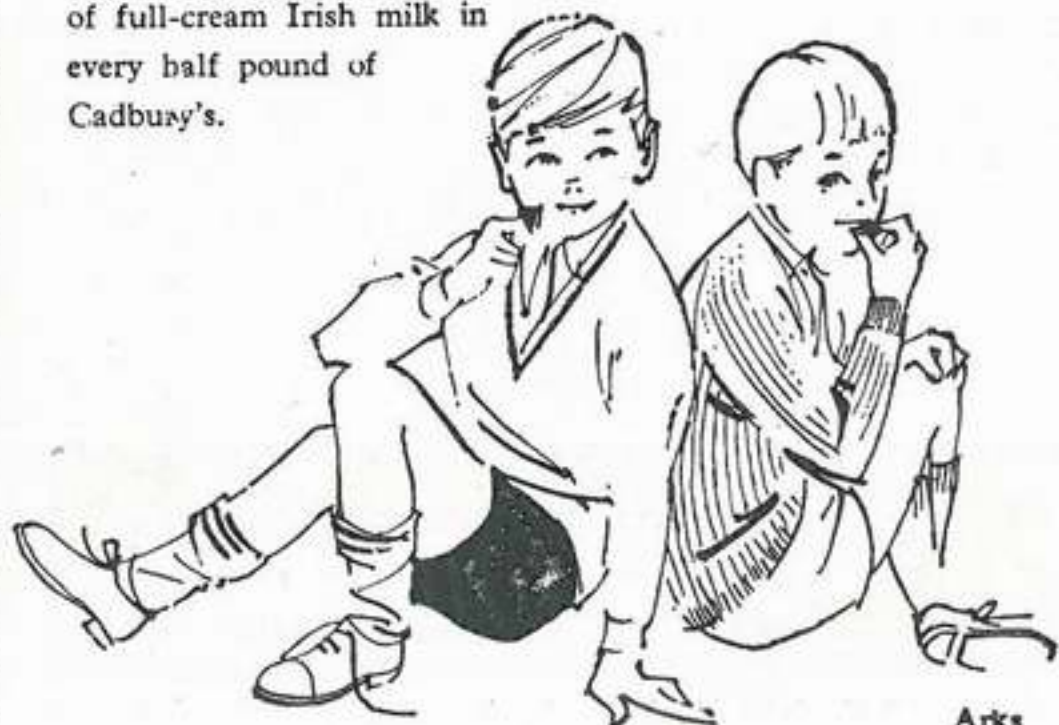
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AINÉ MEAGHER'S

## A YEAR OF PROGRESS

**T**HE Diamond Jubilee year of camogie, while it found camogie in a less thriving condition than most of us would like it to be, was still a year in which progress was made on many fronts, and a year that will be looked back upon with pride in many counties.

It was a year that had its disappointments, for several counties that had been much to the fore in recent seasons, in three of the four provinces, failed to stir themselves even for the Jubilee Year. On the other hand, I would say that, generally speaking, these disappointments were offset by the spectacular progress made elsewhere.

It was, for instance, a very good year in Munster, with all six counties taking part in the provincial championship, plenty of enthusiasm for the inter-club championship and the whole effort crowned by the retention of the Gael-Linn Cup for the interprovincial series.

Up North, although the Ulster senior championship once again was rather disappointing, the junior championship aroused considerable enthusiasm and Monaghan's victory was a fine fillip for the game in that county.

In Leinster, the championship campaign produced some fine matches but it was a tremendous pity that after Wicklow had won the junior title, the first title ever for such a faithful county, local rivalries were allowed to overshadow the satisfaction of that achievement.

In the West it was, however, a rather disappointing year. In the Spring the victory of University College, Galway in the Ashbourne Cup seemed to presage a real Jubilee year for Connacht, but thereafter little went right.

Not alone did Galway subsequently field one of their weakest teams ever in the All-Ireland semi-final, but the Western province was unable to field either in the Gael-Linn Cup or in the Jubilee Cup.

However, I have so far mainly painted the black side of the picture. Now let us try and count our blessings.

In the first place, thanks to the Gaelic Weekly, camogie got a tremendous psychological boost early in the year when, for the first time, it received full recognition in the All-Star Awards. And those awards were proudly accepted by Una O'Connor and Deirdre Sutton at the banquet in the Gresham Hotel on St. Patrick's Eve.

Again there was continued progress on the Colleges' front, where for the first time, the champions of Leinster and Ulster met in an unofficial test of supremacy. Holy Faith, Clontarf were victors over Cross and Passion, Ballycastle in this friendly All-Ireland which, one hopes, was but the forerunner of a real competition to come.

Moreover, since the Summer there has been a tremendous added advance to the Colleges' competitions in Leinster, where a junior championship has been added to the already successful senior Stuart Cup.

This, together with the return to active competition of the Dominican schools in Dublin, has given an absorbing interest to the schools games in Dublin and far beyond.

Add on the fact that there is in Leinster yet a third schools competition, the Murphy Cup, competed for by the pupils of Brigidine Convents from three different counties, and it will be seen that the schools and colleges in the eastern province are giving a wonderful lead to their elders.

In Ulster, too, which now has a grammar school tournament in addition to the junior and senior colleges championships, great work continues to be done among the youngsters. Is it not time that similar efforts were made in Munster and Connacht?

The All-Ireland senior championship was a series of high-lights and shadows. There were some grand preliminary games in Leinster and Munster, and the provincial finals, between Dublin and Wexford and Tipperary and Cork, were both hard-fought.

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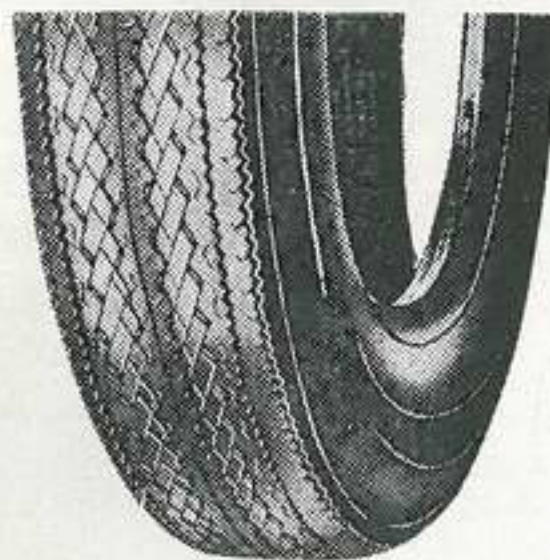
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## AND DISAPPOINTMENTS

The first semi-final, between Antrim and Tipperary, gave us a grand game, with Antrim deservedly, if somewhat unexpectedly, victorious, but Galway gave a very disappointing display against Dublin in the second semi-final at Parnell Park.

The final resulted in a clear-cut win for Dublin after Antrim had as much, if not more, of the play. It was again a game of very high standards, and though Dublin won so readily on the score-board, only those who were present and the attendance was once again rather below expectations, could have known just how close Antrim were to the winners in ability.

Anyway, Una O'Connor, the Dublin captain, went on to win her eleventh All-Ireland medal and the Metropolitans strengthened even further their grip on the O'Duffy Cup.

Munster, the holders of the Gael-Linn Cup for the in-

terprovincial championship, retained their title with a late win by a single point over Leinster in a brilliant game at Cahir.

The Jubilee Cup, a special competition to mark the Jubilee Year, and in which the various county champions competed, cut up rather badly here and there, but yet produced some great games.

Glen Rovers (Cork) came through in Munster, Dublin champions Celtic came out of Leinster and Deirdre (Antrim) had a triumphant run through Ulster. Nobody came forward from Connacht, so Deirdre advanced to the final.

The competition was delayed, however, due to a draw between Celtic and Glen Rovers, so the position as to who will be Jubilee champions has not been resolved as we go to press.



The Ballyroe St. Annes who won the 1964 Kildare camogie championship by defeating Carragh, 2-4 to 1-2, in the final. *Front row* (l. to r.)—KATHLEEN MORAN, LILY LAWLOR, ANNA MORAN, CAMELIUS CAROLAN, MAURA FINGLETON. *Back row* (l. to r.)—THERESE CONNOLLY, MARY O'CONNOR, JEAN CAROLAN, ANNA KIRWAN, PAULINE MURPHY, KATHLEEN CAROLAN, THERESE O'CONNOR.



# THE GAA AND THE

**WE** are all agreed that the Gaelic Athletic Association is a national organisation. Its fundamental purpose, when it was founded, was to preserve the spirit of nationality by preserving, encouraging and popularising the native games, and that primary purpose has never altered through the eighty years since Cusack and Davin and their colleagues met in Hayes's Hotel in Thurles on that All-Saints Day, November 1, 1884.

It is well for us to always remember this fact, that the G.A.A. was formed for a national purpose, because the fact may be too easily obscured by the leagues and championships and tournaments at every level that, by far too many people, are accepted as the prime object of the Association's existence today.

All those competitions were instituted with but a single aim, to popularise the native games and if, in the course of the years, the competitions themselves seem to have taken pride of place in the Association's activities, this is only positive proof of the foremost place which the G.A.A. itself has attained in the life of the nation.

In this respect the hurling and football championships have more than served their purpose, the handball championships have more than justified themselves, while the Camogie Association, a cognate body that was not even visualised in 1884, has also done such wonderful work in its own sphere that one wonders why it has never been officially recognised by the G.A.A.

## **Must Preserve**

But the point I am really striving to make is this, that, in many respects, the work that the G.A.A. is doing for Irish nationality may have but begun, because it is the only nation-wide body of its kind that can, and must, preserve for our children, and for our children's children, the very idea as well as the ideal of one Ireland.

It is now slightly more than forty years since our small country was politically partitioned. Many of us shrugged our shoulders at the time, confident that in a decade, or at most in a generation, that artificial boundary drawn around six counties in the North-East would be gone and forgotten, would be no more than an unhappy memory. But what has happened?

We are now in the fifth decade of partition, a second generation of Irishmen and Irishwomen is growing up that has never known an Ireland that was a single political entity. We have all begun tacitly to accept, in many little ways, the existence of two 'Irelands.'

In the Republic, far too many people talk smugly of the fact, for instance, that 'Ireland' has attained its freedom, utterly ignoring the hard if unpalatable fact that

this 'Ireland' of which they speak is a non-existent Ireland of 26 counties. And as well as that, far too many people nowadays think 'Ulster' consists of six counties only.

We are too often left wondering when 'Ireland' is referred to in the newspapers, to what 'Ireland' they are referring—the Twenty-six County 'Ireland', the Six-County 'Ireland,' or the single entity of a Thirty-two County Ireland which, at the end of all, is the only Ireland that really exists.

Now the primary task of any national organisation must surely be, by fostering the very spirit of nationality, to help preserve the nation. And that immense task of preserving the idea of one Irish nation, of cultivating and strengthening the spirit of Irish nation-hood, rests fairly and squarely today on the shoulders of the Gaelic Athletic Association.

We must all face the dreadful realisation that this hateful and erroneous assumption that there are two 'Irelands' is almost imperceptibly gaining a grip on the minds of our people. Too many of us in the 'South' are inclined to accept the false premises that there is something alien about the 'North,' just as too many people in the North-East are led to believe that they are in some way different from their kinsfolk south of the 'Border.'

Of course the Churches do not recognise the 'Border' but then the same Border has been, in a subtle fashion, carefully buttressed on a mixture of political and religious differences, and that is why the Gaelic Athletic Association, a non-political and non-sectarian, national body, must, in the last analysis, carry the chief burden of preserving the very idea of Irish nation-hood.

## **Same Position**

On the playing fields of the G.A.A. partition does not exist. The hurling and football teams of the six sundered counties hold exactly the same position as those from the twenty-six. The G.A.A., on its sports-fields and in the Council chambers is a thirty-two county Ireland. The same flag floats over all its matches, the same national spirit prevails on its grounds, north or south of the 'Border.'

But, to my mind, we should not be satisfied with the present position; we should try and integrate and intensify through the G.A.A., the effort to preserve the spirit of nation-hood.

It was perhaps the greatest achievement of the great Down football side of recent years that they, by their victories, gave to thousands upon thousands from both sides of the Border an entirely new awareness of the fact that we were all one people, North and South—and that applied to sections of the population, particularly in the



# NATION

North-East, that one would least have expected a decade ago to pride in the achievements of any Gaelic football team.

But, for one, I was so impressed by the good effect achieved by the visits of Down and other cross-border teams to Croke Park in recent years, that I think the G.A.A. should take some further very practical steps to foster the realisation of the fact that there is only one Ireland.

And the very first step should be, in my opinion, to recast entirely the National Football League. At present Division I is confined to Donegal, Monaghan and the six counties across the 'Border.'

This scheme was, presumably, first adopted to save travelling time and expenses. But travelling is much faster and easier now than it was twenty years ago, while the question of expenses is no longer the pressing problem that once it was.

## Regrouping

So, to encourage the spirit of unity between North and South, I would completely regroup the National Football League so as to ensure that all Six-County teams would play at least half their league matches south of the Border every year.

Just as a suggestion, and one that would keep travelling to a reasonable minimum, how would this be for a start on regrouping—**Division I**—Louth, Down, Cavan, Armagh, Monaghan, Antrim, Meath, Longford. **Division II**—Donegal, Fermanagh, Tyrone, Derry, Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim, Roscommon.

And this would be only a start. After a year or two I would move in teams from further south to enhance the feeling of a single Ireland on Gaelic fields.

In the second place, I feel that far more big matches should be played in the Six Sundered Counties than is the case at the moment. I would play all Ulster finals at Casement Park, and I would play every home Railway Cup football game in which Ulster was concerned at a Six-County venue.

Moreover, I think the idea approved of some years ago, of sending crack Southern teams to play exhibition games all over the North, should be revived and intensified. Chosen sides should, for example, be sent to play hurling matches not alone in Belfast and Newry and Newcastle, but in Derry and Dungannon and Enniskillen, in Omagh and Armagh and Ballinascreen.

Sure, I know such schemes would cost money but it would be money well spent, and money that must be spent if the G.A.A. is to be true to its primary task and help preserve the Irish nation as a single unit.

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# DOWN HURLERS MADE HISTORY

SAYS MATT FITZPATRICK

**W**HAT an historic county Down has become in recent years. First the footballers led the way by being the first to bring the Sam Maguire Cup over the Border and now in 1964 the hurlers from the Mourne, or should one say the hurlers from the Ards, in winning the All-Ireland junior crown brought to Ulster its first hurling title.

The story of hurling in Down goes back to the early days after the foundation of the Association and as a matter of interest the game was strongest in Central and South Down. Interest in the game then waned in some areas but increased in places like Portaferry, Ballycran and Ballygalget.

In fact, these were the only three clubs playing hurling and, with no competition in the county and because they met each other too often, an approach was made to the Antrim Board to have these teams included in the Antrim Leagues. They were accepted, and both counties have benefited from the gesture.

Hurling in the county has made great strides in the past few years and the fact that the Down Vocational Schools team reached the All-Ireland final against North Tipperary speaks well for the future.

## Hurling Spreading In Schools

As yet the game is still strongest in the Ards Peninsula area but during the past few years the Down Intermediate Schools have started a hurling league, and with six of the nine schools taking part progress must come.

There are now 41 hurling teams in the county, ranging from senior clubs to primary schools and this is indeed heartening.

George McKeown, a member of the County Board for the past 34 years and Hurling Board Chairman for the past twelve, hopes for the day when there will be a hurling club in every parish in the county.

Hurling was played in Down long before the G.A.A. was founded. In the Ards area you can still hear them talk of "Shinny" and "Caman." In those early days hurling in the other parts of the county was strong too, and teams like Leitrim Fontoneys, Kilclief, Newcastle Clann Barca, Newry Faughs and Aghaderg were strongholds of the game.

The clash of the ash can now be heard around Kilkeel, Newry, Banbridge, Rostrevor, Ballela and Aghaderg.

That more or less is a summary of things up to the present day. To paint a complete picture of hurling in Co. Down would require more space and research than I have time to undertake.

This year's success really started at the end of last Spring, when, in peaceful Portaferry, a group of hurling enthusiasts gathered together to blue print a plan that bore fruit six months later on the sun-baked pitch at London's New Eltham Stadium.

Men like Belfast-born Fr. O'Hanlon, C.C., Portaferry, and his able helper, Fr. Connolly, C.C., himself an Antrim and Ulster hurler had the practical experience. But better still they had able helpers in players eager to learn the finer arts of the game and willing to sacrifice their leisure hours training and perfecting their play for the day that would eventually give them their greatest success.

Hurling Board Chairman George McKeown, Secretary Joe Mullan, Treasurer Walter Moreland, Danny Doran from Ballela, Joint County Secretary Maurice Hayes, Gerry Mullan, Pat McGratton and his brother John, Benny Crawford and the panel of over 30 players worked tirelessly getting the team into shape.

## Good Win Over Cavan

On Sunday, June 21, Down started their All-Ireland campaign at Ballybay, when they overcame the challenge of Cavan by 7-8 to 2-4. This game provided the curtain-raiser to the Down and Monaghan senior football championship tie, but few in the big crowd took much interest in the hurling. Few that is except the fervant Down hurling followers. For there are two distinct sets of supporters in the county.

Stars of that win over Cavan were Hugo O'Prey, Eamonn Swail, Hugh Dorrian, Paud Braniff, Eugene Faloon and Hugh Sloan.

This sent Down into the Ulster final—they were fortunate to be drawn in the smaller half of the fixture list—and as they awaited for their opponents to emerge they practised and played trial games in their efforts to capture their fourth provincial title.

Their eventual opponents were their old rivals, Antrim and on July 12, at Belfast's Casement Park, Down served their first notice that they certainly had eyes on greater things. Playing grand hurling, both on the ground and in the air, they triumphed by 9-7 to 4-7.

This game proved the ability of the only non-Ards player on the team. Left corner-forward John McGivern, from the Clann Uladh Club, Newry, stamped his name on four well-taken goals, while George Gilmore showed his power with two more.

The real "find" however, was the sparkling display of

(Continued on Page 74)



# RAILWAY CUP RETURNS

## HURLING

### SEMI-FINALS

Leinster 9-9, Ulster 1-4

**LEINSTER:** O. Walsh (Kilkenny); T. Neville (Wexford), N. Drumgoole (Dublin), M. Hogan (Carlow); S. Cleere (Kilkenny), W. Rackard (Wexford), O. Fennell (Laois); P. Wilson (Wexford), P. Moran (Kilkenny); T. Ring (Westmeath), F. Whelan (Dublin), E. Keher (Kilkenny); T. Walsh (do.), E. Wheeler (Wexford), M. Bermingham (Dublin).

**ULSTER:** S. Kirke (Armagh); S. O'Reilly (Antrim), H. O'Prey (Down), S. McLoughlin (Donegal); A. Dorrian (Down), S. Carlisle (Armagh), D. McNeill (Antrim); F. O'Shea (Donegal), S. Burns (Antrim); A. Forsythe (Antrim), D. Elliott (Antrim), P. McShane (Antrim); E. Gallagher (Antrim), E. McMullan (Antrim), S. Shannon (Antrim). Subs.—J. Phelan (Armagh) for McMullan, D. Gallagher (Donegal) for O'Reilly; P. Mullaney (Antrim) for D. Gallagher.

Munster 4-9, Connacht 3-5

**MUNSTER:** J. Hogan (Limerick); John Doyle (Tipp); A. Flynn (Waterford), D. Murphy (Cork); L. Guinan (Waterford), T. Wall (Tipp), P. Fitzgerald (Cork); T. English (Tipp), P. J. Keane (Limerick); Jimmy Doyle (Tipp), M. Flannelly (Waterford), P. Cronin (Clare); L. Devaney (Tipp), J. Smith (Clare), P. Grimes (Waterford).

**CONNACHT** (all Galway): B. Madden; E. Derrivan, P. Burke, T. Conway; J. Duggan, M. Sweeney, J. Conroy; J. Salmon, M. Connaughton; P. J. Lally, Mickey Cullinane, P. Mitchell; P. Egan, P. J. Lawless, M. Fox. Subs.—T. Sweeney for Duggan, Duggan for Conroy, M. Regan for Cullinane.

### FINAL

Leinster 3-7, Munster 2-9

**LEINSTER:** O. Walsh; T. Neville, D. Quigley (Wexford), L. Foley (Dublin); S. Cleere, W. Rackard, O. Fennell; P. Wilson, P. Moran; F. Whelan, E. Wheeler, E. Keher; T. Walsh, C. O'Brien (Laois), M. Bermingham. Subs.—M. Coogan (Kilkenny) for Fennell, M. Hogan (Carlow) for Foley, D. Foley (Dublin) for Bermingham.

**MUNSTER:** J. Hogan; John Doyle, A. Flynn, D. Murphy; L. Guinan, T. Wall, P. Fitzgerald; J. O'Sullivan (Cork), T. English; Jimmy Doyle, T. Cunningham (Waterford), P. Cronin; L. Devaney, J. Smith, P. Grimes. Sub.—A. O'Brien (Limerick) for Wall.

## FOOTBALL

### SEMI-FINALS

Ulster 3-6, Munster 0-11

**ULSTER:** S. Hoare (Donegal); G. Kelly (Cavan), L. Murphy (Down), B. Brady (Donegal); D. McCartan (Down), T. Maguire (Cavan), J. McDonnell (Cavan); J. Lennon (Down), S. Ferriter (Donegal); S. O'Neill (Down), J. McCartan (Down), P. Doherty (Down); J. Whan (Armagh), P. T. Treacy (Fermanagh), F. Donnelly (Tyrone).

**MUNSTER:** S. Fitzgerald (Kerry); K. Coffey (do.), N. Sheehy (do.), D. O'Sullivan (do.); J. O'Mahony (Cork), S. Murphy (Kerry), J. Flynn (Cork); C. O'Sullivan (do.), M. Fleming (Kerry); B. O'Callaghan (do.), M. O'Dwyer (do.), M. O'Connell (do.); T. Long (do.), M. Burke (Cork), M. Keating (Tipperary). Subs.—F. O'Leary (Kerry) for Burke.

Leinster 3-7, Connacht 0-9

**LEINSTER:** A. Phillips (Wicklow); P. McCormack (Offaly), G. Hughes (do.), P. Connolly (Kildare); W. Casey (Dublin), P. Holden (do.), F. Lynch (Louth); D. Foley (Dublin), M. Carolan (Kildare); J. Mulroy (Louth), M. Whelan (Dublin), F. Walsh (Laois); S. Murray (Longford), R. Burns (do.), G. Kane (Westmeath). Subs.—J. Timmons (Dublin) for Walsh, T. Browne (Laois) for Carolan.

**CONNACHT:** J. Foye (Mayo); S. Meade (Galway), N. Tierney (do.), J. O. Moran (Roscommon); J. Donnellan (Galway), J. Murray (Leitrim), R. Creaven (Roscommon); M. Garrett (Galway), J. Langan (Mayo); P. McGarty (Leitrim), B. McAuley (Sligo), S. Leydon (Galway); C. Dunne (do.), M. McDonagh (do.), M. Kearns (Sligo). Subs.—J. B. McDermott (Galway) for Moran.

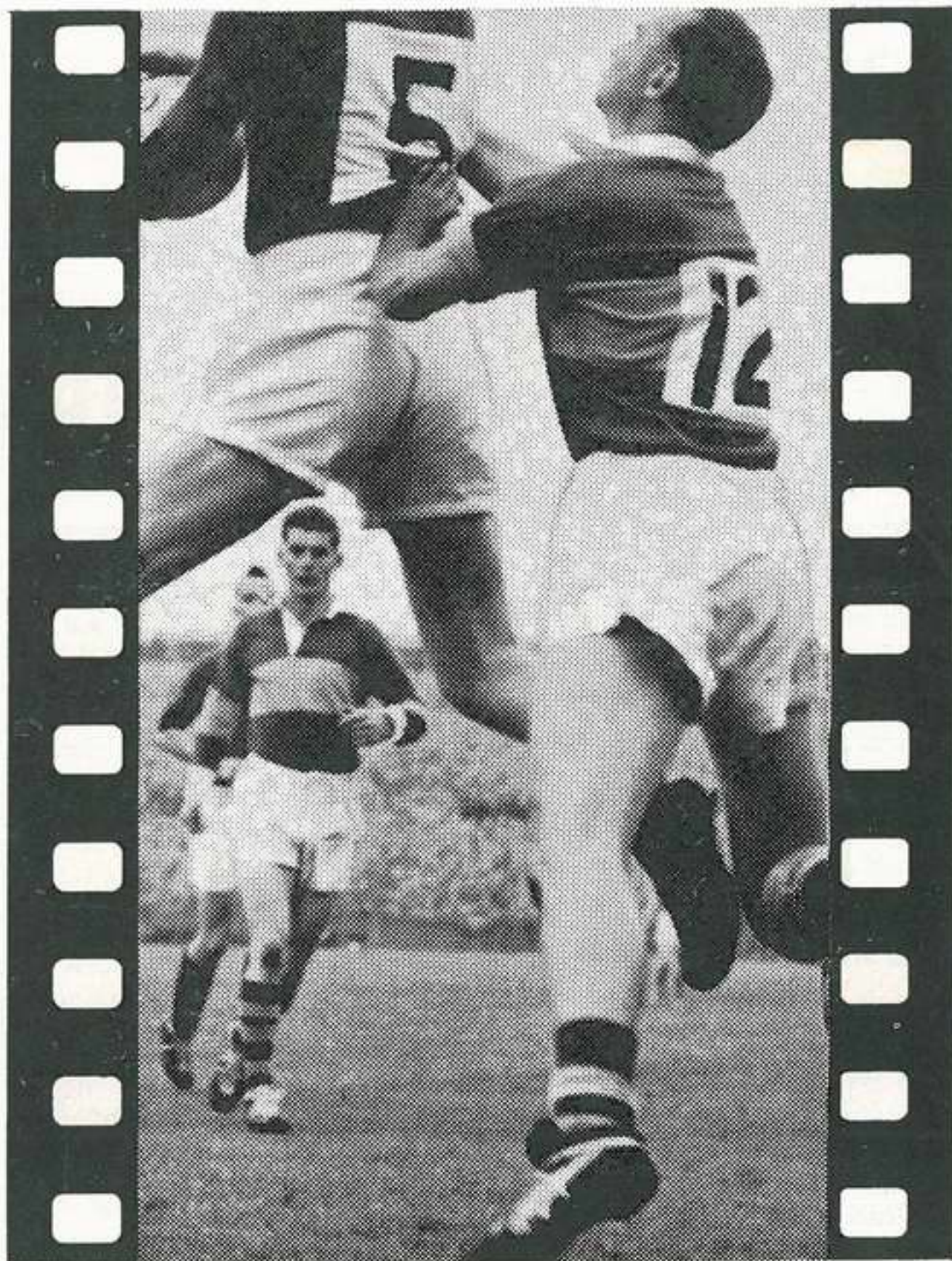
### FINAL

Ulster 0-12, Leinster 1-6

**ULSTER:** S. Hoare; G. Kelly, L. Murphy, B. Brady; D. McCartan, T. Maguire, J. McDonnell; J. Lennon, S. Ferriter; S. O'Neill, J. McCartan, P. Doherty; J. Whan, P. T. Treacy, F. Donnelly. Subs.—C. Gallagher (Cavan) for Donnelly, J. O'Neill (Tyrone) for Lennon.

**LEINSTER:** A. Phillips; P. McCormack, G. Hughes, W. Casey; M. Kissane (Dublin), P. Holden, F. Lynch; D. Foley, T. Browne; J. Mulroy, J. Timmons, M. Whelan; S. Murray, R. Burns, G. Kane. Subs.—L. Foley (Dublin) for Kane, M. Carley (Westmeath) for Browne, B. McDonald (Dublin) for Mulroy.





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# FOOTBALL

BY PADDY DOWNEY ( of the Irish Times )

## REVIEW

# CHAMPIONS SAVED THE SEASON

**S**OMETIMES, as the sand of the year runs out, you sit back and reminisce and the mind's eye jostles with memories of the old season; and, like a child in a Christmas toyshop, you are not sure where to turn or what to choose, because everything looks so wonderful. We have seen those seasons. They are the ideal—but they have been few.

And then, at other times, the picture is a grey blur, like a negative of one of those summer holiday snapshots that the chemist tells you he cannot print, and you take it home and look at it through the light, trying to discern the outlines that the memory wants to keep and failing to see the image that the lens and the light mixed up on a sunny day. So you throw it in a drawer and forget it.

The 1964 football season would have been like that if it had not been for Galway, and a couple of other things, like Meath's victory over Dublin in the Leinster final, the first of the All-Ireland semi-finals and part of the second—Kerry's part of it. But mostly because of Galway: glorious, magnificent Galway.

I owe an apology to Galway—because I lost faith in them just as they were striding out on the last step to the summit of success.

It was a faith that grew out of their narrow defeat by Dublin in the final of '63. Subsequent events fortified it, like that delightful League victory over the Metropolitans in the Spring—also one of the abiding memories of '64; but nothing shook it, not even the beating by Offaly at Tullamore which quenched their ambitions of the American journey.

### Unshakeable

It was a firm, and one felt until the fourth Sunday of August, an unshakeable conviction that Galway would win their fifth All-Ireland in 1964.

And then came Kerry's crushing win over Cavan and the faith in Galway crumbled away. It was the old story of the old, old Kerry magic vitiating reason, obliterating all the arguments in favour of the other side. Kerry, trained by Dr. O'Sullivan, were invincible in a final. So I thought; and so did many more, within this trade of ours, and without.

But the peculiar thing was that the probability of this

confrontation should have been obvious from the very start of the championship.

There was nothing to stop Kerry marching out of Munster once again. True, they made heavy weather of beating Tipperary and even heavier weather of beating Cork in the provincial final at the Athletic Grounds; and I heard a well-known Kingdom official confess on the Hogan Stand in Limerick after the Munster hurling final, that they had the most moderate team in years.

But hadn't we seen and heard all this before: Kerry, untrained, almost indifferent, just adequate in Munster; and then, on the trail to the supreme title, the transformation, the blinding blossoming of power and resolution.

As is always the case with Kerry, the evidence of the Munster championship was indeterminate, confusing.

### Flickering

In the North, the blazing torch of the great Down era was now but a flickering ember. Ulster had retained the Railway Cup on St. Patrick's Day, but it was clear that, while selective provincial strength was still great, the championship prospects of county combinations had receded well beyond the point from which Armagh had made their notable breakthrough on behalf of Six-County teams in 1953.

There were renewed signs of a Cavan revival; but they were still vague and unconvincing. This we were sure of when Down beat the Breffni men—however luckily—in the League semi-final and when, a few weeks later, Down themselves cast hardly a shadow of their former might when crashing to Dublin in the Home final of the League.

The opening rounds of the championship were pedestrian. Antrim reached the Ulster semi-final by victories over Tyrone and Armagh. Donegal, now only a skeleton of the side that promised so much a year before, did likewise by beating Fermanagh. Cavan and Down also had only one match each before the penultimate stage: they beat Derry and Monaghan, respectively, and were reasonably impressive in doing so.

In the semi-finals, Cavan disposed of Donegal without too much effort but Down had a harder passage before defeating Antrim in a rugged game.

(Continued on Page 30)





➔ Martin QUINN



Denis O'SULLIVAN

# RECORD IN

By JACK

**E**VERY year sees some new piece of G.A.A. history made and 1964 was no exception. In fact, it would be safe to say that it is a long, long time since so many records were set, both by teams and individuals, in the course of a playing season.

Pride of place must go to Down, who took an All-Ireland hurling title north of the Border for the first time. It was a triumph as deserved as it was overdue, for the hurlers from the Ards, with the assistance of one Newry man, left no doubt as to their superiority over all opposition in the junior grade.

Their final victory over London at New Eltham proved them worthy title-holders. So Down, the first county to bring the Sam Maguire Cup to the Wee Six, has also been instrumental in bringing a hurling title not alone to the same region but also to Ulster.

Perhaps it is ironic that Antrim, for so long the standard-bearers of hurling in the North, should have been denied this last honour. And that despite being home champions in 1959 and 1963.

Mayo, too, wrote their special chapter of hurling history when they won the Connacht minor championship for the first time.

Offaly minors won their county's first All-Ireland football crown and no more gallant title-holders were seen during the year. These boys earned their laurels the hard way and all credit to them for their late rally against Cork to turn seeming defeat into narrow victory.

It took a good team to mount that last effort after an hour at an alarming rate and the result must have been ample compensation for the Midland county after the many disappointments sustained in recent years.

When I recall the outstanding

senior fifteen of 1960 and '61 and the fine minor sides that came out of Leinster in 1960 and '62 I cannot deny that Offaly well and truly merited this All-Ireland.

Let us hope it will be the forerunner of further successes at under-21 and senior level.

Mention of the under-21 grade brings to mind the fact that the first All-Ireland championships for this age group were held during 1964. And the first to write their names on the roll of honour were Tipperary hurlers and Kerry footballers.

Both were among the fancied teams before a sliotar was struck or a football kicked and they fully lived up to their reputations.

On the club front, we also had teams making history: Mountbellew (Galway), Croghan Shannon Gaels (Roscommon), Kilbride (Meath) and Newtownmountkenedy (Wicklow), became senior football champions of their respective counties for the first time.

And Kilbride's feat is all the more praiseworthy because their panel of players is very limited and is, in fact, reputed to be the smallest in the Royal County.

The Wexford senior hurling crown returned to the cathedral town of Enniscorthy, but not through the efforts of famed St. Aidan's. This time it was the Shamrocks who swept all opposition aside to put their name on the records for the first time.

St. John's made it six in a row in Antrim senior football circles and the Belfast club then went on to beat Devenish (Fermanagh) in the final of the first Ulster club championship.

Dublin St. Vincent's brought off the senior double for the seventh time in 12 years, and Mount Sion took the Waterford senior hurling title for

the 19th. time in 27 years, a truly remarkable achievement indeed.

It seems it is impossible to keep Christy Ring out of the headlines and the maestro from Cloyne jumped back into the limelight on Cork final day. In inspiring Glen Rovers to victory over their great rivals, St. Finbarrs, he collected his 13th. county senior hurling medal—a record for Cork.

However, on the same day at Dungarvan Mount Sion's Mick Flannelly went one better by collecting his 14th. Waterford senior hurling award. And the same Mick holds four county senior football championships, also won with Mount Sion.

A few weeks later, an old opponent of Ring's, Mickey Byrne, crowned a comeback to club hurling by winning his 13th. Tipperary senior championship medal with Thurles Sarsfields.

On the inter-county scene no less than five new names were added to the short list of those who have won All-Ireland medals in three grades of hurling or football. They all hailed from Tipperary and Kerry, and the Under-21 grades contributed largely to these achievements.

Michael Keating and Michael Roche were the Tipp men on two champion teams. They added All-Ireland senior and Under-21 medals to the intermediate trophies won last year and became the first hurlers to play in All-Ireland finals in four grades—senior, intermediate, under-21 and minor.

Keating also distinguished himself with the county's senior and under-21 football teams and in February played for the second year with Munster footballers. And if 1964 displays are any criterion, it will not be long before this brilliant 20-year-old dons the royal blue jersey of his province at hurling.

Another Tipp man, Larry Kiely,



# MAKERS

## '64

### POWER

Jim McDONNELL



Mick FLANNELLY



joined the hurling-medallists-in-three-grades brigade. His previous trophies were won at minor and junior level, and, it was his displays when helping Kildare to junior honours in 1962 that brought the Glengoose forward to the notice of his county's senior selectors.

On the football fields Kerry's Denis O'Sullivan and Derry O'Shea played leading parts in their county's under-21 success. Both had previously won All-Ireland minor and junior medals and O'Sullivan went on to become the first man to play in All-Ireland football finals in four grades when he lined out against Galway in the senior final.

Wexford also produced a record-maker when they won the intermediate hurling title. Filling the centre half-forward spot was Seamus (Shanks) Whelan, who is the only hurler to have played on two successful teams in All-Ireland intermediate finals.

In the very first decider in this grade, against London in 1961, Seamus occupied the left corner forward post.

Another Wexford man, Jim Kearns, holds the distinction of playing in every intermediate hurling final to date. However, he has not been as fortunate as Whelan, for he wore the London colours in all of those games and was on the losing side every time.

In fact, when Jim Kearns lined out against Wexford in September he was playing in an All-Ireland final for the sixth successive year, for he had been on the champion London junior teams in 1959 and '60.

Cavan's Tom Maguire and Jim McDonnell had several hours of glory during 1964, but the Railway Cup final, against Leinster on St. Patrick's Day, was probably the most

memorable in one respect.

Ulster's victory saw the Breffni pair join their countyman, the late John Joe O'Reilly, and Antrim's Kevin Armstrong as the only footballers to win four Railway Cup medals with the Northern province.

And McDonnell is the only member of the quartet to have occupied the same position on each victorious team, for he was in his favourite left half-back berth every time.

Cork minors were in two All-Ireland finals and four boys proved their versatility by playing on both teams. Timmy Murphy, Liam McAuliffe, Con Roche and Charlie McCarthy were those concerned and their future careers will be closely followed.

Another interesting point was the fact that five of the footballers — John Cawley, Myles Lyne, John Cogan, Tim F. Hayes and Eric Philpott—had brothers on Cork's All-Ireland winning minor football team in 1961.

Also hitting the headlines during the year was young Mick Fennell from Graiguecullen. I first noted him playing a 'blinder' for Knockbeg against St. Mel's in the Leinster Colleges' football championship and he went on to have a very busy season in the Laois colours.

In the championships he was on five county teams—senior, under-21 and minor football, under-21 and minor hurling—and when the National Leagues re-opened he was a fixture on the senior football fifteen.

With experience and better direction in his kicking Fennell has the ability to follow in the footsteps of his illustrious clubman, Tommy Murphy.

During 1963 the name of Westmeath's Pat Bradley was well-known throughout Gaeldom. As well as

being the inspiration behind the county's march to an All-Ireland minor football final, he wore the county colours in practically every grade of hurling and football.

1964 saw Bradley again prominent. Westmeath won Division 2 of the National Hurling League in May and took the O'Byrne Football Cup in October and Pat played a notable part in both victories.

The years ahead should hold more honours for this versatile Midlander.

That O'Byrne Cup victory also brings to mind Mick Carley, Paddy Cooney and Georgie Kane, who were the only links with the Westmeath team that won the trophy in 1959, the county's only previous success in the competition.

Brothers to the fore during the year included the Kehilys, Frank and Dermot, and McCarthys, Denis and Sean, who helped Cork to All-Ireland junior football honours; the Gilmores, Frank and Davy, of the Down junior hurlers; and the three Quinns, Martin, Jack and Gerry, who won Leinster championship medals with Meath senior footballers and inspired Kilbride to a county senior title.

Dublin's Des Ferguson had a very busy season and his enthusiasm shows no signs of waning with the passing years. What with playing hurling and football for Dublin and St. Vincents and training the hurlers of Dublin and Down the popular "Snitchie" must be one of the busiest men in Gaeldom.

Another Dubliner in the news was Una O'Connor, the county's camogie captain who won her 11th All-Ireland medal and bids fair to add to the total before she retires. As well as that, she has played with Leinster in every final of the Gael Linn Cup since the interprovincial tournament was established in 1957.



# CHAMPIONS SAVED THE SEASON

(continued from page 27)

In the final at Casement Park, Down, playing with much of their old precision, led Cavan for most of the hour; but then the challengers produced a master stroke by introducing the ex-Colleges' star, Peter Pritchard, who engineered the scores that forged a late and dramatic victory.

Cavan were through to another All-Ireland series, but one felt—the Railway Cup victory apart—that Ulster football had not had one of its best years.

## Rare Battle

In the West, Galway were expected to stomp through all opposition. But, as I think they foresaw themselves, Sligo gave them a rare battle in their first outing, which was also the semi-final, at Markievicz Park. But for Mattie McDonagh's rather lucky goal early in the second half, the home team would surely have won.

Such a good display must have done a lot of good to Sligo's confidence for the future; the scare they got certainly steeled Galway's resolution for the rest of the rocky road to Dublin.

Meanwhile, Roscommon were battling it out with Leitrim. It took three games to resolve the deadlock. Roscommon moved on, but whether it was that the triple marathon took too much out of them, or that their stand-

ard was weaker than we thought, they were beaten heavily in the semi-final by Mayo, whose performance was hailed as a major revival in a county whose absence from the forefront of football has been one of the most lamentable features of the game for nearly a decade.

But the signs were false: Mayo's new-born hopes were thoroughly clobbered by Galway's clinical efficiency in the Connacht final at Tuam.

The Leinster campaign, nearly always more intriguing than the others because of its bigger entry, started quietly. Dublin, the reigning provincial and All-Ireland champions, had lost to Galway in the Wembley Tournament before they met Carlow. And the London defeat at Whit heralded, if only slightly, the crash of crowns that was to come some weeks later.

## Controversial

They had little difficulty in beating Carlow—who earlier had knocked out Wicklow—and thus qualified for the semi-final against Laois.

The Laois men had had a controversial victory over Westmeath, who showed impressive form when accounting for Longford as far back as April. This first semi-final was a rugged affair. Dublin won, but the odds against them retaining their titles lengthened appreciably that afternoon in Tullamore.

At the other end of the draw Meath came through to the semi-final quietly but with gathering power in their match with Kildare. Their opponents, Louth, had knocked out Wexford and Offaly on the way.

The first real evidence of Meath's new-found might was seen in their victory over the Louthmen, and they faced Dublin in the final with all cylinders sparkling more ominously than most of the critics (myself included) suspected at the time.

Their fine triumph over Dublin took us back nostalgically to the halcyon days of the O'Briens, Byrne, Hand, Smith, McDermott and those others of a decade and half ago.

And so to the semi-finals. Galway and Meath were first in the field on August 9. One of the most enduring memories of that game is of the fantastic speed at which it was played all through; another is of the excruciating excitement of the finish as Galway held on for their two-points win.

And of course there was what I consider the outstanding individual display of the year by Noel Tierney, in the first half, and the second best, only a shade behind, by Enda Colleran after the interval.

## Regrets

Meath had plenty of reason for regret. Jack Quinn had the ball in the Galway net a split second after the referee had blown for a free against the Connacht champions; his brother, Gerry, facing an open goal, shot yards wide when, it was alleged (and quite correctly, I think) he was pushed by a Galway defender.

These are the hard luck stories you hear after many

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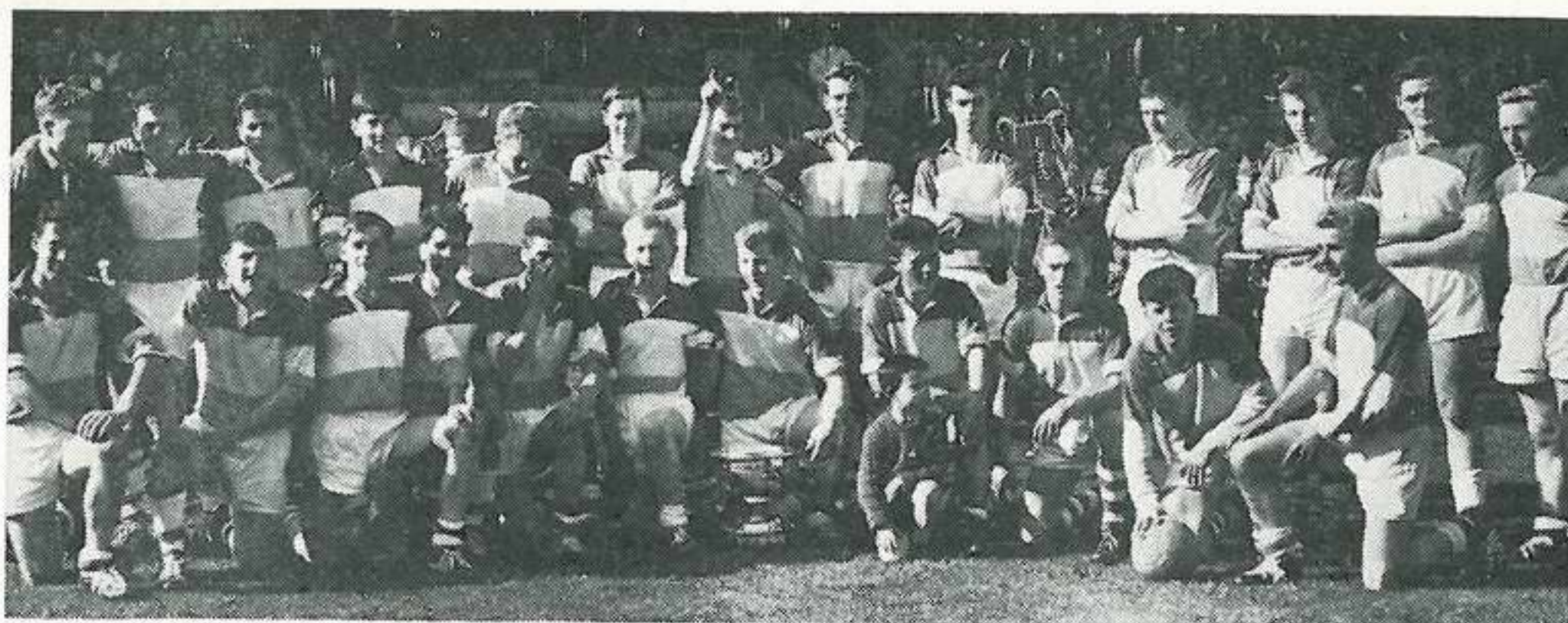
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The OFFALY minor team which brought the first All-Ireland football championship title to the county.

games. "Might have beens" make good arguments, but serve no other useful purpose. Basically, Meath lost because their big and somewhat slow backs had no sure answer to the Galway forwards' crafty use of the low ball. We were to see those tactics triumph again, and with much greater devastation.

The second semi-final, on August 23, was a huge flop. In a report next morning I described it thus: "The contrast in speed between this game and the Galway-Meath semi-final was as marked as a slow-motion film running beside one of those old, scurrying Charlie Chaplin 'silents'."

Yet, Kerry looked splendid, masterly in all they did: Like the old Kerry, "up from their high hills faring, fifteen men and a dream . . ."

It should have been plain that Cavan were a poor team on the day; but you never see the shadows when the light shines in your eyes. This, then, was the confrontation. Galway, the last barrier between the Kingdom and that 21st. All-Ireland crown.

### Stupendous

Kerry trained in Tralee; Galway in Tuam. The build-up before the final was stupendous. Pressmen thronged both camps. The papers said that though Kerry were favourites, Galway's chances were excellent; but secretly, I think, there was regret at the fate that awaited the high hopes of the Tuam training camp and of all the West, when they were thrown willy-nilly to the Kerry lions.

The rest is history. From the very first kick of the ball on September 27 it was clear that the blinds were down on Kerry's dream. The men we had regarded as pupils were teaching the masters. And it was a brilliant, unforgettable lesson.

Except for five minutes after half time, when the sun came out and shone fiercely in the Galway men's eyes and Kerry took brief advantages of this elemental favour, the men of the West overwhelmed their opponents almost everywhere.

Next morning, at Players' reception for both teams, I overheard a Kerry player say jokingly to a Galway man: "If the sun hadn't gone behind the clouds so soon in the

second half we might have beaten ye."

The truth is that Kerry's sun had set long before half-time. They simply could not cope with Galway's speed and vigour and shattering teamwork. A few of them tried like Denis O'Sullivan, Johnny Culloty, Niall Sheehy and Jerdie O'Connor, before his injury. But that was all.

This was a superb Galway team; better I should say than the '56 side. More evenly balanced, faster, cleverer, better tacticians in terms of total teamwork.

One remembers particularly the wonderful defensive football of the captain, John Donnellan, of Sean Meade, Noel Tierney and Enda Colleran, the towering performances of Mick Garrett and Mick Reynolds at midfield and the bewildering attacking manoeuvres of Cyril Dunne, Mattie McDonagh and John Keenan.

### Intelligent

Just one criticism has been levelled at them. It is that, with all their superiority down the field, they failed to break through for a goal. Is it justified? I believe they could have done so if the need had been really pressing.

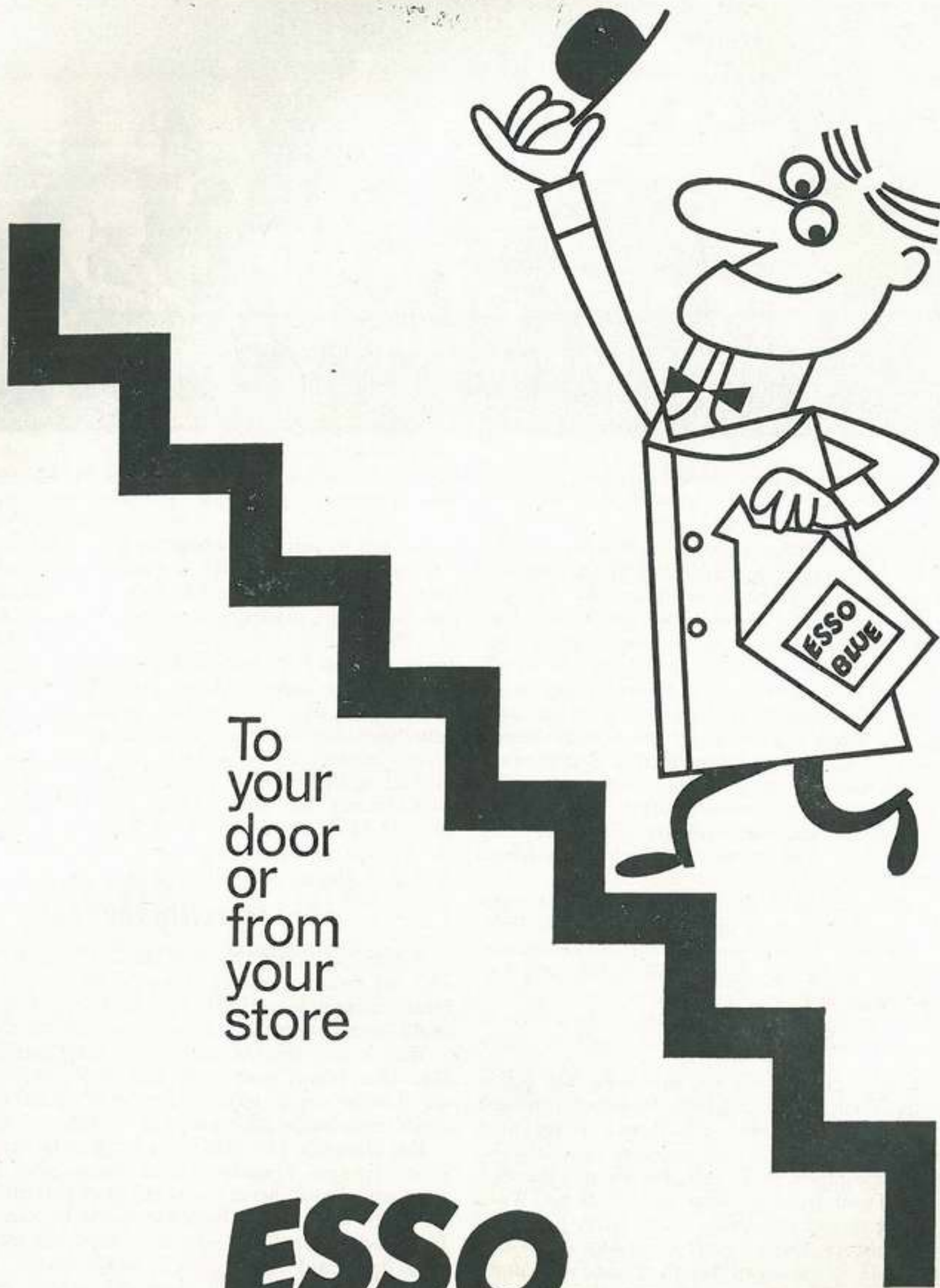
Was it not another instance of their intelligent plan that when points were to be had so profusely, they took the shortest cut to victory? Forwards as shrewd as Galway's never look a gift horse in the mouth.

But Galway's fifth All-Ireland title was won in bitter-sweet triumph. Tragedy silenced the sound of the victory trumpets. I shall never forget the utter poignancy of those moments when John Donnellan made his victory speech from the Hogan Stand—the best captain's speech Croke Park had heard since another Galway leader, Jack Mangin, spoke from the same place and with the same trophy in hands eight years before. And as John spoke to the waving crowds, many of us knew that his father was dead.

A few minutes later the captain himself heard the awful news. The hour which for him and for Galway should have been the gayest and happiest of all was now turned to gloom.

But when the memory of that tragedy recedes, Galway will remember with pride and pleasure the victory of a team that ranks with the truly great champions of football.





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# AGE and the hurler

BY TONY WALL



**H**OW many times was it stated before this year's All-Ireland final that the old men of Tipperary would be no match for the youth of Kilkenny? Indeed it was stated so many times, and similar statements have been made on so many other occasions, that one is apt to forget that statements such as this are based on completely false grounds.

## Speed

The first basis for these statements is the widely-held belief that a 21-year-old is much faster than a man in his middle thirties. This is completely erroneous.

Speed deteriorates very little up to nearly forty years of age. At some stage during his twenties a man is at his fastest and thereafter a decline sets in. However, the decline is so gradual and so slow that if a man keeps in training, for the purposes of a game like hurling, it is completely insignificant.

Indeed, tests in Germany showed that trained 60-year-olds are still quite fast and are generally faster than untrained men of 40. These tests also proved that the performances of athletes between the ages of 30 and 45 in a 75-yard dash, shot putt and broad jump did not change at all.

## Stamina

It was also widely held that in the last quarter of an hour Tipp's old men would falter and the youth of Kilkenny would come into its own. One has only to remember the lone Ethiopian winning the Tokyo marathon for the second time to see that the belief that stamina deteriorates

with age is a complete misconception.

Indeed, most long-distance runners do not reach their peak until they are over thirty. "The old dog for the long road," is an apt quotation in this context.

## Grip of Hand

Maybe it is contended that these attributes deteriorate with age. Of course they do but not to any appreciable extent.

I have before me, as I write, two graphs showing the strength of the grip and the swiftness of blow measured against age, as found in extensive tests.



CHRISTY RING . . . the perfect example.

Between the ages of 20 and 40 both graphs are very flat curves, showing that men of 20 and men of 40 were practically equal in these tests and were only very slightly inferior to the men of 26 and 27, where the graphs reach their peak.

## Experienced

All the foregoing deal with purely physical qualities. Out of the reckon-

ing I have left experience, tactical knowledge and the ability of the older person to make wiser use of his abilities. These are capable of more than compensating for any small deterioration in physical qualities.

If all the foregoing is true why then are there not more over-thirtys in top-class hurling? The answer, of course, is enthusiasm.

## Enthusiasm

Speed and fitness may not deteriorate much with age but they deteriorate very quickly through inactivity and lack of training. And it is the enthusiasm and the will to train which distinguish the young from the old in most cases.

As the hurler gets older, new interests, new companions, new responsibilities claim his attention. If he wins a lot he may feel that so much is enough. If he is continually on the losing side he may get discouraged. For one reason or another, it is generally true that the older one gets the less time is spent in the hurling field.

In these circumstances youth, because it does more training, will prevail. But if enthusiasm and motivation can be retained well into the thirties, very little loss of form should result.

One need only study men like Christy Ring, John Doyle, Theo English, Nick O'Donnell, Willie Rackard, Tommy Doyle, Mickey Byrne, Des Ferguson, Seamus Power, Phil Grimes, etc., to understand what I mean. All had (or have) the enthusiasm to train and play continuously, and many a youngster who tried to beat them by speed and youth alone got a rude awakening.



**JOSEPH C. SMYTH describes some of the celebrations to mark . . .**

# NEW YORK'S GOLDEN JUBILEE

**T**HE New York G.A.A. reached its half-century mark in 1964, and is now fifty years young. Celtic Park, Long Island, was its first domicile in the metropolis, and was the Sunday rendezvous of the Irish until the Park had to yield to the encroachments of housing developments.

While others deplored the turn of events John Kerry O'Donnell decided to do something about it. He was a young Kerry footballer with plenty of optimism and very little money. He had plenty of encouragement from the many who had nothing else to give; but from among them came Paddy Grimes, a top-notch Offaly hurler who was in better circumstances than some who were equally willing. A suitable piece of land beside up-town Broadway was leased, and began to take shape as a sports field.

## Vision Prevailed

Like all such ventures, development was slow and uncertain, but vision and perseverance prevailed, and the little bit of Ireland on the shoulder of Broadway faced the lean years, and survived.

Today Gaelic Park is surrounded by mammoth housing developments with whose encroachments it peacefully co-exists, while Ebbett's Field and the Polo Grounds have succumbed to the relentless trend.

In its early days, when it was known as Innisfail Park, 250 spectators was considered a good Sunday crowd; but today few of the thousands of seats installed over the years are vacant as five pairs of teams battle for victory on a long Sunday afternoon.

The season of 1964 has been a

memorable one, with visits from four Irish teams and a goodwill world tour by the New York Selected football team.

## A Thriller

On May 31 Tipperary and New York played in the Hurling League final, and what had been a one-sided affair in the first half became a thriller in the second. At the interval Tipperary led by 2-8 to 0-5.

In the second half New York bombarded the Tipperary posts, scoring six goals and eventually taking the lead, which they held until five minutes before the end, when Tipperary rallied and won by 4-16 to 6-6. John Doyle of Tipperary was among the outstanding ones as he earned his tenth National League medal.

## Missionary Fund

On June 7 the principal game was between Kilkenny, All-Ireland champions, and Tipperary, League champions, for the World Cup. It was the Field Day of the Cardinal Cushing Missionary Fund, a project with which John O'Donnell is prominently associated.

Present were Lieutenant Governor Malcolm Wilson of New York State; Bishop Moloney of Gambia, a native of Clare; Mgr. George Kerr, representing the Cardinal, and Miss Ann McKeon, World's Fair Summer Festival Queen. Mr. Pat Fanning, chairman of the Munster Council, represented Mr. Alf Murray, President of the G.A.A.

It was a good exhibition of hurling, with Kilkenny having the upper hand and winning by 4-16 to 3-13.

On June 14 the important game

was between Kilkenny and New York. The games were late, as allowance was made for those who had attended the Annual Feis on the grounds of Hunter College before coming to the Park. Kilkenny won by 4-5 to 2-8.

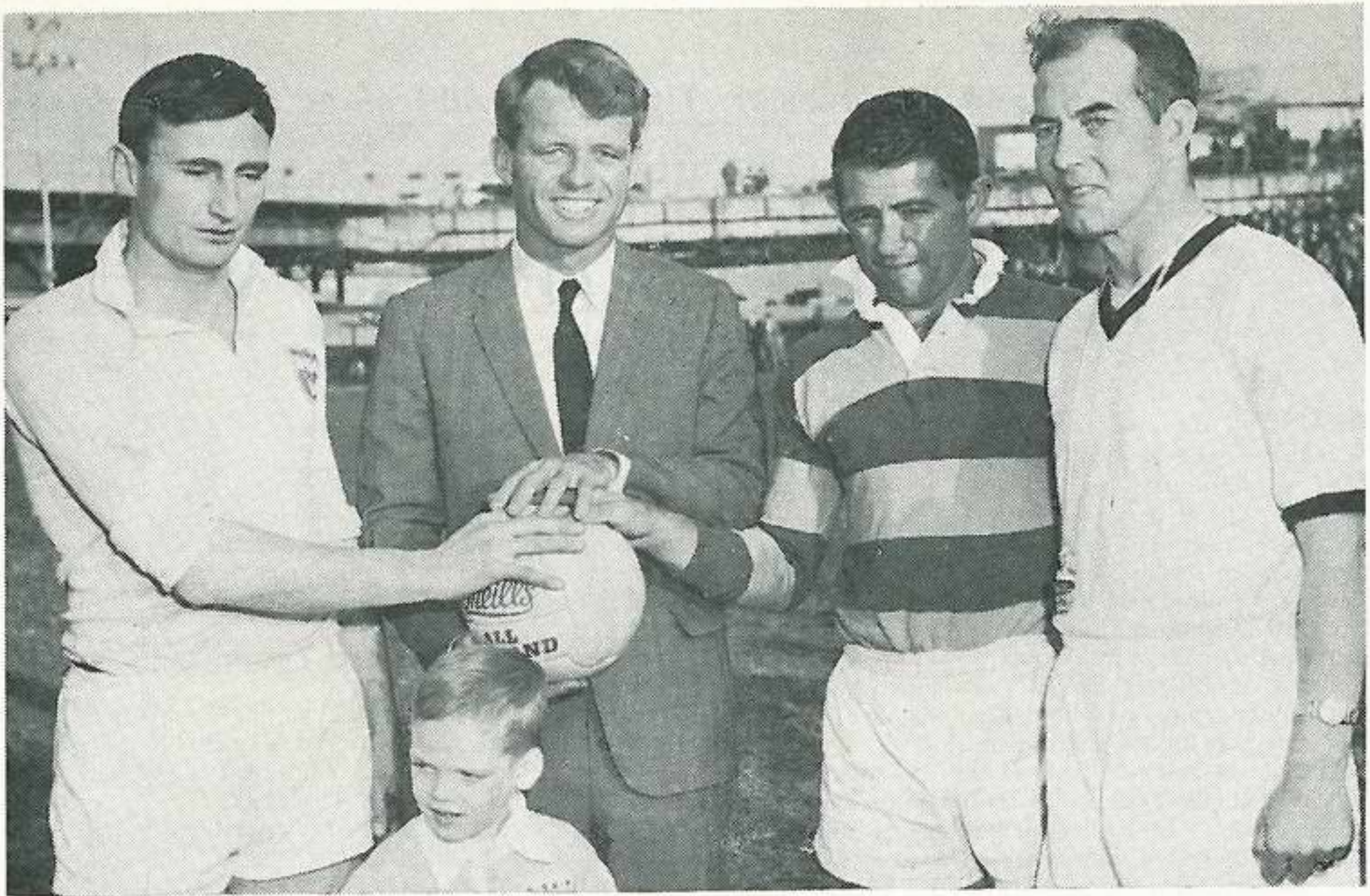
The next item of major importance was the World Tour by the New York footballers. John O'Donnell and Paddy Grimes are among those who believe that Gaelic games are supreme and should be displayed in other parts of the globe; and the firm of Ballantine and Sons agreed with them.

Ballantines encourage all kinds of sports here, as do Guinness and other firms in Ireland. Every Sunday their representative is in Gaelic Park, where he awards two plaques, one for the outstanding hurler of the day and the other for the outstanding footballer. A special observing committee makes the selections. The names of the weekly winners are kept on file until late August, when the names are drawn and the two lucky ones are given free trips to Ireland for the All-Ireland Finals, as guests of Ballantines.

## The Party

The following was the team and retinue: John O'Connor (Kerry), Sean Tierney (Mayo), Peter Nolan (Offaly), Tom Frawley (Limerick), Brendan Hennessy (Kerry), Kenny Flynn (Louth), Jimmy Halpin (Meath), Mick Moynihan (Kerry), Tom Feighery (Offaly), Rev. John O'Brien, player-chaplain (Galway), Eugene McCarthy (Cork), Eamon McGuinness (Cavan), Tom Hennessy (Kerry), Brendan O'Donnell (Kerry), Paddy Casey (Offaly). Substitutes: Pat Flood (Meath),





Pictured before the second New York-Dublin game at Gaelic Park, New York, are (from left)—MICKEY WHELAN, SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY, TOMMY HENNESSY, the New York captain, and referee PATSY GERAGHTY. Mascot is GERARD MONAGHAN, Jun. (Photo: Matthews, New York)

Hugh Coyle (Cavan). Manager: John O'Donnell; Trainer: John Creedon (Cork); Public Relations: P. J. Grimes; Ballantine Representative: Connie Doolin; Referee: Mike Kyne (Galway).

The Pan-American jet left New York on Friday, August 21, at 11.30 p.m., and was in San Francisco at 2.05 a.m. Saturday. Even at that late, or early, hour a large delegation, headed by G.A.A. President Michael Howard, was waiting at the airport, and they were escorted to their quarters at the head of a motorcade.

Next day was for sight-seeing; and on Sunday they played against San Francisco in Balboa Stadium, and were beaten by a score of 3-5 for San Francisco to 1-10 for New York. The field is of regulation width, but its length is 120 yards. John O'Donnell, with his usual candor, said that San Francisco won strictly on merit.

After the game they were guests of the local G.A.A. at a dinner-dance in the well-appointed Carrousel Ballroom.

Next was Los Angeles, then Hawaii. In Fiji it was Tuesday, but Wednesday was lost as they crossed the date line, and they were in Nandi on Thursday. There, Dermot McKeever of Irish International Air Lines embarked and accompanied them to Auckland, where the local G.A.A. escorted them to the Irish Centre and a hospitable reception.

Among those who welcomed them were Archbishop Liston, Lord-Mayor Robinson and Mr. James Bishop, American Vice-Counsel. Father John O'Brien responded to the many tributes, saying they had come not only as a football team but as ambassadors of goodwill from the Irish people of New York.

Everywhere they were greeted by the highest dignitaries as they brought Ireland's game to the far places of the earth.

Australia has its own version of Gaelic football. Though played with an oval ball, the goal area has four posts, two tall ones, and the goal, with its cross bar, in between. Anything between the tall posts, whether

high or low, is a point; and, of course, anything under the crossbar is a goal.

Next to be visited were Melbourne, Victoria, Sydney, New South Wales; New Delhi, India; Cairo, Egypt; Rome, Lourdes, Paris, Dublin and Birr.

In Birr the festivities went on until the wee hours, and there was not much time for sleep before the cars came to the hotel to take them to a special High Mass, sung by Mgr. Quinn, accompanied by an excellent choir.

The venue for the afternoon was St. Brendan's Park, where they witnessed a hurling game between the traditional rivals, Kilkenny and Tipperary. Then they were led to the playing pitch by the boys of the Artane Band in their smart new uniforms. As a special treat they played "Salute to Our Exiles," and Brother Joseph O'Connor presented John O'Donnell with a Waterford Glass memento.

(Continued on Page 38)



# THINGS AIN'T WHAT

**P**RAISE of the past at the expense of the present is nothing new; it is a built-in human characteristic. When we persistently hear it applied to hurling we often entertain nagging, perverse doubts.

A Boherlahan man told me not too long ago: "I remember when Johnny Leahy's team used to be practising. Some of the older men would be there looking on. And they used to smile and say they weren't as good at all as the men of the turn of the century."

And a certain very famous Cork hurler was heard to claim: "I'm telling you, boy: Ring wouldn't have taken the ball in past Jim Regan like that."

Athletes of various periods can be mathematically compared on the evidence of the unprejudiced, unsentimental clock. In hurling judgments one must always allow for the vested interest we all have in praising our own contemporaries. Even to have been on the sidelines

while the giants contended gives one a certain share in their glory.

But was there ever, in fact, a time when hurlers were ever freely and ungrudgingly admitted to be superior to those of the past? When Mick Mackey was the greatest name in the land were there not those who spoke of "Tyler" with old-timers' loyalty?

## Upward Trend

Yet even when one takes hurling comparisons with healthy cynicism can one seriously question the general consensus of opinion which holds that things have been better than they are now? That doesn't mean accepting the kind of extremist talk that is crystallised in the "hurling is finished" verdict so often heard. The graph may take an upward turn—it has taken it before.

To take the Munster finals as significant indicators of the game's general health may not go down too well in Leinster. Yet it is hardly over-doing it to assert that while there have been many years when the eastern climax produced the better game the very phrase "Munster Final" has (or is it "had"?) heroic overtones all its own.

There is the ideal Munster Final setting haloed in memory as unchanging as the time-defeating figures in suspended animation on the Grecian vase: July sunshine; shirt-sleeved thousands bleaching on Thurles or Limerick terraces, the vivid green with its grid-iron of freshly-lined markings; "The Valley of Knockanure" on the busker's accordion; the busy hawkers, ready of repartee; loyal, expectant roars as the first flash of red, or green, or white, or blue and gold is seen as the teams begin to appear.

And when the colours were worn by Mackey, Ring, Keane, John Maher and men of scarcely lesser quality wasn't there almost the crackle of electricity in the very atmosphere as the big legions clashed, strength and skill in equal measure? Is this just the romantic talk of the sentimentalist? I do not think so. Sentiment may gild the legend, but it didn't invent it.

## The Golden Games

The older reader may dispute the point but I feel the Munster Final got its classic aura at the hands of Cork and Limerick in their Thurles meetings in the late thirties and early forties. The standard fell but little till after '52 and of the finals to the present day only the '59 Cork v. Waterford and the '60 Tipp v. Cork games came creditably close to the standard of the golden days.

The recent ones have, in all conscience, been only fair. The Homeric touch has not been there. This may

I.N.T.O.

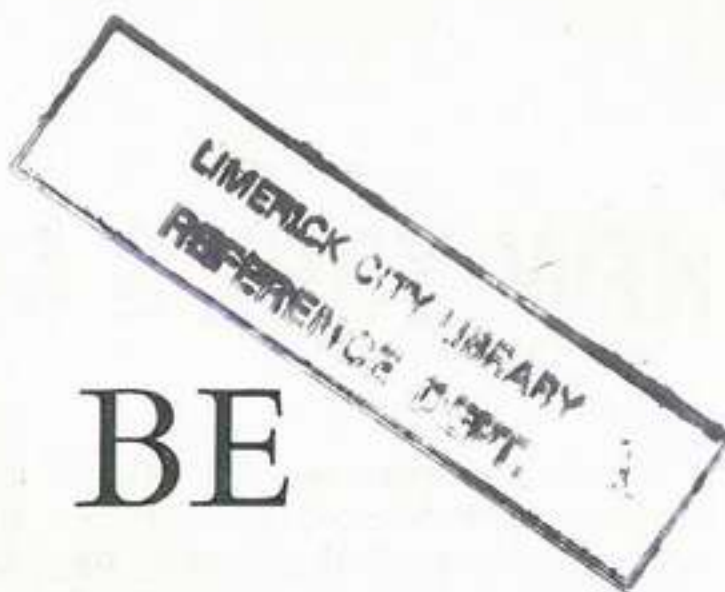
## BUY IRISH

*The Central Executive Committee of the Irish National Teachers' Organisation appeal to members of the Organisation to give their maximum support to the campaign "Buy Irish" initiated by the Minister for Industry and Commerce, and urge them by talks to their pupils, to bring the importance of buying Irish Goods to the notice of their parents.*

D. J. KELLEHER,  
General Secretary.



# THEY USED TO BE



sound unjust to the Tipp team now enjoying a great period of success, a team which is certainly better, especially in fighting heart, than quite a few I have seen since the early forties.

But the classic Munster Finals brought two class teams together. There were colourful and gifted hurlers on both sides of the line-up.

John Quirke, Sean Barrett and Fox Collins faced the Mackeys, Clohessy, Power, Timmy Ryan, Scanlan . . . In '37 at Cork the men in green paired off with John Maher, Jim Lanigan, Johnny Ryan, Willie Wall, Treacy.

Into the forties and the Limerick team still had some of the older heroes, with Stokes, Paddy McCarthy, Sadlier . . . A new and skilful Cork crop had sprung up: Mulcahy, Thornhill, Donovan, Lynch, Lotty, Condon, Buckley, Quirke still there, Brennan, Young . . . and a man called Ring, already mature but by no means dwarfing the stature of his colleagues: a fair indication of their class.

## One To Remember

The 1940 final, though the Scanlan-Brennan incident clouded the last minutes, was one to remember, the last successful fling of a great Limerick era, though the green colours might, on balance, have deserved at least another for brave efforts for a good six seasons more.

But Cork were in irresistible winning vein, only Tipp, with an excellent defence, a fair midfield and a variable attack, stepping in for the '45 title in a rousing battle with Limerick.

The previous year, '44, had been one to treasure. Thunderous all-out Cork-Limerick draw and replay, calling out "Carbery's" tautest prose in tribute to Limerick's epic second-half battle back to parity the first day and Christy Ring's late right-wing raid to beat Malone for the historic winning score the next time out.

Waterford's '48 victory came in a fine match, too, in which Keane and Ware shook off many hurling years to bring their side home. Of Tipp's three-in-a-row, the third, in '51, was possibly the best, easily excelling the confused Killarney ending of '50 but only just shading the two '49 clashes.

'52 was gruelling and tense as Cork struck back with another powerful selection, Creedon, O'Shaughnessy, Lyons, Fouhy, Willie John Daly, Vince Twomey, Ring and company.

Thereafter the tension slackened, Tipp's power gradually weakened as Stakelum, Reddan, Brennan, Shanahan, the Kennys, Kennedy and their fellows declined from their peak years . . . and the quality drooped too.

Limerick and Clare shone in '55 but it was an isolated flash that presaged no permanent revival in those counties. Since then only '59, at Thurles, produced a fast, spectacular final, which saw Waterford come through before 55,000 in a rousing last ten minutes, with Ring and Barry nearly saving the day for Cork.

## Last Fiery Final

Next came what I consider the last of the fiery Munster finals, when Cork's all-out drive to upset Tipp with sheer tearaway abandon all but succeeded. Pat Barry's quick crasher to Moloney's net set Cork on fire at once, but Tipp, helped on their way by a disallowed second for Cork, stormed back to hold on 4-13 to 4-11.

The all-time record crowd at Limerick the next year saw no classic. Tipp had three first-half goals; O'Brien stopped two Ring drives for vital saves and only the "who hit Tom Moloughney?" controversy, producing a Gaelic Agatha Christie puzzle, keeps the day's memory alive.

Nothing at all remarkable has occurred in the meantime. The gilt keeps peeling off the once-bright image of Munster Final hurling.

Why? Well, Cork and Limerick, who played so big a part in setting the standard, have lapsed. Waterford's heritage from the fine minor teams of '47 and '48 seems to have brought its brightest rewards and passed its peak as Grimes, Power, Flannelly and company hurl the years away.

## Hope For Future

Clare, her great chance in '55 let slip, and Jimmy Smyth also getting older, has had some bad years but gives flicker of hope for the future on last season's form.

Tipperary, by and large, are solidly in the saddle with a team that could possibly have troubled some that were considered great in the past. But things like that cannot be proved.

The roots of the decline may go deep. Fine generation of hurlers have passed. Can others be depended on to come along in the unaided process of nature—or has something gone wrong with the supply system?

Can it be that hurling, which came out of the countryside primarily, is changing because the countryside has changed, because country people are no longer living the old rural life that saw the youths of the townland, without transport, means or desire to wonder far, hurl the fading light away for sheer self-entertainment in a local field?



# NEW YORK'S GOLDEN JUBILEE

*continued*

*from page 35*

The football game between Offaly and New York Selected was interesting, with New York winning by 2-6 to 1-2.

After the game there was a banquet in the County Arms Hotel, where speeches were rendered by Brother Benignus, President Alf Murray, Rt. Rev. Mgr. Hamilton, John O'Donnell, Patrick J. Grimes and others. The big event on the following Sunday was the All-Ireland Football Final; and, a few days later, they returned home with enough memories to last a life time.

On October 18, in Gaelic Park, New York, the Football League Final was contested by Dublin and New York. Many regard it as the finest game ever seen in the ground. At the interval Dublin led by 1-7 to 1-6 and their brilliant combination had the New Yorkers bewildered during the first half; but after the resumption New York used the combination which they had forgotten in the first half, and won by the narrow margin of 2-12 to 1-13. It seemed a pity that one of these splendid sides had to lose.

On the same date the John Mitchels of Tralee played against New York's second team, which won by 3-10 to 4-4.

Dublin and New York played again on October 25. The ball was thrown in by Robert Kennedy, brother of our late President. As he walked across the field, Don Larkin of the Kerry Hurling Club handed him a new hurley, which he wielded convincingly. Several regulars on both sides were unavailable, and the game did not quite measure up to the previous encounter. Dublin romped to an easy victory by 3-10 to 1-6.

There is a lingering superstition based on a theory that a team which visits the States is doomed to defeat on its return. Of course teams win and lose whether they make trips or not, and the phenomena are unrelated.

Irish athletes are just as resilient as those of other lands, and can give

a good account of themselves in changing situations, as evidenced by the tour of New York Selected, in a variety of climates over a distance of thirty thousand miles.



JOHN 'LEFTY' DEVINE

Quoting John O'Donnell: "The team departed from New Delhi, which was reached at 4 p.m. Tuesday. Nobody went to bed, for we had to catch a plane for the Taj Mahal. That night we left New Delhi for Bombay, where we spent six hours sleeping on chairs until our plane

took off for Cairo, which was red hot around noon. Thursday, in the Nile Hilton, was the first time we had seen a bed since leaving Sydney Monday night."

Here are some of the temperatures: New Delhi: 105; Hong Kong: 95; Bombay: 100; Cairo: 95.

The team that had been through all this was able to stand up to Offaly while still on tour, and win the League Final against a splendid Dublin team a few weeks later. I do not think we should down-grade the stamina of Irish athletes.

New York has an excellent climate, very little rain, and is well suited to our-door activities. Gaelic Park bears little resemblance to the timidly hopeful nucleus from which it has sprung. Its facilities are comparable to the best. There are clean dressing-rooms, hot and cold showers, massage room, dispensary with a doctor in attendance on Sundays, a substantial Injured Players' Fund, and a comprehensive group insurance coverage for players while playing and travelling.

Our Announcer, John "Lefty" Devine, knows all the players and calls every play on the public address system. At 3 p.m. each Sunday he announces the results of the games played in Ireland, the five-hour difference being helpful.

In the early days there were only fourteen clubs; now there are sixty-five. The Thursday weekly meetings have an average attendance of 150. Here differences are reconciled, referees' reports are read, misbehaviour is appropriately dealt with, and referees, acceptable to both sides, are appointed for the coming Sunday.

No game has to be cancelled or curtailed because of darkness, for the throwing of a switch turns on the powerful flood-lights, giving the entire field the brightness of day.

Each Sunday the current issue of the Gaelic Weekly is piled on a table presided over by twelve-year-old Johnny O'Donnell, nephew of John Kerry. He is a busy vendor whose wares dwindle rapidly.

## LEAF BUBBLE GUM OF AMERICA

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# the OPEN draw

BY **JIM CROWLEY**

**I**T is sometime in April. The year does not matter but on this particular evening I share in the general excitement which pervades the G.A.A. world. The Central Council has met a few hours ago, and as the minutes tick away before the newscast I have my paper and pencil ready.

At last the Sports News comes on and legions of ears throughout the land hear the following announcement: "The draw for the All-Ireland football championship was made to day and is as follows—Galway versus Carlow, Kerry versus Sligo, Dublin versus Donegal, Meath versus Offaly."

And so on until the sixteen pairings have been announced.

Some will say that I might as well rave here as rave in bed if I think than an open draw for the All-Ireland championship will ever materialise. For years I have been thinking of the possibilities of such a venture. And the more I think of it the more reasonable it becomes and the more convinced I am that a more attractive and fair competition would result.

## **Its Magic**

The All-Ireland football championship is the sporting event of the year with a sustained National interest from May to September. And I do not deny that the championship air is magic to me too.

Nevertheless, I think that, in relation to modern trends with transport facilities readily available and for the sake of making the race for the Sam Maguire Cup more attractive still—the present system of running the competition should be scrapped.

Provincial championships are all right in themselves but they have their draw-backs when it comes to the All-Ireland championships.

I do not agree that the provincial

champions should fight out the closing stages of the All-Ireland. After all, it is an All-Ireland competition, and as such it should embrace the 32 counties for the moment the draw is made.

In other words (and the figure 32 is so ideal), put all contestants into the hat, and good luck to them. The next draw would involve 16, then you would have eight and so on until the semi-finalists won their way through.

Some provincialists would not agree with the open draw. Under the present system the provincial championships are big money, with permits to the All-Ireland semi-finals the major attraction.

## **Unfair**

But viewed in the National, or broader, sense the present set-up is not fair to every county.

Take Leinster for instance. Here we have a hot-bed of football with the general standard good enough to warrant respect from the best sides. At present a Leinster county might have to play four games within the province and an All-Ireland semi-final before reaching the Big Day itself.

In Munster, a province considerably weaker football-wise, the story is entirely different. Kerry and Cork have been the dominant figures while I have been following the game and one or other invariably reaches the All-Ireland semi-final. Normally they play two matches in their own province to qualify for Croke Park.

This means that in terms of time and effort expended a Leinster man who wins an All-Ireland football medal has earned it harder than his counterpart in Kerry.

Furthermore, a Leinster or Ulster football county must get into top gear by late April or May because a first-round match can mean dismissal at this time of year if the legs, hands

and eyes are not tuned up. And this fitness must be maintained, and even improved upon, until the end of September if the county is lucky to progress that far.

Now for the case of the weaker counties. Nestling under the shadow of big brother, for them the provincial title is something of a pipe-dream and the All-Ireland simply the preserve of the major league boys. If the minnows survive the first-round elimination tussles with their brethren, defeat at the hands of the big guns is invariably their lot next time out. Surely these constant reverses must kill their ambition.

But were they in an open draw they would feel part and parcel of the All-Ireland campaign. Imagine the excitement among followers of a weak county travelling for a championship match into football pastures new. Imagine the jubilation if they bearded the Kerry lion in his Tralee den or took a fall out of the glamorous Galwegians in Tuam Stadium.

Even if they survived but one round, such a victory would reawaken flagging spirits and would be all for the good of the game in that county.

## **Expenses**

What about travelling expenses, and where would the Councils get the necessary finance to carry on their work? Given an opportunity, I believe the open draw would, in the long run, bring more money into the coffers of the Association. Total receipts could be divided equally between the provinces, with the proceeds of semi-finals and finals going to the Central Council.

I see the open draw as the key to bigger revenue, as a boost to weak counties and a means of giving both All-Ireland finalists the same number of hurdles to cross—in other words, a more-balanced and less-lop-sided competition.



## MOONDHARRIG

*discusses what  
must be done  
for a . . .*

**T**HE revival of hurling on a nation-wide scale is one of the most pressing, if not the most pressing problem, which the Gaelic Athletic Association faces at the moment, since, despite every effort to popularise the caman-game, it is still very much the poor relation in far too many counties.

Of the many suggestions I have seen as to how best this much-desired revival of hurling can be achieved, one of the most interesting is the proposal that the number of players on a team should be reduced to thirteen.

Obviously, in those counties where potential hurlers are few, the fact that four fewer players would be needed to make up a match, is of prime importance, and a further consideration, that, one imagines, would be almost as important in many parts of the country is this, that fewer hurleys would be required.

One assumes that such a thirteen-a-side game would follow the pattern of the thirteen-a-side football games so popular a few years ago in the Ulster Colleges championships. In these games the full-forward and full-back were dispensed with, and the play was very fast and open, and tremendously entertaining to watch.

### **Too Many Scores**

The absence of the full-back allowed plenty of scope for attractive and effective forward-play, and a considerable increase in the number of scores—but this, mark you, was in football. And my objection to such a move in hurling would be this, that, in the absence of a full-back, we might well see far too much open play and far too many scores.

The last junior hurling game I saw this year was the 'Home' final between Down and Kerry, and there was certainly no lack of open play or no shortage of scores in that match.

Scores came so easily that, had there been only thirteen players aside, thus providing even more freedom for the forwards, we might well have needed an adding machine to tot up the totals at the finish.

Indeed, if there is any real advantage in reducing the number of players on hurling sides, I am not at all satisfied that the thirteen-a-side line-out that we have seen in Colleges football provides the answer. If we are to have a reduction at all I think that reduction might well be down to a twelve-a-side team basis that has been tried and tested over the past forty or fifty years, and that is the

# HURLING REVIVAL

twelve-a-side game as perfected by the Camogie Association.

While we have been wondering about hurling changes for decades past, the Camogie people have quietly gone ahead on their own and have evolved a system of team placings that make the best possible use both of the players and of the playing field.

Camogie teams retain the full-back, with three other defenders,—a centre-back and two wing-backs. The positioning of those wing backs in camogie is interesting. Some teams, playing to their strength, or their weakness as the case may be, play the wing backs deep, almost in line with the full back. Others bring them outfield in line with the centre-back.

### **'Diamond' Formation**

But I notice that the Dublin teams, who have all but monopolised camogie honours in recent years, always keep the wing-backs half-way between the full-back and the centre-back, thus transforming the defence into a 'diamond' formation that has proved extra-ordinarily effective.

Moreover, Dublin camogie teams also employ this 'diamond' formation in attack, with the full-forward well up towards the opposing goal, the centre-forward rather deep as a link with midfield, and the corner forwards lying fairly far out on the wings, able to dash in to score or come out to forage for the ball as opportunity affords.

Very effective, too, is the camogie system of having three players at midfield. Very old hurling followers used to tell me in my youth that midfield was done away with long ago.

So I feel that, if a reduction is to be contemplated in hurling, the twelve-a-side game and the present camogie formation would seem to present an ideal solution. But I would confine such twelve-a-side games to local competitions in the weaker counties and would use such games simply and solely as a means of building up hurling in such counties.

I do not think twelve-a-side hurling would be suitable for top-class players on full length pitches. Indeed I doubt, with the greater amount of ground to be covered and the faster pace that the lesser number of players would ensure, if the remaining twenty-four could last the full hour.

*(Continued on Page 57)*

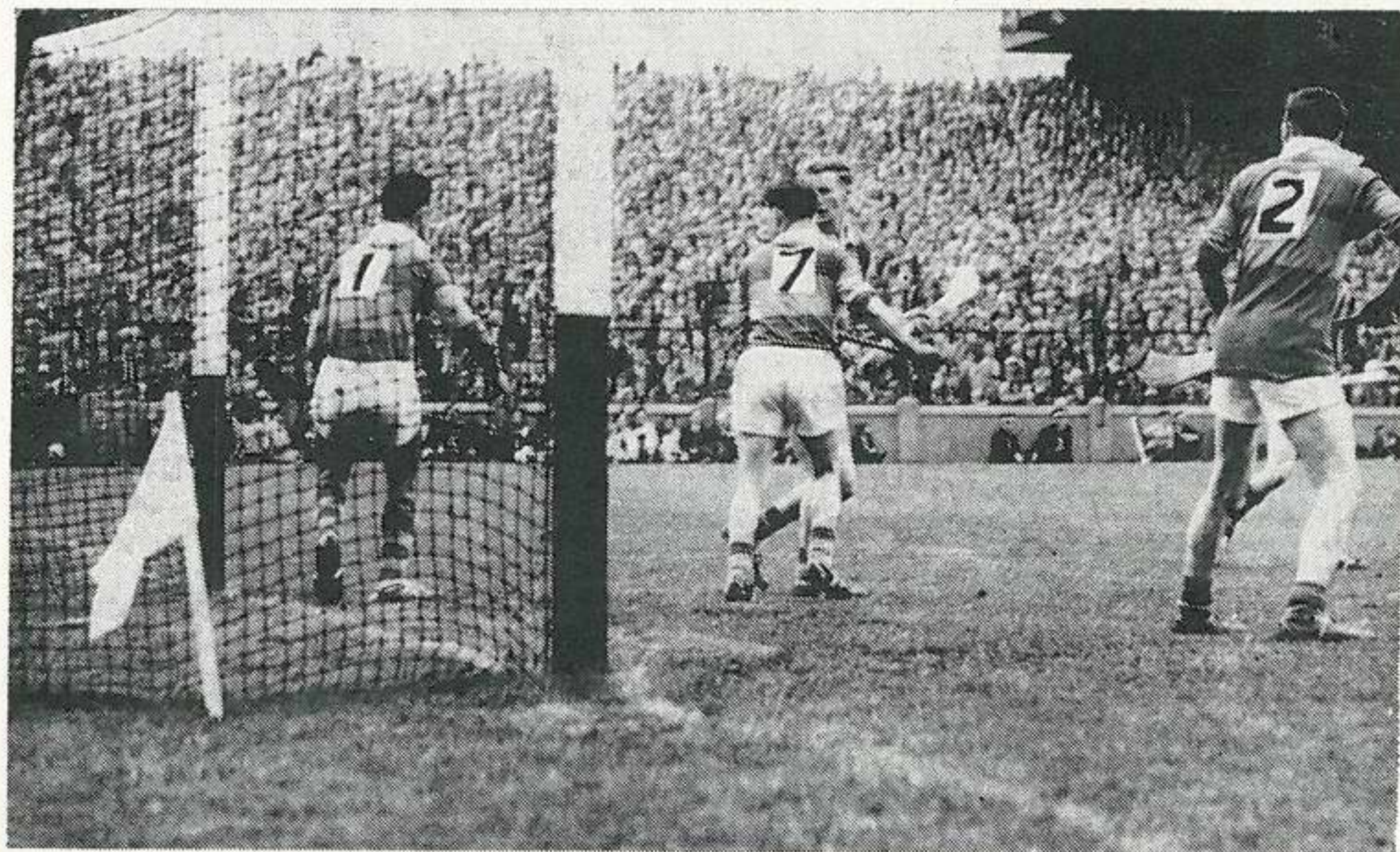




TIMMY MURPHY, the Cork goalkeeper, makes a vain effort to save this point in the minor final. Challenging the goalie is Offaly's right corner-forward, EDDIE KENNEDY, while colleague DAMIEN MCINTYRE looks on.

# AS THE CAMERA CAUGHT THEM

The ball is in the net from TOM WALSH's free for Kilkenny's second goal in the All-Ireland senior final. Looking on helplessly are Tipperary's JOHN O'DONOGHUE (No. 1), MICK MURPHY (No. 7), MICK LONERGAN (partly hidden) and JOHN DOYLE (No. 2).







LIAM DEVANEY (Munster, extreme right) attempts to block a clearance by DAN QUIGLEY (Leinster) in the Railway Cup final. Looking on are TOM NEVILLE (Leinster, left), SEAMUS CLEERE (Leinster) and PHIL GRIMES (Munster)

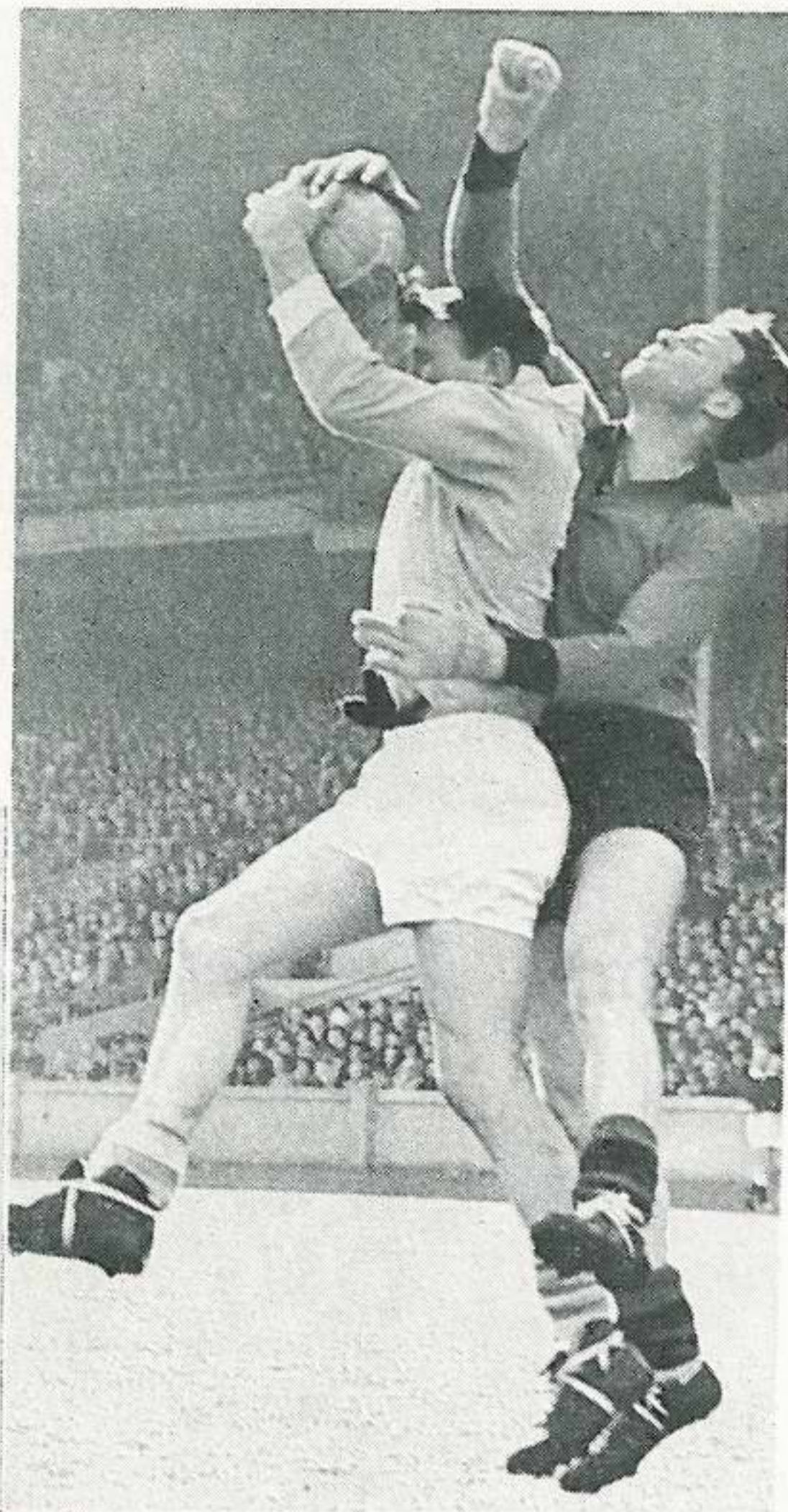
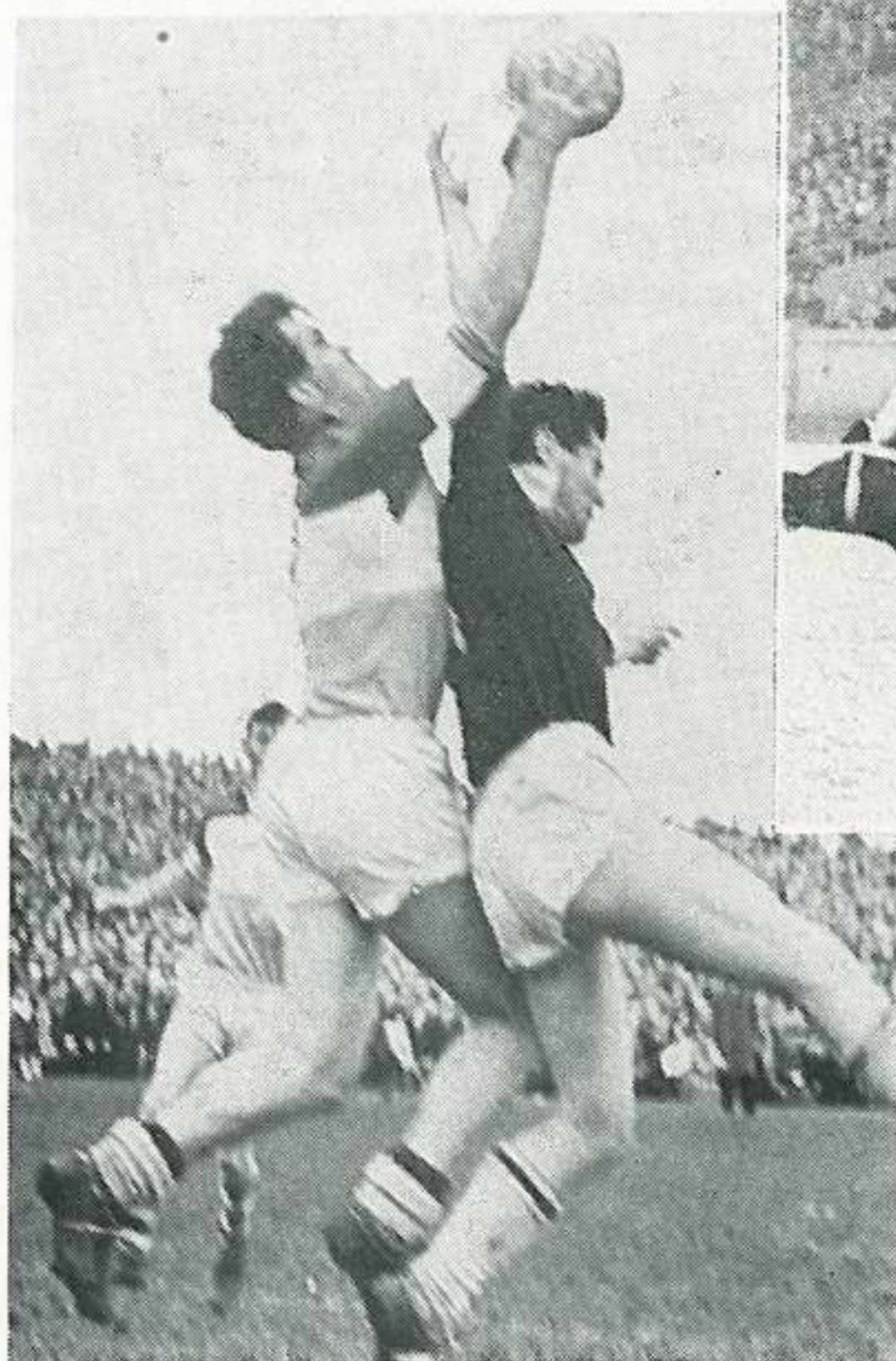




# **FULL-BACKS FOIL FORWARDS**

Dublin's LAR FOLEY halts this attack in typical style despite the challenge of PAT RICE (Down). This picture is from the National Football League "Home" final.

\* \* \* \*



\* \* \* \*

GREG HUGHES (Offaly) goes higher than SEAN CLEARY (Galway) in the N.F.L. tie at Tullamore. Galway's League hopes were dashed as a result of losing this game.





## NUMBER TWO!

*Above :* This series of pictures shows DONIE NEALON scoring Tipperary's second goal despite the attentions of the Kilkenny goalie, OLLIE WALSH.



## PARDON ME!!!

JOE JOE BARRETT leans on the back of his Kerry colleague, DOM O'DONNELL, as he tries to punch the ball past the Laois full-back, TONY MAHER, in the Under-21 All-Ireland final.





Where has the ball gone? This seems to be the question the Ulster (light jerseys) and Leinster footballers are asking in the Railway Cup final. Pictured (from left) are — BERNARD BRADY, DAN MCCARTAN (No. 5), GABRIEL KELLY, LAR FOLEY and BOBBY BURNS (No. 14).



A St. Jarlath's forward gets in his kick despite the close attentions of these St. Mel's defenders in the All-Ireland Colleges' senior football championship final replay.





\*\*\*\*\*



*Right:* The ball goes wide of the Kerry posts in the N.F.L. semi-final. KEVIN COFFEY (No. 2) holds off Dublin's JACKIE GILROY while JOHNNY CULLOTY (partly hidden) and PAUD O'DONOGHUE keep a close eye on the ball.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Left:* The ball beats MICHAEL RYAN of Offaly and D. BERMINGHAM of Cork (No. 16) in a goalmouth tussle during the All-Ireland minor final.



\*\*\*\*\*



\*\*\*\*\*

*Left:* Meath's J. KEOGH (No. 2) moves out to cover a shot from M. COUGHLAN (Cork, on ground) in the All-Ireland junior "Home" final.





MICK McDONNELL (Laois) holds back ANDREW FLYNN, the Cork full-forward, in the All-Ireland minor final.

FOUR TO ONE! NED WHEELER (centre) of Wexford is outnumbered by Tipperary defenders in this incident from the National Hurling League "Home" final. From left are—JOHN O'DONOGHUE, JOHN DOYLE, MICK MAHER and KIERAN CAREY.

MICK BERMINGHAM (Leinster) is well held by JOHN DOYLE (No. 2) while JIM HOGAN, the Munster goalie, covers up in the Railway Cup final.







\*\*\*\*\*  
**THE ALL-IRELAND SENIOR HURLING**  
 \*\*\*\*\*

\*  
 \*  
 \* Standing (from left):  
 \* SEAMUS LEYDON  
 \* NOEL TIERNEY  
 \* ENDA COLLERAN  
 \* SEAN MEADE  
 \* MICK GARRETT  
 \* MICK REYNOLDS  
 \* MICHAEL COEN  
 \* MATTIE McDONAGH  
 \* KIERAN O'CONNOR  
 \* JOHN KEENAN  
 \* FRANK McLoughlin  
 \* Kneeling (l. to r.):  
 \* MARTIN NEWELL  
 \* PAT DONNELLAN  
 \* CHRISTY TYRRELL  
 \* SEAN CLEARY  
 \* JOHN DONNELLAN  
 \* (Capt.)  
 \* BOSCO McDERMOTT  
 \* JOHNNY GERAGHTY  
 \* CYRIL DUNNE  
 \* BRIAN GERAGHTY  
 \* TOMMY KEENAN  
 \* TOM SANDS



\*  
 \* \*\*\*\*\*  
 \* **GALWAY** \*  
 \* \*\*\*\*\*  
 \*





\*\*\*\*\*  
**\* TIPPERARY \***  
 \*\*\*\*\*

*Standing (from left):*

TONY WALL

MICHAEL KEATING

MICK BURNS

MICK MAHER

MICK ROCHE

KIERAN CAREY

JOHN DOYLE

SEAN MCLOUGHLIN

MICK LONERGAN

LIAM DEVANEY

JOHN O'DONOGHUE

*Kneeling (l. to r.):*

PAT RYAN

PETER O'SULLIVAN

DONIE NEALON

MICK MURPHY (Capt.)

JIMMY DOYLE

JOHN "MACKEY"

McKENNA

LARRY KIELY

NOEL GAYNOR

THEO ENGLISH

\*\*\*\*\*  
**AND FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS, 1964** \*  
 \*\*\*\*\*







MICK MURPHY, the Tipperary captain, and TOM FORRESTAL (Kilkenny) attempt to block down the ball in Tipp's goal area during the All-Ireland senior final. Looking on are TONY WALL (T., No. 6), JOHN TEEHAN (K., No. 11) and MICK MAHER (T., partly hidden).

THREE TO ONE! MICHAEL KEATING (Tipperary) gets in a shot despite the attention of Kilkenny defenders TED CARROLL, PAT HENDERSON (centre) and CHA WHELAN.





PA CONNOLLY, the brilliant Kildare footballer and winner of a Gaelic All-Star Award this year, pictured in hospital after breaking his ankle while playing for his club, Clane.

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A fine action study of JOHN JOE BRESNAN, the Limerick full-back. He is a member of the Dublin Faughs, for whom he plays full-forward.





TIMMY MURPHY (Cork) clears his lines despite the challenge of DERRY CONLON (Laois) in the minor final. Others in the photo are, from left — JOHN CALLAGHAN (C.), BARRY WILEY (C.), MICK FENNEL (L., partly hidden), 'SON' KAVANAGH (L.) and PAT PAYNE (L.)

\* \* \* \* \*

MARTIN FURLONG, the Offaly goalkeeper, makes his dramatic and now famous last-second save in the minor final. Looking on are colleagues, MICHAEL RYAN and JOHN SMITH.

\* \* \* \* \*

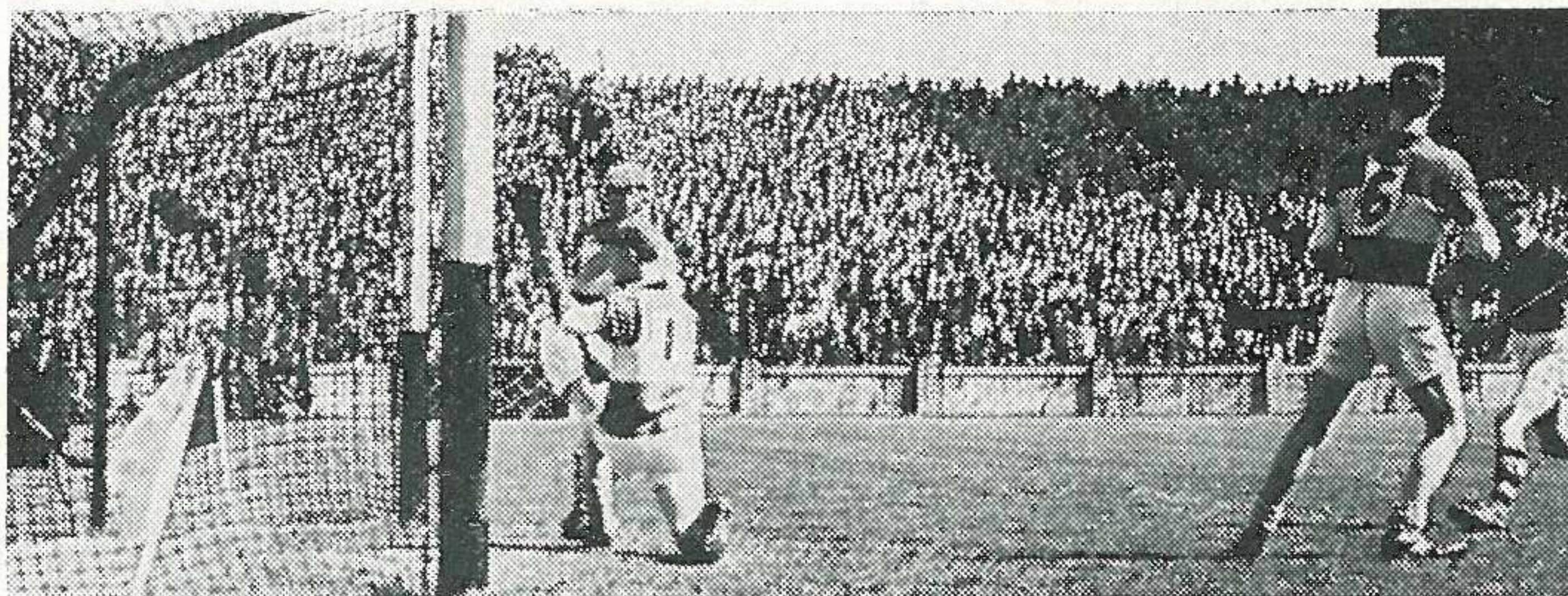


SEAN BUCKLEY (Kilkenny) about to clear this attack in the All-Ireland final while DONIE NEALON (Tipperary, No. 13) looks on. In close attendance are Kilkenny defenders TED CARROLL and PAT HENDERSON



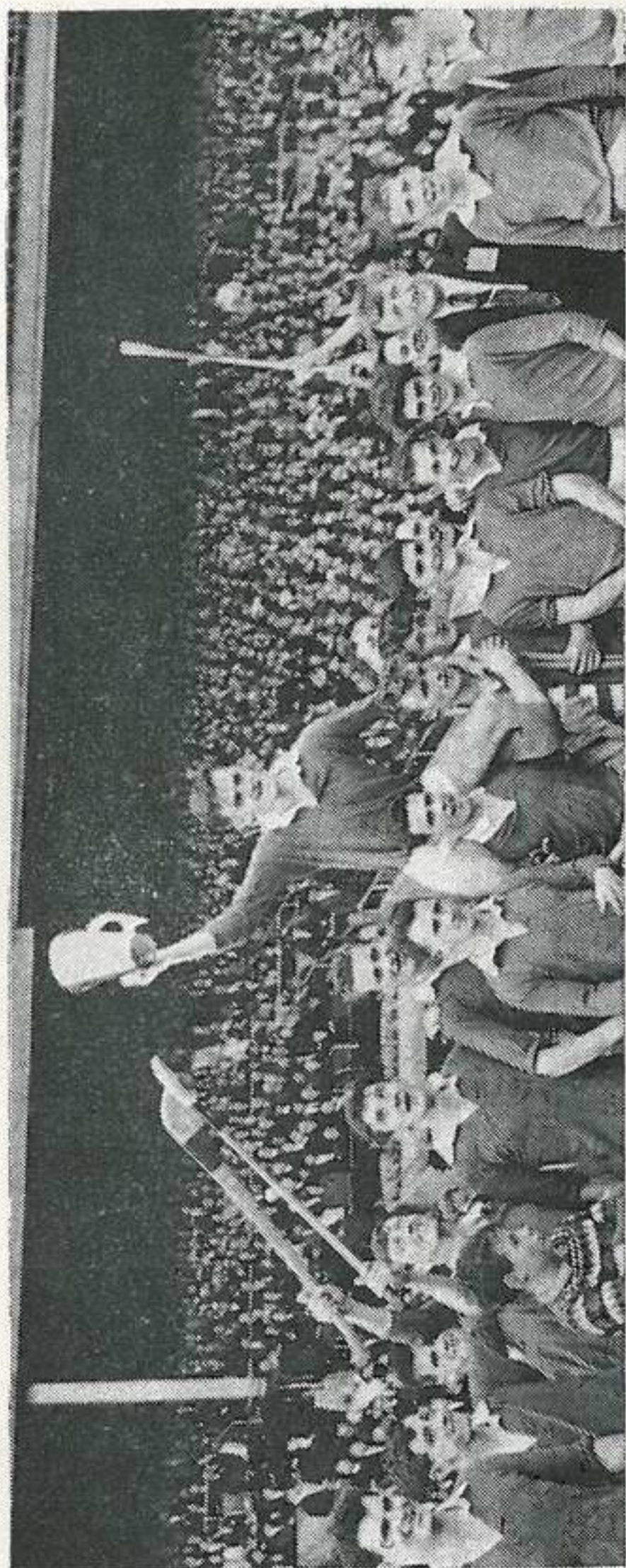


DEFENDERS are on top in these two shots from the National League "Home" final. *Above*—PAT NOLAN (Wexford) catches the ball as a colleague holds off Tipperary's DONIE NEALON. *Right*—JOHN DOYLE (No. 2) and MICK MAHER (extreme left) of Tipperary have this situation well under control. In the middle of this muddle is JOE FOLEY (No. 15, Wexford).

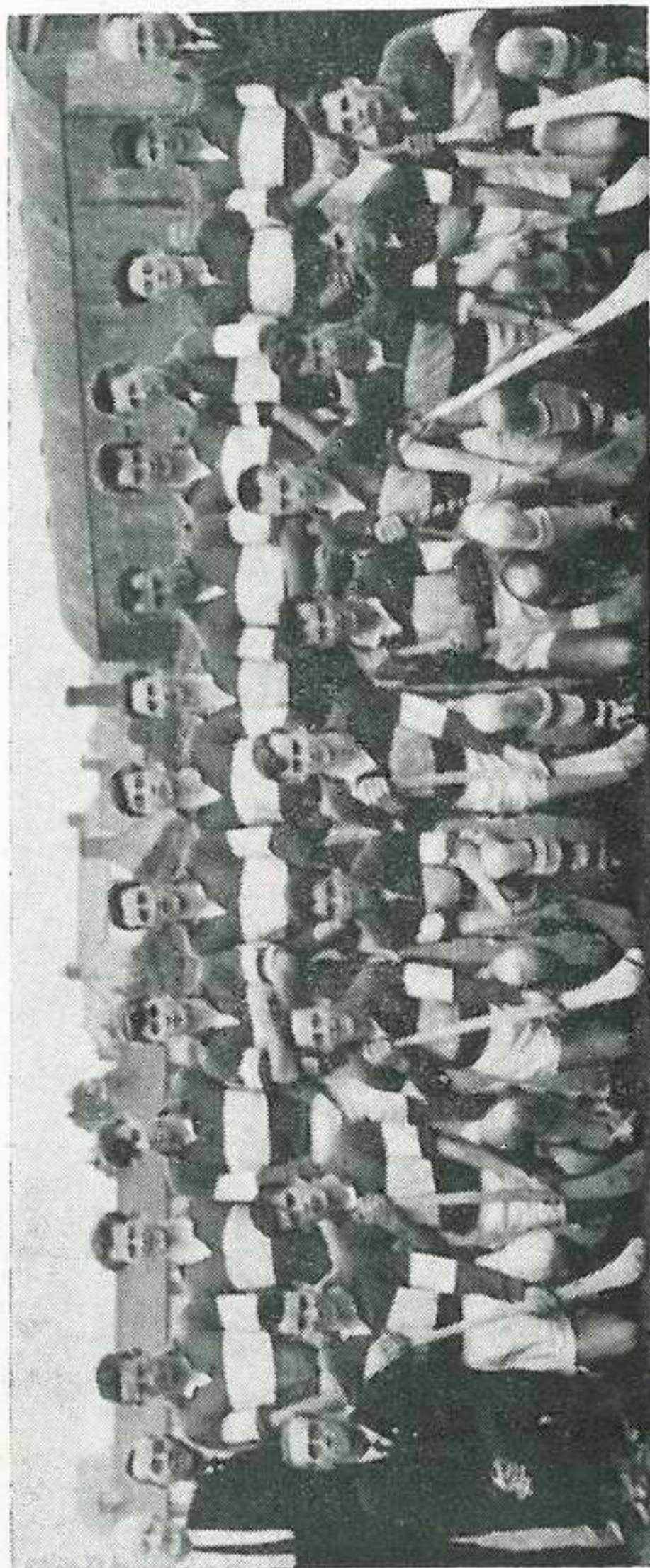


The ball beats JOHN FENNELL, the Laois goalie, for a Westmeath score in the Division 2 final of the National Hurling League.

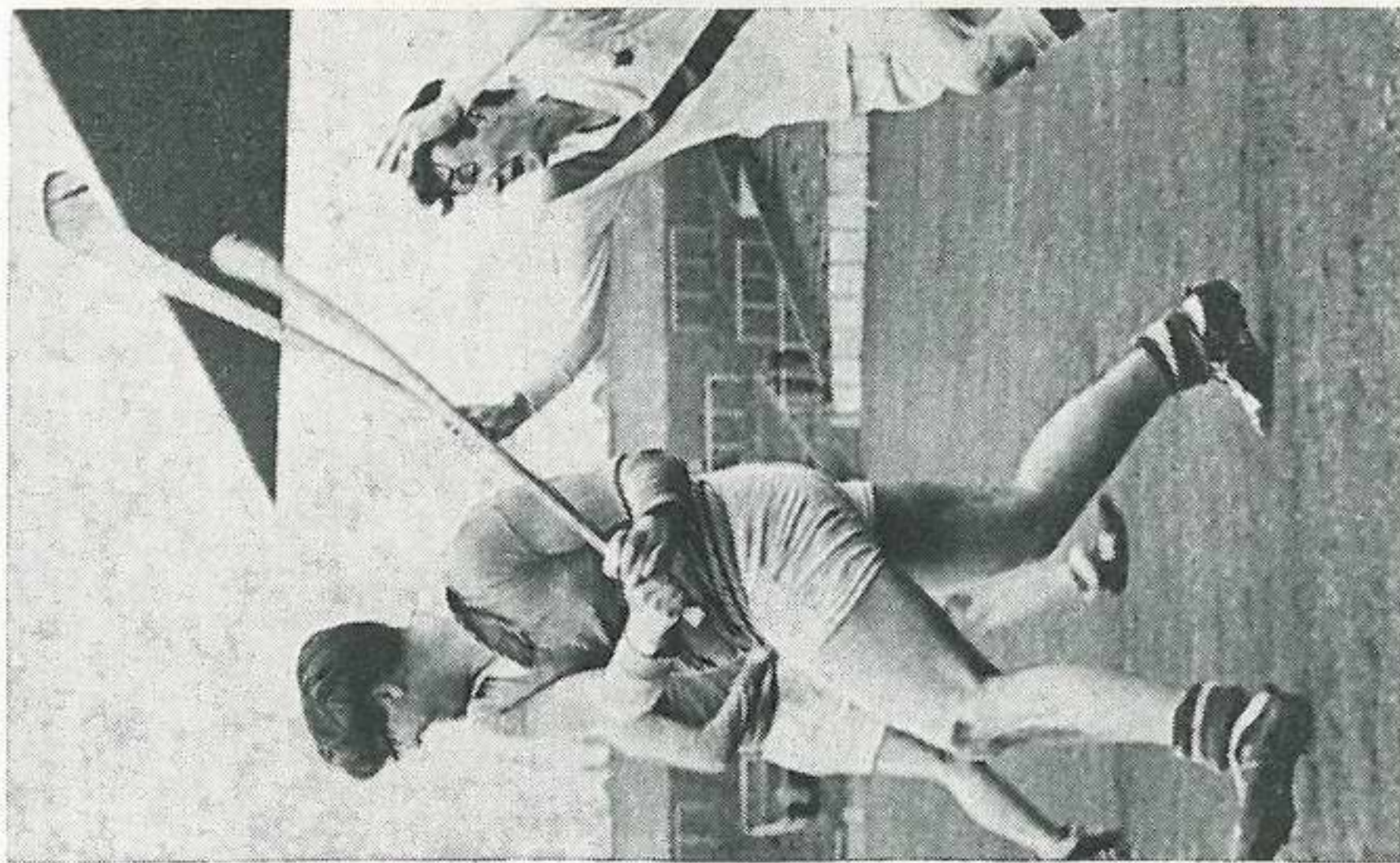




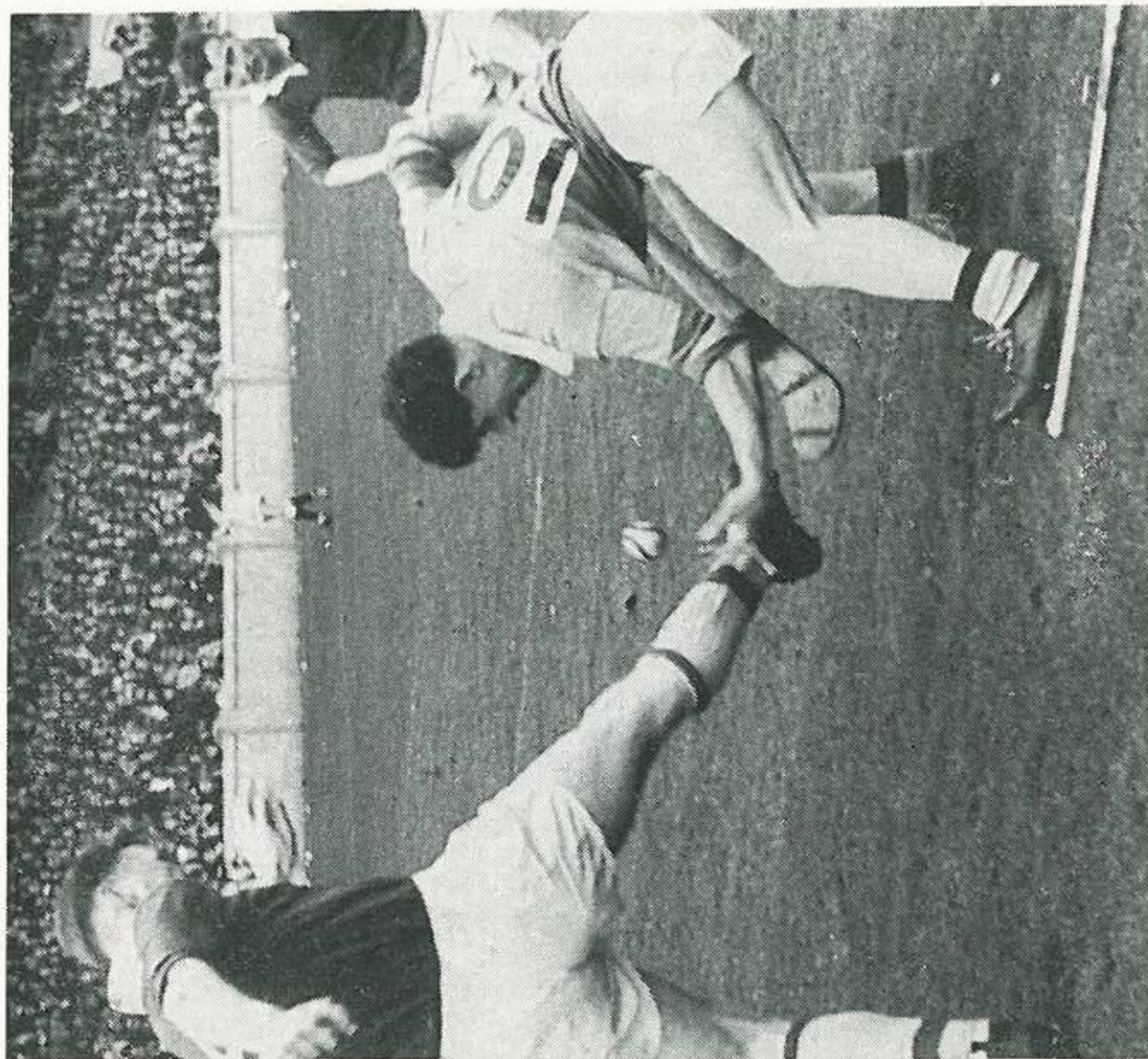
VICTORS AND VANQUISHED . . . The CORK team (above) which beat LAOIS (below)  
in the ALL-IRELAND minor hurling final.







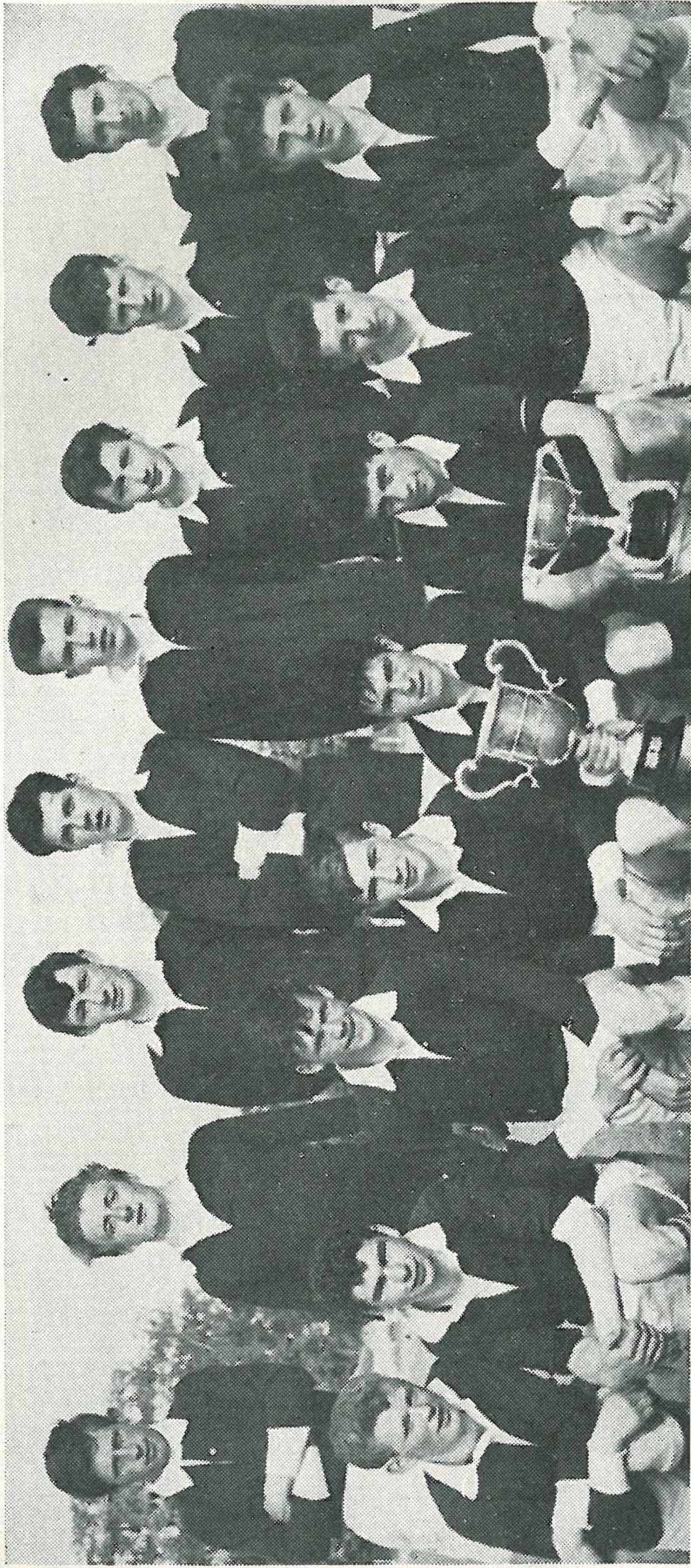
The St. McNissis full-back, K. DONNELLY gets in a clearance while challenged by J. FURLONG (St. Peter's) in the All-Ireland senior Colleges' semi-final.



Despite the loss of his hurley DENIS MURPHY (Cork) clears his lines as JIMMY O'BRIEN (Wexford) attempts to pick the ball in the League semi-final.



# THE 1964 ALL-IRELAND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS CHAMPIONS



THE CO. GALWAY team which won the All-Ireland Vocational Schools football championship. On their way to the final they accounted for Co. Leitrim (at Tuam), for Co. Sligo (at Claremorris) in the Connacht final, and for Cork City (at Thurles) in the All-Ireland semi-final. In the final, played at Páirc Ciaráin, Athlone, they beat a gallant Offaly side after a great game played in very wet conditions.

The Galway team on final day was:—GER HARDING (Ballinasloe), JOHN FITZGERALD (Spiddal), TOM MURPHY (Tuam), JOHN O'SULLIVAN (Spiddal), SEAN O'NEILL (Ballinasloe), MICHAEL

COMER (Tuam), VINCENT STAUNTON (Dunmore); JACK O'REILLY (Tuam), FRANK WALSH (Tuam) (capt.), MICHAEL BYRNE (Tuam), DONAL SCANNELL (Spiddal), MICHAEL NEILL (Mountbellew), RAYMOND FINNERTY (Athenry), JOHN CONNOLLY (Galway City), GER BENSON (Galway City). *Subs.*—BRENDAN FARRELL (Ballinasloe) for JOHN CONNOLLY; JOHN CONNOLLY for SCANNELL. Missing from the photograph are RAYMOND FINNERTY and GER HARDING.

Galway are the first Connacht side to win this trophy and they will be fancied to keep the crown in the next championship as several of this year's side will again be available.



# WE MUST START IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

**HURLING  
REVIVAL:**  
*continued  
from page 40*

Therefore, either the size of the pitch or the playing time would have to be reduced and neither move would be either very practical or very popular.

No, I do not think reducing the number of players would provide anything like a satisfactory answer to the hurling problem. Indeed, from many angles, an even stronger case might be made for increasing the number of players than for cutting them down.

After all, the only real way to spread hurling is by getting more and more of our young men playing the game and if we went back, say, to the seventeen-a-side teams, we would certainly have more players—and I do not believe that the provision of extra hurleys would be an insurmountable problem.

A far bigger problem would be provided by the extra men on the field and the resultant 'congestion' would be almost bound to cut down the scoring. So there would be little gain in going back to 17-a-side unless we restored the points-posts as well, and that would be a retrograde step after dispensing with them for forty years.

A move that might be worth some consideration is the restoring of a third man to midfield and thus stepping up the number of players to sixteen a-side. The three midfielders are one of the best and most effective features of the camogie game and a third midfielder would, I think, add to the speed and all-round power of any hurling side.

## **Only One Way**

Yet, when all is weighed up and measured out, the revival of a nation-wide interest in hurling is unlikely to be affected to any appreciable extent by increasing or decreasing the number of players on a team.

I still believe, as I have always believed, that there is only one way to popularise hurling in those areas where the game is not popular already. That is through the schools, and more particularly through the well-organised Colleges competitions that already exist.

We have, throughout the country, too many schools, a number of them famous strongholds of football, which never field a hurling team, and which, seemingly, do nothing whatever to encourage hurling.

I would make it all but imperative for such schools to include hurling among their sporting activities, for

surely all our bigger colleges must have among their scholars a fair percentage of pupils who have a good idea of how to handle a hurley.

Indeed, I would make it a rule of the Colleges Council that every affiliated school with, say, more than a hundred registered pupils, **must** field a team in some grade in **both** hurling and football.

I would be particularly severe on some of our renowned 'football' Colleges and would insist that such schools not be allowed to compete in football **unless** they fielded a hurling team as well. The quality of such a hurling team need not really matter—it would be easy enough to arrange a special competition for such teams, if it were felt that such a competition was really essential.

## **Important Factor**

The really important factor is that, if we can get hurling going in the football colleges, it would be a big step towards getting hurling going in the football counties.

The Colleges competitions sponsored by the G.A.A. have brought considerable popularity and prestige to quite a few schools and colleges through the past two or three decades. It is high time certain of those schools and colleges set about paying back that debt by making a real effort to encourage and popularise **both** our native games among their pupils.

Yet, in the last analysis, no boy will ever really become a hurler unless he hurls for the fun of hurling. The boy who learns, either at school or at home, the thrill of sending that leather ball flying straight and true from the ashen blade needs no further 'conversion' to make him a hurling addict.

The problem of our times as far as Gaelic games is concerned is one of providing all Irish boys with the opportunity of savouring for themselves the thrills that only hurling can give. And that opportunity, through the schools, through the Colleges, through the County Boards, we must provide **So Oder So**, as the Germans say, 'By one means or another.'

If what I have written stirs even half a dozen of my readers to help bring the hurling back to Ireland, I rest content.



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A TRIBUTE TO ...

# PADRAIG O CAOIMH

By Padraig Puirseal  
(of the Irish Press)



SIX months have gone by since God called him home, but I for one (and I feel there must be many another like me) find it very hard to realise, even now, that Padraig O Caoimh, God rest him, is with us no more.

And because it was there I met him oftenest, I miss him most of all in Croke Park. When, with that devoted band, the Croke Park 'regulars,' I turn up at G.A.A. Headquarters to see a match on a Sunday afternoon, I still find myself, almost subconsciously, expecting to meet Padraig O Caoimh on every step of the stand, around every turning beneath it.

For you never knew where 'Paddy' might pop up in Croke Park—you could meet him anywhere, from Jones's Road itself to the centre of the playing-pitch—but he was always there, and it is hard for some of us to realise that he is not there still.

## Croke Park

But, if he himself is gone, his great spirit surely hovers yet over that field he loved. Everything that had to do with the G.A.A. was of absorbing interest to Padraig O Caoimh, but his work for the Association is nowhere better exemplified than in Croke Park, a place that 'owned' a particularly warm corner of his heart. You could know how much he loved every stone and every blade of grass there by the way, in conversation, he was wont to refer to it, not as Croke Park, but simply and solely as 'the Park.'

And if ever it was truly said of any man, 'If you seek his monument look around you' that is true of Padraig O Caoimh when we look around Croke Park to-day. He found it a place of earthen banks, galvanised sheds—and the 'old' Hogan Stand.

Compare the old photographs of, say, forty years ago with the great Stadium of today, and in that comparison you can comprehend part, (but only a part, mark you) of 'Paddy's' life-work for the G.A.A.

But, if 'Paddy' was proud of Croke Park, he was prouder still of the games that were played there, and any lack of discipline at a match there he felt as keenly as though someone had plunged a knife in his back.

I wonder how many sharp warnings he issued that not alone succeeded in ending threatened breaches of discipline, but, far more important still, nipped explosive situations in the bud? Only 'Paddy' himself really knew, and in such matters he, very wisely, kept his own counsel.

And if once in a way—as must happen, for Original Sin can make 'stookawns' of the best of us upon occasion—the pot did boil over, was there ever a man more competent than Padraig O Caoimh to deal with such a situation?

Indeed, my most vivid memory of the power of his personality goes back to just such an occasion on a grey, chill, foggy winter's evening in Croke Park half a generation ago, when no more than a couple of hundred spectators had gathered to watch through the gloom what was, if I remember rightly, a club match of no particular importance.

With one or two others, I was sitting mid-way up the old Hogan Stand when, sometime after the interval, 'Paddy' slipped in unobtrusively beside us. The match in progress was not, of course, directly under his control, but was the responsibility of the Dublin County Board.

We chatted on there, about nothing in particular, as the game progressed, and then, quite suddenly and without any real warning, a 'flare-up' developed down on the field.

## Left His Seat

In the seemingly senseless fashion that such things happen, a couple of players got into handgrips near the touchline, others joined in, and were promptly 'assisted' by reserves and club officials, who came up from the sideline seats that then ran all the way round the playing pitch.

Almost before we knew what was happening, a 'free for all' was in progress which the referee, though quickly aided by a couple of Dublin officials, just could not end.

Then, just when the situation seemed bound to culminate in bloodshed and serious injuries, Padraig O Caoimh whom none of us could remember seeing leave his seat

(continued on Page 66)





**TONY  
WALL  
SAYS**

# Tipp's Trump

## Was Teamwork

**T**HEY still insist in Tipperary that the old-time hurlers were much better than the present crop. They may, indeed, be right but very few Tipperary teams have dominated a year of hurling to the same extent as the 1964 side.

The campaign opened in January with a challenge game against Dublin. Nothing much was at stake but the manner of Tipp's victory showed that the form of late 1963 had not been lost during Christmas.

The next outing was more important. Kilkenny, smarting from a defeat by Cork, but boosted by a victory over the Rest of Ireland, were the opponents. That game ended in a draw and there were many who contended that Kilkenny were very unlucky not to have snatched victory. However there was one very significant feature which was lost to many.

Tipperary were completely superior to Kilkenny in the opening 15 minutes of each half. This domination when the players were fresh indicated to those close to the team that later on in the year, when the team would be fit enough to last the full hour at full gallop, that there would be no need to fear Kilkenny.

### Apparent

After that we faced Limerick in Nenagh and the skyscrapers of New

York began to loom. Limerick's defiance lasted for about 30 minutes, and it was in this match that it became apparent that Tipp's new blood was going to make the grade.

Mick Roche emerged with new stature, and Theo English once again could look forward to constant support from his partner at centrefield.

Larry Kiely and Michael Keating began to fit into the forward line; John O'Donoghue settled down in

goal; Mick Murphy made the left half-back berth his own and Pat Ryan, despite a good deal of unwarranted criticism, was holding every opponent scoreless.

And so to the National League "Home" Final. A trip to New York was at stake and Wexford, victors over Cork, Waterford, Limerick and Dublin, were the opponents.

Liam Devaney and myself, both with broken hands, had to sit that game out but we had to admit that our absence was no drawback. On that day the Tipp team reached its first peak for the year and gallant Wexford had no answer.

### Stole Show

The Tipp defence dealt adequately with every situation, but it was the forward line which stole the show. They were given a great service from centrefield but seldom has Croke Park witnessed such precision, combination, skill and dash as the Tipp forwards served up that day.

To my mind Jimmy Doyle and Mackey McKenna were the villains of the piece but where would they have been without the other four?

Next came Wembley and then New York. Complacency was shattered by a New York goal avalanche and a defeat by Kilkenny, but confidence was unimpaired.

On returning from New York the

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Munster championship was on us immediately but was disposed of in a workmanlike manner. Clare made the running for thirty five minutes or so but thereafter were submerged.

Old rivals Cork provided the next obstacle, and after their sparkling victory over Waterford a keen challenge was expected. However, Theo English took this occasion to produce a really outstanding display and Cork had no answer to him. Their backs tackled furiously in spite of this and up to the final minutes there was little in it.

## Goal Rush

A late goal rush made the issue safe, however, and Tipp were in the final without having to disclose their full power.

The All-Ireland was now at stake, and aided by just a little bit of luck, and up against worthy opposition, Tipperary reached its second peak in 1964.

John O'Donoghue never made a mistake; John Doyle was as great as ever; Mick Maher was never passed; Kieran Carey was never beaten and, in the emergency caused by Mick Maher's retiral, the untried Mickey Lonergan was amazingly cool and resourceful.

In the wing back positions Mick Murphy and Mick Burns once again nullified the oppositions' most dangerous forwards and made their critics eat their words. Theo English had his greatest day in the Munster final and now it was Mick Roche's turn. In the last quarter he really came into his own, dodging and side-stepping his way to hurling fame.

## Clicked Again

Once again the forward machine clicked into gear, but this time it was three goal Donie Nealon who was the spearhead. John McLoughlin and Mackey McKenna hammered home a goal apiece, with Michael Keating, Liam Devaney and Larry Kiely doing the spadework.

Last but not least came Jimmy

*Tipperary's JOHN McLoughlin rushes in to challenge JOHN JOE BRESNAN, the Limerick full-back, in the National Hurling League semi-final.*

Doyle—scoring, scoring, scoring, in his own inimitable fashion and laying on pin-point, defence-splitting passes.

A week later it was Oireachtas time. Dublin were disposed of in Carrick-on-Suir, and in the final it was again Kilkenny, fortified by a victory in Birr, making a supreme effort. But that effort was not enough, and the 1964 competitions ended on a high note for Tipperary.

And now a word of tribute to the men behind the scenes. I have heard it said that Paddy Leahy and his fellow-selectors could not have gone wrong, that they had a hand of trumps and all they had to do was play them.

It is easy to talk like that afterwards. It was the selectors who spotted the talent, and they deserve credit for making some of the shrewdest moves that I have seen.

Tipperary reached a peak of fitness on two vital occasions in 1964. For this, trainer Ossie Bennett must get the credit. Gerry Doyle, who was more involved with the hurling side of the training, also deserves the highest praise.

1964 was a great year for Tipperary. It saw their eleventh National League title. It saw their sixth Oireachtas win, but more important than all it also saw them go to the head of the championship table with 20 titles. And it saw John Doyle take his seventh All-Ireland senior medal.

There were occasions when individual players were lauded for outstanding displays but basically this was a triumph of teamwork. With everyone involved it was the case of the team first, and the pervading spirit had to be experienced to be appreciated. Suffice to say that it was the spirit of Tipperary.





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## **PADRAIG PUIRSEAL**

(of the IRISH PRESS)

**writes on...**

# Sean O Siochain



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**T**HE first time I saw Sean O Siochain on a Gaelic field was so long ago that, except for the sake of historical accuracy, I do not suppose either of us would be particularly anxious to bring up the matter at all.

I had just come up to Dublin at the time and followed the University College hurling team out to play Erin's Hopes in an Under-21 league final (Oh yes—we had under-21 competitions even in those far-off times). I think U.C.D. won the match, but I know Erin's Hope got the medals—on various grounds—and we were all good friends ever after, for I'm afraid we didn't take victory or defeat very seriously in those care-free days.

Anyway, I first made the acquaintance of Sean O Siochain that day and for a decade we continued to cross one another's paths, although I do not remember ever again seeing him in action on a hurling field. But he was very much to the fore when Clann na Gael came to be a force in the immediately subsequent years in Dublin football championships.

Clann na Gael was, in those early years, very much a teachers' team. Harry Conlon, God rest him, and Pa Woods, still very much to the good, were among the driving forces behind it then, while the two men who come oftenest to mind when I recall their playing strength were Sean O Siochain and Dublin and Waterford footballer Sean Feeney.

Most of the Clann team, at one stage, was composed of teachers actively engaged in coaching teams in the Dublin Primary Schools' League.

### **Shrill Support**

Around 1937-38, when Clanns were a dominant force in Dublin, there used to be a tremendous amount of shrill support for them out on 'The Hill,' although some of those small supporters had no qualms about giving a rather sly shout if their own particular 'master' ran into a heavy body charge from the opposition.

Sean O Siochain captained Clann na Gael to one senior championship victory and played senior inter-county in turn for Cork and for Dublin. But his playing days were only part of his Gaelic activities. Looking back

now over our younger days, it seems to me that whenever you went to a Gaelic gathering of any kind in Dublin Sean O Siochain was there.

And that applied equally to the big events of Oireachtas Week and the ordinary Sunday night ceilis run by a couple of Gaelic League branches in the Mansion House—a tremendously popular weekly gathering which used to be well patronised by hurlers, footballers, camogie players and all Gaelic-minded young folk.

Sean O Siochain was always in tremendous demand as an organiser. He was an accomplished dancer, but it was as a singer he quickly became to be best known.

### **Ballad Expert**

It is a long time now since first I heard him render Cath Ceim an Fhia and he was a ballad expert in Irish or English. He was the first man I ever heard sing 'Bould Thady Quill,' and he had a hilarious 'modernised' version of it at one time about Thady coming to Croke Park to take part single-handed in the tug-of-war at the Tailteann Games in 1924, and being played on the field by the Boherbue Band.

Then, in the middle 'forties, Sean joined the Croke Park staff and ever since he had been learning from that great chief, Padraig O Caoimh himself.

Now that he is, in turn, General Secretary, Sean O Siochain has two tremendous advantages. He has, through the long years of experience, an extensive first-hand knowledge of every detail of G.A.A. organisation, tradition and procedure. And he has, in the second place, from his apprenticeship; to Padraig O Caoimh, exactly the right schooling for the post.

But above all it is well to remember this, Sean is a talented organiser in his own right, he knows every county of the thirty-two from his own personal contacts and he has wide experience of those two supreme popular media of today, radio and television.

Trained in the greatest and best traditions, popular far and wide, Sean O Siochain was and is the obvious successor to Padraig O Caoimh. May he have the good luck and the success he deserves as General Secretary.





A

*Dunloe*

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Here are 20 questions relating to  
G.A.A. happenings during 1964. How  
many can you answer?

## TWENTY QUESTIONS

1. Kevin Cummins, captain of the Cork team that won the All-Ireland minor hurling title, was carrying on a family tradition. What was it?
2. Westmeath set a social headline for other counties during the year. It was?
3. County champions for a week. They were?
4. Kevin Beahan (Louth), Frankie Donnelly (Tyrone), Kevin Coffey (Kerry) and James McCartan (Down) have something in common. Name it.
5. A father and son played in All-Ireland finals in the same grade of hurling in the space of three years. They were?
6. The big event of the year in Leitrim was?
7. Name the competitions for which the following trophies are at stake: (a) Joe Ward Cup; (b) Jim Miley Cup; (c) American Cup?
8. The present holders of the trophies mentioned in Question 7 are...?
9. Was there anything unusual about Meath's march to Leinster senior football honours?
10. Only two counties figured in a drawn game in the senior championships. They were?
11. The referee of the National Football League final in New York was?
12. Wicklow midfielder Tom Magee figured in the news in another county. Why?
13. An old favourite of Metropolitan followers returned to the Dublin club scene after an absence of several years. He was?
14. Bellaghy set a record in Derry football circles. It was?
15. The McAtamney family of Belfast hold what distinction?
16. Newtown Blues set a new record in Louth. Name it.
17. Clare beat Limerick in the Munster senior hurling championship at Nenagh on May 24. Was there anything unusual about that victory?
18. What county won the Anglo-Celt Cup?
19. Tullow retained the Carlow senior football title. Had they any "outside" help?
20. Kilcar wrote their own special page of Donegal G.A.A. history during 1964. It was?

(Answers on Page 68)

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**KILLALOE**



**How closely did you follow Gaelic games in 1964? Below are some clues to the identities of personalities who figured in the news during the past twelve months. Can you identify them?**

## PERSONALITY POSERS ?

1. He won a Railway Cup medal before representing his county in a senior championship game.

2. He scored the goal that helped to end Galway footballers' hopes of a U.S. trip and soon afterwards made the journey westwards himself.

3. A change of counties brought him a change of luck and helped to reverse a 1963 decision.

4. Club-mates, they marked each other in a Railway Cup final.

5. An All-Ireland hurler, he is prominent in the equestrian world.

6. This County Board Secretary helped his county in the senior championship.

7. A native of Rathdowney, Co. Laois, he announced his retirement from inter-county hurling.

8. He played a leading part in four Munster senior hurling championship games!

9. The central figure in an important Croke Park game, his selection was criticised on the grounds that he lacked experience.

10. Though still at school, they were on the winning teams in camogie's most important competitions.

11. A prominent inter-county footballer, he went into goal to face two penalty shots and saved both!

12. Three well-known goalkeepers and members of the Mountbellew club, present Galway senior football champions.

13. This footballer really made the "head"-lines.

14. He was newly-elected secretary of the Monaghan County Board.

15. Married, he played in two Croke Park minor games.

16. This County Board Chairman gained interprovincial honours.

17. One of Ireland's leading referees, he helped his county win a provincial title.

18. They were the principals in an unusual drama before the All-Ireland junior football final.

19. They got the opening scores in the All-Ireland senior finals.

20. This priest won a county senior championship medal and also played in an All-Ireland final.

*(Answers on Page 70)*

## PADRAIG O CAOIMH

*continued*

*from page 59*

beside us, swept through the wicket-gate and went striding up the touchline to where a confused mass of maybe a dozen, maybe two dozen, men were struggling and fighting.

He marched up to within a single stride of them, halted, pointed with his right hand towards the side-line exit and thundered just one word. "Out!"

Never before have I seen one man so utterly, so quickly and so competently dominate so many. The 'warriors' of one accord stopped their fighting, took one look at Padraig O Caoimh's face and, turning almost as one man, went slinking away down the touchline and out of the field.

I think the players had as quickly resumed their positions (although a couple of them may have retired with the other delinquents). Certainly the match was completed

without further incident of any kind.

Lack of discipline, on the field or off it, was one thing that Padraig O Caoimh would not tolerate.

Before he became General Secretary, there were, from time to time, instances of county teams and even of provincial teams, leaving the field because of disagreeing with a decision by the referee. I cannot remember a single similar occurrence at Croke Park during the thirty-five years of Padraig O Caoimh's stewardship.

... In Croke Park I seem to see him still, and then I remember that touching little verse from his obituary card.

Ag Críost an siol  
Ag Críost an fómhar;  
In íothlainn Dé  
Go gcastar sinn. Amen.



**A**NNUAL time is a time for stock-taking and reminiscing on events past. The feats of sportsmen are discussed in the village pub and by warm firesides and the mind free-wheels down the year just ending. Here I invite readers to join me on a flash-back to 1964.

The Connacht Team Competition prizegiving presentation dinner provides me with my first memory. It was for all present a grand social occasion and prizewinners were thrilled to meet the guests of the night, Pat Donnellan and Seanie Duggan.

John Donnellan, Galway's victorious captain, has promised that he will be delighted to attend the presentation ceremony in 1965, when the Sam Maguire Cup will be on display.

Came March 16, and the Gaelic All-Stars Banquet, sponsored by Press Cuchulainn, in Dublin. Hats off to all concerned for providing the G.A.A. night of the year.

Guest of honour was the late Padraig O Caoimh, who received the magnificent Cuchulainn Award. In a masterpiece of an after-dinner speech he told the assembly that "the G.A.A. had come of age socially." A remarkable tribute indeed from a remarkable man.

### **Annual Event ?**

I hope this will become an annual event in the G.A.A. social calendar.

Shortly afterwards Padraig O Caoimh was dead and Gaelic Ireland mourned the passing of a truly great man. During my playing days with Galway I had grown to know him well. His simplicity and dignity attracted admiration from all who knew him. I will always cherish my friendship with him.

After much teething trouble the first Galway G.A.A. Yearbook was published. So successful was it that the second edition will soon be in the bookstalls.

One of the most satisfactory features of this first effort was the compilation of the county G.A.A. records in all grades up to date.

This was a very worthwhile achievement and the next edition will contain the complete records of one of the Galway Divisional Boards.

In London at Easter with the Dunmore McHales I was delighted to see how well the Gaels in exile are being catered for at New Eltham. The

canteen adjoining the dressing rooms is a boon and I thoroughly enjoyed the cup of hot tea bought for me by my old rival and friend, Packy McGarty of Leitrim.

I recommend these trips across the sea to all Irish clubs who can organise them. They provide the average club men with never-to-be-forgotten memories and, goodness knows, these players deserve their outings too.

I cannot leave London without mentioning the grand spirit prevalent in the Irish Centre at Camden Town. Here is an institution Ireland can indeed be proud of.

Here I would like to stress the importance I attach to clubs producing their own membership cards. And I do not mean the ordinary card which has space for the player's name and address and the secretary's signature.

### **Suggestion**

I suggest that the following be incorporated in all club membership cards.

- (a) Number of titles won in all grades.
- (b) Complete records of all games played in previous year in all grades.
- (c) Names of officers of previous year.
- (d) Photograph of one of club teams.
- (e) Club plans for year ahead, if any.
- (f) List of secretaries, chairmen or captains since foundation of club.

# **RANDOM THOUGHTS**

**By JACK MAHON**

If you think this is impossible just ask any member of the Dunmore McHales to show you his membership card for any of the past three years. I am happy to say that at least three other clubs are doing likewise for the year ahead.

Summer saw me in New York, where I renewed acquaintance with Gaelic Park, John Kerry O'Donnell and many of the fine Gaels who frequent this recreational centre. The exiles are very much aware of happenings at home, and the results of the big games are as eagerly awaited in Boston as in Ballina and Ballybay.

All-Ireland Day brought its joy and its sorrow to Galway. We will not easily forget those wonderful characters, Mick Donnellan and Mick Higgins. The double tragedy quenched all attempts to celebrate but even in such a time of mourning every true Galwayman appreciated the magnificent gesture of "The Kerryman", whose front page headlines said: "Congratulations Galway and Sincere Sympathy On Your Loss . . ." It was a gesture so typical of the noble Kingdom.

### **Worst Blow**

Then came the worst blow of all, when Bosco McDermott's wife died so tragically. Every heart in Ireland went out to Galway's left full-back on this very sad occasion.

Seán O Siocháin was selected as the new Ard Rúnaí and no one had

*(Continued overleaf)*



# TWENTY ANSWERS— — — — —

(Questions on page 65)

1. His father, Willie Cummins, helped Cork win the All-Ireland minor hurling titles in 1938 and '39.

2. After both county senior finals the victors and vanquished were guests of the County Board at a banquet.

3. Kilmurry-Ibrickane beat Shannon Gaels on September 6 in the final of the 1963 Clare senior football championship. On the following Sunday they were beaten by Cooraclare in the 1964 final.

4. All retired from inter-county football during 1964.

5. Willie Barron, the former Waterford senior star, was on the London junior team beaten by Kerry in 1961. His son, Tom, was on the London team that lost to Down this year.

6. The opening of Pairc Sean Mac Diarmada at Carrick-on-Shan-

non on May 24. Two football games marked the occasion and resulted: Donegal 1-13, Leitrim 1-12; Galway 2-10, Down 2-9.

7. (a) Louth senior football championship; (b) Wicklow S.F.C.; (c) Monaghan S.F.C.

8. (a) Newtown Blues (Drogheda); (b) Newtownmountkenedy; (c) Castleblayney Faughs.

9. In each game their points tally was twelve. They scored 2-12 against Kildare, 1-12 against Louth and 2-12 against Dublin.

10. Roscommon and Leitrim. On June 7, in the first round of the Connacht football championship at Carrick-on-Shannon, they finished level: Roscommon 1-8, Leitrim 2-5. In the replay at Roscommon, on June 21, they again finished level, 1-10 each; but the second replay, at Carrick-on-Shannon on June 28, ended in Roscommon's favour by 5-9 to 1-10.

11. Patsy Geraghty of Galway.

12. He won a Cavan senior football championship medal with Bailieboro.

13. Norman Allen, the former Dublin hurling and football star. While home after a spell in New York, he helped St. Vincents to county senior hurling honours.

14. They won the county senior football championship for the seventh time in eight years and now head the list of title-winners with Newbridge, at seven each.

15. Tony plays at centre half-back for Antrim senior footballers and Mairead is one of Antrim's leading camogie players.

16. The Drogheda club became the first to win the county senior football championship four years in succession.

17. It was Clare's first success in senior championship hurling since they beat Tipperary in the Munster semi-final of 1955.

18. Cavan. It goes to the winners of the Ulster senior football championship.

19. The successful fifteen included Ken Murphy, a former Waterford senior, and Frank Costelloe, who won a Connacht minor championship medal with Mayo in 1963.

20. They became county minor football champions for the first time.

## Representative Game

### HURLING

Kilkenny 2-5, Rest of Ireland 0-7.

**KILKENNY:** O. Walsh; T. Carroll, J. Lynch, J. Treacy; S. Cleere, P. Henderson, S. Buckley; P. Moran, J. Byrne; D. Heaslip, J. Teehan, E. Keher; T. Walsh, A. Comerford, J. Dooley. Subs.—J. McGovern for Byrne, W. Murphy for Dooley.

**REST OF IRELAND:** J. Hogan (Limerick); W. Rackard (Wexford), A. Flynn (Waterford), John Doyle (Tipp); L. Guinan (Waterford), T. Wall (Tipp); M. Sweeney (Galway); T. English (Tipp), F. Whelan (Dublin); M. Flannelly (Waterford), J. O'Sullivan (Cork), Jimmy Doyle (Tipp); L. Devaney (do.), J. Smith (Clare), P. Grimes (Waterford).

## RANDOM THOUGHTS

*continued from*

*previous page*

better claims to the position. I was delighted to hear him say in one of his first public utterances that the re-establishment of the club as the hub of a district's social, national and cultural life was high on his priority list.

With Alf O Muirí as President and Sean as General Secretary I feel the G.A.A. will go from strength to strength in the years ahead.

Methought that Alf's suggestion of

supporting Olympic teams representing a 32-county Ireland in the future was beautifully timed. I hope something comes of it. This "split" has killed athletics to a large degree in Ireland and the G.A.A. should be strong enough to heal the breach.

Late in the year came the news of the retiral of Down's James McCartan and Kerry's Kevin Coffey and it set me thinking on the night I decided to retire. It was a difficult decision and

not arrived at overnight.

And though I hate to see a man returning to the playing fields I can well understand the position. So often have I myself been tempted to return. But there is one consolation for those who have yet to make the decision. The urge to comeback grows less and less with the years!

A very happy Christmas to you all agus bliain nua fé mhaise dhibh go leir.



# THE ALL-IRELAND JUNIOR FOOTBALL AND



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Down





## PERSONALITY POSERS?

# ANSWERS

1. Dan Quigley of Wexford, who was a late replacement for Dublin's Noel Drumgoole as Leinster's full-back in the Railway Cup hurling final.

2. Offaly's Tom Furlong, now domiciled in New York. He scored the only goal of the game when Galway's League hopes ended in Tullamore on March 8.

3. Tom Browne, star Laois midfielder in the 1963 Leinster football final against Dublin, declared for his native Meath and played at centre half-forward for the Royal County in the Leinster final, against Dublin, on July 26.

4. Bernard Brady, of Donegal and U.C.D., was Ulster's left full-back in the Railway Cup football final. Sean Murray, of Longford and U.C.D., was at top of the right for Leinster.

5. Larry Kiely of Tipperary, who is a member of the Army Jumping Team and competed at the Dublin Horse Show in August.

6. Paddy Flanagan, Westmeath footballers' full-back against Longford and Laois.

7. Ned Wheeler of Wexford.

8. Jimmy Smith, who played for Clare against Limerick and Tipperary and refereed the Cork-Galway and Cork-Tipperary clashes.

9. Seamus Garvey, who refereed the Galway-Meath All-Ireland semi-final. It was the first senior inter-county game he controlled and only his second inter-county assignment in all.

10. Orla ni Shiocain, one of Dublin's midfielders in the All-Ireland final against Antrim, and Tipperary's Anne Carroll, who shot the winning point for Munster in the Gael-Linn Cup final against Leinster.

11. Kerry's Mick O'Connell. At Tralee on March 15, while playing for South Kerry against Mid Kerry



MICK O'CONNELL

in the final of the 1963 Kerryman Shield, he went between the posts and saved a penalty shot from Pat Aherne. Later in this game Mick took a penalty himself and scored a goal. South Kerry won by 1-17 to 1-10. Later in the year, at Cahirciveen in the South Kerry senior championship semi-final, he saved another penalty while playing for Valentia Young Irelanders against Cahirciveen St. Mary's.

12. Johnny Geraghty, Galway's current goalkeeper; Michael Moore, Galway's goalkeeper in 1963; and Gabriel Lohan, who won a Cork

senior football championship medal while at U.C.C.

13. Eamonn Breslin, who headed the only goal of the game when Dublin played Laois in the National Football League at Croke Park on November 1.

14. John McArdle of Drumhowan, who is a prominent member of his club's senior football team.

15. Timmy Murphy, right full-back on the Cork minor hurling team against Laois and goalkeeper for the footballers against Offaly.

16. Claire O'Hanrahan, Chairman of the Kilkenny Camogie Board who played for Leinster in the Gael Linn Cup final.

17. Jimmy Hatton. He was on the Wicklow team that won the Leinster junior hurling championship.

18. Stephen O'Sullivan, the London midfielder, and Con Murphy, Cork's centre half-back. Cork objected to O'Sullivan on the grounds that he had not been transferred from his Cork club to London. Then London objected to Murphy, claiming that he had played illegally in London. As a result, neither man played in the final. O'Sullivan, incidentally, is a former Cork senior footballer.

19. Kilkenny's Seamus Cleere shot a point from play in the hurling final and Cyril Dunne sent a free over the bar for Galway footballers.

20. Father Xavier Lovett. While on holidays from the mission fields he helped Kilmoyley win the Kerry senior hurling championship and was on the Kerry team beaten by Down in the All-Ireland junior home final.





Westmeath footballers, winners of the O'Byrne Cup. *Front row* (left to right): MICK MURPHY, TOMMY LENNON, PADDY COLLINS, GEORGIE KEANE, PAT BRADLEY, FRANKIE CONNAUGHTON, KEVIN HIGGINS (goal), T. J. FINNERAN (captain), JIM FALLON, PAT BUCKLEY, TONY CAULFIELD and PAT MORIARTY. *Back row*: PADDY FLANAGAN, Co. Secretary), PADDY COLE, FINTAN COSTELLOE, JOHN BRADLEY, PADDY LENNON, MICK CARLEY, MICK THORNTON, JOE MORAN, TOMMY CLEARY, PADDY COONEY, OLIVER COSTELLOE and JIMMY O'DOWD.  
(Photo's by courtesy of Westmeath Examiner)



Westmeath hurlers, National Hurling League Div. II champions. *Back row* (left to right): PADDY FLANAGAN, M. FLANAGAN, P. BRADLEY, S. HOLDWRIGHT, J. KEARY, J. MCGRATH (captain), J. POWER, S. MEADE, P. ENGLAND, P. MCCABE, J. ROONEY, C. CONNAUGHTON and K. LYNCH. *Front row*: P. MCDERMOTT, J. O'DOWD, P. FAGAN, T. RING, J. CAREY, P. JACKSON, J. DUFFY, J. DALTON, P. LOUGHLIN, ED. O'BRIEN (Selector).



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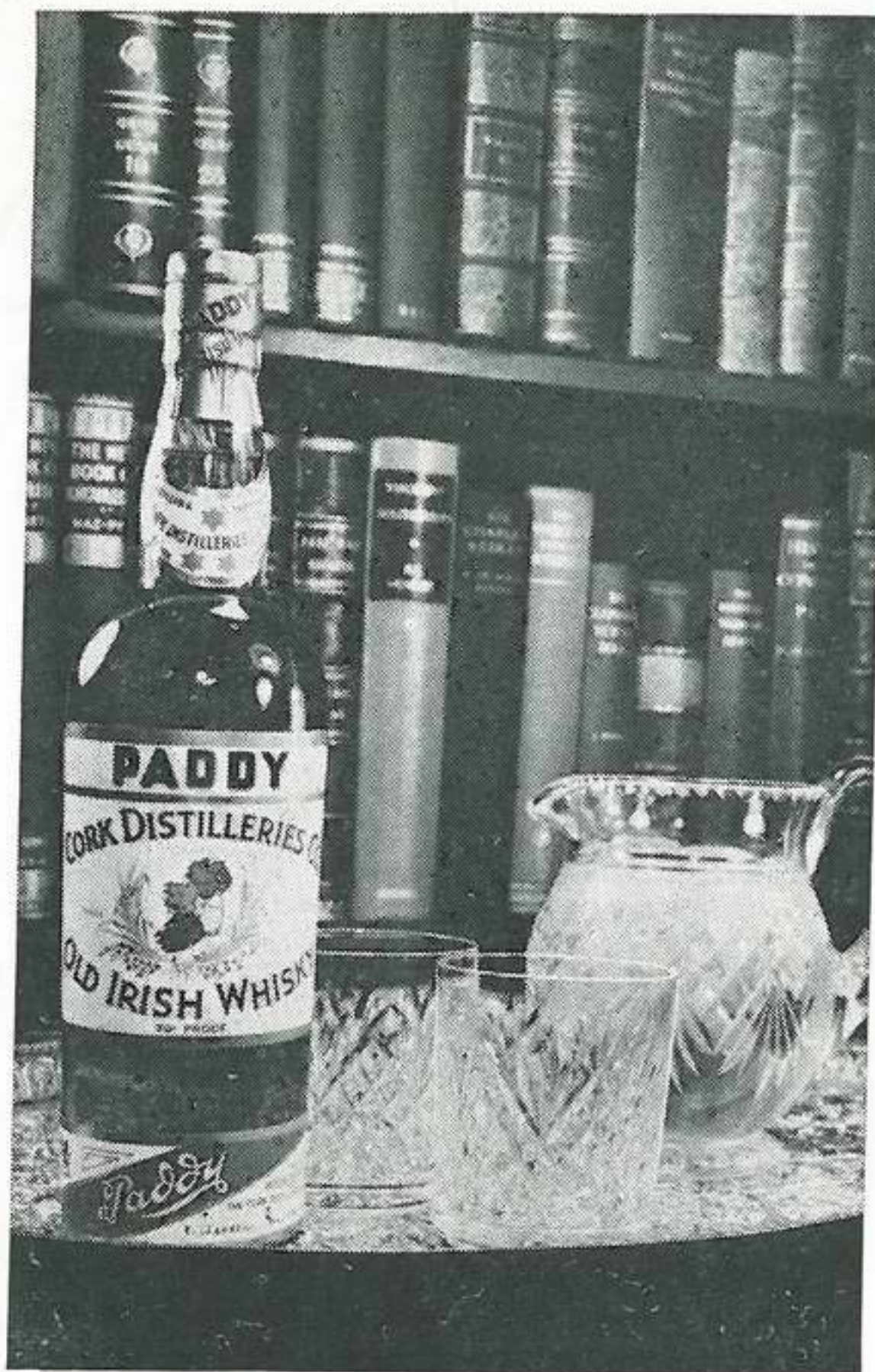
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the teenage Portaferry midfield pair, Padraig Braniff and Eugene Faloona, who displayed hurling abilities above the ordinary. They were later to fulfil all the promise shown at Casement Park.

For the All-Ireland semi-final Down had to travel to Roscommon and were winners by a single point, 2-8 to 1-10, after a sterling second half in which the teams were level four times.

Again one man stamped his name on their victory. This time it was centre half-back Hugh Dorrian, whose goal in the final minutes from a twenty-one yards free set Down on the road to victory.

### **Trained Hard Under Des Ferguson**

Kerry provided the opposition in the home final and it was at this stage that the Down County Board and the Hurling Board really got together in their efforts to improve the team. Through the efforts of Maurice Hayes, Down-born, Meath-based, Dublin hurler Dessie Ferguson was persuaded to spend part of his holidays in Portaferry and for a week he coached, demonstrated and emphasised the finer arts of the game. And he had willing pupils.

I saw how the players trained and worked under the watchful eyes of Ferguson and how a week later on Sept. 13, they put their coach's work to telling effect when Kerry were crushed by 9-8 to 2-7.

This was the finest display of hurling ever given by an Ulster side and the game was a personal triumph for Seamus Fitzgerald, a late replacement for the injured George Gilmore, who scored four goals. The other inside forwards, Hugh Sloan and John McGivern, helped him notch 8-3 of their side's total.

So Down were champions at home and had avenged a defeat by Kerry two years previously when the men of Mourne seemed to be coasting home.

### **London Proved Stiff Opposition**

Next stop was New Eltham Stadium, London. On the sun-baked, grassless surface Down faced a stiff challenge from a very young, keen London team and with less than ten minutes to go the home side looked all set to retain their title.

Then Down woke up. A long free by Hugo O'Prey dropped in the goal area and Seamus Fitzgerald doubled on the ball to send a screamer to the net for the lead. When Charlie McMullan goaled another free Down were home, winning by 3-2 to 1-3.

The hurling in this game was poor, but the small pitch, the close marking and uneven surface plus the nervous tension could be blamed. However, Down had made history, and as I stood outside the pavilion while Charlie McMullan received the Cup my mind went back to another history-making day five years previously as I stood in the very same spot watching Fermanagh receive the trophy after their first junior football success.

The Down officials were beside themselves with delight and veteran Hurling Board Chairman George McKeown openly cried with delight.

As the news filtered back home to Newtownards, Ballycran, Ballygalet, Portaferry and Downpatrick elaborate plans were put into operation for the welcome home. As the plane touched down at Aldergrove at 10.30 on Sunday night the faithful followers from the Ards were there

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# **DOWN HURLERS**

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## **MADE HISTORY**

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*(Continued from Page 23)*

to welcome their heroes and a torchlight procession led the players and trophy through Newtownards and Kirkcubbin right down to Portaferry.

They celebrated in no small manner and they had reason to be proud for these fourteen men from three clubs and Newry's John McGivern had notched for themselves and their county a place in the hurling history of the Association that will always be referred to when the small ball game is discussed by followers in Ulster.

### **Down Show The Way**

So Down have crashed through the hurling barrier which had proved insurmountable to other Ulster teams and have opened the way for others to follow. But this junior success is only a start for these men, who plan and build for the future. Already, in the National Hurling League, they have given a good account of themselves against stiffer opposition, and under the new scheme for hurling I have no doubts but that Down can look forward to a bright future.

If the progress is maintained then the day is not far distant when that Intermediate title can be won and maybe sooner than most expected the red and black will be worn in triumph in Croke Park on the first Sunday in September just as it was on the last Sundays of September in 1960 and 1961.

With the games being fostered in the schools and the clubs willing to carry on the good work I believe that the example set by men like Hugo O'Prey, Hugh Dorrian, Padraig Braniff, Eugene Faloona, Frank Gilmore, Charlie McMullan, Danny Crawford, Seamus Fitzgerald, John McGivern and David Gilmore, has set a high standard of play and sportsmanship that should be the "Everest" for the youth of the county.

To the tireless officials, whose devotion to the cause has now been partly rewarded, to the followers, whose support and encouragement in defeat and victory has been second to none, and to the players I say well done. This has been a year that I, too, will remember, but let's all look to more hurling clubs, more coaching and greater interest. More success will automatically follow.



# Cumann Lútcleas Saerdeal

## CLÁR SEALADAC

### CORN UI BROIN (Peil)

- (1) An Mhí v. Iar-Mhí—An Uaimh—21/3/65.
  - (2) Lughai v. (1)—Droichead Atha no M. Cearr.
  - (3) Uabhfailí v. Laois—Tulach Mór—21/3/65.
  - (4) Longport v. (3)—Longport.
  - (5) Cill Dara v. Cill Mantáin—D. Nua—21/3/65.
  - (6) Ath Cliath v. (5)—Magh Nuadhat nó ———
  - (7) Loch Garmán v. Cill Choinnigh—Ros Mhic Treóin 21/3/65.
  - (8) Ceathárloch v. (7)—Ceathárloch.
- Leath-craobhacha:** (9) (2) v. (4). (10) (6) v. (8).  
**An Craobh:** (9) v. (10).

### IOMAINTE MIONUIR SPEISIALTA

- (1) Lughai v. An Mhí—Baile Atha Fhirdhiadh 11/4/65.
- (2) Cill Dara v. Cill Mantáin—Bri Chualann—4/4/65.
- (3) (1) v. (2)

### IOMAINTE SINSIR agus MIONUIR

- (1) Uabhfailí v. Ceathárloch—Portlaoise—25/4/65
  - (2) Laois v. Iar-Mhí—Tulach Mór—2/5/65
  - (3) (1) v. (2)—M. Cearr, Cill Choinnigh no Tulach Mór—16 no 23/5/65.
  - (4) Loch Garmán v. Ath Cliath no (3) } ar 6 agus 13
  - (5) Cill Choinnigh v. Ath Cliath no (3) } no 27/6/65
- An Craobh:** (4) v. (5)—11/7/65

### IOMAINTE IDIR-MHEANACH

- (1) ———\* v. An Mhí—Ath Truim
  - (2) Ath Cliath v. ———\*—Ath Cliath—25/4/65
  - (3) Loch Garmán v. Cill Mantáin—Guaire—11/4/65
  - (4) Uabhfailí v. Laois—Biorra—11/4/65
  - (5) Cill Choinnigh v. (3)
- Leath-craobhacha:** (6) (2) v. (1). (7) (4) v. (5)  
**An Craobh:** (6) v. (7)

\*Ceist a sochrú re An Dún agus Aondróma agabh páirteach ag (1) agus (2)

### IOMAINTE SOISEAR

- (1) An Mhí v. Lughai—B. Atha Fhirdhiadh—11/4/65
  - (2) Cill Dara v. (1)—Bealtaine, 1965
  - (3) Cill Mantáin v. Ceathárloch—B. Mhic Cathaoir—Bealtaine, 1965
- An Craobh:** (2) v. (3)

### IOMAINTE FE 21 BLD.

- (1) Iar-Mhí v. An Mhí—M. Cearr—25/4/65
- (2) Ath Cliath v. Cill Dara—Ath Cliath—25/4/65
- (3) Ceathárloch v. Cill Choinnigh—Cill Choinnigh—25/4/65

- (4) Uabhfailí v. Laois—Portlaoise—4/4/65
- (5) Loch Garmán v. (3)—Ros Mhic Treóin—2 no 9/5/65

**Leath-craobhacha:** (6) (1) v. (2). (7) (3) v. (5)  
**An Craobh:** (6) v. (7)

### PEIL FE 21 BLD.

- (1) An Mhí v. Cill Dara—Magh Nuadhat—18/4/65
- (2) Ath Cliath v. (1)—Ath Cliath—2/5/65
- (3) Laois v. Uabhfailí—Biorra—11/4/65
- (4) Iar-Mhí v. Longport—Longport—18/4/65
- (5) Ceathárloch v. Cill Mantáin—M. an Bhealaigh—18/4/65
- (6) Loch Garmán v. (5)—23/5/65

**Leath-craobhacha:**

- (7) (3) v. (4)—16 no 23/5/65
- (8) (2) v. (6)

**An Craobh:** (7) v. (8)

### PEIL SINSIR agus MIONUIR

- (1) Iar-Mhí v. Lughai—An Uaimh—9/5/65
- (2) An Mhí v. (1)—P. an Chrócaigh—6/6/65
- (3) Uabhfailí v. Longport—M. Cearr—2/5/65
- (4) Laois v. (3)—Tulach Mór—23/5/65
- (5) Cill Dara v. Cill Mantáin—Ceathárloch—2/5/65
- (6) Ceathárloch v. (5)—Ath Í no Portlaoise—30/5/65
- (7) Loch Garmán v. Cill Choinnigh—R. Mhic Treóin 25/4/65
- (8) Ath Cliath v. (7)—Ath Cliath no Loch Garmán—23/5/65

**Leath-craobhacha:** Idir (2), (4), (6), (8)—ar 13/6/65 agus 20/6/65 no 4/7/65

**An Craobh:** P. an Chrócaigh ar 18/7/65

### PEIL SOISEAR

- (1) Cill Dara v. Cill Mantáin—D. Nua—4/4/65
- (2) Laois v. Uabhfailí—Portlaoise—4/4/65
- (3) Cill Choinnigh v. Ceathárloch—C. Choinnigh—4/4/65
- (4) Iar-Mhí v. An Mhí—M. Cearr—4/4/65
- (5) Ath Cliath v. (1)—Magh-Nuadhat no M. an Bhealaigh\*
- (6) Longport v. (2)—Tulach Mór no Longport\*
- (7) Loch Garmán v. (3)—C. Choinnigh no Inis Córthaidh\*
- (8) Lughai v. (4)—D. Atha no An Uaimh\*

\*Cluicé ar siubhal ar 25/4/65 ma's feidir

### CORN BREATHNACH (Iomáint)

**Leath-craobhacha:**

- (1) Cill Choinnigh v. ————ar 25/7/65 no 1/8/65
- (2) Loch Garmán v. ————ar 25/7/65 no 1/8/65

**An Craobh:** (1) v. (2)—ar 8/8/65



### TIPPERARY (S.H.)

J. O'Donoghue (Arravale Rovers), John Doyle (Holycross), M. Maher (Holycross), K. Carey (Roscrea); M. Burns (Nenagh), A. Wall (Thurles Sarsfields), M. Murphy (Thurles Sarsfields), capt.; T. English (Marlfield), M. Roche (Carrick-on-Suir); Jimmy Doyle (Thurles Sarsfields), L. Kiely (Glengoole), M. Keating (Ballybacon-Grange); D. Nealon (Burgess), J. McKenna (Borrisokane), S. McLoughlin (Thurles Sarsfields). Subs. — L. Devaney (Borrisoleigh), M. Loneragan (Borris-Moycarkey).

### KILKENNY (S.H.)

O. Walsh (Thomastown); C. Whelan (Thomastown), P. Dillon (Freshford), P. Larkin (Eire Og); P. Henderson (Johnstown), T. Carroll (Lisdowney), M. Coogan (Castlecomer); P. Moran (Bennettsbridge), S. Buckley (Freshford), capt.; S. Cleere (Bennettsbridge), J. Teehan (Freshford), E. Keher (The Rower-Inistioge); T. Walsh (Thomastown), T. Forrestal (Dunamaggin), T. Murphy (The Rower-Inistioge). Subs. — W. Murphy (Slieverue), D. Heaslip (Knocktopper).

### WEXFORD (I.H.)

S. Boggan (St. Martin's, Piercestown); N. O'Gorman (Camross), E. O'Brien (Monageer-Boulavogue), A. Carty (Davidstown-Courtnacuddy); L. Butler (St. Martin's, Piercestown), O. Hearne (Shelmaliere), J. Murphy (St. Brigid's, Blackwater); M. Delaney (Duffry Rovers), B. Murray (St. Martin's, Piercestown); O. Cullen (Liam Mellows, Coolgreaney), S. Whelan (St. Martin's, Piercestown), P. Murphy (St. Aidan's, Ferns); L. Delaney (Davidstown-Courtnacuddy), L. Kehoe (Davidstown-Courtnacuddy), N. O'Brien (St. Aidan's, Ferns). Subs.—J. Mannion (Wolfe Tones, Gorey), T. Hassey (Davidstown-Courtnacuddy), J. Dunne (Davidstown-Courtnacuddy).

### LONDON (I.H.)

W. Barnville (Tipperary); J. Kearns (Wexford), P. Dwyer (Tipperary), B. Neville (Limerick); M. Collins (Cork), P. Ryan (Tipperary), M. Carmody (Limerick); M. Connolly (Galway), T. Clery (Offaly), E. Murray (Wicklow), T.

Connolly (Galway), J. J. Browne (Cork); J. Barrett (Tipperary), T. Morrissey (Cork), L. Furlong (Wexford). Subs.—M. Deveraux (Wexford).

### CORK (I.H.)

T. Monaghan (Kildorrery); B. Aherne (Cloyne), W. Butler (Cobh), S. Barry (Carrigtwohill); J. Browne (Castletownroche), J. Nyhan (Ballymartle), P. Connors (Brian Dillons); M. Waters (Blackrock), W. Frawley (Fermoy); J. White (Fermoy), T. Savage (Eire Og), W. Fitton (Ballincollig); J. McCarthy (Castletownroche), C. Sheehan (Eire Og), J. Holland (Ballinhassig). Subs. — D. Murphy (Castletownroche), D. O'Brien (Eire Og), M. O'Donoghue (Rochestown).

### TIPPERARY (Under-21 H.)

P. O'Sullivan (Cashel); W. Smith (Clonakenny), N. O'Gorman (Newport), M. O'Meara (Lorrha),

O. Killoran (Roscrea), C. O'Dwyer (Borrisokane), L. Gaynor (Kilruane); M. Roche (Carrick-on-Suir Davins), J. Fogarty (Golden-Kilfeacle); N. Lane (Lorrha), M. Keating (Ballybacon-Grange), F. Loughnane (Roscrea) capt.; J. Dillon (Roscrea), T. J. Butler (Clonoulty-Rossmore), T. Brennan (Ballingarry). Subs.—P. J. Ryan (Carrick-on-Suir Davins).

### WEXFORD (Under-21 H.)

M. Jacob (Oulart-Ballagh); J. Dunne (Davidstown-Courtnacuddy), D. Quigley (Rathnure), B. Doyle (Faythe Harriers); V. Staples (St. Martin's, Piercestown), J. Berry (Kilmore-Rathangan), B. Murphy (Faythe Harriers); M. Byrne (Rathnure), J. Doran (Buffers-Alley); C. Dowdall (Faythe Harriers), C. Jacob (Oulart-Ballagh), O. Cullen (Liam Mellows, Coolgreaney); S. Barron (Rathnure), T. Maher (St. Aidan's, Enniscorthy), P. Quigley (Rathnure). Subs.—P. O'Connor (St. Aidan's, Enniscorthy), M. Kinsella (Wolfe Tones, Gorey), B. Murray (St. Martin's, Piercestown).

### DOWN (J.H.)

A. Falloona (Portaferry); P. Braniff (Ballygalget), H. O'Prey (Ballycran), D. Gilmore (Ballycran); F. Gilmore (Ballycran), H. Dorrian (Ballygalget), W. Smith (Ballygalget); E. Falloona (Portaferry), P. Braniff (Portaferry); S. Savage (Portaferry), C. McMullan (Portaferry), D. Crawford (Ballygalget); S. Fitzgerald (Ballycran), H. Sloan (Portaferry), J. McGivern (Clann Uladh, Newry). Subs.—G. Gilmore (Ballycran), P. McGratten (Newtownards).



EDDIE KEHER (Kilkenny)

# THE ALL-IRELAND VICTORS AND



# FINAL LINE-OUTS

# VANQUISHED

## LONDON (J.H.)

M. Butler (Wexford); W. Croke (Tipperary), P. Wiley (Clare), T. Morrissey (Wexford); T. Delaney (Kilkenny), C. Hughes (Galway), T. Gallagher (Waterford), D. Henry (Clare), L. Murphy (Wexford); P. O'Donoghue (Galway), C. Burke (Galway), M. Dunne (Limerick); T. Barron (Wexford), J. Dorgan (Cork), A. Gordan (Galway). Subs.—H. Treacy (Galway), G. Ryan (Tipperary).

## KERRY (J.H.)

M. Allen (Lixnaw); J. McKenna (Ballyduff), J. McCarthy (Crotta), J. Purcell (Kilgarvan); J. Griffin (Lixnaw), C. Clinton (Kenmare), D. Kelly (Ballyduff); J. Flanagan (Kilmoyley), A. O'Sullivan (Ballyduff); F. Thornton (Lixnaw), P. O'Sullivan (Ardfert), T. Randles (Kilgarvan); L. O'Connor (Kilmoyley), T. O'Donoghue (Crotta), X. Lovett (Kilmoyley).

## CORK (M.H.)

H. O'Brien (Inniscarra); T. Murphy (Redmonds), G. Ahearne (Cloyne), P. O'Sullivan (Midleton); J. O'Callaghan (Glen Rovers), B. Wiley (Carrigaline), W. Murphy (Ballincollig); P. O'Riordan (Rivers-town), C. Roche (St. Finbarrs); D. Clifford (Cloyne), L. McAuliffe (Rathpeacon), K. Cummins (Black-rock); C. McCarthy (St. Finbarrs), A. O'Flynn (Glen Rovers), M. Kenneally (Glen Rovers).

## LAOIS (M.H.)

E. Bergin (Abbeyleix); L. Moore (Camross), M. McDonnell (Abbeyleix), F. Byrne (Portlaoise); W. Phelan (Abbeyleix), L. Purcell (Abbeyleix), W. Delaney (Ballina-

kill); M. Fennell (Graiguecullen), P. Dowling (Camross); B. Delaney (Portlaoise), P. Dillon (Clonaslee), P. Payne (Mountmellick); D. Conlon (Mountmellick), J. Kavanagh (Portlaoise), P. Keyes (Castletown).

## GALWAY (S.F.)

J. Geraghty (Mountbellew); E. Colleran (Mountbellew), N. Tierney (Milltown), J. B. McDermott (Dunmore McHales); J. Donnellan (Dunmore McHales), capt., S. Meade (Ballinasloe), M. Newell (Fr. Griffins, Galway); M. Reynolds (Tuam Stars), M. Garrett (Tuam Stars); C. Dunne (Ballinasloe), M. McDonagh (Ballygar), S. Leyden (Dunmore McHales); C. Tyrrell (Mountbellew), S. Cleary (Ballygar), J. Keenan (Dunmore McHales).

## KERRY (S.F.)

J. Culloty (Killarney); M. Morris (John Mitchels, Tralee), N. Sheehy (John Mitchels), capt.; P. O'Donoghue (Asdee); Denis O'Sullivan

(Kerins-O'Rahilly's, Tralee), S. Murphy (Camp), J. D. O'Connor (Ballylongford); M. Fleming (Castleisland), Donie O'Sullivan (Clanna Gael, Dublin, and Killarney); P. Griffin (Killorglin), M. O'Dwyer (Waterville Frank Caseys), M. O'Connell (Valentia Young Islanders); F. O'Leary (John Mitchels), T. Long (Killarney), J. J. Barrett (Austin Stacks, Tralee). Subs.—S. McCarthy (Ballylongford), B. O'Callaghan (Moyvane), K. Coffey (Clanna Gael, Dublin and Beaufort).

## KERRY (Under-21 F.)

S. Fitzgerald (Gaeltacht); M. Morris (John Mitchels, Tralee), P. O'Donoghue (Asdee), D. Lovett (Kilmoyley); S. McCarthy (Ballylongford), V. Lucey (Air Corps, Dublin, and Killorglin), Donal O'Sullivan (Cahirciveen); Denis O'Sullivan (Kerins-O'Rahillys, Tralee), P. Griffin (Killorglin); H. McKinney (Austin Stacks, Tralee), A. Barrett (Ballyduff), D. O'Shea (John Mitchels); D. O'Donnell (John Mitchels), J. J. Barrett (Austin Stacks), S. Burrowes (John Mitchels). Subs.—P. Cahill (Dr. Crokes, Killarney), T. Fitzgerald (John Mitchels).

## LAOIS (Under-21 F.)

T. Millar (Timahoe); E. Fennelly (Portlaoise), A. Maher (Park), J. Conway (Arles); G. Lalor (Emo), J. Leonard (Stradbally), S. Harkins (Portlaoise); P. Brennan (Crettyard), E. Mulhall (Ballyroan); J. Fennell (Portlaoise), M. Fennell (Graiguecullen), D. Brennan (Arles); C. O'Connor (O'Dempseys), P. Delaney (Portlaoise), B. Delaney (Portlaoise). Subs.—R. Millar (Timahoe), J. Meehan (Curragh).

## CORK (J.F.)

B. Murphy (Crosshaven); D. Kehily (Newcestown), J. McGrath (Mitchelstown), D. Coughlan (St. Nicholas); J. Dunlea (Canovee), F. Kehily (Newcestown), J. Crowley (Dohenys); D. McCarthy (Kilmurry), M. O'Loughlin (Kanturk); T. Burke (Millstreet), C. Kelleher (Millstreet), M. Coughlan (St. Nicholas); H. Casey (Macroom), S. McCarthy (Kilmurry), D. O'Donovan (O'Donovan Rossa). Sub.—R. Honohan (Mitchelstown).



BERNIE O'CALLAGHAN (Kerry)



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# THEIR PATHS TO GLORY

Here is a list of the All-Ireland senior hurling and football champions all-conquering performances.

**TIPPERARY 5-13, Kilkenny 2-8** (Half-time, 1-8 to 0-6).

**Scorers**—Jimmy Doyle (0-10), D. Nealon (3-0), J. McKenna (1-0), S. McLoughlin (1-0), M. Keating (0-2), M. Roche (0-1).

J. O'Donoghue; John Doyle, M. Maher, K. Carey; M. Burns, T. Wall, M. Murphy (capt.); T. English, M. Roche; Jimmy Doyle, L. Kiely, M. Keating; D. Nealon, J. McKenna, S. McLoughlin. Subs.—L. Devaney for Kiely, M. Loneragan for Maher.

**Referee**—A. Higgins (Galway). **Attendance**—71,282

**TIPPERARY 3-13, Cork 1-5** (Half-time, 1-7 to 1-4).

**Scorers**—Jimmy Doyle (0-10), S. McLoughlin (1-0), J. McKenna (1-0), D. Nealon (1-0), M. Keating (0-3).

J. O'Donoghue; John Doyle, M. Maher, K. Carey; M. Burns, T. Wall, M. Murphy; T. English, M. Roche; M. Keating, L. Kiely, D. Nealon; Jimmy Doyle, S. McLoughlin, J. McKenna.

**Referee**—J. Smith (Clare). **Attendance**—44,245

**TIPPERARY 6-13, Clare 2-5** (Half-time, 1-6 to 0-4).

**Scorers**—Jimmy Doyle (1-7), S. McLoughlin (2-0), M. Keating (0-4), T. Wall, D. Nealon and L. Devaney (1-0 each), J. McKenna (0-2).

J. O'Donoghue; John Doyle, M. Maher, K. Carey; M. Burns, T. Wall, M. Murphy; T. English, M. Roche; Jimmy Doyle, M. Keating, D. Nealon; J. McKenna, L. Devaney, S. McLoughlin.

**Referee**—A. Higgins (Galway). **Attendance**—23,000

**GALWAY 0-15, Kerry 0-10** (Half-time, 0-7 to 0-3).

**Scorers**—C. Dunne (0-9), S. Leydon (0-2), S. Cleary, J. Keenan, M. McDonagh and C. Tyrrell (0-1 each).

Tipperary captain  
**MICK MURPHY**  
proudly holds the  
McCarthy Cup aloft.



J. Geraghty; E. Colleran, N. Tierney, J. B. McDermott; J. Donnellan (capt.), S. Meade, M. Newell; M. Garrett, M. Reynolds; C. Dunne, M. McDonagh, S. Leydon; C. Tyrrell, S. Cleary, J. Keenan.

**Referee**—J. Hatton (Wicklow). **Attendance**—76,498

**GALWAY 1-8, Meath 0-9** (Half-time, 1-3 to 0-5).

**Scorers**—M. McDonagh (1-0), C. Dunne (0-3), S. Leydon (0-2), S. Cleary, J. Keenan and M. Reynolds (0-1 each).

J. Geraghty; E. Colleran, N. Tierney, J. B. McDermott; J. Donnellan, S. Meade, M. Newell; M. Garrett, M. Reynolds; C. Dunne, M. McDonagh, S. Leydon; C. Tyrrell, S. Cleary, J. Keenan.

**Referee**—S. Garvey (Kerry). **Attendance**—52,547

**GALWAY 2-12, Mayo 1-5** (Half-time, 1-8 to 1-1).

**Scorers**—C. Dunne (0-8), S. Cleary (1-2), C. Tyrrell (1-0), J. Keenan and M. McDonagh (0-1 each).

J. Geraghty; E. Colleran, N. Tierney, J. B. McDermott; J. Donnellan, S. Meade, M. Newell; M. Garrett, M. Reynolds; C. Dunne, M. McDonagh, S. Leydon; C. Tyrrell, S. Cleary, J. Keenan.

**Referee**—E. Moules (Wicklow). **Attendance**—22,300

**GALWAY 2-12, Sligo 1-12** (Half-time, 1-9 to 0-3).

**Scorers**—C. Dunne (0-8), S. Cleary (1-1), M. McDonagh (1-0), J. Keenan, S. Leydon and M. Reynolds (0-1 each).

M. Moore; E. Colleran, N. Tierney, M. Newell; J. Donnellan, S. Meade, J. B. McDermott; M. Garrett, M. Reynolds; C. Dunne, M. McDonagh, S. Leydon; C. Tyrrell, S. Cleary, J. Keenan.

**Referee**—M. Loftus (Mayo). **Attendance**—5,000

## ALL-IRELAND FINAL SCORES

**S.H.** — Tipperary 5-13, Kilkenny 2-8.  
**I.H.** — Wexford 4-7, London 1-11.  
**I.H. (Home)** — Wexford 2-8, Cork 1-5.  
**U-21 H.** — Tipperary 8-9, Wexford 3-1.  
**J.H.** — Down 3-2, London 1-3.  
**J.H. (Home)** — Down 9-5, Kerry 2-7.  
**M.H.** — Cork 10-7, Laois 1-4.  
**S.F.** — Galway 0-15, Kerry 0-10.  
**U-21 F.** — Kerry 1-10, Laois 1-3.  
**J.F.** — Cork 1-8, London 2-4.  
**J.F. (Home)** — Cork 2-5, Meath 1-8.  
Replay — Cork 2-9, Meath 0-10.  
**M.F.** — Offaly 0-15, Cork 1-11.



# VICTORS AND VANQUISHED

(continued from

page 77)

## LONDON (J.F.)

J. Kelly (Cork); T. Fox (Meath), S. Hendry (Monaghan), C. O'Connor (Cork); E. O'Connor (Limerick), E. O'Driscoll (Kerry), J. Madden (Galway); T. Dowling (Laois), J. McCowell (Longford); J. Devine (Longford), P. Fitzmaurice (Gal-

way), R. Doherty (Dublin); D. Mullins (Cork), D. O'Connor (Kerry), M. Doran (Laois). Subs.—F. Gaughan (Mayo), A. Heaphy (Kerry), H. Sheehan (Kerry).

## MEATH (J.F.)

S. McCormack (Colmcille Gaels);

P. J. O'Reilly (Kilbride), N. Callan (St. Peter's, Drumconrath), J. Carolan (Kilmainhamwood); T. Murray (St. Patrick's, Stamullen), T. Kerins (St. Vincents), P. Price (Castletown); B. Hand (Slane), P. Byrne (Ballinlough); A. Brennan (Enfield), M. McCabe (Ratoath), L. McCormack (Colmcille Gaels); A. Breslin (St. Peter's, Dunboyne), N. Curran (Dunshaughlin), L. Drumm (Walterstown). Sub.—M. O'Brien (Colmcille Gaels).

## OFFALY (M.F.)

M. Furlong; J. Coughlan, J. Smith, M. Ryan; E. Mulligan, S. Grogan, L. Duffy; O. Kilmurry, F. Greene; W. Bryan, A. McTeague, J. Gunning; E. Kennedy, D. McIntyre, M. Byrne. Sub.—M. O'Rourke.

## CORK (M.F.)

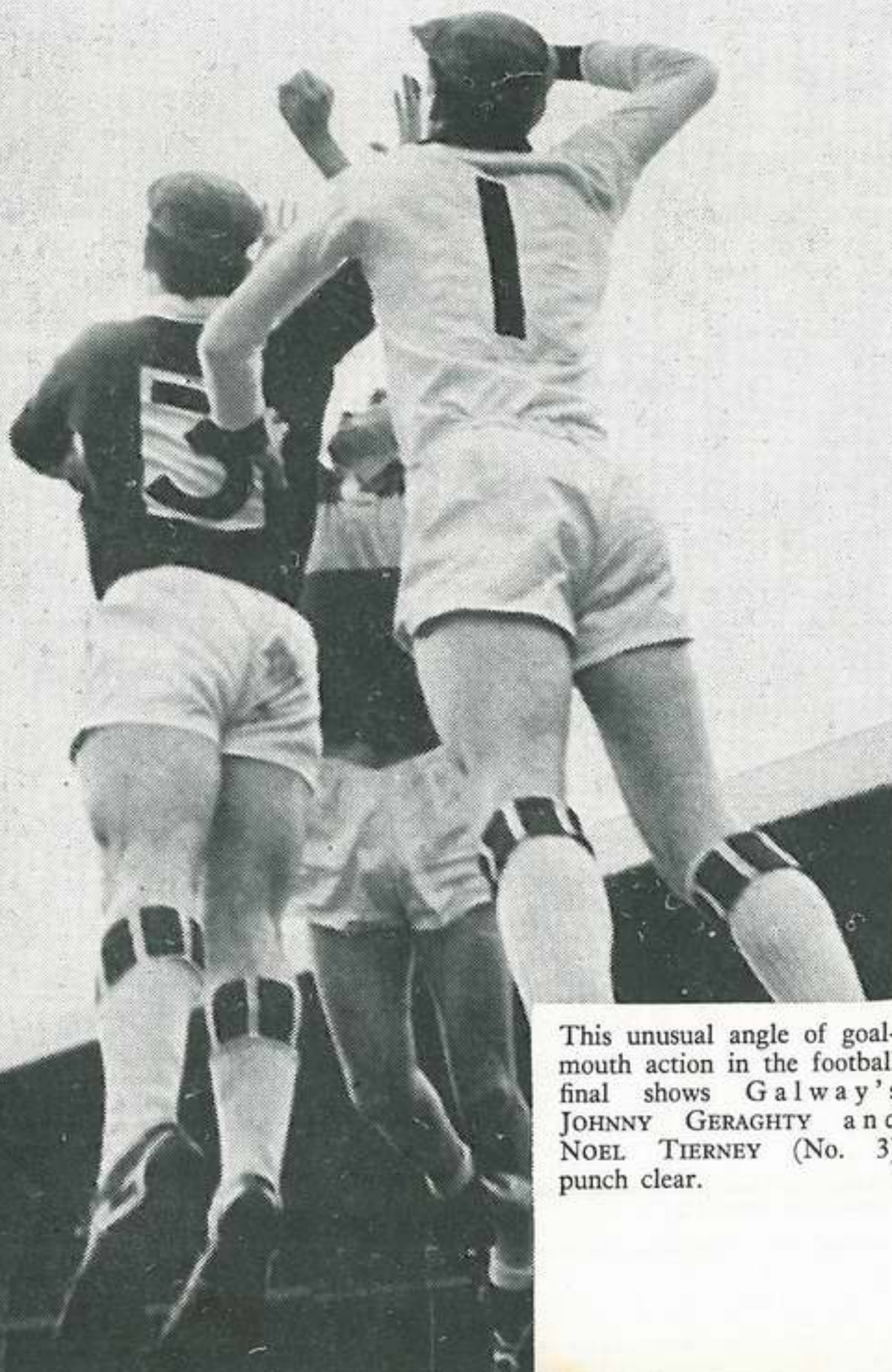
T. Murphy (Redmonds); R. Kelly (Urhan), J. Cawley (Nemo Rangers), P. Lyne (Castletownbere); B. O'Brien (Macroon), N. O'Donovan (Clonakilty), Colman McCarthy (Boherbue); J. Cogan (Nemo Rangers), J. Downing (Urhan); E. Philpott (St. Finbarrs), T. F. Hayes (Clonakilty), C. Roche (St. Finbarrs); B. O'Leary (Skibbereen), L. McAuliffe (Rathpeacon), Charlie McCarthy (St. Finbarrs). Sub.—D. Bermingham (St. Dominics).

## DUBLIN (Camogie)

C. Clarke (Austin Stacks); M. Ryan (Austin Stacks); R. O'Reilly (Na Piarsaigh), A. Hussey (Celtic), K. Lyons (Eoghan Ruadh); P. Timmons (Naomh Aoife), M. Sherlock (Austin Stacks), O. Ni Siochain (Austin Stacks); B. Keenan (Austin Stacks), K. Ryder (Naomh Aoife), J. Doyle (C.I.E.), U. O'Connor (Celtic).

## ANTRIM (Camogie)

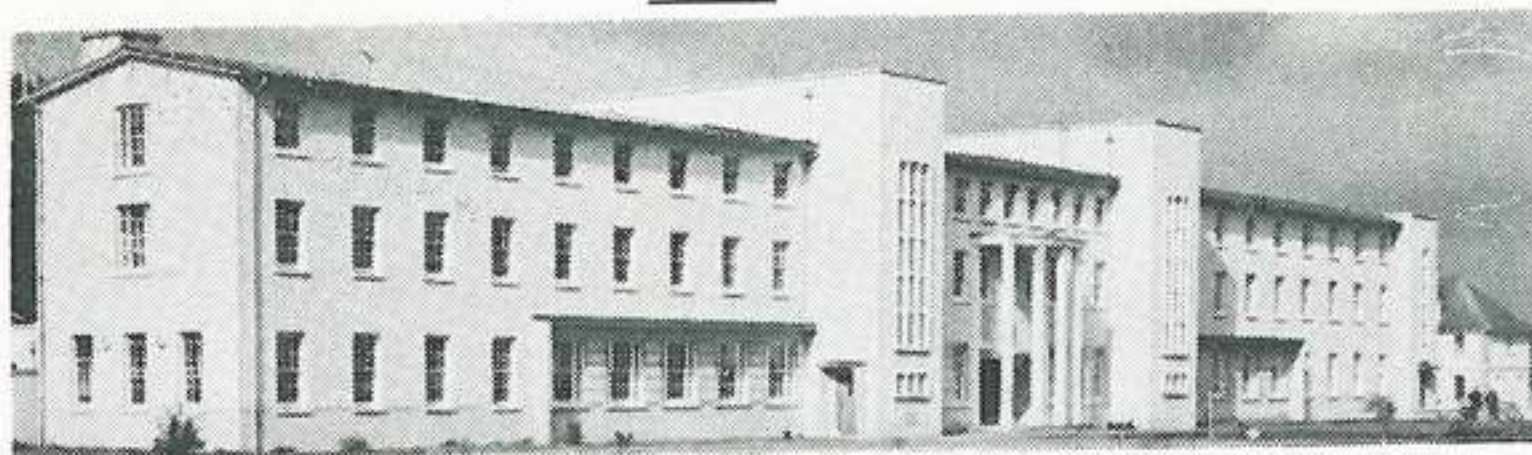
T. Kearns (Dunloy); M. Forde (Ahoghill); C. O'Boyle (St. Malachys), S. Ward (Deirdre), capt., M. Carabine (St. Teresa's); B. Smyth (Gael Uladh), M. Gilroy (St. Malachys), M. McAtamney (Portglenone); M. McFetridge (St. Malachys), L. Scullion (Ahoghill), K. Finn (St. Agnes's); M. P. Jamieson (Ballycastle).



This unusual angle of goalmouth action in the football final shows Galway's JOHNNY GERAGHTY and NOEL TIERNEY (No. 3) punch clear.



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# HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE (continued from page 15)

CAVAN MARKED their return to championship hurling after an absence of 12 years with a 2-7 to 2-2 victory over Monaghan in the first round of the Ulster junior competition.

AN UNUSUAL incident occurred when Eoghan Ruadh met Young Irelands in the Dublin senior hurling league at Islandbridge on May 31. Two umpires disagreed over a score and their argument was so heated and prolonged that the referee ordered them off!

MOUNTNUGENT WON the Cavan junior football championship for the first time since 1943 and their left full-back was Norbert Smith, whose father, Arthur, filled the same position on the team that won the championship 21 years ago.

GEORGE GLYNN, former Galway minor and senior, was at mid-field for Down footballers when they met Tyrone in the Dr. Lagan Cup at Dungannon in November.

GREG HUGHES the Offaly and Leinster full-back, lined out at mid-field for Colmcille Gaels in the Meath senior football championship final.

ROSCOMMON'S Gerry Reilly and Eamonn Burgess, the former Dublin forward, helped Newtown Blues retain the Louth senior football championship.

NACE O'DOWD, former Sligo, Connacht and Ireland footballer, re-

turned to the playing fields in New York after a protracted severe illness had threatened to end his football career.



GREG HUGHES

THE FIRST intermediate hurling championship in Waterford produced a unique final pairing—Ballyduff v. Ballyduff!

The West Divisional title was won by Ballyduff Upper and the East title went to Ballyduff Lower and to further complicate matters both Ballyduffs wore the same jerseys—red! The final ended in a 3-5 to 1-9 victory for Ballyduff Upper, who wore blue, while their opponents sported the red and green of Rathgormack.

TO ADD TO these coincidences, Ballyduff Upper also qualified for the junior football championship in which their opponents were Rathgormack. This time, however, the red and green triumphed over the blue.

INDIVIDUAL winner at the All-Ireland Poc Fada championships over the Cooley Mountains was Kilkenny's Oliver Gough, with 76 strokes. Achill Boothman and Jim Loughnane retained the team award for Dublin with a total of 159 strokes.

ARMAGH COUNTY Board presented plaques to the referees of the county football championship finals. The recipients were Jackie Caldwell, Pat Murphy, Al Dillon and Gerry McStravick.

## GAEL LINN CAMOGIE CUP RETURNS

### SEMI-FINALS

Munster (holders) 7-3, Ulster 2-4

**MUNSTER**—D. Sutton (Cork); P. Moloney (Tipperary); G. Giltenan (Limerick); T. Griffin (Tipp); A. Graham (Tipp); K. Murphy (Clare); L. Howlett (Waterford); D. Young (Cork); A. Carroll (Tipp); K. Griffin (Tipp); P. Dorgan (Cork); R. Manley (Cork).

**ULSTER**—A. McColum (Antrim); M. C. Mallon (Armagh); M. Kane (Antrim); S. Ward (Antrim); M. Gilroy (Antrim); M. McAtamney (Antrim); B. McCloskey (Derry); M. Carabine (Antrim); M. McFetridge (Antrim); R. Rafferty (Derry); E. Mallon (Tyrone); M. P. Jameson (Antrim).

LEINSTER w.o., CONNACHT scr.

### FINAL

Munster 2-6, Leinster 3-2

**MUNSTER**—D. Sutton (Cork); P. Moloney (Tipperary); B. Giltenan (Limerick); B. Ryan (Limerick); A. Graham (Tipp); D. Young (Cork); L. Howlett (Waterford); T. Murphy (Cork); A. Carroll (Tipp); B. Moloney (Tipp); K. Murphy (Clare); R. Manley (Cork).

**LEINSTER**—C. Clarke (Dublin); M. Sinnott (Wexford); J. Murphy (Wexford); A. Hussey (Dublin); K. Lyons (Dublin); M. Walsh (Wexford); P. Higgins (Kildare); K. Ryder (Dublin); K. Murphy (Louth); U. O'Connor (Dublin); J. Doyle (Dublin); C. Hanrahan (Kilkenny). Sub.—M. Sherlock (Dublin).





*U.C.C. footballers who retained the Cork senior football championship*

## COUNTY SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

*KILROSSANTY, who won the Waterford senior football championship for the tenth time.*





# CHAMPIONS DOWN THE YEARS

## *ALL-IRELAND SENIOR HURLING*

**TIPPERARY (20)** — 1887, 1895, 1896, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1906, 1908, 1916, 1925, 1930, 1937, 1945, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1958, 1961, 1962, 1964.  
**CORK (19)** — 1890, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1902, 1903, 1919, 1926, 1928, 1929, 1931, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1946, 1952, 1953, 1954.  
**KILKENNY (15)** — 1904, 1905, 1907, 1909, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1922, 1932, 1933, 1935, 1939, 1947, 1957, 1963.  
**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*

**KERRY (20)** — 1903, 1904, 1909, 1913, 1914, 1924, 1926, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1937, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1946, 1953, 1955, 1959, 1962.  
**DUBLIN (17)** — 1891, 1892, 1894, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1901, 1902, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1942, 1958, 1963.  
**GALWAY (5)** — 1925, 1934, 1938, 1956, 1964.  
**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.  
**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 INTER. HURLING*

**WEXFORD (2)** — 1961, 1964.  
**CARLOW (1)** — 1962.  
**TIPPERARY (1)** — 1963.

## *ALL-IRELAND JUNIOR HURLING*

**CORK (8)** — 1912, 1916, 1925, 1940, 1947, 1950, 1955, 1958.  
**TIPPERARY (7)** — 1913, 1915, 1924, 1926, 1930, 1933, 1953.  
**LONDON (5)** — 1938, 1949, 1959, 1960, 1963.  
**KILKENNY (4)** — 1928, 1946, 1951, 1956.  
**LIMERICK (4)** — 1935, 1941, 1954, 1957.  
**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.  
**KILDARE (1)** — 1962.  
**DOWN (1)** — 1964.

## *ALL-IRELAND JUNIOR FOOTBALL*

**KERRY (9)** — 1913, 1915, 1924, 1928, 1930, 1941, 1949, 1954, 1963.  
**DUBLIN (5)** — 1914, 1916, 1939, 1948, 1960.  
**LOUTH (4)** — 1925, 1932, 1934, 1961.  
**CORK (4)** — 1951, 1953, 1955, 1964.  
**MAYO (3)** — 1933, 1950, 1957.  
**MEATH (3)** — 1947, 1952, 1962.  
**TIPPERARY (2)** — 1912, 1923.  
**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*

**TIPPERARY (12)** — 1930, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1947, 1949, 1952, 1953, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1959.  
**KILKENNY (7)** — 1931, 1935, 1936, 1950, 1960, 1961, 1962.  
**CORK (7)** — 1928, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1941, 1951, 1964.  
**DUBLIN (3)** — 1945, 1946, 1954.  
**WATERFORD (2)** — 1929, 1948.  
**LIMERICK (2)** — 1940, 1958.  
**WEXFORD (1)** — 1963.

## *ALL-IRELAND MINOR FOOTBALL*

**DUBLIN (7)** — 1930, 1945, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1958, 1959.  
**KERRY (7)** — 1931, 1932, 1933, 1946, 1950, 1962, 1963.  
**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.  
**OFFALY (1)** — 1964.

## *ALL-IRELAND UNDER 21 HURLING*

**TIPPERARY (1)** — 1964.

## *ALL-IRELAND UNDER 21 FOOTBALL*

**KERRY (1)** — 1964.



## NATIONAL HURLING LEAGUE

**TIPPERARY (11)** — 1928, 1949, 1950, 1952, 1954, 1955, 1957, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1964.  
**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 (2)**—1933, 1962.  
**CLARE (1)**—1946.  
**WATERFORD (1)**—1963.

## NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

**MAYO (9)**—1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1941, 1949, 1954.  
**KERRY (7)** — 1928, 1929, 1931, 1932, 1959, 1961, 1963.  
**DUBLIN (3)**—1953, 1955, 1958.  
**MEATH (3)**—1933, 1946, 1951.  
**CORK (2)**—1952, 1956.  
**GALWAY (2)**—1940, 1957.  
**DOWN (2)**—1960, 1962.  
**NEW YORK (2)**—1950, 1964.  
**LAOIS (1)**—1927.  
**DERRY (1)**—1947.  
**CAVAN (1)**—1948.

## ST. BRENDAN CUP

### HURLING

**TIPPERARY (4)** — 1955, 1957, 1959, 1960.

**CORK (1)**—1954.  
**NEW YORK (1)**—1958.

### FOOTBALL

**DUBLIN (2)**—1955, 1958.  
**GALWAY (1)**—1957.  
**KERRY (1)**—1959.  
**DOWN (1)**—1960.  
**NEW YORK (1)**—1954.

## RAILWAY CUP

### HURLING

**MUNSTER (28)**—1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1934, 1935, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1955, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1963.  
**LEINSTER (9)**—1927, 1932, 1933, 1936, 1941, 1954, 1956, 1962, 1964.  
**CONNACHT (1)**—1947.

### FOOTBALL

**LEINSTER (17)**—1928, 1929, 1930, 1932, 1933, 1935, 1939, 1940, 1944, 1945, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1959, 1961, 1962.

**ULSTER (8)** — 1942, 1943, 1947, 1950, 1956, 1960, 1963, 1964.  
**CONNACHT (7)** — 1934, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1951, 1957, 1958.  
**MUNSTER (6)**—1927, 1931, 1941, 1946, 1948, 1949.

## OIREACHTAS CUP

**TIPPERARY (6)** — 1945, 1949, 1960, 1961, 1963, 1964.  
**WEXFORD (4)**—1951, 1953, 1955, 1956.  
**KILKENNY (4)**—1940, 1947, 1957,

1959.  
**GALWAY (3)**—1950, 1952, 1958.  
**DUBLIN (2)**—1944, 1948.  
**LIMERICK (1)**—1939.  
**CLARE (1)**—1954.  
**WATERFORD (1)**—1962.

## CUCHULAINN CUP

**MEATH (3)**—1961, 1962, 1963.  
**KERRY (2)**—1959, 1960.  
**GALWAY (1)**—1958.  
**TYRONE (1)**—1957.

# TITLE HOLDERS, 1964

### ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

WINNERS	RUNNERS-UP
S.H.—TIPPERARY;	KILKENNY.
I.H.—WEXFORD;	LONDON.
U-21 H.—TIPPERARY;	WEXFORD.
J.H.—DOWN;	LONDON.
M.H.—CORK;	LAOIS.
S.F.—GALWAY;	KERRY.
U-21 F.—KERRY;	LAOIS.
J.F.—CORK;	LONDON.
M.F.—OFFALY;	CORK.

### CONNACHT CHAMPIONSHIPS

S.F.—GALWAY;	MAYO.
U-21 F.—GALWAY;	MAYO.
J.F.—ROSCOMMON;	GALWAY.
M.F.—MAYO;	GALWAY.
J.H.—ROSCOMMON;	MAYO.
M.H.—MAYO;	ROSCOMMON.

### LEINSTER CHAMPIONSHIPS

S.H.—KILKENNY;	DUBLIN.
U-21 H.—WEXFORD;	LAOIS.
J.H.—WICKLOW;	KILDARE.
M.H.—LAOIS;	KILKENNY.
I.H.—WEXFORD;	KILKENNY.
S.F.—MEATH;	DUBLIN.
U-21 F.—LAOIS;	OFFALY.
J.F.—MEATH;	KILDARE.
M.F.—OFFALY;	LAOIS.

### MUNSTER CHAMPIONSHIPS

S.H.—TIPPERARY;	CORK.
I.H.—CORK;	GALWAY.
U-21 H.—TIPPERARY;	WATERFORD.
M.H.—CORK;	TIPPERARY.
S.F.—KERRY;	CORK.
U-21 F.—KERRY;	TIPPERARY.
J.F.—CORK;	CLARE.
M.F.—CORK;	CLARE.

### ULSTER CHAMPIONSHIPS

S.F.—CAVAN;	DOWN.
U-21 F.—DONEGAL;	MONAGHAN.
J.F.—DERRY;	ANTRIM.
M.F.—ANTRIM;	CAVAN.
J.H.—DOWN;	ANTRIM.
M.H.—ANTRIM;	ARMAGH.

### CHAMPIONSHIPS OF BRITAIN

J.H.—LONDON;	WARWICK.
J.F.—LONDON;	GLASGOW.


### RAILWAY CUPS

H.—LEINSTER;	MUNSTER.
F.—ULSTER;	LEINSTER.

### LEAGUES, TOURNAMENTS, ETC.

N.H.L.—Tipperary; New York.  
 N.H.L.—(Home)—Tipperary; Wexford.  
 N.H.L. (Div. 2)—Westmeath; Laois.  
 N.F.L.—New York; Dublin.  
 N.F.L.—(Home)—Dublin; Down.  
 Dr. Lagan Cup (F.)—Down; Antrim.  
 Dr. McKenna Cup (F.)—Down; Derry.  
 O'Byrne Cup (F.)—Westmeath; Carlow.  
 Walsh Cup (H.)—Kilkenny and Dublin in Final.  
 Wembley T'ment (H.)—Tipperary; Kilkenny.  
 Wembley Tournament (F.)—Galway; Dublin.  
 New York "World Cup" (H.) — Kilkenny; Tipperary.  
 Oireachtas Cup (H.)—Tipperary; Kilkenny.  
 Grounds Tournament (F.)—Galway; Dublin.  
 Cuchulann Cup 1963 (F.)—Meath; Galway.  
 Cuchulainn Cup 1964—Laois v. Meath or Galway.  
 Leinster Special M.H.—Kildare; Louth.  
 Ulster M.F.L.—Down; Derry.  
 Connacht M.F.L.—Galway; Sligo.  
 Gael Linn Cup 1963 (F.)—Galway; Mayo.  
 Murphy Cup (F.)—Louth; Armagh.  
 O'Kennedy Shield (H.)—Waterford; Wexford.  
 Cavanagh Cup (F.)—Mayo; Offaly.  
 Goode Cup (F.)—Galway; Dublin.  
 Ulster Top Club (F.)—St. Johns (Belfast); Devenish.  
 E.S.B. Finals (H.)—Portlaoise; Cork.  
 E.S.B. Finals (F.)—Allenwood; Athlone.

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# THE GAMES IN BRITAIN

**T**HE curtain has now rung down on the G.A.A. season in Britain and once again the seven County Boards affiliated to the Provincial Council report further progress. While London dominated the scene, the manner in which the remaining counties performed in the provincial championships suggested that the might of London will shortly be seriously challenged in this field.

The Annual Games at Wembley on Whit Saturday were once again an outstanding success. While the attendance showed a slight decrease on the previous year, an overall profit of something like £2,500 resulted. The officers of the London County Board, and in particular Chairman Jim Mullarkey (Tubbercurry, Sligo) and Treasurer Johnny Moriarty (Lispole, Co. Kerry) deserve great credit for their untiring efforts in helping to make these fixtures what they are.

The four contestants—Galway and Dublin (football) and Tipperary and Kilkenny (hurling)—are to be complimented on giving displays in keeping with the occasion and although Galway and Tipperary had plenty to spare at the end the losers earned the plaudits of the crowd for their sporting performances.

The televising of the football game was an innovation and judging by the favourable reaction of viewers it is certain that this medium of publicity will bear fruit next year when it is anticipated that the attendance will show a big increase.

## Went Ahead

With a record number of 72 clubs, the affairs of the London Board went ahead by leaps and bounds. Nearly five hundred games were played and the high standard of sportsmanship was indeed a credit to the players and clubs alike.

Of the new clubs, Father Griffins and St. Anthonys were the most successful and while neither managed to win a trophy the fact that they reached the concluding stages of the junior competitions augurs well for future prospects. Father Griffins' progress was due mainly to the efforts of their youthful secretary, Sean McCarthy of Cork who recently gained his degree in Dental Surgery and is now practising at Crawley, Surrey.

Brian Borus, London's oldest club, won the senior hurling championship and league and a proud boast of the club officials was that no fewer than ten members of the team wore the London jersey over the past few years. Chairman of the Brian Boru Club is Tipperary-born Paddy Ryan, who is also secretary of the Provincial Council of Britain.

Round Towers captured the senior football championship and Tipperary Cup and qualified for the final of the League against Naomh Mhuire. Guiding light behind

Towers' resurgence after years in the doldrums is the former Offaly county player—Dick Conroy—who is now a successful businessman in London.

Big men on the Towers' line-out were the former Monaghan senior, Sean Hendry, the ex-Kildare and Leinster star, Seamus Harrison and Frank Tiernan, who played minor for his native Kerry some years back.

## Promoted

The Croydon club, Naomh Michael, beat all and sundry to win the intermediate football championship and League and will be a big asset to the senior grade, to which they will be automatically promoted next year.

Naomh Mhuire—a club formed by the Oblate Fathers in Kilburn in 1943—captured the intermediate hurling championship title while St. Finbarrs are the new League winners in this grade. The all-Kerry team, An Riaghact won the junior hurling championship, and the League title went to Father Murphys.

Among the well-known senior county players in action in London competitions in 1964 were Des Feely (Roscommon), Tommy Greene (Offaly), Gene Driscoll (Kerry), Ray Dowd (Armagh) and Tom Fox (Meath) all of whom wore the Naomh Mhuire jersey.

While London won the Provincial championships in convincing style, the intermediate hurlers failed to Wexford in the final at Enniscorthy. The junior team, of whom so much was expected, went under to Down at New Eltham and the absence of a place-kicker was particularly felt at the Athletic Grounds, Cork, when the footballers failed by a single point to win the junior All-Ireland crown after missing several opportunities of at least equalising in the second half.

London is the only Board in Britain to own a ground of its own and although this is not easily accessible from the outlying districts the fact remains that the park at New Eltham is worth something like £60,000 at to-day's market value. Due, mainly, to the revenue from the Wembley games, only an overdraft of something like £4,000 now remains to be paid off and already plans are on hand to carry out vast improvements on the ground including new dressing rooms, seating and drainage.

## Warwickshire

Chairman of the Warwickshire County Board, Doctor John McAndrew (the former Mayo footballer), is highly pleased at the progress being made in the Midlands. Club affiliation now exceed 30, and already new teams are being formed in the outlying districts.

One of the leading clubs in Warwickshire is St. Finbarrs, who own their own ground at Coventry, where there is a big concentration of Irish workers. Even though in office a compara-



tively short time, the secretary of the Warwickshire Board, Michael O'Reilly of Monaghan, has shown a flair for hard work and is also acknowledged as one of the leading referees in Britain.

## Lancashire

A big loss to the Gaels of Lancashire was the resignation of their hard-working chairman, Tommy Walsh of Liverpool, due to business reasons. The main handicap facing the Lancashire Board is the lack of playing pitches, but it is hoped to acquire a permanent ground in the Manchester area in the not too distant future.

## Hertfordshire

Although Hertfordshire is one of the newest boards in Britain, it is rapidly gaining in stature and already plans are afoot to ensure that the county teams will make a determined bid for 1965 provincial honours. The Board owes much of the credit for its present leading position to Chairman Rev. Father Jerome O'Hanlon of Lombardstown, Co. Cork, who has gained the

respect of the seventeen clubs since taking office five years ago. Secretary is Jim McNicholas of Mayo, who has held the position for two years.

The Hertfordshire Boards embraces clubs from Oxford, Luton, St. Albans, Stevenage and Bedford, and the fact that the majority of clubs have acquired pitches rented from their local Councils has proved a boon to the Fixtures Committee.

Although Gloucestershire, Yorkshire and East Midlands are faced by difficulties not experienced by the remaining counties, it is heartening to learn that the Association is almost making headway in these districts.

The Gaels of Yorkshire owe a debt of gratitude to their Kerry-born president—Rev. Father Donal Stritch, who helped to revive the games in the county some ten years ago and since then has given every assistance in encouraging the advancement of the G.A.A. in the main centres in Yorkshire, particularly Leeds, Halifax and Middlesbrough.

The sudden death during the year of Dan Murphy (Derry-moore, Co. Kerry) came as a shock to his many friends throughout Britain. Mr. Murphy was, at the time of his death, Vice-President of the Provincial Council and previous served as secretary for several years. He was also Britain's representative on the Central Council for a number of years until 1963.

# FIVE-FIGURE ATTENDANCES

**F**IVE-figure attendances at hurling and football games during the year were:

- 76,498—All-Ireland Football Final, Croke Park.
- 71,282—All-Ireland Hurling Final, Croke Park.
- 70,126—N.F.L. Final, Dublin v. Down, Croke Park.
- 57,133—Leinster S.F. Final, Croke Park.
- 53,088—Dublin v. Kerry, N.F.L. semi-final, Croke Park.
- 52,547—Galway v. Meath, All-Ireland F. semi-final, Croke Park.
- 45,578—Kerry v. Cavan, All-Ireland F. semi-final, Croke Park.
- 44,245—Munster S.H. Final, Limerick.
- 42,313—N.H.L. Final, Croke Park.
- 35,000—Wembley Tournament Games.
- 33,000—Dublin v. Galway, N.F.L., Croke Park.
- 32,375—Meath v. Louth, Leinster S.F. semi-final, Croke Park.
- 32,084—Cavan v. Down, N.F.L. semi-final, Croke Park.
- 30,103—Leinster S.H. Final, Croke Park.
- 30,000—Ulster S.F. Final, Belfast.
- 30,000—Connacht S.F. Final, Tuam.
- 30,000—Cork v. Waterford, Munster S.H. semi-final, Thurles.
- 28,055—Cork v. Wexford, N.H.L. semi-final, Croke Park.
- 26,023—Munster S.F. Final, Cork.
- 25,700—Kilkenny v. Wexford, Leinster S.H. semi-final, Croke Park.
- 24,000—Glen Rovers v. St. Finbarr's, Cork S.H. Final, Cork.
- 23,621—Railway Cup Finals, Croke Park.
- 23,000—Clare v. Tipperary, Munster S.H. semi-final, Limerick.
- 20,837—Kildare v. Meath, Leinster S.F.C., Croke Park.
- 20,440—Dublin v. Laois, Leinster S.F. semi-final, Tullamore.
- 19,192—Grounds Tournament Final, Croke Park.
- 18,774—Oireachtas H. Final, Croke Park.
- 16,291—Kilkenny v. Cork, Oireachtas H. semi-final; Tipperary v. Wexford, All-Ireland U-21 H. Final, Kilkenny.
- 16,167—Louth v. Offaly, Leinster S.F.C., Croke Park.
- 16,000—Kilkenny v. Tipperary, N.H.L., Kilkenny.
- 15,000—Meath v. Cavan, N.F.L., An Uaimh.
- 14,043—Grounds Tournament F. semi-finals, Croke Park.
- 13,077—Ulster v. Munster, Railway Cup F. semi-final, Croke Park.
- 13,000—Tipperary v. Limerick, N.H.L. semi-final, Nenagh.
- 13,000—St. Jarlath's, Tuam v. St. Mel's, Longford, All-Ireland Colleges' F. Final, Athlone.
- 11,265—New York v. Offaly (F.), Tipperary v. Kilkenny (H.), Birr.
- 11,000—Cork v. Galway, Munster S.H.C., Limerick.

10,500—Leitrim v. Roscommon, Connacht S.F.C. (2nd replay), Carrick-on-Shannon.

10,492—Dublin v. Carlow, Leinster S.F.C., Droichead Nua.

10,000—Down v. Derry, Dr. Lagan Cup F. semi-final, Belfast.

10,000—Thurles Sarsfields v. Holy-cross, Tipperary S.H. Final, Thurles.

## KILKENNY v. REST LINEOUTS

Kilkenny 2-8, Rest of Ireland 2-8

**KILKENNY** — O. Walsh; J. Whelan, J. Lynch, P. Dillon; S. Cleere, P. Henderson, S. Buckley; P. Moran, M. Coogan; D. Heaslip, J. Teehan, R. Walsh; P. Larkin, J. Dooley, W. Dwyer. Subs. — E. Keher for R. Walsh, T. Walsh for Larkin, Larkin for Dwyer, T. Carroll for Cleere.

**REST OF IRELAND**—P. Nolan (Wexford); T. Neville (do.), N. Drumgoole (Dublin), D. Quigley (Wexford); J. Nolan (do.), W. Rackard (do.), E. Colfer (do.); P. McCabe (Westmeath), B. Cooney (Dublin); T. Ring (Westmeath), F. Whelan (Dublin), P. Lynch (Wexford); J. Grey (Dublin), E. Wheeler (Wexford), M. Bermingham (Dublin).



galaxy of the great, with famous stars of one, two, three and four decades ago rejoicing, wining and dining with the Gaelic All-Star sportsmen of to-day.

Truly the virility, strength, comradeship and influence of the Gaelic Athletic Association were very much in evidence on St. Patrick's Eve 1964.

How had all this begun?

Well, the idea of Gaelic All-Star Awards were conceived in the Autumn of 1963. It was felt that our Gaelic sports stars were not getting the honour due to them and that steps should be taken to afford them suitable recognition in the form of Gaelic All-Star Awards.

## Cuchulainn Award

It was also decided that Cuchulainn Awards should be presented for outstanding service to the Gaelic Athletic Association.

The inauguration of the Gaelic All-Star Awards was announced in the Gaelic Weekly of January 11, 1964 and the announcement stressed that athletic prowess would not be the sole criterion in the selection of the stars:

"The Gaelic All-Star Awards committees will ensure that the recipients of the Awards will personify the qualities of mind and body that go to make the ideal Gaelic player, and sportsmanship, good conduct—on and off the field—are as important as playing ability in this context."

It was stressed that the Awards would be based on the performance of the players during the previous year, which meant that the most famous footballers or hurlers would not necessarily be selected, but those who had proved themselves the best during 1963.

## Selection System

In the issue of the following week, January 18, the system of selection was explained. Having consulted with administrators, ex-players and experienced sports journalists, the Organising Committee decided that the Award winners would be selected in the following manner:

"The chairman of each County

Board will be asked to nominate the fifteen players in hurling and football whom he considers most worthy of the honour . . . When all the nominations are to hand, they will be analysed and each player will be credited with the number of county nominations he has received.

"The actual nominations and the analysis of them will be submitted to the adjudicators, who will meet in Dublin to make the final choice."

The adjudicators were selected from former stars who accepted the invitations to act on the panels and were named on January 18.

The Hurling Panel consisted of the late Mick D'Arcy (Tipperary), John Keane (Waterford), Nick Rackard (Wexford), Joe Salmon (Galway) and Padraig Puirseál (Journalist).

On the Football Panel were: Mick Higgins (Cavan), Sean Murphy (Kerry), Sean Purcell (Galway), Paddy O'Brien (Meath), and Sean Og O Ceallachain (Journalist).

Sean Og Sheehy was appointed secretary to the Awards Committee.

It was later announced that nominations would have to be received not later than Friday, February 14, and that the adjudicators would meet on the following Friday, February 21.

## Announced

The adjudicators met as arranged and the names of the Awards winners were announced at a Press Reception on Monday, March 2.

The Awards aroused such intense interest that in its issue of March 7, the GAELIC WEEKLY had to announce that attendance at the Presentation Banquet would be by invitation only and that no tickets were available for sale.

The climax came on St. Patrick's Eve in the Gresham Hotel when, to the applause of the large attendance, Padraig O Caoimh was presented with the first Cuchulainn Award, a beautiful Waterford Glass vase.

Then the football, hurling, camogie and handball stars were individually applauded as they came to the platform to be presented with the Gaelic All-Star trophies.

As a social event the Banquet was

a huge success and was worthy of the importance of the occasion. The sponsors had every reason to be pleased that the purpose of the Cuchulainn and Gaelic All-Star Awards had been fittingly fulfilled.

A fitting tribute was paid to a great G.A.A. official when Padraig O Caoimh was presented with the Cuchulainn Award. Shortly before his death, he conveyed his appreciation of the tribute to the sponsors.

Too seldom are our Gaelic sports stars honoured on formal occasions and afforded opportunities of meeting each other socially. The Awards and the Banquet provided such an occasion—and a truly memorable one at that.

The older stars probably got more pleasure out of the function than the award winners themselves.

"It was worth £100 to me" said a star of former days. "The only trouble was that I hadn't time to meet all my old colleagues and opponents and all the younger stars whom I wanted to meet."

It was indeed the Gaelic social event of the year.

## A YEAR OF MIXED FORTUNES FOR CORK

(Continued from Page 16)

There followed one of the most gallant comebacks of the season. Slowly Cork narrowed the gap and eventually went two points in front. But the opposition was made of stern stuff too.

In a thrilling finish Offaly swept upfield and regained the lead before Cork returned to force the ball over the line for what seemed the decisive goal. The referee, however, ordained otherwise and a free out ended Cork's hopes and provided food for arguments that will rage for many a day.

It had been a brave but unavailing effort, and though Cork lost they had gone down with colours flying.

Two All-Irelands and a point defeat in another final. On reflection, I suppose it wasn't such a bad year after all for the Rebel County. Speed the day when we shall be acclaiming some of the 1964 minors as senior champions of Ireland.



# HANDBALL

## and the GAA

By Clarach  
Mac Eoin

**T**HE Gaelic Athletic Association, with its dynamic leadership and shrewd administration has been instrumental in providing Irish athletes with games to stimulate their inborn thirst for excitement and manly endeavour on the field of play.

The prominent position of the G.A.A. in the life of the nation is a tribute to the progressive attitude of successive top officials to whom the welfare of each individual section has always been a major concern.

Particularly so in the case of our field games—football, which goes from strength to strength with each succeeding year, and hurling, where every effort is being made to establish it on a firm footing in every county.

### Yielding Fruit

That effort is yielding fruit to judge by the successes of Down, Carlow and Kildare in recent years.

But whither handball which has also played its part in the forward march of the Association? And does handball receive the consideration it deserves at club, county and council level?

How many clubs throughout the country can conscientiously say that an honest attempt has been made to promote handball?

Well, the truth is that, of the vast number of hurling and football clubs, relatively few can boast a handball section. In fact, I know of certain instances where the clamps were hastily tightened when the idea of a handball section was mooted.

The reasons given by club officials were the difficulties of organisation and the possible drain of players from other branches of the club.

Neither would hold much water.

In the first instance, handball, by its very nature, does not require elaborate organisation, and the few enthusiasts invariably found in every club could form the nucleus of a thriving section.

Unfortunately, they are rarely

given the incentive and the idea never matures.

And if the hurlers or footballers did lose an occasional player to handball, would it be such a catastrophe?

(Continued on Page 96)

### THE CHAMPIONS CHOICE

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# Did the new grade hold public interest?

BY GARRETT McCABE

**T**HE first All-Ireland championships for players in the under-21 age group were awaited with special interest. For years a growing volume of opinion had advocated the formation of a new grade which would act as a stepping-stone for minors before they would be subjected to the rigours of senior fare.

So the under-21 competitions were mooted and when Congress 1963 approved a Longford motion calling for the establishment of All-Ireland championships at this level the stage was set for a new venture in the world of Gaelic sport.

Feature of the hurling competition was the complete domination of Tipperary. Kilkenny, with All-Ireland champion minor sides of 1960, '61 and '62 as a readymade reservoir of talent, were installed long-odds favourites but went out in the very first round to Wexford.

## One Point

With Pat Henderson, Tom Walsh and Jimmy Treacy of senior fame in their ranks, plus a host of minor medal-winners, Kilkenny looked unbeatable, but the final whistle at New Ross on an April Sunday saw Wexford a point to the good.

Wexford went on to beat Dublin and Laois and took the Leinster title without undue trouble, but reports from Munster indicated that the All-Ireland crown would, barring accidents, rest in the South.

Limerick, from whom much had been expected, lost heavily to Clare and Galway advertised the poverty of their talent when barely scraping home against Kerry. So we had to wait until Tipperary "murdered" Cork before getting any real indication as to the respective strengths, and talents, of the various teams.

## Satisfied

From that day everyone who had seen them was satisfied that the team which would beat Tipp would be champions. But who was there to beat them?

Not Clare, who were trounced in the Munster semi-final; not Waterford, who had raised hopes of better things to come when they disposed of Galway in facile fashion.

On paper, Waterford, with a fair sprinkling of hurlers with senior inter-county experience, looked a useful side. But it ended there.

The Munster final at Waterford saw Tipperary romp to another effortless victory and the stage was set for the All-Ireland final. True, the semi-finals had to be fulfilled, but these were merely formalities, since no championships were held in Connacht and Ulster, with Roscommon and Antrim nominated to represent their respective provinces.

Tipp annihilated Roscommon, but Wexford raised the first real doubts about their ability when Antrim gave them a harder game than anyone expected.

## Swept Aside

At Kilkenny on the first Sunday of October Wexford went the way of all who had tried to halt Tipperary's onward march, for they were literally swept aside by a team that appeared to have all the talents. Though a three-months break since the Leinster final had not helped the Slaneysiders I do not think that even their most fervent supporter could claim that this comparative inactivity made much difference to the result.

In football, Kerry overcame their biggest obstacle in Munster when they disposed of Cork first time out and they took provincial honours at the expense of Tipperary who had accounted for Limerick and Clare.

## Evidence

Galway came out of the West, after giving the first evidence of their potential against a fancied Roscommon side. The Connacht final was high-scoring and exciting, as Galway held out by a point in face of a strong Mayo rally.

Up North, Donegal appeared to hold most of the aces, as most of their side had senior experience. And they duly came up trumps with convincing victories over Down (semi-final) and Monaghan (final).

Meath and Louth did not compete in Leinster and Offaly looked like carrying the provincial banner after a clear-cut win over Dublin. However, Laois had other ideas, and before their own supporters at Portlaoise came out on top after a close, thrilling game.

So the stage was set for the All-Ire-

land semi-finals. Kerry travelled to Tuam, with an imposing array of talent, to face Galway. Mick Morris, Paud O'Donoghue, Denis O'Sullivan, Pat Griffin, Tony Barrett and Joe Joe Barrett—all regular seniors—sporting the green and gold. By comparison, Galway had but one of their senior fifteen, Christy Tyrrell.

## Laois Blitz

Kerry duly won without being over-impressive and Galway folk, with an eye to the senior final between the counties, promptly began to fancy their chances of the "Sam Maguire."

Meanwhile, Donegal went to Portlaoise and were caught in a Laois blitz that lasted for the entire first half. The Laois boys played their best football of the campaign in those thirty minutes, but on the resumption the boot was on the other foot with a vengeance.

Twenty minutes of Donegal domination cut interval arrears of eleven points down to two, but the effort was not maintained and Laois came back to clinch matters with two points.

Everything seemed set for a final that would be a fitting climax to the inaugural under-21 football championship. In addition to those already mentioned, Kerry had Seamus Fitzgerald, Derry O'Shea and Vincent Lucey, a trio with considerable senior experience, while Laois included Eamonn Mulhall, Mick Fennell, Jim Leonard and John Conway of their senior championship fifteen.

Without doubt, the talent was there for a really memorable game. But we were doomed to disappointment. Maybe the drizzle in the early stages and the greasy sod was responsible. At any rate, the standard was very ordinary, Kerry rarely looked in danger of defeat and went on to win by seven points.

## Unimpressive

However, for a side containing so many established seniors, the Kingdom were unimpressive and on reflection, it is not difficult to understand why they subsequently cut such a sorry figure against Galway in the senior final.

Glancing back over the first year of the under-21 championships it is fair to say that they failed to arouse public interest to any degree. This is understandable, for most of the games, including several provincial finals, were played on week evenings.



# Top Honours For Limerick and Tuam

**T**HE Colleges' campaign saw the Hogan Cup, symbol of supremacy on the football fields, return to St. Jarlath's, Tuam, for the fifth time, while Limerick C.B.S. took the hurling trophy, the Croke Cup to Shanonside for the first time. Behind that statement, however, lies a veritable hot-bred of activity in all four provinces.

The 1963-'64 hurling season opened with St. Finbarr's, Farranferris, Cork, in possession of the Croke and Harty Cups, but they crashed to defeat at the first defence of their titles. The architects of this surprise were another Cork team, Colaiste Chriost Ri, who thereby reached the Harty Cup semi-finals for the first time.

## Bogey Laid

Limerick C.B.S. looked a competent side when ousting Cork's North Monastery and then made hard work of overcoming their bogey team, Ennis C.B.S. No doubt profiting from this, the Limerick boys really made us sit up and take notice when they trounced Colaiste Chriost Ri by no less than 37 points.

In the other semi-final St. Flannan's, Ennis, had an easy win over St. Colman's, Fermoy, so we had a Limerick-Ennis clash for the Dr. Harty Cup.

Again the maroon-clad C.B.S. boys left no doubts as to their superiority. Leading 2-6 to 1-4 at half-time, the final score read 6-10 to 4-7 in their favour and they really proved themselves in the closing stages after two quick goals by the losers had left but five points between the sides with ten minutes to go.

So the Harty Cup was back in Limerick after an absence of 32 years.

The Leinster final was a poor

game and augured anything but well for the winners' chances in the All-Ireland campaign.

Mount St. Joseph had the advantage in physique but could not subdue a tenacious St. Peter's side. Scores were level—0-2 each—at half-time. They were still level at 2-4—with five minutes to go before St. Peter's forced home a goal and a point to clinch matters.

In the West, St. Mary's, Galway had a tougher task than anticipated to resist the challenge of St. Jarlath's. In fact, had the Tuam football stronghold not wasted so many chances when they dominated for long spells of the second half they might well have achieved a provincial senior double.

For the first time the Ulster champions appeared in the All-Ireland Colleges' semi-finals and the honour of breaking new ground fell to St. McNissi's, Garrontower. However, gallantly though they tried, they could not prevent St. Peter's marching on.

The other semi-final nearly provided the shock of the season as St. Mary's, led Limerick C.B.S. a merry dance before failing by three points. Taking the lead with an early goal, the Galway boys kept in front until six minutes from time, and it was a most-relieved Limerick side that heard the full-time whistle.

## Proved Again

The final at Croke Park proved once again that, all other things being equal, a good big 'un is better than a good little 'un. Most of the St. Peter's team had a year, and in some cases two years, left at school, and the bigger and more mature Limerick boys eventually won by 6-7 to 4-5.

We had a near sensation, too, in

football. All-Ireland champions St. Mel's, Longford beat St. Finian's, Mullingar but lost in their second game to Franciscan College, Gormanston. However, unlike Farranferris, St. Mel's got a reprieve. This group was decided on the league system, with two teams qualifying for the Leinster semi-finals, and the Longford boys made no mistake in the play-off.

They next met Knockbeg College, Carlow at Croke Park and had a narrow shave before winning by two points.

## A Repeat

Dublin's O'Connell C.B.S. whipped St. Finian's, Mullingar, in the other semi-final to give us a repeat of the 1963 decider. The result was the same, for St. Mel's never looked back after scoring a goal in 30 seconds and made it four successive Leinster titles at the expense of a disorganised O'Connell's side.

Waterford's De La Salle College regained the Munster title, being never in trouble against Colaiste Chriost Ri, Cork, in a poor final, while up North the Newry dominance on the MacRory Cup continued.

This time the Abbey C.B.S. triumphed, with Down senior Val Kane as their inspiration in a six-points defeat of St. Patrick's, Cavan.

St. Jarlath's Tuam, took the Connaught title for the 22nd time, but had their work cut out to beat St. Nathy's, Ballaghaderreen, who were short their brilliant midfielder, Dermot Early.

Now four remained in the running for the Hogan Cup and three were left after St. Mel's had a convincing 3-10 to 3-2 victory over Abbey C.B.S. But for some looseness in de-

(Continued on Page 95)



# AN EVENTFUL YEAR

IT has been a wonderful year in the ballcourt, thanks to the efforts of players, officials and followers. The advent of Internationalism, and an awareness that even handball can afford changes in its make-up have all combined to send 1964 out on a cheerful note.

On our entry into International competition our representatives, Des Dillon and Joe Maher, had the unusual experience of doing duty for Ireland, in the ballcourt of the New York Athletic Club — twenty four floors high.

## American Trip

While ours was not a winning debut—we ended our programme second last in a table of five, one better than Australia—our representatives learned much and came home to impart some very revealing information.

At first glance it would seem that the Americans, as they do in all sports where they take an interest, have developed the game to a fine art. This is rather ironic, when one considers that handball was introduced to America by Irishmen.

Yet, rather than accept this circumstance as inevitable, we must do something about it, so that when an Irish team sets out for the next World Games, they will have a fair chance of success.

Immediately we face a major crux, in so far as the American courts are much smaller than ours, although I have been told that this was not the principal handicap faced by our players.

What has to be rectified, however, is the actual make-up of the game in this country. It must be adjusted drastically, not in a year or two but now.

The day of the marathon is gone, and the afternoon, when spectators would stand for three or four hours watching handball, has outlived itself.

I do not deny my preference for the time-basis system. So much the better, if it could be drafted into the International rules, but failing this, then let us reduce the rubbers in relation to our games.

And what about hardball? I know it is the traditional game, but does it contribute as much as it should to the furtherance of the Association as a whole?

My own view is that nowadays it is used by individuals and counties solely as a medium to win titles.

For instance, how many times during the past season have you seen players actually practise with the hardball? Very rarely in my experience. Indeed, it was brought to my notice on a few occasions that players, in preparation for provincial or All-Ireland finals in the hard code, were doing so through the medium of softball.

## Joe Maher

This surely provides food for thought.

And now for a short synopsis of home events during 1964.

The outstanding personality was undoubtedly Joe Maher of Louth. Indeed I would go so far as to assert that, from a playing aspect, he was

the outstanding G.A.A. personality of the year.

His achievements are proof of that. What with Gael-Linn, provincial, All-Ireland and international games, he was called upon to remain fit for fully twelve months.

I will not detail his successes any further. Suffice to say that he is senior singles champion in both codes and Hard doubles champion in partnership with Paddy Reilly.

## Close Run

We must not forget either that sporting Mayoman, Micky Walsh, who gave Maher his closest run of the season. He did not win an All-Ireland title, but his gentlemanly conduct and unquenchable spirit endeared him to all who saw him in action.

The occasions on which he arrived at venues to compete only to go first to the collector to swell the funds with his contribution, still make happy memories for me. This is the spirit required.

Another Mayoman and equally fine sportsman, Paddy Bollingbrook, finally turned up trumps at All-Ireland level, in the junior hard singles.

Never was victory more deserved for the Castlebar player had been knocking at the door for a long time.

In Ballymote rests the minor soft singles trophy on the sideboard of the Henry family. Marcus again kept the Sligo flag flying, and on entering junior ranks will hand the baton to younger brother, Raymond.

(Continued on next page)





Two fine action studies of SEAN McLOUGHLIN (Tipperary) and SEAN CLEARY (Galway), *right*. Both men were amongst their counties leading scorers—totalling 4-0 and 2-5, respectively



No mention of Connacht would be complete without reference to Roscommon's Gerry Mahon and Kevin Fullard, who won out in hardball doubles.

It was an historic victory achieved with the assurance of seasoned campaigners.

But for the outstanding county of the season, the palm must go to Kerry, which took no less than four All-Ireland titles.

They were ably led by those doughty warriors of the ballcourt, Paddy Downey and Jimmy O'Brien, who, in the words of the poem, appear to go on forever. They won the soft-

ball doubles, and went to the hardball final only to be pipped by Maher and Reilly.

Then there were juniors Willie Kerins and Pat Moriarty with minors Billy Myles and Mick Fitzgibbon adding to the successful march of the Kingdom.

Congratulations, too, to Cork where the hard work of the County Committee and the concentration on youth has been fully rewarded.

The Rebel County took the two remaining minor titles, thanks to the efforts of Pat Coady and Noel O'Brien.

The way has now been paved for

a long and successful future for Cork handball. I wish all connected with the game there every success.

Ulster took no All-Ireland titles, but the province played its part and if the interest shown is any criterion there are brighter days ahead for the handballers of the North.

And so adieu to 1964, a year which from a handball angle, has been both historic and eventful. I look to the future, confident that it has even better things in store for the game.

On that note, I leave you, with the familiar seasonal greeting—Nollaig shona dhibh uilig.



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## County Senior Champions

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Louth	Newtown Blues	Boardsmill
Meath	Kilbride	Castletown Geoghegan
Westmeath	Mullingar Shamrocks	
Longford	Clonguish	
Dublin	St. Vincents	St. Vincents
Kildare	Raheens	Eire Og
Laois	Portlaoise	Cullohill
Offaly	Rhode v. Tullamore or Clara	Tullamore
Wicklow	Newtownmountkennedy	Avondale
Wexford	Ballyhogue	Enniscorthy Shamrocks
Carlow	Tullow	Erin's Own (Muinebeag)
Kilkenny	Clanna Gael or Lamogue	Bennettsbridge
Donegal	Sean MacCumhailis (Ballybofey)	Erne Valley (B'shannon)
Derry	Bellaghy	
Antrim	St. Johns (Belfast)	Ballycastle McQuillans
Down	Newry Mitchels	Ballygalget
Armagh	Mullaghbawn	
Cavan	Bailieboro Shamrocks	
Monaghan	Castleblayney Faughs	Carrickmacross
Tyrone	Clonoe O'Rahillys	
Fermanagh	Newtownbutler	
Waterford	Kilrossanty	Mount Sion
Cork	U.C.C.	Glen Rovers
Kerry	Shannon Rangers	Kilmoyley
Clare	Newmarket-on-Fergus	Cooraclare
Limerick	Ballysteen	Cappamore
Tipperary	Ardfinnan	Thurles Sarsfields
Galway	Mountbellew	Turloughmore
Mayo	Claremorris	Westport
Sligo	Curry	
Leitrim	Ballinamore Sean O'Heslins	
Roscommon	Shannon Gaels (Croghan)	Roscommon Gaels

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*wish all its supporters a  
 HAPPY CHRISTMAS and a  
 PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR*

—o0o—

**ULSTER SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP,  
 1965:**

30th May — DERRY v. ANTRIM  
 at Ballinascreen  
 6th June — FERMANAGH v. MONAGHAN  
 at Irvinestown  
 13th June — DOWN v. TYRONE  
 at Newry  
 20th June — DONEGAL v. CAVAN  
 at Ballybofey  
 20th June — ARMAGH v. FERMANAGH or  
 MONAGHAN  
 at Lurgan

Semi-finals — 4th July and 11th July

Final — 25th July



# Top Honours For Limerick And Tuam

(Continued from Page 91)

fence the Longford boys would have won more easily.

St. Jarlath's were rocked by a De La Salle goal after two minutes but came back to be level at half-time. Three points within five minutes on resuming put the Tuam college on the road to victory and that was the margin between the teams when the final whistle ended matters.

## Third Clash

So we had the third St. Jarlath's v. St. Mel's clash in a Hogan Cup final. Jarlath's won at Athlone in 1961 but Mel's had revenge in 1962 at Ballinasloe. Who would win the rubber?

A huge crowd thronged Athlone to find out, but they had to wait another day, for the teams finished on level terms after a brilliant exhibition of the Gaelic football code.

1-8 for St. Mels, 0-11 for St. Jarlath's was the message on the score-

board when the referee called it a day. Jarlath's led by 0-7 to 0-5 at the interval, were 0-7 to 1-6 in arrears soon after, but levelled at 0-9 to 1-6.

Again they were level, at 0-10 to 1-7, but when Jarlath's forged a point in front and held this advantage with a minute to go it looked all over. 40 seconds from time, however, Noel Cumiskey shot the point that ordained a replay.

Two weeks later the teams met at Tullamore, but this time it was all St. Jarlath's. A strong breeze ruled out top-class football and the Tuam boys took full advantage of the elements to lead by 1-8 to nil at the interval. They added another point before St. Mel's opened their account, but hopes of a thrilling finish were soon dispelled.

A cast-iron St. Jarlath's defence, with left-half Joe Early positively brilliant, defied St. Mel's best efforts to get within striking distance and the West triumphed by 1-10 to 0-4.

# The Road Back

(Continued from Page 7)

If Raftery could have managed about three of those sessions in his time we could now boast surely of another Olympic gold medallist.

Whatever chance one had of dodging under "Franken," it was practically impossible to do so when you "lifted those legs" and "kicked out those feet" to the sizzling tempo of John Dunne's high-fidelity record.

Boy! did he put us through our paces; However "the lead could be swung" under both of those wonderful trainers. After a long campaign of trial and error sturdy Mick Garrett, Michael Reynolds and Sean Cleary became masters of camouflage. Oh yes they did!!!

Then there was that after practice "rub down" from Mick "Magic Hands" Brennan, if you could possibly get Christy Tyrrell, Enda Coleran, Bosco or Noel Tierney "off the table." Mind you, they were not always so co-operative either, particularly if you had been blamed for pinching their towels, or, worse still, their pants!

Matches came and were won, some convincingly, others luckily. New friends on opposite teams were made—some the hard way and others—luckily!!

## Big Day

And then at last the big day was upon us. As had happened before, modern psychologist Fr. Mahon got that sing-song going once again, as we motored to meet, this time, the might of the Kingdom.

Some few hours later we were on our way again; our golden goal had been achieved, for joining in the chorus now was our almost forgotten friend, Sam Maguire. Everyone was happy.

Brendan Nestor agreed that, even though there is quite a difference between potential and realisation, we had in John Keenan a potential Lanza, as the "ginger voice" from Dunmore begged in E (flat) for those chains to be removed from his heart."

Poor ol' Raftery. He was one Con-nacht Sportsman who lived before his time, for if he had made the return journey as a Galway player he would have tasted the sweetness of success. And better still, like all of us, he would have enjoyed doing so.

Here are the various 1963-'64 Colleges' title-winners:

### ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONS

S.F. (Hogan Cup)—St. Jarlath's, Tuam.  
Runners-up—St. Mel's, Longford.  
S.H. (Croke Cup)—Limerick C.B.S., (St. Peter's, Wexford).

### LEINSTER

S.F.—St. Mel's, Longford. (O'Connell's C.B.S., Dublin).  
S.F.—Div. B.—(Clonard Cup)—Carmelite College, Moate. (Belcamp O.M.I.).  
J.F.—Div. A.—(Miller Shield)—O'Connell C.B.S. (Franciscan College, Gormanston).  
J.F.—Div. B.—Belcamp O.M.I. (Carmelite College, Moate).  
Under 14 F.—Synge St. C.B.S. (Knockbeg College, Carlow).  
S.H.—St. Peter's, Wexford. (Mt. St. Joseph, Roscrea).  
J.H.—St. Kieran's, Kilkenny. (Ennis-corthy C.B.S.).  
S.H. (Dr. Staunton Cup)—St. Joseph's, Fairview. (Portlaoise C.B.S.).  
J.H. (Dr. Kyne Cup)—Belcamp O.M.I. (Portlaoise C.B.S.).  
Under 14 H.—St. Kieran's, Kilkenny. (Drimnagh Castle C.B.S., Dublin).

### ULSTER

S.F. MacRory Cup)—Abbey C.B.S., Newry. (St. Patrick's, Cavan).  
S.F. (McLarnon Cup)—St. Michael's Enniskillen. (St. Malachy's, Belfast).  
S.F. (Dalton Cup)—Omagh C.B.S., (St. Norbert's, Kilnacrott).  
J.F. Ranafast Cup)—St. McNissi's, Garrontower. (St. Michael's, Enniskillen).  
J.F. (Corn na n-Og)—St. Columb's, Derry. (St. Colman's, Newry).  
S.H.—St. McNissi's, Garrontower. Played on League system.  
J.H.—St. Michael's, Omeath. (St. Tier-nath's, Clones).  
J.F. (Loch An Iuir Cup)—St. Michael's, Omeath. (St. Patrick's, Dungannon).

### MUNSTER

S.H. (Dr. Harty Cup) — Limerick C.B.S. (St. Flannan's, Ennis).  
S.F. Corn na Mumhan)—De La Salle, Waterford. (Col. Criost Ri, Cork).

J.H. (Dean Ryan Cup)—Limerick C.B.S. (Col. Criost Ri, Cork).

J.F. (Frewen Cup)—De La Salle, Waterford. (Col. Criost Ri, Cork).

S.F. (Corn an Uachtarain)—Cahir-civeen C.B.S. (Clonmel H.S.).

S.H.—Div. B. — Doon C.B.S. (Midle-ton C.B.S.).

J.H. (Dr. Rogers Cup)—Midletown C.B.S. (Tipperary C.B.S.).

J.H. (Dr. Kinnane Cup)—Doon C.B.S. (Bandon C.B.S.).

J.F. (Colleges Cup)—Mitchelstown C.B.S. (Hamilton High Schl., Bandon).

### CONNACHT

S.F.—St. Jarlath's, Tuam. (St. Nathy's, Ballaghaderreen).  
J.F.—St. Jarlath's, Tuam. (Summerhill College, Sligo).  
Juv. F.—St. Jarlath's, Tuam. (Summerhill College, Sligo).  
S.H.—St. Mary's Galway. (St. Jarlath's, Tuam).  
J.H.—St. Mary's, Galway. (St. Jarlath's, Tuam).  
Juv. H.—St. Mary's, Galway. (St. Joseph's, Garbally Park).  
S.F.—Div. B.—St. Colman's, Claremorris.  
S.F. Div. C.—Headford Sc. (Boyle Sc.).  
J.F.—Div. B.—St. Colman's, Claremorris. (Roscommon C.B.S.).  
Juv. F.—Div. B.—St. Colman's, Claremorris. (St. Gerald's, Castlebar).

### ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONS

#### CROKE CUP (Hurling)

St. Kieran's, Kilkenny (4)—1948, 1957, 1959, 1961.  
St. Flannan's, Ennis (3)—1946-'47, 1958.  
North Monastery C.B.S., Cork (1)—1960.  
St. Peter's, Wexford (1)—1962.  
St. Finbarr's, Farranferris, Cork (1)—1963.  
Limerick C.B.S. (1)—1964.

#### HOGAN CUP (Football)

St. Jarlath's, Tuam (5)—1947, 1958, 1960-'61, 1964.  
St. Mel's, Longford (3)—1948, 1962-'63.  
St. Patrick's, Armagh (1)—1946.  
St. Nathy's, Ballaghaderreen (1)—1957.  
St. Joseph's C.B.S., Fairview, Dublin (1)—1959.



# HANDBALL AND THE GAA

(continued from  
page 89)

Surely that individual would then have found his true sporting metier.

I had intended to avoid nominating particular instances, but I must refer briefly to what I consider the perfect unit within our organisation—Clann Eireann in Lurgan.

From a handball aspect, it shines like a beacon, with two magnificent alleys and a committee which is fully aware that the fostering of the game is of equal importance with the promotion of field games.

Unfortunately, Clann Eireann treads a lonely trail, but could, and should, be followed by nearly every club in the country.

Now the club is the acorn from which the huge oak of the G.A.A. has developed. While it may, in many instances, have ignored, its duty to handball, I wonder can its guardian, the County Board, shirk its part of the responsibility?

How many Boards throughout the country can truthfully say that they have made any worthwhile contribution to the cause of handball? Is the game ever discussed at meetings? Have they made any attempt to organise the game where it is non-existent or do they keep in close contact with their affiliates, where it is already organised?

Most important of all—how many

counties, although they have planned and laid out impressive grounds, can boast that they also built a handball alley?

To all these questions the answer must be no. Indeed, there is an apparent apathy on the part of many County Boards to accept responsibility for either the promotion or the maintenance of handball.

It is widely held that once a county fulfils its obligations towards hurling and football the G.A.A. organisation therein is thriving.

But if handball is regarded as the poor relation, with no effort being made to establish a county committee, then, basically, these counties are failing in their duties, just as they would, had they ignored the claims of the more publicised field games.

G.A.A. men are prone to speak of idealism and their own ideals, but in this age of realism should we not adopt a more practical outlook? Before we persuade ourselves that everything in the garden is rosy, would it not be better to ensure that all the foundations of our organisation are securely laid?

Each section of the G.A.A. must be carefully nurtured. Let it not be said that failure to keep handball in line with the others was where we fell down on the job.

Handball in Ireland was never stronger. Financially, of course, it can boast no great resources and possibly never will.

But that is not the way to measure its progress.

The players have already made their mark on the International scene, and, if they had the proper facilities, could have returned to our shores as world champions. Would it not be a wonderful boost for the G.A.A. that in its ranks were included world champions?

I think it is high time that the Provincial Councils and the Central Council set a headline.

Elaborate plans have been prepared and sizeable sums of money will be spent on the promotion of hurling. This is a very worthwhile move and I wish it every success.

## No Mention

But there has been no mention of handball as yet, although I am living in hopes, that, in the not too distant future, a statement in this regard will be forthcoming.

For a start, would it not be a wonderful gesture for Central Council to authorise the building of up-to-date alleys, with comfortable accommodation for spectators, in central position in each of the provinces.

The players are there. So are the officials to administer them, but it must be conceded that there are not sufficient high-class ballcourts. I am referring, of course, to covered courts for with the continued expansion of the game, it has become abundantly clear that Ireland's familiar open court does not suit our climate conditions.

Tá sé thar am do Chumann Lúthchleas Gael teacht i gcabhair—agus teacht i gcabhair go fial—ar an liathróid láimhe. Tá súil agam nach bhfanfaidh siad go mbeidh an capall imithe sula ndúnann siad an doras.

Má dheánann an Cumann a chion, déanfaidh na himreoirí a sár-dhícheall agus táim cinnte go n-éireoidh leo sna comórtais domanda i gcionn cúpla bliain.

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