

CUCHULAINN ANNUAL 74

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Edited by EUGENE McGEE (Sunday Press)

INSIDE:

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- ★ Is G.A.A. losing the youth?
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CUCHULAINN ANNUAL '74

editorial

A PART from the national newspapers, independent journalism is not something with which the Gaelic Athletic Association has been over-burdened down the years. Very often major outlets in the sports media in this country have had a strong G.A.A. bias and practically all monthly, weekly or other G.A.A. journals which have been attempted have to a greater or lesser extent been under the influence, if not the thumb, of Croke Park.

And in the past when Croke Park did not like how things were going it did not hesitate to apply the squeeze. The hard facts of sports publishing in Ireland are such that without sponsorship, direct or indirect, it is impossible to produce a G.A.A. publication regularly and this fact has helped the G.A.A. to keep a tight, if unofficial, grip on the G.A.A. media.

This publication, CUCHULAINN ANNUAL '74, is completely independent of the G.A.A. but we hope you will agree that it is still a worthwhile G.A.A. publication. There are items in this publication that will not appear in other G.A.A. magazines because they may hit a bit too close to the bone for the comfort of some officials and one of these may be the article on Youth by Jack Mahon.

One of the suggestions made therein is that the G.A.A. should establish its own Press Agency to service all the media on matters pertaining to the Association. It is a sad fact that all the good things happening in the G.A.A., such as the story about Claudy on page 70 of this annual, are usually outweighed by media coverage of the bad events. This is unfair and gives a wrong impression of the way the Association is going.

But whether we like it or not, this is the age of media and its influence cannot be over-estimated. The amount of space and time given to English soccer in the Irish media has been very difficult to swallow for G.A.A. members over the last seven years. Irreparable damage has been done as far as the G.A.A. is concerned by trivial and in many cases meaningless propaganda about highly-paid soccer stars in England, which is shovelled into Ireland by British Press Agencies and availed of to an inordinate degree by some Irish newspapers.

Such matter is fine in its own right but it should be confined to England or at least steps should be taken to ensure that if it is stuffed down our throats in this country then at least an equally good service on G.A.A. affairs will be provided.

This is not the case at the moment and the onus lies with the G.A.A. itself to remedy the situation. The profits from Croke Park match programmes, properly managed, would more than cover the cost and the Association would have taken a major step towards ensuring that the true power and influence of the G.A.A. as a sports organisation and as a national body, would be reflected in coverage of the proper kind in the Irish media.

SUCH IS NOT THE CASE AT THE PRESENT TIME.

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TRIUMPH

—on the Playing Field

FAILURE

—in the Council Chamber



THE Good the Bad and the Ugly — they were all there in the G.A.A. world of 1973 but thankfully the Good, mainly expressed through the actual games themselves, predominated.

It was hurling, considered at the start of the year to be in serious trouble, which gave the G.A.A. its finest hours during 1973. Top of the list was the return to power of Limerick by virtue of their All-Ireland final triumph over Kilkenny on September 2. It was the first time in ten years that one of the 'big four' hurling counties — Tipperary, Cork, Kilkenny or Wexford did not win the McCarthy Cup and in fact it was also the first time in a decade that some two from that quartet did not contest the All-Ireland final.

Before getting to Croke Park Limerick had helped provide one of the great emotional moments of '73 when in the last seconds of the Munster final at Thurles, Richie Bennis hit a 'seventy' directly over the bar to give his county as dramatic a last-gasp victory as has ever been achieved in the storied annals of Munster hurling.

The only real surprise in Munster hurling was the failure of Cork to make any real impression after their consistency of recent years but there were no shocks in Leinster where the old firm of Kilkenny and Wexford, at the time All-Ireland and National League champions respectively, qualified for another final with Kilkenny, having an easy success. Missing four of their stars — Jim Treacy, Eamon Morrissey, Kieran Purcell and Eddie Keher — the champions surrendered their crown with honour against Limerick.

On the football fields the championship was considered by most of the 'experts' to rest between dual champions Offaly and their victims of last year Kerry. When the latter had a convincing victory over the champions in the League final in May we all sat back to wait for the 'repeat' in the All-Ireland later in the year. But it was not to be.

The Athletic Grounds, Cork on July 15 was the scene

of the first major football shock of the year when Cork rammed in five goals against the Kerry defence in about 20 minutes at the start of the Munster final and although the Kingdom made a gallant fight-back victory was never really on and it was Cork who came through to represent Munster.

In Connacht Galway were 'steeped' in luck to beat Sligo but needed no luck when dismantling champions Roscommon before going on to beat a poor Mayo side in the Connacht final. Offaly were the only provincial champions in football to retain their crown which they did easily after almost slipping up against Louth in the very first round. The Ulster championship was sub-standard by any standards and it was no great surprise when Tyrone, fresh from the Division II football beat Down in the Ulster final.

The difference in class was clearly emphasised in the semi-final when Cork massacred Tyrone but their was a major shock in the other half when Galway, thanks mainly to very careful planning beforehand, knocked out Offaly and smashed the latter's hopes of the coveted three-in-a-row.

The final on September 23 saw the full blossoming of Cork's under-age power of the past decade and although Galway stayed with them valiently for the entire game the result was never really in doubt from the moment Jimmy Barry Murphy scored his team's 13th goal championship a few minutes after the start. It was one of the best finals of the past decade and attracted a record crowd for the 'new' Croke Park of around 74,000.

But were it not for those two notable All-Ireland finals, 1973 would have been remembered mainly for the 'political' goings-on at Croke Park. With the changes in administration emanating from the decisions of Special Congress last January it was expected that there would be some teething troubles. The old Executive was abolished and replaced by the Management Committee while

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A BLACK DAY FOR THE G.A.A.



ABOVE: The start of the trouble in Croke Park in the league semi-final between Kerry and Derry. Paul Kelly, the referee (in black) is adamant that Chris Browne (hidden in group on left) must go off despite the argument of Anthony McGurk (13) and Tom Quinn.

BELOW: A few minutes later Tom Quinn himself got marching orders and looks rather disconsolate as he leaves the pitch.

the quaintly titled Activities Committee was brought into being to look after most of the day-to-day jobs that used be done by Central Council. This latter body was not abolished but was merely castrated.

The first trouble occurred over suspensions meted out after an investigation into a fracas in Thurles between Tipperary and Cork hurlers. This enquiry was started by the old Executive but finalised by the new Activities Committee and the suspensions imposed on four players were appealed to the Management Committee. The rule book brigade had a field day but in the end it was ruled that the Management Committee was the final arbitrator.

Next flashpoint in the discipline war came in Croke Park when Kerry met Derry in the league semi-final on April. Derry, very intent on breaking the Kerry hoodoo, went in hard from the start and in the opinion of Dublin referee Paul Kelly three of their players went too far and finished the game in the dugouts. Although Kerry were well behind in the second half the fact that they had three extra men eventually enabled them to draw the game with a last-second point from Brendan Lynch.

When the final whistle blew an angry mob which had been flexing its limbs on the Hogan Stands for 20 minutes invaded the pitch and several people including the referee were assaulted. Investigations took place and heavy fines were imposed on Derry but the crunch came when Paul Kelly was re-appointed for the replay. Derry refused to play and Kerry got a walk-over into the final.

Other political wranglings during the year concerned the All-Ireland club finals and the Under-21 hurling semi-final and final. So bad did things get at one stage that



St. Finbarrs, Cork got a walk-over in the club hurling final as St. Rynaghs of Offaly refused to play on the day appointed. At the end of the year the Activities Committee was still running into trouble almost every week and it became obvious that something will have to be done to prevent a total breakdown between this body and other units of the G.A.A.

All-in-all then, it was a year in which the players through many fine games gave both games a great boost but much of their good work was cancelled by bungling officials. As so often in the past the G.A.A. had a lot to be thankful to the players for in the year 1973.

After 1973 Jim Bennett says:

Hurling in the Best of Health!

LIMERICK'S great All-Ireland triumph apart, it was altogether a splendid year for hurling, in line with a pattern of things which seems to have been developing over the last two or three years. Those who had cause to mourn the serious illness of the hurling game some five or six years ago, must now feel joy at its improved health.

Of course, there were ups and downs — but the ups had it by a large majority. Occurring in 1972, but spilling into 1973 in its effects, there was that rough-house incident at Thurles when Cork and Tipperary met in the League. It was one of those things that are deplorable and that one wishes had not happened, yet it is now clear, in retrospect, that it was altogether untypical and bore no relation to the normal pattern of behaviour in intercounty games. From the detachment of distance it is now easy to see that it was one of those thunderstorms that occur from the build up of tensions and electricity between counties over a period of time.

Cork and Tipperary have always that background of "the hay saved and Cork bate" when they meet at whatever level. Therefore, they have the tradition of playing the game uncompromisingly and hard in search of another victory over the team they love most to beat. Added to that was the tension with which recent meetings of the counties had been surrounded since their meetings had virtually decided the Munster championship and been key to possible All-Irelands for several years past.

Oireachtas and League meetings have tended to be a prolongation of these tense battles, often giving the losers last time a chance of getting their own back —

an opportunity which they grasped at with intensity.

Such a history will lead to a boiling over sooner or later: and it will probably occur some day when one or other player is feeling a little under the weather . . . the resistance is low, as they say.

The aftermath was more serious among the officials, it would now seem, than among the players. Certainly there was nothing but the greatest goodwill among the men on the field when Cork and Tipperary met later in the championship.

Speaking of the championship, (and that means senior, of course) it was the most productive for years — hardly a dull game throughout. Overall, it should be stated that it was as much a tragedy for Kilkenny as it was a triumph for Limerick. Kilkenny came to a peak of mature skill after their All-Ireland victory of the previous year that made them a team of formidable proportions throughout the League (though they suffered a defeat then at the hands of Tipperary — almost an expected event at any time, I suppose). When the championships came round they were acknowledged as a cut above any other county.

Admittedly, they had lost the League semi-final against Wexford. But, strangely, this only strengthened the impression of their invincibility, for Wexford went on to win the League comfortably at Limerick's expense, while most acknowledged that the defeat of Kilkenny was one of those stealthy affairs which would not be likely to happen again: a couple of quick goals at the least expected time and too late for Kilkenny to recover.

This, indeed, was borne out when the teams met in the Leinster final (almost a fixed event by now) with no shortage of time in an 80 minute game. It was not that Wexford were in any way inadequate, for they were in 1973 a better side than many recent years, but that Kilkenny were so overpoweringly complete. The old skills remained to give experience and balance to the many newer players who had reached a peak of form and skill in a surprisingly short space of time in highest competition — O'Brien, Morrissey, Lawlor, Crotty, Purcell, Delaney . . .

The Munster championship may not have provided all the brilliance and fire of other years, but it never produced a game that was won before the final whistle. The first round effort of Waterford was one of the big events of the year — guaranteeing, as it did, the permanence of the claims of that county to be ranked again among the upper group. (They had, incidentally, captured the Division I B League earlier in the League, thus securing promotion to the A section for 1973-'74, and in September defeated New York in the play-off of that League).

Tipperary's experience and cool ability to time their effort and spread it more evenly enabled them to survive that match. Their next obstacle was Cork, somewhat out of things in the early part of the year and especially since being well beaten by Limerick in the League at home. Their whole League campaign had been bedevilled — apart from the Thurles affair, injuries had decimated their ranks. It was not until the Oireachtas semi-final against Wexford a few weeks before their championship date that they showed their cards.

The skill and competence with which they disposed of Wexford showed they were well in the running; Donal Clifford and Willie Walsh were back in the side; but, of course, Pat Hegarty was missing and he was also missed when it came to the crisis of the semi-final against Tipperary. Cork had the better of matters in the

Can You Spot The Ball ?



Phil Bennis (left) has the ball clasped safely in his left hand as he eludes the tackles of Kilkenny forwards in the All-Ireland final. His colleagues Jim O'Brien and Pat Hartigan are keeping a watching brief on the situation.

first-half with the aid of the rather surly weather; at several stages of breakaway in the second-half a score or two would, perhaps, have given them the springboard for victory.

Even then, the poor use of possession by Tipperary seemed to be assuring them of success when the cumulative effect of pressure more than any inspiration on Tipperary's part brought a four-goal collapse (not all of those goals visibly legal) and a rather shattering defeat. For Tipperary it was an exciting win in the end, but hardly the proof of the All-Ireland quality of their team. Injury to Mick Keating, Francis Loughnane; the loss of King and Power; the inability of Mick Roche to regain his form after a long lay-off: all these factors hampered them, and not enough replacements of class were ready to step aboard.

The selection of Jimmy Doyle as goalkeeper in the first round against Waterford was one of the curiosities of the year — one for future Question Times, no doubt. Meantime, Limerick faced Clare and, boy, were they lucky! That game almost destroyed a wonderful year before it had begun. The successful part, that is, though it must be said that the way the team buckled in after the dispute about the change of trainer had been resolved was how they laid the foundations of later glory. League wins over Cork and Tipperary (after extra-time in a replay) were notable steps in re-establishing their morale.

The Tipperary games were League semi-finals and played at such inconvenient venues as Kilkenny and Birr. But, the League final against Wexford seemed to suggest that the old allergy was still lurking under the skin — they lost and were well beaten at Croke Park once more, losing Mick Graham, too, with a broken leg.

Perhaps it was the reaction from this frustrating defeat that caused them to appear very vulnerable against Clare. Or perhaps it was the fact that Clare were better than people gave them credit for after the debacle of the previous year's Munster final when Cork annihilated them. In any event, it was a rattling good game, even desperately thrilling for the followers of both sides. Gus Lohan's placing at full-forward and the manner in which he disrupted Pat Hartigan's usual dominance nearly gave the victory to Clare, and it probably gave the idea to Limerick that was to be a key to their All-Ireland success when they switched Eamon Rea from defence to full-forward.

Eamon Grimes picked off the vital score of that game and made a contribution which he was often to repeat, the load on Bennis seemed to be heavy what with mid-field duties and frees all over the place; the forward-line looked constipated still, and the defence sprang a leak down the middle.

Jim O'Donnell saved Limerick when brought in at half-time at centre-back. But, he was not able to play the same role when faced by the cunning Mick Roche,



A Last Farewell?

Jimmy Doyle (left) who made a dramatic, if shortlived, comeback to big-time hurling in 1973 when he played in goals for Tipperary in the first round of the Munster championship.

luring him far from his beat, against Tipperary in the Munster final. Repairs were again made at half-time with Sean Foley holding the fort. Eamon Cregan moved far back throughout the second-half to bolster all sorts of areas and set the ball moving forward. Rea was causing havoc with the confidence of the Tipperary defence; Horgan saved a vital shot near the end and Ritchie Bennis pointed that last-puck 70. (Was it a 70; and was it a point query Tipp. folk even to this day.)

A thriller; the end of an era and the beginning. London had created a major surprise against Galway about whom even their own supporters were critical in regard to the manner of their approach and their readiness for the test. London, however, again showed how good they are for a long time against Limerick: the pity of it all is that London did not come into the very first round in one of the provinces right from the beginning of their time in the championships. By now they would surely have improved and gained from recent showings more than they have lost from rather disgraceful beatings at the hands of teams already in the pink.

The final between Limerick and Kilkenny is too fresh and fixed in the memory to need comment, except to say that, in the circumstances, the display of Limerick was so intensely exciting that it is now of little importance that Kilkenny were so hit by misfortune: there is every good reason to believe that nothing would have stopped the Limerickmen in their fierce determination to reach their long delayed goal.

As Limerick and Kilkenny made a fresh and captivating pairing for the senior final, so did Galway and Kilkenny give a certain novelty to the minor. The victory of Kilkenny was hard earned, yet hardly well-deserved.

Galway lacked, perhaps, that nice smoothness round the edges, but were otherwise the better side. Where they fell down was in their lack of confidence in their striking: so there was too much lifting, much too much carrying, and too little crisp first-time striking. Had Galway been drilled sufficiently in that most essential of all hurling skills, they would probably have won by the length of a street.

Overall, it was an anomalous year in minor hurling. Waterford, who turned out such a fine under-21 side to give credibility to the exciting promise of their seniors, could only field a very poor minor combination which showed a lack of nearly all the basics of aspiring young hurlers. Tipperary soundly beat them with a team that looked doubtful in spots. Then, most surprisingly, Cork fielded a team that bore no relation whatever to the standard that they have set in minor hurling for nearly ten years; Tipperary beat them, too, while still showing forward weakness.

In the Munster final, fourteen of Tipperary gave a hiding to fifteen of Limerick in the second-half. Tipperary looked more formidable; but a week later they were beaten, in turn, by Galway. The Kilkenny minors were, by common consent, not a patch on the team that won for the county the previous year. It all added up to the one discouraging aspect of the hurling year. And it is clear that youngsters are not devoting enough of themselves to mastering the skills of this most testing game. Can it be that this soft generation is acknowledging that it does not have the ability to become class hurlers? Is it too hard for them? Are they settling for a miserable mediocrity?

A LOOK AT WHAT 1974 MAY HOLD FOR THE G.A.A.

(N.B.: To be taken with a grain of salt!)

EUGENE McGEE takes a not too serious look at what might be in store for the G.A.A. fraternity during the year ahead of us.

JANUARY

CONVENTION month and shocks galore. Paddy Grace (Kilkenny), Paddy Roche (Wexford), Peadar Kearney (Louth), John Dunne (Galway), Hughie Smyth (Cavan), and John Dowling (Offaly) all announce that they feel it is time younger men took over. They are all unanimously re-elected.

Pat Quinn makes a bid of one million pound for Croke Park. Hal Roach takes over as Public Relations Officer for the G.A.A. with Gay Byrne as his assistant.

FEBRUARY

REFEREE Paul Kelly is awarded the Freedom of Derry and is presented with the key of the city so that he can get in when everybody else is in bed.

There is a by-election in Monaghan due at the end of the month. President Childers is seen at an Owen Ward Cup game between Castleblayney Faughs and Magheracloone in Clontibret. When asked if this was a political gesture he states that nothing could be further from the truth. 'I believe that politics should be above football', he says in an exclusive interview with Raymond Smyth.

Hal Roach resigns as P.R.O. to the G.A.A. saying he finds Croke Park far too funny for words. He is replaced by Pat Quinn.

MARCH

THE Railway Cup finals are played in Casement Park, Belfast, and Ulster win the hurling title by beating Munster 7-10 to 0-5. The referee, Mr. W. Whitelaw, had to be escorted off the pitch after the game. Munster players accused him of 'playing the orange card'.

The Activities Committee fix the All-Ireland club hurling final for 6.30 on a Monday morning in Gweedore. All appeals for a postponement fall on deaf ears.

The G.A.A.'s P.R.O., Mr. Pat Quinn, issues his first Press Release. It is as follows: 'WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS'. When asked by journalists to elaborate on this statement Mr. Quinn refused to comment except to mutter something like 'clunk and click'.

APRIL

AT Congress held in Sligo the handpass is brought back despite strong opposition from Kerry delegate Gerald McKenna who states that he has received a threat from Mick O'Connell that if the handpass is brought back he will make a comeback to the Kerry team.

MAY

THE Taoiseach and his Ministers refuse to attend the National League final as Kildare, who play in the Division II final, are stated to be playing an All-White team. Pickets are placed outside Croke Park by the Anti-Apartheid movement but the problem is solved when the Kildare goalkeeper Jokoko Maskuba, togs out in a black rigout. The referee for this game is Joe Frazier with Sammy Davis Junior and Enoch Powell as linesmen.

In the Division I final between Cork and Kerry played under the experimental rules Cork win by 19-3 to 12-2. Seventeen of Cork's goals came from penalties while Billy Morgan saved ten penalties for Cork. The new Kerry team manager, Bishop Eamon Casey, tells Sean O'Ceallachain and Donal Carroll after the game that he was satisfied with his team's performance. He said that the referee (Mr. Simms, Armagh) was inclined to see a bit too much red at times and he (Bishop Casey) considered that fifteen of Cork's penalties were harsh decisions.

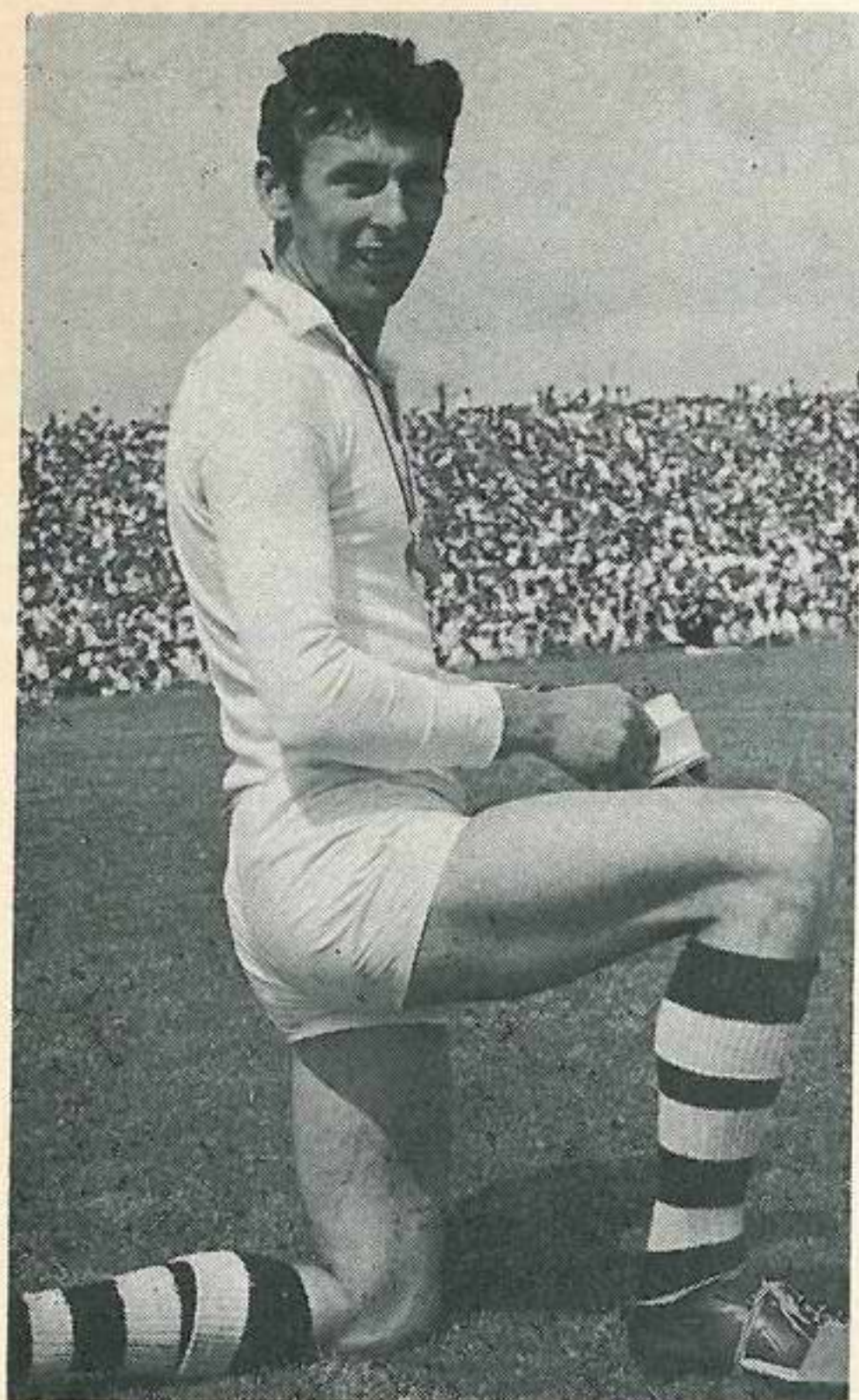
In the following week's Kerryman it is reported that Johnny Culloty is back in training for the Munster final.

JUNE

THE Taoiseach, Mr. Cosgrave, calls a snap General Election and when the votes are all counted the G.A.A. party has an overall majority. Jack Fitzgerald (Meath) is elected Taoiseach and names the following cabinet: Tanaiste — Jack Lynch (Cork); Minister for Justice — Paul Kelly (Dublin); Minister for Foreign Affairs — John O'Donnell (New York and Kerry); Minister for Labour — Dr. J. J. Stuart (Dublin); Minister for Finance — Pat Heneghan (P. J. Carroll and Co.); Minister for Defence — Donal Whelan (Waterford); Minister for Social Welfare — Jim Brosnan (Kerry); Minister for Transport and Power — Jimmy Smyth (Clare); Minister for Education — John Wilson (Cavan); Minister for Agriculture — Jimmy Grey (Dublin); Minister for the Gaeltacht — Erskine Childers (Monaghan, Longford, Dublin, etc.); Minister for Industry and Commerce — Hughie Smyth (Cavan).

Joe Keohane (Kerry) is appointed Chief-of-Staff; T. P. O'Reilly (Cavan) is made Chief Justice; Sean O'Siochain is made Head of the Government Information Bureau; Pat Quinn takes over as Director General of the G.A.A.

At a meeting of the Central Council held in Pat Quinn's Club it is decided to ban G.A.A. members from the Hogan Stand on the days of All-Ireland finals. This had been recommended by a Special Commission headed



Mick Slattery . . . fashion-conscious hurling referee.

by Feidhlim O'Broin, Chief Steward at Croke Park. It was stated that at last year's football final the following missiles were thrown at the (non-G.A.A.) dignitaries in the Central Council padded seats by uncivilised G.A.A. club members from such places as Bellaghy, Lyracromphane, Buffers Alley and Hackballscross — 125 Coca Cola cans; 89 Baby Power bottles (empty); four rolled-up copies of Playboy magazine; 25 copies of the Football Immortals.

It was also decided to issue 100-year tickets for the Hogan Stand at a cost of £5,000 pounds each plus 10,000 Green Shield stamps. Ticket's to be on sale at all branches of Quinnsworth.

JULY

THE Management Committee meets a deputation from Equity, the actors trade union, seeking appearance money for many of their new members — all inter-county forwards — since the new rules came in which give a penalty for every foul committed inside the enlarged 'square'.

New books published this month include: 'The Immortal Raymond Smyth' by Mick O'Connell; 'The Immortal Mick O'Connell' by Raymond Smyth; 'Winning Friends and Influencing People' by the Activities Committee; 'The Lost Leader' by Alf Murray and Pat Fanning.

Angela McNamara throws in the ball to start the Munster final between Kerry and Cork at Killarney having being escorted onto the pitch by Michael O'Rourke.

In the game, Kerry with Mick O'Connell in great form at midfield and Jo Jo Barrett starring at full-forward easily beat Cork this time to avenge their League defeat. Their coach Bishop Casey said after the game that the team's three week training session in Lough Derg worked wonders.

AUGUST

WORK commences on the Office Block at Croke Park and is completed in three weeks. It is a two storey, L-shaped building and includes a mineral bar, a sweet shop, a coffee machine and a mens toilet. There is a special underground connection with the Ladies toilet under the Hogan Stand.

The G.A.A. and Bord Failte meet to discuss the possibility of making Gaelic games a tourist attraction and it is agreed that special flights from all parts of the globe will be arranged for the following G.A.A. events in 1975:

- 1) the Leitrim hurling final
- 2) the 1975 Congress in Magheracloone, Co. Monaghan
- 3) the Dublin county final between U.C.D. and St. Vincents
- 4) any appearance by Derry in Croke Park
- 5) the N.F.L. game between Kilkenny and Clare at Nowlan Park (all-ticket game).

In the All-Ireland semi-finals Kerry beat Louth and Derry beat Galway to give a Kerry-Derry final.

The G.A.A. Director General, Pat Quinn declares a state of emergency five minutes after Derry win the second semi-final.

SEPTEMBER

THE Hurling final between Limerick and Armagh is a thrilling game with Pat Moriarty scoring the minute winning goal for Armagh in the last minute of the game. The referee, Mick Slattery and his umpires, all from Clarecastle, looked very impressive in their Paris-designed outfits which consisted of pink serge trouser-suits with white bainins and 1920-style hats.

President Childers, unable to procure a ticket because he was not a member of any registered G.A.A. club, watched the match from Hill 16 along with Denis Conroy (Cork) and Mickey Duffy T.D. (Monaghan). After the game his pink Rolls Royce was mobbed outside the handball alley by over-enthusiastic supporters and he had to be rescued by Gardai Charlie Sullivan (Kerry) and Paddy McGrath (Longford).

Before the football final President Childers joins the Round Towers (Clondalkin) G.A.A. club and wins two stand tickets in the club raffle.

The final itself between Kerry and Derry is unusual in that it has three referees — Paul Kelly, Donal Keenan and Noel Drumgoole (Activities Committee). Inspired by this setback, Derry produce wonder football to eventually win by two points when veteran Sean O'Connell scores a goal from a penalty after Kerry's Tom Prendergast had touched the ball on the ground half an inch inside the fourteen yards line.

Bishop Casey the Kerry team manager in an exclusive interview with Raymond Smyth after the game simply states: 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after justice for they shall find heaven.'

OCTOBER

PAT Quinn, having bought a turf-bank overlooking Garadice Lake in his native county Leitrim for £3.99 (cash) retires from his position as Director General of

the G.A.A. and is replaced by John Kerry O'Donnell. He immediately denied that he got the job through 'pull' pointing out that at first the Management Committee of the G.A.A. knew about his appointment was when they read it in THE SUNDAY PRESS.

A seminar is held in The Bower Convent, Athlone on the topic 'The G.A.A. and the E.E.C.' Speakers include, Pat Fanning (four hours twenty five minutes); Conor Cruise O'Brien; Paddy Grace; Ronnie Drew; Maureen Potter and Norma Levy the former well-known camogie player from Mitchelstown. At the end of the seminar it is decided to appoint a G.A.A. delegate to the E.E.C. Commission in Brussels and in the subsequent election, Michael Kehoe (Wexford) has an overwhelming victory.

NOVEMBER

MAINLY on the instigation of the Director-General, Mr. O'Donnell, the G.A.A. declares an amnesty for all anti-establishment people who have been 'blackened' during the past twenty years. At the Grounds Tourna-

ment final in Croke Park the padded seats (V.I.P.) are filled to capacity. Prominent are: Joe Lennon, Joe Foyle, Joe Reilly (Louth); Sean O'Connell (Derry); Tom Woulfe; Brendan MacLua; Donal O'Connell; Harry O'Neill (Antrim); John McArdle (Monaghan); Ted Cooling (Dublin); Paddy McCormack; Paddy McDermott (Galway); Tony Barrett; Joe McGrath (Limerick); Peadar O'Brien; John O'Shea.

DECEMBER

THE season of peace and goodwill (there are no G.A.A. games) and the Cuchulainn Annual sponsors Christmas presents for some of our G.A.A. personalities.

The President and Central Council: A long-playing record of the pantomime 'Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves.'

Activities Committee: Five hundred Jewish Rabbis who will convert half the Irish race to the Jewish faith and thereby provide the G.A.A. with two Sabbaths, Saturday and Sunday, in every week which will be a big help in solving the fixture problem.

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Some Notable Events of 1973 Recalled

DOWN, who blazed such an impressive and history-making trail in the 'Sixties by taking the Sam Maguire Cup over the Border for the first time, are showing the way ahead again in a novel and worthwhile way. Before the start of the County Senior Football Championship Final at Newcastle earlier in the past year Pat McKinney, who captained Downpatrick to their 1972 title win, handed over the Championship Trophy to the referee. This innovation — introduced by Down a year earlier — added an unusual and welcome touch to the pre-match preliminaries.

By **OWEN McCANN**

It was one of many features that marked out the past season in football and hurling in an extra special way. For instance, do you know what unique distinction **Jim Treacy, Frank Cummins, Pat Delaney and Eddie Keher**, of Kilkenny, and **Tony Doran** (Wexford) and **Mick Bermingham** (Dublin) share as a result of their activities in inter-provincial hurling?

Leinster won the Railway Cup for the third year in a row last St. Patrick's Day — the first such treble by the province. The six hurlers above are the only ones who played in all six games in that record-making run. Treacy, Cummins, Delaney, Keher and Doran were selected in each of the six teams, while Bermingham was named among the substitutes for one game — the 1972 final. However, he went into that match eventually.

Then, in Railway Cup football **John O'Keeffe** set a new standard. He was at midfield on an April afternoon in Athlone with the Combined Universities side that beat Connacht in a replay to win the trophy for the first time.

Just about a year earlier, and also in a replay, this U.C.D. and Kerry footballer helped Munster to their first Railway Cup title win in football in 30 years, also in a replayed final.

O'Keeffe was not the first player to win Railway Cup medals on the field of play with different selections. Nevertheless, he still blazed an impressive new trail by playing on a winning provincial outfit, and on a successful students selection in successive years, and it will be interesting to see how long his trend-setting feat stands on its own.

Still on the theme of a Universities' footballer out on his own, **Pat O'Neill** is in a similar position as a result of a win by U.C.D. over St. Vincent's in the County Dublin Senior Football Championship Final. O'Neill, who lined up at left half back in that game last August, was the only Dublin-born player in the Universities' squad, and was also the first Dublin player to win a Railway Cup football medal since Des Foley in 1962 when he played at No. 6 in the replayed final this year for the Universities. Indeed, it was a poor year for Dublin natives in Senior Championship play in the capital, as the Faughs side that beat O'Tooles in a replay for the hurling crown also had only one Dublin-born player — left half back **Mossy Walsh**.

One that got away from Billy!



One of the few times that dual All-Ireland winning captain Billy Morgan conceded a goal was in this incident from the All-Ireland club final between his club Nemo Rangers and St. Vincents, Dublin. The ball is on it's way to the back of the net from the fist of Vincent's Des Foley (extreme right).

All-Ireland 7-A-side Champions 1973



Shannon Rangers from North Kerry who won the Carroll's-U.C.D. All-Ireland 7-a-side championship at Belfield last April. Back row (left to right): B. McCarthy, M. McEllistrim, J. Walsh, E. O'Donoghue, R. Bambury. Front, D. Mulvihill, D. Kissane, P. O'Donoghue, D. Moran

Kerry have such a proud record in football that it is hard to credit that 1973 still goes into the record book as a year of a first All-Ireland title win for the county. The game in question was the Vocational Schools' football decider at Croke Park in May, and the boys from the Kingdom made no mistake in setting the record right by scoring a 3-8 to 2-6 win over Mayo.

Another win with a difference was brought in by Offaly when they beat Meath in the Leinster senior football final for their first treble of provincial titles.

That was not a unique achievement in Eastern football — other counties boast three-in-a-row successes in the province — but it was the first time that Offaly won the title without the services as a player of great-hearted **Paddy McCormack**. He played in each of the county's other senior title winning outfits — 1960, 1961, 1962, 1971 and 1972. In fact, he was the only footballer to play in each of those five final winning outfits.

However, the Rhode stalwart still made a very important contribution to the win of last July as a county selector, and he must, therefore, rank in a very unusual position in Leinster football in that he has been prominently associated with every one of his county's provincial senior title wins.

Unusual, too, was the accomplishment of Our Lady's, Gort, at Limerick in March. Then, the boys from the West exceeded all expectations by registering a 4-6 to 2-6 win over St. Finbarr's, Farranferris, Cork, in the All-Ireland Colleges' Senior Hurling Championship semi-final. For good measure, **Pat O'Connor** in the Galway attack coloured the occasion with a dazzling display of lethal finishing. He helped himself to a wonderful 3-6.

That was not an historic victory, but as prior to the

Gort triumph we had to go back as far as April 1966 for the last All-Ireland semi-final hurling victory by a Con-naught side, the win still ranks as an event of special significance.

In a similar category is London's feat in knocking Galway out of the All-Ireland Senior Hurling Championship race last July at Ballinasloe. Their 4-7 to 3-5 win in an qualifying game was the first championship win by the Exiles in senior hurling since the 1901 final played in 1903.

That win over Galway was not given a fairy-tale twist the following Sunday, when Limerick ended London's interest in a semi-final at Ennis, but it was still the type of novel victory that added to the interest and the talking points of the year.

And, what about a minor football game played at Ballinasloe on the afternoon that London hurlers beat Galway. The result was Mayo 2-14, Hertfordshire 0-2, not a very inspiring debut by British opposition in this championship. It is well to remember, that the history of football and hurling provides many instances of teams climbing to greatness from the ashes of crushing failures.

Billy Morgan as captain of All-Ireland title winning teams at club (Nemo Rangers) and county (Cork) level . . . a first All-Ireland Colleges' senior football title win for **Franciscan College**, Gormanston . . . the return of the Liam McCarthy Cup to Limerick after 33 long years . . . a place for **Ray Cummins** among the elite group of dual All-Ireland senior medalists . . . yes, there were many rare and novel happenings during the year that was 1973.

THE UPS AND DOWNS OF THE LYNCH FAMILY



AT the start of 1973 Paudie Lynch from Beaufort, Co. Kerry looked all set to have one of his best seasons so far in his young career. He played a major role in helping Kerry to the semi-final of the league and also captained the first Universities football team to reach a Railway Cup final.

That game against Connacht ended in a draw but a couple of weeks later in the league semi-final against Derry, quite accidentally, in jumping for a high ball Paudie wrenched his right knee very severely and the picture above shows Kerry coach Johnny Culloty running on to help him off the field. Paudie Lynch did not play football again for over four months and in the meantime the Universities team, now captained by his brother Brendan, went on to make history by winning the Railway Cup for the first time.

The picture on right shows Brendan receiving the Railway Cup from Dr. Donal Keenan, it being the latter's first official duty as he had been elected President only the previous day.

So all in all, it was a year of mixed fortunes for the Lynch family from Beaufort.



A GREAT DAIL TEAM—BUT NO HALF FORWARDS

THE thing that really worries me about the 20th Dail is that there are no half-forwards at all. This omission will, of course, be very much felt in the councils of Europe and in such faraway places. You need a team. You can't have a team without half-forwards.

Riddle me this. Are there more or less All-Ireland medals in the 20th

Actually, politics in Ireland are changing. Mark you, it is a very subtle change. The great All-Ireland player is still your man but the G.A.A. official is now a force to be reckoned with.

Look at DENIS GALLAGHER. He swept to victory in Mayo West. Ex-chairman of the Connacht Provincial Council and one of the staunchest of

into his own in politics and pushing it up to the players. And why not? Doesn't it take good sideline mentors to win All-Ireland medals, too. Aren't they the men that kept the game alive!

But let's not pass from the scene without a thought and a prayer for the men that fought and fell — like second successive general election,

By FRANK DOLAN (The Irish Post)

Dail than in its predecessor? I won't put the answer at the bottom of the page but will in fact tell you now lest you rupture your memory in trying to figure it. The answer is that there are less. SEAN BROSNAN of Kerry midfield football fame went out in Cork North-East — very narrowly, I might add. He took no less than four All-Ireland medals with him. DES FOLEY — the only man to win Railway Cup football and hurling medals on the same day — also went out and this cost the Dail two more All-Ireland medals.

Of course, JOHN WILSON came in in Cavan — a great debut surely. He fielded it just as gracefully as when he used to be on John Joe O'Reilly's right. Still, there are less medals now heretofore.

Mayo's long-standing officials.

And, of course, Cork Divisional Board chairman, GENE FITZGERALD, came back — as did ex-Kerry Divisional Board chairman MICHAEL BEGLEY and JOHN O'LEARY. And let's not forget Wexford's long-reigning county chairman SEAN BROWNE and WILLIE KENNEALLY whose family has given as much time to Waterford G.A.A. as it has to Fianna Fail.

Mention of Waterford reminds me that poor FAD BROWNE went out narrowly. Fad did not have an All-Ireland medal but he hurled better than many a man that has — played for Munster, too, unless I am mistaken.

As you will have seen, though, the G.A.A. official is now really coming

Kilkenny's BOB AYLWARD. For the big Bob (former Leinster Council chairman with a lifetime of service to Kilkenny hurling) polled over 6,000 first-preference votes and still got screwed up in the transfers.

In any other constituency in the country, Bob's first preference total of 6,618 would have elected a man — but not in the tricky five-seat Carlow-Kilkenny constituency. Like in 1969, the bloody Carlow Fianna Fail votes did not transfer to him and once again he was the last man out. Personally, I think that Fianna Fail made a mistake in that constituency in also putting up the former Carlow G.A.A. chairman, LIAM MURPHY.

All-Ireland medals didn't work for JOE KEOHANE in North Kerry. But politics are like football, you don't

"When it came to Fianna Fáil losing a seat in Roscommon - Leitrim it was Irish junior soccer international Brian Lenihan who went out and not Hugh Gibbons who was right full forward for Roscommon in that glory day against Kerry in 1944"



Gene Fitzgerald and Jack Lynch . . .
two Cork G.A.A. T.Ds.

win medals on your own. You have to have a team and in North Kerry Aontacht Eireann just had no team.

Then there was DESSIE FERGUSON — standing as an Independent Republican in Meath. The same story held there. Dessie may have been the greatest combination of footballer-hurler of all time but in the general Election he had no team.

Still, despite the failure of a few of the great Gaels, it must be noted that the vast majority came back. Indeed, it should be particularly noted that when it came to Fianna Fáil losing a seat in Roscommon-Leitrim, it was former Irish junior soccer international, BRIAN LENIHAN, who went and not HUGH GIBBONS who was at right-full forward for Roscommon on that glory day against Kerry in 1944.

BILL LOUGHNANE of Clare and Dublin hurling fame, came back at the top of the poll. JOHN DONNELLAN, always wholehearted captain in 1964 also, of course, topped the poll in Galway North-East.

And in neighbouring Mayo, that other great football captain, SEAN FLANAGAN, is still there — as is HENRY KENNY, one of the finest midfield men ever.

PADDY LALOR, a sound man on the field and the best secretary the Laois County Board ever had, returned very safely in Laois-Offaly. In fact, he almost ousted Oliver Flanagan from the top of the poll. There were only 45 votes between them.

That lovely Limerick hurler, MICK HERBERT too is back as is JACK LYNCH, who will be remembered as having won a fair few All-Ireland medals with Cork in both hurling and football.

Dublin may have lost one G.A.A. T.D., DES FOLEY, but it was nice to see that long-legged Dublin footballer of an earlier period, JIM TUNNEY, heading the poll in Dublin North-West. Poor Jim had just been made a Parliamentary Secretary when Jack called the general election. Jim must have only got a few rides in his chauffeur-driven States Mercedes. Now it's gone. But, as I say, sure he has long legs and he'll be well able to step it out.

Before leaving Dublin it is worth noting that CHARLES J. HAUGHEY swept to a magnificent first-preference total of 12,901 in Dublin North-East and did so without turning a hair. A most elegant and sophisticated performance and a far throw from the day that he got involved with an umpire and got himself suspended for two years. A real crabby little fellow he was on the field. Never made it to the top in football — left that to the brother, Jock, who picked up a medal with Dublin in 1958.

Another man, of course, who cut short his football career for greater things was BRENDAN CORISH, now the new Deputy Prime Minister. Brendan was a great corner back for Wexford in the tradition of the four-in-a-row Wexford footballers of 1915 to 1918 inclusive. Politics forced Brendan to abandon football before he reached his peak — although he did stick around for a while afterwards

as a referee.

Actually, it was his refereeing career which produced the unprecedented incident of the fellow who stood up on the crossbar when the vital last-minute 14-yards free was



Paddy Lalor

about to be taken. He insisted that there was no rule in the book which ordained that he had to get down.

I don't remember the end of the story but if you are that interested, drop a note to the Tanaiste's office, Dail Eireann, Dublin 2.

All of the political tipsters and commentators were unanimous before the election that DAN SPRING would lose his Labour seat in Kerry North. How silly they were. Wasn't Dan as good a full-forward as Kerry ever fielded and hasn't he four All-Ireland medals to prove it. 'Twas never a bother to you Dan!

So you see the 20th Dail has maintained the tradition — a fine gathering of great Gaels altogether. Except, as I say, there are no half-forwards. Plenty of men for everywhere else but no one at all for there. And that's why I am worried!

The past four years have been trying times
for those involved in the G.A.A. in
the Six Counties. In this article
leading Belfast G.A.A. writer Denis
O'Hara gives an insight into how the
G.A.A. has coped

Loyalty to the G.A.A. triumphs over British bullets and searches

IT would be a gross overstatement to say that the 'troubles' have had a disastrous effect on the progress of the G.A.A. in the North during the past four years. It would also be an understatement to discount the trials and tribulations of strife-torn Northern Ireland as having no effect whatsoever on the running of the Association's activities.

I can cite many instances of physical hardship and discomfort . . . the harrowing experience of club footballers at Hannahstown who were sprayed with bullets during a match; the short term detention of county footballers being constantly searched at roadblocks. This latter irritant is almost an every day occurrence usually timed to coincide with some major inter-county game.

But the players, officials and spectators have learned to live with this kind of uncertain life. Ironically, despite the obvious handicaps that have been and are placed in the way of the footballer and hurler, the games flourish.

Antrim, one of the hardest hit areas, could proudly display a club programme second to none. The loss of Casement Park has been a bitter pill to swallow but this did

'I CAN CITE many instances of physical hardship and discomfort . . . the harrowing experience of club footballers in Hannahstown who were sprayed with bullets during a match . . .'

'THE INSTANCES of harrassment and personal indignity are widely known but the chief concern must be the fear of the unexpected'.

not effect the continuity of club games. Nor did the recurring searches at the Shaws Road complex make much difference.

In the early days of the 'troubles' Antrim officials and players had to readjust themselves to a situation completely foreign. The transformation has been quite remarkable.

A similar story can be found in areas of Derry, Fermanagh, Tyrone, Armagh and Down. Derry, however, have lost ground in the City area, but to be quite truthful G.A.A. activity in the North West was never in keeping with the vast population.

Clubs and county teams have been troubled with their respective training programmes. The agony, has, however, not been so much a physical consideration but more a mental one.

It is important to stress this particular aspect of survival in the North. Somehow it cannot be quite defined.

The instances of harrassment and personal indignity are widely known but the chief concern must be that fear of the unexpected.

Antrim County chairman, Jack Rooney probably summed up the

DERRY TRIO DELAYED FOR 90 MINS. BY ROAD PATROL

THREE Derry players, Malachy McAfee, Seamus and Fintan McCloskey, who were travelling by car to assist their county in the opening round of the National League at Breffni Park, Cavan, were held for an hour and a half at a UDR road block between Omagh and Ballygawley roundabout.

As a result the trio, who were accompanied by former county goalkeeper, Patsy Gormley and the driver of the car Francie Donaghy, missed the first half of the game but made their appearance after half time.

Apparently one of the party had no identification and were delayed until the police would check them out but after a vain wait the patrol was lifted by helicopter and the party proceeded post hast for Cavan.

—Irish News 15/10/'73

ciate this widespread expression of self-sacrifice.

Jack Rooney again . . . "Let me give you a wonderful example. Our best ever attendance at county team training was last year and at a great deal more inconvenience and risk to the players. There was always the risk of travel to and from the training centre at night; always the mental worry of the players getting home. It was a constant source of worry for officials that the players would arrive home safely and next day we had to check up on everyone."

A similar problem faced the men in charge of the other county teams. Players travelled to places such as Newcastle, Lurgan, Dungannon, Ballinascreen and Irvinstown from as far away as Belfast!

Such dedication is undoubtedly a monument to the great determination of the Gael. "Club competitions were played and kept up to date", declared Jack Rooney. "And again it was mainly through determination. Teams may have been held from time to time at roadblocks with the match starting over half an hour late. There was no gamesmanship by claiming the points."

'THE GREATER the trouble the more willing the players, officials and spectators have been to keep the games running on a smooth footing'.

'TEAMS MAY have been held from time to time at roadblocks with the match starting over half an hour late. There was no gamesmanship by claiming the points'.

situation when he said . . . "There is always the psychological effect of the whole thing . . . the worry of travelling to a match or training and the worry of getting home safely."

Added Jack, "It is the overall oppression that has effected us yet, even though players have been held up going to training and so on, the determination by the players that our games should not suffer has certainly been a tremendous factor."

In the face of such difficult ob-

stacles, and with danger to life and limb in view, it is a remarkable contradiction of the times. And also a wonderful tribute to Association members in the North.

The greater the trouble the more willing the players, officials and spectators have been to keep the games running on a smooth footing.

This loyalty knows no bounds. It is a paradox against the seemingly endless tide of danger.

Southern members of the Association will, I feel, fully appre-

Clubs have lost many players since the troubles began in 1969 — some more so than others. Yet, they have survived. Some have taken severe body blows but still managed to regroup.

The G.A.A. story in the North has not been without its sadness. But proof of the burning desire not to become submerged in the morass of despair and tragedy lies in the fact that there has been substantial progress, not a decline. It hasn't been easy.

A YEAR OF MANY FAMOUS SCORES

THE past year was an unlucky one for **Eddie Keher** in that an injury received in the Walsh Cup final in August kept him out of the All-Ireland senior hurling clash with Limerick, but on the scoring front the campaign had, as usual, some important highlights in the colourful career of the free-scoring and record-making Noreside hurler.

The most noteworthy was achieved in San Francisco during the now popular series of games featuring the All-Ireland champions and the All-Stars. Keher travelled with a scoring record in all competitions that was just thirteen points short of 1,500 points. And, almost as though matters had been perfectly stage-managed, he bagged exactly that tally at 1-10 in the opening match of the tour!

That brought his haul up to 153 goals and 1,041 points from 225 games. In climbing to that highly impressive peak, the Bachelor of the Scoring Science averaged 6.66 points a match — top-class finishing over such a lengthy period.

By **OWEN McCANN**

A week later there was another distinction for Keher. He shot 1-5 in the second match to bring his score for the tour to 2-15 (21 points). This was a point better than a tally of 4-8 that earned for **Francis Loughnane** (Tipperary) ranking as the ace marksman in the initial hurling games in 1972, and is the target the finishers will have to shoot at during the 1974 series of games.

The Walsh Cup final at Kilkenny in August was noteworthy for more than Eddie Keher's unfortunate injury. Unrecorded nationally until now is the fact that **Tom Byrne**, of Wexford, marked the game by linking a memorable era of sharpshooting displays from Nick Rackard in the 'Fifties with the present day.

Rackard had a tremendous season in 1956. In 19 appearances he popped in 35 goals and 50 points (155 points), a score that stood as the national record in hurling until as recently as 1971, when Eddie Keher took over on top of the chart. In the years that followed the Rackard barrage no Wexford hurler even reached three figures in a full season, let alone remotely approached the mammoth score.

That is until Byrne began to make things hum in the past year. In the Walsh Cup decider played at Nowlan Park, Kilkenny, he finally broke the century of points



Claus Dunne who made a comeback to the Kilkenny attack for the All-Ireland final.

barrier. A score of 1-4 edged him over the magical "ton" at 13 goals and 62 points (101 points) from 15 engagements.

As well as bringing Wexford "in out of the cold", Byrne struck a telling blow for Leinster in that he became the first newcomer from the province to take his place in the "Ton Up" club since Tom Walsh (Kilkenny) in 1964. In the same period four Munster hurlers joined

the elite group of sharpshooters who have hit a century of points (goals and points combined) or more over a full season's campaign of inter-county games embracing all competitions and challenges.

Tony McTague, in contrast, is no stranger to annual totals of 100 points and more. Indeed, the Offaly chance-snapper carved out a unique honour in this regard when he did much to sink Meath's hopes in the Leinster final by notching 0-11. That was his 14th game of the year and he reached 100 points exactly with an over-all score of 3-91, to earn the distinction of being the first footballer to reach three figures over five separate seasons. No mean feat, and one that underlines McTague's extra special place as a consistent finisher. His other century-plus seasons were 1969, 1970, 1971 and 1972.

There was another special place for McTague in that meeting with Meath. His eleven points is the best for a Leinster football final over 80 minutes, and second nationally in this regard. Leading the way is Michael Kearins with 0-13 for Sligo in a draw with Galway at Castlebar in 1971.

The Munster hurling decider will always be associated with a last gasp point by **Ritchie Bennis** from a "70" that won the title for Limerick at Thurles. Rightly so, for that was a superb score, one of the best of the year in either code, and a scoring effort that reflected greatly on the high qualities of the Limerick ace.

But spare a thought for Francis Loughnane. He turned on the type of scoring spectacular unequalled in any other 80 minutes final, but his wonderful effort in cracking a whopping 2-10, which would have been sufficient on its own to have won many a tie, could not save Tipperary.

Indeed, this was the pattern in hurling last summer. The ace harvester of scores in the Leinster decider was also on the losing side, and what's more the 2-6 that put Tom Byrne, of Wexford, out in front, is the best for an 80 minute Eastern showpiece game.

But one young man who was on a winning side with a vengeance was **Sean O'Brien**, who wore the No. 14 jersey for Kilkenny minor hurlers, and achieved a one-man demolition job against Galway in the All-Ireland final. He finished with 4-2 to his name, and became the most prolific scorer in a final in this code and grade since 1960. Previously another Kilkenny hurler, Willie Fitzpatrick, had set the pace with 3-4 against Cork in 1972.

More than that, O'Brien, who was winning his second national minor hurling medal, achieved the highest score of the year in any All-Ireland inter-county final, other than the Under-21 hurling decider which had not been played at the time we went to press.

A goal in an extra special class was scored in the 24th minute of the drawn Railway Cup football final on St. Patrick's Day. **Anthony McGurk** (Queen's and Derry), wearing the No. 15 jersey for the students team, cracked the ball to the Connacht net for the Universities first goal in a decider.

Some weeks earlier, **Martin Carney** (U.C.G. and Donegal), at right half forward, pointed a last minute free against Ulster at Breffni Park, Cavan, to earn a point win, and the Students' first victory in Railway Cup football. That was a qualifying game.

Carney scored 1-3 in the final replay at Athlone, and full-forward **Dan Kavanagh** (U.C.C. and Kerry) hit two goals that day. They moved to the top of the individual chart to join **Brendan Lynch** (U.C.C. and Kerry) who had set the standard in 1972 with 0-6 against Connacht at Roscommon in the Universities debut in the series.

Kavanagh earns honourable mention again for the fact that he scored Kerry's only goal in the Munster



Fr. Tommy Murphy, who was in charge of the Kilkenny minor team which won the All-Ireland final, pictured in his own playing days with Kilkenny seniors.

final. A noteworthy one in that Billy Morgan made his fourth appearance in Cork's goal in Munster finals with the traditional rivals at the Cork Athletic Grounds, and that was the first goal recorded against him.

There were many other important highlights. For instance, Dublin's **Donal Rheinisch** scored 4-1 against Kerry in a Hurling League tie at Croke Park in February, and the county was on the receiving end in August when **Tony Doran** bagged 3-5 in a Walsh Cup hurling semi-final win by Wexford at Parnell Park, Dublin.

Roger Ryan scored 4-1 for Tipperary in a Hurling League win over Kildare at Newbridge in April, and later that month at Birr, Francis Loughnane and **Frankie Nolan** were both very target conscious in a Hurling League semi-final replay. Loughnane scored 2-8, and the Limerick star hit 3-1 in a game that went to extra time.

Tom Quinn (Derry) put up 3-2 in a challenge win in football over Roscommon at Bellaghy in March, and Meath had a 35 points winning margin (yes, 35 points!) in a National Hurling League Division II tie at Knockbridge in February. The result was Meath 8-13; Louth 0-2.

Yes, it has all been happening in the exciting and colourful scoring front in football and hurling.

Tommy Moore of The Faughs

A TRIBUTE

ONE of hurling's best known personalities, Tommy Moore, died in 1973. The following tribute was written by his long-time friend Paddy Farrell in the programme for this year's Dublin hurling final between Moore's old club, Faughs, and O'Tooles.

IT is true that today's senior championship final between Faughs (holders) and O'Tooles is the third clash at this same stage of these ardent rivals in a five years span. It is true that results show each to have one victory over the other, and true also that providential last second escapes by single point margins helped me and other past Civil Service and St. Vincents respectively.

But with all these similarities, to Faughs, and indeed to Gaeldom in general from Ballycastle of his friends the Donnelly family, to Kinsale of Jim Regan Fame — "by far the best he ever played against" — this has been destined by God to be a final apart, as that for the first time in a sixty-two years span, the pre match roll-call will be answered only in spirit by one who guided their destiny so long — the late Tommy Moore.

"The dead who never die." How easily he can be allocated a place in this rigidly restricted circle, and yet what difficulties are encountered when our endeavours to pin point the specific quality which played the big-

ger part in making him the legend he had become in the world of Gaeldom.

When pride of nationhood was at its highest peak in the years following the blood sacrifice of 1916, hurling fortunes in Dublin experienced a sharp upsurge, and the teams that were most in contention locally were University College and Faughs, whose combined talents were availed of to bring four Leinster titles to the Metropolis from which they extracted two All-Ireland titles, defeating the holders Tipperary in '17 and the holders Cork in '20. Tommy's courage and unsurpassed skill assured him his place in all six successes and his trophies also included seven Dublin championships, six senior leagues and a Croke Cup medal, but to him the crowning glory it all came on St. Patrick's eve in '69 when the President of the G.A.A. Seamus O Riain presented him with the Cuchulainn Award.

Garlanded thus with all the honours that were available to players of his day there seems little choice in settling for wing forward competence of his own particular brand, and note that at top level he came into direct conflict with wing halves as renowned and as relentless as Dick Grace, "Dannix" Ring, etc.

I look back pensively at those distant days and see him skim like a swallow past defenders who were far more favoured by physique than he; a shock of raven curls prancing on his

forehead with every stride, accentuating as it were the pallor that told of his indoor calling. Lithe but eager and game as a pebble. He had what it takes to succeed when the odds are long.

We skip the remaining years of apprenticeship to find him again as proprietor of 9 Cathedral St., which promptly became a veritable generating station for the widespread distribution of the Gaelic ideal. Just how many hours were given in a long life to discussing its problems and potentialities is anybody's guess but what is sure is that Tommy Moore was the Gaelic propagandist supreme. Cold inanimate print fails miserably as a medium for recording a loss such as his.

At the Club "Annual" in '69 he was insistent on changes at the top, and Mick Clayton and Jimmy Murray took over as Chairman and Hon. Secretary respectively. In the five intervening finals including that of today, they qualified for four, winning two of the three already decided, plus a Senior League and Smithwick Cup. Tommy's judgement stood the test to the last. His advent in the colours in 1911 coincided with their eighth championship success. When the call which all must one day answer came, they were still champions with a tally of twenty-six titles. He will be remembered, and just as he would have wished it, as — Tommy Moore of the Faughs.

“And in the Red Corner . . .”



This unusual picture was taken in the Louth-Dublin Leinster championship game at Navan last May. It would appear as if Louth's Benny Gaughran (left) and Dublin's Pat O'Neill are all set for a 'fair fight but' in fact, such was not the case. If you cannot figure out how the two players came to be in such a war-like stance the explanation is given on page 81.

The “No-Frets” of Sixty Years Ago

o o o o

THE “NO FRETS” was the title selected for the first football team formed in Ballygeary, now better known as Rosslare Harbour, in September, 1913.

The new team seemingly aroused considerable interest and one local poet, Mr. W. J. Duffy, wrote about them in the following terms:—

Hurrah, Ballygeary, and dashing
“No Frets”,
Who hope in the future to test
many nets.
They've pluck and endurance, two
things above all

Most needed when playing a game
of football.

This team gives great promise of
good times in store,
They've able defenders and men
who will score
They're plucky and wiry, of that
there's no doubt,
And that you can see when the ball
is let out.

'Mid the breezes that blow o'er the
fields on the hill,
The referee's whistle will sound
loud and shrill,
When we tackle a contest, what
rapture, what glee!
As we startle the sea gulls adown

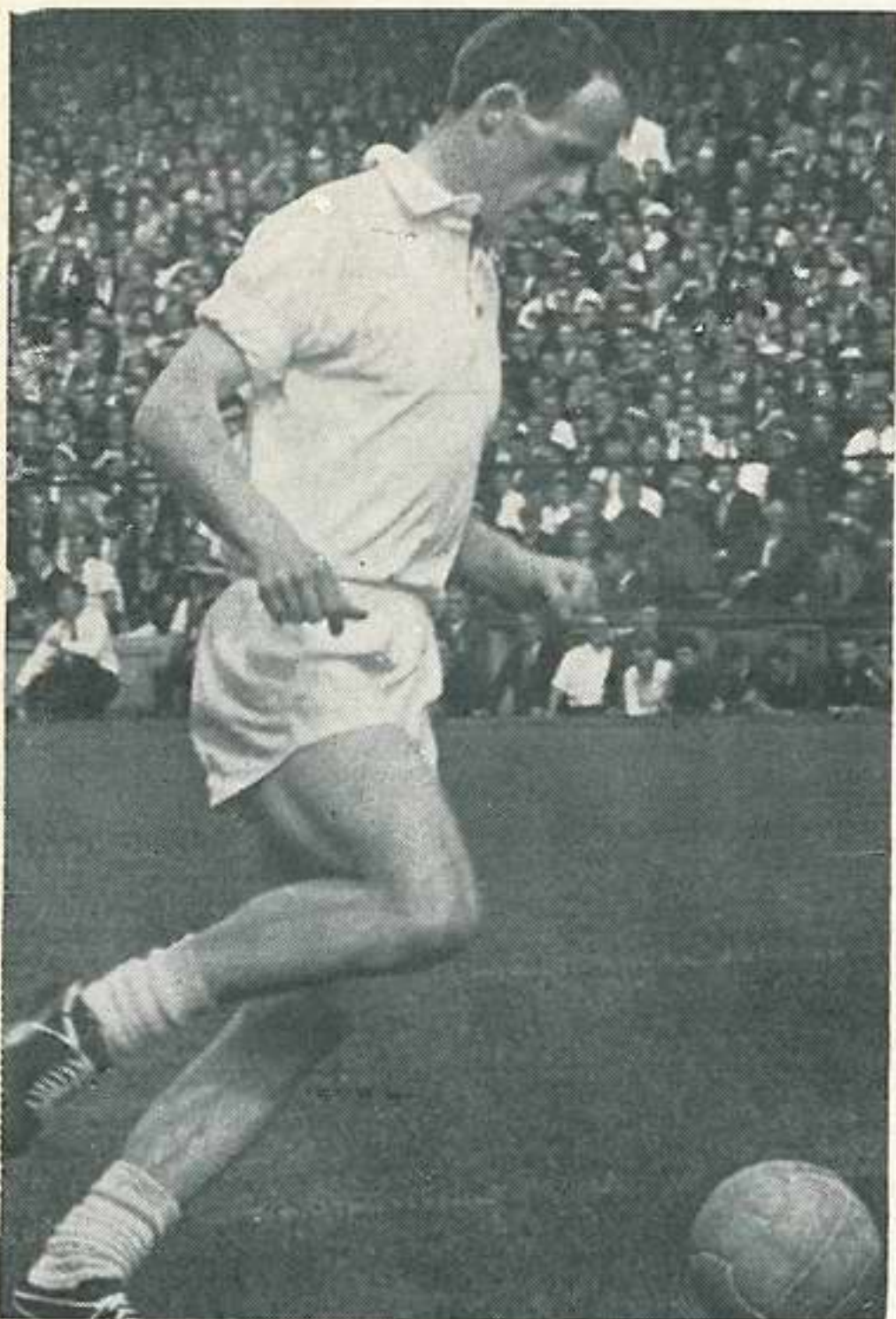
by the sea.

A Challenge we issue to any club
round,
To a friendly encounter upon our
own ground.
'Tis spacious, commodious, and in
every way suits,
So come along brothers, and let us
kiss boots.
We don't say we'll win, but of
course we shall try;
But we might do the trick in the
sweet bye and bye.
If the boys only practise they
certainly will
Plant the laurels of victory above
on the hill.

A skill that may be on the way out . . .



...and one that seems to be on the way back



ONE player who has expressed his opposition to the proposed return of the handpass in football is Sean O'Neill of Down. His point is that it will change the game into a running game where three or four players can carry the ball into an opposing backline by handpassing it from one to the other and that it will be virtually impossible for defenders to stop them legitimately.

As far as O'Neill is concerned the old-fashioned fisted pass was adequate and in the picture (above) we see the fisted pass being expertly executed by O'Neill himself.

THE other major change recommended by the Rules Revision Committee was the confining of the pick-up in football to the 'chip-lift'. No longer would they allow the player to stop, bend down and pick up the ball with his toe.

The chip-lift has always been a highly individual skill of the game that has been mastered by very few players even at the highest level.

One who did, however, was Galway's Seamus Leydon (pictured left) about to chip the ball up into his hands while in full flight.

Moments worth recalling from 1973

by Michael O'Muircheartaig (R.T.E.)

IT WAS A VERY FINE YEAR

"It was a very fine year". So the words of some song say. Weatherwise perhaps not, but for hurling surely the best in a long number of years. We had several great games in League and Championship and of course Limerick's win is still being 'won'.

I was fortunate in being present at all their championship matches. Naturally, I remember many of the great deeds performed by the dashing boys in green. But somehow I will recall something else for just as long and it concerns a man who did not play. I refer to Mick Graham. Mick broke a leg in the League Final against Waterford and so watched his team's most exciting days on crutches from the sideline.

Disappointed he was, no doubt. He could even be forgiven if he were to appear morose. But not this Mick. He smiled and joked from May to October — a great display from a great man. I hope he soon appears swinging the ash again.

The '73 menu also contained another important ingredient — atmosphere. It floated around all through the championship and flooded the land on that first Sunday of September. In Thurles on Munster Final day as ex-President Seamus O'Riain stated to me that the feeling of the finals of the forties was in the air once more. It was still only midday, yet he and thousands were already hooked and the trip was fantastic.

The question has frequently been asked in recent years "Can hurling survive" 1973 roared a definite yes and even some Thomases nodded.

Before leaving the hurling scene I feel I must mention something that has dawned on me gradually over a number of years. It is the wonderful manner in which Kilkenny always accepts whatever fortunes or misfortunes that befall them. The referee is seldom, if, ever blamed nor do they trot out litaries of excuses for defeats. "Accept fools you cannot alter them" is their philosophy. What a pity it is not in more general practice. Pat Hartigan puts it another way "When they congratulate you, you know they mean it."

By way of change, Corkmen now speak profoundly on football! The thesis begins of course with the day they 'bet' Kerry, and Clare by five goals. We all saw them, but one Corkman near me was so unprepared that he lost faith in his eyes.

He edged towards a transistor and soon became delirious. Micheal O h-Eithir could not be seeing things! I am positive this man followed his team until the grand finale. He got great value to be sure and perhaps sees another title on the way.

Once again before I finish my mind dwells on Limerick. During the reception for the teams on the Monday morning somebody telephoned Limerick to see how preparations were going ahead for the welcome home festivities.

Remembering the atrocious weather of the previous day, he inquired how it was in Limerick now. "It is still yesterday here today" he was told and understood.

Isn't it wonderful at years end to have so many great yesterdays that can be recalled to the present at will?



Seamus O'Riain

President? Central Council? Director General?
Management Committee? County Secretary?

Who really runs the G.A.A.?

By David Collins

WHO REALLY RUNS THE G.A.A.?

To the ordinary G.A.A. man this may seem a rather superfluous question since it is generally accepted that the Association is governed according to the book, i.e. a strict hierarchical system on the lines of Congress, President, Central Council, Management Committee, Provincial Councils, County Boards, etc., etc. Yes, that is what the Official Guide says alright, but like all large bodies from the United Nations down to County Councils it doesn't always work out that way.

The G.A.A. is very often governed by various individuals both at national and county level. In some counties it is the county secretary who holds the power and makes all the big decisions. In other counties it is the county chairman.

In Offaly, for instance, John Dowling who, in addition to being county secretary, is also treasurer and Leinster Council and Central Council delegate, effectively runs the G.A.A. in that county and with such effectiveness we all know. But in theory the Offaly county board should be running the show in the county. I wonder when the Offaly county board last made a major decision contrary to the wishes of John Dowling? This is one example of things not being run according to the book.

Down in Kerry however it is the county chairman who is complete boss as anyone who has watched Gerald McKenna in the last few years knows. McKenna was helped in this by the fact that long-serving county secretary Tadhg Crowley retired a couple of years ago as prior to that he had quite a say in things in the Kingdom. Again, the county board is not all that important in the day-to-day running of the G.A.A. in Kerry. And Kerry seems to manage nicely.

Another county where the county secretary more or less runs the show is Louth where the very meticulous Peadar Kearney is also Leinster and Central Council delegate. When people think of Louth G.A.A. it is Peadar Kearney that comes to mind rather than the county chairman or the county board.

But then if you move down to Kildare you will find that neither the county secretary or chairman is all-powerful. Instead the county board seem to make most of the big decisions themselves and this may be because neither of the two officials mentioned are long in office. Generally speaking, you will find that the G.A.A. at county level is governed by individuals rather than committees but what happens at the higher level



Paddy McFlynn (Down) . . . member of the G.A.A. Management Committee.

where the really big decisions in the G.A.A. world are made?

The G.A.A. authorities would like us all to believe that all decisions are taken and implemented by such bodies as the Management Committee and the Central Council. However the facts prove otherwise. For instance at a meeting of the Central Council in September over ninety per cent of the delegates agreed that they wanted to run the national hurling and football leagues on the same Sunday, on an experimental basis, to try to come to grips with the fixtures problem.

A week later the Management Committee, allegedly subservient to the Central Council, totally rejected the same idea and insisted that the leagues be run on alternative Sundays as heretofore.

Such is G.A.A. democracy in action!

However, a lot of the decisions that affect the ordinary G.A.A. person are not made by any committees but by individuals. The Director General for instance has the outstanding advantage among top G.A.A. officials of being a full-time officer available all day to deal with G.A.A. affairs at Croke Park. This immediately puts him in a very strong position vis-a-vis the President who can only be available in his spare time from his normal employment. In addition the G.A.A.'s top Executive is a permanent appointment whereas the President is only in office for a three year period.

Indeed, there are many who claim that the G.A.A. President is really only in power for one year — the middle

year of his three-year cycle. In his first year he is new and it takes him a long while to find his feet. In his final year he is on the way out and most people, including the permanent officials, are more interested in who is going to be the next President. Also, the President is not encouraged to start any new schemes in his final year because he has no guarantee that if they require more than a year to finalise, they will ever see fruition.

In a situation like this it is obvious that a person like a Director-General has in fact more power in the G.A.A. than the President. He is there all the time, he knows all the people who matter and he has the full resources of Croke Park administration available to him at all times. One could say that in many ways the President of the G.A.A. could easily become like the President of Ireland — a figurehead who appears at functions, present trophies and makes fine policy speeches, but in reality has little real power to make major decisions.

To a certain extent the same thing applies to the Management Committee, now allegedly, the top decision-making group in the G.A.A. Again, because they only come together at most once a week, they are not really well versed in all the day-to-day happenings in the Association and must rely for this on briefings from the full-time staff in Croke Park. Obviously the manner in which this is presented can greatly influence their thinking and their decisions, and to that extent they are not fully masters of

their own destiny.

So you can see that the G.A.A. is really being run on the lines of the Civil Service with a great deal of real power in the hands of the small number of full-time officials. There are many who will argue that it is as things must be in this modern age just as there are many who say that it is totally against the spirit of the G.A.A. With the increase in the number of full-time officers, even at county level, in the Association this is a problem that is sure to become one of the flash-points in G.A.A. debates in the immediate future — the role of the full-time officers, especially at the highest level.

Finally, in case you should want to contact the people who really matter in the G.A.A. in various counties here is a guide to some of them:

DUBLIN, Jimmy Grey; DONEGAL, Frank Muldoon; DERRY, Tommy Mellon; ANTRIM, Jack Rooney; DOWN, T. P. Murphy; ARMAGH, Gerry Fagan; MONAGHAN, Mickey Duffy; CAVAN, Jim McDonnell; FERMANAGH, Malachy Mahon; LOUTH, Peadar Kearney; MEATH, Liam Creaven; WICKLOW, George Nicholls; WEXFORD, Pat Roche; KILKENNY, Paddy Grace; LAOIS, Willie Brennan; OFFALY, John Dowling; LONGFORD, William Mulvihill; GALWAY, John Dunne; MAYO, Johnny Mulvey; ROSCOMMON, Michael O'Callaghan; KERRY, Gerald McKenna; CORK, Con Murphy; TIPPERARY, Tommy Barrett; WATERFORD, Nicholas McGrath.

Sixty years ago in 1913..

ON JANUARY 18th the Central Council of the G.A.A. met and decided to invest £700 in Railway Stock.

THE MIDDLE of the month of February brought a succession of fine sunny days, during which the Sigeron Cup was played in Cork. University College, Dublin, beat both U.C.C. and U.C.G. to take the trophy which was presented to them by Lady Windle, wife of Sir Bertram Windle, President of U.C.C.

G.A.A. CONGRESS 1913 was outstanding because of the number of major decisions made at it:

The Junior All-Ireland Championships were introduced — Cork won

the first championship in hurling and Tipperary won the football. (More than another decade had to go before the Minor Championships, the National Leagues and the Railway Cup competitions would be introduced).

The number of players on a team was reduced from 17 to 15, on the proposition of the late Harry Boland, Dublin. (The reduction from 21 to 17 had been made almost a quarter of a century before.)

A motion was proposed to have all All-Ireland Finals played in Dublin and was defeated by 40 votes to 33. (It would not be possible today.)

ON MAY 4th, 24,760 gathered at Croke Park to witness the drawn

game in the Croke Cup Final between Kerry and Louth. For the replay of June 28th the Central Council announced "with regret that we must withdraw the usual privilege of free admission for ladies!!" 36,000 saw Kerry win the replay and the proceeds from both games were later utilised to erect a memorial in Thurles to Most Rev. Dr. Croke and, in addition, to purchase the most enduring and most renowned monument to his memory — Croke Park.

IN THE SAME month of June, Thomas Clarke presided at the grave of Wolfe Tone at Bodenstown when "the oration was delivered by Mr. P. H. Pearse."

because, as you well know a man in football gear can look so different from a man in his ordinary clothes. For many years I used visit sides in their training camps just to verify facts, figures and appearances but over the last ten years or more pressures of other work have dictated that this is not always possible. I have missed these visits and now look forward to resuming them because in these visits one got to know players, not merely their appearances, but their mannerisms and indeed their personalities.

When the helmet was introduced to hurling there was wide acclaim — but not for me, for a very selfish reason — the problem of identification at a glance. It is all very fine for those who can look and debate to themselves who hit the ball but on radio or TV the identification must be instant and the sight of seven or eight helmeted figures, all looking alike, running about the field below can be off putting to say the least. For years one associated players with

a certain colour hair — on goes a helmet and that badge of identification has gone. Some players wear particular colour helmets — Paddy Delany blue, Pat Henderson (bright colour, like his hair), Charlie McCarth, red, etc., but if one has got into one's mind such a colour pattern and somebody changes his helmet before a game it is just the same as the hurler getting a hair dye.

It is often suggested that one identifies players by the numbers — if you believe this I suggest that you try to make an instant identification by this method the next time you are at a match. A commentator does not have the time to wait for a player to turn around to identify him, because by that time the ball could be seventy yards away.

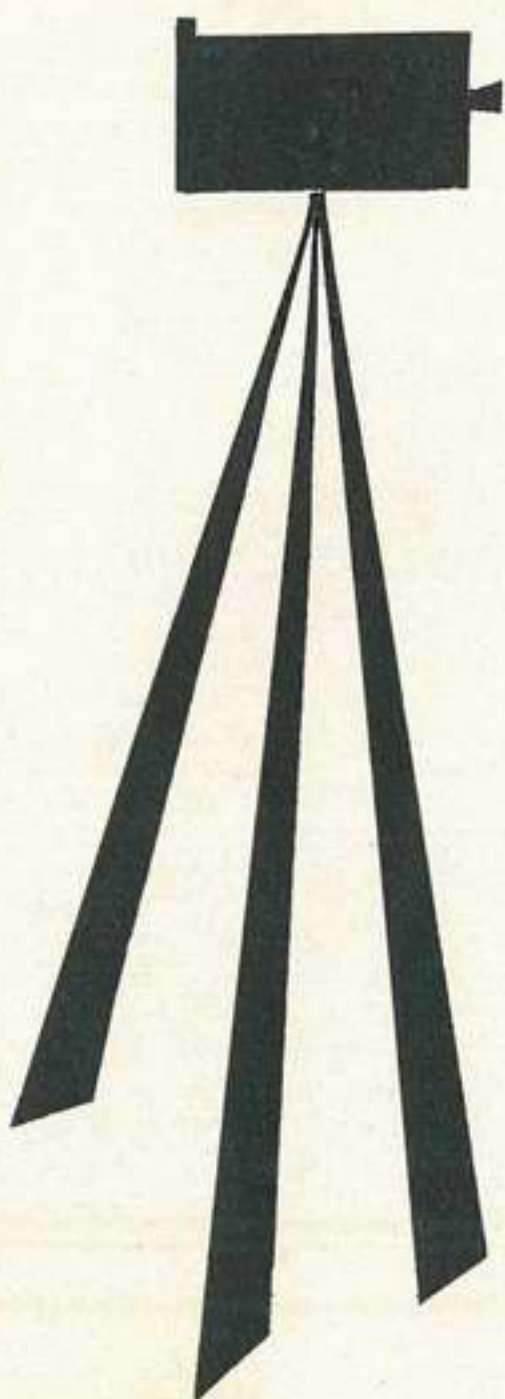
In the early stages of a game between 'unknown teams' I very often have to check out a few players that I am not 100% certain of their identity and here a number check may well be made, but after about five minutes and a personal satisfaction

that they are all in the minds eye, the numbers are forgotten and identification by appearance gets into operation.

Once a broadcast starts, be it radio or TV, there is nothing in the world for me but the event down in front of me. On radio such concentration is reasonably easy but on TV where a director is talking to the cameramen, soundmen perhaps to the commentator or to the studio control, and one is hearing this through a pair of headphones, such concentration becomes difficult. The director is only doing his job, just as the commentator is, but the necessary chat in one's ears can be off-putting no matter how accustomed one gets to it.

Yes, it is great fun covering a match, but please believe me that it is also a job of work and like all labour the result shows the amount of effort that goes into the task. Commentating on a game does not start with the whistle and end with the final blow by the referee — it is a continuous building up of knowledge and identifications. If it was treated otherwise I think the fun would go and the strain of the final effort would become unbearable.

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They seemed to have missed the boat—but Limerick surprised us all

THE exciting — even amusing — thing about the triumph of Limerick's hurlers in the 1973 championship was that it happened when they seemed to have finally lost their chance. The other day, I came across an article in a national newspaper under the heading "LIMERICK MUST SEEK NEW BLOOD" whose main theme was that the team which had just lost the League final a few days previously had run out its string to the end, had had every chance but failed and that the side must be rebuilt now.

It wasn't said in so many words, but the implication stuck out a mile that the League final loss had now proven that they would never make the grade and that persevering with them would only delay the hope of ultimate victory which now would require a new team.

I suppose the writer of that piece would now wish with all his heart that he could withdraw it. But the written word stands with all the inevitability of what the moving finger has writ.

And, yet, that writer was not far away from the thinking of a large majority of hurling followers. Indeed, he might take consolation from the fact that his piece put on record the feelings of that majority as they were at the time. In future years it will make it more easy to get some idea of the achievement of Limerick and the reasons for the delirium of their followers and the universal delight of neutrals.



Limerick goalkeeper Seamus Horgan gets some of the all-important resin to give him more grip on his hurley in the very wet conditions of All-Ireland Final day.

For Limerick it had really become a heartbreak: for twenty years the promise of the recovery of the great Mackey era had been held out by a succession of spirited, speedy, earnest teams, spectacular in their good moments as they were depressing in their bad defeats.

Something was missing: some kind of "killer instinct", perhaps, because there was hardly a year when Limerick did not do something of note, yet destroyed the hopes that flowered from that momentary promise almost as quickly.

The present side has been sifting and settling for a good number of years. Elements of it — like Bernie Hartigan — have been about since the mid-sixties or earlier. The Bennis brothers came with the rise of the Patrickswell club in the mid-sixties, establishing themselves in the latter half of that decade. Eamon Cregan simultaneously, and Grimes developed out of minor ranks in the same period.

But, as against that, there were comparative newcomers — Liam O'Donoghue, staking a claim in the concluding stages of the League in the spring; Seamus Horgan who first got a chance when that wonderful

servant of Limerick, Jim Hogan, took an over-serious view of the skirmishings about trainers at the beginning of the year; Joe McKenna, newly arrived from Offaly; Frankie Nolan, thrown in at the deep end for the League final of 1972 and a much improved player after a year in the heat; Willie Moore, once greatly promising at full-forward and now developed into a tight and thorough corner-back; Mossie Dowling, never nearer than

the fringes of the team until a burst of energetic effort in a lost cause in the League final against Wexford brought his fighting qualities to the fore.

So, really, there was a considerable part of the team that was comparatively new, certainly still due to reach its potential. That may have been what was overlooked by the writer of the piece referred to above, and by the hurling majority, and even by many Limerick supporters.

It was, no doubt, the permanence of Hogan, Hartigan, Cregan and the long-established presence of Pat Hartigan, Phil and Ritchie Bennis, Jim O'Donnell and Sean Foley that gave the impression that the side had little more to offer.

In fact, few, if any, of these could

be said to have their best performances behind them — they were too young for that. And more important still, it could be said with confidence that the team — established, half-established and newcomers — had

hardly knit together yet in such a way as to preclude better performances later.

Still, constant disappointments had made Limerick people defensive, careful about committing themselves, lest it be the old story. So much more reason, then, for their amazing emotional outburst of joy after the victory. It was a long time coming, and right to the very last few games, it did not seem to be any nearer than before.

The trainer — Mick Cregan — clearly had a lot to do with the victory: the players were in magnificent condition in the final at Croke Park. They simply overwhelmed Kilkenny and smothered their hurling by their constant enthusiastic endeavour, great speed and limitless stamina.

The selectors, too — brave enough to experiment with new players and new placings at any time, if weaknesses suggested it or talent prompted it.

It happened sixty years ago

ON NOVEMBER 2nd, 1913 Kilkenny (represented by Mooncoin) beat Tipperary (represented by Toomevara) in the All-Ireland Senior Hurling Final by 2 goals and 4 pts. to 1 goal and 2 pts. The Great Southern and Western Railways Company ran 19 special trains or 12 less than for the Football Final of December 14th in which Kerry (Killarney) beat Wexford (Raparees) by 2-2 to 0-3.

FOR TWO OTHER reasons 1913 is a landmark in Irish history. The Irish Volunteer movement was in-

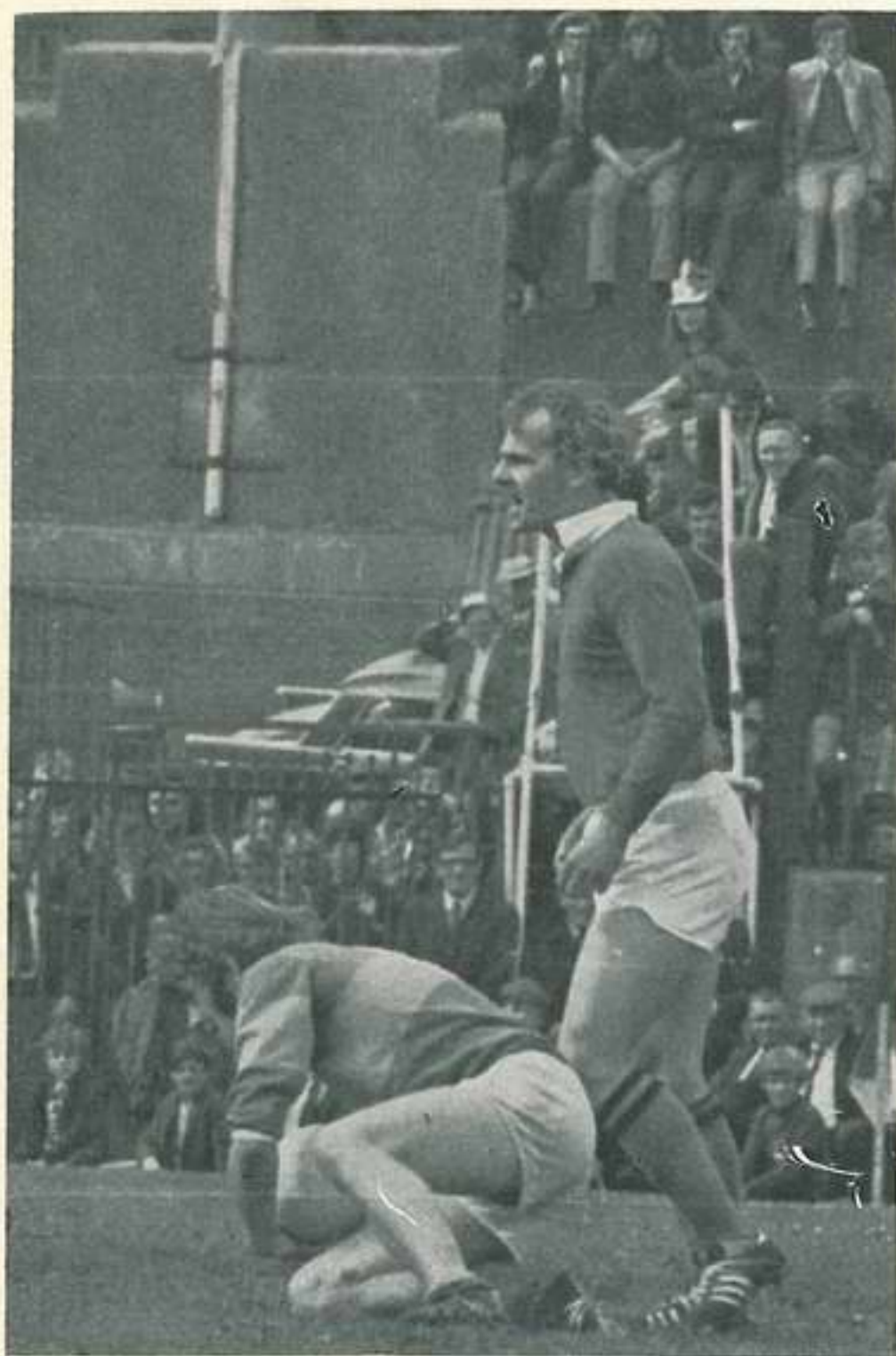
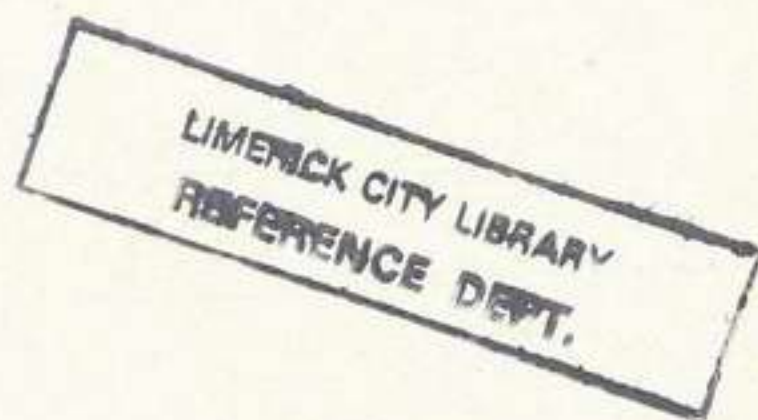
augurated and was swept into national greatness on a tidal wave of recruitment from the G.A.A.

IT WAS THE beginning of the resurrection of Ireland in which hurlers and Gaelic footballers played a noble part then and in the years which followed.

BUT PERHAPS the most memorable event in the Association's history

took place in the same year — the purchase of Croke Park. On 18th December, 1913, the Jones's Road ground, as it was then known, was assigned to six trustees on behalf of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The consideration was a cash payment of £1,500 and the assumption of liability for a mortgage debt of £2,000. The names of the first trustees are worthy of being recalled. They were — Dan Fraher, Dungarvan, Michael F. Crowe, Dublin, Luke J. O'Toole, Dublin, John J. Hogan, Dublin, Patrick Whelan, Newbliss, John E. Malone, Ennis and John Collins, London. None of them lived to see the new Hogan Stand.

Kerry will take that cup back — eventually



An incident in this year's Munster final with Frank Cogan (right) obviously disagreeing with the referee who had just awarded a free to Kerry's Dan Kavanagh.

THERE was once a Kerryman with an inferiority complex: he thought he was only the same as everyone else. I'm certain that football had a lot to do with the feeling so many normal Kerry men still have today. Fair play for them, they are entitled to walk tall in the football world and I look forward to many more years of great ball-play by the green and gold. Why wouldn't I? Didn't I spend some great years following them to Croke Park when our own footballers had fallen. Those trips became part of my living. I have no doubt they'll come again (whether I'll be there to see them of course is another matter!).

Anyway, my father told me they could beat Kerry as often as not. From say 1908 on, Cork could play them very well and when the cup came to the Lee in 1911 nobody was very surprised they had beaten the Kingdom. The Cork football scene then was dominated by young businessmen, farmer and teachers. But after that, hurling grew and football declined by the Lee though in most of West and North Cor and Beara there was really only one game.

BY EAMONN YOUNG

In 1928 Tipp beat Kerry and Cork beat Tipp but the difference in standard was shown when a fine Kildare team hand-passing the ball swiftly and led by Bill Gannon (the first man to have his name on the Sam Maguire Cup) left a Cork side gasping in Croke Park. The men were good too for they were champion hurlers like Jim Hurley and Jim Regan with hard ball-players like Mossie Donegan and Jack Vaughan. But the football class was another thing.

In the thirties though we had fine players like Dick Harnedy and Miah Murphy, Tim Cotter and Donal O'Sullivan we simply didn't have enough of them and it wasn't until the army combined with the city

schools and the talented men from the towns that a side came along in the forties to beat Kerry twice in the championship going all the way in the second effort in '45.

There were and that is what happened.

Good men to care the young fellas like Tommy and Donal O'Sullivan of the minor selectors took over where the priests, brothers and teachers left off. They trained, advised, disciplined and generally fathered the bunch of eager, talented young men who were each year harvested from the schools.

In the '56/'57 era when Cork again reached the finals at Kerry's expense the men were drawn from the country and the schools as usual. Big men they usually were but there was Galway class led by Sean Purcell, and Louth shrewdness under Dermot O'Brien to thwart them.

When Doney O'Donovan shepherded them to a losing All-Ireland in '67 the side was drawn as usual from the schools, the towns and country side. Always from the country we got enough in brains and a little extra in bone and sinew. But here there was a slight change. Up to this time what Cork lacked in football was a few schools which loved football well enough to have the under-age Corkmen play

They beat Kerry in the minor championship. They won All-Irelands in minor. They won again in Under-21. People began to ask what about the senior championship. It is unfortunate that too many began to ask — and to demand — too soon. The demand followed by the lack of success led to public frustration and this infected the players until they began to wonder would they ever break through. In fact all that was wrong was a certain impetuosity and a failure to see that the improvement made from eighteen to twenty-one years must be continued to ensure victory in senior All-Irelands which as all now know demands a lot of playing, thinking, working, and a bit of luck.

with the best and beat them. Farranferris that great college on the shoulder of the hill over Blackpool, St. Colman's on the fertile plain of Fermoy and the North Monastery held their heads high in the hurling world and not for all the success in the world would I have it otherwise for this stick game when played properly is out of this world and the marrow of our bones. But we did need a good football school. It was in '67 you saw the first evidence when Frank Cogan and Billy Morgan came along from Colaiste Christ Ri. They said there were others coming.

Is the pattern of Cork football changing? No. It has changed. These great schools have harvested a rich golden grain of footballers from a playing population which few counties can provide and while Cork has the men to train them further in a humble dedicated effort to be up with the good fellas then Cork should be in there with the best not always winning but certainly doing better than four All-Irelands in eighty-three years.

Besides, we now have champion footballers at last. Think of the extra in technique, skill and above

This goal was scored in the All-Ireland final of 1952 which Cork lost to Louth 1-9 to 1-7. It shows Toots Kelliher (left) well 'held' by Louth's Ollie Reilly. Louth 'keeper S. Flood is still looking where the ball was a moment earlier when Cork's Tom Furlong (obs-cured) fisted it to the net.



Oh Ref. will you blow for half-time—PLEASE !



THIS is not the kind of picture you normally see from All-Ireland finals but there is a reason for it. Both Joe Waldron of Galway (left) and Cork's Dave McCarthy went into the 1973 final less well prepared than they would like because both were at the time sitting their final university examinations in Agricultural Science in U.C.D. As luck would have it they found themselves marking one another for most of the game and the above picture was taken after a sustained Cork attack in the first half.

Obviously, both players were glad of the break !

all confidence which these good performers of '73 are going to be passed on to the young fry who idolise them. I hope the present players go around the country talking in the sensible and humble way of the champion player, educating the boys in this great game of football which is as much part of our heritage as it is in of anyone else's.

But this All-Ireland won by feet, hands, and head, won't send us looking for bigger headgear. As that sound man Doney Donovan said to the team in public on the night after the football All-Ireland — "Remember lads the crown of the champion is a heavy one. Make sure your shoulders are strong enough to carry it."

Down in Tralee Fr. Linnane of St. Brendan's, Kilarney, was coddling me. With a broad smile he says, "We'll be taking that cup back off you". "You will Father," says I, "Eventually". And when Gerald MacKenna the Kerry Board Chairman asked me why I wasn't sitting beside him for a photo I reminded him that I was afraid . . . afraid some of the greatness would rub off on him. The same day I had to go early because if they heard I was talking too much about the All-Ireland you'd never know but a few airy men on the Cork side of the county bounds might fire a shot at me on the way home. We're a tough people, you know.

If the present side continues to work as hard under the guidance of trainer and selectors then it will have some more success I think. If the heads get big then replacements must be put in, for it takes a great pair of legs to carry a big head. I don't see any sign so far.

But one thing sure, if a bright stream of young footballers continue to come from the schools, whether urban or rural, the new surely will maintain a fair Cork side which will be up with that great old Kingdom and beat it, say, once in three.

Yes, the pattern has changed. We'll see if the finished garment makes a cloak for champions.

Students Shake Up The Railway Cup



The Universities football team which made history by winning the Railway Cup for the first time. Front row (left to right): Dave McCarthy (U.C.D. and Cork), Tony Regan (U.C.G. and Roscommon), Jimmy Stafford (U.C.D. and Cavan), Brendan Lynch (U.C.C. and Kerry), Paddy Moriarty (Q.U.B. and Armagh), Gerry McHugh (Q.U.B. and Antrim), Antony McGurk (Q.U.B. and Derry), BACK: Martin Carney (U.C.G. and Donegal), John O'Keeffe (U.C.D. and Kerry), Seamus Killough (Q.U.B. and Antrim), Noel Murphy (U.C.C. and Cork), Pat O'Neill (U.C.D. and Dublin), Dan Kavanagh (U.C.C. and Kerry), Kevin Kilmurray (U.C.D. and Offaly).

WHEN the Universities were allowed compete in the Railway Cup competitions for the first time in 1972 their football team lost to Connacht first time out while their hurlers were beaten by Leinster in their second game in the competition.

The large army of critics who had opposed the idea in the first place took fiendish delight in these results which they claimed proved their point that the whole idea was stupid in the first place and that students should be kept in their proper place — far away from the decent, hardworking G.A.A. folk who are the heart and soul of the G.A.A.

After all, the critics claimed, what had students ever done for the G.A.A. anyway except cause trouble with their complicated transfers and disruption of fixtures. In 1972 a few media men made tremendous play out of the fact that in that year the Munster football team had been deprived of the services of Brendan and Paudie Lynch and Seamus Looney who were selected for the Universities team.

But imagine their embarrassment later on when the 'depleted' Munster team went on to win the Railway Cup for the first time since 1949.

Anyway, the opposition to the Universities continued unabated in 1973 and when the football team went to Cavan and beat the modern-day Railway Cup specialists, Ulster, in the first round the critics really had a field day especially those north of the border. Later on however, as the students went on to beat Leinster and Connacht and take the Railway Cup in only their second year in the competition much of the criticism became muted as most fair-minded G.A.A. followers realised that what was happening could only be good for the competition.

IT WOULD EITHER KILL OR CURE THE RAILWAY CUP COMPETITION and either solution would satisfy most people.

By winning the Railway Cup and beating three of the four provinces the Universities had shown up these provincial teams in a poor light and highlighted why these once-

glamorous competitions have fallen upon bad times in recent years. Quite bluntly, the provinces were not making any effort to win. Very often they were picking 'political' teams rather than the best teams. Hardly ever did a provincial team even meet for a tactical discussion before playing a match. In this day and age such an approach is doomed to failure.

The Universities on the other hand selected their best panel and before playing their first match they had a weekend training session in Dublin and played a challenge game against Kildare. Then, before each game, the team assembled on the previous day for a workout together and also engaged in several tactical meetings with their team manager Paddy O'Hara from Antrim.

The difference in approaches was clearly shown in Cavan when the Universities had a workout in Breffni Park (in pouring rain, incidentally) on the Saturday afternoon and had a specially prepared meal before setting out for the game on Sunday. Ulster on the other hand were just assembling from all over the province and were having tea and sandwiches only an hour before the game as the Universities were leaving the same hotel.

It was this professional approach to matches which was the primary factor in the Universities winning the Railway Cup. The message is obvious. Unless the provinces are prepared to approach the Railway Cup in the same way the competition will die. But if all the provinces were to get down to business and put some preparation into the thing we could still have a great revival in the competition. There were many individual players on the Ulster, Leinster and Connacht teams whose pride was severely dented by having to bend the knee to the students and if the people in charge of these teams were prepared to respond I have no doubt you would see a great deal more enthusiasm in Railway Cup games straight away.

And surely if the Universities have brought that situation about they have done a good day's work for the G.A.A.?

The battle for youth

by Jack Mahon

THE G.A.A. MUST ACT FAST

JACK MAHON, the former Galway All-Ireland star, is Principal of the largest Technical School in the West of Ireland and is also the Editor of the 'Junior Desk' column in the monthly 'Gaelic Sport'.

ARE We Losing The Youth? Sometimes I think we are. Especially in the larger towns. So many soccer pitches are to be seen sprouting all over the countryside, even in traditionally G.A.A. college grounds. There are so many young boys playing soccer everywhere. Perhaps it's a phase or a craze. It is very easy to detect a cynicism to G.A.A. games among the youth. Then on my way to games every Sunday, even my own children tend to recognise the cars going to the game. The car is usually full of middle-aged men, some wearing caps, all G.A.A. men nurtured on many games, who must see a G.A.A. game every Sunday.

Other times I think we are holding our own — in spite of ourselves. The latter observation may seem a trifle harsh but our vast organisation which has such tremendous potential is only now beginning to realise itself. This year our two All-Ireland senior finals sustained us no end. They will give us breathing space. We survive too in spite of the times and the influence of the mass media who have become so governed by the mighty dollar as to pander to professional sport, English soccer in particular. The English soccer stars have become the glamour pin-ups of the British and Irish press. It used to be film-stars. But that era is dying. Now the professional soccer stars like George Best, Bobby Moore and Gordon Banks vie with the likes of David Frost and Elizabeth Taylor, for top rating. If they change their digs, buy new cars, get fined for dirty play, have an accident, drink too much, visit a night club or lose their job we must learn it whether we like it or not. Every iota of their lives is fed to us in newspapers, radio or T.V. So many people live off English soccer that it is now big business — one of the biggest in England and this business must be maintained. This all snowballed in the wake of the World Cup success in 1966. England

went soccer mad and the overflow spilt on to us. I wonder why we haven't been engulfed.

Yet despite that over-spill, the G.A.A. still survives. It still has a great body of voluntary workers involved in youth activities. The games themselves have skills native to Ireland that still appeal to the youth. They suit the Irish temperament rather like Irish dancing. We must tap our feet when we hear Irish music. Gaelic games have their own peculiar attractions too. It is hard to kill tradition and the world wide trend is now towards retaining the unique — the things that make us different from others. The world, the global villages, shows every race playing soccer. What tends to appeal in the media (TV in particular) is the character of the exercise that tends to make it unique. Like Russian dancers, or Spanish singers or an African war dance.

Our Gaelic games have their own special character their own special Irish uniqueness. They are becoming influenced by other games. Even the proposed rule changes tend to liken Gaelic football to soccer. It would

"Whether you like it or not you will have to know that Billy Bremner is often in the wars and that George Best is a ladies man . . . You are fed it in your breakfast flakes — when you get your petrol — in comics".

be a pity if by imitation they lost their character. Of course we can learn from other games. But we must not ape them purely for the sake of it.

We must learn to compete with the English commercial operators. Our G.A.A. is full of important news items — little stories that would and should wipe the inane news items about soccer stars off the papers and T.V. screens. It is so handy for our daily newspaper sports editors to use the "copy" fed into them by the British press agencies. They will keep feeding it here



once they find it is used. It is a crumb of their bread and butter. And we are such silly dupes here. Of course I know there is a demand for much of this now. If the taps drip long enough it will wear a hole even in rock. Whether you like it or not you'll have to know that Billy Bremner is often in the wars and that George Best is a ladies man . . . You are fed it in your breakfast flakes — when you get your petrol — in comics. The kids are growing up on this, all imported. Our British based Irish firms propagate the message. Every amateur sport, rugby, hockey, the G.A.A. has a huge fight on its hands.

Isn't it past time that the G.A.A. involved itself actively in the publications front and that we produced a 'paper of our own? An annual for kids and a sophisticated glossy weekly production for youngsters with full colour photos of our stars. A G.A.A. sponsored radio programme. A T.V. programme of our own. Surely we can learn from RADHARC or avail of the Communications Centre. Isn't it time we prevailed on Irish manufacturers to satisfy the demands of our markets. Why is it that I cannot get a Galway jersey, crest and all, for my son or a Galway team outfit at a reasonable price? The Galway crest on a badge. We have made a small beginning in G.A.A. ties, scarfs, kitbags but there is so much more room. Can't we put the squeeze on the Irish commercial firms to back our sports. Instead of nurturing the English soccer star in these lucky bags or packs of tea let us back our own. We owe more to our own stars and our own games than to their English counterparts.

Can we not have a G.A.A. press agency that will seek out all the interesting stories up and down the country and "feed" them to all the newspapers, radio and T.V. The press outpourings from the G.A.A. are infinitesimal compared to the English press machine. Sometimes I see

a ray of hope. Hats off to the **Irish Press** for publishing a photograph of the six Ballivor Dempseys playing in the Meath Co. S.F. final in Navan last October. This was fresh, newsy and most interesting. A nice photo too. Or remember the time that Eddie Keher surpassed Nicky Rackard's scoring record and the very nice photo of Nick shaking hands with Eddie was produced the day after. There are so many little stories like that. There could be unearthed and presented. It wouldn't take too much effort either if we had the machinery.

Last night on radio we were told Norman Hunter was playing for Leeds for the 500th time. Surely it would be just as interesting for us to be told that Mick O'Connell was playing for Kerry for the 300th time? We must make ourselves interesting. In Mayo they have a very worthwhile scheme for honouring county stars who have given long service. If you represented your county (seniors) in league or championship 50 times or more you are awarded a special Mayo crest. There are other ways of meriting this crest for officials but this honour for long and outstanding service is very nice indeed. Our national media never even told us about it. Neither did we see a photograph of John Morley receiving it and John, I'm told, has topped the 100 mark.

Having conceived the idea of "Junior Desk" in Gaelic Sport, the monthly G.A.A. magazine, almost 4 years ago now and seen this column grow from year to year, I realise that there is a crying out need for this type of column, this type of magazine for the young. They have created this column and have shaped it. Their ideas are worth listening to. It makes me proud to know that all of the top G.A.A. stars read it carefully. And it is the only G.A.A. column of its kind in the country. It makes you think.

Often I admire the Welsh Rugby Football Union for

They came 5,000 miles for a 7-a-side game!



Pictured above is the Michigan Gaels football team which travelled from Detroit last April at their own expense to play in the Carrolls-U.C.D. All-Ireland 7-a-side in Belfield. Practically all their players are native-born Americans and they put up a fine show before eventually losing after extra time to Tipperary champions Kilsheelin.

the way they have retained the interest of the young despite the soccer propaganda.

They have really coached the young. Their coaching system is excellent. Ours is pretty hopeless. This year in our school in Galway the P.E. instructor had some very

"The English soccer stars have become the glamour pin-ups of the British and Irish press".

interesting coaching films on rugby. Some English bank sponsored them. Apart from "Peil" and "Christy Ring" we have nothing. The G.A.A. itself is doing precious little in this field. Two years ago the same P.E. instructor used a very interesting series of wall charts for instructing the skills of rugby. They were produced by the Welsh I.R.F.U. At the time I sent one on to Pat Fanning and expressed the view that we should have similar type charts in every school in Ireland, supplied free too and subsidised by some Irish firm if necessary. At Mick O'Connell's wedding over a year ago Sean O'Siochain hinted that a film should be made of Mick O'Connell. Now the man has retired and all we retain of his unique skills are the memory, something that fades from year to year.

Last year we all were shocked to hear that videotapes of many past TV programmes were scrapped or scrubbed off so that the tapes could be used again. Is it possible that the G.A.A. has allowed this to happen to its films of All-Ireland finals? All of these are priceless and should be kept in a G.A.A. film library. Some years ago when I visited Croke Park I asked to be shown the library. THERE IS NONE! The G.A.A. library — and

there should be a really well stocked one — should have at least six copies of every G.A.A. book published. For the past two years I have compiled a list of all current G.A.A. literature available with addresses of publishers, price including postage etc., etc., and supplied it to Croke Park for use in programmes etc. This year the list has been used in **Gaelic Sport**, the **Connacht Final Programme** and the **Carroll's 7-a-side Programme**. Publishing such a list will sell the books and help the authors financially in many cases, but they are G.A.A. books.

"Some years ago on a visit to Croke Park I asked to see the library. There is none!"

I mention all these things and find I have allowed my thoughts to run wild and free. Of course we are losing the youth. If we don't do something with the Irish daily papers, radio and TV they will soon be telling us what Brian Clough wears in bed, what Norman Hunter eats for breakfast or what Georgie Best does instead of shaving. We must provide a better press service ourselves. We must encourage such a service from the local scene by awarding special prizes for outstanding achievements in this field. The G.A.A. Commission recommended many of these special prizes and we haven't endorsed them yet.

We are losing the youth and it is a big miracle that we haven't lost them long ago. But there is hope. I see it every day in the strangest places but we must pay far more attention to many of the areas I have written about. And we must do it now.

Facts And Figures of 1973 All-Ireland Finals

HURLING

ALL-IRELAND HURLING FINAL 1973
CROKE PARK — SEPTEMBER 2

FIRST HALF

TIME

- 1 min. Limerick point by Frankie Nolan
- 3 min. Kilkenny point by Claus Dunne
- 6 min. Kilkenny point by Dunne
- 7 min. Limerick point by Ritchie Bennis
- 9 min. Limerick point by Grimes
- 12 min. Kilkenny point by Mike Brennan
- 13 min. Limerick point by Ned Rea
- 15 min. Limerick point by Joe McKenna
- 20 min. Kilkenny goal by Pat Delaney
- 21 min. Kilkenny point by Claus Dunne
- 25 min. Limerick point by Ritchie Bennis
- 26 min. Limerick point by Ritchie Bennis
- 28 min. Limerick point by Ritchie Bennis
- 30 min. Kilkenny point by Mike Crotty
- 31 min. Limerick point by Ritchie Bennis
- 33 min. Kilkenny point by Mike Crotty
- 34 min. Limerick point by Ritchie Bennis
- 35 min. Limerick point by Ned Rea
- 37 min. Kilkenny point by Claus Dunne
- 40 min. Limerick point by Eamonn Grimes

HALF-TIME: Limerick 0-12; Kilkenny 1-7.

SECOND HALF

- 3 min. Limerick point by Claus Dunne
- 5 min. Kilkenny point by Liam O'Brien
- 6 min. Limerick point by Seamus Horgan
- 7 min. Limerick point by Ritchie Bennis
- 7 min. Limerick goal by Moss Dowling
- 9 min. Limerick point by Bernie Hartigan
- 11 min. Kilkenny point by Claus Dunne
- 17 min. Kilkenny point by Claus Dunne
- 18 min. Limerick point by Ritchie Bennis
- 20 min. Limerick point by Ritchie Bennis
- 21 min. Limerick point by Eamonn Grimes
- 27 min. Kilkenny point by Delaney
- 32 min. Limerick point by Eamonn Grimes
- 34 min. Limerick point by Ritchie Bennis
- 35 min. Limerick point by Dowling
- 36 min. Limerick point by Frankie Nolan
- 40 min. Kilkenny point by Liam O'Brien

FINAL SCORE: Limerick 1-21; Kilkenny 1-14.

WIDES: Limerick 12; Kilkenny 7.

FREES: Limerick 18; Kilkenny 26.

TEAMS:

LIMERICK: S. Horgan; W. Moore, P. Hartigan, J. O'Brien, P. Bennis, E. Cregan, S. Foley, R. Bennis, E. Grimes (captain); B. Hartigan, M. Dowling, L. O'Donoghue; F. Nolan, E. Rea, J. McKenna. Subs.: T. Ryan for B. Hartigan.

KILKENNY: N. Skehan; F. Larkin, N. Orr, P. Cullen; P. Lalor, P. Henderson, B. Cody; F. Cummins, L. O'Brien; C. Dunne, P. Delaney (captain), P. Broderick; M. Crotty, J. Lynch, M. Brennan. Subs.: K. Purcell for Broderick, W. Harte for Cummins, J. Kinsella for Lynch.

REFEREE: Mick Slattery (Clare).

ATTENDANCE: 58,009

FOOTBALL

ALL-IRELAND FOOTBALL FINAL 23/9/'73

CORK v. GALWAY

FIRST HALF

Mins.

- 1 — Galway point by Morgan Hughes
- 2 — Cork goal by Jimmy Barry-Murphy
- 4 — Cork point by Denis Coughlan
- 6 — Cork point by Declan Barron
- 10 — Galway point by Hughes
- 15 — Galway point by Maurice Burke
- 18 — Cork point by Jimmy Barrett
- 19 — Cork point by Ray Cummins
- 20 — Cork point by Denis Long
- 22 — Cork point by Barrett
- 24 — Cork point by Cummins
- 26 — Cork point by Barry-Murphy
- 29 — Cork point by Long
- 37 — Galway point by Hughes
- 38 — Galway point by T. J. Gilmore
- 39 — Galway point by Jimmy Duggan
- 41 — Cork point by Cummins.

HALF-TIME SCORE: CORK 1-10; GALWAY 0-6.

SECOND HALF

- 5 — Galway point by Hughes
- 9 — Galway point by Hughes
- 10 — Galway point by Burke
- 12 — Cork point by Long
- 13 — Cork point by Cummins
- 14 — Galway point by Hughes
- 18 — Cork point by Ned Kirby
- 20 — Cork point by Cummins
- 21 — Galway point by Hughes
- 22 — Galway goal by Tommy Naughton
- 24 — Cork point by Cummins
- 27 — Galway point by Liam Sammon
- 30 — Cork point by Cummins
- 31 — Cork point by Cummins
- 33 — Cork goal by Barry-Murphy
- 37 — Galway point by Duggan
- 38 — Galway goal by Johnny Hughes
- 41 — Cork goal by Barrett

FINAL SCORE: Cork 3-17; Galway 2-13

ATTENDANCE: 73,308; WIDES — Cork 8, Galway 5;
FREES — Cork 28, Galway 28.

CORK: Billy Morgan (capt.), Frank Cogan, Humphrey Kelliher, Brian Murphy, Kevin Jer O'Sullivan, John Coleman, Con Hartnett, Denis Long, Denis Coughlan, Ned Kirby, Declan Barron, Dave McCarthy, Jimmy Barry-Murphy, Ray Cummins, Jimmy Barrett. Subs.: Seamus Coughlan for Coleman (62nd min.); Donal Hunt for McCarthy (68th min.).

GALWAY: Gay Mitchell, Joe Waldron, Jack Cosgrave, Brendan Collieran; Liam O'Neill, Tommy Joe Gilmore, Johnny Hughes; Willie Joyce, Jimmy Duggan; Maurice Burke, Liam Sammon (capt.), Michael Rooney; Johnny Coughlan, Tommy Naughton, Morgan Hughes. Subs.: Frank Canavan for Coughlan (35th min.); Colie McDonagh for Burke (71st min.).

REFEREE: John Moloney, Bansha, Co. Tipperary.

The Cuchulainn Annual

After 1973 Offaly Should Be Superstitious

By Eugene McGee

FOR the record the teams Offaly beat were:
1971 — Longford, Laois, Kildare, Cork, Galway.
1972 — Meath, Kildare, Donegal, Kerry.
1973 — Louth, Kildare, Meath.

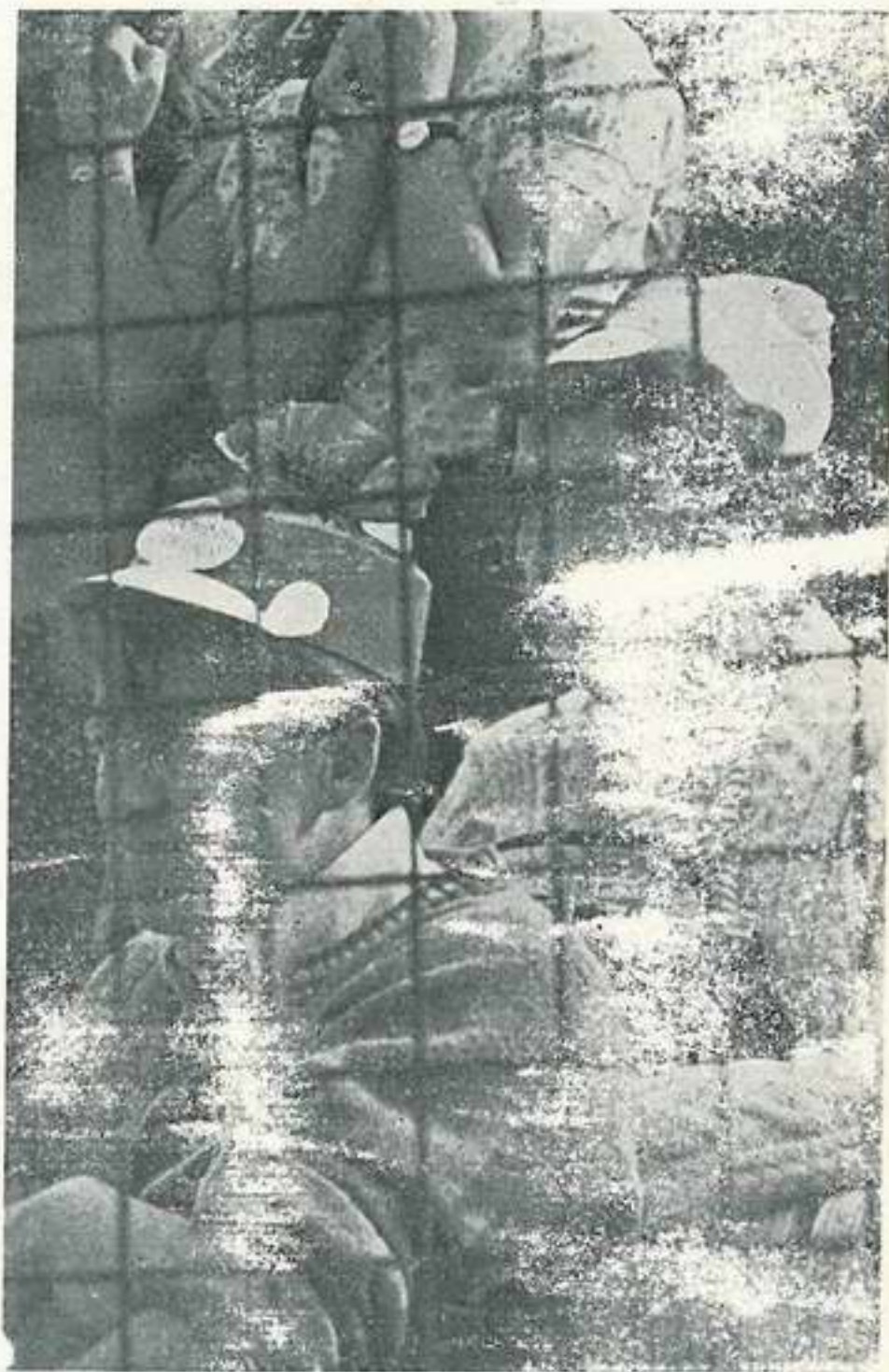
I do not know whether Offaly are superstitious by nature but after what befell their footballers this year one could forgive them if they were. Since 1971, when they took the Sam Maguire Cup for the first time in their history, Offaly had won a lot of championship matches as they went on to beat Kerry in the replayed 1973 final and then this year they won the Leinster championship for the third year running.

A wonderful record you will agree, but for a Leinster county where the competition is always keener than in any other province, a really remarkable record in modern times.

When Offaly beat Meath in this year's Leinster they were recording their TWELFTH championship victory in 13 games. Then came the All-Ireland semi-final against Galway and Offaly were searching for their THIRTEENTH championship win without defeat.

But as we all know it was a very unlucky THIRTEENTH for the champions for not alone did they fail to get their 13th win but they also lost their All-Ireland title as they were soundly beaten by the Connacht champions.

The fact that Offaly had won only 12 out of the previous 13 championship games is accounted for



THE disappointment at the dashing of Offaly's three in-a-row dreams is clearly etched in this picture of two of the county's supporters near the end of the Galway-Offaly All-Ireland semi-final.

by the drawn All-Ireland final of 1972 against Kerry. The point is that while they had played 13 games prior to the Galway game this year they had not won 13 — only twelve.

So Offaly people and players are likely to remember that figure 13 and whether you believe in all the superstitions attaching to this number or not, you must agree that it is at least a coincidence that the championship victory that eluded a great Offaly team was not the tenth, the eleventh or the twelfth ... BUT THE THIRTEENTH.

Now I wonder does Fr. Tom Gilhooley believe in superstition?



**ALL-IRELAND
CHAMPIONS**
rely on

adidas



adidas - the wonder shoe of Croke Park

In the 1880's:

'Kneebritches could be Substituted for Shorts'..

UNIFORM and gear on the playing fields would provide material for quite a large volume, and the G.A.A., being so very much an Association of the people, was anything but elaborate in its recommendations as to uniform and gear in the earliest days.

The earliest rule-books suggested that players wear coloured singlets, shorts, and strong boots. Kneebritches could be substituted for shorts, a useful provision since quite a number of countrymen still wore knee-britches in the early 1880's, and even into the

'90s. It was ruled however that boots should not contain nails.

As far as can be judged from team-pictures of the time, quite ordinary boots were used by players in both hurling and football in the first decade of the All-Ireland championships, although there is one picture of an All-Ireland football team of those years in which a gentleman in the front row reveals, as he reclines, that he is wearing a well-nailed pair of Farmers' Friends.



This presentation picture after the 1932 All-Ireland hurling final shows the length of togs in that period (below the knees) and the contrast in jersey styles of Clare captain John Joe Doyle (left) and Kilkenny captain Jimmy Walsh. Also in this picture are G.A.A. President Sean McCarthy and Eamonn De Valera.



1928 Style

This picture from the Tipperary-Kerry Munster semi-final of 1928 is of interest for a variety of reasons. For one thing, it was one of the few times that Tipperary beat Kerry in the championship although they themselves later lost the Munster final to Cork.

For the purpose of this article however of particular interest here are: 1) the home-knitted stockings on the player on left; 2) the wearing of caps; 3) the modern-style V-neck jersey of the player on right; 4) the old-style boots laced around the ankles; 5) the very long togs and the fact that the Tipperary players wore black togs.



Barefoot hurlers were, however, quite common in inter-county games up to the turn of the century, although there is only one case of a team playing in a final entirely barefoot, Clare against Dublin in 1889. They were well beaten, which probably doomed the practice.

The singlet idea did not last past the days when the G.A.A. was a purely athletic body. Hurling and football teams quickly opted for woollen or cotton jerseys, a necessary precaution against cold or wet days. At first, jerseys were often rough and heavy and high-necked, rather like the sweaters of today, but were quickly modified.

The earliest football champions. Limerick Commercial's the first champions in 1887 and their successors, Tipperary's Bohercrowe in 1889, wore what look like woollen or cotton jerseys. Both favoured round necks on the jerseys, but while Commercial's had long sleeves, Bohercrowe opted for half-length sleeves. In 1887 the socks came most of the way up the shin, and the shorts came most of the way down the shin, so that there was little if any bare leg to be seen. Two years later many of the Bohercrowe men were wearing knee britches, but the socks did not always fill the gap.

Some teams in the early '90s wore coloured caps to match their jerseys but this seems to have been a very limited fad in imitation of other codes. The ordinary

tweed cap of the countryside was the more widely accepted head gear, especially for hurlers, as the peak protected the wearer against rain or sun, and helped break the frontal blow of a hurley.

A picture of the Kilfinane team that won Limerick the county's first All-Ireland hurling title in 1895 shows some of the players barefoot, some in running pumps, some in ordinary boots.

The round-necked jersey and the half-sleeve were still all the rage. Most of the players wore cloth caps, some were bare-headed, and some, believe it or not wore, basque berets.

Some champion teams in the late '90s had begun to favour high-necked jerseys, knee-length togs and slightly longer stockings. What is more, by this time, some players were appearing in what are obviously special football-boots, though whether these were studded or not is hard to gauge.

The special football boot, also used for hurling, came steadily into vogue through the first decade of the present century, when the studded boot, with leather studs and sometimes with leather bars instead of studs, became the accepted footwear of the top teams and this fashion, with a high ankle support, remained virtually unchanged for almost three decades as did the general garb of the teams.





In the first quarter of the century

THE CLOTH CAP WAS ALMOST COMPULSORY!

Gradually togs became shorter, though they remained very wide by modern standards until about a generation ago.

The coloured football stockings we know today did not 'take-on' until around the end of the first World War, and the jersey styles around that time varied from low round-necks to high round-necks, with a short period when laced-up necks on the jerseys were all the rage.

The collared jersey began to come into fashion around 1930, and the collared jersey, with buttons or without, could now be described as standard equipment. Togs have become shorter and far less floppy.

Headgear has run a rather remarkable course.

Through the first quarter of this century the cloth cap was almost compulsory on both the hurling and the football fields. And there was a strong school of thought that favoured the felt hat, preferably black, in both hurling and football. A hat has not been seen on the hurling fields since the middle '20s, but the former Dublin goalminder Johnny McDonnell still was wearing his hat as late as 1937.

The cloth cap also surely, if slowly, went out of fashion, though it remained a common enough feature of the hurling fields until well into the late '40s. In football Peter McDermott of Meath was the last regular



The first half of this century was the high period in G.A.A. history for wearing caps and in hurling as this picture shows they were often worn back-to-front. This picture was taken from a Kilkenny v. Limerick All-Ireland final of 1937.



star to wear a cap and he led Meath to All-Ireland victory in 1954 before retiring.

Nowadays some players wear golf-caps or American baseball caps to shade their eyes from the sun and of course many hurlers wear protective helmets.

In football the fashions, too, have slowly changed. In the '30s there was a great rage at one period for football boots with special toe-caps, special ankle-pads, and a steel spring down the centre to give resiliency. Then, as games speeded up on better surfaces, the aim became less weight and greater shoot-

ing power as far as football boots were concerned. Steel or aluminium or rubber studs took over from leather, and these could be changeable to suit changing weather conditions. Not alone were the ankle pads dropped, but the idea of the boot giving ankle support as well was gradually abandoned and most boots now cover the heel and instep only, in shape very like those running pumps, sported by some Gaelic players 80 years ago, but I don't think we will ever go back to the knee-britches!

1947 Style



No appreciable change, apart from the disappearance of the cap, had taken place in football gear by 1947 when this historic picture was taken at the start of the Kerry-Cavan All-Ireland final in the Polo Grounds, New York. The high boots were still in vogue but the togs seemed to be getting fractionally shorter. Jerseys with collars and buttons on the neck were all the rage. The players in the picture are Kerry's Dan Kavanagh (left) and Cavan's Gunner Brady.

adidas Skill Has Perfected Sports Wear

It was around 1920 that a German named adi Dassler, himself an active sportsman, designed and produced a flat-soled training shoe for athletes. He spent twelve years developing this and approached many of the top athletes of the time for their views, as he had singled out athletes as his number one priority in the development of his shoe.

Dassler's hard work and research soon paid off when he came up with continually improving athletic shoes and by the Olympic Games of 1936 in Berlin most of the top athletes, in-

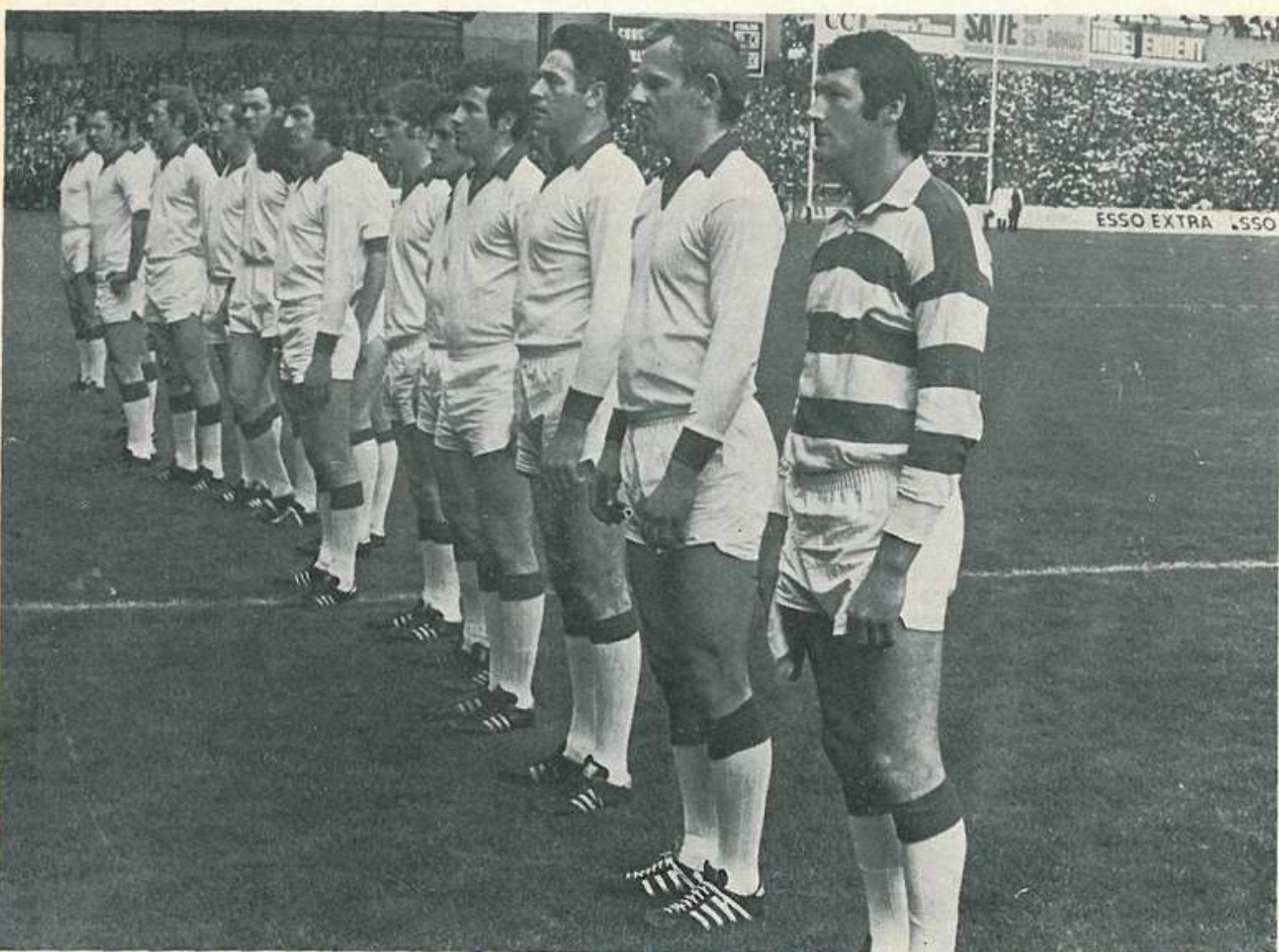
cluding the triple gold medal winner of that year, Jesse Owens, were wearing the shoes produced by adi Dassler.

Because of the War production was temporarily halted but in the late forties things got moving again and it was at this stage that the name adidas was first chosen as a trade name and soon afterwards the symbol of the three stripes on all adidas footwear was introduced. In 1954 came the first major breakthrough by adidas in the football boot market when the German soccer team all

wore adidas boots when they won the World Cup.

The three stripes had earlier made the world spotlight when they appeared on the shoes worn by many of the athletes in the Helsinki Olympic Games of that year.

A fundamental innovation of adi Dassler's in all his sports shoes was the Multi-studded sole followed by the nylon sole with the built-in sockets for screw-in studs. Today on the Continent, where pitches are harder, it is the multi-studded soles which predominate but in Ireland it is about



All-Ireland champions Cork, all wearing adidas footwear in the 1973 All-Ireland final.

sixty per cent in favour of the screw-in cogs which are more suitable for our soft grounds in winter.

The high-point of the adidas football boot research came in the mid-sixties with the production of the 'adidas 2000'. More orthopaedic and technical research went into this boot than ever before. A flexible sole was found to be a necessity and in keeping with the trend of the time it was

a real low-cut boot. In the forties boots had been high cut but during the fifties the cut away began until eventually they reached their present state.

The trend now is for a real light flexible boot which is tight-fitting. Then a couple of year's ago came the very latest development from adidas in the form of a new-type sole using the liquid injection process with a

new polyurethane substance. The three big advantages of this sole are: i) it will never crack; ii) it is lighter than any other sole; iii) it is more flexible. Even the old nylon sole tended to crack on a real frosty day or when put near a fire.

The modern desire to have boots as

(continued next page)

ON THE (HISTORICALLY) LIGHTER SIDE

Art of Coarse Gaelic Football

THE art of coarse Gaelic Football was given birth to in the days before the rules as we know them were laid down, but when Gaelic football was more widely played throughout the length, breadth and depth of Ireland than it is today.

It was, you might say, a three dimensional game. As well as knowing the basics about actually playing football, the enthusiast also had to have a certain knowledge of veterinary surgery, because instead of a ball, a pig's bladder was used, and since no pig was keen enough on football to whip his bladder out before a match and say "Here lads, use mine!", the player was often faced with the problem of coaxing an unwilling pig to surrender his.

Now, the pitch in those early days was not as well defined and marked out as it is now. In fact, the pitches were downright primitive. Usually they were a mile to two miles long, and two to three miles in width. Fortunately, however, there were 'goal-posts' at each end, but in those days they were known as 'villages' or 'settlements' and were made up of clusters of huts, houses and dwelling-places. Of course, there was no crossbar.

The teams themselves numbered three to five hundred and their objective was to get the ball to their

opponents' goal: having achieved this, the players were each entitled to prizes of their own choice, and among the most popular were women, jewellery and cattle. Since these games often lasted many hours, there was usually only one winning goal and usually the losers (as is the custom today) objected to this goal, whereupon a return match was immediately arranged.

As stated above, these matches often lasted many hours, right into

By Seamus Kennedy

the darkness of night, and in this case our ancestors showed themselves more ingenious than we of today by devising an artificial lighting system, so that they could continue to enjoy their game. This lighting was in the form of burning torches, cottages and flaming arrows.

The players of today are superior to their fore-runners in this respect alone — they are tougher and harder. Today, when we tog out for a match the equipment worn consists of boots, socks, shorts and jersey

(and in the odd case of suspected hernia, a jock strap). In days of yore, however, the players were real namby-pambies and insisted on protective equipment of all kinds such as helmets, metal breast-plates, shields, swords and spears.

Of course, much of this protection was necessary due to the regular incidence of flying missiles, e.g., stones, boulders, arrows, etc. (yes the spectators were as rowdy then as they are now!). Quite often during the course of the match, the ball was forgotten, but this did not deter the attacking team from rushing onwards to their opponents' goal to claim their prizes. If the opponents objected to their lack of a ball, a bladder was always produced (though it was not always a regulation match-play pig's bladder) and their objection was over-ruled.

One of the most famous matches was played at Clontarf in 1014. The defending team won, but unfortunately this epic clash was marred towards the end by an unsavoury incident in which the victorious captain was carried off with a serious injury.



Aussies too wear adidas



A typical action shot of the great Ron Barassi (10) who captained the two Australian Rules teams who visited Ireland in 1967 and '69. As can be seen, Barassi, and all the Aussies, wore adidas boots.

light as possible and also very flexible has led to very soft leathers being used in the uppers of the boots. Adidas use four grades: kangaroo, calf, full-grain oxide and split oxide leather. The first two are the softest but will not wear as long as the other two.

Football boots to give best results should mould around the foot and there should be no movement of the foot inside the boot. There is more stability if the boot and the foot are like one unit. This is in marked contrast with the old-style football boot in this country made from heavy leather, which had no hope of moulding around the foot. Although the old 'ankle-patch' of Irish boots does not appear on the modern adidas boot there is still extra protection for the ankle and heel in the form of built-in heel counters.

For those Gaelic players who still prefer a higher cut boot or a harder toecap adidas rugby boots are ideally

suited and in fact it was such boots that were worn by Offaly's Paddy McCormack in the All-Ireland final of 1972.

Apart from perfecting the development of football boots to the ultimate in comfort and performance, adidas also started developing track-suits in 1964 with the emphasis on style as opposed to the old-style flappy suits. These tracksuits are usually made from stretch nylon with cotton interior and are meant to be close-fitting.

Adidas have also been producing shorts for a long time and again they are innovators with all shorts having built in supports as well as elastic waistbands and cords also.

In footballs too adidas have introduced something new with the 'Poly-last' range of balls. These are manufactured, not from all leather, but from a man-made synthetic substance. The big advantage they have over the conventional footballs is that they are NOT porous so they remain

completely waterproof in wet conditions and they also keep their shape better.

All adidas sports equipment in Ireland is distributed by Three Stripe International Ltd., of Cork who employ eight people. The very high duty on their products keeps the price of adidas gear higher than it should be but despite this a very high proportion of footballers and hurlers wear the adidas boots proof indeed of their high quality. All the players in the All-Ireland football and hurling finals this year wore them and as the front cover picture shows, Cork trainer Donie Donovan looked resplendent in his brilliant red adidas track-suit.

Eventually it is hoped to manufacture the adidas range in Cork thus creating valuable employment in the area.



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County Championship



EAMONN O'DONOGHUE (Kildare) who captained U.C.D. to victory in both the Dublin championship and the Sigerson Cup — the first time ever the famous Dublin club achieved this double.



MARTIN McGRANAGHAN, St. John's, Belfast.

All The County Champions

FOOTBALL

Armagh :
 Antrim :
 Cavan :
 Cork :
 Carlow :
 Clare :
 Dublin :
 Derry :
 Donegal :
 Down :
 Fermanagh :
 Galway :
 Kildare :
 Kilkenny :
 Kerry :
 Longford :

Clan na Gael,
 Lurgan
 Rossa.
 Annagh.
 U.C.C.
 Kildavin.
 Doonbeg
 U.C.D.
 Ballinascreen.
 St. Joseph's.
 Bryansford.
 Tempo.
 Dunmore McHales
 Raheens.
 Railyard
 Austin Stacks
 Clonguish.

HURLING

St. John's, Belfast.
 Blackrock.
 Ballinkellin
 Newmarket-on-
 Fergus
 Faughs.
 Castlegar.
 Ardclough
 The Fenians.
 Ballyduff.

FOOTBALL

Laois :
 Leitrim :
 Limerick :
 Louth :
 Monaghan :
 Mayo :
 Meath :
 Offaly :
 Roscommon :
 Sligo :
 Tyrone :
 Tipperary :
 Waterford :
 Wicklow :
 Westmeath :
 Wexford :

St. Joseph's.
 Ballinamore.
 Cooley Kickhams.
 'Blayney Faughs
 Knockmore
 Navan O'Mahonys.
 Tullamore.
 St. Kevin's,
 Castlerea.
 St. Patrick's,
 Dromard
 Loughmore-
 Castleiney
 John Mitchels.
 Carnew Emmets
 Athlone
 Castletown

HURLING

Camross.
 Boardsmill.
 St. Rynaghs
 Tremaine
 Roscrea.
 Portlaw.
 Carnew Emmets.
 Raharney.
 Ballyhogue

Winners in 1973



MARTIN FURLONG — championship winner with Tullamore.



PAT DUNNY — WON a Kildare football medal with Raheens but LOST in the hurling final with Eire Og.



PAT HENDERSON — a Kilkenny medal with the Fenians.

Why change when you are ahead?

WHY change a winning team? You wouldn't normally. Well, as games go, hurling is a winning game. Think of the magnificence of the spectacle that was produced in the last two All-Ireland finals. And thousands of other thrilling games. And, while we all acknowledge the fact that there are often poor enough, or downright bad matches, the very fact that great games occur shows that it is not the game which is to blame for the poor performances.

nificent game, of great variety virtuosity and difficulty, and because it proves more demanding than many youths today can handle, are you going to change it into something simple enough for them to handle? Or is it the purpose of the rule-changers to improve the game? Well, then, it is rather presumptuous of them to think that they can improve a game of singular magnificence by changing it fundamentally.

"What," you say, "How could a couple of little changes in the rules

make a fundamental change in any game let alone one of the complexity of hurling?"

BUT, look at the changes that are suggested — in brief:

(i) Pick-up into the hand disallowed — only pick-and-hit without catching, in future;

(ii) Fouls within the 21 penalised by a semi-penalty, i.e. three men on the line.

Never mind the rest: they are not important by comparison. These two are the crux. And of these the first is



If the pick-up into the hand is abolished in hurling it will make things exceptionally difficult for the goalkeeper. Particularly so in a situation such as this one — a confrontation between Ollie Walsh and Babs Keating. Here, obviously, possession (in the hand) is worth at least nine points of the law! Walsh has the ball in his left hand.

A "tactic" that may be on the way out



Another proposed change in the hurling rules is the abolition of the infamous 'third man tackle'. This was used a lot in hurling as this shot from a Tipperary-Kilkenny match shows. Blocking off was another name given to this particular 'skill'.

fairly obvious in its consequences: it will mean first-time hurling only, for the lift-and-hit is no substitute for the lift into the hand. The latter gives a command of the situation, in so far as you are the one who directs the scene. You look, you evaluate, you make the play — barring some miscalculation or lack of skill on your part, the ball and the opponent must behave the way you decide.

With the lift-and-hit, on the other hand, it is just about the same as the first-time pull; you are reacting to the dictates of the ball's movement and the opponent's position. It is, indeed, seldom that you would enjoy the opportunity of teeing up your lift so as to make deliberate use of the hit.

Not that the first-time is bad for hurling; there is far too little of it, in a game whose life blood is the swift movement; and whose death-knell the over deliberate. But, this will not remedy it — only one thing will and that is work, work, work . . . on the most demanding of the basic skills, the first-timer on the sod.

But, the second of the major changes is even more far reaching. Consider the anticipation with which our best free-takers must view the prospect of a pot-shot at the goal with only three men on the goal-line and

oceans of space into which to bore their bullets from a mere 21 yards — less before the ball is actually hit.

And where is the game when you do not have a few close frees for either side. (As an aside, one must also reflect on the possible effect on refereeing decisions in that sector of play: will the refs. feel the weight of the decisions they are making with the likely goal outcome, so that their tendency is to think three or four times before giving a foul. In other words, will it mean more horrid skullduggery than we have ever seen in that near-goal sector.)

Anyway, it is going to mean more goals. This, in turn, devaluates the point — the more goals in a game the less the value of a point. So, it will mean that the pressures are on players to get goals. The long-shot point is going to die out — a fact that would have been helped by the pick-and-hit amendment, in any case. Forwards will want to work the ball in close; they will see this as serving two purposes, each of which could contribute goals — either an opening presents itself under pressure as the ball is worked in; or, the pressure may yield a free, in any case.

And I am unconvinced that the latter will be a secondary consideration. The strategic pattern of the game will

be entirely changed: no sniping of points — or little — and the general balance of play tending to be forced into the 21-yard area. This concentration of attention on that area will cause, inevitably, piling up and pulling and dragging, crushing of players, scrummaging and skirmishing, no room to swing or work an opening within that 21 yard area.

Now, wouldn't you think that the purpose of this rule was to reduce the amount of activity of a ragged or doubtful nature within the attacking zone by stronger penalty. But, I think the above will demonstrate that the reverse will tend to be the result of the change. Besides which, the change of emphasis entirely from the point to the goal will have the consequent result that play will be made deliberately to move play towards the 21 area: shorter strokes; placements, passes; players aiming at converging in the penalty zone.

Well, perhaps we are wrong: perhaps, the result of the changes will be to improve the game of hurling. At least, there will be thorough per-viewing of the changes in action this time, and if they are passed (and any part of them) at Congress 1974, they will be on probation for a year and will come up for reassessment in 1975.



Mick O'Connell



P. T. Treacy



THESE exclusive pictures show Paddy McCormack's last appearance as a player in the Offaly jersey which he graced for so long. They were taken in 1972 in the Grounds Tournament final against Donegal at Croke Park.

On right, McCormack receives attention after he had received a blow in his eye and although the picture on left shows him resuming play, he had in fact to leave the field shortly afterwards — for the last time as it turned out.

Retired in 1973 — but still a formidable Lineout

AS usual the past year saw many famous G.A.A. names telling us they had retired from the playing scene but how many of them actually mean this we will have to wait and see. It struck me, however, while pondering on the retirals, that one could muster up quite a team from those 'has-beens' — a team indeed that would put up a good show against any of our top teams at the present time.

For goalkeeper for instance, JOHNNY CULLOTY still

playing regularly with the Legion Club in Killarney would be more than adequate especially if he had Offaly's PADDY McCORMACK guarding the square in front of him. Cavan's RAY CAROLAN was also an excellent centre half-back as well as midfielder before he surprisingly retired last September and while wing halves TOM PRENDERGAST and MICHAEL O'SHEA of Kerry probably do not consider that they have retired from inter-county football there are very few

The Cuchulainn Annual

people in Kerry football circles who would agree with them so I think we could safely place them on either side of Carolan.

Midfield provides no problem at all with the ex-king himself MICK O'CONNELL probably the fittest of the retired gentlemen and who better to partner him than Dublin's DES FOLEY who told us after the 1973 Dublin championship final, which his club St. Vincents lost, that he was this time retiring for good.

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The obvious man to lead a retired attack would be Longford's JIMMY HANNIFFEY, the youngest player on the team at under the thirty mark while on his right I am sure most people would settle for Derry's SEAN O'CONNELL who also retired recently by courtesy of the G.A.A.'s Activities Committee.

Dublin could also provide the left winger in JIMMY KEAVENEY although the way the Dublin selectors have been behaving in recent years it is always taking a

Retired But Still Very Active



Johnny Culloty



Jimmy Hanniffy



Ray Carolan

risk to assume that any player in the county has retired. After all, it was only last year that they brought back Lar Foley for the championship.

The right corner forward position must go to the great Fermanagh and Ulster veteran P. T. TREACY who finally ended his inter-county career during 1973 while at full-forward Louth's JIMMY MULROY would be quite at home now that he has finally decided to confine his inter-county activities to coaching his native county. There were many who said that Mulroy should have played himself in that famous Leinster championship against the then All-Ireland champions Offaly last June but Jimmy thought otherwise and so he qualifies for our team.

Another man who was expected to make another comeback, even for the All-Ireland final, was Galway's JOHN KEENAN but since this did not happen in 1973 I think we can safely assume that the great Dunmore-man has handed in his cards as a Galway player and

so we can select him to wear the No. 15 on our team.

As in picking any team there are problems about our retired side, — for instance I am unable to find two suitable corner-backs so I have had to go for A.N. OTHER in both cases. And although this versatile character of many sports has filled almost every position in his time I have a feeling that he won't be very pleased at the prospect of being called a retired player.

As well as that I would have slight premonitions about what might happen with Tom Prendergast and Sean O'Connell on the same team. The Derryman might even refuse to attend!

Oh yes, You ask about a team manager? No problem at all. The youngest retired Team Manager in the business is available and I'm sure he would be delighted to act provided there was no interference.

I refer of course to PAT MANGAN who retired from team manager with Kildare last September after just one year in office.

Limerick stars of another Era

~~~~~  
By Paddy Purcell  
~~~~~

WATCHING county hurling teams on the field is one thing. Knowing hurlers from that same county is another thing altogether. As far as Limerick was concerned I had the advantage of first seeing their hurling team at close quarters and then meeting some of the hurlers in one and the same year.

That year was 1933 when the new-look Limerick of the **Mackeys**, the **Cloheessys**, the **Ryans** and **Paddy Scanlon**, backed by such veterans as **Mickey Cross** and **Garrett Howard** first broke into the Newspaper headlines.

I first saw them against Kilkenny, then All-Ireland champions, at Nowlan Park in a National League final in the Spring of 1933, and though the seasoned warriors in black and amber came through with something to spare, the dash and daring of the Shannonsiders drew many a round of applause even from the assumedly, partial Nowlan Park crowd.

That same September the same two counties met again in the All-Ireland final and this was a desperately close-run affair with a well-taken goal by **Johnny Dunne**, (a former American Tailteann games hurler, who came

home to live in his native Bennettsbridge but played with Mooncoin) the vital factor in Kilkenny's favour.

A month or so later I went up to University College, Dublin for the first time, and there in the hurling club met several hurlers from Limerick, although the first man with whom I struck up an acquaintance out at the old University Park in Terenure was actually a Clareman, his name was known to me at that time because he had been a noted star of the Sexton Street C.B.S. in the Harty Cup.

DIFFERENT FIELDS

He was the red-haired **Bill Loughnane** from Feakle, a man who has since made a name for himself in several different fields, as a traditional musician, as a medical man, and more latterly as a political figure.

But there were plenty of Limerick natives among the students who then hurled so sweetly on the pleasant pitch that the groundsman old Tom Ennis tended so carefully.

The outstanding figure amongst them was a tall spare medical student

who, had not his profession called him away from the hurling fields, must surely have won a high place among the roll of Limerick greats even in those halcyon days of the '30s. The was **Paddy Bresnihan** from Castletownconyers.

His father had been a world record-holder long ago in the hop step and jump and Paddy himself was an athlete of inter-varsity class, specialising, if I remember rightly, in the high jump.

But it is as a hurler I remember him best, a centre-half back of wonderful reach and sense of position, equally effective on the ground or in the air. He was a powerful force in U.C.D.'s victories in the Dublin League and championship of 1934, but, unfortunately for the game, Paddy Bresnihan qualified soon afterwards, and I do not think he ever hurled again.

NOT MISSING

However, the family name has not been missing from the sportsfields. His brother Con, himself a useful hurler, is father of **Barry Bresnihan** the rugby international.

When returning from the All-Star

Marching to Glory in former Days



Mick Mackey leading Limerick to battle in the 1936 League Final against Kilkenny in Nowlan Park.

games at Wembley last Whit, I was told, as we came in to Dublin, that a man farther up the 'plane wished to have a word with me. I discovered it was Dr. Paddy Bresnihan whom I had not seen or met for many years.

And I met another medical brother **Dr. Sean Bresnihan** when I visited the Limerick team in training at the Ennis Road for the recent All-Ireland final.

But there were other well-known hurlers from Limerick out at the University Grounds in Terenure 40 years ago. Two that particularly stand out in my mind are **Tony McAuliffe Sullivan**, a dashing half-back whom I met years afterwards as an Army Medical Officer in Cork, and **Larry Hayes**, also a very sweet hurler, who was I think a reserve on the Dublin All-Ireland team of 1938, the team with which Bill Loughnane won his All-Ireland medal.

Two other Limerick men came to the fore in the U.C.D. colours in the years immediately following. **Dick Foley**, who came from somewhere in East Limerick, had been a noted rugby player when in Rockwell but turned to Gaelic games when he came to Dublin. He played senior hurling for U.C.D. and afterwards for Young Irelands, and was a member of the Limerick football team, that included **Mick Mackey** and **Jackie Power**, and won a Munster junior title towards the end of the 1930s. Dick Foley is now Assistant Secretary in the Department of Education.

Roger Hayes, a native of Limerick City, subsequently played for a couple of seasons on the Dublin senior side.

NO OPPORTUNITY

There was another Limerick hurler whom I feel, never got the opportunity to become the star he might well have been. He was another U.C.D. student **Bill Cowhey** a native of Rathkeale, who played minor and, I think, junior for Dublin during his early student days, and was good enough to be given a couple of National League outings with Limerick in the late '30s. But he was very busy with his studies at vital moments and dropped out of the game with his potential as a hurler never fully realised. He is a doctor in Maynooth nowadays.

Then in 1940 two U.C.D. players figured on the winning Limerick side. They were **Dick Stokes**, now a selector of course, and **Jim McCarthy** from Feenagh, now a doctor in Rathkeale.

Jim McCarthy served Limerick in a variety of positions. I saw him play in goal, full-forward and corner-forward, but he was at his best in the position he filled in that 1940 final, corner back. It was shortly after this period that I for personal reasons began to know West Limerick particularly well. In the early 40s I attended what must have been one of the earliest finals played in the Ennis Road grounds. It was a particularly hectic encounter between Ahane and Croom which, as far as I can recall, Croom won despite the best efforts of the Mackeys.

AN OPEN FIELD

Unless my recollection is gone wrong, the present Gaelic Grounds were little more than an open field at

that time. The magnificent development came slowly but surely through the years that followed. Through those years, too, I saw a very fierce county football final at Adare between a West side and a city club in which victory went to the West, but only after **Fr. Punch** as he then was, had played a major part in clearing the field, rather forcibly I may add. I have very happy memories of summer Sundays at many Western venues when I acted as umpire for my brother-in-law, **Pa Hourigan** from Ballingarry, God rest him, who was a well known referee at that time. There were some thrilling hurling matches in the Ballingarry field in those far-gone days and some great hurlers too, though few of them ever won senior fame. Yet **Christy Daly** from Ballingarry was a man who played well for the county at junior level and won an All-Ireland medal.

What I found most satisfying about Limerick's victory this year was going back to Shannonside to meet such old friends as **Dick Stokes**, **Jackie Power**, **Seamus O Ceallaigh**, **Mick Mackey**, **Jackie O'Connell** hale and hearty still, and friendly as ever.

Someone is bound to point out of course that I have said nothing about the 1973 team and their wonderful victory. But, after all, it was the men of the today who inspired those random recollections of the Limerick hurlers I knew long ago. Maybe, in 40 years they will be glad to find somebody writing in the Cuchulainn Annual about them.

AS a football spectacle it was a shambles. As a bruising battle of fists and feet it was first rate. This is the only description I can honestly give to a most disappointing final. It was played in ideal conditions and before a record attendance at Aughrim on Sunday, but it lacked what one expects in a senior football final . . . good football.

There was more fighting, fouling and consequent frees in this final than I have ever seen in any match before. As I saw it, the two teams seemed more intent on boxing and kicking each other than playing football. Fisticuffs were frequent and the kicking of players on the ground was a common sight.

— Wicklow People 5/10/73.

A referee was struck four times with a hurley by a player he was ordering off, and eventually had to abandon a game four minutes after it started, it was stated at Mid-Tipperary Board meeting during consideration of the

referee's report on junior hurling semi-final between Gortnahoe-Glengooole and Thurles Fennelly's. Referee Jim Ryan (Holycross) said his umpires informed him that a Gortnahoe player struck a Fennelly's player with his hurley. He ordered off the Gortnahoe player. "He struck me four times with his hurley and but for the intervention of Fennelly's players I feel I would have been seriously injured. I was very badly shaken and called off the game."

Mr. William Fitzgerald, Gortnahoe, apologised on behalf of his club for what had happened and said that they had no sympathy for the Gortnahoe player involved. The Board imposed the maximum penalty (two years), and for striking a player (12 months) and refixed the game for October 14.

— Evening Herald 5/10/73.

WHAT a pity that at the end of this exciting and hard-fought Cusack Cup semi-final tie at Kilkee on Sunday last some members of the losing team

saw fit to launch an assault on referee Jim McNicholas.

To begin with there was no basis for this unjustifiable action. Referee McNicholas, who had very sportingly travelled from Miltown Malbay after the Under-21 final to undertake this additional duty was most impartial throughout. He is dedicated to football and is one of the very few men in the county who are prepared to officiate in important games. That he should be treated in this manner is deplorable and reflects no credit whatsoever on the culprits. Let it be said that members of both the winning and losing teams went to his assistance with the result that he did not sustain injury, and in fact he good-humouredly shrugged the matter off afterwards. But for all that the spectacle was debasing, the members of losing teams, and their supporters, should seek some other outlet for their frustrations, than thus accosting men whose only interests is in the advancement of the National pastimes.

— Clare Champion 5/10/73

DIRTY PLAY—HOW THE G.A.A. STILL ALLOWS IT TO EXIST

BY DONAL O'CONNELL

AT the start of 1973 I had promised myself that I would collect all references to dirty play in G.A.A. matches that appeared in the national and provincial newspapers during the year as evidence to back up my claim that the G.A.A. still has a long way to go before it can say that it has rid it's games of this undesirable trait.

But after about two months I gave up — simply because I was overwhelmed with press cuttings and, as most of them tended to be repetitive, the whole exercise was turning out to be extremely boring. However early in October I did pick up three cuttings on the one day from three different newspapers which really summed up the year's activities in the 'dirty stakes'.

They are the ones at the top of this page.

Two of these featured assaults on referees while in the third the players merely assaulted one another in addition to using foul language, presumably, again to one another. There was scarcely a county board that hadn't to deal with numerous cases of dirty play during the year and whatever else can be said about 1973 it

certainly was not the year when the 'hatchet-men' were eliminated from our national games.

For instance no fewer than FIVE players were sent off in the Waterford county final between Mount Sion and Portlaw and according to accounts a few more could also have gone with them. In Kildare a football championship game was abandoned when a penalty was awarded to Allenwood and the opposing team Ellistown refused to allow it to be taken.

For the second successive year the Dublin senior football final received a very bad 'press' even from the local correspondents and the mystery was that only one player got sent off as U.C.D. avenged their defeat by St. Vincents the previous year.

Monaghan too, and not for the first time, had more than it's share of dirty matches in particular a first round game involving Ballybay.

The Under-21 All-Ireland semi-final was abandoned because of dirty play (Wexford v. Antrim).

But why go on? There was scarcely a county that did not blot its copybook as regards dirty play during 1973. Even at the very top level the story was little different with the outstanding example being the infamous Kerry-Derry league semi-final in which three Derry players were sent off and only the fact that the referee had no eyes in the back of his head prevent at least two Kerry players from getting the same treatment. And for good measure there was an attack on the referee after the game which got a great deal of publicity.

It is his latter point that I find most interesting. The referee in question was Paul Kelly, one of the game's best in recent years, if not the very best. Because of his reputation and because of the fact that the match was in Croke Park the incident got tremendous publicity from the media. And recent G.A.A. history has shown that when this happens then the G.A.A. will act — but if there is little publicity then the G.A.A. is often content to let dirty incidents die a natural and quiet death.

If I was referee, I would feel much happier being assaulted in Croke Park than at some provincial ground. Croke Park is still regarded as sacred ground as far as

Central Council is concerned and must be kept 'whiter than white' in the eyes of the public. Therefore if a referee is beaten up in Croke Park he can be sure his assailants (or somebody) will pay the penalty. But if the assault takes place down the country the referee can have no such assurance.

If you don't believe this then ask Mick Connaughton of Mayo who gave up refereeing after being attacked in Roscommon last year!

The same often applies in the case of dirty play itself. There have been Central Council investigations into prestige games like Cork v. Tipperary and heavy suspensions have been meted out fairly, I presume. But there have been worse happenings at lesser games, or in games where lesser known teams were involved, and nothing happened.

A favourite way of avoiding doing anything about dirty play is the old trick of 'passing the buck'. The Committee in charge of a club game will say they can do nothing about some incident unless it is referred to in the referee's report. But the referee may never have seen the incident because it happened behind his back.

SEAN O'CONNELL (right) of Derry served a long period of suspension this year because he refused to appear personally before the Activities Committee in connection with the Derry-Kerry N.F.L. semi-final last April.

There were many who felt that O'Connell, never a dirty player, was very harshly treated in comparison with the many dirty players who are consistently getting away with far more serious breaches of discipline than that attributed to O'Connell by a Kerry player before the Activities Committee.

Such however is G.A.A. justice!



Or a higher G.A.A. body may take no action over a game because they claim the game was under the jurisdiction of some lesser body and they don't want to be accused of waving a big stick.

Thus if a Divisional Board does nothing about some dirty match, the County Board will not take any action. Or Central Council may ignore a dirty game because some Provincial Council decides to do nothing about it. For instance, I doubt if very many people who were at the disgusting Ulster championship game between Donegal and Tyrone last June could have been very happy with the action that was eventually taken by the Ulster Council.

Clearly, the Central Council should have held a watching brief on that matter and if they were not satisfied with the results they should have acted themselves. Independent bodies are great in theory provided they always make the right decisions. In the matter of dealing with dirty play they do not always do this.

Tradition, of course, is a major factor, in fact I would say the major factor, in the continuance of dirty play in Gaelic games. The 'hard man' is still idolised in the G.A.A. and many of these 'hard men' are simply no more

than dirty players prepared to use all kinds of unsporting tactics to stop their opponent. And one has only to go among the crowd at a G.A.A. match and listen to the shouts of encouragement at certain players to appreciate that toughness is still very much a part of the game.

'Lie into him', 'Give it to him', 'Get stuck in' may sound innocent enough exhortations, but to a certain type of player they can be translated to mean: 'If I can knock yer man out I will be a hero with the rest of the boys'. This has been the way down the years and the hedging attitude of many referees and practically all Councils and Boards up to now on the matter of penalising dirty play has only helped to perpetuate this approach.

But it is simply not good enough for 1974 and, despite the fact that it is very much in the minority, dirty play is still one of the greatest barriers to progress, especially in football, where it does its greatest damage by not allowing the genuine footballers devote all their attention to improving both their own and the general skills of what should be the best football game in the world.

Let us hope that ALL G.A.A. bodies will act on this in 1974 and wipe out the hatchet men for good.

TAKE IT EASY TOMMY JOE!



It would appear from this shot from the 1973 All-Ireland football final that referee John Moloney is giving Galway centre-half back T. J. Gilmore a friendly tap on the head. Others in the picture from left are, Willie Joyce (G), Denis Coughlan (C), Declan Barron (C), Jimmy Barry-Murphy (C) and Dave McCarthy (C).

'Ah, sure you never get anything out of playing Gaelic'

BY DONAL O'CONNELL



Brian McEniff

ONE of the great catch-crys of those who specialise in running down the G.A.A. is that "all the best jobs go to the fellows who play rugby — you never get anything out of playing Gaelic football or hurling."

Unfortunately, far too many people in the G.A.A. are prone to accept this kind of statement as if it were totally true but on analysis it can be clearly shown that it is not, in fact, accurate.

Now I know full well the pitfalls of trying to estimate the relative wealth of any group of people, especially since it is quite possible that some of our friends from the Inland Revenue may read this Annual, but to say that the 'best jobs' in the country are held by current or past rugby players is utter rubbish.

But what G.A.A. players are the most successful in business? Well, one man who could be a main contender is the Donegal player-manager Brian McEniff, who as well as owning the Holyrood Hotel in the holiday resort of Bundoran, also has several other business interests in his native county and surrounding areas.

Another top executive in Dublin financial circles is the former Dublin star Ollie Freaney, now head of one of the city's big accountancy firms while one of his successful partners

in business is Donegal county footballer Frankie McFeeley.

Offaly's success story in recent years did no damage to their players and Paddy McCormack, who was for years a very successful salesman with Cappincur Joinery, is now a very important man with Spollen Concrete Ltd. (Naas).

The Bardens are a very well known football clan from Longford and if Ollie of that name never achieved the same heights in the game as the more famous Brendan and Pat, he is one of the top figures in the booming licensed trade in Dublin and his Wexford Inn is one of the biggest money-spinners in the city. Ollie still found time to play for Clonguish and win a county championship medal with them this year.

Another Longfordman to have reached the top in business circles is the current team manager Sean Murray another very successful Accountant in the capital.

Along with Brian McEniff, Mick O'Dwyer of Kerry is probably the most successful businessmen among current players with his thriving garage and other interests in Waterville where the arrival of American businessman John Mulcahy has been a big help.



Paddy McCormack

Despite his many duties in Sligo football, Michael Kearins has found time to become a top man in the meat trade in Sligo and is now one of the leading buyers at several big cattle marts around the west and midlands.

Ray Carolan's retiral from inter-county football some time ago was partly influenced at least by his success in business in Cavan where he is involved in the entertainment industry among other things.

Speaking of entertainment, many G.A.A. personalities have done very well for themselves in this field, notably former Louth star Dermot O'Brien who in addition to performing with his own talents, has various other interests in such things as records companies. Even the mighty Big Tom himself was no mean footballer before becoming a raging success as a singer.

The Cavan All-Ireland winning team of 1947 has yielded many successful businessmen including Dublin-based property-man Simon Deignan while Des Benson is a top executive with Ranks Ltd.

There are numerous other examples of G.A.A. men who have reached the top in business circles, far too many to mention. And we never even mentioned the professions where there are also many top posts held by G.A.A. members. And of course in politics the role of the G.A.A. is so well known that it is almost a natural progression now from the Hogan Stand to Leinster House.

All of this proves that the G.A.A. has nothing to concede to its rugby playing brethren in the matter of business achievements — in fact it is the reverse which is true.

But while the rugby 'crowd' never cease to boast about their successes the G.A.A. people too often hide their talents and accept the role of playing second fiddle.



Michael Kearins

Carroll's All-Star Hurlers 1973

Noel SKEHAN
(Kilkenny)

Fan LARKIN
(Kilkenny)

Pat HARTIGAN
(Limerick)

Jim O'BRIEN
(Limerick)

Colm DORAN
(Wexford)

Pat HENDERSON
(Kilkenny)

Sean FOLEY
(Limerick)

Richie BENNIS
(Limerick)

Liam O'BRIEN
(Kilkenny)

F. LOUGHNANE
(Tipperary)

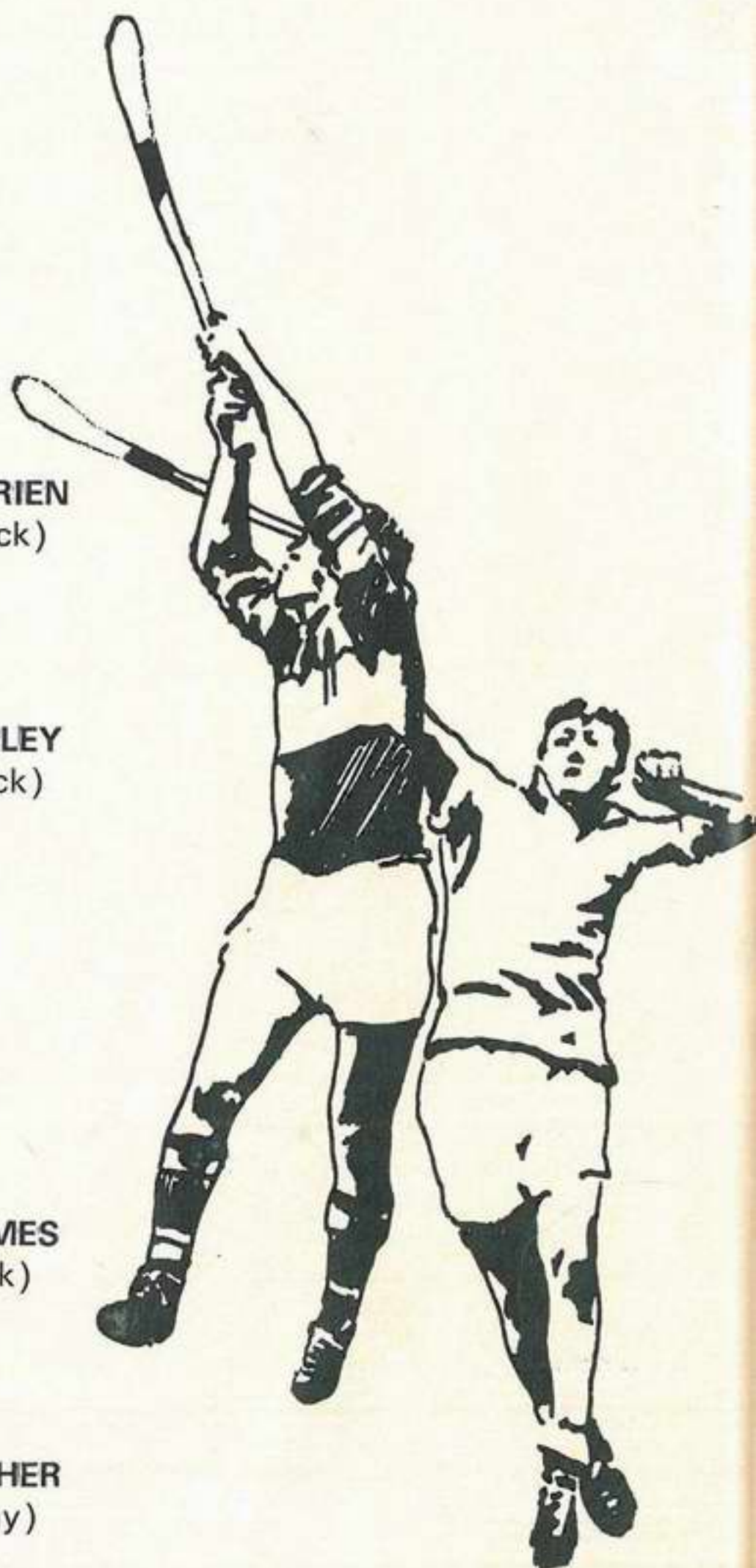
Pat DELANEY
(Kilkenny)

Eamon GRIMES
(Limerick)

Martin QUIGLEY
(Wexford)

Kieran PURCELL
(Kilkenny)

Eddie KEHER
(Kilkenny)



HOW TO GET THE BEST DISPLAY FROM THE PLAYERS

PEOPLE often wonder why men play and take part in sporting activities. Is it some internal drive that urges them forward or is it some external incentive that lures them on? But modern-day man actually **WORKS** at his play activities, takes them very seriously and ardently follows a very strict routine to enable him to participate in his chosen activity.

For some the incentives, the motives, the goals are real and tangible — stardom, financial reward, ego enhancement, etc. But I shall discuss here in general the reasons why men and boys in their thousands play Gaelic games Sunday after Sunday and in particular why some are better performers than others 'though of equal physical prowess and maybe even skill level.

By **SEAN MULVIHILL**

The term 'MOTIVATION' is not used very often in every-day language. Instead people say: 'What made him do it?'; 'What came over him?' 'What kind of urge has he got?'; But all these refer in fact to man's motivational devices. The idea of motivation is ambiguous. In one sense it can refer to motives for doing something like committing a crime; in a broader sense it refers to the reasons for an individual behaving in any way at all.

A person is motivated when he desires some goal, a goal that will meet his needs and satisfy his interests. Motivation, in a practical sense includes wants, desires, wishes and acts. In any situation, at any time and with any individual, performance is likely to fluctuate. Even outstanding athletes do not perform consistently at any particular skill level. Variability in response can be caused by **external factors**, e.g. the field, weather conditions, the spectators, etc. But apart from all these things, **internal variables** such as physiological and psychological drives and needs also contribute to levels of performance.

While the external factors are fairly obvious to most observers of games the internal factors are often overlooked by spectators team mentors and even players themselves. This leads to fluctuations in a players performance from match to match which seem difficult to understand.

Sean Mulvihill, B.Ed., Dip. Physical Education, University of London was among the first group of Irish students to complete a Dept. of Education sponsored four year course in St. Mary's College of Physical Education London and graduated in 1973. A former St. Mels College and current Longford senior player he now teaches in Synge St. C.B.S., Dublin.



For instance people have often commented upon the discrepancy in form of fine players such as Mick O'Connell, Willie Bryan and Dermot Earley. These up and downs of form could best be accounted for by the psychological build-up of the game.

At this stage it may be more appropriate to consider how personality differences influence motivation. Current motivation theory tends to blend with personality theory as motivation is viewed in terms of arousal. People at different levels of arousal will respond differently to similar motives. For the coach of a football or hurling team this implies that what is motivating for one player may not be for another. This often accounts for the difficulties some team managers have in dealing with their top-class players. They wonder why some players, for instance, are not inspired to great heights by emotional dressing-room speeches.

In personality testing people are grouped into those who display introverted tendencies (Introverts) and those who display extraverted tendencies (Extraverts). The Introverts are quiet, unassuming types. They have a



EAMON O'DONOGHUE . . . what kind of pep-talk?

tendency to be shy, nervous, easily embarrassed, avoid crowds and prefer to be alone.

The Extraverts are the opposite end of the scale being gregarious by nature. They are socially outgoing, talkative, seeking attention and stimuli of every kind and always prefer to be a member of a group. In a team game like football you usually find members displaying these tendencies to varying degrees. And successful teams are not made up of any predominant personality type. From a practical point of view with players of different personality types within the same team, will the one motivational device do for all. Will the same pep-talk before the game ensure that **ALL THE PLAYERS** on the team are mentally prepared for the event?

For instance the same type of pre-match oration that would inspire a player like Paddy McCormack to perform feats of wonder might completely turn off someone like Kerry's Eamon O'Donoghue. . .

Before answering this it is necessary to introduce one new term — **AROUSAL LEVEL**. This may vary in an individual player from very dormant to a very high level of excitement, tension and nervousness and the arousal level will affect a player's performance. Every player must have a certain arousal level before he will perform at his very best but the most important thing here in relation to matches is that there is a stage where too high an arousal level will have a deteriorating effect on

a player's performance. If some players become over-aroused their performances may suffer.

Up to a certain stage increased arousal means that a player performs **BETTER** but then you reach a peak (called optimum arousal level) and after that there is a danger that further arousal will only cause the player to do **WORSE** rather than better.

Therefore it is imperative that every coach should understand each individual player including an awareness of each player's psychological needs. This means that the coach must determine what each player's optimum arousal is and from this knowledge plan the mental preparation of the player, to ensure that each one is entering the field at his most appropriate level. This should give the player every opportunity to reach his peak performance. If a player enters a match in an over-aroused state his performance in that match will be adversely affected.

This arousal level is also tied up with the type of personality — Introvert or Extravert. Those players who tend to be introverted are habitually at a relatively high arousal level. Therefore before a big game this type of player is already highly aroused and any extra arousing by coaches or others could actually inhibit rather than help the player. In other words this type of player would need to be cooled down rather than pepped up before a game. As far as one can judge from the outside, without any detail knowledge, players of this type might include Fan Larkin (Kilkenny), Jackie Walsh (Kerry), Martin Heavey (Offaly), Sean O'Connell (Derry).

But the other type, the Extravert always has a low arousal level and needs all the stimulus he can get before a game. The more excitement, pep-talks, etc., there are the better will be his performance. So obviously, within the same football or hurling team there is a need for a different approach with different players.

We have all seen this theory in practice many times in our games. For instance, we all know players who perform brilliantly when there is nothing at stake but when the chips are down and there is great excitement mounting up he flops. I presume many players have been discarded by selectors or team-managers because of this with a knowing nod and 'AH, HE HASN'T GOT WHAT IT TAKES'.

LITTLE DOES THE MAN IN CHARGE KNOW THAT IT IS HE HIMSELF WHO HAS NOT GOT WHAT IT TAKES — the ability to know each player and to understand his problems in order to prepare him properly and achieve the best performance from all his players.

A good example of a coach who does know his job in this respect is Fr. Tommy Maher (Kilkenny) or Don Revie of Leeds United.

The team most likely to win out is the team with fifteen players all performing at optimal level. But what can we do to alleviate this problem? Get a team of fifteen players all displaying extraverted tendencies and then use every available method to arouse them? This is not feasible or practical. We must know each player and prepare each one individually for the fray.

At the other end of the scale from the introverted player we have the player with extraverted tendencies who will only play well when it is an important occasion, or when he has a large audience, or when he is 'razzed' and aroused to a high level. The bigger the occasion the better he performs, the greater the tension, the crowd, the noise the better his performance. Players that spring to mind here are, Eamon Grimes (Limerick), Sean O'Neill (Down), Kevin Kilmurray (Offaly) and in soccer George Best.

THE JERSIES—AND THE TITLE—CHANGE HANDS



THE difference between winning and losing is clearly shown in this picture taken at the end of this year's Munster Final in Cork. It shows a jubilant Denis Long of Cork (back to camera) making a hurried exchange of jerseys with his opponent, the obviously dejected John O'Keeffe, before rushing off to join his winning colleagues. Later in the year both Long and O'Keeffe were to be honoured by being selected as the midfield pairing on the Carroll's All-Star team.

These type of players need stimulation, they seek it out and are predisposed to attention and excitement. If they are not aroused to a high level they perform below their best and this is why they can rise to the occasion and produce the goods when the stakes are high.

The Introvert-type player can perform just as well, of course, provided he has not been over-aroused beforehand and made carry unnecessary tension into the game. A very good example of this is Kerry star John O'Keeffe who has been known on the odd occasion to perform poorly as in the 1973 Munster Final, although acknowledged as one of the game's finest players.

Of course overall performance can be regarded as the outcome of motivation AND ability and provided both elements are present in a person the one can compensate for the other, so presumably a given level of performance may be achieved by, for example, either the combination of high skill and low motivation or low skill and high motivation. But this is merely a hypothesis and would have most relevance in tasks with a low skill level.

There are many other forms of motives and drives which influence the player's performance. Some players possess a high need for achievement which could be described as a persistent desire to achieve in a competitive situation. Linked with this we find individual differences among people in relation to the risks they are

prepared to take in order to succeed and this leads on to a fear of failure, which many sportsmen display. This urge to achieve success in order to avoid being a failure can evoke either a positive or negative reaction from the player. This could explain why some players get injured at the most important time or feign sickness when they are most needed — they prefer to opt out rather than accept the risk of defeat.

The important point to remember is that the same motivational device cannot be used to obtain the best performance from a group, or team, of players. People play games for different reasons, their intrinsic motives are peculiar to the particular individual himself and so also should the extrinsic motivation be tailored to suit each individual player.

In this very brief summary of a very extensive field of knowledge, I have only touched on one aspect in the area of motivation. It is an important one but by no means the most important. Some people learn the hard way by means of trial and error in order to determine what each individual's needs are. But in dealing with fellow human beings can we allow players to meet unnecessary failure and frustration because the people in charge do not understand their problems and needs?

I am not advocating that every coach should be a psychologist but he should be at least aware of the scientific study of the human mind.



Claudy's

New H.Q.

—Ironie

Twist

of Fate

John Mitchel's G.F.C., Claudy, Derry may not have set the football world alight by its exploits on the field since it was founded in 1933, but now it puts the rest of the clubs throughout the country in the shade by possessing a stately mansion as its headquarters (pictured above).

Not even in their wildest dreams could founders of the club Patrick O'Neill, the present chairman, or the late Alfie Devine, who died earlier this year, have foreseen that one day the club would be contemplating buying so elegant a building, let alone be in a financial position to do so.

When Cumber House, a large Georgian style building (pictured above) erected in Victorian days, came on the market last summer the club met specially to discuss the feasibility of buying the property. A decision was taken despite the fact that five years earlier ground bought for £3,300 was in the process of being converted into an excellent pitch, that the officials should get cracking.

Encouraged by the knowledge that they would be eligible for a £10,000 loan under the Club Development Scheme, the go-ahead officials wasted no time and their bid for "the big house"

By P. J. McKEEFREY, Sports Editor, The Irish News (Belfast)

as it was locally known, saw what in recent years had been a doctor's residence become their property.

This as a great feather in the cap of the nationalistic population, and in particular the club, for the house had been symbolic of everything opposed to Irish nationalism. Naturally there was resentment in certain quarters over the club acquiring the property, for since it was built in 1840 it had been in British hands or those who aligned themselves to the monarchy.

Although only a mile from the village, Cumber House had always been a 'remote' place for Claudy folk and probably the only locals or peasants, to have stood at the front door, which had nine steps leading up to it, in the last century were those who worked there. And most likely it was only to shine the large brass knocker for the workers entered by the rear where their quarters were. Down through the years it had all the trappings of wealth such as a veranda, large hallway and of course, the inevitable flagpole.

STEEPED IN HISTORY

The place is steeped in history and to get it in proper perspective one would have to go back to the time of the Plantation of Ulster. In the early 1600's the land around Claudy passed out of the hands of the natives into the control of the British Government who, in turn, gave it to the Established Church.

Then the Bishop of Derry — Bishop Reeves — let the land to an Englishman called George Cooke for the princely rent of £7 per year. The estate changed hands many times and in 1872 Cooke's son was leasing the land to a man called Ross, who

was greatly interested in farming. He is reputed to have reclaimed 20 acres of quagmire (possibly what is now called The Green) and turned it into a well irrigated meadow.

These people acted as landlords for the Claudy-Cumber area, the last of them being the Browne-Lecky family who had control until the early years of the present century.

Cumber House was built in 1840 for the Browne family, who by inter-marriage became known as Browne-Lecky. The image of landlordism in this country is one of oppression but the Browne-Lecky family are said to have been an exception as they were tolerant and benevolent.

Last member of that family to live in the house was Col. Cecil Browne-Lecky, who died in January, 1929, and was buried with his dog in the old Cumber graveyard. He only managed the place for his brother Ernest, who spent most of the time in England. The colonel's initials are clearly printed on a beautiful fireplace of Italian marble in a room now used by the club for its meetings.

NO LONGER SEAT OF AUTHORITY

After the colonel's death the family lost contact with the Claudy area and the property was administered by a firm of solicitors, who sold it to an Englishman called Wooton. He had much of the woodland cleared and sold parts of it to the locals who were now in position to buy. By 1930 Cumber House was no longer a seat of authority and during the last war British and American troops were billeted there.

When the club bought the building last year with its 27 acres of woodland it consisted of 25 rooms, four of which have been converted into a modernly equipped lounge. As a large part of the building had not been used by its last occupant, the club has had to carry out a lot of renovations costing £10,000 even though much of it was done by voluntary labour.

The hard grafting members have transformed what used to be stables into a hall measuring 80' by 20'. They've got a grant for making paths through the woodland which will be a place for scenic walks.

Manager of the club is former county player Charlie Donaghy who with his wife resides in the spacious Cumber House now known as John Mitchel's Gaelic Centre.

As if this was not a big enough undertaking for a small country club with 300 members, who each pay £5 membership yearly, Mitchels have converted 14 acres of ground which they bought in '67 into two first class pitches, one of which will be used for their two adult teams, as well as their minor and juvenile footballers, to practise on. A lot of work, much of it voluntary too, had to be put into this project to make the pitch,

which is about a quarter of a mile outside the village, one of the finest in the country.

It's certainly a far cry from the days when Desmond's field served as the pitch 40 years ago. Since then the club moved to several "homesteads" before settling down in "The Green" which is still in use.

NEVER FLINCHED

Like a good many clubs, Mitchels have had more than their fair share of "downs" but their doughty officials never threw in the towel. First of all the club competed under the auspices of the City Board before joining the North Derry one when it was formed. They've made their mark in North Derry where they have captured several trophies although the county's senior title has eluded them.

G.A.A. PERSONALITIES

Although the club can only draw on players within a three mile radius with a population of approximately 1,000, several of its members have worn the county jersey with distinction. Perhaps best known of them is Patsy Gormley, who was in goal for the Derry team that reached the All-Ireland final in '58. At present Jude Hargan is making a name for himself with his performances for the senior and Under-21 teams.

The amicable Johnny Burke who along with Teddy Donaghy, handles the club's fiscal matters, has been a member of the County Board for intermittent spells from '54, to '68, while club secretary Seamus McCloskey is chairman of the North Derry Board at the moment.

This is a splendid building which now opens up a new era for Claudy, just recovering from the triple bomb blast which claimed five lives. The centre is a testimony to the steadfastness, hardwork and progressiveness of the club which is bound to have many bright days ahead.

With so much on their plate it is not surprising that the task of running affairs has been delegated to two committees which work in conjunction. In addition to the officials already mentioned the others are: vice-chairman, Willie Devine; secretary, Hugh Doherty; committee Tommy Brolly, George McKeever, Frank Connolly, Kevin McDermott, Michael James Donaghy with Jack Foley as trustee.

The social committee is headed by school master Peter McGirr aided by Vice-chairman John O'Neill; secretary Seamus Mullan P.T.; treasurers Johnny Burke and Teddy Donaghy; committee Kevin McDermott, M. J. Donaghy John Heron, Hugh Doherty and George McKeever.

SEVENTY YEARS AGO . .

ON New Year's Day 1904 the Enniscorthy District Committee of the G.A.A. at a meeting in the Gaelic League Rooms, Enniscorthy considered an unusual objection; at least if brought today it might be considered unusual.

The objection was brought by the Enniscorthy Rapparees Hurling Club against Ferns, and concerned playing pitch measurements. The Rapparees Hurling Club, through an official, Mr. Thomas Murphy, objected to a championship match played at Oulart on the previous 15th December being awarded to their opponents Ferns, as the ground on which the match was played was only 78 yards wide, being six yards too narrow. The rule dealing with the question stated that "the ground should not be less than 84 yards or more than 100 yards wide."

The actual measurement of 78 yards was made by Mr. M. Hassett in the presence of Mr. P. D. Breen, county secretary.

At the outset, the Gorey delegate, J. R. Etchingham, asked the Rapparees

to withdraw the objection and later requested the Chairman to rule it out of order.

Saying that there was a precedent for what he asked, Mr. Etchingham went on to explain that in 1902 the same thing occurred at Borris when Wexford played Kilkenny. Wexford won, and Kilkenny objected on the ground that the field of play was too small. At the meeting at which the objection was to have been heard Ald. Nowlan, chairman of the Central Council, presided, and he ruled the objection out of order on the ground that the objection was frivolous and that the referee's decision should stand. "When that held good in Leinster championships I think it might be safely followed here in the interest of the association . . .," Mr. Etchingham concluded.

The Rapparees refused to withdraw and so the hearing of the objection went on.

Mr. P. McCullagh for Ferns tendered evidence that the field was 85

yards 2 feet wide at one end and 79 yards at the lower. At the 21 yards mark it was 81 yards 9 inches, he said.

When Mr. T. Murphy (Rapparees) said he only saw the field measured at one end, Mr. McCullagh replied that he measured it with his own tape. He did not go to the police barrack for a tape as the Rapparees did, he added.

After some further discussion, the Chairman ruled that the match was null and void.

Subsequently at a meeting of Wexford Co. Board an appeal by Ferns against the District Committee ruling was upheld and they were awarded the match.

Note: The Official Guide of the Association has included, for many years now, the following regulation: "There can be no objection to the size of pitch, lines, etc., unless a protest has been made to the Referee, before match starts. The Committee or Council, acting on such a report, can order a replay."

The Big Man From Beara Is Gone

TERRIBLE about Weesh, wasn't it said Tom Bowman the Sars hurlers to me in Patrick Street on that Monday morning early in September. My God it was hard to believe. And I knew immediately before Tom had spoken another word that our friend was gone. On Sunday he was unwell at the great game where Limerick brought back the glory and that night after he had sent a telegram of congratulations to Eamonn Grimes God took him quickly and quietly from his family and friends.

When they brought him down from Dublin the men of Tipperary waited for him at the Kilkenny border watching from the hills as did their forefathers for the champions of old. In scores they lined the roadside to render the last sad salute. At Mitchelstown the smiles of manly triumphs were smoothed into silent sympathy as the hurling champions from Limerick gathered to respect their dead provincial chairman.

This Weesh Murphy was a big man. Large enough in body and limb but big — really big — in heart. He had read the book of life well and there was nothing too big to be done for a friend in need. Remember how he travelled, phoned, appealed to get All-Ireland tickets for the "small" men who ran the clubs. He it was who first spoke publicly on the importance of getting jobs for players in their own areas to keep the boys at home and so preserve their clubs.

He was born on Bere Island in a family of four brothers all of whom contributed in his own special way to the G.A.A. Brendan and Weesh were administrators as well as players. All-Ireland men strong with the rock-strength of their own hills that looked steadfastly out on the Atlantic Ocean. They were taught early in life to work hard and to channel into every part of their lives their full heart and personality. Father Bobbie a fine player stood at full back in many an army football game and now as Dean of Kerry is as vitally interested in the game and its followers as ever. Brendan a craggy man from Beara very like Weesh in colouring and features lives Cumann Luth-Chleas Gael in his native hills and valleys. In his young days Weesh stood for a season at centrefield, but it was at full-back that his real ability was seen. He had exceptional speed and nimbleness of foot and it was a joy to see him swerve outfield with the ball through a bundle of opponents. This all came a very sound connection between quick brain and trained limbs. The reaction was fast and the judgement sharp. His heart and ball playing ability was never more tested than in his All-Ireland final of '45 when he fought to the last gasp against flying Cavan forwards. Even at the end of his days he won a county championship for Lees at full forward. Again the same restless probing stimulated mental and physical ability was seen.

It was the buoyant cheerful personality that made him a leader wherever he went. Weesh was never silent . . . joking, teasing, arguing, singing, reciting . . . In the cars to the matches there was the mouth-organ and the raillery and the yarns about the games and the chaps who played them.

After the boots were hung up he took over the Cork Board for ten years. Bustling, active seasons they were with a committee which argued and discussed often late into the night. Here again the humanity of Weesh was seen and he worked hard to get some sort of unanimity for the most controversial decisions. The G.A.A. committee cannot always be popular any more than the best father in the world when law and order is enforced. But the gay argumentative open personality of Weesh Murphy rode over many of the stormy waves to eventual calm. It was from Cork he went on to the Munster Council where soon he succeeded to the chair and I knew better than most the playing ambition that was highest in his mind.

Munster hadn't won a Railway Cup in football since 1949 when Weesh was at full back, with Paddy Bawn Brosnan and Eddie O'Connor of Kerry on either side of him. They helped form a fine team which beat Leinster but that was oh, so long ago. Many a time Weesh moaned to me about our lack of success in this competition

The making of a legend — as Cork's full-back



The Weesh Murphy that most people knew best — as full-back for Cork. This was one of his last appearances in the Cork No. 3, in the Munster final v. Kerry in The Mardyke in 1954. Players, from left, Sean Kelly (K) No. 14, Paddy Discoll (C) on ground, Weesh Murphy, No. 3, Jackie Lyne (K), Donal Herlihy (C), Denis Bernard (C) partly hidden, and Paddy Tyers (C). Kerry beat Cork in that final but lost the All-Ireland to Meath.

which meant so much both to him and me. It was when he became Munster Council chairman he made up his mind to translate desire into action. He canvassed the players, coaxed and cajoled County Boards, exhorted county delegates to the provincial council and captured as trainer the redoubtable Doney Donovan. Players, trainer, selector he moulded into a tightly-knit bunch. Players like Donie O'Sullivan, Billy Morgan, Ray Cummins, Micko Connell, Mick O'Dwyer, Tom Prendergast, Babs Keating, Frank Cogan and Jim Wall of the Nire Valley did the rest. It was a great day for Weesh when the cup came south again in 1972.

His sense of humour was well known and many a joke he told against himself on those car journeys to matches where the visits to the coaling stations were more than just a chance to have a drink. Rather were they a renewal of old and treasured friendships which are cemented in hours of wonderful sport and rivalry. One St. Patrick's night on the way from Dublin with two friends the visit to one establishment was lacking in true warmth "Three half ones on a tray and no taste or flavour on

it" was the comment. On to Tipperary the home of great hurlers and hearty people; and a suggestion of a stop at the hump-backed bridge (which is now smoothed away to a wide road). 'No good was the comment'. The Squad cars are on the prowl". Someone replied, "We'll walk past the door before we put a sin on our souls. It would be wrong not to call". They stopped and the door opened. A bottle was produced and when the big open-hearted woman had filled the glasses we heard "Now Weesh, give us a tune on the old mouth-organ and let them come if they like.

The man from Beara is gone. Gone the ready smile, the hearty laugh and the straight talk when only straight words would do. They miss him at the dogs, at the cattle station, at the training grounds, in the meeting and in the haunts of sporting men where after the game the hardy chaps from the fields gather to talk of the merit of horse, hound, or man. And it's the same traits that make them all run . . . the manliness and spirit that made our friend Weesh Murphy the loss to us all that will not be filled.

To Ann the gentle woman who mar-

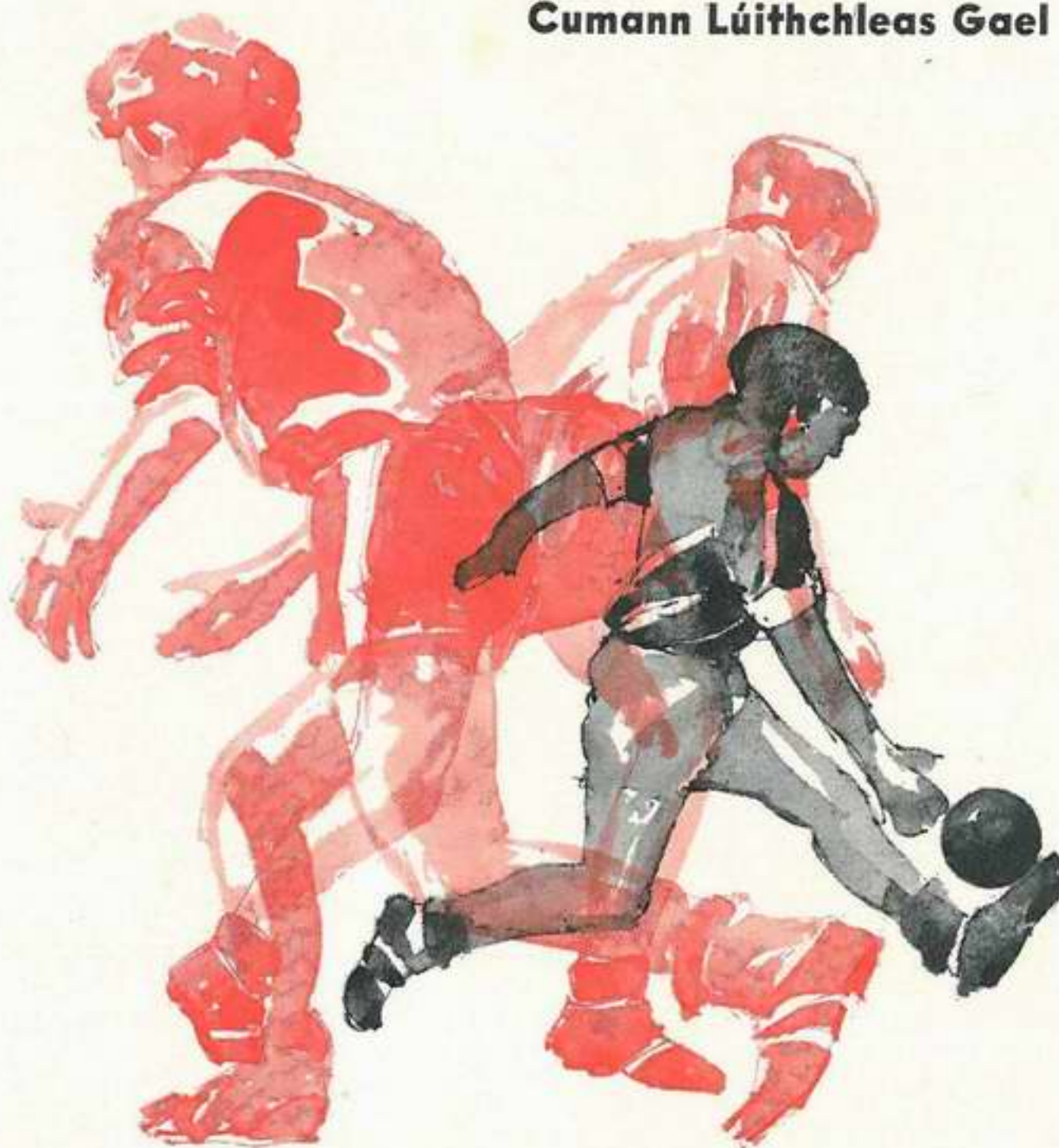
ried him, a quiet girl from Sligo, to his brothers Fr. Bob and Brendan, his sisters, his tall footballing son Dr. Con and the girls, all the sporting world of Ireland turned in sympathy. For all of us only the physical side of Weesh is gone. The memory and the spirit will endure . . . God rest him tonight in the Cork graveyard where so many of his friends are buried and where Terry MacSweeney and Tomas MacCurtain find their rest. Men like these handed on a treasure of Irish Ireland to the generation that followed. Men like Weesh Murphy gladly accepted the mantle and wore it with pride. Let the next generation take over where he left off and the proud spirit of the Celt will shine brightly in our own land.

'It was 'Sliabh Rua', Phil O'Neill the charming G.A.A. writer from Kinsale who penned the nostalgic lines which come to mind when writing about our friend Weesh Murphy and I borrow from O'Neill to conclude my tribute.

"No more upon the football field will Sunday evening find him, But far away from all his friends and the loved ones left behind him."

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ALL THE 1973 G.A.A. RESULTS

ALL-IRELAND FINALS

S.H.: Limerick 1-21; Kilkenny 1-14.
S.F.: Cork 3-17; Galway 2-13.
I.H.: Kilkenny 5-15; London 2-9.
Under-21 F.: Kerry 2-13; Mayo 0-13.
Under-21 H.:
J.H.: Warwickshire 6-9; Louth 3-8.
J.F.: Laois 0-12; London 1-8.
M.H.: Kilkenny 4-5; Galway 3-7.
M.F.: Tyrone 2-11; Kildare 1-6.

ALL-IRELAND JUNIOR HOME FINALS

F.: Laois 2-13; Sligo 1-5.
H.: Louth 4-11; Kerry 3-11.

ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINALS

S.H.: Limerick 1-15; London 0-7.
S.F.: Galway 0-16; Offaly 2-8. Cork 5-10; Tyrone 2-4.
I.H.: Kilkenny 5-18; Antrim 1-10. London 3-6; Kerry 2-6.
Under-21 H.: Wexford 2-9; Antrim 0-7. Note: Wexford were awarded this game after it had been abandoned with ten minutes play remaining.
Under-21 F.: Kerry 3-11; Offaly 1-10. Tyrone 0-12; Mayo 1-9. DRAW. Mayo 1-14; Tyrone 1-6 REPLAY.
J.H.: Louth 3-13; Sligo 2-2. Kerry 2-8; Armagh 1-7.
M.H.: Galway 3-14; Tipperary 3-10. Kilkenny 5-15; Antrim 2-3.
M.F.: Kildare 0-9; Mayo 0-8. Tyrone 1-7; Cork 0-10. DRAW. Tyrone 3-10; Cork 0-10. REPLAY.

ALL-IRELAND PRELIMINARY ROUND GAMES

S.H.: London 4-7; Galway 3-5.
M.F.: Mayo 2-14; Hertfordshire 0-2.

PROVINCIAL S.F. CHAMPIONSHIPS

CONNACHT: Galway 3-6; Sligo 1-9. Mayo 7-6; Leitrim 0-3.
Galway 1-13; Roscommon 1-8.
FINAL: Galway 1-17; Mayo 2-12.

LEINSTER: Louth 0-14; Carlow 1-3. Dublin 3-11; Wexford 0-5. Dublin 2-6; Louth 1-9. DRAW. Meath 1-6; Westmeath 0-8.
Laois 3-16; Wicklow 0-14. Louth 1-8; Dublin 0-9. REPLAY.
Kildare 0-13; Longford 0-8. Offaly 1-8; Louth 0-8. Meath 2-17;
Laois 2-11. Offaly 1-15; Kildare 2-6.
FINAL: Offaly 3-21; Meath 2-12.

MUNSTER: Clare 0-18; Waterford 1-5. Tipperary 4-13;
Limerick 1-7. Kerry 3-11; Tipperary 0-5. Cork 2-14; Clare 0-3.
FINAL: Cork 5-12; Kerry 1-15.

ULSTER: Derry 1-7; Monaghan 0-5. Down 2-10; Armagh 2-9.
Fermanagh 3-9; Antrim 4-4. Tyrone 0-12; Donegal 1-7. Down
1-7; Cavan 0-8. Tyrone 1-15; Fermanagh 0-11. Down 1-12;
Derry 0-9.

FINAL: Tyrone 3-13; Down 1-11.

PROVINCIAL S.H. CHAMPIONSHIPS

LEINSTER: Westmeath 6-10; Wicklow 5-3. Offaly 4-12; Kildare 3-6. Offaly 3-10; Laois 3-10. DRAW. Dublin 0-17; West-

meath 1-6. Offaly 5-6; Laois 3-10. REPLAY. Kilkenny 2-19;
Dublin 2-11. Wexford 2-14; Offaly 2-9.

FINAL: Kilkenny 4-22; Wexford 3-15.

MUNSTER: Under-21 F.: Kerry 2-12; Cork 1-12. M.F.: Cork
Clare 3-9. Tipperary 5-4; Cork 1-10.

FINAL: Limerick 6-7; Tipperary 2-18.

OTHER PROVINCIAL FINALS

CONNACHT: Under-21 F.: Mayo 1-7; Galway 0-5. J.F.:
Sligo 4-8; Leitrim 1-4. M.F.: Mayo 3-7; Galway 0-3.

LEINSTER: Under-21 F.: Offaly 3-8; Kildare 3-6. J.F.: Laois
1-9; Meath 0-9. M.F.: Kildare 4-11; Laois 0-10. I.H.: Kilkenny
11-15; Meath 1-3. Under-21 H.: Wexford 2-13; Offaly 2-10.
J.H.: Louth 8-7; Meath 6-5. M.H.: Kilkenny 3-10; Wexford 2-9.

MUNSTER: Under-21 F.: Kerry 2-12; Cork 1-12. M.F.: Cork
1-13; Kerry 3-5. Under-21 H.: Cork 4-11; Limerick 2-7. M.H.:
Tipperary 5-12; Limerick 5-4.

ULSTER: Under-21 F.: Tyrone 2-14; Monaghan 2-5. M.F.:
Tyrone 1-13; Down 0-9. I.H.: Antrim 3-11; Down 1-6. Under-
21 H.: Antrim 1-6; Down 1-6. DRAW. Antrim 3-19; Down 3-3.
REPLAY.

NATIONAL LEAGUE FINALS

F.: Kerry 2-12; Offaly 0-14. H.: Wexford 4-13; Limerick 3-7.
Division II Football: Tyrone 1-16; New York 1-11. Tyrone
2-11; New York 1-7. Aggregate score: Tyrone 3-27 (36
points); New York 2-18 (24 points).

"Home" Final: Tyrone 1-13; Down 0-15. Division I "B"
Hurling: Waterford 1-17; New York 3-8.

RAILWAY CUP FINALS

F.: REPLAY: Combined Universities 4-9; Connacht 1-11. Draw:
Combined Universities 2-12; Connacht 0-18.
H.: Leinster 1-13; Munster 2-8.

ALL-IRELAND CLUB FINALS

F.: REPLAY: Nemo Rangers, Cork, 4-6; St. Vincent's, Dublin,
0-10. DRAW: Nemo Rangers 2-11; St. Vincent's 2-11.
H.: There was no final in this code.

CARROLLS-U.C.D. ALL-IRELAND 7-A-SIDE

F.: Final: Shannon Rangers, Kerry, 4-15; Carbury, Kildare, 5-4.

CARROLLS ALL-STAR GAMES

H.: Carrolls All-Stars 5-10; Kilkenny 3-14. Kilkenny 4-9;
Carrolls All-Stars 1-7. Aggregate Score: Kilkenny 7-23 (44
points); Carrolls All-Stars 6-17 (35 points).

F.: Carrolls All-Stars 2-16; Offaly 2-8. Offaly 0-11; Carrolls



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All-Stars 0-9. Aggregate Score : Carrolls All-Stars 2-25 (31 points); Offaly 2-19 (25 points).

F.: Kerry 3-16; Carrolls All-Stars 2-17.

H.: Carrolls All-Stars 1-18; Tipperary 0-16.

DR. McKENNA CUP FINAL

F.: Tyrone 0-13; Down 0-5.

O'BYRNE CUP

F.: Final : Kildare 3-11; Dublin 1-4.

CARDINAL CUSHING GAMES

F.: Roscommon 2-6; Kerry 0-10. Roscommon 2-12; Kerry 0-8. Aggregate score over two games: Roscommon 4-18; Kerry 0-18.

CORN NA CASCA

H.: Kilkenny 3-18; Dublin 1-3.

PLAYER-WILLS TOURNAMENT

F.: Dublin 1-8; Offaly 0-11 (Draw).

WALSH CUP FINAL

H.: Kilkenny 2-21; Wexford 2-11.

KILLINKERE GOLD WATCH TOURNAMENT

F.: U.C.D. 0-12; The Downs, Westmeath, 0-6.

NEWTOWNCASHEL TOURNAMENT FINAL

F.: Roscommon Gaels 3-9; Ferbane 3-8.

GOODE CUP

F.: Galway 3-15; Cavan 1-2.

REPRESENTATIVE GAME

F.: Donegal 3-14; Britain 1-7.

UNIVERSITIES

SIGERSON CUP FINAL

F.: U.C.D. 1-9; St. Patrick's, Maynooth 1-5.

FITZGIBBON CUP FINAL

H.: St. Patrick's, Maynooth, 2-12; U.C. Galway 4-4.

SENIOR LEAGUE

F.: Queen's University, Belfast, 2-18; St. Patrick's, Maynooth, 1-5

RAILWAY CUP

F.: Combined Universities 2-7; Ulster 0-12. Semi-final: Combined Universities 0-11; Leinster 0-8. Final: Combined Universities 2-12; Connacht 0-18 (Draw). Combined Universities 4-9; Connacht 1-11 (Replay).

H.: Combined Universities 6-13; Ulster 1-7. Semi-final: Combined Universities 0-9; Leinster 4-13.

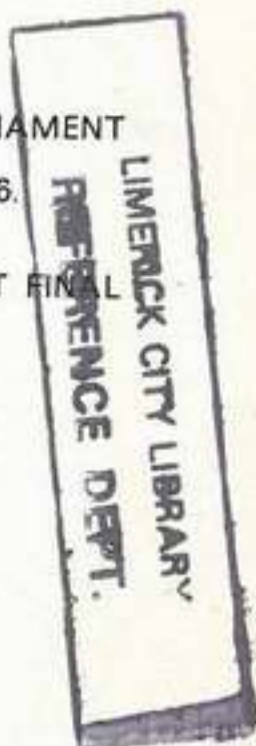
ALL-IRELAND COLLEGES' FINAL

F.: Franciscan College, Gormanston, 1-7; St. Jarlath's, Tuam, 0-8.

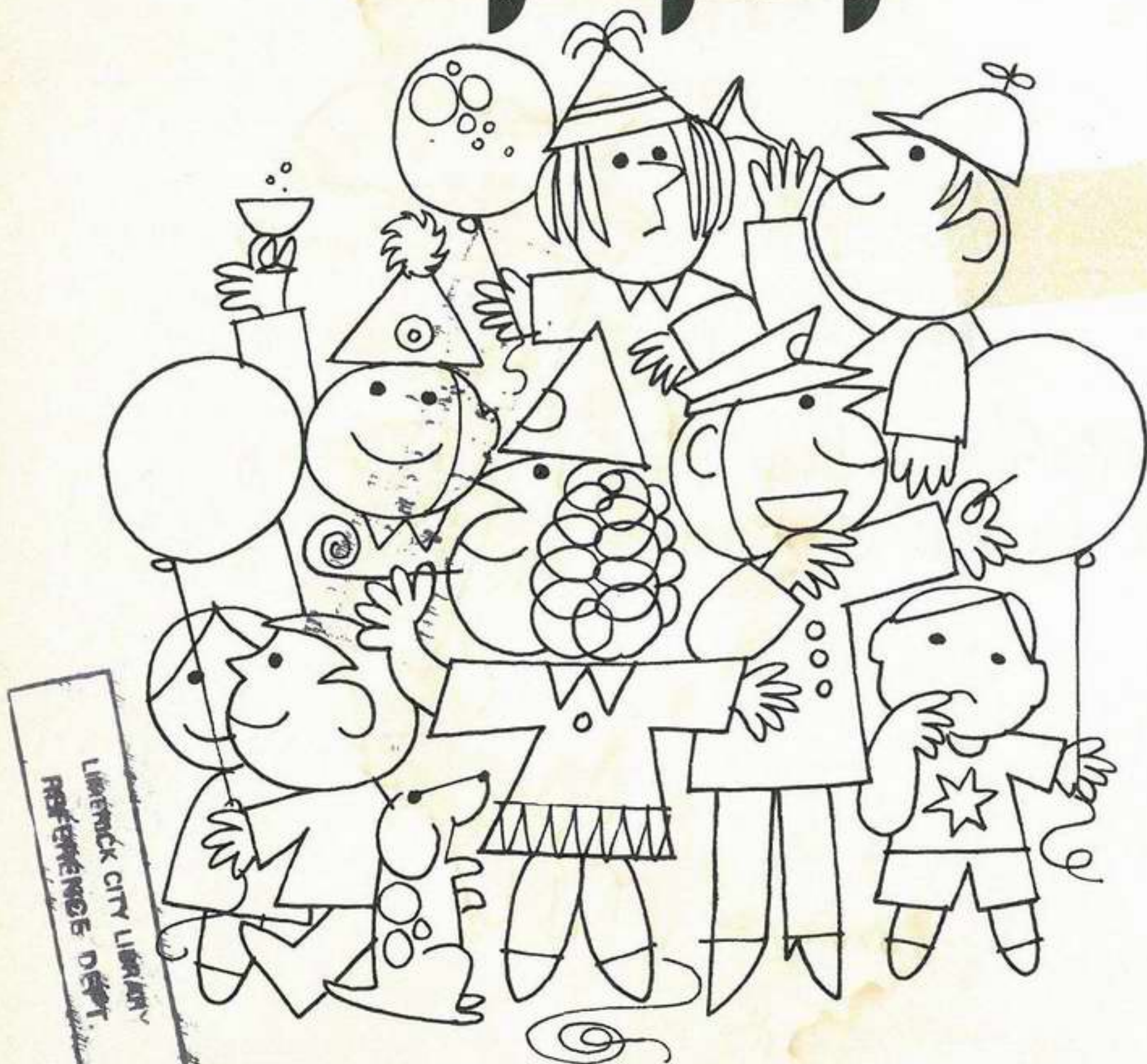
H.: Replay: St. Peter's, Wexford, 4-15; Our Lady's, Gort, 1-5. Draw: St. Peter's 2-6; Our Lady's 2-6.

EXPLANATION OF PICTURE ON PAGE 24

The picture of Benny Gaughran and Pat O'Neill on page 24 was taken just after a free-in had been awarded to Louth. O'Neill is retreating towards his own goals and Gaughran is merely heading in the same direction. A simple explanation to a suspicious looking picture!



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FRONT COVER PICTURES:

Top: Referee John Maloney gives a helping hand to Cork full-back Humphrey Kelleher when the latter suffered a leg injury near the end of the All-Ireland Final.

Bottom: A typical scene from the All-Ireland Hurling Final as Limerick Captain, Eamonn Grimes, comforts two Kilkenny players.

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