

# YEAR-ROUND ROWING AT A.B.C.



A group of Athlunkard supporters pictured in happy mood on the club premises.



Although the first regatta of the season is three months away, Athlunkard Schoolboys are in training since last October! Pictured here after a "spin" on Sunday morning last are (from left): D. Henn (coach), P. Synnott (stk.), M. O'Regan, G. O'Sullivan, P. Cunneen, D. Haskett, F. Skelly, Joe Sherry, John Sherry. Taking in the crew is Captain, Ger. Meehan.

## Athlunkard sets headline for Limerick clubs

Miss Phil Keogh, who is in charge of the Baby Carriage Department in Roches Stores, takes delivery of £1,000 worth of stock from Mr. Peter McCarthy, sales representative, Clomel Industries.



### clubs

I THINK it was the poet Milnes who first gave public expression to the view that the stalwarts of old were not a whit better than the men of his time. The opinion still holds for to-day, and anyone who doubts the hardihood and determination of Limerick youth should call to Athlunkard Boat Club where schoolboy and maiden crews, despite the bitter weather, are already in training for next season's regattas.

The crews are on the water since last October, and have set a new standard for the sport in Limerick by rowing throughout the winter.

On Tuesdays and Saturdays of each week, an average distance of five miles is covered by the schools eight. The maiden oarsmen have their "spins" on Saturdays and Sundays. And, for the indoor training at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays the oarsmen are given a course in weightlifting at the club, together with circuit training, which includes a run on the Island Bank.

#### New Approach

Commenting on this new approach to training, Club Captain Gerard Meehan told me: "It is now the only way that commercial clubs have a chance of winning at regattas. The standard of competition has reached such a high peak that the old system of

two months' training during the summer is gone by the board." He added that practically all clubs in the other provincial areas now do some form of training—indoor or outdoor—during the winter.

Helping Gerard with the training of his crews are Des Henn and Vice-Captain, Jack Hinchey. In addition to the eight schoolboys now in training at the Club, they are looking forward to taking in a number of boys from St. Munchin's College during the season. Athlunkard will, therefore, very probably be represented at regattas with two eights in this class, as club schoolboys.

New members are always welcome, and youths interested in taking up the sport should call to the club on any Tuesday or Thursday night. This invitation is particularly extended to the large number of lads now working in the city or at Shannon and who have no other sporting commitments.

Last year the Club competed at regattas in Limerick, Cork, Cappoquin, Galway and Fermoy. Successes of the schoolboy eights included a win from Glasgow and St. Nessan's crews at Cork and Cappoquin and an earlier win at Fermoy.

In the coming season, their schools crews will make a strong bid for the Championship in Cork.

The crew at present is: F. Sherry (bow), J. Sherry, J. Skelly, D. Haskett, G. O'Sullivan, P. Cunneen, M. O'Regan, P. Synnott (stk.), J. Campbell (cox).

Twin brothers in the eight are Frank and John Sherry, bow and No. 2, respectively.

Maiden oarsmen in training are: T. Foley, P. Ringrose, J. Mulqueen, P. Hayes, P. O'Dwyer, W. O'Sullivan, P. Scallan.

"At Home"

Athlunkard can now claim to have the most popular "At Home" fixture in the country.

The event, which is held in May, attracted entries from Fermoy, Galway and Cork, last year, together, of course, with crews from the local clubs, and I understand that an even more attractive programme is planned for this year.

Gerard Meehan, who was elected

President last October, took up rowing with Shannon Rowing Club under Jack Gleazer in 1955, and in his first season won the New York and Quin Cups in Limerick, and the maiden eight trophies at Cork and Galway.

In junior class he won the eights at Waterford and Galway, and came second to Garda in the I.A.R.U. Championship.

Shannon did not form a senior crew in the following year, however, and Ger went to Athlunkard under the captaincy of Ender

McNamara. Previous to his election as Captain, he had acted as Vice-Captain to Gerry O'Donovan for the past three years.

#### Officers

The Officers and Committee of this progressive club are: President, Leo Clancy; Vice-President, Archie Brown; Hon. Sec., Ger in Limerick, and that is not the O'Donovan; Hon. Treasurer, John Gleeson; Captain, Ger. Meehan; and

Vice-Captain, Jack Hinchey. Committee—Messrs. D. Cowhey, J. Dempsey, D. O'Farrell, P. Frawley, S. Heagney, D. Henn, J. Lynch, A. Moore and J. Stundon.

To date, Athlunkard has set a headline for Limerick rowing, as it was the only club to bring all three I.A.R.U. Championships here, and in 1952 won the Inter-Provincial trophy, the only time it was ever brought to Munster.

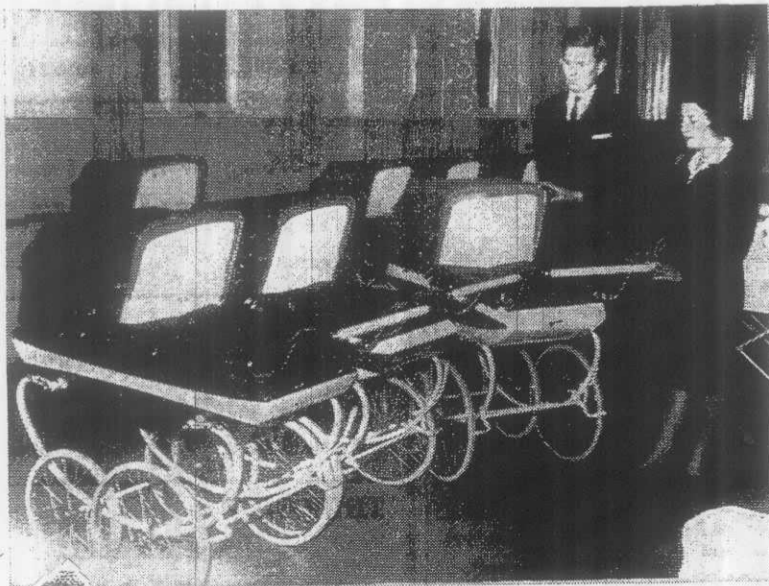
The club has brought many sporting honours to Limerick in the years between, and now it is proving that the youth of today are ready to meet and overcome the even sterner challenges of what has become a highly competitive sport.

And in this they are proving that rowing is still a living force in Limerick, and that is not the oarsmen, but their critics, who are tired



Some officers and members of the club. Front row (l. to r.): John Gleeson (Treasurer); L. Clancy (President); A. Brown (Vice-Pres.); G. O'Donovan (Hon. Sec.). Back row (l. to r.): T. Hanrahan, J. Crowe, J. Stundon (Committee), G. Meehan (Capt.).

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## ROCHES STORES LIMERICK

Mr. L. Clancy, President.

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**THE NATIONAL BANK LIMITED**

*Chairman reports increase of £17,000,000 in Bank's Resources*

The Chairman: W. Antony Acton

**BANK'S PROGRESS**  
I am very pleased to be able to report a record figure of Resources of £143,292,898. This is an increase of some £17,000,000 over 1963 and is more than four times the improvement in that year over 1962. Possibly the most striking change in the Balance Sheet figures is the increase in our advances to customers. At £76,253,484 they are nearly £14M greater than in the previous year and are up by 22%. During 1964 much more than the increase in our Irish resources was lent in the Republic. As you know, your Bank has for some years been following a policy of steady expansion. Our new University branch at Stillorgan, Co. Dublin, has just opened in attractive premises.

**AGRICULTURE**  
The Second Programme emphasises the importance of gaining increased access to foreign markets for agricultural produce. While it is true that realisation of long-term objectives by Irish Agriculture depends to a large extent on more extensive penetration of foreign markets, this penetration will be possible only if the Programme's aim of achieving more efficient production is also realised. The Bank is endeavouring to contribute, in an effective way, towards this necessary increase in farm efficiency and productivity. During the year we added to our range of Farm Credit Schemes by the introduction of three new schemes aimed at enabling dairy farmers to increase and improve their herds, thus bringing to 12 the total number of special schemes operated by this Bank for extending credit to the farming community; we continued our sponsorship of the Annual Farm Management Competition of Macra na Feirme and the Bank has had the benefit of the knowledge and experience of our full-time Agricultural Adviser, Mr. M. L. Hyland, B.Agr.Sc.

**STAFF**  
We are fortunate in having a loyal, friendly and qualified staff to serve the Bank and its customers, and I express to them sincere thanks for all they have done and are doing, in the knowledge that their individual contributions to the success of the Bank will be no less than in the past.

|                                  | 1963        | 1964                        |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Net Profit                       | £ 314,677   | £ 363,297                   |
| Dividend Rate                    | 16%         | 15%                         |
|                                  | per annum   | per annum on larger capital |
| Advances and Bills Discounted    | 64,236,652  | 78,394,722                  |
| Current Deposit & Other Accounts | 126,210,729 | 143,292,898                 |
| TOTAL ASSETS                     | 134,367,584 | 152,713,029                 |

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