

## GREAT LIMERICK SPORTSMEN

## They Won Twelve Munster Hurling Titles For Limerick

THIS is Munster Final week-end, and with Limerick seeking their thirteenth crown, I depart from the usual practice of reviewing individual careers to pay collective tribute to the men who, down the years, brought the Munster senior hurling title to the Shannon.

The twelve successes were recorded as under:

1897—Limerick, 4-9;	Cork, 1-8.
1910—Limerick, 5-1;	Cork, 4-2.
1911—Limerick, 5-3;	Tipperary, 4-3.
1918—Limerick, 11-3;	Cork, 1-2.
1921—Limerick, 5-2;	Cork, 1-2.
1923—Limerick, 2-3;	Tipperary, 1-0.
1933—Limerick, 3-7;	Waterford, 1-2.
1934—Limerick, 4-8;	Waterford, 2-5.
1935—Limerick, 5-5;	Tipperary, 1-4.
1936—Limerick, 8-5;	Tipperary, 4-6.
1940—Limerick, 3-3;	Cork, 2-4 (re-play).
1955—Limerick, 2-16;	Clare, 2-6.

### THUMBNAILED SKETCHES.

Here are thumbnail sketches of the twelve finals, and the men who made them:

1897—Kilfinane had the Limerick selection, and Blackrock represented Cork. The Kilfinane men were stronger, more athletic, possessed of greater dash, and played with great combination. There was no doubt that they richly deserved their victory.

"Sean Og" Hanley played an outstanding game for Limerick, with Catterell a close second. Tom Irwin, in the goal for Blackrock, was the best of the Corkmen.

The Limerick players were:—D. Grimes (captain), J. Reidy (goal), P. Buskin, J. Catterell, M. Finn, J. Finn, P. O'Brien, M. Flynn, J. Flood, F. Dunworth, T. Brazill, J. Hanley, M. Downes, J. Hynes, P. Mulcahy, J. Condon and P. Butler.

### A RARE SURPRISE.

1910—In this decider, played at Tralee, the Limerick men created a rare surprise. They fought with great determination, their hurling was magnificent, their combination excellent, their swiftness in getting possession of the ball, and their long and well delivered shots were more than Cork could withstand.

In the first half Limerick set a terrific fast pace, and at half time were leading by three goals. Cork fought desperately to get on terms near the end, but the defence of Flaherty, O'Brien and Hayes was superb, and held the game for the Shannonsiders.

The Limerick players were:—J. ("Tyler") Mackey, captain, (Castleconnell), J. Bourke, goal, (Boher), M. Feely, T. Mangan, M. Mangan (Croom), J. Harrington, E. Treacy, E. Clancy, C. Scanlan (Fedamore), T. Hayes, T. O'Brien (Young Ireland), J. Madden (Commercials), P. Flaherty (Rathkeale), J. Carroll, M. Danaher, D. Conway, M. Sweeney (Castleconnell).

### A REAL THRILLER.

1911—This game, played at Cork Athletic Grounds, was a real thriller, with a sensational finish. Tipperary were leading by seven points ten minutes from the end, with the spectators leaving the field. The trek stopped abruptly as Mick Feely shot a marvellous goal from midfield. A Limerick revival followed, scores came in rapid succession, and the Shannonsiders were three points ahead when the final whistle sounded.

The Limerick players were:—J. ("Tyler") Mackey, Captain; J. Ryan, goal; P. Vaughan, J. Carroll, M. Sweeney, B. O'Connor (Castleconnell), C. Scanlan, S. Gleeson, E. Treacy, E. Clancy, M. Burke, M. Harrington (Fedamore), J. O'Shea, M. Feely (Croom), T. Hayes (South Liberties), P. Flaherty (Rathkeale), T. Hayes (Young Ireland).

1918—Limerick, who beat Tipperary on a re-play of the semi-final, after a bout of special training at Foynes, had an effortless win over Clare, in the final, played at Thur-

The Limerick players were—W. Hough, captain (Newcastle West), M. Murphy, goal (Young Ireland), P. Kennedy, D. Ryan (Pallas), M. Rochford, D. Troy, T. McGrath (Claughaun), D. Lanigan, P. McInerney, W. Gleeson, R. McConkey (Young Ireland), J. Keane (Castleconnell), P. Barry (Boher), W. Ryan, J. Humphreys (Cappamore).

### HURLING WAS PROHIBITED BY THE BRITISH.

1921—Hurling was prohibited by the British authorities during the latter stages of the War of Independence, with the result that Cork and Limerick met in two Munster finals within seven weeks, in the early half of 1922. In the 1920 final, played at Cork on April 2nd, the Leeside re-

### By SEAMUS O'CEALLAIGH

presentatives won 3-4 to 0-5. The 1921 final took place at Thurles on May 28th, when Limerick reversed the verdict, to win 5-2 to 1-2. The Limerick players in the latter game were: R. McConkey, captain; M. Murphy (goal), P. McInerney, D. Lanigan (Young Ireland), C. Ryan (Pallas), D. Murnane, W. Gleeson (Fedamore), J. Keane (Castleconnell), M. Mullane, G. Howard, T. Mangan (Croom), W. Hough (Newcastle West), W. Ryan, J. Humphreys, (Cappamore), T. McGrath (Claughaun).

1923—This final was played at Cork Athletic Grounds on March 10th, 1924, and proved a splendid contest, which aroused tremendous enthusiasm.

The Limerick team lined out:—J. Hanley (goal), J. J. Kinnane, D. Murnane, P. McInerney (captain), J. Keane, W. Hough, W. Ryan, M. Cross, J. Humphreys, J. Callaghan, W. Gleeson, R. McConkey, J. O'Grady, T. McGrath, M. Neville.

1933—In a disappointing match at Cork Athletic Grounds Limerick were clearly superior. The Shannonsiders outhurled, outpucked and outplayed—in a word, outclassed Waterford, who disappointed their supporters, who invaded the pitch eight minutes from time, and prevented the game from finishing. The title was awarded to Limerick, who made every effort to restore order. The Limerick players were: M. Fitzgibbon, captain (Young Ireland), P. Scanlan (goal), (Ahane), M. Cross (Claughaun), G. Howard (Portroe), C. O'Brien (Cappamore), P. Clohessy, D. Clohessy, T. McCarthy (Fedamore), T. Ryan, J. Mackey, M. Mackey (Ahane), E. Cregan (Newcastle West), M. Ryan, P. Ryan (Murroe), J. Roche (Croom).

### LIMERICK AGAIN WORTHY WINNERS.

1934—Limerick were worthy winners, at Cork Athletic Grounds, of a game, in which there was plenty of vigorous, hard fought hurling. Waterford, under sharp pressure, offered stern resistance, but it was the persistent, untiring efforts of the Mackey brothers that eventually triumphed. This pair, full of fire and energy, were here, there and everywhere, taking and giving hard knocks without complaint and it mattered not how the scores came, one or other of the brothers was a contributing factor.

The Limerick players were:—T. Ryan, captain; P. Scanlan, goal; J. Mackey, M. Mackey, J. Close (Ahane), P. Clohessy, D. Clohessy, T. McCarthy (Fedamore), E. Cregan (Newcastle West), M. Kennedy (Young Ireland), M. Cross (Claughaun), M. Ryan (Murroe), J. Roche, J. O'Connell (Croom), G. Howard (Portroe).

1935—Cork Athletic Grounds witnessed a great game, worthy of the old rivals—Limerick and Tipperary. Paddy Scanlan played one of his greatest games ever between the Limerick sticks, in a match that was highlighted with a great goal from a touch puck by Micky

Cross and an equally brilliant major score, from almost the end line, scored by Dave Clohessy. The Limerick line-out was: P. Scanlan (goal), E. Cregan, T. McCarthy, M. Kennedy, M. Cross, G. Howard, J. Power, T. Ryan (captain), M. Ryan, J. Mackey, M. Mackey, J. Roche, D. Clohessy, P. McMahon, J. Close.

### MICK MACKEY'S TEN SCORES.

1936—This decider, played at Thurles, against Tipperary, might almost be called Mick Mackey's Final, for he scored off his own hurley, whilst playing on the great Premier County defender, John Maher, no less than four goals and six points—the exact score Tipperary notched in opposition.

The Limerick line out was—P. Scanlan, goal (Galway Gaels), P. Carroll (Effin), T. McCarthy (Fedamore), M. Kennedy (Young Ireland), M. Cross (Claughaun), P. Clohessy (Fedamore), G. Howard (Garda), T. Ryan (Ahane), M. Ryan (Ahane), J. Mackey (Ahane), M. Mackey, captain (Ahane), J. Roche (Croom), D. Clohessy (Fedamore), P. McMahon (Kildimo), J. Close (Ahane).

1940—It took two hectic meetings of Cork and Limerick, at Thurles, this year to decide the issue. The re-play was chock full of thrills and produced a hectic finish, with an encroachment of the pitch. After order was restored, the two minutes necessary to finish the game were played in an electric atmosphere. Limerick showed the better field craft, their switches to strengthen weak sections materially helping in detroning the title holders. The Limerick line-out was: P. Scanlan (goal), J. McCarthy, M. Hickey, M. Kennedy, T. Cooke, P. Clohessy, P. Cregan, T. Ryan, J. Mackey, J. Power, M. Mackey (captain), R. Stokes, T. Herbert, P. McMahon, J. Roche. Sub.: E. Chawke.

### LAST YEAR'S AMAZING FINAL.

1955 This amazing final, played in Limerick, and of which Dermot Kelly was the hero, is too fresh in the minds of my readers to need any elaboration. But, to complete the record, here are the members of the Limerick team as they lined out on that occasion:

P. Cunneen (St. Patrick's), D. Broderick (Dromcollogher), P. Enright (Ahane), J. Keogh (Ballybricken), E. Noonan (Dromcollogher), S. Ryan (Cappamore), Jack Quaid (Feohanagh), T. Casey (Ahane), Jim Quaid (Feohanagh), R. Prendergast (Claughaun), D. Kelly (Claughaun), Liam Ryan, captain (Cappamore), G. Fitzgerald (Rathkeale), S. Leonard (Ahane), V. Cobbe (St. Patrick's).

The reserves on that occasion were:—P. O'Malley (Cappamore), M. Fitzgibbon, M. McInerney, J. Fitzgibbon (Treaty-Sarsfields), A. Raleigh (Bruff).

## Bruree For South Limerick Minor Football Final

Bruree, 5-4; Dromin-Athlaca, 2-2.

Bruree qualified for the South Limerick Minor Football final when, at Kilmallock, they defeated Dromin-Athlaca in the semi-final by 5 goals and 4 points to 2 goals and 2 points.

Dromin-Athlaca had the better of the first half exchanges and led at the interval by 2 goals and 2 points to 1 goal and 2 points. In the second period, however, Bruree asserted their superiority and went on to win well.

Principal scorers for Bruree were Hogan and Riordan and the principal scorers for Dromin were Treacy and Donohoe.

Mr. M. Galvin, Kilmallock, refereed.

## GAMES OF THE GAEL

## Sunday's Star At The

HURLING is the world's greatest field game! This may seem a sweeping statement to make, but is it?

The Briton may claim the distinction for soccer or rugby; the Yank may holler that you can't beat baseball; the Spaniard may go into ecstasies on the thrill of bull fighting; but, against them all, or any others, hurling stands unequalled.

The science of soccer, the strength of ruby, the speed of baseball, the courage of the bull fight, are all concentrated, in Ireland's national game.

It takes a strong physique to stand up under an hour of hurling, for the pace is swift as well as gruelling. It is little wonder that we have no plagiarists in hurling. Our ancestors invented the game thousands of years ago, and though they never copyrighted it, no other race ever succeeded in playing it.

The Cream of our Athletic Manhood.

The test of endurance, speed, science and judgment required of a champion hurler has not altered down the years, and when county meets county to-day as then, the choice naturally falls on the best, the greatest of its manhood.

In one quality alone has hurling changed, phenomenally changed, and that is in its strength of attraction for the people. Thirty years ago attendances that are to-day commonplace enough were not dreamt of. The All-Ireland Final of 1954 attracted an attendance that in ratio of population could not be equalled or even approached, in any part of the world by any game. It was won by our opponents of next Sunday—Cork.

As a sports loving people, the Irish, it may not be too much to say, lead the world. It is a good thing that that sport, for the greater part, is clean, national

## LIMERICK MUNST



The above photograph shows the Sunday last, in the Munster M 1 goal 5 points for "the Kingd" annexed the provincial title in Cro

and manly. The psychology of the race proves that the "be all and end all" of our national life has never bent to the materialistic. Easy-going and sport-loving, the Irish live, whilst others slave, to amass wealth they will, in all probability never enjoy.

Limerick And Cork a Star Attraction.

To the inherent love of sport, and to the fact that two of Ireland's most attractive counties—