



NEW APPOINTMENT



John Maher.

Mr. John Maher is the newly appointed Industrial Electrician with the Company. John, who presently resides in Loughill, is a native of Tullamore, Co. Offaly. He grew up in this midland town and was educated at Tullamore C.B.S. Hereafter, he furthered his career as an apprentice electrician and qualified in 1969. In 1973, he moved to the Co. Limerick village of Loughill on taking up a position with the E.S.B., in Tarbert, Co. Kerry.

His application for the position of Industrial Electrician with Shannon Meat Ltd. was successful and he commenced working with the firm on 23rd May, 1977. He has quickly made many friends within the Company in his own quiet and friendly way. Already, John and Michael Moran, between them, have established a very popular and formidable duo.

MARRIED

John Maher is married with a son and a daughter. His No. 1 hobby is reading. He states that he used to play football, but is now retired. However, the broadening smile would seem to indicate otherwise.

To John, let us wish a successful and prolonged stay in Shannon Meat Ltd.

UNITED ARE CHAMPS

Shannon United are Desmond League champions. On Wednesday 8th June, they defeated neighbours and arch rivals of many seasons, Kilcoleman by 2 goals to 1. The game was played in ideal weather conditions before a very large enthusiastic and colourful crowd. The match itself produced great football with both the winners and the losers acquitting themselves and proving that they were equal to the occasion. The Company's Chief Chemist, Turlough McDonald was the scorer of United's first goal. The winner was also scored by an employee in the person of centre-forward, James O'Grady. The scenes of jubilation that followed this first ever triumph for Shannon United Soccer Club will long remain in the memories of those who were present.

This was the second play-off to decide the laurels. At the same venue on the previous Sunday, these two very fine sides produced a low scoring draw. The night of the second play-off will long be remembered in the history of Rathkeale sport.

OPINION

The Irish Beef Industry has certainly come a long way since its inception in the early fifties when it can attract the commissioning of reports by two of the top world Management Consultant Firms, viz., Cooper & Lybrand and McKinsey. The latter's report commissioned by the Bank of Ireland, arrived and more of it anon as we were going to Press. The report to the I.D.A., is very detailed and excellent in many ways. There is very little in it that the meat trade can take exception to and a lot that will give them food for thought. However, there is very little new in the report and scarcely any facet that the trade has not been fully aware of. The report in our opinion has certain deficiencies, viz.,

- [a] It has a general looseness.
- [b] Its financial comment fails to point out the abysmally low profit margin earned by the Industry.
- [c] No mention of the desirability for reasonable profit margins as a method of encouraging investment and entrepreneurial activity.
- [d] No mention of the necessity for physical standards in factories or standards of a minimum of available facilities.
- [e] The breaking down of the industry into packing and processing is a little naive and the suggested solution to the proposed development of processing is much too simplistic.

The I.D.A., should be congratulated on their initiative in commissioning the report and their courage in recognising the vital economic importance to our country of the beef industry and its potential as a creator of employment.

REACTION

We must mention the hysterical reaction of some of our national press to the report. The "Irish Times", on the day after the report's issue, had an (i) Editorial, (ii) A two column comment by its Financial Reviewer, (iii) A two column comment by its Agricultural Editor. The "Irish Independent" on the following day had an Editorial on the report. All four viciously attacked the Irish Meat Trade, carefully avoiding to mention even one of the many compliments paid to it within the report. For some reason best known to themselves, some Irish Agricultural Journalists and some Irish newspapers, seem to have a chip on their shoulder with regard to the Beef trade. Politicians occasionally join the bandwagon. Next to the upsurge in prices, the industry seems to be the country's chief and most convenient whipping boy for quite a large area of the media and practically all politicians who are short of something constructive to say. These critics always refer to the trade in general, never naming any individual plants.

COOPER & LYBRAND REPORT TO THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY.

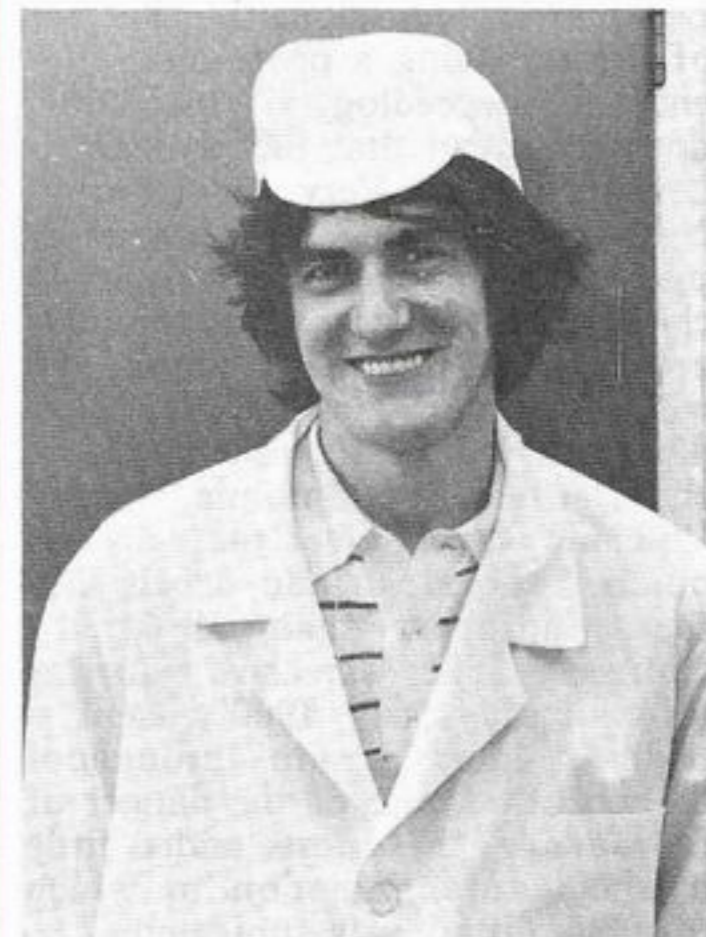
LIVESTOCK

If we are to see anything near the maximum figures of livestock forecasted in the report, some fantastic changes will be experienced in the next 5 years on our Irish farms. If Chapter 19 should turn out to be a Gospel truth, our present winter fatteners would need more than just an injection of confidence to remain in business not to think of further expansion. Comparisons have often been made between milk and beef at processing level. While the dairy man is committed financially to plant and stock, the beef farmer is not tied to the same extent as he has often turned back to the plough when the margins were not in his favour. Undoubtedly, we have some excellent feeders who stay with the system right through. The percentage who chop and change is all too high at present to form a base for any long term forecast. It is a pity that such an important report had not been started from grass level instead of being entirely a paper exercise. Who is going to tell the farmer this time to produce more cattle without any financial aid in the form of a suckling scheme? No article on livestock is complete without a post mortem on 1974, but due to pressure of space, it can hold for our next edition.

McKINSEY REPORT.

We just had a quick glance over this report before going to Press. On this fast assessment it seems an excellent document, penetrating and constructive. It is only to be expected that when Management Consultants are asked to make a study report that they and the commissioning organization assume there are deficiencies and that their function is to point out these deficiencies and suggest remedies. One would also expect McKinsey's to suggest some solutions which are cliches in so called big business. They come up true to form with suggestions of marketing consortia, mergers and joint ventures. This is not to detract from the merits of the report and we will go into it in greater detail in our next issue.

ON THE MOVE



Joe Lynch.

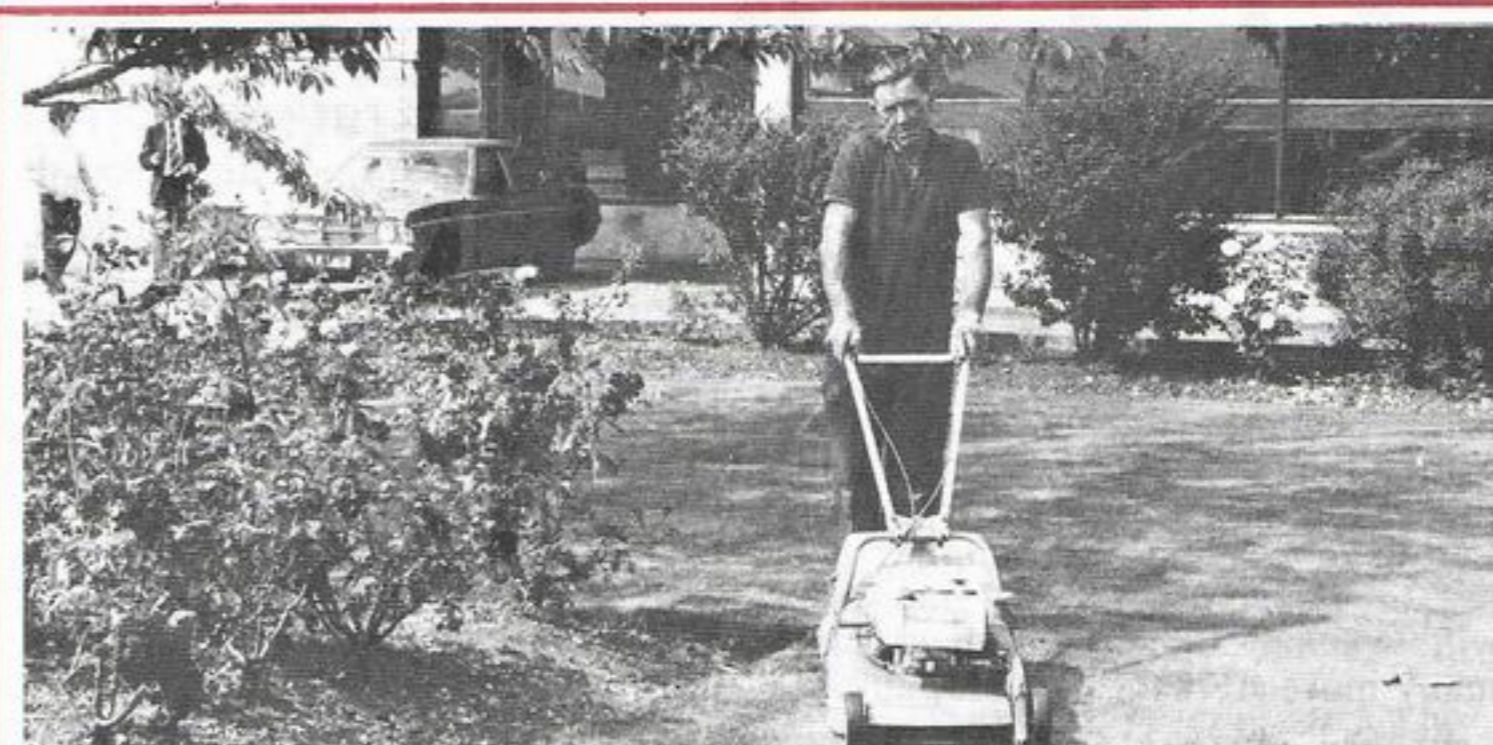
Mr. Joseph Lynch, a native of Ballykenry, Ardagh, was recently appointed to the position of Retort Operator with the company. He first started with Shannon Meat Ltd. in September, 1970. Twenty-one year old Joe has spent all but one of those seven years in the Canning Department. That one year Joe worked in the Boning Hall, where he was employed as a Boner. In his new capacity he will be working with his friend and companion of many years - Dermot Hannafin.

Joe's Father, Denny works in the Boning Hall as a Strapping Operator. His brother Patrick is a very versatile operative with the company. These long-time serving employees are held in very high esteem by all of their fellow workers.

EVENTFUL

The early Summer of 1977 has been an eventful time for Joe. On the 30th April, he married Mary Dalton, who, herself, was employed in the Canning Section.

Joe Lynch's main interests outside of Shannon Meat Ltd. are Soccer and Hurling. A non-player, Joe's enthusiasm as a loyal supporter is known by all concerned with the respective clubs of his interests.



We are all proud of the way the grounds of the factory are maintained. Sean Guirey is seen here mowing the lawn in front of the Company's Premises.

PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT AND MAN.

By M. F. Cowhey, Managing Director.

Environment and ecology are frequently in the news. The Taoiseach when forming his Government, tacked on Environment to the old Ministry of Local Government so that Mr. Barrett is now Minister for Local Government and the Environment. When considering problems of environmental pollution, it is important to keep the matter in its right perspective. The fact that urban man has become very conscious that his way of life is having a profound influence on the ecology of his globe, does not mean that the problem is new or recent. Very far from it. Natural influences have probably played a very much greater part in changing the environment than the activities of man have done and will continue to do so. One thunder storm it is said, releases more energy than an atomic bomb. Volcanic activity over the ages has pumped more ash and debris into the atmosphere than all man's furnaces. The extensive nuclear tests of the early 1960's, sent a thrill of apprehension throughout the world because of the danger of fall-out, yet these tests added little to the natural radiation to which man is continuously subjected.

CONCERN

What causes most concern and rightly so are those by-products of developed material living which are not found in nature and which have a potential effect out of all proportion to their absolute quantity - pesticide residues, radioactive waste, hydrocarbon combustion products, toxic chemicals in factory effluents and the like. Developed material living is deliberately stated because the possession of all the material comforts and amenities which modern man, particularly in the highly industrialised countries, deems necessary to maintain his high living standards does not in itself, constitute an advanced civilisation. Man is civilised only to the extent to which he has consideration for his fellow man.

Too many people get worked up about environmental pollution only because it vaguely threatens their comfortable selfish little worlds. In focusing our attention on physical contamination, we must not become blinded to the worse problem of moral contamination and by this is not meant only the obvious by-products of our increasingly permissive society.

Moral contamination is evidenced by the spread of fundamentally wrong ideas about Man and his Maker which are gnawing at the roots of traditional civilisation as we know it and which are establishing themselves in our midst, disguised as a concern for social well-being.

It is the toxic or poisonous elements present in minute amounts in effluents which are the most serious hazard.

PLANT ORIGIN

The danger that food materials of plant origin may pick up disease engendering materials, has to be guarded against. Deeper knowledge is urgently needed on the degree of hazard to human health with such toxic materials present, on how they are distributed in the food chain and on any remedial action which can be taken.

Some ecologists believe that the ecology is in danger of becoming or has already become irreversibly affected by man's activities to an extent which will seriously detract from the quality of life on this planet, and at worst, will eliminate life completely. The situation is certainly not quite as bad as this portrayal. However, industrial activities will need to be motivated by a spirit of conservation and not of plunder. All the raw materials needed by man for his existence - the air he breathes, the crops and livestock he grows or rears for food, the wood, stone and minerals he uses for fuel, buildings and as materials for manufacture, the most important need of all, water - are free. What he has to do is to perform work to turn these materials to good use.



M. F. Cowhey

HOLIDAY REFLECTIONS

By Wm. Nestor, Home Sales Manager.

"If all the year were playing holidays, to sport would be as tedious as to work", so wrote the Bard of Avon, but his words of wisdom would have a hollow sound to the returning workers of Shannon Meat on the last Monday of July.

Yes, Shannon Meat's annual summer holiday period is over and all our members are back with batteries recharged, ready and fighting fit to face the rigours and frustrations of our peak production period which is roughly from now until early New Year.

Deep penetrating tans, reminiscent of the glorious sunshine which flooded the golden beaches from where they were acquired, are evidenced everywhere. The deep brown hue is accentuated by the startling white of the protective clothing. Experiences are shared and resorts compared; the night life of the Costa Del Sol, or the price of the pint in J.D.'s, the fish that took the bait in the Blue Pool, or the dark Senorita who rejected the bait in Tenerife. The tranquility of the Dingle Peninsula seems to compare more than favourably with the scenic grandeur of "Hillary" country or even with the panoramic splendour of Connemara. On reflection, the forceful telling of the Kingdom's advocate is the factor which wins the day.

One view is convincingly held by one and all - holidays, whether spent at home or abroad, are extremely expensive, our man in Tenerife helped by the devalued Peseta will concur. But expensive or not, holidays are necessary after a long year's grind. Like "Sleep that knits up the ravelled sleeve of Care" they regout any cracks in our mental or physical approach to work and even though pecuniary embarrassment may ensue for weeks to come, we are secure in the knowledge that Shannon Meat Ltd. will afford us the opportunity to overcome this complaint and soon our planning and saving for next year's holiday will begin.

HEALERS

Leisure periods are also great healers of exposed nerves or strain of any kind and from that point of view it is extremely comforting to see the humane and considerate approach adopted presently by each member towards one another - may it long prevail.

In conclusion, we wish to remind readers of the "Gazette" that they can see this humane approach which I speak of at first hand by visiting our stand at the Show Grounds, Limerick, during Limerick's Annual Show.

DIM WIT By Joe Kerr

- * Did you hear the sad story of the red corpuscles who loved - in vein ?
- * "What's the matter ?" yelled the pedestrian at the driver. "Are you blind ?". "Blind - I hit you, didn't I ?".
- * The hotel clerk was losing his patience. "Look" he said. "I've told you a dozen times we don't have any rooms. We're full". "If President Hillary came in" the man persisted, "you'd have a room for him, wouldn't you?" "Why, of course", the clerk admitted. "Then let me have his room. He's not coming".
- * "For 20 years", mused the man in the bar, "my wife and I were ecstatically happy".

- "Then what happened ?" asked the bartender. "We met".
- * Barber : "Your hair is turning grey, Sir". Customer : "I'm not surprised, Hurry up".
- * "I had to shoot my dog this morning" "Was he mad ?" "Well, he wasn't any too well pleased".
- * "I refused to marry Bob three months ago and he's been drinking ever since". "That's what I'd call carrying a celebration too far".
- * He : "I'm keeping a record of all the good times we've had together". She : "Oh, a diary ?". He : "No, stubs in a cheque-book".

I.T.G.W.U.



NEWS

The officers of our Union in Shannon Meat Ltd., are glad to see all laid-off members have now been recalled to work in Shannon Meat Ltd. This is for the busy period ahead. It is a welcome development to see so many cattle being slaughtered. We also welcome the new staff who have joined our ranks for the first time. Let us hope that the supplies of livestock over the next few months will warrant the recruitment of many more staff to the Company.

We would like now to continue with the rules of our Union, starting with Rule 42.

BRANCH TRUSTEES

42. For each Branch there shall be appointed three Branch Trustees

The Branch Trustees shall ensure that the weekly returns of remittances to the General Secretary of the Union and of the income and expenditure in the Local Fund and the receipts therefrom, are inspected at each ordinary meeting of the Branch Committee (not less than one per month) and, any irregularity coming to their attention shall be reported by them to the Branch Committee and the General Secretary for appropriate action.

43. Rules 31, 32 and 34 shall apply to the appointment and tenure of Branch Trustees.

44. The funds and property of the Branch, other than such as are ordered by the Branch Committee to be left in the custody of the Branch Secretary, shall be in the custody of the Branch Trustees who shall be jointly and severally responsible therefor. Any land or premises rented, leased, or purchased by the Branch shall be vested in the Branch Trustees. The Branch Funds shall be lodged in the Post Office Savings Bank or otherwise as may be approved by the National Executive Council in the name of the Branch, and no withdrawals may be made therefrom save upon the signature of at least two of the Trustees.



Mr. John Fitzgibbon (above) is Shop Steward in The Tripe Department.

LIVESTOCK TOPICS

BRITISH VETERINARY ASSOCIATION CONDEMNNS UNNECESSARY MOVEMENT OF ANIMALS.

Officials of the British Veterinary Association have issued a strongly worded statement on the general carriage of Livestock. They report that some livestock exported from Britain to Europe have been known to spend three days en route with neither food or water. Animals transported around Britain are also liable to suffer from stress and even physical harm. For these reasons, the British Veterinary Association has again condemned unnecessary movement of stock and **CALLED FOR A BAN ON THE EXPORT OF LIVE ANIMALS FOR SLAUGHTER.** Stock should be slaughtered in the abattoirs closest to their farms of origin says the Association. Hundreds of thousands of animals are exported for slaughter each year according to Mr. John Parry, President of the Association. A large proportion he claims, while perhaps not treated cruelly in the strictest sense of the word, suffer unnecessarily. He was also concerned that internal livestock carriers were using much larger trucks than in the past and driving at very fast speeds. At one recent accident involving a very heavy truck, he found about 40 sheep smothered.

FARM FRAUDS

The E.E.C. Council of Ministers has given its blessing to a Common Market directive which will require

member governments to examine regularly the accounts of Companies handling large sums of money from the Common Farm Fund.

The directive is aimed at cutting down the incidence of fraud. Between 1973 and 1975, 291 cases involving a total of £3.1m. were uncovered, and a notable feature of the statistics was that the biggest number of discoveries, by far, occurred in West Germany (168) which has a system for checking traders' books on a regular basis.

The directive gives E.E.C. governments until July 1st, 1979, to implement the necessary national legislation, and the control system will become fully operational by 1981.

The compulsory examination will apply to all companies handling more than 100,000 Units of Account (some £40,000) and the Commission calculates that around 2,100 trading concerns will be involved.

CALF IMPORTS

Italy imported 1.54 million live calves in 1976 of which 55% came from France and 26% from West-Germany. The intra-community trade in calves seems to be big business. Britain exported 239,000 live calves in 1976 and Ireland has now joined this extraordinary league with exports exceeding 100,000 in number per annum.

FOOD PRODUCTION Self Sufficiency The Target

By Liam Ahern,
Livestock Field Manager.



Liam Ahern

There is a danger that some people will persuade themselves that rising food prices are due mainly to the bad workings of C.A.P., instead of being the results of a high rate of inflation, high interest rates, a weak currency and mismanagement at home. In these circumstances, wrong decisions may easily be taken. It is worth noting that some of the objectives of C.A.P. are that Agriculture should be developed in such a way that it would make a good contribution to the economy of national states. Not only have national resources been better used, but there is a spin-off from modern agriculture into increased economic activity in engineering, fuel, chemicals, banking, packaging, advertising, buildings, scientific research and many more industries. C.A.P. provided for a target of self sufficiency in temperate food stuffs. In spite of the difficulty in controlling excess production few people would doubt that in a world which is reaching saturation point for many manufactured goods, only those countries with a surplus of natural resources with which to trade could ever be short of food without a risk of price explosion.

C.A.P. set itself the task of raising the incomes of farm workers to a level comparable with that of workers in other industries.

ON TARGET

It is important however, to note that the programme for increased food production in Europe is roughly on target, but the time has come for a fresh review on plans and procedures. The case for continuing expansion in European Agriculture is a good one. The desire to invest in land as a hedge against inflation, the search for taxation advantages and increasing demands for rural homes and recreation, all have raised costs to food producers. There is an urgent need to re-examine food production in Europe in terms of net output against gross output. During recent years, inputs have risen enormously both in volume and value. Yield per acre, lambs per ewe, milk per cow and meat per ton of feed have increased in the last decade or two but by much less than might have been predicted from increasingly high cost systems



Mr. Donie Donovan, Livestock Procurement Manager, is shown here at the Livestock Scales.

EXCEPTIONAL STEERS



Selection of Charolais' supplied to the Factory in early June of this year by Wm. Guiney.

Mr. William Guiney farms at Knockard, Shanagolden, about nine miles south west of Rathkeale. His main enterprise is dairying, but is also a producer of top quality beef. On June 7th, this year, William delivered a selection of Char./Fr. Cross steers to Shannon Meat. Taking into account that none of his animals had more than four permanent teeth their performance was exceptionally good. The average liveweight - 12 Cwt. 1 Qr. 21 lbs. Average Deadweight - 781.3 lbs. This represents a kill-out of 56.06% or 63.63 lbs., per live Cwt. Continental steers that same week, were making 62.5p per lb. At that price, these animals realized £39.26 per live Cwt. The individual performance of these animals varied from 61.12 lbs., per live Cwt., to a top of 64.08 lbs. per live Cwt. These carcasses were all top quality, well finished and were exported to Northern France.

Both William and his brother, Thomas, who also farms in the locality are also first class judges of horses - all round stock-men.

The same week, we had a heavier lot of 26 Charolais and Semmental Cross. Average live weight 15 Cwt. 1 Qr. 0 lbs., with not more

than six permanent teeth while the majority had only four teeth. Again, these cattle got no meals over the winter though they were yarded and had plenty of good silage. This lot of heavy steers killed out at 971.7 lbs., carcass weight, giving an average kill 56.85% equivalent to 63.71 lbs., per live Cwt., without any surplus fat. These cattle also had an excellent finish and were very well suited to the Continental market. The 26 steers averaged £39.82p per live Cwt., or £607.30 per head. These again were fattened in County Limerick on the bank of the Shannon River.



William Guiney.



Some of the 26 Charolais' Cross from County Limerick, delivered in early June, 1977.



A selection of Carcasses from the lot of 26 Charolais Cross shown in the adjacent photograph.

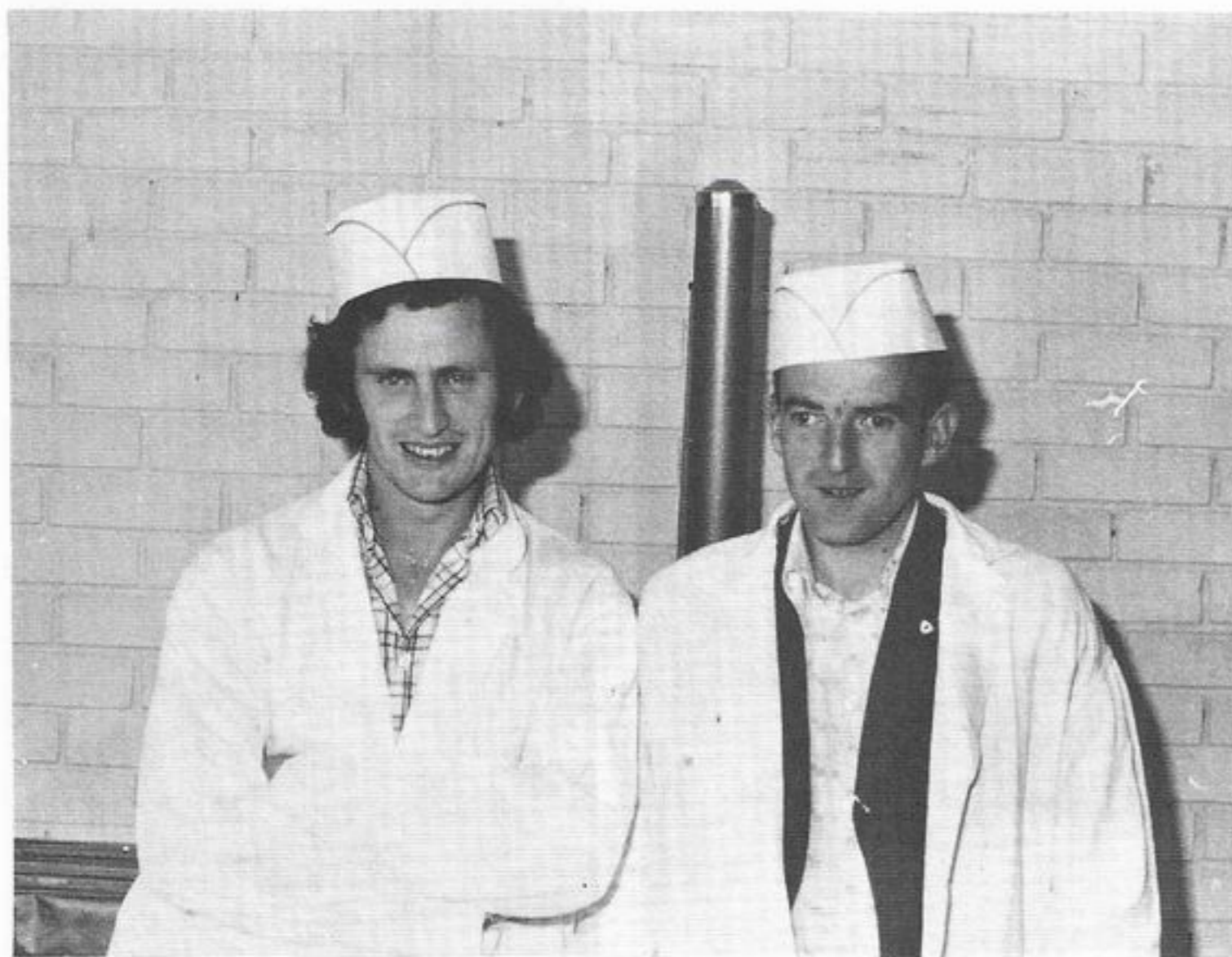
PICTURE PARADE



Skipper of Shannon United, Johnny Jones and left Winger, Frank Lynch display the Trophy aloft.



Pa and Mary Sheahan, Sean and Veronica Hennessy and Mike and Helen Dunne, proudly pose for this photograph with the Desmond League Cup.



Slaughter Hall Staff. Above are James Kennick and Ned Lawlor.

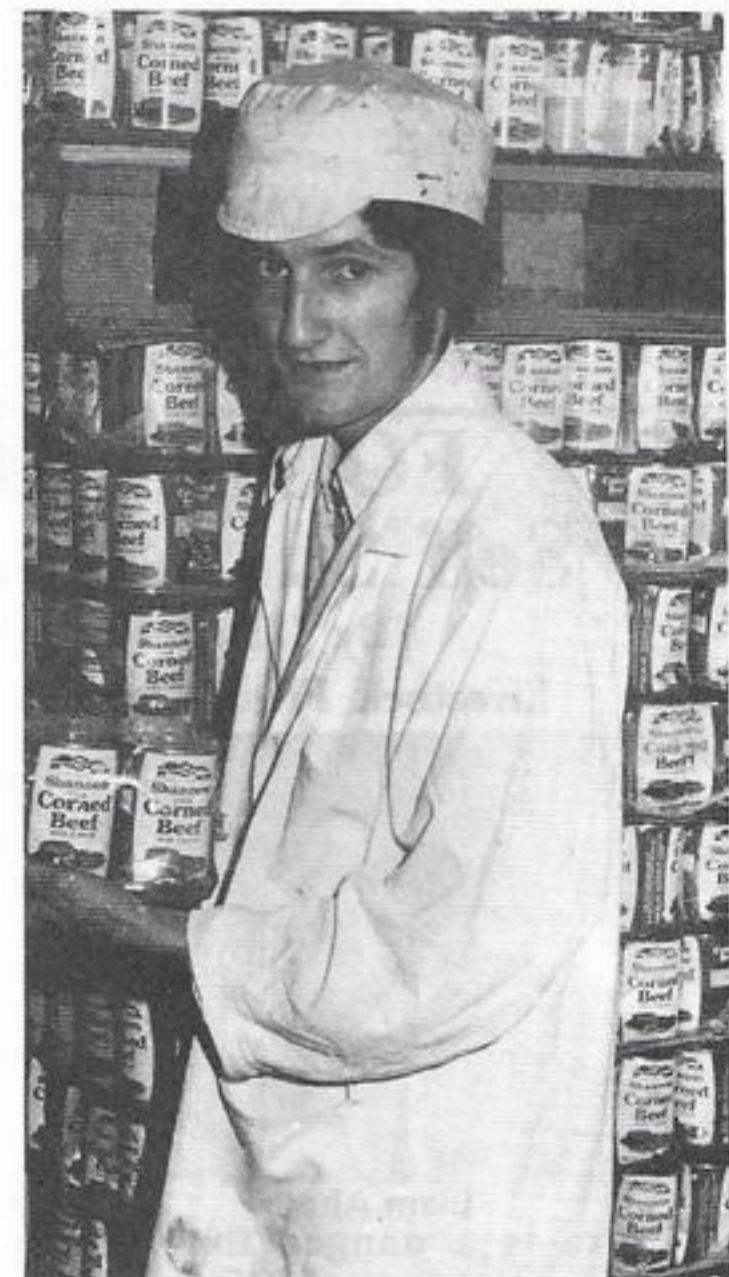
PICTURE PARADE



Pictured above are some of the Staff of the Department of Agriculture Office in the Shannon Meat Ltd., (L to R) : Willy O'Rourke, M.R.C.V.S., Jim Griffin and Jim Joy.



Pictured above is Patrick Reidy who operates the Effluent Plant.



Busy stacking 11b. Cans of Corned Beef in the Canning Store is Seamus Cawley.



New Staff in Shannon Meat are Eileen Liston of Newcastle West and Marcella Curtin of Rathkeale.



PICTURE PARADE



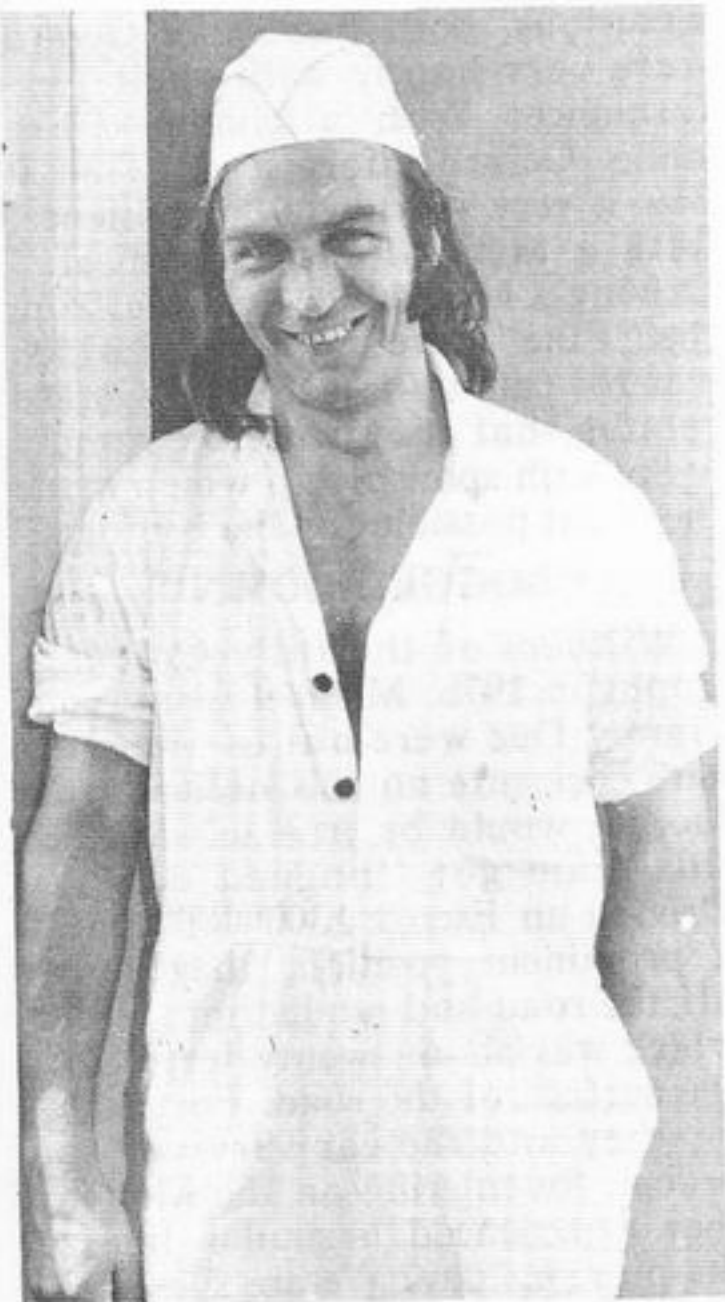
PICTURE PARADE



"Casanova" Michael Enright, Pictured outside the Canteen with Marcella Curtin, Helen Shiels, Patricia Enright and Mary Hogan.



Pictured above are the Jubilant Player's Committee and Supporters of Shannon United.



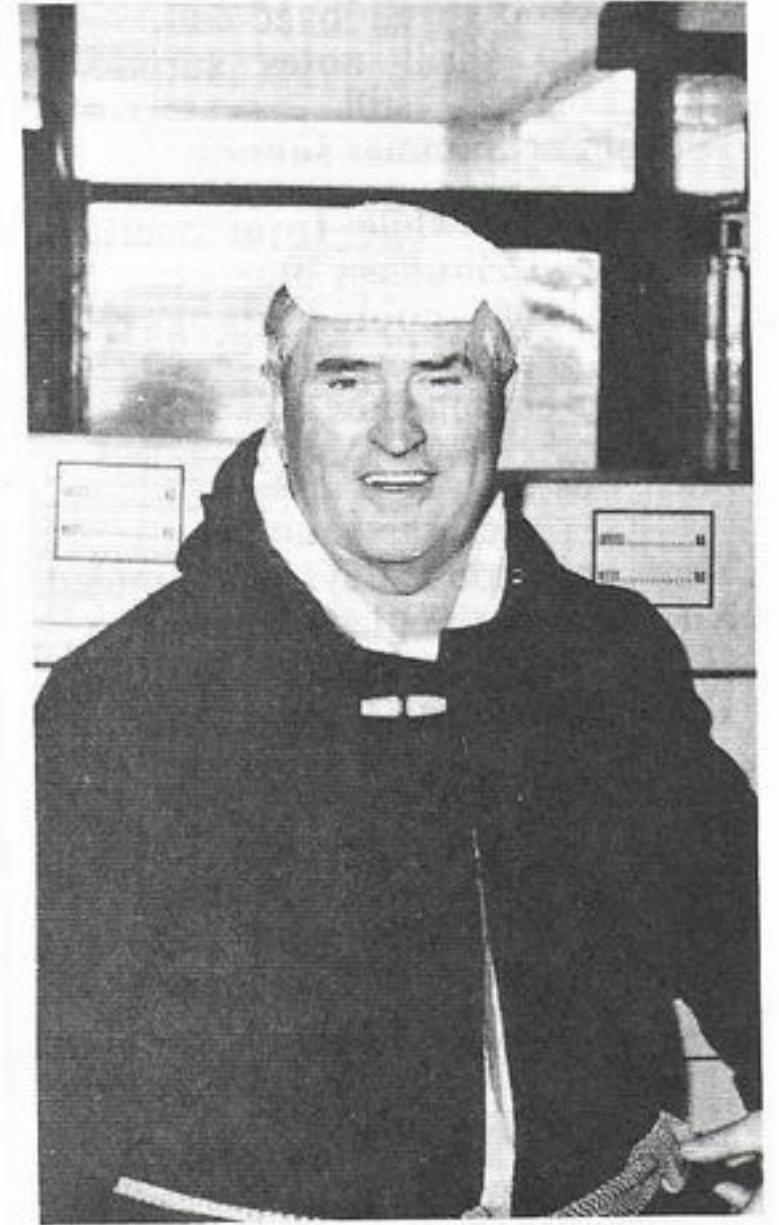
James Dowling has recently rejoined the Slaughter-Hall Staff.



John Brouder, who has also returned to work in Shannon Meat, is from Carrickerry.



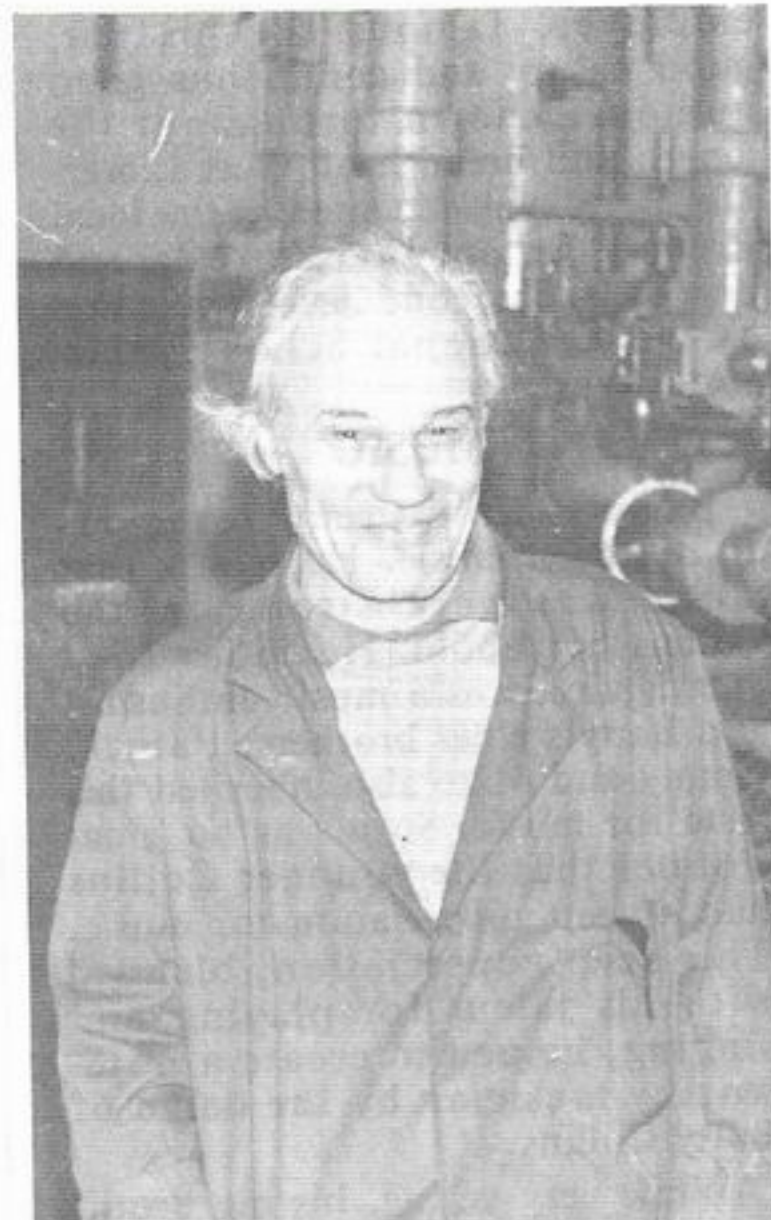
James O'Connor (above) is a member of the Laboratory Staff.



Happy at his work - James Kelly of Kilcolman who is employed in the Freezers.



Included in the above picture are: Sean O'Shea, Noei Harnett, Noel White and Pa Sheahan.



Mario Zoncada (above) is Refrigeration Engineer, for many years with Shannon Meat Ltd.



Michael Bennett of Reens Pyke, Ardagh, is an Apprentice Fitter with the Company.

JUNE MEMORIES

Breda Morrissey,
Accounts Department.

This perfect June day doth recall
To me June days of you,
When as a child I rambled wild
In field and hill - so free.

And as I wander aimlessly
Down this winding quiet breen,
Where childhood hours were
passed mid flowers
And fields of sun-drenched green.

My mind in fancy journeys back
To those happy carefree days,
Ere yet my heart

had learned to know
There is such thing as care.

Here woodbine sweet
did scent the air
And with wild roses vied.
When outstretched arms and hands
did reach
To pluck them from each side.

And yonder is the hayfield
Where we played the live long day,
Or sat on headland green to drink
A welcome cup of tea.

And on this gently sloping bank
We'd rest when tired of play,
Or take a draught from the deep
cold well
That close-by hidden lay.

And from a distant cornfield came
The cuckoo's well-loved call,
Its sharp shrill notes surpassing
still
All fainter Summer sounds.

And all the while from overhead
In skies of cloudless blue
The skylark poured its sweetest
song
In never-ending flow.

Such was the scene and
such the sounds
That childhood days surrounded.
And though the place seems
still the same
The magic has all gone.

For though the beauty
of this world
Has still the power to delight us,
Our joy is mingled with such care
As had no place in Childhood.



Shannon

**WE GIVE EXTENSIVE
SERVICE TO HOME
FREEZER CUSTOMERS**

Supply special Home Freezer prime beef packs.

Supply prime hind and fore-quarters as requested.

Process your own stock to your own specifications.

Supply top quality lamb packs.

Give specialised advice on Home Freezer maintenance.

Meat for your Home Freezer supplied by Shannon Meat Ltd, is processed under modern beef processing techniques, ensuring top class quality, proper maturing, cutting and packing under the most hygienic conditions and blast freezing to ensure meat is frozen solid in the shortest possible time.

For full particulars contact :-

**The Home Sales Manager,
Shannon Meat Ltd.**

PROFILE - BATTY COLLINS



Batty Collins

Bartholomew Collins (so called, because as he himself says, his father wanted full value for the price of the Christening), is a member of the Building Maintenance Staff of Shannon Meat Ltd.

Batty, as he is popularly known (disgusted though his father is), qualified as a carpenter in 1967 while in the employment of Teskey's, Rathkeale. Batty first worked in Shannon Meat in 1962 for a short period when he was employed as a trimmer in the Boning Hall Dept., under the attentive eye of Production Supervisor, Paddy Cawley. Later, in '62, he commenced his apprenticeship with Teskey's, the Rathkeale based wood-work firm. The jovial Collins, remained with Teskey's until 1968. After this, Batty rejoined Shannon Meat, this time not under the watchful eye of Paddy Cawley. After two years in the meat trade, (though still a carpenter), he joined the staff of Fibreman, a boat making firm in Limerick. In March 1974, Batty maintained his alliance with the Company, when he recommenced working with the Building Maintenance Section in the firm.

Batty Collins was born in Rathkeale in 1946. His father, Paddy (notice the short name) a native of Bruff, is a very popular Company employee, famous for his wit, good nature and continuous good humour, known throughout the length and breadth of West Limerick. Batty was educated at the local Primary School in Rathkeale and he received second level education at the Vocational School, Newcastle West.

MUSIC

Batty's first great love has always been music. He relates that music was very strong in the Collins household. His father (that man again), was a music enthusiast and Batty's elder brothers, Patrick, Jimmy and Mike also inherited this taste for music. So it was no great wonder that the younger Collins had a deep appreciation for music. This deep appreciation, blended with his talent for playing and singing, helped to create a noteworthy musician by the name of Batty Collins.

While very young, his big brothers had their own Ceili Band. When not collecting money at the doorway, Batty would become the

"Little Drummer Boy" with the group. While at an early age in his life, the drummer boy learned to play more complicated instruments. He learned to play bass guitar, rhythm guitar, euphonium and also the mandolin. Being a very capable singer, it was only natural for the young Collins boy to avail of his talent.

LEGIONNAIRES

Batty played the euphonium in the Rathkeale Brass Band, who were trained at the time (circa '54) by Tadgh and Artie O'Shea. A little older, he progressed to the Showbiz scene, where he became a member of the famous Rathkeale group, The Legionnaires. The group consisted of:-

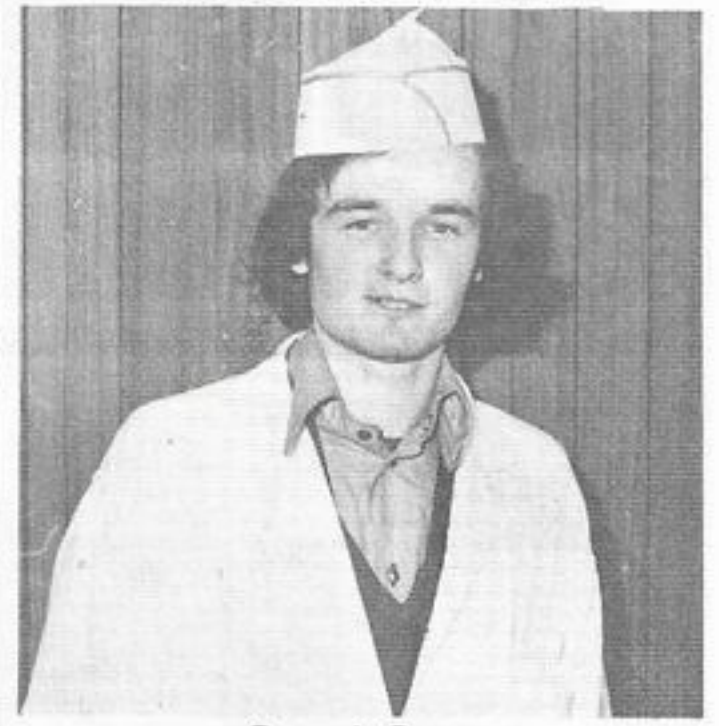
Three Collins brothers (Patrick, Mike and Batty), Frances Wilmoth, Donie O'Grady, Mike "Dobs" Doyle, Jim Gorman and Francis Carroll. The very favourable impressions created by these very fine musicians, still remains a topic of conversation even to the present day. Batty, then spent a period with the Berwin group in Limerick. After his stint with the Limerick Band he decided to go semi-solo and he performed for a number of years with groups such as the Western Folk and Donegan. The Serenader states that he doesn't play a great deal in public at present, but for enjoyment, and annoying his family at home.

Batty Collins married Mary O'Keeffe of Ardagh in 1969. They have three children, Suzanne, Linda and a son Patrick (who had to be called after Batty's father, even if they didn't get full value for the Christening).



Batty Collins' Wife Mary, pictured with their family, Suzanne, Linda and Patrick.

CIRCUIT OF MUNSTER



Gerard Geaney.

The Circuit of Munster held on 5th & 6th June, (Whit week-end) again attracted a very large entry in all Classes. Two members of the staff of Shannon Meat Ltd. were in the grid positions at the commencement of the Rally. Michael Liston, the Offal Supervisor was for the second year in succession, teaming up with Jimmy Dee. The second member of the staff was Clerical Officer, Gerard Geaney, who was navigating for his brother Patrick. The Rally was based around the undulating, rough, boggy countryside of Kenmare. In all, there were twenty two stages, which covered approximately 310 miles.

The Geaney brothers were rallying for the first time. Though not victorious, both Patrick & Gerard were very happy with their performance. With a champion-like smile, Gerard informs us "That it was a very worthwhile experience, with a taste of more from it." Driving a Mini 1100, the men from the "Pike" were in a Class 5 which was for cars up to 1150 c.c. Gerard relates that they were extremely lucky with sponsorship which made the event possible for the brothers.

"BOGGED DOWN"

Winners of the Billy Coleman trophy in 1976, Michael Liston and Jimmy Dee were out of the winners enclosure on this occasion. In fact, it would be true to say that this team got "bogged down". Driving an Escort 1300 GT and in a prominent position, they drove off the road and landed into a bog which was about twenty feet below the surface of the road. Fortunately, they and the car survived the ordeal. Re-entering on the Monday they experienced a similar fate to the previous day. We are sure these occurrences will not deter the "Glantine" duo from further rallying.

BOXING CLUB

A recent meeting of Rathkeale sportsmen, resulted in the reformation of a Boxing Club in the local community. Many of the former members of the previous club are again, instrumental in the redevelopment of this recreational sport. Impressed by the huge turn-out at the meeting it was decided to elect officers and a committee. The following officials were elected:-

President: Johnny White, Chairman: Joe Sheehy, Vice-Chairman: Michael Hogan, Secretary: Christy Jones, Joint Treasurers: P. J. Jones & Edmond O'Reilly. The following personnel com-

prise the committee :-

Jack Russell, John Daly, Paddy Shanahan, Tim Dillon, Gerry Jones, Johnny Jones, Johnny Fitzgibbon, Michael Meehan, Jim Tierney and Paddy Hennessy.

The appointed trainers were Johnny Jones and Joe Sheehy, both of whom have achieved many successes in this sport.

During the Summer months, the Club organised a raffle in an effort to raise funds to help with the day to day costs of running such a Club. They intend to commence training in the not too distant future, in the C.Y.M.S. Hall.

CLEAN UP TIME

Bad housekeeping makes for trouble anywhere. But bad housekeeping around a work place is double-trouble - it makes for both inefficiency and accidents.

Every kind of mess, everything out of place, is a hazard. Grease spots, shavings, scattered material, tools lying around, waste papers, pallets or trucks out of place - all these are tripping hazards and many of them are fire hazards, too.

A dirty, littered, messed-up bench or machine is a constant threat to those who work at it. So, take the time to keep your own work place in order.

The first step is to get a place for everything, and then keep everything in its place. Stock, parts, tools - all these should have a place where they belong. When you are through with something, put it back. Then, next time you need it, you'll know where to find it - and, what's more important, it won't lie around for you to trip over, cut yourself on, or get dropped on your toe.

If you receive material on trucks or pallets, set aside a place where material is to be put, and insist that it be put there. Make that a place that you can get to easily - but keep your work place clear of all obstructions.

An empty pallet, for example, is like a snake lying on the floor ready to tear your ankle - and it's easy to overlook unless you have a set place for it and keep it there.

CLEAN UP

If you receive material on trucks or metal or wood shavings, clean up regularly. Use a brush and not your hand, and stop machinery first.

Some of you may have compressed airlines near you. Don't use that air for cleaning machines or your own clothing. Serious accidents have been caused as a

result of the misuse of compressed air.

FLAMMABLE MATERIALS

If you have to use flammable materials, be sure your supply is properly stored in a safe place. Oily rag is the kind of material that will burn by itself if piled up.

Chances are you work right near a gangway or passageway. If you do, remember to keep your materials, trucks, pallets, tools and other stuff completely out of the gangway. Otherwise you'll be setting booby traps to hurt your fellow employees who pass by.

No talk about "housekeeping" is complete if mention is not made about the absolute necessity for fire fighting equipment and exits to be accessible at all times. In particular, fire doors should never be tampered with or blocked open.

Once you get the habit of keeping your own work place in order, you'll find that the good housekeeping you've done for safety's sake will pay you dividends in pleasanter, lighter, faster work.

The real reason, however, for good housekeeping, is the protection of yourself and your colleagues from costly, painful, crippling accidents.



"That won't solve the problem. Make the kids keep their toys off the stairs."

NEILL HOGAN



Neill Hogan and Noreen Consideine were married in Lurriga Church, Patrickswell, on the 28th May. Neill has been employed by Shannon Meat Ltd., since October, 1970. He completed serving his time as an apprentice Fitter in the latter part of 1975.

Neill (23) is a very keen sportsman, his main interests being Soc-

cer and Hurling. He is a prominent member of the factory's hurling team. In the code of Soccer, he has proven himself to be a first-class goalkeeper.

His wife, Noreen, hails from Patrickswell. The couple now reside in the Rathkeale area. To them, we wish all the best for the future.

SHANNON MEAT CHAT

By The Scribe

- * Best wishes to John Lynch and Mary Herlihy who are getting married on August 20th. A lucky lad indeed!
- * Glad to hear Mr. & Mrs. Pa Guinane enjoyed their siesta in Spain. Olé!
- * Congratulations to newly-wed Joe Lynch on his appointment as Retort Operator.
- * Jack's Back:- Jack Lyons and many of his comrades, the Scribe is proud to announce, are back at work in Shannon Meat.
- * Proud man in Shannon Meat these days, is Larry Kelly whose wife Theresa has presented him with a daughter.
- * "Wedding Bells" are ringing in the Chapel", sings Billy Crowley as he looks forward to his marriage to Catherine Meade on August 13th.
- * The Scribe hopes the re-established Boxing-Club is a knock-out.
- * Hello! to Eileen Liston and Marcella Curtin who recently joined the Company.
- * Recently engaged are Mossie Sheahan and Bridget Murphy ("Jet"), who is a sister of employee, Tom.
- * Congratulations to Dan & Goretti Neville on the recent birth of their daughter.
- * A special speedy recovery is extended to Bernard Daly (Snr).
- * Patrick O'Shaughnessy's definition of Marriage - before it is

Matrimony, after it is a Matter of Money.

- * Request Time:- Tom Shaughnessy's favourite song is - "The Old Bog Road", while Anthony Frawley's is "Freedom".
- * Congratulations Shannon Utd., on winning the Desmond League.
- * Best wishes to Mr. & Mrs. Michael Glenny and to Mr. & Mrs. John Windle, both of whom have started new enterprises in the town.
- * Unlucky! Mike Liston whose Circuit of Munster chances were swamped, Lucky! Mike Liston who could Rally around for the evening Circuit.
- * I dare say, Pat Coleman seems to have enjoyed his stay in the States, despite the fact that Theresa Cregan didn't tour.
- * William John O'Donnell (Smiler) of the Boning Dept., and Marian McNamara got engaged on 28th May.
- * From all very consolidated reports (his very own), Mr. Sean Mulcahy had a bonanza outing at the Irish Sweeps Derby held at the Curragh.
- * Congratulations to Danny Shiels of Carrickerry, a member of the Dispatch Department on his recent marriage.
- * I wish our many colleagues who recently joined Shannon Meat Ltd. for the first time a long and happy stay with us.

COOK'S CORNER

Continuing with our recipes, the following are two which we hope will be of interest to you.

SPICED STEAK

1 lb. Chuck Steak in a Piece
1 oz. Dripping
1 Onion, Sliced.
Bay Leaf
½ Teaspoon Nutmeg
Salt and Pepper.

Beat the steak well and season with salt and pepper. Fry in fat on both sides till well browned, then add onion, bay leaf and nutmeg. Cover closely and cook slowly till tender, 1 - 1½ hours, adding a little water during cooking if necessary, to prevent burning. Cut into portions and serve with the juices from the pan.

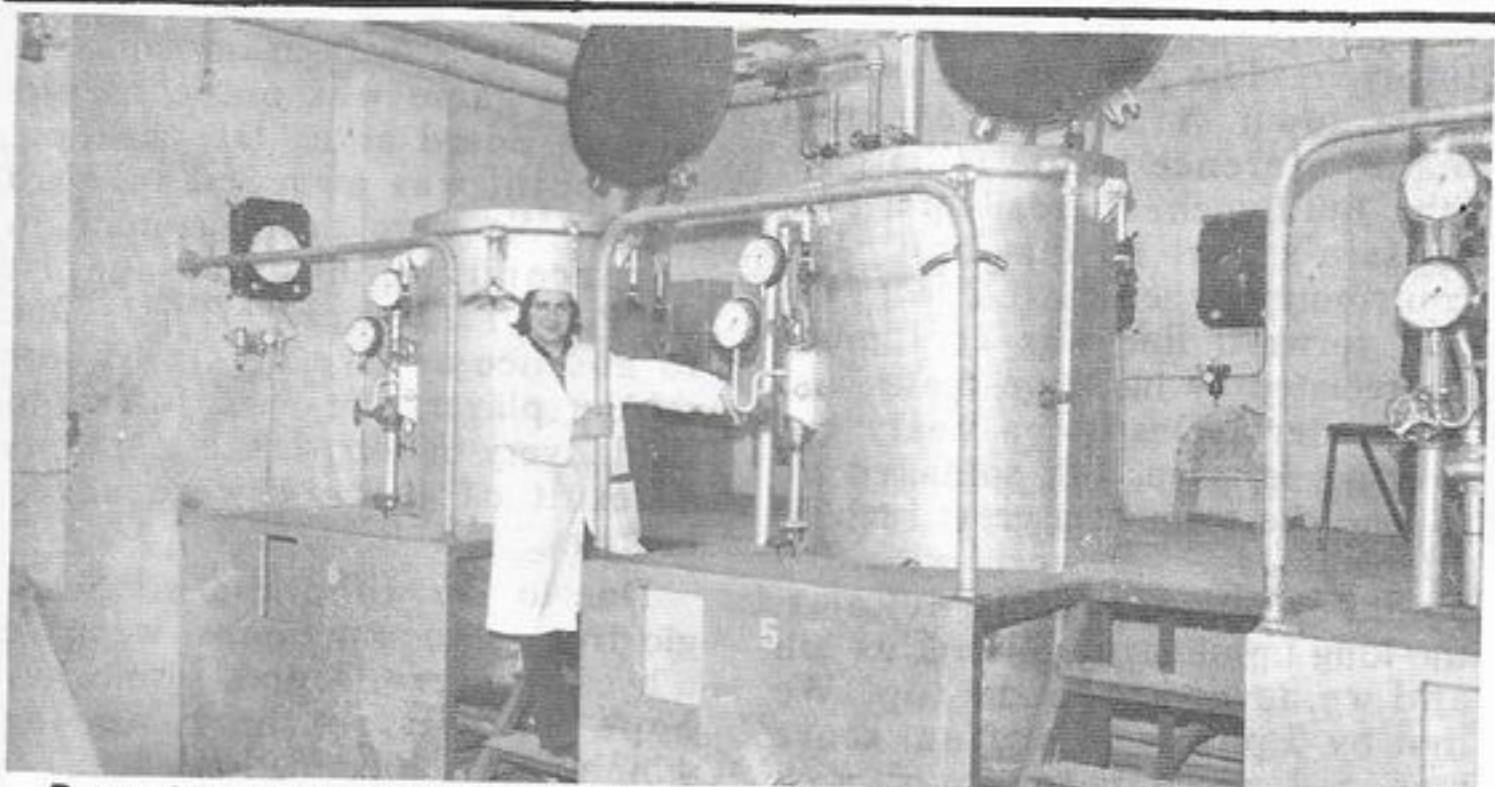
SERVES : 3

STUFFED BRISKET

3 lbs. Piece Boned Brisket, well trimmed of Fat.
8 ozs. Stuffing
½ ozs. Dripping
½ lb. Onions, Sliced
½ lb. Tomatoes, Skinned.
¼ Pint Beef Stock
Salt and Pepper.

Lay meat out flat and spread stuffing on it. Roll up and tie firmly with string. Fry onions in dripping till soft. Add meat and fry on all sides, then add tomatoes. Pour over stock and season. Cover and cook slowly on top of stove or in a slow oven. Gas 3, 325°F for 2½ - 3 Hours. Serve Sauce separately.

SERVES : 6.



Part of the Retort Room in Shannon Meat Ltd. Dermot Hannafin is seen here operating Retort No. 5.

SOCCER SCENE



CHAMPIONS AT LAST



The smiles that tell it all - (L to R) Fred O'Brien, Billy Nestor, Mike Dunne, Martin Doherty, Pa Sheehan, Butch White, Joan White, Sean Hennessy, Veronica Hennessy and Mary Kenneally.

The league campaign of 1976-77, will be remembered for many a long day by those of us involved with Shannon United whether we be players, committee members or supporters. It started last September and came right on up to June. We played 20 games, won 12, drew 6 and lost 2. A record you might think good enough to win the league outright, but no, we finished level on points with Kilcolman and this meant a play-off for the title. The final was fixed for Newbridge, on Sunday 5th June and after the 90 minutes, the teams were still locked together with the final score 2-2. Pat Lavin gave us an early lead, but Kilcolman had squared the game 1-1 by half-time. Kilcolman got well on top in the second half and it came as no surprise when they took the lead mid-way through the half. They held the lead until the very last minute when Timmy Mullane scored a brilliant equaliser to earn us a lucky re-play, which was fixed for the same venue the following Wednesday and what a game it turned out to be.

MAGIC

At the start, there was magic abroad in the air all of it created by Shannon United. They played it long and it was elegant, they played it short and it was superb. They traded short balls in delightful mid-field circles, they tossed it wide to the wings where the Kilcolman full-backs began to crack. How Kilcolman managed to survive that first-half without falling behind I will never know, but worse was to follow early in the second half when Kilcolman took the lead in a rare breakaway. However, Shannon United's explosive fire power was crystallised into an amazing fight back when they scored two lightning goals. Mike Sullivan crossed from the right, Turlough McDonald picked it up and smashed a left-footer into the far corner. It was now that the deficiency of the Kilcolman backs was ruthlessly exposed by the devastatingly quick Shannon attack. They forced a corner in the 75th minute. Noel Harnett swung the ball into the area, Johnny Jones sent a glorious header crashing off

the bar, but James O'Grady was on hand to plant the re-bound in the net. All hell broke loose as the jubilant supporters rushed onto the pitch and play was held up for several minutes. Eventually, order was restored and the game was completed with no further scoring. Johnny Jones held the cup aloft amid wild scenes of delight and jubilation. The cup was paraded through the town at the head of a motor cavalcade and the celebrations went on long into the night.

Credit for this great victory must be passed right along the line to the players, the manager, committee members and to those wonderful supporters. The team who did us all so proud on the night was: **Gallagher, Harnett, Mullane, Lavin, Dollery, Lynch, Jones, Zoncada, Sullivan, Chawke, McDonald, Res. O'Grady and Culhane.**

Kilcolman gained some consolation for this defeat when they beat us 1-0 in the Top Four Final. Earlier we had beaten Askeaton 1-0 in the semi-final through a John White goal.

FINAL GOAL TALLY

Chawke (8), O'Grady (8), Jones (7), Coleman (6), Lynch (6), Culhane (4), Lavin (3), Zoncada (2), White J. (2), Hayes, Gallagher Harnett, Daly, White T., Dinnage, Mullane, McDonald : one each.

A.G.M.

We held our Annual General Meeting at Rathkeale House Hotel on Tuesday 21st June and the following officers were elected :-

Chairman - Sean Hennessy, Vice-Chairman - John White, Secretary - Mike Dunne, Ass. Secretary - Noel White, Treasurer - Frank Lynch, Committee : Joe Lynch, Seamus Cawley and Tom O'Grady. Manager - Pa Sheehan, Assistant Manager - John Lyons. Team Captain - Mike Gallagher.

Michael Dunne.

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ABBEY PITCH & PUTT

The Pitch and Putt season is now in full swing. The course in Abbeylands, we are proud to relate, is in first class condition. Both the fairways and the greens have been kept in constant repair. A share of the credit for this must go to St. James' Pitch and Putt Club, Cappagh. They readily made available the use of their gang-mowers. This gesture was greatly appreciated by the committee and by the playing members in the Club. Alas, however, the St. James' Club have folded for this current playing season, which also means that the mowers have now become intangible.

This necessitated the purchasing of a mower by us, which cost in

the region of £450. We hope to clear this debt by organising a Raffle in the near future.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership has steadily increased over the summer months. The following are the Membership Fees :-

Family : £6.00, Individual : £4.00,
Juveniles : £2.00, Green Fees : £0.30.

The Committee intend to organise one-day and week-end tournaments in the very near future. They would like to see a far better turn-out of members in these tournaments. After all, we are all on an equal par, in that we are all as bad as each other.



Liam Woulfe being presented with the Joe Cuddy Perpetual Trophy by Club Chairman Seamus Tierney, surrounded by his family and fellow prize-winners.

G. A. A. CLUB NEWS

By Michael O'Neill
Chairman.

It is with deep regret that I must again report our failure to jump the last hurdle. I refer to the final of the Castlemahon Hurling Tournament of 1976. This final did not take place until 27th June, during this year's festival. Things did not go our way. As everyone knows there always has to be a loser and unfortunately lady luck plus a very bad decision by an umpire at a vital stage of the first half did not help us.

FIRST HALF

In the very early stages of the first half, Kantoher succeeded in scoring three relatively easy goals in a very short time. It was very difficult for our lads to pull back such a lead. Conditions did not help our boys, who I must point out are very capable of playing fast open hurling. We only succeeded in scoring one point in this half. It is not a fair reflection of the way the forwards played during this period. We were trailing by 13 points at half-time.

SECOND HALF

Having made some positional switches at half-time, the selectors could only hope that things would improve. The players did not let them down. At this stage I must make reference to the team captain, Bill Lynch. He really played a captain's part in this half. His contribution when moved up to the half forward line was very much appreciated by his team mates and supporters. Despite a nasty cut over his left eye, Bill soldiered on to lead the team in a great revival. At one stage we were within 3 points of our opponents. But alas! the long uphill struggle took its toll and we never got to the top. We lost by 5 points. The final score was 5-4 to 4-2 in favour of Kantoher. This was not a bad

defeat when one considers the ground the team had to make up in the second half. The game was very exciting in the latter stages. At times it was very physical.

The team everyone associated with Shannon Meat can be proud of is as follows :-

Tom Hannafin, William Sheehy, Mattie Williams, Pat Sheehan, Dan Cagney, Bill Lynch (Captain), James Kavanagh, Frank Dalton, John Jones, Sean Harnett, Denis Noonan, Noel Harnett, Niall Hogan, Liam Woulfe and Peter Mullins.

The League Competitions are at the 3rd round stage at the moment. We lost the first round of the football to Kantoher. This game was played in Croagh. The one good thing about this game was the very encouraging display of two players, wearing our colours for the very first time. The two men in question were John O'Sullivan (better known in soccer circles) and Turlough McDonald.

HURLING

Our first round match with Wyeth's of Askeaton was never played, due to a series of misunderstandings. A decision concerning this game was made by the County Board at its last meeting. One point was awarded to both teams. We were not fortunate in our second round match against the P. & T., Newcastle West. Due to absence of five or six of our regular players, we were forced to field a very understrength team. As a result of this we were easily beaten.

Due to the withdrawal of Scanglo from all competitions, we have a bye in the 3rd. round. I sincerely hope we will get back on the winning trail after the holidays.

Slan agus Beannacht.