



BILL O'BRIEN



Mr. William O'Brien was recently appointed to the position of Compressor Room Operator. Bill joined Shannon Meat Limited in the Fall of 1976, when he was employed in the Refining Plant, he also served the company in the Slaughtering Section. Bill was the successful applicant for the Refrigeration Department position.

GRANAGH

Originally from Granagh, Bill was educated in Ballyagran Primary School. He tilled, milked and ploughed until he was twenty. At this stage, he picked up his belongings and set sail for London where he survived for twelve long months. Bill returned home and immediately emigrated to the high vales and low valleys of Wales. After a further prolonged twelve months he returned to London where he worked as a ganger with London Transport. His stay in the English capital lasted a little bit longer this time, nine years to be exact. During his stay in "Cockney-land" Bill met and married a Castlemahon girl, Theresa McCarthy. They now reside in Ballintubber, Kileedy.

Though he never actively participated, Bill is a keen G.A.A. enthusiast and follows the progress of his present and native parishes, until such time as they clash. There was no way in which he would be drawn into saying whom he would support, if they did happen to meet. Bill's other hobby is Darts and is an accomplished enthusiast. To Bill, let us wish a very successful and prolonged future with Shannon Meat Limited.



The new Cold Store takes shape. The above photograph gives an indication of the dimensions of the new building which will be in use within a short period.

CANNED AND FROZEN BEEF

OPINION

AGRICULTURAL TRAINING

BRUSSELS SHORTCOMINGS :

When the Brussels pow-wow eventually ended, the absence of any solution to the anomalies of co-efficients and canned beef M.C.A.'s to the U.K., added more weight to the huge pressures and problems facing Beef Plant Managements at the present time. When the chilled boneless beef co-efficients were changed some days later, it was a welcome relief. But the absence of a similar change for frozen boneless beef showed up the whole crazy mixed-up approach of the Brussels bureaucracy. There is little point in recriminating or endeavouring to be clever in one's criticisms. The brutal fact is that the export canning and frozen boneless beef trades are in grave danger of extinction. To Shannon Meat, this would seem as if 20 years of slow development work in these lines are to be thrown out the window and any hopes or dreams of expansion are a lost cause. After all, we have built up our business and reputation on frozen boneless beef and canning and our Capital Expenditure for the past four years was based on improving and expanding the facilities for these operations, with a consequent increase in employment. However, we must keep on trying to hold on to what we have and if possible, to improve it. We are on our own on these problems. We just must, and will find some way around the difficulties.

PAROCHIALISM IN UNIVERSITY CIRCLES :

The movement recently commenced, to have a full faculty of Agricultural Science established in University College, Cork, has given some strange reasons to back up its case, viz., the availability of 700 acres farm at Fota which was acquired some time ago; the desirability of training Dairy Scientists and Agricultural Scientists in one

Institution; the necessity to double or even treble the annual output of Agricultural graduates and the avoidance of the expense to Cork parents of sending their off-spring to Dublin. The wisdom or necessity of the purchase of Fota by the U.C.C., authorities is their business, but any consequential chestnuts must not be taken out of the fire by the nation. Since the earliest times, one of the great University traditions was the mixing of students of ALL faculties, viz., Doctor, Lawyer, Scientist, Engineer, Philosopher, Economist, etc., etc. We understand that there have been vacancies in the U.C.D. faculties for the past few years and that at present, there is quite a large unemployment problem among Agricultural graduates. Parents in Limerick, Kerry, Clare, Tipperary and in all the non-University towns and areas, have had to find the money to pay for their children in Dublin, Cork, Galway or Belfast. If Cork gets an Agricultural faculty, Galway will be next to look for one. Is such a large expansion or augmentation of the Agricultural Advisory Service necessary? We just pose a few questions.

1. Why not think on new lines, viz., technician grade similar to what the Civil Engineering faculty have done leaving the administration to the Agricultural graduates?
2. Is there not room for a practical polytechnic type Certificate such as the O.N.C., in Engineering in the U.K.?
3. Why not use privately owned farms in such a Certificate course getting away from the totally Institutional idea and make these farms into demonstration farms? The farmer owner would need to be financially integrated into such a scheme.
4. Orient such a Certificate course towards the business approach to farming.

There is little doubt that the National Institute for Higher Education at Plassey, Limerick, would be well placed, geographically and be technically well equipped to control such a Certificate course. A University Campus is not the only source from which the push for leadership to make Irish farming as efficient as any in the world need come.

Maurice F. Cowhey,
Managing Director.

NEW E.E.C. DEAL

The big news from the E.E.C., since our last edition is the conclusion of the 1978 Farm Price Package. The details were finalised six weeks behind schedule after a marathon five months of negotiations.

An important part of the new agreement for the meat processing industry was the change in subsidies for boneless beef; though frozen beef is not affected. The co-efficient on the calculation of Monetary compensatory Amounts (M.C.A.'s) for boneless beef as against carcass beef has now been raised, and it is hoped that this will improve Irish exports within the E.E.C.

At present, Germany is Ireland's second largest export market in the Common Market and it is reckoned that the Federal Republic has the potential to equal the U.K. as a major importer of Irish beef. The CBF - The Irish Livestock & Meat Board - has given some indication of the total market potential and have stated that even a small steady increase in beef production over the next seven years would increase exports by £200 million at today's prices.

NO CHANGES

There were no changes in the Intervention system for certain cuts of beef because of the low average market price level for beef in Ireland. However, there are fears that changes may apply after 1978. In a recent interview, Hans Jurgen Rohr, West Germany's State Secretary for Agriculture hinted at changes in the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) when he suggested that improvements were needed and that the system should be geared for market consumption and not for intervention purchase.

Though some of the new agreement is beneficial to the Irish Beef Industry, a major obstacle to the development and success of the Irish Beef Canning Industry still remains. M.C.A.'s have still not been introduced for canned and cooked meats. This means that U.K. producers can import live cattle from Ireland and sell the processed beef in Ireland at a lower price than the home produce. A suggestion that Irish processors be allowed to purchase Intervention beef at the British price has not been accepted as yet.

Livestock will be accepted up to and including Tuesday, 27th June. Livestock will not be accepted after this date unless pre-advised to do so.

The Livestock Department will re-open for enquiries and bookings on Wednesday, 12th July.

Special arrangements have been made to maintain our Home Sales Service. This department will remain in operation throughout the two week holiday period.

We wish all the members of Shannon Meat Limited and all our readers an enjoyable and rejuvenating holiday.

HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS

The following are the Summer Holiday arrangements for the Company:-

Holidays will commence on Monday morning 3rd July. Work will resume on Monday, 17th July.

I.T.G.W.U. NEWS



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Shannon Meat Section of the Irish Transport & General Workers' Union took place in Shannon Meat Ltd. on the 8th May. Mr. J. Skerritt, Assistant Branch Secretary, presided at the Meeting. A very large attendance was recorded. Outgoing Chairman, P.J. Jones was re-elected in a very close contest. Other officers elected were:-

Vice-Chairman: John Meehan (Canning Dept.); **Secretary:** James Dowling (Slaughter Hall); **Shop Stewards:** Michael Costelloe (Building/Maintenance); Dermot Hannafin (Canning Dept.); Moira Daly (Home Sales); Thomas Grey (Tripe); Michael McNamara (Slaughter Hall); Denis O'Connor (Freezers); Pat Costelloe (Boning Hall); Pat Lynch (Trimmers); Jack Lyons (Yard) and Bernard Daly (Casings).

APPRECIATION

We wish to express our appreciation for the excellent work done by all members of the previous Committee. We hope and are confident that the new Committee will operate as effectively in the interest of the workers and of Shannon Meat Ltd. We wish to thank the Company for the facilities given us to conduct our activities.

It is regrettable that it was necessary to go on a three-day working week. In the interest of everybody, we feel it was a fair outcome in the light of present circumstances.

We are sure that our weekly meetings with Management will continue to be as productive as in the past. These have been of great benefit to both sides and have helped industrial relations greatly in the Company.

SYMPATHY

We wish to express sympathy to John Fitzgibbon on the death of his father and to Dan Brosnan whose father died also.



John Meehan.

LIVESTOCK TOPICS A LOOK AT CATTLE PRICES

By Donie Donovan,
Livestock Procurement Manager.

In the Spring of 1976, we saw store bullocks rise £2.90 per cwt. from February to May. In the same period this year the rise was £5.60 per cwt. This is something very difficult to follow, considering the weather we have had. The chart hereunder was originally published in an earlier Gazette. We have now up-dated it to suit today's prices. We are not taking into account the value of grazing, or fertiliser expenses. Purely an exercise to highlight the daily liveweight gain required to get into a plus situation.

Cattle prices have got far too much publicity these past few months due to the long delay in fixing the Annual Prices in Brussels. Beef is the exception in this case as against other products affected. As beef in Europe is 192% above world market prices, under the present system, cattle prices will be always prone to speculation. It is difficult to understand those who purchase their stocks first and go looking for margins after. One cannot, but feel a bit two-faced in consoling those who have just purchased recently and congratulate those who have sold their stock. One would wonder if we are any nearer today to taking the gamble out of the cattle trade than we were thirty years ago. We may have less punters around, but the stakes are far higher and accommodation is a lot easier come by. A situation which can hardly continue in the 1980's.



Donie Donovan

It would take something like the miracle Saint Paul experienced on the road to Damascus to sort out the cattle trade at the moment.

FAIR

One of my earliest memories of a Rathkeale Fair on a cold wet January morning; in the height of all the hustle and bustle there was this low sized man in the middle of the crowd, wearing a heavy brown overcoat, a size too big for him with a fist of ballads in one hand and his cap in the other, and he singing to his heart's content "The Mountains of Mourne". A scene that was far removed from the price of cattle, that cold wet morning, as the present day prices are in relation to the "Mountains" of surplus products accumulated these past few years.

	APRIL 1978					NOVEMBER 1978				
	Purchased Price + Expenses	Live Weight Beginning May cwt.	Daily Gain lbs.	Live Weight Beginning Nov. cwt.	Killing out at 58 lbs. per cwt.	To Break even on Cost	Profit or Loss			
							@ 60p per lb.	@ 62p per lb.	@ 64p per lb.	@ 66p per lb.
A	£395	8-0-0	2.5	12-0-12	701	56.3p	+£25	+£39	+£53	+£67
B	£395	8-0-0	2.2	11-2-12	672	58.7p	+£ 8	+£21	+£35	+£48
C	£395	8-0-0	1.9	11-0-14	643	61.5p	-£10	+£ 3	+£16	+£29
D	£395	8-0-0	1.6	10-2-14	615	64.2p	-£26	-£14	-£ 2	+£10
E	£395	8-0-0	1.3	10-0-14	587	67.2p	-£43	-£32	-£20	-£ 8
F	£395	8-0-0	1.0	9-3-7	572	69.0p	-£21	-£41	-£29	-£18
G	£395	8-0-0	0.5	8-3-7	510	77.4p	-£89	-£79	-£69	-£59

ABBNEY PITCH & PUTT

For the first time in the Club's short history we have a team in the League. It would be untruthful for me to report that we are taking all before us as the saying goes. At the time of going to press, we have played three matches, losing each narrowly to Ardnacrusha, Catholic Institute and Bruff. However, the experience gained and the enjoyment of participating makes it all worthwhile. Members who have played are:

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Dollery, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Dollery, Mr. and Mrs. Liam Woulfe, John Fitzgerald,

Billy Neville, Seamus Doherty and Seamus Tierney.

The second Open of the Abbey Pitch and Putt will take place in July. Members will be notified of events once arrangements have been finalised.

The Committee wish to thank those who supported, one way or another, their sponsored walk held on 28th May.

Members of the Club would like to extend their condolences to Mrs. Mary Dollery on the recent death of her father, Mr. John Fitzgibbon.

YOU CAN BE ONE STEP FROM AN ACCIDENT!

SHANNON MEAT CHAT

By The Scribe.

- * Rumour has it that a local contingent of Leeds Utd., supporters attempted a coup on the Manager's position during their stay in the Yorkshire town.
- * Evidence to support this is that a certain Boner in the party, a self-professed Leeds addict was seen in the Dug-out.
- * Every success to Bill O'Brien in his new position.
- * Dan Cagney, a tear-a-way rugby forward is equally effective at Soccer, at least so he thinks!
- * Bernie [not Flint] of the Canning Department is equally accomplished as Benjy Rior-dan on a Tractor.
- * Every success to Gerard O'Connor who is getting married in Rome on June 5th.
- * Gary Forde is not a relation to a car.
- * If anyone reads a headline, "Willie John Returns", the chances are they will be referring to our very own, the one and only Willie John O'Donnell not Willie John Mc Bride.
- * Displaying impressively the style of Lester Piggott, Sean Mulcahy was requested by a namesake, to perform a James Hunt in a Company vehicle.
- * Congratulations to Liam O'Donnell who was married recently to Mary O'Carroll of Croagh.
- * "Kiddo" Daly of the Accounts Department is certainly interested in the Company's alliance with local schools.
- * Believe it or believe it not, Gerard Geaney completed the Circuit of Kerry.
- * A speedy recovery is extended to Donie O'Sullivan who hails from Athea.
- * It isn't true that there's an oriental tribeswoman working in the Accounts Department.
- * It is true that a certain Supervisor rang a certain shoe shop asking if they had shoes.
- * The Scribe wishes Michael O'Neill every success as Assistant Secretary of the Munster Inter-Firm G.A.A. Council
- * Rumour has it that the big sound of the Maurice Mulcahy Orchestra are playing for the Annual Dinner Dance.

SYMPATHY

Sympathy is extended to Mr. John Fitzgibbon on the recent death of his father, Mr. John Fitzgibbon, after a prolonged illness. Sympathies are also extended to other members of the Fitzgibbon family.

Condolences are also expressed to Mr. Danny Brosnan and members of the Brosnan family on their recent bereavement on the death of Mr. Denis Brosnan, late of Ballingarry.

May their souls rest in peace.

PICTURE PARADE

PICTURE PARADE



Arriving back from his visit to Leeds United F.C., is Pa Dunne, Production Supervisor, accompanied by his wife Anne, and children Derick and Patricia.



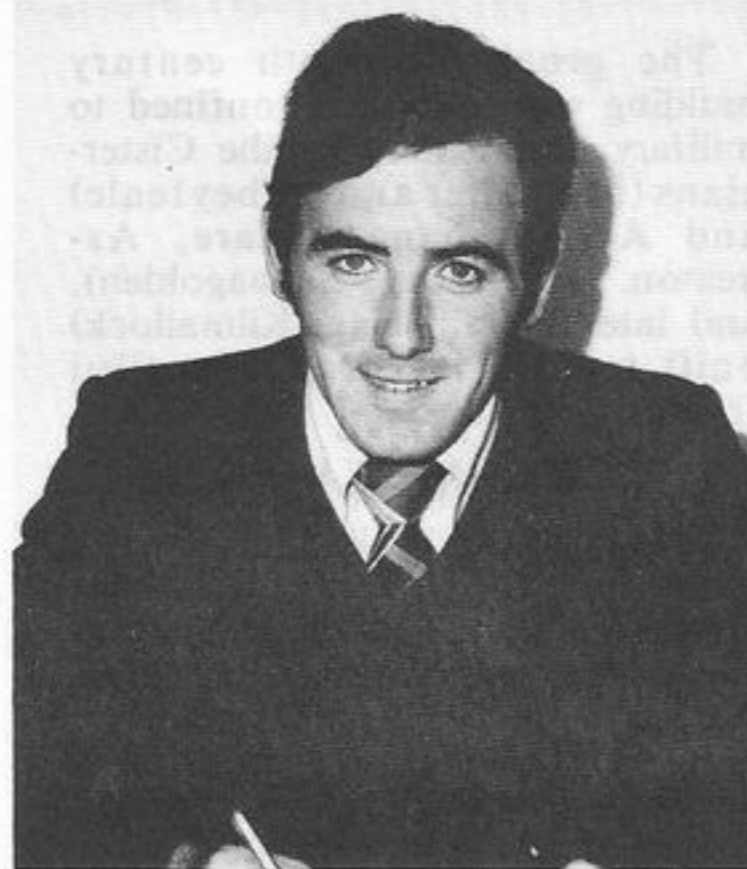
Photographed in the Canning Department are (L. to R.) Kathleen O'Brien, Marcella Curtin, Helen Shiels and Helen Kenneally.



Tom Grey of Newcastle West has been with Shannon Meat Ltd. for four years.



Miss Mary Hogan of Rathkeale is a popular member of the Boning Hall Staff.



Mr. Donie Ahern (above), is Livestock Field Officer with Shannon Meat Ltd.



Michael Glenny of Rathkeale is a member of the Boiler Room Staff.



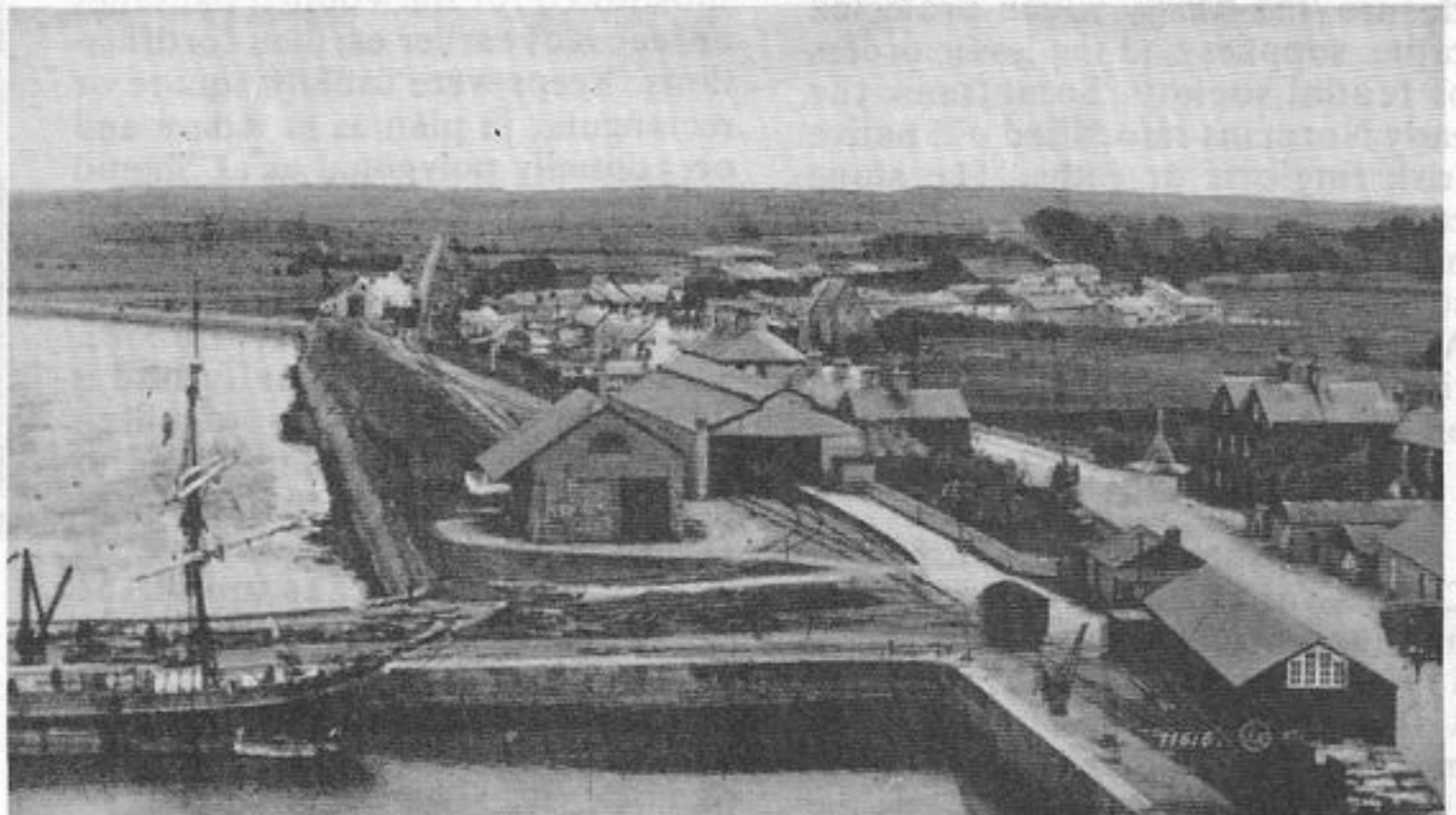
Paddy Royce (Retired Staff Member) seated, pictured at the Retired Members Staff Party with Staff Members Donie McEnery, Supervisor and Batty Collins, Building Maintenance.



Pa Dunne pictured with Leeds United highly rated mid-fielder Tony Currie.



Michael Keating (above) is well known in greyhound circles. He is Clerical Officer in the Livestock Department of Shannon Meat Ltd.



Above is a view of Foynes, Co. Limerick, photographed around 1910.

THE NORMAN CASTLES

By Patrick F. Wallace.



Castlematrix : Machicolis resting on corbels with battlements at top. [Photo : Author].

County Limerick possesses three great groups of mediaeval buildings at Adare, Askeaton and Kilmallock, as well as numerous friaries, abbeys and churches and an abundance of castles. Over four hundred castles have been attributed to the county - the highest number of any county in Ireland. Of these, upwards of one hundred and sixty survive in ruins, the others having been long since destroyed in war and ravaged by time and neglect. The survivors include thirteen chief castles, four bawns and seventy-five tower houses or peel towers.

Two waves of building activity are discernible in mediaeval Ireland. These correspond, roughly, to the thirteenth and fifteenth centuries. The first coincides with an attempt by the Normans at consolidating and organising their gains after their initial conquests. The earliest Normans established themselves in hastily made earthen fortifications called mottes and baileys which consisted of a wooden tower or *breteche* on top of a flat topped mound of earth [*Motte*] with a waterfilled moat or ditch around its base and an attached lower enclosure [*the bailey*] which protected cattle, supplies and the lesser orders of feudal society. Sometimes the early Normans refortified old native Irish ringforts or raths. The stone castles of later centuries were often built on the sites of earlier earthen structures like the Desmond castle at Adare on the probable site of a ringfort and the castle at Shanid on an earlier motte.

STONE CASTLES

Stone castles were established at Caherconlish, Knockaney, Ardpatrick and Askeaton as early as 1199. Kilmallock had a castle by 1206 and Croom by 1216. Cloghnarold (near Rathkeale) was fortified by 1230. Shortly afterwards the Geraldines organised a number of manors of which Shanid was the

most important. Manors were organised at Croagh, Kilmallock, Invernuss, Tomdeely and Loghill by the Bishops of Limerick in the 13th century. A castle was established at Newcastle West by 1269. The Geraldine stronghold was to be an important seat of their descendants, the Earls of Desmond. By 1300 the county had a network of castles, King John's castle in Limerick being the most important. The fords or crossing points on the Deel were held by castles at Askeaton and Dundonnell (near Rathkeale). The mountain district of Sliabh Luachra was held in check by the castle at Newcastle West and the passes to Kerry were guarded by castles at Shanid, Ardpatrick and Castle Robert Guer (Robertstown).

The great thirteenth century building wave was not confined to military architecture as the Cistercians (Monaster and Abbeyfeale) and Augustinians (Adare, Askeaton, Old Abbey, Shanagolden), and later Dominicans (Kilmallock) built many great and beautiful friaries in the area.

SECOND WAVE

There was a reduction in the number of abbeys and castles built in the war-torn and plague-ridden fourteenth century after which there occurs a second great wave of building in mediaeval Ireland. It is in this period, the fifteenth century, that much of the fine architecture of the Franciscans was produced. There was also a great revival in castle building and it was at this time that most of Co. Limerick's castles were erected. These were small tower houses of square or rectangular shape and were less impressive than the early Norman fortifications. These towers were built by lesser native chieftains as well as by the Anglo-Norman families, many of whom had been assimilated by Irish civilisation, becoming "**more Irish than the Irish themselves**". Among examples of the tower house type of castle which have survived in the Rathkeale area of Co. Limerick are Dunnaman, Clonshire, Garraunboy, Ballingarry, Castlematrix, Ballyculhane and Cappagh.

TOWER

Stone castles are characterised by a tower or *keep* enclosed in a yard or *bawn* by *curtain walls* which were substituted for the wooden palisades or fences of earlier earthen fortifications. Keeps were usually square or rectangular in plan as at Adare and occasionally polygonal as at Shanid which is even more unusual in that it is round on the inside. Walls often consisted of mortared stone facings and a mortar and rubble centre core. The bases of walls usually had a *batter* or outward slope which stabilised the building and served to propel missiles dropped from *machicolations* overhead outwards against assailants. The top of the keep usually had an *alure* or wall-walk inside its crenelated battlements. *Crenelations* are the highest areas of masonry along the parapet, the lower level lengths of parapet between the *crenelations* being called *merlons*. Some of the

earliest castles had a wooden gallery projecting beyond the walls of the castle at the top; boiling oils or water or missiles were released through openings in its floor on assailants below. In time this wooden gallery or *hourd* was replaced by a similar structure in stone which was suspended on corbels or brackets between which were downward looking openings or *machicolations*, the feature itself being called a *machicoulis*. There are excellent examples of *mâchicoulis*, parapets, alures, merlons and crenelations in the reconstructed castle at Castlematrix, Rathkeale.

Castles were developed by the Normans in response to the military problems posed on the Crusades and in their warfare against the English and the Welsh. The bow and arrow were among the principal weapons of the Middle Ages when the long and short bow were in vogue and when the lethal crossbow with its arrow with iron tip or *quarrel* was widely favoured. Castles were built to affront maximum advantage to the bowmen who defended them and to withstand the assaults of the machines which assaulted them. Among the machines were the *mangonel* and the *trebuchet* both of which were employed like enormous wheeled catapults to cast heavy missiles (usually stones) against the walls.

LOOPS

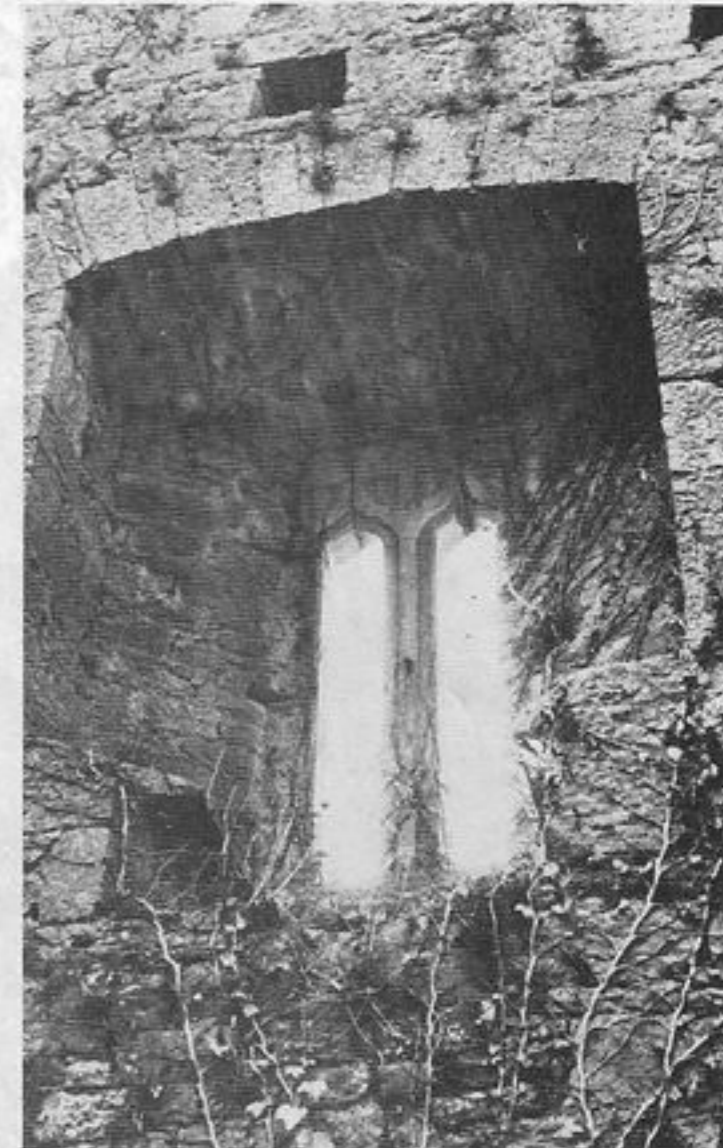
The only openings in the walls of a castle were *loops* or openings in the outer walls for releasing bolts from bows. Inside, the loops splayed widely to form niches or *embrasures* where the Bowman or guard crouched. There are fine examples of skew loops on the castle at Garraunboy (near Croagh). The *latrine* or garde-robe (toilet) exit usually opens at the base of a shaft near the base batter on the outside,

Garraunboy also having an example of this feature. The doorway was usually placed above the ground on the first floor. In larger castles the entrance arrangement consisted of a retractable *drawbridge* which formed a bridge over the moat or water filled ditch which encircled the base of the castle. The drawbridge could be raised by chains during an attack. An iron shod heavy wooden gate or *portcullis* was also used in some castles. The smaller castles usually had a strongly reinforced wooden door which was secured by a wooden beam which slid into square holes in the wall masonry on the inside. Nowadays very often it is only the holes in the wall which survive to enable us to tell the original position of the door.

Floors usually consisted of wooden joists which rested on stone corbels or brackets which projected from the inside of the great stone wall. Often, the topmost and first floors were vaulted and consisted of carefully laid stones. The mediaeval mason having decided on the position of the vault erected a number of wooden braces which supported mats of wickerwork (usually hazel sallies). A bed of mortar was next spread over the wickerwork and stones were laid edges down into it, more mortar being grouted in from above. The mats of woven wickerwork or basketry which were thus used for centring left deep impressions in the mortar and can still be seen under vaulted floors of abbeys and castles, the vaults at Garraunboy and Cappagh castles having particularly fine examples of it. Roofs of mediaeval castles were covered with slates, stone slabs, oak shingles or more usually, thatch. Very often it is possible to tell the date of a castle from some of its surviving architectural details like arches, doorways, fireplace lintels, and especially loops and windows.



Garraunboy : Corbels for floor joists. Note wicker impressions on mortar under floor vaults. [Photo : Author].



Clonshire : Window embrasure showing ornamental ridges on edges, top and central mullion. [Photo : Author].



BALLINGARRY MACRA NA FEIRME

"WHERE THE CRACK
IS NINETY"

By Maureen Cronin,
Accounts Department.



Maureen Cronin.

The aim of Macra Na Feirme, founded in 1944, was an educational, cultural and social activity for the agricultural community. The aims are still basically the same, but now Macra caters for the urban and rural community alike.

Many of us know what it is like to live in a rural area with absolutely nothing to do in the evenings; especially in Winter. At this time of the year Macra is at its best, providing worthwhile recreation with umpteen competitions and events for all its members.

SOCIAL LIFE

Last Winter, in our Club (i.e. Ballingarry), we really had a hectic social life with Macra. To explain: The County Executive ran off something like 30 competitions. These included such events as panel speaking, debating, light entertainment, artistry in the home, stock judging and many more. These may seem quite dull, but I can assure you that in such competitions as light entertainment "the crack was ninety". Can you imagine twenty or so people coming together to put forward a sketch for the competition? We ended up with a Jesse James sketch which proved to be hilarious. Ballingarry may not be very high up in the honorary list but we always ensure that each and everyone enjoy themselves to the full when we go out as a Club.

LOCAL COMMUNITY

Macra also aims at involving the local community in the area; for example, this year we ran a dart tournament and a few 45 drives which proved to be a great success. Needless to say, Macra would not be Macra if there was not the occasional dance to keep up the financial position of the Club.

Every year, all the clubs in the county get together for the annual social which proves to be very entertaining. Last year we went to Scotland for a weekend ("we" i.e., the county) which turned out to be an occasion to remember. The informality of Macra members with one another makes it a "one big happy family affair" rather than everyone trying to get everything they can out of the Association.

VALUABLE COURSES

To the farmer, Macra helps him tremendously but I must make one point clear first; that it isn't a place where a group of farmers get together and talk "shop" all night. It helps the farming community in such ways as holding discussion groups, talks from various financial assistance bodies and farm development courses. For the female member, there are also valuable courses such as artistry in the home which includes flower arranging, cooking, sewing, etc. Also at National level there is the make and model competition which attracts numerous entries throughout the country.

The importance of Macra Na Feirme is further emphasised by the fact that other well known organisations avail of its knowledge and experience in relation to management of their own clubs.

At National level Macra activities have a very wide appeal, e.g., Cross Country Quiz, which attracts a large viewing audience on television. No show would be complete without a special display from Macra Na Feirme with their sheep shearing stands.

I hope that I have convinced you that Macra na Feirme is a worthwhile organisation. So in future, do not sit down and twiddle your thumbs - remember you will get out of Macra what you put into it.

SHANNON MEAT LIVESTOCK SHOW

As already mentioned in a previous edition of the Gazette, our Livestock Show will be held here from July 31st to August 2nd inclusive. Stock will be on show from 3.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. Anyone wishing to enter stock please contact us immediately. Interested herd owners who wish to see the Show are asked to contact the Livestock Department for further details.

Again, we must emphasise the purpose of the Show is purely an

educational exercise, without any form of competition.

All the relevant data for each days' kill will be made available to all parties interested at a later date.

Again, we would like to stress that all stock will be identified in lots from A to Z. The follow-up would include a breakdown of killing-out percentages and classification on steers, heifers and cows.

PROFILE - PAT JOE JONES

TRUSTED FRIEND

His first job was working in a quarry. His second was working with the E.S.B. This second job meant a cycle to and from Limerick each day with his good and trusted friend, Joe Kenneally. This cycling exercise lasted for three years. This daunting journey typifies the man's extraordinary character when one thinks that ten years earlier he wasn't able to walk. After this (around mid-fifties) he joined the gang of men who worked with Shannon Meat Ltd. The chilling fear of insecurity ran up his spine and he set off for England where he worked with a Crane Building company - Cones & Jones - a poetic name, neither in the Ice-Cream business, or relations.

For the next few years, Pat Joe was a regular passenger with B. & I. (Like Joe Lynch and the leprechaun of the '70's). He found settling in England rather difficult, the call of the motherland was always prominent in his mind. Eventually, the wandering emigrant settled in his native town. He then (circa 1970) joined Shannon Meat Ltd. by then an established meat processing firm, and has been employed in the Slaughter Hall ever since.

LOCAL COMMUNITY

Outside of work, Pat Joe is actively involved with the local Community Council and is an elected member of this Body who are presently constructing Tennis Courts, a Squash Court, a Handball Alley and simultaneously reconstructing the former Courthouse into a modern Community Centre. P.J. has been closely associated with various Festivals organised by communal groups in the district. In the Boxing Club, Pat Joe holds the position of Joint Treasurer.

Socially, Pat Joe enjoys a Pint and the odd Ceili. He is regularly a follower of the Inter-Firm teams. All of which activities, when amalgamated, make a very full programme for bachelor - Pat Joe Jones.

DIM WIT

By Joe Kerr.

- * He's the type you'd like to run into sometime - when you're driving and he's walking.
- * One of these days he's sure to be arrested for impersonating a human being.
- * He hasn't been himself lately - everyone has noticed the improvement.
- * He has grown up to be the kind of a fellow his mother warned him not to associate with.
- * He's a man of many parts - and it's a lousy assembly job.
- * With his money, he has just everything a girl could want. The only trouble is, he goes with it.



P.J. Jones.

This year saw Patrick Jones elected as Chairman of the Shannon Meat branch of the I.T. & G.W.U., for the third occasion in four years. In 1976, Pat Joe held the position of Vice-Chairman. This in itself is an indication of the high regard and esteem in which his fellow workers hold him.

One might say that involvement in Union activities for Pat Joe could be put down as hereditary. His father, the late Patrick Jones, was one of the persons instrumental in the formation of the I.T. & G.W.U., in Shannon Meat Ltd. Patrick (Snr.) held the position of Chairman, Secretary and Collector during his term with the Company. Pat Joe quickly acknowledges that "from my late father, I derived a great wealth of invaluable knowledge and practical experience". In 1976, and again in 1977, the present Chairman attended Industrial Relation Courses organised by the I.T. & G.W.U., which further broadened his intellect on current industrial affairs.

BROTHERS

Union involvement for the Jones family is obviously part and parcel of life. Two of Pat Joe's brothers are employed by Shannon Meat Ltd. and both have, at one stage or another, been prominent in Union activities. Slaughter Line operative, Gerry is a former departmental spokesman. Christy, a training instructor with the firm, has previously been Chairman, Secretary, Collector and Spokesman. A sign outside their family home would appropriately read: "Connolly Hall, Rathkeale".

Pat Joe Jones was born in Askeaton in the so called "British Lighthouses" - similar to lighthouses and which had that one same function. (It could be said that P.J. came from under the bright lights!). Unfortunately for him, he had congenital bone disease at birth. This necessitated numerous operations and prolonged hospitalisation. It was in Croom Orthopaedic Hospital where Pat Jones received the most of his education. Luckily for him, he has overcome this disease, a disease which inflicted on him eight years in a dreary drab hospital bed - so much for the pretty nurses.

After the completion of this "Sentence", he took up residence with the remainder of his family in Rathkeale town. In the intervening years, the Jones brigade had moved from the "bright lights" to the remoteness of Rathkeale. Pat Joe's father at this time was serving in the Army. "Times were very very hard" he forcibly points out.

SOCCER SCENE



SUCCESSFUL SEASON

As expected, Kilcoleman took the League title for the first time in the Club's history, and we just edged out Askeaton to take the runners-up spot. We have just qualified for the Desmond Cup Final (the first time in our history) and are also in the top four semi-finals. So everything is going for us just now and we are in for a thrilling climax to the Season. Our opponents in the cup final are our old friends Kileany. We have never beaten Kileany in any of our previous encounters, but we are hoping to set the record straight on Cup Final Day. We won't forget our last meeting in the League when they thrashed us 6-1. However, we are playing really well just now and it could be our day. Denis Harnett is playing well in goals and the back four of Timmy Mullane, Don Gallagher, Pat Lavin and Frank Lynch are as good as any in the League. The evergreen Johnny Jones keeps things ticking over in the middle, ably supported by Mario Zoncada and Dan Cagney. Bill Chawke leads the attack with the two wing positions going to any two of the following:-

John White, John Coleman, James O'Grady, Edmund Dollery, Tom Butler and Tom Shaughnessy.

That's the team we are hoping will win the Cup.

MATCH REPORTS

LEAGUE:

Shannon United: 2 Askeaton: 2

This hard fought game could have gone either way, United could not produce the killer punch to beat the hard working Askeaton side. Askeaton took an early lead, but Don Gallagher headed home a corner to square the match. Midway through the second-half, Mario Zoncada scored with a clever lob over the keeper's head. However, back came Askeaton to score a late equaliser.

Kilcoleman: 0 Shannon Utd.: 3

Our final League game and we needed a win to clinch runners-up spot. The task was made all the more easier by Kilcoleman fielding an under strength side. We got on top from the first whistle, but we had to wait until late in the first half for Bill Chawke to open the scoring. The second-half was all one way traffic with Mario Zoncada (Penalty) and Bill Chawke adding to the first half goal.

CUP:

Shannon United: 3 Ardagh: 2

We got the fright of our lives from this lively Ardagh side, before we eventually clinched a place in the second round. Everything looked

rosy when Johnny Jones gave us an early goal and Mario Zoncada made it 2-0 before the break. Ardagh made a spirited rally in the second-half and pulled a goal back and with 5 minutes to go scored a shock equaliser. With the seconds ticking away Bill Chawke fired home the winner through a crowded goal mouth.

Shannon Utd.: 2 Ballysteen: 1

We advanced to the semi-final despite not being at our best. The first half was very scrappy and there was no score at the interval. Ballysteen were first to score early in the second-half, but Johnny Jones scored a great equaliser. We really got on top now and the winner had to come, and when one of the Ballysteen backs handled in the box, Pat Lavin scored from the spot.

Shannon Utd.: 1 Broadford: 1
[Semi-final]

A glorious goal by Dan Cagney in the dying moments kept our Cup hopes alive. This was a typical Cup tie with no quarter asked or given. The first half was evenly balanced with both defences on top and we had no score at half-time. Broadford took the lead midway through the second-half with a bizarre goal. A free kick out on the right struck the upright, rebounded and hit one of our defenders and rolled over the line. That was the way of it until the last minute when we were awarded a free kick outside the box. Pat Lavin tipped the ball to Dan Cagney and he crashed the ball home.

Shannon Utd.: 3 Broadford: 2
[Re-play]

They say you need luck to win the Cup and we used more than our share to win this thrilling Cup tie. Broadford playing better than in the drawn game took an early lead. We were struck another body blow, when Johnny Jones was sent off late in the first half (a strange decision this). It was all Broadford now and they went further ahead early in the second-half. With 15 minutes to go Dan Cagney bent a free kick around the defensive wall to score a great goal. We were in injury time when Bill Chawke struck the wood with a fierce shot, however, following the re-bounce the ball was handled in the box and the ice cool Mario Zoncada slotted home the spot kick. In the first period of extra time Timmy Mullane popped up on the edge of the box to score a fantastic winner. The miracle had happened and we were in the final.

Watch it grow:- Jones [10], Chawke [9], Zoncada [7], Lavin [4], Harnett [3], Lynch [2], Cagney [2], White [2], Culhane, Fitzgerald, Gallagher and Mullane one each.

By Michael Dunne.



Photographed outside Elland Road are: Dan Cagney, Edmund Dollery, Patch Markham and Pat Cagney.

G. A. A. CLUB NEWS

By Noel Harnett, Secretary.

EXIT FROM FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

The most disappointing development in the G.A.A. scene was the elimination by Limerick Rangers Social Club of our footballers from the Championship. We were all hoping that this was going to be our year to win the Championship as the team had shown in earlier League matches that they had the talent and ability to live with the best. Unfortunately, due to injury, we were forced to field without several key players and Limerick Rangers got revenge as we had already defeated them in the League.

LEAGUE PROGRESS

In the Football League we have played two games winning one against Limerick Rangers and losing to Southern Chemicals. We now need to win our three remaining matches against Howmedica, P. & T., Limerick and Kantoher to be sure of qualifying for the final.

In the Hurling League we were beaten by Castlemahon and will have to show vast improvement if we hope to advance further in the League or Championship.

MATCH REPORTS

Shannon Meat/Scanglo: 2-8
Limerick Rangers: 1-5

We made a good start in the League beating a strong Limerick Rangers team by six points. It was not a great game of football, but considering it was the first game of the Season, the team gave a good performance and any win in the League is worth two points. A feature of the game was the debut of Don Gallagher who played a great game in the half-back line.

Scorers: T. McDonald, 1-1, J. Lyons, 1-0, N. Harnett, 0-3, S. Harnett, 0-2, B. Fallon, 0-1, M. Sullivan, 0-1.

Shannon Meat/Scanglo: 1-7
Southern Chemicals: 1-11

The clash with the "auld" enemy turned out to be another thriller. The boys in blue and yellow put up a brave show playing with great spirit and determination against the champions despite the fact that three key players were missing. However, in the end the Chemicals proved sharper in front of goal and were worthy winners. This match proved that with a full panel of players available we could be capable of beating Southern Chemicals.

Scorers: S. Harnett, 0-5, B. Fallon, 1-0, J. Lyons, 0-1, N. Harnett, 0-1.

Shannon Meat/Scanglo: 2-3
Limerick Rangers: 2-7

We made a disappointing exit from the Championship. We were missing seven players due to injury, but despite this fact we still had enough chances to win. A special mention for Mikey Reidy who made his debut in goals and played a terrific match. Now that we are out of the Championship, we will have to make a determined effort to win the League.

Scorers: A. Frawley, 1-0, F. Dalton, 1-0, N. Harnett, 0-2, S. Harnett, 0-1.

HURLING:

Shannon Meat/Scanglo: 1-4
Castlemahon: 4-8

This was a disappointing start to the League campaign. However, it was our first match of the Season and most of our players had not handled a hurley for months. With more determination plus the players we were missing, we could still make an impact in the League and Championship.

Scorers: N. Hogan, 1-0, S. Harnett, 0-1, M. Sullivan, 0-1, D. O'Connor, 0-1, D. Noonan, 0-1.

KICK AHEAD



Tom White (left) and Liam Woulfe pause momentarily for this "snap" during training.

A new venture in sport was undertaken by some of the Company's staff recently. The formation of a Rugby team amalgamated with Scanglo had a very successful run in the Inter-Firm Rugby Tournament organised by Newcastle West Rugby Club. The team finished runners-up to an experienced Farmers fifteen in a pulsating final after impressively gaining maximum points in the League section. When it is considered that the nearest many of the lads had come to playing the game was when watching an International

on television, the whole exercise was a noteworthy achievement, and a credit to the players.

Prior to the commencement of the League, the "Green-horns" attended a number of training sessions, principally to learn the rules. Those who attempted this feat were:-

Liam Woulfe, Anthony Frawley, Seamus Cawley, Miko Dunne, Noel Harnett, Mike Wilmoth, Willie John O'Donnell, Tom White, Sean Harnett, Tom Shaughnessy and Jack Lyons (who only learned the very basics).

Apart from the multiple "Green-horns" the side also contained some experienced rugby players - **John Lynch, Dan Cagney, Brian Scanlan, Tom Daly, Turlough McDonald**, (missed final through injury) and **John Costelloe**.

On the first morning of organised training, the Club (Scanglo - Shannon Meat) took for its motto: **"KICK AHEAD, ANY HEAD"**.

This motto was not meant to be taken literally, but occasionally, black eyes, muscle strains, bruises and cuts were evident - this is part and parcel of the game.

The League results were as follows:-

Shannon Meat/Scanglo - 10	P. & T. - 0
Shannon Meat/Scanglo - 15	Farmers - 11
Shannon Meat/Scanglo -	Kantoher - Walk-over
Shannon Meat/Scanglo - 6	Town Traders - 3
Shannon Meat/Scanglo - 11	Castlemahon - 9

Final: Shannon Meat/Scanglo - 6, : Farmers - 17