



## BEEF PROCESSING ENCOURAGED

The recent Consultant's report on the Beef Industry in Ireland has been analyzed by the I.D.A. and some interesting conclusions have been made concerning the industry's potential growth.

According to the report nearly 500 jobs per year could be created in the Meat Industry for the next ten years and there is adequate slaughtering capacity until 1980. At present there is sufficient capacity to bone 60% of slaughterings, but, in fact only 35% to 40% is actually boned-out. The I.D.A. has concluded that for real profitability the Industry should bone-out and vacuum pack its total output. The development areas, as seen by the consultants, were in vacuum-packed and portion-controlled cuts, and in canned meat products. The Industry generally was well-equipped and in good financial shape, but it was felt that efficiency could be improved.

### SUCCESSFUL PROGRESS

Despite the encouraging conclusions of the report the successful progress of the Industry is still dependent on the removal of the anomalies in the Monetary Compensatory amount (MCA's) for export of frozen and cooked meat products. Indeed some fear is expressed as to the continuation of current production of convenience foods, because of non-application of M.C.A.'s.

The Chairman of the Irish Fresh Meat Exporters Society, Mr. Jack O'Callaghan, has highlighted the fact that E.E.C. pricing decisions have, in fact, prevented Irish processed beef products from being sold in E.E.C. markets. Consequently, reports on the market potential of the processing industry were of little use if the future of the Industry was being determined by anomalies created by political decisions made in Brussels.

## OPINION JOBS AND MORE JOBS

One wonders if we are getting into a one track mind situation on the job creation scene. The solutions being constantly propounded are, more industry, foreign and semi-state and extra public expenditure on creating state appointments. More worrying is the emphasis being put on off-shore oil and gas, mining and ore processing, all transitory industries with a twenty-year life at the very best. Are we to hurt our environment to forward this short term policy. Is the lower Shannon to become just one other European river sacrificed to heavy industry.

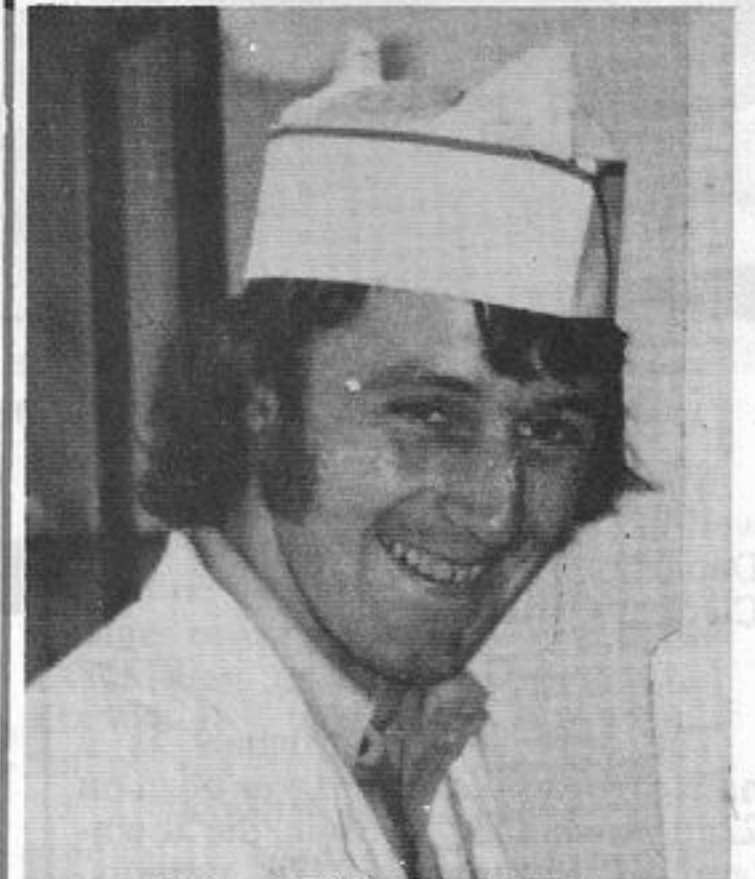
We are assured of all kinds of safeguards but no safeguard will get rid of eyesores. An example is when one turns into the Glin road below Loughill and the Tarbert Island E.S.B. complex looms up like a sore thumb to spoil the landscape. Would some portion of the money being spent on industrialising the Shannon basin be much better spent on its development as a tourist amenity? Long term and measured on a return of job productivity or spin-off, it seems a much better proposition. We feel that tourism, the money to be made out of it and the jobs it will create, is only being tinkered with. The mass movement of travel in the developed world seems to be passing us by. Our figures of 300,000 and 350,000 visitors looks tiny in comparison with London's 14 million visitors in 1977 and Italy's 30 million in the same year. Our weather is no

excuse. Nobody can say that London's weather or Scotland's for that matter, is a sunbathing paradise. On a fifty per cent proportionate basis, we could reach 1½ to 2 million visitors bringing in a revenue of 350 to 400 million sterling annually.

The cost of transport to Ireland is one of the biggest obstacles and as there is practically a State monopoly, viz., Aer Lingus and B & I, it is within our own competence to adjust. As an example, the return flight from Shannon to London costs £82 as against a Freddy Laker return flight from New York to London which costs £59 or a New York to Miami in Florida, by any United States airline, £29 return. Again a wiser taxation policy would help, e.g., the cost of petrol in the U.K. is 22p a gallon cheaper than our country. While it is not our intention to rock the boat of present job creation policies, it is only right to point out that capital intensive industry does not provide many jobs and what jobs there are go to highly skilled and highly qualified people. Kerry Co-op. has provided a thousand jobs within five years without any euphoria being created and is on its way to providing its second thousand. Surely there must be something to learn from such an achievement.

Maurice F. Cowhey,  
Managing Director.

## ON THE MOVE



MR. JOHN LYONS.

MR. JOHN LYONS (above), (better known to all his mates as Jack) was appointed recently to the position of Training Instructor with the Company. This brings the number of Instructors to three and will see Jack join a very formidable team with Tom Shaughnessy and Christy Jones.

### BORN

John Lyons was born in Rathkeale in 1953, the second of three children to Jack and Josephine Lyons. His father, of the same name, works in the Lairage section. John's mother is a sister to Home Sales staff member, Paddy Nash and his two sisters, Mary and Bernadette, have both been in the employment of Shannon Meat at one stage or another. Therefore, Shannon Meat has been the server of the "bread and butter" or should I say 'jam' for the Lyons household. Jack (jnr.) started with the Company in October, 1974.

Like many of his working associates he was educated in the Primary and Technical schools in Rathkeale. On leaving school, John served for a number of years in the building trade and presently in his spare moments, although infrequent, takes a trowel in his hand.

Jack Lyons is married to a Patrickswell girl, Bridget Kiely. They have two children, Suzanne and Jason. One of Jack's and his wife Bridget's greatest joys was to see their eldest child, Suzanne, walk for the first time recently. She had congenital bone disease at birth which necessitated both legs being amputated.

### CLUB-MAN

Apart from work, Jack's other hobbies include soccer, swimming and darts. He is playing with Kilcoleman presently although down through the years proved himself a great Club man with Shannon United.

An added benefit to Jack in his new position is that he served the latter as trainer for a period. With this experience behind him, Jack can look forward to the future with great confidence.

RATHKEALE OPEN SPORTS  
SENIOR & JUVENILE  
RATHKEALE G.A.A. GROUNDS  
ON  
MONDAY, 7th AUGUST.

International Athletes competing.  
Value of Trophies in excess of £600.

## SHANNON Quality Meat for your Home Freezer

- \* Home Freezer Special Prime Beef Packs
- \* Prime hind and forequarter heifer beef
- \* Your own stock processed to your specification
- \* Top quality Lamb Packs and Lamb Carcasses
- \* Specialist advice on Home Freezer maintenance.

Get full value from your Freezer. Meat supplied by Shannon Meat Ltd. is processed under modern hygienic conditions. This ensures top class quality, proper maturing, best cutting and packing methods and blast freezing to ensure meat is frozen solid in the shortest possible time. We are proud of our Home Freezer Service.

For full particulars contact :-

The Home Sales Manager,  
Shannon Meat Ltd.

## SHANNON MEAT LIVESTOCK SHOW

JULY 31st-AUGUST 1st & 2nd

FROM 3.00 p.m. TO 9.00 p.m. DAILY.

The purpose of the Show is purely an educational exercise, without any form of competition.

# PROFILE

## MICHAEL KEATING



MICHAEL KEATING

Michael Keating is a popular and well liked member of the Livestock Department where he works as a Clerical Officer.

### CRADLE

The soft spoken Michael is a native of Rathkeale and was born on 22nd November, 1957 in the townland of Rathnasare. His parents, James and Margaret Keating were farmers. Once out of the cradle, Mike had to learn the basics of farming - milking, ploughing, saving hay, etc. After these tasks were completed only then could he take up the occupations of other children; i.e., playing games, etc.

Michael was educated firstly at St. Joseph's Boys' National School, where he was taught by Pat Cahillane, Noel Liston and Mrs. Nestor. Afterwards, he crossed the road (the safe-cross code was not in force then, otherwise he may not have gone) to the local Secondary School where he acquired a Honours Leaving Certificate - due in part to Sister Jerome and her excellent team. A class behind him all the way was his brother Tom, the second member of this very quiet family. Tom is also employed by Shannon Meat Limited in the capacity of Quality Control Officer - whether or whether not he is still a class behind, well! they can fight over that one themselves.

Michael joined Shannon Meat in July, 1975 as a Retort Operator and in February, 1976 he had an unfortunate accident. How well Mike has overcome his resulting handicap is simply amazing and yet characteristic of the man. Despite this handicap however, Michael is leading a very full and active life.

### ATHLETE

Prior to this untimely incident, the Rathnasare man was a noted athlete. Hurling and Football were his main hobbies. Built like a tank - the writer hopped off him a few times, hence I know from experience what it was like to have played against him. Throughout his adolescent years, Mike performed as full-back or corner-back in the highly rated and sometimes successful Parish Juvenile and Junior teams. As the modest Mike will read this, his immediate reaction will be "Shurr" and he will then give a short laugh or at least so he should. Alas! for Mike he is deprived of the pleasures of playing (something those of us who participate often take for granted and fail to appreciate) and demoted to the position of spectator, something he didn't really deserve.

Training greyhounds is Mike's favourite hobby now. Dogs have always been a great joy of his and he states: "I was walking greyhounds before I was walking myself". Having pointed out to him that he could become a great friend of mine if he acted successfully as my tipster, he informed me to put my money on any dog trained by the Keatings - "a certain winner" he reliably and forcibly adds. This should prove a great way of beating the taxman.

We are sure the Keating's will have many winners and two of those will be Mike and Tom, undoubtedly - who are probably in the same class now and always have been in reality.

## ABBEY PITCH & PUTT SUCCESSFUL OPEN

I am glad to relate that our Annual P & P Open, held on 22nd and 23rd July, was again a major success. Despite the prevailing bad weather the event was well supported both by local players and outside Club players.

The following is a list of the people who were successful at the second Abbey Pitch & Putt Open:-

### Gents:

Overall Nett: Pat Neville - (Abbey), Overall Gross: P. Hehir - (Bruff), Senior Nett: P. Kennedy - (Croom), Senior Gross: Wm. Gaffney, (Parteen), Intermediate Nett: L. Woulfe - (Abbey), Intermediate Gross: L. Minihan - (Sallybank), Junior Nett: J. Malone - (Croom), Junior Gross: S. Doherty - (Abbey).

### Ladies:

Overall Nett: B. Woulfe - (Abbey), Overall Gross: A. Gaffney - (Parteen), 4-10 Nett: K. O'Mahoney - (Croom), 11-18 Nett: M. Dollery - (Abbey), 11-18 Gross: C. Dollery - (Abbey).

Overall 18 Nett: B. Neville - (Abbey), Best 5 Cards: N. Harnett - (Abbey), Local Gent: J. Dollery, Visiting Gent: Ml. O'Ryan - (Croom), Hole-In-One: Ml. O'Ryan - (Croom).

A most encouraging aspect is the number of our own players who won Trophies; despite the influx of experienced Pitch & Putt players from the region.

### Sponsors:

Through this media, the Committee wish to thank sincerely those people who sponsored the event. They were:-

Shannon Meat Ltd., Brian Geary - Car Sales, Roches V.G., Gerry Fitzgerald - (Rathkeale House Hotel), Mike Neville, Tom O'Grady (Halfway House), John Shiels - (Shiels Arms), Mike Hennessy, Patrick Sheahan, John Talty, Paddy Duffy - (First and Last), John Kennedy, Breen's Newsagents, Wilmoth Bros.

Perpetual Trophies were presented by: Peter Donovan, Shannon Meat Social Committee, Joe Cuddy and Cronin-Barry, Insurance Brokers.

All Trophies were supplied by Peter Donovan and Tommy Hogan.

# SHANNON MEAT CHAT

## By The Scribe.

- \* Weather prospects for the Winter seem to indicate long, cold and frosty nights, with intervening showers, so .....
- \* Married in early July was Paudie Reidy to Margaret Woulfe. My best wishes to them both.
- \* Recently wed-locked was Pat Sheehan of the Livestock Department.
- \* Also married during the holidays was Stephen Murphy of the Boning Department.
- \* Getting married in August is Smiler Willie John O'Donnell. - It couldn't happen to a nicer fellow !!
- \* As a friendly treat by a worker to a fellow worker Joe Gaffney has decided to take Jamsie Moone for a drive in his new car.
- \* Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Don Gallagher on the birth of their second heir - even if it meant Don missing the start of the Desmond Cup Final.
- \* My very best wishes to Miss Susan Roche of the Canning Department who announced her engagement recently to Dave O'Grady of Rathkeale.
- \* I am absolutely delighted to hear that Gerard O'Connor got a "Pizza" while honeymooning in Rome. I hope he'll get one here as well.
- \* Proud man these days is Frank Costelloe whose wife is after presenting him with a child.
- \* Here is a Quality Control Report from Dingle drawn up for us by Dan Cagney and the Q.C. Staff. Germans A1, Teachers A2, Locals A3, Farmers A4 and Typists A5.
- \* Shannon Meat won a 1st. Prize (Rose Section) at the Rathkeale Festival Show. Great credit to Sean Guiry and Staff.
- \* I'm glad to see Travolta of the Accounts Department continuing his lessons on how to operate either the Photocopier, Typewriter or the Typist.
- \* Joe Kenneally's accuracy with a gun was viewed with great interest from a hovering helicopter lately.
- \* A sure sign of prosperity - many staff members are presently buying cars, houses and land.
- \* If anybody doesn't know their Safe Cross Code, I'm sure our dinner-time Warden, Ned Lawlor would duly oblige.
- \* The Scribe is delighted to see many of his old friends (?????) and new friends hopefully, joining the fold.

# HORSEY CROSSWORD

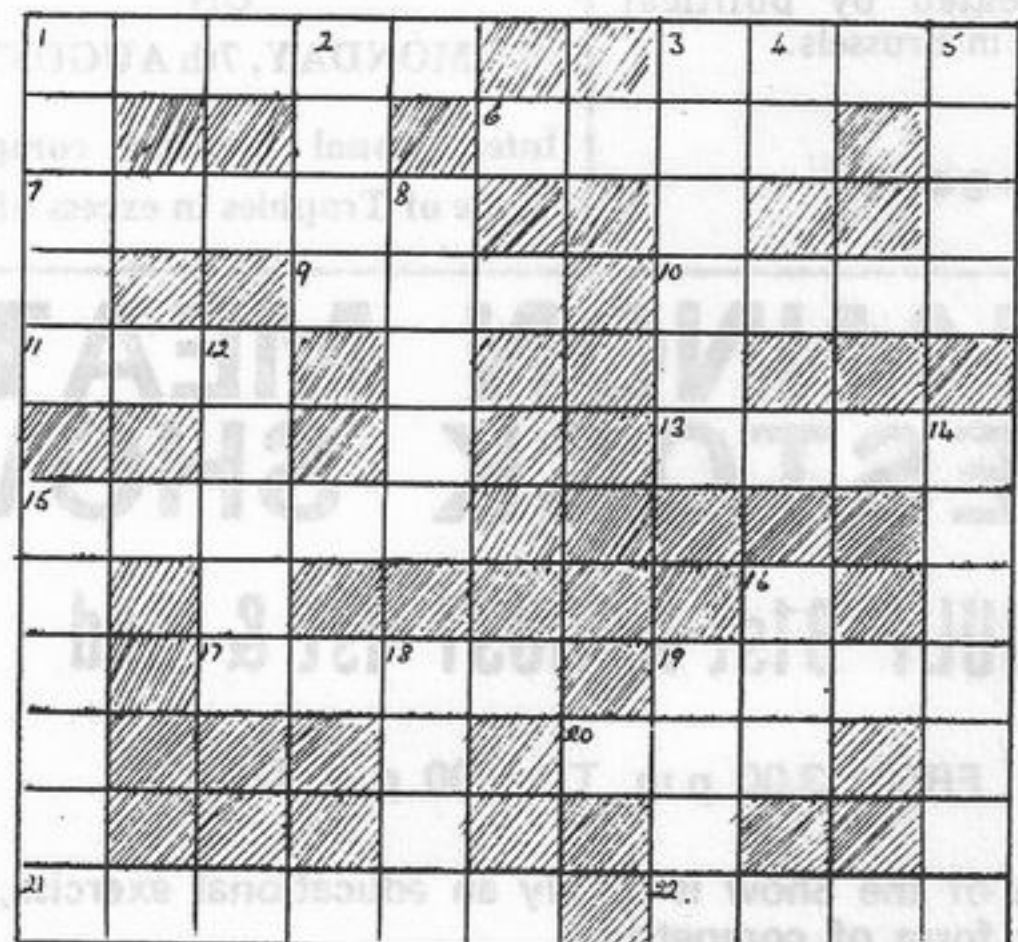
By F.M. O'Brien,  
Cost Accountant.

### CLUES ACROSS

1. All Set.
3. In the company of
6. Musically not sharp.
7. Urge on for a ride.
9. Take nourishment.
10. "Item" which is let out.
11. The answer to this is a problem.
13. A garment which could cause a fall.
15. The ..... of the Baskervilles.
17. The clock ticks for this "Mite"
19. Must be knocked on the head.
20. Fancied tip.
21. Result of a fault at the water.
22. To cease.

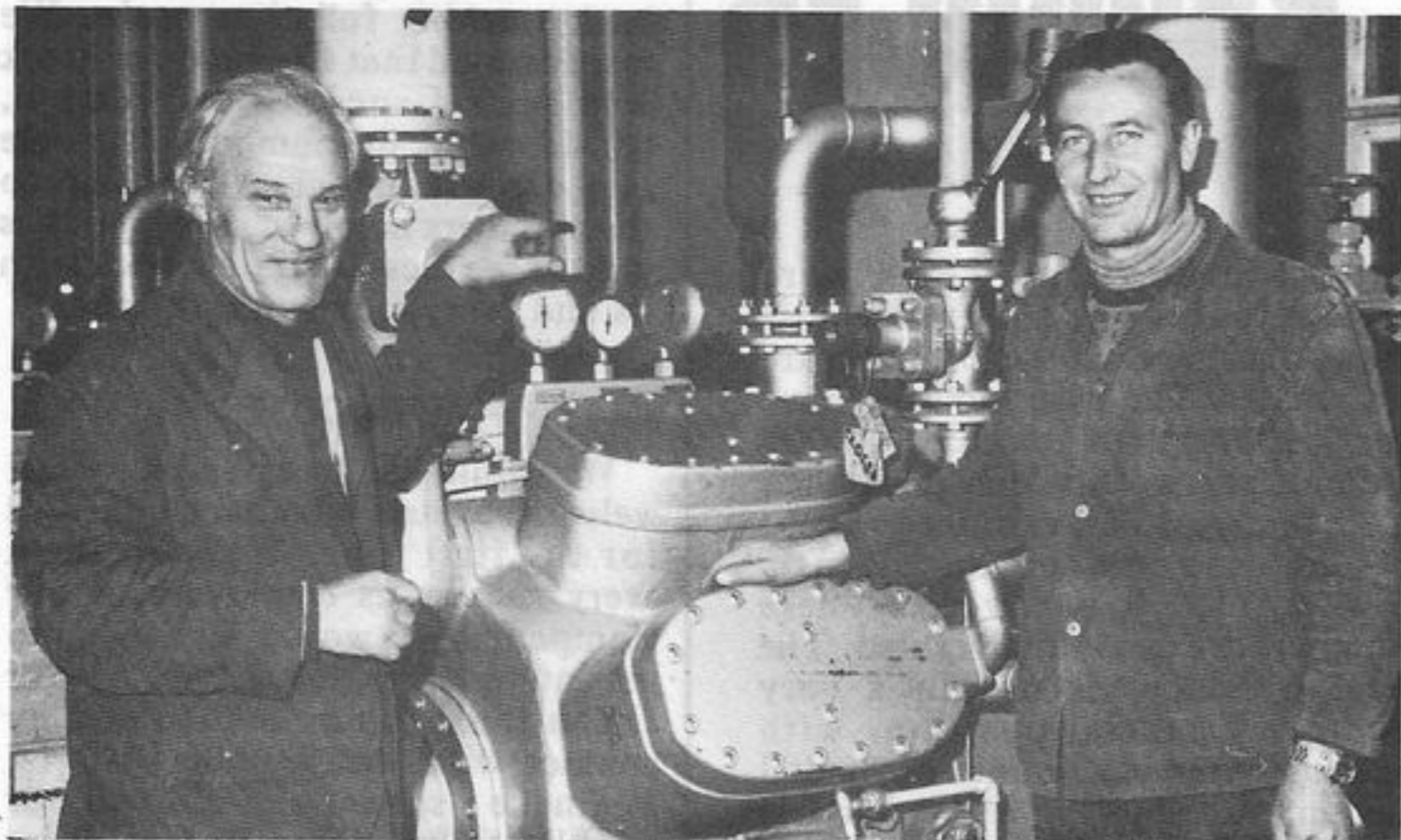
### CLUES DOWN

1. Mounts for the Jockey.
2. Fall headlong.
3. Lays odds on.
4. The thing.
5. Tally-ho.
8. Go forward easily.
12. Both the climb and the hill are here.
14. Draws back from the race.
15. Shores. (Anag.)
16. ... it ... crowns it all.
18. Shank's ....
19. 15 and 18 Down.



[Solution on Page 5.]

PICTURE PARADE



Photographed in the Company's Compressor Room are Mario Zoncada (Snr.), Refrigeration Engineer and Franco Oggeioai of the Del-Orto Refrigeration Company.

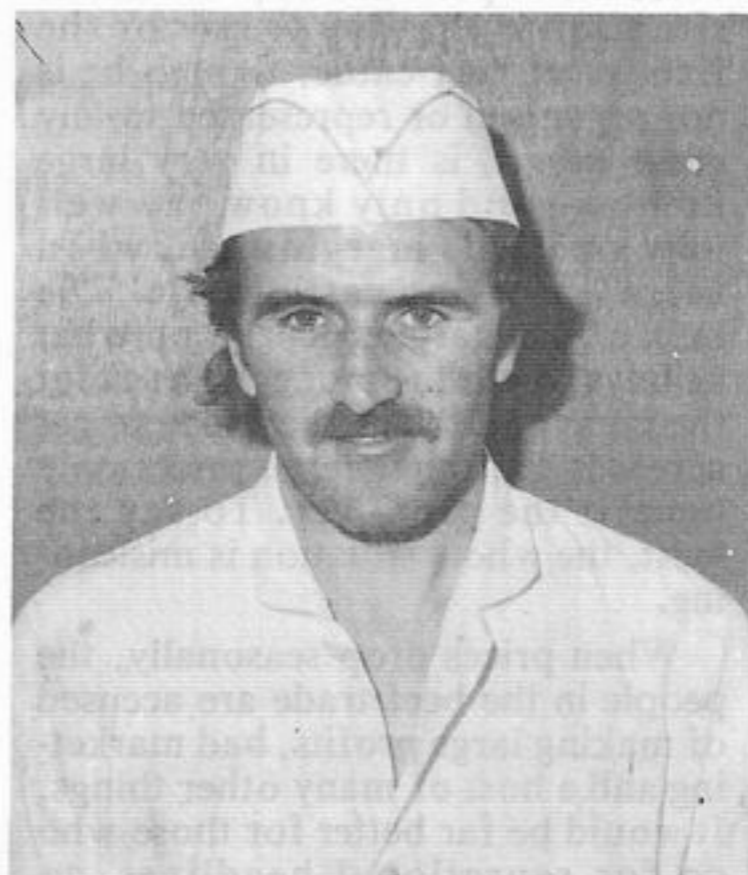
PICTURE PARADE



Pausing for this photograph are Mr. Jack Lyons (Snr.) and Jim Tierney, both of the Lairage Department.



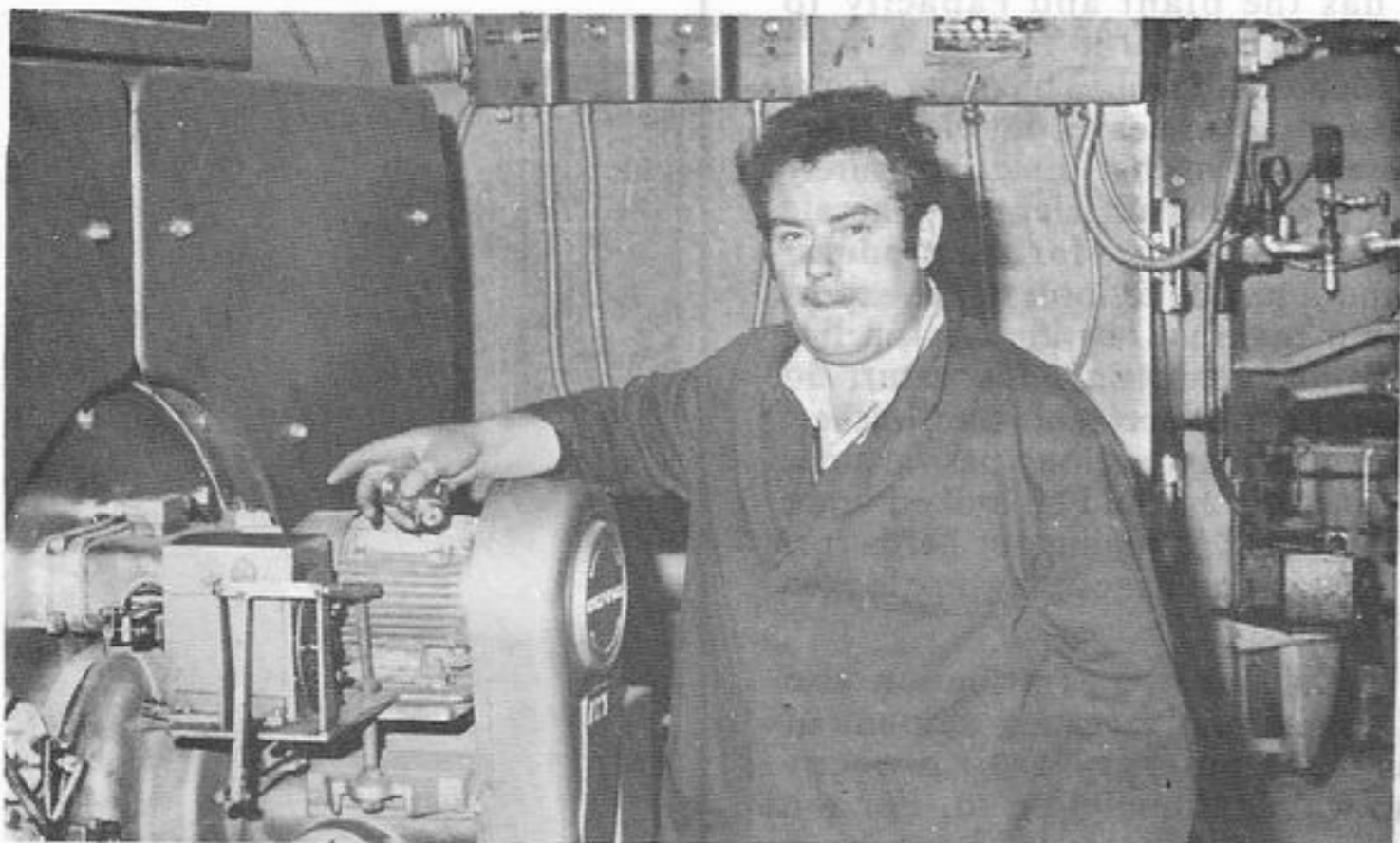
Late for supper owing to mechanical failure are Nially Hogan and Batty Collins.



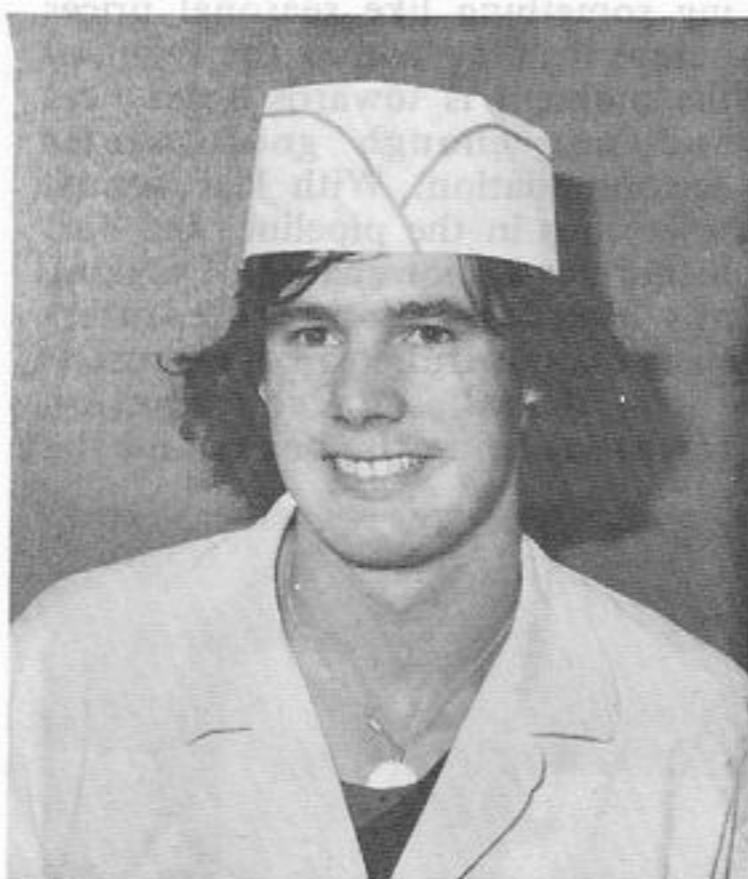
"It's good to be back" - so says Neilie Cahill from Athea.



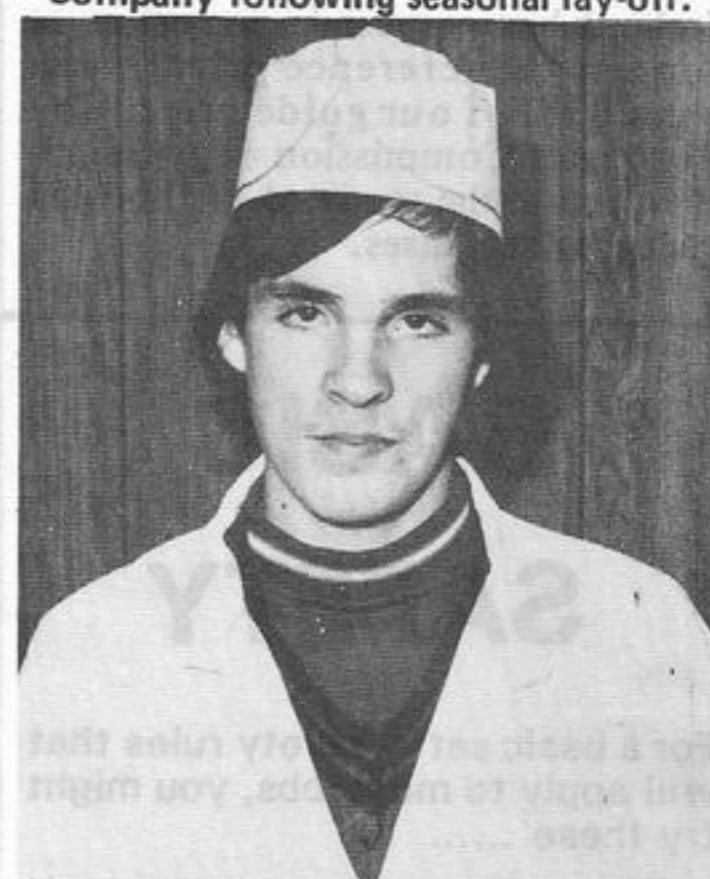
Gerard Enright of the Tripe Department has returned to the Company following seasonal lay-off.



Busy in the Boiler House is Tom O'Keeffe.



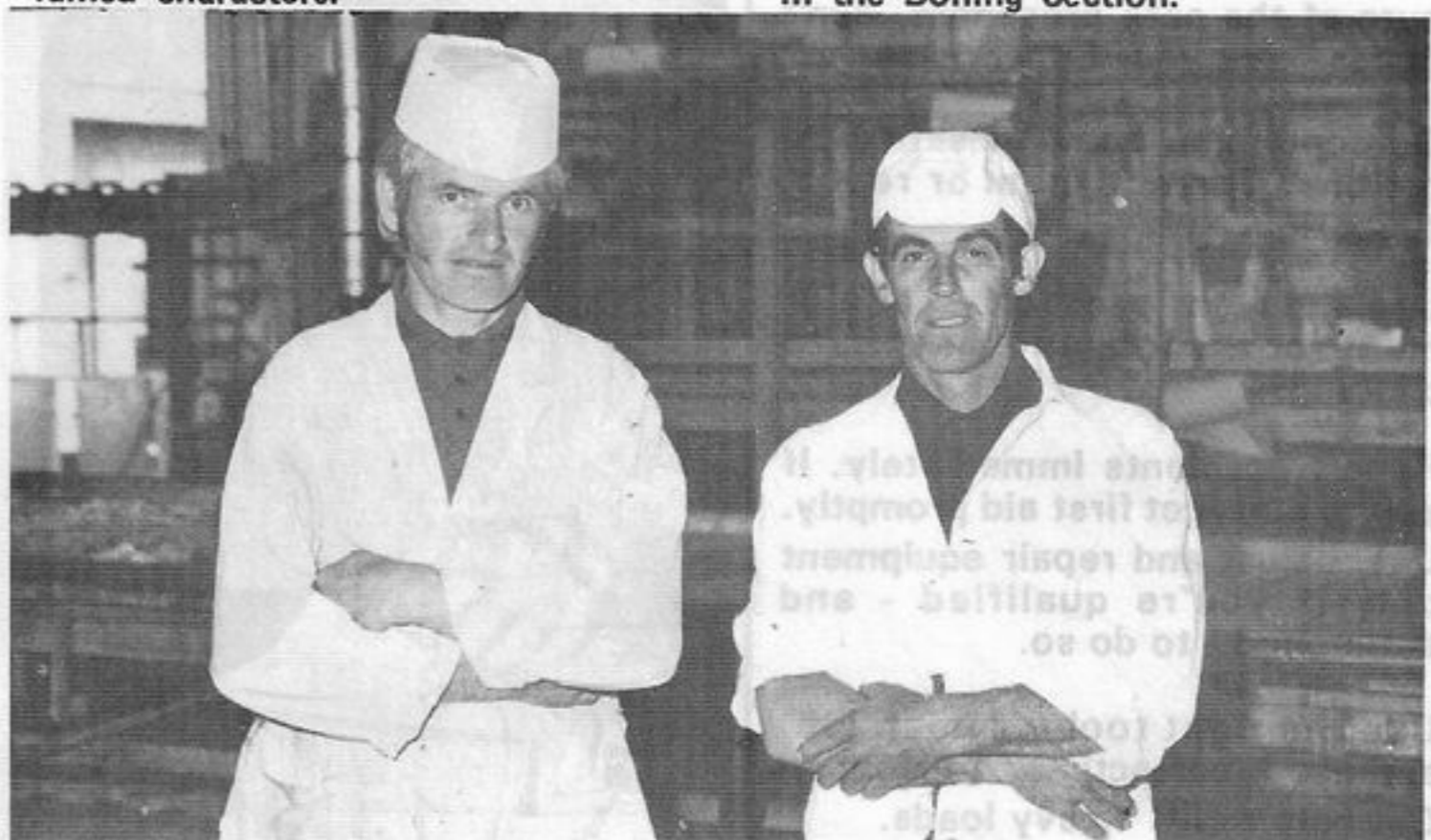
Returning to the fold again is Mikie Reidy, one of our most popular and famed characters.



Returning also is Gerard Egan of Danesfort, Rathkeale. Gerard works in the Boning Section.



Busy covering the Lairage area are John Sheahan and Pat O'Connor of Nash's Construction.



Two members of the Night Cleaning Staff are John Healy (left) and William O'Grady.

# E.E.C. FARM PRICES

After the protracted discussions which eventually settled the 1978 Farm Price Package, fears of further disagreements in next year's talks were averted when British opposition to budget increases for farm spending was withdrawn.

The British representative at the E.E.C. Budget Council expressed concern that the price support section of the Farm Fund could expand by 19% in 1980 and by a further 14% in the following year; even though the agricultural allocation remained at 70% of the total budget. Mr. Jack Barnett, Chief Secretary of the Treasury, said: "the huge costs of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) arises largely from the existence of surpluses," but acknowledged that farmers are entitled to a reasonable degree of price stability. Mr. Ray McSharry, Ireland's Minister for State at the Department of Finance, argued that the apparent E.E.C. Budget imbalance was due to "the inadequate developments of other policies and of the small size of the budget, rather than an indication that the CAP is unduly expensive."

## OVERSTATED

The then President of the Irish Creamery Milk Supplier's Association, Mr. James O'Keeffe, has said that benefits to farmers, arising from the farm price package, were overstated; the new prices for 1978 effectively yielding only about half that stated in the media.

Britain has recently criticised the amount of money spent by the E.E.C. in supporting production for intervention and is advocating reforms of CAP. Intervention has been suspended in Britain whilst Ireland has a special exemption as long as the reference price is less than 85% of our guide price. The European Commission is presently involved in the study of methods of reducing surpluses.

# BASIC SAFETY

For a basic set of safety rules that will apply to most jobs, you might try these .....

**Obey all safety rules and signs. Follow instructions. If you're not sure of the safe procedure, don't guess - ask your Supervisor.**

**Do something about unsafe conditions. Correct them or report them right away.**

**Use the right protective equipment for the job, and wear safe clothing.**

**Report accidents immediately. If you're hurt, get first aid promptly. Use, adjust and repair equipment only if you're qualified - and authorised - to do so.**

**Use the right tool for each job, and use it correctly and safely.**

**Get help to lift heavy loads.**

**Avoid horseplay on the job.**

**Keep your work area clean.**

# LIVESTOCK TOPICS

# HIGH CATTLE PRICES BENEFIT THE PRODUCER

By Donie Donovan.  
Livestock Procurement Manager.

A certain gentleman whom I met last week, I thought, really summed up the heifer trade for me in a few words. All his life he was trying to pass off cow heifers as heifers but this year he was trying to sell heifers as cows. It will only be in the last six months of the year that intervention will be a big loss to the heavy heifer trade. How some people interpreted from the recent Green Paper that a live trade was necessary to keep a balance in cattle prices, was surely negative thinking. It goes to show how far removed some people are from the cattle trade when they voice their opinion. The proof of the situation is that the feeder or the finisher of beef cattle, though he is not organised or represented to any great extent, is there in very large numbers and only know too well how small his margins are, when there is a flying cattle trade. The bulk of his margins depend on what he buys worth the money. The point the press and the media failed to get across is that high cattle prices only benefit the producer. To say the least, the whole situation is misleading.

When prices drop seasonally, the people in the beef trade are accused of making large profits, bad marketing and a host of many other things. It would be far better for those who go for sensational headlines, to make a more constructive contribution to the trade and start advocating something like seasonal prices before it is too late as the swing at the moment is towards grass beef and not enough good winter accommodation. With less annual price rises in the pipeline, the beef feeder has a poor chance of making any long term plans while intervention continues in its present form, it makes no contribution towards easing the peaks and the



Mr. Pa Sheehan (Above), busy in the Livestock Department.

valleys in the trade which were always there. The difference now being that the numbers of cattle are far greater. The Irish factories have the capacity to handle 40,000 animals per week which is reached for a few weeks only, in the year. In Spring, this number can fall to as low as 11,000 per week. These numbers are rarely highlighted. The beef producer is not in a very healthy financial position, with extremely large amounts of capital tied up and showing a very modest return, if any at all, for his investment.

## JOB CREATION

To look at the situation from another aspect, we hear a lot of crying about job creation these days. Up to the late '50's, it was fashionable to export our young men and women by the boatload in search of jobs abroad. Now, in the late '70's, we see next year's raw material leaving our shores by jets as the unemployment situation worsens. The beef trade only needs to be given a fair chance to continue to develop and expand further, thus increasing its workforce. As a large industry, it is given little credit on the amount of indirect contribution it makes to the industry servicing the trade and economy as a whole.

Under the present system, the Irish factories are just about handling 1,000,000 animals per annum. It has the plant and capacity to handle 2,000,000 if the stock were available to them. Thus, the workforce could be nearly doubled. If we are moving in that direction, surely that should be sufficient to generate enough confidence for the producer without having to look to the export of our national raw material in live form and maintain a fair return to both the producer and the finisher. Surely the day has long passed since the factories should be looked upon as a means of keeping our herds free of disease and mopping up locked up herds.

It has made its contribution also in eliminating a certain amount of the scrub bulls and their progeny and will continue to do so. For too long, the Irish plants have been looked upon by some as a very convenient way out when the producer has something to go with, in a hurry.

## HIGHEST CALIBRE

Finally, one could not let the occasion pass without reference to a gentleman of the highest calibre, a dedicated and hard worker with a simple approach to everybody and a pleasure to work with.

A man who left his mark on the Agro scene in his ten years in office as President of the I.C.M.S.A. To Jimmy, as he is well known to all, what could one say, only well done, and may he enjoy his retirement and a well-deserved rest. But knowing Jimmy, as we do, he will be always in the thick of things.

# I.T.G.W.U.



# NEWS

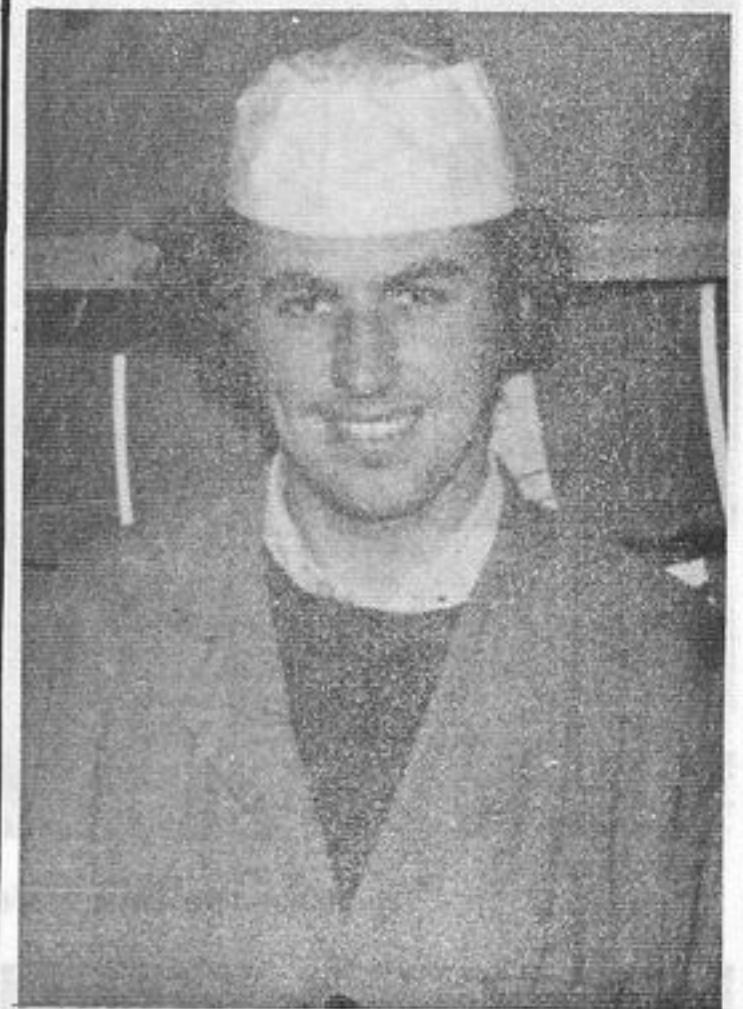
We are very glad to see everybody back working full time again. We were pleased that the three-day week was such a success. It reduced, considerably, the numbers of people laid off without great hardship to the members involved. Everybody is glad to see these staff now back with us and everybody working again.

## WELCOME

We would like to extend a special welcome to staff who have joined us for the first time. We wish them every success as employees of our Company. We would like them to get interested in the affairs of our Union through this column and by contact with the Section Officers. We make a special appeal to all our established members to give these new employees every assistance possible for their initial period with the Company. We were all new here once and appreciated the help we got in getting used to new surroundings. It is a somewhat stressful experience starting a new job and the first impressions of their fellow employees and the assistance given in getting used to the new job create lasting impressions. This is greatly helped by the training instructors who give great assistance to new employees. Again we would like our Union members to give every assistance to those new employees as they did in the past.

## CONGRATULATIONS

We wish to congratulate the members of our Union who have recently married and we wish them every success.



Pictured above is Freezer Department Shop Steward, Denis O'Connor.

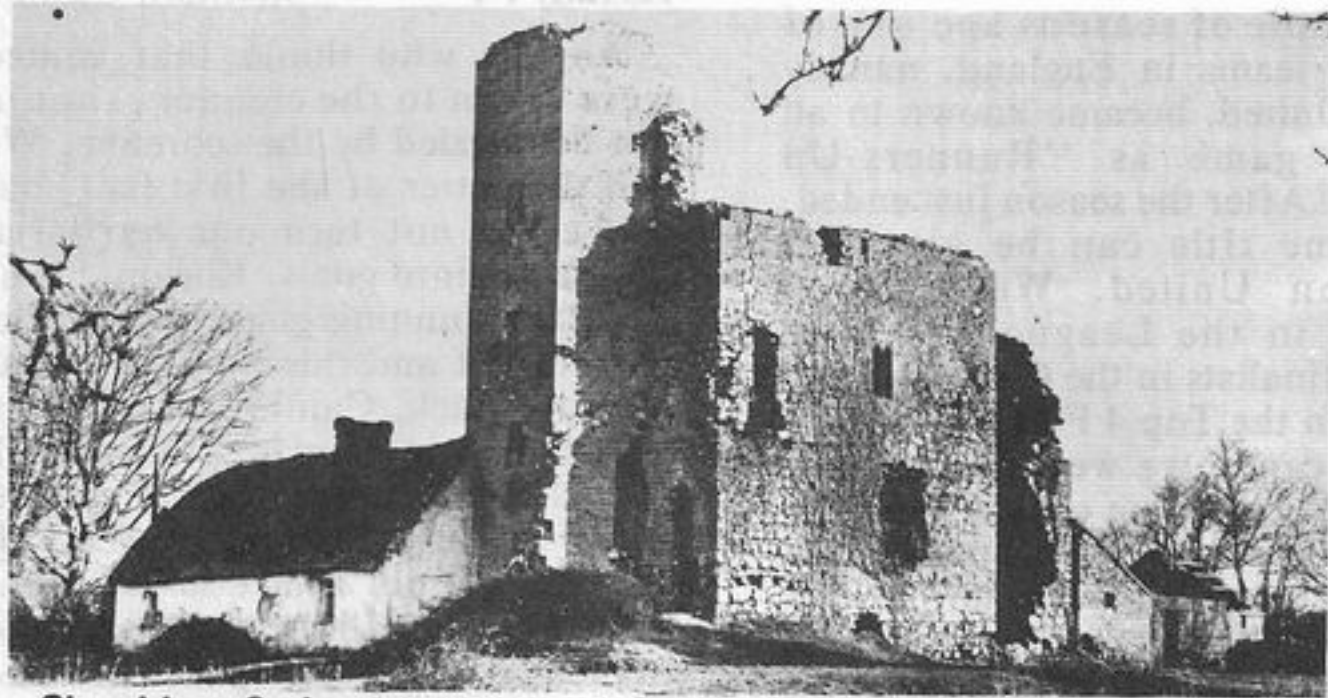
## HAVE YOU GOT FINANCIAL PROBLEMS ?

If so there is a service being offered through the Social Service Centre, Henry Street, Limerick, on the second Monday of each month from 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

Any problems you may have on personal taxation, home budgeting or any other financial matter can be discussed with a qualified adviser, free of charge, and in the strictest confidence.

# 15<sup>th</sup> CENTURY CASTLES

By Patrick F. Wallace.



Clonshire : Staircase turret to left, tower at centre. Note fine 15th. century window. [Photo : Author]



Cappagh Castle : from S.E. showing interior, window embrasures and floor vaultings. High wall of outer enclosure to right. [Photo : Author]

The 15th century tower-houses of the Irish and Anglo-Irish gentry which are the most numerous of our Limerick castles and which will be introduced to you were really fortified houses. Inside they were low and dark having few windows; they were usually thatched with straw. They had large open fireplaces and rushes and straw were used for bedding.

## CLONSHIRE CASTLE

(Between Adare and Croagh)

Clonshire was owned by the Bishops of Limerick for much of the Middle Ages. It is referred to as "Cluonshiebria" in 1201, as "Cluainshever" in 1336 and as "Clonshire en Castellan" in 1586 - the latter being the earliest reference to the castle, though on architectural grounds there can be no doubt that it was built at least a century earlier. In its later history it was leased to W. Clarke in 1608 and later passed on to Captains Piggott and Walcott.

The original tower was twice enlarged as indicated by the masonry lines on its Northern aspect. It is 24 feet by 15½ feet in plan by 40 feet high. The tower has three surviving stories including a vaulted second floor. The staircase turret to the West survives to a greater height than does the tower and leads to five floors. The spiral stone staircase is well preserved and is one of the most smoothly finished and symmetrically executed examples of its type and date anywhere in Munster. Little time seems to have elapsed between the erection of the original tower and the stair turret extension while the lower Eastern extension was built considerably later. The well-preserved three late 15th century pointed o-gee (i.e. 'S'-shaped curves) headed windows which survive have finely carved ornamental bands raised in relief along

their edges and dividing mullions (central bars) on the inside. The niche or embrasure inside one of these windows in the stair turret is spacious and well built and has a sloping water drain on its floor which projects from the North wall on the outside above a thatched farmhouse which was probably built up against it over a century ago. The unusually high degree of ornament in Clonshire castle may have been due to the tastes of its ecclesiastical owners who would have been in contact with the ornamentation bestowed on contemporary cathedrals, parish churches and friaries.

## GARRAUNBOY CASTLE

(Between Adare and Croagh)

The castle was owned by the Wall family from whom it was confiscated after the Desmond rebellion in 1583. It was granted to Oliver Stephenson from whose descendants it was confiscated in 1651. It is a tower house of the same general date as Clonshire, late 15th century type, having the ogival lights in the windows so beloved of castle and church builders in 15th century Co. Limerick. The tower stands in a bawn with four circular turrets at the corners of the curtain wall; three of these turrets survive.

The tower is oblong in plan and measures 30ft. by 46ft. The main tower had four wooden floors - evident from the surviving stone corbels which would have supported joists and was covered by a stone vaulted floor, making five stories in all. There is a narrow skew-loop on the second floor at the North-West wall angle and another on the third floor at the North-East wall angle. There are numerous ambries or slits and typical o-gee-headed window slits. There are window embrasures on the second and third floors of the West wall, and a latrine or toilet shaft on the East wall with an exit at the base of the tower. There is also a

considerable batter or outward slope at the base of the tower. The spiral staircase had openings to each of the five floors. The lower rooms and roof are under stone vaults which have deep twig impressions on their mortar undersides from the wicker-work mats on which the stones were set while the mortar was hardening. There is a fireplace with a long lintel on the third floor. All the South face and most of the staircase turret have now vanished.

The bawn or yard measures 63ft. by 82ft. and has three surviving of four original turrets each with a vaulted stone roof and measuring 12ft. in diameter. Though not as ornate in its detail as Clonshire, the good state of preservation of its tower, turrets and bawn or curtain walls provide us with a good idea of the size of the contemporary tower house and its environs.

## CAPPAGH CASTLE

(Between Rathkeale & Askeaton)

A Church at Cappagh (Kilmaclua) is mentioned as early as 1201 and was destroyed by war in 1302. It is referred to again in 1336 and was granted to the Askeaton Franciscans by the Knights of Glin in 1541. The castle which was probably built about 1470 was confiscated from the Browne family in 1583. Four years later the lands of Cappagh "long waste and unpeopled" were granted to Gilbert Gerrard and later to J. Stroude and subsequently in 1591 "the ancient castle with a barbican ruined to the South" was granted to W. Carter. By 1629 it was granted to the Earl of Cork by Edward Southwell. In 1642 the castle was blockaded by the Confederate Catholics and surrendered to them by F. Morton. In 1655 Nicholas Dowdall owned "Cappagh with a great bawn, a ruined castle

and a quarry". According to tradition, the castle at Cappagh belonged to the Fitzgeralds of Ballyglehane. When one of those granted it to his younger brother, his wife blew it up rather than let her brother-in-law possess it! At the turn of the century the castle was described as "a strikingly picturesque ruin especially when seen from the railway ..... its lofty tower and broken vaults with boldly embattlemented walls of the bawn are very imposing".

The tower stands inside small and large walled enclosures on a rocky ridge. It measures 41ft. by 30ft. in plan by about 70ft. high and consists of five stories, the third and fourth floors of which rest on stone vaults. The stairs and South-East half of the tower have now disappeared. The surviving window details including a fine double ogival window and a number of ambries on the well-preserved Northern face of the tower recall similar details in Clonshire and Garraunboy castles and date it firmly to the second half of the 15th century.

The inner enclosure or court is about 57ft. square and the outer court measures 115ft. by 78ft. in plan, the West walls resting on the edge of a sheer rock cliff. There are turrets at the Eastern angles, a bastion at the North-East corner being round, the crenelated walls near the bastion being 50ft. high and about 3ft. thick. The South-East corner turret had a gateway. An area of the inner and outer enclosure walls to the North of the tower was plastered and used for many years as a handball alley by Cappagh Handball Club, the ball being played into the West wall. The Club moved to its newly built alley nearby in 1969.

I will deal with more castles, abbeys and field monuments in the area in future Issues of the "Gazette" and would be glad to hear from readers about monuments they would like featured or inspected with a view to description here. You can write to me c/o, Mr. Maurice Cowhey or Mr. Daniel Neville.



Garraunboy : Tower standing inside curtain wall with circular turret at left. [Photo : Author]



Cappagh Castle : North face from between enclosure walls. Double ogival window is uppermost. [Photo : Author]

## CROSSWORD SOLUTION

### ACROSS :

1. Ready. 3. With. 6. Flat. 7. Drive. 9. Eat. 10. Emit. 11. Sum. 13. Slip. 15. Hound. 17. Time. 19. Nail. 20. Nap. 21. Soaked. 22. Stop.

### DOWN :

1. Rides. 2. Dive. 3. Wagers. 4. It. 5. Hunt. 8. Eased. 12. Mount. 14. Pulls up. 15. Horses. 16. Cap. 18. Mare. 19. Nags.

# G. A. A. CLUB NEWS

By Noel Harnett,  
Secretary.

## IN-FORM HURLERS

After the disappointing exit of our footballers from the County Championship, it was very pleasing to see our hurlers qualify for the County Final. After our first match in the League when we were defeated by Castlemahon, the chances of our hurlers doing well in the Championship did not look good. But now with some good wins against the Board of Works, P. & T., and Salemink, we are only one step away from winning a County title.

## MATCH REPORTS

Shannon Meat/Scanglo : 4-6  
Board of Works : 2-6

This game was very close with very little between the two sides, until halfway through the second half when our lads took control and hurled their way into the next round. This was a great team display with everyone giving 100% and the spirit was very high. If the high spirit can be maintained, there is every chance that we can reach the final at least.

**Scorers:** B. Flavin 1-2, N. Harnett 1-2, N. Hogan 1-0, M. Sullivan 1-0, D. O'Connor 0-1, S. Harnett 0-1.

**TEAM:** Tom Hannafin, Mike O'Neill (Bill Chawke), Pat Costelloe, Pat Sheehan, Denis Duggan, Dan Cagney, James Cavanagh (Danny O'Connor), Frank Dalton, Mike Sullivan, Sean Harnett, Bill Lynch, Noel Harnett, Denis Noonan, Niall Hogan and Bertie Flavin.

Shannon Meat/Scanglo : 6-9  
P. & T. : 4-4

At one stage it looked as if we would not be able to field a team for this County quarter-final clash. We were missing three players due to Club commitments and injury. Two more players were delayed on their way to the match and missed most of the first half. However, despite this we had 16 players and the fifteen who started the game did us proud and we were leading 5-6 to 3-2 at half-time. We were playing into a strong breeze in the second half and did not score as much.

All in-all this was a great win with every player giving his all and putting us into the County semi-final against Salemink.

**Scorers:** D. O'Connor 3-4, M. Sullivan 1-1, P. Costelloe 1-0, N. Hogan 1-0, B. Flavin 0-2, S. Harnett 0-2.

**TEAM:** T. Hannafin (J. Cavanagh) P. Costelloe, W. Sheehy, A. Frawley, (S. Harnett), D. Cagney, B. Lynch, L. Woulfe, F. Dalton, M. Sullivan, D. O'Connor, D. Noonan, N. Harnett, D. Kenneally, N. Hogan, B. Flavin. Sub : D. Dalton.

## COUNTY SEMI-FINAL

Shannon Meat/Scanglo : 4-10  
Salemink : 2-4

A brilliant victory for the boys in blue and yellow to put us into the County Final against our old enemies, Castlemahon. Despite having to line out without Bill Lynch, it was a great team performance and we must be in with a good chance of winning our first County title. Playing with a strong breeze in the first half we took full advantage of it and led 2-8 to nil at half-time. In the second half, Salemink had the advantage of the wind, but our backs defended like heroes and the forwards made full use of any possession they got and this left us in a comfortable position at the final whistle.

**Scorers:** N. Hogan 2-1, S. Harnett 0-5, D. O'Connor 1-2, N. Harnett 1-0, M. Sullivan 0-2.

**TEAM:** T. Hannafin, P. Sheehan, B. Chawke, D. Cagney, D. Duggan, J. Cavanagh, D. Kenneally (L. Woulfe), D. O'Connor, F. Dalton, M. Sullivan, S. Harnett, B. Flavin, N. Hogan, W. Sheehy, D. Noonan, (N. Harnett).

## INTER FIRM COUNTY HURLING FINAL

Shannon Meat/Scanglo  
V  
Castlemahon  
on Tuesday, 1st August  
in Feoghanagh at 7.30 p.m.  
Come and cheer the lads to what we hope will be a historic win.

## PHOBIAS

Is your phobia here? If not, how good is your pronunciation?

<i>Monophobia</i>	<i>Fear of being alone.</i>	<i>Rhabdophobia</i>	<i>Fear of being beaten.</i>
<i>Ailuicophobia</i>	<i>Fear of cats.</i>	<i>Mematophobia</i>	<i>Fear of sight of blood.</i>
<i>Ochliophobia</i>	<i>Fear of crowds.</i>	<i>Gephyrophobia</i>	<i>Fear of crossing bridges.</i>
<i>Achluiphobia</i>	<i>Fear of Darkness.</i>	<i>Pantrophobia</i>	<i>Fear of everything.</i>
<i>Hypsophobia</i>	<i>Fear of height.</i>	<i>Melissophobia</i>	<i>Fear of stinging insects.</i>
<i>Ophicliophobia</i>	<i>Fear of reptiles.</i>	<i>Cherophobia</i>	<i>Fear of gaiety.</i>
<i>Kenophobia</i>	<i>Fear of large empty spaces.</i>	<i>Hylophobia</i>	<i>Fear of forest.</i>
<i>Triskaidekaphobia</i>	<i>Fear of No. 13.</i>	<i>Domatophobia</i>	<i>Fear of being in a house.</i>
<i>Oelynophobia</i>	<i>Fear of pain.</i>	<i>Bacillophobia</i>	<i>Fear of microbes.</i>
<i>Gremnophobia</i>	<i>Fear of precipices.</i>	<i>Exemophobia</i>	<i>Fear of being lonely.</i>
<i>Lysophobia</i>	<i>Fear of becoming insane - not fear of typists.</i>	<i>Kinesophobia</i>	<i>Fear of motion.</i>
<i>Dorophobia</i>	<i>Fear of touching animate fur.</i>	<i>Sirexodromophobia</i>	<i>Fear of railroad travel.</i>
		<i>Haxsaxophobia</i>	<i>Fear of robbers.</i>
		<i>Chinophobia</i>	<i>Fear of snow.</i>
		<i>Laliphobia</i>	<i>Fear of speech.</i>
		<i>Climacophobia</i>	<i>Fear of staircases.</i>

## FEARLESS.

## TONGUE TWISTERS

The sixth sick sheik's sixth sheep's sick.

Betty Botter bought some butter but she said this butter's bitter, if I use some bitter butter, it will make my batter bitter. If I buy some better butter, it will make my batter better so Betty bought some better butter and her batter's better.

Published By :-  
**SHANNON MEAT LTD,**  
Rathkeale

And Printed by :-  
**ORIEL PRESS LTD,**  
CHARLEVILLE

# SOCCER SCENE



## SECOND BEST

A couple of seasons ago one of the top teams in England, namely Leeds United, became known to all in the game as "Runners-Up Leeds". After the season just ended, the same title can be given to Shannon United. We finished second in the League, we were beaten finalists in the Cup, and also beaten in the Top 4 Final. When the crunch came, we were just lacking something to come out on top. I'm sure it was a most frustrating season for the players who were not lacking in total commitment. With the experience gained in this season's campaign, the youngsters of "Shannon United" should definitely be hunting for honours next season.

## MATCH REPORTS CUP FINAL

Kileany : 2 Shannon Utd. : 2

Quick-fire action throughout provided some splendid football for the large crowd present. Kileany got off to a dream start with a goal after 5 minutes following a corner. The remainder of the first half was evenly balanced with the defences on top. Kileany exploded into action again early in the second half to hammer in their second. To the lads credit however, they did not allow second reverse to put them off their game and they carried the game to Kileany. A corner by Dan Cagney finished up in the net and the pressure became even fiercer. With ten minutes to go a Kileany player handled in the box and the ice cool Mario Zoncada scored from the spot. We were well on top now, but the final whistle arrived too soon for us.

## REPLAY :

Kileany : 4 Shannon Utd. : 0

Anyone who thinks that United were taken to the cleaners should not be dazzled by the scoreline. We had the better of the first half, but just could not turn our territorial advantage into goals. Kileany hit us with two stunning goals early in the second half and this time there was no come back. Caution was thrown to the wind in an effort to get back into the game and Kileany scored two more in breakways to rub salt into the wound. I have nothing but admiration for all the players for the tremendous fighting spirit they displayed throughout the Cup campaign.

## TOP 4 SEMI-FINAL

Breska : 1 Shannon Utd. : 3

After drawing the first game 1-1, United came good to easily overpower Breska. An early goal by Mikie Meade gave us the start we wanted, and further first half goals from Bill Chawke and Pat Flaherty gave us a most convincing win.

## TOP 4 FINAL

Kilcoleman : 1 Shannon Utd. : 0

Once again we had to play second fiddle to Kilcoleman. They were on top in the vital mid-field section and proceeded to dictate the game. They scored half-way through the first half and from there to the finish were always that bit better.

## Final Goal Tally:

Chawke (11), Jones (10), Zoncada (8), Lavin (4), Harnett (3), Cagney (3), Lynch (2), White (2), Culhane, Fitzgerald, Mullane, Gallagher, Meade and Flaherty, one each.

Michael Dunne.



No doubt about it - Soccer is the topic here. Miko Dunne, Secretary, Shannon United and Don Gallagher the prominent Centre Half are caught by our camera.



THE SHANNON MEAT/SCANGLO RUGBY TEAM:-

Back Row [L to R] : James O'Grady; John Lynch; Eddie Devirte; Anthony Frawley; Aidan Phillips; Dan Cagney; John O'Connor; Liam Woulfe; John Foley and Noel Harnett.  
Front Row [L to R] : Gerry Rael; Tom Daly; John Costelloe; Johnny Sullivan; Sean Harnett; Brian Scanlan and Seamus Kelly.