

SHANNON MEAT GAZETTE



Volume 4 No. 3 April/May, 1979.

Telephone : Rathkeale 49/50.

ANCO INSTRUCTOR COURSE

AnCO - The Industrial Training Authority conducted an Instructor Training Course in Rathkeale in February and March. The course duration was for two weeks with the participants completing a company based project in the interval between the two weekly sessions. The theoretical session took place at Rathkeale House, and the practical aspects of instruction were demonstrated at Shannon Meat Ltd. The Instructor Tutors conducting the course were Con O'Driscoll from the Cork AnCO Training Centre and Jerry McCormack from Dublin.

Shannon Meat Ltd. had two participants on the course, Tom O'Shaughnessy and Jack Lyons. Other organisations with participants on the course were Hofner Meats, Dublin; H. Williams Supermeats, Dublin; John Murphy Ltd., Little Island, Co. Cork; M. Byrne Bros., Ballincollig, Co. Cork; Meadow Irish Meats Ltd., Rathdowney, Co. Offaly; IMP Group, Midleton, Co. Cork; South Eastern Curers Ltd., Kilkenny; IMP Group, Leixlip, Co. Kildare and E. Burke Ltd., Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

PHOTOGRAPHED AT THE ANCO INSTRUCTOR TRAINING COURSE ARE:



Back Row: (L to R); Philip Harte, E. Bourke Ltd., Clonmel; Olan O'Shea, I.M.P. Group, Midleton; Kevin Collins, South Eastern Curers Ltd., Kilkenny; Pius Hennessy, Meadow Irish Meats, Rathdowney; Joe Kennedy, Meadow Irish Meats, Rathdowney.
Front Row: (L to R); Dave Hargrave, John Murphy Ltd., Little Island; Tom O'Shaughnessy, Shannon Meat Ltd., Rathkeale; Con O'Driscoll, Training Tutor, AnCO; and John Lyons, Shannon Meat Ltd., Rathkeale.



Back Row: (L to R); Patrick O'Hara, H. Williams, Supermeats, Dublin; Terry Breen, H. Williams Supermeats, Dublin; Oliver Hobbs, Hofner Meats, Dublin; Peter Daly, H. Williams Supermeats; Paddy Foy, I.M.P. Group, Leixlip; John Cotter, I.M.P. Group, Midleton;
Front Row: (L to R); Ted O'Flynn, M. Byrnes Bros., Ballincollig; Dan Neville, Personnel Manager, Shannon Meat Ltd.; Jerry McCormack, Training Tutor, AnCO; and Dan Cronin, Training Adviser, AnCO.



DAVID DALTON

It is frequently a trend in industrial circles that certain families are associated with a particular Company. In the case of Shannon Meat Ltd. the name Dalton has been closely aligned for many a day (Note: there are other families with equally strong connections). Our recently appointed Retort Operator upholds the tradition.

David Dalton joined Shannon Meat Ltd. straight out of school in the Summer of 1974. Here, he teamed up with his father, the ever cheerful Frank, his brother of the same name and sisters, Helen and Nora, also his uncle, Jim and cousin, Pat. Throughout the Company's history, other members of the gang have been on our payroll

sheets and "Sure God only knows what the future will hold."

The Dalton's headquarters are at Duxtown, Rathkeale. Here Davy was born on 18th July, 1958 and here also he attended Primary School until it was closed around 1968. Davy then got on one of the new school buses and trekked to Rathkeale. Here the alien pupils were treated for a short while as if they were actually ducks. "Quack" and "Donald" were frequently terms of reference for Davy and his friends. However, it did not take the "sophisticated townies" long to see who was tops in class.

MARRIED

David, "Bowler" to his comrades, is married to the former Miss Kitty Donnelly of Croagh and they recently became the parents of a delightful baby.

Apart from his work, Davy's favourite pastimes are Gaelic games and speed sports.

ON THE MOVE



MAURICE CURTIN

Mr. Maurice Curtin hails from Killeedy, seven miles west of Newcastle West. In this minute rural parish, Maurice was born on 6th June, 1952, the fifth member of a family of five girls and two 'fellas'.

SCHOLARSHIP

Maurice received his immediate education at the local National School. From there he progressed to the Secondary School, Newcastle West where he "swotted the books" for three years. Following this, he moved up the road to the Technical School and from here won a

Scholarship to study Horticulture. However, after one year in the Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, he did not pursue his studies in this field.

In the early part of the '70's, Maurice joined Ferenka and remained there for four and a half years. On the 21st September, 1977, he joined the forces in Shannon Meat Ltd. Until recently, Maurice was working in the Despatch Department under the guidance of Pa Dunne. He successfully applied for the vacated position of Canteen Operator and assumed his new responsibilities on 16th January. We are sure the Killeedy man will be an unqualified success and combine to make a formidable team with his delightful comrades.

This man of few words has for his favourite hobbies, music and reading. He has been greatly influenced by the late folk singer, Woody Guthrie. When quizzed about his single status, a guilty reply seemed to indicate that this may soon change.

PAY RELATED SOCIAL INSURANCE

The National Health Insurance Stamp Card as we have known it for many years is to be dispensed with on 6th April. A new system of full Pay Related Social Insurance (PRSI) contributions will commence on that day. There will be a single payment to cover:

Social Insurance; Redundancy; Occupational Injuries; Health.

From 6th April, Men and Women will pay the same rate of contribution. Employees will not have to pay the Redundancy portion of the contribution. Where a person has more than one employment at a time, PRSI deductions will be made separately from the amounts earned in each employment.

In future, pay-related benefit will be calculated on weekly earnings between £14 and £110. The rates of contribution where the health portion is payable by the employee the total deduction will amount to 13.15% of earnings to a ceiling of £5,500. 8.75% of this will be paid by the employer and 4.4% by the employee. Contributions will be collected through the P.A.Y.E. system, whether or not income tax is deductible from the employee's earnings.

Your existing income tax serial number will be used for the new PRSI contributions. It will be re-named the Revenue and Social Insurance Number (RSI No.). Employees claiming Social

Benefits must quote their existing number up to December, 1980. Thereafter, you should quote your new RSI Number.

V.H.I. :

To provide for the new situation created by changes in the Health legislation, the Voluntary Health Insurance Board has decided to offer three Hospital Plans to members from 1st April, 1979.

HOSPITAL PLAN A :

Covers the full charge for semi-private and private accommodation in Public Hospitals.

HOSPITAL PLAN B :

Covers the full charge in Public Hospitals and also up to semi-private level in Private Hospitals and Nursing Homes.

HOSPITAL PLAN C :

Covers the full charge in all Hospitals and Nursing Homes including all Private Rooms.

The Board states that 14 units of benefit should be adequate for Professional Fees in most instances. The Annual Subscription rate for the three Hospital Plans inclusive of the recommended 14 units for consultants' fees are as follows:-

The figures headed "Group" are the rates applicable to all members of the Shannon Meat Ltd. Group Scheme.

	PLAN A		PLAN B		PLAN C	
	Group	Individual	Group	Individual	Group	Individual
Adult	£ 33.52	£ 36.58	£ 44.96	£ 49.34	£ 62.12	£ 68.48
Married Couple	£ 67.04	£ 73.16	£ 89.92	£ 98.68	£124.24	£136.96
Married Couple + 1 child	£ 78.88	£ 86.32	£107.04	£117.78	£149.28	£164.97
Married Couple + 2 children	£ 90.72	£ 99.48	£124.16	£136.88	£174.32	£192.98
Married Couple + 3 or more children	£102.56	£112.64	£141.28	£155.98	£199.36	£220.99

If you wish to use the Public Ward accommodation only, you will not be liable for any hospital charges. If however, your income exceeds the ceiling set you will have to pay your Consultant's fees. There is a special arrangement made by V.H.I., to cover this consultancy fee only. You may purchase Fee Units only, subject to a minimum of 14. The cost of 14 units is:

	Group Scheme	Individual
ADULT:	£10.92	£12.18
CHILD:	£ 3.64	£ 4.06

LIVESTOCK TOPICS

A LOOK TO AUTUMN

By Donie Donovan,
Livestock
Procurement Manager.

There is an old saying in cattle circles, that money always ran out before cattle. At the risk of being accused of always having the poor mouth, the Beef Industry is obliged to highlight these anomalies. To get the message across in a rather blunt fashion, in case you are not already aware of the situation, and you have purchased expensive stores in the past few weeks, it is just not on to think that the price next Autumn for beef will justify today's high prices for stores.

FORM BOOK

To study the form book today, it is difficult to see how even some could hope to get their stake money back. Feeders claim, at present, that they would need £75 per animal to cover full board and expenses for a six months grazing period. What chance has the yard man in the Winter period? A feeder who will go out today and give over £50 per cwt. for stores will have no business going near a beef plant next Autumn and hope to make a profit. We are spelling it out for him and don't say he was not warned.

When intervention was first introduced to the beef trade less than five years ago, the average steer price was 25p per lb. dead weight equal to £15.00 per cwt. live weight. The same steer today is valued at 64.75p per lb. which is approximately £39.00 per cwt. If this year's price review were to add another 2p per lb. to our present intervention price, one is speaking in terms of a guaranteed price of £41.00 per cwt. for the top intervention steer. The average is the important one as quality does not change over night so one could be thinking in terms of £38.50 per cwt. for 50% of the steer, the remaining 50% will be depending on the open market.

There was a lot to be said for the British system prior to we joining the E.E.C. when the guaranteed price was based on a scale for 52 weeks of the year, the price increased at the rate of 5p per cwt. per week, from December to May and was scaled downwards from June to November at the same rate again, 5p per cwt. This gave an amount of security to the Winter beef fattener. If and when a slump occurs in the market, public opinion is immediately focused on the meat plants accusing them of exploiting the farmer. If these people only had a grasp of the problems at grass roots level and ask why in the first place does the farmer have to glut the factories. The factories got no credit from anyone in 1974 for killing thousands of forward stores to ease the pressure after a bad harvest. The Industry has been plagued with stop go policies down the years. With the

investment that the Irish farmer has made in men and machines in our beef plants over the past ten years, the situation cannot be ignored for much longer.

CALF INCENTIVE

A sound long term policy will have to be developed involving the producer, the processor and the money lending agencies. Why not give the traditional rearer of calves, who is mainly in the Western half of the country, the same incentive to rear the calf as the Italian feeder has at present.

We have the raw material in the calf, the Italians are prepared to import them, yet we cannot see the advantages in it for this country to bring them to beef. If the farmer must have beef plants to eradicate disease from his herds, then what does he expect these plants to survive on in the meanwhile?

Some people can only see one problem facing the beef industry today and that is marketing. Where is the sense in criticising marketing if we have not got continuity of supply in the form of a saleable product. In the cow trade at present we have a situation where feeders are prepared to purchase store cows for further feeding, these men would normally feed steers. Again this is carrying stock forward to a later date in the year to clash with the steer from grass. It certainly helps to improve the quality of our cow-beef, but it is doubtful if the margin of profit justifies the high price these animals cost in excess of their factory value.

COMPETITION

Few people have the slightest idea of the amount of competition that exists among the factories for supplies, for the greater part of the year we have too many factories chasing small numbers of cattle. The factories have not got any magic formula to solve the problem. As long as there is not an incentive to produce beef in the off season, we are on a disaster course, the old beef cycle will be back before anyone will have realised it. We paddled our way out of the last one easy enough with the aid of green pounds. It will be entirely a different ball game the next time as expenses have increased enormously in the past five years. For the average holding one is speaking in terms of thousands of pounds in 1979 for silage making, feed-stuff, transport, manures and accommodation.

These high charges are all outside the farmer's control and if he is to stay in business, his only hope of maintaining a reasonable margin is to produce the article himself economically, or buy in at a competitive rate. This is the only area in which

RATHKEALE ATHLETIC CLUB

By Michael Hanley,
Hon. Sec.

Do you remember September 4th, 1977? Yes, it was a typical Autumn day - a blue sky with a few white clouds, but for Rathkeale it was the dawning of a new era because on that day, Michael Meade, or as we know him "Speedy", was representing Rathkeale in the final of the 100m. at the National Community Games at Butlin's, Mosney, Co. Meath. "Speedy" ran the race of his life and secured the Silver Medal. This was a great achievement for a boy who knew little or nothing about athletics. Soon after the race Michael was approached by an Official from a Limerick City Club to join their ranks. When Michael Dillon and Michael Hanley heard of this, they decided that Rathkeale should have a Club of its own to cater for the boys and girls of the locality.

MEETING

A public meeting was held at the C.Y.M.S. Hall on the 26th September for the purpose of forming an Athletic Club. The following Officers and Committee were elected:-

President: Rev. Canon Costello, P.P.; **Chairman:** Patrick McCann (Snr.); **Vice-Chairman:** Michael Dillon; **Hon. Treasurer:** Ml. McNamara. **Hon. Sec.:** Michael Hanley. **Committee:** Ml. Walsh, Noel Harnett, Anthony Frawley, Seamus Cawley.

It was decided to hold a few dances to raise funds and with a generous subscription from Shannon Meat Ltd. we were soon in a sound financial position.

FIRST SEASON

We registered a number of boys and girls with B.L.O.E. (Juvenile Athletic Board). The County Cross-Country Championships were held at St. Munchin's College and a number of our boys and girls secured medals. On that wet Sunday afternoon, our first athlete to represent us was James Feane of Boherbuoy. In the Munster Championship, Barry Dillon and Patrick McCarthy got on Munster teams and both ran well at the National Championships. On the track our athletes met with equal success.

RATHKEALE OPEN SPORTS

August 7th, 1978, must go down in history in Rathkeale because on that day one of the largest crowds ever seen at an "Open Sports" meeting descended on the local



Relaxing before their event are: Barry Dillon and Pat McCarthy, both very prominent members.

G.A.A. grounds. The day was made possible because of the amount of Sponsorship secured from local firms, traders and individuals. We thank them one and all.

COUNTY BOARD

At the County Board Convention, local Secretary, Michael Hanley was elected County Chairman and at the Munster Convention, the same man was elected Munster Track and Field Secretary and Munster Representative on National Council. The Club has been represented at all County, Provincial and National meetings.

The County Novice Road Race over 3 miles was held at Doon on Saturday, March 17th. The Rathkeale Quartet of Patrick McCarthy, Barry Dillon, Pat Jones and Seamus Cawley surprised many when they won this title. They are the youngest team ever to do this. McCarthy was the individual winner, Dillon was third, Jones fourth, whilst Seamus Cawley finished eleventh. They will now lead the Limerick team in the Munster Championships at Waterford on Sunday, April 29th.

Patrick McCarthy, youngest son of Doctor and Mrs. McCarthy, has been selected by his country for the International Schools Cross Country Championships in Scotland. This is the first occasion on which a Rathkeale athlete has been selected for International duty.

NEW ATHLETES

The Club would welcome new athletes for the Track and Field Season. We are sure that many of you working in Shannon Meat Ltd. would make fine athletes. If you are interested in joining the Club, please contact Michael McNamara, Noel Harnett or Seamus Cawley who work there with you. Some of you may have children who wish to join, we cater for boys and girls from the age of 7 upwards. Do not hesitate in contacting us as we are only too willing to help you and we will give you every assistance.

FIXTURES

The Club has been successful in securing the following fixtures:-

APRIL 1st: County 15 Mile Road Race and first leg of "Coca-Cola" League.

MAY 13th: Munster Marathon which will be fully sponsored by Munster Hygiene Supplies Ltd.

AUGUST 6th: Rathkeale Open Sports.



Sprinter Anthony Frawley discusses tactics with a man who has ample experience, Mike Walsh.

Live Weight Mid-March	Cost	Live Wt. Daily Gain lbs.	Live Weight Mid. Nov.	Kill Out @ 59 lbs Per Cwt.	Gross Profit or Loss		
					@ 70p lb	@ 68p lb	@ 66p lb
1979			1979.				
Cwt. qrs. lbs.			Cwt. qrs. lbs.				
8 2 0	£420	0.75	9 3 20	587 lbs.	-£10	-£21	-£33
8 2 0	£420	1.00	10 2 26	633 "	-£23	+£10	-£ 3
8 2 0	£420	1.25	11 1 4	664 "	+£44	+£31	+£18
8 2 0	£420	1.50	11 3 14	699 "	+£69	+£55	+£41
8 2 0	£420	1.75	12 1 17	731 "	+£91	+£77	+£62
8 2 0	£420	2.00	12 3 24	762 "	+£113	+£98	+£74

An Analysis of the projected live weight gain and Profit/Loss on a store beast weighing 8½ Cwt. in March 1979.

the farmer has control over his own destiny as his chances of squeezing any more out of the end product on the market are very remote.

GRAZING SEASON

The length of our Grazing Season is shortened this year with a late Spring. The chart opposite is, however, based on a 250 day grazing period. On the day of writing, the 21st day of March, the country is covered in a white blanket of snow, one wonders how many grazing days are left in 1979.

The average animal of 8½ cwt. which we have picked for the purpose of the exercise is by no means the most expensive store we have seen this Spring. We are quoting a gross figure, therefore, a feeder has to allow his own expenses against the Profit or Loss column.

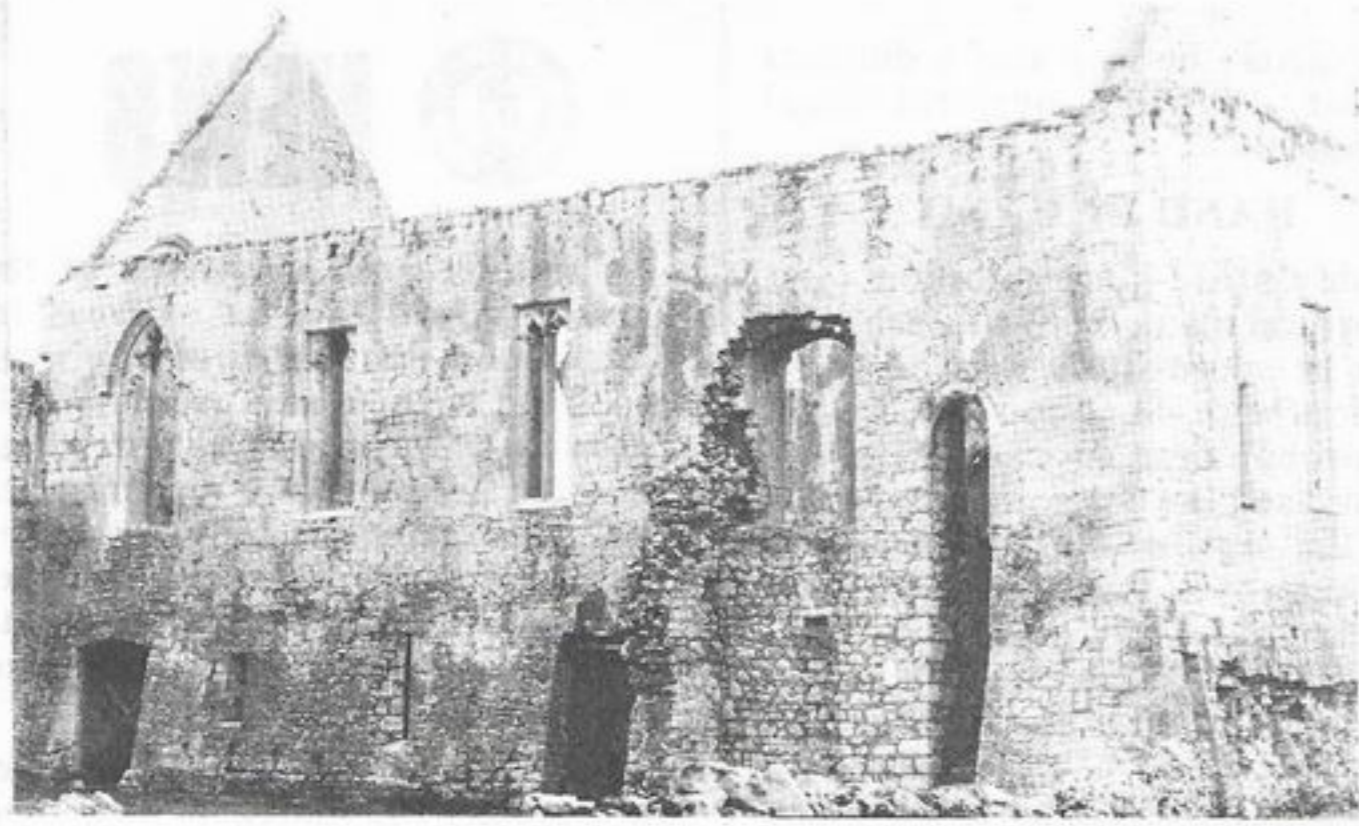
There are two important questions in this exercise:-

How good will the thrive be as we have set the kill at 59 lbs. per cwt. which is no mean achievement and secondly, what will the price be in the Autumn?

ASPECTS OF LIMERICK'S PAST No. 5

ASKEATON CASTLE

By Patrick F. Wallace.



Askeaton Castle: Banqueting Hall, general view from East.

[All Photos Courtesy of Author].

Askeaton is first mentioned about 900 A.D. in the *Book of Rights* in a list of the royal forts reserved to the King of Cashel. The royal fort may have been built on the pear-shaped island in the Deel on which the later Norman Castle was built in 1199. This is also the site of the present 15th century castle. Hardly any trace now remains of the early Norman motte and Castle, the present castle remains are all of the 15th century and consist of a high tower or keep and an adjoining house in the high part of the island which is walled in and known as the upper ward or yard of the castle, the remainder of the defended island being comprised of the walled lower ward or yard which includes the magnificent Banqueting Hall and a large triangular projecting plot which was a garden. An illustration in *Pacata Hibernia* compiled about 1599 gives us a very complete picture of how the castle looked at the height of its importance. This shows the slated roofs of the Banqueting Hall and West turret as well as the thatched roof of the South tower. It also shows the old bridge on the line of the present bridge over the Deel and the gate and drawbridge (on the site of Casey's house today) which connected the bridge with the castle. A description of 1583 describes it as "an excellent castle, formerly a chief house of the late Earl of Desmond, in good repair, on a little island, on a rock, and surrounded on all sides by a rivulet. It contains two separate 'Courts' and one 'Balne' with divers strong buildings, a large hall, a great vaulted room, with three cellars, a triangular garden in which is a fish-pond".

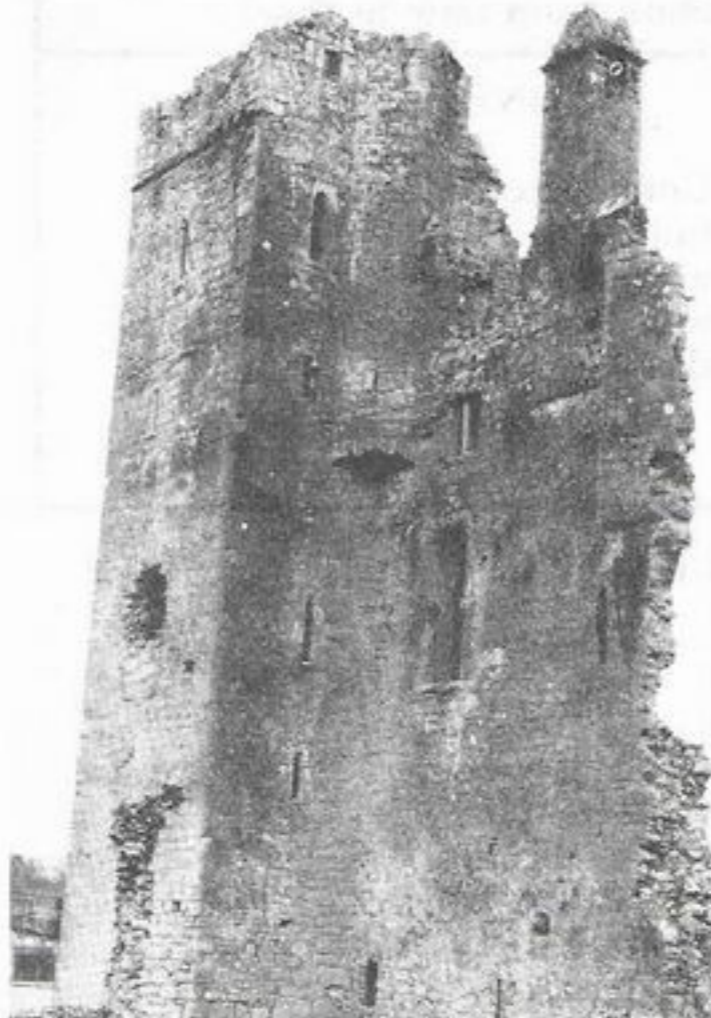
CASTLE BUILT

Askeaton Castle was built about 1197-'99 probably by William de Burgo who granted it to Hamo de Valognes in 1203. A century later it belonged to Richard de Clare, Lord of Bunratty and his son and sister Matilda. Maurice, Earl of Desmond held it by 1348 thus beginning the Castle's association with the Desmonds which was to last for more than two centuries and explaining why it is often known as the Desmonds Castle. Askeaton figures prominently in the 16th century wars of the Desmond Rebellion. After the defeat of the Irish under his cousin, Sir John Fitzgerald, at the Battle of Monasteranenagh, near Croom, Garrett, the "rebel" 15th Earl of Desmond who took no formal part in the battle, fled to Askeaton Castle and awaited Malbie, the English Governor of Connacht. Malbie had no artillery to take the castle and resorted to

burning the town and friary, putting the Monks to death. The Earl of Ormond also failed to take the castle for the lack of cannons. However, in the following year, 1580, the English under Pelham appeared before the castle with artillery causing the terrified garrison to abandon the castle after blowing up a bit of the wall and burning some of the out buildings. The English soon repaired it under the command of Berkeley. His replacement allowed Desmond to return secretly to Askeaton to consult with the Franciscan Friars. Berkeley's brother Francis was besieged by another Desmond, James "the Sungan Earl" for 247 days in 1598. The siege was relieved by the Earl of Essex and Berkeley was knighted for his services after the Battle of Rower, Adare. James besieged Askeaton again but he was betrayed thus ending the Desmond connection with Askeaton Castle. The castle remained in the possession of the Berkeleys and their inlaws - the Taylors and Croftons - in the first half of the 17th century. It was besieged and surrendered to the Confederates under Purcell in 1642. Ten years later, at the conclusion of the Cromwellian Wars the Castle was dismantled though as late as 1719 the Earl of Orrery tried to have it repaired for a garrison.

ROCK PLATFORM

The *keep* or *tower* of the castle stands on a rock platform at the North of the island. It is about 90 ft. high, has a projecting turret on the West side. There are several vaulted rooms in the turret, one with an ancient bolt studded oak door. The main tower has two vaulted stories and an upper room, most of the stairs being broken away. The North wall is only four feet thick, its stones are cemented with a lime and sand



Askeaton Castle: View of Keep and Castle Wall from South West.

mortar which includes cockle shells and periwinkles as does Beagh Castle at Ballysteen. A large residential wing adjoins the tower at the South side. This was three stories high with an under vault and has several mullioned windows some with the characteristic stepped top. There is a very fine fireplace on the third floor. It has carved ornamented supports and a family crest carved on a panel over its right side. At the South of the inner ward stands a tower with an under vault and nearby is the inner gateway. The outer gateway from the bridge to the outer enclosure or ward is broken away and was situated roughly where Casey's house now stands. West of it, part of the battlemented outer wall still survives and runs to join the West wall of the Banqueting Hall which, curiously, itself formed part of the outer line of defence - a purpose for which it was most unsuited because of its large open windows.

FIRST BUILDING

The Banqueting Hall was erected by the 7th Earl of Desmond between 1440-1459 on the vaulted foundations of an earlier hall. It is one of the finest mediaeval non-religious buildings in Ireland, its finely carved windows and the blind arcade of its South wall being most unusual in the environs of a castle. While some of the windows have typical stepped-tops like the dwelling wing of the tower to the North-East, most are set in embrasures provided with window seats and one window on the South end of the East wall is a fine example of the flowing tracery which would be more at home in the Franciscan Friary where a similar example also occurs. Indeed, Westropp regarded the architectural details of the Hall and the "Abbey" so similar that he felt they were done by the same mason(s). The hall measures 72 ft. by about 31 ft. wide. The East wall has five large windows which vary in height. The under storey of the Hall consists of five vaulted rooms or cellars, the main vault measuring 36' 4" x 32' being neatly cross-vaulted over wicker, the impressions of which are still to be seen in the mortar. A Church was originally attached to the South of the Hall.

One of the most interesting defensive details of the Castle is the angular projection or *machicolation* which overhangs the recess between the Western turret and the West wall of the adjoining residential wing. A similar but rounded or semi-circular projection connects the North face of the turret with the North face of the keep or tower, being on the same floor level as the second vaulted room.



Askeaton Castle: The Banqueting Hall; Traceried Window in last wall with pointed hood moulding and view of blind arcading inside.

SHANNON MEAT CHAT

By The Scribe.

- * Michael Moran of the Maintenance Department got married in Rome(o). P.S. The Pope didn't marry them.
- * I hear that Santa Claus brought Danny Shields a son. Now I know why he combs his locks so often.
- * They tell me one of our Van Drivers resembles J.R. of Dallas fame, and it isn't Neddie.
- * Young Mario is driving a new car. Surprise, Surprise, it is not an Italian one.
- * Denis Stanley is the proud father of a son christened Mark (Anthony). I wonder where Cleopatra is? I certainly hope I find her first. Scribe and Cleo sounds very well.
- * Frank Dalton (Jnr.) got married on 10th March to his childhood sweetheart, Paula Roche. Paper wasn't invented when Senior was married.
- * Success with honours at the AnCO Training Instructor's Course had Tom O'Shaughnessy and Jack Lyons. It isn't true that Jack invited the boys to see his seat at the Course Centre.
- * "Roll on the end of Lent" says Timmy Sullivan so that he can get back to his bad old habits again.
- * No. 1 in the Factory Top 20 at the moment is: "My Bonny lies over the Ocean" followed closely by "Torn between two Lovers."
- * Frank Costelloe tells a friend of mine that Catherine Meehan is taking up Pitch & Putt once the soup is screened by all three.
- * Mr. Comrade, Charlie Power, is getting married soon. "The very best of luck to ye, Lad."
- * A staunch Fine Gael supporter (S.C. in the Cannery) shot his dog recently. Why? He was a Colley.
- * Our Song and Dance Supervisor is hobbling around since his last show. It is rumoured Jamsie Moone stood on his toes.
- * A speedy recovery is extended to Bernie Byrnes of the Canning Department if she hasn't returned before this is published.
- * I hear Tom White's uncle bought him a Fiat "Lay-Back". The reason being he feared Tom may not be able to get to Pallaskenry for apparent natural reasons.
- * It is rumoured that Lilian Collins has found a Corpse for herself (a live one). While her close friend, Eileen O'Connor is sampling a few.
- * "Weren't we the fine couple at the last Macra Dance" sings one of our Typists, a Despatcher has informed a colleague.

CARRY ON, SAFELY



There is considerable emphasis on lifting in most safety programmes. And rightly so. Too many injuries — frequently serious — result from improper lifting.

Mastering safe lifting techniques will help you avoid such mishaps, but the story doesn't end there.

Once you've lifted an object you've got to do something with it. Usually this involves carrying it some place and depositing it, and that involves some special safety know how. Before you carry on, read on . . .

Carrying an object from one place to another can be harrowing and hazardous if you don't know what you're doing.

Know what you're doing . . .

Watch where you're going.

Watch for tripping and slipping hazards, and avoid them.

Don't rush all over the place. Haste really does make waste and it can hurt, too.

Never try to change the position of the object you're carrying or adjust your grip while you're in motion. If you want to do either of these things stop and rest the object against a support. Then make the change.

Be sure you're wearing whatever protective equipment is required — gloves, safety shoes, etc.

These precautions won't help you if the load's too heavy. If you need help to handle a large or awkward object don't hesitate to ask for it.

PROFILE

PATRICK COLEMAN



Mr. Patrick Coleman.

One could safely say that Patrick Coleman has grown up like a prince. Paddy has spent most of his young life in the picturesque setting of Glebe Castle, in Castlematrix, Rathkeale. Prior to his being domiciled in these noble surroundings, Prince Charming resided in Lower Main Street, under the shadows of the local prelacy which may help to explain the fine virtues of this man.

HEIR

The heir to the Coleman dynasty was born in St. Nessan's Hospital, Croom on the first day of October, 1958. Pat is the eldest in a family of five boys:— John, Brian Og, Michael, Noel and one sister, Kay. Pat's father is Brian Coleman, a noted Law Clerk in the town. I am sure he will ensure that there is no conspiracy to dispose Pat as inheritor to his crown and riches.

The young "aristocrat" attended St. Joseph's National School where he came under the painful influence of Pat Cahillane and Noel Liston's cane (who didn't). Pat grew up in the Church Street area and had plenty of companions to play and fight with. The Fitzgerald's, Harnett's, Shaughnessy's, etc., were always a good bet, particularly, for the latter. After many successful canings in the Primary, the young nobleman enjoyed the pleasure of mixed education. As well as being a

good mixer, he was also a diligent scholar - in the merciful local Secondary.

HAND IN HAND

Paddy's life-long ambition (and who would blame him) was achieved when he successfully applied for a position with Shannon Meat Ltd. The probabilities are that he could buy and sell the place, still he won't hold that against him - although he had better not. Patrick started with Shannon Meat Ltd. on 27th November, 1975 as a Clerical Officer. He originally started in the Boning Hall where he worked hand in hand with Miss Kitty Boyce (please do not take this literally). The young Squire spent a period of time with Pa Dunne in the Despatch Department. In June, 1977, Pat became Stores Assistant to Michael O'Donnell. In this capacity he remains presently.

The dignified Mr. Coleman enjoys watching football, hurling, rugby and soccer tourneys. He underlines the fact that he doesn't participate, but I can well remember the time he did. Whether the game be football or rugby, the eager enthusiast would barge straight at you leaving in his wake a trail of destruction and flattened motionless corpses - the seventh cavalry would be proud of his day's work - as he went on his merry way. Pat frequently journeys across the Channel to England to watch his favourites, Wolverhampton Wanderers. Whether he charters a plane or has his own yacht - well, we don't really know at present. Walking, reading and participating in quiz contests are a number of Patrick's other hobbies.

ROMANTIC FINALE

A story concerning a Prince and his Castle usually has a heart throbbing romantic finale with everybody living happy ever after. However, to tell the truth about our Prince "only the devil knows what he is up to." One thing is for sure, he won't tell us about it. But, when the day comes, I am sure Paddy and his Princess will live happy ever after. I must go away myself now and buy a castle.

I.T.G.W.U.



NEWS

The Section Committee of the Union would like to express its satisfaction that the three day week working is such a success. While nobody likes having to work less than the full week, we recognise the problems facing the Industry during the slack period. We were glad to see Staff who were laid off returning to work following the introduction of the three day week.

Members of the Union in Shannon Meat Ltd. marched with their other Trade Union Colleagues at the Demonstration in Limerick on Sunday, 11th March. We are fully in support of the reforms of the P.A.Y.E. taxation as outlined by our Union.

SYMPATHY

We would like to express sympathy to the family of Miss Maura Lynch of Rathkeale who died on 15th March. Maura worked with Shannon Meat Ltd. many years ago and is remembered by many of her colleagues of that time.

MARRIAGE

Frank Dalton of the Slaughter Hall got married on the 10th March. We wish him and his new wife many years of happiness.



Mr. John Meehan

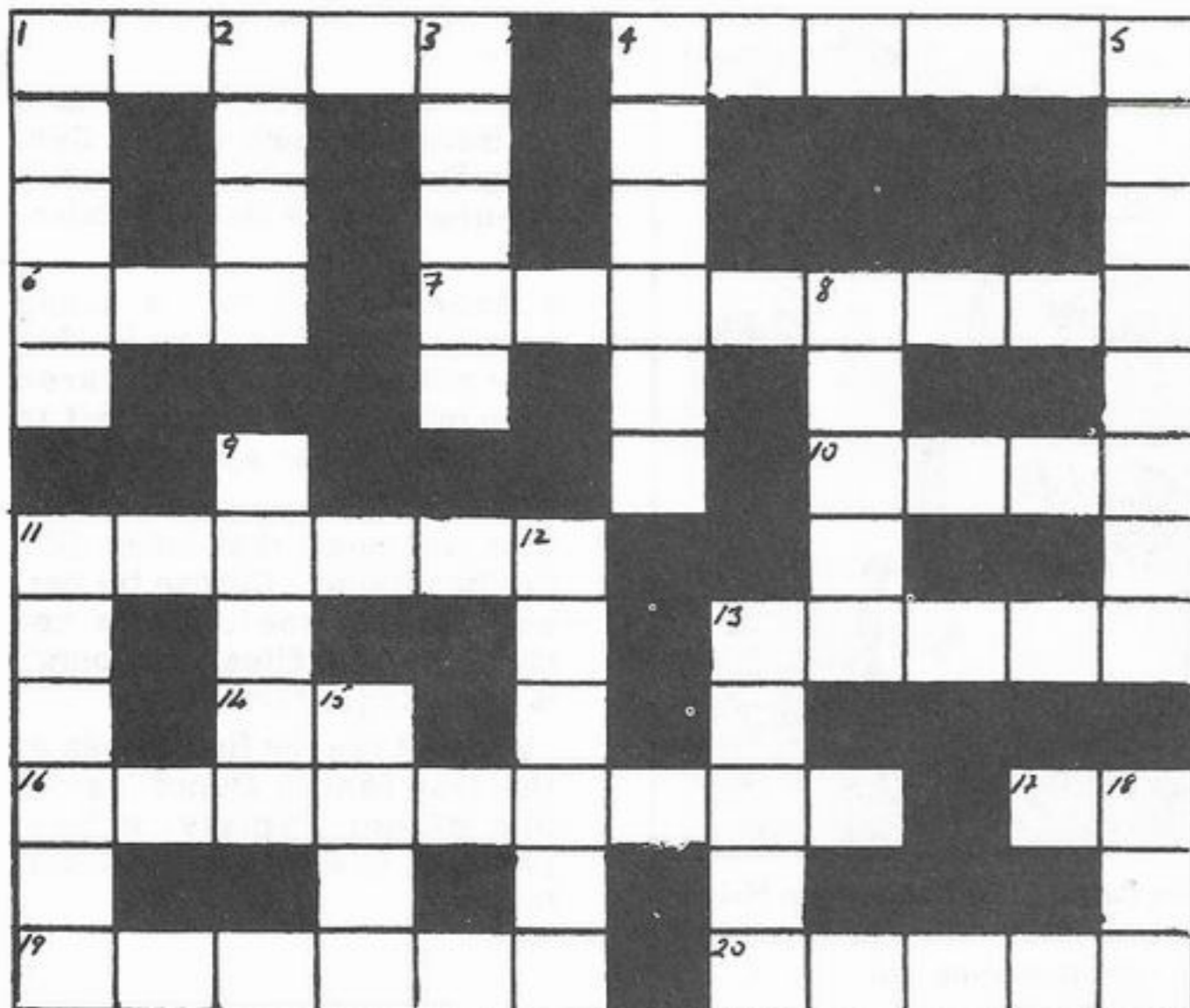
DIM WIT

- * He may not be a leader of men, but he sure is a follower of women.
- * He admits that girls are a problem - but it's problems like that he enjoys wrestling with.
- * He's frank and earnest with women. In Limerick he's Frank, in Dublin he's Ernest.
- * He's gone around with more women than a revolving door in a supermarket.
- * He's a guy who expects an "aye" for an eye.
- * His Stocks and Bonds keep him in steaks and blondes.
- * What a nightmare he had recently! He dreamt he was alone on a desert island with a dozen stunning girls - and he was a girl too.

CROSSWORD

(Milnira [Anag.]).

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



SNAPS

I am sure many of our Readers are interested in Photography. If any of you have interesting, or amusing photo snaps you would like to have published, send them along to us (Editorial Committee, Shannon Meat Ltd.) and we will publish a selection from time to time.

CONDOLENCES

Condolences are offered to the family of Miss Maura Lynch who died recently. Miss Lynch was a one time employee with this Company.

May her soul rest in peace.

CLUES ACROSS:

1. Outlaw.
4. Acts Against the Law.
6. Cat ...
7. One who upholds the Law.
10. Downfall.
11. On the Beat.
13. To Open.
14. Indefinite article in Ann.
16. Array.
17. Parent.
19. Taken (Slang).
20. Receives stolen goods.

CLUES DOWN:

1. Devilish Character.
2. Bound Over.
3. Fatal Nect Tie.
4. Rough.
5. A term from the Judge.
8. Slip up.
9. Slate (ANAG)
11. Nick.
12. Removed unlawfully.
13. Evidence.
15. Conman's best asset.
18. Refreshing Drink.

PICTURE PARADE



Photographed following their Wedding are Michael Liston, Offal Department Supervisor and Mary Curran, N.T.

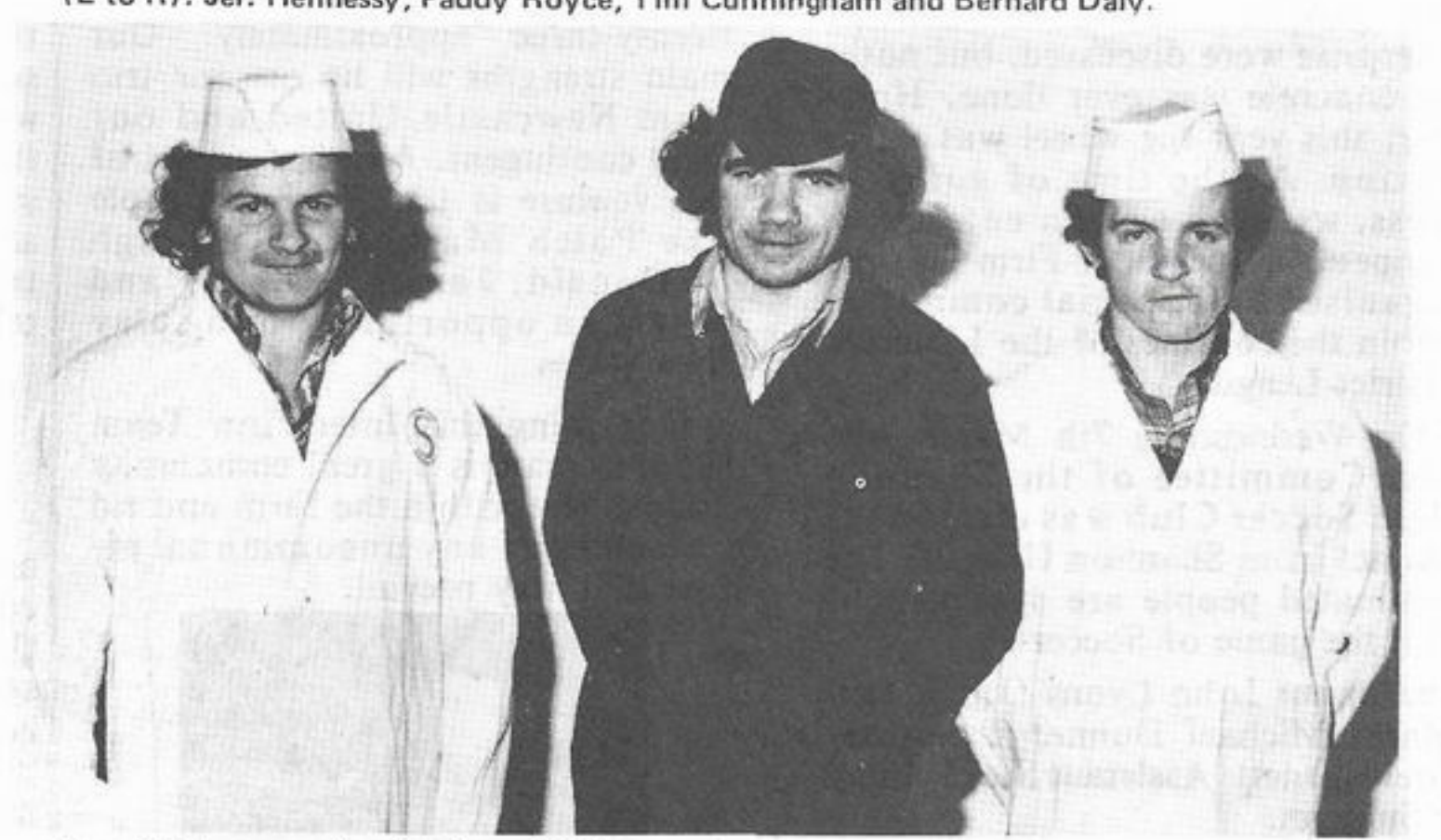
PICTURE PARADE



Retired Staff attending the 3rd Annual Party at Rathkeale House Hotel on 9th March are: Front Row (L to R): Mr. and Mrs. Jack Buston, Mr. and Mrs. Paddy Collins. Back Row (L to R): Jer. Hennessy, Paddy Royce, Tim Cunningham and Bernard Daly.



Batty Collins and Frank Costelloe were the life and soul of the Retired Members' Staff Party on March 9th.



The O'Donovan family from Kilfinny who are employed at Shannon Meat Ltd. are: Timmy, Jerry and P.J.



Jack Daly, above, operates the Box Strapping Machine.



Staff of the Boning Hall, John Brouder, (left), who hails from Athea and Jim Power of Ballyagran.



Confirmation day for Patricia and Caroline Woulfe seen above with their sisters Geraldine and Linda, daughters of Liam and Breed woulfe.



Pictured above are Mr. and Mrs. Michael O'Grady with their daughter, Pauline, who received her Confirmation on 5th March. Also in the photo are Michael (Jnr.) and Mary O'Grady, a niece of Michael's



Enjoying the Retired Members' Staff Party at Rathkeale House are: (left) P. Royce and Tim Cunningham.



Enjoying themselves at Rathkeale House Hotel are retired member, Jack Buston and Donie McEnery, a member of the Social Committee.

ABBEY PITCH & PUTT

By Chipper.

My informant, Putter, (whoever she is) tells me that the course is opening in early April. She hopes by then the snow will have cleared off the ground as she does not fancy the idea of brushing it off. Still, I suppose you could always dye the balls.

The League Campaign is just around the corner, I hope you Club Members out there are perfecting your swing and practising putting - indoors, if necessary (never mind what the good woman or husband says, once priorities are right). Any persons interested in playing for the League should contact Members of the Committee and let them know.

NEW MEMBERS

There shall be special Coaching Courses for new, or interested

members on every Monday evening. This is a great opportunity to learn from the experts and should not be missed.

One final point, Chipper is looking forward eagerly to the Opening. She tells me she has all the knitting finished. I wonder why she didn't knit anything for me!



A selection of Winners from last year's 'Open'. By starting now you could easily be in this photo later this year.

INTER-FIRM SOCCER CLUB

STRONG PANEL

For a number of years now, the idea of having our own Inter-Firm Soccer Team has been tossed about. The pros and cons of such an enterprise were discussed, but nothing concrete was ever done. However, this year the wheel was set in motion. At the time of going to press, we have a team entered to compete in the Inter-Firm League organised by a special committee within the confines of the Limerick District League.

On Wednesday, 7th March, the first Committee of the Shannon Meat Soccer Club was elected (as distinct from Shannon United). The nominated people are synonymous with the game of Soccer:-

Chairman: John Lyons (Jnr.); **Secretary:** Michael Dunne; **Treasurer:** Noel Harnett; **Assistant Sec:** Johnny O'Sullivan.

Credit must be paid, even at this early stage, to Mr. Miko Dunne. Miko's endeavours to the game of Soccer in Rathkeale and now in the Company, are a credit and I hope sincerely that his fine work will be rewarded by our team on the field.

For this forthcoming tourney, we have mustered a strong panel of twenty-three approximately. Our main strengths will lie on our trio from Newcastle United and our local contingent. Another aspect of this venture is that it gives people like Patch Markham, Turlough McDonald, James O'Grady and others an opportunity to display their wares.

One thing this Inter-Firm Team should create is a great community atmosphere within the Firm and rid ourselves of any uncommunal effort that may prevail.



Mr. Johnny O'Sullivan, Newcastle Utd. Ace Centre-Half, will be an important member of the Shannon Meat team in the forthcoming League.

G.A.A. CLUB NEWS

Another Inter-Firm G.A.A. Season has concluded, Shannon Meat Ltd. remain without a County title. Between Hurling and Football, the Rathkeale outfit have the distinguished distinction of contesting more semi-finals and finals than any other competing firm. At this stage in the Club's history, the players are experiencing a bout of depression and interest is dwindling, even amongst the die-hards.

A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting held on the 22nd March, typified the feelings of all concerned. The smallest turn out since the inauguration of the Club attended this meeting. At the time of going to press, there is a grave doubt as to whether we will or won't be fielding teams in the forthcoming championships.

WHAT IS WRONG?

The fact that the Club have never won a County title is one obvious reason. It is only natural that people get disillusioned by getting so far and then no more. The players must take a share of the blame. I am sorry to say that many of our players are

self-orientated, training is a dirty word, and commitment is really unsatisfactory. On the other hand, we have players whose interest supersedes anything that could be expected of them. The active Committee of Denis Noonan, Mike O'Neill, Noel Harnett and Tom Hannafin could only be described as first class. One final point is this; many of the players concerned are involved in Football, Hurling, Soccer and Rugby. This brings about a situation where players are playing three and four nights per week. This definitely does not help the cause.

This edition of G.A.A. Club News was written by a player.



Michael O'Neill, a key figure in the Firm's G.A.A. Club.

SOCCER SCENE



SOCCER SCENE

GOOD CUP RUN?

As already stated in an earlier issue, we have conceded the League Title to Kilcolman so we are hoping to put things right in the Cup. At the time of going to press, we have just jumped the first hurdle by defeating Pallaskerry 2-1. This was just the boost we needed to get the players into the right frame of mind for the run-in to the Season. A Cup win would be another first for the Club and with a bit of luck we could just pull it off. Getting back to the League, we are still in second place, but we will be put to the pin of our collar to hold the runners-up spot from Glin and others as the League draws to a close.

CHURCH GATE COLLECTION

Our second Church Gate Collection was, like the first, a huge success and on behalf of the Club, I would sincerely like to thank all those concerned for their generous support. A special word of thanks also to the players who took the trouble to stand at the collection tables at the various Masses.

MATCH REPORTS

Shannon Utd. :4 Breska: 0

This game could be best described as the Harnett affair. Sean accounted for 3 of the goals and Noel added the fourth. Breska were missing several of their regulars and were completely out-played. Indeed, the margin of victory could have been much greater.

Askeaton: 2 Shannon Utd. : 1

This was a game we dominated for long periods, but could not break down a good Askeaton defence. Askeaton were first to score and held this advantage to half-time. They added a second shortly after and although we reduced the arrears, Askeaton held on to win.

Pallaskerry: 1 Shannon Utd.: 1-

Seldom have a team been so much on top in a game and still failed to win. Pallaskerry rocked us with an early goal, but Don Gallagher soon had us level. From that point on, wave after wave of United attacks rained down on the Pallas goal. Noel Harnett headed in from a corner, but was penalised for pushing, Don Gallagher thundered a shot



Mario Zoncada who is having a great Season with Shannon United.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

ACROSS:

1. Felon. 4. Crimes. 6. Nap. 7. Sergeant. 10. Ruin. 11. Patrol. 13. Prize. 14. An. 16. Selection. 17. Da. 19. Nicked. 20. Fence.

DOWN:

1. Fiend. 2. Leap. 3. Noose. 4. Coarse. 8. Error. 9. Steal. 11. Prison. 12. Lifted. 13. Proof. 15. Neck. 18. Ale.

off the under side of the bar, Sean Harnett sent a spot kick over the bar. As many more chances went begging, but that's football, I suppose.

Shannon Utd.: 5 Celtic: 1

Noel Harnett, from a long range free kick, gave us an early lead, but Celtic were soon on level terms. Mario Zoncada, from the spot, restored the lead and half-time arrived 2-1. Celtic faded in the second half and further goals from Sean Harnett (2) and Eamon Daly gave us a very comfortable win.

Pallaskerry: 1 Shannon Utd.: 2

The first round of the Cup and we came through with a late winner. Seamus Doherty from a corner opened the scoring, but Pallas were soon level. A golden opportunity to regain the lead was lost when Mario Zoncada's spot kick shaved the outside of a post. Into the second half and still no break in the deadlock. With time running out, Seamus Doherty's shot from outside the box was parried by the keeper, the ball ran loose and Sean Harnett following up flashed the ball into the net.

MINOR CUP

Shannon Utd. : 3 Adare: 1

By virtue of defeating Adare, our Minors qualified for the Minor Cup Final against Askeaton. Lack of match practice was clearly visible as our lads struggled to find some rhythm. Adare took the lead midway through the second half. With time running out, Seamus Doherty equalised. Into extra time we went, and goals by Mike Meade and John Dillon decided the issue.

Watch It Grow: Harnett (S): (13); Butler: (5); Gallagher: (3); Chawke: (3); Daly: (3); Meade: (2); Sullivan: (2); Jones: (2); Harnett (N): (2); Zoncada, Doherty - one each.

SYMPATHY

The members of Shannon United Soccer Club join with me in offering sympathies to the family of noted Referee, Seamus Murphy, who died recently. Seamus was held in very high esteem by one and all who played the game and could be accurately described as a player's referee.

Michael Dunne.



James Kenrick of the Slaughter Hall has for many years now been associated with Celtic Rangers - "The Manchester United of the Desmond League".

Published By :-

**SHANNON MEAT LTD,
Rathkeale**

And Printed by :-

**ORIEL PRESS LTD,
CHARLEVILLE**