

Shannon Meat GAZETTE



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Animal Disease and the Disadvantaged Beef Feeder

By Donie Donovan
Livestock Procurement Manager.

We hear occasionally of serious tuberculosis break-downs in cattle herds. The very thought of it is frightening when one's sole livelihood is wiped out overnight. After nearly thirty years of massive state funds plus the producers' losses, the disease to-date must have cost close to a thousand million pounds.

The Department of Agriculture, in October, 1978, introduced further measures to speed up the scheme which created an amount of controversy at the time, reducing the turnover of stock in public sales over a period of time when exports were at an all time high. Testing cattle is accepted as being compulsory, yet there is no incentive to test. For as long as there is an outlet for stock that need no 30 Day Status people will opt for the back-door system at slightly below current value. Slaughtering, as many well know, is as good as a test, as lesions are picked up and animals are traced back to the herd they originated from. These measures have helped over the years in reducing the incidence of tuberculosis plus a mass saving to the Exchequer.

If any real progress is to be made in disease eradication, time is of the essence. The longer the scheme drags on, the more money it costs and the more difficult it will be to eradicate. The 64,000 dollar question is what percentage of the 470,000 cattle exported live last year were 30 Day Tested and how many of these were carriers?

Regulations

Volumes of regulations and counter regulations attached to wash bays and movement control look ridiculous when cattle are purchased for export on the hoof untested, transported to a cluttered up port, where no regulations on truck washing, tag reading, or individual animal check weighing are in force. The laughable part is that meat plants are subject to legal proceedings if these facilities are not readily available. It is physically impossible to carry out these regulations at the ports where live cattle are being loaded. So are we serious on disease eradication, or is it pretence, or just a way of spending taxpayers' money?

Has anyone asked what would the immature stock that were shipped last October be worth to-day with weight gain and a price rise of 30% since last September.

To look at the disease eradication from the point of view of stocking land. Trade, undoubtedly, has been disrupted by the new regulations, the farmer buying stores is not getting a fair deal, he has to buy in all his stock 30 Day Tested and compete against the live

shipper who collects a Third Country refund of £26.11p per cwt. at the nearest liveweight scale. This is a completely new ball game. What chance has a feeder of buying forward stores if the live exporter is forearmed with good value from herds outdated in tests and going into a sale to top up his boat load.

No Competition

The Irish farmer never had or ever will have competition from the meat trade for forward stores as both are looking for a different type of beast.

If this practice continues, the regulations will be responsible for bringing about a serious decline in beef production to levels more common in the sixties. The feeder has enough of inflation before the end product reaches the market, without adding a further £3.30 per cwt., to his stocks on top of the £22.80 he had last year. Beef production had its risks always. But, the new thinking from Brussels can only be described as inflammable inflation as far as the feeder is concerned.

When one looks at intervention as a form of subsidy applied to the end product, it is harmless compared with subsidising the product at mid-stream causing financial embarrassment to every feeder in the country. The only alternative to keeping a balance between live and the beef export trade would be full intervention on steers, heifers and carcase cows.

It seems to be the only course open if the producer is to survive and, before the year is out, who knows but he will be back in Merrion Street with his poster on his shoulder demanding same.

Big Business

The cattle trade has come a long way from monthly fairs of the forties to the big business it is to-day. With the beef trade ploughing back its profits over the years and providing first class facilities and security for its producers, plus the millions in grant aid the industry received over the years, it makes little sense to see the years of effort and money evaporate at the expense of new thinking in Brussels. The farmer well knows that it was the Irish beef industry that turned the cattle trade into the most important exporting trade this country will ever have.

Great hopes and expectations were built on the assumption that by joining the E.E.C. the producer would have free trade. If the present Disease Regulations are necessary then there should be no exceptions to the rule. The regulations should be applied in full or else scrapped and have it a free for all situation.

SHANNON MEAT LIMITED AND THE E.E.C.

By Maurice F. Cowhey, Managing
Director

It must be stated initially that the concept of a European Community has our support. We believe that its primary political motivation, viz to avoid another European War thus making for a strong Europe, is correct. However, the Brussels bureaucracy's attitude to intensive beef processing in Irish beef plants is a disaster and poses a serious threat to the future development of Shannon Meat Limited. We have written frequently in the Gazette on the E.E.C. policy of export refunds to countries outside the Community. These refunds are slanted to massively favour and encourage the export of live cattle and carcase beef. Consequently, the deboning of carcasses is an operation fast disappearing from Irish plants.

Shannon Meat Limited and the other Irish plants which have been processing intensively are voices crying in the wilderness when they request equality of treatment across the board. These anomalies have been accepted with little protest. The Irish Department of Agriculture and the Minister for Agriculture state that they are endeavouring to have them corrected, but as the situation has been with us for a number of years is

getting worse; (e.g. Brussels increased the export refunds on live animals and chilled carcasses substantially in April) one must doubt their commitment or endeavours.

I.D.A.

The Industrial Development Authority who became interested in the Meat Trade as a source of further employment in 1976 and issued the Cooper & Lybrand report with a great fanfare, has not breathed a word to anybody on the obstructions to further beef processing and consequently to employment. It would seem that the whole Irish state establishment is silent on these anomalies. One must regret the absence of an honest broker among the bodies concerned. Not a word from the individuals and organizations who pontificated on added value and downstream processing. Their limited knowledge is shown by the profound silence of all on the deboning anomalies.

We in Shannon must rely on our own resources and somehow together find a solution to the heavy penalising and consequent inhibition of deboning operations in our factory and thus continue the progress and development that have been taking place over the years.

HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS

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

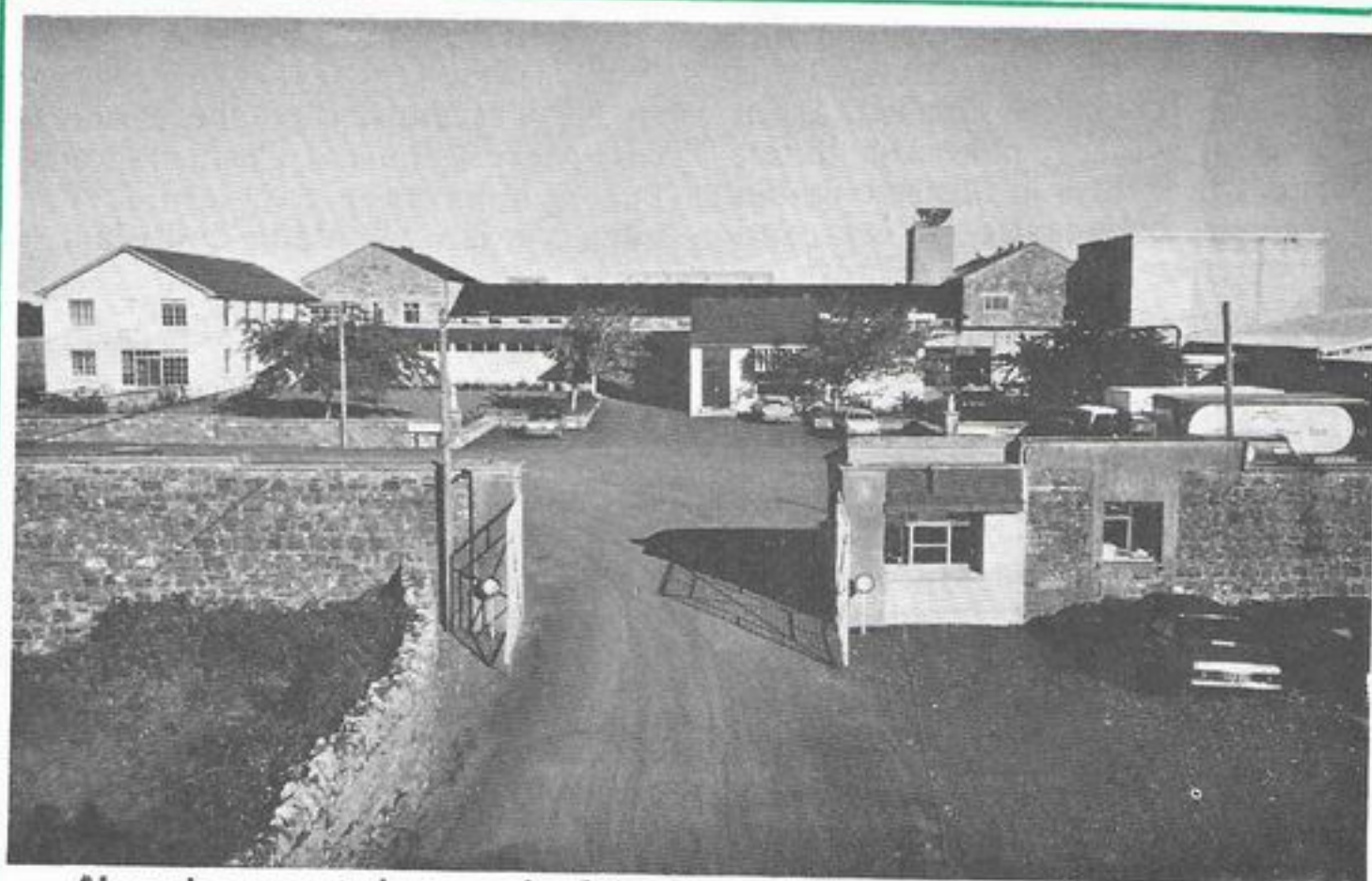
Holidays will commence on Monday morning 6th July. Work will resume on Thursday, 23rd July.

Livestock will be accepted up to Tuesday, 30th June.

Our Livestock office will be again open for booking and acceptance of livestock on Wednesday 22nd July.

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

To all our colleagues in Shannon Meat Ltd., and all our readers everywhere an enjoyable and safe holiday.



Above is a recent photograph of the Company's premises in Rathkeale.

FOCUS ON FRIDGE-MEN

A feature of the beef processing industry is that after beef has been deboned, it is then blast frozen for a period of 48 hours and after this, held in cold storage.

This important activity involves manpower to operate this part of the process. Clad in their eskimo attire from tallest hair-line to longest toe-nail are our freezer staff. These men, despite the adverse conditions, an outsider may think it's far away Siberia, carry out their duties gaily and daily.

The six people who work in "Dunne's Stores" (called after supervisor, Pa Dunne) are Paddy Flaherty, Dick Sheehy, Bill Lynch, Jim Kelly, Denis O'Connor and Bill Daly.



Paddy Flaherty:

His real name is Patrick O'Flaherty, but the only place this name is acknowledged is in certificates; such as Baptismal and Wedding. The jovial Paddy is a Rathkeale man through and through. Till hell freezes, there will be Flahertys in Holycross. Rosemount might have its Collins, but Holycross has the Flahertys.

Paddy is married to the former Miss Anne Daly. They have three sons and three daughters, all of whom are now married with the exception of Anthony, the youngest of the family.

The present chargehand of the Freezer Department joined the company in the good old days, August 1962 to be precise.

Greyhounds occupy most of Paddy's spare time. His father, Neddie Flaherty, won an All-Ireland medal with Limerick in 1911.



Denis O'Connor:

Like the latter, Denis O'Connor, also hails from Templeglantine. Unlike the latter, Denis still resides in this stronghold between Newcastle West and Abbeyfeale.

The son of a farmer, Denis was educated locally. He has one brother and two sisters.

Denis worked for a period with Nash's Mineral Waters, Newcastle West, prior to joining Shannon Meat Ltd. In fact, he commenced service with this company on 10th October, 1973. Since then, he has worked uninterrupted in the Freezer section.

The softly spoken, very quiet 'gentle giant' likes to pass his free time by watching television, or drinking a pint.



Bill Daly:

William Daly resides in a place called Sweeps Cross in the parish of Newcastle West. In fact, he crosses the road and is swept to work by colleague, John Hayes. By the way, this isn't how this cognomen was derived.

Bill started with the firm on 25th September, 1973. He started originally in the Boning Hall, but was then transferred to the Freezer Department where he still remains.

He originally hails from Devon Road, Templeglantine. Like most of his 'Glantine' colleagues, the game of hurling holds special appeal for him, though he never actually played the game.

He has spent a number of years working in England.

As of yet Bill is unmarried.



Bill Lynch:

Regular readers of the "Gazette" will have no trouble in recognising this fellow. Bill has been making the headlines in Mike O'Neill's G.A.A. column (nearly said Mick Dunne) for the last number of years for his displays for Shannon Meat in Inter Firm Hurling.

Bill joined the firm in 1966. In his fifteen years with the company, Bill has worked intermittently in the freezer section. In later years Bill and his fork truck are permanent fixtures in the cold store.

Life for Bill has always been centred around sport. As we know already, hurling is his particular favourite and we know why. At 17 years of age, Bill assisted Feenagh-Kilmeedy in winning the County Junior Hurling Title. Even today his personal ambition is to achieve this honour, again.

Bill is married to the former Miss Mary Kenny of Castlemahon. The Lynchs have four children, John, Marian, Geraldine and Liam.



BLUNDERING BLUNDERS

In a previous edition of the Shannon Meat Gazette, John Stack wrote a very popular article outlining some of the world's greatest mistake.

Hereunder, we publish a selection of mistakes (misunderstandings) some funny, others serious.

A Czech housewife Vera Czermak was heartbroken when she learned of her husband's unfaithfulness. In a fit of depression she hurled herself out of the window of her apartment. Three floors below Mr. Czermak was walking along the street. Mrs. Czermak landed on Mr. Czermak. Mr. Czermak died and Mrs. Czermak survived.

Soon after his election, American President Calvin Coolidge invited a party of country friends to dine at the White House. Feeling rather self conscious in such opulent surroundings they copied Coolidge's every move. As the President poured half of his coffee into his saucer so did they. He added cream and sugar and they did likewise. The President then laid his saucer on the floor for his cat.

East German swimmer Sylvia Ester set a world 100 metres record of 57.9 seconds in 1967 - but officials refused to recognise it because she swam in the nude.

Mourners at a funeral in Mainesti, Rumania, were astonished to see a face peering down on them from the open coffin as it was being carried shoulder-high across a road outside the cemetery. The 'body' - a woman - then leaped out of the coffin and ran off down the road. She ran straight into the path of a car, was knocked down and killed.

British publishers Ladybird Books were surprised to receive an order from the Ministry of Defence for a set of books for its staff explaining how computers work. The firm wrote back pointing out

that the books were designed for children aged nine and upwards. The Defence Ministry replied confirming the order.

A dealer in Connecticut advertised a car for '1,395 bananas' - \$1,395. A woman turned up and offered him 25 bananas deposit, and when he refused to accept them, sued the dealer for false advertising. She won her case produced the other 1,370 bananas and drove off in the car.

Amateur fire-eater Christopher Dawson swallowed too much turpentine and paraffin during his act. While driving home that night he was stopped by police. Dawson failed a breathalyser test and was fined £100.

Lady Astor once told Winston Churchill - "If I were your wife, I'd put poison in your coffee" Churchill replied - "And if I were your husband, I'd drink it".

Pilot Douglas Corrigan took off from New York in dense fog in 1938 planning to fly west to California. Unfortunately, he got his bearings wrong and flew due east for 28 hours. He landed in Ireland and aptly gained the nickname "Wrong-Way Corrigan".

Mrs. Mary Wilson was entertaining friends at No. 10 Downing Street while her husband, Harold was working upstairs. The discussion turned to theology and one of the guests said - "Fortunately, there is the one above who knows all answers". "Yes" replied Mrs. Wilson, not realising the significance of the remark. "Harold will be down in a few minutes".

A twenty-two year old Los Angeles man advertised in a magazine as a lonely Romeo looking for a girl with whom to share a holiday tour of America. The joyful Juliet who answered his plea turned out to be his widowed mother.



Bernie Sheehan at work in the Loading Dept.



Patsy Madigan of Rathkeale is involved in Rathkeale United's 5-a-side Soccer Tournament.

Jim Kelly:

If ever a gentleman was born, here he is. This softly spoken, (in fact, he speaks so soft, I think he whispers) kind and gentleman of nature hails from Ballyvogue, Kilcornan.

Jim makes the round trek from his home to Shannon Meat, whether it rains, hails or snows, or more miraculously, still, if the sun shines.

This elder statesman of the Freezer Department also enjoys hurling. The arguments on Monday morning after matches must be ferocious as all members are interested in the country's national game.

Jim says that he used to enjoy dancing (ceili) in his younger days, but now he takes a back seat and enjoys the sets from an observers role.

CAPTAIN ROCK IN ABBEYFEALE

By Padraig O Maidin, Cork County Librarian

The so called Rockite Conspiracy that raged through the country in the 1820's had its origin in a little forge at the foot of Barna Hill on the road from Newcastle West to Abbeyfeale. The immediate cause of conspiracy lay in the oppression of the tenant farmers in the Courtenay Estate. In that little forge, the blacksmith, Walter Fitzmaurice and his assistant, Pat Dillane, heard from day to day of the eviction of the tenant farmers and planned to come to their assistance.

With the ready help of young men, many of them the sons of evicted parents, Fitzmaurice and Dillane raided the farms of the better off and carried away provisions to aid those left homeless and hungry on the roadside. In their raids, they often found guns and pistols and soon they had a little band of armed followers. Dillane, later claimed, to have been the original "Captain Rock" and that he was surnamed by a teacher called Morgan. It would seem, however, that Fitzmaurice was, in fact, the first to use the name Captain Rock.

Alexander Hoskins, the new agent of a Viscount Courtenay, on his estate was a man of good intentions. He set out to improve the standard of farming and of the condition of the tenant farmers. He saw that this could not be achieved in the congested state of the farms. So he set about clearing off as many tenants as he could. This he sought to achieve by increasing the rents which had been reasonably economic during the years of plenty, when the Napoleonic wars provided a ready market at high prices. In the depression after the battle of Waterloo, the rents were excessive. Hoskins action in increasing them, meant that few farmers, if any, could pay them.

On evicting the oppressed tenants, Hoskins had the assistance of the army. In their desperation, the evicted struck back at the soldiers as well as at the land agent and his bailiffs. Hoskins son was murdered in July, 1821, at the bridge at Assonas (Droichidin na Solas) near Barna. Four men were executed for the murder in August, 1822 in front of the county jail in Mulgrave Street, in Limerick.

As a result of the murder of young Hoskins and of other crimes, the government decided to station troops in Abbeyfeale. By coincidence, when the troops were being marched from Newcastle West, they passed David Leahy, inkeeper and postmaster, at Barna. Leahy was riding to Newcastle West on business and was recognised by Captain Hardy who was in charge of the company. Hardy reigned in his horse and spoke to Leahy. He told him that he had acquired accommodation for the soldiers and for that purpose some slate roofed houses owned by Leahy opposite his inn had been commandeered. Leahy had no choice in a decision that was to bring him years of suffering and even to the foot of the gallows.

On February 18th, 1822 the company of soldiers was withdrawn from Abbeyfeale. The troops had not marched as far as Templeglantine, when their former barracks in Abbeyfeale was burnt.

All slate roofed houses in Abbeyfeale and Newcastle West had been burnt during the Winter of 1821 in order to prevent them being used as military, or constabular barracks. The burning of the barracks at Abbeyfeale was but a continuation of that action which had been ordered by "Captain Rock" whose headquarters appears to have been in the mountainous district between Abbeyfeale and Athea.

Leahy was unreasonably blamed for having allowed the military the use of his premises. His house was attacked and then in an effort to ruin him, it began to be rumoured that he had burnt the barracks himself, with the aid of his son, Dan, who then lived at Mountmahon. The rumours appeared to be confirmed when a few men offered to give evidence against Leahy and his son. Informations were sworn before the Reverend Edward Geraghty, rector, and Leahy and his son were arrested and taken to Limerick prison. Bails of up to £2,000 were offered for their release from custody, but were refused. The crime they were charged with, the burning of a barracks, was then a capital offence and their trial was fixed for the Spring assizes in Limerick, in 1824.

The trial was held before Chief Baron O'Grady. The Leahy's were defended by Daniel O'Connell. The late John D. Hartnett who had O'Connell's brief in his possession stated that it contained various notes and comments in O'Connell's handwriting. From these it was learned that David Leahy had made out a claim for compensation for the burning of the barracks, but fear of the Rockites prevented him from presenting it to the County Grand Jury.

The six witnesses against the Leahy's were all Rockites. O'Connell noted on the brief that the greater number of them were men of notoriously bad character, and were involved in the attacks on Kitson's house at Moyvane, in Listowel and on Eugene Casey's house at Ballaugh. Two of the prosecutors, Farren and Ropes fell out and fought at the Christmas fair in Abbeyfeale, in 1823 and later Farren was heard to say "that villain, Ropes forced me to swear against that honest man, David Leahy".

James Ropes turned out to be the principal witness at the trial. He swore that he went with the two prisoners to the barracks. Dan Leahy, he said, gave him a gun. He then gave a detailed account of the attack on the barracks. Farren also gave evidence. The trial lasted two days and at the end of the first day, it looked as if the Rockites would have their revenge on Leahy. Mick Mulcahy, a servant of David Leahy overheard the governor of Limerick prison discussing the position of the gallows, "for the Leahys are expected to be on it on Monday".

As it was, the Leahys were saved only by the skill of O'Connell and the courage of a number of men from Kerry and West Limerick who braved the threats of the Rockites and came forward to attest to the honourable character of David Leahy and his son. They so convinced the jury that they returned a verdict of not guilty of burning their own property.



A view of our Home Freezer Display Section where our Customers are invited to discuss and inspect all our Home Freezer facilities. Included in this photograph is Maureen Cronin, who with manager, William Nestor and Marguarite Power are happy to discuss all Home Freezer facilities available.



Michael Guiney, (above) Maintenance Foreman and Gerard O'Connor (above) Assistant Dispatch Supervisor, attended the AnCO Supervisory Training programme which took place in Cruises Hotel, Limerick at the end of March this year.

COOK'S CORNER

BY ANNA FITZGERALD
(CANTEEN OFFICER)

CARBONADE DE BOEUF

This is a recipe which uses a more expensive cut of meat, and is an ideal dish for a special occasion, or a Sunday lunch.

Ingredients:

1 lb. Rib or Round Steak
Pepper & Salt
1½ oz. seasoned Flour
¾ pt. of Beer or Guinness
1½ oz. Fat

1 tablespoonful lemon juice
½ teasp. mixed Herbs
1 teasp. Worcester sauce

Method:

Cut the beef into 1" cubes and toss in seasoned flour.

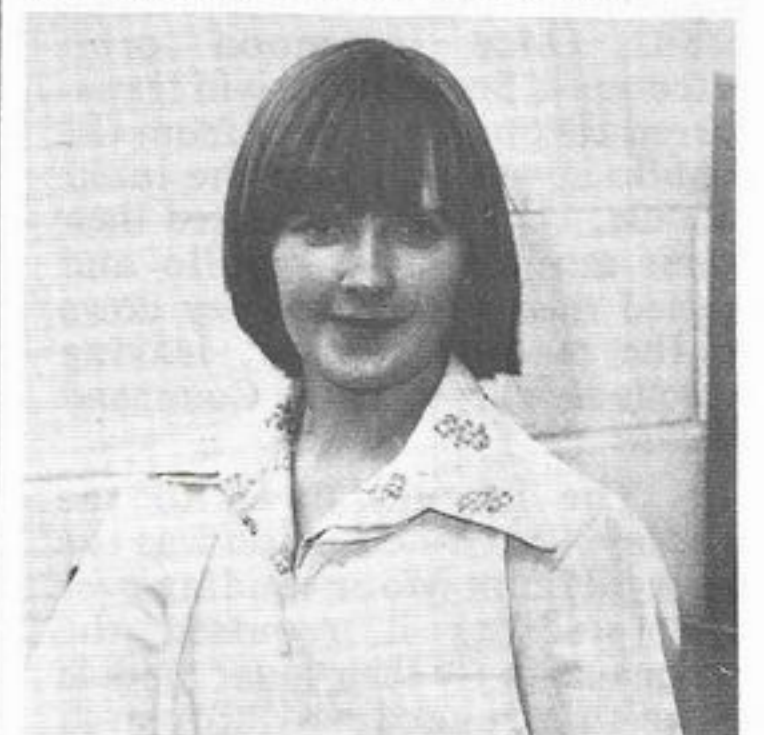
Fry meat until lightly browned

Add lemon juice, salt and pepper, add beer and bring to the boil stirring well.

Put into a casserole dish, add herbs and sauce.

Cook for 2 hrs. at 350°F.

This dish may also be served with a layer of french bread on top. After 1½ hrs. cooking, remove from oven and cover with slices (6 approx.) spread with mustard. Press onto the meat to absorb the gravy and return to oven for the further ½ hr. until brown.

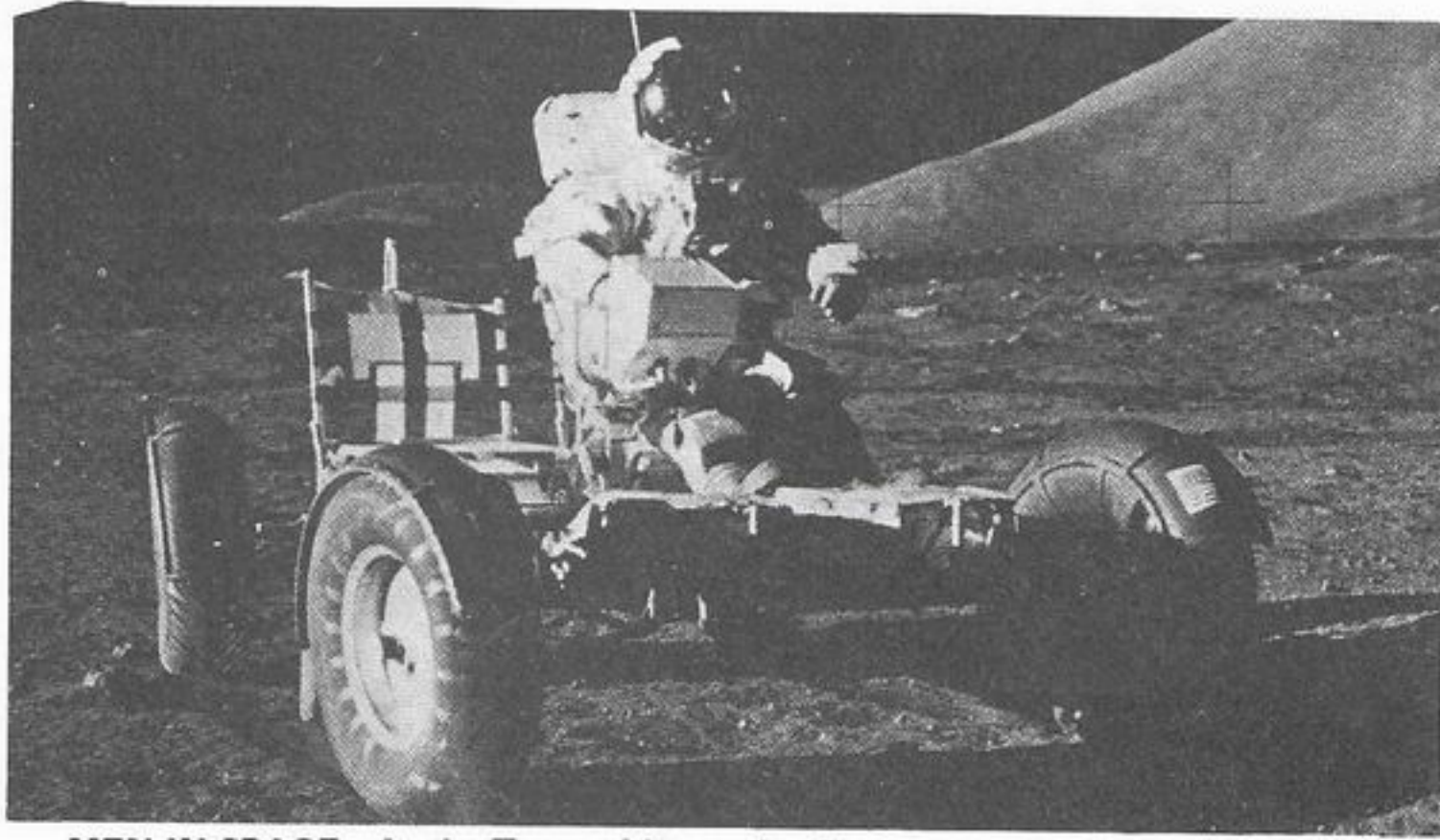


Anna Fitzgerald

John D. Hartnett recorded that 22 years later, on January 13th, 1836, Daniel O'Connell arrived in Abbeyfeale on his way from Derrynane. He had a hurried meal at David Leahy's hotel, while his horses were being changed. When the meal was over, O'Connell came out with David Leahy "I see" said O'Connell, looking to the opposite side of the street where the old barracks were being repaired "that you are not afraid that the military will be coming back".

"Ah sir we had a narrow shave that time thanks to the Lord who sent you to us". The story was preserved in the records of the Hotel, even to the detail that O'Connell had only four horses drawing his coach on that occasion as against the usual six. It would indeed be interesting to know if the records are still extant.

THE FIRST CAR AND SHAMROCK ON THE MOON



MEN IN SPACE At the Taurus-Littrow landing site on the moon, Apollo 17 commander Eugene Carnan tests the lunar rover. December 11, 1972.

In July 1971 Apollo 15 lifted off from Cape Canaveral Florida U.S.A. On board were three Astronauts, David Scott, the mission commander, James Irwin the Lunar Module Pilot and Alfred Warden the Apollo Command Module Pilot. Also on board was the first Moon Car, designed and built to carry two astronauts on short journeys on the moon's surface. The moon car was specifically designed to help astronauts to cover more surface area on the moons surface and to limit body fatigue to a minimum.

Within a short time the spacecraft and its astronauts were in earth ORBIT.

After three ORBITS of the earth the Astronauts fired the single engine on the third stage of the Saturn V Launch Rocket. The single engine, capable of producing a maximum thrust of 5,000,000 lbs accelerated the spacecraft to a speed of 25,000 miles per hr. which was sufficient power to sent the Apollo spacecraft on a trajectory to the moon.

As the outward journey began, the astronauts disconnected their Apollo space craft from the third stage and then reversed their spacecraft to face the housing of the upper nose of the third stage rocket. They then moved their Apollo spacecraft in and docked with the Lunar Module. After successfully docking they withdrew the Lunar Module then reversed both spacecraft and continued on their journey to the moon. Strapped and folded onto the lower stage of the lunar module was the moon car, which was known technically as the lunar roving vehicle (L.R.V.). Within a few days the spacecraft and its astronauts approached their destination which was the Hadley Appenine Region on the Northerly face of the moon. After careful calculation the Apollo crew members fired their spacecraft engine which placed them into moon orbit. Once in moon orbit astronauts Scott and Irwin transferred through a tunnel from the Apollo spacecraft into the lunar module. They then un-docked their lunar module from Apollo and started their descent journey down to the moon's surface, leaving astronaut Warden in the Command module.

The journey down to the Hadley Appenine Region was the most difficult Moon landing ever attempted as it required the astronauts to fly their lunar module down to a rugged and hilly area called the sea of rains. Their landing area was bounded to the west by a

one mile wide, 1,200 ft deep Rille, (Hadley Rille) and to the south by 15,000 ft high mountains, (Appenine Mountains).

SUCCESSFUL LANDING

Astronauts Scott and Irwin successfully landed their lunar module a few hundred feet south of the target area. After resting and carrying out pre-flight checks, astronaut Scott stepped out onto the moons surface (the 7th Astronaut to set foot on the moon), and was shortly followed by astronaut Irwin. They then set about unloading the moon car. (L.R.V.). The moon car was designed and built by the Boeing Aircraft Co. at a cost of £1.25 million. It was built mainly of aluminium, having four wheels which were woven of zinc coated piano wire and spun aluminium hubs. Treads of titanium were riveted to the wire mesh around each wheels outer circumference. Each wheel measured 31 inches in diameter, 9 inches in width and weighs 12 lbs on earth. The car could be steered by both front and rear wheels, each pair with its own steering mechanism. Power for the car was provided by two 36 volt batteries connected in series, driving a ¼ horse power electric motor on each wheel, this provided the car with a maximum speed of 10 M.P.H. and an operational life of over 72 hrs. Steering for the car was provided by a "T" shaped hand control stick and was moved forward to accelerate the car, moved back to provide braking, and for turning left or right, the stick was simply moved in the desired direction. When the car was fully assembled it had a height of 3 ft 9 ins. A width of 6 ft. 9 ins and a length of 10 ft. 2 ins. On a flat surface the car had a ground clearance of 14 inches which provided pitch and roll stability at angles up to 24° when fully loaded. When the car was fitted out with its two seats, high gain communications antenna, T.V. camera, and navigation equipment it had an all up weight of 480 lbs. Navigation during normal driving was provided by a simple dead - Reconning navigational system, based on gyros, and on odometers fitted to each wheel to determine the direction and distance between the car and the lunar module plus the total distance travelled at any point during a traverse.

When the astronauts powered up the car they drove over two miles to the foot of the Hadley Rille. During their drive they negotiated obstacles over 10 ins high and climbed and descended slopes as steep as 15. At Hadley Rille they

By Jarlath Conerney

collected several samples of rock and soil and later astronaut Scott bored holes into the lunar surface with a percussion drill. This enabled him to extract core samples and to insert probes to measure the heat flow from the moon's interior. Between the many experiments to be carried out the astronauts found time to relax, and during one break astronaut Irwin whose ancestors came from Northern Ireland planted a handful of shamrock in the moon's soil.

LAST HOURS

In the last few hours of the astronauts' stay on the moon's surface they drove their car to the foot of the Appenine Mountains to collect various rock samples. While collecting the samples astronaut Scott discovered a piece of crystal rock which geologist later found to be over 4 million years old and older than any previous samples returned to earth.

After a stay of over 67 hours, on the moon's Hadley Appenine area the Astronauts left the surface in the upper stage of the lunar module leaving their car behind them. The lunar module upper stage accelerated into moon orbit and later docked with the Apollo spacecraft with astronaut Warde within. After transferring to the Command Module the astronauts ditched the lunar module upper stage back onto the moons surface. They then prepared to travel home and fired their 20,500 lb thrust engine which gave them a speed of 5,400 M.P.H. which was the speed required to take them out of moon orbit and put them on a trans earth injection.

Finally the astronauts re-entered the earth atmosphere and successfully splashed down in their Apollo 15 Command Module in the Pacific Ocean.

Apollo 15 carried the first car to the moon; two more cars were taken there one to the Descartes region of the moon on Apollo 16 and one to the Taurus Littrow Region of the moon on Apollo 17.

To this day they remain on the moons surface and really all that is needed to power them up again is a new set of batteries.

NOTE: Jarlath Conerney is a member of the Royal Interplanetary Society. He is an aircraft engineer attached to the Irish Air Corps and is regarded as one of the leading experts in Europe on the US space programmes. He gave a very interesting talk on this subject in the Shiels Arms Hotel in 1980 which was organised by staff of Shannon Meat Ltd.



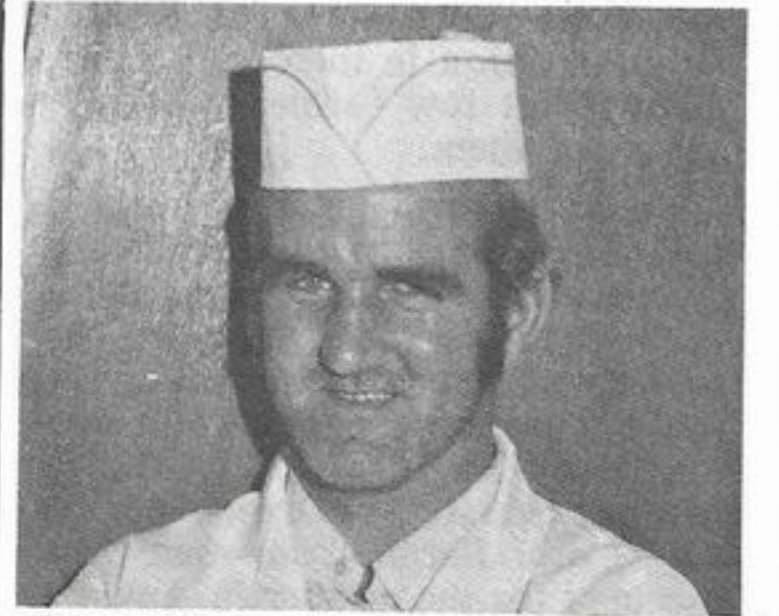
Brendan Kennedy (above) apprentice electrician and Patrick Harnett, (below) apprentice carpenter at present on a full-time course organised by AnCÓ at the Regional Technical College, Limerick.



Patrick Harnett



Kevin Hannafin from Carrickerry is a long serving member of the staff employed in the Offal Department.



Bernard Daly of Ballywilliam (above) has worked in almost every production department with Shannon Meat Ltd.

E.E.C. NEWS

Decline in Beef Consumption

It is estimated that in the Community as a whole beef and veal consumption in 1980 declined by about 1 per cent. In 1981, there is likely to be a further reduction and consumption in the EEC-10 is expected to amount to about 6.94 million tonnes, compared with an estimate for 1980 of 6.97 million tonnes. Veal consumption is expected to show the most marked decline.

EEC Exports rise to about 650,000 Tonnes

Exports of cattle, calves, beef

and veal amounted to a carcase weight equivalent of about 650,000 tonnes in 1980; there were substantial increases in exports of live cattle, mainly from the Irish Republic to North African countries, particularly Libya. There was a substantial increase in exports of frozen beef, mainly intervention beef from France and West Germany. There was also a marked rise in fresh or chilled beef exports, particularly to Eastern Europe. It is probable that EEC exports in 1981 will continue to be at very high levels.

SOCCER SCENE

By the Observer

At the time of going to press, Rathkeale United are hovering dangerously close to relegation. It will take a great effort to avoid the drop to Division Two. It is ironic that if United are relegated they will be replaced by the other Rathkeale side - Deel United.

I return to my original viewpoint, that all eggs should be put in one basket and then grade them. That way, a strong Rathkeale team could compete for the Leagues' top honours. Presently, Rathkeale has two mediocre teams and this cannot change unless recruiting from one another or outside the parish - strong words, but oh so true.

Match Reports:-

League :-
Glin 2 Rathkeale 0

Though inspired by Oscar Traynor players Noel Harnett, Edmond Dollery and Joe Kennedy and backed up by keeper Denis Harnett, Rathkeale failed to make any impression against an improving Glin team.

Breska 3 Deel United 2

This was an epic game matched by some great goals and the visitors were unlucky to lose to the odd goal in five. Davy O'Keefe and Seamus O'Doherty were the marksmen.

Rathkeale United 2 Askeaton 2

Edmond Dollery, normally performing heroics in front of his own goal, turned goalscorer in this game. His two goals gave the home side a share of the spoils.

Killeaney 4 Rathkeale 2

A very much understrength Rathkeale team did their chances of staying in the premier division, no good at all by losing this game. Noel Harnett and an own goal accounted for United's tally.

Desmond Cup:-

Rathkeale 1 Kilcoleman 4

This was the first round of the Cup and Rathkeale made an early exit. The Rathkeale team's season has been marred by injury and this game proved no exception. Noel Harnett, Mike Shaughnessy and John Fitzgibbon all received injuries. This was by no means a dirty game and the injuries really stemmed from a sub-standard playing surface. Seamus O'Doherty was goalscorer for United.

Munster Minor Cup:-

Weston 7 Rathkeale 0

An understrength, Minor XI bowed out at the quarter final stage to an impressive Cork side. However, the side can be proud of their achievement, moreover, when one considers the team to be the same next year. A few lessons in the finer skills of the game to match their physical and fitness attributes, would work wonders for their game.

Watch it Grow:-

Seamus O'Doherty, 7; Davy O'Keefe, 6; Noel Harnett, 5; Ray O'Doherty, 3; Denis O'Dea, Vincent Conmy, Brian Dillon, Edmond Dollery, Richard Hayes, 2 each. David O'Brien, Liam Casey, Liam Fitzgerald - own goal - 1 each.

It was pleasure to see the hurleys of the G.A.A. and the jerseys of the Soccer Club, held side by side in forming a guard of honour at the wedding of Sean Harnett and Kathleen Greaney. A

sign of the times. Rathkeale United presented a silver tray to their former midfielder cum striker, who recently had to retire from games because of injury.

DEEL UNITED

Match Reports

Desmond Cup:-

Breska 3 Deel United 1

Followers in the Deel United camp will argue that this is a game that could and should have been won. James O'Grady was scorer of United's goal.

League:-

Deel United 3 Broadford 0

United continued to impress in the league with this win over a disappointing Broadford XI. Eddie O'Dwyer, James O'Grady and Tom White (what a fine penalty taker, he puts Jack Lyons to shame) were the marksmen.

Athea 0 Deel United 1

This was a very important triumph for the Rathkeale boys. P.J. Wall from a goal mouth melee scored the all important goal. United were well on top throughout except for the last quarter of the game. Neilie Cahill and Pat Walsh inspired the home side for an all out assault on their opponents..

League Cup:-

Broadford 0 Deel United 2

This was the first round of the League Cup, a trophy Deel fancied to win. Goals from James O'Grady and P.J. Wall put them on their course for ultimate honours. An unfortunate incident was the injury to Eddie O'Dwyer, who broke his leg in this game. Eddie will be a sore loss as he has been the main mid-field anchor all season.

Villa Rovers 1 Deel United 1
- J. Jones

Deel United 1 Villa Rovers 2
J.Jones
Agg. 2 3

Despite the return of Johnny Jones to goal-scoring form, a youthful and fit Villa side were too good for Deel in the two legs of the League Cup. Agony for the Rathkeale boys was a missed penalty in the last minute.

At the time of going to press, Deel United and Villa Rovers share the lead at the top of Division 11. Whereas Deel have one game left, Villa have two. The most intriguing aspect is that they meet each other.

Season Scorers:

Jack Lyons, 12; P.J. Wall, 8; James O'Grady, 7; Johnny Jones, 4; Tom White, Peter Mullins, 3 each. Eamonn Daly, Neil Hogan, Eddie O'Dwyer, 2 each. Mike Gallagher, Milo O'Shea, 1 each.



Deel United Player, Eddie O'Dwyer, (above) recently sustained a fractured leg while playing for his team. His Colleagues in Deel United wish him a speedy recovery.

INTER-FIRM G.A.A.

By Ml. O'Neill.

The 1981 Inter-Firm season is well under way. Our hurling team has played two games, one in the league against Castlemahon and the other against the County Council, in the first round of the championship. We, also played a tournament final on Saturday, 4th April. Shannon Diamond from Clare were our opponents for this game. We had hoped to have a good turnout for this game but alas this was not to be. We fielded a very understrength team. As a result the final outcome was inevitable. Trophies for this game were sponsored by the Banks in Rathkeale. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsors very much, on behalf of the Club.

LEAGUE

On previous occasions our encounters with Castlemahon have always been great games. The first half of this game lived up to expectations. Our defence held the Castlemahon forwards at bay for long periods. Unfortunately, our attack did not avail of the opportunities they got. We were trailing by three points at half-time. In the second-half the fitness of the Castlemahon boys helped them to build up an overwhelming lead. Once again they were too good for us. Best for Shannon Meat were Bill Chawke, Denis O'Dea, Maurice Windle, Sean Doherty, David O'Keefe and Jim Sheehy in goal.

FIRST ROUND OF CHAMPIONSHIP

The County Council, Limerick were our opponents for the first round game of this year's championship. This was our very first game against the current County Council champions. Due to illness and other unforeseen

circumstances we fielded without five of our regular panel. The champions were almost at full strength. The first-half of this game was as good as I have seen in this competition down the years. Our defence and centre-field were well in control of the game. The half-forward line created many scoring chances for the full forwards. A penalty goal half way through this half gave the Council the lead for the first time in the game. A lead they never lost. We were only trailing by one point at half-time 14 to 1 - 6.

Second-Half

The Council took control of the game after about ten minutes of this half. They were a well balanced team and their superior fitness proved too much for Shannon Meat Limited. Sean Liddy a former Clare hurler scored some magnificent points during this period. Other to play well for the County Council were - Tim Horgan and Con Brouder (Tournafulla), Tom Nugent, Gerry Nugent and Joe Kennedy (Rathkeale). Best for Shannon Meat were - Jim Sheehy, Maurice Windle, William Chawke, D. Duggan, D. O'Keefe, F. Dalton, Michael Clancy and Pat Sheehan. The team while they were very disappointed did not let us down. Their performance was very encouraging for future league matches. With the same commitment in the league there is no reason why we should not qualify for the final stages of that competition.

It is hoped to arrange a couple of challenge games for the footballers. We must now make an all out effort to win the football championship. Nothing is impossible.



Attending the Interfirm G.A.A. dance in Adare some months ago were, Jimmy Hayes, Gerry Molyneaux, Anne Sheehy and Willy Sheehy.



Recently married were Sean Harnett and Kathleen Greaney. They are seen here being presented with a Silver Tray by Timmy Shiels (Chairman), on behalf of Rathkeale Utd. Soccer Club. The Bridge was arranged by both the G.A.A. & Soccer Clubs. The Ban! So be it.

SHANNON MEAT CHAT

By the Scribe

For the first time ever, the Scribe has been criticized. Readers have complained about being unclear as to who my kind remarks are intended for. Clarity shall be utmost on my mind from now on.

James O'Grady is disappointed because his name never appears in this column whilst some of his friends are acknowledged regularly. Sorry, James, will rectify. I promise.

Joe Lynch became a father a second time round prior to April, 5th. Qualifies him for two allowances - Children's and Income Tax.

Congratulations to John and Bridget Lyons on the birth of a son, christened Adrian.

I've heard it said a "computer" to be "tripe" but this now takes on a new meaning, with the meeting of Kathleen from the Computer Section and Willie from the Tripe Department. Notice the clarity.

Come to think of it, I now realise why many of the statements were previously unclear.

Congratulations and best wishes to my very good friend Sean Harnett who got married recently to Miss Kathleen Greaney of Athea.

A speedy recovery is extended to Ned Lawlor, Slaughter Line, who is convalescing after a hernia operation.

It's one thing when Tom Murphy and Karen Condon work in the same Department, but, it's another when they work side by side. It reminds one of a mother hen minding her clutch of young ones.

Congratulations to Pat Dunne and his "Siamsa" colleagues for another award winning show.

Seamus Kennedy and Maureen Cronin look very well in their respective Minis. That's not to say we can see their knees. Come to think of it whowants to look at Seamus' knees. Maureen! that's a different story.

What Charlie Nash lacked our "darling Charlie" has got - POWER, (not to mention a pretty face).

Supposedly on a holiday in England, recently was Larry (Laurie) Kelly. Sources tell us he was in the London area at the same time as an influential director of a certain Manchester Club. Seeing that he has been supervising the United supporters, successfully, so long, managing the team should be easy by comparison.

Hey man! What do you get when you cross a scribe with a nurse, - a healthy page boy.

Old Chinese proverb - Confucius says "Loss of Cartilage make Harnett k(nee) Grainy.

FIRST AID IS SMART

It does seem kind of ridiculous to go running off to get first aid for every little cut or scratch you get. And you hate to put up with the flak you get from other employees when you do it.

But the fact is it makes sense - good sense.

Just a small break in the skin is all the opening infectious germs need to get under your skin and cause some real misery. Some types of infection can even cause death within a few days.

Let them say what they will, take care of any injury just as soon as you can.

Here are some valuable things to know:

WOUNDS

Small ones....

Wash thoroughly with soap and water and cover with a sterile gauze bandage.

Don't try to remove imbedded particles unless they work out during the cleaning.

Never wrap with a dirty rag or handkerchief, and never put adhesive tape directly on a wound.

Serious ones...

Bandage snugly with sterile gauze or clean cloth.

Get medical aid as fast as you can.

EYES

If any harmful substance splashes in the eyes, flush them immediately with lots of water. Hold the lids open with your fingers.

If it's just a speck, let your tears flush it out. Don't rub the eyes. Pull your eyelid over the eyeball and roll the eye around.

If it won't come out, get medical attention. No amateurs with handkerchief corners should be allowed to poke around.

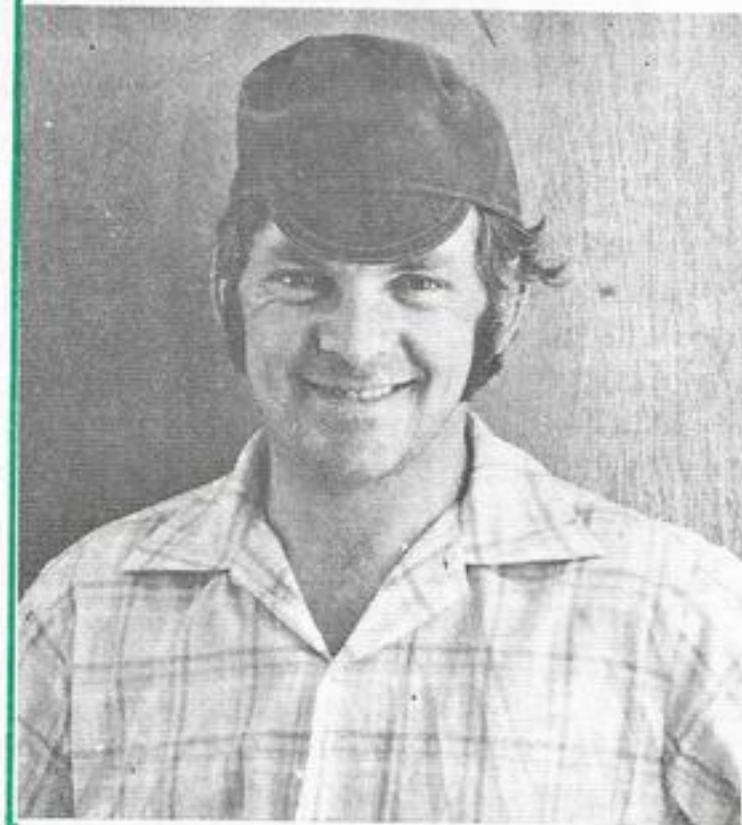
BURNS

Immerse burned areas in cold water or apply cold compresses, but don't put burned skin under running water.

Never apply butter or grease to a burn.

If a burn has been smeared with a greasy substance this will have to be removed (it can be very painful) by an examining doctor.

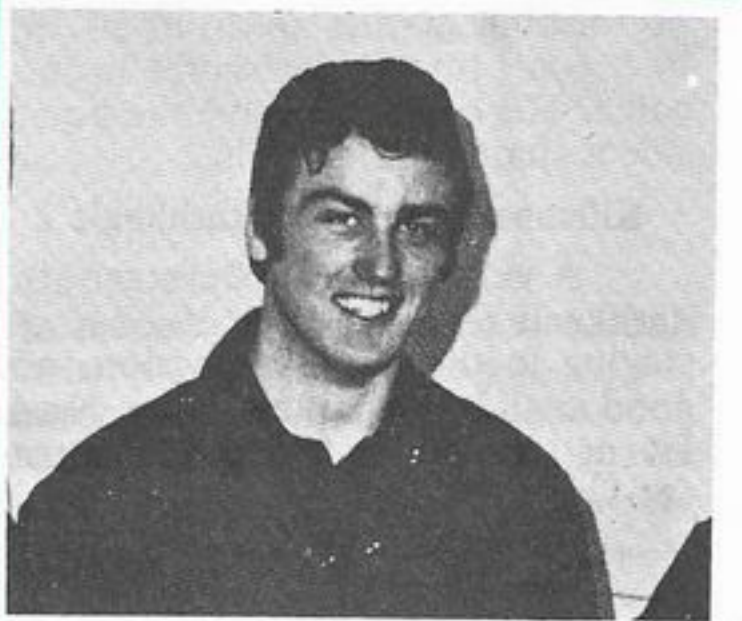
Serious burns should be seen by a doctor as soon as possible. (N.S.C.)



Batty Collins (above) and Denis Noonan (below) who with Maurice Sheehan of the Boning Hall, recently attended the Irish Transport and General Workers Union Course on safety which took place at The River Room Motel, Newcastle West.



Michael O'Neill is First Aid Officer with Shannon Meat Ltd.



Michael Stackpoole, Apprentice Fitter, also at present on an AnCo Course at The Regional Technical College, Limerick.



Everybody in Shannon Meat Ltd. were glad to see the popular Boning Hall man Tom Kenneally, returning to work after his recovery from illness.

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Lift Properly

GET help if you need it. Use a wheelbarrow, dolly or other mechanical aid whenever possible. Of course, when a job's too heavy or awkward get someone to help you - that's basic.

Keep the load close to the centre of your body. The farther the load is from the small of your back, the greater the strain will be. That's why a heavy, compact load can be easier to lift than a bulky, lighter load. You just can't get the bulky object in close to your stomach.

No matter what size the load, get as close to it as you can, and carry it against your torso.

Move slowly. Jerking, twisting or slipping cause many lifting injuries. Instead of twisting your body, straighten up with the load, then shift your feet.

That rule should apply all the time - even when the only load you're carrying is your own body.



SIMMER DOWN

When your boiling point is within sight or the urge to lash out is strong, count ten! That's a bit of advice that's been around for a long time.

It's good advice. Maybe that's why it's lasted so long.

A cooling off period may not be as welcome as a coffee break, but it can do just as much or more for you.

Sudden, impulsive action can have a disastrous result both on and off the job.

A cooling-off, think-it-over period may prevent such action, thereby avoiding an accident, maybe saving a life - even yours.
Count ten!