

**the thought of another general election mounted this Monday as the Dail was again expected to fail to elect a Taoiseach.**

The Fianna Fail parliamentary party held a special meeting this morning to discuss the present deadlocked situation.

When the Dail reconvenes later to-day, there is unlikely to be any agreement, following the refusal by the Fianna Fail leader, Mr. Charles Haughey, to agree a coalition arrangement with the Progressive Democrats or with Fine Gael, and it is likely to adjourn until Friday to allow negotiations to continue.

Speaking to the Limerick Leader, in Leinster House,

Johnny, leader of the Democratic Socialist Party said "I think that both parties will have enough responsibility at the end of the day to avoid another election. I feel that the Progressive Democrats will be instrumental in the formation of the next government. Both parties will have to compromise".

The big question now is what price can Deputy Des O'Malley, leader of the Progressive Democrats, exact in return for his support.

In his Dail speech on Thursday last, Mr. O'Malley supporting the nomination of FG leader, Deputy Alan Dukes for Taoiseach said that any consensus reached between the parties would have

Labour leader, Deputy Dick Spring who has offered to act as a mediator between the centre right parties, said over the weekend that Mr. Haughey would have to encourage today's meeting of the Fianna Fail parliamentary party to share power, because the message of the election was clear.

Deputy Michael Noonan (F.G.), said that his party would be considering any proposal put to them, but were unlikely to depart from the power-sharing proposal they had made.

A final decision has yet to be taken on whether a vote for Taoiseach will actually be recorded by the Dail to-day.

## The steady hand man

By ALAN ENGLISH

THE owner of two of the safest hands ever seen in Limerick soccer, Bill Hayes (right), the first man to be capped while playing for Limerick, is back in town on holiday.

Bill, originally from Clinoe on the Cork Road, is now in the wholesale business in Torquay. He began his football career with a team of local youngsters called "Hotspurs" — they also had local comedian Tom O'Donnell in their line-up.

He was later to play for Prospect, Star Rovers and, aged 16, Limerick. He stayed with the Markets Field outfit for five years, from 1944 to 1949. This week Bill recalled his contemporaries in the Limerick side, among them Johnny Hartrey, Rory Keane, Kevin Holman, Johnny Gavin, Tom Clifford and Paddy Reid.

Near the end of his Limerick career Tom was handed the No.1 shirt for Ireland. The team was beaten 2-0 by Belgium, but he enjoyed the honour tremendously. He was later to play for an Irish League selection against an English League team that included the likes of Len Shackleton.

A move to Manchester City in 1949 fell through when City



were relegated but Bill joined Wrexham months later. Next he signed for Torquay where he was to enjoy the best form of his career. Indeed, a recent Exeter v. Torquay programme featured a letter from a fan nominating his best Torquay and Exeter sides from 1946 to 1988. Bill was named as Torquay goalkeeper. His opposite number was TV's Bob Wilson, while other players included John Bond, Ken Brown and David Pleat.

Bill has been living happily in Torquay since his injury enforced retirement, while he was with Swindon. He says he enjoys his occasional visits to Limerick greatly.

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