

Dan Cullinane (Croom)

Frank O'Farrell on "Spying Mission

Leicester City manager, Frank O'Farrell, mixed with the crowd at Markets Field last Sunday when he was recognised. Cork-born O'Farrell, who brought his knowledge of the English Cup final to the attention of the club, intimated that the purpose of his visit was to vet newcomers, Finn Harps. He was accompanied by his scout, Ron Shaw. It was a surprise in store for O'Farrell when he saw the Leicester City players in their friendly kit. Mr. O'Farrell made it clear that he was very pleased with the progress made by the club's 16-year-old son, Joe, who is in ninth month with the club's Second Div. team. The ex-Wembley captain is the youngest player on Leicester City's reserve side.

Terry is membered

Leicester City will hold a service at the Savoy on Monday evening next in aid of their long-time full-back Terry Punch, who broke a leg while playing for his club against Fairview three months ago. Terry, one of the most popular players on the local front, dedicated Weston player this is reflected in the years service he has to that club, both as a player and administrator. He had great promise as a player, and retained a consistently high standard with the City Club's Junior eleven. Terry has been out of work since his injury.

First for Johnny

The popular Johnny Colbert has every reason to celebrate this week-end. Eleven years in all is, indeed, a long time. Johnny was unique in that last Sunday he had never won a trophy. The break came when the Caledonians "B" team beat him to win the Second Division League title, and the young Colbert contributed his share by scoring the all-important second goal. Little wonder that this well-known singer was cheered off the field at the final whistle.

concerned with the Saxone Cup. "We always do well in this particular competition and hope to make history by making it a hat-trick of successes," commented a club official. They are also very much involved in the Lawson Cup, while the Top Four and Murphy trophies should also see a strong challenge from Ballynanty Rovers.

That the famed Blue & Whites have made such a remarkable recovery after a few years out of the limelight is due to sole selector and team manager, Pat Cusack, said to be one of the City's foremost authorities on soccer affairs. Paddy has gathered together some of the most promising players locally, and has moulded them into a top class outfit. He didn't have to go far for his talent either, for the majority of Ballynanty's players learned their football with the club's schoolboys' teams.

They include such stalwarts as Mick O'Donnell, Cyril Rice, Leslie Waters, Tom Cross, John Crowe, "Ginger" and Richard Cronin, and Mick Earls. Balla made a shrewd move when they signed Swiss born Hugo Wildhaber for this season's campaign. Hugo has pierced open some of the best organised defences in the local leagues. But he couldn't have achieved so much, were it not for the valuable service from half-backs, Mick O'Donnell, Tom Cross, and John

the vital Shield meeting between Cork Hibs. and Bohemians. Another important game at which he officiated was that which brought Cork Hibernians and Shamrock Rovers into action.

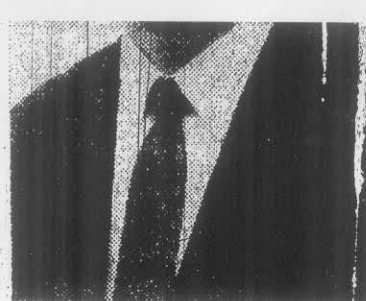
In all, Jim has refereed ten LOI games in the past six months and no doubt he will improve upon that number before the season draws to a close in April. His ambition is to handle an FAI Cup final. The FAI couldn't select a more competent official than Jimmy Hartigan. Perhaps this will be his year. He is certainly deserving of the honour.

It will be recalled that last year he was on the line for the Irish League v. League of Ireland game. Pat Kiely was the man in the middle that day.

Jim, who is also well-known in operatic circles, was a regular winger with Star Rovers for several seasons, having previously seen service with Ballynanty Rovers minors.

"Do you weigh in with the argument that to be a successful referee one must have experience of playing the game?" I asked the quiet spoken, Rippen employee. "Well, I can only speak for myself", he smiled, "but I must admit that the experience I gained as a player has helped my refereeing tremendously".

He also paid tribute to fellow officials, Tommy Power, P. J.



Referee Jim Hartigan ... in demand.

Meagher and Tony Shaw, who make up the Limerick selection on the L.O.I. panel of referees. It appears then that Jimmy Hartigan is about to emerge as one of our greatest referees. He has all the qualities that go into the making of a top class official.

Paddy stars

It was good to see veteran Paddy Allen back in Star Rovers colours for their Saxone Cup clash with Bedford Rovers at Southill last Sunday. Paddy, one of the gentlemen of local soccer, shone with Limerick in the late 'fifties. His display against Bedford entitles him to retain the full-back position for the remainder of the season.



Limerick soccer enthusiasts will have little difficulty in recognising ex-Wembley star, Joe Waters, pictured above with some colleagues at Leicester City. Joe, centre in the front row, is in top class company for immediately behind him is club captain, David Nish, valued in the £100,000 class. David was the youngest player ever to captain a cup final team at Wembley. Sitting alongside Nish is manager Frank O'Farrell, former Irish international. O'Farrell was in Limerick last week-end.