

30p



Tipperary GAA Yearbook 1974

Always the best . . .

“ROSCREA”



BACON and HAMS

“SPECIAL PORK FOODS”



**THE ROSCREA BACON FACTORY LTD.
ROSCREA**

Telephones: Roscrea 6, 186 and 301
Livestock Mart: 145

Telex: 6620



Tipperary G.A.A. Year Book 1974

4th Issue

Published on behalf of the
TIPPERARY COUNTY G.A.A. BOARD

By
'THE GUARDIAN',
SUMMERHILL, NENAGH

Editor
GERRY SLEVIN

CONTENTS

Rcamura le Tomas Oh Eadhra	2
Focal o'n Eagarthoir	3
We Nearly Won So Much by John O'Grady	4
A 1st for Loughmore by Michael O'Meara	7
So Near by Gerry Slevin	11
Sarsfields Came in from the Cold by Michael Dundon	13
On the Western Front by Bill O'Donnell	17
The Clash of the Carricks by Michael O'Meara ..	21
Bord nanOg by P. S. O'Meachair	23
Scor All-Irelands by Gerry Slevin	27
Advice for Coaches and Hurlers by Donie Nealon	29
Tipperary's Most Remarkable Year? by John Clarke	35
Borris-Ileigh Still Dominate by Gerry Slevin	39
The Marquee by Patricia Feehily	41
Tribute to Mick Moylan by Seamus O'Riain	43
Focal Molta by Seamus O'Riain	45
Tipperary's 21 Captains by Seamus O'Riain	47
County S.H.C. by Gerry Slevin	53
Double Triumph (1885) by Seamus O'Riain	55
A Long Wait by Gerry Slevin	57
Minor Football Board by Hugh Kennedy	59
Death of a Handball Champ by B. K. Wall	63
Jubilation in Jubilee by Gerry Slevin	65
1930 All-Ireland (Ballad)	77
Champions of '49 (Ballad)	91
Plus a host of photographs, snippets, etc.	

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We are indebted to Aer Lingus for our cover photograph; a fine action shot of Tipperary's John Kelly and John Rothwell, Cork, originally published in "Cara," the Aer Lingus in-flight magazine.



REAMHRA

Ta an ceathrú eagraí den mBlianiris Thíobrad Árann seo ós bhúr gcomhair arís imbliana. Chin Blianiris mar seo a fhoillsiú taimid ag brath ar thacaíocht na scríbhneoirí is lucht fograíochta Thar ceann Coisde Thíobrad Árann C.L.G. cuiream sé átas croí orm traoslú le gach uile duine a raibh baint ar bith aige leis an Iris seo a cuir amach comh dathúil, siúmúil agus go h-airithe. Tá fíor buíochas tuilte don eagarthóir crom cneasta ud Gearód Ó Sleibhin a treoraigh an iris ó thus go deire.

Since the foundation of the G.A.A. Tipperary has been to the forefront in every movement for the betterment of the Association. We are proud of the fact that we were one of the first counties to recognise the growing need for the production of a Year Book.

Down the years the Association has been criticised and perhaps with some justification for its lack of social amenities. In recent times a very definite move has been made to remedy this situation and silence those critics. The Association now has a great opportunity through its club development scheme of getting its members together to face the challenge of a new era. We in Tipperary can be proud of our part in the scheme, but its ultimate success depends to a large extent on a greater involvement by all our members and clubs. I wish to express our sincere thanks to all in-

dividuals and clubs who invested in the scheme on our behalf and look forward to their continued support.

Whilst we failed to win an All-Ireland title we can look back with satisfaction on the year just ended mainly because of the performances of our under age teams in hurling and football.

The highlight of the year was the winning of the Munster minor title after a lapse of eleven years. Although narrowly beaten by Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final, we can look with confidence to the bridging of a 15-year gap in 1974. Our minor and under 21 footballers lost narrowly to Kerry and Cork and our under 21 hurlers lost their title to Cork by the narrowest of margins.

A feature of our County championships was the return of Sarsfields minor hurlers and Loughmore senior footballers to win County titles after a long absence from the roll of honour.

These and all other activities on the home and inter-county scene are covered in this fourth number of our Year Book.

Tomas Oh Eadhra
Cathaoirleach,
C.L.G., Thíobrad Árann.



FOCAL ON EAGATHOIR

"Is there any point? there were no all-Ireland victories to celebrate?" This statement was made to me some time ago when it became known that the County Board would again publish a Year Book. It was a statement which, because of its narrow-mindedness and obvious lack of thought, merited nothing from me but a raising of the eye brows and a rather snide retort: "Is that so?"

True, in our last two issues we had All-Ireland victories to talk about but there would be very few Year Books if they were to be confined to counties that have achieved national success in the year just ended.

The winning of All-Irelands isn't everything. Far from it. Rather is it far more important to promote our games as entities in themselves. All-Irelands will follow. Be sure of that and in a county like Tipperary where activity is at a height all the year round, there is plenty to report as is evidenced in this year's issue, with which I feel very honoured to be associated once more.

Despite the fact that no national honours came our way on the playing fields (there were two Scor All-Irelands), it was an eventful year for Tipperary and if this book can be of some assistance in highlighting some of those events, it will have been worth while.

Once more I must record my indebtedness

to so many people, whose united and untiring efforts made it possible to produce the County's 4th successive Year Book—the contributors, the advertisers, photographers, Co. Board members under the leadership of Tom O'Hara, while a special word of personal thanks is due to the man who inspired the publication of a Year Book in 1970, Seamus O Riain, Development Officer and County Board P.R.O.

Freed of the onerous duties of Board Chairman which he carried out so effectively for three years, Seamus was this year able to devote more time to the Year Book and his assistance, guidance and encouragement were invaluable assets to me in my capacity as Editor.

My thanks also to the management and staff of **The Guardian**, Patrick J. Ryan, managing director, and Michael Moylan, works foreman, who ensured the utmost co-operation.

Finally—and it's a note one does not wish to end on—our apologies to camogie enthusiasts in the county for lack of coverage of their particular game in this issue. It is not an oversight and the blame must rest with the Camogie Board, which though asked to contribute to the issue, failed to respond in any way. We regret this very much because of the undoubted enthusiasm for the game in the county, but there was nothing we could do to overcome it.

Gearoid O'Slebhair

Aonach.

JOHN O'GRADY looks at a season when—

WE NEARLY WON SO MUCH—BUT ACTUALLY WON NOTHING

THE BEST SUMMARY of Tipperary's 1973 was given by a man who wouldn't have known one end of a hurley from the other. It was written a long time ago, by Charles Dickens. He put it into the mouth of Wilkins Micawber: "income twenty pounds, expenditure nineteen pounds, nineteen shillings and sixpence: result, happiness. Expenditure twenty pounds one shilling: result, misery." In hurling terms, win by a point and you have a champion side and satisfaction all round; lose by that point and the picture grows dark.

Tipperary had the latter experience. We so nearly won so much—and actually won nothing at all. Beaten by Bennis's last-gasp "70" in the atmospheric, fluctuating Munster final before the biggest congregation ever to enter the new-model Semple Stadium; beaten, even more agonisingly, in the League at Birr, where extra time had to be tacked onto a replay that, in Tipperary eyes, should never have been necessary.

What a League, for memories more painful than pleasing! Tipp's path to a qualifying place was marked by the game at Thurles against Cork. It raised hackles high in both counties over relative shares of responsibility; made a recurring Press topic over the closed season; and burst into heated controversy when the suspensions on King, Power, Keating and Corkman Hegarty were finally announced. A fine on Tipperary Co. Board for alleged failure to control matters was another point

of contention. It developed into a constitutional argument, complicated by the simultaneous introduction of the new system of administration at Croke Park, with uncertain dividing lines between the functions of Management and Activities Committees and the relationship of both to the Central Council. Protests were made by Tipperary and made in vain. Time, that capable healer, has by now soothed feelings; and the severe sentences are coming to an end. And, happily, the damage feared to relations between two potent hurling counties has proved to be of no significant account. For that, all may be grateful; rivalry must be healthy to be worthwhile. A sad September afternoon provided a chance to show that Tipperary could rise above bitterness and make the right gesture. It occurred on Fennor Hill when the remains of "Weeshie" Murphy entered Tipperary soil on the way to Cork, and the Co. Board were there

in strength to lay a respectful wreath on the coffin.

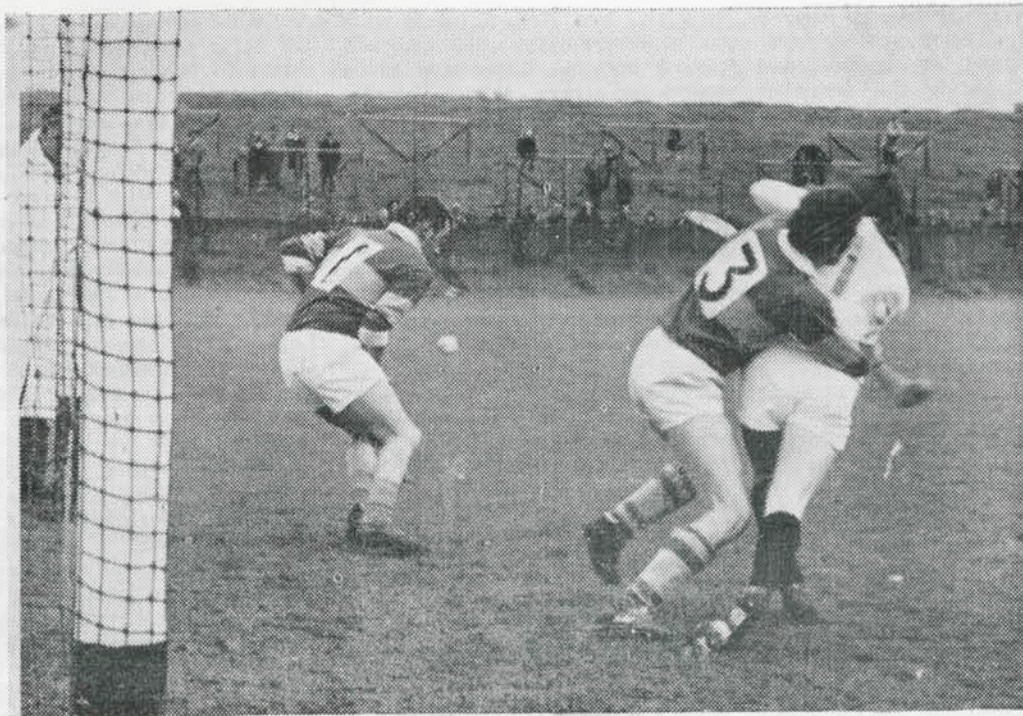
NO NEW NAME

Tipperary's senior panel bore a familiar look from first to last; no new names varied the mixture. One old one made a welcome re-entry when Mick Roche came back for the championship. And another of earlier vintage still, reappeared briefly when Jimmy Doyle was called back in a goal-keeping emergency and added to his long record the novelty of a championship "cap" in goal in the senior grade against Waterford.

The League's later stage exposed a flaw that has never been much associated with Tipperary: defensive weakness. Through our history we have suffered much more from a lack of class forwards. Dour, hard, determined backmen have generally been available when little else was to be got.

We met Limerick at Kilkenny in the League semi-final—and met them a few weeks after in Birr for the same purpose. At Nowlan Park, a venue that emerged out of an indisposition to toss for home or away, Tipperary had it seemingly won with five minutes to go. More than a few spectators were well on their way to their cars and were puzzled to know the reason for the two outbursts of sound from the Park. Each, alas, was evoked by an O'Donoghue goal as our packed defence failed to hold tight.

At Birr, sensation came early: Gleeson went to the line, perhaps suffering a little because the referee didn't want to risk a repetition of the Thurles happenings under his charge. The loss did not ruffle Tipperary. For most of the hour they hurled excellently and held a sound lead. A couple of simple muffs on easy balls gave Limerick an opening to rally. In the end it all came down to another Nowlan Park situation—a Limerick free, a goal needed, time nearly up. And again, when nothing less would suffice, Limerick got their goal, from Cregan. Extra time after much confusion and delay; Tipperary break fast with a Loughnane goal, go five points up



Recalled to fill the Number 1 spot in Tipperary's first round Munster championship game against Waterford was Jimmy Doyle, see here in action during the first half of the game. Jimmy, of course, was one of the greatest forwards the game ever produced but he began his inter-county career in goals when he played for the Tipperary minors back in 1954.

in the opening session, now with fifteen men afield. But, incredibly and depressingly, the defence weakened, the green flags waved and we were out of that eventful League.

THE BIG APPLE

The Championship is always the Big Apple. The hurling world contained no obvious favourite, no county possessing a super-side that had only to play normally to win. Certainly Tipperary could only train, and hope to be at their best in the hours that mattered. The omens were not improved by the ill-timed doubts about the goal-keeping—a department where Tipperary have seldom been in real trouble. Roscrea's Murphy, talented but unpredictable, was dropped from the panel after Birr. Jimmy Doyle had been added to the squad earlier as a dual-purpose recruit, but goalkeeping was thought by some to be a risky novelty for him at his veteran stage in the testing pressure of the highest grade of

all. Others felt that it would be a pity not to see the question put to the test, one way or the other.

We got the test, but hardly the definite answer. Jimmy played against Waterford at Thurles and did respectably after a first-minute goal, but the approach of the Cork test in the semi-final saw mentors drop the experiment and recall Murphy. We hadn't shone again a Waterford team that may be on the way up; it was late when Dinny Ryan turned in a ball to make it safe.

Roche had re-appeared, less than fully fit but still swinging a stick with a grace that isn't matched by anyone. For the Cork game he was put at centre-forward, not to everyone's agreement. The big day was at Limerick. Would the League events put too much bite into it? They did not—good behaviour all round, even to the point of damping the usual fervour of the storied clash.

Early signs, and signs a not so early, promised little for Tipperary.

Malone's good goal near half-time was a blow. Third quarter play still favoured Cork, who led by enough to look fairly safe against a team that wasn't scoring despite lots of attacking. Roche was predictably uneasy among the attackers. Came, amazingly and delightfully, a rush of goals that swept Cork out of it, to their obvious bewilderment. Flanagan began by pushing one home from a scramble; then big Roger Ryan took a devastating hand, adding two swift goals to the good one he had notched after ten minutes. Cork had been beaten and the year was assured of some satisfaction, whatever lay in store.

Limerick, hard run by Clare at Thurles, lost a toss and returned to the Stadium for the provincial final. Their main objective was to do in the championship what they had done often enough in the league but failed to do in Killarney back in 1971.

It was a wonderful hurling occasion. Basic ingredient was a day

of utter perfection which drew a vast crowd among whom white shirts gleamed on terrace and stand, highlighting the array of team favours and flags. Even a loser would have to be happy that great Thurles days had made a glorious return.

THE CLIMAX

And losers, marginally but unalterably, we were! Who will forget the climax? Richie Bennis bending over that seventy, knowing what we all knew about its meaning, lifting well and striking hard. Eyes followed it, in hope or fear. Eyes switched to the umpire. He steps forward, makes the beginnings of a gesture of wide in the tension of the moment—and reaches for the fatal flag. After eighty minutes, the minimum sends Limerick onward to eventual Croke Park triumph, and Tipperary to wonder how things might have been made go the other way.

When least wanted, our lack of size and strength in the inner defence, compounded by failings on the outer fringe, have proved ex-

pensive. Ned Rea, a full-forward converted from the other end, had played personal havoc and made scores for others. Goalie Murphy, bumped about more than any Tipp goalie since John Mackey ruffled our defence in the 1946-'48 period, had little chance on any of half a dozen goals. When he saved, fouls too often spoiled the effort.

An early and continuing lack of command at centre-back did not get remedial measures from the bench, though Roche or O'Dwyer looked to be readymade material. We battled on with admirable heart against the body-blows of repeated goals. Three great saves by Horgan in goal stopped the recovery short of success. As it boiled down to the frantic final passages a Flanagan point brought Tipperary level; but Limerick got the decision, and no Tipperaryman could deny their merit, heart or entitlement to a Munster title after long absence from the roll.

What has happened since? Early League games have been bedevilled by absence of our best forwards and it will be a struggle to qualify.

A team-building campaign is on, but it is early to judge. Roche seems to be permanently retiring this time, a pity as he is among the nation's best even now. Emphasis is on finding strong defenders to protect a goalie—and to learn what goalie is most worth protection. At the other end, we seem to have given up hope on a number of forwards who have had lots of chances and never quite reached true inter-county standard. Loughnane, Flanagan, Keating and O'Dwyer form a useful nucleus but we require a few more. Kehoe of Kilsheelan may prove to be of the class needed.

So we face 1974, uncertain but far from hopeless. A winning team, or at least one that could conceivably win, is essential for the peace of mind of every true Tipperary man, woman or child. We've had such regular acquaintance with success in the past fifteen years that anything less is unacceptable. So hurl on Tipp, and may the close decisions that went against us in 1973 go the proper way in the year ahead.

FOR SELECTION AND VALUE IN SPORTSWEAR AND EQUIPMENT

Agents for
Adidas, Gola Blackthorn
Football Boots
Road Shoes
Running Shoes

TRACK SUITS
in Bri-Nylon
Heavy Cotton
and
Towelling

FOOTBALL TOGS
Top Styles in
Bri-Nylon and Cotton
White, Red, Green,
Black and Blues

Hurling Balls, Footballs, Badminton and Tennis Racquets, Shinguards, Jock Straps,
Tennis Shoes, Golf Shoes, Huge Selection of Football Socks

LET US QUOTE YOU FOR YOUR NEXT SET OF FOOTBALL JERSEYS
LARGEST AND BEST RANGE OF GENTS' SUITS IN MUNSTER

Gough, O'Keeffe & Naughton Ltd.
General Drapery, Boot & Shoe Warehouse & Furniture, Nenagh

COUNTY S.F.C.

A FIRST FOR LOUGHMORE UNDER OPEN DRAW SYSTEM

On Sunday, 21st October, 1973, Loughmore-Castleiney became the first team from outside the South Division to win the County Senior Football crown since the introduction of the "open draw" championship in 1968.

To many the Mid Tipperary combination were surprise champions but all who witnessed the decider against Ardfinnan in Cashel on that October Sunday were left in no doubt as to the merit of their victory, which was received with great jubilation by hundreds of enthusiastic supporters.

En route to the final Loughmore had come through a tough campaign with surprising ease but few outside the Mid Division could have regarded them as championship contenders early in the year.

A decisive victory over holders Kilsheelan in the South Tipperary League in Fethard at that stage, however, really kindled the enthusiasm of Loughmore-Castleiney. They realised that with the proper approach and spirit the talent was available to make a bold championship challenge and they keenly looked forward to the draw which gave them a first round bye and then the rather daunting prospect of having to overcome Clonmel Commercials and Fethard if they were to become the first non South team to reach the semi-final in the new style championship.

People really began to sit up and take notice when they thrashed Commercials in Cashel in July and then went on to repeat the dose against Galtee Rovers, surprise conquerors of Fethard, in the quarter final. At the other end of the draw South teams were doing well though holders Kilsheelan had a very hard battle to get the better of Kilruane McDonagh and a place in the last four. As expected, oft-times finalists Ardfinnan came through in impressive style and

Moyle Rovers, with good wins over Lattin-Cullen. Multeen Rovers and Aravale Rovers were the other qualifiers.

SEMI-FINALS

Both semi-finals were played in Cashel on October 7th with Loughmore/Castleiney paired with Moyle Rovers and Ardfinnan facing Kilsheelan in a repeat of the 1972 decider.

In the opening game Loughmore were always in control against an off form Moyle Rovers and having led by 0-9 to 0-2 at the break, their final winning margin was 2-13 to 1-4. It was hard to assess Loughmore on this display but they looked a strong, well-balanced side likely to give a good account of themselves against any opposition.

The second semi-final proved a major disappointment. From the very beginning it was obvious that there was too much "needle" in the game for it to produce open attractive football. It produced a litany of incidents which culminated in a massive invasion of the pitch by spectators in the closing minutes. Play was held up for ten minutes but eventually the spectators cleared away and the game was restarted. The result was a rather comfortable 1-12 to 1-5 win for Ardfinnan who went on to the final in confident mood.

The final was again played in Cashel with George Ryan (Lattin-Cullen) as referee. A glorious spring-like day and a very large attendance provided a perfect setting but for much of the hour the game failed to rise above the mediocre. In the opening half Ardfinnan had far more play and opportunities but they got little

By MICHAEL O'MEARA

change from the Loughmore defence and could only turn over with an 0-5 to 0-3 interval lead.

Loughmore had the better of matters early in the second half and drew level after eight minutes with points from Sean Kearney and Jim Healy. Points were exchanged but scores were generally hard to come by with both defences having the edge. Eight minutes from time Michael Keating put Ardfinnan 0-7 to 0-6 ahead but Loughmore came back for a Tom Maher equaliser. The last five minutes provided the best entertainment of the hour and a dramatic finale. Eddie Webster flighted a long range free into the Ardfinnan goalmouth and full-forward Johnsie Burke deflected the ball past the Ardfinnan defence to set Loughmore alight. Webster added a point almost immediately and Sean Kearney goaled from a free to put the issue beyond all doubt. Two further points were added in the last minute as a confused and bewildered Ardfinnan crumbled before a rampant Loughmore. The final almost unbelievable scoreline read: Loughmore-Castleiney 2-10; Ardfinnan, 0-7, and there were scenes of great jubilation from Loughmore supporters as Tom Hayes received the championship trophy from County Chairman Tom O'Hara.

TEAM EFFORT

This was very much a team effort from Loughmore-Castleiney but it was fitting that their two big names, Eddie Webster and Sean Kearney, who have graced



LOUGHMORE BRING FOOTBALL TITLE TO THE MID

Not since 1962, when it was won by St. Flannan's (North) has the County S.F.C. left the South division, but this year that grip was loosened when Mid men Loughmore-Castleiney won the title at the expense of Ardinnan. The men who brought the title to the Mid division are pictured above. For good measure they took the Mid title as well with a big victory over neighbours Templemore in the final.

the inter-county scene for so long with little tangible reward, were the major contributors to the victory. Webster was the best man afield but Kearney, who accounted for 1-5 of his side's tally, was little behind. Tom Maher, Tom Hayes (who played a true captain's part), Johnsie Burke, Pat, Gerry and Eddie Stapleton were others to figure prominently though every man of the fifteen as well as each substitute played his heart out.

Defeat for Ardfinnan was a big disappointment to their players and supporters. They have seldom enjoyed much luck in county finals and they must be still wondering just what happened in those final minutes. They were a match for their opponents through the field for much of the hour and in the end hardly deserved to be beaten by a nine point margin. Their leading players were Aidan O'Mahoney,

Eamonn O'Gorman, John Cummins, Liam Myles and Michael Keating.

Loughmore-Castleiney now take the helm at inter-county level.

Many feel that their win can only do good for football in the county and if they can bring their enthusiasm, strength, fitness and dedication to bear on the county fifteen their reign as champions could well be crowned with inter-county success.

OBJECTION

The only occasion on which an All-Ireland semi-final was won on an objection was in 1900 when Clonmel Shamrocks, who had lost 0-8 to 0-9 to Slate Quarries, Kilkenny, had their objection to the winners upheld by the Central Council.

STOP THIEF!

At a tournament semi-final at Ballycahill in 1887 between Holycross and Carrigatoher, a Holycross supporter, dismayed at seeing his team not doing so well, decided to take a hand in the proceedings. Pulling up one of the uprights he raced out of the field and as some time elapsed before pursuit was undertaken, the game was held up for a considerable time before the "thief" was relieved of his booty.

However, his intervention was successful, as benefitting from the rest, Holycross rallied to win the game.

At the final at Nenagh some time later, a special watch was kept on the posts and on that enterprising Holycross supporter.

Shamrock Bus Service

THURLES. Tel. 16

*LUXURY COACHES
FOR ALL OCCASIONS*

Teams—Parties—School & Business Outings
Tours, etc.

T. WESTON & SONS

*Watchmakers
and Jewellers*

Large selection of Engagement Rings

AGENTS FOR

LANCO, CERTINA, SEIKO & TIMEX WATCHES

TROPHIES FOR ALL SPORTS IN STOCK

O'CONNELL ST., CLONMEL

SO NEAR—BUT THERE'S ALWAYS NEXT YEAR

GERRY SLEVIN examines
Tipperary's leap from
the darkness

IT WAS A break through, to say the least of it. The Munster minor hurling title was re-captured after an eleven-year lapse. We then thought we could win an All-Ireland, and didn't, but even so, things are definitely on the upgrade as far as our oft maligned minors are concerned.

Could it be that the criticism that has been showered on our minors over the past number of years fired the 1973 contingent to a "Show 'em how" attitude? If so, it was as good as reason as any for the rise of our minors from that of unconsidered also rans to the pinnacle of success in the Munster championship. Obviously the proper blend was there but that wasn't all. The blend could not have been worked into a championship winning outfit without proper preparation and it must be readily admitted that our preparation prior to 1973 wasn't all that one would have desired.

It wasn't the fault of the men in charge, though. No. Tommy Barrett went over all this in last year's issue and concluded from his discussions with people connected with the minors and other knowledgeable personages, that the attraction of wearing the blue and gold jersey that has inspired numerous Tipperary men to reach unassailable heights, was not what it used to be. What happened, therefore, to make for such a change in 1973? Surely a county that had fared so miserably to Cork the previous year—with many of this year's players in action—could not get the proper inspiration with the drop of a hat.

SPECIAL COMPETITION

No, what really started it all was a decision of the Munster Council to go along with a suggestion from its Vice-Chairman, Nicholas Mac-Craith of Waterford, early in the year, to hold a special minor hurling competition, on similar lines to its special football one. It was not to be a strictly county versus county affair. Take Tipperary, for example. North and West combined as one team, with Mid and South making up another and these selections gave the men in charge an opportunity to cast their eyes over the available talent in the county. How often had we heard it said—there isn't the talent there in minor grade—Piffle, nothing short of it. Of course the talent was there. The County minor championship each year proved this and during the progress of this special competition in Munster, any one who was anything was sifted out and given a proper trial, unlike the hurried affairs of the years in the immediate past. The North/West combination succeeded in reaching the final. The same luck didn't follow the allies from the other divisions but they had a feather in their cap in that they disposed of a strong Cork side.

Things were now taking shape and we began to see a dedication among the players who were never short of match practice and of playing together. Tipperary were invited to participate in a four-county league, involving also Offaly, Galway and Laois. We won it. A panel for the county team

was selected and we watched and waited as their opening game drew near. Waterford would be providing the opposition and in Thurles there was more interest aroused in this game than in the senior one involving the same counties for the simple reason that, having been so long out of the reckoning, Tipp's supporters were anxious to see if all the preparation and all the enthusiasm that had been engendered would prove itself when the chips were down. It did. Now for Cork and it was here that we saw just how formidable a force Tipperary might once more be in minor grade. Cork people were of the opinion their side wasn't a patch on sides of former years. Still the sight of a red jersey has been known in the past to be sufficient, almost on its own, to oust us. These minors were not in the least bit daunted. Confident after their win over Waterford, that confidence grew and they showed tremendous skill and ability in toppling the Cork boys and putting themselves into the Munster final.

THE FINAL

Limerick, whose semi-final victory over Clare long before the final had given them ample time to prepare for the decider came to Thurles on that throbbing July day of which colleague John O'Grady speaks so magnificently in another page. They were good but they weren't good enough and after eleven years Tipperary had registered its name on the list of minor

provincial title winners. Now we were thinking of the All-Ireland final, but Galway were still there and on the following Sunday in Ennis, the glory that was Tipperary's took a nose dive. Maybe it was too soon after the exertions of the Munster final. Maybe Galway were under estimated. Whatever the reason, Tipperary fell. It was a disappointment, but towering over that disappointment was the satisfaction that the homework had been done well up as far as the Munster final. The spirit had returned. Galway went on to prove their victory was no flash in the pan when they did everything but beat Kilkenny in the final and this too gave cause for satisfaction here.

A start had been made, a very important start in Tipperary's road to the top in minor. Nothing but

good can come out of it and now that Thurles Sarsfields are at the helm of affairs again, who knows what the future will bring. We can only go forward.

GOAL SHY

Tipperary is the only county to appear in two successive All-Ireland (H) finals and fail to score a goal in either game. The years 1960, 0-11 v Wexford, and 1961, v Dublin 0-16.



The late Monty Carrie, chairman of the Cashel King Cormac Club, who met his death tragically during the year while driving some of his charges to a mid-week game



Tipperary and Limerick minors in action during the Munster final which Tipperary regained after an eleven years' lapse

MID MATTERS

SARSFIELDS COME IN FROM THE COLD

By MICHAEL DUNDON

HURLING IN Mid Tipperary was given a tremendous boost in 1973 by the emergence of Drom-Inch and the resurgence of Thurles Sarsfields, two factors which combined to produce one of the best senior championships for some time, but the division once again failed to capture the county senior title, something that will be the aim of all clubs for 1974.

Four years had elapsed since Sarsfields won the Mid senior title, and it was a great deal longer since they triumphed in the minor grade. The Thurles club has a proud tradition, and it is not accustomed to being out of the picture for too long, and at a most enthusiastic club convention new officers were elected, and under the guidance of chairman, Paddy Doyle, and secretary, Donal O'Gorman, "The Blues" set about restoring their image.

Training was commenced in the month of March, and a whole series of challenge games were undertaken. This was the earnestness that was to carry them to success later on. Earlier though, there were great doubts. A poor display against Boherlahan-Dualla, a shattering defeat at the hands of Drom-Inch, and a further loss in the county championship to Kilruane McDonagh did not augur well for the Thurles club.

However, the darkest hour comes before the dawn, and two weeks after their elimination by Kilruane from the county series, Sarsfields sparked to life with a resounding victory over Moycarkey/Borris, followed a week later by a great win over Moyne/Tem-

pletuohy in a thriller. Sarsfields were coming right into form.

In the meantime, Drom/Inch had been sweeping all before them, and their confidence increased with every victory. The game that really set them on the right road was their surprise victory over Moyne/Templetuohy and after this they never looked back. They followed it with wins over Sarsfields, and a walk-over from Moycarkey/Borris, and at the same time they were making steady progress in the county championship.

THE FINAL

Came the final at Templemore, a day favoured with brilliant sunshine, and an atmosphere reminiscent of the great finals of the past, a fitting occasion in every way. Drom/Inch were keyed up for a first success; Sarsfields needed the win to set them up for the coming year. Sarsfields' minors had set the pace for the seniors with a comfortable win over Holycross/Ballycahill, and in the early stage of the senior final, it was obvious that the seniors had taken note, for with Jimmy Doyle at his most accurate best, they pulled steadily away from their oppon-

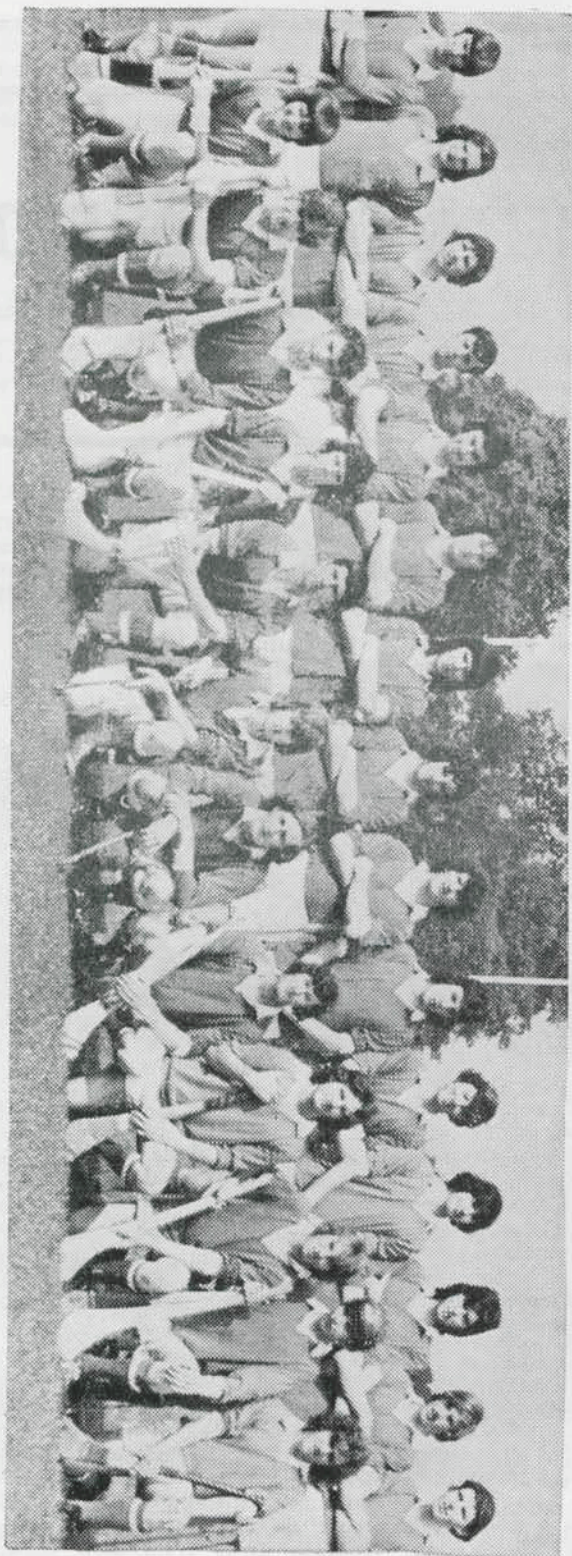
ents in the first twenty minutes.

Drom/Inch improved as their nervousness diminished, but their finishing let them down, and at the interval they were six points adrift of Sarsfields. A pair of Jimmy Doyle points on the resumption strengthened Sarsfields' hand, but then came the Drom/Inch rush that was to characterise their subsequent games. First, Oliver Quinn netted from a twenty-one yard free; then Paschal Ryan burst through from the right for another goal and to cap it all, Oliver Quinn netted another twenty-one yard free.

Now we had a game in earnest, and Sarsfields' mettle was put to the test. Points were exchanged in an exciting last quarter, and with time running out, Paul Byrne sent over a beautiful point from an acute angle to nose Sarsfields in front once more. Jimmy Doyle consolidated their position with another point, but Thurles were certainly glad to hear Dinny Bannon of Moycarkey whistle full-time.

Glory for Thurles, with a double victory, but Drom/Inch were to have their moment of triumph a week later when they ousted red-hot favourites Borris-Ileigh from the county championship. While Sarsfields took the cup, Drom/Inch will be remembered for the boost they gave the championship and they can look forward optimistically to '74.

And what of Jimmy Doyle's eleven points in the final—an indication that there is lots of hurling in the Thurles veteran yet. With former stars like Mickey



SARSFIELDS — MINOR KINGPINS

After a lapse of 16 years, the County minor hurling title has returned to Thurles Sarsfields who defeated Cashel in a thrilling decider. Front, left to right: G. Kelly, T. Maher, M. Maher, S. Cahill, T. Cullagh, J. Stapleton, T. Finn, S. Carroll, S. Johnson, S. O'Dea, P. McCormack, J. Doyle. Back, left to right: S. Maher, D. Maher, P. Stakelum, M. Grogan, T. Barry, K. Dwyer, N. Whelton, A. Ryan, T. Doyle, J. Fitzgerald, P. Callahan, G. Bryan, P. McCormack, M. Ryan, P. J. Hayes. Absent from the photo is P. Deegan.

Byrne, Mick Murphy, and Musha Maher at the helm, Sarsfields are hoping to recapture former glory in '74.

MINORS TOO

To stay with hurling, a word of praise to Sarsfields' minors on taking the county crown also, their first win at this level since '57. With thirteen of their selection eligible next year, they must stand a great chance of retaining the trophy. This year the rural area, Leugh/Rahealty, combined with the urban for a parish team, and the championship-winning formula is likely to be repeated for some time.

Gortnahoe / Glengoole retained their junior hurling title, defeating Upperchurch/Drombane in an exciting final of top-class hurling. The champions were favourites to retain the trophy, especially since they went to the county final last year, withdrawing when the County Board refused them a postponement sought because of injury to key players.

On their way to the final Gortnahoe/Glengoole trounced arch-rivals Fennellys, who had some hectic struggles with Upperchurch/Drombane in the league series, but generally, the competition did not come up to expectations, and the question of having two sections will have to be given serious consideration for '74.

Moycarkey/Borris' bid for a hat-trick of titles in the under 21 hurling grade was foiled by Moyne/Templetuohy who were later to emphasise their strength in this age-group by taking the football title also, that at the expense of a fancied Templemore.

In the No. 2 junior hurling final, Clonakenny got back into the picture by defeating Drom/Inch. It was ten years since Clonakenny won the title, and they make a welcome return to the No. 1 grade. Hard luck on Drom/Inch, though, losing their second Mid final.

Footballwise, 1973 was Loughmore/Castleiney's year, not because of anything they won in the Mid, but on account of their victory in the county senior final over

Ardfinnan. The bonfires blazed in both villages to herald the success which bridged an eighteen year gap. In fact, the '55 win was achieved by Loughmore on its own, so that the last all-parish triumph was in 1946. Loughmore showed their mastery in Mid also, taking the title in facile fashion against Templemore.

The junior football championship is not completed, and as stated, Templetuohy / Moyne captured the under 21 crown by defeating Templemore, but Templemore had the consolation of a victory in the minor grade.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

Those were the highlights on the playing fields, but there were other items of significance during the year. At the January convention, Mr Tom O'Hara, Gortnahoe, was re-elected chairman of the Mid Board, but a few weeks later, he was the unanimous choice for the county championship, a deserved honour. Mr Michael Small, Thurles, was elected to the divisional chair subsequently.

In the Scor competition, Boherlahan/Dualla's senior ballad group won the Munster title, and did the division and county proud in the all-Ireland finals, though the top award eluded them; Moycarkey/Borris juvenile set team brought the first all-Ireland title to the county and division in their grade.

Mention too must be made of the publication of the Tubberadora/Boherlahan Hurling Story by Mr Phil Ryan, NT. Such publications are always welcome, and congratulations are extended to Phil and the Boherlahan/Dualla club on their enterprise.

And so 1973 draws to a close, and its failures and achievements are now statistics for the historians. What does '74 hold? Who knows? But the indications are there that clubs in the division can look forward confidently to the New Year, and the senior clubs in particular will be hoping that one of them will once more bring back the Dan Breen Cup to the division.

RULE CHANGE:

better late...

There is nothing new about the call for rule changes in hurling to speed up the game. Over thirty years ago the decline of ground hurling was lamented and one of the greatest commentators on the game put forward the idea of a rule change in order to bring back the fast delivery without taking the ball in hand. This is what "Carbury" wrote in 1939.

"Even the best of our present-day teams cannot hit a ball more truly than did the Tubberadora, Blackrock, Mooncoin or Tulla men of a generation ago. Our young school of hurlers have developed a baneful habit of "lift and catch" before hitting. Many of our young school cannot hit a decent ball on the sod. 'Handling is the bane of present-day hurling. Had I my will, I should have a rule on the books to prohibit all handling from a direct lift. I know the temptation of a nice lift, catch and soaring drive is great. But it is a mortal sin in educational hurling. Blackrock and Tubberadora hurlers of old would not deign to lift a ball into their hands. 'Twas a sure proof of want of skill."

Now thirty-four years later, Carbury's wish may be realised if the proposal of the Rules Revision Committee is accepted.

CLAN AFFAIR

At a Boherlahan v Knockavilla game at Thurles in 1888, ten Mahers lined out with Boherlahan.

The Sportsman's Super Store

CLONMEL SPORTS CENTRE

6 MARY ST., CLONMEL



10% Discount
to all Clubs



Proprietors :

Michael "Babs" Keating, John O'Donoghue, Patrick O'Leary

A hive of activity on the Western

THE ANNUAL CONVENTION in West Tipperary last January, brought a change in the top executive post. Mr Anthony Doherty who had succeeded the long-serving Sean O Duir in 1970, held fast to his decision to retire after a three year term as chairman.

From the floor of the Convention, fast and sincerely, came the tributes from club delegates to this most popular official, who had, prior to his appointment to the chair, occupied the second-in-command spot, since the early forties. A measure of the popularity of this unassuming official may be gauged from the fact that he was elected to the County Board without the loss of a vote.

He was succeeded, as only fourth chairman of the Board founded in 1930, by Michael Frawley of the Emly club, the county's popular member of the Munster Council for the past few years. Michael had served his apprenticeship as vice-chairman for some years previously and his handling of affairs, when called upon, and great knowledge of the contents of the Official Guide, earned for him the unanimous approval of the delegates.

Fourteen clubs entered teams in the various grades, the largest number being in junior football. This competition, together with the senior hurling and senior football, had been run on a league basis last year and Convention this year decided to make no change, for the simple reason that all were highly successful and excellent money spinners.

NO. 1 JHC

The No. 1 Junior Hurling Championships drew an entry of eight teams. This competition is usually

confined to clubs which do not field teams in the senior grade. Solohead, Clonoulty/Rossmore and Lattin/Cullen, were expected to dominate the series, but the draw was unkind, bringing the first pair together with the winning Clonoulty/Rossmore meeting Lattin/Cullen in the semi-final. Those games were pretty good with the Clonoulty/Rossmore chaps going through to the final. Here they met Galtee Rovers who had come through impressively against Emly and Rockwell Rovers. The decider, played in Golden, in mid October, was a cut above the ordinary, with victory finally going to Rovers by a bare point.

The losers had a chance of drawing the game when the taker of a twenty-one yard free, in the closing seconds, failed to lift the ball sufficiently high.

From an entry of nine teams, Eire Og, Cashel, Sean Treacy's and Clonoulty/Rossmore, have come through to the semi-finals of the No. 2 Junior Hurling Championship.

We had nine hopefuls also in the Under 21 Hurling series, of which Clonoulty/Eire Og are champions. A whole day was given to the semi-finals at Golden. Clonoulty/Eire Og again reached that stage but made very heavy weather of beating Kickhams who looked anything but prepared for the fray. The other semi-final brought into opposition the near-men from Sean Treacy's and Cappawhite/Solohead. This was a ding-dong struggle from start to finish with grand bouts of play and ending in a narrow victory for the Cappawhite/Solohead en-

Front

says BILL O'DONNELL

tente. The champions then went on to retain their title.

Minor Hurling attracted an entry of nine aspirants to Cashel King Cormac's throne. The holders again managed to make the decider and beat Sean Treacy's.

With Clonoulty/Rossmore and Lattin/Cullen defecting the number of senior teams was reduced to seven. Early in May those seven set off in search of the crown worn by Golden/Kilfeacle.

During the early part of the year the Board decided to operate a gentleman's agreement whereby each senior team could pick two plays from junior clubs. All senior teams except Sean Treacy's and Cashel King Cormac's availed of the concession. Sean Treacy's finished the head of the table with ten points out of a possible dozen. Following closely on their heels came Kickhams, Cappawhite and Eire Og. The semi-finals brought Treacy's and Cappawhite together at Sean Treacy Park, with Eire Og drawing Kickhams as opponents. Eire Og and Treacy's came through their games in facile fashion and met in Cashel in the decider on November 4th. Up to midday on that occasion it did not look as if any game could have been played as



BALLINGARRY, COUNTY J.H. CHAMPIONS

After a lapse of 11 years, the County J.H.C. title has gone to the South Division. Ballingarry are the champions, having defeated Borrisokane in the final. The above team is the one that took the South title—Murt Duggan, who had such a big part to play in the county success, not being included here. Back, left to right: Jim Ivors, John Cashin, Mílo Molloy, Michael Hanrahan, Billy Scott (capt.), Matty Brennan, Sean Ivors, Billy Keogh (trainer), George Hayes. Front: Michael McGrath, Martin Brennan, Jim Molloy, Sean O'Brien, Dan Shelly, Michael Heaphy, Michael Ivors.

the weather dispensers let loose a five-hour floodgate. As a consequence the pitch was heavy and the fact that the Junior Football Final was played as a curtain raiser did not help in any way.

Despite the terrible underfoot conditions both teams served up quite a display of hurling with Treacys ahead at the interval by four points, on the score, Sean Treacys 1-5; Eire Og 0-4.

The biggest crowd of the year turned up to see this game and I doubt if any hurling enthusiast went away disappointed, as Treacys held out 1-8 to 0-8.

JFC

Almost every club in the Division entered a team in the Junior Football Championship. After a grand series of games, Cappawhite, Arravale Rovers, Golden/Kilfeacle, and holders Rockwell Rovers got through to the last four. Cappawhite and Golden/Kilfeacle beat the traditional football areas and met in the curtain raiser to the Senior Hurling Final, Cappawhite getting home by a goal.

The Senior Football League Championship is, at the moment, drifting towards its semi-final climax. It looks as if the last four will be Solohead, Galtee Rovers, Lattin/Cullen and holders Arravale Rovers. It is possible, however, that Multeen Rovers could yet throw a spanner in the works. They have coming engagements with Emly and champions, Arravale Rovers.

Under 21 Football brought eight clubs into contention for Arravale Rovers' crown. The standard all through in this competition was a little above the ordinary and the ultimate finalists, champions Arravale Rovers, and Latin/Emly, were hard put to make that stage. Down on Galtee Rovers' new pitch they met and a battle royal developed. Seesaw scoring was the order of the day with the combo failing by a bare point to the champions.

The Minor Football Championship proved to be a most enthusiastic competition with the nine-team entry striking might

and main for the laurels. Holders Arravale Rovers moved smoothly to the decider. Meanwhile in the lower half of the draw the teenagers from Cashel (charges of the late, lamented "Monto" Carrie) were quietly dealing with the challenges of Solohead/Cappawhite and Golden/Rockwell Rovers. Rovers and King Cormacs met in Golden in a curtain-raiser to the Senior Hurling Semi-Final and following a grand intelligent showing of the arts of football the challengers wrested the crown from the holders, not alone of the Divisional title, but also of the county. These successes by the Cashel King Cormac club are a natural sequence to the victories of the juvenile hurlers and footballers, to whose interests the good Christian Brothers and local G.A.A. administrators have been paying such attention over the past few years. This dedication is bound to be for the betterment of Gaelic Games in the ancient City of the Kings.

In the interim between the Adjourned Convention and the opening of the championships the Board ran knock-out competitions for Senior Hurling and Football.

CROSCO CUP

The trophy for the hurling winners was the Crosco Cup, presented over three decades ago, to the West Board, by the late Stephen Cross, a native of Anacarty. The holders of the trophy for the previous two years were, strangely enough, Eire Og, Anacarty. This year however, they surrendered it to Sean Treacys in the semi-final. The latter went on to win the trophy for the first time ever, beating Clonoulty/Rossmore in the decider.

The football trophy, the O'Donoghue Cup, was presented to the Board by the Lattin/Cullen club, to perpetuate the memory of the late Paddy O'Donoghue, a parishioner, and prominent inter-county player in his younger days. The first winners of the trophy (last season) were Arravale Rovers, with which club, the O'Donoghue family have had long and honourable associations.

Galtee Rovers, another club by association, would dearly love to number this Cup among its trophies. This year they have reached the final, by reason of two great victories over Emly and Multeen Rovers, and await the winners of another area which includes Arravale Rovers, Solohead and Aherlow.

The Board administrators hope to finish the championships before year's end. Judging by the numbers patronising the games all season, the receipts should be well up to those of last year, when the Board recouped some of the losses sustained the previous season.

May we express the hope that the season about to dawn will bring a continuance of support for the games of the Gael.

Blian nua fé shéan agus fé mhaise do cách.

CASTLEINEY'S JIM DAVY PASSES AWAY

Jim Davy who passed to his reward during the year was a regular member of Templemore and Tipperary S.F. teams from 1922 to 1928. He was of light build but possessed great energy and stamina on the field. He played in seven consecutive County S.F. finals in those years, losing to Fethard in 1922, 1923, 1924 and 1928. He was on the winning team that beat Fethard in 1925.

Jim won a J.F. All-Ireland in 1923 with Tipperary who beat Carlow at Croke Park, 2-6 to 1-1. He was on Tipperary S.F. team beaten by Kerry in Munster Final 1926. Others from Templemore on this Tipperary team were Arthur Carroll, Jim Ryan, Bill Ryan, Bill Grant and Mick Spillane.

In 1928 he was a member of the Tipperary S.F. team that beat Kerry 1-7 to 2-3 in Munster semi-final at Tipperary Town. He sustained a broken leg in this game following a clash with Kerry's John Joe Sheehy. This accident ended his football career at county level.

FOR FULL REPORTS
PREVIEWS

and

ALL UP TO DATE HAPPENINGS
in

THE G.A.A. WORLD

read

“THE GUARDIAN”

**We are happy to be associated with
this publication and extend good
wishes to the G. A. A. in Tipperary
in 1974.**

**The “Nenagh Guardian” Ltd.
13 Summerhill, Nenagh
Co. Tipperary**

Phone 214, 674

THE CLASH OF THE CARRICKS WAS MEMORABLE

1973 was an eventful, record breaking and often controversial year for Gaelic games in the South Division.

It will be remembered mainly as Carrick's year—a year when the two Carrick clubs, Swan and Davins, between them took three hurling titles and provided one of the big talking points of the year. There were many who said that it would be utter folly to play this final in Davin Park, but the clubs and field committee accepted the headaches and responsibilities involved. The game went on in Carrick and the outcome was a thrilling and ever-so sporting final and added greatly to the stature of the two clubs. Davins retained their title in good style but a young Swan team served notice on all that they will be a strong force to be reckoned with for some time to come.

Veteran Noel Walsh was a popular Davins captain and he played a leading part in their victory with strong support from Mick Roche, P. J. Ryan, Jackie Walsh, Joe Kennedy and Jimmy Ryan.

Swan had excellent hurlers in goalie Danny Walsh, Tony and Sean Fitzpatrick, Tony Conlon and Maurice Walsh.

Swan had ample compensation for their senior defeat by bringing off a minor and under 21 double. The minor decider produced one of the most exciting games of the year with Swan just holding out by the narrowest of margins against a Cahir/Moyle Rovers combination that surprised all by their skill and enthusiasm. Here again the standard of sportsmanship left nothing to be desired but unhappily this was not the case in the under 21 final in which Swan defeated Ballingarry. This game was a thrill-a-minute encounter which threatened to boil over on occasions and which saw five players sent to the line.

On a happier note, there was

great rejoicing in Killenaule when the local junior hurlers, after many years out of the honours' lists, captured the championship with a good win over Ballingarry after a fine game.

BALLINGARRY'S YEAR

Ballingarry had a well deserved turn of luck in the intermediate championship when they proved far too strong for Cahir, having earlier accounted for Newcastle and Kilsheelan. They were even more impressive in defeating junior champions Killenaule in the play-off for the right to contest the county semi-final where they defeated Galtee Rovers and ended the season on top of the world—by defeating Borrisokane in the county final.

Ballingarry have extremely talented hurlers in George Hayes, Matty and Martin Brennan, Dave Shelley, Michael, Sean and Jimmy Ivors, the Molloy brothers, and team captain Billy Scott.

In junior football, holders Mullinahone retained their title and are promoted to senior ranks for the coming year. Mullinahone's final opponents were Cahir whose brave challenge failed by only the narrowest of margins. A record number of twenty teams participated in this competition and Mullinahone's other victims included St Luke's, St Patrick's and Ballyporeen.

Clonmel Commercials regained the minor football crown after a lapse of a number of years when they defeated Cahir/Moyle Rovers in a one-sided final. Commercials were able to call on Paul Stapleton, Gene McGrath, Michael Friberg and Anthony McDonagh of the County panel and shaped as a useful side that should bring County honours to the Division.

The senior football championship provided one of the best de-

ciders in recent years. It brought together County semi-finalists Moyle Rovers and defeated finalists Ardfinnan with pre-match opinion strongly favouring Ardfinnan whose last success was gained in 1968.

Ardinnan took an early lead and seemed on the way to an easy win when the scoreboard showed them 1-4 to 0-0 ahead in the first quarter. Moyle Rovers, appearing in only their second final, staged a great recovery however and the score stood at 1-5 to 0-6 when just on half-time a Moyle Rovers defender had the misfortune to concede an own goal. Undaunted, the Powerstown-Lisronagh combination put in a great second-half effort which yielded a fine goal by Hugh McCarthy and which reduced Ardfinnan's lead to the narrowest margin. In an exciting finish, however, Ardfinnan got back on top though their final five-point winning margin did little justice to Moyle Rovers' gallant effort.

Aidan O'Mahony capped a great year with a fine defensive display for Ardfinnan whose other heroes were Jim Healy, John Cummins, a quieter than usual Mick Keating, Liam Myles and substitute Pete Savage, Dinny McGrath, Paddy Boyle, Tommy Harvey, Tom Marley, Jimmy Cleary and John Grace turned in fine performances for the losers.

At the time of writing, the under 21 football decider between St. Augustine's (Fethard-Kilsheelan) and St. Nicholas (Carrick-on-Suir) remains to be played. League competitions in senior and junior football and intermediate and junior hurling are being continued during the winter months and with an earlier than ever start contemplated for the 1974 competitions, these leagues should provide useful pipe-openers for what promises to be another eventful year.



CARRICK DAVINS—Senior hurling champions of the South division. Standing, left to right: Noel Walshe, Michael Ryan, Joe Kennedy, Michael Butler, Jimmy Ryan, Mick Roche, Jimmy Roche, John O'Neill. Front, left to right: Michael Ryan, Tommy Waters, Jackie Walsh, Richard Foran, Eddie Walsh, Michael Walsh, Michael Hassett, P. J. Ryan, Willie Mackey.

A BUMPER YEAR FOR BORD NA nOG

By P. S. O MEACHAIR

MAYBE YOU ARE a good musician, an artist, an actor. If you are, its more than likely that you have developed these talents because of attention to them at an early age. Hurling too is an art, as is football, and it's an established fact that in order to acquire the proper skills of these games, the training and coaching received in one's tender years is vital. Tipp may be out of the honours list for 1973 but we can rest assured that taking the long term view point, hurling and football will be alive and kicking in the Premier County for many years to come.

The county's tradition alone should see to this, but there is more to it, and with a body of men who form Bord na nOg giving their unstinted and undivided attention in the interests of the men of tomorrow, Tipperary has every reason to look forward to a continuation of its reign as the Premier County.

To say that Bord na nOg activities are thriving in the county would be understating the fact. From the under 12 age group right up to minor, there are competitions galore to whet the appetite of our young hurlers and footballers—all organised efficiently and splendidly by Bord na nOg, whose members receive nothing but the satisfaction of seeing our national games go from strength to strength.

Two years ago, Bord na nOg came to the notice of the country at large in a major way through its handling of Felle na nGael, a feat that was repeated with even more success the following year. It is blessed in its anchor men, Chairman Willie Ryan from Clonoulty and Secretary Tom Kirby from Kilruane who couples his task with a similar post within his own senior club—one of the most progressive clubs in the county.

A measure of the dedication of the Board members can be gauged from the fact that since the County Convention was held in February, no fewer than 14 County Board meetings have been held up to November. And these are not just "talk sessions." There's work to be done, lots of it, and the number of competitions being looked after is proof positive of the interest there is in providing for the young boys plenty of opportunity to develop their efficiency as hurlers and footballers. It is to be earnestly hoped that this great work is appre-

ciated and that as the years roll on, the players of tomorrow will give back something to the county in a very tangible way through their continued dedication to the games we all love.

It is encouraging to know that the Bord na nOg competitions are provoking good keen rivalry with plenty of honest to goodness fare in games that for the most part are a delight to watch. The real pity is that because of over loaded schedules of the senior boards there is little opportunity to see these exhibitions on Sunday afternoons, hence the necessity of having to play so many games on week evenings.

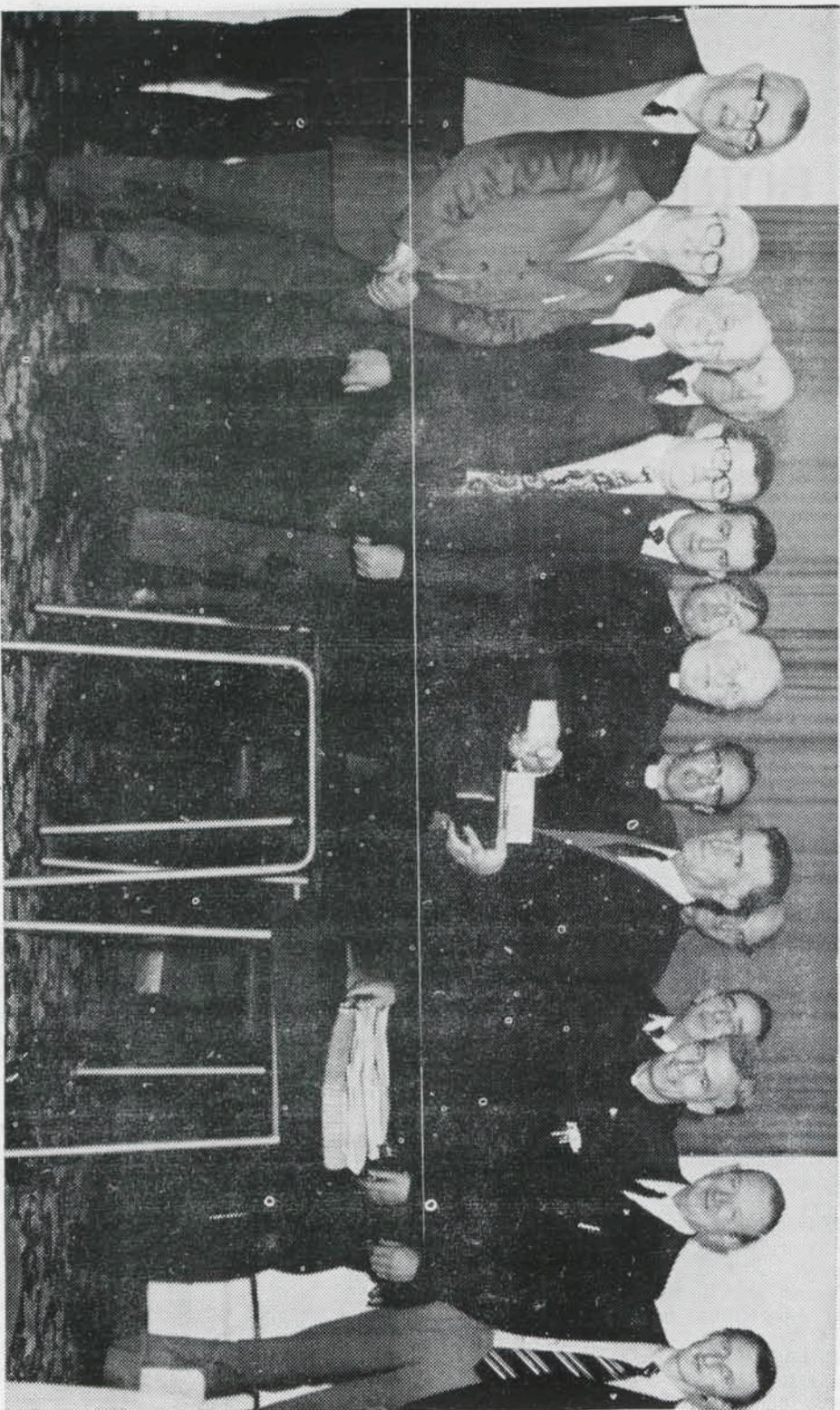
Hereunder are the results of the semi-finals and finals in the various competitions but it must also be remembered that at divisional level the games are fostered with the same avidity as at county level. There is no lack of enthusiasm; no lack of interest and dedication, and there is no better way of spending a summer's evening than by going along to one of the many venues throughout the county and watching the fervour and spirit of the young boys, as they strive to uphold the honour of the parish.

Two men who did so much of the spade work in the early days of Bord na nOg passed to their eternal reward during the year, Michael Moylan and Michael O'Carroll. Their loss to the Bord is sorely felt. Ar dheis De go raibh a nanamnacha dilis.

Also during the year, Rev. Brother Noonan was transferred from Cashel CBS to Tralee, thereby severing a solid connection with the Bord and making for a great loss to the youth of Cashel.

Bord na nOg has also delived itself into the realms of Scor with outstanding success, and it was the first Bord to organise Scor competitions for boys and girls under 16 years. This was soon taken up by the Scor Central Committee, culminating in the first All-Ireland Scor na nOg finals in Clara last February. Fittingly, Tipperary got in the honours list through the Moycarkey Set Dancers, who in addition to that distinction, had the honour of being the first recipients of a fine trophy presented to the Bord for juvenile set dancing by Mr and Mrs Philip Cleary, The Watch-Centre, Nenagh.

There will be yet another first for Bord na nOg



Rev. Brother Noonan, Cashel C.B.S., was fittingly honoured by County Bord na nOg on his transfer to Tralee during the year and his tremendous work for the youth of Cashel and for the Board was recognised when he received a presentation on behalf of the Board from its Chairman, Mr Willie Ryan. Bro. Noonan is seen here receiving the presentation while members of Bord na nOg stand around.

on December 16th when a dinner dance is held at Thurles. This is one occasion when the gallant Bord members will have an opportunity to sit back and relax and reflect on the great year just ended. No doubt their overriding thought will be—it was well worth while.

RESULTS

Under 12 Hurling

Semi-Finals: Cashel beat Loughmore / Castle-inney. Borris-Ileigh won second semi-final on an objection to Newcastle.

County Final: Cashel beat Borris-Ileigh.

Under 14 Football, Urban/Rural

County Semi-Finals: Eire Og, Nenagh, beat Loughmore; Commercials beat Arravale Rovers.

County Final: Commercials beat Eire Og, Nenagh.

Under 14 Football, Rural

County Semi-Finals: Moycarkey beat Kilruane, Emly beat Ballyporeen.

County Final: Emly beat Moycarkey, but lost the game on an objection.

County Play-Off (Turas na nOg): Commercials beat Moycarkey.

Under 16 Hurling

County Semi-Finals: Holycross beat St Mary's, Clonmel; Cashel beat Kilruane.

County Final: Holycross beat Cashel.

Under 14 Hurling, Rural

Semi-Finals: Kilruane beat Cashel, Boherlahan beat Ballingarry.

County Final: Kilruane beat Boherlahan.

Under 14 Urban/Rural Hurling

Semi-Finals: Cashel beat Boherlahan, Eire Og beat St Mary's, Clonmel.

County Final: Eire Og beat Cashel.

Under 12 Football

County Semi-Finals: Loughmore beat Cashel; Eire Og, Nenagh, beat Ballingarry.

County Final: Loughmore beat Eire Og, Nenagh.

Under 16 Football

This competition is unfinished at semi-final stage.

(1) Eire Og, Nenagh, play St Patrick's, Thurles; (2) West winners play South winners.

SHERLOCK'S GARAGE

(Proprietor: J. SHERLOCK)

ORMOND STREET, NENAGH

VOLKSWAGON DEALER

and

MAIN AUDI DEALER

Factory Trained Staff

Telephone: NENAGH 451



CARTRACK

LTD.,

THURLES

Massey-Ferguson

and

Fiat Main Dealers

When in Thurles call to our Showrooms and inspect our Fiat Car Range. You are sure to find the Car suitable for your requirements from the following models:

FIAT 127, 128 124, 124 SPECIAL,

124 ESTATE, 132 and 132 SPECIAL

Our staff have been specially trained to service these models

Phone: Thurles 226 & 467

GLENARA

GLOVE

CO.

BANSHA,

TIPPERARY

- ★ SHEEPSKIN
- ★ LEATHER LINED
- and
- ★ UNLINED GLOVES

TRADE ONLY

Tel.: 062 - 54102

VOICE AND HARP—A WINNING COMBINATION

YOU HAVE five seconds to answer this question. How many All-Ireland titles did Tipperary win in 1973? None? You're wrong, of course. Success may have eluded us on the hurling and football field but at last we made our mark in the Scor competitions and to ballad singer Josephine Barry from St. Mary's, Clonmel, and to the young set dancers from Moycarkey went the honour of putting Tipperary on the title winning list for the first time since these exceedingly popular winter talent competitions were introduced in late 1969.

and Moycarkey's young set dancers gave us a title too



Josephine Barry, St. Mary's, Clonmel, All-Ireland Scor champion in solo ballad singing

Josephine, complete with harp had the honour and privilege of winning the senior ballad title in Dublin's famed Gaiety Theatre on Sunday, April 8th, while on Saturday night, February 3rd, in Clara, the Moycarkey Set Dancers took their award in the first ever Scor na nOg All-Ireland finals. These were the victors, and deserving winners they were too, and while all are delighted that the ultimate honours came their way, the hundreds of competitors throughout Tipperary who participated from club level right up to Munster final must not be forgotten. After all, these competitions were not founded primarily in order to win medals, plaques or cups. The aim behind them when they first came on the scene in 1969 was to stimulate interest among the clubs in the many facets of our Irish culture that are so near and dear to all of us and to make clubs realise that the be all and end all of its activities should not rest with getting hurling and football teams on to a field and winning games there. No, the Scor competitions have made club officials see the wonderful value the promotion of these exercises can give and there is no doubt that Tipperary's participation in Scor since its inception serves as a model for most other counties, in the enthusiasm of all clubs not to mention the huge following that attend the various stages from club level right up to the All-Ireland finals.

KNOCKING AT THE DOOR

It's always nice to win, of course, and Tipp had been knocking at the door without ultimate success over the past few years. Eventually the door was opened and Tipperary got into the title list. I had the privilege of acting as adjudicator in the recitation and novelty act sections at the All-Ireland finals, and I must say that every Tipperary man and woman present in the Gaiety Theatre felt ex-

tremely proud when Josephine sang her way into the hearts of all with her own harp accompaniment. It was indeed a great performance as was that of the Moycarkey set dancers, who with their hordes of cheering supporters lifted the roof in Clara and left no doubt in any one's mind as to their proficiency and ability.

Nor must we forget the balladeers from Boherlahan, who also represented us in the All-Ireland senior finals. They came through a hard campaign in Tipperary and in Munster and acquitted themselves very well at the final stage.

But reverting to our own competitions at home, we can readily see the grip Scor has got on the public. Each of the four divisional finals drew packed audiences and the county final in Thurles attracted another magnificent audience from all over the county. The attendance at the Munster final, also in Thurles, had to be seen to be believed. The competitions were billed to commence at 8.00 p.m. Before 7.30 p.m. there wasn't a vacant inch

in the spacious Premier Hall and many enthusiasts from far away parts had to go home disappointed. There just wasn't enough room to accommodate all who were so anxious to see the competitions.

HAS COME TO STAY

This was the first year in which the Under 16 Competitions, Scor na nOg, were brought to their proper conclusion with an All-Ireland final and it is probably safe to say, that this age group has attracted more interest and enthusiasm than the adult one. Certainly the enthusiasm was every bit as strong and as fervent and the county can look forward to many more enjoyable nights over the winter months when club and county fervour raises its head as was never thought imaginable. Scor has come to stay. The clubs have entered into the spirit of it. The competitors too. And even the attraction of television has failed to dampen the enthusiasm either from a participation or attendance point of view.



Moycarkey under 16 set dancing team, which brought All-Ireland honours to the county when winning the National Scor na nOg title in Clara in February. Standing, left to right: Paddy Cooney (trainer), Mary Ryan, Michael Cooney, Betty Ryan, Liam Troy, Sadie Hayes, Sean Hayes, Josie Hayes, P. J. Kelly and Mrs Troy (trainer). Seamus Cooney and Dan Taylor were the musicians.

Some advice for coaches and hurlers alike

By DONIE NEALON

For success in games mental attributes are as important as physical. It is impossible to mentally atune or prepare your team unless the team has trained regularly and diligently, because only then are their minds ready and alert enough to accept and retain mental promptings and attributes. It is, also, important to remember that proper mental fitness can only be acquired over a long period as in the case of coaching skills and tactics. To think that a three-minute harangue before a game will suffice for mental preparation is ludicrous. Mental attitudes should be instilled into his players by the coach at regular intervals, preferably by short talks of from 3 to 5 minutes duration during or after physical fitness and skill training. The coach should always have his little talks on mental fitness and the proper attitudes of the mind towards the forthcoming game or championship prepared and if necessary even written down in advance.

SELF CONFIDENCE

One of the most important attributes in mental preparation is self-confidence based on an optimistic but candid self-assessment. A little praise of the player's better points before correcting faults is essential. A private chat after a game, during training and before a game with a player and a few essential words of advice and encouragement can do wonders for the confidence of a player. It is very necessary to develop a "belief in themselves attitude" in your



Donie Nealon

team, "a-can't-be-beaten-attitude" even if 5 points down with three minute to go will establish just the proper state of cockiness that a team required to give of its best. You must get a team to believe in themselves or there is no hope of success.

CONCENTRATION

The ability to concentrate fully for the entire game is probably the most essential attribute. The player who loses himself in the game will naturally give of his best, and in hurling, unlike other games such as golf, you can lose

yourself in the game all the time it is in progress. When your players are on the field you must have them prepared to think for themselves for every minute of the game, but particularly when they get the opportunity when the ball is at the other end of the field. They must be able on the field of play to ask themselves such questions as: What am I doing right or wrong? Am I going first to every ball? Am I combining with the other forwards? Could I have made a better effort to score or clear or pass all the time; even when the ball is 100 yards away? Why did I give a foolish free? If a player is thinking on these lines during the game then and only then is he concentrating properly and fully. Concentration is so important that the coach has to stress and re-stress it over and over and over again because it is so difficult to acquire and maintain in all the players on a team. One bad lapse in concentration by a player can very often turn a game completely around.

SELF CONTROL

The player who wishes to master hurling must first master himself. Lose your temper or your composure and you lose the match. This doesn't mean that you should not fight hard for every ball and play with spirit. Self-control is needed during the ebb and tide of fortune in all competitions. If fortune is fickle, remember she is also impartial. One mark of a great player is the ability to take a bad break philosophically and to be determined not to let it upset his

Souvenirs-Fancy Goods

Minerals

**Bed - Breakfasts
Dinners - Teas**

**Newspapers
Magazines**

J. K. C.

25 Pearse St., Nenagh

Phone 391

concentration but rather to make him more determined not to let the same happen again.

THE WILL TO WIN

No amount of concentration, self-confidence or self-control will produce good results unless the player has the will-to-win; for want of a better term that competitive "killer instinct" that's hungry for success and achievement. This will-to-win, the desire for victory must be developed in your team. A team that goes out to try "to give a good account of itself" or simply "to fulfill an engagement" on the field of play never wins, or even worse, never gives of its best or achieves its full potential. Never adopt a soft or apologetic approach to your opponent—leave the talking and the shaking hands 'till after the game and you will play much better and your opponent will have more respect for you as a competitor.

MOTIVATION AND DETERMINATION

Why will a person endure pain and exhaustion to gain mastery in a contest? For many, fame is the spur—the hope that one day they too will trail clouds of glory. The social side—the feeling of belonging, of comradeship, of brotherhood on the field and off—being one of a team is very important. So, too, is the glimpse of glory, whether it be sharing in a winning score or clearance, or going in as a sub. in the last few minutes or helping to maintain a point lead in the dying minutes of a game. Many who have gained eminence in the more important walks of life as the years pass talk with pride of the day they helped their club or county to win an important game. It needs to be stressed that to achieve such success, great sacrifices, utter dedication and co-operation with team mates is necessary. No coach should descend to the use of base motives such as a real feeling of hatred for the opposition in order to exploit his players to achieve success. For most players the motive for success comes from the sheer joy of

putting skill, speed and stamina against a worthy opponent who deserves nothing less than the best that is in you to give. Again it is very necessary to make it clear to your players that the fairer, the cleaner, the harder and the more honest-to-goodness-approach you adopt the better chance always of success.

RELAXATION DURING THE GAME

Always be determined to win within the rules. A feeling of sympathy or pity for your opponent when you establish superiority sometimes leads to weakness in play. Suppress these feelings until after the game is over. It is fatal to relax during a game however well you are ahead. Sporting history is full of examples of players who allowed overwhelming superiority to slip out of their grasp. The real secret of the so-called "killer instinct" comes back to concentration. If you can concentrate sufficiently, you will disregard or even be unaware of your opponents reactions to the imminence of defeat. The essence of a game is that you give of your best, even surpass yourself, if possible, for the full game and treat all your opponents, whatever their record, with respect. It is very good advice to never quit or throw in the towel at any stage but always to play with the same determination as you would if you were only 2 points in front with 5 minutes to go in a final—then you would go all out and you wouldn't concede a foolish free or you would not shirk your responsibilities to your club or county.

OTHER GENERAL POINTS

If your team or county has a great tradition, stress the importance of maintaining that tradition. If your club has a great record in finals or a never-say-die attitude stress this to the present team and inform them of what's expected of them to uphold the good standing of the club. To overcome teams with a great tradition, try to motivate your players to achieve

what their brothers (or fathers!) never did.

Don't ever "talk-down" to your team, treat them as adults and invite their suggestions re preparation and tactics. This will give them the feeling of belonging and involvement and of helping to achieve success as all players, good, bad or indifferent can offer worthwhile advice to each other. Always try to boost your team's ego; stress their stronger points over their opponents, instil confidence and do your utmost to relieve their anxieties, tensions and worries by reminding them that their opponents have the same. Irrespective of past honours won, every game is a new test and must be approached by adopting the proper attitude of mind and the more skilled players or heroes of other successes have a great responsibility or obligation to their team and older players should always encourage and coax along the new and younger players on and off the field. It helps greatly for team morale to see players always encouraging and urging on their team mates and give established players this job during a game. Lastly, on this point, stress that there are no heroes until the game is over and won. Stress also, that the present team now carry the responsibilities of the club or parish or county and that they are every bit as good and as talented as those of yesteryear and that they must never let it be said that they let down their team.

IGNORE THE PAPERS

Try, also, to get your players to ignore paper forecasts as this is only one person's opinion and to ignore and avoid the advice of the so-called "know-alls" before a game. But it is important to emphasise to your players what a great responsibility they take on when they line out for club or county and that it's not something to be taken lightly at any cost. Remind them, also, of the interest of their supporters and how hungry for success they are, and of their duty to their followers to play as well as they can and how honoured they should be to repre-



The Tipperary senior hurling team which failed to eventual All-Ireland champions, Limerick, by a point in a thrilling provincial final before over 50,000 people in Thurles. Standing, left to right: Noel O'Dwyer, John Kelly, Roger Ryan, Seamus Hogan, Mick Roche, Jimmy Crampton, Tadhg Murphy, Michael Keating. Front, left to right: Len Gaynor, P. J. Ryan, John Gleeson, Francis Loughnane (capt.), Jim Fogarty, John Flanagan, Tadhg O'Connor.

sent their parish or county. And now that they have been selected to make the very most of the opportunity because anything that's worth doing is worth doing well. The coach should try to get his team to be utterly dependent on each other, to dictate the pace from the throw-in, to take on the mantle of monsters from that point, to be most careful in the few minutes before half-time as concentration often slackens at this stage, to always play the ball until the whistle stops play, to respect and co-operate with the referee and very important for the coach himself—have all gear, camans, switches and tactics organised before the game during training sessions and not directly before a game in the dressing room, when such carry-on would be detrimental to the mental attitude of the players. Just before a game, players need to relax and concentrate and not to be harassed and annoyed because the coach hadn't the proper preparations made for the game.

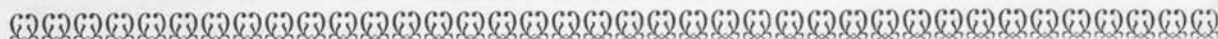


*Please
support
our
Advertisers*



Granted, it is most important for mental preparation that the coach speak "from the shoulder" to his players for a few minutes before the game and again at half-time, just before the players take the field. This is known as the "last-minute-harangue" in the dressing room, and, undoubtedly, if properly prepared, carefully thought out and well delivered it can motivate the team to take the field with the proper frame of mind adopted for the task in hand.

Lastly, I would advise the coach to always treat all the players with the greatest respect, because only then will they give of their best for you; to carefully prepare each session, be it mental or physical; to exercise discipline (not too regimental though), and control over the players; to expect and demand utter dedication and, most importantly above all else, to inculcate in his players a sense of fair play and to encourage sportsmanship at all times.



Cumann Luith Chleas Gael

Coisde Thiobrad Arann (Thiar)

It is our pleasure to thank everyone associated with the successful promotion of our games within the division during the past year. Your loyal and generous support has been deeply appreciated and here's wishing you all you deserve during 1974

The Pallottine Fathers

(SOCIETY OF THE CATHOLIC APOSTOLATE)

THE SOCIETY OF THE CATHOLIC APOSTOLATE (Pallottine Fathers) is a modern International Society of about 2,700 priests and brothers who are engaged in an active, varied and missionary apostolate in the five continents. The Irish priests and brothers are involved in Missionary work in the following countries: United States (Texas, Nevada, Michigan, New York), South America (Argentina, Venezuela); East Africa (Tanzania), Rome and England.

The word "Pallottine" comes from the name of the founder, St Vincent Pallotti, the pioneer of Catholic Action. He felt and thought like the man who canonized him, Pope John XXIII.

if you are interested in the Priesthood or Brotherhood, write for the booklet which gives more information to:

**REV. VINCENT KELLY, SCA, DIRECTOR OF VOCATIONS,
PALLOTTINE COLLEGE, THURLES, CO. TIPPERARY**

Telephone Thurles 147

1935—Tipperary's most remarkable year?

By JOHN CLARKE

THE ABOVE caption may make strange reading as it refers to a year in which no national title was annexed by Tipperary, and from an outsider it may rank as an impertinence to so designate a season which many followers of the Premier County would write off as scarcely worth remembering.

Followers of the blue and gold might, with some justice, nominate mere fruitful seasons for that title—1930 immediately springs to mind—the year in which Tipperary recorded the “grand slam,” a feat that can never be repeated. Or perhaps 1945, when Cork’s history-making run was finally and decisively halted.

The year which saw Tipperary record its third successive McCarthy Cup triumph—1951 would surely be the choice of many followers for that distinction.

But with respect to the legion of great hurlers who have worn the Tipperary colours over eight decades; to the greatness enshrined in the names of Boherlahan, Thurles, Toomevara and Moycarkey, my choice of Tipperary’s most remarkable year concerns not, memorable achievements of the hurling field, but the year in which Tipperary made its last great bid for football supremacy—1935.

FADED GLORY

To justify my rating of that year, it is necessary to place things in perspective.

It in no way denigrates the traditional football areas of the Premier County to say that by 1935 Tipperary was very much a hurling county. The glory that was Bohercrowe, Mullinahone, Fethard and Clonmel had long since faded—little more than a proud memory.

Fifteen years had passed since the All-Ireland title had rested in the county; thirteen since a provincial crown had been won.

Even in 1928, only six years after that last Munster triumph, Tipp’s star had waned to such an extent that the victory over Kerry was hailed as the upset, not just of the year but of the decade.

And seven years on, it is true to say that to every appearance there had been no halt to the slide.

True, Tipperary were the reigning All-Ireland minor football champions as the year opened, but the unsatisfactory manner (a walk-over in the final) in which the title was gained gave little indication that a season of remarkable promise was at hand.

THE PROVINCIAL CAMPAIGN

Senior and Minor teams were visitors to Ennis for the opening ties. The Banner County boys proved a tough proposition for a Tipperary team that included five of the squad that had campaigned so successfully the previous season—Tom Kenny, Mick Gavin, Jim Hickey, E. O’Meara and P. Rafferty, but the newcomers were more than adequate to the task in hand and the four points winning margin was somewhat flattering to the losers.

The seniors, however, had a hectic passage with the result in

doubt to the end, but there was no denying the merit of Tipperary’s 1-8 to 0-8 victory.

These victories cleared the way for a dual provincial final date with Cork at Fermoy.

The minors set the good example with a clear-cut 3-8 to 0-4 win but the Cork seniors provided opposition of a different calibre, making all the early running and only the brilliance of Jim Williams in goal kept the Leeside forwards in check. But the pressure had to tell and after seven minutes the Tipperary net fell. Another great save by Williams before Cork added a point, but the goalkeeper’s example was not lost on his team mates, and slowly but surely Morrissey, McGann and Kenny got a grip on the Cork attack.

Tipperary were now moving purposefully and points by Holland, Lonergan and Allen to which Noonan added a goal left them ahead at the interval.

By the threequarter stage Tipperary were well clear and at the end nine points separated the teams as thirteen barren years in Munster came to an end on the score 2-8 to 1-2.

The juniors meanwhile had an easy first-round passage but it was expected that Cork in the provincial decider would prove a difficult proposition. The game, however, was surprisingly one-sided, and at no stage did Cork measure up to the standard set by Jim Gunn, Andy Greensmith, George Grey and company. The Tipperary attack simply sizzled as the Cork defence was pulverised to provide a final scoreline of: Tipperary 7-4, Cork 0-6.

A magnificent treble was com-

plete—and for good measure the minor hurlers retained their Munster crown.

STERN TESTS

Victory in the South had been achieved with such ease and against such opposition that quite a few question marks still lingered behind Tipperary's credentials . . . The All-Ireland series would be the test.

August 18th, 1935, was an historic day for Tipperary. On that afternoon three Premier County teams contested All-Ireland semi-finals at Croke Park. An assignment of such magnitude has not since confronted Tipperary, or indeed any other county.

The minors in both codes set the example; the hurlers overcoming Antrim 6-7 to 0-0 with the ease suggested by the final score but the footballers met worthy opponents in a fine Donegal side, the county's first appearance outside Ulster in the grade.

The foundations of success were laid in the first half at the end of which Tipperary led 3-1 to 1-3.

Defences held sway through the second half with Donegal managing to record a single goal which brought two points in reply from Jim Hickey to leave it 3-3 to 2-3 in Tipperary's favour at the end.

A GALLANT BID

And then the moment of trust for the seniors, who lined out as follows: J. Williams (Clonmel), M. Morrissey (Kilsheelan), R. McGann (Clonmel), G. Kenny (Mullinahone), W. Purcell (do.), L. Scott (do.), J. Lonergan (Clonmel), T. O'Keefe (do.), T. McDonald (do.), R. Lonergan (do.), K. Holland (Templemore), R. Power (Clonmel), R. Allen (Fethard), J. Noonan (do.), W. Scott (Mullinahone).

The opposition could hardly have been stronger. Cavan, All-Ireland champions in '33; unlucky losers at the semi-final a year later, boasting some of the greatest names the game has known; Tom O'Reilly, Jim Smith, Louis Blessing, Pakie Boylan and M. J. McGee, were firm favourites.

But Tipperary, unperturbed by

their rival's reputation, settled down from the start and after one good chance had been missed, Dick Allen flashed over the opening score. Several chances of increasing the lead were wided before Cavan moved away for the equaliser, and shortly afterwards Boylan put them in front.

Territorially, Tipperary were having the better of matters but faulty finishing persisted.

Cavan forwards, operating on a much-restricted service, were taking their scores with a coolness born of experience and at the interval they led 0-5 to 0-2.

There was little change in the pattern of play on the resumption, but slowly the Tipperary forwards found the range, Kieran Holland, Dick Lonergan and Watty Scott raising white flags.

Twenty minutes of the second

JOHN CLARKE, the writer of this article, is an Offalyman. He hails from Tullamore and it was while doing some research for the Offaly '72 Year Book that he came across the facts he has related here.

half had yielded but a single point to the Ulster champions and when their hard-pressed defence conceded a close-in free, the Templemore sharpshooter levelled the scoring, 0-6 each.

McGann, Purcell and Morrissey threw back several Cavan attacks but when Tipperary went raiding at the other end only wides resulted.

Eight minutes left and a move that started with Tom McDonnell was taken on by Kieran Holland to Dick Allen who placed Dick Power for the lead. The Templemore man made it 8-6 before Cavan reduced the arrears to the minimum, but into lost time it was still Tipperary as the vital seconds ticked away.

A last despairing push by Cavan resulted in a 50 and with less than a minute remaining Jim Smith faced up to the all-important kick.

The levelling point was the best

he could have hoped for as the ball left his boot, but the ball dipped in flight to the edge of the square, where Blessing broke it to Hugh O'Reilly who deflected it past Williams for a goal and a sensational victory 1-7 to 0-8.

Tipperary were beaten; the burden of seventeen wides (Cavan had five) was too great to carry in such company.

THE MINOR FINAL

Having decisively defeated Mayo in the previous year's semi-final, Tipperary had no inferiority complex vis-a-vis the Connacht champions at Croke Park. The team was: E. Smith, P. Quinn, T. Kenny, W. Hennessy, M. Gavin, M. Flynn, W. McCarthy, E. O'Meara, P. Dillon, W. Treacy, J. Hickey, W. O'Donoghue, H. Greensmith, P. Rafferty, W. Power.

Kenny, Quinn and Flynn repulsed early Mayo attacks before the Westerners opened with a point, but when Tipperary got moving a Power-Greensmith-Rafferty move brought a goal by Rafferty after twelve minutes. Backs on both sides were on top during the second quarter but a goal and a point put Mayo ahead at the interval, 1-2 to 1-0.

Gradually conceding the midfield battle through the second half, Tipperary defenders Tom Kenny, Bill Hennessy, Mick Galvin and their colleagues fought an heroic battle against the eager Mayo forwards who had to be content with four points from sustained pressure with Tipperary's lone reply coming from the boot of Jim Hickey, leaving it 1-6 to 1-1 in Mayo's favour at the end.

THE LAST HOPE

The last chance of an All-Ireland now rested with the juniors.

Offaly, fresh from their first-ever success in Leinster football, with what was unquestionably the strongest team ever fielded by the Faithful County in this grade, were firm favourites to qualify for the final. But there was a shock in store. Through the first half there was little between the sides but

Tipperary had edged in front at the break.

Ten minutes of the second-half had elapsed when Offaly went in front and now it looked as if the favourites would take over.

But then came the Tipperary avalanche; Andy Greensmith, Jim Gunn and Brendan Kissane hammered in a goal apiece to leave Offaly trailing badly and despite a spirited closing rally the blue and gold prevailed on the score 5-2 to 2-7.

FINAL CURTAIN

Birr was the venue for the final versus Sligo for which Tipperary lined out as follows: J. Condon (Ardfinnan); W. Hallinan (.....), C. Allen (Fethard); G. Grey (Ardfinnan); P. Donoghue (Tipperary); P. Shelly (Templemore); M. Savage (Ardfinnan); T. Power (Tipperary), T. Boyle (Ardfinnan); A. Greensmith (Tipperary); M. Byrne (Killusty); B. Kissane (Tipperary), P. O'Leary (Ardfinnan); J. Gunn (Fethard); M. Connors (Fethard).

A whirlwind first half display by Sligo left Tipperary trailing by nine points at the interval, 1-2 to 4-2; but there was a complete transformation on the turnover as Tipperary proceeded to dominate the outfield exchanges to such an extent that the Connacht men rarely visited Tipperary territory throughout the second half.

But at the other end scores came with agonising slowness. Greensmith, Gunn and Phil O'Leary clipped the arrears to a goal but the vital equalising score eluded the over-eager Tipperary forwards as time ran out and with it Tipperary's last hope of a title.

So a season that had promised so much yielded no national title but it is of some significance that it was only to the all-Ireland champions in the three grades—Cavan, Sligo and Mayo—that Tipperary finally bowed out of the scene. A big disappointment undoubtedly but Tipperary's achievement in taking three provincial titles was one that many more highly-rated counties would have been glad to proclaim. By any standard it was a remarkable

year; to have been accomplished by a county whose first allegiance was clearly to hurling, it was almost incredible.

SPECULATION

It is interesting to speculate what might have happened to Tipperary football if that last-minute goal had not deprived them of a place in the final. Very likely they would have taken all-Ireland honours as Cavan were convincing winners in the final over Kildare, who were very definitely on the way out at that stage.

In the long term would Tipperary have become a real and lasting force in the football world? Probably. But, it might be argued, if Tipperary had the talent why did they not come again? The answer is twofold: The years immediately following 1935 saw the emergence of one of the greatest Kerry combinations of the last half century, but an equally important factor was this: Every county attempting to achieve the big breakthrough needs a generous slice of luck somewhere along the way. (Offaly march out of Leinster in 1960 was initiated by the most bizarre goal I have ever seen) When it comes, bringing victory in its

wake, the resultant groundswell of enthusiasm has an incalculable effect on the game in that particular county, and Tipperary had the added advantage of excellent "back-up" material in their minors and juniors. Why then no further progress?

I would suggest that with the failure to take at least one all-Ireland, interest again swung to the task of lowering Limerick's colours in hurling—a feat so splendidly accomplished two seasons later—and football resumed its role as "poor relation." The winning of all-Ireland honours requires more than fifteen good players. The undivided energies of officials, selectors, etc., also play an important part.

In modern times no county has been able to sustain championship-winning efforts in two codes at senior level. Even Cork with its huge resources have found the task beyond them, but I incline to the view that had luck glanced in Tipperary's direction on that August day thirty-eight years ago, the course of Tipperary, and indeed Munster football, would have taken a very different path. Whatever about all that, it was an historic and remarkable year. Was it in fact . . . Tipperary's most remarkable year?

HELPING HAND

At a match between Thurles and Moycarkey in 1889 at Holycross, a shot from Tom O'Grady was going wide when a helpful spectator shoved the somewhat loosely tetered upright a couple of feet to the left, thereby enabling the ball to pass between the posts for a score, that to say the least, was hotly disputed.

Staunch supporter

Paddy "Best" Maher cycled from Berries to Athy for the All-Ireland final of 1908 between Tipperary and Dublin—a distance of more than sixty miles.

TRIPLE ENGAGEMENT

Tipperary has the distinction of being the only county ever to feature in three All-Ireland semi-finals on the one day at Croke Park. This was in August 1935 when Tipperary played Cavan in senior football, Antrim in minor hurling and Donegal in minor football.

GOAL CONSCIOUS

What must surely be the most unusual score in a football game was that in 1911 when Grange-Mockler beat Cashel on the score—16-0 to 3-2.



BORRIS-ILEIGH—North division senior hurling champions for the second successive year. Standing, left to right: Michael Prior, Paddy Delaney, Pat Fanning, Noel O'Dwyer, Pat Maher, Matt Stapleton, Timmy Delaney (capt.), T. F. Stapleton, Timmy Ryan, Paudie Stapleton, Tommy O'Dwyer, Michael Delaney, Ned Ryan, Mick Stapleton, Paddy Ryan. Front, left to right: Seamus Hynes, Mí. Coen, Pat Tynan, Noel Maher, Eddie Loughnane, Brendan Kenny, Liam Carroll, Owen Walsh, John Kinnane, Philly Ryan (club secretary).

BORRIS-ILEIGH STILL DOMINATE

BUT KILRUANE

By GERRY SLEVIN

ALMOST CAUGHT THEM

When one looks back on the North senior hurling championship for 1973, the uppermost thought to emerge is not so much that Borris-Ileagh retained their title, but that Kilruane failed to take it from them, when, viewing the game as a whole, they held the upper hand until four minutes from the end, and finally, surrendered their challenge by only a point. One doesn't intend this statement as being derogatory towards the maroon clad champions. They are indeed worthy champions but just how close Kilruane came to snapping the crown from them, is a thought that keeps coming to mind.

It was quite a successful championship, again run on a league basis with teams slotted into two groups. Many questions posed themselves before it commenced: How would promoted Silvermines fare in the tougher competition? Would 1972 runners-up, Lorrha, feel the pinch of Liam King's enforced absence? What of county champions, Roscrea, would they again emerge as a major threat? They were interesting questions and as the competition evolved, answers began to come in quickly. Yes, Silvermines were fit for the higher company. Lorrha found the going hard and Roscrea equally so. But other matters began to show themselves also. Like the potential of Eire Og, Nenagh and Toomevara, the strong threat of Kilruane, the topsy turvy form of Kildangan and Moneygall too, but above all there was the smooth hurling of the champions, Borris-Ileagh. Yes,

they would be a difficult side to dethrone.

Borris couldn't have started on a better note. They overwhelmed Newport to the tune of 3-17 to 0-0 but when Eire Og defeated Kildangan, there were visions of a positive threat to the champions' firmly rooted seat. Both were in the same group with Kildangan, Newport, Lorrha and Burgess completing the sextet. Kildangan then came back into the reckoning with a defeat of Lorrha and as Borris continued on their winning way, the major question centred around the side that would accompany them into the semi-finals. Eire Og it was. They suffered but one defeat (at the hands of the champions) and this was quite a turn about from previous years when things could never go right for the Nenagh men. Lorrha having suffered defeat by Eire Og and Newport ended in a flourish by holding Borris, but at this stage Borris were through to the semi-finals and the result matter nought.

OTHER SECTION

The other section was producing fireworks too. Silvermines were most unlucky to lose to Moneygall in their opening game and Kilruane disposed of Toomevara. Then came the first shock of the year, Silvermines defeated Roscrea and the cat was now among the pigeons. In their next outing, Roscrea fell to Kilruane and Toomevara who had an unexpected victory over Moneygall, likewise fell to the 'Mines. Ros-

crea just had to win a game to get back into contention and this they did by beating Toomevara. Kilruane put Moneygall's hopes in jeopardy with a convincing victory and as the excitement built up, Kilruane were on top of the table unbeaten and, like the other section, interest centered on the team that would join them. There were three in contention here, Silvermines, Moneygall and Roscrea. Silvermines had still to play Kilruane but they were assured of at least a play-off, even if they lost that game. For Roscrea and Moneygall, a play-off place had to be fought for and when they met, the county champions suffered their third defeat in the competition and Moneygall waited with baited breath to see how the Silvermines / Kilruane game would go. Nothing but a Kilruane victory would satisfy Moneygall. A win for the Mines would mean that both Kilruane and the 'Mines would reach the semi-finals. But if the promoted Inter champions could dispose of Roscrea they showed they were more than capable of doing likewise to Kilruane which they did in a great second half comeback. Moneygall were now out of the reckoning. Their great victory over Roscrea meant nothing in the end and the semi-finals saw Borris-Ileagh paired with Silvermines and Kilruane in opposition to Eire Og.

It was at this stage that the 'Mines caved in. They were eager, they were fit, but they lacked the bigtime temperament and went down rather softly to Borris, 2-11

to 0-5. Borris were in the final again and sat back to await the outcome of the Kilruane/Eire Og clash. Once more it was a case of the favourites emerging on top, Kilruane having four points to spare in the end, 4-5 to 3-4.

FINAL DAY

September 9th was final day in Nenagh. There was a huge attendance and the day was ideal for the occasion. From the start, the young eager Kilruane side called the tune and held the upper hand, subjecting the champions to pressure they hardly thought possible. But the champions realising what was at stake pulled themselves together and got on level terms. With less than four minutes remaining, centre back Matt Stapleton pointed a long range free that was to give Borris the McGrath Cup for the eighth time.

Kilruane earned some compensation for this narrow defeat when their minors retained their title. It wasn't easy though and two hours of brilliant hurling with Eire Og had to be contested before Kilruane got there.

In Intermediate grade, new champions came in Borrisokane. The side that reverted to inter status of their own accord two years ago, showed themselves well capable of re-entering the senior bracket again and with convincing victories over Ballinahinch, Templederry and Ballina, they took the Fr Hewitt Cup amid great jubilation. Tough luck on Ballina, though. It was their second successive final defeat.

Moving down the ladder, one step, we come to the junior championship. Portroe asked to be allowed compete here, because of their bad record in Inter grade the previous year. There too were champions, Knockshegowna. Both were in in the "junior" section of the competitions and duly met in the semi-final with Portroe in a grandstand finish ending on top. Borris-Ileigh were doing nicely in the "senior" section and called on the services of a number of players who had seen senior experience. They had a relatively easy passage to the final, but met

with stern resistance from Portroe who edged them out after a great game. Portroe had earned the right to return to Inter grade again, and also to take on Borrisokane in the junior inter play-off. The better experience of Borris was a deciding factor here and for the first time since 1940, Borrisokane qualified to represent the division in the county semi-finals.

FOOTBALL

Toomevara regained their junior football title, beating Inane Rovers handsomely in the decider, while Eire Og and Inane Rovers have

reached the minor final. Unfinished are the senior and under 21 football competitions. Nevertheless the North Board has every reason to feel happy with its programme for this year. It was a lengthy one but it was a satisfying one. There was plenty of co-operation from all clubs and when the Board dines for its annual get-together at the end of the year, it can feel justly proud of what it has done with the many awards to be presented on that occasion a fitting reminder of the magnitude of the Board's programme and of the goodwill it received from all in the division.



The Tipperary senior football team whose trojan efforts to take the 1935 All-Ireland title just failed when defeated in the last minute by Cavan in the semi-final. Standing, left to right: Tommy Powell, Bob McGann, Ned Scott, Kieran Holland, John Harney, Jim Noonan, Mick O'Sullivan, Martin Shanahan, Jim O'Connor, Chris Allen, Willie O'Dwyer (trainer). Centre, left to right: Bill Purcell, Michael Morrissey, Jimmy Lonergan, Paddy O'Brien, Richard Power, Tommy O'Keeffe, Tommy McDonald, Mick Condon, Dick Allen. Front, left to right: Walty Scott, Jim Williams, Paddy Denny, Dick Lonergan.

THE CLUB'S CHIEF MONEY SPINNER—THE MARQUEE!

SUPPRESSING MORBID thoughts of the "Black Hole of Calcutta," I struggled bravely through waves of human beings, onto the floor from which he had beckoned. He was wondering if I was mad. "Are you a G.A.A. supporter?", he asked, as if that might, perhaps, explain my apparent thirst for martyrdom. I might have been, I thought, as memories of past encounters filled my mind . . . That day in the local hurling field years ago, when a group of small boys, with their sights set on Croke Park, set them as well on my new ball . . . And that other day, long after, on Hill 16 itself, when I jumped up and down on behalf of Tipperary, and landed once on the bunion-ridden toes of a Wexford supporter, who told me what he really thought of women in the G.A.A. . . . And there was tonight . . .

Marquees for some strange reason are more suspect, and less respectable than dance halls. Hundreds of dancing fans wouldn't be seen dead in them, and several District Justices are under the impression that that's how it will be, some fine night. Parents, who talk nostalgically about the platform dances of their youth, frown on those latter day platforms, under the tent. Yet there are thousands who live for them, showbands which live on them, and hurling clubs, for whom they are the greatest fundraising machinery imaginable.

The scene is familiar to many. A giant tent flaps menacingly in the breeze, and from somewhere inside, comes the sad voice of a young vocalist lamenting the fact that no fond mothers tears will be shed o'er his grave. A lone stranger walks up to the entrance, looks in over the aloof shoulders of the Hurling Club Secretary, and walks away again. There is an air

of expectancy about the place. It's the night of Brendan Brogan and his super Band, which never came nearer than Limerick before, for the simple reason that there was no place nearer than Limerick where he could fit.

PUBS ARE CLOSED

At 12 midnight when all the pubs are closed, and the last longhaired supporter has staggered past the ticket collector, Brendan Brogan himself comes on stage, calls for a round of applause, for the relief band which was playing all night when there was nobody there, and with a wave and a flourish starts into something that would have sent an old-time platform dancer to war.

Wallflowers wilt in a place like this, and several of them fall through the canvas. On the floor, your partner steers you straight into a tent pole, and even though your back is half broken, you pray

as seen by
PATRICIA FEEHILY
between the kicks
and stampedes

fervently that the whole marquee doesn't collapse. You get a mouthful of hair and a kick on the shins from a long-haired jiving girl, and when the dance is over you slink painfully back to the canvas wall again, and wait for the next sway.

Brendan Brogan, with a mischievous glint in his eye, announces a "Siege of Ennis." Someone pulls you out, without waiting to ask you, and suddenly all hell breaks loose. Half way through you lose your partner and you make for the cloakroom, where two arms and a head appear in under the canvas, belonging to someone who assures you that he is trying to con the Hurling Club. He isn't, he informs you, going to pay 50p at twenty to one a.m.

Farther up, another con man appears under the canvas, only this fellow isn't so lucky having come in right beside where the Secretary of the Hurling Club is sitting.

Out in the middle of the floor, dancers are making way for a row, which is quickly suppressed by a contingent of grim faced hurlers, worried for the reputation of their carnival. Long-haired, jean-clad youths are ejected, and all the time Brendan Brogan continues as if nothing had happened. You realise that you haven't spoken all night,

being engrossed in avoiding tent poles, stampedes, kicks, etc. You have been asked a few questions, which were drowned in the noise of the band, and when you said "What?" they, funny enough, seemed to change the subject, whatever it was.

"PASS OUT"

You go to the door for a breath of air, and a hopeful face outside asks if you have a "pass out." Suddenly you realise that you are about to pass out in any case.

Then comes this beck from way out beyond the sea of faces, and the terrible struggle out to where you saw him, and he talks louder than the band, and asks if you're mad and if you're a G.A.A. supporter, and you ponder his questions and resolve to think the whole thing out.

And then, mercifully, come the

well known strains of the National Anthem, and in this moment of solemnity you smile for the first time that night, without any disrespect, but from sheer contemplation of the indomitable Irishry, and their new cult of entertainment. The whole thing has lasted only one hour. In the mad scramble for coats, and autographed photos of Brendan Brogan, you see walking with dignity, out the door, the man who crawled in under the canvas.

Marquees are finished, they say. They are just a passing phase in a world that is ever hungry for entertainment. Licences are becoming harder to obtain, I'm told, and the effort to preserve respectability is doomed to failure. Respectability has to do with amenities, and amenities are, of necessity, limited in a marquee. But it will take some deep thought and foresight to introduce another such money

spinner for Parish Hurling Clubs, and years hence, when the legends are being told, and the old heroes are being toasted, somebody will surely remember the days of the Upstairs Marquees.

BURST

In the early days of the Association it was customary for teams to provide a ball for each half, and in a Munster football game in 1889, Tipperary led Cork at half time by 2-2 to 0-1, the Leesiders having provided the ball for the opening thirty minutes. When Tipperary could not produce a ball for the second half, and Cork announcing that theirs had burst during the interval, the game had to be abandoned.

THOMAS AHEARN

WHOLESALE CONFECTIONERY

Goatenbridge
Ardfinnan
Co. Tipperary

Phone Ardfinnan 63

THE LATE MICK MOYLAN, NENAGH

A tribute from Seamus O'Riain

Seldom has the Association been blessed with an official so dedicated, painstaking and efficient as Mick Moylan. He was an active player and a volunteer in the National Movement when he was elected Secretary of the North Tipperary Board in 1921. He held that position without a break until his retirement in 1963, and won the acclaim and esteem of all concerned with the Association, not only in his own division but far afield. Mick Moylan's reputation for integrity, loyalty and hard work went far beyond his native county and he was held in affectionate respect at the highest level of the Association.

His achievements were of a high order. In his early years as Secretary he was faced with the task of re-organising Gaelic games in Nth. Tipperary in rather difficult times. With William Flannery, and later Frank McGrath, as chairman he set the standards which re-established the efficiency of the Board, operating a full programme of championship games. He travelled the division on his bicycle, establishing communication links, and encouraging affiliations where clubs had disappeared during the troubled years. He was at every venue from Roscrea to Newport and from Lorrha to Borrisoleigh, checking the receipts and ensuring that everything was in order, always carrying a first aid kit in case a player was injured. He constantly emphasised the need for punctuality and discipline as the basis of good organisation.

Seeing the need for proper fields and accommodation, he encouraged

and assisted clubs to obtain their own grounds, and he was especially anxious that the Board would acquire a suitable headquarters ground in Nenagh. He saw this wish realised in the early nineteen-forties, when McDonagh Park was purchased, and during his term grounds were also acquired in Newport, Clonakenny, Dolla, Kila-dangan, Moneygall, Roscrea, Borrisokane, Toomevara and Clough-jordan.

INTEREST IN YOUTH

He took a special interest in youth and was actively concerned in promoting juvenile competitions. He was Secretary and Treasurer of Bord na nOg for many years, and saw it firmly established as a unit of the Association in North Tipperary.

His work for handball was another labour of love for him rather than a responsibility, and the All-Ireland titles that were



The late Mick Moylan

brought to North Tipperary by the great players of his time gave him an amount of satisfaction.

His annual reports were presented with absolute clarity and correctness. Having steered the Board through financially lean years when receipts could barely meet commitments, he left it at the end of his term in a strong position to assist club development by loans and grants.

Secretary for forty-two years, he played a major role in bringing about the great development of Gaelic games in North Tipperary and he maintained his youthful enthusiasm and efficiency up to his final convention, when glowing tributes were paid to him by the assembled delegates.

NINE CHAIRMEN

He served with nine chairmen, William Flannery, Frank McGrath,

Rody Nealon, Patrick McDonnell, Seamus Gardiner, Tomás Malone, Fr. Eamon Murphy, Fr. Niall O'Meara and myself. If one could presume to speak for all it might be said that no more courteous, friendly and loyal colleague could be wished for than Mick Moylan. One was sure of a welcome in his home from himself, his wife and family regardless of the upset and inconvenience. He never hesitated to take on a responsibility to further the interests of the Association. He was a humble man but his advice was always sound and will ever be remembered and esteemed by one who received from him a valuable introduction to the procedures and problems of administration in the Gaelic Athletic Association.

In retirement Mick Moylan continued his interest in the Association right up to his death this year, and occasionally attended meetings of the Board which he laboured so diligently to serve.

SOME FIRSTS

Tipperary was the first county to bring off the provincial double in the junior grade (1910) and also the first county to perform a similar feat in minor competition (1934). For good measure, the minors in that season also brought off the All-Ireland double, certainly an appropriate way to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Association.

STOUT DEFENCE

In the All-Ireland Junior Football Final of 1935, Tipperary held Sligo (winners) scoreless for the entire second half.

This is the only case on record (covering all grades) of champions failing to score in the second half of an All-Ireland final.

Cumann Luith Chleas Gael Coisde Thiobrad Arann (Thuaidh)

A very sincere thanks to our Clubs, players, referees, adjudicators, officials, park committees gate men, stewards, and of course our supporters for your co-operation and goodwill during the past year.

We hope that 1974 will bring rewards in some shape or form to all clubs.

FOCAL MOLTA

Is minic a cloistear an focal cáinte na laetha seo. Gabhann sé le sprid na h-aoise lochtanna d'fháil ar chúrsaí. Ach is fiú an focal molta a thabhairt nuair a tuiltar é agus ní féidir a shéanadh go bhfuil eachtraí agus daoine go bhfuil moladh tuilte acu. Ní féidir iad go léir a lua anso ach tugtar samplaí de na h-iarachtaí a rachaidh chun tairbhe don Chumann agus a ghnóthaigh creidiúint do na daoine go raibh baint acu leo.

Bainseach (Fanaithe na nGailte)

Teach mhinistéara agus roinnt talún a cheannaigh said cúpla bliain ó shin. Tá páirc bhréa leibhéal acu anois, cúirteanna leadóige agus sa teach tá seomraí gléasta do ghach ócáid. Agus níl críocheithe acu go fóill. Tá an obair ag dul chun cinn an t'am go léir chun breis áistanna a chur ar fáil. Seo é an chéad láthair den tsaghas seo a tógadh sa chontae le cabhair ón Scéim Forbartha. Dotháilí dul á fhéachaint. Ba chóir go spreagfadh sé daoine eile chun aithrise.

Scoil na mBrathar, Caiseal Mumhan

Tugadh céim mhór ar aghaidh ag an scoil seo san iomáint i mbliana nuair a d'éirigh leo dul chomh fada le cluiche cheannais Corn Uí Artaigh. Cé nár éirigh leo an chraobh a thabhairt leo chruthaigh siad go maith sa chluiche sin. Ní gan choinne a tharla san mar tá an scoil seo sin mar atá ag Proinsias Ó Lochcomórtas le roinnt bliain anuas, agus tá a thoradh le feiscint sna fóirne óga a chuireann club

ó SHEAMUS Ó RIAIN

Chaiseal Mumhan ar an bpáirc do chraobh chomórtas an chontae. Bhí siad sa choimhlint i gcluiche-cheannais na mionúr agus arís i gcluiche cheannais faoi 16. Níor éirigh leo i gceachtar den dá chluiche seo ach beidh lá eile acu.

Proinsias Ó Lochnain, Ros Cre

Is onóir é a bheith tofa ar fhoireann na Réalt ach méadaíotar an onóir faoi thrí nuair a toghtar duine trí bliana in dhiaidh a chéile. Sin mar atá ag Proinsias Ó Lochnain ó Ros Cre, a bheidh ag taisdeal arís ar an turas go San Francisco san earrach. Meastár gurb é an fear tosaigh is fearr sa tír faoi láthair agus ta mhór an tacaíocht do Ros Cre é nuair a bhuaídh siad Craobh an Chontae arís.

Luach-Maigh—Caislean Aoibhneach

Is fada an t-achar e seacht mbliana déag le bheith ag feitheamh ar chraobh an chontae sa pheil. Sin an treiuise a bhí Luach-Máigh ag feitheamh, agus faoi dheire d'éirigh leo i mbliana. Tá an pheil go dúchasach sa pharóiste agus níor chaill ar an mhisneach orthu ariamh. Bhí a sliocht orthu, nach ar an sár-pheileadóir Séamus ÓRiain, a d'éag anuraidh, a bheadh an t-áthas dá mbeadh sé ar an saol anois.

An Scor

Dob éachtach mar a chruthaigh Tiobraid Arann san Scor 73. Don chéad uair tugadh chaobh na hÉireann go dtí an contae. D'éirigh leis an thfoireann Set ó Má Choirce Éile an chaobh a bhreith leo i Scor na nÓg. Bhí siad i mbéal gach éinne a bhí i láthair ag an Clárach toisc chomh h-oilte is chomh



taitneamhach a rinne siad an rinne seo.

Seosaimhín De Barra ó Chumann Naomh Muire i Chluain Meala a rug Craobh na hÉireann abhaile léi san Bailéad Aonair le binneas a gutha agus a tionlacan ar an gcruit, a thaitn go mór leis an lucht éisteachta.

I Measc na nÓg

Níl gné is tabhachtaí in obair an chumainn ná na cluichí a chur chun cinn i measc na nÓg. I mbun na h-oibre sin tá Bord na nÓg agus tá moladh ar leith tuilte acu san agus ag na fóirne a ghnóthaigh onóracha na bliana. Go h-áirithe tá creidiúint ag dul do Éire Óg, Aonach Urúin, a bhuaigh an craobh san iomáint agus a bhí mar ionadaithe againn ag Féile na nGael i Luimneach, áit ar thug siad sár chluiche don fhoireann ó Chorcaigh a rug an craobh leo ar deire.

Chomh maith céanna tá moladh tuilte ag Tráchtálaithe Cluain Meala a bhuaigh an craobh sa pheil faoi 14, agus a chuaigh ar thuras na nÓg go Páirc an Chrócaigh.

Ba chóir go dtiocfaidh tairbhe don dá chlub ó na h-imreoirí oilte sin sna blianta atá le teacht.

For the best coverage

of

G.A.A. GAMES

and

AFFAIRS

YOU MUST READ

“The Tipperary Star”

and

“The Nationalist”

Tipperary's 21 All-Ireland

HEREUNDER WE pay tribute to the men who have led Tipperary to victory in All-Ireland senior hurling and football finals. SEAMUS O RIAIN sketches the careers of the 17 players who between them have led the county to the top of the hurling ladder with 22 titles and the four who carved Tipperary's name in the football records.

Captains

(1)

JIM STAPLETON, Thurles, 1887

Jim Stapleton had the historic honour of being the first to captain an All-Ireland senior hurling team. Thurles became Tipperary's first champions when they beat Two-Mile-Borris and Borrisoleigh on the way to the final, where they conquered North Tipperary. In the championship Thurles beat Clare Smith O'Briens at Nenagh, and then overcame Tullaroan at Urlingford by 4-7 to nil. The final was played in Birr on Easter Sunday 1888 and Jim Stapleton led his men to victory over Galway by 1-2 to nil. Later that year he travelled on the famous "American Invasion" tour.

He died in 1949.

(2)

MICKEY MAHER, Tubberadora, 1895, 1896, 1898

Mickey Maher must be ranked as the greatest captain of all time. He was captain and leader of the unconquered Tubberadora team which was never beaten in a championship game. He led them to three All-Ireland victories, and when Tubberadora's reign was over he was on two other All-Ireland winning teams, 1889 with Horse and Jockey, and 1900 with Two-Mile-Borris.

Tubberadora, without parallel in the history of hurling, were reckoned to be the most scientific exponents of the game in their time. Of Mickey Maher it was said that he was the most dangerous

man on the forty yards mark that a back was ever up against.

He was also a prominent member of the County Board and is revered as one of the great legendary figures in the G.A.A. He died in 1947.

(3)

TIM CONDON, Horse and Jockey, 1899

When Tubberadora bowed out the mantle of County champions was taken over by Horse and Jockey when they defeated Two-Mile-Borris in the County final. Led by Tim Condon, they had the assistance of some of the great Tubberadoras in the All-Ireland campaign and won the title by defeating Wexford in the final, 3-12 to 1-4.

Tim won three All-Ireland medals in all as he was on the Tubberadora teams in 1896 and 1898.

He died in 1918.

(4)

NED HAYES, Two-Mile-Borris, 1900

Two-Mile-Borris were a strong force in Tipperary hurling from the beginning and they could not be denied a championship which they won for the first time in 1900. Ned Hayes led them on to the great All-Ireland triumph over London Irish by 2-5 to 6 points, after beating Mooncoin in the home final by 14 points to 1-8. On this team were two other great captains of other teams, Mikey Maher and Tom Semple.

Ned Hayes had played in the

Munster final against Clare in 1899 with Horse and Jockey, and he also played on Tom Semple's team in 1904 when Cork won by 3-10 to 3-4. He captained Two-Mile-Borris to county honours again in 1903 and 1905.

He died in 1946.

(5)

TOM SEMPLE, Thurles Sarsfields, 1906, 1908

Tom Semple was one of the great leaders and personalities of the hurling world. His career as a player stretched from 1897 to 1911. He led Thurles to county honours in 1904, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909 and 1911. He was a regular member of the county's team for many years, and led the "Blues" to All-Ireland honours in 1903 and 1908. He was also on Ned Hayes's Two-Mile-Borris team that won the 1900 title and also captained Tipperary to the final of 1909, when Kilkenny's Mooncoin team were the victors. He played on the Munster selections in the first interprovincials for the Railway Shield in 1905 and 1906, and he won the long puck championship of Ireland in 1906, driving the 9 oz. ball 96 yards. He was captain of the Tipperary team on the historic trip to the Continent in 1910, when exhibition games were played against Cork at Brussels and Fontenoy. Tom Semple was an outstanding administrator for the Association. He was a member of the first working committee on Thurles Sportsfield and did much to develop it as a fitting ground for the Cradle of the Association.

Simple Stadium is a lasting tribute to him. He was chairman of Tipperary County Board from 1915 to 1917. He died in 1943.

(6)

**JOHNNY LEAHY, Boherlahan,
1916, 1925**

Johnny was one of the famous Leahy brothers of Tubberadora. He was in the grand tradition of Tipperary captains, and was recognised as one of the outstanding personalities in the Association. His qualities of leadership were exceptional and he was generally referred to as "Captain" Leahy. He has earned an enduring place of honour in the history of the G.A.A. both as player and administrator.

His playing career extended from 1908 to 1930 and he led club and county to numerous honours, usually playing in the full-back position. Under his captaincy Boherlahan won seven County titles and he played on the team captained by his brother Tommy when they won another County title in 1928.

He captained Tipperary in the All-Ireland victories of 1916 and 1925 and in the finals of 1917 and 1922 which were won by Dublin and Kilkenny respectively. He led the team on the first historic tour to the United States in 1926, being unbeaten in all six games played from New York to San Francisco.

Johnny was elected chairman of the County Board in 1925 and held this position until he was appointed secretary in 1927. His 21 years as secretary was the longest term in that position in Tipperary's history. When he retired in 1948 he could look back on a most fruitful period in office. He died in 1949.

(7)

**JOHN JOE CALLANAN, Thurles
Sarsfields, 1930**

John Joe Callanan was the only captain of a victorious Tipperary team to have won an All-Ireland with another county. He was on

the Thurles team beaten by Boherlahan in the Mid Division finals of



John Joe Callanan: 1930

1917 and 1918. He was on the county selection beaten by Limerick in a replay in 1918 and by Cork in 1919. He then transferred to Dublin and won his first All-Ireland medal in 1920 when Dublin defeated Cork. He was again on the Dublin team in the 1921 final which was won by Cork.

Back with the Sarsfields, he led them to victory in the County final in 1925, and he was a member of their winning team again in 1929. He was a regular on the county team from 1926 and captained them to the All-Ireland victory in 1930. He was a member of the first Munster team to win the Railway Cup in 1928.

He was an able administrator and for many years he was a member of the senior hurling selection committee. He died in 1970.

(8)

**JIM LANIGAN, Thurles Sarsfields,
1937**

Jim Lanigan won his first senior county medal with Sarsfields in 1929 and he was again on the



Jim Lanigan: 1937

winning team in 1935, 1936, 1938 and 1939. He won his place on the county team in 1930 and played at centrefield in the final against Dublin. From then until 1938 he was a fairly regular choice for one of the back positions on the county teams. His greatest year was 1937 when he played at left corner-back and led the team to the 12th All-Ireland victory. Limerick were the other finalists and the game was played in Fitzgerald Stadium, Kilkenny, since Croke Park was closed due to the work on the erection of the Cusack Stand. The following year Jim captained the Munster team to victory in the Railway Cup competition.

(9)

**JOHN MAHER, Thurles Sarsfields,
1945**

John Maher, a son of Dinny Maher who played in the first All-Ireland final, was one of the great players during one of the great periods of hurling excellence. In his long and distinguished career he won numerous honours and held the centre-back position on the county team longer than any other player. He won three All-Ireland medals, 1930, 1937 and 1945 and was captain in the last year.

He won his first county medal with Sarsfields in 1929 and played on the county junior team that year. He won further county medals in 1935, '36, '42, '44, '45 and

'46. He was on the winning Munster team in 1937 and also figured on the provincial side in 1936 and 1941.

(10)

PAT STAKELUM, Hollycross-Ballycahill, 1949

Pat Stakelum was centre-back on the star-studded county minor team that demolished all opposition but were sensationally defeated by Dublin in the All-Ireland final of 1945. When Hollycross won the county title in 1948 Pat was one of the promising young back-men on the team. He won his way to



Pat Stakelum: 1949

the county team and captained them through a thrilling Munster championship and the All-Ireland victory of 1949. He held the position of centre-back unchallenged for many years and won two more All-Ireland medals in 1950 and '51. For seven successive years he was an automatic choice for the Munster Railway Cup team and was on the winning sides in 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953 and 1955, being captain in 1950. He won two further county titles with his club in 1951 and 1954. He has also been a dedicated administrator and was secretary of the County Board from 1961 to 1963.

(11)

SEÁN KENNY, Borris-Ileigh, 1950

Seán Kenny was one of the young stars on the team which brought the first North Division title to Borrisoleigh in 1947, and went on



Sean Kenny: 1950

to take four in a row from 1950 to 1953, another in 1955 and a Mid Division title in 1949. They won the county title on three occasions, 1949, 1950 and 1953. His sparkling club displays won a place on the All-Ireland team in 1949 and he captained the team to victory over Kilkenny in the 1950 final. Injury kept him off the team in 1951 but he came on as a sub. in the final against Wexford. He won Railway Cup medals in 1950 and again in 1951 when he captained the team.

(12)

JIMMY FINN, Borris-Ileigh, 1951

Jimmy Finn is one of the exceptional young players who have gone directly from minor ranks to the senior county team. He was on the minor team which won the All-Ireland in 1949 and won a senior county medal with Borris-Ileigh in the same year. He won his first senior All-Ireland medal

in 1950 and captained the team to victory over Wexford in the 1951 final. He won his third All-Ireland medal in 1958. He was on the Borris-Ileigh team that won county honours in 1949, 1950 and 1953. He was one of the outstanding wing backs of his time and was on the Munster team for four years, winning medals in 1957 and 1958.

(13)

TONY WALL, Thurles Sarsfields, 1958

Tony Wall was on the Tipperary minor team beaten by Kilkenny in the 1950 final, but he captained



Tony Wall: 1958

the team when they won the title in 1952. He won ten county medals with Sarsfields during their greatest period from 1955 to 1965. The only interruption in this great run being defeat by Toomevara in the 1960 final. He led the county team to the 1958 All-Ireland and he was captain when the team lost to Wexford in the 1960 final. He won All-Ireland medals again in 1961, '62, '64 and '65. Generally accepted as one of the great centre backs of all time, he was a regular choice on the Munster team for years and won Railway Cup medals in 1958, '59, '61, '63.

He won the Hurler of the Year Award in 1959.

(14)

**MATT HASSETT, Toomevara,
1961**

Matt Hassett was the first Toomevara player to captain an All-Ireland winning team. He started his playing career as a forward but when moved to the back division his great potential as a player was realised. In the corner-back position he helped Toomevara to the county title in



Matt Hassett: 1961

1960 with a great victory over Sarsfields, and to three North Division titles from 1961-'63. He was on the Tipperary team beaten by Wexford in the final in 1960 and he captained the team to victory over Dublin the following year. An efficient administrator, he was Secretary of the North Division from 1964 to 1969 and is currently Treasurer of the County Board.

(15)

**JIMMY DOYLE, Thurles Sarsfields,
1962, 1965**

Jimmy Doyle, already a legendary figure in his brilliant hurling career, has won every honour open to him in the game. He played in goal for the minor team beaten by Dublin in 1954 but won medals as a forward with the All-Ireland minor teams of 1955, '56 and '57. In the latter year he commenced his career on the senior team and has won six All-Ireland senior medals, 1958, 1961, 1962, 1964, 1965 and 1971. He was captain in 1962 and 1965. He won a Harty Cup medal with Thurles C.B.S. and in the same year won senior, junior and minor county medals



Jimmy Doyle: 1962, 1965

with Sarsfields. In all he has gained 10 senior county championship medals with Sarsfields and he was awarded the Hurler of the Year Trophy in 1965. He was on the Munster Railway Cup team from 1958 to 1968 inclusive and won awards on 8 occasions.

His senior club career started in 1955 and he is still a leading forward on the Sarsfields team.

(16)

**MICHAEL MURPHY, Thurles
Sarsfields, 1964**

Michael Murphy played in the wing back position and captained



Mick Murphy: 1964

Tipperary to one of the greatest victories over Kilkenny in the 1964 final.

Played minor with Tipperary in 1956, '57 and '58, winning All-Irelands in '56 and '57. He was captain of the minor team beaten by Limerick in the 1st round of the 1958 championship; played junior with the county in 1958 and '59 and was a sub. on the 1962 victorious senior team. He has two National Leagues and was on the Tipperary team on the 1964 New York tour. Michael has 10 senior, 3 minor and 3 county junior hurling championships with Sarsfields.

(17)

**TADHG O'CONNOR, Roscrea,
1971**

Tadhg played county minor in 1966 and was on the victorious



Tadhg O'Connor: 1971

under 21 All-Ireland side in 1967. He played under 21 also in 1968 and '69 but without any championship success. Promoted to the senior team in 1968 in which year Tipperary won the Oireachtas, which competition he helped Tipperary to win in 1970 and '72; went on the Tipperary New York tour in 1968 and was selected wing back on the Carrolls Allstar team in 1971 for the San Francisco tour. He has figured also on Roscrea's five senior county championship winning teams; won two county

minor championships in 1963 and '66, and had his greatest day when he captained the county team in the All-Ireland of 1971.

FOOTBALL CAPTAINS

(1)

GIL KAVANAGH, Bohercrowe, 1889

Gil Cavanagh led the famous Bohercrowe football combination that established an unrivalled reputation in the early years of the Association. He led them to two county championships, 1888 and 1889, and the Munster championship of 1888. His crowning achievement was in 1889 when he captained the team to bring the first All-Ireland football title to Tipperary when they beat Laois at Inchicore by 3-6 to nil. A feature of this game was that five Ryans played for Tipperary and there were five Cushions on the Laois team.

(2)

PAT FINN, Arravale Rovers, 1895

Pat Finn captained Arravale

Rovers when they defeated Tipperary Shamrocks in a local duel in the 1894 final. Bohercrowe veterans were on both teams. They took the 1895 title by beating Loughmore and won their first victory over the great Limerick Commercial by 5 pts. to 2 pts. The All-Ireland final against Navan O'Mahonys was won by 4 pts. to 3 pts. A controversy resulted and Central Council put up a set of medals for competition between the two teams. The game was a draw but Rovers won the replay easily. Pat Finn helped Arravale to another county title in 1896.

(3)

JACK TOBIN, Clonmel Shamrocks, 1900

Jack Tobin played for Clonmel Emmets in 1895 when they were beaten by Arravale Rovers. He was with Shamrocks in 1897 when they won the championship and also played with the Tipperary team in the Croke Cup games of that year. He captained the Shamrocks to the 1898 title and again when they won in 1900. He led the

team in a great All-Ireland campaign, beating Limerick Commercial, and then Kerry by 1-14 to 1-5; and in the home final beat Galway 2-17 to 0-1. London-Irish were their opponents in the final and again they had a decisive win, 3-7 to 2 points. Jack Tobin died in 1936.

(4)

NED O'SHEA, Fethard, 1920

Ned Shea was on the Tipperary team that reached the All-Ireland final in 1918 and were narrowly beaten by the great Wexford combination, 0-5 to 0-4. He played again in 1919 when Kerry won by a solitary point, 2-5 to 2-4. He captained Tipperary in the historic 'Bloody Sunday' game against Dublin and led the county to the All-Ireland victory of that year, when Dublin were beaten 1-6 to 1-2.

He was also a prominent administrator and was Chairman of the South Division from 1917 to 1922. He emigrated to New York in 1926 and helped the Tipperary club there to win the four-in-a-row championships from 1926 to 1929.

TOM MANNION TRAVEL

AND SELFDRIVE, ENNIS

Phone: (065) 21985/21872

YOUR TRAVEL PROBLEMS ARE OUR BUSINESS, SO PLEASE CONSULT US

SUNSHINE HOLIDAYS ALL YEAR ROUND

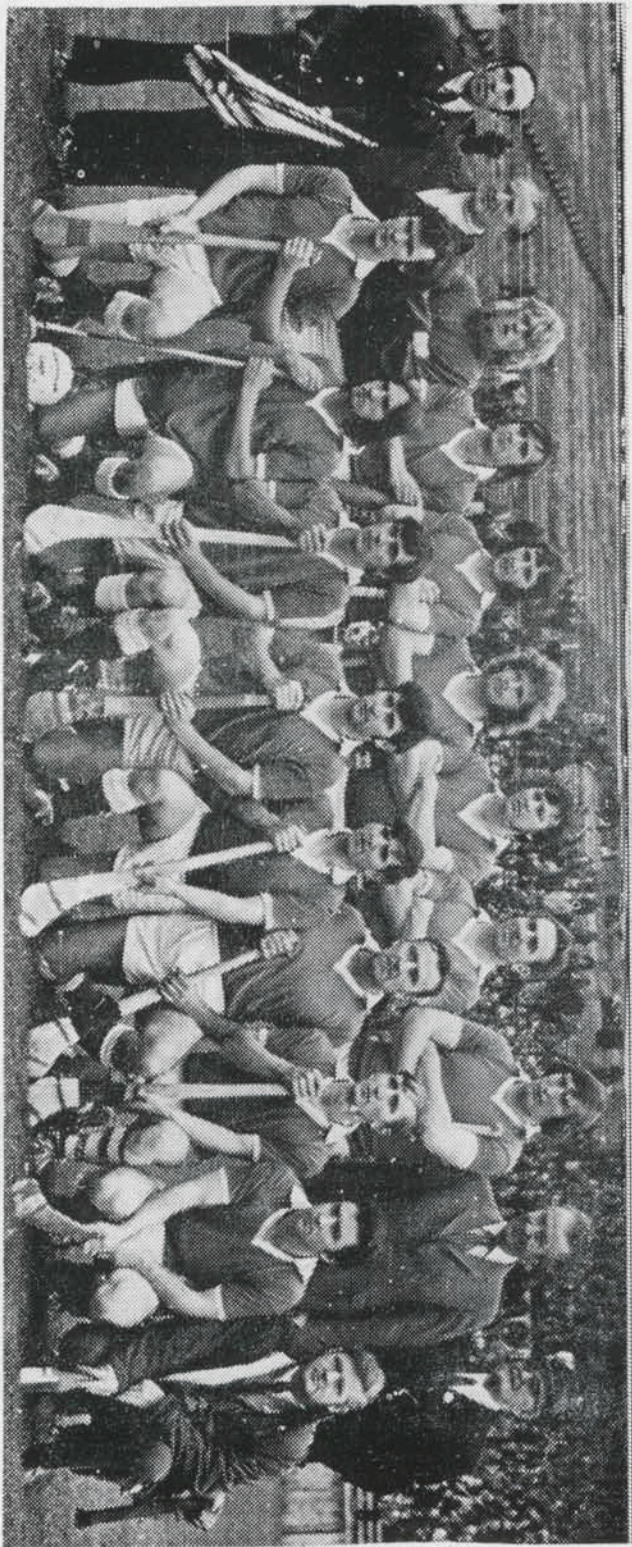
Air and Sea Tickets available on the spot

SELF-DRIVE CARS—CURRENT YEAR MODELS (STANDARD AND AUTOMATIC)

SCHOOL OF MOTORING

N.B.—SPECIAL TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS FOR G.A.A. GROUPS

Congratulations to the Tipperary Co. Board on their initiative in the production of this book



ROSCREA — A PROUD RECORD

Five titles in seven successive final appearances; that's the proud record of Roscrea's hurlers, who by defeating Kilruane McDonagh's in the final placed themselves among the greats in Tipperary hurling. Notwithstanding the tragic loss of star defender Patsy Roland, who received a serious eye injury at work during the year, the champions turned on the style to become undisputed champions of Tipperary. Standing, left to right: Patsy Roland, Martin Loughnane (trainer), Tadhg Murphy, Liam Spooner, Jody Spooner, Brendan Maher, Billy Stapleton, Mick Minogue, Roger Ryan, John Joe Maher (secretary), Jack Moloney (club president). Kneeling, left to right: Jimmy Crampton, Joe Cunningham, Tom Tynan, Tadhg O'Connor, Donie Moloney, Mick Hogan, Joe Tynan, Francis Loughnane (capt.), Willie O'Reilly (club chairman).

A GOOD ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE PRO-OPEN DRAW ADVOCATES

Roscrea's onward march continues

By GERRY SLEVIN

AS ONE WHO IS AGAINST the open draw for the county championship, I must readily concede that those who favour this system received plenty to enthuse about as a result of this year's senior hurling championship and the fact that not one divisional champion side reached the semi-final stages is bound to provide plenty of ammunition for the pro brigade when Convention times comes round.

It was certainly an extraordinary competition, full of surprises with probably the greatest of all being in the fact that Roscrea held on to their crown — and convincingly at that in the end — whereas their performance in the North divisional competition failed to find them a place even in the semi-finals. This might seem to infer that hurling in the North is of far superior quality to that in any other division with the added factor of three teams from that division reaching the county semi-finals giving emphasis to this. It is a question that gives plenty of scope for debate but hardly reflects a true picture all the same.

County final day saw Roscrea take their fifth title in seven successive final appearances, a truly magnificent record of consistency, and the strange thing about it all is that whereas they are champions of the county, their rating within the North division, where they lost three games puts them in nothing but the ordinary class. Why was this so? Difficult to answer but Roscrea would seem to have their priorities somewhat mixed up. Most, if not all, other clubs went out in their divisional competition striving for success as each round progressed. Roscrea didn't. It was very obvious that they were not tuned up in the early part of the year and as the county race moved along, they were just doing enough to keep their heads above water. Final day saw a totally different approach. The Roscrea side that soundly defeated Kilruane McDonaghs in Thurles on October 7th bore no resemblance to what we had seen up to this. Here was the REAL Roscrea in action; the Roscrea that has proved itself in no uncertain fashion to be the top side in the county over a long while.

LITTLE PREPARATION

It is readily admitted in Roscrea and indeed team captain Francis Loughnane admitted this publicly when accepting the Dan Breen Cup from Board Chairman, Mr Tom O'Hara, that Roscrea only got serious about their hurling two weeks before the final. Surely an indictment on the rest of the clubs that a club can take a county title with so little preparation. Such was the case, and Roscrea, once again lead Tipperary's ambitions for the coming year.

As an indication of the apparent disinterest that beset the champion club early in the year, one need only look back to their opening game when Moycarkey/Borris held them to a draw. The champions were very lucky to earn another crack at the Mid men but when the sides met a second day in Nenagh, without really displaying the power packed hurling they are capable of producing, they ran out comparatively easy winners.

The team that was generally expected to give Roscrea their hardest test was 1972 runners-up, Borris-Ileigh. They began well with a huge win over Silvermines and then, in one of the best games of the entire competition, they overcame a gallant Toomevara side. There didn't seem to be anything left to cause them undue bother in their section but the joy experienced in winning the North title on September 9th was very quickly shattered as one week later they fell, amazingly to neighbours Drom/Inch who had to play Golden/Kilfeacle three times before reaching a meeting with the North men. This was undoubtedly the upset of the year. Ahead by eleven points at the interval and playing superbly, Borris seemed assured of a semi-final place when the entire pattern of the game altered. Gradually Drom came at them and caught them. When they went ahead, there was nothing Borris could do and that expected "replay" between Borris and Kilruane was now nothing but a faded dream.

KILRUANE'S MARCH

Kilruane in the first section beat Lorrha soundly in the first round. They experienced relative ease in disposing of the eventual Mid cham-

pions, Sarsfields, who in an earlier round had to take two days before getting the better of Moneygall. Moyne/Templetuohy were the next victims of the Kilruane men and this left Len Gaynor's brigade in the semi-finals.

In Roscrea's section, the two Carrick sides were planted. Swan fell in the end to the champions and Davins then bit the dust, leaving Roscrea also in the semi-finals. The bottom section saw Newport coming through where opposition was hardly on a par with that of the other sections. They beat Boherlahan and Sean Treacys and were now set for a semi-final meeting with the champions.

Both semi-finals were fixed for the Nenagh venue. Drom/Inch were the only "outsiders," the others being from the North division. Kilruane had to withstand a late rally from the Mid men before reaching their first final since 1959 and likewise Roscrea who experienced opposition of far greater quality than anticipated from Newport.

Kilruane travelled to Thurles for the final, their minds very much full of the defeat they had inflicted on Roscrea in the North championship earlier in the year. But this was a different Roscrea side; not in personnel but in attitude and in physical and mental make up. The challengers had them on the run in the first half but failed to

convert their superiority into vital scores. Having equalised early in the second half, it did seem as though they could do it, but it was then that Roscrea showed their true worth and with the attack especially fitting in well into the shape of things, the Kilruane challenge soon wilted. They, with a young side, lacked the experience and big time temperament of their opponents but there was no reason for dispondency in defeat.

MANY CRITICS

So ended a competition that has many critics because of what it takes from the divisional championships. Teams like Drom/Inch and Newport would certainly not see it in that light but irrespective of how one views it, the major fact to emerge is that Roscrea are again the champions. They are now but one championship away from taken yet another three in a row titles — the sequence of victories having been broken in 1971 by Moyne/Templetuohy.

Even though they still cling to many of the men who brought them their first title in 1968, who is to say that they will not be there again next season, as a target for all comers. They might well win the North championship as well!

FOR . . .

BEST QUALITY AND VALUE

SEAN RYAN

SELF SERVICE STORE

TOOMEVARA, CO. TIPPERARY

TIPP'S DOUBLE TRIUMPH IN CROKE

PARK'S FIRST

ALL-IRELAND

FINALS

By SEAMUS O RIAIN

RAY CUMMINS' SUCCESS in adding an all-Ireland senior football medal to the one he won in hurling in 1970 as a result of which he joined a select band of nine players whose versatility in the past brought about a similar achievement, gave food for research to the statisticians and historians. The Cork man's achievement immediately spread itself to consideration of counties who, not alone have taken all-Ireland senior titles in both hurling and football, but have in fact taken both titles in the same year.

It's an achievement confined to just two counties, Cork and Tipperary, and while Cork were the first to do it, there was something extra special about Tipp's achievement in that, when it occurred in 1885, both titles were annexed on the same day. The significance is extended even further because when Tipperary hurlers defeated Kilkenny and the footballers accounted for Meath on March 15th, 1886, these finals marked the first finals to be played in Croke Park.

The transfer of the finals to Croke Park was at the time looked upon as a happy solution to a recurrent difficulty. Until a few years before that, what is now known as Croke Park was little more than a low lying commonage, but the finals of 1885, played in the Spring of the following year, were to commence a history of splendour and magnificence for the GAA and for the arena that was to become the sacred soil of all enthusiasts of Gaelic games.

FAMED TUBBERADORA

It was Tipperary's first all-Ireland hurling final appearance since winning the initial one of 1887 and famed Tubberadora, the club that was to write so many golden pages in Tipperary hurling history

were our standard bearers against the champions of Kilkenny, equally famed Tullaroan. It was Tipperary's day. The first half was as absorbing a period as one could wish to see. Tipp led at the interval, 1-6 to 1-0 and the stamina, speed and skill of the Munster men earned a decisive victory in the second half when Kilkenny failed to score and Tipp went on to amass a total of 6-8.

Then came the football game, Tipp represented by Arravale Rovers with Navan O'Mahoney's representing the Royal county. It was one of the most remarkable finals of all times. Meath scored three points in the first half, Tipp none, and the position was reversed thereafter, with Tipp notching four, to take the title by the least of margins.

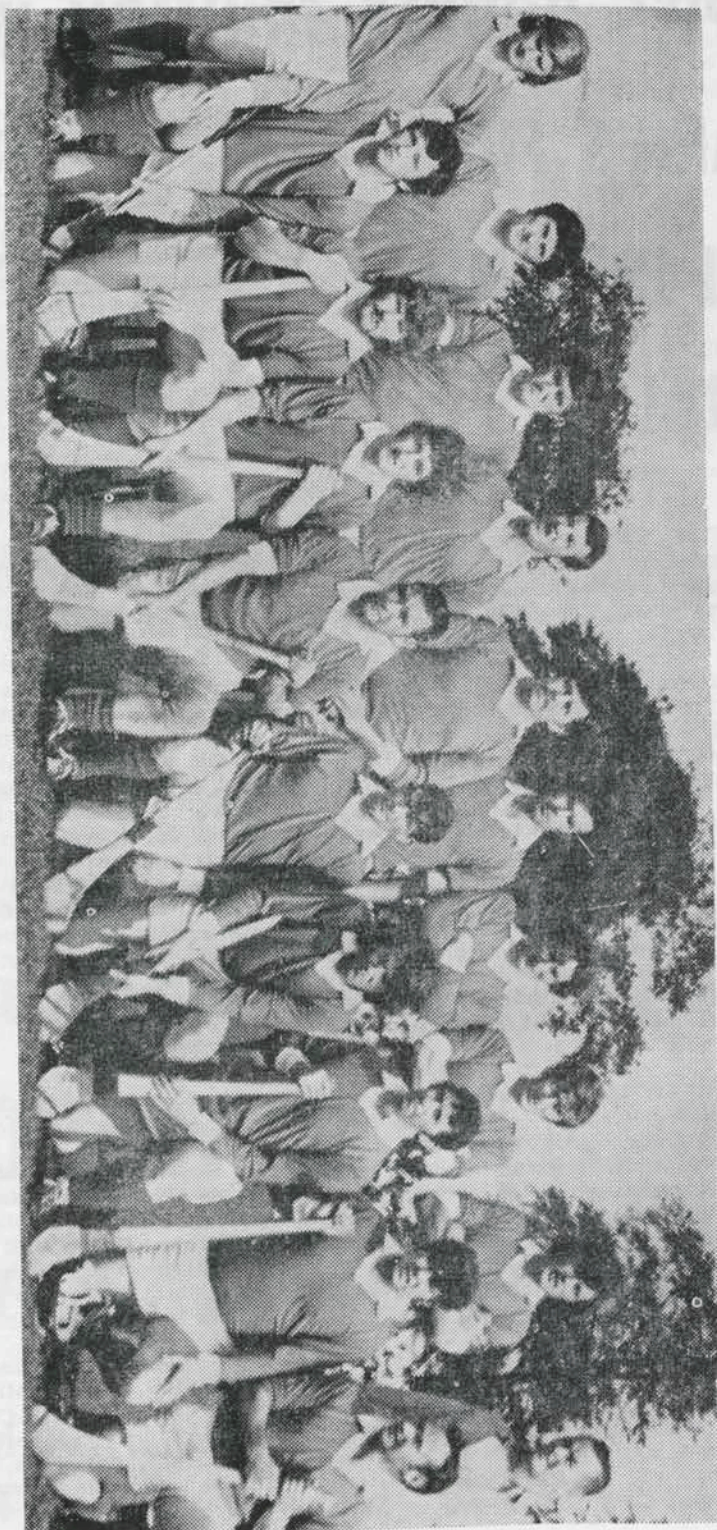
That wasn't the end of things, though. Overnight, the referee changed his mind stating the game had in fact ended in a draw, three points each. The Meath captain refused to avail himself of this strange reversal of the verdict, given on the field, which the Council upheld. Apparently the referee, a Mr Kenny, claimed that one of the Tipp points was illegal having been scored from inside the 21 yard mark. It was a strange afterthought and when the Central Council came together, the decision taken on the field on the day of the game was upheld. Tipp indeed were the champions. A set of medals was put up for another tussle between the counties. They drew twice and Tipp won at the third attempt, 2-13 to 1-4.

THE TEAMS

The Tipp teams which brought those historic all-Ireland victories to the county were:

Hurling: Mikey Maher (capt.), Denis and Johnny Walsh, Ned Maher (goals), Jim and Tim Flanagan, Jack Connolly, Jack Maher, Ned Brennan, John Maher, Bill Devane—all Tubberadora, Phil Byrne, Peter Maher, Suir View; Willie Kerwick, Ballytarsna; Paddy Riordan, Jim Gleeson, Fergus Moriarty, Drombane.

Football: Paddy Finn (capt.), Willie Ryan, Bob Quane, Jim Riordan, Mick Finn, Terry McInerney, Paddy Glasheen, Jack Carey, Mickey Conroy, Dick Butler, Willie Ryan, Jack Heffernan, Jerry O'Brien, Paddy Daly, Batt Finn, Phil Dwyer, and John Carraw—all Arravale Rovers.



Hurling is booming in Thurles again. With the minors regaining the County title, the seniors also showed the way by winning the Mid title at Drom/Inch's expense. Here's the team, standing left to right: Brendan O'Neill, Francis Murphy, Eamonn Burke, Jimmy Doyle (jnr.), Pat Dwyer, Liam O'Donoghue, Jim Ryan (A), Jimmy Duggan, Thomas Hayes, Gerry Doyle (trainer). Front, left to right: Paul Byrne, Pat Leane, Johnny Dwyer, Jimmy Doyle, Michael Dungan, Nial Kennedy, Paddy Doyle, Jackie Cooke, Sean McLoughlin.

GERRY SLEVIN takes a look back at Tipperary's last success in the All-Ireland Minor Hurling championship—1959

FIFTEEN YEARS IS A LONG WAIT FOR A MINOR HURLING TITLE

"WHILE NOT optimistic at the moment, I am confident that 1974 will see our first break through." Thus wrote Co. Secretary, Tommy Barrett, when in last year's issue of the Yearbook he tried to assess the minor hurling situation and how it could be bettered. Indeed, when Tipperary took their first provincial title since 1962 in the grade by disposing of Limerick in July, there was every reason to believe that the esteemed County Secretary would be proved wrong. A week later came defeat by Galway and bang went another year without that elusive All-Ireland title that has plagued Tipperary hurling men for so long.

Still a very positive step was taken and the



Larry Kiely, captain of the last Tipperary All-Ireland minor title winning team in 1959

regaining of the provincial title received widespread acclaim. Can Tommy Barrett's hopes come true in

1974? With Taurles Sarsfields back in power and a new wave of enthusiasm among the minor players as evidenced in the displays against Waterford, Cork and Limerick this year, we can certainly look to '74 with increasing confidence. Tipp has twelve titles. If the fare served up in the various divisions this year is any criterion, then the thirteenth cannot be too far away.

Meanwhile we look back on the boys who brought the twelfth back in 1959 and it was a time when an All-Ireland minor final without Tipp was akin to Hamlet without the Prince. '59 was a year that saw many players who were to make their mark later on in senior grade, players like John O'Donoghue, Tom Ryan (Killenaule) and the late



John Gleeson

Tom Ryan (Toomevara), Paddy Doyle, John Gleeson, Mickey Nolan and the captain of the side, Larry Kiely.

SIX YEAR REIGN ENDS

In '57 Tipp had three points to spare over their arch rivals, Kilkenny, in the final. The following year it was Limerick's turn to come to the fore, when they took only their second title. Tipp's six year reign as provincial champions ended when Limerick beat them 6-6 to 4-6 so that when 1959 came round, there was a fervent determination to get back on the winning trail once more. Kerry provided poor opposition in the first round and a "revenge" game with Limerick in the final became

a reality when Cork fell in the semi-final, 2-9 to 3-4.

There was no doubt whatever about the final result. Tipp were champions again on the score of 5-8 to 1-4 and great and all though that victory was it was tempered by the disaster that befell the senior side whose collapse again Waterford on the same day, is still talked about. Remember Waterford leading at half-time by 8-2 to 0-0? But that's another story!

The All-Ireland semi-final was a mere formality. Tipp overcame Roscommon by 8-14 to 0-3 and with Kilkenny through to the decider from the Leinster side, another thriller between these great rivals was assured. And what a dramatic finish it produced. Kilkenny were in command in the first half, leading 2-4 to 0-4 at the interval. With ten minutes remaining, Tipp were still behind, by two points. They pressed incessantly but could not score and when Eddie Keher tacked on another point it looked all over for Tipp.

HECTIC MOMENTS

Here is how "The Guardian" recorded those closing moments:

"Paddy Doyle gained possession out on the right wing, when he neatly caught a pass on the hop. Many claimed he picked it from the

ground, and with a cut through similar to that of his famous brother Jimmy, he went streaking goalwards only to be brought to an abrupt halt by what was undoubtedly a foul charge. Up came the fair-haired Tom Ryan from Killenaule to take the free and from about 30 yards out he banged the ball all the way to the net. Two minutes later Tipp were awarded another free from a similar position, and Ryan with the coolness of a veteran sent the ball between the posts for the winning score."

Tipp were All-Ireland minor champions for the 12th time and there it has stood since.

The team that brought that last title to the county was: John O'Donoghue, Pat Griffin (Arravale Rovers), George Kinnane (Borris-Ileigh), Willie Lonergan (Carrick Swans), John Carroll (Moycarkey), Albert Croke (Boherlahan), Ronnie Slevin (Borrisokane), Tom Ryan (Killenaule), Tom Ryan (Toomevara), Paddy Doyle (Sarsfields), Billy Carey (Moyn), Murt Duggan (Gortnahoe), Mickey Nolan (Roscrea), Larry Kiely (Glengoole) captain, Jim Ryan (Gortnahoe).

Subs.: John Gleeson (Moneygall), Paddy Crampton (Clonakenny), M. Ryan (Moycarkey), T. Tynan (Killenaule), S. O'Donoghue (Arravale Rovers).



A fine action shot of Paddy O'Connell, clearing during the Tipperary/Down N.F.L. semi-final in Croke Park in April. Richie O'Gorman is on the extreme left.

THE MINOR FOOTBALL BOARD

By Hugh Kennedy

THE COUNTY MINOR Football Board was formed in 1971 to improve the standard of Minor Football. After its formation it undertook a comprehensive survey of the situation to find the weaknesses and having found them to suggest and implement the improvements.

It accepted the principle that the progress of a county team reflected the standard of organisation and club football within that county, and when that principle was applied to Tipperary, it seemed that some facets of organisation were a cause for concern. It considered that the following contributed to Tipperary's failure:

- (1) The County Championship was the only competition in which Minor players could participate at their own age level. As a result, players on teams beaten in the first round—and these accounted for half the teams in the county—played **only one game each year**. Only the successful teams got a few games and even the team winning out got only five or six. It was possible then for players on weak teams to play only three games between the Juvenile age and the time they went over Minor age. The best of the Minor players did play higher grades with their clubs but they constituted only a small minority and left too great a number still not adequately catered for. It was at this point that the work done by Bord na nOg should have been continued and even expanded.
- (2) The limited participation by Post-Primary Schools in Football Competitions was regarded as an obstacle. The county had no entry in the Munster Colleges Senior Football Championship and entries only to a limited extent in the subsidiary competitions. The presence of even one School or College in the latter stages of the Senior Championship would create interest and would form a nucleus around which a successful county team could be built.
- (3) The extent and quality of coaching was inadequate in many clubs, and if an improvement

could be effected in this area not only would club standard improve but the groundwork would be done for selecting a county panel.

- (4) The area from which clubs could select was small because it was confined to the parish. This resulted in a greater number of weaker teams especially in small parishes, where because of the small numbers from which they could select the ages of players extended downwards even as far as fourteen years. This resulted in a competition of lower standard and in many cases of lop-sided contests.
- (5) There was apathy in some quarters to selection on county teams, which over the years had resulted in some players and officials not putting in the effort for the county which they were prepared to give for their clubs. This apathy was the product of successive years of frustrating defeats and one could appreciate its existence. There was also the question of establishing very close liaison between the administrative body and the players, as in the past there was a tendency for each group to blame the other when things went badly, and unless both could work in harmony there was no other hope of success.

HARMONIOUS ATMOSPHERE

In view of this analysis, the Minor Board considered if a maximum effort was made over a period of a few years to prepare the existing talent, while at the same time setting up the structures to improve it, such effort would be reciprocated by the players and would create the atmosphere conducive to harmony. This would be a big step forward and together with any improvement in standard would dispel apathy and raise hopes of success.

The Minor Football League was inaugurated to provide extra competition for clubs, and while there are great administrative difficulties it has good potential. A sub-committee drawn from the Post-Primary Schools, has organised very successful under 15 (Cusack Cup) and under 17 (Smithwick Cup) Football Competitions, under the aegis of the Minor Board. A special effort was needed in this area with the great expansion in numbers of pupils attending these Schools.

The question of coaching at club level has not been adequately dealt with. One of the difficulties seems to be a scarcity of coaches. It is hoped to examine this matter during this Winter and to draw up a programme for early Spring.

In the first year of existence the Board organised an Inter-Divisional League from which a panel of players was selected to represent the county. These were brought together several times, for training, played a number of challenges against leading counties and during that time they were coached by J. P. McGowan and Babs Keating. This has been repeated each year since with some alterations and it is most encouraging to note, that the

**Matt
Kavanagh
Coach
Tours**

TIPPERARY

14 to 52 Seaters

LUXURY COACHES FOR HIRE
AND TOURS

Phone 51563

IN VICTORY OR DEFEAT
ENJOY THE TREAT
of

***Suir Valley
delicious
Ice Cream***

Made by

**THURLES
CO-OP.
CREAMERY**

LTD,

Thurles, Co, Tipperary

Phone 249 or 15

AGENTS THROUGHOUT IRELAND

panel selected has responded with enthusiasm, which has intensified each year.

There are great administrative difficulties confronting the Minor Board. These are due to the fact that it is a body which is subservient to a County Board and four Divisional Boards. Because it administers an area extending over four Divisions clashing of fixtures is inevitable with the Minor Board invariably giving way to the Senior. Besides, the Minor Board is governed by the progress which each Division makes with the Minor Championship. Would it improve the position to give control of the complete Minor Championship to the Minor Board? Again on the question of extending the area from which minor clubs could select,

this is a matter outside the control of the Minor Board and would have to be determined by the parent body.

It will be seen therefore that while problems still exist, things have taken an upward trend. The structures for more games have been set up. The additional competition will improve standards and improved standards will raise hopes of success. Already the players selected for county teams have responded enthusiastically, and over the past three years the improvement has been maintained. If it continues the breakthrough must come. Tipperary won it's only Minor Football All-Ireland in 1934. Would it be unrealistic to suggest that its second would come in 1974 on the occasion of its 40th anniversary.



Those tense moments before the throw-in. Referee Mick Slattery, Clarecastle, has a word with the Limerick captain, Eamonn Grimes, and his Tipperary counterpart, Francis Loughnane, prior to the start of the Munster final in Thurles. Tipperary's Co. Board P.R.O. and Development Officer, Seamus Ryan, is also in the picture.

BE WARM AND WELCOME

at

O'MEARA'S HOTEL

NENAGH

PROP.: MR L MAHER, LOUGHMORE

GRADE A., A.A., R.I.A.C., W.T.A.

RENOWNED FOR EXCELLENT CUISINE

Specialists in catering for

WEDDINGS, DINNERS, PARTIES

- ☐ CHAUFFEUR DRIVEN CARS AVAILABLE
- ☐ QUOTATIONS READILY AVAILABLE FOR GAA
CLUB DINNERS DANCES AND TEAM MEALS

PHONE NENAGH 266/411/412 FOR ALL RESERVATIONS



The late Joe Bergin

DEATH OF A HANDBALL CHAMP

FORMER ALL-IRELAND handball champion Joe Bergin, Cudville, Nenagh, passed to his eternal reward on 24th July 1973 after a long illness.

Joe began his distinguished handball career in the early 1930's when he and **Paddy Ryan**, Newtown, Youghalarra, won the schools' doubles championship at the opening of the C.B.S. ball court in Nenagh. In 1937 he won his first All-Ireland J.S.D championship with the late "**Micksey**" **O'Gorman**, Nenagh, and in 1941 he defeated the late **Joe Hassett**, also a great Nenagh handballer, for the right to represent Co. Tipperary in the All-Ireland S.S.S. championship, but was beaten by the late **Larry Roe**, Dublin, in the final.

In 1942 Joe and his brother **Stephen**, playing for Sligo, lost to their fellow Tipperary men, the brothers **Connie** and **Anthony Collins**, Ballina, in the All-Ireland final of the S.S.D. From 1943 until 1946 the softball championships were not played owing to the war-time scarcity of rubber balls.

In 1946 Bergin and **Jim O'Rourke**, playing for Sligo, were beaten in the national doubles final by the Dublin brothers, **Larry** and **George Roe**, but won the title for Sligo in 1947. In 1948 Joe, still playing for Sligo, beat the great **Larry Roe** in the S.S.S. final; in 1949 he and **Jackie Sweeney**, Nenagh, defeated the **Roe** brothers to win the S.S.D. crown for

Co. Tipperary, and in 1950 they retained the title and Bergin again won the All-Ireland S.S.S.

SPORTSMAN and PUBLIC FIGURE

Joe Bergin loved handball and lived for it. Always as immaculately groomed in the ball court as he was in the streets, he won with the modesty and lost with the grace of the true sportsman and he seldom afterwards spoke much about either his triumphs or his defeats.

He retired from ball playing in 1951, but was President of the I.H.A. from 1951 until 1953. In January 1972 he was presented with the Knocknagow Award by the United Sports Panel, Clonmel.

Married with four sons and two daughters, as a public figure and an eminently successful business man the late Joe Bergin was a North Tipperary county councillor and a Nenagh urban district councillor; a founder member and past president (several times) of the Nenagh Chamber of Commerce; a founder member of the Nenagh/Dromineer Development Association; president for several years in succession of the Irish Wholesale Confectioners' Association; a past president of Mount St. Joseph College P.P.U., and chairman of An Dail Ceanntair and North Tipperary constituency delegate to the National Executive of Fianna Fail.

May he rest in peace.



KILRUANE McDONAGHS—who had the unenviable distinction of being runners-up in both the North S.H.C. final and County S.H.C. final. Standing, left to right: Jim Maloughney, Phil Reddan, Liam O'Shea, John Kelly, Paddy Williams, Mackey Keogh, Gilbert Williams, Sean O'Meara, Jimmy Gibson. Front, left to right: Denis Cahill, Sean Hyland (capt.), Len Gaynor, Tom Killackey, Joe Hutchinson, Jim Williams, Noel Killackey.

JUBILATION IN GOLDEN JUBILEE YEAR

GERRY SLEVIN glances back at Tipperary's sole All-Ireland victory in minor

football

DEFEATED IN THE first round, Tipperary won their one only All-Ireland minor football title in 1934 without even playing in the final! Strange, but true nonetheless and some enterprising question master might well concoct a sticky question out of that to put to some knowledgeable G.A.A. person in the forthcoming Scor competitions.

The championship was introduced in 1929 and Clare were the first winners. Dublin followed them in 1930 and then Kerry got in on the act and had it all to themselves, winning three titles in a row. 1934 was the Golden Jubilee of the foundation of the G.A.A. in Hayes Hotel, Thurles, back in 1884 and how fitting it was that Tipperary, the home of the G.A.A., should be the county to take the minor football title—and minor hurling too—in that commemorative year.

But let's get back to that first round defeat. Clare came to Tipperary and won 3-3 to 2-5 but they later had to bow out of the race when Tipp lodged an objection which was upheld and the scene was then set for a shown down with mighty Kerry in Clonmel. It ended in a draw, 2-3 each, and the replay was in Dungarvan. Another 2-3 for Tipperary this time, but the champions could only manage five points and the breakthrough had been made. Tipperary's Munster final victory was easier still. Waterford fell by fourteen points, 3-10 to 0-5, and Tipperary had won their first ever provincial title in the grade. They beat Mayo in Tralee in the All-Ireland semi-final—what an extraordinary venue for these teams—and having been 1-3 to 2-4 behind at the interval put in a fine second half to soundly thresh the Westerners, 4-9 to 2-5.

Tipperary were now through to the All-Ireland final but the honour of playing the final never came their way. The other semi-finalists were Dublin and Tyrone and both were thrown out by Central Council because of illegal players. So, Tipperary, defeated in the first round, had the distinction of winning the All-Ireland title without ever playing in the final. Interesting to note that when they were awarded the title by Central Council on Saturday, October 20th, 1934, another decision was reached at the same meeting, presided over by the then President and now Munster Council secretary, Sean McCarthy. It was decided to authorise the expenditure of £30,000 on the project of building a new double-decked stand in Croke Park—the Cusack Stand. It

was to seat 4,390 and with 12,000 to 15,000 being accommodated underneath.

Tipperary's minor footballers have not won an All-Ireland title since but the men who brought the distinction of the 1934 title to the county were: Hugh O'Donnell, Fethard; Mick Lalor, Fethard; Tom Kenney, Commercial; Pat Blanchfield, Ballyneale; Mick Gavin, Commercial; Harry McGrath, Commercial; Jim O'Connor, Arravale Rovers; Mick Byrne, Fethard; Charles Dillon, Commercial; Andy Greensmith (capt.), Arravale Rovers; James Hickey, Fethard; Eamonn O'Toole, Thurles; William Power, Clonpet; John Maher, Commercial; Martin Power, Commercial.

Subs.: Brendan Kissane, Alex Grogan, William Hennessy, Tipperary; William Quirke, Ned Smyth, William Noonan, Commercial; Jim Gunn, Fethard; Jim Purcell, Kilsheelin; Jim O'Shea, Ballyneale.

Members of Tipperary County Board

The following constitute the membership of the Tipperary County Board:

Chairman—Tom O'Hara, Gortnahoe.

Vice-Chairmen—Michael Small, Thurles; Hubie Hogan, Lorrha; Phil Shea, Cloneen; Michael Frawley, Emly.

Secretary—Tommy Barrett, Thurles.

Treasurer—Matt Hassett, Toomevara.

P.R.O. and Development Officer—Seamus O Riain, Moneygall.

Central Council representative—Michael Maher, Holycross.

Munster Council representatives—Donie Nealon, Burgess, and Michael Frawley, Emly.

Trustees from Divisional Boards—Martin O'Connor (North), Jimmy Hennessy (West), P. J. Kenny (South), John Lanigan (Mid).

Delegates from Divisional Boards:

Mid—Sean Ryan (secretary), John Doyle, Jacksie Ryan, Gus Ryan, Phil O'Dwyer.

North—Donie Nealon (secretary), Neil Williams, Paddy Quinlan, John Lawlor, Michael O'Brien.

South—Michael O'Meara (secretary), Michael McCarthy, John Kehoe, Michael Keating, Jimmy Collins.

West—Michael Maguire (secretary), George Ryan, Hugh Kennedy, Senator Willie Ryan, Tony Doherty.

65 Bord na nOg Representative—Willie O'Dwyer.

FOR BEST QUALITY

BEEF,

MUTTON,

LAMB

and

PORK

SHOP AT

T. FITZGIBBON

DAVIS STREET,

TIPPERARY

**DEEP FREEZE CUSTOMERS SPECIALLY
CATERED FOR**

Phone 51453

MAKE

***The
Shamrock
Lounge***

KILROSS

Your venue for a night's entertainment

FOR

- **BEST QUALITY DRINKS**
- **CABARET SESSIONS**
- **BALLAD SESSIONS**
- **DANCING**

Prop.: R. Murphy

Phone Tipp. 55111

SEAN RYAN—MID BOARD SECRETARY—DIES SUDDENLY

JUST AS THE FINAL touches to this Year Book are being made, comes the sad news of the sudden death of Mid Board secretary, Sean Ryan, Templemore, which occurred on Saturday, November 24th. Sean was, in fact, a member of the Year Book committee and last year collaborated with Seamus O Riain in an article about his late father-in-law, the famed Jim Ryan from Loughmore, a member of the Tipperary team on Bloody Sunday.

A native of Loughmore, Sean was the essence of integrity, sincerity and dedication to the ideals

of the Association. A perfectionist in his work, both at divisional and county level, he was a model of industry and in his quiet way accomplished a tremendous amount of work for his division. The county at large has lost a fine worker, a man whose heart and soul was in the promotion of the G.A.A. at all levels. The Mid Board has lost a secretary, the likes of which is not easy to replace and to his bereaved widow and family goes the heartfelt sympathy of all, and expression that was so evident in the fine gathering of Gaels

from both within and without the county when his remains draped in the county and club colours of his native Loughmore were conveyed to Templemore church and thence to Loughmore cemetery.



Cumann Luith Chleas Gael

Coisde Thiobrad Arann (Mean)

We wish to take this opportunity of expressing our deepest gratitude to all who helped the Board in the successful running of its affairs during 1973, and extend best wishes to all for good fortune in 1974



Tipperary's one and only All-Ireland minor football title was won in 1934 as can be seen in the accompanying article. These are the men who brought that distinction to the county in the Golden Jubilee year of the G.A.A.

IN MEMORIAM

Mick Ryan (Holycross)

Mick played for many years with the county team and he was one of the All-Ireland senior team that won the title in 1930. He gave years of service to his native club, Boherlahan, before joining the Thurles Sarsfields.

His son Liam Ryan is a well-known referee.

James Teehan, Ardfinnan

He was principal teacher of Ardfinnan school up to his retirement a few years ago, and was an active organiser of Gaelic games amongst the youth. He was chairman of South Division of Bord na nÓg for a number of years.

Hugh Kennedy, Bansha

He was one of the great Bansha team which won the South Division Championship in 1912 and claimed the county championship after they had beaten Mullinahone but their claim was not upheld. He was on the county junior team of that year which went on to win the first junior All-Ireland championship.

Paddy 'Major' Collison, Moneygall

Major played with Moneygall and with the great Toomevara combination of the twenties and early thirties. He won a place on the county team in 1925 and again he played in the historic games against Cork in 1926, and in the first national hurling league campaign in 1925/26. He was also a footballer of note. His brother Darby Collison was a member of the winning team in 1916.

Percy Larkin, Kilsheelan

Percy started his inter-county career with the junior team of 1940 and quickly won promotion to the senior selection. He gave outstanding service to his club and county as a great corner-back. He was on the team beaten by Cork by a solitary point in 1945; Cork went on to win the All-Ireland. He was also a very competent hurler and was honoured by the county selectors on a number of occasions.

Ned Cummins, Fethard

Ned Cummins returned from New York early in the year hoping to enjoy his retirement in Fethard in his new home. But his health deteriorated and after a brief illness he passed away and was

buried in his native Fethard.

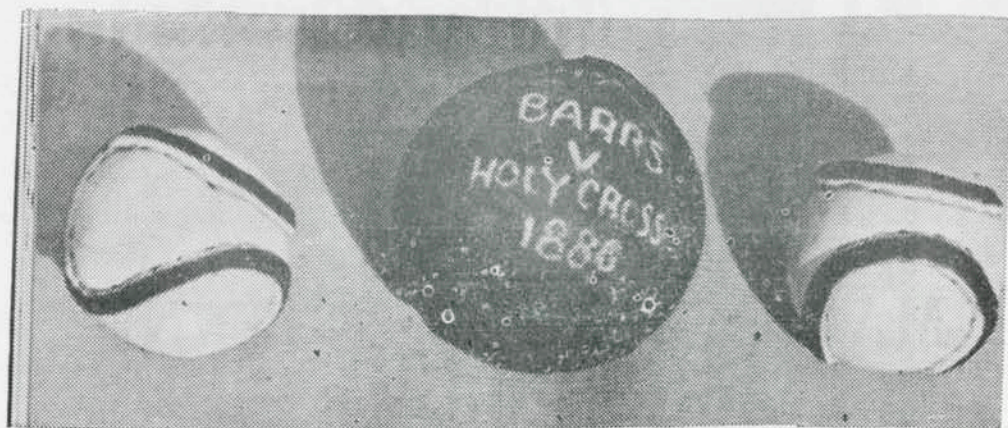
Ned was an outstanding footballer and he won a place on the county team when Tipperary football was dominant, and he won an All-Ireland medal with the famous 1920 team.

He emigrated to New York in 1926 and he was one of the great players on the team that won the championship there from 1926 to 1929.

He was a prominent official of the Tipperary Association in New York and he also played a big part in the work of the United Irish Counties Association in organising the Annual Feis and helping in social and charitable work.


Those of us who travelled on the various tours to New York will always remember the warmth and kindness of his welcome and the care he took to ensure that the party enjoyed their stay. Ned's staunch qualities were inherited from his famous father, Richard Cummins, who was the first captain of the great Fethard team in the early years of the Association. He was also chairman of the Co. Board from 1901 to 1905 and he was the first chairman of the Munster Council. When Alderman James Nowlan was first elected President of the G.A.A. in 1901, Richard Cummins was the only other nomination but he withdrew in favour of the Kilkennyman.

Seamus O Riain




An interesting photograph of the ball used in the 1886 hurling game between Holycross and St. Finbarr's, Cork. The present day sliotars beside it, give some indication of the difference in size between the sliotars of yesteryear and those of to-day. The game for which this ball was used was played in Cork in August 1886 and was the first clash between these great rival counties and the Tipperary representatives took the honours.

THE HURLERS HOME



Where the best drinks are
served in comfortable
surroundings

BE SURE OF VALUE AND
SATISFACTION WHEN YOU
CALL



MAIN ST., BORRISOKANE

PROPS.: MR AND MRS THOMAS COFFEY



BORRISOKANE—who won the North intermediate title and then went on to reach the County final, going down to South champions, Ballingarry. Standing, left to right: Noel Tuohy, Noel Brennan, Pat Brophy, Paddy Buckley, Paul Whyte, Mick Hanley, Martin Darcy, Tom Donnelly, Mick Murphy, Tony McKenna, Jackie Brennan, Jimmy Cahill. Front, left to right: Seanie Phelan, Eamonn Brennan (L), Pat Reddan, Mackey McKenna, Sean Donnelly, Mick Morris (capt.) Noel Morris, Eamonn Brennan (M), John Farrell.

HEARNS' HOTEL

CLONMEL

SPACIOUS FUNCTION ROOM

FOR

Dinner Dances
Conferences

Phone 59

KAVANAGHS

West Gate

Gladstone St.

Clonmel

For all your

SPORTING REQUIREMENTS



ARDFINNAN: South senior football champions and County finalists. Front, left to right: Patsy Savage, Michael Keating, Peter Savage, C. Browne, Liam Myles, Richie Boyle, Michael Prendergast, Aidan O'Mahony. Standing, left to right: Jim Healy, Pat Carroll, T. J. Walsh, Philip O'Brien, Eamonn O'Gorman, Patsy Ryan, John Cummins.



With an unblemished record right through their league campaign, Tipperary's footballers in the Div. II section of the N.F.L. took on Down in the semi-final of the competition in Croke Park and in the absence of Michael Keating, through injury, acquitted themselves admirably before going under by a very slender margin. The team, standing left to right, was: John O'Donoghue (Arravale Rovers), Pat Hanrahan (Fr Sheehy's), Sean Kearney (Loughmore), Eddie Webster (Loughmore), Paddy O'Connell (Commercials), Jim Kehoe (Kilshieelin), Noel Byrne (Fethard), Vincent O'Donnell (Garda, Dublin), Front, left to right: Din Burke (Fethard), Richie O'Gorman (Kilshieelin), Pat O'Donoghue (Commercials), Dick Strang, capt. (Kilshieelin), Brendan Hall (Mullinahone), John Cummins (Ardfinnan), Paudie Blythe (Fr Sheehy's).

Cumann Luith Chleas Gael

Coisde Thiobrad Arann (Theas)

The above Board through this medium extends to all players, referees, members and supporters sincerest thanks for loyal support and help in the past.

With sincerest wishes to all for success in the New Year

RYANS

THE CARPET HOUSE

NELSON STREET, CLONMEL

Call soon and see Ireland's finest selection of
Carpets and Furniture at keenest prices

Tel.: 763-771

Proprietor : John Ryan

Duggan Jeweller & Watchmaker

★ WE SPECIALISE IN ★

CUPS, MEDALS, SPORTS PRIZES

All goods purchased engraved free on premises

Gold Soldering a speciality

13 MITCHELL STREET
CLONMEL

BEFORE AND AFTER THE GAME

Call to ...

JIM GLEESON'S

FOR BEST DRINKS

THE SPORTSMAN'S BAR

CLONMEL

PHONE 537

1930 ALL-IRELAND

The 7th of September being the date of the year,
When Tipperary and Dublin once more did appear,
In the All-Ireland final in Old Dublin Town,
When the laurels of Dublin old Tipp did pull down.

About 2 o'clock at the venue we found,
30,000 spectators had gathered around,
When Dublin came on for to die or to do,
And the colours they wore were the famous light blue.

Next came Tipperary, those boys of great fame,
Through the States and old Ireland they've earned their name,
Led in by their captain both fearless and bold,
And the colours they wore were the blue and the gold.

The teams were lined up and the backs were sent out,
The bookies grew hoarse as for bets they did shout,
Even money Tipperary we soon heard them say,
And the champions of Munster will carry the day.

The ball was thrown in and they started to play,
For the hurling blue ribband in battle array,
The old Dublin mountains re-echoed each clash,
Every whiz of the ball, every clash of the ash.

A foul on the right brought Tipperary a free,
And the ball it was placed by the bold referee,
Phil Cahill rose and struck it, Lord how it did soar,
Over the bar for Tipperary's first score.

The work done at midfield by Treacy was grand,
And the cheers for that hero that came from the stand,
Will live in our memory until we are dead,
And the crimson stained bandage he wore round his head.

Good luck to you Kennedy and long may you reign,
You're the star of all Munster and the pride of the game,
And you Tommy Leahy we'll never forget,
When you slap banged off Callanan right into the net.

Two goals seven points when the long whistle blew,
To the spot where our flag was unfurled we flew,
We marched round our heroes and wished them good cheer,
To be All-Ireland champions for many a year.

For your Self Drive Car in Ireland

Contact

Tipperary Self Drive

Main Office:

**LIMERICK ROAD,
TIPPERARY**

Phone 51213 Telex 8258

Also at

SHANNON AIRPORT Phone 61532

DUBLIN AIRPORT Phone 377598

NEW YORK OFFICE Phone 212-937-5636

CHICAGO OFFICE Phone 289-2660-61

Your choice will be from 300 of the latest Ford models, ranging from Escorts to Granada GXL Automatic or Standard.

Cars may be delivered or collected at any place in Ireland by arrangement



A GAY NIGHT IN LONDON'S GRESHAM BALLROOM

Once more Tipperary's hurlers were invited to participate in the annual Wembley Tournament at Whit, the opposition this year being the Carroll's Allstar side. As usual the Tipperary Association in London rose to the occasion and seen at a reception in the Gresham Ballroom, Holloway Road, during the visit are, back, left to right: Tom O'Hara, Co. Board Chairman; Dick Butler, Tipperary Association Chairman; Seamus Ryan, P.R.O. and Co. Development Officer; Margaret Delaney (Templeberry); Fr John O'Neill (Cappawhite); Lena Casey (Drom/Inch); Donie Nealon (team trainer). Front, left to right: Tommy Barrett (Co. Board Secretary); Jimmy Keating (Secretary, Tipperary Association); Michael Geaney (Nenagh), and Pat McCarthy (Newtown, Nenagh).

BURNS FUEL STORES

Coal, Turf, Briquettes,
Anthracite and Phurnacite

PROMPT DELIVERIES—KEENEST PRICES

HANLEY'S PLACE, NENAGH

'Phone 914

BEFORE THE MATCH

AFTER THE MATCH

or

JUST ANY TIME

JOHN RYAN

51 SUMMERHILL, NENAGH

FOR

Best drinks in pleasant surroundings

Phone: NENAGH 928

TADHG
O'FLYNN

WATCHMAKER
and
JEWELLER

Large selection of Cups and Trophies,
Plaques and Medals, always in stock.

WATERFORD AND GALWAY
CRYSTAL

All leading makes in Watches—first
class watch repairs

Wedding Rings, Engagement Rings, etc.

1, MITCHEL ST.,
NENAGH
and
PORTUMNA

JACKIE
GRIFFIN

25 Liberty Square

THURLES

BEST FOR

FRESH FRUIT
SWEETS
CHOCOLATES
MAGAZINES
NEWSPAPERS
GREETING CARDS



HOLYCROSS took the County under 16 hurling title during the year, thereby giving hope for a come-back in that famed club that has been out of the limelight for so long. Standing, left to right: S. Kennedy, K. Dermody, M. Browne, J. Doherty, J. Doyle, P. Ryan, S. Barrett, P. Lowry, M. Doyle, J. J. O'Dwyer, T. Comerford (capt.). Front, left to right: T. Ryan, S. Lowry, J. Dwyer, T. Stakelum, B. Mackey, T. Lanigan, T. McGrath, J. Ryan, P. Quinlan, T. Skehan, K. Ryan. Absent when the photo was taken was M. Skehan.

PADDY RYAN

Auctioneer and Valuer, Nenagh

**Sales of Houses, Lands, Property etc.,
Conducted Efficiently**

**Valuations for Probate, Administration, Litigation, Mortgages,
Company Formation, Etc.**

Regular Auctions of Specially Imported Antique, Reproduction and Modern Furniture,
conducted in Centrally Heated Auction Rooms, at 19 Sarsfield Street, Nenagh.

(WATCH LOCAL PAPERS)

PADDY RYAN, Auctioneer & Valuer, Nenagh 'Phone 929

BEFORE AND AFTER THE MATCH

Call to

**TOM BRERETON'S
LOUNGE & BAR**

FOR FINEST DRINKS

Parnell Street — Thurles

THE SPORTSMENS HOUSE



Roscrea's knacky forward Joe Tynan gets in his shot and scores a goal during the Munster club final in Limerick against Glen Rovers. The Tipperary champions failed to take the title though.

TOP SCORER

Tipperary may not have achieved much in the football world in 1973, but nonetheless the top score by an individual in the championship was Paudie Blythe's 3-3 against Limerick in the first round. The Tipperary sharpshooter was also the only player to score three goals in the championship.

APT HEADLINE

In 1910 when a team named Father Matthew's beat Youghal-arra, a contemporary newspaper report headlined the win as "A Victory for Temperance."

WINNING STREAK

For twenty seasons, 1949-1968, Tipperary won at least one provincial hurling title in some grade every year!

GOOD VALUE

The first admission charge in Tipperary was at Cashel in 1895, when Tubberadora beat Suir View. The "gate" was £40 — admission 2d.

At today's inflated prices what sort of "gate" would a team of Tubberadora's calibre attract?

THE HOUSE FOR VALUE



RYAN & HARTY

GENTS' OUTFITTERS

BOOTS & SHOES

Suits to measure a speciality

KENYON STREET, NENAGH

VISIT—

Jack & Mamie Sherlock

45 SUMMERHILL, NENAGH

Before and after all social and business
occasions

FOR BEST DRINKS

MAKE NENAGH'S . . .

HOTEL ORMOND

Your venue for

WEDDING RECEPTIONS,

BIRTHDAY PARTIES,

DINNER DANCES, ETC.

Personal supervision a speciality

**Hotel open for Dinner Dances on Sunday
and Friday Nights**

Regular dance promotions in Scouts' Hall
Sundays & Fridays, featuring Ireland's top bands

Phone Neangh 404

HAYES

HOTEL

THURLES

Co. Tipperary

* **Birthplace of the GAA**

* **Ideal venue for**

WEDDINGS

SOCIALS

PARTIES

ETC.

**For all your
*Insurance needs***

Contact

**John
O'Donoghue**

INSURANCE BROKER

AND CONSULTANT

**73 MAIN STREET.,
TIPPERARY**

Agent for the

**Educational Building
Society**

Phone 51464



A trip to Croke Park for the All-Ireland football final as well, of course, as the honour and glory of taking a County title was the reward for the under 14 footballers from Clonmel Commercial's pictured here. Front row, left to right: D. Mullins, J. O'Brien, S. O'Keeffe, B. Lambe, S. Conway, V. Mullins (capt.), E. Loneragan, A. Twomey, L. Tobin, A. Powell, W. Smith. Standing, left to right: G. Millar, P. Linnane, M. Nolan, N. Twomey, M. Hanly, C. Murphy, T. O'Keeffe, E. Gavigan, S. O'Neill, B. Keane.



Football at minor level shows great promise and this year Tipperary again won the Munster Council's special competition when they defeated Waterford in the final in Clonmel. Later they held mighty Kerry to a draw in the championship proper, going under in the re-play. The side that won the special competition is seen here. Standing, left to right: M. Cunningham, J. Ryan, G. McGrath, G. Loneragan, P. Kirby, D. Ryan, M. Friberg, J. Shanahan. Front, life to right: P. Queally, A. Maher, M. Crowley, T. Crowley, P. Larkin, D. Dwyer, R. Stapleton.



Boherlahan may not be the hurling force they were in the past, but they are knitting in very well in the G.A.'s, new social development—the Scor competitions. Five young men from the parish took provincial honours in the ballad group section this year and they are pictured here, left to right: Sean Ryan, Ed Dwyer, Maddy Connolly (coach), Eamonn Ryan, Bernie Ryan and Tom Dwyer.

THE WATCH CENTRE

NENAGH

Large selection of Medals, Trophies, Cups in stock

ENGRAVING A SPECIALITY

**Agents for all well-known brands of Watches,
comprehensive stocks of Jewellery, Rings,
Clocks, Lighters, Wallets, Pens, Bracelets,
Bangles, Charms, Jewel Boxes,
Cuff Links, etc.**

the watch that science built

Seiko is the watch that science built. Constructed by most sophisticated equipment to within the finest tolerances. The world's biggest-selling name in quality jewelled lever watches. You can afford a Seiko Watch. See the full range at your local jeweller.

SEIKO
Modern Master of Time



Agents for
**WATERFORD
CRYSTAL**

**SPEEDY REPAIR
SERVICE**

**25 MITCHEL ST.,
NENAGH**

Phone 067—913

CHAMPIONS OF '49

On the fourth day of September in the year of
Forty Nine

When Laoghis and Tipperary in sporting fray did
join.

In Croke Park's famed arena where thousands came
to cheer

Those sturdy caman wielders who for honours did
appear.

When Cashel's beloved Archbishop set the teams to
play

The Tipperary forwards began their great display,
Tho' each stout Laoghis defender was working like
a giant,

The flying Pat Stakelum sent over Tipp's first point.

Then sharp shooting Jimmy Kennedy was taking
steady aim,

'Twas then the Laoghis supporters were fearing for
the game.

As Shanahan and Kenny kept the forwards on their
toes

'Twas pass the ball to Kennedy and between the
posts it goes.

The man from Toomevara then added to the score,
Then Paddy Kenny's goal and points increased the
margin more

Helped on by Sonny Maher of Boherlahan fame,
From then, on it was easy guess the outcome of the
game.

Here's health to Tony Reddin, may he guard the
posts for long,

To Brennan of Clonoulty, a full back brave and
strong,

And Bannon, pride of Nenagh, who gave a great
display,

But let us not forget the two Ryan brothers from
Roscrea.

And Tommy Ryan of Thurles would be a much felt
loss

With the Stakelums, Doyles and Corman from far-
famed Holycross,

And Sean and Paddy Kenny from dear old Borriso-
leigh.

Their play was well worth going a long way "for to
see."

Sonny Maher and Flor Coffey recalls Boherlahan
fame

And Toomevara's Shanahan brought memories back
again,

There was Sarsfields' Micky Byrne as nimble as
could be

And our star man Jimmy Kennedy as yet with UCD.

Well done, we say, good neighbours, in the county
of O'Moore,

The craft of Tipperary your boys could not endure.
May we always have such sportsmen who we know
in praise will join

For Ireland's hurling champions in Nineteen Forty
Nine.
"Top Hat"

GOLDEN VALE

Dundrum

Luxurious Lounges

BEST FOR

DRINKS, BALLAD SESSIONS,
ENTERTAINMENT

TOP-CLASS WEDDING RECEPTIONS
AND FUNCTIONS

DRESS AND DINNER DANCES,
PARTIES AND CONFERENCES

VISIT

The Golden Vale Ballroom

Tipperary's Most Luxurious Up-to-date
Modern Ballroom

Pitch and Putt Course available

(Props.: Mr. and Mrs. Austin Crowe)

Tel. Dundrum 17



MULLINAHONE—South J.F. champions. Front, left to right: Tommy Sullivan, Michael Scott, Ed. Brett, Willie Croke, Frank McEniry, John Brett, Tom Carey, James Kelly, Jim Fitzgerald, Joe Tobin. Back, left to right: Rick Sheehan, Joe Williams, Ed. Staunton, Brendan Hall, Jack Gardiner, Lance Vaughan, Noel Ryan, Billy Brett, Eamonn Gardiner, Dick Egan, Michael Lawrence.



The Drom/Inch senior hurling team which, the week after its defeat by Sarsfields in the Mid final created the shock of the year by defeating 1972 finalists, Borris-Ileigh, in the quarter final of the County championship. Standing, left to right: Michael Costello, Larry Doherty, Seamus Butler, Oliver Quinn, Tommy Blake, Paudie Butler, Jim Carey, Eamonn Butler, Paul Stapleton, John Brennan. Front, left to right: Michael Butler, Pat Doherty, Jim Costello, Paddy Connolly, Pascal Ryan, Johnny Harkin (capt.), Ger Doherty, Matty Ryan, Michael Purcell, John Dwyer. Omitted from the photo is Larry Ryan.

SEAN CROWE MOTORS

SALES—SERVICE

LIMERICK ROAD, TIPPERARY

SALES

Large Selection of Used Cars in Stock

Any Make of New Car Supplied

All Cars Carry AI Guarantee

Hours: 9 a.m. to 7.00 p.m. Monday—SATURDAY

SERVICE

Electronic Tuning with All Car Services

Factory Trained Mechanics

Personal Supervision

Hours: 9.00 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. Monday to Friday

RENT-A-CAR

For Day — Week — Month

All Latest Models

At Low-Low Rates

Free Delivery and Collection to all Airports
or any part of Ireland by appointment

Phone (062) 51219 / 51732

Plant Hire: Bulldozers, Hydraulic Excavators,
Rubber Tyred Diggers, Dumpers,
Compressors.

Specialists in: Site Clearance, Demolition,
Land Reclamation, Public Works.

Contract or Hourly Rates. Distance no
object.

**Coiste Contae Tiobrad Arann CLG
Tipperary County Board G.A.A.**

We take this opportunity of thanking our supporters for their kind patronage during 1972 and we look forward to your continued support in the coming year.

DATE TO NOTE:

COUNTY CONVENTION

SCOL AILBE, THURLES

JANUARY 27th, 1974

**Wishing all the Clubs the success they deserve
during 1974**

TOMAS O BAROID, Runai.



Great to have a round!

BARLOWS

(Barlo Farm Machines Ltd.)

CLONMEL

Farm Machinery Specialists

(Established 1944)

Importers of JONES BALERS

Manufacturers of BARLO GRAIN TANKS

Main dealers for

**CLAAS, DAVID BROWN, KIDD,
J.F., ALFA LAVAL, HOWARD**



Large stocks of used tractors,
balers, combine harvesters,
milking machines



SALES · SERVICE · SPARES

Telephone: CLONMEL 210 (3 lines) Telex 8653



Tiobraid Árann Bliainiris 1974