

GARDENING (Vegetables)

— Colm Kennedy

Because we are able to cash in on nature for the production of root crops vegetables are among the most rewarding. In almost every case root crops store up food reserves in their roots or bulbous ground-level stems for use in the formation of seed the following season. By nature they provide for the wise gardener a ready-made system for the storage of food for winter and early spring use, when most vegetables are scarce. Time of sowing, ground preparation, choices of varieties are crucial to ensure all-the-year round supply of vegetables. In general, roots are best grown on ground manured or treated with compost for a previous years crop. Carrots and parsnips tend to develop very forked roots on freshly manured land. The time of sowing vegetables should be related to the particular crop. For any kind of success a well prepared seed-bed is absolutely essential. I always like to start with ground that has been winter dug so that the frosts, winds and rains of winter have played their part long before sowing time comes. It is impossible to make a decent seed-bed after spring digging. Another point worth remembering, note with care the depth of sowing needed, as seed sown too deeply is the cause, in most cases, of poor germination. Sow thinly, save seed and time which would otherwise be wasted in thinning-out later. Later I will give a run-down on vegetables most suited for the average gardener.

COOKERY

Safety in the Kitchen:

1. Always make sure there is a grown-up present when you intend to cook, and as a matter of fact, ask them to light the oven or grill for you. It is as well also to ask them to take the item out of the oven for.
2. Don't forget to use oven gloves or an oven cloth when taking things out and putting them into the oven.
3. Fireproof dishes only should be used in the oven, and do not put them on a cold or wet surface when you take them out.
4. Ask a grown up to help you when using sharp knives.
5. Show your recipe to a grown up before you start to cook.

Before Cooking:

Wear an apron when preparing your recipe. Be sure your hands are clean.

After Cooking:

Wash up as you go along. Some things will only need to be rinsed before using again. Leave the kitchen clean and tidy after you.

Weighing and Measuring:

1. At first when cooking always weigh out amounts carefully. Later, when you are experienced you may be able to judge amounts without weighing.
2. When measuring level tablespoons or teaspoons, heap the spoon and then level off with a knife.

This months Recipe:

EGGS IN TOMATOES

Ingredients:

Tomatoes (one for each person),
Eggs (one for each person)
Salt and Pepper
Butter
Bread crumbs.
(also required a small pointed knife and fireproof dish.)

Method:

Turn on your oven (Gas No. 4 or Electricity 350 degrees). Cup tops off tomatoes and scoop out centres with spoon. Put the tomatoes in a fireproof dish and sprinkle a little salt and pepper inside. Crack eggs and drop one into each tomato. Sprinkle again lightly with pepper and salt. Sprinkle with bread-crumbs and top up with a piece of butter. Bake until whites of eggs are quite firm (ten minutes or so), and serve quickly.

FOR SALE

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The Opposite

Maggie and Mick had been keeping company for a long, long time, and she decided to drop a hint. "I found a four leafed shamrock today", she said, "and they say that's a sign of a Wedding." "Not at all", said Mick, "It's a sign of good luck".

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MAYNOOTH

NEWSLETTER

Published by Maynooth Community Council.

NOVEMBER, 1975. NO. 3

PRICE TEN PENCE.

EDITORIAL

All our Future

The Community Council is a local representative body convened democratically. In it's dealings with local or central government or other agencies it will, as far as possible, use the medium of negotiation to achieve it's ends. Only when all other means have failed will the notion of direct community action be considered, whether by way of protest or other types of agitation. How can we as a community expect governmental or other bodies to act on and deal effectively with our grievances when we often do little or nothing to help ourselves? Take, for instance, the recent report of the adjudicators in the "Tidy Towns" competition which was printed in our last issue. How much will you do to improve on the matters needing attention? Or take the Royal Canal and it's development — will you, when needed, show that this community, through sheer effort, organisation and self-help, can successfully accomplish at least some of the work necessary to put this amenity to useful purposes? An old saying says "Life is what you make it" — the truth often lies here; it is not always what others, or government, or indeed your Community Council can make it for you. Modern society is individualistic and full of sectional and selfish interests but the way is open and the means available to attempt to answer the widespread sense of unease and frustration about the way our lives are organised for us. Professor Ivor Browne once said "People should play an active part in running their own affairs" — the role of the Community Council is here; organising, co-ordinating, suggesting and stimulating local effort. Our function is to lead and not drive — we will work primarily with people and not always or necessarily for them. We see no place for unproductive argument regarding our aims or objectives which were set out in general terms in our first issue and are now being formulated more specifically. This community responded generously to the projects such as the swimming-pool and the development of the Harbour field, undertaken by the Maynooth Development Association to date. With regard to the future — do not expect the impossible, rather work to achieve it. The Maynooth area will soon see further development and we need to control it and our environment generally: we need more recreational facilities; we need to improve existing amenities and all types of services. But above all, we need human growth and development. Support the efforts of your Council to make Maynooth a dynamic and forward-looking community. We are aware of our responsibilities regarding all our future — it is one of our aims to make you more aware of yours.

— WATCH OUT FOR OUR SPECIAL DECEMBER ISSUE —

DO YOU WANT YOUR MONEY BACK?

SEE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS ISSUE.

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Maynooth Castle — M. Cullen.
The Unnecessary Canal — Stephen Rynne.
The Royal Canal — Vincent Duffe.
Maynooth Vista — Newcomer.
Sponsored Cycle Ride — Report and Pictures.

Cycle-Touring — Rev. F. O'Higgins P.P.
Beekeeping — Colm Kennedy.

St. Oliver Plunkett — Monsignor Tomás Ó Fiach

Amateur Photography — Paddy Madden
Caving — David Drew.

The Role of Television — M. Layde,
M. College.

The Civil Defence Service — Ted Kelly.
Sports Page and reports and features from Residents Associations, Clubs, Organisations, etc.

plus picture for caption prize.
Editorial Committee — Ted Kelly,
Vincent Duffe, John Read and Des Fabey.
Photographs by Sean Tracey and Paddy Madden.

USEFUL LINES

The following local telephone numbers are for your information in case of need:-

Garda Siochana, Maynooth — 286234
Garda Siochana, Naas — 7333
Fire Brigade & Ambulance — 286222
Rev. Fr. O'Higgins, P.P. — 286220
Archdeacon Fisher — 286233
Rev. Fr. Supple, C.C. — 286210

Cut out and keep in a convenient place.

Community Council News

The Council was very pleased with the result of the Cycle Ride and are glad to report that over 80 riders set out on the course and practically all completed. The stewarding passed without a hitch and the Civil Defence Casualty Service had only a few bruises to attend to. Unfortunately the weather did not hold, and rain fell from about 1.00 p.m. but, all struggled valiantly on, despite the weather. It is too early yet to say exactly how it went financially, beyond that it was a great success. Money is still pouring in to the organisers and those who have not yet done so are asked to do so immediately.

The chairman reported on various meetings and discussions on street lighting, road and footpath repairs, work on the sports field, etc, and was pleased to report that some extra street lights have already been erected, with some more to come, and further that some of the street and footpath repairs have been included in the book of estimates for the coming twelve months. This should mean that the works should soon be started.

Activities Committee:

The Activities committee reported on the arrangements for the Hallowe'en Tramps and Fancy Dress Ball but reported some little difficulty with regard to the Bonfire, but it was hoped to overcome this. The Committee also reported on some proposed arrangements for Christmas (Christmas tree, carols, etc.) This will be reported more fully in next issue.

Constitution and Rules:

The Council reported completion of the drafting of the Constitution and Rules and it was decided to send them for legal opinion before having them formally adopted.

Tidy Towns Competition:

The Tidy Towns Report (see last issue) was discussed by the Council and a Sub-Committee was instituted to draft a three-year plan with a view, hopefully, of getting into the top ranks by 1978/79 if not before.

T. V. Aerial:

The Chairman reported that there had been further discussions on the Community Mast and that provisional permission had been given to use a private aerial (with amplifiers, etc.) until a permanent site was settled on. A suitable private aerial was found and it is hoped to complete details with the owner shortly. The cost per house for a link-up with the system will be £58, with an annual maintenance fee of £3.00. (This has been approved by the Prices Commission).

Youth Council:

The forming of a Youth Council for the Community was discussed and the Community Council would be glad to have the views of young people up to 20 years of age on this matter. Young people are asked to send in their opinions or to discuss the matter with their local Community Representative.

LIST OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

CHAIRMAN

Brian Eddery, 85 Maynooth Park

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Pamela Fegan, Moyglare

SECRETARY

John Read, 86 Rail Park

TREASURER

Colm Kennedy, Laraghbryan

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

Ted Kelly, Main Street

COUNCIL MEMBERS

John Barnwall, Doctors Lane

Liam Bean, Main Street

Owen Byrne, 748 Old Greenfield

Vincent Duffe, 12 Laurence Avenue

Bernard Durkan, Timard

Maura Fahy, 124 Rail Park

Michael Loughnane, 46 Cluain Aoibhinn

Anne McGarry, 757 Old Greenfield

Michael Nevin, Newtown

Freddie O'Melia, 59 Cluain Aoibhinn

Tom Purcell, 49 Laurence Avenue

Bob O'Reilly, 493 Mariaville

The Spirit is willing but

The husband was busily turning over the pages of a well-known girlie magazine. Wife to husband: "You know, you've been repeating 'How disgusting' for more than an hour."

A Thought for Action

Compared with what we ought to be, we are only half awake. We are making use of only a small part of our mental and physical resources. Stating the thing broadly, the human individual thus lives usually far within his limits; he possesses powers of various sorts which he habitually fails to use.

[William James].

MAYNOOTH VISTA

by Newcomer

Though born and raised many miles from Maynooth I was never a city slicker. My home town was bigger than our village but it had the country just behind it and the sea on its doorstep and we kids had the best of both worlds. Every season had its own games and occupations and the only thing that interfered was our compulsory pursuit of knowledge at the local school. Perhaps the children in my home town to-day are different but it is too late for me to go back to see.

Anyway, why bring all that up? Those old ghosts were raised for me by two very pleasant afternoons spent by my wife and myself during October when we went to pick blackberries in the fields around Maynooth. They were both successful excursions and we came home with over twenty-two pounds of berries which are now reposing in our store cupboard in the form of beautiful dark luscious jam, which should see us well into Spring. And yet, during the course of the two sunny afternoons we spent on the picking we saw neither sight nor heard sound of a child bent on a similar excursion to ours. Do the children in Maynooth not pick blackberries? What do they do on sunny afternoons in Maynooth when school has been let out?

I noticed, in the course of our picking, an abundance of ripe elder berries, much beloved of the home wine maker. Sloses there were, though not in quantity but had we tried we could have filled a basket. What about a few bottles of sloe gin or is that too a lost art?

Recently I had dinner with a cousin who has returned from the United States and whose wife is an American. As a sweet she produced a real blue-berry pie, a favourite dish in the States, and which she had made from imported fruit. It was delicious! Never having seen blue-berries I asked if she had any of the uncooked fruit left. She produced a bowl of the berries. I could be wrong, but if those blue-berries were not good ripe sloses then I'm a Dutchman.

All of which adds up to my trying to get you into the open air and to live a little off the countryside and not totally from the supermarket. Maybe I'm wasting my time. The unsightly posters are still on the bridge piers, two-way traffic still flows each side of the Square and we still drive and park our cars on the footpath. Ah well!

PS. If you want a pot of blackberry jam don't come to my house, send the kids out next year to pick "blacks".

Wanted

Woman to wash, iron and milk cows.

RAIL PARK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Since the last issue the Association has held a very successful social in the Springfield Hotel. Quite a large number of Residents attended and a very enjoyable evening was had by one and all. Our thanks to the Social Committee for the hard work involved.

RAIL PARK ESTATE

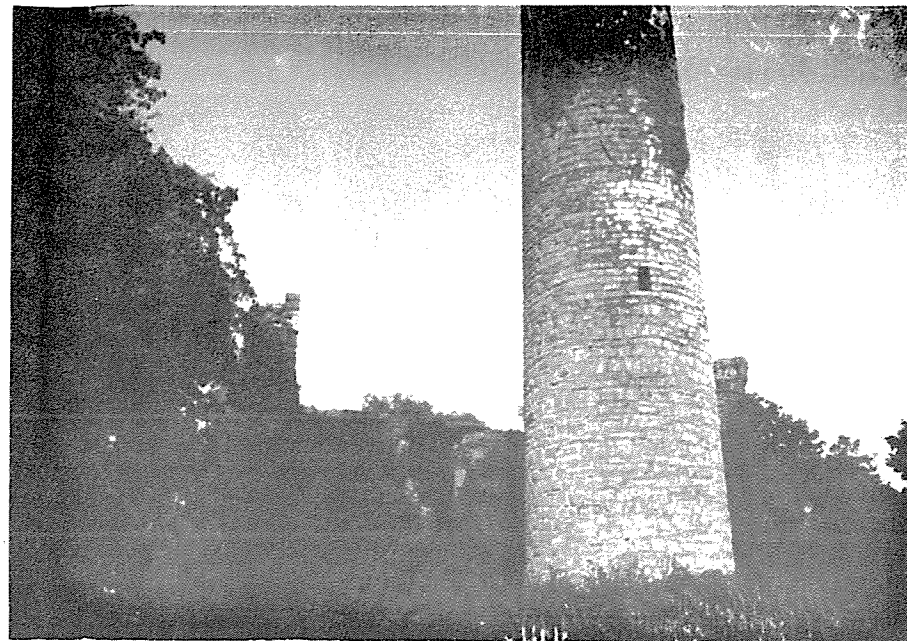
In the Irish Times of 4th October 1975 appeared a notice under the Companies Act 1963 indicating that, with reference to William P. Forde Limited, the developers of Rail Park Estate, Lombard and Ulster Banking Limited had, on the 29th September 1975 appointed Noel L. Fox, F.C.A., of 4 Northumberland Road, Dublin, as Receiver of the whole of the property of the company, the notice being issued by Fitzpatrick's, Stephen Court, 18 - 21 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2. Solicitors for the Receiver.

The Committee of the Rail Park Residents' Association has, therefore, written to the Kildare County Council drawing attention to the notice and asking that the Council should now indicate the position regarding the completion of the Estate in accordance with the original development plan approved by the County Council and bearing in mind the bond lodged by the Developer against a contingency such as that which has now occurred. Reply from the Council is awaited but up to the time of writing has not been received. Pressure to have the Estate completed will be continued by the Association and the matter has already been brought to the notice of the Minister for Agriculture, our local Dail Representative in an effort, to have him intervene on behalf of the residents.

Survey of the Estate by the County Engineer was carried out during October in the course of which the Secretary of the Residents' Association spoke with the Engineers and received their assurance that all uncompleted work was being noted.

The Association has at last succeeded in getting some action regarding completion of the lighting of the Estate. Contact was maintained with the County Council and the E.S.B. in that context and some lights on the Straffan Road side of the Estate have now been connected up. A promise has been received from the Area Supervisor E.S.B., that attention will shortly be given to all non-functioning lights in accordance with the list supplied by the Association's Secretary as a result of his survey of the Estate lighting. Hopefully, therefore, the Estate will be fully lighted by the time the NEWSLETTER goes to press.

In view of the Receivership indicated above, residents might wish to consult their individual Solicitors as to their rights in respect of any work they might consider necessary under the terms of their contracts with the builders.



Tagbadoe Round Tower and Church ruin. Situated about 2 miles from Maynooth and ¼ mile from Tagbadoe Power Station (Naas Road.)

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MON — THURS	7.30 a.m. — 8.00 p.m.
FRIDAY	7.30 a.m. — 10.00 p.m.
SATURDAY	7.30 a.m. — 6.00 p.m.
SUNDAY	10.00 a.m. — 7.00 p.m.

SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE

The Parish Clergy would like to join with the Community Council in thanking all who took part in the Sponsored Cycle Ride on Sunday, 5th October — the riders and their sponsors, the very efficient stewards, the good ladies who provided not one, but two excellent meals for the participants, St. Mary's Band who turned out to cheer the riders with martial music, the Civil Defence Squad who provided First Aid, and the Maynooth Development Association for the use of the very suitable Geraldine Hall as a base. The only one that let us down a bit was the Clerk of the Weather, but the riders soldiered on regardless, about half of them completing the four rounds of the course and most of the others doing three or at least two. Among the cyclists were a Sister from South America and some Brothers from Africa, also a group from the Dublin branch of the Cyclists' Touring Club, including a smart couple on a red tandem. Although it was not a race, everyone was mesmerised at the performance of the youngest two riders, Michael Cannon (7) and his brother William (9) who have already won fame as racing cyclists. With their father, Liam, they simply flashed past all the other riders and covered the 70 miles with the greatest of ease. One wonders what is the secret.

But all enjoyed the day, despite strong winds and some rain and even a few tosses and punctures. Many said it should become an annual event, perhaps in late May or early June, when the weather might be kinder. Several people remarked on the wonderful community spirit that prevailed.

Financial returns are not yet available but early indications are very promising. The proceeds will be divided equally between the Boys' School Building Fund and the Community Sports Field Fund.



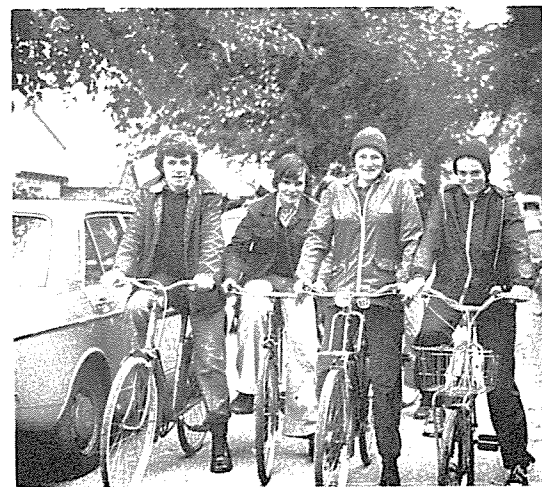
"A long way from home" Sponsored cyclist Br. H. M. Oboro.



"The man for all seasons" Rev. Fr. F. O'Higgins, P.P.



"Me and my gal" Sponsored cyclists Jo McKay and Paul Weaver.



L. to R. Kevin Tracey, Mel Doyle, Nora Feaney, and Maura Feaney. Sponsored cyclists.

Maynooth Castle

A Focal Point of Local History

Mary Cullen

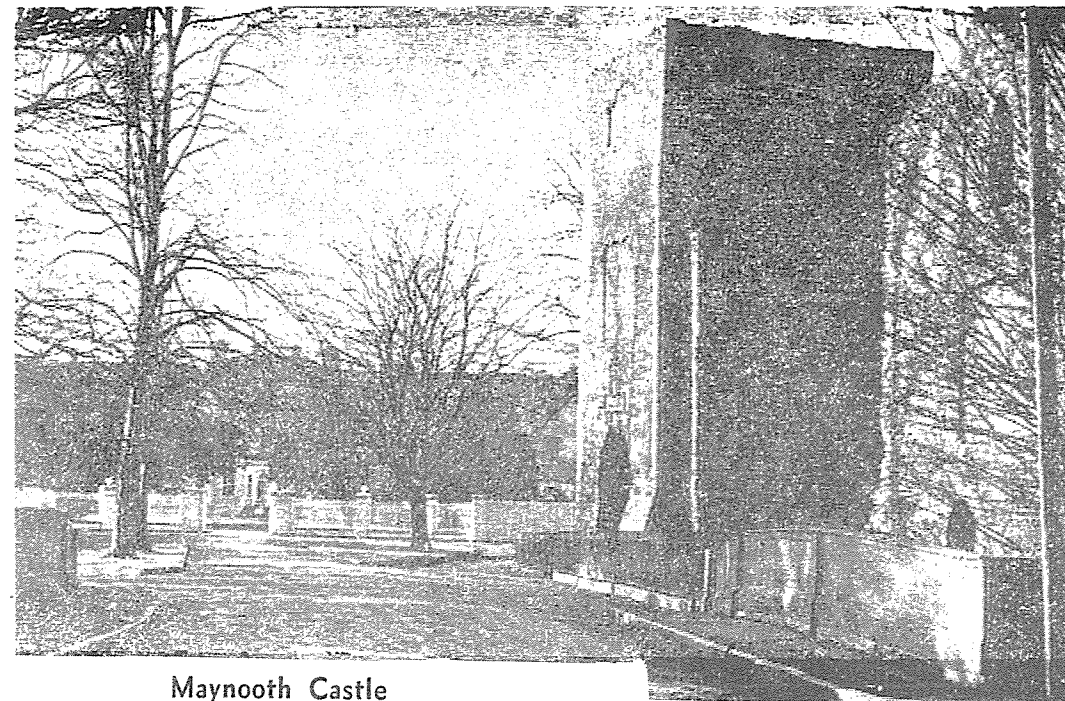
Over the next couple of months Mary Cullen will deal with aspects of local historical interest.

As well as the foundations at Laragh-bryan and Donaghmore we have a record of another monastery in the area, at Taghadoe, 2¼ miles south of Maynooth and also in the old territory of Ui Faelain or Offelan. The Annals of the Four Masters refer to Taghadoe under the year 765 when they record that "Folachtach of Teac Tuac, abbot of Cluain mic Nois, died". The usual explanation offered for the meaning of Teac Tua is "the house of St. Tua", who is identified as Ultan Tua or Ultan the Silent, who was connected with the neighbouring monastery of Clane, and this is the meaning adopted by Lord Walter FitzGerald, one of the best authorities on the local history of the country, writing in the *Journal of the County Kildare Archaeological Society*, vol. ii., no. 2, 1893. Father MacSweeney in his article in the *Irish Ecclesiastical Record* (quoted in the last Newsletter), opts for an alternative explanation and suggests that the name may refer to a family or clan rather than to an individual. In this interpretation the name would mean "the house of Tuathal" and would refer to the O'Toole family, and he points to the neighbouring townland of Toolestown in support. This is plausible since monas-

teries were often named after the clan who founded or supported them, as Laraghbryan itself was. The O Toole territory was Ui Muiredaig, or Omurethy, which can be seen to the south of Ui Faelain in the map reproduced in the last Newsletter. The clan name was Ui Muiredaig, "the descendants of Muiredach", a king of Leinster who died in 725. They and the Ui Faelain were related and both traced their descent from Dunlang, king of Leinster circa 241 A.D., and from him came the original clan name of Ui Dunlainge. The Ui Dunlainge split into three branches in the eighth century, the Ui Dunchada in Mag Laigen the plain between the Liffey and the Wicklow mountains, the Ui Faelain to the west of them on both sides of the Liffey in North Kildare, and the Ui Muiredaig to the south between the Barrow and Wicklow mountains. When surnames began to be used by the Irish clans in the eleventh century each of our families adopted the names of other members of the dynasty, the Ui Faelain taking that of Bran and becoming "O'Byrnes" and the Ui Muiredaig that of Tuathal, king of Leinster who died in 956, and becoming "O'Tooles".

While the annals give us little detail of the role of our monasteries in the lives of the people of the Maynooth area it seems likely that they supplied whatever pastoral care the people enjoyed. This was because the Christian Church in Ireland had developed in a unique way. Very early in its life, not long after the time of St. Patrick, monastic life became very popular, and the number of monasteries mushroomed, reaching more than 800 by the end of the 6th Century. The ruling clans founded or patronised monasteries and often supplied their abbots from within the clan itself. The abbots, thus linked with the politically powerful, gradually usurped the administrative role of the bishops and the place of the diocese as the unit of administration was taken over by the territories of the monastic paruchia, the group or family of monasteries all tracing their foundation back to a single saintly founder. In spite of all the efforts of reformers this situation persisted until the 12th century, and Dr. P. J. Corish, writing on "The Christian Mission" in *A History of Irish Catholicism* concludes that by the 11th century the non-monastic pastoral clergy had disappeared and what pastoral care there was, was supplied by the monasteries.

The larger monasteries were the nearest approach to the modern town developed by Gaelic Ireland before the coming of the Normans. The towns of Dublin, Wexford, Waterford, Cork and Limerick were originally coastal strong-points established by the Viking invaders in the ninth century and which developed into commercial centres. Within the monastic settlement diversified crafts and trades developed. The inhabitants



Maynooth Castle

(Maynooth castle continued)

supplied all their own needs in food, clothes, building, tools, vehicles, books, sacred vessels, etc. In them were created the illuminated manuscripts like the Book of Kells, that remain among the chief glories of Irish culture, and from them went out the great stream of Irish monks to Britain and the continent. The monastic settlement was usually enclosed by a circular stone or earthen bank with a ditch outside. Inside stood the church or oratory made of wood or wattle and daub, and around were the cells or huts of the monks usually made of wickerwork. There would also be a guest-house and refectory and, in the case of a larger monastery, a school and scriptorium. In those parts of the country where stone was more readily available than wood, the buildings would be of stone. Not every monastery was wealthy enough to support a scriptorium, and the fact that the Annals of the Four Masters record the death at Laraghbryan in 856 of Cormac, "bishop and scribe", may indicate that it was a settlement of some importance.

NOTE: A detailed account of the Irish Monasteries will be found in Marie and Liam de Paor: *Early Christian Ireland* (Thames & Hudson).

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Over-Ruled

*A husband is a man who lays down the
law and accepts all the amendments.*

KILCOCK PAGEANT

To commemorate the bi-centenary of the foundation of the Order, the Presentation Sisters in Kilcock are staging a Pageant based on incidents from the life of the Foundress, Nano Nagle.

The Pageant will be staged in the week commencing December 16th in Kilcock Parish Church. It was written by Dr. Niall P. Hickey, with a contribution in Gaelic by Sister Fintan Davis — Musical Director Sister Elizabeth Maxwell and Producer Marie Coyle.

An undertaking of this size and scope, naturally, necessitates a tremendous amount of work and various sub-committees have been formed to cope. Teachers and parents alike are working together to make this an outstanding Pageant.

The various sub-committees will be very pleased to hear from anybody who feels he has something to offer to complete the success of the undertaking. If you would like to help you should contact Sr. Muriel, Presentation Convent, Kilcock.

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St. Mary's Band Maynooth under Band-leader Michael Brady playing on day of Sponsored Cycle Ride.

SCHOOL BUS BLOCKS ROAD FOR CHILDRENS' SAKE!

In England and the U.S. it is illegal to overtake school buses when they are stopped to pick up or set down children.

Are the reasons for this not obvious?

However, in this country no such regulation exists and, in any case, school buses in many places, such as here in Maynooth, are not readily recognisable as such.

In order to enforce caution when picking up and setting down your children, the local school bus operators, Bartons, have been in the habit of stopping with the back of the bus well out on the road-way. Their drivers have come in for criticism due, probably, to a lack of understanding of the reason behind the practice.

So remember - BE PATIENT and when the school bus stops WAIT, DON'T PASS!
Go to your room!

A 16th century law required all batchelors to be indoors by 9.00 p.m.

For dog's sake!

A new restaurant has been opened in Tokyo catering purely for dogs. The menu includes chicken soup, hamburgers, prime beef and cheese. Together with a shampoo and manicure the cost is a mere £12!

Women's Lib.

A career girl would rather bring home the bacon than fry it.

GREENFIELD ESTATE NEWS

The greatest problems which Greenfield Estate Residents Association has on hand and which the Committee has been trying to resolve for three years, now are the completion of the Estate and performance of maintenance work by the major builder on the estate. Residents on the estate have indeed been patient in this regard, but frustration is building up. It is expected, however, that new moves will be more successful. In addition to representations to Mr. Mark Clinton on his recent visit to the town, the Committee of the Association has as detailed at the General Meeting on the 23rd October, retained professional advice in their negotiations with Vaughan Builders Ltd., on behalf of its members.

Plans are well in hand for tree planting day next Saturday. Planting will take place provided extreme weather conditions do not prevail. Maynooths Boy Scout Troop will be there to lend a helping hand and it is hoped that a number of students will participate.

Later in the month, on the 28th, the Residents' Association will, as advertised last month, hold its second Annual Dinner Dance in the Hotel Cill Dara at Kill. Following on last years tremendous success it is bound to be a very enjoyable night. The Association will welcome again those from outside the estate who enjoyed themselves and contributed so well to last years dance and extends a special welcome to any others who may wish to come.

In speaking of welcomes — a special welcome to the community must be extended to the Christian Brothers of the English Province who have taken up residence in Maynooth Park.

ENJOY A GOOD NIGHT OUT?

ANNUAL DINNER DANCE, Friday 28th NOVEMBER just ring

at CILL DARA HOTEL from 9 - 2 am **286436/286243**

Greenfield Estate Residents' Association.

PARISH NOTES

Boys' School Extension: The work is proceeding satisfactorily and is up to time so far, in spite of several wet days.

Site for New School: The diocesan authorities are at present investigating this matter, and the parishioners will be kept informed and consulted as far as is feasible. The aim is to provide the best possible facilities for present and future residents of Maynooth area.

Primary School Management Committees: The names of the elected parents and of suggested nominees have been sent in to the Archbishop, and the committees should be functioning soon.

Maynooth Church Choir: The choir could do with more members, especially men. Rehearsals are in the church on Thursdays at 8.30 p.m. Anyone interested should contact the choirmaster, Mr. Sean Bean, or any member of the choir, or the parish clergy.

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MAYNOOTH DRAMATIC SOCIETY

The Inaugural General Meeting of the Maynooth Dramatic Society was held at the Geraldine Hall on Tuesday, 14th October. A Constitution for the Society was drafted and passed.

The officers elected for the year 1975-76 are as follows:-

Chairman - Dr. Niall P. Hickey
Secretary - Miss Ann Begley
Treasurer - Mrs. Mary Griffin
Public Relations - Mrs. Carol Barton
Officer

Rehearsals are forging ahead for our production of "The Country Boy" by John Murphy, which will be staged at the Geraldine Hall on 14th, 15th and 16th of November. If you would be interested in joining the Society and in lending a hand during the staging of the forthcoming production, the Secretary or P.R.O. would be delighted to hear from you.

The Society is fortunate in having obtained the services of Miss Marie Coyle, who will serve on the Committee as Artistic Director. Despite her many other theatrical commitments, she has agreed to act as producer for "The Country Boy".

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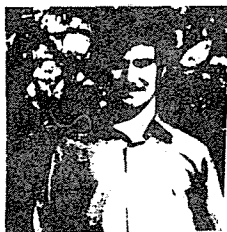
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AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHY

by Paddy Madden

Hello! I'm Paddy Madden and over the next couple of months I will be telling you all that I can about the world of amateur photography. I intend in these issues to go through the various stages in the taking and making of a photograph. There is an old traditional feeling in this country that to be an amateur photographer one has to have a large amount of very expensive equipment. This is a completely false idea. The very fact that one may possess a small cheap camera and take a few family shots now and again is enough to say that that person is an amateur photographer with an interest in the subject. Of course, it is only fair to say that the degree of interest in the subject will vary a great deal from one individual to the next. This does not matter. These articles are intended to be for the benefit and interest of everybody with an interest in the subject whether in fact they have got any equipment at all or not.

Over the next few months I will be examining in depth the following stages:-

1. **The Camera** The make up of the instrument itself, the various types on the market and all the other things that one needs basically to know about cameras.
2. **The taking of a picture.** The type of film to use. I will also be taking into account weather and light conditions and the uses of flash.
3. **Developing.** The equipment needed and the chemicals involved as well as the types of paper and space required.
4. **Enlarging.** Again the equipment needed as well as the chemicals and the various sizes of print that can be made.

I will be dealing with black and white photography only. I will try and illustrate as much as possible with diagrams and photographs themselves.

If you have any questions or problems that you would like to pose I would be delighted to hear from you and I will try to do the best I can with them for you. I am looking forward very much to meeting you in the future issues, so until next time then, Goodbye.

ARTICLES WANTED

Jam-jars wanted — collected in Maynooth area. 5p & 2½p for large & small jars. Phone Mrs. Fegan, 286351.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS? £2 Prize



This picture was at first thought to show part of a trench used in the First World War as the object protruding from the soil is similar to the barrel of a heavy artillery-gun. We were somewhat sceptical about this however, as the photograph appeared to be of recent and local origin, and asked for other opinions. It was suggested that it looked like the road cutting at the corner of Celbridge Road and Straffan Road and that it was probably there as a trap for unsuspecting motorists and students. Another said it could be a dug-out for the protection of Greenfield Estate Residents as many of them had recently heard cries of "Crom abu" (the battle-cry of the Geraldines) coming, it is believed, from somewhere beneath the "Town Bridge". One genius remarked that it was definitely a new style "hole-in-one" golf course for Maynooth resulting from land-shortage. We must admit that all of this leaves us rather confused, which is really why we are offering a £2 prize for the best caption received to go with this picture. Winning caption to be published in next issue.

Entries to: Vincent Duffe, 12 Laurance Ave., or Ted Kelly, Main Street.

Closing date: November 17th. Adjudicators decision final and binding.

The winning caption for the picture of the Railway Station in last issue is "Have train - will travel". Submitted by Miss J. MacGovern, of Leinster Cottages, Maynooth, who is awarded our £1 prize.

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CYCLE TOURING

— Rev. Fr. O'Higgins.

I was rather amused at the suggestion that I should write for the Newsletter on cycle-touring. It reminded me of the old story of the man who went frantically along the corridor train, inquiring in each compartment "Is there a priest here?" And when he eventually found one and the priest asked him if someone had taken ill, the reply was "No, Father, but could you lend us your corkscrew?" My only claim to anything approaching fame is as a cyclist. I often wonder if this will help me into Heaven! Especially as I'm not even a good cyclise.

However, I do believe that regular cycling helps one to keep healthy and sane. It is good exercise, it is relaxing, it brings one out into the fresh air and the countryside. The only aspect of cycling with which I am well acquainted is touring. This has many forms, from isolated day runs to extended tours with or without a tent. I have never toured with a tent; it means carrying a lot of extra weight and suffering a good deal of discomfort. But cycle-campers save expense and don't have the problem of finding a bed for the night.

Cycle-touring was very popular when few people had motor-cars. Many of the clergy favoured it in those days. Archbishop William J. Walsh of Dublin (1885-1921) was an inveterate cycle-tourist, spending most of his summer holidays in this way until he was in his late sixties. Nowadays, cycle-touring is less usual, especially among older people. But it is on the way back. There has been a tremendous boom in cycling in the U.S.A. in recent years, and the same is happening in Great Britain despite the congested roads. Ireland, apart from the few big cities, is still an ideal country for cycle-touring. Even the city-dwellers have not far to travel to pleasant and comparatively quiet country roads.

To get the most out of cycle-touring it is important to have a suitable machine. You could tour on a heavy roadster, but it would mean a lot of unnecessary hard labour. A good lightweight bike with variable gears is not so much dearer, and it makes cycling far easier and more enjoyable. One of the secrets of pleasant touring is to take it easy, not being too keen on speed making, judicious use of lower gears to avoid hard slogging up hill or against the wind, and not disdaining to walk when the going gets really tough. In fact, to walk a few hundred yards now and again prevents fatigue and saddle-soreness.

Anyone thinking of taking up this pastime would normally start with day runs. Once you have got well used to cycling, it is not too hard to cover seventy

miles or more in a day, as many participants in our recent sponsored ride proved for themselves. Picnic meals add to the pleasure of exploring the countryside and don't cost as much as in a restaurant. Many cyclists carry a small gas or paraffin stove and a billy-can. Very little else is needed for a day run, apart from a repair kit, suitable rain-wear and perhaps a map. If you want to go farther afield and if you have the use of a car, you can take the bike in the boot or on the roof-rack.

However, once you have really got a taste for cycling, you may feel the urge to go on an extended tour either in this country or abroad. If you don't want to camp, you will then have the problem of overnight accommodation. Youth Hostels are one answer; but here in Ireland — and indeed in most countries — there are not enough of them. In Ireland and Britain, though, there are many bed-and-breakfast houses, which are generally good and reasonable. Hotel charges are rather prohibitive nowadays, especially for the solo tourist. Unless you book in advance, which is troublesome and ties you down, you may sometimes have difficulty in finding a bed for the night, particularly in the high tourist season. But there's always some solution. In forty years' touring, I have never yet had to spend a night in the open.

Foreign touring is very interesting, especially if you can speak even a little of the local language and have done some home-work on the various places you pass through. A lightweight bike can be taken by 'plane, partially dismantled, and if you cut your luggage to a minimum, you can manage to keep within the 44 lbs. baggage allowance.

Most tourists are keen photographers, and a good set of slides or snaps helps you to describe your tour to your friends and to refresh your own memory in later years. Personally, I am no photographer, though I normally take a camera. But I do keep a little diary of my tours, and it can be very interesting to re-read these diaries long afterwards.

If these few general ideas are considered worth reading, I may perhaps in some future issue of the Newsletter describe some of the many tours I have done during the past forty years.

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CAVING

— David Drew

Although Ireland has very many caves, the sport of caving is still very under-developed in comparison to most other European countries. However, this August, a group of Irish cavers decided to visit the second deepest cave in the world — the Gouffre Berger Cave near Grenoble in the French Alps. The cavers included four from the Dublin area, Paddy O'Reilly from Rathcoole, Mike Orr, a Dublin doctor and Dave and Eileen Drew from Rail Park, Maynooth, together with Jeff Phillips, from Kells and six other cavers from Northern Ireland.

The Berger cave is some 3,750 feet deep (compared with 460 ft for Ireland's deepest), and is some three miles long with over thirty deep vertical drops which have to be climbed on ropes or flexible ladders. The original exploration of the cave by the French took over four years to complete and even today a full scale expedition is needed to have any chance of success. Eventually, several tons of food and equipment were hauled into the cave. Putting the equipment into the cave took several days and in order to reach the bottom it was necessary to sleep underground (in very squalid conditions) for one or two days. The cave itself is one of the finest and most beautiful in the world, with huge passages and a great river thundering down its lower passages. Nearly all of the party managed to reach the end of the cave (and get out again!) and in so doing set a new record for the fastest time in which the cave has ever been explored — a great boost for Irish caving!

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"KNOW MORE ABOUT MAYNOOTH"

A Series of Lectures and Discussions.

This series, to be sponsored jointly by the Community Council, Maynooth Post-Primary School, and St. Patrick's College, was announced in last month's Newsletter. The exact form the series will take has not yet been decided. Much depends on what people want to get from the course. Do they want to sit back and listen to lecturers telling them about the history, development, problems, etc. of Maynooth? Do they want to learn more about themselves and their environment, and at the same time create a plan for the future development of the Maynooth area? Do they want to find out how a community functions, where decisions are made, who has the power to implement decisions, and whether a community itself can achieve the power to determine its own future? Or some combination of all these? Whatever form the course may take will be decided by the people who are going to take part in it. They must decide what they want and then they can use the specialized knowledge of the lecturers and advisors to help them to get what they want.

If you are interested and have ideas about what YOU would like to get from such a course or how you would organise it please get in touch with any member of the Community Council and come along to the meeting where all the details will be trashed out. The date of the first session of the course and an outline of the programme will be announced within the next two weeks.

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Oliver Plunkett was canonised a Saint of the Church on the 12th October 1975. He has been called an ecumenist, a friend of Protestants, a man of reconciliation. It is hoped that the people will continue devotion to our new Saint for peace and reconciliation in Ireland today.

OLIVER PLUNKETT — The Human Saint

Monsgr. Tomás Ó Fiach, President, Maynooth College

[This is an edited version of an address delivered by the author to Maynooth College Historical Society on the 2nd October last, We wish to express our sincere thanks for his kind permission to print this article. The author quoted extensively from the letters of the Saint but due to shortage of space we have had to eliminate a lot of these quotations and hope we have not detracted unduly from the value of his contribution by so doing.]

The early years:

The Saint himself had a keen sense of humour which, along with his other human qualities, stands out clearly in his letters. He was born at Loughcrew, Co. Meath on the 1st November, 1625, almost three and a half centuries ago. His early education was taken care of by the well-known cleric of that time, Dr. Patrick Plunkett, Abbot of St. Mary's Abbey, Dublin, and for a time Parish Priest of Killeene, near Dunsaney, Co. Meath. This education continued until 1641 when Oliver had reached the age of sixteen years. Dr. Plunkett in that year had become involved in the politics of the Confederation of Kilkenny as a result of which Oliver was left without a teacher. But as Oliver was showing an inclination towards the priesthood he was brought to Rome along with other Irish students in 1647 by the Papal Nuncio to study at the Irish College there.

Ordination:

Oliver spent seven years at the College before being ordained priest for the Diocese of Meath on the 1st January, 1654. This was one of the worst years in Irish history as the Cromwellian persecutions were at their height. The situation was so bad in Ireland that Oliver got the permission of his superiors to stay on in Rome until the persecution would have passed. Oliver therefore studied for his Doctorate in Theology and Canon Law and was appointed a Professor at the College of Propaganda Fides in 1657. He spent the next twelve years there until 1669 and this period coloured his whole outlook on life for the future.

Appointed Archbishop of Armagh:

In 1669 as a result of the death of the then Archbishop of Armagh, candidates were put forward to fill the vacancy. One writer maintains that the Pope himself intervened and by his Apostolic power named Oliver as the new Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All-Ireland. This met with some opposition from Armagh as Irish politics of the time saw a division between the Old Irish of the North and the Anglo-Irish of the Pale, and as Oliver was a Meath-man, by birth, his appointment was bound to meet with some opposition.

The return from exile:

The new Archbishop began his long journey home in the Autumn of 1669 after an exile of almost twenty-three years and he realised that he would meet with some opposition at home. His journeys through Europe from Rome became the subject of his first letter in which he describes his reasons for his use of disguise during his travels — this was later to be a feature of his early months in Ireland. Europe of the time was torn by religious divisions and wars. Oliver wrote:-

"I went down the Rhine to Holland in disguise (Holland was then strongly Calvinist). About four miles from Rotterdam the drunken Dutch skipper ran aground on a sandbank and

the twenty-four passengers and myself were exposed to danger. For four nights we slept on bare boards exposed to the air and wind . . . On reaching England I would not delay there but go to my diocese where until my last breath I shall live in obedience . . . and service of souls even if it will cost me my life."

This was a prophetic statement indeed. Before leaving Europe he was consecrated in the city of Ghent in the private chapel of the Episcopal residence on the 1st December 1669. Having sailed from Ostend he eventually arrived in London where he spent over three months of the Winter of 1669 until February 1670. There he was able to carry out his Episcopal functions he ordained a number of Priests and confirmed hundreds of people in secret. Charles II, King of England, wrote to his Viceroy in Ireland informing him of the impending arrival of the new Archbishop, but unknown to the King, Oliver had already arrived at his palace in Armagh having arrived at Ringsend on the East Coast at 9.00 a.m. on the 10th March 1670. His Passion for writing:

St. Oliver was an inveterate letter-writer and the number in existence show his tremendous passion for it. Apart from periods when he was 'on the run' he wrote at least one, and usually four or five to Rome every three weeks, not all of which got through of course. He wrote to every Bishop in Ireland at least once a week but few of these have survived. Many of those written to the Continent have survived in London or Rome. Two hundred and twenty-four of his letters are in existence today, nearly all of them in Rome and about ten in London. The vast majority were written in Italian, a number in Latin, some in English and one in Irish. We know he could speak Irish but have no real proof that he could write it.

The early months in Ireland:

On his arrival in Ireland and knowing that the Viceroy, Lord Roberts, had been warned against him, Oliver decided that he had better travel in disguise and consequently took the name Captain Brown, and wore a wig, sword and two pistols on his arrival. From Marcy to May 1670 he travelled around the country conducting Episcopal visitations and at night carrying out confirmations — many in the North of Ireland had not seen a Bishop for forty or fifty years. He kept a very accurate account of confirmations which totalled 10,000 during the first six six weeks of disguise. During the first two years he confirmed a total of 48,655. In the meantime he intervened in awkward and delicate problems that had arisen such as the dispute between the Franciscans and the Dominicans, the dispute between the See of Armagh and the See of Dublin, and the issue of violence in the North. In that way, he created a number of enemies some of whom later made various accusations against him to Rome. In reply to these accusations Oliver wrote a frank and open letter giving a long description of his first three months

when he was using disguise. From this letter one can picture more easily how he had to live during the early months in Armagh.

The Saint at work:

In May 1670 with the arrival of Viceroy Bartley as replacement for Lord Roberts the atmosphere changed somewhat in Ireland and Oliver began a series of Episcopal achievements for the next three and a half years. During this period he confirmed 48,000 persons and ordained between three and four hundred priests. He established two schools, staffed them and had one hundred and fifty boys attending with more than forty Protestants among them. These schools were overthrown in 1673, a fact which caused him much sorrow and pain. During these years he made a series of visitations of the Northern Dioceses and the official reports on these sent to Rome show us the human side of the man — he reported on scandals, problems and changes he would propose. A letter sent from Antrim sums up his achievements for the previous six months. He visited his own diocese, settled disputes, restored peace and confirmed people. One later accusation against him was that he was too friendly with Protestants, and the Protestant clergy. He was at this time much concerned about clerical standards, but was also aware of difficulties in this regard arising from the persecutions of the 1640's and 1650's. He looked for high standards but tried to understand when they were lacking. Oliver also turned his attention to the Hebrides of Scotland and wanted to go there himself but the political situation and shortage of money resulted in failure here. In Antrim he met the problem of the Northern Protestant. In his letters he said he met some of them and these letters give us an insight into his relations with them and into the situation in the North generally. His particular friendships with the Protestant clergy are brought out clearly in his writings. In the area around Drogheda he was allowed to use Protestant Churches for Catholic services. To call Oliver Plunkett a Catholic humanist is no exaggeration.

Persecution renewed:

Despite his friendship with Protestants however, time was running out. In 1673 the storm blew up with the arrival of a new Viceroy who ordered all the Bishops to leave Ireland. In the past they usually left but came back eventually. On this occasion Oliver decided to take up the challenge and defy the law and he consequently went into hiding along with the Bishop of Waterford who went North to join him. The Winter of 1673 and Spring of 1674 were spent 'on the run' — it was a severe Winter and the land could not be tilled. In a letter Oliver gives a detailed description of life during that Winter and an outline of his trials and severe physical hardships. Much of the time was spent in South Armagh — Oliver wrote that he had two consolations during that time: that what he was doing was in a good cause and that he had brought along some books and candles. The year 1674 saw a depressing famine in the North and from his letters we again get an insight into his own feelings for his people. He points to the hardships of the poor and the almost lack of food and describes many of the people as living skeletons walking the roads. Oliver made visits to Connacht and Munster at this time and describes the situation there arising from the persecutions there. The persecutions of 1673/74 were nothing when compared to the later persecutions of 1678/79 arising from the "Popish Plot". It was under the influence of this "Plot" that Oliver was arrested and later executed. On 6th December 1679 he was jailed in Dublin and the following

Continued on Page 8

year sent for trial to London. He was executed at Tyburn on the 1st July 1681. In his last letter from prison we can see that his courage was prominent and that he faced death with a calm serenity and hope and even at the end we see that his main concern was for his own people. Oliver Plunkett was above all a human Saint.

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BEEKEEPING IN MY LIFE
— Colm Kennedy

Away back in the very early nineteen thirties I started beekeeping on a very limited scale. I well remember to this day my first swarm — it was located in a Whitethorn bush quite close to my home in Kilkenny. I was overjoyed by the fact that I had procured a swarm of bees and had them safe and sound in a butter-box. Not many people had real bee-hives in those days. Butter-boxes were widely used by the creameries then for delivering butter to the shops, and as a result were easily come by. They were ideal for keeping a stock of bees, the one disadvantage being that it was difficult to get out the honey. I made a hive by taking off the bottom and keeping the bees in the upturned box. On this box I added a very crude kind of section-crate of light timber which held about ten pounds of honey. I removed and replaced the section about three or four times in a season. Extra section-crates were often added to give the swarm more space. I was literally compelled to take up beekeeping on a large scale as a result of the increasing swarm of bees, but to conform with modern methods of beekeeping for me was like trying to teach an old dog new tricks. I made my first real hive after about 3 years and since then have increased this number. I was tempted to give up at times due to frustration, bee stings or poor summers which naturally left me with a poor return of honey. By the use of modern methods, hives, and learning the art over the years, I now consider myself a reasonably successful beekeeper. This year, of course, has been a really outstanding one for beekeepers. I hope to give a more general run-down on the art of beekeeping in later issues.

THE ROLE OF TELEVISION
Michael Layde, 3rd Arts.

Television is undoubtedly the most powerful means of mass communication yet devised by Man. It simultaneously involves the saturation of two of his five senses. Radio can provide an antidote to silence without requiring constant attention or total involvement. Television on the other hand, demands complete attention, in fact it compels it.

Unlike the cinema, which is the only comparable form of mass communication, television is available in one's own home, it is practically free when compared to other media, in most countries it is available on an almost constant basis (sometimes twenty-four hours per day). It does not confine itself to entertainment but provides what is rapidly becoming for most people the major, if not the only, source of news and information about everything from the days racing results to the current war. Disaster, famine, disease, destruction, it's all there in ones own living room and increasingly its in glorious colour.

Coupled with this there is the role of television as the principal means of advertising in our society. Four times in each hour we are bombarded with short, highly professional sales pitches. In many heavily sponsored television networks, principally in the United States, the programmes seem designed to create a desire for a lifestyle which can only be satisfied by purchasing the products advertised between that programme's segments. The use of brand names within the actual programmes is also widely practised in the U.S., and other countries, e.g. airport scenes with only a particular airlines aircraft visible to the exclusion of it's rivals. In return the programmes producers receive free use of facilities and/or free transport, for actors and crew to their locations.

These same programmes make-up a large slice of R.T.E.'s programming, the only difference is that a lot of the products being advertised are Irish. We are still largely ignorant as to what the long-term effects of constant exposure to largely escapist programmes coupled with high pressure advertising will have on society. That the effects will be largely detrimental is certain.

The use of violent and sexually explicit scenes in plays and films broadcast on television is an area causing increasing controversy. In Ireland, as we

have seen recently an illicit kiss in the "Riordans" can cause Tuam Town Commissioners to accuse R.T.E. of broadcasting "orgies" in a family viewing slot but despite this infantile backwoods mentality, the problem of violence on television is a real one.

In a recent book, Dr. Grant Nobb, a T.C.D. lecturer states: "Many boys are aggressive, and I would recommend that these boys work out these feelings by watching fantasy aggression, where there is a distance between aggression and victim — such as Westerns, War films, and historical violence." However, he goes on to state: "The sight of children in the news throwing stones at soldiers is for me the worst offender. Such violence takes place in streets similar to those in which our children live. The soldiers are recognisably different, and thus a uniform target, and overall such sights show your child how his counterparts in the wider society do conspicuously behave."

This to me is the really important consideration for Ireland. Nightly we see violence on our television screens being used by our own people as a political weapon. This has two longterm effects:
a) It predisposes us to accept violence;
b) It deadens our understanding of what living in a state of violence means.

Television news can eliminate these effects only by changing its format. The news is presented in a series of short, heavily illustrated pieces. If the news editor has "action" film, then he will use as much of it as possible at the expense of comment and in-depth analysis. This trait of television news is heightened when one introduces competition between networks. With a large percentage of R.T.E.'s audience able to receive at least one British channel, R.T.E. are forced to present a news programme which aims to be as slick and professional as their rivals. The situation can only be worsened if the proposed second channel is allocated to B.B.C. 1, or another foreign company.

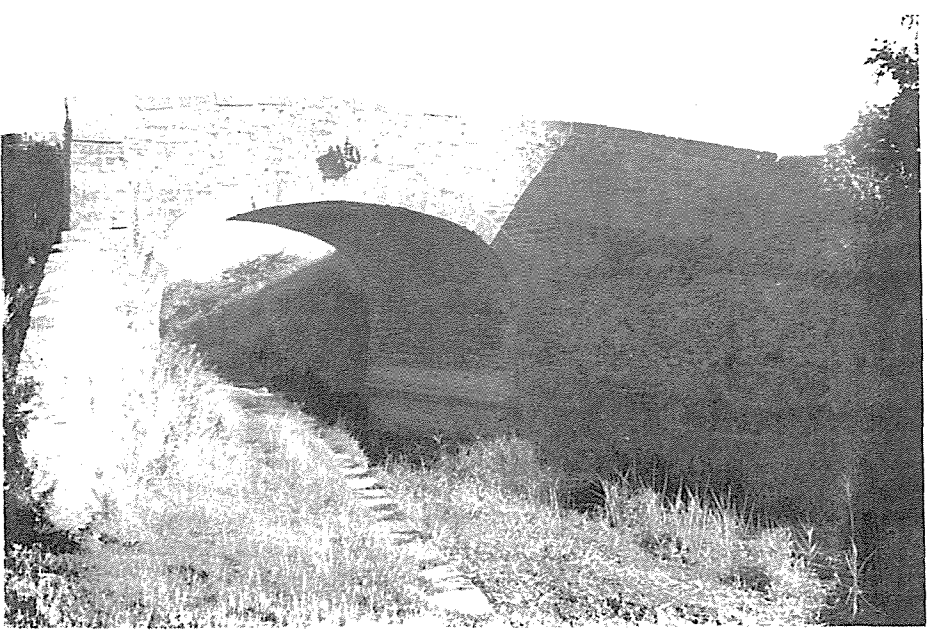
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THE ROYAL CANAL
Problems & Prospects

The Royal Canal, almost a hundred miles of waterway, has an enormous amenity potential — this fact is widely acknowledged but much needs to be done in the achievement of even immediate developments. Dr. Ian Bath of the Inland Waterways Association of Ireland writing in "Life and Environment" (March/April 1975) states "Owing to the serious shortage of recreational facilities in the new residential areas of Blanchardstown, Lucan, Leixlip, Maynooth and Kilcock, there is a strong case for the immediate development of the Royal Canal into a series of natural linear water-side parks with recreational facilities for swimming, boating, canoeing and fishing - the parks being linked by the existing tow-path to provide walks and nature trails." Any development also envisages the ultimate opening of the only possible circular inland cruising route in the country embracing as well as the Royal, both the Grand Canal and the Shannon.

The Canals have been described by Stephen Rynne as having a three-fold attraction — "they have a fascinating past, a pleasant present and an exciting future." And he goes on, "It was quite an acceptable jokelet to say that the canals were the repository of old bikes, beds and dead dogs." Supreme efforts, however, on the part of voluntary organisations and agencies such as The Inland Waterways Association of Ireland, An Taisce and dedicated individuals is ensuring that the canals have an exciting future indeed. Robertstown Muintir na Tire Community Group, founded in 1964, has given a clear indication of the benefits accruing to an area as a result of canal preservation and environmental improvement. The village has taken on a new lease of life over the last decade and recent renovation of the old Grand Canal hotel there, together with the removal of overhead and unsightly electricity and telephone wires are demonstrative of local pride in both preservation and achievement. The reputation of the Grand Canal Festa, banquets and barge trips on the canal has spread far and wide, and the huge influx of tourists to the immediate area this year has broken all records. The "spin-off" in economic terms to places like Prosperous is incalculable. Thus the canal has served as a focus for this determined local community effort — the benefits are plain to see but what is more important is that the people themselves have discovered a new vitality and sense of urgency. By all accounts there are further plans in hand for even further expansion and utilisation of local amenities.



The "Town Bridge" over the Royal Canal at Maynooth.

It is intended to continue features on the Royal and Grand Canals in future issues in order to draw attention to problems attached to canal development as well as outlining prospects for the future. It seems appropriate to end with this extract from "Royal Canal News" (January 1975—Royal Canal Committee): "It cannot be restated too frequently that the Royal Canal has enormous potential as a local and national recreational amenity and a tourism potential which could contribute substantially to the prosperity of the towns and villages through which it passes. This potential can be realised at very little cost to the community . . . The way ahead is clear, all that is needed is for the decision to be made".

by Vincent Duffe

(Thanks expressed to Stephen Rynne, Editor of "Canalians", Dr. I. Bath, Inland Waterways Association and Mrs. J. Eiffe of An Taisce).

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FOR FAST EFFICIENT SERVICE

KIDDIES CORNER'

Q. Why did Oliver Twist?
A. Dickens only knows.

Q. How can you tell where a train has gone?
A. It leaves tracks behind.

Q. What does an electric eel taste like?
A. Shocking.

Change the word PART into the word TIME in the diagram below. changing only one letter in each move.

P	A	R	T
T	I	M	E

Answer: PART. PARE, TARE, TIRE, TIME

Unanimous
Father was giving his son a talk on the necessity for hard work. "When I was your age," he said, "I thought nothing of working twelve or fourteen hours a day". "I don't think much of it either" said the son.

MAYNOOTH OLD PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE NEWS

The American tea party on the 26th October was a great success. The 'Sale of Work' will be held in the Parish Hall on Sunday 30th November at 3 p.m. Proceeds will be divided between the Old Peoples Committee, Fr. Nevin Fund and the Development Association. Offers of help would be much appreciated.

The first of the Old Peoples 'Socials' for this season will be held on the 9th November at 3.30 p.m. in Parish Hall. Mass will be concelebrated by the newly ordained members of the Committee. Refreshments will be served afterwards. We look forward to seeing all our old friends again, and any new people who have come to reside here.

May we send our best wishes to Mrs. Nolan, Kilcock Road, who has been ill for some time. Also to the ever-cheerful Kitty Coyne, the Harbour.

Fair Price

An old man who had been warned repeatedly about having his cow grazing along the public road was eventually brought to court and fined two pounds. "Thank you, your honour", he said, "and could I have the grazing next year again at the same price".

I.C.A. NEWS

It was with great sorrow that we heard of the sudden death of Mrs. Colgan. She was one of the longest serving members and was active in every sphere of our activities. Deep sympathy is rendered to her husband and family. She will be sadly missed by us all.

The I.C.A. held a very instructive meeting at which they were taught Lumra and stitched Rug Work by Mrs. Doran. The competition of a Hallowe'en Mask was won by Mrs. B. Simpson, Greenfield Drive, with Mrs. Farrell, Pound Hill second.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 6th November at 8.00 p.m. This will be the A.G.M. - so please come early. We would like to take this opportunity of thanking the out-going Committee for all their work during the year, especially our President - Mrs. Rita O'Reilly. She has been a wonderful President and an inspiration to us all.

MUSICAL PRESENTATION

King's Hospital School Drama group will kindly present the Gilbert and Sullivan musical

H. M. S. Pinafore
in the Parish Hall, Maynooth on the 8th December 1975, at 8.30 p.m. (in aid of St. Mary's Church of Ireland, Maynooth).
Tickets available from:-
Mrs. Angel - 287231
Mrs. Sutchwell - 286240
Mrs. Fegan - 286351

SPORTS PAGE

SOCCER NOTES

Maynooth Town received their first defeat of the season on Sunday last when playing away to Mourne Celtic in the League. Short a few regulars this was still a very disappointing display and it is hoped that they come back to top form for the 1st round of the F.A.I. Junior Cup against Liffey Wanderers on Sunday. The second team has still to strike winning form due in the main to the number of new and inexperienced players being tried out.

The Club is running an Under-14 Street League, commencing in early November. All intending players please give their names to Mr. D. Guest, or Finbar Cullen, or one of the Maynooth Town Committee. The Street League match will be played in Straffan Road Ground. G.A.A.

Junior Football Final
Maynooth 2.2. - St. Laurances 1.13

This was a very poor display from the Maynooth side, they never got going at all through the whole hour. Best for Maynooth on the day were Joey Murphy (goalkeeper), Gerry Flanagan and Tony McTernan. Maynooth scorers were: T. Moore 1 - 1, T. McTernan 1 - 0, and T. Fay 0 - 1.

JUNIOR HURLING FINAL
Maynooth 2.6 - Eire Og 2.6

The hurlers drew in the County Junior Hurling final in Naas on Sunday 12th October. This was a very good game Maynooth got off to a great start and were a goal and a point up after 10 mins. and the tragedy struck when they lost both Cliff Murphy (eye injury) and Tony McTernan (shoulder injury). and at this stage Eire Og started to fight back. Maynooth were three points up with ten minutes to go and then tragedy struck yet again, when a Maynooth man delivered the ball into his own net. The final whistle was about to go when Maynooth, three points down at this stage, got a penalty and Brian Redmond crashed the ball into the net to earn a draw. Best for Maynooth were Brian Redmond (1 - 1), Gerry Flanagan, Mick O'Brien K. O'Brien and Cliff Murphy.

Result of Maynooth Handball and Squash Draw held on 15th October 1975.

£40 Mrs. V. Lynch, 17 Maynooth Park
£20 Mr. F. McFadden, 45 Maynooth Park,
£ 5 John Halton, 10 Maynooth Park
£ 5 Tom McMullon, 63 Cluain Aoibhinn
£ 5 Mrs. J. Rossiter, 54 Laurence Ave.,
£ 5 Mr. D. Carthy, 46 Laurence Ave.,
£ 3 Miss E. Bean, The Harbour
£ 2 Mr. D. Lyon, 33 Maynooth Park
£ 1 Mr. K. Galligan, 7 Pound Street
£ 1 Mr. T. Richardson, 2 Parson Street
£ 1 Loughlin Murphy, 514 Newtown
£ 1 Hubert Howley, 2 Laurence Avenue
£ 1 Mr. J. McLoughlin, O'Neill Park
£ 1 Mr. J. Rossiter, Kildavin, Bunclody, Co. Wexford.
£ 1 Mrs. J. Mooney, Mariavilla
£ 1 Mrs. Reid, 86 Railpark
£ 1 William Donovan, 1 Maynooth Park
£ 1 Annie Gill, Graigue, Donadea.

The following promoters won £1 each:-
Nora Gilton, Peter Brazil, Michael Dilla Ne,
Joseph Moore, Joseph Buckley, Patrick Begley, Margaret Madden, Raymond McTiernan, Eugene Gargan, Declan Quigley.

The next draw will be held in the Geraldine Hall, on Wednesday 5th Nov., Promoters are asked to have all cash handed in at least a day before draw. Thanking all for their support.

(D. V. Quigley) (Treasurer)

GREENFIELD FOOTBALL FINAL

After a number of postponements, the Boys Seven-a-Side Football Final was played on Sunday 12th October and resulted in a win for G. Kenny's Sel. The Scoreline was 3 - 2.

GREENFIELD SPORTS DAY WINNER

In the last issue of Newsletter, the name of Geraldine Dunne was inadvertently omitted from the list of prizewinners on Sports Day. She was the winner of the girls Under - 4 Sprint.

BOXING CLUB

Members of the club are presently holding training sessions in the S.V.D. hostels. Three members took part in Corinthian B.C.'s Tournament in Dublin recently. Two - F. Conlon (5 st.) and M. Dee (heavy weight) won their bouts.

Animal Underground

Badger tunnels are being built under roads in areas of central England in an effort to save the animals from being killed by cars. Now it is hoped they will all become good badgers and use the tunnels!

Funny Book and Author:

"Broken Window" by Eva Brick.



The two Cannon boys were the youngest to cycle the 70 miles in the recent cycle ride. William, age 9 yrs. rides in cycle races all over Ireland. He has 4 wins and 6 placings in under 12 events this year. Michael, only 6½ yrs. won All Ireland Under - 8 ¼ mile in Waterford 14th September. Seen in the picture with Mr. F. Baird, National Coach and Seamus Kennedy, one of Irelands greatest cyclists, being presented with cycling jersey. There is a cycling Club in Maynooth. Any boys or youths wishing to take up cycle-racing should contact:- Liam Cannon, 2 Rail Park, or Gearoid McTiernan, Parsons Street.

BETTER BUYING AT O'BRIEN MAYNOOTH SHOPPING CENTRE

Castor Sugar	12½p lb.	Old Irish Marmalade	25p
Icing Sugar		Scottish Margarine	9p

SUNTRACK ORANGE
SQUASH
19p Bottle

OB WASH-UP LIQUID
13½p

16oz. PEARS
PEACHES 18p Tin

COOKING FOIL 19½p
LARGE MINERALS 16p inc. bottle

GROUND ALMONDS 23p qr.
GIANT CORN FLAKES 22p

BABY RICE 16p

USA BISCUITS £1.39 per tin

FAMILY CIRCLE £1.39 per tin

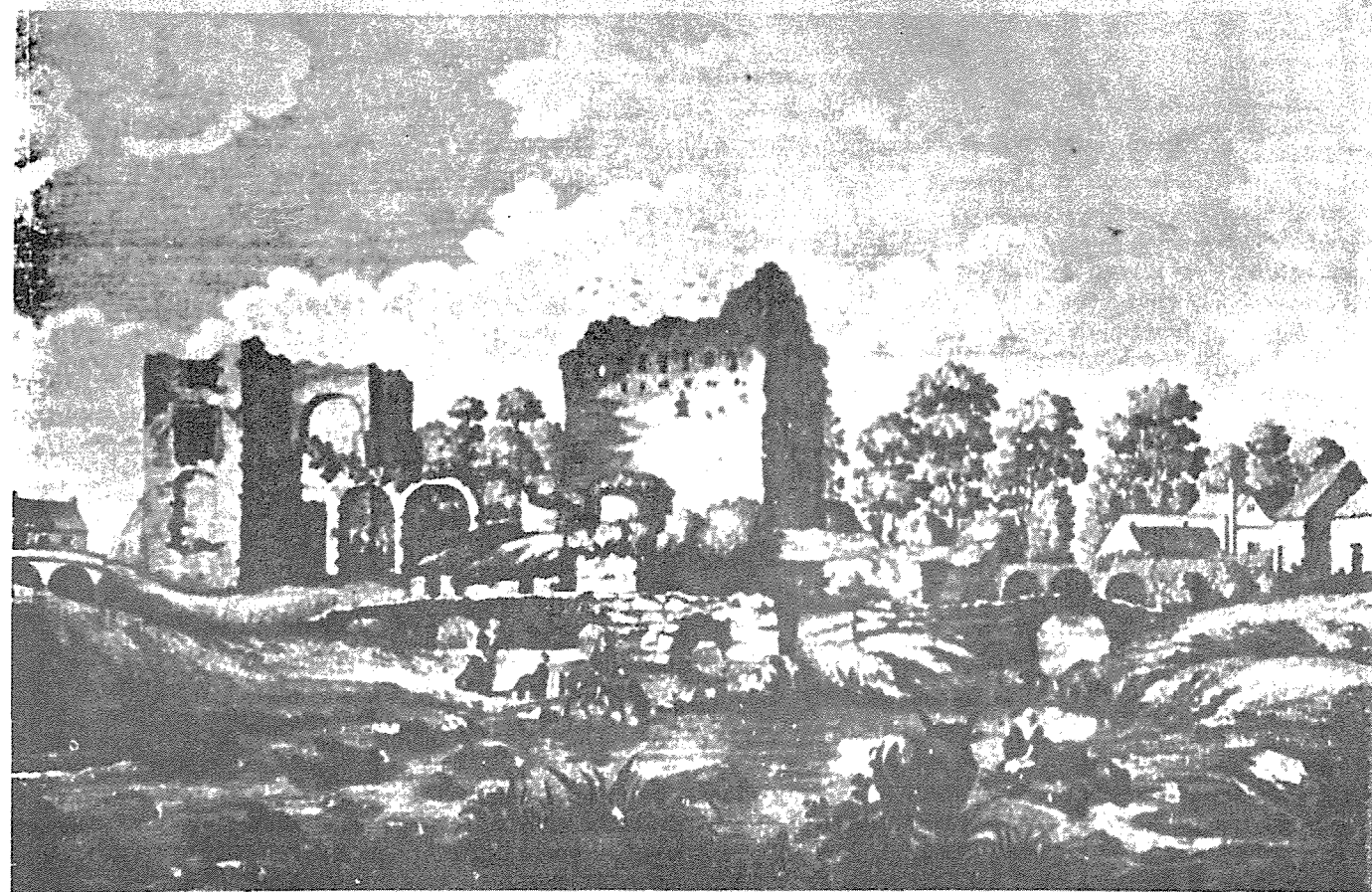
CREAM CRACKERS 13½p

SEE OUR LARGE VARIETY OF WINES AND SPIRITS

Join our XMAS TURKEY CLUB

DO THE GREEN SHIELD STAMPS
EVERY TUESDAY

The Leinster Aquaduct from Alex Taylor's Map (1783)



Maynooth on the Royal Canal
from Alex. Taylor's Map (1783)

THE UNNECESSARY CANAL

Stephen Rynne

When Canal-building hit Ireland in the middle of the Eighteenth Century, it hit her hard. The fever was not only virulent but highly contagious. The idea of penetrating remote hinterlands by artificial waterways was altogether revolutionary and people became intoxicated with the notion of linking city with city, town with town; tapping new sources of natural wealth, increasing commerce and ending problems of isolation. Men — especially men who did not know one end of a shovel from another — lay awake at night planning canals. Never, indeed, did the future seem so bright.

Two canals started out from the city of Dublin, one from the south side, the other from the north. For all practical purposes, the canals were identical twins. Both were bent on the same business: to reach the Shannon and thence Limerick and the Atlantic. Both relied on cargoes passengers to bring in revenue . . . So the pair set off galumphing across the midlands, sober as judges, delving a dinosaur-like way through fields, marshes and bogs. Two rival waterway systems on the same beat —

our English friends would smilingly say, "How very Irish!" The intelligent Irishman of today simply asks 'Why?'

Because John Binns was hot tempered. He was a director of the Grand Canal Company and one day there was a flaring row; Binns said he was insulted. So he pounded out, shouting 'To hell with ye' (or words to that effect), "I'll build a canal of my own!" And that's what happened: he had the money and the ability and he was as stubborn as a mule. Love may or may not make the world go round, but it was a fit of pique brought the Royal Canal to Maynooth.

Royal, Grand, — what bombastic names they used in those times! Nothing less than superlatives could express the feeling that all the world was changed because of inland waterways. How 'Royal' and 'grand' they are today now that they have been twice or thrice superseded! The Railways, too, had inflated ideas: The Great Southern and Western, the Great Northern — Ask your grandfather how 'great' they turned out to be: in the nineteen twenties their Share Certifi-

cates were hardly worth the paper they were written on.

The Grand Canal began the cross-country trek before the Royal, reaching the Shannon in 1805, twelve years ahead of its rival. The Royal's route was eleven miles longer than the other's, taking in fewer and less important towns. The Grand cost £1,137,680, the Royal £1,421,900 — make your own guess on the present day equivalents of those totals. In every respect the Grand did better than the Royal: had profitable branch lines, carried more cargoes and passengers and, in fits and starts, paid the Shareholders' dividends up to 1948 (the Royal's last pay out was in 1844). Ruth Delany in her *Canals of the South of Ireland* calls the Royal 'the unnecessary canal'. John Binns, of course, was ruined.

All of which may be a nice little story to while away a few idle moments. But where do we, 1975 people, stand in regard to the castoffs of a primitive mechanical age? Where do we go from the Nineteen Fifties and Sixties — not

(unnecessary canal — cont'd)
to hark back further — with our hundreds of miles of unwanted canals and torn up railway lines? There is, for example, the wreckage of a canal running beside the Boyne; there is an abortive canal rotting beside a road near Mallow; there is the green wasteland where once ran the West Clare Railway, and a like discarded trail between Sallins and Balingglass. The All Ireland list of unused land and water would be as long as the proverbial 'arm'. All of it, abandoned, idle miles, is potential amenity area. Going abegging, unclaimed and likely to remain so unless the people — the local people who are in fact the real masters of national environment — take action.

The canals for pleasure cruising, fishing, swimming — these things are too obvious for comment. The canals as scenery, as pleasures . . . a whole essay could be written on the Birdlife of the canals, another on the Flora. The next issue of *Canalians* (the Robertstown annual) is to contain an essay on Canalside Butterflies — it has come to that!

It is 1975, Recreation for the ordinary people matters more than it ever mattered before. Royal and Grand are mere names today; they have no economic reality. Let the Directors of the Canals, John Binns included, turn in their graves if they want to, it is our job to make Ireland a pleasant place in which to live. The same goes for the great engineers: Evans and Omer, Brownrigg, Trail, Rennie and Neville — Bold Neville, Who made the streams run level, In that bounding river Called the Grand Canal.

They had their day and their fame. It is our turn now.

THE CIVIL DEFENCE SERVICE

Ted Kelly

Each evening lately, we are told on TV that "There's a place for you in Civil Defence". Few people, however, really know what is required from them in Civil Defence or, basically what it is all about. A few lines, therefore, may not be amiss to clear up the matter.

Basically, the Civil Defence is a service formed to assist the Authorities in the event of any major disaster where the normal services are stretched to the limit or over-stretched. This applies equally to peacetime and wartime. In short, it is a service to assist you and your family, as well as your immediate neighbours in extraordinary circumstances of fire, storm, flood, earthquake, etc.

The initial aim is to build up a nucleus from which a comprehensive service can be formed in an emergency. There are five services planned, i.e. Warden Service,



A group of Civil Defence Members from Maynooth pictured together with various officers on the occasion of presentation of First Aid and Civil Defence Certificates at I.C.A. Hall on 1st October last.

Front Row — L. to R. Cpt. Jim Gallagher, Cpt. Donny McKeon, Lieut. Michael Brady, Cpt. Colm Madigan, Cpt. Bill Reid.

Back Row — L. to R. Mrs. A. McGonny, Pat O'Hara, Mrs. M. Kelly, Des Fahy, Anne Kelly.

Fire Service, Rescue Service, Casualty Service and Welfare Service, each dovetailed into the other to cover any disaster as completely as possible.

Briefly, the function of each service is as follows:-

Warden — A service mainly to gather and distribute information, to direct people as to what to do and where to go when normal services break down.

Fire — Speaks for itself. The member is instructed in the use of various fire-fighting equipment and fire control.

Rescue — Also more or less speaks for itself, the member being instructed in the various forms of rescuing people from dangerous situations.

Casualty — Again almost self-explanatory, the members being instructed in first-aid, the setting up of casualty clearing stations, field hospitals, etc.

Welfare — To deal with able-bodied refugees from any disaster as well as being trained to provide food and shelter in extreme conditions.

The above is just a brief resume of the functions of each service indicating more or less how each service follows up on the other.

In all these cases, there is an initial training period, varying from 8 - 12 weeks (one night each week) after which the member has basic training in the service of his or her choice. Desirably each member should have basic training in each service so as to fully understand and complement the other services.

Civil Defence is a non-military service and discipline though firm is not rigid. Meetings, lectures and exercises are carried out in an easygoing and friendly fashion.

As you will see, there is a place in Civil Defence for you and, in fact, there is a course for the Warden Service coming up shortly in the North Kildare area. Anyone who would like to attend this course should contact any Civil Defence member in the area or leave his name and address in Kiernan's shop, Main Street, as soon as possible. Particulars of the other services are also available on request. At the moment also, there is a course in First-Aid at the I.C.A. Hall on Wednesday nights at 8.00 p.m. to which all are welcome.

CIVIL DEFENCE NOTES:—

Casualty Unit:

On Wednesday 1st October last, certificates and badges were presented to the successful candidates in the recent First Aid Exams. On behalf of Civil Defence, Captain Colm Madigan, Assistant Regional Director, presented the certificates and Unit Badges. Dr. Healy, Newbridge, presented the certificates on behalf of the Knights of Malta. Captain Madigan said he was pleased to see another Casualty Unit in Kildare, and especially in Maynooth, which is on the main Western Road. In the event of an evacuation from the Dublin area, Maynooth would be a very important post. He was very pleased first with

(Civil defence continued . . .)

the co-operation between the Rathcoffey Unit and the Maynooth Unit in manning local events, and secondly to see another series of lectures started here.

The successful candidates were Ann Kelly, Marian Cusack, Marie T. Kelly, Des Fahy, and Pat O'Hara. Mrs. B. Brady and Mrs. Toni Read were absent due to illness.

Others present were Capt. Bill Reid and Mr. Michael Brady (lecturer), Knights of Malta, Capt. D. McKeown, Sub-County Warden Jim Gallagher, Assistant Sub-County Warden, Ned Kiernan, District Warden Ted Kelly, Assistant District Warden Liam Bean, Brian Edderry, Chairman, Maynooth Community Council and Mrs. Mary Murray, Rathcoffey Unit. The presentation was preceeded by the Irish made Civil Defence Film — "Danger Dust".

FINE GAEL NEWS

Maynooth Branch Fine Gael invites prospective new members to attend the next branch meeting in the I.C.A. Hall on Tuesday 11th November 1975 at 8.30. p.m. All interested in Fine Gael are welcome. Further information available from Chairman — W. Coonan, Phone 286128, Secretary — E. O'Reilly, Phone 286203, or P.R.O. B. Durkan, 286063.

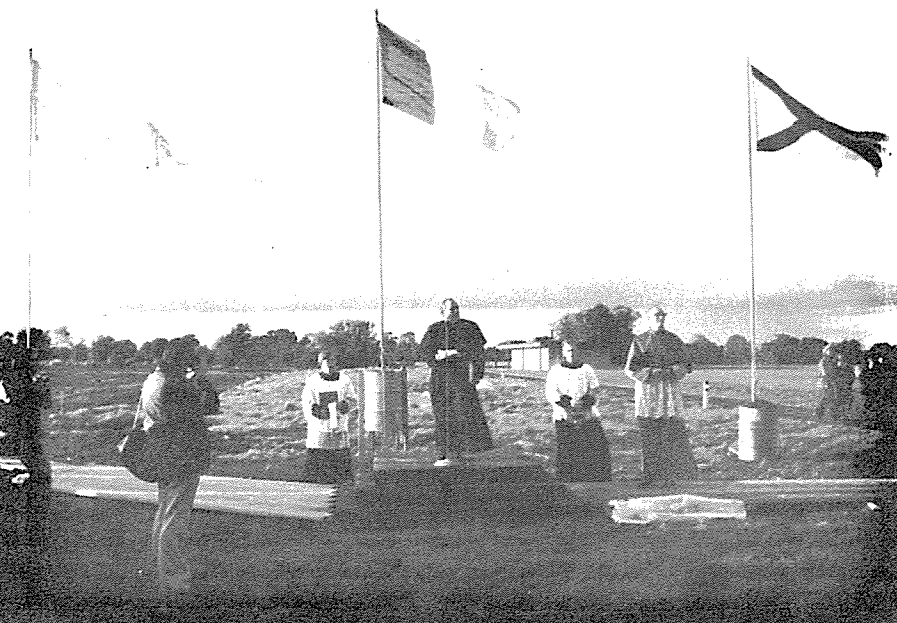
The branch is also happy to announce that Mr. Mark Clinton T.D., is attending at the Geraldine Hall on a regular basis to meet constituents and discuss their problems. The first such meeting which was held on the 7th October last was well attended.

K A R E

The Co. Kildare Association of Parents and Friends of Handicapped Children, known as KARE, are holding a meeting in the Geraldine Hall on Tuesday 18th November at 8.30 p.m. Anyone wishing to attend this meeting is cordially invited.

KARE are catering for 75 moderately mentally handicapped children, 30 severely handicapped and pre-school children in their new school on the Curragh. There are also 76 mildly mentally handicapped children in temporary accommodation in Kilcullen. A new school for these Children will be commenced shortly in Newbridge.

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Closed all day Monday.



Monsgr. Tomás Ó Fiach — President of St. Patricks College, with the Archbishop of Dublin, Most Rev. Dr. Dermot Ryan, at the "turning of the sod" for the new Arts Block at Maynooth College on 1st October 1975.

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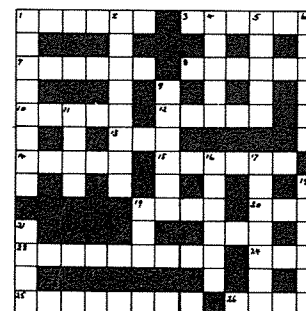
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CROSSWORD

Across:

- French Existentialist philosopher (6).
- Without it the religious person flounders (6).
- T.V. detective (6).
- Joined together (6).
- Hot (5).
- Lost (2,3).
- Make of guitar that sounds like you've heard it before (3).
- Top hat for bishop (5).
- Blue powder (6).
- What you slip on quickly in showers (1,3).
- Once around the circuit (3).
- Much more than a few (3).
- What you get when people come together (9).
- Record label (3).
- To bind legally (8).
- Nice and cosy (4).



Down:

- Not now but (8).
- Both sexes of this species have antlers (8).
- Quits (5).
- Land of monsoons (5).
- Animal food-stuff (6).
- Chinese philosophical system (6).
- Large bald spot (4).
- Withers and dies (6).
- Spanish sailing vessel of the 15th century (7).
- Old sofas can be dangerous when one of these gets loose (6).
- Girl's name (3).
- A repeat of 13 across, almost (4).

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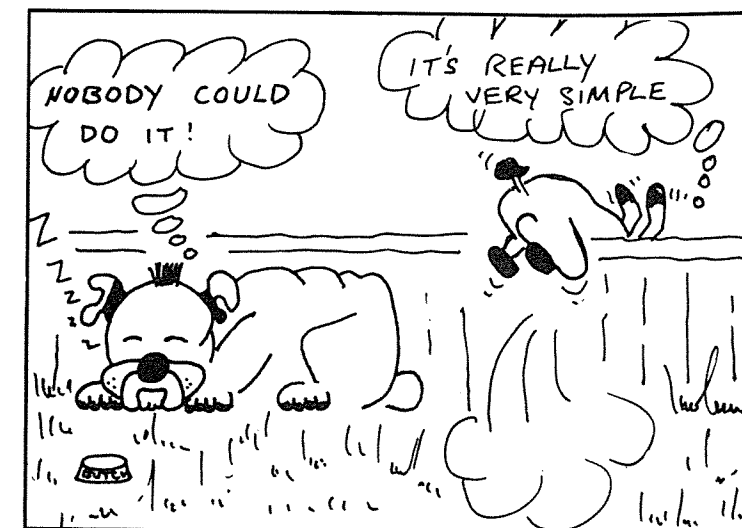
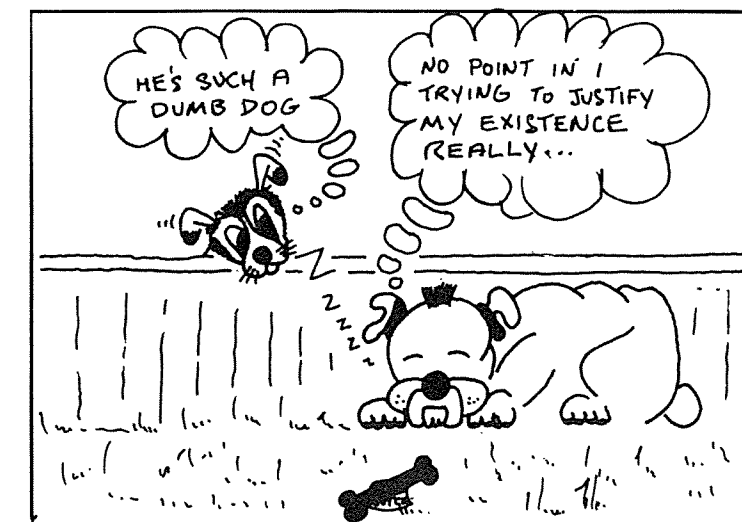
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SATURDAY 22nd NOVEMBER 1975

in
OSBERSTOWN HOUSE, NAAS

Music by JIM & THE HI-LITES

Dinner at 8.30 p.m. Sharp. Dancing till 2 a.m.

Tickets £3.00 each

Enquiries: Tommy Fay,
Parson Street,