

CIVIL DEFENCE NOTES

Preparations are going ahead for the coming County Competition in the Civil Defence National First-Aid Competition each Wednesday night in the I.C.A. Hall, commencing at 8 p.m. All newcomers are welcome.

On Saturday, 14th February, Mrs. Bridie Brady and Mrs. Marie Kelly were presented with their Instructor's Certificates by Mr. Ml. O'Gabhain, School Commandant, Civil Defence School, Phoenix Park. Mrs. Mary Murray, Kilcock, also received her Certificate.



Diploma Day!!

L. to R. Mrs. B. Brady
Michael O'Gabhain,
School Commandant, Civil
Defence, Phoenix Park,
and Mrs. M. Kelly.



ST. MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND.

Two photographs of the Junior Band, taken in the Band Hall after the Christmas break. A feature of the classes is that no fewer than eight families have two or more children in the classes, which include four Maddens - Catherine, Mary, Anthony and Peter - and three Greenes - Patrick, Peter and Joseph.

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MAYNOOTH

NEWSLETTER

Published by Maynooth Community Council.

MARCH 1976. No. 6

PRICE TEN PENCE.

EDITORIAL

From being an extremely courteous nation some years back, we find that there has been a slow but sure falling off, in recent years. In commercial firms this is apparent, but nowhere is it more apparent than in State and semi-State bodies. This has been a slow but certain process, so slow that the public have let things slide little by little. Small things, which as the rather rude note at the end of E.S.B. bill (about prompt payment) even though the consumer has never been late in paying in his life, have been passed over until we find that the ordinary courtesies have been eroded away.

Such normal courtesies as the notification of consumers, when water and electricity supplies are being cut off to facilitate repairs etc. have practically gone by the board. Although with the recent repairs and changes of poles in the Square, the E.S.B. did notify some consumers, many were not warned and, as well, the supply was cut off on the following day without notice at all. This should not be. Neither should water be cut off, even at night, without proper notification and explanation.

Another area for complaint is the cutting of access to public roads without a proper warning, and also the leaving of roads in an almost unusable condition after pipe laying, for an abnormally long period. (We have some fine examples of this in our area). Contractors to local authorities seem to think that they have no obligations to the public in general in these matters. (On the other hand, it would be unfair of us not to commend the contractor who laid the pipes for the P. & T. Dept. in the Main Street, and who left the area very tidy and had the footpath resurfaced in good time).

The local authorities must fall for quite an amount of blame in these matters and could, no doubt, do a lot more in the matter of having these items attended to. If there is no proper legislation to allow them to ensure such matters as the returning of the roads to proper condition, etc. not to mention the completing of building estates in a reasonable time so that they can be taken over and looked after by the County Council, then the local authorities should press for such legislation at once. Particularly in the taking over of new estates, Ratepayers are entitled to the services that they are paying for. This all may not seem to have much to do with courtesy but when members of the public ask for explanation to the local authorities, or through Councillors, no intelligent reason is given for the non-performance of these matters.

All in all, there are certain courtesies that the general public are entitled to and we should not allow these to be ignored, overruled or otherwise disposed of without a full and satisfactory reason.

DRIVERS
WATCH OUT
FOR OUR



Swimming
Swimming sessions have commenced again at the Celbridge Pool, since the beginning of February. Mr. Bill Delgarno is instructing the children. The sessions are on Friday afternoons, 5-6 p.m.
A general meeting will be held in the Parish Hall on Monday 1st, March at 9 p.m. and all parents are invited.
The Club has been invited to nominate a representative to attend meetings of the Co. Kildare Water Safety Committee.

HULA - BOU

Main Street, Maynooth.

Phone 286072

LATEST STYLES IN LADIES WEAR

CHILDREN & BABY WEAR

A SPECIALITY.

Editorial Committee -- Ted Kelly,
Vincent Duffe, John Read and Des Fahy
Photographs by Sean Tracey and Paddy
Madden.
MAYNOOTH NEWSLETTER
Published by Maynooth Community Council,
86 Rail Park.

Community Council News

One of the main items discussed at the last meeting of the Community Council was the cleaning of the canal. A special effort is to be made to clear the tow path, particularly in the Pike's Bridge direction, and to see what can be done within weeks, prior to the Canoe Race on 14th March. In the coming weeks, it is hoped to organise work parties to take part in this work and volunteers are urgently needed to assist. If you would be prepared to help, please contact the Community Council representative in your area and he, or she, will make arrangements to fit you in a party.

This is just the commencement of the proposed work on the canal. It is hoped later to cut weeds, etc. particularly between the Town Bridge and Puck's Bridge (Newtown end) and, as far as possible, to try and work this portion of the canal in with the Sports Field - Harbour complex as a boating area. It is also envisaged that a boat slip will be provided in the Harbour to facilitate the launching of canoes.

All this, of course, will not be done in a few weeks and completion of the work will depend on the assistance the Council receives both manually and financially from the whole community, and it is important to point out at this stage that manual help is the most important. This should be an opportunity for the younger people of the town to show their spirit. Perhaps the Youth Clubs could contact the Community Council in this respect. For the not so active, who have never taken part in such work parties, there is no need to fear that the work will be too heavy. Individuals work at their own pace, in their own time, and nobody is asked to do too much, doing whichever job they wish themselves.

OTHER ITEMS DISCUSSED WERE:

THE CANOE RACE

Arrangements were made for the stewarding, etc. of the canoe race on 14th March. The race will start from the Square at 3 p.m. with the contestants racing up to the Town Bridge with their boats and launching from there. Spectators are asked to obey the stewards on the day of the race, so that they may not interfere with the race.

This race may be placed on the Canoe Union Calendar as an annual event. It is considered, at the moment, as one of the finest in the Canoe Racing Year.

T.V. AERIAL

The Community aerial was discussed and the Council was informed that the draft contract was in the process of being prepared for distribution.

SPORTS FIELD

The Council had a meeting with the Maynooth Development Association and arrangements were made to hand over the funds collected from the Sponsored Cycle Ride when it is hoped to see another phase of the work completed.

COMMUNITY GAMES

The position about the Community Games both at County level and National level is still somewhat obscure but the Council's representative is keeping in touch.

CONSTITUTION AND RULES

These were formally put before the Council and were unanimously accepted.

GARDENING

By Colm Kennedy

Do not be in a hurry to make seed sowings—wait until the winds dry out the soil somewhat and leave it easier to get a fine tilt. Nothing is more detrimental to small seeds than a badly-tilled seed bed. Between air-pockets and cold, damp conditions seeds will not grow well and give of their best. Goodness knows things are expensive enough to grow. Anyway Brussel sprouts and onions out of doors can be put in, weather permitting. Get your onion sets, shallots, leeks, and some cabbage seed planted in a sheltered position. Early potatoes too can be planted in a shady spot. At the end of the month all cabbage and cauliflower sown in January indoors or in frames should be hardened off and can be got into the ground in April.

Start hoeing autumn sown cabbage, sprouting broccoli and winter cauliflowers and if they are showing the effects of winter, top-dress with sulphate of ammonia, or nitro chalk to bring back colour and encourage spring growth.

The Onion bed should be prepared for planting out seedlings next month. A start can be made with sowings of radishes, lettuce, peas, broad beans, and spinach later on in the month. A good variety of any of the above vegetables for March sowing: Radish: Saxene or Scarlet Globe; Lettuce: hard to beat Fortune or Tom Thumb; Peas: Little Marvel or Pioneer; Broad Beans: Colossal and Perpetual Spinach and finally get in your Parsnips: Tender and True or White Gem: both of these varieties have a very smooth skin and excellent crops can be produced with a little care.

The Wallflower is the most popular spring flowering plant raised from seed. No other subject provides a greater show of bloom and when well grown the plants give a long-continued display. In the house too they have a delightful perfume and beautiful decorative charm. There are so many different varieties and colours now available they can have a very telling effect. Wallflower seeds can be planted in May-June in open ground—as soon as the plants are large enough transplant into six rows. Plant out into flowering position in the autumn. Poppies are a must in any garden and amongst those grown as a biennial are the large flowered special Mixture Height about 18 ins. Sow seed in June-July in open ground ¼ in. deep. Pansies are another very good subject. They are beautiful for edging borders. Violas are more tufty in habit than pansies and are equally suitable for bedding. Seed sowing the same as for pansies. Polyanthus can be effective when grown alone in beds but some beautiful results can be obtained when interplanted with other early blooming subjects. I have listed but a few—there are several others.

EXTENSION OF BUS TO NEW ESTATES

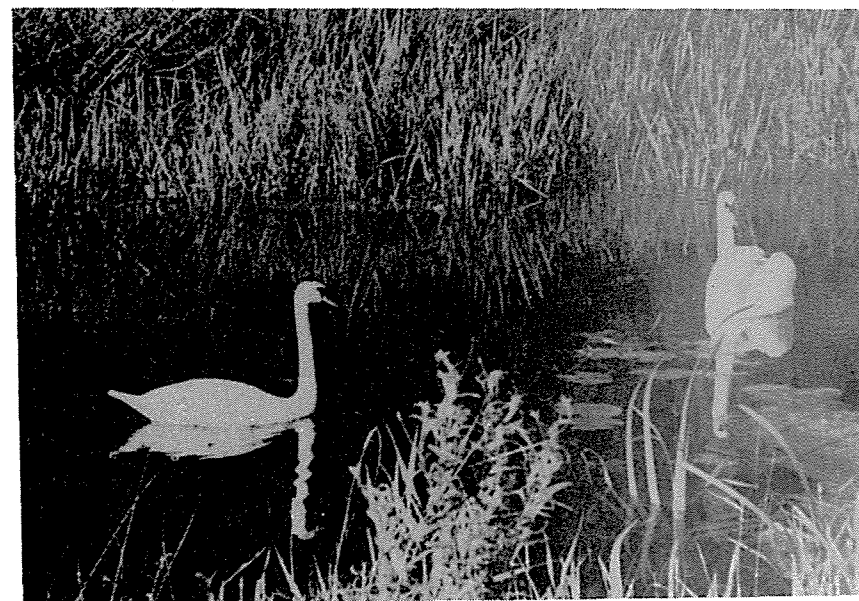
The question of the extension of the local bus route up to the new estates was again discussed and two members of the Council were deputed to see if they could make some arrangements in the matter.

STRAY DOGS

The serious matter of stray dogs in the area was discussed. These dogs have become a serious problem and many people have been bitten. These dogs mainly appear to be strays and it may be significant that they seem to appear after mart days, and it can only be assumed that farmers are responsible for bringing these dogs here and straying them. It is odd indeed that farmers, who from time to time complain of loose dogs killing sheep, should turn dogs loose like this to starve and to be a serious menace to flocks of sheep in the area. Perhaps the local Farmers' Association would look into the matter.

The next Council Meeting will be on 9th March.

We wish to make a strong appeal to all persons and clubs to please cooperate in sending in material for printing. It should be remembered that this is a voluntary effort by the sub-committee and a good deal of time goes into the preparation, etc. of the Newsletter. Considerable time would be saved if material was handed in to any of the Editorial Committee in time. Some Residents' Associations and Clubs are not availing of facilities in the paper—we feel this is a sad reflection on community solidarity without which this paper has no business being in production at all. We hope it is not indicative of a general malaise of indifference and apathy. Two of the Residents' Associations have ceased sending in notes when they formally did so—why is this? This neglect naturally reduces the appeal of the paper for many and also reduces our sales (thus reducing our finances for printing). To get notes from some clubs is like looking for favours—many clubs don't even bother. This is your means of communication—let people know what you are doing—when, where, and why. Any bits of news, however small, will be welcome. The last date for handing in articles etc. is Sunday 21st March for inclusion in next issue on first weekend in April.



A Royal Tour — did anyone see King Lir?
Photo—Sean Treacey.

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MAYNOOTH
SHOPPING CENTRE

Parent/Teacher Association

It is hoped to have a discussion on a proposed School Management Board for the Post-Primary School, at a general meeting of parents in the coming month, and, if possible, to have a speaker to address parents on the subject.

Also in the near future, it is hoped that the School's "Open Night" will be held, when work done by the pupils will be on display. It will be remembered that a similar night last year, which was very well attended, was considered to be a highlight of the year. Watch for details in next issue.

The Association wish to thank all the parents who have sent in their £1 subscription for the year. Members of the Association will call on the remainder of the parents to complete the collection.

The "Vanishing Tea Party" is progressing quite well and the Association wish to thank all who helped so far. It is hoped that all parents will have participated by the end.

CONGRATULATIONS:

To: Harry Flood, O'Neill Park; Mary E. Donohue, Dowdstown House; Margaret Dowling, Leinster Cottages; Mary Cusker, Leinster Park, on their recent marriages.

To: Osmond and Mary Brady, The Square on the birth of a daughter; John and Maureen Collins, Carton Lodge, on the birth of a daughter; Kevin and Breua Connolly, Dowdstown, on the birth of a son.

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**POST-PRIMARY SCHOOL,
MAYNOOTH**

Congratulations to Dymphna McLoughlin, Frances Murphy and Elizabeth Kennedy on winning the Intermediate section of the Muintir na Tire Project Competition. The girls carried out additional survey on certain aspects of Road Safety and its reference to Maynooth. The prize of £25 and a cup was won for the second successive year by students of the Post Primary School. If successful next year, the cup will be theirs.

This is the second prize won by these girls, having collected a £50 prize in a project competition organised by Dunshaughlin Macra na Feirme earlier this year.

Much publicity and controversy surrounds some schools today who are endeavouring to implement various experimental ideas about curriculum development. One tendency has been to strengthen links between the school and the local communities, by involving parents, local associations, local industry etc. in a more dynamic way.

Another recent development in schools has been the introduction of a Guidance and Counselling service. This service contributes to the more effective running of a school as well as helping the students with personal, academic and career problems. Vocational schools have been among the first to introduce this kind of service into their schools and are attempting more and more to broaden their educational goals, on the whole.

An interesting combination of both ideas is illustrated in a novel experiment about to take place in Maynooth Post-Primary School. In connection with the guidance and counselling service provided in the school, the students have been asked to participate in a "work-experience" week. With the cooperation of Maynooth College, and many industries throughout Co. Kildare, about thirty students from 4th Year (male and female) will take part in the scheme.

The students will work in these factories for the week under as nearly realistic conditions as possible. Those interested in further education after their Leaving Certificate will attend Maynooth College and The Dublin College of Catering during the week.

**DRIVERS
WATCH OUT
FOR OUR**



There is considerable evidence to show that pupils who have undertaken work experience tend to develop increased social maturity, self-confidence, and are less inclined to change their jobs once they start work themselves. Considered as a form of social education, work experience can develop good behaviour in unfamiliar surroundings, a better understanding of other people and ability to work on their own without supervision. All this will ease the ultimate transition from school to work. It should also improve their general alertness and communication skills as they will be expected to report back to their classmates afterwards. While some criticisms can be made of this kind of scheme, on balance it improves the pupil's vocational maturity, and enables them to see the relevance of their school work and consequently can sometimes improve their attainments before they leave school.



They're a long way from being Dad's Army! Members of the Maynooth Scout 'Cubs' at the recent investiture at the Parish Hall. Photo includes: Miss Ann Gargan, Billy Flood, Bro's J. St. Leger, S.D.B. and J. Lofrano, S.D.B.

Photo—Robert J. Gore, Slaesian House.

THE EXPECTANT MOTHER

Dear Son,

Just a few lines — hoping you're all feeling well. Just over the 'flu' me'self. If I feel up to it I'll see you all on Patrick's Day.

Don't forget Mother's Day — March 28th — I'll be expecting a card from you this year.

Have to rush. Bye for now. Regards to Mary and the children.

*Love,
Mother.*

P.S.:— LEAVY'S, Greenfield Est. have a nice range of Cards.

I.C.A. NOTES

The February Meeting was very well attended and a number of new members were welcomed.

Mrs. Fagan was thanked for organising the catering, so very successfully, at the recent Coin Fair in the R.D.S. Ballsbridge.

A very interesting talk and demonstration was given by Miss Una Nelson, from the Dublin School of Art and was of great interest to all. Next month's talk will be on "The Prevention of Fire in the Home".

The Bord Iascaigh Mhara Fish Cooking Competition was won by Mrs. Mary Doyle, with savoury stuffed cod, and all the members wish Mrs. Doyle every success at the Federation level of the competition in April.

The competition for next month will be the 'best Limerick'.

Mrs. O'Reilly won the raffle and the meeting concluded with a very nice tea.

MAYNOOTH BOY SCOUTS

The 8th Kildare Scout Troop, C.B.S.I., has now completed its first year of active scouting in Maynooth. The foundations of the troop were laid during the winter months of 1974, when under the leadership of James St. Leger, S.D.B., Joseph Lofrano, S.D.B., Kieran O'Reilly, S.M.A., and Billy Flood—a teacher in the local National School, a small group of lads were trained in the basic skills of scouting. This first group were invested scouts on February 16th, 1975. The Investiture ceremony followed a Mass in Parish Church, which was concelebrated by Fr. O'Higgins, P.P., Fr. Hicks, S.D.B. — Troop Chaplain and Fr. Putzu, S.D.B. Among those who attended from National Headquarters were Mr. M. O'Driscoll, National Director of Training, and Mr P. Butler, Unit Leader of the 42nd and 92nd Troops, Crumlin.

In January '75 a further sixteen boys were admitted to the Troop, bringing the number up to twenty. The Troop was divided into four patrols, these patrols form the nucleus of the Troop and all activities centre around them. Throughout the following months the new boys were gradually introduced to scouting through various activities, primarily through the weekly meeting but also through hikes and week-end camps. A second investiture was held on the 27th April bringing the number of invested scouts up to twenty. With the uniforming of the full Troop we were able to take part in many parish functions, among them the Corpus Christi procession. During this month we were joined by another leader—Eugene Gargan from Greenfields.

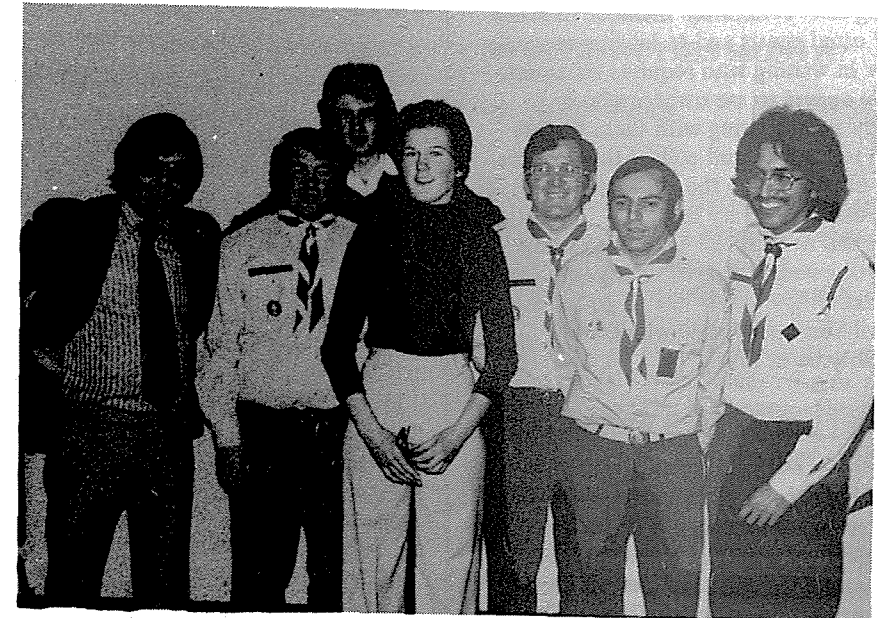
The major event in any scout year is the annual camp. Last year, because the Troop was still in its infancy, we decided to break the annual camp into two; the first part comprised a three-day patrol camp, in Larch Hill (National Campsite of C.B.S.I.) at the beginning of August, this was followed by a five-day camp for the whole Troop at Ballinakill, Co. Laois.

With the resumption of activities after the summer an extensive programme was carried out, introducing many new skills to the boys. On November 1st a Cub Pack, under the leadership of Billy Flood, Ann Gargan, Fergus Tuohy, S.M.A., and Alfredo Agius, S.D.B., was started. Mr. P. Madden joined the Scout Troop as an officer at this time.

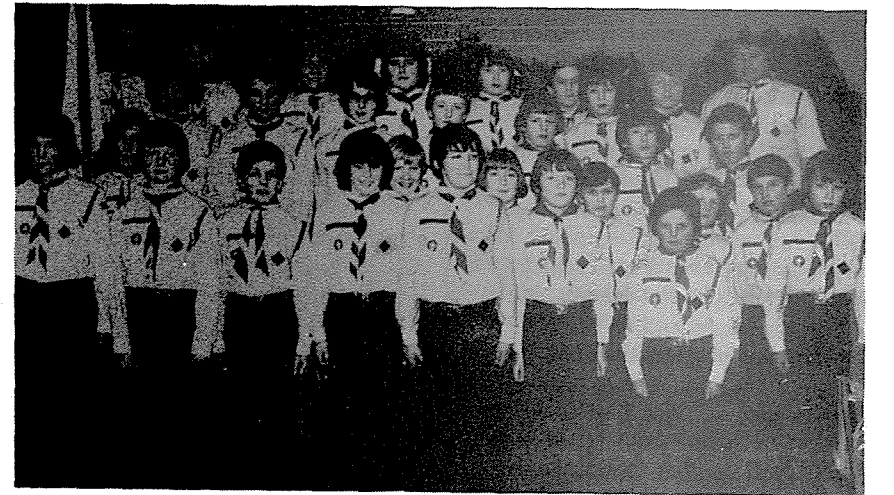
The activities, throughout the past year are considered to have been very successful, both by the officers and the boys. Their success is indicative of the enthusiasm amongst the boys for scouting. It is noticeable that in the short time scouting has been established in Maynooth a strong scouting spirit has grown amongst the boys. It is hoped that this will continue to grow over the coming years. Judging by the response of both boys and parents we

are confident that scouting has a very bright future in Maynooth.

The Unit wishes to thank all those who gave so unstintingly of their time and energy to help with various functions, during the past year. A special word of thanks is due to all those who contributed to our various fund-raising activities, in the past and whom I am sure will continue to do so in the future. A final word of thanks goes to Frs. O'Higgins and Supple for their continued support and encouragement.



Members of the Committee of Maynooth Boy Scouts and 'Cubs'. Included are: Put Kelly, Bro. J. St. Leger, S.D.B., Gene and Ann Gargan and Billy Flood
Photo—R. J. Gore, Salesian House.



Maynooth Boy Scouts Troop with two of their leaders.

Photo— R. J. Gore, Salesian House.

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MAYNOOTH OLD PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE NEWS

Fourteen of our senior citizens took part in the T.V. programme "Going Strong" recently. A most enjoyable day was had by all in Montrose. In order to compensate those who could not take part Bunny Carr promised to pay us a visit but there is no definite news about this visit as yet.

The next Social will be held on the 14th March. We take this opportunity of asking each committee member to invite their usual guests and to let the secretary know in writing who requires transport.

We appeal to car owners who have elderly people living with them to take them to the hall and collect them as the pool of cars which the committee have at their disposal is very limited.

At the next Social we will welcome from our senior citizens their suggestions on where they would like to go for the annual Summer Outing which will probably be in July.

GREENFIELD ESTATE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The A.G.M. took place in the Geraldine Hall on 24th February, 1976 with approximately sixty residents present. A lively meeting took place despite the fairly poor representation from the residents. Brian Eddery did not allow his name to go forward for re-election as he hopes to concentrate his efforts with Maynooth Community Council. The rest of last year's Committee were re-elected together with some new members. So it is hoped that with an increased Committee size much greater progress will be achieved in the coming year.

There was a ten-member Sub-Committee set up in order that a consistent effort might be maintained at getting Vaughan Builders to complete the maintenance on the Estate.

Hopefully some rewards will soon be seen on this seemingly ever-present thorn in our side.

The Committee express the hope that they will get much greater co-operation and encouragement during the coming year and that 1976 will see the completion of all works on Greenfield Estate.

Maynooth Castle

A Focal Point of Local History

Mary Cullen (6)

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

The arrival in Ireland of Robert FitzStephen gave new strength to MacMurrough. These reinforcements were professional fighters, cavalry of knights and esquires, mailed men-at-arms, and archers, Normans, Flemings and Welsh. Together MacMurrough and FitzStephen took Wexford which, together with the promised two cantreds of land, was promptly handed over to FitzStephen for himself and Maurice FitzGerald who had not yet arrived in Ireland. Then they set out to restore MacMurrough's authority in Leinster, which operation included ravaging Offelan and Omurethy, the lands of the O'Byrnes and the O'Tooles. At the this stage O'Connor the High-King moved against MacMurrough and the result was a treaty by which Diarmait was to be allowed remain king of Leinster if he sent his Norman allies home. This he failed to do and then Maurice FitzGerald landed at Wexford at the end of 1169 to join his brother, bringing with him according to Giraldus, "ten men-at-arms, thirty mounted retainers and about a hundred archers and foot-soldiers."

Thus strengthened Diarmait began to think of making a bid for the High-Kingship himself. He discussed this with the two Geraldines, FitzStephen and FitzGerald and seems to have offered to marry his daughter Aoife to either one or the other. But they advised him to send for their overlord, the earl of Pembroke, Strongbow, and ask his help. Strongbow was impressed by the success of the Geraldines and made ready to come. He sent ahead his chosen lieutenant, still another Geraldine, Raymond le Gros, the son of Maurice's elder brother, William.

Raymond landed on the coast near Waterford in May 1170 with a small force of ten men-at-arms and seventy archers. While awaiting the arrival of Strongbow he was attacked by a large army of Irish and Norse from Waterford but Raymond's leadership inspired his men to victory. Raymond became probably the most outstanding military leader among the first wave of invaders and Giraldus has left us a description of him. As his nickname suggests he was "very stout and a little above the middle height; his hair was yellow and curly and he had large, grey, round eyes. His nose was rather prominent, his countenance high-coloured, cheerful and pleasant; and although he was somewhat corpulent, he was so lively and active that the incumbrance was not a blemish or inconvenience. Such was his care of his troops that he passed whole nights without sleep, going the rounds of the guards himself, and challenging the sentinels to keep them on the alert..." Giraldus of course was somewhat partial to his cousins the Geraldines, but there seems to be a consensus of opinion that Raymond's victory at this point was decisive for the success of the invasion and so of course also for the subsequent history of Ireland. If he had been defeated, Strongbow might never have come to Ireland and the invasion might have remained what it was up to this point, a Geraldine adventure which would probably have ended by their assimilation into the Gaelic race or their expulsion. Hence the old rhyme:

"At the creek of Baginbunne
Ireland was lost and won."



Based on: Peter Harbison, "Guide to the National Monuments of Ireland".

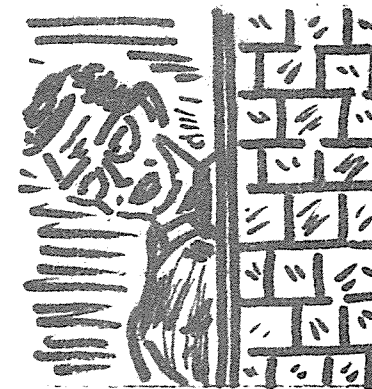
At last Strongbow arrived near Waterford in August 1170 with an army of two hundred men-at-arms and one thousand other troops. Giraldus described him also but Strongbow was not a Geraldine and the picture is not as flattering as some of the others; "His complexion was somewhat ruddy, and his skin freckled; he had grey eyes, feminine features, a weak voice, and short neck." Strongbow and le Gros took Waterford together. MacMurrough, Aoife, FitzGerald and FitzStephen joined them and Strongbow and Aoife were married. Richard Roche, in *The Norman Invasion of Ireland*, pictures the "mail-clad Normans and their Flemish, Welsh and Irish allies cramming the aisles to catch a glimpse of the famed Strongbow and his bride."

The invasion now became a more serious affair with MacMurrough's Norman allies dictating the action. Together they took Dublin in spite of the efforts of O'Connor. Then MacMurrough died in May 1171 leaving Strongbow as his heir to the kingship of Leinster. But as this legacy had no validity in Irish law Strongbow soon found the tribes of Leinster in revolt against him. Meanwhile the High-King was gathering an army and the recently expelled Norse king of Dublin was attacking the city from the sea. Strongbow could not expect much help from England or Wales since his own overlord, Henry II of England, was displeased with him for ignoring his orders to return home. In fact Henry had decided to come to Ireland himself. He had for long been interested in the project and had taken the trouble to get Pope Adrian IV, an Englishman, to issue the famous Bull, *Laudabiliter*, in which he granted Ireland to Henry on condition that he undertake the reform of the Irish Church. But the real reason why he came now was his alarm at the success of his subjects in Ireland and his fear that they might set up an independent lordship. Strongbow hastened to make his peace with Henry before the royal expedition set sail. But the Geraldines were still a threat and Henry wanted the Irish to accept his authority also.

So Henry sailed for Ireland with the largest army yet. He brought 500 knights and 1,000 others, carried on a fleet of 240 ships, according to the Annals of the Four Masters, with huge amounts of bacon, beans, cheese, salt, wheat and oats to feed them all. They were to be kept clothed with 2,000 ells of grey woollen cloth while for the king there was scarlet and green cloth, silk and otter skins. Among the baggage also were 1,000 lbs. of wax for the sealing of letters and charters, and 569 lbs. of almonds! The mighty army achieved its purpose and did not have to fight even one battle. Everyone submitted to Henry, Geraldines and Irish, kings and hierarchy. He stayed in Ireland for six months, during which time he summoned the synod of Cashel to further ecclesiastical reform, gave Dublin a charter which granted the city to the men of Bristol, re-organised the Norman-occupied lands along feudal lines and set up an administrative machinery and a legal and legislative system as in England. And he kept in his own hands both Waterford and Wexford when he left Ireland in April 1172.

The success of the invasion so far had been mainly the work of the Geraldines. Now the king had stepped in and taken it over and reduced them and the other Normans to a subordinate position as his vassals. He had also taken Wexford, MacMurrough's original bribe to Maurice FitzGerald and Robert FitzStephen. The Geraldines would have to look for new territories.

References for the Norman Invasion:
Richard Roche, *The Norman Invasion of Ireland*; J. F. Lydon, *The Lordship of Ireland in the Middle Ages*.



WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH?

by "WATCHMAN"

- March 10 & 24 Civil Defence (Casualty Unit) Meetings 8 p.m.
- March 7 Parish Auction - 2 p.m.
- March 9 Community Council Meeting - 8 p.m.
- March 14 Old People's Party 4 p.m.
- Canoe Race - 3 p.m.
- March 22 G.A.A. Cabaret-Hitching Post.

CANOE RACE

The Royal Canal-Rye River Canoe Race, as it is now called, has been included in the calendar of the Irish Canoeing Union and is an official race of the season. It is even anticipated that the race may be included as an annual fixture, so highly is the race rated.

The race commences in the Square at 3 p.m. on Sunday, 14th March when contestants will race with their canoes to the Town Bridge, where they will launch themselves on the Canal. At this juncture, we would ask the public to obey the stewards on the course, so as to keep a clear run for the entrants.

The course will be along the Canal to Louisa Bridge, where they will leave the Canal and carry their canoes down to the Rye River, past the Spa spring, recently renovated by Leixlip Community Council. The course continues under the canal and on to the old school at Leixlip (opposite the Rye Vale Tavern). The full course is approximately 5 miles.

The proceeds of this race will go to the Irish Canoeing Club Olympic Fund.

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ANOTHER DAY

By Geraldine Dillon

It happened every day, every morning. Her alarm-clock went off. And it demanded sacrifices from her. She had to get up, live another day. And her life went on.

She was a typical young person, June. She was good too. She thought it a great shame that there were certain people classed as outcasts.

"Imagine," she often thought to herself, "there are some people at this very minute ready to kill themselves, because they're so lonely! What's the world coming to at all?" So true. But then, that's part of life, and June thanked her stars she was one of the "lucky" ones. Why, this very evening she was going to a party, with her pals from the office. It was the birthday of one of the girls, and June was very excited about the coming night.

She rushed home from work, so that she'd have plenty of time to get herself ready. For once the traffic lights weren't against her. It was when she was clattering up the stairs leading to her flat that she heard the monotonous tone of her telephone ringing.

"Blow," she muttered, and tore up the remaining steps. It was her cousin on the phone, telling June that she was at the bus-stop, and would June mind picking her up, as she couldn't make out the address?

"Of course not," June replied.

She slammed down the phone, cursing her cousin. For a few minutes she hesitated, uncertain of what to do. With a grimace, she decided duty precedes amusement.

It was half an hour later when she reached the bus-stop. The traffic lights had been against her. One quick glance from her took in the empty pavement.

Impatiently, she pulled in against the kerb. She waited, fuming, while unconsciously she drummed her fingers against the steering-wheel.

The cold pavement was bare and hard, the only things on it were rusty leaves fluttering and a broken bottle, its projecting sharp eyes glinting. June glanced around impatiently. In the distance she saw a huddled up figure hurrying towards the car. With swift movements that showed her impatience she opened the car door, and turned the key.

Her cousin climbed into the car, preceded by brown paper bags, carrier bags, an empty bird-cage and a huge shopping bag, with pages of books escaping from the top. These she arranged on the two seats. Then she followed, gasping, smoothing her coat at the same time, and apologising in between to June for "causing you so much trouble, and er-oops—but you see, I'd just seen this shop that sells bulls-eyes—I'm partial to them, you know, and—would you like one? Oh, sorry!"

With that, Mary fell on June. June firmly disentangled herself from her cousin. Mary picked a bulls-eye off her coat. "Em, you wouldn't like one, would you?" she offered tentatively.

June started. "No thanks," she replied. She stole a secret look at her cousin. She took in the steel-rimmed glasses, long, greasy hair, the expression of awe and wide open eyes. She grimaced. Why did she promise her mother to invite this creature down? With a set face she drove on.

The silence seemed thick with embarrassment. Several times Mary cleared her throat, as if in preparation for speaking. She never got further than saying: "I..." Finally she gave up and faked intense interest in the passing scenery, or her brown shoes, which had two black laces on. Her wide open, serious eyes, hidden behind the thick glasses, seemed however to be looking through the shoes, rather than at them.

When finally June spoke, it was like cracking ice, and Mary started.

"By the way, Mary," June said in a dry, impersonal voice, "I'm sorry for seeming inhospitable, but I'll have to leave you on your own to-night. You see, I've got to go to a party. I'm sure you don't mind."

"Oh!" May exclaimed loudly. She blushed and lowered her voice. "Well, actually you see, Mammy told me to be sure and try to get out to some dances. So I was thinking, would it be all right if I went with you. It would be quite all right now if you didn't want me. I mean..." Mary, flustered and confused, pulled off her gloves, then tugged them on again.

June, startled, turned and stared at Mary. Then she quickly faced the road again. Pictures quickly flashed through her mind. She saw Mary with her to-night, she saw her friends' looks, their secret glances, and heard their sniggerings. June flushed at the thought of the embarrassment she would feel.

"Well," she spoke quickly, "I'm afraid you couldn't really come. You see, it's, it's a special party, just for the staff. I'm sorry. I hope you understand."

Mary could feel her cheeks burning. It had been a strain asking; listening to a refusal was worse.

"Oh it's all right. That's life, I guess." There was a false lilt in her voice.

She gave out, at the world passing by. Cars, with faceless people in them. She saw through them, with hard eyes. That was life.

Geraldine Dillon
(Leaving Cert. class,
Scoil Iosa, Kilcock.)

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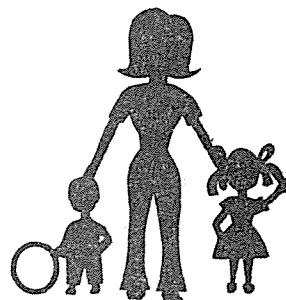
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CAR MAINTENANCE

Spent Bulb

Every car tool-kit should have spare bulbs especially a headlamp bulb. If, however, you have not taken this precaution and a bulb on the off-side car fails, it is worth exchanging it with a bulb on the near-side; to motor without it is illegal, but, if your journey is vital, it is more dangerous to be without an off-side light.

Tyres

It is essential to have the right tyre pressure both from the point of view of safety and economy. Your steering is affected seriously from over inflation (especially in wet and frosty weather) and under inflation (causes excessive wear). Tyre pressure should be checked regularly and changed when necessary; when fully unladen and laden. You should have your own pressure gauge as garage gauges are not always accurate due to age or misuse. Check the proper pressures in your manual and keep them in your car for handy reference (e. g. on your sun shield, as garage attendants don't always know the right pressure).

Your steering is a good guide; if your car starts to wander or is bumpy your tyres may be under inflated or you have a puncture. If its a puncture never drive on the flat tyre for more than twenty yards as irreparable damage will result. If at a certain speed (30, 40, 50 etc. m.p.h.) you get a shuddering in your steering wheel the most obvious cause is your wheels are not properly balanced. They should be left in to be balanced statically and dynamically. If your wheels are balanced then the fault may be a loose engine support or tie rod (possible support rubbers damaged).

Changing Your Engine Oil

The engine should be hot before draining the oil. To drain the oil you simply place a flat container under the sump (suitable to hold your sump capacity) and remove the sump plug with a suitable spanner. Then let hot oil drain completely. While oil is draining remove oil cap and wash in petrol—leave steeping. This is important if it contains a gauze filter as it is necessary for it to be clear to allow the engine to breathe. Also you should check the air breather usually fixed on the side of the engine. Now replace the sump plug—making sure the washer is replaced—and refill. Check your manual for the right capacity. If you feel competent replace the oil filter—this is very important.

It is sound economy to be generous with your oil. You save a lot of money by buying a gallon of oil at a time—look out for special offers of known brands here. Change oil as recommended in manual. Change at least every 6,000 miles also the oil filter (check on your garage in this respect as there is a tendency to neglect this important point). Check your oil level once a week and if you have travelled 150-200 miles check level, especially if pushing car hard.

Don't throw away the waste oil. Make your own fire lighters. Put old sump oil into a bucket, then fill the bucket with sheets of newspaper crumpled into small tight balls. Leave to soak for a day or two. Using two sheets of newspaper wrap each ball into a parcel, leave a further few days for paper to absorb, and the fire will light first time. Suitable for open or closed fires and boilers. Little or no smoke, and no smell. Make sure to leave in safe place so as to avoid the possibility of a fire by accident.

Emergency Repair Hints

1. Lights or windscreen failure: Cause: Blown fuse, spent bulb, faulty wiper motor. Repair: If no spare fuse, wrap old fuse in silver paper (cigarette box). Replace old fuse as soon as possible also put spare fuse in place provided.

Faulty windscreen motor might work again if you let it cool down. If not rubbing a cut potato on windscreen every mile helps to keep the glass reasonably clear in rain (any suitable vegetable will do).

2. Brake failure: If another vehicle is available it is possible to remove a brakeless car to a garage repairs. Use the brakeless car to tow the other vehicle which can then do the braking for both. This method should only be used in an emergency, e.g. when the brakeless car is blocking a laneway.

James St. Leger, S.D.B.

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MAYNOOTH



Left to right: Peter O'Neill, Fr. Stapleton, Eddie Healy and Tom Scully.

MAYNOOTH YOUTH CLUB

The Club commenced in August last, with a few members but many new members have joined since, until recently the numbers went up to over fifty. Meetings are held each Tuesday night in the Parish Hall from 8 p.m. to 10.15 p.m. when games such as Scrabble, Monopoly, Draughts, Table-Tennis, Rings etc. are available. Crafts of various kinds are also fostered and members will make items for sale at a coming Jumble Sale to be held later in the year.

The evenings usually round off with a short quiz and conclude with a meeting when the happenings of the evening are discussed.

At a meeting on 17th February, a representative of the Community Council attended, and the participation of the Club in various functions in Maynooth was discussed. This idea was received with enthusiasm and the forming of a Youth Council was discussed, whose representatives could attend meetings of the Community Council where they could listen to and take part in discussions on items of mutual interest. In this way one Council could help the other.

Once each month there is a Federation Meeting at which Clubs from Co. Kildare attend, i.e. Allenwood, Athy, Clane, Edenderry, Kildare, Kill, Naas, Portlaoise, Rathangan and Sallins. The meeting is held in a different area each month, the last meeting on 22nd January last, being held in the Geraldine Hall, Maynooth. The next meeting will be in Naas.

The leaders of Maynooth Club are: President: Benjy Bright; Chairman: Eddie Healy; Treasurer: Margaret Mullally; Secretary: Margaret Redmond; Asst. Secretary: Anita Lyon.

The Club is very much indebted to the students from the various Hostels and from St. Patrick's College, who have given so much time and help to the Club.

SPORTS PAGE

RESULTS OF MAYNOOTH HANDBALL AND SQUASH DRAW FOR JAN. '76

- £30: Mrs. M. Feeney, Celbridge Road, Maynooth.
£10: Mrs. Galligan, 16 Maynooth Park, Maynooth.
£5: Patrick Pidgeon, 9 Maynooth Pk., Maynooth.
£5: Patrick Stanley, Railpark, Maynooth.
£3: Ciarrin Brady, 481 Straffan Rd., Maynooth.
£2: Tom Fahey, 124 Railpark, Maynooth.
£1: Mr. O'Dowd, 29 Laurence Ave., Maynooth.
£1: Mrs. D. V. Quigley, Moyglare Rd., Maynooth.
£1: Mary Prunty, 13 Maynooth Park, Maynooth.
£1: Mrs. J. Nyland, c/o Barton's Flats, Maynooth.
£1: Mrs. C. Duff, 12 Laurence Ave., Maynooth.
£1: Marie Sullivan, 6 Laurence Ave., Maynooth.
£1: Miss, J. Hartnett, 1 Parson St., Maynooth.
£1: Dr. W. Cowhey, Dublin Road, Maynooth.
£1: Kevin O'Reilly, c/o C.P.I., Lucan.
£1: Colm Feeney, Celbridge Road, Maynooth.

The following Promotors won £1 each: Patrick Conroy, A. Lyon, R. McTiernan, Mary Kennedy, Colm Nelson, Cathal Power, Joe Moore, Eugene Gargan, Patrick Kennedy.

The next draw will be held on Tuesday, 16th March.

MAYNOOTH G.A.A.

The hurlers have now reached two hurling finals. On Sunday, 22nd February, the team travelled to Kildare Town and reached one of these finals by beating Athy by 8-11 to 2-4. This was an excellent performance by the team on the first game of the season. Each member of the team played extremely well, and the scorers for Maynooth were: M. Mealey 2-3, Tom Purcell 2-2, K. O'Brien 2-2, D. Quigley 1-2, V. Duffe 1-0, M. Loughnane 0-1, C. Murphy 0-1. In defence B. Redmond, M. Gleeson and M. O'Brien were first class.

The football league starts on Sunday, 7th March and the hurling league 1976 starts on Sunday, 14th March.

The Club will run a Cabaret Show in the Hitching Post, Leixlip, on Monday, 22nd March, featuring "The Values", John Carpenter, etc. Admission 50p. It is hoped that as many as possible will support this, as funds are required to finish the dressing-rooms this year.

The Club would appreciate all material support during the coming season, not to mention passive or spectator support. We can assure supporters of many exciting games to come. Help place Maynooth once again at the forefront of Kildare hurling and football.

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

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SOCCER:

THE TECHNIQUE OF ATTACK

Bro. Martin McCormack, S.D.B.

The basic purpose of attack is to score goals. That is a lot easier to say than to do - it is the skill to beat a man, and it matters little what position you play, whether centre-half or winger.

Forward play is about taking on a defender and outskilling him to the extent that he is not able to construct a good defensive barrier or get in a good tackle, it is about speed, skill, bravery, strength and sheer determination. It is about unselfish running and playing as part of a team, and not for oneself.

As an attacker you must be flexible - in other words you must be able to adopt certain tactics for certain situations. Thus you must be constructive in your approach. 'Attack' is not playing flashy and clever football, and omitting the strength and hard work.

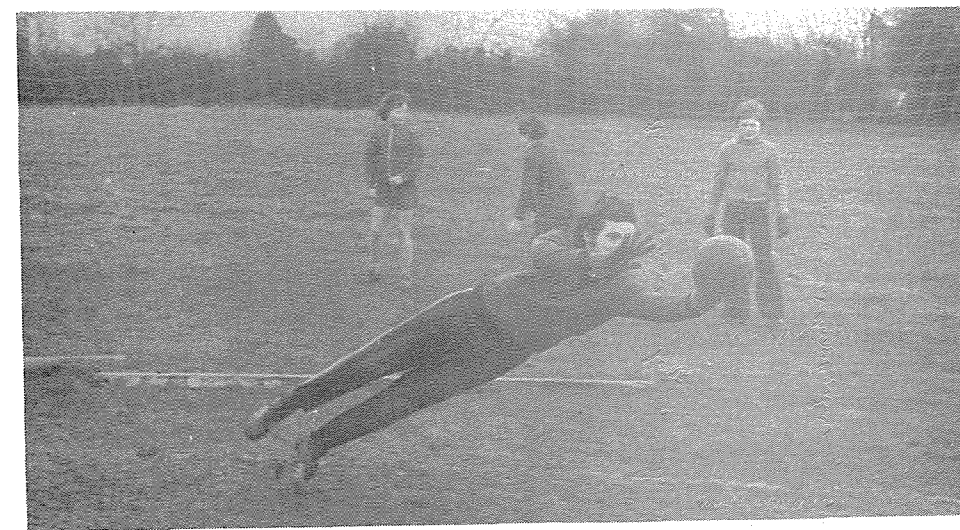
The first thing to learn as a forward is to find a place. This means to be prepared to run for your team-mates and draw defenders away by varying your approach to goal. Use the width of the field, interchanging positions. Wingers should learn to play in the centre, or cross the ball from wing to wing. When a player is without the ball a run diagonally is much better than a straight forward one.

Good work on the wings is an obvious way of drawing central defenders out of position, and creating space for other attackers to move in. It is clear that if you allow a flank runner go unchecked he will create a problem and so the defenders must move out to cover him. Good attackers will then make their runs and get in behind the defence.

Never be afraid to try the unexpected - try a snapshot that doesn't seem on (don't overdo this however, use it only as bait to keep the opposition guessing); vary your crosses, hit them low, high, long, bend and curl them; hit them for the far post as well as the near. Don't let the defence settle. Keep them guessing, keep the pressure on - then you are part of the art of forward play.

Having spoken in general about the attacker's role let us turn to three positions of attack in particular:

1. **Centre Forward:** He is looked on primarily as the goal scorer, but he is also the linkman in keeping the forwards together by means of well placed passes to the wingers and inside forwards. Not only must he develop an understanding with his fellow forwards, but also he must cooperate with his half-backs. He should be able to kick and pass with both feet and head the ball accurately. The Centre Forward probably gets more chances to head than any other player. The best method of heading is downwards forcing the keeper to go down to save (very often a fraction too late). He should also learn to head the ball down to the feet of another attacker to try a shot at goal. He



Joe Murphy in Action! - Photo R.J. Gore.

must learn to find space and also mark the centre-half. The reason for this being to prevent his opponent from taking the ball up field and drawing out his own defence.

2. **Inside Forward:** A good inside forward must be ready to help in both defence and attack. He must prevent the opposing wing halves from bringing the ball through. He must develop a good understanding with his partner wing forwards and wing halves. Through this he can often outwit a defence by changing position with his partner. At least one inside man should support the centre forward in the goal area, picking up the loose ball and having a shot himself. This very often is where the best dribblers are found - in the inside position.

3. **Wingers:** The two wingers can be the making or the breaking of a team. As with all players, wingers must cooperate with the rest of the forwards. They must be able to centre the ball while on the run and cross to the opposite wing with accuracy. Wingers must follow three principles:

- Play the position five or six yards from the touch line.
- Be ready for emergency clearances from their own defence up around the half-way flag.
- They must be able to cut in and try a shot with either foot.

I hope this brief outline of the strategy of attack will be of some assistance to some of our young players. Next month I plan to develop on similar lines the very important technique of defence.



L.to R. Robt. Swinburn, S.D.B., Noel Kearns, Martin McCormack, S.D.B., Anthony Edwards, M. McTernan, Joe Murphy (Keeper), Brendan Murray, Lenny Murray, Joe Weafer, J. Edwards.
Photo - R.J. Gore.