



COMHAIRLE  
LAIGHEAN  
C.L.G.



# LEINSTER SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

## First Round - Third Replay

PÁIRC AN CHRÓCAIGH  
6.7.1991

Clár Oifigiúil

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# CLÁR AN LAE INNIÚ TO-DAY'S PROGRAMME

ALL-IRELAND JUNIOR FOOTBALL  
CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

## An Mhí v. Ciarraí

(MEATH)

(KERRY)

2.30 p.m.

Réiteoir: JOE CARNEY (ROSCOMMON)

SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP - Round 1  
THIRD REPLAY

## An Mhí v. Áth Cliath

(MEATH)

(DUBLIN)

3.45 p.m.

Réiteoir: TOMMY HOWARD (Kildare)



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## The Sunday Press

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### First Aid

#### Hogan/Nally Stand

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Treatment Ambulance alongside Cardiac Ambulance  
Upper Hogan — New Medical Centre rear of Section P

#### Lr. Cusack Stand

Treatment Ambulance behind Section 10

#### Upper Cusack Stand

Permanent Medical Station rear of Section N.

#### Hill 16

Cardiac/Treatment Ambulance and Permanent Medical Station rear of Terrace

#### Canal

Permanent Medical Centre under Terrace

**Doctors** — Dr. Bernard Stuart and Dr. Joe Stuart on duty.

### Lost Children

**Hogan/Nally** — at G.A.A. Gift Shop

**Cusack Stand** — rear of Section O Inside Stiles

**Canal End** — at First Aid Station

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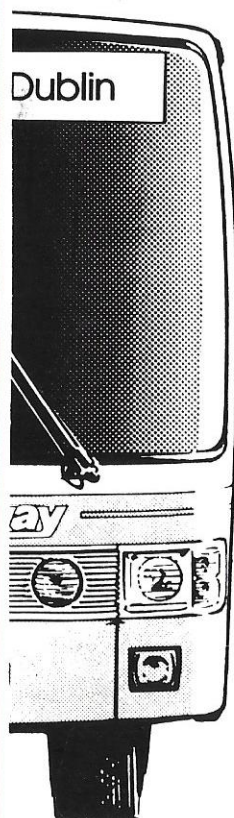


**TOMMY HOWARD**  
(Kildare)

## Buíochas

Comhairle Laighean C.L.G. wishes to thank sincerely all Meath and Dublin players who have participated in the championship game to date; the referee; the other officials and, above all, the supporters—numbering hundreds of thousands, who have patronised the games.

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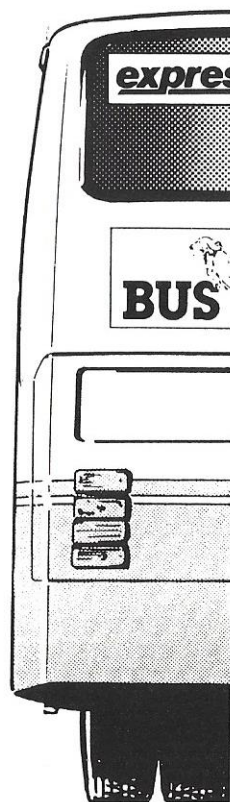
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## The Marathon Compared

Inevitably the present Dublin-Meath marathon will be compared to the Wexford-Carlow confrontation of 1941 — the only other occasion on which two counties met four times in the Leinster senior championship (there was a four-game junior marathon between Louth and Wicklow in 1922). But with respect to these Barrowside combinations of half a century ago, apart from the fact that they actually lined out in four games, there is little comparison between the two events. The 1941 series of draws did excite comment at the time, but with newspaper coverage very restricted because of wartime shortages, television non-existent, the radio coverage also very limited, nationwide interest, in so far as it existed, was decidedly low-key. Indeed, it might be true to say that in June-July 1941, most people were more interested in the German invasion of Russia than in the history-making deeds of Carlow and Wexford footballers. Certainly, media hype did not exist on the scale of the 1990's at a time of more serious diversions. And whether about the quality of the play (one can only conjecture how men like Luke Kelly, Jim Morris, Bill Goodson and Jim Ray would fare against Liam Hayes, Martin O'Connell, David Foran and Jack Shedy).

The fact that three of the four games in 1941 were played at provincial venues — the first at Carlow and the second and third at Wexford Park — probably tended to keep the contests low-key. The attendance figures also cannot be compared, though, even allowing for the travel restrictions then in force, they were no exceptional — seven thousand at the first and second games, nine thousand at the third and ten thousand (all estimated) at the final clash at Croke Park. In other words, the combined attendance of all

four 1941 games did not reach the figures for the Dublin-Meath draw on June 2.

In regard to actual playing time, today's encounter will ensure that Dublin and Meath will see at least 70 minutes more action than did Wexford and Carlow who had, of course, four 60 minute games plus only one period of extra time (the second replay) for a total of 270 minutes.

But having compared all facets of the two series — attendances, gate receipts, public interest etc., and the part played by the Dublin and Meath teams in adding a new dimension to the championship — it takes nothing from the distinction enjoyed by Carlow and Wexford as the first Leinster counties to stage a four-game marathon.



TOMMY CARR, DUBLIN



**THE MEATH TEAM THAT DREW WITH DUBLIN FOR THE THIRD TIME**

Back row, left to right, Colm O'Rourke, Mick Lyons, Michael McQuillan, Martin O'Connell, Brian Stafford, Liam Hayes, David Beggy. Front row, left to right, P. J. Gillic, Terry Ferguson, Bernard, Flynn, Colm Coyle, Robbie O'Malley, Liam Harnan, Kevin Foley and Sean Kelly.

# THE MAGNIFICENT EQUALITY

Three drawn games covering 270 minutes of play in the space of 22 days illustrates, as nothing else can, the remarkable equality of Dublin and Meath on the football field. Add the drawn league encounter last March and a unique picture of stalemate remained deadlocked on the scoreboard after four successive competitive games.

But the equality of these great rivals goes back much further than the concluding round of the 1990-'91 National League; in fact, it reaches back eight years to their two championship meetings in 1983 — the games which can be said to mark the beginning of the latest period of Dublin-Meath rivalry in Leinster competition. The pattern of the scoring in the eleven championship games since '83 underlines perfectly just how well-matched these counties are.

Dublin's win in the 1983 replay was by **two points** and when they won the next clash — the 1984 final — the margin was four. Meath pulled back two of that six point 'deficit' when they were victors of the

'86 final, and a year later their 1—13 to 0—12 win meant that **after five games** the rivals had each recorded a total of **67 points**. Meath then forged an advantage of two points with their 1988 success, but Dublin eliminated the 'deficit' and went **three points up** when they had five to spare in the 1989 decider. However, Colm O'Rourke's early goal in last year's final, which was the eventual difference between the teams, ensured that parity was restored — Meath 8-84 (108 points) to Dublin's 9-81 (108 points).

Still level after eight championships, one of which included a session of extra time, in the 1983 replay, a grand total of **590 minutes** of football, Dublin and Meath set out on their historic way five weeks ago; and now after **860 minutes** of high endeavour they are still deadlocked with the aggregate score reading — Dublin 12-118 (154 points); Meath 12-118 (154 points).

Surely nothing in gaelic football history can match this magnificent equality.



David Beggy (Meath) holds off Gerry Hargan (Dublin) while keeping a sharp eye on Jack Sheedy (Dublin).

## THE DOUBLE

Nowadays 'the double' can mean any one of a number of victorious combinations, but sixty or seventy years ago it usually meant the winning of a senior and junior title in one season. And Kerry were the first to bring off this All-Ireland double, which they did in 1913 beating Wexford (senior) and Carlow (junior) in the finals. They repeated this achievement in 1924, beating Dublin senior and Longford juniors, in 1930 (Monaghan senior and Dublin junior) and in 1941 (Galway senior and Cavan junior).

Three other counties have won the senior-junior double — Mayo (1950), Galway (1965) and Meath (1988). Meath's double is unique in that it was the only one of the seven that was brought off the same day — October 9, 1988.

## IN ... AND OUT!

When the Kerry team trooped off the pitch at Athlone after winning the 1915 All-Ireland junior final, they were aware that there wasn't the faintest chance that the Kingdom would retain the crown in 1916 — for the very good reason that Kerry were **already** out of the 1916 championship! The 1915 final in which Kerry beat Westmeath by 0-6 to 1-2 was played on **August 20, 1916**, which was four weeks after they had lost the 1916 first-round tie to Tipperary at Fermoy.

## A Date For Your Diary

Coiste na Mí C.L.G.

- THIRD ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC -

Friday, Sept. 13th, 1991 at Royal Tara.  
Further details to be announced.



"See you again soon!" Colm O'Rourke (Meath) and John O'Leary (Dublin) look cheerful enough at the end of the last drawn game.

## LATE ENTRY

Eleven counties have won the Leinster junior football championship in its 86-year history with most of the strong counties annexing titles in the early years of the competition, as second-string combinations often proved superior to the premier fifteens of the weaker counties. Meath, however, were the exception, for although they reached the provincial decider in 1908, the first year they competed at junior level, and on a number of occasions subsequently, their first Leinster title in 1947 was the eleventh entry in the eastern roll of honour — 12 years after Offaly had become the **tenth** county in 1935.

## WORLD AND USA HANDBALL CHAMPIONS IN ATTRACTIVE GAMES AT CROKE PARK THIS EVENING

Two attractive games in the All-Ireland All-Ireland Open 60 x 30 Senior Singles Championship at the Irish Handball Centre (rere Hill 16) at 7.30 p.m. this evening will be preceded by an exhibition game in the 40 x 20 court between Pat Hall, Dublin and Peter McAuley of Louth who won the USA 23 and Under Singles National title just two weeks ago.

The Louth man holds 10 All-Ireland titles covering the handball, 60 x 30 and 40 x 20 codes while O'Connor has 13 national awards, also in the three codes. Both players have had exceptional careers to date and will serve up a feast of handball skills in this exhibition game.

### TOMMY O'ROURKE, KILDARE v. EDDIE LEE, DUBLIN

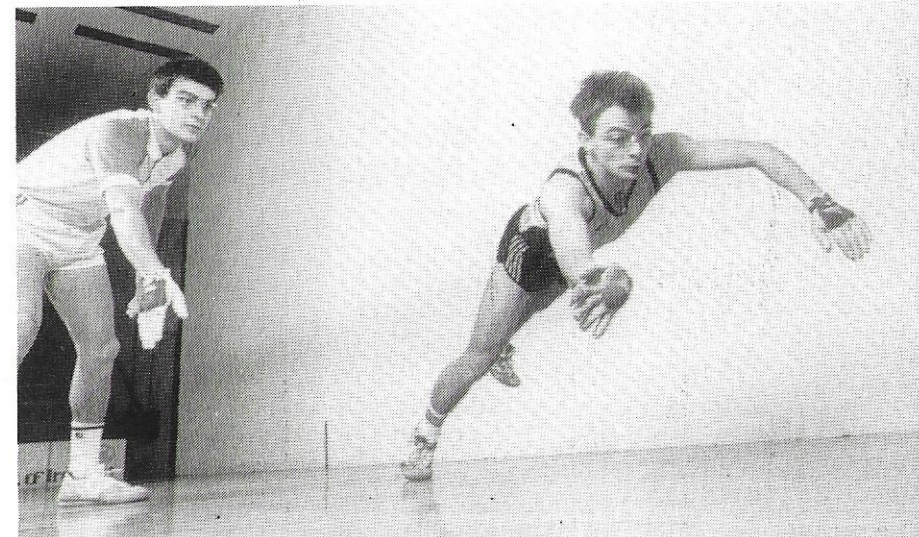
Former World 60 x 30 Singles Champion, Tommy O'Rourke of Kildare takes on Dublin's Eddie Lee in a first round match.

The Kildare man missed out on last year's

championship having hotly challenged 'Duxie' Walsh in the 1989 final. He took five of the six Senior Handball medals on offer from 1988 to 1990 and will be favoured to defeat Eddie Lee who won the All-Ireland Junior Handball singles medal in 1983. The prize for the winner is a quarter-final meeting with Eddie Corbett from the famed Ballyporeen Club, on July 20.

### BILLY BOURKE, KILKENNY v. PAT DONAGH, CAVAN

Although out of competitive handball for some time Billy Bourke, who starred for Kilkenny in the early eighties, has come back to the game with great enthusiasm. Already, he collected an All-Ireland Senior Handball doubles medal only a few weeks ago and takes on Pat Donagh of Cavan in his first 60 x 30 game. He will need to be in top form to withstand the challenge of the Cavan man who partnered Patsy Hand to a Junior 60 x 30 doubles national title in 1985.



Handball action from Peter McAuley, Louth (left) USA 23 and Under Champion, who plays in Croke Park this evening and Michael 'Duxie' Walsh, Kilkenny, Irish 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 Senior Singles Champion.

## JUNIOR

### An Mhí (MEATH)



**DATHANNA:  
GLAS IS ÓR  
(Green and Gold)**

S. Ó Súilleabháin  
**1. JOHN SULLIVAN**  
*St. Patricks*

M. Mac An Chrosáin  
**2. MARTIN CROSBIE**  
*Kilmainhamwood*

P. Ó Féich  
**3. PHILIP FAY**  
*Dunderry (Capt.)*

U. Mac Uidhir  
**4. VINNIE MAGUIRE**  
*St. Peters, Dunboyne*

P. Ó Raghallaigh  
**5. PETER REILLY**  
*St. Peters, Dunboyne*

P. Ó Cathail  
**6. PHILIP CAHILL**  
*Dunderry*

D. Ó Loingsigh  
**7. DECLAN LYNCH**  
*Ballinlough*

T. Ó Catháin  
**8. TREVOR KANE**  
*Dunshaughlin*

A. Mac Uilic  
**9. ALAN GILLIC**  
*Carnaross*

D. Mac Dhorchaidh  
**10. DONIE MCGOURTY**  
*Dunderry*

S. Mac Éinrí  
**11. JOHN HENRY**  
*Cortown*

S. Ó Daimhín  
**12. JODY DEVINE**  
*Ballinlough*

L. Mac Gabhann  
**13. LIAM SMITH**  
*St. Marys*

S. Ó Brádaigh  
**14. JOHN BRADY**  
*Dunderry*

P. Mac Éinrí  
**15. PACKY HENRY**  
*Cortown*

**FIR IONAIÐ:** 17. E. Mac Mánaís **ENDA McMANUS** *St. Peters, Dunboyne*; 18. S. Mac Cuinneagáin **JOHN CUNNINGHAM** *Meath Hill*; 19. I. Ó hEanraic **JASON HENDRICK** *Enfield*; 20. A. Mac An Chrosáin **AIDAN CROSBIE** *Kilmainhamwood*; 21. S. Caomhánach **JOHN KAVANAGH** *St. Ultans*; 22. N. Coiléir **NOEL COLLIER** *St. Patricks*; 23. D. Meachair **DEREK MAHER** *Dunshaughlin*; 24. O. Mac Cadáin **OLIVER CUDDEN** *Duleek*.

## JUNIOR

### Ciarraí (KERRY)



**DATHANNA:  
GLAS AGUS ÓIR  
(Green and Gold)**

C. Ó Móráin  
**1. KYRAN MORAN**  
*Derrynane*

T. Ó hAinifín  
**2. THOMAS HANNAFIN**  
*Lispolo*

L. Ó Broin  
**3. LIAM BURNS**  
*Sneem*

S.B. Ó Briain  
**4. JOHN B. O'BRIEN**  
*Beaufort*

R. Ó Duibhir  
**5. ROBBIE O'DWYER**  
*Waterville*

U. Mac An Ridire  
**6. VINCENT KNIGHTLY**  
*Aunascaul*

P. Ó Duilleáin  
**7. PACKIE DILLANE**  
*Blennerville*

F. Ághais  
**8. FINTAN ASHE**  
*Dingle*

T. Ó hArrachtáin  
**9. TEDDY HARRINGTON**  
*Tuosist*

D. Ó Muíneacháin  
**10. DENIS MOYNIHAN**  
*Rathmore*

G. Ó Drisceoil  
**11. GENE O'DRISCOLL**  
*Aunascaul*

S. Ó Cinnéide  
**12. JOHN KENNEDY**  
*Asdee*

M. Mac Amhlaoibh  
**13. MICHAEL McAULIFFE**  
*Spa*

T. Ó Brosnacháin  
**14. TIMMY BROSNAN**  
*Currow*

S. Ó Suilleabháin  
**15. SEAN O'SULLIVAN**  
*Sneem*

**FIR IONAIÐ:** 16. T. Ó hEimhín **TOMEVANS** *Keel*; 17. G. Grifín **JERRY GRIFFIN** *Legion*; 18. S. Ó Tuathaigh **SEAMUS TUOHY** *Kenmare*; 19. D. Ó Catháin **DAN KEANE** *Kenmare*; 20. T. Ó Duinneacha **TIM DENNEHY** *Waterville*; 21. S. Ó Murchú **JOE MURPHY** *Na Gaeil*; 22. T. Ó Ciardha **THOMAS CAREY** *Kenmare*; 23. E. Ó Fearail **GENE FARRELL** *Aunascaul*; 24. D. Mac Giolla Phódraig **DAN FITZ-PATRICK** *Dromid Na Piarasaigh*.

## SENIOR

# Áth Cliath (DUBLIN)



**DATHANNA:**  
**GORM IS DÚGHORM**  
**(Blue and Navy Blue)**

S. Ó Laoire  
**1. JOHN O'LEARY**  
*O'Dwyers*

M. Ó Duíginín  
**2. MICK DEEGAN**  
*Erins Isle*

G. Ó hArgáin  
**3. GERRY HARGAN**  
*Ballymun Kickhams*

M. O'Cinnéide  
**4. MICK KENNEDY**  
*St. Margarets*

T. Ó Carra  
**5. TOMMY CARR**  
*Ballymun Kickhams (Capt.)*

C. Ó Bairr  
**6. KEITH BARR**  
*Erins Isle*

E. Ó hIorua  
**7. EAMONN HEERY**  
*St. Vincents*

P. Ó Cléirigh  
**8. PAUL CLARKE**  
*Whitehall Colmcille*

P. Ó Bealáin  
**9. PAUL BEALIN**  
*St. Kevins*

C. Mac Réamainn  
**10. CHARLIE REDMOND**  
*Erins Isle*

S. Ó Síoda  
**11. JACK SHEEDY**  
*Garda*

N. Mac Giodáin  
**12. NIALL GUIDEN**  
*Raheny*

P. Ó Corráin  
**13. PAUL CURRAN**  
*Thomas Davis*

M. Ó Gealbháin  
**14. MICK GALVIN**  
*Oliver Plunketts*

Duine Eile  
**15. A.N. OTHER**

**FIR IONAIÐ:** 16. D. Ó Fearail **DEREK O'FARRELL** *Na Fianna*; 17. C. Breathnach **CIARAN WALSH** *St. Annes*; 18. S. Mac An Fhaile **JOE McNALLY** *St. Annes*; 19. R. Ó hAoláin **RAY HOLLAND** *Parnells*; 20. B. Mac Concharraige **BARNEY ROCK** *Ballymun Kickhams*; 21. U. Ó Murchú **VINNY MURPHY** *Trinity Gaels*; 22. D. Ó Síocháin **DECLAN SHEEHAN** *Ballymun Kickhams*; 23. D. Mac Carthaigh **DONAL McCARTHY** *St. Sylvesters*; 24. C. Ó Duibh **KIERAN DUFF** *Fingallans*; 25. P. Ó Dochartaigh **PAURIC DOHERTY** *Naomh Mearnog*.

## SENIOR

# An Mhí (MEATH)



**DATHANNA:**  
**GLAS IS ÓR**  
**(Green and Gold)**

M. Mac Uílin  
**1. MICHAEL McQUILLAN**  
*St. Patricks*

R. Ó Máille  
**2. ROBBIE O'MALLEY**  
*St. Colmcilles*

M. Ó Liatháin  
**3. MICK LYONS**  
*Summerhill*

T. Mac Fearghais  
**4. TERRY FERGUSON**  
*Gaeil Colmcille*

C. Ó Foghlú  
**5. KEVIN FOLEY**  
*Trim*

L. Ó hEarnáin  
**6. LIAM HARNAN**  
*Moynalvey*

M. Ó Conaill  
**7. MARTIN O'CONNELL**  
*St. Michaels*

L. Ó hAodha  
**8. LIAM HAYES**  
*Skyrne (Capt.)*

P.S. Mac Uilic  
**9. P.J. GILIC**  
*Carnaross*

D. Ó Beigeáin  
**10. DAVID BEGGY**  
*O'Mathúna*

C. Ó Ruairc  
**11. COLM O'ROURKE**  
*Skryne*

S. Ó Ceallaigh  
**12. SEÁN KELLY**  
*Dunderry*

C. Mac Giolla Chomhaill  
**13. COLM COYLE**  
*Seneschalstown*

B. Stafort  
**14. BRIAN STAFFORD**  
*Kilmainhamwood*

B. Ó Floinn  
**15. BERNARD FLYNN**  
*St. Josephs, Laois*

**FIR IONAIÐ:** 16. D. Mac Gabhann **DONAL SMYTH** *O'Mathuna*; 17. P. Ó Liatháin **PARAIC LYONS** *Summerhill*; 18. T. Ó Dúda **TOMMY DOWD** *Dunderry*; 19. M. Mac Caba **MATTIE McCABE** *Seneschalstown*; 20. F. Ó Muireartaigh **FINIAN MURTAGH** *O'Mathuna*; 21. G. Mac An tSaoi **GERRY McENTEE** *Summerhill*; 22. S. Mac Diarmada **JOHN McDERMOTT** *Curraha*; 23. B. Ó Raghallaigh **BRENDAN O'REILLY** *St. Peters, Dunboyne*; 24. T. Ó Conchúir **TERRY CONNOR** *Ballivor*.



# THE JUNIOR FINAL

The Junior championships have enjoyed a chequered existence in the G.A.A. calendar since they were introduced in the early years of the century — first in Leinster in 1905, then in Munster in 1910; Connaught entered in 1913 and Ulster a year later. All-Ireland championship for the grade were begun in 1912 with Tipperary the first winners, but in 1913 Kerry won the first of their eleven titles and since they took their second two years later they have never been headed in the list of winners, though Cork have been closing the gap in recent years.

Meath were relative **late comers** to the honours list as it was only in 1947 that they emerged from Leinster for the first time. Like Kerry, however, they were successful on their first appearance, beating Kerry in the 'Home' final and London in the final proper. Since then Meath, arguably, have been the most consistent contenders in the eastern province, for although Dublin are a place ahead of them in the list of title-winners, the Metropolitans had three crowns to their credit before Meath made their breakthrough in '47.

The Royal county's most recent success was in 1988 while Kerry's was in 1983 when they beat Yorkshire in the final — the latter were making their first appearance in a final since 1961.

## FIRST TITLES

**Kerry:** Having failed to Waterford in 1911 (their first year in the competition) and to Cork in 1912, Kerry finally came good in **1913** when their Munster campaign saw them beat Clare by 6-1 to 0-2, Tipperary by 1-3 to 0-0, draw with Limerick, 1-3 all, and then beat them by 1-4 to 1-

2 in the replay at Fermoy. In the All-Ireland semi-final at Portlaoise they again drew, 0-5 to 1-2 for Mayo, but in the replay at Tullamore they were easy winners by 2-7 to 1-2. The All-Ireland final was at Cork, with Carlow providing the opposition, and though they were pressed all the way, Kerry held on for an historic win by 0-7 to 1-2.

The team was: J. Callaghan, P. Foley, W. Keating, J. McGaley, J. Kennedy, P. O'Donnell, J. Courtney, H. Murphy, E. Murphy, T. King, E. Hogan, H. Daly, J. Connell, J. Collins, J. McCarthy.

**Meath:** After many disappointments through the years, the Leinster junior title yielded to Meath's persistence in 1947. Their three-match campaign began with a 13-point win over Louth (**5-6 to 1-5**) which they followed with easy dismissal of Westmeath by **3-9 to 1-3**. The final with Dublin at Croke Park was a crucial test, but Meath, who had never previously beaten Dublin in this grade of football, held on to win by **2-3 to 1-4**. Down, at Drogheda, provided unexpected strong opposition in the All-Ireland semi-final and Meath did well to win by two points — 1-9 to 1-7. Kerry, likewise, had much to offer in the 'Home' final, but Meath remained on course to win deservedly by 1-12 to 2-6.

October 12, 1947 was an historic day for Meath, when after 60 years of unremitting effort, and despite spirited London resistance, an All-Ireland title at last came to the Royal plains on the score of **2-11 to 2-6**.

The team was: T. Tuite, E. McCabe, W. Rispin, J. Donegan, P. Connell, M. O'Brien, A. McArdle, D. Taaffe, T. Daly, W. Snow, K. Johnson, J. Sammon, J. Carolan, L. McGuinness, J. Hand.

# A.I.B. Championships

## A.I.B. LEINSTER VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS INTER-COUNTY FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**Round 1:** 1. Longford v. Meath; 2. Westmeath v. Laois; 3. Wexford v. Carlow.

**Round 2:** 4. 1v. 2; 5. Dublin v. Offaly; 6. 3 v. Kilkenny; 7. Kildare v. Wicklow.

**Semi-Finals:** 8. 4 v. 5; 9. 6 v. 7.

**Final:** 10. 8 v. 9.

## A.I.B. LEINSTER COLLEGES S.F. 'A' CHAMPIONSHIP

### Preliminary Round:

1. Tullamore C.B.S. v. Naas C.B.S.; 2. St. Mary's, Drogheda; 3. Ardscoil Ris v. Col. Choilm, Swords; 4. St. Joseph's Fairview; 5. St. Michael's, Trim v. St. Aidan's, Whitehall; 6. Mullingar C.B.S.; 7. St. Peter's, Wexford v. St. Finian's, Mullingar; 8. Marist Athlone; 9. St. Pat's Navan (Holders) v. St. David's C.B.S.; 10. St. Mel's Longford; 11. Moyle Park v. Gormanstown; 12. Carmelite Moate; 13. Portarlinton C.B.S. v. St. Saran's, Fermoy; 14. Moyne C. S.; 15. Drimnagh Castle; 16. Carlow C.B.S.

### Round 1:

A. 1 v. 2; B. 3 v. 4; C. 5 v. 6; D. 7 v. 8; E. 9 v. 10; F. 11 v. 12; G. 13 v. 14; H. 15 v. 16.

### Round 2:

1. A v. B; 2. C v. D; 3. E v. F; 4. G v. H.

### Semi-Finals:

X. 1 v. 2; Y. 3 v. 4.

### Final:

X v. Y.

## A.I.B. LEINSTER VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS S.F. CHAMPIONSHIP

### Preliminary Round:

1. Col. Dhulaigh v. Col. Eoin, Finglas; 2. Crumlin College v. Firhouse C.C.; 3. Lucan C.C. v. St. Finian's C.C., Swords; 4. Dunshaughlin C.C.; 5. Cnoc Mhuire, Granard; 6. Ballymahon S.S.; 7. Ballymahon V.S.; 8. Ard Sc. Phadraig, Granard; 9. St. Oliver's C.C., Drogheda; 10. Navan C.C.; 11. Athlone V.S. v. St. Oliver Plunkett Sch. Longford; 12. St. Farnan's P.P., Prosperous; 13. St. Oliver's P.P. Oldcastle; 14. Athboy V.S.; 15. St. Aengus' P.P. Mountrath v. Clonaslee V.S.; 16. O'Carolan College, Nobber; 17. Kildare V.S. v. St. Conleth's V.S. Newbridge; 18. Maynooth P.P.; 19. Portlaoise V.S.; 20. Fermoy V.S. v. Edenderry V.S.; 22. Ard Sc. Chiarain, Clara; 23. Ballyhale V.S. v. Mooncoin V.S.; 24. Hacketstown V.S.; 25. Kilkenny City V.S. v. Johnstown V.S.; 26. New Ross V.S.; 27. Borris V.S. v. Tullow C.S.; 28. Carlow V.S.; 29. Abbey C.C. v. Carnew V.S.; 30. Baltinglass V.S.; 31. Rathdrum V.S.; 32. St. Thomas' C.C. Bray.

### Round 1:

A. 1 v. 2; B. 3 v. 4; C. 5 v. 6; D. 7 v. 8; E. 9 v. 10; F. 11 v. 12; G. 13 v. 14; H. 15 v. 16; I. 17 v. 18; J. 19 v. 20; K. 21 v. 22; L. 23 v. 24; M. 24 v. 26; N. 27 v. 28; O. 29 v. 30; P. 31 v. 32.

### Round 2:

1. A v. B; 2. C v. D; 3. E v. F; 4. G v. H; 5. I v. J; 6. K v. L; 7. M v. N. O v. P.

### Round 3:

A. 1 v. 2; B. 3 v. 4; C. 5 v. 6; D. 7 v. 8.

### Semi-Finals:

X. A v. B; Y. C v. D.

### Final:

X v. Y.

# All Will Benefit From GAA Bonanza

The innate begrudgery of Irish people is at present best illustrated by comments which are widely heard about the extraordinary saga of the Dublin-Meath match.

Everywhere you go you will hear the wiseacre declare that the GAA is a money-grabbing, corrupt, greedy organisation in which the only thing that matters is the money.

There have even been letters in newspapers to the effect that the Leinster Council should give the proceeds from one of the matches to charity. This has followed on the ridiculous argument that because the soccer people don't have a proper stadium, the GAA should relinquish its control over its own grounds.

As is always the case with such begrudgery, it is founded on ignorance. The facts show an entirely different face and when this writer pointed out certain matters to one begrudger recently he was met with the dismissive reply "Ah shure you're one of them yourself. You fellas always stick together when you can't answer a question."

The question which has been put was: "What does the GAA do with all its money?" The answer is very simple: "It spends it."

Not only that but every penny is accounted for and audited over and over again. In fact, there is no other sporting

body in the country which is as open to the general public about its finances. By rule of the GAA each club must reveal its financial affairs to the county board, each

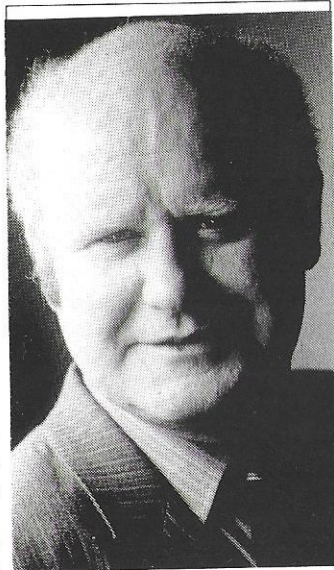
board to the provincial council and each provincial council to headquarters, where detailed accounts are also available to members.

But many units of the GAA, including county boards and provincial councils and the Central Council itself, issue their audited accounts to the newspapers and through the newspapers to the public. An elaborate and lengthy document is issued from Croke Park a week before the Annual Congress to journalists showing complete details of the GAA's financial affairs and all the newspapers publish whatever they see fit, while the GAA's financial

controller, Frank Tierney, makes himself available to answer questions arising out of the figures supplied.

From time to time the GAA can be secretive in regard to other aspects of its affairs but those of us who are in constant touch with units of the GAA all over the country are aware that gate receipts for all matches are made public and that really is no secret about what the GAA takes in and what it hands out.

As far as giving money to charity is



SEAN KILFEATHER

concerned, the GAA is not backwards either. Apart from the co-operation of various clubs and county boards all over the country in providing premises, pitches, teams and so on for raising funds for charity, the GAA at top level has also officially handed over considerable funds to organisations like 'GOAL' for famine relief and to the Children's Hospital in Crumlin. Two former presidents in recent times have taken part in marathon walks and bicycle rides to raise money for charity. Last year a total of £150,000 was donated.

The only major meeting of the GAA which is not open to the press is the AGM at Croke Park Limited, which takes place normally on the evening before Congress and is open only to members of the Central Council. Even then the balance sheet of Croke Park Limited (the holding company for Croke Park) is made public.

Of course the Leinster Council is delighted with the unexpected increase in its revenue this year arising out of the Meath-Dublin match. But the members of the

Leinster Council will not benefit from this beyond getting a cup of tea and a sandwich at half time more often than they had bargained for.

In the long run the beneficiaries will be the young people of Leinster, who will be provided with more and better playing facilities, more subsidised hurleys, better playing gear and so on. Spectators at matches will benefit from being provided with better viewing areas and generally more comfortable facilities.

The real inescapable fact of the matter is that the entire community will benefit as a result of the Leinster Council's bonanza. Already the business people of Dublin, the people who run restaurants, pubs and shops have benefited, just as the business communities of Killarney and Drogheda did so spectacularly last week. All this is good for the morale of the entire country, just as the exploits of the Irish soccer team this time last year lifted the spirit of the nation. Just as Barry McGuigan did and just as Stephen Roche did.

*Above article reproduced courtesy Sean Kilfeather and Irish Times.*

## PLEASE!

Patrons of today's games are asked to keep off the pitch and to refrain, as far as possible from throwing litter so as to facilitate the clean up for tomorrow's game.



Close him down! Dublin forward Niall Guiden appears to be running into trouble as the Meath trio of Kevin Foley, Robbie O'Malley and Mick Lyons close in on him.

# A REFEREE'S ERROR

One of the most fascinating pieces of gaelic football history relates to Meath's first ever appearance in an All-Ireland final (v. Tipperary) on March 15th, 1896. The game, the 1895 final went in Tipperary's favour on a 0-4 to 0-3 scoreline; but two days after the game a letter appeared in the Dublin morning newspapers from the referee Mr. J. J. Kenny stating that he had made a mistake in allowing one of the points scored by the winners, and that the result should have been a draw. This communication which was to become the most celebrated in G.A. A. history was, in fact, **two letters**, appearing on successive days and which if Meath had acted upon would at least have given them a second chance of the title.

The letter read:

March 16, 1896

Dear Sir,

With reference to the above match played yesterday which I awarded to Tipperary by four points to three for Meath, I wish to intimate publicly that I have today written Mr. Blake, honorary Secretary G.A.A., that the second point was illegal and should not have been allowed on the grounds that the player who scored for Tipperary was not outside the 21-yard mark (when Meath kicked out from goal) as required by the rules.

No objection was raised by the Meath team, and I warned the Tipperary man to get outside the mark on ever subsequent occasion.

I have written to the Central Council that the result should have been a draw, recommending that the additional half-hour play, which the rules provide for such cases should be played out, the score standing three points each.

I have taken this course with the fullest sense of the responsibility incurred and of the consequences which may ensue, but I am impelled by an overwhelming sense of duty to hasten to repair an injustice which is none the less crying because it altogether escaped the notice of an injured party or was submitted to without a murmur.

On calm reflection I consider it my duty to have noticed an illegality without waiting for a protest from either side; of course at the time it could not be forseen what an important part this oversight was to play in determining the result of the matter.

Yours truly, J. J. Kenny.

March 17, 1896

Dear Sir,

The facts of the case are these: The Meath man gave a miss-kick out from goal, the ball rolled along the ground to the Tipperary full forward and a point resulted. The goal umpire held up the white flag and I mechanically registered the score. I immediately noticed that the Tipperary man was a long way inside the 21-yard mark, but Meath raising no question, I approached the former and said: "You were not outside the 21-yards mark all the same and nobody appears to have noticed it". The game then proceeded as if nothing unusual had occurred.

I am now convinced that my duty was to have taken cognisance of the illegality without waiting for a protest from anybody, and under the circumstances I fail to see how any team can conscientiously wear championship honours as a result of a contest that was otherwise equal.

Apologies for trespassing so much on your space,  
Yours truly,  
J. Kenny

The Central Council at its meeting in the Royal Exchange Hotel on March 21 discussed Mr. Kenny's disclosures at length. A letter from John P. Timmons, Chairman of the Navan O'Mahony's who, as county champions were responsible for the Meath team, informed the meeting that Meath would not consider an objection, but suggested that the two finalists should play for a set of medals. His suggestion was adopted; and in recognition of Meath's sportsmanship — on the proposal of the Secretary, T. T. Blake, seconded by H. P. Ryan of Tipperary — it was decided that a set of silver medals from the same die as the All-Ireland medals be presented to Meath.

That ended the affair, and it also ended the career of J. J. Kenny as an All-Ireland and Leinster final referee as he was never again entrusted with a final. This abandoned official might have ruefully ascertained that 'virtue' (honesty) is indeed its own reward. Meath also might have reflected .... that sportsmanship is its own reward, as it was 44 years before they again reached an All-Ireland final.

THE DUBLIN TEAM THAT DREW WITH MEATH FOR THE THIRD TIME  
Back row, left to right, Barney Rock, David Foran, Declan Sheehan, Paul Bealin, John O'Leary, Mick Deegan, Keith Barr, Jack Sheedy. Front row, left to right, Paul Clarke, Mick Kennedy, Claran Walsh, Tommy Carr, Niall Guiden, Eamonn Heary, Vinney Murphy.



# League Championship Bogey

As **Kildare** learned to their dismay only a couple of weeks ago, a good run in the National League is no guarantee of a similar spell of opulence in the championship campaign following. And Kildare were not the first to learn this lesson. Five years ago, the National Football League ended in a blaze of glory for **Laois**, and having contested the provincial final with Dublin the previous year, a good championship run was confidently predicted by all the pundits. But Laois' championship ambitions did not survive the first-round outing at Aughrim as Wicklow created a sensation by winning a controversial encounter.

Those are the two most recent instances of league euphoria evaporating in the harsh glare of championship combat; but in truth they were only two links in a long chain of frustration that goes all the way back to the very beginning of the 'secondary' competition in the mid-twenties. In fact, the very first holders, failed to carry their status and superiority into the subsequent championship efforts; **Laois** won the first league at New Ross on September 19, 1926 with a 2-1 to 1-0 win over Dublin, but when those counties met in the first round of the championship in 1927 in Athy, Dublin reversed the verdict, 2-5 to 0-3.

Even the mighty Kingdom in one of their greatest periods succumbed to the league championship hoodoo. Winners of the National League final on April, 29, 1928 in which they beat Kildare in a magnificent game, Kerry, it seemed, had only to go through the motions to win the Munster championship, but Tipperary scored a sensational 1-7 to 2-3 victory when the counties met in the provincial semi-final at Tipperary town.

## MEATH'S DISAPPOINTMENT

**Meath's** first-ever league title in October 1933 promised great things but they couldn't even add the Leinster crown to that honour the following championship season when **Dublin** sent them packing (2-8 to 1-9) at Drogheda on their second outing. Dublin themselves were riding high in the wake of their great showing against Mayo in the league final replay a year later, but they fared no better than any of their predecessors, as on their first championship venture the following spring they were well beaten by Louth (0-8 to 0-3) at Navan. And through all the thirties, Mayo, the league specialists, winners of six titles between 1934 and 1939, only once translated their league dominance to the championship — an outstanding imbalance.

The malaise spread to the North. **Down** reached the league semi-final in 1941, a fine achievement for a county that had never previously contested a National senior semi-final, but when they started on the championship trail a few weeks later, they went down to Antrim by a margin of five points.

Meath were league champions for the second time in 1946, but the second round sufficed to end their championship interest as Louth won by 1-6 to 0-6 at Drogheda.

## DUBLIN FALTER

The fifties saw no improvement in the fortunes of league front-runners. As league finalists in 1952, **Dublin** looked capable of laying the bogey when they travelled to Drogheda for the first round with **Meath**. But there was no change in the familiar scenario — Dublin went out and Meath went on to win by 2-7 to 2-5. Twelve

months on **Dublin** were league champions when they opposed their old rivals in the opening round of the championship; again the hoodoo was in working order as the outsiders edged home by 2-6 to 2-5.

Leinster was well represented in the closing stages of the 1954 league — Carlow were finalists and **Dublin** semi-finalists - but the championship went its own way as Carlow went out in the first round to Kildare and Dublin departed the race, second time out when rank outsiders Offaly pipped them, 2-5 to 2-4 at Portlaoise.

Leinster appeared to have a virtual monopoly of this good league/championship phenomenon. **Meath** put up a great display against Cork before losing the 1956 league final by a point; six weeks later they crashed at the first championship hurdle as Offaly won by 1-14 to 1-5 at Newbridge. Kildare reached the league final in 1958 in which they lost to Dublin, but their first outing in the championship was their last when Offaly beat them by 2-9 to 2-8 at Portlaoise. Offaly themselves were on the receiving end in '59 — they reached the league semi-final for the first time in their history, and a few weeks later

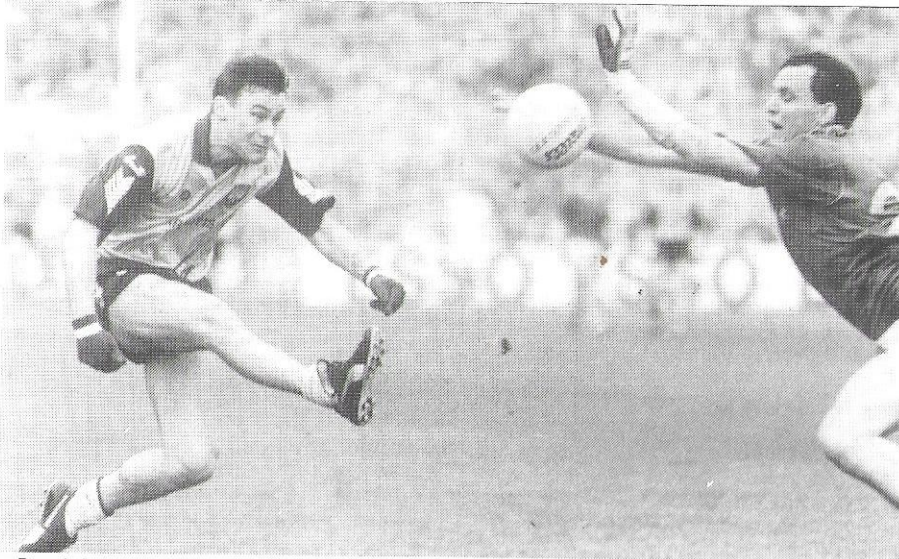
they were out of the championship when Laois dumped them at Tullamore.

## LONGFORD SHOCKED

In 1962 Carlow lost the league semi-final by two points to the eventual winners, Down and shortly afterwards lost the first round of the championship to Offaly by five. But undoubtedly the greatest championship shock ever experienced by National League champions was in 1966 when Longford, after a magnificent campaign which they crowned with the defeat of All-Ireland champions, Galway, crashed to Louth, 0-13 to 0-7 at Navan on their first outing.

Westmeath had a long league, and a short championship run in 1969 and in 1975 Meath's League final win counted for nothing when they opposed Louth in the championship, as the Wee County triumphed by 0-15 to 1-9.

The more recent experience of Laois and Kildare indicates that the age-old hoodoo is alive and well and wreaking its traditional havoc.



Paul Curran, Dublin, has a shot blocked by Gerry MacEntee in the second replay.



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<b>Ber Hennessy</b>	<b>43862</b>

## HALF A CENTURY AGO

Fifty years ago the rivalry of Dublin and Meath on the football field was every bit as intense as close as it is today and if the huge public interest in their confrontations was still some way in the future, for the committed followers of those counties a Dublin-Meath championship meeting needed no special recommendation. The 1941 first-round clash at Drogheda took place in the shadow of the bombing of the North Strand area of the city less than 48 hours previously; nonetheless a goodly number of Metropolitan supporters made the journey to Boyneside where they were amply rewarded by a game of thrills and spill that was wide open until the final whistle.

**Dublin** ..... 1-8  
**Meath** ..... 1-6

In a fast opening Tommy Banks shot two Dublin points, but Meath struck back and Kevin Devin shot over the bar twice to level before Peter McDermott edged Meath in front. Charlie Kelly in the Dublin goal saved smartly from Devin and Joe Loughran in turn, and when play switched to the other end Banks squeezed over the equaliser at the 19th minute. For the next eight minutes defenders held sway, but Jim Dowd unlocked the scores when he shot Dublin's fourth point after Banks had created the opening. Despite good defensive work by Matt O'Toole, Pat Beegan and Kevin Johnson, Matt Fletcher increased the Dublin lead; Meath, however, came away for Devin to raise their fourth white flag just before the break when the

score stood, 0-5 to 0-4 in the citymen's favour.

Dublin attacked immediately on the restart and after Kevin Smith had brought off a great save from Pat O'Connor, Banks had his side's sixth point from an acute angle. Meath raided with spirit, but without reward, and the next score fell to Dublin, Connor taking a pass from Paddy Bermingham to give goalkeeper, Smith no chance from close in.

The game appeared to be slipping out of contention with five points between the sides, but Tony Donnelly rallied Meath with a great point, and after Kelly had denied Maye, Willie Brien shot to the net to leave Meath only the minimum margin adrift. In a desperate search for the equaliser Meath threw everything into attack, but the score that they so badly needed came at the other end, with Banks easing Dublin's position with less than a minute left to play.

**Meath:** K. Devin 0-4, W. Brien 1-0, P. McDermott 0-1, T. Donnelly 0-1.

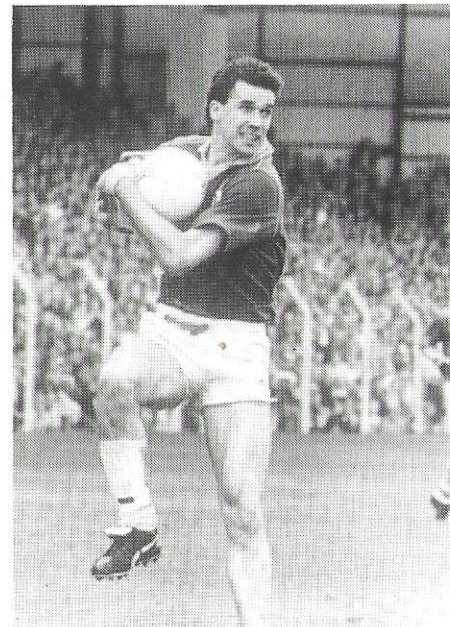
**Dublin:** Charlie Kelly, Peter O'Reilly, Paddy Denny, Joe Fitzgerald, Mick Falvey, Brendan Quinn, Jim Dowd, Paddy Holly (capt.), Paddy Bermingham, Tom McCann, Tommy Banks, Matt Fletcher, Pat O'Connor, Mick Reilly, Gerry Fitzgerald.

**Meath:** Kevin Smith, Paddy Beggan, Matt O'Toole (capt.), Mick Byrne, Kevin Johnson, Peter Mooney, Jim Clarke, Bill Halpenny, Matt Gilsenan, Willie Brien, Tony Donnelly, Peter McDermott, Jackie Maye, Joe Loughran, Kevin Devin. Sub: Christie Reilly for Mooney.

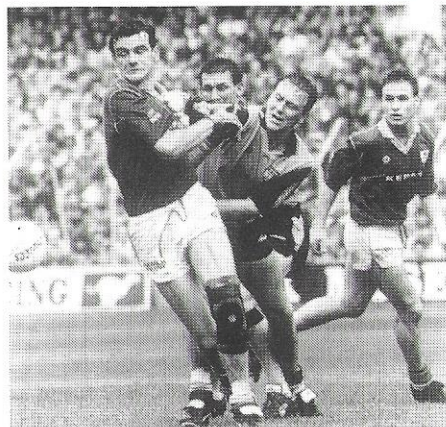
## HARSH WORDS

The referee who satisfies everyone has yet to be born and the man-in-the-middle often comes in for more than his share of criticism. By and large, media criticism of referees nowadays, is balanced and fair and can never be described as scurrilous, which is what some of the comments were in the distant past. For instance in a report of a game between St. Senchalls and Derrycarney at Bellewstown in 1889, the "Drogheda Argus" had this to say: "And now as to the referee (Mr. Pentony). In the interest of fair play, I regret to have to state that a more unfair or unjust one could not be found, and I must say that he showed not a shred of impartiality during the entire hour ..."

The report, however, did not indicate to which team the referee was unfair. Both?



Meath captain Liam Hayes shows the determination that has marked the marathon meetings so far.



Colm O'Rourke (Meath) gets the better of the exchanges with Dublin's Keith Barr and Mick Deegan. Bernard Flynn (Meath) seems satisfied with what's going on.

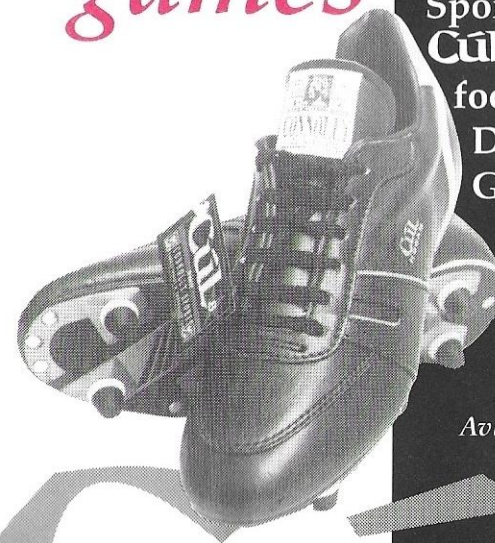
## BIG MONEY

In the light of the receipts at the three Dublin-Meath meetings, it is interesting to note what was considered a good "gate" in the distant past. The "Freeman's Journal" report of the Meath-Offaly Leinster semi-final at Jones' Road had this to say about the gate receipts: "... with a gate of £24 no fault could be found with the attendance at yesterday's senior football semi-final between Meath and Offaly ..."

## INDIANS?

Unfortunately the writer at the time wasn't specific when he commented on the arrival of the Dublin team at Navan for the replay of the Leinster final with Meath in 1894. The "Freeman's Journal" scribe was obviously impressed, as he referred to Dublin Young Irelands as "arriving in full war paint." But apparently the Meath "cavalry" acquitted themselves well as they forced a draw with the invading "braves".

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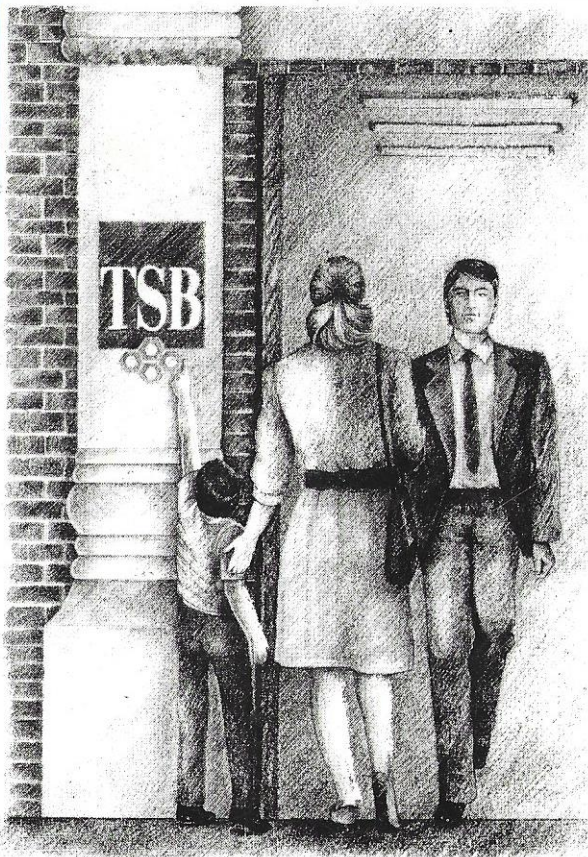
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