

Old Galway

This photograph of the Galway City Harriers was taken by Simmons c. 1898—1900 and was given to us by Miss Annie Keane of Lenaboy Avenue.

It shows, in front, left to right: Martin Keane, P. Molloy, Harry Bailey, Seamus Carter, Woodquay, later a District Court Clerk; Tom Hynes from Newcastle, who represented Ireland many times. The only people we could identify in the back row are Dr. P. J. Cusack, who is on the extreme left, and J. J. Daly on the extreme right. Daly was from Turloughmore and later owned a large chain of restaurants in the States. Can any readers identify the remaining athletes?

This was a well known athletic club, winning a number of Irish Championships and having a number of internationals. They trained very hard. There was a large field, Killoran's, about where the Rahoon flats are now, and in it they had a fierce bull. Martin Keane kept himself fit by racing around the field with the bull in hot pursuit. There is another story we heard of an athlete of the time, a postman, who took on a horse and rider in a race from Galway to Oughterard and won.

You do not have to race a bull or be an International



to take part in this week's major event, The Milk Run, which starts on Sunday at 2.15 p.m. It starts in Eyre Square, goes out to Salthill, up Threadneedle Road, past the Regional, Salmon Weir,

and back to the Square. You can do it at your own pace and milk will be distributed to participants at some points on the route. Some well known "figures" such as our Bishop, our Mayor,

Paschal Spellman, and some County Councillors are taking part, so it should not intimidate anyone. Those taking part will be given a certificate and even if you do not run, you can help by

sponsoring someone who does. Its for a tremendous cause, The Irish Wheelchair Association, so don't be shy in this the Year of the Disabled.

If you need details,

contact John Nestor of High Street, Gerry Montgomery of the Northern Bank, or Elsie O'Connor, Bank of Ireland, Shopping Centre.

T.K.



St. Patrick for all his importance, has got in the way of paper production this week, and while nobody regrets the fact that the national apostle gets us a break in the middle of a working week, the appeal went out loud and clear from editorial chairs, keep it short, and have copy in, well before normal deadlines — which can be less than satisfactory under normal circumstances, in the eyes of many. In any case, it has been a fairly scrappy period, so that a collection of items, short and sweet, to the point, and, hopefully, useful, fits the bill, and genuinely dominates, on this occasion.

NO CUPLA FOCAL

There was an interesting representation at the recent Ireland West Ltd. reception, where details were announced of the scholarship scheme which Comharchumann Chois Fharraige is launching in co-operation with "Amárach" to provide a number of facilities for students of Irish to attend Irish college course in Cois Fharraige next summer.

Aire na Gaeltachta, Maire Geoghegan-Quinn T.D., was present to give her blessing to the idea, and everybody, of course, was full of praise for the Bank of Ireland, who are sponsoring the scheme. Bhi focal molta ar leith aici freisin don Leas-Mhéara, Henry O'Connor, who took the language by the short and curly, and made a very acceptable speech that was a pleasant change from the "cupla focal" that we normally come to expect from public figures. Ms. Geoghegan-Quinn said she hoped that we would see more politicians and speakers on public platforms taking the plunge, linguistically, in the future, because, of course, it is now generally recognised that an inch of example is worth a mile of preaching.

And just in case we run out of space too quickly, this St. Patrick's week, what do you make of the following official statement from RTÉ:

Le roinnt laethanta, bhi comhráite ar siúl idir ionaduithe ó Chomhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann agus

R.T.E.

Is ar bhonn críuil, cairdiúil a pléadh cúrsaí, tríd síos. De thoradh na gcomhráite rinneadh Conrad idir Comhaltas agus RTÉ maidir le comhoibriú iomlán i dtaobh ceol tradisiúnta, amhránaíocht agus rince. Le linn na gcomhráite dhearbhaigh RTÉ a gcúram agus a ndílseacht don Ghaeilge agus don chultúr dúchais i gcoininne. Is mór ag Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann an dearbhu seo.

IRISH NEW DEAL

This is a matter which is slightly more complex than most of those engaged in Montrose are prepared to concede. The Comhaltas "agreement" was billed as a "Victory", "New deal" etc. for "Irish", and it would seem this idea was encouraged by some Montrose media people too. In any case, coming hot on the heels of Mr. Waters' hard-hitting remarks in Galway, it probably made good copy. So that it may be worth recalling that while C.C.E. of course, has a broad "National" commitment in the same way that the G.A.A. has, its main preoccupation is with music and the cultivation of traditional music and song. Which is not exactly the same thing as "Irish". C.C.E. not only accepts the bilingual nature of "traditional" song but in fact actively cultivates all forms of that "traditional" heritage. Thus while there are lots of references to an "traidisiún" and even to an

"duchas" — and think of the arguments that can arise when one sets about defining these things! — it appears that there is no specific commitment to dúchas na Gaeilge or na Gaeltachta in the C.C.E. Bunreacht. These things stand on their merit as worthy of cultivation as part of our tradition — or so it would seem as we note and commend C.C.E. for their positive and specific gesture of touring Gaeltacht venues in the past fortnight. But the row with RTÉ however is, should be, and was seen to be about the broadcasting of traditional music. Agus sin scéal eile mar a deirtear.

PUBLIC ACCOUNT

You may know about the EEC, but do you remember the Euro-elections of 1979? More specifically, can you remember the three Euro-Teachtaí who were elected to represent this far-flung and outlying constituency of Connacht/Ulster? We are glad to note that the Galway Branch of the Irish Council of the European Movement has now succeeded in getting all three — Seán Flanagan of Fianna Fáil, Senator Joe McCartin of Fine Gael and Neil Blaney, the Independent Prince of Tir Chonaill — to give a public account of their stewardship at a meeting to be held in the Great Southern on Monday next, 23 March at 8 p.m. The Chairman will be Senator Professor Jim Doolan, of U.C.G., Chairman of the I.C.E.M. Galway branch who was an unsuccessful Fianna Fáil candidate in the

Euro-election itself. Senator McCartin spoke on some EEC topics at the recent Fine Gael West Galway convention but his audience was far too concerned with other matters to pay the type of critical attention that the goings-on of the EEC and the Euro-Assembly deserve. Hopefully it will not be the same on Monday night, in this time of continuing economic difficulties of which the meat factory crisis is only one example. Especially when one remembers the milk and honey which farmers, at least, were promised in 1972. You may also recall that entry into the EEC, it was alleged at the time, would lead to a gradual disappearance of those customs regulations on the border. Yet it would seem that where cattle are concerned the smugglers never had it so good — whatever about the farmers and meat-factory workers.

THE BLANEY GAME

In recent press-statements Mr. Blaney, who will of course be seeking re-election to the Dáil in the near future, has stressed that he is

pressing the EEC Commission to end the system which allows meat factories in the North to fix their own target price each week, and which, he claims, is largely responsible for the wholesale smuggling of cattle from the Republic.

He has tabled a question for discussion in next month's European Parliament session urging the Commission to take steps to introduce a uniform system for the calculation of premiums on imported cattle, particularly from Britain, the Republic and the Six Counties.

Mr. Blaney claims that the Six County meat plants ignore the weekly price levels obtaining at marts in the North and pitch their target prices as high as possible so that the maximum premium is applied to cattle imported from the South. The premium charged on cattle crossing the Border is thus as high as £60 a head, thus making smuggling a profitable enterprise.

Compiled by
Nollaig O Gadhra.

ST. NICHOLAS COLLEGIATE CHURCH

JUMBLE SALE

in the

PAROCHIAL HALL, Waterside

on

Saturday Next 21st March

at 10.30 a.m.

Adm. 10p