

REVIEW GAELIC NOTES

(By "CRAOBH RUADH")

St. Patrick's for City Football Final

Cloughaun with a side composed chiefly of minors made a rare bid to qualify for the City Junior Football final at the Gaelic Field, on Sunday morning last, when they held a formidable St. Patrick's combination to a four point margin. It was a rousing struggle from start to finish with the speedier Cloughaun fifteen forcing the pace for most of the time.

St. Patrick's, who had an impressive line-out, played an individual, and for the opening half had no answer to the clever team work of their opponents. Football was exciting rather than brilliant, although there were some notable performances. Playing with the wind in the first half, Cloughaun were ahead 1-1 to 0-1 at the interval. Their defence put up a great fight in the second half when the 'Saints' pressed continuously, and it took the winners a goodly spell to get on top. A feature of the game was the brilliant goal-keeping of Bennett in the Cloughaun camp, and it was due mainly to his efforts that their defeat was not much heavier. Incidentally, Bennett was the county minor goalkeeper this season.

How The Scores Came

St. Patrick's broke away from the throw-in and Holly sent his side attacking. Mulvihill cleared for Cloughaun, but Thompson was back to register the first point. The Cloughaun attack were moving from the kick-out, but made no headway against a solid defence in which Molloy, O'Connell and McGrath were outstanding. Play returned to midfield where there were interesting duels between Holly and Thompson for Saints, and Burke and O'Sullivan for Cloughaun. Scoring was slow, and the first quarter had expired before we had the next register, a goal from Eddie Noonan which put Cloughaun ahead. Soon after Price seized an opportunity and sent over the bar to leave the sides reading 1-1 to 0-1.

St. Patrick's turning over with the wind, pressed immediately on the resumption. Cloughaun, backing up their resistance, Mannix and Mulvihill claiming the honours with Bennett safe in goal. Constant attack, however, brought its reward, and Cox started Saints on the road to victory with a well judged point. Quinn added another in the next minute, and then Tom McCarthy broke through for the equalizer. With the tide running against them Cloughaun made a determined rally and forced play to the other end. St. Patrick's saved at the expense of a free. Noonan placed the ball in a nice position, but once again a free resulted, this time on the twenty-one yards mark. It looked like the lead for Cloughaun, but the ball only rose a few feet from the ground, and Dom McGrath collected to send well up the field. It was the turning point. From this on St. Patrick's were always on top and the ball never left the Cloughaun territory. Ray Thompson, in a nice solo, broke his way through a knot of Cloughaun defenders and planted the ball in the net for a spectacular goal, and then John Lovatt clinched the issue with a further point, leaving final figures reading St. Patrick's 1-5; Cloughaun, 1-1.

St. Patrick's—D. Collopy, Tom Molloy, Matt O'Connell, Jack McGarvey, M. O'Connor, Finbar Cox, Dom McGrath, Maurice Holly, Ray Thompson, Mick Quinn, Tom McCarthy, John Lovatt, John Foley, Jack Moore and Kevin Hartigan. Sub.—W. Storan for M. O'Connor. Cloughaun—Liam Bourke (capt.), Colm Bennett, Gerry Mulvihill, Christy Graham, John Clery, Michael O'Brien, Seán Price, Michael Mannix, Paddy Shortt, Michael Power, Eddie Noonan, Frank O'Sullivan, Tony Ryan, Michael Meehan, Davy Gleeson. Michael McInerney (Treaty-Sarsfields) refereed.

Next Sunday's Programme

Two keen contests are scheduled for the Gaelic Field on Sunday evening when St. Patrick's and Treaty-Sarsfields line out in the City Junior Football final, and Cloughaun and St. Patrick's cross camans in the Duggan Cup Senior Hurling competition. Two somewhat untried combinations contest the football final. Both won their semi-finals fairly impressively but are certain to show more than a few changes for the decider. St. Patrick's appear to have material good enough to win but they lacked training and combination on their last outing. Whether they will have got their side into shape in the meantime or not may well decide the honours. Treaty-Sarsfields are busily engaged at the moment preparing for their senior replay with Abbeyfeale and the second string are sure to be pretty fit. With the customary keenness that characterises the meetings of these two clubs, Sunday's bout is sure to be a hectic one and there may not be much in it at the long whistle.

Another needle game is promised in the senior hurling contest, in which Cloughaun, a junior string, take on St. Patrick's best. The former will be anxious to restore prestige lost through their failure to beat Ballybrown in the City Junior Hurling Championship, and there would be no better way to do this than to lower the colours of the 'Saints' senior fifteen. The latter, however, on their displays in the premier competition would seem to hold an outstanding chance and their defeat on Sunday next would come as a major surprise. The football game is timed for 2.15, hurling for 3.30.

An Objection

Cloughaun, beaten a point by Askerton in the minor hurling semi-final at Adare on Sunday week last, have lodged an objection against the winners.

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gret Celtic. Junior Fixtures (Sunday). Markets Field—Limerick "B" v. Wembley Rovers, 12.30. Mr. M. Heckett. Caledonian Park—City Tannery v. Pike Rovers, 12.30. Mr. T. Browne; Mun, ret Celtic v. Limerick Shels, 3.30. Mr. Donnelly. Shelsbourne Park—Artizans v. Dalcoissins, 12.30. Mr. D. Lynch; Shelsbourne v. Star Rovers, 3.30. Mr. D. Lynch.

Rineanna—Caledonians v. Shannon Airport, 3.15. Mr. J. Conway.

Last Week's Results.

Limerick "B" 3; City Tannery, 1. Limerick Shels, 4; Artizans, 0. Pike Rovers, 2; Wembley R., 0. Star Rovers, 1; Wembley R., 1. Shannon "A", 1; Munret C., 1. Dalcoissins, 3; Caledonians, 2. League table to date will be given next week.

ON CAPITAL CHARGE

Fatal Shots In Orchard

TAKING OF DEPOSITIONS CONCLUDED

Accused Returned For Trial

The taking of depositions in the murder charge preferred against Garda Daniel Joseph Duff, Pallasgreen, concluded yesterday evening, the second day when he was returned for trial by District Justice Flood, R.I.

Duff is indicted with the murder of a colleague, Garda James Byrne, by shooting him at Mount Catherine, near Pallasgreen, about midnight on 26th September. It is alleged that the fatal shots were fired in an orchard.

The evidence taken on the opening day was published in full in our issue of Monday evening.

Detective-Sergeant Michael Murphy of the William Street (Limerick) Garda Station, deposed that as a result of the report, he visited the Garda Station at Pallasgreen on the morning of September 26th, at 1.50 o'clock. Garda Duff and Garda Carr were in the dayroom and, after Garda Carr had spoken to him, he went to Mr. Kennedy's orchard at Mount Catherine, where he met Supt. Dunning, Rev. Father Kilmine, and Guard Mulrooney. He saw the dead body of Garda James Byrne lying in uniform on the ground.

Witness described the position of the body, mentioning the two punctures on the left breast of the great coat and two similar holes on the left breast of the tunic. There was no blood either on the ground or on the outer clothes. He had the position of the body marked before it was moved.

EXAMINATION OF THE GROUND

"When the body had been removed I made an examination of the ground where the body had been lying," witness continued. "I observed a small perpendicular hole in the ground where the back of deceased had lain. I informed the Superintendent and, in his presence, I probed the hole and removed therefrom a spent bullet of .455 calibre. The depth of the hole measured from the ground surface, was approximately 1 1/2 inches."

Detective-Sergeant Murphy continued that he preserved the hole by placing in it a piece of white paper which he covered over with gads. Garda Mulrooney took charge of the scene, and witness returned to Pallas Garda Station where he put the spent bullet away.

Later that day witness returned to the scene of the killing, accompanied by Inspector Burns. He made a further examination of the scene and surroundings. At 11 o'clock that morning he was present at Pallas Garda Station when Supt. Dunning charged and cautioned the accused. Accused made a statement which, on being read over to him by Inspector Burns, he signed. He (witness) witnessed the statement with Inspector Burns and Supt. Dunning.

REMOVAL OF BULLET FROM BODY

Witness said he was present on the same date when Dr. J. McGrath, State Pathologist, performed a post-mortem examination on the body of deceased. He saw Dr. McGrath remove a spent .455 bullet from beneath the skin of the dead Guard's back. This was given into witness's custody.

On September 28th, 1946, continued Det.-Sergt. Murphy, Garda Carr handed over to him one uniform great coat, one tunic jacket, a uniform trousers, pair of black shoes, one blue collar-attached shirt, a woollen under-vest, a blue pullover, one pair of braces, and a pair of socks. They had all been taken off Garda Byrne's body and witness handed them to Dr. McGrath at his laboratory in Dublin.

On the same date Supt. Dunning gave witness one short Webley revolver and two empty .455 cartridge cases. On September 30th witness handed to Supt. Stapleton at Garda Headquarters the Webley revolver, the two empty cartridge cases, and the spent bullets. On October 5th he assisted in the taking of a plaster of Paris cast of the hole in which he had found the spent bullet in the Mount Catherine orchard. He produced this cast.

Inspector William Burns deposed that he had assisted in investigations in the case. He was present while accused dictated a voluntary statement to Supt. Dunning. He was also present at the post-mortem at Pallas Garda Station on the body of Garda Byrne.

TROUBLE OVER PURCHASE OF FARM

Richard O'Kennedy, Mount Catherine, Pallasgreen, said he was a farmer and breeder of blood-stock. In 1936 he purchased a farm, and the transaction led to some trouble. In consequence he and his home were afforded special Garda protection. During 1946 the Guards detailed for this duty were accused and the deceased, Guard Byrne, both of whom he knew.

Witness continued that at 11.40 on the night of September 26th last, he and his wife retired to their bedroom, on the top storey of the residence, facing east. Just as he got into his bed his wife made a remark to him. He said to her he thought he heard a door bang. Shortly afterwards she made a second remark to which he replied that he thought he heard a stable door banging. He didn't think much time elapsed between the "two noises."

"Soon after I heard the second noise I heard some one shouting up to me," witness said.

Mr. Power—Who was that? Witness—On looking out I found it was Guard Duff.

Mr. Power—What was he shouting? Witness—He said: "Mr. O'Kennedy, get up quick. I shot Guard Byrne."

"AN AWFUL ROW"

Witness continued that he pulled on some clothes, rushed down the stairs, opened the hall door and Guard Duff, in uniform, jumped into the front hall. In his right hand, hanging down straight, he had a revolver. Witness's wife was present at this time. Accused then told witness: "I shot Jim Byrne, Mr. O'Kennedy; he is dead. I had an awful row with him." Witness then stopped accused and asked him where this had happened. Accused answered: "Under the big pear tree, Mr. O'Kennedy, in the kitchen garden." Witness took accused into the kitchen where accused said: "Come on quick." The two men went up to the orchard as fast as they could. Witness carried an electric torch, and when they got to the pear tree witness saw the body of Garda Byrne. It was on its back with his feet facing the trunk of the pear tree. After concluding that Garda Byrne was dead witness, with Garda Duff, returned to the kitchen and on the way met Mrs. O'Kennedy. She suggested saying an Act of Contrition into Garda Byrne's ear, but accused said: "I have already said an Act of Contrition into his ear."

VERY EXCITED

When they returned to the kitchen Guard Duff still had his gun in his hand and when witness asked him to put it away, he put it into his great coat pocket. Accused was very excited at that time; he looked upset. He pulled out a packet of cigarettes and he smoked one and Mrs. O'Kennedy another. While smoking Mrs. O'Kennedy said: "What happened?" Duff replied: "Oh, Mrs. O'Kennedy, we had an awful row; he was savage. He's going on for a long time. He went for his gun. It was him or me, 'tis a dirty story; it will all come out now." Accused continued that both of them lost their tempers and that deceased was grinding his teeth. They had fought all the way up the road. "I fired at Jim Byrne," I fired twice," he said. Witness went on: "My wife suggested she'd go to the barracks and accused said: 'I'll go with Mrs. O'Kennedy.' Duff then turned to me and said: 'Will you come with me to the barracks?' The three of us went to the barracks. On the way down accused mentioned again, about three times, the row which had been going on between himself and the deceased. He said: 'What will happen to me now, Mr. O'Kennedy?' I said nothing. Mrs. O'Kennedy said: 'Well, Duff, you didn't mean to murder him, did you?' which Duff replied: 'No, I did not. It all happened in the heat of the moment.'

Mr. Power—Did he say at all during that time what might happen to him? Witness—Yes. He said: "My God! Will I be hanged or will I get five years imprisonment?" When they arrived at the barracks accused knocked on the door and when Guard Carr opened it, accused called: "Jim, Jim, I shot Byrne."

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SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL. ITS EARLY HISTORY IN LIMERICK.

This year marks the centenary of the establishment of the first Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Limerick. The Society was established by Frederick Ozman and his companions in 1846 and the government of the Society has remained in Irish hands since its foundation under President General and Count. The Society came to Ireland in 1841 and the first Conference in Limerick were founded in 1846. 1873 The Organizing Fund of the Society in Limerick transferred to Most Rev. Dr. Butler, Lord Bishop, for the purpose of the Male Orphanage then in course of erection in the grounds of the Christian Brothers. This was completed as St. Joseph's Male Orphanage in Section Street. 1871 to 1875 The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Limerick, before these years raised a Fund of £200, the cost of the erection of the Alter to St. Vincent de Paul at St. John's Cathedral, Limerick. The work was carried out under the supervision of the Rev. James McCoy, P.P., St. John's, who was in these years a Spiritual Director of the Society. Subscriptions to the Fund were anonymously provided by the members of the Society and their friends, and in 1878 Dr. O'Shaughnessy the then President of the Council, presented a portrait of St. Vincent de Paul to be raffled on the Art Union Principle to complete the collection by the Fund and it is recorded that this portrait was won by Mr. James Delaney with ticket number 887.

Handed up the gun. "I dressed hurriedly and asked him: 'Have you your gun?' He said: 'I have.' I said: 'You'd better give it to me. He produced the gun from the right hand pocket of his overcoat. He handed it to me and said: 'Here it is. Don't be afraid, I won't shoot you.' I took the gun. As far as I know it was the short, loaded Webley revolver he usually carried. Five minutes later the Superintendent came in. Accused then stood up and said: 'Im sorry sir, I couldn't help it.' The Superintendent held up his hand and said: 'Don't say any more now,' and asked the accused for the gun. I handed the gun over." Witness added that he saw the Superintendent break the gun and he saw an empty cartridge case under the hammer. "After the Superintendent had left, accused began speaking to me again, and I cautioned him and advised him to see a solicitor, witness went on. Accused replied: 'I don't want any solicitor.' He remarked that he and Guard Byrne had a row approaching Kennedy's house. He said it died away and they both went on to the orchard, where the row opened again. He said that there were remarks passed by Byrne which he resented. He told Byrne that if he said that again, he (Duff) would give him a slap in the mouth. Byrne had gone for his gun, but he (Duff) beat him to the draw. He fired one shot at Guard Byrne, and as he was falling backwards he fired again.

While he was telling this, he was walking up and down and was very excited. He was unusually pale and had a sort of a far-away look or a stare in his eyes. Witness said that three weeks prior to the killing he had a conversation with accused in the dayroom at Pallas Garda Station, during which accused said: "Myself and Byrne aren't talking at all." Witness asked why, to which accused replied: "Over duty." A few days later witness saw both men again on friendly terms.

Between 4 and 5 o'clock on the evening of the killing witness spoke to accused about his (Duff's) proposed transfer to Murroe. NOTICED ACCUSED GETTING UNWELL.

Accused said: "Murroe is not a bad station at all; I'd like to go there." About five weeks before September 25th, witness noticed accused getting unwell, pale, getting a cough and losing energy. He (witness) never noticed any unfriendly act between accused and Guard Byrne.

When Guard McCabe came into the barracks at 1.30 a.m. on September 26th, accused said: "Hello, Jim." Witness was writing at the time, and as he closed his book he heard Duff say: "I suppose you'll blame me." Guard McCabe said: "For my part I'm sorry for both of you." Duff said: "I suppose this will bring both of you into the case."

When witness last saw the accused and deceased before the killing, they were both sober and regular in every way. Garda Patrick Mulrooney said he was stationed at Pallasgreen since July, 1937. He saw Guard Byrne lying dead on his back in Kennedy's orchard. As far as he knew both accused and deceased were on friendly terms.

Bridget Kennedy, Barna, Pallasgreen, said that on the evening of September 26th she passed Jeremiah Coffey on the road outside Dillon's garden, and a short time afterwards she met the two men on the road. One of them flashed a torch in her face, and she believed they were the two Guards whom she had often previously met going to Mount Catherine. The men stopped talking to Coffey and she reached at 11.40. As she went up to her bedroom between 11.50 and 11.55 she heard two shots from the Mount Catherine direction. APPEARED TO BE ON GOOD TERMS.

Guard James B. McCabe said he came to Pallas Station on December 6th, 1945, and knew accused and Friday, 30th August last, they were aware. While dinner was in progress that day, Guard Byrne returned from his annual leave and all present with the exception of Guard Duff.

On September 24th Guard Duff called to the Superintendent's office looking for oil to clean his gun, and he told witness that his gun was being inspected by the Superintendent. On the evening of September 25th witness saw accused and Guard Byrne together. They appeared to be on friendly terms and were in good spirits. In fact the accused was playing with the Sergeant's child at that time.

On the morning of September 26th, at 1.30 o'clock, witness was called from his room by Garda Carr, and when he entered the dayroom he saw the accused there.

Both had lost their tempers. "When her husband and Duff returned to the kitchen and when she asked accused what had happened, he replied: 'We were fighting for a long time and we were arguing going up to the pear tree. I told Guard Byrne I was going to get a pear.' Duff added that when they reached the pear tree both had lost their tempers and had got savage. He said he saw Guard Byrne putting his hand in his pocket to get his gun; that he (accused) went for his gun, too, and he shot him dead."

Attacked by sow. While Mr. Michael Griffin, farmer, Scarriff, was dunging a stereopig in a sty twelve or fifteen yards from the house, a sow occupying an adjoining sty with a litter of four piglets cleared the partition wall in a bound and attacked him, inflicting severe injuries to his hand.

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