

note internal harmony and concord. The tantalising thought in connection with all this is that nothing whatever by way of compensating advantage is being gained.



It is hardly an exaggeration to say that Mr. de Valera is as good an Irishman as the best of those in the G.A.A., and he has expressed himself in favour of removing the ban. How can any level-headed man defend a rule that actually prohibits a young Gaelic player from going to see some of his personal chums playing rugby or soccer? This sort of repressive dictation savours very much of the Soviet idea of keeping the Russian people from learning anything about the outside world for fear they would get discontented with conditions in their own country.



The slavish and humiliating statement was made lately that if the ban were removed our Gaelic pastimes would fall to pieces! If that were true—and, of course, it is not—the games would not be worth preserving. Our native games are admirable in themselves and if they are flourishing to-day it is in spite of and not because of the prohibition. Speaking some years ago on the subject, Rev. P. Fogarty, then Chairman of the Mid-Tipperary Board of the G.A.A., truly said of the ban that it "is making the G.A.A. a source of humiliation for its friends and the laughing-stock of its enemies." The same holds true to-day. The ban is certain to go in time and it is equally certain that its abolition would benefit both the games and the G.A.A.

Junior Red Cross members visited and decorated wards, prepared the Christmas trees, sang carols and in many cases gave their own concerts and provided parties. Often the gifts brought by the members were made in the woodwork and needlework classes in their schools. Just now Dublin members are preparing a pancake party for the children in a Dublin orphanage on Shrove Tuesday, February 21st. Portion of the concert, at which all artistes will be Junior Red Cross members, will be broadcast from Radio Eireann at 5.30 that evening. Those who will listen and learn may be moved to try to get new links formed and extend the good work of Laurel Hill.

## DIED IN U.S.A.

### PATRIOTIC CO. LIMERICK MAN

We announce with regret the death in New Jersey, U.S.A., of Maurice Hayes, late of Ballygoughlan, Glin.

Deceased was a member of a family whose members gave unstinted service in every phase of the national movement from 1914 onwards. He served a term of imprisonment in Belfast in 1918, where he took part in the great jail strike organised by the late Austin Stack.

His passing was deeply mourned and the large cortage to North Arlington State Cemetery, together with the many messages of sympathy and floral tributes from friends and Irish organisations as far apart as Chicago, Boston and Philadelphia, bore witness to the esteem in which he was held by all who knew him. A graveside oration was delivered by his dear friend, Father Lenihan.

To his wife, his aged mother, his brothers and sisters at home and in U.S.A., we extend our deep sympathy.

## MUD PUT INTO PETROL TANKS

While the owners of two motor cars were attending a dance at the Town Hall, Croom (writes our correspondent there) the petrol tanks of their cars were interfered with and mud put into them, with the result that the owners had difficulty in starting the cars. The Croom Gardai are investigating the matter.

bar."

Donoghue was remanded in custody for a week.

## SCARTEEN HUNT BALL

A most successful ball was held on Friday, 27th January, at Ballyscaddane, Knocklong, the home of Capt. and Mrs. Gale, who were most generous in lending their beautiful house for the occasion. A spacious drawingroom and large hall adjoining provided an ideal ballroom.

No trouble and expense were spared in providing an excellent supper by the ladies of the hunt. Major Wat and his band played in a most energetic and popular manner throughout the night, and dancers were loud in their praise of the enjoyable music. Everybody was delighted to see the joint master, Mr. John J. Ryan, in excellent health and dancing with the best of them. Capt. and Mrs. Gale have expressed their appreciation of the help and support that was given by the large gathering present.

## MINISTER TO VISIT WEST LIMERICK

A special meeting of Newcastle West Branch of Clann na Poblachta was held to make arrangements for the reception of Mr. Sean MacBride, Minister for External Affairs, who is to address a public meeting at Newcastle West on Sunday, 12th inst., at 8 p.m.

Mr. James P. O'Kelly was elected Chairman of the Branch; Mr. John O'Connor, Vice-Chairman; Mr. Wm. Barrett, Treasurer; and Mr. Wm. Dunworth, Hon. Sec.

## ABBEYFEALE ALLOTMENT HOLDERS

The Abbeyfeale allotment holders are again active in their tillage preparations for the season (writes our Abbeyfeale correspondent). For some years past the work of the members has been most successful and the results have reflected much credit on the Association.

## SHOT ELEVEN WOODCOCK

While shooting over the lands of Belkelly, near Tuamgraney, on Sunday of last week (writes our Killaloe correspondent), Mr. Willie Farrell, Rahina, Raheen, shot 11 woodcock—a record bag for one day's shooting.