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The Irish

Counties Journal

MARCH, 1971

ISSUE No. 4

VOLUME No. 1





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# COUNCIL OF IRISH COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS EXECUTIVE ELECTED AT THE A.G.M. HELD AT IRISH CENTRE, LONDON

There was a large attendance of delegates from the various Counties for this important meeting, held at the Irish Centre, Camden Town, London.

Picture shows officers elected, who will look after the general business of the Council for 1971.



Photo by Pat Coonan, London.

Front, sitting L/R: Mr. T. Feehan (Cork), representing Irish Embassy (London); Mr. Maurice O'Connor (Kerry), Chairman; Mr. Bob Daly (Galway), Hon. Secretary; Mr. Tom Gorman (Monaghan), President. Back: Mr. Michael Waters (Carlow), Treasurer; Mr. Seamus O'Carrol (Kilkenny), Asst. Secretary.

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#### CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Chairman Address to the Annual General Meeting of the Council of Irish County Associations held at The Irish Centre, 52 Camden Square N.W.1, on Sunday, 28th February, 1971.

Mr. President, Mr. Life President, Mr. Feehan, Rev. Fathers and friends, it is my pleasant duty to address you once again at our Annual General Meeting.

The events of the past twelve months have been many and varied for the County Associations and it is fair to state that a certain amount of progress has been made. However, certain aspects of the years work are not what they should be, we can only hope that the future in the 1970's will be of greater significance to all of us. It is rather a lot to expect the County Associations to please all and sundry and when we compare our membership with those outside our ranks it is understandable if not fair that we should be the subject of such indirect criticism and controversy. It is, I suppose, partly our fault if people who do not make any contribution to the activities of county associations should be so far off the mark in their views of them. I could go on at length to defend county associations but I feel you have not come to hear that, as the people who do the work you are aware of their usefulness. In most cases a 50p piece entitles everyone to join their respective county association and to the knockers on the sidewalk I say if we are so far off course fill in your application forms and join us and we will listen and you will learn.

From ten years connected with the County Associations and being a man of reasonable intelligence I know what has been done and what still needs to be done. Members of county associations are not a body of people who like to be seen and heard at dinners and on other social occasions, they are the people who are also working in their local communities who are connected with the G.A.A.; The Gaelic League; The St. Patricks Parade Committee; The Irish Centre; The Irish Club; The N.U.I. Club; The Emigrant Chaplains Guild; The many political organisations, both Irish and English. There exists in the county associations a wealth of talent, of sincerity and of usefulness, it may be that it is not yet effectively used, but we are always attentive to any suggestions from anyone who is aware of what is being done, and who is sincere in improving upon it.

Because the emigration from Ireland varies from County to County, it is natural that some counties in London are more established than others and whether you look upon the county associations collectively or by individual achievements your conclusions about them will vary. It has never been the policy of the county associations that they should make capital from their endeavours on behalf of those of our brothers and sisters who through no fault of their own fall down on their luck occasionally. These are the people who benefit from the county associations and I can say that this support has meant money, clothing, food and employment, plus many other kinds of assistances. To say that the County Associations give many thousands of pounds each year to charitable causes have been proved to be correct. Help directly and indirectly to the Irish Centre has been forthcoming down the years from the County Association. They have been a friend to the County Associations and they will agree that the reverse is equally true.

To name County Associations can be a dangerous problem lest one is unfortunate in missing out any. All counties have played their

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part in the past twelve months, but when we consider the achievements of some, one can be permitted to make special mention of them. The fact that the Wexford Association took on the Albert Hall and filled it for their Kennedy Brothers Concert makes one feel proud to be connected with the County Association, the fact that Kerry have now provided a hostel which is a credit to any organisation in London is also worthy of mention, the counties, Clare, Cavan, Monaghan, by their donations to the Irish Centre and to other charitable causes certainly must for them be a great satisfaction. The decision of Mayo and Kilkenny to acquire premises and a hostel of their own singles them out, also the Waterford Association who, by their achievements won the Thos. E. Gorman prize are worthy contenders. Fermanagh, winners in the special competition section who passed the money they won on to the Irish Centre are also playing their part. The first County Association of all Tipperary by establishing a scheme of saving for their members must claim great credit. Leitrim by organising of Feis Breffni and Galway by the benefit function organised in aid of late officer. To counties who are not mentioned and who I know have been very active I hope that you will excuse not getting special mention and will I know play an even greater part in the coming year.

From past to the future, how well you vote on the motions on the Agenda could well decide the next steps or a change of direction for the Council. Whether you decide you would go for the establishing of a very badly needed hostel and whether you would join with other organisations to become a bigger and more effective unit. Whatever is decided it is entirely in your hands, but these motions are being sponsored by counties who feel that they are vital to the county associations and are essential to the betterment of our people here. I appeal to you to give a good airing to these motions and then vote as your conscience tells you. Any commitments we are already meeting would not in any way be effected by the decisions of these motions.

On our social side you have the reports of the activities with you and they certainly can and must be improved in the year ahead. Time is too precious to discuss the whys and wherefores of our past lack of success but looking back over ten years I think our growth rate has exceeded the national average.

To the Irish Centre on your behalf and as a member of the Administrative Committee, I should like to thank them for the tribute paid to the County Associations to assure them of our support as in the past but also to acquaint them that a wind of change is happening all around us and only by competing with the opposition will they achieve the things they set out to do. By providing adequate facilities they can reap the benefits of the what the counties have to offer. If at times the County Association delegates may have appeared disturbed let them be assured they were disturbed for the sake of the Centre as well as for themselves. To a body of men who by their calling get little recognition but a good satisfaction from their work I say a sincere thank you — I refer to the Emigrant Chaplains. Let us hope that we can effectively combine our talent with theirs for a greater sense of purpose to our work. The forthcoming national collection in aid of centres in Britain will I hope be a great success. Anyone in contact with Ireland by any means between now and March 14th should stress the need for this collection to exceed the target of £200,000.

To our friends the Press; The Irish Post; The Kilburn Times; The Post Mercury Group; The Press; Independent and Cork Weekly, and all



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the provincials who have helped to publicise the activities and achievements of County Associations I say unreservedly a sincere word of thanks. Any of them who have any problems about our function will be informed if they come and join us.

To Mrs. Smyth (Waterford), Principal of The Thomond Publishing Company for the production of "The Irish Counties Journal" a medium which I hope will be fully utilised to fulfil the purpose for which it is intended. To our friends in business who have financed the journal by the advertising contributions,

Finally, to my fellow officers and to you delegates, during the year our meetings were always conducted in a proper manner and all contributions made without the slightest taste of unpleasantness entering in. To the County Associations and other organisations who entertained my wife and I and other officers of the Council I say a sincere thank you.

To the Ambassador and his staff for their valuable guidance and assistance during the year. To Aer Lingus, Allied Irish Banks, a sincere thanks.

Let us hope for the future that the harmony that exists within the County Associations will develop with our fellow Irishmen and women in Ireland where at the present time there are serious problems. We hope that the next generation will not be embittered by the recent events and they will be given an opportunity of living at peace with each other in a land which for different reasons they all claim they love.

I should like to thank you for your attention and assure you of my co-operation on your behalf where possible at all times.

### OUR QUIZ

#### Juniors-

- A man playing drums in a jazz band is called a drummer, what would the same player in a symphony Orchestra be called?
- 2. In the cinema world what do the initial letters A.B.C. stand for?
- 3. What are Scouses?
- 4. Breathing in is called Inspiration, what is the word for breathing out?
- 5. What sort of person is a fire-brand?
- 6. How many teeth do you have in the course of a lifetime? Seniors—
- 1. What is zebrano?
- 2. What do the French people call the English Channel?
- 3. What is the title of the Norwegian National Anthem?
- 4. Who was the only Britisher to win the Tour de France cycle race?
- 5. What phrase containing "Sky" means much the same as "anything goes"?
- 6. What line was established by two British surveyors which separated the Slave States of Maryland and Virginia from the free state of Pennsylvania?

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#### TRIP TO AMERICA

Arriving in New York by B.O.A.C. Charter on September 12th, we were met by a couple of old friends and former members of the Galway Association of London, Mr. and Mrs. E. Gaze, who made a fuss of us for three days. Through Mr. Gaze we made contact with Mr. John Carroll, President of the Galway Association of New York, who with his familiar and the Galway Association of New York, who with his family entertained us royally at their home at 26A Windsor Place, Brooklyn 11215 New York City. During the month ensuing we visited our family at Dallas, Texas, at Detroit in Michigan and at North Baltimore in Ohio, flying by American Airlines thus spending a week with each of our children. The temperature in Dallas was in the 90's and elsewhere in the 70's. Arriving back in New York on October 9th we were picked up at La Guardia Airport by Mr. Gaze and on arrival at his home were pleasantly surprised to find awaiting us invitations as guests of honour at the Galway Men's Re-union Dinner/Dance being held at the Crystal Palace, Woodside, on Friday, October 10th. They made a great fuss of us and as Secretary of the Council I was asked to speak. I conveyed fraternal greetings from the County Associations in London together with good wishes from the Galway Association of London to its counterpart in New York, I met many members of the United Counties. This body is similar to our Council and meet at the Irish Institute, 326 West 48 Street, N.Y. City. I am grateful to Mr. Willie Fahy, photographer at this function and a close relative in respect of the many introductions given us. I met the following: Mr. Eugene McKenna, President The United Counties, of 4-32-48 Street, N.Y. City; Mr. W. J. Carroll, President The Cork Men's Assoc., of 39-30-58 Street, Woodside, N.Y. 3359840 Long Island; Mr. John Duffy, Chairman of The Feis Committee and United Counties Vice President; Mr. Jim Fitzpatrick, President of The Mayo Men's Assoc.; Mr. John Donnellan, T.D., Galway and Mr. Noel Tierney, G.A.A.; Mr. Mike Synnott of the Synnott Travel Agency, New York; Mr. Brendan Hynes, President The Galway Hurling and Football Clubs, New York. Mrs. Mary Lynch, Chairlady for this function who hails from Tuam, Galway. The Association Chaplain, Revd. Father Larkin, a native of Craughwell, Galway; Mr. Jack Whalen, Kilimor, Co. Galway, Secretary The Galway Co. Board, G.A.A. I met many others and I was told that His Eminence, Cardinal Cooke, of New York, is a member of The Galway Men's Assoc. I supplied lists of Chairmen and Secretaries of our County Associations, and I requested similar lists from New York so that we may possibly send each other a Christmas Card or a message of congratulation when further probes are made in outer space. The United Countries have given large amounts in cash and kind to our fellow countrymen who are in need due to upheaval in the Six Occupied Counties. It was impressed upon me that anything we in London undertake with a view to ending Partition will be backed by them 100 per cent. Before leaving New York I met Mrs. Bellew McManus of The Liffey Tavern.

BOB DALY, Secretary.

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#### THE LEITRIM ASSOCIATION IN LONDON

Final arrangements for Feis Breffni are being made by the Committee. The Official Opening takes place at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, 24th March, by the Chairman, Mr. James Fox, and continues each night from 6 to 10 p.m. On Saturday and Sunday the hours are 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The Feis is held under Irish Dancing Commission Rules. The Adjudicator is Brendan De Glin, A.D.C.R.G., from Derry, and the accompanist is Sheila Goulding, A.D.C.R.G.

The first County Association to organise a Feis has attracted an entry of 2,300 from twelve schools in the London area. Competitions ranging from primary under six to senior over 18. The youngest competitor is Catherine McManamon from the Griffin School. Little Catherine will take the stage on Sunday morning. We wish her and all the competitors the best of luck.

Championships have been arranged for Sunday, 28th, starting with the Juvenile Championship under 9. The Mayor of Brent, Councillor Denis J. Jackson and Mrs. Jackson have kindly consented to attend at 3 p.m. Aer Lingus have donated a lovely trophy for this age group. Under 12 championship the trophy comes from our chairman, Mr. James Fox. The Junior Trophy with an entry of seventeen, donated by Allied Irish Banks. The most valuable in the Feis is a Silver Cup presented by Mr. Tom Gorman, Gresham Ballroom. A lucky boy or girl under 18 will dance a Reel, Jig or Hornpipe and Set Dance to win this trophy.

This Council of Irish County Associations is allocated to the Senior Solo.

Figure Dancing Championship Trophies were presented by the Irish Centre, Mr. James Conway, Glann Connacht, and the Leitrim Association.

Anson Hall is in N.W.2, and is convenient to Willesden Green, Underground Bakerloo Line. Buses No. 266, 260, 226 pass the door, and it is 2 minutes walk from Cricklewood Broadway. Nearest R.C. Church is St. Agnes, Cricklewood Lane, N.W.2. Teas will be available throughout the Feis.

Mrs. TIERNEY (Secretary).

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Mrs. Tierney, with Mr. Maurice O'Connor (Kerry), Chairman of the Council of Irish County Associations, with some of the attractive trophies on display.

## Answers to Our Quiz

#### Juniors-

1. A Tympanist.

2. Associated British Cinemas.

3. A nickname for the people of Liverpool Port.

4. Expiration.

5. A hot-headed trouble maker; a rabble rouser.6. 52.

## Seniors—

1. An African wood which is striped yellow and black.

2. La Manch (The sleeve).

3. Sang For Norge (Song for Norway).

6. Tommy Simpson.5. The Sky's the limit.

6. The Mason and Dixon Line.

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#### LONDON WEXFORDMEN'S ASSOCIATION CHAIRMAN SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

Mr. Pat McCabe, Chairman of the London Wexfordmen's Association and President-Elect of the Provincial Council G.A.A. of Britain, presiding at his first meeting and held at "The Earl of Derby," Amberley Road, Paddington W.9. He stressed the need for new members to join their Association.

In his opening address Pat expressed a Cead Mile Failte to the old and the new members of the 24 strong committee to find new members to join their ranks for the coming year. Numerically we are not strong and with plenty of Wexford men and women in London, he appealed to each one to become a "Recruiting Sergeant" as our work for the few is growing and much more need for help is required.

The committee were meeting to arrange for their turnout on St. Patrick's Day Parade and here Tom Murphy and Secretary of the Parade reminded them that Wexford had a hard task to perform in upholding the standard set in 1970. He asked that strict marshalling be properly organised by the Wexford Stewards and congratulated Mr. Pat Newport for the excellent work put in by building the Float in advance. For the benefit of members he asked that they be in good time to assemble at Horse Guards not later than 2 p.m.

Arrangements were also completed for the holding of the annual bacon and cabbage at the Irish Centre, Camden Town, on Saturday, 27th March, 1971. Tickets in advance from the Chairman, COL; 5930 or Mrs. Newport, 88 Valley Road, Streatham, S.W.16, phone 677-0053. The cost of the tickets are £1.12½p (22/6). A big night and a feast of entertainment is in store for patrons and in view of the post strike, members and intended members should ring any of the above officers at once.

The committee also decided to give the warm welcome to the New Ross Geraldines and O'Hanrahans hurling and football clubs arriving in London to play the All Wexford Fr. Murphys. This club, with a party of 50, arrive in London on Good Friday and return on Tuesday of Easter week. A social at the Cricklewood Hotel, a hurling and football game at Hayes or New Eltham and a dinner engagement at the Cricklewood Hotel on the Sunday night. This is the news for the moment but more about it in the next issue of this worthy "Irish Counties Journal."

Plans were made to increase the welfare committee's duties within the Association and new rules to govern same are to be drawn up by the committee. This will meet with much approval by the members and one which will get plenty of discussion at the next general meeting.

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It would be difficult in one short article to describe the full ramifications of Insurance and its effect on practically every field of human activity. I shall endeavour nevertheless in this article to cover the broader aspects of the industry and its effect on our lives.

There is no doubt that Insurance, like Banking, is a vital cornerstone in the economy of most countries and consequently plays a significant part in the shaping of these countries' finances in order to suit the needs of the people. This fact is more evident in emerging countries such as Ireland where its importance will grow with the expansion and development of the economy. In a country such as Great Britain with its more sophisticated and complex financial structures, its role is nonetheless important, but probably less obvious in every day living.

The range of activities of Insurance Companies is expanding all the time and in this respect the Industry carries a greater degree of responsibility to the public than is generally appreciated. This responsibility must also apply to Insurance Brokers where the business community increasingly recognises that expert advice and guidance is all-important and where a high standard of technical knowledge and experience is essential. Of course, these factors alone are not sufficient and good service and a high standard of ethics in the conduct of business are equally important.

A recent unfortunate event in the motor insurance market in this country; should bring home to both the business and general community the inherent dangers of cut-price insurance and dealing with the so-called Brokers who advocate it.

It is to the credit of many Insurance Brokers that they withstood the clamour of many people in not transacting business on such a basis, so consequently reputations have been gained and the best interests of clients have been safeguarded.

Insurance has altered and expanded so much from its early days and there will undoubtedly be an acceleration of these changes in the future.

Insurance Companies are probably the most important, if not the largest, investing agencies in the country. This is for such socially orientated projects as Home purchase, together with the higher return investments of Property development. Many Insurance Companies now offer the small investor facilities for participating in these remunerative projects, thus providing security and sense of participation, growth and interest in the future, and the future is what we all must provide for.



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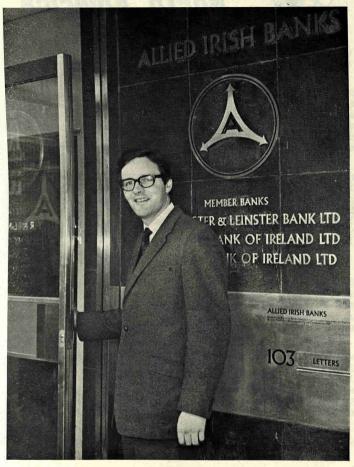
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## FLIGHT DATES

#### **NEW YORK**

	6	March—6 April
	6	April—16 May
1	6	May—5 June
	3	June—25 June
	5	June-4 September
	6	June—13 July
2	4	June—14 July
2	8	June—15 July
	3	July—9 August
1	3	July—10 August
2	5	July—16 August

	July— August
28	July—11 August
	August—29 August
9	August—30 August
10	August—31 August
16	August— 8 September
29	August— 9 September
30	August—15 September
31	August—22 September
4	September—24 September

#### **TORONTO**

10 May—30 May 9 July—6 September

18 August—9 September 13 September—2 October

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#### KERRY ASSOCIATION IN LONDON

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121 Wood End Gardens
Northolt
Middlesex
Tel. 01 422 2286

Secretary:
Mr. JOHN O'CONNOR
20 Clauson Avenue
Northolt
Middlesex
Tel. 01 422 6688

Since our last newsletter we had a very successful Roast Beef Dinner at the Irish Centre, on Saturday, 20th February. Over 150 members and friends attended, and an enjoyable evening was had by all.

Our Social at St. Brendan's, on Saturday, 27th February, was the best to date, over 80 members and friends and guests were present. Our grateful thanks to Fr. Dwyer of the Columban Fathers for showing a film on the work of another Columban Missionary, Fr. Brendan McGlinchey, who spent a number of years on the Mission Fields of Korea. Our thanks also to Tommy Dunne and Aer Lingus for the use of the film "Green is Ireland".

A visitor to St. Brendans on Sunday was our Bishop, Dr. Eamonn Casey, Joint Patron of the Association. This was Dr. Casey's first visit and he was certainly very pleased by the hostel, and was appreciative of the work being done by your association. In view of the fact that Dr. Casey has a great knowledge of conditions in London as far as accommodation is concerned his praise is all the more impressive. He has promised to help the Association where possible and will very shortly bless the hostel and it will be officially opened on the same occasion.

Our Annual Dinner is fixed for May 8th at the Penthouse Restaurant and tickets priced £3.00 are available from the Treasurer, Mr. Eric Guerin, 55 Warriner Gardens, London, S.W.11, or from the Chairman and Secretary, early application is advised as the number of tickets is never sufficient to meet the demand. In the next issue we will be able to let you have the full list of guests.

Other dates for your diary: Thursday, 15th April is the Council of Irish County Associations Annual Dinner at the Gresham Ballroom. Tickets from Mr. Daly, Secretary. In the past two years the Association had large parties and I trust this will be repeated this year. On the occasion of the Annual Dinner on the past two years the Presidents £1,000 prizes were presented and Kerry were amongst the prizewinners on both occasions, let us hope we can achieve a hat trick.

We are still looking for a few books of Green Shield Stamps to send a handicapped child to Lourdes.

We were sorry to hear of the sudden illness of Jerry Daly, Secretary of the London County Board, G.A.A., and a member of the Kerry Association at its inception. We wish Jerry well and hope that his retirement will not affect the London County Board.

The Kerry Team will be travelling to London for the Wembley Games and will, we are told, include yes! the great Miko Connell.

MAURICE O'CONNOR, Chairman.



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Chairman: W. J. SMYTH,
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Hon. Secretary:
M. DONOVAN, 59 Park Road, Hendon, N.W.4. 01-202 6357
Vice-Chairman: J. FRENCH. 01-807 2114
Treasurer: P. STAFFORD. 01-607 0431

Treasurer: P. STAFFORD. 01-607 0431
Assistant Treasurer: P. MOLONEY. 01-450 7027
Assistant Sec.: J. Regan,

Waterford people will, with their Irish compatriot's, join in the celebrating of St. Patrick's Day, but come the 24th of July they will flock to Ardmore to celebrate the feast of their own beloved St. Declan.

Legend has it that when St. Patrick visited Waterford he found St. Declan had already spread the Christian faith there. St. Declan was born in Dromrue, near Cappoquin Town. He left Ireland for the continent at an early age, he visited Rome and became a Bishop in the Catholic Religion, he then returned to Ireland to spread the faith. On his journey home he was shipwrecked and lost all his possessions, including a bell which he received from Rome for his church. On being washed ashore in Ardmore he found his bell inserted in a rock afloat on the water. The rock still stand's within the ruins of the church he built there and many people are believed to have been cured from back illness by creeping through the hole in the rock.

It is also believed that once while travelling from Dromrue to Ardmore he stopped to rest on the top of Tour Hill and finding himself without water, blessed the ground and water began to rise. This well is now a famous shrine to St. Declan. Throughout the year people come from near and far to visit this shrine to be cured from skin disease and mass is celebrated annually there. Tickets for bacon and cabbage supper on 13th—Sold Out. A happy St. Patrick's Day to all.

NEW SOCIAL COMMITTEE are as follows: Mrs. JANE SMYTH, 749 0909 Night; 960 0201 Day. Mr. JIM FRENCH, 807 2114. Mr. PADDY MOLONEY, 459 7027. Mr. WILLIAM DOWNING, 202 6357. Mr. J. M. DAVIES 579 0384 Night; 992 3481, Ext. 125 Day; and Mr. T. KEANY.

They will be responsible for all Dinner and Raffle Tickets.

We would like to thank Mr. Nicholas Walsh for his generous Press reports and his participation in our Quiz Contest.

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#### COIN COLLECTORS' CORNER

#### Britain's Money

#### Victorian Copper and Bronze Coins.

Although most of this article will deal with the "Bun" penny, I think it will be of interest to many readers to write something about other values or I should say denominations which were struck between 1838 and 1901.

In 1838 halfpennies were minted in copper depicting the "Young Head" on the Obverse with year date underneath. On the Reverse we have Britannia and where we now find the date the Rose, Thistle and Shamrock are to be seen. This variety was continued until 1860, but the number struck in the last year were very few and are classified Extremely Rare.

Farthings were also struck in copper over the same period and as for design, were the same as for the halfpenny, and once again the 1860 farthings are very rare.

In 1839 came the Half Farthing, a coin unknown to many people, but until a few months ago I had one dated 1854 in E.F. condition. Unfortunately, I misplaced this after showing it to someone. These were not minted every year and last dated is 1856 (one hundred years before the last dated farthing, i.e. 1956). On this coin, instead of Britannia on the Reverse, we have Half Farthing in words, with the date underneath.

Third Farthings (for use in Malta) were minted in 1844 only. Quarter Farthings (for use in Ceylon) were struck for a few years between 1839 and 1853. Both of these latter denominations like the half farthing, had the value on the Reverse side of the coin.

The Copper Penny with the same design as for the halfpenny, was first struck in 1841, and like these two coins was minted in most years up to 1860, and like these two the 1860 "Copper" penny is valuable in the higher grades.

In 1860 came the first real change in design and metal for the farthing, halfpenny and penny. Bronze replaced copper as the metal from which the coins were struck, and on the Obverse of these denominations the effigy of Queen Victoria is to be seen with her hair tied in a bun. On the Reverse we still have Britannia, but behind her we now see a lighthouse in front of a sailing ship. The date is underneath.

#### The "Bun Penny."

For some reason not known to me, some people have formed an attachment to this series and do in fact collect only these. It is in fact from such a person who collected 15,659 of these with almost every specimen coming from circulation, that enabled a Mr. M. J. Freeman to write his book titled, "The Victorian Bronze Penny."

In fact in the September, 1968, issue of Coin Monthly there was a whole page devoted to what is titled, "Bun Penny Mintage Chart," the table is drawn up in three columns (1) Royal Mintage Figures; (2) Rarity of dates as indicated by Current prices for coins in FINE condition, and (3) Date in order of rarity according to the number of coins of each year date in Mr. Freeman's collection.

It should now be made clear that some Bun Pennies in the years 1874/75/76 and 1881/2 were struck at Birmingham by Ralph Heaton and Sons, and are known as H pennies, the H is underneath the date.

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I make this point now because when we look at our three mintage tables they only agree on rarity on one striking and this is in fact the 1882 penny WITHOUT the H. Mr. Freeman has one only, no price can be given for purchasing this variety and the Royal Mint do not state the mintage.

I read in the October, 1968, issue of Coin Monthly of a lady who has found an 1882 without the H, but the Editor has pointed out that in fact on a number of occasions similar coins have been found, but for the reason that H after 85 years in circulation has worn off and advises the lady to send the coin to the Royal Mint for verification.

What then can we expect to find of this series either in circulation or in an old box? I assume very little. In all, about 350 million Bun pennies were minted, but most of those still in circulation between 1950 and 1960, were withdrawn and went into the melting pot. A total of 300 million worn pennies were withdrawn during those years, so any Buns that escaped were likely to be in someone's keeping. If, by any chance, a reader has a Bun Penny in FINE or BETTER condition, these are the ones for which to look: 1869, 1875H, 1871, 1868 and 1864. For coins with year dates other than these given, the highest value for those in FINE condition is about 5/-.

On going back to what governs the value of a coin, I gave three factors (1) Rarity; (2) Condition, and (3) Demand. Having said nothing about the latter in previous articles, I must say something about DEMAND.

There is no question whatsoever that the decision for Britain to decimalise her currency has made a tremendous impact on the numismatic fraternity and also to a lot of people who now realise what a tremendous step this is, having taken almost 150 years since it was first raised in the House of Commons. Perhaps it is not so co-incidental that the first Gothic Florin of the 1840's should have in words "One tenth of a pound." Now we have in our everyday change — a coin the same size and weight as a florin which we still call a Florin, but is in fact, the Ten New Pence or one tenth of the Old Pound which DEI GRATIA will never change.

The increasing demand is mainly for coinage of Elizabeth II and prices for coins in MINT condition are always on the increase, so much in fact that the price of a 1965 Halfcrown in Mint condition has trebled to over £1 since I started writing on this topic. The demand though is almost exclusively for mint coins. The whole world is affected. Does it not seem almost ludicrous that a 1959 Halfcrown in Mint Condition commands a price tag of £15, and a Sovereign of the same year about half as much. One or two denominations though are still worth keeping in E.F. condition — wear hardly visible.

I will quote only a few in this category as the values in E.F. fall to only a quarter and sometimes less, than Mint. A 1961 Scottish and 1959 Scottish shillings, 1960 and 1963 Crowns, all the halfcrowns of the 1950's (Extremely Rare in E.F.), 1953 Penny (all grades), 1953 Halfpenny E.F. and all the four farthings 1953/56. If you are thinking of buying in MINT condition a year type set to commemorate your son(s) or daughter(s) birth, then buy now if you can afford it 1962 (£6), 1963 (£5), 1964(£5), 1965 going up from £2.10.0 week by week.

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#### THE FERMANAGH ASSOCIATION IN LONDON

The monthly meeting was well attended. The dance on the 23rd inst. was very enjoyable, all members and friends contributed to make it a success. Also many thanks for the support from other counties.

The Ulster Float for the St. Patrick's Day Parade was discussed, members offered their support on behalf of Fermanagh. The Ulster Float won second prize last year which was a great achievement for hard work and a great turn out by a few counties. We hope to see more Ulster counties participating in the future.

Congratulations were extended to Kevin and Mrs. Sanderson (Eileen) on the birth of their son, Cairan. Eileen is the Assistant Secretary and Kevin one of our Association Delegates to the Council of Irish County Associations. Kevin finished the thirty mile marathon. walk last year in aid of the Irish Centre. He was one of four walkers sponsored by the Fermanagh Association members.

We have just heard some good news for this year, the walk is only going to be twenty miles.

The Association is very concerned over the imprisonment of Frank McManus, M.P. at Westminster for Fermanagh and South Tyrone. Mr. McManus is President of this Association. We look forward to his release.

Any enquiries regarding membership, 'phone the Secretary 387 8604.

With best wishes for a happy and Holy Easter.

MARY McCORMACK (Mrs.), Hon. Secretary.

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Our first Bacon and Cabbage Dinner of 1971 was held at the Irish Centre on Saturday, 27th February. In spite of the advertising handicap due to the postal strike 130 souls sat down and enjoyed themselves. What could be better than that?

An mi seo is cuimhinn linn Padhraig Naofa agus an Criostaíocht a thug se dEirinn. Ta a lan eachtraí a' baint le Padhraig (seachain se Gaillimh, ar eagla na heagla bhfeidir!). I ndeirb na dala bhí an bua aige agus craobhscaoil se creidimh De don tir goleir.

Is aineolach, droch — beasach iad siud a thugann an tainm Paddy orainn, Ainm uasal ata ann: ainm brodiul; ainm gan locht, gan masla; ainm an fhirinne, a sheas an fod in aghaidh an Dorchadas idir inniu is inne, is fado is fado fado.

Le coghnamh De cifar aran mor-shiuil sibh go ler. Og no aosta ta failte roimh cach.

A party of London Galwegians led by Chairman Gerry O'Flynn is to go to Coventry to a Galway Banquet there. Among the guests of honour are Johnny Donnellan, T.D., and Noel Cantwell, Manager, Coventry F.C.

Members Martin O'Halloran and Pat Faherty are to go to Dublin, at their own expense, to represent us in the big parade on Saint Patrick's Day. Our banner is in the tender care of Mrs. O'Flynn, who for some years now has been its custodian. This year the banner will be displayed in Dublin and our thanks go to her for keeping it in such perfect condition and to Martin and Pat our standard bearers.

Literary contributions are more than welcome by yours truly. They can be in Gaeilge or I mBearla. All aspiring poets or scribes please come forward . . . pssst . . . any gossip?

On Thursday, March 11th, at the Irish Centre, Gort Parish Reunion is to be held at 8 p.m. All are welcome.

Prior to our next meeting on Friday, March 26th, mass is to be offered in the oratory of the Irish Centre for the eternal repose of the soul of the late Michael Molloy.

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#### CAVAN ASSOCIATION IN LONDON

#### History and activities of the Association - Part I

The Cavan Association in London was formed in 1952 by a group of Cavan men who, believing in the principle of strength through unity, felt that the great numbers of Cavan men and women now domiciled in this country need an organisation through which they can express themselves and exert an influence commensurate with their numbers; an organisation where the interest of one is the interest of all.

Since its inauguration the Association has been engaged in activities such as Welfare, Socials and Competitions.

One of its founder members, Mr. James Conway, is now President of the Association.

Our Patron is the Most Rev. Dr. Austin Quinn, Bishop of Kilmore.

**Qualification**—In the January issue the names of two of our Vice-Presidents were omitted; the announcement should have read: Vice Presidents: Rev. S. Hetherton, Mr. James Brady, Mr. John F. Soden.

Bacon and Cabbage Supper — Saturday 1st May.— Tickets £1.25 each. Music by Pat McNamee.

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# House worth seeing when you're home for Christmas

With many Irish people in Britain either returning permanently to Ireland or planning to do so, the annual visit home gives many of these people an opportunity to have a first-hand look at the Irish housing scene. The hard fact of the matter is that housing is a major problem in Ireland and, whereas jobs may be readily available for the Irishman who has gained skill and experience in Britain, a suitable house to accommodate his family may be much more difficult to come by.

It is because of this situation that we wish to bring to the attention of our readers — especially those going home for the holidays — the excellent value which is being offered by Avonree Homes, which have been described as "homes for the

Seventies".

Avonree Homes are now becoming a familiar sight in the Irish landscape. This is not surprising when one considers that an Avonree home provides all of the facilities of the modern

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An Avonree home is constructed with care and expertise. Each home is wired and fitted with all the necessary electrical, plumbing and central heating fixtures — together with built-in presses. It is all done in a matter of days.

Credit facilities are available on application to the manufacturers and it must be stated again that the price is £2,765 which includes the cost of erection but is exclusive of site and

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Yes, if you are one of those thinking of going home permanently, and happen to be in Ireland during the summer months, you would be well advised to drive to Callan.

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#### AUGER CHIEF SUCCEEDED BY HIS SON

Mr. Tom Beckett, who founded the well-known tackle firm of Auger Accessories in 1947, retired last weekend as managing director of the company.

He is to become president and financial director of Auger's and their associated companies, which he has built up to an annual turnover of more than £150,000.

#### Skilful Caster.

Mr. Beckett, who celebrates his 60th birthday this week, is succeeded as managing director by his 28-year-old son, Michael, a skilled casting champion and a keen rugby player for London Irish RFC.

New development plans for Auger's are being finalised and will be announced by the new chief executive in the near future.

#### BECKETT'S LAW NO. 3

"Inflation — the Common Cold of Commerce — occurs in an expanding economy, when the inevitables, Taxes, Production Costs and Interest, absorb so much of the gross product of production that insufficient is left for ploughing back to fertilise natural development."

The Common Cold — the bogey of the Medical Profession, is treated by medicines G.P.'s with cough mixture; hot whisky; or "what have you;" and invariably the patient is turned out as good as new, but Inflation, the bogey of commerce, is treated by Economic Specialists, who always insist on the old prescription: "STOP — GO."

"STOP" when they bleed the poor Business Ass.

"GO" when they give him a slap on the rump, hoping he will break into a jog trot and pick up a few of the unemployed (particularly when there is an Election coming along).

But, the "STOP — GO" treatment which dates back to the days of the first Elizabeth, when England experienced what was probably her worst ever spell of Inflation; does not unfortunately turn the patient out as good as new. It invariably leaves a scar which reduces the purchasing power of the Pound Sterling on the Home Market and any hardening of its Exchange Value abroad is due to an influx of Gamblers Hot Money taking advantage of the High Interest Rate: as an integral part of the treatment.

## COUNCIL OF IRISH COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS

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His Excellency The Irish Ambassador, Dr. Donal O'Sullivan

President:
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