

DENIS FORDE (9/8/1918 - 6/9/1969)



The sudden and unexpected death of Denis Forde came as a profound shock to his many friends, colleagues and acquaintances in and outside the Forest Service.

A fine upstanding figure of a man, "Dinny" undertook each task with boundless energy and enthusiasm. *Fag a' bhealach* could truly be his *Rosc Catha* at full forward as he led his team in search of goals in his beloved game of hurling. His death on the eve of the All-Ireland final was a poignant reminder that twenty years before to a day he had played full-forward for Laois in the 1949 All-Ireland.

Born in Clarenbridge, Co. Galway, he entered Avondale as a trainee in 1938. He was foreman in Cong in 1941 and Glendalough in 1942, and he went in charge to Clogheen Forest in June 1942. Subsequently he served in Clonaslee, Nephin Beg, Graigue and Thomastown Forests and moved, on promotion, to Ballinglen in 1962.

In August 1968 he was promoted to Inspector with The Curragh as his district H.Q. Here, as always, he got quickly into his stride, and carried out every task in the only way he knew, thoroughly and efficiently.

He was a keen gardener, and the well kept gardens at his home at Annacurra, and later at Newbridge, bore the imprint of his care, hard work, perseverance and no little skill.

To his widow Elizabeth, and to his relatives the Society tenders its deepest sympathy in their great loss.

*Is fíor nach mbeidh a leithéid aríst i gCoillte na b-éireann.
Solas na bhflaitheas d'á anam dilis.*

F. Ó Fathaigh.

It is hoped to print an obituary notice of the late W. Y. Chisholm in our next issue.