

OUR MAN OF THE YEAR PAT QUINN

**GENEROSITY,
LOYALTY,
HUMILITY,
AND
SUCCESS!**



Our Man of the Year for 1973 is that most dynamic and colourful of businessmen, Cloone-born Pat Quinn.

A more inevitable happening one could not imagine. In any, and indeed all, of the years in which our 'Man of the Year' series has been in vogue Pat Quinn would, and could have been, the most automatic of choices. Though his generosity made his selection for 1973 compelling, it was, paradoxically, that same generosity that denied him an earlier selection.

His annual sponsorship of our own 'Leitrim Guardian' Progressive Community Award, has already endowed our nominees with over £1,000 of Quinn cash and innumerable charities and community projects within Leitrim benefit greatly from his support. At national level Pat Quinn's benevolence is constantly sought and depended upon, and for a just cause, always forthcoming.

To reward such generosity and be seen to do justice to the person so honoured is a difficult task.

Were success to be the criteria by which to decide such an honour our 'Man of the Year' trophy would have ceased to be a perpetual one long ago. A shopping centre pioneer and king, he has mastered the art of varied forms of business with equal success — Supermarketing and Stockmarketing — he takes in his stride.

Having had 'flirtations' with show-business promoting in Canada he is probably set fair to excel his own zenithal achievements in this field and his acquisition of Opperman's Hotel at Kiltiernan earlier this year ('73) is now providing him with the necessary outlet. Converting Opperman's to the Pat Quinn's Club is a new type of challenge. With 5,000 members and an already established reputation of promoting the most exciting cabaret week-ends in the capital, Pat (Quinn) is ready for another conquest.

His loyalty to Leitrim is unhidden and unquestionable. Earlier this year he introduced an equine 'jet' to the racing scene appropriately named 'Leitrim' and even if he was only second best on six successive occasions he caused the 'battle-cry' 'Come on Leitrim' to resound around many a strange arena and circle — too strange to 'Leitrim', perhaps!

Whenever Leitrim is in trouble it can call on Pat Quinn.

So it was earlier this year when the Leitrim (and Sligo) Regions of the Rehabilitation Institute went fund-raising. Those interested in the Rehabilitation Institute factory at Ballinamore (serving so admirably the needs of the county) sought the assistance of Pat Quinn to raise an estimated £5,000.

With the then Dail Deputy for Sligo/Leitrim, Mr. James Gallagher, Pat Quinn set the operation in motion. A '200

Club' draw accumulated £20,000, and after a distribution of prizes £10,000 profit remained for division between Leitrim and Sligo. Another target achieved.

Time, talent, money and energy, he devoted to the betterment of the lives of the underprivileged of Leitrim and though it was commonplace for Pat Quinn to give in such proportion, it was not commonplace for Leitrim to receive with such generosity.

For this gesture alone he could no longer be denied the county's premier honour.

A devoted family man, he is happiest in the midst of his wife and family. His wife, Ann, is quoted as saying that her husband, Pat, would like to be remembered with love. To Leitrim he has unceasingly given his love — unrequited, it can never be!

—Editor.