

# TIPPERARY ATHLETES



**Edward P. McLoughlin**

by Michael O'Dwyer

Edward P. McLoughlin was born on 24 May 1869 at Castle Street, Cahir, County Tipperary. He was the second son of Edward W. McLoughlin, a shopkeeper, and Ellen McLoughlin (née Fleming). His parents got married on 1 December 1866 in St Mary's Church, Cahir. Edward P. McLoughlin was educated at Rockwell College, Blackrock College, Dublin, Catholic University Medical School, Cecilia Street, Dublin, and St Thomas's Hospital, London. His two main sports were rugby and athletics. On 24 March 1887 at Lansdowne Road he helped Blackrock College to win the inaugural Leinster Schools Senior Cup by disposing of Farra School (Bunbrosna, County Westmeath) in the final by 3–0. McLoughlin scored the third of Blackrock's three tries. That was the only appearance in the competition by Farra School, long since closed. In athletics, he was twice runner-up in the national championships of the Irish Amateur Athletics Association. On 30 May 1887 at Ballsbridge, Dublin, he was second in the pole vault to Thomas P. O'Connor, native of Rockwell, and third was Patrick A. McGann, native of County Clare. All three were current or former students of Blackrock College. Five years later on 18 June 1892 at Ballsbridge he was second in the high jump to James M. Ryan, native of Ballyslatteen, New Inn. He also represented Ireland in athletics, on 7 July 1888 at Ballsbridge in the Ireland v. United States athletics international he was runner-up in the high jump to Alexander Jordan, New York Athletic Club. This is likely the first United States representative side to have contested in an international athletics meeting. Having engaged in general practice in London, in 1904 Dr Edward P. McLoughlin was elected assistant professor of anatomy at the Catholic University Medical School, and full professor in 1905. On the establishment of the National University of Ireland in 1909, he became the first professor of anatomy in University College Dublin. He was president of the Blackrock College Union in 1905/06. Professor Edward P. McLoughlin died on 11 March 1956 at his residence, Villiers Road, Rathgar, Dublin, aged eighty-six, and is interred in Glasnevin cemetery.