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NEWS IN BRIEF.

Catholics from all parts of Ireland and many from abroad, came to the coast of County Mayo, to make the annual pilgrimage to the summit of Croagh Patrick. After an all-night vigil they descended. Some veterans of fifteen pilgrimages reporting that the weather was the worst they'd ever known on the mountain. It rained all the time but they stayed till dawn, before starting the 2,500-foot descent. It's an act of penitence on the mountain closely associated with St. Patrick himself.

Spectators see most of the game, and that goes for coaches too. If he can watch all the time he can spot the faults, so the Germans are trying out mechanised serving. Just feed the machine with a lot of tennis balls and it will go on serving every time somebody puts his foot down.

Now some practice at the all important back hand. This method turns rabbits into good players in a very short time.

When the pupils get tired the machine can try it on the dog.

French journalists had their toughest assignment this summer, trudging 10,000 feet up Mount Blanc. They were going to the opening of the new refuge for climbers. To build it, all the materials had to be flown up by helicopter. Only two days after these pictures were taken the pilot was killed. But no thought of tragedy was in the mind of anybody at this stage. Everyone concerned was happy because the shelter was nearing completion.

Among these grim Precipices, mountaineers have challenged death for centuries. A refuge shelter has been in existence nearly 200 years, but as climbing has become very popular the accommodation was often too small.

But for the helicopter the job would have taken far longer.