

**FATHER MCDYER**

The sole surviving cooperative at the moment is the knitting cooperative. The others are in weaving and they're doing well and I hope, hopefully do very well. But I think sufficient has been done to a) to give people of Glencolmcille confidence in their future and b) to maintain the generation at a reasonable level, you know.

**PAT JESS**

Not all Father McDyer's projects were successful. A traditional culture is often resistant to new ideas. There were divisions in the community, allegations that Father McDyer had become overextended and was too domineering.

**FATHER MCDYER**

A sort of an 'us and them' mentality developed, which was quite unfortunate because in a true cooperative it's all us, there's no them. And unfortunately quite a small group of us were left holding the baby so to speak. But the cooperative idea didn't maintain, it still, it was responsible for initiating various things that would never have been an issue that it were not so.

**PAT JESS**

One of these is now a privately owned fish processing plant, but was originally a vegetable canning cooperative. Why did this transformation occur?

**FATHER MCDYER**

Unfortunately, they didn't have enough good land here, and so we had to go elsewhere, and then we were told by an expert that we would have to modernise our machinery. Well we couldn't reach to that. Rather than turn the key in the door, then we started a fish processing factory, which is going quite good.

**PAT JESS**

The fish processing company is expanding and has invested over a million pounds in new plant like this cold storage shed; over half of the money coming in grants from the state authority, Udaras Na Gaeltachta, and the EEC.

Much of the produce here is destined for the international market. These crabs are going to Europe.

[End of recording]