

Cafes, cafes everywhere and not a drop of . . .

ONCE upon a time the best food in town was served up by a nice lady called Mable. She ran a quaint little cafe for the Irish Temperance League, at the junction of Peter's Hill and the Old Lodge Road, in Belfast. "Whatever happened to Mabel?" wonders Sam Devlin, of Charleville Street.

Her place, shaped like the dome of the City Hall so that no one could sit in the corner, was renowned for its hot dinners and you could linger over a meal for a couple of hours if you wanted.

Come to think of it, Sam laments the passing of all the ITL cafes which used to dot the city. "Their food was good and reasonably priced, anything from a quick snack to a four-course lunch.

"Most important, the staff were in no hurry to usher customers out."

There were two ITL cafes in Smithfield, one in Cromac Street and one at the top of Oxford Street. Now all the ITL places, favourite meeting places of a different generation, are gone.

AN ULSTER LOG



By
Eddie
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promote the big occasion.

She tells me the fair will be a two-day affair through Wednesday, February 15. Representatives and editors from many academic publishers will be in town to man display stands.

Books will be over a wide range. It looks like being the spring of the bookworm in '84.

A McCrea 'launch'

