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Dungarvan Leader

AND SOUTHERN DEMOCRAT
Circulating throughout the County and City of Waterford, South Tipperary and South-East Cork

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BEHIND THE SPOTLIGHT

with PENSAMAN

A MILLION A WEEK
The report of the Department of Local Government for the year ended March, 1955 issued last week, showed that during that period Local Authorities spent a million pounds more than in the previous year. The total cost of the year was £44,400,000 of which Roads cost £11,200,000, Public Assistance £7,250,000, Housing £5,340,000, and Mental Hospitals £3,466,000, while an army of 57,438 local officers and employees were paid salaries totalling £16,269,922.

Don't these figures make you sit up? Well, if you don't faint when you read them, I mean the ratepayers of Ireland (outside of their other main occupation of paying taxes) can indeed feel proud that they can keep local authorities and their grandiose schemes going in 1955. No wonder there is a credit squeeze on no wonder we have been told that we are living beyond our means, and again we are told that some County Councils are at present in the throes of a financial crisis.

This fabulous expenditure must cease. Officials, and indeed public representatives too, must leave their likings for grandiose schemes behind them and do something to relieve the back-breaking pressure that has been constantly used on this body of ratepayers in the past decade.

It is evident to all except those who do not want to see that far too much is expected from far too few. Those engaged in productive work and who earn their livelihood by their own industry, have to pay the salaries of far too many civil servants and officials. It is an amazing set up for a small, thinly populated country with a fast declining population. The tax per head is too high when it is realised that between central and local authorities we are expected to pay something in the region of 160 to 170 million pounds! No wonder else in the world would such a position be allowed to persist. Every system of taxation which we boast so much about in this twentieth century is papering us. Its administration at county level only costs well over 16 million pounds—what is at central level I hate to think.

One thing is sure there can be no more increases in rates. There must be no more increases. This power lies in the hands of our local representatives. Every item of expenditure from now on should be examined and scrutinised—local representatives are morally bound to do this—every item of expenditure must be cut out everything must be cut to the very bone. Local Authorities must remember that the Government is reminding us who live in this poor country—the rainy day is here! We have an administrative organisation that should run a world-wide empire but the administrators seem to forget that we are a poor country. The Counties and less than three million souls! It should take much less to run the country and a smaller number to do it.

apiece. It would mean that there would be 54 speakers for the opposition! Does not our Committee subscribe to the newly set up Council for Committees of Agriculture with headquarters in Dublin? Would not the opposition of this Council on behalf of all its member Committees be an appropriate function for such a Council and would it not be a more business-like and less expensive way of dealing with the matter?

You can read the report and the other ones I refer to elsewhere in this issue and make up your own minds as to the efficiency and sincerity shown in the administration of the people's affairs.

ANONYMOUS
During the week I received a letter signed 'Ex-G.A.A. Man' from Waterford City. It stated that one of the reasons for the popularity of soccer games in the city was that first line championship G.A.A. fixtures in the Munster series were as rare there as snowfalls in summer.

However as the letter did not contain the name and full address of the writer I can't deal with it further. Anyone anxious to get into print must remember that it is always an essential to send the name and address (not necessarily for publication) as well as a pen-name.

GALWAY BAY
By special request of M.D. I am giving that grand old West of Ireland ballad this week. 'Tis far away I am today from my home as April dawn today. And long ago the hour I know I first saw Illinios. But time nor tide nor waters wide can wear my heart away. For ever true it flies to you my own dear Galway Bay.

My chosen bride is by my side her brown hair silver grey. Her daughter Rose as like her grows as April dawn today. Our eldest boy his mother's joy his father's pride and stay. With gifts like these I live at ease were I near you Galway Bay.

A prouder man I'd walk the land in health and peace of mind. If I might toll and strive and moil nor cast one thought behind. But what would be the world to me if my rank and rich array. If memory I lost of thee my poor old Galway Bay.

Oh grey and bleak by shore and creek the rugged rocks abound. But sweeter green the grass grows than grows on Irish ground. So friendship fond all Irish beyond and love that lives away. Bless each poor home beside your foam my dear old Galway Bay.

Had I youth's blood and hopeful mood and heart of fire once more. For all the gold the earth might hold. I'd never quit your shore. I'd live content what'er God sent with neighbours old and grey. And lay my bones 'neath churchy stones beside you Galway Bay.

The blessings of a poor old man be with you night and day. The blessing of a lonely man whose heart will soon be clay. 'Tis all the Heaven I'd ask of God upon my dying day. My soul to soar forever more above you Galway Bay.

DIVERGENT VIEWS
Readers of the Leader will find elsewhere through the columns of this issue, reports of matters discussed at the County Council's monthly meeting of the County Committee of Agriculture. Most important probably is the discussion which took place on the Committee's second consideration of their estimates for next year. Following two attempts the Committee must meet a third time on next Saturday to try and reduce the demand to the same figure as last year. The Department Inspector at the September meeting suggested that the Committee go to the County Council for an additional penny on the rates but the members I believe don't want to do this. However at the two sittings (incidentally costing about £35 a time, I understand) they failed to make the required economies. Perhaps if we had a little less shadow boxing and more settled politics and a lot more co-operation between members and officials the required results would be obtained. It is to be sincerely hoped that the Committee will give a good headline but at least striking a similar rate as past year when they meet on Saturday.

ARCH BALLROOM, TALLOW
CEILI & OLD-TIME WALTZES
Next Sunday, 28th Oct - WITH -
The Eire Go Brath Ceili Band, Fermoy
Dancing 9-1
Including half hour of Ladies Choices
Admission - - - 3/6

Fleadh Ceoil na h-Eireann—1957
A PUBLIC MEETING
Will be held in **The Town Hall, Dungarvan**
On Sunday, the 28th October
After Last Mass
Professor E. Wiley, will address the meeting

PRICES ADVISORY BODY
I think the decision of the Committee of Agriculture, appointing the Chairman and C.A.O. to go to Dublin to oppose an application to the Prices Advisory Body for an increase in the price of fertilisers, is just a waste of money. If everyone of the 27 Committees in the country (I'm subject to correction as to this number) sent two delegates

MINISTER EXPLAINS OPERATION OF HEALTH ACT

Suggested Unification Measures

When Minister for Health Mr. T. F. O'Higgins, visited Dungarvan last week to confer with members and officials of the Waterford County Council on the operation of the Health Act and the need to unify the Health Authorities in the county and city he was met by a full attendance of the Council. The proceedings were watched by a big gathering of the public.

The Chairman of the Council, Mr. Michael Morrissey, welcomed the Minister who in turn thanked the Council for meeting him and for agreeing to discuss with him the operation of the Health Act.

An agenda of six items covering the various aspects of the Health Act was before the meeting and the items were taken in the following order:

Issue Of Medical Cards
The Minister said that the Health Act provided for the provision of the service of a dispensary doctor and free medicines for certain needy persons who were defined as being by their own industry or other lawfully means unable to provide such a service for themselves. It was the exclusive duty and right of each Health Authority to decide who was qualified in this regard and no appeal from their decision lay to the Minister or any other authority.

Once a person has been regarded as so in need his name is entered in the Medical Service Register and he is issued with a card which is the evidence of entitlement for such person and his dependents of the free service of a doctor medicines and such other medical appliances as may be required.

Dealing with what he termed 'cases of emergency' when a person not on the register loses his employment and found that he could not pay for medical treatment the Minister said that it was open to any member of the Council to apply for temporary or interim direction to the doctor to provide the required medical service in such cases. It is understood however he said, that members will act in a responsible manner when such cases arise and fully satisfy themselves that there is a real need.

Member's Query
When Mr. C. Curran drew attention to the fact that single roadworkers earning £5 8s a week had got no cards the Minister replied that this measure of the Act was designed to deal with those in the poorer section of the community. It is a matter of regret, stated the Minister, that there are in the country large numbers so in need and I must show some concern when I see that in County Waterford you have the highest percentage in the country 43.8 per cent of the entire population issued with medical cards. This represents practically every second man, woman and child in the county as being so poor as to be unable to provide these services for themselves.

Pointing out that the National average was 25% and that counties Donegal and Leitrim had only 9% and 10% respectively the Minister added, 'I can't feel that there is any reasonable ground for complaint that the issue of medical cards is unduly restricted in this county.'

Replying to a question by Mr. H. Dowd, the Minister said that there was no set standard wage under which a person might qualify. It was the duty of the Health Authority to decide each case in the light of all the circumstances prevailing.

Vaccination
The Minister stressed the need for vaccination against smallpox and tuberculosis and immunisation against diphtheria. Referring to the typhoid epidemic in Cork City during the past summer he said that only three deaths resulted while diphtheria had caused the deaths of twelve children throughout the country so far this year. The numbers vaccinated against smallpox in the county last year, 153 was low he said.

The Minister then went on to deal with the two weapons being used against tuberculosis—mass radiography and B.C.G. vaccination. Stating that 35 per cent of the county population compared with a national average of 21 per cent had used them he congratulated the people of the county on availing so largely of these services. Dealing with the financial aspect he said that each case of TB diagnosed in the county

Operation Of Hospital Services
Referring to the above Mr. O'Higgins said it was the duty of each Health Authority to provide hospital and specialist services for the eligible classes of persons and no charge may be imposed at any time on the persons concerned for the specialist services. For hospital maintenance it was in the discretion of the Health Authority to charge up to 6/- a day in the case of persons who made their own arrangements for an allowance of 12/- a day would be made towards the hospital of their choice.

The Minister said that he hoped that all the General Practitioners in Waterford realised that there was now available to them on behalf of their eligible patients a full range of specialist services and he hoped these would be availed of.

Maternity Service
Mr. O'Higgins said that expectant mothers in each of the eligible classes were entitled to the services of a midwife to make their own arrangements about a doctor and nurse the only stipulation being that these must have entered into an agreement with the Health Authority to provide this service.

"I look forward to this service as being an important contribution towards the health of our people," said the Minister. "The incidence in the past of infant mortality has been unduly high and is still too high when compared with other countries. If entered into with intelligence by expectant mothers it should help to reduce further this unhappy incidence."

Asked by Mr. N. Walsh to state what the position of Air-mountain Hospital was under the Health Act the Minister said that he was not sure of the position at the moment as to whether this hospital would enter into agreement with the Health Authority. If they did then the same facilities would be available for them as to the County Hospital.

Dental Services
Below Standard? The Minister said that he was satisfied that the dental service for adults in the lower income group and schoolchildren as operated under the old system was very much below standard. He said that the dental service given him he said that it represented a choice of continuing to do two things badly or one thing well.

Acting on this advice he came to the conclusion that the Health Authorities should be asked to give priority to the school dental service in the belief that if they built up better dental health among the children the adult problem would in time be lessened. This would mean he said that a lot of adults would find that they would be able to get no dental service for some years to come.

It is not a happy position said the Minister but having studied the position I can't see any other solution.

The County Manager Mr. S. J. Lynch and Mr. T. F. O'Higgins, Minister of the present position of the services in the county.

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cost about 1d in the rates so that prevention was cheaper than cure.

Dr. M. O'Farrell County M.O. enlarged on the activities being carried on in the county in this regard.

Suggested Unification Plans
Dealing with proposals to unify the health authorities under one unified authority he said "In Waterford City and County you have four separate health authorities dealing with one facet or other of the city services in the area—the City Corporation, the County Council, Board of Assistance and Mental Hospital Committee."

"By reason of the fact that the four deal with what should be one service," he continued, "there is a great deal of unavoidable overlapping and a higher cost. If there were one Health Authority dealing with all facets then planning for the expansion of services and other aspects would be much simpler and much easier and it seems clear that the overall cost of the health services would be reduced."

I have accordingly suggested that a unified authority be established drawn from members of the County Council and the Corporation this single body to carry out the functions of the four existing bodies. I am sure that the County Council and the Corporation would be glad to operate two committees one for the city area and one for the county area and these would have supervisory functions regarding 'personal health services'.

Dealing with the financial aspect of the suggestion the Minister stated that based on a valuation basis the full increase on the County rates would be 1/4d in the £ on present expenditure. He had suggested that the City Corporation should pay to the County Authority in order to stay the position of capital authority which would help to cushion the effect on the county ratepayers and result in confining the increase in rates to something around 1/4d in the first year and in the second year and 4/8d in the third year.

If there was a saving in the services estimated around £12,000 it would mean that an appropriate saving that a reduction of £4,000 could be expected and this would have the effect that there would be no increase in the rates until the third year if unification took place.

"I ask you," concluded the Minister, "to consider the proposal from all angles and consider if it is not in the interests of the people of the county in general that these services should be administered by a single body so that future planning can be done on a county basis."

N. Walsh said that the Minister would find it very hard to get the blessing of the County Council for these proposals.

Mr. J. Quirk said that the allocation of the cost would be fair on a population rather than a valuation basis.

Junior Hurling—

First Ever Hurling Title For Geraldines

Geraldines Ballygunner 4-12 2-5

The Geraldine junior hurlers realised their 1956 season's ambition at the Gaelic Field Waterford on Sunday last when after an hour of brilliant hurling they emerged deservedly victorious to take the Junior Championship honours to the city for the first time ever. It was indeed a memorable day not alone for the fifteen stalwarts who took the field but also for the many hopeful supporters who travelled to Waterford to cheer their heroes on.

Thrilling First Half
The game opened on a high note with the Geraldines adding the breeze taking the initiative and before ten minutes had gone they had 1-2 to their credit on the scoreboard. However Ballygunner having settled down somewhat after a shaky start fought back with great spirit and before the first quarter ended had reduced the arrears to a solitary point. Then another movement followed some minutes later which had the leather winding up in the net gave the Eastern lads a 2 points lead after twenty minutes play.

Short-Lived Jubilation
Their jubilation at taking the lead was short-lived however for the Western champions fighting back in great style, had points per Tony Freeman and E. Hallahan respectively to level the scoring.

During the closing stages of the first half the Aglish side stormed into the attack again and tacked on a further 1-2 which left the interval score Geraldines 2-6 Ballygunner 2-1.

Almost immediately on resumption Ballygunner notched a point but the men in white were quickly on the mark with a like score three minutes later. After some fine exchanges both sides had points which left the score at the third quarter showing 2-8 to 2-4 in favour of the visitors.

Stamina And Weight
It was after this period that the stamina and weight of the Geraldines began to have a telling effect on the weakening Eastern side and although they put up a good fight they failed time and again, to pierce the strong opposing defence in which centre back W. Ronayne was the leading figure.

Geraldine forwards tore into the attack in the last ten minutes and were rewarded 2-4 for their efforts with one answering point from the Eastern champions which left the Westerners a clear 15 points ahead at the long whistle.

Those mostly responsible for

NATIONAL FARMERS' ASSOCIATION

Waterford Co. Executive

A Meeting of Co. Waterford Members interested in POTATO MARKETING will be held at the Court-house, Dungarvan, on Wednesday, October 31st at 8 p.m.

G.A.A. FOOTBALL

CLARE COLLECT LEAGUE POINTS

Clare, 2-6, Waterford, 0-3

Clare senior footballers had a decisive win over the home side in the first round of the current N.F.L. played before a good crowd at Dungarvan on Sunday last. That victory went to Clare County was due to cause their forwards combined well together and made use of most chances that came their way. On the other hand Waterford were sorely lacking in this respect and could only manage to register two minors in the first half to which only a solitary point was added in the second half.

Defections from the side selected to do duty for Waterford had an upsetting effect on the team which never at any stage settled down.

The Play

Clare had an early lead with a point by T. Murphy and shortly afterwards T. Noone crashed in a goal from a pass by P. Carey. Further Clare points were registered by Flynn and Lynch before Waterford succeeded in raising a white flag per Michael O'Connor. This was more than negated however, when Carey broke through for Clare's second goal. Another point for Waterford came from Seamus Power just before the interval to leave the score Clare 2-3, Waterford, 0-2.

Clare were again first to score on resumption and Lynch stretched their advantage to eight points. A period of attacking by the home side brought no result before the visitors again registered points per Murphy and Coleman. A consolation point came in the closing minutes of the game when Seamus Power repeated his first half performance.

The Clare brothers Lynch, Murphy and Noone were best for the visitors while Crowley, Prendergast, Cunningham, Power and O'Donnell and also M. O'Connor were hard tried for the losers.

Waterford—J. McCarthy, M. Prendergast, C. Crowley, S. Hayden, L. O'Donnell, P. Donnelly, J. Power, T. Cunningham, S. Power, M. O'Connor, K. Murphy, W. Kirwan, J. Cunningham & White, P. Crotry.

Exam. Results—Dungarvan Technical School, 1956

- MANUAL TRAINING GROUP CERTIFICATE**
Thomas Flynn
Patrick Barron
Thomas Bermingham
Edmond Quill
David O'Mahony
- RURAL SCIENCE GROUP CERTIFICATE**
John Hubbard
Thomas Flynn
Patrick Barron
Thomas Bermingham
Michael Whelan
Fintan Regan
David O'Mahony
- DOMESTIC SCIENCE GROUP CERTIFICATE**
Sheila Tobin
Rosemary Buihin
- COMMERCE (GENERAL) GROUP CERTIFICATE**
Mary Dowd
Maureen Murphy
Liam O'Grady
Nuala Whelan
Kathleen O'Dea
Carmel Morrissey
Mary Butler
Kathleen Walsh
- COMMERCE (SECRETARIAL) GROUP CERTIFICATE**
Ann Kirwan
Maureen Bermingham
- COOKERY (Grade 1)**
Breda Lynch
Catherine Beresford
Ann Morrissey
Veronica O'Mahoney
Ann Hennessy
Josephine Iver
- NEEDLEWORK (Grade 1)**
Breda Lynch
Catherine Beresford
Ann Morrissey
Veronica O'Mahoney
Mary Murray
Jan Donovan
- LAUNDRYWORK & HOUSE HOLD MANAGEMENT**
Breda Lynch
Catherine Beresford
Ann Morrissey
Veronica O'Mahoney
Ann Hennessy
Mary Quirry
- SHORTHAND (Inter)**
Moe Bermingham (1st class)

YOUR NIGHT-CAP

VELVET CAP

TYPEWRITING (Inter)
Ann Kirwan (1st class)
Bridget Whelan (Pass)
Bridget Burke (Pass)
Veronica Morrissey (Pass)
Stella Duggan (Pass)
Mairead Christopher (Pass)

COMMERCIAL ARITHMETIC (Inter)
Liam O'Grady
Moe Bermingham

MATHEMATICS (Elem)
John Clancy

IRISH (Elem)
John Daly (1st class)

SHORTHAND (Elementary)
Maureen Murphy (1st class)
Nuala Whelan (1st class)
Kathleen O'Dea (1st class)
Carmel Morrissey (1st class)
Mairead Christopher (1st class)

IRIS HOLMES (Pass)
Maria O'Connor (Pass)
Bridget Whelan (Pass)
Hannah Kiely (Pass)
Frances Wint (Pass)
Josephine Gleeson (Pass)
Stella Duggan (Pass)
Veronica Morrissey (Pass)

TYPEWRITING (Elementary)
Maureen Murphy (1st class)
Liam O'Grady (1st class)
Nuala Whelan (1st class)
Bridget Whelan (1st class)
Breda Duggan (1st class)
Josie Gleeson (1st class)
Eileen Quailly (Pass)
Frances Wint (Pass)
Mgt. Hickey (Pass)
Carmel Morrissey (Pass)
Mary Butler (Pass)
John Regan (Pass)
Kathleen Quailly (Pass)

BOOK KEEPING (Elem)
Mary Butler (1st class)
Maureen Murphy (1st class)
Nuala Whelan (Pass)
Maria O'Connor (Pass)
Nuala Mangan (Pass)
Kathleen O'Dea (Pass)
Phyllis O'Connor (Pass)
Mgt. Hickey (Pass)
Ann Marie Morrissey (Pass)
Carmel Morrissey (Pass)
Josephine Gleeson (Pass)
Breda Duggan (Pass)
Mary Coleman (Pass)
Kathleen Walsh (Pass)
Veronica Morrissey (Pass)
Stella Duggan (Pass)

Number of students placed in employment during the year 1955/56—11 boys and 29 girls

SUCCESSES IN THE COUNTY COUNCIL EXAMINATIONS

In the recently held County Council examinations for Clerk/Typists (Open to all Ireland) students of Dungarvan Technical School secured FIVE OUT OF THE FIRST 12 PLACES— including FIRST and SECOND.

HAVEN'T GOT A STRAIGHT ANSWER

Appointment Of Instructor Questioned

On the proposal of Mr. W. Foran seconded by Mr. R. Barron Waterford Co. Committee of Agriculture at their monthly meeting in Dungarvan on Saturday appointed Mr. Michael Byrne B.A. Sc. The Orchard's Gorey Co. Wexford as permanent Instructor in Agriculture under the Committee.

The recommendation of the Local appointments Commissioners stated that Mr. Byrne who was born in New York had a good if not competent knowledge of Irish.

A letter from Mr. Byrne asked that he be assigned for duty in East Waterford and the Committee agreed to this and fixed his headquarters for Waterford City.

Mr. W. Foran said that at the last meeting it had been agreed to defer the making of an appointment for East Waterford but now it had been made and he asked for an explanation.

The C.A.O. (Mr. P. Conroy) said that it had been agreed previously to have this permanent appointment made instead

Historic Ceremony

AUGUSTINIANS PROFESSED IN ENGLAND

The first Augustinian novices to be professed in England since the suppression of the Monasteries by Henry VIII took their temporary vows in Clare Priory Clare Suffolk last week.

The newly professed are Rev. Brothers Robert Hickey (Dublin) and Gabriel Stubbles (Dundee).

Very Rev. N. P. Duffner, O.S.A., Inchicore Dublin Provincial of the Anglo Irish Province, officiated at the ceremony.

Four postulants Daniel Dee (Tralee), Thomas O'Regan (Cork), Patrick O'Brien (New Ross) and Robert Hamilton (Wakenfield, Yorks) were received as novices by Very Rev. O'Mahony O.S.A. Prior of Clare.

Clare Priory in 1248 was the first foundation of the Augustinian Order in the English-speaking world. It flourished until its suppression in 1538. In 1953 the Augustinians returned to Clare to occupy once more part of their former monastery.

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