

TERIES IN BAD STATE

For Vigorous Campaign

SYSTEM OF INSPECTION

Of Limerick County Council

more vigorous maintenance of burial Councils was suggested from the Local Government, before a meeting of the Council on Saturday. Mr. J. W. Canty, Chairman, said that the Minister's circular was as follows:—

The Minister has decided to state that in his own observations made at various quarters throughout the country, improvements in response to pre-letters issued by the Councils to ensure that these are maintained. As new and more vigour is needed. As repairs which are no longer attended to, which requires a ground to be kept in good order, therefore, that the condition of burial grounds should be considered by the Councils and to suggest co-operation of the Councils steps may be taken that all burial grounds throughout the country should be in an orderly condition of co-operation. The Minister has in mind an extension of the duties of the Councils combined with an effort in voluntary effort in the maintenance of burial grounds and the Councils are not so vested.

SYSTEM OF INSPECTION

Action by the local Councils should be in- of outstanding items and necessary im- should be compiled and engineer should make selected road work- for short periods to items of work as- ered by the duties of In this connection of caretakers are adequate in relation standard of the work them the extent of and the number annually, the matter ed by revising their- ces so as to trans- ds staff the duties ds 6 to 9 of the list with Circular Let- e 30th August, 1945. nferred by Section Government (Sani- Act, 1948, in regard g of fees for the of private graves ht to the notice of be interested. voluntary effort, the should encourage of local committees general guidance of ergy, would arrange maintenance of grave- maintenance authority con- making of recom- the improvement of

those vested in the local authorities. The parochial committees may in many instances wish to help in giving effect to such recommendations and their co-operation in this respect should be welcomed whenever their suggestions are found practicable."

The Chairman, opening a brief discussion on the Department's circular, said he thought the Council as a body would agree to the terms of the Department's recommendations. He said that in his opinion, the Council had done a fair share of work for the proper maintenance of burial grounds under the old Board of Health.

Mr. J. Quaid agreed but said he thought a number of burial grounds in the county were in need of attention.

The Chairman remarked that the Council was providing £1,000 each year for the repair and maintenance of graveyards in the county.

Mr. P. Fitzsimons, mentioning that some of the graveyards in the county were in a disgraceful condition at the moment, said that Muintir na Tire had done a great deal more than the Council to keep graveyards in a proper condition. There were 138 graveyards in the county and he thought the £1,000 available from Council funds was entirely inadequate to maintain these burial grounds in a desirable condition.

Senator M. O'Dwyer said the Council was not neglectful in regard to the maintenance of burial grounds. The Council was, in fact, prepared to give every co-operation to local committees who were willing to take the necessary initiative in the matter of the maintenance of burial grounds.

The Co. Manager (Mr. P. J. Meghen, B.E.), said he thought the Department had made a very wise suggestion in recommending that County Council road men should be occasionally called in to assist in the cleaning of graveyards. Even where burial grounds were cleared periodically it was found that after three or four months they were again overgrown with a wilderness of grass and weeds which were growing so prolifically in this country. It was found that public authorities, without local co-operation, could do very little to keep graveyards in a proper state of repair during the whole year.

Mr. D. P. Quish proposed that the Council adopt the Manager's suggestion regarding the periodic calling in of Co. Council workmen to clean graveyards.

Mr. J. Hayes said that there was a breach in the wall enclosing the Old Pallas Graveyard; cattle had entered it and had broken valuable wreaths. He hoped the Council would endeavour to have the breach repaired.

Mr. J. J. McNamara said that Muintir na Tire Guilds and Parish Councils had, when they had applied for them, been given grants by the Council for the upkeep of cemeteries. That was an excellent arrangement which should be continued.

Chairman—We are finished with graves now. It is a very weird conversation at this time of year; facing Christmas it is daft.

The suggestions contained in the Department's circular were declared unanimously adopted.

APPRECIATION

Late Mr. Jack Hayes, Ballymac

'A BIG-HEARTED IRISHMAN'

The death has occurred at his residence in Ballymac, Charleville, of Mr. Jack Hayes, a man who was held in high esteem by all who knew him. His death, which occurred unexpectedly, came as a great shock to his friends, but most of all to his sorrowing widow and family, to whom all sympathy is due.

The following appreciation has been written by one who knew and loved him as a mark of humble respect to this grand man, whose passing will be mourned by many:

As the dark shadows of evening were lengthening over the land and the pale cold sun was sinking beneath the rim of the western horizon, Jack Hayes closed his eyes forever on a world in which he had lived well, worked well, and died well, giving back his soul into the hands of the God, Who gave it to him. To-night he sleeps under the green sward of historic Ardpatrick Hill and to-night, too, he has found the answers to the many problems which have ever eluded the mind of man. There are many who will mourn his passing, for his going has removed another big-hearted Irishman from our midst, a type which, alas! is too quickly dwindling away.

KIND WORD AND GENIAL

Those who knew Jack Hayes knew a youthful, energetic man, who had a kind word always on his lips and a genial smile ever on his face. His door was always open to the passing vagrant, for whom an appetising meal was prepared. In the spring, when the hawthorns and wild flowers were in bloom, we could find him helping in some needy neighbour's garden; in the summer, too, he was helping at the hay, and when the brown leaves lined the country lanes we could discover him in some neighbour's haggard at the threshing. Far from the gaiety and bright lights of the city he made his home and raised his family, of whom he should feel justly proud. For this great man the sounds and sights of the country were dear. He loved to hear the cock crow in the morning, to watch the cows grazing peacefully in the green fields, still grey with the morning dew, to hear the rattle of the car on the hard road and to smell the good brown earth, wherein he now sleeps.

A GREAT SHOCK.

His sudden and untimely death was a great shock to his wide circle of friends, so we can well imagine the shock it must have been to his dear ones. To his widow and family we tender our very deepest sympathy and we pray that God will console them in their grief. Words at a time like this are superfluous, but a little verse of Longfellow's can sum up this man better than my pen could ever hope to do:

"Lives of great men all remind us. We can make our life sublime, And departing leave behind us, Footprints on the sands of time."

And so another soul has passed. May the sod rest lightly on him. May he rest in peace.

OSCAR HANNAN.

LIMERICK COUNTY COUNCIL.

POST OF CLERK-TYPIST.

The Council intend holding a competitive examination for above post, which was recently advertised, but in respect of which the Minister for Local Government has since altered the conditions of appointment.

Age Limits are now: 17-27 years on 1st December, 1948.

Salary Scale: £160 10s.—£240 per annum.

The office is whole-time, permanent and pensionable. A person who becomes a pensionable officer of a local authority will be required in respect of her superannuation to contribute to the local authority at the rate of 5 per cent. of her yearly

LIMERICK LEADER

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 22, 1948

Things That Matter

Sympathy can bring a certain amount of solace to those in distress or sorrow. It is in itself very poor consolation to people labouring under a galling grievance. Yet, it is the only comfort offered so far to those retired national teachers who have been clamouring for years for an increase in their pensions.

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These men and women have been neglected to a deplorable and inexcusable extent. Their claim is legitimate and deserving to a marked degree and it is nothing short of shameful that it has not been dealt with in the proper spirit long before this. The irony of it all is that it is on all sides admitted that they have quite an unanswerable case.

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Several times for the past dozen years or more we have referred to this question and urged that it be adjusted on something like equitable lines. The need for taking practical and generous action has become greater and more urgent with the advance of the years. The cost of living has soared to dizzy heights in the meantime, and it is obvious that what was a miserable superannuation allowance in pre-war days has become wholly inadequate to-day.

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In the past the national teachers were very badly paid and were never in a position to make any provision for "the rainy day" or for their old age. When they came to retire they were given pensions so small as to be an insult to a class of workers who had given splendid services to the community. The retiring allowances were for the most part miserably poor even for days when the pound sterling had good purchasing power, so we can readily understand how inadequate they are in the circumstances now prevailing.

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At a largely attended meeting held in Cork some days ago in support of the claims of the retired teachers some very illuminating facts were laid bare. It was pointed out, for instance, that of about 3,000 on pension a few years ago only 900 were in receipt of £3 a week or over. 1,500 had between £2 and £3, and

VOCATION

Teacher

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Chairman's

Mr. Sean Hartney, Chairman, presided at a meeting, on Tuesday, of the County Limerick Vocational Education Committee. Other members present were:—Very Rev. Canon de Bhail, P.P.; Messrs. J. Madden, T.D.; J. McCormack, M. O'Donnell, Co.C.; D. McAuliffe, Co.C.; J. Mackey, Co.C.; P. McCarthy, Co.C.; T. O'Connell, Co.C.; P. McCarthy, Co.C.; P. Lillis, Co.C.

Mr. M. Moran, Chief Executive Officer, was in attendance.

At the outset the Chairman voted sympathy to Mrs. Hoare, wife of the headmaster in the Franciscan Vocational School, on the death of her father, and with the Hayes family on the recent death in the U.S. of Rev. James Hayes.

A letter from the Department of Education informed the Committee that the Minister had refused to sanction the permanent appointment of Miss Nora I. Aherne, successor to Miss E. M. Twohill as commercial teacher. The Department was, however, prepared to sanction the appointment of Miss Aherne as a temporary whole-time teacher. The Minister's refusal to sanction Miss Aherne as a permanent teacher was, stated in a letter, due to the fact that the applicant was not fully qualified in typewriting.

The C.E.O. said Miss Aherne was prepared to occupy the vacant position in a temporary capacity.

On the proposition of Mr. McCarthy, it was decided to refer the services of Miss Aherne to the Department in a temporary capacity.

A further letter from the Department pointed out that, because of increased administrative costs, it was proposed to increase the entrance fees for Departmental examinations held annually in vocational schools.

Remarking that the increase was a big one, the C.E.O. said the Committee could do nothing about the proposal of the Department to increase the examination entrance fees.

GETTING MARRIED

Miss Mary O'Mahony tendered her resignation as permanent whole-time teacher of Domestic Economy in the Committee's school in Cappamore. Miss O'Mahony intimated that as she was getting married in the near future, she required to be freed of her duties as from January 1st next.

The Committee unanimously expressed regret at losing the services of Miss O'Mahony and extended to her their best wishes.

Referring to the Committee's proposed appointment of additional itinerant teachers for the county, Mr. McCormack said that the Young Farmers' Club at Killonah had secured a nissen hut, excellently lighted and equipped, in the hope that the Committee would provide a class for that area. Killonah said Mr. McCormack was badly isolated from the Committee's schemes, and he hoped Killonah's application for a class would be granted.

The Chairman pointed out that the difficulty in the way of giving classes to out of the way places was the scarcity of equipment. As soon as sufficient equipment was available, the Committee proposed appointing two teachers who would travel to the outlying neglected districts, and establish in them a number of courses. All the districts at present without classes would eventually be catered for.

Mr. McCormack expressed pleasure at the position as revealed by the Chairman and said that for some time back, many important rural centres were neglected.

The monthly report of the C.E.O., which was very brief, stated that a few classes, atten-

