

Society Activities

Minutes of 25th Annual General Meeting

held 18th March 67 in Shelbourne Hotel.

The outgoing President Mr. C. S. Kilpatrick opening the proceedings welcome those present. The minutes of the 24th A.G.M. were taken as read this being approved and seconded by Messrs. Kerr and Parkin. Arising from the Councils Report for 1966 which was also taken as read, was the suggestion that an honorarium be given to Mr. H. M. FitzPatrick in recognition of his efforts in successfully editing the Society's book "The Forests of Ireland". It was agreed that the Council decide as to the form the honorarium should take. The suggestion that he be elected an honorary member was ruled out as this would bar him from taking any further active part in Society affairs and it was felt that his experience and boundless energy was too valuable to lose. On the question of the book 400 copies still remained unsold. Were it not for the two donations the book would be in the red to the tune of £150. The monies from future sales was to be kept separate and be used for further publications. The President again apologised for the late appearance of the Autumn edition of the 1966 journal but he hoped it would appear shortly. The adoption of the Councils report was proposed and seconded by Messrs. McEvoy and Galvin.

The Treasurer presenting the Abstract of Accounts stated that the figure of £273 for advertisements was misleading. It consisted of returns for 1966 plus other arrears. From recent experience it would appear that we would have to subsidise the journal. The high figure for stationery and printing can in part be accounted against the book for which many extra circulars were issued. A suggestion that in future cost per journal by income and expenditure be shown on the balance sheet was agreed to. The Business Editor pointed out that on taking office he was not aware of outstanding debts. He requested that this information be made available to future holders of the post. It was agreed that the incoming Council should tighten up on the journal finances balancing expenditure against income. Messrs. Hanan and Galvin proposed and seconded the adoption of the abstract of accounts.

The President called on the successful candidates of the Society's examination for the Foresters certificate to come forward and sign the roll book. Each candidate was then presented with his certificate. The successful candidates were Messrs. J. Duane, S. O'Donnell, J. Desmond and G. Hipwell. Mr. J. Neilan being unable to attend, his certificate will be presented at a later date.

In his valedictory address the President dealt mainly with findings of the Sixth World Forestry Congress.

Before handing over to the incoming President, Mr. Kilpatrick read the results of the 1967 Council elections.

President : Prof. T. Clear, Clondalkin, Co. Dublin.

Vice-President : A. M. S. Hanan, Bray, Co. Wicklow.

Secretary : J. O'Driscoll, Goatstown, Dublin.

Treasurer : T. Moloney, Templeogue, Dublin.

Editor : M. Swan, Churchtown, Dublin.

Bus-Editor : J. D. Robinson, Rathfarnham, Dublin.

Hon. Auditor : D. M. Craig, Dublin.

Councillors Grade I : D. McGuire, Bray, Co. Wicklow.

D. O'Sullivan, Glenealy, Co. Wicklow.

Grade II : J. D'Arcy, Killygordon, Co. Donegal.

Associate : S. Galvin, Wexford.

Prof. T. Clear then took the chair and thanked the outgoing President for the excellent way he had tackled the many difficult problems during his tenure of office. He had seen the book finally launched and had stimulated a resurgence in membership. He then asked for a proposer and seconder to confirm the election results, Messrs. Parkin and McDowell obliged.

The motion on regionalisation and the resultant required changes in the constitution were next on the agenda. It was stated that the wording of the motion in the notice of the meeting was misleading. Formation of regional groups as such had been agreed by the 24th A.G.M. What was now before the meeting was a draft of a new constitution which would permit the implementation of the regional groups. Following a long discussion on the merits of the whole regionalisation proposals it was pointed out that this had already been decided and what was now required was to debate the necessary changes. It was agreed that each item of the proposed changes be debated in turn. All changes in page 1 were agreed to, being proposed and seconded by Messrs. Condon and McDowell.

Page 2 :

Proposed change to 4c should become 4f and 4f become 4g. Wording of 4f to be holding examinations and awarding appropriate certificates. Proposed K. Parkin, Seconder D. McGuire—accepted.

Page 2 :

Article V dealing with membership grades. Messrs. Barry and McDowell proposed that there be only one grade of technical member not two as in the proposed change. Present system is purely a monetary one there being no suggestion of class distinction. It was decided to vote on Mr. Barry's amendment. 20 members were for it and 12 against. As proper notice of motion had not been received it was decided that Mr. Barry's amendment be referred back in a specially worded motion to a special A.G.M. Following which article V could be fully redrafted.

Student membership was accepted unanimously.

Page 3 :

Article VIII dealing with annual subscriptions be ammended to include the words "to be fixed from time to time by the Council—unanimously."

The remaining changes to article VIII and those to article X were agreed to unanimously.

Page 4 :

Article XI line 5 it was agreed that it should now read "such regions as may be approved by the Society". Further articles will be required to cover the setting up of regions.

Other Changes on pages 4, 7, 8 and 10 were agreed to unanimously.

Page 10 :

Rule 13 was further amended to read "The Council shall appoint a registrar of examinations each year."

It was agreed to delete the proposed change in rule 13 dealing with the appointment of the convenor.
