

# Society Activities

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1980

COUNCIL REPORT FOR 1979

## *Council Meetings:*

Six council meetings were held during the year. Attendance of Councillors was as follows: J. Brosnan, E. P. Farrell, E. Hendrick, F. Mulloy (6); J. Dillon, L. Furlong, J. Gardiner, J. O'Driscoll (5); K. Ellis, E. Joyce, J. Kilbride, M. O'Brien (4); J. Prior, C. Tottenham (3); P. McArdle (2).

## *Society Meetings:*

A successful symposium on the theme "The Challenge of the Second Rotation" was held at Belfield, U.C.D., in April. Four of the papers presented were published in Irish Forestry Vol. 36 No. 2. Ballyhoura forest was the venue for a well attended field day in September. To mark the 75th Anniversary of State Forestry in Ireland, Dr. Jack Durand delivered a public lecture entitled "State Forestry 1904-1979, 75 years a growing" at Belfield, U.C.D., in September. A lecture entitled "Swedish Forestry — seeking the way forward" was delivered by Dr. Ted. Farrell in November at the R.D.S.

The Society expresses its thanks to those who acted as field leaders and speakers.

## *Annual Study Tour:*

Despite the postal strike the Annual Study Tour held in Scotland in May, was very successful and was attended by 44 members. Thanks are due to Mr. Goodwin, Tour leader, Dr. Peter Savill and all those who assisted with the organisation in conjunction with the Meetings Sub-Committee.

## *Guided Forest Walks:*

Walks were held at 35 centres throughout the country on Sunday 9th September and were attended by approximately 7,000 people. The Society wishes to thank Mr. John Fennessy who organised the Walks and those members who acted as walk-leaders at the various centres. The assistance and co-operation of the Forest and Wildlife Service, Dublin, and the Forest Service, Belfast, is also acknowledged.

## *Annual General Meeting:*

The 37th Annual General meeting was held at the R.D.S., on the 5th April, 1979. The minutes are available in Irish Forestry Vol. 36 No. 2.

## *Society Publications:*

Irish Forestry Vol. 36, Nos. 1 and 2 were published. "Guided Forest Walks" and "Why Forests" were issued in connection with the Forest Walks. Work on the second and revised edition of "Forests of Ireland" continues.

*Examinations:*

The results of the 1978/79 examinations were not available for inclusion in last year's Council Report. We are pleased to announce that all three candidates were successful at the Foresters Certificate Examination. Three candidates have presented themselves for the Foresters Certificate Examination to be held in 1980.

*Elections:*

Three positions of Councillor Technical and one of Councillor Associate for the period 1980-1982, were filled by election. The remaining positions had only one candidate each and they were, therefore, declared elected.

*New Members:*

A total of 40 new members were enrolled in the following categories:

Technical: 16      Associate: 18      Student: 16.

*Signed:* EUGENE HENDRICK,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

MINUTES OF THE 38th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
Thursday, 26th march 1980, Thomas Prior House, R.D.S., Dublin.

*Attendance:*

The President Mr. F. Mulloy in the chair, present were: J. Brosnan; J. O'Driscoll; L. Furlong; D. McAree; L. O'Flanagan; J. J. Maher; P. J. O'Brien; E. P. Farrell; J. Dillon, N. Kavanagh; J. P. Connolly; P. Raftery; T. Kavanagh; C. I. Tanner; C. S. Kilpatrick; J. T. Kilbride; A. W. Simpson; B. Wright; J. C. L. Phillips; J. O'Connor; J. Gillespie; R. McCarthy; G. J. Cunningham and E. Hendrick.

Apologies were received from Messrs. D. Dickson; E. Joyce; P. M. Joyce; K. Ellis; S. Milner; N. O'Carroll and J. Prior.

A minutes silence was observed as a mark of respect to Mr. M. McCabe, Miss E. McCreesh and Mr. M. Swan, three past members of the Society who had died during the year.

*Secretary's Business:*

The minutes of the 37th Annual General meeting having been published in Irish Forestry 36(2) were taken as read and signed. The Council Report for 1979 was presented. A discussion followed on the publicity for the Annual Forest Walks. Mr. O'Flanagan suggested that some of the funds spent on purchasing and circulating the Forest Walks leaflets could be used to greater effect on local press advertising for the local Forest Walks. Mr. Connolly commented that it was usual to place advertisements in some of the local newspapers but that the cost was high. The President felt that the suggestion should be pursued. Mr. Brosnan in reply to a question from Mr. Mooney stated that the total membership of the Society was 703, comprised of 532 Technical, 143 Associate and 28 Student members. The adoption of the Council Report for 1979 was proposed by Mr. N. Kavanagh and seconded by Mr. Mooney.

*Abstract of Accounts:*

In presenting the statement of accounts the Treasurer pointed out the financial situation at the end of 1979 was healthy. Although the cost of printing of the journals

SOCIETY OF IRISH FORESTERS — STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1979

1978	RECEIPTS	1979	1978	PAYMENTS	1979
4,353.52	<i>To Balance from Last Account</i>	5,977.69		<i>Stationery and Printing</i>	45.40
	<i>Subscriptions Received</i>		1,499.81	<i>Printing of Journals</i>	2,467.10
	Technical 1979	1,805.02	520.35	<i>Postage</i>	496.18
	Technical 1978	104.55	69.00	<i>Expenses re Meetings:</i>	109.14
	Associate 1979	388.00		<i>Refund</i>	3.28
	Associate 1978	15.50	33.25	<i>Bank Charges</i>	4.50
	Student 1979	15.00	522.19	<i>Secretarial Expenses</i>	484.45
	Other Arrears	2.50	104.43	<i>Value Added Tax</i>	106.69
	Advance Payments	134.50	70.91	<i>Examination Expenses</i>	50.00
2,658.02		2,465.07		<i>Honoraria:</i>	
	<i>Interest on Investments</i>			Secretary	30.00
	Dublin Corporation Stock 9¾%	20.10		Treasurer	30.00
	Savings Account	24.93		Editor	30.00
	Educational Building Society	501.74	120.00	Business Editor	30.00
334.29		546.77			
	<i>Journal</i>		549.96	<i>Forest Walks</i>	2,444.70
	Sales	63.23		<i>Balance:</i>	
1,572.80	Advertising	573.73		Current Accounts	412.79
				Savings	299.84
549.96	<i>Forest Walks inc. donation</i>	2,439.70	5,977.69	Educational Building Society	5,074.12
	<i>Examination Fees</i>				
	<i>Miscellaneous</i>	45.00			
	Donations	3.00			
	Refund	4.00			
<u>9,467.59</u>		<u>12,118.19</u>	<u>9,467.59</u>		<u>12,118.19</u>

I have examined the above accounts, have compared it with vouchers, and certify same to be correct, the balance to credit being £5,963.36 which is held in current and savings accounts at the Ulster Bank, and in the Educational Building Society, less £176.61 in uncashed cheques. There is also a holding of £206.19, in the Dublin Corporation 9¾% 1981-83 Stock and £100.00 in Prize Bonds.

Dated: February 22nd, 1980

Signed: W. H. Jack, Hon. Auditor

had increased by about £1,000 for 1979 this was offset by a larger starting balance at the beginning of the year. The decrease in advertising receipts was caused by the postal strike delaying payments for advertisements in the journal. Most of the payments due had been received at the beginning of 1980. Bank charges had been undercharged at £4.50 and the extra amount is to be entered in the 1980 accounts. The Treasurer stated that Council had discussed an increase in subscription fees but it had been decided it was not justified, taking into consideration the amount of monies held by the Society. The President congratulated the Treasurer and Honorary Auditor on the presentation of the accounts and opened discussion on them. Mr. O'Flanagan wondered if the money invested with the Educational Building Society should instead be invested with a merchant bank where it would earn a higher interest rate. Dr. Farrell, in agreeing that consideration should be given to alternative investments, suggested that the Society should seek financial advice on this matter. The President suggested that this was a matter the incoming Council could discuss. Replying to a question from Mr. McGlynn on whether the Society had any plans for spending the money held, the President stated that the funds were originally intended to be used on publishing the revised edition of "The Forests of Ireland". However, as the editor, Dr. O'Carroll, had found a publisher who was interested in publishing the book this expenditure would probably not now be incurred. Mr. O'Driscoll advised that any decision on using the money should be postponed until after the book has been published. The Treasurer clarified the position of members in the sterling area who had difficulty in paying their subscriptions through their banks (since the break in parity between the Irish pound and sterling). He had opened an account in Northern Ireland for this purpose and when the present banking staff dispute about sterling/punt transactions was resolved he will circularise the members concerned. On the proposal of Mr. Maher, seconded by Mr. McGlynn the accounts were formally adopted.

#### *Presentation of Foresters Certificates:*

The President Mr. Mulloy congratulated the three successful candidates at the Foresters Certificate examination, Mr. Thomas Kavanagh, Mr. Patrick J. O'Brien and Mr. James O'Connor and presented them with their certificates. He thanked Mr. Prior for his work as Examinations Convenor, Mr. McEvoy who had acted as registrar for the examinations and those who had acted as examiners. Mr. Prior was unable to attend as he was chairing the A.G.M. of the Central Forestry Examinations Board at Penryth in Scotland.

#### *Elections:*

The 1980 Council elections were confirmed as follows: President J. O'Driscoll; Vice-President J. C. L. Phillips; Secretary E. Hendrick; Treasurer J. Brosnan; Editor E. P. Farrell; Business Editor M. O'Brien; Technical Councillors J. Dillon, E. Joyce and J. Prior; Associate Councillor L. Furlong.

#### *Presidential Address:*

The President thanked the outgoing Council for their support during the year. He thanked Mr. Dillor and Miss Furlong for organising the Study Tour to Scotland and Mr. Fennessy for his organisation of the Forest Walks. In standing down as President he welcomed the new President and Vice-President and wished them well in their new posts. At this point the chair was taken by Mr. O'Driscoll. On behalf of the Society he thanked Mr. Mulloy. He referred to the achievements of the past President in hosting two very successful symposia and his active participation in the organisation of the Forest Walks.

*Other Business:*

A letter was read from Dr. O'Carroll, who was unable to attend the meeting, outlining progress on the second revised edition of "The Forests of Ireland". All of the book apart from three short sections, currently being edited, was ready for final revision. He had been in further contact with the publisher who was interested in publishing the book and the interest was maintained. Mr. Dillon stated that the Annual Study Tour would be based in Mullingar this year and that arrangements were being made for a day meeting to be held in the Carlingford area. Mr. Kilpatrick suggested that the work on the growing of willows for biomass at Lough Gall in Co. Fermanagh would merit a visit. The President replied that the Society was very conscious of the forest biomass topic and he felt that it would be a suitable subject for a meeting. Dr. Farrell stated that foresterers should be involved in this work and favoured the use of the term "energy forest" rather than biomass which he felt was too broad. The President concluded the meeting by thanking all those who attended. The meeting concluded at 10.00 p.m.