

Society Activities

COUNCIL REPORT 1986

Symposium

"Trees — A Growing Investment" was the theme of the Symposium held at UCD on 21st March, which was attended by 238 members. Six papers were presented on the subject. Papers and presenters were as follows:

PAPER	PRESENTER
Forestry in Europe	Dr. F. C. Hummel, International Forestry Consultant
Productive capacity and availability of land for forestry in Ireland	Mr. M. Bulfin, Agricultural Institute, Dublin
The economics of forestry on different soil types	Mr. D. O'Brien, Forest and Wildlife Service
Forestry Investment from an insurance company's viewpoint	Mr. R. O'Beirn, Irish Life, Dublin
Private Forestry Development in U.K.	Mr. W. B. Walker, Flintshire Woodlands Ltd., Wales
State Forestry in Ireland — The Future	Dr. R. N. O Carroll, Forest and Wildlife Service

Annual Study Tour

The tour was held in Galway from 27th-29th May and a full account of what took place is in Irish Forestry Vol. 43 (2).

Meetings

One day meeting was held at the beginning of May in Co. Wicklow. The morning was spent in Kilmacurra research nursery and was concerned with tree breeding programmes and a visit to the arboretum. The leaders for the morning were J. O'Driscoll, A. Pfeifer, J. O'Dowd and G. Murphy. In the afternoon the group moved to Glenealy forest where J. Neilan spoke on the management of oak woodlands and eucalyptus stands after which much discussion followed.

Guided Forest Walks

Walks were held at 28 centres throughout the country on 14th September. Attendances were very satisfactory.

The Society wishes to thank those who presented papers at the Symposium, all those who helped in organising the field day and the Convenor of the Forest Walks, Mr. J. Fennessy, and leaders of same. Thanks are also due to the Forest and Wildlife Service, Dublin and the Forest Service, Belfast and University College Dublin, for their co-operation and assistance during the year.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held in UCD on 20th March. The Minutes were published in Irish Forestry Vo. 43 (1).

Publications

- (i) Irish Forestry Vol. 43 was published.
- (ii) Irish Forestry Index Volumes XXXI-XXXX, 1974-1983.

Examinations

At the time of reporting examinations are not yet complete. Four candidates are sitting the examinations.

Education Award Fund

The winner of the current year's prize is Ms. B. Hall, Dublin. (U.C.D. recipient).

Elections

Three posts of Technical Councillor and one post of Associate Councillor were filled by election and approved at the AGM. The names are: Technical — J. Fennessy, R. Whelan and J. O'Dowd; Associate — A. J. van der Wel. As there was only one candidate for each of the other posts they were filled without election. The total valid poll in the 1986 election was 190.

Membership

Number of members on 31st December 1986:

<i>Technical</i>	<i>Associate</i>	<i>Student</i>	<i>Total</i>
471	129	55	655

New members elected in 1986:

13	21	4	38
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Attendance at Council Meetings

Five meetings were held during the year. Attendance was as follows:

M. O'Brien, P. McCusker, E. Hendrick,	
J. Fennessy, J. O Driscoll, L. Furlong	5 meetings
G. Murphy, D. Magner, E. Griffin	4 meetings
J. Prior, A. Pfeifer, J. Neilan	3 meetings
T. Farrell, J. Griffin	2 meetings
B. Hussey	1 meeting

Signed: E. Griffin,

April 1987.

Hon. Secretary.

MINUTES OF THE 45th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY 2nd APRIL, 1987

AGRICULTURAL BUILDING, U.C.D., DUBLIN.

The outgoing President, Mr. M. O'Brien took the Chair.

Attendance

J. Fennessy, E. Hendrick, J. Prior, A. Pfeifer, D. Magner, K. Collins, A. J. van der Wel, J. Gardiner, P. Joyce, J. Dillon, D. Dickson, B. Wright, J. O'Driscoll, P. McCusker, S. Milner, J. Griffin, M. O'Brien, R. Keogh, E. Griffin, G. Murphy.

Apologies:

D. McAree.

Secretary's Business

The minutes of the 44th Annual General Meeting, having already being circulated to members were agreed and signed by the President.

Matters Arising from Minutes

None.

Council's Report for 1986

The Report, having already been circulated to members was taken as read. Proposed by J. Fennessy and Seconded by E. Hendrick.

Abstract of Accounts

G. Murphy presented the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1986. Interest accrued on investments was down on last year's figure because of the 35% tax imposed. The increase in expenditure on journals was attributed to the increased size and quality of the Journal. The Treasurer highlighted the overpayments in subscriptions. It was reported that there was no need to increase the membership fee this year. The Society has enough assets to withstand a short term loss. It was suggested and agreed that this year's symposium proceedings should be published in a supplementary Journal. The meeting acknowledged the contribution by N. Morris to the Educational Award Fund. Proposed by D. Magner and Seconded by A. Pfeifer.

Confirmation of Elections

The meeting confirmed the 1987 Council Elections as follows: President, J. Prior; Vice-President, W. Wright; Hon. Secretary, K. Collins; Hon. Treasurer, G. Murphy; Editor, P. McCusker; Business Editor, E. Hendrick; Hon. Auditor W. Jack; Technical Councillors, J. Fennessy, J. O'Dowd, R. Whelan; Associate Councillor, A. van der Wel. Northern Ireland Regional Group Representative, J. Griffin. Proposed by P. Joyce and Seconded by J. Gardiner.

Proposed Changes to the Constitution

Article V: Definition of Technical Membership.

"Technical Members shall be persons desirous of promoting the object and at time of election resident in Ireland who hold a degree or diploma in forestry of a recognised university, or who have successfully completed a full-time course at a forestry school or who hold the Foresters Certificate of the Society; in all cases subject to the approval of council.

Titles and Description of Members.

Associate or Student Membership shall not imply a technical competence in forestry."

The proposed changes to Article V of the Constitution of the Society was proposed by E. Hendrick and seconded by D. Dickson. A discussion followed centred on two aspects "at time of election" and "resident in Ireland". It was felt that the latter phrase may lead to the expulsion of existing members. R. Keogh proposed an amendment that the "resident in Ireland" phrase be deleted. This motion was seconded by D. Dickson and was unanimously adopted.

Any Other Business

A sub-committee is assessing the feasibility of organising a Foresters Show. The show will be held in Glenealy Forest and will be orientated towards the general public, along the lines of the Ploughing Championships. Voluntary organisations and companies involved in forestry will be invited. There has been a good response from the 100 firms circulated. The committee estimate that the show will cost £13,000. No final decision has been made on the date or theme for the show.

The meeting concluded at 9.00 p.m.