

REPORT ON DISTRICT COMPRISED IN THE CONFERENCE AREA.

Gentlemen—I submit short report on the district comprised in this conference area, which extends over the Kilkenny, Carlow and Queen's Counties.

Kilkenny—In Kilkenny there are twenty Dairy or Creamery Societies, controlling and working 27 creameries, whilst the 28th, at Goresbridge, which is in course of erection, is rapidly nearing completion. The trade turnover or total sales of these Societies which vary from £2,000, in the smallest to £35,000 per annum in the largest reached for 1913 the grand total of £200,000. One of these societies has been so ambitious that, not satisfied with its already large territory in Kilkenny, it has actually invaded Munster by just opening an auxiliary creamery in Tipperary county while the new Society at Goresbridge is claiming a good slice of the virgin territory of Carlow for its future supply. There isn't a single instance in which these Societies are not growing in trade and increased benefits to suppliers of milk, and I think am correct in stating that in every case the usual affiliation fee, and in most cases special subscription in addition, have been paid within the past 12 months to the I.A.O.S.

There are eight Agricultural and Threshing Societies, with a total turnover well over £19,000, to which should be added the £10,000 worth of trade done by the North Kilkenny Poultry Society—the premier Society of its kind in Ireland.

There are three Co-operative Banks, one of which at Ballyragget, has got such a surplus of deposits over loans, that it has had to invest a considerable amount in Government stocks.

The total turnover of the Kilkenny Societies, therefore, reaches the splendid figure of £230,000 per annum, a volume of productive trade of which any county may well feel proud.

The Age of the Motor.

That motor vehicles are destined to supersede all other forms of inland traffic, is a fact which is nowhere more evident than in Kilkenny. Hitherto, however, the motor car has been mainly used for passenger purposes, and its application to business has been limited. Mr. R. J. Duggan, proprietor of the Monster House, whose motto is to keep, not alone abreast, but in advance of the times, has pressed

into the service of his progressive establishment a motor delivery van, capable of fulfilling all the requirements of his immense trade locally, and reaching districts unavailable by train service. The van, which has cost several hundreds of pounds, is the most modern of its class, and may be seen at Messrs. Stathams. Shortly it will be a conspicuous object in the vehicular traffic of the city and county.

The Canal Walk.

At the meeting of the Urban Council on Tuesday night,

On the proposition of Mr. Deloughry, seconded by Mr. E. Morrissey, the following resolution, which was submitted to the meeting by Mr. Buggy, solicitor to the Corporation, was passed unanimously:

"That we adopt the bye-laws regulating cycling, etc., on the Canal Walk, as submitted by our solicitor, as follows: No person shall, except between the hours of six o'clock a.m. and 10 o'clock a.m. on any day, ride a bicycle, tricycle or other vehicle, or drive any motor car on the Canal Walk, save within forty yards of the principal gate of the Ormonde Woollen Mills. Every person who shall offend against the foregoing bye-law shall, on summary conviction, be liable for every such offence to a penalty of £5. That our solicitor take the necessary steps to have the said bye-laws confirmed by the L.G.B., and that they will be again considered by the Corporation on the 9th June, 1914."

Information was conveyed to the meeting by Mr. Michael Buggy, Solicitor to the Corporation, of sanction by the L.G.B. to the advance of £275 for the repair of houses in Wolfe Tone St., and it was ordered that the work be carried out immediately.