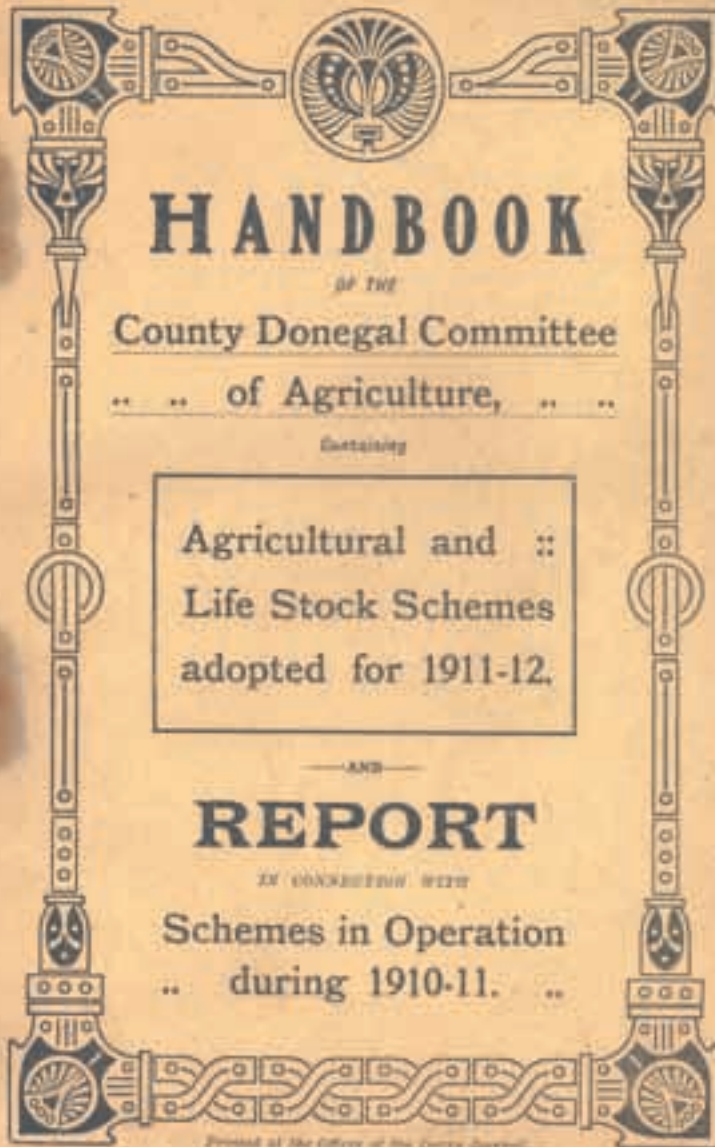


Entry Forms in connection with Cottage and Farm Prize
Schemes will be found at Page 64.



HANDBOOK

OF THE

County Donegal Committee

.. .. of Agriculture,

Containing

Agricultural and ..
Life Stock Schemes
adopted for 1911-12.

—AND—

REPORT

IN CONNECTION WITH

Schemes in Operation

.. during 1910-11. ..

Printed at the Office of the County Surveyor.

County Donegal Committee of Agriculture.

SCHEME OF PRIZES FOR COTTAGES AND SMALL FARMS, 1912.

For Office use

No. of Entry

No. in Class

ENTRY FORM FOR COTTAGERS ONLY.

N.B.—Certificate as to valuation must be signed by Rate Collector for District or, if his signature cannot be procured, last Four-Rate Demand Notice issued by County Council must be sent in along with this Entry Form. Rate Receipts, Rent Receipts, or old Demand Notices will not be accepted.

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I (s) _____ of (R) _____

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I agree that my Cottage and Garden shall be at all times open to inspection to such Judges as may be appointed by the Committee, from this date until the date of the final Award of Prizes, and I am aware that the decision of the Committee, as sanctioned by the Department, shall be final. I also declare that the particulars before given by me are true, and that I am a bona fide Cottager as defined by the Scheme.

Fishing & Farming

Report of Mr. C.C. Maguire

Gentlemen-

Herewith is my report and list of awards under the Cottage and Farm Prize Scheme in the districts of Donegal, Ballyshannon and Strabane no. 2

Cottages:

The houses visited were as a rule clean and tidy, and recent improvements in many cottages were noticeable. The value of light and fresh air especially in the sleeping compartments seems to be appreciated. The gardens in most cases were well cultivated and a suitable variety of fruit and vegetables were in evidence, the surplus produce that is not required for home use being frequently disposed of at a profitable rate in the local market.

Pigs and Poultry where kept appear to be well managed and of good quality.

Bees were kept by a few competitors only.

Farms, Dwelling Houses and Offices:

The dwelling-houses were as a rule comfortable, clean, and neat. Several were indeed, considering the circumstances, of exceptional merit. In nearly every case some improvement has been effected, such as concrete floors in kitchens and the enlarging of windows in bedrooms. It was pleasing to notice that dairies have in several instances been constructed and management of milk and butter was on the whole satisfactory. In a few instances the milk was kept in a sleeping room, a practice which is very undesirable.

More attention might be given to the construction of the cow-houses. Provision should always be made for the thorough ventilation of the byre, while more sunlight should be admitted by the introduction of windows. The floors and channels were generally rough and uneven, making the task of cleaning a difficult one.

The poultry houses as a rule were not satisfactory. Sufficient attention is not given to cleanliness and ventilation, while others, owing to their method of construction, must be extremely cold in winter.

Cultivation of the Land:

Generally this is as satisfactory as circumstances permit. Much land, unless for grazing purposes, has been reclaimed and healthy crops replace the hitherto barren waste.

Gardens:

There is still room for considerably improvement in this direction. Many fruit trees have recently been planted, and require pruning. A greater variety of vegetables might be grown. Weeds are too prevalent and the poultry do much damage owing to defective fences around the garden.

Grass, Fence, Gates, &c.:

The pastures as a rule are badly laid down, and would benefit considerably by an occasional dressing or artificial manures. Remains of stone fences should be cleared away, and the hedges kept at a reasonable height and neatly trimmed. Wire fencing is now general in many mountainous districts and saves a considerable amount of time and trouble. Gates are frequently absent or very primitive in construction.

Shelter Belts:

It is satisfactory to note that suitable kinds of trees have been planted for shelter or ornament at nearly every farm visited. This should add considerably to the appearance of the county after a number of years.

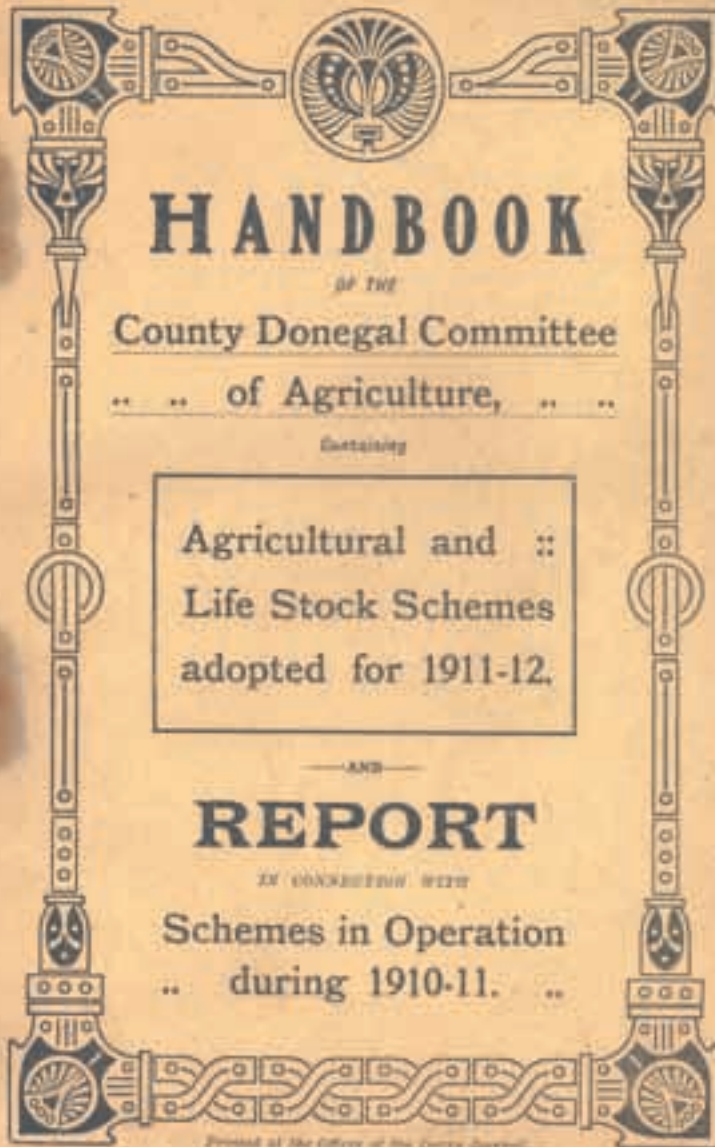
Live Sock:

The cattle, though not of first class quality, seem fairly well suited to the several districts. Pigs are of average quality, and appear to be very well managed. Pure breeds of poultry have now made their way to the majority of farms.

C.C. Maguire

August 8th 1911

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Fishing & Farming

Report of W.D. Davidson
Glenties and Dunfanaghy

Gentlemen-

I have great pleasure in submitting my Report in connection with your cottage and Farm Prize Scheme:

Cottages:

Several were neat, but only one could be described as excellent. More flowers should be grown to improve the external appearance of the cottage.

Plots:

Some are very well cultivated, but I regret that this could not be said of all. A greater variety of vegetables should be grown.

Farms, Dwelling-Houses and Offices:

In the Glenties Union especially, some of the dwelling-houses were admirably kept, being very clean and neat, inside as well as outside. The offices (byre, piggery, etc.) were with few exceptions, poor, being too low and dark. The floors were usually rough and uneven, and in consequence difficult to keep clean. However, here also the improvement that has been made during recent years is quite evident. Fowl houses should be made larger, and regularly whitewashed.

Crops:

The potato crop was good, but I regret to say that there are farmers who have not yet recognised the necessity of spraying. Neither turnips nor mangels, on some farms, were to be seen. This, I considered a serious want, as in those districts cattle cannot be wintered successfully without them.

Manure Heap:

I was especially pleased to see the great improvement that has been made with regard to the position of the manure heap. Formerly it was placed just where it ought not to be, either close to the front of the dwelling house or in the lowest corner of the yard, where sufficient water passed through it to wash almost all the "strength" out of the manure. Now however, the manure is generally placed at a suitable distance behind the house, on a high and dry foundation.

Garden:

Some of the gardens are excellent, others were planted entirely with cabbage or potatoes. In addition, a small plot of carrots, parsnips, onions, rhubarb, etc. should be grown. A considerable number of fruit trees are to be seen.

Grass Land:

The grazing was far from good. Good grazing will never be obtained until better seed is sown. In the neighbourhood of Creeslough I saw the results of good seed, but in all the other districts visited the material sown should have been called 'weed' seed.

Shelter Belts:

A surprisingly large number of farmers have planted some trees, but, with a few exceptions, there is room for many more.

Cultivation of Headlands:

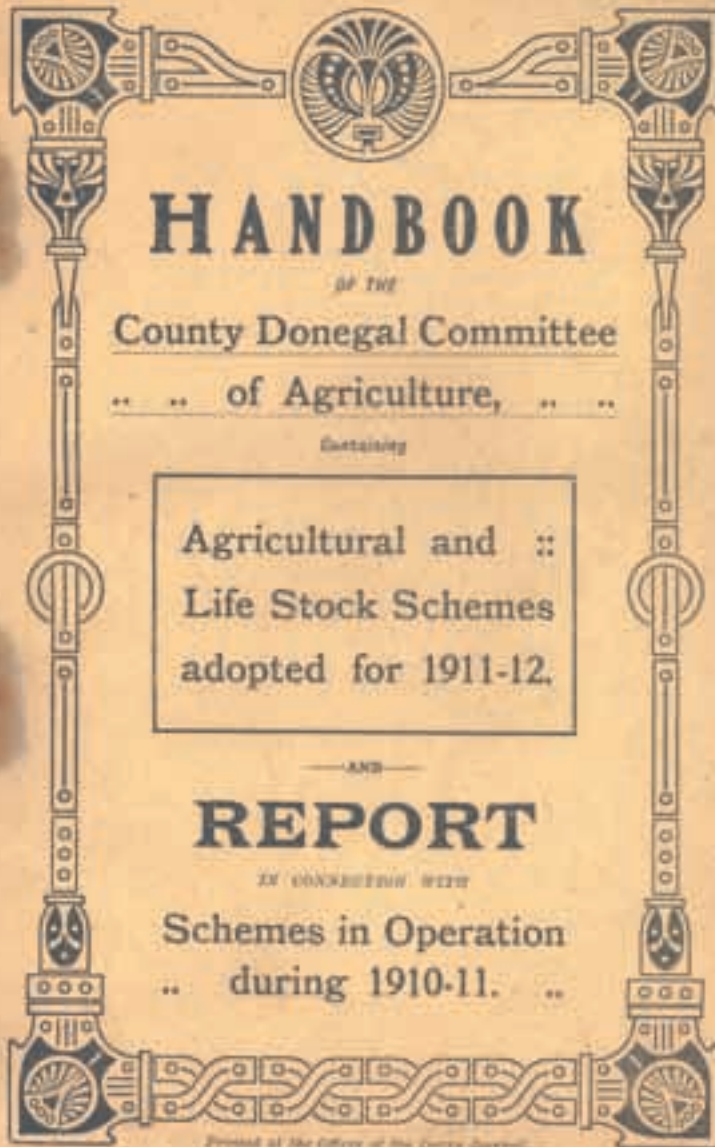
Horse labour could only be resorted to on very few of the farms inspected. On most of these the headlands were cultivated.

Livestock:

The premium A Angus and Shorthorn Bulls in these districts are bringing about a much-needed improvement. Pigs were much too scarce in some districts. Poultry are also showing an improvement.

I am, Yours faithfully, W. D. Davidson
21st July 1911

Entry Forms in connection with Cottage and Farm Prize
Schemes will be found at Page 64.



County Donegal Committee of Agriculture.

**SCHEME OF PRIZES FOR COTTAGES AND SMALL
FARMS, 1912.**

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No. in Class _____

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decision of the Committee, as sanctioned by the Department, shall be final. I also declare that the particulars before
given by me are true, and that I am a bona fide Cottager as defined by the Scheme.

Fishing & Farming

Report of Mr. E.S. Daly
Innishowen, Derry No. 2 and Letterkenny Divisions

Gentlemen, - I submit lists of awards made by me in the above district.

Cottages:

Some of the cottages were very well kept indeed, the houses thoroughly clean, and showing an amount of taste.

Gardens:

The gardens were tilled, and with a fair variety of useful vegetables and fruit, and some flowers, while fowl or pigs or both, as the case might be, were well housed and cared for. A large number of cottagers took little or no pains with their holdings and ought to be ashamed to enter themselves for competition, as they had no merit, even the houses being untidy inside, gardens half tilled and so forth.

In Innishowen the cottages, except in about half a dozen instances showed no particular merit. But in the small farm section Innishowen shows up well, far more so than Letterkenny.

Farms, Dwelling Houses and Offices:

The houses were for the most part tidy; offices are gradually being improved, small ill-ventilated byres and stables giving way to roomy, well-ventilated, and well lighted ones, and the dwelling-houses are being properly floored. This is a good sign, and one that deserves the greatest encouragement.

Just one point ought to be attended to, and that is the erection of a separate place for milk and butter. This is neglected, and the old system of setting milk in bedrooms and sculleries- though this is gradually disappearing- still prevails.

The farms are for the most part creditable, especially in Innishowen, where a large percentage of the land is reclaimed from the mountain side, and where this good work is still going on on a large scale.

The gardens contain hardly anything but cabbage. This should not be the case. All farmers should make an effort to grow some varieties of vegetables and fruit for their own use.

The two excuses invariably put forward are (1) we don't know how to grow them; (2) we don't know how to use them. These are both very lame excuses, as they have only to avail themselves of the instructions given by the instructors in these subjects.

Grazing:

The sole in grazing land is usually poor. This could be largely remedied by adding to the mixtures of seeds.

Nearly every farmer has gone in for planting shelter of some sort.

Livestock:

Live stock is, generally speaking, in need of improvement. Cows are very small and ragged, although some very fine types are met with.

The pigs are rather good thriving sorts.

Pure breeds of fowl are met with on almost every farm now.

The housing is gradually improving, but far too many dirty, dark, and ill-ventilated byres and stables still exist.

Points For Attention

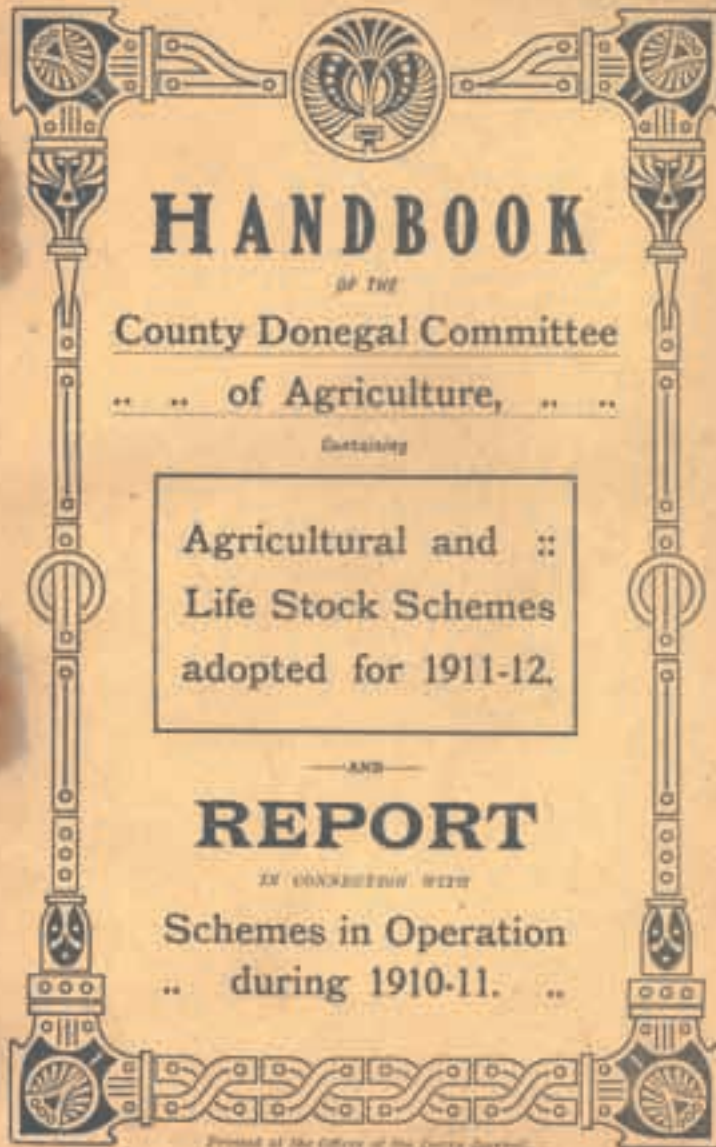
- | | |
|--|--|
| (1) Improvement of offices. | (4) Care farmyard manure well |
| (2) Provide place for milk, butter and eggs. | (5) Exercise more care in selection of live stock. |
| (3) Use good grass seed mixture. | |

I remain, Yours faithfully,

E. S. Daly.

September 5th, 1911

Entry Forms in connection with Cottage and Farm Prize
Schemes will be found at Page 64.



County Donegal Committee of Agriculture.

**SCHEME OF PRIZES FOR COTTAGES AND SMALL
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Fishing & Farming

Report of Mr. J. Kelly
Stranorlar and Milford

Gentlemen-

I submit herewith my report and the Lists of Awards made by me this year in connection with the Scheme of Prizes for Cottages and Small Farms in the district of Stranorlar and Milford-

Cottages

The cottages inspected were clean and tidy. The premises and the part of the plot in front of the Rural District Council Cottages were very neat. A useful variety of vegetables were grown by the majority of the competitors in this class. Hens of the improved laying breeds were seen at all the Cottages.

Small Farms, Houses and Out-Offices.

Improvements recently made were observed in the dwelling-houses of almost all the competitors, viz., newly-made concrete floors in the kitchen, boarded floors in the bedrooms, larger windows, and in many cases newly-made windows where there had been none before. All the improvements must add considerably to the comfort and general health of the families concerned.

The out-offices of many of the holdings visited- particularly of those who have entered for the first time this year - are, to say the least of them, very far from what is desired.

Floors constructed of large rough flags were observed in the majority of cowhouses and stables. Floors so made are impossible to clean, and must be dangerous (to a great extent) to the health of the animals, and the sooner they are replaced by a concrete floor, the better for the health and safety of the animals occupying them.

More attention should be given to ventilation and admission of daylight into the out-offices, particularly the byres and poultry houses. A separate room set apart for milk and butter is badly required by the majority of the farmers in Milford District.

Crops &c.

The cropping on the whole is fair, and considering the character of the soil and the exposed situations, it is very good indeed. Spraying potatoes for the prevention of 'Blight' is general. I have only visited one farm where the operation had not been carried out.

Sites

The sites of the manure heap are not in the best position to prevent loss from drainage, and in many cases there is no provision to collect or absorb the liquid from the stable; thus the most valuable constituent of Farmyard Manure is lost.

The attention which fruit and vegetables (other than cabbage) deserve are not given to those crops by the majority of farmers in this section. I have met with a few gardens which are all that could be desired, and have obtained the verdict of 'Excellent'. The condition of land under grass is very poor. Mixtures of Rye Grass and Clover suitable for one year only are generally sown, with the results that weeds and useless grasses are to be seen everywhere in the pastures.

The practice of sowing seeds collected at Rick-making, and from hay lofts is responsible also for the weedy pastures one sees everywhere.

Shelter Belts and Trees

Clumps and belts of forest trees have been planted by many of the competitors for shelter to the homesteads generally. In a few years these trees should make good shelter, thus improving the condition of the farms as well as changing the appearance of the country generally.

Weeds are far too prevalent in grass lands and fences. Headlands are not cultivated as well as they should be.

Live stock

With the exception of housing, live stock are well cared. Useful breeds of poultry are seen at every holding.

Simple accounts of receipts and expenditure have been kept by nearly all farmers in the competition.

On the whole the Scheme is eminently successful.

I am, Gentlemen- Yours faithfully, J. Kelly



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION
FOR IRELAND.

FISHERIES.

62 and 63 Vic., Cap. 50; 32 and 33 Vic., Cap. 92; 5 and 6 Vic., Cap. 106; and any Acts incorporated therewith.

Proposed Whaling Stations in the County Donegal.

NOTICE.

WHEREAS the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland understand that it is proposed to establish Whaling Stations in the County of Donegal,

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that Public Inquiries will be held at the following places and times into the matter, with the object of making such By-Laws, Rules, or Regulations as the Department shall deem expedient for the more effectual Government, Management, Protection and Improvement of the Fisheries,

At the COOPERAGE, Burtonport, CO. DONEGAL,

On Monday, the 17th day of February, 1908, at the hour of 12 o'clock, noon,

At the COURTHOUSE, Londonderry,

On Wednesday, the 19th day of February, 1908, at the hour of 12 o'clock, noon.

By Order of the Department,

M. P. DOWLING,
(Fisheries Branch,

Dated at the Department of Agriculture and Technical
Instruction for Ireland,
Dublin, this 14th day of January, 1908.

Fishing & Farming

clothes and no boots. Owing to the great scarcity of fuel in the Town of County a number of children are kept at home to gather sticks around fields.

No. of Warning Notices served	8.
" " Parents visited	10.

I attach return of the number on the present and absent for the month of January 1900





FISHERIES—IRELAND.

32 & 33 Vic., c. 92, and the Acts incorporated therewith.

DONEGAL BAY.

Ground Seine or Tuck Nets hauled by Steam
Power.

BY-LAW.

WHEREAS the practice of using Ground Seine or Tuck Nets hauled by Steam Power for the capture of fish in Donegal Bay, has been proved on enquiry by us, the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries, to be detrimental to the fisheries of said Bay,

And Whereas it seems to us to be expedient for the more effectual government, management, protection, and improvement of said fisheries to prohibit such practice.

Now, We, therefore, acting under the powers and authorities given to us, do make and ordain the following By-Law:—

It is hereby prohibited to use Nets commonly called and known as Ground Seines or Tuck Nets hauled by Steam Power for the capture of sea fish in Donegal Bay, inside or to the Eastward of an imaginary line drawn from the Watch House at the Coast Guard Station at Teelin, in the County of Donegal, to the Western point of the Island of Inishmurray, and thence to Streedagh Point in the County of Sligo.

Any person offending against this By-Law shall forfeit and pay for each offence a sum of Five Pounds, and every net used contrary thereto shall be forfeited.

ALAN HORNSBY,
WM. SPOTSWOOD GREEN,
CECIL R. ROCHE.

The Inspectors
of
Irish Fisheries.

*Dated at the Irish Fisheries Office,
Dublin Castle, this 30th day of November, 1895.*

Fishing & Farming

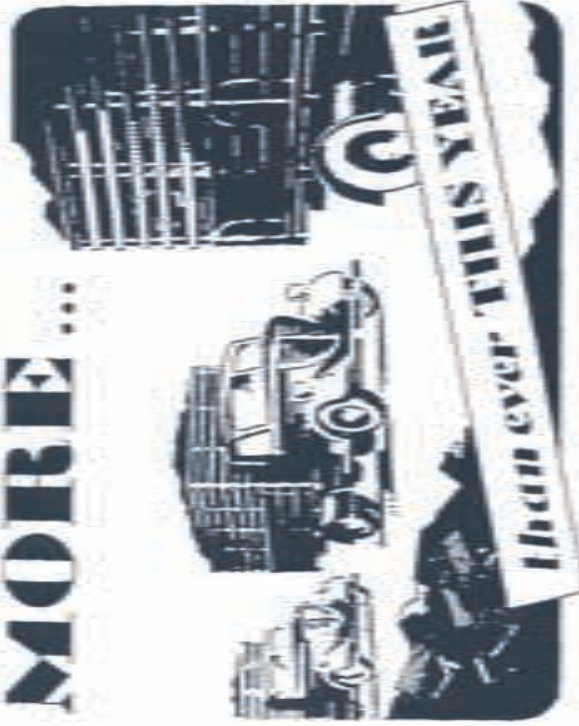
clothes and no boots. Owing to the great scarcity of fuel in the Town of County a number of children are kept at home to gather sticks around fields.

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I attach return of the number on the present and absent for the month of January 1885



MORE...



8½ million tons of turf—twice as much as in the past—will be needed this year.

The only sure supply of turf will be that which you can cut yourself. People in the turf areas can increase their output by using their family labour and producing a second or third cutting for sale.

How will you fare in this crisis? Have you made yourself independent of outside supplies? If not you are running a serious risk.

**BETTER BE SURE THAN SORRY
GET TO WORK ON YOUR WINTER**

TURF

NOW.

Issued by the Turf Development Board, Limited
Can

DON'T CUT IT FINE— CUT IT EARLY

Only those who cut their own turf and who start work early on their turf bank will be really assured of fuel sufficiency in this coming winter.

Don't leave it too late! Start now, though winter may seem a long way off. Cut enough for your own use and, if possible, cut more. There will be a certain market and a good price for surplus turf.

★ THE WINTER
WILL BE LONG
Don't Go Short
CUT YOUR
TURF
NOW!



Issued by the Turf Development Board, Limited,

Fishing & Farming

Donegal Turf Production

THE GOVERNMENT has requested that Turf should be produced in maximum quantities this year so as to avoid a serious situation in the winter of 1944/45.

Workers are required on County Council Bogs throughout the county at generous piece rates.

By arrangement with the Department of Supplies, Tea Allowances will be made available to persons working an adequate number of days.

Horses, ponies and donkeys will be required for the haulage of Turf later in the season. Special arrangements can be made for the hiring of animals whose owners may be unable to accompany them.

Bogland which is not being used will be acquired and leases will be made for periods not exceeding two years to firms, organisations, or people not already in possession of bogland, who are willing to produce turf in satisfactory quantities in 1944.

The Department of Local Government and Public Health will make grants for the drainage and development of these Bogs in cases where the estimated output justifies them,

Applications should be submitted without delay.

(Signed) SEAN D MacLOCHLAINN
County Manager

County Council Offices
Lifford.
18th April 1944

Continuity and Change over time

Topic: Fishing and Farming

Worksheet
Four



FISHING:

Donegal has over 400 miles of coastline and fishing has long supported life in the county. Fishermen in the past were generally small farmers and farm labourers who supplemented their income with fishing, by hiring boats and sharing equipment. They were generally better off than the people who lived inland. Herring was extremely important to the diet of the county, as it was plentiful and cheap, with most of the rural poor in the 19th century living on a diet of herring and potatoes. The hunting of whales off the Donegal Coast began in the early 18th century. Whale bone and blubber was extremely valuable and used for the production of oil. At first whaling in Donegal had little success due to lack of suitable equipment. But a small whaling station in Donegal Bay enjoyed some success in the 1760s. Whales caught off the Donegal Coast had to be sent to London for processing, which led to efforts to open new whaling stations in Donegal in the late 19th century. This was met with an onslaught of objections from locals, especially fishermen, who feared the whaling industry would damage the herring and salmon stocks. Locals also objected to the noise and smells that would result from the large processing station. This led to a public inquiry, which resulted in the abandonment of the proposed Whaling Stations.

Did you know?

FARMING:

Farming has been an important part of Irish life since the first farmers arrived here in c.4500 BC. The Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland was established in 1899 and based in Dublin. It had responsibility for introducing schemes for improvements in farming. A committee based in Lifford called the County Donegal Committee for Agriculture carried this out. The department and the Donegal Committee ran a series of schemes on livestock, horticulture, poultry, bee keeping, flax growing, dairy farming and forestry. They also gave lectures and visited farms giving advice to farmers. Every year they awarded prizes for a Cottage and Small Farm scheme. District inspectors reported to the committee after inspecting the farms and awarded the prizes. The farms and cottages were judged on; cleanliness; variety of vegetables grown; care of livestock; condition of land, fences and gates; efficiency of cultivation and the planting of trees and hedges.

DONEGAL TURF PRODUCTION DRIVE:

During World War II, because of shortages, fuel and food as well as luxury items had to be rationed. Most of Ireland's fuel such as petrol and coal was imported from other countries, which stopped during the war. In an effort to become self-sufficient, Ireland turned to turf as a source of fuel. Ireland has a long history of turf production, which became extremely important during the war. Farmers were encouraged to cut as much turf as possible to sell in towns and cities and Donegal played an important part in supplying turf. The County Council operated a turf cutting campaign, which provided employment and brought extra income to small farmers in Donegal.

IN YOUR PACK YOU WILL FIND:

1. Fishing By-law notice, 1898
2. Proposed Whaling Station Notice, 1908
3. County Donegal Committee of Agriculture, Inspector's Report, 1910-1911
4. Newspaper Notice placed by the County Council in 1944 and newspaper advertisements

Seirbhís Cartlainne Chontae Dhún na nGall
Donegal County Archives Service

Look at the evidence

Worksheet
Four

1. Fishing By Law

- Why are the Inspectors of Fisheries banning Tuck Nets?
- What type of power is used to operate the nets?
- What is the punishment for breaking the new by-law?
- Do we still have laws for fishing?
- Why do we need them?

2. Whaling Station Notice

- What is the name of the department that has issued this notice?
- Where are the public inquiries to discuss the new stations to be held?
- Do we still hunt whales off the coast of Donegal?
- Do you know the reasons why?

3. County Donegal Committee of Agriculture Inspector's Report, 1910 -1911

- Can you name the different food groups mentioned by the inspector in his report?
- What foods were growing in the garden?
- Make a list of three things the inspector praises and three things he criticises?
- Can you name three improvements recommended by the inspector?
- How do these farms compare with farms in your area today?
- What changes do you think have taken place?
- Do you think life on a farm in 1911 was more difficult than it is today?

4. Turf Notice

- How much turf was needed for the winter according to the newspaper cutting?
- What happened to the extra turf cut by the farmers?
- What type of transportation was needed to move the turf according to the County Council?
- Do we still use turf in our homes today?
- What other fuels could we use today instead of oil and coal?



INVESTIGATE

What type of fish is sold in your local area?
Where does it come from?
Is fishing important in Donegal?
On your next visit to the supermarket look at labels on the fruit and vegetables. Which countries do they come from?
Where does the meat in your local shop come from? Ask the butcher on your next visit.