

RAILWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF IRELAND.

28th Jan '65.

Dear Member,

The following is a brief resume of what your committee has been doing since the last General Meeting.

It has met regularly to discuss the progress made by various members and, to initiate further schemes.

Concerning the purchase of a Locomotive, a sub-committee consisting of Mr. McGuigan, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Griffiths and Mr. Beggs was formed to investigate which of the 'S' Class was the most suitable. This committee went to Adelaide with Mr. Huston if the U.T.A. and a boilermaker to look over the locos.

Number 171, 'Slieve Gullion', while not in very good order mechanically, appears to be probably the best 'buy' as its firebox and boiler were in better order than those of any other 'S' Class.

Subsequently, a negotiating committee consisting of Mr. Grimshaw, Mr. Riddle and Mr. Frazer approached the U.T.A. with proposals but were asked to postpone these in view of the indecision over the closure of the 'Derry Road' caused by Tyrone County Council's appeal to the High Court. Now that the final is known, negotiations have been reopened.

Mr. Nevin has been writing to various firms likely to sponsor the preservation of items of rolling stock. Already, Shell-Max and B.P. Inglis and Guinness have replied offering respectively, a tank wagon, a bread container and a twenty ton bulk grain wagon. More replies are awaited.

Mr. Jordan has been gathering support for the preservation of the Warrenpoint Branch Line but this is likely to be a long term objective due to the immense cost.

Your Committee decided that in view of the delayed negotiations with the U.T.A. there was no point in holding the Annual General Meeting in January as previously arranged. They expect to hold it in March when it is expected to have more concrete results to put before you.

The rate of increase in Membership has slackened off lately, please do try to get more members as a large and active membership is needed to enable the Society to progress.

Yours faithfully,

John White,

Hon. Sec.