

# By-Pass Scheme Voted ' Inadequate'

C.T. Jan. 14, 1955



Recognise it? Fountain Corner, 1984. The new Town Hall occupies what was in the olden days Pit Site, and pedestrians have been provided with crossings over each of the four roads. To justify the name "Fountain Corner" a fountain has been placed in the centre of the roundabout.

**A JUNIOR by-pass for Christchurch would be inadequate declared Highcliffe Citizens' Association members' meeting at St. Mark's Hall, on Monday.**

All but two of the members supported a resolution proposed by Major Grant, that the Borough Council should press for the major £1,000,000 scheme.

The Council should look to the future, said Mr. K. Whitcombe. The idea of a by-pass was to keep traffic moving smoothly. At present the roads in Christchurch were completely inadequate and each year the traffic was increasing by "leaps and bounds." The junior scheme would only hold up the traffic even more.

Also supporting the resolution, Mr. Baker said that in the first world war there was the need for a by-pass for Christchurch. The Pit roundabout, at the moment, was quite adequate to deal with traffic passing through the town, but a major by-pass

was really needed. He would prefer to wait for that rather than spend money on the junior scheme.

## FLOOD PROBLEM.

Further support came from Mr. C. J. Buckle, who considered that to spend public money on the junior by-pass would be ridiculous. The road would have to cross meadows that were always flooded in winter, and there was also the grave question to be considered of school children crossing a busy road.

Disagreeing, Mr. Williams said that most of the children were taken away from his school by 'bus. He contended that the authorities who had planned the junior by-pass must have considered the scheme thoroughly. Bearing in mind the time factor he felt that would be the best. Was there any point in going for a major by-pass which they may not see in a life-time?

**Footnote.—Competition object at the Friends of the Red House Museum's party, on Saturday, was an object labelled "Fossilised brain of a mammoth found in the Council Chamber after a discussion on the new by-pass."**

## By-Pass Latest:

LESS property may have to be demolished in the Bargates area in connection with the proposed Christchurch by-pass scheme. In particular it is likely that the Georgian House will be saved.

The size of the planned roundabout may also be reduced.

At a meeting on Wednesday, called by the Christchurch authorities, the question of reducing the size of the roundabout was discussed with the double aim of cutting the number of properties affected and increasing the control on the speed of traffic through the town.

Present were the Mayor (Coun. K. H. Ashcroft), the chairman of the Health and Highways Committee (Coun. W. E. Morgan), the Town Clerk, Borough Surveyor and the County Surveyor.

A measure of agreement was reached and a further meeting is planned with the Ministry of Transport to discuss final details.

### THREE TOWNS BY-PASS (Letter to the C.T.)

C.T. Jan. 21, 1955

Sir,—May I congratulate you on the excellent picture of Fountain Corner in 1984. What a pity, though, it did not show a little extra of the road showing all the traffic piled up, trying to sort itself out going through Christchurch Road, Boscombe.

I am astounded that people whose duty it is to cover the necessities of the motorist and clear towns of traffic problems should concentrate only on Christchurch. As I stated before, it is a problem of Christchurch, Bournemouth and Poole and the fact that these are so closely linked together. Surely the whole problem is to by-pass the three towns with one road, and thus clear three problems in one.

I would again emphasise that consideration be given for a road to be cut from near the disused aerodrome at Holmsley, or thereabouts, and taken right across to meet the Dorchester road to the West by Poole-Broadstone roundabout. This would then by-pass the whole three towns and all the major traffic going through to the West Country.—Yours, etc.,

W. A. GOODENOUGH. Rotten Row, Christchurch.

### THE BY-PASS. (Letter to the C.T.)

C.T. Jan. 28, 1955

Sir.—I can see just as many snags about the new by-pass proposal, as there were with the old one. It is still proposed to carry the road across swampy ground, and it will still shoot traffic out at an awkward corner. One of the chief obstacles to easy traffic flow at the moment is the fact that trolley buses follow a different route (via Bargates) to all other traffic, and until this end of Barrack Road is widened they will not run straight through that road. Surely road widening could be obtained by taking a few feet of the Recreation Ground. This would not interfere with the amenities of the "Rec." Indeed if the footpath was carried inside the ground the road would be almost wide enough. The bottle neck on the Bournemouth side of Magdalen Lane which extends for a few yards would have to be widened, but here the houses stand farther back from the road, and it would not be so hard on the one or two residents to lose a few feet of ground, as it would for those nearer the "Duke of Wellington." where the front gardens are only a very few feet at present.

Alternatively, if the "minor" road is to be only a 22ft. road, why not take it higher up to join the top end of Stour Road, and avoid Fountain Corner and the narrow part of Barrack Road altogether.—Yours, etc.,  
S. J. WATSON, 9, Castle Street, Christchurch.

P.S.—I think the County Surveyor would be well advised to wait until the summer before patting himself on the back about the "success of the present one-way system."