



AN BILLE RIALTAIS AITIÚIL, 1959.
LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL, 1959.

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EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM.

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Part IV of the Local Government Act, 1946, provides for the construction and reconstruction of bridges, viaducts and tunnels by local authorities in pursuance of bridge orders made by the Minister for Local Government. Subsection (1) of section 40 of the Local Government Act, 1955, provided that work might be executed under a bridge order notwithstanding that it constituted an interference with any right (including a right of navigation), except where the bridge order related to the River Shannon. The exclusion of the River Shannon meant that the existing bridges which contain opening spans would have to be replaced, when the need arose, by bridges similarly constructed although in some cases fixed bridges (which would be less costly) might afford sufficient clearance for navigation. A number of these bridges urgently require reconstruction. *Section 1* of the Bill will enable the merits of an opening span versus a fixed span to be considered in each case.

Section 2 of the Bill contains a consequential provision dealing specifically with Athlone Bridge. The Athlone Bridge Order, 1956, provided for the replacement of the opening span by a new opening span (Article 2) and the operation and maintenance of the new opening span by the Commissioners of Public Works (Article 3). The evidence tendered at the local inquiry showed that in fact a fixed span would meet navigation requirements; public bodies have protested against the requirement of a new opening span. *Section 2* therefore proposes to amend the Athlone Bridge Order by providing that the new span will be a fixed one; it will be maintained by Westmeath county council like the remainder of the bridge.

*An Roinn Rialtais Aitiúil,
Bealtaine, 1959.*

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AN BILL RELATIVE TO THE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL, 1932

BILL

BILL

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Section 1

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The Bill provides for the... (The text is extremely faint and largely illegible due to the quality of the scan and the age of the document.)

Enacted in the...
1932

MAHARAJA'S BILL

MAHARAJA'S BILL

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