

Ad. (1)
190/33.

16th. March, 1933.

The Hon. the Minister for Sustenance,
Sustenance Department,
MELBOURNE.

Dear Sir/

Work in return for Sustenance

I beg to inform you that action is now being taken by this Council to call upon men receiving sustenance to perform work in return therefor.

Under the regulations, if men are called upon to perform work equivalent to more than two weeks sustenance in advance, special permission must be obtained from the Minister. The probable number of persons on sustenance in Bendigo who are eligible for work is about 550 and the greater number of these receive sustenance in amounts varying from 6/- to 14/- per week.

If permission could be given to work these people for an equivalent of three weeks sustenance, the scheme would not be nearly as cumbersome as to work them for two weeks only and the equivalent hours would work out more nearly to days and quarters. It would also enable the Engineer to get through the whole of the number by the time the first batch worked would be entitled to sustenance again. In some instances, of course, some men would under this proposal be required to work more than 24 hours in the one week.

I may point out that this variation is required only for the purpose of simplifying the procedure in relation to local conditions and a further advantage would be that by concentrating the work in the manner proposed it would give the men a longer period in the interval between calls to take advantage of any odd casual jobs that may be available.

Yours faithfully,

TOWN CLERK