

## UNMARRIED MOTHERS

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### HEAVY COST TO THE RATES.

At the monthly meeting of the County Galway Homes Committee held at Loughrea a letter was received from the County Board of Health suggesting that a maternity ward be set up at the County Home (Loughrea) for unmarried mothers.

The Secretary stated that every illegitimate child costs £300 a year to the rates of the county, and during the past year there were fifty-four such children in the County Galway; so that the debt placed upon the ratepayers in respect of that year was £16,200.

The dances are the cause of it all, declared Mr. J. J. Leonard, Co.C., Galway.

Mr. G. Lynch, Co.C.—Apart from its moral aspect, it is a very serious question for the ratepayers.

On the motion of Mr. G. Lynch, seconded by Mr. S. O'Connor (Ballinasloe), a resolution was adopted calling upon the Government to introduce legislation giving power to commit second offenders to a Magdalen asylum.

The question of providing accommodation for unmarried mothers other than in the Central Hospital, Galway, was adjourned to next meeting, when a motion in the name of Mr. G. Lynch will be considered *re* the continuance of contract with *Bon Secours* Sisters in charge of the Children's Home at Tuam at the existing rate, which the Committee considers exorbitant.