

Wexford County Council minute books

WXCC/1/1 - WXCC/1/141

141 volumes



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Minute book
Wexford County Council

WXCC/1/16

8 January 1931 – 23 November 1931 (I)

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Wexford County Council

MINUTES 1931

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

SPECIAL MEETING 8TH JANUARY 1931

MINUTES.

FORTVIEW,
WEXFORD.

N.J.FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

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A special meeting of Wexford County Council was held on 8th January, 1931.

Mr M. Doyle, Chairman, presided and there were also present:- Messrs James Armstrong, John Breman, James Cline, Patrick Colfer, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, James Gaul, Col.C.M. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, William P. Keegan, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col.R.P. Wemyss Quin, M.M.Roche, James Shannon, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor and Mr John Elgee, County Solicitor, were also in attendance.

THE LATE MRS MARGARET JORDAN.

The following resolution proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Col. Quin and spoken to by the Secretary, County Surveyor and Mr Elgee was adopted in silence all members standing:- "That we sincerely sympathise with our esteemed colleague, Mr M. Jordan T.D. in the loss of his beloved mother, whose demise is deeply regretted by every member of the Council. A sincere friend and kindly neighbour the deceased was widely respected by the people of the whole countryside."

THE LATE VERY REV. DEAN WALSH.

The following under date 22nd December, 1930, from Mr James E. Walsh M.C.C. was, on the motion of Mr O'Byrne, seconded by Mr D'Arcy, ordered to be inserted on the Minutes of the day:-

"Will you please convey to your Council my deep appreciation of their kind vote of sympathy on the death of my uncle, Dean Walsh.

May I take this opportunity of thanking your good self, and through you the staff for your personal expression of sympathy."

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The following Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 18th December, 1930, were submitted.

[A large diagonal line is drawn across the page, likely indicating that the following minutes have been submitted or are otherwise noted.]

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 18th December, 1930.

Present:- Messrs Thomas McCarthy, James Shannon, James Hall, John Culleton, and Sean O'Byrne.

The Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the County Surveyor, County Solicitor and Rate Inspector were also in attendance.

The Chair was taken by Mr McCarthy on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £2551:7:6d. was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION.

The following state of the Rate Collection was submitted:-

	Percentage of Warrant collected
1. A.Dunne.....	54.6
2. E.J.Murphy.....	54.2
3. J.Curtis.....	53.4
4. J.Quirke.....	53.3
5. W.Doyle.....	52.8
6. Sean Gannon.....	51.8
7. J.J.O'Reilly.....	51.6
8. M.Kelly.....	51.0
9. Patrick Nolan.....	50.7
10. J.Deegan	50.7
11. T.Bolger.....	50.5
12. W.Cummins.....	50.1
13. M.McCarthy.....	50.
14. J.Cummins.....	50.
15. P.Carty.....	50.
16. P.O'Byrne.....	49.3
17. T.Rowe.....	47.7

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	Percentage of Warrant collected
18. P.Doyle.....	47.6
19. J.J.Sinnott.....	46.2
20. T.Sutton.....	40.
21. T.Bolger..... (for No.12 District)	28.9

The following under date 16th December, 1930, (G.92267/1930. Fa. Loch Garman) was read:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, and to state that as a special concession he agrees to an advance of poundage in respect of lodgments made to the 31st October last to each Collector who has by the 20th instant lodged a sum equivalent to 50 % of his current warrant together with any arrears included therein. I am to ask for a Schedule of payments made after that date."

The following resolution was adopted:-

"That we request the Local Government Department to agree to sanction payment of poundage to Collector J.J.Sinnott in respect of lodgments to 31st October last provided he lodges by the 20th January 50 % of his warrant and arrears. We ask this concession for Mr Sinnott in view of the fact that for some time past he was in hospital in Dublin and has only recently returned to duty. The deputy who acted in the meantime was not fully conversant with the work."

In connection with the suspension of Collector Sutton, No.2 District, the following under date 16th December, 1930, (G.92268/1930 Loch Garman) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, and to state that he notes the suspension of Collector Sutton, and in the circumstances disclosed now formally terminates his services.

It is presumed that the books have been taken up and carefully checked and that adequate enquiries are being made

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from Ratepayers represented^{as}/in arrear. It is also presumed that the Insurance Company have been notified.

If the inquiries show that any monies paid to the Ex-Collector have not been accounted for you as Chief Executive Officer of the Council should without delay make the necessary informations to secure his apprehension.

I am to request a fully explanatory report as soon as possible."

The Secretary stated that the books had been taken up and a large number of Rate notices issued throughout the District.

Regarding the closing of the Collection the following under date December 16th to Mr Elgee was read from Mr A. Sutton, one of the personal sureties of Collector Sutton:-

"If I have anything to say about the collecting of the rate outstanding I would give the job to Mr J. Quirke but I think that T. Sutton should be kept on to finish the job. He tells me he collected between three and four thousand pounds. If he did he cannot be much behind some of the other collectors and perhaps he might get it in quicker than a new hand."

Mr Daniel Dempsey, Craanrue, Edermine, the second personal surety came before the meeting and produced the following letter from Mr A. Sutton, under date 19th December:-

"I would be fully satisfied for Mr Dan Dempsey to collect the outstanding rate if Mr T. Sutton is not available."

Mr Dempsey stated he wished personally to close the warrant in the District as he feared he might be "held" by the action of any deputy Collector who might be appointed and who might not carry out the work. He was prepared to stand for Sutton's work but not for that of any other Collector. He would be satisfied if Collector Quirke were appointed to close the collection provided he (Mr Dempsey) would not be responsible for the manner in which Quirke carried out the work.

After further discussion the following resolution was adopted:- "That Collector J. Quirke, No. 1 District, be ap-

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pointed to close warrant in No. 2 District provided his sureties are satisfied to be responsible for the manner in which the work was carried out."

Mr Dempsey said that in the circumstances he would agree to the appointment of Quirke as deputy.

ADVERTISING CONTRACT.

In connection with the advertising contract for Year 1931-32 the following resolution was adopted:- "That the Wexford "People", "Free Press" and "Echo" newspapers be offered a sum of £110 for the advertising of the County Council and County Committee of Agriculture for year 1st January 1931 to 31st December 1931, and that in the event of County Council elections being held in 1931 a further sum of £25 be offered to cover election advertising .

"That as regards the advertising of the County Wexford Vocational Education Committee we recommend that this Committee enter into a separate advertising contract with the local newspapers."

PRINTING OF CORONER'S FORMS.

It was decided after discussion to accept the quotation from "Wexford People Newspapers" for the printing of six books of Coroner's Certificates of Finding of Jury or Coroner at £1:8:6d."

OVERDRAFT ACCOMMODATION.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That Department of Local Government be asked to sanction continuance of overdraft accommodation as from 1st January 1931 to the 31st March 1931, with the Treasurer of the County Council at a sum not to exceed £36,000. "

BOARDS OF HEALTH AND LIGHTING OF VILLAGES.

Under date 16th December, 1930, the Department of Local

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Government wrote (P.H. Circ. 53/30) forwarding copy of General Order made by the Minister investing Boards of Health with Urban powers to enable them to promote schemes of public lighting in small towns and villages.

DESTROYED INSURANCE STAMPS.

The following letter under date 11th December, 1930, (9092/30) was read from the National Health Insurance Commission:-

"I am directed by the National Health Insurance Commission to refer to applications addressed to them and also to the Department of Posts and Telegraphs in respect of the alleged destruction by fire on the 22nd January 1929 of a number of unused Health Insurance Stamps and Health Insurance cards to which stamps had been affixed.

The Commissioners have decided, after having made exhaustive enquiries in the matter, to refund your Council the sum of £41: 5: 4, being the estimated value of the identified stamps, which were surrendered to their Inspector either unused or affixed to cards."

A Payable Order for £41:5:4 is accordingly enclosed."

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATION.

Under date 10th December 1930, the Superintendent, Garda Siochana, New Ross, wrote as to application to be made on 15th December to have Bridget Barron, 9 years, of Shelbaggan, Ramstrange, committed to St. Aidan's Industrial School, New Ross. The child was daughter of a farm labourer, whose wife was dead. He had to go to work daily a considerable distance away from his home and there was no one to look after the child.

RELIEF GRANT.

In connection with the Government Relief Grant of £300,000 the County Surveyor submitted the following for consideration:-

- (1) Road diversion at Ferrycarrig - £800.
- (2) Surfacing Duncannon Line in water bound macadam which

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would give employment to the stone breakers on the Mountain of Forth - £2,000.

(3) Extension of Camblin Road from ^{Slaught}Slade Cross above the Quay towards Ballykelly about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles - £1600.

(4) First Section of the road from Enniscorthy to Killealy - £1000.

(5) Short Section of road from Ferns to Bunclody - £500.

(6) Back streets in Gorey from Bates by Railway Station into Main Street - £1000.

(7) Dangerous corners particularly those in Killanne and Rathnure Districts - £500.

and (8) Road from Wexford to Gorey particularly sections from Wexford to Castlebridge and Ballycanew to Gorey - £500.

Total - £7,900.

It was decided that these proposals should be submitted to the County Council meeting on 22nd December for their approval.

The County Surveyor mentioned that in the meantime he had arranged with Mr Jordan T.D. to have an interview with a responsible official of the Department in charge of approval of schemes for unemployment and he would be in a position to inform the Council at their next meeting of what transpired at this interview.

FURNISHING OF COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBER.

In connection with oval table for new County Council Chamber at the Old Jail the County Surveyor submitted two tenders - Wexford Timber Co. at £46:3:6d. and McCormack & Hegarty, Wexford, at £46:10:0d.

The meeting considered both tenders too high and suggested that the County Surveyor should be empowered to purchase two second hand tables which could be utilised in conjunction with present tables in existence in County Council Chamber at Fortview.

In regard to chairs the cheapest tender which the County

Surveyor had received was for 26/6 each.

The meeting also considered this price too high and suggested that the most suitable of the present chairs be utilised and that any further chairs necessary be purchased second hand.

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The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr D'Arcy:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of Meeting held on 18th December be received and considered."

After discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 18th December, 1930, be and are hereby confirmed."

The following Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 31st December, 1930, were submitted:-

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The fortnightly meeting of Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 31st December, 1930.

Present :- Messrs J.J. Colloton, James Hall, Sean O'Byrne and James Shannon.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Rate Inspector, County Surveyor and Mr Elgee, County Solicitor, were also in attendance.

Mr Colloton was moved to the Chair, on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne.

The Minutes of previous meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £1766:9:0d. was examined and signed.

THE LATE MRS MARGARET JORDAN

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by the Chairman:-

"That we offer our esteemed colleague, Mr Michael Jordan, T.D., our sincere condolence in the loss of his beloved mother. He has the sympathy of every member of the Council, in the death of one who was universally and deservedly respected, and whose demise is widely regretted by a very large circle of friends."

The resolution was supported by Messrs O'Byrne and Shannon and also by the Secretary, County Surveyor and Mr Elgee and adopted in silence.

RATE COLLECTION.

The state of the Rate Collection as follows to date of meeting was submitted:

	Percentage Collected.
1. Art Dunne.....	55
2. E.J. Murphy.....	54.9

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Percentage
Collected.

3. J.Quirke.....	54.2
4. J.Curtis.....	54.1
5. W.Doyle.....	53.7
6. Sean Gannon.....	53.0
7. J.J.O'Reilly.....	52.2
8. J.Deegan.....	51.5
9. T.Bolger (14).....	51.2
10. M.Kelly.....	51.2
11. P.Nolan.....	50.9
12. W.Cummins.....	50.8
13. T.Roe.....	50.8
14. J.Cummins.....	50.5
15. M.McCarthy.....	50.2
16. P.Carty.....	50.
17. P.O'Byrne.....	50.
18. P.Doyle.....	50.
19. J.J.Sinnott.....	46.7
20. T.Sutton.....	40.
21. T.Bolger (Donohoe).....	29.2

Closing of Collectors' Warrants for Financial Year 1930-31:-

The following was submitted from the Rate Inspector:- "The Public Bodies Order fixes 31st March as the date for the closing of the current warrant. Last Year the closing date was extended to 6th May 1930. If the Collection is to be brought up to date the Council should at once notify Collectors that they must close their Warrants at 31st March 1931."

Mr O'Byrne pointed out that the closing dates for Rate Collection viz: 30th September and 31st March, each year, were the worst possible dates that could be fixed, as they represented the scarcest periods for money being in the farmers' hands. The General Council of County Councils had endeavoured to effect a change to May and December as the closing periods, but they were not successful.

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The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That, as in our opinion, it would be impossible for the Rate Collectors to close their Warrant by the statutory date viz. 31st March, 1931, we request the L.G.D. to extend the closing period to the 6th May, 1931."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That the Rate Collectors be called upon to lodge 30 % of outstanding amounts for the month of January and a similar percentage for February."

Collection District No. 2: Under date 24th December, 1930, the L.G.D. wrote (G - 94528/1930. Fa Loch Garman) that the Minister had sanctioned the temporary appointment of Collector James Quirke, No. 1 District, to close current warrant in No. 2 District - (Ex-Collector Sutton's area).

Under date 23rd December, 1930, Mr Wm. Quirke, Ballyruan, Screen, and Mr Patrick Quirke, Ballycross, Bridgetown, the personal sureties of Collector Quirke, wrote that they were satisfied he should take on the extra work of closing Warrant in No. 2 District.

Under date 23rd December, 1930, the New Ireland Assurance Co. Dublin, wrote (20/2312/30/N./2) that they were agreeable to Mr Quirke collecting outstanding Rates in No. 2 District.

Death of Ex-Rate Collector: The Secretary reported the death on the 5th December, 1930, of Ex-Collector John Banville, Horetown, Foulksmills.

Status of Rate Inspector: The Department of Local Government wrote under date 24th December, 1930, (G - 93781/1930/ Loch Garman) that pending the completion of the Current Year's Warrant the Minister was not prepared to consider further the status of the Rate Inspector.

Proposed Maps of Holdings:- In connection with the suggestion of the Rate Inspector that it would be advisable to obtain all

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the holdings of the County marked on a large map, the Valuation Department wrote under date 22nd December, 1930, (TWS/G -) that there were over 30,000 valuation lots in the County and the cost of marking them on the 54 six inch sheets, in accordance with the scale of charges approved by the Minister for Finance would amount to not less than £500.

It was decided to take no action in this matter.

LAND COMMISSION DEFAULTING ANNUITANTS.

Under date 23rd December, 1930, the Department of Local Government wrote (S-92269/30 - Loch Garman Fb) that the amount absorbed ⁱⁿ with Guarantee Fund in connection with land purchase in Co. Wexford was £22,293:8:0d. in respect of the Estate Duty Grant. Any deductions made in respect of the Agricultural Grant had been since repaid to the Council.

The Secretary, in reply to Mr Hall, stated that a query had been addressed to the L.G.D. to ascertain if the above amount represented what was due directly by defaulting annuitants in the County or was the amount arrived at under a pooling arrangement

Under date 23rd December, 1930, the Land Commission wrote (CORR- No.2825/30) that the list of Co. Wexford defaulting annuitants would be furnished as soon as compiled at the next making up of the accounts in March next.

PROVISIONAL ROAD WORKS SCHEME.

Under date 30th December, 1930, the Department of Local Government wrote (RGM/32) as follows :-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to forward, herewith, a copy of the letter which he has received from the County Surveyor, relative to the sum which the Wexford County Council propose to allow in respect of roads for the coming financial year and as to the procedure adopted by the County Council when dealing with the Sur-

veyor's estimate.

In the first place I am to point out that the County Surveyor is required by Article 48 of the Public Bodies Order, 1925, to specify in the Scheme, particulars of the expenditure which in his opinion, is required for the repair of every road, together with particulars (including cost) of every work of improvement which he considers should be carried out during the next local financial year. The County Council are to consider in detail the County Surveyor's proposals, and it is not competent to them to make a general reduction without advertance to the sum required for the repair and improvement of each road. Furthermore, the County Surveyor cannot be expected to alter his opinion as to the sum which he considers necessary for the repair or improvement of each road merely because the County Council make an all-round reduction on his total estimate. Responsibility for varying the sums proposed by the County Surveyor rests solely with the County Council and in order that the Provisions of the Public Bodies Order may be complied with, I am to request that the Council will follow the procedure laid down, and, instead of making a general reduction, deal with the County Surveyor's proposals in detail.

It is to be noted that the County Surveyor points out the reduction proposed by the County Council renders it impossible for him properly to maintain the roads. In this connection, I am to draw the Council's attention to the terms of the Department's Circular Letter RGM/201/30 of the 27th October last indicating that the making of Grants towards the upkeep of Main Roads will depend upon the fact whether the estimates of the Council show that a reasonable sum is proposed for the upkeep of all roads, and the Minister, accordingly, trusts that the Council will review their decision so that there will be no difficulty in his notifying the usual Upkeep Grant. The primary consideration of County Councils is the maintenance of

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existing roads. If the sum allowed for such work is curtailed, works of improvement should be deferred. In reviewing their position accordingly the County Council should take this fact into account."

The following is a copy of the letter of the County Surveyor under date 23rd December, 1930, referred to in the communication from the L.G.D.:-

"I beg to inform you, for the information of the Minister that the Wexford County Council, at their meeting, on yesterday, 22nd instant, dealt with the Provisional Road Works Scheme for next year. My Estimate, copy of which I enclose, amounts to £73,394: 14: 8d. The County Council, by a majority of votes, decided to raise only a sum of £40,000 to cover all works as set out, and I have been directed to revise my Estimate to come within this figure. The Council declined to make any segregation between Main and County Roads, or as regards improvement works in Part II. I wish to point out that the money allocated for works in Road Works Scheme for the current year amounted to £55,098: 1: 8d, and of this sum £2000 was to cover special expenditure, in supplement of the Grant from the Local Government for reconstruction of the Rosslare Road; thus for the current year I have a sum of something over £53,000 for the County Roads and Works. At the present time there is a very small balance available for the maintenance up to the 31st March next, and I have no doubt whatever that this figure is insufficient for the proper maintenance of Wexford Roads. The £40,000 allocated is equivalent to a reduction of about 45 % on my Estimate, and it will be impossible to properly maintain the roads at the figure."

In the course of the discussion which ensued it appeared that some Councillors were of opinion that the amount of any Grant received from the Department of Local Government for road maintenance was added to the amount which the County Council had decided to expend on Roads and Works for the financial year.

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After a full discussion Mr O'Byrne gave the following notice of motion:-

"I hereby give notice of my intention to move at meeting of Wexford County Council to be held on 26th January 1931, that the resolution adopted by said Council at their meeting on 22nd December, 1930, allocating a sum of £40,000 for maintenance of roads and improvement works for financial year 1931-32, be rescinded, and that the Council reconsider the County Surveyor's estimate as set out in Provisional Road Works Scheme, particularly in view of the letter from the Department of Local Government, under date 30th December, 1930 (R/RGM/32) and also as it appears that some Councillors did not clearly understand that the amount of grant furnished by the L.G.D. for road maintenance etc., ^{is} in relief of the total sum provided for roads for the financial year."

A NON-INSURABLE EMPLOYEE.

Under date 27th October, 1930, the Department of Industry & Commerce (Employment Branch) (E.B. 118294) wrote that the employment of Joseph Merriman is not such employment as to make him an employed person within the meaning of the Unemployed Insurance Act 1930.

The County Surveyor said this man was one of the men employed at stone breaking at the Mountain of Forth. He had no fixed hours for work and there was no fixed quantity of metal-ling which he was obliged to deliver to the Council. This case would rule all others of a similar character.

WEXFORD CORPORATION AND LIBRARY POWERS.

Under date 23rd December, 1930, the Department of Local Government (G-93902/1930 - Loch Garman pf) wrote forwarding copy of their letter to the Wexford Corporation in which it was stated that the Minister approved pursuant to Section 65(6) of the Local Government Act 1925 of the terms agreed to by the County Council upon which the Wexford Corporation relinquished

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in favour of the County Council their powers and duties under the Libraries Ireland Acts 1855 to 1920.

ILLNESS OF MR JOHN KEHOE - ASSISTANT SURVEYOR.

The following medical certificate under date 27th December, 1930, from Dr.S.V. O'Connor, Westgate, Wexford, was read:-

"I certify that Mr John Kehoe is under my care suffering from Bronchial Catarrh and Gastritis and will be unable to resume duty for two weeks."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by the Chairman:-

"That in accordance with medical certificate Mr John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, be granted two weeks' sick leave as from 27th December, 1930."

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The following resolution was after discussion adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr D'Arcy:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of Meeting held on 31st December, 1930, be and are hereby approved except the reference to Provisional Road Works Scheme which is adjourned for consideration to meeting of Wexford County Council on Monday 26th January, 1931."

TENDERS COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr D'Arcy seconded by Col. Gibbon:- "That the meetings of Tenders Committees be fixed as follows:-

Enniscorthy - at Courthouse - Wednesday 25th February, 1931, at 11 o'clock.

Wexford - County Council Chamber, Saturday, 28th February, 1931, at 11 o'clock.

New Ross - Courthouse - Friday 6th March, 1931, at 11 o'clock.

Gorey - Courthouse - Saturday, 7th March, 1931, at 10 p.m.

RELIEF GRANTS.

The following Circular letter (S.) 22nd December, 1930, was read from L.G.D.:-

"With reference to the entry in the Minutes of Proceedings of the Wexford County Council regarding the carrying out of works for the relief of unemployment, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that no definite sum can be allocated to any district until the position as regards unemployment has been fully ascertained.

If there is submitted a definite scheme of work, accompanied by a plan, specification and an estimate of cost of (a) materials and of (b) labour, together with information as to the number of men that could be usefully employed thereon, the Minister will give the matter full consideration. Evidence should be furnished of the number registered for employment

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in the area affected, and of the amount of home assistance at present being afforded by the Board of Health and Public Assistance.

Where relief works are proposed for any particular area of a County the amount of home assistance distributed in that area should be given. These particulars may be set out on the accompanying form.

If there are any essential public health works, such as water or sewerage schemes, which the Local Authority desire to undertake with a view to providing additional employment at the present time, full consideration will be given to any such proposals. Such works should ordinarily be undertaken by the Local Authority out of local funds, but if conditions in regard to unemployment justify a grant, a contribution from relief funds may be made applicable. The Local Authority will, however, be required to bear the major proportion of the cost involved, if necessary raising a loan for the purpose.

If no public health works are contemplated, other suitable works may be submitted."

The following under date 5th January, 1931, (R/RU/32) was read from L.G.D.:-

"With further reference to proposals received here on the 3rd instant for an expenditure of approximately £17,000 on road works under the Relief Scheme Vote, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that in making Grants from the Vote preference is being given to Public Health Works."

Letters were read from :-

(a) Ballygarrett asking for a portion of unemployment Grant as there was a large number out of work and owing to the bad harvest there was no prospect of employment in the coming months. The work the people of the district considered most necessary was the cleaning up of the drains of the Cahore Drainage System which could be started at once. This when completed

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would save the public road which was for nine months of the year under water and would make it passable while the health of the locality would be improved.

(b) At Kilmore Quay where 64 men were out of employment, the following were suggested as works which might come under the Relief Grant. (1) Building up Village Street with proper sewer and water tables. (2) Cleaning part of the Harbour with local labour. (3) Proper repair and making of roadways to sea. (4) Filling in and repair of by-roads at Neemstown.

Mr Smyth said that there was a public meeting on the 4th January, 1931, at Ballygarrett, and which was attended by two T.D.'s. The Scheme was very suitable and work was badly needed. Something would have to be done with the drains, and this would give a good deal of employment. Some of the men in the locality had to depend on casual labour.

Mr Gaul inquired if it were not possible to carry out works in regard to public health, could the Council calculate on getting a Grant for by-roads.

Mr Cummins said that in his district there were 100 men - chiefly engaged in the fishing industry - who were out of employment. A good deal of work could be done in connection with the harbours in the South of the County. At the first meeting of the County Council a discussion took place about the condition of the docks at the various harbours. He (Mr Cummins) considered that the fishermen who had suffered so much should obtain some relief from the Relief Grant.

The County Surveyor said that^{why}/at the last meeting he had asked to be supplied by the Councillors with the names of the unemployed in their districts was because at the interview with the Local Government official in charge of these schemes one of the queries was the number of men registered as unemployed at the local Labour Exchange but this information gave no indication of the actual number unemployed. Taking Wexford alone they had on the unemployment Register men re-

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ceiving benefit or eligible to receive it. But once a man ceased to be eligible for employment benefit he never went near the Exchange again so that there were more unemployed men off the Register than on it. It was the same all over the County and when he explained this to the official the latter said that some evidence as to the amount of unemployment would have to be submitted. This was his (County Surveyor's) reason for asking the Councillors to supply him with lists of the names of the unemployed in the districts.

Miss O'Ryan said that in the Country districts very few men who were out of work sought out door relief. They might have 20 men in a district unemployed and not a single one of them would be in receipt of home help. This was a matter which the Department did not know about. In Taghmon there were 32 men out of employment, and they could spend money there on drainage and sewerage works.

The County Surveyor said the form which had to be filled was rather a hindrance than a help.

Mr O'Byrne said that there was a large number of unemployed in Cahore and Boira districts. The whole district was under water and the Land Commission which had received some of the Relief money to expend had a liability to see that the lands which were sold through land purchase should be put into a condition that they could be utilised. At present as they were always under water neither rent nor rates could be got out of them. The present deplorable state of affairs should be remedied and this would mean not only immediate employment but permanent employment, as with their lands properly drained the farmers would be able to employ labour in the future as well as securing a chance to live themselves. He wished to protest against the ruling that home help should be a condition precedent to receiving any help, under this Relief Grant. In the Gorey district they had always discouraged men seeking home help and they certainly should not go back

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and advise these people that they would have to apply for home help if they were to be considered eligible for portion of the Relief Grant. The fact that unemployed men were not in receipt of home help should not be used against them.

The Chairman said the Land Commission had before them all the facts in connection with Cahore and the Boira, and these had been supplemented by letters from the doctors and clergy of the district. The Land Commission are getting £160,000 or half the Grant and it was the business of the Land Commission to deal with the place.

Mr O'Byrne said that the harbour at Courtown was considerably silted and portion of the Relief Grant could be utilised to clean it up. He then proposed:- "That this Council calls upon the Land Commission to carry out the necessary work of drainage at Cahore and the Boira as a relief measure and we desire to point out that such work would mean the permanent improvement of land which is at present under water."

Mr Smyth in seconding said the Council were not able to get any rates out of the land now as it was useless though it was valued at over £1 per acre.

Colonel Quin said that the tenants and landowners were both to blame as regards the condition of Cahore. One of them blamed the other.

The Chairman said that statements like this would not be much of an inducement to have relief work carried out there.

Mr Hall said it was not the fault of the people at the Boira that the flooding continued because the difficulty was at a place a couple of miles away from their land and which they had no authority to clean up.

The resolution was then put and passed.

Mr Hayes referred to the ^dcondition of the Duncannon Line and district. The road was in a deplorable condition and some steps should be taken to have it repaired.

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Mr Gaul who advocated the completion of the Drinagh-Rosslare road said that in Wexford Urban area there were about 1000 men unemployed, 400 of whom were on Labour Exchange Register.

The Chairman said that two very glowing reports had been made recently as to the prosperity of Enniscorthy and Wexford towns, that the people had motor cars and were quite well off. These statements were contrary to fact but they appeared in the public Press and would not help their application for a relief Grant.

Mr Gaul said that 84 men were unemployed in the small district of Drinagh and 64 in Ferrycarrig and Barntown.

Mr Roche referring to Kilmore Quay district said that every one knew the men there would be too willing to work if they had it to do. One work which could be done down there was the removal of large deposit of mud in the canal from Ballyburn to Kilmore Quay village. It would be a great improvement to the place if the canal was properly drained. At present the water ran down the centre of the village, and as well as flooding the houses it was ruining the road.

Colonel Gibbon said that Ballyteigue Drainage Board was responsible for the drainage of the canal which was dug in 1885 and was a mile and a half in length. The Rates on the drained land were very large. To do a proper job the canal should be dammed and the silt dug out as this had never been done since it was constructed. It would be impossible to raise a drainage rate to carry out the necessary work. On the system of drainage adjoining and in which he was interested they had now to provide £120 by a treble rate, while a few years ago the necessary work of annual dragging and cleaning could be done for £40 the produce of a single rate.

The County Surveyor pointed out that on a distribution

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of the Grant the most County Wexford would get would be between £5,000 and £6,000. They had put up schemes costing £17,000 and those mentioned at that meeting would bring the total up to £30,000. If they could ascertain even approximately the amount they would be likely to get the Council could consider its expenditure on the most suitable schemes. By applying the money to public health schemes half went across the water for materials but in the jobs which the Council had put forward 90 % of the expense would be for labour.

Mr D'Arcy thought that in view of the fact that it meant permanent improvement they should go in as much as possible for drainage work.

Mr Armstrong mentioned that there were 70 unemployed men in Bunclody and the Health Board were putting forward a sewerage scheme for the place, and which was very badly needed.

After further discussion Mr Gaul moved and Mr D'Arcy seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That a deputation be appointed to wait on the Land Commission and Local Government Department to put forward the claims of County Wexford for a share of National Relief Grant for the schemes which the County Council were putting forward. That the County Secretary and County Surveyor accompany the deputation and that an invitation be issued to the five T.D.'s of the County to act with the deputation.

The following were appointed on the deputation:-

Enniscorthy - Mr T. McCarthy.

Gorey - Mr Sean O'Byrne and Mr Smyth.

New Ross - Mr Cummins.

Wexford - The Chairman (Mr Doyle) and Mr Roche.

Mr Corish then arranged that the deputation should be received by the Land Commission at 11 o' clock on Wednesday, 14th January, 1931, and by Local Government Department at 3 p.m. on same day.

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GREENVILLE LANE.

Under date 31st December, 1930, Mr Patrick O'Neill, Greenville, Enniscorthy, wrote:- "I wish to state we are not asking the Council to take over the lane as a County road. We are simply asking that they grant us the material to put the lane in a proper state of repair. That being done will leave it an easy matter for residents afterwards, who are willing to look after it. If the difficulty of legality should prevent the Council making the order there is no other course open to us than to withhold the rates for one year, which would amount at a rough calculation to about £100. I will request you to again put this matter before the Council."

The Chairman said it was purely on the grounds of illegality that the application was refused.

Colonel Quin proposed and Mr O'Byrne seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That the letter of Mr P. O'Neill, Greenville, Enniscorthy, threatening to withhold rates if the Council did not supply material for repair of Greenville Lane be marked"read."

Mr McCarthy said he would explain the position to the people concerned.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

The following resolution was read from Wexford County Committee National Teachers' Organisation :-

"That, as the Vocational Education Act specifically states that educational bodies, trade unions etc., were to be invited to submit names of members for election on Vocational Education Committees, we the members of the Co. Wexford County Committee I.N.T.O. representing the National Teachers of the County consider that we were entitled to be asked to submit representatives on the County Vocational Education Committee and we request that representation be

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given us on that body."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Colonel Quin seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the Hon Secretary Wexford Co. Committee Irish National Teachers' Organisation be informed that their request as to representation on County Vocational Education Committee will be borne in mind and brought forward as vacancies on the said Committee may arise."

ROSSLARE CLIFF ROAD.

The County Surveyor reported that this road was in a most dangerous condition. At one point it was only nine feet wide and a further fall of the bank may take place at any time. The road should be closed at once but as the Local Government Department had already refused to agree to this he asked for the authority of the Council to close it immediately.

Mr Hall proposed and Mr D'Arcy seconded the following resolution:- "That we apply to the Local Government Department for Order for the immediate closing of Rosslare Cliff Road which is in a dangerous condition." Passed.

DRINAGH CEMENT WORKS.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Hall:- "That we call upon our four T.D.'s to assist Mr Corish T.D. in his efforts to secure the re-opening of the Drinagh Cement Works.

CONFERENCE WITH T.D.'S.

A Conference was then held with the T.D.'s of the County in accordance with the following resolution which was adopted at the meeting of 9th December, 1930:-

"That the five T.D.'s of the County be invited to attend a meeting of the Council for the purpose of discussing the economic condition of agriculture and taking such steps as may be agreed to in order to improve the present very unsatisfactory

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position."

"That this meeting be held in Committee and that in addition to the depression in Agriculture the necessity for the passing of the Town Tenants Bill be also considered. That when the Conference has agreed upon a policy the T.D.'s be requested to take concerted action on same."

The following T.D.'s attended:- Messrs Denis Allen, O.G.Esmonde, and Dr.Ryan.

Mr Corish was present as a County Councillor.

Mr Jordan was prevented by illness from attending.

A very full exchange of views in which the T.D.'s present participated, took place, the Conference lasting for three hours.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted and it was decided they should be furnished the General Council of County Councils and the various County Councils in the Saorstát.

Proposed by Mr Corish and seconded by Mr Keegan:-

"That the withholding of Government Grants on the ground of nonpayment of Land Commission Annuities is grossly unjust to Ratepayers in general who are meeting their liabilities. Moreover, it is unreasonable to expect County Councils to be responsible for money for the collection of which they have no concern. And that steps be taken to secure amendment in this respect of the existing law."

Proposed by Colonel Gibbon, seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That the provision and maintenance of motor roads be entirely met from the Road Fund produced from Motor Taxation."

Proposed by Colonel Quin and seconded by Mr D'Arcy:-

"That the Government should take immediate steps to secure the legal rights to safeguard the National Fishing Rights on our Coasts. That the present single Patrol Boat is inadequate"

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Cummins seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That we call upon our five T.D.'s to press for the

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passing of an immediate full measure of De-Rating in view of the present economic stress in agriculture. Relief is wanted by the farmer NOW and should not be deferred"

At the conclusion of the proceedings Mr Hall proposed a vote of thanks to the T.D.'s for attending, particularly to Mr Esmonde and Dr. Ryan who had to come a long distance. He offered his sympathy to Mr Jordan for being unable to attend through illness and hoped he would soon be all right. He trusted ~~some~~ good would result from their Conference.

Mr O'Byrne in seconding said that no matter what party to which they belonged the T.D.'s of the County stood together when anything for the good of the County was put forward.

The Chairman supported the motion. The T.D.'s came to their Conference at great inconvenience and this coupled with their discussion showed the good spirit in which they acted, and that they were always prepared to do their best for the County.

The resolution was then put and passed unanimously.

Dr. Ryan said that the resolution was not necessary. The T.D.'s considered it their duty to consult with the County Council and in view of the harmony which had marked their proceedings it was a real pleasure.

Mr. Ryan
26 January 1931

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY .

I CERTIFY the foregoing to be a correct
record of the Minutes of Wexford County Council in
respect of the Meeting held on 8th January, 1931.

Signed _____

Dated 12th January 1931.

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

MEETING 26TH JANUARY 1931.

MINUTES.

WORTVIEW,
WEXFORD.

N.J.FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

(1)

A meeting of Wexford County Council was held on 26th January, 1931, in County Council Chamber, Wexford.

Colonel Gibbon Vice-Chairman and subsequently Mr M. Doyle (Chairman) presided:

Also present:- Messrs James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Cline, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, John Doran, James Gaul, James Hall, William P. Keegan, Thomas Maylor, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col. R.P. Wemyss Quin, M.M. Roche, James Shannon, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, the County Surveyor, the six Assistant Surveyors and Mr Elgee, County Solicitor, were in attendance.

The Minutes of ordinary meeting of 22nd December, 1930, and of special meeting of 8th January, 1931, were confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £1,481: 4: 7d. was examined and signed.

THE LATE MR MYLES MOORE.

Mr O'Byrne proposed the following resolution:

"That we offer Mr Tim Moore, member of County Surveyor's clerical staff our heartfelt condolence in the death of his brother Myles Moore B. Comm. a brilliant journalist, a faithful friend, and a sterling patriot!"

In proposing the resolution Mr O'Byrne said that the deceased had given his life for his country. As a boy scout and volunteer he had a record second to none.

Mr Hall, in seconding the resolution, said that Mr Moore was a true patriot whose one ambition was the development and welfare of his native land.

The Secretary said that the staff of the County Council were extremely sorry at the death of Mr Moore who was known and respected by us all. It is sad to see the youth snatched

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away but when a young man of outstanding ability passes, his loss is doubly acute.

He (Secretary) was certain that if Mr Moore had lived he would have gone far and made his mark in the history of his country.

The resolution was put and passed.

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S REPORT -----

The following report was read from the County Surveyor:

"Recently a vessel passing through New Ross Bridge damaged the structure, and I recommend that a claim be made against owner of vessel. Two panels of the railings have been damaged. At the present time I have temporary fencing erected. I recommend that the matter be put in the Solicitor's hands.

"I have already reported on the collapse of Ballygarven Bridge, and shall have arrangements made for its rebuilding during the current year. In the meanwhile, as great complaints were made by local people in regard to the difficulty of attending Church and School I have erected a temporary foot bridge.

"At last meeting of the Council I reported that the Coast Road at Rosslare had become dangerous owing to further slip, and obtained authority to close the road. This has been done, and I notified the Local Government Department in regard to the matter. There is now a communication from the Department refusing sanction to the temporary closing of the road. There is a misunderstanding in regard to this, as the closing, to my mind, is permanent, and even if the Council propose expending money on same in restoring the bank and protecting the coast it is absolutely necessary to have the road closed at the present time. In a case like this I consider the first consideration of the County Council is to protect the public, and there is no doubt that if the road remained unclosed there would be serious damage, and possibly

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bad accidents.

I have to report that the end of North Pier at Courtown Harbour is showing signs of settlement, a number of cracks have appeared in the super-structure, and it will be necessary, during the coming year to have this attended to. I shall bring forward a proposal when dealing with the Public Works Estimate. There has also recently been some damage done to the old protection wall on the shore. This is a place that was not yet dealt with. I shall put in proposal for this also in Public Works Scheme. The two items together will cost about £250.

In the current years Road Works Scheme there was a proposal passed for the reconstruction of a bridge on Road 296 at a sum of £30. This money is quite insufficient for reconstruction work, and I do not consider that it would be advisable to expend it on repairs. There is another bridge on 287 which requires repair, and I ask for authority to transfer above sum to this latter work.

The new Offices at the Old Jail will be available very shortly, and I ask for authority to make arrangements for the removal from present offices. In connection with this matter 'phone arrangements will have to be considered. I have had an interview with the representative of the Post Office Authorities and have gone over the premises with him. The County Registrar County Secretary, Taxation Officer and the County Surveyor will all require phones, and it appears that there are only two methods of dealing with this:-

1. Having separate lines from Post Office for each.
2. Having a local Exchange on the Premises.

Each of the four lines will entail a rental of £6:10:0d. per annum, making a total of £26. If the Exchange be put in, the cost will only be £6:10:0d., leaving a balance of £19:10:0d. to cover the cost of an attendant in the local exchange. This

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attendant, of course, would have to be on duty while offices were open. I believe there will be no difficulty in having a slot-telephone put up in the space under the stairs, and, of course, if this be put in there will be no charge. I take it that the County Council will give the accommodation for the slot machine free.

"I have carefully gone into the amendment of figures submitted by me in the Provisional Road Works Scheme. In the first place I have taken account of allowances and other liabilities which must be met, including existing Contracts. Also I have allowed for the repair of existing bridges and so forth which must be done, otherwise, serious accidents might be entailed. Taking total of these from the £40,000 allocated by the County Council I have pro rata reduced my figures, and find that it entails an all round reduction of about 52%. As I already notified the Council I find the current year's money is insufficient to properly maintain the roads, and I cannot see how, during next year that the roads can be kept up with such a large reduction. There is one matter that I wish to point out, and that is existing contracts remain, of course, at the higher figures, whereas, all other roads have to be reduced. This does not seem reasonable as in many cases I find that there is a higher rate per mile on some of the 4th class roads than on the more important roads. There is a clause in the specification which allows of the Council breaking existing contracts, and if this great reduction on the other roads is to be put in force I consider that the contract roads should be reduced similarly. At the present time a number of the roads are in a poor condition, and the money available for their upkeep until the 31st March is practically exhausted.

"I submit list of defaulting contractors against whom proceedings may be necessary, and I ask for authority to deal with same.

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"I have application from Mr James Brewer, Irishtown, New Ross, asking for permission to erect concrete fence at his own expense. Application was received too late for me to obtain full details, but as I understand it, I think there should be *no* objection in the matter."

Damage to New Ross Bridge: The County Surveyor said that the vessel which was responsible for the damage was the property of Messrs Kearon & Tyrrell, South Quay, Arklow, and the Master was Captain Tyrell, Tinahely, Co. Wicklow. The cost of repair would be £10 or £12.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Murphy:- "That our Solicitor be instructed to claim cost of repair of damage to New Ross Bridge from Messrs Kearon & Tyrrell, Arklow, owners of the vessel responsible for the damage.

Ballygarvan Bridge: In reply to Mr Murphy the County Surveyor said that as the new passage was only 3 feet 6 inches in width there was no possibility of bringing cars over it.

Rosslare Cliff Road: The following under date 20th January, 1931 (R/IR/107/1) was read from the Department of Local Government (Roads):-

"With further reference to your letter of the 16th instant, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that as the Wexford County Council have not complied with the instructions of the Minister for Industry and Commerce in connection with Order prohibiting the removal of materials from the foreshore at Rosslare the Minister cannot see his way to accede to the request of the Council for an Order authorising the temporary closing of the Rosslare Cliff Road under Section 29 of the Local Government Act, 1925."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr D'Arcy seconded by Mr Brennan:- "That an Advertisement be inserted in the local papers pointing out that the Cliff Road, Rosslare, is dangerous and has been closed by the Council and

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that any persons who use it will do so at their own risk. That the County Surveyor place notices at each end of the road that it is closed and dangerous and also provide for reflector lights at these points.

Courtown Harbour: The County Surveyor said that a settlement had occurred at the place which was partly supported on old timber piles and which had rotted to some extent.

Mr O'Byrne proposed that the work be carried out.

Mr D'Arcy seconded.

Mr Keegan moved a resolution that the Department would be asked to send down an Inspector to Courtown Harbour and see what could be done. They had been doing "patching" jobs at Courtown and he thought there was very little value for the money.

The County Surveyor said it was impossible to tell when repairs would be necessary on sea works. They were in this respect unlike landworks. If the work was not done during the coming year the pier head would probably give away.

Mr Keegan said that Courtown for practically worthless repairs was costing more than the interest on a loan which would enable the Pier to be properly reconstructed.

Mr D'Arcy said the whole wall would fall unless something was done.

Mr Keegan referred to the expenditure at Courtown Harbour during the past five or six years when about £3000 had been spent to put up a wall to keep out the sea and which had tumbled down.

Colonel Quin - Is the place tumbling down ?

County Surveyor - It is not; it is absolutely safe now and if it had not been for the amount spent during the past five or six years there would have been nothing left at Courtown.

The resolution was adopted.

In reply to Mr Keegan the County Surveyor said that it was the delay of the Department of Finance which was holding up the Grant for the reconstruction of the sluice gates at Courtown. The Fishery Department were only waiting the approval of the

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Department of Finance to deal with the matter out of hand.

Mr Corish - The Fishery Department have recommended the Grant but the Department of Finance are holding it up.

Carne Pier: Colonel Gibbon said that at the time Carne Pier was being reconstructed a year ago he pointed out that the concrete of the platform should have been reinforced. This was not done and there was now a big crack in the centre.

Mr Birthistle said the crack in question was expected, and could be readily dealt with. The amount of money allocated for the work did not allow for the reinforcing.

It was decided on the motion of Colonel Gibbon seconded by Mr D'Arcy that the County Surveyor furnish a report as to the condition of Carne Pier for County Council meeting of 23rd February, 1931.

Transfer of allocation to Bridge 287: Mr Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, said that the bridge on 296 (between turn in Tincurry and turn in Tombrack) would be only on a line of small gulleys and it would be foolish to spend money on this. He proposed that the £30 allocated should be transferred to the repair of a bridge on Road 287 (Turn at Askamore to turn at Moneydurtlow) and which was unsafe.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Colonel Quin:- "That we agree to transfer of allocation of £30 for repair of bridge on Road 296 being transferred to repair of bridge on Road 287."

Telephones for Co. Offices: The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Colonel Quin seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That one telephone installation (with switches) be provided for County Secretary, County Surveyor, and Local Taxation Officer. That the County Registrar be requested to ask the Department of Justice to arrange for transfer of 'phone from Old Courthouse to new Offices at Old Jail and for the payment of calls."

Defaulting Road Contractors: The following resolution was

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adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr D'Arcy:
"That the following Road Contractors be prosecuted for neglect of their roads unless they forthwith carry out the directions of the County Surveyor. 558 - Joseph Hyland, Coolgarrow, Enniscorthy; 977 James Codd, Gollagh, Kilmore.

Fence at Mountgarrett: The County Surveyor said that Mr Brewer wanted permission to erect 100 yards of fencing at his own expense and which would do away with a dumping ground on which very objectionable stuff was thrown from time to time. He suggested that the matter should be adjourned for the present until he had a report.

The meeting approved of the suggestion of the County Surveyor.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr Cooney:- "That the report of County Surveyor as presented to this meeting be and is hereby approved.

PROVISIONAL ROAD WORKS SCHEME.

The following under date 30th December, 1930 (R/RGM/32) was read from the Department of Local Government (Roads):-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to forward, herewith, a copy of a letter which he has received from the County Surveyor, relative to the sum which the Wexford County Council propose to allow in respect of roads for the coming financial year and as to the procedure adopted by the County Council when dealing with the Surveyor's estimate.

"In the first place I am to point out that the County Surveyor is required by Article 48 of the Public Bodies Order, 1925, to specify in the Scheme, particulars of the expenditure which, in his opinion, is required for the repair of every road, together with particulars (including cost) of every work of improvement which he considers should be carried out during the next local financial year. The County Council are to con-

sider in detail the County Surveyor's proposals, and it is not competent to them to make a general reduction without advertence to the sum required for the repair and improvement of each road. Furthermore, the County Surveyor cannot be expected to alter his opinion as to the sum which he considers necessary for the repair or improvement of each road merely because the County Council make an all-round reduction on his total estimate. Responsibility for varying the sums proposed by the County Surveyor rests solely with the County Council and in order that the Provisions of the Public Bodies Order may be complied with, I am to request that the Council will follow the procedure laid down, and, instead of making a general reduction, deal with the County Surveyor's proposals in detail.

It is to be noted that the County Surveyor points out the reduction proposed by the County Council renders it impossible for him properly to maintain the roads. In this connection, I am to draw the Council's attention to the terms of the Department's Circular Letter RGM/201/30 of the 27th October last indicating that the making of Grants towards the Upkeep of Main Roads will depend upon the fact whether the estimates of the Council show that a reasonable sum is proposed for the upkeep of all roads, and the Minister, accordingly, trusts that the Council will review their decision so that there will be no difficulty in his notifying the usual upkeep grant. The primary consideration of County Councils is the maintenance of existing roads. If the sum allowed for such work is curtailed, works of improvement should be deferred. In reviewing their position accordingly the County Council should take this fact into account."

The following is copy of letter from County Surveyor to the Local Government Department (Roads) referred in the Department's communication:-

"I beg to inform you, for the information of the Minister that the Wexford County Council, at their meeting, on yester-

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day, 22nd instant, dealt with the Provisional Road Works Scheme for next year. My Estimate, copy of which I enclose, amounts to £73,394: 14: 8d. The County Council, by a majority of votes, decided to raise only a sum of £40,000 to cover all works as set out, and I have been directed to revise my Estimate to come within this figure. The Council declined to make any segregation between Main and County Roads, or as regards improvement works in Part II. I wish to point out that the money allocated for works in Road Works Scheme for the current year amounted to £55,098:1;8d., and of this sum £2,000 was to cover special expenditure, in supplement of the Grant from the Local Government for reconstruction of the Rosslare Road; thus for the current year I have a sum of something over £53,000 for the County Roads and Works. At the present time there is a very small balance available for the maintenance up to the 31st March next, and I have no doubt whatever that this figure is insufficient for the proper maintenance of the Wexford Roads. The £40,000 allocated is equivalent to a reduction of about 45 % on my Estimate, and it will be impossible to properly maintain the roads at the figure."

The following letter (RGM/201/30) under date 27th October, 1930, was also read from Local Government Department (Roads):→

1. "I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that he is anxious to be in a position to notify to County Councils, as soon as possible, the grants which may be made from the Road Fund in respect of the year 1931-32. County Councils would, accordingly, do well to take an early opportunity to frame estimates of the sums which they are likely to allow for the upkeep respectively of (a) Main Roads and (b) County Roads for the financial year 1931-32. On particulars of these estimates being furnished to this Department the Minister will have them examined and he will then indicate, as soon as practicable, what upkeep grant, if any, can be made, Upkeep grants are calculated by reference to

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the amounts finally passed by County Councils, so that if Grants are to be notified early the figures supplied should correspond as nearly as possible with the final figures. In furnishing particulars of the estimates the requirements in regard to the upkeep of Main Roads in the Urban Areas of the County should be borne in mind.

2. Provided the estimates of the Council show that a reasonable sum is proposed for the upkeep of all roads, the Upkeep Grant for 1931-32 will be calculated on the basis of 40 % of the sum proposed.

3. In dealing with their estimates, Councils, subject to what is stated in the preceding paragraph, are to assume that the total sum provided in their Road Works Scheme is relieved to the extent of the Grant. In other words, the Grant is to be taken in as a credit and is not to form the basis of a supplementary Scheme after it is notified."

The references to Provisional Road Works Scheme in Report of County Surveyor to the present meeting were also read.

The following notice of motion stood in the name of Mr O'Byrne:-

"That the resolution adopted by Wexford County Council at their meeting on 22nd December, 1930, allocating a sum of £40,000 for maintenance of roads and improvement works for financial year 1931-32, be rescinded, and that the Council reconsider the County Surveyor's estimate as set out in Provisional Road Works Scheme, particularly in view of the letter from the Department of Local Government, under date 30th December, 1930(R/RGM/32) and also as it appears that some Councilors did not clearly understand that the amount of grant furnished by the L.G.D. for road maintenance etc., is in relief to be raised of the total sum/for roads for the financial year."

Colonel Gibbon said that before Mr O'Byrne's motion was considered he wanted to know whether the County Surveyor was a servant of the County Council or of the L.G.D. Was it his duty when they gave him an order, to go behind the County Coun-

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cil and communicate with the Department to obtain directions on a subject on which the County Council had given an order ? And when he took it on himself to make a communication like that he thought the County Surveyor should be very certain of the facts he had stated. He (Col. Gibbon) was certainly under the impression that in the allocation of the money when the County Surveyor asked for an order they told him that the reductions were to be made principally on the trunk roads and on the first-class roads, which they believed should be kept up from the motor taxation, and they told him definitely that no reduction was to be made on the fourth-class roads, and as far as possible no reduction on the third-class roads, but the County Surveyor had informed the L.G.D. that they gave him no instructions on the point.

County Surveyor - I actually asked the Council to segregate the amount between the various items, and they declined. I am not able to do it, and I am bound to see that there is a sufficient sum of money, and not to be held responsible for the roads going back and deteriorating, and it is my duty to acquaint the L.G.D. of the fact.

Chairman - Is it your duty ?

Co. Surveyor - I believe it is.

Chairman - Is that prescribed in any of your duties as County Surveyor. Is that sentence embodied in anything connected with your position here - that you must notify the L.G.D. as to your instructions here before you act on them ?

County Surveyor - I believe it is.

Chairman - You believe it, but have you it in black and white anywhere ?

Mr D'Arcy - Surely, the County Surveyor ought to carry out the instructions of the Council in preference to the instructions of others.

Chairman - If the County Surveyor is to be the servant of the L.G.D. we have no use for him. If he is to be our County

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Surveyor we have every use for him, but I think he has embarked on duties outside his own office altogether in making this matter clear to the L.G.D. He says himself he is responsible. When did any responsibility fall on the County Surveyor? Isn't the County Council always responsible? I think it is a gross excess of his duty to notify the L.G.D. as to what our proceedings were, only carry out our order until told otherwise.

County Surveyor - I have carried out the orders

Chairman - You haven't.

County Surveyor - I have.

Chairman - Did we tell you that everything that passed at the meeting should be made known to the L.G.D.?

County Surveyor - The matter is on the minutes.

Col. Gibbon said that on all previous occasions during his six or seven years on the Council they had reduced the roads' estimate. They had allocated a total sum, and had told the County Surveyor to revise his scheme and present it to the Council at a subsequent meeting. On previous occasions the County Surveyor submitted the revised scheme within the figure the Council mentioned, but this year he (Col. Gibbon) had not received the revised scheme on the order they made at the last meeting.

Mr McCarthy said he did not believe that the County Surveyor had been guilty of any reprehensible conduct. He merely called the attention of the Department to a matter already before the Department on the minutes, and he thought the County Surveyor was within his rights in calling attention to that important matter. It personally affected him in the discharge of his duties, and they all had vivid recollection of his being attacked over the condition of the roads. Why then should he not be granted an opportunity of defending his position? He thought the County Surveyor was quite justified in putting his position before the Department. Further, he thought that the County Surveyor more or less occupied his position in a dual capacity. He was subject to certain directions of the Depart-

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ment , could be removed from office by the Department, could not be appointed without their sanction, and was more or less under their control as well as under the control of the County Council. In his experience of the County Surveyor he had always found him a most conscientious official, who always discharged his duties in a most efficient manner, and who had done his best, very often under trying circumstances, to please everyone.

Mr D'Arcy - Why did the County Surveyor this year depart from the usual practice of the Council ?

Chairman - I don't know. One of Mr McCarthy's remarks was that the County Surveyor is in a dual capacity. I could not see that position at all. The County Surveyor has never been admonished by the L.G.D. as to his carrying out of the business; it is the County Council that always receives such admonition. The County Surveyor never personally got such admonition, and Mr McCarthy's statement, I think, in that sense is quite misleading.

Mr Corish said it might have been injudicious for the County Surveyor to write to the L.G.D. in connection with the matter. Personally, if he were in the County Surveyor's position he would have written to the Council sending them a copy of the letter to the Department. In his opinion, the County Surveyor was in a dual position, and if the memories of the members of the County Council did not fail them they would remember that in the Co. Tipperary a County Surveyor had been removed over the heads of the Council, because he was not giving what the Department considered to be proper attention to the roads. He (Mr Corish) asked the Council on the day they were considering the estimates to appoint a committee to go into the matter in detail, and that was deliberately turned down, especially by Col. Gibbon, and there was no use in Col. Gibbon saying now that he helped the County Surveyor in any way with regard to going into the details of what certainly was an indiscriminate cut with regard to the roads.

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Colonel Gibbon said he stated that the County Surveyor should prepare a revised estimate, and as soon as that estimate was ready they were in favour of a Committee being appointed if the Council were not able to deal with it. With regard to the County Surveyor being in a dual capacity, he admitted that the County Surveyor was subject to the technical inspection of his work by the engineers of the Department, but he did not at all admit that the County Surveyor was in a dual position with regard to the policy and financial expenditure of the County Council, for which the County Council was responsible.

The County Surveyor maintained he was in a dual capacity and particularly with regard to the main roads. The members might recollect that on a previous occasion there was a complaint about the insufficient attention on one particular main road, and there was a threat held over the Council of holding back the maintenance grant in that particular case. In that particular instance he pointed out to the Council at the time that in the case of a drastic cut they would be endangering the maintenance grant. It was impossible to put a reasonable figure on the main roads with the £40,000, and he considered that as he would be responsible, largely at any rate, to the L.G.D. on the question of the main roads, if not on the others, he was bound to point out to them there would be insufficient money to maintain the main roads. He would be blamed by the L.G.D. if the roads went back.

Mr D'Arcy - If we don't give you the money the responsibility is ours.

County Surveyor - That's exactly what I want.

Miss O'Ryan said that the County Surveyor did point out at the last meeting that the money was not sufficient, and a very large section of the Council, including some of those who voted against, thought it was a stupid thing to bring in a definite figure as Col. Gibbon suggested, and that they should

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have gone into the maintenance of each individual road to see what was
/the lowest possible figure whether under or over Col. Gibbon's.

Colonel Gibbon - The sympathy of some members seems to be with the County Surveyor's inability to do what he wants, and not with the inability of the people to pay the rates.

Colonel Quin said that every year they had been told it was impossible to do with less than £70,000 or £75,000 for the roads, and every year they had cut the estimate down, and the roads had not got any worse. He was certain that the roads were very much better than when he joined the Council.

The County Surveyor said that if they examined the estimates submitted in other counties they would find that they were double his estimates for smaller counties. He went into the matter carefully and reasonably and cut it to the lowest figure he considered the roads could be maintained at, and that was the £73,000. He maintained that £73,000 was in or about the proper figure for the roads. He did not say the Council could give it, but he had simply to consider what the roads needed for proper upkeep. This year if he wanted to put a decent price on any road he had to take it off a road that already had too much off. Consequently he had reduced all pro rata, and he did not see what else could be done.

Mr D'Arcy said he did not think that that should be done. Trunk roads had got sufficient in recent years to enable the money to be put to other roads.

Mr O'Byrne proposing his motion said, that some members were under the erroneous impression that the grants which would be made for road work was exclusive of the £40,000 which had been passed by the Council. He instanced the cases of two roads in Gorey district which were, he was told, the worst in the County, which would go to pieces ultimately if adequate money was not allowed for their upkeep. He found that, for the roads being maintained by contract, £1 more per mile was being allowed than for the same class of roads which were being maintained by direct labour. He gave notice of motion so that the Council

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would

have the opportunity of reconsidering the estimates. It was possible that in the coming year there would be de-rating or some other form of relief, the basis of which would possibly be the amounts paid over a certain period, and if the Council reduced the estimates it might mean a permanent loss to the County.

Arising out of questions following Mr O'Byrne, the Secretary explained that if the Council passed a resolution to spend £40,000 on the roads they could not spend any sum above that amount, and any grant that would be given would go to the relief of the general rates. If for instance a grant of £10,000 were given it would be taken as credit, and only the £40,000 spent.

Mr Walsh stated that that had been made clear to them for the past two or three years, and no one could avoid knowing it.

In answer to Mr Colloton, the Secretary stated that if the Council adopted an estimate for £40,000, and a grant of £10,000 was received the ratepayers would be only called on to pay £30,000.

To allow of the subject of road expenditure and grants in aid being discussed simultaneously Colonel Gibbon moved the following of which he had given previous notice:-

"That it is wrong in principle to distribute grants of public money on condition of further large sums being levied on County Rates. Such a system is prejudicial to the strict economy in expenditure demanded by the existing economic situation"

In moving his motion he said that the County Surveyor had not placed in the hands of the members the amended figures in regard to his proposals, which the Council decided he should prepare for them. This was very serious, as it would mean holding up the work of the Council in striking the rate for the coming year. He had no grudge against the County Surveyor or any fault to find with him generally, but in this particular matter he thought he

had made a mistake in writing to the Local Government Department above the heads of the Council.

Mr Gaul - I don't agree.

Mr Shannon - On a point of order, is that Col. Gibbon's interpretation of the Public Bodies Order. Has he legal opinion for it ?

Col. Gibbon - That's my own interpretation.

Mr Shannon - You are not entitled to give legal opinion.

Col. Gibbon - I am.

Mr Shannon - You are not.

Colonel Gibbon - I have asked the Chairman to ask the legal adviser for his opinion as to whether I am correct in my interpretation. I am not trying to get at Mr Barry personally. I have always looked upon Mr Barry as a friend of mine and will continue to do so.

Proceeding, Colonel Gibbon stated he admitted that a few excellent main trunk roads fit for carrying the heaviest motor traffic in the county were required, but he maintained that the cost of those roads and first-class roads should be borne out of motor taxation. It was absolutely impossible for the ordinary farmer or agriculturist who did not use such roads to put up the money to make roads which were not suitable to his business and which were beyond his power to pay for. They were told that the number of motor vehicles licensed in Co. Wexford was higher than in most counties. If then motor roads were to be made faster than they were being made it was not the duty of the Government to throw their cost on the ratepayers. A capital sum would then have to be raised, as the Government did in the case of the two million State Road Grant and the money raised by motor taxation should provide the interest and sinking fund. If the motor roads were required more rapidly than they could be provided at the present time, even with motor taxation, together with a loan, then further money should be raised by the nation. In regard to the County Surveyor's

allocation of the money and as to how it was to be spent, the Council definitely told him that they did not want to cut down his estimate for fourth class roads which should be kept up by the farmer and agricultural community. They should not strike rates for the trunk roads above the expenditure demanded by the ordinary farmers' traffic. He therefore disagreed with acceding to the demand of the Local Government Department as proposed by Mr O'Byrne. They should put up the money which they were able and let the Local Government Department., if they thought the motoring people wanted better roads, give them a big grant.

Mr Shannon - Have you legislation to carry out Colonel Gibbon's suggestion?

Mr Cummins - Don't you know you have not.

Chairman - I think everyone is aware you have not.

Mr Shannon - What is the use of detaining the meeting then ?

Colonel Gibbon - We have the power not to put up the money.

Mr D'Arcy seconded Colonel Gibbon's motion.

Mr Keegan, supporting Mr O'Byrne's motion, also cited roads in Gorey district which he said would have to be closed if the expenditure on them was to be "cut".

Mr Cooney asked did Colonel Gibbon, in view of his remarks ever travel the roads in New Ross area, and he challenged the other representatives of that area to say if they could afford to bear a cut in the expenditure.

Mr Walsh, replying to Mr Cooney, stated that there were some bad roads, not the main roads. There were some of the roads with surfaces so bad that horses could not travel on them. They could do with less polishing on the roads.

Mr Cooney - Let them go to the other roads.

Chairman - We could all enumerate such roads, but we are prepared to do with them rather than be taxed out of existence.

Mr Murphy stated he agreed there were bad roads in New

Ross area, but there were ratepayers in a worse position. He was not in favour of voting money for roads for which the people were unable to pay.

Mr Corish stated he found it difficult to understand the attitude of Colonel Gibbon who had spoken that day with two voices. He admitted the third and fourth class roads required attention and if the County Surveyor's figures were examined it would be found that Col. Gibbon only wanted £34,000 allocated. The term "ratepayer" was a very much abused one. He (Mr Corish) represented ratepayers as well as Colonel Gibbon, who recognised that if the estimates were cut the Council would be putting money into one of their pockets, but at the same time taking it from another to pay for Home Assistance. Within the last few weeks it had been stated that there was going to be some form of de-rating or relief for the farmers, and he would like to know from Col. Gibbon if it would be a judicious thing to cut down the estimates which he knew were not adequate to maintain the roads. If the number of motors in the County were as stated it would not lead them to believe that the country was so badly off.

Chairman - You can buy a motor car cheaper than a small pony.

A member remarked that a motor could be purchased for £5.

Concluding Mr Corish advised the Council that they would be acting unwisely in cutting the estimates in view of the possibility of de-rating or other forms of relief.

The Chairman stated he did not think the reduction of the estimates would have any bearing on the form of relief expected from the State for the farmers. They were not yet aware of the form which the proposed relief would take. If any of their T.D.'s were in a position to state that the relief would be in the form of de-rating it would be all right, but as far as he could see what was projected by the Government

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would not come in the form of de-rating but in the form of a further Agricultural Grant. He, therefore, held that the reduction of the estimates would not make any difference.

Colonel Gibbon referring to Mr Corish's question to him as to the advisability of reducing the estimate in view of possible de-rating, said he thought that one of the probable forms of relief would be the relieving of local authorities of the expenditure on national or main roads. He had not proposed cutting the expenditure on the rural roads, and they only proposed cutting it to a certain extent on third class roads. They, however, should make a very big cut on the national roads which he hoped would be taken from them. They were told last year that they would get de-rating and about the probability of relief on the old rate, but they never got it. He did not see what good it would be to the farmers if they were to pay for it in another form of taxation. He certainly would not stand for throwing on the farmers a great expenditure for the upkeep of motoring roads, which the farmers did not require, and which in some cases they found an absolute detriment ~~to~~ to them. His point of view was that the Government had got to frame taxation which should be parcelled out on an absolutely just basis and according to the requirements of the whole of the country.

Mr Keegan stated that at the previous meeting he proposed that the difference between what the Council had passed at the previous meeting and the amount agreed to last year, £16,000, should be divided and added to the £40,000 for the coming year. Colonel Gibbon had admitted that the £40,000 was not enough. He (Mr Keegan) therefore, desired to ~~again~~ propose a similar motion.

Colonel Gibbon, in reply to Mr Corish, stated he did not say that de-rating would ^{not} be any good to the farmers and agriculturists, but that it would not be any use if taxation were placed on them which would counteract the effect of derating.

A poll was then taken on Mr O'Byrne's motion with the fol-

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lowing result:-

For - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan and Shannon -12.

Against - Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Hall, Meyler, Murphy, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh, and the Chairman- 13.

The motion was accordingly lost.

A poll was then taken on Colonel Gibbon's motion with the following result:-

For - Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Hall, Meyler, Murphy, O'Ryan, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 14.

Against - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne, and Shannon - 11.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Mr Keegan - Would I be in order now in putting my motion ?

Chairman - No, sir.

The County Surveyor submitted figures which showed that the amounts for main roads and for county roads last year were £25,990 and £23,353 respectively. The allocations on the basis of a £40,000 estimate would be £15683 and £20,261 respectively showing a bigger reduction on main than on County roads. He was not satisfied with those amounts. There was no road for which money was not required. Last year he had available some money, portion of which he was able to allocate to necessitous roads, but would have no such money available in the coming year.

Mr Hall submitted that by the reduction of the estimates ~~that~~ the Co. Surveyor would be able to give the same amount of employment on the third and fourth class roads as heretofore, as so much money would not be required for the purchase of tar.

The County Surveyor replied that that might be the case, but that there was a large number of main roads which were improved under the grant, and there was no doubt that if an improved road were allowed to become bad it would be a more diffi-

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cult operation to bring it up again than it would be on an unimproved road - the ordinary better third class road.

Mr Gaul stated that in consequence of the condition of the trunk and main roads traffic had been diverted to the by-roads.

Mr Cooney - What will be the percentage of the cut on the urban roads ?

County Surveyor - The same; I don't see how you can make any difference.

Mr Cooney - The Post Office will lose a lot then as the New Ross Urban Council need not be writing any more to you about the condition of the streets.

Mr Roche proposed that no money be spent on the 60 miles of trunk roads, which had been improved, and that the amount be transferred to other roads.

Chairman (To Mr Roche) - You will have to take into consideration the 30 miles of trunk roads which Mr Barry says are not done.

County Surveyor - It's going to have serious consequences if they are not done.

Miss O'Ryan said it would be a very stupid thing for the Council to pass a resolution such as that proposed by Mr Roche. They could give a direction on the matter.

Chairman - That's what I was going to suggest; that a direction be given to the County Surveyor.

The County Surveyor said he could not undertake such a responsibility and he suggested that a committee of one representative from each County Electoral Area be appointed to go into the matter with him.

Mr Murphy agreed that a resolution was not necessary as the estimates were fairly well cut. The County Surveyor could not spend any more on trunk roads than was absolutely necessary.

Chairman - I think a direction to Mr Barry to use his discretion and not apply any money to trunk roads except to water-

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tables etc., would be sufficient.

Mr Culleton seconding Mr Roche's proposition, said the trunk roads should be entirely maintained from motor taxation.

Mr Shannon stated that by reduction of the estimates the Council would have reason to be ashamed of the condition of their roads when the Eucharistic Congress was held.

Mr Corish moved and Col. Quin seconded an amendment to Mr Roche's proposition that the expenditure on trunk roads be left to the discretion of the County Surveyor.

Mr O'Byrne stated that Mr Roche's proposition did not allow anything for the cleaning of water tables or repair of potholes on trunk roads.

Mr Elgee, Solicitor, quoted Article 49(3) of the Public Bodies Order from which he submitted that Mr Corish's amendment was not in order.

Mr Murphy moved that no money be spent on the sixty miles of trunk roads that were finished except for what was necessary on the sides and the repair of pot holes, and that the money suggested by County Surveyor for repair of these roads go to the link roads.

Mr Roche submitted that if work like that were to be done on trunk roads the County Surveyor would never get finished with them.

Mr Doran seconded Mr Murphy's amendment on which a poll resulting as follows was taken:-

For - Messrs Cummins, Doran, Gibbon, Hall, Meyler, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Ryan, Quin, Walsh and the Chairman - 11.

Against - Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Keegan, Roche and Smyth - 6.

Declined to vote - Messrs Armstrong, Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Gaul, Shannon, O'Byrne - 8.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Mr Roche pressed for a poll on his motion and after some discussion a vote was taken with the following result:-

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For - Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Keegan, Roche, and Smyth - 6.

Against - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Doran, Gaul, Gibbon, Hall, Meyler, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Quin, Shannon Walsh and the Chairman - 19.

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Gibbon seconded by Mr D'Arcy:- "That the County Surveyor be directed to prepare a further Road Works Estimate in accordance with resolutions adopted at this meeting, for consideration at meeting of County Council on 9th February, 1931, and furnish the figures to the Councillors in the meantime.

Mr Shannon and Mr Gaul raised the question as to necessary new works but the County Surveyor said in face of the decision of the Council it would not be possible to provide for any new works in the Estimate.

Mr Shannon said he would raise the matter again at the meeting of Council on 9th February, 1931.

PUBLIC HEALTH ESTIMATE. -----

The Chairman said it had been decided by a majority of the Health Board in view of the increase in amount to be demanded from the County Council that Dr. Bastible should come before the Council and explain his school inspection scheme and his immunisation treatment against diptheria.

Mr Gaul held it was illegal for the Council to consider these schemes and asked the advice of Mr Elgee, Solicitor.

Mr Elgee - You could have an informal discussion, but no resolution, and I am doubtful if any notice of such discussion could appear on the official minutes. The only way this matter could be brought before the County Council is when the Health Board, in the usual way, send in their estimate to the County Council, and, until that is done, you have no say. Up to the present, no estimate has been sent in by the Health

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Board. That estimate should have been passed on the 19th instant, and it was not, I understand, passed on that date, and, in the ordinary course, the clerk should, when the estimate was passed, ~~to~~ send it in within three days to the Council. He has not done that. Until that is done, and the full estimate considered on the 9th of February, the County Council has no say at all. I see nothing, however, to prevent you ~~to~~ having an informal discussion.

The Chairman said when they gave permission for the appointment of a County Medical Officer of Health a great many thought the expenditure in connection with the matter, would not run into any more, at the greatest than £2,000 per year. But they find today, before they are done with the County Medical Officer of Health and all his schemes, the cost will run close on £7,000 on the ratepayers. The Board of Health then decided, whether it was the right thing or not, to bring it before the County Council and he thought they were quite justified in bringing it here. He didn't see what objection anybody could take to such an action of the part of the majority of the Health Board.

Dr. Bastible, County Medical Officer of Health, said the schemes and supervision were very important for the children of the County and aimed at bringing about health and happiness. There were two schemes - one for anti-diphtheria treatment and the other the school medical inspection scheme. Most children from six months upwards were liable to contract diphtheria, and modern science showed that this disease, through immunisation, was preventable, and where treatment was carried out children were free from contracting the disease. It was in use in America, France, Germany, England, and in many counties in Ireland. He would give figures to indicate the possibilities of the scheme. In Aberdeen, and he selected the place as an example to show that they would not spend money on the scheme there unless they expected a handsome return (laughter)

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immunisation was going on considerably, and as a result there was a great reduction in the disease. In 1904 the number of cases was 48, and from 1905 to 1910 the number was 147; 1910 to 1915, 164; 1919 to 1924, 401. In view of the increasing hospital costs associated with the treatment of diphtheria it was decided in 1924 to inaugurate an immunisation scheme, with the result that the number of diphtheria cases for 1925 was reduced to 15 as compared with 43 for 1924, and in 1926-1930 the average was ten. In Edinburgh where immunisation was carried out there was also a considerable decrease. In Co. Louth the number of diphtheria cases for 1928 was 84; anti-diphtheria treatment was started there in the latter year, and as a result, 1,000 were immunised, so that in 1929 the number of cases fell to 37, and in 1930 to 20. In Co. Wexford the number of cases that occurred in 1928-29 was 56 and in 1930 it was the fourth highest county in Ireland with 97 cases. The cost of treating one case in the fever hospital in 1930 was £12:12s. The estimated cost of immunisation was £1,000 and if they adopted the scheme they were saving life and money. On a calculation of cost at £12:10s. for treatment in one case, the figures of the 1930 basis involved an expenditure of £1212 as against £1000, the cost of immunisation. In fact, were it not for the ^{public} spirited action of the New Ross Urban Council in voting £250 to combat the disease in their area, there was no doubt but a much larger number of cases would have occurred. There were one or two peculiar coincidences in connection with the campaign, there. One death occurred in a family where immunisation was refused, and where one school child out of a number ^{that} ~~that~~ refused immunisation, that child was the only one that got diphtheria. The cost per case would be 5/- per case. Referring to the treatment of children under the school inspection scheme, Dr. Bastible went on to say that there were 15,000 school children in the County with 157 schools. School inspection schemes were working in various countries for a

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considerable time, and in their own country in Dublin, Cork, Louth, Kildare, Offally, and they had started in Wicklow, Limerick, Westmeath and Carlow. He gave the detailed cost of the scheme and treatment of children, as published last week, showing the total cost of the school inspection scheme for Co. Wexford to be £1,775, of which the Government would recoup them fifty per cent, so that the cost to the rates was really only $\frac{1}{2}$ in the £. He need not labour the advantages of the scheme, of which the chief aim was to tackle disease at the early or preventable stage, when it was easily curable, and not allow it to develop into the incurable stage or have it cured at great expense and difficulty. When it was realised that 70 per cent of blindness, 80 per cent of tuberculosis, and 70 per cent of other diseases, could have been prevented by treatment in the early stages, they would see the boon that the scheme now submitted would be to the county. He understood fully the extreme reluctance of the Board of Health to approve of a scheme that meant an increased burden on the ratepayers, but at the same time, a certain amount of money must be spent. The people, they represented, asked them to see there was full value given for the money and they selected them for their judgment and business capacity in administration. They all recognised that not alone could they err on the side of excessive expenditure, but also err on the other side, by having an excessive regard for slight expenditure and fail to confer the advantages in view. The scheme submitted was the best bargain they could get for a halfpenny in the £.

An informal discussion then took place as regards various points in the two schemes but no resolution was passed and no decision arrived at.

UNDERGROUND TELEGRAPHIC LINES - NEW ROSS
URBAN DISTRICT.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of

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Col. Quin seconded by Mr Cooney:- "That this Council hereby consents to the placing of an underground telegraphic line along Bridge Street, North Street, and South Street, to corner of Cross Lane, New Ross, any damage done to streets in carrying out the work to be made good to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor."

SEALING AGREEMENT PURCHASE OLD COURTHOUSE RENTS.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr D'Arcy:- "That the seal of this County Council be affixed to the agreement with Capt. Redmond and others as to the purchase of ground rents of Old Courthouse, Quay, Wexford."

NEW ROSS WEXFORD ROAD.

It was decided to adjourn consideration of statement by Dr.W.F. Hearn L.L.D. New Ross as to the condition of New Ross-Wexford Road via Camross to the Council meeting of 9th February, 1931.

FLOODING AT MARSHALLSTOWN.

Reference by Mr Clince M.C.C. to complaints which he had received as to flooding of road opposite Marshallstown Post Office was also adjourned to next meeting of the Council.

FLOODING AT BURROW ROSSLARE

Complaints by Mr Janes Bent as to flooding of his premises at Burrow Rosslare was adjourned to next County Council meeting.

GREENVILLE LANE, ENNISCORTHY.

Mr Patrick O'Neill, Greenville, Enniscorthy, wrote under date 17th January, 1931, that the lane was not a cul-de-sac strictly speaking as there was a path which led to Milehouse road in constant use by the public and number of townspeople and along which a car could be brought if necessary.

FORD OF LYNG.

Under date 23rd December, 1930, Mr J. Wickham, Ford of Lyng, wrote that he was not going to pay rates unless something was done to prevent flooding at Ford of Lyng ~~well~~. He could not till or put any animal on the greater part of his land owing to the flooding.

Mr Elgee in reply to Mr O'Byrne said they had been informed at the Quit Rent Office that certain maps which would show whether the land belonged to the Slob people which it was necessary for the Council to have to support any proceedings they might take against the owners of the Slob lands, could be obtained at the Office of Woods and Forests in London, but on application these people said they had no such things at all. Counsel had advised that until they had some definite information as to the owners of the land they could not go on with the proceedings.

Mr O'Byrne complained that Mr Elgee, instead of carrying out the instructions of the Council to proceed, had obtained Counsel's opinion.

Mr Elgee said when he received instructions to proceed he had in the ordinary course to send to Counsel in connection with the preparation of the writ and a deputation from the Council discussed the matter with Counsel for four hours.

The Chairman said the place they were speaking about was on the leading road from Wexford to Rosslare and ~~was~~ claimed by the Slob people. They cut reeds on it for years and would not allow any outsider to touch it. He (Chairman) had seen them draw the sedge off this place more than once. But when the flooding began and when they found it was of no use to them they disclaimed liability although 20 or 30 years ago when Mr Charlton was steward the stuff growing on the place ~~was~~ drawn by them to the sheds for thatching ricks etc.

Col. Gibbon said there seemed to be a misunderstanding as to what Counsel said. They had taken Counsel's opinion

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on the Act of Parliament which provided that the Slob Company were not to allow of any flooding occurring to the adjoining lands. Mr Jellett, their Counsel, went so far as to say that as soon as they found out the names of the owners of the Slob - and the people who would be eligible to constitute the Board they were supposed to have under the Act of Parliament - they could take action. He (Col. Gibbon) understood that the investigation as to the map was only a side issue.

After further discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Corish seconded by Col. Gibbon:-
"That Mr Elgee, Solicitor, be instructed to proceed against the owners of the South Sloblands responsible for the flooding of the road at Ford of Lyng notwithstanding the fact that he has not at hand the map which he stated is required by Counsel."

REPORT OF ANALYST

The report of Co. Analyst for quarter ended 31st December, 1930, showed that the total number of samples analysed during the quarter were:- Foods, 156 ; Drugs, 52 ; Waters, 7 ; Number Adulterated:- Drugs, 3; Buttermilk, 1; Four samples of water submitted by Co. Board of Health were condemned as unfit for use.

DEPUTATION TO LAND COMMISSION AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT.

The following report was submitted and approved:-

"On Wednesday 14th January, 1931, the Deputation appointed by the County Council at their meeting on 8th January, 1931, waited upon the Land Commission and the Local Government Department.

The following acted as the deputation: Messrs Ml. Doyle, (Chairman of the Council), Sean O'Byrne, Myles Smyth, M.M. Roche.

The Deputation were accompanied by the County Secretary and County Surveyor and also by Messrs R. Corish, Dr. Ryan, and

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D.Allen T.D.'s for the County.

They were received at the Land Commission by the Secretary (Mr M.Deegan), and an hour was spent in discussing the necessity for carrying out drainage works in the County particularly at Cahore (where a drainage scheme is in existence), ~~the~~ Boira and at Kilmore.

At the Local Government Department the deputation were received by the Secretary (E.P.McCarron) and Messrs J.Hurson, (Finance and Loans Section) and H.S.Moylan (Roads Section).

The deputation put forward the necessity of obtaining money for the general removal of dangerous corners which would not secure attention from the County Council for a very considerable time.

Mr McCarron said that relief money was not available for such work, and, in view of his pronouncement the deputation proceeded to deal with schemes affecting public health the principal being :- Bunclody Sewerage Scheme, Taghmon and Coolgreany Water Schemes. The clearing out of inner basin at Courtown Harbour was also dealt with and the dredging of Kilmore Harbour.

The various schemes will receive consideration from the Government.

As regards those dealing with sewerage and water schemes it was arranged that a further interview would be afforded the County Medical Officer Health and Health Board Engineer to discuss the various details.

Mr Doyle on behalf of the deputation thanked the officials concerned for their interview.

The proceedings were private.

PETROL PUMP LICENCES.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Brennan:- "That licences for Petrol Pumps issue to T.Moran (Moran & O'Brien), South Street, New Ross, and Timothy J. Larkin, Duffry Hill, Enniscorthy."

POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT LICENCES.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Brennan :- "That new licences under Poisons and Pharmacy Act be issued to John Whelan, Merchant, Bunclody, and Wm. Hogan, Merchant, Fethard-on-Sea and renewal of licence under this Act to Wm. B. Jackson, Merchant, 51 Main Street, Gorey."

GOREY COURTHOUSE AND BEET GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

An application was received from Mrs G.M. Stephens, Secretary Beet Growers Association, for use of room in Gorey Courthouse on Saturday February 7th for the purpose of holding a meeting of the Beet Growing Association.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Brennan:- "That the use of the Court-room in Gorey Courthouse be afforded the Wexford Beet Growers Association for meeting on 7th February, 1931, on the understanding that if any damage occurs to the place while in their possession the Association will be held liable for repair of same."

Michael Doyle

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

M I N U T E S

of

MEETING HELD ON 9th FEBRUARY, 1931

N. J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

FORTVIEW,
WEXFORD.

(1)

A meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 9th February, 1931..

Present: Mr M. Doyle (Chairman) presiding; also Messrs James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Clince, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, James Gaul, Col.C.M. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Michael Jordan, William P. Keegan, Thomas Maylor, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col.R.P.Wemyss Quin, M.M.Roche, James Shannon, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the County Surveyor, and Mr Elgee, Solicitor, were in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £2294: 12: 1d. was examined and signed.

THE LATE MRS JORDAN.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Gaul seconded by the Chairman:- "That the following reply from Mr Jordan T.D., M.C.C. relative to vote of condolence on the death of his mother be inserted on the Minutes of this day's meeting."

"Will you please convey to the members of the County Council, the Finance Committee, and of the Vocational Education Committee my sincere thanks and gratitude for their kind vote of sympathy.

"I would also be grateful if you would convey my thanks to the members of the staff.

"I would like to thank yourself personally and in a special manner for your very nice letter and message of sympathy. It was really very kind of you and I appreciate it very much indeed."

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THE LATE MRS O'BYRNE, GOREY.

The Chairman, in proposing a resolution of condolence with Mr Sean O'Byrne M.C.C. in the death of his mother, regretted that the occasion for such a resolution had arisen. Mr O'Byrne was one of the oldest members of the present Council, and he was sure they were all sorry for his loss and tendered him their sincere sympathy.

Col. Quin, Mr Hall, Mr Corish, the Secretary, County Surveyor and Mr Elgee, tendered their sympathy.

The motion was adopted in silence.

Mr O'Byrne, in suitable terms, acknowledged the vote of sympathy.

CONFIRMATION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES.

The following Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 15th January, 1931, were submitted:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 15th January, 1931.

Present:- Messrs Sean O'Byrne, James Hall, and James Shannon.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor and Mr Elgee, Solicitor, were also in attendance.

The Chair was taken by Mr O'Byrne on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr Hall.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £2037: 6: 10d. was examined and signed.

TRAVELLING EXPENSES OF MACHINERY OVERSEER.

In connection with Bill for £3:15:2d. received from the Machinery Overseer (Mr William Murphy, 27 Main Street, Enniscorthy), for rail fare and subsistence allowance to Downpatrick, the County Surveyor stated it was found necessary to procure spare parts for Rock Drills and having seen an advertisement as to second-hand rock drills for sale at Downpatrick, he sent Mr Murphy there to ascertain if any of the parts advertised for sale could be utilised. As a result they were able to obtain two rock drills, one absolutely new, at a total cost of £25.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Hall:

"That we approve of the payment of £3:15:2d., rail fare and expenses, to Machinery Overseer, Mr Murphy, in connection with the purchase of Rock drills at Downpatrick, on the 8th, 9th and 10th December, 1930."

RECONSTRUCTION OF OLD JAIL PREMISES AS COURT ETC.

The following Resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That John Doyle, Old Jail, Wexford, be paid at the rate

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of 2/6d. per day for attending to the heating furnace at Old Jail premises as from 12th December, 1930, employment to continue until the new caretaker has been appointed.

The County Surveyor mentioned that he had to continue the services of Mr John Armstrong, Clerk of Works at the Old Jail, in clearing up some odds and ends, and in dealing with the final payment to the Contractor etc. The extension of the Contract was up to the end of December, 1930, and he (County Surveyor) found it necessary to retain the services of Mr Armstrong who he recommended should be paid at £5 per week up to the 10th January, 1931, and £3:3:0d. per week for any successive employment.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr Hall:- "That we approve of the recommendation of County Surveyor to this meeting in regard to the employment of Mr John Armstrong as Clerk of Works, Old Jail reconstruction."

RURAL DANCE HALLS.

Under date 14th January, 1931, (P.H.Circ. 7/31) the Local Government Department wrote forwarding copy of General Order "The Boards of Health (Urban Powers) Order, 1931," investing Boards of Health with powers for the regulation of Dance Halls and other places of similar entertainment in rural areas.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME.

In connection with the non-residence of Miss Kitty Kickham, University Scholarship Holder, in a recognised hostel, medical Certificate was received from Dr. Mary Cuddigan, Enniscorthy, certifying that Miss Kickham was suffering from Gastritis and was on special diet. It would be very difficult, almost impossible, to follow her treatment and abide by hostel rules.

The meeting considered this Certificate satisfactory and decided that no further objection would be made to Miss Kickham residing outside a recognised hostel and that she be allowed to continue residence in recognised lodgings.

ESTIMATE OF COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH.

Under date 3rd January, 1931, the Department of Local

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Government (P. 95776/30. (Fa). Loch Garman) wrote, forwarding a letter which had been addressed to the Secretary, Board of Health, approving of the proposal of the Board to consider their annual Estimate and Demand on the 19th January, 1931.

DEFAULTING LAND PURCHASE ANNUITANTS

The following under date 8th January (S.95356/30. Loch Garman) was read from the Local Government Department:-

"With reference to your letter of the 27th ultimo, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that the draws upon the Guarantee Fund under the Land Purchase Acts are dealt with on a County basis, as are also repayments to that Fund in respect of arrears of annuities. The amount absorbed in the Guarantee Fund in respect of the share of County Wexford in the Estate Duty Grant represents the amount due by County Wexford alone."

FERNS DISPENSARY

The following under date 2nd January, 1931, was read from Mr T.D. Sinnott, Secretary, County Board of Health:-

"With reference to telephone conversation in the matter of the proposal of the Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance to have essential repairs carried out to the Ferns Dispensary Residence by Mr Martin Dunbar, and to give Mr Dunbar in lieu of payment a plot of ground off the garden attached to the Dispensary Residence, I beg to inform you that a Committee of the Board recently visited Ferns and examined the Dispensary Residence there. In their report, it was pointed out that walls, ceilings, and roofs required internal and external repairs and that the work would be rather costly. The Committee reported that they had been in negotiation with a local Contractor named Mr Martin Dunbar and that Mr Dunbar was prepared to carry out all labour in connection with the repairs if he obtained from the Board the site at the garden attached to the Dispensary residence. The Committee recom-

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maended that an arrangement to this effect be ratified by the Board. The Board approved of the Committee's recommendation.

The Enniscorthy Board of Guardians on the 14th of August, 1889 acquired the plot upon which the Dispensary Residence is built for a term of 60 years from the 25th idem. There is thus a period of 19 years yet to run before the lease expires, and it would appear that the Board would have power to dispose of their interests in the plot to any person.

The Dispensary Residences in the County have not been, as far as I am aware, transferred to the Board of Health. They remain vested in the County Council. I would be glad to know if the County Council would favour an arrangement of the kind suggested by the Board of Health."

This communication was referred to Mr Elgee, Solicitor, who, under date 3rd January, 1931, wrote as follows:-

"I am in receipt of your letter enclosing copy of one from the Secretary of the Health Board dated the 2nd inst., from which it appears, that the Health Board propose to make over part of the Garden attached to the above Dispensary Residence to Mr Martin Dunbar in consideration of his doing the necessary repairs to the Dispensary Residence free of charge,

With reference thereto I beg to state, that the above Premises were demised to the Guardians of the Enniscorthy Union by Mr. Richard Donovan, under Lease dated the 14th day of August 1889, for a term of 60 years from the 25th March 1889 at the Yearly Rent of £1:10:0. The Premises were so demised by Mr Donovan to the Guardians for the purpose of erecting thereon a Dispensary Residence for the Medical Officer of Ferns under the provisions of the Dispensary Houses (Ireland) Act, 1897 (42 & 43 Vic. Cap.25)

Sec. 12 of the above mentioned Act provides that the

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Guardians may with the Consent of the (then) Local Government Board sell and dispose of any Lands Houses &c., purchased or erected under the Act which they might not require as a Dispensary or a Dispensary Residence.

This Section, I am of opinion, relates to the entire of the Premises taken for the purposes of the Dispensary, and this being so, the premises (which are at present vested in the County Council) cannot be subdivided without the Consent of the Reps. of the said Richard Donovan the Lessor in the Lease of the 14th. day of August 1889, and under Section 12 above referred to, the sanction of the Local Government Department will have to be obtained before any such arrangement as proposed can be carried out."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by the Chairman:-

"That the Co. Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance be authorised to act as agents to the Wexford County Council regarding transfer of garden attached to Ferns Dispensary Residence to Mr Martin Dunbar, on condition that the instructions of Mr Elgee, County Solicitor, are carried out, and with the permission of the L.G.D. and the consent of the Reps. of the Landlords. We consider there should also be a proportionate part of the rent placed upon the garden so that Mr Dunbar would not be in a position later on to set up an indefeasible title."

COLLECTION OF POOR RATE.

The following statement showing the percentage of the Rate ^{Lodged} Collectors, to 15th January, 1931, was submitted:-

	Percentage Collected
1. E.J. Murphy.....	59.4
2. J. Quirke.....	59.
3. J. Curtis.....	59.
4. A. Dunne.....	55.6
5. J. Deegan.....	54.6
6. W. Doyle.....	54.6

	Percentage Lodged.
7. Sean Gannon.....	54.5
8. J.J.O'Reilly.....	54.1
9. J. Cummins.....	53.9
10. M. McCarthy.....	53.6
11. P. Nolan.....	53.4
12. T. Rowe.....	52.8
13. W. Cummins.....	52.7
14. T. Bolger.....	52.2
15. M. Kelly.....	51.3
16. P. Carty.....	51.0
17. P. O'Byrne.....	50.
18. P. Doyle.....	50.
19. J.J. Sinnott.....	48.3
20. J. Quirke (No.2).....	41.0
21. T. Bolger (No.12).....	33.5

The Rate Inspector said that Messrs Kelly, O'Byrne, and Philip Doyle, had made no lodgments since 1st January, and during that period Rate Collector Carty had lodged £33 only.

The following resolution proposed by the Chairman, and seconded by Mr Hall, was adopted:-

"That Rate Collectors Kelly, O'Byrne and P. Doyle be requested to furnish explanation as to why they have made no lodgments of rate for the month of January and that Collector P. Carty be directed to furnish an explanation as to why he lodged the sum of £33 only for the same period."

ILLNESS OF MR JOHN KEHOE,
ASSISTANT SURVEYOR.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That in conformity with Medical Certificate from Dr. S.A. Furlong, Mr John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, be granted a month's further sick leave, as from 9th January, 1931."

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The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne, seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 15th January, 1931, be received and considered."

Reconstruction Old Jail Premises - Employment of Clerk of Works: The County Surveyor said it would be necessary to keep on the Clerk of Works for a further fortnight.

The Chairman asked if this was justifiable in view of the fact that the Contractor was supposed to finish by the end of December.

The County Surveyor said the Contractor had completed all his work. But there were extras including the painting of the court which had to be provided for .

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Cummins seconded by Mr Hall:- "That John Armstrong, Clerk of Works at Old Jail premises reconstruction be employed for a further fortnight as from 7th February, 1931."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Brennan:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 15th January, 1931, be and are hereby confirmed."

The following Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 29th January, 1931, were submitted:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber on 29th January, 1931.

The following members were present:- Messrs Sean O'Byrne, James Shannon, James Hall, and Thomas McCarthy.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, Mr Elgee, Solicitor, and Rate Inspector, were also in attendance.

Mr McCarthy was moved to the chair on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £1,444: 18: 2d. was examined and signed.

STATE OF RATE COLLECTION.

The following is the state of the Rate Collection up to 28th January, 1931.

<u>Rate Collector</u>	<u>Percentage Collected.</u>
1. M. McCarthy	63.4
2. J. Quirke	61.5
3. W. Doyle	61.3
4. J. Curtis	60.5
5. E. J. Murphy	60.3
6. P. Nolan	58.0
7. A. Dunne	58.0
8. J. Cummins	57.7
9. J. Deegan	57.5
10. Sean Gannon	57.4
11. J. J. O'Reilly	56.8
12. Thomas Rowe	55.
13. W. Cummins	54.7
14. M. M. Kelly	54.7
15. P. Doyle	54.3

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<u>Rate Collector</u>	<u>Percentage Collected</u>
16. T. Bolger(No.14)	54.3
17. P. O'Byrne	53.2
18. P. Carty	51.1
19. J.J.Sinnott	50.6
20. J.Quirke(No.2)	43.0
21. T.Bolger(No.12)	35.3

The Rate Inspector said that at the moment the Rate Collectors found it very difficult to get in money owing to the slump in cattle trade which had been very bad for November and December. He was satisfied the Collectors were doing their best but he would like to see those at the bottom of the list do better.

In connection with report of State of Rate Collection as submitted to last meeting when it was reported that three Collectors had made no lodgment since 1st January, 1931, and a fourth a lodgment of a very small amount, the Secretary reported that no reply had been received from P. Carty.

It was mentioned that Mr P. Carty (No.21) had recently met with an accident and had not been able to resume duty since it happened some time back until the 26th inst.

Mr Philip Doyle (No.3) wrote under date 23rd January, 1931, that he lodged up to 50 % on 20th December last. After that he did not resume his collection until 2nd January and had been out almost every day since but could not get money. Most of the Ratepayers in his district grew beet and could not pay their rates until they got Return of receipts from the Factory about the 15th inst. He lodged £57 on 18th and £55 on 21st and he expected to lodge about £50 on 23rd. He was doing his very best and expected to be able to lodge a good deal by the middle of February.

Mr O'Byrne (No.9) wrote he had not any money to lodge until the 14th and as he was "checking" on the 16th he was trying to have as much as possible by that date. He would lodge in future as requested by the Council.

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Mr M.M. Kelly (No.6) wrote that he was out collecting a good many days from 1st January, 1931, but failed to get any money. The reason for this was that he collected very hard to get in the 50 per cent to entitle him to poundage, calling on all the good pays for the second moiety and leaving only the bad and late pays, the ones from which it was difficult to get money from in January. He hoped he would be able to do better for the month of February.

No order.

The following from L.G.D. under date 27th January, 1931 (G3742/1931 Loch Garman) was read:-

"Adverting to the entry in the Minutes of Proceedings of the Wexford County Council on the 8th instant, regarding the Rate Collection position, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that in the event of any Rate Collector failing to comply with the conditions of his employment by not lodging the full amount of his warrant on or before the 31st March the provisions of Article 101 (5) of the Public Bodies Order, 1925, will apply and such Collectors must not expect to be allowed poundage at a rate similar to that fixed for the due performance of their duties."

The Minister is not prepared to anticipate that the Collectors will not adequately perform their contracts."

The Secretary stated that copy of the letter from the L.G.D. had been furnished each Collector.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon and adopted:-

"That, as the Finance Committee are satisfied that the Rate Collection for current year cannot be closed by the 31st March we again request the Department of Local Government to agree to the request of the Committee to extend the period for the closing of the Rate Collectors' Warrants to the 6th May next. The selection of the 31st

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March as the date for closing the Collection is unfortunate as it is the period when money is not available. The Local Government Department should be aware of the present financial stress and in view of the economic situation of the farmers of the County, we request them to accede to our proposal to extend the day for closing to the 6th May."

TRACINGS OF HOLDINGS

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It was decided that a sum of £5 be expended in securing from Valuation Department tracings of holdings which the Rate Inspector was unable to identify.

RECONSTRUCTION OLD JAIL.

In connection with the removal of County Council Offices from Fortview to the new offices at the Old Jail, a discussion took place relative to telephone installation.

The Secretary and County Surveyor pointed out that the last decision of the Council to have one telephone with two switches should be reconsidered. They believed a more suitable arrangement would be to have two telephones, one in County Secretary's office with a switch to the Local Taxation Officer and an independent installation for the County Surveyor.

The County Surveyor mentioned that the County Registrar required a table and press for his offices and this would cost £5: 10: Od., and £17: 10: Od. respectively, while it would also be necessary to make alterations to existing Press at a cost of £4 or £5.

It was decided to request the County Registrar to apply to Office of Public Works for a supply of any necessary furniture he requires.

It was recommended that the County Surveyor should purchase two dozen second hand chairs for offices etc., at a cost not exceeding 15/- each and also provide two tables respecting which he was directed to procure quotations from

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local firms.

ESTIMATE OF RATES.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr O'Byrne, seconded by Mr Hall and adopted:-

"That Estimate of Rates for general and separate charges be considered at Finance Committee meeting of 26th February, 1931, and by the County Council at their meeting on 9th March 1931 and that the Department of Local Government and Public Health be requested to extend the time for consideration of estimate from 1st March to 9th March, 1931, in view of the fact that the estimates of Board of Health and Public Assistance were not received until 28th January, 1931, and that the estimate for Roads and Public Works will not be definitely agreed to until the meeting of County Council on 9th February."

The Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote, under date 20th January, 1931 (G.3743/1931. Loch Garman) that the Minister would raise no objection to the payment of poundage fees to Collector J.J.Sinnott in respect of lodgments to the 31st October last, provided that he lodged 50 % of Warrant and arrears by 20th January.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution which was passed unanimously:- "That as Mr Sinnott had unfortunately a relapse of illness he was unable to lodge 50 % of his warrant by 20th January, we request the Minister for Local Government to extend the time for the lodgment of 50 % to the 28th January."

USE OF HEAVY MOTOR CARS OVER WEXFORD BRIDGE.

The following Report under date 27th January, 1931, was read from Supt. W.P. Quinn:-

"I beg to inform you that on 26th instant Garda John J. Buggy, Garda Siachana, Castlebridge, while on duty at Ardavan, found Patrick Mitten, 1 Francis Street, Wexford, driving a Heavy Motor Car, No Y I 8631. The driver when questioned ad-

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mitted having driven the Heavy Motor Car over the New Bridge leading from Wexford to Castlebridge. The vehicle in question is 2 tons 10 cwt in weight unladen, its front axle weight being 25 cwt and its rear axle weight, 3 tons 9 cwt and 2 qrs., i.e., laden weight of 4 tons 14 cwt and 2 qrs. The lorry in question is the property of Irish-American Oil Co. Ltd, 1 & 2 Upper O'Connell Street, Dublin. The driver when questioned stated that he had used the lorry or lorries of equal capacity over the Bridge for many years without question. There is a notice exhibited on the Bridge to the effect that the use of Heavy Motor Cars and lorries of a weight unladen exceeding two tons is prohibited. I shall be glad to know if your Roads Department desire proceedings to be taken in this case or if a warning shall issue."

Mr O'Byrne proposed that proceedings be instituted against Patrick Mitten, 1 Francis Street, Wexford, for driving over Wexford Bridge a Motor Vehicle of excess weight in contravention of County Council By-law.

Mr. Hall seconded. Passed.
SHEEP DIPPING ORDER.

Mr Elgee mentioned that he had an enquiry from the Dist. Superintendent, Garda Síochána, ^{Wexford} as to the procedure with regard to prosecutions for offences in connection with Sheep Dipping Order, under Diseases of Animals Act 1894. Proceedings under this Act could be taken by the Guards or by the Inspectors of the County Council, and the District Superintendent wanted to know what the Council wished to have done in the matter, whether the Guards would take the proceedings or the Inspectors.

Mr Shannon proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution:- "That with reference to administration of Sheep Dipping Order, 1915, we recommend the Council to request that all prosecutions should be instituted by the Garda Síochána, or that the Sheep Dipping Inspectors of the Council

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should hold themselves in readiness to give all assistance to the Guards including appearance as witnesses in the Court."

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATION.

Mr Elgee, Solicitor, explained the nature of the application, made at Wexford Juvenile Court on 28th January, under which a child named Annie Murphy, was sent to an Industrial School.

The meeting considered that the case was a valid one for committal.

GOREY COURTHOUSE.

It was decided that Mr O'Byrne should be allowed the use of Gorey Courthouse on 15th February for the purpose of a local meeting in which he was interested.

State of Rate Collection: The state of the Collection up to 31st January, 1931, was submitted as follows:-

Collector.	Percentage of Warrant collected.
1. M. McCarthy.....	64.5
2. J. Curtis.....	62.8
3. J. Quirke(No.1).....	62.1
4. W. Doyle.....	61.3
5. E. J. Murphy.....	60.4
6. Sean Gannon.....	60.0
7. Patrick Nolan.....	59.3
8. Art Dunne.....	59.0
9. J. Cummins.....	58.4
10. J. Deegan.....	57.5
11. J. J. O'Reilly.....	57.3
12. Philip Doyle.....	56.6
13. P. O'Byrne.....	56.0
14. W. Cummins.....	55.7
15. Thomas Rowe.....	55.1
16. M. Kelly.....	54.7
17. P. Carty.....	54.5
18. T. Bolger(No.14).....	54.3
19. J. J. Sinnott.....	50.8
20. J. Quirke(No.2).....	43.6
21. T. Bolger(No.12).....	39.6

In reply to the Chairman, the Assistant Secretary said that at the end of September the Collection showed an improvement over the corresponding period^{of}/last year of £11,000, but this improvement had not been maintained and the improvement now was about £5,000 over the corresponding period last year. The sanctioned overdraft was £36,000 and the actual amount overdrawn at the moment £32,000.

Reconstruction Old Jail: It was decided that advertisements should be published in the three local newspapers and "Irish Independent" for quotations for two dozen new Irish manufactured chairs in oak and upholstered.

Use of Heavy Motor Cars over Wexford Bridge: Under date 4th February, 1931, Supt. Quinn, Garda Siochana, reported that on 31st January, Garda Buggy, found Matthew Boggan, Anne Street, Wexford, driving Omnibus P.I.3683 over Wexford Bridge. The unladen weight of this Bus is three tons. On being questioned as to why he crossed over the bridge with such a heavy vehicle Mr Boggan stated that he had authority from Mr Barry, County Surveyor, to cross the bridge provided he drove slowly. In view of the fact that authority had been given in this case Mr Quinn asked as to what was the general position in regard to heavy motor cars crossing this bridge.

The County Surveyor said that the members might recollect that the Council decided to allow light buses to travel over the bridge provided they kept within a reasonable speed. There would not be any injury, and he agreed with the Council. He did not give that order without permission; he could not do it.

Chairman - I think we will have to make some sort of a steadfast rule.

Col. Quin said it sounded rather foolish to say that the bridge was only fit to carry two tons, and then to give permission for the driving of a three or four-ton bus over it.

Chairman - I suppose whatever foolishness was in it the Council was responsible for it.

Col. Gibbon - What's the weight of the loaded bus ?

Chairman - It would surely be four and a half tons, I suppose. Are you going to allow the bus to continue going over the bridge provided it goes slowly ?

Mr Gaul - You are going to cause great inconvenience to the people if you stop the bus.

Chairman - I am aware of that, but then will you prosecute someone else for crossing over.

Mr Keegan said he thought Mr Boggan should be congratulated for the service he was giving on the bad road concerned.

Miss O'Ryan said she thought they should allow Mr Boggan to bring in the people, but she thought they should be very particular about the speed.

Col. Quin - Is it perfectly safe for these big vehicles to go over the bridge if they go at five or ten miles an hour, because we can't sanction a thing that's not safe ?

The County Surveyor said they were dealing with an old by-law that was passed before motor cars came in at all, and the object of which was to put off traction engines.

Mr Hall proposed that the bus be allowed to cross at a speed not exceeding five miles an hour.

County Surveyor - Any bus with an unladen weight of not more than three tons ?

Mr Walsh said they had a three miles an hour limit on New Ross Bridge for some time, and he never saw a bus passing over except as fast as it was able to go. There was no use in fixing a limit unless they were able to have control.

The Chairman said he thought the County Surveyor would have to pay a surprise visit with some of his staff.

With reference to a suggestion that they should have a report from the care-taker of New Ross Bridge with reference to speed, the County Surveyor said it would be no use in court unless they had a measured distance at each end and timed vehicles with a stop watch.

Col. Quin said he thought they should ask the Guards to enforce the orders.

The Chairman agreed, and suggested that the request should apply to both New Ross Bridge and Wexford Bridge.

Mr Gaul suggested that a warning would serve in the case of Patk. Mitten. He could be warned that if he were caught in future he would be prosecuted.

Col. Gibbon said they had been informed that two tons was the maximum weight the bridge should carry. The laden weight of the bus in question would be about four tons, and he suggest-

ed that the Council should get a certificate of indemnity in case anything gave way and the bus went into the river.

The Chairman said he believed that if possible they should have it that the bus would cross at its own risk.

Mr Elgee, Solicitor, said he thought the crossing of the bus could be at owner's risk, but he thought, that would not cover the cost of repairing the bridge. He would look into the matter fully.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall: "That the Garda Siochana, Wexford, be informed the Council does not wish to proceed against Matthew Boggan, Anne Street, owner of Omnibus P.I.3683, for a breach of by-law in crossing Wexford Bridge the vehicle being over the specified allowable weight. The Council will not proceed against owners of buses crossing this bridge in the event of vehicles used being not over three tons in weight unladen in view of the convenience to ratepayers afforded by buses. This concession is given on the understanding that bus drivers will not exceed a speed of five miles per hour in crossing over the structure; it will not apply to any other vehicles which are over two tons in weight unladen. That we request the County Surveyor to arrange for surprise visits to Wexford and New Ross Bridges in order to make a check on the speed of motor vehicles crossing, and also the Garda Siochana to inform the County Council of any instances in which they find buses crossing over these bridges at excessive speed. Should the terms of the concession now given be not observed it will be withdrawn by the Council."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Gaul seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the recommendation of the Finance Committee to prosecute Patrick Mitten, Francis Street, Wexford, for breach of by-law as to crossing Wexford Bridge be not adopted. That Mitten be warned that if he repeats the offence he will be prosecuted by the County Council."

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The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Smyth:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 29th January, 1931, be and are hereby confirmed except where altered or amended by resolution adopted at this meeting."

NATIONAL MONUMENTS ACT 1930.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

The following Minutes of County Wexford National Monuments Advisory Committee in respect of meeting held on 30th January, 1931, were submitted:-

"The first meeting of the Co. Wexford National Monuments Advisory Committee was held in Co. Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 30th January, 1931.

"Present:- Rev. T. O'Byrne, P.P., Senator Kathleen A. Browne, Messrs Seumas Doyle, M. Cloney and R. Richards Orpen.

"The Secretary of County Council acted as Secretary to the meeting.

"A resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Cloney seconded by Senator Browne, electing Rev. T. O'Byrne Chairman of the Committee.

"The following resolutions were also adopted:-

"This Committee urges upon the Government the immediate necessity for carrying out a National Survey of Historic Monuments and ~~works~~ of archaeological objects.

"That the Wexford County Council be requested to provide this Committee with a set of six inch ordnance survey maps which it is understood will cost from £6:10: to £7.

"That steps be taken when these maps have been obtained to interest local Committees and others to furnish all information obtainable in their districts as to ancient monuments and objects of archaeological interest to be prepared in schedule form and marked correspondingly on ordnance maps.

"If this be done generally it would form the basis of a comprehensive national survey.

"That the attention of the Office of Public Works be called to the disgraceful condition of the grounds at Ferns Cathedral and that they be further requested to have the crosses lying about in these grounds re-erected.

"This Committee is of opinion that steps should be taken to have vested in the Office of Public Works the following monuments:- Ferns Castle, Clonmines and Rathmacknee.

"The Committee would be grateful if National Teachers would furnish them with any local information they can procure as to old place names and old names of roads, hills and fields which may possess value from the archaeological point of view.

"The Committee would ^{be} also grateful for any help in this direction which they may be given by individuals.

It was decided that future meetings of the Committee be held on Fridays as occasion may require.

Letter under date 30th December, 1930 (18917/30) was read from the Office of Public Works. It pointed out that the National Monuments Act 1930 gave new and enlarged powers to County Councils etc to deal with National Monuments. The summary of the Act enclosed with the letter was read for the meeting. The Councils were urged to exercise as fully as possible their powers ~~and~~ duties under the Act. Many of the most important monuments were already in the guardianship of the Office of Public Works but there were many others worthy of preservation. In particular the Council were recommended to appoint an Advisory Committee.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Corish seconded the following resolution:- "That the Minutes of County Wexford National Monuments Advisory Committee in respect of meeting held on 31st January, 1931, be and are hereby confirmed."

A vote was taken with the following result:-

For the motion - Messrs Armstrong, Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Culleton, Cummins, Gaul, Gibbon, Hayes, Keegan, Mayler, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Quin, Shannon and Walsh - 18.

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Against - Messrs Brennan, Hall, Jordan, Murphy, Smyth and the Chairman - 6.

Mr Roche was not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

PROVISIONAL ROAD WORKS SCHEME.

The County Surveyor submitted revised figures covering the allocation of £40,000 for Road Maintenance, Improvement Works and Contingencies, and which he stated had been circulated in detail to the Councillors.

Colonel Quin moved the following :- "That in accordance with the revised figures for road maintenance etc submitted by County Surveyor the following be the allocation under this head for financial year 1931-32:-

Main Roads. Repair £15,683 representing a rate of 9.54d in the £. Improvement £1,354: 4: 2d representing a rate of .823d and Contingencies £1,000, a rate of .608d. Total £18,037: 4: 2d. equal to a rate of 10.971d (11d in £).

County Roads. Repair £20,261:10s.6d. representing a rate of 13.69d. Improvement £551:10s. a rate of .37 and Contingencies £1150, a rate of .79d. Total £21,963: 0:6d. or a rate of 14.85d. (1/3) in £.

Total rate for Roads for 1931-32 2s/2d. in the £.

Mr Hall seconded the motion.

Colonel Gibbon said that the mileage of the County was divided into districts as follows:- Enniscorthy 639 miles, 32.5 per cent; Gorey 381 miles, 19.5 per cent; New Ross 482 miles, 24.5 per cent; Wexford 467 miles, 23.5 per cent. Total 1969 miles.

For Repair work the percentage of expenditure was:- Enniscorthy, 41.2; Gorey, 16.3; New Ross, 22 and Wexford 20.5. The cost of main roads expenditure was :- Enniscorthy, 40.6; Gorey, 14.1; New Ross, 20.5; and Wexford 24.8.

The percentages for County Roads were:- Enniscorthy, 38.1; Gorey, 19.3; New Ross;21.6 and Wexford, 21. The Council

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would see from this that Enniscorthy with a mileage of 32.5 was getting over 40 per cent of the expenditure, while the weight of State grants for road improvement had also gone to that district. There was no sign of road expenditure going down. It looked as if the more they spent the more they would have to spend.

The County Surveyor said that to a certain extent Colonel Gibbon was right. The difference was between keeping a bad road at a cheap rate and a good road at a fair rate. He had pointed out on many occasions that the after treatment of the tar bitumen road was £90 per mile. There was little use in improving a road and then allowing it to deteriorate.

Colonel Gibbon - Thank God the farmers cut the Road Estimates in the past or I don't know what rate we would be on now.

Mr Cooney - Is Colonel Gibbon thanking God that he is throwing hundreds of men out of employment.

Bridge at Killeen: Mr Shannon said that at the meeting of the County Council at which it was decided to spend £40,000 only for road maintenance the County Surveyor said the allocation would mean that all but a few improvement works already agreed to would have to be rejected. He (Mr Shannon) protested ~~again~~ and announced his intention of raising the question of an allocation being provided for the bridge at Killeen, between Gurrawn and Killanne. The County Surveyor had provided £75 for this work but they had agreed ^{of} what was really necessary to be done would not cost half ^{of} it.

The County Surveyor said instead of taking down and rebuilding the bridge it was proposed to take down the present parapets and replace them with iron parapets leaving room for a small cart to pass. He did not believe the work could be done for less than £50.

Mr Shannon questioned this figure. The bridge in flood time was impassable. He proposed that a sum of £35 be allowed

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for the work.

Mr Gaul seconded.

In reply to the Chairman the County Surveyor stated that the bridge was in the position it now was from the time he came to the County.

The Chairman commented that it was strange there was never any application made regarding it until now. There were hundreds of places in the County in a similar position where people could not pass or go to Church.

Mr Shannon - I believe you catered for your own barony well ?

Chairman - I did not. There are things in it I never mentioned, and it is the worst looked after barony in the County.

Mr. Shannon - More shame for you (laughter).

Chairman - I don't want to drag the ratepayers like you.

Replying to Colonel Quin, the County Surveyor stated that if the work proposed by Mr Shannon were ~~done~~ the cost would be provided from the contingency fund.

Colonel Gibbon stated that Enniscorthy district should be only allocated/about £12,000 instead of £14,650.
for roads

Mr Hall - Everyone knows there is a lot more traffic in Enniscorthy district.

Replying to Mr Murphy, the County Surveyor stated he allocated at the rate of £10 a mile for any necessary work on main roads which had been improved.

After further discussion a poll was taken on Mr Shannon's motion with the following result:-

Messrs
For -/Armstrong, Brennan, Clinee, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan and Shannon - 15.

Against - Messrs Culleton, Gibbon, Jordan, Mayler, Murphy, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 10.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Footpath McCurtain St. Gorey: Mr O'Byrne moved:- "That the proposal for £90 to construct 175 sq. yards of concrete footpaths and 150 lineal yards of kerbing with 400 sq. yards of tarred footway in McCurtain Street, Gorey, be adopted."

Mr O'Byrne pointed out that the path was at present almost impassable and if not dealt with now would cost the Council double the money later.

Mr Keegan seconded.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For - Messrs Armstrong, Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan and Shannon - 13.

Against - Messrs Culleton, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Meyler, Murphy, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 11.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Allocations to Urban Districts Mr Corish pointed out that the amount allocated to Wexford Urban District had been constantly dropping, the amount in 1928 being £855, in 1929, £709, while there was only £460 set aside for this year. This was absolutely insufficient. The footpath from Duke Street to Johnsgate Street was in a wretched condition, so bad that the Corporation offered to do it but were not allowed by the Local Government Department

In reply to a query, the County Surveyor stated that all those motions if adopted would have to be carried out through the contingencies fund,

Secretary - You will have no contingency fund left at all.

Mr Gaul seconded Mr Corish's proposition, on which a poll resulted:-

For - Messrs Armstrong, Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne, Shannon, Miss O'Ryan - 13.

Against - Messrs Brennan, Culleton, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan,

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Mayler, Murphy, Roche, Smyth, Walsh, Quin and the Chairman - 12.

The proposition was declared carried.

Allocation for New Ross Urban: Mr Cooney moved that the allocation of £50 for New Ross Urban be increased to £150.

Mr Walsh seconded.

On a division the voting resulted:

For - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne, Shannon, Walsh - 13.

Against - Messrs Brennan, Culleton, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Mayler, Murphy, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Miss O'Ryan and the Chairman, - 12.

The motion was passed.

Work at Duncannon: Mr Cummins said that the road at Duncannon was in a disgraceful condition and it was impossible to travel over it in comfort. Every one was complaining of it. He had approached the County Surveyor about some roads in his district but had been informed there was no money to do them. The people were coming to him as their County Councillor but all the satisfaction he could give them was to say that the Contingency Fund was exhausted. He proposed that a sum of £50 should be allocated for this road.

Mr Colfer seconded.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne, and Shannon - 12.

Against - Messrs Brennan, Culleton, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Mayler, Murphy, O'Ryan, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 13.

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

Campile-Ballysallagh Road: Mr Colfer proposed and Mr Cooney seconded the following resolution:- "That the proposal of the County Surveyor to spend £150 to strengthen and roll in 300

cubic yards of rubble on Campile-Ballysallagh road rejected at last meeting be re-instated."

Mr Colfer pointed out that the road was in a bad state, owing to the diversion of traffic on it during the reconstruction of main road New Ross - Campile.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For - Messrs Armstrong, Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne, and Shannon - 12.

Against - Messrs Brennan, Culleton, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Meyler, Murphy, O'Ryan, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 13.

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

Mr Shannon asked if in view of the depletion of the contingency fund they could not increase the total amount for roads from £40,000 by the amount taken from the fund.

The Chairman stated that a motion to increase the £40,000 had been already defeated and he would not accept any further motion.

Replying to Mr Corish, the Chairman stated that he would also decline to accept a motion to increase the amount of the contingency fund.

Mr Shannon - Supposing that motion came from the other side of the house you would take it ?

Chairman - I would not.

Mr Corish - What is Mr Elgee's opinion ? Could we increase it ?

Chairman - Where are you going to get it ?

Col. Quin - The only way to increase it is by cutting the amounts for the roads which are now pared down to the bone. Col. Quin stated he intended to give notice to rescind the decisions arrived at that day, that three or four works be carried out by money in the contingency fund.

Mr Keegan - Is it in order ?

Chairman - I believe Col. Quin would be better advised to drop it, as they have been carried ~~and~~ by a majority.

Col. Quin then decided not to proceed with his notice of motion and altered his original motion to read as follows:-

"That the following amounts be raised for road maintenance, improvement, and contingencies for financial year 1931-32.

Main Roads.

Repair.....	£15,933
Improvement.....	1,444: 4: 2d.
Contingencies.....	660: 0: 0d.
Total.....	<u>£18,037: 4: 2d.</u>

County Roads

Repair.....	£20,261: 10: 6d.
Improvement.....	586: 10: 0d.
Contingencies.....	1,115: 0: 0d.
Total.....	<u>£21,963: 0: 6d.</u>

Gross Total.....£40,000: 4: 8d.

Mr Hall seconded the motion which passed nem con.

ESTIMATE FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

The County Surveyor submitted the following Estimate for Maintenance of Public Works for financial Year 1931-32.

<u>BRIDGES:-</u>	<u>Maintenance</u>	<u>Repairs</u>
Wexford	£100	£ 50
Ferrycarrig	£ 50	£120 Repairs to Piles and beams and retaining wall.
Deeps	£ 30	£ 20
Edermine	£ 25	£ 50
New Ross	£100	£150
(Caretaker)	£ 40	
Mountgarrett	£ 20	
(Caretaker)	£ 12	
	<u>£377</u>	<u>£390</u> Total = £ 767

Loans - Bridges

Deeps	£278	
Mountgarrett	£803	
Waterford	<u>£435</u>	
	<u>£1516</u>	<u>£1,516</u>
		<u>£2,283</u>

HARBOURS

Courtown	£250	
Courtown Improvement	£500	being 50% of cost of new gates
Poulduff	£ 50	
Carne	£ 10	

HARBOURS

Kilmore	£100
Fethard, Slade	
Duncannon, Arthurstown	
and Ballyhack	<u>£150</u>
	<u>£1060</u>

COURTHOUSES &c

Wexford	£2861
Maintenance Wexford,	
Enniscorthy, New Ross	
and Gorey	<u>£ 100</u>
	<u>£2961</u>
County Buildings	<u>£ 100</u>
Expenses transfer	
Offices	£ 50

PUBLIC WORKS - ESTIMATE 1931-32

S U M M A R Y

County Bridges:-	Loans	£1516	
	Maintenance	£ 377	
	Repairs	<u>£ 390</u>	£2,283
Harbours:-	Repairs	<u>£ 560</u>	
	Improvements	£ 500	£1,060
Courthouses			£2,961
County Buildings			£ 100
Expenses Transfer Offices			<u>£ 50</u>
	TOTAL =		<u>£6,454</u>

Colonel Gibbon proposed and Miss O'Ryan seconded the following resolution:- "That the County Surveyors⁷ estimate for public works for financial year 1931-32 as presented to this meeting and totalling £6454 be approved."

The Chairman said he noticed in the estimate a sum of £100 for repairs at Old Workhouses. He thought it was time they should "strike" against maintaining Government property that the Council had no use for, or any prospect of making any thing out of.

Mr Colfer referred to Duncannon, Arthurstown and Ballyhack harbours, and asked if the County Surveyor had any authority to deal with the silting of sand in those places, or if it was the harbour commissioners in Waterford that had to do with it.

The County Surveyor said he did not think the Waterford harbour commissioners did anything with the inner harbours in

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Ballyhack or Duncannon. Any work of the sort would have to be done by the County Council.

Mr Colfer said there were complaints in those places that, owing to silting, vessels could not get to the quays.

The County Surveyor said he did not think there was any complaint in Duncannon.

Mr Colfer - Oh, there is.

County Surveyor - Ballyhack is undoubtedly bad.

In reply to Mr Colfer, the County Surveyor said he had not made provision to deal with the silting.

Mr Colfer - I think you should have provided something.

The County Surveyor said they had tried to get something out of the grant for unemployment, but did not succeed. The Council had passed £6753 for Public Works last year though this amount in full was not raised.

The resolution was put and passed, Mr Colfer dissenting as no provision had been made for the dredging at Ballyhack and Arthurstown.

COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH AND SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

Under date 3rd February, 1931, the Department of Local Government wrote (P.H.8548/31 - Loch Garman Ab) forwarding copy of letter addressed to County Board of Health and Public Assistance regarding the necessity for submitting a supplementary estimate and demand to cover the cost of operating the County School Medical Service during the coming financial year.

The following is copy of letter addressed to Board of Health under date 3rd February, 1931 (P.H.8548/31 Loch Garman (Ab).):-

"With reference to the entry on the subject in the Minutes of Proceedings of Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance on the 29th ultimo, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to point out that the Board's action in declining to make provision in their es-

timates and demand for the coming financial year in respect of the cost of a school medical service is quite inconsistent with their resolution passed on the 22nd April assigning to the County Medical Officer of Health the duties of school medical-officer. On the basis of the latter resolution, the Minister agreed to the payment of one-half of Dr. Bastible's salary and travelling expenses to rank for recoupment from the schools' medical grant for a period of twelve months. But if the Board persist in their present attitude that allocation cannot be accepted for recoupment purposes and substantial loss to the rates will result.

"I am at the same time to explain that the establishment of a school medical scheme is mandatory on the Board of Health and Public Assistance, and that the Minister must insist on their carrying out their duties in the matter. For the purpose of facilitating the Board, he has assented to the necessary departure from the terms of the Public Bodies Order, 1925, so as to permit of their formulating a supplementary estimate and demand to cover the estimate of expenditure on the school medical service scheme. You are hereby instructed to convene a special meeting of the Board of Health and Public Assistance on the earliest possible date to deal with the matter so that the supplementary estimate and demand may be submitted to the Co. Council before they finally consider their rates for the coming financial year. A careful record should be kept of the manner in which the members of the Board vote on the question of adopting the requisite supplementary estimate and demand."

Mr Hall - How does the loss in rates come in ?

Secretary - If you adopt the scheme you would have half the doctor's salary for the school medical service.

Mr Hall - By not adopting it what do the rates lose ?
Don't they gain ?

Chairman - By not adopting the whole scheme they gain.

Colonel Quin - We were told by the Minister that the M.O. was to come down, and one of his jobs was to run the schools. We were not told about assistance or nurses. As far as I see, there is no reason why the M.O. should not do what he undertook. According to the terms of his appointment he was to run the scheme for the schools. He knew what he undertook and what he was to do, and now he wants a big scheme with a whole lot of people to help him. I don't really see the meaning of half of this extra money, and I don't see why the M.O. should not look after the schools himself, as he is paid for.

Chairman - We will have all this before us at the meeting of the Health Board in a few minutes. It is brought before us officially, but as it is the Health Board who will decide, we are only losing time discussing it here. If there are any remarks to be made upon it by the Council we would be glad to hear them.

Colonel Gibbon proposed that the letter be referred to the Health Board.

Mr O'Byrne seconded.

Mr Gaul - What objection is there to it being discussed to-day ?

Chairman - I have no objection.

Mr Gaul - It has come before you officially to-day. On the last day it was not officially before you. I objected to discussing it, but you did discuss it.

Chairman - Some of the members knew nothing about it.

Mr Cooney - Haven't the County Council to pass a supplementary estimate?

Chairman - Not to-day. You can't pass a supplementary estimate without the consent of the Health Board. We are not adverse to any discussion by the Council on the letter. You can only accept the estimate as submitted by the Health Board.

Mr Keegan - As far as I can see, the M.O. has not done anything yet that we had not the power to do in the days of the

board of guardians and district councils. Those bodies did not carry out the law. If we did our duty at that time, as some of us tried to do, we would not want this man at all. We had the very same powers then. We had not so many officials. It was not costing thousands. In each union area there were sanitary officers and sub-sanitary officers, who were supposed to carry out the law. They never did that, because the ascendancy class ruled the roost

Chairman - We are not on that question now.

Colonel Gibbon's motion was then put and adopted.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

LOAN FOR CLONROCHE WATER SUPPLY.

The following motion of which he had given previous notice was moved by Mr Gaul:-

"That the Council consent to the borrowing of One Hundred Pounds (£100) by County Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance for the purpose of completing the Water Supply at Clonroche."

Mr Shannon seconded.

Colonel Gibbon asked if the people who had to pay had agreed to it.

Chairman - We had diverse opinions from that District quite recently but the Health Board has agreed to it.

The motion was adopted Mr Brennan dissenting.

LOAN FOR MATERNITY WARDS - COUNTY HOSPITAL.

The following motion of which he had given previous notice was moved by Mr Gaul:-

"That the Council consent to the borrowing of Eight Hundred Pounds (£800) by County Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance for the purpose of providing and equipping maternity wards at the County Hospital, Wexford."

Mr Colfer seconded the motion, which was adopted Nem con.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION ACT 1930 - RATE FOR.

Demand from Co. Wexford Vocational Education Committee

for payment of £2726 Rates contribution towards the schemes of the Committee in respect of financial year 1931-32 was submitted.

Colonel Quin - Does this amount include the penny rate for Irish ?

The Secretary replied that there was no penny rate for Irish now; the Irish scheme was included in the demand. The £2,726 represented the minimum rate of 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d in the £ in accordance with the Act of Parliament, and they could not get out of contributing it.

In reply to a query the Secretary said that as compared with the amount allowed for agriculture and technical instruction last year there would be this year an increase in the total for agriculture and vocational education of $\frac{3}{4}$ d in the £.

In answer to Mr Gaul the Secretary said the increase meant about £1,000.

Colonel Quin - But you cannot get out if it.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr Colfer:- "That a sum of £2,726 be included in Estimate of Rates for financial year 1931-32 as the contribution to the funds of Co. Wexford Vocational Education Committee."

LIVE STOCK AND AGRICULTURE.

----- SCHEMES OF COUNTY COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURE. -----

Under date 31st January, 1931, the Department of Agriculture wrote (E.884 - 31) that in consequence of the passing of the Vocational Education Act 1930, the Technical Instruction Acts 1889 and 1891 had been repealed and accordingly for the time being the Agricultural and Technical Instruction (Ireland) Act 1899 is the only Statute under which a rate could be struck for the purposes of the schemes administered by the County Committees of Agriculture. Under the last mentioned Act the amount which might be raised is limited to a sum equal to the proceeds of a penny rate but in recent years the contribution

from Rates in each County towards the schemes had with one or two exceptions exceeded the sum represented by a penny rate while special State grants had been made to County Committees of Agriculture which obtained the produce of a 2d Rate leviable under the Acts of 1889 and 1891 and the Act of 1899. These Grants which were made in view of the urgent need for the development of the Live Stock and General Agricultural Schemes were payable on condition that the Committee continued to receive the maximum amount of rate aid and did not reduce their allocations for their schemes. Unless the Rates contribution towards the Agricultural Schemes in 1931-32 is at least equivalent to that given in 1930-31 very serious curtailments would have to be made in the amounts allocated by the Committees for their schemes.

Under Section 32 (1) of the Agricultural Bill now before the Dail it was proposed that the raising of a rate of 2d. in the £ for each financial year shall be mandatory on each County Council.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Cummins:- "That the equivalent of a rate of 1½d in the £ on the Rural area of the County be included in the Estimate of Rate for financial year 1931-32 as this amount is necessary to meet the commitments of the County Committee of Agriculture for their Live Stock and Agricultural Schemes."

COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE.

Under date 2nd February, 1931, Miss Nora Connolly, Librarian, County Library Service, wrote that at the meeting of her Committee on 31st January, 1931, it was unanimously agreed to ask the County Council to provide an increase of £100 towards Library funds which would be used towards the provision of Libraries in the Primary Schools.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr Cummins, seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That the County Wexford Library Committee be granted an increase of £100 in amount of Rate voted

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for Library purposes."

As an amendment Colonel Quin proposed and Mr Murphy seconded the following:- "That the application of County Wexford Library Service for an increase of £100 on Rate Contribution be adjourned for 12 months."

A poll was taken on the amendment with the following result:-

For - Messrs Brennan, Culleton, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Meyler, McCarthy, O'Ryan, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh.- 12.

Against - Messrs Armstrong, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, O'Byrne, Shannon, and the Chairman - 11.

Messrs Clince and Murphy were not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the amendment carried.

On being put as the substantive motion it passed nem con.

CINEMA EXITS.

Col. Quin said that he had enquired about a cinema in Courtown, and had been told that the County Council's engineer had passed it. He (Col. Quin) was there last year, and certainly it was a "Drumcollogher". There were only two exits. The box for the machine had been moved, he understood, but even then if there were a fire at one end there would be another Drumcollogher. It was a dangerous place.

The County Surveyor said that in its former situation the lantern box was blocking one entrance, but it was now outside.

The Secretary said that the licence this year had been renewed on condition that the alterations required by the County Surveyor were carried out and this had been done.

It was decided that the County Surveyor should again inspect the cinema and report to next meeting.

VETERINARY SURGEON'S LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Mr R. Malone V.S. Wexford was granted leave of absence

from 9th to 14th February, 1931, Mr Staples V.S. acting as his locum tenens without fee, the necessary resolution having been proposed by Mr O'Byrne, seconded by Mr Hall.

CARETAKER COUNTY COURTHOUSE WEXFORD.

Mr M.J. Dwyer, Co. Registrar, submitted for the consideration of the Council proposed agreement as to appointment by him of John Doyle as Caretaker of County Courthouse and County Buildings. The agreement provided that John Doyle should be given free quarters, fuel and light in the Court premises, be entitled to the produce of the garden at the premises for his own use, and be paid wages at the rate of £2:5s.0d. per week, the agreement to be determined by a fortnight's notice in writing on either side.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr Gaul:- "That the agreement between County Registrar and John Doyle - as Caretaker of County Courthouse and Premises as submitted to this meeting - be approved on condition that any assistance which may be required in connection with the duties of Caretaker shall be provided by him at his own expense and that his duties in connection with keeping the premises swept, dusted, and cleaned, shall apply to those in the occupation of the County Council as well as to the Courthouse premises."

CLAIM BY CONTRACTORS.

RECONSTRUCTION WEXFORD-FERRYCARRIG ROAD.

The following under date 5th February (NT/BD) was read from Alexander Hull & Co. re above:-

"We hereby give you notice that we demand immediate payment of the sum of One thousand eight hundred and seven pounds nineteen shillings and four pence (£1,807:19:4) now due to us by your Council under the provisions of clauses 11 and 16 of the general conditions of the above mentioned

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contract.

This sum represents the net amount due to us after deducting all moneys which have under this contract become payable by the Contractor to the Council, as provided for in Clause 8 of the said general conditions, together with the total amount of payments received to date, as set forth on the statement of account attached hereto."

The account which accompanied this letter was as follows:

"Amount of Contract £8356: 7: 3d. Extra Works as certified by the County Surveyor £398:11:6d. Total £8754:18:9d. The payments made to date were £6734:12:11d. and deductions provided for in Contract viz., Cost of testing cement samples £23:6:6d. and Wages of Clerk of Works £189, making a total of £6946:19:5d. leaving a balance of £1807:19:4d. outstanding. This account Messrs Hull stated related only to moneys now due to the Contractors by the Council under the terms of the Contract and was without prejudice to any other claims which the Contractors may have against the Council in respect of other matters.

It was decided to consider this matter in committee.

The County Surveyor said he had certified for payment of all money due Messrs Hull except the £400 which the Council had decided should be retained, to make good repair of any damage on the backroad from Ferrycarrig to Wexford. He (Co. Surveyor) had gone into the figures - most of which were agreed with Mr Hull who disputed some of the items in connection with machinery and quarry charges and he (County Surveyor) was prepared to stand by these charges. According to his (Co. Surveyor's) account there was only £165 due to him in addition to the £400 for the back road.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Gibbon seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the letter of Messrs A. Hull & Co. Contractors for reconstruction of Wexford -Ferry-carrig Road claiming payment of £1807:19:4d. on foot of Contract

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be referred to Mr Elgee, Solicitor, to defend any proceedings which Messrs Hull & Co. may institute against the Council. If Mr Elgee so advises, the Council are prepared to pay £165 to Messrs Hull & Co. the amount to which the County Surveyor states they are entitled.

HIRE OF MACHINERY.

Mr Hall raised the question as to the hire of machinery to Messrs Hull & Co. in connection with their contract of reconstructing in concrete, streets in Enniscorthy town which are scheduled as main roads. He never remembered that this matter was ever brought before the Council.

The County Surveyor said that from the time their machinery was first purchased it was agreed that County Council contractors would be entitled to have it on hire.

Colonel Gibbon said that Mr Hall was mistaken in regard to this matter. So far as he knew the routine it was that the County Council published advertisements in the Press asking for tenders for reconstruction of certain roads and that the terms of contract and specification can be seen in the Council Offices. These terms were open to the inspection of any County Councillor and provided for the hire of the machinery with the rate of hireage and it was provided that there would be no loss to the Council in the matter.

The Chairman suggested, and it was agreed to, that the County Surveyor produce at next meeting the Rates at which the machinery of the Council was hired to Contractors.

TRAFFIC IN OLD HORSES FOR EXPORT.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Colonel Quin:- "That this County Council condemns the export trade to the Continent of Europe of old horses which are past their labour, which are subject to the greatest suffering through the long journey by land and sea from hunger, thirst and often by cruel slaughter."

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"We are of opinion that the Government should introduce into the Dail a measure to prevent such traffic in the future.

PAYMENT TO ROAD CONTRACTORS.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That payments to Road Contractors as appearing on Form 22 submitted to this meeting and certified by County Surveyor be and are hereby approved in addition to payments set out on Treasurer's Advice Note which has been submitted to this meeting."

ADJOURNED TO NEXT MEETING.

The following matters were adjourned to next meeting owing to the lateness of the hour (a) Representations from Dr. W.F. Hearn, Solicitor, New Ross, as to repair of Wexford-New Ross road (via Camross), (b) James Bent as to flooding of his premises at Burrow, Rosslare and (c) flooding at Marshallstown Post Office.

W. J. Byrne
23 Feb. 1931

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

MEETING - 23RD FEBRUARY 1931

MINUTES.

FORTVIEW

WEXFORD .

N.J.FRIZELLE

SECRETARY

A meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 23rd February, 1931.

Present:- Col. Gibbon, Vice-Chairman, and subsequently Mr M. Doyle, Chairman, presided; also present - Messrs James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Clince, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Thomas Maylor, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col. R.P. Wemyss Quin, M.M. Roche, James Shannon, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor and County Solicitor with the six Assistant Surveyors were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £1520: 8: 10d. was examined and signed.

THE LATE MR. DORAN, ENNISCORTHY.

The following resolution was proposed by Colonel Quin and seconded by Mr Culleton:- "That we deeply regret the demise of Mr James Doran, Enniscorthy, brother of our esteemed colleague, Mr John Doran, to whom we offer all our sympathy. We are truly sorry that Mr James Doran has been called away in the prime of his life."

Several members of the Council with the Secretary, Co. Surveyor and Mr Elgee, Solicitor, expressed their sympathy with Mr John Doran in his bereavement.

The motion was adopted in silence.

THE LATE MR M. MOORE, JOURNALIST.

The following reply to vote of condolence on the death of his brother, received from Mr T. Moore, was on the motion

of Colonel Quin seconded by Mr O'Byrne ordered to be inserted on the Minutes:-

"I am deeply grateful to the County Council for their resolution of sympathy in the death of my brother, and I shall be obliged if you will please convey my thanks to the members.

"Your personal expression of sympathy and appreciation of his abilities I am indeed grateful for."

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The following monthly report of the County Surveyor was submitted:-

"During the week I inspected two side slips on the Wexford-Enniscorthy Road. One of these is at Saunderscourt, above Ferrycarrig Bridge, and is not very serious, but will require early attention. I do not expect the cost of making good will be less than £15. The other slip is at Whitefort Bridge, and though not at present dangerous, will have to be attended to very shortly. I estimate the cost of making good this latter will run to £90. I have already reported another slip near Whitefort Bridge, and you have passed a proposal for its repair in the Road Works Scheme for the coming year.

"At a former meeting I reported on damage to the Pier Head at Courtown Harbour, and in the Public Works Scheme you have provided for repairs. On inspection made during the week I find that the slip at the Pier Head is becoming more accentuated, but until the weather becomes more settled it will be impossible to do anything at the place.

"On the 19th instant, with Mr Elgee and the Assistant Surveyor, I made a thorough examination with reference to the flooding of the road at Ballywether Bridge. We examined the river both above and below the bridge, and I am satisfied that the flooding is entirely due to the choking of the river. At several places the banks have fallen in, forming shoals

and islands in the stream, and the growth of bushes and trees at the side holds up the flooded water. In places fallen trees and branches have almost completely blocked the waterway. Mr Elgee advises that, this being a natural stream, we cannot compel the adjoining land owners to carry out any cleaning works and, if possible, I recommend that the County Council obtain permission from the owners to put the work in hands themselves. I estimate the cost of cleaning the river below the bridge, for some hundreds of yards, will be, in or about, £25, and if this be done I believe that there will be no further flooding of the roadway.

"I inspected Coolnagree Lane, and believe that this is a work that may reasonably be taken up by the Council, but, owing to the very reduced estimate for the coming year, I consider it must be postponed. I estimate the cost of putting the lane in reasonable repair will be £40, but if the adjoining land owners remove obstructing banks, and do side works £30 should suffice. If this lane be put in order its maintenance will be small, and it would save the local people having to pass over a very steep hill on existing County Road.

"On the 16th instant I had a trial made of Messrs Doyle's Gritter. So far as the work goes it is satisfactory, and, I believe, when the modifications suggested be carried out the machine will do the necessary work at a reasonable cost.

"I had a letter from the Caretaker of New Ross Bridge with reference to the electric cable recently laid at ~~the~~ bridge. At the opening span provision must be made for disconnecting the cable when ships are passing over, and, of course, this/^{dis-}connecting work should be done by the Electricity Supply Board. Frequently there is difficulty in having the Electricians on the spot at the proper time, and I consider that definite arrangements should be made with the Supply Board.

"As directed by the Council I made inspection of the Cinema Hall in Courtown. I understand that the Police Authorities are satisfied with the building as it now stands.

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I interviewed the owner and pointed out to him some minor defects so that both doors should properly open outward, and if this be done the hall will be, in my opinion, perfectly safe. The owner has agreed to make the changes.

"Mr O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, has been absent from duty from the 3rd to the 12th instant, and has put in medical certificate. Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, is still under medical treatment, and, in this case, it will be necessary to make provision for a substitute. I suggest, as the work is only of a temporary nature, that arrangements should be made for the two adjoining Surveyors to divide the Area.

"It will be necessary now to make provision for the Machinery and Quarry Charges, and I submit scale, which is same as last year. In connection with this matter, and arising out of query at a former meeting, I beg to report that the terms on which Messrs Hull obtained the breaker at Brownswood Quarry for carrying out the work on Main Roads in Enniscorthy Urban, was at the rate of £3: 10: 0d. per day."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the report of County Surveyor be received and considered".

Wexford-Ferrycarrig Road: The Chairman (Col. Gibbon) said the work would have to be done. It could be authorised out of the Contingency Fund. If they allowed the road to become undermined it would cost a very big sum later.

Colonel Quin - But we have no money in the Contingency Fund; isn't it all voted away ?

County Surveyor - We have some money in the Main Road Contingency Fund for the present year.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Colonel Quin:- "That as recommended by County Surveyor a sum of £105 be withdrawn from Main Road Contingency Fund to repair two side slips on Wexford-Ferrycarrig Road.

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Courtown Harbour: The County Surveyor said that the damage to the Pierhead at Courtown for which he had put in a proposal in his Public Works Estimate had become worse, but at the present time nothing could be done there and he would have to wait until the weather settled. The amount in the proposal may be sufficient but he was afraid of the pierhead and the repair might run into very serious expenditure.

It was decided that no action be taken for the present.

Colonel Gibbon said he had been thinking of the piers and fisheries for which the Council had to vote money for the purpose of encouraging fisheries and looking after them in the County. They had to keep before the public the necessity for the expenditure, and he proposed their harbour masters should be instructed to keep a record for the Council, to be presented annually, showing the number of boats and fishermen employed, the number of days in the year when fishing was carried on, and a record of the fish caught. Then they could see how much they were justified in spending, and if it were claimed that the fishing was very valuable they would have some support for their expenditure.

Mr Corish, in seconding, said he thought Col. Gibbon's suggestion was a good one. He was of opinion that so far as fishing in the County was concerned they were entitled to some consideration from the Minister of Fisheries. It was all very well to talk about the Gaeltacht, but the fishermen of Co. Wexford and Co. Wicklow were as badly off and were entitled to the same consideration as fishermen in any other part of Ireland. He thought the Council was called upon too much with regard to piers etc. It had been submitted that the foreshores belonged to the State, and he submitted that with regard to piers jutting out from the foreshore into the sea the State should have responsibilities, and they should insist that a certain amount for maintenance should be allocated by the Minister every year.

Colonel Gibbon's resolution was adopted.

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Ballywether Bridge: The County Surveyor said the stream at Ballywether was a natural stream and on account of this they had no power to compel the landowners to clean it up although it was flooding the road. It was in a hopeless condition as the banks had fallen in and formed islands and shoals.

Colonel Quin - But that may happen again.

County Surveyor - Not for a great number of years. There does not appear to be any provision for us to do it. We can compel people to clean up an artificial stream which is injuring our road but not a natural one.

Mr O'Byrne - If local people allow a stream to get into a condition to flood our roads have we no remedy ?

Miss O'Ryan said in the days of the old District Councils they compelled people to clean up streams in similar circumstances.

Mr Elgee - You have no power to compel people to clean up a natural stream.

Mr O'Byrne - Where banks are broken down by cattle with consequent flooding of the road have we no remedy.

County Surveyor - It is nature that is the cause of it.

After further discussion the County Surveyor said he would bring forward the matter on a future occasion and meantime he would find out if permission would be given by the landowners to do the work.

Coolnagree Lane: Colonel Quin asked if the County Council was going to take over more roads in view of their difficulty in maintaining those already in their charge.

The County Surveyor said there were several lanes which the Council had taken over and regarding which he did not approve of the action of the Council. But he was in favour of this lane being taken over.

Miss O'Ryan said it was used by a very large number of people.

Chairman (Mr Doyle) - There is no use in discussing the

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matter now as the County Surveyor says it must be postponed.

Road Gritter: The County Surveyor said that in adapting a manure distributor for road gritting Messrs Doyle & Co. of the Selskar Ironworks had made some further modifications. The machine would cost from £20 to £25 but with the new alterations it could not be used for manure distribution.

New Ross Bridge and Electric Cable: The County Surveyor said that the Bridge had to be opened at very short notice and no one from the Electricity Supply Board might be available at the time. It was necessary to disconnect the cable when the span of the bridge was to be opened and the caretaker could not do it. Unless the work was carried out by a skilled person there might be a serious accident.

Colonel Gibbon suggested that the Electricity Supply Board should be asked to put in an automatic "make and break" at the opening span and proposed a resolution to that effect which was seconded by Colonel Quin and adopted.

Assistant Surveyors - O'Neill and Kehoe: The County Surveyor said it was coming near the end of the quarter and it was necessary to deal with payments to Road Contractors. Owing to this and other work it would be necessary to appoint some one temporarily to deal with Mr Kehoe's district.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Colfer seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That Messrs P. O'Neill and J. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyors be appointed to deal with the work in Mr Kehoe's district during the illness of the latter, each Assistant Surveyor taking charge of the sections of the district allotted to him by the County Surveyor. That Mr Kehoe be asked to allow his travelling expenses covering the period during which temporary duty has to be done, to be paid to Messrs O'Neill and Birthistle in the proportions fixed by County Surveyor."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of

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Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the question of remuneration to be paid Deputy Surveyors O'Neill and Birthistle for temporary work in the district of Mr Kehoe be considered at next meeting of the Council."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Colonel Quin:- "That the Report of County Surveyor as submitted to this meeting be approved."

MACHINERY AND QUARRY CHARGES.

The following under date 21st February, 1931, was submitted from the County Surveyor:-

"I recommend the following charges for Machinery and Road Material for the year ending 31st March, 1932:-

Steam Drill.....	£3 per day.
Engine and Granulator.....	£4 per day for 16 x9
Engine and Granulator.....	£3 per day for 12 x8
Engine and Stonebreaker.....	£3 per day,
Compressor Drill Plant.....	£4 per day,
Roller.....	45/- per day
Lorry.....	50/- per day
Tar Boilers or Sprayers.....	£1 per week each

For Road material a flat rate as under:-

Rubble Stone.....	4/- per C.Y.
Broken Stone.....	7/- per c.y.
Chippings screened from B.S.....	7/- per c.y.
Granulated Chippings.....	10/- per c.y.

The Rate charged to Contractors shall be that set out in the Specification."

In reply to Mr Hall the County Surveyor stated that in hiring the engine the Council supplied everything except water.

Mr D'Arcy said that 7/- a cubic yard was a ridiculous price for material in a quarry.

County Surveyor - It is not; it can't be done for less.

Mr D'Arcy continuing, stated that when he had contracts with the Council for quarrying and breaking stones, coal was costing

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£5 a ton, wages were 44s. a week and he had to pay for the haulage to the place where the stones were measured, etc., he was paid at the rate of 7s. 6d. a cubic yard and was making money. He was speaking from experience when he said that 7s. a cubic yard was a ridiculously high price.

Chairman - Wages are down about 30 per cent from that time.

Mr D'Arcy - And coal is down more than 100 per cent.

Mr T. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, stated that the stones in the quarry Mr D'Arcy was engaged at were got very handy as they were boulder stones.

Mr D'Arcy - Not a word about it.

Mr Hall stated that some quarries were difficult to work which would account for the differences between the County Surveyor's figure and Mr D'Arcy's contract.

County Surveyor - The Assistant Surveyors will be in a position to know what is the minimum and the maximum cost of the material.

Mr O'Byrne proposed that the matter be adjourned.

Chairman - We should settle this thing as correctly as we can.

Mr D'Arcy - Mr Barry is making a very bad case for machinery.

Mr Corish suggested that a small committee be appointed to deal with the matter and that the figures be laid before them.

Mr Hall said when they purchased the Compressor plant they were told they would get material for half what they were paying then.

County Surveyor - Last year the price of material was 7/-; the year before 8/- and the previous year 9/6d.

Colonel Gibbon said that about two years ago a Committee had gone into the matter. They found the figures submitted by Mr D'Arcy were too low while the County Surveyor's were too

high and the Committee struck an average.

Mr Hayes pointed out that the charge suggested by the County Surveyor was an average. Some quarries such as Kerlogue - where stone breaker jaws lasted only about a fortnight - were very costly to work and of course the average figure was influenced by such a circumstance.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That the question of fixing prices for use of machinery and for road material be adjourned to next meeting. That a Committee consisting of Col. Gibbon, Messrs Corish, D'Arcy, and Hayes be appointed to consider the cost of each quarry and make recommendations to the Council. That the figures arrived at by the Committee which sat about two years ago to consider this matter be submitted to the new Committee."

HIRE OF MACHINERY.

Under date 20th February, 1931, the following was read from Mr T.C. Courtney, County Surveyor, North Tipperary:-

"I have been given to understand that you may have machinery available for hire this year, and I will probably have to hire large crushers complete with engines etc., and also some stean rollers. I would be glad, if you would let me know if I have been correctly informed, and if so would you please say what machinery is available."

The County Surveyor said owing to the reduction of the estimates and no grant work a lot of their machinery would be idle. It would be an advantage to hire it to North Tipperary County Council if suitable terms could be arranged.

Mr Hall said the machinery had been obtained for the use of the County and he was opposed to have it go out of the County.

Mr Corish agreed with Mr Hall.

The County Surveyor said that very probably they would be able to hire half their machinery. Mr Courtney, he was sure, would look after it, and their ~~own~~ drivers and attendants would

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be employed. They had to make £1200 a year out of hireage to cover capital charges and it would be a loss to the County if the machinery was not working for themselves or on hire.

Colonel Gibbon was in favour of the proposal of the Co. Surveyor.

Mr Hall was entirely opposed to it. If they had machinery to spare they should sell it. If they sent machinery hundreds of miles away it would be practically worn out by the time it returned.

The Chairman said the machinery when lying up would certainly deteriorate.

The County Surveyor said one reason against selling the machinery was the fact that they would not always be financially short. If sold now a machine which would probably bring only £150 would have to be replaced at £600.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr McCarthy seconded by Mr Clince; the only dissentient being Mr Hall:- "That the County Surveyor submit draft of terms and conditions to next meeting of the County Council of hiring agreement for whatever machinery can be offered Mr Courtney, Co. Surveyor for North Tipperary."

MAINTENANCE OF MAIN ROADS.

The following under date 20th February, 1931 (R/RGM/32) was read from Department of Local Government (Roads):-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that in connection with a recent inspection of the roads in County Wexford the Chief Engineering Inspector reports, as follows:-

"The maintenance of Main Roads in County Wexford is far from satisfactory; apart from the National Roads the Wexford Main Roads are of a very low standard compared to those of Leinster Counties generally. Such roads as the Wexford - Duncannon - New Ross Line are in a badly run down condition; the "upkeep" consisting of patching with clay and green sods thrown on the

patches."

A further inspection will be made in due course, and payment of the balance of the Upkeep Grant for 1930/31 will be withheld if work of the kind referred to in Mr Quigley's report is repeated."

The County Surveyor said he had travelled the Duncannon line with Mr Quigley and had understood from him at the time that it was in better condition than he had expected to find it. Apparently there was a different report about it now:- It certainly was in better condition when he was over it with Mr Quigley than it had been in the previous fortnight, as in the interval he had had all the potholes filled up and levelled. Yet he assumed that in another fortnight the potholes would be there again. These were patched with stones and clay to prevent the stones being scattered. He had pointed out to Mr Quigley that they had used tar and chippings with good results to repair potholes. Owing to lack of money tar was not now available and they had to use clay and sods to keep the stones from scattering.

Colonel Quin stated that the roads had improved enormously within the past six years.

Mr Roche complained that the material was being spread too late on the roads. The system of sheeting the roads in March was wrong. If the stones were spread in October or November, when the roads were wet they would bond properly. It was absolute nonsense to be spreading sea gravel on the roads in March.

The County Surveyor stated that the usual practice had been to spread the greater amount of the material before February 14th, but now with changed conditions a good deal of the material had to be reserved for later in the year.

Mr Roche - Is there any use in putting sea gravel in pot
holes when it is scattered/within a few days' time.

County Surveyor - I don't know. That is being done to prevent more serious potholes arising.

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Mr Cooney - Where is the money to come from, when the estimate is cut down?

County Surveyor - With modern traffic the spreading of all the material together is wrong.

Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, stated that the position of the Council was that they were not financially able to do a more practicable job on the roads. Tar chippings and stones would be the ideal way of doing the work, but they had not the money to carry out this system.

Mr Hall stated that it looked like children's play to be pursuing the system of spreading sea gravel which was scattered around in a day or two.

The Chairman stated that the potholes on the road from Jones Cross by his place for three miles were filled with sea gravel, and the results were very reasonable. A better job would be even done if tar were used with the gravel; even if the amount of gravel were reduced.

Colonel Quin complained that the Courtown road was in a disgraceful condition, owing to loose sharp edged stones being used as side filling. This should have been rolled.

County Surveyor - We did the best rolling we could but the material went into the ditch.

Mr Roche moved that three-quarters of the material be spread before Christmas.

Mr D'Arcy seconded.

Miss O'Ryan moved as an amendment that the matter be left in the hands of the Co. Surveyor.

Mr Hayes seconded.

Mr Murphy suggested that the settlement of the question should be left to the next County Council.

A poll was taken on Miss O'Ryan's amendment with the following result:-

For - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Hayes, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, and Shannon - 11.

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Against - Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, Murphy, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 11.

Mr Meyler was not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman gave his casting vote against the amendment which he declared lost.

At the suggestion of the Chairman Mr Roche altered his resolution to read as follows:- "That two-thirds of the road material be distributed on roads by Xmas in each year.

Mr D'Arcy seconded the motion which was adopted with out division.

ROAD GRANTS.

"Under date 19th February, 1931, (R.G.79) (R.G.M./32 and R.G.131) the Department of Local Government (Roads) wrote that payments of road grants had been made as follows:- Enniscorthy Streets, £1048 ; Road Maintenance Grant £1905 ; Special Grant £400.

RECONSTRUCTION OF OLD JAIL.

The following Minutes of Finance Committee meeting of 12th February, 1931, were submitted:-

"The following under date 9th February, 1931, was read from the Secretary, McNally & Co., East Wall, Dublin, Contractors for reconstruction of Old Jail:-

"The sum of £2,500 has been certified for some considerable time, and as we have finished the work in connection with our Contract, the amount outstanding is now over £4,000. We cannot allow the matter to remain where it is now, and unless we have an undertaking from you by Monday, 16th. instant that the £2,500 certified will be paid at once, we will have no option but to put the matter in the hands of our Solicitors.

"We also claim Interest at the rate of 5½% from the date of the Certificates, under the terms of our Contract."

"In connection with this matter Mr Elgee submitted the following copy of letter from Department of Finance under date 9th February (404/296):-

"With reference to your letter of the 19th ultimo and previous correspondence regarding the reconstruction of Wexford Courthouse, I am directed by the Minister for Finance to convey his approval to the revised plans which have now been amended to provide for direct access from the cells to the dock by means of a stairs leading from the Court down to a landing on the ground floor from which an existing stairway leads to the cells. On receipt of a certificate that this work has been carried out, the Minister will arrange to have the premises inspected with a view to authorising payment of the balance of the award."

"The Chairman pointed out that when the plans were agreed to by the Government Departments concerned no mention whatever was made of the construction of the stairs by which prisoners could be conveyed to the Dock without coming in contact with any person in the Court.

"The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Culleton:-

"That copy of letter under date 9th February, 1931, from Messrs McNally & Co., East Wall, Dublin, Contractors for reconstruction of old Jail premises demanding immediate payment of £2500 certified by County Surveyor on foot of their Contract be furnished Department of Finance. That it be pointed out to this Department that when the plans for the reconstruction of the premises were sanctioned by them no provision was made for direct access from the prisoners' cells to the Dock by means of a stairs leading from the Court to a landing on the ground floor, and the County Council believed that the cost of this extra work should have been provided from Government funds.

In the circumstances, however, the Finance Committee urge the Department of Finance to forward at once Pay Order for the £2500 which has been certified by County Surveyor, and which would leave in their hands a much larger amount than would be involved in the construction of the stairway.

In view of the letter of Messrs McNally & Co. the Finance

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Committee consider it most unjust that seeing the amount of money retained by the Department of Finance that this Department should allow proceedings to be taken against the Council."

Mr Elgee said he had received that morning from the Finance Department a Pay Order for £1595: 14: 3d. in favour of the Council and Capt. Redmond. This was made up of £1500 plus £112:12s. less £16: 17: 9d. for Income Tax.

Chairman - Are we liable for that income tax ?

Mr Corish - I think it is questionable. I think we ought to fight it.

Chairman - I don't believe we are liable - a bankrupt Council like we are. I don't see how we are making profits.

Mr Elgee suggested that the Council should apply for a refund.

It was agreed to apply for a refund.

In reply to a query, the Secretary said that according to the Department's last letter they had only £400 of the award for the Courthouse on hands, but according to the Co. Surveyor's figures they should have £900.

The County Surveyor said that the original award was £5,000, and then there was something about a ten per cent addition to that which would be another £500. In dealing with the figures sent on the Department had ignored that £500.

Mr Corish - Unless you rebuild on the actual situation of the burning aren't they entitled to make a stoppage ?

The County Surveyor remarked that the transfer to the Old Jail had been sanctioned.

Mr D'Arcy - Isn't the Act of Parliament there ? They have to pay it.

Mr Corish suggested that the money had been withheld in cases in Co. Wexford.

Chairman - They haven't done it in every case that I know of.

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The County Surveyor said the Department were holding £400 against the stairway, and there was also the ten per cent - the £500. The Department said they would not give the £400, but they had not referred to the ten per cent.

Chairman - I think they are bound to give you the ten per cent,

Colonel Quin - Would I be in order in proposing we put up that stairway at once?

The Chairman replied that it would not be in order; there was already a resolution on the books with regard to the matter.

Miss O'Ryan remarked that the resolution was that the stairway should be provided by money from the Finance Department.

Mr Corish asked permission to raise a question in the Dail on the matter, and it was agreed that he should do so.

The matter was then adjourned pending receipt of copy of reply to question to be raised in An Dail by Mr Corish.

CLOSING OF CLIFF ROAD, ROSSLARE.

The following under date 12th February, 1931, was read from Messrs M.J. O'Connor & Co., Solicitors:-

"We are instructed by Mr Thomas James, of Woldingham House, Rosslare Strand, to write to you with reference to the closing of the Cliff Road at Rosslare. As you are possibly aware, Mr James resides in one of the houses adjoining Cliff Road and is now put to very serious inconvenience by the action of the County Council in closing the road. We understand from him that barriers have been erected on the road and that no steps have been taken to put the road into a proper state of repair. This action on the part of the Council will mean a very serious loss to our client and we would be glad to know what the Council are prepared to do in the matter. We may mention that Mr James wrote to the Roads Department of the Department of Local Government and Public Health and received from the Secretary the following letter dated 22nd January, 1931: "With reference to your letter of the 20th instant I am direct-

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ed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state he has not acceded to the application of the Wexford County Council for an order authorising them to close temporarily Rosslare Cliff Road. You should therefore communicate with the County Council in regard to your grievance - Mise le meas.' We are further informed by Mr James that the present dangerous condition of the road has been caused by the action of the public authorities in the manner in which they drew sand for public work and in the manner in which the pipes were placed on the road and down the side of the bank. We would be glad if you will kindly bring this matter before your Council and let us know what they propose to do about it."

The County Surveyor said that the Council did not close the road; it was closed by nature. What the Council did was to fence it across to protect the public. They had formally asked for authority to close the road, but the L.G.D. had refused it. The road had been closed by the slipping away of the bank. They had a barricade at each end and a fence along the side as well.

Mr Elgee, Solicitor, said he thought the Council first had the barricade beyond three houses at the place; he thought they left the road open to those houses.

Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, said the road was still open, and the occupants could get in with motors or whatever they liked, but of course there was a notice there, and they went in at their own risk.

On the proposal of Colonel Gibbon, seconded by Mr D'Arcy, it was decided to reply to Mr James and refer him to the County Surveyor's explanation.

ROAD FROM GABY'S CROSS TO LEACY'S SLENGRANE.

The following under date 12th February, 1931, was read from Julia and Bridget Dempsey, James Cummins and Laurence Lacy:-

"We, the undersigned ratepayers whose interests are

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chiefly concerned, hereby ask your Council to again put the road into contract from Gaby's Cross to the late William Leacy's gate at Slenagrane. This part of the road was allowed to fall out of contract during the late European War when times were very abnormal and we have made no complaint of the matter till now as it is getting into a very bad condition and at one place highly dangerous, to traffic. Convenient to Laurence Leacy's gate there is a pool of water the side of which at one place is fairly steep and may be well calculated to cause any vehicle to turn over should one of the wheels slip in, and at another place here the road is getting very much narrowed up from erosion by water and is sometimes flooded.

This part of the road leads to the entrance of two of the signatories' farmyards and in the case of the other he has to use it for traffic to and from the main part of his farm.

If repairs to it be not carried out before another winter passes the road will have fallen into a very bad condition entirely, as a motor lorry has now to frequently travel it at least as far as the late William Leacy's gate.

There is a very considerable amount of traffic carried on upon this old road leading from Gaby's Cross to lower Oulart and a good many people living along it who have to use it in getting to and from their houses. We would like to suggest therefore, that in the event of any public grant being made for a like purpose part of it would be well spent upon this road in making some improvements."

The County Surveyor said about a quarter of a mile of this road was under Contract up to 1916 when the Enniscorthy District Council threw it out and it had never been repaired since. The far end had never been done.

Mr Cullen (Assistant Surveyor) said it would cost £34 to put into repair the portion of the lane which had been formerly under Contract.

After discussion Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution which was adopted without dissent:-

"That the County Surveyor offer the persons concerned sufficient material for repair of portion of lane from Gaby's Cross to Slengrane which was formerly under contract."

FLOODING AT MARSHALSTOWN.

Under date 20th January, 1931, Mr Clince, County Council-
lor, wrote that he had received a complaint as to flooding of
the road at Marshallstown Post Office where a stream of water
crosses the road. A small piece of ground over which four
people had to cross was in a terrible state when this stream
overflows. Water off the road ran on to it and the place was
now dangerous to traffic. There was also a dangerous corner
opposite Fr. O'Brien's gate, and on a cross roads, which re-
quired to be looked to.

Mr Clince proposed and Mr O'Byrne seconded the appoint-
ment of a committee to inspect and report.

Mr Ennis said the place complained was really on a private
lane jutting on to the road which was 20 feet wide.

Colonel Quin asked why if this was a private road they
should have anything to do with it. He proposed the following
which was seconded by Mr Hall:- "That no action be taken by
the County Council as to complaint re flooding at Marshalls-
town post office."

The Chairman said if this was a private lane notice of
motion to take it over would have to be given.

Mr Ennis - Anything you could do would not remedy it.

The County Surveyor said he was perfectly satisfied it
was not public work though he had no objection to the appoint-
ment of a committee.

After further discussion Colonel Quin withdrew his amend-
ment and the proposal to appoint a Committee to inspect and
report was agreed to.

The following Committee was appointed:- Messrs Clince,
Hall, Jordan and Shannon with the County Surveyor who was em-
powered to fix date of inspection.

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BURROW, ROSSLARE

The following under date 20th December, 1930, was read from Mr James Bent, Burrow, Rosslare:-

"I must thank you to place this note in the hands of your County Council with reference to preserving my home and the locality of the Burrow. This can be done without building a wall from my house to Hopeland Bank. Now, there is another and better way of saving the place that is impassable and I beg leave to point out that my suggestion is to build a wall from the Island on a bank known as Butler's Bank. This bank runs west to east by north-east, and encloses about five or six acres of sloblands, and will save the Burrow from the sea and afford a right-of-way. I believe out of this big grant of money there is no better way than to spend £500 or £600 than in this fine piece of slobland, which will repay this small outlay in a few years, and will, I am sure, repay it. It is not like spending large sums of money and having no returns for it. I have pointed this out to the authorities, when I was informed my suggestion would have attention. I believe if your Council bring this before the Government that they will give some of this large grant for this purpose, as they cannot be at any loss, having this fine piece of land for their money. The whole bank is built of marl and heavy stone, and will be easily reclaimed."

County Surveyor - We have no authority to reclaim land as far as I know.

The Chairman said he did not think the suggestion could be entertained by the Council. He was sure the people at the Burrow were in a very bad way owing to not being able to get in or out of the place, but owing to the amount of money that would be involved he thought it was out of the question to do anything.

Miss O'Ryan - Would this be a question for the Drainage Board or the Land Commission ?

Chairman - I don't know that it would be. It is a question of reclamation, and I think you would have to get an Act of Parliament.

Mr Shannon - I propose the Council bring the matter under the notice of the Department concerned. The people down there surely have a grievance and no one knows that better than the Chairman.

Chairman - The thing is where are you to get the money ? I think it has been under the notice of the proper authority more than once.

Mr Shannon suggested that they should again bring it under the notice of the proper authority, and ask them to finance the work.

The Chairman said he thought the work would cost £6000 and not £600.

On the proposition of Mr McCarthy it was decided to inform Mr Bent that the Council regretted their inability to fall in with his suggestion in the matter, as it was deemed impracticable.

NEW ROSS - WEXFORD ROAD VIA CAMROSS.

A letter was read from Mr W.F. Hearn L.L.D. New Ross complaining of the concrete road put down at Tomcoole which he said was a fearful failure. It was a mistake to put down concrete with a roller and from a motoring point of view the road was now the same to travel over as any pot-holed road. As regards the steam rolled sections of this road unless properly dressed with grit and tar at the earliest opportunity the surface would go back to its original very unsatisfactory state. If the untreated parts of the road - about seven miles - which had been abandoned for the past two years in anticipation of being steam rolled last year - were not seen to at once they would become grossly unfit for traffic. He (Dr. Hearn) unless the complaints he made were

remedied would have to continue as for the past 18 months to motor through Enniscorthy to Wexford 68 miles as against 48 by the Camross route and a loss of 40 minutes each day he was on the road.

Colonel Quin thought Dr. Hearn's statement might be marked "read".

Mr Walsh said there was something in Dr. Hearn's remarks about the concrete road. The concrete section was a very rough job, and a car travelled very badly on it. It appeared to be very wavy, and it shook a car tremendously; in fact a car travelled over it much as it would over a bad road. It was not in any way smooth, and he thought that before they did any more of such work they should find out the cause of the condition of the road.

Miss O'Ryan said she travelled over the road in question probably oftener than any other member, and she really had no complaint. It was not altogether a perfect job, but she held it was good enough.

Mr Cooney said he agreed with Mr Walsh. The difference was found when the Ferrycarrig-Wexford road ^{was} reached.

Miss O'Ryan remarked that the Ferrycarrig-Wexford road cost more money.

Mr Birthistle stated that the money spent on the road referred to by Dr. Hearn was very little more than would be spent on an ordinary mud-bound road.

Colonel Gibbon said that if a car were driven at thirty miles an hour such a road was an excellent road, but if the road were treated as a racing track it was not level enough. It was not intended to be a racing track. Taking the cost of the road to the Council into consideration it was an excellent motor road.

Mr Shannon - To my mind it is a pity that more of the roads were not made like that. Thirty miles an hour is fast enough, and there are no complaints of horses slipping on it.

Mr Walsh said he was under the impression that a more

even surface could be got on the road. He thought the surface underneath the road must not have been right, as otherwise the concrete would be better.

The matter dropped.

LEVELLING A DITCH.

The following under date 9th February, 1931, was read from Denis Byrne, The Waste, Camolin:-

"I propose levelling out an old ditch which stands opposite a new house which I have built at above address, and in its place to erect concrete post with wire fencing taking in a waste space which at present serves no purpose.

The Surveyor has been to inspect and approves of my proposal.

I would be obliged if you would let me know by return if I can carry on with the work."

Colonel Quin considered it would be very dangerous to agree to Mr Byrne's application.

The County Surveyor said this was a recess at the side of the road and was a swamp. If fenced off it would be an improvement to the road.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Clince seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That no action be taken by Wexford County Council regarding application of Denis Byrne, the Waste, Camolin as to levelling ditch."

SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES.

The following applications for award of Secondary Scholarship were received:- James Baker, Tinnock, Gorey; Julia Browne, Killtilahane, Carnew; Patrick Casey, Corlican, Killurin; Richard Hayes, Kilmore Quay; Aidan Howlin, Glynn, Wexford; John Keating, Ballyteigue, Kilmore Quay; James Meyler, Blackhall, Glynn; Mary J. Tallon, Ballyart, Killena, Gorey; James Forde, Delta Cottage, Gorey; Edmond P. Rossiter, Rathmore, Broadway; Ellen Sinnott, Broadway, Wexford; Frederick J. Valette,

1173, Railway Terrace, Rosslare Harbour; James Walker, Drum-derry, Bunclody; Christina M. Devereux, Danescastle, Bannow.

The Secretary stated that the last day for receipt of applications was 17th February, 1931, but an application had been received on 20th February, 1931, from Mary Dymphna O'Leary, Castleboro, Clonroche, daughter of John O'Leary, labourer, who had four children under 18 years old.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:-

Castleboro, Clonroche,

"That the application of Mary Dymphna O'Leary, for award of secondary scholarship although received three days late be accepted."

In connection with the application of Julia Browne, Killtilahane, Carnew, the Council decided that application could not be entertained as she was 14 years old on 14th June, 1931.

Regarding the application of Aidan Howlin, whose father's valuation was £71, the limit according to scheme being £45, Miss O'Ryan said this man's holding was very highly valued and he was so badly off at the moment he was unable to pay his land annuity. She proposed the following resolution:- "That as this Council believes Patrick Howlin, Glynn, Wexford, is not in a position to afford a secondary education to his boy Aidan, we request the Department of Education to allow this Council to accept application in this case and to regard Aidan Howlin as eligible to compete for secondary scholarship."

Mr Shannon seconded the resolution which was adopted.

In connection with application of Christina M. Devereux who resided with Ellen Whyte, Danescastle, Bannow, who claimed to be her guardian, Ellen Whyte declined to furnish a statement of the valuation of Patrick Devereux, Ambrosetown, the child's father, on the ground that the child had resided with her since she was a baby and she therefore did not think it necessary to furnish any valuation certificate for the Ambrosetown holding.

The Secretary stated that according to the Rate Book Mr

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Dever~~ca~~x was rated on a valuation of £56 and the limit in his case was £45.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the Department of Education be requested to agree to this Council declaring Christina M. Dever~~ca~~x, as eligible to compete for Secondary Scholarship."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Clince:- "That we agree to the eligibility of James Baker, Patrick Casey, Richard Hayes, John Keating, James Meyler, Mary J. Tallon, James Forde, Edmond P. Rossiter, Ellen Sinnott, Frederick J. Valette and James Walker as eligible to compete for award of Secondary Scholarships and with the permission of the Department of Education also include as eligible for award of such Scholarships Aidan Howlin, Christina M. Dever~~ca~~x and Mary D.O'Leary."

The Secretary stated that 32 applications for these scholarships were received in 1930 and only 15 for the present year.

OLD AGE PENSIONS ACT.

VACANCY ON SUB - COMMITTEE NO. 1.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That as recommended by Sub-Committee No. 1 (Old Age Pensions Act) Mr John Batterton, Bridgetown, be appointed a member of this Sub-Committee vice Mr Ml. Hassett, resigned."

WEXFORD'S PLOUGHING VICTORY.

Mr Murphy said they had had a lot of talk about Irish manufacture, and he thought it would be no harm for the Council to pass a vote congratulating the Wexford ploughmen who, with Wexford ploughs, won the championship of Ireland. Their victory demonstrated that Wexford made ploughs should get much more support than they were getting at present, and that Wexford made ploughs, and Irish-made articles generally, could compete with any article made anywhere.

Mr O'Byrne seconded Mr Murphy's proposition, and said he thought that in the whole competition there were only six Irish ploughs - only three apart from those used by the County Wexford representatives.

The Chairman said he was very pleased that their local manufacturers did so well, and he was still more pleased that their ploughmen did so well. They had had ploughing competitions all over the county, and he thought they were a credit to the county. Extraordinarily good work was, he believed, done at all the centres. The only thing he regretted was that one champion was left at home. He thought a man who had defeated the winner of the All-Ireland prize was left at home. That man defeated Mr Jones at Killinick, with a Pierce plough also.

Mr D'Arcy said that they had expected that man in Gorey where they had a ploughing match, but he did not attend.

Mr O'Byrne - It only shows the efficiency of Wexford ploughmen in general when you did not even bring the best.

Mr Hall - We are proud of both the men and the firm that made the ploughs. It is a credit to County Wexford.

Mr Hayes - I hope this will be an inducement for the support of Wexford made ploughs.

Mr Cummins - Would it be too much to ask that those who have foreignmade ploughs should do away with them.

Chairman - Remember that some of the Irish manufacturers would not contribute even one shilling for a prize at any of the matches, whereas foreign firms did.

Mr D'Arcy - Liberally.

Mr Murphy's proposition was passed.

TOURIST RATE FOR 1931

Correspondence was read from Irish Tourist Association asking for sympathetic consideration to the appeal of the Association for support and co-operation. In connection with the forthcoming Eucharistic Congress in Dublin the Association asked

that provision should be made in the Council's Estimate for the coming year for a special rate under 67 of the Local Government Act of 1925 to cover the expense of local and national organisation and invited the active co-operation of Public Bodies and their individual members with the efforts of the Association to organise events of local interest and to see that the reception and treatment of visitors in 1930 should be worthy of an unique occasion.

Mr Barry, Assistant Secretary of the Association who attended the meeting, said that this year in particular the Association were making a stronger appeal than ever before, and wanted the Council to give an increased amount if they could. They appreciated very much what the Council had done in past years, and he thought it was mainly due to the support given by the Council and other public bodies that the Association had been able to increase the tourist traffic which at present was worth at least £3,000,000 to the country. The main essential if they were to increase the traffic was to advertise the attractions of the Country. This year, in view of the Eucharistic Congress, the Association were anxious that the Council should increase their support if possible. It was the duty of everyone concerned in the tourist industry to send the people who came for the Eucharistic Congress away with a very good impression of the country. When tourists came to Ireland they spent their money, and it ~~want~~ to enrich every section of the community.

The Chairman said that in previous years the Council gave a farthing in the £ and it was always put to a vote. He did not know what the Council would do this year, but he certainly thought that if there was any necessity for the rate in previous years it was quite essential this year. He had opposed the rate consistently every year, believing that the Association should be kept up by the people who benefited directly. He could agree to some extent that the money might percolate through all classes after a time, but he knew

that in some remote districts the people reaped very little benefit. However, if a contribution were ever necessary he would say it was necessary this year especially. From many points of view they should not turn down the application this year, but he certainly would not be a party to giving an increase.

Colonel Gibbon said he wished to ask Mr Barry if he could point out that the Association had done anything specially for County Wexford, or was the work of the Association only general for all Ireland. Last year it was suggested that to get tourists into Co. Wexford some facilities should be pressed for by the Association to get motors landed at Rosslare easier than at present, and he could not see that the Association had done anything in the matter.

Colonel Quin said that advertising was magnificent, but the chief thing in Germany, France and Switzerland was the excellence of the hotels. If they could improve the accommodation it would do a great deal towards bringing tourists and enticing them to return. He knew that in one leading hotel in Dublin there was no electric light over one's bed, and one had to get out of bed to turn the light off. That was a most barbarous thing.

Mr D'Arcy asked if the Association had any funds except the money from the rates.

Mr Barry said as well as being engaged in publicity the Association were also concerned with anything that would increase the traffic - they were also concerned with hotels, roads, etc. Their activities were mostly confined to advertising, and they could only agitate with the companies and other people concerned to get them to improve facilities, and he thought they had done a lot in that way. With regard to motors at Rosslare, the Association had taken the matter up and he was pretty sure that as a result the conditions that Col. Gibbon

complained of would be improved. They had been agitating for better and bigger hotels and cheaper prices. They understood that unless they could get good conditions for tourists they might come once, but would not return. He thought they had made considerable headway as far as hotels were concerned, because he knew for a fact that within the past two years up to half a million pounds had been spent on hotel improvement. To-day they had at least sixty hotels with hot and cold water in all their rooms, and he thought that in the next two years they would have two hundred hotels fitted similarly. In addition to public money the Association received contributions from people concerned in the tourist industry, of whom they had a fairly big membership, and in addition a number of visitors subscribed. The main revenue ^{came} from hotels, shipping companies, etc., and through the rates from public bodies. About ten per cent of the money from public bodies was only allowed for administrative purposes, and the remainder had to be spent on advertising.

Mr Corish said it was only fair to say that the Association by resolution made a demand for an increased subscription from hotels, and that was paid. He thought the increase was two hundred per cent.

In reply to Mr Roche, Mr Barry said that the Association's advertising scheme had to be submitted to the Minister for Industry and Commerce. A big percentage had to be spent for the Press, and the difficulty they worked under was that most of their advertising had to be done outside, and was not seen by local people. Owing to the fact that most of the Association's work was done outside the county it was, perhaps, not appreciated by the people concerned at home.

Mr Roche said there were several people in Ireland who went abroad on tours, and never heard of the beauty spots in their own country. He suggested that a campaign should be started at home, because a lot of people went away for scenery every year while they probably had as good at home if they

knew about it. He thought they should start advertising at home first. He would like to know how the percentage was spent in advertising County Wexford last year. £360 should have been spent out of the £400 in advertising Co. Wexford. Mr Barry said that 10 per cent of what was contributed by each county was only deducted for a general fund, and that the balance was used for advertising the country.

Chairman - You are correct, but there may be a misunderstanding. Mr Barry told you he had to spend some of that money in foreign papers to advertise Wexford there.

Mr Barry said the Chairman was ^{quite} right. First of all it might be said that the money was spent in the Press of the world, and a portion was set aside for circulating photographs to papers. A small percentage was set aside for national publicity, from which Wexford would benefit, as Rosslare was a port of landing.

In answer to Mr Roche, Mr Barry said that £360 had been spent specially on Co. Wexford.

Mr Culleton - Do the Wexford hotel owners contribute generously to ~~this~~ fund ?

Mr Barry - They do, and, as Mr Corish says, subscriptions have been more than doubled this year. Ninety-nine per cent of the hotels subscribe to the Association.

Mr D'Arcy said he understood that in Switzerland tourists paid sixpence a day for advertising, and that it appeared on the tourists' bills whether they liked it or not. The people who owned the hotels collected the money and advertised. They had to admit that 90 per cent of the people of County Wexford would get no benefit from the Contribution from the rates.

Chairman - I agree with that, but this is an exceptional year in our history, and were it not for that I would not be as favourable to the granting of a contribution.

Miss O'Ryan said that all the hotels should use Irish

produce - Irish farmers' butter and eggs and Irish bacon etc.

Mr D'Arcy - And also they should charge moderate prices.

Chairman - I don't hold any brief for hotel proprietors, but I know hotels in my own locality, and I find that they do generally patronise local produce.

Miss O'Ryan asked Mr Barry to see that the Association would attend to the matter of the use of Irish produce in hotels.

Mr Barry said it was his particular business to inspect every hotel in Ireland regularly, and it was part of the Association's business to see that nothing would be put on the table but Irish produce. It was not enough to bring people to a country if they used foreign stuff. As far as the food supply was concerned he thought that 90 per cent of the hotels used nothing but the produce of the country, and visitors said that the food in Ireland was the best that the world could produce. It was fresh food, and not like the canned food they sometimes got in other countries. He thought the wholesomeness of their food was a very big attraction.

Mr Cummins - I propose that we adopt the same resolution as last year and give $\frac{1}{4}$ d in the £. I would like to go further, but I think it is sufficient now. Whatever necessity there was for it in years gone by there is a greater necessity now. A tremendous number of people will come to the country next year, and no doubt they will be a benefit to the country, but I guarantee whoever goes up to Dublin next year we will show them the great light that may be an inspiration to him for all time, and worth all the rates ever paid.

Mr Colfer seconded Mr Cummins' proposition.

Mr Roche - I propose that the people who benefit by the Tourist Association should contribute. The people who are asked to contribute see nothing but the dust of the tourists' cars going from town to town. I propose that the hotels and

shipping companies should keep the Association going.

Colonel Quin - We benefit in every way by an increase in the number of people coming to the country. We may get a few pence more for our beef and butter, and everything - all our produce goes up in price. The more tourists you have the more sale you have.

Mr D'Arcy seconded Mr Roche's proposition.

A poll on Mr Cummins' motion resulted as follows:-

For - Messrs Armstrong, Brennan, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gibbon, Hayes, Hall, Meyler, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Quin, Shannon, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman-
20.

Against - Messrs Culleton, Roche and D'Arcy - 3.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Michael Doyle

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

MINUTES.

MEETING HELD ON 9TH MARCH 1931.

FORTVIEW

WEXFORD

N.J. FRIZELLE

SECRETARY

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A meeting of the Wexford County Council was held on 9th March, 1931, in County Council Chamber, County Buildings, Wexford.

Mr M. Doyle (Chairman) presided and there were also present Messrs :- John Brennan, James Cline, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, James Gaul, Col. C.M. Gibbon, James Hall, Michael Jordan, William P. Keegan, Thomas Maylor, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col. R.P. Wemyss Quin, James Shannon, Myles Smyth, and James E. Walsh,

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, Mr Elgee, Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, and Rate Inspector were in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £582: 5: 2d. was examined and signed.

ESTIMATES OF RATES FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 1931-32.

Road Works Scheme:1931-32:- The following under date 3rd March, 1931, (R/RGM/32) was read from the Department of Local Government(Roads):-

"In reply to your letter of the 28th ultimo, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to inform you that he assents to a departure from the Public Bodies Orders, to enable the Wexford County Council to reconsider their Road Works Scheme on the 9th instant."

Colonel Gibbon said the Government had absolute power as regards amount of Grant they would provide. The Council could see from the letter of the Department under date 23rd February, 1931 (R/RGM/32) copy of which by directions of the Finance Committee was furnished to each member that unless they were

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prepared to fall in with the wishes of the Department in the matter no Grant for roads would be forthcoming. The Government were doing as he said they would have done - using the Road Fund money as a bribe to the County Council to raise a higher Rate for roads than already agreed to. The Council were under the impression in allocating £40,000 as the complete sum for road maintenance they would receive from the Government a Grant of £6162, so that they would have to actually raise only a sum of close on £34,000. It could, however, be seen from the letter of the 23rd February, 1931, to which he had referred, that unless the Council were satisfied to increase the allocation for Main Roads, no Government Grant would be forthcoming. He then proposed the following resolution:- "That a sum of £50,000 be raised for Road Maintenance for financial Year 1931-32 of which £25,405 is to be allocated for maintenance of Main Roads, this increased allocation to be given on the understanding that the usual 40 % Government Grant will be paid on the amount allotted for Main Road maintenance viz., £25,405."

The Chairman in seconding the motion commented upon the fact that the amount of Motor Tax raised in the County was as high as in the case of any other rating authority with the exception of Dublin. He considered they were badly treated by the Government. The Councillors came there to carry on the business of the County to the best of their ability, and if a majority decided to strike a rate of £40,000 they were overruled and overridden to this extent by the Department. The whole position of Local Administration was reduced to a farce and looking at the situation from a common-sense point of view it would seem as if the Councillors should not be there at all. However, they certainly had more brains than to throw away £10,000, and were not going to sacrifice this amount for the upholding of their own opinion.

The following amendment was proposed by Mr Culleton and seconded by Mr D'Arcy:- "That the total amount viz., £15,405 allocated at last meeting by the County Council for maintenance

of Main roads be deleted from the Road Works Scheme in view of the refusal of the Department of Local Government to make available the usual State Grant on the Council's allocation for Main Roads."

Colonel Gibbon hoped that Mr Culleton would withdraw his proposition, because if it were carried they were going to come into direct loggerheads with the L. G. D., ^{would} forfeit the grant, and would not increase their rate. They would leave their main roads without any expenditure on them this year. That would be all right if they had several more years of life for that Council, but he thought it would be rather unfair to saddle a new County Council coming in in June with the main roads in the condition that they would be in under Mr Culleton's proposition. The money that the Council voted to the Main roads was an absolute irreducible minimum. It did not make for any improvement in the roads, and it did not make for their maintenance in a manner that might reasonably be expected, but it did give sufficient to prevent irretrievable deterioration on the main roads. If Mr Culleton's proposition were carried it would lead in his (Col. Gibbon's) opinion, to such deterioration on the main roads that would not only have to be met by an equal rate next year, but by an increased rate to make good the abnormal deterioration that would take place.

Mr Corish certainly disagreed with the proposal put forward by Mr Culleton. He thought it an absolutely irresponsible proposition, made without giving thought to the subject. Everyone would admit that the amount of money was not sufficient to keep the roads as everyone would like and to bring forward a proposal of that kind simply from the point of view of spite, so to speak, was certainly not what he would expect from one who said he represented the ratepayers. Mr Culleton said that motor taxpayers were entitled to some consideration. That was a different argument from the one used when striking the rate. If they reduced the rate it was the motor car owners that would suffer. He would not like to be entirely dependent on the

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amount of money collected in the County in motor taxation in past years, because they had got infinitely more than the amount collected in motor taxation for three or four years, and he did not think the Council should seriously consider Mr Culleton's proposition. After all, there was a depression amongst the farmers, but there was also depression among the labourers, and surely they should endeavour to keep some of them working. The minimum rate would be responsible for a big reduction in the number employed, and he appealed to Mr Culleton to withdraw his proposition, and enable the Council to have the £25,000, for main road maintenance. It was rather unbusiness like putting forward a proposal which would have the effect of not alone accentuating depression amongst workers but mulcting the Rate payers in increased rates in future years.

Mr Culleton said that the L. G. D. wanted to bully the Council into agreeing to their wishes, and the Council should not allow themselves to be coerced.

After further discussion a poll was taken with the following result:-

For - Messrs Culleton, Meyler, D'Arcy - 3.

Against - Messrs Gibbon, Quin, Cummins, Keegan, O'Ryan, Brennan, O'Byrne, Murphy, Colfer, Clince, Corish, Gaul, and the Chairman - 13.

The following Councillors were not present when poll was taken:- Messrs Cooney, Hall, Jordan, McCarthy, Smyth, Walsh and Shannon - 7.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

Mr O'Byrne mentioned that on Saturday last the Gorey Tenders Committee sat for the purpose of considering tenders for 22 roads. Five of them were tendered for as prices were too low to induce people to take up the work. He proposed that a further allocation of £1000 for the 3rd and 4th Class County Roads be made from the Contingency Fund.

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The motion was not seconded and on the suggestion of the Chairman was withdrawn.

In connection with the proposed Grant of £16215 from the Department of Local Government (Roads) for improvement works the County Surveyor mentioned that he had proposed to apply this money to the concreting of the section of Wexford-New Ross Road via Camross, and to the road between Enniscorthy and Bunclody.

Mr Murphy complained that although the County Surveyor had promised to put the Wexford-Duncannon line into a reasonable state of repair there was not a word about this road now. He considered the people of the District were entitled to their proportion of the Road Grant.

The County Surveyor pointed out that the policy of the L. G. D. was to give all the money for improvement of Main roads and they had decided not to deal with the link roads (of which the Wexford-Duncannon Line was one) before all the Main roads were dealt with .

Miss O'Ryan suggested it would be advisable for the Council to consider the details of the works the County Surveyor proposed to submit to Mr Quigley of the L. G. D. She thought it would be better to do a longer stretch of road in a cheaper manner, by using what was known as "sandwich concrete." At present people were not doing things in the best possible way for the sake of appearance. By doing cheaper work they would probably get as good results as regards wear and tear, though it might not look quite so good.

Mr Colfer proposed that one-third of the extra £10,000 allocated to Main Roads be spent on the Wexford-Duncannon Line.

Mr Murphy seconded.

The County Surveyor suggested that a Committee be set up, to present to the Department a well considered scheme relative to the expenditure of the Improvement Grant.

Colonel Gibbon was of opinion that it would be better

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for the County Surveyor and Mr Quigley, Chief Roads Engineer, to consider a scheme in the first instance and to submit same to a Committee which could report in detail to the County Council.

In reply to Mr Murphy the County Surveyor stated that the amount which was allocated for the forthcoming financial year for the three sections of road between Wexford Urban and Wellingtonbridge was £300, £342, and £314, respectively, a total of £956.

After further discussion Mr Colfer agreed to withdraw his motion when the following was proposed by Mr O'Byrne, seconded by Mr Murphy and passed:- "That in view of the wretched condition of the Duncannon Line viz., (Wexford to Duncannon) we hereby agree to increase the allocation in the Road Works Scheme under consideration by 100 %.

Mr Shannon complained of the condition of the Bunclody New Ross Road and stated he would bring up the matter at a subsequent meeting.

Colonel Gibbon's resolution as to the allocation of £50,000 for road maintenance was then passed nem con.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr D'Arcy:- "That the £25,405 for Main road maintenance agreed to at this meeting be allocated by the County Surveyor in conformity with the amounts allotted by him for each Main and link road in his original allocation, as appearing in Provisional Road Works Scheme less £956 specially allocated by this meeting to Wexford-Duncannon link road."

School Medical Service: In connection with the refusal of the County Board of Health to adopt a Scheme in pursuance of Section 11 of the Public Health Medical Treatment of Children (Ireland) Act, 1919, for medical inspection of school children the following letter under date 3rd March, 1931, (P.H.12134/31 Loch Garman. Ab) was read:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and

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Public Health to advert to his letter of the 25th ultimo consenting to an extension to the 9th instant of the time for the consideration by the Wexford County Council of the estimates and rates for the year ending the 31st March, 1932, and I am to inquire whether the Council are satisfied that the above mentioned period will permit of the suggested arrangements for the medical inspection of school children being considered by the Board of Health and Public Assistance.

I am to explain that it is obligatory on the Board of Health and Public Assistance, in pursuance of Section 1 (1) of the Public Health (Medical Treatment of Children) (Ireland) Act, 1919, to make arrangements to the Minister's satisfaction for dealing with the health and physical condition of children attending the elementary schools in the county. The Board, however, at their last meeting rejected the scheme submitted by the County Medical Officer of Health for that purpose, apparently on the ground of the expense involved. The Minister, being desirous of meeting the wishes of the Board as far as is legally possible, notified them on the 26th ultimo, of his willingness to accept a suitable modified scheme, and it is necessary that provision should be made in the estimates to cover the cost of these arrangements. If a further extension of time to the 16th instant is desired to enable the Board of Health to carry out their statutory duty, the Minister will be prepared to grant it.

Mr Corish proposed the following resolution:-

"That the County Wexford Board of Health be requested to reconsider their decision refusing to make any allocation in their estimate for the School Medical Service."

He understood that if the scheme were not put into operation the Council would not get the recoupment to which they were entitled in respect of the salary of Dr. Bastible, C.M.O., for the inspection of school children, which would be £200. They would also lose £100, which would be recouped in respect of his travelling expenses (£200). The scheme originally submitted by Dr.

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Bastible, he admitted, was rather elaborate, but he understood it was amended considerably since, with the result that what the county would have to pay would be in the vicinity of five or six hundred pounds. Taking the amount even at £600, it would cost the county only £300. He could not see why Wexford should be behind other counties of the Saorstát in so far as looking after the school children. As stated by him time after time, he believed that if there was an early detection of the diseases from which school children were suffering it would not cost the public health authorities so much as when those children became advanced in years. The scheme was already in operation in the Counties of Louth, Wicklow, Kildare, Offaly, Westmeath, Limerick, Carlow, Dublin, City, Cork City, and Limerick City. There were others that he could not remember at the moment. In Louth, the smallest county in Ireland, two whole time nurses were employed, and it was not too much to ask that Wexford a much larger county should employ one. In Kildare which was not a tillage county to the same extent as Wexford, the scheme was costing £1,600, Offaly, £1,354. At the beginning Dr. Bastible asked for the services of an assistant medical officer and two whole time nurses. Dr. Bastible amended that scheme, but it had been turned down. He (Mr Corish) now understood that Dr. Bastible would be satisfied to do all the school inspection himself, with the assistance of one whole time nurse. The latter official would cost £180, with £100 travelling expenses, one-half of which would be recouped by the Department. If the Board of Health did not approve of the scheme it would mean they would be also losing the recoupment of another £140. He was led to believe that the total cost of the scheme to the county would be nearer to £500 than £600. A duty was owing to the children of the poor inasmuch as if a child of poor parents was suffering from disease which was apparent to the parents they were not in a position to have the child medical-

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ly treated. In a great many cases children were suffering from diseases for which the parents were unable to have them treated. It would be a great public service if the Council asked the Health Board to put the scheme into operation, as the amount which the county would be called on to pay would be altogether out of proportion to the amount of benefit that would be obtained from it. There were nurses in the Urban areas whose services he believed could be made available for the purposes of the scheme. In Wexford town there was a Jubilee Nurse who was in receipt of £156 a year. Her services, he believed, would be available for the work. There were nurses in the other towns whose services could also be availed of. There were 157 schools and 15,000 school children in the county, and Dr. Bastible with one nurse, would earn their salaries if they were to deal with all that number.

Colonel Quin stated that when the medical inspector of the L.G. Department appeared before the Council he told them that the County Medical Officer of Health would do everything himself. At the present moment he did not see anything against Dr. Bastible looking after the school children, but the moment the County Medical Officer was appointed other schemes were brought forward. He wanted an assistant medical-officer, two extra nurses and £1/each operation of adenoids. In view of those facts the scheme was not going to be as simple as Mr Corish was making out. He was in favour of the scheme, but why should the doctors get £1 for every case brought to them for the treatment of children with adenoids. If the scheme were adopted the Board would not know what they were letting themselves in for. Instead of the scheme costing £1500 it would be £10,000 next year.

Mr Murphy reminded the Council that the Board of Health had allotted £1400 for Dr. Bastible, his secretary and an office and £1200 for a scheme of immunisation against diphtheria, which was a big step in the first year. Mr Corish's

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statement was the first he heard about a modified scheme.

Mr Corish sated that the scheme which he outlined would cost less than what Dr. Bastible^{lx} proposed.

Replying to Mr Murphy, Mr Corish stated he did not know if the scheme he outlined would be accepted by Dr. Bastible. He was speaking from what had been done in other counties.

Col. Quin - Has Dr. Bastible been consulting with you and not the Co. Health Board ?

Mr Corish - It doesn't mean anything of the kind. I have got information from other counties. What I am asking you to do is less than what Dr. Bastible proposed. I am of the opinion that one nurse would be sufficient.

The Chairman stated that the County Health Board did not want to retard Dr. Bastible or prevent him from visiting every school he thought fit to visit, if he found anything wrong with any of the children prescribing for their treatment at the dispensaries or through their parents. They had the best medical service and all the money raised on the rates from which large ratepayers derived no benefit with the exception of that spent on the roads, went towards the maintenance of the county institutions which were being used for the relief of the poor. They were told the other day that the Co. Health Board would prefer breeding swine and other live stock to treating the poor man's child. The amount of money spent on live stock schemes was a mere bagatelle. It didn't amount to £4000. The amount raised on rates was up to £200,000, of which, as he stated above, the great proportion was spent on the upkeep of the institutions for the relief of the poor. The statement that the Co. Health Board were more interested in live stock was a regular libel on the Board. He was prepared to stand by the vote which he gave on the last day.

Mr Hall - I never heard of any amended scheme from Dr. Bastible until I came here today.

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Mr Corish stated that if the Co. Health Board agreed to the appointment of one whole-time nurse the Local Government Department would likely approve of it.

Mr Culleton stated the Co. Health Board were quite capable of dealing with the matter without any direction from Mr Corish.

Mr D'Arcy stated the County dispensary Medical-officers were quite competent to deal with the ailments of the children. When the matter came before the Co. Council at first they were led to believe that the county medical-officer's duty was to look after the children. In his opinion Dr. Bastible wanted to become a medical director with a complete staff. It was time for the Council to put their feet down. It was the primary duty of ~~the~~ parents to look after the health of their children. He was satisfied that that was being done as far as it was possible.

Col. Quin said the County medical-officer was absolutely necessary, and it was necessary that the children should be examined, but the Local Government Inspector told them that the person appointed would do the whole work. They were now being told that that was ridiculous. It was not ridiculous. Dr. Bastible should do two-thirds of the work and at the end of the year see how the scheme stands. There was nothing to prevent him examining the children, prescribing for them and sending them down for operations in the same way as the dispensary doctors were doing.

Mr McCarthy expressed the opinion that the Council were more or less wasting time discussing the matter which was one entirely for the Co. Health Board.

Chairman - There is a letter here from the L.G.D. and I don't think it is out of order discussing it.

Mr McCarthy, continuing, stated he thought that Dr. Bastible was moving a bit too quickly. He should move more cautiously and if he did the Co. Health Board would meet him in a reasonable manner. The scheme put forward by Dr. Bastible was a

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very elaborate one which took everyone by surprise. The Co. Health Board had been always quite reasonable in providing proper treatment, and if Dr. Bastible was more moderate in regard to his requirements for a medical inspection scheme it would be far better.

Mr D'Arcy suggested that Dr. Bastible should work in conjunction with the dispensary medical-officers and not use his efforts to close down an hospital which was a service to Gorey and the district.

Mr Keegan - When this case came before the Council on a previous occasion we were told the total cost would be-£800. What is it today ?

Mr D'Arcy - £8,000.

Replying to Mr Keegan, the Chairman stated that the sanitary sub-officers hitherto employed under Boards of Guardians were still being employed.

Mr Keegan - Where do they come in now ?

Chairman - I don't know.

Mr Keegan referred to the bad condition of labourers' cottages in his district, and stated^{that} he brought them under the notice of Mr Dunbar, Co. Health Board Engineer, for the area, but nothing had been done with them.

Mr Shannon said the Council should ask the County Health Board to reconsider their decision. He did not think their recent decision was in keeping with what the Board should do. They should insist on Dr. Bastible visiting the schools.

The Chairman stated he took it when they were considering the matter of the appointment of a County medical-officer that the inspection of school children would be his principal duty.

A poll was taken on Mr Corish's motion with the following result:-

For - Messrs Cline, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Quin and Shannon - 10.

Against - Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Hall, Jordan, Keegan, Meyler, Murphy, Walsh and the Chairman - 10.

Messrs Colfer, Gibbon and Smyth were not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman gave his casting vote against the motion which he declared lost.

Gorey School: The following resolution was submitted from the County Wexford Vocational Education Committee meeting of 2nd March, 1931:-

"That Wexford Co. Council be requested to consent to the borrowing for the Co. Wexford Vocational Education Committee of the sum of £800 from the Local Loans Fund (to be repaid on annuity principle in a period of 35 years) for the purpose of erecting a technical school in Gorey Town. The Committee would point out to the Council that the estimated cost of the School will be £1,600, of which half is to be money withdrawn from the savings of the Co. Wexford Committee of Agriculture and Technical Instruction on the technical instruction side and the balance as stated to be obtained on loan from the Local Loans Fund.

'In the event of the Council agreeing to the Committee so borrowing, the Department of Education (Technical Instruction Branch) will refund each year half the amount of principal and interest repaid on Loan, so that the actual cost to the rates will be £400.

We would further point out to the Council that the amount to be repaid each year on the loan will be less than the rent which the Committee have to provide for premises that are not suitable for technical school purposes."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Col. Quin:- "That this County Council hereby agrees that the necessary amount to cover the repayment of Principal and Interest on Loan of £800 ~~be~~ be obtained through the Public Works (Ireland) Acts - 1831-1886, for the purposes of contributing to the cost of erection of proposed

Technical School, Gorey, and the site thereof. At the moment it is not possible for the Council to state the exact sum required, but we are of opinion that if the Loan be made available on a 35 years' basis repayment of Principal and Interest should not exceed £65 per annum. This we agree, should ~~be~~ as regards the present year, be withdrawn from the General Contingency Fund, and that in future years it should be added to the annual contribution of the Co. Wexford Vocational Education Committee."

Consideration of General Estimate was then resumed.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr Gaul and seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That we approve and confirm the figures in regard to Rates for financial year 1931-32 as recommended by meeting of Finance Committee held on 26th February, 1931. That Rate for General Charges for financial year 1931-32 (in conformity with figures appearing on Form 42) be and is hereby agreed to at 8s/4d in the £ for General Charges. That holders of agricultural land receive a rebate on the valuation of said land representing a Poundage Rate of 2/6d. in the £ being the difference between the poundage rate ~~represented~~ by the Agricultural Grant viz., 3/2³/₄d in the £ - and poundage rate for amount of repayment of loan under Relief of Rates Agricultural Land Act viz., 8³/₄d. in the £. That Rate for Separate Charges for financial year 1931-32 (in conformity with particulars appearing on Form 43) as presented to this meeting be also agreed to.

"That the following amounts be fixed as the sums to be demanded from the three Urban Districts of the County:-

Enniscorthy.....	£2757: 2: 0d.
New Ross.....	£2564: 3: 6d.
Wexford.....	£5873: 0: 0d.

"That Drainage Rate for Kilmannock Drainage District as set out in Charging Order issued by the Office of Public Works, Dublin, and signed and sealed on behalf of that body

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by their Secretary, on the 19th January, 1927, amount £83:7:10d be agreed to and that the several amounts be levied on the persons whose names are set out on Schedule of said Charging Order or their successors in title and we hereby direct that said amounts be collected apart from Poor Rate and independently of same."

Mr Culleton proposed and Mr D'Arcy seconded the following amendment:- "That as this County Council have no information at present as to relief of rates on Agricultural Land through de-rating or otherwise, we request the L.G.D. to consent to extend the time at which the Council can agree to their Rate for 1931-32 to the 23rd March, 1931.

"That the Government be asked to furnish any information they may have in this matter and that the T.D.'s of the County be requested to ~~raise~~ in the Dail the question of how de-rating stands."

A poll was taken with the following result:→

For the amendment - Messrs Hall, Meyler, Jordan, Murphy, Culleton, Cummins, Keegan, O'Ryan, D'Arcy, Brennan, Smyth and the Chairman - 12.

Against - Messrs Quin, Walsh, Byrne, McCarthy, Shannon, Cooney, Colfer, Clinee, Corish and Gaul - 10.

The Chairman declared the amendment carried and on being put as the substantive motion it was adopted nem con.

Miss O'Ryan proposed:- "That the T.D.'s of the County be asked to support the motion for the vote of £1,000,000 for relief of Rates on Agricultural Land when brought forward in An Dail and that such relief be made applicable to the present Rate."

Mr Brennan seconded.

Mr Corish, as a member of the Labour Party and Mr Jordan as a member of the ~~F~~armers' Party, in An Dail, having pointed out that it was asking too much of them to support directly the motion referred to in Miss O'Ryan's resolution, said they

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were both extremely anxious to do what was possible to secure some relief for Agriculture, but they could not see their way to support the present motion.

The following amendment was proposed by Mr McCarthy and seconded by Mr Murphy:-

"That when the present motion tabled by Mr De Valera, for a Grant for relief of Agriculture, comes before the Dail, the T.D.'s for this County, be requested to press for a definite statement from the Government as to its intentions with regard to de-rating or other form of relief for Agriculture."

A vote was taken on the amendment with the following result:-

For - Messrs Quin, Meyler, Murphy, Walsh, Culleton, O'Byrne, McCarthy, Shannon, Colfer, Clince, Cooney and Gaul - 12.

Against - Messrs Smyth, Cummins, Keegan, O'Ryan, D'Arcy, and Brennan - 6.

The following did not vote:- Messrs Hall, Jordan, Corish, Col. Gibbon and the Chairman - 5.

The Chairman declared the amendment carried, and on being put as the substantive motion it was adopted without dissent.

REPORTS OF TENDERS COMMITTEES.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Gaul seconded by Mr Colfer:-

"That the Road Contracts provisionally accepted by Tenders Committees of Enniscorthy, New Ross and Gorey, as appearing on Form 20 be and are hereby approved with the following exceptions:-

Enniscorthy - No.441. Contract cancelled as Michael Parle, Tubberlamina, intending Contractor, was found after meeting of Tenders Committee to be under age, work to be given in charge of the County Surveyor for a year.

New Ross - No. 742. James Miskella, Coolboy, Foulksmills, provisionally accepted by Tenders Committee at £7:19: withdrew

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and Martin Carroll, Assagart, Foulksmills, accepted at £7:17:6d. per annum.

No.749. Martin Carroll's tender for No. 749 at £7:17:6d. was found to be really for Road No.742.

In connection with Road No. 749 the tender of Aidan Crane, Clonerane, Taghmon, ay £8:15: being the lowest was accepted.

Wexford. No Councillor attended the meeting of Tenders Committee summoned for 28th February, 1931.

Road No.624 - No tender. Given in charge of Co. Surveyor for one year.

No.893 - No Tender. Given in charge of Co. Surveyor at £9:10: for one year.

No.911 - No tender. Given in charge of Co. Surveyor at £5 for one year.

Two tenders were received for Road No. 976. Richard Cleary, Dirr, Cleariestown, tendered at £11 but mentioned no sureties. James Boggan, Walshestown, Ballycogley, tendered at £11:15: per annum giving as his sureties William Devereux, Murrintown, and Capt. John Clare, Whiterock Cottage.

The tender of James Boggan, was accepted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Shannon.

MINUTES OF COMMITTEES.

The following Minutes in respect of meeting of Finance Committee held on 12th February, 1931, were submitted:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held on 12th February, 1931, in County Council Chamber, Wexford.

Present - Messrs Sean O'Byrne, James Hall, John J. Culleton, James Shannon, and Thomas McCarthy.

The Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the County Surveyor, and Mr Elgee, Solicitor, were also in attendance.

On the motion of Mr Culleton seconded by Mr Hall the chair was taken by Mr O'Byrne.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £1787: 14: 6d. was examined and signed.

VOTE OF CONDOLENCE.

The following vote of sympathy was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Culleton, and spoken to by the Chairman, Secretary, County Surveyor and Solicitor:-

"That we offer our deep sympathy to our Colleague Mr John Doran in the death of his brother James. Our condolence with Mr Doran is all the more sincere owing to the fact that his beloved brother was cut off in the prime of life. That copy of this resolution be forwarded to Mr Doran."

CARETAKER OF COUNTY COUNCIL OFFICES.

In connection with the office of Caretaker in County Council offices a discussion occurred in connection with the retention of Nicholas Roche, present caretaker, in view of the appointment of John Doyle as Courtkeeper for new Courthouse. The following resolution was adopted:-

"That Nicholas Roche be retained as Caretaker of County Council office at his present wages of 30/- per week with free light to act as messenger for the three offices, employment to continue so long as premises at Fortview remain undisposed of by the Council. Should the Council secure a

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purchaser for Fortview the further employment of Mr Roche as messenger be again considered."

Account was received from Mrs McNally (former Court-keeper of Wexford Courthouse) for £20:15:0d. for salary etc from 1st October, 1930, to 31st January, 1931, date of her resignation as Courtkeeper of County Courthouse.

It was decided on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Shannon that the amount be paid.

RATE COLLECTION.

The following shows the percentage of Rate collected up to 11th February, 1931:-

	Percentage.
1. J. Quirke (No.1)	67.2
2. J. Curtis	66.9
3. M. McCarthy	65.5
3. E. J. Murphy	65.5
4. W. Doyle	64.6
5. S. Gannon	62.2
6. J. Cummins	61.5
7. T. Rowe	60.9
8. P. Nolan	60.6
9. J.J. O'Reilly	59.9
10. Art Dunne	59.7
11. J. Deegan	59.3
12. P. Doyle	58.5
13. T. Bolger(No.14)	57.7
14. M. Kelly	56.9
15. W. Cummins	56.3
16. P. O'Byrne	56.2
17. P. Carty	55.6
18. J.J. Sinnott(No.12)	40.8 51.8
19. T. Bolger(No.12)	40.8

20. J. Quirke (No.2)

Percentage
33.1

The following was read from Patrick Carty, Rate Collector, No. 21 District:-

"In reply to your letter re my Collection I wish to state that I called on several farmers in my district for Rates who I know could pay and they told me they would not pay until March.

I gave ten cases to Messrs Colfer & Son, Solicitors, (total £116) the first week in January for collection and he had got no payment on them up to Saturday last."

The Chairman considered that it was the duty of the Collector when he called upon people who were well able to pay and who would not, to take prompt proceedings against them.

Mr Hall contended that the circumstances of each such case would have to be carefully considered. People might have a reasonable and genuine excuse for not paying at the moment.

Chairman (Mr O'Byrne) - If somebody able to pay, but refusing to do so, was made an example of early in the season it would have a great effect on the Collection. He could not understand why this Collector would not seize on his own warrant in such cases.

It was decided to ask Mr Carty why he does not exercise the power given him under his Warrant in cases, in which to his knowledge, people are able to pay, but refuse or neglect to do so.

In connection with the preparation of Receipt and Demand notes a letter was read from Mr R.A. Foley, 5 Trinity Street, Dublin, offering to do the typing and checking of Demand Notes for Financial Year 1931/32 at £3 per 1000.

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It was decided to refer the matter to the County Council.

RECONSTRUCTION OF OLD JAIL PREMISES.

The following under date 9th February was received from the Secretary, McNally & Co. East Wall, Dublin, Contractors for Old Jail:-

"The sum of £2,500 has been certified for some considerable time, and as we have finished the work in connection with our Contract, the amount outstanding is now over £4,000. We cannot allow the matter to remain where it is now, and unless we have an undertaking from you by Monday, 16th instant that the £2,500 certified will be paid at once, we will have no option but to put the matter in the hands of our Solicitors.

"We also claim interest at the rate of $5\frac{1}{2}\%$ from the date of the Certificates, under the terms of our Contract."

In connection with this matter Mr Elgee, Solicitor, forwarded the following copy of letter from the Department of Finance, under date 9th February (404/296) :-

"With reference to your letter of the 19th ultimo and previous correspondence regarding the construction of Wexford Courthouse, I am directed by the Minister for Finance to convey his approval to the revised plans which have now been amended to provide for direct access from the cells to the dock, by means of a stairs leading from the Court down to a landing on the ground floor from which an existing stairway leads to the cells. On receipt of a Certificate that this work has been carried out, the Minister will arrange to have the premises inspected with a view to authorising payment of the balance of the award."

The Chairman pointed out that when the plans were agreed

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to by the Government Departments concerned, no mention was made whatever of the construction of stairs by which prisoners could be conveyed to the Dock without coming in contact with any persons in the Court.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Culleton:-

"That copy of letter under date 9th February, 1931, from Messrs McNally & Co., East Wall, Dublin, Contractors for reconstruction of Old Jail premises demanding immediate payment of £2,500 certified by County Surveyor on foot of their Contract be furnished Department of Finance. That it be pointed out to this Department that when the plans for the reconstruction of the premises were sanctioned by them no provision was made for direct access from the prisoners' cells to the Dock by means of a stairs leading from the Court to a landing on the ground floor, and the County Council believed that the cost of this extra work should have been provided from Government funds.

In the circumstances, however, the Finance Committee urge the Department of Finance to forward at once Pay Order for the £2,500 which has been certified by County Surveyor, and which would leave in their hands a much larger amount than would be involved in the construction of the stairway.

In view of the letter of Messrs McNally & Co. the Finance Committee consider it most unjust that seeing the amount of money retained by the Department of Finance that Department should allow proceedings to be taken against the Council."

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES STANDARDS.

Under date 6th February, 1931, the following (27238) was read from the Department of Industry and Commerce, Gas & Weights & Measures Section, 33 Upper Merrion Street, Dublin:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Industry and Commerce to inform you that in connection with the periodical re-verification and adjustment of the weights and measures stand-

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ards and sub-standards, which was recently completed, a considerable number of instruments and other articles had to be rejected as unfit for further use. When the previous re-verification by this Department took place in 1923, many of the old standards were found to have reached the last stage of efficiency, but in view of the substantial expense which then devolved on the County and Borough Councils in connection with the provision of weights and measures equipment, every instrument which could possibly be passed was re-verified for a further period. The limit of use has now been exceeded, however, and the Minister regrets that he has to require the provision of a substantial quantity of apparatus in each County and Borough.

To facilitate the Councils, a specification was prepared to include the requirements of all local authorities, and tenders were invited from approved makers of instruments of the high quality necessary in standards, and as the total amount involved is substantial, keen competitive prices have been secured.

The articles required by your Council are as follows:-

One 1 oz. local standard balance,
Three 1 oz. sub-standard balances.
Three sets weights - 8 oz. to $\frac{1}{2}$ dram,
Two glass strikes.

The two lowest tenders received in full accordance with the specification (including verification fees and attendance at Testing Office to adjust) were -

W. & T. Avery, Birmingham - £64. 1. 9.
De Grave Short & Co. London- £50. 5. 3.

The Minister would be glad to have the approval of your Council to his acceptance of the tender of De Grave Short & Co.; and as delivery cannot be completed until between five and six months from the placing of the order, an early reply will be esteemed a favour."

The following resolution was proposed by Mr Hall, seconded by Mr Culleton and adopted:-

"That letter from Department of Industry & Commerce asking

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the Council to pay £50. 5. 3. for equipment in connection with Weights & Measures Standards be referred to the County Council."

DUPLICATE PAY ORDERS.

The Chairman proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That Duplicate Pay Orders for Nos. 693, £19:3:4: and 694, £14:3:4:, issued on 22nd December to Mr John Kehoe, Moortown, Ballymitty, from General Account, and Pay Order No. 5757 £5:10:6: issued on 28th August, 1930, from Subsidiary Account, to Messrs Clayton & Shuttleworth, Gainsborough, England, be issued, as originals appear to have been lost in course of post."

The Secretary mentioned that the originals had been estopped.

ILLNESS OF OFFICIALS.

Certificate was read from Dr. Quigley, New Ross, that Mr P. O'Neill, Erin Vale, New Ross, Assistant Surveyor, was suffering from influenza since the 3rd February, and would be unfit for duty until the 12th February.

Certificate was received from Dr. James A. Pierce, Upper Georges' Street, Wexford, certifying that Mr Stephen Hayes had been ill since 22nd January, and would not be able to resume duty before the 16th February.

BROKEN SEWER - MAIN STREET, GOREY.

Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, reported under date 2nd February, that as the sewer in Main street, Gorey, was broken down in three different places he had to employ men to carry out the repairs and it would be necessary to provide a sum of £10 from the Contingency Fund.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr McCarthy:-

"That a sum of £10 be withdrawn from Contingency Fund (Main Roads) for the purpose of repairing damage to sewer."

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INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATION.

Under date 3rd February, 1931, Mr John Leacy, Inspector, N.S.P.C.C. County Wexford and District Branch, wrote that he intended applying at Childrens' Court, New Ross, on the 10th February for the committal of Kathleen Rowe to St. Aidan's Industrial School, New Ross. Her father, Michael Rowe, was at present in the Mental Home, Enniscorthy, and the mother in the County Home.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Brennan:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 12th February, 1931, be received and considered." Reconstruction of Old Jail Premises: The meeting considered answer of Minister of Finance to Mr Corish in An Dail as regards the award.

Letter under date 4th March, 1931 (404/296) to Mr Elgee, Solicitor, from the Department of Finance, and which was before the meeting of the Council on 9th March, 1931, was read. The letter acknowledged the receipt of the resolution of the Finance Committee of the 12th instant and stated that the Minister had carefully considered the resolution of the Committee on the question of providing direct access from Prisoners' cells to the Dock, but-regretted he was not in a position to provide any sum beyond the amount of the award with accrued Interest. A Paying Order for £1595:14:3d. being a further instalment with accrued Interest less Income Tax was paid on 21st February.

The Secretary said it was very necessary that the actual amount due by the Department should be cleared up. According to the Department there was only £400 now outstanding, but according to the Co. Surveyor there was £900.

Mr Elgee, Solicitor, said the old Wexford Courthouse was burned on 18th June, 1921, and according to the Act of 1926 the ten per cent increase only came into operation from the 11th July, 1921 to 12th May, 1923. They were just outside the limit he was afraid and if that was so they were not entitled to the ten per cent. He had written to the Department for an explanation, but that was his opinion on the matter.

Miss O'Ryan - You mean that Courthouse was not burned at the right date ?

Mr Elgee - It was burned a little bit too soon; it was burned before the Truce.

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Chairman - Was there no amending Act stretching the dates.

Mr Elgee - Not stretching the dates backwards. There was an extension forward.

Chairman - If we aren't within the dates, and if there is no amendment bringing the dates backwards, we certainly can't claim the increase.

Col. Quin - I understand if we provide the staircase we will get paid, and that if we don't we won't get paid?

Secretary - They are holding £400 against us for that .

In reply to Mr O'Byrne ~~Mr~~ Elgee said the Department told them they would not give them anything beyond the £5000 and Interest. He had written for an explanation, but had not received one yet.

Col. Quin - Am I right in my understanding that until we provide the staircase they won't give us any more of the balance of the £5000?

Secretary - They are holding £400.

Col. Quin - I propose we provide it.

The Chairman suggested that the authorities should have had brains enough to notice the matter of the staircase when they had the specification of the alterations before them.

The Secretary said the only thing Col. Quin could do if he wished to have the staircase provided was to give notice of motion for the rescinding of the resolution adopted by the Council, that the staircase should be provided out of Government funds.

Col. Quin said he would give notice of motion for next meeting to have the resolution rescinded.

Weights and Measures Standards: Under date 7th March, 1931, letter was read from the Department of Industry and Commerce asking what decision had been arrived at by the Co. Council in this matter and pointing out that the majority of the County and Borough Councils had already notified their approval of the acceptance of the tender Of Messrs De Grave Short & Co. It was desired to close the list and put the work in hands at an early date.

The Chairman said there did not seem to be any way out of

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this expenditure.

Mr Cummins proposed and Col. Quin seconded the following resolution which was adopted without dissent:- "That the Wexford County Council approve of the acceptance by the Minister for Industry & Commerce on behalf of this Council of the tender of Messrs De Grave Short & Co. London at £50:5:3d. for necessary equipment under Weights and Measures Acts and verification etc of same."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 12th February, 1931, be and are hereby approved.

The following Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of Meeting held on 26th February, 1931, were submitted:-

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The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 26th February, 1931.

Present - Messrs J. Culleton, James Hall, T. McCarthy, Sean O'Byrne and James Shannon.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and Rate Inspector were also in attendance.

On the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall, the chair was taken by Mr McCarthy.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £1677: 18: 9d. was examined and signed.

SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANT.

An application for award of Secondary Scholarship from Kathleen Gertrude Furlong, Dranagh, Caim, was handed in at the meeting ~~was received~~.

Mr Hall said that the child had been ill for some time owing to which the application was overlooked and was not lodged on the specified date, viz. 17th February.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Culleton:-

"That, subject to consent of Department of Education we agree to accept entry form of Kathleen Gertrude Furlong, Dranagh, Caim, Enniscorthy, for award of Secondary Scholarship and declare her eligible to compete for such scholarship.

ESTIMATE OF RATE AND SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

The following under date 25th February (P.H. 12134/31) Loch Garman Ab) was read from Department of Local Government:-

"In reply to your letter of the 17th instant, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public

Health to state that in deference to the wishes of the Wexford County Council he has consented to a departure from the terms of the Public Bodies Order, 1925, so as to permit of the Council considering the estimates and the striking of rates for the year ending 31st March, 1932, at a meeting to be held not later than the 9th proximo.

As regards your inquiry on the subject, I am to explain that as intimated in the Department's letter of the 19th June last P.H. 43382/30, consent was given to the provisional allocation, for purposes of recoupment from the School Medical Service Grant, of £400 of the salary of the County Medical Officer of Health and of 50 per cent of his travelling expenses. That allocation was based on the assumption that a complete School Medical Service Scheme would be established by the Board of Health and Public Assistance, and the proportion to be now admitted to recoupment will depend on the extent to which Dr. Bastible's services can be utilised under any modified scheme which is adopted by the Board of Health with the Minister's approval., It is suggested that you might communicate with the Board of Health in regard to the matter."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Culleton, seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That copy of letter from L.G.D. under date 25th February, 1931, (P.H.12134/31 Loch Garman Ab.) be forwarded the Board of Health for their information, in the meantime, that a sum of £250 be brought into the Estimate of Rates as recoupment of salary and expenses of County Medical Officer, in connection with School Medical Service."

QUESTION OF STATE GRANT FOR ROADS.

The following under date 23rd February, 1931 (R/RGM/32) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that he has had before him the copy of the Roads Works Scheme received from you on the 14th

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instant as approved by the Wexford County Council for the financial year 1931/32, and to state that as the sum allowed by the Council falls so far short of the County Surveyor's requirements and the Council have made no provision for the surface dressing of any of the trunk roads in the County, the Minister regrets he is unable to indicate any grant from the Road Fund towards the cost of the upkeep of Main Roads in County Wexford for the coming financial year.

Although it appears from the Council's Minutes of the 9th instant that it was decided to raise in respect of repair, improvement and contingencies a total sum of £40,000 it is understood that the Council contemplated that 40 per cent of the cost of the repair of Main Roads (i.e. a Grant of £6,162) would be available by way of relief, in other words that all the Council would actually raise would be £33,838 or 11½ per cent over what the Council expended in respect of roads in the year 1913/14. On the 20th instant the Minister found it necessary to draw ^{the} special attention of the Council to the Chief Engineering Inspector's report as to the standard of Main Road Maintenance in County Wexford. It is quite obvious that the sum voted by the Council for the upkeep of such roads in 1931/32, being about £10,000 less than that voted for the present financial year, must result in a still lower standard of maintenance.

The Minister has assented to such departures from the Public Bodies Orders as may be necessary to enable the Council to reconsider their Roads Works Scheme not later than the period ending 7th proximo."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the figures of Rate Estimates for 1932-32 be considered at this meeting and a Rate in the £ recommended for adoption to the County Council on the assumption that no grant for maintenance of Main Roads will be received from Local Government Department for

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year 1931-32.

"In the event of the County Council deciding to alter their previous decisions regarding the amount allocated for road maintenance in view of letter received from Local Government Department (23rd February, 1931 - R/RGM/32) the County Council can at their meeting of 9th March, 1931 (date fixed for agreeing to Rate Estimates) consider the advisability of making application to the L.G.D. for extension of time for consideration of Estimates of Rate. The Finance Committee hereby request the L.G.D. to extend to 9th March, 1931, the period up to which the Council can reconsider their Roads Works Scheme.

"That copy of letter from L.G.D. referred to in this resolution be furnished to each Councillor with agenda for meeting of 9th March, 1931."

ESTIMATES OF RATES.

The following under date 17th January, 1931, (G2736-1931 Loch Garman) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, relative to the Council's financial position, and to state that if the sums set out therein are due and not yet paid by the Urban District Councils these Councils should be called ^{up} on to pay without further delay.

Before further considering the Council's request for a continuance of the overdraft the Minister would wish an assurance that substantial provision will be made in the rate for 1931-32 to meet the deficit anticipated at the 31st March next."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Culleton:-

"That the Local Government Department be requested to sanction overdraft at limit of £36,000 from 1st March, 1931, to 30th June, 1931. The Finance Committee in making this

application desire to point out to the Local Government Department that this is necessitated through the backward state of the Rate Collection and to amounts due to the Co. Council by the Urban Councils in respect of their demands for the year ending 31st March, 1931. Application is again being made to the National Bank Directors to re-consider their decision regarding loans for extinguishing the debit balances of Enniscorthy and Wexford Rural District Charges Accounts and, if this is successful, the amount of overdraft required will be reduced by £16,000. The Finance Committee have included in Estimate, for submission to the County Council in respect of the year 1931/32 sufficient to meet the liabilities of the County Council to 31st March, 1932, provided outstanding grants, Urban Councils' Demands, etc., are paid in full within that period. In the case of the Health Board and Mental Hospital Committee Demands, the sums demanded by these bodies have been included in full in rate estimate recommended for adoption to the County Council. The Finance Committee, owing to the present state of agricultural depression, cannot recommend the County Council to include a sum sufficient to meet quarter's instalments of the demands of these bodies being paid in advance but they would point out that, to the 31st December, 1930, the demands of these public bodies have been met in full in addition to advances being made, in respect of the current quarter's demand. The Finance Committee will use their utmost endeavours in the coming financial year to advance the rate collection as much as possible."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Culleton:-

"That application be again made to the National Bank Ltd., for loans amounting to £5170: 16: 7d. and £10945: 5: 6d. repayable in 5 and 10 years respectively, in order to extinguish debit balances on Enniscorthy and Wexford Rural District Charges Accounts and so reduce the amount of the present overdraft ac-

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commodation by the amount of the loans. We desire to point out to the Bank that the County Council have, within the past three years, reduced their liabilities on foot of loans and overdraft by over £30,000 and we consider it only reasonable that Treasurer should facilitate the Council by acceding to the present application which has been already sanctioned by the Local Government Department. That representations be made to the Chairman of the Irish Board of Directors (Sir Thomas H.G. Esmonde, Bt.) in the matter, and that he be requested to endeavour to have the application of the County Council granted."

The following allocation for County Services (Excluding Public Works) and for Miscellaneous expenditure chargeable to Roads Account was agreed to:-

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

ESTIMATE COUNTY SERVICES ACCOUNT (~~EX~~CLUDING PUBLIC WORKS)
FOR YEAR 1931-32, ~~1931-32~~ CONSIDERED BY FINANCE
COMMITTEE ON 26th FEBRUARY, 1931

	1931-32	1930-31	Increase	Decrease
	£	£	£	£
County Medical Officer of Health	1401		1401	
Ancient Monuments Act	7		7	
Salaries: Secretary's Office	1875	1750	125	
Salaries other Co. Officers; Analyst, Lamplighters, etc.	316	341		25
Retiring Allowances & Gratuities	334	384		50
Cost of Rate Collection	3300	3540		240
Refunds of Irrecoverable Rates	1485	1485		
Franchise & Jurors' Lists	1649	1618	31	
Printing in connection with Registration Act	344	803		459
Valuation	208	208		
Members' Travelling Expenses	285	232	53	
University Scholarships	630	700		70
Primary Scholarships	780	730	50	
Legal Expenses	300	308		8
Coroners and Inquests	391	421		30
Postage and Office Requisites	253	313		60
Printing and Stationery	218	240		22
Advertising Pleasure Resorts	411	410	1	
Other Advertisements	350	395		45
Contribution County Councils'				
General Council	20	20		
Conveyance of Prisoners	76	107		31
Weights and Measures	283	73	210	
Food and Drugs	50	40	10	
Salaries Court Officials etc.	156	97	59	
Rents and Expenses of Courthouses	285	440		155
Library Scheme	822	820	2	
Reformatories & Industrial Schools	4136	4500		364
County Harbour	85	91		6
Rent Old Jail	207	207		
Refund to Wexford Urban adjust- ment Financial Relations	27	27		
Diseases of Animals Acts: Salaries				
Veterinary and Sheep Dipping	622	622		
Inspectors				
Do Other Expenses	603	731		128
Audit Fee	85	85		
Debit Interest	1250	1313		63
Superannuation Allowances Ex- Union Officers	1462	1470		8
Superannuation Allowances Ex- R.D.C. Council Officers	217	217		
Elections	1131	-	1131	
FORWARD	26054	24738	3080	1764

	1931-32	1930-31	Increase	Decrease
FORWARD	£ 26054	£ 24738	£ 3080	£ 1764
Local Authorities (Officers and Employees) Act and Combined Purchasing Act.	291	-	291	
Contingencies	750	750		
Money supplied to Mental Hospital	21250	21250		
Money supplied to Co. Committee of Agriculture	1850	1297	553	
Money supplied to Co. Vocational Education Committee	2726	2026	700	
TOTAL COUNTY SERVICES	52921	50061	4624	1764

Net Increase £2860

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

ESTIMATE FOR MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE CHARGEABLE TO
ROADS' ACCOUNT FOR YEAR
1931-32

	1931-32	1930-31	Increase	Decrease
	£	£	£	£
S: Salary County Surveyor	716	716		
P Postage County Surveyor	50	50		
AsAssistant Surveyors' Salaries	1550	1550		
A Assistant Surveyors' Travelling E Expenses	1020	1020		
C Clerks in County Surveyor's O Office	444	419	25	
Re Retiring Allowance (Mr. Webster)	33	33		
Pr Printing and Stationery	185	284		99
Ad Advertising	-	42		42
	3998	4114	25	141

Net decrease £116

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The Secretary pointed out that allocation included increments for clerical staff in accordance with amounts fixed by County Council last year.

The allocation was adopted nem con.

Memorandum under date 31st January, 1931, was read from Department of Local Government stating that it was intended to provide for the Agricultural Grant on the same basis as in the present financial year.

After discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That we recommend the County Council to adopt a Rate of 8/4d. in the £ for General Charges in respect of financial year 1931-32. That rebate in respect of Rate on Agricultural Land be 2/6d. in the £ being the difference between amount of Rate represented by Agricultural Grant viz., 3/2 $\frac{3}{4}$ and amount of instalment for repayment of Relief of Rates on Agricultural Land Act Loan viz., 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. in the £.

"That Rates for separate charges be agreed to as follows:-

No.	Nature of Charge	Area of Charge	Rate in £
4	Repayment of Loan Arklow Harbour	Barony of Gorey	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.
15	Repayment Loans Gorey Union	Gorey R.D.	$\frac{1}{2}$ d
20	Expenses Labourers Act	Enniscorthy R.D.	10 $\frac{3}{4}$ d
21	do.	Gorey R.D.	3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d
22	do.	New Ross R.D.	5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d
23	do.	Wexford R.D.	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d
25	Part Balance transferred Enniscorthy R.D. Charges Account.	Enniscorthy R.D.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d
28	do. Wexford R.D. Charges Account.	Wexford R. D.	3
3A	Expenses Public Health Acts	Enniscorthy R.D.	2
2A	Lighting Newtownbarry Town	Townlands of Newtownbarry and Ballinapark	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
4A	Post Office Act	Oulart Dispens- ary District	$\frac{1}{4}$ d

No.	Nature of Charge	Area of Charge	Rate in £
5A	Clonroche Sewerage	Clonroche Dispensary District.	5d
1B	Sanitary Works and Water Supply	Gorey R. D.	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d
1-10C	Public Health Acts	New Ross R. D.	1d
11C	do.	New Ross Dispensary District	2d
1D	Water Supply Rosslare	Wexford R. D.	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d
4D	Public Health Acts	Taghmon and Glynn Dispensary District.	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d
5D	do.	Crossabeg Dispensary District	2d
238	Criminal Injury. Jas. Power	New Ross Urban	Included in Demand on New Ross Urban District
239	do. John Condon	Enniscorthy Urban and Enniscorthy Rural Electoral Division.	£2:2: included in Demand Enniscorthy Urban District.
240	do. Ellen Rudd	Enniscorthy Rural	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d in £.
241	do. Mary O'Mahoney Ballinclair Killurin.	District Electoral Divisions of Bally-mitty and Bannow.	$\frac{1}{2}$ d in £.

That Increments voted to staff conditional on satisfactory service be agreed to and be included in Estimates for financial year 1931-32.

RATE COLLECTION.

The State of the Rate Collection as follows was submitted:

Name of Collector.	Percentage of Warrant lodged.
1. E.J. Murphy	72.4
2. J. Curtis	72.1
3. W. Doyle	68.8
4. M. McCarthy	68.1

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Name of Collector	Percentage of Warrant lodged.
5. J. Quirke (No.1)	66.7
6. J. Cummins	66.5
7. Sean Gannon	65.0
8. T. Rowe	64.7
9. P. Nolan	64.0
10. T. Bolger (No.14)	63.4
11. A. Dunne	63.2
12. J. Deegan	62.7
13. J.J.O'Reilly	62.2
14. P. Doyle	62.1
15. W. Cummins	59.2
16. M.Kelly	59.0
17. P. O'Byrne	58.5
18. P. Carty	56.0
19. J.J. Sinnott	54.8
20. J. Quirke (No.2)	50.7
21. T. Bolger (No.12)	43.1

The Rate Inspector said the Collection was poor at the moment. The farmers who had got cattle could not sell them. He was satisfied the majority of the Collectors were doing their best but there were a couple he wished to see do better. None of them had been able to carry out the instruction of the Finance Committee as to the percentages to be lodged in January and February. Three of the Collectors - Carty, O'Byrne and M. Kelly were down with 'flu.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That we recommend that in future all matters connected with the Rate Collection be discussed in committee by County Council unless the Council consider that for special reasons discussion on any particular matter connected with Rate Collection should be conducted in open session."

The Department of Local Government under date 21st Feb-

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ruary, 1931, (G 12444/1931 Loch Garman Fa) wrote that the Minister would raise no objection to the payment ~~of~~ Collector Sinnott No. 19 District of poundage~~fees~~ in respect of lodgements to the 31st October, 1930.

With regard to the preparation of Receipt and Demand Note Books for Rate Collectors correspondence was submitted from Mr. R. A. Foley, 5 Trinity Street, Dublin, to carry out the work by typewriting machines at a cost of £5: 15: per 1000, for printing of forms filling in and checking and 6d per book for binding.

The meeting having considered the figures of carrying out the work by hand labour and machine the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That no change be made in the present methods of carrying out the work of preparing Receipt and Demand Notes by hand labour. The difference between the cost of the two methods would be an advantage in cost of less than £10 for machine work but the Finance Committee would point out that a factor ^{be} which should/also considered is the amount that will be saved to Home assistance by taking on for this work men who are at present out of employment."

Under date 24th February, 1931, Messrs Colfer & Son, Solicitors, New Ross, wrote on behalf of Mr Jeremiah Somers, who was in negotiations with the Land Commission for the purchase of the farm of his brother James at Coolroe, Ballyculane the latter having been in financial difficulties for a number of years, and had not been able to pay Land Commission Annuities or Rates. Jeremiah would purchase the farm provided the Council would accept £22: 1: 3d. half the amount due for Rates.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That Messrs Colfer & Son, Solicitors, New Ross, be informed the County Council have no legal power to accept his proposal relative to purchase of farm

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of James Somers, Coolroe, Ballycullane."

HEAVY MOTOR TRAFFIC OVER WEXFORD BRIDGE.

The following under date 25th February, 1931, was read from District Superintendent, W.P. Quinn, Garda Siochana, Wexford:-

"With reference to previous correspondence on this subject and the resolution adopted at the meeting of your Council on the 9th instant, I beg to inform you that on the 23rd instant Garda Martin Dwyer, Castlebridge Station observed a heavy Motor car being driven over Wexford Bridge. The owner of the vehicle is James Doherty, Island Road, Enniscorthy, and it was being driven at the time by John Reilly, Ferns. John Reilly stated to the Garda that he thought it no harm to drive the lorry over the Bridge and had never heard of any person being prevented from doing so. The unladen weight of the vehicle is 3 tons 10 cwts. and the registration number is P.1. 7733.

"Your instructions in reference to this case are solicited, please."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That the Council be recommended to prosecute James Doherty, Island Road, Enniscorthy, for a breach of by-law as to the passing of heavy motor lorry traffic over Wexford Bridge on 23rd February, 1931."

DUNCANNON PIER.

The County Surveyor submitted requisition for Christopher Lawlor, Caretaker Duncannon Pier for two life buoys and two lamps for new quay.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That the County Council be requested to provide two new life buoys and two lamps for new quay at Duncannon Pier.

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ENNISCORTHY COURTHOUSE.

The following under date 17th February, 1931, relative to complaint of Mr Fahy, District Justice, was read from the County Surveyor:-

"With reference to Mr Fahy's complaint as to the condition of the Statutes in Enniscorthy Courthouse I beg to inform you that subsequent to former complaints, the District Clerk's office by order of the County Council was moved to the large upper room. In erecting the shelves for the Statutes I so arranged them as to allow of free passage of air between them and the wall, and the shelves were placed along an internal wall being the driest in the whole building as the flu from the stove in the Court passes up through same. On the 12th inst. I made a thorough inspection of the place and examined the books, and I do not think there is now any danger of deterioration. The books on being opened and examined showed no signs of dampness, nor did they have the usual smell that comes from damp paper. I discussed the matter fully with the Clerk, and he pointed out that in a very large room a small fireplace at one end is insufficient for keeping the air thoroughly dry, and he suggested that an anthracite stove should be put in instead of the open fireplace. I am satisfied that if this be done the air in the room will be thoroughly dried."

The meeting decided to adjourn the further consideration that of the matter with a recommendation/by next winter an anthracite stove be put in the room at present used for office by District Court Clerk.

INSURANCE OF CLERICAL ASSISTANT - CO. SURVEYOR'S
OFFICE.

Under date 12th February, 1931, the New Ireland Assurance Co. Dawson Street, Dublin, wrote (6/212/31/O/MW - Ordinary Branch) that they had issued approval in respect of policy of

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Insurance on the life of Mr Denis C. Radford, employed ~~as~~ in Co. Surveyor's Department and asked for remittance of premium from the County Council.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That the application of New Ireland Assurance relative to Insurance on life of Mr Denis C. Radford, be not accepted."

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATIONS.

Notice was received from District Court Clerk, Wexford, that an application would be made to Wexford Court on 25th February, 1931, for committal of Margaret and Maureen Walsh, Wexford, to an Industrial School.

Under date 25th February, 1931, the District Court Clerk, Enniscorthy, wrote that on 5th March, 1931, an application would be made at Enniscorthy Juvenile Court for the committal to St. Joseph's Industrial School, Kilkenny, of Frances and Andrew Stafford, Ferns.

Referred to Mr Elgee, County Solicitor.

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Rate Collection: The Chairman complained of the action of certain Collectors who were handing in cases for collection of Rate to Solicitors and thereby heaping up legal costs. When decrees were obtained the amount of rate would not be accepted unless Costs were also paid, and he considered this was a great hardship. It would not be so oppressive to the Ratepayers if the Collectors seized on their own Warrant. He instanced one case in which a struggling ratepayer had been badly treated in this way.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr D'Arcy seconded by Mr Corish:- "That Rate Collectors be instructed to seize on their own Warrant for recovery of Rates. We believe that it is only in exceptional instances that cases should be handed to a Solicitor for Collection."

A long discussion took place as to what steps the Council could take to recover amount of rates due on derelict farms.

Mr Jordan proposed that the matter be referred to the Finance Committee for the purpose of putting a scheme to the Ministry.

Col. Quin seconded.

After further discussion this motion was withdrawn and the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall, seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That lists of derelict farms with notes in respect of same setting out any necessary particulars as to the present position of occupier, the amount of Rates and annuities due and for what period, and any other essential circumstances be prepared and supplied to Messrs Corish and Jordan, T.D.'s (members of the Council) who ~~be~~ *are* request to raise the question with the responsible Minister with a view to formulating some scheme by which the lands could be taken over by persons who are prepared to work them, and pay annuities and rates. The Co. Council considers that where it is impossible to deal with the matter otherwise, the Land Commission should be prepared to accept what the farms

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bring at auction.

In connection with the closing of Collectors' Warrants the following under date 7th March, 1931, (G.16274/1931. Fa. Loch Garman) was read from the Department of Local Government-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, relative to an extension of time for the closing of the current year's collection to the 6th May next, and I am to refer the Council to the terms of this Department's letter of the 27th January last, and to state that the Minister adheres to the terms of that letter."

The financial position of the County Council demands strenuous action to get in the rates. It is noted from the Minutes of Proceedings of the Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance that that body complains of the delay of the Council in meeting its demands."

It appeared during the course of the discussion that the amount of year's rates collected to date was £84374 and amount outstanding £46024.

Several members said it would be a physical impossibility for the Collectors to close by 31st March, 1931.

The Secretary said that as regards payments to Board of Health etc 87 per cent of the total demand of the Board of Health and Board of Assistance taken together had been made, and the Mental Hospital had received a similar percentage. The finances of the Board of Health would have been in better shape if the members would estimate for their expenditure to the 31st March; at present their estimates were up to previous December only.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall: (Col. Quin dissenting) :-

"That as we believe it would be impossible for Rate Collectors to close their warrants by the 31st March, 1931, we again request the Department of Local Government to consent to an extension of time to the 6th May, 1931, as recommended by Finance

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Committee !

The State of the Rate Collection up to 7th March, 1931, was submitted as follows:-

Collector.	Percentage of Warrant collected.
1. J. Curtis	74.2
2. E.J. Murphy	74.1
3. M. McCarthy	72.0
4. Wm. Doyle	68.8
5. Thos. Rowe	68.7
6. J. Cummins	68.2
7. P. Doyle	68.0
8. T. Bolger (No.14)	67.6
9. J. Quirke (No. 1)	67.4
10. Patk. Nolan	66.7
11. J. Deegan	66.6
12. Sean Gannon	66.4
13. J.J. O'Reilly	65.6
14. A. Dunne	65.0
15. M.M. Kelly	61.7
16. W. Cummins	60.5
17. P. O'Byrne	60.4
18. P. Carty	56.4
19. J.J. Sinnott	56.3
20. J. Quirke (No.2)	52.8
21. T. Bolger (No.12)	46.6
Average	64.6

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Brennan:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 26th February, 1931, be and are hereby adopted."

ILLNESS OF MR KEHOE, ASSISTANT SURVEYOR.

In connection with the resolution adopted at last meeting of the Council referring to the present meeting the question of amount of remuneration to be paid Deputy Surveyors

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O'Neill and Birthistle for temporary work in the district of Mr Kehoe during the latter's illness the following under date 4th March, 1931, (R/RS/32) was read from the Department of Local Government (Roads):-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to refer to an entry in the Minutes of Wexford County Council on the 23rd ultimo, relative to arrangements in connection with illness of Mr Kehoe, Assistant County Surveyor, and to state that where whole-time Assistant County Surveyors are required to carry out another Assistant Surveyor's duties during a period of absence payment of any additional travelling expenses involved should adequately meet the case"

Under date 5th March, 1931, certificate was read from Dr. S.V. O'Connor, Westgate, Wexford, ~~and~~ that Mr John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, was suffering from Influenza, and would be unable to resume duty for a month.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Gaul seconded by Mr Corish:- "That a further month's leave of absence be granted Mr John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, as from 5th March, 1931, and that temporary duty in the district be carried out by Messrs O'Neill and Birthistle, Assistant Surveyors, travelling expenses of Mr Kehoe for the period being divided between them on a basis fixed by the Co. Surveyor.

OVERDRAFT SANCTIONED.

The following under date 3rd March, 1931 (G.14828/1931, Loch Garman) was read from the Department of Local Government:

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to advert to your letter of the 26th ultimo, and to state that he sanctions continuance of overdraft accommodation not exceeding the sum of £36,000 up to the 1st June next. Interest may be paid thereon at the agreed rate."

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ROAD GRANT.

Under date 27th February, 1931, the L.G.D. (Roads) wrote (RG/31) that a pay Order for £400 (final payment) had been made for L 158 Works No. 856.

AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS - MENTAL HOSPITAL.

Under date 11th February, 1931, the Department of Local Government wrote (8887/31 Audit) forwarding copy of Auditor's Report and attested abstract of Accounts for the two half-years ended 31st March, 1930, for the Mental Hospital, Enniscorthy.

ROAD CONTINGENCY FUNDS, 1931.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Gaul seconded by Mr Corish:- "That as requisitioned by the County Surveyor the following transfers be made from the Contingency Funds:-

<u>MAIN ROADS</u>	No.12	£10
	16	£10
	17	£10
	19	£10
	20	£10
	22	£20
	26	£10
	40	£10
	53	£10
	54	£10
	61	£ 8
	62	£ 6
	63	£10

COUNTY ROADS Section 20 £16: 8: 3d

PUBLIC WORKS ALLOCATIONS

Maintenance Wexford Bridge	£50
Maintenance Ferrycarrig Br.	£25
Repairs Deeps Bridge	£30
Repairs Edermine Bridge	£30
Repairs Fethard Pier	£ 5
Repairs Slade Pier	£ 5
Repairs County Buildings	£50
Repairs County Courthouses	£50

BREE LANE.

The County Surveyor said that a proposal had been adopted to put Bree Lane into repair provided certain works were carried out by the local people. This had been done and he now wanted authority to go ahead with the work.

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The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Corish:- "That we authorise the County Surveyor to carry out the necessary work at Bree Lane (estimated to cost £175) in view of the fact that the local people concerned have carried out their portion of the work as promised.

SHEEP DIPPING (LOCAL REGULATIONS) ORDER OF 1931

The above furnished by Department of Agriculture was read for the meeting.

The Chairman proposed and Mr O'Byrne seconded the following resolution:-

"That the Sheep Dipping (Local Regulations) Order of 1931, be referred to C. Committee of Agriculture for their advice."

GOREY COURTOWN ROAD.
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Under date 3rd March, 1931, letter was read from Mr Quigley, Chief Engineer, Local Government Department (Roads) suggesting that the dispute between the County Surveyor and the Pioneer Road Construction Co. as to the value of the material left over from the reconstruction of Gorey-Courtown road should be left to the decision of Mr M. Ryan B.E. an Inspector of the L.G.Dept. who was willing to undertake the duty.

The County Surveyor in reply to the Chairman said the difference between the claim and what he considered the amount of material to be was 1600 cubic yards which was priced at 7/- per cubic yard so that the sum in dispute ran into hundreds of pounds.

The Chairman said in view of the very large sum involved he proposed that the dispute between the Pioneer Road Construction Co. and the Co. Surveyor as regards the amount of material in Gorey Quarry left over by the Contractors from reconstruction of Gorey-Courtown Road be decided by legal proceedings."

Mr Brennan seconded the motion which was adopted nem con.

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COAST EROSION AT ROSSLARE.

Mr N.J. Kelly, Strand Hotel, Rosslare, wrote under date 7th March, 1931, that the East wind and heavy seas for the previous three or four days were doing considerable damage in cutting away property at Rosslare as yards of ground were being washed away with each tide. The Church wall had further collapsed and the Cliff Road was crumbling away leaving the water pipes of the Board of Health Reservoir only three and a half yards from the edge. The strand level which had been building up for some months due to fine weather and westerly winds is now completely washed away and was lower than ever. As the outlook for Rosslare was extremely grave he earnestly trusted the Co. Council would see their way to take immediate action to save the situation.

Under date 27th February, 1931, letter was read from the Office of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance forwarding copy of letter and enclosure which had been addressed to the Secretary, Irish Tourist & Development Association, Rosslare on the previous day.

The following is copy of letter which had been furnished the Rosslare Tourist Development Association:

"As arranged with the deputation which recently waited on me with reference to the coast erosion at Rosslare, Mr Batchen, the Commissioners' Engineer, has since visited the locality and I enclose for your information copy of his report.

I would suggest for the consideration of your Association that they might now approach the Wexford County Council with a view to having the works outlined in the report carried out by means of a Grant from the Unemployment Fund.

I may add that the applications for free grants will have to be sanctioned and work commenced before the end of the financial year (31st March 1931)."

The following under date 13th February, 1931, is report of Mr Batchen:-

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"I beg to report that I visited Rosslare Strand on the 3rd instant, and examined about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the foreshore immediately south of the Golf Links, and in front of what may be called the residential part of Rosslare, where serious erosion has been taking place during the last few years.

"Reports have been written by Mr S.W. Mobbs, Borough Engineer of Lowestoft, and Mr Delap, Engineer, Dublin, describing the extent and nature of the erosion, and suggesting measures to stop it and to stabilise the beach. Mr Mobbs has been called in to advise the Wexford County Council, and Mr Delap the local Development Association.

"Both reports suggest the adoption of groynes, and both warn their respective employers that the work will be costly.

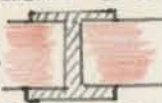
Mr Mobbs estimates that groynes, and the construction of a light re-inforced concrete revetment at the foot of the sand cliffs will cost about £25,000 per mile of coast, and says that nothing less than the protection of the $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles I have mentioned above should be attempted - at a cost of £37,500.

"He qualifies this estimate, however, by saying that if certain things - such as the stopping of the carting away of shingle, the depositing on the beach of the gravel dredged from Rosslare Harbour, the planting of Marram grass on the sand-hills - are done, the cost of protection of this particular part might be reduced to £8,000 per mile, or, say, £12,000 for the $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

Although I am fairly confident in my belief that the beach can be restored by a judicious system of groyning, I am not prepared to recommend the Government or any public body to commit themselves to this expenditure until some tests have been made regarding the cost of construction of groynes and the length of time required for the growth of the beach under them.

For that reason I do not recommend the expenditure, in the meantime, of more than £1,500 on the erection of groynes

and the proper construction of the slopes on the cliff face.

The groyne I suggest would be of the simplest possible type and would have a life of about 15 years. It would consist of steel  sections driven into the shore at intervals of 9 feet, and with old railway sleepers fitted in between, thus:-



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Under date 28th February, 1931, the Hon. Secretary, Rosslare Tourist and Development Association wrote that the Association would be glad if the Council would apply for the Grant referred to in Mr Batchen's report and arrange to have the work carried out. It was necessary that work should be commended before 31st March, 1931, from which the Council would see that the matter was extremely urgent.

Mr Corish - I propose we ask for a grant to cover the whole thing .

The Chairman said there was one thing to be considered before they embarked on the matter - by taking the grant would the Council be incurring any liability for the future?

Secretary - You can apply for the grant on the understanding that it doesn't prejudice your position as far as coast erosion is concerned.

The Chairman said that they would be quite agreeable to apply for the grant and spend it so long as it would not mean incurring any liability afterwards, but that would have to be assured. He saw that the Board of Works had their engineers there, and they had their staffs etc. He thought the matter was going to be of no great material benefit to the County Council. The Board of Works were in a position to go on with the work if they chose, and he thought it was their job, because by undertaking the work the Co. Council might incur responsibility. He did not want to see Rosslare going away, but the ratepayers did not want to incur responsibility for the place.

Col. Quin remarked that someone had said that work at Rosslare would cost £37,000, but now it was said that £1500 would do.

Secretary - That's for experimental work.

The County Surveyor said that from the point of view of relief it was not a question of labour, it was mainly a question of material. The girders and sleepers would have to be pur-

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chased , and it would only be the sinking of the posts that would require labour.

The Chairman said he came from the Rosslare locality, and he agreed that the expenditure of the money might be a good deal of help, and he did not want it lost if the work could be done without responsibility being incurred by the council. But if they got the grant of £1,500 they would have every man in Rosslare wanting the groynes put opposite his place, and he did not know what county council could regulate the work to everyone's satisfaction.

Mr Corish then withdrew his motion and substituted therefor the following :- "That we request the Office of Works to carry out the work of laying down groynes on Rosslare Strand as suggested by Mr Batchen, their Engineer."

Mr O'Byrne seconded the proposition which was adopted.

The Chairman said it should be suggested to the Board of Works that they should carry out the work at Rosslare, because they would not have any difficulty in the matter.

RELIEF SCHEMES VOTE.

The following under date 3rd March, 1931 (R.V.881/31) was read from the Irish Land Commission:-

"I am to refer to the interview at this Office on the 14th January at which the Members of a Deputation representing your Council drew attention to certain works in County Wexford which they considered were of public utility and which might be undertaken out of the funds provided by the Relief Schemes Vote. The works referred to were Drainage in the Cahore, Boira and Kilmore districts and the repair of roads at Camolin Park.

"Owing to the large number and cost of works in other parts of the Free State it has not been found possible to undertake under the Relief Vote any of the works to which your Council drew attention.

As, however, Estates which are pending under the pro-

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visions of the Irish Land Acts '23-29 are situated in the Cahore, Boira and Kilmore districts, the drainage of these areas will receive further consideration with a view to ascertaining if any assistance can be given out of the monies provided under the Improvement Sub Head of the Land Commission Vote."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That copy of letter from Land Commission under date 3rd March, 1931 (R.V. 881/31) be furnished Messrs Jordan and Corish T.D.'s with a view to ascertaining what is the measure of assistance which it is proposed to be given out of the Improvement Sub Head of the Land Commission Vote as regards drainage of the areas concerned.

POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT LICENCE.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr D'Arcy seconded by Mr Brennan:- "That new licence under Poisons and Pharmacy Act 1908 be issued to Denis Lennon, Merchant, Bunclody, report having been received from the Garda Siochana of the district that they had no objection to its issue."

QUARRY AND MACHINERY CHARGES.

A Sub-Committee consisting of Messrs Gibbon, Corish, D'Arcy, and Hayes had been appointed to consider charges for quarry material and hire of machinery as suggested by County Surveyor, but Mr D'Arcy was the only member who ~~was~~ turned up at the meeting summoned for the 26th February, 1931.

Mr D'Arcy said he went into the figures very carefully with the County Surveyor and found that there was a number of items attached to the machinery charges of which he was not aware. There was £1200 of a capital charge and this with other items was distributed over the cost of material. He quite satisfied himself that the charges were fair,

The following under date 4th March, 1931, (R/RM/32) was read from the Department of Local Government (Roads):-

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" I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to refer to entry in Minutes of Wexford County Council on 23rd ultimo under heading "Machinery and Quarry Charges" and to suggest that the Committee appointed by the Council consider the practicability of offering the supply of stone to public tender.

"The Department's Engineering Inspectors have, from time to time, commented on the high cost of production of broken stone by County Councils¹ organisation and plant."

In reply to Mr Culleton the County Surveyor said there were only very few County Council quarries that could be dealt with on a piece-work basis.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Colfer:-

"That we approve of the following charges for Machinery and Road Material as suggested by the County Surveyor for year ending 31st March, 1932."

Steam Drill.....	£3 per day.
Engine and Granulator.....	£4 per day for 16 x 9
Engine and Granulator.....	£3 per day for 12 x 8
Engine and Stonebreaker.....	£3 per day,
Compressor Drill Plant.....	£4 per day,
Roller,.....	45/- per day,
Lorry.....	50/- per day
Tar Boilers or Sprayers.....	£1 per week each
<u>For Road material a flat rate as under:-</u>	
Rubble Stone.....	4/- per c.y.
Broken Stone.....	7/- per c.y.
Chippings screened from B.S.....	7/- per c.y.
Granulated chippings.....	10/- per c.y.

The Rate charged to Contractors shall be that set out in the Specification."

FLOODING AT MARSHALLSTOWN.

The County Surveyor reported that a Committee consisting

of Messrs Hall, Shannon and Culleton had inspected the place complained of and were satisfied that the flooding did not take place on the public road.

No action was taken.

HIRING OF MACHINERY TO NORTH TIPPERARY CO. COUNCIL.

Mr T.C. Courtney, County Surveyor, North Tipperary, wrote under date 5th March, 1931, that the prices asked for the hire of machinery viz., £2 a day (plus coal) for Roller and £2:10 per day (Plus coal) for stonebreaker were too high, in view of other quotations. He was prepared to hire at £2 per day for Roller and £2:10: for Stone breaker the Wexford County Council to be responsible for the coal account. He suggested that his Council would supply and deliver the coal charging cost against price of coal 39/3 per ton f.o.r.

The County Surveyor said in view of Mr Courtney's proposals the Council would not make much by hiring.

Mr Hall proposed and Mr Corish seconded the following resolution:- "That the machinery of the County Council be not hired to North Tipperary County Council."

Adopted.

DUBLIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND DE-RATING.

A resolution was received from Co. Dublin Committee of Agriculture protesting "against the ill informed and hostile statements made at a recent meeting of the Dublin Chamber of Commerce in regard to the de-Rating of Land," and also "against the red herrings of the politicians of both political parties who have been suggesting that certain services as Main roads, Mental Hospitals, etc should be made National Charges. This would not be relief but merely shifting the burden from the rates to the taxes."

Col. Quin proposed that the resolution be marked "read".

Mr Shannon seconded and the resolution was adopted unanimously.

POWERS OF COUNTY COUNCILS.

The following resolution was received from Westmeath Co. Council:-

"Whereas the County Councils in the Six Counties have complete de-rating, and yet ~~retain~~ retain their full powers, We, the Westmeath County Council, protest against any attempt at the further curtailment of the powers of County Councils, and the setting up of a costly managerial system, and we direct that copies of this Resolution be sent to each County Council and County Board of Health, and we further demand that the ordinary Election of County Councillors, be held in June, 1931."

Mr Corish proposed and Mr Gaul seconded the adoption of the resolution.

Mr Murphy proposed and Mr Culleton seconded the following amendment:-

"That the resolution of Westmeath Co. Council as to curtailment of powers of County Councils etc be marked "read".

A poll was taken ~~on~~ on the amendment with the following result:-

For - Messrs Walsh, Meyler, Murphy, Culleton, Jordan, Quin - 6.

Against - Miss O'Ryan, Cummins, Hall, D'Arcy, Shamon, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Gaul and the Chairman - 10.

The following Councillors were not present when poll was taken :- Messrs Brennan, Clince, Gibbon, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne and Smyth - 7.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

The resolution was then put and passed nem con.

VETERINARY SURGEONS BILL 1930.

The following resolution received from Co. Donegal County Council was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr Shamon:-

"That the Donegal County Council, representing the inter-

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ests of the farmers of the County, call upon the Government to delete or amend drastically Section 45 of the Veterinary Surgeon's Bill, 1930, which is at present before the Dail, and that the Council recommend that further stages of the Bill be adjourned for a month so as to give the farmers of the country, in whose interests the Council presumes the Bill was supposed to be introduced, an opportunity of considering its provisions; and that copies of this r^esolution be sent to President Cosgrave, the Minister for Agriculture, the Deputies for the County, and the other County Councils of An Saorstát."

THE "DAILY MAIL".

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Cummins seconded by Mr Hall:- "That we condemn in the strongest possible manner the blasphemous attack made upon Christianity by the "Daily Mail" and request the people of the County to discountenance the sale of this paper, by every means in their power.W

Michael Doyle

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

MEETING 23RD MARCH, 1931.

MINUTES.

COUNTY HALL,
WEXFORD.

N.J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

A meeting of the Wexford county Council was held on 23rd March, 1931, in County Hall, Wexford.

Present - Mr M. Doyle (Chairman] presiding; also Messrs James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Clinee, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, James Gaul, Col. C.M. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, William P. Keegan, Thomas Maylor, Thomas McCarthy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col.R.P. Wemyss Quin, James Shannon, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, Mr Elgee, Solicitor, and five Assistant Surveyors were also in attendance.

Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £9601: 2: 7d. for Ordinary Account and £325 for Loans Account was examined and signed.

NEXT MEETING OF COUNTY COUNCIL.

It was decided on the motion of Col. Gibbon seconded by Mr Hall that next meeting of County Council be held on 27th April, 1931, at 10.30 a.m.

AGREEING TO RATES FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 1931/32

In connection with consideration of Estimate of Rates for next financial year the following under date 16th March 1931 (G. 17798/1931 Loch Garman) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of the resolution of the Wexford County Council of the 9th instant, relative to the adjournment of the consideration of the estimate and to state that there will be no alteration in rating principles which will affect the estimates for 1931/32. The County Council should meet without delay for the adoption of their estimates pursuant to Article 79 of the Public

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Bodies Order, 1925. The Minister grants an extension of time for this purpose to a date not later than the 23rd instant."

In connection with the resolution adopted by the County Council at their last meeting asking the T.D.'s to endeavour to ascertain the intentions of the Government in regard to affording relief to Agriculture, Dr. Ryan T.D. wrote under date 20th March, 1931, that in his opinion the best way to serve the interests of Agriculture was to get the Dail to pass some resolutions such as that of Mr De Valera, and not mind about the Government's intentions for next year or the year after.

Mr D. Allen T.D. wrote under date 20th March, 1931, that he had no information as to the Government's intention with regard to the De-Rating of Agricultural land. The motion by Mr De Valera would come up for discussion during the week when it was possible the intentions of the Government would be made known.

The following Resolution was proposed by Colonel Gibbon and seconded by Mr McCarthy:-

"That we approve and confirm the figures in regard to Rates for financial year 1931-32 as recommended by meeting of Finance Committee held on 26th February, 1931. That Rate for General Charges for financial year 1931-32 (in conformity with figures appearing on Form 42) be and is hereby agreed to at 8/4½d in the £ for General Charges. That holders of agricultural land receive a rebate on the valuation of said land representing a poundage rate of 2/6d. in the £ being the difference between the poundage rate - represented by the Agricultural Grant viz., 3/2½d in the £ - and poundage rate for amount of repayment of loan under Relief of Rates Agricultural Land Act viz., 8½d. in the £. That Rate for Separate Charges for financial year 1931-32 (in conformity with particulars appearing on Form 43) as presented to this meeting be also

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agreed to.

That the following amounts be fixed as the sums to be demanded from the three Urban Districts of the County:-

Enniscorthy	£ 2765: 2: 0.
New Ross	2572: 3: 6d.
Wexford	5873

That Drainage Rate for Kilmannock Drainage District as set out in Charging Order issued by the Office of Public Works, Dublin, and signed and sealed on behalf of that body by their Secretary, on the 19th January, 1927, amount £83: 7: 10d. be agreed to and that the several amounts be levied on the persons whose names are set out on Schedule of said Charging Order or their Successors in title and we hereby direct that said amounts be collected apart from Poor Rate and independently of same."

Mr D'Arcy considered that as no information had been received relative to the report of the De-Rating Commission or of the intentions of the Government to afford any relief to Agriculture, the question of agreement to the rate for the forthcoming financial year should be again postponed.

Colonel Gibbon pointed out that by postponing action in this matter, -Rate Books and Collectors' Receipt and Demand Notes, could not be written up in time to allow the Collectors a reasonable period in which to collect the Rates.

Mr McCarthy pointed out that it would be impossible to carry on the Council's business unless the Rates were agreed to that day. Postponement for another month would set every thing so far back that the Subsidiary Bodies could not be financed and the whole business of the Council would become chaotic. If any relief would be given this year later on the ratepayers would certainly secure the advantage of it.

Mr D'Arcy proposed the following amendment which was seconded by Mr Culleton:-

"That the question of agreeing to Rates for General and Separate Charges for financial year 1931-32 be postponed to

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meeting of 27th April."

Mr Culleton in seconding, said it was useless for the Council to strike a rate which the farmers were quite unable to pay. They had never been so hard pressed as this year.

Miss O'Ryan concurred.

The Chairman said he agreed with the statement that the Rates suggested now were impossible Rates. He could not really understand why there should be such a large increase in the amount of Rates considering all the concessions that the poor had, the Dole, Insurances etc.

Messrs Corish and Gaul and other of the Labour members objected to the Chairman using the word "Dole" and pointed out that any relief given in this shape to the workers was only in return for their own money.

Miss O'Ryan considered that all the increases in Rates had been due to the dictation of Government Departments.

Chairman - A number of them are also due to the County Council.

Miss O'Ryan said that the Department of Local Government had compelled them to appoint a County Medical Officer of Health and to embark on other schemes, which the County was unable to afford.

The Chairman pointed out that it was the County Council which had approved of the appointment of the Co. Medical Officer of Health. The Government were playing hide-and-seek with the Councils of the country. Some time ago the President stated that the Government was arranging to grant £1,000,000 in relief for farmers, and what put the Government off this intention, he did not know. Then they were referring to consideration of the Report of the De-Rating Commission practically every day though for the past fortnight the matter seemed to have dropped into complete obscurity.

After further discussion a poll was taken on the amendment with the following result:-

For - Messrs Brennan, Culleton, Cummins, D'Arcy, Hall,

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O'Ryan, ~~Smith~~ - 7.

Against - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Gaul, Gibbon, Hayes, Keegan, Meyler, McCarthy, O'Byrne, Quin, Shannon, Walsh and the Chairman - 16.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

A vote was then taken on the original resolution to agree to the Rate and which resulted as follows:-

For - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Gaul, Gibbon, Hayes, Meyler, McCarthy, O'Byrne, Quin, Shannon, Walsh and the Chairman - 15.

Against - Messrs Brennan, Culleton, Cummins, D'Arcy, Hall, O'Ryan, and Smyth - 7.

Mr Keegan did not vote.

The Chairman declared the resolution carried.

LOAN FOR WATER SUPPLY AT COOLGREANY.

Colonel Quin moved the following of which he had given previous notice, copy of which had been issued to each Councillor on the 11th February, 1931:-

"That the Wexford County Council consent to the borrowing by the Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance of £770 (Seven Hundred and Seventy Pounds) to defray the expenses of installing a water supply at Coolgreany, area of charge for repayment of loan and for maintenance of water supply to be the Coolgreany Dispensary District."

Colonel Quin pointed out that there were from 50 to 60 School children in Coolgreany for whom no water supply was available, and who were obliged at present to go over a quarter of a mile for a drink.

Mr Gaul seconded the motion.

Mr Hall pointed out ~~that~~ that the Co. Board of Health had already accepted a Contractor for the work.

Mr D'Arcy said it was a most extraordinary state of affairs to find a Subsidiary Body of the Council asking for

the consent of the latter to obtain a Loan for work for which they had already accepted a Contractor. It certainly looked as if the consent of the Council to this big expenditure was considered to be a mere formality.

Miss O'Ryan pointed out that as the work was under the Relief Scheme/Vote it had been necessary for the Co. Board of Health to arrange for its expenditure before the 31st March next, the end of the financial year; otherwise the Grant of £300 from the Government would not be available .

Colonel Gibbon maintained that the County Council had definitely laid it down that where charges of this description were placed on a particular locality the persons responsible for recommending the levy should ascertain that the people of the District concerned or at least a material majority of them were in favour of the Scheme. In this particular instance they had the opinion of Col. Quin only that this particular scheme was necessary. He (Col.Gibbon) would like to know what steps had been taken to obtain the consensus of opinion of the people of the locality interested.

Mr Gaul asked if Colonel Gibbon expected the members of the Board of Health to go around to the people concerned and ascertain their views.

Colonel Gibbon said it would not have been very much trouble if a number of people in the district formed a Committee to ascertain how the people felt regarding this proposal. It should not be forgotten that they were placing on Coolgreany Dispensary District, a rather limited area, repayment of a loan of £770.

After further discussion Mr D'Arcy proposed and Mr Smyth seconded the following resolution:-

"That consideration of application to agree to Loan of £770 to be raised by the County Board of Health for Water Supply at Coolgreany be held over until next year."

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A vote on this proposal resulted as follows:-

For - Messrs Brennan, D'Arcy, and Smyth - 3.

Against - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Culleton, Cummins, Gaul, Gibbon, Hall, Hayes, Keegan, Meyler, McCarthy, O'Ryan, O'Byrne, Quin, Shannon, Walsh and the Chairman - 20.

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

The resolution of Colonel Quin was then put and declared carried by the Chairman.

BUNCLODY SEWERAGE SCHEME. -----

The following motion of which he had given previous notice and copy of which ~~has~~ had been circulated to the County Council on the 11th February, 1931, was moved by Mr Gaul:-

"That the Wexford County Council consent to the borrowing by the Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance of the sum of £3,300 (Three Thousand Three Hundred Pounds) for the purpose of carrying out a sewerage installation at Bunclody, the area of charge for repayment of loan to be the Enniscorthy Rural District."

Mr Hall seconded the proposal.

Colonel Gibbon asked what steps had been taken to find out if the people who were to be taxed for this work, were satisfied.

Miss O'Ryan said the matter was considered on more than one occasion by the County Board of Health and if there had been any objection to the proposal, some representations against the project would certainly have been brought to its notice.

The Chairman pointed out that the Bunclody Sewerage Scheme had been stressed by Dr. Bastible, the County Medical Officer of Health, and had been put forward by the deputation of the County Council to the L.G.D. as one of the most suit-

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able works for which a Relief Grant should be given.

Mr Armstrong said that a very influentially signed memorial in favour of the work had been lodged with the Board of Health. This was very extensively signed not only by the Ratepayers of the immediate district but by a number of outsiders.

The resolution was then put and passed nam con.

COUNTY COURTHOUSE - PRISONER'S DOCK.

The following motion of which he had given previous notice was moved by Colonel Quin:-

"That the decision of the County Council at their meeting of 10th November, 1930, informing the Department of Justice that as a change in connection with the position of prisoners' dock in the County Courthouse was for the convenience of that Department they should pay the expense in relation to same, and which would amount to about £70, be rescinded, and that the Council agree to erect the necessary staircase for prisoners' dock at the cost of the County."

The County Surveyor stated that he now believed the work would cost about £55, and Col. Quin altered his resolution so that £70 mentioned therein would read £55.

Mr Hall seconded the amended resolution.

In the course of discussion the Chairman pointed out that it was very unfair for the Government to ask the Council to foot the bill for this alteration. When the plans and specification were before the Government there was no mention whatever of this work and now the Government were retaining £400 of the Council's money. In equity and justice the Government should have been satisfied to carry out the work at their own expense.

A vote was taken on Col. Quin's resolution and resulted as follows:-

For - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Dolfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, McCarthy, O'Byrne, Quin and Shannon
- 13.

Against - Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Keegan,

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Meyler, O'Ryan, Smyth, Walsh, and the Chairman - 10.

The Chairman declared the resolution carried.

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The following report was submitted by the County Surveyor:-

"During the week we have been moving our Offices from Fortview to the new Building, and now almost everything has been removed.

I am arranging for motor parking place in the grounds at the new Building, but it will be some little time before the work is completed.

I suppose the County Council will now take steps to advertise Fortview, and also the site of the Old Courthouse on the Quay , for sale. With reference to Fortview I consider it would be advisable to have the building washed down and cleaned up, and, as far as possible, any small damages to structure made good, so that the best price may be obtained.

It will now be necessary to make new arrangements in regard to the Fire Insurance of the new Building, and also I suggest that Fire Extinguishers be purchased: I have particulars in regard to these.

Renewal of the E/L and P/L Insurance Policies comes forward now, and also it would be advisable to deal with the Insurance covering explosives. In connection with all these Policies it will be necessary to go in detail into the figures, and I suggest that the matter be referred to the Finance Committee on the 26th instant with a view to having the matter gone into in detail with the Representatives of the Insurance Brokers.

I have now made arrangements for the division of Mr Kehoe's Area between the adjoining Assistant Surveyors, Mr Birthistle and Mr O'Neill. There are eight sections, four in Wexford taken by Mr Birthistle, and four in New Ross taken by Mr O'Neill.

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At your meeting on the 9th instant it was decided not to hire machinery to the North Tipperary County Council, as the Surveyor - Mr Courtney - did not agree to our terms. Subsequently Mr Courtney wrote accepting our terms, and the Finance Committee on the 12th instant agreed to the hireage. The machinery has now gone forward to Tipperary.

I have to report that our Machinery Overseer is at present laid up with influenza, but I trust will soon be able to return to work.

The footbridge at Courtown Harbour is now being reconstructed .

There is an application for petrol pump licence at Courtown Harbour from Mr D. Bolger. The tank will be placed in private premises, and the pump on the edge of the footpath, and I see no objection to the licence being granted. In regard to petrol pump in Main Street, Gorey, being erected by Mr Michael Finn, I beg to report that the tank is now being laid under the floor of the garage, and is, consequently off the Council's premises. I have been in communication with the Electricity Supply Board with reference to the damaged footpaths in New Ross, and have letter from them stating that the matter will have immediate attention.

I have a communication from the Chief Engineer (Roads) Local Government Department with reference to the proposed improvement grants for the coming year in which he states he cannot sanction the continuance of cement-bound macadam. It is proposed that two sections of the Wexford-New Ross Road be laid in slab concrete, and that a section of the Enniscorthy-Bunclody Road be laid in Water-bound macadam. I am dealing further with this matter."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the report of Co. Surveyor be received and considered."

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Fortview: The County Surveyor said he had contemplated spending about £10 on Fortview to do some minor repairs which were necessary in connection with the removal of furniture etc to the new premises.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution:- "That the County Surveyor be empowered to expend a sum ~~of~~ not exceeding £10 on minor repairs at Fortview.

The Chairman said it might be advisable in connection with the sale of the place if the Council spent something to "do it up". If it were put in presentable condition they might sell at a better price than would be the case if the Council spent only a few pounds on it.

After discussion Mr O'Byrne withdrew his resolution and it was decided to adjourn consideration of the matter to next meeting the County Surveyor in the meantime, to obtain from the Finance Committee a recommendation as to what he considered should be spent on the premises.

As regards advertising Fortview for sale it was decided to wait for another two months.

The same order was made as to proposed sale of Old Courthouse site should Mr Elgee Solicitor have the title deeds etc ready by then.

Fire Insurance New Building: Col. Gibbon recommended the purchase of appliances approved by the Insurance Co. as it would mean reduction of the Insurance premium.

The County Surveyor said that he had an interview with a Representative of the Minimax Company who recommended 2 gal. conical extinguishers at a cost of £4: 10s; each. Eight sets with a 25 % discount would cost £25.

Colonel Gibbon said if they got the Minimax Extinguishers they should ask the Company to arrange for an annual inspection.

Mr O'Byrne said that the Mental Hospital Committee had decided on obtaining Extinguishers made in Ireland and which were claimed to be quite as effective as any made elsewhere

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As the new premises were now practically fire proof, they should be able to obtain a very big reduction in the amount of Insurance premium.

Colonel Gibbon proposed and Mr D'Arcy seconded the following resolution which was adopted nem con.

"That the County Surveyor make full enquiries as to fire Extinguishers and ascertain if those made in Ireland are approved by the Insurance Co., and that particulars be submitted to the Finance Committee for recommendation."

E/L and P/L Insurance: The County Surveyor said they had carried on a correspondence with the Insurance Brokers as to the various policies and also as to a policy in connection with the carriage of explosives but the whole business was very complicated and it was difficult to find out where the Council stood in the matter. There was no use in having insurance unless they were fully covered. If they had a Representative of the Insurance Brokers in attendance at the Finance Committee they would be able to have the whole matter definitely settled.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That we approve the suggestion of the County Surveyor to invite the attendance of a Representative of the Insurance Brokers to a meeting of the Finance Committee on the 26th March, 1931."

Hireage of Machinery: Mr Hall said instead of having to send machinery out of the County the Council should be in a position to sell broken stone to farmers who required it badly and who had now no prospect of producing it.

The Chairman said it was a great grievance for farmers that they could not obtain small quantities of broken stone for repairing lanes and yards. Since the drawing of gravel from the strand at Rosslare had been prohibited it was a serious loss to the people of the locality, who would be prepared to pay the production cost of broken stone if they could

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obtain it at that figure.

In reply to the Chairman the County Surveyor said that to supply for material which had formerly been taken from Rosslare Strand there were quarries at Kerlogue and St. Helen's while Mr Birthistle Assistant Surveyor for the district was in negotiations for material from a gravel pit.

Mr Keegan said there was no law to prevent the Council selling chippings at cost price and if there was such a law the Council would take steps to have it changed. He proposed a resolution on the lines indicated as to the selling of broken stone.

Mr Elgee said that County Council material could be sold only for road metalling. The law of the matter as long as he could remember had been always the same.

Mr Hayes asked if there was a surplus of material could not the amount which was not required for roads be disposed of.

The County Surveyor said long ago they might have a surplus but this had not happened for some time now. They sold the dust-which was waste stuff-as it was not suitable to put on roads and otherwise they would have to pay people to take it away. They never sold broken stone except in a few instances for roads which were not County roads.

Mr O'Byrne said the Council should try and have this grievance remedied. The people were now prevented from taking gravel from foreshores and they could inform the L.G.D. that the Council were anxious to facilitate the ratepayers in the matter. They should approach the L.G.D. and ask for permission.

In reply to Mr Keegan the County Surveyor said they had about 2000 cubic yards of material in Gorey Hill quarry and they would require only about 600.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Keegan seconded the following resolution:- "That in view of the fact that numbers of people are now unable - owing to prohibitory Orders - to ob-

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tain material from foreshores we hereby ask the L. G. D. for permission to sell surplus County Council road material at cost price, to any ratepayers requiring same."

The resolution was adopted Colonel Quin dissenting.

Illness of Machinery Overseer: Dr. T.D. Murphy, Enniscorthy, forwarded under date 22nd March, 1931, Medical Certificate that Mr William Murphy, Machinery Overseer, Enniscorthy, was suffering from Influenza and Pulmonary congestion. He was wholly unable to work and would not be able to resume for at least 14 days.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Clince seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That William Murphy, Machinery Overseer, be granted 14 days' sick leave as from 22nd March, 1931, in accordance with Medical Certificate. That William Byrne, Blacksmith, be placed in charge of Machinery Yard at Enniscorthy, and receive an allowance of of 10/- per week for performance of this duty during Mr Murphy's illness."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Clince:-

"That John Radford, Old Pound, Wexford, be employed as temporary lorry driver during the illness of William Murphy, wages £2 per week."

Petrol Pumps: The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Clince:- "That licences for Petrol Pumps be granted David Bolger, Courtown Harbour, and Ml. Finn, Main Street, Gorey"

Colonel Quin said pumps of the description of which licences had been granted in these cases were an obstruction to pedestrians. The pipe should be brought in from the top.

Electricity Supply Board damaged footpaths: The County Surveyor said nothing had yet been done by the Board.

Cement Bound Macadam Roads: Mr Keegan called attention to the sides of the recently constructed cement-bound macadam

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road between Gorey and Courtown which he said were dangerous owing to loose stones. An accident, he stated, had occurred on the road already and something should be done to remedy the matter.

The County Surveyor stated he had an appointment with a representative of the Contractors who did the road and he was meeting him on the next day and going over the road with him.

Mr Keegan suggested that a small committee be appointed so that they would be in possession of the facts when people complained to them.

Colonel Quin said he agreed that the condition of the sides of the road was dangerous, but they had a good surveyor and "I don't see why we keep a dog and do the barking ourselves," added Col. Quin.

The Chairman stated that the County Surveyor was in a position to tell them whether the Council or the Contractors were responsible.

County Surveyor - The Contractors are responsible for maintenance up to some date in May.

Mr Keegan - That's the answer^I made to people who inquired of me.

Mr O'Byrne stated that the specification provided for rolling in^{of} the sides, but it was not done.

County Surveyor stated that partial rolling was done.

Mr O'Byrne - It was not consolidated.

Chairman - It's up to the County Surveyor or his Assistant to see that it is done. Any member of the Council is at liberty to go on the road when the Co. Surveyor is meeting the contractor's representatives.

The County Surveyor said that Mr Quigley, Chief Engineer, Roads Department L. G. D. did not approve of the cement bound macadam road.

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Colonel Gibbon said this was a reversal of the policy of the Department for the past two years at least. The suggested that the County Surveyor should get in touch with the Roads Department - and find out their reason for the change with all necessary technical details and on receipt of the information the County Surveyor should prepare and issue to all Councillors a full report as to the situation which had now arisen. Up to the present they had been led to believe that the cement bound macadam road furnished a solution of all their difficulties.

Miss O'Ryan said that at last meeting the Council were in favour of appointing a Sub-Committee to go into the cost of the different kinds of roads for which a grant would be available.

In reply to a query the County Surveyor said that the objection made by Mr Quigley to the cement bound road was that it was very uneven and the surface would not last.

Miss O'Ryan said it was a class of road which suited farmers' horses much better than the concrete slab road: it was quite good enough for motorists and was excellent for farmers.

Mr Keegan referred to accidents which had taken place on the tar macadam road in Gorey town.

The Chairman said it was an established fact that horses could not travel on the tar-road. After three or four fine days motor cars polished it like glass and it was a death trap to horses.

Miss O'Ryan who claimed to have more experience in using the cement bound road from Knockeen Cross to Tomcoyle said ~~that that~~ everybody would agree that it was a decent job.

Colonel Gibbon moved the following:-

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to prepare a detailed report which will put County Councillors in possession

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of facts and data to discuss the various kinds of roads and their suitability for the traffic of the County and to enable the Council to come to the most advisable decision in the matter."

Mr Corish seconded.

The County Surveyor said that Mr Quigley never seemed to be favourably disposed to the cement bound road, but he allowed some stretches to be laid in the nature of an experiment.

The Chairman asked if there was sufficient experience of this class of road construction to ascertain if it would last for a reasonable number of years.

Colonel Gibbon said they had been led to believe when the officials of the L.G. Department were before the County Council that they had sufficient experience of it to recommend it to the Council. When this method of road construction was first under consideration by the Council he (Col. Gibbon) suggested they should carry out an experiment of about 200 yards in Wexford town provided the manufacturers supplied the cement free. The L.G.D. officials then came along and said they had had sufficient experience to use this method on Rosslare-Wexford and on Courtown-Gorey Roads and let the Council believe it was a satisfactory method of construction.

Mr Gaul asked if Mr Quigley had condemned the Tomcoole Road.

County Surveyor - He said it was very uneven.

The Chairman said that the people were prepared to put up with the road being somewhat uneven than spend 100 per cent more for a perfect road.

The resolution was then put and passed.

The following resolution was then adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Clince:- "That the Report of County Surveyor presented to this meeting be and is hereby adopted."

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ROLLING IN ROAD MATERIAL.

The following under date 19th March, 1931, (R/RGM/30/1930) was read from the Department of L.G. (Roads):-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to refer to the discussion of Wexford County Council on 23rd ultimo on this Department's letter of 20th idem and to inquire why raw stone cannot be rolled in in County Wexford as in other Counties."

The County Surveyor said he did not follow exactly what was meant by the letter from the Department. He had looked up the Minutes and the matter apparently arose out of the letter from the Department as to clay and sods being used as binding for potholes. These were things for which stone could not very well be rolled in and it was more difficult to do this as there was such a small amount of material being used. Of course if there was any appreciable quantity to be dealt with it was rolled in. The material which they were using on the Wexford-Duncannon Line would be rolled.

Colonel Gibbon proposed the following resolution which was seconded by the Chairman and adopted:- "That the L.G.D. (Roads) be informed that where the estimates allowed for material to be rolled such as on the Wexford -Duncannon line the material was rolled in, but where isolated potholes have to be dealt with they saw no economic alternative to the present method employed by the County Surveyor."

ROAD GRANTS.

Notification was received from L.G. Department (11th March, 1931 - RGM/201/31) as to allocation of £10,162 for Main road maintenance grant representing 40 % of the amount which the Council had agreed to for maintenance of main roads for 1931-32.

Under date 12th March, 1931 (S.G.G./32) the L.G.D. (Roads) notified payment from the Improvement Grant of the following:-

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£660 and £506 (T.12) and £460 (T.7) final payments.

Under date 12th March, 1931, the Department of L.G. (Roads) wrote notifying payment of £1642 (T.8) the final payment from Road Improvement Grant.

BURROW. ROSSLARE.

The following memorial which was numerously signed was read:-

"We, the undersigned householders and inhabitants of that part of Rosslare known as the Burrow, respectfully request the County Council to build a wall or some kind of barrier on the strand from Hopeland Bank to the last house on the Burrow. Our request is based on the following reasons:-

"First: As we pay rates every year to the County Council we claim the right to a clear unobstructed road or way to and from our homes. In our present condition we are terribly hampered on account of the fact that we have to wade through feet of water as a result of the tide. This is especially true in winter time when it is impossible to get to or from our holdings without being drenched with water to the knees. Since we are ratepayers, is it fair that we should be compelled to use such a trying way ?

"Secondly: In winter time the tide attacks with such force that our homes and out-houses are often flooded, with the result that we suffer inconvenience, hardships, and losses. But those are not the worst effects. In consequence of the flooding, our homes and houses are undermined, and eventually we will neither have a house nor a home. Is not that a very gloomy prospect to think over ?

"Thirdly: Our children have to attend school regularly, assist at Mass, and other religious duties. Gentlemen of the County Council, what would you say or think if you saw your little children obliged to wade through water and bound to remain in school in soaked feet and wet stockings ? We think

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that your sense of fair play and human instincts would condemn such conditions. Responsible people nowadays are trying to arouse interest in and direct attention to the importance and necessity of looking after the health of the children. Efforts are being made towards the curing and preventing of disease, and the conserving of the children's health. This is a move in the right direction. You will admit that wet feet and wet garments do not promote the health of children who have to endure such inconveniences whilst in school. It is very severe and inhuman that children have to go to school in such a condition. What is the result? It injures the children's health and disposes them to disease and other ailments, as well as making their time in school so unpleasant and so uncomfortable. It will be easily seen from the reasons we have given that our request is urgent and necessary. We appeal then for the sympathy, help and co-operation of each and all the members of the County Council, and we earnestly hope that something will be done to protect us and our families against the terrible conditions that confront us. Our homes and our livelihood, the health and lives of our children are in danger.

"We may add that one farthing in the pound would be sufficient to cover all the expenses in connection with the building of the above said wall or barrier."

Mr Corish stated he had been speaking during the week to the Parliamentary Secretary for the Board of Works with regard to a proposed grant of £1,500 for the erection of groynes at Rosslare, and he was informed that that Department would not carry out the work themselves. As the money might be lost to the County if a scheme was not put forward before March 31st, Mr Corish asked Mr Elgee, Solicitor, if the Council would carry out the work without prejudicing their position afterwards in so far as coast erosion damage.

Mr Elgee replied they could, provided the Department accepted the Council's undertaking to do the work under those circumstances.

The Chairman stated that he would also not like to see the money recommended being lost, but the Council did not want to undertake any risk or liability in the carrying out of the work. Could their officials do the work ?
County Surveyor - We could do it.

Colonel Quin suggested that the responsibility for coast erosion damage wanted to be thrown on the council, which might let them in for frightful expense.

Chairman - Coast erosion is a national question, and I don't hear of any other County Council being called upon to do any such work except ourselves.

Colonel Gibbon asked if the erosion at Rosslare had contributed towards the flooding on the inner strand, dealt with in the memorial.

The Chairman stated he thought it must have increased the tidal flow on the harbour side. It would be only natural to expect that such would happen with such a flow from the sea across the burrow. He suggested that the County Surveyor and his Assistant should make a survey and prepare an estimate of what it would cost to carry out the proposal contained in the memorial. In his opinion one farthing in the £ would not be sufficient, or one penny, or twopence.

The County Surveyor stated that the cost would also be influenced considerably by having to bring material from a distance. It would certainly cost £1000 owing to extra haulage.

Chairman - We are all aware that the people down there have to walk to and from their places through the water. There is no exaggeration in the memorial. The only way the children can get to school is to cross over to the big

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strand, which is out of the way, as at times the tide would be hitting the banks there, also.

Colonel Gibbon stated that provided the Board of Works gave them the full specification of what was to be done in so far as the suggestion to erect groynes was concerned, the Council should carry out the work, which would mean additional employment.

Colonel Quin stated he was entirely in favour of the work, but would the Board of Works land the Council with the responsibility for coast erosion?

Mr D'Arcy suggested that the Tourist Development Association should be entrusted with the carrying out of the work.

Mr Corish - They would not be given the money.

Chairman - The whole trouble is we don't want to see the £1,500 lost, but it has also to be remembered that the Minister for Finance has not agreed to the suggestion to expend £1,500.

Mr Corish - It is only a recommendation.

Chairman - The engineer came down and simply made the recommendation to expend that money, but you are not a bit nearer to getting it.

Miss O'Ryan - Don't give them the chance of refusing it.

County Surveyor - As far as I understand, in order to qualify for a grant you must have the work commenced before 31st March.

In reply to the Chairman, the County Surveyor said he had an idea of the work recommended to be carried out.

Mr Corish stated that the data which Mr Batchen, Engineer, of the Board of Works, got on his visit to Rosslare would be placed at the disposal of the Council.

Colonel Gibbon said they had to consider that Rosslare was going away, and now was a chance of spending money on an experiment with groynes, the result of which would enable them to judge as to its permanency. If it were shown

that the work would have an effect on the erosion more money might be forthcoming, to do the job properly. The Government could not be expected to put up a huge sum of money at once for such works.

Chairman - The plans are to be obtained from the Board of Works, and we would have to carry out the work where they indicate. In that case it would be all right but if we had the selection of where the work is to be done it would cause a lot of trouble. Mr Elgee is quite satisfied that we are to take this in quite an irresponsible way, and that we are not to be held liable in any way for coast erosion. If there is any agreement it should be sealed and signed. Whatever it is going to cost we will not be responsible for the expense of one penny more.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Colonel Gibbon seconded by Mr Corish:-

"That as regards the proposal of the Office of Public Works that a sum of £1500 should be spent on laying down experimental groynes at Rosslare Strand the County Council are prepared to act as agents of the Office of Public Works the money to be spent without prejudice to the rights of the Council and without the Council assuming any liability whatever for this or any future expenditure for Coast erosion; the work to be carried out according to plans and specifications of the Office of Public Works which are to be supplied to the County Surveyor. That the Office of Public Works inform the County Council if this grant of £1500 has been approved by Department of Finance and if they will furnish the plans and specifications referred to and point out to the officers of the Council the positions at which the groynes are to be placed and also if the County Surveyor takes steps to arrange for material and labour any time before the 31st March will this be sufficient to ensure the

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grant being available. That the work be dealt with through a Suspense a/c, payments to be made from said account on the certificate of the County Surveyor and as instalments of grant are received from the Government."

It was decided as regards the prayer of the Memorial that the County Surveyor should go into the details of the suggested work and report as to its feasibility with approximate cost to next meeting of the Council.

FORD OF LYNG.

In reply to Colonel Gibbon, Mr Elgee, Solicitor, said that writs in this matter had been prepared and would be served immediately.

COMPENSATION AWARD OLD COURTHOUSE.

Under date 14th March, 1931, Mr Elgee, Solicitor, submitted the following letter (404/296 - 13th March, 1931) from the Department of Finance:-

"With reference to your letter of the 6th inst., regarding an Award of £5,000, made by the Compensation (Ireland) Commission in respect of the destruction of Wexford Courthouse, I am directed by the Minister for Finance to state that the Provisions of the Damage to Property (Compensation) (Amendment) Act, 1926, apply only to Awards made under Part II. of the Damage to Property (Compensation) Act, 1923, i.e., to Awards made in respect of Injuries sustained between the 11th July 1921 and the 12th May, 1923."

NAME OF NEW COUNTY COUNCIL PREMISES.

Colonel Gibbon proposed and Mr D'Arcy seconded the following resolution:- "That new County Council premises be called County Hall."

Mr Corish, as an amendment proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following:-

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"That new County Council premises be called "Court and Council Chambers".

As a further amendment Mr Cummins proposed and Mr Keegan seconded the following:- "That the new premises of Co. Council be called "Republican Council Chambers".

A vote was taken on this amendment with the following result:-

For - Messrs Colfer, Culleton, Keegan, and Cummins - 4.

Against - Messrs Brennan, Cooney, Corish, D'Arcy, Gaul, Gibbon, Hall, Hayes, Meyler, McCarthy, O'Byrne, Quin, Shannon, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 16.

Messrs Armstrong, Clince and O'Ryan (3) did not vote.

The amendment was declared lost.

A poll was then taken on the amendment of Mr Corish with the following result:-

For - Messrs Armstrong, Colfer, Corish, Culleton, Hall, Hayes, and O'Byrne - 7.

Against - Messrs Brennan, Cooney, Cummins, D'Arcy, Gaul, Gibbon, Keegan, Meyler, McCarthy, O'Ryan, Quin, Shannon, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 15.

Mr Clince did not vote.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

Mr Corish proposed the following further amendment:-

"That the name of new County Council premises be "County Buildings".

Mr Hall seconded.

On a show of hands 7 voted in favour of the amendment and 15 against.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

A show of hands was then taken on the original resolution:- to designate the premises "The County Hall" with the following result:-

For - 13. Against - 9.

The Chairman declared the resolution carried.

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DANGER SIGNS AT BALLYROEBUCK NATIONAL SCHOOL.

The following from Mr J. O'Dempsey, Principal Teacher, Ballyroebuck School, under date 19th March, 1931, was referred to the County Surveyor for report to next meeting of the Council:—

"I beg to direct the attention of the County Council to the urgent necessity for the erection of danger signals on the approaches to this school. There are four such approaches for four roads converge at a point not more than 100 yards from the school gate. At the converging point are two bottle necks and two dangerous bends, all in close proximity to each other.

A fairly constant but undoubtedly increasing stream of fast-moving vehicular traffic between Ferns and Emiscorthy on the South and Carnew and other places on the North, and also an intermittent stream running east and west, cross each other at this point. This traffic of course, has to pass the two bends and through the bottle necks.

The school plot is entirely too small to serve as recreation ground for the children of whom there are at present 90 on the rolls. In default of a suitable recreation ground they are compelled to make use of a rocky triangular piece of ground along the two sides of which the above mentioned traffic moves and the nearest point of which is at least one hundred and fifty yards from the school gate. This recreation ground is not visible from the school gate being hidden by the bends already mentioned.

In coming to school in the morning, in going home in the evening, as well as going to and returning from the recreation ground every day the children have to encounter this traffic at the dangerous bends and in the bottle necks. In addition about twelve children of three families living convenient to the school go home for their lunch every day,

and in going and in returning are exposed to these dangers.

I think I may leave to the imaginations of the members of the Council the dangers incident to life and limb to which the children attending this school are exposed and the urgent necessity of having danger signals erected with the least possible delay.

The provision of danger signals will minimise these dangers, but only to a very small degree; other and more effective means, which are I fear, outside the province of the Council, would have to be and should be, employed to obviate them more completely.

Finally, an examination of the Ordinance Map by the Council or its Surveyor will help to convince them of the truth of the statements in this letter."

SHEEP DIPPING PROGRAMME.

It was decided on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr D'Arcy that correspondence from Department of Agriculture as to sheep dipping programme for 1931 be referred to County Committee of Agriculture for recommendation.

NATIONAL MONUMENTS - LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Under date 19th March, 1931, the Department of Local Government wrote (G19114/1931 - M. Loch Garman) that the Minister did not see any objection to the supply of ordnance maps by the County Council to the above Committee.

EMPLOYMENT OF WORKERS ETC.

The following resolution from Dun Laoghaire Borough Council was adopted on the motion of Mr Gaul seconded by Miss O'Ryan:-

"That we, the members of the Dun Laoghaire Borough Council, believing that the preference shown to a certain section in the matter of employment on Works of Public Utility is grossly unjust and calculated to foster and

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maintain differences between Irishmen, express our deep dissatisfaction of the preferential employment clause inserted in Specifications inviting tenders for contracts.

That we recognise the right to an equal share in such work for all able-bodied men irrespective of class, creed or politics, and call for the immediate abolition of this clause; and that copies of this resolution be sent to the Dublin Corporation, Dublin County Council, and remaining Public Bodies throughout the Free State."

COMPLAINT AGAINST A RATE COLLECTOR.

Mr Brennan asked if Rate Collector E.J. Murphy (17 District) was within his rights in handing to his Solicitor his collecting books before the 31st March with the result that about 30 or 40 ratepayers from Mr Brennan's district were informed that rates would not be accepted from them unless they were prepared to pay the Solicitor's costs. Also if Mr Murphy was obliged to call on ratepayers for their Rates as this was never done by him.

Mr Elgee - He is bound to serve the demand notes in person and he is bound to call at least once for the Rates.

Mr Brennan said that 10 or 15 men went into the office of Mr Colfer, Solicitor, but the latter would not take the rates without 8/- or 10/- costs in each case.

The Chairman considered the action of Mr Murphy in this case unjustifiable. He should have used other ways and means instead of heaping expense on unfortunate ratepayers. Of course there may be cases in which a Collector must employ a Solicitor to collect the rates but in ordinary cases the Council ^{had} passed a resolution that Collectors should seize on their warrants.

Mr Gaul considered ^{that} before coming to any conclusion in the matter the Council should ask Mr Murphy for an explanation.

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Mr Cooney said that Mr Murphy was probably the best Collector they had and was always at the top of the list.

After further discussion it was decided that Mr Murphy be summoned to attend the meeting of the Finance Committee to be held on 26th March, 1931, when the complaint made by Mr Brennan could be fully investigated.

EMPLOYMENT OF MEN.

At the conclusion of the meeting Mr Keegan said he made some remarks about the employment of men in Gorey, and that they were not getting an equal share, At the last meeting Mr Treanor said a particular man he (Mr Keegan) referred to was out of stamps. Was he prepared to verify that statement today?

Mr Treanor said there was a strike in the quarry, and this man did not go back to work until the work was over.

Mr Keegan - You said this man had a brother-in-law, and that he was delicate. Where did you find that out ?

Mr Treanor - He has a brother-in-law, and I know what I am saying. He knew he was a delicate man with three or four children.

Mr Keegan said he had tradesmen with him who said that the man was employed to do tradesmen's work.

Mr Corish said it was unwise to employ unskilled men to do tradesmen's work, and it cost the Council more. It was very unfair ~~as~~ the Council having given instructions that unskilled men were not to do tradesmen's work.

Mr Treanor said this was a very experienced man at the class of work he was doing viz., laying concrete channels.

Mr Armstrong said unskilled workers had been employed to do tradesmen's work. He saw ordinary men earning wages at tradesmen's work in a locality where there were a good number of tradesmen idle, building walls.

Chairman - Building cement walls.

Mr Armstrong - No, stone walls.

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Chairman - I don't think the County Council ever ordered that.

Mr Corish - It is a scandalous state of affairs.

Mr Treanor - It hasn't been done in my district. I don't get any labour men to do cement work.

Mr Armstrong - I don't say it was done extensively.

County Surveyor - If you were building a bit of a gap in a parapet wall, a man on the roads would do that, but not extensive work. If there was a whole wall to be built we always had tradesmen.

Mr Corish - According to that if a man wants his house repaired he could not employ a mason; he should get a whole house built to employ him.

Mr Keegan - I think most men would prefer a tradesman.

After further discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Corish seconded by Mr Armstrong:

"That an instruction be furnished to the Assistant Surveyors that for the future they must employ tradesmen to do the work usually done by tradesmen."

Michael Doyle

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

MEETING 27TH APRIL, 1931.

MINUTES.

COUNTY HALL,
WEXFORD.

N.J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

A meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 27th April, 1931.

Present - Mr M. Doyle (Chairman) presiding, also Messrs James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Cline, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, James Gaul, Col.C.M.Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Michael Jordan, William P. Keegan, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col.R.P.Wemyss Quin, James Shannon, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, six Assistant Surveyors, the County Solicitor and Rate Inspector were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £2104:13: 4d. was examined and signed.

THE LATE MR NICHOLAS MOORE, EX-RATE COLLECTOR.

It was decided on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by the Chairman that the following letter from Mrs Elizabeth Boyce, Busherstown, Ballymitt, be inserted on the minutes of the day:-

"In answer to your kind letter I wish to thank you and also the members of the Finance Committee for your kind note of sympathy to us on the death of my Uncle, Mr Nicholas Moore, Ex-Rate Collector. I also on behalf of other members of his family express our acknowledgement. Again thanking you."

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 12th March, 1931, as follows be received and considered.

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The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in Co. Council Chamber, on 12th March, 1931.

Present:- Messrs Sean O'Byrne, Thomas McCarthy, John Culleton, and James Shannon.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, ^{Co. Surveyor} Mr. Elgee Solr, and the Rate Inspector were also in attendance.

The Chair was taken by Mr. McCarthy, on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Shannon.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £3141: 9: 10d. was examined and signed.

VALUATION OF COUNTY COUNCIL NEW OFFICES ETC.

It was decided on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Culleton to appeal against the Valuation Assessment on Co. Council new premises viz., £25 (part of) Wexford Co. Council premises (Old Jail): £70 for Co. Council Offices and Yard: and £52 for Courthouse and Offices half annual rent (exempt).

It was pointed out that up to the present Mrs. Johns, the landlady, paid rates on the half annual rent of the entire premises net amount £104. This had now been reduced to £52.

The Finance Committee are also of opinion that the usual rebate of rates for reconstruction of an existing building should apply in this case.

SCHOLARSHIPS IN SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS.

Under date 10th March, 1931, the following was read from the Office of National Education (Secondary Branch)

"In reply to your communication of the 3rd instant, I am directed to inform you that this Department has no objection to the admission of Mary Dymrna O'Leary and Kathleen Gertrude Furlong to the forthcoming examination under above.

'Regarding the cases of Aidan Howlin and Christina M. Devereux I am to state that your Council is not empowered under their approved Scheme to accept an application from any boy or girl where the valuation of the parents' holdings exceeds the

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amount specified in Clause 3 of Scheme.

'In view of the fact that the valuation of the parents' holdings of Aidan Howlin and Christina M. Devereux is in excess of the amount laid down, they could not be regarded as eligible under the Scheme."

A resolution was adopted instructing the Secretary to communicate with the parents of Aidan Howlin and Christina M. Devereux, and point out that as the Department of Education considered these candidates ineligible to compete for secondary etc., scholarships they cannot be admitted to the examination.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME.

Under date 6th March, 1931, the Office of National Education (Secondary Branch) wrote that students desirous of competing for University Scholarships provided by Co. Councils, and who do not satisfy the conditions of the Programme as to pursuing an approved Course of study at a Secondary School, could be admitted to the Leaving Certificate Examination at the request of the Council concerned in order to compete for the Co. Councils Scholarships. These students will not, however, be eligible for the award of the Secondary Leaving Certificate.

A special Form of Notice (No. E.7) from Candidates of this description who intended to compete for University Scholarship through the Leaving Certificate Examination should be filled up and forwarded to the Office of National Education not later than 31st May. An examination fee of 10/- must accompany the Form.

It was decided that the Secretary call the attention of pupils in the class referred to by the Office of National Education in their letter of 6th March, to the regulations as set down therein.

CLIFF ROAD ROSSLARE.

Under date 7th March, the following was read from Messrs M.J.O'Connor & Company, Solicitors, 2, George Street, Wexford.

"We put your letter of 2nd instant before our client who cannot understand the statement contained therein that the Council

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did not close the road in view of the fact that your Council have actually erected barriers bearing the words "ROAD CLOSED" near Mr. James' house.

'There is a barrier across the road at the Rosslare Strand side of Mr. James' house with these words printed thereon. If the road has not been closed by the Council will you kindly ask the Surveyor to explain why this has been done.

It appears to us that your council have acted in direct opposition to the Ministry of Local Government in erecting barriers or notices which give the public the impression that the road is closed by your Council. If it has not been closed then we ask that these barriers be removed at once. If it has been closed then we ask upon whose authority this has been done.

'It would seem that as the Council are responsible for the repair and upkeep of the road that steps will have to be taken to put it into proper condition and we would be glad to know what the Council proposes to do in that regard.

'We would like to hear from you as soon as possible.'

After discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:-

"That letter from Messrs M.J.O'Connor, & Company, Solrs Wexford under date 7th March, 1931, relative to Cliff Road Rosslare, be referred for advice to Mr. Elgee, Solicitor."

PROPOSED HIRE OF MACHINERY.

The County Surveyor submitted letter under date 10th March, 1931, from Mr. T.C. Courtney, County Surveyor of North Tipperary, stating that he was now prepared to accept the terms laid down by the Wexford Co. Council in the Co. Surveyor's letter of 2nd inst., as to the hire of two steam Rollers, and two stone breakers.

The County Surveyor stated that the machinery in question would not be required for any work in ~~the~~ Wexford County during the year, and he recommended the offer of Mr. Courtney should be accepted.

It was proposed by Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. Shannon and adopted:-

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"That two Steam Rollers, and two Stone Breakers with Drivers, Attendants etc., be hired to North Tipperary Council. Roller at £2, per day, and Stone Breaker at £2: 10: 0d. coal to be supplied by the Hirer in each case."

INTERFERENCE WITH DRUMS OF TAR.

The County Surveyor submitted a report from Mr. O'Neill Assistant Surveyor, New Ross District, under date 10th March, that recently a drum of tar was opened and allowed to flow away on Cherry's Road New Ross. The Ganger immediately reported the matter to the Civic Guards. This was the third drum of tar that had been tampered with in the last few months within the vicinity of the town.

The County Surveyor pointed out that this description of wanton damage was also happening in other parts of the County.

The following resolution proposed by Mr. Shannon, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne, and adopted:-

"That our Secretary report to the Chief Superintendent of the Garda Siochana, and call his attention to the fact that wanton damage was being caused to the property of the Co. Council, and ask him for the assistance of the Guards in endeavouring to prevent this occurring in future. The Finance Committee are also of opinion that the Road Ganger's should interest themselves in preventing conduct of this description, and call the attention of the Co. Surveyor to any instances which may come under or be brought to their notice.

EXTRA WORK ON ROAD.

The following under date 10th March, was read from Mr. Robert Sheridan Road Contractor :-

"With reference to Road No. 912 I beg to apply for extra payment, as owing to unexpected heavy traffic on same, the work is over the amount I contracted for, I value my extra work at £7. I trust you will see your way to allow same, and thank you in anticipation."

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The County Surveyor stated that this road was in Mr. Kehoe's area, and Mr. Kehoe expected there would have been some question with regard to its condition. This Contractor had certainly made the very best attempt possible to restore the road, and undoubtedly he must have had extra work in doing so. The difficulty was how to deal with the matter as the road was under contract.

It was decided to refer the letter of Mr. Sheridan to the County Surveyor for detailed report.

FURNITURE FOR COUNTY COUNCIL OFFICES

The meeting considered several quotations for supply of upholstered Chairs for County Council Chamber at prices varying from 30/- to 17/6d each.

After consideration the following resolution was proposed by Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne and adopted:-

"That the County Surveyor be empowered to purchase 30 hard wood Chairs (No.18 page 4) catalogue of Aylesbury Bros., at 16/- each"

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATION

Under date 4th March, 1931, the Inspector of Co. Wexford and District Branch for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children Society, wrote that he intended applying to the District Court Gorey, on the 13th March, for the committal of Margaret and Owen Kenny, Limerick Lane, Camolin, to St. Aidan's Industrial School, New Ross, and Rathdrum Industrial School, respectively.

The Secretary stated that he had reported the application to Mr. Elgee, Solicitor.

RATE COLLECTION. -----

The State of the Rate Collection up to 12th March, 1931,
was submitted as follows:-

Collector.	Percentage Collected.
1. E.J. Murphy	78.8
2. J. Curtis	77.1
3. W. Doyle	76.1
4. M. McCarthy	74.2
5. T. Rowe	72.4
6. T. Bolger (No.14)	71.0
7. J. Cummins	70.0
8. Sean Gannon	69.4
9. J. Quirke (No.1)	69.0
10. P. Doyle	68.9
11. A. Dunne	68.2
12. J. Deegan	68.0
13. J.J.O'Reilly	67.4
14. P. Nolan	67.3
15. P. O'Byrne	63.3
16. M. Kelly	62.6
17. P. Carty	61.6
18. W. Cummins	61.3
19. J.J. Sinnott	56.3
20. J. Quirke (no.2)	52.8
21. T. Bolger (No.12)	46.6

The Rate Inspector said Rate Collectors had been directed to close their warrants by 31st March. They were doing their best. John J. Sinnott was backward but he^{had} had a long illness and was not completely recovered. It was only now that Quirke was getting into close touch with the derelict farms of No. 2 district and the same could be said of the other Collectors who were acting temporarily in districts other than their own.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr

Culleton seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That the County Council be requested to make no change ~~as~~ regards temporary Rate Collectors for the following districts:-

No. 2, 7, 12 and 19 until the closing of the Collection therein for financial year 1931+32. The Committee recommend this course as they are anxious to have all outstanding arrears of Rates cleared off and feel this result will be brought about in the most satisfactory manner by allowing the present temporary Collectors to continue until the close of financial year 1931-32."

A long discussion took place in respect of amount of Rates due on derelict farms.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of ~~the~~ Chairman seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That the County Council be recommended to invite the Land Commission to send down one of their Inspectors to discuss with the Finance Committee what steps might be taken in connection with payment of Annuities and Rates on derelict farms .

The following letter under date 3rd March, 1931, (G 14828/1931) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"Further to this Department's letter of equal date sanctioning overdraft accommodation, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that it is with reluctance he has given his consent to the overdraft as it was noticed that there was a decided falling off in the rate collection which for a time had shown signs of improvement!"

NEW BUILDINGS LIST

New Buildings List for 1931-32 as prepared by the Secretary was approved on the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. Shannon.

REMISSION OF RATES HOUSES BUILT UNDER HOUSING ACTS Etc.

It was decided on the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded

by Mr. Shannon that houses erected under the Building
Facilities Acts and Housing Acts be exempt from proportion
of rates as authorised by Section 7 of said Acts in accordance
with amounts of remission appearing on list prepared by
Secretary.

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Cliff Road Rosslare: Mr Elgee said the road was not stopped. There was a barrier across one end of it but the inhabitants of Mr James's house could get into the place. Beyond James's house the road was stopped but this was because the place was actually dangerous.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr McCarthy seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That the Council deny liability as to the closing of the Cliff Road, Rosslare. Any attention given to this road by the Council was for the safety of the public.

Hiring of Machinery: Mr Hall said he had proposed that the machinery be not hired out, and he proposed it again. The County Council, he said, would be at a great loss by hiring out the machinery. If they hired it out it might come back worn out. It never was the intention of the Council to buy machinery for hire.

Chairman - Would you have it lying up ?

Mr Hall - I would.

Mr McCarthy - It was decided by a majority of the Finance Committee to hire out the machinery provided the Tipperary Council agreed to the terms laid down. They declined to pay the terms, but immediately after consented, and it was then decided to give them the machinery.

Mr Hall - It came before the last meeting of the County Council.

Mr McCarthy - That was because they would not agree to our terms at that time.

County Surveyor - They agreed to them afterwards.

Mr Hall said it appeared that at present a Council could hire machinery cheaper than it could be purchased.

The County Surveyor said that Mr Courtney, County Surveyor for North Tipperary, was glad to get the machinery on the terms asked by him (Mr Barry). It appeared that Mr Courtney was doing a good deal of work on special grant and

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the machinery he had was not able to reach on the whole of it.

The matter dropped.

Interference with drums of tar: Col. Quin said he saw children rolling some of the tar-barrels all over the road.

Chairman - Tar was taken from casks in some places.

County Surveyor - They were damaged but I do not know whether the tar was actually taken away from them. There were leakages as a result of the damage, and there was loss in that way.

Chairman - These casks are terribly exposed to any sort of theft or damage. They are actually a temptation for somebody to meddle with them. Could they not be left inside the nearest farmer's place, or some place adjoining their vicinity? I see them in heaps on my road, and anybody wanting tar, could take it. I think something ought to be done to protect them, and I don't think anybody would object to the barrels of tar being rolled into their premises. They would not be so exposed as they are. Four of them between Jones' Cross and Taghat are on the top of a heap of spawls.

Extra Work on Roads: The County Surveyor said the Contractor certainly made the best possible attempt to restore the road and it involved extra work. The difficulty was how to deal with the matter owing to the road being under contract.

No action was taken pending receipt of detailed report from County Surveyor.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 12th March, 1931, be and are hereby confirmed."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee submitted as follows in respect of meeting held on 26th March, 1931, be received and considered:

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The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Hall, Wexford, on 26th March, 1931.

Present - Messrs James Hall, Sean O'Byrne, Thomas McCarthy, James Shannon and John J. Culleton.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor and Mr Elgee, Solicitor, were also in attendance.

Mr O'Byrne moved and Mr Culleton seconded ~~the~~ a resolution appointing Mr Hall Chairman of the meeting.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £3967: 12: 2d. was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION.

State of: The State of Rate Collection to 26th March, 1931, was submitted as follows:-

Name of Collector.		Percentage of Warrant collected.
1.	E.J. Murphy	90.
2.	John Curtis	87.1
3.	Wm. Doyle	85.5
4.	Thomas Rowe	80.9
5.	Patrick Carty	79.8
6.	M. McCarthy	78.1
7.	J. Quirke (1)	77.5
8.	Sean Gannon	77.5
9.	J. Cummins	77.2
10.	T. Bolger (14)	77.0
11.	John Deegan	75.1
12.	Art Dunne	74.5
13.	Patrick O'Byrne	74.2
14.	J.J. O'Reilly	73.8
15.	Patrick Noonan	73.4
16.	Philip Doyle	72.9
17.	W. Cummins	70.9

Name of Collector.	Percentage of Warrant collected.
18. M.M.Kelly	66.2
19. J. Quirke (2)	62.2
20. J.J.Sinnott	62.1
21. Thady Bolger (12)	51.2

Complaint against Rate Collector E.J. Murphy (District No.17):

With reference to complaint made by Mr Brennan County Councillor at meeting of 23rd March, 1931, that Mr Murphy had handed in his books to close off his warrant to his Solicitor who refused to accept ^{Rates without costs} from large number of ratepayers in Mr Brennan's district, and that he never called on rate payers to collect Rates, the following under date 25th March, 1931, was read from Mr Murphy who was in attendance:-

"In reply to your letter of the 24th inst. I beg to refer you to your letter of 28th January, 1931, enclosing copy letter from Department of Local Government which stated:-

"That in the event of any Rate Collector failing to comply with the conditions of his employment by not lodging the full amounts of his warrant on or before the 31st March, the Public Bodies Orders 1925 will apply and such Collectors must not ~~be~~ expect to be allowed poundage at a rate similar to that fixed for the due performance of their duties"

On receipt of that letter I sent out Six Day Notices with very little result and one Ratepayer in the presence of a County Councilor, told me that he "lit the fire with it."

I further beg to refer to the Rate Inspector's letter of the 2nd inst., stating that all warrants must be closed on the 31st inst., and failure on the part of the Collector to close may lead to dismissal and the Sureties be called upon to make good outstanding rates.

Referring to your letter of the 18th inst. The expenses of seizing under warrant are so heavy that I have always adopted the cheaper course of proceeding by Civil Bill.

In reference to your letter of the 24th inst. I did not

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know it was necessary to call for rates on Ratepayers and would be glad of specific instructions on this point.

I did not hand all my books to my Solicitor. I gave him a list of those who took no notice of my repeated demands for payment and told him to collect them for me.

If I have done wrong it was unintentional and my efforts were solely directed to the repeated requests to get in the rates referred to above."

The following under date 23rd March, 1931, was read from Mr P. Quigley, Lacken, New Ross:-

"Excuse me for troubling you but I cannot let this pass. I sent in a cheque to Mr Murphy, Rate Collector, for rates the 21st March, and he refused to take same, although he took it from other people in his district. He told my son I had got a civil bill which was not the case. He even called my son a liar, when he said I had not received a civil bill. I always paid my Rates before the time and I think it very strange to be treated in such a manner. I think it is hard enough on the farmer to pay the amount due without putting extra cost on him, by having it collected through a Solicitor. Mr Murphy is the only Rate Collector in New Ross district that refused taking the rates on the 21st. If you think it proper you can put this letter before the Finance Committee.

Mr Murphy stated that he had not handed in all his Collecting Books to Messrs Colfer & Son, but had made a selection from a large number of names of ratepayers who had failed to pay although Six Day Notices had been served upon them. Mr Quigley's name was on the list and when his son came in he told him to go to Mr Colfer, Solicitor, and see what could be done in the matter. Mr Colfer declined to accept the Rates without payment of the costs. With reference to the case referred to in Mr Quigley's letter in which the Rates had been accepted without costs, a death had occurred in the family during the week, and for that reason and others

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Mr Colfer had not insisted upon *costs*.

Mr Murphy denied that he had called Mr Quigley Jun. a liar. As a matter of fact a few days previous to the 23rd March he met another son of Mr Quigley's and asked him if he would pay the Rates. He said he would not pay before the 31st March. He had not seen Mr Quigley Snr., at any time but had issued his Demand Note by post and also wrote to him twice for payment. He had been 19 years collecting Rates and had never heard it would be necessary to call on Ratepayers at their houses. He met a very large number of them in fairs and markets.

The Chairman pointed out that it was a very easy way for Mr Murphy to get the rates to suit his own convenience. Mr Murphy appeared to think that the Ratepayers should call to his office, and that there was no obligation on him to call to their residences.

Mr Murphy said that seizing on his own Warrant would mean on an average an expenditure of £3 while as regards proceedings in the District Court, the costs would be only a few shillings. He had seized on his own Warrant in the case of Bantry Commons and lost very nearly £60 in consequence.

Mr O'Byrne referred to order of County Council that Collectors should call on Ratepayers for the rates but Mr McCarthy pointed out that this order referred only to Collectors whose Collections were in a backward state.

Mr Murphy stated that he was prepared to call on rate payers at their residences if directed to do so but there was nothing in the Public Bodies Order as to the method of Collection except that he was to proceed with all "due diligence". He carried on the procedure of his predecessor and shortly after his appointment 19 years ago a number of Rate payers asked him not to call to their houses as this gave rise to the idea amongst their neighbours that they were financially embarrassed.

Mr Elgee said that the expenses of a Collector seizing on

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his own warrant would be very high, as he had to have two or three men with him. In the District Court the costs for a debt of £25 would be £2 and proportionately lower when the proceedings were for a lower amount.

Mr Murphy pointed out that the bailiff in his district was not prepared to assist in making seizures unless he had adequate police protection.

After further discussion the Committee decided to recommend to the Council to reconsider the order directing Rate Collectors to seize on their own Warrants, in view of the heavy expenses involved on the Ratepayers concerned.

Mr Culleton said that as Mr Murphy was at the top of the list for his Collection, it showed that his method of collection was getting in the money and must be efficient.

Mr McCarthy held that as Mr Murphy's methods of collection were so effective it would be against the interests of the Council to interfere with them.

Mr Shannon agreed. The desire of the County Council was to get in the rates as rapidly and as effectively as possible. Mr Murphy's plan was giving the necessary results and it would be a pity to interfere with him. What suited one district might not be applicable to another. New Ross was the only town in Mr Murphy's district and was used by all the Rate payers in his area for fairs and markets. This being the case it was very convenient for them to call to Mr Murphy's office and 90 % of them would prefer to do this rather than have the Rate Collector visit the houses.

Mr McCarthy proposed and Mr Culleton seconded the following recommendation:-

"Having heard Mr Murphy's explanation as to complaint made by Messrs Brennan and Quigley we are satisfied he is carrying out his duties as Rate Collector in an efficient and satisfactory manner."

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The resolution was adopted.

The Chairman in dissenting, said it was a very handy procedure for Mr Murphy to hand his books to his Solicitor, without calling to Rate payers.

Mr McCarthy said that Mr Murphy had written to all the defaulting Rate payers on more than one occasion.

Mr Murphy said he was prepared to serve the Demand Notes personally if it was the wish of the Council, but a number of them were certain to object.

Legal Proceedings by Rate Collectors: Under date 21st March, 1931, Collector Patrick Carty (No. 21 District) wrote that he did not exercise the powers under his warrant where he was refused payment, because he understood it was the desire of the Council that Rate Collectors should not resort to harsh methods. He asked that he should be notified if it was the wish of the Council that he make seizures in cases where he was refused payment three or four months before the half year expires. He was prepared to carry out the instructions of the Council.

In the course of the discussion which arose after the reading of this communication, reference was made to the statement of Mr Murphy (Collector for No. 17 District) that the average cost for seizures under a Collector's own warrant was £3, whereas the cost of legal proceedings at the District Court was much lower.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That Rate Collector P. Carty be directed to exercise his discretion as to the legal proceedings to be taken by him in the case of a Ratepayer who is able to pay his rates but refuses to do so."

Applications for Extension of time for closing Collection:

Under date 24th March, Collector J.J. Sinnott (No. 16 District) made application for extension of time to close his warrant as he had been ill since last September. It was only during the past week he was able to resume duty against the wishes

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of his doctor, who had warned him to be careful of over-exertion and travelling in bad weather.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Shannon seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

Of

"That in view of the fact ~~that~~ Mr Sinnott's illness over a prolonged period we request the L.G.D. to extend the time for closing his warrant to the 6th May, 1931."

Under date 24th March, 1931, Mr T. Bolger asked the Finance Committee to extend the time for the closing of his collection in No. 12 District (late P. Donohoe). He believed if he got the extension of a month he would be able to vastly improve the Collection.

Application was also received from Mr Quirke for an extension of time in the case of No. 2 District (late Thos. Sutton).

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr McCarthy seconded by the Chairman:-

"That in view of the fact that the collection of Rates in Nos. 2 and 12 Districts had been held up for some months previous to the appointment of the present temporary Collectors, we request the L.G.D. to agree to an extension for the closing of the Warrants in both these districts for at least one month."

NEW BUILDINGS ORDER.

It was decided on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon that the usual Rebate of Rate be granted John O'Connor, Rathiminey, Gusserane, New Ross, on account of increase in his valuation from £3:15: to £8 in consequence of improvement to dwelling houses.

DEDUCTIONS FROM AGRICULTURAL GRANT.

The Secretary stated that a sum of £503: 14: 10d. had been deducted from the last instalment of Agricultural Grant owing to sums due by defaulting annuitants under the Land Purchase Acts not being covered by deductions from the Estate

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Duty Grant.

DISPUTE BETWEEN COUNTY COUNCIL AND PIONEER
ROAD CONSTRUCTION CO.

In connection with the dispute as to the value of material at Gorey Hill Quarry left over from the reconstruction of Courtown-Gorey Road by the Pioneer Road Construction Co., and which under the Contract was to be taken over by the Co. Council, the Pioneer Road Construction Co. wrote under date 25th March, 1931, that they were surprised to receive the letter of the County Surveyor of the 10th March and to note that the Council had decided that the matter in dispute should not be left to the arbitration of a nominee selected by the L.G.D. The Company were very reluctant to take the matter into Court as they felt that an equitable decision on the real merits of the case would best be obtained from some independent Engineer. They therefore suggested that the dispute should be dealt with by an Engineer to be nominated by the President of the Institution of Civil Engineers of Ireland.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr McCarthy seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That we recommend the County Council to rescind the resolution proposing that the dispute between the Pioneer Road Construction Co. and the Council should be settled by Court proceedings and recommend that said dispute be referred to Mr T.C. Courtney, Co. Surveyor for North Tipperary, provided the Pioneer Road Construction Co., are prepared to accept this nomination and that Mr Courtney is prepared to act as Arbitrator."

RECONSTRUCTION OF COURTHOUSE.

A Bill for £37: 10:, Interest on £1500, amount of unpaid Certificate of County Surveyor for five months @ 6 % was received from Messrs McNally & Co., East Wall, Dublin, Contractors for reconstruction of Wexford Courthouse.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of

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Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Culleton:-

"That we recommend the Council to disclaim liability for payment of Bill received from Messrs McNally & Co. for £37: 10: in connection with reconstruction of Wexford Courthouse."

OLD COURTHOUSE SITE - REDEMPTION OF RENTS.

Under date 14th March, 1931, Mr Elgee, Solicitor, wrote that he had noted from correspondence with the Secretary of the Council that funds are now available for the redemption of the Head Rents of the Old Courthouse, but as he had not yet satisfied himself that the titles in all cases were in order he could not ask for Paying Orders. For instance in Capt. Redmond's case the amount would be divided into four shares payable to different parties and he (Mr Elgee) had not yet agreed with Capt. Redmond's Solicitors as to what the individual shares would be.

No action taken pending further report from Mr Elgee.

TENDERS FOR PRINTING CONTRACT.

Tenders for the annual printing for County Council were received as follows:-

Messrs English & Co. Quay, Wexford	-	£78: 18: 6d.
"Free Press"	- - - - -	- £83: 7: 0d.
"The People"	- - - - -	- £116: 14: 0d.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Culleton:-

"That the tender of Messrs English & Co., for annual printing of County Council Offices for financial year 1931-32 at £78: 18: 6d. be accepted subject to reservation that unless items of printing are delivered in specified time the Contract will be cancelled by Finance Committee."

INSURANCES.

In connection with Insurance Policies for P.L. and E.L. which were held by the Ocean, Accident & Guarantee Corporation, Messrs McDonagh & Boland, Insurance Brokers, 5 Dame Street,

Dublin *concerning the following*

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Dublin, a/c's for Premiums:- Public Liability £47: 10: 8d.
and Employers Liability £674: 7: 9d.

Mr William Boland (Messrs McDonagh & Boland) attended the meeting.

The County Surveyor stated that in connection with Employer's Liability Policy a number of claims had been settled through his office for small amounts, while a number of others had been settled by the Insurance Brokers direct. He (County Surveyor) was unable to tell the amount in the latter instance but in any case all the claims would be considerably less than the Premium. The Public Liability claims for one year might be less than the Premium but taking a period over five or ten years the premium and the claims were very nearly the same amount.

The Secretary pointed out that the amount of the Employer's Liability Policy was based on the wages paid. For year 1930 the premiums were £568: 7: 6d.

Mr Boland pointed out that on account of the claims experience the Company with which the County Council were formerly insured wanted an increased Premium. When a Tariff Office fixed a higher Rate all the other Tariff Companies had to fall into line. The present Company put in a proposal to accept liability at the old percentage rate and this was accepted by the Council. Claims settled and outstanding for the present year were about £300. At the end of two years there would be a review of the Rate. Quotations obtained from non Tariff Companies were 40/- % and from the Ocean Co., 29/9 the present rate. The figures of 40/- per cent quoted by the non Tariff Companies was the average for County Councils. As regards Public Liability the old Company wanted to have a provision included that the Council would be directly responsible for all claims up to £5. The ^{Council} Company did not agree with this resolution and the

Insurance Brokers secured a policy from the Ocean at the old rate. As regards the explosives risk the public liability policy had been applied to vehicles and the rate quoted covered damage to property, injury to the public, Civic Guards escorting explosives, or drivers or owners of the vehicles. The premium had been 28/- % with the minimum premium of £8. When explosives were conveyed by vehicles the property of Assistant Surveyors the procedure usually adopted was to request the Company holding insurance of the vehicle to endorse the policy and indemnify the County Council and the owners. The Companies concerned would of course, require an additional Premium for the additional risk. If the names of the companies holding Insurances of the Assistant Surveyors' motor cars were furnished to Messrs McDonagh & Boland they would approach the Companies and have the risk covered.

In the course of the discussion it was pointed out that as Assistant Surveyors were receiving a fixed amount to cover their locomotion expenses there was no obligation on them to ensure their motor cars against Third Party Risk, or for the risk incurred in carrying explosives, and if an explosion occurred to one of the cars which might not be insured the Council might find themselves liable for very considerable damages.

The County Surveyor pointed out that it would be advisable if the County Council had a policy covering the explosion risk without having to make enquiries annually as to the insurance of Surveyor's cars.

After further discussion it was decided that Mr Boland should look into this matter and advise the Council if it be possible to secure a policy in their name to cover risk to Surveyor's vehicles when conveying explosives.

Mr McCarthy proposed and Mr Culleton seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That we recommend the County Council to continue Employers Liability Insurance Policy at the rate of 29/9 % and the Public Liability at £47: 10: 8d.

Proposed by Mr O'Byrne and seconded by Mr McCarthy:-

"That pending inquiries being made by Messrs McDonagh & Boland as to the most advisable way to secure policy for explosives risk they be asked to furnish covering note protecting the Council against risk in this respect."

TOURIST RATE.

Under date 13th March, 1931, application was received from the Irish Tourist Association for payment of £207, balance of Tourist Rate for financial year.

Resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr McCarthy that the amount be paid.

WORKING OF MACHINERY.

The County Surveyor stated that at the meeting of the Council on 23rd March, 1931, a resolution was adopted to employ as lorry driver during the illness of Mr William Murphy, Machinery Overseer, John Radford, Old Pound, Wexford, at £2 per week. He already found that Mr Radford was not available and suggested that Lce. Doyle, Fairfield, Enniscorthy, be employed as temporary lorry driver at £2 per week during Mr Murphy's illness.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That Laurence Doyle, Fairfield, Enniscorthy, be employed as temporary lorry driver during the illness of Mr Murphy, Machinery Overseer."

It was also decided that Mr Murphy's wages be paid during the period of his illness.

EXPENDITURE ON ROADS.

The Secretary stated that it was apparent from the state of the Rate Collection that a substantial amount would be out-

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standing after the 31st March, while owing to the fact that the County Council had only agreed to their Rate for financial year 1931/32 on the 23rd March, it would be some months before the new Rate could be put into course of collection. If the County Surveyor developed a full road programme as from the 1st April next, the Council would not have sufficient funds to meet the expenditure.

It will be necessary that expenditure be curtailed as much as possible until new rate is in course of collection.

DREDGING AT KILMORE.

It was decided to adjourn to next monthly meeting consideration of the settlement of the claim of the Board of Works for dredging work carried out at Kilmore.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATION.

On the representations of the Inspector for N.S.P.C.C. Co. Wexford and District Branch, it was decided that if a child named Martin Fenelon, formerly of Grange, Killanne, whose period of detention in St. Patrick's Industrial School, Kilkenny, would expire on the 10th April, was recommitted to a Senior School, the Council was prepared to accept responsibility for capitation Grant until he reached the age of 16 years.

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Dispute between Co. Council and Pioneer Road Construction Co.:- Mr McCarthy proposed the confirmation of the ~~record~~ ^{recommendation} of the Finance Committee.

Mr Hall seconded.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For the motion;- Messrs Brennan, Clince, Corish, Gibbon, Hall, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, and Shannon. - 10.

Against - Messrs Armstrong, Cummins, D'Arcy, Hayes, Jordan, Keegan, Quin, Smyth and the Chairman - 9.

Messrs Colfer and Gaul⁽²⁾ did not vote.

Messrs Cooney and Walsh (2) were not present when poll was taken.

Mr Corish held that notice of motion to rescind the resolution of the County Council deciding that the matter be settled by Court proceedings should have been given.

Mr Elgee said that the following appeared on agenda paper of the meeting as a recommendation from the Finance Committee:- "Dispute between County Council and Pioneer Road Construction Co." It had always been the practice in such cases to look upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee as tantamount to a notice of motion.

Mr Corish still contended that the Councillors should have received notice of the proposed rescinding of the resolution and the item on the agenda did not suggest that a rescinding of a former resolution was contemplated.

The Secretary pointed out that that no member had given notice of rescinding as it was held that the recommendation of the committee was equal to such a notice.

Mr Elgee pointed out that it would have been ~~most~~ advisable if the full minute of the Finance Committee had been set out on the agenda.

After further discussion ~~Mr~~ McCarthy by permission of the meeting) withdrew his motion and gave notice to move at next County Council meeting that the resolution of the Co.

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Council to have the dispute with the Pioneer Road Construction Co. settled by Court proceedings be rescinded, and the adoption of the recommendation of the Finance Committee that Mr T.C. Courtney, County Surveyor, North Tipperary County Council, be appointed to act as arbitrator in the matter.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 26th March, 1931, be and are hereby confirmed except in so far as same have been altered, or amended by resolution adopted at this day's meeting."

The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 9th April, 1931, were submitted as follows:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 9th April, 1931.

Present - Messrs Sean O'Byrne, Thomas McCarthy, James Shannon, James Hall and John J. Culleton.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, Mr Elgee, Solicitor, and Rate Inspector were also in attendance.

The Chair was taken by Mr McCarthy on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £3551: 17: 2d. was examined and signed.

THE LATE MR NICHOLAS MOORE, EX-RATE COLLECTOR.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That we desire to record our sympathy with his relatives in the death of Mr Nicholas Moore, Ex-Rate Collector who was for a considerable time a faithful and loyal servant of this Council."

The Secretary and Mr Elgee (both of whom knew Mr Moore intimately) paid tribute to his many fine qualities, and expressed their regret on his death.

RATE COLLECTION.

State of The State of the Rate Collection up to 9th April, 1931, was submitted as follows:-

No. of District	Name of Collector.	Percentage of Warrant collected.
1.	E.J. Murphy	93.9
2.	J. Curtis	93.4
3.	T. Rowe	91.9
4.	W. Doyle	91.6

No. of District.	Name of Collector.	Percentage of Warrant collected.
5.	P. Carty	89.6
6.	J. Deegan	89.4
7.	J.J. O'Reilly	88.9
8.	M. McCarthy	88.0
9.	P. O'Byrne	88.0
10.	T. Bolger (No.14)	87.6
11.	J. Cummins	87.2
12.	J. Quirke (No. 1)	87.0
13.	P. Doyle	86.9
14.	Sean Gannon	86.4
15.	A. Dunne	85.9
16.	P. Nolan	80.2
17.	W. Cummins	80.0
18.	J.J. Sinnott	72.3
19.	J. Quirke (No.2)	71.5
20.	M. Kelly	70.0
21.	T. Bolger (No.12)	65.3

Derelict Farms: The following gives a list of the Rate Collectors with total amounts due in each case for rates on farms certified by Rate Inspector as absolutely derelict, carrying no crops and no stock:-

No. of District.	Name of Collector.	Amount.
1.	Jas. Quirke	£. s. d. 6: 9: 2d.
2.	do.	589: 13: 10.
3.	Phil Doyle	136: 6: 2.
4.	M. McCarthy	92: 10 : 7.
5.	Patk. Nolan	97: 14: 9.
6.	M.M. Kelly	54: 15: 4.
7.	J. Deegan	23: 18: 8.

(No. of District)	Name of Collector.	Amount.
8.	J. Cummins	34: 16: 9.
9.	P. O'Byrne	248 : 17: 0.
10.	Sean Gannon	66: 13: 5.
11.	W. Cummins	500: 11: 4.
12.	T. Bolger	196: 0: 11.
13.	J. J. O'Reilly	99: 0: 10.
14.	T. Bolger	Nil.
15.	Art Dunne	Nil.
16.	J.J.Sinnott	216: 0: 10.
17.	E.J. Murphy	224: 5: 4.
18.	T. Rowe	40: 0: 4.
19.	W. Doyle	103: 6: 9.
20.	J. Curtis	68: 2: 2.
21.	P. Carty	30: 5: 1.
		<u>£2829: 9: 3.</u>

The various items in each Collector's District were carefully considered and instructions issued to the Rate Inspector as to the action to be taken in each individual case.

Arising out of references to several instances in the list, the following resolutions were adopted:-

Proposed by Mr O'Byrne and seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That in our opinion the Land Commission should be held responsible for payment of Rates and arrears on any lands which are in their hands or of which they have taken possession. We recommend the Council to call upon the Land Commission to pay amounts due in such cases."

Proposed by Mr Shannon and seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That as regards transfer of lands to evade payment of Rates such as we believe has happened in the case of the Great Saltee Island, we recommend the Council to direct the Rate Collector concerned to proceed against the present owner, on the understanding that the Council will be responsible for

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payment of law costs, incurred by the Collector. It is evident to any reasonable person that the ownership of the Great Saltee Island was transferred to a person alleged to have no means in order to avoid payment of Rates and arrears."

Proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That should the Land Commission agree to the request of the Finance Committee on confirmation of same by the Co. Council, to send down an Inspector to confer with the Committee regarding rates on vacant farms and particularly those which are derelict, and the circumstances of which were considered at this day's meeting in detail, we direct the Rates Inspector to have for the purpose of this Conference a complete statement of the particulars of each individual item concerned.

Proposed by Mr Hall, seconded by Mr Culleton and adopted:-

"That in view of the present impossibility of obtaining payment of any rates or arrears of same in respect of farms in this County which are absolutely derelict we request the sanction of the L.G.D. to the Council passing the amount concerned as temporary Irrecoverable and not to insist upon same being carried forward as arrears into next year's warrant for collection."

Poundage to Collector: Proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr O'Byrne and adopted:-

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"That the Local Government Department be requested to sanction payment of Poundage to Mr T. Bolger for temporary work in No. 12 District. This Collector has obtained 50% of the amount of the Warrant in this particular district, and as his travelling expenses are very heavy and as he has received no payment of Poundage up to the present, we request the L.G.D. to agree to this proposal."

17M
Mandatory Rate for Agriculture: Under date 31st March, 1931, letter (No.E.2740/31) was read from the Department of Agriculture.

This pointed out that the Agriculture Act, 1931, now law

had made the raising of a sum equal to not less than a rate of 2d in the £ mandatory. In the circumstances the Council should take such steps as were necessary to comply with this provision of the Act.

The Secretary stated that the difficulty in the matter might be got over by the County Council at their meeting of the 27th April agreeing to raise the balance necessary to make up the equivalent of the mandatory 2d Rate in the £. On the 23rd March the Co. Council had agreed to raise a sum of £1850 - the equivalent of a rate of 1½d in the £ - on the rural portions of the County as their contribution towards the cost of the schemes of the County Committee of Agriculture. The amount in question was £1110 short of that fixed by Section 36 of the Agriculture Act. As the Rate Books were in course of preparation and as any change in poundage figures would necessitate reapportionment of Books etc, causing delay and expense, the L.G.D. were asked if it would be in order for the County Council be resolution to apply £750, amount to be raised by the Contingency Fund to partially make up the deficit, and transfer the balance viz., £360, from other sub-heads on which anticipated expenditure was not likely to be incurred.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr Hall:- "That we recommend the Co. Council to adopt a resolution on the lines suggested to this meeting by our Secretary showing how the £1110 balance to make up the equivalent of the mandatory Rate of 2d in the £ under the Agriculture Act can be raised."

Mr O'Byrne pointed out that at the time the Rate was agreed to the Council had no information that the Agriculture Act had passed into law. No doubt the Department of Agriculture had called attention to the provisions of Section 36 in the Bill but, at that time, there was no guarantee that this Section might not be amended in the Bill so that the mandatory levy would not commence until the beginning of the financial

year 1932-33. At the moment the Council had not been able to obtain a copy of the Act from the official publishers. There could be no doubt that it would be very difficult, if not impossible, to induce the Council at this stage, to raise the figure of the present rate by the smallest sum. In his (Mr O'Byrne's opinion) the Council should not take any steps in the matter.

Proceedings against Ratepayers: Under date 8th April, 1931, Mr P. Colfer, County Councillor, wrote calling attention to the case of Mr. Roche, Clonmaines, Wellingtonbridge, who had received a process on behalf of Mr Curtis, Rate Collector, for £2: 15: 2d. rates and 8/- costs. Mr Roche told the Rate Collector about the end of March that he could not pay until the end of April when he had two yearling cattle to sell. Roche was a poor farmer with a big family and was inclined to pay his rates if he got time.

After discussion the following resolution was adopted:-

"That Mr Colfer be informed the Finance Committee are not in favour of interfering with the discretion of the Rate Collector as regards legal proceedings for recovery of rates in respect of the financial year just closed. The L.C.D. would not consider an application for an extension of time to close the Collector's Warrants beyond the 31st March, 1931, the end of the financial year, and it was natural to expect in view of this decision that Rate Collectors would have to take court proceedings against Rate payers who were in default.

ALLOCATIONS PUBLIC WORKS.

The County Surveyor submitted the following list of allocations from Public Works Estimate for approval:-

BRIDGES:-

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Wexford Maintenance.....	£50
Wexford Repair.....	£25
Ferrycarrig Maintenance....	£25
Ferrycarrig Repair.....	£120
Deeps Maintenance.....	£20
Deeps Repair.....	£10
Edermine Maintenance.....	£15

BRIDGES:-

Edermine Repair.....	£30
New Ross Maintenance.....	£60
New Ross Repair.....	£100
New Ross Caretaker.....	£40
Mountgarrett Maintenance....	£10
Mountgarrett Caretaker.....	£12

HARBOURS:-

Poulduff.....	£25
Carne.....	£10
Kilmore.....	£50
Fethard.....	£10
Slade.....	£10
Duncannon.....	£10
Arthurstown.....	£10
Ballyhack.....	£10
Courthouses.....	£50
County Buildings.....	£50
Expenses Transfer Offices..	£50

Mr O'Syrne proposed and Mr Hall/seconded a resolution agreeing to the recommendations of the County Surveyor as to Public Works allocations.

COURTOWN HARBOUR SLUICE GATES.

Mr Garland, Chairman, Courtown Harbour Committee, wrote under date 7th April, 1931, requesting the Council on behalf of the Committee, to have the new sluice gates at Courtown erected as soon as possible, as the old ones were useless. Two local fishermen had purchased motor boats, and unless the Bar was regularly sluiced they would be unable to fish.

In connection with this request the Harbour Master, Courtown, wrote that the existing paddle in North Sluice Gate was unshipped under water, leaving it in danger of being carried away when gate was shut, while useless expenditure in securing and putting it back in position would be incurred. The fishing industry was undergoing a revival at Courtown and it was therefore urged that the Council should bring pressure to bear upon the proper authorities to have the gates looked after.

The County Surveyor stated that if the Council did not get authority to proceed with the work within the next month or so, it would be too late to carry it out this year. The Fisheries Department had agreed to the work, subject to the

Council putting up 50 % of the cost. The Council had agreed to this and if anything was to be done, no time should be lost in proceeding during the proper season.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Shannon seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That we again call attention ^{of} the Fisheries Department to the delay in carrying out repairs to Courtown Sluice Gates. We are informed by our County Surveyor that unless this work is put in hands within a reasonable time it cannot be carried out this year. The matter has been under consideration for practically ~~two~~ years now and the Finance Committee fail to see any reason for further delay. That copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Fisheries Department."

MR. T. MOORE - COUNTY SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT.

Under date 7th April, 1931, the following was read from the Secretary, County Wexford Board of Health:-

"I have received a recommendation from Dr. W. O'Connor in respect of Mr T. Moore, Clerk in the Co. Surveyor's Department of your Council's offices. Dr. O'Connor requests that arrangements be made for the provision of Sanatorium treatment for Mr Moore at Newcastle. This would probably mean a course of three or four months.

Mr Moore has asked me to inform you of this recommendation as he intends to apply for leave so as to avail of the treatment. I understand that his application will be before you on to-morrow (Thursday)."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne, seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That in view of letter from Secretary, County Board of Health, under date 7th April, 1931, four months' leave of absence be granted Mr T. Moore, County Surveyor's Department, and that the County Surveyor be empowered to employ a substitute, during Mr Moore's absence at a salary of £3 per week."

ILLNESS OF OFFICIALS.

Under date 6th April, certificate was read from Dr. S.V. O'Connor, Westgate, Wexford, that Mr John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, was still under his care, suffering from neurasthenia post Influenza, and would be unable to resume duty for a further month.

Proposed by Mr Shannon and seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That a further month's sick leave up to the 6th May be granted Mr John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor." Passed.

Under date 4th April, 1931, a certificate was read from Dr. P.D. Murphy, Enniscorthy, that Mr William Murphy, Machinery Overseer, was suffering from Influenza and Pulmonary Congestion.

Mr Hall proposed and Mr Shannon seconded the following resolution:- "That sick leave on full pay be granted Mr Wm. Murphy as from the date of last medical certificate to 13th April, 1931." Passed.

APPOINTMENT SHEEP DIPPING INSPECTORS.

1117 Mr Shannon proposed and Mr O'Byrne seconded the following resolution:- "That the County Council be recommended to appoint on the same terms and conditions as obtained for last year the following lay sheep Dipping Inspectors:-

Enniscorthy District - James Murphy and Myles Roban.

New Ross District - Ml. J. Hennessey.

Wexford District - Thomas Hayden.

Corey District - Thomas Prendergast.

As regards the second portion of Corey District for which Morgan Flaherty acted last season, the Committee decided that advertisements should be issued inviting applications from candidates for this district, remuneration £1 per week during dipping season, with out-of-pocket expenses incurred for postage only, appointment to be made at the Council meet-

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BINDING COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That the quotation of Messrs English & Co., Quay, Wexford, for binding Minutes of Wexford County Council for year 1931 at 17/6d. be accepted."

PRINTING RECEIPT AND DEMAND NOTES.

For the printing of Collectors' Receipt and Demand Notes for financial year 1931/32 the following tenders were submitted:-

Wexford People	£28: 10: 6d.
J.English & Co.	£30: 0: 0d.
Free Press	£42: 0: 0d.

On the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall the tender of the Wexford People, which was the lowest, was accepted.

DEMAND FOR INCOME TAX - YEAR 1924-1925.

Demand was received from the Inspector of Taxes for payment of £325, assessment being described as "£1000 profits from Quarries, and £300 from Interest."

Letters from the Secretary to the Inspector of Taxes explaining how no profit could arise from quarries as no material was sold to the public, and that the alleged profit was only a transfer entry from Road Expenditure Proposals, were read. Debit Interest for the period in question exceeded Credit Interest.

It was decided on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Hall to appeal against the assessment.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATION.

Under date 8th April, 1931, Mr J. Leacy, Inspector, M.S.P.C.C., County Wexford and District Branch, wrote that he intended to apply at Enniscorthy Court on 16th instant for the committal of four children named Roche to an Industrial School. The father had been sent to Penal Servitude for

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three years recently and the mother was unable to support them.

After discussion Mr Elgee, Solicitor, was instructed to oppose the application on behalf of the Council.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY BOARD.

The County Surveyor stated that he had submitted to the Electricity Supply Board an estimate for £15: 12: 6d. cost of repairing damage to foot paths in New Ross Urban District and they had accepted this figure, the County Surveyor to carry out the work.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Hall seconded: the following resolution:-

"That we agree to the County Surveyor carrying out the work of restoration of damage to footpaths in New Ross town on behalf of the Electricity Supply Board for the sum of £15: 12: 6d. this being the amount estimated by the County Surveyor to carry out the necessary restoration.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Cummins:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 9th April, 1931, as submitted to this meeting be received and considered."

Mandatory Rate for Agriculture: Colonel Gibbon proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Colonel Quin:-

"That in order to meet the deficit of £1110 necessary to make up the equivalent of the 2d Rate in the £ mandatory under Section 36 of the Agriculture Act , 1931, we hereby agree that the sum of £750 proposed to be raised for General Contingencies be applied for partially meeting the deficit and that the balance of £370 be taken from other sub heads on which the full anticipated expenditure is not likely to be incurred."

Mr Corish held that a special meeting should have been called and the question of the inclusion of the necessary amount to make up the full amount of the 2d rate should have been considered.

Mr Elgee, Solicitor, held that the resolution was quite in order. The Rate which had been already agreed to by the Council was not being interfered with in any way and the County Council, in connection with their miscellaneous services, had, in his view, power to make transfer of funds from one head to another as occasion required.

The resolution was then put and passed Messrs Corish & Cooney and Gaul dissenting.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 9th April, 1931, be and are hereby confirmed"

The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 23rd April, 1931, were submitted as follows:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 23rd April, 1931.

Present:- Messrs T. McCarthy, James Shannon and James Hall.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and Rates Inspector, were also in attendance.

The Chair was taken by Mr McCarthy on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr Hall.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Notes for £1,977: 5: 2d., ordinary account, and for £28,708: 15s. transfers to Public Bodies were signed.

NEW BUILDINGS LIST.

It was decided on the motion of Mr Shannon, seconded by Mr Hall, that the following applications for inclusion in New Buildings List for 1931-32 be refused:- National Bank Ltd., Re-roofing Bank House, Bunclody. Kieran McNeill, Courtown Harbour, store at back of premises. Patrick Murphy, Tenacre, Tagoat, cattle and boiler house, amount £15. Thomas Byrne, Main Street, Gorey, house raised and new roof put on it, amount £70. Sara J. Gowan, Blackwater, shed removed from one side to another and increased in size, amount £30.

It was decided to include New Building on the holding of Mr Michael Doyle, Yoletown, Rosslare, on New Buildings List, valuation £8.

RATE COLLECTION.

Refund: It was decided on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Shannon that refund of 13/4d rates paid by Mr Lce. Heery, Duncannon, on vacant Martello tower on his land be made.

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Irrecoverable Rates: On the motion of Mr Hall seconded by the Chairman the following amounts were struck off as permanently irrecoverable:- Enniscorthy District, £205:2:6d; New Ross, £118: 12: 11d.; Gorey, £81: 12: 1d and Wexford £255: 18: 11d. Total £661: 6: 5d.

Temporary Uncollectable Rates: It was decided that items amounting to the following for each district be regarded as temporary uncollectable and be carried forward into warrant for current financial year for collection therewith:- Enniscorthy, £1967: 8: 8d.; Gorey £474: 15: 6d.; New Ross £437: 7: 8d.; and Wexford £2124: 7: 3d. Total £5003: 19: 1d.

Collectors were instructed to lodge £2786: 9: 2d. outstanding and which could not be regarded as temporary uncollectable. It was decided that Collectors be given to 6th May to lodge same.

Rates due on Derelict Farms: The Rates due on Derelict Farms amounted to £2829: 9: 3d.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That consideration of Lists of irrecoverable rates and temporary uncollectable rates of the following Collectors be adjourned to meeting of 7th May:- J.J. Sinnott (16 District); James Quirke (No.2 District) and Thady Bolger (No.12 District); P. Carty, (No.21 District) balance of Irrecoverables.

The following under date 13th April, 1931 (G24998 - 1931 Loch Garman) was read from L.G.D:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant relative to an extension of time for the closing of their 1930/31 warrants to Collectors Sinnott, District No. 16, T.Bolger No.12 District and J. Quirke No.2 District, and I am to draw attention to the terms of Article 101 of the Public Bodies Order and to state that he is not prepared at this stage to sanction an extension of time for the pur-

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pose of enabling full poundage to be paid on the closing of the warrants at a date later than that contemplated by the Order. In the case of Collector Sinnott the provisions of Article 104 of the Order should be borne in mind.

The Collectors generally should understand that failure to account for their warrants by the 31st March should involve at the least some reduction in the normal rate of commission.

I am to draw attention also to the requirements of Article 102 of the Public Bodies Order (1929) and to state that, apart from the question of poundage, if the Council are fully satisfied in any particular case that adequate reasons exist for delay in the submission of the lists of uncollected rates the Minister would not object to a reasonable but brief extension of time for the submission and consideration of such lists."

The following under date 13th April, 1931 (G24999/1931 Loch Garman) was read from L.G.D.:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of Form 61 for the month of March, and to draw attention to the large sum £26,341, outstanding. All the Collectors should be called upon to close at once"

The Secretary stated that copy of this letter was furnished to the Collectors on 14th April, 1931.

Poundage for Collectors: Under date 3rd April, 1931, Mr James Quirke (No. 1 District) Hon Secretary, County Wexford Rate Collectors, wrote applying on behalf of all Collectors for payment of poundage on all rates lodged to 31st March last. As several items on temporary uncollectable sheets had been disallowed it would facilitate the Collectors considerably if poundage was paid now. Also that the Council would consider ~~payment of~~ balance of poundage when warrant was closed.

The Chairman proposed and Mr Shannon seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That we request the Minister for Local Government to agree to payment of full poundage on all rates collected up to 31st March last. That consideration of payment of poundage on sums lodged after 31st March last be adjourned until close of Warrant when Department's letter of 13th April, 1931, No.G. 24998/1931/^{Loch Garman} will be further considered.

Under date 21st April, 1931, the Department of Local Government wrote (G28481-1931 Loch Garman Fa) stating that the Minister would raise no objection to an advance not exceeding 75 per cent of the poundage fees on the amounts, actually collected and lodged by Collector Bolger in respect of his warrant for No. 12 District. A schedule showing the actual advances of poundage made to the Collectors should be furnished the Department.

DIVISION OF LAND.

Consideration of correspondence from Messrs Huggard Brennan & Godfrey, Solicitors, Gorey, as to the proposed division of lands at Glenogue, Gorey District, was adjourned to meeting at which it is anticipated an Inspector from Land Commission will be in attendance.

LAND COMMISSION - DEFAULTING LAND PURCHASE ANNUITANTS.

Under date 18th April, 1931, the Irish Land Commission forwarded lists of defaulting annuitants in Co. Wexford, against whom legal proceedings had been directed to be taken for recovery of instalments due on 1st November and 1st December last in respect of advances made under the various Land Purchase Acts.

The Secretary stated that the amounts due according to the lists supplied were £18,992: 15: 1d.

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DREDGING KILMORE HARBOUR - DEDUCTION OF COST FROM
GOVERNMENT GRANT.

Under date 27th March, 1931, the Department of Finance wrote (S. 31/9/27) that the Council's liability to the Office of Public Works in connection with dredging work at Kilmore Harbour viz., £297: 13: 2d. had been paid to the Office of Public Works from the following Grants:- In respect of County in lieu of rates £218: 10s. and Prosecutors & Witnesses' expenses £79: 3: 2d. Total £297: 13: 2d. A Pay Order to cover the balance of the Grant for Prosecutor's and Witnesses Expenses viz., £95: 8: 7d. was enclosed.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That as the dredging work carried out at Kilmore Harbour by the Office of Public Works was most unsatisfactory and, as we are informed the condition of the harbour now is much worse than previous to dredging operations, we protest against the action of the Department of Finance in deducting from the Government Grants the amount charged by the Office of Public Works for said dredging."

SLUICE GATES AT COURTTOWN HARBOUR.

The following under date 21st April (D/S/2) was read from the Department of Lands and Fisheries:-

"With reference to previous correspondence on the subject of the erection of new dock gates at Courtown Harbour; I am directed by the Minister for Lands and Fisheries to state that he is now in a position to notify that a State contribution of £350 or half the actual cost, whichever sum is the less, will be made available when the new dock gates fitted with proper sluices have been erected at Courtown harbour to the entire satisfaction of the Commissioners of Public Works. The balance of the cost involved to be found by the Wexford County Council who will continue to be

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responsible for the maintenance of the gates and sluices at Courtown harbour.

On receipt of an intimation that the County Council is willing to accept these conditions arrangements will be made with the Commissioners of Public Works for payment of State Grant when the work has been completed to their satisfaction."

The County Surveyor said the original agreement between the County Council and the Government Department in respect of this work was 50 per cent from each side. He wrote to the Department of Lands and Fisheries on the 28th June, 1930, when he forwarded them specification for the work that the County Council had approved a proposal for £500 to ~~cover~~ half cost subject ~~to~~ to the Department contributing another £500. The cost of the work at £1000 was the figure estimated by the Engineer to the Office of Works and set out in his report to the County Council, on the 23rd October, 1929. His (County Surveyor's) estimate was £700 but in view of the statement of the Engineer to the Office of Public Works the County Council had agreed to the maximum amount. He then asked for authority to put the work in hands as it was important there should be no delay in having it carried out. He (County Surveyor) could not understand why the Department were throwing over the estimate of their own engineer. At the time the estimate of £700 was prepared local people not now available would have carried out the work for that figure. If his (Co. Surveyor's) estimate had been in excess of that of their own engineer it was very doubtful if it would have commended itself to the Department.

The Chairman proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That the attention of the Department of Lands and Fisheries be called to the report of the Engineer to the Office of Public Works to the Wexford County Council on 23rd

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October, 1929, and in which it was definitely stated that the reconstruction of sluice gates at Courtown Harbour could not be carried out for less than £1000. The County Council acting on the understanding that the Government were prepared at all times to make a State Contribution of not less than 50 % of the cost of the work, raised their share (£500) and the Finance Committee express their surprise that the Department now repudiate the recommendation of their own Engineer and request that contribution of £500 from State Funds should be made available.

SALE OF SURPLUS ROAD MATERIAL.

Under date 21st April, 1931, the Department of Local Government (Roads) wrote (R/RM/32) that if surplus material was such as might be regarded as a temporary surplus appearing as stock at the end of the accounting period no objection would be raised to its sale provided no loss is incurred thereby. It was presumed that the sale would not be of an extensive nature.

ILLNESS OF MACHINERY OVERSEER.

Certificate was read from Dr. D.P. Murphy, Enniscorthy, that Mr William Murphy, Machinery Overseer, would not be able to resume work before the 20th.

The County Surveyor stated that Mr Murphy had taken up work on 20th as stated by Certificate.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr Hall:- "That we approve of Mr Wm. Murphy, Machinery Overseer, receiving sick leave on full pay from date of previous Certificate to 20th April, 1931."

OFFICIAL HAND BOOK - IRISH FREE STATE.

Letter etc from Mr Kevin J. Kenny, 65 Middle Abbey St., Dublin, under date 22nd April as to advertising in above named handbook was read for the meeting.

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It was decided to take no action.

BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS ORDER.

A report was read from one of the Veterinary Inspectors of the Council that as regards a specified reported case under above Order he was not able to say whether the animal was tuberculous or not owing to the fact that the Department of Agriculture did not inform Mr Ringwood, Veterinary Inspector, of the result of the examination of the material he had forwarded. The Department did give the result of examination of milk forwarded previous to the slaughter of the animal but they had never given any reports on post mortem specimens sent up.

Memorandum from Department of Agriculture of 10th April 1931, stated it was not the practice of the Department to notify Local Authority's Veterinary Inspector of the result of the examination of specimens sent to the laboratory in connection with Bovine Tuberculosis Order.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That in connection with the working of Bovine Tuberculosis Order we request the Department of Agriculture to notify Local Veterinary Inspectors as to whether the examination of viscera of animals gives a positive or negative result of disease."

DUPLICATE PAY ORDERS.

Letter was received from Rev. Mother St. John of God Convent, Wexford, asking for duplicates Paying Orders as originals had been accidentally destroyed, ~~was read~~

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That the following duplicate Pay Orders from General Account, financial period 31st March, 1931, be issued: No. 1297 Sister M.A. Pearson, £7: 10s.; No. 1309, Sister Ml.

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Delaney, £13: 18: 9d.; No. 1313, Sister M de C Cosgrave,
£7: 12: 10d. and No. 1314 Sister M.A. Loughlin £8: 8: 1d
payment of the originals (accidentally destroyed) having
been estopped with Treasurer.

Industrial School Applications.

Applications from ~~District~~ Superintendent M. Walsh,
New Ross, as to committal of James Morgan, Little Graigue,
Carrig-on-Bannow, to an Industrial School and from Mr D.
Doran, District Court Clerk, Enniscorthy, was to committal
of Ellen Doyle, Ballyeden, Clonroche, had been referred to
Mr Elgee, Solicitor.

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Mr Shannon proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 23rd April, 1931, be received and considered."

Rates due on Derelict Farms:- Mr Cummins said the amount of annuities and rates due on derelict farms was now a very serious item. In rates alone it meant a loss of £2829, practically £3000. Continuing Mr Cummins said if we could put these men who have those farms in a way to do something it would be a means of helping them and helping us in the rates. I would put up a proposition to the Inspector when he comes down that would please everybody - the tenant, ratepayers and all concerned.

Secretary - If we get the Inspector down - if the Council agrees to it - we can ask Mr Cummins to attend and discuss the matter fully with the Inspector and discuss the details of each case and embody any suggestion Mr Cummins has to make.

Mr O'Byrne - I propose that Mr Cummins be invited to the meeting at which the Inspector is to attend.

Chairman - I will second that. I think all the members should be invited and let whoever like come.

Mr McCarthy - I propose the adoption of the Finance Committee's recommendations. If we could get somebody to come down we could make some suggestions.

Mr Shannon seconded.

* Passed.

Chairman - There was legislation introduced giving Co. Council's power to deal with derelict farms and they were wanting County Councils to take over such farms, but I don't see how they could manage them.

It was decided that if it could be arranged with the Land Commission to send down an Inspector to discuss the matter with the Finance Committee all the County Councillors should receive a copy of the agenda paper of the Finance

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Committee so that they could attend the Committee meeting if they so wished.

Sluice Gates at Courtown Harbour: The County Surveyor asked for authority to advertise the work to see what tenders would be forthcoming. The Department agreed to give 50 per cent of £1000 but now that was cut down to 50 % of £750. This matter was going on for three years.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Col. Quin seconded a resolution that tenders for the work be invited by advertisement.

This resolution was adopted.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following: resolution which was adopted unanimously:-

"That we protest against the action of the Department of Lands & Fisheries in connection with repairs of sluice gates at Courtown Harbour which has been held up for more than two years. The Engineer to the Office of Public Works estimated the work to cost £1000 in view of which the County Council had raised £500 half of the money. Now the Department of Lands & Fisheries have cut down their contribution from £500 to £350, notwithstanding the estimate of the Department's own engineer. This we consider unfair treatment of the Council.

Rate Collection: The various recommendations etc of the Finance Committee meetings of 12th March, 26th March, 9th April and 23rd April, 1931, were read .

Rate Collector Murphy (District No. 17): A long discussion took place as to the recommendation of the Finance Committee in this matter.

Colonel Gibbon proposed and Colonel Quin seconded the following resolution:- "That the question of the manner in which Rate Collection is carried on in District 17 be referred back to the Finance Committee and that Mr Brennan , County Councillor, and Mr Murphy, Rate Collector, be asked to attend. If necessary the Finance Committee arrange for the attendance

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of Mr Murphy at the meeting of the County Council at which the matter will be finally disposed of.

As an amendment Mr Gaul proposed and Mr Cooney seconded ~~an amendment~~ that the matter be disposed of at this meeting:

Considerable discussion took place on both motions and finally they were withdrawn and the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Murphy seconded by Mr Walsh:-

"That Mr Murphy (Rate Collector for No. 17 District) be instructed that for the future he must serve demand notes personally and call on ratepayers twice for the purpose of securing the Rates.

APPOINTMENT OF SHEEP DIPPING INSPECTOR.

For the vacant Sheep Dipping Inspectorship in Gorey area for the following district Electoral Divisions - Ballylarkin, Ballynestragh, Coolgreany, Courtown, Gorey Rural, Gorey Urban, Kilgorman, Kilnahue, Limerick, Monaseed, Wingfield, at remuneration of £1 per week (and out of pocket expenses for postage) during the two dipping periods, applications were read from the following:-

1. Corcoran Patrick, Brideswell, Craanford.
2. Doyle James, Ballylucas, Ballymurrin.
3. Flaherty Morgan, 113 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, former Inspector for the area, Ballyellis, Carnew.
4. Lawless Michael, Coolinteggart, Gorey.
5. Mordaunt Wm., Ballingarry, Gorey.
6. Ormonde Patrick, Ballyellis, Carnew.
7. Kearns Thomas, Rathpierce, Ballyfadd, Inch.
8. Sunderland John, Ballyfarrell, Carnew.
9. Tully Daniel, Gurteen, Coolgreany.
10. White Edward, Monaseed, Gorey.
11. Whyte William, Fortchester, Inch.
12. Green Stephen, Hollyfort, Gorey.
13. Mordant P. Ballinclair, Hollyfort.

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14. Sullivan Ml. Clough, Gorey.
 15. Browne John, Kiltilahane, Carnew.
 16. Hughes Michael, Clonsilla, Gorey.
 17. Boland Thomas, Pallas, Kilanerin.
 18. O'Connor Lce., Ballymacsimon, Kilmuckridge.
 19. Doyle Patrick, Ballytegan, Gorey.
 20. Doyle Peter, Hollyfort, Gorey.
 21. Clince James, Ballyscartán, Gorey.
 22. Scallan John Joseph, Crosstown, Wexford.
(expected 35/- per week)
 23. Power Ml. Vernegeley, Cottage, Bannow.
 24. O'Reilly James, Corramacorra, Murrintown.

Morgan Flaherty, wrote from 113 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, that he was living only for a short time in Dublin and would be back before the opening of the Summer dipping period. He considered he had first claim on the position as he had carried out the duties satisfactorily for the past five years and had not sent in his resignation. In the circumstances he believed he was entitled to the position without a further election.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Gibbon seconded by Mr Hall:- "That a vote be taken on all candidates who have complied with the terms of the advertisement by being ~~on~~ personal attendance."

The following candidates were in attendance:-

P. Corcoran, Jas. Doyle, Ml. Lawless, Patrick Ormonde, John Sunderland, Wm. Whyte, Stephen Green, Peter Mordaunt, Ml. Sullivan, John Browne, Ml. Hughes, Thomas Boland, Patrick Doyle, Peter Doyle, John J. Scallan, Ml. Power, James O'Reilly.

It was decided that Flaherty (though not in attendance) be included in the vote.

The application of Mr J.J. Scallan was ruled out of order as he asked for a remuneration at the rate of 35/- per week.

The following is the result of the voting:-

Ormonde - Messrs Armstrong, Cummins, Gaul, Keegan,
Miss O'Ryan - 5.

James Doyle - Mr Clince.- 1

Power - Messrs Colfer, Cooney and Murphy - 3.

Flaherty - Messrs Corish and D'Arcy.- 2

Hughes - Col. Gibbon and Col. Quin.- 2.

Corcoran - Messrs J. Hall and T. McCarthy.- 2

Reilly - P. Hayes - 1.

Peter Doyle - Messrs M.J. Jordan, Brennan, Smyth, Walsh
and the Chairman - 5.

Sunderland - Messrs O'Byrne and Shannon.- 2

Messrs Clince and Hayes who were the only supporters of
James Doyle and Reilly, transferred their votes to Flaherty
and Sunderland, respectively. Reilly and James Doyle were
then eliminated and the next division resulted as follows:

Ormonde - Messrs Armstrong, Keegan, Cummins, Gaul, Miss
O'Ryan, and Corish - 6.

Power - Messrs Colfer, Cooney and Murphy. - 3.

Flaherty - Messrs Clince and D'Arcy - 2.

Hughes - Col. Gibbon and Col. Quin.- 2.

Sunderland - Messrs Hayes, O'Byrne and Shannon - 3.

Corcoran - Messrs Hall and McCarthy - 2.

Peter Doyle - Messrs Brennan, Jordan, Smyth, Walsh and
the Chairman - 5.

A poll on the three candidates lowest in the last
division was then taken the voting being:

Corcoran - Messrs Brennan, Hall, McCarthy and the Chair-
man - 4.

Flaherty - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney,
Corish, Cummins, D'Arcy, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, O'Byrne, Shannon,
Jordan, Miss O'Ryan - 14.

Hughes - Col. Gibbon, Col. Quin, Messrs Murphy, Smyth and
Walsh - 5.

Corcoran and Hughes were eliminated, and the subsequent

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poll resulted as follows:-

Ormonde - Messrs Armstrong, Cummins, Gaul, Keegan,
and O'Ryan - 5.

Peter Doyle - Col. Gibbon, Col. Quin, Messrs Hall, Jordan,
Smyth, Walsh, Brennan and the Chairman - 8.

Sunderland - Messrs Hayes, McCarthy, O'Byrne and Shan-
non - 4.

Power - Messrs Colfer, Cooney, and Murphy - 3.

Flaherty - Messrs Clince, D'Arcy and Corish - 3.

The division between Power and Flaherty resulted as
follows:-

Power - Messrs Brennan, Colfer, Hall, Cooney, Cummins,
Murphy, Walsh, and Col. Quin - 8.

Flaherty - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, D'Arcy, Gaul, Hayes,
Jordan, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne, Shannon, Smyth, Corish, Col.
Miss O'Ryan
Gibbon/and the Chairman - 15.

Power was eliminated.

The next poll resulted as follows:-

Ormonde - Messrs Murphy, Cooney, Cummins, Gaul, Keegan,
Miss O'Ryan - 6.

Peter Doyle - Messrs Brennan, Hall, Jordan, Murphy, Smyth,
Walsh, Col. Gibbon, Col. Quin, and the Chairman - 9.

Sunderland - Messrs Colfer, Hayes, McCarthy, O'Byrne and
Shannon - 5.

Flaherty - Messrs Clince, D'Arcy, and Corish - 3.

Flaherty was eliminated and the next division resulted
as follows:-

Ormonde - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Cummins, Gaul,
Keegan, Miss O'Ryan, and Corish - 7.

Doyle - Messrs Brennan, Cooney, Hall, Jordan, Murphy,
Smyth, Walsh, Col. Gibbon, Col. Quin and the Chairman - 10.

Sunderland - Messrs Colfer, D'Arcy, Hayes, McCarthy,
O'Byrne, and Shannon - 6.

Sunderland was eliminated and the final poll resulted
as follows:-

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Ormonde - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, O'Byrne, Shannon, Miss N. O'Ryan, and Mr Corish - 12.

Doyle - Messrs Brennan, D'Arcy, Hall, Jordan, McCarthy, Murphy, Smyth, Walsh, Col. Gibbon, Col. Quin, and the Chairman - 11.

The Chairman declared Ormonde elected.

The following resolution was then adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon :- "That Patrick Ormonde, Ballyellis, Carnew, be appointed Sheep Dipping Inspector for the following District Electoral Divisions in Gorey District viz., Ballylarkin, Ballynestragh, Coolgreany, Courtown, Gorey Rural, Gorey Urban, Kilgorman, Kilnahue, Limerick, Monaseed, and Wingfield at a remuneration of £1 per week (plus cost of postage) for the two dipping periods of 1931, this proposal to be subject to the sanction of the Department of Agriculture!"

Ormonde returned thanks, for his election and said he would do all in his power to give satisfaction.

DAMAGED ROADS - KILLANNE DISTRICT.

Seven residents of Killanne district forwarded under date 16th April, 1931, the following relative to Road No. 372 through Grange and Carrageen:-

"We the undersigned Ratepayers wish to call the attention of your Council to the scandalous state of the roads in the townland of Newtown leading from Timons' Contract to the Mountain. Owing to the recent heavy rains the surface is washed away and there is caves from 2 feet to four feet deep. The Contract on these roads expired last March and as there is no one to look after them they are simply gone scandalous.

We request your Council to have these caves filled up so that a horse and cart can get along with safety."

Mr Richard Sinnott appeared to put the views of the writers before the Council.

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Three ratepayers of the district attended in connection with the condition of an adjoining road No. 374.

Mr Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, said these roads were in contract up to the 31st of March, and the flooding in April wore them down. They were narrow roads and were cut badly. He estimated £3: 10: to do one of them and £4 the other, and said this amount was only sufficient to repair damage.

Mr Shannon said he was over one of the roads the previous day and he could say it was very dangerous. It was a narrow road, and in places there were soft cavities three feet in depth. He got them measured and was of opinion that no man would be safe travelling on the roads with a horse. He thought the water tables should be built up so that they would not be dangerous and yet useful enough to take away the water. The surface was worn and he understood there was shingle to be got there that would restore the surface and bind it together. That would be got free and the only cost would be the labour in carting it. The other lane mentioned was also in a bad way.

After a long discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr D'Arcy:-

"That the following amounts be allocated from the County Road Contingency Fund for the purpose of road repair:- Road 371 £3; 372, £5; and 374 £10.

COMPLAINT OF DISRATING OF ROAD GANGER.

Attention was drawn by Mr Cooney to the case of Patrick M'Gee, a ganger, of nine years' experience, in New Ross district, who was reduced to an ordinary worker. Altogether he had fourteen years' road experience, and he wished to know from the County Surveyor why he was reduced.

County Surveyor - He was most unsatisfactory. He was doing grant work and I had to get another man to supersede him. I warned him myself personally, and I had to get another man to supersede him as ganger. He is still kept on as an ordinary worker.

Mr Cooney - It was very strange that he was doing the work as ganger for nine years, and there was no complaint before, and anybody looking at the Brandon Well Road, which was under him, must admit that it is a good job. I think you should hear his side of the story.

M'Gee appeared before the meeting and was informed by the Chairman of the complaint that he was found unsatisfactory two or three times, and had to be cautioned.

M'Gee, in explanation, referred to orders about sweeping roads etc., and, in reply to Mr Cummins, said he should get notice as ganger of such matters.

County Surveyor - Didn't I constantly warn you about the way the work was carried out generally? You referred to one case. You had three boilers, and not a sufficiency of bitumen to go on with the work. Proceeding the County Surveyor said he had to complain about tar drums being left for months on the road and thrown over the fence. There were a number of little things he warned M'Gee about ~~over~~ again and again. Last year, when doing grant work, he had to get another ganger from the next area. He would have dealt stronger with the man before only, unfortunately, no man of the gang was fit to take up this job. That was the real crux.

Mr Cooney - Wouldn't you think, after his nine years' experience as ganger, and doing a lot of bitumen work, he was just of capable of doing this job as the job he did do?

County Surveyor - I never found him satisfactory, and the difficulty was to get a satisfactory man.

Mr Cooney - And it took you nine years to find out that he was not satisfactory.

Chairman - I think if we are going to curtail or give no liberties to the County Surveyor we might as well not have him at all. He should have discretion over the gangers on the roads without being pulled up by the County Council. He gave a reasonable explanation, and I don't know what you want

the County Surveyor to do. Are you going to back up your officials, or do nothing but hamper them. If we don't give our officials some discretion in these matters I don't know how we can carry on.

Mr Cooney proposed that McGee be reinstated as ganger and put on six months' probation with a view to his permanent appointment provided he gave satisfaction in the meantime.

Mr Colfer seconded.

After further discussion Mr Cooney withdrew his motion.

As regards a complaint by Mr Cooney that a ganger from Wexford District was employed in New Ross Area the County Surveyor said that by an exchange he would be able to have the matter adjusted.

Consideration of the remainder of the business , items No 3 to 15 (inclusive) was adjourned to next meeting.

W. J. Cooney
12 May 1931

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

MINUTES OF MEETING.

HELD ON 11TH MAY 1931

COUNTY HALL,
WEXFORD.

N.J.FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

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A meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford on 11th May, 1931.

Present - Col.C.M.Gibbon (Vice Chairman) and subsequently Mr M. Doyle (Chairman) presided. Also Messrs James Armstrong, John Brennan, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, James Gaul, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Michael Jordan, William P. Keegan, Thomas Maylor, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Col.R.P. Wemyss Quin, James Shannon, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The County Secretary, the County Surveyor, Mr Elgee, Solicitor, and Assistant County Surveyors Treanor, Ennis, Cullen, Birthistle and O'Neill were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £33,836: 11: 8d. was examined and signed.

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The following report was presented by the County Surveyor:

"Wexford Urban District Council has decided to enter into Agreement with the County Council in regard to the upkeep of the Main Roads in the Urban Area, and I shall make arrangements with the Town Surveyor accordingly. New Ross Urban District Council has decided not to undertake the maintenance of the Main Roads in their Area, and I am making arrangements to have the work carried out myself. Up to the present Enniscorthy Urban Council has not notified me regarding the work.

I have been in communication with the Local Government Department in regard to the allocation of Grant Money for Improvement Works during the current year. Mr Quigley, Chief

Roads Engineer, has recommended that two sections of the Wexford-New Ross Road be laid in slab concrete, and I have forwarded him draft Specification for same. If this work be carried out the Department will require tenders to be invited, and subsequent to that it is proposed that the balance of the Grant Money be utilised in making up part of the Enniscorthy-Bunclody road.

I have made arrangements for putting in stairs from the cells to the dock in the County Court, and have the iron work on order. As directed by the Council I went thoroughly over the Council's former Office Premises in Fortview, and have prepared Specification for the repair and decoration. Tenders were invited, and I received three, the lowest of which is £125.

I have received a letter from the County Registrar asking to have the floor of Court covered with lino, and also for the stairs leading to the gallery to be covered with some material to deaden the noise. I am now in communication with a Firm in regard to rubber nosing for the stairs, and estimate that the cost of the whole work will be £25.

At a former meeting of the Council the provision of Fire Extinguishing appliances in the County Hall was under consideration, and I was directed to make enquiries in regard to the patterns used in the County Hospital and also in the Mental Hospital. I have been informed that the Health Board use Minimax pattern, but I have not yet had a reply from the Mental Hospital Board.

I have received application for the erection of a shed on the Wexford-Gorey Road - No.30 - and I have no objection to this.

At the present time the Health Board is carrying out sewage scheme in Bunclody, and there are matters connected therewith to which I wish to draw your attention. In the first place the scheme provides only for dealing with sewage matter, and the surface drainage of the streets is not to be

taken in. At the present time there are a large number of old surface water drains under the streets, and it is essential that these should not be in any way interfered with. In the second place, if possible, the new sewage pipes should be laid to the side of the road, so as not to cause trouble with any future surface improvement work, such as, concreting of the streets. The plans as already available do not clearly show how the pipes are to be laid, and I consider that before work is carried out I should be informed of the exact position of the sewers, and have a plan showing same submitted to me.

At last meeting of the Council application from a number of local Ratepayers to have a protection wall built at Hopeland, Rosslare, was before the Council, and I was directed to inspect the place and report. Some years ago I examined into this matter, and reported then, I now have made further inspection, and estimate cost of the work. The length of the wall required would be in or about 913 L.Y. and if we are authorised to use local gravel the cost of the work will be £824. If we have to go a distance to obtain materials I estimate the increased cost at £136, making a total of £960.

At last meeting of the Council there was a discussion as to the cost etc., of the various classes of surfacing for roads under improvement Grants. There are four main classes of work which we have used in this County as follows:

1. Water Bound Macadam surface dressed with Bitumen or tar.
2. Bitumen Grout Macadam surface dressed.
3. Slab Concrete, such as the Enniscorthy-Wexford Road, and
4. Sandwich concrete such as the Rosslare, Courtown, and part of the New Ross Road.

Excluding strengthening and formation of road before laying the new surface the cost of these four methods of reconstruction works out at, for No. 1, averaging 2/- per S.Y., for No. 2 3/- per S.Y., for No. 3, 7/-, and for No. 4 4/- per S.Y. I take it that the formation in all cases will be much about

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the same, and will average from 1/- to 1/6d per s.y. according to circumstances. In contemplating this class of work it must be taken into account that for a ten years period of maintenance Water Bound Macadam will cost about £900. The Bitumen Grout Macadam, about £600, and slab concrete and sandwich concrete little or nothing. In these last two it will be merely attention to the joints, and some small repairs to the surface here and there as may happen. During the second ten year period, water bound macadam will probably require partial reconstruction, and may run to £600 per mile, and the Bitumen Grout road probably £300 per mile. It is impossible to state at this period what the cost of making good the two concrete surface dressed roads would be in the second ten year period, but I believe with the class of traffic we are likely to have that the slab concrete will require very little repair, and possibly the sandwich concrete not a great deal."

Agreement with Urban District Councils: Mr McCarthy said that Enniscorthy Urban Council had agreed to accept the figures arrived at by the County Council for the maintenance of the main roads of their district.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr McCarthy seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That we approve of entering into agreements for financial year 1931-32 with the Urban Districts of Enniscorthy and Wexford for the maintenance of the main roads in these districts at the figures estimated by County Surveyor and approved by the County Council. That the maintenance of Main roads in New Ross Urban District for financial year 1931-32 be placed in the charge of the County Surveyor at the amount already approved by the Council."

Grant for Improvement work: The County Surveyor mentioned that the total amount of this Grant was £16,000 odd. Taking from this £1600 for Bunclody-Enniscorthy Road and £130 to

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finish the Gorey-Courtown Road there would be £14,000 available for the 4½ miles of New Ross-Wexford road which it was proposed to reconstruct leaving the cost at about £3000 per mile.

The Chairman said he had been over the Taghmon road recently and which had been reconstructed in sandwich concrete and no fault could be found with it.

In reply to Colonel Gibbon the County Surveyor said that if the L.G.D. would allow sandwich concrete reconstruction on New Ross-Wexford road instead of slab concrete the length that could be dealt with would be nearly eight miles.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Gibbon seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the L.G.D. be requested to allow the Council to carry out the reconstruction work on Wexford-New Ross Road in sandwich concrete which, in our opinion, is quite suitable for the class of traffic passing over it."

In connection with the reconstruction of Gorey-Courtown Road in sandwich concrete Mr Keegan said this was a flat failure and, in the opinion of people who knew what they were talking about would not last a year and a half. At the ^{moment} ~~most~~ ~~east~~ the water tables were a trap. This was the opinion of the travelling public.

Mr O'Byrne said that the sides had not been rolled but the time limit in the specification to take over the road from the Contractors had not yet expired.

Col. Quin said the finish of the road was somewhat roughly done but this he understood, was to give horses a better foothold. The worst portion was the sides and as for durability they would have to wait and see.

The County Surveyor said the sides were to have been consolidated by rolling but whenever they put on a roller it did more harm than good as it bulged the surface right into the fences. He had arranged with one of the Pioneer Road Con-

struction Co. to go over the whole road and after this inspection the sides would be made good.

Mr O'Byrne considered that from the point of safety for the travelling public the sides should be tarred.

The Chairman said that on Rosslare road constructed under the same system as Courtown it was not found necessary to tar the sides and he looked on this as extravagance.

Mr Keegan said he understood that the maintenance of the Courtown Gorey road would be handed over to the Council in ten or twelve days.

The County Surveyor said that he was holding back from the Contractors a percentage of the money until the sides of the road had been made right. He would not take over the road until all the defects had been made good.

Colonel Gibbon said the width of the slab in Courtown Gorey road was 16 feet, exactly the same as in Enniscorthy Wexford road. Why should they go to the expense of tarring the sides when this was found unnecessary in the last mentioned road.

Mr Corish asked would it prejudice the position of the Council because the County Surveyor had ordered the roller off the road.

The County Surveyor said he had not ordered the roller off the road. He allowed it to be taken off when he saw ^{the} harm it was doing. He had written to the Contractors that the sides should be better consolidated and he (County Surveyor) was satisfied if a light roller was used for the purpose.

The Chairman proposed and Mr O'Byrne seconded the following resolution which was adopted nem con:-

"That the County Surveyor be ^{instructed} ~~directed~~ to direct the Pioneer Road Construction Co. to put the Gorey-Courtown Road at once into the condition provided for by the specification."

Repairs to Fortview:- The County Surveyor submitted the following tenders for repair of Fortview.

Messrs M. O'Connor & Co., Builders, Main street, Wexford, £125.

Messrs Sinnott & Co., St. Peter's Square, Wexford, £131: 7: Od.

Reps John Browne, Henrietta Street, Wexford, £203.

The County Surveyor said when the repairs were carried out the premises would be ready for immediate occupation.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Corish:- "That the tender of Messrs M. O'Connor & Co., Builders, Main Street, Wexford, at £125 for repairs to Fortview, Wexford, as per specification prepared by County Surveyor be and is hereby accepted."

Linoleum for Court: The County Surveyor submitted the following letter from Mr M. Dwyer, County Registrar, under date 5th May: "I would be obliged to know if you have carried out the requirements as to covering the floor and steps to the gallery and also the extension of the steps to the witness box. If not they should be attended to at once as a Circuit Court will sit on the 3rd June."

Mr Hall proposed and Mr Murphy seconded the following resolution which was adopted without dissent:- "That the proposal to lay down linoleum etc in Wexford Courtroom at a cost not to exceed £25 be adjourned for 12 months."

Fire Extinguishers: Mr Corish said that the Wexford Corporation were having during the coming week, a visit from a man who had been 25 years Captain of the Pembroke Fire Brigade and suggested that the County Surveyor should have a Conference between them and which he (Mr Corish) would arrange.

This was agreed and the following resolution adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That the question of providing Fire Extinguishing apparatus for County Hall be adjourned to next meeting, to which the

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County Surveyor can report result of Conference."

Erection of Hayshed: The County Surveyor submitted the following under date 22nd April, 1931, from Mr Cullen, Assistant Surveyor. Road No. 30 - Wexford-Gorey 29. Mr John Dempsey, Moorvilla, Oulart, is wanting permission to erect Hayshed within thirty feet of the road centre. The road is straight at this place and proposed shed will form no obstruction. Mr Dempsey has had hayrick built on same site for some years past."

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution which was adopted Col. Quin dissenting:- "That the County Council take no action as regards erection of hayshed on the premises of John Dempsey, Moorvilla, Oulart."

Bunclody Sewage Scheme: The County Surveyor said that the pipes laid up to the present were at the side of the road but he did not know what would happen when they got further on.

Mr Hall proposed and Mr Brennan seconded the following resolution which was adopted nem con:- "That the County Surveyor and Mr Flood, Engineer to County Board of Health arrange a Conference with a view to coming to a satisfactory arrangement as to the manner in which and where the pipes for Bunclody sewage scheme are to be put down."

Proposed wall at Hoppeland Bank: The County Surveyor said the only suggestion he could make in the matter was the planting of Rice Grass, as this was a place at which it would be useful.

Col. Gibbon said the County Council had no money to spend on the project and even if they did spend money that was no guarantee that the sea would not come in and wash the wall away. The planting of Rice Grass would be the most effective remedy but before doing that they would have to come to an agreement with the Harbour Board. Rice Grass spread rapidly and it would not be possible to say at the moment how far it would affect the port and harbour of

Wexford. It would certainly be the means of reclaiming a large area at the southern end.

The Chairman said he knew the place for years. It was a passage between the main land and harbour and the people complained that though in years past it could be used for traffic at high tide it was now available only at low tide. The contemplated wall would run for about three-quarters of a mile. The people concerned had waited on him constantly but he could not see having regard to the number of residents that even if the Council had the power it would be advisable to incur such a large expenditure. The amount involved would buy out the holdings in the locality.

Colonel Gibbon said they had already agreed to the Rate for the year and with the best will in the world to deal with the matter the money was not available. He proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the Coast Erosion Commission be requested to approach the Department of Agriculture with a view to the latter making experimental plantings of Rice Grass at Rosslare at places to be arranged in consultation with the County Surveyor." *Passed*

Different Classes of Roads: The County Surveyor in reply to Colonel Gibbon said the approximate average ratio of cost between Slab concrete and sandwich concrete was as 4 to 7.

Colonel Gibbon said they should adjourn consideration of this matter until they had a report from the Local Government Department as to the various classes of roads.

Mr Hall seconded.

The Chairman said it seemed to him there was an awful lot of tar or bitumen along the road from Gorey to Arklow and from Enniscorthy all of which was in excellent order. Why all this money was being spent on these good roads and so many bad roads requiring attention he could not understand. There appeared to be hundreds of drums of bitumen dumped at the Railway stations.

Mr Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, said he was spraying four miles of this road which had not been sprayed since 1928. Unless it was sprayed this year the Council would be taking a grave risk. He was using coarser material on this road to prevent horses slipping.

The Chairman said that taking the present condition of the road into consideration all this extra work could be regarded only as extravagance.

Colonel Gibbon said the complaint of the Chairman was caused not so much by the action of their Surveyors as by the L.G. Dept. which insisted upon this very high standard of maintenance.

After further discussion the resolution of Colonel Gibbon was put and passed.

The following resolution was then adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the report of County Surveyor as submitted to this meeting be and is hereby adopted."

GENERAL MATTERS RE ROADS.

Col. Quin pointed out the necessity for keeping material to be used for spraying off the travelling surface of the road as much as possible.

Mr McCarthy said he had received a complaint from three men in Ferns who considered their services had been dispensed with unjustly and some one else taken on.

Mr Gaul said the real grievance of these men was that they were on the work at 8 o'clock in the morning and at 11 o'clock they were told by the Ganger that the weather was not suitable for spraying and that they could go home. They were also of opinion that there was other road work besides spraying at which they could have been employed when spraying was suspended.

Mr Hall did not see why the boilers should be heated

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over night and steam got up on the engine until they knew the weather would permit of spraying.

Mr Ennis said that the man on the engine was not to get up steam unless the weather was suitable and a similar rule applied to the tar boilers. Of course in isolated cases there might be a miscalculation. In previous years he had some work to arrange on special jobs when spraying could not be carried on, but this year the Estimate was so much cut that the work was not available. He had to keep on the ganger who was in charge of the work and also a couple of men and the horse. The labour cost was the same in the end but it was spread over a longer time and the men had extra insurance stamps in consequence.

Mr Armstrong said the men should be employed in turn and a special effort should be made to employ men who had little or no stamps to their credit.

The Chairman said he had no doubt taking the work into consideration Mr Ennis gave fair play to the workers.

After further discussion Mr D'Arcy proposed and Mr Cooney seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That the County Surveyor furnish a record of the insurance stamps on workmen's cards for the four areas of the County."

Mr McCarthy said the information obtained in this way would be valueless from the point of view of the Council. They should have the circumstances of each man before them and that information could be ^{procured} ~~employed~~ only from the Unemployment Exchange.

Mr Gaul said that discussion such as the present would react against the men and help to kill the direct labour scheme.

Mr D'Arcy proposed and Mr Cooney seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That the Record of Insurance stamps for road workers be examined by the following Committee

which will report to the County Council:-

Enniscorthy District - Messrs Shannon and Clinee.

Gorey District- Messrs D'Arcy and Keegan.

New Ross District - Messrs Cooney and Murphy.

Wexford District - Mr Hayes and Miss O'Ryan.

It was decided that first meeting be arranged by Co. Surveyor and be held in County Council Chamber, Wexford.

CONTINUED ILLNESS OF MR JOHN KEHOE ASSISTANT SURVEYOR

The County Surveyor submitted the following Medical Certificate from Dr. S.V.O'Connor, Westgate, Wexford, under date 6th May, 1931:- "I certify that Mr John Kehoe is still under my care suffering from Neurasthenia, post Influenza, and will be unable to resume duty for one month."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Col. Quin:- "That Mr John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, be granted a further month's/sick leave up to 6th June, 1931,"

The County Surveyor said Mr Kehoe was improving rapidly and would soon be back at work.

PROPOSED NEW BRIDGE FOR WEXFORD.

The following resolution from the Wexford Development Association was submitted:- "We, the members of the Wexford Development Association call upon the Wexford Co. Council to provide a new bridge from Commercial Quay to Ferrybank (site of old bridge now demolished) in view of the fact that there is a bye-law in existence that will not allow a lorry of over two tons weight to cross existing bridge, which is one of the chief arteries to this town. We feel that a town of the trading importance of Wexford is not sufficiently catered for by a bridge such as now exists."

Colonel Gibbon - I propose it be referred to the County Surveyor to see what it would cost.

County Surveyor - £70,000.

Mr Corish said it would be a very desirable thing to have a new bridge, but he did not think the Council should be asked to go on with it now.

Chairman - We have no money to build it; leave the matter there.

Mr Cummins - I propose that it be built and that the money be spread over thirty or forty years. I would like the Development Association to take the matter up and put some plan before us.

Chairman - Haven't we a bridge in Wexford ?

Mr Cummins - That's out of date.

Chairman - I wish we had all we could carry over it.

Mr Gaul - It isn't sufficiently strong to carry heavy traffic.

Chairman - But Ferrycarrig isn't very far away.

Mr Cummins referred to the building of New Ross Bridge, but Mr Cooney remarked that two Councils subscribed for New Ross bridge, while he supposed the cost of a new bridge in Wexford would have to be borne by one Council.

Chairman - You know very well we have no ways or means to build this bridge at the moment.

Mr Cummins remarked that the New Ross bridge was built during the poorest period in Ireland.

No action was taken in the matter.

ROAD BRIDGES.

Mr Murphy said he wanted to know from the County Surveyor when he was going to do the bridge at Ballygarvan.

The County Surveyor said he was preparing the specification at present, and he intended to advertise in the newspapers inviting tenders. If there were no tenders he would have to have the work carried out by direct labour.

Mr Murphy asked if the County Surveyor had gone to see Saltmills bridge.

The County Surveyor said he had not gone to see the bridge, but he had the following report, under date 7th May, 1931, from Mr P. O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, for the district:

"I inspected the above bridge today with the Contractor for the road. The abutments are in good order but underneath the arch there is some pointing required. After rain some water percolates through the crown. There are a number of old cracks in the parapet walls but they are not likely to develop. It would be a vast improvement if the haunches were trunked at both sides and about 3" of macadam laid on the crown. The cost of carrying out the above including the pointing would be £40."

Mr Murphy said he heard since the last meeting that there was a slight defect at Saltmills Bridge, and a small outlay now might save a lot of expense later. The probability is that if not done now it would cost hundreds of pounds later on.

On the proposition of Mr Murphy, seconded by Mr Hall, it was decided that the County Surveyor should visit the bridge and get the necessary repairs done at a cost not exceeding £40.

BLASTING IN QUARRIES.

Mr Cooney asked who was responsible for blasting in the quarries.

County Surveyor - The Assistant Surveyor primarily. In some cases gangers have authority to do small blasts.

Mr Cooney - Is it a fact that the workers in Tinneccarrig quarry are blasting, at present ?

County Surveyor - The individual workers ?

Mr Cooney - Yes.

County Surveyor - I wouldn't think so.

Mr Cooney - I have been informed that the workers are blasting there.

Mr O'Neill (Assistant Surveyor) - The ganger is in

charge of the quarry.

Mr Cooney - But the ganger is not blasting.

The County Surveyor said that if an expert ordinary worker who had been in the habit of doing such work was still continuing to do it, it was all right.

Mr Cooney - Isn't it the duty of the ganger to be in charge of the work ?

County Surveyor - It is.

Mr Cooney - Why then is it that the workmen in the quarry are doing the work ?

Chairman - Isn't the ganger supervising the work ?

The County Surveyor said that in all cases there were certain men who had a particular aptitude for that work, and naturally they would always have such men to look after that work, when they were specialists at it, so to speak.

No order.

NEW ROSS BRIDGE.

Mr Walsh said he wished to know what provision had been made for the painting of New Ross bridge. The question was raised last year, and it was stated that some money was being raised for it.

The County Surveyor said that no money was raised this year.

Mr Walsh said that the bridge would not stay there unless there was something done with it. If they kept putting the work off it would cost a lot more later.

Mr Cooney - I thought it was agreed to paint the bridge this year, and that the Co. Surveyor said he was going to include the work in his estimates

In reply to the Chairman, the Co. Surveyor said the cost would be about £600.

Mr Walsh said that formerly the work was provided for over a term of years. A certain amount was provided every

year for a period of five years, The painting seemed to have been forgotten, and it was a matter that should not be forgotten. He had already raised the matter twice, and it did not appear to be any nearer being done. An iron bridge could not stand unless it was painted, and certainly the bridge was in a bad state at present for the want of paint.

Mr Cooney (to Co. Surveyor) - I think you got instructions to bring the work in to your estimate this year.

Mr Walsh - That is my impression, too.

Mr McCarthy - I suggest that the County Surveyor bring the work into his estimate for next year.

Mr Cooney - I think some painting work should be done. The bridge is rusting and eating away, and every year will make it worse.

Co. Surveyor - I don't think it is eating away at all.

Mr Walsh suggested that if the bridge were painted in portions every year it would be a much better plan. He thought that a portion should be done each year and some this year.

Chairman - You haven't the money for painting it, and the only thing is to bring it in on the estimates next year.

Mr Cooney - Could we borrow £300 ?

Secretary - I don't know whether the Bank will give it to you or not.

Col. Quin remarked that he had been speaking to a Newcastle-on-Tyne engineer who suggested a paint that would last seven or ten years.

Mr Cooney - I think we could borrow the £300 and ask Kilkenny for the other £300.

Chairman - Do you think the Kilkenny Co. Council will hand you over £300 the minute you ask for it ?

Mr Cooney said he would give notice of motion to have £300 borrowed.

Mr Walsh said he thought that during the discussion last

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year with reference to the New Ross Bridge Col. Gibbon pointed out that the opening span of Ferrycarrig bridge might not be done for another year, and that the money allocated to that - £150 - might be transferred to the New Ross bridge. If they had £150 they would only have to raise another £150.

Mr Corish said there was certainly a long discussion on New Ross Bridge last year, and he thought it was pointed out by Messrs Walsh & Cooney that the bridge was in a bad way, and there was some definite promise that some thing would be done this year. There was no doubt about that.

On the suggestion of Mr Murphy it was decided to defer further consideration of the matter until it could again be raised in connection with Mr Cooney's notice of motion.

LOANS FOR RURAL DISTRICT DEBIT BALANCES.

The following under date 20th April, 1931, was read from the Department of Local Government (S.28436/31 Loch Garman Pg):-

"With reference to your letter of the 16th instant, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that by virtue of the provision of Section 3 of the Local Authorities (Financial Provisions) Act, as extended, he has given his approval to the obtaining by the Wexford County Council from their Treasurer of a temporary loan of £5,170 to enable them to pay off the debit balance in the case of Enniscorthy Rural District and a temporary loan of £10,945 to pay off the debit balance against the Wexford Rural District; the loans to be repayable within a period of five years with interest at a half per cent under Irish Banks Discount Rate (varying) subject to a minimum of four per cent."

Under date 4th May, 1931, Mr M. Coghlan, Manager Wexford Branch National Bank, wrote that his Directors had sanctioned loans for £5170 and £10945 respectively to extinguish the

debit balances of Enniscorthy and Wexford Rural District Charges A/C for a period of five years at one half per cent under Irish Banks Rate varying minimum 4 per cent. It should be clearly understood that as soon as Loans were availed of the sanctioned limit of County Council's overdraft accommodation would be reduced to £19885.

The following resolutions were adopted on the motion of Mr Corish seconded by Mr McCarthy, Mr Hall dissenting:-
"That pursuant to letter of sanction of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health dated 20th April, 1931, (S.28436/1931) the sums of £5170 and £10,945 be borrowed from the National Bank Limited, Wexford, for the purpose of paying off the debit balances of the Enniscorthy Rural District and the Wexford Rural District respectively to be repaid within five years with Interest at the rate of a half per cent under Irish Bank's rate varying subject to a minimum of 4 per cent per annum as in said letter of sanction provided. And it is further resolved that the seal of the Council be affixed to the necessary mortgage over the rates to secure said loan.

That the amount of said **loan** be applied in reduction of the Council's present limit of overdraft accommodation with their Treasurer."

Under date 9th May, 1931, Mr Elgee, County Solicitor, wrote stating he had amended the Draft Mortgage by altering the payments from ten half yearly to five yearly instalments, as all the other loans of the Council provided for payment on a yearly basis.

COAST EROSION AT ROSSLARE.

The following under date 30th March, 1931 (5456/31) was read from Office of Public Works:-

"With reference to your letter of the 24th instant on the subject of remedial measures for coast erosion at Rosslare, we have now been informed that the whole of the sum

voted for Relief Schemes has been allocated, and that no amount has been allocated to this Department for expenditure at Rosslare."

The following under date 20th April, 1931, was read from the Secretary of Rosslare Golf Club:-

"The Rosslare Golf Club at their monthly meeting regarded with concern the attitude adopted by the County Council in not applying for the grant allocated by the Government for unemployment in Rosslare.

As this Grant could have been very usefully expended on protection work my Committee are apprehensive lest the present attitude of the Co. Council if persisted in would prejudice any future grant for this purpose and would very kindly request them to reconsider the position should a future request be made to them by the Rosslare Association.

My Committee are also under the impression that the Co. Council could have applied for the grant on the understanding that it would not prejudice their position as to incurring future liability for coast erosion."

Chairman - They went up to Dublin and brought back a recommendation. The money was never granted. I am perfectly sure the Board of Works knew that all the money was gone, and that we would not get it. It was now sought to throw the onus on the Council. I wonder the Golf Club were not more active in looking after ~~them~~. Their committee have not nearly as much to do as the County Council.

No order.

ROAD GRANTS.

The Secretary reported the receipt from Local Government Department of £408 (26th March, 1931, R.G.79) and £1077 (4th May, 1931 (R.G. 79) Grant for reconstruction of streets in Enniscorthy Urban District.

HAULAGE AND EMPLOYMENT OF MEN.

Under date 11th April, 1931, letter was read from Mr

Keegan, Co. Councillor, giving notice that he intended to raise the question of haulage and employment of surface men in Gorey Area with the Co. Surveyor and the Assistant Surveyor for the District.

Mr Keegan complained that the tenders for haulage had been dealt with by the Assistant Surveyor and not by the Tenders Committees and he wished to know by whose authority.

The Co. Surveyor stated that at the County Council meeting on 14th April, 1930, the following motion by Mr Shannon and which was seconded by Mr Hayes was carried by ten votes to nine.

"That the resolution of the County Council deciding that haulage of road material by horses (per yard mile) be carried out by tender, be rescinded, and that the Council fix a rate for haulage per yard mile. That haulage be allocated to hauliers most in need of employment."

This was the answer to Mr Keegan's query.

Mr Keegan questioned the employment of a Road worker named Kirwan but after a good deal of discussion no order was made.

At the end of the meeting Mr Keegan gave notice of motion to move at the meeting of the County Council on 8th June, 1931, that the resolution of the County Council of the 14th April, 1930, abolishing the procedure of accepting haulage by horses (per yard mile) by tenders to Tenders Committee be rescinded and that in future tenders for such haulage be dealt with by the Tenders Committees for each County Electoral area.

CONTROL OF DOGS ORDER - KILLING AND MAIMING
OF SHEEP.

Under date 1st April, 1931, the Department of Agriculture wrote that they had under consideration the question of the better enforcement of the regulations made by Local Authorities for the control of dogs between the hours of sunset and sunrise. From statistics it appeared that during the two years ended 31st December last, 1099 sheep were killed by dogs. The Department had reason to believe that the regulations were

either not enforced or not observed. Apart from the number of sheep actually killed a good deal of injury was done to sheep, especially during the lambing season by worrying or chasing by dogs, an aspect of the matter which deterred farmers from engaging more extensively in sheep breeding.

With a view to directing the attention of all concerned to the Regulations the Local Authority should send full particulars to the local Gardai and also arrange for the display of suitable posters at all Garda stations, Post Offices and Sub Post Offices in their area.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Murphy seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That the Regulations of this Council under Control of Dogs Order be advertised in the three local papers - three insertions in each - as we believe this to be the best method of securing widespread publicity."

FORESTRY ACTS.

Under date 5th March, 1931, the Department of Agriculture wrote (2530 F.) that they had been informed that Condition 5 of the Scheme of Free Grants to private owners for the purpose of planting or replanting had the effect of discouraging small farmers who desire to undertake planting operations, and who would not be prepared to plant so large an area as five acres. The Clause had been amended so that grants would be available for a plantation covering not less than five statute acres established by one or more occupiers within a specified area provided that no constituent portion of the plantation was less than one statute acre and that the full acreage was planted in the same season.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That we confirm the following resolution which has been adopted by the Co. Wexford Committee of Agriculture:-

✓ "That in the opinion of this Committee the amendments

made in the Scheme of Grants to owners of land for the purpose of planting or replanting under the Forestry Acts 1919 and 1928 will not allow of the scheme being taken up in this county. From our knowledge^{of} the County we believe it would not be possible to induce five farmers in a limited area to plant an acre each and so far as Wexford is concerned we are convinced that unless the Department would be prepared to recognise for grant purposes the planting of a single acre by our farmers the scheme would be unworkable."

SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS 1931

The Secretary reported that examinations in connection with above had been held in Christian Schools, Oliver Plunkett Street, Wexford, on 8th 9th and 10th April, 1931, and had been conducted by officials of the Department of Education:

NATIONAL MONUMENTS.

The Office of Public Works writing under date 20th March, 1931 (3009/31) stated that an inspection was being made of Ferns Cathedral, and they would arrange to have Ferns Castle and Clonmines Ruins inspected in due course. They asked for further information regarding Rathmacknee of which they could trace no record.

Referred to Local Advisory Committee.

POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT LICENCES.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr Shannon:-, "That new licence under Poisons and Pharmacy Act be issued to Michael R. Moran, Castle Street, Enniscorthy, on receipt of fee (10/-) and that renewals under same Act be granted to Messrs N. Thackaberry, Bunclody; James J. Codd, 26 & 27 Court St., Enniscorthy, and M.J. Cullen, Taghmon."

ANALYST'S REPORT.

Report of Analyst for the quarter ended 31st March, 1931, was submitted. From this it appeared that the following analyses had been carried out - Foods 141; Drugs, 50; Waters, 4, - Total - 195. Adulterated - Whiskey, 1; Buttermilk, 1; Waters condemned, 2.

HISTORICAL EXHIBITS.

COMMITTEE OF FEIS CHARMAN, 1931.

Letter was read from above Committee asking the Co. Council to receive a deputation with a view to obtaining permission for the use of the main entrance hall of the Co. Hall for the purpose of depositing in show cases any historical exhibits which might be presented to them at the conclusion of the Feis.

In a further communication the Committee asked that the matter should be adjourned.

It was decided to inform the Committee that they would be received by the Council at their next meeting.

IRISH TOURIST ASSOCIATION.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Gaul seconded by Mr McCarthy:- "That Mr R. Corish M.C.C. be appointed as the Representative of Wexford Co. Council on the Board of Directors of the Irish Tourist Association for year ending March, 1932."

DISPUTE BETWEEN PIONEER ROAD CONSTRUCTION CO.
AND CO. COUNCIL.

Mr Murphy proposed and Col. Quin seconded the following resolution:- "That notice of motion of Mr McCarthy as to dispute between the Pioneer Road Construction Co. and the Wexford Co. Council be considered in Committee."

Mr Keegan challenged a poll on this motion which was taken and resulted as follows:-

For - Messrs Armstrong, Colfer, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Hall, Maylor, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, Quin, Shannon,

Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 16.

Against - Mr Keegan - 1.

The following Councillors were not present when poll was taken - Messrs Brennan, Cooney, D'Arcy, Gibbon, and Jordan(5).

The Chairman declared the resolution carried.

Mr McCarthy then moved the following of which he had given previous notice:- "That the resolution of the County Council deciding that the dispute between the Pioneer Road Construction Company and the Council be settled by Court proceedings be rescinded and that said dispute be referred to Mr.T.C.Courtney, County Surveyor for North Tipperary, provided the Pioneer Road Construction Company accept this nomination and that Mr Courtney is prepared to act as Arbitrator."

Mr Hall seconded.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For - Messrs Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne and Shannon-10.

Against - Messrs Armstrong, D'Arcy, Keegan, Meyler, Quin, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 8.

Mr Colfer did not vote and Messrs Brennan, Gibbon and Jordan (3) were not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

In connection with next meeting of Council the date of which fell on Bank holiday 25th inst, Mr O'Byrne proposed that they hold the meeting on 26th May.

Mr Hall seconded.

Mr Cummins proposed and Mr Keegan seconded a motion to hold the meeting on 25th. They should decline to observe the bank holiday so far as their business was concerned.

The Secretary informed the Council that in the existing state of the law any business done at a meeting held on a bank holiday would be invalid.

Mr Hall stated he would vote for the motion only that

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it was not legal to transact business on bank holidays.

Mr Gaul - Perhaps Mr Cummins is not aware that Whit Monday is the second day of the Co. Feis.

Mr Cummins - I am well aware of that, I would be here that day and propose the adjournment of the meeting so that all could attend the Feis.

Mr Corish said he was in thorough agreement with the motion. He did not agree with the law which made business transacted by public bodies on bank holidays/^{invalid} and had voted against it in the Dail. But, in view of the law as it stood would there be any use in having the meeting on the bank holiday if any business they transacted would not be valid ?

Mr Cummins - I want everyone to come to the Feis.

On a poll there voted for Mr Cummins' motion with himself and the seconded, Mr Colfer and the Chairman - 4.

Messrs

Against -/Armstrong, Cooney, D'Arcy, Gaul, Hayes, Hall, Mayler, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, Shannon, Smyth, Walsh, Corish, and Col. Quin - 15.

Messrs Brennan, Gibbon and Jordan (3) were not present when poll was taken.

The motion was declared lost and it was decided to hold the next meeting on the 26th inst.

PUBLIC HEALTH (SPECIAL EXPENSES) ACT 1931

Circular letter under date 29th April, 1931 (S 41/31) from the Local Government Department re above was read.

APPOINTMENT OF CO. SURVEYORS.

Under date 1st May, 1931, letter (R.S.204) was read from L.G.D. It called attention to advertisement from Civil Service Commissioners inviting applications from persons desirous of having their names on the panel of candidates eligible for appointment as Co. Surveyors etc.

RELIEF OF RATES ON AGRICULTURE.

Under date 7th May, 1931, the L.G. Department wrote

(Circ. No. G.45/1931 Miscellaneous) that it was expected in the near future it would be possible to notify the Co. Council of the exact sum to be allocated to them as regards the additional funds for the relief of agricultural ratepayers in connection with the Rate for the current year. When the amount was known it would be necessary to alter correspondingly the Demand notes Receipts and Counterfoil forms so as to show equally between each moiety the ascertained abatement. The issue of Books and Warrants to the Collectors should be deferred.

Under date 9th May, 1931, the Secretary to County Councils General Council wrote asking for the views of the Council as to the Report of the De-Rating Commission and the proposal of the Government for the relief of Agricultural ratepayers, for submission to the meeting of General Council to be held on 5th June 1931.

Col. Quin moved that consideration of Report of De-Rating Commission and of the Government proposal for the relief of Agricultural ratepayers be adjourned to the meeting of 26th May.

Mr Sean O'Byrne seconded.

The Chairman stated he believed that every member read the report, and it should be possible to deal with it that day unless the members wanted to study it between then and the next meeting.

Mr Gaul stated that some members were absent and it would not be fair to discuss the report in their absence.

In reply to Mr Walsh the Secretary stated he intended to bring the matter of how the rate collectors would be affected by the grant before the finance committee.

Col. Quin stated it would not make any difference to discuss the matter at the next meeting, as they would be then in a position to forward their views to the General Council of Co. Councils, which would not meet until June.

Mr Cummins stated he was opposed to adjourning for even one moment the consideration of the question of de-rating. He desired that their representatives should tell the General Council of Co. Councils what he had told the Co. Council on different occasions in regard to the de-rating. They now had the report of the Commission on De-Rating, and as he informed the Council, they were only fooling the people.

Col. Quin at this stage left the chamber protesting that the business of the Council was being held up.

Mr Cummins (addressing Col. Quin) - There would not be much done if we allowed you to have your way, when you were in power.

Proceeding Mr Cummins stated that the appointment of the De-Rating Commission was merely throwing dust in the eyes of the people. He had advised on frequent occasions the withholding of the annuities given the Government and their payment into the Council for the purpose of relieving the rates. He hoped their representatives on the General Council of Co. Councils would advise that body to adopt a resolution to that effect. There was no democratic body in the Free State representing the people in the real sense except the General Council of Co. Councils. If the action he urged were taken up generally it would mean that the sum of £128,000 at present being paid out of the county would be retained for the relief of the rates, and until that took place there would be no peace, contentment or prosperity in the country. He proposed that all Land Commission Annuities be paid into the account of the Co. Council for the purpose of relieving the Rates. Their Representatives on the General Council should press for a declaration by that body to have the land annuities dealt with on the lines he advocated.

Mr Keegan seconding, said that the amount of money which the Government proposed to give for the relief of agriculture would not be of advantage to the small farmers. He did not see any way of obtaining the relief necessary for the farming

community other than to withhold the payment of the annuities.

Chairman - I take it that we are to have a general discussion on the De-Rating Commission report at the next meeting. Col. Quin has moved that the letter of the General Council of Co. Councils be adjourned, and Mr O'Byrne has seconded it. Although Col. Quin is not here now I take it you will accept the proposition.

Mr Keegan said he objected to the proposition being accepted, as its mover had left the meeting.

The Chairman pointed out that any other member could move the proposition on Col. Quin's behalf.

Mr J. Gaul intimated that he would propose the motion, as Col. Quin was not present.

Mr O'Byrne stated that Mr Cummins' resolution could be included in the opinions which the Council would submit to the General Council of Co. Councils.

Mr Cummins said he would insist on his proposition being taken first, as it was a substantive ~~motion~~ resolution.

Mr Gaul submitted that Mr Cummins should give notice of his resolution.

Chairman - I don't see any necessity for a notice of motion and I'll not ask him to give it.

Mr O'Byrne suggested that Mr Cummins should withdraw his proposition and allow it to be embodied in the recommendations which the Council would make to the General Council of Co. Councils.

Mr Cummins said that everywhere he went there was a desire to have action on the lines he suggested taken, and the question had been put to him why hadn't there been a resolution passed on it. At the present time the £128,000 being paid in annuities in Co. Wexford was going to England, and not a single penny of it was being spent in the county. The people had the power of withholding the annuities. Continuing, Mr Cummins contrasted the stand taken in the days of the land

war with the attitude being adopted today. They were being told today about the moral obligation on them to ~~pay~~ the annuities. There was no moral obligation, he asked, on any man to pay what he could not afford to pay? If there are a few farmers who can make their farms pay there are ninety in every hundred who cannot. He exhorted councils to take the stand on this matter which the Co. Mayo Council did on the library question. They had the other day "this fellow with his Budget -".

Mr T. McCarthy, on a point of order, intervened, stating that Mr Cummins for whom he had great respect, was outstepping the bounds.

Mr Cummins - If the Chairman says I am out of order I'll sit down as readily as Mr McCarthy. I am, however, only trying to impress this matter which must tingle on your ears. I was in your district last week and every man I met was of the same opinion as I am expressing. We have today upstarts standing out to let the money be exported calling the men who did something for Ireland "windbags". There were men belonging to the old district councils who would adorn the chamber of the Dail when those in it now would not be found.

Mr Cummins consented to withdraw his resolution to allow of its discussion at next meeting and Mr Gaul's was declared passed.

SHEEP DIPPING PROGRAMME, 1931.

The following under date 7th May 1931 (L.1781-31) was read from the Department of Agriculture:-

"With reference to the relative minutes of Proceedings at a Meeting of your County Council on the 23rd March, I have to state that the Department note with regret that your Local Authority have not seen their way to adopt regulations for prescribing the dipping of sheep under supervision at specified times and places during the current year on the lines recommended in the Department's letter of the 10th idem. While the

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Department cannot regard your Local Authority's Sheep Dipping arrangements as satisfactory, they will, in the circumstances, offer no objection to the re-adoption for the forthcoming Dipping Periods of arrangements similar to those which obtained last year.

With regard to your letter of the 30th ultimo, I have to state that the Department agree to the appointment of the under mentioned persons as Dipping Inspectors during the Dipping Periods of the current year, with remuneration at the rate of £1 per week, inclusive of travelling expenses, but not covering expenditure on postage, which is to be refunded, viz:- James Murphy, Myles Roban, Ml.J. Hennesey, Thomas Hayden, Thos. Prendergast, Patrick Ormonde."

It was decided to impress on Sheep Dipping Inspectors to pay particular attention to the men who had 50 or less sheep and see as many of them dipped as possible. All the outbreaks of sheep scab for some time past have occurred in such cases.

COURTOWN HARBOUR SLUICE GATES. -----

The following under date 4th May, 1931, (D/5/2) was read from the Department of Lands & Fisheries:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Lands & Fisheries to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo, and to state that in view of the opinion of the County Surveyor that he could erect new sluice gates at a cost of £700 the Minister recommended a State grant of half that estimate. As Courtown Harbour is the property of the Wexford County Council and that body is consequently responsible for all repairs and maintenance, it is considered that the contribution of £350 from State funds is ample."

The County Surveyor submitted two tenders for the work:

Messrs Lee Bros., 2, Upper Main Street, Arklow, at £805 for workmanship and £127: 8s. for timber which is to be supplied by the Co. Council. Total £932: 8: 0.

Mr George O'Connor, Monument Place, Wexford, tendered at £980: 0: 0: workmanship and £127: 8: for timber to be supplied by the County Council. Total £1107: 8: 0.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr D'Arcy:- "That the tender of Messrs Lee, Bros. Arklow, at £932: 8: 0. for renovation of Sluice Gates at Courtown Harbour in accordance with specification prepared by Co. Surveyor be accepted. That the Department of Lands and Fisheries be requested to obtain from Department of Finance an additional grant of £82 to cover the difference between the extra amount of the accepted tender and the grant of £500 by the Co. Council and £350 by the Department of Lands and Fisheries. We are convinced that the delay of the Department in dealing with the proposals of the Council is responsible for this increased cost. We would also point out that all through the correspondence it was anticipated that the work would have been carried out by equal contributions from the Government and the Co. Council. The latter now find that whereas they have contributed £500 towards the cost the Department have up to the present offered £350 only."

SALARIES OF COUNTY COUNCIL STAFF.

The following under date 16th April, 1931 (G. 24994/1931. Loch Garman) was read from the Department of Local Government:

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant relative to the payment of increments in the salaries of the staff ~~in~~ in your office and the County Surveyor's Office, and to draw attention to the terms of the Minister's sanction to the present scale of remuneration of these officers and to state that in view of the certificates furnished his further sanction to the increments allowed is not necessary.

The Minister concurs in Mr Donohoe's appointment being now regarded as permanent in view of the satisfactory ter-

mination of his probationary service."

BUILDING ADJOINING ROADS 347 and 348.

The following under date 30th April, 1931, was submitted from Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, Gorey District:

"On my rounds of inspection to-day I noticed portion of a house in process of erection on road 348 where it joins road 347. This building is at a bad corner, and if proceeded with will constitute a danger to road users. I am by this post notifying Miss Breen, Seaview, Clonevan, who I am informed is the owner, not to proceed further with work and that I am reporting matter to you."

Mr Smyth who proposed that the Council take no action in the matter said that the new building was on an old foundation.

Mr D'Arcy seconded the motion which was adopted without dissent.

HOLLYFORT BRIDGE + ROAD NO. 83.

The following under date 25th April, 1931, was read from Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor:-

"I made inspection of above on 23rd instant, when I found it was in need of repairs. It is a two span structure and side and centre walls are in places very defective. Arch requires to be opened and grouted. Parapet walls for a length of about 100 yards to be taken down and rebuilt and retaining walls buttressed. There is an overflow arch adjoining which requires cleaning and repairing. I estimate cost of above work at £135."

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr D'Arcy seconded:- "That a sum of £135 be withdrawn from County Contingency Fund to provide for immediate repairs to Hollyfort Bridge - Road 83."

GOREY GAS AND WATER CO. LTD.

Under date 29th April, 1931, Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, Gorey District, wrote stating that Gorey Gas & Water

Co. had applied for permission to open ground in Main St. Gorey; as there were some bad gas leaks since the steam roller had been working. They would make good the road surface in a proper manner.

It was decided on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Hall that the necessary permission be granted and that if the Gorey Gas & Water Co. Ltd. did not restore the road surface to the satisfaction of the Assistant Surveyor proceedings be instituted against them.

FORD OF LYNG.

The Chairman inquired how this matter now stood.

Mr Elgee, Solicitor, said that Mr Jellett K.C. required the further attendance of himself and the Co. Surveyor to go into some further queries which had occurred to him since their previous interview. Pending result the summons had not been issued.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr McCarthy seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That the County Solicitor and County Surveyor arrange for an immediate interview with Mr Jellett K.C. in connection with legal proceedings relative to Ford of Lyng."

NEW ROSS BRIDGE AND NAVIGATION LIGHTS.

The following under date 6th May, 1931, was read from the New Ross Harbour Commissioners:-

"The necessity for the provision of Navigation lights on above was discussed by my Board at their meeting on the 5th inst., and I was instructed to communicate with you and with the Secretary of the Kilkenny County Council (in whom the Bridge is vested) and to request that this important matter may have your immediate attention."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Walsh seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the letter from New Ross Harbour Commissioners as to proposed provision of Navigation

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Lights on New Ross Bridge be referred to Mr Elgee, Solicitor, for his advice."

ALTERATION OF FENCE.

Application was submitted by the Co. Surveyor from James Brewer, Irishtown, New Ross, as to alteration of fences at Mountgarrett, New Ross, on the road leading from Fairgreen to Woodville.

Mr P. O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor for the district reported that if Mr Brewer's application was granted an improvement would be effected. There would be no encroachment on the road, and a very unsightly dumping ground would be removed.

Mr Hall proposed a resolution agreeing to the application. The Chairman seconded and the motion was passed.

HARMFUL CINEMA PICTURES.

The following resolution was submitted from Limerick Corporation:-

"That believing a considerable proportion of the Cinema Pictures licensed for general public exhibition in An Saorstát are of such a character as to be definitely unsuitable for and harmful to young persons from the moral and educational standpoint, and the Censorship being unable under existing laws to remedy this grave evil, we call on the Representatives of all parties in Dail Eireann to take prompt measures by the passing of the necessary new or amending legislation to ensure that all Cinematograph Pictures dealing with matters that are of a sensual or criminal nature shall not be publicly exhibited to young persons under the age of 16, and to establish a special or supplementary censorship for the licensing of films suitable for the young."

It was decided to take no action in the matter.

PAYMENTS TO ROAD CONTRACTORS.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr

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O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the several proposals for payment including those to Road Contractors set out on Form 22 and certified by County Surveyor be and are hereby agreed to subject ~~to~~ to the modifications and other orders noted thereon, and initialled by the Chairman."

Michael Doyle

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

MEETING 26TH MAY, 1931.

MINUTES.

COUNTY HALL,
WEXFORD.

N. J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

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A meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 26th May, 1931.

Present:- Mr Ml. Doyle (Chairman) presiding: also Messrs James Cline, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, John Doran, Col.C.M. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, William P. Keegan, Thomas Maylor, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col. R.P.Wemyss Quin, M.M. Roche, and James Shannon.

The Secretary, County Surveyor, Mr Elgee, Solicitor, and Assistant Surveyors Messrs Treanor, Ennis, O'Neill, Cullen and Birthistle were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £2,428: 1: 2d was examined and signed.

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The following report was submitted from County Surveyor:-

"On the 21st instant, by arrangement with Mr Courtney and Pioneer Road Construction Company, I attended in Gorey, and we had a full discussion in regard to the claim of the Pioneer Company for material left in Gorey Hill Quarry. Mr Courtney subsequently visited the quarry, and he is to go fully into details of figures and submit his award as soon as possible. Earlier on the same day I walked over the whole of the Concrete road between Gorey and Courtown, and noted defects, and have arranged for repair of same. I also arranged in regard to the consolidation of the sides of the road.

On the 18th instant I met Mr Lee, Contractor for the new gates at Courtown Harbour, discussed the procedure to be adopted, and arranged for the work. Mr Lee has now commenced

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dismantling the old gates. On the 19th instant, with Mr Lee, I inspected the oak logs prepared for us at Castleboro, and have arranged for their immediate delivery at Courtown. These logs are really of a high quality, and have been very carefully prepared by Mr Coppen.

I have prepared a fully detailed Specification for the rebuilding of Ballygarvan Bridge, and have inserted advertisement inviting tenders for the work which I shall submit at your meeting.

Messrs M. O'Connor and Company, Builders, have commenced the repair work at Fortview premises. In connection with this matter some arrangements must be made in regard to the portion of the premises still occupied by the Caretaker. I shall arrange that it will not be necessary to disturb him until towards the end of the work, but he will then have to leave the place.

On the 4th instant I spent sometime at New Ross Bridge and took record of the speed of motor lorries passing over the bridge. Mr Richards obtained for me names of the owners of the lorries, and I shall submit particulars to the meeting.

I have been unable, up to the present, to arrange for the Committee meeting in regard to Insurance Stamps, and, possibly, a date can be fixed at your present meeting.

The Surface Dressing of roads as arranged under the Road Works Scheme is now in progress, and is at present proceeding satisfactorily, subject to weather conditions.

The Secretary has received a claim from Messrs A. Hull for balance due on their Contract for Wexford-Ferrycarrig Road, and I have gone into details with Mr Elgee. You will, probably, discuss the whole of this in Committee.

I have had a communication from the Local Government Department in regard to the allocation of money for Grants this year. I had already been in communication with Mr Quigley, Chief Engineer, Roads Department, but he is at pres-

ent on sick leave. I have been asked for suggestions as to the difference between laying 4" slab or sandwich method concrete on the Wexford-New Ross Line. I have carefully gone into the figures in connection with this, and have written to the Local Government Department. The difference in cost between the two systems is in the proportion of 9-7, and I consider that better value would be obtained by the slab road, and, accordingly, I recommended same. A portion of the money will be allocated for laying 6" slab on Enniscorthy-Buncloody Road, for something short of a mile, leaving a couple of miles to be dealt with next year. In order to facilitate this work, which must be done out of Cherryorchard Quarry, I have suggested water bound macadam on a short section of the Enniscorthy-Kiltealy road, as we have suitable material already blocking the quarry. There is also a small sum to cover the extra cost on the Gorey-Courtown Road which was not provided for in our original proposal for this work."

Ballygarvan Bridge: The County Surveyor said he had obtained one tender for the reconstruction of this bridge from Mr Wm. Shannon, Ballygarvan, amount £442 while the estimate for the work was £365. He suggested that the matter might be left to the Finance Committee.

Mr Colfer asked if the County Surveyor could not do the work by direct labour.

County Surveyor - That is a point worth considering in view of the fact that the tender is so high.

Mr Cooney proposed:-

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to carry out the reconstruction work at Ballygarvan Bridge at a cost not exceeding £365."

Mr Colfer seconded and the resolution was passed.

The County Surveyor said he was satisfied to try and carry out the work at the estimated amount at which he thought

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it could be done. Of course an intending Contractor would have suitable plant and the Council on the direct labour job would have to purchase corresponding plant.

New Ross Bridge: The County Surveyor reported that the by-law provided that the speed across this bridge should not exceed three miles an hour. It was found on 1st May that nine motor vehicles passing over the structure crossed at from 10½ miles to 18 miles per hour. He suggested that a couple of the worst offenders should be proceeded against and this would serve as a warning to the general public.

Mr Corish considered that prosecutions should be instituted against all offending owners of vehicles.

The Chairman proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Colonel Quin and adopted:- "That the owners of the six vehicles found crossing New Ross Bridge at the highest illegal speeds on 1st May, 1931, in contravention to by-law of the County Council be prosecuted viz., Electricity Supply Board; Messrs Hearne, New Ross; Laurence O'Brien, Patrick St., Waterford; Shelbourne Co-Operative Society, Campile; and Ida Co-Operative Creamery, Tullogher, New Ross."

Committee re Insurance Stamps: It was decided that the Committee should meet after the termination of County Council meeting.

Wexford-Ferrycarrig Road: The following correspondence from Messrs Alex Hull & co., Pembroke Works, Ringsend Road, Dublin, was submitted:- Under date 21st May, 1931, Messrs Hull & Co., wrote (NT/BD) as follows:-

"We beg to notify you that the maintenance period under the terms of the above contract expired on the 19th instant and we accordingly demand immediate payment of the sum of one thousand eight hundred and seven pounds nineteen shillings and four pence (£1,807:19:4d) now due to us by your Council under the provisions of clauses 11 and 16 of the general conditions

of the above mentioned contract.

This sum represents the net amount due to us after deducting all moneys which have under this Contract become payable by the Contractor to the Council, as provided for in clause 8 of the said general conditions, together with the total amount of payments received to date, as set forth on the statement of account attached hereto.

In this connection we would draw your attention to paragraphs numbered 1, 2, and 3 of our letter of the 5th February last addressed to W.F. Barry, Esquire, County Surveyor, a copy of which we enclose for your information.

Your prompt attention to this matter will oblige."

The following is the statement of Account submitted by Messrs Hull & Co.:-

"AMOUNT OF CONTRACT.....£8,356: 7: 3:

Extra works as previously certified by
County Surveyor..... 398: 11: 6:

£ 8,754: 18: 9:

DEDUCTIONS PROVIDED FOR IN CONTRACT:

Under Clause 14.

Cost of testing samples £23: 6: 6:

Under Clause 15.

Wages of Clerks of Works 189: 0: 0: 212: 6: 6:

NET AMOUNT PAYABLE UNDER CONTRACT.....£8,542: 12: 3:

Payments received to date 6,734: 12: 11:

UNDISCHARGED BALANCE DUE TO CONTRACTORS.....£1,807: 19: 4:

NOTE: This account relates only to monies now due to the Contractor by the Council under the terms of the Contract and is without prejudice to any other claims which the Contractor may have against the Council in respect of other matters."

Messrs Hull also submitted the following under date 21st May, 1931, (NT/BD) from them to the Co. Surveyor:-

"We are obliged for your letter of the 3rd instant notifying us that you have now formally taken over this contract from us, and enclosing a further pay order on account for the

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sum of £291:6:2d.

We are again accepting this payment under protest, for the following reasons, to which we have already drawn your attention, viz.:-

1. You have no right whatsoever to make deductions from the amount now admittedly due to us under certain specific clauses of our Contract, in respect of charges for use of Quarries and machinery, the recovery of which is nowhere provided for under the terms of the Contract.
2. We cannot, and will not, agree to pay you £80:15:4d. for idle time for machinery. You clearly stated in your letter of 16th August 1929: "If, from any cause, you find it necessary to leave the plant idle for any period there would be no charge provided you can give alternative work to our two engine men." This condition, we, on our part, have invariably complied with.
3. You have no right whatsoever to hold back a sum of four hundred pounds from the amount now due to us under the terms of our contract, in respect of matters for which we formally disclaimed all liability in our letter to you dated 7th January, 1930.

Apart from the items above referred to we are in agreement with the figures set forth in the statement of account you sent us under cover of your letter, with one exception. The total net amount shown on sheet 2 is £395:18:4d., this should read £398:11:6d. as previously certified by you in your statement of account dated 25th July, 1930."

It was decided on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne that this matter be considered in committee.

The County Surveyor said that £395 was the correct figure. There was an item of £2:13:0: not taken into account in first statement. The other figures given by Messrs Hull was correct except that the correction would alter the total to £1805:6:2:

Various matters in connection with the Contract having

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been considered the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That Mr Elgee, Solicitor, be instructed to defend any proceedings which may be instituted by Messrs Hull & Co., Dublin, in respect of Contract for reconstruction of Wexford-Ferrycarrig Road."

Col. Gibbon suggested that Counsel's opinion should be taken but the majority of the meeting did not approve.

Slab Concrete Roads v Sandwich Concrete Roads: Miss O'Ryan said that the sandwich road was the best road for farmers. The people in the vicinity of main sandwich concrete road at Tomcoole protested against a road which would give too smooth a surface, as horses could not retain a foothold on it. They were quite satisfied with the sandwich concrete road. It was the people who were working the country and paying the taxes who should be considered and not those who were passing in motor cars.

Mr Cooney complained of the "waviness" of the Tomcoole Road.

Colonel Gibbon said this road was good enough to travel over up to 35 miles an hour but not suitable for higher speeds. It was quite a good road for the traffic passing over it. He thought it was a very dangerous experiment to put in a concrete slab of only four inches.

The County Surveyor said they knew comparatively little about the actual life of these cement roads but in his opinion he did not think Colonel Gibbon was correct in his statement that it would be much easier carry out repairs on a sandwich concrete road than on one of slab concrete.

Col. Gibbon asked the County Surveyor if he could refer them to any example of a four inch concrete slab for a main road.

The County Surveyor said he was not aware of one.

Colonel Gibbon - Then it would be too risky for us to take on as an experiment.

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The following resolution was proposed by Mr Culleton and seconded by Mr Hall:- "That we request the Local Government Department to sanction the laying down of sandwich concrete (4 inch) on the Wexford-New Ross Road under improvement grant and authorise the Council through the County Surveyor to advertise for contractors as soon as possible."

Mr Cooney proposed and Mr Colfer seconded the following amendment:- "That reconstruction work on New Ross Road be carried out in four inch slab concrete as recommended by the County Surveyor."

On a show of hands 6 voted for the amendment and 12 against.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

Mr McCarthy proposed the following further amendment:-

"That consideration of the method by which reconstruction work on New Ross-Wexford road is to be carried out be adjourned until the County Surveyor has made enquiries as to the desirability of laying down slab concrete of four inches."

Mr Corish seconded but the amendment on a show of hands was lost by 7 to 11.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

The original resolution was then put and passed nem con.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the report of County Surveyor presented to this meeting be and is hereby adopted except in any ~~case~~ in which it has been altered or amended by resolution."

STRIKING OF RATES FOR 1931-32.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Col. Quin:-

"That as set out on Forms 42 and 43 and as appearing on Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council held on 23rd March 1931, and also as advertised in The People, Free Press and Echo Newspapers of the 25th April, 1931, we hereby strike the

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rate for General and Separate Charges for financial year 1931-32, the general rate being fixed at $8\frac{1}{4}$ d in the £.

"The sum payable by the occupiers of Agricultural Land will be reduced owing to additional Agricultural Grant 1931 by a further 2/- in the £ over and above the amount advertised making total reduction in respect of rates assessed on Agricultural Land $4\frac{1}{6}$ in the £. That the amount of Rates for Separate Charges be as set out on Minutes of County Council in respect of meeting held on 23rd March, 1931. We allow and make the same as assessed in Rate Books, said Rates being in conformity with the Valuation in force for the time being as set out in the Valuation Lists furnished this Council by Valuation Department, subject to allowances granted under Housing Acts, Local Government Act 1925 (Rating of New Buildings Order 1925) and Local Government Act 1927.

"That the allowance of said rates as entered on foot of said Rate Books signed by the Presiding Chairman and two members present at this meeting be adopted, attested by the seal of Wexford County Council and countersigned by the Secretary.

"That we hereby strike the Drainage Rate for Kilmannock Drainage District in accordance with the Schedule of Charging Order issued by the Commissioners of Public Works under date 19th January, 1927, and which is set out on Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council of the 9th May, 1927, subject to allowance of £37:10:0: unexpended balance on amount raised for works of maintenance being credited to accounts of the various proprietors in the proportion of the sums payable under the Charging Order.

"That Warrants for collection of Rates included in this resolution be sealed and signed.

"That the Demand of the Wexford County Council on the Urban Districts of Enniscorthy, New Ross and Wexford as appearing on Form 48 be duly signed and sealed, the amounts demanded from said Urban Districts being as follows:-

Enniscorthy - £2,765: 2: 0:

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New Ross £2,572: 3: 6:

Wexford £5,873: 0: 0:

The Secretary stated that as members could see by their agendas this was the special business of the meeting.

WEXFORD COURTHOUSE.

Under date 23rd May, 1931, the County Registrar wrote that with reference to the placing of lino on the floor of the Wexford Courthouse he had now received instructions from the Judge to make arrangements to have the business of the Circuit Court carried out at Enniscorthy until such time as this matter was attended to. As the Easter sittings of the Circuit Court began on 2nd June, the County Registrar asked that his letter should be considered immediately by the County Council.

Mr Corish proposed that the necessary linoleum be procured for Wexford Courthouse as requested by the Circuit Judge but there was no seconder for the proposal and the matter dropped.

ROAD 912.

Under date 11th May, 1931, Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, reported that he had visited this road on the 17th April, and interviewed the Contractor, whom he again saw on 9th May. The Contractor claimed £7 for extra work as the road was badly cut up by beet traffic. It was still fairly rough but showed all the appearance of having been well attended to and maintained under difficulty. He (Mr Birthistle) believed the claim was reasonable.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Culleton seconded by Mr Hall:- "That a sum of £7 be withdrawn from County Contingency Fund and paid to Robert Sheridan for extra work carried out on Road 912.

ENNISCORTHY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL AND MAIN ROADS.

Under date 20th May, 1931, letter was read from Sean Gallagher, Town Clerk, Enniscorthy, Urban Council, that the latter had agreed to accept £382 for the maintenance of the Main

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roads in their area for financial year 1931-32.

FIRE EXTINGUISHING APPARATUS.

In connection with the following resolution adopted at County Council of 11th May, 1931, :-

"That the question of providing Fire Extinguishing apparatus for County Hall be adjourned to next meeting to which the County Surveyor can report result of Conference with Ex-Capt. Pembroke Fire Brigade,"

The County Surveyor stated that the Conference had not yet been held and it was decided to further adjourn the matter.

WEXFORD - KILMORE ROAD.

Mr Roche asked in what condition the County Surveyor expected to have the Kilmore-Wexford Road before the summer. It was in a very bad state. Kilmore was becoming a very popular seaside resort and the people of Kilmore Quay village were relying to a very large extent to make their rent and rates by visitors most of whom were from Wexford. The men of the visiting families went in and out to business every day. They expected to have a good road, while at the moment this was one of the worst roads in the County though it was also one of the most important.

The County Surveyor did not accept the statement that this was one of the worst roads in the County. A good deal of repairs had been carried out.

Mr Roche said that from Tenacre cross the holes had been filled with sea gravel but this was no use unless bound with tar. He proposed the following resolution:-, "That the necessary repairs to Kilmore-Wexford Road be carried out immediately.

Mr Corish seconded the resolution which was adopted.

ROAD NEWCASTLE TO BRIDGETOWN.

Mr Hayes proposed that the road from Newcastle to Bridgetown should be metalled from Gurtins Quarry.

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The County Surveyor said he had provided for a certain amount of material from Gurtins Quarry and the balance was sea gravel. The estimated amount for maintenance would not allow of the whole stretch being maintained by material from Gurtins.

Col. Quin proposed and Mr Roche seconded the following:-

"That the road from Newcastle to Bridgetown be maintained as far as is possible by material from Gurtins Quarry."

On a show of hands ten voted for the amendment and ten against.

It was then decided to take a poll which resulted as follows:-

For the amendment - Messrs Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Hall, Meyler, Murphy, Quin, Roche and the Chairman - 10.

Against - Messrs Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Hayes, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne, Shannon - 10.

Miss O'Ryan did not vote.

The Chairman gave his casting vote in favour of the amendment which he declared carried.

On being put as the substantive motion it passed nem con.

TAR BOILERS.

A discussion took place as to the hour at which boilers were lit for preparation of tar or bitumen for road spraying and as the practice amongst the Surveyors was not uniform it was decided the Co. Surveyor should consider the matter and report with a view to arriving at a uniform procedure.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr McCarthy seconded the following resolution:- "That the annual meeting of Wexford County Council be held on ~~Monday~~ Tuesday, 23rd June, 1931."

As an amendment Col. Quin proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following:- "That the annual meeting of Wexford County Council be held on Tuesday 30th June, 1931."

was
A poll/taken on the amendment with the following result:-

For 30th June - Messrs Culleton, D'Arcy, O'Byrne, Gibbon, Hall, Meyler, Murphy, Quin, Roche, and the Chairman - 10.

For 23rd June - Messrs Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Hayes, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan and Shannon - 11.

It was then decided to fix the annual meeting for the 23rd June, 1931.

GOVERNMENT GRANTS.

Under date 11th May, 1931, the Department of Local Government wrote (R.G.M.32) that a payment of £1603 final payment in respect of Road maintenance Grant for 1930-31 had been made to the Treasurer of the Council.

The Secretary reported that the following Grants had been received since last meeting of the Council:- Medical and Education Grant £1035; Sanitary Salaries, £138; Mental Hospital £1975.

NATIONAL MONUMENTS LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

The Secretary reported that the Council had agreed to provide a sum of £9 for the purchase of a complete set of six inch scale maps of Co. Wexford on which the Local Advisory Committee under Ancients Monuments Act were to indicate the position of ancient monuments and objects of historical interest but he had letter from Stationery Office under date 22nd May, 1931, that the cost would be £11: 18: 0:

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Culleton seconded the following resolution which was adopted after discussion:- "That subject to the sanction of the Local Government Department this Council agrees to provide a full set of six inch ordnance survey maps with Index for Co. Wexford at a cost of £11: 18: 0;"

LOCAL AUTHORITIES (OFFICERS & EMPLOYEES) ACT/1926 SECTION 5.

The Secretary of the General Council of Co. Councils for-

warded copy of opinion of Mr Cecil Lavery K.C. as to the powers of the Minister for Local Government under above mentioned section.

Mr Lavery held that it was not necessary for a local authority to obtain the prior sanction of the Minister before making an appointment under the provisions of the section but that the Minister's sanction was necessary for the person appointed.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME.

Applications for award of University Scholarship were received from the following:-

Laurence Butler, Lambstown, Killurin.
 Joseph Byrne, 4, Francis Street, Wexford.
 Raymond E.G. Corish, Odessa, Wexford.
 Henry F. Doyle, Bishopswater, Wexford.
 Margaret Mary E. Flood, Rosemount, Enniscorthy.
 Joseph F. Flynn, Ballyvoclare, Campile.
 James D. Ffrench., 7 Rowe Street, Wexford.
 John A. Furlong, 2 Old Pound, Wexford.
 Thomas F. Hall, 10, Cornmarket, Wexford.
 Thomas Higgins, Monamolin, Rathnure, Enniscorthy.
 Ita Mary Kehoe, Abbey View, Ferns.
 Mary Kavanagh, Hollyfort, Gorey.
 Mary Frances Kelly, 18 North Main Street, Wexford.
 James Michaelb Kenny, 14, Peasse Street, Gorey.
 Barbara Lowe, Maudlintown, Wexford.
 Elizabeth Mary McAuliffe, Johnstown, Clonegal.
 Mary Margaret O'Hanlon, Faythe, Wexford.
 Patrick H. O'Reilly, Killanne, Enniscorthy.
 Michael Tobin, Bohreen Hill, Enniscorthy.
 George Whitmore, Bishopwater, Wexford.

The Finance Committee recommended the following as eligible to compete for award:- Laurence Butler, Joseph Byrne, Henry F. Doyle, Margaret M. Flood, Joseph Flynn, John A. Fur-

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long, Thomas F. Hall, Thomas Higgins, Mary Kavanagh, James Kenny, Barbara Lowe, Mary M. O'Hanlon, P.J. O'Reilly, and Michael Tobin.

The Finance Committee considered that the parents or guardians of the following applicants were in a position to provide for them University Education :- Raymond E.G. Corish, Jas. D. Ffrench, Ita Mary Kehoe, Mary Francis Kelly, and Elizabeth Mary McAuliffe and recommended that applications should not be accepted.

They also recommended that further information should be submitted as regards the circumstances of George Whitmore.

As regards application of John J. Furlong, Mr McCarthy gave the following notice of motion at Finance Committee on 21st May:-

"That John A. Furlong, Old Pound, Wexford, be regarded as eligible to compete for University Scholarship notwithstanding the fact that he was 20 years old on 11th June, 1931, whereas the scheme provides that the ages of accepted candidates shall not exceed 20 on 1st August, 1931. It should be pointed out that the intention of the County Council as regards University Scholarship Scheme was to keep its provisions as close as possible, to the conditions governing the Leaving Certificate Examinations under the Department of Education.

"It is also necessary to bear in mind that some years ago the Authorities of the Department of Education extended the age period to cover cases in which pupil's course of study was interrupted for some valid reason, and it is certain that the Scholarship Committee would have suggested this change in the syllabus of Co. Council Scheme had they been made aware of the Concession given in this respect by the Department of Education"

The Secretary stated in reply to a query that the applications were distributed as follows:-

From Rural areas, 7; From Urban Areas, 13, made up as follows:- Enniscorthy, Town, 2; Gorey Town 1 and Wexford Town 10.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr Corish secon-

ded by Miss O'Ryan:- "That Mary Francis Kelly, 18 North Main street, Wexford, be regarded as eligible to compete for University Scholarship on the understanding that if successful in being recommended for award by the Academic Council of University College, Dublin, the scholarship which has been already awarded to her brother (at present a teacher in training) be regarded as cancelled."

This resolution was adopted.

The Secretary explained that George Whitmore's father was employed in the factory of Wexford Meat Supply Co. as a labourer.

Colonel Quin proposed and Mr D'Arcy seconded the following resolution:-

"That we cannot regard Patrick J. O'Reilly, Killanne, Enniscorthy, as eligible to compete for University Scholarship as his father is Principal Teacher in an elementary school!"

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For the resolution- Messrs Colfer, Cooney, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Hayes, Keegan, Meyler, Murphy, Quin, O'Ryan, Roche and the Chairman - 14.

Against - Messrs Clince, Corish, McCarthy, O'Byrne and Shannon - 5.

Messrs Cummins and Hall (2) were not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.
The following resolution was proposed by Col. Quin, seconded by Mr D'Arcy and adopted:- "That we approve of the following as eligible to compete for award of University Scholarship:- Lce. Butler, Joseph Byrne, Henry F. Doyle, Margaret Mary Flood, Joseph F. Flynn, John A. Furlong, Thomas F. Hall, Thomas Higgins, Mary Kavanagh, Mary Francis Kelly, James M. Kenny, Barbara Lowe, Mary M. O'Hanlon, Ml. Tobin and George Whitmore (15). And that the applications of the following be rejected:- Raymond E.G. Corish, James D. French, Ita Mary Kehoe, Elizabeth Mary McAuliffe, and Patrick J. O'Reilly (5).

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PETROL PUMP LICENCE.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Keegan seconded by Colonel Quin:- "That Petrol Pump Licence issue to John Roche, Merchant, Camolin, on condition that tank is placed at position pointed out to applicant by Assistant Surveyor for the district."

POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT LICENCE.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That Licence under Poisons and Pharmacy Act issue to Miss Anastasia Somers, Merchant, Coolgreany."

RESOLUTION GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL.
IMPRISONMENT OF REPUBLICANS.

The following resolution from Galway Co. Council was adopted on the motion of Mr Keegan seconded by Mr D'Arcy:-

"That we, the members of the Galway County Council, unanimously join Comhairle Iarthiar Midhe in protesting against the imprisonment of Liam Caomhanach by the usurping Government of Northern Ireland and its henchmen. We further protest against the savage sentences of six months inflicted on Padraig Sweeney and twelve months on Tomas MagRaith, the charges against these Republicans were that they were in possession of Republican Literature and a further charge against Padraig Sweeney with uttering Republican sentiments at the Easter Commemoration in Newry."

Col. Quin proposed:- "That no action be taken in reference to resolution of Galway County Council as to imprisonment of Republicans."

This was not seconded and the original resolution was then put and declared carried.

DE-RATING COMMISSION.

A request from the General Council of Co. Councils under date 9th May, 1931 (adjourned from last meeting of the Council)

asking the Council to furnish their views on the Report of the De-Rating Commission and the proposals of the Government for the relief of the agricultural industry was discussed.

The Secretary gave a resume of the findings of the majority and minority reports.

Miss O'Ryan - We should express our greatest dissatisfaction with the majority report. We should not be surprised in that when you see that not a single member responsible for the majority report was representative of the agricultural industry. They were big people with fat salaries, who were afraid it would touch income tax, and who have no sympathy with agriculture, and no sympathy with the country at all. They tell you that you would want to provide this and that, to go in for better farming stock, better sheds, markets, and so forth, but they did not tell you where you were to get the money. Three years ago we brought forward a resolution in favour of De-Rating, and we were put back in the first instance on the plea that it was a question not to be discussed - that it was a political matter. Later it came on again, and we were told by some of the members it was not advisable to do anything about it, that there was a Commission sitting, and that the report would be favourable to the agricultural community. Some time ago when I suggested a resolution whereby relief to the extent of one million pounds should be made available for the farmers, it was turned down in favour of the one that the De-Rating Commission was sitting, and from which it was contended we would get at least a million. The Commission has now reported, and you can see we are not getting that much, and I notice there is no complaint at all from the Farmers' Party. We here, as a county council, should express our total dissatisfaction with the majority report, and I wish to propose a resolution to the effect that we turn down in the most emphatic manner the majority report of the De-Rating Commission.

Mr D'Arcy - I second that resolution. What Miss O'Ryan says is perfectly true - that the people who composed the majority report have very little sympathy with the farmers. It was the same with the Dublin Chamber of Commerce. They talk about producing more and adopting better methods, and so forth, forgetting that no matter how much is produced the sale of that production is always controlled by supply and demand. The Government went to a lot of trouble passing Acts of Parliament, and expending a lot of money in improving the method of marketing the export of eggs. But did they improve the price of eggs? They disimproved it. The report is an insult to the agricultural community, and we should take it as such.

Mr McCarthy - I would not say that the De-Rating Commission has been entirely a failure. The Commission was composed of a body of men - very intellectual men of high standing in the country, and included men who were keen and practical farmers. There were some, who issued the majority report, in other spheres of life, but, at the same time they gave great attention to the business, heard a large number of witnesses from all over the country, and collected a mass of evidence. They devoted considerable time to the studying of the items, and I certainly would not agree that their conclusions are going to go for nought. They made certain recommendations, and if these recommendations were taken ^{up} wholeheartedly all over the country, they would form the basis of agricultural prosperity. De-Rating, went on Mr McCarthy, is all very good in its own way, but is de-rating going to make the farming community prosperous? I have seen in the report of the Commission that two-thirds of the farmers have a valuation of £15 and under. On that valuation these people would save, through de-rating, £3 or £4 per year. That amount is, so small, that it would not make any farmer prosperous. On the other hand the man with a valuation of £45 would save from £10 to £12 per year or scarecely that. Is that

going to make farming prosperous? I don't think it is. Something else must be done. The recommendation as to better marketing facilities and an easier method of credit are important points in their findings, and ought to be taken up and put into operation by legislation or otherwise. It is not three, four or five pounds that a farmer is going to save is going to make him prosperous, but he should be put into the position to earn ten times that. We are all inter-dependent, and it ought to be for everybody to see that the farming community is prosperous, and every effort should be made, instead of decrying the recommendations of the Commission, that they be taken up and studied, and see whatever good is in them, and I believe there is, put into operation. It frequently happens that farmers are forced to sell immature stock to meet a pressing liability. He is not, perhaps, otherwise able to meet it, and if he could get ready money to meet that pressing liability it would put him on his feet. There is also the question of providing seeds and manure, and of the man not being in the position to purchase them. At our doors, in England, there is a big market which could be developed, and instead of the present trade we are doing with England it could be considerably increased, instead of having it captured by foreign countries like Denmark and elsewhere. There is a great scope for development in that respect. I agree that the overhead expenses of the farmers should be reduced, and it was for that the £750,000 was given. I am sorry it was not more, and would be glad to see it more, for it is desirable that the overhead expenses should be reduced. The whole difficulty is where the money is to come from, and any substantial sum to be raised must come through taxation.

Mr McCarthy referred to the various methods which had been suggested to cut down taxation but held they were not practicable. Continuing he said then there was the suggestion to retain the land annuities. That contention is persevered in, and I say it has been shown over and over again by people who are in position to make those statements, that we have no legal or moral right to

these annuities. The annuities belong to the bond holders - the people who subscribed to the stock to enable the farmers of Ireland to become proprietors. This advocacy of the retention of land annuities is in direct contravention to the teachings of Parnell. When the question to buy out the landlords first arose, where was the money to come from? It was first suggested that a land bank be instituted to finance the purchase from the landlord, and the land banks were to have a mortgage on the farms, and the tenants were to pay to the land bank a certain amount of money annually until the mortgage was cleared off. That did not happen. Instead the British Government created stock, which was issued to the public, and the public were asked to subscribe to it, and the British Government guaranteed the interest and created a redemption fund. If they had not given that guarantee nobody would have subscribed, with the result that there would be no money available for the farmers to buy out their land. When the money, through the stock being subscribed to, was made available, the tenants signed a contract to pay so much in annuity for a certain number of years, in clearing off that interest and redemption fund, and if that contract is not carried out the whole question of his title arises. This very question as to the non-payment of land annuities was raised in the height of the land agitation. In 1883 Parnell had an interview with the editor of an influential Parisian newspaper, "The Clarion", and some months ago that interview was published in "The Wexford People" newspaper. The editor asked Parnell what would happen if the tenant farmers of Ireland refused to pay. Parnell replied - "The day that the Irish farmer became proprietor and refused to pay he will be expropriated and the land sold." That is in short, continued Mr McCarthy, what they were asked to do today. That is one of the means strongly suggested for raising the money for de-rating, but whatever method is suggested to raise the money I do not think that this is one that commends itself to the farmers of Ireland.

Mr Roche in criticising the majority report the recommend-

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ations of which he said had come upon him with surprise said there was only one practical farmer on the Commission and when he proposed a recommendation for relief he could not find a seconder. If the large farmer benefited by de-rating the Unemployment Bill would be cut down. As regards the benefit of £3 or £4 to the small farmer it would surprise many if they could realise what a real benefit even this small sum was to a small farmer. It was all very well to urge the farmer to produce more but all crops at the present moment were being sold below the cost of production. Then a man could not stock his land without capital which was not available except at an exorbitant rate of Interest. The Government instead of giving them-in the County Wexford - relief, sent down a County Medical Officer of Health costing £1000 a year and which would probably be increased. This appointment was made at a time when the children of the small farmer and of the labourer were actually hungry. There was little use in having childrens' teeth or tonsils looked after if they had not got their breakfast.

Mr Keegan said that if any farmer had to take the advice given by the Minister for Agriculture two and a half years ago to keep one more cow and one more sow he would now be in the County Home.

Mr Culleton said that the Report of the Commission was disappointing, and the action of the Government more so when they had many intelligent farmers and people in their evidence before the Commission to tell them of the ways and means to provide for de-rating. He went on to say that an attentive hearing was given to the Chambers of Commerce, and the deaf ear given to the evidence on behalf of the agricultural community. The farmers had themselves to blame, and at the next general election it was up to them to see their business properly attended to.

Col. Quin - I don't like that last remark. I may say thank God we have a good Government. I don't think we could

get any better in this country. Of course we should like if they did more, but I don't know if they could. It is very easy to say: "You are enemies to this, if you don't agree with me." Where are you to get the money? Is it from the air? If you get it from one place you must take it from somewhere else. I agree that de-rating is very nice. I lose on my own farming, but at the same time I don't know where the money is going to come from for de-rating. But thank God we have the Government we have now, and I will certainly vote for them until the end.

Colonel Gibbon thought that more attention could have been given by the De-Rating Commission to the question of the roads, and not have all the cost fall on farmers. There should have been something in the report that they had reached a time to cry "halt" to all benefit schemes until the County could really afford to pay for them. Proceeding Colonel Gibbon referred to the cost of sewerage and other schemes in this connection, which were all very good, but were leading to ever increasing expenditure, and where, he asked, was the halt to be called. The Commission had not suggested any limit to where that expenditure could be stopped. Something, he said, should have been done on that question. If they had more farmers on the Commission he believed more attention would have been probably paid to that side of the question.

Mr Cummins at some length referred to the retention of the land annuities in respect of which he said £128,000 was exported every year. This money was the produce of the land and he wanted it to come into the County Council. No matter what proposals were made by the De-Rating Commission there would be ^{no} prosperity in the County so long as this £128,000 was sent across the Channel. Mr McCarthy had stated this was a legal question. Eminent Counsel had advised that the retention of the annuities was perfectly legal and the next Government when in power would prove its legality by withholding the money.

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If the Commission had to bring into their report that there would be no rate it would make the country and community independent at the moment. The people would go to work with a will, and would not be in fear of the process server. As soon as you make up your minds - Mr McCarthy, I hope I will convert you, you are an able advocate if you were on our side - go and vote for Fianna Fail at the next election, and they will tell you all about the annuities.

Mr Corish said that complete de-rating would do the farmer some good but not sufficient to get over the present situation. There was certainly very little use, in view of the position of affairs, in telling the farmers to keep one more cow and one more sow and till another acre of ground. The position at the moment was that the farmer, at the beginning of the year, did not know whether he should till his land. It was a huge gamble as he could not foresee how he was going to dispose of his produce. What was required was for the Government to give a guarantee or set up national granaries as outlined by Arthur Griffith, and see that the price for the produce was commensurate with the cost of production. The matter, he said, would have to be approached that way. A man with a valuation from £10 to £15 - and there were a huge number of farms in the country with a low valuation - would not derive any good from full de-rating. It was only a quack remedy, and something greater would have to be done. Mr De Valera found out in the Dail that the million of relief for farmers which his party had proposed would do very little good. The amendment of the Labour Party asking for a relief on a valuation basis would, however, have afforded real relief. He heard a lot about de-rating of farms but nothing about the additional tax on sugar. It was plain that the poor people who had to pay that were in a worse position than the farmer. Even the man trying to live on 6s. Home Help would have to pay 2d per week extra for sugar. It looked very small but 2d taken off 6s. was a very big sum. Mr Corish then made a strong appeal to farmers to purchase Irish

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manufactured machinery. In connection with Land Annuities he said that if a conference could be arranged between the British Government and the Irish Government some relief could be obtained. He did not think they would do any good by shouting and telling the people not to pay. That would injure the credit of the country. If a conference of the different parties was arranged, and they agreed to the sinking of their differences for a short time, to go into the question of the land annuities, he believed something could be done. But so long as ^{they had} catch cries and counter cries on the subject between the two big political parties nothing would be done, and the farmers will suffer.

The Chairman said that the report of the majority of the De-Rating Commission could not be justified but they should not be surprised at this when they considered the personnel of the Commission, many of whom had no interest in agriculture. It was difficult to get over people who did not know the rudiments of agriculture making a number of pious recommendations to practical farmers. He denied the statement in the majority report that even if they had full de-rating it would not improve production. He Chairman denied this most strongly. A man who would be relieved of rates amounting to £40 or £50 more would certainly produce more. It was a downright lie to deny that this would not happen. The ways and means to find the money for full de-rating had been put before the Commission but they were not listened to. The Commission had treated the farmers most unjustly. Agriculture was the mainstay of the County and if it was let down the County was let down. Continuing the Chairman said that our farmers' representatives did not put the question they should about de-rating in the Dail, and if they had I believe myself that de-rating could have been got without any commission at all, and full de-rating, too. I have nothing further to add, but am very glad to have a full expression of opinion from the County Council. It won't do any harm. The

agricultural relief we got will help to a considerable extent, but I believe we should have had full rate off the agricultural land. The question of de-rating in England is always drummed into our ears , and it has been said it is not an agricultural country. Remember agriculture is not alone de-rated in England, but industry to the extent of three-fourths, and it is on a par or in proportion to what our relief on agricultural land would amount to if we got full de-rating. If we got full de-rating it would go a long way to relieve distress in the country. Does anybody seriously tell me that £100 put into my pocket would not do me any good. I cannot understand that. I would have power to spend it. I know it would do me some good and I could provide employment with it. In conclusion the Chairman said the recommendations of the Commission were the biggest insult ever offered the farming community.

Miss O'Ryan's resolution was then put and adopted nem con.

Michael Doyle

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

MEETING 8TH JUNE 1931

M I N U T E S.

COUNTY HALL,
WEXFORD.

N.J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

1

A meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 8th June, 1931.

Present - Mr M. Doyle, Chairman, (presiding) also Messrs James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Cline, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, James Gaul, Col.C.M.Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, William P. Keegan, Thomas Maylor, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col.R.P. Wemyss Quin, M.M. Roche, James Shannon, Myles/Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and Rates Inspector were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for Loans £16,115 and ordinary payments £16,867: 4: 0: were examined and signed.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEES.

Finance Committee: The following Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 7th May, 1931, were submitted:

2

The fortnightly meeting of Finance Committee was held in County Hall, Wexford, on 7th May, 1931.

Present:- Mr. Thomas McCarthy, presiding, also:- Messrs James Shannon and Sean O'Byrne.

County Surveyor, Solicitor and Assistant Secretary were also in attendance.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £2403: 9: 2d was examined and signed.

APPLICATION FOR RELIEF OF RATES

Mrs Margaret M. Doyle, Golf Pavilion, Rosslare Strand, applied for relief of rates. She stated partion of her ground had disappeared owing to Coast Erosion and that she was unable to carry on her business of serving teas owing to loss of entrance to her premises from public Road.

It was decided that as rates were assessed on occupied house the Council could not grant any relief.

ROAD CONTINGENCIES FUND

It was decided on the motion of Chairman that balance, viz., £21: 19: 3d, due to Great Southern Railways, in conformity with agreement between Co. Council and Railway Company, as to contribution for reconstruction of Palace Railway Bridge be paid from Contingencies Fund.

GOREY COURTHOUSE

It was decided on the motion of Chairman, seconded by Mr. Shannon, that Gorey Sports Committee be granted use of Gorey Courthouse for Meetings.

MR. KEHOE, ASSISTANT SURVEYOR

Medical Certificate was read from Dr. S. V. O'Connor, West

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Gatte, Wexford, stating that Mr. Kehoe was suffering from Neurasthenia post influenza and would be unable to resume duty for one month.

It was decided, on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Shannon, that County Council be recommended to grant a month's further leave of absence to Mr. J. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor.

THE CHILDREN ACTS

Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, reported that three children of Mrs Roche, Enniscorthy, had been committed to Industrial Schools and that no order had been made for a contribution by the parents.

Notification was received from District Court Clerks regarding application for committal of the following children to Industrial Schools:-

Catherine and Elizabeth Barnes of Ballyvalden

Peter Doyle, Ballyeden, Clonroche

Mary Flanagan daughter of Annie Flanagan at present an inmate of County Home.

Mary A. Murray, daughter of Hannah Murray at present cook in Fever Hospital, New Ross.

It was decided that further particulars regarding the two latter cases be obtained from County Health Board.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Clince:- "That the Minutes of meeting of Finance Committee held on 7th May, 1931, be and are hereby confirmed."

The following Minutes of Finance Committee of 21st May, 1931, were submitted:-

[A large diagonal line is drawn across the page, crossing out the content of this section.]

5

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 21st May, 1931.

Present - Messrs T. McCarthy, James Hall and Sean O'Byrne.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Mr Elgee, County Solicitor and Rates Inspector were also in attendnace.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Hall seconded a resolution appointing Mr McCarthy Chairman of the meeting.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £3357:1;8d was examined and signed.

STATE OF RATE COLLECTION - FINANCIAL YEAR 1930-31.

Temporary Uncollectable Rates.

It was decided on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall that the following amounts be regarded as temporary uncollectable for Collection Districts named and that these sums be carried forward for Collection with 1931-32 Warrant:-

J. Quirke	£153:	17:	10d
J. Quirke.....	£151:	3:	10d
P. Doyle.....	£316:	11:	7d
M. McCarthy.....	£386:	11:	0d
P. Nolan.....	£1186:	16:	11d
M.M. Kelly.....	£757:	7:	9d
J. Deegan.....	£170:	4:	9d
J. Cummins.....	£461:	19:	11d
P. O'Byrne.....	£402:	13:	5d
S. Gannon.....	£251:	15:	11d
W. Cummins.....	£771:	19:	3d
T. Bolger.....	£588:	6:	4d
J.J. O'Reilly.....	£136:	18:	10d
T. Bolger.....	£53:	4:	10d
A. Dunne.....	£386:	11:	1d
J.J. Sinnott.....	£517:	13:	7d
E.J. Murphy.....	£241:	11:	5d
T. Rowe.....	£136:	19:	3d
W. Doyle.....	£201:	9:	2d
J. Curtis.....	£177:	3:	4d
P. Carty.....	£219:	5:	5d

Collector O'Byrne was instructed to lodge within three days the sum of £47: 18: 10d which he had listed as temporary uncollectable and which had been rejected as such by Rate Inspector.

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The Assistant Secretary reported that Warrant and arrears for 1930-31 amounted to £130,398: 10: 10: (Arrears £11331:12:10 current £119066: 18: 0d). Sum lodged to close of Collection £120292: 7: 10d. Discount allowed on Small Dwellings £282:16:11. Total £120575: 4: 9d. Irrecoverable Rates amounted to £743:3:10. Sum due by Collector O'Byrne in respect of uncollectable items not regarded as uncollectable £47: 18:10d leaving amount carried forward for collection with 1931-32 Warrant £9032: 3: 5d representing 6.8% of year's Warrant and arrears. The amount carried forward last year was £11331:12:10d which exceeded the sum carried forward in current year by £2299: 9: 5d.

The following letter from Local Government Department under date 9th May, 1931 (No.G. 30295/1931. Loch Garman.) was read:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to advert to your letter of the 21st ultimo transmitting a list of holdings in the occupation of 90 persons which are represented to be derelict and in respect of which rates are in arrear to the extent of £2,829: 9: 3:

Not merely on account of the amount of rates outstanding but because of the general public importance of the question the Minister has been seriously concerned to be informed that so many holdings in the County are unproductive. The position has accordingly been discussed with the Land Commission and the Minister has learned:-

1. That, although there is a considerable arrear of land purchase annuities, the large bulk of the arrear pertains to the half year of account last closed and the older arrears are not very heavy.

2. This arrear notwithstanding, there are only some six or seven cases in County Wexford where the defaulters have not yielded to the persistent pressure that has and is being maintained by the Land Commission. In nearly all other cases payments on account of the arrears are being made.

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The fact that the Land Commission are in receipt of payments in respect of land annuities, even if in arrear, forces the Minister to the conclusion that granted proper efficiency on the part of the Council's rate collectors the rates could also have been secured. The Collectors are armed with wide powers of distraint under their warrants. They have even wider powers than those applicable to the execution of Court decrees and there should be no excuse in these circumstances for the failure of the Collectors.

It would serve no useful purpose to rehearse the numerous occasions on which the Minister has commented upon the lack of diligence of the Wexford Collectors nor to stress that a substantial increase of activity was expected from the appointment of a Rate Inspector. The present position clearly indicates a want of driving energy and points to a need for the replacement of the officers concerned. The Council, as public representatives, should realise that it is their duty to compel every citizen to meet his public obligations, and should not lend themselves too freely to suggestions of poor economic conditions. The remuneration of the Collectors is dependent on their making satisfactory collections and is not payable unless their collections are closed within the financial year. In the past the Council have pressed strongly for the advance of fees to Collectors who have not closed their accounts. It seems clear that such concessions have not been merited and the policy should be discontinued."

The Rate Inspector reported as follows:-

"The amount carried forward to the 1931/32 warrant for collection next year is made up of £2880: 16: 11d on Derelict farms and £6151: 6: 6d passed by the Finance Committee as Temporary uncollectable. The former represents 2.2 % of the Warrant and the latter 4.5 %.

I rejected about £3000 as Temporary Uncollectable and the collectors have lodged same, with one exception, and he has promised to have same lodged by 23rd May.

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I attach list of the principal ratepayers who are in arrears which will show how the bulk of the carry forward is made up. The Temporary uncollectable rate carried forward include several ratepayers who owe up to 6 years' rates but are not classed as "Derelict" for the reason that when the lands are let by auctioneers the proceeds of the lettings are divided between the Annuities and Rates. The fact of such farms being throughout the County is the main hindrance to having the Rate Collection brought up to date.

The Derelict farm question is one that has been a severe drawback to the Collection.

The amount of rates on such farms amount to £2880 which represent slightly under 4 years' rates. The number of acres comprised in such farms is 3784. The reasons for their being derelict are varied and the list and reasons have been submitted by me to the Finance Committee.

I have visited them separately on four or five occasions during the past year. Only on one did I discover any stock. I notified the Collector and he made a seizure of the old horse and older pony which realized £2:10:0:

The mileage covered by me during the year was 9000 miles odd."

The following is the list of defaulting Rate payers referred to by Rate Inspector:-

		rates.	Annuities on vested land only. Amount of Annuities due on non-vested lands not available.
	Revd. D. Sweetman, Gorey.	£242:12:10d	Rent Free.
	Mrs. J. Nolan, Bellfield, Enniscorthy.	£230: 0: 0d	
	Peter O'Brien, Ballyhire.	£211: 9: 5d	£209: 6: 2d
D	Bantry Commons. E. J. Murphy.	£198:11: 3d	Commons
D	Do. P. O'Byrne.	£139:5 : 2d	Commons
D	Patk. Kavanagh, Corlican.	£164:12: 5d	£142: 10: 9d
SD	Bolger & Son, Milltown Ferns.	£176: 0: 0d	£41: 15: 4d
D	J. Bolger, Polldarrig.	£130: 0: 0d	£207: 15: 1d
	Agnes Murphy, Galbally.	£126:13: 0d	
D	Laurence Parker, Coolmain	£116: 0: 0d	£105: 3: 4d
D	Wm. Edge, Mount Anna.	£112: 3: 1d	£343: 16: 6d
	James Walsh, Corlican.	£94:11: 4d	

Annuities on vested
land only. Amount of
Annuities due on non-
vested lands not
Rates. available.

S.D. Matthew Moran, Corlican etc.	£103: 0: 0d.	
John McDonnell, Castletown.	£91: 9: 10d	£106: 9: 4d
D. N. Mullett, Whitefort.	£87: 15: 9d	£128: 19: 1d
D. J. Kavanagh, Ballybeg, Screen.	£78: 0: 0d	
Tenants of Saunderscourt.	£80: 0: 0d	Estate Divided
N. Furlong, Iona Hotel, etc.	£58: 2: 3d	£36: 7: 5d
Henry Cullen, Cousinstown.	£44: 15: 10d	
John Byrne, Maytown.	£48: 17: 7d	£90: 13: 1d
P. Roche, Loginsherd.	£43: 12: 5d	£26: 0: 8d
N. Browne, Ballysheen.	£43: 3: 4d	
S.D. T. Goff, Kilcannon.	£50: 15: 9d	£66: 1: 9d
S.D. John Goff, Tomnafinshogue.	£51: 7: 1d	£110: 13: 0d
Timothy O'Connor, Aughnabally.	£66: 0: 0d	£49: 7: 0d
		£110: 5: 8d
D. Arthur Sinnott, Salville.	£65: 5: 3d	£47: 15: 3d
S.D. M. Murphy, Dranagh.	£62: 5: 0d	£127: 15: 7d
D. E. Brophy, Ballybrennan.	£66: 13: 5d	
D. P. Foley, Ballykelly, Ballymurrin.	£71: 16: 8d	Payment in Lieu
Mark D. Roche, Garrylough.	£55: 17: 0d	£135: 14: 4d
R.H. Peare, Kilmallock	£57: 0: 0d	£483: 14: 3d
Moses O'Brien, Blackwater.	£56: 0: 0d	
D. J. Cullen, The Moyne, Ennis-corthy.	£39: 14: 7d	£49: 19: 3d
T.B. Cockburn, Ballyroe	£44: 13: 9d	
Syl. Dempsey, Ballynellard.	£45: 11: 5d	£43: 0: 0d
Maria Dempsey, Corderaun.	£60: 18: 3d	£219: 14: 5d
H. & M. Forrestal, Ennis-corthy.	£33: 0: 0d	
D. J. Cooney, Ballina-rade	£33: 16: 9d	
Reps B. Ennis, Oulartard.	£33: 1: 0d	£47: 2: 9d
P. Doyle, Moneyhore	£32: 12: 6d	
J. Doyle, Wilkin	£31: 19: 10d	
Henry Sheridan, Askabeg.	£39: 10: 2d	
D. Wm. Breslin, Glenoge	£38: 11: 1d	£342: 4: 6d
D. J. Sullivan, Shanahona	£43: 18: 0d	£243: 0: 0d
D. W. White, Saltee Islands Little.	£40: 13: 6d	
Michael Murphy, Courtbally-edmond.	£39: 16: 0d	£129: 9: 10d
John Redmond, The Boira	£39: 2: 9d	£110: 13: 6d
D. P. Bowe, Great Island.	£40: 0: 4d	Payment in Lieu
D. J. Kavanagh, Horetown.	£41: 2: 3d	
Margaret Whyte, Tottenham Green.	£41: 15: 9d	
D. Marcella Stafford, Coolroe.	£44: 2: 5d	£198: 10: 0d
A. Doyle, Barmoney, Bree.	£30: 6: 4d	£90: 8: 1d
P. Jordan, Kilmisten.	£31: 9: 6d	
D. John Cosgrave, Millands Newtown	£31: 9: 8d	£31: 12: 2d
William Dooley, Ballyeaton.	£30: 10: 3d	£122: 17: 0d
D. P. Walsh, Rochestown	£30: 10: 8d	
S. Boxwell, Kilmore	£36: 7: 0d	
D. Robt. Sinnott, Banogue	£33: 8: 0d	
Thos. Rowe, Churchtown	£31: 19: 8d	
Francis Busher, Ballyhit.	£31: 8: 3d	
D. F. Auld, Ballygow.	£30: 5: 1d	£140: 9: 7d
E. Larkin, Harristown.	£24: 13: 9d	
W. Larkin do.	£15: 19: 6d	
Alice Nolan, Ballyhartan	£22: 16: 11d	£30: 17: 2d
D. R. Walsh, Knocktown	£26: 7: 2d	£118: 19: 0d
D. P. Keyes, Robinstown	£24: 0: 10d	
D. Daniel Scallan, Summerstown.	£27: 12: 8d	

Annuities on vested
land only. Amount of
Annuities due on non-
vested lands not
available.

Wm. Whelan, Slevooy.	£21:17: 2d		
D. Daniel Cagney, Crylough.	£21: 3: 4d		
D. N. Brennan, Saltee Islands.	£28:18:10d	£39: 7: 6d	
E. Croke, Kilagoley.	£25: 7: 7d		
D. Mogue Hendrick, Gorteen.	£25:18: 8d	£33: 14: 7d	
E. Whelan, Ballinacorney.	£28:13: 6d	£10: 2: 6d	
J. Mowles, Ballyhaddock.	£26:19: 4d	£64: 15: 1d	
P.C. Alcock, Wicklow	£22: 1: 2d		
D. J. Kavanagh, Ballycoursey.	£23:15: 5d	£30: 6: 2d	
D. Mark Philips, Garrybran	£28: 8: 9d		
D. J. Dempsey, Killencoooley.	£26: 8: 4d	£30: 10: 1d	
M. Kinsella, Ballyfad	£26: 1: 5d	£145: 1: 6d	
W.G. Murphy, Garrynew	£25:14:11d	£126: 2: 11d	
Patk. Murphy, Knockadawk	£22:12:11d		
Patk. Rath, Coolatrindle	£24: 6:11d		
Wm. Bennett, Ballynahoun.	£22: 9: 1d	£72: 19: 1d	
D. Reps L. Dwyer, Marshmeadows	£25:14: 1d	Alexander Estate.	
Marks Walsh, Ballyverogue.	£21: 0: 9d	£125: 14: 7d	
Thos. Whitty, Fisherstown	£27: 7: 0d	£198: 8: 6d	
D. J. Barron, Oldcourt.	£20: 8: 9d	£15: 16: 9d	
Anne Sullivan, Newcastle	£23: 9: 9d		
J. Colfer, Coole, Campile.	£21:17: 2d		
Isaac Scallan, Hayesland	£26: 3: 0d	£20: 18: 6d	
D. M. Neville, Ballingly.	£17:18:10d	£24: 13: 6d	
J. Fortune, Gaynestown	£18: 3: 5d	£78: 14: 1d	
T. Ryan, Ballytra	£15:10: 3d		
A. Mullett, Tinacurry	£14:18:11d	£15: 5: 10d	
J. Roche, Garryvadden	£17:19: 5d	£15: 17: 4d	
J. Doyle, Askabeg	£19:12: 6d		
D. J. Manning, Askabeg	£14:11: 1d	£118: 18: 2d	
J. White, Ballyclemock	£17: 7: 5d	£58: 7: 0d	
D. Laurence Kehoe, Johnstown.	£24: 1:10d		
D. J. & P. Keeffe, Ballyregan.	£12: 6: 0d		
D. Thos. Mythen, Ballinra	£17: 9: 8d		
D. E. Whitty, Rahard.	£28: 4: 3d		
D. E. Roche, Ballinclair;	£18:18: 3d.		
D. J. Conway, Shirsheen	£19:17: 3d	£117: 15: 0d	
D. Madame Serres, Pyrnees	£12:18: 3d		
Julia Cummins, Fethard.	£17: 4:11d		
N. Chapman, Ralph.	£15: 0: 6d	£63: 7: 6d	
Mary Walsh, Ramsgrange.	£10:13: 9d	£17: 12: 9d	
D. T. Randall, Killurin.	£58:14: 7d	£48: 4: 0d	
D. Mary F. Breen, Curraduff	£81:18: 7d	£78: 19: 8d	
Denis Corrigan, Knockasillogue.	£28: 8:11d	£93: 13: 0d	
D. M.K. Cullen, Chapel.	£37: 7:10d	£51: 15: 9d	
Patk. Howlin, Bulgan, Glynn.	£17:14: 6d	£242: 15: 9d	
S.D. John Parker, Coolamain and Coolakip.	£48: 0: 1d	£215: 9: 9d	
Matthew Cullen, Ballinagowen.	£9:17: 6d	£239: 10: 7d	
Ellen Murphy, Monroe, Glenbrien.	£15 :5 : 8d	£76: 5: 7d	
James Kelly, Bearlough, Rosslare.	£4:11: 4d	£119: 9: 9d	
H.P. Gahan, Little Graigue, Fethard.	£13:13:11d	£140: 8: 9d	
J. Dunne, Knockmire, Caim.	£4: 0: 0d	£45: 8: 11d	
M. Murphy, Ballinagam.	£12: 4: 5d	£104: 1: 10d	
D. Wm. Kelly, Grange, Rosslare.	£17:18: 9d	£86: 10: 8d	
Arthur Kavanagh, Stable	£25: 2: 1d	£80: 8: 4d	
D. Do. Shrute	£17:13: 6d		
D. Do. Templeberry	£41:14:10d		
A. Swaine, Ballinamoney.	£54:19: 9d	£178: 9: 4d	

£5805:18: 8d.

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The Chairman stated there was a considerable difference between the number of derelict farms mentioned in letter of Local Government Department and the number returned by Rates Inspector. He believed there was a misunderstanding as to what was really meant by the word "derelict". He thought they would not get any further until the Land Commission send down an Inspector who would go into the whole matter with the Finance Committee. After discussion it was decided on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall that Land Commission be again requested to send down Inspector to deal with the question of derelict farms. That it be pointed out that Council are anxious to consult with Land Commission as to best means of dealing with problem, and as consultation will be in committee there will be no publicity which might adversely affect any suggested proposals adopted for dealing with the question.

RATE COLLECTORS' POUNDAGE.

The following under date 8th May, 1931, was read from the Department of Local Government (G.31872/1931 Loch Garman Fa):-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to advert to your letter of the 24th ultimo, and to state that it is now five weeks after the time when the Warrants should have been closed to enable poundage to be paid. The Minister considers that there should be no further delay in disposing of the 1930/31 warrant in the manner provided for by Article 102 of the Public Bodies Order, 1929.

In view of the delay the Minister is not prepared to consent to payment of poundage at the full rate authorised in each case but stipulates that a reduction of the rate of poundage varying with the circumstances in each case should be imposed."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Hall:- "That we request the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to reconsider his decision

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refusing to sanction payment of full poundage to our Rate Collectors for period up to 31st March, 1931. We would point out that the Collectors have not received any fees for poundage since October last and the present will be the last year for which the Finance Committee will ask for any concession for Rate Collectors. Generally speaking Collectors' remuneration is low and any further deduction in the amount would not give them sufficient for subsistence and in the circumstances we request the Minister to approve of payment of full poundage fees on lodgments in respect of 1930-31 Warrant and arrears.

APPLICATION FROM RATE COLLECTORS

Under date 21st May, 1931, Rate Collectors A. Dunne, Michael McCarthy, P. Nolan, P. Carty and Thady Bolger, wrote applying for an increase of poundage rate from 5d to 7d in the £. Owing to prevailing circumstances they found it very hard to carry out their duties. In some instances their salaries amounted to £2 per week only out of which they had to pay for a Bond, travelling expenses, postage and legal fees leaving a very small remuneration for such a responsible position.

Mr. Hall proposed and Mr. O'Byrne seconded the following recommendation:- "That in view of the decrease in remuneration of Rate Collectors in receipt of a poundage rate of 5d in the £ owing to the further relief of £29,926 given to agricultural ratepayers by addition to Agricultural Grant, we recommend the County Council for the financial period 1931-32 to increase the rate of poundage from 5d to 7d in the £."

RELIEF OF RATES ON AGRICULTURAL LAND 1931-32

Under date 15th May, 1931, the Department of Local Government wrote (G.48/31) relative to additional Grant of £750,000 for relief of rates on Agricultural Land and explained the procedure to be adopted in connection with preparation of Rate Books and Collectors' Receipt and Demand Note Books. In the schedule to this communication the share of Wexford County Council was given at £29,926 which the Secretary stated represented a reduction in the rate of land of 2/- in the £. He also stated that the instructions of the L.G.D., in

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this matter would be carried out.

BONDS OF COLLECTORS. -----

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by the Chairman:- "That as Collectors Quirke and Bolger are to carry out the collection in additional districts for financial year 1931-32 we recommend the Council to fix the amount of Fidelity Bond for each of these Collectors at £1350."

A DISPUTED RATE PAYMENT. -----

In connection with claim of Collector M. McCarthy for £3: 8: 11d against Gregory Kelly, Ballygrangans, Kilmore, and Wm. Kinsella as Trustees of Kilmore Village Hall, Mr Kelly wrote under date 18th May, 1931, that the hall was derelict. There were no members and no Committee. It was used very occasionally for agricultural and technical instruction lectures in respect of which no rent was charged. The first Demand Note he received was for three year's rates.

It was decided on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr O'Brien that the matter be referred to Mr Elgee, County Solicitor.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME, 1931. -----

The Secretary reported that 20 applications had been received for award of University Scholarships the distribution being as follows:- From Rural area - 7; Enniscorthy Urban, 2; Gorey Urban, 1; New Ross Urban, nil and Wexford Urban, 10.

The circumstances of each applicant having been carefully considered the Committee decided to inform the County Council that in their opinion the following should be regarded as eligible to compete:-

Laurence Butler, Lambstown, Killurin.

Joseph Byrne, 4, Frances Street, Wexford.

Henry F. Doyle, Bishopswater, Wexford.

Margaret Mary E. Flood, Rosemount, Enniscorthy.

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Joseph F. Flynn, Ballyvoclare, Campile.
John A. Furlong, 2, Old Pound, Wexford.
Thomas F. Hall, 10, Cornmarket, Wexford.
Thomas Higgins, Monamolin, Rathnure, Enniscorthy.
Mary Kavanagh, Hollyfort, Gorey.
James Michael Kenny, 14, Pearse St., Gorey.
Barbara Lowe, Maudlintown, Wexford.
Margaret Mary O'Hanlon, Faythe, Wexford.
Patrick J. O'Reilly, Killanne, Enniscorthy.
Michael Tobin, Bohreen Hill, Enniscorthy.

The application of George Whitmore, Bishopswater, Wexford, was held over for further consideration.

The Committee considered that in the case of the five other candidates their parents or guardians were in a position to afford them a University education.

The following notice of motion was given by Mr T. McCarthy:-

"That John A. Furlong, Old Pound, Wexford, be regarded as eligible to compete for University Scholarship, notwithstanding the fact that he was 20 years old on 11th June, 1931, whereas the Scheme provides that the ages of accepted candidates shall not exceed 20 on 1st August, 1931. It should be pointed out that the intention of the County Council as regards University Scholarships ^{Scheme} was to keep its provisions as close as possible to the conditions governing the Leaving Certificate Examination of the Department of Education. It is also necessary to bear in mind that some years ago the Authorities of the Department of Education extended the age period to cover cases in which pupils' course of study was interrupted for some valid reason and, it is certain, that the Scholarship Committee would have suggested this change in the syllabus of the County Council Scheme had they been made aware of the concession given in this respect by the Department of Education.

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MENTAL HOSPITAL AND PURCHASE OF LAND.

The Resident Medical Superintendent of Co. Mental Hospital forwarded the following resolution which was adopted at the meeting of the Committee of Management on 19th May, 1931:-

"That the County Council be requested to provide over and above this Committee's Annual Demand for the current year a sum not exceeding £550 for the purpose of purchasing Miss Forrestall's land for Mental Hospital use. That although the usual method by which expenditure of this class is met is by way of Loan this Committee suggest, as the amount is small and the repayment of loans by interest and instalment comparatively expensive, that the County Council consider supplying the amount required in this case out of the current year's revenue of the County Council."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "We regret that the application of Mental Hospital for transfer of £550 for the purpose of purchasing land is not feasible but we recommend as portion of this amount must be paid over immediately that the County Council agree to advance the sum required in addition to payment of next quarterly amount on foot of demand when due."

WORKING OF BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS ORDER.

The following under date 6th May, 1931 (L.1792-31) was read from the Department of Agriculture:-

"With reference to your letter of the 1st instant, I have to state that the examination of specimens at the Department's Laboratory taken from animals slaughtered under the Bovine Tuberculosis Order is for the purpose of control of the working of the Order by Local Authority Veterinary Inspectors. If the Department find the work of a Veterinary Inspector unsatisfactory, the matter is taken up by correspondence with the Local Authority or by an Inspector of the Department direct with the Veterinary Inspector concerned.

I have to add that it is the duty of the Local Authority Veterinary Inspectors to complete the necessary forms from the

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result of the post-mortem examination without waiting for the result of the examination of specimens in the Laboratory.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That the Department of Agriculture be asked to reconsider their decision refusing to inform Local Veterinary Inspectors as to result of examination of specimens taken from animals slaughtered under Bovine Tuberculosis Order. We feel certain that compliance with our request will make the Order more efficacious."

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL CASES.

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The Clerk of New Ross District Court wrote under date 12th May, 1931, as to application for committal to Industrial School of Mary and Lizzie Connick, children of a labourer, who was earning 10/- per week and whose wife was dead.

The Clerk of Ballycullane District Court wrote under date 12th April, 1931, as to application to be made for committal of Ellen Butler, The Quay, Fethard, whose father was an invalid and unable to support her.

Both communications had been referred to Mr Elgee, County Solicitor.

CLERK IN COUNTY SURVEYOR'S OFFICE.

The County Surveyor wrote under date 20th May, 1931, that he had, in accordance with the authority given him by the Co. Council, employed Michael G. Stedmond, Island Road, Enniscorthy, as his senior Clerk during the absence of Mr Moore on sick leave, salary £3 per week.

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The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee for meeting of 21st May, 1931, be received and considered."

Temporary Uncollectable Rates: In connection with the list of these rates Mr Cummins said that in some farms where large amounts of Rates were due cattle were being grazed after sunset and taken away before sunrise. He recommended the Council to make seizures in such cases.

Mr Elgee, Solicitor, -According to the law as it stands no seizure can be legally made between sunset and sunrise.

Mr Cummins said he knew this was the law but in spite of it the County Council should direct their collectors to seize as suggested.

Mr Elgee said in that event there would be no doubt but the County Council might be mulcted in heavy damages as well as in law costs.

The Chairman suggested they should make representations to the proper quarter to have the law changed.

Mr Elgee, in reply to the Chairman, said he could not advise the Council to recommend Rate Collectors to carry out an illegal operation.

The Chairman said if they agreed to the suggestion of Mr Cummins they would be recommending an illegal procedure and would have no case if any one proceeded against them. If the County Council considered such a drastic remedy necessary they might take the chance.

The Rates Inspector said there was an amount of this surreptitious grazing going on and it was very difficult to catch those engaged at it. The cattle were often put in on Sunday and taken away on Monday morning.

Mr Cummins proposed that the Rates Inspector be instructed to watch farms on which rates were owing and on which cattle were being grazed between sunset and sunrise,

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and seize the animals when coming off the lands.

Mr Elgee - The Inspector has no power to touch the cattle at all.

Mr Cummins - He can bring the Rate Collector with him.

Mr McCarthy said that if the Council agreed to carry out Mr Cummins' recommendation they could not stand by it in any court: the Council would be cast in damages and whoever proposed the instructions to the Rate Collector would be surcharged.

The Chairman said that they could not ask the Rate Collectors to carry out this unless they were prepared to stand by them. What would happen if a Rate Collector was dismissed by the L.G.D. for having carried out their instructions ?

Mr Cummins said he did not think the Council would be at a great loss if they carried out the seizures.

Mr Elgee pointed out that heavy damages would be given against a Council when they knowingly and wilfully adopted an illegal procedure.

Mr McCarthy said they should leave the matter in the hands of the Rates Inspector who could keep his eye on these farms. He would probably find the owners of the cattle "napping" some time.

Mr Roche then proposed and Mr Brennan seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That the discussion relative to seizures between sunset and sunrise of stock on farms on which Rates were due be regarded as held in Committee."

Mr Gaul proposed that the Council proceed to the next business.

Mr Hall would be in favour of making a trial of Mr Cummins' recommendation were it not for the advice of Mr Elgee.

The Chairman said that the probability was that any Rate Collectors who acted as suggested would be dismissed by the L.G.D.

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Mr McCarthy proposed and Mr Colfer seconded the following resolution:- "That we call the attention of the L.G.D. to the fact that stock are being grazed between sunset and sunrise on farms on which a large amount of Rates is due and we request the Department to have the law so amended as to allow of seizures of stock on such farms at any hour."

Mr Cummins proposed:- "That the Rate Collectors be instructed to seize stock grazing on farms in respect of which considerable sums are due for poor rate, even though it may be necessary to make the seizures between sunset and sunrise."

Mr Keegan seconded. He said that they should try and get at the owner of the farm who was receiving the money for the grazing and who was responsible for the practice.

Mr Hall was in favour of asking the T.D.'s for the County to take up the matter and endeavour to bring about a change in the law.

After further discussion Mr Cummins withdrew his motion, and the resolution of Mr McCarthy was put and passed without dissent.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Colfer seconded by Mr Cline:- "That list of principal ratepayers in arrear with payment of their rates and as appearing in minutes of Finance Committee meeting for 21st May, 1931, be furnished Co. Councillors for their information."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That Minutes of meeting of Finance Committee for 21st May, 1931, be and are hereby confirmed except recommendations to increase poundage rate of Collectors A. Dunne, Ml. McCarthy, P. Nolan, P. Carty and Thady Bolger from 5d to 7d in the £ which is hereby rejected."

The following Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 3rd June, 1931, were submitted:-

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The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held on 3rd June, 1931, in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford.

Present - Messrs S. O'Byrne, James Hall and James Shannon.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor and Mr Elgee, County Solicitor, were also in attendance.

The Chair was taken by Mr Hall on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £4717: 5: 1d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION.

Sanction to Poundage: The following under date 2nd June, 1931, (G41647/1931 Loch Garman Fa) was read from the Department Of Local Government:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo and to state that he sanctions the payment of the balance of poundage to the Rate Collectors who have closed by the 27th ultimo on all sums collected and lodged by them.

I am to request that the precise terms of remuneration be brought to the notice of each Collector with a warning that these will be strictly enforced for the future; and that a copy of the circular letter issued be furnished to this Department."

In reference to payment of reduced fees to Collectors not complying with terms of Public Bodies Order regarding closing of Warrant etc., it was decided that when making recommendations to Minister for Local Government respecting payment of poundage fees the circumstances of each case ^{would} be considered in the light of instructions from Local Government Department.

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Centres for checking Collectors' Accounts: The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That, as heretofore, Rate Collectors' Accounts for the appropriate districts be examined at the four courthouses of the County as follows:-

Enniscorthy: Messrs M.M. Kelly, John Deegan, Joseph Cummins, P. O'Byrne, Sean Gannon, W. Cummins.

Gorey: Messrs J.J. O'Reilly, T. Bolger, Art Dunne, J.J. Sinnott.

New Ross: Messrs E.J. Murphy, Thos. Rowe, John Curtis, Patrick Carty, William Doyle.

Wexford: Jas. Quirke, Philip Doyle, Ml. McCarthy, and Patrick Nolan."

Application from Rate Collectors: Under date 29th May, Mr James Quirke, Hon Secretary to County Rate Collectors' Association, wrote asking the Finance Committee to consider the question of how Collectors' poundage for the coming year would be affected by the additional Agricultural Grant. He also asked the Finance Committee to receive a deputation on this matter. If paid on the basis of present warrant the average loss to each Collector would be about £40. They therefore asked the Council to pay on the original Warrant, and trusted their case would be favourably considered by the Finance Committee and by the Council.

The meeting decided to hear the deputation which consisted of the following Collectors:-

S. Gannon (Enniscorthy District); T. Bolger (Gorey); J.J. Curtis (New Ross) and Philip Doyle (Wexford).

Mr Gannon stated the views of the Collectors as to their position in consequence of the decrease which would be brought about in their poundage by the additional Agricultural Grant. He pointed out that several of the Collectors had scarcely a living wage and they would not be able to continue in office

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if this were reduced. Then again owing to the irregular periods at which poundage was received the Collectors had for a considerable period of the year to live on credit, and any reduction in their present remuneration would injure their credit very materially. The Collectors requested the Finance Committee and the Council to agree to payment of their poundage on the amount of Warrant prior to deduction of additional Agricultural Grant.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Shannon seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That we recommend the Council to pay Rate Collectors in addition to ordinary poundage fees for existing warrants for financial year 1931-32 such bonus as would bring their poundage fees for 1931-32 to the same amount as poundage fees calculated on basis of last year's net warrant (£119067); no poundage to be paid on Irrecoverable or Temporary Uncollectable items. Poundage on arrears to be paid on sums lodged therefor for financial year 1931-32 subject to sanction of L.G.D."

Irish Discount Co. Ltd and payment of Rates:- Under date 30th May, 1931, Messrs John A. Sinnott & Co., Solicitors, Enniscorthy, wrote on behalf of Mr Joseph Cummins, Rate Collector, as to Rates due on farm at Ballinrode, Oulart, which was formerly the property of John Cooney, but which had been sold by the Land Commission to the Irish Discount Co. Ltd., Dublin, which purchased in 1927, but which did not take possession from Cooney until 15th April, 1930, when he was ejected. Since then the Discount Co. had not made any use of the lands and the place was derelict. If Mr Cummins took proceedings against them there was some doubt as to whether he would be entitled to a decree. He would have to sue in the Dublin District Court, and it seemed unreasonable to expect him to go to the expense of travelling to Dublin to institute proceedings in a case, the issue of which was somewhat doubt-

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ful, unless the Council would agree to indemnify him against the expenses incurred in the event of the failure of the action.

In a subsequent letter under date 2nd June, 1931, Messrs Sinnott & Co., wrote that they were not familiar with the fees allowed in the Dublin District Court. They thought if unsuccessful, proceedings in the matter would cost Mr Cummins not more than £7: 7: 0: plus his personal expenses.

The Assistant Secretary stated that four years rates were due on the holding, amount £34:16:9d.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Shannon seconded the following resolution:- "That subject to the sanction of the L.G.D. we recommend the Council to indemnify Mr Joseph Cummins for any expenses which will be incurred in the proceedings which he may institute in Dublin District Court against the Irish Discount Co. Ltd for Poor Rates. We do not, however, see our way to recommend any sum to cover his personal expenses in this matter."

CONTINUED ILLNESS OF MR JOHN KEHOE, ASSISTANT
SURVEYOR.

Dr. R.V. Murphy, 89 St. Stephen's Green, South, Dublin, forwarded Certificate that Mr John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, was at present under his care suffering from cystitis, and would not be fit for work for two months.

The County Surveyor stated he did not know exactly whether any specific rules or regulations had been issued in connection with the illness of officials, but the usual practice was to grant six month's leave on full pay, six months on half pay and after the second six months the official would be obliged to pay his own substitute. The first six months for Mr Kehoe would expire on the 27th June.

It was decided to continue the present arrangement for working Mr Kehoe's district, and to consider the question of further sick leave at the meeting of the Finance Committee on 18th June.

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IRISH PUBLIC BODIES MUTUAL INSURANCES LTD.

The Secretary of the General Council of County Councils forwarded Report of the Directors of the above Company with the audited statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet for year ended 31st December last.

The Committee considered that the year's working had been most satisfactory.

PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE - CO. SURVEYOR.

The County Surveyor submitted the following letter under date 29th May, 1931, from Messrs McDonagh & Boland, Insurance Brokers, 51, Dame Street, Dublin:-

"The Insurance quoted for in ours of the 8th April was in respect of the Council's liability in connection with cars used by Officials apart from explosive risk, and a separate Policy will be necessary for these risks. Presumably you use your car on official business and should an accident occur whilst being so used a claim would probably be made against the County Council. Unless your name is added to the present Schedule of Officials, the Council would not be indemnified in such an event, nor would the Company insuring you personally have any liability to them unless your Policy has been extended to cover such contingencies.

We shall be glad to receive return of proposal sent in ours of the 14th instant with your instructions.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Shannon seconded the following, which was adopted:-

"That we recommend the Council to pay annual premium of 15/- to cover public liability for motor car of County Surveyor while engaged on official business."

OVERDRAFT ACCOMMODATION.

The following resolutions were proposed by Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon and passed:-

"That as from date of transfer of Loans for debit balances

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on Enniscorthy and Wexford Rural District Charges Accounts the National Bank Ltd. be requested to approve of Overdraft on current account at £19885 to 30th September, 1931.

"That special additional Overdraft of £8000 be applied for in respect of month of June as owing to alteration of receipt and Demand Notes through allocation of Additional Agricultural Grant 1931, the Collection of current year's rate will be delayed.

"County Council have, in addition to expenditure on Road Services, since 1st April, 1931, paid Subsidiary Bodies £13,000 in respect of Demands for 1931-32 and sums due by Urban Councils to County Council amount to £7995."

REDEMPTION OF GROUND RENTS OLD COURTHOUSE WEXFORD.

Under date 23rd May, 1931, letter was read from Mr Elgee, County Solicitor, in reply to query from the Secretary, stating that the conveyance in respect of Capt. Redmond's portion of the old Courthouse premises had been sent to America for signature by some parties resident there, and it would be some little time before it would be completed by all.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME.

Under date 3rd June, 1931, Mr James Kelly, 18 North Main street, Wexford, wrote, agreeing to the proposal adopted by the Council re University Scholarship, and expressed his thanks to them for their action in this matter.

In reply to the Chairman the Secretary stated that a University Scholarship had been awarded to a son of Mr Kelly's some time ago, but, as the boy was a teacher in training, it was being held over for him until training had been completed. Mr Kelly's daughter had applied for a scholarship at last meeting and the Council agreed that she should compete for same, provided that if she succeeded in being recommended by the Academic Council for award, the Scholarship to the boy would be cancelled.

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INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATION.

Under date 2nd June, Mr Corish, District Court Clerk, New Ross, wrote, as to application to New Ross District Court for committal of Ellen Doyle, Ballyeden, Courtnacuddy, to Industrial school. The child's mother was dead and the father an agricultural labourer who was unable to support her as he only obtained work intermittently, and was at present unemployed.

Referred to Mr Elgee, Solicitor.

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The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Clince:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 3rd June, 1931, be received and considered."

Application from Rate Collectors:- Mr O'Byrne moved and Mr Corish seconded the confirmation of the recommendation of the Finance Committee.

As an amendment Col. Quin proposed and Mr D'Arcy seconded the following:- "That the recommendation of the Finance Committee as regards poundage remuneration to Rate Collectors in consequence of reduction in same through the additional agricultural grant apply only to those Rate Collectors who are in receipt of a poundage rate of 5d and 6d in the £."

A poll was taken on this amendment with the following result:-

For - Messrs Brennan, Colloton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Meyler, Murphy, Quin, Roche, Smyth and the Chairman - 10.

Against - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Egan, Shannon and Walsh - 15.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

The resolution was then put and adopted nem con.

Irish Discount Co. Ltd: Colonel Quin dissented from the recommendation of the Finance Committee in this matter on the ground that it was the duty of the Rate Collector to take the necessary proceedings in this case at his own expense.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr McCarthy:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 3rd ^{June} ~~May~~, 1931, be and are hereby confirmed."

NEW MEMBER OF CO. COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURE.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Col. Quin:- "That Mr Michael Cloney,

Dungulph Castle, Fethard, be appointed a member of the Co. Wexford Committee of Agriculture vice Mr H.P. Gahan, resigned."

TEMPORARY CLOSING OF ROADS.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Cline:- "That application be made to Minister for Local Government and Public Health for the temporary closing of the following roads:-

1. Trunk Road (T.12 No.20) from Wexford to New Ross between Tomcoole Cross Roads and the old Rural District bounds at Poulpeasty from 25th day of June, 1931, until the 15th day of December, 1931.

Alternative route available for public traffic is the Main Road, Knockeen Turn, Taghmon and Ballyvergin (L.160 No.72) and L.122, No. 55)

2. Trunk Road (T.12 No.22) from Wexford to New Ross between Cushinstown and Ballymacar Bridge, from 25th day of June, 1931, until 15th day of December, 1931.

Alternative route available for public traffic is the County Road by Begerin Cross Road and Newtown (Nos 572 and 570).

3. Trunk Road (T.16 No.24) from Enniscorthy to Bunclody between Tomgarrow Cross Roads and Tombrick Bridge from 25th day of June, 1931, until 15th day of November, 1931.

Alternative route available for public traffic is the Road through Ballycarney and Clohamon (No.284 and L.33 No.47) on East Bank of River Slaney.

CONSIDERATION OF TENDERS FOR HAULAGE.

Mr Keegan moved the following motion, and of which he had given previous notice:- "That the resolution of County Council of 14th of April, 1930, abolishing procedure of accepting horse haulage by tenders to Tenders Committees be rescinded and that in future tenders for such haulage be dealt with by the Tenders Committee for each Electoral Area."

Mr Keegan in moving his motion said that the system of

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allowing the Assistant Surveyor to accept haulage tenders had worked out most unsatisfactorily in Gorey area.

Mr D'Arcy seconded the motion which was supported by Mr Smyth.

Mr Shannon said that the existing system was most satisfactory in Enniscorthy district.

Mr O'Byrne also expressed himself in favour of the existing system. He never had a single complaint from Gorey area as to the manner in which the proposals for haulage had been dealt with.

Mr Gaul saw no reason why as regards Wexford District the present system should be changed.

Mr Cooney said that there were complaints in New Ross District.

Mr Keegan said he was satisfied if his motion would apply to Gorey district only but Mr Murphy held that as the notice of motion sought to rescind a resolution which applied to the County as a whole Mr Keegan's proposal to confine^{it} to Gorey district was not in order.

Mr Roche said in view of the reservation made by Mr Keegan to confine the motion to Gorey District he would move it should apply to the whole County - in other words he was moving the motion as already given.

Col. Quin seconded.

After further discussion Mr Keegan said he was satisfied that his motion should apply to the entire County.

After considerable discussion Mr Corish proposed the following amendment which was seconded by Mr Shannon and adopted:- "That for all future haulage work advertisements be issued in the local papers asking for proposals from Carters who are prepared to carry out haulage work at 10d per yard mile and that discretion for acceptance of same be left in the hands of the local Tenders Committees. That if in the opinion of the County Surveyor, horses and carts are unequal to perform any particular haulage work the Tenders Committees be dir-

ected to give the necessary permission for other means of haulage."

This motion was accepted and all other motions having been withdrawn was adopted the only dissentients being Col. Quin and Mr Hall.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME.

The following motion of which he had given previous notice was moved by Mr McCarthy:-

"That John A. Furlong, Old Pound, Wexford, be regarded as eligible to compete for University Scholarship notwithstanding the fact that he was 20 years old on 11th June, 1931, whereas the scheme provides that the ages of accepted candidates shall not exceed 20 on 1st August, 1931. It should be pointed out that the intention of the County Council as regards University Scholarship Scheme was to keep its provisions as close as possible to the conditions governing the Leaving Certificate Examinations under the Department of Education.

It is also necessary to bear in mind that some years ago the Authorities of the Department of Education extended the age period to cover cases in which pupil's course of study was interrupted for some valid reason, and it is certain that the Scholarship Committee would have suggested this change in the syllabus of County Council Scheme had they been made aware of the Concession given in this respect by the Department of Education."

Mr O'Byrne seconded and the motion was adopted unanimously.

PROPOSED BANK AT HOPELAND.

The following under date 27th May, 1931, was read from Mr P. Bent, The Burrow, Rosslare:-

"You have received a memorial with reference to the necessity of a wall or barrier from Hopeland Bank to the last house on the Burrow and you have had an estimate for same. At

your last meeting the matter was raised but according to the press only a few took part in the discussion, and their remarks were not encouraging. One member anticipated a legal difficulty based on the score that the strand leads to no place. He was scarcely serious in his allegation. For if he knows the place, he cannot deny that the strand leads to our homesteads and to the Fort. Another said that if a wall were built it would not last long. In repudiation of that statement we have only to point out that there is a wall protecting Hopelands, and, although it is a very light wall and the current against it is much stronger than it would be in the case of the wall we require, nevertheless it is showing no signs of impairment or dissolution. Another member said that the people from the Burrow were with him day and night with regard to the wall. Apparently he is under the impression that we regard him as the County Council. But surely we are not so devoid of intelligence as to think that he is anything of the kind. He is just a unit of the County Council, and, consequently we attach no special importance or influence whatever to him in his capacity as a member of that body. To say then that people from the Burrow approached him day and night, is farcical. He suggested that rice grass be sown. How indeed could that stop or break the tide, or give us a clear road? It would be no remedy whatever. It only remains for us to ask again that the members agree to build the wall proposed, before it is too late. You do not hesitate to levy rates for such objects as the Carnegie Library and Tourist Development, but when there is a question of the health and lives of little children and the livelihood of their breadwinners, you raise difficulties. Surely what is essential should take preference before schemes or objects that are merely useful. We pointed out that a wall is absolutely necessary for us and our families. Therefore will you please accede to our request, without any more ado.

In the minds of some members there seems to be confusion regarding the wall, and for their enlightenment we wish to emphasise that the question of the wall has no connection whatsoever with the coastal erosion that is taking place on the big strand. We want a wall in order that we may have an unobstructed road to and from our homes."

Mr Elgee, Solicitor, said the Council had no power to make a wall in circumstances such as those referred to by Mr Bent except to protect their road and there was no road at this particular place.

The Chairman said in the face of the statement of Mr Elgee the Council could not deal with the matter.

No action was taken.

DRAINAGE SCHEMES.

Mr Roche proposed and Col. Gibbon seconded the following resolution which was adopted unanimously:- "That the Department of Lands & Fisheries be requested to state when they intend taking any steps in connection with drainage work at the Boira and Cahore (Gorey District) and at Ballyteigue, Kilmore (Wexford District)."

TOMGARROW QUARRY.

The County Surveyor reported that the agreement of the County Council to obtain road material from Tomgarrow quarry had expired and the owner declined to renew it. He asked for Court proceedings to be instituted against him.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Col. Gibbon:- "That in the event of Thomas Delaney, owner of Tomgarrow Quarry, refusing to come to an agreement with the Co. Council in connection with supply of road material from Tomgarrow Quarry, Mr Elgee, Solicitor, take proceedings against Mr Delaney in respect of this matter."

FIRE EXTINGUISHING APPARATUS

The following from Mr J.C. Hutson, Fire Expert, Fire

Prevention and Protection Bureau, Ard Lorcan, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin, was submitted by the County Surveyor:-

"Further to my survey and interview of the 2nd instant re the Fire Prevention and Protection of the County Hall and Machinery Yard, Petrol Stores etc I have no hesitation in recommending Light Soda and Acid 2 Gallon size, Turnover type which is the very latest model with no working parts to go out of order or become corroded, and can be charged by your people for a cost of about 8d per charge, viz One pound Bicarbonate of Soda and 3 ounces of Commercial Sulphuric Acid, thereby saving about 4/- per charge. These you will find extremely simple and as a Fire Extinguisher most deadly to fire.

"With reference to the Machinery Yard, Petrol and Oil Store, as stated, I have no hesitation in recommending 2 Gallon size foam, Turnover Type, latest model, no working parts to go out of order, two of which will be sufficient to meet your requirements at this place. I have instructed Messrs Simonis Ltd., London, to send you a quotation at Bureau prices, eliminating Agents' Fees and giving you full benefit as if you were enrolled on this Bureau.

Thanking you very much indeed for the very kind and courteous manner in which I was received, and I can assure you and your Board that if at any time you should desire any further information re Fire Prevention and Protection it will afford me the greatest pleasure to furnish you with the desired information on their behalf."

The County Surveyor said that the entire outfit as recommended by Mr Hutson would cost about £18 and a somewhat similar outfit from Minimax Co., £25. The refills for the latter would be 7/- each and for the former only a shilling at the outside.

Col. Gibbon suggested that the County Surveyor should communicate with the Insurance Co. which held the Fire Insurances for the buildings concerned.

Mr O'Byrne asked if the Co. Surveyor had made enquiries about apparatus manufactured in Ireland.

The County Surveyor said he had a quotation from the Dublin Japan Works but it was higher than for those referred to in Mr Hutson's letter.

After further discussion Mr Corish proposed and Mr Gaul seconded the following resolution which passed:-

"That the question of dealing with purchase of Fire Extinguishers be adjourned to next meeting; in the meantime advertisements asking for quotations be issued by the Co. Surveyor in the usual way."

COURTOWN HARBOUR SLUICE GATES.

Under date 28th May , 1931, the Department of Lands & Fisheries wrote (D/5/2) that for the reasons already stated in the Department's letter of 4th inst. the Minister was unable to recommend any increase in the grant already sanctioned for the repair of the sluice gates at Courtown Harbour.

ROAD GRANT.

Under date 3rd June, 1931, the Department of Local Government (Roads) wrote (RG/79) forwarding £809 road Grant for Enniscorthy streets.

POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT LICENCE.

Renewal of Poisons and Pharmacy Act Licence was agreed to Owen Kehoe, Raheenduff, Oulart, on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall.

THE QUESTION OF DE-RATING.

A series of resolutions adopted by Dublin County Council from a joint meeting of the members of the County Council and Co. Dublin Committee of Agriculture in connection with the question of De-Rating were submitted.

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These pointed out:-

(1) "That they were satisfied the De-Rating Commission did not fully investigate the matter delegated to them, and they, consequently, considered the report and recommendations of little value to the Government in arriving at a solution of the problem of de-rating, and in deciding the best means of helping agriculture; (2) considering the Chairman of the Commission outstepped his duty and exceeded his authority by refusing to hear the evidence of Councillor Belton, Messrs Kettle and Brown in support of their memo, after having specifically summoned them to give such evidence; requesting President Cosgrave to convene a body of experts to hear the case in full of the witnesses who represented the General Council of County Councils and Agriculture; (3) stating that if the proposals contained in the report of the Commission were made effective they would increase and not diminish the burden on agriculture. With regard to the third resolution the communication stated that it was considered unnecessary to discuss it in view of the fact that it was dealt with by implication in resolutions land 2 .

Accompanying the resolutions was a memorandum of Mr P. Belton, a member of the Joint Committee dealing with the De-Rating Commission , which the Secretary stated he would read.

Mr Gaul observed that it would not be necessary to read the memorandum which the Secretary, in reply to Col. Quin, stated was a lengthy document.

Mr Sean O'Byrne stated that the General Council of County Councils adopted the first of the resolutions, and that portion of the second resolution up to the point where names were given.

The Chairman stated that when the question was discussed at the meeting of the General Council of County Councils, Mr Belton was one of the chief speakers to the resolutions. There was a great deal of discussion for and against the matters proposed. One of the resolutions was lost completely,

Mr O'Byrne stated that the resolution which was defeated

was the one referring to the chairman of the Commission.

Mr Corish said he agreed with the point raised by the Chairman in regard to setting up a body of experts to inquire further into the matters, The experts, in his opinion, were those who had practical knowledge of farming.

The Chairman said he did not approve much of the proposal to set up a body of experts, because he believed the Government would only appoint people who would bring in a report favourable to them. In his opinion, the inquiry into de-rating had gone far enough, and if the Government wanted to give de-rating they had sufficient evidence already to go upon. Another body of "experts" would only muddle the question.

Mr Gaul said he read the Press reports of the discussion of the General Council of County Councils, and it was his impression that the farmers were not satisfied with the help that had been given. He believed that if the farmers got full de-rating another section of the community would suffer.

Mr Cummins - No, no.

Mr Gaul - I believe it is up to the farmers themselves to form a body to go to the Government and agitate for some form of relief other than de-rating, such as wiping out the land annuities.

Miss O'Ryan said it would be false economy to say that another section of the community would suffer from full de-rating. What was wanted was to put the majority of the people on their feet, and if that were done the farmers would give more employment, more tillage would be done, the food supply would be increased, and the country generally would be placed in a better position. Another body should be set up to examine the question of de-rating, and be constituted of people who understood the needs of agriculture - the farmers themselves.

The Chairman said that while he agreed with Miss O'Ryan on the main point he questioned if the Government would appoint

a committee of inquiry comprised solely of farmers.

Miss O'Ryan said they should insist on the majority of the people being represented properly on such a committee of inquiry. There was no doubt that in the recent Commission the majority decisions were arrived at by a body of men who had no standing with agriculture.

Miss O'Ryan suggested that County Committees of Agriculture should have representatives on such a committee of inquiry.

Chairman - I think we might agree with the first resolution.

Col. Quin - I dissent. I think they were a very decent body of men, and they did their best.

Chairman - The Government that sent them there did not fall in with their ideas.

On the motion of Miss O'Ryan seconded by Mr Hall the following resolution was adopted, Col. Quin dissenting:-

"We are satisfied that the De-Rating Commission did not fully investigate the matter delegated to them, and we consequently consider their report and recommendations of little value to the Government in arriving at a solution of the problem of De-Rating and in deciding on the best means of helping Agriculture."

Michael Doyle

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

ANNUAL MEETING + 23RD JUNE, 1931.

M I N U T E S.

The annual meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 23rd June, 1931.

Present - Mr M. Doyle, Chairman (presiding) : also Messrs James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Clince, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, John Doran, James Gaul, Col.C.M. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Michael Jordan, William P. Keegan, Thomas Maylor, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col.R.P. Wemyss Quin, M.M. Roche, James Shannon, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and five Assistant Surveyors viz: T. Treanor, R.J. Ennis, P. O'Neill, Thos. Cullen and J.F. Birthistle were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Notes for £3725:15: 1d (Ordinary Account) and £1034:11:0: (Loans Account) were examined and signed.

ANNUAL MEETING OF COUNTY COUNCIL.

Under date 27th May, 1931, the L.G.D. wrote (Circular 49/31) pointing out that if the Local Elections and Meetings (Postponement) Bill, 1931, before the Oireachtas became law the annual meeting of the Council would be held between 23rd June and 1st July, 1931.

Under date 18th June, 1931, (Circular. F.60/31) the L.G.D. wrote calling attention to the provisions of the above mentioned measure and which became law on 15th June, 1931. This Act postponed to a date to be appointed by the Minister for Local Government but not later than 15th July, 1934, the triennial Elections of members of County Councils. A casual vacancy occurring after the passing of the Act which ordinarily would be filled by an election can be filled by the choice of the council, Boards and Committees which are required to be ap-

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pointed triennially have their term of office extended up to the appointed day. This included the County Board of Health and the County Vocational Committee. Under the provisions of the Agriculture Act, 1931, the appointment of a County Committee of Agriculture at the 1931 annual meeting of the Council was compulsory. Where the Council appointed annually any board or Committee such as a County Libraries Committee it should be inferred that similar appointments were to be made this year.

The Old Age Pensions Committee should be formally appointed.

The annual or quarterly meeting of the Council which would normally be held between 23rd July and 1st July will in 1932 be held between the 23rd of August and 1st September.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

Col. Quin proposed and Mr D'Arcy seconded the re-election of Mr Michael Doyle as Chairman of the Wexford County Council for the year 1931-32 and until his successor has been appointed and has taken office.

There was no other proposition and the Chairman declared himself re-elected. He said he wished to thank all the members very heartily for his re-election to the chair, It was an honour he appreciated very much indeed. Though sometimes the position was rather troublesome, it was the highest honour that the Council had it in their power to bestow, and he was very, very grateful to the members for re-electing him. He regretted that they were not starting the County Council new year with brighter prospects. The outlook for the country was anything at all but cheery at the moment. The worst factor they had for the last two months was probably the weather, but, of course, they had no control over that. Other matters were dark enough, too, especially the outbreak of foot and mouth disease, which had upset trade considerably in the country, at a time when it was at its highest and in full swing. The stoppage of shipping was a big drawback to the farmers at large, and he

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hoped the restrictions would soon be removed, and matters revert to normal. They had a very successful shipping trade at Wexford port when the outbreak occurred - much more successful than for the past forty years. The trade was a great thing for Wexford and for the farmers generally. He was sorry the trade had been upset, and he hoped the stoppage would not be for long. He trusted that the outbreak would be coped with as soon as possible. He was sure the Department would lose no time in trying to right matters. The Department had done their best with regard to every outbreak of the kind and got things going as quickly as they possibly could. Other outlooks of the farmers were not very prosperous. Crops as a rule in wet land were looking very bad. In lots of places they were sown very late and there would not be great prospects of a bountiful harvest in some places. However, they were not accountable for the weather. He would ask the Council to be as economical as possible during the year, and to spend as little as possible, so as to try to reduce the burden on the ratepayers. He again thanked them for the honour they had bestowed on him. He would carry on in the future as he had done in the past, and he would try to please everyone as far as he could.

Mr Doyle then subscribed the usual declaration of office.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN.

Mr Murphy proposed that Mr J.E. Walsh be elected vice-chairman.

Colonel Gibbon (outgoing vice-chairman) seconded.

There was no other proposition, and the Chairman declared Mr Walsh elected unanimously.

Mr Walsh thanked the members for the honour they had done him in electing him to the vicechair. He was sure he would not have to occupy the chair very often, as Mr Doyle, he thought, was the best attender on the council. He did

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not think that Mr Doyle missed a single meeting last year, and he hoped they would have the same service from him this year. Any time he (Mr Walsh) was called upon to preside he would give the best service that was possible.

Mr Walsh then subscribed the usual declaration of office.

APPOINTMENT OF COUNTY COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURE.

Letter under date 9th June, 1931 (G1475/31) was read from the Department of Agriculture pointing out that under Section 14 of the Agriculture Act 1931 the existing County Committee of Agriculture would continue in office until their successors were appointed at the annual meeting of the County Council in 1931 under Section 15.

The Department of Agriculture also forwarded copy of second Schedule to the Agriculture Act - (Appointment and Membership of Committees of Agriculture) from which it appeared that at the discretion of the Council every County Committee of Agriculture must be composed of (1) Members of the Council or (2) partly of members of the Council and partly of non-members. The number of members of the Committee shall not be less than three times nor more than four times the number of County Electoral areas in the County at the date of the annual meeting. This gave a maximum membership to Wexford Committee of 16 and a minimum of 12. The Committee must include at least one representative from each County Electoral area. No person is eligible for election unless he has a practical Commercial or technical knowledge of land or has an estate or interest in some agricultural land in the County or has special practical knowledge of agricultural matters. Six months' absence, except thro^t illness or some reasonable ~~cause~~ approved by the Committee, disqualifies a member and a year must elapse before he is eligible for re-appointment.

The following recommendations of last meeting of old County Committee of Agriculture held on 22nd June, 1931, were submitted to the meeting:-

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"That we recommend the County Council to appoint the maximum number of representatives on the County Wexford Committee of Agriculture viz. 16."

"That two County Councillors be elected on the County Committee of Agriculture from each Electoral area."

The following were then recommended for appointment.

Enniscorthy Electoral Area - Messrs James Shannon, and James Cline (County Councillors) George Colloton and Byran O'Connor.

Gorey Electoral Area - Messrs James Hall and Sean O'Byrne (County Councillors) A. McCann and Danl. Somers.

New Ross Area - John Cummins and P. Colfer (County Councillors): W. Thorpe and Ml. Cloney.

Wexford Area - Messrs Doyle and P. Hayes (County Councillors) Messrs W. Devereaux and James J. Ennis.

The Chairman said that the Council were not bound to accept the recommendations of the County Committee of Agriculture unless acceptable.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Murphy seconded by Colonel Quin:- "That the County Committee of Agriculture be composed of 16 members."

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution:- "That two County Councillors from each Co. Electoral Area be appointed on Co. Wexford Committee of Agriculture."

Colonel Quin moved and Mr D'Arcy seconded the following amendment:- "That twelve County Councillors, three from each Co. Electoral Area, and four non-members of the Council one from each Co. Electoral area, comprise the Co. Wexford Committee of Agriculture."

A poll was taken on the amendment with the following result:-

For :→ Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Hayes, Jordan, Keegan, Meyler, Murphy, Quin, Smith and

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Walsh - 13.

Against:- Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Cooney, Corish, Gaul, Hall, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Roche and Shannon - 10.

The Chairman did not vote and Messrs Colfer and Cummins (2) were not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the amendment carried.

On being put as the substantive motion it was adopted nem con.

The members of the Committee were then selected:-

Enniscorthy Area:- The following were approved on the motion of Mr Murphy seconded by Mr Jordan:-

Messrs James Clince, Caim, Enniscorthy; John Doran, Moneyhore, Enniscorthy and James Shannon, Rathnure, Lower, Enniscorthy (County Councillors).

The name of Mr George Colloton, Fairyhill, Castlebridge, was also selected on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr Shannon.

Gorey Area:- The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Murphy seconded by Col. Quin:- "That Messrs T.F. D'Arcy, Annagh Lower, Inch; James Hall, Tobergal, Boolavogue, Ferns, and Sean O'Byrne, The Avenue, Gorey (County Councillors) be appointed members of County Wexford Committee of Agriculture.

Colonel Quin proposed and Mr Hall seconded the appointment of Mr Andrew McCann, Newbridge, Camolin, as a member of County Committee of Agriculture.

Mr Keegan proposed and Mr Shannon seconded the appointment of Mr Daniel Somers, Killowen, Gorey.

A vote was taken as between Messrs McCann and Somers with the following result:-

For McCann:- Messrs Brennan, Colleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, O'Byrne, Quin, Roche, Walsh and the Chairman - 12.

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For Mr Somers - Messrs Keegan, Meyler, Shannon, and
Smyth - 4.

The following did not vote:- Messrs Armstrong, Cline,
Cooney, Corish, Gaul, Hayes, Murphy, Miss O'Ryan - 8.

Messrs Colfer and Cummins (2) were not in attendance
when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared Mr McCann selected.

New Ross Area:- The following resolution was adopted on
the motion of Mr Murphy seconded by Mr Corish:- "That Messrs
P. Colfer, Clormines, Wellingtonbridge, John Cummins, Bally-
hack, and Thomas Mayler, Harristown, Ballymitty (County Coun-
cillors) be appointed members of County Committee of Agricul-
ture."

Col. Quin proposed and Mr Brennan seconded the appointment
of Mr Wm. Thorpe, Knockroe House, New Ross, as a member of the
Committee and the proposal was adopted.

Wexford Area:- Colonel Quin proposed and Mr Murphy
seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That
Messrs Ml. Doyle, Cottage, Tagcoat, Col. C.M-Gibbon, Sleadagh,
and Patrick Hayes, Kilmannon, Cleariestown (County Councillors)
be appointed members of County Wexford Committee of Agriculture."

Mr Roche proposed and Colonel Quin seconded the appointment
of Mr William R. Devereux, Tomhaggard, as a member of the Com-
mittee.

Mr Corish proposed and Mr Gaul seconded the selection of
Mr J.J. Ennis as a member of the County Committee of Agriculture.

A poll was taken as between Devereux and Ennis with the
following result:-

For Devereux:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran,
Gibbon, Jordan, Meyler, Murphy, Quin, Roche, Smyth and Walsh -12.

For Ennis:- Messrs Armstrong, Ennis, Colfer, Cooney,
Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, and Shannon -11.

Messrs Hall, Keegan and the Chairman (3) did not vote.

The Chairman declared Mr Devereux elected.

Mr O'Byrne raised the question as to contribution of travelling expenses to members of old Co Committee of Agriculture and who were not re-appointed at the present meeting, and who might be deprived of contribution towards their travelling expenses although they attended every meeting possible for the half year up to the present.

After the discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by MrCorish :-

"That we request the Local Government Department to inform this Council if it will be in order to pay the usual contribution towards travelling expenses to members of the County Committee of Agriculture who went out of office on 23rd June, 1931, but who from the commencement of the current financial/^{half}year attended at least 75 per cent of meetings held to date. They cannot - through no fault of their own - attend 75 per cent of all meetings of the Committee held within the half year.

OLD AGE PENSION COMMITTEES.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That the County Council be and is hereby re-appointed as Committee under Old Age Pensions Acts and that the eight Sub-Committees acting at present under these Acts in the various districts be also re-appointed.

"We further hereby agree that the first vacancy on No. 6 Sub-Committee will be filled by the appointment of Mr James Armstrong, County Councillor."

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COUNTY LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Clince:- "That the County Wexford Library Committee be re-appointed."

Messrs Murphy and Meyler asked that their resignations as members of Library Committee should be accepted.

It was decided to ask the Library Committee to recommend the appointment of their successors.

COUNTY WEXFORD VOCATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Under date 12th June, 1931, the Department of Education (T. I. B.) wrote (5067-31) that the Local Elections and Meetings (Postponement) Bill 1931 and which had passed into law since the receipt of above letter rendered unnecessary any action for the present as to election of Vocational Education Committee and which would not take place until the year in which the day is appointed by the Minister for Local Government for the next election of local authorities.

Mr Jordan wished to resign from this Committee and nominated Mr Culleton in his place.

It was decided to call the attention of next meeting of County Vocational Education Committee to the matter.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEES.

Finance Committee:- The following Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 18th June were submitted:

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PERMANENT APPOINTMENT OF RATES INSPECTOR.

Mr O'Kennedy, Rates Inspector, made application to the Finance Committee in respect of his permanent appointment.

The Secretary pointed out that in December last a resolution had been adopted by the Council asking the Minister for Local Government to reconsider his decision refusing to approve of Mr O'Kennedy's permanent appointment and pointed out that the Council were perfectly satisfied that Mr O'Kennedy had discharged his duties in a thoroughly efficient manner. The Local Government Department had written under date 24th December last in reply to this resolution that pending the completion of the current year's Warrant the Minister was not prepared to reconsider the further status of the Rates Inspector.

The following recommendation was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Culleton:-

"That in connection with the permanent appointment of Mr O'Kennedy, Rates Inspector, we recommend the Council to point out to the L.G.D. that relative to their letter of the 24th December, 1930, G.93781/1930 Loch Garman. the Warrants of the Collectors for last financial year had been satisfactorily completed, and in view of this we strongly recommend the Council to make further application to the Minister for his approval to the permanent appointment of Mr O'Kennedy."

RATE COLLECTOR M.M. KELLY, NO.6 DISTRICT.

Under date 16th June, 1931, the following report was presented by Mr O'Kennedy, Rates Inspector:-

"I have to report that I found on an inspection of No. 6 District (Matthew Kelly, Collector) the Collector withheld rates in six cases amounting to £33: 11: 3d.

"I called on Mr Kelly for an explanation who admitted

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having received the amounts which he lodged immediately.

In none of the cases had Mr Kelly issued any receipt whatever.

All defaulting ratepayers in his District, which comprises only one Electoral Division (Enniscorthy Rural) have been communicated with by Circular letter and I have personally called on all the larger ratepayers comprising about 90 % of the carry forward to the 1932 Warrant and with the exception of the above his accounts appear to be in order."

The Secretary stated on receipt of Mr O'Kennedy's report he had interviewed Mr Elgee, County Solicitor, who wrote as follows under date 17th June, 1931:-

"Referring to our interview today as to the discrepancy which the Rate Inspector found in the Accounts of the above Rate Collector.

Having regard to the fact that immediately the amount due was pointed out to the Collector he lodged same to credit of the Council, I would not recommend a prosecution in this case.

"If, however, any further discrepancies are discovered I advise the Council to take immediate action, and have Information sworn and Warrant for arrest issued at once."

The attention of Mr Kelly's sureties had been also called to Mr O'Kennedy's Report and under date 17th June, 1931, the New Ireland Assurance Company wrote that they were not prepared to renew Mr Kelly's Bond but would of course, hold the County Council fully covered to date.

The Secretary further mentioned that the amount referred to in Mr O'Kennedy's Report viz., £33:11:3d had been lodged to the credit of the Council by Mr Kelly on the 16th June.

Mr Kelly came before the meeting and made a long statement in connection with Report submitted by Rate Inspector

After discussion the following resolution was adopted:-

"That Collector M.M. Kelly, No. 6 District be suspended

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from office and that he be directed to submit in writing his observations in detail on Report of the Rate Inspector. Should this explanation be regarded by the Finance Committee as, unsatisfactory, we consider ourselves bound to call on Mr Kelly to hand in his resignation. While his case is sub judice we hereby appoint Collector Sean Gannon (No. 10 District) as temporary Collector for No. 6 District, to enable the Demand Notes of Small Dwellings to be served within the stipulated period."

BONDS OF RATE COLLECTORS.

On the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr Culleton, Mr William K. Stamp, Merchant, 20 Market Square, Enniscorthy, and James Deegan, Senior, Brideswell, Craanford, were accepted as personal sureties for Mr John Deegan, temporary Rate Collector for District No. 7.

As regards Personal Bonds of Collectors Thady Bolger and Jas. Quirke, in connection with the collection in Nos. 12 and No. 2 Districts respectively and which these Collectors are working in addition to their own, the Finance Committee considered that as both these Collectors were furnishing Fidelity Guarantee Bonds in the sum of £1350 their Personal Bonds of £400 and £300 respectively should be regarded as sufficient.

LEGAL COSTS - REDEMPTION RENTS OLD COURTHOUSE.

Mr Elgee, County Solicitor, mentioned that in connection with the purchase of Capt. Redmond's rights in the ground rents of the old Courthouse, Quay, Wexford, the Council had agreed to pay the costs which Messrs O'Keeffe & Lynch estimated in their letter of 27th July, 1928, to be a half year's purchase or something under £40. They had now sent him a statement of costs amounting to £53: 1: 0:

After discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Culleton seconded by Mr Shannon:-

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"That Mr Elgee call the attention of Messrs O'Keeffe and Lynch to the statement in their letter of 27th July, 1928, that the Legal costs regarding the purchase of the ground rents of the Old Courthouse from Capt. Redmond had been stated to be something under £40, and in the circumstances the Finance Committee consider it unreasonable to be called upon to pay a higher figure."

REVISIONS OF VALUATION.

The meeting considered various applications for revision of Valuation. The following was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by the Chairman:-

"That ordinary applications for revisions of valuation be forwarded to the General Valuation Department for their consideration. That, as regards applications from the Great Southern Railways for revision of valuation for their premises etc, we desire to point out that it is two years ago only since the valuation of the property of this Railway Co. was very substantially reduced and we are of opinion that no circumstances exist at the present to warrant any further reduction. That copy of this resolution be furnished to the General Valuation Office."

IRISH COLLEGE CAMOLIN.

Under date 15th June, 1931, Mr Michael Kehoe, Hon Sec. Irish College, Camolin, wrote on behalf of the Committee of the College, requesting the loan of old furniture at present in the County Hall, for the use of the students of the College during the months of July and August.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Culleton:- "That the request of the Committee of Colaisde Charman as to old furniture in Co. Hall be agreed to on the understanding that the Committee are to be responsible for its safe custody while in their possession and to return it to the County Council premises

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County Hall, Wexford, in the same condition as obtains now."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Clince:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee for meeting of 18th June, 1931, be received and considered."

Permanent Appointment of Rate Inspector: The recommendation of Finance Committee in this matter was on the motion of Mr Corish seconded by Mr Hall confirmed unanimously.

Collector M.M. Kelly: The following under date 20th June, 1931 (G.48529/1931. Loch Garman Fa.) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant regarding the failure of Collector M.M. Kelly, to issue receipts for rate monies received by him and to state that the Minister takes a most serious view of the Collector's conduct. It is not stated when the monies were received by the Collector but it is obvious that he has failed to comply with Article 5 of the Public Bodies Order, 1929. Apart from consideration as to whether criminal proceedings are warranted it is clear that this Collector can no longer be trusted to receive public monies and the Minister presumes that the Council will forthwith remove him from office pursuant to Article 98 of the Public Bodies Order."

The following under date 23rd June, 1931, was read from Mr Kelly:-

"With reference to your letter of the 19th instant re a report from me, I wish to state that in the case of John Cullen, The Moyne, Enniscorthy, the beast in question was not seized; when myself and Mr Donovan visited the place and found the heifer on the land we were going to seize it but Miss Cullen asked Mr Donovan to purchase the animal and he did so. He had not the money available to pay for it at the time and the warrant was closed by the time I got the money.

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In the case of James Murphy, Tommalossett, this money was paid through Mr Donovan and not received by me until after the warrant was closed .

In the other cases I had no receipts to give as they were taken up by the Rate Inspector, and carried to next year's warrant."

Mr Kelly appeared before the meeting and said that all the receipts for the items he had collected had been in the hands of Rate Inspector in connection with claims of rates to be dealt with as temporary uncollectable.

Mr O'Kennedy, Rate Inspector, said that Mr Kelly had some of the money in his hands for over a month.

After a long discussion Col. Quin proposed the following resolution:- "That the recommendation of Finance Committee to dispense with the service of Matthew M. Kelly, as Rate Collector, be adopted."

This was not seconded.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Brennan seconded the following:- "That the recommendation of Finance Committee in respect of Rate Collector Matthew M. Kelly be confirmed."

This was finally adopted.

Legal Costs - Redemption Rents Old Courthouse: Mr Elgee, explained that the increased amount of costs £13: 1: 0d arose from queries which he had forwarded as regards title. He had received the following letter from Messrs O'Keeffe & Lynch, Solicitors, for Capt. Redmond, Molesworth Street, Dublin.

"We have your letter, and note that you approve of the Draft Apportionment Account, but regret that you take exception to the amount of our costs. The Estimate of the costs in our letter of the 28th July 1928 was not based on the correct purchase money. There is included in the Bill the costs of three statutory Declarations which even if there were an agreed sum would have to be paid in addition, and

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the fee we have charged for these is most moderate. We would ask you to take up the Abstract of Title and the copy Documents which we furnished and we think that if you will have these roughly counted that the costs we have charged would scarcely cover scrivenry charges alone. The matter has been extremely troublesome.

"Our clients stipulated that they were not to be charged any costs, and having regard to the fact that the agreement provides that your clients are to pay the costs we regret that we cannot see our way to make any reduction in the bill."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That the costs of Messrs O'Keeffe & Lynch, Solicitors, ^{Capt} for Redmond in connection with the purchase of ground rents of Old Courthouse, Wexford, and amounting to £53: 1: 0d ^{County} be paid having regard to the advice of Mr Elgee, /Solicitor."

The following resolution was then adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Clince:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee Meeting for 18th June, 1931, submitted to this meeting be and are hereby adopted."

PAINTING NEW ROSS BRIDGE.

The following motion copy of which was issued to Councillors on 18th May, 1931, stood in the name of Mr Cooney:-

"I hereby give Notice of my intention to move at the meeting of Wexford County Council to be held on 23rd June, 1931, that the Council adopt a resolution to borrow the sum of £300 (Three Hundred Pounds) which is to be applied to the painting of New Ross Bridge."

Mr Cooney then moved the following :- "That this Council obtain from their Treasurer a loan of £300 to be applied to the cost of painting New Ross Bridge."

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He pointed out that it was seven years since the Bridge was painted and it was 11 years before that when it got only one coat of paint, so that in the past 18 years it was painted twice only. Rust was showing in many places and he could not understand why the necessary amount to do the work had not been included in the proposals for Public Works. The longer the work was postponed the more costly it would be to the Council.

The Chairman pointed out that Kilkenny County Council were responsible for half cost of repairs etc to New Ross Bridge and suggested that a proviso to this effect should be included in Mr Cooney's resolution .

Mr Cooney agreed and altered his resolution to read as follows:- "That this Council obtain from their Treasurer a loan of £300 to be applied to the cost of painting New Ross Bridge on the understanding that Kilkenny County Council will be responsible for half cost."

Mr Corish seconded the amended resolution which was adopted unanimously.

PROPOSED LOAN FOR ERECTION OF TECHNICAL SCHOOL
GOREY.

The following motion copy of which was issued to Co. Councillors on 18th May, 1931, was moved by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That the resolution adopted by Wexford County Council on 9th March, 1931, agreeing to raise a loan of £800 as a contribution towards the cost of purchase of site, erection and equipment of Gorey Technical School be rescinded and that the Council agree to raise a loan of £2200 for this purpose, amount to be obtained through the Public Works (Ireland) Acts 1831-1886, and on the understanding that half annual repayment of Principal and Interest be contributed by the Department of Education (Technical Instruction Branch)."

Mr Shannon seconded.

The Secretary said the matter required an explanation

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from him. The Council passed a resolution agreeing to raise a loan of £800 for Gorey School, but the reason they did that was that the school and its equipment was to cost £3,200. That was the proposal of the Department, and the idea was that they would get half the cost from the Department, and in addition that they could apply £800 of the saving on the scheme. The unfortunate part of the matter was that the £800 was £800 of the Department's money. The new proposal was that the Department was satisfied that £1,000 should be deducted from savings right away, leaving £2,200 to be raised by loan, and if raised by loan they would pay half the cost of principal, and interest each year. The Council would borrow £2,200 but would be repaid £1,100. That meant that the Department would contribute £2,100, and the Council £1,100.

Mr Corish said he had been informed by the Minister that loans would be at £6: 13: 4d per cent per annum to cover sinking fund and interest.

The Chairman said that if this motion was passed the County would have to pay for Gorey. Continuing he said what about the lower half of the County - the Barony of Forth and other places. It is all very fine about all this cost, and about how badly the school is wanted, but the rest of the county isn't going to get any school.

Mr Colloton - It is not alone schools, but look at the houses people are living in.

Col. Gibbon - I think this matter ought to be postponed for a year at least.

Secretary - If you do that the £1000 will be no longer available.

Col. Gibbon - I don't think we should touch anything that's going to mean extra expense.

The Secretary said he thought the Council should consider the fact that they were paying at present £40 for unsuitable accommodation.

Chairman - What about all our own buildings up there ?

Secretary - They are out of the town.

Chairman - Not very far out.

Secretary - We tried classes in them, and they were not successful.

In reply to Mr D'Arcy the Secretary said that the difference in cost would be about £20 a year.

Col. Quin said he thought everyone knew he was against unnecessary expense but a school was necessary in Gorey. The classes had been a tremendous success there.

After further discussion a poll was taken with the following result:-

For the resolution:- Messrs Armstrong, Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, D'Arcy, Doran, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Jordan, Keegan, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Quin, Shannon, Smyth, Walsh - 19.

Against:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, Gibbon, Meyler, Roche and the Chairman - 6.

Mr Murphy was not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the resolution adopted.

COURTOWN HARBOUR SLUICE GATES.

Under date 20th June, 1931, the Department of Lands & Fisheries wrote (D/5/2) stating that the Minister would be glad to learn whether the county council were prepared to accept the conditions under which the contribution of £350 from State funds would be made available towards the cost of the provision of new sluice gates at Courtown.

In a further communication the Department ~~wrote~~ stating for the reasons already set out in their letter of 4th May, 1931, the Minister was unable to recommend an increase in the grant already sanctioned, for the repair of the sluice gates at Courtown Harbour.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr O'Byrne :- "That we accept under

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protest the grant of £350 from the Minister of Lands & Fisheries towards cost of providing new sluice gates at Courtown Harbour,, as the Council had been given to understand that the Department would pay half the cost of the work in question."

RELIEF GRANT.

Under date 16th June, 1931, the Department of Lands & Fisheries wrote (1045/31) acknowledging receipt of resolution adopted by the Co. Council in connection with drainage work at the Boira and Cahore (Gorey District) and at Ballyteigue, Kilmore (Wexford District) and stating that the Minister was having the matter looked into in the Land Commission .

The Chairman said that the deputation of the County Council had put very strongly before the Land Commission the advisability of having this drainage work carried out through the money in the Relief Vote.

Col. Gibbon asked how much money had they received from the Relief Vote in the County.

The Secretary said that as a county council they got nothing but the Board of Health got some.

Colonel Gibbon said he had letters from people asking what was being done for them. He would like some statement in the Press with regard to the grant.

Miss O'Ryan said the Board of Health had to get money from the rates before they could get money from the Grant and they did not like to saddle the ratepayers further. In a sense it was really only a grant in aid.

The Chairman said he thought that what the Board of Health got was not really £1,000, but he thought there was something for Wexford town.

Mr Corish - We got £1,200 and had to put up £300.

Col. Gibbon suggested that information should be got

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from the secretary to the Board of Health, and with regard to the amount that Wexford town received. The people interested and the ratepayers seemed to think that County Wexford should have got more.

Miss O'Ryan - The people think it was a clear grant but it was not.

The Chairman said that a deputation waited on both the Land Commission and the L.G.D. and they were given to understand they would get a considerable amount of money. The Land Commission had done nothing at all; they had not done a scrap for Wexford. A large amount of the grant was to be given through the Land Commission but they had not done anything so far for Wexford, as far as he could see.

Mr Corish - The Land Commission got the most of the grant.

Chairman - I don't think we got fully £1,000 for the Health Board, but we will ascertain the exact amount. It was a great boon for the town of Wexford to get so much as £1,200.

Mr Corish - It has a big population.

Chairman - The population is fairly big all over the County.

Mr Corish - Along with the £300 it is only fair to say it was in connection with a housing scheme on which we were laying out £4,000.

Chairman - You had a loan of that, hadn't you?

Mr Corish - Oh, yes; but we had to pay for it.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Gibbon seconded by the Chairman :-

"That our Secretary ascertain from the Board of Health and Town Clerk, Wexford, what amounts had been received by Co. Board of Health and Wexford Corporation from the recent Relief Vote."

It was further agreed that Messrs Corish and Jordan T.D.'s would ascertain from the Minister the result of his enquiries as to drainage work referred to in his letter of 16th

June, 1931, (1045/31).

ST. HELEN'S HARBOUR IMPROVEMENT.

The following under date 18th June (D/14/5) was read from the Department of Lands & Fisheries:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Lands & Fisheries to refer to this Department's communication of 28adh Abran, 1930, and previous correspondence on the subject of proposed repairs and improvements to St. Helen's Harbour, and to state for the information of the Council that he was waited on by a deputation composed of Deputies Dr. Seumas O Riain, R. Corish and D. Allen in reference to this matter.

The Minister explained to the deputation that the shelter wall or pier proposed to be erected by the County Surveyor at a cost of £750 was in the opinion of the Commissioners of Public Works too light and too low; and that the engineers would not regard as satisfactory and reasonably permanent any work of this nature costing less than £1,800. In order to satisfy himself as to whether the outlay of such a large sum was justified, he had had a careful investigation of the position made from the point of view of the possible development of fishing in the district. This investigation showed him that the harbour of Rosslare is $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from St. Helen's by path or $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles by road; that the Rosslare Harbour authorities offer no objection to local boats using the harbour and that any boat can use the harbour on payment of harbour dues, which in the case of the small boats used by the St. Helen's fishermen would amount to 18s.9d. a year, with 2d. on each box of fish hoisted by crane on to the pier. The pier at Carne is within 2 miles of St. Helen's. The number of boats using St. Helen's harbour is 8, and the number of fishermen 24. These are purely part-time fishermen working at lobstering and lining in summer and during the remainder of the year they are engaged on farm work. The Minister

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explained to the deputation that in face of this information he felt he would not be justified in recommending the outlay of a large sum on the erection of a breakwater pier, more especially as he felt that the development of the industry required concentration in large ports rather than diffusion of effort in small centres.

The deputation ~~then~~put before the Minister a modified proposal which had been received by Deputy Dr. Ryan from the local fishermen. This proposal is confined to clearing out, deepening and rendering more safe the inner harbour or dock at St. Helen's, and as this proposal would not involve a large outlay it was arranged that the Board of Works be asked to have a survey made and estimate prepared. The Board of Works engineer will be requested to arrange with the County Surveyor a date for the survey, when the local fishermen will be requested to attend and discuss with these officers their modified requirements."

It was decided to adjourn consideration of this letter until Survey and Estimate of Engineer to Office of Works was received.

FORD OF LYNNG.

A Petition of Residents, Farmers and Occupiers of Tagoat Rosslare Strand, Ford of Lyng, Ballybro and surrounding districts asking the Council to take steps to obviate the flooding of road at Ford of Lyng, Tagoat, was forwarded by Messrs Huggard Brennan & Godfrey, Solicitors, Wexford. The Petition was signed by 66 persons.

Mr Elgee, Solicitor, in reply to the Chairman said that he and the Co. Surveyor had arranged for a consultation with Mr Jellett K.C. in this matter for the 27th June.

Consideration of Petition was adjourned pending report of Mr Elgee as to this consultation.

ACOUSTIC PROPERTIES OF NEW CO. COUNCIL CHAMBER.

Col. Gibbon moved the following which was seconded by

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Mr Corish and adopted:- "That the County Surveyor be instructed to examine the acoustic properties of the Council Chamber, and see what can be done to effect an improvement."

TENDERS FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENT.

The following tenders were submitted for improvement by concreting of Wexford New Ross Road T. 12 No. 20 and 22.:-

Tenders considered by Co. Council.	Collen Bros. Ltd. East Wall, Dublin.	Pioneer Road Constr. Co. East Wall, Dublin.	J. Graham, Dromore, Co. Down.
16.0 x 4" Slab with macadam sides	£10,094:0:0:	£10,830: 0: 0:	£11,962:9s.
16.0 x 4" Slab with weak concrete sides.	£10,592:0:0:	£11,452:10:0:	£13,103:14:
18.0 x 4" Slab clay margin	£10,405:5:0:	£11,473:5:0:	£12605:14s.
16.0 x 4" Cement concrete with macadam sides	£9,596:0:0:	£10,415: 0:0:	£11464:9s.
16.0 x 4" Cement concrete with 6" thick weak concrete sides.	£10,094:0:0:	£11,037:10:0:	£12605:14s.
18.0 x 4" Cement concrete with clay margin.	£9,782:15:0:	£11,006: 7: 6:	£12108:9s.

Miss O'Ryan said it would be a matter of great importance to people using the road locally to have a fair margin left at the sides, and probably a sixteen foot road would suit the population better than an eighteen foot road, because they would have a wider margin, which was required for the driving of cattle and in frosty times. Two motor cars could pass on a sixteen foot road. ~~Re~~ If they ran the concrete too close to the ditch there would be no space for anything to walk on. There would certainly be people using the road apart from people using motor cars. She thought they should consider every person using the road, and more particularly the people living in the district, and not the people only coming and

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going.

The Co. Surveyor said that by selecting the sixteen-foot roadway they would only gain a foot at each side.

Chairman - That would be a lot. You don't want a wider road there than the Enniscorthy road.

Mr Shannon supported Miss O'Ryan's argument which he considered essentially sound. The council should cater for people who would be using this road daily for their horses and cattle.

Miss O'Ryan proposed that the Council should decide on a sixteen-foot road, and Mr Shannon seconded.

Col. Quin proposed an eighteen-foot road and Mr Walsh seconded.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For 16 Foot Slab:- Messrs Armstrong, Brennan, Clinee, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, D'Arcy, Gaul, Gibbon, Hayes, O'Ryan, Shannon, Smyth and the Chairman - 14.

For 18 Foot Slab:- Messrs Culleton, Cummins, Doran, Jordan, Keegan, Meyler, O'Byrne, Quin, Roche, Walsh - 10.

Mr Hall did not vote and Mr Murphy was absent for the division.

The Chairman declared the proposition for a 16 foot slab road carried.

The following resolution was then adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr D'Arcy:- "That subject to sanction of L.G.D. (Roads) and to removal of note in their tender that the time allowed for completion of the work was insufficient the tender of Messrs Collen Bros. East Wall, Dublin, for improvement of Wexford New Ross Road T.12 (Nos. 20 & 22) by 16 feet of 4" Slab concrete and according to the provisions of specification prepared by County Surveyor at £10094 be and is hereby accepted."

IMPROVEMENT ENNISCORTHY-BUNCLODY ROAD T.16.(NO.24).

The following tenders for above work were submitted:-

	: 16.0 x 6" slab: : with macadam : sides	: 16.0 x 6"slab : with weak : concrete sides:	: 18.0 x 6" slab : with clay margin
Collen Bros.Ltd., East Wall,Dublin	: £3,100: 0: 0d	: £3,206:12: 0d	: £3,259:18: 0d
William Lee Arklow	: £3,330: 1: 0d	: £3,380: 1: 0d	: £3,400: 1: 0d
Pioneer Road Con. Co.Ltd,East Wall Dublin	: £3,568:13: 2d	: £3,733: 0: 0d	: £3,737: 8:10d
John Graham Dromore,Co.Down	: £3,684: 6: 2d	: £3,964: 6: 2d	: £3,964: 6: 2d
Alex Hull & Co. Ringsend Road, Dublin.	: £4,557: 7: 9d	: £4,579:11:11d	: £4,579:11:11d

In reply to a query, Mr Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, said the road was twenty seven feet between the fences.

Chairman - I think you could take the eighteen feet there.

On the proposition of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Jordan, it was decided to have an eighteen-foot roadway.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Col. Quin:- "That the tender of Messrs Collen Bros. East Wall, Dublin, for improvement of Enniscorthy-Buncloody Road T.16 (No.24) with 18 feet 6" slab with clay margins be accepted at £3,259:18: 0d subject to the sanction of the L.G.D. (Roads)."

Mr Gaul asked what wages would be paid to the clerk of works.

It was suggested to advertise the appointment at £3 per week but Mr Corish proposed that a tradesman should be employed at tradesmen's wages, and said he believed they should have a tradesman at such a job - either a mason or a plasterer.

Mr D'Arcy - In my opinion a mason or a plasterer would have very little knowledge of concrete.

Mr Corish - Very little knowledge ! Isn't that their job ? It will be only a few shillings more, and you will get a proper man.

Col. Quin proposed a wage of £3 a week and Mr D'Arcy seconded.

Mr Corish proposed that either a plasterer or a mason be em-

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ployed at tradesmen's wages - £4: 2: 6d a week -

Mr Armstrong seconded.

Mr Keegan proposed that a qualified engineer be employed at £5 a week, and said that to his mind, it would be money well spent.

Mr Roche seconded Mr Keegan's proposition.

A poll on Mr Keegan's proposition resulted as follows:-

For:- Messrs Brennan, Cummins, Keegan, Roche and Walsh - 5.

Against:- Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Gaul, Gibbon, Hall, Hayes, Jordan, Meyler, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Quin, Shannon, Smyth and the Chairman - 20.

Mr Murphy was not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

A poll was then taken on Mr Corish's amendment.

This resulted as follows:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Gaul, Hayes, O'Byrne, and Shannon - 9.

Against:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, Cummins, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Keegan, Mayler, O'Ryan, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the chairman - 16.

Mr Murphy was not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

The resolution of Col. Quin that the wages of Clerk of Works be £3 was then put and adopted nem con.

CAMOLIN-BALLINAMONA ROAD.

Mr Keegan referred to the condition of a by-road between Camolin and Ballinamona, and said he had been informed that £30 had been allotted for that road this year, but not thirty pence had been laid out on it. He saw nine or ten people attending to beet beside that road. One man had ten acres of beet, and he would have to get it away somehow.

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Mr Corish - Wouldn't we be "scabs" if we provided a road for beet ? (Laughter)

Mr Keegan - I think something should be done with this particular road.

Chairman - The matter is out of order at the moment.

Mr Keegan - I will move that the £30 be laid out on it if only to facilitate this particular man.

Chairman - You have got very accommodating. (Laughter).

The discussion ended.

GOREY → COURTOWN ROAD.

Mr Keegan said he had travelled by bus on the Courtown road recently, and he saw that there was scarcely room enough on the road. There was a statement that the sides of the road were to be rolled in, but as far as he could see no roller had been on it since.

The County Surveyor said the roller was found to be doing more harm than good, as it was breaking the sides. That was why the L.G.D. suggested an alternative in the scheme of road-making - on account of the difficulty of rolling the sides without damage.

BALDWINSTOWN AND KILMORE ROADS.

Mr Roche said that some very large ratepayers were complaining very bitterly about the condition of the Baldwinstown to Killag road.

Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, said that probably some potholes had come again in that road. It was done a fortnight or three weeks ago. It was a very narrow road, surfaced with sea gravel.

Mr Roche said that on the Tenacre - Kilmore Quay road he saw gravel being spread without tar recently, and it was practically gone.

Mr Birthistle said that the gravel and tar work was only in its experimental stage. He thought it would make a fair job, but there would not be funds available to do that

work except in isolated places.

The County Surveyor said that at the present time the L.G.D. were raising objections to their getting tar locally for their roads. They would have to get the tar from Dublin to do the work, and if they did they would have to get boilers. There was a Trade Department contract and the Department said they would have to get everything in that way.

Mr Corish - (sarcastically) - That's right - bring everything to Dublin.

Mr Roche said he thought anyone could see that where tar was used it improved the roads fifty per cent.

THE CURRACLOE ROAD.

Mr Culleton said he had a lot of complaints about the Wexford-Curraclloe road. He wondered if anything could be done with one very bad point called Kavanagh's Corner.

Mr Birthistle said there was a very blind fence at the place, and a considerable amount of traffic.

Mr Culleton said he wanted something done with it, as it was very dangerous, and if it were to be done at all it should be done immediately.

Mr Gaul suggested that they should spend £10 on the cutting of the corner in question.

Mr Culleton proposed that the work should be done at a cost not exceeding £10. Mr Birthistle would have it done at the lowest cost possible.

Mr Corish seconded and the proposition was passed.

Mr Culleton - What about the road itself ?

Mr Birthistle said they had two different sets of people using the road - tourists and holiday makers in the summer, while the farmer really wanted it in the winter. If he made the road right for summer travellers it would be wrong for the farmer, and he was trying to get in between the two.

Chairman - I think Mr Birthistle is doing the fairest thing I heard of yet.

Mr Gaul asked if it would be possible to spend a few pounds out of the contingency fund to have the potholes filled at least.

Mr Birthistle said they filled the potholes about once a month, but to really improve the road they would require to put down tar patches, and they had not the money.

MONALEE CROSS.

Mr Jordan said there was a very dangerous cross in his district - Monalee Cross. There had very nearly been a bad accident there recently, and he was afraid there would be a serious accident there some time.

Mr Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, said he had a proposal in about three years ago to do some improvement there. It would cost a good deal of money to put back the fences. He did not think they could do anything this year, but he would bring forward a proposal next year.

Mr Jordan - I am very much afraid you are going to have a serious accident.

It was decided that there should be a proposal for this work introduced next year.

ROAD AT BALLINDONEY AND POULPEASTY.

The following under date 8th June, 1931, was read from Mr James Nolan, Ballindoney, Ballywilliam:-

"I wish to draw your attention to the dangerously bad state of repair of the road leading from the main road in Ballindoney to the lower turn at Poulpeasty contracted by Patrick Flynn, Ballindoney.

I the undersigned being the owner and user of 2-30 cwt lorries and a motor car (3 vehicles) find it impossible to keep going thereon; as owing to its very bad state the vehicles are constantly breaking up, and there is seemingly no material to go on the road.

Also on ~~the~~ road another equally important thing for

immediate consideration is the many entirely dangerous corners there is on it. To begin with - the hedges to be cut and sight given going out on the main road at Ballindoney, further down is a dangerous turn on Stephen O'Connors' land, further down a dangerous turn on M. Flynn's land, further down at cross roads three corners to be lowered and paled, further down two entirely dangerous corners of Pat Condons' land. So from the danger there is of life and property you certainly need to give this your immediate attention. And now without fail I ask you to right immediately procure some fine (break) material for this road, and give me a chance of paying my £70 to £80 per year Road Tax. Hoping you will kindly give these urgent matters your attention."

The County Surveyor submitted the following report from Mr O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, for the district:-

"I was over the above road recently and found it in fair condition considering the amount of traffic on it. The Contractor is at present hauling material to it for pot holes, and one of the "blind" corners has been trimmed.

"It will not be possible to do anything further except trim the fences on the various corners mentioned in Mr Nolan's letter provided the land owners are agreeable."

It was decided on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr D'Arcy to furnish Mr Nolan with a copy of Mr O'Neill's report.

SHED AT FERRYCARRIG BRIDGE.

The County Surveyor submitted the following letter from Mr J.J. McDonald, Ferrycarrig, Wexford:-

"With reference to our conversation on the 26th ult., re occupation of County Council shed at Ferrycarrig Bridge by Jas. Stafford, please let me know whether Stafford holds possession of shed as a Tenant of the Council, and, if not whet-

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her the Council is prepared to let the place at a reasonable rent, with clear possession."

The County Surveyor said articles in connection with road work were stored in this shed from time to time and Stafford acted as caretaker for the Council. Mr McDonald had apparently, a complaint that Stafford would not allow him to store fishing nets in it. Stafford sometimes used the place for repairing boats.

Mr Gaul proposed and Mr Corish seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That the arrangement of the County Surveyor to allow Stafford to continue in occupancy of the premises as at present be continued."

BALLYWETHER BRIDGE.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Miss O'Ryan seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That a sum of £25 be allocated for work carried out at Ballywether bridge to prevent the flooding of County Road."

FLOODING OF PREMISES FROM ROAD.

The following under date 16th June, 1931, was read from Mr Edward Doran, Askamore, Carnew:-

"Some time ago I complained to the Co. Health Board that the water from the Co. Road adjoining my premises was flowing into my yard and polluting my water supply. The Health Board informed me that they had referred the matter to your Council to have the matter attended to, but so far nothing has been done. As this is a very serious matter from my point of view, I would thank you to bring this letter before the Council at their next meeting and let me know what steps they propose taking, otherwise I cannot be blamed if I take steps to compel the party responsible to fulfil their obligations."

It was decided to refer the matter to the County Surveyor for report.

TRANSFER OF POWERS UNDER LIBRARIES ACTS.

The following under date 8th June, 1930, was read from the Town Clerk, Enniscorthy:-

"At a meeting of my Council on the 3rd instant it was unanimously resolved on the proposition of Mr Donohoe, seconded by Mr Cardiff, that the powers and duties of my Council under the Libraries Act, 1855, be transferred to the County Council, and in order to take advantage of the County Library Scheme the Urban Council will be prepared to pay the County Council £18. per annum subject to the approval of the Minister."

Under date 18th June, 1931, the Department of Local Government wrote (G47289/1931 Loch Garman) forwarding copy of the resolution adopted by Enniscorthy Urban Council and asked if the County Council had approved of the terms of the transfer.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Miss O'Ryan seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That the Enniscorthy Urban Council be informed that the Wexford County Council are prepared to accept the transfer of the powers and duties of said Council under the Libraries Acts provided the contribution from Urban District towards the Library Expenses is made on their valuation basis as arranged for the rest of the County."

LIVE STOCK FAIRS HELD IN STREETS.

The following under date 16th June, 1931, was read from the General Council of County Councils:-

"I have been directed by the County Councils' General Council to inform you that the Irish Live Stock Owners & Traders' Association has requested the General Council - in the interest of Irish Trade and with a view to having Irish Live Stock marketed in the best possible condition - to take

up the question of compelling owners of Stock to expose their cattle for sale only in Fair Greens where such are available.

The Association points out that in towns, especially where the streets are narrow and become easily congested on fair days, cattle are necessarily subjected to a considerable amount of abuse and hardship which greatly affects their sale in British markets.

My Council would be glad to have the observations of your Council on this question raised by the Association and, also, information as to whether, in your County, such a regulation as is suggested is in operation."

Mr Roche proposed and Mr Jordan seconded a resolution - which was adopted - referring the matter to the County Committee of Agriculture.

POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT LICENCES.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr Gaul, seconded by Mr Clince:- "That licence under Poisons and Pharmacy Act issue to Gerald Murphy, Tacumshane, on receipt of stipulated fee of 10/- and renewals to Henry Hill, Ballycanew and Myles Byrne, Market House, Gorey. *Passed*

FOOD AND DRUGS INSPECTOR.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr Brennan :- "That Garda T. Moylan, 2320, New Ross, be appointed Food and Drugs Inspector for New Ross District vice Garda C. Driscoll, 2532, accidentally drowned on 16th June, 1931."

PRISONERS IN MOUNTJOY.

The Director of Publicity, Political Prisoners, Cumann na mBan, forwarded copy of affidavit by Patrick Norton, recently released from Mountjoy Jail after serving a sentence of seven days for selling Easter lilies giving his des-

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cription of his incarceration also particulars of Hunger strike by George Mooney and Sean McGuinness.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted on the motion of Mr Keegan seconded by Miss O'Ryan:-

"That prisoners convicted of political offences should receive political treatment and as it is unjustifiable to treat them as criminals we call on the Government to afford them political treatment."

EMPLOYMENT OF MEN.

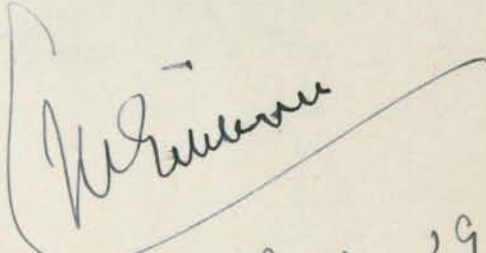
Mr Keegan proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution which was adopted Nem con:-

"That men whose means of livelihood is carting by horses be given a share of Co. Work in rotation."

The following resolution was also adopted:- "That the County Surveyor submit a return showing the number of days worked by each carter employed at Road work for the past year."

NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Corish seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That the next meeting of County Council be held on Monday, 27th July, 1931."


27 July 1931

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WEXFORD. COUNTY COUNCIL.

SPECIAL MEETING - 8TH JULY, 1931

M I N U T E S.

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A special meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, on 8th July, 1931, for the purpose of considering the following recommendation of Finance Committee from their meeting of 2nd July.

"That, in view of the fact that Messrs Collen Bros., East Wall, Dublin, whose tenders for road improvement works - Wexford-New Ross Road and Enniscorthy-Buncloody road - were accepted subject to the approval of the Local Government Department, have failed in the case of the first mentioned road to supply the undertaking required by that Department, and as regards the road Enniscorthy-Buncloody are not prepared to carry out the work within the time, viz., by 30th September, 1931, as provided by specification, we hereby recommend the Council to cancel provisional award of these contracts to Messrs Collen Bros., and accept the following tenders, subject to the approval of the Local Government Department, provided that the accepted tenderers are prepared to give the necessary undertakings as to completion of the works in specified time, viz., Pioneer Road Construction Co., East Wall, Dublin, Wexford-New Ross Road T.12, Nos. 20 and 22, amount £10,830,- 16 ft by 4 inch slab with macadam sides, and William Lee, Arklow, Enniscorthy-Buncloody road, T. 16, No. 24, amount £3,400: 1s. - 18 ft by 6 inch slab with clay margin, the acceptance of this tender being conditional on the Contractor being prepared to deal with such extended length of road as will represent the amount of saving on New Ross - Wexford Road between the figures for estimate and accepted contract on said road, and at a pro rata price according to his contract for the original work."

Present:- Mr M. Doyle (Chairman) presiding: also Messrs J. Clince, P. Colfer, John Colloton, J. Cummins, T.F. D'Arcy, Col. Gibbon, James Hall, P. Hayes, *Jas Gaul* ~~Thos. Meyler~~, Sean O'Byrne and James Shannon.

The Secretary, County Surveyor and Mr Elgee, County

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Solicitor were also in attendance.
EXTRACT FROM MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE - 2ND JULY, 1931
The following correspondence was submitted:-

Under date 26th June, 1931, (R/SGH/32) the Department of Local Government (Roads) wrote:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant intimating that the Wexford County Council have provisionally accepted the tenders of Messrs Collen Bros. Ltd., East Wall, Dublin, as follows:-

Enniscorthy-Buncloody Road - £3,259: 18: 0d for
18 ft road of 6 inch slab concrete with
clay margin.

Wexford-New Ross Road - £10,094 for
16 ft road of 4 inch slab with macadam sides.

It is to be noticed that in the latter case an addition is to be made in respect of the item tendered for at 40/- each, gateways, etc., (page 18, Bill of Quantities). An examination of the tender shows that the difference in cost between making up the sides in macadam and extending the 4 inch slab to the full width of 18 feet is only £311. Furthermore, as the tender is about £2,000 less than the estimate, the Council would do well to consider the advisability of extending the concrete work the full 18 feet.

Having regard to the observation made by Messrs Collen Bros., on their tender for the Wexford-New Ross Road that the time allowed for completion of the work is insufficient, the Council should obtain confirmation from them that they are prepared to abide by Clause 7 (Time Limit) of the General Conditions of Contract and to execute a bond accordingly. Having regard to the period that now remains for the completion of the work, it is not possible to afford much time for negotiations, and if Messrs Collen Bros. are unable to give the necessary confirmation, the Council should award

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the contract for the Wexford-New Ross road to the next lowest firm of tenderers, provided that the latter give the necessary assurance as to completion. Provided that the confirmation required from Messrs Collen Bros., is obtained, the Minister sees no objection to the Council's accepting their tender.

The several tenders received are returned herewith."

The County Surveyor held as regards the amount for gateways that as this was not brought into bill it should not be included in the tender, and the Local Government Department had been so informed.

Under date 29th June, 1931, the Department of Local Government wrote (R/SGH/32) (Roads) that the item of 40/- each in respect of gateways etc (page 18 Bill of Quantities) was clearly an extra over and above the sum of £10,094.

Under date 27th June, 1931, the following was read from the County Surveyor:-

"With reference to the letter from the Local Government Department (R/SGH/32) - 26th June, 1931, I beg to point out that there was an exhaustive discussion at the County Council meeting on the 23rd instant in regard to the alternative Tenders for 18 ft and 16 ft slab. I, personally, recommended adoption of 18 ft slab, but the County Council, on a division by 14 to 10 decided to adopt 16 ft slab with macadam margins. The reasons influencing the Council were that the 16 ft slab on this road would be quite as efficient as the 16 ft slab on the Wexford-Enniscorthy Road, and that the wider margin between the fences would be of more utility for cattle and animals passing along the road.

In regard to the item for making good gateways, which though priced in Messrs Collen's Bill is not brought into total, I wish to point out that in "Particulars of Work", Clause 1 of the General Conditions in Specification, on page 6, it requires that the "Tender should be at a lump

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sum", The Contractor in putting in his tender, page 19, omitted this figure, and accordingly, I did not add any item for the work ; as I take it that the cost would be covered under Preliminary Expenses in Bill of Quantities. Under these circumstances, I do not think it necessary to make any alteration in the Contractor's figure."

Copy of this letter was furnished the Local Government Department (Roads).

Under date 27th June, 1931, the County Solicitor wrote Messrs Collen Bros. as follows:-

"Referring to your Tender for the above work (Wexford-New Ross Road) which was submitted to and considered by the Wexford County Council at their meeting held on the 23rd inst., I have been instructed to ascertain from you, whether having regard to your note on the margin of the tender to the effect that the time allowed for the completion of the work was insufficient you are prepared to abide by Clause 7 of the Specification which provides that the work shall be completed on or before the 1st day of November, 1931, and execute the Contract and Bond accordingly.

An answer by return is imperative as it is necessary to start the work at once."

The following under date 2nd July, 1931, was also read from Mr Elgee:-

"As instructed I wrote to Messrs Collen Bros. whose Tender for the above road had been accepted by the County Council, asking them if they were prepared (having regard to the note which they had placed on their Tender that they considered the time allowed for the work too short) to abide by clause 7 of the Specification and complete the work on or before the 1st November next, and I now send you a copy of a letter received this morning from them from which you will see, that they are not prepared to abide by Clause 7 of the Specification, but would undertake to complete the work

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within six months from the signing of the Contract.

Re/ Trunk Road Enniscorthy to Bunclody

They state that they are prepared to carry out this Section of the Work in four months from the signing of the Contract, the penalty in each case to be £10 per week for delay.

As neither of these conditions come within the provisions of the Specification it is now open to the County Council to reconsider the matter, and if thought advisable accept any other Tender for the work."

The following under date 1st July, 1931, is copy of letter from Messrs Collen Bros. to Mr Elgee:-

"In reply to yours of the 27th ult., re above, we beg to say that we would not be prepared to abide by Clause 7 of the Specification, which provides that the work shall be completed on or before the 1st day of November, 1931, but we would undertake to complete this work in six months from date of signing Contract.

Re/Trunk Road Enniscorthy to Bunclody

We would be prepared to carry out this Section of the work in four months from date of signing Contract, and penalty in each case should be £10 per week for delay."

After considerable discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr McCarthy seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That, in view of the fact that Messrs Collen Bros., East Wall, Dublin, whose tenders for road improvement works - Wexford New Ross Road and Enniscorthy-Bunclody road - were accepted subject to the approval of the Local Government Department, have failed in the case of the first mentioned road to supply the undertaking required by that Department, and as regards the road Enniscorthy-Bunclody are not prepared to carry out the work within the time, viz., by 30th September, 1931, as provided by Specification, we hereby recommend the Council to cancel provisional award of these contracts to Messrs Collen Bros., and accept the following Tenders, subject to the approval of the

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Local Government Department, provided that the accepted tenderers are prepared to give the necessary undertakings as to completion of the works in specified time, viz., Pioneer Road Construction Co., East Wall, Dublin, Wexford-New Ross Road T 12, Nos. 20 and 22, amount £10,830, - 16 ft by 4 inch slab with macadam sides, and William Lee, Arklow, Enniscorthy-Bunclody Road, T. 16, No. 24, amount £3,400: 1s. - 18 ft by six inch slab with clay margin, the acceptance of this tender being conditional on the Contractor being prepared to deal with such extended length of road as will represent the amount of saving on New Ross - Wexford Road between the figures for estimate and accepted contract on said road, and at a pro rata price according to his contract for the original work."

In reply to a query the Secretary stated that the figures of the lowest and second lowest of the tenders in the case of each road in question were as follows:-

Enniscorthy-Bunclody Road: Messrs Collen Bros., £3259: 18: and allowing £40 for gateways £3299: 18: Od.

W. Lee, Arklow, £3,400: 1s. Difference in favour of Collen Bros. £100: 3s.

Wexford-New Ross Road: Messrs Collen Bros. £10,094 and allowing £150 for gateways £10,244. Pioneer Road Construction Co., £10,830. Difference in favour of Collen Bros. £586.

The following after discussion was proposed by Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr D'Arcy and adopted unanimously:- "That the recommendation of Finance Committee from meeting of 2nd July, as to acceptance of tender of Mr Wm. Lee for work on Enniscorthy Bunclody Road at £3,400: 1s. be accepted provided that written undertaking be received from William Lee that he will carry out the work within the time specified plus an extra 16 days - the period which elapsed between the date of meeting of County Council of 23rd June, 1931, when tenders were first considered, and the present special meeting - and also that he is prepared to carry out the work on extra length provided by the saving

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on amount of Estimate for Wexford-New Ross Road within the time specified ~~by~~ for same by County Surveyor.

"That the tender of the Pioneer Road Construction Co. East Wall, Dublin, at £10,830 for improvement work on Wexford - New Ross Road be accepted on the understanding that this Company furnishes an undertaking to complete the work within the specified time plus an extra 16 days the period which elapsed between date of meeting of County Council of 23rd June, 1931, and present special meeting."

"That Local Government Department be requested to approve these proposals, and that our Solicitor take all necessary steps to have Bond and Contract signed as soon as possible."

OVERDRAFT ACCOMMODATION

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Colfer:- "That the Minister for Local Government and Public Health be requested to allow extension of present overdraft accommodation to £34,000 until such time as full Agricultural Grant viz. £19,754 (for period ended 30th June, 1931) comes to hand."

USE OF WEXFORD TAR

Mr Gahl said it was very unfair that the Ministry for Local Government compelled them to get the tar required for the dressing of their roads from the Dublin Alliance Gas Co. when as good an article and at a lower price was available at Wexford Gas Works the Directors of which had gone to the expense of erecting a de-hydrating plant. He moved the following resolution which was seconded by Mr D'Arcy and adopted:-

"That representations be made to the Minister for Local Government to allow this Council to utilise Wexford produced tar for dressing roads. It was quite as good an article as was supplied through the Trade List and could be purchased at a lower price. In view of this and the fact that its

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manufacture afforded considerable employment we ask the Minister to agree to this request."

FERRYCARRIG BRIDGE

The County Surveyor said that in his opinion it would be dangerous to leave the abutment on the Enniscorthy side of Ferrycarrig Bridge to remain any longer in its present condition. He had been in correspondence with Mr Delap, Engineer, Northern Bank Chambers, 115 Grafton St., Dublin, who had examined and reported on the bridge generally in 1926 and had received the following letter from him under date 4th July, 1931:-

"We will be very glad to undertake the preparation of plans, specification, etc., for the work you mention on Ferrycarrig Bridge. Our fees would be the usual 5 % on cost of work, plus 1½ % for Bill of Quantities, with of course actual out of pocket expenses. As regards the latter, our practice is to charge mileage at 6d a mile or 1st Class railway fare, which ever is least.

"If you are to be in Dublin shortly, will you let us know date, and come in and discuss matters; but I think it is essential that we should study the problem afresh on the spot, so will arrange for an early visit. We could not get down for a week or ten days, and if you are not to be in Dublin before then we will give you a few days' notice and hope to see you on the bridge."

The County Surveyor said that in his previous report Mr Delap stated it would cost about £500 to repair the abutment. It would probably cost more now as the piles were damaged.

The Chairman asked if the County Surveyor could not take the matter on his own shoulders.

The County Surveyor said it was a specialist's job and he did not like to tackle it. The design of the bridge as regards the abutment was faulty.

Mr Gaul moved that the services of Mr Delap be retained to examine the abutment of Ferrycarrig Bridge on the Enniscorthy

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side and report to the Council on the terms of his letter of the 4th July, 1931.

This proposal was not seconded.

The Chairman moved and Mr O'Byrne seconded the following resolution which was adopted without dissent:-

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to examine and report to next meeting the condition of abutment of Ferrycarrig Bridge (Enniscorthy side) with recommendations as to its repair. That if considered necessary the question of the employment of Mr A.D. Delap, Engineer, Dublin, to examine this Bridge be considered at meeting at which the report of County Surveyor in this matter is considered."

McGinnis
27 July 1931

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

MONTHLY MEETING - 27TH JULY, 1931.

M I N U T E S .

The monthly meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 27th July, 1931.

The following were in attendance:-

Messrs James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Cline, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, John Doran, Michael Doyle, James Gaul, Col.C.M.Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Michael Jordan, William P. Keegan, Thomas Maylor, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col.R.P.Wemyss Quin, James Shannon, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and the following Assistant Surveyors were also in attendance:- Messrs T. Treanor, R.J.Ennis, Thomas Cullen, Patrick O'Neill and J.F. Birthistle.

Miss O'Ryan proposed and Mr O'Byrne seconded a resolution moving Colonel Gibbon to the chair and which he occupied during the confirmation of the Minutes of ordinary meeting of the 23rd June, 1931, and of special meeting of 8th July, 1931, after which Mr Doyle (Chairman) presided for the rest of the meeting.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Notes for £13,307: 7: 11d Ordinary Account and £21,377: 15: 0d (Public Bodies Transfers) were examined and signed.

STATE OF RATE COLLECTION

The State of Rate Collection up to 27th July, 1931, was submitted as follows:-

Name of Collector.	Percentage of Warrant collected.
1. James Quirke	12.4
2. John Curtis	12.1
3. Patrick Nolan	11.0
4. Sean Gannon	10.4

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<u>Name of Collector.</u>	<u>Percentage of Warrant collected.</u>
5. Thos. Rowe	10.1
6. J.J.O'Reilly	9.2
7. W. Doyle	8.1
8. Joseph Cummins	8.1
9. Patrick Carty	8.0
10. M. McCarthy	7.4
11. W. Cummins	7.0
12. P. O'Byrne	7.0
13. Art Dunne	6.8
14. T. Bolger (No.14)	5.2
15. J. Deegan	5.0
16. T. Bolger (No.12)	4.6
17. Jas. Quirke (No.2)	4.6
18. P. Doyle	4.4
19. J.J.Sinnott	4.0
20. E.J. Murphy	3.3

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEES.

Finance Committee: The following Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 18th June, 1931, were submitted:

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The fortnightly meeting of Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 18th June, 1931.

Present - Messrs James Hall, James Shannon and John J. Culleton.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and Rates Inspector were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £3,596: 16: 11d was examined and signed.

CONTRIBUTION COST OF FIDELITY GUARANTEE
BONDS OF RATE COLLECTORS.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That we recommend the County Council to contribute £3 towards the cost^{of} Fidelity Guarantee Bond for period ended 31st May, 1931, of the following Rate Collectors who are paid at the rate of 5d in the £ or whose remuneration from poundage does not exceed £150:- Patrick Carty, Art Dunne, Wm. Doyle, M.M.Kelly, Sean Gannon, Thos. Rowe, P. O'Byrne, John Curtis, P. Nolan, and M. McCarthy.

~~County Hall, Wexford, in the same condition as obtains now.~~ 4

SANCTION TO OVERDRAFT.

The Local Government Department wrote under date 6th June, 1931 (G.43968/1931 - Loch Garman Fa.) sanctioning overdraft accommodation not exceeding £28,000 upon the accounts of the Wexford Co. Council up to the 30th inst - and not exceeding £20,000 as from the 1st proximo to the 30th September next, Interest to be paid thereon at the agreed rate.

CONTINUED ILLNESS OF MR JOHN KEHOE,
ASSISTANT SURVEYOR.

The question of further sick leave to Mr John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, was considered and it was decided to recommend the Council in respect of any period of leave beyond the 27th June, 1931, that Mr Kehoe should be paid at half salary, the other moiety being paid to Messrs O'Neill and Bir-thistle, Assistant Surveyors, (who are carrying out the work in Mr Kehoe's District) in proportions to be fixed by the Co. Surveyor.

SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES.

In connection with the refusal of County Council to recognise Elizabeth Mary McAuliffe, Johnstown, Clonegal, as eligible to compete for University Scholarship on the ground that her mother who is a teacher should be in a financial position to provide University training for applicant, Mrs McAuliffe wrote forwarding her Income Tax Notice of Assessment showing that her total income was £193:10: Od. She said she had to put a goodly portion of her income aside each month to meet old debts which accumulated while she was bringing up 11 children, their father having died in 1914. Her salary then was only £51 per annum.

It was through the kindness of the Nuns she was paying a reduced pension for the secondary education of her daughter, the applicant. She was ~~near~~ the age limit for retir-

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ing and it would take her all the time she would be teaching to clear off what money she owed the Convent. A son of hers who was not strong was at home unemployed.

The Committee, after consideration, considered it inadvisable to make a recommendation to the County Council as regards altering their decision in this case.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr Culleton:- "That in view of reports of Teachers we recommend the renewal of Secondary School Scholarships to the following:- Danl. F. Butler, James M. Druhan, Jas. Donnelly and Richard McDonnell (St. Peter's College, Wexford); Johanna Cooney, Mary E. Doyle, Kathleen F. Donnelly, Katie Doyle, Margaret M. O'Neill, and Mary A. Ronan (Loreto Convent, Wexford); Mary C. Daly (Loreto Abbey, Gorey) This proposal to be subject to sanction of Department of Education."

GENERAL COUNCIL OF COUNTY COUNCILS.

Letter from the Secretary to the General Council of Co. Councils as to submission of matters for consideration at annual meeting on 5th August, 1931, was adjourned to next meeting of Finance Committee.

ADMINISTRATION BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS ORDER.

The following under date 8th June, 1931, (L.1792/31) was read from the Department of Agriculture:-

"With reference to your letter of the 1st instant relative to the resolution regarding the administration of the Bovine Tuberculosis Order of 1926 which was adopted at their last meeting by the Finance Committee of the Wexford County Council, I have to state that the Department for the reasons indicated in their communication of the 6th ultimo, regret they are unable to reconsider their decision in the matter."

No order.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACTS.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the

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Chairman seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That the necessary benches for ex-officio Inspectors of Weights & Measures be provided in the various Courthouses, to the same pattern and at same cost as bench supplied in Enniscorthy Courthouse."

CARRIGBYRNE QUARRY.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr Shannon seconded by Mr Culleton and adopted:-

That the seal of the County Council be attached to the agreement between Wexford Co. Council and Mr Thos. Jefferies as to supply of road material from Carrigbyrne Quarry."

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATIONS.

Application was received from District Court Clerk, Enniscorthy, as to proposed Committal to an Industrial School of William and Matthew Nolan, formerly of Yoletown, Taghmon, to an Industrial School. The mother was dead and the father was undergoing a term of imprisonment for cruelty to the children.

The District Court Clerk Wexford wrote as to proposed committal of Mary Ellen Leary of Ramsgrange to an Industrial School.

Referred to Mr Elgee, Solicitor.

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The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 18th June, 1931, be received and considered."

The various items having been dealt with the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne, seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee meeting of 18th June, 1931, be and are hereby confirmed, and that as regards the supply of work benches for Inspectors of Weights and Measures the County Surveyor be instructed to keep the cost as low as is possible."

The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 2nd July, 1931, were submitted as follows:-

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The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 2nd July, 1931.

Present:- Messrs Sean O'Byrne, John Culleton, Thos. McCarthy, and James Shannon.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and Rate Inspector were also in attendance.

On the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Culleton the chair was taken by Mr Hall.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £4,165: 6: 6d was examined and signed.

PAINTING NEW ROSS BRIDGE.

Under date 24th June, 1931, Messrs Hodkinson and Sons, Henry Street, Limerick, wrote that they noticed the Council was short of money for painting New Ross Bridge. They would be pleased to give an estimate for same and to accept payment over three or four or more years. They were known in Wexford as they had decorated the Friary Church, also Grantstown and Ballymitty etc.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Culleton:-

"That Messrs Hodkinson and Sons, Ecclesiastical Decorators, Limerick, be requested to furnish an estimate for the painting of New Ross Bridge, and which will be presented to the County Council with copy of their letter agreeing to hold over payment for a number of years in the event of their quotation being accepted by the Council."

RATE COLLECTION.

State of the Rate Collection up to the 30th June, 1931,
was submitted as follows:-

J. Quirke.....£345: 6: 2d

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T. Rowe	£212: 15: 11d
P. Carty	£186: 13: 6d
P. O'Byrne	£113: 18: 9d
W. Cummins	£104: 16: 4d
A. Dunne	£102: 8: 2d
P. Nolan	£101: 18: 10d
J. Deegan	£97: 0: 0d
J. Curtis	£78: 6: 8d
J. Cummins	£60: 1: 7d
J.J. Sinnott	£57: 2: 5d
M.M. Kelly,	£33: 11: 3d
P. Doyle	£32: 7: 6d
Sean Gannon	£27: 9: 8d
T. Bolger	£10: 15: 5d
T. Bolger	£8: 13: 11d

Collector M.M. Kelly: In connection with the resolution of last meeting of the Committee that consideration of the action of this Collector in with-holding the sum of £33:11:3d should be adjourned to the present meeting the following letter read at the last meeting of the County Council was considered:—

"With reference to your letter of the 19th inst. re a report from me, I wish to state that in the case of John Cullen, The Moyne, Enniscorthy, the beast in question was not seized. When myself and Mr Donovan visited the place and found the heifer on the land we were going to seize it, but Miss Cullen asked Mr Donovan to purchase the animal and he did so. He had not the money available to pay for it at the time, and the warrant was closed by the time I got the money. In the case of Jas. Murphy, Tommalosset, this money was paid through Mr Donovan and not received by me until after the warrant was closed. In the other cases I had no receipts to give as they were taken up by the Rate Inspector, and carried to next year's warrant."

After the discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Culleton seconded by Mr Shannon:—

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"That the Finance Committee view with grave disapproval the conduct of Collector M.M. Kelly (No. 6 District) in withholding £33: 11: 3d of rate money collected by him on the ground that official receipts were not available at the time this sum was collected. In the circumstances we request the Local Government Department to allow him to continue in office provided he can furnish a fidelity guarantee bond from an approved Insurance Company or a renewal receipt for present Bond by next meeting of the Finance Committee."

The following under date 23rd June, 1931, (G.49282/1931 Fa Loch Garman) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th inst., and to state that he sanctions the appointment of Mr Sean Gannon as temporary Collector in the No. 6 District subject to adequate security being provided.

As regards Collector Kelly, I am to state that the Minister will await the outcome of the Council's further consideration of the case and the procedure indicated in this Department's letter of the 20th instant."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Culleton, seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That in the event of Collector M.M. Kelly, not being continued in office after the next meeting of this Committee we appoint Collector Gannon as temporary collector in No. 6 District for the collection of warrant for financial year 1931-32 provided he furnishes additional security from Guarantee Society in the sum of £450 with additional ^{personal} security in Bond of £100.

Supervision of Collectors of Local Revenue: The following under date 26th June, 1931 (G61-31) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that he has been concerned to learn

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that a number of cases of misconduct on the part of collectors of rates, &c., have recently been reported - in some actual embezzlement having occurred. The circumstances point to ineffective checking and I am to request that you will be good enough to prepare for submission to the next meeting of the Council and the Minister a report on the existing arrangements for this purpose in the County together with your personal observations as to the effectiveness or otherwise of these arrangements.

In this connection special attention should be given to the terms of my circular of 24th August, 1928 (copy enclosed) and also to the terms of Article 106 of the Public Bodies Order. From the terms of this Article it will be noted that County Councils are required to appoint one or more Rate Inspectors for each health district. Selected centres for the attendance of collectors and fixed dates for the purpose should be arranged. The Rate Inspector will of course be allowed reasonable locomotion expenses for visiting outlying centres and as his duties if properly carried out may involve occasional visits to ratepayers appearing as in arrear he should be allowed travelling expenses for such purposes. In my Circular of 7th October, 1925, it was recommended that by arrangement with the Board of Health the Rate Inspector should also be entrusted with the checking of rent collection for the Board and the obvious economy of this course requires no stress. The duties of Rate Inspectors are outlined in Article 106 of the Public Bodies Order. In the event of a Rate Inspector being at any time incapacitated the duty of ensuring that checking is properly carried out will devolve on the County Secretary as chief executive officer. Some Councils have appointed a number of part-time Inspectors but the Minister doubts that such arrangements have proved effective and experience indicates the appointment of whole-time officers to be preferable as well as an ultimate economy. In this connection moreover the terms of the Bonds by which most Rate Collectors are now secured

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should not be overlooked - the danger of vitiating such bonds through lack of efficient rate inspection being considerable.

The Minister directs me to take this opportunity of impressing upon County Secretaries that their responsibilities as chief executive officers imposes upon them the duty of advising their Councils to the best of their abilities as to the character and suitability of any new collectors it may from time to time be found necessary to engage."

Circular letter from Local Government Department of 24th August, 1928, (G 59042/1928 Ilgh (S.) was also read for the meeting.

The Secretary reported as follows:-

"A Rate Inspector is in charge of the checking of the accounts of the Rate Collectors of this Council. Fixed dates for checking for each fortnight have been arranged, and the checking is carried out at the stations selected by the Council, viz., four courthouses of the county. Under the present system it is difficult to suggest improvement: it would greatly minimise the risk of fraud if Ratepayers would co-operate with the Council and insist, on all occasions, in receiving the official receipt for all rate payments."

This report was approved.

Collector J. Cummins and Irish Discount Co: The following under date 23rd June, 1931 (G 48992/1931/Fa Loch Garman) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"With reference to the Minute of the Wexford County Council of the 8th instant regarding the institution of proceedings in the Dublin District Court against the Irish Discount Co. Ltd. for poor rates, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that the Council should satisfy themselves by consultation with their legal adviser if necessary that any rates in respect of which it is proposed to institute court

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proceedings are in fact recoverable - due regard being given to the terms of Section 19 of the Poor Relief (Ireland) Act 1849.

If the Council's position in this matter is clear the Court will presumably charge the costs to the defaulting ratepayer but in the event of an adverse decision due to causes outside the control of the collector the question or costs might receive further consideration."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr McCarthy:-

"That copy of letter from L.G.D. under date 23rd June, 1931 (G.48992/1931 Fa Loch Garman) be furnished Messrs J.A. Sinnott and Co., Solicitors, for Collector J. Cummins for their observations."

Rate of Poundage of Rate Collectors for current warrant: The following under date 20th June, 1931, (G.47369/1931/ Loch Garman) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th inst. regarding the poundage of the Rate Collectors in respect of their warrants for the current financial year, and to state that he considers that the Council's proposal should be reconsidered and that they would do well at this stage to announce that they would not grant any increased poundage to any Collector who does not fully account for his warrant by the 31st March, 1932. The reduced assessment will obviously facilitate the work of the Collectors who, (granted diligence of effort) should experience little difficulty in collecting the rates within the financial year."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr McCarthy:-

"That as regards the proposal to allow Collectors poundage on the amount of last year's warrant, we consider the Council should point out to the Local Government Department, that

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so far as Wexford County is concerned the date for the closing of the Collector's accounts viz., 31st March and 30th September in each year are most unsuitable, and the collection would be dealt with more expeditiously if closing dates in each case were extended to 31st May and 30th November. Having regard to this fact we request the Local Government Department to allow full poundage in accordance with the proposal of the Council to be paid Collectors who lodge full warrant by the 30th April, 1932."

FIRE EXTINGUISHING APPARATUS FOR
COUNTY HALL.

The County Surveyor submitted a number of quotations for fire extinguishing apparatus, and pointed out that these varied so much and the designs were so diverse that it would not be possible to give comparative figures.

After discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr McCarthy seconded by the Chairman - Mr O'Byrne dissenting:- "That the Council be recommended to accept the quotation of Messrs Simonis Ltd., 32 Alfred Place, London, for supply of fire extinguishing apparatus as recommended by Mr J.C. Hutson, late Captain Pembroke Township Fire Brigade at £20: 12: 0d."

REPORT ARBITRATION COUNTY COUNCIL AND PIONEER
ROAD CONSTRUCTION COMPANY.

The following report of arbitration proceedings in the above was read from the Arbitrator, Mr J. C. Courtney, B.E.M.Inst.C.E.I. County Surveyor, North Tipperary, under date 19th June, 1931:-

"As requested I held a Court of Arbitration in Gorey on 21st May 1931 into the dispute between the Pioneer Road Construction Limited and the Wexford County Council as to the quantity of $1\frac{1}{2}$ " and $\frac{3}{4}$ " stone which was produced during the resurfacing of the Gorey-Courtown Road in cement-bound macadam and which the County Council should take over from

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the Contractor @ ^s7/- per cubic yard in accordance with Clause 22 of the specification for the work.

Evidence was submitted by both sides in a very fair manner. The Contractor's claim against the Council is for 3,145 cubic yards @ ^s7/- per cubic yard, while the Council's representatives estimated the quantity at 1,224 cubic yards.

It became obvious very early in the proceedings that the County Council's representatives would not accept the Contractor's method of measurements, and that the Contractor refused to accept the County Surveyor's estimate of the stone in the Quarry at the commencement of the work, or of the quantity drawn away during the progress of the work as there was no agreed measurement of the stone in the Quarry at the commencement of the work nor of the stone taken away during the progress of the work. Since both parties submitted their figures in all good faith I cannot accept one set of figures as against the other and accordingly I propose to examine the whole position in the light of my experience of such work and determine what quantity of $1\frac{1}{2}$ " and $\frac{3}{4}$ " stone would ordinarily be produced in this type of work.

I base my calculations on the following facts which are not in dispute:-

- (1) The length of the road is 4971 yards
- (2) The width of the road is 16 feet
- (3) The average thickness is 5". The County Surveyor agreed that this was a reasonable figure based on a thickness of 6" at the sides, and 4" at the centre.
- (4) The area of the work is 26,512 sq. yards.

On examination I find the specific gravity of the stone to be 2.7 giving a weight of 168.6 lbs per cubic foot in the solid, and a weight of 24.3 cwt. per cubic yard loose

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assuming 40 % voids.

My experience of other works has shown that, in general, 1 ton of stone will cover approximately 5.8 square yards of road 4" thick and on that basis 1 ton of stone would cover 4.64 square yards at 5" thick.

The evidence submitted by the County Surveyor showed that the Contractor was using small stone contrary to specification up to the 3rd September 1930 and that the length of road loaded with this mixed stone was 2,000 lineal yards. The Contractor disputed this figure of 2,000 lineal yards, but did not submit evidence of any definite length. Accordingly I accept the County Surveyor's figure for this and I find that it agrees very approximately with the figure found by taking the number of days crushing up to the 3rd of September and the number of days after. The County Surveyor, however, when making deduction for this stone estimates that all the $1\frac{1}{2}$ " and $\frac{3}{4}$ " stone was used while the Contractor's return shows that his output of $1\frac{1}{2}$ " and $\frac{3}{4}$ " stone during this period was approximately one half of his output during the remainder of the work. I will therefore take it that half of the small stones produced before the 3rd of September were allowed to go into the first 2,000 lineal yards of the road and that only $2\frac{1}{2}$ " stone was used for the remainder.

As regards the percentage of $1\frac{1}{2}$ " and $\frac{3}{4}$ " stone my experience is that approximately 40 % of the stone passing through the crusher would be less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ " and of this 5% would be dust leaving 35 % of $1\frac{1}{2}$ " and $\frac{3}{4}$ " stone. This agrees approximately with the County Surveyor's evidence of his experience and with the statement from the Balleece Quarries Company handed in by the Contractor.

Dealing then separately with the two portions of the road I estimate that for the 2,000 lineal yards of road 2,300 tons of stone would be required and allowing that in

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THE production of this there was $17\frac{1}{2}\%$ of $1\frac{1}{2}"$ and $3/4"$ stone left over to the County Council I find that 520 tons of 428 cubic yards of $1\frac{1}{2}"$ and $3/4"$ stone was left over on this portion. In the remaining portion of the road, 2,971, lineal yards, the quantity of stone required would be 3415 tons and in the production of this 35% of $1\frac{1}{2}"$ and $3/4"$ stone amounting to 1992 tons would be produced yielding 1640 cubic yards. This makes a total of 2,068 cubic yards of $1\frac{1}{2}"$ and $3/4"$ stone.

I therefore consider that the Contractor should be paid for this amount of stone @ $7\frac{s}{-}$ per cubic yard."

The report gave the Contractors £376: 19: less than they claimed and decided that the Council should pay £295: 8: 0d more than they offered.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Culleton seconded the following resolution:- "We recommend the Council to pay to the Pioneer Road Construction Company the sum of £723: 16s. on the findings of the Arbitrator in the arbitration proceedings relative to the dispute as to the value of the stone left in Gorey Hill Quarry and taken over on behalf of the Council on the termination of improvement work on Gorey-Courtown Road.

"Also that the Council pay Mr Courtney half arbitration fee, viz., £10: 10s. the Pioneer Road Construction Company to be responsible for the other moiety."

TENDERS FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENT WORKS.

The following under date 26th June, 1931, (R/SCH/32) was read from the Department of Local Government (Roads):-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant intimating that the Wexford County Council have provisionally accepted the tenders of Messrs Collen Bros. Ltd., East Wall, Dublin, as follows:-

Enniscorthy -Bunclody Road - £3259: 18: 0d for
18 ft. road of 6 inch slab concrete with
clay margin.

Wexford-New Ross Road - £10,094 for
16 ft. road of 4 inch slab with macadam sides.

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It is to be noticed that in the latter case an addition is to be made in respect of the item tendered for at 40/- each, gateways, etc., (page 18, Bill of Quantities). An examination of the tender shows that the difference in cost between making up the sides in macadam and extending the 4 inch slab to the full width of 18 feet is only £311. Furthermore, as the tender is about £2,000 less than the estimate, the Council would do well to consider the advisability of extending the concrete work the full 18 feet.

Having regard to the observation made by Messrs Collen Bros. on their tender for the Wexford-New Ross road that the time allowed for completion of the work is insufficient, the Council should obtain confirmation from them that they are prepared to abide by Clause 7 (Time Limit) of the General Conditions of Contract and to execute a bond accordingly. Having regard to the period that now remains for the completion of the work, it is not possible to afford much time for negotiations, and if Messrs Collen Bros. are unable to give the necessary confirmation, the Council should award the contract for the Wexford-New Ross road to the next lowest firm of tenderers, provided that the latter give the necessary assurance as to completion. Provided that the confirmation required from Messrs Collen Bros. is obtained, the Minister sees no objection to the Council accepting their tender.

The several tenders received are returned herewith."

The County Surveyor held as regards the amount for gateways that as this was not brought into bill it should not be included in the tender, and the Local Government Department had been so informed.

Under date 29th June, 1931, the Department of Local Government wrote (R/SGH/32) (Roads) that the item of 40/- each in respect of gateways etc (page 18 Bill of Quantities) was clearly an extra over and above the sum of £10,094.

Under date 27th June, 1931, the following was read from

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the County Surveyor:-

"With reference to the letter from the Local Government Department (R/SGH/32) - 26th June, 1931, I beg to point out that there was an exhaustive discussion at the County Council meeting on the 23rd instant in regard to the alternative Tenders for 18ft and 16 ft. slab. I, personally, recommended adoption of 18 ft. slab, but the County Council, on a division by 14 to 10 decided to adopt 16 ft slab with macadam margins. The reasons influencing the Council were that the 16 ft. slab on this road would be quite as efficient as the 16 ft. slab on the Wexford-Enniscorthy Road, and that the wider margin between the fences would be of more utility for cattle and animals passing along the road.

In regard to the item for making good gateways, which though priced in Messrs Collens' Bill is not brought into total, I wish to point out that in "Particulars of Work", Clause 1 of the General Conditions in Specification, on page 6, it requires that the "Tender should be at a lump sum", The Contractor in putting in his Tender, Page 19, omitted this figure, and accordingly, I did not add any item for the work; as I take it that the cost would be covered under Preliminary Expenses in Bill of Quantities. Under these circumstances I do not think it necessary to make any alteration in the Contractor's figure."

Copy of this letter was furnished the Local Government Department (Roads).

Under date 27th June, 1931, The County Solicitor wrote Messrs Collen Bros. as follows:-

"Referring to your Tender for the above work (Wexford-New Ross Road) which was submitted to and considered by the Wexford County Council at their meeting held on the 23rd inst., I have been instructed to ascertain from you, whether having regard to your note on the margin of the tender to the effect that the time allowed for the completion of the

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work was insufficient you are prepared to abide by Clause 7 of the Specification which provides that the work shall be completed on or before the 1st day of November, 1931, and execute the Contract and Bond accordingly.

An answer by return is imperative as it is necessary to start the work at once."

The following under date 2nd July, 1931, was also read from Mr Elgee:-

"As instructed I wrote to Messrs Collen Bros. whose Tender for the above road had been accepted by the County Council, asking them if they were prepared (having regard to the note which they had placed on their Tender that they considered the time allowed for the work too short) to abide by Clause 7 of the Specification and complete the work on or before the 1st November next, and I now send you a copy of a letter received this morning from them from which you will see, that they are not prepared to abide by Clause 7 of the Specification, but would undertake to complete the work within six months from the signing of the Contract."

RE/ TRUNK ROAD ENNISCORTHY TO BUNCLODY.

They state that they are prepared to carry out this Section of the work in four months from the signing of the Contract, the Penalty in each case to be £10 per week for delay.

As neither of these conditions come within the provisions of the Specification it is now open to the County Council to reconsider the matter, and if thought advisable accept any other Tender for the work."

The following under date 1st July, 1931, is copy of letter from Messrs Collen Bros. to Mr Elgee:-

"In reply to yours of the 27th ult., re above, we beg to say that we would not be prepared to abide by Clause 7 of the Specification, which provides that the work shall be completed on or before the 1st day of November 1931, but we would undertake to complete this work in six months from date of signing

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Contract.

Re/ Trunk Road Enniscorthy to Bunclody

We would be prepared to carry out this Section of the work in four months from date of signing Contract, and Penalty in each case should be £10 per week for delay."

After considerable discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr McCarthy seconded by Mr ~~St~~ O'Byrne:-

"That, in view of the fact that Messrs Collen Bros., East Wall, Dublin, whose tenders for road improvement works - Wexford-New Ross Road and Enniscorthy-Bunclody road - were accepted subject to the approval of the Local Government Department, have failed in the case of the first mentioned road to supply the undertaking required by that Department, and as regards the road Enniscorthy-Bunclody are not prepared to carry out the work within the time, viz., by 30th September, 1931, as provided by specification, we hereby recommend the Council to cancel provisional award of these contracts to Messrs Collen Bros., and accept the following tenders, subject to the approval of the Local Government Department, provided that the accepted tenderers are prepared to give the necessary undertakings as to completion of the works in specified time, viz., Pioneer Road Construction Co., East Wall, Dublin, Wexford-New Ross Road T 12, Nos. 20 and 22, amount £10,830, - 16 ft by 4 inch slab with macadam sides, and William Lee, Arklow, Enniscorthy-Bunclody road, T. 16, No. 24, amount £3,400. 1s. - 18 ft. by six inch slab with clay margin, the acceptance of the ~~the~~ tender being conditional on the Contractor being prepared to deal with such extended length of road as will represent the amount of saving on New Ross - Wexford Road between the figures for estimate and accepted contract on said road, and at a pro rata price according to his contract for the original work."

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TEMPORARY CLOSING OF ROADS.

Under date 25th June, 1931 (IR/107/1) the Department of Local Government (Roads) forwarded Order of the Minister as to the closing of the following roads from the 25th June to the 15th December, 1931, (Both days inclusive):-

No. 1. The portion of the road from Wexford to New Ross situate between Tomcoole Cross Roads and the Old Rural District bounds at Poulpeasty.

No.2 - The portion of the road from Wexford to New Ross situate between Cushinstown and Ballymacar bridge,

And from the 25th June to the 15th day of November, 1931, (both days inclusive) of the following road:-

The portion of the road from Enniscorthy to Bunclody situate between Tomgarrow cross roads and Tombrick bridge.

FERRYCARRIG BRIDGE.

The following under date 1st July, 1931, was read from the County Surveyor :-

"On several occasions I drew the attention of the Council to the continued movement of the structure at Ferrycarrig Bridge, and I have had the work under constant observation . On yesterday, 30th ultimo, I had the opportunity of inspecting the piles at very low tide, and I found that the "thrust" of the moving abutment is starting fracture of the piles supporting the bascule. The danger of this is if the wet percolates to the reinforcement the action on the steel will burst up the concrete, and I am now satisfied that it is absolutely essential to take the steps recommended by Mr Delap, who reported on this matter some time ago."

It was decided that the County Surveyor communicate with Mr Delap, Engineer, with a view to securing a report, as to what was best to be done in order to permanently secure the abutment.

EASEMENT OF KAVANAGH'S CORNER - CURRACLOE.

The following under date 20th June, 1931, was read from Mrs Owen Morris, Barnahask, Curracloe:-

"In connection with the cutting of Kavanagh's Corner in Curracloe I agreed with Mr Birthistle in cutting my fruit trees if it was necessary to do so, but I did not think my summer house would have to be cut down. It was the pride of my cottage. I am sure it will be a big drawback to me in letting my cottage now for the Summer months as the bathers always looked forward to it in good order as it was a grand shade for the children and people to sit out of the glaring sun. But when I seen it blocked ~~up~~ the sight of the corner I did agree with Mr Fortune to cut it down. So I hope, and would be very thankful, if you will treat me fair, as it may^{be}/the means now of me not getting as much rent for my cottage."

It was decided to refer the matter to the County Surveyor and pending his report that Mr Culleton would interview Mr Morris and report to next meeting of the Finance Committee.

INJURY TO TAR SPRAYER

Under date 2nd July, 1931, the County Surveyor submitted the following report from Mr R.J. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor for the district:-

"I have to report that yesterday, 30th June, 1931, a lorry owned, and driven by Edward Carley, 26, Duffry Street, Enniscorthy, struck one of the tar boilers on the Wells Road, and did a certain amount of damage. Apparently it got out of control through a front spring breaking, and dashed across the road. The boiler was standing at the moment well on the proper side. Carley admits liability, and offers to pay for any damage done. He has, I believe, already settled with the owner of the horse which was slightly injured. I have asked Mr Murphy to get the boil-

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er put right to-day, and to note cost of repairs, with a view to sending Carley an account. He is not insured, I believe, Fortunately no one was seriously hurt though one of our men had a really extraordinary escape.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Culleton seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That the County Surveyor furnish cost of repair of tar sprayer of the Council to Edward Carley, 26 Duffry Street, Enniscorthy."

GENERAL COUNCIL OF CO. COUNCILS - ANNUAL MEETING

Under date 4th June, 1931, letter was read from the Secretary, County Councils General Council stating that the annual meeting would be held on 5th August, and asking the Council to forward notice of any matters which they wished to have discussed thereat by the 24th July, 1931,

It was decided that the General Council be asked to consider the advisability of submitting to the L.G.D. a resolution asking for the payment of the Agricultural Grant at the beginning and not at the end of each quarter.

SHEEP SCAB - MOVEMENT OF ANIMALS

Under date 30th June, 1931, Mr F.S. Ringwood, Veterinary Inspector reported as follows:-

"Re Sheep scab at Graiguemore, Clohamon. Thos. Byrne the owner of the diseased sheep moved seven sheep on to this farm during the month, the Detention notice being still in force."

A resolution was adopted that Mr Elgee, Solicitor, communicate with Mr Ringwood, Veterinary Surgeon, and obtain a more detailed report in this matter, Mr Elgee to proceed against Thos. Byrne should he consider the evidence warrants prosecution.

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SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Culleton:-

"That renewal of bursary under Secondary Scholarship Scheme be recommended to Patrick Sheehan, Clonattin Road, Gorey."

REPAIRS TO HOUSE OF MR.M. FURLONG, SPANELL ROAD,
WEXFORD.

The County Surveyor reported that the lavatory at the house of Mr Michael Furlong, a tenant of the Council, was in a bad condition, and was offensive in its present position. Mr Furlong had complained of it a considerable time back, and there was no doubt the matter (if only from a sanitary point of view) required attention.

It was decided that as the Council were about to sell this property the County Surveyor would for the present only repair the lavatory pan.

WEXFORD HARBOUR BOAT CLUB - TENNIS SECTION.

Under date 2nd July, 1931, the County Surveyor submitted application from the Committee of above for the loan of tar sprayer in order to spread a sealing coat of bitumen on a newly laid tennis court in the Club grounds. It would be used by experienced workmen who had been in the service of the Council, and would be returned after one day in perfect order.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Culleton:-

"That the application of Wexford Harbour Boat Club Committee (Tennis Section) for loan of tar sprayer for one day be acceded to, the Committee to guarantee that the machine will be returned to the Council in perfect order.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATIONS.

Notification was received for the committal to

Industrial Schools of the following children:-

Mary Gallagher, Curracloe,

Margaret Doyle, Enniscorthy and

Mary Ellen Flynn, Ballinkeelee, Cylegate.

Particulars in each case had been forwarded to Mr Elgee, Solicitor, for his information.

Mr Clince proposed and Mr O'Byrne seconded the following resolution which was adopted nem con:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee meeting for 2nd July, 1931, be received and considered."

Painting New Ross Bridge: It was decided to await decision of Kilkenny County Council in the matter and if they agree to the proposed expenditure that tenders for the work be invited through advertisement.

Collectors' Poundage: The following under date 18th July, 1931 (G55189/1931 Loch Garman) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"With reference to the recommendation of the Finance Committee of their meeting on the 2nd instant in the matter of poundage in respect of the current collection, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that he must remind the Council that the uniform accounting basis prescribed for Local Authorities is the financial year and the stipulations contained in the Public Bodies Orders concerning rate collections depend for their effectiveness on the warrants being accounted for by the 31st March. The Minister cannot agree to any extension of this period for County Wexford and desires that this be specially understood by the Rate Collectors.

As regards any variation in poundage consequent upon the additional relief to agricultural ratepayers the Minister does not propose to come to a final decision until towards the end of the financial year when he will be in a position to judge the progress of the collections and will have received the views of all the County Councils."

It was decided to postpone further action in this matter until the collection was nearing a close.

Fire Extinguishing Apparatus: It was decided on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne that the recommendation of the Finance Committee in this matter be adjourned until

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the County Surveyor submits a report as to the suitability of new apparatus which was experimented with in the County recently.

Easement of Kavanagh's Corner: It was stated that Mrs Morris claimed £10 compensation for land taken for easement.

Mr McCarthy proposed and Mr O'Byrne seconded the following resolution which was adopted nem con:- "That Mrs Owen Morris, Barnahask, Curraclloe, be offered a sum of £3 (Three Pounds) for land taken in order to ease dangerous corner on road adjacent to her premises."

Injury to Tar Sprayer: The County Surveyor said that he had supplied a statement of Cost of repairing the damage to County Council lorry to Mr Carley. He would report further in the matter when the occasion arose.

General Council of County Councils: The following resolutions were adopted on the motion of Mr Murphy seconded by Mr Cline:-

"That the General Council of County Councils be requested to discuss the question of derelict farms on which in this County considerable arrears of Rates are due, with a view to approaching the Land Commission to have these farms allocated to adjoining occupiers if possible."

"If this proposal could be carried out, the present arrears of rent and rates would be very considerably reduced.

"That the General Council of County Councils be asked to take steps to induce the Government to introduce legislation for the repeal of the provisions of the Statute which makes ratepayers responsible for unpaid Land Commission annuities through stoppage of Government grants to meet the deficit under this head."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Gibbon seconded by the Chairman:-

"That, in the opinion of this County Council, the General Council of County Councils has lost recently a good

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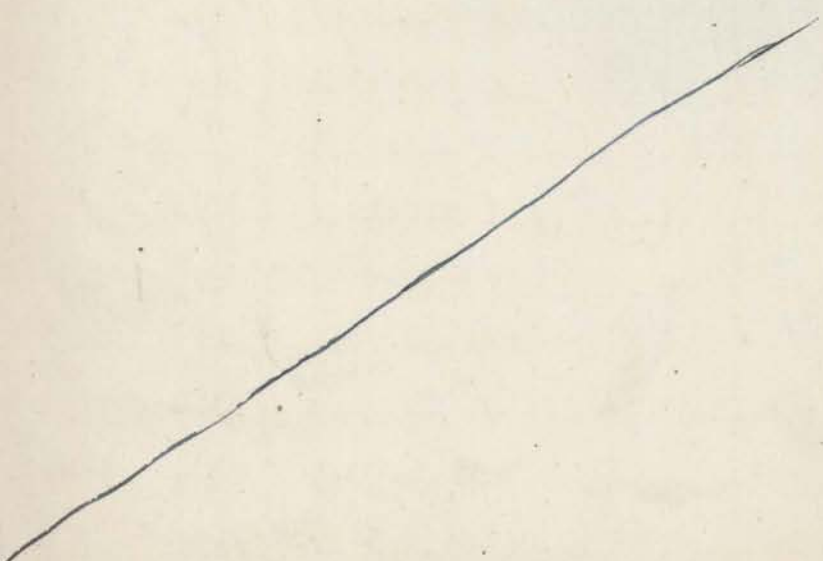
deal of its effectiveness with the Executive Council of the Government, and we feel that the Executive Council should be prepared to pay more attention to the recommendations of so representative a body.

"We are dissatisfied with the results obtained by the General Council for the past few years and would be glad to have report as to how their recommendations commended themselves to the Government during, say, the past twelve months."

Wexford Harbour Boat Club - Tennis Section: Col. Quin proposed and the Chairman seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That the Wexford Harbour Boat Club be charged a sum of 2/6d for use of tar sprayer for one day - in order to establish the precedent that the Council's machinery whenever hired must be paid for even at a nominal figure."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 2nd July, 1931, be and are hereby confirmed unless where otherwise altered or amended by resolution adopted at this meeting."

The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of Meeting held on 16th July, 1931, were submitted as follows:-



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The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 16th July, 1931.

Present :- Messrs Sean O'Byrne, James Hall, Thomas McCarthy and James Shannon.

The Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and Rates Inspector were also in attendance.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £4121: 15: 5d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

State of the Rate Collection: was submitted as follows:-

	Name of Collector.	Percentage of '32 Warrant collected.
1.	J. Quirke	10.9 %
2.	Sean Gannon	8.6%
3.	Thos. Rowe	7.4 %
4.	J. Curtis	7.0 %
5.	P. Carty	6.5 %
6.	Wm. Doyle	6.1 %
7.	P. O'Byrne	6.0 %
8.	M. McCarthy	5.6 %
9.	J.J.O'Reilly	5.5 %
10 .	P. Nolan	4.9 %
11.	A. Dunne	4.1 %
12.	P. Doyle	3.9 %
13.	J.J. Sinnott	3.8 %
14.	W. Cummins	3.7 %
15.	J. Deegan	2.9 %
16.	T. Bolger	2.9 %
17.	J. Cummins	2.5 %
18.	T. Bolger	1.5 %

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Name of Collector.	Percentage of '32 Warrant collected.
19. J. Quirke	1.1 %
20. M. Kelly	.9 %
21. E.J. Murphy	.7 %

It was decided that Rate Collectors be communicated with that the Finance Committee are dissatisfied with the progress of the Rate Collection, which ~~the~~ is in a worse position than at the corresponding period last year. The Committee trust that by the date of the next meeting substantial progress in the Collection will have been made.

Rate Collector M.M. Kelly: Mr P. Lennon, Resident Inspector, New Ireland Assurance Co. Ltd., forwarded receipt for £5: 12: 6d, premium on Fidelity Guarantee Bond paid by Collector M.M. Kelly.

Mr Lennon stated he had forwarded the amount to his Head office in Dublin.

A letter was received from the Head Office, New Ireland Assurance Co., that they would not accept renewal of Mr Kelly's Bond and that they had notified their Resident Inspector to this effect.

It was decided to report failure of Collector to produce Bond or renewal receipt to next meeting of County Council on 27th July, 1931, by which date it was anticipated ruling of the L.G.D. would be received regarding Mr Kelly's position.

Sanction of Rates Inspector: Letter under date 7th July, 1931, (No.G.52156/1931 Loch Garman Fa.) was read, stating that the Minister for Local Government & Public Health sanctioned the appointment on a permanent basis of Mr O'Kennedy as Rates Inspector.

Agricultural Grant 1931/32: Notification was received from the Department of Local Government & Public Health that £1359: 9: 2d had been deducted from Agricultural Grant in

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pursuance of Order made by Minister for Finance owing to non-payment of Instalment of Loan under the Labourers' Acts by the Board of Health. The portion of the Agricultural Grant authorised for payment amounted to £9630 and Bank Draft for the balance amounting to £8,270: 10: 10d had been received.

OVERDRAFT ACCOMMODATION

Letter was read from the Manager, National Bank, that Directors declined to sanction the extension of overdraft by £14,000.

It was pointed out that since the application was made portion of the Agricultural Grant had been received leaving £9,874 due in respect of the period ended 30th June.

It was decided on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall that it be pointed out to the Directors of the National Bank that application for additional overdraft is necessary in consequence of the backward state of Rate Collection, and owing to the balance of Agricultural Grant not being available as legislation in connection therewith had not been finally passed. The extension now required was £10,000 and would not extend beyond a period of six weeks. The present sanctioned overdraft was £20,000.

PROVISION OF OFFICE FOR EX-officio INSPECTOR OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Superintendent M. Walsh submitted application from Sergeant Scanlon for properly fitted apartment in the Old Jail for use as Weights and Measures Office.

It was decided that application be adjourned to next meeting of the Committee and that it be ascertained in the meantime if Sergeant Scanlon carries out verifications for Wexford Urban District in addition to the Rural areas in the one office, and also as to the allocation of the equipment supplied Sgt. Scanlon as between County Council and Urban

Council work.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES (OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES) ACT 1926

Order made by Minister in pursuance of Section 12 of the above Act and assessing the amount payable thereunder by Wexford County Council at £145: 12: 7d. was read.

It was decided that the amount be paid.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

The following application was read from Mr John Leacy, Inspector of the N.S.P.C.C. :-

"George Merriman born 7th June, 1926. An inmate of St. Terese' Home, Blackrock, Co. Dublin, since 3rd August, 1929. Mother Bridget Merriman aged 23 years, an inmate of Good Shepherd Convent, Waterford, since July, 1929. Father --? It is proposed to make application for committal to District Justice sitting at Blackrock, Co. Dublin, and the Council's sanction to contribute is respectfully sought."

Mr Leacy came before the meeting and explained the circumstances of the case.

Mr Elgee, Solicitor, stated that as the child was domiciled in Dublin application should be made by the Society to the Dublin County Council as Wexford County Council had no legal responsibility for the maintenance of the child, as it was not at present domiciled in their area.

Mr Leacy stated he did not believe the Dublin Council would take responsibility for the maintenance of the child in an Industrial School, as it was born in County Wexford.

It was pointed out that the child would be eligible for admission by the Poor Law Authorities to the Dublin Union.

It was decided that National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children be informed that Wexford County Council cannot accept responsibility for maintenance of child George Merriman in an Industrial School as he is domiciled in County

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Dublin.

Mr Leacy said he would report the Committee's decision to his authorities as he would not without further instructions, make an application to the Dublin County Council. It was most unlikely the latter would accept any responsibility in the matter.

TEMPORARY VETERINARY INSPECTOR

Letter was read from the Department of Agriculture that they had no objection to the temporary employment of Mr Taylor V.S. New Ross as a substitute Local Authority Veterinary Inspector for portion of New Ross District during the absence of Mr Lynch V.S. on fortnight's leave as from 16th instant.

CAHORE PIER

The following Report by Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor to the County Surveyor, was read:-

"When I reported in November last on work to be done at above I calculated that to cover portion of rock interfering with fishing it would only require an extension of floor for a length of 53 feet by six feet at widest and nine feet deep, consequently I estimated that a sum of £50 would suffice to do the work. However when putting work in hands it was found that rock extension was more than anticipated, and in order to do the work properly length of addition had to be increased to 83 feet with a further increase of 8' 6" at widest, and nine feet deep which added considerably to work to be done.

I find now that job is finished that a sum of £21: 14: 0d will be required to complete the cost of work."

It was decided that the extra amount required - £21: 14: 0d be allocated to complete the work.

COURTOWN HARBOUR PIER.

The County Surveyor submitted the following letter from Mr Lee, Contractor, Arklow:-

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"In reference to the necessary repairs, I cannot quote you a lump sum for this job. The only way I could do this work is to quote a price per cubic yard of concrete in the underpinning or bag work, and also a price per cubic yard concrete in mass for the inside filling. If this would be suitable I will quote you for the work."

It was decided that the County Surveyor summon a meeting of the Councillors for Gorey Electoral Area for inspection of Pier Head and submit report for next meeting.

HIRE OF BREAKER

The County Surveyor said he had received an application from the Pioneer Road Construction Co., for hire of breaker.

It was decided to allow breaker on hire at £3: 10: 0d. per day, same rate as obtained in the case of previous contracts.

DISCHARGING BOAT AT COURTTOWN

The following was read from Mr R. Garland, Chairman of the Courttown Harbour Committee:-

"We wish to bring before the next meeting of your Council the unseaworthy condition of the discharging boat which is more or less in constant use.

"The boat is too old and her timbers are rotten and the repair of her would be useless.

"We recommend that a new boat be built."

It was decided that discharging boat be inspected by County Surveyor and Councillors for Gorey Electoral Area when inspecting the Pier at Courttown, and that estimate be submitted to next meeting as to cost of a new boat.

MILL RACE AT MOHURRY

In reference to complaint by Mr Shannon as to culvert being broken down, the County Surveyor stated he would have the place inspected by Mr Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, and

also ask him to communicate with the owner as to date
when course will be dry with a view to making a complete
inspection.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 16th July, 1931, be received and considered."

Ex-Collector M.M. Kelly: Under date 3rd July, 1931, the Department of Local Government wrote (G.52269-31 Loch Garman) forwarding copy of letter (G.52269/31 - 3rd July, 1931) addressed to Mr Kelly stating that as regards his suspension from office the Minister for Local Government would be prepared, before deciding whether or not to confirm the suspension imposed, to consider any explanation Mr Kelly might desire to submit on or before the 12th July, 1931.

Under date 16th July, 1931, the Department of Local Government wrote (S.53938/31 Fa Loch Garman) transmitting copy of sealed order removing Mr Kelly from office which course had been adopted after full consideration of the explanation received from him.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Armstrong:- "That we approve of the recommendation of the Finance Committee appointing Collector Gannon as temporary Collector for No. 6 District for the collection of warrant for financial year 1931-32."

Sanction of Rate Inspector:- The L.G.D. wrote under date 7th July, 1931 (G.52156 - 1931 Loch Garman Fa.) sanctioning the appointment on a permanent basis of Mr Sean O'Kennedy as Rates Inspector.

Agricultural Grant: The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Armstrong:-

"That the Department of Finance be requested to forward as soon as possible balance of Agricultural Grant due to 30th June, 1931,"

Additional Overdraft: The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Clinck:-

"That Treasurer of County Council be requested to arrange

for the overdraft of the County Council standing at £30,000 from 1st July to 31st August and that the Department of Local Government and Public Health be requested to sanction this proposal."

Office in Wexford for Inspector of Weights and Measures: The Secretary stated that the present office was adjoining the Wexford Town Hall and the Corporation were paying for it the ground rent. The Inspector had a set of standards etc for the Corporation. The County Council made no contribution to the Corporation towards the rent.

The County Surveyor stated there was an apartment in the Old Jail which could be converted for a Weights and Measures office at a moderate cost.

A resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr Hall that an estimate as to conversion of apartment in Old Jail, Wexford, for Weights & Measures Office be submitted to next meeting of Finance Committee by County Surveyor.

Local Authorities (Officers and Employees) Act 1926: The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Culleton:- "That the sum of £145: 12: 7d contribution of Wexford County Council under Local Authorities (Officers and Employees) Act 1926 be paid, Pay Order to issue as soon as the finances of the Council show improvement."

Courtown Harbour Pier: The following report was submitted:

"On Friday, 24th July, 1931, the Committee met at Courtown Harbour at 3 o'clock p.m. There were in attendance only two members, Messrs S. O'Byrne and Wm. P. Keegan. The County Surveyor, Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor and the Harbour Master were also present.

The Committee inspected the Pier Head and noted its very defective condition, and report that immediate steps must be taken to deal with it. The County Surveyor informed the Committee that he was at present in communication with

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a Firm who specialise in concrete piling and underpinning work, and hoped to have an expert visit the site shortly.

The Committee discussed the matter of cutting away defective Pier Head as had been suggested, and in connection with this matter interviewed all the local fishermen to obtain their views in regard to the effect this would have on the safety of the entrance, and the shoaling around the South Pier Head. All the local fishermen were unanimous in stating that the shortening of the North Pier would increase the danger of the entrance in bad weather, and that it would cause further shoaling alongside the South Pier. Also that this shoaling would not be capable of being scoured out by the action of the sluices if the North Pier was shortened. The Committee accordingly recommend that immediate steps be taken for the repair of the Pier in its existing position.

The application for provision of a new discharging boat was considered by the Committee. From particulars, obtained from the Harbour Master it would appear that there is now comparatively little work of this nature. The receipts annually for the use of the discharging boat do not vary very much from about 26/-, and as there would be little use for the boat during the Autumn the Committee recommend that consideration of the matter be adjourned to next Spring."

In reply to the Chairman the County Surveyor said that £250 had been allowed for the work. Mr Lee, Contractor for the sluice gates offered to do the work in concrete bags at a piece work rate but it was not advisable to do anything in the matter until he (County Surveyor) had the report of an Expert who was concerned in the erection of a sea wall at Cork and with whom he would go into details, fully. So far as he could see the cost would run into £500 or £600.

Mr Keegan held that the North Pier was dangerous and ready to collapse at any moment.

The County Surveyor said that notices had been placed

at the entrance calling attention to the condition of the Pier. After the first allocation had been agreed to a big storm did further damage.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Keegan seconded the following:- resolution which was adopted:- "That report of expert as to necessary repair work at Courtown Harbour be submitted to next meeting. That the County Surveyor furnish a preliminary report to the Department of Lands & Fisheries showing the present condition of the Pier and asking them to contribute half cost of the work. Unless ^{repair} ~~this~~ be carried out at an early date the fishing industry at Courtown must close down. That this Department be also supplied by County Surveyor with copy of report and recommendations of Expert when same are available."

With reference to sluice gates at Courtown Harbour the Department of Lands & Fisheries wrote (D/5/2) that it had been noted the County Council were prepared to accept the conditions under which the contribution of £350 from State Funds would be available towards the cost of providing new sluice gates at Courtown Harbour. Payment of the Grant would be made when the work had been completed to the satisfaction of the Commissioners of Public Works.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Col. Quin:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 16th July, 1931, be and are hereby confirmed."

CONTRACTS FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENT WORKS.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Gaul seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That the seal of the County Council be affixed to contracts with Pioneer Road Construction Co. East Wall, Dublin, for improvement work on Road Wexford-New Ross and with William Lee of Arklow, Co. Wicklow, for improvement work on Road Enniscorthy-Bunclogh."

Under date 9th July 1931, the Pioneer Road Construction

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Co. East Wall, Dublin, wrote giving undertaking that they would carry out the work on Wexford-New Ross Road in accordance with the terms of the specification and according to the time limit allowing an extra 16 days for the postponement of the acceptance of their contract.

Under date 28th June, 1931, the Department of Local Government (Roads) wrote the County Surveyor that no objection would be raised to utilising the saving on the Wexford-New Ross Road to extending the proposed length of slab on the Enniscorthy-Bunclody Road. If the Contractor agreed to carry out an extra length at rates which were not in excess of those tendered by him for the original length he should be required to execute a bond to cover the increased length.

Under date 10th July, 1931, Mr William Lee, Arklow, wrote giving undertaking to carry out the improvement work on Enniscorthy-Bunclody Road in accordance with the specification in every detail and to carry out any extension of the work at a pro rata price according to the original tender.

Under date 14th July, 1931, the Local Government Department wrote (R/SGH/32) acknowledging receipt of copies of forms of agreement from Pioneer Road Construction Co. and ^{from} Mr William Lee in respect of Road Improvement work.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That stonebreaker be hired to William Lee, Arklow, Contractor for improvement work on Enniscorthy-Bunclody Road at £3: 10s. per day."

FLOODING AT ASKAMORE.

The following was read from County Surveyor under date 25th July, 1931:-

"As directed by the Council, I made inspection on 15th instant, of the premises of Mr Edward Doran, Askamore, with reference to the alleged flooding.

"I met Mr Doran at the place, and he pointed out to me the cause of his complaint. There is a bend on the road

immediately opposite his gateway, and his yard is considerably below road level. The road slopes down towards his gateway, and the water channel alongside same is carried through his yard. He has a private water supply brought in, in another direction, lower down, and he contends that the road water contaminates his supply. At the present time, independently of the road water, his supply passes through a duck pond, and therefore cannot be in any way contaminated by the road water. This state of affairs has been in existence for a very long time, and as Mr Doran has only been about four years in the premises he could give me no information as to former circumstances. Recently the County Medical Officer has complained of the water supply used by Mr Doran. He proposes, I understand, making some alteration in piping the water across yard. If this be done I cannot see how the road water could be injurious from a health point of view, though it is, to a certain extent, a nuisance running along an open drain in the yard. If any alteration be made by the County Council I consider it should be by taking the road water across road in a gullet, and then for some distance through a new water channel on the opposite side, and again through a new gullet back to the lower side of the road. Mr Doran informed me that he would be prepared to form a new water channel along the road side if the County Council would put in two gullets. The new gullets will cost in or about £9, but it is really a legal matter as to the Council's liability."

Mr Culleton proposed that the matter be adjourned until the County Council could note the effect of the improvements which Mr Doran proposed to carry out.

The Chairman said the whole thing was a legal matter.

They should refer it to Mr Elgee and obtain his advice in time for consideration at next meeting. He proposed a resolution to this effect.

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This was seconded by Mr McCarthy and adopted.

LOANS.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Armstrong:-

"That pursuant to letter of sanction of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health under date 31st October, 1930 (No.S.79,643/30 Loch gCarman (pg.) the sum of £3,649 be borrowed from the National Bank Limited Wexford for the purpose of redemption of ground rents arising out of the former Wexford Courthouse to be repaid within 10 years with interest at the rate of a half per cent under Irish Banks' rate varying subject to a minimum of 4 % per annum as in said letter of sanction provided and it is further resolved that the seal of the Council be affixed to the necessary mortgage over the rates to secure said Loan."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Gaul seconded by Mr Corish:-

"That as regards proposed loan of £800 for provision of maternity accommodation etc at County Hospital this County Council consents to portion of said loan being applied to provision of office accommodation at Co. Hospital and to the application of the balance for provision of Maternity accommodation."

FLOODING AT KILMICHAEL, HOLLYFORT

The following under date 22nd June, 1931, was read from Messrs M.J. O'Connor & Co.:-

"Mr John Byrne of Kilmichael, Hollyfort, Gorey, has instructed us to write to you complaining that two fields of his at Kilmichael have been for a considerable time past constantly flooded by reason of a defective gullet on the public road from Kilmichael to Craanford. The gullet is not sufficient to take the water, and it seems to have got broken in the centre. The gullet would be required to be enlarged. The

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damage to our client's lands has been going on for the past three years, and he will not allow it to continue any longer. He has asked us to take proceedings against the County Council for damages, but we think it right, in the first instance, to write to you so that the defective gullet may be made right.

We shall thank you to let us know if this will be done without further delay."

/ The County Surveyor stated that this work had been included in Provisional Road Works Scheme at £10 but it had been cut out by the Council.

Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, for the District said it was a very necessary work.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Col. Quin:- "That gullet at Kil-michael, adjoining the premises of Mr John Byrne be enlarged cost not to exceed £10, amount to be withdrawn from County Contingencies Fund."

MOTEYBOWER LANE

The following memorial from ten Ratepayers as regards repair and maintenance of Moteybower Lane was submitted:-

"We the undersigned respectfully request the Council to have the Moteybower Lane repaired, with a view to having it put under contract. This road leads from the County Road at Ballyellis to the County Wicklow bounds at Parkmore, and apart from serving a number of Ratepayers living on or adjoining it also opens up a big District on either side for Schools, Chapel and the market towns of Tinahely, Carnew and Gorey.

The importance of this road may be judged from the fact that the Wicklow County Council, through whose area 3/4 of the Road runs - have already passed a sum of money to have their portion of the Road repaired, and the work is already in progress. The Representatives from the Wick-

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low District, have further informed us that their Council will put the Co. Wicklow portion under Contract, provided the Wexford Council have their portion repaired.

We trust the Council will see their way to meet the wishes of the large number of Ratepayers and others concerned."

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Corish seconded the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:- "That the members of this County Council representing Gorey County Electoral Area, with Mr Jordan T.D., be appointed to inspect Moteybower Lane, and report to the Council, inspection to be carried out on Tuesday 11th August, 1931, County Surveyor to summon Committee and arrange hour of meeting and to accompany the Committee."

ERECTION OF SHED WITHIN 30 FEET OF CENTRE
OF ROAD.

The County Surveyor submitted from Mr O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor the following report:-

"I wish to report that Mr James Kavanagh, Old Ross, Ballinaboola, has erected a galvanised iron shed, as a motor house, within 30 feet of the centre of the road."

In reply to query Mr O'Neill said the shed was within 17 feet of the centre of the road: . it was not an obstruction to traffic.

Colonel Quin said it was illegal to have this building in its present position and the Council should not agree to allowing it to remain.

Mr Hall proposed the following:- "That no action be taken by this Council as regards removal of shed of James Kavanagh, Old Ross."

Mr Colfer seconded and the resolution was adopted, Col. Quin and Messrs Culleton and Corish dissenting.

NAVIGATION LIGHTS NEW ROSS BRIDGE.

Writing under date 18th July, 1931, Mr Elgee, Solicitor,

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gave it as his opinion that the County Council were under no obligation to place navigation lights on New Ross Bridge and he could not find any provision as to same in any of the Acts dealing with the structure.

APPLICATION FOR ERECTION OF WALL AT HOPELANDS
ROSSLARE.

The following under date 23rd June, 1931, was read from Mr P. Bent, Burrow, Rosslare:-

"In the report of the meeting of the County Council we were very disappointed to have seen that our request for a wall or barrier was rejected. Your legal adviser stated that you had no authority to protect people's houses. But we beg to refresh your memories that in our Memorial we asked for a wall or barrier that we might have an unobstructed way or road to and from our homes; and in support of our plea we gave as a reason that we paid rates which entitled us to such a way or road. Being ratepayers we have a right and a claim to a road to and from our homes like the rest of the community; we pay for the social services which the ordinary citizen expects and demands. We do not own wealth or riches, we are poor people striving to live and rear our families decently. Nevertheless we are entitled to receive from you the consideration that is shown to the big man with the motor car. You make sure to cater for him and his needs and conveniences by expending thousands of pounds on roads for his use and benefit. A few hundred pounds will cover the expenses of the wall we ask. But it seems that because we cannot afford the luxury of a motor car - because we are poor people - the County Council do not consider our rights when there is a question of giving us a proportion of the public services which involves a few hundred pounds. Where is the justice or fair play in that attitude? You collect rates from us and although you say that they do not amount to a large sum of money, yet in the aggregate over a period of twenty or twenty-

five years, the rates paid by us would be sufficient to build the wall we are looking for. Surely then we have a claim to a road which cannot be effected without erecting a wall. We have already pointed out to you that we and our families are compelled to walk through mud and water two and three feet deep, for a great part of the year. Is that fair to us? Is it fair to our children who are obliged to suffer those hardships and difficulties when going to, and returning from school ~~and~~ church? You know that these conditions are inhuman and unfair, yet you refuse to spend a few hundred pounds on the building of a wall to remove them.

We are led to believe that amongst the members of the Council, there are ~~any~~ ^{many} who pose as democrats and whose concern for and interest in, the worker and poor man, is such that when those so-called democrats see him unfairly treated and unjustly burthened, their very hearts are rent. But strange to say not one of their voices was raised against the injustice and unfairness of refusing us the means of providing a road. Occasionally we hear and read of their jeremiads anent the conditions of the poor worker. At the time of an election those democrats are most voluble in their denunciation of the conditions under which ~~many~~ a worker is condemned to live. It would seem that the poor man is just a cat's paw in the game. Now, Gentleman, we have a grievance and we ask you to redress our grievance by providing us with an unobstructed road to and from our homes. As we pay rates to the County Council, we claim a road. For long have we been forced to travel through slime and water. A few hundred pounds which will build the wall is not to be compared with the health and lives of us and our children, who should not be compelled to wade through water for the greater part of the year. You have the remedy at your disposal, and it is your duty as representatives of the people to see that every part of the community gets a fair proportion of the public services."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Corish seconded by Col. Quin:- "That a Committee consisting of Co. Councillors representing Wexford County Electoral Area inspect Hopeland Bank relative to application of Mr. P. Bent and report to next meeting of the Council, the Committee to meet on Friday, 31st July, 1931, at 10.30 a.m. ~~xx~~ and to be accompanied by the County Surveyor."

PETROL PUMP LICENCE.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr Gaul, seconded by Mr O'Byrne and adopted:- "That licence for Petrol Pump issue to Michael Browne, Clonroche, provided site etc meets with the approval of the County Surveyor."

DEPUTATION WORKMEN TARA HILL QUARRY

Messrs John Walsh, Lce. Doherty and Ml. Wafer, workmen at Tara Hill Quarry, attended in connection with their employment.

Ml. Walsh, who acted as spokesman, said they had been working in Tara Hill Quarry for the past 24 years and they were turned down now on account of being single men. None of them had any dependents.

The County Surveyor pointed out that since the big work on Gorey-Arklow road had been carried out there had been restricted employment at Tara Hill Quarry.

Walsh said he had worked only 4 weeks and 2 days since last September. The married men who were working in the quarry were from the district.

Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, for the district, said that acting on the instructions of the Council he had given preference to married men. The whole work in the quarry would terminate on Saturday next. Work on the roads would not be available until Winter.

After considerable discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Keegan seconded by Mr D'Arcy:-

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"That the members of Gorey Co. Electoral Area be appointed a Committee to consider the question of the employment of workmen in this area. That the County Surveyor attend with the Committee and produce any necessary records as to Insurance Stamps etc. That the Committee meet on Tuesday 11th August, 1931, at 10.30.a.m. and visit Moteybower Lane on conclusion of their work at Gorey."

SALE OF FORTVIEW

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the premises at Fortview recently occupied as County Council offices be offered for sale by public auction by Messrs Kehoe & Sons, Auctioneers, Wexford. That reserve figure be arranged by County Surveyor, Mr Elgee, Solicitor, and the Auctioneers."

GOVERNMENT GRANT FOR MAIN ROAD UPKEEP

Under date 8th July, 1931, the L.G.D. (Roads) wrote (RGM/201-31) that a provisional allocation of 40 per cent of the cost of the upkeep of the Main Roads in Co. Wexford for 1931-32, and which amounted to £10,162, had been fixed.

TOURIST TRAFFIC (DEVELOPMENT) ACT 1931

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr McCarthy:- "That letter from Department of L.G. (Circ.59/31 - Ilgh - 13th July 1931) with copy of Tourist Traffic Development Act, 1931, be referred to the Finance Committee for report."

In connection with resolution passed by the Corporation of Dublin on 18th June, 1931, to help the Tourist Campaign and Tourist Association, Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr McCarthy seconded the following resolution which was adopted: unanimously:- "That the Wexford County Council are prepared to support the Irish Tourist Association in its efforts to attract Tourists to Ireland. We concur with the resolution of Dublin Corporation passed on 1st June, 1931, that

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Irish people should make acquaintance with the beauty spots of their own land before wandering afield."

CO. COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURE & TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION
AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS

The L.G.D. wrote under date 8th July, 1931, (A.53331 - 31) forwarding Copy of Report of their Auditor on his audit of the Accounts of Co. Wexford Committee of Agriculture & Technical Instruction for two half years ended 30th September 1930, and period from 30th September, 1930, to 12th November, 1930, the date of abolition of the Committee under the Vocational Education Act 1930. Certified copies of the Abstracts of Accounts were also forwarded.

BUTTER AND MARGARINE ACT 1907

Under date 17th July, 1931, the Department of Agriculture forwarded (L.31/31) copies of thirty-ninth list of names approved by the Department for use in connection with margarine.

BUTTER EXPORTING (EXAMINATION) ORDER 1931

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Corish seconded by Mr Culleton:- "That letter from Department of Agriculture under date 20th July, 1931, (E.7508/30 - C.67.31) with copy of Butter Exporting (Examination) Order 1931, be referred to County Committee of Agriculture for consideration."

ST. HELEN'S HARBOUR

Under date 3rd July, 1931, the Department of Lands & Fisheries wrote (D/14/5) that the Commissioners of Public Works would communicate directly with the County Surveyor as to a suitable date for the visit of their Engineer for the proposed survey of St. Helen's Harbour.

NEW SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIPS

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That in accordance with letter from Office of National Education under date 20th July, 1931,

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and results of Examination for Secondary Scholarships we award Scholarships under Scheme for Secondary and Vocational Scholarships to James Meyler, Blackhall, Glynn (703 marks); Edmond P. Rossiter, Rathmore, Broadway (616) and Ellen Sinnott, Broadway (504) and bursary to Jas. A. Forde, Delta Cottage, Gorey (546) as he resides within a short distance of a recognised Secondary School."

Eight candidates failed in the Examination.

CO. WEXFORD VOCATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Col. Quin proposed and Mr Murphy seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That Mr John Culleton, The Raven, Curracloe, County Councillor, be appointed a member of Co. Wexford Vocational Education Committee vice Mr M. Jordan T.D. Co. Councillor resigned."

POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT LICENCES

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr McCarthy:- "That renewals of licences under Poisons and Pharmacy Act issue to Edward Redmond, The Harrow, Ferns, and Daniel Keating (P.Tierney) Quay Street, New Ross."

STATE CONTRIBUTIONS TO COUNTY BODIES UNDER
RELIEF VOTE.

The following under date 3rd July, 1931, was read from the Acting Secretary, Co. Wexford Board of Health:-

"In reply to yours of the 1st inst. I wish to inform you that the amount received by my Board out of Relief Vote was as follows:-

For Bunclody Sewerage Scheme - £900

" Coolgreany " " - £300

" Work at Ferns Burial Ground £50

The amounts raised on loan by my Board for these works were ; Bunclody £3,300; Coolgreany £770. A sum of £84 was spent from Revenue for the work at Ferns Burial Ground."

The following under date 2nd July, 1931, was read from Mr N. Bolger, Town Clerk, Wexford:-

"In December last the Wexford Corporation were allocated £1,200 from the Relief of Unemployment Grant for the purpose of opening a new road between St. John's Road and Wygram place in order to develop a housing site there, on condition that the Corporation would provide the balance of the £1,500 which it was estimated the road would cost.

— Up to the present, a sum of £1,261: 17: 9d has been expended on the work, and of this amount £1,009: 10: 0d has been received on foot of the Grant, and the balance of £252: 7: 9d has been contributed by the Corporation.

It is expected when the roadway is completely finished the entire Grant of £1,200 will have been utilised as well as the total contribution from the Rates, viz.:— £300.

As will be seen from the above, the Government is contributing four-fifths of the entire cost of making the roadway."

DRAINAGE WORK

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That we call on the Department of Lands & Fisheries to inform this County Council what contributions are proposed to be made by them in connection with proposed drainage improvement work at Cahore, Boira and Kilmore."

RETENTION OF LAND ANNUITIES

The following resolution was submitted from Tipperary (S.R.) County Council:-

"That in view of the fact that six leading Senior Counsel have publicly proclaimed that it is an illegal procedure to send the Land Annuities to England, we hereby call upon the Government to retain them for De-Rating purposes, and that copies of this resolution be sent to

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each County Council and the County Councils General Council."

Miss O'Ryan proposed and Mr D'Arcy seconded the adoption of the resolution but after discussion it was decided to adjourn its consideration to ascertain what steps the General Council of County Councils propose taking in the matter.

PROPOSED REDUCTION OF PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES.

The following resolution was submitted from Sligo County Council:-

"That we the Sligo County Council, at Annual Meeting assembled, desire to mark our disapproval and enter our strongest protest against the proposed legislation having for its object the further cutting down of popularly elected representatives of the people. We call on all T.D.'s to strenuously oppose any such legislation, and that copies of this resolution be sent for adoption to the General Council of County Councils and the other County and Urban Councils in the Free State, the T.D.'s of the County and to the president of the Executive Council as also to the Leaders of Fianna Fail and Labour Parties in the Dail."

Mr Corish proposed the adoption of the resolution.

Mr Hayes seconded.

As an amendment Mr Murphy proposed and Mr McCarthy seconded the following:- "That no action be taken in respect of resolution from Sligo County Council as to reduction of numbers in elected Local Authorities."

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For the amendment - Messrs Breman, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Jordan, McCarthy, Murphy & Smyth - 8.

Against - Messrs Armstrong, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Meyler, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Shannon, Walsh and the Chairman - 14.

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(Messrs Clince, Gibbon, Keegan and Quin (4) were not present when poll was taken).

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

The original resolution was then put and passed nem con.

CURTAILMENT OF POWERS OF COUNTY COUNCILS

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Corish seconded by Mr Gaul:- "That we protest against any curtailment of the powers of County Councils which may be included in any measure brought before Dail Eireann."

THE HOUSING PROBLEM

The following resolution from the Civics Institute of Ireland, William Street, Dublin, was adopted on the motion of Mr Gaul seconded by Mr McCarthy:- "Being convinced of the urgency of adequate and well conceived measures being taken to deal with the slum problem in Dublin and other centres of population in the Irish Free State the signatories call on the Government to press forward the promotion of such legislation as is necessary for this purpose.

They consider that the adoption of a Town Planning Bill on the lines of that already passed by the Senate, is a matter of immediate importance and that powers should be acquired without delay to provide for the acquisition and demolition of slum properties without undue cost and the erection of proper modern dwellings at rentals suitable to the means of the tenants."

THE USE OF WEXFORD MANUFACTURED Tar

Mr Gaul called attention to the resolution of the Council at a recent meeting asking the Department of Local Government (Roads) to allow the County Council to use Wexford manufactured tar.

The County Surveyor said that for a permanent job the Dublin Tar of the Trade List was the better but it took ~~more~~

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twice as long to mix as the Wexford article and in cold weather it was almost impossible to mix.

Mr Corish said that in some centres in which Gas Companies had put up de-hydrating plant no objection had been made to use their tar but it went through the Dublin Alliance Gas Co., the official Contractors . If the local Gas Co. made application it might be possible to have such an arrangement for Wexford.

The County Surveyor said that Wexford tar was cheaper.

HEARING PROPERTIES OF COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBER

Colonel Gibbon asked if anything would be done to improve the acoustic properties of the Council Chamber. At present it was impossible to hear more than a few words now and then.

The County Surveyor said he was about to cover the steel girders which to his mind were responsible for the echo with beaver board which gave no reverberation. This would cost about £25 or £26.

Col. Gibbon suggested the use of Thistle Brand Board and proposed that the County Surveyor should consider its efficiency along with the Beaver Board.

The Chairman seconded the resolution which was adopted.

ROAD CAMPILE TO BALLYSTALLAGH CROSS

Mr Cooney said he had had complaints from Mr Ml. Cloney and Mr P.O'Brien, Dungulph, and the Manager of the Creamery as to the awful condition of the road from Campile to Ballysallagh Cross. People supplying the Creamery said they could not bring their lorries any longer to the Creamery - owing to the condition of this road. The road had been cut up when used as an alternative route while the Campile-New Ross road was under reconstruction.

The County Surveyor said they spent some money on it last year, and their efforts were very successful. They had

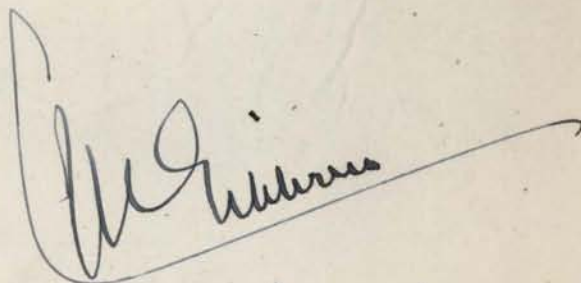
a proposal in this year to continue the improvement but it had to go out when the Road Estimate was cut.

Mr Murphy said the money last year was spent on a small portion of the road leaving the balance as bad as it ever was.

It was decided to adjourn consideration of the matter to next meeting the County Surveyor to supply full particulars as to the amount expended on road since improvement work was carried out on adjoining main road and his recommendations for future maintenance.

AN UNDESIRABLE STRUCTURE.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Culleton:- "That Mr Elgee, Solicitor, direct Jas. Brookes to remove hut which he has erected by the side of the road at Ballyprecus, Ballycarney and if he fails to do so within 14 days that Mr Elgee proceed by law to compel him to remove said hut which is an obstruction to traffic."

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, likely belonging to a council member or official, written over the date.

10 August 1931

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING HELD ON 10TH AUGUST 1931

M I N U T E S.

COUNTY HALL,
WEXFORD.

N.J.FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

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The monthly meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 10th August, 1931.

Present - Messrs John Brennan, James Clince, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, Michael Doyle, James Gaul, Col. C.M. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, William P. Keegan, John Murphy, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col.R.P. Wemyss Quin, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor and Mr Elgee, Solicitor, were also in attendance.

While waiting for the attendance of the Chairman and Vice Chairman Col. Gibbon was moved to the chair on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Brennan, and presided while the minutes of last meeting were being confirmed.

The Chairman then attended and presided for the rest of the business.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £1448: 10: 2d was examined and signed.

CONFIRMATION OF MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES

Finance: The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 30th July, 1931, were submitted as follows:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 30th July, 1931.

Present - Messrs T. McCarthy, James Shannon and Sean O'Byrne.

J. Elgee, Solicitor, County Surveyor, Rate Inspector and Assistant Secretary were also in attendance.

On the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon the chair was taken by Mr McCarthy.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £3049: 13: 6d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

The State of the Rate Collection as follows was submitted:-

	Name of Collector.	Percentage of Warrant collected.
1.	P. Nolan	14.9
2.	M. McCarthy	14.5
3.	J. Quirke	14.3
4.	J. Curtis	14.3
5.	Sean Gannon	12.4
6.	T. Rowe	11.4
7.	J. Cummins	11.3
8.	W. Doyle	10.9
9.	P. Carty	10.5
10.	J.J.O'Reilly	10.4
11.	T. Bolger	8.5
12.	P.O'Byrne	8.4
13.	W. Cummins	8.1

Name of Collector.	Percentage of Warrant collected.
14. A. Dunne	8.1
15. J. Quirke No. 2	8.0
16. P. Doyle	7.6
17. J. Deegan	7.3
18. J.S. Sinnott	6.6
19. E.J. Murphy	6.3
20. T. Bolger	5.8
21. Sean Gannon No.6	1.7

The meeting considered that a number of Collectors had not made satisfactory progress.

After discussion it was decided that Collectors be notified that they must have lodged before 31st August a sum equivalent to 25 % of total Warrant and arrears.

Rates on Farms sold by Land Commission: It was pointed out by Rate Inspector that in a number of cases farms were sold by Land Commission at a price sufficient only to meet the arrears of Land Purchase Annuities, and as incoming occupiers were only liable for two years' arrears of rates it was not possible to obtain payment of the old arrears of rates due on these holdings.

It was decided on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon that Land Commission be requested to arrange if possible that purchase price of holdings sold by them be sufficient to meet all arrears of rates and that balance remaining after payment of annuities be applied to meet said arrears.

Application from Collectors: Collectors M. McCarthy, Patrick Carty, Art Dunne, Thady Bolger, and Patrick Nolan applied for increase in poundage rates from 5d to 7d in £.

It was decided that application be referred to County Council.

New Ireland Assurance Co: Letter was read from New Ireland Assurance Co. that they were placing before their legal advis-

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ers the matter of deduction of £90 Debit Interest from Poundage Fees unpaid to P. Furlong and claimed by Insurance Company owing to Furlong's Warrant not having been closed on Statutory date. The Insurance Company stated they were accepting the balance paid amounting to £83: 16: 8d as a payment on account.

It was decided that Local Government Department be notified of the Insurance Company's statement as County Council in deducting the amount acted on Department's instructions.

OVERDRAFT ACCOMMODATION

Letter under date 27th July, 1931, (No. G 58494/1931 Loch Garman Fa.) was read from Minister for Local Government and Public Health sanctioning extension of Council's overdraft accommodation by £10,000 to 31st August, 1931.

SALE OF FORTVIEW

Mr Kehoe, Auctioneer, attended in reference to arrangement for auction of former County Council Office, Fortview.

It was decided to advertise the property in two Dublin and three local papers.

The date of auction was fixed for Wednesday 12th August, 1931.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES OFFICE FOR WEXFORD

In reference to application from Sergeant Scanlon for Weights and Measures Office at County Hall, the County Surveyor stated he did not consider the office in Town Hall at present being used was suitable. It would cost about £10 to put up and convert apartment in County Hall for office.

It was decided to recommend the County Council to provide an office in County Hall, cost of fitting up and equipping etc not to exceed £10.

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WEIGHTS AND MEASURES OFFICE, ENNISCORTHY.

Sergeant F.J. Keenan, Weights and Measures Inspector Wexford, applied for various fittings as follows in his office:-

(1) Counter, suitable for light tests of scales and weights etc., fitted at back with shelves and on top with short glass fronting.

(2) Shelves fitted in recess in wall, also doors to form a lock-up press.

(3) Work bench for adjusting purposes.

(4) Office Chair.

(5) Walls painted.

(6) Window casings, which are damaged by damp, repaired.

(7) Water supply fitted into office.

It was decided that in accordance with resolution of County Council bench be provided. The application as regards the remaining heads was not agreed to.

FOOD AND DRUG REQUISITES

It was decided that 200 Sample Labels , 2 lbs of sealing wax and supply of brown wrapping paper for use of Food and Drugs Inspector, New Ross, be supplied.

ANALYST'S REPORT

Analyst's Report for Quarter ended 30th June, 1931, was submitted showing that 238 Samples had been dealt with during the quarter viz., Foods, 189; Drugs, 47; Water, 2. Adulterated-New Milks, 7; Butter, 2; Whiskeys, 2; Spirits of Nitre, 1; Water condemned, 1.

TRAVELLING EXPENSES OF COUNTY SURVEYOR

The County Surveyor submitted Account for travelling Expenses as follows:-

"January 14th, 1931, Attending in Dublin with Co. Council Deputation at Irish Land Commission re Unemployment Grant; also at Local Government Department, £1:10: Od.

"Attending in Dublin with County Solicitor, on Counsel (Messrs Jellett and F.O'Connor) re Ford of Lyng. Drainage proceedings.....£1:10: Od.

It was unanimously decided that amount be paid.

ROAD CHARGE HANDS

The County Surveyor reported that from a large number of applicants he had decided to employ the following Road Charge Hands on Road improvement jobs.

Denis Whelan, Deeps, Killurin.

James Daly, Enniscorthy.

Wm. O'Leary, Wexford.

All three had been previously employed by the Council and were found satisfactory.

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Application from Rate Collectors: Mr Culleton said when the position was advertised the applicants were very glad to secure the appointment and in consequence he proposed that no action be taken as regards increasing the poundage of these five Rate Collectors from 5d to 7d in the £.

Mr Smyth seconded.

Mr Hayes said the poundage of these Collectors had been reduced and there was no guarantee that the Minister for Local Government would agree to the proposal of the Council to pay the same poundage as last year. These Collectors had as much trouble in closing their warrant as the Collectors who were receiving 7d in the £.

Colonel Gibbon said that if the position had been advertised at 7d in the £ they might have had a great number of suitable applicants coming forward and who felt themselves debarred from applying for the position when 5d only was offered.

Mr Hall proposed and Mr Colfer seconded the following amendment:- "That the five Rate Collectors who applied to meeting of the Finance Committee on 30th July, 1931, for an increase in their poundage, be paid a poundage rate of 6d this proposal to be submitted to the sanction of the L.G.D."

This amendment was subsequently withdrawn.

Mr Cummins proposed the following amendment which was seconded by Miss O'Ryan:-

"That consideration of the application of the five Rate Collectors for an increase of poundage rate from 5d to 7d in the £ be adjourned until the Council have had a reply from the Department of Local Government to the resolution of the Council that all the Rate Collectors in consequence of special reduction through increased agricultural grant receive the same poundage as last year."

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For the amendment: Messrs Clince, Colfer, Cummins,

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Hall, Hayes and O'Ryan - 6.

Against: Messrs Brennan, Culleton, Gibbon, Murphy,
Quin, Smyth and the Chairman - 7.

The following were not present when poll was taken:-
Messrs Cooney, Corish, D'Arcy, Gaul, Keegan, and Walsh (6).

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

A poll was then taken on the resolution of Mr Culleton
that no action be taken with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, Gibbon, Murphy, Quin,
Smyth and the Chairman, (7).

Against:- Messrs Clince, Colfer, Cummins, Hall,
Hayes, and O'Ryan - (6).

The following members were not present when poll was
taken:- Messrs Cooney, Corish, D'Arcy, Gaul, Keegan
and Walsh (6).

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Sale of Fortview: The following resolution was adopted
on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Brennan:- "That
reserve price for Fortview property be fixed by Chairman,
Vice Chairman and Mr John Murphy with the County Surveyor
and County Solicitor."

Road Charge Hands: Miss O'Ryan proposed the acceptance
of the County Surveyors recommendations.

Mr Gaul seconded.

Mr Murphy proposed the appointment of Patrick Lynch,
Priory Street, New Ross, vice Wm. O'Leary as Charge hand
for Wexford-New Ross/^{Road}- New Ross section. Lynch had been
employed as charge hand by Mr Shortall in connection with
the concreting of New Ross quays.

Mr Colfer seconded.

A poll was taken on this proposal with the following
result:-

For:- Messrs Brennan, Colfer, Culleton, Cummins,
Gibbon, Hall, Murphy, Quin, Smyth and the Chairman - 10.

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Against:- Messrs Clince, Corish, Gaul and Hayes - 4.

Mr. Keegan and Miss O'Ryan (2) did not vote.

Messrs Cooney, D'Arcy and Walsh (3) were not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared Lynch selected.

Colonel Quin proposed the employment of P.J. Foley, Tombrick, Ballycarney, as charge hand for Enniscorthy-Bunclody Road.

Mr Hall seconded.

The County Surveyor said that he ought to have some "say" in this matter. He knew nothing about Foley but Lynch had been employed in this class of work and for that reason he did not make any objection to his employment. Foley had no experience of concrete roads while James Daly who was a tip-top man had a great deal of experience.

A poll was then taken for the appointment of Foley and which resulted as follows:-

For:- Messrs Brennan, Colfer, Culleton, Cummins, Gibbon, Hall, Keegan, Quin and Smyth - 9.

Against:- Messrs Clince, Corish, Gaul, Hayes, Murphy and O'Ryan - 6.

The Chairman (1) did not vote.

Messrs Cooney, D'Arcy and Walsh were not present when poll was taken.

Foley was declared appointed.

The Chairman proposed and Mr Hayes seconded the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:- "That Denis Whelan. the Deeps, Killurin, be appointed Charge hand for New Ross - Wexford Road - Wexford Section.

The following resolution was then adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Clince:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 30th July, 1931, be and are hereby confirmed."

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SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING.

It was decided that a meeting of Scholarship Committee to consider Secondary and University Scholarship Schemes for year 1932 be held on Saturday, 22nd August, at 10.30 a.m.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Local Government Department wrote under date 7th August, 1931 (A.58495/31) forwarding ~~the~~ copy of report of their Auditor as follows:-

"I beg to report that I have audited the Accounts of the Wexford County Council (inclusive of the Libraries Committee) for the half-years ended 31/3/1930 and 30/9/1930. Certified copies of the Abstracts are forwarded herewith.

The following is a comparative table of the Rates raised for the years 1928/29; 1929/30; and 1930/31.

	1928/29	1929/30	1930/31
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
In respect of roads	2. 9	2. 7 $\frac{3}{4}$	2. 9 $\frac{3}{4}$
" " " County Services	2. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	2. 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	2. 2 $\frac{1}{4}$
" " " Poor Relief	2. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$	3. 0	3. 0
" " " Health District Charges	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
	<u>7.11</u>	<u>8. 0</u>	<u>8. 1.</u>

"It will be observed that the aggregate rate for each of the three years was very nearly uniform.

The uncollected balances of Poor Rate at 31/3/1929; 30/9/1929; 31/3/1930; and 30/9/1930 were respectively £39,457; £37,381; £27,394 and £28,412.

The balances due from the Urban District Councils in respect of County Council Demands at 30th September 1930 were:- Enniscorthy £1,324; New Ross £1,794; and Wexford £4,482.

All Insurance Renewal Premiums have been paid to date."

COUNTY COURTHOUSE

The following under date 6th ~~July~~ August, 1931 (G. 59641-1931 Loch Garman Pg) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

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"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that he has received a report from the Department of Justice to the effect that an urgent necessity exists for having the floor of the Wexford Court-house covered with matting or linoleum or other suitable covering which would have the effect of lessening noise created during the holding of Courts on the premises.

"Complaints to the above effect have also been received from Solicitors and Press Representatives. Furthermore it is understood that the Circuit Judge has intimated his unwillingness to hold the Circuit Court for the County on the premises owing to the inconvenience arising from the reasons referred to.

"I am to draw attention in this connection to the Council's responsibilities under the Provision of District Courts Order, 1924, and to request that the matter be given early consideration with a view to the remedying of the position complained of."

The Secretary stated he had submitted copy of this communication to Mr Elgee, County Solicitor, who replied as follows under date 8th August, 1931:-

"I am in receipt of yours of the 7th inst., with copy of one from the Department of Local Government and Public Health as to the above, enclosed.

"I have looked into the Provision of District Courts Order to which the letter refers, and I find that it provides as follows:-

"That it is necessary and proper for the due transaction of the business and convenient keeping of records and documents of a District Justice, that the Council shall provide suitable accommodation and rooms and furniture for the transaction of such business.

"This being so, it is clear that the Council are bound

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to provide "suitable accommodation" for the Court and Offices, but it appears to me, that it is a mere matter of opinion as to what "suitable accommodation" means, and accordingly, the County Council have a right to express the opinion that they have provided "suitable accommodation."

Mr Culleton proposed and Mr Murphy seconded the following resolution:- "That consideration of letter from L. G. D. as to providing linoleum for County Courthouse be held in committee."

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For the motion: Messrs Brennan, Culleton, Cummins, Gibbon, Murphy, O'Ryan, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 9.

Against: - Messrs Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, D'Arcy, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, and Quin - 9.

Mr Hall (1) did not vote and the Chairman gave his casting vote in favour of the motion which he declared carried.

Colonel Quin proposed :- "That the floor of County Courthouse be covered with linoleum or cork lino in accordance with the request of Local Government Department."

Mr Gaul seconded.

Miss O'Ryan said that the alterations etc in the County Courthouse were carried out according to the specification approved by the appropriate Government Department and if the latter required anything additional they should pay for it.

The Chairman agreed.

A poll was then taken on the proposal of Colonel Quin with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Clince, Colfer, Corish, Gaul and Quin - 5.

Against: Messrs Brennan, Cooney, Culleton, Cummins, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, Keegan, Murphy, O'Ryan, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 13.

Mr Hayes did not vote.

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The Chairman declared the motion lost.

PAINTING NEW ROSS BRIDGE.

The following resolution adopted at the meeting of 4th August, 1931, was read from Kilkenny County Council re above:-

"With reference to your application for consent of the County Council to the borrowing of a sum of £300 to be applied to the cost of painting New Ross Bridge, I am directed by my Council to state they have adopted the following resolution in connection therewith:-

"That this Council considers the cost of re-painting New Ross Bridge should be defrayed out of revenue, and that the Council agrees to discharge one-half expenditure as provided by existing regulations."

After discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Cooney seconded by Mr Walsh:- "That in view of resolution from Kilkenny County Council the £300 necessary for the painting of portion of New Ross Bridge be not borrowed, but taken from the appropriate Contingency Fund, and that the County Surveyor issue advertisements in connection with the work. That Kilkenny County Council be responsible for half cost of the work."

Mr Cooney referred to what he considered very serious defects in this bridge and suggested appointment of an Inspection Committee.

The County Surveyor declined to accept the statement of Mr Cooney as accurate.

Mr Walsh said that undoubtedly one panel had been knocked out and very badly repaired.

The County Surveyor said the person who had damaged the panel had paid for it and he (County Surveyor) was waiting for a new panel to have it inserted. The present repair was temporary only. He remembered the bridge 35 years ago and the settlement referred to by Mr Cooney was then apparent.

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It had shown no difference in recent years and it was manifest this settlement took place shortly after the bridge was built and had not increased since. Though the thing was very unsightly it was not necessary to deal with ^{it} now. If however, any structural damage were found it would be repaired as soon as possible. He suggested that a joint report from Mr Bowen, County Surveyor, for Kilkenny and himself should be submitted to the Council before the inspection of any Committee took place.

Mr Culleton proposed and Mr Walsh seconded the following resolution:- "That a Committee be appointed ~~at~~ this meeting to inspect and report on the state of New Ross Bridge."

On a show of hands 15 were found in favour and the Chairman declared the motion carried.

The following were then appointed on the Committee:-

Messrs Cooney, Walsh, Murphy, Gibbon, and Corish with the County Surveyors for Kilkenny and Wexford.

It was also decided on the motion of Mr D'Arcy seconded by Mr Brennan to request the Kilkenny County Council to appoint representatives to act on the Committee. That on hearing from Kilkenny Co. Council our County Surveyor arrange for date of meeting and summon the Committee.

COUNTY LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Murphy seconded by Col. Quin:- "That as recommended by County Library Committee Messrs G. Hurley B.A. National Teacher, Lady's Island and Ml. Cloney, Dungulph Castle, Poulfur, be appointed members of County Library Committee vice John Murphy and Thomas Meyler resigned.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

Under date 8th August, 1931, the Department of Agriculture wrote (L.3295/31) that in July 1931 fifteen samples of butter as follows had been taken up by one of their of-

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ficers and on examination by County Analyst were found to be genuine:- Enniscorthy, 4; New Ross, 4; Ferns, 3; Gorey, 4.

LOAN FOR RATHNURE NEW GRAVEYARD

Mr Hall moved the following of which he had given previous notice:-

"That the Wexford County Council hereby consents to the County Wexford Board of Health borrowing the sum of £270 for the purpose of providing and laying out a new Burial Ground at Rathnure."

Mr Gaul seconded.

The Chairman said that within the last three or four years four burial grounds had been provided by the people of parishes in the barony of Forth without any contribution from the Rates. When this matter was mentioned at the meeting of the County Board of Health the Chairman said the people of the district of Rathnure were too poor to furnish the funds for the new graveyard.

Mr Hall said it was the business of the County Board of Health to provide burial grounds wherever required. These had been provided in Ferns, Castledockrill and other places at the public expense and at double the amount now asked for and no one raised a question about the expenditure.

Mr Culleton proposed the following amendment:-

"That this County Council refuses its consent to proposed loan of £270 for new burial ground at Rathnure as in our opinion the cost for same should be provided by the people of the district."

This was subsequently withdrawn.

Mr D'Arcy pressed for further particulars and the following statement of proposed expenditure was obtained from the Co. Board Of Health:- Boundary wall, £82; excavation and levelling; making good surface £20; Paling

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and repairs to fence £8; surfacing walks (184 yards) £9; 214 yards concrete edges £5; gate £16; Cross, rockery and erection £5; planting £6; compensation £100; Legal Costs £10 and Contingencies £10: Total £271.

Mr Murphy proposed and Mr D'Arcy seconded the following amendment:-

"That further consideration of application from Co. Board of Health asking for permission to borrow £270 for new graveyard at Rathnure be adjourned to next meeting of the County Council. That the Co. Board of Health be asked for full details as to particulars of compensation proposed to be paid."

A vote was taken on this proposition with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Murphy, O'Ryan, Quin, Smyth and Walsh - 9.

Against:- Messrs Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Keegan, and the Chairman - 10.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost. The original motion was then put and passed nem con.

ROAD BALLYSALLAGH CROSS TO CAMPILE.

The County Surveyor said that this matter had been adjourned from last meeting. A special proposal for £150 for repair of this road had been brought into last Road Works Estimate and also £120 for maintenance. The special proposal went out as the estimate was cut down and the £120 was reduced to £57. This was all that was available for the road for the year. There is no doubt but the road is bad and required further attention but no money was available. It would require another £100 in addition to the amount for maintenance. There was a mile of it very bad.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr Cooney seconded by Mr Murphy and adopted, Mr Culleton dissenting:-

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"That £100 be withdrawn from appropriate Contingency Fund for the repair of road from Nallysallagh Cross to Campile."

In reply to a query the Co. Surveyor stated there was about £1,000 in Contingency Fund at the moment.

PAYMENTS TO ROAD CONTRACTORS.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the several proposals for payment to Road Contractors as certified by County Surveyor on Form 22 be and hereby adopted, subject to the modifications and other orders made thereon and initialled by the Chairman."

PROPOSED ROAD AND WALL AT HOPELAND ROSSLARE

The County Surveyor stated that at last meeting of the Council a Committee consisting of the members for Wexford County Electoral Area were appointed to visit and report in connection with a memorial asking for a new road at Hope-land, a place at which previous representations ^{to} ~~at~~ the Council had suggested the ~~erection~~ ^{erection} of a wall. The Committee met on 31st July, 1931, Col. Gibbon, the Chairman of the Council, Mr Corish and himself attending.

They inspected the place and met a number of local people who were very keen on having a roadway made there, and with regard ^{to} banking in behind the wall they said they would do part of that themselves. Two or three points were raised in the matter. One was that the Council would have in the first instance, he believed, to get permission from the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, because it was to a certain extent, reclamation, as they were going outside high water mark. In the second place they would probably have to get some authority for using local materials for a local job, as of course, they were prohibited from taking local materials at present. If they built a wall it would be in

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or about half a mile long, and it was going to cost, he maintained, £900 or £1,000, and if they made a roadway behind the wall it would mean about £300 more.

Chairman - And if we had to get material elsewhere than at Rosslare strand it would cost £250 more.

The County Surveyor said that the question of planting rice grass was mentioned, and the people said it would interfere with their fowling, and the fishermen said it would prevent them from getting in or out.

The Chairman said the reason the committee did not put anything in writing with regard to their inspection was that things were not quite as bad as they were stated to be at meetings of the Council. Col. Gibbon knew the place for many years as well as himself, and he was of the opinion that it had not deteriorated very much.

Colonel Gibbon said that most of the talk was about the school children at the place, and certainly at high water the children had to get up right along by the bank. There was a hard strand that was uncovered at any time except at spring tides, and that strand would be all right to walk on if the sea weed were removed from it.

Mr Corish said that the fact that the peninsula had been cut away certainly made for higher water. The principal question was that concerning the children. If there was a high tide at the time children had to go to school it would be very unpleasant for them, and it would not be beneficial to their health to go inland through grass on a wet morning.

Col. Quin - How many children are there ?

Chairman - I am not in a position to tell you that. There are probably about a score.

Col. Quin - How often would the tide affect them ?

The Chairman said he thought that in the winter the tide would affect them very often. He wondered if there would be any possibility of building something like a carway in cem-

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ent. He knew that people were in a bad way at the place, and that they were very much hampered. Of course there was the question of the amount of rate they were taking from the burrow, but still the people were hampered in their undertakings many times during the year. The whole question was whether the cost of the suggested work would be proportionate to the value in rates that the council got from the place. Of course the children had to go to school now; they would be prosecuted if they did not. Mr Elgee (Council's Solicitor) held they could not build the wall unless there was a road at the back of it.

County Surveyor - We can make a new road, but we can't build a protection wall for a place that isn't a road. It is a big sum of money to expend on that place, but, as the Chairman stated, it is a thing that, if possible should be done.

Mr Gaul - It boils down to the question as to whether the Council are prepared to face the financial responsibility or not.

Colonel Gibbon said he agreed there was a demand for something to be done, but on the other hand, as far as he could see, they had no legal authority to do it. The position was due mainly to encroachment of the sea. There was no road there, and never had been a public road. Whenever the Council had given money for a private road they had invariably made a proviso that the people who wanted the road should provide a great deal of material and labour towards making it. In the particular case before them the people concerned stated they were not in a position to provide any of the material and labour required.

Mr Corish said that some of them told him that if the wall was built they would make the road.

Chairman - You should have that in writing.

In reply to Mr Gaul the County Surveyor said that if the Council decided on doing any work there the allocation could

only be brought into next year's Road Work Scheme.

The Chairman suggested that the problem might be solved if they got a grant for the relief of unemployment to be applied to the work. He understood that during the week they would have President Cosgrave in Rosslare, and that he would be there for a month or so. He wondered if there would be any use in approaching the President on the matter.

Col. Gibbon said it should be made clear to the people concerned that there was absolutely no money for the work at present. There seemed to be some doubt as to how far the tides interfered with the people, and if they had to go to the Government later, they would, he thought, have to have very precise information. He thought Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, should be instructed to visit the place on several occasions during spring tides and take measurements of the height of the water.

The Chairman said he thought the Council might assist to some extent if they could get some grant.

Miss O'Ryan said that the question of any relief for unemployment would have to come before the Dail. A short time ago money for relief was voted, and it was contingent on the ratepayers' money being spent to supplement it. The Council had to contribute 2s. for every 1s. given. There was no use in putting up the smoke screen that all in the world was going to be done. It was only a kind of make-believe to suggest that because the President was going to Rosslare they were going to do the world and all. They had the Minister for Fisheries at Rosslare and they brought him to St. Helen's, but they never got anything.

Mr Culleton remarked that the people had to pay in any case. They were not digging the gold up in Merrion Street and sending it down.

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The Chairman said that the question of St. Helen's was still under way.

The County Surveyor said that Mr Batchen, Engineer, of the Board of Works, had been at St. Helen's recently.

Miss O'Ryan said that the people of Rosslare were as much entitled to a road as anyone else, and it was more the duty of the Council to look after them because they were poor people. If the children could not get to school, and if the council had power to give them the road they should give it to them.

Mr Corish said there was a question of a degree of hardship at the place. He certainly went down with a feeling that the place was worse than he found it, but from what he could see he was convinced that it would be very bad in the winter. As Miss O'Ryan pointed out, the children should be looked after. The children required all the education that could be given to them and if they were kept from school because they could not travel he thought the Council would have a certain amount of responsibility. If the President were coming to Rosslare he did not think it would be any harm for a deputation to have an interview with him and see if something could be done.

On the proposition of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Culleton it was decided that the representatives of Wexford district on the Council should meet President Cosgrave as a deputation and see what could be done in the matter.

ENNISCORTHY URBAN COUNCIL AND LIBRARIES ACTS.

The following resolution adopted at their meeting on 5th August, 1931, was received from Enniscorthy Urban Council:

"That the Enniscorthy Urban Council are prepared to transfer the powers and duties under the Libraries Acts to the Wexford County Council on the Valuation Basis as arranged for the rest of the County ."

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FURLONG'S HOUSE, SPAWELL ROAD, WEXFORD

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The County Surveyor submitted a/c for £4:4:6d from Messrs M. Furlong & Son, tenants of County Council for fitting new cistern and one closet pan etc to lavatory and which he recommended should be paid.

On the motion of Mr Gaul seconded by Mr Hayes it was decided that the amount be paid.

MAINTENANCE APPROACH (RAILWAY BRIDGES) ROADS
WEXFORD AREA.

. -----

The County Surveyor submitted the following letter under date 5th August, 1931, from Mr T.R. Leonard, Great Southern Railways, District Engineer's Office, Waterford:-

"I am instructed by Headquarters to inform you that on reconsideration of this matter the Company does not propose to enter into any new Agreement with regard to the maintenance of approaches to over Bridges in the Wexford Area."

In reply to the Chairman the County Surveyor said that the County Council could not compel the Railway Co. to enter into any agreement for maintenance of these approach roads.

ILLNESS OF MR KEHOE, ASSISTANT SURVEYOR.

The following Certificate of Dr. S.V. O'Connor, under date 6th August, 1931, was submitted:-

"I certify that Mr John Kehoe is under my care suffering from general Asthenia post Operation, and will be unable to resume duty for one month."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Cline seconded by Mr Gaul:-

"That a further month's sick leave be granted Mr John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, from 6th August, 1931, the present arrangement viz that Mr Kehoe be paid half salary and the balance be paid to Messrs Birthistle and O'Neill,

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Assistant Surveyors (who are carrying out the duties of Mr Kehoe) in the proportions fixed by the Co. Surveyor, continue in force."

HIRE OF MACHINERY

Mr T.C. Courtney, Co. Surveyor, North Tipperary, wrote under date 3rd August, 1931, that he would be able to continue the hiring of the two crushing and rolling plants for another month or two. With regard to hiring charges he asked, in view of the long period of hiring to consider a reduction of 10/- per day for each plant. He had other rollers hired at 30/- a day the Council supplying coal and he found it difficult to justify payment of £2 for the Wexford plant. He was very well satisfied with the machines and the men in charge since they went to Tipperary.

Mr Murphy moved and Mr Culleton seconded the following resolution which was adopted unanimously:- "That no reduction of hireage rate be paid for the crushing and rolling plants hired to North Tipperary County Council."

LANE OR BY-ROAD IN CAMOLIN

Mr James J. Fowler, Hon Secretary, Camolin Home Development Association, wrote as follows under date 5th August, 1931:-

"I understand during the early portion of next week that a Committee of the County Council will be inspecting some bye-roads in the North of the County.

"I have been instructed by the Home Development Association (including our respected Curate Fr. Wickham) to write and ask if you would be good enough to ask the Committee while on their round of inspection, if they would inspect a Bye-Road, or Lane, situate in Camolin and which needs immediate attention.

On hearing from you, our Association, will be only too

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happy to meet your Committee on whatever day and whatever time they may appoint."

The County Surveyor said it was too late to make any change in the arrangements of the Committee which was to consider the question of employment of men in Gorey District, and to inspect Moteybower Lane on 11th August, 1931.

It was decided to adjourn consideration of letter from Mr Fowler to next meeting of the Council.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Walsh seconded by Mr Murphy:- "That the General Council of County Councils be requested to take action with regard to the improvement of road approaches to Railway Bridges in An Saorstát. They are at present in a disgraceful condition and in many instances a positive source of danger to the travelling public."

POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Keegan seconded by Mr Smyth:- "That licence under Poisons and Pharmacy Act 1908 issue to Michael Lacey, Merchant, Monamolín, Gorey, and Mrs Mary Hennessey, South Street, New Ross, provided the Garda Síochána are satisfied as to suitability of applicant and of ~~the~~ premises."

LAND ANNUITIES

Miss O'Ryan asked what action was taken by the General Council of County Councils on the resolution forwarded to them by the Wexford Council relative to the land annuities.

Chairman - Didn't you see the result published in the Press ?

Miss O'Ryan - I saw something published in the newspapers.

The Secretary stated he did not receive anything official from the General Council of County Councils. He believed they would receive an official communication from the General

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Council of County Councils on the decision as to the resolution.

Chairman - The original resolution was not passed. A resolution of another sort was.

Miss O'Ryan stated that according to the Press the Chairman was reported as saying that there was only a certain political party to blame for not having entered the Dail at the time the financial agreement was passed. That said Miss O'Ryan, was certainly an ignorant remark.

Chairman - I am obliged to you (laughter).

Miss O'Ryan continuing, said that the financial agreement was never put to the Dail.

Chairman - I tell you it was put to the Dail, and I was there at the time.

Miss O'Ryan - It was not.

Chairman - I tell you it was and I was at the division on it. I am not going to be challenged by you. I was there at the time and I voted against the financial agreement.

Miss O'Ryan - The terms of the financial agreement were never put to the Dail.

Col. Quin - Is this not politics. Can't you do without politics ?

Chairman - You can. I am quite anxious the thing would be cleared up.

Col. Quin - I think it is out of order.

Miss O'Ryan - It is not out of order !

Col. Quin - We don't want politics.

Miss O'Ryan reverting to the financial agreement reiterated that it had not been put to the Dail or to the people, and the Chairman, she added, was employed at the time in voting for ~~the~~ Coercion Acts.

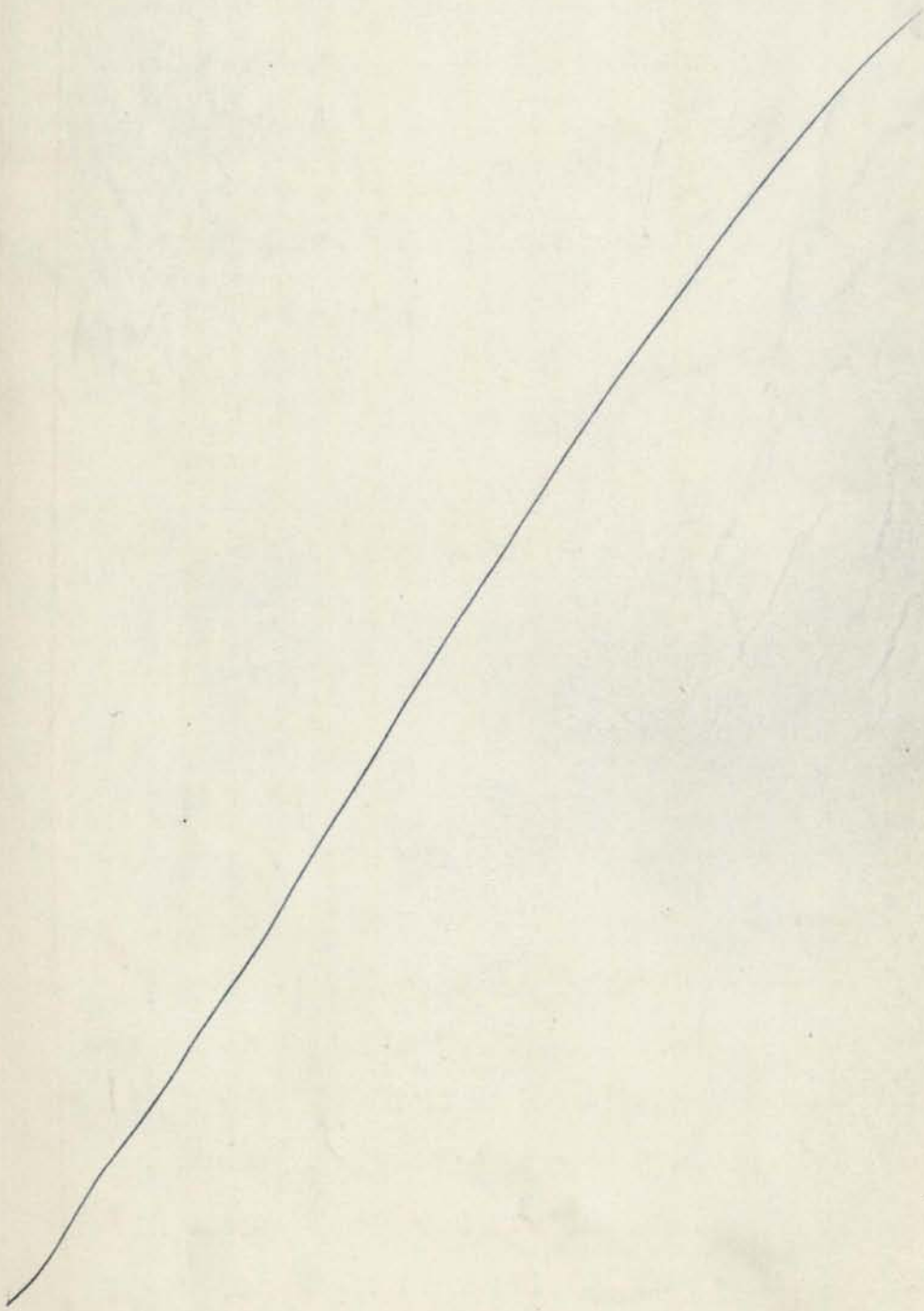
The Chairman replied that no one did more for the country or the county than he did at the time to save the necks of young people when they were at stake. If Miss O'Ryan, he continued, only knew what he went through for his fellow-

country men and his own countymen, she would not have made such a remark which was based on ignorance.

Miss O'Ryan - It's not.

Chairman - I'll not have any more from you. The people are well aware of what I did. I did more than some of them who are there now.

Michael Doyle



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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

M I N U T E S

MEETING HELD ON 24th AUGUST, 1931.

N. J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

COUNTY HALL,
WEXFORD.

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A meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 24th August, 1931.

Present:- Mr. M. Doyle, Chairman, (presiding) also Messrs:- James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Cline, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, Col. C. M. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Michael Jordan, William P. Keegan, Thomas Maylor, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col. R.P. Wemyss Quin, James Shannon, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, County Surveyor, Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, and Messrs Treanor, Ennis, Cullen and Birthistle, Assistant Surveyors, were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £6604: 13: 4d was examined and signed.

REPORT OF COUNTY SURVEYOR

The following report was submitted by County Surveyor:-

"Both Contractors for laying concrete roads in the County, under Grant, have now commenced work. The Pioneer Company have already started laying the screeds, and will commence laying concrete shortly. Messrs Lee are preparing material in Cherry-orchard Quarry, and are also making other arrangements.

In connection with concrete roads I beg to point out that final settlement has not been made with Messrs Hull for work on Ferrycarrig-Wexford Road. Also, in regard to Messrs Hull I have a claim for hire of machinery, and for quarry charge in connection with their Contract in Enniscorthy Urban Area. These accounts have been furnished Messrs Hull on several occasions, but they have not yet been dealt with. I consider that the matter should be put in the hands of our Solicitor.

I have a letter from the Pioneer Company asking for final payment on the Gorey-Courtown Road. The period of maintenance is

now more than up, but I have deferred dealing with this on account of defects which I have pointed out to the Company, and which have not been made good. The Company gives an undertaking to make good these defects at a future date, and asks for final certificate which will not relieve them of responsibility.

I have an application from the New Ross Boat Club for permission to break an entrance through road boundary wall to enable them to carry out improvements to Club premises. I take it that the entrance will be only temporary, and, if so, it may be agreed to, provided that the wall is properly restored.

The Postal Authorities have recently opened the Streets in New Ross in a number of places, and I have been in communication with them in regard to their proper restoration. They now ask me to restore the footways, and furnish them with the account, I ask for authority to do this.

After last Council meeting I wrote Mr. Bowen, County Surveyor, Kilkenny, with reference to inspection of New Ross Bridge with the Joint Committee of the two Councils. Mr. Bowen informed me that his Council would not meet for some time, and it would be advisable for us to make a preliminary inspection, so as to have definite information for the Committee. I met Mr. Bowen on the 21st instant, and spent some hours in a thorough examination of the bridge. In the first place, I have to report that the structure is absolutely sound, and there is no immediate necessity for action. We noted that in a number of places the surface water finds its way through road and footway surfaces, and this is causing wasting of the buckled floor plates. The recent spray work on the Bridge has very much reduced this percolation, but we consider that it is essential that a perfectly water-tight surface should be made over the whole bridge. There are three ordinary methods of dealing with this - (1) by laying a heavy coat of tar macadam with constant Bitumen surface dressings: (2) laying a coat of Asphalt over the whole Area,

and (3) laying down a concrete road surface. In considering these methods we believe that the concrete will be the most effective, and the cheapest in the long run, as there will be no maintenance or repair on it for a number of years. In regard to the present painting of the structure, we found that except where the water has percolated through there is little need for painting, and I suggest that I be authorised to ^{have} these places scraped and touched up with paint, pending the thorough painting, after laying down the water-tight surface on the roadway. There are some temporary measures which may be adopted to further improve the existing surface with bitumen dressing, and with your authority I propose dealing with these out of the ordinary maintenance. I suggest that after the Committee's inspection, Mr. Bowen and myself jointly prepare a detailed report of the condition of the bridge and submit plans and estimates to the November meeting dealing with proposals for next year.

I have already notified the Council that I made an inspection of Ferrycarrig Bridge with an expert in connection with the underpinning of the abutment. I now have a preliminary scheme for this work by insertion of "pressure" piles, and I am satisfied that something of this nature is absolutely essential to prevent further movement, and consequent damage to the bridge. The firm gives me a rough estimate for this work at £1,700.

On the same date I examined the Pier Head at Courtown Harbour with the expert, and have an elaborate scheme for its restoration. In my opinion, this work is much too large an undertaking in view of the requirements of the harbour, and the finances of the Council. The Scheme, no doubt, would make a perfect job, but I consider that a very much less expenditure will serve, and I propose preparing a modified scheme myself to submit to the Council. Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, reports to me that there is further movement at the Pier Head, so that work should be

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put in hands without delay.

I have a letter from the Insurance Brokers with reference to the Employers Liability Policy (No.1107531) at present held by the Council. After discussion with them I suggest that the Assistant Surveyors should be protected with respect to Common Law Liability, and the premium to be charged for this will be at the rate of one-sixth per-cent on their total earnings, so that it will not mean a serious item, and I consider cover should be taken."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Brennan:-

"That the report of County Surveyor presented to this meeting be received and considered."

Pioneer Road Construction Company.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. D'Arcy, seconded by Mr. Brennan:-

"That the County Surveyor make final payment to Pioneer Road Construction Company, East Wall, Dublin, for improvement work on Gorey-Courtown Road, withholding sufficient to make good any necessary repairs."

Barrow Boat Club.

Mr. Thomas Carroll, Hon.Sec., of this Club, wrote County Surveyor, under date 21st August, 1931, stating that his Committee requested permission to break an entrance through wall on north side of Clubhouse on New-Ross-Waterford Road to enable them to carry out some improvements to their premises.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. D'Arcy, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:-

"That application of Barrow Boat Club, New Ross, to make temporary entrance to their premises through Road wall on New Ross-Waterford Road, be agreed to, provided the work of breaking through wall and its restoration be carried out to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor."

Postal Authorities and Repair New Ross Streets

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr.

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O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Brennan:-

"That the proposal of County Surveyor to carry out repair of New Ross streets, interfered with by the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, be and is hereby approved, County Surveyor to furnish account of cost to the Department."

New Ross Bridge.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. D'Arcy, seconded by Mr. Brennan:-

"That the observations in report of County Surveyor presented to this meeting be referred to the Joint Committee representing Wexford and Kilkenny County Councils appointed to inspect and report on the condition of New Ross Bridge."

Ferryarrig Bridge

The County Surveyor said the concrete was not laid on any real foundation but on the side of the bank mostly shale and mud. The only way to deal with it was to underpin the whole thing or take the whole abutment down and rebuild in a different way. But this work need not interfere with traffic.

Colonel Gibbon proposed, and Mr. O'Byrne seconded, the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That we ask the Government to give special consideration in the shape of a grant to repair Ferryarrig Bridge which is on a National road over which there is a very large volume of through traffic. In view of this we are of opinion that the entire cost of repair should be carried out from State funds!"

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Hall:-

"That the Local Government Department (Roads) be requested to send down an Inspector to consult with the County Surveyor as to the best means of repairing Ferryarrig Bridge."

Courtown Harbour Pier Head

Under date 21st August, 1931, Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, for the district, reported that he had inspected the North Pier

at Courtown Harbour that day and found it had subsided very much in centre of head. The crack across the Pier had now become a gap about eighteen inches wide.

The County Surveyor said he intended to underpin the pier with concrete bag work. The Scheme of the expert at £2,300 would make a pier commensurate with a place like Plymouth and recommended too big a job. Mr. Lee, Arklow, who had considerable experience of this class of work, was willing to carry out the bag work on a piece work basis, but was not prepared to quote a figure for the whole work. He (County Surveyor) thought the bag work would cost about £1,000. He would write to the Department of Lands and Fisheries for a contribution towards the cost of the work. They had in Public Works' Estimate £250 towards the cost but he was afraid the balance would have to be raised by loan.

Mr. O'Byrne proposed, and Mr. D'Arcy seconded, the following resolution which was adopted:- "That the County Surveyor be directed - in view of the urgency of the matter - to carry out the necessary repairs at Pier at Courtown Harbour. That a loan of £750 be obtained from our Treasurer to complete this work. That the County Surveyor apply to the Department of Lands and Fisheries for a substantial State Contribution towards the cost!"

Assistant Surveyors' Insurances

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Hall:-

"That the recommendation of County Surveyor as to Insurances of Assistant Surveyors in respect of Common Law Liability be agreed to, the amount for calculation to be only the salaries of these officers."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:-

"That the report of County Surveyor as considered at this meeting be and is hereby adopted."

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ASSISTANT SURVEYOR O'NEILL

Under date 20th August, 1931, letter was read from Mr. P. O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, asking permission to be absent from duty for a few days for family reasons. His mother was about to undergo an operation and he would have to accompany her to hospital.

Mr. O'Byrne proposed, and Mr. Brennan seconded, the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That Mr. P. O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, be granted a week's leave of absence owing to the illness of his mother."

EXTRA TRAFFIC ON ROADS

The following under date 22nd August, 1931, was read from Mr. J. F. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor:-

"The above roads (625 and 626) are in ~~v~~ery bad order, and are now getting excessive traffic owing to ~~sand~~ haulage etc., to New Ross Road.

The Contractor, John Kiely, Blackhall, Glynn, has done no work and so far as I am aware is not in a position to do the work. He has asked to be relieved of the two roads, and I think it would be very advisable to take them from him as they require immediate attention, and will require constant attention for the next few months."

The County Surveyor considered this was a reasonable request. They were throwing excessive traffic on these back roads in consequence of the improvement in concrete of the Road between Wexford and New Ross. The Contractor said he was not able to keep them for the money and it would not be equitable, in the circumstances to compel him to do so.

Mr. O'Byrne proposed, and Mr. Brennan seconded, the following resolution which was adopted :-

"That contracts for Roads 625 and 626 with John Kiely, Blackhall, Glynn, be cancelled and that said roads be placed in charge of County Surveyor."

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ROAD BALLYCARNEY TO CLOHAMON

Mr. McCarthy said he had been asked to call the attention of the Council to the condition of the back road between Ballycarney and Clohamon. It was in a very dangerous condition and numerous complaints had been made to him about it. It was very narrow in parts and there were dangerous corners at some places and it was only by a miracle that a very serious accident was averted recently between a bus and a lorry at one of these corners. He thought some warning signs should be erected on the road which was receiving an abnormal amount of traffic since it was adopted as an alternative route to Bunclody on account of the improvement work on main road between Bunclody and Enniscorthy.

In reply to the Chairman, the County Surveyor stated that the diversion of the traffic would continue for a few months.

The Chairman stated he was over the road about ten days previously, and he did not consider it extraordinarily bad.

Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, stated that ~~the~~ the road would be in a frightful condition in two or three weeks. It was getting all the traffic.

The County Surveyor stated that a lorry and a motor would find it hard to pass on it at places.

Mr. Armstrong suggested that portion of the traffic might be diverted with advantage to the Castledockrill road.

Mr. Ennis said he would prefer that one road only would be broken up by the traffic.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:-

"That danger signs calling attention to the condition of the road between Ballycarney and Strahart particularly, be displayed until the road has been put into a proper state of repair and improvement work on Enniscorthy-Bunclody main road be completed."

On the proposition of Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne,

it was decided to spend £50 from the contingencies fund on repairing the road.

WEXFORD-GOREY ROAD

Mr. Hall referred to the condition of the Wexford-Gorey road between Curratubbin and Ballyedmond which, he said, was in very bad way.

Mr. Ennis stated there was about two miles of the road very bad. Very little could be done with it except by steam-rolling. The other portions of the road he was making good. It would be wasting money to do anything with the other two miles unless they got a grant for steam-rolling.

Mr. Hall suggested that material be got for the road from ~~the~~ Carrigeen quarry instead of from Ballyregan.

Mr. Ennis said he was using the material from both quarries.

Mr. Colloton - Is this the only bad section of road in Mr. Ennis's district ?.

Mr. Ennis - Indeed it is not. This is a particular case; it is probably one of the worse main roads I have.

Mr. Hall - It's a road on which there is more local traffic than on any road in the County.

Colonel Quin - There is not very much traffic on it.

On the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hall, it was decided to allocate £30 from the contingencies fund for repairs to the road.

DUNCANNON ROAD AND PIER

Mr. Cummins asked that the road from the Doctor's gate to Ramsgrange and Duncannon should be made passable. He had proposed that repair be carried out but his suggestion had been turned down.

It was decided to postpone consideration of the matter until Mr. O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, had resumed duty.

Mr. Corish mentioned that there were complaints from local fishermen that they could not draw in their nets with safety at

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at Duncannon owing to the rugged condition of the face of the pier. The only work involved would be pointing. Continuing Mr. Corish asked, as the Waterford Harbour Commissioners collected the dues at the pier, would it be possible to get them to effect some necessary repairs there. The Harbour was silting up and dredging was badly needed. The people down there were in consequence suffering. He then proposed the following resolution:-

"That the attention of the Waterford Harbour Commissioners be called to the unsatisfactory condition of Duncannon Harbour at which dredging is urgently required. As the Waterford Harbour Commissioners collect Harbour dues we consider they should be responsible for keeping ~~it~~^{it} ⁱⁿ a condition which would allow of the local fishermen utilising it."

Mr. Colfer, in seconding, said that he had raised the matter on consideration of the Public Works Estimates but nothing had been done.

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Corish said he had no objection to that course being taken. An inspector from the Department would be visiting the place this week.

LINOLEUM FOR COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBER

Colonel Quin proposed that the floor of the County Council Chamber, owing to the difficulty of hearing anything said at meetings there, be covered with linoleum.

Mr. Corish Seconded.

The Chairman said it would look very peculiar if the Council put linoleum on their own meeting room and would not give it to the Judge.

Mr. D'Arcy proposed, and Mr. Hall seconded, the following amendment:-

"That consideration of the question of providing linoleum for County Council Chamber be adjourned until the Council saw the result of sheeting the ceiling of the chamber with an anti-vibration covering."

After some discussion, the Chairman directed a show of hands on the original resolution when it was found that four voted in favour and 14 against, the others not voting.

The Chairman declared Colonel Quin's motion lost.

FURTHER LEAVE OF ABSENCE - MR. T. MOORE

The following from Anchor Hotel, Newcastle, County Wicklow, and under date 8th August, 1931, was read from Mr. Tim Moore of the County Surveyor's Clerical Staff:-

"As my leave of absence from duty expires on the 27th instant I interviewed the doctor here and he has recommended me for a further month's treatment. He stated my progress has been very good. I shall be very glad if you will bring my application for the necessary leave before next meeting of the Finance Committee and oblige."

A certificate, under date 5th August, 1931, was read from Dr. C. F. Cullen, Assistant R.M.O., Newcastle Sanatorium, that Mr. Moore would benefit by at least another month's treatment.

At the meeting of Finance Committee on 13th August, 1931, Mr. O'Byrne proposed, and Mr. Shannon seconded, the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That we recommend the Council to grant Mr. Tim Moore of County Surveyor's Department, a further month's sick leave as from 27th August, 1931."

Mr. Murphy proposed, and Mr. Keegan seconded, the confirmation of the recommendation of the Finance Committee.

Passed nem.con.

Under date 21st August, 1931, the Department of Local Government (Roads) wrote (R/RS/32) that it was noted the Council had granted a further month's sick leave to Mr. Moore.

SALE OF COMPENSATION STOCK

The following recommendation of the Finance Committee, in respect of meeting held on 13th August, 1931, was adopted, on

the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Corish:-

"That 5% Compensation Stock No.E.28202 and 28636 be redeemed at £100.

That Seal of the Wexford County Council be affixed to Form of Request to National City Bank Ltd., Dublin, for transmission by post of Warrants for Redemption money."

"That 5% Compensation Stock No.28199/201, 28238, 28637/39, 28652 be sold at par value, viz., £400 plus accrued interest in accordance with Contract arranged by Mr. James J. Keating, Stock-broker, Wexford.

"That Seal of the Wexford County Council be affixed to letter of Attorney transferring 5% Compensation Stock No.28199/201, 28238, 28637/39, 28652 to Hubert Briscoe, Desmond Butler and Victor Charles Cole, 18 & 19 College Green, Dublin."

DRAINAGE MAINTENANCE ACT 1924

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Murphy:-

"That the following statement re working of Drainage Maintenance Act 1924, drawn up by the Finance Committee at meeting of 13th August, 1931, be furnished to General Council of County Councils in reply to a query from that body:-

'The Drainage Maintenance Act, 1924, has not worked satisfactorily in this County. The only Scheme taken over is Kilmannock, and the ratepayers concerned have held all along that the work there, while fairly effective, was entirely too costly. Another Scheme, The Sow, was improved by the Commissioners of Public Works, but the Council, over two years ago, declined to take it over since the ratepayers responsible held that the work was carried out at exorbitant cost and had been absolutely ineffective - in fact, they contend that instead of obviating the flooding the new work has had the contrary effect. The amendment which Council suggest is that modification be made in the statutory provisions compelling a Council to take over a Scheme which fails to satisfy the local

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ratepayers and obliging them to be at continual war with disgruntled people. Before carrying out any scheme the nature and description of the work should be submitted to the Council concerned and their approval obtained. At present they have no "say" in this matter. Where even very slight improvements are effected by the Office of Public Works the latter can pass the scheme over to the County Council which has no redress."

PROPOSED SALE OF FORTVIEW

The following extract from the Minutes of Finance Committee meeting of 13th August, 1931, was submitted:-

"Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, reported that at the auction of above premises on the 12th instant the reserve of £1000 was not reached, the highest bid having been £870. Since the auction he had received a further bid of £900 from Mr. Andrew Nolan, North Main Street, Wexford.

Mr. Kehoe, Auctioneer, who was in attendance, considered it would be difficult to get any higher offer as the value of house property had depreciated considerably since the property was purchased by the Council. Anyone going into the place would have to spend £200 or £300 on it.

Mr. O'Byrne said the reserve price was reasonably low and he considered they should not recommend the acceptance of anything lower.

The other members concurred in this view and accordingly no action was taken."

Mr. Hall proposed:-

"That in the event of Fortview not being disposed of by Saturday, 29th August, 1931, at 12 NOON for £1,000 the premises be used as County Library. That a Joint Committee of County Council and County Library Committee, with the County Surveyor, be appointed to submit recommendations to the Council as to how the premises can best be utilised for Library purposes".

Mr. Culleton seconded.

A proposal by Mr. D'Arcy to empower the Auctioneers to sell the premises at £900, should he fail to secure a higher figure was withdrawn.

Colonel Quin proposed, and Mr. Corish seconded, the following amendment to Mr. Hall's motion:-

"That as the reserved price for the sale of Fortview was not reached at auction the County Council withdraw the premises from sale and reserve them for Library premises!"

After further discussion, a poll was taken on the amendment with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Quin, Shannon and the Chairman.....11

Against:- Messrs Brennan, Colloton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, Hayes, Jordan, Keegan, Myler, McCarthy, Murphy, Smyth, and Walsh.....13.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

Mr. Hall's motion was then put and adopted nem.con.

PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF DICTOGRAPH

The following extract from the meeting of Finance Committee held on 13th August, 1931, was submitted:-

"The following quotation was read from Dictograph Telephones Ltd., 57, Dame Street, Dublin:-

THIS ESTIMATE provides for the complete installation of a DICTOGRAPH EXECUTIVE CONTROL AND INTER-CONVERSING SYSTEM consisting of:-

- One. 5 key Dictograph Master Station
- Five. L.4-1 lamp Dictograph sub-stations.
- Two. K.4 Dictograph sub-stations.
- One. Type "T" Dictograph sub-station.

Together with one Plug and two Jacks for use with Master Station, also cable, Junction Boxes and all other necessary material.

The whole to be installed in an efficient manner, upon payment of the sum of £15: 0: 0 (FIFTEEN POUNDS) towards the cost of

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installation, thereafter quarterly payments, in advance, of
£4: 14: 6d (FOUR POUNDS, FOURTEEN SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE),
for a period of ten years, after which time the installation
shall become your own property.

During the period of the Contract, the installation shall
be maintained by our own Engineers, who will inspect same at
least three times each year. Should any faults occur, they are
attended to at your calling without charge.

Subject to the terms and conditions of the Company's Hire
Purchase Agreement.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of
Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Shannon:-

"That we recommend the County Council to instal Dictograph
Executive Control and Inter-Conversing System in County Council
Offices as per quotation from Dictograph Telephones Ltd., submitted
to this meeting."

Mr. Hall proposed, and Mr. O'Byrne seconded, the confirmation
of the recommendation of Finance Committee.

Mr. D'Arcy proposed, and Mr. Culleton seconded, the following
amendment:-

"That the proposal to procure Dictograph installation for
County Council offices be adjourned till November when all
financial estimates will be considered."

The Chairman said he would take a vote for or against the
installation of the apparatus. This resulted as follows:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins,
Hall, Hayes, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan and Shannon.....12

Against:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Jordan,
Keegan, Meyler, Murphy, Quin, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman..12

The Chairman gave his casting vote against the installation
so that the recommendation of the Finance Committee was defeated.

MOTEYBOWER LANE

Report of Sub-Committee in this matter was adjourned owing

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to the absence of the County Surveyor because of the dangerous illness of a relative.

EMPLOYMENT OF MEN IN GOREY AREA

Report of Sub-Committee in this matter was adjourned to next meeting owing to the unavoidable absence of the County Surveyor.

CAMOLIN STREETS AND ROADS

Messrs Charles Roark and John Roche, Camolin, wrote directing attention to the deplorably neglected condition of the main road through the village. The pathway from the railway corner to the Civic Guard barracks was one mess of grass, the water table for one-third of the length was choked with docks and thistles. The other side of the street was just as bad. The wall between Gahan's field and the street adjoining the Protestant Church was a disgrace to the village and the County Council. They asked that early attention be given to the matter.

Letter from James J. Fowler, Camolin, Hon.Sec., to Camolin Development Association, under date 5th August, 1931, relative to roadway through Camolin Park, the property of the Department of Agriculture, and which appears on Minutes of County Council Meeting of 10th August, 1931, was also read.

Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, reported that instructions had been given for the cleaning of the path and the pulling of briars and weeds. The wall, in his opinion, was private property and the Council could not be expected to make any repairs.

The Secretary stated the road through Camolin Park was a purely private one and belonged to the Forestry Department.

Mr. O'Byrne stated they had been trying for some time to get improvements done to the road and the local people had done a certain amount of work themselves and only wanted the loan of one of the Council's rollers for a short time.

Secretary - You will have to charge some nominal figure for the use of the roller.

Mr. Keegan - It would come under the heading of a private road. It serves a lot of people including several large farmers.

Colonel Quin considered that the usual hireage charge for roller should be made.

Mr. Corish - Who is going to pay it ?.

Mr. O'Byrne - There is a lot of poor people there who cannot pay.

Secretary - This should be looked on as an exceptional case. There is no doubt the road is of enormous advantage to a large number of the ratepayers.

Mr. Murphy - Make a business arrangement with them.

On the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne, it was agreed to grant the use of the roller at the charge of 5/- a day.

Col. Quin stated he drove through Camolin that morning and did not see anything bad with the street.

COMPLAINT OF OBJECTIONABLE MAN BEING EMPLOYED

Mr. Cummins referred to a North Wexford land dispute and suggested that a man who had purchased a certain farm from the Land Commission and who was employed on lorry haulage work for the County Council should be discharged as he was objectionable to the people of the district.

Mr. Hall considered it was not the business of the County Council to interfere in the matter.

Mr. Cummins - You don't think it is the business of the Council to employ an objectionable man.

Colonel Quin said the man now objected to had acted according to law and if a certain person did not agree with the law why should another be vilified.

The Chairman said he did not think the Council should discuss the matter. As the work of haulage in this district was finished there was no use in carrying the discussion further.

Mr. Keegan considered that men who were able to purchase

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farms should not be employed as hauliers. He did not see why carters should not be employed.

Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor for the district, said that lorry haulage up to 8 miles was obtainable at 6½d per ton mile while horse haulage cost 10d and would not be able to carry out the work in proper time.

Mr. Culleton proposed that the discussion be ruled out of order.

Colonel Quin seconded.

Mr. Cummins proposed that the man in question be no longer employed by the Council.

Mr. Cooney seconded.

Several members asked the Chairman to rule the matter out of order and the Chairman replied that he was taking it on Mr. Cummins' responsibility. It was proposed and seconded and it was no affair of his (Chairman's).

Mr. Colloton - I propose that the matter be adjourned for the facts.

Mr. Jordan - The facts are simple. A man owed annuities to the Land Commission and the Land Commission, in the usual way, put up the place for sale by public auction. This other man, now employed by the Council, bought it and the same thing has happened in several cases and nobody took any exception to it. The National Bank, The Treasurer of the Council, had done exactly the same but no proposal had ever been made that the County Council account should be taken from them because of their action.

Mr. O'Byrne - I think, as a Council, we should not interfere for every other day we are calling on the Land Commission to have the annuities paid and save the money that should come to the Council in relief of the rates.

Mr. Cummins said he would be satisfied if a resolution to obtain the facts of the case was put to the meeting.

Mr. Corish said this was an important matter and a vote one way or the other might put people in an awkward position. We, he said, hold that a better settlement could be made with the English as far as the annuities are concerned, but as the present position stands, if a man doesn't pay debts and another man buys his farm, I submit that is not land-grabbing in the sense we were told it was in the olden days.

The Land Commission had met the difficulties of a good many people who made a bonafide effort to pay the annuities.

Miss O'Ryan said she would certainly be on the side of man who suffered any hardship, but she, for one, did not know the facts. If Mr. Cummins' proposition was put to the meeting they might, without knowing the facts, be put in an awkward position. She would ask Mr. Cummins to leave it over until the next meeting.

Chairman - It is a political question no matter what why you look at it. I don't know the facts.

Mr. Colloton - I ask you to rule it out altogether.

Both propositions were withdrawn and the matter ended.

ROADS OVER RAILWAY BRIDGES

The following, under date 12th August, 1931, from Mr. T. R. Leonard, District Engineer's Office, Great Southern Railways, Waterford, to the County Surveyor was read:-

"It was proposed shortly to renew overbridge No. 373 New Ross Branch, in reinforced concrete. This bridge is situated about 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mls. to the Wexford side of **Palace** East Station. It will be necessary ^{to} regrade the approaches to the bridge and I send you herewith Plan No. 767/82 showing our proposals.

'I shall be glad to know whether they meet with your approval'"

It was decided to adjourn the matter for the attendance of the County Surveyor.

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FORD OF LYNG

In reply to Col. Gibbon, Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, stated that the legal proceedings in connection with the flooding of the Ford of Lyng were being held up as the writ had not yet been served owing to one of the Slob Commissioners being out of jurisdiction. The Courts were not sitting yet and nothing could be done until they re-opened. In his opinion the proceedings would not be heard until the Spring.

Col. Gibbon - Can anything more than we are doing be done ?.

Mr. Elgee - No, sir; I cannot do any more.

Chairman - It will not be done this year then.

WATER PIPE UNDER ROAD COOLGREANEY

In connection with application of Mr. Christopher Kelly to run water pipe under Road No.78 at Coolgreaney, Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor for the District, reported that he had examined the place and interviewed Mr. Kelly on the 5th instant. He recommended that permission be given Mr. Kelly to open road. Mr. Kelly undertook to restore surface to the satisfaction of the County Council.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Brennan:-

"That permission be given Mr. Christopher Kelly to run water pipe under Road No.78 at Coolgreaney on condition that the surface be restored to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor."

USE OF WEXFORD TAR

The following, under date 11th August, 1931, (R/JR/20A) was read from the Department of Local Government (Roads):-

"With reference to previous correspondence relative to the use of Wexford tar, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that no objection will be raised to the use of local tar for the special purposes mentioned

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ENGINEERING PLANT

in the County Surveyor's letter of the 25th June last.

'The Surveyor should furnish (a) particulars of the quantity he would normally use in the financial year for the special purpose mentioned and (b) an outline of the Specification under the headings shown in Trade List.'

The County Surveyor submitted certificate of Analysis with the following report from the State Laboratory, Upper Merrion Street, Dublin, as to sample of tar from Wexford Gas Works which had been submitted to the State Chemist:- "This sample does not

conform to the specification. It contains too high a percentage of distillate below 200°C and of phenols or crude taracids. Its viscosity is much below the limit allowed, i.e., 20 secs."

Colonel Quin - I thought we did not use actual tar ?. It is very dangerous to fish life; it kills all the young fish. I thought we used bitumen.

Mr. D'Arcy - We are not interested in fish. I beg to make application to your Council for permission to purchase what presently appears to be a waste piece of ground situated immediately at the rear of your Council's Weigh Office at Courtown Harbour. I require same as a site for building a dwelling house. Should this application have the kind consideration of your Council I am prepared to pay any reasonable price either for the letting or complete purchase of site referred to."

Colonel Quin - There are other people who are.

Mr. Corish - The bottom of every ship is tarred periodically and they are in the water constantly.

The Secretary stated that no complaint had been received by the Council as to injury to fish life caused by the use of tar on their roads.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. D'Arcy:-

"That the Manager of Wexford Gas Works be asked to supply the Wexford County Council with particulars of any analyses he may have in connection with the tar produced at his works."

Mr. Keegan referred to structures that were erected on the burrow at Courtown Harbour in connection with which action

with Under date 10th August, 1931, the Department of Local Government (Roads) wrote (RG/79) forwarding £649 (s.866) contribution towards the cost of concreting the streets in Enniscorthy Urban District.

application of Mr. Lyons was refused.

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ENGINEERING PLANT

The County Surveyor submitted letter under date 19th August, 1931, from New Ireland Assurance Company, Dawson Street, Dublin, as to inspection of Engineering Plant of the Council.

The following is an extract from letter :- "Our Chief Engineer reports that all the plant examined was found in excellent condition and maintained at the usual high standard in which he has always found it kept."

PIECE OF WASTE GROUND AT COURTTOWN HARBOUR

The following letter from John Lyons, Courtown Harbour, under date 11th August, 1931, was before the meeting of Finance Committee on 13th August and referred by Committee to the County Surveyor for report:-

"I beg to make application to your Council for permission to purchase what presently appears to be a waste piece of ground situated immediately at the rear of your Council's Weigh Office at Courtown Harbour. I require same as a site for building a dwelling house. Should this application have the kind consideration of your Council I am prepared to pay any reasonable price either for the letting or complete purchase of site referred to."

Mr. Treanor (Assistant Surveyor) stated the applicant was a showman who was connected with the district by marriage. There was a pathway through the ground and a claim might be set up to it by the users as against the disposal of the ground if it belonged to the Council. He could not say who were the owners of the property. The Council's weighbridge was erected on it.

Mr. Keegan referred to structures that were erected on the burrow at Courtown Harbour and in connection with which action with a view to their removal was taken. Vehicles, he also stated, were being conveyed over the footbridge there which should not be permitted.

On the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Col. Quin, the application of Mr. Lyons was refused.

It was decided to refer the matters complained of by Mr. Keegan to the Harbour Master at Courtown for report.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The following report of the Committee was submitted:-

"A meeting of Scholarship Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 22nd August, 1931. Very Rev W. F. Murphy, President, St. Peter's College, presided, and Messrs J. J. Kelly, N.T., and E. P. Foley were also present.

'The Secretary to the County Council was in attendance.

'Apologies for non-attendance (owing to other engagements) were received from Rev. T. Talbot and Col. Gibbon. .

Primary Scholarship Scheme

'The Committee, after discussion, recommended that the Office of National Education should be requested to hold the examination on the results of the following four compulsory subjects, viz., Irish, English, Arithmetic, History and Geography.

'From the point of view of the secondary school it is far more advisable that pupils should have a fair knowledge of these subjects than a rather indifferent knowledge coupled with a smattering of the optional subjects. Besides the ordinary school work covers the teaching of these four subjects.

'The adoption of this change would certainly be the means of increasing the number of applications for award of Scholarships.

'As regards the limits of valuation the Committee felt it would be in the interests of the Scheme to have a valuation limit of £75 maximum for all applicants. The valuation basis furnishes a very poor criterion of the means of the parents or guardians of candidates and was found so unsatisfactory in practice by the County Council as regards University Scholarships that it was deleted from that Scheme a number of years ago.

'The Committee believe that the present procedure by the County Council of considering each application on its merits is

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far more equitable than including or excluding pupils on a valuation figure.

'This practice of the Council is the recommendation which commends itself most to the Committee for the Primary Scheme, but, as it may not be possible to induce the Office of National Education to agree with this proposal for this year, the Committee, as the next best step, suggest one figure of valuation for all applicants.

'University Scheme

'The Committee recommend the following change:- "That as regards sixth last paragraph the first sentence therein, viz., "Scholarships will be confined to students whose ages shall not exceed 20 years on 1st August, 1931." be deleted, and the following substituted:- "Scholarships will be confined to students whose ages shall not exceed that fixed by the Department of Education for obtaining Leaving Certificate!"

The following resolution was moved by Mr. O'Ryan and seconded by Mr. Walsh:-

"That we approve of recommendations submitted from meeting of Scholarship Committee of 22nd August, 1931, and that Office of National Education and University Authorities be requested to sanction the inclusion of said recommendations in their Scholarship Schemes"

Mr. Corish proposed, and Mr. Shannon seconded, the following amendment:-

"That consideration of recommendations of Scholarship Committee be adjourned to next meeting of the County Council; in the meantime that these recommendations be furnished each member of the Council."

On a show of hands 10 voted for the amendment and 10 against.

The Chairman voted against the amendment which was declared lost.

The motion of Miss O'Ryan approving of the recommendations was then put and passed.

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Under date 22nd August, 1931, the Office of National Education wrote (F.26726) approving of the schools selected by new Scholarship holders under Primary Scholarship Scheme.

ENNISCORTHY URBAN COUNCIL AND POWERS UNDER
LIBRARY ACTS

Under date 20th August, 1931 (G.63916/31/C.Enniscorthy U.D.) /
the following was read from Department of Local Government:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to advert to the resolution of the Wexford County Council at their meeting on the 23rd June last, and to state that the Enniscorthy Urban District Council have by resolution of the 5th instant agreed to the transfer of their powers and duties under the Libraries Acts to the County Council on the conditions stipulated.

'I am to state that the Minister approves pursuant to Section 65(6) of the Local Government Act, 1925, of the terms of the transfer of the Urban District Council's powers and duties under the Libraries Acts to the County Council."

POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Brennan:-

"That new licence under Poisons and Pharmacy Act 1908 issue to John Mythen, Blackwater, no objection to same being offered by Garda Siochana."

Michael Doyle

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING 14TH SEPTEMBER 1931

M I N U T E S.

COUNTY HALL,
WEXFORD.

N.J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

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A meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 14th September, 1931.

Present:- Mr M. Doyle, Chairman, (presiding); Messrs James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Clince, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F.D'Arcy, James Gaul, Col.C.M. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Michael Jordan, William P. Keegan, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col.R.P. Wemyss Quin, M.M. Roche, James Shannon, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, County Surveyor and County Solicitor were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

VOTES OF CONDOLENCE

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Col. Gibbon:- "That we offer our deep sympathy to Mr Thos. A. Frizelle, Assistant Secretary, to this Council, on the death of son Jerome James."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Gibbon seconded by Mr Roche:-

"That we offer our sympathy to the relatives of Mr William Stafford, late Clerk to No. 1 Old Age Pension Subcommittee an old and valued official and whose demise is much regretted by all who knew him."

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEES.

Finance:

The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 13th August, 1931, were submitted as follows:

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The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 13th August, 1931.

Present:- Messrs James Hall, James Shannon and Sean O'Byrne.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and Rate Inspector were also in attendance.

The Chair was taken by Mr. Hall on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Shannon.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £2938: 17: 7d was examined and signed.

PROPOSED SALE OF FORTVIEW

Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, reported that at the auction of above premises on the 12th instant the reserve of £1000 was not reached, the highest bid having been £870. Since the auction he had received a further bid of £900 from Mr. Andrew Nolan, North Main Street, Wexford.

Mr. Kehoe, Auctioneer, who was in attendance considered it would be difficult to get any higher offer as the value of house property had depreciated considerably since the property was purchased by the Council. Anyone going into the place would have to spend £200 or £300 on it.

Mr. O'Byrne said the reserve price was reasonably low and he considered they should not recommend the acceptance of anything lower.

The other members concurred in this view and accordingly no action was taken.

RATE COLLECTION

The State of the Rate Collection to date was submitted as follows:-

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Name of Collector.	Percentage of Warrant collected.
<hr/>	
1. J. Curtis	19.7
2. P. Nolan	19.2
3. M. McCarthy	18.9
4. J. Quirke (No.1 District)	18.8
5. S. Gannon	14.9
6. P. Carty	13.8
7. W. Doyle	13.7
8. J. Cummins	13.3
9. J.J.O'Reilly	13.2
10. Thos. Rowe	13.2
11. J. Deegan	11.8
12. T. Bolger (No. 14)	11.3
13. W. Cummins	11.2
14. A. Dunne	11.2
15. T. Bolger (No.12)	11.0
16. P.O'Byrne	10.2
17. E.J. Murphy	10.0
18. J. Quirke (No. 2)	9.7
19. J.J. Sinnott	9.3
20. P. Doyle	9.3
21. M.M. Kelly (dismissed)	1.8

It was decided that a reminder be issued to the Collectors that they must have lodged by 31st August, 1931, at least 25 per cent of their warrants.

A QUESTION OF RATE PAYMENT

Mr James Bent, Burrow, Rosslare, came before the meeting and complained that he had paid rates for which he had not been given receipts. He produced several receipts for the inspection of the Committee. He asked for an adjournment of his case as he wished to look for other receipts which he considered important.

The Committee considered the various items of Rates for the collection of which Mr. P. Nolan, present Collector, was responsible. These amounted to £4: 13: 11d and Mr. Bent admitted that he paid £4: 11: 6d only.

Mr. Nolan, Collector, who was in attendance, said that Mr. Bent had promised to pay the 2/5d difference.

Mr. Bent denied this but Mr. O'Kennedy, Rate Inspector, was positive in his statement that he had heard Mr. Bent making such a promise.

The Committee came to the conclusion that Mr. Nolan issued official receipts to Mr. Bent for all monies received from him and had carried out his duties in the matter in a proper manner.

Under date 11th August, 1931, the Department of Local Government wrote (G.62052/1931 Loch Garman Pa) stating that the Minister had sanctioned the temporary appointment of Collector S. Gannon (No.10) as Rate Collector for No.6 District for the current financial year.

Under date 7th August, 1931, the Department of Local Government wrote (G.61184/1931 Loch Garman Fa) that the Minister agreed to the proposal to make, in the present financial year, a contribution of £3 towards the cost of the Fidelity Guarantee Bonds of whose Collectors who are paid a poundage of 5d and whose remuneration for poundage does not exceed £150 per annum.

INCOME TAX ASSESSMENT

The following under date 30th July, 1931, (P.C.45 - PJM/MG) was read from the Inspector of Taxes:-

"With reference to letters dated 1st September last and 7th April last I have now had an opportunity of dealing with the case and I agree that there is no liability to Schedule D tax for the years up to and including 1927/28. I have, accordingly, cancelled the estimated assessment for the year 1924/25.

'Would you kindly arrange to forward me copies of the Accounts for such subsequent periods as they are available.'"

SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES

Secondary. The following under date 21st July, 1931, was read from the Department of Education (Secondary Branch):-

"I have to inform you that the Department is prepared to sanction the renewal, for the School Year 1931/32, of the Scholarships awarded by your Council to the undermentioned pupils:-

Mary C. Daly:	Loreto Abbey, Gorey.
Daniel F. Butler:	St. Peter's College, Wexford.
James M. Druhan:	" " "
Richard R. O'Donnell:	" " "
Mary E. Doyle:	Loreto Convent, Wexford.
Kathleen F. Donnelly	" "
Margaret M. O'Neill	" "
Mary A. Ronan	" "

The Department's decision in the case of the undermentioned pupils will be conveyed to you in due course:-

James Donnelly:	St. Peter's College, Wexford.
Johanna Cooney:	Loreto Convent, Wexford.
Katie Doyle:	" "
Patrick Sheehan:	Christian Schools, Gorey. "

In reply to query addressed them by the Secretary, the Department wrote, under date 31st July, 1931, that they would be unable to give a decision in the cases of the four outstanding Scholarship holders until the results of the Intermediate Certificate Examinations 1931, were available.

University:-

The following, under date 11th August, 1931, was read from the Secretary, University College, Dublin:-

"The following are the results of the Summer Examinations of students holding Scholarships from your Council in this College in Session 1930-31:-

Michael O'Keeffe	(1st Year)	Passed the First University Examination in Arts.
John Dunphy	(1st Year)	Passed the First University Examination in Commerce with Second Class Honours in Commerce.
Patrick G. Hickey) (3rd Year)	Satisfied the Examiners at the Second Year College Examinations.
Arthur J. Nix) (2nd Year)	
John J. Hunt) (2nd Year)	

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Catherine Kickham	(2nd Year)	Passed the First University Examination in Arts.
Liam O'Leary	(3rd Year)	Did not reach the required Pass standard in the subsidiary subject for the B. A. Degree.
Joseph Cullen	(3rd Year)	Passed the subsidiary subject for the B.Sc.Degree. Further report after the Degree Examination in the Autumn.'"

TOURIST TRAFFIC (DEVELOPMENT) ACT 1931

The Committee considered the various provisions of the above Act and expressed their agreement with the manner under which rate for development of tourist traffic and tourist resorts was to be administered.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL CASES

Applications were read in connection with the proposed committal of the following children to Industrial Schools:-

Brenda Murphy, Stoneyford, Tagoat, James Doyle, Margaret Doyle and John Doyle, Old Boley, Taghmon.

The applications had been referred to Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor.

In connection with application of Mr. Lacey, Inspector Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, already considered by the Finance Committee, the following under date 8th August, 1931, was read from Mr. Elgee, Solicitor:-

"The application herein came before the District Justice in Dublin yesterday when he made an Order committing George Merriman to Rathdown Industrial School, and he held, that the Wexford County Council were not liable to contribute towards his maintenance.

'I enclose copy of a letter from my Representative who attended to the matter, from which you will see, that he asks for a Fee of £2: 2: 0d, and I assume I am at liberty to pay this, as

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if I had gone to Dublin myself on the case I would have been entitled to charge reasonable travelling expenses."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Shannon:- "That we recommend the payment of £2: 2: 0d to Mr. Carter S. Draper who represented Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, at the hearing of the application on 7th August, 1931, at the Dublin District Court to commit George Merriman to an Industrial School"

FURTHER LEAVE OF ABSENCE - MR. T. MOORE

The following from Anchor Hotel, Newcastle, County Wicklow, and under date 8th August, 1931, was read from Mr. Tim Moore of the County Surveyor's Clerical Staff:-

"As my leave of absence from duty expires on the 27th inst., I interviewed the doctor here and he has recommended me for a further month's treatment. He states my progress has been very good. I shall be very glad if you will bring my application for the necessary leave before next meeting of the Finance Committee and oblige."

A certificate under date 5th August, 1931, was read from Dr. G. F. Cullen, Assistant R.M.O., Newcastle Sanatorium, that Mr. Moore would benefit by at least another month's treatment.

Mr. O'Byrne proposed, and Mr. Shannon seconded, the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That we recommend the Council to grant Mr. Tim Moore of County Surveyor's Department, a further month's sick leave as from 27th August, 1931".

DRAINAGE ACT 1924

The General Council of County Councils asked for information as to how the provisions of the Drainage Act 1924 had worked out in County Wexford and whether any amendments could be suggested.

It was decided, on the motion of Mr. Shannon, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne, to forward the following statement to the General Council of County Councils:-

The Drainage Maintenance Act 1924 has not worked satisfactorily in this County.

The only Scheme taken over is Kilmannock and the rate-payers concerned have held all along that the work there, while fairly effective, was entirely too costly.

Another Scheme:- The Sow, was improved by the Commissioners of Public Works but the Council, over two years ago, declined to take it over since the ratepayers responsible held that the work was carried out at exorbitant cost and had been absolutely ineffective - in fact they contend that instead of obviating the flooding the new work has had the contrary effect.

The amendment which Council ~~should~~ suggest is that modification be made in the statutory provisions compelling a Council to take over a Scheme which fails to satisfy the local ratepayers and obliging them to be at continual war with disgruntled people.

Before carrying out any Scheme the nature and description of the work should be submitted to the Council concerned and their approval obtained.

At present they have no "say" in this matter. Where even very slight improvements are effected by the Office of Public Works the latter can pass the Scheme over to the County Council who has no redress.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE MR. F. S. RINGWOOD, V.S.

Under date 11th August, 1931, the Department of Agriculture wrote (L.3340-31) that the Minister had no objection to the temporary employment of Mr. R. J. Roe, V.S., as substitute for Mr. Ringwood, V.S., Enniscorthy, during the absence of the latter on ten days' leave as from 11th August, 1931.

PLOT OF GROUND AT COURTTOWN HARBOUR

The following, under date 11th August, 1931, was read from Mr. John Lyons, Courtown Harbour:-

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"I beg to make application to your Council for permission to purchase what presently appears to be a waste piece of ground situated immediately at the rear of your Council's Weigh Office at Courtown Harbour. I require same as a site for building a dwelling house. Should this application have the kind consideration of your Council I am prepared to pay any reasonable price either for the letting or complete purchase of site referred to."

It was decided to refer this communication to the County Surveyor for report after his interview with Mr. Lyons on 14th August, 1931.

COMPENSATION STOCK

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Shannon:-

"That 5% Compensation Stock No.E.28202 and 28636 be redeemed at £100.

That Seal of the Wexford County Council be affixed to Form of Request to National City Bank Ltd., Dublin for transmission by post of Warrants for Redemption money.

"That 5% Compensation Stock No.28199/201, 28238, 28637/39, 28652 be sold at par value viz., £400 plus accrued interest in accordance with Contract arranged by Mr. James J. Keating, Stockbroker, Wexford.

That Seal of the Wexford County Council be affixed to letter of Attorney transferring 5% Compensation Stock No.28199/201, 28238, 28637/39, 28652 to Hubert Briscoe, Desmond Butler and Victor Charles Cole, 18 & 19, College Green, Dublin."

CINEMATOGRAPH ACT 1909

The following, under date 12th August, 1931, was read from Mr. B. Downes, Duncannon:-

"I beg to notify your Council that I have let my hall here to a travelling Picture Company (Daniells & Son) for six days commencing Monday next, 17th August, 1931. I would have notified you earlier had I known it was necessary to do so. I would like to

know if it is necessary at present to have this hall licensed for dancing purposes.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Shannon:-

"That in view of the provisions of Section 7(2) of the Cinematograph Act 1909 the Finance Committee cannot accept as in order the application of Mr. B. Downes received in County Council Offices on 13th August, 1931, to exhibit pictures for six days as from 17th August, 1931, the said section providing that Mr. Downes should have given to the County Council and to the Chief Superintendent of the Garda Siochana, not less than seven days, before the first exhibition of pictures, notice in writing of his intention so to use the premises."

'That copy of this resolution be furnished Chief Superintendent Garda Siochana, Wexford, for his information.'

PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF DICTOGRAPH

The following quotation was read from Dictograph Telephones Ltd., 57, Dame Street, Dublin:-

"THIS ESTIMATE provides for the complete installation of a DICTOGRAPH EXECUTIVE CONTROL AND INTER-CONVERSING SYSTEM consisting of:-

- One. 5 key Dictograph Master Station
- Five. L.4-1 lamp Dictograph sub-stations.
- Two. K.4 Dictograph sub-stations.
- one. Type "T" Dictograph sub-station.

Together with one Plug and two Jacks for use with Master Station, also cable, Junction Boxes and all other necessary material.

The whole to be installed in an efficient manner, upon payment of the sum of £15: 0: 0d (FIFTEEN POUNDS) towards the cost of installation, thereafter quarterly payments in advance of £4: 14: 6d (FOUR POUNDS, FOURTEEN SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE), for a period of ten years, after which time the installation

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shall become your own property.

During the period of the Contract, the installation shall be maintained by our own Engineers, who will inspect same at least three times each year. Should any faults occur, they are attended to at your calling without charge.

Subject to the terms and conditions of the Company's Hire Purchase Agreement.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Shannon:-

"That we recommend the County Council to instal Dictograph Executive Control and Inter-Conversing System in County Council Offices as per quotation from Dictograph Telephones Ltd., submitted to this meeting."

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The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 13th August, 1931, be received and considered."

The Secretary explained that items dealing with the proposed sale of Fortview, leave of absence of Mr Tim Moore, Drainage Maintenance Act 1924, Plot of ground at Courtown Harbour, Compensation Stock and proposed installation of Dictograph in County Council offices had been dealt with at the meeting of the Council on 24th August, 1931.

Cinematograph Act 1909: Under date 22nd August, 1931, the District Superintendent, Garda Siochana, New Ross, wrote that the exhibition of pictures at Duncannon Hall started on the 17th inst and were, he understood, to continue each night during the week.

Col. Quin proposed and Mr O'Byrne seconded the following resolution:- "That proceedings be instituted against Bartholemew Downes, Duncannon, for breach of provisions of Cinematograph Act 1909."

As an amendment the following was proposed by Mr Shannon seconded by Mr Gaul:- "That we inform Mr B. Downes, Duncannon, this Council views with grave disapproval his action in allowing his hall at Duncannon to be used for exhibition of pictures without having complied with the provisions of Cinematograph Act of 1909 and point out to him that if he offends in this matter in the future the Council will press for severe punishment."

After discussion a poll was taken on the amendment. This resulted as follows:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Cline, Cooney, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Jordan, Keegan, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Ryan, Shannon and Walsh (13).

Against:- Messrs Brennan, Corish, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, O'Byrne, Quin, Roche and Smyth - (10).

The Chairman who did not vote declared the amendment carried.

It was then adopted without dissent as the substantive resolution.

The following resolution was then adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 13th August, 1931, be and are hereby confirmed."

The Minutes of Finance Committee meeting of 27th August, 1931, were submitted as follows:-

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The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in Co. Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 27th August, 1931.

Present - Messrs Sean O'Byrne, James Hall, Thomas McCarthy, James Shannon and John Colloton.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Rate Inspector, County Surveyor and Mr Elgee, Solicitor, were also in attendance.

The Chair was taken by Mr McCarthy on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon.

Subsequently Mr Walsh, Vice Chairman, County Council, attended and presided.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £4724:10:11d was examined and signed.

VOTE OF CONDOLENCE

The following resolution was adopted in silence on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall and spoken to by the Chairman and Secretary:-

"That we offer our heartfelt sympathy to Mr W.F. Barry County Surveyor, on the death of his cousin Mrs Helen Brennan."

RATE COLLECTION

The State of the Rate Collection up to 26th August, 1931, was submitted as follows:-

<u>COLLECTOR.</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE OF WARRANT COLLECTED.</u>
1. John Curtis	27 Per Cent
2. Jas. Quirke (No.1)	23.5 "
3. Patrick Nolan	22.7 "
4. M. McCarthy	22.5 "
5. W. Doyle	20.9 "
6. Joseph Cummins	20. "

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COLLECTOR	PERCENTAGE OF WARRANT COLLECTED.
7. Thos. Rowe	18.3 Per Cent
8. Art Dunne	18.1 " "
9. Patrick Carty	18.1 " "
10. Sean Gannon	17.8 " "
11. E.J. Murphy	17.5 " "
12. John Deegan	17.1 " "
13. J.J. O'Reilly	16.6 " "
14. W. Cummins	15.9 " "
15. Patrick O'Byrne	14.9 " "
16. Thady Bolger (No.14)	14.6 " "
17. Phil. Doyle	14.6 " "
18. Jas. Quirke (No.2)	13.6 " "
19. Thady Bolger	13.2 " "
20. J.J. Sinnott	11.5 " "
21. Sean Gannon (No. 6)	5.1 " "

In reply to the Chairman the Rate Inspector said he was not satisfied that all the Collectors were doing as well as they should. Sinnott had been ill for 10 days and his collection had in consequence been held up. He has now resumed duty. Quirke had heavy arrears (practically 21 per cent of the warrant) to collect in No. 2 District, Gannon 30 per cent in No. 6 District and Thady Bolger 13 per cent in No. 14 District.

It was decided as Finance Committee had directed Collectors to lodge 25 per cent of their warrants by 31st August to defer action until next meeting of the Committee.

SEIZURE OF SHEEP

In connection with the seizure of 109 sheep on Bantry and Blackstairs Commons by Collector O'Byrne, the Rate Inspector reported that the locks of the gates of Enniscorthy Show Grounds where the sheep had been put to graze after

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seizure, had been broken and the animals taken away. The Garda Siochana were endeavouring to procure information as to who was responsible for this but had not succeeded up to the present.

Mr O'Byrne, Rate Collector, submitted a bill for £26:10: for expenses in connection with the seizure .

In reply to the Chairman the Rate Inspector said the amount of arrears of rates due on Mr O'Byrne's portion of the two Commons was £158 and on Mr Murphy's portion something about £200.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That the bill presented by Mr O'Byrne, Rate Collector, for £26: 10s. relative to seizure of sheep in Bantry and Blackstairs Commons be recommended to the Council for payment subject to the sanction of the Local Government Department and the production of vouchers by Collector O'Byrne from the persons who received payments set out on the account."

Under date 15 th August, 1931, letters were received from Patrick Murray, Ballinacarrig, Gorey, and John Connors, Kildermot, Gorey, ~~for~~ personal sureties of Mr Sean Gannon, that they had no objection to the latter carrying out the duties of Rate Collector in No. 6 District.

ILLNESS OF MR JOHN KEHOE, ASSISTANT SURVEYOR.

Under date 21st August, 1931, the Department of Local Government (Roads) wrote (R/RS/32) inquiring the reason why it was proposed to make a payment for travelling expenses to Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, in respect of the period from 27th December, 1930, to 9th March, 1931.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Culleton seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That on reconsideration of the question of allowances to Mr Kehoe owing to sick leave this Committee recommends that as no travelling was carried

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out by this officer from the period 27th December, 1930, to 9th March, 1931, payment of travelling expenses for said period be disallowed."

DUPLICATE PAY ORDER

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That duplicate be issued for Pay Order No. 423 General Account - 10th August, 1931 - to Thomas Walsh, Kereight, Kyle, amount £3: 9: 4d, original having been lost in course of post, and that original order be estopped by Treasurer."

PRINTING ABSTRACTS OF ACCOUNTS.

For the printing of the abstracts of accounts of Co. Council for the two half years ended 31st March, 1930, and 30th September, 1930, quotations at £10 were received from "The People" and "Free Press".

Lots were drawn and the tender of "The People" was selected.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Col. Quin:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 27th August, 1931, be and are hereby confirmed."

The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 10th September, 1931, were submitted as follows:-

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The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held on 10th September, 1931, in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford.

Present:- Messrs Sean O'Byrne, James Hall, Thos. McCarthy, and James Shannon.

The Secretary, County Solicitor and Rates Inspector were also in attendance.

On the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall the chair was taken by Mr McCarthy.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £3123: 9: 4d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

The Rate Collection to 10th September, 1931, was submitted as follows:-

1.	J. Curtis	33.1	per cent
2.	P. Carty	28.9	"
3.	M. McCarthy	27.8	"
4.	P. Nolan	26.6	"
5.	J. Cummins	26.5	"
6.	W. Doyle	26.3	"
7.	J. Quirke (No.1)	25.6	"
8.	Art Dunne	25.2	"
9.	Thos. Rowe	24.5	"
10.	J.J.O'Reilly	23.7	"
11.	E.J. Murphy	23.5	"
12.	J. Deegan	21.7	"
13.	Sean Gannon	20.4	"
14.	W. Cummins	20.2	"
15.	T. Bolger (No.14)	19.6	"
16.	J. Quirke (No. 2)	19.5	"
17.	Philip Doyle	19.2	"
18.	P. O'Byrne	19.0	"
19.	Sean Gannon (No.6)	18.7	"
20.	T. Bolger (No. 12)	17.6	"
21.	J.J. Sinnott	15.1	"

this

In connection with/statement Report under date 10th September, 1931, was read from the Rate Inspector that fifteen collectors had failed to carry out the directions of the Council to have lodged by 31st August, 1931, 25 per cent of their warrants. None of the Collectors in Enniscorthy or Gorey districts had carried out this direction.

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In New Ross District J. Curtis, P. Carty, and W. Doyle and in Wexford District M. McCarthy, P. Nolan and J. Quirke (No. 1) had lodged over 25 per cent of their warrants.

In the opinion of the Rate Inspector 25 % of the year's warrant was a reasonable figure to expect by 31st August. Since the opening of the collection the rates on 19 derelict farms had been paid to September 1931. He submitted particulars of twelve ratings in respect of which the lands had been let by agreement between the owners, the Land Commission and the Rate Collectors concerned.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That the attention of Rate Collectors be again directed to the resolution of the Council instructing them to issue proceedings forthwith against ratepayers who are able to pay, but who neglect or refuse to do so. The law provides that first moiety is payable immediately after the Rate is struck and second moiety on 1st October. Rate ^{payers} ~~collectors~~ who are able to pay and hold up payment until the last day of the half year are setting a bad example to the general body and the Finance Committee expect in the future that no delay will occur on the part of Rate Collectors in taking the necessary legal proceedings in all such cases.

That Rate Collectors who have failed to lodge 25 per cent of warrant by 31st August last be asked for an explanation for their failure to carry out the directions of the Council.

That Collectors who fail to lodge 40 % of the current Rate by the 1st October next be informed that the Finance Committee will not recommend the County Council to apply to the L. G. D. for permission to pay them full poundage as calculated on last year's warrant.

That we approve of the lettings of the 12 holdings referred to in report of Rate Inspector to this meeting."

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ILLNESS OF MR JOHN KEHOE, ASSISTANT SURVEYOR.

Under date 29th August, 1931, the Department of Local Government (Roads) wrote (R/RS/32) that no objection would be made to the proposal to pay full salary to Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, for the period 27th December, 1930, to 27th June, 1931, and half salary from the last named date to the 6th September, 1931, when it was expected Mr Kehoe would return to duty.

Under date 2nd September, 1931, certificate was read from Dr. S.V. O'Connor that Mr Kehoe was still under his care, suffering from Asthenia (post operation) and would be unable to resume duty for one month.

It was decided that copy of medical certificate be furnished L.G.D. (Roads) for their information.

SALE OF FORTVIEW

Mr Elgee, Solicitor, reported that Mr Andrew Nolan, Selskar House, Wexford, had purchased Fortview, former County Council offices for £1000, the figure agreed on by the County Council.

MESSENGER OF COUNTY COUNCIL OFFICES

The Secretary reported that owing to the sale of Fortview the position of Nicholas Roche who acted as caretaker at Fortview and Messenger to County Council offices came up for review. He was paid 30/- per week less Insurance and had free quarters in Fortview.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That Nicholas Roche, messenger, County Council Offices be retained for three months as messenger at 30/- per week less insurance. That, as Fortview has been sold the Co. Council are no longer able to supply him with free quarters,

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and that he be furnished with a copy of this resolution.

"That the position be reviewed by Finance Committee meeting of 3rd December, 1931."

SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the Office of National Education be requested to furnish as soon as possible their decision in connection with renewals of primary scholarships in the cases of James Donnelly, Johanna Cooney, Katie Doyle and Patrick Sheehan in view of the fact that the secondary school term has begun."

The President, University College, Dublin, forwarded the following result of applications for award of four University Scholarships:-

1. Michael Tobin, Bohreen Hill, Enniscorthy (1047 marks)
2. Mary F. Kelly, 18 North Main Street, Wexford (964).
3. Barbara Lowe, Maudlintown, Wexford (957).
4. Margaret M. O'Hanlon, Faythe, Wexford (947).

Joseph A. Flynn, Ballyvoclar, Campile (939) and Mary Kavanagh, Hollyfort, Gorey, (912) were regarded as eligible for scholarships if available.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That we recommend the County Council to award University Scholarships to Michael Tobin, Mary F. Kelly, Barbara Lowe, and Margaret M. O'Hanlon. That, in the event of any of those students failing to avail of award, vacant scholarships be awarded Joseph A. Flynn, and Mary Kavanagh, in the order named."

COURTOWN HARBOUR COMMITTEE

Under date 1st September, 1931, Mr Thomas McGarry, Chairman, Courtown Harbour, Commissioners, wrote asking for copy of rules dealing with the powers of the Committee, as some members of the Council claimed the Committee had no

power. He also asked for a map of the ground at Courtown Harbour owned by the County Council.

Under date 31st August, 1931, Lord Courtown wrote that if Mr Keegan (County Councillor) was referring at last meeting of the Council to the removal of huts etc erected on the sand hills to the North of the Harbour the County Council had no authority over them as they were not erected on County Council property, which only extended from a line drawn five yards on the North side of the stone bridge to the sea.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That Courtown Harbour Commissioners be informed that the County Council have no legal power to delegate their powers in respect of Courtown Harbour to a Committee, but at the same time desire to point out that in the past the various requests of the Committee have been very favourably considered by the Council and we have no reason to anticipate that similar action will not be taken in the future."

EASEMENT OF KAVANAGH'S CORNER - CURRACLOE

Mrs Owen Morris, Barnahask, Curracloe, wrote under date 2nd September, 1931, that she was satisfied to accept £3 as compensation for her land taken to secure easement at Kavanagh's Corner but she expected to be paid an extra £7 for the cutting of her summer house and destruction of her fruit trees.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That we regard £3 as ample compensation for land etc taken in connection with easement at Kavanagh's Corner, Curracloe. In future Assistant Surveyors should procure from land owners a written undertaking that they are prepared to accept an agreed on figure for compensation before any work of this nature be undertaken."

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VERIFICATION WEIGHTS AND MEASURES - FERNS DISTRICT

Under date 2nd September, 1931, the Chief Superintendent Garda Siochana wrote forwarding petition from the traders in Ferns District - to have Weights and Measures adjusted in Ferns and held they had a grievance in being obliged to bring these to Enniscorthy for verification. About 30 traders were concerned. The question of providing, equipping, and maintaining a Weights and Measures Office in Ferns would arise if the request was agreed to though the office would be in use only for about three weeks each year and the transport of standards etc would have to be undertaken at the expense of the Council.

In a further letter under date 9th September, 1931, the Chief Superintendent stated that the traders concerned had been approached with the suggestion they should provide office accommodation and furniture but they adhered to their decision not to defray any expense whatever in the matter.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That in view of the fact that the traders concerned have refused to supply even the use of office we recommend the County Council to refuse their application to have Weights and Measures adjusted etc at Ferns, instead of at Enniscorthy."

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The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Brennan seconded by Col. Quin :- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 10th September, 1931, be received and considered."

Illness of Mr John Kehoe - Assistant Surveyor: The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Gaul, seconded by Mr Hall:- "That Mr John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor be granted subject to sanction of L. G. D. (Roads) a further month's sick leave as from 2nd September, 1931."

Sale of Fortview: The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the seal of Wexford County Council be affixed to deed of Conveyance of the Fortview premises from County Council to Mr Andrew Nolan, Selskar House, Wexford."

Scholarship Schemes:- Under date 12th September, 1931, Very Rev Wm. F. Murphy, President St. Peter's College, Wexford, wrote that James Donnelly, Ballymitt, Primary Scholarship Holder for the past three years was this year going to Rockwell College, Cashel. He expected to be appointed to a Pupil Teachership and as there was no provisions for such pupils at St. Peter's, Donnelly was joining the special class for Pupil Teachers at Rockwell College. Father Murphy hoped no difficulty would be made in allowing the boy to enjoy the last year of his Scholarship in Rockwell.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the attention of Fr. Murphy, President St. Peter's College, be called to the following provision in Primary Scholarship Scheme:- "Scholarships under this Scheme are not to apply to candidates holding pupil teacherships or places in Preparatory Colleges."

Courtown Harbour:- The County Surveyor submitted letter under date 10th September, 1931, from Messrs Stopford & Turner, Estate Agents for Lord Courtown stating they were

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unable to supply a tracing showing the boundary of the property of the Co. Council at Courtown Harbour as they had no plans of the Harbour.

The County Surveyor was instructed to arrange for interview with Lord Courtown with a view to obtaining from him ^{particulars} in order to make a map of the harbour.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Col. Quin:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 10th September, 1931, be and are hereby confirmed."

THE PLIGHT OF AGRICULTURE IN COUNTY WEXFORD

Arising out of discussion in connection with payment of rates, Mr Roche said that as far as he could see, in the near future, instead of devising means to collect rates, they would have to devise means to help the people to make the rates. He thought that matters were never in as poor a way concerning farmers as at present, and, in his opinion, unless something was done in the very near future, they would be practically bankrupt. They should ask the Government to adopt some means of economy, and pass the result on to the farmers. Unless that were done he was afraid everything would be in a bad way in a short time. He thought a deputation from the Council should be appointed to approach the Minister for Agriculture and lay very fully before him the plight of the farmers, who were selling cattle, pigs, and other things below even pre-war rates. He saw a statement in the Press recently that pigs were lower in price than for the past thirty years. Yet salaries and everything else remained high. If that state of affairs continued, the farmers could not carry on and if the producer went down the country would fall. There were really only two producers in the country - farmers and farm labourers - and these were the people that could not get a living. The Minister for

Agriculture seemed to be pretty conversant with the state of affairs, but evidently he did not fully realise it. There was no use in allowing matters to get into a condition when it would be too late to realise the state of things. There were several ways of arriving at economies, and he believed there was a lot of very highly paid officials in the country that could do with a reduction of pay. Those officials should be asked to throw in their lot with the country, and let the country go ahead, because once the agricultural community went down the whole country was down.

Mr Hall said he agreed with Mr Roche. No one wanted to work on the land at present, but there was new vacancies for officials every day and salaries and bonuses, etc, were fixed. He knew the country could not maintain that.

Mr Cummins - Didn't a deputation from this Council wait on the Minister for Agriculture at Enniscorthy last year or this year ? I didn't hear the result, only that the deputationists were there for the purpose of laying all the grievances that Mr Roche complains of before the Minister. The matter is not of mushroom growth; it has been going on for the past three years. I suppose the answer the deputation got was that the country was in a prosperous condition.

Chairman - It was only on the question of derelict farms we approached the Minister; it was not on the general state of the country.

The Chairman said that the depression affecting farmers was not of mushroom growth, but matters had been growing fast for the last three months. He thought the past three months had been the hardest that people engaged in agriculture had ever met. He was hampered for finances himself, and if matters continued as at present he could not hold out much longer, and he could tell them there was no extravag-

ance or waste.

Col. Gibbon referred in detail to the uneconomic prices paid for live-stock and farm produce. He agreed with Mr Roche that the position was now such a very serious one for the farmer that it almost required an emergency measure similar to that taken in England. In striking the rate for next year they would have to consider the position of the people of the country, and they would have to estimate for a very much lower expenditure for next year than even for this year. They should start very soon to see what economies could be effected. At the same time rates would have to be paid as already struck.

Miss O'Ryan said that the Government should be asked to try to curtail general expenditure, and not wait, as their neighbours (Great Britain) waited, until the crisis came. Expenditure should be cut down all round.

Mr Keegan mentioned that stock was unsaleable except at a loss at recent fairs which he attended. When Mr Cummins raised the question of withholding the land annuities he did not get much support but after a while they would be withheld automatically as there would be no one to pay them.

Mr D'Arcy stated that the last fair in Gorey was the worst for a great ^{many} years. Stuff was practically unsaleable, because there was no one to buy, and he thought it was not an exaggeration to say that a state of emergency practically existed as far as the farmers were concerned. The Government should give a lead to the people and start economies.

The Chairman advocated sending the deputation to the Executive Council.

Mr Hall said the producer got nothing for his produce, but the consumer had to pay very big prices. The farmer had now to pay a hundred per cent more for machinery than he paid

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before the war, and present-day machines were not nearly as good as pre-war machines. So long as that state of affairs existed the country could not stand.

Mr D'Arcy said they were back to pre-war prices with regard to everything that was sold off the land, but their production costs for any crop were practically ninety per cent above pre war.

The Chairman said he could not see that there was a wonderful reduction in the cost of living, notwithstanding the price they were getting for their produce. He paid exactly the same for fresh meat at present as he paid six months ago in spite of the reduction in the price of cattle. They might say that anything labour was touching at present was unnecessarily high, and if a farmer wanted machines, the purchase of a couple in any one year did away with a tremendous amount of what was made on a farm.

Col. Quin thought the standard of living was higher, which was a good thing. Everyone was better "turned out". They might see a woman coming out of a labourer's cottage dressed as well as anyone. She deserved credit for it, but it did run up prices.

Mr Colleton remarked that there was a co-operative bacon factory in Wexford, and he suggested that that factory should be able to turn out stuff at a reasonable figure.

Chairman - There is a very big staff to be upheld by that factory, and fairly big salaries are paid in it, and that accounts for the very high retail costs.

Mr Cummins said that the cost of living might be higher for some people but he did not see ~~why~~ it should be higher for a farmer, who was producing the greater part of what he used. It was not necessary for a farmer to depend on a bacon factory for bacon; he could kill pigs himself.

Chairman - There is more than that coming into the cost of living on a farm. What about machinery and labour and everything a farmer has to pay for ?

Mr Cummins said he was talking about actual living.

A man did not buy a suit of clothes or a machine for ploughing every year, as such a machine would last from ten to twenty years. Mr Roche was on the wrong track with regard to going to the Government. "The time has arrived" added Mr Cummins, "for this country to give a lead. With regard to Mr Keegan's remark, on a public platform I stated that in view of the depression affecting agriculture the time had come when annuities should be withheld."

The Chairman ruled the discussion of the withholding of land annuities out of order. He would agree if the stoppage could be brought about legally.

Col. Quin thought that if a resolution was sent to the Government which knew the state of the country perfectly well it would not be necessary to send a deputation.

Mr Corish said that while recognising the position of the farmers he wanted to know what the deputation was going to put before the Government before he could agree to support Mr Roche's resolution. Everyone knew that the farmers were going through a difficult period. Suggestions had been made that salaries should be cut, but if all the salaries of officials in Government Departments were cut it would not help the farmers a bit. What contribution would it make towards solving the problem? He thought the matter referred to by the Chairman should be investigated - the question of the cost of living. It had been brought to their notice on many occasions that although farmers were only getting pre-war prices, and in some cases, he understood, less than pre-war prices, the cost of living had not appreciably changed, and there must be a margin between farmer and consumer that called for investigation. He thought if they asked for such an inquiry they would be doing far better work than if they asked for a decrease in wages and salaries, because he did not believe that decrease of

salaries were going to do any more than touch the fringe of the situation. He also suggested that a resolution from that council, as one individual council, was not going to achieve any useful purpose. He thought they should bring the matter before the General Council of County Councils so as to get the whole country moving in it.

Mr Roche said he thought the whole trouble in the country was the result of waiting for others to move. Unless some council or members of a council made a start they would get nowhere, because if they remained quiet everyone would think they were going on all right. The only thing to do was to voice their grievances. With regard to getting the whole country moving in the matter, that would take a very long time. If Wexford County Council made a start as he had proposed it was quite probable that every council in the country would follow in a short time. Most of the farmers in the county were living on credit from business houses and on overdrafts from the banks, and if business places or banks called in their money he believed that 95 per cent of the farmers in the country would be bankrupt in the morning. Only for the credit he received the farmer could not exist, and if the times got any worse that would be curtailed. Business people would begin to get afraid that they would not get their money back. For that reason he proposed the sending of a deputation to the Minister for Agriculture. He thought there should also be an investigation into the difference between the cost of production and the retail cost, and there should be some means of curtailing the immense profit, which profit was sometimes caused by the handling of stuff for, perhaps, a couple of hours. He agreed to embody in his resolution the suggestion made by Mr Corish with reference to an inquiry into prices, and moved that while waiting for a deputation to be received they should try to arrive at solutions of the

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problem for submission to the Minister.

Mr Cummins - I believe it is only loss of time, and that you will get nothing from him, as he has nothing to give to you. I am giving my opinion and I have told you what/do .

After further discussion Col. Quin proposed the following which was however, not seconded:- "That a resolution be forwarded to the Government calling attention to the plight of agriculture and asking that something should be done. And that no deputation in this matter be appointed."

The following resolution was then adopted on the motion of Mr Roche seconded by Mr Hall:- "That a deputation be appointed from this Council to wait upon the President of the Executive Council with the Ministers for Finance and Agriculture to submit recommendations in connection with the present plight of agriculture, and that a sub-committee be appointed to draft such recommendations for consideration at the meeting of the County Council to be held on 28th September, 1931."

"And that said Sub-Committee act as the deputation referred to in this resolution."

The following Sub-Committee were then appointed:-

The Chairman, Messrs Corish, D'Arcy, Jordan, McCarthy, and Roche, to meet in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 19th September, 1931, at 10.30 a.m.

FLOODING AT ASKAMORE -----

The following under date 12th September, 1931, was read from Mr Elgee, County Solicitor,:-

"As instructed I attended at the above Premises yesterday with Mr Barry the County Surveyor, and inspected same.

The position is as follows:-

The County Road runs down to Mr. Doran's Gate, and then turns sharply to the left. There is a slight fall down to the gate, and the surface water from the Road is carried through a Gullet under the Farmyard wall whence it runs in a stone channel, about one foot deep, down through the farmyard

for about twenty or twenty five feet, and then runs into another Gullet which carries the water off Mr Doran's premises.

From enquiries which I made it appears that the above mentioned Channel, through the yard, is quite sufficient for the purpose of carrying off the surface water, and that such water does not overflow from the Channel over the Farmyard, and from my inspection of the premises it does not appear that the Channel is ever choked by sand or gravel, from the Road, at least there are no signs of it, having been cleared out.

In the opposite corner of the Farmyard from where the surface water runs into the Channel, there is a small Pool or Pond which is supplied from water from a Stream on the opposite side of the County Road - This Stream passes under the Road through a Gullet.

The surplus water from this Pool runs through a drain across the yard to the before mentioned Channel and thence down the Channel.

I was informed by Mrs Doran that the water from this Pond was used for household purposes such as making tea, although Ducks and Geese, Mr Doran's property, have access to, and use same, as I saw them doing yesterday.

From the appearance of the Channel in the Yard it must have been there for a long number of years past, and the water supply to the Pond must also have run in the same channel for a considerable time. This being so, I am of opinion, that the County Council are not under any legal obligation to Mr Doran in the matter, and cannot be called on by him to alter the present arrangement of carrying the surface water off the County Road."

It was decided to inform Mr Doran that the County Solicitor had advised the County Council they were not responsible as regards the flooding of his premises.

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MOTEBOWER LANE

Mr O'Byrne reported that the Committee appointed to deal with this matter met on 11th August, 1931, the following being present:- Messrs Hall, Keegan, O'Byrne, D'Arcy, and Col. Quin, with the County Surveyor and Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor.

When Col. Quin had left the Committee decided to recommend the expenditure of £100 which with the work the local people agreed to do would put the lane into fair repair. The larger portion of the lane had been put in repair by Wicklow County Council.

Col. Quin objected. There were only three people - well-to-do farmers living on the lane and it was grossly unfair to unload it on the County.

Mr Keegan advocated the work.

Mr D'Arcy contradicted Col. Quin's statement as to the number of people benefited. The lane would serve a whole district and provide a short way to the fairs at Shillelagh, Tinahely, Gorey and Carnew.

The County Surveyor said that the local people had offered to do £40 or £50 worth of work.

After further discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall (Col. Quin dissenting) :- "That a proposal to expend £100 for the improvement of Moteybower Lane be brought forward in the Road Works Scheme for financial year 1932-33."

ROAD GRANT - FINANCIAL YEAR 1931-32.

Under date 3rd September, 1931, the Department of Local Government (Roads) (SGH/32) wrote that the Minister had approved of the scheme of Road improvement proposed to be carried out by Wexford County Council, amount £16,215.

The County Surveyor said that the figure mentioned in a previous communication from the Department was £16375

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and he had written calling attention to the discrepancy. He was informed they would have to wait till next year to receive the difference viz., £160.

The L. G. D. (Roads) in connection with this improvement grant forwarded under date 12th September, 1931, (S.G.H./32) letter stating that £4,500 had been forwarded to the Treasurer of the County Council.

ANALYST'S REPORTS

Under date 4th September, 1931, the Department of Local Government wrote (P.H. 67757/1931 Loch Garman H) suggesting that in future Minutes of Co. Council meetings, statements showing the action taken in regard to samples of Food and Drugs which were found on analyses to be defective should appear with the report of the Co. Analyst.

The Secretary stated that he had arranged for reports of Garda Síochána in each case of adulteration as it occurred and these particulars would for the future appear with the report of the Analyst.

LINOLEUM FOR COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Under date 26th August, 1931, the Department of Local Government wrote (S) that it was necessary for the due transaction of the business of the Court that the floor of the Courthouse should be covered with linoleum or some form of matting so as to lessen the noise in the Court. The Minister trusted that the representations made to the Council in the letter of L. G. D. of 6th August, 1931, would be favourably reconsidered.

Col. Quin handed in notice of motion to rescind the resolution of the Council refusing to provide a covering for the floor of the Co. Courthouse and in accordance with standing Order No. 29 the Notice was backed by the names of four other members.

The motion will be considered at the meeting of the Council on 28th September, 1931.

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ROADS OVER RAILWAY BRIDGES

The following under date 12th August, 1931, from Mr. T. R. Leonard, District Engineer's Office, Great Southern Railways, Waterford, to the County Surveyor was read:-

"It was proposed shortly to renew overbridge No. 373 New Ross Branch, in reinforced concrete. This bridge is situated about 1½ miles to the Wexford side of Palace East Station. It will be necessary to regrade the approaches to the bridge and I send you herewith Plan No. 767/82 showing our proposals.

"I shall be glad to know whether they meet with your approval."

This letter was adjourned from last meeting of the Council.

The County Surveyor said there was no objection to the proposal as the strength of the bridge would be increased.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr Hall:- "This Council will offer no objection to the reconstruction of Railway overbridge No. 373 New Ross Section in accordance with the terms of letter from Railway Engineer under date 12th August, 1931."

KILMORE ROAD

With reference to Road from Kilmore Quay to Wexford described by Mr Roche as the worst road in the County, it was arranged after discussion, that Messrs Roche, Hayes and the Chairman should inspect the road and report to first available meeting of the Council.

ROAD AT CLONARD, BATHROE

Mr Murphy stated that Mr Ward complained to him that owing to the condition of this road he was constantly breaking the springs of his lorries. A tenpound note would repair it.

The matter was referred to the County Surveyor.

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CUTS IN ROAD AT CLONROCHE

Mr Corish said his attention had been called to dangerous cuts in the road at Clonroche and he asked when they would be filled in.

The County Surveyor stated that the cuts had been caused by work done at the place by the County Board of Health. He had written the Board and had been informed that the Engineer was arranging for the Contractor to restore the road.

TRIMMING HEDGES ON ROADS

Mr Culleton proposed:- "That the trimming of sides of ditches by road men be discontinued. That water tables be cleaned by one foot up and that money saved on this work be spent in procuring road metal and on road maintenance."

Mr D'Arcy seconded.

The County Surveyor said if this was done generally road drains would become choked.

Mr Corish moved the following as an amendment:-

"That, so far as is possible, the work of trimming hedges be curtailed the work to be done to be left to the discretion of the Co. Surveyor."

Col. Quin seconded.

As a further amendment Mr Gaul moved and Mr Hayes seconded the following:-

"That the work of trimming sides of roads be carried out as heretofore."

A show of hands was taken on this last amendment, seven voting for and fourteen against.

It was declared lost by the Chairman who then took a show of hands on amendment of Mr Corish, fifteen voting for and six against.

The Chairman declared this amendment carried.

On being put as the substantive motion it was adopted with out dissent.

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ERECTION OF HOUSE ON ROAD 530

The following report was submitted by the County Surveyor from Mr T. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, under date 22nd August:-

"Mr John O'Connor, Glenbrien, intends erecting a new house within 30 feet of centre of above road at Glenbrien.

The proposed building shall have a frontage of 15 feet to the road, and shall be in line with existing house, which is 6 feet (approx.) from road surface.

The road is straight at this point, and in my opinion proposed building will not form any obstruction."

Mr D'Arcy proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution, which, after some discussion, was adopted:-

"That the County Council take no action relative to erection of house at Glenbrien by Mr John O'Connor although it is within 30 feet of the centre of road No. 530 as the proposed building will not cause any obstruction to traffic."

FATAL INJURY TO HAULIER

The following letter under date 8th September, 1931, was submitted by the Co. Surveyor from McDonagh & Boland, Insurance Brokers, Dublin, in connection with fatal accident to T. Larkin:-

"With reference to your letter of the 20th July, relative to the above, we understand the Company has since interviewed you and from the information received consider that the deceased was an independent contractor and not a workman within the meaning of the Statute. We believe so far no claim has been received, but, if a claim is put forward at a later date, the company consider that there is no liability on your part for same, and if you receive any documents kindly send them along to us for the Company's attention.

Would you kindly inform us whether the payments made

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to the deceased for the work he has done have been included in the annual wages return."

The County Surveyor stated that the payments made to Larkin were not submitted in the annual wages returns. This man was engaged hauling material for the County Council; his horse ran away and the cart went over him inflicting fatal injuries.

Mr Shannon asked if it would be possible for the Co. Council to do anything for the widow and children with the sanction of the L.G.D.

Mr Elgee, Solicitor, said the Council had no legal liability in the matter.

It was decided that no action be taken for the present.

COURTOWN HARBOUR MASTER'S REPORT

The following under date 1st September, 1931, was read from Harbour Master, Courtown:-

"With reference to report at meeting of County Council held on 24. 8. 31 of horses and vehicles crossing the foot-bridge at Courtown, I wish to state that Mr Fitzpatrick, a member of the Harbour Committee reported to me that a man had ridden a horse across the bridge. I immediately went to the fellow and chastised him for doing so. He apologised saying he was in a hurry and that he would not offend again. No vehicle of any description crossed the bridge as your Council were led to believe, only the one horse and this occurred at 7 o'clock in the morning. There were three vans on the North side on the Council's ground for five days. They paid at the rate of 2/- each van for the time, and this man owned one of them. With regard to obstruction of either view on traffic there was none, as otherwise cars and buses would be parked where they stood. Hoping this explanation will suffice, as the Council and public in general might assume I was neglecting my duty."

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This explanation was regarded as satisfactory.

OLD AGE PENSION ACTS

Under date 4th September, 1931, the Local Government Department wrote in reference to the death of Mr William Stafford, Clerk Old Age Pension Sub-Committee No. 1, which occurred on 26th August, 1931, that the appointment of new clerk to fill the vacancy was a **matter** for the Sub-Committee concerned who were empowered to elect a suitable person to the position.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Corish seconded by Mr Hayes:- "That our Secretary summon a meeting of members of Old Age Pension Sub-Committee No. 1 to be held on Wednesday 23rd September, 1931, at 4.30 (Old time) in Bridgetown Dispensary for the purpose of taking the necessary steps for the appointment of new clerk to the Sub-Committee,"

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That Rev D. Murphy P.P. Kilanerin be appointed a member of Old Age Pension Sub-Committee No. 4 Vice Rev. Nicholas J. Codd P.P. deceased."

USE OF WEXFORD MANUFACTURED TAR FOR ROADS

Under date 3rd September, 1931, the Manager, Wexford Gas Consumers Co. Ltd., wrote that as regards the viscosity they could increase this to the figure required but the Co. Surveyor did not wish this done as it would make the tar unsuitable for his purpose. They were only too willing to comply with either specification, as it was only a question of making the mixture light or heavy.

In letter under date 11th September, 1931, the Manager Wexford Gas Consumers Co. wrote that they noted the difference between their tar and the L. G. specification was in three items.

The distillates below 200° C 1.7 in excess. This could be easily eliminated by increasing the temperature of distil-

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lation which would also bring the phenols within the desired zone. They proposed to increase the viscosity to 12 seconds by admixtures or further as desired by the utilisation of horizontally produced tar or pitch.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Gibbon seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That the County Surveyor make further representations to the L.G. (Roads) as to use of Wexford manufactured tar for roads"

BRIDGE ON 47M (Ballyrankin)

The County Surveyor submitted report from Mr Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, under date 11th September, that a small three arch bridge near Ballyrankin on the road from Clohamon to Ferns ~~which~~ required repair at once, and it would be necessary to spend about £14 on the work.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That a sum of £14 be provided from appropriate Contingency Fund to enable urgent repairs at Bridge on Road 47 M being carried out."

CINEMATOGRAH LICENCE

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Gaul seconded by Mr D'Arcy:- "That renewal of Cinematograph licence be granted to Mr Raymond Doyle in respect of Broadway Parochial Hall."

IRISH TOURIST ASSOCIATION - GUIDE BOOK

Under date 5th September, 1931, letter was read from the above Association asking to be allowed to issue an official guide book with the official approval of the County Council.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:-

"This County Council is prepared to authorise the Irish Tourist Association to issue official Guide Book for

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Co. Wexford on condition that the information to be embodied in the Guide Book be submitted to the Council before printing and that no financial responsibility for publication will attach to the Council."

CIVICS INSTITUTE

Memorandum from Civics Institute of Ireland, Courthouse, William Street, Dublin, in regard to the Housing of the Poor in Saorstát Éireann for submission to the Government and Municipal authorities was read, but no action was taken in the matter.

CLEAN MILK

The following resolution from Cork County Borough was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr Corish:-

"That the Council of the County Borough of Cork protests against the undue delay of the Government in introducing legislation which would secure to the people a supply of hygienically clean milk, conforming to a reasonable standard as to its chemical composition, more particularly since the vital necessity for such legislation has been admitted by the Ministry.

"That we call on the Ministry to allot the necessary time for the passing of this legislation during the next session of the Oireachtas and we further request that measures be introduced directed towards the eradication of tuberculosis from our dairy and meat supplying herds."

Mr D'Arcy suggested they should also demand the regulation of the price of milk. Milk was being sold from Co. Wexford for Dublin at 8d a gallon and it was selling in Dublin at 2s. a gallon.

Col. Quin - That means the farmers are not co-operating and will not trust one another.

THE TRANSIT OF GOODS → STATE OF RAILWAYS

The following resolution was received from Tuam Town

Commissioners:-

"That we, Tuam Town Commissioners, voicing the feelings of the people of town and country are grievously alarmed at the Government's long delay in dealing with the question of the transit of goods by road which is causing perpetual destruction to them and inflicting a severe burden on the Ratepayers and unwarranted competition to the Railway which is the life of the nation."

Mr Gaul said that Wexford Corporation had passed a resolution viewing with grave alarm the wholesale dismissal of railway employees in the county. He was sure that the members of the county Council were all aware that that was a very serious matter for the men and their families and also for the traders in the county owing to the loss of wages that would result from the dismissals. He moved the following resolution :- "That this Council views with grave alarm the wholesale dismissal of railway employees on different portions of the G. S. R. in the County and ask the Government to approach the directors with a view to having the men retained."

Miss O'Ryan said that traders themselves used lorries for the transit of goods more than anyone else. She thought it would be considered by the county a dire necessity to put back the traffic to the railways, and keep the people employed on them. They certainly could not keep the road and rail traffic going. The roads should be preserved for private traffic, and that might be done if the people took up the question.

Mr Roche thought the loss of traffic to the railways was entirely the fault of the railways themselves, because any time they got a chance they raised freights. Last year the railways raised the freight for beet and he considered it was absolutely unjustifiable and absolutely wrong of the company to do that. Farmers could hardly be expected to pay

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higher rates for carriage by rail than by road, and until the railway company were prepared to come down he did not think there was any use in doing anything in the matter.

Mr McCarthy said that before Mr Gaul's resolution was seconded he wished to move the following:- "That this Council views with grave alarm the present position of the railways and requests the Government to enact such legislation as would preserve the railways for the country." He believed everyone would agree that the railways were absolutely necessary for the nation and for its development, and apart from that they were very large employers of labour. In Co. Wexford alone they paid in wages in a year £76,000, and they contributed about £3,500 to the Co. Council yearly in rates. As matters appeared at present there was grave danger that the train services would be closed down. That would be a serious matter for the farmers as fairs and markets would disappear, and the towns would suffer also. He agreed with Mr Roche that, perhaps, the railway company, taking advantage of the position that existed, did fleece the people with freights but it should be within the power of the Government to control those rates and see that nothing unreasonable or unjust was charged.

Col. Gibbon suggested that the matter should be postponed to next meeting. It could be specially mentioned on next agenda paper.

After discussion it was decided to consider the matter at the present meeting:-

Col. Gibbon proposed and Col. Quin seconded the following resolution:- "That we view with alarm the policy of the Railway Companies which is forcing unsuitable traffic on to the roads and involving the dismissal of employees by the railways."

Mr Keegan seconded Mr Gaul's resolution. He wished to support the men, but it would not be fair to those who had

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capital sunk in lorries to remove them from the roads.

Mr D'Arcy remarked that the freights on the railway were prohibitive.

Mr Corish said that transport generally in the country must be in a state of absolute chaos, and he thought they should have Government intervention. In his opinion Agricultural produce should get more preference than it was getting. Agriculture was the staple industry and some special ^{freight} preference should be given to it.

The Chairman instanced increases of charges for the carriage of corn and livestock. He said that some years ago he sent corn from Wexford to Dublin at 3s. a ton but now the rate would be £1 a ton or near it. Some years ago they could send a horse to Dublin for £1 or a little more, but now the charge was nearer to £3. He thought the resolution was rather dangerous. Were it not for the lorries they could not afford to pay the rates charged.

Miss O'Ryan held that in the interests of the country the railways should be preserved but controlled by some competent authority elected by the people.

Mr Hall remarked that if they had no railway services they would have no fairs in any town.

Mr Gaul said he understood that eleven men were dismissed from Wexford North Station last week, and he supposed the same state of affairs applied to all ^{the} other towns. Those men had nothing to support ~~their~~ families on, and they would have to be kept up by someone.

Mr Hayes suggested that they should call on the Government to take up the matter with a view to regulating traffic.

After further discussion all motions were withdrawn in favour of the following which was proposed by Mr Corish and seconded by Col. Quin and adopted:-

"That we view with alarm the wholesale dismissal of men from Railways caused by diversion of traffic to roads. That

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we request the Government to take immediate action to ensure the **proper** control of traffic with special attention to secure the conveyance of agricultural produce at a cheap rate."

TAKING OF LAND FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES

The adoption of the following resolution from Buncrana Urban Council was moved by Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hayes:-

"That we request the Government to pass legislation to enable local authorities to acquire land for public purposes through the District Courts, the District Justice to be empowered to deal with such applications, and with the assistance of two assessors, to fix compensation, so as to expedite procedure and lessen the costs."

Col. Quin expressed his strong dissent.

Mr. D'Arcy considered that the resolution would mean confiscation.

Mr Corish disagreed, and said the resolution proposed provided cheaper machinery for what had to be done in the higher courts.

Mr D'Arcy - Doesn't it mean to give authority by law to any local council to acquire land ?

Mr Corish - They must make their case in court.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Cooney, Corish, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, McCarthy, O'Byrne and O'Ryan - 9.

Against:- Messrs Breman, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Jordan, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 10.

Mr Keegan (1) did not vote.

Messrs Clince, Cummins, Murphy and Shannon (4) were not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the resolution lost.

POACHING TRAWLERS

The following resolution from Donegal County Council

was adopted on the motion of Mr Gaul seconded by Col. Quin:- "That this Council calls on the Minister for Fisheries to take adequate steps to prevent trawlers poaching with in the three-mile limit."

W. Quin

25 Sept. 1931

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

MEETING 28TH SEPTEMBER 1931.

MINUTES.

COUNTY HALL,
WEXFORD.

N.J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

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The monthly meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 28th September, 1931.

Present:- Messrs James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Cline, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, James Gaul, Col.C.M. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Thomas Maylor, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col.R.P. Wemyss Quin, M.M. Roche, James Shannon and Myles Smyth.

The Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and the following Assistant Surveyors were in attendance:-

T. Treanor, J.F. Birthistle, R.J. Ennis, P.O'Neill and T. Cullen.

The Chair was taken in the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman by Col. Gibbon on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr D'Arcy.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

After this business the Chairman and Vice Chairman attended and the former presided for the remainder of the Business.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £1818: 16: 11d was examined and signed.

REPLIES TO VOTE OF CONDOLENCE

It was decided on the motion of the Chairman (Mr Doyle) seconded by Col. Quin that the following replies to votes of condolence be inserted on the Minutes of the day.

From Mr T.A. Frizelle, Assistant Secretary, on the death of his infant son:- "Please convey to County Council my grateful thanks for their expression of sympathy in my recent bereavement."

From Miss Margaret Stafford, Baldwinstown Castle,
Wexford, on the death of her father, late Clerk No. 1 Sub-
Committee Old Age Pension Acts:-

"On behalf of my family and myself I wish to thank
the members of the County Council, you and your staff, for
the very kind expression of sympathy offered to us in our
recent bereavement."

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S REPORT

The following report from County Surveyor was sub-
mitted:-

"On the 8th instant I made full inspection of Ferry-
carrig Bridge, with an Inspector from the Department of Local
Government, and he has reported in detail to the Local
Government Department, and forwarded copy to the Secretary.
In regard to the defective concrete where reinforcement has
been exposed I had already reported on this matter to the
County Council, and had allocation for its repair, which
work was delayed pending the consideration of the under-pin-
ning of abutment. If it be possible to obtain Parliamentary
Powers to permanently close opening span I consider it most
advisable, and ask the County Council to approach the Local
Government on the matter. In any circumstances, however,
the abutment must be made safe, as it would not be, in my
opinion, advisable to attempt any interference with the
opening span until this work is done. I submitted ap-
proximate quotation from the Pressure Piling Company for the
under-pinning, and I ask for authority to get the work put
in hands.

I have to report that the reconstruction of Ballygarvan
Bridge is now completed, and it is a satisfactory job. By
direction of the Council the work was carried out by Direct
Labour, and has been completed within the Estimate.

On the 22nd instant, the Committee appointed by the
Council to inspect the Kilmore Road met, and their report on

the matter will be before you.

The laying of the concrete roads under Grant is now in progress. The Pioneer Road Construction Company commencing at Poulpeasty, and working towards Wexford have completed Slab for about three-quarters of a mile, and the work is proceeding satisfactorily. On the second section, between Cushinstown and Ballymacar, the Company is shaping the road, and will be ready to commence laying the slab at once. Messrs Lee have commenced the slab at the Bunclody end of their job, working towards Ballycarney. On this work I have found it necessary to object to the Contractor's Foreman being continued, as instructions given him by the Assistant Surveyor were not being properly attended to. I have notified the Contractor to this effect.

At last meeting of the County Council there was a discussion on the subject of the bounds of the Council's property at Courtown Harbour, and I was directed to interview Lord Courtown. On the 25th instant I received a letter from Lord Courtown on the matter, but have not yet been able to arrange an appointment. However, on the 25th instant I was in the office, in Gorey, of Messrs Stopford and Turner, and obtained some particulars. It appears that at a meeting of the Harbour Commissioners, held on the 14th July, 1904, a resolution was adopted agreeing to the transfer of the Harbour to the County Council with the powers held under the Act of 1824. Up to the present I have not been able to obtain copy of this Act, but shall arrange for it later.

I inspected the Harbour on the 25th instant, and found that Messrs Lee have all but completed the gates, and will be putting them in position/ⁱⁿ the course of a few days. Owing to the lateness of the Season it will not be possible now to dam the site, and to make good rollerway on the bottom. I propose getting Contractor to hang gates, and defer this matter until next Spring, but, of course, he will be res-

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possible for their efficient work in the interval.

I arranged with Mr Lee in regard to repair of the Pier Head at Courtown , but, up to the present, no actual work has been carried out. He has some gravel on the site, and a number of metal plates for casing, and I hope to have these put in place during the week.

As directed by the Council Mr Birthistle has been making observations of tides at the Burrow, Rosslare, and later I shall have full details for the Council."

Ferrycarrig Bridge: The following under date 19th September, 1931 (R/RG/32) was read from the Department of Local Government (Roads):-

"With further reference to your letter of the 28th ultimo relative to Ferrycarrig Bridge, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to forward for the information of the Wexford County Council a copy of a report furnished by Mr O'Maille, Engineering Inspector, of the Bridge on the 8th instant.

I am at the same time to state that , having regard to the more urgent demands on the Road Fund, the Minister cannot see his way to recommend a grant for the work in question."

✕ Mr O'Maille who inspected the Bridge on 8th September, 1931, reported as follows:-

"The abutment on one side was not brought down to a proper foundation and was not properly designed to resist earth pressure at back. Consequently there is a forward movement towards opening span, with the result that opening gear is all out of action. Pile heads are cracked and fastening bolts shorn out.

In addition to the above there are several beams which have the cover of concrete broken and the steel is exposed and rusting. In one case I saw a tensile member reduced to at least half of its original sectional area.

This latter work is urgent to save the structure and I

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told Mr Barry to put on a few men to get all loose concrete broken off and a new waterproof plaster substituted.

In regard to the abutment, I think Parliamentary powers should be sought to make this opening span a fixture, i.e. substituting a R.C. concrete span. This bridge has only been opened once during the past eighteen years. It is now impossible to open or close. The renewing of opening span would be more expensive than fixing it.

The fixing would help to check the forward movement of faulty abutment."

Col. Gibbon proposed:- "That before considering further any repairs to Ferrycarrig Bridge application be made to the L. G. D. for instructions as to the procedure to be followed by the County Council to enable them to apply for Parliamentary powers to have span on Ferrycarrig Bridge converted to a fixed reinforced concrete span instead of an opening span as at present."

Mr D'Arcy seconded.

In reply to Col. Gibbon the County Surveyor said there was no immediate danger of the bridge collapsing.

Mr Gaul opposed the motion: it might be found necessary in the future to have an opening span.

Col. Gibbon said if that were found necessary the cost would be very small in comparison to the huge expenditure necessary to carry out such dredging as would make the river navigable for ocean going steamers.

Mr O'Byrne considered that before an opening span in the bridge would be necessary the river would have to be dredged for ocean going steamers to Enniscorthy - a distance of practically 12 or 14 miles.

A poll was taken on the motion with the following result:

For; Messrs Brenman, Colloton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, O'Ryan, Quin, Roche, Smyth and the Chairman - 10.

Against: Messrs Colfer, Cummins, Gaul, McCarthy,

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and O'Byrne (5)

Did not vote - Mr P. Hayes (1).

Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Cooney, Corish, Meyler, Murphy, Shannon and Walsh (8), were not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Wexford-Kilmore Road: The following report was submitted by the Committee:-

"The Committee consisting of the following members:- Colonel Gibbon, Messrs Roche and Hayes met on the 22nd September, 1931, at Sheepwalk Parting Roads, and proceeded to Kilmore. The County Surveyor, and Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, were also present.

"This is a Link Road - a Main Road - of the Second Class, and up to the present has not been held by the Local Government Department as eligible for Improvement Grant, therefore, the Road must be maintained out of County Funds with a subsidy of 40 % of cost from the Department.

"The Road is upwards of ten miles in length, and the money allocated for the current year is only £37 per mile.

"The Committee specially noted the surface of the Road, and work done at a number of places. Parts are a mass of pot holes, and these are now becoming accentuated by the use of tar in filling former potholes. Where tarred stone patches have been laid the surface is much improved. The County Surveyor pointed out that funds will not allow of more extended work of this nature. Old patches laid with Wexford tar have proved economical and lasting, and the Committee recommends that the Local Government Department should be again asked to sanction this tar for local use.

"This road has increasing motor and lorry traffic, and cannot be maintained without special treatment. As almost the entire length of first class Main Roads (Trunk) have now been improved the Committee recommends that the Local Government Department be asked to allocate the Improvement Funds in future

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years to the more important Link Roads. We consider that a modified system of improvement may be adopted, such as was sanctioned for the Wexford-Killinick Road. In this case a light dressing of tarred stone was laid, and rolled in with a subsequent surface dressing of coarse chippings and bitumen. This work is satisfactory and economical, and will enable long lengths to be done each year. No doubt sections of road will not stand up to traffic with this light coating, but defects, as they appear, can be subsequently strengthened. For a very large percentage of the lengths this class of work will be sufficient, and has the merit of giving a large mileage of fairly good roads in the shortest time.

In connection with the allocation of 40 % towards the Maintenance of Main Roads the Committee draws attention to the inequitable system prevailing, and recommends that the local Government Department be asked to reconsider the matter. Under the present system, if the County Council makes provision to expend say £1,000 on a Main Road, the Department will refund 40 %, i.e., £400, leaving £600 to be raised by rates. On the other hand, if the County Council propose an Improvement job at a £1000, to be raised by loan, then no 40 % subsidy will be forthcoming. We consider that in such cases the subsidy (£400) should be given, and that the County Council should be asked to raise only £600 by loan, or rates as may be. The present system which puts a ban on the Council adopting extensive improvement works, should, we believe, be altered."

Mr Hayes advocated the adoption of the report. There were other roads in the district notably the road from Kerlogue to Murrintown and Sleedagh equally as bad which proved the foolishness of cutting down the estimate of the County Surveyor.

Col. Gibbon said that as the deterioration of the Kilmore Road had been caused by heavy motor traffic, it would be very unjust that any necessary improvement to it should fall on the

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farmers who were not responsible and who did not require roads made up to motor standard. Such roads should be provided as allowed by the funds in the Motor Taxation a/c. If the County Council agrees to carry them out at a more rapid rate it would inflict a heavy and unjust burden on the ratepayers. The grants limited hitherto to trunk roads should now be made available for link roads and main roads used by motor traffic in view of the fact that the trunk roads are now in a very fair condition.

Mr Roche said that the Kilmore Wexford Road was in its present condition partly owing to beet haulage and the road was now as rough for a pony and trap as it was for a motor car. The cost of repair would be a very minor matter compared to the amount spent on other jobs which were not half as beneficial for farmers.

The County Surveyor in reply to Mr Roche said that the Committee did not advocate that an excessive amount be spent on this road. They advocated for main and link roads similar improvement work as had been done from Kerlogue to Ashfield where, by spreading sheets of stone and tar, a fairly good road had been obtained, at an outlay of £500 or £600 a mile, Whereas with slab concrete the cost would run to about £3,000 per mile. The Committee recommended that motor tax grants should be now available for ordinary main and link roads.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr McCarthy seconded the following resolution:-

"That the report of Wexford-Kilmore Road Committee be adopted and that the special attention of the Local Government Department (Roads) be called to the recommendations of the Committee that Improvement Grants for roads should in the future be spent principally on ordinary main and link roads and also that in case a County Council is sufficiently enterprising to borrow money to carry out necessary works of

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road improvement the 40 % maintenance grant should be available for the repayment of the loan."

Mr McCarthy seconded the resolution which was adopted unanimously.

Dismissal of Foreman : Enniscorthy- Bunclody Road: Mr McCarthy said that Ml. O'Hanlon, the Contractor's foreman, had been with him and appeared to have a terrible grievance. He stated he had carried out every instruction he had received and was satisfied that the work which he supervised should be inspected by any Engineer in Ireland.

The County Surveyor said that on Saturday 19th September, the road which should have been wet was quite dry. The attention of the Contractor, ^{Foreman} was called to the matter but up to late on Sunday evening it was still dry.

Mr McCarthy said that O'Hanlon's explanation was that the men had arranged to look to the road after last Mass on Sunday but they did not turn up until 3 o'clock in the afternoon and O'Hanlon considered he should not be held responsible.

Mr Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, said that he was not satisfied with the quality of the work which had been carried out. The road had been left dry from 1 o'clock on Saturday 19th September to 5 o'clock on Sunday afternoon. O'Hanlon had not carried out the directions of the Clerk of Works.

Mr McCarthy - O'Hanlon told me that the Clerk of Works had never called his attention to anything and any time he was asked about the work he said it was all right.

Mr Ennis said he could scarcely believe that.

Mr Hayes considered that the observations of the Clerk of Works in the matter should be invited.

Mr Murphy proposed and Col. Quin seconded the following resolution:- "That the Council proceed to the next business."

Col. Gibbon proposed and Mr Culleton seconded the

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following:- "That a Committee be appointed to examine the work on Enniscorthy-Bunclody Road, and the circumstances in connection with the dismissal of Contractor's foreman and report to next meeting of the Council."

Mr Ennis did not think it fair to him to appoint a Committee. He was in charge of the work and, if he recommended the Council to take a certain course of action they should agree. He professed to know something about the laying down of concrete roads and considered that in any action he took he should have the support of the Council.

A poll was then taken on the resolution of Mr Murphy with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Brennan, Clince, Colfer, Hayes, Meyler, Murphy, O'Ryan, Quin and Roche - 10.

Against:- Messrs Culleton, Cummins, D'Arcy, Gaul, Gibbon, Hall, McCarthy, O'Byrne, Smyth and the Chairman - 10.

Messrs Corish and Shannon (2) did not vote.

Messrs Cooney and Walsh (2) were not in attendance when poll was taken.

The Chairman gave his casting vote against the motion which was declared lost.

Mr Roche proposed and Col. Quin seconded the following resolution:- "That no action be taken by the County Council as regards dismissal of Contractor's foreman for work on Enniscorthy-Bunclody Road."

A poll was taken on this proposal with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Brennan, Clince, Colfer, Hayes, Meyler, Murphy, O'Ryan, Quin and Roche - 9.

Against:- Messrs Armstrong, Culleton, Cummins, D'Arcy, Gaul, Gibbon, Hall, McCarthy, O'Byrne, Smyth and the Chairman - 11.

Messrs Corish and Shannon (2) did not vote.

Messrs Cooney and Walsh (2) were not in attendance when poll was taken.

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The Chairman declared the motion lost.

The resolution of Col. Gibbon to appoint a Committee was then put and passed nem con.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Armstrong:-

"That the Committee to consider the work etc on Ennis-corthy - Bunclody road be composed of the County Councillors for Gorey Electoral Area with Mr Thos. McCarthy."

"That the County Surveyor arrange for day of meeting and summon thereto:- The Contractor, his late foreman (Mr O'Hanlon) and the Clerk of Works.

"That County Surveyor and Mr Ennis be instructed to be present."

Courtown Harbour: In reply to Mr O'Byrne the County Surveyor said he expected to have the sluice gates hung this week.

In reply to Mr D'Arcy the County Surveyor said the work at the Pierhead was being carried out on a piece rate basis by Mr Lee.

The following resolution was then adopted on the motion of Mr D'Arcy seconded by Col. Quin:- "That the report of County Surveyor presented to this meeting be, and is hereby approved."

THE LATE MR JOHN J. BYRNE

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That we offer the relatives of the late Mr John J. Byrne, Camolin, our heartfelt sympathy in his demise. In 1921 when it was dangerous to act as Co. Councillor Mr Byrne came forward and joined the Council. He rendered great service to the County during troubled times, and we desire to place a record of his public spirited action on our minutes."

The Chairman associated himself with the vote. He and deceased had been school fellows and since Mr Byrne had gone to reside in Dublin they met very constantly.

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Mr Cummins and other members also referred to Mr Byrne's demise and the Secretary on behalf of himself and staff expressed sorrow with Mr Byrne's relatives in their bereavement.

THE LATE MR C. B. WALDRON

Col. Gibbon proposed a vote of condolence with Mr and Miss Waldron in the death of Mr C.B. Waldron, Chief Executive Officer, Wexford Urban Vocational Education Committee. Col. Gibbon said that for many years Mr Waldron had acted as Engineering Instructor to Co. Wexford Committee of Agriculture and Technical Instruction and had proved himself a most valued servant of that Committee. A large number of young men had greatly benefited by the teaching of Mr Waldron whose demise was deeply lamented.

Miss O'Ryan seconded the vote which was spoken to by the Chairman, Mr O'Byrne, the County Secretary, County Solicitor and others.

Both motions were adopted in silence.

UNEMPLOYED MEN IN GOREY AREA

Consideration of report of Committee as to employment of men in Gorey area was postponed to next meeting to enable Mr Keegan (who was unable to be present at meeting owing to his son's illness) to attend.

ROAD AT FURLONGSTOWN

Miss O'Ryan referred to the Road Taghmon to Wexford about 1½ miles from Furlongstown. This was a main road and had been subject to three long periods of trunk road traffic as an alternative route. This extra traffic had been caused by motorists and it was unfair to the local people that the cost should fall on them.

The County Surveyor said that the pot holes in this road had been repaired with chips and tar but as was the general experience this caused second pot holes.

Mr Hall said the reason for the second pot holes was because

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the first ones were raised too high.

The County Surveyor said that the amount in main road Contingency Fund was £580. They were down to about £40 on this road and had only a similar sum for the repair of the Kilmore Wexford road.

The Chairman proposed and Miss O'Ryan seconded the following resolution which was adopted nem con:- "That a sum of £50 be withdrawn from Main road Contingency Fund for the repair of road from Wexford to Taghmon, via Furlongstown and a similar sum from same Contingency Fund for repair of Wexford-Kilmore Road."

ROAD GRANTS

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That as it would greatly convenience County Councils to have information as to amount available for road grants when Road Estimates are under consideration we request the Local Government Department (Roads) to endeavour to induce the Department of Finance to supply this information at the earliest possible date."

GOREY WEXFORD DIRECT ROAD

In reply to Mr Corish the County Surveyor said that the greater portion of the money available for Gorey- Wexford Road (Castlebridge Section) had been spent.

Mr Corish asked if there was any possibility of getting it into a decent condition.

The County Surveyor said the road had been much improved by the tar patches but in between those there were stretches which were bad.

The Chairman said they could not have good roads and low rates and at the moment the farmer preferred the low rates. The ratepayers were prepared to do with the existing roads ~~and~~ if

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the rates could be brought down.

No order.

FLOODING AT RATHPHAUDIN

Mr Shannon called attention to this matter and suggested that the place should be inspected by a couple of Councillors with Mr O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor. If pipes were supplied he believed the land owner would put them across the road.

Mr Hall said as the gullet was too small to take away the water the road was torn away at this point. A few pounds spent now would save the road.

It was decided that Messrs Brennan and Shannon with Mr O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, should inspect the place and report to the next meeting of the Council.

DANGEROUS CORNER AT FORRESTALSTOWN

Mr Shannon called attention to the necessity of easement of dangerous corner at Forrestalstown, Rathmure. A fatal accident was narrowly averted there recently.

The County Surveyor said there were a number of dangerous corners which would have to be dealt with. But at present he would prefer to see the money spent on the maintenance of roads.

It was decided that Mr O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, inspect and report to next County Council meeting.

GULLET AT KILMANNON

In connection with above Mr J.F. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, reported that he inspected gullet on 18th September, 1931, and found that the centre wall had collapsed and there was little or no covering on the flags forming the top of gullet. The County Surveyor's Department could not afford to reconstruct this gullet out of existing proposals. To do a good job would necessitate an expenditure of about £25 to £30.

Mr Hayes said that every time a traction engine passed

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over the road it broke down the gullet, and he was afraid that some time a serious accident would occur.

Mr Gaul proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That a sum of. £20 be withdrawn from appropriate Contingency Fund for repair of defective gullet at Kilmannon, Cleariestown."

RECOMMENDATIONS OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. T. Moore: The following extract from Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 24th September, 1931, was submitted:-

"Under date 17th September, 1931, Mr T. Moore, County Surveyor's Department, wrote from Anchor Hotel, Newcastle, Co. Wicklow, applying for a further month's sick leave.

Dr Hanan, Newcastle Sanatorium, certified under date 16th September, 1931, that Mr Moore had done very well indeed during the previous month and while almost fit to resume duty he (Dr Hanan) strongly recommended that Mr Moore should remain in the Sanatorium for a further four weeks as from 27th September. There was every hope of complete cure in this case.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Shannon seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That we recommend the County Council to grant Mr T. Moore, (County Surveyor's Department) a further month's sick leave as from 27th September, 1931."

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Murphy seconded the following which was adopted:- "That the recommendation of the Finance Committee at meeting of 24th September, 1931, granting a further month's sick leave to the 27th October, 1931, to Mr T. Moore (Assistant Co. Surveyor's Department) be and is here by confirmed."

Secondary School Scholarship Scheme: The following resolution from Finance Committee meeting held on 24th September, 1931, was confirmed on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Miss O'Ryan:- "That the County Council be recommended to approve

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of renewal of Secondary School Scholarships to Johanna Cooney and Katie Doyle and of bursary to Patrick Sheehan, Gorey. As James Donnelly has taken up residence at Rockwell college under pupil Teachership Scheme he cannot be awarded renewal of County Council Secondary Scholarship."

University Scholarship Scheme: The following recommendation from Finance Committee meeting of 24th September, 1931, was confirmed on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Col. Quin:-

"That in view of satisfactory reports from Academic Council, University College, Dublin, the County Council be recommended to grant renewals of University Scholarships to

1. John Dunphy, 21 Convent Hill, New Ross.
2. John J. Hunt, Seafield, Duncormack.
3. Catherine Kickham, Abbey House, Enniscorthy.
4. Arthur J. Nix, 7, South Street, New Ross.
5. Ml. J.O'Keefe, 61, Faythe, Wexford.

Letters were read from Mary Kelly, Barbara Lowe and Ml. Tobin that they were about taking up their studies at National University on 12th October, 1931.

A telegram was received from the Convent, Castlecomer, on behalf of Magt.O'Hanlon, as follows:- "Failing holding over Scholarship will be accepted now."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Col. Quin:- "The Council considers that University Scholarship of Miss Magt.O'Hanlon should be taken advantage of this coming year, as we see no reason for holding it over."

LOAN FOR COURTTOWN HARBOUR WORK

The following notice of motion which had been circulated to members of the Council on 26th August, 1931, was moved by Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Gaul, and adopted without dissent:-

"That application be made to the National Bank Ltd., The Treasurer of the Council, for a loan of £750 to cover the cost of completing essential and necessary work at Courtown Harbour."

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COVERING FOR FLOOR OF WEXFORD COURTHOUSE

The following notice of motion by Col. Quin (and which according to Standing Order 29 was backed by the names of four other Councillors) was moved by him and seconded by Mr Corish:-

"That the resolution of the County Council at meeting of 10th August, 1931, refusing to provide a covering for the floor of Wexford County Courthouse be rescinded and that said covering be provided at the expense of the Council."

Letter of L. G. D. under date 26th August, 1931, (S) was read. In this it was pointed out it was necessary for the due transaction of the business of the Court that the floor of the Courthouse should be covered with linoleum or some form of matting so as to lessen the noise in the Court and the Minister for Local Government and Public Health trusted that the representations made to the Council in the letter of 6th August would be favourably reconsidered.

Letter of Local Government Department under date 6th August, 1931 (G5964/1931 Loch Garman Pg) was also read.

A poll on the motion was taken with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Colfer, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, McCarthy, O'Byrne, Quin, Shannon and Walsh - 10.

Against:- Messrs Brennan, Cooney, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, Hayes, Meyler, Murphy, O'Ryan, Smyth and the Chairman - 12.

and Mr Cline
Mr Roche/(2) were not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

DUNCANNON HARBOUR

Under date 24th September, 1931, the Secretary and General Manager to Waterford Harbour Commissioners wrote stating that in reply to the resolution of the County Council he was asked to point out that the Commissioners did not charge harbour dues at Duncannon to fishermen. The Council might not be aware that there was ample water for the fishermen at the outside pier ~~on~~ harbour, but, of course, there is not and never had been at the

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inner harbour which the fishermen use.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Corish seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the Minister for Fisheries be asked if, in view of the fact that Wexford County Council have to maintain Duncannon pier, while the dues thereat are taken by Waterford Harbour Commissioners, what steps should be taken by the County Council to compel the Harbour Commissioners to have the harbour (inner and outer portions) properly dredged.

"That the County Surveyor be directed to carry out the necessary work of pointing at Duncannon harbour for the convenience of the fishermen."

THE TAKING OF GRAVEL FROM ROSSLARE FORESHORE.

The following under date 24th September, 1931, (M.S.1447) was read from the Department of Industry and Commerce (Transport and Marine Branch):-

"I am directed by the Minister for Industry and Commerce to state that it has been reported to the Department that John Barry, Woodtown, Rosslare, has recently removed gravel from the foreshore at Rosslare in contravention of the Prohibitory Order. On the 11th instant Barry was observed drawing the gravel from the seashore to the Golf Links where about three tons of the material had been heaped - apparently taken from the shore. It would appear that the gravel is required for road repairing in the locality.

"The Department will be glad to be informed as to any action taken by the County Council in regard to the matter."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That the Department of Industry and Commerce (Transport and Marine Branch) be informed that the County Council gave no instructions to any Road Contractor to take material from Rosslare foreshore since the issue of the Prohibitory Order."

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NEW ROSS BRIDGE

Under date 26th September, 1931, the following was read from the Secretary, Kilkenny County Council:-

"With reference to your communication of the 14th ult., relative to formation of Committee for inspection of New Ross Bridge, I desire to state that the County Council, on the report of the County Surveyor, decided at quarterly meeting on the 21st instant there was no necessity for the inspection proposed. The County Surveyor is satisfied only minor repairs are required, and arrangements for the carrying out of same will be completed with your County Surveyor in due course."

Mr Walsh proposed and Mr Cooney seconded the following:-

"That before any structural alterations be carried out at New Ross Bridge the services of an Engineer familiar with this class of work be obtained to examine and report on the condition of the structure."

After some discussion this motion was withdrawn and it was agreed that the County Surveyor prepare detailed report on the condition of the bridge and that it be inspected by the members of Wexford County Council appointed on Joint Committee, the Co. Surveyor to arrange for date and hour of inspection.

OLD AGE PENSION ACTS - SUB-COMMITTEE NO. 1

Under date 24th September, 1931, Miss Margaret Stafford, Baldwinstown Castle, Bridgetown, wrote that at the meeting of the No. 1 Sub-Committee held on 23rd September, 1931, she had been appointed Clerk to fill the vacancy caused by the death of her father.

MOUNTAINMUCK LANE

A Memorial was read from a large number of ratepayers asking the Council to put in repair Mountainmuck Lane, about one mile in length, and leading from Lambstown Road No. 610 to Ballinclay road. If this were done it would enable them to miss the hill of Ballinclay and would give them a level road to draw

beet to Killurin Railway Station and also for drawing heavy loads from Wexford Town.

Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, reported that this lane joined the two public roads 610 (C) and 622 (C). It was about three-quarters of a mile in length and was used largely by the farmers in and around Ballinclay. For the greater part of its length it is 11 to 12 feet wide between the fences. The cost of drainage and surfacing where necessary would amount to in all £80.

Miss O'Ryan said the people concerned would be willing to do a certain amount of work.

It was decided to refer the application to the November meeting of the County Council for consideration with Road Estimates.

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THE PLIGHT OF AGRICULTURE.

The following report was submitted:-

"In connection with the resolution of the Wexford County Council on 14th September, 1931, to appoint a deputation to wait on the President of the Executive Council to submit recommendations in relief of the present plight of agriculture, the members of the deputation met on 19th September, 1931, in County Council Chamber, Wexford, to draft these recommendations for submission to the meeting of the County Council on 28th September, 1931.

Mr M. Doyle (Chairman Co. Council) presided and there were also present:- Messrs R. Corish, T.F. D'Arcy, and T. McCarthy. (Mr Roche would have been present but his motor car broke down)

The Secretary to the County Council was also in attendance.

The deputation desire to point out that the position of agriculture, within living memory, has never been so bad. While, unfortunately, it grows worse daily. For everything the farmer has to sell he is receiving a poor price which is steadily dropping. His overhead charges are considerably higher than pre-war while his household and other expenditure has gone down by very small measure only.

The purchasing power of his biggest customer is greatly reduced and will further decrease in the near future.

The mere mention of a Tariff for Great Britain will send into that country colossal cargoes of dumped food supplies from abroad while the Russian Five-Year Plan is responsible for rushing the price of corn down the slippery slope.

Disaster succeeds disaster for the tillage farmer. The only crop for which an increase of price is anticipated is potatoes but this will mean very little owing to poor yield and the uncertain condition of the crop.

We are bewildered. The world is bursting with money tho'

it would seem the richer the country the more extended the bread line.

If the farmer, especially the tillage farmer, be driven out of business the country perishes.

He is looking for help and guidance and unless something is done for him very soon he is bound to drop out - or fall into such despair as will sap his energy and efficiency.

The County Wexford farmer has been badly hit in every phase of his activities and so far not one bright spot can be seen on his horizon.

We would urge on the Government:-

(1) The necessity for the imposition of tariffs on all Agricultural produce grown in sufficient quantity by our own people.

(2) A tax on luxuries on an Ad valorem basis.

(3) The complete de-rating of agricultural land.

(4) The appointment of a Commission to deal with food prices. The farmer fails to understand why portion of the extraordinary drop in ~~the~~ prices has not been passed on to the consumer. The difference between what the farmer receives and what the consumer pays runs into hundreds of per cent for many articles. According to the Sunday Times baker's bread is 4d per 2 lb loaf in many parts of Ireland, while it is retailed in London for 2½d ! When a farmer sells a load of vegetables he usually does not receive half of what consumers have to pay.

No one would object to a reasonable return for retailers but there is evidence of profiteering in several directions.

(5) Something should be done to straighten out the transport muddle. The decision of the Great Southern Railways to close down a number of branch lines will react, most unfavourably, on agriculture, injuring, if not actually wiping out, prominent fairs and markets.

Then as regards freight charges which are almost prohibitive the motto of the Railways appears to be to put on traffic

every penny that can be squeezed out of it - never to take the long view either industrially or nationally.

Something should be done by Government to see that Railways are run in the real interests of the Country.

Recently some freights, respecting agriculture, have been reduced but essentials are not touched and the charges for these continue entirely unwarranted.

Some popular and easy method of investigation and amendment of freight charges and for their proper publication should be devised. Lists should be available in rural post offices.

The poor farmer looks now for help and assistance. He can do very little immediately for himself and immediate relief is imperative.

A few days ago the New Minister for Agriculture in Hungary arranged for measures to assist the small farmers, whose situation has become serious owing to the catastrophic harvest. The price of wheat for sowing will be reduced, and farmers owning less than twenty acres will be provided by the Government with seed and given a year's credit.

The Government will also extend its poor relief during the coming winter. In addition to these measures the city authorities are preparing to raise the number of free meals to 60,000 a day.

It will thus be seen that other Governments are directly assisting their people.

The members of the deputation desire to put before the President and the Ministers for Finance and ~~the~~ Agriculture the recommendations made in this Report,"

Miss O'Ryan said the question of the curtailment of National expenditure was considered at last County Council meeting, and it was the strongest point made - the curtailment of expenditure. The points in the report were excellent, but they do not altogether work for a definite solution, and unless national expenditure is cut down, how were they going

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to save money ? One of the things recommended by all sensible people is that expenditure should be brought down to the same level. That is only going to provide for the very poor, and there is no reason why some people should have all and others none. I will not, said Miss O'Ryan, agree to the recommendations going through unless you add the points about the reduction in the expenditure.

Secretary - What is before you is the unanimous opinion of the committee. As to the question of the reduction in the national expenditure we could not get a unanimous vote at the Committee, and it was decided to let the County Council deal with that point.

Mr Cooney - I thought with all the wailing here at County Council meetings as to the condition of things that there would never be any necessity ~~for~~ to tax luxuries. I thought people had not enough to eat and drink, not to talk about luxuries, and you are now bringing on the question of taxing them. You are blowing hot and cold.

Miss O'Ryan said the farmers were taking up the question of the bacon trade, and the farmers of the Co. Wexford were sending up a deputation this week with representatives from the Wexford Co-operative Meat Supply, in which almost every farmer in the county had shares, looking for a tariff on bacon.

Mr Roche - The question of national expenditure should be the first item to claim attention and instead of putting it at the end, it should be the major point. It is a big question for the country at the present time. These things will come along afterwards, but we should see to this particular point as to the curtailment of national expenditure first.

Chairman - How are we to go into the details of that question now. If the national expenditure is to be curtailed we would want a week to go into the details as to curtailment. I think myself you might leave over that for legislation and stress the major portion in the recommendations.

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Mr Roche - The Minister may ask you as to how the money for entire de-rating is to be supplied and to combat that our opinion here is it should come from a curtailment in the national expenditure, which should give relief to the farmers as to rates.

Miss O'Ryan - That is a very vexed question and there is a party in this assembly, who have always held that the only way of raising the money for de-rating is by the retention of the land annuities. If you want it included in the report you must also take our solution as to the means of finding that money: otherwise we take objection to that particular point.

Mr Walsh - Wouldn't it be easy to ask the Government to reduce the national expenditure by ten per cent ?

Chairman - If you started on a certain percentage it would be all right, but you must have a cut in all national expenditure.

Mr Corish - It reads all right, but when it comes down to the bottom dog, he will have to pay his share. I would not favour that.

Mr Gaul - It strikes me that the whole question hinges around a reduction of the labouring man's salary here and I object to the whole report now.

Mr D'Arcy - The labouring man has no salary.

Miss O'Ryan - I would have 50 per cent reduction on a man's salary of £1,000 per year. There is no reason why people should go around "lording it" on £1,000 per year, while other people are hungry. I would have no reduction in wages.

Mr Cooney - Take the Post Office officials, who are after getting a cut already, you don't want to give them another five per cent cut? They are living on a starvation wage at the present time and nobody can say that the post office officials or the other civil servants are getting a decent salary.

Mr D'Arcy - What is the cost of the living bonus now ?

Mr Cooney - The cost of living will go up now because of higher prices.

Mr Roche proposed that they recommend all salaries over £750 per annum to be reduced by 20 per cent, that salaries from

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£500 to £750 be reduced by 10 per cent, and salaries from £500 down to £150 be reduced by 5 per cent.

Mr D'Arcy seconded.

Col. Gibbon - Has the Committee any information as to what the whole saving will be on the cuts ? How much is it going to relieve taxation or will it relieve it at all ? I don't think the reduction of salaries by 5 or 10 per cent is going to give a huge amount of money. If you get the Government Departments to amalgamate offices you might have a saving and -

Mr Corish - More unemployed on the street.

Col. Gibbon - The Government are asking you to increase production, but how can you do that without capital. The banks have raised the bank rate to a very high figure and if there is going to be heavy taxation where has the farmer the opportunity to find money for increased production which means capital ? You have got somehow, or other, to find out where cuts are to be made. At the last meeting of the County Council it was suggested that the Government should be pressed to set up an economy committee to act urgently and see how Ireland will best benefit out of the world economic position that has arisen and as to what steps could be taken to cut down taxation and increase production in Ireland. I certainly hold still that the Government ought to set up a very strong committee to reduce ruthlessly, where savings could be effected, and reduce taxation in the Free State.

Miss O'Ryan - There is an economy committee that is representative of every party and makes recommendations from time to time and points out what they regard as high expenditure.

Col. Quin - In all these economic proposals the committees want to cut down everybody's pay, but their own. What about giving up our travelling expenses for coming here, to the Government, in order to help the farmers ? That will show we are really honest.

Mr Cooney - I wonder did Col. Quin give up his travelling expenses to the Government when he was in the British Army?

Mr D'Arcy - Why did the Government cut Col. Quin 10 per cent in his pay ?

Col. Quin - Because they were able to, and we could not fight it.

Mr D'Arcy - That is what we are on here today.

Chairman - In connection with Col. Quin's proposal, for all that some of us get we might very easy hand it over. This travelling allowance is not coming from the Government - It is coming out of the local rate.

Mr Murphy - There is nothing to stop Col. Quin in not taking his own expenses.

The Chairman asked the members to give their attention to Col. Gibbon's suggestion as to the setting up of an economic committee by the Government.

Mr Corish - I am inclined to agree with the view put forward by Col. Gibbon, or a certain portion of it. He stated there ought to be a committee set up to watch the world situation at the moment, and see how this country could benefit by it. I think that is the best thing to do. If the British Government go to the country on tariffs, it will benefit this country, for if tariffs are imposed in England, it would do as much good, if not more good, as tariffs in Ireland. I think, however, it is a great mistake to be tinkering over the question by the cutting of salaries, for what they would gain by it would only be infinitesimal. We should approach it from the point of view suggested by Col. Gibbon, and I think it is a great pity, without meaning any offence to Mr Roche, that a fantastic resolution should be introduced in a report of this kind. We should look for something more than interfering with people's salaries. Supposing the Government did agree to cutting salaries, are they not entitled to presume we are satisfied then, apart altogether from any possibility that the country might not be anything better off ?

I don't like raising the question of land annuities, continued Mr Corish, but I believe the time has arrived when negotiations could be carried out with a view of getting more easement. After all, war debts have been investigated all over the world between different countries, and surely this debt is one the Irish people have a right to see to. As far as I am concerned, if this committee (County Council's) is going to Dublin to ask for a cut in salaries, I absolutely refuse to go.

Mr Roche - In reply to Mr Corish, I might say it was mentioned here that there has been a committee set up by the Government, as suggested, and nothing seems to have come from it, and now we are told our only hope is that times may be better in future, arising out of some financial position in England. That idea seems to be held in this country for a long time, and you are told every year you will be better off next year. Something else may arise now, and for that reason, I think it is gone beyond the time for setting up a Committee. People are so badly circumstanced that immediate action and nothing else is of any use. A cut in the salaries and expenditure would give them a quarter of a million towards de-rating, the amount necessary to secure the entire de-rating of agricultural land.

Mr Corish - Does Mr Roche seriously suggest that £250,000 is going to solve the problem in this country. If we are going to the Government with such a recommendation as the adjustment of salaries to give us £250,000, in relief, they are entitled to assume that it is going to settle the country's difficulties.

Mr Roche - They are not.

Mr Corish - I say they are.

Mr Roche said this was only one of the things, and it would amount to something. Even if it was only a quarter of a million if applied to the reduction of rates, it would be of some benefit.

Mr D'Arcy said that at the meeting of the Committee he stressed the points of national expenditure, and of salaries

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being on a war basis. Everyone was aware that the farmers could pay 20s. easier in the war period than 5s. today. He did not see how any sound reasoning person could say there was no need for a reduction of salaries.

Mr Cummins expressed the opinion that the deputation to the President would come back as the deputation which waited upon the Minister for Agriculture at Enniscorthy did - with nothing. He regarded the country today as a lot better off than that day fortnight when they discussed the position. They should take advantage of that. He gave them the remedy for the state of affairs through which they had been passing; he would give it again, although they might have laughed at it before, people would come out before twelve months at whom they would not laugh. Before the Government came into power and in the days of the Irish Parliamentary Party Ireland's claim to the repayment of the three or four ^{million} pounds paid to Britain in over-taxation was voiced. Today there was not a word about it. Mr Corish had suggested that the question of the payment of the land annuities should be gone into. Why did not Mr Corish as a member of the Dail raise it? He (Mr Cummins) believed that the Free State was being robbed of this money. Why should the Free State be sending their land annuities out of the country when Northern Ireland were withholding them? There was no legal or moral obligation on the Free State to send that money out of the country.

Col. Gibbon said that what they wanted was urgent action at the moment. To cut down salaries as proposed by Mr Roche would take time and would have to be rigidly inquired into. There were also certain agreements in force which would have to be considered. The proposal would have to be considered by the Dail and it could not be dealt with by a stroke of the pen. He did not think that the saving suggested in Mr Roche's proposal would sufficiently help the farmers and the nation at the moment.

He regarded it as a drop in the ocean. His proposition was that a national emergency committee be set up representative of all parties in the Dail, not to sit down and take public evidence like commissions, but that they be given very drastic powers of recommendation which would be laid before the Dail by the Government suggesting curtailments in national expenditure with a view to reducing taxation and in order to provide a greater amount of money and to increase production. Increased production, which was asked for, was certainly the vital thing at the moment if the country were to take advantage of the rise in prices, which was bound to come from the present situation. Further to the reduction of national expenditure and to provide for increased production the committee should be asked to indicate the steps to be taken so that the country could benefit from the international crisis.

Mr Corish said that when Col. Gibbon first spoke he made the suggestion that a committee be set up to watch developments in the present financial situation so that advantage could be taken of them. Col. Gibbon was now going further by talking of setting up a committee which should insist upon drastic economies. He (Mr Corish) was totally opposed to that. He knew the kind of committee that would be set up. Economies by way of reductions of salaries would mean that it would eventually strike at the wage earners, and the saving that would be made would not be of any material advantage so far as relief was concerned. There was a splendid future for this country if only the Government took advantage of the situation that was prevailing. Whilst the £200,000 mentioned as likely to be saved by a reduction in salaries would be welcomed, it would be only as a drop in the ocean, and the position of the country would be as bad as it now was at the end of twelve months. While he was prepared to admit that the farmers, particularly the tillage farmers, were in a bad way, would the council, be in favour of in-

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cluding in the recommendations that a tariff be placed on agricultural machinery.

Mr Cummins - Why not ?

Mr Corish said a tariff was due to the urban areas of Wexford. If the farmers of Ireland purchased Irish made agricultural machinery there would be £300,000 more money circulated in Co. Wexford, a great deal of which would go to Wexford town, where the farmers could be provided with a good outlet for their produce.

Mr D'Arcy said the question of a tariff on agricultural machinery was a very "touchy" one and went on to allude to the effect a tariff would have on the price of binders sold in Ireland.

Mr Corish, intervening, said that Mr D'Arcy was talking nonsense, as he did not mean asking for a tariff on articles which were not made in the country.

Col. Quin commented that the proposal that they should watch the situation was a very nice proposition, but a vague one. He did not see what good could come from it.

Mr Corish said they had heard a great deal about Imperial preference and the unity of the Empire. What should be done, in his opinion, was that President Cosgrave who had been advocating the support of Irish manufactured goods, should go further and try to get into touch with the British Government and see that Danish produce was kept out and Irish produce given the preference.

Col. Gibbon said he would certainly be in favour of a prohibition on butter imported into the country, and they could keep it out by producing butter themselves all the year round.

Miss O'Ryan said that they were producing bacon all the year round, yet they had bacon coming into the country.

Col. Gibbon further stated in regard to the different suggestions that were made a commission should be set up, representative of all the parties in the Dail, so that when their

findings came before the Dail there would be a prospect of their acceptance, and not made a party question, which was not good enough in the present situation.

Mr Roche said that statistics showed that over-production was the cause of the existing situation.

Mr Hall said if they adopted Col. Gibbon's proposition it would mean increased expenditure. They had too many committees set up, and there was no results from them. Even when the cost of these committees were asked for the information was not given. The adoption of Col. Gibbon's proposition would mean creating more officers and officials. Mr Cummins made the remark that the country had improved during the past two weeks, but he (Mr Hall) did not know how it had improved.

Mr Cummins - Your £ is worth 20s.

Chairman - Not everywhere.

Mr Cummins - It's worth it here.

Mr Hall - I find that every article the farmer has to pay for has gone up 10 per cent since this day fortnight, but the price of anything he produces and sells hasn't increased one penny. We are promised there will be an increase, but we are being made promises for a good many years, and so far they have not materialized. We are promised that Ireland will benefit from a tariff in England. We should depend on ourselves, and we should be capable enough to do that.

The Chairman suggested in order to shorten the discussion that if the draft recommendations were adopted by the council the points raised in regard to the curtailment of national expenditure could be raised when the deputation went to the Government. They could also, if they wished, embody that in the draft recommendations. The steps taken in England were equivalent to putting on a tariff so far as the European countries were concerned.

Mr J. Murphy - Our chief competitors are the Danes, and they are not affected by the fall in the £ as they are off the gold standard.

On the suggestion of Mr Cooney, Mr Roche agreed to amend his proposition that the curtailment of 5 per cent in salaries should apply to £200 and upwards, instead of £150 and upwards.

Mr Murphy - Isn't it a fact that we are paying very big pensions to ex-judges and others ? Must we continue that ?

Mr Corish - We should pass a resolution calling ourselves Dail Eireann and have done with it .

Miss O'Ryan said she thought that the recommendations of the Committee would include the curtailment of all payments including those which came under the financial agreement.

Mr Roche - I am satisfied to have Mr Murphy's suggestion embodied.

Col. Quin - Pensions have been cut down in England. Why should they object to them being cut down here ?

In view of the suggestions made Mr Roche then altered his resolution to read as follows:- "We recommend that all salaries and pensions over £750 per ~~annum~~ be reduced by 20 per cent; from £500 to £750 by 10 per cent and from £500^{down}/to £200 by 5 per cent and that this proposal be embodied with the draft recommendations made by the County Council Committee.

Mr D'Arcy seconded.

A poll was then taken on the motion with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Breman, Cooney, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, Meyler, Murphy, O'Ryan, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 14.

Against:- Messrs Armstrong, Cline, Colfer, Corish, Gaul, McCarthy, O'Byrne and Shannon - 8.

Messrs Cummins and Hayes (2) did not vote.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Mr Hall proposed and Col. Quin seconded the adoption of the draft recommendations of the committee.

A poll was then taken on the motion the following being the result:-

For: Messrs Brennan, Cooney, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, Meyler, Murphy, O'Ryan, Quin, Roche, Smyth and the Chairman - 13.

Against:- Messrs Armstrong, Colfer, Corish, Gaul, O'Byrne, Shannon - 6.

Declined voting:- Messrs Cummins, Hayes, McCarthy and Walsh (4)

Mr Cline (1) was not present when poll was taken.

Mr Corish said he was in favour of the recommendations but in consequence of the adoption of Mr Roche's proposal for a cut in salaries and pensions he voted against them.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

After some further discussion Mr Corish asked that his resignation from the Committee be accepted.

On the motion of Mr D'Arcy seconded by Mr Murphy the name of Mr Cooney was added to the deputation Committee vice Mr Corish.

MOUNTGARRETT BRIDGE

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That the seal of the Wexford County Council be attached to the agreement between Patrick Forrestal, Rosemount, New Ross, Caretaker Mountgarrett Bridge, and also to the agreement between Thomas Doyle and John Doyle, Kylemore, County Kilkenny, Assistant Caretakers Mountgarrett Bridge."

Michael Doyle

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

MEETING 12TH OCTOBER 1931.

M I N U T E S.

COUNTY HALL,
WEXFORD.

N.J.FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

A meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 12th October, 1931.

Present - Mr M. Doyle Chairman, presided, and there were also present:-

Messrs James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Clince, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, James Gaul, Col.C.M. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Thomas Maylor, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col.R.P. Wemyss Quin, James Shannon, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor and Rate Inspector were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £17,920: 19: 9d (Ordinary payments and payments to Public Bodies), £28,708: 15: 0d (Payments to Public Bodies) and £240 loan for extinguishing ground rent paid Mr John Codd for old Co. Courthouse.

THE LATE MR. M.J. FINN

Mr Murphy proposed and Mr Cummins seconded the following resolution which was adopted in silence:- "That we express to the relatives of the late Mr M.J. Finn, Ex-Town Clerk, New Ross, our deep sympathy with them in his demise."

In proposing the motion Mr Murphy said that Mr Finn had held the position of Town Clerk for over 30 years and was for many years official checker of Rate Collectors a/c's for the New Ross District under the County Council. He was an upright, conscientious and able man and one of the best known public officials of the County.

The Secretary on behalf of himself and staff re-

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ferred to the long connection between the deceased and the Council. The late Mr Finn was not only a fine public official but his kind and gentle manner made it a pleasure to do business with him.

THE LATE CANON SULLIVAN

The following resolution was proposed by Mr D'Arcy seconded by the Chairman and adopted in silence:- "That we deplore the loss of the Very Rev. Canon Sullivan, Bannow, and offer his relatives our heartfelt condolence in their bereavement."

Mr D'Arcy paid a high tribute to the great work which Canon Sullivan had performed for the Church.

The Chairman, who seconded, said he had the pleasure of enjoying the friendship of Fr. Sullivan for very many years, and held him in great esteem and affection.

The Secretary for himself and staff referred to Canon Sullivan's many fine qualities and the great work which he had carried out for the Church and the people of the County generally. He was a great public loss.

THE LATE MR C. B. WALDRON

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the following reply of Mr Terence Waldron, Mountnorris, Bray, ~~under date~~, in reply to vote of condolence by this Council in the death of his brother, Mr C.B. Waldron, be placed on the Minutes of this day's meeting:-

"Please convey to the members of the County Council and also to the members of the Co. Agricultural Committee the very best thanks of my sister and myself for their very kind votes of condolence and sympathy in the sad loss caused by the death of my brother R.I.P.

"We acknowledge gratefully, as Charlie often did in his lifetime, that his success was due in large measure to

the exceptionally hearty welcome he received from Wexford men all over the county, and the whole-hearted encouragement and assistance he received from public bodies like yours.

Knowing also how deep was his friendship and love for you and your family, we realise how deep is your own sorrow and sympathy, and your promise of constant remembrance in your prayers is a source of great consolation, to us."

DEPUTATION TO PRESIDENT OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The following under date 8th October, 1931, was read from the Secretary to the President of the Executive Council:-

"I am desired by the President to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th September, in which you convey the request of the Wexford County Council that the President should receive a deputation to discuss recommendations adopted at their Meeting on 28th September. Some of the recommendations have already been examined at length, others fall for consideration in connection with budgetary arrangements, and in any event they cover too wide a field to be susceptible of useful discussion in the manner suggested. The President is prepared, however, to receive memoranda setting forth the views of your County Council on these subjects for consideration by the Departments of State concerned."

The Chairman said the Council were aware that a small Committee of the Council had drawn ^{up} memoranda in connection with matters which might form the subject matter for discussion between the deputation and the President with the Ministers for Finance and Agriculture. According to the letter just read the President had refused to receive the deputation. He would, however, receive some documentary evidence on the subjects dealt with by the deputation if the Council was inclined to send it.

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Col. Quin thought the President's views very sound. The matters referred to could not be disposed of in a talk of five minutes but it would take three or four hours. The only thing for him to do was to call for an Inquiry.

Mr Cummins said that the deputation would have been able to give the Ministers, if they wanted the information, knowledge of the circumstances of the County. The people wanted immediate relief. It was not by an Inquiry or by a Commission such as the Tariff Commission this could be brought about. This Tariff Commission had been sitting for the past three years and with little result. He (Mr Cummins) did not expect anything to come out of the visit of the deputation even if it had been received.

Mr Hall considered that as the President had refused to receive the deputation there was no use in going any further in the matter. He was under the impression that the deputation would have been received.

Mr Cummins - They would give you a Coercion Bill quicker.

Chairman - My reply would be on the same lines as Mr Hall - abandon it all together.

Mr McCarthy thought they might refer the matter to the Chairman and Secretary to draw up a memorandum.

Chairman - I don't see the use of going any further in the matter seeing that he has refused to receive the deputation.

Mr Hall then proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Col. Quin:- "That owing to the refusal of the President of the Executive Council of the Government to receive a deputation to put before him the views of the Council in connection with the present economic crisis no further action be taken in this matter."

The Chairman said that the deputation could have given the Ministers considerable information on many vital matters

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in a short time.

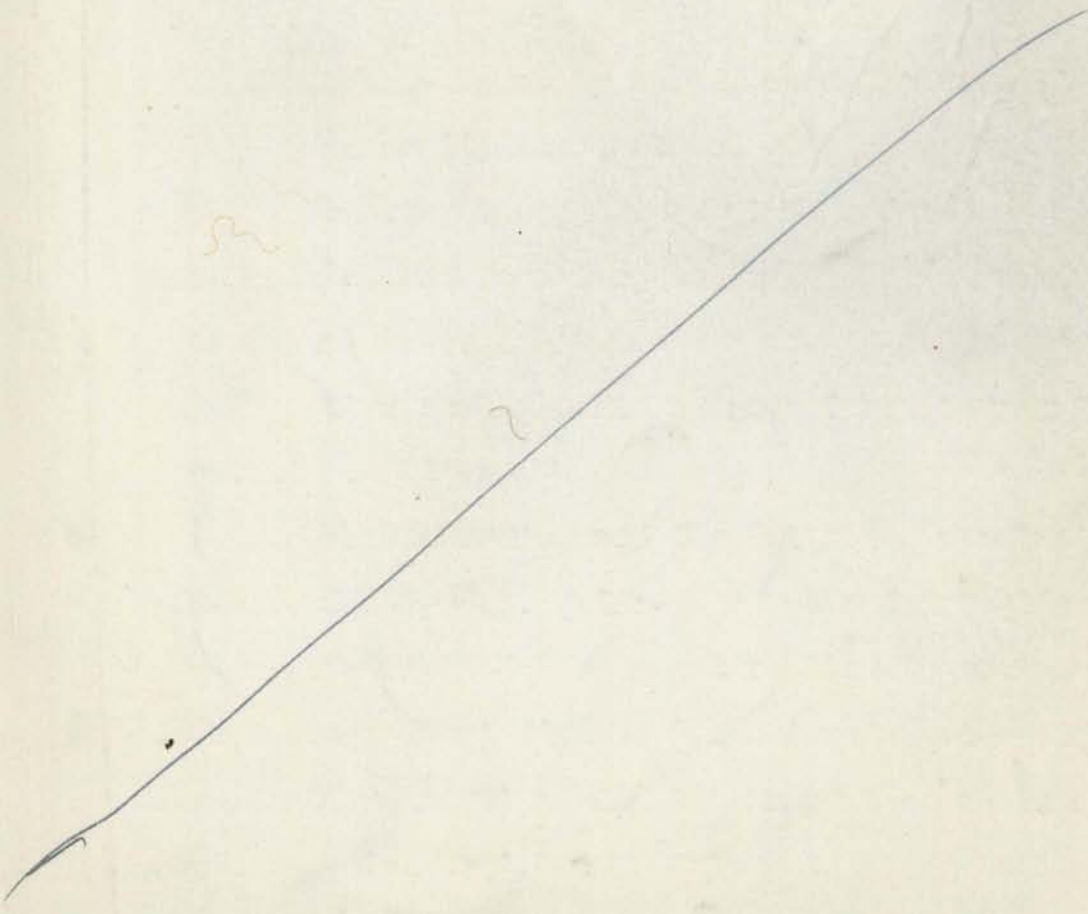
Mr D'Arcy said they should take a very serious view of the attitude of the President in refusing to receive the deputation. It looked very like as if they were not the people of the country at all according to the President. If the deputation had gone to Dublin it would be for the purpose of helping Ministers and not to dictate to them. But it appeared these people did not want any help but were dictators themselves.

The Chairman - We would not have done anything but explain the state of the Country and its poor economic condition so far as we knew.

The resolution was then put and passed without dissent:

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

Finance: The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 24th September, 1931, were submitted as follows:-



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The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 24th September, 1931.

Present-Messrs James Hall, Thomas McCarthy, Sean O'Byrne, ~~and~~ James Shannon and John Culleton.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and Rate Inspector were also in attendance.

On the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall the chair was taken by Mr McCarthy.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £2,709: 0: 6d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

The State of Rate Collection up to 23rd September, 1931, was submitted as follows:-

Name of Collector.		Percentage of Warrant collected.
1.	J. Curtis	39.
2.	E.J. Murphy	35.2
3.	P. Carty	33.2
4.	W. Doyle	31.8
5.	J. Quirke (No. 1)	31.4
6.	J. Cummins	30.9
7.	M. McCarthy	30.0
8.	T. Rowe	30.0
9.	P. Nolan	29.5
10.	Art Dunne	29.0
11.	P. O'Byrne	27.2
12.	J.J. O'Reilly	26.5
13.	J. Deegan	26.2
14.	W. Cummins	25.8
15.	Sean Gannon (No. 6)	25.2

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	Name of Collector.	Percentage of Warrant Collected.
16.	P. Doyle	25.0
17.	T. Bolger (No.14)	25.0
18.	Sean Gannon (No.10)	23.6
19.	J. J. Sinnott	21.9
20.	J. Quirke (No. 2)	21.6
21.	T. Bolger (No.12)	18.5

Mr Culleton complained that, although Mr McCarthy, speaking at last County Council on behalf of the Finance Committee stated there were ^{only} two or three people who were refusing or neglecting to pay their rates a wholesale issue of Six Day Notices had taken place. He was in favour of the resolution but never expected it would be interpreted by the Rate Collectors so as to lead to the distribution of a very large number of Six Day Notices.

After discussion the meeting considered it would be inadvisable to interfere with the discretion of the Rate Collectors as regards issue of Six Day Notices.

It was reported that, of the Collectors who had been asked for an explanation of their failure to collect 25 per cent of warrant by 31st August, the following had not replied:- A. Dunne, T. Rowe, J.J. O'Reilly, E.J. Murphy, John Deegan, P. O'Byrne and J.J. Sinnott.

The following resolution was adopted:- "The Finance Committee cannot understand why seven Rate Collectors have failed to furnish the explanation required by the Finance Committee as to their failure to lodge 25 % of their warrant by 31st August, 1931, and direct that explanations in these cases be furnished forthwith."

The explanation given by the remaining Collectors stated that they had not been able to comply with the instructions of the Committee owing to the scarcity of money caused by the fall in the price of farm produce and the

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impossibility of disposing of live stock, all markets being extremely depressed.

In connection with additional Guarantee Bonds of £450 for Collector Gannon (for No.6 District) the New Ireland Assurance Co. Ltd wrote under date 14th September, 1931, (16/914/31/M.D./M & H.) that as Mr Gannon had failed to supply suitable counter sureties which was an essential condition to the issue of Bond the Company could not now furnish same.

Under date 17th September, 1931, Mr Gannon wrote that he could not agree to the terms asked by the New Ireland Assurance Co. but had succeeded in securing bond from the Hibernian Insurance Co. which he hoped would be approved by the Council.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That subject to the sanction of Local Government Department we recommend the Council to approve of Rate Collector Gannon entering into additional fidelity guarantee bond with the Hibernian Fire and General Insurance Co. Ltd, 48 Dame Street, Dublin."

FURTHER LEAVE OF ABSENCE - MR T. MOORE

Under date 17th September, 1931, Mr T. Moore, County Surveyor's Department, wrote from Anchor Hotel, Newcastle, Co. Wicklow, applying for a further month's sick leave.

Dr. Hanan, Newcastle Sanatorium, certified under date 16th September, 1931, that Mr Moore had done very well indeed during the previous month and while almost fit to resume duty he (Dr. Hanan) strongly recommended that Mr Moore should remain in the Sanatorium for a further four weeks as from 27th September. There was every hope of complete cure in this case.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Shannon seconded the follow-

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ing resolution which was adopted:- "That we recommend the County Council to grant Mr T. Moore (County Surveyor's Department) a further month's sick leave as from 27th September, 1931."

SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES

Under date 17th September, 1931, letter was read from Department of Education (Secondary Education Branch) sanctioning the renewal of Secondary Scholarships to James Donnelly, Johanna Cooney, Katie Doyle, and of bursary to Patrick Sheehan.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That the County Council be recommended to approve of renewal of Secondary School Scholarships to Johanna Cooney and Katie Doyle and of bursary to Patrick Sheehan, Gorey. As James Donnelly has taken up residence at Rockwell College under Pupil Teachership Scheme he cannot be awarded renewal of County Council Secondary Scholarship."

In connection with University Scholarships the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne, seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That in view of satisfactory reports from the Academic Council, University College, Dublin, the County Council be recommended to grant renewals of University Scholarships to

1. John Dunphy, 21 Convent Hill, New Ross.
2. John J. Hunt, Seafield, Duncormack.
3. Catherine Kickham, Abbey House, Enniscorthy.
4. Arthur J. Nix, 7 South Street, New Ross.
5. Ml. J. O'Keefe, 61 Faythe, Wexford.

TOMNAHELY BRIDGE

Under date 16th September, 1931, letter was read from Messrs P.J. O'Flaherty & Son, Solicitors, Enniscorthy, on

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behalf of Maria Keyes, Tomnahely, a small portion of whose land was taken five or six years ago for the purpose of improving approach at Tomnahely bridge. Messrs O'Flaherty pointed out that a Civil Bill had been issued against the County Council for £15 by Mrs Keyes, but it was not preceded with as their client had no means to employ an Engineer. They thought the Council should pay £5 at least as compensation.

The County Surveyor said that an understanding had been arrived ^{at} with a near relative of Mrs Keyes that no compensation would be payable by the Co. Council in view of the great convenience to Mrs Keyes effected by the improvement work.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That in view of the fact that by the improvement carried out by the County Council the value of Mrs Keyes' holding was increased by certainly over 100 per cent, we cannot see our way to recommend the Council to award her any sum as compensation."

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Notification was received as to the committal to an Industrial School of Catherine Doyle, aged one year and six months, child of John Doyle, an agricultural labourer, working with J. Murray, Acllamon, Cassagh. The mother of the child was dead.

It was decided to institute inquiries as to how many children were in the family.

Notification was also received as to application by Very Rev. Canon Hickey P.P. Clongeen, for the committal of three children of Elizabeth Meyler, widow, Garryrichard, Foulksmills, to Industrial Schools on the ground that the mother was unable to support them.

The application was to be heard in New Ross on 29th

September, 1931,

This case was referred to Mr Elgee, Solicitor.

It was also decided that Mr Shortall, Superintendent Home Assistance be furnished with copies of applications for committals of children to Industrial Schools and that he be asked to furnish his observations thereon to the County Council.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES (COMBINED PURCHASING) ACT 1925

Under date 18th September, 1931, application (B64096/1931 - Ilgh Tractala.) for payment of £161: 5: 10d the valuation proportion of Wexford County towards the payment of £4792: 12: 9d expenses for financial year 1930-31 under above Act was received from L. G. Department.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Culleton:-

"That the County Council be recommended to pay under protest, £161: 5: 10d County assessment under Local Authorities (Combined Purchasing) Act 1925 for financial year 1930-31. In our opinion this Act should be repealed."

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Mr Hall proposed and Mr Culleton seconded the following resolution:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee for 24th September, 1931, as submitted to this meeting be received and considered."

Local Authorities (Combined Purchasing) Act, 1925: Mr Cummins pointed out that at the Mental Hospital recently tenders for tea had been received at lower prices than the quotations given in the Trade List while the quality was better. Up in Dublin they talked about corruption of Co. Councils but it looked like that the corruption was above there.

Mr McCarthy mentioned that as regards the tea Contract of the Mental Hospital, the Committee had given the Contract to the trader whose sample was first on the selected list. They had not followed the Department's list at all in this instance, but when the supply of tea ran out they did take tea from the Contractor mentioned in the list because there was no time to advertise and a supply was urgently required.

Mr Cummins proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution which was adopted unanimously:-

"That the recommendations of the Finance Committee relative to Combined Purchasing Act be confirmed and that copy of the resolution of Finance Committee be forwarded to all County Councils in An Saorstat."

On the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall the following resolution was then adopted:-

"That the recommendations of the Finance Committee from meeting of 24th September, 1931, considered at this meeting be and are hereby confirmed."

The following Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 8th October, 1931, were submitted:-

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The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 8th October, 1931.

Present - Messrs James Hall, T. McCarthy, Sean O'Byrne and James Shannon.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and Rate Inspector were also in attendance.

On the motion of Mr O'Byrne, seconded by Mr Hall, the Chair was taken by Mr McCarthy.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS -----

Treasurer's Advice Note for £6103: 11: 5d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION -----

State of: Rate Collection to date was submitted as follows:-

No.	Name of Collector.	Percentage of Warrant collected.
1.	J. Curtis	46.5
2.	E.J. Murphy	43.7
3.	J. Quirke No. 1	42.5
4.	J.J.O'Reilly	40.3
5.	Art Dunne	39.1
6.	Wm. Doyle	38.8
7.	T. Rowe	38.4
8.	P. Doyle	37.7
9.	M. McCarthy	37.1
10.	J. Cummins	37.1
11.	P. Carty	36.0
12.	Patk. Nolan	36.0
13.	Sean Gannon No. 6	35.4
14.	J. Deegan	34.8
15.	T. Bolger No. 14	34.7

No.	Name of Collector.	Percentage of Warrant collected.
16.	P.O'Byrne	34.5
17.	W. Cummins	33.6
18.	J.J. Sinnott	32.3
19.	Sean Gannon No. 10	31.9
20.	J. Quirke No. 2	31.3
21.	T. Bolger No. 12	27.6

It was pointed out that the following had not lodged a sum equivalent to 40 % of the current Warrant including arrears.

P. O'Byrne....38 %

P. Carty.....37.7 %

J. Deegan.....35.6 %

J.J.Sinnott...35.7 %

T. Bolger Nos.

14 & 12.....32 %

S. Gannon.....34 %

Payment of Poundage: After discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That the Local Government Department be requested to sanction the following proposal for payment of poundage:- Collectors who have already lodged 40 % of Warrant to be paid 90 % on their lodgments to the end of September; other Collectors to be paid in a similar manner when their Collections are up to the 40 % of Warrant."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr Hall:- "That as the Finance Committee realises that the present method of irregular and infrequent payments of poundage have a disheartening effect upon the work of the Collectors, we recommend the County Council to request the Local Government Department to sanction payment monthly of a sum equal to 90 % of poundage on actual lodgments for each month."

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In connection with the resolution of the County Council demanding an explanation from Collectors who up to the 31st August had not lodged 25 % of Warrant, it was reported that all Collectors had forwarded the requisite explanation with the exception of Collector Rowe (No. 18).

The reasons given by the others for their failure to comply with the instructions of the Committee were :- bad prices for Stock and poor markets. Mr Sinnott (No. 16) wrote that in certain parts of his district people had not enough to eat.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by the Chairman:-

"That in view of his failure to comply with the direction of the Finance Committee regarding his rate collection, Collector T. Rowe be summoned to attend the next meeting of the Finance Committee to be held on 22nd October, 1931."

Dissatisfaction with Collectors: The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "The Finance Committee are of opinion from statements of Rate Inspector that Collectors T. Bolger (No.14) and P. O'Byrne are not carrying out their collections with that due diligence which should mark the work of an efficient Collector. That these Collectors be informed that unless they are prepared to display much more activity in their work, drastic steps will have to be taken against them."

Refusal to pay Rates: Mr C. McCarthy, Murrintown, wrote that he did not intend to pay any further rates to the Co. Council until they paid the poundage due to him.

It was explained that a certain amount of poundage for Mr. C. McCarthy, Junior, had been withheld by directions of the Local Government Department, and put against Debit Interest which had accrued on the Council's overdraft by

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failure of Mr McCarthy, Junior, to close Warrant in good time. The same directions were issued by the L. G. D. in connection with the Insurance Company, in the case of Ex-Collector Furlong. The Council could not of course pay any poundage without the sanction of the Local Government Department, and in Mr McCarthy's case in withholding poundage they were obliged to comply with the directions of the Department.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That the Council be recommended to take no action on letter of Mr C. McCarthy, Murrintown, stating that he did not intend to pay his rates."

Application from Rate Inspector: The following was read from the Rate Inspector :- "I shall be obliged if you will kindly put my application for an increase in the salary and travelling expenses before the County Council for their kind consideration.

Since my appointment I have done my endeavours to carry out my duties to their and your satisfaction. On an average I have worked 10 hours per day and have succeeded in having the arrears and current rate outstanding reduced very considerably since I took office.

At the present rate of expenses I am unable to make all the necessary inspections of Derelict and semi-derelict farms throughout the County."

The Rate Inspector pointed out that he was anxious to deal more thoroughly with the North of the County, than the present allocations of travelling expenses allowed, and on account of that he considered the Finance Committee should recommend the increase.

After discussion, the following was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne:9

"That the application of Mr O'Kennedy, Rate Inspector,

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for an increase of salary and travelling expenses be adjourned for a month."

OVERDRAFT ACCOMMODATION

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That the Local Government Department be requested to agree to the continuance of the present overdraft accommodation of the Wexford Co. Council with their Treasurer viz., £20,000 up to 31st March, 1932."

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

In connection with University Scholarship awarded to Margaret M. O'Hanlon, Faythe, Wexford, letter was read under date 25th September, 1931, from Sister M. Xavier, Presentation Convent, Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny, to Miss O'Hanlon's father from which it appeared that Miss O'Hanlon had entered that Convent. Sister Xavier said they had decided to avail of the Scholarship if it could not be held over.

Mr O'Hanlon came before the meeting and explained that it was owing to securing the Scholarship that his daughter had been able to enter the Convent in Castlecomer.

After discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"The Finance Committee sees no reason to recommend the Council to vary the decision arrived at by them at their meeting on 28th September, 1931, that Miss O'Hanlon should avail of her University Scholarship during the coming Academic Year."

WORK BENCH FOR WEIGHTS AND MEASURES OFFICE, BUNCLODY COURTHOUSE

Under date 28th September, 1931, the Chief Superintendent, Garda Siochana, wrote applying for the provision of work bench at the Bunclody office of Weights and Measures

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Inspector.

The County Surveyor stated that these benches cost about £1.15: 0d, and had been supplied to the other Weights and Measures Inspectors in the County, since they were considered essential for the work.

Mr Shannon proposed and Mr O'Byrne seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"We recommend the County Council to provide a work bench for Weights and Measures Inspector at Bunclody, bench etc to be as already furnished the other centres in the County."

FORTVIEW PREMISES

Under date 3rd October, 1931, (G.73071/1931 - Loch Garman Pg) the Department of Local Government wrote calling attention to Article 15 of the application of Enactments Order, 1898, and inquired how the Council proposed to deal with the purchase price of £1,000 for Fortview premises.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That the Department of Local Government be informed the purchase price of £1,000 for Fortview premises is to be applied as a set-off against the new offices of County Council in respect of which a larger sum than £1,000 was expended."

Under date 5th October, 1931, Mr Elgee, County Solicitor, wrote forwarding a letter from Mr Andrew Nolan, Selskar House, Wexford, purchaser of Fortview, in which he stated that before closing the sale he wished to get clear possession of the premises, particularly, as the Contractor had alterations to make in the rooms adjoining the kitchen. It would be, therefore, necessary that the Council's Caretaker should leave.

Mr Elgee stated that the Caretaker told him he was

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not able to obtain any kind of alternative accommodation.

After discussion Mr Shannon proposed and Mr O'Byrne seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That if accommodation be available in unused portion of the entrance block to Old Jail, Nicholas Roche, Messenger to County Council and former Caretaker at Fortview, be allowed to occupy same temporarily."

It was pointed out that Roche's position generally will come before the Council for consideration in December.

THE LATE TIMOTHY LARKIN

Under date 6th October, 1931, the following was read from Mrs Larkin, Ballyeden, Clonroche:-

"As you are aware my husband was in the employment of the Wexford County Council as Contractor. He unfortunately met with an accident while working for the County Council, as a result of which he met his death.

I consulted Mr Frizelle, Solicitor, Enniscorthy, to ask him if I could claim against the Council and I am sending you his letter to me.

I have eight children and myself to support and you can guess we are in very bad circumstances, as my husband was my only support. I would be grateful if you would read this letter to the County Council and ask them if they would be good enough to help me in the matter, by granting some money to me to help me out of my difficulties."

A letter submitted by Mrs Larkin from Mr H.J.Frizelle, Solicitor, Enniscorthy, pointed out that the question of compensation for her husband's death had been gone into very fully by him, but that, in his opinion, it would be useless to take action for award of compensation against the County Council owing to the terms and conditions of the late Mr Larkin's employment.

Mr Shannon mentioned that the deceased had two horses

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and a jennet and was kept constantly employed . If there had been a very slight variation in the conditions of his employment Mrs Larkin would have been in a position to obtain compensation amounting probably to about £300 from Insurance Company. Unfortunately it would not pay her to employ a man to continue haulage work, and she had to make what living she could from six or eight acres of land for herself and eight children.

After discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That the County Council be recommended to make to Mrs Larkin, Ballyeden, Clonroche, an ex gratia payment of £50, in connection with the death of her husband which occurred through accident while in the employment of the Council, and further that in the circumstances of the case, they request the sanction of the Local Government Department to this payment."

REDEMPTION OF RENTS OLD COURTHOUSE

Under date 5th October, 1931, Mr Elgee, County Solicitor, wrote that he was now in a position to close the purchase of the rent payable to Mr John Codd, Tagoat, out of the Old Courthouse premises, Purchase Money being £240 and Borough Rates and Water Rates £2: 5: 3d - Total £242: 5: 3d.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That Paying Order for £240 issue to Mr John Codd, Tagoat, from Loan for redemption of his portion of the rent of old Courthouse premises."

"That £2: 5: 3d Rates paid by Mr Codd on the premises be refunded to him."

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Mr Clince proposed and Mr Shannon seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That Finance Committee Minutes for 8th October, 1931, be received and considered."

Overdraft Accommodation: Under date 10th October, 1931, the Department of Local Government wrote (G.76913/31/ Fa Loch Garman) stating that the Minister sanctioned overdraft accommodation not exceeding £20,000 upon the a/c of the County Council up to the 1st December, 1931, Interest to be paid thereon at the agreed rate.

University Scholarship Scheme: Under date 12th October, 1931, Mr Ml. O'Hanlon, wrote that owing to circumstances over which he had no control his daughter Margaret M. O'Hanlon, found it impossible to avail of University Scholarship.

The Secretary mentioned that the County Council had already decided that in the event of any of the selected candidates failing to take advantage of the award of Scholarship, that this be offered to candidate next in order of merit, and obtaining sufficient marks according to the Academic Council of National University to qualify for Scholarship. The available candidate in this case was

Joseph A. Flynn, Ballyvoelare, Campile. He would be communicated with immediately as to taking up the Scholarship.

The Late Timothy Larkin: Col. Quin dissented from recommendation of the Finance Committee in this instance, on the ground that the County Council should not as Public Representatives recommend the payment of any sum not covered by Statute.

On the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 8th October, 1931, as submitted to this meeting be and are hereby confirmed."

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REPORT EMPLOYMENT OF MEN GOREY AREA COMMITTEE.

It was decided that consideration of this Report be adjourned until the first meeting at which all Councillors concerned in the Report are in attendance.

COURTOWN HARBOUR

With reference to proposed Loan of £750 for necessary repairs at Courtown Harbour Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr D'Arcy seconded the following resolution which was adopted without dissent:- "That period for redemption of Loan of £750 for repairs of Courtown Harbour be five years, Interest to be at $\frac{1}{2}$ % under Irish Bank Rate varying, with minimum of 4 %."

Under date 6th October, 1931, the following was read from Mr Denis Murphy, Harbour Master:-

"Lord Fitzwilliam called in here in his yacht on Saturday October 3rd, and asked me to put the following application before the County Council. He wants the inside basin dredged out, and the bar dredged and a depth of 6 feet of water maintained there at ordinary neap tides. If such improvements were carried out, he proposes to carry on an export trade of slates, oils and paint materials, and also to import coal. If the Council could meet his wishes, it would mean a revival of trade here as a port, and also give much needed employment in loading and unloading the boats, and also it would be a source of income to the Council in Harbour Dues. Would you please read the above at next meeting of your County Council."

Mr O'Byrne said that some time ago the Council had applied for an Unemployment Grant in order to carry out the clearing of the inner basin at Courtown, and the County Surveyor had then made an estimate of the cost, which was available. He believed if Lord Fitzwilliam would give a guarantee that he would be prepared to carry on the trade for a definite period and that it would not be abandoned after a month or so, the Council should endeavour to comply with his wishes. He

proposed the following resolution:-

"That the Councillors for Gorey County Electoral Area be appointed a Committee to consult with the people of Courtown Harbour, relative to proposal of Lord Fitzwilliam and that the latter be invited to attend the Conference, date and hour of which to be arranged by County Surveyor. That the County Surveyor and Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, also attend. That the County Surveyor, when recommendations of the Conference are available, make application to the Department of Lands & Fisheries for a Grant towards the cost of clearing the inner basin of the Harbour."

LOAN FOR PURCHASE OF DISPENSARY RESIDENCE AT MONAMOLIN

The following motion of which she had given previous notice (and which had been circulated to members of the Co. Council on the 3rd September, 1931) was moved by Miss O'Ryan:

"That the Wexford County Council consents to the County Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance raising loan of £1,400 for the purpose of acquiring the residence of the late Dr. Kinsella, situate at Monamolin, as a residence for the permanent Medical Officer of Health for Killenagh and Wells Dispensary District."

Miss O'Ryan in moving the motion said there were 20 acres of land attached to the House, and if the incoming doctor did not require it, this land would be sold. Then again £400 of the £1,400 was required for reconstruction and installing a water supply.

Mr. Hall seconded
The Chairman said he had been led to believe when the first application was made the amount would not be as high as £1,400.

Mr Murphy mentioned that £1,000 was for the purchase of the premises (land and buildings) then there was £50 for fees and the balance was for reconstruction.

In reply to Mr D'Arcy it was stated that the period of the Loan was to be 20 years. The first payment would be

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£140 and would be due at the end of the first year. The Interest for each succeeding payment would be reduced by £3: 10: 0d per annum until the Loan was paid off.

After some discussion the Chairman put the resolution to the meeting and it was passed nem con.

ROSSLARE STRAND - REMOVAL OF GRAVEL
FROM FORESHORE.

Under date 5th October, the following letter (M.S.1447) was read from Department of Industry and Commerce (Transport & Marine Branch):-

"With reference to your letter of the 3rd instant relative to the removal of gravel from Rosslare Strand in contravention of the Prohibitory Order, I am desired by the Minister for Industry and Commerce to state that the Department note the Resolution of the 28th ultimo that "The County Council gave no instructions to any road contractor to take material from the Rosslare foreshore since the issue of the Prohibitory Order." The Resolution, however, gives no indication as to what action is to be taken by ~~the~~ Council in regard to such an open breach of the Order. In bringing the matter to the notice of the Council it was assumed that such steps would be taken as would make it plain that no further unlawful interference with Rosslare Strand would be tolerated.

"I am to call your attention to the fact that the Prohibitory Order in this case was granted on the application of the County Council after a local inquiry into all the circumstances and it is most important that rigid ^sob^aervance of the Order should be enforced in the interests of the community at Rosslare.

"I shall be glad to be informed at an early date that suitable action is being taken in regard to the reported infringement of the Order."

Chairman - The Guards are looking after this matter and I think they have sufficient machinery to prosecute without

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coming to the County Council.

Mr McCarthy suggested that the Road Contractors should be notified that they should not take any more gravel from the foreshore.

Col. Gibbon said the best step to be taken would be for the County Surveyor to inform all Road Contractors that they should not take any stones or gravel from the Rosslare Foreshore in the future and if they did it would be at their own risk.

Chairman - I think there was a big injustice done down there to the whole district by this Order, and I am certainly not going to be a party to back up that injustice.

Col. Quin - Did not the County Council ask for the Order ?

Chairman - They did not. They asked **for** an Inquiry.

Mr O'Byrne - They asked for an Inquiry because they were told that a **private** person had made application for such Inquiry.

The Chairman proposed the following resolution:-

"That the matter of removal of sand and gravel from Rosslare Foreshore be left in the hands of the County Surveyor"

Mr Shannon seconded and the resolution was adopted.

Mr Gaul said that the adoption of the Order had deprived a great many people of their livelihood.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

Under date 6th October, 1931, the Department of Agriculture wrote (L.3295/31) that an Officer of the Department obtained three samples of butter:- One in New Ross and two in Enniscorthy Districts in the month of September, which when submitted to the County Analyst were certified to be genuine.

POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT LICENCE

Proposed by Mr Cummins and seconded by Mr Brennan:-

"That renewal of licence under Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, issue to Edward Brennan, Merchant, Taghmon." *Passed*

TOURIST TRAFFIC(DEVELOPMENT) ACT

Under date 5th October, 1931, Mr Elgee, County Solicitor, wrote that the County Council were not bound to enter into any agreement with the Irish Tourist Development Association in respect of the Grant out of the Rates for the purposes of Tourist Development. This being so, it would be in his opinion, just as well if the County Council did not enter into such an agreement, but merely handed over to the Tourist Development Association their contribution, when it had been raised in rate.

Col. Quin proposed and Mr Shannon seconded the following resolution which was adopted nem con: -

"That acting on the advice of our Solicitor, we decline to enter into any agreement with the Irish Tourist Association in connection with Tourist development, but that we are prepared to hand over any contribution received in Rate to this Association, so long as it remains the statutory Authority under the Tourist Development Act."

CONCRETE ROAD - ENNISCORTHY-BUNCLODY.
DISMISSAL OF FOREMAN

At the meeting of County Council on 28th September, 1931, a resolution was adopted appointing the County Councillors of Gorey Co. Electoral Areas, with Mr Thomas McCarthy, County Councillor, as a Committee to investigate the circumstances in connection with the dismissal of Mr. O'Hanlon, foreman of Mr Lee, Contractor for improvement work on Enniscorthy - Buncloody Road and to inspect and report generally on the work.

The Committee met on 2nd October, 1931, the following being in attendance:- Col. Quin, Messrs Armstrong, Hall and McCarthy with the County Surveyor and Mr Ennis, Assistant Surveyor for the District.

The Committee after carefully considering the matter came to the conclusion that Mr Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, was

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justified in calling for the dismissal of the foreman who had not carried out his instructions. The work of road reconstruction was proceeding in a satisfactory manner.

The Committee recommended that the Council take no further action in the matter.

The Report of the Committee was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall.

COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBER

Col. Gibbon said that he considered the experiment made by the County Surveyor in connection with the improvement of the acoustic properties of the Council Chamber had been successful, and he now proposed that the County Surveyor be authorised to put on ceiling boards and make these flush with the girders, work to be carried out as soon as possible.

Mr O'Byrne seconded and the resolution was adopted.

Col. Quin moved the following resolution:- "That in order to improve the hearing properties of County Council Chamber, some suitable covering such as linoleum or cork be laid on the floor, cost not to exceed £20"

Mr Gaul seconded.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, McCarthy, O'Byrne, Quin, Shannon and Walsh - 11.

Against:- Messrs Brennan, Cooney, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, Hayes, Mayler, Murphy, O'Ryan, Smyth and the Chairman - 12.

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

MISCELLANEOUS ROAD MATTERS

New Road, Rathfarden: Under date 8th October, the following report was read from Mr. O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor:-

"On the 6th instant Messrs Brennan, and Shannon brought me to inspect a lane joining road No. 455 and 476, the latter

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road being in Mr Cullen's Area. It is intended to bring this land forward at the November meeting as a new work. The lane is about 220 perches long and is fairly sound. For most of its length it is 14 feet to 15 feet wide, but about 56 perches would need to be widened. The land owners have agreed to do this, and, I think, any other necessary work. As far as I understand all they require is to be provided with material, and this would cost about £50 in the quarry. "

On the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr O'Byrne it was decided to refer the matter to the meeting of the Co. Council at which the Road Estimates for financial year 1932-33 will be under consideration.

Flooding at Rathfarden - Road No. 456: The following report under date 8th October, 1931, was read from Mr O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor:-

"Messrs Brennan and Shannon, M.C.C.'s and myself met Mr Deacon, owner of the flooded land, on the above road on the 6th instant.

"The existing gullet across the road discharges into Mr Deacon's land, and after heavy rain a considerable area is under water. It was pointed out that this entails a great hardship, particularly when this land is under tillage, as it happens to be at present. The Committee agreed that a new gullet placed so as to discharge into a corner of the field would save the land from flooding. If the Council agrees to provide the new gullet Mr Deacon will undertake all other necessary work. The new gullet would be 36 feet long, 9" diameter pipes and the cost about £10."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr Hall:- "That in order to obviate flooding at Mr Deacon's farm, Rathfarden, new gullet (cost not to exceed £10) be constructed and that the County Surveyor carry out this work as soon as possible."

Defaulting Road Contractor: Mr. T. Treanor, Assistant Sur-

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veyor, reported that John Kinsella, Jnr., Croghan, Ballyfadd, Inch, Contractor for repair of Roads 76, 81 and 86, had not yet put out material for measurement and had failed generally to attend to other work. He was noticed on 13th August, 1931, re material, weed cutting and drainage.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That proceedings be instituted against John Kinsella, jnr., Croghan, Inch, for his failure to carry out his contract in respect of Roads 76, 81 and 86, should the County Surveyor consider this step necessary."

Vinegar Hill Ruin: Mr Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, reported that he had inspected this ruin on 5th October, 1931, and found that some of the masonry had fallen and the stones were scattered around. The whole structure is in need of a little repair.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr McCarthy:-

"That copy of Report of Mr Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, as to Vinegar Hill Ruin be furnished the Office of Public Works for their observations."

Dangerous Corners. Road 475: Mr Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, reported under date 5th October, 1931, that he had inspected the corners complained of by Mr Shannon, County Councillor, and estimated they could be sufficiently improved for £10.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Gibbon, seconded by Col. Quin:- "That report of Mr Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, as to improvement of dangerous corners on Road 475 be referred to the meeting at which Road Estimates for next financial year will be considered."

Transfers to Main Roads: The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Gibbon seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That as requisitioned by Mr Birthistle, Assistant

Surveyor, the following transfers to Main Roads be agreed to:- £35 from 17M to 69 M (Duncannon Line); £35 from 17 M to 68 (Duncannon Line); £30' from 17 M to 52 M (Killurin Road).

Flooding of Premises at Kilrush Bunclody: Mr Armstrong said he had complained several times to the County Surveyor, and Mr Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, as to the flooding of the licensed premises of Mr Codd at Kilrush, where the water came off the road. The Surveyors had informed him that lack of money was the difficulty in having the work carried out. It would be only a matter of £3 or £4.

The County Surveyor said the real difficulty in the matter was caused by the premises being below the level of the road.

✓ It was decided to ask Mr Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, to furnish a special report on the matter.

Flooding of Road: Mr Hayes complained that the road from Baldwinstown to Scar was constantly flooded for about 200 or 300 yards. He suggested that a Committee of the County Councillors for Wexford County Electoral Area should inspect and report.

Mr Murphy said that from what he saw of the place during a recent flood the water came over the fields from the river on to the road.

It was decided to obtain in the first instance a report in the matter from Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, for the District.

Poulpeasty Road: Miss O'Ryan, in connection with the cementing of road by Tomcoole and Poulpeasty, asked the County Surveyor to open the small portion at the right hand of Poulpeasty and have the barrier placed at the Wexford side of Poulpeasty bridge. The Camross people were drawing their corn to Wexford and if this small portion of the road was open it would take three or four miles off their journey

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as well as saving them the hilly road at Taghmon.

Mr Barry said he would have this section of road opened as soon as possible.

Knockeen Cross: Miss O'Ryan complained that there was about a quarter of a mile of Knockeen road on which repairs had not been effected, while the other sections were under reconstruction.

The County Surveyor said that when the L. G. Department decided to have a more costly form of reconstruction than was proposed there was not sufficient money to do this short section, but he would look after it as soon as money was available.

Decorative Garden Wall: The County Surveyor submitted letter from Mr. Naughter, Bridge Row, Gorey, applying for permission to erect a small decorative garden wall in front of his house at Bridge Row. These premises were semi-detached and faced the widest road space in Gorey. The road boundary stood six feet out from his house so there was ample room for the improvement for which he applied without limiting the road space.

The County Surveyor said he had no objection to the application being granted.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Gaul:- "That the County Council take no action with reference to application of Peter Naughter, Bridge Row, Gorey, as to erection of decorative garden wall."

PUBLIC SAFETY BILL

Mr Gilbert Lynch, Banba Hall, 20 Parnell Square, Dublin, wrote under date 3rd October, 1931, & forwarded statement on above measure signed by the Mayor of Sligo and the Chairmen of Galway and Westmeath County Councils.

Mr Lynch wrote it was suggested that the matter should be taken up on a non-party basis and that a Conference of Representatives from Public Bodies should be called together

for the purposes of considering what steps could be taken to prevent the passing of a law which would bring a recrudescence of civil strife in the country.

The enclosure to his letter was on similar lines.

Col. Quin said the matter was entirely concerned with politics, and he thought discussion on it should be barred. After all, no one had got anything to be afraid of except a man who murdered or robbed banks and filled his pockets. Anyhow it was politics and should not be discussed.

Mr Colloton - I propose you rule it out. It is politics pure and simple.

Col. Quin seconded.

Mr Cummins said that before it was ruled out as simply as that he thought there should be some consideration at least. The statement was signed by important men - two chairmen of County councils and one a mayor, and it was discussed by different councils in the Free State for the past week. He had some experience of what a Coercion Act meant. He knew what Buckshot Foster did, and he knew what Balfour did.

On a point of order, Mr Colloton objected to Mr Cummins continuing to speak on the matter prior to a decision being arrived at as to whether it should be discussed or not.

Chairman - If Mr Cummins moved an amendment to the proposition, and if it is passed by a majority by all means we will discuss it.

Mr Cummins - I think it ought to be considered and if you like I will move it in that way - that it ought to be considered - and surely when I move an amendment -

Chairman - It would not be an amendment; it would be a direct negative. If you vote against the proposition it would have the same effect.

Mr Cummins - And am I not allowed to explain my reasons ?

The Chairman said he did not want to be austere in the matter, but he had a motion before him, and unless there was an amendment to that he would have to put the motion.

Mr Cummins - Is a motion that it be considered not an amendment ?

Chairman - I don't see that it is; it is a direct negative.

Mr Cummins - Am I not allowed to explain the reason I ask it to be considered.

Col. Quin - Oh, we don't want to hear talk for half an hour.

Mr Cummins - The people I come here to represent, and the people that the Chairman represent and those that Col. Quin represent, don't want a Coercion Act, because it is not going to lead to any good, or to the prosperity that you are talking about, but, on the contrary, to a lot of mischief. I know none of the people I represent wish for a Coercion Act. That's the reason I ask you to consider the matter, and to try to stop those men from trying to throw the country into turmoil. I ask the Member of the Dail who is present to vote against the Bill.

Miss O'Ryan seconded Mr Cummins's proposition, and said that other members stated they regarded the matter as political, but Mr Cummins and herself did not consider it political at all. Of course, persons like Col. Quin that had no claim on the country practically always confused politics with nationality. It had been asked that all parties should come together and consider the matter in a calm way - to consider it and see could something be done to obviate the necessity for coercion of any kind. There was no reason why Irish men governing Irishmen had to rule them with the gun, and there was no reason why they should not come together and try to find a way out. They had longed for peace, and had got peace, and when they had peace they should try to maintain it.

Chairman - I will take the amendment.

Mr Murphy - What Miss O'Ryan says puts a different construction on the matter. None of us are against^{all} the

parties of the country coming together and trying to have peace in the country.

Col. Quin - It seems strange to have them stating that they want peace when they have had war and threw the country in a turmoil.

Miss O'Ryan said that as far as she had heard all the other county councils appointed delegates to the conference about to be held.

Chairman - I don't think all.

Miss O'Ryan - I don't say all, but I want to point out that there is such a thing as a conference trying to be got together. It is a way to peace any way, and there is something in the resolution with regard to having a conference.

Mr Gaul said that from the reading of the resolution it appeared to him that it was a protest against some Safety Bill.

Col. Quin - May I ask has this Bill been passed ? Do you know what it is going to be ? Aren't we just talking ~~about~~ hot air ?

Chairman - I quite agree we don't know what we are talking about. We don't know what the Bill is.

Col. Quin - After all, you can't talk about a Bill of which you don't know the provisions.

Mr Hayes remarked that if the Bill was passed it would be too late to discuss it.

Col. Gibbon (to chairman) - I suggest you take a vote now as to whether we discuss it, as you haven't given a ruling yourself.

Mr Corish said that the proposal submitted by Mr Lynch was not in accordance with the sentiments expressed by Miss O'Ryan. As far as he was concerned he was anxious to have peace. In order to have progress they wanted peace, but if they were going to discuss Coercion Acts at meetings

of public bodies they were not going to have peace. The resolution laid down that they should condemn the Act, but there was another side, and surely those people ought to put forward something in an effort to prevent shooting going on in the country. There was a time and place for shooting, but he thought everyone would agree that it was very, very inopportune that there should be shooting in the country at the moment. In his opinion the country had a splendid future owing to the position created in England by the depreciation in sterling. Apart from that they were to have the Eucharistic Congress next year, and it would be calamitous to have any disturbance. He would be in favour of public bodies coming together in an effort to have peace, but he was not going to condemn one side more than another. He was a member of the Labour party, and when the Bill was introduced that party would consider its effect on the country. He had never voted yet for a Coercion Act, and he was not going to pledge himself at the council meeting without consultation with his party.

Col. Gibbon suggested that they should not discuss proposals until the matter of the proposition was settled.

Chairman - I have hardly had time to rule. I would like to have all the discussion possible in a legal and presentable form, but I ~~didn't~~ get many chances to do anything at all on this, and I think an opportunity has arisen to get me out of it admirably. A resolution has been proposed, and I will take the feeling of the meeting, and you won't have to lay blame at the feet of the chairman afterwards.

A poll was taken on the amendment of Mr Cummins with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Breman, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Cummins, D'Arcy, Hayes and O'Ryan - 8.

Against:- Messrs Armstrong, Culleton, Gibbon, Hall, Meyler, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, Quin, Shannon, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 13.

Messrs Corish and Gaul (2) did not vote.

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

The resolution of Mr Culleton was then put.

The Chairman said that as a vote was not challenged he declared Mr Culleton's motion adopted.

Miss O'Ryan - Would you be in favour of sending delegates to this Conference in Dublin on 20th October ?

Chairman - I certainly would not be in favour.

The Chairman then declared the business concluded and left the chair.

The meeting then terminated.

Muhaf Doyle

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING 26TH OCTOBER 1931

M I N U T E S

COUNTY HALL,
WEXFORD.

N.J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

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A meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 26th October, 1931.

Mr. M. Doyle, Chairman, presided, and there were also present:- Messrs, James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Clince, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, Col.C.M. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Thomas Maylor, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, James Shannon and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and the following Assistant Surveyors were in attendance:-

Messrs R.J. Ennis, P. O'Neill, Thos. Cullen, and J.F. Birthistle.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £615: 7: 5d was examined and signed.

THE LATE VERY REV. CANON KEHOE P.P.

The Chairman proposed the following resolution:-

"That we offer our heartfelt sympathy to Mr John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor and the Misses Kehoe, in the death of Very Rev. Paul Canon Kehoe, P.P. Cloughbawn. By his demise the Church has lost a worthy son and the people of Cloughbawn a Pastor whose every hour was concerned for their spiritual and temporal welfare. In the forefront of every Nationalist movement his ability and foresight proved invaluable, while his work for the advancement of our native language was not the least of his activities and has earned the gratitude of every Gael."

In proposing the resolution the Chairman said that in the death of Father Kehoe the Church and parishioners had, indeed, suffered a very great loss. His popularity was

testified to by the very large funeral representative of every Parish in the County Wexford and of many outside of it. Father Kehoe was a school fellow of his for two or three years and he was always found supporting every movement for the benefit of the country. The sorrow which was exhibited by the parishioners at the graveside was evidence of the affection and esteem in which Canon Kehoe was held by his own people.

Mr Cummins in seconding paid tribute to Canon Kehoe's fine qualities as a priest and Irish gentleman.

The motion was spoken to by Col. Gibbon, Messrs O'Byrne, Shannon, Hayes and O'Ryan, the County Secretary, County Surveyor and County Solicitor.

It was then adopted in silence.

REPLIES TO VOTES OF CONDOLENCE

On the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Brennan it was decided that the following reply from Miss E.A. Finn, Priory Street, New Ross, to vote of condolence adopted by the County Council in the death of her father, Mr. M.J. Finn, Ex Town Clerk, New Ross, be inserted on the Minutes of meeting:

"Kindly convey to the members of the Co. Council my sincere thanks and that of the other members of the family, for their sympathy with us in our recent sorrow.

"I wish also to thank you for your personal sympathy and your expression of regret at my dear father's demise. R.I.P."

On the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Brennan it was decided that the following reply from Mr. M. Coghlan, Manager National Bank, Wexford, to vote of condolence adopted by the County Council on the death of Very Rev. Canon Sullivan P.P. Bannow, be inserted on the Minutes of meeting:-

"I am very grateful to the County Council for their kind resolution of sympathy in connection with the death of the late Canon Sullivan, P.P. Bannow. I conveyed the

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sympathy of the Council as well as your own personal tribute to the relatives of the late Canon, who desired me to express their best thanks, for same."

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S REPORT

The following monthly report was submitted by the County Surveyor:-

"I beg to report that Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, returned to duty, after sick leave, on 1st instant, and has since been carrying out his work.

Mr Moore, Clerk in County Surveyor's Office, will be returning to duty on the 26th instant, and I believe his health has much improved by his absence on sick leave.

The two contracts for laying concrete roads are in progress and well advanced. In connection with the New Ross end of the Pioneer Company's contract I have had difficulty in regard to the sand, and I had an interview with the Local Government Department's Engineer in Dublin, and Representatives of the Pioneer Company. The matter has now been arranged.

I submit report from Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, with reference to the proposed wall at Burrow, Rosslare. He has made observations of the depths of water at various states of tide as directed by the Council.

I have been in communication with the Local Government Department with reference to use of local tar, and have letter dated 8th instant in which it is stated that the letter to the Secretary in August last authorises the limited use of locally produced tar. I am, accordingly, using it as set out in my previous correspondence with the Department.

I have had application from the District Justice Clerk Enniscorthy, for an anthracite stove in his Office in the Courthouse. He occupies a long room with a fire-place at one end, and as the room is inclined to be damp he asks for an anthracite stove which will thoroughly dry out the place. I estimate that the cost of this will be in or about £10.

At last meeting of the Council, in connection with Courtown Harbour, there was a communication read from the Harbour Master, relative to the proposal of Lord Fitzwilliam, to develop export trade at the port, and a Committee was appointed. I have now written to Lord Fitzwilliam, asking when it would be convenient for him to meet the Committee, and shall summon it on hearing from him.

On the 20th instant the Committee appointed by the Council to inspect New Ross Bridge met on the site, and report from them will be before you.

In connection with the underpinning of the abutment at Ferrycarrig Bridge I visited Cork recently, and inspected the pressure piles being put in underpinning foundation there. Undoubtedly, this system in many cases must prove satisfactory, but I am doubtful as to its application at Ferrycarrig. I have gone very carefully into the whole matter, and I have come to the conclusion that it will be advisable to take down existing abutment and end span between it and the bascule, and to re-construct same. This reconstruction should provide for a much increased length of end span, and the abutment should be founded on the rock. I have arrived at this conclusion owing to the uncertainty of thoroughly eliminating movement of the abutment, and also in view of the fact that the bascule opening is at present so jammed that even if the abutment be stabilised there must be very extensive work carried out on the bascule before it could be made to open freely. With the re-construction of the end span I consider that there will be comparatively little difficulty in dealing with the bascule opening, and I expect that the total cost of the two methods will not differ very much. This work is really a Specialist's job, as there will be a great deal of special designing and calculation of stresses. Moreover, it will be advisable, to my mind, that some preliminary work be done in the way of excavating at the back of the existing

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abutment and putting in bore holes in front of it. Accordingly, I ask that the Council should put funds at my disposal to cover cost of the Specialist, and to carry out this preliminary work which should be done under his advice. I beg to report that at the present time, I am carrying out the repairs to the concrete on the remaining portion of the bridge, where the reinforcement was exposed to corrosion, and I shall, I believe, make a satisfactory job of this."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Cline:-

"That the Report of County Surveyor submitted to this meeting be received and considered."

Wall at Burrow Rosslare: The following report under date 23rd October, 1931, was read from Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor:-

"I have paid several visits to Rosslare Burrow in connection with above, both on Spring and neap tides.

"In normal weather conditions on a High Spring Tide there is not more than 14" water to be dealt with along the worst portions of the proposed line of wall. Only in one short spot was there a depth of 18". On Neap tides there is only a rise of 4" or 5" of water along the worst portions of the line.

"From enquiry and a study of the neighbourhood I find that only with a heavy gale from S.E. and a high tide are conditions any worse. I am waiting an opportunity of seeing the place under such conditions."

In reply to the Chairman the County Surveyor said the cost of proposed wall at the place would be from £800 to £1,000.

The Chairman said that the extraordinary high cost of the wall for the benefit of very few people prevented

the Council undertaking the work. The latter complained that they could not get their children to school and that even a horse and cart could not be brought along the place at certain times owing to the flooding by high tides. The Committee which went into the matter did not consider the hardship as great as was represented.

Col. Gibbon considered that in view of the Council's finances and report of Mr Birthistle they would not be justified in spending £1,000 on the place.

Mr Birthistle said that the situation would be considerably eased if the small corner immediately off the dead end of the Burrow road to the Bank could be filled in. This place was flooded practically at all tides.

Col. Gibbon said it would be very useful to obtain Mr Birthistle's further observations as tides would not be nearly as high as when his recent observations were made.

It was decided to adjourn further consideration for the supplemental report of Mr Birthistle and that the Co. Council members for Wexford County Electoral Area should meet the land owners concerned on Tuesday, 3rd November, at 3.30 p.m. at end of Burrow road to consider the proposal of the County Committee of Agriculture to plant part of the estuary with rice grass to ascertain if this would obviate the flooding."

Anthracite Stove for District Court Clerk's Office: The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr McCarthy seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That anthracite stove be, as recommended by County Surveyor, procured for office of District Court Clerk, Enniscorthy, cost of stove and fitting not to exceed £7, amount to be taken from Public Works Account"

Courtown Harbour: Letter under date 24th October, 1931, from Lord Fitzwilliam, 10 Grosvenor St. London W.1. to County Surveyor was read. In this it was pointed out that

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the harbour had been carefully and scientifically laid out and that there were great possibilities in the place for small trading ships of 100 or 200 tons many of which trade along the Welsh and English Coasts in the slate trade and carrying Road material. Lord Fitzwilliam was particularly interested in this, as he had been trying for some years to develop the slate trade at Kilcavan not many miles from Courtown where he saw possibilities. He was at present shipping about 160 tons a month from Arklow, somewhere between 23 and 25 miles from the quarries, very long for motor haulage and very expensive for rail haulage. He got into the harbour without trouble in his yacht of 88 tons, Thames measurement drawing about five feet. Once inside there was good quay accommodation, with about 9 or 10 feet of water alongside the walls, though the centre of the harbour had become silted up and required dredging. He realised that the harbour had not been used seriously for many years due he thought to the fact that the railway was so distant and that there was no siding accommodation on or near the quays. He realised further that, since the War mechanical traction was becoming much more universally used in the South of Ireland, and that the County Council had put down a very fine cement road between Courtown and Gorey. This encouraged him to think that if industries such as granite quarries, slate quarries or others were developed in the district (as no doubt they existed in the past) there being a great demand for these commodities in England, the old objection of distance from the railway was largely overcome.

He had not at the moment any definite proposal for shipping large tonnage Inertite slate flour or slates but if Courtown Harbour happened to be more suitable and more up to date than Arklow, it would afford just such facilities as Kilcavan slate quarries required.

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Did the County Council think the Harbour could be made a practical one and usable if trade was forthcoming. He concluded that the only trade available would be some bricks, slates, slate flour and timber, all going out and coal coming in. He might be able to make engagement for a short interview with some members of the Council on 12th November at Coollattin.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr D'Arcy seconded the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:-

"That the Committee appointed to consider proposals of Lord Fitzwilliam relative to Courtown Harbour improvements, viz., the County Councillors for Gorey Electoral area, invite - through the County Surveyor - to a meeting, persons who are interested in the development of this harbour with a view to drafting recommendations for submission to the Council. That the Committee select representatives with the County Surveyor to wait on Lord Fitzwilliam on 12th November, 1931, at Coollattin, and that report of interview be also submitted to the Council. That day and hour of meeting of Committee be arranged by County Surveyor."

New Ross Bridge: The County Surveyor submitted the following report of New Ross Bridge Committee:-

"On the 20th October, 1931, the Committee appointed by the County Council met at the Bridge.

"There were present:- Messrs Walsh and Cooney, and also Mr Breman: the other members of the Committee were unable to attend. Mr O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, and the Bridge Caretaker, as well as the County Surveyor were in attendance.

"The Committee having examined the Bridge both from above and below is satisfied that there is no serious wasting of the plates. Percolation of water from the roadway has in the past caused some slight wasting, but this is now very much reduced by the surface dressing of the roadway, and,

probably, can be entirely eliminated by further bitumen dressing. The examination of the original Plans and Specification with re-calculation of stresses by the County Surveyors will indicate the safe loading under modern traffic conditions.

The Committee makes the following recommendations:-

1. Where old-standing settlement appears in abutment on down stream left bank, the cut stone should be re-set so as to align with the unsettled masonry.
2. The ornamental caps of all piers and abutments should be repaired.
3. Small defects in railings and guard plates should be repaired. Also manhole covers.
4. Further bitumen dressing should be given to the road and footway surface so as to make them watertight and prevent percolation. This applies more particularly to the channels, and also to the timber decking on the swing section, and to the troughing in the main girders.
5. The chains and gear for working the swing section should be thoroughly over hauled.
6. Small repairs should be carried out to the dolphins.
7. A thorough cleaning down and repainting of the whole ironwork should be provided for and the work put in hands early next Spring.

Subject to such other matters that may be dealt with in the promised report from the two County Surveyors, the Committee is of opinion that on completion of the above recommended work the Bridge will be in a sound and satisfactory condition."

Mr Walsh said the point the Committee wished to stress was that the bridge required painting as soon as possible to prevent further deterioration. He would also ask the County Surveyor to have the bitumen dressing applied to the roadway to prevent further percolation of water. Of course the important work was the painting and this should be taken in hands as soon

as could be arranged. He understood that the work could not be done at the moment but the bitumen treatment of the channels could be carried out at once and he proposed it should be put in hands.

Mr Corish seconded the resolution, which was adopted unanimously.

The following resolution was then adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Clince:- "That the monthly Report of the County Surveyor to this meeting be and is hereby approved."

Ferrycarrig Bridge Repair: Under date 23rd October, 1931, the Department of Industry & Commerce (Transport and Marine Branch) wrote (M.S. 2829) stating that a communication had been received from the Wexford Harbour Commissioners protesting against the proposal for the substitution of a fixed span for the existing opening span of the bridge. A press cutting of the meeting of the Harbour Commissioners was enclosed and the Council were asked to forward their observations to the Department in regard to the statements made at this meeting.

The County Surveyor said that a preliminary estimate for underpinning the abutment was £1,700, but this did not include the alteration of the bascule. The total cost of the work would be about £2,000.

The Chairman said that the bridge was erected 18 years and there must have been something radically wrong with the design when it was estimated to cost this very large sum now.

The County Surveyor said that the bridge was not in a satisfactory position at the present time particularly at the end where the abutment was slipping forward and the bascule being jammed. The abutment was founded on mud. The original intention had been to have the last span cantilevered and not raised on the abutment and ~~he~~ did not know why this departure from the original design had been made. He asked for £100 for making the necessary borings

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and excavations at the back and when these were made he would be in a position to make a further report.

The Chairman said it was only right to state that Mr Barry was not their County Surveyor when the bridge was erected.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Brennan seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That the sum of £100, to be withdrawn from Public Works Account, be placed in the hands of the County Surveyor for the purpose of employing Specialist and carrying out necessary borings and excavations at Ferrycarrig Bridge."

In reply to Mr Culleton the County Surveyor said that even if they had permission to close the opening span the Council would still have to carry out the work of underpinning the abutment. If the bascule was to be a fixed span a short timber temporary bridge would have to be erected while the work was being carried out.

Kerlogue Road: The following memorial extensively signed was read:- "We the undersigned wish to bring to the notice of the Wexford County Council the very dangerous state of the Wexford-Rosslare Road between junction of Kilmore road and the town of Wexford. At present parts are almost impassable to horses due to the slippery condition of the surface. We suggest where no margins have been left for horse traffic, sand or quarry dust might be scattered periodically in order to give our animals a footing."

Mr F. Staples V.S. Wexford, wrote that on the 18th October, 1931, his pony came down at Kerlogue breaking both trap shafts. It was very fortunate more serious damage did not happen. Mr Culleton M.C.C. was on the road at the time. He (Mr Staples) thought the County Council was liable for the damage.

Mrs Echlin, Drinagh House, wrote that on Monday, 19th October, 1931, her pony fell on this road. It had fallen three times previously on the same road.

Mr. G. Devereux, Ballyfinogue, Drinagh, wrote that on four occasions his milk horses came down on this road with serious loss of milk and damage to the animals.

Mr Culleton said that constant complaints were made as to the polished condition of this road. He thought a harrow should be run over the side so as to ensure a margin over which animals could travel.

The County Surveyor said that they had no chippings at Kerlogue Quarry for such work. He had intended putting them out and would do so immediately.

Mr D'Arcy said a margin should be left on all these roads in the County. It was a scandal to see the manner in which horses were constantly falling.

The Chairman said he had more reason to complain of this particular road than any other Councillor as he lived on it. The whole road was now becoming polished and something would have to be done if people were to use it.

Mr Hall said he was always of the opinion that the slipperiness of these roads was caused because too much tar was used in their improvement.

The Chairman said he believed that the chippings used in the work were not sufficiently coarse.

Miss O'Ryan said that a wide margin should have been left on these roads to cater for the plain people who could not afford motors. This had been done successfully in other Counties.

The County Surveyor said that in other counties the margin left had cut up badly and the margin was now being filled. The concentration of the traffic in the one line did the harm.

Mr O'Byrne said that Esmonde Street, Gorey, was becoming very slippery and dangerous to horse traffic. When this happened before screenings had been spread with good results and he suggested that screenings should be renewed.

The County Surveyor said he would have chippings spread on Esmonde Street, Gorey.

Mr Culleton said that chippings would be effective for a short time only. They should tear up the sides of these dangerous roads.

The County Surveyor said the Council had been in treaty with the Selskar Iron Works for a gritting machine but it was not entirely satisfactory. He, however, understood from Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, that such improvements had been made as would allow satisfactory work to be done. The Council should authorise him to purchase one of these machines

After discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Corish seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That the Council procure a road gritting machine from Selskar Iron Works, cost not to exceed £20 cost to be taken from appropriate Contingency Fund."

DEATH OF MR TIMOTHY LARKIN

The following under date 21st October, 1931, (R/RM/32) was read from the Local Government Department:-

"With reference to your letter of 16th instant relative to a proposal of Wexford County Council to make an ex gratia payment to the widow of a man who died as the result of an accident while employed by the Council, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that if a payment cannot be legally made, his sanction would not legalise it."

On the suggestion of the Chairman it was decided that Mr Corish T.D. should interview the Minister for Local Government as to the proposal of the County Council to pay Mrs Larkin an ex-gratia grant of £50.

NEW HOUSE AT POULFUR

The following under date 23rd October, 1931, was read from Mr John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor:-

"Mr Maurice Breen, Dungulph, Duncannon, has built a small house near Poulfur Catholic Church, at the junction between Main Road No. 70 and Road No. 845.

"The house is well in from either road, but there are two walls built from the house the end of one being only 14 feet from the centre of road No. 70 and the end of the other wall about 12 feet from the centre of No. 845.

"You may remember inspecting this place a few years ago with view of changing the direction of the road so as to take away a bad curve.

If this work is ever done I'm afraid the walls mentioned above will seriously interfere with the project."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Corish seconded by Mr D'Arcy:-

"That the County Councillors for New Ross Electoral Area be appointed a Committee to inspect and report as to house erected by Maurice Breen at Poulfur, with County Surveyor and Mr Kehoe, District Surveyor. That County Surveyor arrange for place, date and hour of meeting and summon members of same."

DUNCANNON PIER

The following under date 20th October, 1931, was read from Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor:-

"Some time ago the Fishermen at Duncannon complained of their nets being torn when taking them out of the water at the inner Pier on account of the rough masonry in the front of the Pier.

"I inspected the place yesterday, and could not find anything wrong there. The Pier wall is roughly built, but it is just the same now as when I knew it first.

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"I do not think you can do anything in the matter."

Mr Corish said the information he had received from the local people was at variance with this report.

The Chairman proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That the County Councillors for New Ross County Electoral Area be appointed a Committee to inspect Duncannon Pier, inspection to take place on same day as inspection of road at Clonard, Committee to be summoned by County Surveyor."

BROADWAY HALL -----

The following report under date 23rd October, 1931, was read from Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor:-

"I visited above hall on 12th instant, in connection with Mr Doyle's application for a Cinema Licence.

"There are three substantial exits, and many large windows in the side of the building. The operators box is constructed of fire resisting material - has its own separate entrance, and is built on to one end of the Main Hall.

"I regard the Hall as quite suitable for a Cinema show. The only possible objection is the seating which consists of loose forms. These might be temporarily joined together during picture performances."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Corish:-

"That the attention of Hon Secretary, Broadway Hall, be called to the recommendation of Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, as to joining up the loose forms in the hall for exhibitions of moving pictures."

ILLNESS OF ASSISTANT SURVEYOR -----

The following extract from Minutes of Finance Committee meeting of 22nd October, 1931, was confirmed on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:-

"The County Surveyor reported that Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, Gorey District, had to undergo on 14th October, 1931,

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an operation in Dr. Furlong's Nursing Home, Wexford, and would not be fit for duty for at least 10 days from date of meeting of Finance Committee.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That acting on Report of County Surveyor ten days' sick leave be granted to Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, Gorey District, as from this date."

Under date 26th October, 1931, Dr. S.A. Furlong, Infirmary House, Wexford, forwarded the following Certificate:-

"This is to certify that T. Treanor, is unable to attend to his duties owing to an operation for haemorrhoids."

COMPLAINT OF CONDITION OF ROAD

The following under date 1st October, 1931, was read from Mr Peter O'Connor, Solicitor, O'Connell Street, Waterford:-

"I have been instructed by Mr William Ward, of Clonlard, Duncannon, to write to you in reference to the bad state of repair of the road leading to his house.

"My client informs me that the road in question is in such a shocking state of repair that he is unable to use it for the purpose of working his farm, as on several occasions when he took a lorry over it the springs were broken. In this connection he has produced to me receipted bill for £5:16: 6d which shows that between 6th March last and 10th August my client had six springs broken, and one spring broken in his private motor car owing to the condition of the road mentioned.

My client has no desire to be obliged to go to the expense of instituting proceedings for recovery of the loss he has sustained through the failure of your Council to keep the road in a proper state of repair; but if something is not done shortly to put the road at least in a passable state, my client, has instructed me to institute proceedings

My Client is a very large ratepayer and gives consider-

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able employment, and it is submitted that he is at least deserving of consideration on the part of your Council.

When the matter of the Clonlard Road was raised at your last meeting, it was stated that my client's lorry was responsible for its condition. Now my client emphatically denies that this is the case, and states if the road had had a proper surface put on it, and if the material used by the Contractor in repairing it had been checked it would not be in the bad condition that it is.

If the report of your last meeting as reported in the New Ross Standard of the 18th ult. is accurate, a deliberate mis-statement was made by the County Surveyor that he had replied to my client's letter in connection with this matter, as he instructs me that he never received any written communication in respect of the complaint by him.

Please lay this letter before your Council and I trust that it will receive very careful consideration, as my client cannot allow the present deplorable condition of things to continue without taking some adequate steps for his own protection."

The County Surveyor said he thought he had written to Mr Ward in the matter and there was no question of a deliberate mis-statement. He was of course speaking from recollection at the time. He certainly wrote to Mr Murphy M.C.C. and Mr O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, in connection with this road to inspect and see what could be done.

Mr Murphy said no one who knew the County Surveyor would ever accuse ^{him} of making a deliberate mis-statement. He (Mr Murphy) had had a communication from the County Surveyor in the matter. Want of money was really the cause of not attending to it before now.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Murphy seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That the County Councillors for New Ross Electoral Area inspect and report as to

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condition of road at Clonlard in respect of which complaint of its condition has been made by Mr William Ward."

GREAT ISLAND SLUICES

Under date 7th October, 1931, Mr. N. Murphy, Kilmokea, Campile, wrote that the Gallwey (Power) Estate Great Island would shortly be vested in the tenants and on this estate there are two sluices and two embankments. One of these sluices and one of the embankments was in the Kilmannock Drainage Area and was partly secured by £400 invested in the name of the Public Trustee.

The other sluice and its embankment outside Kilmannock Drainage Area was in a dangerous condition. The matter was brought to the notice of the Land Commission with a view to having some of the purchase money set aside as was done in the case of Kilmannock. Mr Batchen, Engineer, of the Office of Public Works, who made a detailed inspection in January last agreed that the structures were in a dangerous condition. The Head Inspector, Mr Campbell, was down after Mr Batchen and said that there was no chance of getting money invested. The tenants heard no more of the matter. If this sluice or embankment gave way it would seriously jeopardize the protection wall of the County Council leading into the Great Island. He suggested that the County Council should make representations to the Land Commission on this point. Some years ago this embankment burst and the tide came in and did about £150 damage by removing all the earthen "backing" from the protection wall and tearing up the public road. It was the previous failure of the same embankment that necessitated the building of the protection wall at a cost of £360, to the Grand Jury in 1885. A very serious flooding of land would follow any accident to the sluice or embankment,

Mr Murphy said if these sluices were not kept in order the Great Island would become an island in reality. The Council,

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only for the protection of their own property, and of the Kilmannock drainage area, should make representations to the Land Commission to earmark out of the purchase money a sufficient amount to produce annual interest to cover cost of keeping the sluices and embankment in order.

The following resolution was then adopted on the motion of Mr Murphy seconded by Mr Cummins:- "That representations be made to the Land Commission that when about to vest the lands on the Gallwey-Power and Barret Hamilton estates in the tenants a sufficient amount would be retained from the purchase money the interest of which when invested would produce sufficient to keep the drainage embankments and sluices on these estates in good working order. We wish to point out that the owners of these estates were responsible for the maintenance of drainage in the past and this responsibility should not now be passed on to the purchasing tenants.

"That Messrs Jordan and Corish T.D.'s be asked to interest themselves on behalf of the tenants concerned."

SPECIAL SUB-COMMITTEE ROAD MAINTENANCE

Report of this Sub-Committee which sat on 22nd May, 1929, was laid before the meeting.

The Secretary explained that this report was adjourned from time to time, on the last occasion for twelve months. This period was now expired and the report came forward for consideration.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Clince:- "That Report of special Sub-Committee Road Maintenance be referred to the incoming County Council."

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

The following Minute of Finance Committee meeting of 22nd October, 1931, was confirmed on the motion of Mr Corish seconded by Mr Cummins:-

"Under date 19th October, 1931, Mr ~~Joseph~~A. Flynn, Ballyvoclar, Campile, wrote that as he was leaving shortly for Rome to pursue his ecclesiastical studies in the Irish College there, it would be impossible for him to avail of the University Scholarship awarded by the County Council.

Proposed by Mr O'Byrne and seconded by Mr Culleton and passed:-

"That vacant scholarship be offered to Mary Kavanagh, Hollyfort, Gorey, who has been decided by the Academic Council, University College, Dublin, as eligible for the award of such scholarship."

"Under date 17th October, 1931, Mr Joseph Cullen, 16 Monck Street, Wexford, wrote applying for an extension of his Scholarship with a view to obtaining the Higher Diploma in Education, as he had been informed by the University Authorities that he was successful in securing the B. Sc. Degree."

"Proposed by Mr O'Byrne and seconded by Mr Culleton and adopted:-

"That the Council be recommended to accede to the request of Mr Joseph Cullen B. Sc., University Scholar, for an extension of his Scholarship in order to obtain the Higher Diploma in Education."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That the Council be recommended to agree to changes of addresses for University Scholarship holders:-

John Dunphy, c/o Mrs T. O'Byrne, Rathcoole, Co. Dublin.

John J. Hunt, Ashview, Chapleizod, Co. Dublin, provided the premises are approved by the Dean of Residence."

COVERING FOR FLOOR OF COUNTY COURTHOUSE

The following extract from Minutes of Finance Committee meeting of 22nd October, 1931, was submitted:-

"Under date 13th October, 1931, Mr Elgee, County Solicitor, forwarded for consideration the following letter 404/296 from

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the Department of Finance:-

"With further reference to your letter of the 9th ult., and previous correspondence regarding the payment of the balance of a conditional Award of £5,000: 0: 0: made in respect of the destruction of Wexford Courthouse, I am directed by the Minister for Finance to state that he understands that the acoustics of the new Courthouse are defective, that the County Council has so far failed to carry out a request made to them on more than one occasion that the floor of the Building should be covered with linoleum or matting and that in consequence the Judge has been obliged to direct that the Circuit Court Business be transferred to Enniscorthy.

"I am to inform you that the question of paying the balance of the Award to the Council must be deferred until the requirements of the Judge have reasonably been met.

"I am also to point out that the necessity for transferring Circuit Court Business to Enniscorthy involves the imposition on Public Funds of avoidable expense. This fact will be taken into consideration when the balance of the Award is being discharged."

"After discussion it was decided to refer this matter to the County Council in view of the refusal of the Council to provide a covering referred to in letter from Department of Finance."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That Mr Elgee, Co. Solicitor, direct the attention of the Finance Department to Standing Order No. 29 of Wexford County Council as follows:-

"No motion to rescind or vary any resolution which has been passed within the preceding twelve months, nor any motion to the same effect as any Motion which has been negatived within the preceding twelve months shall be in order, unless the notice thereof shall have been given and specified in the summons, and in the notice shall bear, in addition to the name of the Member who proposes the Motion, the names of four other

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members; and when any such Motion has been disposed of by the Council, it shall not be competent for any member to propose a similar Motion within a further period of six months."

"That Mr Elgee, point out that a motion to rescind the decision of the Council refusing to provide a covering for the County Courthouse floor has been already defeated."

FLOODING OF PREMISES AT KILRUSH (BUNCLODY)

The following report under date 23rd October, 1931, was read from Mr Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, as to the flooding of shop of Mr Codd, Kilrush:-

"I have inspected this place. It is the usual case of a house built under the level of the road. In time of heavy rain it does undoubtedly get some water from the road surface. It would be almost impossible to provide an absolutely perfect remedy. However, an expenditure of about £11 on sheeting and banking with tarred stone would greatly improve matters. This would also prevent the road surface from being torn. I would suggest that the work be brought forward as a proposal for next year, as it would be best done in the Summer. Mr Codd would be satisfied with this."

Mr Armstrong proposed and Mr Shannon seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That the recommendation of Assistant Surveyor relative to flooding of the premises of Mr Codd, Kilrush, Bunclody, be adopted."

DUMP FOR BUNCLODY

In connection with letter from Mr. R.W. Hall Dare offering a vacant space for use as refuse dump by the people of Bunclody village the following under date 15th October, 1931, was read from Mr Ennis, Assistant Surveyor:-

"I think this is really more a matter for the Board of

Health. The disposal of house refuse is the real problem. At present I have great difficulty in preventing it from being placed on the sides of the roads. Of course if there was a depot for rubbish we would put a certain amount of road scrapings etc., in it. These would help to keep it sightly and sanitary. This letter from Mr Hall Dare ought to be sent to Mr G. Flood. In the meantime I will find out where this old quarry is, and instruct our Foreman to put anything which he has to dispose of into it."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Corish seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That all correspondence in connection with offer of Mr Hall Dare to provide dump for Bunclody village be forwarded County Board of Health for the information of that body."

ADVERTISING CONTRACT FOR 1932

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Brennan:- "That the Council inform proprietors of the three local papers they are prepared to enter into a Contract for the publication of the advertisements of County Council and County Committee of Agriculture for one year as from 1st January, 1932, at £110 in each case."

ROAD NUISANCE

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That Mr Elgee, Solicitor, be directed to take the necessary steps to compel James Brookes, Ballyprecus, Bunclody, to remove hut at Ballyprecus and which is an obstruction on the public road."

PROPOSED SALE OF LABOURERS' COTTAGES

Statement of Mr E.J. Mitchell, M.C.C. at Limerick County Council as to sale of labourers' cottages to the tenants was submitted. The cottages were to be disposed of

for cash or by loan, proceeds to be applied for the building of additional cottages, and amount of purchase money to be fixed by valuation. Mr Mitchell held that the scheme would greatly benefit the ratepayers and that there would be no danger of the cottages being allowed to fall into disrepair, after purchase.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Gibbon seconded by Mr Culleton:-

"That the statement of Mr. E.J. Mitchell, County Councillor, Limerick, as to sale of labourers' cottages be furnished County Wexford Board of Health for the information of that body."

PROPOSED CONVENTION OF COUNTY COUNCILLORS

The following resolution was received from Tipperary County Council (S. R.):-

"That the Chairman and Vice Chairman of County Councils; Corporations, and Urban Councils be requested to hold a Convention in Dublin immediately for the purpose of asking the Leaders of the different parties in the Dail to find a common basis of agreement for the acceptance of Treaty Rights so that the Nation may proceed to its economic development in peace and good order."

An exactly similar resolution with however, the following addition was received from Cavan County Council:-

"And that the Convention when assembled and Chairman agreed to immediately proceed to issue an invitation to the Cardinal Primate (Most Rev. Dr. MacRory) to preside and assist the Convention in its objects. As a second important subject the Convention to also consider the relationship between the Governing Authority and the Local Authorities in the State."

Miss O'Ryan proposed and Mr Cummins seconded the adoption of the Tipperary Resolution.

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The Chairman and Vice Chairman stated if resolution was adopted they would not attend the Convention.

After a long discussion a vote was taken with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Cummins, Hall, Hayes and O'Ryan - 7.

Against:- Messrs Armstrong, Culleton, Gibbon, Meyler, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, Shannon, Walsh and the Chairman - 10.

Mr Corish (1) declined to vote and Messrs Brennan and D'Arcy (2) were not present when vote was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

The resolution from Cavan County Council was not proposed.

PUBLIC SAFETY ACT

The following resolution was moved by Mr Cummins and seconded by Miss O'Ryan:- "That we agree with the following resolution adopted at the meeting of Westmeath County Council on 8th October, 1931:-

"That we the Members of the Westmeath County Council view with grave apprehension the so called Public Safety Act about to be enacted in the Free State Parliament.

"We regard such a Bill as a grave menace to the liberty of the individual and to the peace of the Nation.

"That we call on all Public Bodies to do their utmost to secure its withdrawal or defeat."

After discussion a vote was taken on the motion with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Cummins, Hayes, and O'Ryan - 6.

Against:- Messrs Armstrong, Culleton, Gibbon, Hall, Meyler, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, Shannon, Walsh and the Chairman - 11.

Messrs Brennan and D'Arcy (2) were not present when poll was taken, and Mr Corish (1) declined to vote.

The Chairman declared the resolution lost.

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

MEETING - 9TH NOVEMBER 1931

M I N U T E S

COUNTY HALL,
WEXFORD.

N.J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

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A meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 9th November, 1931.

Present:- Mr. M. Doyle (Chairman) presiding. Also:- Messrs John Brennan, James Clince, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, James Gaul, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Michael Jordan, William P. Keegan, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The Chairman mentioned that Col. Gibbon could not attend the meeting as he had to be present at a Conference in Dublin with the Beet Growers' Association.

The County Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and Rate Inspector were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £14,875: 1: 8d was examined and signed.

THE LATE MR. RECK

Mr McCarthy proposed the following resolution:-

"That we express our deep sympathy with our esteemed colleague, Mr James Shannon, in the death of his nephew, Mr Robert Reck, Courtnacuddy, Enniscorthy, and which occurred under tragic circumstances."

In moving the motion Mr McCarthy said that Mr Reck was cycling to his work on 6th inst. when he collided with a lorry and was killed instantly. Deceased was a young man of fine character and was universally esteemed and respected in his district.

Mr Corish seconded the motion which was spoken to by Mr O'Byrne, Mr Cummins, the Chairman, Secretary, County Surveyor and County Solicitor, and adopted in silence.

THE LATE CANON KEHOE

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The following resolution proposed by Mr O'Byrne, and

seconded by Mr Smyth was adopted nem con:-

"That reply received from Mr John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, to vote of condolence by the County Council on the death of his brother, the late lamented Very Rev. Paul Canon Kehoe P.P. Cloughbawn, be inserted on this day's Minutes."

The following is copy of reply:-

"Will you please convey to the County Council our sincere thanks for the kindness shown us on the death of our dear brother Father Paul.

"It is a great consolation to have such a kind and sympathetic resolution sent to us in our bereavement by the premier body of the County Wexford.

"Please assure them we will always remember their thoughtfulness with pride and gratitude.

"We have also to express our deep obligations to yourself and staff and to the other officials who so kindly sympathised with us in our loss."

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEES.

Finance Committee: Minutes of Meeting of Finance Committee of 22nd October, 1931, were submitted as follows:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 22nd October, 1931.

Present - Messrs John J. Culleton, James Hall, Sean O'Byrne and James Shannon.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and Rate Inspector were also in attendance.

The Chair was taken by Mr Hall on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £2,661: 14: 7d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

The State of Rate Collection up to date was laid before the meeting as follows:-

No.	Name of Collector.	Percentage of Warrant collected.
1.	John Curtis	49.6 %
2.	E. J. Murphy	46.1 %
3.	J.J. O'Reilly	45.2 %
4.	J. Quirke (No.1)	43.2 %
5.	Art Dunne	42.1 %
6.	M. McCarthy	41.4 %
7.	Thady Bolger (Own)	40.8 %
8.	Thos. Rowe	40.4 %
9.	Wm. Doyle	40.2 %
10.	Joseph Cummins	40.0 %
11.	Patk. O'Byrne	39.1 %
12.	John Deegan	38.8 %
13.	Patk. Carty	38.8 %
14.	Philip Doyle	38.7 %

No.	Name of Collector.	Percentage of Warrant collected.
15.	Patk. Nolan	37.7 %
16.	Sean Gannon (No.6)	37.5 %
17.	W. Cummins	37.0 %
18.	Sean Gannon (No.10)	35.6 %
19.	J.J. Sinnott	34.6 %
20.	Jas. Quirke (No. 2)	32.8 %
21.	T. Bolger (No. 12)	31.5 %

In connection with the failure of Collector T. Rowe (No. 18 District), to explain to the Finance Committee his failure to lodge 25 % of his Warrant by the 31st August, 1931, Mr Rowe came before the meeting and expressed his regret that he had neglected to attend to the communications of the Finance Committee in this matter. He promised he would be more careful in the future.

The meeting accepted his explanation.

SEIZURE OF SHEEP ON BANTRY COMMONS

Under date 12th October, 1931, the Local Government Department wrote (G. 76912/31/ Fa Loch Garman) that with reference to the account of Mr O'Byrne, Rate Collector, in connection with the seizure of sheep on Bantry and Blackstairs Commons, the proposed payment of £26: 10s. 0d was not a matter for the sanction of the Minister but should be dealt with by the County Council on their own responsibility.

After discussion with Mr Elgee, the meeting decided to adjourn consideration of this matter until the next meeting.

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COVERING FOR FLOOR OF WEXFORD COURTHOUSE

Under date 13th October, 1931, Mr Elgee, County Solicitor, forwarded for consideration the following letter 404/296 from the Department of Finance:-

"With further reference to your letter of the 9th ult. and previous correspondence regarding the payment of the balance of a conditional Award of £5,000:0:0: made in respect of the destruction of Wexford Courthouse, I am directed by the Minister for Finance to state that he understands that the acoustics of the new courthouse are defective, that the County Council has so far failed to carry out a request made to them on more than one occasion that the floor of the Building should be covered with linoleum or matting and that in consequence the Judge has been obliged to direct that the Circuit Court Business be transferred to Enniscorthy.

"I am to inform you that the question of paying the balance of the Award to the Council must be deferred until the requirements of the Judge have reasonably been met.

"I am also to point out that the necessity for transferring Circuit Court Business to Enniscorthy involves the imposition on Public Funds of avoidable expense. This fact will be taken into consideration when the balance of the Award is being discharged."

After discussion it was decided to refer this matter to the County Council in view of the refusal of the Council to provide a covering referred to in letter from Department of Finance.

ILLNESS OF ASSISTANT SURVEYOR

The County Surveyor reported that Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, Gorey District, had to undergo on 14th October, 1931, an operation in Dr. Furlong's Nursing Home, Wexford, and would not be fit for duty for at least 10 days from date

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of meeting of Finance Committee.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That acting on Report of County Surveyor, ten days' sick leave be granted to Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, Gorey District, as from this date."

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

Under date 19th October, 1931, Mr Joseph A. Flynn, Ballyvoclare, Campile, wrote that as he was leaving shortly for Rome to pursue his ecclesiastical studies in the Irish College there, it would be impossible for him to avail of the University Scholarship awarded by the County Council.

Proposed by Mr O'Byrne and seconded by Mr Culleton and passed:-

"That vacant Scholarship be offered to Mary Kavanagh, Hollyfort, Gorey, who has been decided by the Academic Council, University College, Dublin, as eligible for the award of such Scholarship."

Under date 17th October, 1931, Mr Joseph Cullen, 16 Monck Street, Wexford, wrote applying for an extension of his Scholarship with a view to obtaining the Higher Diploma in Education, as he had been informed by the University Authorities that he was successful in securing the B. Sc. Degree.

Proposed by Mr O'Byrne, seconded by Mr Culleton and adopted:-

"That the Council be recommended to accede to the request of Mr Joseph Cullen B. Sc., University Scholar, for an extension of his Scholarship, in order to obtain the Higher Diploma in Education."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That the Council be recommended to agree to changes

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of addresses for University Scholarship holders:-

John Dunphy, c/o Mrs. T. O'Byrne, Rathcoole, Co. Dublin.

John J. Hunt, Ashview, Chapleizod, Co. Dublin, provided the premises are approved by the Dean of Residence."

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL CASES

Notification, under date 13th October, 1931, was received from the Garda Siochana, New Ross, as to application on the 20th October, 1931, to the local District Court for the committal of Martin O'Brien, Mary Street, New Ross, aged 7½ years, illegitimate son of Mary McGrath, to Kilkenny Industrial School.

Mr. R.J. Shortall, Wexford, Superintendent, Home Assistance, reported that the mother of this child was a widow and had four children under 15 years of age. She kept house for her father a tinsmith, who was not sufficiently well off to provide for all the family. She was in receipt of 4/- weekly, home assistance, and the whole family appeared to be just able to carry on.

Mr Elgee reported that the District Justice, had made an order to commit this child to Kilkenny Industrial school.

In connection with the committal of Elizabeth Roche, 4 years old, to an Industrial School, Mr Shortall, Superintendent Home Assistance, reported that the mother Ellen Roche who resided at Hospital Lane, Enniscorthy, was in receipt of 4/- Home Assistance, and also had 3/9 weekly for repairing bags. She had a son 18 years old who worked occasionally. Owing to the husband having being committed to prison the wife and family were in poor circumstances. Three of the children had been committed to schools and this left Mrs Roche without the necessity of providing for them.

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Her circumstances, therefore, in Mr Shortall's opinion, should be somewhat altered.

Mr Elgee, reported that in this case the District Justice stated that the child should be committed and had accordingly agreed to the application.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

In connection with Report received in County Council offices on 22nd October, 1931, in regard to sample of whiskey purchased in New Ross on 16th September, 1931, Mr Elgee stated that as proceedings in such cases must be instituted within 28 days from the date the sample was taken proceedings could not now be taken.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr Colloton:-

"That District Superintendent, Garda Siochana, New Ross, be requested to report direct to Mr Elgee, County Solicitor, in all cases coming under Food & Drugs Acts, and in which articles are reported by the County Analyst as not genuine."

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The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Clince:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 22nd October, 1931, be received and considered."

The Secretary stated that the following items had been disposed of at Council meeting of 26th October, 1931:-

Covering for floor of Wexford Courthouse; Illness of Assistant Surveyor and University Scholarship Scheme.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Clince seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 22nd October, 1931, be and are hereby confirmed "
Finance Committee Meeting 5th November, 1931: The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 5th November, 1931 were submitted as follows:-

10

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 5th November, 1931.

Present:- Messrs James Hall, Thomas McCarthy, Sean O'Byrne, James Shannon and Col. C.M. Gibbon.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and Rate Inspector were also present.

On the motion of Col. Gibbon seconded by Mr O'Byrne the chair was taken by Mr Hall.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £6,329: 2: 0d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

State of: The State of Rate Collection up to date as follows was read:

Name of Collector.		Percentage of Warrant collected
1.	J. Quirke (No.1)	52.2
2.	J. Curtis	51.8
3.	E. J. Murphy	47.6
4.	J.J. O'Reilly	47.1
5.	W. Doyle	47.
6.	J. Cummins	45.
7.	T. Rowe	44.7
8.	Sean Gannon (No.6)	44.5
9.	Sean Gannon (No.10)	44.4
10.	P. Carty	44.0
11.	T. Bolger (No.14)	43.9
12.	M. McCarthy	43.9
13.	Art Dunne	43.6
14.	P. O'Byrne	43.4

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Name of Collector.	Percentage of Warrant collected.
15. P. Doyle	42.0
16. J. Deegan	41.0
17. W. Cummins	40.5
18. Patrick Nolan	40.4
19. J.J. Sinnott	38.0
20. J. Quirke (No.2)	34.9
21. T. Bolger (No.12)	34.3

The aggregate collection showed an increase of 3 per cent over the corresponding period last year.

Payment of Poundage: The following under date 26th October, 1931, (G.70913-1931 Loch Garman) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of the resolution of the Wexford County Council at their meeting on the 12th instant regarding the payment of poundage. I am to draw attention to Article 101 (1) of the Public Bodies Order, 1925, and to point out that the method of poundage payment is not irregular. Poundage is payable half-yearly when a sum equivalent to the first moiety and arrears is lodged and when the Collectors' warrants are closed. The Minister will not sanction the payment of poundage to any Collector until he has lodged a sum equivalent to the first moiety and arrears. Where such lodgment is not made by the prescribed date the Collector concerned should not expect to receive poundage at the full rate otherwise authorised."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Gibbon seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That in view of the large amount of arrears brought in for collection for current financial year we request the Minister for Local Government to sanction payment of poundage on account to the extent of

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75 % on lodgments to the 31st October, 1931, in all cases in which 50 % of total warrant is lodged within a month. We are also of opinion that more favourable treatment viz. payment of poundage when 40 % of total warrant has been lodged, should be meted out to Collectors who have been appointed for work in districts besides their own owing to the fact that the work of Collection, through want of knowledge of the locality concerned presents exceptional difficulties."

Illness of Rate Collector: Medical Certificates were read from Dr. J.J.O'Neill, Bellevue, Camolin, under date 21st and 27th October, stating that Mr.T. Bolger (Nos. 12 & 14 Districts) was suffering from a severe attack of acute suppurative tonsillitis and would not be fit to resume duty until November 2nd.

The Secretary stated that Mr Bolger had resumed duty on last mentioned date.

Application Rate Inspector: Application from Mr O'Kennedy, for increase in his salary and travelling expenses, adjourned from meeting of Finance Committee of 8th October, 1931, was considered.

Mr McCarthy proposed and Mr Shannon seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That County Council be recommended to increase the amount of travelling expenses of Mr O'Kennedy, Rate Inspector, by £50 per annum. This proposal to be subject to the approval of the L. G. D."

PROPOSED LOAN £750 - COURTOWN HARBOUR

Under date 27th October, 1931, the Manager, National Bank, Wexford, wrote that he had submitted the application of the County Council for Loan of £750 to cover the cost of completing the work at Courtown Harbour to his Directors, who declined to grant same, the loan being regarded as too small to entitle it to such terms regarding repayment as

applied to the existing Loans account of the Council.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr McCarthy seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That in view of the refusal of the National Bank Ltd to agree to advance/^{Loan} of £750 for work at Courtown Harbour, we recommend the Council to provide this amount out of the Public Works Account and to raise same in next year's Estimate for maintenance of Public Works."

IRISH TOURIST ASSOCIATION AND AGREEMENT

In connection with this matter letter under date 23rd October, 1931, was read from the Secretary, Irish Tourist Association, O'Connell Street, Dublin, enclosing the opinion of Mr Arthur Cox, Solicitor, 42-43 Stephen's Green, Dublin, from which it would appear Mr Cox held that in order to allow a County Council to hand over the contribution raised by them under the Tourist Traffic Development Act, 1931, it was necessary to enter into an agreement with the Authority empowered under this Act to receive such contribution."

Mr Elgee mentioned that in view of the repeal of Section 67 of the Local Government Act, 1925, it would appear that any County Council which raised a contribution under the Tourist Traffic Development Act, 1931, were bound to enter into an agreement such as suggested by the Irish Tourist Association. Of course the agreement need only be for the one year, at the end of which the County Council were perfectly entitled to decide whether or no their contribution should continue.

After discussion Mr McCarthy proposed and Mr O'Byrne seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That the County Council be recommended to enter into the necessary agreement with the Tourist Development Association to enable the rates contribution under the Tourist Traffic Development Act, 1931, to be paid over to

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the Association.

"That this Agreement apply to the current year only."

NAVIGATION LIGHTS - NEW ROSS BRIDGE

Under date 23rd October, 1931, the following was read from Secretary, New Ross Harbour Commissioners:-

"The question of Navigation Lights on New Ross Bridge was again discussed at a meeting of my Board held on the 20th inst., when it was unanimously decided that ~~the~~ Wexford County Council be insisted upon by this Board to instal the Navigation Lights on the Bridge immediately, as under the Board of Trade Regulations you as the owners of the Bridge can be held responsible for any accident or damage through your neglect to light the obstruction to Navigation."

Mr Elgee said he was looking into the matter.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATION

Under date 21st October, 1931, the District Court Clerk, New Ross, wrote that application for the committal of

Bridget Mary O'Connor, 13 years,

Catherine Patricia O'Connor, 11 years,

and Mary O'Connor, 8 years

to St. Aidan's Industrial School had been made.

The father of the children was in Canada and the mother was dead.

The woman who had charge of them was in hospital and she had been up to recently in receipt of Home Assistance in respect of the children.

Mr Elgee mentioned that the application to Commit the children had been rejected for the present.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

Under date 4th November, 1931, the following letter relative to the prosecution of Garda Driscoll V Gregory Devereux, under Food and Drugs Acts, was read from Mr Elgee, County Solicitor:-

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"In this case the Guard took a sample of milk from Mr. Devereux of Ballyfinogue on the 4th September last, and submitted same for analysis to Miss Ryan, who, by her Certificate dated the 24th September, 1931, certified that the milk had at least 18.33 % of its weight of fats abstracted.

"Mr Devereux submitted another sample of the Milk to his Analyst for analysis, and he certified that only 4.66 % of the Fats had been abstracted.

"As there was such a difference between the two Certificates the District Justice, on the application of Mr. Devereux submitted the third sample of milk to the Government Analyst for analysis by him, and by his Certificate dated the 24th October, 1931, he found that there was 4.55 % of fats in the sample submitted to him which was 1.45 % over and above the 3 % which is allowed for milk, and he certified that the sample of milk was genuine. The summons came before the District Justice today for final hearing when, having regard to the Government Analyst's Certificate he held, that he had no option but to dismiss the summons but without costs to either party."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr McCarthy:-

"That copy of Report of Mr Elgee, County Soliditor, & relative to the prosecution of Mr Gregory Devereux, Ballyfinogue, Killinick, under the Food & Drugs Acts, be furnished to the County Analyst for her observations and that her reply be submitted to next meeting of the Finance Committee."

"We consider ten days from the date of receipt of sample under Food & Drugs Acts should allow ample time to the Co. Analyst to furnish Report as to whether submitted sample was genuine or otherwise. We would also call attention to the Co. Analyst that if absent from duty or on annual holidays

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she should appoint a competent analyst to take her place and notify such appointment to the Co. Secretary and to the Chief Superintendent, Garda Siochana, Wexford."

CLAIM FOR LOSS OF HEIFER

The following letter under date 29th October, 1931, was read from Mr. T.J. Kelly, Solicitor, New Ross:-

"I am instructed by Mr. Christopher Atkinson, Gurteen, Templeshambo, that the County Council has been using a large hole on portion of his lands adjoining Irishtown, New Ross, for the purpose of receiving the flow of water from the public road adjoining the said lands. I am informed that on the 24th ult. my client found a heifer of his valued at £10. drowned in this hole which at the time was almost full of water.

"I am now instructed that unless I receive payment of this amount within the next seven days and an undertaking from the County Council to provide proper protection for my client's cattle such proceedings will be taken as I may think fit."

The Secretary stated that the matter had been brought to the notice of County Surveyor and Co. Solicitor.

The County Surveyor mentioned that he was inspecting the place and would report to the meeting of the Council on the 9th inst.

RATES ON SALTEE ISLANDS

Col. Gibbon brought forward the question of the Wild Birds Protection Society taking over the Saltee Islands as a bird sanctuary. One difficulty which would be experienced in carrying out this proposal would be the amount of ^{outstanding} rent and rates. So far as could be learned at present the only Income from the Islands was the small sum realised from the sale of rabbits.

He proposed the following resolution:-

"That if the Wild Birds Protection Society submit a proposal to take over the Saltee Islands, the County Council on the application of the Society, would possibly favourably consider the exemption of the Islands from the payment of Rates, subject to the sanction of Minister for Local Government.

"That Mr Elgee, Solicitor, communicate with Secretary of Society in the matter."

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Rate Collection: Mr Keegan said that on the 7th inst. Mr Hughes, Toberduff, Gorey, had been with him complaining that Rate Collector O'Reilly (No. 13 District) had refused to accept a half year's rates from him although Hughes up to then had been unable to pay as he could not sell his cattle. The Rate Collector said the amount would now have to be paid through his Solicitors (Messrs M.J.O'Connor & Co.) who had sent a demand with 5/- costs for the payment of the full year's rates up to 31st March next. Hughes had made the statement to him that O'Reilly had not called to his house for rates since February last. This man had a family of five and was trying to live out of 15 acres of land. He (Mr Keegan) considered that the majority of the Council would not agree to this harsh treatment of a Ratepayer who was only too anxious to pay when he had the money.

The Chairman said that there were similar cases all over the County. It was only this week he had a letter from Jas. Middleton, Camolin Park, complaining that though he had promised to pay he had been served with a Solicitor's² letter by Collector Bolger. In this case Mr Middleton was under a wrong impression as he did not think he was bound to pay the second moiety until the 31st March next. The Collectors should, however, in these cases use a little discretion in such a trying year. It was very dangerous for the Council to issue an Instruction to the Rate Collectors in such cases, ^{as} the ~~Council~~ ^{Collectors} could say the action of the Council held up the collection. If they sympathised with the ratepayers they would have the Rate Collectors offering excuses as to poor returns and saying they were told to do so and so. On the other hand if they were drastic with the people and served notices on them which would mean extra law costs it was a very bad thing also. It was difficult to know how to deal with such cases.

After further discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Keegan:-

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"That Rate Collector O'Reilly (No. 13 District) be asked for his observations as to rates due on holding of Mr Hughes, Toberduff, Gorey, and that a similar instruction issue to Collector Bolger as regards rates due by a man named Middleton, the circumstances of whom have been referred to at this meeting."

In reply to Mr Colfer, Mr Elgee said that in his opinion a Rate Collector was bound to issue a Six Days' Notice to Ratepayer before he could bring a ratepayer into Court.

Mr Colfer - It is not always done to my knowledge.

The Chairman said he was aware of a Court case for rates having to be withdrawn as a Six-Day Notice had not been served by the Collector.

Mr Elgee- The Collector is bound to issue a Six Days' Notice before he can proceed in Court.

Travelling Expenses of Rate Inspector: Mr Cummins proposed and Mr Keegan seconded the confirmation of the recommendation of the Finance Committee.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Cline, Colfer, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Keegan, McCarthy and O'Byrne - 10.

Against:- Messrs Brennan, D'Arcy, Murphy, O'Ryan, Smyth and the Chairman - 6.

Messrs Cooney, Culleton, Jordan and Walsh were not present when poll was taken.

Subsequently Mr D'Arcy gave Notice of Motion to rescind the resolution and to move ~~that~~ at next meeting that the increase be £25 in lieu of the £50 agreed to.

New Ross Bridge and Navigation Lights: Mr Elgee said there were by-laws governing the opening and closing of span of New Ross Bridge. His recollection was that vessels were not allowed through bridge during the hours of darkness and in that case it would not be necessary to provide lights on the bridge. He was looking into the matter and would report later.

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Loss of Heifer: The County Surveyor reported that he had inspected the place on 6th November and found it was situate in New Ross Urban District.

It was decided that Mr Kelly, Solicitor for Mr Atkinson, be informed accordingly.

Saltee Islands: In connection with rates due on Big Saltee Island the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Murphy:- "That we request the Minister for Local Government to allow this Council to proceed against Nicholas Brennan, 17 Hardwicke Street, Dublin, to whom the Big Saltee Island was transferred in order to avoid the payment of rates. This man has we are informed no means and we believe most drastic steps should be taken against him in connection with the payment of rates. We request the same permission as regards the transfer of part of the Bog of Boira to Madame Serres of the Pyr^enees, France, the transfer having been effected for the same purpose by Capt. Anthony L. Bryan."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr McCarthy seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 5th November, 1931, be and are hereby confirmed."

LINOLEUM FOR FLOOR OF COURTHOUSE

The following under date 6th November, 1931, was read from Mr. M.J. Dwyer, County Registrar:-

"I have on this day received a communication from the Department of Justice, upon the subject of lino for the Courthouse at Wexford.

"This states that the Minister for Finance is prepared to pay, out of the unexpended balance of £400, of the award of Compensation in respect of Wexford Courthouse, the cost of provision of linoleum, plus the cost of fixing the same.

"I am directed to inform the County Council to this effect

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and to intimate that unless the County Council give directions to have the necessary work done at once, I am to proceed to do so myself.

Kindly let me know the decision of the County Council as soon as possible."

c The Chairman said he thought they should take no action in the matter but let the Government do what they pleased.

Mr McCarthy said that as it was apparent the linoleum would be put down it would be more economical for the Council to do it themselves.

The Chairman said the Council had taken a certain stand and he did not see any reason why they should go back of it. The proposal to provide linoleum had been before the Council several times and was always defeated. Let the Government put it down if they liked.

Mr McCarthy said the Finance Committee had had their meeting in the Court room on 5th inst. and he did not think the putting down of the linoleum would cure the trouble which was, in his opinion, overhead.

Mr Hall said the linoleum would make no difference only when people were walking about.

Mr D'Arcy proposed and Miss O'Ryan seconded the following resolution:- "That the Council take no action on the request of Co. Registrar to provide linoleum or other suitable covering for the floor of County Courthouse."

Mr Corish said that in view of the statements of members who had attended the meeting of the Finance Committee he considered the County Surveyor should carefully examine the place and report what in his opinion would prevent the present distortion of the voice, in the Courtroom.

The County Surveyor considered that voice distortion in Courtroom might be corrected by stretching across and along the place, close to the ceiling a number of wires which

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would help to break up the echo. This would cost about £6 or £7, and in his opinion, would be more effective in improving the acoustic properties of the place than covering the floor.

Mr Corish said that the linoleum was required on account of the noise in the Court and if they had their County Surveyor stating that the trouble could be corrected by taking another course and for £6 or £7 they should not come to any hasty decisions as to what was best to be done

Mr Keegan - Can these people legally hold your £400 ?

Mr Elgee - I would not like to give an off-hand opinion on that. I would have to look into the matter.

Mr Keegan - I hold they have no right to with-hold it when we fulfilled our contract.

Mr Corish asked the County Surveyor if he was satisfied that the acoustic properties of the court-room were such that it was almost impossible to hear in it and the County Surveyor replied in the affirmative. The linoleum would stop the noise caused by the shuffling of feet, but there was no moving about at the Finance Committee held there and they could not hear properly.

Mr Corish suggested that they should instruct the Co. Surveyor to go into consultation with the County Registrar and point out that in his opinion the linoleum was not going to prevent the noise. It might be that the linoleum would cost £100. A few members of the County Council with the Co. Surveyor should interview Mr Dwyer, County Registrar. He then proposed a resolution to this effect.

Mr D'Arcy seconded.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Brennan, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, D'Arcy, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Jordan, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Smyth and Walsh - 16.

Against:- Messrs Keegan and Murphy - 2.

The Chairman (1) did not vote.

Mr Culleton (1) was not present when poll was taken.

The motion was declared carried.

The following were then appointed as a Committee:-

Messrs Corish, D'Arcy, Hall and McCarthy with the Co. Surveyor.

After the interview Mr Corish reported that after a long discussion the County Registrar agreed to hold his hand for the present provided the County Council carried out the experiments with the overhead wires suggested by the County Surveyor.

Consideration of letter from County Registrar was then adjourned pending result of experiments.

WALL AT POULFUR

In this matter which was referred to a Committee consisting of Councillors of New Ross County Electoral Area with the County Surveyor, the Committee met on 31st October, 1931, Messrs Cummins, Colfer and Murphy with the County Surveyor and Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, being in attendance.

They reported that they had inspected ^{the} place and were satisfied that the Surveyors were correct in objecting to the structure. The Committee could not recommend interference with the suggestions of the Surveyor that the wall should be removed.

The report of the Committee was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Colfer and it was also decided that Mr Elgee take the necessary steps to have the wall complained of as an obstruction removed.

DUNCANNON HARBOUR

The complaint of the fishermen using this harbour that owing to the lack of smooth facing they found difficulty in pursuing their calling had been referred to a Committee of Councillors representing New Ross County Electoral Area with

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the County Surveyor.

The Committee met on 31st October, 1931, Messrs Colfer, Cummins and Murphy with the County Surveyor and Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor for the district being in attendance.

The Committee inspected the Pier and the inner Harbour regarding which complaint was made and found that there was really no cause of complaint. A very small piece of pointing on the edge of the coping stones might be done with advantage. This was recommended, and the Assistant Surveyor was directed to have the work carried out.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Cooney:- "That the report of Committee of Duncannon Harbour submitted to this meeting be and is hereby adopted."

The following under date 28th October, 1931, (D/50/14) was read from the Department of Lands & Fisheries:-

"With reference to your letter of the 3rd instant regarding Duncannon Harbour, I am directed by the Minister for Lands and Fisheries to inform you that the maintenance, including dredging, of Duncannon harbour appears to be imposed on the Wexford County Council by the operation of the statute 16 & 17 Vic. c.136, while the Council would appear to have the right of levying tolls, etc. in respect of Duncannon pier."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Cooney:- "That Mr Elgee, Solicitor, be instructed to take Counsel's opinion as to the rights, powers and duties of the County Council in relation to Duncannon Harbour."

CLONLARD ROAD NO. 786

The complaint of Mr William Ward, Clonlard, as to the condition of road adjoining his residence was referred at

the meeting of the Council on the 26th October, 1931, to a Committee of the Councillors for New Ross Co. Electoral area with the Co. Surveyor.

The Committee met on 31st October, 1931, Messrs Colfer, Cummins and Murphy, with the County Surveyor and Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, being in attendance.

The Committee presented the following report:-

"The Committee went over this road and found it certainly in an unsatisfactory condition but not at all to the extent that the complaint would indicate. This is a Contract Road, about 1½ miles long for which there is only a sum of £12 per annum allocated, and the Contractor appears to be doing the best possible under the circumstances. There is heavy lorry traffic over the road, which certainly was never constructed for such traffic, and Mr Ward himself, is responsible for this. At the present time, as County Funds stand it will be impossible to have further allocation made, but the matter should be considered in next Year's Road Estimate."

The Report of the Committee was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr Cline.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Colfer seconded by Mr Murphy:- "That a sum of £5 to be taken from appropriate Contingency Fund be spent on Road 786 as soon as possible."

WORK OF COMMITTEES

Mr Murphy considered it was a waste of time and money to appoint Committees in matters which could be dealt with quite well by their officials. For the present meeting as the Council could see the members for New Ross Co. Electoral area had acted as a Committee for three matters (1) Duncannon pier. Half a bag of cement would carry out the necessary repairs. Then they saw the wall at Poulfur in regard to which the recommendation of the Surveyors was quite reasonable. Following that there was the road at Clonlard. If the expenses incurred by the

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members of the Committee and the Surveyors were added there would be enough money to effect all the repairs necessary.

Chairman - We have an efficient staff of officials and I often suggested you should leave a great deal more to them than you were doing. Here you have an example. It is only in very exceptional cases you should have these Committees. They are a great waste of time for the members acting on them.

Mr Keegan disagreed and considered committees most useful.

Mr Colfer said the wall at Poulfur was the only case in which it was at all necessary to have a Committee.

The matter dropped.

COURTOWN HARBOUR COMMITTEE

The Committee appointed to deal with the suggestion of Lord Fitzwilliam regarding the opening up of Courtown Harbour for trading purposes met on 4th November, 1931,

Present - Messrs Sean O'Byrne, (presiding), T.F. D'Arcy, J. Hall, W.P. Keegan and M. Smyth with the County Surveyor.

The Committee reported that Rev. J. O'Grady C.C. and a large number of traders and fishermen waited on the Committee.

After a great deal of discussion it was finally decided that the County Council should be asked to nominate members to meet Lord Fitzwilliam on the 12th December, ^{and} that representatives of the local traders should be present at the interview.

In regard to the actual work it was pointed out that the Department of Lands & Fisheries are now providing extra boats, and the local people new boats for the fishing industry so that it was essential, even outside of the matter of general trade at the Port, that the inner basin should be dredged. It was recommended that the County Council make application to the Department of Lands & Fisheries for a grant for this work. The difficulties in regard to the approach to the harbour were discussed and it was agreed that the Fishing Industry would be very much improved by the deepening of the harbour, as the scour in the channel from the increased

impoundings of water would be very much improved. This work, while essential for the Fishing Industry, would, to a great extent, meet the requirements of ordinary trade.

Mr O'Byrne who proposed the adoption of the report of the Committee said that there was a possibility if the inner basin was dredged that further boats would be built. At present there was no place to keep a boat owing to the condition of the inner basin. It was the opinion of experienced people who were acquainted with the local conditions that if this basin was dredged out it would not require any further attention for a great number of years. A scheme had been put up several years ago for improvements at Courtown and it was then understood that the Government would have provided the funds for the dredging of the inner basin.

Mr Keegan seconded the resolution adopting the report, and the proposition was adopted.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Keegan seconded the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:- "That this Council requests the Department of Land & Fisheries to provide the necessary sum to carry out efficient dredging of inner basin at Courtown Harbour which work has been estimated to cost between £1,200 and £1,500 and that representations in the matter be made to the Department."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Gaul:- "That the County Councillors of Gorey Co. Electoral Area with the five T.D.'s for the County, Col. Gibbon and Messrs D. Bolger, Wallace and R.O'Connor be appointed as a deputation on behalf of the County Council to wait on Lord Fitzwilliam at his residence on 11th December, 1931."

BURROW ROSSLARE - PLANTING OF RICE GRASS

The following Report was submitted:-

"A meeting of the County Councillors for Wexford Co.

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Electoral Area was arranged for 11 o'clock on 3rd November 1931, at end of Burrow Road, Rosslare to confer with the local people as to the proposal of the Co. Wexford Committee of Agriculture to make experimental plantings of Rice Grass which it is expected would obviate the flooding which occurs through high tides at Hopeland bank and which interferes seriously with the convenience of the general public, but of course forms a material grievance to the people of the locality.

The day was extremely inclement and Col. Gibbon was the only Co. Councillor in attendance.

The following were also present:- Messrs W.F. Barry, Co. Surveyor, J.F. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, J.J. Hogan, Agricultural Instructor, E. Wickham, Harbour Master, Wexford, the Co. Secretary and five local representatives.

The latter were not in favour of the planting of the grass which they believe would interfere with the shooting and collection of sea ore.

It was finally decided that a meeting of all concerned would be called to meet Mr Hogan, Agricultural Instructor, to deal in detail with the planting and general effect of rice grass in relation to the peninsula."

The Report was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Colfer.

FLOODED ROADS.

Mr Colfer called attention to the condition of the Duncannon Line which on that date between Frayne's and Clonard Cross was completely flooded.

Mr Cooney said that general instructions should issue to the Surveyors to arrange that gangers should have water tables clear after heavy rain. A number of gulleys on Wexford-New Ross Road were choked with leaves with the result that the water was tearing up the road surface.

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Mr Gaul proposed and Mr Colfer seconded a resolution calling the Co. Surveyor's attention to the necessity of keeping roads free from floods after having rain.

This proposal was adopted.

FLOODING AT SCAR DUNCORMACK

The following report was submitted by Mr Kehoe,
Assistant Surveyor:-

"The flooding below Scar Bridge on Road No. 57 is caused by a river running parallel with the road for nearly half a mile, and not more than about one hundred yards from the road for the whole way.

There is a dam in the river to bring the water to a Mill race, and this is largely the cause of the flooding.

"In addition, the river requires to be cleaned out badly. It has been neglected for years with the result that banks of mould and branches of trees obstruct the free flow of the water!"

"If the river bed was cleaned out it would ease the flooding considerably."

Mr Murphy said the flooding took place a couple or three times a year.

The County Surveyor said they had power to compel land owners to clean up an artificial drain but not a natural stream. And so far as he could see the Co. Council had no power to clean it up as their own expense. To clean up the river in the present instance would cost about £50.

Mr Murphy suggested the Co. Surveyor should interview the landowners whose lands were flooded. It would be of considerable benefit to these people if the flooding was prevented, and if the work was undertaken by the Council the local people should be prepared to help.

It was decided on the motion of Mr Murphy seconded by the Chairman that Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, should interview the local people whose lands suffered from flooding and ascertain how far they would be willing to help the Council should the

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latter agree to carry out work which would obviate any flooding of the road between Scar and Baldwinstown.

TRANSFER ROAD ACCOUNTS

Under date 4th November, 1931, Mr. P.O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, wrote applying for the transfer of £73: 1: 3d from account 12 M to 22 M, the amount paid in error out of account 22 M for 13 tons 5 cwt of Bitumen.

The County Surveyor said this error occurred in district of Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, for portion of whose district Mr O'Neill was acting during Mr Kehoe's illness.

The transfer was agreed to on the motion of Mr Gaul seconded by Mr Corish.

Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, wrote asking for transfer of £40 from Road Account No. 70 to Road Account No. 67.

The application was agreed to on the motion of Mr Murphy seconded by Mr Brennan.

DEFAULTING ROAD CONTRACTORS

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Clince:- "That should the County Surveyor consider it necessary, prosecution be entered against the following Road Contractors for failure to carry out their Contracts:-

Martin Kehoe, Loughnageer, Foulksmills, Road Nos 825 and 828
Philip Kennedy, Gurteens, Saltmills, Road No. 849
Robert Sheridan, Blackhall, Bannow, Road Nos. 912 and 914
John Furlong, Knocktown, Duncormick, Road Nos. 917 and 918

COMPLAINT RE ROAD

Letter from Messrs Farrar Bros. Curratubbin, Killena, as to bad condition of road from Curratubbin to Ballyedmond and Curratubbin to Killena was referred to County Surveyor for inspection and report.

VINEGAR HILL MONUMENT

The following under date 6th November, 1931, (19599-31)

was read from Office of Public Works:-

"With reference to your communication regarding the condition of the tower at Vinegar Hill, we are advised that this structure is the remains of a windmill of no very great antiquity, and we do not think it would be admissable for preservation as a national monument. In the circumstances, we regret we are unable to take any action in the matter."

Mr McCarthy - I can't agree that it isn't an antiquity, and I think no one here would agree. If there is one historic place in the County it is Vinegar Hill, and I propose that this windmill, which is a great antiquity, be put in proper repair,

Miss O'Ryan - I think we should refer the matter to the Historical Society.

Mr Corish - I second Mr McCarthy's proposition. I think it is most important that that building should be preserved. It is a landmark in the county. You wouldn't know Vinegar Hill at all without that on it.

Chairman - I think we would be all pleased if that could be kept in preservation. It is looked upon as one of the most historic places in the county.

Mr Hall - A lot of strangers visit there every year.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr McCarthy seconded by Mr Corish:-

"That we inform the Office of Public Works in our opinion the structure on Vinegar Hill is a national monument worthy of preservation and we request the Office of Public Works to carry out the necessary work to ensure its upkeep."

MAIN ROAD UPKEEP GRANTS 1932-33

The following under date 30th October, 1931 (RGM/201/31) was read from the Department of Local Government (Roads):-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that the County Councils would do well to take an early opportunity to frame estimates of the

sums which they are likely to allow for the upkeep respectively of (a) Main Roads and (b) County Roads for the financial year 1932-33. On particulars of these estimates being furnished to this Department the Minister will have them examined and he will then indicate, as soon as practicable, what upkeep grant, if any, can be made. Upkeep grants are calculated by reference to the amounts finally passed by County Councils, so that if grants are to be notified early the figures supplied should correspond as nearly as possible with the final figures. In furnishing particulars of the estimates, the requirements in regard to the upkeep of Main Roads in the Urban Areas of the County should be borne in mind.

Provided the estimates of the Council show that a reasonable sum is proposed for the upkeep of all roads, the Upkeep Grant for 1932-33 will be calculated on the basis of 40 % of the sum proposed.

In dealing with their estimates, Councils, subject to what is stated in the preceding paragraph, are to assume that the total sum provided in their Road Works Scheme is relieved to the extent of the Grant. In other words, the Grant is to be taken in as a credit and is not to form the basis of a supplementary Scheme after it is notified."

DIRECTION AND DANGER SIGNS

Under date 28th October, 1931, the Department of Local Government (Roads) wrote (R/IR/39) that it was frequently found that Regulations 7 and 12 of the Road Signs and Traffic Signals Regulations 1926 had not been observed, particularly the last mentioned regulation. Cases were noted where a level crossing came into view sooner than the indicating sign, and the appearance of signposts in many cases called for attention owing to neglect to keep them painted. The Minister trusted that Co. Councils would have the necessary

rectification put in hands bearing in mind that the erection and maintenance of road signs was portion of road maintenance expenditure.

The County Surveyor said the only level crossing in the County to which this communication could refer was that at Bridgetown but the signpost there had been suitably altered, three years ago. Most of the posts had been painted and the few not painted would be dealt with immediately. Another matter in connection with danger posts which had to be attended to was the replacing of the red reflecting lenses. These in many cases had been pushed out by mischievous people. The damaged ones were being taken into the workshop and he was having a plate fitted ^{at back of} the lenses in each case so that they could not be pushed out in future.

GRITTING MACHINE FOR ROADS

Mr Walsh said he had received a number of complaints as to the slippery condition of tar macadam roads particularly some leading into New Ross town. Wexford and Enniscorthy had the benefit of a cement road on their leading thoroughfare, but the principal roads into New Ross had been improved by tar macadam, with the result that people found it difficult especially at this time of the year to get into or out of town with loads. He asked the County Surveyor to see that New Ross district got its share of utilisation of gritting machine.

The County Surveyor said that Messrs Pierce had taken over the Selskar Iron Works at which the experimental gritting machine was made. Messrs Pierce had dismantled the machine as they said it would not pay them unless they had order for a dozen or more.

Mr Walsh said that men and horses could be employed to put out the grit.

Mr Corish considered that further representations should be made to Messrs Pierce. If the machine was successful in

Wexford County it would be taken up in other counties.

Mr Hall thought a manure distributor manufactured by Messrs Pierce would be found suitable but the County Surveyor was of a different opinion.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Corish seconded by Mr D'Arcy:- "That County Surveyor make further representations to Messrs Pierce & Co. as to manufacture of machine for distributing grit on tar macadam roads."

ANALYST'S REPORT

The Report of County Analyst for Quarter ended 30th September, 1931, showed that ~~221~~186 samples of foods; 51 Drugs, 3 Waters and 1 Sheep Dip- total 241 had been examined. The following had been found adulterated - Whiskey 1; New Milk 3; Butter 1.

The following is result of proceedings in the cases of adulterated articles:-

Whiskey (1) No prosecution.

Butter (1) Analyst would not issue Certificate for prosecution as the amount of moisture discovered was not unusual for the time of year.

Milk (3) Analyst stated adulteration too slight to issue certificate for prosecution (2) Fined £3 and £2:11s. costs, appeal pending. (3) State Analyst to whom third sample was submitted reported that sample was 1.45 above the 3 % allowed for milk. Case was dismissed.

PAYMENT TO ROAD CONTRACTORS

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Gaul seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the several proposals for payment presented to this meeting (including payment to Road Contractors as appearing on Form 22) be and are hereby adopted."

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NATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

The following resolution of Sligo Corporation with covering letter from Mr. Jas. Hunt T.C. Sligo, Secretary National Peace Conference Committee was received from Mr John Shea, Town Clerk, Sligo:-

"That this Council hereby heartily approves of the efforts of the recently established National Peace Conference Committee, the members of which being impressed with the gravity of the present position in this country and inspired by the eloquent and earnest appeal for peace contained in the recent Joint Pastoral Letter of the Irish Hierarchy are seeking to bring about a National Conference to include people of all political parties in the State who love their religion and country with a view to finding for the country's many pressing problems a solution that shall be in accordance with the traditions of Catholic Ireland, so that the dangers may be averted that threaten at the present juncture the cause of religion and peace in our beloved land;

"That we call upon all other Public Bodies in Saorstát Éireann to adopt this resolution and to actively co-operate with the National Peace Conference Committee and support that Committee's appeal to the Irish Hierarchy to summon the proposed Conference without delay; and

"That we recommend to the Peace Conference Committee to immediately approach the beloved Cardinal Primate of all Ireland directly and seek to enlist the esteemed co-operation of His Eminence, between whom and the Peace Conference Committee might we suggest, be arranged the different matters to be dealt with by the proposed National Conference."

Mr Cummins proposed and Mr Hayes seconded the adoption of the resolution.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Clince, Colfer; Cooney, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, O'Ryan - 7.

Against:- Messrs Culleton, Jordan, McCarthy, Murphy, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 7.

Messrs Brennan, Corish and Hall (3) did not vote.

Messrs D'Arcy, Keegan, and O'Byrne (3) were not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman gave his casting vote against the resolution which he declared lost.

TRANSPORT SYSTEM

The following resolutions were received in connection with transport system:-

From Leitrim County Council:-

"That we the Leitrim County Council view with grave anxiety the rumoured curtailment of Railway Services particularly as effects the Cavan and Leitrim Section of the Railway System and we call upon the Government to introduce legislation which will compel the Company to provide adequate transport facilities for the needs of the trading public in this area and in the whole of the Saorstát. Such legislation should compel the Company to maintain the Railway Services which were contemplated for the portion of the system which was established under the guarantee of the ratepayers and to which over two hundred thousand pounds of the ratepayers' money have been paid over since its installation.

"We call upon the elected representatives of the Constituency in the Dail to give their entire support to such legislation.

"We also resolve that the Solicitor for the Council be directed to write to the Secretary of the Great Southern Railways to enquire whether such closing down or abandonment is contemplated."

From Irish Motors Hauliers' Association:- "That we wish to place on record an emphatic protest against any curtailment of Motor Transport in the Irish Free State.

Rural development calls for a supplemental transport

system as the present railways were not designed for, nor are they capable of, adequately serving Agriculture. Any legislation that tends to restrict the natural development of Road transport or to increase the cost thereof, is not in the best interest of Agriculture. We may point out that the roads have been brought to their present state of efficiency, for transport with funds provided mainly by the Farmers and Motor Owners and the quick and convenient transport services now available should not be denied to the Farming Community."

From Dublin Railwayshops Joint Council of Action:-

"That this meeting of Irish Railwaymen view with alarm the condition of transport in the Irish Free State, feeling that the present ownership and control is detrimental to the interest of the country, and that the present condition of affairs are such that no progressive country could tolerate and retain its economic condition.

"We feel that the time has arrived for a full investigation into all the circumstances, and call upon the Government to take immediate steps for an impartial enquiry and the introduction of legislation for State Ownership and Control of the whole Transport Industry."

The Chairman stated he considered the resolution of the Motor Hauliers' Association deserved the most attention. It would be a very great hardship if motor transport was curtailed now that roads were capable of dealing with it. It would certainly mean throwing the country back again to the railways and they knew what the railways would do for them in the matter of charges. He did not think there should be the least fear of the railways being closed.

Mr Gaul commented that there was not the same consideration for hauliers when the council were striking the rates. They did not get much sympathy then.

Chairman - I believe they got as much sympathy as anyone else.

Mr Gaul added that they had today motor lorries carrying

the stones for a road under reconstruction when the work should be done by carters.

The Chairman said he presumed the material was being taken by lorries for economy sake by the Contractors. It was for the council to deal with the resolution as they desired.

Mr Hall - You might as well mark it "read".

Miss O'Ryan - We can't do without the railways. Most of the heavy haulage is done by the railways.

Mr Corish - In view of the fact that we passed a resolution some time ago viewing with alarm the dismissal of railwaymen, it would be dangerous to pass the resolution.

Miss O'Ryan - They are a very small association compared with the number of railway shareholders.

Mr Corish - And the number of men employed on the railways.

Chairman - If you do away with the lorries and buses you will have the railways fleecing you as they did before.

Mr D'Arcy - The biggest factor to be considered in that regard is the increased cost for the upkeep of the roads.

Mr Corish stated that if the railway system were curtailed the bus owners would be in a position to increase their rates.

The Chairman stated he did not think there was the least danger of the main lines of the railways being closed.

Mr Corish, alluding to wages, stated that the men engaged in motor transport were not being paid sufficiently.

Mr. P. Hayes stated that motor and lorry traffic had done more harm to the agricultural industry than anything else.

Chairman - Possibly they have, but do you think you are going to remove the motor traffic without getting a very drastic Act.

Mr Hayes - It is quite evident that the decreased railway receipts are due to motor transport.

Dealing with resolution of the shopmen's council, Mr Corish stated there was something wrong with the railways and transport generally.

Mr McCarthy - Isn't there a transport bill coming on in the Dail ?

Mr Walsh stated the resolution called for State control of the railways.

It was decided to take no action on resolution from Leitrim County Council and Motor Hauliers' Association.

As regards resolution from Dublin Railwayshops Joint Council of Action the following was proposed by Mr Gaul, seconded by Mr Corish and adopted nem con:-

"We feel that the time has arrived for a full and impartial enquiry by the Government into the whole transport system of the country."

SUGGESTED LOAN FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENT

The following resolution was submitted from Meath County Council:-

"That we request the Government to raise, on the strength of the Road Fund, the sum of One Million pounds to be expended on second class or link roads and tourist roads, both of which have had a considerable amount of extra traffic cast upon them through the improvement of first class roads and suffered in consequence."

Mr Culleton proposed the adoption of the resolution and Mr D'Arcy seconded.

Mr Corish - I wish to support that resolution. I am assured by a member of the Roads Board that that can be done without extra money on the taxpayer, and it will relieve unemployment immediately.

The resolution was adopted.

Michael Doyle

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING 28TH DECEMBER 1931

M I N U T E S

COUNTY HALL,
WEXFORD.

N.J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

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A meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 28th December, 1931.

Present:- Mr. M. Doyle (Chairman) presiding; also Messrs James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Cline, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, John Doran, James Gaul, Col.C.M. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Thomas McCarthy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col.R.P. Wemyss Quin, James Shannon, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, County Surveyor, Mr. Elgee and the following Assistant Surveyors were also in attendance:- Messrs John Kehoe, Thomas Cullen, R.J. Ennis, P. O'Neill, and J.F. Birthistle.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

THE LATE MICHAEL A. KEEGAN

The following resolution which was adopted in silence on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Col. Gibbon, was spoken to by Messrs Hall, Smyth, the Chairman, Co. Secretary, and Co. Solicitor:- "That we offer Mr.W.P. Keegan our esteemed colleague, and to Mrs. Keegan, our heartfelt condolence in the death of their only child Michael Aloysius, cut off in the flower of his youth. We assure them that we deeply deplore their loss and sorrow with them in their tragic bereavement."

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S REPORT

The following monthly report was submitted by County Surveyor:-

"As ordered by the County Council at their meeting on the 14th instant I have gone through the Provisional Road Works Scheme, and amended same according to directions, I have added to the list of lanes agreed to be repaired, that they are subject to preliminary work being done by

local people, and the cost of these I have deducted from the Main Roads, taking account of the requirements of each. I have allowed the amounts set off in the Urban Areas for Main Roads as originally agreed to with the exception of an additional £100 to Wexford.

There is another item of expenditure in the coming year which must be provided for, and that is the maintenance of the Kilmannock Drainage Area. During the present year there was an expenditure of about £20 which had been previously raised, but it was subsequently allowed the Ratepayers in the Area as a "set-off", and this must now be provided for, as well as a sum of £20 for the coming year. There will thus be a sum of £40 to be raised.

On the night of 23rd-24th November last there was damage done to a small relieving arch at Clohamon Bridge, and as all the Main road traffic is now diverted this way it was essential to have it immediately repaired, and this has been done at a cost of £45. The same floods carried away road fence walls in a number of places between Ryland Turn and the Bridge, and I am in doubt as to the Council's liability for their re-building. These walls are being constantly damaged by floods, and I suggest that if the Council be liable that a railing should be erected instead of a solid wall so as to allow free passage ^{for} flood water. This will cost about £35. I do not contemplate carrying out any extensive works to the walls, even if the Council be liable as this would run into hundreds of pounds and I suggest that the matter be referred to the County Solicitor for his opinion.

The District Justice pointed out to me alterations he wanted done in Bunclody Courthouse, and on the 22nd instant I examined the place thoroughly with a local carpenter. I now have estimate for the work amounting to £8: 18: 0d, and ask for your direction in the matter.

I have in hands the laying of the concrete floor in the County Record's Room, as agreed to at a former meeting, and the work is nearly completed.

I have been in communication with the Local Government Department in regard to allocation of Unemployment Grant. The Department requires particulars of the available unemployed labour in the **four** districts, and details in regard to suggested works. Those already mentioned are not in connection with roads, and perhaps the Council may offer suggestions at their meeting.

I have a letter from Mr. William Murphy, Machinery Overseer, asking the Council to now consider the matter of making his appointment permanent. This matter was before the Council sometime ago, and pending my report on the working of the new machinery it was adjourned. I certainly can substantiate his statement in regard to the efficient manner in which the machinery has been maintained, and in which he has carried out his duties. He has been in the employment of the Council for about 16 years, and during the whole of that time has been a most efficient Officer, and I am satisfied carried out his work in a most economical manner, and he has given entire satisfaction to myself and the Council. The reports of the Insurance Inspectors have always set out that the machinery has been maintained in the highest possible manner."

ROAD WORKS SCHEME

The following under date 23rd December, 1931 (R/RGM/32) was read from the Department of Local Government (Roads):-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to refer to your letter of the 21st instant on the question of the amount which the Wexford County Council propose to allow for the upkeep of the roads of the County in the year 1932-33; and to state that the Minister would not feel justified in making any maintenance grant

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if the sum to be raised from rates in respect of main roads were restricted to £10,210 (i.e. £17,016 less 40 % thereof). Such a figure falls much too short of what the position requires.

"It is to be noted that the County Council have actually deducted from the inadequate sum of £17,226, previously allotted by them for the upkeep of main roads, a sum of £210 in respect of the taking over of lanes. The Council by the taking over of lanes are imposing upon the ratepayers of Wexford practically for all time the liability for the maintenance of such lanes, as ~~once~~ such lanes are taken over it becomes the duty of the Council to maintain them. There is also, of course, an assumption of liability in respect of a larger mileage of roads on foot of negligence in the performance of the duty. Such a proposal is wholly inconsistent with the views as to economy in the ratepayers' burdens expressed in the Minutes of Proceedings of the Council on the 14th instant. The Minister, of course, can express no opinion as to the validity of the Council's proposals in regard to the taking over of lanes. Attention is drawn to the concluding paragraph of the Minister's circular letter of the 18th instant (RGM/201/31) as to the effect of the taking over of new roads on the question of the grant for upkeep of Main Roads.

Grants towards the cost of the upkeep of roads can only be made in cases where reasonable sums have, in all the circumstances, been voted by County Councils. The Minister would be prepared to notify a grant of £10,162 if the Council, in reconsidering the matter, decide to allow the same amounts for the upkeep of main and County roads as for the current financial year. It may be possible that the Council could effect some economy in respect of improvement works or repair works of a minor character."

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The following Circular letter (No.RGM/201/31) under date 18th December, 1931, was read from Department of Local Government (Roads):-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to refer to the above scheme, and to ask you to be so good as to furnish in due course particulars (including cost) of proposals passed by the County Council for the

(a) Making of New Roads;

(b) Maintenance of roads not previously repaired.

The allowance of monies for the making of new roads, or for the maintenance of roads not previously maintained increases permanently the liability of a County Council for road upkeep, and imposes upon the rural ratepayers of the County burdens in respect of works which in the majority, if not in all, of the cases, are of little general public utility.

In considering the question of the grant towards the upkeep of Main Roads for 1932/33 the Minister must have regard to the extent to which a Council vote money for such minor works as those referred to in the preceding paragraph."

The Chairman said it was evident from the letter of the L. G. D. that they were concerned with the main roads only. No matter what the ratepayers who were in the main using the County roads, suffered, they were to get no relief.

Miss O'Ryan considered that there should now be a decrease in the cost of the upkeep of the main roads, as so many of them had been recently reconstructed.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Shannon :- "That a sum of £50,000 be spent on all roads maintained by the County Council for the financial year 1932-33, this to be contingent on a sum of £26,388 being set aside for maintenance of main roads, £233 for maintenance of walls, fences etc, on main roads and £4115 for maintenance

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of bridges on main roads or over tidal rivers. Total - £30,736 in order to secure the Government Grant referred to in letter from Local Government Department - Roads - R/RGM/32 - under date 23rd December, 1931.

Col. Quin agreed with Local Government Department that the Council should not add to their annual road expenditure by taking over lanes.

Miss O'Ryan said it was unfair that users of main roads and should get everything/^{and} that no concession was to be afforded to people living on lanes and who paid their share of the cost of road upkeep.

Col. Gibbon said that despite the tremendous drop in the prices of agricultural produce there was no corresponding economy in the amount of the expenditure from rates, provided in the main by the agricultural community. The drop had been going on for the past three years, the present year being by far the worst. And in spite of this, the Government kept pressing them to spend money irrespective of where it was to come from. So far as he could see they were in the present instance in a cleft stick and would have to carry out the directions of the L. G. D.

Mr. Culleton proposed and Mr. D'Arcy seconded the following amendment:- "That in view of the attitude of the L.G.D. in refusing the State Grant for roads on an amount which in the opinion of this Council is the most the ratepayers are able to pay we decide on striking no rate for maintenance of main roads."

Mr. Cummins asked was he to come to the Council and agree that the ratepayers should lose £10,000 of a State Grant. The amendment of Mr. Culleton was ridiculous and would only throw dust in the eyes of the people. Ratepayers should be prepared to pay rates or let them get out in favour of those who ^{would} ~~were~~. If lands and houses were put up for sale there were plenty to purchase and if they could not purchase they

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would grab them.

Col. Gibbon pointed out that the Government said to them "You can let your £40,000 stand but we will not give you any grant on it", and which would mean that the County Council would have to raise the entire £40,000 from the ratepayers. If they agreed to the proposal of the L.G.D. they would still have to provide the £40,000 ^{from} ~~for~~ the ratepayers but they would have £10,000 more to spend on the roads. If they turned down the proposal of the L.G.D. as suggested by Mr. Culleton he did not think there was much hope of being able to bring sufficient pressure to bear on the Government to enable them to get back to their original proposal. If the Council refused the Grant the main roads would deteriorate so much that they would have to strike a much higher rate in the following year to make up for the extra damage to them. He had tried at last meeting to make clear to the Government and to the public the reasons operating in the minds of the Council to fix the road expenditure at £32,000 or £33,000. It was absolutely essential some endeavour should be made to cut down the rate this year which was the worst he had experienced. In spite of this, however, it was evident they would have to deal with an increased rate. They could not look on the position with equanimity. Their T.D.'s should put the position before the Government to try and change their aspect particularly at the present moment, when they had to pay a higher rate though it was absolutely essential and urgent the rate should be cut down. If the Government or any of the Councillors opposed to cutting down the rate would give them any alternative he (Col. Gibbon) did not mind what it was so long as the community in general secured relief.

Miss O'Ryan would favour Mr. Culleton's amendment to show her sympathy with the ratepayers. But they would have to look on road work as affording relief for unemployment

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and if they adopted Mr. Culleton's proposal they should suspend their very expensive but very efficient staff of Surveyors and Road workers, which would be a very serious matter. The more the road rate was cut down the more unemployment they would have and the more people would be in the County Home. She feared there was no alternative but to fall in with the view of the Government.

Mr. D'Arcy held it was the direct duty of the Government to look after unemployment as this was done in every other civilised country in the world.

On the suggestion of the Chairman Mr. Culleton withdrew his amendment and proposed the following amendment in substitution:- "That we again call the attention of the Department of Local Government to the low financial condition of the ratepayers. We are convinced they are not in a position to pay any higher amount for roads for next financial year than £32,000 or £33,000. As we genuinely believe this to be the limit they can afford under this head we ask the L. G. D. to allow the usual maintenance grant on this figure."

Mr. D'Arcy seconded.

A vote was then taken on this amendment with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Hall, Quin, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 10.

Against:- Messrs Armstrong, Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan and Shannon - 12.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

The resolution of Mr. O'Byrne was then passed nem con.

Mr. D'Arcy then proposed and Mr. Culleton seconded the following resolution:- "That £5,000 of the allocation for Main Roads be set aside for certain Main and Link Roads requiring special attention." *Passed*

Kilmannock Drainage Rate: Mr. Cummins proposed and Mr.

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Brennan seconded the following resolution:-

"That a sum of £40 be raised as a separate charge to provide for necessary work in Kilmannock Drainage area."

Clohamon Bridge:- The County Surveyor said every time there was a big flood in the river the walls of the bridge were "gapped". Some of them were in a bad way though they might not collapse at once. If the Council was responsible for the matter he would recommend the erection of a railing to allow the flood to run through.

Mr. Hall proposed and Mr. O'Byrne seconded the following resolution which was adopted nem con:- "That a sum of £45 (to be taken from next year's Main Roads and Contingency Fund) be allocated for repair of damaged relieving arch at Clohamon Bridge." "That the question of the liability of the County Council for the repair of road fence walls between Ryland Turn and Clohamon Bridge be referred to Co. Solicitor for his advice."

Bunclody Courthouse:- The County Surveyor said the District Justice was anxious that the repairs in this instance should be carried out to enable him to hear what Solicitors engaged in cases were saying. He wanted to have the platform in the Court extended so that he and the Solicitors would be on the one level. The Courthouse was held at an annual rent.

Miss O'Ryan considered it would be foolish to spend money on a place in which they had no interest.

Mr. Elgee said the real trouble was that the Solicitors were too far away from the fire. The building which had a concrete floor was very cold.

The Chairman proposed and Mr. O'Byrne seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That the reps of the late Dr. Dormer, landlords of Bunclody Courthouse, be asked to carry out repairs in Court-room estimated by County Surveyor to cost £8: 18: 0d., and, in the event of their refusal to comply with this request, inquiry be made of Mr. Dennis Lennon if it be possible to secure the use of the Parochial Hall as a Courthouse and on

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what terms."

Unemployment Grant: The County Surveyor submitted the following letter under date 17th December, 1931, (S.96.901/31 Loch Garman) which he had received from Local Government Department:-

"With reference to your letter of the 7th instant addressed to the Minister for Finance, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that no allocation can be made from Relief Funds to any district until particulars have been obtained as to the extent of unemployment. No allocation could be made to any work unless it can be clearly shown that the local authority is in a position to proceed with it forthwith. Some of the works referred to, such as the sewerage works at Rosslare Strand and Taghmon would presumably be dealt with by the Board of Health. Where works are proposed to be undertaken there should be submitted a plan, specification and an estimate of cost of (a) materials and of (b) labour, together with information as to the number of men that could be usefully employed thereon."

The County Surveyor said he had applied to the four Labour Exchanges in the County for a list of men out of employment and had received information from three. In Enniscorthy there were 150 men; in New Ross 80 and in Gorey 300 available. He had no figures yet from Wexford.

Miss O'Ryan said that there were a number of people not listed with Exchanges and who had been out of work for three or four years.

The Chairman said that the rural portion of Wexford was certainly suffering as badly as the rest of the County. As regards relief schemes it would be difficult to provide the local contribution required in order to qualify for a grant. They had on that account at the Co. Board of Health turned down Rosslare sewerage scheme which was calculated

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to cost £16,000. They would not be able to get a sufficient large grant to make the scheme feasible.

Miss O'Ryan said the same thing applied to Taghmon.

Mr. Gaul said that Rural workers were never on the Labour Exchange and they were very badly off.

The Chairman said the Health Board had agreed to a small scheme costing £400 to provide for ~~an~~ extension of the Rosslare water supply for people who had been using water which had been condemned. So far as he could ascertain very little of the Grant would be administered by the Local Government Department; most of it had gone to the Land Commission, which would carry out works without any local contribution.

Mr. Smyth pointed out that the improvement of Cahore drainage was being done out of the Land Commission ordinary vote and not as a relief work.

The County Surveyor said that there were no jobs except those on roads which could be proceeded with immediately. No works of drainage could begin now.

Mr. O'Byrne held there was nothing to prevent the immediate start of the work at Boira Bog.

Mr. Gaul said they would naturally expect the Government would give money for any scheme the Council would put up.

The County Surveyor said if the hollows on the road between Scarawalsh and Clohamon could be filled from the Relief Grant it would make greatly for public convenience. This work could be commenced immediately. Then there was the flooding at Castlebridge road. If the Council authorised him to send forward a scheme to deal with flooded hollows on a number of roads he would be pleased to do so.

Col. Quin said that in any scheme they sent forward it should be set down that a local contribution would not be asked for.

The Chairman said they were as much entitled to a share of this Relief Grant as any other County but it appeared they

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always got a smaller amount.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Gaul seconded by Mr. Shannon:- "That the County Surveyor prepare a Relief Scheme to cover the filling of flooded portions of roads and submit same to the appropriate Government Department. And that in the event of amount set aside by Land Commission not being sufficient to complete the work at Cahore Drainage area the balance be applied for under Relief Grant.

Mr. Shannon said it would be well to make application for a sufficient amount to ease the many dangerous corners in the County. Even if the rates had to bear the expense it would be money well spent. If one life could be saved by this work say even once in ten years it would be sufficient to justify the necessary expense. Fatal accidents had occurred at some of these corners.

Mr. Hall proposed that the County Surveyor include the work of draining at Boira Bog as portion of the application under Relief Grant.

Mr. O'Byrne seconded and the resolution was adopted.
Machinery Overseer: The following letter from Mr. William Murphy, Machinery Overseer to the County Surveyor under date 22nd December, 1931, was read:-

"Sometime ago the County Council adjourned the consideration of making my appointment permanent. This was awaiting your report on the new plant. I think you will be able to state that all the machinery has been maintained in the best manner and that I have spared no effort to make my work efficient. The Insurance Inspectors' reports will also bear out this.

"I shall be obliged if you will now ask the County Council to take up the matter."

In reply to the Chairman the County Surveyor said that the wages of Mr. Murphy was £5 per week. He was not paid for overtime of which he gave a great deal to the Council. All

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the machinery had been overhauled and was in excellent condition. They had made a small profit on the hire of machinery to Tipperary North Co. Council but the important thing was that their machinery was kept in use and their own men kept in employment.

Mr. Hall proposed and Mr. O'Byrne seconded the following proposal:- "That subject to the sanction of the Minister for Local Government, Mr. William Murphy, Machinery Overseer, be placed on the permanent staff of the Council."

Mr. Corish and Mr. Shannon supported the proposal.

The County Surveyor said the real point in the application was that at the moment Mr. Murphy was subject to discharge on a week's notice. In his (Co. Surveyor's) opinion Mr. Murphy was the most efficient officer employed by the Council.

Miss O'Ryan said that a few meetings back the County Council put on the permanent staff an official with only two years' service.

The County Surveyor said that Mr. Murphy could have obtained a job outside the County at a higher salary but did not accept.

A vote was then taken on the proposal with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Cline, Colfer, Corish, Culleton, Cummins, Doran, Gaul. Hall, Hayes, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Quin and Shannon - 15.

Against:- Messrs Brennan, D'Arcy, Smyth and the Chairman - 4.

Col. Gibbon (1) did not vote.

Messrs Cooney and Walsh (2) were not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by, Mr Hall:- "That the Report

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of County Surveyor as submitted to this meeting be, and is hereby, approved."

REPAIR ROAD RETAINING WALL

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That as recommended by the County Surveyor a sum of £22 be taken from next year's Main roads Contingency Fund, to meet cost of road retaining wall near Camolin village which collapsed recently."

COAST EROSION AT SLADE

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Cummins seconded by Mr. Colfer:- "That the attention of the Land Commission be called to the fact that Messrs Moran and Fortune, Slade, have now owing to coast erosion no roadway to their houses and though the attention of the Land Commission has been called to the matter on more than one occasion nothing has been done. We invite the observations of the Land Commission in the matter."

ENNISCORTHY-BUNCLODY CLOSED ROAD

The following addressed to Mr. R.J. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, Enniscorthy, under date 21st December, 1931, was read from Mr. Wm. Lee, Contractor for reconstruction of above road:-

"My man, J. Nolan, who is working on above road at present, reported to me this morning that a small lorry passed over the concrete road, from the Bunclody end at 3.10 p.m. Saturday, 19th inst. and would not go back when told. He said no one would stop him, from going over the road. One of the wheels of the lorry had no tube or tyre only the iron rim. This lorry is M I. 1292 of Enniscorthy. The same lorry went over the road some time ago and would not go back when told. I am told the owner's name is Brien, he goes about selling fish etc."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall seconded by Col. Quin:- "That report from Mr. Lee,

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Contractor for reconstruction of Enniscorthy-Bunclody road, under date 21st December, 1931, be handed to Co. Solicitor with a view to the prosecution of the owner of the lorry concerned."

CLOSING OF ROADS UNDER RECONSTRUCTION

Order from the Minister for Local Government (under date 16th December, 1931, R/IR/107/1) extending the periods for closing the following roads was read:-

1. The portion of road from Wexford to New Ross situate between Tomcoole Cross Roads and the Old Rural District Bounds at Poulpeasty to 30th day of January, 1932.

2. The portion of the road from Wexford to New Ross situate between Cushinstown and Ballymacar Bridge to 30th January, 1932.

3. The portion of the road from Enniscorthy to Bunclody situate between Tomgarrow Cross and Tombrick Bridge to 31st December, 1931.

CASTLEBRIDGE ROAD

Mr. Corish said it had been stated at last meeting that the people of Castlebridge were satisfied that a hand-rail and bank at the flooded road would meet the situation. The general body were opposed to that and did not consider it would remedy the matter. Though a good deal of tar had been placed on that road it was still in a wretched condition and clergy, doctors and school children were being held up.

The Chairman said that the County Surveyor had made application under the Relief Grant to have this road raised.

Mr. Corish said if they did not succeed in getting anything from the Relief Grant the Council should allocate something themselves for the work.

The County Surveyor said that some of the people objected to the erection of the railing, he could not understand why.

Mr. Corish asked was it desirable to have children walking along a bank with a handrail. Was there not a danger that they might fall into the water.

Mr. Culleton said he had been informed by the people of Castlebridge that in their view the hand rail was sufficient.

The County Surveyor said it would cost about £35 to make the necessary footpath.

Miss O'Ryan - That money would be spent very foolishly.

The County Surveyor said it would cost about £400 to raise the road.

Mr. Corish said that if necessary they should ask the special sanction of the Minister for Local Government to build up this road. He proposed:- "That in the event of Road Improvement Grant being received from the Government an allocation be made therefrom to raise the road at Castlebridge which is subject to flooding."

Mr. Gaul seconded.

Mr. Culleton said the road was flooded only seldom.

The County Surveyor said it was not possible to say when it would be flooded. It might be twice in a month or only once in two years.

The resolution was then put and passed without dissent.

KILMORE PIER - REPAIRS ETC

Col. Gibbon asked if anything had been done to repair the damage to Kilmore breakwater and had the lamp been attended to.

Mr. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor for the district, said the repairs had been in progress for the past three or four days. The lamp was the best procurable but, according to the Harbour Master it would not remain lighting in bad weather. It had been brought to Wexford for test and when they had suitable wild weather this test would be carried out.

PLANTING OF MOUNTAIN OF FORTH

The following under date 16th December, 1931 (M.A.7033-31)

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was read from the Minister of Agriculture:-

"I desire to acknowledge with thanks, receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, transmitting copy of resolution adopted at a recent meeting of the Wexford County Council, inviting me, in connection with the Scheme of afforestation on the Forth Mountain, to plant the first tree there on Sunday next. As the portion of the Forth Mountain to be planted was not taken over by the Department until this week and is not protected by fences, actual planting cannot be commenced for some time. Therefore I regret that next Sunday would not be a suitable date to plant the first tree. In the circumstances, it is not possible for me to avail of your Council's kind invitation."

Mr. Hayes raised the question of the amount of unemployment in the district of the Mountain and asked for information as to what steps men should take to try and be taken on for the planting.

Mr. Corish said that all Government Departments employed their casual labour through the Labour Exchange.

Mr. O'Byrne said that one third of the people who required employment were not registered with the Exchange. It was a great pity that people in the Rural portions of the County did not register.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Corish seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That the Manager, Wexford Labour Exchange, be requested to have a couple of the usual posters inviting employment at Mountain of Forth exhibited at the entrance to the following Catholic Churches viz:- Barntown, Cleariestown, Murrintown, and Trinity."

SCHOLARSHIPS IN SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL
SCHOOLS.

The following under date 24th December, 1931, was read from the Office of National Education:-

"I am to inform you that this Department having care-

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fully considered the report of the Scholarship Committee submitted by you in connection with the County Council scheme of Scholarships for 1932 is satisfied that it is not desirable to alter the syllabus of the examination at present and consequently the subjects of the examination for 1932 will be the same as those for 1931.

As regards the Committee's proposal to have a general valuation limit of £75 maximum for all applicants, I am to state that this suggestion does not commend itself to the Department. It does not seem fair that the Rate-Payers should be asked to provide a Secondary education for the child of a parent whose Poor Law Valuation is £75 and who has only one or two children in family. It is, of course, admitted that the valuation basis is not a good criterion of the means of parents, but it may be taken as a fairly accurate guide in normal circumstances and one which saves the Council a great deal of trouble such as would be caused by the adoption of other and more exact methods, for instance, the procedure followed by the Income Tax Authorities. In all the circumstances the Department considers that the Council would be well advised to adhere for the present to the scale approved in the scheme for 1931.

In regard to the latest date for receiving applications, I am to point out that the Scholarship Examination next year will be held in the week commencing 28th March and in order to enable the Department to make the necessary arrangements for the holding of the Examination it will be essential that the list of candidates be furnished to this Office not later than the 14th February next. Consequently, the last date for receiving entries should be fixed by the Council so as to allow sufficient time to have the entries approved and the list furnished to the Department by the date mentioned.

I should be glad to hear from you in regard to the matters mentioned in this letter as soon as possible so that

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formal approval may be given to the scheme."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That this Council - with great reluctance - agrees to fall in with the suggestion of the Department of Education to adhere for the present to the provisions of Scheme of Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools - which obtained in 1931. Owing to the four months' delay on the part of the Department of Education, ^{the fact} and/that entries must be lodged with County Council previous to 8th February, 1931, no other course is open to the Council which called the attention of the Department in previous years to a similar delay.

"That our Secretary have approved Scheme printed and circulated as soon as possible."

ADVERTISING CIRCUIT COURT SITTINGS

The following under date 18th December, 1931, was read from the Co. Registrar:-

"With reference to the publication of the County Wexford Circuit Court sittings for 1932, the Law requires that these must be published at least two months before the first sittings in some paper circulating in the county. The Minister for Justice states that County Councils invariably defray the cost of such advertisements, and that as comprehensive Lists have already been printed and distributed, he considers that a short advertisement (copy attached) would be sufficient, so as to reduce the cost to a minimum.

"I would thank you to bring this matter before your Council for their approval."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. McCarthy:- "That the County Registrar be informed that the County Council are prepared to pay for insertion of advertisement calling attention to the dates of Circuit Court Sittings and copy of which accompanied his letter of 18th December, 1931."

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RATES ON BANTRY AND BLACKSTAIRS COMMONS

The following under date 15th December, 1931, was read from the Secretary, Carlow County Council:-

"I have been directed by the Carlow County Council to bring under the notice of the Wexford County Council the seizure of sheep belonging to persons resident in County Carlow for rates due to Wexford Council when said sheep cross the mountain into County Wexford. The Carlow County Council appointed a deputation of five members to meet a deputation of a like number of the Wexford County Council to see if any arrangement could be arrived at so as to avoid a continuance of this unsatisfactory state of affairs, and I shall be glad to know if the Wexford County Council will appoint such a Deputation. It also has suggested that Enniscorthy would be the most convenient place for said Deputation to meet."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That the following deputation with our Solicitor be appointed to meet the deputation from Carlow County Council relative to rates on Bantry and Blackstairs Commons:-, Messrs Brennan, Shannon, McCarthy, Doran and Cline, conference to take place in Enniscorthy Courthouse at 11 a.m. on 19th January, 1932."

FLOODING AT SCAR - ROAD NO. 57

The following under date 26th December, 1931, was read from Mr. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, for the district:-

"There are five people who own land by the river bank at Scar where Road No. 57 is flooded after heavy rains and none of them are inclined to do any work in the way of cleaning out the bed and the sides of the river.

"I saw the river on Saturday last and I don't think there could be anything effective done in the way of cleaning at present owing to the amount of water along the whole way.

"I would suggest that the matter be deferred for three

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or four months."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That consideration of the question of cleaning up river at Scar, be deferred for three months."

NEW ROSS BRIDGE - COMPLAINT AS TO OPENING

Mr. T. Kearns, Harbour Master, New Ross, forwarded the following complaint from Capt. W. Tyrell of the Motor Vessel "Pacific" of Dublin, under date 21st December, 1931, and the truth of which the Harbour Master said he could verify:-

"I wish to bring to your notice a complaint about the opening of New Ross bridge on the 19th instant. The above named vessel (Pacific) was loaded at noon on the 19th December, and the bridge had been ordered for us to pass through at 1 p.m. We were kept waiting till 3 p.m. before bridge opened, due I believe to the Electrician not being able to be found to cut off current. This may not seem much to write about but the two hours' delay meant we did not get through bridge till 3 p.m. and consequently it was only touch and go whether we would get through Barrow Bridge before dark. As it happened we were allowed to pass through at 5 p.m., "after sunset"; otherwise we could not have sailed till following day, and had this been the case I should have claimed demurrage for the delay. Furthermore 24 hours or even 12 hours" delay in our little vessels this time of year often means the loss of a passage, and a delay of weeks if weather comes bad in the meantime. If this had happened me I should have gone the limit to make you be responsible for such delay. I would be pleased if you would enquire into this matter so that it will not occur again. It will be to your advantage as well as to the shipping that may be delayed."

The County Surveyor said that the Electricity Supply Board agreed to have a man available at all time and at all stages of tide. He understood that the Supply Board were to put in a

cable.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Gibbon seconded by Mr. Walsh:- "That copy of letter from Capt. Tyrell of motor vessel "Pacific" as to the delay in opening New Ross Bridge on 19th December last be forwarded to the Electricity Supply Board for their observations and that they be requested to provide an electric cable in connection with the bridge."

POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall seconded by Mr. Culleton:- "That renewal of licence under Poisons and Pharmacy Act 1908 issue to Robert Butler, General Merchant, St. Ivers, Broadway, as from 9th December, 1931."

VACCINATION LAWS

The adoption of the following resolution from Waterford Corporation was moved by Mr Hall seconded by Mr Corish:-

"That the Government be requested to amend the Law dealing with Vaccination so that persons who believe that Vaccination would be prejudicial to the health of their children will not be liable for penalties under the Vaccination Acts."

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Brennan, Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, D'Arcy, Doran, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, McCarthy, O'Byrne, Shannon, Smyth and the Chairman - 17.

Against:- Messrs Culleton, Gibbon, Quin and Walsh - 4.

Miss O'Ryan (1) was not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the resolution carried.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION

The following resolution from Tipperary S.R. County Council was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall seconded by

Mr. O'Byrne:-

"That owing to the great want of proper Housing accommodation at present existing in the Saorstát, we call on the Government to at once introduce legislation so as to initiate a great new Housing Scheme on National lines, a new loan to finance the scheme to be floated if necessary. We consider that the want of proper housing facilities for the workers is a serious grievance, as especially no new houses were erected in rural areas under the public boards for nearly twenty years, and we consider that the matter should receive immediate attention from the Government and all political parties and public boards in the Saorstát."

FREE STATE CONSTITUTION ACT

Copy of the Statement sent to the Papal Nuncio, Cardinal McRory and the Bishops of Ireland as to certain provisions in above Act forwarded by Maude Gonne McBride were read for the meeting.

During the reading, Col. Quin said that as the document was purely political it should not be read or considered.

The Chairman said the Council should hear what it was all about and when it had been read it was open to them to take whatever action they desired.

Mr O'Byrne, when the document was read proposed that it be marked "read".

Mr. McCarthy seconded.

The motion was declared carried by the Chairman, Mr. Cummins being the only dissentient.

MOTOR CAR ACT ADMINISTRATION

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Doran:- "That we request Motor Taxation Section of Local Government Department to deal as soon as possible with all claims for refund of portion of licence duty for 1931. Many owners of cars entitled to

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a refund must take out licence for year 1932 at once,
and it would be of considerable financial help to them if
they could count on the refund to make up the amount of duty
for next year.

Michael Doyle

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING 14TH DECEMBER 1931

MINUTES

COUNTY HALL,
WEXFORD.

N.J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

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A meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 14th December, 1931.

Present - Mr. M. Doyle (Chairman) presiding, also:

Messrs James Armstrong, John Brennan, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, James Gaul, Col.C.M. Gibbon, James Hall, Michael Jordan, William P. Keegan, Thomas Maylor, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col.R.P. Wemyss Quin, M.M. Roche, James Shannon, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor, Assistant Surveyors Treanor and O'Neill and Rates Inspector were also in attendance.

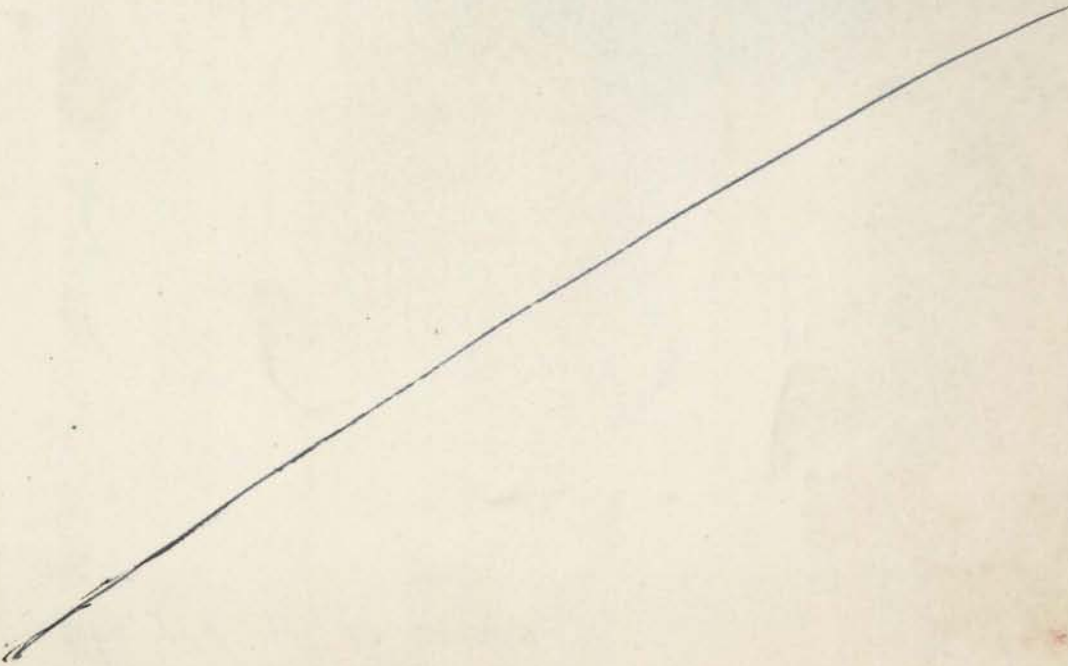
The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £11,231: 5: 1d was examined and signed.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEES - FINANCE

The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 19th November, 1931, were submitted as follows:-



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The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 19th November, 1931.

Present:- Messrs T. McCarthy, James Shannon and Sean O'Byrne.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and Rates Inspector were also in attendance.

Mr McCarthy was moved to the chair on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £3,415: 19: 1d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

The State of Rate Collection up to date was submitted as follows:-

No.	Name of Collector.	Percentage of Warrant collected.
1.	J. Curtis	54.5
2.	E. J. Murphy	54.3
3.	J. Quirke (No.1)	52.2
4.	J.J.O'Reilly	51.7
5.	W. Doyle	50.4
6.	T. Rowe	50.0
7.	Art Dunne	48.1
8.	T. Bolger (No.14)	47.4
9.	Sean Gannon (No.10)	47.3
10.	P. Nolan	46.6
11.	M. McCarthy	46.4
12.	P. Carty	46.3
13.	J. Cummins	46.1

No.	Name of Collector.	Percentage of Warrant collected.
14.	J. Deegan	45.6
15.	S. Gannon (No.6)	45.5
16.	P. O'Byrne	45.3
17.	P. Doyle	44.8
18.	W. Cummins	42.5
19.	J.J. Sinnott	40.3
20.	J. Quirke (No. 2)	37.7
21.	T. Bolger (No.12)	36.1
Average for the County		45.4

The following letter under date 10th November, 1931, (G.85624/1931 Loch Garman Fa.) was read from the Department of Local Government:- "I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge receipt of Form 61 for the month of October and to point out the very backward state of the rate collection, only 42 % of the rates for the year having been collected, at the end of October. It devolves on the County Council to take effective steps to safeguard their financial position.

The Secretary stated that copy of this letter was issued to all Rate Collectors on 12th inst.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That we call the attention of the Council to the fact that a resolution is on several minutes that all matters in connection with rate collection should be considered in committee. The public discussion of the state of the collection and kindred matters has been the means of hampering the collection and interfering with the collectors in the efficient discharge of their work."

"We request the representatives of the Press not to publish anything in relation to the rate collection unless

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They are informed that the particular matter under consideration is not being considered in committee.

The Chairman said that on the whole he did not think the collection too bad. There was an improvement of 3 % over last year and the percentage of 45 per cent of warrant collected to date was to his mind fairly satisfactory.

It was stated that the principal hindrance to the collection was the collection of arrears which amounted to 9.16 per cent of warrant in Enniscorthy district; 4.9 % in Gorey; 5 % in New Ross and 11.7 % in Wexford.

In connection with this matter letter under date 16th November, 1931, was read from Collector J.J. Sinnott (No. 16 District) pointing out that according to a report in the Press recommendations were made by the Finance Committee for payment of poundage fees when 40 % of total warrants had been lodged in certain Collectors' Districts. He would be thankful if the same concession was extended to him, as there were so much arrears and derelict farms in his area. It was not his fault that there were heavy arrears and so many derelict farms in his area and that Auctioneers were unable to let or sell the farms concerned. He submitted a list with amounts outstanding on some of the farms.

The list submitted covered items amounting to £570: 10:1d.

After a discussion as to arrears on derelict farms which it was stated represented something over £4,000 the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That Rates Inspector be directed to compile a list of holdings in arrear for payment of rates with full details in respect of each item. That same be furnished to Mr Corish T.D. with a request to approach Mr Martin Roddy, Parliamentary Secretary, with a view to the Land Commission taking over as many of the holdings concerned as is possible

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and selling portion so that the payments of annuity and rates can be secured.

"That L. G. D. be informed that the attention of Rate Collectors has been called to their letter of 10th inst. (G. 85624 - 1931 Loch Garman Fa.). The Finance Committee desire to point out that the backward state of the collection is caused mainly by outstanding arrears including a substantial sum due on derelict farms."

In connection with discussion at meeting of County Council on 9th November, 1931, as to the manner in which Collector O'Reilly had dealt with Mr Hughes, Toberduff, Gorey, the Collector wrote that the statement that he had not been at Mr Hughes's place since February when the rate for March 1931 was paid was incorrect. He called to the residence of Mr Hughes on 22nd July when he served demand notes and also on 22nd September. He saw Mrs Hughes on both occasions informing her on the latter occasion that payment should be made by the 3rd October, 1931, at latest. As a payment was not made by that date Mr Hughes was served with a Six Days' Notice on 20th October, 1931, and as he had not paid or promised to pay the amount was handed to the Solicitors for collection. It was untrue to say that the Collector had refused to take a half year's rates in this case. Up to the time of writing no payment of rate or of any portion of it had been made to the Collector. If the latter had carried out the instructions of the Council he would have made a seizure under his warrant which would have been more costly and be calculated to injure Mr Hughes's credit. The following is an extract from Mr O'Reilly's letter:-

"On behalf of myself and the Collectors generally I must protest against the statement that Collectors are worse than landlords. It may be a popular thing to make these statements about officials and have a dig at Collectors who are doing their best to carry out the instructions of the Local

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Government Department and County Council to the best of their ability with as little hardship as possible to ratepayers but it is hardly fair and every decent minded man in the County knows it is not fair . I have paid rates for people myself last May and the previous May in order not to put them to trouble and I have not received payment of some of them yet. It is the same people whose rates are outstanding year after year and they were not by any means the worst off, in the collection areas. I could quote people who are in much more difficult circumstances, cases in which women have been left with helpless young families on small farms and who nearly always pay within the time or make an honest effort to do so. These people deserve sympathy but there is no one to take up the cudgels for them because they try to pay their way and don't grumble. They haven't time. These statements made at meetings and not founded on facts make it more difficult for collectors to do their work. I have collected rates in most of three collection areas in Gorey district and I believe there is not a ratepayer who made an honest effort to pay could say I have treated him harshly."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"The Finance Committee accept the statement of Collector O'Reilly relative to complaint made on behalf of Mr Hughes, Toberduff, Gorey, as a satisfactory explanation of his action in the circumstances."

In connection with complaint of James Middleton, Camolin Park, to the Chairman as to the action of Collector Bolger, the latter wrote that in December last he had to collect the previous September rate through his Solicitors. The following March rate was paid at the house of Mr Middleton in April. When payment was being made Mr Middleton and his sisters were most offensive to the Collector and very personal in their remarks to him. The Collector called

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twice this year for the September rate, the last occasion being 8th October, 1931. He then saw Miss Middleton who said she did not know where her brother was. The Collector told her the rates should be paid by 15th October, 1931, but there was no response or excuse. On the 20th October, 1931, a Six Days' Notice was sent to Mr Middleton whom he had not seen. Since he became Collector the names of the ^{same} people could be found in arrears in his books. These were holding up payment of his poundage. The Collector gave these items to his Solicitors this year for collection as most of those concerned seemed indifferent about when they pay. He wished to point out that his district (No.14) had the least arrears of any in the county.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "The Finance Committee are of opinion that the explanation offered by Collector Bolger as regards collection of rates from James Middleton, Camolin Park, is satisfactory."

GOREY COURTHOUSE

Under date 12th November, 1931, Mr. M. Hughes, Clonsilla, Gorey, Hon. Secretary Ploughing Match Committee, wrote applying on behalf of his Committee for use of Gorey Courthouse for annual dance to be brought off during the Christmas holidays. They would give the usual guarantee to leave the Courthouse as they got it.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That County Council be recommended to grant use of Gorey Courthouse to Gorey Ploughing Match Committee for annual dance provided this will not interfere with any classes carried out in the building under Co. Wexford Vocational Education Committee and that the Committee of Ploughing Match be responsible for the building, fittings etc while in their possession."

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PUBLIC WORKS ALLOCATIONS

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shamon:- "That as requisitioned by County Surveyor the following allocations for repairs be recommended to County Council for adoption:-

Edermine Bridge, £20; Courtown Harbour, £250; Poulduff Harbour, £10; Duncannon Harbour, £10; Arthurstown Harbour, £10; County Courthouses, £50; County Buildings, £50; and Weights and Measures Office, County Hall, Wexford, £2:5:0d

ADVERTISING CONTRACT

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Letters were read from "Free Press" Wexford and "Echo" newspapers agreeing to accept the offer of the County Council of £110 for the insertion of the advertisements of the County Council and Co. Committee of Agriculture for one year as from 1st January, 1932.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

The following under date 8th November, 1931, was read from Miss Mary Kavanagh, Mary Immaculate Training College, Limerick:-

"I received your letter informing me of the Council's decision to award me the vacant University Scholarship. I am at present undergoing a course of training for a National Teacher. I would be very glad if the Scholarship could be reserved for two years - until I have completed said Course. I could then make use of it to obtain my degree. Hoping Council will be able to oblige me."

Mr O'Byrne stated he would give the necessary notice of motion to enable Miss Kavanagh's application being complied with.

ILLNESS OF OFFICIAL

Certificate was read from Dr. M. O'Brien, County Hospital, Wexford, under date 13th November, 1931, that Mr Stephen

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Hayes, Clerical Assistant, County Council Offices had been under his care from 6th November, 1931, suffering from acute tonsillitis and would not be fit to resume duty for at least two weeks from 13th November, 1931.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Shannon seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That the County Council be recommended to grant sick leave to Stephen Hayes in accordance with certificate of Dr. O'Brien, County Hospital, Wexford,"

COMPENSATION STOCK

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That 5 % Compensation Stock (I.30452) be redeemed at £50.

"That the Seal of the Wexford County Council be affixed to Form of Request to National City Bank Ltd., Dublin, for transmission by post of Warrants for Redemption money."

"That Seal of the Wexford County Council be affixed to letter of Attorney transferring said Stock to Stearne Tighe Taylor & Miceal MacAmhalghaidh of 10, College Green, Dublin."

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

In connection with appeal in case of Garda Stephens v R.W. Hall-Dare, the following report under date 18th November, 1931, was read from Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor:-

"In this case in which the District Justice had on the 19th September imposed a Fine of £3: 0: 0: on Mr. R.W. Hall-Dare of Newtownbarry in respect of a Sample of Milk which was deficient of Butter Fats to the extent of 52.33 % as certified by the County Analyst,

Mr Hall-Dare appealed against this decision, and the Appeal was heard today by the Circuit Court Judge when he

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reversed the Decree holding that as it had not been proved that Mr Hall-Dare ~~for~~ his Servants had in any way interfered with the Milk, and that it had been sold as it came from the Cow no offence had been committed. The Judge allowed no costs on either side."

STRONG ROOM OF COUNTY REGISTRAR

The following under date 13th November, 1931, was read from Co. Registrar:-

"The above room has become infested with mice and a number of records stored there have already been damaged.

"The mice, apparently, are coming in from the floor area and it seems that the only way to deal with the trouble is to have the floor concreted. I shall be much obliged if you will have this attended to at once and oblige."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shamon:- "That floor of strong room used by County Registrar for records be laid down in concrete cost not to exceed £6."

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The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Brennan:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 19th November, 1931, be received and considered."

University Scholarship Scheme: The following motion of which he had given previous notice was moved by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That the University Scholarship awarded Miss Mary Kavanagh, Hollyfort, Gorey, be held over for her until she has completed her training for the position of National Teacher."

Mr O'Byrne pointed out that applicant had first secured a Primary Scholarship from the Council. Her father was a poor labourer and the granting of University Scholarship to Miss Kavanagh was a recognition of her successful studies and a proof of the help that the Council afforded to the children of the poor.

Mr D'Arcy seconded the motion which was adopted after discussion.

Illness of Official: Under date 4th December, 1931, Dr. O'Brien, Medical Officer, Co. Hospital, certified that Mr Hayes would not be fit to resume duty for about ten days from that date.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That, in accordance with medical certificate furnished from Dr. M. O'Brien, leave of absence be granted Mr. Stephen Hayes, Clerical Assistant, Co. Council Offices, up to 14th December, 1931."

Strong Room of Co. Registrar: The County Surveyor said that the presses in the strong room were built into the wall with the result that in order to lay concrete an excavation had to be made and this ran up the price. They could not pull the presses to pieces except at a much higher cost.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of

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Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That a sum not exceeding £8 be allocated for the work of laying down concrete floor in strong room attached to the offices of the Co. Registrar."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Brennan:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 19th November, 1931, except in so far as same have been altered or amended by resolution adopted at this meeting be and are hereby confirmed."

The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 3rd December, 1931, were submitted as follows:-

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The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall Wexford, on 3rd December, 1931.

Present - Messrs John Culleton, James Hall, Thomas McCarthy, Sean O'Byrne and James Shannon.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and Rates Inspector were also in attendance.

On the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Culleton, the chair was taken by Mr Hall.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £5,727: 4: 9d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

State of: The State of the Rate Collection to date was submitted as follows:-

No.	Collector	Percentage of Warrant accounted for (Including Discount)
1.	J. Curtis	54.6
2.	E. J. Murphy	53.7
3.	J. Quirke (No. 1)	53.0
4.	W. Doyle	52.4
5.	J.J. O'Reilly	53.3
6.	T. Rowe	50.6
7.	A. Dunne	49.9
8.	T. Bolger (14)	49.0
9.	S. Gannon (10)	48.9
10.	P. Carty	48.5
11.	J. Deegan	48.1
12.	J. Cummins	47.5
13.	S. Gannon (6)	46.8

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No.	Collector.	Percentage of Warrant accounted for (Including Discount)
14.	M. McCarthy	46.8
15.	P. O'Byrne	46.8
16.	P. Nolan	46.7
17.	P. Doyle	45.4
18.	W. Cummins	43.2
19.	J.J. Sinnott	42.5
20.	T. Bolger (No.12)	40.6
21.	J. Quirke (No. 2)	38.6
	Average for County	47.5

Payment of Poundage: Rate Collectors J. Cummins (Ennis-corthy) J.J. O'Reilly (Gorey) J. Curtis (New Ross) and J. Quirke (Wexford) came before the meeting with respect to the payment of poundage fees.

Mr Cummins suggested that Collectors who had 50 % of their warrant, less arrears, collected should receive full poundage.

After discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr McCarthy:-

"That in view of the fact that Rate Collectors have not received any payment in respect of poundage for current warrant, and as a number of the Collectors have no other means, we request Minister for Local Government to sanction an advance of poundage (so that payment may be made to Collectors before Christmas) on lodgments by Collectors to 31st October, 1931, as follows:-

Collectors who have lodged 50 % of Warrant:-	90 % of Poundage on lodgments to 31st October, 1931.
Collectors who have lodged less than 50 % of warrant:-	75 % of Poundage on Lodgments to 31st October, 1931."

Collectors and Lodgments: Under date 28th November, 1931, the Rates Inspector reported that Collectors P. Doyle (No.3) and Thos. Rowe (No. 18) had made no lodgments since 14th

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November and 16th November respectively.

Both Collectors had been summoned to attend the Finance Committee but Mr Rowe owing to infrequent postal deliveries of letters in his district was not in attendance.

Mr Doyle said that between 14th November and 4th December he had collected only £2: 5: 0d and on the 4th he collected £34 and these two sums he had lodged on 5th December. He was busy during that period in revising Election Lists. He found great difficulty in obtaining payment of Rates this year.

The Committee accepted the explanation of Mr Doyle and directed that Collector Rowe be summoned to attend Finance Committee meeting of 17th December, 1931.

Rates on Boira Bog and Saltee Islands: Under date 26th November, 1931, the Department of Local Government wrote (G.90613 - 1931 Loch Garman Fa.) that the Council should act on their own responsibility in respect of their proposal to take legal proceedings for the recovery of the rates due against the present owners of the Saltee Island and part of the Bog of Boira.

It was decided to refer the communication from Local Government Department to Mr Elgee, County Solicitor.

Alleged Irregularity by Road Ganger: Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, reported that in consequence of a complaint by John Butler, Kilmacree, that Ganger Boggan had not paid ~~him~~ a sum of 9/- for carting on 13th November, 1931, the Ganger had been suspended by him.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. Shannon:- "The Finance Committee direct that Ganger W. Boggan and John Butler, Carter, be summoned to the meeting of Committee to be held on 17th December, 1931, and in meantime, pending investigation by Finance Committee, Boggan's suspension remain

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in force."

COUNTY COUNCIL MESSENGER

The position of Nicholas Roche, Messenger, came up for review on the following resolution which had been adopted at the meeting of the ^{Council} Committee on 14th September, 1931:-

"That Nicholas Roche, Messenger, County Council Offices, be retained for three months as messenger at 30/- per week, less insurance. That as Fortview has been sold, the County Council are no longer able to supply him with free quarters and that he be furnished with a copy of this resolution. That the position be reviewed by Finance Committee meeting of 3rd December, 1931."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That the Council be recommended to continue in office for a further six months as from 14th December, 1931, Nicholas Roche, Messenger, at a remuneration of 30/- per week less insurance."

LINOLEUM FOR COUNTY COURTHOUSE

The following under date 1st December, 1931, was read from Mr. M.J. O'Dwyer, County Registrar:-

"I find that the wiring of the ceiling of the Court-house has not had the effect of improving the Acoustics or minimising the noise. I shall be much obliged if you will ask the Council to proceed with the laying of the Cork Lino on the floor. As I will have to Certify for the work to my Department, it would be well for the County Surveyor, to consult with me on the matter, so as to avoid any misunderstanding or unnecessary delay."

The County Surveyor said the wiring had stopped the echo in the Courtroom but had not stopped the noise caused by the shuffling of feet and shifting of seats.

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The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Culleton:- "That as the County Council have already made a decision in this matter the Finance Committee consider it is essential to refer the letter of County Registrar to the meeting of County Council to be held on 14th December, 1931."

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

The District Superintendent, Garda Siochana, Gorey, wrote that the appeal of Mr. R.W. Hall-Dare, Bunclody, against a fine of £3 for selling adulterated milk was heard by the Circuit Court on 18th November, 1931, and allowed, without costs, the grounds being that, from the evidence rendered, the milk had been sold as it came from the cow and had not been tampered with by the defendant.

CONCRETING WEXFORD-NEW ROSS ROAD

The County Surveyor submitted the following letter to him from the Pioneer Road Construction Co., East Wall, Dublin, Contractors for reconstruction of above road:-

"In reply to your letter of the 25th instant we regret that circumstances beyond our control have prevented us from completing the above Contract within the period mentioned in the Specification, and afterwards extended to cover the delay which was incurred in the acceptance of our Tender. The extension referred to, which we understand was 16 working days beyond the date mentioned in the Specification would take our working period to October 19th, adding the number of days which have been lost owing to inclement weather and a few days that were lost owing to the breakdown of the quarry Plant and Mixer etc., we think the allowance to which we are entitled will bring us easily within the time allotted for the work."

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"We have kept a record of each day lost because of these unavoidable causes, and on the next occasion that we have an opportunity of seeing you in Wexford we shall go into the matter in detail, and we have no doubt that we can show you that no time has been negligently lost by us in the prosecution of the work."

The County Surveyor said that no time had been lost by the Pioneer Company or by Mr Lee who was reconstructing the Enniscorthy-Buncloody Road. The delay was caused by stress of weather and odds and ends which could not be controlled. He was satisfied that the explanation given by the Contractors was reasonable. The mix when it came from the mixer was all right but with the bad weather it was sloppy when it got on to the road. He was not satisfied with the hardening of the road at Cushinstown. He had discussed this matter with Mr. O'Brien of the Pioneer Co. and Mr. N. O'Dwyer, Chief Roads Engineer. The latter had suggested the road should be treated with silicate of soda. He (County Surveyor) was prepared to meet the Contractors as regards this proposal. Mr O'Dwyer suggested the Contractor and County Council should go equal shares in the expense. The Pioneer Company turned down the recommendation and he wrote to them about several matters pointing out amongst others that if the road broke up they would be held responsible for its replacement. Since then they had written that they were prepared to go 50-50 in the cost of treating the road with silicate of soda. The fault was in the sand with which he (County Surveyor) had not been satisfied but which was the best procurable.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr McCarthy seconded by Mr. O'Byrne, Mr Culleton dissenting:-

"We recommend the County Council to spend a sum not exceeding £50 for the treatment of Wexford-New Ross road with silicate of soda provided the Pioneer Road Construction Company

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are prepared to spend a similar amount for this purpose."

TEMPORARY CLOSING OF ROADS

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr McCarthy seconded by Mr O'Byrne:-

"That application be made to the Minister for Local Government and Public Health for an extension of the time for the temporary closing of the following roads:-

T. 12 No. 20 - from Wexford to New Ross between Tomcoole Cross Roads and Old Rural District Bounds at Poulpeasty from 16th December, 1931, to 30th January, 1932, both days inclusive.

T. 12 No. 22 - from Wexford to New Ross between Cushinstown and Ballymacar Bridge from 16th December, 1931, to 30th January, 1932, both days inclusive.

T. 16 No. 24 - from Enniscorthy to Bunclody between Tomgarrow Cross roads and Tombrick Bridge from 16th November, 1931 to 31st December, 1931, both days inclusive. Alternative routes in each case to be as originally fixed. "

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Sergeant Shields, Garda Siochana, Wexford, wrote that he intended to apply at Wexford District Court on 2nd December, 1931, for the committal of Patrick Boyle, Thomas Clarke Street, Wexford, to an Industrial School. The boy was 12 years old and illegitimate, living with his step-father.

Mr Shortall, Superintendent Home Assistance Officer, wrote under date 1st December, 1931, that James Boyle, Step-father had four children under 15 years of age and the family is and has been destitute for a long time past. They were being assisted by the County Board of Health.

Under date 1st December, 1931, the Inspector, Co. Wexford and District Branch of the S.P.C.C. wrote that he intended to apply to Wexford Court on 9th December, 1931, for an order to commit to an Industrial School Mary Josephine Whitty, aged 13

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and Bridget Mary Whitty aged 11 of Ramsgrange. The mother was an epileptic and unfitted to have charge of children. She was recently in New Ross Hospital suffering from a fracture of the skull - the result of a fall prior to a fit. The father Thomas Whitty aged 52 was a steady and industrious man but unable to find employment. He fishes when he can but earns very little. The family was destitute and without means.

There were two other children in the family aged $9\frac{1}{2}$ years and $6\frac{1}{2}$ years. Application would be made under Section 58 (1) (4) of the Childrens' Acts 1908 - 29.

Referred to Mr. Elgee County Solicitor.

SALE OF FORTVIEW PREMISES

The Department of Local Government wrote under date 21st November, 1931 (G.88223/1931 - Loch Garman Fa.) that the Minister had consented to the proceeds of the sale of Fortview (£1000) being used as a set-off against the amount spent on the new offices at the County Hall.

COURTOWN HARBOUR DEPUTATION

Under date 27th ~~may~~ November, 1931, the Private Secretary to Lord Fitzwilliam wrote that Lord Fitzwilliam deplored a regular deputation as he had so little to suggest in connection with the improvement of Courtown Harbour but he would be pleased to meet one or two persons, conversant with local conditions at Coolattin on Friday 11th December, 1931, at about one o'clock.

It was decided that the following would wait on Lord Fitzwilliam:- Mr. James Hall, Co. Councillor, Mr. D. Bolger, Millmount, Gorey and the County Surveyor.

BOUNDARY FENCE BETWEEN RIVER SLANEY AND RAILWAY BRIDGE.

The County Surveyor submitted letter under date 30th November, 1931 (L.2196) from the General Manager, Great Southern Railways, that the Company had been informed by their Legal

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Adviser that they are not responsible for the maintenance of the boundary wall between the River Slaney at Ferrycarrig and Newtown Railway Bridge and consequently the application of the County Surveyor that the Company should repair it could not be acceded to.

The County Surveyor stated that this place was on a road diversion and was originally built by the Railway Company. The Council had agreements with the Railway Company to maintain the surface of road diversions at their expense. He had written on receipt of the letter disclaiming responsibility that unless the work was done at once he would bring it before the Council. The work had not been done and he (Co. Surveyor) recommended that Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, be authorised to take proceedings against the Railway Co. He (Co. Surveyor) was absolutely certain the Company were responsible.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr. McCarthy:- "That Mr. Elgee, be directed to take proceedings against the Great Southern Railways as regards repair of Boundary fence between River Slaney and Railway Bridge at Newtown should this course be found necessary."

Rate Collection: Col. Gibbon said that in order to prove the impossibility of high rates being paid he would point out that in Dublin market the price for fat cattle was 12 per cent below pre-war, fat sheep 22 per cent, fat lambs 10 per cent. These were the principal producing and selling ends of the business of County Wexford farmers. The price of pigs to-day was 28/- per cwt with a cut of 4/- where over 16 stone. Milk was a small proportion of the sales of the farmer in Wexford. As regards butter they had never yet received less than 2/- per lb. at this time of the year but last week it was only 1/4d.

Mr Corish - The consumer is certainly not getting it for 1/4d.

Col. Gibbon - It went up a little last ^{week} ~~year~~. Then we are paying three times as much in wages as pre-war and from double to three times as much in railway freights in marketing our produce. We are paying somewhere about 20 per cent increase in price of feeding stuffs, while a great many farmers have large overdrafts in the bank and they have to find increased Interest, the figure being now 6½ per cent. I want to know what is to be the end of it all. The difficulties of collecting rates are increasing every week and if we strike an exorbitant rate in the New Year I don't know what will happen. I have ^{and} talked with people/studied the whole problem and honestly I cannot see how agriculture can meet the situation.

Payment of Poundage: The following under date 11th December, 1931 (G.94572-1931 Loch Garman Fa.) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"Adverting to your letter of the 4th instant, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that as already pointed out in this Department's letter of the 26th October last interim poundage is payable under the Public Bodies Order only when a

moiety and arrears of the rates have been lodged and the Minister does not approve of the continuance of departures from the terms of the Order. The expressed wishes of the Finance Committee have been noted and in an endeavour to meet their desires as far as possible the Minister agrees to payment of poundage calculated on the amount of the first moiety and arrears at the rate of 7d to the Collectors in District 1, 13, 17 and 20 who lodged sums equivalent to 50 % of their current warrants (including arrears) by the 30th ultimo.

The Minister also agrees in the cases of Districts 4,5, 6,8,9,10,11, 15, 18, 19 and 21 where lodgments have exceeded the first moiety, not including arrears, that poundage at the rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ d less than the approved rate may be paid on the sums lodged to the 30th ultimo. Similar treatment may be granted in the remaining six districts if the lodgments by the 19th instant exceed the first moiety excluding arrears in each case."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Gaul:- "That poundage be paid Rate Collectors in accordance with letter from Department of Local Government (11th December, 1931 - G.94572/1931 - Loch Garman Fa.) and that the Department be asked in the event of Collectors in whose cases deductions of portion of poundage is now made lodging the full amount of warrant by 31st March, 1932, to consent to the payment of poundage at full rates."

County Council Messenger: Mr Gaul proposed and Mr Shannon seconded the confirmation of recommendation of the Finance Committee.

Mr Culleton proposed that the remuneration in this case should be £1 per week.

This motion was not seconded.

The recommendation of the Finance Committee was then confirmed with a direction that the Co. Secretary, and Co. Surveyor should find some work for the messenger when not engaged in delivering letters or concerned about other messages."

Linoleum for Co. Courthouse Floor: Mr Gaul proposed and Mr Corish seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That in order to allow the Council to consider communication from County Registrar as to having floor of County Courthouse covered with suitable material to neutralise noise, the Standing Orders of the Council be suspended."

Mr Gaul proposed and Mr Corish seconded the following :-

"That the floor of Wexford Courthouse be covered with Cork lino or other suitable material to improve the acoustic properties of the Court room. That the County Surveyor utilise amount to be set aside for this purpose to what he considers the best advantage."

In reply to Mr Roche the County Surveyor said he would not give a guarantee that when the floor was covered it would obviate the present complaint. The cost of the work would be £25 or £30.

Mr Roche said that before embarking on this cost they should have an experiment carried out on a small portion of the floor.

Chairman - If you put linoleum on a wooden floor it will rot the floor.

County Surveyor - I don't think it will because this is upstairs.

Chairman - I think heavy bass covering would be better than linoleum. Lots of people have it on boards on which they would not think of laying linoleum.

The County Surveyor said that it would very difficult to keep bass matting clean.

Mr Roche then proposed and Mr D'Arcy seconded the following resolution:-

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to carry out experiment over two or three yards of the floor of the County Courthouse to ascertain if covering the entire floor will meet the complaint as to the defective acoustic properties of the

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building. And that he report result of this experiment to the Council."

After further discussion a poll was taken on Mr Roche's amendment with the following result:-

For- Messrs Brennan, Cooney, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Keegan, Murphy, O'Ryan, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 12.

Against- Messrs Armstrong, Colfer, Corish, Culleton, Cummins, Gaul, Jordan, Meyler, McCarthy, O'Byrne and Shannon - 11.

Mr Hall (1) did not vote.

The Chairman declared the amendment carried.

On being put as the substantive motion it was passed without dissent.

Concreting Wexford-New Ross Road: Mr D'Arcy said he understood that according to the specification the Contractor's were bound to keep the road in good order for six months after reconstruction and the present proposal seemed to be helping them out of a difficulty.

Mr Culleton said they would be able to get better value for the expenditure of the £50.

The Chairman said he did not see why the Council should be called on to furnish any extra money for this road.

Mr Roche said the silicate of soda treatment should have been provided for under the specification.

The County Surveyor in reply to Mr Walsh said it was now usual to apply this dressing to concrete roads.

After further discussion a poll was taken on the recommendation submitted by the Finance Committee with the following result:-

For;- Messrs Cooney, Gaul, Hall, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan and Shannon - 7.

Against:- Messrs Armstrong, Brennan, Corish, Culleton, Cummins, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Jordan, Keegan, Mayler, Murphy, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 16.

Mr Colfer (1) did not vote.

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The Chairman declared the Finance Committee's recommendation rejected.

Courtown Harbour Deputation: The following report of deputation to Lord Fitzwilliam was submitted by the County Surveyor:-

"On the 11th December, 1931, the deputation appointed by the County Council waited on Lord Fitzwilliam at Coolattin.

"There were present:- Messrs J. Hall, M.C.C., D.Bolger, Gorey, and the County Surveyor.

"Lord Fitzwilliam stated that as regards Courtown Harbour he did not wish to have the matter rushed, but as he saw possibilities of development there he thought it well to bring the matter before the County Council. He is at present exporting through Arklow slates and slate flour from his quarries at Kilcavan. There is an increasing demand across the channel for this, and he is now putting in more machinery to deal with the expansion. If Courtown Harbour can be made available he is prepared to export all his output through that Port, and to meet all reasonable port dues and charges. The Harbour, if improved, besides being of greater utility to local fishermen would also allow of imports of coal and other goods for the Northern part of the County. Mr Bolger is prepared to take up this matter if at all possible.

"Lord Fitzwilliam brought the deputation to his quarries, where work was in progress, quarrying and dressing slates, grinding dust and bagging and sending it off for shipment.

"It was pointed out that if the Harbour were improved, and export and import traffic developed the income derived from Port Dues would make Courtown self-supporting, instead of as at present, a heavy charge on the County. "

The County Surveyor said he had applied to the Department of Fisheries for a Grant towards clearing out the inner basin. If that were done in a satisfactory manner it would promote the fishing industry, meet the requirements of Lord Fitzwilliam and any merchandise traffic, and make Courtown

a good port.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Gaul:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 3rd December, 1931, be and are hereby confirmed except in so far as same have been altered or amended by resolution adopted at this meeting."

PRINTING RATE BOOKS

The following tenders were received for printing Rate Books for 1932:- J. English & Co. Commercial Quay, Wexford, £21: 0: 0d; "The People", £22:17: 6d and "Free Press", £45.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Brennan:-

"That the tender of Messrs English & Co. at £21 (being the lowest) be accepted for the printing of the Rate Books of Wexford County Council for 1932."

ROAD WORKS SCHEME

The following letter under date 11th December, 1931, (R/RGN/32) was read from Roads Department (Local Government Department):-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to refer to the Minutes of Proceedings of the Wexford County Council on the 23rd ultimo from which it would appear that it is the intention of the Council to limit the expenditure in respect of the roads of the County in 1932/33 to a sum of £40,000; and I am to point out that having regard to the estimates put forward by the County Surveyor the sum of £40,000 falls short of making reasonable provision for road upkeep in the coming financial year. The Minister thinks it well to draw the Council's special attention to the correspondence which took place with this Department with respect to a similar proposal a year ago in which it was specially pointed out that the voting of so small an amount would in-

volve the withholding of any grant towards the maintenance of main roads.

If a grant of 40 per cent were allowed of the sum (£17,226) proposed by the Council for the upkeep of main roads in 1932/33 the total road expenditure falling on the rates would be little more than 9 per cent over the sum borne by them seventeen years ago notwithstanding that the wages of the road workers in the county have risen 150 per cent in the same period."

Col. Gibbon asked if the inference to be taken from the letter of the L. G. D. was that if they cut wages they would get more money as grant.

The County Surveyor said as far as he could understand the meaning of the 9 per cent was that if the Council could count on the grant or the £17,226 or £6,890 the amount to be raised for roads in next financial year would be £33,110 while the amount spent on roads in 1914 was only 9 per cent lower than that.

The Chairman said they were entitled to the grant and they should get it.

Col. Gibbon said they should reply to the L.G.D. that in view of the state of affairs existing amongst the rate-payers they did not consider the County was in a position to pay a higher rate for roads than that which was agreed to at the meeting of 23rd November last and while the produce of that figure was £40,000 they took into account a grant of about £8,000 so that the amount really falling on the County would be £32,000 or £33,000.

Mr Roche said if they were to do justice to the people of the county they would strike no road rate at all. They could not even maintain the present rate and the County Council like other people would have to go with the times. The rate-payers hadn't the money. Stock could not be sold. The bigger the farmer the worse off he was and the bigger the rate he

would have to pay. The Minister or his officials gave them no solution as to where the money to pay the rates was to come from. It was absurd to strike a rate which they could not collect and to put the Council in the position of super-bailiffs in order to collect rates.

Mr D'Arcy said the Minister did not point out what amount of motor taxation was paid into the Road Fund of the Department. It would certainly be considerably more than the 40 per cent of main road expenditure offered as grant.

The Chairman advised the Council to stick to the amount they agreed to as road expenditure at last meeting. He did not believe the letter as it stood was a direct refusal of the grant.

Col. Gibbon - Can the Government withhold the whole grant from us absolutely or are we entitled to a certain percentage from what we spend from the rates on certain roads ?

Secretary - In their first letter they pointed out to you that the grant is contingent on a reasonable amount being set aside for the repairs and maintenance of roads. They say now that the sum of £40,000 which you propose, falls short of making reasonable provision for their upkeep. That is their opinion.

Chairman - That is their opinion but not ours.

Col. Gibbon - Is it reasonable to ask that an unreasonable amount should be paid by the ratepayers ? We are already told by members of the County Health Board that their rate is going to be up this year, and I don't know what it is going to be in the Mental Hospital. You will have elections and other contingencies that will make the rates higher. The election expenses were obligatory and should be provided for. He then again referred to the figures showing the decline in prices of farm production. With regard to crops there was a higher price for oats and potatoes, owing to the shortage, but the price for barley was down to pre-war rate.

That was the true state of the case regarding the crops in the country, and owing to weather conditions they found the crops were not more than 50 or 60 per cent of the average. The position of the ratepayers in these circumstances were not such as to bear a higher rate, and there must be relief afforded somewhere or other. They could not take it from the Mental Hospital or Health Board, and the roads were the only place they could effect any saving. Even if they had to put up with bad roads for a short time they should do it. He suggested replying to the Department of Local Government that in view of the existing state of affairs they did not consider the county was in a position to pay a higher rate for the roads.

Mr Shannon said they fully discussed this matter at the last meeting when he moved that they strike the same rate as last year, but it was defeated. It was quite obvious now that they would have to raise the same amount of money otherwise they would lose £10,260 of a grant to Co. Wexford. By reducing the rate Col. Gibbon was of the opinion that they were going to save money, but that was not his (Mr. Shannon's) opinion and he was as keen an observer of what was happening as Col. Gibbon was. The money for relief must be got somehow, and if it was not got by labour it must be got by Home Help.

Mr Keegan referred to livestock being carried by lorries along the road, and thereby deteriorating them. How could they expect ~~it~~ to have roads in these circumstances and compare things with 1914. He was just as much a friend of the farmers as anybody else. It was mentioned that the rates were increased by a certain amount between 1914 and 1931. That was quite all right. How much, he asked, had the upkeep of the Co. Home increased? Everytime they cut down an estimate they were not saving money - they were saving with the left hand and giving it out with the right hand to the Co. Home or

in home assistance. ^{did} Where/the advantage come in there ?
He held it was false economy.

Mr Roche said they could not forestall damage to the roads, and make provision for them with money they had not got and everyone, in their heart and soul, knew they could not pay more because they knew the people had not got the money. The rate administered was an exorbitant rate as it was. They might strike any rate, but would they get it ? He did not believe they would. The Minister wrote down from Dublin telling them to give this money and that money and never sent down any solution or suggestion as to how it was to be provided. Let the Government send down a Commissioner or anybody they like -

Mr. Cummins - And you will pay him through the nose.

Mr Hall - This Council is an agricultural Council and you would think by listening to some of the statements today that by the striking of a rate you are going to relieve unemployment in the country. That is not the case at all. I am a member of the Council here for a good number of years and I find that nobody wants to increase the rates only the Labour representatives. Referring to Rural workers and their interests, Mr Hall went on to say he was very/sorry they had not more representatives of rural workers on the Council than urban.

Miss O'Ryan said it was not fair to say that the workers wages were increased by 150 per cent to what they were in pre-war time. In pre-war time the road worker was employed the whole year round and to-day, if he was better paid, he might get very little work in the year. They might strike a bigger rate for the roads and one of the reasons for doing it was to keep more people in employment. It was remarked that the Public Health Estimate was up and the reason was due to the increased cost of maintenance in the Co. Home and for Home Assistance. The want of employment was responsible for the

increase in Home Assistance, and it was increasing every week. That was a reason she would be in favour if the Council as a protest, struck no rate at all for the roads. They could put up with bad roads, but they could not allow people to starve. If they struck no rate - and it was a reason why they should get people employed - they must strike a rate to relieve unemployment which would be giving these people money for doing nothing. If she had her way she would try to avoid that and would abolish the dole for she believed every self-respecting labourer would prefer doing work than doing nothing. If the Council wished not to strike a rate they would run the chance of losing £9,000 or £10,000 which might mean more unemployment and the roads would not be done. She represented the farming class as much as anybody there and knew as much about farming difficulties. There was no price for anything and, in realising these difficulties she felt, in this matter that if they did not spend in one way they would spend ~~in~~ in another. She should say that when the question of de-rating was discussed at their meetings, as a solution of the problem before them, it was treated very lightly by certain members.

Chairman - Miss O'Ryan made an allusion as to de-rating. The Council passed a resolution calling for de-rating and I don't think it could be said that it was treated lightly.

Mr D'Arcy - It was treated lightly in Dublin.

Chairman - But, not at this council.

Col. Quin said that the medical schemes and school schemes cost them something.

Chairman - We are only talking about the road rate at the moment and if we created new doctors and new positions you had just as much to say in the creation of them yourself as anybody else.

Col. Gibbon proposed the following resolution:- "That the condition of the ratepayers of the County be brought to the attention of the Local Government Department. The County

Council feel convinced that the ratepayers are not in a position to pay a higher amount for roads than £32,000 or £33,000. We ask the Local Government Department to allow a grant of £8,000 on this figure so as to bring the amount to be spent on the roads to £40,000. We urge on them consideration of the grave plight of ratepayers as a reason to reconsider their decision and agree to the request of the Council.

Mr D'Arcy - The Minister holds that we are not devoting enough money to the main roads, but the vast majority of the Councillors believe that the farmers use 90 per cent of the other roads, and they are not getting enough. The Minister does not give a straw, but we should look to the interests of the agricultural classes. I will second Col. Gibbon's proposition.

Mr Corish - In view of Mr. Hall's outburst that he wanted nobody here but rural representatives, I may say that six out of our party of nine are rural representatives. I am surprised at Mr. Hall's outburst, and since we come here I defy Mr Hall to point out one incident where we differentiated between rural and urban workers. Proceeding Mr Corish said as he had indicated in other places, the farmers were not in a good position, but he thought everybody agreed that there was no fear of the farmers starving, and that there was great fear, with less employment in county Wexford, that other people would starve. If they did not make reasonable provision in their roadwork, the upkeep of the County Home and the cost of Home Assistance would be infinitely more next year than for many years past. The matter, he said, should be considered from that aspect. Col. Gibbon, in his usual manner, professed to read in the letter from the Minister an inference to reduce the wages of workers. The wish, continued Mr Corish, was father to the thought. He asked if 30s. a week to a road worker, who was employed, perhaps, once or twice in the month, or six times in the year was exorbitant. If they wanted the co-operation of the Labour Party there, they should have less of the re-

marks they heard from Mr. Hall. They took as much interest in the affairs of the Council as any other party, and he defied anybody to show that they, on any occasion, did anything detrimental to the interests of the community as a whole.

Mr Hall denied that he had made any outburst. He had made a considered statement.

Mr Shannon moved as an amendment:- "That a sum of £50,000 the same amount as last year be agreed to for road expenditure in next financial year, provided that a Grant be received from the Government to allow of the sum to be raised by rate for this purpose being £40,000."

Mr Gaul seconded.

Col. Gibbon - I think we should not move that amendment until we make an appeal to the Department to give us a grant on the £40,000 rate. We should try and do that first. It is all very well to consider Mr. Shannon's proposition when the other is turned down.

Mr Shannon - Don't you know very well it will be turned down?

Chairman - They haven't said that.

Mr. Shannon - But it is quite obvious.

Mr. Cummins - Supposing Col. Gibbon's motion is passed, what amount will the ratepayers have to pay ?

Secretary - If you get no grant, £40,000.

Mr Cummins - I proposed here some time ago that no annuities be paid, and you turned it down. You hear a lot of talk about ratepayers paying rates, but that is money going to somebody belonging to you, and we hear nothing about the money that is exported from the country. There is no difference between ratepayers and the farmers, as annuity men, and I want to keep this money from going to England, and apply it in relief of the rates of the country. If we adopt Col. Gibbon's proposition will we get a grant ?

Mr. D'Arcy - To be sure we will.

Mr. Cummins - If I voted for Col. Gibbon's proposition and we did not get any grant -

Chairman - The grant is not turned down.

Mr Cummins - You are a more intelligent man than I am, and any member of intelligence can read that letter.

Col. Gibbon - That letter from the Department is not as strong as last year's, I am asking for a rate of £40,000, and the ratepayers might get a grant of £8,000, so that they would have to pay about £32,000.

Mr. Colfer asked if Col. Gibbon could make the same proposition with regard to the beet and the Sugar Co.

Chairman - The Sugar Company has nothing to do with the Co. Council.

Mr. Colfer - Not very much.

Chairman - It hasn't, and I rule it out of order.

A poll was then taken on Mr. Shannon's amendment and which resulted as follows:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne and Shannon - 10.

Against:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Meyler, Murphy, O'Ryan, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 14.

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

Mr. Gaul demanded a poll on Col. ^{Gibbon's} ~~Quin's~~ motion and this resulted as follows:-

For:- Messrs Brenman, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Meyler, Murphy, O'Ryan, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 14.

Against:- Messrs Armstrong, Colfer, Cooney, Cummins, Gaul, McCarthy, O'Byrne, and Shannon - 8.

Messrs Corish and Keegan were not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the resolution carried.

36 ESTIMATE FOR PUBLIC WORKS -----

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr Cooney:- "That the following allocations for Public Works be and are hereby approved:-

Maintenance Wexford Bridge	£100
Repairs Wexford Bridge	50
Maintenance Ferrycarrig Bridge	80
Repairs Ferrycarrig Bridge	2500
Maintenance and caretaking Mountgarret Bridge	35
Caretaking and Maintenance New Ross Bridge	150
Painting and repairs New Ross Bridge	1200
Loan Mountgarret Bridge	803
Loan Waterford Bridge	435
Maintenance Edermine Bridge	25
Repair Edermine Bridge	50
Maintenance Deeps Bridge	30
Repairs Deeps Bridge	20
Loan Deeps Bridge	278
Work at Courtown Harbour (Pier Head)	750
" " " " (Gates)	82
" " " " (Dredging, subject to grant of similar sum)	600
" " " " (General repairs)	250
Work at Poulduff Pier	50
" " Carne Pier	20
" " Kilmore Harbour	150
" " Fethard, Slade, Duncannon, Arthurstown, and Ballyhack	150
Courthouses	150
County Buildings	150
Total -	<u>£8108</u>

TAKING OVER LANES

Kilscanlon Lane: Under date 4th December, 1931, Mr. Patrick Bennett, Kilscanlon, Ballynabola, wrote asking that Kilscanlon Lane should be taken over by the County Council. It led to his place and to a corn mill. The entrance from the public road was flooded by water off the road. There was a sewer there which Mr. Bennett said had been opened by the late Mr Jones, Assistant Surveyor, and which had never been finished. He had been asked by the local farmers to get the Council to repair the lane, and the farmers would help in the drawing of materials. The lane was three-quarters of an English mile long and it was not fair to expect him to keep the lane in repair for the public.

Messrs P. Bennett and Daniel Connors, Kilscanlon, and Higgins, Rathnageera, came before the meeting and urged the Council to take over the lane.

Mr. Bennett said that part of the lane was in contract up to about nine years ago.

The Co. Surveyor said that the Rural District Council refused to put it in contract. He never remembered any portion of it to be a contract road.

Mr O'Connor said the mill which was of great utility to the people of the district had been closed owing to the condition of the lane.

The Chairman said he could not understand how the portion of the lane which was under contract had been dropped.

Mr. Cooney said that a woman had been flooded out of her house there recently owing to neglect of the water tables and four turkeys drowned. It was probable she would proceed against the County Council for her loss.

Mr. O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, reported that this lane was the only outlet for the water falling over a big area in the locality. There was an old covered drain (at present broken in several places) which was intended to take both the

surface water from the road and water from the land running for a distance alongside the lane. This drain if repaired would only take the water at present flowing from the land. It would be necessary to enlarge this drain for at least 20 yards, cover it with concrete and make a new gullet further down the lane. The cost of this would be about £15 and he recommended that this work be carried out.

Mr Gaul said that for 200 yards down from the road the lane was in very bad condition but the rest of it was fair.

Mr Walsh said it was evident the whole trouble arose from the broken gullet.

In reply to the Chairman Mr. O'Neill, said the annual maintenance would be about £10.

After the deputation had withdrawn Col. Gibbon proposed that the defective gullet be repaired at a cost not exceeding £15.

Mr. D'Arcy seconded.

In reply to the Chairman, Mr. O'Neill said it would take a further £15 to put material on the worst portion of the lane and provided that the local people gave some assistance.

Mr. Hall proposed that the County Council supply the people concerned with 20 yards of material and let them do the repairs themselves.

Mr. Elgee (Solicitor) said the County Council could not legally supply material for a private road.

Mr. Meyler proposed and Mr. Gaul seconded the following amendment:- "That the Council take over the lane known as Kilscanlon Lane, repair defective gullet at a cost not exceeding £15 and provide and spread the necessary material on the portions of the lane pointed out by the Co. Surveyor or the Assistant Surveyor for the District, cost not to exceed a further £15, this proposal to be contingent on the people concerned drawing half the material, proposal to be regarded as subject to further confirmation by the Council when the

requirements of Section 25 (2) of the Local Government Act of 1925 have been complied with.

A poll was taken on the amendment of Mr. Meyler with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Brennan, Colfer, Cooney, Culleton, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Jordan, Keegan, Meyler, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Shannon, and Walsh - 17.

Against:- Messrs D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, Quin, Roche, Smyth, and the Chairman - 7.

The amendment was declared carried and on being put/as the substantive motion was adopted without dissent.

Gortins Lane: Mr. Wm. White, Heavenstown, Cleariestown, wrote that a meeting of the residents of the townland of Gortins unanimously decided to ask the Co. Council to put Gortin's Lane under contract. The lane which was about a mile and a half in length led from the Wexford road at Heavenstown to Kilmannon. There were six families living on it with a population of 30 people. The working of the adjacent County Council quarry for some years past and the local traffic had broken up the foundations and rendered the lane almost impassable. He knew that the times were hard but still the people who lived on the lane and people like himself who had land adjoining deserve some consideration. The people concerned were prepared to give all the voluntary help possible in order to carry out the work, at the least possible cost to the ratepayers. If the Council believed they were not in a position to place Gortins Lane under contract he suggested as an alternative that some material be supplied out of the existing quarry to repair some of the damage which had been done by the traffic to and from the quarry.

Mr. Joseph Moran and Mr. Martin Sinnott attended as a deputation in favour of the request.

Mr Moran bore out the statement in Mr. White's letter and said if the lane was put in repair it would furnish a short cut to Cleariestown Church and Schools, and many of the people were at present unable to send their children to school owing to the condition of the lane. All the people asked was that they should enjoy the same amenities as the people in other districts.

Col. Gibbon said that as the lane had been cut up by the traffic to the quarry the Council should furnish sufficient material from the quarry to repair the damage. The heavy carting over the lane sunk the foundations.

The County Surveyor said there was an alternative route only half a mile away. They did very little work in Gortins quarry as it was never satisfactory. It did not average over 300 yards annually. He understood that the Council had put on material to repair the damage.

Mr Moran said if the Council put the lane into contract they would be prepared to widen it and do the cartage.

The Chairman said it would be admitted that the lane was in very bad condition but if County Council provided material for its repair the people should carry on for some time longer.

Col. Gibbon proposed that the Council provide sufficient material from Gurtins Quarry to repair Gortins Lane on the understanding that it be not taken over as a Contract road.

Mr Gaul seconded the resolution which was adopted.

Moteybower Lane: Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr. D'Arcy seconded the following resolution:- "That the County Council agree to repair Moteybower Lane at a cost not exceeding £80, the local people to carry out voluntarily the work pointed out to them by the Co. Surveyor or the Assistant Surveyor for the district and also take over the lane as a Contract road, this proposal to be subject to further confirmation by the Council, after the requirements of section 25(2) of Local Government Act 1925 have been complied with."

Col. Quin proposed the following amendment which was seconded by Mr Roche:-

"That the County Council decline to take over Moteybower Lane."

A poll was taken on this with the following result:-

For:- Col. Gibbon, Col. Quin and Mr Roche - 3.

Against:- Messrs Armstrong, Brennan, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Culleton, Cummins, D'Arcy, Gaul, Hall, Jordan, Keegan, Meyler, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, Shannon, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 20.

Miss O'Ryan (1) was not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

The resolution was then put and adopted, Mr. Roche and Col. Quin dissenting.

Rathfardon Lane:- Mr. Shannon proposed and Mr. Brennan seconded the following resolution which was adopted, Mr Roche dissenting:-

"That a sum of £40 be provided in Roads Scheme for repair of Rathfardon Lane, and that said lane be brought into contract provided that the local people are prepared to carry out the work pointed out by the County Surveyor or the Assistant Surveyor for the district, this proposal to be subject to further confirmation by the Council when the requirements of Section 25 (2) ^{of Local Govt Act, 1925} have been complied with."

Mountaimuck Lane:- Miss O'Ryan, who pointed out that all details in connection with this lane had been considered by the Council on a couple of occasions moved that a sum of £40 be set aside for its repair and that it be taken over as a Contract road on condition that the local people carry out any work pointed out by the County Surveyor or the Assistant Surveyor for the district, and that this proposal be subject to further confirmation by the Council when the requirements of Section 25 (2) of Local Government Act 1925 have been complied with.

Coolnagree Lane: Miss O'Ryan proposed and Mr O'Byrne seconded the following resolution:- "That a sum of £45 be provided for repair of Coolnagree Lane and that said lane be taken over as a Contract road provided the local people carry out the work pointed out by the County Surveyor or the Assistant Surveyor for the district, this proposal being subject to further confirmation by the Council when the requirements of Section 25 (2) of the Local Government Act 1925 have been complied with!"

Castlebridge Road:- Under date 13th December, 1931, ^{Passed} Mr Moses Murphy, Castlebridge, wrote that he had again been asked by the people of Castlebridge to urge on the Council the great necessity of having something done to the portion of the road which was flooded pretty often during the winter months. The hand-rail as suggested at the last meeting of the Council would be more of a hindrance than a help to the school children.

Mr. Culleton said that the opinion of a number of people in the district did not agree with the statement of Mr Murphy.

It was decided to take no action.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr D'Arcy seconded by Mr Roche:- "That the sum of £210 agreed to at this meeting for repair of lanes be taken from amounts proposed for main roads."

Passed.

EMPLOYMENT OF MEN IN GOREY AREA

The following report of Sub-Committee which had been adjourned from time to time came up for consideration:-

County
"The Committee of the/Council appointed to deal with this matter met in Gorey on Tuesday-last, 11th instant, and there were present:-

Mr Hall (in chair) also Col. Quin, Messrs J. O'Byrne, W.P. Keegan and T.F. D'Arcy.

The County Surveyor and his Clerk, in charge of the records, as also Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, were in at-

tendance.

Having examined the books and gone into the records of employment the Committee recommended that the results should be circulated amongst the Members for Gorey Area so that they might be in a position to deal with the matter at the County Council meeting. Accordingly I now send you List as directed."

Extract from Minutes of Co. Council meeting of 9th September, 1929, relative to the employment of workers was read.

Mr. Hall proposed and Mr. Keegan seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That the Report of Committee as to employment of men in Gorey Area be received and considered."

Mr. Hall said the Council could see from the figures which had been supplied that the Gangers worked full time. Some of these had 30 under them and some eight. These men in a great many cases secured only three or four weeks' work.

Mr Keegan contended that there was not a fair distribution of work amongst the workers in Gorey area. He then referred in detail to the Gangers - P. Byrne with 10 men, Patrick Ryan with 36 men, Arthur Nolan, 10 men, John Byrne 24 men, James Swords, 34 men, Ml. Jordan 8 men and Peter Byrne, 12 men. In all these cases the Gangers had fully stamped cards for the year and a half under review while the men had in no instance full stamps and some of them very few. Mr Keegan also complained that even since the Committee met a labourer had been employed pointing bridges though the Council had decided that tradesmen should be employed for tradesmen's work. The resolution of Mr. Armstrong that haulage work should be shared amongst available carters had not been carried out.

Mr Cooney said in New Ross district he had received complaints that some workers could not get any work while others worked practically the full period.

In reply to a query the County Surveyor said that when men were disemployed, gangers with less than four men received only the wages of an ordinary road worker. It was not every-workman who was fit for a ganger's duties and it was not in the interests of road maintenance to discharge a good ganger. Work could be always found for him.

Col. Quin held that the Assistant Surveyors in each district were the best judges as to the men to be employed. It looked as if some member or members of the Council wanted to take over the Assistant Surveyor's jobs. He was on the Committee which met at Gorey and could not see anything wrong with the way in which the men were employed.

The County Surveyor said that as regards the number of Insurance stamps the ganger might be working with one set of men for some weeks and with another group later.

Mr. Roche said that every day carters were complaining to him that they could not get employment although some of them had purchased horses to deal with the haulage, of the County Council. The system of employing the men was wrong and it was certainly not carried out according to the wishes of the Council.

The County Surveyor said he would admit quite openly that there was a system of favouritism or rather selection in the employment of the men. He and his Assistants endeavoured to get the best man for the job. Mr. Roche would not care to change his men if he found those in his employment satisfactory.

Mr Murphy said that he went through a good deal of the figures with Mr. O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, for New Ross District, and he was satisfied that Mr. O'Neill kept on the best men.

Mr Byrne said the whole trouble arose because they had at one time 700 men employed; now they had not half that num-

ber so the work was not there for the men. He was satisfied that in his own area the work was distributed as well as it could be, with efficiency.

Mr Armstrong said he was not satisfied the work was fairly distributed in his area consistent with efficiency. He agreed that the gangers should be kept on. He found, however, that it was one set of men that got all the work. Since the resolution of 1929 the position was worse.

Mr. Keegan said he would propose that in Gorey Area there should be a fair distribution of work for ordinary men and carters.

Chairman - So far as my quarter of the county is concerned there are two or three men who are never out of employment and who are as well off as other men who never got an hour's work. He had no fault to find with the arrangements for carting in the Summer but in the winter it was the same two or three men who got all the work. We should direct the County and Assistant Surveyors to carry out our resolution to the best of their ability and especially in hard times like the present when we cannot give complete employment and divide it as well as possible.

Mr Keegan proposed that the Co. Surveyor be made responsible for the Gorey area and give it a little more of his time.

Col. Quin said this was a direct insult to Mr. Treanor the Assistant Surveyor for the district.

Mr. Keegan said if his suggestion was considered to be an insult to Mr. Treanor he would withdraw.

Col. Gibbon proposed and Mr. Cooney seconded the following resolution which was adopted nem con:- "That the County Surveyor and Assistant Surveyors be instructed to carry out the original orders of the County Council as regards employment of men and to be particularly careful in carrying out this instruction in the winter months."

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ALLOCATIONS TO URBAN DISTRICTS UNDER ROAD
WORKS SCHEME

Mr. Corish raised the question of amounts to be allowed Urban Councils for the maintenance of the main roads in their districts for financial year 1932-33. In Enniscorthy £382 had been allowed in 1931-32 and for next year the amount proposed was £441 an increase of £59. In New Ross the amount allowed in 1931-32 was £482 and for next year £214, a reduction of £268. Wexford was allocated £750 last year and the proposed amount for 1932-33 was only £247 a reduction of £503. It was absolutely impossible to maintain 600 perches of important streets in Wexford for £247.

The County Surveyor pointed out that the apparent discrepancy in the treatment of the three districts was caused by the fact that the full amount was allowed for spraying work. If this procedure was not adopted the amount would have to be dropped altogether. In Enniscorthy £213 had to be set aside for spraying and in New Ross £100. There was no spraying work proposed for Wexford for next year.

Mr. Corish then proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Mr. Gaul and adopted:- "That allocation for maintenance of main roads in Wexford Urban district be increased by £100, amount to be deducted from the sum provided for County Main Roads."

FLOODING AT BALDWINSTOWN

It was decided that this matter be adjourned to County Council meeting to be held on 28th inst. at which Mr Hayes Co. Councillor, concerned, and Mr. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, for the district will be in attendance.

FLOODING AT KILLAGOLEY

Correspondence as to the flooding of the premises of Miss Forrestal at Killagoley from Mr. Elgee, Co. Solicitor, and Messrs P.J. O'Flaherty & Son, Solicitors, Enniscorthy,

was read .

Mr. McCarthy said that it had been arranged for Miss Forrestal to vacate the premises which were being taken over by the Mental Hospital who would arrange with the Co. Surveyor that catchpits should be put in.

TRANSFER OF ROAD ALLOCATIONS

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Corish seconded by Mr. Colfer:- "That as requisitioned by County Surveyor the following transfers of Road a/cs be agreed to:- £30 from Account 31 to Account 18; £30 from A/C 18 to A/C 16; £7: 10: 0d from 3 M to 4 M and £10 from 3 M to 44 M."

TEA CONTRACT AT MENTAL HOSPITAL

The following under date 4th December, 1931 (T.94060-31-Enniscorthy Mental Hospital) was read from the Trade Dept. of Local Government Department:-

"With reference to the entry in the Minutes of Proceedings of the Wexford County Council, at their meeting on the 12th October last, relative to the tea purchased for consumption in the Enniscorthy Mental Hospital, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that an Inspector from this Department, having visited the Mental Hospital, reports that no tea save from the Official Contractors has been purchased for use in this Institution since 18th May, 1929, and he was informed that it has given every satisfaction, and no complaints in regard thereto have been received."

TRAVELLING ALLOWANCE OF RATES INSPECTOR

The following under date 3rd December, 1931, (G.93190/1931. Loch Garman Fa.) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government &

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Public Health to advert to the Minutes of the Wexford County Council of the 23rd ultimo and to state that he sanctions the Council's proposal to increase the travelling allowance of Mr. O'Kennedy, Rates Inspector, by £50. It is presumed that the Rates Inspector keeps a Diary in which he records his various journeys and that such Diary will be available for inspection at audit or when desired."

ROAD GRANT

Under date 8th December, 1931, the Department of Local Government wrote (R.G.79) stating that a payment of £2,009 had been made to the County Council - the final payment in respect of the Grant for Enniscorthy streets.

GOREY GARDEN CITY LOAN

Under date 2nd December, 1931, the Department of Local Government wrote (H.91348/1931. Pc. Loch Garman.) forwarding copy of letter to the Co. Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance approving of the borrowing of £9,000 from the Royal Liver Friendly Society Ltd., for the erection of 50 cottages under the Labourers Acts in Gorey Rural Area. The loan is repayable in 40 years by equal half yearly instalments of Principal and Interest at the rate of 5 per cent.

APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE FOR CO. MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, DURING HOLIDAYS.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Walsh seconded by Mr. Culleton:- "That as unanimously recommended by Co. Wexford Board of Health this Council approves of Dr. George Sheehan, the Crescent, Lucan, Co. Dublin, acting as substitute for Dr. C. Bastible, Co. Medical Officer of Health during the absence of the latter on three weeks holidays commencing on 22nd December, 1931."

PLANTING OF FORTH MOUNTAIN

Under date 2nd December, 1931, the Department of Agriculture wrote (1650/F.) that they proposed to take

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possession of selected parts of the lands of Forth Mountain on 15th December and that preliminary work would be put in hands as soon as possible after that date.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. McCarthy:- "As we understand that Mr. P. Hogan, Minister for Agriculture will visit Wexford on Sunday 20th December, 1931, we cordially invite him to inaugurate the excellent work of afforestation at the Mountain of Forth by planting the first tree there."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Culleton:- "That we return our thanks to the T.D.'s of the County Wexford for the interest and energy displayed by them in pushing forward the work of afforestation at the Mountain of Forth."

BUILDING ADJOINING ROAD 197

In connection with the application of Mr. Michael Bolger, Ballybeg, Ferns, for permission to erect building, Mr. T. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, for the district, reported that he had inspected the site on 26th November and was of opinion that the building when erected will not be an obstruction.

It was decided to take no action in the matter.

RELIEF WORKS

Mr. Corish said that when the question of the erection of a wall at Rosslare Burrow was under consideration it had been suggested that Mr. Jordan and himself should see the Ministers concerned about getting some thing from the Unemployment Fund. They saw Mr Roddy of the Land Commission, Parliamentary Secretary, on the 10th inst. and he thought they had succeeded in getting something for Cahore Drainage Scheme. He desired to acknowledge the assistance they had received from the other County T.D.'s particularly as regards the application for Cahore. He had received, under date

12th December, 1931, the following letter from Mr. Roddy:-

"Referring to my conversation yesterday with yourself and Deputy Jordan, relative to the Cahore and Kilmore drainage, and the Rosslare Burrow, I wish to let you know that the question of the Cahore Drainage is being considered sympathetically, and will be dealt with in a week's time. I shall write to you later regarding the other two matters."

On the proposition of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Shannon, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Corish and Mr. Jordan for their efforts in connection with Cahore.

The County Surveyor said he had been instructed by the Finance Committee to make application for some of the grant and had put forward the following:-

1.	Improvement Courtown Harbour by dredging the inner basin	- £2,000
2.	Sewerage work Rosslare Strand	-£16,000
3.	Sewerage work Taghmon	- £1,200
4.	Land Drainage Cahore	- £1,000
5.	do Ballyteigue	- £1,000
6.	do Courtown Harbour	- <u>£3,000</u>
	Total.....	£ 24,200

He had had a reply from the Department of Finance that his application had been forwarded to the appropriate Government Department.

WEXFORD STEAMSHIP COMPANY

The following was read from the Irish Livestock Exporters and Traders' Association Ltd.,:- "At the meeting of the committee of this association a resolution was unanimously adopted calling on the farmers and livestock exporters of Co. Wexford to give their whole-hearted support to the Wexford Steamship Co. trading between Wexford and Birkenhead. A combined attempt is being made to drive this independent company out of business, and it is considered, with due deference to

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your council's opinion that ~~if~~ such an effort should prove to be successful, the Wexford farmers and livestock exporters would suffer a loss which could not easily be righted. The Irish Shipping Co. which is for some weeks operating between Dublin and Birkenhead by the same owners, has also received the unanimous support of this association, and since its inception at Dublin has been a complete success, we are glad to say. It is our intention that it shall continue to be so, and although we may be on the eve of a period which will test to the utmost the loyalty of farmers and exporters towards the independent Irish Shipping Companies, we feel, and it is our ardent desire, that with the faithful co-operation of all those who are in a position to help, that any attempt of the associated Coast Line Companies to nullify the courageous activities of an Irish independent shipping company will prove fruitless. The moment is opportune for seeking a reasonable, but not uneconomic, rate for the transport of live stock, and already a move in that direction has been made by some of the Coast Line Companies. These reductions, anticipated and actual, will last only so long as the opposition is there, and should we be so unfortunate as to lose the lever which makes such reductions possible, a speedy return to the general existing rates would be made. This letter is being sent in the spirit in which it is written, and it is hoped that your council will not interpret it as an attempt to dictate to the people of Wexford."

Mr. O'Byrne proposed a resolution approving of the Association's letter. He hoped that the farmers would stand by the Wexford company. Exporters might get a cheaper rate now, but if the local company disappeared the rates would go up again.

Mr. Culleton seconded, and said he would be very much surprised if people withdrew their support from the Wexford Steamship Company.

The Chairman said all the members were aware of the big

effort made by the farmers to establish a boat in Wexford. For a number of years they had been soliciting, suggesting and doing everything else in their power to try to get another company to carry live stock, and they point-blank refused. Through the efforts of different bodies in the county, and through the great pluck and energy of their townsman, Mr. Stafford, there was a boat put on to carry the farmers' and dealers' produce and livestock to Birkenhead, and elsewhere if required. He thought it would be a crying shame if the farmers of the County were to let down such a service now, even if they could ship their livestock a trifle less by another line of steamers, that at one time would not give the least consideration or hearing to the farmers of the County. He thought it would be a shame if the Wexford ^{Company} ~~County~~ were let down, and if it were let down there would, perhaps, in a few years, be again no livestock carrying company at all, and he thought the rates would be increased if the competition was put out of action. He would like the farmers and dealers to support the livestock trade that was being carried on in Wexford by the Wexford Steamship Company, in the future as they had done in the past.

Mr. O'Byrne's proposition was passed.

M. Doyle

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING 23RD NOVEMBER 1931

M I N U T E S

COUNTY HALL,
WEXFORD.

N.J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

A meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 23rd November, 1931.

Present:- Mr. M. Doyle (Chairman) presiding; also Messrs James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Cline, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, John Doran, James Gaul, Col. C.M. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Michael Jordan, William P. Keegan, Thomas Maylor, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col. R.P. Wemyss Quin, M.M. Roche, James Shannon, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and the following Assistant Surveyors were also in attendance:- Messrs T. Treanor, R.J. Ennis, Thos. Cullen, P.O'Neill, and J.F. Birthistle.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £11,801: 1: 9d was examined and signed.

THE LATE ROBERT RECK

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr Hall:- "That reply from Mr. James Shannon, M.C.C. to vote of condolence be inserted on this day's meeting."

The following is the reply:-

"Will you kindly convey my very sincere thanks to the members of the County Council one and all and to yourself, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and staff who kindly voted sympathy to me in my bereavement on the death of my nephew under very sad circumstances. I can assure you that I appreciate the Council's kindness very much as it is a comfort to me to know that I have the sympathy of my colleagues

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in a time of trouble. It was a very sad affair but God knows best and we can only agree."

PROVISIONAL ROAD WORKS SCHEME

As arranged at a previous meeting a preliminary examination of provisional Road Works Scheme in respect of financial year 1932-33 was made.

The County Surveyor referring to this matter in his report stated:-

"The most important work of your meeting will be dealing with the Road Works Scheme, and I shall treat the items in detail as they come up. At present I merely report that I have carefully gone into the several items with the Assistant Surveyors, and, in my opinion, the sum set out for maintenance is the lowest figure for which the various roads can be maintained in a proper condition.

"I have pointed out to the Council on former occasions, that, generally, there is a depreciation in the condition of the County Roads owing to their getting insufficient material spread annually. I have, with the help of the Assistant Surveyors, endeavoured by the judicious use of the funds available to keep the roads from going to pieces, but there is no question about it, one severe winter would place many roads in an impassable condition. A number of improvement works are for new roads, and, with the limited funds at present available, I consider the Council should not take over further liability. Other of these improve-
ment works are absolutely essential, and the remainder are /
certainly
necessary."

The Secretary stated that the County Surveyor's Estimate for year 1932/33 for Road Maintenance amounted to £80,797, which represents an increase of £7,403 on County Surveyor's Estimate for 1931/32 which was £73,394. Last year's

Estimate was reduced by County Council from £73,394 to £50,000 so that the Estimate for 1932/33 means an increase of £30,797 on the amount allocated by County Council for Road Maintenance last year.

The following table gave the particulars of the allocation of £80,797 amongst the various classes of roads:-

Original Estimate: of Co. Surveyor 1931-32		Estimate of County Surveyor 1932-33	:Allocated: :by County: :Council :1931-32	Increase over Allocation.
£32162	Main Roads	£35,466	£25933	£9533
28742	County Roads 3rd Class	32,151	£15981	£16170
5556	Co. Roads 4th Class	5,605	4281	1324
2971	Improvement Works(Main)	3,137	1444	1693
1963	Improvement Works (Co.)	2,438	586	1852
1000	Contingencies (Main)	1,000	660	340
1000	Contingencies (County)	1,000	1115	115 ^{Dec.}
£73394		£80,797	£50,000	£30,797

The Secretary read for the meeting Circular letter of the Department of Local Government (Roads) - (RGM - 201/31 - 30th October, 1931) relative to road estimates and which is set out on Minutes of meeting of County Council on 9th November, 1931,

Paragraph No. 2 stating that if the estimates of the Council show that a reasonable sum is proposed for the upkeep of all roads the upkeep grant of the Department for 1932-33 in respect of main roads would be calculated on the basis of 40 % of the sum proposed .

The County Surveyor said as he recognised the present economic depression he had made up his estimate on the minimum to keep the roads in reasonable condition. Last year his estimate was cut and some members were erroneously under the impression that he was trying to make up for last year's deduction in the present estimate. With the ex-

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ception of Leitrim - one of the poorest counties in the Saorstat Wexford had the lowest priced roads. This year Leitrim had increased their estimate and the Wexford roads were now absolutely the lowest in the whole country. The figures of the estimates represented a sum of £20 per mile for the County Roads which was an extremely low figure. Of course the cost of main roads was naturally higher but the average price over the whole County, including improvement works etc was £25 per mile.

Col. Gibbon said that instead of talking about the roads and what they were going to raise they should begin at the other end and see how much the County in view of present economic conditions could afford, to pay. Last year he had proposed that the road expenditure should be £40,000. Subsequently this was increased to £50,000 but as £10,000 of this was provided from State funds the increase made no difference in the Rates. If the £40,000 was the best they could do last year they should realise that the financial position of the County was now much worse. He then referred in detail to the lower prices now obtained for live stock and agricultural produce as compared with the corresponding period last year. Feeding stuffs which the farmer had to buy had gone down something in price since last year, but within the last month they showed a rising tendency. Coming at the end of the most disastrous year for farmers that he had known was not the time to talk of spending £30,000 more on the roads over what was provided for the current financial year. Last year he had proposed £40,000 as the maximum expenditure and he did not see they could do with less for the coming year. He was not going to recommend anything above that figure and proposed that £40,000 be the limit for their road expenditure and he proposed that figure for acceptance by the Council. The main roads were good enough for the ratepayers - in fact in some cases they were

too good as farmers could not bring their horses on them. What was wanted was a little more expenditure on some of the by roads which were of real significance to the farmers. He considered the County Surveyor should be instructed to draw up a minimum of work on the trunk roads and which would maintain them without absolutely seriously breaking up. The remainder of the money should be spent on the by roads. Ratepayers in every corner of the County were asking the Co. Council to take over private roads and if the Council agreed the extra expense on the County would ~~be~~ be enormous. It would be a great mistake to hold out the hope that the Council was going to take over a whole lot of these private roads. They could not possibly consider improvements in road expenditure until agriculture was again put on its legs. It would be absolutely wrong of the Council to try and find large sums for the roads during this year and until they saw how the proposed plans for regenerating agriculture would work out. The Council were elected to look after the interests of the ratepayers and to strike an excessive rate for roads now would not be in the general interest. They would have to put up with the roads as they are. What was the good of striking a rate that could not be collected. The £40,000 was the maximum which the Council was able to set aside for maintenance for the next financial year.

Mr Culleton seconded.

Colonel Quin said that every single year they were told that the roads would go to pieces unless they agreed to the figures in the County Surveyor's estimate but as a matter of fact they had become steadily better every year for the last six or seven years. The by roads were no worse. He would object to bad roads but personally he had no grouse about the matter ^{and} compared with ten years ago the roads were enormously improved.

Mr Shannon proposed and Mr O'Byrne seconded the following resolution:- "That a sum of £50,000 be provided for all

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road expenditure for financial year 1932-33 provided that the state grant for main roads be not less than £10,000."

Miss O'Ryan said that if every member was satisfied with the adoption of a low road rate it was all right. Last year many of the members of the party who asked for a low rate came afterwards to the Council to get money for their own roads. If every member now agreed that he was satisfied with the state of the roads they would be quite in order in passing a low rate but she was afraid that before the expiration of three months they would have different members complaining of the roads and trying to get money for them. This would not be fair to the people who genuinely accepted the condition of things as they are.

Mr Roche said that last year they agreed that a certain amount should be taken from the Main roads and spent on by roads. He proposed that no expenditure be incurred on the trunk and on the main roads except for maintenance of water tables and other work which could not be neglected.

Mr Cummins asked if the Council passed the resolution of Col. Gibbon to spend £40,000 on the roads next year would the Council be entitled to the Government Grant.

The County Surveyor said he did not know. But what happened last year was that the Council decided to spend £40,000 on the roads but they were told they would get no grant on that figure. After correspondence with the Local Government Department the Council decided they would spend £50,000 on condition they would receive a grant of £10,000 from the Government. The amount raised in rates was of course only £40,000.

Mr Keegan held that the by roads had depreciated by from 25 to 30 per cent and if they kept depreciating to the same extent every year they would soon be impassable. After another year they would have to raise a very much higher figure. Although it was a very bad time with the Country it was false economy to cut down the road estimate below a reasonable figure.

Mr D'Arcy said the County Council were making some roads

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so good they were driving the farmers off them.

Mr Corish objected to Col. Gibbon's resolution. This went to cut down the road estimate by a wave of the hand. If they desired to cut down the estimate they should proceed in a regular way and appoint as Committees the members of each Co. Electoral area to examine the amount to be spent on each individual road in their districts and make recommendations to a general meeting. He saw in the estimate that with the reduction proposed by Col. Gibbon the amount which would be available for the maintenance of main roads in Wexford Urban District would be £325 and it would be impossible to maintain the main roads for this amount. Since he had arrived at the use of reason he had heard year after year complaints of rates being too high.

Col. ^{Quin}~~Gibbon~~ held that if Committees were appointed the members would endeavour to get the highest allocations for the roads of their own districts and the interests of the County as a whole would suffer.

Mr Hall said that their third class roads could not be in a worse condition. There was little use in striking a rate which could not be collected. They had only half the present ^{rate} collected and he could not see where the balance was to come from. They were spending over £8,000 in road supervision, practically £4 per mile in gangers and this could be saved by substituting a well devised system of piece work. They were spending too much on their main roads many of which could not be used by farmers who were compelled to make a long detour over very bad roads to get in and out of their market towns.

Colonel Gibbon said they could not make any reduction in the estimates for Board of Health, Mental Hospital or General Services. Their only chance of keeping the rates down was in the roads. They should be satisfied with their

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condition for a year or two to see in the meantime what relief would be given to agriculture.

Mr Hall said the estimates of Mental Hospital and Board of Health would be up considerably for next financial year.

Mr Shannon contended that the reduction proposed by Col. Gibbon would mean that the Council would be obliged to spend double the amount on many of their roads in the following year and this was essentially bad business.

After further discussion a poll was taken on the amendment of Mr Shannon with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Colfer, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan and Shannon - 11.

Against:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Meyler, Murphy, Quin, Roche, Smyth and the Chairman - 13.

Messrs Cline, Cooney and Walsh (3) were not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

A poll was then taken on Col. Gibbon's motion to fix the expenditure on roads for financial year 1932-33 at £40,000, with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Meyler, Murphy, Quin, Roche, Smyth and the Chairman - 13.

Against:- Messrs Armstrong, Colfer, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Shannon - 10.

Messrs Cline, Cooney and Keegan and Walsh (4) were not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the resolution carried.

Col. Gibbon proposed and Mr D'Arcy seconded the following resolution:-

"That the Provisional Road Works Estimate be referred back to the County Surveyor with instructions to allocate

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amounts for each road to fit in with the amount of money passed by the Council at this meeting." *Passed*

Mr O'Byrne contended that some of the roads which the County Council had, during the year, agreed to take over should be considered now. One particular matter which had been recommended by a Committee was the small sum necessary to put into repair Moteybower Lane. He proposed this should be considered now. The local people were prepared to do a good deal themselves. The County Council had agreed to spend £100 for the repair of this lane. The other portion of the lane which was in Co. Wicklow was being repaired by the County Council of that County.

Mr D'Arcy said that the repair of this road would be a great convenience to the people of a very large district.

Mr Corish asked what was the amount which would be available for this class of work for next financial year.

The Chairman held it would be better for the County Surveyor to make the various allocations before considering matters of this nature.

Mr Hall proposed:- "That consideration of amount to be set aside for new works for next year be adjourned to the meeting of the County Council to be held on Monday 14th December, 1931."

Mr Culleton seconded. *Passed*

A deputation consisting of Messrs John Breen, Joseph Doyle, Patrick Doyle and Thomas Butler came before the meeting to urge the necessity for taking over Mountainmuck Lane near Whitechurch, Glynn. The lane was about three-quarters of a mile in length and £80 for its repair had been included in the Road Works Scheme.

Mr. J. Breen said there were eight families representing over 50 persons living on the lane. The people concerned were prepared to widen it to the specified figure. There was only one corner on it and this would be eased to the satisfaction

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of the County Surveyor.

Mr Murphy suggested that the deputation should arrange for the transport of the necessary material.

Miss O'Ryan suggested that if the deputation would arrange for carting half the material the Council should agree. This lane if put in repair would serve the whole district as it would save the very heavy draft on Ballinclay hill.

Further consideration was adjourned to the meeting of County Council on 14th December.

It was also arranged at the instance of Mr Hayes that deputation as to repair of Gurtins lane, Cleariestown, should be heard at next meeting.

In connection with proposed repair of Rathfarden lane a memorial in favour signed by 32 ratepayers was read .

The memorial pointed out that the lane linked up Forrestalstown with Rathfarden and if it was taken over by the Council and put in proper repair it would be a great advantage to all the people of these two townlands as well as to the five people who lived on it and who had no decent way of going to their homes.

Mr Shannon having referred in detail to the great convenience which it would be to a large section of the community to have the place put into repair proposed that the lane be taken over and repaired by the Council provided the local people carry out the work promised by them to the Co. Council committee.

In reply to Col. Gibbon the County Surveyor said that the Council since he came to the County, had taken over about 15 miles of lanes. In 20 years there had been about one mile taken over every year.

A deputation concerned with Rathfarden Lane and consisting of Messrs Maurice Murphy, John Hendrick and Joseph Leary came before the Council.

Mr Murphy who acted as spokesman said the local people

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would remove the corners, and widen the lane.

Mr O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, said that it was proposed to put 160 yards of material on the lane. The quarry was six miles away. If they could procure local material the cost would be reduced.

The County Surveyor said he understood the local people were to ^{haul} have the material.

Mr. M. Murphy suggested they would bring half the material only.

The County Surveyor considered the local people should haul it all.

The Chairman said if they took over this road it was going to be a burden on the County for all time. The Council were asked to spend £50 and after that it would cost them something yearly.

Mr Shannon proposed that the lane be put in repair, and taken over by the County Council provided the local people widen the lane, remove the corners and draw all the material, to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor.

The Chairman objected to having this proposal put. They had adjourned consideration of similar applications to their next meeting and he was of opinion that all such applications should be considered on the one day.

It was decided to adjourn further consideration to next County Council meeting.

Mr Corish called attention to the flooding of Castle-bridge road. Winter after winter the people were cut off from Church and School.

The County Surveyor said a proposal to deal with the matter had been before the Council and had been turned down.

Mr Culleton said that if a hand rail was erected along the Church side of the road it would meet the difficulty.

Mr Gaul referred to an occasion when four motor cars had to be towed out of this place. The only remedy would be

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to raise the road.

Mr Corish proposed and Mr O'Byrne seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That the County Surveyor be instructed to examine into the flooding of road at Castlebridge and report to next meeting."

In connection with proposed erection of wall at Burrow, Rosslare, the following was read from Mr. P. Bent:-

"It is regretted that owing to the inclemency of the weather only a few ratepayers of the Burrow, Rosslare, could meet those members of the County Council who came to discuss with the ratepayers concerned, the merits of rice grass that was proposed to be ^{put} down as a protection against the tide which frequently hampers our passage on the Strand. The ratepayers carefully considered the matter since; and I beg to state that it was unanimously agreed that the sowing of rice grass would be no means or remedy to secure what we are looking for and demanding as our right, viz., a clear unobstructed way or road to and from our homes. We believe that it is very doubtful if the sowing of rice grass would ever take root; and supposing it did grow it would be years before it would have any effect. That would be a hope that no sane man could expect us to entertain. We cannot wait for experiments whilst we and our families have often to encounter a flooded muddy strand. Again if the rice grass grew it would produce a conglomeration of mud which would worsen the position and thereby aggravate the way to and from our homes. Moreover if rice grass were grown and fructified, it would obstruct the launching and hauling up of our boats. Surely you do not wish to add to the hardships under which we have to earn our livelihood. The planting of rice grass therefore, is out of the question, and instead of being any help or cure for our troubles, it would but increase the difficulties and dangers that burden us. The only remedy

for our grievance is to build a wall which we demand as a right. We want, and are entitled to as ratepayers, a clear unobstructed way to and from our homes, and that cannot be effected unless a wall be built. We have already given reasons to show why we have a right to a road or way. It is unnecessary to repeat those arguments. We ask you, therefore, Members of the County Council, to do your duty towards us and our families and so redress our serious grievance. Our case is urgent. We ask you to bear in mind that although we are poor, the health and lives of us and our families ought to be more valuable than a few paltry hundred pounds."

After some discussion it was decided to adjourn further consideration to next meeting of the Council.

It was also agreed that Messrs Corish & Jordan T.D.'s should approach the Land Commission and ascertain if anything would be done to help the tenants in the locality.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Murphy seconded by Mr D'Arcy:- "That when Roads Works Scheme for next financial year has been approved finally the County Council agrees that during the financial year no further proposals for the taking over of private roads or works of a like nature be considered."

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S REPORT

The following Report was submitted by the County Surveyor:-

"The two contracts for the laying of concrete roads are still in progress, though the period for completion has expired. In regard to Messrs Lee's Contract on the Bunclody-Enniscorthy Road the concrete slab has been practically completed, and it only remains to deal with the sides. The Contract of the Pioneer Road Construction Company on the Wexford-New Ross Road has still lengths of the concrete slab to be completed, and in this case also long lengths of the

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sides remain to be dealt with.

I have not yet been able to arrange with the Kilkenny County Surveyor in regard to proposal for New Ross Bridge repair, but this will come before you at a later meeting, when you are dealing with Public Works' Estimate.

On the 20th instant I made a thorough inspection of the defective abutment and bridge end at Ferrycarrig in company of Messrs Delap and Waller. We have found the matter very difficult to deal with, and later, I shall report more in detail when I have a further communication from Messrs Delap and Waller.

As directed by the Council I shall arrange with Lord Fitzwilliam for a deputation to wait on him in regard to Courtown Harbour improvement.

The adjourned inquest on late Mr Robert Reck, one of our workmen, who was unfortunately killed whilst proceeding to work, has not yet taken place, and, at the instance of the Insurance Company, the County Council Solicitor has the matter under observation."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That the report of County Surveyor to this meeting be received and considered."

Concrete Roads: The County Surveyor said that both Contractors were only very little behind. Mr Lee would have finished last week but for the wet weather. Last time he (County Surveyor) saw the Enniscorthy-Buncloody Road Mr Lee had only 40 yards of slab to do. Of course there was still all the side work but he did not mind that much as it was the time the slab was finished which influenced the opening of the road. The Wexford end of the New Ross-Wexford Road should be finished within a fortnight and the New Ross end before that.

Mr Cooney said the sooner this road was finished the better. Mr Walsh and himself struck in a flood at Polehore, and there were two other motors there which looked as if they

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would not get through until the flood went down.

Mr Walsh said he had raised at last meeting the question of the flooding of this road but nothing had been done.

The County Surveyor said he would see that the culverts were working .

Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, held that the flood at this particular place was due to flooding from the land and from the high tide. He would be prepared to swear it was not caused from the road culverts.

It was decided that Mr Birthistle should inspect the flooded road at Polehore and take steps to mitigate it, if possible.

As regards completion of work on concrete roads the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the County Surveyor serve notice on Contractors for Concreting Roads (1) Enniscorthy-Bunclody and (2) Wexford to New Ross calling attention to penalty clauses in the Specification and that the County Surveyor report to next meeting how the works have progressed in the meantime."

Ferrycarrig Bridge: The following under date 18th November, 1931, (M.S.2829) was read from the Department of Industry and Commerce:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Industry and Commerce to refer to your letter of the 31st ultimo and previous correspondence relative to the substitution of a fixed span for the existing opening of Ferrycarrig Bridge. The Department have received representations from the Wexford Harbour Commissioners, the Wexford Corporation and the Enniscorthy Urban District Council protesting against the proposed change on the grounds that trade between Wexford and Enniscorthy might be seriously prejudiced by reason of the effect which the closing of the bridge would have on the development of traffic on the River Slaney.

The Department would be unwilling, in view of these objections, to sanction any project which would result in closing the Slaney to river traffic, without first being satisfied that the action contemplated by the County Council is justified by the conditions and is not calculated to have an effect inimical to the interests of trade in Enniscorthy and Wexford.

It has been suggested that a Local Inquiry be held at Wexford to receive the views of persons interested in the matter and the Department are willing to hold such an Inquiry on condition that the incidental expenses are defrayed by the County Council.

I shall be glad to be informed whether the County Council will agree to the holding of an Inquiry on the conditions stated."

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:-

"That Wexford County Council do not desire any steps to be taken as regards local inquiry in connection with opening span of Ferrycarrig Bridge. They have arranged for investigation and report by expert and when this has been considered they will communicate further with the Department of Industry and Commerce in reference to their letter of 18th November, 1931 (M.S.2829)."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That Report of County Surveyor as submitted to this meeting be and is hereby approved."

TRANSFER ROAD A/C'S

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That as requisitioned by Mr Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, £70 be transferred from a/c 10M to 9 M and £50 from a/c 50 M to a/c 39 M."

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INJURY TO KILMORE HARBOUR

The following report under date 21st November, 1931, was submitted from Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor:-

"I beg to report that on the night of the 13th November a vessel leaving Kilmore Pier damaged the breakwater rather badly, and also the railing on the Pier. I am inquiring as to the name of the vessel, and will send you further particulars. The breakwater is in a rather dangerous condition, and I will have to start repairing it at once."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Brennan:- "That Report of Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor relative to damage caused to Kilmore Harbour on 13th November, 1931, be referred to Mr Elgee, County Solicitor, to take the necessary action to recover cost of repair."

In the course of further discussion re Kilmore Pier a direction was agreed to that Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, should consult Mr Wm. Furlong, Beake, Kilmore, relative to a gap in his field caused by repair work at the Harbour and a further direction to the Harbour Master as to testing new Harbour lamp.

BRIDGE AT LOGGAN

Mr D'Arcy reported that Loggan Bridge was in a bad way and was in danger of collapsing if something was not done to it.

Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, for the district, said the bridge should be attended to at once.

It was decided on the motion of Mr D'Arcy seconded by Mr O'Byrne that the County Surveyor should have the necessary repairs at Loggan bridge carried out as soon as possible.

WALL AT KILLEGNEY

Mr Brennan proposed and Mr O'Byrne seconded the resolution calling the attention of the Co. Surveyor to a road wall at Mr Michael Cullen's, Killegney, which was slipping into the river.

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SLIPPERY ROADS

Mr D'Arcy forwarded for consideration of the meeting the following memorial:-

"We, the undersigned ratepayers, beg to draw the attention of the County Council to the dangerous condition of the Enniscorthy Newtownbarry road from ~~Moyday~~ ^{Moyeadey} to Newtownbarry due to the slippery condition.

"No man using a horse drawn vehicle can go this road in safety and the danger is all the worse if such a vehicle has a heavy load up. This latter condition nearly always prevails in the case of farmers going to market their corn or going to the local Mill and then again bringing home their manures. There are several accidents after happening and not very long ago a poor woman got her arm broken as the result of her animal falling on this tar bound road and pitching her on to the ground.

"We, as farmers and ratepayers, are surely entitled to be let travel in safety on the public roads. Further this matter of complaint is becoming general and we feel that the Wexford County Council will not be lacking in helping the plain people in their difficulties.

"We respectfully ask your immediate attention to this road. We only want a margin of both sides of the road left suitable for horses and cattle to travel on. We may mention that there are hundreds of tons of suitable material in Clohamon gravel pit which is quite convenient."

On the same subject the following was read from Messrs Thomas Dormer & Son, Bunclody:-

"We regret to find that some of our valued customers experience great difficulty in coming to our mills owing to the slippery state of some of the tarred roads. We think the Council should give more consideration to road users employing horse haulage."

Mr D'Arcy said something should be done to put those roads into such a condition that they could be used by the

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farming community.

He suggested that both sides should be treated with chippings.

Mr Ennis said that this road was no more slippery than any other tarred road in his district. This was the first complaint made in reference to it. He had arranged to put chippings on it and had been dressing the two hills on it with chips from time to time. But as they would not stay on the road they were of little use. Whereas in other counties where margins had been left it was cut up terrifically so that in the end it was found necessary to tar the whole road.

Mr D'Arcy proposed and Mr Brennan seconded a resolution which was adopted directing the County Surveyor to provide for surface dressing with chips of both sides of this road.

In reply to Mr Corish the County Surveyor said he had interviewed Mr Philip Pierce (Messrs P. Pierce & Co.) about the manufacture of a gritting machine. Mr Pierce did not say exactly that he would be prepared to manufacture such a machine: he promised to write the County Surveyor further.

It was decided that in the event of Messrs Pierce declining to provide gritting machine the County Surveyor interview other firms in connection with the matter.

ERECTION OF BUILDING

The following under date 18th November, 1931, was read from Michael Bolger, Ballybeg, Ferns:-

"I am enclosing a sketch of roads and plan of building etc. in Ballyduff, according to your directions, or at least as far as I was able to comply. Hoping this will suffice and thanking you for your kindness in supplying information. If possible, would you kindly get through with the Council on Monday next, as I am ready to start work at once and oblige."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of

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Mr Cummins seconded by Mr Doran:-

"That the County Surveyor examine and report to the next Co. Council meeting on application of Michael Bolger for erection of house at Ballybeg, Ferns."

ANALYSIS OF MILK SAMPLE

The following under date 19th November, 1931, was read from Miss Phyllis Ryan M. Sc., Co. Analyst, 12, Dawson Street, Dublin:-

"I desire to acknowledge with thanks receipt of your letter of the 13th instant with which was enclosed a copy of a report of Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, re the case of Garda Driscoll v Mr. G. Devereux.

"In answer to the request of your Finance Committee for my observations on Mr. Elgee's report I can only draw your attention to what is clearly proved by the said report.

The Analysts' figures were as follows:-

Mine	2.45% fat (Corresponding to 18.33 % fats abstracted).
Mr. Devereux' Analyst	2.86% fat (Corresponding to 4.66% fats abstracted).
Government Analyst	4.55% fat (No fat abstracted).

The Total 9.86 which divided by 3 gives 3.28 % fat
(Average).

Result milk above the legal standard.

"When the three parts of the sample of milk taken for analysis, were separately analysed, two of these parts were found below and one above the legal standard. But adding the three separate results together a satisfactory whole is obtained because the two poor samples were fully compensated for by the richness of the third in the whole content of the milk.

"It is, therefore, obvious that one Analyst got the creamy top of the milk and the other two analysts milk deprived of this cream and therefore deficient in fat, approximating to what is called "Skim-Milk".

"Further proof is not needed to show that the milk was not sufficiently mixed before being divided into samples. I may

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say from my abundant experience that occurrences of this sort are common. For instance, I receive samples of milk, from time to time, containing 8 to 10 per cent of fat, such as no known cow has ever produced.

"A point worth bearing in mind is that if the food Inspector sends the top of a bottle of milk to the County Analyst, the chances are that no further enquiries will be made respecting the remainder. If on the contrary, the bottom of the bottle of milk, or a portion not mixed with the cream, is sent, the chances are the County Council will be rushed into an investigation not always necessary.

"With regard to the other points mentioned in your letter may I say that when samples are sent to me in great numbers in the third month of each quarter I am afraid I cannot guarantee to have them all, always, analysed in ten days."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Murphy seconded by Mr Gaul:- "That copy of letter of County Analyst as to analyses of sample of milk taken from Mr. G. Devereux, Ballyfinogue, be furnished the Chief Superintendent, Garda Siochana, for his information."

GOREY GARDEN CITY SCHEME -----

The following motion given by Mr. Sean O'Byrne on 8th October, 1931, and circulated to members of the County Council on 9th October, 1931, was moved by him:-

"That the Wexford County Council consents to the borrowing by the County Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance of a sum of Nine Thousand Pounds (£9,000) at 5 per cent from the Royal Liver Insurance Society for the purpose of completing Gorey Garden City Housing Scheme."

Mr Gaul seconded the resolution which was adopted.

Mr O'Byrne said he hoped the members of the Co. Board of Health would do all they could to have the work started without delay.

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HOUSING AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS BILL

Mr Corish said this Bill was at present before the Dail and although it might be suitable to abolish slum property in the large cities he thought better terms should have been made available for rural housing. The Bill proposed to lend money at 5 per cent for 35 years with a subsidy of 20 % for loan charges. If they took a house in a rural area as costing £200 - which he thought was a very low figure which would mean a rent of 4/7d per week - an impossible sum for a rural labourer to pay. With depreciation, rates, Insurance and other incidental charges the rent would be 6/- per week, and no one could suggest that a labourer in the country could pay such a figure. The discussions on the Bill hinged round the financial provisions. All the deputies who spoke and especially those representing rural constituencies condemned this clause. He suggested the County Council should adopt a resolution asking for better terms for rural housing and proposed the following:-

"That in our opinion the help offered to provide houses in rural districts is inadequate and in order to secure tenants who will be able to pay the rent for such houses it will be necessary for the Government to increase their subsidy/very considerably."

Mr D'Arcy seconded the resolution which passed nem con.

The Chairman said that the Health Board would not take up any scheme of housing which would entail rents being fixed at 6/- per week.

TRAVELLING ALLOWANCE OF RATES INSPECTOR

The following of which he had given previous notice stood in the name of Mr D'Arcy. It was in accordance with Standing Orders supported by the names of four other members viz., Messrs Brennan, Murphy, O'Ryan and Smyth:-

"That resolution of Wexford County Council passed on 9th

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November, 1931, giving Mr. S. O'Kennedy (Rates Inspector) £50 per annum increase of travelling allowance be rescinded and that the increase be £25 per year in lieu of £50."

Mr D'Arcy in moving his motion said that the heaviest portion of the travelling occurred in Mr O'Kennedy's first year of office and he thought that £125 was ample to cover all the necessary travelling at the moment.

Mr Smyth seconded the resolution.

After a long discussion a poll was taken with the following result:-

For Mr D'Arcy's motion:- Messrs Brennan, D'Arcy, Jordan, Murphy, O'Ryan, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman - 9.

Against:- Messrs Armstrong, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Doran, Gaul, Gibbon, Hayes, Hall, Keegan, McCarthy, Meyler, O'Byrne, Quin and Shannon - 16.

Messrs Cline and Culleton (2) were not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

ROAD GRANTS

The Secretary reported the receipt since last meeting of £8,498 (Improvement Grant) and £6,715 (Road Maintenance Grant) from Local Government Department:-

TELEGRAPHIC LINES

Applications for consent of the County Council to the erection of the following telegraphic lines was received from Department of Posts and Telegraphs:-

- (a) Overground telegraphic line John Street, New Ross.
- (b) Do across Church Street,
at Post Office, Gorey.
- (c) From Urban District Boundary New Ross to Woodville Lodge, New Ross.

The County Surveyor said he had no objection to any of the applications but he considered the line for C which according to the plan was to run on the right side of the road

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from New Ross Urban to Woodville should go on the footpath side.

c The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the Council has no objection to the erection of telegraphic lines in accordance ^{with} applications submitted at this meeting from the Department of Posts and Telegraphs. In the case of proposed line from New Ross Urban Boundary to Woodville we suggest that the line should be run on the footpath side of the road."

HOLIDAYS OF COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That as unanimously recommended by the Co. Wexford Board of Health we hereby agree to Dr. C. Bastible, Co. Medical Officer of Health, being allowed three weeks' holidays as from 22nd ~~Dec~~ember, 1931."

CINEMA LICENCE

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That Cinema Licence be issued to Patrick and Walter Doyle for premises at Bridgetown, provided Co. Surveyor and Garda Siochana approve of the suitability of the premises. That the sliding exit doors are made to open outwards and to the payment of 10/- fee."

UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE COMING WINTER

The following resolution from Donegal Co. Council was adopted on the motion of Mr Hayes seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That the Council be asked to focus attention on the serious aspect of unemployment during the coming winter. They can, as the elected representatives of the County, in unison with similar bodies, urge upon the Government the necessity of making a serious effort to mitigate the hardships of the working people in Rural and Urban Districts who are unable to find employment."

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VOTE OF CONDOLENCE

Mr Cummins proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Mr Corish and passed in silence:- "That we desire to place on record the expression of our heartfelt condolence with our esteemed and popular colleague, Mr John Murphy, in the death - during last week - of his two aunts, Mrs Flanagan, Coolerin, Campile, and Mrs Nolan, New Ross. Mr Murphy has, in his double bereavement, the whole hearted sympathy not only of the members of the Co. Council but of everybody connected with it.

"That copy of this resolution be furnished the relatives of the deceased."

Michael Doyle

