

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

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M I N U T E S

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Meeting - 12th April, 1926.

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N. J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

FORTVIEW,
WEXFORD.

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The monthly meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 13th April, 1926.

Present Mr. Thomas McCarthy (Chairman) presiding; also Messrs William Boggan, Patrick Byrne, James Clince, Michael Cloney, Patrick Colfer, John Connors, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, Michael Doyle, James Gaul, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Michael Jordan, David Kavanagh, Aidan Mernagh, Nicholas J. Murphy, John O'Byrne, M. M. O'Domoghue, John Pender, Thomas Rossiter, James Shannon, William Thorpe, James E. Walsh, John White, Colonel C. M. Gibbon and Colonel R. P. Wemyss Quin.

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

The minutes of ordinary meeting of 8th March, 1926, and of Special meeting of 29th March, 1926, were read and signed.

VOTE OF CONDOLENCE.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Sean O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Clince:- "That we offer our heartfelt condolence to Mr. Thomas Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor of this Council, in the loss sustained by him through the death of his father. That a copy of this resolution be furnished Mr. Treanor".

REPLIES TO VOTES OF CONDOLENCE.

On the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. Sean O'Byrne, the following letters of reply to votes of condolence adopted by the County Council were ordered to be inserted on the Minutes of present meeting.

From Miss L.A. Jones, Camblin Lodge, New Ross under date 16th March relative to the death of her father, Mr. W. H. Jones, late Assistant Surveyor to County Council:-

"Please convey to the members of the Wexford County Council my sincere thanks for their vote of condolence on the death of my father. I wish also to thank you for your kind words of sympathy with myself and my sisters."

From Mr. George Mulvey, 4, George Street, Wexford, Representative of "The Echo" newspaper on the death of his wife:-

"I beg to acknowledge with grateful thanks the receipt of your letter conveying to me a copy of the resolution passed by the members of your Council. Will you please return them my best thanks. At the same time, I wish to thank yourself and your staff for your very kind expressions. I need hardly remind you how much I appreciate such a letter from the Secretary, Staff and members of Wexford County Council".

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Proposed Rate - Health Resorts and Watering places.

The Chairman moved the following of which he had given previous notice:- "That the County Council raise in estimate for 1927-28 a rate of one halfpenny in the £ under Health Resorts and Watering places Act for the purpose of development of Tourist Traffic and that as much as possible of amount raised be spent in the county".

In moving the motion the Chairman said that a deputation from the Tourist Development Association had attended a recent meeting of the Council and asked the Council to strike a Rate under the Act. He (Chairman) believed if the Council agreed to the proposal it would be money well spent. Tourist traffic in Ireland was well worth development and would form a very valuable asset to the County Wexford. The watering places in the County

Wexford would compare favourably with those in any other district in Ireland and in devoting a half-penny in the £ in the Rate for 1927-28 for this purpose the Council would be doing a very good work. It was not a time when the Council could afford to incur expenditure for any but the most useful of purposes and in helping to develop tourist traffic there was no doubt but a very handsome return on the amount spent would be forthcoming.

Mr. Corish seconded the resolution.

Colonel Quin thought they should first have some guarantee that hotels would be kept more cleanly and made more comfortable and up-to-date before they agreed to provide funds for development.

Colonel Gibbon proposed that the following words be added to the Chairman's motion:- "Provided that the financial position of the County Council when Rate is being considered for next financial year will allow of the allocation in this instance."

Mr. Doyle seconded the resolution of Colonel Gibbon. He considered that no definite action should be taken that day. The proposal should be put up to the people outside and see if they were in favour of it. There would, he feared, be an outcry from districts which had no tourist resorts and he did not wish to fly in the face of ratepayers. He considered Colonel Gibbon's proposal reasonable. No District in the County would benefit so much by the matter as that which he (Mr. Doyle) represented and it would be with great reluctance that he would be obliged to oppose the Rate unless he was informed that the condition of the finances of the County when next year's rate was being considered would permit the County Council to cover the allocation.

The Chairman said he was prepared to embody in his motion the proposal made by Colonel Gibbon.

471
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Mr. Thorpe proposed:- "That the question of agreeing to any rate under the Health Resorts and Watering places Act for Tourist development be adjourned until the Rate is under consideration next year".

Mr. Hall seconded the motion.

After further discussion Mr. Thorpe withdrew his amendment and the Chairman's motion, seconded by Mr. Corish, was adopted in the following form:-

"That the County Council raise in Estimate for 1927-28 a rate of one halfpenny in the £ under Health Resorts and Watering places Act for the purposes of development of Tourist Traffic and that as much as possible of amount raised be spent in the County. ^{condition} That this proposal be contingent on the financial position of the County Council, when Rate for next year will be under consideration, being in a position to allow of allocation of expenditure to be paid under this head "

PROPOSED BRIDGE ON 255E.
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The following motion of which he had given previous notice was moved by Mr. Shannon:-

"That a bridge be built on Road 255E (from Gurrawn to Rathnure) and that cost of same (estimated by County Surveyor at £70) be provided from Contingencies Fund" Mr. Shannon pointed out that children had great difficulty in attending School owing to the condition of the place - in fact they ran the risk of being drowned and doctor or clergyman could not pass along the place.

Mr. Hall seconded the motion.

The County Surveyor stated that he had brought forward the proposal in his original Road Works' Scheme but, owing to the necessity for economy, it was cut out as it was not absolutely essential.

Mr. Pender and Mr. Thorpe said several similar works were required in their districts but they did not consider the present

an opportune time to bring them forward.

Mr. Doyle pointed out that the County Surveyor considered that the work could be postponed without prejudicing anybody. Probably the ratepayers did not want it at all.

Mr. Shannon asked that his motion be adjourned to next meeting when he would show Mr. Doyle whether it was wanted by the Ratepayers or not.

The motion was adjourned to next meeting.

Appointments of County Council *Officers*
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Mr. N. J. Murphy moved the following of which he had given previous notice:- "That in future candidates who secure the highest number of marks at examinations conducted for positions under the gift of the Council be appointed to such positions provided their personal character and references are considered satisfactory".

Mr. Whyte seconded.

Mr. Hayes opposed the motion; there should be an agreed on standard which all candidates voted on should reach.

Colonel Gibbon said that the standard set for every exam would be according to the post offered. He proposed:- "That in future candidates for positions in the gift of the County Council shall be selected from those who obtain the three highest places at the appropriate examination".

Mr. Corish proposed:- "That in future candidates who secure thirty-three and one-third per cent of marks in each subject at examinations conducted for positions in the gift of the Wexford County Council be regarded as eligible for appointment".

Mr. Hall seconded this amendment.

Colonel Quin said if the County Councillors had to obtain thirty-three and one-third per cent in an Irish paper.

at an exam they would be all debarred.

Mr. Boggan considered candidates should get a nomination for examination signed by five members of the Council.

Mr. Thorpe was also in favour of this course.

Mr. Murphy added to his resolution:- "Provided that candidate who secures the highest place at exam obtain thirty-three and one-third per cent marks in Irish paper"

After some further discussion Mr. Murphy withdrew his resolution in favour of the proposal made by Colonel Gibbon for selection of candidates from the three securing highest marks and which he (Mr. Murphy) seconded.

A show of hands was taken on the amendment of Mr. Corish with the result that 17 voted in favour and 8 against.

The Chairman declared it carried.

When put as substantive motion it was agreed to nem. con.

MINUTES OF COMMITTEES.

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The following minutes of Roads Committee of 8th March, 1926, were submitted:-

The monthly meeting of the Roads Committee of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford on 8th March 1926.

Mr T. McCarthy, Chairman, presided. Also present, Messrs Boggan, Cloney, Colfer, Corish, Hall, S. O'Byrne, James Shannon, Col Gibbon and Col Quin.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, Six Assistant Surveyors and Mr Elgee, solicitor were in attendance

REPORT OF COUNTY SURVEYOR.

The County Surveyor submitted the following report:-

"During the present month I spent two days with the Overseer in making a detailed inspection of all the County ~~xxx~~ machinery. A good deal of the plant is at present idle and a number of engines and breakers are in the Yard in Enniscorthy. I found that in all cases the machinery has been well looked after, and the engine men now in charge are generally careful. Disemployed men in connection with the machinery are at present on the Unemployment Benefit, and will be taken back as we require them.

I made a special examination of Ballinaboola Quarry and consider it would be advisable to almost entirely close it down owing to the cost of working. I inspected the locality \nearrow around Tinnecarrig Hill where we already have a quarry, but it is too far away to replace Ballinaboola. I have, however, found a site which is only two miles beyond Ballinaboola, and I have directed the Assistant Surveyor- Mr O'Neill- to make inquiries and obtain particulars in regard to opening this. The road from Ballinaboola to New Ross could still be largely maintained out of Ballinaboola, but for the greater part of the area now supplied from this quarry I consider that a new quarry as suggested would enable a large saving to be made, and I ask for authority to open a quarry if satisfactory arrangements can be made.

I examined the eastern side of Carrigbyrne Hill with a view to getting a new quarry here and shortening the haulage, but at present, as far as I can see the charge would not be warranted. The existing quarry at Carrigbyrne is turning out material now in

fairly large quantities, and when the Grant work is completed on Nos 17 and 18R will be able to meet requirements.

For some time the Sea Bank beyond the Coastguard ~~XXXX~~ Station at Rosslare has been slipping and the matter was under discussion by the District Council, and the County Council Inspection Committee saw the place. Quite recently there has been a further slip and the road is endangered though not absolutely damaged at present. In the event of a serious slip taking place here it will be necessary to close the road, and I ask for authority to do so if necessary. The closing of the ~~xx~~ road will not be a great inconvenience as there is an alternative route.

Some time ago I reported on the flooding of the Road 16G at Carriganeagh Quarry and I was directed to communicate with the owner of the Mill dam whom I considered responsible. I wrote to him requiring that he should lower the dam and thus obviate the flooding. Recently the road was again flooded and I made inspection on the 11th inst and found that no work had been done to the dam. I again wrote to Mr Cousins-owner of the Mill dam-and pointed out that if the work were not done at once that I would recommend the County Council to take proceedings.

The centre section of the road between Gorey and Camolin is at present cutting and may seriously deteriorate. It is part of the line scheduled for improvement under Road Grant, but unless we obtain a fairly large grant this coming year the work cannot be undertaken. The proper strengthening and surfacing of this road will require about 6,000 c. yds. of material and possibly the Council may obtain a Grant under the Relief Scheme to prepare this material and the balance of the work could be carried out under the ordinary road grants.

With reference to Relief Grants I have made application to the Local Government Department for a supplementary grant to complete the Slob Road amounting to £769 and am preparing list of other works which I shall submit to you.

I have arranged with Mr Delap to make a thorough inspection

~~in your minutes later.~~
to you in detail later.

Last Summer Mr W. H. Jones who had been Assistant Surveyor in New Ross area for a number of years was retired on pension, and I am now sorry to report that he died on Saturday last, the 13th inst."

The following was adopted on the motion of Mr Sean O'Byrne seconded by Col Quin:- "That we approve of the action of the County Surveyor as regards opening quarry at Timnecarrig, proposals as to compensation and working to be submitted for the approval of a future meeting of this Committee."

The following resolution was proposed by Col Quin seconded by Mr Sean O'Byrne and adopted:- "That we approve of the proposal of the County Surveyor to close the road adjoining the sea bank beyond the Coastguard Station at Rosslare should he consider this step necessary in order to ensure the safety of the public."

The following resolution was adopted as regards the flooding of road No 16G:- "That the question of flooding of Road No 16G be referred to Mr Elgee, solicitor and that he be instructed to inform William Cousins, Ballycale, Gorey that if he does not carry out the directions of the County Surveyor to prevent the flooding., the Council must proceed against him."

As regards the condition of road between Gorey and Camolin the following resolution was proposed by Col Gibbon seconded by Mr Hall and adopted:- "That action in connection with condition of road between Gorey and Camolin be deferred until the County Surveyor reports as to the main roads on which repair is most needed."

Relative to Rosslare -Wexford Slob Road, Mr Elgee, solicitor was instructed to communicate with the Great Southern Railways Company and endeavour to get a reply from them as to what rights they claim relative to level crossing.

477
16.

HEAVY LORRY TRAFFIC.

The following extract from the report of County Surveyor of Waterford County was read:-

" INCREASED COST ON ROADS-- While on the question of increased cost it must be borne in mind that the damage done by any vehicle on a road increases very much with any increase of speed on the vehicle, and authorities agree that the amount of damage done is proportional to the square of the speed. This being so it is of the greatest importance to secure that the speeds of the motor vehicles, especially heavy vehicles, are kept down to the statutory limits. In practice there is no serious attempt to enforce statutory limits on lorries, and in my opinion the exception is to find a lorry within the limit, the average being probably nearly twice that figure. Lorries are taxed by weight-what check is exercised on the weight? It is generally agreed that lorries are not paying a proper share for their use of the roads, and then why allow them to evade the law and cause several times as much damage as they have a legal right to do.

TAXATION ON LORRIES- The present rate of taxation on lorries by unladen weight is as follows, 1 ton £16 per annum, 2 tons £21, three tons £23, 4 tons £28, 5 tons £30, 6 tons £30. If these vehicles are taxed in proportion to the damage done and to the cost of providing and maintaining suitable roads for them, then rates must be increased so as to range from £100 to £400 each per annum. It is useless and inequitable to expect the rural ratepayers to maintain the roads for such traffic and it is only by combined action or inaction by the Councils that this question can be forced to an early and equitable issue.

Most lorry owners are not contributors to the rural rates and the rural population does not derive any advantages from lorry traffic commensurate with the increased cost of road maintenance.

PROHIBITION OF USE OF CERTAIN ROADS-- In view of the foregoing I strongly recommend the Council to avail themselves fully of the provisions of Section 7(4) of the Roads Act 1920, and Article V(3) of the Heavy Motor Car (Ireland) Order 1905.

These sections provide for the prohibition or restriction of use of certain roads by lorries, with the consent of the Minister. All Councils should move at once in this matter and take steps to restrict all lorry traffic to such roads as have been already made up with funds derived from motor taxation. If such steps are taken, arrangements must also be made for policing the roads to secure the enforcement of the prohibition, as it is obviously demoralising to make laws and not secure their enforcement, such as the law governing the speed of lorries. Action is necessary if your roads are to be maintained in passable condition with the funds now available from all sources. So far the question of road making has only been nibbled at while road destruction has ~~full~~ full scope at unlimited speeds and weights over roads that were never intended for heavy traffic. We should provide roads as far as possible to carry all traffic without restriction, but until the necessary funds are provided and a reasonable time given for reconstruction work, it must be the policy of local Councils to prevent destruction (wanton and otherwise) of the existing roads which are quite suitable for ordinary traffic, and for the requirements of the bulk of the ratepayers.

We must settle down to hard facts, and clear our minds of cobwebs, obsessions, prejudices and nonsense, and calmly recognise that when we purchased and insist on operating thousands of motor lorries, we also purchased and became liable for a road expenditure of millions of pounds, just as much a part of the cost of these vehicles as are themselves, their tyres, engines and supplies. They go together, the vehicle and the highway on which it must run, and all costs must be paid."

Col Gibbon mentioned that he had been over the Enniscorthy-Wexford road recently and found that a heavy lorry which had recently passed over it had left a track of three inches deep for a considerable distance at this side of the village of Oylegate. If this happened often, the County would

be let in for repair of damage which the ratepayers would not be able to meet. There were only about half a dozen lorry owners in the county who were responsible for the great injury which was being done and he suggested that the roads should be closed to all heavy lorries. They had spent £11000 on Enniscorthy road and if it had not been for the heavy lorries it could have been maintained for £2500. They would have to spend another £11000 to get it into proper condition instead of another £2500 which would be all that would be necessary if they were concerned with traffic outside of heavy lorries. Thus the heavy lorry traffic was responsible for an excess sum of £16000 to maintain this one road alone. He proposed:- "That the County Council be recommended to close to heavy lorries, viz, those which are over five tons "all in all roads unless such as the County Surveyor certifies to be capable of bearing such traffic. That sanction of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health be asked for this proposal."

HAULAGE RATES.

The following which was extensively signed was received from the Carters' section of the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union, South Wexford Branch:-

"We, the undersigned, condemn in the strongest possible manner the action of the Roads Committee in reducing the rate of haulage to 10d per mile per cubic yard, as we find even the rate of 1/- very inadequate."

Adjourned to next meeting of Committee as Mr Corish moved for a return from the County Surveyor as to the average earnings of carters at various centres.

RELIEF GRANTS.

Under date 27th February 1926, the following letter (S 9058/26) addressed to Secretary, County Board of Health was read:- "I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that a deputation from Gorey attended at this Office on Friday last the 19th inst in regard

to obtaining a Grant for the relief of unemployment in that town, and on consideration of all the circumstances he has obtained the sanction of the Minister for Finance to allocate a Grant from the Relief Schemes Vote not exceeding £300 as a contribution towards work to be provided in that town for the relief of unemployment and distress.

Two schemes of work have been suggested, viz.,

- (1) street improvement in the town of Gorey at an estimated cost of £389-10-4; and
- (2) a partial sewerage scheme at a cost of £625.

Before giving his sanction to the work to be undertaken taken the Minister is instructing his Engineering Inspector, Mr Ryan, to visit Gorey on Tuesday, the 2nd proximo to go into the matter on the spot.

It is to be clearly understood that no contribution from the Relief Schemes Vote can be made after the 31st March next and it is important that no time should be lost in getting a scheme started.

In the event of the sewerage scheme being adopted, the Grant can only be sanctioned on the condition that adequate arrangements for the completion of the Scheme will be made by the local authority."

Under date 3rd March 1926, the Department of Local Government forwarded (S 9339/26) copy of letter which they had addressed to the County Board of Health and which referred to Mr Ryan's visit. It was understood that a special meeting of County Board of Health would be held on the 8th inst to consider the nature of the work to be undertaken.

A special meeting of the Co. Board of Health had been summoned for 8th March 1926 to deal with a scheme costing £500 of which the Department of Local Government were to contribute £300 and the County Council £ 200.

14 481

The County Surveyor reported the following proposals to be covered by Relief Grants:-

Slob(Wexford-Rosslare Road) supplemental Grant £769:
Provision of road metalling £2200:Carriganeagh Quarry £1200:
Brownswood Quarry £1200: Carrigbyrne Quarry £1200 ~~and~~ Kerlogue
Quarry £1200 and widening of Railway Station lane at Rosslare
£760.

It was decided to refer the proposed relief grant for Gorey and Co. Surveyor's proposals to the general meeting of the Council.

Under date 16th February 1926, the Department of Local Government wrote that a recommendation for a relief grant could not be made to the Minister for Finance unless it was supported by full particulars as required on Form RW/201. On receipt of this the Minister would consider if the position in Co. Wexford would justify the making of a recommendation to the Minister for Finance for a relief grant.

Local authorities were expected to make a contribution towards the cost of relief schemes.

DRAIN AT KILMACREE.

The County Surveyor submitted correspondence from Mr J. Kennan Cooper, solicitor for John Butler, Kilmacree relative to drain which carries the surface water of the road at Kilmacree. He(Mr Cooper) wished to know if the Council were prepared to lay pipes at their own expense to remedy the flooding.

A letter from Messrs M. J. O'Connor & Co. solicitors, Wexford, acting for William Stafford, in this matter was read. Messrs O'Connor contended that Butler had cut a hole through the fence which separated his field from Stafford's field in order that the water etc. from Butler's yard could go into Stafford's field which as a result was now quite useless to him.

After some discussion it was pointed out that the Council had gone very fully into this matter some time ago and had decided not to interfere.

It was decided to adhere to this decision.

EDENVALE QUARRY.

Under date 4th March 1926, the following letter was submitted by the Co. Surveyor from John Murphy, Castlebridge:- "I received your letter telling me that my time was up as regards the working of above quarry. This will mean great hardship for myself and three of my sons. For nearly eight months of the year the quarry work is our sole support. Two of my sons are married and are living in houses of their own and have a wife and family to support. I have always given satisfaction and I feel sure you will admit that in view of all this and considering that I opened this quarry and have worked it for the past forty years, I would be very grateful to you if you would ask the Council to let me continue as usual at my work. I promise to give the same attention to the work and will guarantee to get any tonnage that the Surveyor may want as I have done in the past."

The Chairman proposed and Mr Boggan seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That agreement with Mr John Murphy, Castlebridge for the working of Edenvale Quarry be continued for another year."

ROAD GRANTS.

Under date February 11th 1926, a communication was read from Roads Department, L.G.D.(S.G.A./32) stating that a further sum of £3501 in respect of grant of £30800 had been paid on 5th February, and under date 13th February 1926, the Department wrote(S.G.B/32) that a sum of £600 in respect of Grant of £15660 had been lodged on the 11th of February.

ROSSLARE SEWERAGE SCHEME.

A petition from the unemployed in Rosslare area, and which was extensively signed was read for the meeting. The document pointed out that the majority of the signatories were married men with families: they were in dire want and distress as they had been unable to procure employment in any shape.

They asked the Council to give the work of proposed

16. 483

Sewerage Scheme at Rosslare their favourable consideration.

It was decided that copy of petition be furnished to the Minister for Local Government.

ASSISTANT SURVEYORS AND "CUT" IN MILEAGE ALLOWANCE.

The following signed by the six Assistant Surveyors in the employment of the Council was read:-

"Will you please inform the Council that we emphatically protest against their action to-day in reducing our travelling expenses to 5d per mile, which is a definite breach of our original agreement with the Council, under which agreement we were to get Local Government scale which is 6d.

The matter is being referred through our local branch to Headquarters of the Local Government Officials' Union, Dublin with a view to having it brought before the L.G.D. authorities. Pending a result of their deliberations we wish to avoid occasioning any hardship to the Council's employees, or to put any set back on the work. In consequence it is our intention to carry on pro. tem. under protest and without prejudice to any further action that may be necessary in the matter."

ROAD NO. 80E.

The following was read from Mr John Connors, County Councillor:- "With regard to road held as contract by Edward Kavanagh, No 80E(Road Schedule) from the turn in Newtown to turn at Aidanswood, the contract expires on 31-3-26 and I object to this road being placed on contract for any further period. Several ratepayers in my district have asked me to get something done with this road as it is the main road ~~in~~ leading to the town of Ferns, to chapel and schools. The material put on this road has been of very inferior quality and the ratepayers say that the least they should have is a road they could travel along."

After some desultory discussion it was decided that the matter be referred to the general meeting of the Council to deal with when Provisional Road Works Scheme is under consideration.

17484

SPEED OF MOTOR CARS IN NEW ROSS URBAN DISTRICT.

Under date 25th February 1926, Mr Finn, Town Clerk, New Ross wrote that the Urban Council recommended the County Council to fix a speed limit of 15 miles per hour for motor vehicles passing through Urban District of New Ross.

Col Quin proposed, Mr Colfer seconded and it was adopted:- "That the County Council ~~be~~ recommended to fix a ~~speed~~ speed limit of 10 miles per hour for motor vehicles passing through the Urban District of New Ross."

MOTOR CAR ACT ADMINISTRATION.

A letter from Mr Dunbar, solicitor, applying for remission of penalty of £20 in the case of George Carroll, Ballyroe buck, had been referred to the Local Taxation Officer for report. Mr Dunbar pointed out that the tax was paid at the time the summons was issued. As a matter of fact, he contended the tax was in the Local Taxation Officer's hands when his client was caught.

Mr Richards, Local Taxation pointed out that the offence was committed on 21st August 1924 and application for licence was not made until the 14th September 1924. The statement made by Mr Dunbar that the tax was actually in the hands of Local Taxation Officer on the day of the offence was untrue. The offence was the second occasion on which Carroll was reported for using motor cycle without a licence.

Col Quin proposed:- "That no action as to mitigation of motor tax fine in the case of George Carroll, Ballyroe buck be taken."

Mr Corish seconded.

Mr Cloney proposed:- "That the fine in the case of George Carroll for breach of Motor Car Act be mitigated to £10."

Mr Boggan seconded.

Mr Hall proposed:- "That fine in the case of George Carroll for neglect in paying tax on motor cycle be mitigated to £5."

This last proposal was not seconded.

A show of hands was taken when it was found that

485
18.

four were in favour of mitigating the penalty to £10 and four against.

The Chairman gave his casting vote in favour of £10 which was carried.

TRAVELLING EXPENSES OF LOCAL TAXATION OFFICER.

In connection with above, the Department of Local Government wrote (R/MT/209/32) that neither the Minister for Local Government and Public Health nor the Minister for Justice can properly give directions to District Justices with respect to the penalty to be imposed upon defendants in motor car cases. The Local Taxation Officer should however press for the allowance of adequate travelling expenses, but where the amount of these was not sufficient, the difference may, with the sanction of the Minister, be charged to the expenses of the Council in connection with motor licensing work. The fact that the penalties imposed are considered low should not be allowed to interfere with the Council assisting the Garda Síochána in any legal proceedings taken by them for breaches of the motor licensing laws and regulations

WEXFORD COURTHOUSE.

Under date 17th February 1926, a letter was read from the Under Sheriff calling attention to the fact that the roof of Wexford Courthouse was letting in the rain.

Referred to the County Surveyor.

FOOTPATHS - NEW ROSS.

Under date 17th February 1926, the Town Clerk, New Ross wrote that the footpath on Cherry Road required some surfacing and spraying: the same applied to the footpath from Ely's Walk to Brandon Well whilst the one on Camblin road, or road to Arthurstown required surfacing and repairs to kerbing.

Referred to County Surveyor for report.

486
19.

ROAD - COOLECROSS TO RAMSGRANGE.

Under date 6th February 1926, Patrick Doody, Curraghmore, Ramsgrange wrote that the road leading from Coolecross to Ramsgrange was in a dangerous state for traffic; several portions of it were burst up with surface springs which could be easily remedied at small cost by a few shallow drains filled with cobblestones.

The Co. Surveyor submitted the following report from Mr P. O'Neill Assistant Surveyor:-

"Accompanied by the ganger I inspected the above road on the 2nd inst. It was very soft in a few places but the surface man was engaged in filling in field stones in the worst parts. At no time was there danger of an accident as Mr Doody seemed to think. I have been over this road recently and it is fairly good. Like the majority of roads it will be heavy for horse traffic during the present weather."

It was decided that copy of report of Assistant Surveyor be furnished Mr Doody.

PROPOSED NEW ROAD AT ROSSLARE HARBOUR.

Mr J. Carroll, Rosslare Harbour, asked to be advised of the procedure in presenting a road for reconstruction. The road is about 300 yards long and runs east from the top of Ballygillane Lane overlooking Rosslare Harbour. The occupiers of houses along this road paid rates and required a roadway to their houses. The present passage was in a bad state with holes two feet deep and was a source of danger to the residents.

Referred to County Surveyor.

GULLET AT CLONHASTON ROAD.

Mr Hall referred to the expenditure in laying gullet at Clonhaston road. This cost £42-12-10 and would have been carried out by any contractor for £12 or £15.

Mr Cullen, Asst Surveyor, said as no one knew how the old gullet ran, a good portion of the road had to be opened to try and find it.

Mr Hall moved a vote of censure on the Co. Surveyor and Mr Cullen, Assistant Surveyor for allowing this road to cost an exorbitant sum, but after some discussion it was

488
21.

working of the quarry be determined and that the quarry be worked on the Direct Labour system for the future".

Mr. Gaul seconded.

As an amendment, Mr. Cloney proposed and Colonel Quin seconded:-

"That the working of the quarry be advertised, so that any persons, willing to work it, will have an opportunity of tendering"

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For the amendment:- Messrs Boggan, Cloney, Doyle, Hall, Jordan, Kavanagh, Murphy, O'Donoghue, Thorpe, Walsh, Whyte, Colonel Gibbon and Colonel Quin - 13.

Against:- Messrs P. Byrne, Clinee, Colfer, Cooney, Connors, Corish, Gaul, Hayes, Mernagh, John O'Byrne, Pender, Rossiter, Shannon and the Chairman - 14.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost and the original motion was then put and passed without dissent.

Speed of Motor Vehicles in New Ross District.

Mr. Walsh considered that a speed of ten miles per hour was too low for the whole Urban District of New Ross. It was quite all right in connection with busy streets.

It was decided to again refer this matter to the Urban District Council and ask them to specify the streets relative to which they would be in favour of a speed limit of ten miles per hour.

Motor Car Acts Administration.

As regards application for mitigation of fine in the case of George Carroll of Ballyroebuck, Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, pointed out that the costs incurred by the Council in this case amounted to £3: 19: 6d.

Mr. Corish proposed that the recommendation of the Roads Committee be confirmed.

Colonel Quin seconded.

Mr. Thorpe proposed:-

"That the fine be mitigated to £5".

Mr. Pender seconded.

On a show of hands 14 were in favour of the confirmation of the Minute of the Roads Committee which the Chairman declared confirmed.

Gullet on Clonhaston Road.

Mr. Jordan stated that, in connection with the above, Mr. Shannon, the Chairman, and himself had acted as a Committee. They found that this work had cost £42: 12: 10d while in his opinion £20 would be its fair value.

Mr. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, came before the meeting, and, replying to queries said, in his opinion, the men could not have done much better. They had to chase up an old gullet in the middle of the road with the result they had to carry out three times more excavation than would be necessary in a straightforward job.

Mr. Jordan held that two men in three weeks should complete the work.

The County Surveyor stated that he would have offered £12 for the work by contract but, of course, that was assuming that the unforeseen obstacles, which turned up in this case, had not to be dealt with.

Mr. Doyle proposed:-

"That a new Committee, composed of members of the Council outside the district concerned, be appointed to investigate the cost of gullet on Clonhaston Road and report to next meeting of the Council!"

In seconding, Mr. Hall stated he did not wish to cast any reflection on the Committee which had reported.

As an amendment Colonel Gibbon proposed and Mr. Rossiter seconded:-

"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the work of repairing gullet at Clonhaston road has been too costly; we request the County Surveyor to exercise more care in future, and make such arrangements as will prevent a recurrence of excessive expenditure as occurred in this case".

On a show of hands fourteen were in favour of the adoption of the amendment and ten against.

The Chairman declared the amendment carried, and, on being put as the substantive motion, it passed nem.con.

The various recommendations of the Roads Committee in respect of meeting of 8th March, 1926 and which were not covered specifically by resolution in the foregoing Minutes were then approved on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. Sean O'Byrne.

The following Minutes of meeting of Roads Committee of 22nd March, 1926, were submitted:-

491
24.

The monthly meeting of the Roads Committee of the Wexford County Council was held in County Council Offices, Fortview, Wexford on 22nd March 1926.

Present:- Mr Thomas McCarthy, Chairman (presiding), also, Col Gibbon, Col Quin, Messrs Sean O'Byrne, P. Colfer, W. Boggan, M. Cloney, James Hall, James Shannon.

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

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

"On the 8th inst, the upper part of the cross wall in the Courthouse collapsed, fortunately not injuring anyone. I visited the place and had an interview with the Town Surveyor who has served a formal notice on me in reference to ruinous or dangerous buildings, requiring them to be secured or repaired (ed. I have been in communication with Mr Delap, Architect for the new building, and he is to be down in Wexford on Monday next, 22nd inst, to deal with this matter, and also the revised plans that will be necessary in view of the Local Government's decision as regards the Loan for the rebuilding work. I have had a hoarding erected in front of the entrance and at part of the side. I have closed off the hall from the public, except for a temporary passage way through while the Court was actually sitting. All loose masonry etc. has been taken down, but owing to the walls having been exposed to the weather for a lengthened period they have become defective and immediate steps must be taken to remove all walling etc. that will not be preserved in the new building. On the 19th inst I made a thorough inspection of the premises including the existing roof of Court, and I am of opinion that the party wall of this Court as well as the roof will require substantial repairs when the rebuilding is under operation. The Courthouse Committee will deal with this matter previous to the meeting of the Roads Committee.

Arrangements are being made during the coming week

to consider tenders on the fourth class roads, and I have prepared specifications and sheets covering the work.

No definite arrangements have yet been made in regard to the maintenance of Main Roads in the Urban areas, and I ask for authority to make arrangements with the several Urban Councils to take over the actual carrying out of the work in a similar manner to a contract. This system will, in my opinion be the best, as it will obviate the possibility of dispute in regard to scavenging etc. Of course, there must be specifications prepared for the work to be done. Payment by the Co. Council to Urban Councils will be dependent on my ~~my~~ certificate from time to time, as the work proceeds. Under the Road Scheme the amount set off for the three Urban areas are as follows:-

Enniscorthy	£486 per annum
Wexford	£855 per annum
New Ross	£518 per annum

These amounts cover the ordinary maintenance and can only be supplemented by a special resolution of the Council transferring money from "contingencies" on Main Roads.

On the 12th inst., I visited the road on which flooding takes place from the defective Cahore Drainage System, and made examination of the gullet carrying the water in the side drain at Newtown. The gullet is almost completely choked owing mainly to a heavy deposit or growth on the down stream at the north side of the roadway, and no advantage will be obtained nor abatement of the flooding until the side drains are properly cleaned. I have directed Mr Treanor to notify the landowners to clean these drains, and he informs me that they dispute their liability and state the side drains form part of the Drainage system. It is essential that this matter be taken up at once, and whoever may be responsible should be compelled to clean the drains. I think if this is done we would have no difficulty in cleaning out the gullet if we are responsible for same. The matter should be put in the hands of the County Solicitor.

I require two new chains for working the Sluice

Gates at Courtown Harbour; they will be 72 feet long each and I estimate that they will cost in or about £20 for the two. I ask for authority to get them.

Most of the Lease Agreements for Quarries terminate on the 31st inst, and I have directed the Assistants to obtain from the owners renewals of the leases. Under Section 32 of the Local Government Act, 1925 the Council has extended powers in dealing with this matter, and are bound to make compensation. The ruling price we paid in the past was fourpence per cubic yard for stone taken, and five shillings per perch for land (excluding quarry area) which may be required for dumping ground etc. These prices are, I think, fairly reasonable, and I ask for authority to have the agreements completed.

I have a provisional agreement with the owner of the land at Timnecarrig where the Council has approved of a new quarry being opened, and I shall have the formal agreement made out for submission to the Council for their approval. Adjoining the site of the proposed quarry there is a small house which the owner offers to the Council at a rent of £3 per annum. This house would be most useful as a store or forge and a shelter for the men, and would obviate the necessity of putting in a hut in the quarry. I suggest that this be taken into agreement also.

I have not yet received from Mr Delap his report on the Ferrycarrig Bridge, nor have I been able to deal with the re-building of the bascule of the Wexford Bridge, but I have had the flooring of the temporary bridge repaired.

In regard to the coastguard stations, I have seen the one at Curracloe, and shall submit a report later when I deal with the other two.

In view of the communication from the Local Government Department on the matter of heavy lorry traffic, I have not prepared any schedule of the roads, as it would entail the purchase of a complete set of six inch maps of the County (53 sheets) and the marking of all the roads thereon. I await your instructions after you have considered the Local Government's communication.

The Insurances covering the Employer's liability and Public Liability expire on the 31st March and must be renewed. I ask for instructions as to the renewing of these with the old company or entering into an agreement with the General Council of County Councils who are formulating a Public Bodies' Mutual Insurance Company.

Owing to the closing down of the greater part of the machinery at the present time, when his work would be consequently at a minimum, I have given leave of absence to the Machinery Overseer. Of course he is not under pay while absent from work.

I am now preparing balance sheets in connection with the quarry and machinery expenditure during the year ending 31st March inst, and am also making out return of expenditure under Direct Labour. I shall submit these particulars to the Council as soon as possible."

COUNTY COURTHOUSE.

The following report of County Courthouse Reconstruction Committee was submitted:-

"A meeting of County Courthouse Reconstruction Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford on 22nd March 1926. Present:- T. McCarthy, Chairman, Co. Council, presiding, Col Gibbon, Sean O'Byrne, and W. Boggan were also present. The Secretary, the County Surveyor, Mr Elgee, solicitor and Mr Delap (Waller & Delap Architects) were in attendance.

"Under date 9th March 1926, the following letter, (No. L6921/1926) was read from the Department of Local Govt:-

"With reference to previous correspondence, relative to the application of the Wexford County Council for sanction to the raising of a loan of £7000 for the reconstruction of Wexford Courthouse, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that, as desired, the Department's Chief Engineering Inspector conferred with Mr Delap at this Office in regard to the plans for the building. It was arranged that the plan should be altered by the omission of the large three-storey block at the S.E. corner of the

building. This will reduce the estimate for the works to £10,000 approximately, and the Minister will be prepared to approve of the raising of a loan of £5000 which with the sum of like amount granted as compensation will suffice to cover the cost of the works."

"Mr Delap explained that the Engineering Inspector of the Local Government Department considered that as only £5000 had been allowed for the destruction of the building, a loan of £7000 was too big. It was admitted the amount of compensation was entirely inadequate. Would there be any possibility of getting the amount increased.

"Mr Elgee did not think anything would be gained by re-opening the claim."

"Considerable discussion took place as to whether it would be better avail of a site in the old Jail for an entirely new set of offices, fitting up portion of the existing building there for a Court and Court offices, as against rebuilding on the old Courthouse site."

"It was finally agreed that it would be advisable to rebuild Courthouse on existing site, Mr Delap to prepare revised plans in accordance with the reduced cost as per the directions of the Local Government Department."

"As regards the old Jail it was suggested that the Council County/~~Surveyor~~ should ask the County Surveyor/~~to~~ prepare sketches of blocks of buildings at the rare which could be disposed of for wrecking purposes. That particulars of these be advertised, and as the sites are cleared, the Co. Council should take steps to have them taken up for building purposes."

The report of this Committee was received and ~~xxx~~ approved on the motion of Mr Sean O'Byrne seconded by Mr Cloney

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Cloney:- "That we approve of the action of the County Surveyor in closing down old Wexford Courthouse etc. for the protection of the public."

MAIN ROADS IN URBAN DISTRICTS

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

"That the Urban District Councils of Enniscorthy, New Ross and Wexford be requested to nominate each a representative to confer with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Co. Council and the Co. Surveyor in connection with the terms and conditions upon which main roads in Urban Districts are to be maintained. That the Co. Surveyor fix a date for conference."

Cahore Drainage System.

Col Quin mentioned that the local landlords considered it was the landholders who should keep the side drains open.

The County Surveyor said that the cleaning up of the side drains would be a very big job.

Mr Elgee stated that as already explained, any legal steps which the Council desired to take would have to be instituted in the Chancery Court.

The County Surveyor said unless the side drains were cleaned at the same time nothing would be gained by cleaning up the gullet.

After considerable discussion, the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col Quin seconded by Mr Cloney:-

"That no further action be taken as regards cleaning up gullet at Newtown on Cahore Drainage system."

Chains for Courtown Harbour.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Col Quin:- "We recommend that a sum of £20 be allocated for the purchase of two chains for working the sluice gates at Courtown Harbour."

Renewal of Quarry Leases.

Mr Hall proposed and Mr Cloney seconded the following recommendation which was adopted nem. con.:-

"That agreements for Quarry leases which are falling out be renewed and that the price to be paid for material taken from quarries be fixed at 3d per cubic yard."

Tinnecarrig Quarry

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That we recommend the Co. Council to rent/house at site of proposed quarry at Tinnecarrig from Mr Power, Ballynabola at £3 per annum."

Insurances.

It was decided that the County Surveyor have insurances referred to in his report- renewed for a further year.

Machinery Overseer.

The meeting approved of the Machinery Overseer (William Murphy) having been granted by County Surveyor leave of absence (without pay) during the present slack season.

Employment of Assistant Surveyors.

Col Gibbon referred to the fact that on the consideration of Estimate for Rate for next financial year, it came out that Mr Treanor's salary was double that of other Assistant Surveyors and apparently there was also a very large travelling allowance in this case. Mr Treanor's total cost to the County was nearly equal to that of the Co. Surveyor. For 1924, the Co. Surveyor received £716 without travelling allowance, Mr Treanor's salary for the same period was £400 and his travelling expenses £288. He (Col Gibbon) believed that the latter figure was exceeded for 1925. He wished to know if it were necessary to have such a highly paid officer in charge of a small section of the county. He said this without any prejudice to Mr Treanor as on going over the Gorey roads they were certainly quite equal to those of any other district while the constructional work which was carried out by Mr Treanor generally was standing as well, and, in many cases better, than what had been done in other districts. At the same time, in view of the situation of the country they were entitled to know why the cost of Mr Treanor is practically the same to the county as ~~xxx~~ was Mr Barry, Co. Surveyor. He (Col Gibbon) was anxious to know why the areas of Assistant Surveyors could not be extended. They were using modern methods to enable District Surveyors to travel round their districts but he did not think they were using these methods at present to their maximum utility. He considered some of the districts could be done on an ordinary push bicycle. He wished to have the views of the Co. Surveyor as to the feasibility of his proposal that they should employ only four

Assistant Surveyors and as to the salary of Mr Treanor.

The County Surveyor stated that Mr Treanor came to the County as a special Assistant Surveyor and his salary was fixed when he was doing a very special job, viz, supervising the working of the quarries of the county. When direct labour came into force, a representative from the Local Government Department suggested that each Assistant Surveyor should be responsible for all work in his own district and the provision of six District Surveyors' districts instead of five, Mr Treanor to take charge of one. Mr Treanor at the time asked what about his salary and it was arranged that his salary should remain as it was. As regards carrying out the work of the county with four Assistants, he (Co. Surveyor) joined issue with Col Gibbon that this was possible; neither could the work of any district be done on a push bicycle. It might be feasible if the Council reverted entirely to the contract system but even then it would not be satisfactory. At the end of a long day, he knew from experience that a man using a push bicycle was of no real value for inspection work. A motor cycle was all right in fine weather but was not suitable for winter.

Col Gibbon- With the use of motor cars they should be able to cover bigger districts.

The County Surveyor said that a man like Col Gibbon who travelled from place to place was in a very different position from a Surveyor who was engaged on inspection work. With frequent stops it was not possible for a Surveyor to do more than 50 miles effectively in a day.

Col Gibbon, after some further discussion, said he would propose that Mr Treanor be placed in charge of the Trunk Roads of the county. It was not quite economical to have a man with Mr Treanor's salary in a small district like Gorey. Also he considered the whole surveying staff should be reorganised and that the services of two Assistant Surveyors be dispensed with.

The County Surveyor said it would not be possible to carry out the work of supervision of roads etc. under the proposal.

made by Col Gibbon.

The Chairman pointed out that if the Council dispense with the services of two of the Assistant Surveyors, the latter would have to be compensated. To his mind, there would be no economy in the scheme of Col Gibbon.

Mr Sean O'Byrne proposed and the Chairman seconded the following resolution:- "That the report of the Co. Surveyor as presented to this meeting be approved." Passed.

HEAPS OF MUD ON ROADS.

Col Quin complained of the manner in which road scrapings had been dealt with on a road near Enniscorthy. The stuff was being thrown on to the road instead of into the ditch as had been directed by the County Council. He considered a vote of censure should be passed on Mr Ennis, the Assistant Surveyor in charge of the area. The man working on the road said he never received any instructions in the matter.

Mr Ennis said that a good deal of the scrapings had been taken off this road.

The Chairman said that he walked this road constantly and it had been greatly improved recently. There had been immense mounds there but they were being gradually removed.

Mr Boggan considered that a definite and recognised policy for the removal of all margins and for the masking of material on roads should be laid down.

The Co. Surveyor said he had given frequent instructions as to the removal of margins, but it was not possible to lay down any hard and fast rule. In some cases if margins were removed the road would be disimproved and might be left in a dangerous condition.

MANURE HEAPS ON ROADS.

Col Quin raised the question as to why heaps of manure should be allowed to remain on roads.

The County Surveyor said he had not allowed manure to be kept permanently on the roads but did allow it temporarily in Spring for four or five weeks in order to convenience farmers to cultivate their land.

Mr Shannon said that in certain seasons men were not able to enter on their land and it was a convenience to them to have manure on the road adjoining such land.

Mr Boggan proposed and Mr Sean O'Byrne seconded the following:- "That the dumping of manure heaps on roads be prohibited."

On a show of hands this was carried by a majority of one, the voting being, five for, and four against.

DANGEROUS CORNER.

Mr Shannon referred to the necessity of having a dangerous corner on the road from Ballyvergin through Shanoules widened; it was very necessary to have this work carried out.

The County Surveyor stated that as soon as money would be available, the necessary work would be carried out.

PUCK'S BRIDGE.

Mr Shannon complained of the danger of accidents owing to the condition of wall at Puck's Bridge which had fallen

Mr Ennis said money had been provided for this work in the forthcoming financial year and he would have the work carried out as soon as the money could be obtained for it. The place was in the same condition for a long time.

Mr Shannon considered that a paling protection should be provided.

Mr Ennis considered this unnecessary; it was on a by-road and had been in its present position for a long time.

No action.

ROADS BROWNSWOOD DISTRICT

Under date 18th March 1926, the following was read from Mr Aidan Mernagh M.C.C.:-

"I wish you to bring under the notice of Roads Committee on Monday 22nd March a complaint which was made to me by Edward McCormack, Brownswood who was working on main road from Whitefort to bounds at Castle in Brownswood until the 10th of the present month when all men in quarry and roads were dispensed with. In that area only one man John D'Arcy, Glenbrien was taken out of Brownswood quarry and put to work on this road from which

McCormack was taken. On the 3rd March Mr Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, came along and noticed all those men with the exception of McCormack, who I believe he did not see that day; and when Mr Cullen came to Kearns Ryan who was also working on some road in this district he told Kearns that all men were to get notice on roads and quarries with the exception of McCormack who was to be kept on.

Now on the following day Thursday 4th March, John O'Gorman, the foreman in that area, came along and gave notice to McCormack. I was asking Mr Cullen in Wexford why he did this and the reply he made was that John D'Arcy was the senior man on the job. But as I found out since that D'Arcy is not the ~~xx~~ senior man on this job, as Patrick Toole is the longest in the job in this area. Neither was this man Toole asked to go on the road if it does go by seniority. There is no difference in the dependants of these men either, as far as I believe, as each of them has a wife and four children depending on them. But I do believe there is some spite against this man McCormack since December last. When the case of the carters was up for consideration of Roads meeting, McCormack was asked to go to Wexford with O'Gorman and other men whom he had there on his side but ~~MEETXXX~~ McCormack did not go, for what reason I cannot say, with the result that he is victimised for that. These men are prepared to verify everything that is in this letter."

The following reply to complaint of Mr Mernagh was submitted by Mr John J. O'Gorman, Overseer, of the Road Section:-

"This man Edward McCormack was working on roads 229E and 230E for past winter, and when temporary staff was dismissed he was sent to work on 26E on Monday 19th January and remained on until work ceased. This man was generally employed on second class roads.

On 3rd March Mr Cullen gave all men one week's notice only McCormack, and he did not see him. If he had seen him I believe he would have given him notice as well as the other men. When Mr Cullen was in quarry he left word for me to be in his office on next morning, 4th inst, before 10 o'clock a.m. When in his office he asked me who was the senior man on the job and I told him John D'Arcy was.

He then gave me instructions to put him to work on 25E on Thursday 11th inst. Now Mr Mernagh says this is wrong and that P. Toole is senior man. Well I am prepared to prove that D'Arcy is the senior and also that Mr Mernagh knows this to be a fact. He says there is no difference in dependants of these men as far as he knows. I say he knows perfectly well that there is because he knows the circumstances of each man as well as I do. D'Arcy has a wife and three children and an aged woman depending on him and all that he could get out of the dole is £1 per week, as his children are over age and not able to work, and his wife is under the care of Dr Murphy for the past twelve months.

McCormack has a wife and four children and is a fisherman as well, and can go to fish on River Slaney on 1st April next and will get 24/- per week from dole. Mr Mernagh should be well aware of these facts as he lives in Oylegate.

I have no spite against McCormack and never had. He was told by Mr Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, to attend meeting in Wexford mentioned by Mr Mernagh and I always believed he should have been there.

I am prepared to prove any statements that are in this letter."

It was decided to make no order in the matter as all work in section was closed down this week.

Mr Hall said that he had been told recently by a man who appeared to be trustworthy that O'Gorman had taken men off the road to work on his farm. He should be transferred to another district or his services dispensed with.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col Gibbon seconded by Mr Cloney:—"That the statement of Mr Hall in connection with John J. O'Gorman Road Overseer, Ballyrannell, Glenbrien, made at this meeting, be referred to the Co. Surveyor for prompt action."

Mr Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, in reply to queries stated that rumours had reached him on several occasions as to O'Gorman employing road men on his farm, but he (Mr Cullen) had not been able to find any evidence of this. On one occasion certain men were employed by O'Gorman but they had not been charged against

the County Council for the time absent from road work.

503

36.

GANGER DOYLE SECTION G. GOREY.

The following from Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, Gorey District was submitted:-

"I enclose herewith statements signed by three of the four men who did not receive their wages though same certified and sent to Ganger to pay. I have gone into receipt sheets for periods concerned and find amounts due these men set out thereon and receipted in their names. Peter Doyle who did not sign states he was not paid but will go no further than that.

There is another man who informed me he was not paid for horsework but as I have not full particulars will leave matter until later when I will report to you."

^{Kavanagh}
Peter ~~Doyle~~, Tomcoyle, Ballycanew certified that he did not receive £2-17-10 for fortnight ended 30th January 1926.

Arthur Nolan Ballycanew, Patrick Kinsella, Ballyteigue, Ballycanew, and Peter Doyle Killenagh, certified that £2-2-10 in each case had been retained by the ganger.

Mr Treanor stated that he had had the ganger before him in Gorey. He admitted having taken the money but promised to refund it.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col Gibbon seconded by Col Quin:- "That the facts in connection with alleged embezzlement of the wages of men in the employment of this Council by Ganger James Doyle (Section G. Gorey District), Kilanerin, Gorey be communicated to Messrs McDonagh and Boland, Insurance Brokers, 51 Dame Street, Dublin and to Chief Superintendent, Civic Guards with a view to prosecution."

MOTOR LORRY TRAFFIC.

Under date 13th March 1926, the following letter (R/RV/32) was read from Roads Department of Local Government:-

"With reference to the entry in the Minutes of Proceedings of Wexford County Council on the 8th inst on the question of heavy lorry traffic, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to refer the Council to the terms of Circular Letter (T.P.V. 220) of the 24th May last: ar

to point out that it will be necessary if the Council wish to prohibit motor traffic over a particular weight on certain roads in their County, for them to obtain an Order from the Minister. A resolution in general terms is ultra vires.

If the Council decide to apply for an Order under § Section 7(4) of the Roads Act, 1920, prohibiting certain motor traffic on particular roads in their county they must specify definitely each separate road in respect of which an Order is desired and the Council must be prepared to prove the necessity for the making of an Order in each case. It will also be necessary for the Council to specify definitely the class of vehicles for which an Order is desired e.g. "mechanically propelled road vehicles exceeding.....tons in weight unladen." As the grounds specified in section 7(4) of the Roads Act, 1920 for the making of an Order are not limited in their application to any particular kind of traffic, the Council should consider the question of including in the class of vehicles to which the application relates, vehicles similar in weight to "motor lorries."

The following information will be required in connection with an application for an Order.

1. 6 inch scale maps (or other maps on suitable scales) showing by distinguishing colours the portions of highways to which the application relates and the alternative routes which it is suggested that the vehicles of the class to which the application relates should take.
2. An exact description in which each portion of highway is distinguished by a separate number and indicated on the map by a corresponding number. For the purpose of the advertisement of the inquiry into the application it is important that the description supplied should be sufficient without reference to the map.
3. The length and average width of the carriageway and average width between fences, the width of the footpaths (if any) on either side and also particulars of gradients.
4. Particulars of any accidents which may have been caused by vehicles of the class to which the application relates.

5. Information including statistics(if any) showing the character (e.g.private motor cars or commercial motor vehicles etc.)and extent of the traffic. If no statistics are available it will suffice if a general description of the traffic on the road is furnished. The statement should indicate the various classes of traffic and should deal particularly with the amount of (a) Commercial lorry and(b)Omnibus and / or Char-a-banc traffic which is comparable so far as the weights and sizes of such vehicles are concerned.
6. A full statement of the grounds on which the application is made. The grounds must in each case come within section 7(4) of the Roads Act, 1920.
7. Copies of any existing Bye-law, Regulation or Order in force prohibiting the driving or restricting the speed of any class of vehicle on any portion of highway included in application. If no such bye-laws are in force it should be so stated.

On receipt of the required information the Minister will inform the Council whether he is prepared to consider a formal application for an Order and will indicate to the Council the form of resolution they should pass in the matter."

Col Gibbon proposed:- "That the following action be taken in connection with letter(R/RV 32/13th March 1926) from Roads Department, Local Government Department-The Minister for Local Government to be informed that we desire the prohibition of heavy motor traffic on every road in the county with the exception of the main road from Gorey to Arklow, as this is the only road we can mention as capable of withstanding this heavy traffic. Since such is the case there is no need to specify any other road. With the aid of a rough map the County Surveyor can set out this road for the guidance of the Local Government Dept. We suggest that the Local Government Department be requested to send down an Engineering Officer to inspect the Wexford -Ennis-corthy road when he can see what damage has been done by heavy lorries. This road according to the figures of County Surveyor will require an outlay up to £21000 to maintain it for two years while it would have required only £2500 per year if it had not been for this exceptional traffic. The County Council do not

intend to interfere with traffic for any class of vehicle except lorries of a greater weight than 5 tons.

Further, that having obtained a report from the Local Government Engineer as to Enniscorthy road, the Council should arrange for a deputation to the Ministers for Local Government and Finance to place before them the absolute impossibility of the Council to maintain even in a passable state roads which were open to this very heavy traffic."

Mr Cloney seconded the resolution which passed un-animously.

As regards extraordinary traffic on Kilmore road in consequence of drawing corn from wrecked steamer, "Valdura," Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor stated that an extra 244 cubic yards of material had to be provided.

Col Gibbon proposed and Col Quin seconded the following resolution which was adopted unanimously:- "That the County Surveyor be directed to make claim against lorry owners who were responsible for the damage to Kilmore road in connection with haulage from steamer "Valdura" grounded at Kilmore."

DISTRICT COURT FOR WEXFORD.

Under date 19th March 1926, the following letter, (G 11479/1926 Wexford County) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to inform you that the condition of the Wexford Courthouse has been brought to his notice by District Justice O'Fathaigh through the Department of Justice. The Council should take immediate steps to provide a suitable place e.g. the Town Hall, Wexford for Court purposes.

I am to refer to your letter of the 5th October last enclosing a communication from Mr Elgee, solicitor, regarding the New Ross Courthouse, and I am to request to be informed how this matter now stands in view of our letter of the 12th October last No. 46188/1925."

Mr Fahy D.J. came before the meeting and asked for permission to use the County Council Chamber as a Courthouse for the present.

507
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The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col Quin seconded by Mr Cloney:- "That Mr Fahy District Justice be granted the use of County Council Chamber for District Court until the Council are in a position to make more suitable arrangements.

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Courthouse Re-Construction

Mr. Corish proposed and Mr. Sean O'Byrne seconded:-

"That the report of the Courthouse Committee which was presented to the Roads Committee meeting on 22nd March, be approved".

Passed.

Employment of Assistant Surveyors.

As regards proposed employment of Assistant Surveyors, referred to in Roads Committee minutes, Colonel Gibbon stated that he believed it would be ~~an~~ economical if the Trunk Roads of the County were put under one officer who would also take charge of the valuable steam rolling machinery and the very technical work of constructing modern roads. If this were done with the present system he was of opinion that they could dispense with the services of at least one, and probably two of the Deputy Surveyors. As regards the question of compensation or superannuation, it was better get rid of surplus staff as soon as possible and not to wait until they had accumulated additional years' service when superannuation would be much heavier on the County. He proposed as notice of motion to be considered by the Roads Committee:- "That the Trunk Roads and steamrolling machinery of the Council be placed under one Deputy Surveyor, and that the districts be re-arranged so as to dispense with the services of two Deputy Surveyors. That the County Surveyor prepare for the Roads Committee meeting a report as to how this proposed new system can be worked"

Ganger Doyle - Section G. Gorey.

In connection with report of Mr. Treanor, relative to

withholding of payment of wages by this ganger, the Secretary read the following letter which purported to be signed by Doyle:-

"As you are already aware I am in trouble over wages which I did not pay to men working under my charge and as the matter will come up for consideration on Monday I have seen Mr. Traynor and he told me to write to you giving you a date which I am prepared to pay those men and also to have receipts signed by them in his (Mr. Traynor's) presence. I am prepared to pay each man half of his pay to-day (Friday) and the balance on this day week without fail and Mr. Traynor will have all receipts by then. I would be very grateful to you if you would try and keep the matter out of the papers. Mr. Treanor told me he would also write to you about this. I will keep my promise faithfully re payment to men. If this gets to the papers I am destroyed and worse than all it would kill my father if he got to know about it as he is in a bad state of health at present. Hoping I am not asking you too much"

The County Surveyor submitted the following letter, under date 9th April, 1926, from Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor:-

"Your wire and letter of 7th instant confirming received 8th instant. In reply I beg to state I met Ganger Doyle on 8th instant when he informed me he would settle with men in my presence to-day at 10.30 a.m. I attended at Office as arranged with him for this purpose and though I waited until after 11 a.m., Doyle did not put in an appearance. I saw him later in the day in Gorey but as he seemed more inclined to avoid me than meet me I took it for granted he was not prepared to make settlement, and so far as I am aware he has not done anything in the matter"

On the motion of Colonel Gibbon seconded by Mr. Hayes the following resolution was adopted:-

"That Mr. Treanor be directed to swear informations against James Doyle, Cottage, Kilanerin, Gorey, as regards withholding of wages of workmen employed by Wexford County Council".

Roads & Quarry Brownswood District.

In connection with this matter the County Surveyor submitted statements taken by Mr. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, and himself, from the following workmen in connection with allegations that John O'Gorman, Overseer, had used County Council workmen on his land.

Hugh Dunne, Crefogue, Enniscorthy, stated he was taken from work in Brownswood Quarry, with Phil Nolan, Ballycoursey, Glenbrien, last harvest twelve months (1924) but could not remember exact date. Both men left quarry about 3 p.m., or 3.30 p.m., and stacked corn for O'Gorman. Dunne offered to give a day stacking corn previous to this, and was satisfied to be at loss of this time. Dunne was paid in full by County Council cheque. Nolan was not paid by County Council for time absent but was paid later in quarry by O'Gorman himself".

Matthew Ryan, Ballycoursey, stated he was employed by O'Gorman to work on his land half a dozen times - half days and some whole days - while employed in Brownswood Quarry. This happened during three years while he was a quarry workman but he could give no dates. He could not tell regarding payment but believed he was paid at times but not always. He was not always paid full time out of quarry as there were days he was sick and days he was at home working for himself.

Edward McCormack, Brownswood, stated that Kearns Ryan, Matthew Ryan and himself were employed on O'Gorman's land. He was taken away from quarry work and was paid quarry wages for time. He could not give exact dates but was two days in September 1922 in Lady Grey's bog mowing rushes and two days

in August 1923 at Atkinsons'. O'Gorman paid nothing out of his own pocket. Matt Ryan was taken by O'Gorman last Summer: Patrick Toole in quarry had the dates, having taken a note at the time. He (McCormack) was never cut pay for absence from quarry and never paid by O'Gorman".

"Patrick Toole, Ballyroe, Glenbrien, Workman in Brownswood Quarry stated he took note of date when men were taken from Quarry by O'Gorman. On 26th September, 1924, he took Hugh Dunne from quarry, and about 2 p.m., on the day after races in Ballymurrin, Phil Nolan. He knew O'Gorman took McCormack to mow rushes on Lady Grey's land. He took Hugh Dunne's time because he saw his cheque the following pay day (Friday) and it was for full money. He would appear before County Council to make full statements if asked to do so".

"Kearns Ryan, Monroe, Glenbrien, stated he was taken from County work on road by O'Gorman to do work for the latter on a couple of times Summer before last - once at harvest and once for threshing but was paid same as always for his county work. Gorman never paid him anything. He remained at home to do work for himself but was not paid for such. He would appear before County Council and make full statement if required".

Mr. Godfrey, Solicitor for O'Gorman, came before the meeting and stated O'Gorman had not had time to prepare his defence, and in the circumstances, as he had a perfectly good answer to the allegations of the workmen, he requested consideration of the statements be adjourned to the meeting of the Roads Committee on 26th instant.

This was agreed to on the motion of Colonel Quin, seconded by Mr. Jordan.

Mr. Pender proposed and Mr. Connors seconded that O'Gorman be suspended.

The County Surveyor explained that at present O'Gorman was not in the employment of the Council, and it was then

agreed to unanimously that he should not be re-employed until the Roads Committee had had an opportunity of considering the statements which had been submitted to this meeting as regards his having taken men from the quarry and from roads to work on his land.

Heavy Lorry Traffic.

The recommendations of the Roads Committee were agreed to, on the motion of Colonel Gibbon, seconded by Colonel Quin.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Sean O'Byrne, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the recommendations of the Roads Committee in respect of meeting held on 22nd March, 1926, and which have not been covered by resolution at this meeting be and are hereby confirmed"

FINANCE COMMITTEES.

Minutes of meetings of Finance Committee held on 18th March, 1926, and 1st April, 1926, were submitted as

follows:-

Meeting

18th March, 1926.

512
45

A meeting of the Finance Committee of the Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Fortvie Wexford, on 18th March 1926.

Present: Messrs Sean O'Byrne, William Thorpe, and James Gaul.

The Secretary, the Co. Surveyor, and Mr Elgee, solicitor were also in attendance.

On the motion of Mr Thorpe seconded by Mr Gaul, the Chair was taken by Mr O'Byrne.

The minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £5554-2-0 covering payments to Road and Quarry workers and £10250 being for transfer of £5750 to Subsidiary A/C and £4500, transfer to Board of Health were examined and signed.

POOR RATE COLLECTION.

The following shows the precentages of amounts collected in respect of ~~current~~ second moiety of current collection:- E.J. Murphy 58: J Quirke 56: J. Cummins 55: B. Cleary 55: S. Gannon 51: M. Deegan 49: T. Rowe 48: John J. O'Reilly 48: M. Kelly 47: J. Curtis 46: J.J.Sinnott 43: J.J.Kelly 43: P. Donohoe 41: W. Cummins 40: T. Sutton 40: P.J.Sinnott 37: P.J. Fitzpatrick 35: C. McCarthy 34: P. Walsh 32: P. O'Byrne 19: and James Murphy(dismissed) 1.4.

It was decided that ~~y~~ the Secretary communicate with Mr O'Byrne and his personal sureties and inform them that if he does not complete his collection in a satisfactory manner by the 31st inst, the Co. Council will be recommended to discontinue his services as Rate Collector.

ARTERIAL DRAINAGE ACT.

Under date 3rd February 1926, Mr Barry, Co Surveyor, wrote with reference to two petitions under above Act(which had been referred to him for report) that he wished to point out the County Surveyors' Association had this matter of drainage under discussion and it was decided that as the work

518
46

was outside ordinary duties, fees should be paid. The County Council were not bound to employ the County Surveyor on these jobs.

Attention was directed to Section 3(1) of the Arterial Drainage Act which reads "every County Council to which a petition is presented under this Act shall refer such petition to the Co. Surveyor for his report on the general merit of the proposals outlined in the petition."

The County Surveyor pointed out that the following appeared in the "Explanation of the Arterial Drainage Act," which had been issued by the Office of Public Works, "If the Co. Council for any reason do not wish to employ the Co. Surveyor on this work, they may employ an outside engineer with the sanction of the Minister for Local Government."

It was decided to defer the consideration of the letter of the Co. Surveyor for the present.

DEFAULTING LAND COMMISSION ANNUITANTS.

Lists of defaulting Land Commission Annuitants were carefully examined. The opinion was expressed that a number of the defaulters were in a position to pay.

The following resolution was adopted:- "That the Co. Council issue an advertisement that the names of defaulters under Land Purchase Acts will be open to the inspection of anyone concerned- in the County Council Office, Wexford during office hours. That the Land Commission be requested to proceed against all defaulters as soon as possible. That as regards annuitants proceeded against, the State Solicitor be requested to furnish the County Council with the number of decrees which had been taken out and the result of the execution of said decrees.

PREPARATION OF ELECTORS' LISTS.

Under date 24th February 1926, Mr Scallan, Registration Officer wrote asking for an advance of £125 to enable him to meet current expenses in connection with the preparation of the Register of Electors for the year 1926-27.

It was decided that the £125 asked for by the Registration Officer be paid over to him.

WEXFORD COURTHOUSE COMPENSATION CLAIM.

Under date 13th March 1926, the following was read from Mr Elgee, solicitor to the County Council:-

"I am in receipt of your letter of yesterday and note that the Department of Local Government have sanctioned the payment of £11-5-0 to Mr Wood in connection with the above compensation claim.

I regret that in my letter to you of the 20th. January last on the subject, the amount of Mr Wood's fees were incorrectly stated to be £11-5-0 instead of the sum of £111-5-0 which is the correct amount, as you will see by the enclosed copy of his account.

Will you be able to get the matter set right by the Department?

Save the above and the £26-5-0 for costs mentioned in your letter there are no other claims for professional assistance in connection with the claim that I am aware of."

It was decided that as the amount claimed by Mr Wood formed portion of the award it should be paid subject to the sanction of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health.

GOREY R. D. COUNCIL-SOLICITOR'S BILL OF COSTS.

Under date 3rd March 1926, Messrs O'Flaherty & Son, solicitors, Enniscorthy wrote in connection with Bill of Miscellaneous Costs for £67-14-4 for Gorey Rural District.

It was decided to refer bill to Mr Elgee for his examination and report.

It was agreed to pay £26-7-7, taxed costs of Messrs O'Flaherty & Son, solicitors in connection with Gorey Rural District Labourers' Order(No. 1) and Gorey Rural District Labourers' Order(No. 2).

OVERDRAFT.

It was decided that as it is apparent it will be impossible to complete Rate Collection by 31st March, the Secretary be directed to apply for sanction to such amount of overdraft as he considers will be necessary to carry on the work of the Council for the three months ended 30th. June 1926.

EMPLOYMENT OF TEMPORARY STAFF.

A resolution was adopted that the Secretary be empowered to employ temporary staff for preparing Rate Books and Collectors' Receipt and Demand Notes-remuneration to be calculated at 1/- per working hour.

Meeting - 1st April, 1926,-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee of the Wexford County Council was held in the County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford on 1st April, 1926.

Present:- Messrs Sean O'Byrne, P. Hayes, James Gaul and William Thorpe.

The Secretary, the Co. Surveyor and Mr Elgee, solicitor, were also in attendance.

On the motion of Mr Hayes seconded by Mr Gaul, the chair was taken by Mr O'Byrne.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £2564-10-0 was examined and signed.

CONTINUATION OF CO. COUNCIL OVERDRAFT.

Under date 31st March 1926, the Department of Local Government (G 15865/1926 Wexford Co. Council) wrote that the Minister sanctioned the continuance of overdraft not exceeding £40,000 on the account of Wexford County Council to the 30th June next. Interest could be paid on the amount from time to time outstanding at the usual rate.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Gaul seconded by Mr Hayes:-

"That we request the Directors of the National Bank Limited to agree to present overdraft of Wexford County Council being continued for a further period of three months in consequence of the backward condition of the Rate Collection, the amount of rate outstanding at present being £31173-10-6 to 31st March 1926. Owing to this the collection for current financial year cannot be put in force for some months. Meantime the County Council have to finance the subsidiary Bodies and the County administration."

RATE COLLECTION.

The state of the rate collection to the 31st March 1926 was submitted.

The following are the percentages collected:-

78 J. Curtis: 76 James Quirke: 75 Joseph Cummins: 74 Edward J. Murphy: 70 M. Deegan, Thos Rowe and Patrick Donohoe,

517 50.

69 B. Cleary: and J.J. O'Reilly: 65 J.J. Sinnott: 64 Thomas Sutton: 62 M.M. Kelly and Sean Gannon: 60 Walter Cummins: 57 J.J. Kelly: 55 P. Walsh: 53 P.J. Fitzpatrick: 45 C. McCarthy: 43 P.J. Sinnott: 36 P. O'Byrne. (No 19 District-Collection suspended ~~pending~~ awaiting cover note from new collector from Insurance ^{Company} Society).

As regards the collection of Mr P. O'Byrne (No 9 District) a medical certificate was read from Dr Kehoe, Larkfield, Killanne that this collector was suffering from a septic arm from 1st to 22nd March 1926 (inclusive) and was unable during that period to perform his duties.

In connection with this matter, the following letter under date 31st March 1926 (G.15865/1926 Wexford Co. Council) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"With reference to my letter of to-day's date conveying sanction to the continuance of an overdraft on the Account of the County Council, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to point out to the Council that the necessity for this course and the charge for interest involved is entirely due to the ~~fact~~ failure of the Rate Collectors to perform their duties properly.

The Collectors all received their warrants in July last but up to the end of last month had only collected £93300 out of the total levy of £146300.

It is intolerable that there should be such an arrear as £54,000 and the Council should no longer hesitate to dismiss any Collector whose progress is not satisfactory. The course suggested in the final paragraph of my letter of the 3rd July last (28421) should now be followed and the Committee suggested might take definite action in the light of the position as disclosed at the end of April. Each Collector should forthwith be warned that this will be done and furthermore that the Department will not be prepared to sanction poundage fees unless satisfactory collections are meantime made."

The paragraph of the letter of 9th July 1925 (28421) referred to in the letter of the Department was as follows:-

"The Minister is satisfied that the time has now definitely arrived when the Council should show no further leniency to any Collector who has not closed all his accounts or does not do so after final warning by 31st July. The Minister suggests that a small Committee be appointed with plenary powers to dismiss on that date any Collector who has not closed all outstanding accounts by lodgment of all recoverable arrears, and by accounting for the balance on Form 58 of all items shown to be clearly irrecoverable or vouched in each case by decrees obtained by the Collector but not executed through no fault of his."

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

"That the County Council be recommended to have the current rate collection concluded by the end of April 1926 when the Collectors will be obliged to have all recoverable rate collected and lodged."

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP- STEPHEN J. FURLONG

Under date 20th March 1926, a letter was read from the Secretary, University College, Dublin, that he had received a report from the Registrar of the College of Science that the supplemental examination in third year Agriculture was held on 16th March and that Stephen J. Furlong failed in the examination.

The Secretary stated he had asked for further information in the matter from University College and had received a reply under date 25th March that Stephen J. Furlong failed in the subject of practical Agriculture. His marks were:- Written 39%, Oral 30%, Total 34½%.

The Professor of Agriculture in the College informed the Secretary, University College that Mr Furlong was severely handicapped by the fact that he had had no early training in practical Agriculture, such as the sons of farmers

52519

have, and that it would be very difficult for him to pass the examination without a year's experience of work on a farm.

On the 22nd October 1925, the following resolution was adopted:- "That University Scholarship be continued in the case of Mr S. J. Furlong 16 South Main Street, Wexford provided he be successful in passing at first available supplemental examination held after the date of this meeting That in the event of his failure at the forthcoming Exam. his Scholarship lapse automatically "

The Committee did not see their way to suggest any amendment of this resolution.

GENERAL BUILDINGS LIST.

Circular letter of the 20th March 1926(50/172/25 Miscellaneous) in connection with General Buildings List was read.

The General Buildings List as submitted by the Secretary was examined, approved, and signed.

WEXFORD COURTHOUSE.

Under date 22nd March 1926 the Department of Local Government wrote(G 12166/1926)forwarding report from District Justice O'Faithaigh relative to Wexford Courthouse in which it was pointed out that the old building had been condemned and had to be abandoned. Accommodation was however available in the Old Jail(County Hall) in what was formerly the Chapel. Failing the immediate use of this, he suggested the County Council Chamber should be granted for Court purposes.

The Secretary mentioned it had been arranged with Mr Fahy that he should hold his weekly Court in the County Council Chamber.

The County Surveyor submitted a further letter from Mr Fahy asking him to arrange the first room on the left as one entered the old Jail premises as an office for Mr Gregory, District Court Clerk, as soon as possible.

The County Surveyor submitted an Estimate for necessary repairs to this room from Messrs John Sinnott & Co. Builders, at £12-10-0 including provision of counter and £6-10-0 without counter.

The Committee having inspected the premises, the following resolution was adopted: on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Thorpe:- "That the temporary use of room in old Jail be granted Mr P.J. Gregory, District Court Clerk, Wexford, and that an amount not exceeding £6-10-0 be expended in having the premises repaired and in the removal of office furniture and documents from old Courthouse to new office."

As regards holding of Circuit Court the following under date 23rd March 1926 was read from the Clerk of the Peace:-

"As the Wexford Courthouse has been condemned it will be necessary to make arrangements for the Circuit Court which will be held here on the 27th of May next.

If your Council could arrange to have accommodation in the old Jail with rooms for Judge, Jurors, Barristers, Solicitors and a temporary office while the Court sits for myself, it would in my opinion be the most convenient,

As the Precept has to be sent to the Under Sheriff early next month in order that he can summon the Jury, I would be obliged if you will let me have an early reply. Besides I have to report the matter to the Ministry of Justice to have an Order made."

It was decided that the use of old Chapel in Jail premises be available for use as Circuit Court on 27th May 1926 and that County Surveyor utilise any possible fix fittings in the old Court for the purpose. That he submit to next meeting of this Committee an estimate of the cost of the removal and refixing of old fittings and any other small repairs which are absolutely essential in order to provide for Court requirements.

Under date 27th March 1926 the following letter (G 11784/1926 Wexford County Council) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"With reference to your letter of the 15th inst. regarding the proposed payment to Mr Wood for his services in connection with claim for compensation in respect of Wexford Courthouse, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that the Compensation Commission appear to have awarded a sum of £50 in full settlement for Mr Wood's services and there seems no reason why that amount should be exceeded."

Mr Elgee said he had communicated with Mr Wood in the matter and would submit his reply to next meeting of the Committee.

The County Surveyor submitted bill for £9-19-6 for taking down dangerous portion of old Courthouse which had been condemned by the Borough Surveyor and for the fixing of a hoarding round the place.

It was decided on the motion of Mr Hayes seconded by Mr Thorpe that the amount be paid.

SOLICITOR'S BILLS OF COSTS.

Mr Elgee said that he had arranged with Messrs O'Flaherty & Son, Solicitors, that their costs for Gorey Rural District Council and Gorey Board of Guardians should be taxed by a High Court Taxing Master.

A recommendation was adopted that a Requisition for the taxing of the Bills of Costs in question should be signed by the County Council.

"KARRIER" MOTOR LORRY.

The County Surveyor said that he had taken over from the Enniscorthy Rural District Council their "Karrier" motor lorry for use of the County Council. The tyres require replacement and the cost of this with the necessary fitting would be £42-17-6. He wished to know whether the vehicle would in future be used by the County Council or the County

Board of Health; it was really required by both bodies.

It was decided that the tyres should be replaced by the County Council at a cost of £42-17-6, and that the lorry be hired to the Board of Health when required by that Body at a price to be arranged.

COUNTY COUNCIL MOTOR CAR.

It was decided on the motion of Mr Gaul, seconded by Mr Hayes, that the County Surveyor be empowered to purchase at a cost of £5 new battery for County Council Chevrolet motor car which was used by Machinery Overseer in bringing supplies, tools, etc. to the various County Council Quarries.

On the motion of Mr. Sean O'Byrne, seconded by the Chairman, the foregoing minutes of Finance Committee, in respect of meetings held on 18th March, 1926, and 1st April, 1926, respectively, were confirmed.

STATE OF THE RATE COLLECTION.

The state of the Rate Collection to 9th April, 1926, was considered. The following were the percentages of their warrants lodged by the Collectors:- J. J. O'Reilly 91; T. Rowe 87; J. Cummins 85; J. J. Sinnott 85; J. Quirke 84; E. J. Murphy 83; J. Curtis 82; B. Cleary 80; M. Deegan 80; W. Cummins 79; J. J. Kelly 78; P. Donohoe 77; S. Gannon 76; M. Kelly 73; T. Sutton 72; P. Fitzpatrick 71; P. Walsh 67; C. McCarthy 57; P. O'Byrne 54; P. Sinnott 43.

The Secretary mentioned that the attention of the Rate Collectors had been called to the resolution of the Finance Committee by which they had been directed to

close their collections in a satisfactory manner by the 30th April, 1926.

LOAN FOR COUNTY HOSPITAL.

In connection with loan of £4763 balance necessary to finish work of improvements at County Hospital the following under date 7th April, 1926, was received from Sir Thomas Esmonde, Bart., National Bank, Dublin:- "Please thank the Council for me for their resolution.

"It is always a pleasure to me to help the County Council in any way I can, if only in remembrance of "old times". But in this case my hands were strengthened by the special circumstances of the case, not to speak of the excellent relations that have always existed between the National Bank and the County Council which has always invariably held a high record for its capable administration of local affairs."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Sean O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Clince:-

"At a meeting of the County Council of Wexford held on the 12th day of April 1926 it was resolved: That in pursuance of the consent of the Local Government Department (Ireland) by letter dated 11th February 1926 the Council do borrow from the National Bank Ltd., Wexford, the sum of £4763 for the purpose of County Hospital Improvements to be repaid to the Bank by half yearly instalments spread over a period of 10 years with interest thereon at one half per cent per annum under the Irish Banks rate rising and falling therewith from time to time but at no time to be less than 4% per annum - said loan to be secured by Mortgage over the rates available for that purpose and that the Seal of the Council be attached to said Mortgage".

WEXFORD BOROUGH.

It was decided to refer for consideration of next

324

meeting of Roads Committee of County Council to be held on 26th April an important letter from Mr. A. D. Delap (Messrs Delap & Waller Engineers), Northern Bank Chambers, 115, Grafton Street, Dublin, in connection with the present condition of Wexford Bridge.

HAULAGE - CARRIGFOYLE QUARRY.
=====

A resolution from a meeting of carters of Carrigfoyle quarry asking for 1/9d per yard for first mile of haulage and 1/3d for each succeeding mile, instead of 10d per cubic yard fixed by the County Council, was referred to the Roads Committee for consideration.

SANATORIUM CO. HOME ENNISCORTHY.
=====

Under date 1st April, 1926, the Department of Local Government wrote (P.H.579/26 Wexford C.B.H) that the Minister for Local Government and Public Health had approved of the Sanatorium attached to the County Home Enniscorthy in pursuance of section 16 (1) (a) of the National Insurance Act 1911, for the treatment of advanced cases of Tuberculosis.

COUNTY HOSPITAL AND SURGICAL TUBERCULOSIS.
=====

Under date 30th March, 1926, the Department of Local Government wrote (P.H.578/26 Wexford C.B.H) stating that the Minister for Local Government & Public Health, had approved of the County Hospital, Wexford, in pursuance of section 16 (1) (a) of the National Insurance Act 1911 for the treatment of surgical cases of Tuberculosis.

PROPOSED SUPERANNUATION MR. J.J.ROCHFORD.
=====

Under date 26th March, 1926, the following letter (No.G.3156/1926 Wexford Co) in connection with proposed superannuation of Mr. J. J. Rochford, late Clerk, New Ross Rural District was read from Department of Local Government

"With reference to the superannuation allowance granted

58
525

by the Wexford County Council to Mr. J.J. Rochford, late Clerk of the New Ross Rural District Council, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that Mr. Rochford has appealed on the grounds that the pension proposed does not represent a fair compensation for his length of service.

"It appears that Mr. Rochford at the time of resignation had 31½ years official service and that he was then aged 59 years and 5 months. His emoluments are stated to have averaged £346: 8: 6d per annum as Clerk of the Rural District. He had also received £14 as fees under the Labourers' Acts for an Improvement Scheme in the year 1925. The pensionable emoluments would thus appear to amount to £351: 1: 10d per annum on the 3 years' average. It is requested that the Council will verify these figures.

"Mr. Rochford also claimed for pensionable purposes his fees of £38: 4: 0d as Deputy Returning Officer but these are not pensionable.

"The terms of the Department's Circular of the 3rd April, 1925, indicate that in the case of abolition of office the Minister would not be averse to the addition of one year in two for purposes of pension calculation. It is considered, however, that any such addition should be governed by the normal age of retirement, that is 65 years. In this case, therefore, it would appear that an equitable addition might result in the fraction for calculation being assessed at 37/60ths. The resulting pension would be £216: 10: 0d".

"I am to request that the Council will be good enough to furnish their views generally as to the services rendered in the past by Mr. Rochford and whether they have any specific grounds for differentiating his treatment in regard to pension from the normal course.

"It is proposed to determine the appeal early next month and the Council's views are accordingly requested without delay".

The Secretary stated in reply to query that the difference between the amount proposed by Local Government Department and amount proposed by the Council was £35: 2: 1d the Council having agreed to a figure of £181: 7: 11d. as against the proposal of the Department of Local Government of £216: 10: 0d.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Colonel Quin, seconded by Mr. Corish:-

"That consideration of letter of Local Government Department under date 26th March, 1926 (G.3156/1926 Wexford County) relative to proposed superannuation of Mr. J. J. Rochford, late Clerk R.D. Council, be adjourned to next meeting of the Council and that in the meantime our Secretary ascertain from the Secretaries of Carlow and Kilkenny County Councils what are the superannuation allowances granted by them to Mr. Rochford on his retirement as Clerk to Idrone and Ida R. D. Councils"

NATIONAL TUBERCULOSIS GRANT.

Under date 22nd March, 1926, the Department of Local Government wrote (P.H.48906/26 Wexford Co) that the issue to the Council of Paying Order for £281 as a second instalment of recoupment from the National Tuberculosis Grant for current financial year had been authorised.

Under date 22nd March, 1926, the Department of Local Government wrote (P.H.47016/26 Wexford County) that Pay Order for £141: 14: 9d final instalment of recoupment from National Tuberculosis Grant in respect of financial year ended 31st March, 1925, had been authorised.

RELIEF GRANTS.

Under date 11th March, 1926, the Local Government Department wrote (R/RU/32) that having regard to the allocations already made from Relief Schemes Votes for the present financial year further relief grants could not be sanctioned.

TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASE.
=====

Under date 1st April, 1926, the Department of Local Government wrote (P.H.11671-1926 Wexford C.B.H), ~~wrote~~ forwarding copy of Scheme for treatment of Venereal disease in the County of Kildare. By the establishment of an out-patient clinic for patients suffering from Venereal disease at County Hospital, Wexford, very few cases would require to be sent to Treatment centre at Dr. Steeven's Hospital, Dublin, for residential treatment.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Corish seconded by the Chairman:- "That the Local Government Department be requested to furnish the County Council with the average annual cost of two or three County Schemes for the treatment of Venereal Disease as this Council desire information as to what their financial liability would be in the event of adopting a Scheme of this nature"

SANCTION MR. JOHN DOYLE AS RATE COLLECTOR
FOR NO.19 COLLECTION DISTRICT.
=====

Under date 27th March, 1926, the following letter (G.12771/1926 Wexford County) was read:-

"With reference to your letter of the 23rd instant, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that he sanctions the temporary appointment of Mr. J. Doyle, Scullabogue, Newbawn, as Rate Collector for the No.19 Collection District on the terms set out in the accompanying form of queries.

"The Declaration Form which has been noted is returned herewith"

The Secretary reported that Mr. Doyle had entered into his personal bond.

As regards fidelity guarantee bond the Department of Local Government had written (G.14448-1926 Wexford County Council) that the Minister was prepared to approve of a bond of the New Ireland Assurance Co., for this collector.

The Secretary stated that Mr. Doyle had been directed to furnish this bond at once.

FURNITURE NEW ROSS UNION
=====

Under date 22nd March, 1926, the Department of Local Government wrote (P.7882/1926 Wexford County) that the furniture in the New Ross Workhouse Buildings is the property of Wexford County Council they having paid for it under the adjustment Order made by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health.

A resolution was read from the Ida Rural District Committee of Kilkenny Board of Health requesting the County Councils of Wexford, Kilkenny and Carlow to get the furniture valued for the purpose of adjustment.

A similar resolution was received from Kilkenny Board of Health.

The Secretary stated he had furnished the Secretary to the latter body with a copy of the letter from the Department of Local Government (P.7882/1926 - 22nd March, 1926), and had received a reply under date 7th April, 1926, stating that the furniture in the New Ross Rural District Council Offices (Union Block) was not valued by the adjusting Auditor and was not transferred to the Wexford County Council as the District Councils were in existence at the time and the furniture was the common property of the Rural Districts of Ida, Idrone and New Ross. The letter concluded. "It is the intention of the Board of Health to maintain their rights in this matter and it is hoped that this property will not be disturbed."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Sean O'Byrne, seconded by Colonel Quin:-

"That in view of the decision of the Local Government Department that the furniture of New Ross Union is the property of the Wexford County Council we hereby direct our County Surveyor to arrange to take over same at once. We fail to see what rights the Kilkenny County Board of Health can have in this matter"

Under date 22nd March, 1926, a letter was read from Mr. L. Barron, Assistance Officer for some of the small presses at present in New Ross District Hospital Boardroom.

It was decided that the application be adjourned to next meeting.

COURTOWN HARBOUR & HARBOUR COMMISSION.
=====

Under date 4th March, 1926, the Department of Industry & Commerce (Transport & Marine Branch) had written (T.54250) that the Tribunal which was about being established as regards working of Irish Harbours would be confined in its enquiries to the statutory undertakings specified in the schedule to the resolution moved by the Minister and agreed to by the Dail on 19th January. Courtown Harbour was not a statutory undertaking and had not therefore been included with those comprised in the schedule referred to.

No order.

WEIGHTS & MEASURES ACTS STANDARDS (BOTTLES)
=====

In connection with the above a letter was read from the Department of Industry & Commerce (Power Section) under date 30th March, 1926, that it was considered advisable to make an alteration in the arrangement for the testing of beer and stout bottles by the substitution of

a properly designed set of glass measures for each of the working standards. This would in the case of Co. Wexford mean that the proposed expenditure by the Council of £28: 2: 6d for a supply of gun metal local and working standards would be reduced to £15: 6: 0d for a gun metal local standard and a set of glass measures for each Inspector.

It was decided on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Sean O'Byrne, that the revised tender taken by the Ministry of Industry & Commerce from Messrs DeGrave Short & Co., London, for supply of local Standards and glass measures for testing of bottles for beer and stout at £15: 6: 0d per set for each Inspector be approved .

SALE OF FOOD & DRUGS ACT.

Under date 23rd February, 1926, the Department of Agriculture wrote (L.342/26) that in cases in which samples under above Acts had been taken by one of their officials and proceedings were necessary, summonses should be issued under the name of an officer appointed by the County Council under section 13 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act 1875.

Under date 25th February, 1926, Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, wrote that the course suggested by the Department had been always followed in prosecutions by Wexford County Council.

ROAD THROUGH CAMOLIN PARK.

Under date 24th March, 1926 (1735/F), the Department of Agriculture wrote, relative to memorial from certain ratepayers in Camolin district asking for a grant from the County Council towards the repair of surface of a passage to the Department's property at Camolin Park, that, as this passage was actually only a right of way through the Department's lands for the benefit of neighbouring ~~tenants~~, they could not see on what grounds

other local Veterinary duties, and the whole paid for by a fixed annual salary. In the case of all future appointments such an arrangement should be adopted.

"It is not suggested, however, that any revision of appointments need now be made, unless, in the view of your Council, the arrangements at present existing are unsatisfactory or unduly expensive. Except in such circumstances, the duties under the new Order should be discharged by the Council's present Veterinary officers, to whom an addition to their salary for ordinary duties should be given in respect of the Tuberculosis work.

"In no case can the Department sanction the payment of fees.

"Having discussed the matter of payments with a representative body of Veterinary Surgeons, and having carefully considered the duties to be carried out, and the circumstances of the time, the Department have arrived at the opinion that an appropriate additional payment for the duties under the New Order would be £35 in respect of each former Union Area. In such of those districts, however, where the area is exceptionally large, and/or the number of cattle unusually great, payments of £40, and in some cases of £50, for the former Union Area might be made. Parts of former Union Areas could be paid for proportionately. On such a basis the additional payments to be made in your County for the Tuberculosis work would be as shown hereunder

"The new payment is to be inclusive of all expenses.

"As these rates of payment are, to some extent, experimental, in the Department's view they might be considered anew in the light of experience at the end of a year.

"The Tuberculosis duties to be discharged by Local Authority Veterinary Inspectors are as set out in the Order

and in the explanatory Memorandum.

"The Department earnestly trust your Local Authority will consider as soon as possible the question of arrangements for the effective working of the Order in your District".

"I have to add that as vacancies occur amongst Local Authority Veterinary Inspectors, any new appointment should be made on the basis of a single fixed annual payment to cover all duties to be discharged by the Inspector, that is, duties under the Diseases of Animals Act, and the Departmental Orders thereunder, including duties in relation to Bovine Tuberculosis, Sheep Dipping and attendance at Fairs in his district.

"Moreover, in the Department's view (concurred in by the Veterinary Surgeons who attended at these Offices), each newly appointed Veterinary Inspector in future should, as far as possible, be employed for duty in one area only (former Union), and he should reside therein".

"As your Local Authority are, of course, aware, all such appointments are subject to the Department's approval".

The amounts which the Department agreed should be added to the salaries of the Veterinary Inspectors to cover this work were as follows; payment by fees being discontinued.

Gorey (Mr. T.A. Mernagh V.S)	£40 per annum.
Enniscorthy (Mr. P. J. Hayes V.S)	£50 " "
Wexford (Mr. R. Malone V.S.)	£40 " "
New Ross (Mr. Joseph Lynch V.S., for Southern portion)	£22: 10: 0d per annum.
New Ross (Mr. F.W. Taylor V.S., for Northern portion)	£12: 10: 0d " "

It was decided on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Sean O'Byrne, to approve of the adoption of the new Bovine Tuberculosis Order, including additional amounts to salaries, fixed by the Department in lieu of fees, as remuneration to the Veterinary officers of the County Council under this Order.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATIONS.

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Circular was read from the Department of Education (Secondary Education Branch) that students who desire to compete for University Scholarships and who do not satisfy the conditions of the programme as to pursuing an approved course of study at a Secondary School may be admitted to the Department's Leaving Certificate Examination at the request of the County Council for the purpose of competing for these Scholarships but these students would not be eligible for the award of the Secondary Leaving Certificate.

Referred to Scholarship Committee.

COASTGUARD STATIONS.

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In connection with the proposal of the Office of Public Works to hand over buildings formerly used as Coastguard Stations, at Rosslare, Curracloe and Courtown, a letter was read from the Office of Public Works, under date 22nd January, 1926 (No.5667/26), that they had decided to refrain, for the present, from determining the existing weekly tenancies at Rosslare.

Proposals of the Office of Public Works, relative to Rosslare, Courtown and Curracloe stations had been referred to the County surveyor for report.

It was decided that this be considered at the meeting of the Roads Committee on 26th April, 1926.

DEDUCTIONS FROM GRANTS.

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Correspondence was read from Department of Finance that a sum of £3511 : 1: 11d had been deducted from the Agricultural Grant and £152: 2: 11d from the Estate Duty Grant to make good instalments of repayment of principal and interest of Labourers' Acts Loans, and Loans payable

by former Boards of Guardians.

ERECTION OF TELEGRAPHIC LINE.

The Minister for Posts and Telegraphs applied for the consent of the Council to the placing of an overground telegraphic line from cross-roads at Mercy Convent, Wexford, to a point opposite Carrig Ruadh, Wexford.

On the motion of Mr. Sean O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Corish, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the Wexford County Council hereby consent to the placing of an overground telegraphic line from cross roads at Mercy Convent, Wexford, to a point opposite Carrig Ruadh, Wexford, provided same is erected to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor and that the poles are placed on the Sports Field side of the road."

CLAIM, INSURANCE, NATIONAL HEALTH & UNEMPLOYMENT COTTAGE WORKERS.

Correspondence was read from Inspector William McLoughlin, National Health Insurance Commission, Mr. A. A. Connolly, Clerk late Enniscorthy Rural District Council and Mr. T.B. Dunbar, Solicitor, relative to claim of £72: 18: 0d for National Health and Unemployment Insurance stamps for workers engaged in the erection of cottages in the Enniscorthy Rural District between August 1924 and February 1925.

It was decided that the matter be adjourned to next meeting; in the meantime, Mr. Elgee to advise and report as to the liability of the Council.

CO. WEXFORD FARMERS' UNION AND RATES.

The following copy of resolution adopted at the meeting of the Standing Committee of the County Wexford Farmers' Union on 13th March, 1926, was read:-

"That the members of the Standing Committee of the Co. Wexford Farmers' Union believing as they do that there can be no recovery from the depressed state of the Agricultural Industry until the ruinous burden of taxation (both National and Local) is relieved; view with grave concern the fixing of the County Rates for 1926-27 at such a high figure.

"We believe that that rate will be a crushing burden on the farmers as a whole and that its collection must inevitably involve numbers of farmers in ruin and bankruptcy.

"We consider imperative an entire re-organisation of the County expenditure to meet the need of the times.

"That (1) The amount spent on salaries and wages must be reduced.

(2) Waste of Public funds on the roads must stop.

(3) the expenditure of funds on Public Services not absolutely essential must be postponed till better times arrive.

We therefore call on our Representatives both in the Dail and on the County Council to do all in their power to save the farming community and taxpayer from the ruinous burden of taxation which is rapidly crushing their industry and killing all spirit of enterprise in the County"

No Order.

MIDWIVES (IRELAND) ACT, 1918.

Under date 25th February, 1926, a letter was read from Mr. T. D. Sinnott, Secretary, Wexford County Board of Health and Public Assistance, in reference to the case of Johanna Browne an unqualified midwife in New Ross attending maternity cases, and stating that, as a result of correspondence with the Department of Local Government, it appeared necessary for the County Council to transfer, by resolution, their duties under the Midwives (Ireland) Act, 1918 to the Board.

On the motion of Mr. Sean O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Clince, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the powers of the County Council under the Midwives (Ireland) Act, 1918 be, and are hereby, delegated to the Wexford County Board of Health and Public Assistance".

TRAVELLING EXPENSES OF MEMBERS OF
COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

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In connection with travelling expenses of members, the Secretary stated that Mr. John Pender, who was co-opted a member of the Council at the meeting of the 14th December, 1925, had attended all the five meetings that had subsequently been held. According to the regulations a member to be qualified for a contribution under this head should attend three fourths of the meetings held in each half year. As nine meetings had been held in the half year ended 31st March, 1926, Mr. Pender should have attended seven to qualify for contribution. Of course, owing to the time at which he was co-opted, this was impossible. He (Secretary) submitted the circumstances of Mr. Pender's case to the Department of Local Government and had received a reply, under date 30th March, 1926, (G.12881/1926 Wexford County), stating that Mr. Pender could not receive a contribution for the number of meetings actually attended.

It was decided to refer the circumstances of Mr. Pender's case to Mr. Elgee for his advice.

In connection with the general question of contribution towards members' travelling expenses for journeys to and from County Council meetings, which had been referred to Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, the latter wrote under date 13th March, 1926, setting out the section of the Local Government Act 1925, under which contribution was payable, with the various rules. In conclusion, he stated that it appeared to him to be quite clear that it was never the intention to pay members the

the entire expenses of their journeys. The word "contribution" showed an intention to pay only part of the expenses and Article 6 of the Schedule defined how that contribution was to be arrived at, i.e., to be calculated on the distance from the residence to the place of meeting, and only on that distance not on the double journey.

Under date 22nd March, 1926, a letter was read from the Secretary, Wexford County Board of Health and Public Assistance, stating that as his Board came into statutory existence only as from 1st October, 1925, the members of the Board were not entitled to travelling expenses until on or after that day. Under Section 63 of the Local Government Act 1925, however, the County Council could appoint them as an "authorised Committee" with the view of legalising the payment of travelling expenses for the period from the date of their election until the 1st October, and his Board now asked the County Council to make such appointment.

On the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That, as the County Board of Health, were from the date of their appointment by the County Council performing their functions in the same manner as at present, we hereby constitute them as an "authorised" Committee as from the date of their election to 1st October, 1925, in accordance with section 63 of the Local Government Act 1925"

BALANCES OF LOANS - LABOURERS' COTTAGES.

On the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Gaul, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:-

"That the remaining balances of loans transferred from Rural District Councils to County Council, be re-transferred to County Board of Health to allow the latter to proceed with

72
539

the work of erection of Labourers' Cottages".

CLAIMS FOR SUPERANNUATIONS - EX-OFFICIALS, COUNTY
INFIRMARY.

=====

Under date 13th February, 1926, Dr. S. A. Furlong, wrote applying for pension of £146: 13: 4d per annum as late Surgeon of Wexford County Infirmary, under section 55 of the Local Government Act 1925. He had 12 years' service being appointed in October 1910. Under Section 44 (2) of the Act he was entitled to a pension on the abolition of his office not exceeding two-thirds of his yearly salary and emoluments. His yearly salary was £120, while he estimated his emoluments consisting of house, rent and rates free and fuel allowance to be worth £100 per annum.

Referred to Mr. Elgee for his advice and report to next meeting.

A claim was also received from Mrs E. Hayes, late female Searcher at County Wexford Infirmary for a pension on the abolition of her office. Her husband was now dead and she had lost her only means of support. Her salary had been £5 per annum.

It was also decided that this claim should be referred to Mr. Elgee for his advice and report to next meeting.

CONFERENCE URBAN DISTRICTS - MAINTENANCE
MAIN ROADS.

=====

In connection with proposed Conference to be held on 15th April, 1926, between the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the County Council with the County Surveyor and a representative from each of the Urban Districts, as to maintenance of main roads in these districts, communications were read from Urban District Council of Wexford that the Mayor and the Town Surveyor had been appointed on their behalf and from Enniscorthy Urban District Council that Mr. Martin Kehoe would represent that body.

Proposals to nominate a representative had been defeated at the meeting of the New Ross Urban District Council but notice of motion to rescind this decision had been handed in.

COURTOWN HARBOUR COMMITTEE.

=====

On the motion of Mr. Sean O'Byrne, seconded by Colonel Quin, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That, as recommended by the Courtown Harbour Committee, Rev. Mr. Perdue, Ardamine, be appointed a member of that Committee, vice, Rev. Mr. Talbot, transferred to another district and Mr. Richard Garland, Courtown Harbour, vice Mr. J. Gannon, who had not attended for the past three years"

COURTOWN LIFEBOAT HOUSE.

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Under date 19th February, 1926, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution wrote that they were prepared to hand Courtown Lifeboat House over to the County Council for a sum of £50 in consideration of the surrender of the existing lease granted by the County Council and expiring in 1940 held at a ground rent of 1/- per annum.

Mr. Sean O'Byrne proposed and Mr. P. Byrne seconded a resolution that the building be taken over, but, after some discussion, it was decided that no action be taken.

MOUNTGARRETT BRIDGE.

=====

Under date 11th February, 1926, the Secretary, Kilkenny County Council wrote that only one meeting of the Mountgarrett Bridge Committee had been held, viz., on 18th June last, when the only business transacted was the appointment of Chairman and preliminary consideration of plans and specifications obtained some years ago when the proposal to construct a new bridge was first mooted. It was agreed that the plans required some modification. Consequently they were referred

74
541

to Messrs Delap and Waller for their suggestions, as it was considered the specification required amendment with a view to strengthening the structure to carry modern traffic. He took the legal position to be that the Joint Committee would have full control of the erection of the bridge, the right to determine the type, plan &c. As to the cost he did not think any proposal could be considered which would involve expenditure in excess of the amount originally estimated, namely £18,000, one-fourth of which the Roads Department had agreed to contribute. In the event of the estimate on the amended plan being in excess of the figure quoted, it was clear that a new mandate must be sought from both contributing bodies. One of the four representatives from Kilkenny had ceased to be a member of the County Council but this did not interfere with his status and the same would apply, he presumed, to the Co. Wexford representatives.

In connection with the Mountgarrett Bridge Committee a letter was read from Mr. Michael Byrne, Ballynabearna, New Ross, asking on what authority the County Council acted in declaring a vacancy on this Committee and filling his position thereon until he had formally resigned.

The Secretary stated that when Mr. Byrne was asked if he would continue membership of the Committee, he wrote, under date 22nd January, that he was willing to act if he had an assurance from the Council that an attempt would not be made later to disqualify him on some silly technicality. As the Council did not see their way to give any assurance to Mr. Byrne they regarded the office as vacant and Mr. Thorpe was appointed *vive* Mr. Byrne.

Mr. Thorpe said in the circumstances he would withdraw from the Committee to allow Mr. Byrne to continue membership.

75
542

ARKLOW HARBOUR - APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE.

Under date 11th March, 1926, a letter was read from Mr. A. B. Brennan, Arklow, asking to have Mr. Michael Tyrrell, Shipbuilder, Arklow, appointed as the representative of Gorey District on Arklow Harbour Board vice Very Rev. Canon Breen P.P. resigned.

On the motion of Mr. O'Donoghue, seconded by Colonel Quin, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That Mr. Michael Tyrrell, Shipbuilder, Arklow, be appointed by the County Council as member of Arklow Harbour Board to represent Gorey District on that body, vice Very Rev Canon Breen P.P., resigned".

POISONS & PHARMACY ACT.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Sean O'Byrne, it was decided to issue to Mr. Richard Breen, Commercial Quay, Wexford, renewal of Poisons & Pharmacy Act Licence.

PRINTING RECEIPT AND DEMAND NOTES.

For the printing of Rate Collectors' Receipt and Demand Notes, the following tenders were received:-

The People Newspaper Ltd. Wexford.	£26: 5: 0d.
The Free Press Wexford	£35: 0: 0d.
J. English & Co., Wexford	£24: 0: 0

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Sean O'Byrne, the tender of Messrs J. English & Co., Wexford, at £24 (being the lowest) was accepted.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

A resolution was received from Wicklow County Council, viewing with alarm the grave danger from the possible extinction of the fishing industry which, they believed, x could be made a source of national wealth, and urging the

the Government to take such steps as would prevent a national disaster of this magnitude taking place.

Adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Sean O'Byrne.

LAND PURCHASE ANNUITIES.
=====

The following resolution was received from Longford County Council:-

"That the Land Commission be requested to extend the term of years for payment of annuities so as to reduce the annuity proportionately".

No order.

TRAVELLING EXPENSES OF MEMBERS.
=====

A resolution was received from Roscommon County Council demanding that the travelling allowances for all members should be made for the return journey at 5d per mile, or otherwise, that the members of the Oireachtas for the sake of national economy should adopt the principle as they applied it to County Councils".

No Order.

RATING OF NEW BUILDINGS ORDER.
=====

The following resolution was received from Dublin County Council:-

"That this Council is of opinion that the system of exempting New and Reconstructed Buildings, enacted by Section 69 of the Local Government Act 1925, is most inequitable, and the Council urges the Minister for Local Government to take steps to have the law altered, so that Buildings erected previous to the passing of the Act shall not be exempt from Rates".

Adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Corish.

DRIVING OF CATTLE
=====

A resolution was received from Kildare County Council

344
77

calling attention to the danger to the public constantly arising from the driving of cattle on the roads after dark, and asking the Government to promote legislation by which all drivers of cattle and sheep on public roads after the official lighting-up time of vehicles should be required to carry a conspicuous light.

No Order

MOTHERS' PENSIONS.
=====

Correspondence was submitted from the Irish Mothers' Pensions Society asking for support to their efforts to secure the establishment of State Pensions for all Necessitous widows and orphans.

No Order.

SELF PROTECTION LEAGUE & RATES.
=====

Under date 7th April, 1926, Mr. M. Parker, Secretary, Self Protection League, wrote, asking the County Council to receive a deputation from the League to further discuss the question of the rate, which the people were able to pay for the ensuing financial year.

The Chairman stated that, as this communication was not received until the morning of the meeting, the deputation would not be heard until after the disposal of the ordinary business of the Council.

Messrs Johnson Pasha, Michael Ryand and Gregory Devereux subsequently attended the meeting.

The deputation pointed out that ratepayers were not able to pay a higher rate than 6/- in the £.

The Chairman stated that it would be impossible to alter the rate now as it had been considered and agreed to and all the rate books prepared. None of the members of the deputation had been able to give particulars as to how the proposed rate of 6/- was made up.

Colonel Gibbon proposed:-

"That the Self Protection League furnish concrete proposals and suggestions in writing, and after consideration of these by the County Council, a Conference can be arranged, as requested by the Self Protection League".

The Chairman seconded.

Passed. Date of Conference to be fixed later.

Alderman Corish considered that the proposed Conference should be composed of four members of the Council, two members from the Self Protection League and two representatives of organised labour.

PRIVATE ROAD AT CORRAMACORRA.
=====

In connection with private road, commencing at a point about half ways between Kate's Cross and Kilmannon School and ending at Sunrise (Murrintown District), a deputation consisting of P. Reilly, Corramacorra and two other residents on the road came before the meeting and asked the Council to do something in connection with putting this road into repair. It was impassable at the moment, and neither priest nor doctor could visit any resident owing to its condition. It would take about £100 to put it into proper order.

After some discussion it was proposed by Mr. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Gaul, and adopted:-

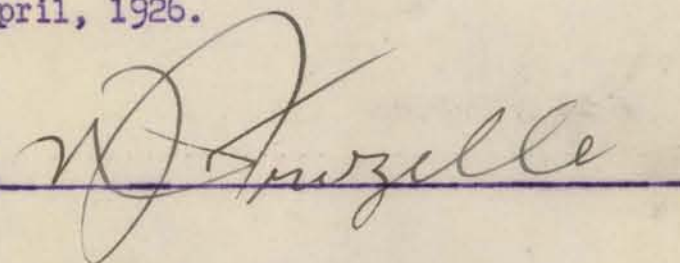
"That the County Surveyor be asked to inspect and report to meeting of Roads Committee on 26th April, 1926, on the condition of the road near Murrintown (referred to in observations from deputation at this day's meeting) giving an estimate as to the probable cost of putting it into reasonable repair. That, on considering the County Surveyor's Report, the meeting be requested to favourably entertain the proposal to request Messrs Doyle and Corish to endeavour to secure a grant from the Government to cover the probable cost".

*Mr. McCallister
May 10th 1926*

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY.
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I certify the foregoing to be a
correct record of the Minutes of Proceedings
of my County Council in respect of meeting
held on 12th April, 1926.

(Signed)



Secretary Wexford Co. Council.

Dated this 16th day of April, 1926.

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