

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

=====

MONTHLY MEETING 13TH DECEMBER, 1926.

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M I N U T E S

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N.. J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

FORTVIEW,
WEXFORD.

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

Present:- Mr. T. McCarthy (Chairman) presiding; also Colonel Gibbon, Colonel Quin, Messrs William Boggan, Patrick O'Byrne, James Clince, Michael Cloney, Patrick Colfer, John Connors, Thomas Cooney, R. Corish, Michael Doyle, James Gaul, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Michael Jordan, D. Kavanagh, Aidan Merangh, Nicholas J. Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, M. M. O'Donoghue, John Pender, Thomas Rossiter, James Shannon, William Thorpe, James E. Walsh and John White.

The Secretary, The Assistant Secretary, the County Surveyor and Dr. W. Sterling Berry of the Local Government Department were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

THE LATE MR. PATRICK GAUL.

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On the motion of Mr. Sean O'Byrne, seconded by the Chairman the following letter from Mr James Gaul, County Councillor, was ordered to be inserted on the minutes:-

"I wish to express my sincere thanks to you and the members of your Council for their kind vote of sympathy passed to me on the death of my Father, the late Patrick Gaul, R.I.P"

MINUTES OF COMMITTEES.

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Finance

The following Minutes of meeting of the Finance Committee held on 11th November, 1926, were confirmed on the motion of Mr. Sean O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Hall:-

The monthly meeting of the Finance Committee of Wexford County Council was held on 11th November 1926 in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford.

Present:- Mr Sean O'Byrne, presiding and subsequently Mr T. McCarthy, Chairman. Also Messrs P. Hayes and Wm. Thorpe.

The Secretary and Assistant Secretary were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £5101-1-2 was examined and signed.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME.

Mr Patrick Kenny, Irish Street, Bunclody, wrote in connection with University Scholarship awarded his son, John asking if the County Council would pay fee for boy while being trained as a National School Teacher and hold over Scholarship for him.

It was decided to refer the matter to next meeting of the County Council.

NEW ROSS COURTHOUSE.

Under date 6th November 1926, Mr D. Corish, District Court Clerk wrote that last Court held in Hall, New Ross was on the 4th September and the Courthouse had been used since that date. The weekly rental of A.O.H. Hall, or at least portion of it, ought now be allowed for the cleaning and dusting of the Courthouse, this arrangement to continue until the County Council take over the Courthouse and appoint a caretaker.

It was decided that tenancy of A.O.H. Hall, New Ross, which had been utilised as a Courthouse should be determined and that the Council be recommended to pay 2/6 per week for cleaning and dusting of Courthouse, which sum is also to cover the lighting of Court fires during the winter months.

GOREY COURTHOUSE.

Under date 3rd November 1926, John McLeod, Thomas St. Gorey, caretaker, Gorey Courthouse, wrote asking for permission

to order what coal would do for the District Court during the winter; he thought about three or four cwt. would do.

It was decided that Co. Surveyor should make what arrangements he thought most advisable as to supplying coal for Gorey Courthouse, keeping in mind the necessity of purchasing the smallest possible quantity until coal had become cheaper.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACTS.

Under date 1st November 1926, the following was read from Department of Industry and Commerce:-

"I am directed to inform you that a special supply of stencil plates is required immediately by the Inspector of Weights and Measures of your area, for the verification of bottles under the Standardisation of Bottles Order. Inclusive tenders for all the County Councils were invited and the lowest tender obtained was that of Mr John A. Rooney, 8 College St., Dublin, @ 27/6 per set of 12 plates. I shall be glad to have your authority to order a set.

A set of date stamps for 1927 will also be required by each Inspector on 1st January next. Tenders are being invited and we shall be glad to have your authority to accept the lowest tender. Last year's price was 6/2 per set."

The following resolution was adopted:- "That the Department of Industry and Commerce be empowered to supply stencil plates and date stamps as required by Inspectors of Weights and Measures on the terms of their letter under date 1st November 1926.

SCHEME OF SALE OF LABOURERS COTTAGES TO TENANTS.

The General Council of County Councils forwarded proposed Scheme for purchase of Labourers' cottages by tenants of same and which had been prepared by Waterford No. 1 Rural District Council.

It was decided to refer the Scheme to County Board of Health.

CO. WEXFORD INSURANCE SOCIETY.

Correspondence was read from National Health Insurance Commission complaining of the administration of above Society.

It was decided to ask Mr Hutchinson (Secretary to the Society) why he had not summoned the meeting of the Committee of Management for 11th November 1926, and also to ask Mr Elgee, Solicitor why he had not prepared new Security Bond for Mr Hutchinson.

RATE COLLECTION.

Under date 8th November 1926, Mr William Somers, Limbrick, Kilanerin, Gorey wrote complaining that though he had received a Civil Bill for rates, the Collector never called for the rates and never gave him Demand Notes. He also sent a man three times to the office of the Rate Collector but could not find him.

Mr J.J. O'Reilly wrote that he had posted Demand Notes to Mr Somers on 2nd August and had called to his place on the second Wednesday in September but found no one there. He met Mr Somers on the 2nd October in Gorey and he promised to pay on the following Tuesday. The Collector could not find anyone at home that day although the fire was lighting and the entrance door on the latch only. Collector called again on the 11th of October with the same result and left a Six Day's Notice on the dresser. On 30th October, the Collector's solicitors wrote Mr Somers that if he did not pay his rates before the 4th of November, a Civil Bill would be issued against him. He did not do so and Civil Bill was issued.

The following resolution was adopted:-

"That with regard to complaint of Mr Somers under date 8th November as to the manner in which Mr O'Reilly, Rate Collector has discharged his duty, we accept the explanation of the Collector and decline to interfere with him in his attempt to collect the rates in this case.

Under date 6th November 1926, Mr P. Donohoe, Rate Collector wrote that he had been doing his best to close his collection but he had to wait until ratepayers sold their corn to make money. He could not get money where there was none. He had proceeded in the Court, secured Examination Orders and was doing all he could to close his collection.

No Order.

On the motion of Mr. Sean O'Byrne seconded by Mr.
Hall the following minutes of meeting held on 25th November,
1926, were confirmed:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford on 25th November 1926.

Present:-Messrs E. Mernagh, P. Hayes, Sean O'Byrne, Michael Jordan and Wm Thorpe.

On the motion of Mr Mernagh seconded by Mr Hayes, the Chair was taken by Mr Sean O'Byrne.

Subsequently Mr T. McCarthy (Chairman) attended and presided for the remainder of the meeting.

The Secretary and the Co. Surveyor were in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £5055-17-7 was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION.

The following is the state of Rate Collection to 24th November 1926 showing the percentage of warrant lodged in each case:- J.J. O'Reilly 97.52: E.J. Murphy 96.98: B. Cleary 93.67: J.J. Sinnott 93.23: J. Quirke 93.20: J. Curtis 92.92: T. Rowe 91.8: J.J. Kelly 91.61: M. Deegan 90.33: S. Gannon 90.16: P. Donohoe 89.52: P. Fitzpatrick 89.01: J. Doyle 88.30: W. Cummins 88.02: M.M. Kelly 87.11: T. Sutton 86.44: P. O'Byrne 86.18: C. McCarthy 86.06: J. Cummins 85.07: P. Walsh 84.64: P.J. Furlong 72.81.

The following resolution was adopted:-

"That Collectors Joseph Cummins, Walter Cummins, Patk O'Byrne, M.M. Kelly, T. Sutton, P. Walsh, and C. McCarthy be instructed to attend next meeting of Finance Committee to be held on 9th December 1926 in order to explain why at the expiration of ten days from 11th November, they had not 90 per cent of their collections lodged as directed by County Council."

BANTRY COMMONS RATES.

In connection with the deliberations of sub-committee appointed to deal with this matter and draw up suggestions for settlement and adjustment of rates amongst the various ratepayers

using the Commons, it was decided that the Secretary communicate with Rev. D. Bolger P.P. Rathmure, Rev. J. O'Connor C.C. Templeudigan, Rev. W. Fortune C.C. Killealy and Rev. R. Talbot Rector, Killanne and request them to advise their people concerned to meet the sub-committee in order to discuss the matter with a view to a settlement.

RATE COLLECTOR DONOHUE.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That Collector Donohoe be asked for an explanation in connection with letter over his name which appeared in "The Echo" newspaper for 13th November 1926 and in which he attacked a County Councillor relative to remarks passed during a discussion on the Rate Collection at last meeting of County Council."

BONDS FOR RATE COLLECTORS.

The Secretary reported that Mr Quirke, Rate Collector had renewed his Fidelity Guarantee Bond with the Irish National Assurance Company while Collectors John J. Sinnott, John O'Reilly, M.M. Kelly, Thos Rowe, Michael Deegan, Joseph Cummins, Walter Cummins, Patrick Donohoe, John Curtis, P.J. Fitzpatrick had entered into bonds with the New Ireland Assurance Co. The latter forwarded cover notes for P. Walsh and E.J. Murphy.

(Collector J.J. Kelly wrote that he had transferred to New Ireland Assurance Co. and was covered by them at present.)

With the exception of Bernard Cleary, the bonds of the other Collectors were not due for renewal.

Under date 20th November 1926, Mr Cleary wrote that he was not able to pay the premium on his bond until he received payment of poundage. He said he intended taking out bond with New Ireland Assurance Co. for which he was agent.

The Secretary stated that several of the Collectors had written that their reason for changing to new Company was because they would save 9/- in amount of premium. They were of opinion that no objection would be raised by the County Council to the change as a bond from the New Ireland Company had been

accepted by the County Council for John Doyle Rate Collector.

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

"That as Rate Collectors who have forwarded Fidelity Guarantee bonds or cover notes from New Ireland Assurance Company have transferred their guarantees from Irish National Assurance Co. to the New Ireland Assurance Company without the previous permission of the County Council, we decline to accept ^{said} bonds or cover notes, and direct the Rate Collectors concerned to renew existing bonds with the Irish National Assurance Co. by 6th December next. When Rate Collectors desire to change their guaranteeing Company they must make application in good time before expiration of existing bonds for consent of the County Council to such transfer. That we call on Mr Bernard Cleary to forward forthwith receipt for Fidelity Guarantee bond as Rate Collector."

HABITABLE VACANT HOUSES.

The Rate Collectors furnished by instructions of Finance Committee lists of habitable houses in their districts and which were at present vacant.

It was decided that these lists be circulated amongst County Councillors for their observations.

EX-RATE COLLECTOR P. J. SINNOTT.

Messrs McDonagh & Boland, Insurance Brokers, forwarded the following letter under date 15th November 1926 from Irish National Assurance Company relative to the claim of Mr Philip J. Furlong, temporary Rate Collector, for remuneration for work of waiting on ratepayers, etc. in connection with default of P.J. Sinnott ex-Rate Collector:-

"We beg to acknowledge receipt of your favour of the 13th inst enclosing communication from Mr Frizelle. We regret we cannot see our way to accede to Mr Furlong's request as according to conditions of the bond, any salary or commission which but for the acts of embezzlement would have become payable by the employer to the employed must be deducted from the amount payable in respect of the claim."

The Finance Committee considered they could do nothing further in the matter. They decided, however, to point out to Mr Furlong that he was receiving poundage at the rate of 7d in the £, whereas John Doyle, the other Rate Collector appointed this year by the Council was only receiving 6d in the £.

Messrs McDonagh & Boland, 51 Dame Street, Dublin, Insurance Brokers forwarded the following letter under date 15th November 1926 from the Irish National Assurance Company in connection with claim of Michael Breen, Ballyharty, Bridgetown that he had paid his rates to Sinnott:-

"With reference to your favour of the 12th inst enclosing letter from Mr Sheridan in connection with disallowance of £23-19-9 in the case of M. Breen, we beg to state that the matter has been fully gone into by Mr Fitzgerald, and as no tangible proof can be produced by Mr Breen we cannot alter our Investigator's decision.

No Order.

CARETAKING TEMPORARY COURTHOUSE.

Under date 18th November 1926, the following was read from Mrs McNally, County Courtkeeper:-

"In connection with what appeared in the local papers re courtkeeper, perhaps I should write you saying I have always been, and am still anxious to fulfil my duties as such, and I offered to carry them on with the present temporary Court but the County Surveyor prevented me."

The County Surveyor stated that as there was a caretaker in the Old Jail, he did not consider he should allow Mrs McNally to have anything to say to the temporary Court which was being held in the Old Jail without directions from the Sheriff and the County Council.

After discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Thorpe seconded by Mr Mernagh:-

"That Mrs McNally be instructed to carry out her duties as Courtkeeper in regard to temporary Court which has been arranged for in old Jail premises- this to include lighting of stove for Court and fires for Court offices."

PROPERTY (COMPENSATION) ACT.

Under date 12th November 1926, the Secretary Local Government Department wrote (DB 32) that contributions payable by the Wexford County Council to the Exchequer under Section 14 of the Damage to Property (Compensation) Act 1923 in regard to the years 1924-25, 1925-26, and 1926-27 had not been paid. This matter should be brought specially to the notice of the Council with a view to having a payment made without delay.

A resolution was adopted that County Council should forward Paying Order for £4941-6-3 as a payment on account.

COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE.

Under date 12th November 1926, the following was read from Miss J. M. Walsh, County Librarian:-

"On Wednesday evening I discovered that a cash box which I had in the office in which there was £10 was missing. This money was all of the subscriptions that I have received from the Wexford centre since it was opened and also for some books that were replaced. I have notified the Guards about it but so far they have not been able to trace it. Should it not turn up, I will only have to make good the loss myself. I will call up in the morning and give you full details of the matter."

The following resolution was adopted:-

"That Miss Walsh, County Librarian, be instructed to supply a full statement of the circumstances relative to missing cash-box, also detailed statement of receipts making up the missing £10, setting out date on which each item was received."

Under date 26th October 1926, Miss Walsh, Co. Librarian wrote:- "Regarding the Booksellers' bills, all of these have been passed except those in Days' and Boots' bills. Books must be purchased from these Libraries immediately the second-hand list is issued, as otherwise it would not be possible to take advantage of the reduced prices. These, however, I will submit in due course to the Book Selection Committee."

The following resolution was adopted:- "That with reference to her letter of 26th October 1926, Miss Walsh, Co. Librarian

be asked for report of Book Selection Committee relative to bills of Messrs Day and Boot."

DUTIES OF LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

At the meeting of County Council on 8th November 1926, it was decided to ask the Finance Committee to draw up list of duties, powers, etc. of County Library Committee and submit same to the County Council for approval.

In accordance with this the Finance Committee recommend that Library Committee should be entrusted with the management, regulation and control of the Library as set out under Section 12 of the Public Libraries Act(Ireland)1855(18 & 19 Vic.cap.40) always excepting the power of employment and dismissal of officers which the County Council retain in their own hands.

Direction is given in circular letter of Local Government Board under date 2nd May 1904(copy of which is in the hands of County Librarian)as to how certain duties of Library Committee are to be performed. The provisions of this circular letter are approved by Finance Committee. It would appear from this that Library Committee should hold meetings from time to time for the purpose of examining accounts of expenditure incurred by them and certifying the same for payment by the County Council. These accounts, in accordance with the instructions in the Circular letter, should be entered on a list by the Librarian, which list having been totalled, the Chairman and two members of the Committee must sign a request thereon to the County Council asking that the several sums specified may be paid(the total amount being also named) to the persons mentioned. This list with the accounts must then be forwarded to the Secretary, County Council at least two clear days before that appointed for the holding of the Finance meeting at which it is desired the payments should be made.

The Committee, according to this circular, should take care not to incur any large or unusual expenditure without the sanction of the Council and should be specially careful that no liabilities are incurred which would cause expenditure during

the year larger than would be covered by the produce of a half-penny rate on the County.

Further, according to this Circular, all miscellaneous receipts must be accounted for by the Librarian at stated periods not exceeding one month and must be lodged within that period by the Secretary of the Committee with the Treasurer of the Council for credit of the account of the Council.

The Finance Committee further recommend:-

That Library Committee arrange centres to which books are to be furnished.

Through their Book Selection Committee they will obtain ~~apart~~ particulars of the various volumes which are to be added to stock. In no circumstances will County Council pay bills for books without a certificate signed by members of Book Selection Committee that they have approved of purchase of various items in these accounts~~accounts~~. There should be no real difficulty in summoning Book Selection Committee to deal with purchase of books.

The Librarian is to furnish monthly report to County Council on the working of the Library to include particulars of any meetings which have been held in the meantime, a statement of receipts and expenditure since previous report, names of new ~~new~~ centres participating in Scheme, and of centres which have dropped out, with any further matters which it is desirable to be brought to the notice of the County Council.

LIBRARY CONFERENCE.

The following under date 15th November 1926, was read from Miss Walsh, Co. Librarian:- "Regarding the Library Conference in London, I will be able to leave Miss Doyle with sufficient work to keep her going until I get back. She has picked up everything exceptionally well and understands exactly what she is doing. Would you let me know if it will be in order for me to travel by Kingstown as all the other Librarians are going by that route. Otherwise it will mean me travelling by Rosslare and being all the way to London alone which would not be very pleasant. Of course going by Kingstown will mean extra fare of

about 34/-.

Regarding the missing cash-box, the Guards on Saturday were on the track of one man ~~named~~ whom they suspected and in whose house they found a cash-box similar to mine, but as I was not able to swear to it that it was mine, they could not take any action. However, they are keeping him under observation."

The following resolution was adopted:-

"That Miss Walsh, Co. Librarian be informed that County Council will be responsible only for fare from Wexford to London and return via Rosslare."

RECONSTRUCTION GOREY COURTHOUSE.

The Secretary reported that compensation amounting to £2515 with £76 for furniture had been granted by the Judge for destruction of Gorey Courthouse.

The following Committee of the County Council with the County Surveyor were appointed to meet on 2nd December at 11 a.m. at Courthouse site at Gorey:- Messrs Sean O'Byrne, P.O'Byrne, John Pender, M.M. O'Donoghue, James Hall and Col Quin.

ENGINEER'S CLAIM.

Claim from Mr G. Flood, Engineer to County Board of Health for payment of £152-9-3 being 1½% on an outlay of £5816-6-10 for cottage scheme was submitted and ^{on} £4348-1-5 for Ferns Water-works.

It was decided that the correspondence in this matter be submitted to Local Government Department for observations. Also that Mr A.A. Connolly, Clerk to late Enniscorthy R.D. Council be requested to submit copy of original appointment of Mr Gerald Flood as Engineer to Rural District Council of Enniscorthy.

COUNTY WEXFORD INSURANCE SOCIETY.

Under date 9th November 1926, letter (E 13344/26) was read from National Health Insurance Commission as to administration of the above.

The Chairman said it was not necessary to make any order in regard to this matter at present. There was a proposal to be considered by a general meeting of the members of the Society to transfer to Trade and Labour Society, and until that had been disposed of, the matter could remain in abeyance.

The following Minutes of Finance Committee of 9th
December, 1926, were also submitted:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford on 9th December 1926.

Present, In the Chair, Mr T. McCarthy (Chairman), also Messrs Aidan Mernagh, Patrick Hayes, Sean O'Byrne and Wm. Thorpe.

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £4025-1-9 was examined and signed.

NEXT MEETING OF COMMITTEE.

It was decided that next meeting of the Committee would be held on 22nd December (Wednesday) so that the Road and Quarry workers of the Council would have their wages in time to prepare for Christmas.

RATE COLLECTION.

In connection with the proposed transfer of Rate Collectors' Fidelity Guarantee Bonds from Irish National Assurance Company to New Ireland Assurance Co., the Secretary stated that Messrs B. Cleary, J.J. Sinnott, J.J. O'Reilly, P. J. Fitzpatrick and J. Quirke had renewed with the Irish National Co. Cover Notes or Bonds had been received from the ~~IRISH~~ New Ireland Company for the following:-

M. M. Kelly, E.J. Murphy, J. Curtis, P. Walsh, T. Rowe, W. Cummins, J. Cummins, P. Donohoe, J.J. Kelly, M. Deegan, P. O'Byrne.

Insurances in the cases of the remaining Collectors were not due.

The following letter under date 1st December 1926 was read from Mr J. Cummins, Rate Collector:-

"I was speaking to Mr T. McCarthy, C.M.C.C. in connection with your letter re Fidelity Bonds. I told him we had all arrangements made with New Ireland Assurance Company before we got your letter and also we were not aware it was necessary to inform Co.

paid 16 16.

"Council about the change of Company. We had ~~paid~~ our money which meant a saving of nine shillings, also I had sent you a Cover Note for four Collectors which meant the Council were covered against fraud from that date. He told me the Finance Committee were not satisfied with the terms of the Bond, but he thought the matter would be set right. As it seems to be necessary, I now make application on behalf of Collectors to change Guarantee Company so as to fulfil L.G.D. formality."

Mr T. M. Russell, Inspector of the Irish National Co, came before the meeting and pointed out that his Company had been guaranteeing the Collectors since 1923. During that time the Council had no complaint of the manner in which the Society had carried on their business with the Council. As late as last month they had paid over £443-5-9 owing to the default of one of the Council's Collectors without raising any unnecessary question or putting forward any technicality. If there was no further default it would take the Company years to recoup themselves ~~the~~ through the payments of Rate Collectors for this one default. They were a Tariff Company with the greatest possible protection in the way of security. The Company in which some of the Rate Collectors proposed to insure was a non-tariff Company.

The Chairman said the County Council had no fault to find with the Irish National Company and it was hard lines in view of the large payment they were obliged to make recently to the County Council that they should lose the Rate Collectors' Insurance, but if the Collectors desired to transfer to another Company, the Council could scarcely prevent them provided the new Company was on the Government's approved list. The matter was still in abeyance and would be decided by the County Council at the meeting on the 13th inst.

In connection with Fidelity Guarantee Bond of Mr C. McCarthy, premium for which expired on 4th December, it was decided to direct Mr McCarthy to renew his present Bond.

STATE OF THE RATE COLLECTION.

The following shows the collection of first moiety of Rate 1926-27 up to and including 7th December 1926:-

J.J.O'Reilly 99.25: E.J. Murphy 96.44: J. Quirke 95.10:
B. Cleary 94.78: J. Curtis 94.73: J.J. Sinnott 94: P.J. Fitzpatrick
93.50: J.J.Kelly 93.30: T. Rowe 93.01: S. Gannon 92.81: P.Donohoe
92.40: M.Deegan 91.98: W. Cummins 91.33: M.M.Kelly 91.03: J.Doyle
90.72: P.O'Byrne 90.33: J. Cummins 90.09: C. McCarthy 90.02:
T. Sutton 88.65: P.Walsh 88.26: P. J. Furlong 77.96.

Messrs W.Cummins, M.M.Kelly, P. O'Byrne, J. Cummins, Chas McCarthy, T. Sutton, and P. Walsh had been summoned to the meeting to explain the backward condition of their collection.

Mr W.Cummins said he had more trouble getting in money this year than he ever had previously owing to its scarcity. Nine or ten ratepayers who owed large amounts were waiting payment for sugar beet, but others said they could not pay until they set their grass in the Spring. He had a number of summonses for hearing at next District Sessions. People who were in difficulties the same as in previous years would not pay except through the Courts. He had visited all the defaulters and had written them at different times. He did not believe they were able to pay: it was poverty which was keeping them back. He expected he would be able to get all outstanding arrears except £100, taking his irrecoverables at £10. People in most cases had stock on their lands but he had not made any seizures. All his Demand Notes had been served in July. He did not know why the Sheriff had not seizures effected where decrees had been given and where stock was on the lands. He had had returns of "no goods" from the Sheriff and was satisfied that the returns in question were genuine.

The Chairman suggested that Mr Cummins should, instead of going to Court, use the power under his own warrant and seize stock found on lands in respect of which rates had not been paid.

Mr M.M. Kelly said he found it impossible to get in outstanding rates. He had a big list of defaulters in the hands

of his solicitor for the past six weeks but nothing had been done about bringing them to Court, the reason given being that the proper forms for Court proceedings had not been available till lately. There was over £100 rates due on two items in his district, one of the places would be sold soon and he expected the rates would then be paid. There was no one in his district who had refused to pay: in fact there was no one who could pay and had not done so except in the case of some weekly tenants, against three of whom he had applied for Committal Orders. He was surprised to find that the only man proceeded against on Committal Order was a man out of employment and he could not understand why proceedings had not been taken against the other two. He wished to know who would bear the cost of Court proceedings in cases in which Committal Orders were obtained. He thought it was too much to expect that Rate Collectors ~~EXAM~~ would be responsible for costs in connection with summons, examination order and decree. He had never seized under his warrant.

P. Walsh said he could not get in outstanding rates in spite of his best efforts. He had a heavy list of defaulters coming before next Court. He never seized under his warrant. Any ratepayer who had the money was paying. Nearly all outstanding amounts were under decree.

T. Sutton said that some of the ratepayers in his district were waiting a settlement for beet ~~infers~~ to pay their rates: others were waiting to set their grass. He expected to get £300 of what was still out but had no hope of the balance of £150. One of the defaulters was James Hayden of Corlican who acted as Sheep Dipping Inspector for the County Council.

It was decided to inform Mr Hayden that unless he paid his rates, the Finance Committee would recommend the County Council not to renew his appointment as Sheep Dipping Inspector next year.

In reply to the Chairman, Mr Sutton said he had never made any seizure under his own warrant.

Mr McCarthy said he expected to be able to get about 4% more of his outstanding rates. One item in his district which could not be recovered was £100 for vacant Cement Works at Drinagh.

He was unable to attend to duty for two months in the early part of the year owing to a motor accident but he had all his Demand Notes served by the first week in September.

J. Cummins said that he knew intimately all ratepayers whose rates were outstanding and they were not able to pay. People were asking him to accept rates in halves,- a thing that never happened before in his district. This year was worse than last year so far as rate collecting went and next year would be worse still. He had had no decrees executed in his district. He got an instalment order in one case but it was no use. He never seized under his warrant.

P. O'Byrne said he expected to get another 5% of his collection: there would be only £12 or £14 wholly irrecoverable. He had no decrees but intended applying for some. He had never made any seizure under his own warrant.

There was no discussion on the statements of the collectors.

PAYMENT OF POUNDAGE.

Mr James Quirke, Rate Collector wrote under date 6th. December 1926 that the Rate Collectors of the Council were anxious to have payment of their poundage sanctioned before Christmas, and had instructed him to request that the matter should be brought before the Finance Committee.

A similar letter~~s~~ was read from Mr J.J. O'Reilly on behalf of himself and the three other collectors of Gorey district.

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

"That 60% of poundage fees be paid to rate collectors who have collected 95% of their collection and that 50% be paid to rate collectors who have collected less than 95% of the total amount of their warrants."

EXPLANATION FROM RATE COLLECTOR.

In connection with the resolution of the Finance Committee asking Collector P. Donohoe for an explanation of his

action in attacking Col Quin, County Councillor, through the medium of a letter in the "Echo" newspaper of the 20th November 1926, the following letter, under date 3rd December 1926, was read from Mr Donohoe:-

"In reply to your letter of 27th inst re resolution of your Finance Committee, in connection with letter which appeared over my name in the "Echo" for 20th November 1926 in which I made reference to remarks made by Col Quin at last meeting of your ~~RM~~ Council during a discussion on the Rate Collection.

Col Quin made use of a remark which he had no right to make. He suggested that the Council get decent man to collect what I, as one of the party concerned could not get. I am working for ~~th~~ Council six or seven years and for other different public bodies for the past ten years. No member of any of those bodies ever had any reflection to cast on me until Col Quin thought well of doing so. Seeing by ~~his remarks that~~ the report that Col Quin did not give his remarks much consideration, I claim in justice to myself that I had a perfect right to make my position clear as anyone reading the report of the discussion on rate collection would think I was not a fit person to be entrusted with public money. I have done my duty to the Council to the best of my ability and I have done nothing to be afraid or ashamed of, nor anything, I would like to tell Col Quin, that made me indecent. I have done my best to get in the rates and the least I would expect is fair play from any member of the Council. I respectfully offer this as my explanation and I am prepared to stand by anything I have said or done."

It was decided to refer the matter to the Co. Council.

CLAIM BY MR GERALD FLOOD, ENGINEER
COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH.

Under date 1st December 1926, the following letter (P. H. 55708/26) Wexford B.H. & P.A. was read:-

"In reply to your letter of the 27th ultimo, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to return

"He drew with the File in connection with the claim of Mr Gerald Flood, and to state that the Minister's letter of the 18th September last is correctly quoted in the letter of the 9th ultimo from the Secretary of the Board of Health.

The case appears to present no difficulty except possibly in the matter of time in regard to which the Minister is prepared to afford facilities for a settlement of the claim.

I am, however, to point out that the terms of Mr Flood's appointment must be held to include payment for his services in connection with the erection of Labourers' Cottages, and the proposed payment of 1½% on the outlay on the Cottage Scheme cannot therefore be sanctioned."

The Secretary read letter under date 27th November 1926 to Mr A.A. Connolly, Clerk to late Enniscorthy R.D. Council asking for original terms and conditions of the appointment of Mr Flood. These had not yet been received.

It was decided to adjourn the further consideration of the matter until Mr Connolly had supplied the terms and conditions of Mr Flood's appointment as Engineer to the Enniscorthy R.D. Council.

COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE.

Under date 6th December 1926, the following was read from Miss Walsh, County Librarian:-

"In reply to your letter of the 29th November re Finance Committee's resolution of the 25th ult, the following is a report of the occurrence:-

"The missing cash-box was locked in a press in the Office. It contained all the subscriptions to the Wexford Centre from February up to 15th October 1926, amounting to £12-6-0 and also 8/6 for books lost and replaced. It was not until I went to the press on the 10th November that I found it missing. I immediately notified the Guards, and they did everything in their power to try and trace it but so far have been unsuccessful.

What makes matters worse and more difficult is that the box may have been missing for some time before I detected it. In one case, the Guards became rather suspicious but as I was

"unable to identify the cash-box produced, and they themselves had not sufficient evidence that he stole it, they had to let the man off. I have never at any time noticed any signs of burglary, and yet it cannot have happened during office hours.

In the opinion of the Guards, it has been taken by someone who at some time noticed the cash-box in the press, as the doors of the press are of muffed glass and it would have been possible to see the box through the glass.

I enclose a list of the receipts."

The following resolution was adopted:-

"That Miss Walsh, County Librarian be called upon to lodge £11-16-6 of the missing £12-14-6 stolen from Library premises. The amount received in October 1925, viz, 18/- might reasonably have been in her hands ^{unlodged} at the time the money was taken."

TRANSFER OF ROAD MONEY.

Mr John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor wrote under date 6th. December 1926 for transfer of £20 from a/c 30W to a/c 26W and Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor wrote applying for the transfer of £55 from a/c A to a/c D. Wexford District and £70 from a/c K to a/c E Wexford District.

The transfers asked for by Messrs Kehoe and Birthistle were agreed to.

APPLICATION FOR INCREMENTS

Messrs J.F. Birthistle and Thomas Cullen, Assistant Surveyors applied for the increment to their salaries as per the conditions of their appointments.

The County Surveyor stated that both officers were giving satisfaction in the discharge of their duties.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hayes:- "That annual increments of £5 be agreed to in the case of Messrs J.F. Birthistle and T. Cullen, Assistant Surveyors, as per the terms and conditions of their employment, that this increment in Mr Birthistle's case start as from 1st April 1925 and in the case of Mr Cullen from 7th May 1925, dates to which last increments were brought up in each case."

IMMORAL LITERATURE.

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

"That the importation and circulation of irreligious and filthy literature is a grave menace to the morality of our people and that we request the Government to pass immediate legislation to prevent their corruption by this insidious and immoral propagandism."

LEAVE OF ABSENCE - COUNTY SECRETARY.

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

"That our Secretary be granted the necessary leave of absence to enable him to attend Conference of County Secretaries with Officers of Local Government Department in connection with proposed changes in Public Bodies' Order, 1925."

Mr. Sean O'Byrne proposed and Mr. Patrick O'Byrne seconded
 "That the Minutes of meeting of Finance Committee of 9th December, 1926, be confirmed."

Increment of Mr. T. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor.

Colonel Quin asked to be taken as disagreeing with the recommendation that increment in his salary be given to Mr. T. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, as he believed from what he knew himself and from the discussions which had taken place in connection with Clonhaston Gullet that it would be found that Mr. Cullen had not given satisfaction in the discharge of his duties.

Mr. O'Donoghue also complained that the by-roads in the district of Blackwater were in a disgraceful condition.

The County Surveyor stated that in his opinion Mr. Cullen had given satisfactory service.

Mr. Boggan proposed and Mr. O'Donoghue seconded:- "That the recommendation of Finance Committee to allow an increment of £5

to Mr. Thomas Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, be dissented from as in the opinion of this Council Mr. Cullen has not discharged his duties satisfactorily".

Mr. Hall proposed that the recommendation of the Finance Committee relative to increment to Mr. T. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, be adjourned in order that Mr. Cullen might submit a report as to the condition of the roads in Blackwater district to next meeting of the Roads Committee.

Mr. Mernagh seconded.

On a show of hands 13 were found to be in favour of adjourning the matter to meeting of Roads Committee and 11 against.

The Chairman then put Mr. Hall's amendment to the meeting when it was passed nem.con.

Fidelity Guarantee Bonds of Rate Collectors.

Mr. Patrick O'Byrne proposed that Rate Collectors of the Conty Council be allowed to transfer their Fidelity Guarantee Bonds into New Ireland Assurance Company, subject to this Company issuing a bond similar to that given by them to John Doyle, recently elected Be Collector of the Council.

In moving this motion he said that collectors might have made a slight mistake in not applying to the County Council for permission in the first instance, but they did not consider it necessary.

Mr. Clince seconded.

A poll was taken on Mr. P. O'Byrne's resolution with the following result:-

For:- Messrs P. O'Byrne, Clince, Colfer, J. Connors, T. Cooney, Corish, M. Doyle, J. Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Kavanagh, Mernagh, Murphy, Pender, Rossiter, Shannon, Colonel Gibbon and the Chairman - 18.

Against Messrs M. Cloney, Jordan, S. O'Byrne, O'Donoghue, White and Colonel Quin - 6.

Messrs Boggan and Walsh did not vote.

The Chairman declared Mr. P. O'Byrne's motion carried.

The Secretary mentioned that he had received on the 1th December, 1926, a communication from the Local Government

Department (56951/1926 Miscellaneous) dealing with poundage to Rate Collectors and Fidelity Guarantee Bonds.

The considered opinion of the Finance Committee on this matter ~~on this matter~~ would come up on minutes of next meeting of the Committee.

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

"That Minutes of Finance Committee of 9th December, 1926, except recommendations dealing with increment of £5 to Mr. Thomas Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, and Fidelity Guarantee Bonds of Rate Collectors be confirmed. "

Adopted.

Roads Committee

Minutes of Special meeting of Roads Committee held on 10th November, 1926, were submitted as follows:-

A special meeting of the Roads Committee of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, on 10th November 1926, to confer with Mr Quigley, Chief Roads Engineer, Local Government Department in connection with preparation of specification for work on Enniscorthy-Wexford Road to be executed under National Road Grant.

The following were in attendance:-

Col Gibbon, (Vice-Chairman) presiding, Col Quin, and Mr Sean O'Byrne.

The County Surveyor, the Secretary and Mr Quigley of Local Government Department were also in attendance.

The Chairman raised the point as to closing this road to heavy traffic when reconstruction was being carried out.

Mr Quigley said the road could be closed in sections as work proceeded. In view of the money allowed for the road he thought the Council could not do better than arrange for a contract for bituminous macadam. If any money, over and above the Grant, was saved on contract it would be held for the County.

The Chairman mentioned that, if with a slight increase in capital expenditure, the side drainage could be properly treated, it might secure a reduction in the annual upkeep.

Mr Quigley did not apprehend that any percolation from surface side drains would take place. However, when the final specification was being considered, this matter could be dealt with so far as the money would allow. The County Council would be quite safe in leaving these matters to the Co. Surveyor. If more progress was not made with the preliminary work they might have to obtain a contract to finish it.

The Chairman said it might be possible to have culverts laid in cement so that they could be cleaned with rods instead of tearing up the surface whole road should it be necessary to do any work at these drains. In connection with drains sunk to an appreciable depth, a man-hole could be provided. As regards haulage, it might be possible to have light railway laid to save the cutting of the road.

Mr Quigley said that very little damage had been done in Dublin and it was not advisable to hamper the contractor with too many restrictions. If excessive damage was done by haulage, a case could be put up to the Department and it would receive very careful consideration. They would have the County Surveyor made responsible for the proper carrying out of the work.

The County Surveyor stated that the preliminary work would not be finished until Christmas.

It was then decided that specification would be considered and advertisement issued from January meeting of the County Council and to provide that the work should begin in March or April.

In reply to Col Gibbon, Mr Quigley said he was not satisfied with the cost of Direct Labour in Wexford; it was terribly expensive more so than in other counties.

The County Surveyor said that in other counties the roads had good foundations; in Wexford the surface was poor and the bottoming so bad that considerable outlay took place to make good foundations. Haulage also ran away with a great deal of money.

Mr Quigley said that Wexford roads did not compare favourably with those in neighbouring counties. They were not, generally speaking, up to the standard of the Leinster Counties. There was a fairly good road between Arklow and Gorey, but the rest of the road between Wexford and Dublin in the Wexford section was bumpy and bad.

The Chairman proposed and Mr. P. O'Byrne seconded the the Minutes be confirmed.

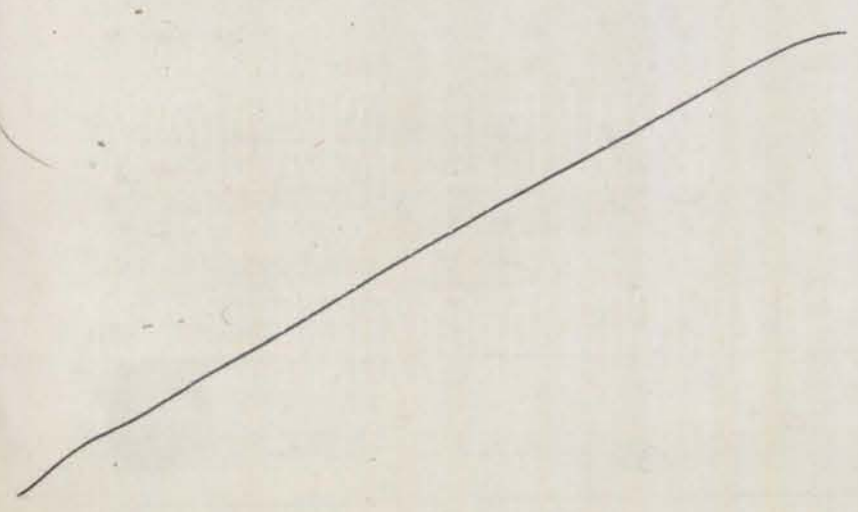
In reply to Mr. Corish the County Surveyor said the preliminary work in relation to the proposed improvement of Wexford-Enniscorthy road would be finished before the end of the present month. All necessary particulars would be ready in order to issue the advertisement for contractors at the January meeting.

The County Surveyor also stated that he would consult with Mr. Quigley, Local Government Engineer, on the 15th instant relative to the question as to whether it was advisable that the reconstruction of Wexford-Enniscorthy road should be carried out in bitumenous macadam or in concrete.

Colonel Gibbon said the County Surveyor should bear in mind the advisability of having a move made to allow the Drinagh Cement Works to be re-started, as in view of the decision of the Government to deal with all the Trunk Roads, sufficient work could be obtained for the Cement Works to keep them going for a considerable time.

The resolution of the Chairman relative to the confirmation of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Roads Committee as above, was then put and passed.

Minutes of the Roads Committee of 22nd November, 1926, were submitted as follows:-



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

Present, Col Gibbon, Vice-Chairman (presiding), Also Messrs Sean O'Byrne, James Hall, William Boggan, Patrick Colfer, Ml Cloney, R. Corish and Col Quin.

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Letter was read from the Chairman (Mr T. McCarthy) apologising for his inability to attend the meeting.

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The following report was submitted from the Co. Surveyor:-

"At present I have in preparation Estimate for the coming year and shall submit the figures to the Finance Committee on the 25th instant.

Some time ago, attention was drawn by the County Council to Direct Labour workers being interested in road contracts, and I have made inquiries in regard to this. There are a few cases in which labourers are, or possibly may be, interested in contracts and I shall submit details of these to the meeting.

Mr Birthistle reports to me that a man named John Doyle is erecting a wooden hut on a plot adjoining the public road, 100W. The site is within the statutable limits and the plot is unfenced from the road. I do not think that there could be any objection to allowing the building to go on as the road is of very little consequence, little more than a boreen.

On the 3rd inst, the representative of "Anti-Fyre Extinguishers" attended in Wexford and gave a demonstration showing the possibility of dealing with Film fires. I am satisfied that the extinguisher would be effective in the early stages of a fire and enable the film to be removed or otherwise dealt with to prevent spreading. I believe that most ordinary fire extinguishers would be effective in this manner, but I hardly expect that any would control a big fire.

"I was directed by the Council to report on the increased cost that would be entailed if gangers working on Grant work were allowed an extra remuneration of 1/- per week while so engaged. At no time would there be more than six gangers engaged on such work, and the period over which they would be employed would be from 20 to 25 weeks or so in the year, so that the increased cost would amount only to from £6 to £10 per annum.

As directed by the Council, I ordered anthracite coal from the Castlecomer Collieries. I am informed that delivery cannot be made sooner than 10 or 11 weeks owing to the heavy booking abroad. Mr Scallan (County Registrar) complains of not having coal for the stove in his office, but I find it impossible to obtain coal. The only alternative I see is to provide oil or gas stove.

I received from the makers, the sign posts ordered a good while ago, but the signs to be supplied by the Automobile Association have not yet come to hand. I shall immediately have some of the posts erected in each Assistant's district, but I cannot deal with this matter fully until I have the signs.

I have written to the Engineer of the Railway Company with reference to maintenance of the roadway on the over rail bridges, on main roads in the Urban areas, and have an acknowledgment. The Secretary of the Railway Company is to reply direct to me giving particulars, but I have not yet received this.

Mr Treanor reports to me that Ahare Bridge, on Road 81G, is reported to be in a dangerous condition but owing to floods in the river he is not yet able to make full inspection. I shall deal with this matter as soon as possible, and if I find immediate work necessary, I ask for authority to proceed with it. I expect that the cost will be up to £75, but until the full inspection is made I cannot definitely estimate.

I have arranged with Messrs Stafford to obtain 30 tons of coal for our engines, and am allocating this to the most important works, namely on Grants. The other works have to be closed down for the present.

"I have a letter from Mr Delap in reference to the repair of Ferrycarrig Bridge, and he expects to let me have full report at once. He states that the problem is a difficult one and I expect the cost will be high.

On the 19th inst, I took Mr Elgee to Verona Bridge and we had an interview with Mr McCarthy, owner of the adjoining land. Mr Elgee will submit full report. Mr McCarthy complained that the recent work accentuated the flooding of his land, and I have arranged to block the hole at the river, where the flooding is reported to have come in. Also it will be necessary to get the owner of the mill-dam to make good same and prevent leakage, on to road so as to reduce the water coming to Mr McCarthy's land and lodging on the foundation of our own retaining wall. I ask for authority to proceed against owner of the mill-dam if necessary, and to carry out other small works required."

Direct Labour Employees as Road Contractors.

The County Surveyor mentioned in connection with this matter, that Michael Cooney, Grange, Killanne, who was employed under the Direct Labour Scheme, had two road contracts, viz, 341E and 357E. Cooney was willing to surrender these or make any other arrangement to satisfy the County Council so as to enable him to work under the Direct Labour Scheme.

The father of John Dempsey (junior) of Davidstown, also a Direct Labour worker, held contracts for 301E and 302E.

The Chairman considered that a direction should be given that when letting road contracts, no man who had obtained a contract would be eligible for employment under Direct Labour Schemes.

After some discussion, the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Sean O'Byrne seconded by Col Quin:-

"That in future no man who holds a road contract be employed under Direct Labour Scheme.

Hut on Road 100W.

In connection with this matter, a report was read from Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor that John Doyle who was an Old Age Pensioner was erecting a wooden hut ~~22x~~ 23' 6" x 10' 4" on the side

of this fourth class road leading from Aughnagroath to turn near Barry's Cross. From figures furnished by Mr Birthistle, the distance from the centre of the road to the wall of the adjacent structure was only 14' 6". The road was an unimportant one, and there were many existing houses on it which were also quite close to the road. Taking the whole facts into consideration, Mr Birthistle recommended the Council to view the matter favourably.

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

"That the County Council be recommended not to interfere with the erection of wooden hut by John Doyle on Road 100W, as the Roads Committee consider its erection will not in any way interfere with public convenience?"

Gangers on Grant Work.

Mr Corish considered that an increase of 5/- per week should be given to these men for the extra work they had to perform in supervising the additional number of men and also in filling up two sets of time sheets.

The Chairman said that it had been definitely proved that Grant work would entail the supervision of double or treble the ordinary number of men employed in each Road section.

Mr Corish said the Labour members of the Council would agree to an increase of 2/6 per week to gangers when employed at Grant work if the meeting was unanimous. The Council should remember that overtime was paid for at a much higher rate than ordinary work.

Mr Boggan pointed out that when the position was first considered these men were aware that Grant work would entail extra supervision, etc. If the Council had any money to spare they should give it to men who were out of employment.

The County Surveyor mentioned that £5 would cover the amount to be given this year in this connection.

Mr Cloney believed that where the number of men to be supervised was below 15, the increase should not be paid.

After further discussion Mr Corish proposed, Mr Colfer seconded and it was passed nem.con.:—"That gangers when employed at Grant work and supervising a number of men above 15 shall receive an extra 2/6 remuneration per week as from 20th November 1926, but this increase is not to apply to County work. That the County Council requests the Department of Local Government to sanction this proposal."

Heating of County Registrar's Office.

The County Surveyor was instructed to procure oil stove for office of the County Registrar, and when coal is available to dispose of this stove.

Maintenance Overline Railway Bridges.

Consideration of this matter was adjourned for reply from Railway Engineer.

Ahare Bridge.

This matter was adjourned for report after further inspection by Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor.

Coal Supply.

The County Surveyor stated that with the exception of two tons, he was keeping the supply of coal he had received to carry out work on the Enniscorthy-Wexford road.

Ferrycarrig Bridge.

The County Surveyor read a long letter which he had received from Mr Delap in connection with this matter.

It was decided that as this communication had only just reached the County Surveyor, he should furnish a full report thereon to next meeting of the Roads Committee.

Verona Bridge.

It was decided that this matter be considered on report from Mr Elgee, Solicitor to the County Council.

RECONSTRUCTION OF WEXFORD COURTHOUSE.

Under date 9th November 1926, the following letter (404/296) was read from the Department of Finance:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Finance to refer to

"previous correspondence in regard to the disposal of the conditional award of £5000 made by the Compensation(Ireland)Commission in respect of the partial destruction of the Wexford Courthouse in June, 1921, and to state that the proposals made by the County Council in regard to the conversion of the disused gaol have now been carefully considered.

I am to inform you that, while the Minister does not desire to express an opinion on the relative merits of the alternative sites, he is not satisfied that the circumstances are such as to justify any departure from the normal practice of requiring a rigid adherence to the terms of an award made by the Commission. In the present instance the award was made on the definite condition that it should be expended on the reinstatement of the original premises and it is regretted, therefore, that the alternative proposal submitted by the Council cannot be sanctioned."

The Chairman proposed and Col Quin seconded the following resolution which passed nem.con. :-

"That letter from the Ministry of Finance(404/296), relating to reconstruction of Wexford Courthouse be referred to meeting of County Council to be held on 13th December 1926."

Col Quin said they should let the Grant go by the board and stick to the old Jail. They could sell the site of the Courthouse with the £5000 decree attached. He signified his intention of moving on notice a motion that the resolution of the County Council agreeing to the reconstruction of the Courthouse on the old site be rescinded, and that the Council take such further steps as may appear advisable to them in connection with the letter of the Ministry of Finance(404/296).

WAGES OF ROAD GANGERS- APPLICATION FOR INCREASE.

Under date 10th November 1926, James Berney, James Whitty, John Pender, John Roche, Thomas Broaders, Patrick Rourke and Peter Fitzpatrick, gangers employed in the district of Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, applied to have their wages brought to a level with that of the other gangers in the county, viz, 6/8 per day.

Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, stated that when the wages were being fixed, he understood from Mr Barry (Co. Surveyor) that they were to be in accordance with the importance of the roads. John Donovan was paid 6/8 per day, the full rate paid to other gangers. He had $34\frac{1}{2}$ miles of roads to supervise and there were Trunk Roads in the district.

James Berney had $31\frac{1}{4}$ miles, but no quarry. His wages had been fixed at 6/1 per day.

James Whitty had 32 miles under his charge and Ballinglee Quarry. His wages had been fixed at 6/3 per day.

John Pender had $28\frac{1}{2}$ miles and his wages were fixed at 6/1 per day. None of the roads in his district were of the same importance as those in Donovan's or Whitty's districts.

John Roche had 36 miles of roads but no quarry. Material in his section was practically all sea gravel. His wages had been fixed at 6/2 per day.

Thomas Broaders had $29\frac{1}{4}$ miles and no quarry. His wages were 6/1 per day.

Patrick Rourke had $29\frac{1}{2}$ miles to supervise and his wages were 6/1 per day.

Peter Fitzpatrick had $20\frac{1}{2}$ miles and no quarry, but sea gravel was taken from Patrick's Bay. His wages were 5/11 per day.

In reply to the Chairman, Mr Kehoe said the average number of men in charge of these gangers was as follows:-

Donovan 10: Berney 6: Whitty 7 to 8: Pender 6: Roche 8: Broaders 7: Rourke 7: and Fitzpatrick 5.

Mr Corish pointed out that the County Council never had adopted any resolution differentiating between the wages to be paid to road gangers.

Mr Colfer proposed that Messrs Berney, Whitty, Pender, Roche, Broaders, Rourke, and Fitzpatrick be paid, as from 20th November 1926, at the rate of 6/8 per day.

Mr Corish seconded.

After further discussion, the Chairman took a show of hands when three were found in favour of the proposition and four

against.

The Chairman, who did not vote, declared the motion lost.

APPLICATION FOR UPKEEP OF BICYCLE.

The following under date 25th October 1926, was read from John Burke, Croneyhorn, Ferns, road ganger:-

"I am putting in a claim for 5/- a week for the upkeep of a bicycle. It cost me 30/- a year for tyres alone, a Pound a year for chains, and free wheels 10/- a year."

It was decided that the application be marked "read."

GOREY WATER SUPPLY.

The following resolution was forwarded by the Secretary, County Board of Health and he asked that it should be adopted by the County Council:-

"That the County Council of Wexford hereby applies for a loan of £8082 from the Local Loans Fund, repayable over 25 years at the usual rate of interest, for the purpose of acquiring and supplementing a water supply for the town of Gorey: and that they hereby request the Department to institute the necessary formalities precedent to the arranging for such a loan."

It was decided to refer the matter to the County Council.

BALLYVERGIN CROSS-ROADS.

Under date 15th November 1926, the following letter was read from Mr Elgee, Solicitor to the County Council:-

"I am in receipt of your letter of the 12th inst with copy of the resolution of the County Council passed on the 8th inst. instructing me to take proceedings to acquire the necessary land from Patrick Kennedy in order to ease this dangerous corner.

I have looked into the matter and I cannot find any provisions in the Local Government Act 1925 giving the County Council power to acquire compulsorily land for the purpose of easing such corner.

Section 33(2) gives the Minister power on the application of the Council, (if he is satisfied that a Building or other structure which is situate within thirty yards of a road

"obstructs the view of persons using that road so as to render such road dangerous), to order the removal of such building or structure. This Section deals only with the building or structure itself and not with the site upon which such building stands.

The only other Section I can find in the Act dealing with such cases is Section 34(1) which provides that a hedge or tree is prejudicial to a road within the meaning of the Section if, and when, it obstructs the view of persons using the road, so that the road becomes dangerous to persons using it, and in such a case the County Surveyor has power to serve Notice on the owner and occupier to trim or cut such hedge or tree, and if this Notice is not complied with, then the District Justice has power to make an Order to have the hedge or tree cut.

This Section also deals only with the hedge or tree and not with the land on which the hedge or tree grows.

This being so, it appears to me that the only other procedure to be adopted would be that prescribed by Section 10(3) of the Local Government (Ireland) Act 1898, as if the County Council desired to widen an old road.

This, however, is a very complicated procedure as Notices have to be inserted in the Press and application then made to the Judge of Assize for an Order on the matter.

It is not quite clear at the present time what Court or Judge would deal with the matter, as Circuit Court Rules have not yet been published.

Further, the application to the Court would be an expensive proceeding, as Counsel would have to be employed, and the Court would award Kennedy his costs, and witnesses' expenses, which would come to more than the £10 you mention. For this reason I do not recommend the Council to adopt this procedure."

Mr Kehoe in reply to the Chairman, said the amount of land required would not be more than one perch.

The Chairman suggested that Kennedy should be summoned to next meeting of the County Council to have the matter investigated and this suggestion was agreed to.

TOMNAHELY BRIDGE.

Under date 16th November 1926, Mr Elgee wrote that the Solicitors for Mrs Keyes had informed him that owing to her illness they do not intend to proceed further with her claim for compensation and the case against the County Council will be struck out at the coming Sessions.

VERONA BRIDGE.

Under date November 15th 1926, the following letter was read from Mr Thomas McCarthy, Fairfield, Enniscorthy:-

"I find now that as the tradesmen are finished repairing the Bridge at Verona, that work on it has been carried out in such a manner that when flood rises in river, water comes in on my land where it was never heretofore flooded. As my land will be ~~greatly~~xx greatly damaged thereby, and my stock endangered, I must hold your Council liable for any damage or loss I may sustain.

I must ask you to have this matter seen to and rectified at once."

Under date 20th November 1926, the following letter was read from Mr Elgee, Solicitor to the County Council:-

"As instructed, I attended at the above Bridge yesterday with Mr Barry (County Surveyor), Mr Cullen, Assistant Surveyor and the Section Ganger.

I went over the place with Mr Barry and subsequently discussed same with Mr McCarthy, who owns the adjoining lands, and beg to report as follows:-

1. As to the subsidiary arch which is some distance from the main Bridge, it is impossible to say at the present time what this arch was meant for, but it must be assumed that at some time a stream or drain, of which there is now no evidence, ran through the Bridge. At the present time, however, the land on Mr Davis's side of the road is at least two feet higher than the land on Mr McCarthy's side, and under no conditions could water now run from Mr McCarthy's land through the arch to Mr Mr Davis's lands, and there is no trace of any drain from the arch on Mr Davis's side.

It appears from an inspection of this arch, that at some

"time or another, the arch was built up on Mr McCarthy's side, as there are the remains of a wall built across the greater part of it at the present time.

This arch, in my opinion, does not affect the Council's property, that is, the road, and they have no power to compel either Mr McCarthy or Mr Davis to make a drain through it. The water on Mr McCarthy's land appears to me to be an overflow from the river Urrin, about two fields away from the road, and and if Mr McCarthy were to take steps at the point where the flooding takes place to raise the bank of the river, it would entirely do away with the flooding.

In order to get rid of the ponding back of the water along the bridge wall, the County Surveyor informs me that he placed an outlet in the wall by the new buttress to the bridge wall at the edge of the river, and this, in his opinion, would have drained off all the accumulations of water into the river. Mr McCarthy however, objects to this opening being left in the wall, as he states that instead of draining the land, it is a cause of flooding. When the river rises, as it did on Thursday last, the water flows in through the opening. This being so, and as there was previously no opening from the land to the river, I recommend that this opening should be closed up.

2. As to the land below the third arch of the bridge, on the Fairfield side of the river, I also inspected this with Mr Barry, and it seems quite clear that at some time a great many years ago, the land on this side of the bridge was banked out and the course of the river changed. Mr McCarthy states that he knows the lands for at least thirty years, and the bank was in its present position during all that time. This being so, the Council have now no power to compel Mr Davis to alter the bank, and in any event I cannot see that the projection of this land can affect the Co Council's bridge.

On the whole therefore, I do not see that the Council should interfere in the matter, which to me appears to be one between Mr McCarthy and Mr Davis.

I may mention that while with Mr McCarthy, he pointed out

"to us leakages in the containing walls of Mr Davis's Mill pond which is just opposite Mr McCarthy's premises, and I recommend that Notices should be served on Mr Davis requiring him to have the bank of the pond put in a proper state of repair and thus obviate the flooding of the road."

Mr Corish proposed and the Chairman seconded:- "That the County Council be recommended to act on the advice of Mr Elgee, Solicitor in the matter of Verona Bridge, and have the usual notices served on Mr Davis requiring him to have the bank of the pond put in a proper state of repair and thus obviate the flooding of the road."

Passed.

CRIMINAL INJURY APPLICATIONS.

The following were suggested as Areas of Charge in connection with any sums which may be granted for Criminal Injuries Applications:-

Robert Conway, Corderaun-Electoral Division of Dunmain and three contiguous Divisions: John A. Gleeson, Patrick Lambert, Thomas Power and Margaret Tweedy, all of Little Graigue-County at large: William Kenny, Ferns Upper-the old County Division of Ferns: Bridget Kirwan, The Pipefields, Wexford-Wexford Urban District: James Kennedy, Newtown, Ramsgrange-District Electoral Divisions of Ballyhack and Rathree: George T. Lewis and Nathaniel Thackaberry, Bunclody-Newtownbarry Electoral Division: John Sinnott, Glenduff, -old County Division of Taghmon.

COURTOWN HARBOUR.

Under date 9th November 1926, the following letter (D/5/2) was read from the Department of Fisheries:-

"With reference to your letter of the 18th ultimo transmitting copy of a report furnished to the Wexford County Council by their County Surveyor on the subject of Courtown Harbour, I am directed by the Minister for Fisheries to state that as this Department has not the control of any engineering plant it is impossible to repeat the offer of a grab dredger to be worked off the piers at Courtown at the expense of the local fishermen, which the County Surveyor states was made some years ago by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction when that Department

"had charge of fishery services.

I am to point out that this Department has just paid the Commissioners of Public Works the sum of £168 in respect of dredging carried out outside the piers at Courtown in July-August last when a quantity of spoil estimated at 7,200 tons is reported to have been raised. The suction dredger which was engaged on this work could not of course operate between the piers; but the Minister understands that if the sluice gates at Courtown were kept in order and regularly worked, the harbour would be in a much better condition than is now reported to be the case."

No order was made on this communication.

PROPOSED SPEED OF MOTOR VEHICLES -
NEW ROSS URBAN DISTRICT.

The following letter under date 21st September 1926, which was adjourned from a previous meeting, was submitted from the Town Clerk, New Ross:-

"At last meeting of my Council, a resolution was passed requesting the County Council to fix a speed limit in any bye-law they may adopt, of ten miles per hour for motor vehicles travelling in the Urban District."

It was pointed out to the Urban Council that under Section 9 of the Motor Car Act 1903, certain information was required by the Department for Local Government and particulars of what was necessary had been already furnished them.

Their resolution could not be dealt with until the necessary particulars had been received.

The Secretary mentioned that this letter had been adjourned in order that the New Ross Urban Council should submit particulars required under Section 9 of the Motor Car Act of 1923 for the information of the Minister for Local Government. These particulars with map were now to hand.

The Chairman proposed and Mr Corish seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That we recommend the Co. Council to approve of the application of New Ross Urban District Council for a speed limit for motor vehicles in New Ross Urban area of ten miles per hour and that particulars and map furnished

"in this connection by the New Ross Urban District Council be submitted to the Department of Local Government."

OPENINGS OF MAIN ROADS.

The following letter under date 29th October 1926, was read from New Ross Urban Council:-

"At last meeting of my Council I was directed to ask if the County Council^{wi} will authorise the Town Surveyor to see that any openings of the main roads or footpaths in the Urban District rendered necessary for repairs to pipes, or for other purposes will be properly restored."

On the motion of Col Quin seconded by Mr Corish, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the County Surveyor be empowered to authorise the Town Surveyors of Enniscorthy, New Ross and Wexford to deal with openings of roads and footpaths on main roads in the Urban District (s for laying of gas mains, etc. and that particulars of such applications be furnished as they arise to the County Surveyor for his information."

PETROL PUMPS.

Applications were received for licences for petrol pumps from Messrs M. Maher, South Street, New Ross and James Carroll, Taghmon

The County Surveyor reported in favour of the granting of both applications.

Granted on the motion of Mr Corish seconded by Col Quin.

CINEMATOGRAPH LICENCE.

Under date 30th October 1926, the Chief Superintendent, Garda Siothchana, Wexford, wrote stating that Mr J.J. Heaney, Taravie Hotel, Courtown Harbour, had, since the date of Superintendent's last report, made certain necessary improvements and alterations at his premises known as Tara Hall, Courtown Harbour and in view of these, the issue of a Cinematograph licence in respect of these premises was now ~~not~~ recommended.

Mr Sean O'Byrne proposed and Mr Colfer seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That in view of the further report of the Chief Super-

"intendeht, Garda Siothchana under date 30th October 1926, we re-commend that a Cinematograph licence for Tara Hall, Courtown Harbour be now issued to Mr J.J. Heaney."

CLAIM - BALLYMURRAY QUARRY.

In connection with the working of this quarry, the following letter was read from Patrick Whelan, Ballinagore, Blackwater, under date 1st November 1926:-

"I wish to have my claim for compensation re Ballymurray (Ballagh) Quarry brought before your next meeting of Roads Committee, County Council.

I commenced as a road contractor in 1918 and was ordered to Ballymurray Quarry by County Council for road material. It took me a long time to have rock stripped. I had to purchase a full equipment and kept two men and horse six weeks carting away clay, etc. (about 7 feet on top of rock) before I could get out the quantity of material required for my contract.

A Committee, Mr Hall, Mr Edward Foley and the Co. Surveyor visited the quarry in 1924 to make regulations. They asked me if I was satisfied to work under County Surveyor and his Assistants, and also would I be satisfied with a reduction of wages 2/6 per yd. yard: and as the roads in the district were in a bad way, they asked me to get ready 1000 yards extra, which I prepared the quarry for. They told us to join whatever Union we belonged to as they did not intend to put us out of quarry, therefore we did a lot of extra labour with the expectations of remaining in Quarry.

In August 1925, I had the rock drilled and shaken at an initial cost of £24-12-0 (drilling £17-2-0, gelignite £7-10-0) for which I was only allowed 227 yards at time of breaking. I am sure there are still over 1000 yards of rock shaken which I got no opportunity of quarrying out.

Now as the quarry is being taken over by County Council I would not be prepared to surrender it without reasonable compensation - £60 or be allowed to go back to quarry and finish up the amount of stones shaken."

Mr James Doyle, Ballymurray, The Ballagh, also wrote under date 14th November 1926 as follows:-

"As I was working in Ballymurray quarry for the past 14 years and now as it is going to be worked by Direct Labour, I am entitled to work, or compensation as it cost me a lot to get strip-pig done and for the rock drill and explosives. There are nine or ten hundred yards of material shaken at present ready for quarrying out, so I am entitled to £100 compensation. This quarry was taken over on condition that the men in it were to get first preference of work and the County Surveyor told me that I was entitled to work, so I would be ~~glad~~ thankful to your Council to see to me as well as Hyland and Whelan." - Please put this letter before the Roads Committee and let me know when the Roads Committee is - as I will be there."

The County Surveyor submitted report of the Roads Inspection Committee agreeing to allow the contractors who were obtaining material from Ballymurray Quarry to continue at the work for two years up to March last. He was paying these contractors 6s 6d per shilling per cubic yard for the material which could be got at without drilling or blasting.

Doyle, who was present, stated that he was satisfied to accept regular employment under the Direct Labour Scheme.

Whelan, who was also in attendance, was not satisfied and contended that the measurement of Mr Cullen, Assistant Surveyor of 27 cubic yards was not correct. He claimed that he had got out at least 400 cubic yards.

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

"That in connection with the claim made by Messrs Whelan and Doyle, Ballymurray Quarry, the Roads Committee have no reason to alter their decision as regards Whelan, which was agreed to at meeting of the Roads Committee on 25th October 1926. As Doyle is satisfied to accept the decision of the County Surveyor and also to take up work under the Direct Labour Scheme, no order is necessary in his case."

CARRIGBYRNE QUARRY.

At the meeting of the County Council on November 8th 1926, Mr Cooney complained that while there was 170 cubic yards of bottoming in Carrigbyrne Quarry, the County Surveyor had purchased material from outsiders.

Mr Cooney was asked to submit particulars of his ~~complaint~~ complaint and the following was read from him:-

"The following are particulars supplied me in re to Carrigbyrne Quarry.

That material required for bottoming on Road 17R was got from Messrs McGrath and Curtis, while there were in the above quarry at the time from 150 to 170 cubic yards, although there was only the bounds ditch between the quarry and where the material was got.

Mr Kehoe in his report stated that only one man, McGrath supplied stones, but I am informed that a man named Curtis was also employed.

Mr Kehoe states that the stones from those parties were ninepence per cubic yard less than in the quarry. I fail to see how he came to this calculation when they could be delivered from the quarry at 10 pence per yard. Surely the outside people received more than a penny per yard for supplying and drawing."

The County Surveyor submitted the following from Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor under date 20th November 1926:-

"We have drawn 129 cubic yards of bottoming material from Carrigbyrne Quarry for the last five weeks and the last material of the kind in the quarry has been used up several days ago.

In order to keep the roller working, we are getting rough stone from four farmers in the locality which is costing us from 4/- to 4/6 per cubic yard delivered on the road."

The following was submitted from Mr O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor:- "On the 16th ult, there were 130 c.yds of scabblings in Carrigbyrne Quarry. For the past fortnight there has not been any. The material is being carted away as soon as quarried."

Mr Kehoe said that bottoming had been taken from Carrigbyrne Quarry as long as it was available. He obtained stones from a man named McGrath which were on the top of the ground and these were 9 pence per cubic yard cheaper than the bottoming could be taken from Carrigbyrne. At the time this arrangement was made with McGrath, there were no stones in the quarry. As a matter of fact, he was obtaining stones from four farmers in the district, otherwise the machinery would be idle.

No Order.

CLAIM FOR ROAD MATERIAL.

Under date 19th November 1926, the following letter was read from Mr D. H.O'Leary, Solicitor, Arklow:-

"I have been consulted by Mr Patrick Byrne(junior) of Annagh, Inch, Gorey, with reference to a sum of money, viz, £41-7-0 due to him by the Wexford County Council.

It appears that he was a contractor for the repair and maintenance of the Road No 76, and that this contract was expiring on the 31st March 1925. Towards the end of the year 1922 he was induced to surrender this contract on the conditions that the materials he had quarried and accumulated for carrying out his contract would be taken over from him by the County Council at the rate of 3/6 per cubic yard, and further that he was to get the horse work for the haulage and supply of the material.

It appears that 182 cubic yards of the material have not been taken over by the Co. Council, which at 3/6 a cubic yard would amount to £31-17-0 and that he was deprived of 19 days of the horse work which at 10/- per day makes £9-10-0, total of both items £41-7-0. I have now to ask you to let me have an order for this amount, otherwise I will have to carry out my instructions which are to institute legal proceedings against the Co. Council for the recovery thereof."

The County Surveyor stated that he was under the impression that this matter had been settled and the amount squared.

It was decided that the Secretary communicate this information to Mr O'Leary, Solicitor.

FOOTPATH - GOREY AVENUE.

Under date 16th November 1926, the following was read from Mrs A. Byrne, The Avenue, Gorey:-

"I would be thankful if you would arrange to have one of the Guardians come and inspect footpath in front of my premises. The path is in very bad condition and was passed by the late County Council some time ago to be flagged. But there has been no attempt made to repair it, and owing to wet weather the path is in worse condition than ever. I would therefore be thankful if you would kindly instruct path to be either flagged or cemented, also repairs to kerbing and much oblige."

It was decided that the County Surveyor report on the matter at next meeting of the Roads Committee.

SEAVIEW QUARRY.

Mr Boggan raised the question of the non-employment of four or five men who had been engaged in this quarry.

Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, stated that a two ~~year~~ year's supply of material had been obtained at Seaview but he would endeavour to employ the men at Carrigfoyle quarry in connection with Grant work.

FURNITURE FOR COUNTY REGISTRAR'S OFFICE.

Under date 3rd November 1926, the following was read from the County Registrar:-

"With reference to your letter of the 29th ultimo re above, I require the following articles:-

(1) 3 writing tables. (2) 1 typewriting table. (3) 1 typewriting chair. (4) 5 office chairs. (5) 1 Press (for books) about 4 ft wide and 7 or 8 feet high. (6) 1 small fireproof safe. (7) 1 poker.

I understand you have a quantity of furniture on hands and perhaps some of these articles would suit. If you think so, I will either call or send one of my assistants to point out what would meet my requirements. In the place where I intend to put the Press, there is at present an unused stove pipe which would require to be removed."

It was decided to recommend the County Council to direct the County Surveyor to arrange for supply of furniture for office of County Registrar.

ROAD MAINTENANCE GENERALLY.

Mr Cloney said that at present some roads like the Duncannon line were in a bad condition in consequence of flooding. These roads were fairly good until last month. As no effort had been made to direct the water from centre of road into the water-table, it was now very much cut up.

Mr Hall said a better effort was made in the north of the county to take the water from the centre of the road than was apparent in the south.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Col Quin:-

"That the County Surveyor obtain for presentation to next meeting of the Council detailed reports as to sections of roads in the county which have been badly damaged by recent flooding."

Mr Boggan raised the question of removing the margins of roads. In one road in which there was a pronounced hollow, Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor had taken a foot off each side, raised the road with the material and made a good job. It would be well worth having this made a general practice.

Col Quin complained that road metalling was dumped into the water-tables, thus diverting the water on to the centre of the road. He had seen lots of the sides of roads nicely trimmed but nothing had been done with the margins.

The County Surveyor was against the indiscriminate removal of margins. In some cases it would be harmful to the road to remove them.

The Chairman also called attention to some matters in connection with the following which needed attention, viz:- Ballycanew Road, Castlebridge Road, and Bridge at Sleadagh.

THE "LONG" LANE.

Under date 13th November 1926, the following letter was read from Mr Laurence Kehoe, Ballylarkin, Inch:-

"I wish to bring under your notice two very dangerous turns near each other on the road called Long Lane, leading from Coolgreany to Doyles' Mill, Ballylarkin. I will try to give you a sketch of turns I am complaining of and you will see it is easily remedied. I just merely escaped an accident there recently. It is impossible to see the approach of any vehicle until you run right into it. I would be glad if Council would see the spot I complain of and am sure they would agree at once that same requires immediate doing. I enclose sketch of road on separate slip."

It was decided that County Surveyor furnish a report as regards this matter to next meeting of the Roads Committee.

Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, said it would take £35 to deal with these corners which were certainly very dangerous.

Direct Labour Employees and Road Contracts.

In connection with the resolution adopted at the meeting of the Roads Committee on this matter, Mr Corish moved that the recommendation of the Roads Committee relative to Direct Labour employees as road contractors be dissented from and that the following resolution be adopted:-

"That in future, no man who holds a road contract, or who works with a road contractor on road work, be employed under Direct Labour Scheme."

Mr James Hall seconded.

This resolution was adopted nem. con.

Mr Connors proposed and Mr Mernagh seconded the following resolution:-

"That any person who holds a road contract be not employed at haulage work provided there be other hauliers in the district available."

Mr Corish proposed as an amendment the following:-

"That the Council has no objection to a man who holds a road contract being employed at haulage work provided he does his haulage within the stipulated working hours."

Mr Pender seconded.

On a show of hands it was found that there were 20 for the amendment and 2 against.

The Chairman declared the amendment carried.

The amendment was then put as the substantive motion and passed without dissent.

Wages of Gangers.

In connection with the recommendation of the Roads Committee, relative to this matter, Col Gibbon proposed that the question of the wages of gangers be submitted to the Roads Committee for consideration and that they send a recommendation to the next meeting of the County Council in order that a uniform system of fixing the wages of gangers in all districts in accordance with their responsibilities may be arrived at.

Mr Cloney seconded.

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

For- Messrs Boggan, Cloney, Doyle, Hall, Jordan, Kavanagh, Murphy, O'Donoghue, Thorpe, Walsh, White, Col Quin and Col Gibbon -13.

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

The Chairman declared Col Gibbon's motion defeated.

Mr Colfer proposed that all road gangers in the area of Mr John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, be paid at the rate of 6/8 per day.

Mr Connors seconded.

A show of hands was taken on Mr Colfer's resolution when it was found that 13 were in favour and 14 against,

The Chairman declared Mr Colfer's motion lost.

The Chairman then proposed:-

"That the question of gangers' wages be referred to the Roads Committee for the purpose of fixing uniform wages and uniform duties in so far as same is possible, -this proposal not to interfere with the rights of any gangers who are at present in receipt of 6/8 per day."

In moving his resolution, the Chairman said it seemed to him that there was an unequal distribution of work amongst the various gangers in the county. He had been up to now under the impression that all gangers were paid at the same rate. He wished to secure a more equitable distribution of work, but he had no intention of moving that the number of gangers be reduced.

Mr James Hall seconded.

On a show of hands, this was carried by 15 to 5.

Ballyvergin Cross-Roads.

In connection with Minutes of Roads Committee, Patrick Kennedy, Ballyvergin, attended before the meeting and stated he had only about ten acres of land altogether, and he was asking for £10 for the portion which was proposed to be taken off to ease the corner at this cross.

The County Surveyor pointed out that only one statute perch was involved. The owner of the land on the opposite side of

the road had agreed to allow the Council to take the necessary land ^{and} had not asked for compensation.

Col Gibbon said that Kennedy was asking compensation at the rate of £1600 per acre.

The Co. Surveyor mentioned that the usual compensation given in these cases was 5/- per perch.

Mr Sean O'Byrne proposed and Mr P. O'Byrne seconded the following resolution:-

"That £1 be offered as compensation to Patrick Kennedy for land proposed to be taken for the purpose of easing corner at allyvergin Cross-roads. In the event of Kennedy refusing this offer, that the necessary land be taken compulsorily."

Passed.

Verona Bridge.

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

"That the following Committee with the County Surveyor be appointed to visit Verona Bridge:-Messrs Shannon, Jordan, and the Chairman, and report to next meeting of the Roads Committee that when visiting the Bridge they interview Mr McCarthy of Fairfield."

The Chairman proposed and Mr Sean O'Byrne seconded:-

"That the Minutes of Roads Committee of 22nd November 1926 be and are hereby confirmed, except in so far as same have been varied by motions adopted at this meeting." Adopted.

COMPLAINTS RE ROADS.

Col Gibbon complained of the condition of the road from the Moyne, Enniscorthy to Scarawalsh and after considerable discussion it was decided that this matter be considered at next meeting of the Roads Committee when Mr Ennis, Assistant Surveyor for that district, will be in attendance.

Mr Walsh complained that nothing has been done to ease the corners on the road from Camblin to New Ross which were in a bad way.

The County Surveyor stated that he would arrange to get

the work done if he could find out who was the owner of the wall.

Mr Walsh also complained of large sheets of stones spread across the road in the neighbourhood of Tomcoole Cross.

He suggested that the roller should be employed to crush them into the road.

Order- Referred to County Surveyor.

SCHOLARSHIPS COMMITTEE.

The following Minutes of Scholarships Committee of 13th November 1926 were submitted:-

A meeting of Scholarship Committee of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford on 13th November 1926.

Present:- Col. Gibbon, vice-Chairman, (presiding), also Very Rev. William F. Murphy, President, St. Peter's College, Messrs J.J. Kelly and Hugh O'Byrne.

The Secretary to the Co. Council was also in attendance.

PRIMARY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME.

Under date 15th October 1926, the Department of Education wrote that in accordance with the provisions of the Code, paragraph 4 of Primary Scholarship Scheme might be amplified by insertion of limit of means within which the Co. Council would be prepared to regard candidates as eligible to compete for Primary Scholarships. Also that a clause should be inserted in the Scheme that eligibility of candidates on this basis would be determined by the Council before a candidate is nominated to the examination.

The official Syllabus was also forwarded.

The meeting recommended that paragraph 4 of Primary Scholarship Scheme should be altered to read as follows:-

"Children whose parents or guardians are, in the opinion of the Council, able to provide for secondary education shall not be eligible for the award of Scholarships or Bursaries. This will apply to persons living in Rural Districts whose aggregate Poor Law Valuation exceeds £75. The question of eligibility of candidates to compete for scholarships will be considered at County Council meeting to be held in June of each year.

The suggested new Syllabus was then considered and agreed to, except in the case of Irish. The Committee believe that the sixth standard of Primary Schools Programme for this subject is too high a standard for Co. Wexford elementary schools, and will have the effect of preventing competition.

It is suggested that, for the present year, the Department of Education would be satisfied with the selection of the fifth standard for this subject.

It was also decided that paragraph nine of the Scheme should read as follows:-

"Candidates who attend the examination will be refunded the necessary expenses incurred in attending the examination."

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME.

It was decided that should it be necessary to arrange for a limit of means for candidates, the valuation of parents or guardians living in rural districts should be fixed at £75 and for those living in the towns of Enniscorthy, Gorey, New Ross and Wexford at £20. Also that successful candidates must take up University course in the year in which scholarship is awarded. That as regards Agricultural Scholarship, the Committee are in favour of this being awarded to any successful candidate irrespective of the place obtained by him in the results of Examination.

Mr Gaul proposed and Col Gibbon seconded:-

"That the Minutes of Scholarships Committee in respect of meeting held on 13th November 1926 be and are hereby confirmed."

Passed.

ARTERIAL DRAINAGE SCHEME.

The following Notice of Motion which was issued to the members of the Council on 13th November 1926 was moved by the Chairman, who mentioned in proposing the motion that it was necessary in view of letters from the Board of Works on the 27th November 1926(21248/26) and (22803/26):-

"That, in order to comply with Section 3 of Arterial Drainage Act 1925, I hereby give notice of my intention to move at meeting of County Council to be held on 13th December 1926, that the Council, acting on the report of the Co. Surveyor, approve of the proposals contained in the petitions received in connection with the establishment of new Drainage Schemes at Ford of Lyng, Great Island and Camblin, and request the Commissioners of Public Works to examine such proposals and consider whether a Drainage Scheme should be prepared and a separate Drainage District constituted to give effect to such proposals."

Mr Murphy seconded the resolution which was adopted.

RECONSTRUCTION WEXFORD COURTHOUSE.

The following Notice of Motion was moved by Col Quin seconded by Mr J. Hall and adopted:-

"That the resolution of the Wexford Co. Council agreeing to the reconstruction of Wexford Courthouse on old site be rescinded and that the Council take such further steps as may be advisable to them in connection with letter from Department of Finance(404/26)."

In connection with this matter, letter(No.404/296) from the Department of Finance and which is set out in full on Roads Committee Minutes of 22nd November 1926 was read.

After discussion, the Chairman suggested that the County Council should make another attempt to get the Minister for Finance to agree to allow the Council to reconstruct the Courthouse at the Old Jail.

Mr Sean O'Byrne proposed and the Chairman seconded the

following resolution:-

"That the following Deputation be appointed to wait on the Minister for Finance, -Col Quin, Messrs Sean O'Byrne, M. Jordan, William Thorpe with Messrs Doyle and Corish T.D.s and the County Surveyor."

OLD AGE PENSIONS SUB-COMMITTEE NO. 8.

On the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Murphy, the following were appointed members of above named Sub-Committee:-

Rev. James Somers C.C. Blackwater, Messrs John Corrigan, Blackwater, Patrick Adams Ballyhaught, and Wm. Devereux Ballina.

These are to replace the following who have resigned:-

Rev. T. Quigley P.P. Blackwater, Messrs Nicholas Whitty Killahard, Blackwater, Aidan Mernagh M.C.C. and John Murphy Castlebridge.

CO. WEXFORD COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION.

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

"That as recommended by the Co. Committee of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, Mr Robert Rackard, Killanne, Enniscorthy be appointed a member of said Committee vice Mr John Caulfield, Grange, Killanne, resigned."

CINEMATOGRAF ACT.

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

"That Sergeant W. Healy (1985) Clonroche be appointed Inspector of Wexford Council under Cinematograph Act 1905 for Clonroche sub-district Garda Siothchana vice Sergeant H. J. Bruner (2854) transferred from district and that Sergt. P. McNulty (5752) be appointed Inspector of Wexford Co. Council under Cinematograph Act 1909 for Killinick sub-district Garda Siothchana vice Sergeant Michael Roche (769) transferred.

COURTOWN HARBOUR COMMITTEE.

On the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr P. O'Byrne the following resolution was adopted:- "That Mr John Dunne, Courtown Harbour be appointed a member of the Courtown Harbour Committee vice Mr John McGarry deceased."

AUDITOR'S REPORTS.

County Council.

The following report of the Local Government Auditor in connection with the audit of the accounts of the Wexford County Council for the half-year ended 31st March 1926 was read:-

"I beg to report that I have audited the Accounts of the Wexford County Council for the half year ended 31st March 1926. Certified copies of the Abstracts are forwarded herewith.

The balance of uncollected rates which amounted at that date to £30101-14-4 has now been reduced to £2763-0-4, but it is far from satisfactory that, so long after the prescribed date for closing, the collection should be still uncompleted. The current collection too, promises, from its present condition, to be even less satisfactory, and the County Council ought to insist henceforward that the Collectors be unremitting in their efforts until the practice of lodging all rates within the prescribed collection dates is restored.

All Insurance renewal premiums have been paid to date. The accounts were well kept and presented for audit in a satisfactory manner."

Mental Hospital.

The following report of the Local Government Auditor in connection with audit of the accounts of Enniscorthy District Mental Hospital for the two half-years ended 30th September 1925 and 31st March 1926 was read:-

"I beg to report that I have audited the Accounts of the Enniscorthy District Mental Hospital for the two half-years ended 30th September 1925 and 31st March 1926. Certified copies of the Abstracts are forwarded herewith.

I have certified that the Committee of Management is entitled to receive £4926-4-11 in respect of Capitation Grant, for patients maintained in the Institution during the year ended 31st March 1926 and £154-11-6 in respect of the maintenance of Criminal Lunatics.

"The Accounts were well kept and presented for audit in a satisfactory manner."

SCHEME FOR TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASE.

Scheme for the treatment of venereal disease in the County was submitted by the County Board of Health.

The Chairman proposed and Mr Murphy seconded:-

"That consideration of a Scheme for the County for treatment of venereal disease be adjourned to next meeting of the Council; in the meantime, particulars of the Scheme to be supplied to each member for his information."

SUPERANNUATION - DR. S. A. FURLONG.

Under date 24th November 1926, the Department of Local Government forwarded Sealed Order (B39875/1926 Wexford County) sanctioning the payment of £44 per annum to Dr S.A. Furlong as compensation for loss of employment as Surgeon of the County Wexford Infirmary.

APPLICATION - COMPENSATION MR B. J. O'FLAHERTY, SOLICITOR.

Under date 11th November 1926, the Local Government Department wrote (Letter No. P. 48143/1926 Wexford County) forwarding copy of letter received from Mr B. J. O'Flaherty, solicitor in regard to his claim for loss of employment as Solicitor to the late Gorey Board of Guardians and late Gorey Rural District Council and pointing out that before making a determination on Mr O'Flaherty's claim, the Minister for Local Government was prepared to consider any representations which the County Council might wish to make in the matter.

Letter of Mr O'Flaherty under date October 18th 1926 to the Department of Local Government was read for the meeting.

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

"That in connection with letter of Mr B.J. O'Flaherty, Solicitor as submitted to this meeting, we would refer the Minister of Local Government to resolution adopted by the County Council on 11th October 1926. That as Mr O'Flaherty Solicitor to late Gorey Board of Guardians and R.D. Council was paid for his service by taxed costs, we consider he is not entitled to superannuation."

APPOINTMENT OF COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

In connection with proposed appointment of County Medical Officer of Health, the following was read from the Wexford County Board of Health under date 22nd November 1926:-

"With reference to your letter of the 9th inst, in the matter of the appointment of the proposed County Medical Officer, I wish to inform you that same was considered by my Board at its meeting on the 15th inst, when the following resolution was adopted, and ordered to be sent to the County Council, viz:-

"That the County Council be informed that the Board of Health does not recommend the appointment of the proposed County Medical Officer of Health: that the present number of Medical Officers employed is sufficient for the needs of the county, and, moreover, we respectfully point out that the County Council refused, in adopting this year's Estimate, to make provision for the salary of this proposed new office."

Circular letters ~~XX~~ from the Department of Local Government (P.H. 49701/25. Mis) and (P.H. 39176 /26 Mis) were read for the meeting.

In connection with the letter from the County Board of Health, the following copy of letter from the Department of Local Government to that Body under date 29th October 1926, (P.H. 55388/26 Wex B.H. & P.A.) was read:-

"The Minister for Local Government and Public Health has had under consideration the entry in the Minutes of Proceedings of the Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance on the 15th inst on the subject of the appointment of a County Medical Officer of Health, and I am to point out that the adverse opinion recorded by the Board indicates an insufficient realisation of their responsibilities as Sanitary Authority and of the advantages to be derived from entrusting the direction of the sanitary services of the county to an officer with specialist qualifications and unaffected by the competing claims of other professional engagements. Such arrangement is in accordance with the practice of

progressive communities elsewhere and has received the approval of An Dail and An Seanad after exhaustive deliberation on the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1925, Section 21 of which has assigned to the County Council the duty of appointing a whole-time County Medical Officer of Health."

Letter from the Department of Local Government under date 15th November 1926 (P.H.39176/1926 Mis.) forwarding copy of Order defining the duties to be performed by the County Medical Officer of Health was also read .

Dr Sterling Berry of the Local Government Department, addressed the meeting and dealt in detail with the duties of the proposed County Medical Officer of Health and his relationship with the existing Medical Officers of Health in the County.

In reply to various questions, he said that it was proposed that the salary for the position should be £800 per annum with £200 (probably) for locomotion expenses. Candidates were available. Three had been specially trained in the Rockefeller Institute in America, and a number of County Tuberculosis Medical Officers had been trained in various centres in England. He further pointed out that if a Local Authority did not make the appointment, the Local Appointments Commission would do so.

Mr Doyle pointed out that the County Council seemed to have no power except to pay the salary in this case.

The Chairman proposed:- "That we request the Local Government Department to hold the appointment of County Medical Officer of Health in abeyance for 12 months owing to the depressed state of the country and the difficulty experienced by the County Council in securing payment of Poor Rates. The County Council consider that the time is not opportune for making such an appointment ."

Col Gibbon seconded.

Passed.

BALLYMURN WATER SUPPLY - AREA OF CHARGE.

Under date 9th November 1926, the Department of Local Government forwarded Sealed Order (No.46860/1926) fixing Oulart Dispensary District as the area of charge for Ballymurn water supply.

PAYMENT - ROAD GRANTS.

Letters from the Department of Local Government under dates 27th November 1926 and 29th November 1926 (SGA/32), (SGA/33) and (SGN/32) giving particulars of amounts paid under Road Grants were read.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS - COMPENSATION.

Under date 19th November 1926, letter (G 53250/1926, - Wexford County) was read from the Local Government Department as follows:-

"With reference to your letter of the 12th inst, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that the General Order prescribing a scale of compensation for School Attendance Officers in accordance with the provisions of the Act will be issued as soon as possible, but probably not before the 1st January next, the date upon which the Minister for Education proposes to bring the Act into operation."

SANITARIUM GRANT.

Under date 3rd December 1926, Circular letter (P.H.58222/25 Mis) from Local Government Department was read.

This letter pointed out that a Sanatorium Grant of £3346-19-7 had been earmarked for County Wexford. On failing to receive a suitable proposal from the County Council before 31st March next, the money might be diverted to some other Council.

The Secretary stated that the County Board of Health were preparing a Scheme to deal with this Grant and he understood a deputation from that body was going before the Minister for Local Government this week in connection with the matter.

No Order.

ANCIENT MONUMENTS.

Under date 4th December 1926, the Office of Public Works wrote (22273/26) as follows:-

"We should be happy in the event of any of the Ancient and Historic Monuments mentioned in your letter being offered to us by the owners, to consider the question of taking them over either as owners or guardians. We have, however, no compulsory

"powers in the matter and we therefore do not think that a deputation would serve any useful purpose unless it brought with it offers from the owners.

We may add that in the event of the lands on which any ancient Monuments stand being sold through the Land Commission the latter can vest the Monument in us under Section 14 of the Irish Land Act 1903."

It was decided on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Sean O'Byrne that the communication from the Office of Public Works be referred to the Ancient Monuments Committee.

LOCAL APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION.

Under date 15th November 1926, the following was read from the Secretary, Local Appointments Commission :-

"I am directed by the Local Appointments Commissioners to draw attention to the fact that they are empowered by the Local Authorities (Officers and Employees) Act, 1926 to recommend persons to a Local Authority for appointment to certain vacancies thereunder. To comply with this provision, however, the Local Appointments Commissioners must first be moved by a request from the Local Authority, or from the Minister in whose Department the vacancy exists, to make such a recommendation.

In the case where the request comes from the Local Authority it will be necessary, in order that the Commissioners may be able to make representations efficiently and speedily, that, when making such request in accordance with the provisions of the Act, you would be good enough to forward at the same time a copy of the sanction of the Minister for the Department concerned authorising the filling of the post and other particulars such as:-

1. The nature of the post- whether it is part-time or whole-time, permanent and pensionable.
2. Conditions of service, duties &c., to be performed by the person appointed.
3. Remuneration, and all other information which might be helpful to the Commissioners.

These particulars are required to enable the Commissioners to publish advertisements calculated to invite the

"best type of candidate to apply, and generally to inform the candidates of the nature of the posts to be filled.

The Commissioners will be glad to be favoured also with any special points in connection with such posts as the Local Authority may think proper to submit."

COUNTY WEXFORD INSURANCE COMMITTEE.

Under date 23rd November 1926, (9030/26 Wexford) the National Health Insurance Commissioners wrote that they had declared Mr Myles Bergin, Gibson Street, Wexford, a member of the County Wexford Insurance Committee in succession to Mr J. Larkin, resigned.

His term of office would expire on the day after the date of the first meeting of the County Council held after the next triennial Local Elections.

COUNTY WEXFORD INSURANCE SOCIETY.

Under date 9th November 1926, the National Health Insurance Commission wrote (No. E13344/26) forwarding copy of letter and enclosure which they had transmitted to the Secretary of County Wexford Insurance Society and also to the Chairman of the County Council.

The Commission had come to the conclusion that there was little hope that the administration of the Society would be carried out in an efficient manner in future and they had decided to ask the Committee of Management to take steps to transfer the management of the Society to some other suitable approved Society, the transfer to take place as from 31st December 1926.

The Chairman mentioned that according to reports that had been forwarded by the Auditor and the Representatives of the Commission, it did not seem probable they would allow this Society to function any longer. It had not been worked efficiently and they had decided to withdraw approval from it and recommend the members to transfer to some other Society. On a ballot of the members there was seven short of the 75% of those voting, necessary to have the transfer carried out; 333 voted for the transfer and 120 against it. The decision of those who were present at the general meeting had been taken and they were unanimously in favour of transferring to the Trade and Labour

Society. The Representative of the Commission was present, and the next step would lie with them. In the event of a transfer being effected, the County Council would be relieved of all responsibility.

The Chairman proposed that this matter be adjourned for the present.

Mr Sean O'Byrne seconded the proposition which was adopted.

PROPOSED LOAN - GOREY WATER SUPPLY.

The following resolution was submitted by the County Wexford Board of Health and adopted on the motion of Mr Sean O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:-

"That the County Council of Wexford hereby applies for a Loan of £8082 from the Local Loans Fund repayable over 25 years at the usual rate of interest for the purpose of acquiring and supplementing a Water Supply for the town of Gorey; and that they hereby request the Department to institute the necessary formalities precedent to the arranging of such a loan."

RAISING ROAD AT COUNTY HOSPITAL.

Under date 29th November 1926, the following letter was read from the Secretary, Wexford County Board of Health:-

"I am directed by the Wexford County Board of Health and Public Assistance to apply to your County Council for permission to raise the road level between Carcur Cross and the County Hospital entrance.

The Board consider that the steep gradient in the road to the Hospital gate would be considerably relieved by filling the hollow. Seeing that they are widening the entrance and improving the approach, the rising of the road would complete the improvement.

If the County Surveyor could make a call I could put the views of the Board before him so that he would understand exactly what the Board propose. It is to be understood, of course, that this work will be done by the men in receipt of assistance from the Home Assistance Fund."

Mr Hall proposed and Mr Murphy seconded:-

"That the County Council approve of the proposal from the County Board of Health to have road leading to County Hospital improved as suggested in Secretary's letter of 29th November 1926, and that the County Surveyor be directed to arrange for the work being carried out with as little delay as possible and submit estimate of cost of same (exclusive of assistance provided by County Board of Health) to next meeting of the Roads Committee."

CAMPIL HOSPITAL TENANCY.

Under date, 30th November 1926, the following was read from the Secretary County Board of Health:-

"I beg to inform you that as a result of the election of James Meyler as tenant of cottage No 360 at Ballykerogue, the Campile Hospital premises have become vacant.

My Board propose to appoint a tenant to the premises. The wife of the former tenant acted as Dispensary caretaker to the Dispensary at ^a salary of £3 per annum. It is now the intention to appoint the incoming tenant as caretaker to the Dispensary without salary and to charge a rent of a nominal weekly sum so as to preserve title.

This proposal will, of course be subject to ratification by the County Council."

On the motion of Mr Thorpe seconded by Mr Sean O'Byrne the proposal of the County Board of Health was agreed to.

COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT -

COUNTY COUNCIL AND COUNTY INSURANCE COMMITTEE.

In connection with proposed Comprehensive Agreement between the County Council and the County Insurance Committee relative to the provision of treatment for insured and exempt persons suffering from tuberculosis, the following letter under date 3rd December 1926 (P.H. 55943/1926 Wex Bd of H. & P.A.) from the Department of Local Government was read:-

"With reference to your letter of the 23rd ultimo, relative to the alterations suggested by the Wexford County Insurance Committee in the usual form of agreement in connection

"with the provision of treatment by the County Council for insured and exempt persons suffering from Tuberculosis, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to point out that the proposal of the Insurance Committee to allocate definite amounts from their Sanatorium Benefit Fund to cover the cost of various forms of treatment is based on the assumption that the Sanatorium Benefit Fund is fixed at £900 per annum. This assumption is not correct because that fund fluctuates in amount from year to year and has not reached £900 since 1924. The proposal is, therefore, open to objection as being unnecessarily complicated and liable to lead to friction

The provisions included in the Standard Form of Agreement for assignment of the Sanatorium Benefit Fund as between the main heads of expenditure have been specially designed in view of the yearly fluctuations in the sum available and have worked satisfactorily in other counties in which similar Agreements have for a considerable time been in operation.

It is therefore advisable that the contemplated Agreement between the County Council and the Insurance Committee should be based on the Standard Form."

The Chairman proposed and Mr Sean O'Byrne seconded:-

"That the County Board of Health be requested to revise the proposed Agreement for the treatment of insured and exempt persons suffering from tuberculosis, so as to bring it in accordance with suggestions in letter (P.H.55943/1926 Wex Bd of Health & P.A.) from Department of Local Government."

NEW ROSS COURTHOUSE.

Under date 6th December 1926, the following was read from Mr Patrick R. Buggy, Solicitor 40 O'Connell St. Waterford:-

"Mrs O'Sullivan, the caretaker of the New Ross Court House had an interview with me to-day in reference to her status there as caretaker of the New Ross Courthouse. She informs me that when the premises were vacated by the Co. Council in 1920 she was appointed by the then High Sheriff of the County, Lieut. Col Jameson Davis. This act was done by the High Sheriff so that the Courthouse might be protected from any damage and in order

"that it might be the property of the County Council when times settled down. Mrs O'Sullivan took possession. Fortunately the property was preserved and thereby money saved to the rate-payers.

Mrs O'Sullivan now humbly submits that she be again appointed as caretaker. I understand the appointment lies with you. I would be glad if you would bring my application on her behalf before your Council and let me know the date of the next meeting as if I so decide I may be in attendance. It is interesting to note that the Co.Council have a lease or are promised a lease of the premises from the Tottenham Estate and the Tottenham Trustees have sought to eject Mrs O'Sullivan against whom a Decree was granted on the 23rd ulto, but against which Mrs O'Sullivan has appealed. I am sure the County Council would not act the part of evictors to evict Mrs O'Sullivan.

I would be glad to hear from you that the County Council (1) are not parties to these proceedings. I am sure if the County Council are prepared to take Mrs O'Sullivan under their Lease as caretaker of the Courthouse, the Tottenham Trustees will not then proceed."

Mr Elgee, Solicitor, stated that the appointment of a caretaker of a Courthouse rested with the Sheriff and the County Council had nothing whatever to say to it. He informed the Solicitor to the Tottenham Estate that he could not advise the County Council to take a Lease of the premises until the Trustees were in a position to give over possession of the entire premises.

The Chairman proposed and Mr Sean O'Byrne seconded:-

"That Mr Buggy, Solicitor, Waterford be informed that the County Council have nothing to say to the appointment of a caretaker of a Courthouse. They never appointed Mrs O'Sullivan caretaker of New Ross Courthouse, and they must get clear possession of the premises from the Trustees of the Tottenham Estate before they agree to execute a Lease of the premises."

GOREY COURTHOUSE.

The application for the compensation for the burning of the above Courthouse came before the Circuit Court Judge

"to-day when he reported for £2515 compensation as regards the structure of the Courthouse, and £76 for the furniture therein; a total reinstatement condition is attached to the Report, that is that the amount awarded will only be paid as the work of reconstruction proceeds on the certificate of the Board of Works Engineer."

In connection with this matter, the Committee appointed at the meeting of the Finance Committee on 9th December 1926 met and submitted the following report:-

"Committee met at Courthouse site on 2nd December 1926. Present-Mr Sean O'Byrne, Mr James Hall, the Co. Surveyor and Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor.

The Committee recommended that the body of the Courthouse should be so arranged as to be all on the same level and not "stepped" as it was in the past. Going down into the building from entrance door, fittings should be movable so that the premises would be available for other purposes. Provision should be made for caretaker's premises, offices for Assistant Surveyor and store. At present the County Council had to pay for offices and store. Office for Clerk of District Court should be also provided as well as a Jury Room. There would be a separate entrance to caretaker's premises.

The Committee were informed by Mr Elgee, solicitor that they could not take any definite steps towards securing Tenders, etc. for the reconstruction of the premises until the Decree for Compensation was made absolute.

The County Surveyor would prepare as soon as possible preliminary plans showing exact details for reconstruction of the premises. The Committee are anxious that the building should be so arranged as to allow for the holding of classes for Technical Instruction, etc. for the benefit of the people of the town of Gorey and neighbourhood."

Mr Sean O'Byrne proposed that the report of the Committee in connection with Gorey Courthouse be adopted and that the work be carried out as soon as possible, as the occupation of reconstructed premises would mean saving to the Council the

payment of rent for two or three different offices.

Mr Patrick Byrne seconded the resolution which was adopted.

LEASE OF NEW ROSS TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

The Chairman proposed and Col Quin seconded:-

"That the Lease and Counterpart of same of New Ross Tuberculosis Dispensary from New Ross Urban Council be signed and sealed on behalf of Wexford County Council."

Passed.

BALLYLANNON CROSSING.

The Chairman proposed and Col Quin seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That Agreement with Great Southern Railways Company as to easing of dangerous corner at Ballylannon Bridge be sealed and signed on behalf of the County Council."

COSTS - MR WILLIAM CAULFIELD, SOLICITOR.

Requisition to tax costs of Mr William Caulfield, (Solicitor to late Wexford Rural District Council) was received, and signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Council.

The Chairman proposed, Col Quin seconded and it was passed:- "That as the County Council have received Court Orders appointing two Receivers by way of Equitable Execution over amount to be paid to Mr Caulfield, Solicitor, as taxed costs, viz, Mr Lloyd, Agent, Bank of Ireland, Wexford and Mr William Kehoe, for two different sums of money, we hereby direct that any sums to be paid by the Council on foot of these taxed costs be lodged in Court."

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University Scholarship Scheme.

A letter was read from Patrick and Annie Kenny, parents of John J. Kenny, Irish Street, Bunclody to whom a University Scholarship had been awarded.

Kenny had entered a Training College to become a Teacher and his parents asked if the County Council would pay his training expenses and keep over the University Scholarship till his two years' training had expired.

The following resolution was proposed by the Chairman

seconded by Mr Sean O'Byrne and adopted:-

"That John J. Kenny be informed it is not possible for the County Council to hold over his University Scholarship and that as he has not entered the University, the Scholarship must now be cancelled."

PROPOSED WATER SUPPLY ETC, AT ROSSLARE.

In connection with this matter, a resolution was received from the Secretary, New Ross District Executive, Farmers' Union calling on their representatives on the County Council to protest against the levying of any rate on New Ross district relative to above, as the people of New Ross district derive no benefit from Rosslare as a seaside resort.

It was decided that consideration of this resolution be adjourned until application be made to the Council for the striking of a rate for the Scheme in question.

TOURIST DEVELOPMENT.

Resolution of the Rosslare Tourist Development Association of 29th April 1926, which was specially referred to the December meeting of the Council was read.

The resolution requested the appointment of a Committee consisting of four members of the Co. Wexford Executive of the Tourist Associations representing the four districts of the ~~WOMEN~~ county with four members of the County Council to discuss - when the Tourist rate of one halfpenny in the £ had been agreed to - what form an advertising campaign should take.

On the motion of Col Quin seconded by the Chairman it was decided that this resolution be further adjourned till the details of the rate for next year are being considered by the Council.

SUPERANNUATION SECONDARY TEACHERS.

Mr T. J. Burke, General Secretary, Association of Secondary Teachers forwarded Memo dealing with the proposed superannuation of Secondary Teachers and asking the Co. Council to pass a resolution in support of their claim.

It was decided to refer the matter to the Scholarships Committee.

Wm. C. B. B. B.

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY.
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I certify the foregoing to be a correct
record of the Minutes of Proceedings of my Co.
Council in respect of meeting held on 13th
December, 1926.

(Signed)



Secretary Wexford Co. Council.

Dated this 17th day of December, 1926.

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