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HELD ON 11th DECEMBER, 1933

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING 11th DECEMBER, 1933

M I N U T E S

County Hall,
WEXFORD

N.J. FRIZELLE,
Secretary, Wexford Co. Council

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A meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 11th December, 1933.

Present:- Messrs. James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Cline, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, John Doran, James Gaul, Col. C.M. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Michael Hickey, William P. Keegan, Thomas McCarthy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss N. O'Ryan, Col. R.P. Wemyss Quin, M.M. Roche, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Solicitor, Rates Inspector and the five Assistant Surveyors were also in attendance.

On the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Culleton, the chair was taken by Mr. Corish.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

Mr. Doyle (Chairman) then attended and presided for the remainder of the business.

ILLNESS OF CO. SURVEYOR

The following Certificate was received from Dr.S.A. Furlong, Infirmary House, Wexford:-

"W.F. Barry, Esq., is unable to work owing to influenza."

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Notes for £4961:3:1d were examined and signed.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Minutes of Finance Committee meeting of 7th December, 1933, were submitted as follows:-

The fortnightly meeting of Finance Committee was held on 7th December, 1933, in Co. Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford.

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

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Co. Solicitor and Rate Inspector were in attendance.

The Co. Surveyor was absent through illness.

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

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £3182:10:4d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

STATE OF:- The state of the Rate Collection was submitted as follows:-

	<u>Name of Collector</u>	<u>Percentage of current Rate</u>
1.	E.J. Murphy	51.7
2.	S. Gannon (6)	51.5
3.	M. Kehoe	50.0
4.	J. Curtis	48.7
5.	S. Gannon (10)	47.3
6.	W. Doyle	46.5
7.	P. Carty	46.4
8.	J. Cummins	44.5
9.	J.J. O'Reilly	43.3
10.	W. Cummins	42.0
11.	J. Flood	40.6
12.	D. Kenny	40.6
13.	J. Deegan	40.5
14.	P. Nolan	40.4
15.	A. Dunne	40.0
16.	M. McCarthy	38.3
17.	M. Murphy	38.1
18.	J. Quirke	37.4
19.	J.J. Sinnott	36.4
20.	P. Doyle.	35.6

The following resolution was adopted:- "That Collector Art Dunne be informed the Finance Committee are not satisfied with the Collection in his area which shows a reduction of 13 per cent as compared with last year. The Committee will expect a substantial improvement by date of next meeting - 21st December, 1933, - when special Report on the Collection in this area will be considered."

PAYMENT OF POUNDAGE:- The following letter under date 6th December, 1933, (G.140352/1933 Loch Garman Fa) was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, and to state that in deference to the request of the Council he again sanctions the concessions granted to the Rate Collectors last year in the matter of allowing full poundage to those Collectors who have accounted for 50% of their current warrants (excluding arrears) by the 30th ultimo or who account for this proportion of their warrants by the end of the present month."

Mr. O'Byrne proposed and Mr. Hall seconded: the following resolution:- "That payment of poundage fees, in conformity with letter from Department of Local Government and Public Health (G.140352/1933 Loch Garman Fa - 6th December, 1933) be made as soon as possible from Subsidiary Account."

Passed.

DRAINAGE RATES: The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That the following Collectors be appointed to collect Drainage Rate for Sow Drainage Area:-

W. Doyle (No. 2 District); Walter Cummins (No. 11 District); M. Murphy (No. 12 District) and Collector M. Kehoe (No. 18 District) for Kilmannock Drainage Area."

ARREARS OF RATE IN NO.9 DISTRICT:- The following letter under date 6th December, 1933, was read from Collector John Flood, No. 9 District:-

"In reply to yours re Ex Collector O'Byrne. Rate outstanding to 31st March, 1933. The amount outstanding at present would be about £86. almost half of that amount is due by Mr. Edward Brown, Rathturtin, whose land is being subdivided. He is waiting to have the matter settled before paying. In the remainder of cases I expect to be in a position to close O'Byrne's Warrant about the middle of January, 1934, from promises those people have made me."

COLLECTION DISTRICT NO.7:- The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall seconded by Mr. Culleton:-

"That, in connection with permanent appointment of John Deegan to this Collection District, we recommend the County Council to fix poundage fee at 5d in the £. as obtained in the cases of recent appointments of Rate Collectors.

GOREY COURTHOUSE

Applications were received for the use of Gorey Courthouse for (1) Meeting on 12th December, 1933, for the purpose of establishing a branch of the Industrial Development Association, and (2) Annual Ploughing Match Dance to be held about the middle of January.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That the use of Gorey Courthouse be given for the meeting in connection with the establishment of a branch of the Industrial Development Association and also to Ploughing Match Committee for the purpose of their dance. It is to be understood that the promoters of the functions will be responsible for any damage that may be caused to the premises while in their occupation and that the Courthouse will be delivered up in a clean and tidy condition."

SHEEP DIPPING ORDER

Report was received from Garda Siochana that Patrick Furlong, Kilsoran, and Thomas Hayes, Lough, Tagoat, had not dipped their sheep in accordance with Sheep Dipping Order.

It was decided to recommend the County Council to approve of prosecutions in these cases.

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by the Chairman:- "That the Co. Council be recommended to approve of advance of £60 to Philip Rochford, Ballygalvert, Ballywilliam, under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts!"

Under date 30th November, 1933, (H.133079/1933 Loch Garman(pc) letter was read from Department of Local Government and Public Health (Housing Department), approving of the following advances being made under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts:-

Michael Fox, Ballyorrill, Enniscorthy.....	£150
John Murphy, The Moyne, do	£150
Maurice O'Neill, The Moyne, do	£120

In reply to Mr. O'Byrne, Mr. Elgee, Co. Solicitor, stated that the six months' period in which house is to be completed dates from first advance and not from date of approval of loan.

SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL

SCHOLARSHIPS SCHEME

Applications were received for payment of expenses of candidates in connection with attendance at examination under above Scheme:-

Anne Duggan, The Leap, Enniscorthy.....	£2: 3: 0
Catherine A. Roche, Ballygilliestown, Enniscorthy.	£2:17: 6

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That in connection with applications for expenses under Secondary and Vocational Scholarships Scheme it be pointed out to Misses Anne Duggan and Catherine A. Roche that the Scheme provides for payment only of

"their own actual necessary expenses in attending examination and amount claimed for the attendance of their parents cannot be allowed; also that bills showing the amounts paid for board and lodging should be furnished to the Finance Committee. That further consideration of these claims be adjourned pending receipt of desired information."

CRIMINAL INJURY APPLICATION

Instructions were given to Mr. Elgee, Co. Solicitor, to defend application of John J. Whelan, Ross Road, Enniscorthy, for payment of £5 compensation for injury to his motor car on 22nd November, 1933.

CREATION OF COUNTY STOCK

The following resolution was received from the County Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance:-

"That a Committee be created from amongst the spending Bodies under the control of the Wexford County Council for the purpose of examining into the possibility and feasibility of floating County Stock to redeem Loans borrowed at high rates of Interest during recent years and to provide funds for the carrying out of necessary sanitary and social works within the County."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Culleton:- "That the County Council be recommended to adjourn consideration of the proposal from Co. Board of Health and Public Assistance for the creation of County Stock for the redemption of Loans and provision of funds for various works. In view of the fact that the General Council of County Councils are presenting a scheme on 13th December, 1933, to the Government to provide for the funding of loans of public authorities borrowed at over 4 per cent, we consider it inadvisable that any steps, which might in any way interfere with the movement of the General Council should be taken, and urge on the County Council that nothing should be done regarding

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"the resolution of the Co. Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance until report from General Council as to their funding proposals has been received."

RELIEF SCHEMES VOTE

Under date 5th December, 1933, (RM/32), letter was read from Department of Local Government and Public Health (Roads), stating that sanction had been received from the Minister for Finance to the grant of £150 from Relief Schemes Vote to the County Council for the carrying out of road works for the relief of unemployment in or in the immediate neighbourhood of Castlebridge and Taghmon. As the Minister was anxious that the work be put in hands with the least possible delay, he asked that the proposals for the expenditure of the grant be submitted by return of post.

The following works were approved:-

WEXFORD-TAGHMON ROAD - Quarry land and handbreak 200 C.Y., B.S. from Carrigfoyle and ~~Drom~~ Upton Quarries to be rolled in under subsequent grant or ordinary road proposal.

WEXFORD-CURRACLOE ROAD - Quarry, land and handbreak 200 C.Y., B.S. from Edenvale Quarry. To be rolled in under subsequent grant or ordinary road proposal.

SEEDS AND FERTILISERS

SUPPLIED BY COUNCIL

It was decided that the Co. Solicitor take steps to proceed against persons who owe sums to the Council in respect of seeds and fertilisers supplied on their applications.

REQUISITION FOR STATIONERY

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES INSPECTORS

Requisition was received from Chief Superintendent, Garda, Siochana, for Stationery supplies for use of Weights and Measures Inspectors.

It was decided to approve of the requisition, portion of

which is to be supplied from County Council Office and portion to be purchased locally as the cost involved is trifling.

VALUATION OF GRAVEYARDS

Correspondence was submitted from Rev. Thomas O'Byrne, P.P., Piercestown, and the Valuation Department, Dublin, as to rates in connection with Graveyards in Rathjarney (Killinick), and Eardownes Great, (Lady's Island). Father O'Byrne contends that neither was liable for assessment while the Valuation Department held that the Graveyard at Eardownes Great was not liable but the one at Rathjarney was liable.

It was decided to obtain the advice of the Co. Solicitor, the correspondence in the matter to be submitted to him for his information.

VALUATION OF GOLF HOTEL, ROSSLARE

Letter was read from Messrs. M.J. O'Connor & Co., Solicitors, Wexford, asking for refund of rates paid by Mr. Sinnott, in view of the reduction of his valuation on appeal to Circuit Court from £60:15s. to £52.

A resolution was adopted that the appropriate amount of refund be made to Mr. Sinnott when official notification of the actual reduction in his valuation has been received.

MOTOR TAXATION OFFICE

Mr. Hall proposed and Mr. O'Byrne seconded the following resolution which was adopted:→ "That two temporary clerical Assistants be employed in Local Taxation Office from 1st January, 1934 to 3rd February, 1934, at a remuneration of 1/- per hour each in order to allow of the prompt despatch of Motor Taxation Licences from the beginning of the year."

GOREY POUND

Under date 6th December, 1933, the Town Clerk, Gorey, wrote asking for the information of his Commissioners, what was the position at the moment regarding the provision of a Pound

for Gorey.

Mr. Elgee, Co. Solicitor, stated he had written to Messrs. Stopford & Turner, asking for a statement as to any part taken by Mr. Claude Ellis in the appointment of a caretaker for Gorey Pound, but had received no reply.

A resolution was adopted asking Mr. Elgee to communicate with Mr. Ellis direct in this matter.

TOWN AND REGIONAL PLANNING
BILL 1933

In connection with the above Bill, the following letter, under date 1st December, 1933, was read from Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor:-

"Having regard to the responsibility and expense which will possibly be thrown upon the County Council if the Town and Regional Planning Bill 1933 is passed, and to the great uncertainty of many of the Provisions of the Bill, I think, it would be well, if copies of same were obtained and posted to each Member of the Council along with a copy of the letter which you have received from the General Council of County Councils on the matter."

It was decided that each Member of the Council be supplied with a copy of the Bill and also copy of the explanatory letter from the General Council of County Councils.

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

"That Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 7th December, 1933, be received and considered."

PROPOSED PERMANENT APPOINTMENT OF
TEMPORARY COLLECTOR DEEGAN:-

Mr. Cline proposed and Mr. Armstrong seconded the following amendment to Finance Committee's recommendation:-

"That consideration of the amount of Poundage to be paid to John Deegan, Rate Collector, be adjourned until it be ascertained if the Department of Local Government and Public Health are prepared to appoint him as permanent Collector."

Mr. Culleton proposed and Mr. O'Byrne seconded the confirmation of the recommendation of the Finance Committee.

This last motion was put to the meeting and declared carried by the Chairman.

ADMINISTRATION OF MOTOR TAX OFFICE:- The Chairman said it was understood when remuneration of Mr. Richards', Local Taxation Officer, was fixed by the Department of Local Government and Public Health, he would be able to assist in the General work of the County Council Offices at periods when there was but little work to be done in Local Taxation Office.

Mr. Richards came before the meeting and stated he had now no spare time at any period of the year. Under the new Road Traffic Act, Third Party Insurance came into force in January next and there was also the question of Rebates on Pre 1926 Engines, transfers to other Counties and writing up books. All these accounted for his full time.

The recommendation of the Finance Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Cline with the following addition:-

"Messrs. Joseph Fennell, George Street, Wexford, and

"James Devereux, South Main Street, Wexford, ^A temporary clerical assistants for the period recommended by the Finance Committee, remuneration to be at the rate of 1/- per hour. "

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 7th December, 1933, be and are hereby confirmed."

CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Corish seconded by Mr. Clince:- "That Mr. John P. Kelly, K'le, Rathpierce, Enniscorthy, be co-opted a member of this County Council and be also appointed a member of Finance Committee and of Mental Hospital Committee vice Mr. James Shannon deceased."

Mr. Corish said that Mr. Kelly had been selected by the various branches of the Labour Party at their meeting on 10th December, 1933.

In connection with vacancy on Co. Wexford Committee of Agriculture vice Mr. Shannon deceased the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Miss O'Ryan seconded by Mr. Culleton:- "That the Co. Wexford Committee of Agriculture be requested to recommend for appointment on their Committee a representative in succession to Mr. James Shannon deceased."

OLD AGE PENSION SUB-COMMITTEE NO.1

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Corish:- "That Rev. Matthew Keating, P.P., Bannow, be appointed a member of Old Age Pension No. 1 Sub-Committee as recommended by said Committee."

FORD OF LYN

The Chairman said he had asked that this matter should be mentioned specially on the Agenda paper as it was hanging on for over twenty-five years and nothing really had been done. If flood occurred there now the whole barony would suffer grave

damage. The offer made by the Slob Committee to the County Council was entirely inadequate.

The following under date 28th November, 1933, was read from Mr. Elgee, Co. Solicitor, to the Co. Surveyor:-

"I am in receipt of yours of yesterday, and note what you say as to the inspection of the Drains herein.

"I am now sending instructions to Counsel to advise on the proofs for the hearing of the action, and I think, it will be advisable to wait until we receive his directions before we proceed with the inspection and the photographs mentioned by Colonel Gibbon."

The following under date 27th November, 1933, is copy of the letter of Co. Surveyor to which Mr. Elgee's was a reply:-

"I have looked up the Minutes and find the following resolution was passed at the meeting of the Council on 14th August last:-

"That the County Surveyor inspect the drain at the Ford of Lyng, and if he considers the statements made by Colonel Gibbon at this meeting are borne out he should inform the County Solicitor and County Secretary, who should arrange for the attendance of Counsel to meet a Committee as soon as possible, Mr. Elgee to procure photographs of the position of the Canal at this date."

"I have a distinct recollection that I agreed with Col. Gibbon's statement that the lower channel was not entirely satisfactory, but stated that the main obstruction was near the County Road. It would be well if you got the photographs at once, and if you think well of it I could go out with you and the photographer, and we could select where photographs could be taken."

Mr. Elgee said he did not expect to receive directions from Counsel before January. However, he would report in the matter to the Co. Council at the earliest possible moment.

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS

The following motion of which he had given previous notice was moved by Mr. O'Byrne:-

"That the County Council accept four or five applications for loans under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts which through inadvertence were not lodged by the stipulated time, viz. 31st March, 1933."

In moving his motion Mr. O'Byrne said that in Urban areas such as Gorey Town the Government Grant for erection of houses would be reduced in April next and as there were several very deserving men who wished to erect houses in Gorey Urban area and who had not made application by the stipulated time viz. 31st March last he urged that their applications would now be considered. If adjourned until the Co. Council considered a new scheme the Government Grant would be lost. This did not affect applicants in rural districts as for these the Government Grant would be available up to 1935.

Mr. Hayes seconded.

The Chairman said that a great many in the rural districts were disappointed when it was decided to close the list of applicants at March 1933, and if the matter was re-opened there would be many rural applicants. He did not see why their claims should not be considered as well as those from Gorey town.

Col. Quin agreed with the Chairman and said that as money was very "tight" with the Co. Council they should be very careful before embarking on another Scheme.

The Chairman said that if the Council were prepared to include applicants from the rural districts - and they had as good a claim for consideration as those mentioned by Mr. O'Byrne - they would have a large number. He believed as regards this particular matter, Gorey district had been dealt with in a more favourable way than any other area. There were seven or

eight persons in his (Chairman's) district who were prepared to apply if the list was re-opened and they were as well entitled to the concession as those from Gorey.

Mr. McCarthy said a large number of applicants had been in with him and if the Council was prepared to extend this concession to Gorey district he did not see how applicants in the rest of the County could be debarred.

After further discussion Mr. O'Byrne said he would withdraw his motion.

SUPERANNUATION MR. McNALLY,

MANUAL INSTRUCTOR.

Mr. S. Wilmot, Chief Executive Officer, Co. Wexford Vocational Education Committee forwarded in connection with proposed superannuation of Mr. James McNally, Manual Instructor, the following under date 12th October, 1933, (G.113397/1933 Loch Garman) from the Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"With reference to your letter of the 18th ultimo relative to the proposed superannuation of Mr. James McNally, former Manual Instructor under the County Wexford Vocational Education Committee, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to transmit, enclosed copy of this Department's circular letter of the 4th April, 1925, and to point out that the pension in this case should be calculated on a basis not exceeding the number of years approved service given by Mr. McNally. Having regard to the general principles relating to the superannuation of local officials, the maximum amount to which the Minister could consent would be £87:16:3 per annum (plus bonus from time to time applicable) being at the rate of 1/60th for each completed year of service. A fresh resolution from the Committee will be necessary.

"As any pension to be awarded will be payable by the

"Wexford County Council it is usual to obtain their views beforehand and this course should be followed."

Mr. Wilmot also submitted Minute of Vocational Education Committee meeting of 4th December, 1933, from which it appeared that by seven votes to five the Committee had accepted the terms of the letter of the Department.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr. D'Arcy:-

"That the Wexford County Council agree with the fixing of superannuation of Mr. James McNally, Manual Instructor, in accordance with communication from Department of Local Government and Public Health - G1113397/1933 Loch Garman, 12th October, 1933."

ROAD WORKS SCHEME

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. D'Arcy seconded by Mr. Hall:-

"That consideration of Provisional Road Works Scheme for financial year 1934/35 be adjourned to next meeting in consequence of illness of Co. Surveyor."

GRANT FOR RELIEF OF UNEMPLOYMENT

The following under date 1st December, 1933, (R/RU/32) was read from Department of Local Government and Public Health

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that he is prepared to consider the question of making a grant of £2,000 to the Wexford County Council for a Scheme of road works for the relief of unemployment on condition that the Council contribute a like amount out of their own funds towards the cost of the works.

"A scheme for the expenditure of £4,000 should accordingly be submitted without delay.

"On receipt of Council's reply, with scheme, a further communication will be addressed to you in the matter."

In reply to the Chairman the Secretary stated that the money was not available out of this year's receipts but it could be included in the Road Works Contingencies for next financial year.

Mr. Corish - It would be a very serious matter to turn the offer down in view of the number of unemployed, and especially in view of the approach of Christmas. I propose that we accept the Government's offer. I notice that Wicklow - a smaller county than ours - agreed to put up £3,000 and that Meath agreed to put up £2,000.

Mr. O'Byrne seconded and remarked that there was a lot of hardship in the country.

Col. Quin - We are all sympathetic but where is the money to come from?

Mr. Corish - You have a chance of proving your sympathy now.

Miss O'Ryan said that they might as well pay men for working on the roads as pay men who were idle through no fault of their own. The amount spent on relief every week for the unemployed would not be long running up to £2,000. She suggested that a committee be appointed to select men out of work and actually in receipt of money out of the rates.

Mr. Corish - Another thing, owing to the passage of the Unemployment Assistance Act the ratepayers are going to be relieved in the rural areas at any rate during the coming year.

The Chairman said that £2000 towards the Scheme would have to be provided by the ratepayers.

Mr. Corish said that under the Unemployment Assistance Act, which came into force next February, men will be taken off Home Help, and the rural areas are not being asked to pay anything for that. Wexford Urban area will have to pay 9d in the £. but even with that it will mean a relief to the rates.

Chairman - Is there such a necessity for the £2,000 then?

Mr. Corish - I think there is. I was told that the object was to try and get as many men as possible to work before Christmas and during the Christmas period.

Miss O'Ryan said that they all admitted that £2,000 would have to be found out of the rates, but along with that another £2,000 would be spent. There was a lot of talk about unemployment and distress, and £4,000 spent on the roads would relieve them of doing £4,000 worth of work on the roads next year, and if they went into the matter carefully she could guarantee that 50 per cent of the men employed would be men already getting money out of the rates. The provision of £2,000 would not mean £2,000 on the rates if they substituted work done for it for work that would have to be done afterwards.

Mr. Keegan said that in the Gorey area there were no people getting Home Help through unemployment. Gorey was very hard hit through unemployment. They had no work of any sort. He was speaking for the town and, he thought, for five miles around it.

Col. Quin said that if they could get the £2,000 and apply it to County roads and not to private relief schemes it would mean a saving. If it was to be spent on public roads he was for it, but if on private relief schemes he certainly would not be for it.

The Secretary said they had no power to spend money from the Local Government Department, except on the council's own roads.

Mr. O'Byrne said that at present there were 350 men in Gorey on the unemployment list. He certainly would not agree with Miss O'Ryan's recommendation that work under the Grant be given only to people receiving Home Help. People in Gorey had failed to get Home Help through unemployment.

Miss O'Ryan said she did not say that all the men employed should be in receipt of Home Help. She said that preference

should be given to those.

Col. Quin - Would it mean £1,000 to each district?

Chairman - I suppose that would be the fairest way to do it, but you want to decide whether you will pass it or not first.

Mr. Hall - I believe we should pass it, but at the same time I am not satisfied that it will reduce Home Help. It is going up month after month.

Mr. Keegan said that it might reduce Home help if they did the by-roads with this Grant and kept off the main roads. If they spent money on buying foreign tar and that sort of thing and making fine chippings, the poor man was not going to get anything out of it. If they wanted to improve tillage in the county it was necessary to give people a chance of carting over the by-roads.

Col. Gibbon - Could not it be put in the resolution that the work to be done on the roads shall definitely be such as can be used as a saving to the road scheme next year?

Mr. Corish - I think you will be making the mistake of your life in doing that. If you do that, and send it up to the Local Government Department it is going to be turned down. You can have all those things in mind.

Chairman - You can, and next year when it comes to the estimate I would like to see the man that will get £2,000 off it. However, I am not going to oppose the wish of the Council.

Col. Quin said that they would have to spend money on the road from Gorey to Wells sooner or later, and if some of the work could be done on that road he would be in favour of it. On the road from Gorey to Castlebridge there were a couple of bad patches. It was a very good road except for these.

Chairman - I think a lot of the roads are too good.

Mr. Roche asked if some of the money could be applied to doing something with the road between Kilmore village and Kilmore Quay.

Mr. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, said they were making provision for having that road finally disposed of with- in the next two years. Of course, it was a question for the Council as to how the money would be distributed, but as far as doing useful work for the Council was concerned the surveyors would be in favour of using it for cutting bad corners and cleaning up back roads.

The following resolution was then proposed by Mr. Corish and seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:-

"That the Council, in accordance with letter from Department of Local Government and Public Health (R/RU/32 - 1st December, 1933) provide a sum of £2,000 (towards £4,000 proposed for relief work on roads) full amount to be applied to easing dangerous corners and clearing up back roads, the £2,000 in question to be added to the Contingency Fund of Road Works Scheme for 1934/35."

This resolution, after some further discussion, was adopted.

Mr. Cummins proposed and Mr. O'Byrne seconded the following resolution:- "That the Government Grant of £4,000 be divided in four portions of £1,000 each to be spent in the four old Rural District areas. That the Councillors for the four Co. Electoral areas be appointed Committees with plenary powers for their appropriate areas to select in conjunction with the Assistant Surveyors the various works to be included in the Scheme."

Passed.

Mr. Hall said that with regard to employing men in receipt of Home Help, according to ~~what~~ Messrs. Keegan and O'Byrne there was a lot of men unemployed in Gorey not getting Home Help, while men like them in the other three towns were getting Home Help.

Secretary - Of course you will have to employ the men

through the Labour Exchange.

Miss O'Ryan said she had nothing to say against the Labour Exchange - she was sure the officials were carrying out their duties as far as they had the knowledge - but taking men in turn did not always mean getting the people most in need. If able-bodied men getting Home Assistance got preference it would mean relieving the rates in another direction. She thought an assistant surveyor should ask for the names of more men than he really wanted, and pick out those most deserving, getting advice from the relieving officer or someone else.

Mr. Birthistle said the Assistant Surveyors asked for a larger number of men than they wanted so that they would be in a position to make a selection.

The Councillors representing the four areas of the County having considered the needs of their districts in conjunction with the Assistant Surveyors submitted the following Scheme:-

ENNISCORTHY DISTRICT:

Road No. 45:- Roll in 350 cubic yards four inch material and 150 cubic yards broken stone. Position:- At Corragh and Coolmelea. Amount to be spent £275.

Road No. 48:- Roll in 220 cubic yards broken stone and 100 cubic yards four inch rough water bound macadam, 60 perches of eighteen feet road with necessary bottoming. Position:- From junction with 286 towards Tombrack. Amount to be spent £275.

Road No. 381:- Roll in 80 cubic yards broken stone at Aughtnacappa (centre patch). Amount to be spent £50.

Road No. 531 (Section 23):- Prepare, break and roll in 500 cubic yards Brownswood Quarry. Amount to be spent £400.

Total £1000.

GOREY DISTRICT:

Road No. 27M:- To quarry, Hand-break and roll (water bound) 350 cubic yards of stone on road between Gorey and Ballycanew. Amount to be spent - £190.

Road No. 1200:- To lower bad corner and widen road at Hollyfort. Expenditure £20.

Road No. 1900:- Same work in Coolishall as for Road 1200. Expenditure £30.

Widening and Drainage work as follows:-

Sections: 10 - £90; 20 - £95; 30 - £85; 40 - £45; 60 - £92; 70 - £45; 80 - £90 and 150 - £98.

Road No. 29:- Improve eight corners at Court and Ballyedmond. Expenditure £120.

Total £1000.

NEW ROSS DISTRICT:

Road No. 596:- Prepare and break 130 cubic yards Tomgarrow (Section 26) Quarry and lightly roll in, in patches. Amount to be spent £100.

Duncannon Road 835:- Roll in 250 yards (cubic) Haggard Quarry. Proposed expenditure £200.

The Hook. Road No. 859:- Roll in 140 cubic yards broken sea gravel. Expenditure £100.

Campile - Road No. 790:- Roll in 250 cubic yards broken stone Campile Quarry. Expenditure £200.

Aclamon - Road No. 656:- Roll in 120 cubic yards broken stone or repair with tarred stones and chippings. Proposed expenditure £100.

Arnestown - Road No. 653:- Roll in 250 cubic yards broken stone. Proposed expenditure £200.

Road No. 7280:- Ballinaboola to Foulks mills. Roll in 140 cubic yards broken stone near Ballinaboola. Expenditure £100.

Total £1000.

WEXFORD DISTRICT:

Road No.640 (Section 28):- Prepare, Break and roll in 200 cubic yards Eden Vale Quarry. To expend £190.

Road No.69M. - Clonard Cross to Bishopswater:- Roll in 300 cubic yards broken stone. Proposed expenditure £250.

Road No. 72M. - Knockeen to Taghmon:- Roll in 120 cubic yards broken stone. Allocation £100.

Road No. 16M. - Wexford to Rosslare:- Lower fences and erect paling on two bad bends, Kerlogue and Kellystown. To expend £60.

Road No.18M. - Wexford to Rosslare:- Lower fences and erect palings on four bends Kilsoran and Hayesland. To expend £60.

Road No. 34M - Wexford to Kilmore:- Lower fences on four corners and two bends and erect palings, Lightwater, Rathmacknee and Ringaheen. Allocation £80.

Road No.35M - Wexford to Kilmore:- Lower fences and erect palings on six corners at Tenacre, Moortown and Kilmore. Expenditure £90.

Road No.8980 - Duncormick to Carrig:- Improve double bend and one corner at Duncormick. Allocation £80.

Road No.9270 - Newcastle to Bridgetown:- Improve double bend and erect palings at Newcastle. Allocation £40.

Road No.57M - Waddingtown to Baldwinstown:- Improve four corners at Edgworthstown Crossroads. Expenditure £50.

Total £1000.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Keegan seconded by Mr. D'Arcy:- "That the Co. Council Representatives for Gorey County Electoral area deal with the selection of men in the area to be employed in connection with relief of Unemployment Grant from Department of Local Government and Public Health.

SOW DRAINAGE DISTRICT

The following report of Sow Drainage Committee was submitted:

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

SOW DRAINAGE AREA IMPROVEMENT

REPORT OF CO. COUNCIL COMMITTEE

The Committee appointed by the Co. Council for the purpose met the Sow Drainage Ratepayers in Glenbrien School on 5th December, 1933.

Present Col. Gibbon (who presided) Messrs. James Hall and John J. Culleton.

The Co. Secretary and Co. Surveyor were also in attendance.

It would appear from various statements made by Drainage Ratepayers that the work carried out under the £5000 State Grant was incomplete and inefficient inasmuch, as, according to them, some of the drains should not have been deepened but widened, and the spoil taken from the stream should have been removed and not dumped on the banks causing the loss of a considerable amount of land, small holders being particularly affected. Then the banks were made too steep, and in some instances the stakes keeping the banks in place had fallen and there was no protection for stock. Men who had only small holdings were badly hit by the amount of land lost.

Side drains had not been cleaned up, but this complaint would not refer to drains which were included in the original Scheme. Trees had been uprooted without compensation for their loss as shelter. Their roots had been covered up rendering the place dangerous. One ratepayer said it could be taken for granted that the whole townland of Killisk was not satisfied with the work.

In connection with drainage rate there was concensus of opinion that the present levy to recoup Co. Council for amount paid Board of Works should not be paid.

In view of this attitude it is advisable to call attention to the actual position.

The Drainage Maintenance Act 1924 Section 2 (2) empowered the Commissioners of Public Works to carry out any works which they considered essential at any drainage area and after this by Section 3 the Commissioners by a Charging Order could unload on the Co. Councils for future maintenance any schemes on which any money had been spent by the Commissioners after the passing of the Act.

The Co. Councils have no option but to take over such Schemes and are compelled by Section 8 to raise off ratepayers whose names are supplied by the Board of Works any sums necessary to pay for the upkeep of the drainage area and for the repayment of instalments of any loans borrowed from the Board for improvement.

A Charging Order giving the names of drainage ratepayers and amounts of each assessment obliging the Council to take over the Sow system was issued by the Board of Works on 16th January, 1932. This set out that the Trustees of the Drainage Area had bound the ratepayers to repay loan of £2663:4:4d being 75% of the sum spent by the Board of Works in agreement with the Trustees.

The Co. Council consulted the drainage ratepayers as to the work which had been carried out for the £3170:13:8d and found it ineffective and costly. They declined to take over the system and a long correspondence ensued with the Board of Works. Finally, letter of the Board of Works of 16th July, 1932 pointed out that a Scheme for the further improvement of the drainage conditions in the area had been prepared by them, and that the Minister for Finance had sanctioned the expenditure of £5000 from the Vote for the Relief of Unemployment on condition that the Wexford Co. Council pay the amount due to us under our Charging Order, and the Co. Council accepted the offer of the Board of Works; there was no way out.

Recognising, however, the hardship it would be on the

Ratepayers to pay the instalment of loan and arrears in one lump sum the Council asked that amount of arrears should be spread over as long a period as possible.

The following is an extract from letter of Board of Works of 17th January, 1933, to the Council:-

"We have laid before the Minister for Finance your Council's request that the repayment of arrears should be spread over as long a period as possible and he has agreed that the payment of arrears due to us may be extended over a period of four years. This is the maximum concession he is prepared to make."

And now a number of Sow Drainage Ratepayers say they will not pay, while the Council are compelled to collect the amount or be surcharged by Auditor.

And it is well to reiterate the fact that the loan was arranged not by the Co. Council but by the Trustees of the Drainage Ratepayers.

It was decided as a result of the meeting to adjourn the proceedings, the Co. Council, in the meantime, to ask the Board of Works to send a Representative to the next meeting when further consideration will be given to the manner in which the work was carried out.

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Mr. Hall proposed and Mr. O'Byrne seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That report of Sow Drainage Committee be received and considered."

Col. Gibbon said he had seen the point of the main drain and intended making a further inspection of the work later. He was taken aback at the attitude of the drainage ratepayers who had been provided with a wonderful channel and a wonderful drainage system. There were, as was bound to happen, some slight slips in the banks, but these were not of great account. As it would have taken the Committee several days in which to hear and sift all the complaints they came to the conclusion it was best to adjourn the proceedings and make a report to the Co. Council containing a request that the Council should ask the Board of Works to send down a Representative to inspect the drains and try to arrange matters. The main Drain was deep and in all such cases there was bound to be slipping and the stuff removed would not be of such use until after the lapse of a few years when grass would grow over it. The maintenance rate, until a real settlement had taken place, would be high for the next three or four years. There was no doubt that the payment of the rate and the arrears in four years meant a heavy charge on the ratepayers but the County Council asked to have this payment spread over as long a period as possible and were informed that the maximum period to which the Minister for Finance would consent was four years. He recommended, in view of the serious economic position of the ratepayers that a further attempt should be made to have the arrears and the instalments of loan due to date spread over a much greater period than four years.

Mr. Hall said he never was more surprised in his life than to find that after the expenditure of over £8000 no one was satisfied.

Mr. Culleton said that for three miles of the river with

with which he was acquainted he had been informed that only twenty yards of bank had slipped. In general it was admitted that the job was a splendid one and the Board of Works could not have had a better official in charge than Mr. Phillips.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Corish seconded by Mr. Culleton:- "That the report of Sow Drainage Committee be adopted. That the Office of Public Works be requested to send a Representative to next meeting between the Committee of the County Council and the Drainage Ratepayers. That the Board of Works and Department of Finance be requested, in view of the inability of the drainage ratepayers to make money, to arrange that the further payment of instalment of loan and arrears should be spread over ten years. And that if this arrangement cannot be made applicable to the present Rate in course of collection we consider the "spread over" should be applied to the balance due until the arrears have been paid by the drainage ratepayers."

PARAPETS OF ROAD BRIDGES

DELIBERATE DESTRUCTION

Col. Gibbon said that on Sunday when coming along the road from New Ross, through Foulksmills, he saw that the parapet of a bridge about a mile outside Ballinaboola on the Foulksmills side, was being deliberately thrown ~~down~~ into the river. He would like to know why some steps had not been taken to either stop the damage or have the parapet repaired.

Mr. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, said that he was not aware of the parapet referred to being damaged, but he was not a bit surprised. He knew of a bridge between Wexford and Ferry-carrig being stripped in a morning. That bridge had a proper parapet and it was thrown down, so far as they could find out, between the hours of eight o'clock and eleven o'clock. The occurrence was reported to the Guards. That sort of blackguardism was common. It was rampant, and was every day

becoming more so. As far as repairing the parapet was concerned, money was scarce.

Mr. Keegan - The damage should be stopped.

Mr. Birthistle - I quite agree, but we cannot stop it.

Col. Gibbon said he thought the Council should write to the Superintendent of the Civic Guards and let the surveyors draw up a report and give examples of the destruction that was going on - thoughtless and ignorant in some cases, and wilful in others - and that was costing the ratepayers money. It should be stopped, and someone should be had up for it.

Chairman - I think that is a very good suggestion.

Mr. Cummins - Will the Civic Guards act in this matter?

Chairman - Is it not their job.

Mr. Cummins said that there was a mile of a wall between Ballyhack and Arthurstown, and thousands of the ratepayers' money had been spent in the last forty years on it. There was not a week that there was not a breach put in this wall.

Chairman - I think you should put a cement coping on it.

Mr. Cummins - It was put on and was knocked off.

In reply to a query as to whether it was the Civic Guards' duty to act in the matter, Mr. D'Arcy said it was; it was public property.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Gibbon seconded by Mr. Clince:- "That the attention of the Chief Superintendent, Garda Siochana, be called to the wanton destruction of road and bridge parapet walls and that reports in connection with this matter be furnished by Assistant Surveyors for the information of the Garda Superintendent."

SOUTH WEXFORD HARBOURS

Under date 2nd December, 1933 (No.4011/33) the following was read from the Private Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries:-

"The Minister for Agriculture wishes me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 1st instant on the above subject, and to inform you that it is having attention."

Mr. Cummins who handed in a list of thirty-two unemployed men in Duncannon moved the following which was seconded by Mr. Hall and adopted:- "That the Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries be reminded of his promise in letter of 2nd December, 1933 (No.4011/33) that the subject of securing a grant to carry out much needed work at South Wexford Harbours in order to relieve unemployment would receive attention and that he be requested to move in this matter as soon as possible.

SCHOLARSHIPS IN SECONDARY AND
VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, 1934

The following under date 8th December, 1933 (F.34927) was read from the Office of National Education:-

"With reference to your communication of the 21st ult. submitting for approval the draft scheme of scholarships to be awarded by the Wexford County Council in 1934, I am to say that the matter has received the consideration of the Department, and that the scheme may be approved.

"It is suggested that the words "or Vocational" be inserted after "Secondary" in line 2, paragraph 4 of Scheme.

"In connection with paragraph 1, page 11, of Scheme I am to say that, as previously notified to your Council, should any case arise in connection with the award of a scholarship to a pupil teacher or preparatory college student it will be open to full consideration by the Department.

"I am to add that the syllabus for 1934 is the same as

"that approved for 1933, a copy of which is enclosed, and I am to request that your Council will forward, for the information of this Department, six copies of the amended scheme when printed for circulation."

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

"That Scheme of Scholarships tenable in Secondary and Vocational Schools for 1934 be printed and circulated in conformity with letter of 8th December, 1933 (F.34927) from Office of National Education."

The following relative to renewal of Primary to Secondary School Scholarships 1933/34 under date 5th December, 1933, was read from Office of National Education (Secondary Education Branch):-

"I have to inform you that the Department is prepared to sanction the renewal, for the school year 1933/34, of the Primary to Secondary School Scholarships awarded by the Wexford County Council to the undermentioned pupils:-

Loreto Convent, Wexford

Margaret D. O'Leary
Bridget T. O'Donnell
Kathleen Ennis
Ellen Sinnott
Margaret M. O'Neill (Inter. Cert. Hons. 1933)

St. Peter's College, Wexford

Dermot S. Fenelon
James Meyler
Edward P. Rossiter
James M. Druhan (Inter. Cert. Hons. 1933)

Loreto Convent Gorey

Mary C. Daly (Inter. Cert. Hons. 1933)
Kathleen F. Donnelly (" " Pass ")

Christian Brothers, Gorey

James A. Forde (Inter. Cert. Pass 1933)

"In the cases of Daniel F. Butler, and Richard R. O'Donnell of St. Peter's College, Wexford, it is noted that they failed to pass in the Intermediate Certificate Examination 1933

"after three years' tenure of their scholarships. Normally, the Department would not be prepared to give favourable consideration to the renewal of a scholarship in such circumstances, but, having regard to the fact that the terms of your Council's scheme do not require the attendance of the holder at any examination subsequent to the award of the scholarship I am to say that the Department will not withhold approval of the renewal for 1933/34 in either case."

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

"That Scholarship Committee be asked to consider the advisability of adding a Clause to the provisions of Scheme for Secondary and Vocational Scholarships that renewal of Scholarship for fourth year be conditional on pupil passing the Intermediate Certificate Examination."

FOURTH NATIONAL LOAN

Circular letter under date 2nd December, 1933, as to above was read from Department of Finance.

No order.

COURTOWN HARBOUR

Mr. Treanor reported that Mr. P. Donovan, Contractor for dredging basin at Courtown Harbour was unable (owing to lack of capital) to finish the work and the County Surveyor proposed taking it up and securing another Contractor.

Mr. Corish said that Donovan's Sureties should be consulted in the matter.

In reply to Mr. Corish, Mr. Treanor said that £460 was still unspent.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall seconded by Mr. Gaul:- "That consideration of the proposal to put the Contract for dredging balance of Courtown Harbour Basin into the charge of County Surveyor be adjourned for the attendance of that officer."

The following deputation from Courtown Harbour attended in connection with the following resolution of the County Council adopted at meeting of 11th September, 1933:-

"That a steam crane on rails with grab be provided for the development of Courtown Harbour at a cost not exceeding £1000 the Co.Secretary to ascertain if this amount can be borrowed from the Treasurer of the Council and for what period and at what rate."

Captain Kearon, Tomsilla, Courtown Harbour,
Captain Kearon, Arklow, Messrs. K. McNeill, Dudley Butler
and M. Fitzpatrick.

Mr. Butler said that the deputation and those interested in the project were in favour of a steam crane on rails and grab. They believed a caterpillar crane would not be suitable. They had a promise of 19,200 tons of shipping and of the employment of fifty men in the fishing industry if there was a constant depth of water provided in the channel. The proposal for the crane would solve the question of unemployment for Courtown.

Col. Gibbon asked why did they want a crane to unload cargo.

Captain Kearon said it was necessary that some machinery should be provided for the rapid unloading of vessels. The crane would be much faster than the ordinary steam winch.

Col. Quin said that Lord Fitzwilliam who had considerable experience in shipping cargoes was in favour of the caterpillar crane.

Captain Kearon, Arklow, said no engine run on oil would stand at places such as Courtown where there was always a considerable amount of sand blowing about. This would get into the bearings. The steam crane could be driven easier and would support a much longer jib.

Mr. Keegan held that the upkeep of the motor engine would be costly. They would want a driver at £3 per week and a mechanic at the same figure whereas if they paid 15/- a week to the present Harbour Master and a similar sum to the Night Watchman as an addition to their wages the steam crane could be worked by them. Then the motor driven crane could not be worked on the North side of the Pier across the bar.

Mr. Butler said that the Co. Surveyor was in favour of the steam crane and had also satisfied himself that the pier head was strong enough to bear the crane when working and would not be in danger of collapse by the necessary dredging to deepen the channel.

Captain Kearon, Arklow, said the Co. Council would have Sixpence per ton for harbour dues and 1/- per ton for use of crane which could be provided for in ship's charter.

In reply to the Chairman, Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor for the district, said that the crane and grab would be of great benefit to the harbour.

The following resolution was then adopted on the motion of Mr. D'Arcy seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That in view of the opinion of deputation from Courtown Harbour we confirm our resolution to provide for Courtown Harbour a steam crane on rails with grab at a cost not exceeding £1000 subject to the sanction of Department of Local Government and Public Health (Roads) money to be borrowed from County Council Treasurer."

On the suggestion of Col. Gibbon it was decided to request the Co. Surveyor to furnish report in writing that the working of the crane and grab would not cause injury to the pier and that no undermining of the structure was apprehended if the channel was dredged to the depth already decided upon.

MINOR RELIEF SCHEMES VOTE

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr. Corish:- "That the following applications for repair of lanes be scheduled for consideration under Minor Relief Schemes Vote when money under this Vote becomes available viz:- Annagh Lane, Killena, Gorey; "Priests" Lane, Boley, Ballycullane; lane leading from residences of Matthew Larkin and Patrick Keating of Nuke, Arthurstown.

ADVERTISING

Quotations were received from "The Wexford People", "Free Press" and "Echo" for the County Advertising as obtained in 1933 from 1st January, 1934 to 31st December, 1934, at £110 each.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That quotations from "The Wexford People", "Free Press" and "Echo" newspapers for insertion of County Council advertisements as obtained for year 1933 at £110 each be accepted for period from 1st January, 1934, to 31st December, 1934."

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That we hereby agree to the following advances under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts:

Andrew Doyle, Rectory Road, Enniscorthy, £130 loan
on £200 house; Government Grant £70;
Christopher Doyle, Templeshannon, Enniscorthy £130 loan
on £200 house; Government Grant £70.

TOWN AND REGIONAL

PLANNING BILL

Under date 30th November, 1933, the Secretary, County Councils General Council, forwarded report relative to above Bill prepared by their Emergency Committee and which had been approved by the Executive Committee. The Bill was far

reaching in its effect and it was most desirable that its provisions should be carefully examined by all local authorities and their considered views submitted to the Minister.

Letter was read from Mr. Elgee, Co. Solicitor, recommending the purchase of copies of the Bill for the use of Members of the Council.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Cummins seconded by Mr. Corish:- "That each County Councillor be supplied with copy of Regional and Town Planning Bill and also with copy of report prepared by the Emergency Committee of the County Councils' General Council dealing with this matter and that further consideration of this Bill be adjourned to next meeting of the Council."

LAND ACT 1933 and

DEDUCTIONS FROM GRANTS

The Secretary, General Council of County Councils wrote under date 30th November, 1933, that he had been informed by the Land Commission that as the work in connection with the Revision of Annuities and the funding of arrears had not yet been completed it was not possible to furnish statement showing for each County the amount of arrears of Land Purchase Annuities in respect of which deductions had been made from Government Grants in aid of Local Taxation and which were to be (a) remitted and (b) funded under the Land Act for 1933.

AMENDMENT OF SMALL DWELLINGS

ACQUISITION ACTS

Under date 30th November, 1933, the Secretary, General Council of County Councils, wrote that as regards resolution of the General Council advocating the simplification of the procedure in making title in compliance with the above named Act and the reduction of the legal expenses involved, the Chairman and Secretary of the General Council had an interview

recently with the Secretary of the Department of Local Government and Public Health. The latter stated that his Department was fully alive to the difficulties of the position and was engaged in considering the matter. He hoped shortly to be in a position to place before the Minister a Scheme by which the procedure under the Act would be simplified and the costs reduced.

RELIEF OF UNEMPLOYMENT

The following resolution from Wicklow Co. Council was adopted on the motion of Mr. Cummins seconded by Mr. Corish:-

"That we, the Wicklow County Council, desire to urge in the strongest possible manner on the Government to draft and put into operation a Scheme for the relief of unemployment, at present so prevalent in this and other Counties, based on the following lines:

(1) That the names of farmers willing to re-employ discharged men, or to add to the number of men hitherto employed, be embodied in a Register.

(2) That men accustomed to and suitable for agricultural work, at present unemployed and living in the immediate neighbourhood of such farmer, should be allocated to work for the aforementioned farmers, and a proportion - not less than half - of the wages of these re-employed or newly employed men be guaranteed and paid by the Government to these farmers under a National Scheme, so long as the farmers benefiting under the Scheme do not reduce the wages or the number of men employed by them normally prior to registration, and such men are employed on useful and productive work."

SUITABLE SCHOOLS AND PLAY-GROUNDS

The following resolution from Mayo County Council was adopted on the motion of Mr. Cummins seconded by Mr. Corish:-

"That in the interests of the health of Irish children

"we request the Minister for Education to replace the dilapidated, insanitary and unsuitable National Schools to be found in several districts in the Saorstát by new structures. That we also request the Irish Land Commission when distributing land in the vicinity of National Schools to make provision for commodious play-grounds for the youngsters and thus prevent many of the fatal accidents which frequently occur on our public roads as a result of the children having no other place for recreation."

PROPOSED CONTRIBUTORY PENSION SCHEME

The following resolution from Westmeath Co. Council was marked "read" on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Corish:

"That the Government be requested to pass legislation to establish a Pension Fund under which Officials employed by the Co. Council and its Subsidiary Bodies do contribute to a Pension Fund in collaboration with County Councils, and thereby relieve the Ratepayers of the full pecuniary responsibility under law as it now stands of paying retiring Officials, who are legally entitled to pensions all put on the County Rates."

The following addendum was added:- "That joint contributions be paid to a reliable Insurance Company, who will be responsible for payment of Superannuations."

CRIMINAL INJURY ACTS

The following resolution from Killarney Urban District Council was adopted on the motion of Mr. D'Arcy seconded by Mr. Corish:- "That we call on the Government to introduce legislation repealing the Criminal Injury Acts which were enacted by an alien Government in an endeavour to assist the Landlords in the Land war struggle, as we consider that the Acts are now serving no useful purpose save to shelter Insurance Companies from observing their lawful obligations to their insured."

A similar resolution was forwarded by Wexford Co. Council to the General Council of Co. Councils but was not adopted by the latter.

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Michael Doyle