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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

M I N U T E S

of

MEETING HELD ON 9th FEBRUARY, 1931

N. J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

FORTVIEW,
WEXFORD.

(1)

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

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

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

PAYMENTS.

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

THE LATE MRS JORDAN.

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

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

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

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

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THE LATE MRS O'BYRNE, GOREY.

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

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

The motion was adopted in silence.

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

CONFIRMATION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES.

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

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

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

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

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

PAYMENTS.

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

TRAVELLING EXPENSES OF MACHINERY OVERSEER.

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

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

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

RECONSTRUCTION OF OLD JAIL PREMISES AS COURT ETC.

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

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

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

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

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

RURAL DANCE HALLS.

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

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME.

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

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

ESTIMATE OF COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH.

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

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

DEFAULTING LAND PURCHASE ANNUITANTS

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

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

FERNS DISPENSARY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sec. 12 of the above mentioned Act provides that the

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

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

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

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

COLLECTION OF POOR RATE.

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

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

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

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

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

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

ILLNESS OF MR JOHN KEHOE,
ASSISTANT SURVEYOR.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

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

STATE OF RATE COLLECTION.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

No order.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

TRACINGS OF HOLDINGS

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

RECONSTRUCTION OLD JAIL.

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

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

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

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

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

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local firms.

ESTIMATE OF RATES.

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

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

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

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

USE OF HEAVY MOTOR CARS OVER WEXFORD BRIDGE.

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

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

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

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

Mr. Hall seconded. Passed.
SHEEP DIPPING ORDER.

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

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

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

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATION.

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

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

GOREY COURTHOUSE.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NATIONAL MONUMENTS ACT 1930.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

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

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

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

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

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

"The following resolutions were also adopted:-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

A vote was taken with the following result:-

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

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

Mr Roche was not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

PROVISIONAL ROAD WORKS SCHEME.

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

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

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

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

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

Mr Hall seconded the motion.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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for the work.

Mr Gaul seconded.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

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

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

Mr Keegan seconded.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

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

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

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The proposition was declared carried.

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

Mr Walsh seconded.

On a division the voting resulted:

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

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

The motion was passed.

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

Mr Colfer seconded.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

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

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

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

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

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

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

A poll was taken with the following result:-

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

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

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

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

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

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

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

Chairman - I would not.

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

Chairman - Where are you going to get it ?

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

Mr Keegan - Is it in order ?

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

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

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

Main Roads.

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

County Roads

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

Gross Total.....£40,000: 4: 8d.

Mr Hall seconded the motion which passed nem con.

ESTIMATE FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

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

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

Loans - Bridges

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

HARBOURS

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

HARBOURS

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

COURTHOUSES &c

Wexford	£2861
Maintenance Wexford,	
Enniscorthy, New Ross	
and Gorey	<u>£ 100</u>
	<u>£2961</u>

County Buildings	<u>£ 100</u>
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Expenses transfer	
Offices	£ 50

PUBLIC WORKS - ESTIMATE 1931-32

S U M M A R Y

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mr Colfer - Oh, there is.

County Surveyor - Ballyhack is undoubtedly bad.

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

Mr Colfer - I think you should have provided something.

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

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

COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH AND SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Chairman - By not adopting the whole scheme they gain.

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

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

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

Mr O'Byrne seconded.

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

Chairman - I have no objection.

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

Chairman - Some of the members knew nothing about it.

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

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

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

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

Chairman - We are not on that question now.

Colonel Gibbon's motion was then put and adopted.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

LOAN FOR CLONROCHE WATER SUPPLY.

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

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

Mr Shannon seconded.

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

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

The motion was adopted Mr Brennan dissenting.

LOAN FOR MATERNITY WARDS - COUNTY HOSPITAL.

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

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

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

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION ACT 1930 - RATE FOR.

Demand from Co. Wexford Vocational Education Committee

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

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

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

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

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

Colonel Quin - But you cannot get out if it.

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

LIVE STOCK AND AGRICULTURE.

SCHEMES OF COUNTY COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURE.

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

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

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

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

COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE.

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

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

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for Library purposes."

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

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

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

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

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

The Chairman declared the amendment carried.

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

CINEMA EXITS.

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

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

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

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

VETERINARY SURGEON'S LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

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

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

CARETAKER COUNTY COURTHOUSE WEXFORD.

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

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

CLAIM BY CONTRACTORS.

RECONSTRUCTION WEXFORD-FERRYCARRIG ROAD.

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

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

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contract.

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

The account which accompanied this letter was as follows:

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

It was decided to consider this matter in committee.

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

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

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

HIRE OF MACHINERY.

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

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

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

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

TRAFFIC IN OLD HORSES FOR EXPORT.

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

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

PAYMENT TO ROAD CONTRACTORS.

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

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

ADJOURNED TO NEXT MEETING.

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

W. J. Byrne
23 Feb. 1931

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

MEETING - 23RD FEBRUARY 1931

MINUTES.

FORTVIEW

WEXFORD .

N.J.FRIZELLE

SECRETARY

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

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

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

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

THE LATE MR. DORAN, ENNISCORTHY.

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

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

The motion was adopted in silence.

THE LATE MR M. MOORE, JOURNALIST.

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

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

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

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

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Colonel Gibbon's resolution was adopted.

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

Colonel Quin - But that may happen again.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of

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

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

MACHINERY AND QUARRY CHARGES.

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

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

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

For Road material a flat rate as under:-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mr D'Arcy - Not a word about it.

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

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

Mr O'Byrne proposed that the matter be adjourned.

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

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

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

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

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

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

high and the Committee struck an average.

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

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

HIRE OF MACHINERY.

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

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

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

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

Mr Corish agreed with Mr Hall.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MAINTENANCE OF MAIN ROADS.

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

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

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

patches."

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mr D'Arcy seconded.

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

Mr Hayes seconded.

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

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

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

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

Mr Meyler was not present when poll was taken.

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

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

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

ROAD GRANTS.

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

RECONSTRUCTION OF OLD JAIL.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"That copy of letter under date 9th February, 1931, from Messrs McNally & Co., East Wall, Dublin, Contractors for reconstruction of old Jail premises demanding immediate payment of £2500 certified by County Surveyor on foot of their Contract be furnished Department of Finance. That it be pointed out to this Department that when the plans for the reconstruction of the premises were sanctioned by them no provision was made for direct access from the prisoners' cells to the Dock by means of a stairs leading from the Court to a landing on the ground floor, and the County Council believed that the cost of this extra work should have been provided from Government funds.

In the circumstances, however, the Finance Committee urge the Department of Finance to forward at once Pay Order for the £2500 which has been certified by County Surveyor, and which would leave in their hands a much larger amount than would be involved in the construction of the stairway.

In view of the letter of Messrs McNally & Co. the Finance

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Committee consider it most unjust that seeing the amount of money retained by the Department of Finance that this Department should allow proceedings to be taken against the Council."

Mr Elgee said he had received that morning from the Finance Department a Pay Order for £1595: 14: 3d. in favour of the Council and Capt. Redmond. This was made up of £1500 plus £112:12s. less £16: 17: 9d. for Income Tax.

Chairman - Are we liable for that income tax ?

Mr Corish - I think it is questionable. I think we ought to fight it.

Chairman - I don't believe we are liable - a bankrupt Council like we are. I don't see how we are making profits.

Mr Elgee suggested that the Council should apply for a refund.

It was agreed to apply for a refund.

In reply to a query, the Secretary said that according to the Department's last letter they had only £400 of the award for the Courthouse on hands, but according to the Co. Surveyor's figures they should have £900.

The County Surveyor said that the original award was £5,000, and then there was something about a ten per cent addition to that which would be another £500. In dealing with the figures sent on the Department had ignored that £500.

Mr Corish - Unless you rebuild on the actual situation of the burning aren't they entitled to make a stoppage ?

The County Surveyor remarked that the transfer to the Old Jail had been sanctioned.

Mr D'Arcy - Isn't the Act of Parliament there ? They have to pay it.

Mr Corish suggested that the money had been withheld in cases in Co. Wexford.

Chairman - They haven't done it in every case that I know of.

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The County Surveyor said the Department were holding £400 against the stairway, and there was also the ten per cent - the £500. The Department said they would not give the £400, but they had not referred to the ten per cent.

Chairman - I think they are bound to give you the ten per cent,

Colonel Quin - Would I be in order in proposing we put up that stairway at once?

The Chairman replied that it would not be in order; there was already a resolution on the books with regard to the matter.

Miss O'Ryan remarked that the resolution was that the stairway should be provided by money from the Finance Department.

Mr Corish asked permission to raise a question in the Dail on the matter, and it was agreed that he should do so.

The matter was then adjourned pending receipt of copy of reply to question to be raised in An Dail by Mr Corish.

CLOSING OF CLIFF ROAD, ROSSLARE.

The following under date 12th February, 1931, was read from Messrs M.J. O'Connor & Co., Solicitors:-

"We are instructed by Mr Thomas James, of Woldingham House, Rosslare Strand, to write to you with reference to the closing of the Cliff Road at Rosslare. As you are possibly aware, Mr James resides in one of the houses adjoining Cliff Road and is now put to very serious inconvenience by the action of the County Council in closing the road. We understand from him that barriers have been erected on the road and that no steps have been taken to put the road into a proper state of repair. This action on the part of the Council will mean a very serious loss to our client and we would be glad to know what the Council are prepared to do in the matter. We may mention that Mr James wrote to the Roads Department of the Department of Local Government and Public Health and received from the Secretary the following letter dated 22nd January, 1931: "With reference to your letter of the 20th instant I am direct-

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ed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state he has not acceded to the application of the Wexford County Council for an order authorising them to close temporarily Rosslare Cliff Road. You should therefore communicate with the County Council in regard to your grievance - Mise le meas.' We are further informed by Mr James that the present dangerous condition of the road has been caused by the action of the public authorities in the manner in which they drew sand for public work and in the manner in which the pipes were placed on the road and down the side of the bank. We would be glad if you will kindly bring this matter before your Council and let us know what they propose to do about it."

The County Surveyor said that the Council did not close the road; it was closed by nature. What the Council did was to fence it across to protect the public. They had formally asked for authority to close the road, but the L.G.D. had refused it. The road had been closed by the slipping away of the bank. They had a barricade at each end and a fence along the side as well.

Mr Elgee, Solicitor, said he thought the Council first had the barricade beyond three houses at the place; he thought they left the road open to those houses.

Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, said the road was still open, and the occupants could get in with motors or whatever they liked, but of course there was a notice there, and they went in at their own risk.

On the proposal of Colonel Gibbon, seconded by Mr D'Arcy, it was decided to reply to Mr James and refer him to the County Surveyor's explanation.

ROAD FROM GABY'S CROSS TO LEACY'S SLENGRANE.

The following under date 12th February, 1931, was read from Julia and Bridget Dempsey, James Cummins and Laurence Lacy:-

"We, the undersigned ratepayers whose interests are

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chiefly concerned, hereby ask your Council to again put the road into contract from Gaby's Cross to the late William Leacy's gate at Slenagrane. This part of the road was allowed to fall out of contract during the late European War when times were very abnormal and we have made no complaint of the matter till now as it is getting into a very bad condition and at one place highly dangerous, to traffic. Convenient to Laurence Leacy's gate there is a pool of water the side of which at one place is fairly steep and may be well calculated to cause any vehicle to turn over should one of the wheels slip in, and at another place here the road is getting very much narrowed up from erosion by water and is sometimes flooded.

This part of the road leads to the entrance of two of the signatories' farmyards and in the case of the other he has to use it for traffic to and from the main part of his farm.

If repairs to it be not carried out before another winter passes the road will have fallen into a very bad condition entirely, as a motor lorry has now to frequently travel it at least as far as the late William Leacy's gate.

There is a very considerable amount of traffic carried on upon this old road leading from Gaby's Cross to lower Oulart and a good many people living along it who have to use it in getting to and from their houses. We would like to suggest therefore, that in the event of any public grant being made for a like purpose part of it would be well spent upon this road in making some improvements."

The County Surveyor said about a quarter of a mile of this road was under Contract up to 1916 when the Enniscorthy District Council threw it out and it had never been repaired since. The far end had never been done.

Mr Cullen (Assistant Surveyor) said it would cost £34 to put into repair the portion of the lane which had been formerly under Contract.

After discussion Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution which was adopted without dissent:-

"That the County Surveyor offer the persons concerned sufficient material for repair of portion of lane from Gaby's Cross to Slengrane which was formerly under contract."

FLOODING AT MARSHALSTOWN.

Under date 20th January, 1931, Mr Cline, County Council-
lor, wrote that he had received a complaint as to flooding of
the road at Marshallstown Post Office where a stream of water
crosses the road. A small piece of ground over which four
people had to cross was in a terrible state when this stream
overflows. Water off the road ran on to it and the place was
now dangerous to traffic. There was also a dangerous corner
opposite Fr. O'Brien's gate, and on a cross roads, which re-
quired to be looked to.

Mr Cline proposed and Mr O'Byrne seconded the appoint-
ment of a committee to inspect and report.

Mr Ennis said the place complained was really on a private
lane jutting on to the road which was 20 feet wide.

Colonel Quin asked why if this was a private road they
should have anything to do with it. He proposed the following
which was seconded by Mr Hall:- "That no action be taken by
the County Council as to complaint re flooding at Marshalls-
town post office."

The Chairman said if this was a private lane notice of
motion to take it over would have to be given.

Mr Ennis - Anything you could do would not remedy it.

The County Surveyor said he was perfectly satisfied it
was not public work though he had no objection to the appoint-
ment of a committee.

After further discussion Colonel Quin withdrew his amend-
ment and the proposal to appoint a Committee to inspect and
report was agreed to.

The following Committee was appointed:- Messrs Cline,
Hall, Jordan and Shannon with the County Surveyor who was em-
powered to fix date of inspection.

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BURROW, ROSSLARE

The following under date 20th December, 1930, was read from Mr James Bent, Burrow, Rosslare:-

"I must thank you to place this note in the hands of your County Council with reference to preserving my home and the locality of the Burrow. This can be done without building a wall from my house to Hopeland Bank. Now, there is another and better way of saving the place that is impassable and I beg leave to point out that my suggestion is to build a wall from the Island on a bank known as Butler's Bank. This bank runs west to east by north-east, and encloses about five or six acres of sloblands, and will save the Burrow from the sea and afford a right-of-way. I believe out of this big grant of money there is no better way than to spend £500 or £600 than in this fine piece of slobland, which will repay this small outlay in a few years, and will, I am sure, repay it. It is not like spending large sums of money and having no returns for it. I have pointed this out to the authorities, when I was informed my suggestion would have attention. I believe if your Council bring this before the Government that they will give some of this large grant for this purpose, as they cannot be at any loss, having this fine piece of land for their money. The whole bank is built of marl and heavy stone, and will be easily reclaimed."

County Surveyor - We have no authority to reclaim land as far as I know.

The Chairman said he did not think the suggestion could be entertained by the Council. He was sure the people at the Burrow were in a very bad way owing to not being able to get in or out of the place, but owing to the amount of money that would be involved he thought it was out of the question to do anything.

Miss O'Ryan - Would this be a question for the Drainage Board or the Land Commission ?

Chairman - I don't know that it would be. It is a question of reclamation, and I think you would have to get an Act of Parliament.

Mr Shannon - I propose the Council bring the matter under the notice of the Department concerned. The people down there surely have a grievance and no one knows that better than the Chairman.

Chairman - The thing is where are you to get the money ? I think it has been under the notice of the proper authority more than once.

Mr Shannon suggested that they should again bring it under the notice of the proper authority, and ask them to finance the work.

The Chairman said he thought the work would cost £6000 and not £600.

On the proposition of Mr McCarthy it was decided to inform Mr Bent that the Council regretted their inability to fall in with his suggestion in the matter, as it was deemed impracticable.

NEW ROSS - WEXFORD ROAD VIA CAMROSS.

A letter was read from Mr W.F. Hearn L.L.D. New Ross complaining of the concrete road put down at Tomcoole which he said was a fearful failure. It was a mistake to put down concrete with a roller and from a motoring point of view the road was now the same to travel over as any pot-holed road. As regards the steam rolled sections of this road unless properly dressed with grit and tar at the earliest opportunity the surface would go back to its original very unsatisfactory state. If the untreated parts of the road - about seven miles - which had been abandoned for the past two years in anticipation of being steam rolled last year - were not seen to at once they would become grossly unfit for traffic. He (Dr. Hearn) unless the complaints he made were

remedied would have to continue as for the past 18 months to motor through Enniscorthy to Wexford 68 miles as against 48 by the Camross route and a loss of 40 minutes each day he was on the road.

Colonel Quin thought Dr. Hearn's statement might be marked "read".

Mr Walsh said there was something in Dr. Hearn's remarks about the concrete road. The concrete section was a very rough job, and a car travelled very badly on it. It appeared to be very wavy, and it shook a car tremendously; in fact a car travelled over it much as it would over a bad road. It was not in any way smooth, and he thought that before they did any more of such work they should find out the cause of the condition of the road.

Miss O'Ryan said she travelled over the road in question probably oftener than any other member, and she really had no complaint. It was not altogether a perfect job, but she held it was good enough.

Mr Cooney said he agreed with Mr Walsh. The difference was found when the Ferrycarrig-Wexford road ^{was} reached.

Miss O'Ryan remarked that the Ferrycarrig-Wexford road cost more money.

Mr Birthistle stated that the money spent on the road referred to by Dr. Hearn was very little more than would be spent on an ordinary mud-bound road.

Colonel Gibbon said that if a car were driven at thirty miles an hour such a road was an excellent road, but if the road were treated as a racing track it was not level enough. It was not intended to be a racing track. Taking the cost of the road to the Council into consideration it was an excellent motor road.

Mr Shannon - To my mind it is a pity that more of the roads were not made like that. Thirty miles an hour is fast enough, and there are no complaints of horses slipping on it.

Mr Walsh said he was under the impression that a more

even surface could be got on the road. He thought the surface underneath the road must not have been right, as otherwise the concrete would be better.

The matter dropped.

LEVELLING A DITCH.

The following under date 9th February, 1931, was read from Denis Byrne, The Waste, Camolin:-

"I propose levelling out an old ditch which stands opposite a new house which I have built at above address, and in its place to erect concrete post with wire fencing taking in a waste space which at present serves no purpose.

The Surveyor has been to inspect and approves of my proposal.

I would be obliged if you would let me know by return if I can carry on with the work."

Colonel Quin considered it would be very dangerous to agree to Mr Byrne's application.

The County Surveyor said this was a recess at the side of the road and was a swamp. If fenced off it would be an improvement to the road.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Clince seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That no action be taken by Wexford County Council regarding application of Denis Byrne, the Waste, Camolin as to levelling ditch."

SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES.

The following applications for award of Secondary Scholarship were received:- James Baker, Tinnock, Gorey; Julia Browne, Killtilahane, Carnew; Patrick Casey, Corlican, Killurin; Richard Hayes, Kilmore Quay; Aidan Howlin, Glynn, Wexford; John Keating, Ballyteigue, Kilmore Quay; James Meyler, Blackhall, Glynn; Mary J. Tallon, Ballyart, Killena, Gorey; James Forde, Delta Cottage, Gorey; Edmond P. Rossiter, Rathmore, Broadway; Ellen Sinnott, Broadway, Wexford; Frederick J. Valette,

1173, Railway Terrace, Rosslare Harbour; James Walker, Drum-derry, Bunclody; Christina M. Devereux, Danescastle, Bannow.

The Secretary stated that the last day for receipt of applications was 17th February, 1931, but an application had been received on 20th February, 1931, from Mary Dymphna O'Leary, Castleboro, Clonroche, daughter of John O'Leary, labourer, who had four children under 18 years old.

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

Castleboro, Clonroche,

"That the application of Mary Dymphna O'Leary/ for award of secondary scholarship although received three days late be accepted."

In connection with the application of Julia Browne, Killtilahane, Carnew, the Council decided that application could not be entertained as she was 14 years old on 14th June, 1931.

Regarding the application of Aidan Howlin, whose father's valuation was £71, the limit according to scheme being £45, Miss O'Ryan said this man's holding was very highly valued and he was so badly off at the moment he was unable to pay his land annuity. She proposed the following resolution:- "That as this Council believes Patrick Howlin, Glynn, Wexford, is not in a position to afford a secondary education to his boy Aidan, we request the Department of Education to allow this Council to accept application in this case and to regard Aidan Howlin as eligible to compete for secondary scholarship."

Mr Shannon seconded the resolution which was adopted.

In connection with application of Christina M. Devereux who resided with Ellen Whyte, Danescastle, Bannow, who claimed to be her guardian, Ellen Whyte declined to furnish a statement of the valuation of Patrick Devereux, Ambrosetown, the child's father, on the ground that the child had resided with her since she was a baby and she therefore did not think it necessary to furnish any valuation certificate for the Ambrosetown holding.

The Secretary stated that according to the Rate Book Mr

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Dever~~ea~~x was rated on a valuation of £56 and the limit in his case was £45.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the Department of Education be requested to agree to this Council declaring Christina M. Dever~~ea~~x, as eligible to compete for Secondary Scholarship."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Clince:- "That we agree to the eligibility of James Baker, Patrick Casey, Richard Hayes, John Keating, James Meyler, Mary J. Tallon, James Forde, Edmond P. Rossiter, Ellen Sinnott, Frederick J. Valette and James Walker as eligible to compete for award of Secondary Scholarships and with the permission of the Department of Education also include as eligible for award of such Scholarships Aidan Howlin, Christina M. Dever~~ea~~x and Mary D.O'Leary."

The Secretary stated that 32 applications for these scholarships were received in 1930 and only 15 for the present year.

OLD AGE PENSIONS ACT.

VACANCY ON SUB - COMMITTEE NO. 1.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That as recommended by Sub-Committee No. 1 (Old Age Pensions Act) Mr John Batterton, Bridgetown, be appointed a member of this Sub-Committee vice Mr Ml. Hassett, resigned."

WEXFORD'S PLOUGHING VICTORY.

Mr Murphy said they had had a lot of talk about Irish manufacture, and he thought it would be no harm for the Council to pass a vote congratulating the Wexford ploughmen who, with Wexford ploughs, won the championship of Ireland. Their victory demonstrated that Wexford made ploughs should get much more support than they were getting at present, and that Wexford made ploughs, and Irish-made articles generally, could compete with any article made anywhere.

Mr O'Byrne seconded Mr Murphy's proposition, and said he thought that in the whole competition there were only six Irish ploughs - only three apart from those used by the County Wexford representatives.

The Chairman said he was very pleased that their local manufacturers did so well, and he was still more pleased that their ploughmen did so well. They had had ploughing competitions all over the county, and he thought they were a credit to the county. Extraordinarily good work was, he believed, done at all the centres. The only thing he regretted was that one champion was left at home. He thought a man who had defeated the winner of the All-Ireland prize was left at home. That man defeated Mr Jones at Killinick, with a Pierce plough also.

Mr D'Arcy said that they had expected that man in Gorey where they had a ploughing match, but he did not attend.

Mr O'Byrne - It only shows the efficiency of Wexford ploughmen in general when you did not even bring the best.

Mr Hall - We are proud of both the men and the firm that made the ploughs. It is a credit to County Wexford.

Mr Hayes - I hope this will be an inducement for the support of Wexford made ploughs.

Mr Cummins - Would it be too much to ask that those who have foreignmade ploughs should do away with them.

Chairman - Remember that some of the Irish manufacturers would not contribute even one shilling for a prize at any of the matches, whereas foreign firms did.

Mr D'Arcy - Liberally.

Mr Murphy's proposition was passed.

TOURIST RATE FOR 1931

Correspondence was read from Irish Tourist Association asking for sympathetic consideration to the appeal of the Association for support and co-operation. In connection with the forthcoming Eucharistic Congress in Dublin the Association asked

that provision should be made in the Council's Estimate for the coming year for a special rate under 67 of the Local Government Act of 1925 to cover the expense of local and national organisation and invited the active co-operation of Public Bodies and their individual members with the efforts of the Association to organise events of local interest and to see that the reception and treatment of visitors in 1930 should be worthy of an unique occasion.

Mr Barry, Assistant Secretary of the Association who attended the meeting, said that this year in particular the Association were making a stronger appeal than ever before, and wanted the Council to give an increased amount if they could. They appreciated very much what the Council had done in past years, and he thought it was mainly due to the support given by the Council and other public bodies that the Association had been able to increase the tourist traffic which at present was worth at least £3,000,000 to the country. The main essential if they were to increase the traffic was to advertise the attractions of the Country. This year, in view of the Eucharistic Congress, the Association were anxious that the Council should increase their support if possible. It was the duty of everyone concerned in the tourist industry to send the people who came for the Eucharistic Congress away with a very good impression of the country. When tourists came to Ireland they spent their money, and it ~~want~~ to enrich every section of the community.

The Chairman said that in previous years the Council gave a farthing in the £ and it was always put to a vote. He did not know what the Council would do this year, but he certainly thought that if there was any necessity for the rate in previous years it was quite essential this year. He had opposed the rate consistently every year, believing that the Association should be kept up by the people who benefited directly. He could agree to some extent that the money might percolate through all classes after a time, but he knew

that in some remote districts the people reaped very little benefit. However, if a contribution were ever necessary he would say it was necessary this year especially. From many points of view they should not turn down the application this year, but he certainly would not be a party to giving an increase.

Colonel Gibbon said he wished to ask Mr Barry if he could point out that the Association had done anything specially for County Wexford, or was the work of the Association only general for all Ireland. Last year it was suggested that to get tourists into Co. Wexford some facilities should be pressed for by the Association to get motors landed at Rosslare easier than at present, and he could not see that the Association had done anything in the matter.

Colonel Quin said that advertising was magnificent, but the chief thing in Germany, France and Switzerland was the excellence of the hotels. If they could improve the accommodation it would do a great deal towards bringing tourists and enticing them to return. He knew that in one leading hotel in Dublin there was no electric light over one's bed, and one had to get out of bed to turn the light off. That was a most barbarous thing.

Mr D'Arcy asked if the Association had any funds except the money from the rates.

Mr Barry said as well as being engaged in publicity the Association were also concerned with anything that would increase the traffic - they were also concerned with hotels, roads, etc. Their activities were mostly confined to advertising, and they could only agitate with the companies and other people concerned to get them to improve facilities, and he thought they had done a lot in that way. With regard to motors at Rosslare, the Association had taken the matter up and he was pretty sure that as a result the conditions that Col. Gibbon

complained of would be improved. They had been agitating for better and bigger hotels and cheaper prices. They understood that unless they could get good conditions for tourists they might come once, but would not return. He thought they had made considerable headway as far as hotels were concerned, because he knew for a fact that within the past two years up to half a million pounds had been spent on hotel improvement. To-day they had at least sixty hotels with hot and cold water in all their rooms, and he thought that in the next two years they would have two hundred hotels fitted similarly. In addition to public money the Association received contributions from people concerned in the tourist industry, of whom they had a fairly big membership, and in addition a number of visitors subscribed. The main revenue ^{came} from hotels, shipping companies, etc., and through the rates from public bodies. About ten per cent of the money from public bodies was only allowed for administrative purposes, and the remainder had to be spent on advertising.

Mr Corish said it was only fair to say that the Association by resolution made a demand for an increased subscription from hotels, and that was paid. He thought the increase was two hundred per cent.

In reply to Mr Roche, Mr Barry said that the Association's advertising scheme had to be submitted to the Minister for Industry and Commerce. A big percentage had to be spent for the Press, and the difficulty they worked under was that most of their advertising had to be done outside, and was not seen by local people. Owing to the fact that most of the Association's work was done outside the county it was, perhaps, not appreciated by the people concerned at home.

Mr Roche said there were several people in Ireland who went abroad on tours, and never heard of the beauty spots in their own country. He suggested that a campaign should be started at home, because a lot of people went away for scenery every year while they probably had as good at home if they

knew about it. He thought they should start advertising at home first. He would like to know how the percentage was spent in advertising County Wexford last year. £360 should have been spent out of the £400 in advertising Co. Wexford. Mr Barry said that 10 per cent of what was contributed by each county was only deducted for a general fund, and that the balance was used for advertising the country.

Chairman - You are correct, but there may be a misunderstanding. Mr Barry told you he had to spend some of that money in foreign papers to advertise Wexford there.

Mr Barry said the Chairman was ^{quite} right. First of all it might be said that the money was spent in the Press of the world, and a portion was set aside for circulating photographs to papers. A small percentage was set aside for national publicity, from which Wexford would benefit, as Rosslare was a port of landing.

In answer to Mr Roche, Mr Barry said that £360 had been spent specially on Co. Wexford.

Mr Culleton - Do the Wexford hotel owners contribute generously to ~~this~~ fund?

Mr Barry - They do, and, as Mr Corish says, subscriptions have been more than doubled this year. Ninety-nine per cent of the hotels subscribe to the Association.

Mr D'Arcy said he understood that in Switzerland tourists paid sixpence a day for advertising, and that it appeared on the tourists' bills whether they liked it or not. The people who owned the hotels collected the money and advertised. They had to admit that 90 per cent of the people of County Wexford would get no benefit from the Contribution from the rates.

Chairman - I agree with that, but this is an exceptional year in our history, and were it not for that I would not be as favourable to the granting of a contribution.

Miss O'Ryan said that all the hotels should use Irish

produce - Irish farmers' butter and eggs and Irish bacon etc.

Mr D'Arcy - And also they should charge moderate prices.

Chairman - I don't hold any brief for hotel proprietors, but I know hotels in my own locality, and I find that they do generally patronise local produce.

Miss O'Ryan asked Mr Barry to see that the Association would attend to the matter of the use of Irish produce in hotels.

Mr Barry said it was his particular business to inspect every hotel in Ireland regularly, and it was part of the Association's business to see that nothing would be put on the table but Irish produce. It was not enough to bring people to a country if they used foreign stuff. As far as the food supply was concerned he thought that 90 per cent of the hotels used nothing but the produce of the country, and visitors said that the food in Ireland was the best that the world could produce. It was fresh food, and not like the canned food they sometimes got in other countries. He thought the wholesomeness of their food was a very big attraction.

Mr Cummins - I propose that we adopt the same resolution as last year and give $\frac{1}{4}$ d in the £. I would like to go further, but I think it is sufficient now. Whatever necessity there was for it in years gone by there is a greater necessity now. A tremendous number of people will come to the country next year, and no doubt they will be a benefit to the country, but I guarantee whoever goes up to Dublin next year we will show them the great light that may be an inspiration to him for all time, and worth all the rates ever paid.

Mr Colfer seconded Mr Cummins' proposition.

Mr Roche - I propose that the people who benefit by the Tourist Association should contribute. The people who are asked to contribute see nothing but the dust of the tourists' cars going from town to town. I propose that the hotels and

shipping companies should keep the Association going.

Colonel Quin - We benefit in every way by an increase in the number of people coming to the country. We may get a few pence more for our beef and butter, and everything - all our produce goes up in price. The more tourists you have the more sale you have.

Mr D'Arcy seconded Mr Roche's proposition.

A poll on Mr Cummins' motion resulted as follows:-

For - Messrs Armstrong, Brennan, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gibbon, Hayes, Hall, Meyler, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Quin, Shannon, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman-
20.

Against - Messrs Culleton, Roche and D'Arcy - 3.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Michael Doyle