

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

M I N U T E S.

MEETING HELD on 29th JULY, 1929.

N. J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

FORTVIEW,
WEXFORD.

The monthly meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 29th July, 1929.

Mr. M. Doyle, Chairman, presided, and there were also present Messrs John Brennan, James Cline, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, John Doran, James Gaul, Col. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Michael Jordan, William P. Keegan, Thomas Mayler, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss O'Ryan, Col. Quin, James Shannon, Myles Smyth, and James E. Walsh.

Mr. A. P. Delany, Inspector, Local Government Department, The Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the County Surveyor and Mr Elgee, Solicitor, were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

VOTES OF CONDOLENCE.

On the motion of Colonel Gibbon, seconded by Mr. Shannon a vote of condolence with the widow and relatives of the late Mr. P. J. Hayes, V.S., Enniscorthy, was adopted.

Mr. Hayes proposed and Mr. Murphy seconded a vote of condolence to Mr. John J. Roche, Coroner for South Wexford, in the death of his daughter, Anastasia.

Mr. Keegan proposed a vote of condolence with Mrs Thomas Paddle on the death of her husband who was for many years Assistant Surveyor in the Gorey District. Mr. Gaul seconded.

Colonel Quin proposed, and Mr. Corish seconded, a vote of condolence with Senator Kathleen Browne on the death of her mother, widow of a former member of the County Council.

All these votes were adopted in silence.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

Finance

The following Minutes of Special Meeting of Finance Committee held on the 1st July, 1929, were submitted:-

A Special Meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 1st July, 1929, to consider report from Rate Inspector for Wexford District as to rate collection in the district of Mr. Thomas Sutton (No.2).

The following were in attendance:-

Mr. M. Doyle, Chairman Co. Council (Presiding); Also :—
Messrs John J. Culleton, James Hall, Thomas McCarthy, Sean O'Byrne, James Shannon and Colonel Gibbon.

The Secretary, the Assistant Secretary and Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council, were also in attendance.

The following report was submitted from T. A. Frizelle, Rate Inspector for Wexford District:-

"I hereby report that it has come to my notice, after investigation, that in two instances unofficial receipts amounting to £17: 1: 11d and £16: 10: 7d for second moiety 1929 rate were issued on behalf of Collector Sutton and the amounts thereof were not lodged to the credit of the County Council. These receipts were not signed by Collector but by the person to whom the money was paid. On the Collector's attention being called to these items he immediately lodged the amounts thereof. I instructed him to attend meeting of Finance Committee on Monday, 1st July, to explain the matter."

The following letter, under date 28th June, was read from Mr. Paul, Roche, Barmoney, being the only reply received to a number of rate notices forwarded to ratepayers whose rates were shown as outstanding on the date of issuing the rate notices, viz., 27th June, 1929:-

"I received a letter from you on to-day and I am afraid there is a mistake as I only owe a half year's rates to last March. I paid Tom Sutton on the quay of Wexford about the first week in April but unfortunately he sent me no receipt for it yet. Hoping it will be all right. As soon as I make some money I will send on the other half year."

The Secretary stated that Mr. Roche's rates were lodged by

Collector Sutton on Friday, 28th June, 1929.

Mr. Roche's letter was received on the 1st July, 1929.

The following explanation, under date 30th June, 1929, was read from Collector Sutton:-

"When making a final call on ratepayers whose rates were outstanding before handing their names to my Solicitor for collection, I found in two cases that the money had been left for me in town in a place where I collect rates on Saturdays, and that they had cash receipts for the correct amount of their rates. As I had not been in this place for some time previous I did not know that their rates had been left for me, but on being showed the cash receipts I immediately gave them their official receipts. I never, since my appointment in 1921, have issued an unofficial receipt."

Collector Sutton appeared before the meeting and stated the irregularities referred to were caused through negligence and he had no intention to defraud. As soon as his attention was called to the unofficial receipt of Mr. Doyle he immediately lodged the amount. As regards Mr. Roche's rates Collector stated he received the rates from Mr. Roche at a time when he had not his Collecting Books with him. Owing to his omission to give Mr. Roche official receipt the amount was not lodged through an oversight as he overlooked this item when writing up his Abstract Books. He assured the Council that the whole thing was due to carelessness which he stated would not again occur.

After discussion, the following decision was arrived at by Committee on the motion of Colonel Gibbon, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:-

"That the sureties of Collector Sutton (personal and fidelity guarantee) be furnished with a copy of the Minutes of this meeting and that they be informed that the Finance Committee are not satisfied with the manner in which Mr. Sutton has been carrying out his duties. In the present instance,

4

however, they accept his explanation with a serious warning of the consequences involved should any further complaint of his conduct be brought to their attention. The Committee also hereby direct Mr. Sutton to close his collection for 1928-29 by the next meeting of the County Council."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That the Minutes of Special meeting of Finance Committee in respect of 1st July, 1929, be received and considered"

The Chairman remarked that from information which had come to his knowledge Mr. Sutton was doing his best to comply with the Instructions of the Committee.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That the Minutes of Special Meeting of Finance Committee held on the 1st July, 1929, be and are hereby confirmed."

The following Minutes of Finance Committee meeting of the 4th July, 1929, were submitted:-

The fortnightly meeting of Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 4th July, 1929.

Present:- Mr. M. Doyle (Chairman) presiding; also Messrs James Hall, Sean O'Byrne, James Shannon and Colonel Gibbon.

The Secretary and County Surveyor were in attendance.

The Minutes of last ordinary meeting and of Special meeting held on 1st July were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £3805: 2: 5d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION.

The following shows the amount of percentage of rate outstanding for 1928-29:-

	E. J. Murphy	.81
(No.14)	J. J. O'Reilly	.82
(No.14)	J. J. Sinnott	1.11
(No.13)	J. J. O'Reilly	1.46
	John Curtis	2.27
(No.16)	J. J. Sinnott	3.06
	A. Dunne	3.53
	T. Rowe	4.13
	John Doyle	4.29
	M. Deegan	4.53
	P. Doyle	4.70
(No.1)	James Quirke	4.75
	P. Donohoe	6.40
	S. Gannon	6.63
	J. Cummins	7.63
	W. Cummins	8.08
	P. O'Byrne	8.63
	T. Sutton	11.20
(No.5)	James Quirke	15.93
	M.M. Kelly	17.29
(No.4)	James Quirke	18.39
	P. Carty	23.44
	M.J. Culleton	36.18.

The following shows amount collected for Rate 1929-30:-

Wexford District:-

	James Quirke	:	£376	:	5	:	9
	Philip Doyle	:	42	:	12	:	6
(No.4)	James Quirke	:	172	:	15	:	3
	M. J. Culleton	:	26	:	1	:	0
	(Thomas Sutton has not yet received books).						

Enniscorthy District:-

Michael Deegan	:	£307	:	18	:	3
J. Cummins	:	148	:	3	:	7
P. O'Byrne	:	60	:	7	:	4
Sean Gannon	:	23	:	5	:	10
P. Donohoe	:	52	:	16	:	4

(Books had not been given
to M. M. Kelly and W. Cummins).

Gorey District:-

J. H. O'Reilly	:	£ 192	:	5	:	5
T. Bolger	:	177	:	17	:	0
Art Dunne	:	183	:	3	:	0
John J. Sinnott	:	215	:	14	:	7

New Ross District:-

E. J. Murphy	:	£95	:	0	:	11
Thomas Rose	:	£29	:	11	:	9
John Doyle	:		:	Nil	:	
John Curtis	:	£71	:	19	:	3
P. Carty (New Collector)	:		:	Nil.	:	

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That Rate Collectors be informed they must show greater activity in the collection of the new rate. The Council are obliged to hold up payments to Public Bodies etc., owing to the present state of their finances and unless Rate Collectors push forward their work more rapidly than they are doing at present the position will become serious."

Under date 3rd July, 1929, Collector Sutton wrote that he does ~~did~~ not take a note of the dates on which he calls to ratepayers and he did not know the exact dates upon which he called to Mr. Moses Doyle, Kilmacoe, Curraclloe. The rates in this case had since been paid.

It was reported that Mrs Tiernan, Kilcorral, Castlebridge, called to Co. Council Offices on the 4th July, 1929, and stated she had been served with a Solicitor's letter from Collector Sutton for payment of £4: 7: 10d rates. She stated that Collector Sutton had not called on her for the past three years. She had the money put aside for him several times but he never called and she had used it for other purposes. She now found it difficult to pay.

A resolution was adopted asking Collector Sutton to furnish his observations on the statement of Mrs Tiernan.

Colonel Gibbon suggested the Finance Committee should invite the observations of the Council to the necessity for Rate Collectors keeping diaries. At present the Council had really no check on the Collectors except as to the actual cash they collected. But they knew nothing of a Collector's day's work and he proposed that the Rate Collectors should keep a diary giving the names of the ratepayers called upon with the words "promised," "refused", "absent" after each name as the case required.

Mr. O'Byrne seconded the resolution which was adopted.

Colonel Gibbon also considered that in appointing Rate Collectors, in the future, the Council should look for men of not less than 30 years of age and who should have a certain interest or likely to have a certain interest in the country.

Messrs O'Byrne and McCarthy pointed out that the personal bond of Collectors was now in the substantial sum of £400 and that banker's reference had to be provided to prove that the sureties were really worth the amount. What was wrong with the collection was that a number of the Collectors were not going their duty.

Colonel Gibbon considered that, in addition to the ordinary cash check on rate collectors the Council required a travelling inspector - who would carry out his work in a corresponding manner to that of Mr. Shortall, Home Assistance Officer - and who would be always popping round examining the work of the Collectors and making detailed reports as to how this was going on. This man could use a bicycle or a motor cycle. By employing such an official he believed they would be able to get in double the amount of rate at the time when it was most wanted. The salary would probably be about £200 and they could try this

for a year as an experiment.

It was decided that the Secretary ask the Department of Local Government for their views on Colonel Gibbon's suggestion and that the matter be again brought forward at next meeting of the Finance Committee.

Mr. Shannon raised the question as to the power of a rate Collector to seize stock on Bantry Commons irrespective of ownership of animals.

It was decided that next time the Collectors are summoned to a meeting of Finance Committee they should be asked to have prepared, beforehand, any questions of law and which could be dealt with by Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, at the meeting.

ROSSLARE RACES.

Under date 3rd July, 1929, Mr. P. O'Brien, Hon., Secretary to Rosslare Race Committee, wrote, asking if the County Council had any objection to recognised officials of the Committee peacefully soliciting help towards the race funds from persons travelling by road to the races on 25th instant. The Committee would guarantee there would be no undue interference with the free use of the roads.

It was decided to inform Mr. O'Brien that the County Council had no power to grant his request.

INCOME TAX - COURTTOWN HARBOUR.

It was decided, on the advice of Mr. Elgee that ^s1/6d Income Tax (Schedule B) on Courtown Harbour should be paid.

KILMORE HARBOUR - DREDGING.

The County Surveyor reported that the Captain of the Dredger had informed him it was necessary to have a pilot on board the dredger while at work. He (County Surveyor) and Mr. Kehoe, (Assistant Surveyor), had done all they could to secure the services of a pilot at £2 per week - the amount allowed by the Council. James Hayes, Neemstown, Kilmore, would accept a wage of £3: 5: 0d per week, but

would not take less. He was a suitable man and would have to be on board the dredger for 16 hours a day.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Colonel Gibbon, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That we agree to the employment of James Hayes, Neemstown, Kilmore, as pilot on Board of Works' dredger while dredging operations will be carried on at Kilmore Harbour. The Committee agree to this amount in view of the fact that employment will entail a period of 16 hours per day on board the dredger."

DAMAGE TO PROPERTY (COMPENSATION) ACT.

Under date 29th June, 1929, the Local Government Department wrote (44301) as follows:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th instant, relative to the contributions due by the Wexford County Council under the Damage to Property (Compensation) Act, 1923, and to request that you will be good enough to state when it is expected the Council will be in a position to clear off their indebtedness. The Wexford County Council are the only Local Authority outstanding in this matter."

It was decided to inform the Department that the Council would make a substantial payment as soon as rates came in. The Finance Committee were doing what they could to induce the Collectors to exhibit more diligence in the discharge of their duties. They recognise the forbearance of the Local Government Department and the Department of Finance and would be only too willing to discharge their liability if they were in a position to do so."

11

Mr. O'Byrne proposed and Mr. Shannon seconded, the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That the Minutes of meeting of Finance Committee of the 4th July, 1929 be received and considered!"

Rate Collectors' Diaries.

Colonel Gibbon said the diaries should be kept in book form with carbon copies which would be sent in once a week to the Co. Council office and they could be handed over to the Rate Inspector when the books of the Collectors were being checked. This was agreed to.

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

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on the 4th July, 1929, be and are hereby confirmed."

The following Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on the 18th July, 1929, were submitted:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 18th July, 1929.

Present:- Messrs M. Doyle, Chairman (presiding); John J. Culleton, James Hall, Sean O'Byrne, James Shannon and T. McCarthy.

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £4114: 0 : 6d was examined and signed.

The following shows percentage of amount of Rate outstanding for financial year 1928-29:-

	E. J. Murphy	.81
	Thady Bolger	.95
	J. J. O'Reilly	1.37
	John Curtis	1.98
	J. J. Sinnott	2.78
	A. Dunne	3.35
	J. Doyle	3.45
	T. Rowe	4.13
(No.1)	James Quirke	4.30
	M. Deegan	4.37
	P. Doyle	4.40
	S. Gannon	6.15
	P. Donohoe	6.40
	J. Cummins	6.90
	P. O'Byrne	7.08
	W. Cummins	7.11
	T. Sutton	9.10
(No.4)	J. Quirke	11.
	M. Kelly	16.31
	P. Carty	17.15
(No.5)	James Quirke)	15.49)
(No.5)	M.J.Culleton)	27.84)

The following are the amounts collected to 18th July, 1929 for current rate:-

Wexford District

	James Quirke: 1st moiety	£530: 11: 7
	" " : 2nd moiety	13: 13: 8
	Philip Doyle: 1st moiety	68: 2: 2
	" " : 2nd moiety	8: 0
(No.4)	James Quirke: 1st moiety	£330: 17: 5
	M.J.Culleton: 1st moiety	64: 9: 4
	" " : 2nd moiety	7: 10: 8

Enniscorthy District

	M.M.Kelly (Books not yet taken up)	
	M. Deegan : 1st moiety	£762: 14: 3
	" " : 2nd moiety	3: 11: 6

Enniscorthy District Continued.

Joseph Cummins:	1st moiety	£359:	16:	3
"	2nd moiety		13:	6
Patrick O'Byrne	1st moiety	£178:	9:	8
"	2nd moiety		1:	0: 9
Sean Gannon	1st moiety	£199:	5:	8
"	2nd moiety		Nil	
W. Cummins (Books not yet taken up)				
Patrick Donohoe:	1st moiety	94:	6:	11
"	2nd moiety	15:	14:	10

Gorey District:-

J.J.O'Reilly	: 1st moiety	£406:	1:	2
"	2nd moiety		4:	13: 4
T. Bolger	: 1st moiety	£338:	5:	10
"	2nd moiety		2:	5: 11
Art Dunne	: 1st moiety	£492:	12:	8
"	2nd moiety	£ 57:	18:	0
J. J. Sinnott	: 1st moiety	£386:	3:	10
"	2nd moiety		3:	12: 11

New Ross District:-

E. J. Murphy	: 1st moiety	£394:	4:	4
"	2nd moiety		1:	2: 0
Thomas Rowe	: 1st moiety	£158:	10:	4
"	2nd moiety		6:	4
John Doyle	: 1st moiety	95:	0:	4
"	2nd moiety		1:	19: 9
John Curtis	: 1st moiety	£148:	4:	11
"	2nd moiety		1:	0: 2.

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

"That Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, communicate with the personal sureties of Collectors W. Cummins, P. O'Byrne, T. Sutton and M. M. Kelly and call their attention to the following resolution of this Committee which was sent them on 26th June, 1929, and to which they have not made reply!"

"That we recommend the County Council to call on the personal sureties of Collectors W. Cummins, P. O'Byrne, T. Sutton and M. M. Kelly to lodge up to the amount of their bond in respect of arrears outstanding in the Districts of these Collectors over and above the amounts under decree held by the Collectors or amounts for vacant premises."

"That Mr. Elgee be instructed to communicate with the sureties in question and inform them they must lodge the amount of their bond to the credit of the Wexford County Council on or before 27th instant."

14

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Culleton:- "That Collector W. Cummins be furnished with Collecting Books in respect of Rate for financial year 1929-30."

PROPOSED APPOINTMENT OF RATE INSPECTOR.

The following under date 9th July, 1929 (G.48552/1929 Loch Garman Fa) was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, and to state that Article 96 of the Public Bodies Order does not apply to the appointment of Rate Inspectors though many of the objections are of course equally applicable.

"No advertisement for the position should be issued without prior submission to this Department. Before deciding on this course the Minister would prefer that the Council would reconsider the arrangements for checking generally. As Mr. Whitty is now a Rate Collector in the Enniscorthy Urban District the Minister doubts the propriety of continuing his services as Deputy Rate Checker in the County."

Under date 15th July, 1929, the following letter (G.49971/1929 Loch Garman Fa) was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst, and to state that, as intimated in this Department's letter of the 9th instant, the Minister would welcome a revision of the arrangements for checking the Rate Collectors' Books. As ~~already~~ regards salary it would be desirable that the cost of travelling should be provided for either by way of a reasonable allowance for the purpose or by a satisfactory method of vouching. The Minister does not appreciate why the actual checking should not be carried out by the new official and could not agree that the present arrangements be continued in addition to a new appointment."

"In point of fact the Minister considers that an efficient Rate Inspector should, in addition to checking the Rate Collectors' Accounts, exercise general supervision over the methods adopted by the Collectors and the manner in which they perform their duties as well as keeping generally in touch with the progress of the Rate-payers towards meeting the demands made (note paragraph 3 of circular of 24th August, 1928)."

Circular Letter of Department of Local Government under date 24th August, 1928, was read for the meeting.

After considerable discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Hall:-

"That the County Council be recommended to agree to the appointment of Rate Inspector and Supervisor of Rate Collectors' Duties for the County in lieu of appointment of Clerical Assistant.

"That the present remuneration paid to Assistant Secretary for checking of Rate Collectors' Accounts for Gorey and Wexford districts, viz., £65, be added to his salary subject to the approval of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health and provided that the duties hitherto performed by Mr. Fanning, Clerical Assistant be carried out in County Council Office without additional expense to the Council.

That the salary of Rate Inspector and Supervisor be at the rate of £156 per annum with travelling allowance of £100 per annum. That the appointment be on a probationary basis for a period of one year; the successful candidate to furnish appropriate security by guarantee society.

Besides the duties defined in circular letter of Local Government Department of 24th August, 1928, as to the checking of Rate Collectors' Accounts, the Rate Inspector and Supervisor will also be required to check lists of irrecoverable rates and prepare the usual poor rate returns.

Also to call personally to Ratepayers who (in his opinion) have paid rates without obtaining official receipts and to ascertain if Rate Collectors have called to Ratepayers to collect rates in any case

in which he considers such a course advisable.

He must forthwith call the attention of the County Secretary to any irregularity or neglect of duty on the part of any Collector and be prepared to perform any further duties which may, from time to time, be assigned to him by the County Secretary with the approval of the Finance Committee and the Local Government Department.

The appointment is subject to the sanction of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health.

The Finance Committee further recommend that they should be empowered to interview the candidates applying for the position of Rate Inspector and Supervisor and to make recommendations to the Council as to their qualifications for the position."

EX-COLLECTOR FURLONG.

The Secretary reported that full enquiries as to defalcations by ex-Collector Furlong had not concluded; when they were, a full statement would be laid before the Committee.

Up to the present there was a sum of £267: 10: 4d which had not been accounted for.

SURETIES OF COLLECTORS.

Under date 4th July, 1929, Messrs Brennan & Co., Insurance Brokers, 43 Dame Street, Dublin, wrote forwarding Cover Note for Collector Quirke in respect of the work which he is carrying on in No.4 District vacant through the dismissal of Ex-Collector Furlong from office.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Shannon:-- "That the following be approved as personal ~~as personal~~ sureties for Rate Collectors in view of the fact that satisfactory Bankers' references have been received in each case:--

Thomas O'Hanlon and Martin W. Harrington (for Collector Carty).

James Cummins, Ballylucas, Ballymurrin, vice Laurence Cummins deceased (Collector Walter Cummins).

11

PROPOSED PAYMENT OF POUNDAGE.

The following under date 5th July, 1929 (G.45879/1929 Loch Garman Fa) was read from the Department of Local Government & Public Health:-

"With reference to your letter of the 25th ultimo, relative to the payment of poundage to certain Collectors, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to draw your attention to the terms of this Department's letter of the 21st ultimo, G.38204/1929 and G.40154/1929, in view of the terms of which the Minister is precluded from sanctioning the further payment of poundage to Collectors who at this date, three months after the close of the financial year have considerable sums of rates outstanding, both in respect of that and previous years warrants. The Minister requests that the County Council will not bring the matter of the rate collection to a conclusion by considering the payment of poundage only on the basis of the prior full closing of the Collectors warrants.

"I am to add that, more particularly in view of the large arrear of rates outstanding, the Minister cannot agree to the continuance of overdraft accommodation to the extent hitherto prevailing"

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Culleton:- "That in view of the proposed appointment of Rate Inspector and Supervisor and to the fact that the Finance Committee are pressing the personal sureties of four of the Collectors to lodge up to the amount of their bond, we request the Local Government Department to reconsider the question of payment of poundage. The Collection of rates forms the only means of livelihood for several of the collectors and without some payment on account of poundage it will be impossible for them to carry on."

EX-COLLECTOR J.J.KELLY.

Under date 4th July, 1929, the following was read from the Local Government Department (G.47527/1929 Loch Garman Fa):-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, relative to the payment of poundage to ex-Collector J. J. Kelly, and to point out that Mr. Kelly is not entitled to any poundage in view of the circumstances in which his services were terminated. The Minister could not agree to an ex gratia payment calculated at a rate equivalent to that normally allowed to an efficient officer.

"The matter cannot be further considered unless and until the warrant is fully closed, and in this connection the suggestion made in the recent report of the Inspector that poundage otherwise payable might be applied to close outstanding warrants, the unused receipts being given to the Collectors concerned to enable them to recoup themselves might be considered."

It was stated that the amount outstanding was £18.

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

"That the necessary amount to close warrant in No.14 Collection District be withdrawn from poundage and that the balance of poundage be paid Mr. Kelly. This proposal to be subject to the consent of Mr. Kelly and to the approval of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health"

Under date 6th July, 1929, Mr. Martin O'Hanlon, late temporary Rate Collector, wrote asking for payment of poundage. He wondered at the delay as he had finished his duties almost two months ago and was not collecting any more.

It was decided to adjourn the application of Mr. O'Hanlon to next meeting, pointing out to him, in the meantime, that the Local Government Department will not sanction payment of poundage in any district in which the warrant has not been closed.

Several letters were read from Ratepayers asking for "time" in which to pay their rates.

The Committee decided they would not interfere with the discretion of the Rate Collector in these cases.

PROPOSED SUPERANNUATION OF MR. J. J. FANNING,
CLERICAL ASSISTANT.

Under date 5th July, 1929, the following letter (G.46912/1929 Loch Garman) was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of queries relative to the superannuation of Mr. J. J. Fanning, and I am to draw attention to this Department's circular letter of the 4th April, 1925, and to state that the appropriate superannuation allowance for an Officer with Mr. Fanning's service and emoluments would be 18/60ths of £322: 9: 0d (average emolument for the last three years' service) or £96: 14: 9d.

"On receipt of a resolution of the Council granting this sum as superannuation to Mr. Fanning the Minister will be prepared to consider the question of according his assent thereto under Part IV of the Local Government Act, 1925. The fees granted to Deputy Checkers of rate collection are not pensionable emoluments."

The Committee made the following recommendation:-

"In view of the decision of Local Government Department we recommend the County Council to adopt the following resolution at their next meeting:- "That the superannuation allowance to be paid Mr. John J. Fanning, late Clerical Assistant Co. Council Office, be fixed at £96: 14: 9d as from 13th May, 1929."

DEATH OF MR. P. J. HAYES, M.R.C.V.S.

In connection with the death of Mr. P. J. Hayes, V.S., Enniscorthy (Veterinary Inspector to Co. Council) which occurred on 6th July, 1929, a vote of condolence with his widow and relatives was adopted on the motion of Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Culleton.

The vote was supported by Mr. Shannon and Mr. O'Byrne and by the Secretary on behalf of himself and staff.

Under date 13th July, 1929, the following (L.2066-29) was read from the Department of Agriculture:-

"I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant and to state that the Department have learned with regret of the death of Mr. P. J. Hayes, M.R.C.V.S.

"The Department offer no objection to the Veterinary Inspection duties of the Enniscorthy district being performed by Mr. Mernagh, the Veterinary Inspector for the Gorey District, at the same rate of remuneration, up to the date of the next meeting of your County Council. They must, however, request that at that meeting steps be taken to appoint temporarily a Veterinary Surgeon resident in the Enniscorthy area pending the appointment of a successor to Mr. Hayes in the regular course on a recommendation by the Local Appointments Commissioners."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. McCarthy:- "That we approve of the duties of Veterinary Inspector in Enniscorthy District being performed by Mr. Mernagh, V.S., Gorey, up to the meeting of County Council to be held on 29th July, 1929"

With reference to the appointment of a successor the Committee recommend that the annual salary for the ordinary work under the Diseases of Animals Acts - including inspection of fairs - should be fixed at £75 and that the annual salary for work under Bovine Tuberculosis Order at £25: Total £100 per annum.

OVERDRAFT OF COUNTY COUNCIL.

Under date 24th July, 1929, the Local Government Department wrote (G.46917-1929 Loch Garman) assenting to Overdraft not exceeding £30,000 up to 31st August: interest thereon to be paid at the agreed rate.

SALARY OF MR. J. J. ROCHE: CORONER FOR SOUTH WEXFORD.

Under date 4th July, 1929, the following (G.47526/1929 Loch Garman Sd) was read from the Department of Local Government & Public Health:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government & Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant

and accompanying copy of a resolution of the Council relative to the salary of Mr. J. J. Roche, Coroner for South Wexford, and to state that he has no power to re-open the matter. He exercised the functions vested in him under Section 18 of the Coroners (Amendment) Act, 1927, by his letter of the 31st May last fixing the salary of Coroner Roche at the rate of £135 per annum as from the 1st April last."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Gulleton, seconded by Mr. Hall:- "We recommend the County Council to refuse to pay the increased salary of Mr. Roche, Coroner for South Wexford."

HOUSING ACT 1929.

Circular letter under date 5th July, 1929 (H.47022/1929 Po Ilgh) explaining the principal provisions of the above Act was read.

The Secretary explained the amount of grants, loans &c., which could be made available under the Acts.

The following resolution was adopted:- "Owing to their financial position we regret we cannot recommend the Council to take advantage of the provisions of the Housing Act 1929 and we are forced to inform the Council that they cannot afford to advance loans to any individual or public utility society towards the cost of erection of houses."

SUPERANNUATION OF MR. A. A. CONNOLLY, SUPERINTENDENT REGISTRAR.

Under date 3rd July, 1929, Mr. A. A. Connolly wrote that as regards the refusal of the County Council to pay amount of his superannuation as Superintendent Registrar for Enniscorthy area he intended to instruct his Solicitor to take the necessary proceedings for the recovery of the amount unless Pay Order was issued to him immediately after the meeting of the Council on 29th July.

Under date 12th July, 1929, the Department of Local Government wrote (P.49397/29 Loch Garman) that the order of the Minister in this matter imposed on the Council the obligation to pay the amount

determined by the Order.

It was decided to refer the matter to the County Council for re-consideration.

TENDERS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF ROAD WEXFORD
TO FERRYCARRIG.

Seven Tenders were received as follows for improvement of road between Wexford and Ferrycarrig:-

Patrick Cunningham, Dunleer, County Louth.

Alex Hull & Co., Ringsend, Dublin

McCaffrey & O'Carroll, Cecil Street, Limerick.

P. McKenna & Sons, Armagh.

Patrick Molloy, Church Street, Limerick.

Pioneer Road Construction Co., Dublin and

South of Ireland Asphalt Co.

It was decided that the County Surveyor furnish tabulated statement of the figures in the various tenders to the Local Government Department with a request that the Department would notify the Council in time for the meeting on 29th July with the names of the Contractors they are prepared to approve. The Finance Committee consider that the lowest tender (provided it meets with the approval of Local Government Department) should be accepted.

SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES.

Under date 17th July, 1929, letter was read from Mr. Donald McAuliffe, Johnstown, Clonegal, University ~~ext~~ student, that he had been successful in both B.A. and Higher Diploma Examinations. He thanked the Council for their kindness to him.

It was decided to congratulate Mr. McAuliffe on his success.

It was decided that a meeting of Scholarship Committee should be held on Saturday 27th, July, 1929, at 10.30 a.m., in County Council Chamber, Wexford.

DAMAGE TO PROPERTY (COMPENSATION) ACT 1923

Under date 17th July, 1929, the following letter (R/DB/32)

was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant and to say that the Minister trusts the Wexford County Council will be in a position to make at an early date a substantial contribution in respect of the arrears outstanding under Section 14 of the Damage to Property (Compensation) Act, 1923"

SALARY OF CO.COURTHOUSE KEEPER.

It was decided that the quarter's salary to 30th June, 1929, with coal and gas allowances etc., amounting to £14: 10: 4 be paid to Mrs McNally, County Courthouse Keeper.

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

"That the minutes of meeting of Finance Committee of 18th July, 1929, as submitted to this meeting, be received and considered".

Rate Inspector.

In connection with the proposed appointment of Rate Inspector, the following, under date, 25th July, 1929, (G. 52133/1929, Loch Garman Fa), was read from the Local Government Department:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th instant forwarding the recommendations of the Finance Committee relative to the proposed appointment of a Rate Inspector, and I am to state that the Minister will be prepared to consider these proposals if the County Council adopt them at their forthcoming meeting.

"A draft of the proposed advertisement should be submitted for consideration before issue. As regards the suggested allowance for travelling, the Minister would suggest that it be a condition of payment that vouchers or returns of mileage travelled be required before payment which would show that travelling to at least the value of the sum proposed had in fact been carried out. Such returns might be called for periodically and interim payments made on the basis thereof".

Under date 27th July, 1929, the Secretary, Local Government Officials' Union, wrote that it had been brought to the attention of his Council that, since the June meeting of the Wexford County Council, the Finance Committee had approved the appointment of a Rate Inspector instead of a clerical officer to fill the position vacated by Mr Fanning. The letter stated:-

"I am to request that whichever position you decide to fill should be filled by the promotion of one of your existing clerical

staff. The arguments set out in my letter of the 19th ultimo in support of this course apply even more strongly in the case of the appointment of a Rate Inspector. For that position a knowledge of the system of Rating and Rate Collections in County Wexford would be essential. On your present Clerical Staff you have experienced and capable officers fully conversant with the system and the conditions of Rate Collection obtaining in the County.

'My letter of the 19th ultimo stressed the inadequacy of the salary proposed for the intended clerical appointment. My Council notes with surprise that it is proposed to offer the same inadequate salary for the much more responsible position of Rate Inspector - a salary less than the remuneration paid to labourers and messengers in the Dublin Corporation Service. The salary for the position of Rate Inspector, should not be less than the remuneration of the Rate Collectors whose work he will be required to supervise. The remuneration of some of the Rate Collectors in Co. Wexford, who are only part-time officers, is equal to £200 per annum and the position of Rate Inspector is to be whole-time. I am to request you to give this important aspect of the appointment your serious consideration, and to fix the salary for the proposed position at a fair and reasonable figure commensurate with the responsibilities attaching to the position.

'I am to point out that my Union's representations in this matter are made on general principles and that the Union is not concerned in the merits of any particular member of your Staff.

'I am also to request you to give your early attention to my Union's request for a satisfactory revision of the remuneration of your clerical staff generally. This question was brought before the former County Council in April 1928, and the County Council head a deputation from the Union on the subject. The matter was considered at subsequent meetings of the County Council and its Finance Committee. On the 11th June, 1928, the County Council referred it to the new County Council and the matter has been in

abeyance since then. I am to submit that it is deserving of your early and serious consideration, and that the present occasion, when the remuneration of a new appointment is being determined, is opportune for the consideration of the remuneration of your Clerical Staff in general.'"

Miss O'Ryan said that on the question of appointment of a Rate Inspector she wished to know how much would the appointment add to the expenses of collecting the rates.

The Assistant Secretary stated that the Finance Committee considered there was £156 available for the filling of a clerical vacancy, and then with the abolition of the offices of checker in the different districts, in connection with the new appointment, there would be £57 odd available, which added to the £156 would make £213. Against that amount, for the Rate Inspector, there would be £256 - £156 for salary and £100 for travelling expenses - which would mean an increase of £43.

Miss O'Ryan referred to a paragraph which appeared in the newspapers with regard to the system of rate Collection carried on from Kerry Co. Council Offices.

The Chairman said they had that matter before them and the decision was that the Council could not collect the rates like they had been collected in Kerry. Of course in Kerry they had now stopped collecting through the Post Office, and the rates were now being collected through the County Council office.

Miss O'Ryan said she was of opinion that the Council should consider the question of adopting some other method of rate Collection in view of the failure of the present method. The appointment of an Inspector would add to the expense of collecting, which increase would go back on the few remaining people who were able to pay their rates, and she thought the Council would agree that the people were already taxed beyond their capacity to pay.

The Chairman said that he wanted economy as well as any one on the Council, but he thought that in view of the small additional cost of an Inspector it would be wise to appoint one.

Miss O'Ryan suggested that perhaps the Council could dispense with the whole system of rate Collection as at present. She certainly would not advocate anything that was going to add to the expenses of collecting the rates.

Col. Quin asked if the proposal to appoint an Inspector was not brought forward with the view of securing economy. He thought it was anticipated that the Inspector would bring in so much rates that he would more than pay for himself.

Mr. McCarthy said that in order that the matter might be properly discussed he would propose that the Rate Inspector should be appointed. It was he proposed the appointment at the meeting of the Finance Committee ~~where~~ where they went into the matter fully and were convinced that the appointment would pay for itself in a very short time. They understood that a similar appointment existed in most counties in the Saorstad, and had given good results. The Council had been paying £1100 a year as interest on overdrafts, and if they could save £300 or £400 of that amount by making the proposed appointment he thought they would be getting good value for the money paid to the Inspector. Apart from that the appointment of an Inspector was a businesslike proposal. They had twenty-one Collectors who were more or less free lances, and there was no continual supervision of their work. They had checkers in the four towns who merely checked the Collectors' books once a fortnight, Beyond that there was no proper control of the rate collection in the county, and he thought that if any business man had twenty-one representatives in an area he would have some supervision over them. He was not casting any reflection on the rate collectors in general. They had some excellent men who would work whether supervised or not, but, on the other hand, they had some collectors who required looking after, and required a little push now and again. The present system of rate collection had broken down to a certain extent, and they would have to do something to retrieve their position. He believed the appointment of an Inspector

28
would be well worth the money. The proposal was to try the effect of the appointment for a year, and if they did not find it a success it was open for the Council to change.

Colonel Gibbon seconded Mr. McCarthy's proposal. He was the originator of the idea that an Inspector should be appointed. If he had read the Local Government Department's instructions correctly they talked about the Inspector doing a checking of books. He suggested that if an Inspector were to check the books of twenty-one men his full time would be taken up. It took over a day to go through a man's collection in absolute detail.

Secretary - Oh, no.

Col. Gibbon said he thought it would take over a day. His idea of the Inspector was that he should be relieved of the routine work in an office, and that his business should be to go out and make surprise visits at irregular intervals. Wherever a rate was backward the Inspector should go and see what the Rate Collector was doing, inquire into complaints about Rate Collectors going wrong, find out if money was being collected in public houses, contrary to orders, and find out how people could say they had never been called on for the rates for years past. He held that an Inspector would never get to the bottom of these difficulties if tied up by the audit side of the work. What they really wanted was a man with two duties, one of which would be to take on the newly-appointed rate Collector, have certain rules that the Collector was to follow, give him certain advice, go around with him when he was calling on rate-payers, and get him into proper routine in doing the work. That would get over a lot of difficulties of subsequent inspection. The duty of inspection in his opinion was essential, and it should be separated from the audit side of the work.

Col. Quin - You want two men ?.

Col. Gibbon - I do. You have already got the Inspectors of the books. My suggestion is that you put on another man to supervise the rate, and pay this man out of the results you get.

29

Mr. Corish remarked that Col. Gibbon had stood up to second Mr. McCarthy's proposition, and now he said he wanted two men.

The Chairman said they were discussing the Finance Committee's recommendation, and there was no question of two men. The Finance Committee recommended one man, and made that recommendation from an economic point of view. Although it was going to cost a little more to have that new official, and do away with the checkers, they thought it would be good value for the money. He would not agree to two appointments at all. It was stated by one checker that the checking could be done in three days per week. Therefore, there would be three other days for supervision and for going around the country. He did not think they would need a whole-time man to do the supervision.

Mr. Hall said he agreed with Mr. McCarthy's proposal. It was his opinion that it would increase the rates slightly, but would eventually reduce the rates, and he believed they would have a large saving in the overdraft. He also agreed with Miss O'Ryan's references to the inability of the ratepayers to pay.

Mr. D'Arcy asked if the Finance Committee had considered the question of the payment of rates through a bank.

The Chairman said that when the Committee were discussing the system in Kerry, the question of paying through a bank was considered but he thought the matter was out of order altogether. At the moment they were not discussing the mode of payment; they were discussing the question of appointing a Rate Inspector.

In reply to a query by Mr. Keegan as to whether the Finance Committee asked for permission to appoint the Inspector, Mr. O'Byrne said that the Finance Committee made no attempt to make an appointment. Their idea was to interview candidates and recommend to the County Council.

Miss O'Ryan asked whether it would be wiser to have an Inspector or to change the whole system. If they were going to

stick to the present system she thought it should be improved. She agreed with Mr. D'Arcy on the question as to change of system.

The Chairman said that if the question of changing the system were taken up at that stage he thought they would want the consent of the Council, and it would mean a very long discussion, but, he was quite prepared to have a discussion if the Council considered it necessary.

Mr. Hall - The appointment of an Inspector is only to be a temporary one - for twelve months.

Chairman - Yes, but if you can devise a better way so as not to have the Inspector at all, it is not too late and if you wish to go into that question I am quite prepared to have a discussion. I am in the hands of the Council.

Colonel Gibbon said they had a Local Government Inspector (Mr. Delany) at the meeting who had a knowledge of how other systems worked in other counties and he proposed that they should suspend their discussion of the problem, and ask Mr. Delany to tell them how the systems worked in other counties.

Mr. O'Byrne said that the Finance Committee insisted on having the appointment of an Inspector to hold only for a year, and he thought it would be wise to have it for a year, as it would take a long time to arrange a new system.

The Secretary said the point raised by Mr. D'Arcy was a much bigger one than the appointment of an Inspector, and he did not think the Council could consider it in a haphazard manner. He suggested that Mr. D'Arcy should give notice of motion. One of the matters for consideration was that if they were going to abolish Rate Collectors they would have to provide for compensation. The system of paying rates through a bank was tried in Sligo and Kerry and paying through the Post-Office was much more convenient for people than paying through a bank. His opinion was that if they had a system of payment through a bank about 75 per cent would pay

and they would have as much trouble collecting the balance as if they had Collectors doing the whole work.

Mr. Delaney said that on the question raised by Colonel Gibbon he could not give the Council any reliable information that he could possibly stand over.

The Chairman said that as far as collecting through a bank was concerned, he would say that they would not get 50 per cent, not to talk of 75 per cent. The small holders would not go to a bank with the rates at all. That was his opinion. The small rates would have to be collected by a Collector. The Post-Office system of collection seemed to be a failure in Kerry, and they were now collecting the rates in the Council Office, and he did not believe the people would come to the Council Office any more than to the bank.

Mr. Keegan suggested that if they were going to abolish Collectors the only thing to do was to make the Civic Guards responsible for the collection.

Mr. Corish said he certainly agreed with the recommendation of the Committee in so far as the Inspector was concerned, There might be a better system but that was not the time to discuss it. The Collectors already had their books in hands, and he did not see it was going to do them any good to have a discussion as to whether the system of collection should be altered. What he wanted to know was if the Council were going to do away with the position formerly occupied by Mr. Fanning, and he wanted to know how it would be arranged to do his work. He also agreed with the question of salary in the letter from the Local Government Officials' Union. He thought it peculiar that a man supervising Collectors should have a lesser salary than the Collectors. He thought the position of an Inspector was a very necessary one and that it would tend to better collection and prevent embezzlement. He was, however, afraid he would have to vote against it because of the doing away with Mr. Fanning's position. He would want more information on the matter.

32

The Chairman said that it had been decided that the salary Mr. T. Frizelle, Assistant Secretary, received for checking in Wexford and Gorey should be retained by him for additional work he was going to do in view of the abolition of Mr. Fanning's position.

In reply to Mr. Gaul, the Assistant Secretary said that Mr. Gaul might be assured that none of the staff would be asked to work outside office hours in connection with the abolition of the position formerly held by Mr. Fanning.

Miss O'Ryan - Won't the work probably be divided over the other officials as well as the Assistant-Secretary ?.

Secretary - Oh, yes, some of it anyhow.

Miss O'Ryan - Then I think it would be a fair thing that the £65 should be divided over the staff.

Mr. Corish said he wanted to state on behalf of the labour party that they had no objection to the Assistant Secretary getting an increase of salary, but if they found that any of the work was being given to other people in the office, they reserved the right to raise the question.

The Assistant Secretary said he received £65 for checking in Wexford and Gorey, and in connection with the abolition of those positions he objected to losing the remuneration. Owing to changes of system in rate collection, and the new Inspector's duties at present being done in the office, the work of the staff would be reduced. He asked the Finance Committee if they could transfer some of the additional work that would come on him, and leave his remuneration the same. It was not an increase of remuneration, as instead of getting it for checking he would be getting £65 for extra work. Some of that work would be done by the office staff, whose work would be reduced. It was a transfer of duties.

Mr. Corish - Will you be able to do this work inside office hours ?.

The Assistant Secretary said that at present he was very

often late on account of the checking, and it might be the same with the other work, but he was prepared to do it. In every office there was a rush period. It was really a transfer of duties from outside to inside.

When a poll on Mr. McCarthy's proposition for the appointment of an Inspector was about to be taken, Mr. Keegan said he wanted Mr. Elgee's opinion with regard to his motion.

Chairman - My opinion will have to do now.

Mr. Keegan (to Mr. Elgee) Take a note of this.

A poll on Mr. McCarthy's proposition resulted as follows:-

For:- Miss O'Ryan, Mr. Corish, Col. Gibbon, Col. Quin, Messrs Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Colloton, Cummins, Doran, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Jordan, Mayler, McCarthy, Murphy, Shannon, Smyth, Walsh, O'Byrne and the Chairman.....22

Against:- Messrs Brennan, D'Arcy, and Keegan.....3.

The proposition was declared carried.

Arising out of the above resolution the meeting decided to deal with the following notice of motion of Miss O'Ryan:-

"That the resolution of the Council, deciding to advertise the appointment of Clerical Assistant as successor to Mr. J.J. Fanning be rescinded, that the Council consider the advisability of promoting a member of their staff to the position and, if this be agreed to, that the Council advertise the position vacated through promotion."

Miss O'Ryan mentioned that in view of the decision of the Council to appoint a Rate Inspector she would allow her notice of motion to drop and moved instead the following:- "That the position of Rate Inspector to the County Council be filled by the promotion of a member of the Clerical Staff of the County Council who is in receipt of a salary less than that proposed to be given to the Rate Inspector, and that in the event of a member of the permanent staff being so promoted the Council fill the vacant position by advertisement."

Miss O'Ryan said it was a principle of all good employment

to recognize the system of promotion ^{and} the County Council should acknowledge the wisdom of promoting members of the staff who had given faithful and satisfactory service. She did not care who the member of the staff promoted was, but as they had permanent officials competent to fill the position one of them should be selected.

Mr. Gaul said that he believed that if they had an official who would be capable of carrying out the duties he should be promoted.

Mr. O'Byrne said it would be a very dangerous thing considering the appointment of Rate Inspector was only of a temporary character to promote a member of the staff who at the end of the year might find himself out of employment and his place filled.

Mr. McCarthy said he always favoured promotion, but as this was a special appointment of an external official he did not think the question of promotion entered into it. In this position they wanted a special type of man who possessed certain qualifications. They should aim at getting a man who possessed qualities that would ensure that the position would be a success.

Mr. Keegan expressed the opinion that the person to be appointed should have some knowledge of the work required to be done.

Mr. Murphy said they would require a practical man in the position. It did not follow that a man in the Council office, if appointed, would be a success. He did not care where the practical man came from.

Mr. Cooney said they should leave the filling of the position an open one. If they confined it to promotion they might appoint an official who would not be suitable.

Miss O'Ryan said she did not mean by her proposition the promotion of an official if he were not suitable.

Mr. Corish said he would have to support Miss O'Ryan's motion. As far as the temporary aspect of the situation was concerned he took it that if the position of temporary Rate

Inspector did not prove a success, and the Council reverted to the old Scheme, the official could be transferred back.

Chairman - You should have an agreement to that effect. It would depend on the Council who would follow.

Mr. Corish - I take it if the Council record it on the Minutes what they desire to be done that the Council that follow will honourably abide by it. Anyhow you have two years to go.

Col. Quin favoured advertising the position which would not be against the promotion of one of their officials.

The Chairman said he agreed with Mr. McCarthy that as the position was a special one ~~that~~ the person to be appointed should possess qualifications of grit, perseverance and tact: It was not altogether one of educational qualifications.

Mr. Gaul asked the Secretary to state whether there was an official on the staff who would be able to discharge the duties efficiently.

Secretary - I don't think it would be fair to answer that.

The Chairman further stated that he would be generally in favour of Miss O'Ryan's proposition, but they wanted a special type of man for the position. If the recommendation of the Finance Committee were carried out it was intended to interview all the candidates.

Replying to Mr. Hayes the Secretary stated that one of the officials had experience of checking work.

A poll was taken on Miss O'Ryan's motion which resulted as follows:- For :- Messrs Corish, Gaul, Hayes, O'Ryan.....4
Against:- Messrs Brennan, Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Culleton, Cummins, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Meyler, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, Quin, Shannon, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman...20

Mr. Keegan did not vote.

The Chairman declared the resolution lost.

Proposed Superannuation of Mr. J. J. Fanning.

In connection with the letter of the Department of Local Government fixing the Superannuation in this case at £96 : 14: 9d

the following resolution was unanimously adopted on the motion of Mr. Keegan, seconded by Mr. Corish:- "That in view of the fact that Mr. Fanning, previous to his appointment as Assistant Clerk of Gorey Union, had given two or three years' unofficial service we request the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to reconsider his decision and sanction the superannuation at the amount already agreed to by the Council, viz., £113 per annum."

Veterinary Inspector Enniscorthy District.

Applications for the position of Temporary Veterinary Inspector for Enniscorthy District, vacant through the death of Mr. P. J. Hayes, were received from Mr. John Mullins, V.S., and Mr. F. S. Ringwood, V.S., Enniscorthy.

Mr. Keegan proposed the appointment of Mr. Mullins.

Mr. Culleton seconded.

Mr. Hall proposed Mr. Ringwood and Colonel Gibbon seconded.

Mr. Jordan proposed Mr. G. J. Deathe, V.S., Enniscorthy.

Mr. Mayler seconded.

Mr. Cooney raised the question that no application had been received from Mr. Deathe.

The Chairman held this was not necessary as the position was not advertised and ruled Mr. Jordan's motion in order.

A poll was then taken and which resulted as follows:-

For Mullins:- Messrs Brennan Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Culleton, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, Murphy, D'Byrne Shannon and the Chairman.....13
For Ringwood:- Col. Gibbon, ^{MR. Hall} Col. Quin and Mr. McCarthy.....4
For Deathe :- Cummins, D'Arcy, Doran, Jordan, Meyler, O'Ryan, Smyth and Walsh.....8

The Chairman declared Mr. Mullins elected as he had a clear majority of those present and voting.

The appointment is conditional on Mr. Mullins making declaration under Section 71 of the Local Government Act of 1925, that Mr. Mullins resides in Enniscorthy and that his appointment

be approved by the Department of Agriculture.

Salary of Mr. John J. Roche.

Mr. Culleton proposed and Mr. Mayler seconded confirmation of the Minute of Finance Committee.

Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, said that if the Council persisted in saying they would not pay Mr. Roche's salary and he took proceedings and wins his action, as he undoubtedly would, those members who voted against the payment of the salary will be held responsible for his costs.

Mr. Culleton said the Councillors appeared to be only so many pawns. They made recommendations to the Local Government Department but these were ignored and the Department did whatever they thought fit and ignored the Council. Here was the case of a very large farmer and if he was not satisfied with the salary he had as Coroner he should be asked to resign.

A vote was then taken with the following result:-

For Confirming recommendation of the Finance Committee. :- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, Cummins, D'Arcy, Hall, Jordan, Keegan, Meyler, McCarthy, O'Byrne, Shannon, Smyth and the Chairman.....13.

Against:- Messrs Clinee, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Gaul, Gibbon, Hayes, Murphy and Quin.....9

Messrs Doran and Walsh (2) did not vote and Miss O'Ryan was not present when vote was taken.

The Chairman declared the recommendation of Finance Committee carried.

Housing Act

Mr. Corish said that in view of the housing scarcity all over the Country the County Board of Health should be asked to formulate a scheme. He proposed:- "That we respectfully request the County Board of Health to consider the advisability of formulating a Scheme under Housing Acts and thus taking advantage of the money now available from Government sources by way of long term loans, to enable them to put forward a housing scheme."

Mr. O'Byrne seconded the resolution which was adopted.

38

Superannuation of Mr. A. A. Connolly

Mr. O'Byrne proposed:- "That the Co. Council agree to the payment of superannuation of Mr. A. A. Connolly as Superintendent Registrar for Enniscorthy area in accordance with the terms of the Sealed Order issued by the Minister for Local Government". Mr. O'Byrne pointed out that in this case the Council had asked the Minister to fix the appropriate amount of superannuation and he did not see how the Council could now go back on their own decision.

Mr. Shannon seconded the resolution which was adopted nem.con.
Rate Collection.

It was decided to consider the recommendation of the various meetings of Finance Committee since last meeting of County Council in conjunction with report of Mr. Delany, Local Government Inspector, which appeared in extenso on Minutes of meeting of County Council held on 24th June, 1929.

The state of the collection, including arrears up to 27th July, 1929, was submitted.

Collector W. Cummins wrote that practically all outstanding arrears in his district were under decree or listed for hearing at District Court in Enniscorthy on 25th July with the exception of vacant premises and the like. As he had carried out the instructions of the Council he trusted his sureties would not be compelled to make up the bond.

Collector P. O'Byrne wrote regretting he was not able to close his collection by 27th July as asked for by the Finance Committee. He was doing his best carrying out seizures on his own warrant all over the district. He had also obtained decrees in District Court. If County Council could possibly give him time until, say, to end of September he would continue to seize where he could get anything as this was the only way in which he could get in the amount outstanding.

Mr. Elgee submitted letter from John Caulfield, Grange, Rathnure,

39
one of the personal securities of Mr. O'Byrne, stating that he had not a penny to lodge. He had some money at the time he signed the bond but he regretted to say it was all gone. Mr. O'Byrne was leaving no stone unturned in making seizures and in collecting.

Mr. Patrick O'Brien, Grange Lower, Killanne, the second personal security of Mr. O'Byrne, wrote that this Collector was working very hard. If he got a little time he would make the arrears very small as he would carry out seizures every place he could get anything.

Collector Kelly wrote that one of his sureties had shown him Mr. Elgee's letter. He pointed out that he had followed the instruction of the Council and obtained decrees in all cases with the exception of some in which he was advised by his Solicitor not to proceed. These are cases in which he had taken former proceedings without avail the expenses falling back on him. There were also arrears on vacant premises.

Collector Sutton wrote that the amount he had under decree was £361: 10/- and the amount due on derelict farms for which previous decrees had been obtained was £286, names and addresses enclosed.

Colonel Gibbon said he understood that the recommendations of the Department were that two of the Collectors be dismissed and that they not be replaced, but that the districts be amalgamated with others.

Secretary - They gave a severe warning, to four others.

Colonel Gibbon asked what was the position that day in regard to the two Collectors whose dismissal had been recommended. Had their position improved since that report was received.? As well as he remembered they were only getting in rates at the rate of £10 per week. The collectors were Messrs P. O'Byrne and Matthew Kelly.

The Assistant Secretary (Mr. T. A. Frizelle) stated that

40
the report referred to was made on June 5th and a return made up to July 25th, showed that O'Byrne had lodged £245:17/- on the old rate and £408 on the current rate. Kelly had lodged £157: 10: 9d of the arrears on the old rate and £6: 6/- on the new rate.

Col. Gibbon stated the figures showed that O'Byrne had done something in the meantime having lodged at the rate of £33 a week on the old rate and £55 on the new rate, whilst Kelly had lodged at a rate of £23 a week on the old rate and practically nothing on the new rate.

Assistant Secretary - He hadn't the new books as long as the other man.

Col. Gibbon, continuing, said that if the districts were enlarged the work of covering would cost the collector more. He questioned whether the enlarging of the districts in the past produced good results.

The Secretary said there had not been any amalgamation of districts. Some of the existing Collectors, however, in addition to their own work, had carried out the collection in adjoining districts in which collectors had been dismissed or had levanted.

Col. Gibbon proposed:- "That Collector M. Kelly be dismissed from office for neglect of duty and that Collector O'Byrne be given (on the showing he has made) another month to see what he will do to close his collection". Col. Gibbon continuing said that with regard to the amalgamation of districts he proposed for the purposes of discussion that the Council agree to the amalgamation of districts as occasion arises and appoint no more Collectors until a satisfactory scheme of amalgamation had been arrived at.

~~Col. Gibbon seconded.~~

Mr. Hall said he understood that Kelly had called on all the defaulters and had placed the matter in the hands of a Solicitor.

41

Mr. McElarthy said that the state of his Collection was not Kelly's own fault. Kelly had done his best to get the rates, but could not get the money as it was not there.

The Chairman said the reason the Finance Committee did not take immediate action on Mr. Delany's report was that they believed the two Collectors did not realise they were going to be dismissed, and in order to see if they would improve their position they decided to give them one more chance. The Council heard what they had done in the meantime.

Col. Quin seconded Col. Gibbon's proposition.

Miss O'Ryan said that owing to the dreadful amount of unemployment, and if a man could earn a living by one rate Collection they should not amalgamate the districts. They should try and give more jobs and less pay.

Mr. Murphy - Since I came on the Council we are all the time engaged on the rate collection. We have done everything possible and we cannot do any more. If the Local Government Department is not satisfied with what we are doing let them send down somebody to collect the rates.

Mr. Cummins said the Collectors were doing their best, Seventy per cent of the people had not the money to pay rates and in some cases in Kelly's district judgment had been marked against the people who had no means. He was aware that the ratepayers were compelled to sell the best of their stock at under value in order to try and meet their liabilities. He knew of one man in his district who had to sell a horse, for which he would have obtained double the money in a few months time.

Mr. D'Arcy said that in his opinion the seizures were the most serious matter and he would like Mr. Delany to notice it. There were a good many farms derelict already. If seizures were continued more farms would become derelict and more annuities, rents and rates would not be paid next year. He suggested that a report be submitted on the number of derelict farms in the County.

45

Mr. Keegan said that the Government had made it impossible for some people to set their farms. In his district he knew that unless the owner of a farm could produce a clear receipt for his rates he could not set his farm. Some of the rates were undoubtedly irrecoverable. He suggested that the Collectors should submit reports on the actual position to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Corish said he considered the discussion was developing into a dangerous channel and that they were getting away from Mr. Delany's report. He certainly admitted that the farmers were not in the position that they would all like them to be in. They were entitled to assume from the report that the Collectors referred to were not satisfactory. He, however, would not support Col. Gibbon's proposition, and what he would prefer was that they adjourn the matter until they appointed the Rate Inspector who could go into the various districts and find if the Collectors were making a genuine attempt to discharge their duties. He did not believe it would serve any good purpose to have a general discussion but that they would hamper the Collection.

Col. Gibbon said he did not propose the dismissal of both collectors - it was only one his motion referred to.

Mr. Hayes concurred with Mr. Corish that no useful purpose could be served by a public discussion. Mr. McCarthy had told them that Kelly had done his best and it was, therefore, unreasonable to propose his dismissal.

Mr. Shannon - I think he is doing as much as any man could do to get the rates.

Mr. O'Byrne referring to the letter of the Local Government Department in which comment was made on the delay in taking action in the case of ex-collector Furlong, said that as soon as the irregularities were discovered immediate steps were taken by the Secretary.

Mr. Corish moved:- "That we defer consideration of the cases of Collectors Kelly and O'Byrne for a month, and that as soon as a Rate Inspector has been appointed that he be instructed to investigate their areas immediately and report to the Finance Committee if, in the meantime, they had done their best."

Mr. Hall seconded.

The Chairman said they were all aware that at the moment it took a very strong and energetic man to be able to pay rates, but if the Council were to carry on they must certainly try to obtain the funds necessary to keep the county services going. He agreed that to be continually discussing the collection was not tending to its success and he would be glad if they could do away with the rates for a year or two and have de-rating similar to that in England and Northern Ireland. As long as the existing law continued they had got to carry on the instructions. In regard to Collectors O'Byrne and Kelly, the Finance Committee, as he already stated, deferred action in order to give them a chance of improving their positions. On that day they had a report showing an improvement in the case of one of them. He did not like dispensing with them without giving all the consideration that was possible. Mr. McCarthy had told them the position in regard to the difficulty which Collector Kelly had in his district. There was a sum of between £300 and £400 in three or four cases alone, in his district which, if it could be got, would be a big consideration in the collection. He did not want to condone the non-collection of the rate, the exorbitant amount of which was one of the main causes of its non-collection. The rates were too high, much higher than the individual could bear.

Mr. Delany said the matter had been discussed in a temperate and reasonable manner, but that he did not agree with some of the views which had been expressed. He did not agree with the view that there had been an improvement since he made his report seven weeks ago. The position, if anything, was worse.

Proceeding, Mr. Delany, quoted the figures and percentages in regard to sums outstanding and collected at the time he made his report, and on that day and continuing, asked did they show an improvement in the interim. Candidly he did not think they did. As regards Rate Collection Wexford County was incomparably the worst of the Leinster Counties over which he discharged official duties. Wexford should discharge the duties in a better way. It was not such an impoverished county as some of the others. There had been evasion on the part of a certain number of rate-payers. He was quite satisfied that there were genuine cases in which the rates could not be paid, but all irrecoverable rates should be cleared off and not kept dangled year after year. The man he pitied/^{most} was the honest ratepayer. He first paid his own rates and he then had to pay for negligent and sometimes dishonest men, and there was no end to his trouble. It was very unfair that the honourable ratepayer should be so mulcted. Some members of the Council said that the number of ratepayers was going down, but all he could say was that the Council were going the best way of diminishing the number. The collectors had not improved their position. Some members said that they were doing the best possible, but a year or two years' work could not be accomplished within six or seven weeks. They might now be making an effort but they did not do so in the past. I think the County Council are largely responsible, and I say that with all due respect, continued Mr. Delany. You paid over £1,000 in interest last year and you are probably paying more this year. Mr. Delany went on to refer to the very bad health record of the Co. Wexford with regard to which he gave statistics and suggested that there could be a saving if there was a County Medical Officer of Health, whose salary would be about £800 annually and who would do most useful work for the County. Surely such an appointment was preferable to paying £1,000 for overdraft, interest and for which there was no return.

The Chairman, intervening, said he thought that Mr. Delany

45
was now giving them a treatise on public health, and that he was getting away from the rates, which was the real question.

Mr Delany said that the Chairman might be quite right and that the Council might not desire the appointment of a County Medical Officer, but the statistics in regard to the county were available. The rate collection was not as satisfactory as it could be. During the preceding seven weeks there had been no serious improvement; a certain spurt had been made but the arrears could not be pulled up in a short period. It was for the Council to put their house in order or not. The man who paid his rates was the man for whom everyone should have great sympathy.

After further discussion, Mr Hall said that Mr Delany made his inspection at a very bad time of the year, when there was no money in the country.

The Chairman said they had heard Mr Delany's lecture but he wished to refer to a Government Department which had all the power of the law in the country behind them and had mulcted the rate-payers of the Co. Wexford in a shilling in the £. He referred to the Land Commission. Would Mr Delany tell them how backward this Department was in the collection of their annuities though they had all the power of the Government behind them? The last amendment of the Land Act had been a great source of the Council not getting rates out of derelict farms, as it left the occupier simply helpless. The withholding of the grants of the Council for defaulting annuitants was another source of the big indebtedness of the Council at the moment. The Council were making a great effort to deal with the rate collection and they were doing a lot better in this respect than the Land Commission. When Mr Delany went back to Dublin, would he use his influence with the Land Commission to try and get some of the load off the shoulders of the Council? What had Mr Delany to say to that?

Mr Delany.- I have nothing to say only to recommend to you the utilisation to the full of your existing machinery.

Colonel Gibbon said, as regards his proposal to dismiss Kelly,

46

if the manager of a business was making a loss year after year the owner would say "If you can't make money for me, you will have to go: you are costing ~~far~~ too much to the people who have to pay". In addition to the loss on the overdraft, they had the loss on the contracts of the Board of Health and Mental Hospital. If a man failed to collect the rates, he should, as a matter of business, be replaced. It was a question between failure and success. The man who is a failure as a Rate Collector must make room for the man who will be a success.

A vote was then taken on Mr Corish's amendment with the following result:-

For:- Miss O'Ryan, Messrs Brennan, Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Gulletton, Corish, Cummins, D'Arcy, Doran, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Jordan, Keegan, Mayler, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, Shannon, Smyth, Walsh, and the Chairman. 23.

Against:- Colonel Gibbon and Colonel Quin. 2.

The amendment was accordingly declared carried.

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

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 18th July, 1929, be and are hereby confirmed".

Roads Committee.

The minutes of Roads Committee in respect of meeting held on 1st July, 1929, were submitted as follows:-

47

The monthly meeting of the Roads' Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 1st July, 1929.

Mr. M. Doyle (Chairman) presided and there were also present:- Messrs Sean O'Byrne, T. F. D'Arcy, John J. Culleton, James Hall, James Shannon, Myles Smyth, P. Hayes, Thomas McCarthy, W. P. Keegan, Patrick Colfer, R. Corish, Colonel Gibbon and Colonel Quin.

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The following report was read from the County Surveyor:-

"Recently the Boiler Inspector made his annual inspection of the County Machinery, and I submit copy of letter received from the Insurance Company which is entirely satisfactory.

'On the 25th instant Mr. McNeill, Board of Works Engineer, accompanied me to Kilmore Harbour. Colonel Gibbon and Mr. Corish were present, as also Mr. J. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, and a number of local people. We made an examination of the Harbour entrance and took soundings, and arranged for the work to be done by the dredger, which is to be there during the week. It has been arranged that there should be a depth of 6' immediately at the Harbour entrance. The area between end of the breakwater and about half way up the slip will be dredged out to a depth of about $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet at the slip. We decided that the dredging work should be carried out on both tides each day, and the only extra cost for this will be the over-time for the men so that it should prove economical and expeditious. We were unable to arrange at the time for a Pilot or man in charge to represent the County Council on the dredger, and the Committee should decide upon this.

'I have now completed Specification and Forms for the Local Government Department in connection with the Concrete Road

48

between Ferrycarrig and Wexford. As already notified to the Council I have to report that the money allocated will not cover the full length between Ferrycarrig Bridge and Auburn Terrace. The amount allocated is only £8,206 and my estimate is £9,091, for the complete length. It would be a pity when the work is being taken up that it should not be completed, as there will be trouble and inconvenience in having to close the road a second time, and I think efforts should be made to get the Local Government Department to sanction the full work, if we obtain a tender at my Estimate.

'The spraying work under the Council's proposal on Main Roads is well advanced, and I hope to have it completed shortly. The Grout work under the National Road Scheme Grant on the road between Enniscorthy and New Ross is progressing well, and we are now working towards Enniscorthy.

'The work under Loan on the Camblin Road is progressing well, and I am satisfied that I shall be able to make a good job of it.

'I have draft Plans for the alterations required by the Finance Department in the Wexford Courthouse re-construction, and hope to have the completed Plans during the week. I shall then at once, have Quantities made out by a Quantity Surveyor, and submit same to the Finance Department for sanction.

'I submit particulars and Estimate for alterations of corners at Ballymoney, Borleagh and Ballybeg, as directed by the Committee.

'At the present time section of the Duncannon Line between Dirr and Forth Commons is in a very poor condition, and it is impossible to properly maintain it without further allocation to cover extra stones which should be tarred and spread to level up pot-holes and general unevenness. This section of the road is very difficult to keep. The quantity of material required would be from 150 - 200 cubic yards, and the cost would be £120.

49
'There are also a number of Special Works and improvement jobs advisable to be undertaken, and I shall submit details at the meeting.

'I have application from the Town Clerk, New Ross, for the use of the County Roller on Saturdays. If the Urban Council make their arrangements with the engine men, and pay all expenses a small figure should cover the capital charge for the use of the roller, and I think their request should be granted on these conditions.

'I submit copy of report from Mr. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, re dumping ground in connection with Rathduff Quarry. The price asked for the land appears to me to be very high!"

Proposed by Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Colonel Quin and adopted:-

"That the report of the County Surveyor presented to this meeting be received and considered"

Kilmore Harbour.

Colonel Gibbon said Mr. Roche, M.C.C., had informed him since the inspection that the men at Kilmore had formed a ring and were not going to put a pilot on board for £2 per week. There was one man who had offered to do the work but he had since got a job on a Wexford ship. The others said that if the County Council were spending £200 a week on the dredger they could afford to pay more than £2 a week for a pilot.

After discussion it was decided on the motion of Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Shannon:- "That the question of the employment of a man as pilot on board the dredger at Kilmore be left in the hands of the County Surveyor and Mr. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, to make the best arrangement they can."

Wexford-Ferrycarrig Road

The County Surveyor said he proposed to do the road in three sections - one from Auburn Terrace, Wexford, to Farnogue, on which there were footpaths on each side, the second section from Farnogue to Newtown Railway Bridge on which there was a footpath on one side and the third section from Newtown Railway Bridge to Ferrycarrig. The road on the last named section could not be

50

closed
/and would have to be done in half widths and in ferrocrete.

He expected the Council would be able to get tenders within the figure for the length between Wexford and the Newtown Railway Bridge. If any part was to be left undone it will be the piece between Newtown Railway Bridge and the Ferrycarrig Bridge and this would have to be tackled next year.

Mr. Corish suggested the Council should first advertise the work and see what tenders they would get.

Colonel Gibbon - Does the specification include the drainage work and the cost of repairing the damage done to by roads while the work is in progress. ?

The County Surveyor said that the specification covered the drainage work but not the repair to damaged by-roads.

Colonel Gibbon gave details of five sections in which the work should be done - (1) from Auburn Terrace to Wexford Bridge; (2) from Wexford Bridge to Farnogue (3) from Farnogue to Park lane (4) from Park lane to Newtown Railway Bridge and (5) from Newtown Railway Bridge to Ferrycarrig concrete road. By using Ferrocrete the sections would be closed only three weeks; while with ordinary concrete they would be closed for from seven to eight weeks. If they had heavy lorry traffic on by-roads for eight weeks their repair expenses would be very heavy. The difference in cost between the Ferrocrete and ordinary concrete would be 7/6d per ton or a total for the whole road of £70 or £80. It would be cheaper to use ferrocrete for the whole road and get the traffic on it immediately than it would be to use ordinary concrete and pay a fabulous sum for the repair of the bog road which would go to pieces under the extra heavy traffic.

The County Surveyor stated that according to the Local Government Department's Trade list the cost of Portland cement in store was ^s43/10d per ton and of Ferrocrete ^s51/4d, a difference of 7/6d per ton. This was not taking into account railway carriage and cartage. The work would take approximately 700 tons and the

51
difference in cost would be £262: 10: Od.

Mr. Corish asked if a contractor would be likely to charge a higher price if he had to use ferrocrete. His information was that the same amount of ferrocrete could not be mixed as ordinary concrete.

The County Surveyor said that ferrocrete did not set any quicker than ordinary concrete but it hardened or "cured" faster.

Colonel Gibbon thought it would pay the Co. Council to use ferrocrete for the section from Park to the Railway bridge.

The following letter from Captain Musgrave of the British Portland Cement Association Ltd., 14, Dawson Street, Dublin, under date 18th June, 1929, was then read:-

"While in Wexford when I was with you last, I called in on Colonel Gibbon on my way to Bannow and had a general chat with him. We were discussing cement bound macadam roads and he suggested we should make a present to you of sufficient cement to lay 50 lineal yards of road. I told him that we could approach the Cement Marketing Company on the matter but could only hope for a present of cement if Ferrocrete were used on the work you intend doing between Wexford and Ferrycarrig Bridge.

"I have since written to our head office and have been authorised to let you know that we have made arrangements with the Cement Marketing Company to provide sufficient Ferrocrete cement to lay a trial length of 150 lineal yards maximum by 6 yards wide of cement bound macadam (4" coat), provided Ferrocrete is used on the Ferrycarrig-Wexford Road.

"If you have not sufficient funds to carry out the whole length in ordinary concrete, would you consider laying portion of the work in cement bound where your foundation is reasonably good.?"

'On the other hand, if this does not appeal to you, perhaps you have plant working on a main road, such as that between Enniscorthy and New Ross where you could put this trial length

down. A good sand would be required and some 4" timber with spikes. It would be advisable to have a small mixer."

Colonel Gibbon asked what was the estimated cost of repairing the damage for carrying the traffic over the by-road for several months while the work on the direct road was in progress.

County Surveyor - I could not say. If you had excessive traffic and bad weather a couple of hundred pounds would go a very short way.

Colonel Gibbon - And you would save that if you used ferrocrete.

The County Surveyor said he thought they should be able to start the work in about a month's time. He had given up to 1st December in the specification for completion. This was taking the period in contrast with the time - 8 months - to do the eleven miles of concrete road between Ferrycarrig Bridge and Enniscorthy. The present work would cover a length of a shade over two miles.

Colonel Gibbon said there should be an expansion joint at any place where the laying of the cement ceased for half an hour during the progress of the work or for the stoppage at dinner hour.

The County Surveyor disagreed. There was only one crack in the work on Wexford Quay and they had not used expansion joints. The American practice was not to lay any expansion joints at all. If, as had been provided for in the specification, expansion joints were provided at every 50 feet they were not going to have much trouble.

The Chairman said the Council would not know exactly where they stood until they had obtained the estimates for concrete and for ferrocrete.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Colonel Quin and adopted:- "That we approve of the specification for concrete road between Auburn

53

Terrace, Wexford and concrete ending at Ferrycarrig bridge as submitted to this meeting of the County Surveyor. That tenders be invited for the execution of the work in concrete and in ferrocrete and that application be made to the Minister for Local Government for closing of road during the progress of the work."

Dangerous Corners - Chapel, Clonroche.

In connection with this matter adjourned from a previous meeting, Mr. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, said that Mr. John Crimeen would give the necessary land for the widening of dangerous corner at Chapel without charge.

It was decided that Mr. Cullen should obtain a statement in writing to this effect from Mr. Crimeen.

The County Surveyor said he was afraid if they tackled a few corners at every meeting they would deplete the Contingency Fund to an extent that would be inadvisable as they might want the money for more pressing work later. He thought these dangerous corners should be dealt with as special proposals in the Autumn.

Mr. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, said corner at Chapel was very dangerous as there was no view at all there.

Mr. Shannon said he had been interviewed by the residents and they had pressed him in the interests of the public to try and have something done. The matter was hanging on for a long time and it was now proposed it should hang on longer. As the place was so dangerous he moved that the work be carried out.

Mr. Corish said they should take into consideration the state of the Contingency Fund and see what dangerous corners it was imperative to attend to at once. There was not sufficient money to deal with all dangerous corners this year and he thought they should have a proper report from the officials as to what corners were necessary to be seen to at once before voting on two or three. If they voted indiscriminately on each corner as it came up, others,

54

far more dangerous and more pressing might not be considered. Before doing anything they should have a report from the County Surveyor as to the state of the Contingency Fund.

The County Surveyor said they had £1185 in the Main Roads Contingency Fund and £1244 in the County Roads Contingency Fund. The corners to be dealt with at that day's meeting would all come on the County Roads Contingency Fund. There was a number of Dangerous corners existing and as Mr. Corish had said it was not the most satisfactory way to have a corner mentioned at a meeting and a special allocation made for it from the Contingency Fund. He and the Assistant Surveyors would have to report that all these corners were bad. It would be better if all these were brought on by notice of motion at the November meeting of the Council. They could then make a selection from the dozen or two dozen corners brought on and allocate the funds to deal with them.

Mr. D'Arcy proposed and Mr. Culleton seconded the following resolution:- "That the allocation of amounts from Contingency Fund to deal with dangerous corners reported to this meeting be adjourned".

A vote was taken with the following result:-

For:- Colonel Quin, Messrs Hall, Culleton, D'Arcy, Smyth, McCarthy, Corish, Hayes, Colfer, Gibbon and the Chairman.....11
Against:- Messrs Keegan, Shannon and O'Byrne.....3.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Ballybeg Corner.

The County Surveyor said this was a terrible corner similar to what was called the Pig's Elbow near Kilmore. The banks are high and the fields on one side above the level of the road. It was certainly dangerous. When he inspected it he narrowly escaped a collision with another motor car altho' at the time he (County Surveyor) was about to stop. There was absolutely no view

and he proposed to cut down the bushes and put up a post and wire fence that would give a view. This could be done for about £15 if the owners would not raise any objection.

It was decided that, for the present, the County Surveyor should arrange, if possible, to have the hedges trimmed to provide a view for traffic.

Ballymoney Corner.

The County Surveyor said it would cost about £15 to deal with this corner.

Mr. Keegan said that the corner converged on two roads leading to the sea. Two or three large families lived beside it and the small children had very narrow escapes from being injured by passing motor cars. He proposed that the work should be carried out.

It was decided in accordance with resolution adopted in connection with corner at Chapel that further consideration of the matter be adjourned.

Dunannon Line.

Mr. Colfer asked if there was any possibility of securing a government grant for the improvement of this road.

The County Surveyor said he thought not. It was only a link road and the grants up to the present had been applied to trunk roads only.

Colonel Gibbon proposed and Mr. Colfer seconded the following resolution which was adopted nem.con.:-

"That a sum of £120 be allocated from Contingency Roads Fund for the repair of Dunannon Line between the Dirr and Forth Commons"

Mr. Culleton said it appeared to him to be very early in the year to be allocating money from the Contingency Fund to the extent the Roads' Committee were doing.

58

Miscellaneous Works.

As recommended by the County Surveyor the following works were agreed to:-

1. Pipe gullet at Kiltennel to prevent flooding at Miss Gibbons. Estimated cost £7 to be allocated from Co. Contingency Fund.

2. Gullet at Curteencurragh amount £3 to be taken from Contingency Fund.

3. Gullet at Ballycomelone £6: 10: 0d; amount to be taken from Contingency Fund.

The County Surveyor said these works should be done immediately and it would mean a saving if they were carried out now.

The County Surveyor also mentioned that the road between Ballymackessy and Ballybrennan Quarry (No.51) had been greatly cut up. The amount of the proposal was £1500 but £1284 was all that was allowed. He wanted another couple of hundred pounds now. It was essential to do this. If they did not tar dress this piece of road ^{at} the present time the work already done would not last.

It was decided, on the motion of Mr. Shannon, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne, that £200 be allocated from the Contingency Fund to provide for tar spraying road between Ballymackessy and Ballybrennan quarry; amount to be withdrawn from Contingency Fund.

Mr. Shannon called attention to a serious accident which had occurred at turn at D'Arcy's forge at Moneytucker. Nothing had to be done at the place but lower the fence.

It was decided that the County Surveyor should have fences trimmed at this point cost not to exceed £5.

New Ross Urban Council and hire of Roller.

The following under date 27th June, 1929, to the County Surveyor from Mr. M. J. Finn, Town Clerk, New Ross, was read:-

"I am directed by my Council to ask if you can hire the steam roller to them on a couple of Saturdays in the afternoon and, if so, kindly state rate per hour."

The County Surveyor suggested that the New Ross Urban Council should pay 10/- per half day to cover capital charge and that they make their own arrangements with the men in charge as to payment of wages.

Mr. O'Byrne proposed and Mr. Culleton seconded a resolution embodying the recommendation of the County Surveyor and this was adopted.

Rathduff Quarry.

The following report, under date 26th June, 1929, was read from Mr. T. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor:-

"In connection with your instructions re breaking ground for above. I have been making inquiries and can secure only one suitable place where the amount claimed is anyway at all reasonable, and where there will be no objection by residents.

"Recently Mr. Shannon, M.C.C., and myself interviewed Mr. John Forrestal, Rathnure, the owner of field in question, and he is prepared to give half statute acre near Oldtown Cross at rate of £3: 10: 0d per annum. The place is very suitable, and unless arrangements for breaking can be completed shortly it will mean delay in getting tonnages to roads."

Mr. Shannon said there was no other place in the immediate district procurable.

Mr. Cullen agreed. He had been in negotiations with a man named Brennan who had complained of the action of the Council in breaking on the side of the road. He asked £3 per annum or £20 for one-fifth of an acre.

Colonel Gibbon proposed:- "That stone breaking on road at Rathduff be continued as in the past and the people of the district be notified that when the County Council can find a more suitable place at a reasonable price they would take it."

Mr. Hall seconded.

The County Surveyor said that there was never less than 10 or 12 feet of a travelling surface left when breaking was being carried out. The period of breaking was only about a week.

Mr. Shannon said the trouble was that horses would not pass the place owing to the noise of engine and breaker.

The resolution was then put and adopted.

Colonel Quin proposed, and Mr. O'Byrne seconded, the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That the report of County Surveyor as submitted to this meeting be adopted."

AGRICULTURAL LABOURER AND ROAD WORK.

Mr. Keegan complained that a man named Patrick Fortune who had not been previously employed by the Council had been taken out of a farmer's yard from his work.

The County Surveyor read report from Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, that before Fortune was taken on for County Council work it was understood he had been in temporary employment only and that the work on which he was engaged was then finished. On further enquiries, since the last meeting of the Roads' Committee, it was found that the statement he made was not true and his employment with the Council had been terminated.

It was decided that the County Surveyor submit detailed report as regards this case.

PROPOSED NEW ROAD AT CORRAGH? BUNCLODY

Under date 28th June, 1929, the following report was read from Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor:-

"A certain difficulty has arisen in respect of this work. The County Council were to spend £250 which together with the free work of the local people was supposed to make this lane into

59

a County Road. I have seen some of these people and attempted to explain what I wanted them to do. Apparently, however, our ideas of the amount of work they had promised to do are very different. They are apparently only willing to move in a short piece of ditch (already partly done) and to clean off the briars and bushes in places. The total value of this work would hardly be at the outside more than £10 or £15, as for a considerable distance the lane is 18 feet to 25 feet wide and little trimming would be required. My impression was that the County Council understood they were to do work of a value considerably in excess of this.

"What I was laying out for them to do was as follows:- To pick and lower the sides so as to give a more or less shaped foundation on the road. Width to be 13 ft. To place to one side any stones they got in doing this and to remove the clay. We, ourselves would do this shaping in the places where there was any considerable rock.

"This work that I wanted them to do would not entail moving the full width of the banks at the sides, as to do so would give a roadway 14 to 16 feet wide which is not required.

"I had intended to then spend the money in quarrying and breaking the very considerable quantity of stones required. To spread this to a width of, say, 12 feet and to sink water-tables using the stuff raised as blinding for the surface.

"It is rather difficult to say exactly what the money value of the work I wanted them to do would be. £50 or £60 should do most of it. I have a list of 17 people who expresses themselves as willing to do any work they were asked. This would be £3 or £3: 10: 0d each which seems reasonable enough if they really require the road.

"The road is about $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles long, and is almost all a hill. If it is not properly shaped at first it will be a continual source of expense.

"I may say I rather gather that these people would like the £250 spent as far as it goes, and, perhaps next year the County Council would give more to finish it."'

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Colonel Quin:- "That until the local people carry out the work outlined in Mr. Ennis's report of the 28th June, 1929, the proposal of the County Council as regards improvement of Corragh lane remain in abeyance."

NEW ROSS OLD WORKHOUSE BUILDINGS.

Under date 27th June, 1929, the Department of Local Government wrote (P.44846/29 (Ad)Loch Garman) forwarding the following extract from report of Inspector, Mr. Delaney, consequent on his recent inspection of New Ross Workhouse:-

"In New Ross Workhouse, for which no Caretaker has been appointed, the Body of the House is falling into ruins."

The Chairman said he thought the ratepayers were over-taxed without tackling any new outlay.

The County Surveyor said he would bring forward a list of necessary repairs. If they did not do some work there the buildings would fall down.

Chairman - Let them fall down.

BUNCLODY FOOTPATHS.

The following memorial, signed by 60 Ratepayers, including Parish Priest, Curate, Rector and Medical Officer, was read:-

"We, the Undersigned ratepayers, district of Bunclody, ask you to consider the erection of footpaths at Irish Street, Bunclody as we consider same an absolute necessity for pedestrian traffic."

The County Surveyor said this application should be considered at the November meeting of the Council which would deal with all special works and a resolution to this effect was adopted on the motion of Colonel Quin seconded by Mr. Culleton.

CAHORE DRAINAGE SCHEME.

Mr. O'Byrne mentioned that the lands of Cahore, on which there was a drainage scheme, were about to be handed over to the tenants who had been asked to send in any objections to the taking over ^{of} the estate by the 23rd June. The tenants asked the County Council to help them to have section 20 of the Land Act of 1927 put into operation. The County Council would be put to the expense of maintaining the drainage system if handed over to them and now was the only time at which they could get fair play. The tenants believed the landlords were responsible for the drainage area. They never had to pay a drainage rate only what was in the rent.

Mr. Corish said if the Minister put the section into operation the Land Commission would retain a certain amount of the purchase money to cover the drainage. If the land was purchased by the tenants the drainage system would be handed over to the Council. Now was the time to see that the system was put into a proper condition.

Colonel Gibbon said there was no method whereby a drainage area could come under the Council unless the drainage area was taken over and improved by the Department of Public Works. It was only when they found a drainage area in a derelict condition and carried out improved works that it was passed on to the Council. He did not think this applied to Cahore. The drainage works were supposed to have been kept up by the drainage trustees. The tenants and trustees comprising the drainage board tried to get the Board of Works to take it up for renovation purposes but the Department found it impossible to spend money ~~on it~~ economically on the system ~~or~~ without putting on a prohibitive drainage rate and consequently they refused to touch it. Consequently there could be no question that

62
it could be brought under Section 20 of the Land Act of 1927 or passing it on to the County Council.

Mr. O'Byrne said that in this case the different landlords constituted the drainage trustees who would get relieved of their responsibility for the upkeep of the drainage area when the land passed to the tenants. They should not be allowed to get out of the responsibility which was theirs for years and in fixing the purchase money account should be taken of the liability of the landlords for the drainage.

Colonel Quin said that both sides were to blame. The Drainage Committee were supposed to do a certain amount of work and so were the tenants. There was a lot of talk about these poor landlords getting a great deal of money for their land but they did not want to sell; the land was taken from them by law. In his own case he had to pay £800 to get back a small bit of land. In this case both sides had not done their work and both sides should have cleared up their drains. He understood that the banks of the drains had been greatly cut up by cattle and the drainage Committee had never been able to prevent this trespass. So long as this took place drainage work could not be properly carried out.

Mr. Corish said that when the Land Act of 1927 was going through An Dail the Minister of Agriculture sent him a note across the House that section 20 was being put in to relieve places such as Cahore. The Land Commission held the view that because there was a drainage board in operation or should be in operation in Cahore the section in question could not apply. That was the difficulty and the crux at the moment. As to Colonel Quin's statement that both sides were to blame so far as (Mr. Corish could see the position, the unfortunate tenants were, in their rent obliged to pay a contribution to the drainage board which gave them no information at any time as to what was being done

with the money. It appeared that the money contributed for drainage was not spent. The County Council should make some move in the matter as the land was about being transferred to the tenants. There was no use in standing idly by as they might be involved in a very large expenditure for this system later on.

Mr. Elgee pointed out that Section 20 of the Land Act of 1927 referred only to drainage schemes maintainable by the landlord and did not deal with schemes administered by drainage trustees.

Colonel Gibbon said according to the Drainage Acts or Regulations the trustees had to give annually in the local papers notice two weeks prior to the meeting of the general drainage ratepayers for the appointment of trustees and other business. In this particular case the trustees never published that there was going to be a meeting and never summoned the smaller men to such a meeting. The whole matter was kept in the hands of two or three men, but the smaller men never insisted on their rights. Where they objected they did not pay but there were smaller men who had to pay in their rents. The drainage had got into a bad condition and the trustees refused to do anything. Colonel Gibbon then referred, in detail, to the manner in which the maintenance work had been neglected. The sluice which should be opened and closed twice in every 24 hours was only operated now and again in a very irregular way.

Mr. O'Byrne said there was no record of any tenant being rated especially for drainage or of any contribution by them except in their rent. The maintenance of the System was an obligation on the landlords in view of the rent they received for the land. He proposed the following:-

"That the Land Commission when transferring the lands of Cahore to the tenants should put into operation Section 20 of the Land Act of 1927, in view of the circumstances pertaining

64

in the drainage area in that district."

Mr. Smyth seconded.

Colonel Gibbon said that in fixing the price to be paid landlords regard would be had to the condition of the land and the landlords would not get as much as if the estate was properly drained.

Chairman - Won't the annuity be fixed on the amount of the rent paid at the moment.

Colonel Quin thought the matter should be fought out between the landlords and the tenants. The latter were supposed to clean up certain drains and the land would be in much better condition than at present if that had been done. He understood that no contributions were asked for by the drainage board and these men who were now howling did not pay a penny of drainage rate. It was very easy to say that it was paid in the rent but they had nothing to show they did this. It was very easy to make a mythical statement.

Mr. Smyth objected to Colonel Quin's remarks. The tenants were only fighting for their rights. It would be bad business for the tenants to spend money on side drains when there was no outlet and when the main drains were not looked after.

Mr. D'Arcy said he had an intimate knowledge of the place. What Mr. O'Byrne stated as to the landlords being obliged to keep the main drain open and having included a certain amount in the rent for drainage purposes was absolutely true. Since the Land Act of 1923 nothing had been done by the landlords. The Council should take very serious notice of the position as they may eventually be let in for serious expenditure owing to the neglect of the drainage and the flooding of other people's lands. There was also the question of the flooding of the roads, which had been several times under the notice of the Council. It was the duty of the Council to do what they could to help the tenants in the matter.

Mr. Keegan said it was the landlords who constituted the drainage board and they had let the system down to such an extent that the land at present was not worth the rates.

Mr. Elgee said that section 20 would not be applied when drainage trustees were in existence.

Mr. Smyth - The tenants had no representation on the drainage board.

Colonel Gibbon - They had the right but they never exercised it.

Mr. Smyth - They were never accepted or recognised in any shape or form.

Chairman - The position is that if you have a drainage board you cannot apply section 20; if you have no board the section applies. Would the non-existence of this board or their non-functioning for any certain term knock them out.

Mr. Corish then proposed the following resolution:-

"That as the neglect of drainage area at Cahore is responsible for the serious flooding of adjoining roads for a considerable period of the year and, as we understand the lands concerned are shortly about to change hands, we request information as to what the Office of Public Works intend doing to safeguard our interests and to prevent the roads being flooded which causes inconvenience to a large section of the public."

Colonel Quin seconded and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

The resolution of Mr. O'Byrne as to application of Section 20 of the Land Act of 1927 was then put and passed.

KILMANNOCK DRAINAGE DISTRICT.

The following under date 28th June (P(C) 10384/29) was read from the Land Commission:-

"With reference to your letter of the 4th March last forwarding copy of a resolution adopted by your Council at their

meeting on the 25th February relative to the Drainage System of the above District and your previous letter of the 18th February relative to a fund of £400 for the upkeep of an embankment at Kilmannock at present in the hands of the Public Trustees, I am directed by the Land Commissioners to state that the Estates referred to appear to be the following:-

(Kilmannock)	:	J.P. Cuffe E.C.10248
(Power)	:	Gallwey (otherwise Power) S.855
(Houghton)	:	Sir H.Houghton Stewart & Another E. 3956
(Ryland)	:	Richard H. Ryland, E.C.8483.

"It is understood that the above-named District comprises parts of the lands of Ballyedock, Greatisland and Kilmannock. These lands are situated respectively on the above mentioned Estates of Sir H. Houghton Stewart, Gallwey (otherwise Power) and J. P. Cuffe.

"The lands on the Stewart Estate were vested in the occupying tenants under the Irish Land Act 1903 in the year 1913. The question, therefore, of retaining any funds for the upkeep of protective works thereon does not now arise.

"The sale of the Gallwey Estate is now proceeding under the provisions of the Land Act 1923. The Commissioners, however, do not propose to apply for the retention of any funds out of the purchase money thereof for the upkeep of works situated in the Kilmannock Drainage District which are maintainable by your Council under the Drainage Acts.

"The lands on the Cuffe Estate have also been sold to purchasers under the Land Purchase Acts, and a fund of £400 was provided on the occasion of the sale to assist in the upkeep of the embankment bounding the lands of Kilmannock and, of the drain and sluice connected therewith. This fund is at present held by the Public Trustee and administered by local trustees, viz., John Barnwell, Jeremiah Clancy, James M. Atkinson, Thomas Ryan and Michael Henahan under the provisions of a Deed of Trust.

"The Land Commission would be prepared to take the necessary steps to have the administration of this fund transferred to your Council under the provisions of Section 21 of the Land Act 1927

on hearing from you that the Council would acquiesce in such transfer, in which case the interest of the fund would be paid to the Council to be expended on the upkeep of the works referred to.

"The lands on the Ryland Estate also mentioned in the resolution do not appear to be situated within this Drainage District. They have been vested for some year in the purchasing tenants under the Land Purchase Acts."

Mr. O'Byrne proposed and Mr. McCarthy seconded the following resolution which was adopted nem.con.:- "That the County Council be recommended to apply to the Land Commission for the transfer of the fund of £400 under the provisions of Section 21 of the Land Act of 1927; the interest of said fund to be applied to the maintenance of Kilmannock drainage Scheme."

ROSSLARE COAST ROAD.

Under date 21st June, 1929, the following was read from Mr. Philip Wickham, Villa Marina, Rosslare Strand:-

"As a last resource I again ask to draw your attention re the dangerous condition of the road in front of my house. Should we have a repetition of last winter's storms and tides I shall have no means of entrance to or exit from my house except through the fields.

"Also please note this fact the water pipes are laid in front of my house and garden and are within a margin of 18 feet from the last slip in the hill. If I might make a suggestion, say, if some small protection were placed at the bottom of the hill in front of the houses in danger, I am almost sure, with material on the spot, that it would cost no more than what it will eventually cost to take up the pipes and relay them at the back of the houses. Should that be impossible to do, at least, I am sure that you could stop the drawing of the gravel for three or four hundred yards for instance from the reservoir to Mr. Kehoe's house, at least give it

88

a trial for a year or so. Practically all the gravel is drawn from under my own house in fact there is now an absolute hollow in the beach at that point, consequently the sea has far more force on the bank there.

"I do not think I have been at all unreasonable in what I have asked to be done considering the danger I am in."

The County Surveyor said that, personally, he did not think that the drawing of the gravel had very much influence on the erosion which in his opinion was caused by the change in the set of the tide. The gravel which used to come up at Rosslare was now held up at the back of Ballygeary Pier. The Council could try some small concrete repair work there and it might be serviceable or it might not.

Colonel Gibbon said there was a great deal more drawing of gravel there in the old days than now. The pier at Ballygeary had altered the set of the tides. Perhaps it might be possible to try the effect of groins at certain places.

The County Surveyor said he would object to groins; they would hold the shingle and sand as it travelled up the coast at one place. The shingle that formerly came to Rosslare was now held at Ballygeary and anything at Rosslare was going away and there was nothing to replace it.

The Chairman said it was a mistake to think that more gravel was drawn from the beach in former years than was taken away now. The new houses there were all built with gravel taken from the one place - the bottom opposite Wickham's house. There was more gravel taken from Rosslare at the present day in one Summer than there was in six Summers formerly. A very considerable portion of the gravel cast on the beach was taken for the building of houses by the people who were now complaining. He suggested that no gravel would be drawn from a certain portion of the beach and they could see if the strand would make up there again.

Mr. Culleton said the prohibition of removal of gravel from Ardavan strand had been attended ^{with} ~~in~~ good results.

Mr. Birthistle said that up at the Fort the strand was making up again and that was the general tendency. The County Council drew about 700 yards annually and if this could not be obtained at Rosslare it would have to be got at St. Helen's or at the new quay. This would mean an extra cost of about 5/- a yard. He thought it might be possible - for the purposes of experiment - to try a few yards of a cement wall as a retaining wall where the gaps were.

The County Surveyor thought if they put up groins it would only ~~mean~~ having a place where people could easily procure gravel.

Mr. Birthistle said that the Council did not take for their roads quarter of the amount of gravel which had been taken.

Colonel Quin thought it would be better not to take action until they had a considered report from the County Surveyor.

Mr. Hall was in favour of a small experiment with retaining walls. It would not cost very much.

Colonel Gibbon advocated obtaining a report from an Engineer who had specialised in this class of work.

The County Surveyor said he was afraid that a report of this nature would cost about 100 guineas.

The County Surveyor said that at Courtown the blocks had made up the shore because they had something to work on; the difficulty at Rosslare was that the shingle was being held at the pier.

The Chairman said there were hundreds of loads of gravel going off the strand every week and it was coming from somewhere. He asked the County Surveyor and Mr. Birthistle to take a very special look at the place and see if they could recommend something which they considered would be effective.

Mr. Birthistle said they could try one groin there and they could see in a couple of months what it would do.

County Surveyor - You will not do much that will be of service under £100.

The Chairman said that the battery wall at the old Coastguard station had protected the place.

It was decided on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Shannon, that the County Surveyor submit a special report to next meeting of the Roads' Committee with special reference to any places where they see the strand is making.

ERECTION OF WALL.

Under date 18th June, 1929, the following letter was read from Mr. Joseph Doyle, Cooney's Cross, Screen:-

"I wish to apply for permission to erect a wall in front of my house at Cooney's Cross, Screen. I have no protection to my house whatever. All wandering animals can come and stand and rub against my doors or break my windows. I would be very much obliged if I got permission to erect the said wall.

"Mr. Barry and Mr. Birthistle are aware of the full facts of the case."

The County Surveyor said he had no objection to the Roads Committee agreeing to the application.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. Hall:- "The Roads' Committee have no objection to erection of wall at Cooney's Cross, Screen, opposite premises of Mr. Joseph Doyle, provided height of wall does not exceed four feet, and that the work is carried out to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor."

Colonel Quin dissented.

BROADWAY HALL FOR CINEMA HALL.

An application by Mr. Raymond Doyle, Broadway, on behalf of Hall Committee, for Cinema Licence for Broadway Hall, was adjourned for report of County Surveyor and the Garda Síochána as to the suitability of premises and supervision of entertainment.

71

ENNISCORTHY URBAN COUNCIL AND MAIN ROAD IMPROVEMENT.

The following letter, under date 18th June, 1929 (Ref. RD/32) and addressed to the Town Clerk, Enniscorthy, was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health (Roads):-

"With further reference to your letter of the 16th ultimo relative to a grant to the Wexford County Council for certain works of road improvement in Enniscorthy, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that it is suggested that the County Surveyor, with the assistance of the Town Surveyor, examine the areas of the thoroughfares to be made good and submit proposals and estimates which should be considered by the County Council and this Department in connection with next year's distribution from the Road Fund. In the meantime the underground services should be overhauled. "

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

"That we approve of consultation between County Surveyor and Town Surveyor of Enniscorthy Urban District, as to report on main road improvement in Enniscorthy Urban District and the preparation of estimate of cost of said work."

ERECTION OF HOUSE AT CAMPILE.

Mr. O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, reported, under date 8th June, 1929, that Mr. James Forrestal, Campile, proposed to erect house beside the Ball-Alley at Campile. The width of the road is 15 feet and at no point would the side wall of the house be 30 feet from the centre of the road.

It was decided to inform Mr. Forrestal that the County Council cannot consent to the rection of any building which is to be erected being less than 30 feet from the centre of the public road. If Mr. Forrestal proceeds with the work he will do so at his own risk.

PROPOSED TRAINING OF ENGINEERING STUDENT.

The County Surveyor submitted letter from the Chief Mechanical Engineer, Office of High Commissioner for India, London, asking if County Surveyor would be prepared to afford the necessary facilities to L.R.Marwardi for a two years training in Highway Engineering.

It was decided to recommend the County Surveyor to take no action in the matter.

PROPOSED POUND AT SALTMILLS.

Mr. D. Corish, District Court Clerk, submitted the following requisition from Mr. J. V. Fahy, District Justice, under date 17th June, 1929:-

"Upon application made to me, the Justice assigned to above District and Court Area, by Superintendent Michael Walsh, Garda Siochana, New Ross, I hereby authorize the establishment of a Pound on the lands of William Costello at Saltmills in the above Court Area and I appoint the said William Costello to be the Keeper thereof."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Culleton:-

"That requisition from District Justice as to proposed establishment of Pound for animals at Saltmills be referred to Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, for his advice."

73

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

"That the Minutes of Roads Committee, in respect of Meeting held on 1st July, 1929, as submitted to this meeting, be received and considered".

Kilmore Harbour.

The following letter, under date 25th July, 1929, (8652/29), was read from the Office of Public Works:-

"We have to inform you that we have received a report from the Master of the Dredger 'Cara-na-gCuan' stating that while dredging at 4.30 a.m. and 6 p.m. on the 19th instant they were held up by obstruction. The Master hauled off and on examination discovered a large cable under four feet of cover leading across the harbour. The Master hooked the bight but failed to raise the cable. At time of reporting he was standing off for tide to make another attempt.

"The presence of this obstruction may hold up the dredging operations".

The County Surveyor said that the dredger had lost four days trying to lift the cable and they had also lost a good deal of time owing to big boulders catching in the doors of the hopper and having to be prised out with bars. The work was going on very slowly and he had written Mr McNeill, Engineer, for a complete log of the work.

Colonel Gibbon said the dredger had taken out only three loads in the past fortnight. The reasons given for the poor progress were first the removal of the boulders which jammed the whole machinery. That was an unforeseen matter and the Council would have to stand the extra expense. With regard to the cable, which was also greatly responsible for the delay, he suggested they should approach the Department responsible for Irish Lights and claim an additional grant for the extra expense. They could not put the loss of time due to this chain as less than a week. In order to put themselves in a position

to make a proper claim they ought to have on record the total amount of the sand, gravel and stones taken out of the harbour and the number of hours worked when the matter came to be further considered by the Council.

The County Surveyor said that, up to the 25th July, seven loads had been taken out and there was probably another one since. The dredger people claimed the load was 250 tons but he did not believe it would run to much over 200 tons.

Colonel Gibbon.- They said they would finish the job in three weeks. The regulation about dredging is that parties who have moorings had to lift them out of the way of the dredger but this cable was left sunk four feet and injured the buckets. It was unfair that the Council should bear the consequent expense.

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

"That the County Surveyor communicate with the Office of Public Works and with the Department responsible for Irish Lights and furnish details as regards the extra expense incurred by the Council owing to the fact that the old cable, which moored the lightship tender, was not removed before dredging operations were commenced in Kilmore Harbour. The Council are of opinion they should not be mulcted in the extra expense owing to the neglect to remove the cable."

Mr Elgee said that the lightship tender was privately owned and had been worked by the late Mr M A Ennis for Mr Robinson, contractor to the Irish Lights Department.

Dangerous Corners.

Mr Shannon proposed:-

"That the County Council proceed with the work of easement at the following dangerous corners, viz., Chapel, amount £12, Ballybeg, £15, and Ballymoney, £15; total, £42, amount to be taken from the Road Contingency Fund".

Mr Cooney seconded.

The County Surveyor said the Finance Committee was of opinion it would be advisable to consider all dangerous ^{corners} ~~ereers~~ together at the November meeting at which they would have a full list and could deal with the most important rather than deal with those which cropped up at intervals at meetings. By dealing with isolated corners at several meetings they would perhaps leave out others which were more dangerous.

Mr McCarthy said that in dealing with these proposals, which were no doubt necessary, they were losing sight of the real purpose of the Contingency Fund which had been set up to provide funds to meet emergency work that might arise from time to time, such, for instance, as repair of Haresmead Bridge which the County Surveyor was to put before the meeting. They did not know what other repairs (which it would be dangerous to the public to hold over) might arise between this and the end of the year. The easement of dangerous corners should be dealt with at the November meeting and, if then rejected, they should not be brought forward until the following November. Every member could find three or four dangerous corners in his district. He did not think it was good policy now to bring forward a proposal to have the corners under discussion removed while a large number of others, probably worse, remained, and regarding which Councillors refrained from bringing forward until the consideration of the estimates in November.

A poll was taken on the proposition of Mr Shannon with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Keegan, O'Byrne, and Shannon. 6.

A gainst:- Messrs Brennan, Corish, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Gaul, Gibbon, Hall, Hayes, Jordan, Mayler, McCarthy, Murphy, Quin, Smyth, Walsh, and the Chairman. 17.

Mr Cummins and Miss O'Ryan were absent during the division.
the Chairman declared the proposal lost.

76

Stonebreaking at Rathduff Cross.

Mr Jordan said that this stonebreaking was being carried on at the back of a man's house and no Councillor would like to be smothered with stone dust. The man should not be persecuted in this manner.

Mr Shannon proposed and Mr Cline seconded the following resolution:-

"That the Council accept the offer of Mr John Forrestal, Rathnure, to rent half statute acre at Oldtown cross to provide a dump for stonebreaking".

The County Surveyor stated that the breaking was carried on for about a week or ten days and the machinery was 40 yards away from any dwelling-house.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Brennan, Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Culleton, Doran, Jordan, McCarthy, Shannon, and Walsh. 10.

Against:- Messrs Corish, D'Arcy, Gaul, Gibbon, Hall, Hayes, Keegan, Mayler, O'Eyrne, Quin, Smyth, Miss O'Ryan and the Chairman. 13.

Mr Murphy declined to vote and Mr Cummins was absent from the division.

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

New Ross Urban Council and Hire of Roller.

Under date, 24th July, 1929, Mr M J Finn, Town Clerk, New Ross, wrote that the terms of the County Council had been accepted by New Ross Urban District Council.

Agricultural Labourer and Road Work.

Mr Keegan said that, since last meeting, he had been informed that a man, whose name he thought was Ward, had been taken out of the employment of Mr A Kinsella and employed on roads. He suggested that the matter should be gone into at next meeting of the Roads Committee when both cases - Fortune's and Ward's - could be considered. The ganger concerned and the Assistant Surveyor should

be in attendance.

This suggestion was agreed to.

Proposed New Road at Corragh.

The County Surveyor said that, when the local Committee visited this road, they were given to understand that the local people would do a considerable amount of work. If the Council spent the money which had been allocated it would be useless. The proposal should be held up until the local people had carried out the work specified at the Roads Committee.

New Ross Workhouse Buildings.

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

"That, as the State claims to be owners of all old Workhouse buildings, they should be maintained from State funds".

Cahore and Kilmannock Drainage Schemes.

Mr O'Byrne proposed the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr Shannon and adopted:-

"That the Government Departments concerned be asked for a reply to the resolutions adopted by the County Council at their last meeting".

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

"That the Minutes of Roads Committee, in respect of meeting held on 1st July, 1929, be and are hereby approved".

HA RESMEAD BRIDGE.

The County Surveyor stated he had received a report from Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, that the side walls of Haresmead Bridge had collapsed and should be repaired at once. The work should be seen to at once.

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

"That the necessary repairs to side walls of Haresmead Bridge be carried out as soon as possible, cost not to exceed £45,

amount to be withdrawn from Contingency Fund (County Roads)."

ROAD MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE.

The following report of above Committee was submitted:-

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

SPECIAL SUB-COMMITTEE—ROAD MAINTENANCE.

It was decided at the meeting of Co. Council on 24th June, 1929, that the following Report of Sub-Committee appointed to consider recommendations as to improvement in methods of Road Maintenance be printed and circulated amongst Members for consideration at next meeting of the Council:

A meeting of Special Committee—Road Maintenance—was held in Co. Council Chamber, Wexford, on 22nd May, 1929.

Present—Mr. M. Doyle, Chairman, Co. Council (presiding). Also—Messrs. J. J. Colloton, T. Mayler, P. Colfer, P. Hayes, W. P. Keegan, and James Shannon.

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

Mr. Culleton said he had had a notice of motion for second last meeting of the County Council for a reduction of wages of road workers as he believed the time had come when this should be made. All classes of the community had been obliged to make sacrifices and the time had come when the road workers should be prepared to meet the present economic position. He did not want to be harsh in the matter, but wished to do what was fair to the ratepayers and also to the road workers, and accordingly he moved that the wages of road workers be reduced by 5s. per week, and that the half-holiday on Saturday be abolished.

Mr. Hayes said that the road workers had made sacrifices. A few years ago their wages were reduced from £2 10s. per week to £2 and broken weather and Church holidays had been allowed. Since then another reduction to 30s. had been made in the wages. These were certainly sacrifices on the part of the road workers.

The Chairman said at the time referred to by Mr. Hayes farm labourers were paid 35s. per week, but to-day they were not getting anything like that. He was more in favour of the abolition of the half-holiday than a reduction in wages. The half-holiday caused a good deal of jealousy between road workers and farm labourers, who really belonged to the one class. He did not begrudge the road workers their wages if the Council and the times could afford it. But the reduction in farm labourers' wages owing to economic necessity was out of proportion to the road workers' wages. He would be glad if the Sub-Committee could make some other recommendations to the Council for economy outside a cut in wages. There might be some reduction in the number of gangers. It was ridiculous to have a ganger standing over a man spreading a shovelful of stones. The times were much more prosperous when the big wages were given, but there was a great difference between the prices obtained for agricultural produce then and to-day.

Mr. Hayes said the cost of living should be taken into account. If the wages were fixed below the cost of living, how could men rear their families or live in anything approaching a decent condition?

Mr. Keegan argued that if the Council agreed to a change of system and have all possible work done by piece-work it would satisfy everybody. The only thing remaining the county was the machinery purchased by the Council themselves. As regards reduction of wages, they should remember the farm labourer had a full year's work and road men hadn't.

Mr. Mayler said they were not getting value for their money by direct labour. The men should be prepared to work six days a week for the 30s. The fact that road men had a half-holiday had created a good deal of discontent among the farm labourers. Mr. Mayler also said that a lot of men will not work for farmers. They left the farmer to work on the roads.

Mr. Hayes pointed out that there was a resolution on the books of the Council against this, but if a man was only employed casually on a farm he should not be prevented taking work on the roads. The same thing would apply to a farm labourer who was out of employment.

The Chairman said he could not exactly fathom how piece-work could be employed all round as suggested by Mr. Keegan. He would be glad to see wages higher if the Council got value, but there were complaints they were not getting value.

The Co. Surveyor said he would like to know what was in Mr. Keegan's mind. They could not do piece-work with rollers except by sub-contract. A certain amount of quarry work could be done by piece-work. This would not be possible for work on rollers and spreading. With the present system piece-work could not be used to advantage for the spreading of material.

A long discussion took place on statements made by Mr. Keegan regarding work on Gorey-Courtown road.

The County Surveyor stated that what had caused extra expense on the Courtown road was the fact that owing to the bottom not being sound they had to take out the whole sides of the road, which were nothing but marl, and had to put in a lot of rubble stone. The £1,200 per mile which he specified was for water-bound macadam, but did not include strengthening, bottoming, widening or haunching. This had all been done by day's work, except the haulage.

The Chairman said all this discussion would be quite appropriate at the Roads Committee, but their business to-day was to try and devise ways and means by which they would get more value for what they were spending.

Mr. Keegan asked why Ballyclough quarry was closed up some months ago.

Mr. Treanor (Assistant Surveyor) stated that Ballyclough quarry had to be levelled down to save the cattle of Mr. Tomkins, the owner of the quarry; but it had not been closed. As regards Courtown road, as the County Surveyor had explained, they came upon a very marly subsoil and the road gave way under the roller. They had to take tons and tons of stuff out of the road and it was very costly work. It would cost about £2,000 a mile to do the work with tar as at present. The Co. Surveyor merely estimated to have road done in water-bound macadam.

Mr. Shannon said the County Surveyor had given a very fair explanation of how the cost had been increased.

The Chairman considered the meeting might discuss if there could be any reduction of gangers by more centralisation of men.

Mr. Treanor said all the gangers in his area, except one, were working gangers and there was no quarry in this man's area.

Mr. Keegan said they should have their material broken by hand wherever possible. The men were rushing to get the work and the system should get a trial. It would lead to economy and would increase employment.

Mr. Mayler—Mr. Treanor said all the gangers were working. Does that mean they are really working or only watching the men? In connection with the employment of men by piece-work for attending on the breaker, Mr. Mayler said that most of the men would have intelligence enough to know that if they jammed the breaker they would be standing in their own light.

The County Surveyor cited an instance in which, owing to the breaker being over-run, renewals of bearings had cost £12. Men were most anxious naturally to get the most they could out of the machine.

and from this alone they would be inclined to over-run it.

The Chairman said that if they saw the breaker over-run the men would know it would be to their own loss if they did not take proper precautions. But there was surely other work where injury, such as had been referred to, would not be caused.

The Assistant Surveyors then gave particulars of the various gangers which were employed in their districts.

Mr. Ennis (Assistant Surveyor) said that the only suggestion he could make was that as the Surveyors were responsible for the work they should get more power over the men. Very often a man was unsatisfactory and it was very difficult to make a case against him such as would satisfy a judge and jury, but the Council should trust the Surveyors to be really fair with the men. He was sure if this suggestion was adopted it would make for improvement.

Mr. Hayes said the Assistant Surveyor got his information from the ganger, and when any complaint regarding a particular man came before the Roads Committee they could ascertain if there was any spleen on the ganger's part against the man. The Roads' Committee in matters of this kind should have the power of considering everything.

The Chairman said he certainly thought they should give the power asked for to the Assistant Surveyors, but he did not want it deputed to the gangers. The latter should not be empowered to dismiss a man.

Mr. Colloton was of the opinion that there could be more concentration of men on the back roads than at present. He was sure the gangers would be able to supervise them.

Mr. Hayes contended there would be a saving in breaking "spawis" by hand.

The Chairman again referred to the abolition of the half-holiday for road workers. It was creating a lot of discontent, and he (Chairman) believed they should work the six days a week the same as the agricultural worker. They had no broken time and were paid for Church holidays, and many farmers were not allowing for these. So long as the cost of living was as high as at present, he did not see how a big cut could be made in wages. But it was only fair and just that the Sub-Committee should suggest to the Council that the men work the six days of the week.

Mr. Mayler strongly supported the Chairman's view. The Chairman said the farmer would not have many half-holidays if he minded his business properly.

Mr. Keegan said that the workers had enjoyed the half-holiday for a long time and if it was now abolished they would not have the same spirit to work. Tar work was very trying and arduous, and the men were put to a good deal of expense owing to the destruction of their clothes. Then the road worker had only five months' employment out of twelve.

The Chairman said this was not true. The road worker had more than five months' work on the road.

Mr. Keegan said no man in the Gorey district gets any more employment than what he had stated.

Mr. Treanor said that 70 per cent of the men in that district were employed for ten months of the year.

County Surveyor—The average would be 50 per cent for full time and the other 50 per cent for half time. The whole would average about three-quarters of the year, eight or nine months.

After further conversation, Mr. Shannon said he considered the discussion could be closed. The matter had been discussed upside down. They had heard the statements of the Assistant Surveyors and they had also a resolution on the books that hand-breaking should be tried where possible. The Assistant Surveyors were prepared to carry out that instruction in any place where feasible. He moved—"That no change be made in wages or hours of work, and that the resolution of the Council as to hand-breaking in quarries wherever possible be enforced."

Mr. Hayes seconded.

Mr. Keegan proposed—"That where possible material in all quarries in the four districts of the county be broken by hand at the present price and that each man get a share of the work."

Chairman—We have that resolution on the books already.

Mr. Keegan—Then I propose it be carried out.

Mr. Colloton pointed out that the average wage for agricultural labourers was from £1 to £1 1s., and they were living on it—at least, his own men told him they were able to live on it.

The Chairman said the farmers generally were at present unable to meet the wages of labour.

Mr. Hayes said that a reduction in wages carried a reduction of estimates in the year following, and it was the rates that got the benefit.

Chairman—Certainly, but for the balance allowed you will have more men employed.

Mr. Keegan proposed—"That this Sub-Committee adjourn without coming to a decision as regards workers' half-holiday."

This proposal was not seconded.

Mr. Culleton then formally proposed and the Chairman seconded the following resolution—"That the half-holiday on Saturday to workers in employment of County Council be discontinued."

It was decided to take a poll on this proposal and this resulted as follows:

For—Messrs. Colloton, Mayler and the Chairman —3.

Against—Messrs. Keegan, Shannon, Hayes, Colfer —4.

The Chairman declared the proposal lost and that of Mr. Shannon was adopted nem con.

Mr. Colfer proposed—"That where possible scabblings in quarries after a blast be broken by hand."

Mr. Hayes seconded.

County Surveyor—So long as it is not a special regulation to apply to every case I will not object.

Mr. Colloton held that in view of the number of roads taken by contract they should be able to reduce the number of gangers by at least one-third.

The County Surveyor said it might be possible to reduce the number of gangers to a certain extent, but not by one-third of the total.

Chairman—Would you go into this thoroughly and give us your opinion at the Roads Committee as to how many you can dispense with?

It was then decided that the County Surveyor report on this matter in detail to the Roads' Committee.

Mr. Colloton proposed—"That where an Assistant Surveyor has satisfied himself it is undesirable to keep a man in the employment of the Council (from inattention to work or because of matters of discipline) power be given to the Assistant Surveyor to dispense with the services of such employee."

The Chairman seconded the proposal, which was passed, Mr. Hayes dissenting.

It was also decided that County Surveyor issue advertisement in connection with hand-breaking of material in quarries.

On the motion of Ald. Corish, seconded by Col. Gibbon, the Council decided to have the report printed and circulated amongst the members and to consider it at the next meeting.

The County Surveyor has supplied the following particulars for the information of the Council:

GANGERS, AS TAKEN FROM PAY-SHEETS

DATED 20/6/29.

Sect.	Name and Address.	Rate per day.	
		s	d
1	Peter Byrne, Coolgreany, Inch	6	8
2	Patk. Byrne, Tara Hill, Inch	6	3

87

Sect.	Name and Address.	Rate per day. s d	Sect.	Name and Address.	Rate per day. s d
3	Michael Jordan, Ballyrory, Tinahely	6 8	35	Patk. Walsh, Bealistown, Ballycullane	6 8
4	James Swords, North Parade, Gorey	6 8	36	Vacant	
5	Andrew Clear, Clohamon, Ferns	6 0	37	Patk. O'Rourke, Haggard, Ramsgrange	6 1
6	Vacant		38	Vacant	
7	John Byrne, Camolin	6 8	39	James Whitty, Harristown, Ballymitty	6 3
8	Arthur Nolan, Ballycanew, Gorey	6 8	40	Thos. Broaders, Kiltra, Bannow	5 6
9	Owen Doyle, Glasslacken, Bunclody	6 8	41	John Pender, Scar, Duncormack	6 1
10	John Doyle, 46 Irish St., Enniscorthy	6 8	42	Vacant	
11	James Doyle, Munfin, do.	6 8	43	William Boggan, Whiterock, Wexford	6 8
12	John Kennedy, Ballycarney, Ferns	6 8	44	Nicholas Parle, Moortown, Ballycogley	5 6
13	John Burke, Croneyhorn, Ferns	6 8	45	James Kelly, Ballycogley	6 0
14	Michael Leacy, Carrigeen, Ferns	6 0	Edenvale Quarry—John Murphy, Castlebridge		6 0
15	Patrick Ryan, Ballybracken, Courtown	6 8	Ballybrennan Quarry—John Murphy, Raheen, Clonroche		6 8
16	Thomas Murphy, Rathduff, Killanne	6 0	Gangers for Nos. 6, 23, 36, 38 and 42 are now working as ordinary roadmen.		
17	J. J. Morrissey, Milehouse, Enniscorthy	6 8			
18	Wm. Sunderland, Clonhaston, do.	6 8			
19	Laurence O'Connor, Inch, Blackwater	6 8			
20	Michael Doyle, Tomanine, Rathnure	6 8			
21	Martin Bowe, Forrestalstown, Clonroche	6 8			
22	James Broaders, Sparrowsland, Bree	6 8			
23	Vacant				
24	J. J. O'Gorman, Ballyrannell, Glenbrien	6 8			
25	Jas. Wilkinson, Ballywilliam, New Ross	6 8			
26	Walter Bradley, Carrigbyrne, Newbawn	6 8			
27	Jas. Barnes, Rathquile, Adamstown	6 8			
28	Jas. Fortune, Tubberfinnick, Crossabeg	5 6			
29	Patk. M'Gee, Ballinaboola, Wexford	6 8			
30	John Donohue, Dunmain, Gusserane	8 4			
31	Thos. Kelly, Longraigue, Foulksmills	6 8			
32	John Donovan, Ballyclemack, Foulks- mills	6 8			
33	Michael M'Evoy, Barntown	6 8			
34	Michael Kavanagh, Barntown	6 8			

MID-MONTHLY RETURN SHOWING NUMBER OF MEN EMPLOYED.

1929—January	...	362
February	...	301
March	...	295
April	...	354
May	...	426
June	...	483

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

2nd July, 1929.

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

"That consideration of report of Special Roads Maintenance Committee be adjourned to next meeting of the Council".

ROAD BETWEEN TEMPLETOWN AND FETHARD.

Mr Walsh said that a fatal accident had occurred on this road recently, it was believed, through the bad condition of the surface. It was very rough and the County Surveyor might do something to put it into order. He proposed the following:-

"That the special attention of the County Surveyor be directed to the condition of the road between Templetown and Fethard with a view to its repair".

Mr Murphy seconded the resolution which was adopted.

CHERRYORCHARD QUARRY.

The following letter to Mr Jordan, M.C.C., under date 25th June, 1929, was read from Mr F H Hawkins, Cherryorchard Quarry:-

"On the 10th, 11th and 16th August, 1928, blasting operations were carried on in Cherryorchard Quarry with the result that considerable damage was done to roofs of my house. I wrote to Mr Barry (Co. Surveyor) on the 17th August and told him there was considerable damage done and that I would send on the estimate, and I did so. Mr Ennis (Assistant Surveyor), two weeks later, also took a note of the damage and told me to get it repaired. Mr Williamson repaired the damage last October at a cost of £17 which is not yet paid. They now tell me that my claim is statute barred. Is it honest that I should pay for damage that I had no hand, act or part in? Apart from that I had considerable trouble trying to get the damage repaired as I had to go after Williamson several times".

The County Surveyor said he understood that any claims made by Mr Hawkins had been dealt with. On one occasion

Mr Hawkins made two claims, one for actual damage which he (County Surveyor) thought had been agreed to and the second for contingent damage which had been refused as the Council had agreed to pay Mr Hawkins an extra rate for quarry damage to cover it.

It was decided to refer the matter to the County Surveyor for report.

REFERRED TO ROADS COMMITTEE.

Letter from John Walsh, Tara Hill, stating that the men at Tara Hill Quarry, were prepared to bore rock and put through breaker ready for carting for 3s 3d per ton, if Council would supply tools and powder, was referred to Roads Committee.

Memorial, signed by a number of local ratepayers, asking that the streets of the village of Blackwater should be steamrolled, was also referred to the Roads Committee.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE.

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

"That the following report of Scholarship Committee be received and considered:-

"A Meeting of the above Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 27th July, 1929.

'Very Rev W F Murphy, President, St Peter's College, Wexford, presided, and there were also in attendance:- Rev Brother E C Markey, Messrs Sean O'Byrne, James Hall, James Shannon, Hugh O'Byrne, N.T., and John Kelly, N.T.

Primary Scholarship Scheme.

Letter, under date 23rd July, 1929, giving the results of the examination under above Scheme, was read from the Office of National Education. Twenty-four candidates sat for examination. Those successful are:-

Mary A Ronan, Drinagh, Broadway, (577 marks), - 1 and

Mary E Doyle, Duncannon, (491)marks) - 2.

The remaining candidates failed.

The following is an analysis of the failures:-

Obligatory Subjects.

Irish	9
English	2
Arithmetic	16
History and Geography	11

Optional Subjects.

Algebra	6 out of 17.
Geometry	5 out of 12
Nature Study	4 out of 9
Needlework	1 out of 8.

Two candidates passed in all subjects but did not obtain the qualifying mark for the aggregate of obligatory subjects.

The Committee went closely into the marks of each candidate and also considered the various papers.

They are of opinion that the questions generally were too difficult, taking the age limit of candidates into consideration. Some of them appeared to be set in an unusual manner and in an indirect way. They believe that the time allotted is not sufficient.

In the circumstances, they recommend the Council - besides agreeing to the award of scholarships to the successful candidates - to ask the Department of Education to reconsider their decision as regards the following candidates with a view to allowing the County Council to award scholarships to them, viz.,

Patrick D O'Brien, Tagoat, (422 marks).

Richard Kearns, 1223 Goulding Street, Rosslare Harbour,
(409 marks).

Patrick J Kenny, Irish Street, Bunclody, (407 marks).

Matthew Berney, Foxcover, Monaseed, (393 marks).

and bursary to

Wm. P Redmond, 30 Esmonde Street, Gorey, (414 marks),

as he resides adjacent to a secondary school.

It was further decided that the following clause should be inserted in Scheme:-

"Scholarships under this Scheme are not to apply to candidates holding pupil teacherships or places in Preparatory Colleges".

University Scholarship Scheme.

The Committee recommend the adoption of last year's Scheme with the necessary amendments as to dates.

Miss Margaret Berney, Foxcover, Monaseed, applied for an extension of her Scholarship for a fourth year in order to obtain the Higher Diploma in Education.

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

"That we recommend the County Council to agree to an extension of University Scholarship of Miss Margaret Berney, in accordance with the following clause in Scheme":-

'Students for the Higher Diploma of Education will hold Scholarships for four instead of three years to enable them to secure this Diploma'.

Miss O'Ryan said the result showed the deplorable state of education in the County.

Colonel Quin.- It is the compulsory ~~English~~ Irish.

Miss O'Ryan disagreed with Colonel Quin's suggestion, and said that, if the ratepayers were going to be asked to subsidise education in the county, there should be a high standard placed on it. As she had said before, the ~~English~~ National Teachers in this county did not seem to be doing their duty, and they were, perhaps, the best paid section of the community. The result of the examination showed the neglect of education of the children in the primary schools, and until the pupils were up to a certain standard they should not strike a rate to send them to secondary schools. If they kept up the standard it would be reached eventually.

It was a perfect disgrace to the county to say that only two children qualified.

Mr Corish said that while he agreed that they should not have a modified standard he held that there was no proof that the matter was due to the National Teachers. He believed that in a great many cases the parents were to blame owing to their keeping children from school now and again, and only sending them up to a certain age.

Chairman.- Now you have a law compelling it, you must have an average attendance.

Mr D'Arcy.- There is one school near my place, and I think for the last twelve or thirteen years it always had a pupil here, while other schools sent up nobody.

The Chairman remarked that the papers for the examination were set up by the Board of National Education for all counties, and he did not think they should facilitate pupils in Co. Wexford more than in other counties.

Mr Gaul asked if the children that had failed would be given a further chance later on.

The Secetary said that some of them would be over age, but others might not.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Corish seconded the following resolution:-

"That the report of Scholarship Committee be confirmed".

Colonel Gibbon opposed. It would be most unjust to put such a claim on the ratepayers. He proposed the following amendment:-

"That the report of Scholarship Committee - with the exception of recommendation to request the Department of Education to review their decision in the cases of pupils who have failed to pass the examination for Primary Scholarships - be approved".

Miss O'Ryan seconded.

A show of hands was taken on the amendment with the

result that 21 voted in favour and one against.

The Chairman declared the amendment carried.

NE XT MEETING OF COUNTY COUNCIL AND ROADS COMMITTEE.

Mr Corish proposed and Colonel Gibbon seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That next meeting of the County Council be held on 9th September, 1929".

Colonel Gibbon proposed and Mr McCarthy seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That next meeting of Roads Committee be held on 26th August, 1929."

PROPOSE D LOAN FOR REPAIR OF ROAD BETWEEN CLOHAMON AND BUNCLODY.

The following notice of motion in the name of Mr Armstrong was adjourned to next meeting owing to the illness of Mr Armstrong:-

"That the County Council negotiate a loan with their Treasurer for the necessary amount to put the road between Clohamon and Buncloody into proper repair".

ROAD GANGERS AND CANVASSING.

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

"That the following resolution of the County Council be rescinded:- 'That, in future, any road gangers found canvassing in the manner admitted to by Gangers Bennett and Sunderland be not retained in the service of the Council'".

Mr Shannon said he thought that that resolution was holding a threat over the men's heads or, in other words, it was binding them to the peace. He thought that, if any man did wrong, his case could be tried on the merits, but he did not think with any of his colleagues that the two men in question did anything

wrong. They only tried to safeguard the way of living of themselves and their families. He thought that no farmer present would like to see a land-grabber coming to take his place, and it was the same thing with regard to those gangers, as their living was threatened by road-grabbers. The men had every right to safeguard their interests.

Mr Hayes seconded Mr Shannon's motion. He should say candidly that he was surprised that the farmers had supported such a resolution as they had had, during the Land League period, to fight for freedom themselves. The men had beseeched the contractors to refrain from taking their livelihood and he was surprised that the farmer members of the County Council should pass a resolution taking away that much freedom from the men - looking for mere existence and the right to live in the land in which they were born.

Mr Keegan said he did not see why they should censure the two men or the gangers. They should censure their party and not themselves; as they were sent by their party, he did not see why they should be censured.

Mr Gaul.- Surely Mr Keegan does not suggest that Mr Shannon, Mr Hayes or myself told them to go out.

Mr Cooney suggested that even if the men were told to go out it was no cause for shame to any member of the Labour Party to tell them to do so. As had been said, they were fighting for their living and they should be glad to have men that would take orders of the kind.

The Chairman said it was all very well to talk about the matter from the opinion of one side, but the County Council passed a resolution asking for contracts for roads, and the majority of the Council passed the resolution.

Mr Shannon.- A very small majority.

The Chairman said it was a majority at all events. If the County Council were to put an order on the books and if their employees were to come along and dictate to them, he did not

think there was any use in the Council at all. He thought there was a mistake made by the gangers and, if they made it again, they should be subject to dismissal. That was only his individual opinion.

Mr O'Byrne said he did not think there was anything like compulsion in the matter. They requested that the roads be left to the workers.

A poll on Mr Shannon's motion resulted as follows:-

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

Against:- Colonel Gibbon, Colonel Quin, Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Hall, Jordan, Mayler, Murphy, Smyth, Walsh, and the Chairman. 13.

Chairman.- I declare the motion lost.

Mr Shannon.- Well that upholds tyranny still.

TENDERS CONCRETING ROAD, WEXFORD - FERRYCARRIG.

The following tenders were received:-

Alexander Hull & Co., Pembroke Works, Ringsend, Dublin, £8,030:6:5
South of Ireland Asphalt Co., Lower Abbey Street, Dublin,

£9,891:13:11.

P McKenna & Sons, Armagh, £10,553:14:2.

P Cunningham, Dunleer, Co Louth, £10,776:5:6.

Pioneer Road Construction Co., £11,467:9:2.

Patrick Molloy, Church Street, Limerick, £15,057:5:5.

McCaffrey & O'Carroll, Cecil St., Limerick, £19,297: 5:7.

By directions of the Finance Committee, the tenders had been forwarded to the Local Government Department by the County Surveyor and the following letter to him, under date 27th July, 1929 (R/SGF/32) from that Department, was read:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant, enclosing particulars of seven tenders received

by the Wexford County Council for the concreting of the road between Ferrycarrig and Wexford, and to state that the Wexford County Council will no doubt be fully advised by you as to the tender which they can properly accept in this case."

With reference to the lowest tender, that of Messrs Hull and Co., the County Surveyor said he had received a communication from the contractorsⁱⁿ which they stated they had omitted transport charges in their estimate, and those charges would increase the tender by £748:18:4. At the Finance Committee meeting, he (County Surveyor) had stated that tender was abnormally low and, even with the addition, it was considerably below the next lowest tender. The gross total of Messrs Hull's tender was £8,779:4:9. The next lowest was that of the South of Ireland Asphalt Co., at £9,891:13:11. The money allowed under the grant was £8,206. He proposed to do the road in three sections. If the first two sections were done in ordinary concrete and the third section - from Newtown Railway Bridge to Ferrycarrig Bridge-in Ferrocrete,-it would mean a reduction of £422:17:6 in Messrs Hull's tender, and would bring it down to £8,356:7:3.

The County Surveyor further stated that, in the first instance, Messrs Hull and Co., had given the name of the National Bank as their sureties. He had pointed out that the tender required the names of two sureties and Mr Hull now submitted the following:- James Hootor, 17 & 18 Aston's Quay, Dublin and E F N Taylor, 26 Templepark Avenue, Blackrock.

Colonel Gibbon said he thought the Council should have a very pleasant surprise by that tender, because, according to Mr Barry's estimate, the grant would not be sufficient to cover all the work to be done. He now understood the grant would cover all the work.

County Surveyor.- All but £150.

Colonel Gibbon inquired how much extra would be required

for making good the sides of the road.

The County Surveyor said that nothing more would be required.

Colonel Gibbon asked if the County Surveyor had used the word "Ferrocrete" as representing a type of concrete, or if he was specifically binding a contractor to use cement ~~manufactured~~ by the Portland Cement Co., because there were quick setting cements of the same nature as "Ferrocrete" on the market.

The County Surveyor said he did not see that there would be any objection to laying any other quick hardening cement that would meet the test.

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

"That the tender of Messrs Alexander Hull & Co., Ringsend, Dublin, at £8,356:7:3 for the improvement of Wexford-Ferrycarrig road in accordance with specification, etc., prepared by County Surveyor, be accepted by this Council, subject to the sanction of the Local Government Department and to satisfactory Banker's reference for the sureties submitted".

"That Mr Elgee, Solicitor to the Council, be directed to prepare the necessary contracts when Local Government Department's approval and satisfactory Banker's references as to sureties have been received by the Council".

Mr Corish asked when did the County Surveyor think the work on the road would be started.

The County Surveyor said he thought they should tell the contractors to start at once.

Mr Corish.- Did the contractor discuss the matter with you as to where he was to get the macadam?

County Surveyor.- Kerlogue Quarry.

Mr Corish.- Can we hold him liable for any breaking up of streets or roads?

Secretary.- You can't, unless for extraordinary traffic.

92
Mr Corish said he thought all the members would agree that if the contractor was going to use a large traction engine in the winter he would cut up the road in no time, and if the Council could make provision for the damage he thought they should do so.

Colonel Gibbon proposed:-

"That a small Sub-Committee be appointed to deal with the work on Ferrycarrig - Wexford road and take decisions on any points which may arise thereon as was done in the case of Wexford-Enniscorthy road".

Mr Hall seconded and the resolution was adopted.

The following members were then appointed:-

The Chairman, Colonel Gibbon, Messrs Gaul, McCarthy and Corish.

Colonel Gibbon read a letter from Major C.N. Musgrave of the British Portland Cement Association, 14 Dawson Street, Dublin, stating that, as regards the offer of Ferrocrete, it was not necessary that the whole road should be laid in Ferrocrete. Continuing, Colonel Gibbon said it was not now necessary to use the Ferrocrete on the Wexford-Ferrycarrig road as the work on the latter was covered by tender but it might be tried elsewhere.

Mr Corish proposed:-

"That the Sub-Committee appointed to deal with Wexford-Ferrycarrig road be empowered to discuss with Major Musgrave the position of experiment for Ferrocrete".

Mr Corish suggested this might be at William Street, Wexford. The Sub-Committee could, however, consider the matter and make recommendations to the Roads Committee.

Colonel Gibbon seconded the resolution which was adopted.

93

DEFENCE, MALICIOUS INJURY CLAIMS.

Under date 28th June, 1929, the Department of Local Government wrote (G 41711/1929) that the Minister did not consider there was sufficient reason why Boards of Health and Public Assistance should be represented in claims for compensation for criminal injuries. The defence of these claims was a matter for the County Council and the expense of the further legal representation of Boards of Health and Public Assistance should not be incurred.

It was decided to point out to the Department of Local Government that the employment of the Solicitor of the County Board of Health and Public Assistance had been productive of good and, as this official was paid a fixed salary, no extra expense was incurred by his appearing to defend claims for compensation for criminal injury. In the circumstances, the Board of Health decided to adhere to the practice of having their Solicitor representing them at the hearing of claims of this nature.

ROA D GRANTS.

Under date 16th July, 1929, the Local Government Department (Roads) wrote that Pay Order for £3446, grant for Road T.7, had been made to the Treasurer of the County Council.

FORD OF LYG SURVEY.

The Office of Public Works wrote, under date 18th July, 1929, (12099/29), that the cost of making a copy of the survey etc of the Ford of Lyng proposed drainage district would be £5:10:0, and copy would be sent on payment of this amount.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Colonel Gibbon, seconded by Mr Culleton:-

"That this County Council accepts the offer of the Office

of Public Works to supply copy of survey, etc., of Ford of Lyng drainage district at a cost of £5:10:0, and that this amount be passed for lodgment to credit of the Office of Public Works at next meeting of the Council".

ANNUAL REVISION OF VALUATION.

Notification was received from the Valuation Department that Mr W E Murphy of the Department would commence the annual revision of the valuation of the County about the 15th July.

LOAN OF £625 FOR BOARD OF HEALTH.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Gaul, seconded by Miss O'Ryan:-

"That the Wexford County Council do consent to the Wexford County Board of Health and Public Assistance borrowing from The National Bank Limited, Wexford, the sum of £625 for the purpose of converting a wing of the old Hospital into apartments for the Nursing Sisters of the Hospital to be repaid within a period of 10 years from this date and to bear interest at one-half per cent under Irish Banks' rate rising and falling therewith from time to time but at no time to be less than £4 per cent per annum and to be secured by a Mortgage from the said Board to the said Bank over such proportion of the rates of the County as may from time to time be payable to the said Board of Health by this Council".

CINEMATOGGRAPH ACT, 1909.

The Chairman proposed and Mr Murphy seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That renewal of licence under Cinematograph Act, 1909, be granted Patrick Walsh, Dunamaggin, (travelling exhibitor), and new licence to Mr Raymond Doyle, Broadway, for Broadway Hall on condition that application be received on prescribed form with ^{and} fee/that, as suggested by Civic Guard, the projecting apparatus be placed outside the building at one end of the Hall

95
or as recommended by County Surveyor that the apparatus be on a concrete foundation at one end of the building and properly covered in with a door behind it".

POISONS & PHARMACY ACT.

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

"That new licences under Poisons and Pharmacy Act be granted to Mr Daniel Keating, Quay Street, New Ross, and Mr Frank J Murphy, Kilrane, provided the Civic Guard have no objection. That renewals of licences be granted to Edward Redmond, The Harrow Ferns, and Robert Rackard, Killanne, Enniscorthy".

DISTRESS IN OYLEGATE DISTRICT.

Report of public meeting, held at Oylegate on 30th June, 1929, dealing with the acute distress in Oylegate district, was read. This arose owing to the complete failure of the salmon fishing on the Slaney and the practical closing down of John's Lane Distillery, Dublin, where in former years a very large number of workers from the district had been employed in the Winter months. The men were now idle with nothing but poverty and want facing them and their families. The meeting appealed to the T D's to obtain a Government Grant for some works such as the following:-

- 1.- Sanitary arrangements and water supply for the district.
- 2.- To complete the sides of Wexford-Enniscorthy concrete road.
- 3.- To construct a bridge over the Slaney from the Oylegate side to Macmine Junction railway station.

It was hoped that something would be done immediately to avert a disastrous state of affairs that was bound to exist if some relief work was not forthcoming for these unfortunate people, who through no fault of their own found themselves in such dire

circumstances.

Mr Corish said that he and Mr Esmonde, T.D., had attended at Oylegate. Dr Ryan and Mr Jordan had also been invited but the latter did not receive the letter of invitation until two days after the meeting. The position was serious as 150 men and their families were involved. He was wondering if the County Council would pass a resolution, asking the Minister for Local Government to place a certain amount of money at their disposal to have something done there, such as the completion of the sides of the concrete road. He undertook to communicate with the Fisheries Department but they had no funds and the letter was forwarded to the Local Government Department.

Colonel Gibbon.- Write to the contractor for Wexford-Ferrycarrig road and tell him he can obtain labour in Oylegate.

Mr Corish proposed:-

"That the attention of the Minister for Local Government be called to the acute distress which prevails in Oylegate district and that he be asked to provide a grant for some useful work in the district that might be carried out by the County Council so as to alleviate the deplorable condition of the local people".

Mr Hayes seconded. Passed.

PAYMENTS TO ROAD CONTRACTORS.

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

"That the several proposals, appearing on form 22, as certified by County Surveyor, and for general payments as presented by the County Secretary, be and are hereby approved, subject to the modifications and other orders noted thereon and initialled by the Chairman".

97
IRISH PUBLIC BODIES MUTUAL INSURANCES, LIMITED.

The Secretary of above forwarded copy of Report of the Directors with audited Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet for year ended 31st December, 1928. Progress recorded in previous years had been ^{fully} maintained, the Fire Fund of the Company having been increased to 260 per cent of premium income as compared with a reserve for unexpired risks of 40 per cent usually provided by other Insurance Companies.

ANALYST'S REPORT.

County Analyst's report for quarter ended 30th June, 1929, showed that the number of samples analysed during the period was:-

Foods, 105; drugs, 65; waters, 1. Total, 171.

The number found to be adulterated was:-

New Milks, 3; Butters, 2; Vinegar, 1; Drugs, 2.

Michael Doyle