

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

MONTHLY MEETING 12TH NOVEMBER, 1928.

MINUTES.

FORTVIEW.

WEXFORD.

N.J. FRIZELLE.

SECRETARY.

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The monthly meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford on 12th November, 1928.

Present:-

Mr. M. Doyle, (Chairman) presiding; also:-

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

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

The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Late Mrs. Shannon.

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

"That we offer our esteemed colleague, Mr. James Shannon, Vice-Chairman of this Council, our heartfelt condolence in the loss sustained by him in the death of his mother. ~~Mr.~~ Shannon has the deepest sympathy of every member of this Council in his great bereavement.

The Secretary, on behalf of himself and the other officials of the Council, associated himself with the resolution and said that one and all desired to express to Mr. Shannon their sorrow in his loss.

Mr. Shannon said it was a great consolation to any member of ~~the~~ of the Council to know that in time of trouble he had the heartfelt sympathy of his colleagues.

The Late Fr. Fitzhenry, P.P. Lady's Island.

Colonel Gibbon proposed the following resolution:-

"That this Council offers to the relatives of the late

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Very Rev. R. Fitzhenry, P.P. Lady's Island our great sympathy in his death."

Colonel Gibbon said that Father Fitzhenry was chairman of their Library Committee and was identified with many public interests in the County. His loss will be felt not only by his own relatives and friends but by the County as a whole.


Mr. Corish seconded the resolution.

Miss O'Ryan, Messrs. O'Byrne, McCarthy, the Chairman, the County Surveyor and County Secretary associated themselves with the resolution. A high tribute to the deceased pastor was paid by the speakers for the great interest he had always taken in the welfare of his native County and most particularly in his immediate district.

Confirmation of Minutes.

Finance Committee.

The following minutes of Finance Committee meeting of 11th October, 1928 were submitted:-



The forthrightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held on 11th October, 1928.

Present:- Mr. James Shannon (Vice-Chairman) presiding; also:- Messrs. Sean O'Byrne, James E. Walsh, M.M. Roche, John Murphy, John Culleton and James Hall.

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

The minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

Rate Collection.

Under date 10th October, 1928 the following letter (G.68066/1928 Lochsarran) was read from Local Government Department:-

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that he will raise no objection on this occasion to the payment to Collector Donohoe of poundage based on 80 per cent of the amount of the lodgments made up to the 31st July last in respect of his warrant for 1927-28.

The Minister views with disapproval the balances outstanding on this and other Collectors' warrants and dating as far back as the financial year 1921-22. The Council are at present obliged to rely on over draft accommodation in order to insure the punctual discharge of their commitments.

Considerable concessions have been given to the Collectors generally in regard to the payment of poundage but it is observed that notwithstanding these concessions delay in the closing of warrants has persisted. No Collector has yet closed his warrant for 1927-28. It is with considerable hesitation that the Minister has agreed on previous occasions to the payment of poundage prior to the closing of the warrants concerned. As the concessions made have not elicited satisfactory responses by way of the expedition of Collections, the Council should now give the matter their renewed consideration. In cases where dilatoriness has been apparent the Collectors concerned should be warned that their services will be terminated in the event of failure to close the

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outstanding warrants within a reasonable time.

The experience gained would now appear to indicate that the system of making payments of poundage in advance is undesirable and it is accordingly suggested that the Council might now consider the propriety of its discontinuance in respect of future collections.

It was decided to inform the Local Government Department that acting on the instructions of the County Council the Finance Committee have arranged for special meeting to be held on 25th October, 1928 to consider the whole question of the Rate Collection. It was also decided that the Rate Collectors be asked to nominate one of their number to attend the special meeting.

The following resolution was adopted:-

"The Finance Committee consider it unwise on the part of the County Council to upset their recommendations in respect of Rate Collection. Those recommendations are arrived at after complete and exhaustive inquiry and the Committee regret to state action by the County Council contrary to the decisions of the Finance Committee is hampering to business, subversive to discipline and will not tend to have the Rate Collection properly carried out."

It was decided that a special meeting of the Finance Committee be held on 25th October, 1928, at 10.30. a.m. to consider recommendations in respect of employment of Rate Collectors and Collection of Rate.

In connection with suretyship of Mr. Art Dunne, Rate Collector for No. 15 District, a letter was read from the Manager, National Bank, New Ross, that Messrs. Maurice Condron of Donard, Clonroche, and Michael Ryan, Clonleigh, Palace, might be considered good as sureties to the extent of £100 each.

Mr. Art Dunne
The Secretary was instructed to communicate with/and inform him that as bond with himself and Sureties was a joint and several one, Banker's reference as regards personal surety must cover a sum of £200

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With reference to the arrest of Collector Cleary, District No. 21 Mr. M.J. Finn, Rate Checker for New Ross District attended and explained that how Cleary committed fraud was by calling out to him amounts which were not in his abstract. He (Mr. Finn) held the Collecting book and, as Cleary called out the items from his abstract, the Counterfoils on the Collecting book were initialled by him (Mr. Finn). He had been acting as Official Checker since 1899 and the practice in Cleary's case was the usual procedure followed by him.

In reply to Mr. Roche, Mr. Finn stated he never made an independent check.

After discussion the following resolution was proposed by Mr. Roche, seconded by Mr. Hall and adopted:-

"That Mr. Finn, Official Checker of Rates in New Ross District, be instructed that, in future, he must carry out his checking of Rates independently of the Collector.

Under date 8th October, 1928, letter (No. G. 66797/1928 Loch Garman, Fa.) was received from the Local Government Department stating that, as Collector Cleary had failed to account for certain Rates, the County Council should take the necessary steps to declare the office vacant, and to employ a suitable successor, apart from pending criminal proceedings. A formal resolution terminating this Officer's services should be adopted and submitted to the Minister for approval.

The Secretary stated that the County Council had, at their meeting on the 8th October, 1928, determined Mr. Cleary's employment.

Sanction of Overdraft.

Under date 3rd October, 1928, (G. 66799/1928, Loch Garman, Fa.) the Department of Local Government wrote, stating that the Minister had sanctioned the continuance of overdraft not exceeding £40,000 to the 31st December, 1928, with interest payable at the agreed rate.

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University Scholarship Scheme.

Under date 5th October, 1928, Mr. Edmond Larrissy wrote that his son, Thomas B. Larrissy, was in residence in Maynooth College, since 18th September, 1928. He wished to know if the University Scholarship awarded him was tenable at Maynooth.

A long discussion took place after which Mr. Hall proposed and Mr. Murphy seconded:-

"That Mr. Thomas B. Larrissy be allowed to hold his Scholarship at Maynooth College."

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For the motion:-Messrs. Roche, Hall, Culleton, and Murphy ..4.

Against:- Messrs. Walsh, O'Byrne, and the Chairman3.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Under date 5th October, 1928, a letter was received from Mr. Thomas F. White, asking for renewal of his Scholarship. He was resuming his studies after his long illness.

It was decided, subject to the concurrence of the University Authorities that University Scholarship to Thomas F. White be renewed for second year provided the University Authorities allow him to sit for first and second year examinations during the present academic year. It was also decided that balance of first year's Scholarship be paid Mr. White in instalments after he resumes his attendance at University lectured.

Food and Drugs Acts.

Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, submitted the circumstances of two prosecutions under Food and Drugs Acts.

The meeting considered it was advisable to allow both cases to be investigated by the District Justice.

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

"That the minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 11th October, 1928 be received and considered."

University Scholarships Scheme.

In connection with the recommendation of Finance Committee that University Scholarship be awarded Thomas B. Larrissey, Mr. Culleton proposed and Mr. Colfer seconded the following resolution:-

"That the recommendation of Finance Committee awarding University Scholarship to Thomas B. Larrissey be confirmed."

After considerable discussion a vote was taken on the motion with the following result:-

For confirmation of minute:- Messrs. Brennan, Colfer, Culleton, Cummins, Doran, Hall, Mayler, Murphy, Roche and the Chairman10.

Against:- Messrs. Armstrong, Clince, Cooney, Corish, D'Arcy, Gaul, Gibbon, Hayes, Jordan, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne, Quin, Shannon, Smyth, Walsh and Miss O'Ryan17.

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

"That the minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 11th October, 1928 be and are hereby confirmed with the exception of recommendation of Committee to award University Scholarship to Thomas B. Larrissey, which the Council has not agreed to."

The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting of 25th October, 1928 were submitted as follows:-

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The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held on 25th October, 1928 in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford.

The following were in attendance:-

Messrs. Sean O'Byrne, James Hall, John J. Culleton, M.M. Roche, Thomas McCarthy and J.E. Walsh.

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

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Shannon (Vice-Chairman) then attended and took the chair.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £5514-15-11d. was examined and signed.

Rate Collection.

The meeting was summoned especially to consider the question of the Rate Collection generally and to make recommendations to the County Council.

The following suggestions were debated:-

- (1) Paying Collectors a weekly remuneration.
- (2) Paying on amounts collected and lodged at more frequent intervals than at present.
- (3) Collecting through Post Office.
- (4) Collecting direct from County Council Offices.
- (5) Reduction of Rate Collectors by enlarging present

districts as they became vacant and insisting upon the full amount of warrant being lodged on the specified dates, when districts have been so enlarged.

With reference to Collection through the Post Office and from County Council Offices the Secretary submitted communication which he had received from Mr. W.F. Quinlan, County Secretary, Kerry County Council. In this it was pointed out that the Collection through the Post Office had been successful but had been abandoned owing to the fact that the Kerry County Council had been unable to obtain any reduction in the 3d poundage rate charged by the Post Office.

Dealing with the system of direct collection through the County Council Offices Mr. Quinlan pointed out that the whole County was formed into one collecting district, one of the County Council staff being appointed Rate Collector. The Rates were received either directly over the counter in the Office or paid by the ratepayers by Money Order or Postal Order, Receivable Orders being issued to all ratepayers. In addition, a number of County Councillors brought in the rates for the poorer people in each district and it was provided that the Rate Collector or his Representative attend at specified centres throughout the County to receive rates, due notice of his visit having been advertised.

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This latter provision had been adopted in order to save all possible expense in connection with Money Orders etc., for the Ratepayers.

The scheme so far had worked out satisfactorily. The amount of irrecoverable rates was estimated at £1,500; the total warrant for current year was £144,822.10.0d. Some of the Rate Collectors whose services had been discontinued had been pensioned and the positions of those remaining would be dealt with by the Kerry County Council at the end of the year, when they would be in a position to give a decision as to whether the present system would be put upon a permanent basis. As regards the preparation of Voters' and Jurors' lists the Garda Síochána performed these duties under Order made by the Minister for Local Government under Section 7 (1) Local Government (Collection of Rates) Act, 1927 and were paid the approximate fees.

The scheme suggested that a rebate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent be allowed all ratepayers who paid the full amount of their assessment for the year within six weeks after receipt of Demand Note, but this proposal was not sanctioned by the Minister for Local Government. The success of the scheme depended very largely on the people recognising their sense of civic responsibility. For the first month under the new scheme £40,295 out of total warrant had been collected while under the Post Office system £29,300 only had been collected for the first month. When the Receivable Orders were being sent to Ratepayers the following was attached:-

"By this new scheme of Rate Collection it is hoped to effect a considerable saving to the Ratepayers of Kerry. To do this, however, the co-operation of the ratepayers is essential. It is expected, therefore, that each individual ratepayer will recognise his civic duty and responsibility by ~~paying~~ paying his rates promptly. The success of the scheme depends on you."

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Messrs. J. Cummins, Collector for No. 8 District, and Mr. James Quirke, No. 1 District, attended on behalf of the Rate Collectors. Mr. Cummins contended that the present system of collecting through Rate Collectors was the most suitable for the County Wexford. The Collectors knew each and every individual ratepayer. By the direct system it was possible ~~that~~ that a certain amount of ready money would be collected but great difficulty would be experienced in dealing with the ratepayers who were "hard-set" and who at all times were dilatory in the discharge of their liabilities.

In reply to queries he said he believed that if some of the Collectors were more energetic more rates would be obtained and at an earlier period. He did not think as regards Wexford that the present system could be improved upon owing to the fact that Collectors were in personal touch with the ratepayers. He considered that if the districts were enlarged better results could be achieved. As regards poundage, owing to the fact that some of the Rate Collectors had no other means of livelihood it would certainly improve matters if they could be paid a percentage of poundage monthly or ^{every} two months.

Mr. O'Byrne pointed out that when the circular letter of the Local Government Department under date 10th December, 1926 (No. 56951/1926 Miscellaneous) was discussed by the Finance Committee great promises had been made on behalf of the Rate Collectors as to increased energy in the performance of their duties but these promises had not been carried out. In his opinion the principal reason for the backward state of the Collection for a number of years past was owing to the fact that the Collectors did not get to work early enough.

Mr. Hall was of opinion that the dates of closing were most inconveniently fixed. Instead of 30th September, the first moiety of rate should ^{be} lodged by the 30th November, and instead of 31st March, the date of closing second moiety should be 31st May. If the Council could have ^{be} ~~existing~~ dates related to those

which he recommended, he would be in favour of directing all Rate Collectors to close their warrants in good time. No extension should be allowed in any case.

Mr. McCarthy favoured the payment of poundage monthly or every two months on condition that a certain percentage of the collection should be lodged each month. He was also of opinion that as Rate Collectors dropped out the districts should be enlarged, with a view to obtaining the services of responsible men, at substantial remuneration, to enable them to employ Assistants, and if this were agreed to the full amount of warrant should be lodged within the specified time and no excuse taken for failure in complying with this direction.

It was decided on the motion of Mr. Roche, seconded by Mr. McCarthy to adjourn further consideration of the matter to Finance meeting to be held on 8th November, when the Committee will deal with the advisability of recommending increasing amount of personal Bond to £400 and also insisting upon the full amount of warrant being lodged within specified periods, the dates suggested for present rate being 30th November and 31st May.

As regards poundage it was suggested that where Collectors had by the 1st September lodged 50% or more of first moiety they should be paid 80% on the actual amount collected on that date, balance of poundage being paid if amount equal to first moiety has been lodged by 30th November. As regards poundage for second moiety 50% of said moiety should be lodged by 1st March when 80% of poundage on amount lodged will be paid, the balance of poundage being paid when warrant has been closed on 31st May.

It was agreed that the question of payment of poundage be specially dealt with at next meeting.

Mr. Roche suggested to Messrs. Cummins and Quirke that they should appeal to their fellow collectors to make a special effort before next fortnightly meeting of Finance Committee to get all

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in all possible rates, when progress made by each Rate Collector will be very carefully considered.

With regard to state of Rate Collection the following given the per centages of current rate collected to 24th October:-

E.J. Murphy, 80. J. Quirke, 77. J.J. O'Reilly, 70.
J. Curtis, 69. J.J. Sinnott, 63. S. Gannon 63. M. Deegan, 60.
J. Cummins, 59. P. Furlong, 59. P. Doyle, 59. W. Cummins, 58.
P. O'Byrne, 57. T. Rowe, 56. P. Donohoe 36. M.O'Hanlon, 36.
A. Dunne. 23.

Books for current Collection had not been given to Messrs. M.M. Kelly, J.J. Kelly and Michael McCarthy.

The following amounts were outstanding on the 1928 Rate on 24th October, 1928.

J.J. O'Reilly, £4.16.9d. T. Rowe. £17.17.7d. J.J. Sinnott, £50.5.8d. E.J. Murphy, £49.13.6d. J. Curtis, £50.1.6d.
J. Quirke, £102.7.11d. M. Deegan, £232.19.10d. J. Cummins, £194.4.4d. J. Doyle, £126.14.5d. W. Cummins, £221.3.6d.
P. Donohoe, £188.13.1d. T. Sutton, £271.2.5d. P. Doyle, £292.19s.
S. Gannon, £197.9.3d. P. Furlong, £298.15s. P. O'Byrne, £294.2.9d. M.O'Hanlon. £402.16.5d. M. Kelly, £288.13.1d. M. McCarthy, £696.17.11d. J.J. Kelly, £651.8.3d. A. Dunne, £1,110.16.5d. Total 1928 Rate outstanding £5743.18.7d. The

rates outstanding in respect of previous periods are:-

1927 Rate £1081.9.2d. 1926 Rate £349.5.9d. 1925 Rate. £67.3.0d.
1924 Rate £101.16.3d. 1923 Rate £103.0.6d. total £1702.14.8d.

The Committee considered that Mr. P. Donohoe with only 36% of first moiety of current Rate collected was discharging his duty in a very unsatisfactory manner and they will very seriously consider at next meeting taking drastic action in his case unless very substantial increase in amount collected is reported. As regards collection of arrears of Rates for 1928 rate they noted that Mr. J.J. Kelly has ^a sum of £651 outstanding and Mr. Michael McCarthy £696. It was decided that the case of Mr. P. Donohoe will be considered at

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next meeting.

Under date 12th October, 1928 the Department of Local Government wrote (69271/28 Loch Garman (Fa)), stating that the Minister confirmed the suspension of Rate Collector Cleary, District No. 21, and thereby terminated his services as a public official.

With reference to the appointment of Mr. Martin O'Hanlon, temporary collector for No. 21 District, the names of Mr. James O'Shea, Rosbercon, New Ross, and Mrs. Maher, Cushinstown, Ballinabola, were submitted as sureties for his Personal Bond, and Banker's references were read in each case showing that they could be regarded in each case as solvent to the amount of Bond.

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

"That James O'Shea, Rosbercon, New Ross, and Mrs. Maher, Cushinstown, Ballinaboola, be accepted as personal securities for Martin O'Hanlon, temporary Rate Collector for No. 21 Collection District.

Under date 29th October the Department of Local Government wrote (G.72529/28 Loch Garman Fa), stating that the Minister sanctioned the temporary appointment of Mr. O'Hanlon for No 21 District for periods ending 31st March, 1929 and on the terms set out on list of queries.

Under date 22nd October, 1928 letter was read from Mr. James Quirke, Hon. Secretary, County Wexford Rate Collectors' Association, asking the Committee to pay poundage to Rate Collectors. Some of these had not received any payment for a considerable length of time and in consequence found it very difficult to carry on their work.

It was decided to inform Mr. Quirke that the question of poundage was being specially considered at next meeting of Finance Committee.

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

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"That books for current Rate Collection be handed to Mr. M.M. Kelly, District No. 6, and that the question of payment of poundage to him be considered at next meeting of Finance Committee,"

Under date 24th October, 1928 the Local Government Department wrote (G.72551/1928 Ilgh) explaining the arrangements which had been made after consultation with the Irish Banks Standing Committee to facilitate prompt lodgments by Rate Collectors of rates received by them.

The Secretary stated that copies of this circular letter would be furnished Rate Collectors.

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

"That Mr. William Quirke, Ballinruan, Screen, be accepted as personal Security for Mr. James Quirke, Rate Collector, for No 1 District, Vice William Quirke, Senior, deceased, provided Banker's reference be forthcoming.

In connection with checking of Rate Collectors' accounts in New Ross District, Mr. M.J.Finn, Official Checker, wrote that he had put into operation the instructions of the Finance Committee as to the checking of Collectors' accounts.

It was decided that system of checking at New Ross and Enniscorthy be inspected occasionally by Assistant Secretary, travelling expenses to be limited to 4d. per mile.

Under date 18th October, a letter was read from the Local Government Department (Roads) (R/DB/32), asking for a contribution towards payment of amount due to the Exchequer under the Damage to Property (Compensation) Act, 1923.

It was decided to inform the Local Government Department that payment will be made when Rate Collection is somewhat more advanced than at present.

Wexford Courthouse.

Mr. A.B. Delap, (Delap and Waller) Northern Bank Chambers,
115 Grafton Street, Dublin
consulting engineer

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in regard to proposed site of Wexford Courthouse forwarded bill for £108.4.9d.

It was decided to defer payment of the account until the question of the site of Wexford Courthouse has been definitely settled.

Main Road Upkeep Grants.

Circular letter from Department of Local Government (Roads) under date 26th October, 1928 (RGM/201/29), relative to Maintenance Grants for Main Roads was received. The circular pointed out that the Main Road Upkeep Grants had been up to the present governed by the amounts County Councils themselves allowed in the previous year. It was considered more satisfactory that the Minister would indicate before Councils finally ~~the~~ passed their Road Estimates for ~~next~~ financial year, what measure of State Aid (if any) can be given towards the cost of Main Roads. For this purpose County Councils were asked to frame provisional estimates showing the sums likely to be allowed for (a) Trunk Roads (b) Link Roads and (c) County Roads for financial year. Special attention was drawn to the fact that where roads have been steam rolled or improved and were fit for surface dressing, such dressing, should be provided for and the inclusion of a provision under this head would be taken into account in determining the amount of the Grant. If a reasonable sum was proposed for the upkeep of roads referred to in circular letter it was the intention of the Minister to make Grants of 50% of the cost of upkeep of Main Roads which are trunk roads and 30% to the upkeep of Main Roads which are link roads.

The County Surveyor mentioned that up to the present with the exception of County Dublin surface dressing was not dealt with to any considerable extent out of ordinary Maintenance Proposals and such works had been carried out under Grant. The proposal

of the Ministry would mean that they want the Councils in the coming year to provide for this class of work but of their ordinary proposals, but this would allow for more money being allocated for improvement work. Last year they dealt with 33 miles approximately of surface dressing. In order to carry out the wished of the Ministry they would have to expend £180 per mile on trunk roads and as half this would be recouped, the Grant would represent the whole of the Ordinary Maintenance Charge on 1st Class Trunk Roads. After the third year the dressing might be dropped for a period of another three years. He estimated that about twelve miles would have to be surface dressed in the current year. The County Surveyor in conclusion mentioned that he would have preliminary estimates ready for next meeting of Finance Committee.

It was decided that estimates be considered thereat.

Hating of New Buildings Order Etc.

It was decided that rebate of rates be made in the cases of Arthur H. Stephens, 41 Main Street, Gorey and Bridget Dunne, Blackwater, evidence being submitted to prove that in the first instance house and shop had been reconstructed at a cost of £210 and in the second case a new two-storey house built costing £550.

It was decided that both Holdings be included on New Buildings List.

Duplicate Paying Order.

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

"That Duplicate Pay Order No. 5041 amount £1.12.0d. issued out of Subsidiary Account to Nicholas Wade, Faythe, Wexford (original order having been lost in the post) be issued.

The Secretary stated the original had been estopped.

University Scholarships.

Under date 22nd October 1928 Margaret Brown to whom

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University Scholarship had been recently awarded wrote that she would accept the County Council Scholarship on condition that she could attend evening lectures at the University.

The following resolution was adopted:-

"That Miss Margaret Frayne be requested to state why it is not possible for her to attend ordinary University lectures during the day and also that the Secretary communicate with the University Authorities and inquire if a student attending evening lectures only is in a position to proceed to a Degree.

Under date 19th October, 1928 the Secretary, University College, Dublin reported that Miss Honor A.M. Bolger, University Scholarship holder, had passed the B. Commerce examination with Second Class Honours and Michael G. Stedmond, University Scholarship holder passed the Second University Examination in Engineering.

Mr. Denis O'Leary, St. Ibar's Villas, Newtown Road, Wexford wrote making a further application on behalf of his son Liam for University Scholarship. He pointed out that his son obtained higher marks than the student who had been placed fourth on the list by the Academic Council.

The boy had also Matriculated in the National University, a fairly good record for a boy of 17 years.

It was decided to inform Mr. O'Leary that no vacancy existed for University Scholarship and no action would be taken in this matter pending inquiries into the case of Margaret Frayne.

Illness of Mr. John J. Fanning.

Under date 17th October, 1928 letter was read from Dr. M.P. Desmond, Midleton, County Cork, that Mr. John Fanning who was under his care, was in a highly strung nervous condition with attending symptoms of worrying, sleeplessness etc., and would require a few weeks extra rest.

Proposed by Mr. Walsh, seconded by the Chairman and adopted:-

"That Mr. John J. Fanning, Assistant in County Council Offices be granted a month's further sick leave as from 8th November, 1928.

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

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 25th October be received and considered."

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

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 25th October, 1928, be and are hereby confirmed."

The following minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 8th November, 1928 were submitted :-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford on 8th November, 1928.

Present:- Messrs. M. Doyle (Chairman) presiding: also Messrs. James Shannon (Vice-Chairman), Sean O'Byrne, J.E. Walsh, John J. Culleton, John Murphy, James Hall and Thomas McCarthy.

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £6022.11.9d. was examined and signed.

State of Rate Collection.

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

1928 Rate outstanding on 7th November, 1928:-

J.J. O'Reilly £1.0.4d. T. Rowe £8.4.3d. J.J. Sinnott £27.2.9d.
E.J. Murphy £26.7.6d. J. Curtis £50.1.6d. J. Quirke £95.17.1d.
M. Deegan £222.18.11d. J. Cummins. £175.14.3d. J. Doyle
£120.13.1d. P. Doyle £242.1.7d. P. Donohoe. £185.6.5d. W. Cummins
£220.13.7d. T. Sutton £271.2.5d. S. Gannon £190.9.8d.
P. Furlong £275.9.1d. J.J. O'Reilly No. 15 £458.3.3d. P. O'Byrne
£294.2.9d. M. O'Hanlon £402.13.11d. M.M. Kelly £271.16.9d.
J.J. Kelly £506.3.0d. M. McCarthy. £656.8.6d. Total £4702.9.7d.

The total 1927 and previous arrears outstanding amounted to £1643.19.8d.

1929 Rate. The following shows the amount of percentage of first moiety collected to 7th November, 1928:-

E.J. Murphy 88. J. Quirke 83. J.J. O'Reilly 82.
J. Doyle 79. T. Rowe 78. J.J. Sinnott 78. J. Curtis 74. J. Doyle 74.
S. Gannon 73. P. Furlong 72. J. Cummins 72. T. Sutton 71.
M. Deegan 70. P. O'Byrne 69. W. Cummins 68. P. Donohoe 49. A. Dunne
48. M. O'Hanlon 42. M.M. Kelly 25.

Messrs. J.J. Kelly and Michael McCarthy have not yet received current collecting books.

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Collector J.J. Kelly (No. 14 District) wrote as follows under date 7th November, 1928:-

Please inform Finance Committee that I have done my honest best to collect all outstanding Rates. I have sent Solicitors' letters, obtained decrees, and have made seizure on my own warrant. I also have a number of cases for next Friday, Court day in Gorey. If I had the new Collecting Books in my possession on last Saturday, Fair day in Gorey, I believe I would have received £700 or £800 with the number of people who called to pay me.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. McCarthy and adopted:-

"That as Mr. J.J. Kelly, Collector for No 14 Collection District has not carried out his promise of closing his warrant by this date we hereby recommend that he be suspended from office and in the event of the County Council confirming this order we direct that his Collecting Books shall be taken up.

"We recommend to the personal sureties of Mr. Kelly that they agree to the Collection being closed by Mr. J.J. O'Reilly, Collector for No. 13 District and Mr. J.J. Sinnott, No. 16 District and that these two Collectors arrange between themselves the Electoral Divisions in Mr. Kelly's District in which they propose to Collect".

It was also decided that Collectors Sinnott and O'Reilly be appointed to collect the current ~~xxxx~~ year's Rate in Collector Kelly's District.

With regard to the case of Mr. Michael McCarthy, deputy for his brother Mr. Charles McCarthy No. 5 District, the following resolution was proposed by Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Walsh and adopted:-

"That in the event of Mr. Michael McCarthy not complying with the instructions of the Council to close his warrant by

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12th November we recommend he be suspended from office and his books taken up.

"We recommend that personal sureties of Mr. Charles McCarthy ~~to~~ agree to the appointment of Mr. James Quirke, Rate Collector for No. 1 District to close the Collection in the event of suspension of Mr. McCarthy being confirmed by the Council."

It was also decided that Collector Quirke be recommended for appointment as Collector of current rate in Collector McCarthy's District.

The following resolution was agreed to on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Walsh:-

"That where Rate Collectors are appointed to act in other Districts than their own pro rata security (personal and guarantee) on the extra amount to be collected should be provided."

As regards the general question of Rate Collection and ~~the~~ submission of recommendations for its improvement the following under date 5th November, 1928 was read from Mr. James Quirke, Hon. Secretary, Co. Wexford Rate Collectors' Association:-

As suggested by the Finance Committee of your Council, a meeting of the County Rate Collectors was held on 30th October.

The financial position of the Council having been explained to them, the Collectors decided to make a special effort to have all rates possible collected by the next meeting of your Committee.

It was agreed that the publication of outstanding Rates, and percentages of Collectors has a bad effect on the collection in general, as it tends to make the punctual Ratepayers withhold payment, and encourages carelessness on the part of the defaulters.

It was also recommended that full Poundage fees be paid monthly on all Rates lodged, as it was felt the present system of payment ~~only itself~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~Council~~ ~~for~~ ~~their~~ ~~own~~ ~~needs~~.
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The following definite suggestions were agreed to for consideration at next meeting of the County Council:-

"That the question of enlargement of Collectors' Districts be dealt with by Finance Committee when arrears of Rates in the Districts of J.J. Kelly and Charles McCarthy have been collected by Messrs. O'Reilly, Sinnott and Quirke. The Finance Committee consider that the experience gained from the manner in which the three last named collectors perform the additional duty will be a considerable help to them in the consideration of the proposal to enlarge Collectors' Districts

The Finance Committee also feel that in order to put the Collection on a business like basis it is essential that Collectors must close their warrants by the specified dates; in the event of failure to do so Collectors concerned be automatically suspended.

Regarding new appointments the Finance Committee recommend that the personal Bond for the closing of Warrant should be increased to \$400.

Poundage of Rate Collectors.

In connection with payment of poundage the following recommendation was adopted on the motion of Mr. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Walsh.:-

"That the following Rate Collectors who have less than 7% of 1928 Rate outstanding be paid poundage in full on all 1928 Rate and arrears lodged to 31st October also 75% of poundage on lodgments of 1929 Rate to 31st October:-

J. Quirke (No 1 District) T. Sutton, P. Doyle, J. Quirke, (No 3 District) P. Furlong .M.M. Kelly, M. Deegan, J. Cummins, P. Donohoe, J.J. O'Reilly, (No. 13 District) J.J. ^{O'Reilly} Kelly (No. 15 District) E.J. Murphy, Thomas Rowe. J. Doyle. J. Curtis. J.J. Sinnott. Art Dunne.

Rates on Gorey Courthouse.

In connection with payment of Rates for Gorey Courthouse

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and Caretaker's premises it was decided that Mr. Elgee be directed to advise as to liability of the Council for Rate up to 31st March, 1928.

Holding at Newtown, Clonevan, Gorey.

Under date 3rd November, 1928 Messrs. Huggard, Brennan and Godfrey wrote as follows:-

We understand that there is a considerable amount due for Rates up to March, 1927 in respect of this holding, and we would feel very much obliged if you would kindly bring the facts before the County Council.

The holding formerly belonged to Thomas Gilbert who died on the 10th February, 1916, having appointed William Bailey and John Gilbert his Executors. The deceased ~~left~~ left a widow and one boy who was a mere child at the time.

For some years the Executors set the lands and were making a reasonable profit out of them after paying the rent and rates, and a small sum was being accumulated for the infant.

In or about the year 1922 the lands were claimed by a man named O'Connor on the grounds that his family had been evicted from them many years before, and O'Connor entered into possession of the premises, and you may remember that proceedings were instituted against him.

The result of this was that the lands were derelict. Nobody would touch them, and for some years following not a penny was received from the lands. Ultimately the lands were sold to O'Connor for £350.0.0, and he is responsible for the Rates from March, 1927.

Taking into account the peculiar circumstances of the case, we would feel very much obliged if the County Council could see their way to remit portion of the outstanding rates.

We may mention that the £350.0.0, paid for the farm will not be sufficient to pay the arrears due to the Land Commission and

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the Rates if the full amount of the Rates ~~is~~ insisted on.

After discussion the Finance Committee made the following order:-

"That this Committee cannot see its way to recommend the Council ~~to remit any portion of Council~~ to remit any portion of claim for Rates on the holding of Thomas Gilbert, Newtown, Clonevan.

University Scholarship Scheme.

Under date 2nd November, Miss Margaret Frayne, University Scholarship Holder, wrote from 19 Bath Avenue, Sandymount, Dublin, that she could not attend ordinary lectures during the day at the University as she was engaged as writing assistant in the Civil Service.

Under date 3rd November, the Registrar, University College, Dublin, wrote that no Scholarship could be held in college by attendance at evening lectures only which were intended for students of mature age, but who had not an opportunity of attending day lectures.

It was decided that Miss Margaret Frayne be informed that in view of the opinion of the University Academic Council her Scholarship must be cancelled unless she can see her way to attend day lectures.

In connection with application of Mr. Liam O'Leary, 3 St. Ibar's Villas, Newtown Road, Wexford, for University Scholarship the following resolution was agreed to:-

"That in the event of Miss Margaret Frayne being unable to avail of ^{University} ~~the~~ Scholarship, said Scholarship be awarded to Liam O'Leary. This recommendation to be subject to the approval of the County Council and the Academic Council of University College."

Mr. Thomas F. White, University Scholarship Holder, wrote that he was taking out lectures in the faculties of Commerce and Science (Second Year).

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Under date 31st October, 1928 the Secretary, University College, Dublin wrote that, in the opinion of the President Thomas F. White should confine himself to First Year work during the present session.

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

"That in view of the recommendation of the President of University College, Dublin, Thomas F. White, University Scholarship holder be not required to attend second year Lectures in the present University Session and that renewal of Scholarship in this case be granted on the condition that he attends the requisite first year's lectures.

County Surveyor's Estimate for Roads.

The County Surveyor submitted the following estimate for Maintenance of Roads and Works for financial year 1929-30:-
Main Roads (Trunk) Tar Spraying £5605, Ordinary Maintenance £5523. Main Roads (link) Tar Spraying £350. (Road Ballybrennan to Ballymackessy) Ordinary Maintenance £19010. County Roads (third class) £30748: County Roads (fourth class) £6000.

Improvement work:- Main Roads £854; County Roads £1435.
Contingency Fund - Main Roads £2000. County Roads £2000. Total. £73525.

The amount of receipts as against these items are estimated at Trunk Roads Maintenance Grant 50% £2761.

Do Spraying.	50% £2802.
Link Roads Maintenance	30% £5703.
do Spraying	30% £ 105.

Total. £ 11371

This leaves a net amount of £62154.

The amount of Road Estimate agreed to by the Council for *previous* financial year was £53,814 and deducting maintenance Grant from this viz., £6331, the amount raised by rate was £47483.

The increase proposed over amount raised last year is £14671.

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It was decided to refer the matter to the meeting of the County Council on 12th inst. as the Finance Committee, in view of the increase over the amount allocated for last year, considered it would be inadvisable for them to make any recommendations as to the figures to be adopted for estimate for next financial year.

Testing Electricity Meters.

Under date 29th October, 1928, the following was read from the Electricity Supply Board 60-62 Upper Mount Street, Dublin:-

With reference to your letter of the 15th inst. relative to a discussion by the Finance Committee of your Council regarding the testing of Electricity Meters in cases where electricity is supplied by private Companies or persons, I am directed to inform you that the Board have not up to the present availed themselves of the powers they possess under Section 34 of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1927, to make any regulations in lieu of or in addition to the Electric Lighting (Clauses) Act, 1899, and in the circumstances the Schedule to the latter Act, Clause 35 of which provided for the appointment of Electric Inspectors, is still in operation.

In view of the expense which would be entailed by the appointment of Inspectors the Committee decided to allow the matter to drop.

Nursing Home.

Under date 7th November, 1928 the following was read from Sister M. Abban, Matron, Nursing Home:-

There is a number of old iron bedsteads here that are very much in the way. I wonder could I dispose of them and get some more up-to-date furniture for what they would realise and I could keep a list and send it to you.

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

"That we agree to the sale of 42 old beds at Nursing Home,

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Wexford, rented by Dr. S.A. Furlong from the County Council provided amount realised be spent on the purchase of necessary furniture for the Home.

Wexford Courthouse.

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

"That the Department of Finance be asked for reply to letter from County Council under date 18th ult. as to the proposal to select the old Jail as the site of Wexford Courthouse.

Mr. Elgee, Solicitor mentioned that the Representatives of the Barry Estate had agreed to accept 20 years purchase of their interest in the ground rent of old Courthouse on Quay, Wexford. He had not yet heard from the Trustees of St. Vincent De. Paul Society as to the purchase of their interest.

It was decided that claim of Mrs. McNally, Courthouse keeper Wexford for half-year(s salary etc. amounting to £29.1.0d. be paid.

Flag for Courthouse.

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

"That £5 amount of contract for supplying and fixing Official Irish Poplin Flag order by District Justice be paid Messrs. John Sinnott and Co. Wexford.

Customs Duty on Diving Suits.

Under date 2nd November, 1928 the Secretary, Department of Finance wrote that up to a recent date diving suits were regarded by the Revenue Commissioners as being liable to duty. The Commissioners had now decided that these articles are not liable to duty and were prepared to repay any apparel duty, paid on diving suits since the duty was first imposed.

Under date 1st November, 1928 the Revenue Commissioners wrote that in full consideration of all the facts they had decided

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that diving apparatus may be admitted to An Saorstát without payment of the Customs Duty chargeable on wearing apparel.

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

"That application be made to the Revenue Commissioners for refund of £8.9.4d. amount of Customs duty paid on diving suit purchased by County Council, also 10/6 duty entry stamps.

Duplicate Pay Order.

Mr. J. Whelan, Irish St. Buncloody wrote that he had been directed by the National Bank to advise that Pay Order No. 4988 had been lost in course of post. He was last endorsee of the Order and asked that Duplicate Pay Order be issued.

Mr. McCarthy mentioned that a Postal packet had been recently lost in this district.

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

"That Duplicate Pay Order for No. 4988 to Patrick Nolan, Ballyprecus, Buncloody, be issued to replace original order lost in course of post.

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

"That the minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 8th November, 1928 be received and considered."

Colonel Quin proposed and Mr. D'Arcy seconded the following resolution:-

"That we dissent from recommendation of the Finance Committee ^{as} to payment of poundage to Rate Collectors and that instead of paying full poundage on all 1928 Rate to collectors who have less than 7% on that Rate outstanding 80% of the full poundage on amounts collected be paid and 40% in the case of first moiety of Rate for 1928-29 instead of 75% as recommended by the Finance Committee."

On a vote, Colonel Gibbon, Colonel Quin, and Mr. D'Arcy voted for this proposal and the other Councillors against.

The Chairman declared the proposition lost.

The recommendations of the Finance Committee as regards Collectors J.J. Kelly and M. McCarthy (deputy for his Brother Charles McCarthy) having been agreed to the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. D'Arcy:-

"That the minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 8th November, 1928 be and are hereby confirmed."

As regards the position of Rate Collector C. McCarthy (District No. 5) the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Keegan, seconded by Mr. Clince:-

"That consideration of the position of Mr. Charles Mc Carthy, Rate Collector for No. 5 District be adjourned to next meeting of the County Council."

Road Estimates.

On the suggestion of Colonel Gibbon it was decided that a special meeting of County Council be held at 10.30.A.M. on Monday 10th December, 1928 to consider estimate of County

Surveyor for roads and public works for next financial year, and that next ordinary County Council meeting be held on Monday 3rd December, 1928.

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

"That Mr. Quigley, Chief Engineer, Local Government Department, be requested to attend special meeting of County Council to be held on 10th December, 1928 for consideration of Estimate for Roads ^{and} works for next financial year."

Roads Committee. The Following Minutes of Roads Committee meeting held on 22nd October, 1928 were submitted:-

The monthly meeting of the Roads Committee was held on 22nd October, 1928 in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford.

Mr. M. Doyle, (Chairman) presiding. Also present:- Messrs. James Hall, Sean O'Byrne, T.F. D'Arcy, Myles Smyth, Thomas McCarthy, T.J. Mayler, John J. Culleton, Patrick Hayes, James Shannon, M.M. Roche, Patrick Colfer, Richard Corish and Colonel Gibbon.

The Secretary, The County Surveyor, the following Assistant Surveyors:- Messrs. Treanor, Kehoe, Cullen, Birthistle, O'Neill and Mr. Elgee, Solicitor were also in attendance.

County Surveyor's Report.

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

On the 16th instant I made a thorough inspection of the concrete road between Enniscorthy and Ferrycarrig, in company of Messrs. O'Brien and Martin, representing the Pioneer Road Construction Company. The Assistant Surveyors and Gangers for respective areas were also in attendance. Since the previous detailed inspection a further number of transverse cracks have appeared, in all thirteen. Only two of these cracks are in any way marked, and two of them could not be found on the occasion of our inspection, but had been previously noted by the Gangers. At one place, above Whitefort Bridge - near the Milestone - there is a piece broken adjoining the joint, and there ~~is~~ also a slight failure at joint opposite Mental Hospital. These defects are in no way serious, and I have arranged with the Contractors to clean out and run in bitumen for the two bad cracks, and to repair with alluminous cement the two failures at joints. The other cracks at the present time, are, I believe, only on the surface, and cannot yet be dealt with. The remainder of the work is entirely satisfactory with the exception that some of the bitumen filling the joints has lifted. These joints will be dealt with as soon

as weather permits, and later on, before the road is finally handed over to us, the Contractors will go over the whole length, and make good all joints and cracks with bitumen. I submit copy of letter received from the Pioneer Road Construction Company covering this matter. I am satisfied that the work is a satisfactory job, and I do not expect there will be any serious outlay required for maintenance for many years to come.

The work at Carne Pier is well advanced towards completion, but on several occasions lately, owing to stormy weather, our timber casing was washed away and the concrete laying consequently delayed. The completed work, however, in no way shows any ill effects from the bad weather.

Referring to the letter from the Fisheries Department re St. Helen's Harbour I am prepared to make plan, and give particulars of the estimated ~~xx~~ expenditure of £750, but I would point out that unless the legal difficulties are got over there will be no necessity for expenditure of time in preparing plan.

On the 17th instant I visited Sow Drainage area, and took levels on the lower reaches. I met a number of the local Committee on the ground and thoroughly discussed the general question of their complaints, but I was unable to take levels above Ballinkeele Bridge. The depth of water in the river above the bridge is ~~an~~ or about three feet, which does not permit of wading and I think this work must be deferred until the water falls. In the meantime, I have carefully examined into the sections and have had calculations made in regard to the ~~maximum~~ maximum possible fall that can be given to the bed of the river, but without further levels upstream ~~from~~ Ballinkeele, I cannot definitely state if the maximum advantage has been obtained by the recent work. On the 16th instant I had a representative ~~here~~ here from Messrs. Ruston and Hornsby with whom I visited the upper section of this drainage area with a view to the possible use of the "Dragline" Dredger. The stream at this place was

almost completely blocked with weeds or silt, and the banks were under water, but Messrs, Ruston and Hornsby's representative appeared to be satisfied that one of their "Dragline" Dredgers could work in the area. I am to hear further from him,

I recently advertised in the Daily Press for an Architectural Draughtsman to prepare a plan for the Wexford Courthouse reconstruction, but, up to the present, I have not been able to deal with the matter.

I note that the Fisheries Department have written to the Secretary that no Grant will be obtainable for the dredging of Kilmore Harbour unless the work be carried out by the Commission of Public Works. I ~~may~~ consider this most unfair if the County Council puts itself in a position to do the work by "other means" than the Department's Dredger. I certainly had in contemplation the use of a Dragline Dredger and Grab, if such were purchased by the Council, for general work, and we should certainly be allowed to carry out the work with such a machine.

About this time of year it is usual to nominate a Committee to make general roads inspection, and I suggest that this be now arranged for.

The improvement work on the Enniscorthy-New Ross Road is now practically complete as far as Leap, and I have material for a considerable distance on the Enniscorthy side of this point drawn from Ballybrennan Quarry. The remainder of the work, into Enniscorthy, will be dealt with by material from Brownswood, Clonhaston, or Cherryorchard Quarries, consequently, there will be no further heavy drawing between Ballybrennan and Ballymackessy (No. 46E). This road has been seriously cut by abnormal traffic, but during the period of its continuance I have had a large quantity of rubble stone put in and consolidated by roller or traction engine traffic itself. The road now required levelling up, and I ask for an allocation of £250 from the Contingencies Fund for this work. I should point out that the normal expenditure

on the Trunk Road, without the improvement Grant, would have been in or about £1,000 per annum, and that for some years to come the expenditure should not exceed £200 per annum, consequently the outlay on the road from quarry is small. I consider that a Special Proposal should be approved of for this road in next Road Works Scheme, and I shall bring forward such in November.

I have had considerable correspondence with the Railway Company with reference to the widening and fencing of the Bridge approach at Rosslare Station. Some time ago you will recollect the Company asked to have the County Council guarantee maintenance cost of any new fencing, and the matter has been held up. I shall be glad to have definite instructions now as to what should be done.

I submit copy of letter from the Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance Company regarding insurance of "Morris" ton truck. I was doubtful of the Council's liability in the matter of carrying passengers on the vehicle, which might be necessary at times. It appears that Officials and employees would be excluded, but for the small ~~sum~~ extra premium of £1 we could cover two passengers, and I ask for authority to have the Policy endorsed accordingly.

It was reported to me that an accident took place at the Slip, Duncannon, and I have notified the Insurance Company of this. I shall submit letter received from the Harbour Master in this matter.

Proposed by Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Hall and adopted:-

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

Wexford-Ennis-Corthy Concrete Road.

The County Surveyor submitted the following letter to him from The Pioneer Road Construction Company Ltd. under date 18th October, 1928:-

We beg to confirm the arrangement come to between us on

Tuesday, 16th instant, regarding the above road.

We propose to attend forthwith to the transverse cracks which we noted on our inspection, and also to those joints which need immediate attention.

Although our period of maintenance for the road expires in February next, we are willing to make good the entire jointing in April or May of next year when weather conditions should be more favourable for this class of work.

It is to be clearly understood, that our liability will not extend to the road itself, but to the joints only for the suggested period of two or three months.

We trust this proposal will meet your approval, and we shall be glad of your confirmation.

In reply to Colonel Gibbon the County Surveyor stated he could see no difference between the portion of the road laid with "Ferrocrete" and portion laid with ordinary concrete.

He would not be able to identify where the Ferrocrete was laid only he knew the places at which it had been used. The Ferrocrete on this road and on Wexford Quay had remained perfectly all right. Regarding the cracks he mentioned that their appearance confirmed the view ^{he} had had given previously that in the first instance the bays laid down had been in too long lengths which was possibly the cause of the cracks. As far as he could see there was not a single crack in any short bay. There were far more cracks in the Naas-Dublin road than ⁱⁿ the Enniscorthy road, yet those concerned did not attach much importance to them.

Colonel Gibbon suggested that the Surveyor and Assistant Surveyors in charge of this road should, some day after frost, walk its full length and examine it closely for cracks.

After further discussion it was decided to accept the arrangement proposed by the Pioneer Road Construction Company of making good the entire jointing of the road when weather conditions would be favourable for this class of work.

Carne Pier.

Mr. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, stated that the total cost ~~at~~ to date in regard to repairs to this Pier was inside the amount allowed. Up to the last payment £267.9.4d. had been expended and the estimate for the current fortnight would be about £60.

St. Helen's Harbour.

In connection with this matter the following letter, under date 9th October, D/14/5 was read from Department of Fisheries:-

With reference to your communication dated 18th ultimo forwarding copy of resolution adopted by the Wexford County Council relative to the carrying out of certain improvement work at St. Helen's Harbour: I am directed by the Minister for Lands and Fisheries to inquire if plans for the proposed repairs have been prepared; and if so whether the County Council will be good enough to forward copy, together with particulars of the estimate of £750. The Minister would also be glad to learn whether the Harbour is vested in the County Council, and, if not, whether any legal difficulties are anticipated in securing title.

The Secretary stated that he had forwarded copies of this communication to County Surveyor and Mr. Elgee, Solicitor. The latter wrote under date 12th October, stating that the above Harbour was not scheduled and consequently not vested in the County Council. Therefore he could not advise the Council to go into the question of the title to the Harbour in order to take over responsibility for its improvement and maintenance.

At present he did not know who owned the Harbour or in whom it was vested.

He understood it was built many years ago by the adjoining Landowner and had been maintained by him until the estate was sold out to the tenants. Since then no repairs ^{to it} had been carried out ~~to it~~.

Mr. Elgee further mentioned that before the Council could decide to spend money on the Pier or obtain a Grant from the Fisheries Department they should have some title to the structure.

Mr. McCarthy proposed and Mr. Hall seconded the following resolution which was unanimously adopted ~~unanimously~~ :-

"That the question of repairs to St. Helen's Harbour be referred back to Mr. Elgee in order to ascertain in whom the structure is vested and that he be requested to report the result of his inquiries to the first available meeting of the County Council.

Sow Drainage District.

The County Surveyor mentioned that Messrs. Ruston and Hornsby were intending to place upon the market within the next few months a small dredger which would be suitable for work on the Drainage Areas and would probably be also useful for dredging places like Kilmore Harbour. The firm had not yet fixed the price of this small dredger, but the large one would cost about £1,800.

The Engineer of the firm who accompanied him to the Sow said as a matter of fact that their large machine would be able to carry out any dredging that was necessary at the Sow or at similar Drainage Areas.

The following letter from the Office of Public Works under date 16th October, (16591/28) was read:-

We beg to inform you that we have received our Chief Drainage Engineer's report on his investigations of the complaints made by the landowners in above named district. He was accompanied on his inspection by Mr. Barry the County Surveyor, Mr. Murphy the Chairman of the Drainage Trustees and several drainage ratepayers. As regards the complaints relative to the non-restoration of certain drains in the townland of Kildare the drains in question were not marked on the

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Award Map as part of the Drainage District and therefore we had no power to restore them.

Downstream from Ballaghkeen Village for about 1 mile the falls are very rapid with the result that floods are flung to the flattest stretch of the Sow, of which about half a mile in all is bounded by callows and cut away moor. These are so low as to be only about $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet to 3 feet over the deepest clearing we could make, without such lowering and altering of the rest of the falls as would compel extra excavations for between 2 and 3 miles down the main river and past about 4 miles of lands which do not require it. The longitudinal section of the Sow forwarded with our letter of the 16th August last shows the extent to which we cleaned the bottom out (and cut and trimmed the sides as required) to the falls and levels marked thereon. The work of lowering the rock shoal at Kilmannock Bridge and the cutting of the long hard obstruction along by "Giney's Point" were explained to the drainage ratepayers and it was pointed out that as much had been done as reasonable cost would justify.

It also appears from his report that the condition of the Drainage District at present is bad, especially in the upper portion, weed choking being very marked and sand and silt shoals have formed in many places. This is attributable to the failure of the Trustees to maintain the district properly since the works of restoration were completed.

We may add that the Sow District will shortly be transferred to the County Council for management and upkeep and it will then be a matter for that body to ensure that the drainage works as marked on the Award Map are properly maintained year by year, otherwise the benefits which followed its restoration by us under the Drainage Maintenance Act, 1924 will not be fully realised.

Mr. McCarthy proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Mr. Culleton:-

"That we recommend the County Council to protest in the strongest possible manner against taking over any Drainage District which is not in proper working condition. As regards the Sow Drainage Scheme we specially call the attention of the Council to the statement in the letter of the Office of Public Works that the state of the drainage district at present is bad. This Committee holds it is the business of the Office of Public Works and the Drainage Trustees to discharge their liabilities in a proper manner before any charging order handing a drainage area over to the Council is formulated.

"That the letter of the Office of Public Works submitted to this meeting in connection with the Sow Drainage district be further considered by the Drainage Committee."

Colonel Gibbon pointed out that the Drainage System had been restored fairly well two years ago by the Office of Public Works, but since then the Trustees had not done a single hand's turn to maintain it. Speaking from experience of Drainage Districts he considered weeds should be cut at least twice a year and dragging and cleaning up of certain places where shoals were inclined to form once a year. Whether the Office of Public Works or the Trustees had to put the District into proper condition the amount expended would fall on the Drainage Ratepayers and the longer the matter was unattended to the heavier would be the outlay. From the literal reading of the Act of Parliament dealing with the matter the Board of Works were empowered to push this Drainage Scheme on to the Council whether the latter liked it or not, or whether the default was caused by the neglect of the Trustees. Each month they failed to take the matter in hands, the greater would be the expense and the greater the maintenance rate that would have to be paid by the Ratepayers. If the Council found themselves reluctantly obliged to put the Drainage Scheme in order, it would create a very bitter feeling and the resolution which was now proposed would have the effect of holding up the work. They would have to face the fact that

probably the Council would be obliged to carry out the work next Summer. Regarding the manner in which it should be carried out he was personally of opinion that the machine suggested by

Mr. Barry should of necessity be employed. If Messrs. Ruston and Hornsby were informed that the Council were willing to try the small dredger for purpose of experiment they might be able to secure it at a cheap figure.

"The County Surveyor mentioned that the Trustees were at present having some of the drains cleaned up.

Colonel Gibbon suggested that the County Surveyor should communicate with Messrs. Ruston and Hornsby, asking for definite information ^{as to} ~~whether~~ when their new dredger would be ready and the lowest quotation ~~they~~ could give.

The resolution of Mr. McCarthy was then put and passed.
Architectural Draughtsman.

The County Surveyor mentioned that he had received two applications for this position in regard to the reconstruction of the Old Jail as a Courthouse. One was from a local man and the second from Dublin. He had not time yet to deal with them.
Kilmore Harbour.

Regarding reference in County Surveyor's report to this Harbour the following letter was read from the Department of Fisheries under date 18th October, (D/73/1):-

In reply to your communication of the 15th instant, relative to Kilmore Harbour: I am directed by the Minister for Lands and Fisheries to state that, as already intimated, it may be possible to have a dredger available for work there next Spring. Kilmore is not a suitable harbour for Winter dredging.

Meantime, I am to point out that the contribution offered from State Funds would be conditional upon the dredging being carried out by the Commissioners of Public Works. If, therefore, the Wexford County Council contemplate having the work done by "other means"- as would appear from the Resolution of 8th instant,

quoted in your letter under reply - they will presumably be prepared to meet the entire cost of such work.

Mr. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, mentioned that previously when Board of Works Dredger was employed at Kilmore there were complaints that when the tide went out no work was done. Some days the dredger worked a few hours only and he believed six or seven hours per day would represent her average work. The people of the District suggested that the dredger should work on the tides, which, of course would mean that the men would probably be employed very late in the evening and very early in the morning.

Mr. Roche mentioned that ~~like~~ he was informed the dredger had sometimes worked only four hours per day and even if the tides were suitable at say 5 o'clock in the afternoon, work stopped at six o'clock. The amount of material dredged was entirely inadequate for the amount of money which had been put up. In his opinion they should arrange with the Office of Public Works that the dredger work on all available tides.

County Surveyor - They should work on all tide shifts. That is the only possible way.

Mr. Roche - Unless some arrangement to that effect is made most of the money provided will be wasted.

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

"That the Council be recommended to communicate with the Fisheries Department and ask them to arrange that the work done at Kilmore should be arranged for all tides as this is the only method in which proper results can be secured.

General Roads Inspection Committee.

It was decided to postpone appointment of this Committee for the present.

Enniscorthy-New Ross Road.

Mr. Shannon mentioned that this road was mostly in a

bad condition and required immediate attention. He believed that the £250 asked for by the County Surveyor would be the means of having it put into a reasonable condition and proposed a resolution that this amount be taken out of the Contingencies Fund.

This was seconded by Mr. McCarthy and adopted.

Bridge at Rosslare Railway Station.

The County Surveyor mentioned that the Council had already decided that they would not be responsible for the maintenance and fencing of this Bridge, and as a result the Railway Company wanted him to provide very expensive fencing. He did not think that the maintenance would be more than a trifle.

Mr. Birthistle said that fencing with galvanised wire and concrete posts the same as on the South Slob road would cost about £15.

After some discussion it was decided that the Councillors representing the Wexford Electoral Area visit the place and make a report to the next meeting of the Roads Committee, the County Surveyor to arrange date of inspection.

Insurance of "Morris" Ton Truck.

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

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"That the Council be recommended to pay the premium of £1. for the insurance of "Morris" Ton Truck so as to cover two passengers being carried and that the County Surveyor be instructed accordingly.

Slip-Duncannon Harbour.

Patrick Colfer, fisherman, Main Street, Duncannon wrote that on the 4th October, when going down the new slip he fell headlong into his boat, splitting his lip, bursting his gums, and hurting his arm. He was attended by Dr. Travers, who said his fees were £1.1.0d. He (Colfer) was unable to pay this as he was knocked up and he held that this happened through the

neglect of the County Council. He was not the first that fell at this slip, or to be injured as he could prove by witnesses. The Slip was now cleaned after the harm was done.

The County Surveyor submitted report from Christopher Lawlor Caretaker, Duncannon Harbour, in which he stated that Colfer had made no complaint to him about his injury. He (Lawlor) looked after the slip very carefully. Every fortnight it was limed and scrubbed. He believed the complaint was made through jealousy because Lawlor's candidate was not appointed to the position of caretaker.

Mr. Colfer mentioned that complaints had been made from time to time that the slip was "slippery".

Mr. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, stated that the place was kept as clean as could be.

Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, said that in his opinion the Council was not liable as regards compensation for this accident.

It was decided that Mr. Colfer, be informed of Mr. Elgee's opinion.

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

"That the Report of the County Surveyor as submitted to this meeting be and is hereby confirmed."

Road Costs Sub-Committee.

The following report of Sub-Committee re above was submitted:-

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

ROAD COSTS SUB-COMMITTEE.

The Sub-Committee, appointed at the meeting of the County Council on 8th October, 1928. (1) to report as to cost of production of road material in the various quarries, by handbreaking and by machinery; (2) Employment of single and married men on road work and in quarries, met in the County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford on 13th October, 1928.

Mr. M. Doyle, Chairman of the County Council presided. There were also present:- Colonel Gibbon, Messrs. W.P. Keegan, T.F. D'Arcy, T. McCarthy and P. Hayes.

The County Surveyor, Assistant Surveyors Treanor, Kehoe, O'Neill, Birthistle and Cullen, and the Secretary of the County Council were also in attendance.

Mr. D'Arcy pointed out that it was a discussion initiated by him at County Council meeting that brought about the appointment of the Sub-Committee, and he wanted to ascertain from the County Surveyor how it was that material in certain quarries was costing for breaking from 3s.6d. to 4s. per cubic yard although there was a resolution on the books that hand-breaking was to be employed where possible but when the cost did not entail more outlay than by machine. The County Surveyor seemed to have suddenly discovered that machine broken material was costing 2s. 10d. per cubic yard for breaking while they believed the finished material was costing 7s. per cubic yard. Mr. D'Arcy continuing said he had a contract ^{some} ~~for~~ years ago, from the County Surveyor, when everything was at peak prices, to supply prepared material at 7s. per cubic yard, and if the contract had been continued for a reasonably large supply of material, he would have been a very wealthy man. He could not understand how the County Surveyor was able to inform the Council that the

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cost of breaking was 3s.6d. to 4s. and then suddenly discover it was only 2s.10d.

In reply to Colonel Gibbon, The County Surveyor pointed out that the machinery charges included maintenance and working, but since the Local Government Department raised the point in February last year that the machinery charge was too expensive it had been found necessary to cut out the interest on loans for machinery, although he (County Surveyor) believed it was proper finance to include such charges.

Mr. Treanor pointed out that there was a difference between Annagh Quarry, and the other quarries in the district. Annagh quarry was a boulder quarry and required no blasts. The men had simply to gather the material before breaking. In order to obtain the best value for the work, he had insisted that they should supply $2\frac{1}{2}$ cubic yards per day for a 5/- wage. This could not be done in any other quarry under the County Council.

Mr. D'Arcy said when he had worked for the County Surveyor he was able to get material ready for the breaker at 2s. per cubic yard.

The County Surveyor said that the cost of material charged to any job was 7s. per cubic yard - in reality 6s.9d because 3d. went to owner of the quarry.

Mr. D'Arcy held that 7s. was entirely too high a price.

Chairman - Where does the extravagance come in-in the quarrying, breaking or otherwise?

Mr. Treanor said that quarrying and stripping cost per yard in Annagh Quarry 3s.1d. but he was shutting down the quarry which had been started as an experiment. At Ballyellis Quarry, the same conditions prevailed but the stuff had to be brought down 300 yards to the road. Last year at 8s. per cubic yard Ballyellis quarry at which the same conditions prevail showed a profit of £5, this year he believed it would balance itself at 7s. per cubic yard. At Carriganeagh Quarry, to March, 1928, he estimated a loss of £16 at 8s. per cubic yard. The cost was now brought down

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7s. per cubic yard. *at* Cloologue quarry. at 8s. per yard there was a profit of close on £300 to March, 1928. This arose owing to the fact that three years' ago material had been brought down by one blast, - the most successful they ever had in the County.

The County Surveyor explained ~~that~~ the method in which the quarry accounts were kept. The year was opened with the balance of the material on hand, as a receipt. The various outgoing and receipts for materials were dealt with as they arose, and, at the end of the year, the stock in hands was taken into account, at an estimated figure, and the balance arrived at. If they found a quarry was not paying they did what they could to put the position before them and asked them to try and increase the output, but ~~it~~ it was very difficult to arrive at an exact average figure for instance at Kerlogue quarry ~~if~~ if the actual cost of jaws used there was charged against that quarry alone, it would be impossible to carry on. A set of jaws cost £14 or £15 and they lasted only a week in Kerlogue. The average output for breaker was 40 cubic yards per day. In the best weather and under very good conditions this might go to 60. The daily expenditure at the breaker, he made out as follows:- 40 cubic yards, 7 men at 5s. - £1.15.0d; Horse, 10s; Donkey, 6s.; breaker charge to cover coal, oil, etc., £3; total £5.11.0d. which, for 40 cubic yards, would work out at 2s. 9½d.

Mr. Treanor, again referring to Annagh Quarry, pointed out that, taking an ordinary working day, the men produced less than a cubic yard; one man who turned out something more than a cubic yard worked overtime.

The County Surveyor stated that the most important point to be considered as regards the question of handbreaking and machine breaking of material was that in some instances it did not pay them to bring a breaker to certain quarries, and in these cases ~~nothing more than the actual cost of breaking~~

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by machine was allowed for handbreaking. For instance, the time and cost of transport of machine to quarry, at which only a couple of hundred of yards of material would need to be broken, was brought into calculation when arriving at the figure, considered to be fair for the handbreaking of this material. On the other hand where material could be as conveniently and as easily broken by machine as by hand, the amount paid for handbreaking corresponded with the actual cost by machine.

Mr. Keegan pointed out that, at Corey Hill Quarry, the County Surveyor stated that the cost of material was 7s. per cubic yard but all he could pay the men was 2s.10d. If the meeting were prepared to give 7s. per yard, they could take their breaker away from the quarry. His contention was that there was too much paid for the quarrying and too little for the breaking. Four shillings and twopence per yard for quarrying was entirely too much. In Wicklow, he pointed out they had sold several of their engines as they found they could employ outside engines as cheaply. The hungry people of this district should get an opportunity of earning bread and butter. If they went to a Farmers' Board and stated that handbreaking was to cost more than machine breaking, it would be like a red rag to a bull.

The Chairman mentioned that Mr. D'Arcy had called attention to the difference of 4s. for handbroken and 2s.10d. for machine broken stones and he understood Mr. D'Arcy to assume if this could not be satisfactorily explained, handbreaking should stop.

The County Surveyor was of opinion that, where the Council were obliged to employ handbreaking to save the machines 4s. per day was not too much to pay the men employed.

Mr. Keegan urged the Committee and the Council to give what employment was possible in all quarries at 3s.6d. per cubic yard for breaking to relieve unemployment. This figure was not too much in view of the discussion that day.

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Colonel Gibbon pointed out that the terms of reference of the Committee were simply to deal with comparative costs of hand and machine breaking and if anyone wished to make a case for handbreaking or for machine-breaking he could do so at the County Council meeting.

The County Surveyor and Colonel Gibbon went closely into the figures of cost in quarries into which it was inadvisable in the County Surveyor's opinion to send breakers and worked out a calculation which showed that 6d. per cubic yard was a reasonable figure to allow as saving in transport etc. of machine to such quarries.

Colonel Gibbon mentioned that it appeared to him that the County Surveyor was justified in paying according to the material that would be produced, anything from 3s. to 4s. per cubic yard for production of material in quarries where it was inadvisable to send a breaker.

The Committee finally decided (Mr. Hayes dissenting) to make a recommendation that the Council pay 3s.6d. for handbreaking of material in quarries in which handbreaking was to be applicable.

Regarding the question of the employment of married and single men, Mr. D'Arcy said he would prefer to raise this at the County Council meeting.

Mr. D'Arcy handed in a letter from three carters in Gorey, complaining that they had not been employed in connection with the haulage to Camolin road instead of motor lorry from Bunclody.

Mr. Treanor explained that, when the carters came to him, the work was already finished. The cost per journey by lorry was 3s.6s. the carters would want 5s.10d. so that, even if the work of haulage had not been finished, he could not see his way, owing to the great difference in the price, to employ the carters.

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

"That the report of Road Costs Sub-Committee be received and considered."

Mr. Hayes said he dissented from the recommendation of the Costs Sub-Committee because in his opinion 3s.6d. was only a starvation wage. From his experience he was convinced that it was not possible for men to break material and make a living wage even at 4s. per cubic yard.

He had been informed that a set of jaws lasted in or about a fortnight at Kerlogue, while at Sub-Committee meeting they had been informed they lasted only a week.

The County Surveyor stated that they used manganese steel jaws which were the very best they could procure. Messrs. Hadfields representative had said these jaws should last about three months, but, he (County Surveyor) showed him jaws which had to be taken out of the machine after five days' work at Kerlogue. The first set of granulator jaws lasted only four or five days, the second set with nursing lasted ten or twelve days. At Ballybrennan, from which they obtained the best material in the County jaws lasted about five or six ^{weeks} days. The Quartzite at ^{Kerlogue} ~~Ballybrennan~~ tore the jaws to pieces. Ballyregan was another quarry at which jaws lasted a very short time.

Mr. Hayes pointed out that spawls and scabbings in quarries should be broken by hand.

The County Surveyor said they could not make a hard and fast rule. They had to deal with quarries in the best manner possible to obtain material and it sometimes happened that the practice of breaking the material one year was changed the following year.

Mr. O'Byrne mentioned that in quarries in which the Council were paying men 4/- a day the men were not able to break a cubic yard.

Mr. D'Arcy said it was stated at the Sub-Committee meeting that machine breaking was costing 3s.6d. on an average.

The County Surveyor stated the figure given was from 3s. to

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and 6d. per cubic yard, it never exceeded 3s.6d. This figure included the removal of the machine and the cleaning out etc. The men made extremely low wages handbreaking hard stone at from 3s. to 4s. per cubic yard.

On the Mountain of Forth where the stone was poor things were something better as regards wages.

Mr. O'Neill said the average cost of breaking in his area was from 3s. to 3.6d. He had very little handbreaking, only from 300 to 400 yards. His most expensive quarry was Ballinabola but they were cutting down the amount of material from this quarry.

In reply to Mr. D'Arcy he said he had a man named Connick handbreaking at 3s. He might earn 18s. some weeks and other weeks only 12s.

Mr. Treanor mentioned that in his area breaking for ordinary road maintenance by machine was something about 3s.

Mr. Kehoe mentioned that 3s. to 3s.6d. was also the average in his district, and in some quarries, such, for instance, as Upton it might be 2d. a yard less. Handbreaking of sea stones at 3s.6d. per yard gave an average wage of 18s. 6d. weekly.

In reply to Mr. Corish, the County Surveyor mentioned that if the Interest on loans for machinery was added to quarry charge it would mean an extra 1s. per yard. The cost of providing screenings at Ballybrennan with a new plant was extremely low. The average cost all over the County for screenings was 10s. to 12s. per cubic yard.

Mr. D'Arcy moved and Colonel Gibbon seconded the adoption of the report of the Sub-Committee.

Mr. Corish said he was entirely opposed to the figure recommended by the Sub-Committee. It had been proved by experience that a man could not break a cubic yard per day at 3s.6d. The recommendation meant a reduction in wages consciously or unconsciously and seemed to him to be the thin end of the wedge to bring about a general wage reduction. He considered it would be in the interests of the

Council to pay an average wage of 30s. per week for handbreaking to efficient men.

The Chairman mentioned that the average cost for breaking by machine would not be more than 3s.6d. and the resolution already on the books of the Council was to the effect that handbreaking should cost not more than a trifle over that figure. If handbreaking was 2d. or 3d. more the Council would not grumble but the increase as ascertained by the Sub-Committee was too much.

Mr. Hayes as an amendment proposed:-

"That men employed at handbreaking should be paid 4s. per cubic yard, handbreaking to be carried out wherever possible.

This proposition was not seconded.

Mr. O'Byrne proposed as a further amendment:-

"That men handbreaking in quarries should be employed by day work, with the provision that a ^{specified} ~~special~~ quantity of material be produced by each man.

Mr. Corish pointed out that at 3s.6d. a man would only earn 19s. 10d. per week.

The Chairman said that the members should get out of their heads the idea that wages on roads and in quarries could be maintained at their present figure. No other workers of the class were getting 28s. per week. The ratepayers could not stand it.

After further discussion during which Colonel Gibbon pointed out that the Sub-Committee were only one of enquiry, it was decided on his motion seconded by Mr Corish that the report of the Sub-Committee be submitted without comment to the Council for their consideration.

Employment of Carters.

The following resolution was received from the Corey Executive of the Farmers' Union:-

"That we the Members of the Farmers' Union respectfully request the Wexford County Council to discontinue the employment of motor lorry, To haul material to Inch-Arklow road or any where else in the County where steam rolling operations are going on when a sufficient number of Carters can be obtained to do the

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work, as cheaply and as efficiently."

Mr. O'Byrne mentioned that there was a resolution already on the books of the Council that carters be given employment provided the cost was the same ^{as} for haulage by lorry, and that the work could be as efficiently done.

It was decided that the Gorey Executive of the Farmers' Union be informed accordingly.

Mr. Treanor mentioned that a statement had been made at the Farmer's Union that he was employing a lorry at the same rate at which he could procure carters. This was incorrect. The lorry was paid at 3s.6d. per journey for the work referred to whereas carters asked 5s.10d. He did not think he would be justified in paying 2s.4d. over and above what the work could be effectively done for.

Mr. D'Arcy held that all haulage work should be done by tender. He wanted to know was the haulage advertised or how were the carters informed of the matter.

County Surveyor-We advertise unless it is some special work which cannot be delayed.

Mr. D'Arcy proposed that haulage work over the whole County in future be advertised for tender, tenders to be considered by the Tenders Committee for each County Electoral area.

Colonel Gibbon mentioned that the question was an involved one and could not be settled offhand. The terms and conditions of the contract would have to be drawn up before the Council could commit themselves to the procedure advocated. He suggested that Mr. D'Arcy and the County Surveyor should consider the matter and make some statement to next meeting of the Roads Committee as to how Mr. D'Arcy's proposal might be carried out.

Mr. Hall proposed and the Chairman seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That Mr. D'Arcy consult with the County Surveyor relative to suggesting to the Council a method by which tenders could be

procured for the haulage of road material.

Electricity Supply Board.

In connection with complaints made to the County Council re poles in Gorey town letter under date 27th September, 1928,

(WL/MER) was received from the Electricity Supply Board pointing out the various changes which had been made-in the site of eight poles as the result of a consultation between the County Surveyor, Representatives of the Local Committee and Mr. Tierney of the Supply Board. The letter pointed out that the County Surveyor and the local Committee were satisfied with the changes.

The following is the concluding paragraph of the communication "Everything possible had been done to meet the wishes of your Committee in this matter, and you may rest assured that in designing the network in the town of Gorey, every care was taken to see that amenities of the town did not suffer in any way."

Mr. O'Byrne mentioned that the position as regards the poles in Gorey was now satisfactory and it was not necessary for the Roads Committee to take any further action.

Site of Wexford Courthouse.

Under date 12th October, 1928 the Local Government Department G.68823/28. Loch German (Pg). wrote forwarding the following letter under date 8th October, from Mr. James J. O'Connor, Solicitor, Wexford:-

On behalf of a number of ratepayers in the Town of Wexford I attended before a meeting of the Wexford Council to day in connection with this matter. I had previously attended before a Sub-Committee of the Council appointed to decide as between the reconstruction of the Courthouse and offices on the old site and the conversion of the old ^{tail} premises into a Courthouse and Offices. The County Council decided to-day to adopt a recommendation of the Sub-Committee that the old ^{tail} site should be used and that the Courthouse and offices should be built on this site,

My clients are most anxious that the Courthouse should be rebuilt and I would submit that the place to build it is where

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it was for a great number of years, and further that the money which was awarded for the rebuilding of the Courthouse on the old site and not at any other place should be utilised for this purpose.

The amount available will approach £6,000 and I submitted evidence to the County Council that the work could be done, that is the work of rebuilding the Courthouse on the old site, for this sum. If this is so the money should be used for the purpose for which it was awarded and I am instructed to ask that a public inquiry should be held into the whole matter on the following grounds:

1. That the proposed site is unsuitable.
2. That the ratepayers of Wexford are entitled to have the old building reconstructed particularly in view of the fact that the money awarded as compensation was awarded ~~for~~ for this purpose.
3. That the required work on the old Courthouse can be done with the amount of money available.
4. That the proposition adopted by the County Council is not an economic one.

It was decided to refer the Local Government Department to minutes of last meeting of the Council and point out that when the matter was under consideration at the meeting in question the Representation made by Mr. O'Connor had been most carefully considered.

Mr. Corish said he wished the Committee to understand he had nothing to do with letter of Mr. O'Connor.

Application for Erection of Wall.

Under date 17th October, 1928 James Kelly, Ballytarsna, Carnew wrote asking for permission to erect wall for shed where the old fence was beside the road. The width of the road from fence to fence at this place was 27 feet.

Mr. Treanor said he saw the place and if the wall were erected it would not cause obstruction.

On the advice of Mr. Elgee it was decided to take no action in the matter.

Road at Fortchester, Inch.

Mr. John Hempenstall, Fortchester, Inch, wrote under date 15th October, calling attention to the serious condition of the road outside his gate. Owing to a swiftly running stream the road had become undermined and the sides might fall in any time. The place was at present a danger to the public and required either a retaining wall or to have the stream covered over. The wall and stile adjoining ~~the~~ the roadside at his wife's farm in Coolgreany was also broken down. If the Council would appoint a date to send the Surveyor, he (Mr. Hempenstall) would meet him and point out the defects.

Mr. Treanor said he had inspected the place at Fortchester and there was no doubt it was a danger to the public.

It was decided that the County Surveyor bring in a proposal to cover the cost of work so as to prevent danger to the public.

Road 89R.

A memorial was read from five ratepayers calling attention to what they described as the disgraceful state of the road leading from Sullivan's Public House to Barrett's Park, New Ross, and thence to Happer's Pond and Maudlin Bridge.

The memorialists stated that altogether they held several hundred acres of land towards ~~which~~ the working of which the road was essential. The water tables had not been cleaned for many years and most of the shores were stopped. The consequent flow of surface water down the centre of the road had rendered it impassible. They contended that it was not unreasonable to expect facilities for working their lands similar to those enjoyed by other ratepayers.

Mr. O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, admitted that the road, which was about two miles long was in a very bad condition. 40 cubic yards of material had been provided, but it would require a 100 cubic yards for a couple of years at least.

It was decided on the motion of Mr. Hall seconded by Mr. Shannon

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That the County Surveyor increase the tonnage on this road in next ~~Roads~~ Estimate to such a quantity as would put it into reasonable condition.

Mr. Colfer said that the road would not be properly maintained by contract and he contended that it should be placed under direct labour.

Chairman-Mr. Barry said it is a seventh or eight class road for some portion anyway.

Complaint by Haulier-42^W.

James Moore, Grange Kilmore, came before the meeting and complained that portion of a depot of gravel drawn by him had been taken by road ganger before it was measured. He held he should have been notified of the matter. He also contended that he had drawn the full 70 cubic yards according to his contract and disputed the measurement of Mr. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor.

Mr. Kehoe reported that Moore took a contract ~~from~~ ^{on} 20th April for hauling 70 cubic yards of gravel. He went to Mr. Kehoe in

June and said he had half his material out, that his car was broken and he required money to repair it.

He (Mr. Kehoe) measured what material was in the depot and paid Moore for 30 cubic yards on the 12th July, 1928, on account. Subsequently he was informed that the full quantity was out and found on measurement it was only 62 yards. He (Mr. Kehoe) was quite willing to go down any day and remeasure the gravel in Moore's presence, in order to satisfy him.

Continuing Mr. Kehoe said that ^{ganger} the/had taken four ass loads of gravel for which Moore was allowed three cubic yards which the ganger said was too much.

Mr. ~~Kehoe~~ ^{Roche} mentioned that Moore had informed him that it was five weeks after he had drawn the gravel that it was measured.

The County Surveyor said that they found it necessary to use gravel for repair work occasionally before measurement but it was always taken from the centre of the heap as by doing ~~this~~ this the

Assistant

~~County~~ Surveyor was able to arrive at the quantity that was originally in the depot.

Mr. Moore said that gravel was also taken from the ends of the heap.

Mr. Hall condemned the practice of spreading any material before measurement.

Mr. Kehoe said if gravel was taken from the ends of the heap it was not by the ganger or by his instructions. He measured the material a week after he got word. He would re-measure the material and report to next meeting of the Roads Committee

It was decided to postpone further action pending report as to re-measurement.

205E-Injury to Car.

Under date 13th October a letter was read from Messrs. Huggard, Brennan and Godfrey ^{Solrs.} that on the night of the 10th October, Mr. John Leary, Ballinamonabeg, when driving from Enniscorthy to Knockavey, smashed his car by reason of the fact that the trunk of a tree which had been blown down about 12 months ago was left jutting out on the road. Mr. Leary's trap hit this tree and both shafts and two lamps were broken.

As soon as Messrs. Huggard, Brennan and Godfrey obtained the estimate for the repairs they would forward same to the County Council. They thought it right, however, that the obstruction should be removed.

Mr. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, reported that the ~~place~~ road at the place mentioned was 12 feet wide and the average width of travelling surface throughout was only 9 feet. The owner of the stump of the tree had been warned to remove it on a couple of occasions. He promised to do so but kept putting it off from day to day and the road being of a backward nature it was thought better to keep at him about the matter and avoid any fuss or legal proceedings.

The tree was blown down late last winter

and the road was cleared at once leaving the stump jutting out from the face of the ditch.

The County Surveyor said he had sent copy of report of Mr. Birthistle to the Insurance Company for their information.

Colonel Gibbon proposed and Mr. Corish seconded the following resolution:-

"That the letter from Messrs. Huggard, Brennan and Godfrey, relative to injury to car the property of Mr. John Leary, Ballinamonabeg, be handed to our Solicitor for reply."

Passed.

Edenvale Quarry.

Messrs. M.J. O'Connor, and Company, Solicitors, Wexford, wrote under date 1st October, 1928 that they had been instructed by Mr. Patrick Murphy, Edenvale, that the Council employees were erecting a paling around a plantation near his quarry. As this plantation was outside the quarry, Mr. Murphy desired the paling should be removed and placed round the quarry only, also that the plantation be not interfered with in future. Mr. Murphy feared that a well near the quarry might be interfered with owing to the way in which the work was proceeding.

Mr. Birthistle said that they would change the paling and satisfy Mr. Murphy, as to the various points raised in his communication.

Blocking of Road at Rathduff, Killanne.

Under date 27th September, 1928 a memorial signed by nine Ratepayers was read protesting against the blocking of the public road at Crossroads Rathduff, Killanne, caused by several hundred loads of stones being banked there for the purpose of being broken by breaker and engine. They pointed out that this place adjoined the corn haggard and residence of Charles Redmond, where valuable hay and corn was stored. It was in danger of being made poisonous for horses and cattle from saturation with stone dust. The drinking water which ran by the side of the

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road was made unfit for human use, or for animals.

A few years ago ^{when} ~~where~~ stones were broken at this place, the milk, cream and butter, were covered with stone/dust; even the clothes spread out on the garden hedge were covered with this dust as was also the cabbage in the garden, the house furniture and bedrooms.

In addition the stonebreaking was a great inconvenience to farmers going to fair or market or drawing their corn.

The County Surveyor mentioned that a similar complaint as regards this place had been considered by the Council some-time ago and it was decided that the practice of breaking stone there should ~~then~~ continue. The water spoken of as being contaminated ran through a byre and through a dirty yard immediately opposite where the breaker was at work.

Mr. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, mentioned that ^{work} there had been finished about a week ago but the same thing would happen next year. There was no other convenient place for the breaker and if they could not carry on there the Council would have to purchase a special plot of ground.

Mr. Shannon said the memorialists might suffer a little inconvenience but he personally had always as much more sympathy with the people who had to pass up and down with horses and cars when the engine was engaged at breaking.

It was decided on the motion of Colonel Gibben seconded by Mr. Hall that Mr. Charles Redmond, Rathduff, Killanne, Enniscorthy first signatory to the memorial be informed that the breaking at Rathduff cross is finished for this year.

Wexford-Rosslare Road.

Under date 26th September, 1928 Mr. A.B. Hadden, Hon. Secretary, Rosslare Golf Club wrote stating that the Committee ^{and members} of the Club desired to call the attention of the Council to the unsatisfactory state of the road from Kerlogue Cross to Rosslare. The work done from Wexford to Kerlogue was greatly appreciated and if the Council would

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Rosslare there would be no cause for complaint.

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

"That the Rosslare Golf Club be informed that the question of improving road from Wexford to Rosslare will have the favourable consideration of the Council in next year's estimate which will be under consideration at an early date.

The Chairman pointed out that the unimproved portion of this road was ravelling very badly.

Mr. McCarthy mentioned that the Automobile Association and the Tourist Association were endeavouring to obtain a subsidy from the Government for the improvement of this road.

Mr. D'Arcy pointed out that the road from Gorey to Courtown was in quite as bad condition as the one under discussion and he considered that the Automobile Association should include it in any application they made for Grants.

Planting Camolin Streets.

Mr. M. O'Sullivan, National Teacher, Camolin, wrote, stating that the residents of Camolin Village would be grateful to the Council to grant permission to plant some trees in the vacant places in Camolin Street.

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

"That permission be given to Mr. O'Sullivan, on behalf of the residents of Camolin to have trees planted in Camolin, these to be laid down to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor.

Advertising Hoardings at Gorey Town.

Under date 24th September, 1928 a letter was read from Messrs. David Allen and Sons Billposting Limited, 40 Pearse St. Dublin, asking the County Council to reconsider the refusal of their application for erection of Advertising hoardings in Gorey town.

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

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"That Messrs. David Allen and Sons, Billposting Limited be informed that the Roads Committee cannot see their way to recommend the Council to alter the decision already arrived at as regards erection of advertising hoardings in Gorey town.

House at Spawell Road, Wexford.

Messrs. M. Furlong, and Sons, Painters, Spawell Road, Wexford, tenants of County Council for house at Spawell Road, wrote asking that the roof of premises be repaired as it was in a dread ful condition.

The County Surveyor said he had this work in progress. He was carrying out the pressing necessary repairs.

Courtown Harbour Committee.

A recommendation was received from the Courtown Harbour Committee that new ceiling be provided in the Harbour Master's Kitchen as existing ceiling had fallen down.

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

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to have new ceiling provided for Harbour Master's kitchen at Courtown as recommended by the Courtown Harbour Committee.

Road at Park, Wexford.

The following signed by seven ratepayers was read:-

We, the undersigned, being ratepayers and householders residing in the townland of Park, wish to bring under your notice the flooded state of the lower (or Taghmon) road, also the cross-road connecting this with the Newtown road, at Park in the rainy season. Last Winter these two roads were well-nigh impassible and the hardship and inconvenience thereby caused to the inhabitants in these parts can scarcely be described. People were constrained to climb fences etc. to go about their ordinary business. To allocate the blame for this state of affairs is not our business, it is yours and we trust that something may be done and done quickly to remedy it as the same or worse hardship and inconvenience is before us this winter the almost

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unbearable burden of road rate which we try to pay is bad enough without putting up with this inconvenience.

Mr. Birthistle mentioned that the place complained of was flooded after high tides, *and in very wet weather.*

Colonel Gibbon said to his knowledge it was flooded three times this year.

Mr. Birthistle said that it would be very difficult to have the flooding completely remedied but very considerable relief could be obtained by having the culvert enlarged.

It was decided to instruct the County Surveyor to bring in a proposal to cover this work.

Flooding at Coolroe, Clonroche.

Mr. Shannon called attention to the flooding of Labourer's Cottage at Coolroe, Clonroche. The Bridge at the place was not able to take water during floods, with the result that the premises referred to were flooded.

The Public Health Board had carried out extensive repairs at the place recently, and laid down a drain round the house in order to take away the water, but the work could not have effect unless the bridge was improved. The eyes of the bridge should be enlarged.

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

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Mr. Keegan proposed and Colonel Quin seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That the minutes of Roads Committee in respect of meeting held on 25th October, 1928 be received and considered."
Carne Pier.

The County Surveyor mentioned that owing to a recent storm a sum of £10 had to be expended for work at Carne Pier over amount allocated by the Council but this was covered by the guarantee given by Mr. M.J. O'Connor, Solicitor, Wexford on behalf of the Local people concerned that they would be responsible for any sum spent over the allocation.

St. Helen's Harbour. Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, said he had not been able to the present to procure information as to whom this Harbour was vested in. He was unable to see the maps in connection with the sale of the estate as they were burned in the destruction of the Four Courts. He was still making enquiries.

Sow Drainage. Colonel Gibbon said he would like the Council to remember in connection with this matter that the County Surveyor had informed the Roads Committee that the Trustees had taken steps to clean up the weeds.

The County Surveyor stated that as far as he could judge from the sections and from the inspection which he had made the Commissioners of Public Works had gone approximately (in the work they had carried out) to the original drainage line.

Colonel Gibbon said that the Trustees would find it difficult to prove their statement that the work had not been restored practically to its original condition. The side drains at Killesk appeared to have been constructed by private land-owners and were never portion of the original drainage scheme.

Mr. Corish said the five T.Ds. for the County were attending at the Office of Public Works on 14th inst. in connection with

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the Cahore Drainage Scheme.

Mr. Keegan said that owing to the neglect of the Trustees the Cahore system could not possibly be in a worse condition than it was; hundreds of acres of land were flooded.

On the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hall a resolution was adopted asking the five T.Ds to bring before the Commissioners of Public Works the resolution of the Roads Committee protesting against the injustice of taking over ~~the~~ any drainage system which was not in proper order and as regards the Sow system pointing out to the Commissioners the necessity of having this system (in respect of which the issue of a charging ^{order} was in contemplation) put into working order before the issue of the order.

Colonel Gibbon said the T.Ds should press on the Commissioners that, when any renovation work was about to be undertaken as regards any drainage Area which would ultimately be handed over to the County Council for maintenance, the proposals should be submitted to the Council as well as to the Drainage Trustees. It would then be up to the County Council to go into the drainage district and enquire into what was proposed to be done. The County Council were never informed as to what was proposed to be done at the Sow and at Kilmannock and as regards the former the County Surveyor never went near the place until the dispute arose between the Public Works and the Trustees. In future if a Public Works official comes down to inspect a drainage area the County Surveyor should be informed, should be present during the inspection, and should be furnished with the report of the Public Works official for the information of the Council.

It was decided that Colonel Gibbon's suggestion should be brought to the attention of the Commissioners of Public Works.

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Architentural Draughtsman, Wexford Courthouse.

The County Surveyor reported that he had employed Mr. P.J. Doran, Dublin, who possessed excellent qualifications, in connection with the preparation of plans for conversion of old Jail site for Courthouse.

Advertisement Hoardings, Gorey.

Relative to the refusal of the Roads Committee to recommend the Council to agree to the request of Messrs. David Allen and Sons Billposting Limited Dublin, Mr. J. Mohan, a representative of the firm attended and pointed out that similar hoardings to those proposed for Gorey were being erected all over the Country at the present time. At the request of the Dublin Commissioners, the Company had recently erected three similar hoardings in the metropolis.

Mr. Keegan mentioned that the people residing in the locality strongly objected to the erection of the hoardings. From an advertising point of view, it would be more to the advantage of the Company to have the hoardings erected in the adjoining field, as the people of the locality did not want to live between advertising boards.

Mr. Mohan stated he would put the suggestion of Mr. Keegan before his company and see if it were possible to have it put into effect.

Kilmore Harbour.

On the suggestion of the Chairman, it was decided that the County Surveyor communicate with the Department of Lands and Fisheries, relative to the dredging of Kilmore Harbour, point out that the Council had in contemplation the purchase of small "dragline" dredger which they intended to use at Kilmore and other Harbours, as well as for the necessary dredging in regard to drainage Schemes, and that, as the County Surveyor was of opinion Kilmore Harbour could be more effectively dredged by such an apparatus, the Department of Lands and Fisheries be

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requested to agree to contribute moiety of the expenditure.

Road Costs Sub-Committee Report.

Colonel Quin mentioned that the Council would be in absolute sympathy with the employment of men for handbreaking if the work could be as effectively and as economically carried out as by machine. If not, it was their business to safeguard the ratepayers.

The Chairman mentioned that the Council had already adopted a resolution that, where possible, handbreaking would be employed in quarries even if it cost a trifle more than for machine breaking, owing to the fact that, giving employment, they would relieve economic pressure and save money on Home Assistance and the dole, but they could not afford to throw away thousands of pounds in view of their duty to the ratepayers.

Mr. Keegan mentioned, that in his opinion, handbreaking in Gorey Hill Quarry had not got a fair trial. If the cost were specified at 3/6 per cubic yard for handbreaking, they would relieve hungry families in the district.

Colonel Gibbon pointed out that the Committee found that 3/6 was a fair estimate of the cost of breaking material by machinery and they simply submitted that conclusion for the information of the County Council. There was a resolution on the books to carry out handbreaking in quarries so long as it would not by more than 2d or 3d. ^{exceed} the cost of machine breaking and, if this resolution was to be varied, it should be done on notice of motion.

Miss O'Ryan said that all over the Country men were asking for work and, if this was not provided the Council would have to support them otherwise. If labourers were working, they would spend money in the country and which would go into circulation; otherwise they would have to get relief in some other way. In her opinion it was false economy if they were not prepared to go over the figure for machine-breaking to some

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extent. The machine was not productive but the working man was.

Mr. D'Arcy referred to Annagh Quarry and said a statement had been made at the Sub-Committee meeting that this was a boulder quarry, which he denied. He went to the quarry recently and found the men had no difficulty in getting out $2\frac{1}{2}$ cubic yards for a 5/- wage. This worked out at 2/- per cubic yard while the County Surveyor had informed the Committee that with machinery the work would cost 4/2 per yard.

The County Surveyor pointed out that Mr. D'Arcy had not taken into account the cost of banking the material in preparation for the breaker, which meant double handling and would be responsible for an increase of at least 1/- per yard over the actual work of preparation of material. In his opinion taking average from 3/6 to 4/-, the men would earn a very small wage, as they would be unable to break more than (roughly) three-quarters of a yard.

After further discussion Colonel Gibbon proposed the following:-

"That we accept the figure of 3/6 per cubic yard, found by the Roads Costs Sub-Committee as the average cost of breaking stones mechanically in the quarries."

If anybody wished to put a proposition, such as Miss O'Ryan's, that they would have to pay more than that, a proper notice of motion should be handed in to rescind the resolution already on the books. "

Mr. Culleton seconded.

Mr. Corish pointed out that the County Surveyor had left out of account in his calculations depreciation of the machinery and loan charges. If these were included the cost would be increased by 1/- per yard.

Miss O'Ryan held that the really great question before the Council to consider was that of unemployment.

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Colonel Gibbon held that it would not be fair to put any capital charges into the cost of breaking material.

Mr. Corish argued contra as the Council had to provide for these charges and held that a great many unemployed men were at present on outdoor relief on which very considerable sums were being expended.

Miss O'Ryan proposed and Colonel Quin seconded the following:-

"That the question of dealing with handbreaking in County Council quarries in relation to unemployment be referred back to the Sub-Committee for consideration."

This motion was subsequently withdrawn.

Mr. Gaul inquired if handbreaking had been carried out and to what extent.

The Chairman said that the Surveyors had been instructed to provide for this class of work on the terms of the resolution already on the books.

Mr. Gaul held that no further resolution than this was necessary.

Mr. Hayes stated that he would not be a party to recommend a starvation wage which he considered 3/6 per cubic yard to be.

Mr. Corish Proposed:-

"That, as all items of charge were not taken into account in fixing the figure of 3/6 ~~xx~~ 4/- per cubic yard be allowed."

The Chairman held that notice of motion was necessary for this proposal.

Mr. Gaul proposed:-

"That we again direct the attention of the County and Assistant Surveyors to the resolution of the Council relative to handbreaking and that they be instructed to put this resolution into effect where possible.

Mr. Colfer seconded.

Mr. Hayes proposed and Mr. Gaul seconded:-

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"That the employment of handbreaking in quarries be left in the hands of the officials with a direction that, so far as possible, they will endeavour to alleviate unemployment."

This proposition was carried on a show of hands by 17 to five, all other motions being dropped.

The County Surveyor stated that the County Council could not adopt any hard and fast rule as regards haulage. In his opinion, it would be better if they had asked for offers for haulage on a cubic yard mile rate rather than advertise for tenders.

Mr. D'Arcy proposed:-

"That the Council advertise for tenders for haulage in each local electoral area, and that the Councillors concerned in each Electoral area consider and deal with said tenders."

Mr. Brennan seconded.

Mr. D'Arcy mentioned that haulage by lorries should be discountenanced as much as possible, as heavy lorry traffic was responsible for loading the ratepayers with an intolerable road rate.

Colonel Gibbon pointed out that a certain number of men who were formerly road contractors, were now doing constant haulage, and they should not be put out of employment.

Mr. D'Arcy then amended his motion to read as follows:-

"That haulage of road material by horse (per yard mile) be done by tender, that said tenders be received by the County Councillors for each of the four Electoral areas, and disposed of by said County Councillors, subject to confirmation by the full Council."

Mr. Brennan seconded.

The Secretary pointed out that, if tenders were advertised for and lower quotations received from lorry owners, unless the Council were prepared to prove to the Auditor ~~by~~ that the price tendered for the work by lorry owners - plus cost of

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repair of any damage they might do to roads in the opinion of the County Surveyor - ^{surcharge} was more than horse haulage, there was a possibility of a ~~mischarge~~. The Council should be careful as to what action they took in this particular matter."

As an amendment Mr. McCarthy proposed:-

"That the question of haulage be left as heretofore in the hands of the County Surveyor with a direction that, where possible, he employ horse haulage. That, in the event of the County Surveyor having to employ motor lorries, he report to succeeding meeting of the County Council, giving his reasons for such employment and pointing out whether, horse haulage was not obtainable, was more expensive, or unable to complete the work in the stipulated time."

Mr. Gaul seconded.

After some further discussion Mr. D'Arcy further amended his motion to read as follows:-

"That, except in cases of emergency, haulage of road material be done by tender per yard mile by horses or motor vehicles as required for the particular road or work at the discretion of the County Council."

"That said tenders be received by the County Councillors of each of the four Electoral areas and disposed of by them subject to confirmation by the Council."

Colonel Gibbon seconded.

A poll was taken on Mr. McCarthy's amendment with the following result:-

For:- Messrs. Armstrong, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, McCarthy, O'Byrne, Shannon and Miss O'Ryan10.

Against:- Colonel Gibbon, Colonel Quin, Messrs. Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Hall, Jordan, Keegan, Mayler, Murphy, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman15.

Messrs. Clinee and Colfer were not present when poll was taken.

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The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

Mr. Keegan proposed that the fixed price of 10d. per cubic yard mile for haulage be allowed to stand, and that the carters in the four districts be invited to apply for said work.

Mr. Hayes seconded.

Lost on a show of hands by 14 to 9.

Mr. Corish proposed:-

"That the present system of employing haulage prevail in so far as the ordinary work of the Council is concerned, but, when a large amount of haulage is necessary for a particular work or to be carried out in a limited time, tenders for employment of horse haulage be considered."

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

For:- Miss O'Ryan, Messrs. Armstrong, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne and Shannon...11.

Against:- Colonel Gibbon, Colohel Quin, Messrs. Brennan, ~~Kaffax~~, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Hall, Jordan, Mayler, Murphy, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman14.

Messrs. Clinee and Colfer, were not present when the poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

A show of hands was then taken on Mr. D'Arcy's motion with the result that 16 voted in favour and 9 against.

The Chairman declared it carried.

Mr. Armstrong complained that, as regards haulage, some men were employed constantly, others were unable to secure a day's work. He considered that the employment of hauliers should be arranged in strict rotation as prevailed in the County Carlow.

The Chairman stated they could instruct their Surveyor to that effect.

Mr. Armstrong then proposed the following:-

"That day work for horse haulage be given in strict

rotation, week about, provided the County Surveyor is satisfied that applicant will carry out his work in a satisfactory manner."

Mr. Shannon seconded.

As an amendment, Colonel Gibbon proposed:-

"That, where time work is necessary in quarries and on certain reconstruction work, the employment of carters be left in the hands of the County Surveyor."

Colonel Quin seconded.

The Chairman stated he would not regard this as an amendment, and Mr. Armstrong's motion was then put to a show of hands.

As 19 were found to be in favour, the Chairman declared it carried by a majority.

Machine-Breaking at Rathduff Cross-roads, Killanne.

It was decided that the County Surveyor and Mr. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, report to next meeting of the Roads Committee if it were possible to secure a plot of ground in the neighbourhood of Rathduff, Killanne, which could be used in connection with the breaking of road material so as to avoid complaints by residents of the immediate locality.

Flooding at Coolroe, Clonroche.

Mr. Shannon proposed and Mr. Clince seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That the County Surveyor arrange for a Sub-Committee consisting of the County Councillors of Enniscorthy local Electoral area to inspect the flooding at Coolroe and report to next meeting of the Roads Committee."

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

"That the minutes of meeting of Roads Committee of 22nd October, 1928, be and are hereby confirmed, subject to any modifications or amendments which have been made by Council at this meeting."

Report of Local Government Engineer.

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

"That Mr. Raftery, Roads Engineer, Local Government Department be requested to furnish his report in connection with the main roads of the County promised the ^{Roads.} Finance Committee several months ago.

Scholarships Scheme.

The following report of meeting of Scholarships Committee, held on 20th October, 1928, was submitted:-

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The adjourned meeting of the Scholarships Committee was held on 20th October, 1928 in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford.

Very Rev. W.F. Murphy, President St. Peter's College, presided.

Also present:- Rev. T. Talbot, Messrs. H. O'Byrne, E.P. Foley, and J.J. Kelly.

The Secretary of the County Council was also in attendance.

Primary Scholarship Scheme.

Mr. Kelly mentioned that the meeting of County Wexford branch of the Irish Teachers' Organization held on 6th October had instructed him to attend the Scholarships Committee meeting and place before the members the views and suggestions of the Teachers.

A long discussion took place as a result of which the members request the County Council and the Department of Education to consider the following points:-

1. Considering the age of candidates (not more than 14 years on 1st August) in each year, a general ^{consensus} ~~conclusions~~ of opinion exists that the examination papers are of too difficult a character. This applies especially to papers in History and Mathematics.
2. The Rural Schools in Wexford being mostly of the "two Teacher" type it is not possible for the Principal to devote sufficient time and attention to the preparation of candidates for Primary Scholarships unless to the neglect of other students. Owing to the number of classes and multiplicity of subjects which must have attention in "two-teacher" schools the ordinary school routine is as much as can be covered.
3. We consider examination papers should be set by men who have a practical knowledge of teaching in elementary schools and the conditions prevailing therein.
4. Teachers would be able to send forward more candidates

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for competition than at present if they received the support and co-operation which ~~they~~ should be forthcoming on the part of ~~the~~ parents. The apathy at present exhibited by parents to forward the education of their children is difficult of explanation.

A return was submitted showing the number of Scholarships awarded in all Counties in the Saorstát (with the exception of Cavan) for years 1926, 1927, 1928; also the number of candidates who sat for examination in each of these three years.

Minor amendments as to dates etc. were made in the scheme for County Wexford with a recommendation that the aggregate valuation of parents or guardians of children competing should be raised to £75 from £50.

It was agreed to recommend the County Council to fix the value of Scholarships at £50 for the four years for which they are tenable, that the figure for bursaries should remain at £15 and maximum amount of Scholarship, where ordinary residence of scholarship holder is convenient to railway or other means of locomotion in order to attend Secondary School, at £30 per annum should stand.

Gorey Christian Brothers' School.

Letter, under date 18th October, 1928, No.F.16734, from the Department of Education, was read, acknowledging receipt of awards under Primary Scholarship Scheme. The following is an extract from the letter:-

"As regards Patrick Sheehan, I am to state that this Department is prepared to recognise the Christian Brothers' Schools, Gorey, for the continuance of existing Scholarships but that it is not prepared to sanction any new Scholarships in that school this year."

The Secretary stated that, on 13th October, 1928, he had sent the following reply, forwarding at the same time copy of communication from the Department of Education to Brother

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Nelson, Gorey Christian Brothers:-

I am in receipt of yours of the 12th instant, (F.16734) which I shall submit to next meeting of my Scholarships Committee.

As regards award to Patrick Sheehan, I would point out that this student was granted a Bursary, only, in view of the fact that he resided within two miles of a recognised Secondary School. It was understood by my County Council that Gorey Christian Brothers Schools were approved, and the Bursary, valued at £15, was awarded on that understanding. Your letter of the 12th inst. is the first intimation that this school is not on your "approved" list.

An awkward situation now arises, as Patrick Sheehan has been attending the Gorey Christian Brothers' school since reopening after the Summer holiday. It will mean considerable delay as meetings of the Scholarship Committee and County Council must be held to reopen the question, so that award of ordinary Scholarship to this boy to replace Bursary may be considered.

I suppose it would not be possible to allow the matter to stand as at present for period of Patrick Sheehan's Bursary.

Brother Nelson wrote, under date 16th October, 1928, as follows:-

The note you have forwarded me re Patrick Sheehan calls for a full and detailed explanation on the part of the whatever Department made the so called statement. I regard the condition now introduced as illegal and ultra vires. No question has ever arisen as to what Secondary School a particular boy must or may not go to. Your own published rules in connection with the Primary Scholarships contain no such condition as the one which it is sought to foist on this Gorey pupil. I regard this attempt as a deliberate insult to the Christian Brothers Gorey. I challenge the legality of such an order and demand a full explanation of what is referred to as an "approved" school by the Department. The Intermediate Results of 1928 will make it

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perfectly clear that Christian Brothers, Gorey, did efficient work during the past school year. For what particular reason must a scholarship winner go elsewhere. I deny the right of any Departmental Official to treat our Secondary School in such a manner.

Please make this fact known to the authors of the letter sent to you on 13th October, 1928. The pupil, Patrick Sheehan, has freely selected this school. I shall see to it that he gets evenhanded justice from all concerned. I await the explanation demanded.

The Secretary stated he had forwarded copy of Brother Nelson's communication to the Department of Education, who wrote, under date 19th October, 1928 as follows:-

With reference to your communication of the 17th instant regarding the question of the recognition of the Christian Brothers' Schools, Gorey, for County Council Scholarships for 1928-29, I am to inform you that this Department takes the view that in order to avail properly of the expenditure incurred on their education, Scholarship holders should attend really efficient Secondary Schools. The reports of the Department's Inspectors on this school for the past year did not indicate that it provided a Secondary education of the necessary standard for Scholarship holders and no Leaving Certificate Course appeared to be provided in the school during that year. As regards the results of the 1928 Certificate Examination to which Brother Nelson makes reference, the position is that 13 pupils entered for the Intermediate Certificate, of which 8 passed, 4 failed and one was absent. In the preceding year 7 passed and 6 failed. No pupil obtained Honours in either year and no pupil was presented for the Leaving Certificate Examination.

Regarding Brother Nelson's references to the powers of the Department in the matter, it is suggested that you point out to him that these Scholarships Schemes derive their legal authority

from the provisions of Section 17 of the Local Government Act of 1923 (as continued) and that the limitations and restriction of that Section are binding on all Schemes made thereunder; and that you quote for him Sub-sections (1) and (2) of the Section.

I am to add that the Department regrets the inconvenience caused in this case and they are prepared to give careful consideration to any representations which your Council may desire to make after they have considered the above explanation.

After discussion the following resolution was adopted:-

"That we request the Department of Education, in view of the stage to which the present session has now reached, to recognise Bursary of Patrick Sheehan, as tenable at Gorey Christian Brothers, School for the present year. We further desire to point out to Brother Nelson the advisability of providing for Leaving Certificate course in his school for this year in order to meet the views of the Department of Education so as to avoid a similar state of affairs occurring in future. We are of opinion that the Department of Education, when furnishing awards for Scholarships should, at the same time, forward list of Secondary Schools approved or recognised by them.

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

"That the report of Scholarships Committee be received and considered."

In connection with the recommendation of the Committee that the amount of Primary Scholarship should be fixed for four years at £50 per year and the proposal to increase the limit of valuation from £50 to £75 for next year's scheme in view of the hour at which this item on the agenda paper was reached, it was decided to postpone its consideration to next meeting of the Council.

The resolution of the Scholarships Committee, asking the Department of Education to recognise Gorey Christian Brothers' School as an approved school for the present year was adopted on the motion of Colonel Gibbon seconded by Mr. Shannon.

Ex-Rate Collector Cleary.

The secretary reported that, under date 10th November, 1928, Mr. Colfer, Solicitor, New Ross, had forwarded cheque for £141.9.4d, proceeds of the sale of farm and effects of Bernard Cleary, late Rate Collector, to meet part of the sums embezzled by him. Mr. Colfer promised to see if it were possible to find the balance in order that the Council would not be at any loss.

Loan, Killenagh Dispensary.

The following notice of motion, issued to members of the County Council, on 15th September, 1928, was moved by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. McCarthy and adopted:-

"That the Wexford County Council consent to the borrowing by the County Wexford Board of Health of £190 for the purpose of building a new dispensary at Killenagh, Gorey District."

Confirmation of Appointment of Solicitor.

Under date 13th October, 1928, the following letter, No. G69574/28, Lochgarman (Sf), 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 instant and to state that he has noted the appointment of Mr. J. Elgee, George Street, Wexford, as Solicitor to the Wexford County Council at a salary of £250 per annum with out-of-pocket expenses, the salary to cover travelling expenses within the County.

The Declaration Form which has been noted is returned herewith.

Library Committee As Authorised Committee.

Under date 10th October, 1928 the Department of Local Government wrote (G.68004/28, Loch Garman), that the Minister had assented to the recognition of the Library Committee as an "Authorised Committee" for the purposes of Section 63 of the Local Government Act, 1925, enabling members of the Committee to be paid the usual contribution towards their travelling expenses to meetings of the Committee.

Old Age Pension Sub-Committee No.1.

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

"That, as recommended by Old Age Pension Sub-Committee No.1, Mrs. Fardy, Wellingtonbridge, be appointed a member of this Sub-Committee to fill vacancy existing on said Sub-Committee."

New Ross-Camblin-Campile-Duncannon Road.

In connection with proposed loan to carry out repairs and improvements to above road, letter was read, under date 25th October, 1928, (S.Wexford County(Pg)) from the Department of Local Government, stating that the Minister, in view of the fact that the work had not been included in the Roads Scheme, had assented to a temporary departure from the Public Bodies Order to enable the Council to carry out the proposed scheme of repairs.

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Under date 25th October, 1928, (S.Wexford County (Pg)), letter was read from the Department of Local Government, stating that the Minister sanctioned the raising of loan of £4,000 to carry out repairs on above road, loan to be repaid within a period of ten years, with interest at $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent under Irish Banks Rate (varying), subject to a minimum of 4 per cent.

Under date 10th November, 1928, the Manager, National Bank Limited, Wexford, wrote that his Directors had sanctioned the proposed loan of £4,000 for repair of above road for five years only at $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent under Irish Banks Rate, minimum 4 per cent.

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

"That the Directors of the National Bank be informed that loan for repair of New Ross-Camblin-Campile-Duncannon road had been sanctioned by the Local Government Department for ten years and that, in order to carry out the works in conformity with the views of the Council and the manner in which Road Finances had been arranged, the Directors be requested to sanction period of repayment for ten years. That our Secretary be instructed to call the special attention of Sir Thomas G. Esmonde, Chairman of the Bank, to this request of the Council."

Shannon Scheme - Electricity Supply.

Under date 22nd October, 1928, letter (A.78153) was read from the Electricity Supply Board, stating that, in arranging for the position of poles to be erected by the Board, care was taken to avoid as far as possible any undue interference with local amenities.

The standards to which the Council referred to have been erected by the Contractors employed by the Department of Industry and Commerce, to which Department the matter had been referred.

In further letter dated 22nd October, 1928 (a78/53), the Electricity Supply Board wrote, stating that the Council would be duly notified of any future operations regarding the erection by the Board of poles on the roads and streets under the Council's control.

Under date 24th October, 1928, the Department of Industry and Commerce wrote, stating in connection with the letter of the Council which had been referred by the Electricity Supply Board to them, that, so far from the poles being put up indiscriminately, their location was carefully considered in every case. It was essential for the mechanical security of the transmission system and the supply of electricity at an economic price that the lines should be free from any risk of falling branches and should take the most direct route possible: these had necessarily been the chief considerations in deciding the location. The price to be paid for following any other principle would be out of all proportion to any possible advantage, and, according to the Minister's information, it was not the general view that the poles were unsightly in the places at which they had been erected.

Transfer of County Fever Hospital from Wexford
to New Ross.

Under date 3rd November, 1928, the Department of Local Government wrote P.72397/1928 (Pf) Loch Garman) that the Minister had received a resolution from the Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance, proposing to transfer the County Fever Hospital from Wexford to New Ross. The Minister was prepared to agree to the proposal and gave one month's notice to the County Council of his intention to amend and modify the Wexford County Scheme. Accordingly, any representations which the Council desired to make as to the transfer should be submitted within one month from 3rd November, 1928.

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

"That, in connection with letter from the Department of Local Government, under date 3rd November, 1928, No.P.72397/1928 (Pf) Loch Garman, this County Council have no objection to the transfer of the County Fever Hospital from Wexford to New Ross.

Arterial Drainage (Minor Schemes) Regulations, 1928.

Under date 5th November, 1928, (S.77223/1928 Ilgh B.C.T), the Department of Local Government forwarded explanatory letter with copy of Arterial Drainage (Minor Schemes) Regulations, 1928.

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

"That communication re Arterial Drainage (Minor Schemes) Regulations, 1928, be referred to the Roads Committee for consideration. In the meantime that the Secretary procure for each member of the Roads Committee a copy of these Regulations and circulate with them copy of the circular letter of the Department of Local Government, under date 5th November, 1928 No. S.77223/1928 Ilgh.B.C.T.

Overground Telegraphic Lines.

Under date 1st November, 1928 application was received from the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, asking the sanction of the Council to the placing of overground telegraphic lines in Duncannon as follows:-

1. Along Wexford Road, from Cross Roads to a point 120 yards South.
2. Along Quay Road, from Cross Roads to a point 80 yards North.
3. Along Duncannon street from Cross Roads to existing line.

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

"That sanction be given to the request of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs for erection of three overground

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telegraphic lines as set out in their letter of 1st November, 1928 on the understanding that the poles are placed in positions approved by the County Surveyor."

December Meeting of the Roads Committee.

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

"That, in view of the fact that the County Council are holding two meetings in the month of December, no meeting of the Roads Committee be held for that month."

Cinematograph Licences.

Applications for issue of Cinematograph Licences were received from John J. Heany, Taravie Hotel, Courtown, and Michael Hassett, Bridgetown, County Wexford. In both instances the Garda Síochána reported that the premises were suitable.

The Secretary mentioned that licences had been held for the buildings previously, but had been allowed to lapse.

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

"That licences under Cinematograph Act be issued to John J. Heany, Taravie Hotel, Courtown, and Michael Hassett, Bridgetown, County Wexford.

River at Riverchapel.

At the suggestion of Mr. Keegan, it was agreed that the County Councillors for Gorey Electoral Area, with the County Surveyor and Mr. Dunbar, Engineer to the County Board of Health, should inspect the river at Riverchapel at the point at which it was responsible for flooding of houses of residents, and submit report to next available meeting of the Roads Committee.

Resolution Financial Settlement, Great Britain
and Free State.

The following resolution was submitted from Dublin County Council:-

"That the time has arrived for the revision of the ultimate financial settlement of March, 1922, between Great Britain and the Free State, and that meanwhile, in consequence of the depressed state of agriculture, a moratorium be granted in the matter of Land Commission Annuities."

Miss O'Ryan proposed the adoption of the resolution and Mr. Cummins seconded.

Colonel Gibbon suggested that, as it was a political resolution it should be marked "Read".

Mr. McCarthy stated he was in favour of the first part of the resolution but not the reference to the moratorium.

After further discussion, Miss O'Ryan proposed and Mr. Cummins seconded the following:-

"That the time has arrived for the revision of the ultimate financial settlement between Great Britain and the Free State."

Colonel Gibbon-This is purely and simply a political resolution and I object to the County Council dealing with it.

The Chairman stated he considered it would be high-handed on his part if he put the resolution on one side on his own initiative, though he would not support it.

As an amendment Colonel Gibbon proposed that the resolution from Dublin County Council relative to financial settlement be marked "read".

Mr. Culleton seconded.

On a show of hands, four voted for Colonel Gibbon's amendment and ten against.

The chairman declared the amendment lost.

Miss O'Ryan's motion was then put and passed without dissent.

Report of Analyst.

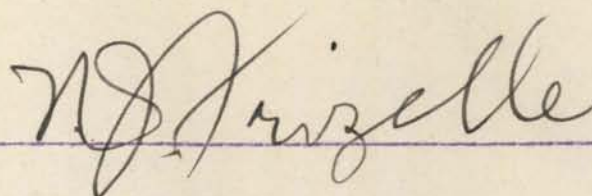
Report of Miss Ryan, County Analyst, for quarter ended 30th September, 1928, was read. The total number of samples analysed during the quarter was 150, viz., foods, 92. durgs 54. waters. 4. The number adulterated was five viz., buttermilks 2. new milks, 2.

87 695
drugs 1. Of four samples of water, submitted by the County
Board of Health, three were condemned.

Wongm. Carter
Sec. 3275 28

I certify the foregoing to be a correct record of the
Minutes of Proceedings of Wexford County Council in respect
of meeting held on 12th day of November, 1928.

(Signed)

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. J. Trizelle", written over a horizontal line.

Secretary, Wexford County Council.

Dated this 17th day of November, 1928.