

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

=====

MONTHLY MEETING

10TH OCTOBER 1927.

=====

MINUTES.

=====

N. J. FRIZELLE

FORTVIEW

SECRETARY

WEXFORD.

The monthly meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in the County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford on 10th October 1927.

Present:-Mr Thomas McCarthy(Chairman)presiding: Also, Messrs William Boggan, Patrick Byrne, J. Clince, P. Colfer, J. Connors, Thomas Cooney, Ml. Doyle, James Gaul, J. Hall, Patrick Hayes, David Kavanagh, A. Mernagh, Sean O'Byrne, M.M. O'Donoghue, James Shannon, Wm. Thorpe, James E Walsh, John White, ~~Col~~ Col Quin, and J. Pender.

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

NON-ATTENDANCE AT MEETING.

Col Gibbon wrote that he was unable to attend the meeting as he had to go to Dublin on urgent business in connection with the Carlow Sugar Factory.

THE LATE MR THOMAS KENNEDY.

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

"That we convey to our esteemed colleague, Mr James Gaul, our heartfelt condolence on the death of his brother-in-law, Mr Thomas Kennedy, Wexford."

The resolution was passed in silence and was suitably acknowledged by Mr Gaul.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

Finance Committee.

The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting on 15th September 1927 were submitted as follows:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in the County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford on 15th September 1927.

Present:-Mr T. McCarthy (Chairman) presiding: also Messrs Sean O'Byrne, P. Hayes and Aidan Mernagh.

The Chairman was not present at the opening of the meeting and the Chair was taken by Mr Sean O'Byrne on the motion of Mr Hayes seconded by Mr Mernagh.

The Minutes were then read and signed.

The Chairman attended and presided for the remainder of the meeting.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £6215-13-0 was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION.

The state of the Rate Collection up to 14th September 1927 was laid before the meeting and the following showing the percentage of amount collected in each case:-

E. J. Murphy 52.3: J. Quirke 50.45: B. Cleary 48.18: Philip Furlong 45.44: J. Curtis 43.03: C. McCarthy 35.22: M.M. Kelly 34.19: P. Walsh 34.10: Sean Gannon 33.98: Ml. Deegan 33.51: J. Cummins 32.82: J.J. Sinnott 30.79: T. Sutton 30.78: J. Doyle 30.67: P. O'Byrne 30.54: P.J. Fitzpatrick 29.71: P. Donohoe 28.58: J.J. O'Reilly 28.37: Walter Cummins 27.69: T. Rowe 27: and J.J. Kelly 25.70.

In consequence of Dail Elections no further business was transacted.

Mr Sean O'Byrne proposed and Mr Clince seconded:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 15th September 1927 be and are hereby confirmed."

Passed.

The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting of 29th September 1927 as follows were submitted:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee of the Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford on 29th September 1927.

Present: Mr T. McCarthy (Chairman) presiding; also Messrs Sean O'Byrne, A. Mernagh, P. Hayes and William Thorpe.

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £13993-2-6 was examined and signed.

APPLICATION FOR INCREASE OF SALARY.

The following letter under date 8th September 1927 was read from Mr T. Moore, Clerk in Co. Surveyor's Department:-

"I beg to make application for some small additional remuneration in view of the fact that since the advent of Road Grants and Grant Work generally, my work has been very considerably increased. Briefly, my case is this. I was appointed Clerk to the County Surveyor in 1923 at a salary of £3 per week with no increments. At this time there were no works on hand outside those covered by the normal annual county expenditure.

My predecessor for this work alone was paid a salary of £3-18-5 per week.

Grant Work first started in 1924 and for the years 1924-'25 and '26 there was an expenditure of £54,000 approximately in Grants alone. All this time, of course, there was my usual duties in connection with the normal county expenditure.

For this year (1927) the Grants to the County amount to £70,000 approx, and the keeping of records in connection with all this work has so increased that I am compelled to work overtime.

Hoping you will consider my case favourably."

Mr Thorpe proposed:- "That the application of Mr Moore for increase in his salary for extra work be adjourned for six months.

The Chairman seconded.

Mr Hayes proposed and Mr Mernagh seconded the following amendment:- "That the County Council be recommended to allow Mr Moore 7/6 per week for extra work in connection with Road Grants.

On a show of hands, Messrs Hayes and Mernagh voted for the amendment and the Chairman and Mr Thorpe against.

Mr Sean O'Byrne did not vote.

The Chairman decided he would not give a casting vote, and on his suggestion, it was decided that the matter be referred to the County Council meeting on 10th October 1927.

POOR RATE RETURN.

The following is the percentage of 1928 Rate (1st moiety) collected to 29th September 1927:-

E.J. Murphy 76: J. Quirke 59: P. Furlong 59: J. Cummins 55: Sean Gannon 53: B. Cleary 52: Ml. Deegan 51: M.M. Kelly 50: Thos. Rowe 50: J. Curtis 49: J.J. Sinnott 47: T. Sutton 46: P. O'Byrne 46: P. Walsh 44: J. Doyle 43: W. Cummins 40: P.J. Fitzpatrick 40: C. McCarthy 39: J.J. O'Reilly 39: P. Donohoe 34: J.J. O'Kelly 30.

The average percentage for the collection was 47.54 as compared with 58.85 per cent at the corresponding period in 1926.

It was decided to inform all Rate Collectors that amount of warrant for first moiety must in each case be lodged by 31st October 1927, and that no extensions of time will be allowed in the case of any Collector.

OVERDRAFT OF COUNTY COUNCIL.

The following resolution was adopted:-

"That the Treasurer of County Council be requested to agree to overdraft by County Council of £28,000 to 31st March 1928 and that the Local Government Department be requested to sanction this proposal."

LOCAL AUTHORITIES (OFFICERS & EMPLOYEES) ACT 1926.

Under date 16th September 1927, the Department of Local Government wrote (S41205/1927) requesting payment of £25-18-10, amount assessed on Wexford County in respect of year ended 31st. ~~XXXXXX~~ March last in pursuance of above Act.

The following resolution was adopted:-

"That the Local Government Department be informed that the County Council will not consider the question of payment of amount due under Local Authorities (Officers & Employees) Act 1926 until they have received a satisfactory explanation as to the delay in filling the position of Medical Officer for the districts of Carrigbyrne and Bunclody."

SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES.

University--The Secretary read a letter from R. Ranson under date 17th September 1927 that he intended entering Maynooth College.

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

"That as the County Council have never agreed to award of University Scholarship to students studying for a religious life, the scholarship awarded Mr R. Ranson be cancelled."

Letters were read from Thomas F. White and Kevin Hall that they were taking the courses of B. Comm. and B. Sc. combined. Mr Vincent Quirke wrote that he was taking the Arts course.

WEXFORD COURTHOUSE.

Mr Elgee, Solicitor, reported that ~~he~~ he had received particulars from Messrs O'Keeffe & Lynch, Dublin, Solicitors for ~~EM~~ Capt. Redmond, T.D. as to the title in relation to the ground rent of Wexford Courthouse. Messrs O'Keeffe & Lynch were unable to give any documentary evidence as to how the Grand Jury held from Capt Redmond beyond copies of Inquisitions for the building of the Courthouse and which appeared in a book written by the late George Griffith entitled "The Chronicles of County Wexford" and ~~ski~~ which was published in 1878. Capt Redmond himself held under two long leases, one of 1874 from Henry Hatton to Robert Devereux and the second of 1800 from Clare Scallan to Thomas Sparrow. It was, continued Mr Elgee, very unlikely that a Court would refuse to give a decree against the Council in view of the fact that the rent had been paid without question since the Courthouse was built.

After discussion it was decided that Mr Elgee ascertain

what amount the owners of the old Courthouse premises would be prepared to take for their interest in it and that in the meantime the rent be paid as formerly.

Mr Elgee said that Messrs O'Keeffe & Lynch expected to be paid two guineas for preparation of information which they had supplied to the Council in this matter.

It was decided that Mr Elgee point out to Messrs O'Keeffe that they had not given any definite information to the Council as regards the terms upon which the Council actually held the premises. If Messrs O'Keeffe & Lynch insisted on payment the Committee would agree.

FOOD & DRUGS ACTS.

Under date 1st September 1927, Mr Elgee, Solicitor, wrote acknowledging letter etc. in the case of John Kehoe, Duncannon, for alleged adulteration of whiskey together with report of Inspector and certificate from Miss Ryan, Analyst. As the summons should have been served on the 1st September, being the twenty-eighth day from the purchase of the sample, it was too late to take proceedings. He observed that the sample reached Miss Ryan on the 6th August and that she did not issue certificate until the 25th August. He had written to her that owing to the delay in issuing her certificate he was prevented from taking proceedings and requested that in further cases certificates should be issued more promptly. The papers were forwarded to him by hand on the day they reached County Council Offices.

Mr Elgee said he had heard from Miss Ryan who stated she was on holidays when the sample reached her and this was the cause of the delay.

It was decided that Mr Elgee ask Miss Ryan to have in future a substitute appointed when she is absent from duty for any considerable period.

RATING ON NEW BUILDINGS ORDER.

The Committee considered that the Rating of New Buildings Order 1925, etc. should apply to dwelling house and shop effected by Mrs Mary O'Neill Main Street, Ferns.

In connection with vacancy in the position of Harbour Master at Courtown caused through the death of Mr P. Stapleton, it was stated that the remuneration paid was 15/- per week with free house, rates on same being paid by Council, also an allowance of 2 tons 5 cwt. of coal per annum. Andrew Byrne, watchman, was paid 8/- per week and had free house on which rates were paid by the Council and 10/- for coal allowance.

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

"That Mr Garland be requested to continue to discharge the duties of Harbour Master at Courtown for the present. In the meantime, the County Surveyor to be requested to report if, in his opinion, he considers Andrew Byrne, night watchman is capable of discharging the duties of Harbour Master."

WINDOWS BROKEN IN OLD COURTHOUSE.

The County Registrar reported that a number of windows had again been broken. He had reported the matter to the Civic Guards.

It was decided that the County ^{Surveyor be directed to} ~~Council be recommended to~~ ^{to} ~~pay under protest~~ have the necessary repairs carried out.

INCOME TAX- COURTOWN HARBOUR.

It was decided that the County Council be recommended to pay under protest the sum of 16/6 Income Tax assessed on Courtown Harbour which was run at a loss.

TARVIA CONTRACT.

Under date 28th September 1927, Messrs Oldman & Co, Solers, London, wrote on behalf of Messrs Bristowes Tarvia Ltd of St. Stephen House, Westminster, London for £55-2-6 balance of amount due for road work.

The County Surveyor reported that he was prepared to certify for £24-12-6 but not for another penny.

The meeting having heard particulars from the County Surveyor as to the manner in which the work had been carried out decided to approve of his action in the matter.

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

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting of 29th September 1927 be received and considered."

Application by Mr Moore.

The following resolution was moved by Mr Hall and seconded by Mr Thorpe:- "That the application of Mr Timothy Moore, Clerk in Co. Surveyor's Department, for increase of salary, be adjourned to next meeting of the Council."

Mr Gaul proposed that the matter be now dealt with.

After further consideration it was agreed that it should be considered at next meeting of the County Council.

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

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting of 29th September 1927 and as submitted to this meeting be and are hereby confirmed."

Roads Committee.

The following Minutes of Roads Committee of 26th September 1927 were submitted:-

The monthly meeting of the Roads Committee of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford on 26th. September 1927.

Mr Thomas McCarthy (Chairman Co. Council) presided and there were also present:—Col. Gibbon, Messrs Sean O'Byrne, James Hall, Wm. Boggan, Ml. Cloney, Patrick Colfer, and James Shannon.

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The following report for the month was read from the County Surveyor:—

"Since my return from leave I have made several inspections of the concrete work on the Enniscorthy-Wexford Road. Up to the 17th inst. there has been completed 6,478 lineal yards of concrete work equal to 3.68 miles, and the work is progressing satisfactorily except in so far as hereinafter mentioned.

A consignment of British Portland Cement lately received for the work, had not, on test, come up to the British Standard Specification which is required in our Specification. I have notified the contractors of this, and ordered that none of this cement shall be used, and that I reserve the right of rejection of any work done with it. I have sent a copy of this correspondence to Mr Quigley, Roads Department Engineer, and have asked for his views on the matter. Provision was being made at Whitefort Bridge for insertion of permanent white centre line, but on examination of the work, I have come to the conclusion that this will be a source of weakness and have ordered that it shall not be continued.

Subsequently, when the road is open to traffic, the white line can be painted where necessary and renewed from time to time and will be a much better job. The drainage and side filling work is proceeding in a satisfactory manner, but, owing to haulage and other difficulties, it will run into a large expenditure, but it is absolutely essential for the completion of the work.

"The reconstruction of Gorey Courthouse is now practically complete. The District Justice Clerk and the Assistant Surveyor have been in occupation of their Offices in the Courthouse for some time, and on the 23rd inst, the Court will be held in the Courthouse. I have arranged to meet Mr Fahy, District Justice, on the 23rd inst. on the rising of the Court to discuss with him any details of furniture and fitments that may still be necessary, and shall report further to you at the meeting on the 26th inst.

The reconstruction of Enniscorthy Courthouse is progressing satisfactorily.

The Committee appointed to deal with New Ross Courthouse has been summoned to meet in New Ross on Saturday next, the 24th. inst, and I shall have particulars of their recommendations for the meeting.

It will be well for some definite arrangement to be come to regarding the loading bank at Ballybrennan Quarry. The Roads Inspection Committee examined the place, and there was discussion about it at a former meeting, but no definite decision was arrived at. I have a letter from Mr Deacon, owner of the quarry site, with reference to arrangements for water supply and he asks for immediate settlement. It is necessary that we should have right to enter on this place.

The new Committee appointed to deal with the re-building of Mountgarrett Bridge has been summoned to meet on the 24th inst, and if any contentious matter arises, I shall report to the Roads Committee on the 26th.

I shall submit copy of recent correspondence in connection with the maintenance of road over Chilcomb Railway Bridge, New Ross. I have a bill from the Great Southern Railway Company for £123, being amount agreed to be paid for the improvement at Sparrowsland Bridge on 47E. I ask for authority to pay this out of Road Contingencies Fund.

During my absence on leave, I had an interview with Mr Hassard, Fisheries Department Engineer, and discussed with him the

"draft specification I had prepared for the work to be done at Carne Pier. I have noted in the local Press that during my absence exception was taken to the proposed manner of carrying out this work, and I state here that I am quite satisfied that the manner suggested by me will give a satisfactory job. There was never any question of putting in a slab 6" in thickness and the tying down with reinforcement to the old work- which is itself porous-as this would not be anything like as good a job as that proposed by me. The formation of the new work will not be a loose slab, as seems to be in the minds of some of the Councillors, -it will be monolithic with the remainder.

On the 23rd ult., a sum of £92-10-0 was received on 2 account of reconstruction of damaged bridges. This now covers the restoration of all the damaged bridges in the county, the cost of which has been paid for by the Local Government Department.

There has been a great deal of difficulty in carrying out bitumen grouting and spray work during the past summer on account of the broken weather. For this class of work, which requires to be done in dry weather, it is necessary to proceed as rapidly as possible taking advantage of dry intervals. A combined roller and sprayer has lately come extensively into use for this class of work and several counties are purchasing this machine. I have discussed with the Irish representative of Messrs Fowler, details and so forth, and am to receive from him quotation for the machine which will cost approximately £1,400. As tar-dressing for roads is now almost essential, I strongly recommend the purchase of such machine, and ask you to recommend it to the Co. Council so that I may provide for it in my Estimate for the coming year.

It will be advisable to fix date for further meeting of the Roads Inspection Committee, and as all the members are also members of the Roads Committee perhaps arrangements could be made on the 26th inst."

Enniscorthy-Wexford Road.

The Co. Surveyor stated that as the contractors were now using a French Cement which had stood all tests, he did not think it was necessary to take any further action in the matter.

He felt that as regards the "white line" that any interference with the concrete as proposed would certainly be a source of weakness.

Col Gibbon suggested, and it was agreed to, that, as an experiment, a strip of coloured cement ten feet by four inches by one and a half inches should be laid to ascertain if by this means a proper division of the road as is done by means of the "white line" can be arrived at.

In reply to a query, the Co. Surveyor said the contractors expected to get as far as Enniscorthy this winter if weather proved favourable. The only place at which the Department considered reinforcement necessary was at Edermine Hill and Mr Quigley was to a certain extent of the opinion that an extra inch depth of concrete might be more serviceable than the reinforcement. The work of side-filling which was going on in a satisfactory manner would cost about £2640 and would be payable out of the Grant.

After further discussion it was decided that the Wexford-Enniscorthy Road Inspection Committee should visit road on 5th, October 1927 and report, and that Mr Quigley, Chief Roads Engineer, Local Government Department, should be asked to meet the Committee on the occasion and discuss with them any outstanding matters regarding the work and also the position of Wexford-Rosslare Slob Road which will not be available to the public unless some arrangement can be made with the Railway Company by the Co. Council regarding level crossing.

Gorey Courthouse.

The Co. Surveyor stated that he attended at new Courthouse at Gorey on the 23rd inst. with Mr Sean O'Byrne.

Mr Fahy, District Justice and everybody concerned, were

delighted with the whole place. There were some minor matters still to be done. He was sure the contractor did his best to finish the work within the specified time and there was no delay on his part although the work was not finished by 1st August.

It was decided that the consideration of what should be done regarding the penal clause in the contract, viz, a fine of £10 per week if contract was not finished by 1st August, would not be dealt with until the work had been absolutely completed.

Under date 5th September 1927, letter was read from Patk. Doyle, 93 Main Street, Gorey, asking if the County Council would allow two dance classes per week to be held in the Courthouse.

It was decided to inform Mr Doyle that the Roads Committee could not recommend the County Council to give the use of the Courthouse for this purpose as they did not consider it feasible on account of having to shift the furniture on nights when classes would be held.

New Ross Courthouse.

The Co. Surveyor reported that the Committee appointed to deal with the New Ross Courthouse met on Saturday September 24th 1927 when there were present Messrs Colfer, Cooney, Murphy and Thorpe with the County Surveyor and Mr P. O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor.

The Committee was undecided as to providing a residence at the Courthouse, as they hoped to have the Circuit Court held there in the future. They did not want to prejudice their chance of securing the Court being held there by utilizing any accommodation which might be afterwards required. There was also the factor of being able to obtain a tenant who would be prepared to pay a rent commensurate with the outlay.

They were in favour of letting part of one of the gardens and part of the Bridewell adjoining and suggested that the County Council should advertise at once inviting offers for removal of slates and making good the cement over arches or of repairing the slating. The Committee barred the use of the garden as a builder's yard.

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

"That report of New Ross Courthouse Committee be received and approved and that the Co. Surveyor be instructed to issue the necessary advertisement relating to the repair of the premises as outlined by him.

That the County Surveyor and the County Secretary interview Mr John N. Scallan, County Registrar relative to the appointment of a caretaker and discuss with him proposed remuneration and the amount of accommodation to be provided.

The Roads Committee are of opinion that the accommodation held by Mr Fretton, former caretaker, should be quite ample for the new caretaker and should be sufficient for his requirements."

It was also decided that the Secretary communicate with the Secretary to the Minister of Justice and endeavour to obtain information as to whether it was intended to hold Circuit Courts at any centres outside the town of Wexford.

Railway Bridge at Chilcomb.

The Co. Surveyor submitted correspondence between himself and the Engineer of the Great Southern Railway Company from which it appeared that the County Surveyor offered to maintain the mainroad portion of the roadway and approaches over the bridge at Chilcomb, New Ross, at 18/- per perch, also agreeing to have Clause inserted in the Agreement between the Railway Company and the County Council providing for the revision of the terms in the event of cost of labour, etc. varying materially up or down.

On the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Colfer, the Roads Committee approved of the proposals made by the County Surveyor in this matter.

No reply had been received up to the present from the Railway Company.

Ballybrennan Quarry,

Under date 22nd August 1927, the following was read from Mr T. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor:-

"Mr Deacon, owner of the above quarry wants the County Council to buy piece of land opposite the quarry between road and river, and for this he is asking £50. He is now selling part of his lands in neighbourhood of quarry and states he has a buyer for portion offered to County Council.

If the County Council do not see their way to make this purchase, Mr Deacon claims compensation for trespass by our men drawing water from river for engines, and also for damage caused by stones from blasts. Formerly, he states, he used to be able to let this portion for grazing at £4 per annum, but now this is impossible and he wants an annual sum to recoup his loss."

The Co. Surveyor said he considered £50 an exorbitant price and on his suggestion it was agreed to inform Mr Deacon that the Roads Committee were recommending the County Council to purchase the plot at an arbitration price.

Mountgarrett Bridge.

It was~~2~~ decided that a substantial sum be put to the credit of the Mountgarrett Bridge Committee at the October meeting of the Council.

Sparrowsland Bridge.

It was proposed by Mr Séan O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall and adopted:- "That the amount due to the Great Southern Railway Company, viz, £123 for improvement of Sparrowsland Bridge be paid at the first available opportunity."

Carne Pier.

The Co. Surveyor in reply to Col Gibbon said that Mr Hassard and he were perfectly satisfied that the manner in which they proposed to carry out the work was quite satisfactory.

Combined Roller and Sprayer.

The Co. Surveyor pointed out that if the County Council had machines of this description, tar-grouting work could be carried out at the most favourable periods. They had great difficulty during the recent wet summer in having this work done. Even if the combined Roller and Sprayer was working only for a limited time it would

save its cost.

It was proposed by Col Gibbon seconded by Mr Sean O'Byrne and passed:- "That the County Surveyor prepare for next meeting of the County Council, financial statement showing the estimated cost and saving which would be provided by the use of Combined Roller and Sprayer as compared with the existing methods of work." Roads Inspection Committee."

The following resolution was adopted:-

"That Col Quin, Col Gibbon, Messrs Colfer, Doyle, Gaul, Hall, O'Byrne, Thorpe and the Chairman be appointed as a Special Roads Inspection Committee to begin inspection on the 30th September, itinerary to be arranged by the County Surveyor."

DEATH OF COURTTOWN HARBOUR MASTER.

The Secretary reported that Mr Patrick Stapleton, Harbour Master at Courtown Harbour, had died at Mercer's Hospital, Dublin on 21st September 1927.

On the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Sean O'Byrne a vote of condolence to Mrs Stapleton, relict of the deceased was adopted.

It was proposed by Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall and adopted:- "That Mr Richard Garland, at present discharging the duties of Harbour Master at Courtown Harbour be requested to continue in this office pending the appointment of a successor to Mr Stapleton.

That Mr Garland be paid the same rate of remuneration as obtained in the case of Mr Stapleton."

CAMOLIN PARK ROAD.

The Secretary read letter from the Department of Agriculture (Forestry Section) under date 20th September 1927, admitting that Camolin Park Road was in a very bad condition. The Department had done a great deal towards repairing it and it was possible that if the persons using it were prepared to co-operate, the Department would again help also, though very little use was made of this road by the Department.

Mr Forbes who was in charge of the Forestry Section was prepared to recommend the Department to supply 50 loads of metalling from the quarry on the lands, as was done on the last occasion when this road was repaired, or as an alternative, if the County Council would provide the stones, the Department might have them spread on the road.

The Secretary stated that he had forwarded copy of this letter to Mr Patrick Byrne M.C.C. Camolin who was interested in the matter. Mr Byrne proposed to consult the local people interested in this matter and put the proposal before them. Probably at the next Co. Council meeting on 10th October a definite decision would be arrived at.

DREDGING OF KILMORE HARBOUR.

Under date 20th September 1927, the following (D/73/1) was read from the Department of Fisheries:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Fisheries to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th inst, relative to dredging needed at Kilmore Harbour. In reply I am to say that the Commissioners of Public Works have estimated the cost of carrying out the necessary dredging there to be £400: and to state that they have no dredger available for such work this year. In any event, the Minister for Fisheries would not be prepared to recommend expenditure from public funds towards the dredging unless the Wexford County Council were willing to contribute at least a moiety of the total involved. This is a condition in all such Grants-in-Aid from the State towards dredging. Meantime as no dredger is available for work there this season it would be necessary to postpone operations until the late Spring of next year, so as to have light for a full working day. Until, however, the Minister has learned that the Council are prepared to offer a moiety of cost he cannot do anything definite towards securing a State Grant of balance required."

The following report under date 5th September 1927 was read from Mr John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor:-

"In answer to your note re above Harbour, I beg to state that I inspected the Harbour entrance last week and also consulted Mr Rochford (the principal shipowner there) as to the amount of dredging required to make the place safe for shipping. It will be necessary to dredge an area 150 yards long 20 yards wide and four feet deep which would mean the removal of 4000 cubic yards of gravel and sand.

The quality of the material to be removed is rough shingle for about 20 yards at the mouth of the Harbour and the remainder is composed of fine sand.

Mr Rochford expressed the opinion that unless the work could be commenced at once it would be better leave it over till the late Spring of next year. If the work is not to be delayed it will be necessary to work on two tides each day and consequently the more day-light the better."

After discussion, Mr Sean O'Byrne proposed and Mr Cloney seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That the Department of Fisheries be informed that the County Council would be prepared to pay 25% of the cost of dredging at Kilmore Harbour in accordance with the terms of their letter (D/73/1) of 20th September 1927."

ROSSLARE FORESHORE.

Under date 26th August 1927, letter was read from the Department of Industry (Transport & Marine Branch) enquiring whether the County Council had ceased to be responsible for the removal of material from the shore at Rosslare and also whether they proposed to take any steps towards the prevention of general removals of material.

Order - Referred to County Surveyor for report, the Minister for Industry & Commerce (Transport & Marine Branch) to be informed that the matter is at present in the hands of the County Surveyor.

NEW TELEGRAPH LINE.

Application was received from the Minister for Posts and Telegraphs for the consent of the County Council to the placing of an overground telegraphic line from Forth Commons to Murrintown Post Office.

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

"That the County Council agree to the placing of an overground telegraphic line from Forth Commons to Murrintown Post Office on the understanding that poles in respect of same are placed in positions approved by the County Surveyor."

FORD OF LYNCH.

Mr Michael Doyle M.C.C who was unable to attend the ~~the~~ meeting wrote suggesting that Mr Elgee, Solicitor should be instructed to communicate on behalf of the Roads Committee with Miss Tynte to ascertain if she proposes to do anything to relieve the flooding at Ford of Lynch.

It was decided that Mr Elgee, Solicitor, carry out Mr Doyle's wishes in this matter.

DRAINAGE BOARDS.

Under date 21st September 1927 (18467/27) the Secretary Office of Public Works wrote that on the issue of a Charging Order in respect of the expense incurred in repairing any existing Drainage District copy of the Award Map showing the works in the district for which the Co. Council are to be responsible would

be forwarded for their information.

This had been done in the case of Kilmanmuck and would also be done in the case of the Sow District.

These were the only ~~Drainage~~ Drainage Districts which it was proposed up to the present should be taken over by the Co. Council.

No Order.

INSURANCE OF COMPRESSOR PLANT.

The County Surveyor asked for authority to insure the Compressor Plant.

This was agreed to on the motion of Mr Sean O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall.

Col Gibbon mentioned that the plant was now some time in operation and he asked the Co. Surveyor to prepare for next meeting a statement of the actual results of its working and have it compared with the estimate submitted to the County Council previous to purchase.

PETROL TANK.

The Co. Surveyor asked the authority of the Council to purchase a large petrol tank which would cost about £10. Having such a tank would enable the Council to obtain petrol in bulk with a consequent reduction in cost of from 1d to 2d per gallon. They were normally using from 20 to 25 gallons per day.

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

"That the County Surveyor be given authority to purchase a storage petrol tank at an approximate cost of £10."

PETROL PUMPS.

Application was received from Mr Harry Ellis, 24 John Street, New Ross for permission to erect a petrol pump outside his shop.

Order- Adjourned for receipt of report from Co. Surveyor

Under date 24th September 1927, the following was read from Mr Elgee, Solicitor:-

"I have now looked into the question of Mr Bates's Petrol Pump and there appears to have been no conditions set out in the licence which was issued to him in respect of same as to the position in which the tank for the pump was to be placed and having regard to this fact, and further that, as I understand, a number of these tanks in towns and villages are placed under the footpaths, I do not think it would be advisable to take proceedings in this case. The most advisable course to adopt would be to serve notice on all persons holding licences for petrol pumps, whose tanks are under the footpaths, that the County Council will not renew licences for such pumps unless their tanks are removed from under the footpaths and placed in a position approved of by the County Surveyor,."

The Committee approved of letter from Mr Elgee and ~~has~~ decided that Mr Bates be specially informed that under no circumstances will the Roads Committee renew any licence for petrol pumps which are under the footpath or which are not in a position approved of by the County Surveyor.

In connection with proposed removal of petrol pumps the property of John Murphy, John Street, New Ross from the position in which they were when licences were granted, the New Ross Court-house Committee to whom the matter had been referred reported that as the licences in question had been granted by the Urban District Council, the latter should be asked if they had any objection to allowing the pumps to remain in their new position and, if not that the County Council agree to Mr Murphy's request.

BALLINGLY QUARRY.

In connection with the unemployment of men at Ballingly Quarry, which matter was referred to the Roads Committee from the last meeting of the County Council, the following report was read from Mr John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor:-

"With regard to breaking stones in Ballingly Quarry by hand we found it impossible to break even the scabblings at less than 5/- per cubic yard. The larger stone would cost close on

6/- per cubic yard, and would not be broken well at that. We broke about 70 cubic yards there this time last year, but had to give it up as we were satisfied the stone could not be broken economically by hand."

The Co. Surveyor said that the cost by machinery was 3/6 to 4/- per cubic yard. They had hand work in the quarry several times and they never got satisfaction from it. In addition, the material was not as serviceable ~~as~~ when broken by hand. The general tendency was to have as small a material as could be consolidated and this could only be obtained by machine.

Mr Boggan asked Mr Kehoe to have hand-broken material used where possible even at a slightly increased cost as compared with machine-broken material. It was a terrible thing to see unfortunate men out of work.

Mr Kehoe said he was doing this to some extent.

Col Gibbon did not agree with Mr Boggan. The Co. Council was responsible to the ratepayers for getting certain work done as efficiently and as economically as possible. They were not to deal with out-of-work business: that was for another body. But as County Councillors they were bound in the interests of the ratepayers to have their work done as economically as they could. The difference of 1/- per yard in the two systems was enormous and could not be supported.

The Chairman said Mr Boggan only meant his suggestion to apply in cases in which the difference was very slight.

Mr Boggan said he would not be in favour of hand-breaking even at a difference of sixpence per yard. If the difference was only slight they would be really safeguarding the interests of the ratepayers as the men who were employed would not require home assistance or the dole.

SIGNPOSTS.

In connection with report of Mr Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor to the meeting of Roads Committee on 22nd August 1927 that a signpost at Scullabogue Cross had been taken by a man named

Patrick Rourke, a letter under date 20th September 1927 was read from Mr M. J. Stephenson, Carrigbyrne, who stated that the ~~XXXXXX~~ late Mr Browne-Clayton, Carlow, a former owner of Carrigbyrne had erected the sign post in question and also two others on his own land. The posts belonged to the demesne and the County Council had no call to them. The one in question was down for a long time Rourke asked for it from Mr Stephenson. The three posts erected by the late owner had been repaired and painted by him from time to time.

It was decided to take no further action in the matter.

The Chairman proposed the following which was seconded by Col Gibbon and adopted:-

"That the Assistant Surveyors furnish an inventory of the old signs and posts which were formerly erected by the County Council and report as to what became of them to next meeting of Roads Committee.

GOREY HILL QUARRY.

Under date 23rd September 1927, the following was read from Messrs Huggard, Brennan & Godfrey: Solicitors for Miss Palmer:-

"Your letter of the 16th inst received in reference to this matter and in reply we have to-day seen our client.

When the Order was made by the District Justice, fifteen feet only was asked for and this was to include the erection of the fence. Your Council is not therefore to go outside this and if they extend more than fifteen feet inside our client's land, they must only be treated as trespassers.

Our client is prepared to accept the £6 compensation for the land taken but this is of course without prejudice to the damage that has since been done."

It was decided that Mr Elgee obtain copy of the Order of the District Justice and submit same to next meeting of the Roads Committee.

ENNISCORTHY COURTHOUSE.

Under date 21st September 1927, the following was read from Messrs John A. Sinnott & Co. Solicitors, Enniscorthy:-

"Mr R. C. Williamson who contracted with your Council to repair the Courthouse at Enniscorthy has consulted us with reference to the condition in the contract requiring him to enter into a Bond with an Insurance Company.

The specification provides that the contractor will be required together with two ~~sureties~~^{solvent} sureties to enter into a Bond with an approved Guarantee Society in a sum equal to that of his tender for the due performance of his contract.

We have submitted a proposal to two Insurance Companies, the Norwich Union and the Sun Insurance Office. Both of these Companies have informed us that the conditions prescribed by the Council are most unusual and that none of the Insurance Companies who transact this class of business will undertake to furnish a Bond in the terms prescribed.

Mr Williamson has obtained two excellent sureties for the completion of the work which he has undertaken to do. The indemnity of these two sureties-Messrs John F. Yates, Enniscorthy and Henry Hatton of Monalee, Ballindaggin-should, in our opinion, offer the Council ample security and it seems to us to be absurd to require a contractor to obtain, in addition to two sureties of the very highest standing, a further indemnity from an Insurance Company, and we trust the Council will modify the conditions prescribed.

We send you herewith for the information of the Council an extract from two letters which we have received:- one from the Sun Insurance Office and the other from the Norwich Union."

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

"That as Mr Williamson, contractor for erection of Enniscorthy Courthouse, has failed through no fault of his to provide security by a Guarantee Society we accept the personal securities mentioned in letter of Messrs John A. Sinnott & Co. Solicitors for Mr Williamson under date 21st September 1927, viz:- Messrs John F. Yates, Enniscorthy, and Henry Hatton of Monalee, Ballindaggin. The action of the Roads Committee in this instance is not to be regarded as a precedent to govern future cases."

CUTTING HEDGE NEAR NEW ROSS.

The following under date 21st September 1927 was read from Mr P. J. Gleeson, Roseville, New Ross:-

"I will thank you to bring under the notice of your ~~Council~~ Council the cutting down of my fence at Roseville, New Ross, by the orders, I understand, of Mr O'Neill, Deputy Surveyor.

The cutting down of this fence has left my pasture open to all kinds of trespass and given my stock liberty to roam at will. Repeatedly for the past five years I have had to fence this place to keep out trespass. My locks were broken, and when I put on a brass lock which they failed to break, the bolt and the gate were smashed with the result that I had to cement up the gate permanently.

Now Sir, a public servant orders this fence to be cut away. You will be told there were a couple of motor accidents at this Cross. Yes, such is the case, but it was at the opposite side of the road that both these accidents happened, and yet there is no change made there. This is the second time my fence has been cut down and the cuttings strewn all over my pasture.

I consider I am entitled to compensation for labour, worry and the destruction of my fence. I would be glad to hear at your earliest convenience what your Council has got to say on the matter or to whom the blame is to be allotted, as I do not mean to let the matter rest here. This public servant has acted, to my mind, in a very high-handed manner. I was not consulted on the occasion on which my fence was cut. Fortunately I saw the destruction in time. Otherwise my stock could have travelled anywhere they wished had I not replaced the cut fencing and endeavoured as best I could to make good the destruction by additional bushes."

Mr O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor for the district said he did not give notice to Mr Gleeson: the hedge in question had been cut several times previously and it was on a very dangerous corner.

It was decided to refer the matter to the Roads Inspection Committee to interview Mr Gleeson ~~in the matter~~.

WEXFORD-ROSSLARE SLOB ROAD.

It was decided to postpone consideration of the present position of this road pending discussion of Roads Inspection Committee with Mr Quigley, Chief Roads Engineer of the Department of Local Government.

GOREY-COURTOWN ROAD.

The County Surveyor reported that this road was not bad now. A good deal of work had been done on it, though pot-holes were still in parts of it. They had done all that the money available allowed, and as the heavy summer traffic to Courtown was now over, they would be able to maintain it with the ordinary maintenance amount.

GRANTS FOR ROADS.

The County Surveyor called attention to the necessity for receiving from the Local Government Department early intimation of the allocation of Grants for roads for next year. He could have done an enormous amount of grouting work in April or May last had they got intimation about Grants in time. It would save a great deal of money and provide for considerably more work if the allocation could be made in October or November and intimation of the amounts conveyed to the Council.

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

"That we request the Local Government Department to obtain from Department of Finance particulars of amounts to be allowed for road improvement work for next financial year. Early intimation to each County Council of the amounts available will make for economy and efficiency in administration."

Presiding Chairman.

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

"That the Minutes of Roads Committee of 26th September 1927 as submitted to this meeting be received and considered."
New Ross Courthouse.

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

That in order to meet the convenience of the public, the Ministry of Justice be requested to establish Circuit Courts in the four towns of the county, viz:- Enniscorthy, Gorey, New Ross and Wexford. The holding of Circuit Court at only one centre in the county is the cause of great public inconvenience."

Cement for Enniscorthy-Wexford Road.

The County Surveyor stated that a representative of the Cement Marketing Co. had taken samples of the consignment of cement which had been rejected, for analysis in London, and at the suggestion of Mr Quigley, Chief Roads Engineer, he (Co. Surveyor) had sent a sample to the State Chemist. The test of the latter came just within the specification and the English test was clearly all right. It seemed there was a very big difference between the tests. He had arranged with the contractors that none of this consignment of cement would be used and the portion of the road done with it would not be paid for until it had been thoroughly tested.

Ballybrennan Quarry.

The following under date 3rd October 1927 was read from Mr T. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor:-

"In reply to your letter of 26th ult., the name and address of occupier of plot required at above is Edward Freeman, Ballinavary, Bree. He states that on 22/2/25 Mrs Deacon, owner at the time, gave him verbal permission to go in and reclaim this plot which was then a knock, covered with bushes and briars. In March 1925 a verbal agreement was made between Freeman and Mr Deacon by which rent was fixed at £1 per annum for this plot and another

larger one adjoining. Later there was a dispute about trespass and no rent was paid at any time.

I have also seen Mr Deacon and he has confirmed Freeman's statement. If the granting of permission to enter on plot rests with Mr Deacon, he is prepared to give it over at rate of 5/- per perch. Regarding the "inch" opposite quarry, Mr Deacon is prepared to have this fixed up by arbitration."

Mr Elgee said it appeared from Mr Cullen's letter as if Freeman had no rights in the piece of land.

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

"That a Committee be appointed to negotiate with Mr Deacon relative to the purchase of the portion of land at Ballybrennan Quarry referred to as the "Inch" and that in the event of this Committee being unable to come to terms with Mr Deacon, they be empowered to call in an outside arbitrator. That as regards the portion of land occupied by Edward Freeman, Mr Elgee, Solicitor, be asked to advise the Council relative to any rights which this man may have in the plot."

The following were appointed the Committee to deal with the matter:- The Chairman, Messrs Shannon and Hall.

Col Quin proposed Mr Thorpe seconded and it was passed:-

"That in the event of Mr Elgee, Solicitor, considering that Edward Freeman has no rights in regard to the plot at Ballybrennan, the Committee be empowered to offer Mr Deacon 5/- per perch in respect of same."

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

"That the Minutes of Roads Committee in respect of meeting of 26th September 1927 be and are hereby confirmed subject to any amendments made by the County Council at this meeting as hereinbefore set out."

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE.

The following report of Scholarship Committee
was submitted

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.
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A meeting of Scholarship Committee of Wexford County Council was held in Co. Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 17th September, 1927.

Present:- Colonel Gibbon (Vice Chairman Co. Council) presiding; also Rev. W. F. Murphy, President, St. Peter's College, Rev. T. Talbot, Rector, Horetown; Messrs E. P. Foley, John Kelly and Sean O'Byrne.

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

Primary Scheme:- The meeting in accordance with the request of the Co. Council discussed the result of Primary Scholarship examination at which nine candidates out of 15 failed in History and Geography. The papers set in these subjects were carefully examined and were considered to be of fair standard.

Mr. Kelly mentioned that if the age limit could be extended by a year the pupils would be much better prepared.

This was not practicable however in view of the age fixed for Leaving Certificate to which Primary Scholarship led up.

The meeting decided to ask the Department of Education, if possible, in future, to have the questions in papers for History and Geography set in as simplified form as can be done.

The provisions of Primary Scheme for next year were then considered. Beyond the necessary changes for the new period the Committee made no change in last year's scheme which, it was decided, should be forwarded to the Department of Education for their approval.

University Scheme.

The general provisions of Scheme which obtained last year were approved.

It was agreed that one of the Honour subjects of Exam should be Irish. Also that in Form of Application for Scholarship students should state the course of studies which they intend pursuing at the University.

A letter was read from Rev. Br. Markey, Superior, Christian Bros., Wexford, asking that if any University Scholarship was vacant it should be granted to John Stafford, Piercestown, who

had passed the Leaving Certificate Examination (Secondary Schools).

The Committee decided to point out to Br. Markey that Mr. Stafford had failed in Irish, which was an essential subject according to the University Scholarship Scheme of the Wexford Co. Council.

A question was raised as to the eligibility of students who were adopting an ecclesiastical career being awarded scholarships. Such students were allowed in other Counties to hold University Scholarships.

The Committee made no order in the matter.

In connection with the establishment of Technical Specialisation Scholarships and Research Scholarships the Committee considered it would be advisable if the views of Mr. P. Gallagher, D.Sc., 1, Royse Road, Dublin, were furnished to the General Council of Co. Councils in order to ascertain if other Co. Councils would be in favour of a Scheme for such post graduate scholarships in Science and Agriculture, and which were urgently needed from a National point of view. The great benefits reaped by other countries through research prove that in the matter Ireland should not be satisfied to remain in her present backward position. The Co. Wexford Scholarship Committee are most anxious that the Scholarship Committee of the General Council of County Councils should examine such a proposal from a National point of view and if satisfied as to its feasibility request the other Councils in "An Saorstát" to agree to a substantial contribution towards these Scholarship foundations.

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

"That the Minutes of Scholarship Committee in respect of meeting of 17th September 1927 be and are hereby approved."

SCHOLARSHIPS FROM PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

Under date 19th September 1927, the Department of Education (F. 13080) wrote approving of awards of Scholarships from Primary Schools as made by Wexford County Council.

REPORT COMMITTEE - WEXFORD-ENNISCORTHY ROAD.

The following report was read from Inspection Committee Wexford-Enniscorthy Road:-

"The following members of the Committee appointed were present:-Mr McCarthy, Col. C.M. Gibbon, C.M.G. Mr James Gaul, Mr Barry, (County Surveyor), Mr Birthistle and Mr Frizelle (Secretary). Also present:-Mr Quigley (Inspecting Engineer), Mr O'Brien, Director of Contracting Company and Mr Martin (Pioneer Road Company's Engineer).

At 10-15 a.m. the Sub-Committee proceeded to inspect the road.

Progress. The concrete work is now practically complete from Ferrycarrig Bridge to within half a mile of Oylegate. The section, Arran Cottage-Kyle Cross opened this week. Prospects are that the work may be complete before Christmas, should there be no hard frost. The present rate of progress may be roughly estimated at a mile in eight days. All the mixers are in efficient condition, properly supplied with water and the gangs well trained.

Expansion Joints. Mr Quigley considers that the expansion joints are satisfactory and that there is no necessity to make them diagonally across the road instead of transversely.

Thickness of Concrete. On a few high points it was found that there was only a thickness of five inches of concrete in the roadway. Mr Quigley considered that it is preferable to have the concrete under six inches at these points rather than to weaken the foundation by cutting away the surface of the road.

Curing of Concrete. Pipe lines are available for supplying water for curing the surface of the road-way. The necessity for this is not so great as during the long hot summer days.

Tamping of Concrete. Particular attention was paid to the method of tamping of concrete. Mr Quigley considers that the methods being used are those in common practice when roads are being made in England or in Ireland.

Wetness of Concrete. In two places it was noticed that the concrete was being laid with rather too much water. The attention of the Contractor was drawn to this.

Proportion of Aggregate. In the case of the concrete mixer near Ferrycarrig, it was noticed that sand was being measured in wheelbarrows. On a test being taken, it was found that the quantity of sand was not sufficient. The contractor undertook to use guaging boxes in future.

Quality of Concrete. A section of about one yard square was cut out of the roadway for inspection. On breaking up this block it was found that the top 4" of concrete was exceedingly dense with no cavities. In the bottom 2", however, there are some few cavities. Mr Quigley does not consider that better results are possible.

Banking of Road. The outer edge of the roadway is being banked on all bends. "

The following report was read from Mr Quigley, Chief Roads Engineer, Local Government Department:-

"Together with members of your Roads Committee I made an inspection yesterday of the work in progress and of the completed work. I will be glad if you communicate to the County Council that I consider the results up to the present quite satisfactory. Your members will appreciate that this is not to be read as a complete final decision on the work carried out. There may be many ~~xxx~~ things required to be done before a final certificate is issued.

In the important and essential matters, the contractors are complying with the terms of the specification, and I am confident that in a few months from now this long stretch of road which was the very worst portion of main road in the Saorstad will have been turned into the best in the country.

"Some matters in which there seemed room for improvement were pointed out to the contractors when I inspected the work a month ago. They have met us reasonably and in the proper spirit with regard to these. I am satisfied the County Surveyor is exercising adequate supervision. His foremen too, appear capable and attentive. A word of praise is due to the actual workers who are getting through with their work in excellent fashion.

The contractors have supplied adequate, and in fact very extensive and expensive plant. We have here for the first time in Ireland a large outfit of steel formes of the latest American design. This constitutes in itself a step in advance in concrete laying in this country. Crushing, mixing and transport plants are also on a generous scale.

The whole road is likely to be finished before Christmas. I welcome the interest taken in this important undertaking by your Council and Committee and I trust the results will meet with their approval."

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Shannon seconded the following resolution :- "That the reports of the Wexford-Enniscorthy Roads Committee and of Mr Quigley, Chief Roads Engineer, Local Government Department be received and approved."

Chairman- The work seems to be going on very satisfactory.

Mr W. Boggan stated that although it might be presumption on his part, he did not agree that five inches of concrete was satisfactory. The estimate was for six inches and they were only getting five.

Mr Gaul- I think it is only fair to say that in portions of the road there are as much as ten inches of concrete.

Mr Sean O'Byrne stated he was on the road on September 30th, and there was no part of the work then in progress at which there was under six inches of concrete being laid.

Mr Boggan- That's all right. I don't dispute the fact that there may be portions in which there is 16 or 18 inches. If Mr Barry assures us that five inches over the stone is as effective as six

inches uniform I am quite prepared to abide by it.

The Co. Surveyor stated he went into the matter very fully when they had a previous discussion. They should remember that the concrete was laid upon a rubble bottom which had to be laid at the time the road went to bits. That was now consolidated. They had to take into account sections longitudinally as well as across. If there was a knob of a stone standing out and they ~~re~~ removed it, the road would be weakened. It would loosen the whole of the base and this could not be restored. The stone in question might be down six or eight inches and he maintained it should not be removed. Mr Quigley and Col Gibbon agreed on that point with his view.

Mr Boggan stated the Co. Surveyor's explanation was very plausible, but he did not believe it was a sound one. If the foundation of the road had been made uniform in the first instance, all this could have been avoided. If the road broke up at any spot it would become from the nature of the road almost general. If the foundation had been properly laid, they could have avoided all this makeshift work.

Co. Surveyor- I say the foundation was properly treated and it is not makeshift work. I maintain we laid the foundation down when the road was a quagmire, with gulfs running for miles up to two feet or two feet six inches. We put in rubble stone which has all consolidated. We had in view the surfacing of the road with macadam. We had not in view that we were going to get a concrete surface. The road was prepared in the best possible way. It was impossible to put down a rubble bottom and have the road as level as a table. It cannot be done and I maintain that it has been done properly.

Mr Boggan stated he did not agree with Messrs Barry, Quigley or Col Gibbon's reports. Mr Barry's explanation had only intensified the defects. If Mr Barry had succeeded in making the foundation it was simple for him to make it uniform. It was patchwork and very miserable patchwork to put concrete down on a foundation that was not uniform.

Co. Surveyor- I say five inches is much stronger on a rubble bottom and consolidated than eight inches on bad bottom.

After some further discussion the Chairman said that the County Council Officials and the Local Government ~~Department~~ Department were satisfied that an excellent job was being carried out. That was also his own opinion.

The resolution approving of report of the Committee was then put and declared carried.

DRINAGH-ROSSLARE SLOB ROAD.

The following report of Committee appointed to examine and report re above road was read:-

"The following members of the Committee appointed ~~in~~ were present:-Colonel C.M. Gibbon C.M.G., ~~Messrs~~ Mr James Gaul, Mr Barry (Co. Surveyor), Mr Frizelle (Secretary) and Mr Quigley, Inspecting Engineer.

The sub-committee left Wexford about 3 p.m. and proceeded to inspect the Drinagh-Rosslare Road. Railway Crossing. After thorough inspection on the spot, the sub-committee came to the conclusion that an overhead bridge was out of the question. It was, however, considered that the road could be carried under the railway for comparatively low expense. Mr Quigley agreed that the Co. Surveyor should be instructed immediately to take levels and prepare plans and drawings with a rough estimate. As soon as this has been done, the proposals should be put before the Railway Company for consideration. The offer of the Company to maintain a level crossing at £100 per annum was considered to be exorbitant.

Uncompleted Portion of Road. The sub-committee then proceeded to the bridge where the road leaves the Slob at the Rosslare end. The roadway is complete from Drinagh to within about one mile of this bridge. The road is also complete beyond the bridge to Rosslare. The incomplete portion of the road is very muddy and quite impassable for vehicles in its present condition. It is recommended that if funds are available, the work should be pushed on pending negotiations with Railway Company regarding level crossing."

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

"That the report of Committee relative to Drinagh Slob Road be received and adopted. That we request the Roads Department of the Local Government Department to provide the necessary amount to complete the unfinished portion of this work.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

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

"That no material be taken from a privately owned quarry for road maintenance so long as material can be procured from a quarry worked by the County Council."

Mr Cline seconded.

The Co. Surveyor said if the motion passed in its present form, it might be difficult-if not impossible, to carry it out in all cases, without a considerable extra cost for haulage, etc. If Mr Connors would agree to put in the word "conveniently" after the word "procured" he (Co. Surveyor) would be satisfied.

After considerable discussion the motion was amended as follows:- "That no material be taken from a privately owned quarry for road maintenance by direct labour so long as material can be procured conveniently and economically from a quarry worked by the County Council."

This was proposed by Mr Connors seconded by Mr Cline and adopted, Mr Thorpe dissenting.

THE SHANNON SCHEME.

Under date 16th September 1927 (S. 43088/1927) the Department of Local Government wrote calling attention to the risks attendant on any unauthorised interference with the transmission lines of the Shannon Scheme. In some districts parts of the installation had already suffered wanton or malicious damage that would have to be repaired out of the public purse. It should be widely known that such mischievous acts involve a grave risk of death.

The Minister asked the County Council to arrange that the

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notices which accompanied his letter should be prominently displayed outside and inside the Offices of the Council.

The Secretary stated that the request of the Department in this matter had been carried out.

SOW. DRAINAGE.

The following was read from the River Sow Drainage Trustees:-

"We, the Trustees of the River Sow Drainage Area, are aware that the said Drainage area is about to be placed under the control of the Wexford County Council by the Board of Works Department. The latter Board took over the above area with the object of having improvements made thereon.

It was distinctly understood by the Trustees that the River Sow, drains, etc. were to be restored to their original state.

In our opinion and according to the information at our disposal, this has not been carried out.

We, on two occasions, made representations to the Board of Works Department, but only received a formal acknowledgment.

We therefore, respectfully request the County Council to instruct their Surveyor to make an inspection of the River Sow, drains, etc, as soon as possible, and as the Trustees would desire to accompany the Surveyor, an intimation of the date of inspection will much oblige."

Mr Kavanagh proposed and Col Quin seconded the following resolution which was adopted *mem. con.*:-

"That the County Surveyor be directed to furnish report to the County Council in connection with River Sow Drainage and to deal particularly with the question of whether the original drains in the Scheme had been repaired under recent improvements by the Board of Works. That the County Surveyor notify the Trustees of the Drainage area of the date of his inspection."

Mr Kavanagh proposed and Col Quin seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That in order to allow the County Council to be in a

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"position to examine the works under Drainage Schemes which it is proposed to hand over to the Council, the Board of Works be requested to furnish plans and details of these Schemes to the Council before the issue of Charging Order."

BUILDING OF BRIDGES.

Mr Shannon said that some time ago the County Council discussed the building of two bridges in his area. It was then decided that one of these bridges, that at Whitehouse, and a bridge in Kilmuckridge in Gorey district be built. He would like to know if the County Surveyor was prepared to build these bridges?

The Co. Surveyor said he was not. He might put them in hands in March but not before, as he could not agree to the depletion of the Contingencies Fund now. The bridges in question were necessary works, but he would not agree to the Contingencies Fund being depleted at the present time in order to build them. If they had a bad winter, every half-penny they had in this Fund would be required for road maintenance.

Mr Shannon proposed:-

"That the County Council agree to the building of the bridge at Whitehouse, Rathnure."

Mr Clinze seconded.

Mr Doyle proposed:- "That in view of the Co. Surveyor's observations relative to the erection of bridge at Whitehouse the Council proceed to the next business."

Mr O'Donoghue seconded.

The Chairman said he would take a show of hands on the proposal to build the bridge.

It was found that five were in favour of the proposal of Mr Shannon and ten against.

The Chairman declared the resolution lost.

COMBINED PURCHASING ACT 1925.

Under date 20th September 1927, the following was read from Mr Thomas Kelly, Clerk to Mental Hospital, Enniscorthy:-

"Referring to the County Council's resolution, the ¹⁸¹ annexed table shows approximate saving for the year ending 31/3/27.

The figures are based as far as possible on the official and Local Contracts prices and show a nett saving of £133.

This figure probably flatters the Department as a good number of contractors recognising the futility of competing for some commodities such as tobacco and soaps do not tender and prices are not as keen as if the contracts were decided on the old system.

As the table only deals with an annual expenditure of about £1600 out of a gross expenditure of about £13,000 on the purchase of all the Committee's supplies, I might explain that Combined Purchasing only applies to certain commodities required in Mental Hospital."

No reply had been received from Secretary, County Board of Health.

It was decided to refer this letter to the Finance Committee with a view to considering the question of payment of the assessment on Wexford County under Combined Purchasing Act.

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

"That the Trade Section of the Local Government Department be requested to issue their trade prices list by the 1st. of February and the 1st of August in each year, as this would greatly facilitate Public Bodies when considering tenders for supplies."

SUPPLEMENTAL LOAN OF £2000

MOUNTGARRETT BRIDGE.

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

"That in pursuance of the consent of the Local Government Department, Ireland by letter dated 5th September 1927, the Council do borrow from The National Bank Ltd. Wexford the sum of £2000 for the purpose of defraying proportion of the cost of rebuilding Mount Garrett Bridge to be repaid to the Bank by half-

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"yearly instalments spread over a period of ten years with interest thereon at one-half per cent under the Irish Banks' rate rising and falling therewith from time to time but at no time to be less than £4 per cent per annum - said Loan to be secured by a Mortgage over the rates available for that purpose and that the Seal of the Council be affixed to said Mortgage."

COUNTY TUBERCULOSIS SCHEME.

Under date 3rd October 1927, the Department of Local Government wrote (PH 45306/1927-II.) forwarding copy of letter addressed to the County Board of Health regarding the following information from the County Council:-

(a) The name and address of the owner of any cow which ~~is~~ is slaughtered in pursuance of Section 18 of the Tuberculosis Prevention (Ireland) Act 1908, as being affected with Tuberculosis ^{ar} Disease of the Udder.

(b) The name and address of the owner of any cow which is slaughtered under the provisions of the Bovine Tuberculosis Order 1926.

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

"That the information in connection with the slaughter of animals under the Tuberculosis Prevention (Ireland) Act 1908 and the Bovine Tuberculosis Order of 1926 be supplied as occasion arises to Dr W. O'Connor, Tuberculosis Officer."

CONTROL AND REGULATIONS OF ROAD TRAFFIC.

The following circular letter was read from the Inter-Departmental Committee on Control and Regulations of Road Traffic:

((COPY))

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Inter-Departmental Committee on Control
and Regulations of Road Traffic,
51, Upper Mount Street, DUBLIN,
26th September, 1927.

A Chara,

In April last a Committee was set up by the Government "to inquire and report as to whether and, if so, how far the existing law relating to the control and regulation of road traffic in all its aspects requires modification, more especially in view of the growth in the use of the various kinds of motor vehicles."

On the 21st May last the Committee invited, through a notice in the Press, written representations from, inter alia, any local or other authority concerned in or affected by the subject of the inquiry. Up to the present, however, no representations in the matter have been received from any local authority or any body representing local authorities. In the circumstances, the Committee have directed me to communicate with each Local Authority who may be interested in the matter with the views of the Authority on the subject of the inquiry and particularly with regard to the following points, viz:-

- (1) Speed Limits, e.g. the question of abolishing the 20 miles per hour limit for motor cars (including motor cycles) and relying instead on more stringent provision and penalties concerning dangerous driving.
- (2) Conditions regarding fitness for licences to drive motor vehicles or different classes of motor vehicles.
- (3) Licensing of omnibuses and charabancs to ply for hire with particular reference to the safeguards necessary in the public interest and whether the licensing body should be central or local.
- (4) Certification of routes for omnibuses, having regard to public safety considerations and whether by a central or local authority.
- (5) Lighting of Vehicles (motor, horse-drawn and pedal cycles)- front and rear lights.
- (6) Regulations regarding the use by all classes of traffic of footpaths, streets and roads in towns and villages, including the practice of displaying goods on such footpaths, streets and roads and the holding of fairs and markets in the public roads.
- (7) Registration and Licensing of pedal cycles.
- (8) Compulsory Insurance against Third Party Risks by owners of motor vehicles.
- (9) Provision of Parking Places (including question of acquiring land therefor).

As the Committee are anxious to submit their report to the Government as soon as possible, early attention by your authority to this communication will be greatly appreciated.

If convenient, six copies of your reply should be furnished
To- The Secretary to each Co. Co. Mise, le meas,
The Town Clerk of each Co. Borough ((Signed)) C. J. WHELAN,
" Clerk to each Urban Dist. Co. Runaidhe
" " to each Town Commissioners

The Council after considerable discussion agreed to the following replies:-

1. The present speed limit should be, as regards ordinary motor cars and motor cycles, abolished, and should be replaced by a special provision to cover careless driving or driving to the danger of the public. Lorries should be limited to 12 miles an hour, speed to be controlled by a governor.
2. No licence to drive a motor vehicle should be issued to any person subject to any physical disability which would be likely to interfere with the proper control of the vehicle. The person who is refused a licence for this reason to have the right to secure a test to prove his ability to properly handle and control a motor vehicle.

We believe it would be advisable that the Government or an Association interested in the proper arrangement and conduct of traffic should issue instructions relative to the "law of the road."

3. This should be done - control to be central.
4. Should be certification by Local Authority with right of appeal to Roads Department of Local Government Department.
5. A proper reflector red disc should be shown at rere of all horse-drawn vehicles and pedal cycles, and rear light on all motor vehicles, trailers and traction engines.
6. Should be regulations.
7. Should be registered on a nominal fee of 1/-: registration to be in force without further fee so long as the owner retains machine. Should be new registration for each new owner.
8. Most essential.
9. Should be parking places set aside for towns and villages.

NO. 4. OLD AGE PENSION SUB-COMMITTEE.

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

"That as recommended by No. 4. Sub-Committee of Old Age Pensions Committee, Rev N. J. Codd P.P. Kilanerin, Gorey be appointed

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a member of said ^{Sub} Committee to fill the vacancy caused by the death of his predecessor, Rev. A. McCormack P.P."

CAMOLIN PARK ROAD.

Under date 19th September 1927, letter was read from Mr A.C. Forbes, Forestry Section of the Department of Agriculture that the Camolin Park Road which was a private road owned by the Department was in a bad state. On previous occasions, the Department had done a great deal towards its repair and Mr Forbes did not see any reason for their refusing to do so again, provided the various parties using the road were prepared to co-operate. Very little use was made of it by the Department, and to put it into anything like first class condition would mean a very heavy expense. If the persons concerned would cart the material he would be prepared to recommend the Department to supply 50 loads of metal from the quarry on the Department's lands, as was done on the last occasion the road was repaired, or if the County Council would provide the stone, the Department might have it spread.

The Secretary stated he had forwarded copy of this letter to Mr P. Byrne Co. Councillor for the district who wrote stating that the tenants using the road had agreed to accept the offer of Mr Forbes, but they considered that the material from the Department's quarry was unsuitable. The accumulated stuff on the edges should also be removed so as to let the water off the road. Some of the drains were broken and would require repair.

The following resolution had been adopted at the meeting of the tenants on the motion of Mr J. Lawlor seconded by Mr J. Quinn:- "That we, the tenants on the Camolin Park Demesne land, hereby agree to accept the offer of the Department of Agriculture and agree to spread the fifty loads of stones offered by them. We desire to point out that the stone in the Department's quarry is unsuitable for road metalling and suggest that some better quality material should be used. We consider that the fifty loads of material will not be sufficient to metal this road.

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"There is also a link road which requires repair as it is now in as bad a condition as the main road. The two roads in question lead to land held by about 35 people which land is nearly all in tillage."

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

"That our Secretary arrange with Mr Forbes of the Department of Agriculture to meet him at Camolin Park for the purpose of seeing what can be done to have the Camolin Park Road put into fair condition. That the Co. Surveyor accompany the Secretary on the date arranged for interview with Mr Forbes. That our Secretary and County Surveyor be authorised to meet the wishes of the users of the road in so far as they consider ~~these~~ these to be reasonable."

POISONS AND PHARMACY LICENCES.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Cline seconded by Mr Shannon:-

"That licence ~~s~~ under Poisons & Pharmacy Act be issued to William Hogan, Fethard-on-Sea, and renewal of licence under said Act to Robert Rackard, Killanne, Enniscorthy."

CINEMATOGRAPH ACT.

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

"That as the County Surveyor and Civic Guard approve of the tent in which H. Williams, Travelling Bazaar Picture and Variety Company, is exhibiting moving pictures, licence under Cinematograph Act be issued in respect of this structure provided that two copies of plan, etc. in conformity with the regulations under said Act be furnished the County Council."

W. O'Byrne
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Nov 15 1927