

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

MINUTES OF MEETING.

HELD ON 8TH OCTOBER, 1928.

The monthly meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 8th October, 1928.

Present: Messrs. J. Brennan, J. Clince, P. Colfer, T. Cooney, R. Corish, J. Culleton, J. Cummins, T.F. D'Arcy, J. Doran, J. Gaul, Colonel Gibbon, J. Hall, P. Hayes, M. Jordan, W.P. Keegan, T. Mayler, T. McCarthy, J. Murphy, Sean-O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Colonel Quin, M.M. Roche, M. Smyth and J.E. Walsh.

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

On the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Colonel Quin, the chair was taken by Mr. Thomas McCarthy.

Subsequently Mr. Doyle, Chairman, attended (after the minutes had been read and signed) and presided for the remainder of the business.

Mr. Shannon (Vice-Chairman) also attended at the same time and was present for the rest of the business.

Confirmation of Minutes of Committees.

Finance Committee. The minutes of meeting of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 13th September, 1928 were submitted:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in the County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford on 13th September, 1928.

Present:- Mr. M. Doyle, Chairman (presided)
Also present:- Messrs. Sean O'Byrne, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, J.E. Walsh and James Hall.

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Killennagh Dispensary.

Mr. Hall gave notice of intention to move at the meeting of the County Council to be held on the 12th November, 1928, that the County Council consent to the County Board of Health borrowing £190 for the purpose of building a new dispensary at Killennagh, Gorey District.

Rate Collection.

The following shows the amount of Rates outstanding in connection with the collection of rate for year 1927-28:-

J.J. O'Reilly, (No. 13 District) £19.17.2; Thomas Rowe £41.8.9. E.J. Murphy £49.13.6; J. Curtis £71.7.1; J. Doyle £132.14.0; J.J. Sinnott £161.13.4; J. Quirke £183.9.3; Sean Gannon £204.15.11; P. Donohoe £225.17.11; J. Cummins £235.2.0; W. Cummins £245.14.6; M. Deegan, £260.1.6; T. Sutton £334.17.5; P. Furlong £338.1.4. P. O'Byrne £353.1.5. P. Doyle £357.8.3; M.M. Kelly £435.3.1. B. Cleary £433.6.7; M. McCarthy £816.14. 7.; J.J. Kelly £847.10.3; J.J. O'Reilly (for No. 15 District) £1152.17.4.

Total 1928 rate outstanding £6890.5.4.

Under date 12th September, 1928, Collector J.J. Kelly (No. 14 District) who had been summoned to meeting of Finance Committee wrote that he would not attend as he had to be present at the Enniscorthy District Court. He ^{asked} ~~asked~~ that the Finance Committee should be informed that he required a further eight days to

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complete his warrant when he guaranteed he would have all collectable rate in by 20th September, and anything outstanding would then be placed in the hands of his Solicitor for collection

The following order was made:-

"That Collector J.J. Kelly be given ~~the~~ to 20th September, 1928, to close his warrant by which date the Finance Committee direct that all collectable rate will be lodged to the credit of the Council and a detailed statement be received from Mr. Kelly, giving in detail all items which he considers to be temporarily irrecoverable.

Collector McCarthy (deputy for his brother Charles in No. 5 District) also attended and explained that he had expected to collect between £400 and £500 at last Wexford fair but all he collected since last meeting of the Finance Committee was £100.

The following order was agreed to:-

"That Mr. Michael McCarthy be directed to close his warrant in No. 5 District for year 1927-28 by 24th September, 1928 when Finance Committee direct all collectable rate to be lodged to the credit of the Council and to furnish in detail a statement as to temporary irrecoverable items. In the event of failure to comply with this direction the Finance Committee will recommend the Council to withdraw their approval to Mr. M. McCarthy as deputy collector.

Mr. M.M. Kelly (No. 6 District) also came before the meeting and explained that included in a large amount of temporarily irrecoverable rates were items due by four ratepayers amounting to over £200.

The following was adopted:-

That Mr. M.M. Kelly, Collector for No. 6 District be called on to lodge all collectable rate in respect of warrant for 1927-28 by the 24th September, 1928, and furnish definite and detailed information as to all items of rate which are temporarily irrecoverable.

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Under date 7th September, 1928, the Department of Local Government wrote (G.61599-1928 Loch Garman Fa) that the Rate Collectors should be called upon to use greater energy in proceeding with their collections. Attention was drawn to the terms ^{of} the Department's letter of the 26th July sanctioning payment of poundage fees to collectors in respect of the 1927-28 collection, and pointing out that none of the Collectors had closed.† The Department asked for information as to what had been done in the matter.

It was decided to inform the Department that the Finance Committee are doing what they can to get in the rates as expeditiously as possible.

Rate Collector Sutton (No. 2 District) wrote asking for payment of poundage on all lodgements up to the 31st July. He considered that he should be paid as all the other Collectors had received poundage fees up to the date mentioned.

It was decided to inform Mr. Sutton that the Finance Committee will not consider any further applications for payment of poundage until warrants are closed.

The following letter under date 5th September, 1928 was read from Collector Cleary (No. 21 District):-

I am sorry to state that I had a fire accident yesterday morning and the most of Collecting books got burned. I was arranging them on Monday night between 10 and 11 O'clock and had a candle lighting on the table without a holder. I must have gone to bed and left it lighting and when it burned down the table got on fire on which I had the books also a book and stand on which I kept some of them. My brother was sleeping directly over this room and he was awakened by the fall of a picture which was burning on the wall. He found all on fire and called me. We did all we could to save them but the books table, bookcase and some other articles were burned.

The following is the list of books burned:-

All 1924 books: 1925-26-27-28 and 4 books of 1923. One book

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E.D. Ballyhack from No. 1 to 231; E.D. Fethard one book from No. 200 to end; E.D. Templetown one book from No. 1 to 186, and all E.D. Rathree book.

I am sorry this happened but I could not help it. I am awaiting any instructions you wish to give me.

The following report under date 4th September, 1928 was read from Mr. M.J. Finn, New Ross, Official Checker of Rates:-

I beg to report that Collector Bernard Cleary called to my office about 10 o'clock a.m. today, and reported that a fire occurred at his house about 5 a.m. this morning in which all his collecting books were burned; except four of those for year ending 31st March, 1929.

On yesterday his books for the latter year were checked by me; and the amount shown on them lodged; less £10.4.9. this latter being a rating omitted, and error in tot by him. The checking of books was not completed until after bank hour, so that he could not lodge this balance yesterday.

He only presented one book of those for year ended 31st March, 1928;- one of Fethard books; on yesterday which I did not examine but directed him to bring all those for that year, and the preceding ones in his possession in to me today for comparison with the list of outstanding ratings furnished by you, and he promised to do so.

I visited the house today and saw the remains of some books, papers etc., but could not recover any except charred portions of one or two blocks of old collecting books which are no use.

His explanation of the occurrence is that about ten o'clock last night he was getting all the books together in order to bring them in for examination today, and thinks he left the candle he was using lighting (without holder) on the table when retiring to bed. He states some of the books were on the table and others of them on a book case adjacent to the table.

I may say the table, and book case are very much burned and also other articles of furniture.

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Mr. Cleary came before the meeting and bore out the statement in his letter. He expressed his regret at the accident which he admitted occurred through his carelessness.

The meeting decided that Mr. Cleary should be responsible for the cost of reprinting and writing up new books.

The Secretary stated that this work had been put in hands on receipt of report from Mr. Cleary.

An order was made that Mr. Cleary be directed to close his collection by the 11th October.

It was also decided that the Secretary write to Mr. Power, a large ratepayer shown as owing rate for half year ended 31st March, 1928 for holding No. 50 E.D. Rathroe, amount £18.14.8.

Letter under date 11th September, 1928, was read from Mr. Art Dunne, Courtnacuddy, Enniscorthy, recently appointed Rate Collector for No. 15 District submitting the names of Peter Murphy, Courtnacuddy, and Denis Dondan, Courtnacuddy, as his personal securities.

It was decided that Banker's references as to the financial standing of the persons named by Mr. Dunne as his securities should be obtained.

The following resolution was adopted:-

That the New Ireland Assurance Company be requested to lodge £832.12.6. amount of default made by Ex-Collector Fitzpatrick, No. 15 Collection District, as already promised.

Rating of New Buildings Order.

Application under above order received from Miss Agnes Doyle, Adamstown, Enniscorthy, and supported by certificate from Mr. J.J. Shortall, Local Appointed Officer for the district was accepted, and it was decided that the usual rebate for rating purposes be allowed.

Bovine Tuberculosis Order.

Under date 3rd September, 1928 the following letter (L. 2414) was read from the Department of Agriculture:-

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I have to refer to your letters of the 10th and 20th instant, enclosing copies of communications received from certain of your Local Authority's Veterinary Inspectors, and to state that it would appear from the communications in question that owing to the fact of the Inspectors omitting to report certain cases which they found on investigation to be outside the scope of the Order, a greater number of cases were dealt with during the half-year ended the 31st March, last, than were indicated in the Department's record. In the circumstances, therefore, and pending a review of the matter at the end of the year, the Department are agreeable to the question of the suggested re-distribution of the allowances for Bovine Tuberculosis work in the County being deferred, provided the Local Authority are so disposed.

As regards the failure of the Veterinary Inspectors to furnish particulars in regard to all cases dealt with by them under the Bovine Tuberculosis Order, I have to request that you will be so good as to take action with a view to ensuring that a report ~~will~~ on Form T.3 is furnished by the Officer concerned in respect of every suspected case of bovine tuberculosis coming under his notice whether found to be within the scope of the Order or otherwise.

It was decided in view of the terms of this letter to recommend the County Committee of Agriculture and Technical Instruction to take no further action in this matter for the present.

Scholarship Schemes.

Primary. Letters were read from pupils of primary schools recently awarded Scholarships tenable at secondary schools stating that they had selected schools as follows:-

James Donnelly, St. Peter's College, Wexford;

Patrick Sheehan, Christian Brothers Schools, Gorey;

Johanna Cooney and Katie Doyle, Loreto Convent, Wexford.

Approved as schools mentioned are "approved" schools under

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Department of Education.

Under date 21st August, 1928, the Department of Education (Secondary Education Branch) wrote, sanctioning the renewal of the following Secondary School Scholarships to:-

P.J. O'Reilly, Laurence J. Butler, Thomas Higgins, Joseph Flynn, Thomas Cogley, Patrick Doyle, John F. O'Brien, Eileen Cadogan, Mary Kavanagh and Richard T. Doyle.

Under date 23rd August, 1928, letter was read from the Department of Education (Secondary Education Branch), approving of the renewal of Bursary to James Hargaden.

University. The following resolution was adopted:-

"That renewals of University Scholarships be granted to the following:-

Margaret Berney, Foxcoven, Monaseed (third year)

M.G. Stedmond, Island Road, Enniscorthy (third year)

Vincent C. Quirke, Ballinamona, Campile (second year)

Kevin Hall, Cornmarket, Wexford (second year).

In connection with renewal of Scholarship to Margaret Berney, Mother Eucharist, Loreto Convent, 77 Stephen's Green, Dublin, wrote that owing to an accident, Miss Berney burned her right hand, and in consequence could not sit for examination as the Doctor who was attending her said she would run a risk if she wrote her examination papers. Miss Berney was a satisfactory student, admirable in character and manners, while her diligence and application to study were unflinching.

Weights and Measures Acts.

Under date 3rd August, 1928 the Department of Industry and Commerce, Power Section, 33 Upper Merrion Street, Dublin, wrote, (letter 21440), forwarding copy of letter (21428) addressed to the Treasurer of the County Council, the National Bank.

The latter pointed out that the power vested in the Judge of Assize to order the Treasurers of the County Councils to pay for the provision of necessary requirements under the Acts

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above Acts in cases in which Councils had refused to carry out their statutory obligations, had now been transferred to the Minister for Industry and Commerce,

The Secretary stated that the Council had at all times complied with the requests of the Department of Industry and Commerce relative to procuring sufficient supply of weights and measures.

Sergeant Keenan, Weights and Measures Inspector, New Ross District, wrote, that he could hire a room from John Stevenson, New Ross for ^{10/-}~~12/-~~ per week, Mr. Stevensen supplying fuel and light.

It was decided to accept the proposal, tenancy to be on a ^{tentative} ~~tentative~~ basis to be determined by a week's notice on either side. The Secretary was directed to ascertain from Sergeant Keenan, the length of time for which he would require office.

Proposed arbitration under Workmen's Compensation Acts.

Under date 5th September the following letter was read from Messrs. John A. Sinnott and Co., Solicitors, Enniscorthy:-

We have been instructed by Mr. Philip Roche that on the 16th of February last he met with an accident working in Bally ^{Brennan} quarry and that as a result of that accident he lost the sight of one eye and suffered other injuries.

We understood that for some time he was paid compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Acts; that some negotiations proceeded and attempts were made to settle his claim. It appears that the last offer which was made was to the effect that the Council would take our client back into their employment at his old rate of wages and give him a Declaration of Liability to preserve his right under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, but that he would be required to do work similar to that which he was doing at the time of the accident.

We do not think that this proposition is reasonable: that

work must now be regarded as unsuitable, as, obviously, another similar accident would have results disastrous to our client. We see no alternative, therefore, but to proceed to arbitration and we are accordingly preparing an application.

It was decided that the County Surveyor communicate with the Insurance Company in this matter.

Illness of Mr. John Fanning, Clerical Assistant

County Council Offices.

Under date 12th September, the following certificate from Dr. S.V. O'Connor, Westgate, Wexford, was submitted:-

"I certify that Mr. John Fanning is under my care suffering from Nervous Exhaustion and I recommend him complete rest for two months."

It was decided that Mr. Fanning be given sick leave for two months from the date of Dr. O'Connor's certificate, and that Mr. Sean O'Kennedy, Friary Street, New Ross be employed during the period at a salary of £5 per week.

Electric Light Supply.

It was decided to recommend the County Council to endeavour to have the checking of electric light supply by meter brought within the ambit of the Weights and Measures Acts for the protection of consumers.

Old Table at Gorey Workhouse.

Offer of George Willoughby, Hill View House, Gorey, to purchase old table at Gorey workhouse for the sum of £2 was accepted.

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

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee, in respect of meeting held on 13th September, 1928, be received and considered. Ex-Collector Fitzpatrick.

Letters under date 6th and 22nd September, 1928, were read from New Ireland Assurance Comapny, stating that they had endeavoured to get a definite decision in connection with the settlement of this claim from the Irish National Insurance Company as some of the discrepancies occurred during the existence of their policy. As soon as they heard from the Irish National Company they would deal with the claim finally.

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

" That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 13th September, 1928, be and are hereby confirmed."

The following minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 27th September, 1928, were submitted:-

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The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in the County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford on 27th September, 1928.

Present:- Mr. James Shannon, (Vice-Chairman) and subsequently Mr. M. Doyle, Chairman, presided (after the signing of the Minutes). Also present:- Messrs. Culleton, McCarthy, O'Byrne. and

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

Rate Collection.

The following under date 27th September, 1928 re Collector Bernard Cleary (District No. 21) was submitted by the Secretary:-

In reply to query addressed to him Mr. P. Power, Loftus Hall, Fethard forwarded me Official rate receipts for holding No. 50 E.D. Rathroe, as follows:-

Half year ended 30th September, 1927. Amount £18.14.7⁴ dated 11th July, 1927.

Half year ended 31st March, 1928. Amount £18.14.8. dated 9th January, 1928.

Half year ended 30th September, 1928. Amount £17.2.5. dated 28th August, 1928.

The only rate accounted for by Collector Cleary up to date of last checking is £18.14.7. viz., rate in respect of half year ended 30th September, 1927.

I received letters as a result of queries (addressed to Ratepayers in the district) from Mr. Cornelius Furlong, Killoggan Castle, Fethard and Mrs. Elizabeth Murphy, Ba llykerogue, Campile that they had paid rates amount ing to £21.4.3. and £8.1.4. respectively. These rates have not been accounted for by Collector.

Mr. Furlong states he holds Official receipt.

These letters were received by me on the 26th instant, on which date Miss Finn (daughter of Deputy Checker) was notified. Miss Finn stated her Father was ill and on his

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regaining his strength she will place the matter before him.

She telephoned this morning that on yesterday evening she questioned Cleary about his Collection generally. He admitted having received Mr. Power's rates. He lodged amount thereof this morning, promising her that on tomorrow, the 28th instant, he would lodge full amount of all rates withheld by him.

I notified Collector Cleary to be in attendance at today's meeting.

The meeting approved of the action of the Secretary in referring this matter to the Solicitor to the Council with a view to laying an information for the arrest of Mr. Cleary.

The following order was agreed to:-

That Mr. Cleary, Rate Collector for No. 21 District be suspended from office and his sureties be called upon to close this Rate Collection."

"That our Secretary consult with Mr. John Murphy, M.C.C. as to suitable person to act as temporary collector whose name can be submitted to the sureties for approval. That temporary Collector be paid at existing rate of poundage for the district.

Collector J.J. Kelly (No. 14 District)

At the meeting of the Finance Committee on the 13th September, 1928 an order was made directing Mr. Kelly to close his warrant by the 20th September, so far as all collectable rate was concerned.

The Secretary mentioned that Mr. Kelly since the last meeting of the Finance Committee had collected £67.0.6d, and there was still outstanding in respect of 1928 rate the sum of £780.9.9. This would, of course, include irrecoverable items.

During the course of the meeting a telegram was received from Mr. Kelly stating that he could not be present, but was writing.

The Secretary stated that Mr. Kelly was verbally informed on Friday the 21st that it was impossible for him to make

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arrangements to attend the Finance meeting.

The following order was adopted:-

"That Mr. J.J. Kelly, Collector for No. 14 District be suspended and his books taken up.

"That we suggest to Sureties of Mr. Kelly the advisability of agreeing to the appointment of Mr. J.J. O'Reilly, Collector for No. 13 District, to complete collection in No. 14 District or, in the alternative, Mr. J.J. Sinnott, (No. 16 District).

Deputy Collector M. McCarthy (District No. 5).

At the last meeting of the Finance Committee, Mr. Michael McCarthy acting as deputy for his brother (Mr. Charles McCarthy) was directed to close his warrant by 24th September, 1928.

Mr. McCarthy had lodged since last meeting of Finance Committee £114.17.4. but he had still outstanding £701.17.3.

Mr. McCarthy came before the meeting and stated that he had been working vefy hard but people did not seem to have the mo ney to pay the rates. A great humber promised him payment when they threshed their corn.

An order was made withdrawing approval of the Finance Committee and the County Council to Mr. Michael McCarthy as deputy Collector in No. 5 District and recommending the sureties of Mr. Charles McCarthy to approve of the appointment of Mr. James Quirke (Collector for No. 1 District) to finish the collection in No. 5.

Collector M.M. Kelly (No. 6 District).

At the last meeting of the Finance Committee Mr. M.M. Kelly, was instructed to close his warrant by 24th September, 1928.

In view of the fact that Mr. Kelly had lodged £112 since last meeting of the Finance Committee and reduced the amount outstanding to £300 odd the Finance Committee decided that he should be given a further fortnight to close his collection.

It was also decided that if Mr. Kelly carries out the instructions of the Committee in this regard collecting books for current Rate will be handed him.

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The following gives the amount outstanding in the case of each Rate Collector on 27th September, 1928 for Rate 1927-28.

J.J. O'Reilly, £4.16.9; T. Rowe, £29.18.9; W. Murphy, £48.13.6; J.J. Sinnott, £55.13.0; J. Curtis, £71.3.3; J. Doyle, £127.5.1; J. Quirke, £179.9.9; S. Gannon £204.15.11; P. Donohoe, £209. 10. 11; J. Cummins, £222.7.6; W. Cummins, £231.4.4; W. Deegan, £253.19.9; Philip Doyle, £322.9.4; P. Furlong, £334.10.2; T. Sutton, £334.17.8; P.O'Byrne, £349.14.9; M. Kelly, £383.5.3; B. Cleary, £421.16.5. M. McCarthy £701.17.3.; J.J. Kelly £780.9.9; J.J. O'Reilly, (for No. 15 District) £1126.14.10.

The following gives the percentage of amount of current rate collected by each Rate Collector to 27th September, 1928:-

J. Quirke, 46 per cent. J.J. Sinnott, 38. E.J. Murphy, 36. J. Curtis, 35. J.J. O'Reilly, 35; T. Sutton, 25; J. Doyle, 34; M. Deegan, 31; W. Cummins, 31. P. Furlong, 31. J. Cummins, 31. S. Gannon, 30. P. Doyle, 28. T. Rowe, 28. P.O'Byrne, 21; P. Donohoe, 14.

The following collectors had not received collecting books for current rate:- C. McCarthy, M.M. Kelly, and J.J. Kelly.

Under date 25th September, 1928, the following was read from the Department of Local Government (G.65330/1928 Loch Garman Fa.):-

Adverting to your letter of the 22nd instant, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that he sanctions the temporary appointment of Mr. A. Dunne as Poor Rate Collector for the No. 15 District provided he takes up his residence within the District and subject to the provision of the sureties ^{being} acceptable to the County Council. The Declaration Form which has been noted is returned, herewith, together with one set of queries.

Rating of New Buildings Order, 1925.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of

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Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:-

"That claim of Miss Sarah Murphy, St. John's, Enniscorthy, to be rated on reduced valuation in respect of new building at St. John's, Enniscorthy, be agreed to."

County Library Committee.

Under date 21st September, 1928, the following was read from Department of Local Government (G.64271/1928-Loch Garman Pf):-

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 sanctions the renting ~~of~~ by the Library Committee, at £65 per annum, of the premises on the Quay, Wexford for County Library Services, on the terms set out in resolution of the Wexford County Council on the 10th instant.

Weights and Measures Acts.

Under date 19th September, 1928 the following letter (21575) was read from the Department of Industry and Commerce:-

I am directed by the Minister for Industry and Commerce to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 18th instant, and to inform you that a new Act was ~~passed~~ this year (Weights and Measures Act 1928) and came into force in July last requiring Weights and Measures Inspectors to test all measuring instruments in use for trade. The term "measuring instruments" includes not alone petrol pumps but also the road tanks from which petrol is delivered at Traders' premises. Revised Weights and Measures Regulations are in course of preparation dealing with all matters to which reference was made in the new Act and furnishing instructions to the Inspectors as to the conditions to be observed and the tests to be applied in the case of various types of measuring instruments. It is expected that these regulations will be in force before the end of next month, and the work of testing petrol pumps and other instruments will then be entered upon by the Inspectors.

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With regard to the question raised by the Finance Committee of your Council as to the testing of electricity meters, I am to inform you that the legislative provisions regarding this matter are included in the Electric Lighting (Clauses) Act, 1899. The administration of those provisions has been transferred to the Electricity Supply Board, and I am to suggest that your Finance Committee should address a communication direct to the Board at their Offices, 62, Upper Mount Street, Dublin.

Alleged Wife Desertion.

Under date 18th September, 1928 Sergeant Lee, Garda Siothchana, Fethard, wrote asking the Council to give a certificate that the Council would pay the necessary expense consequent on the apprehension of Michael Cummins, ^{late} ~~last~~ of Main Street, Templetown, at present residing at 100 Bridge Lane, Hobden Bridge, Yorkshire, on a charge of wife and child desertion.

The following letter under date 22nd September 1928 was read from Mr. Elgee, Solicitor:-

I am in receipt of your letter of the 20th inst, with copy of one from Sergeant Lee, Civic Guard, Fethard, as to the proposed arrest of Michael Cummins, Templetown, Fethard for deserting his wife.

I have looked into the matter of ~~the~~ payment of the expenses in connection with the proposed arrest, and I find that by section 4 of the Constabulary (Ireland) Act it is provided that,

"In every case where any expense has actually been incurred by any County Inspector etc, in Conveying Prisoners etc, ---- or in the pursuit of any person charged with any offence in any part of Ireland, to whatever place in England Ireland and Scotland or elsewhere he may have escaped ----- it shall be lawful for the Justice or other authority before whom such witness shall be taken to deliver such officer a Certificate in writing that he is entitled to his expenses to such an extent

as to the Justice shall appear reasonable.

The County Inspectors were then at certain periods to forward the accounts, to the County Treasurer for payment and the Grand Jury were then bound to pass a presentment for the amount required.

This being so I am of opinion that the County Council cannot undertake to defray the expenses asked for, unless and until the prisoner has been arrested and brought before the Justice, who can then give the certificate as mentioned above, and this being so the Council should not give the undertaking as asked for.

No Order.

Scholarship Schemes.

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

"That as James K. Cullen, Ballytarsna, Ballycullane, secured over 40 per cent gross marks allotted to the six subjects of examination he be refunded 18.6. the necessary expenses incurred by him in attending the examination."

University. Under date 21st September, 1928 the ~~Secretary~~ Secretary, University College, Dublin, wrote that in view of resolution of the County Council the President recommended that a Scholarship be awarded Joseph Cullen, who passed the Leaving Certificate Examination.

Accommodation for County Registrar.

Under date 19th September, 1928 the Secretary, Department of Justice, wrote (297/25) that in connection with the proposal that the Department should pay rent of the room proposed to be placed at the disposal of the County Registrar it should be pointed out that the custody of the Courthouse in Wexford was entirely vested in the County Registrar as successor to the Under-sheriff and the County Registrar is entitled by law to the use of any rooms in the Courthouse which he required for the proper discharge of his duties. The proposal that the Department should pay rent in

respect of such use was therefore one which the Minister was not prepared to entertain.

Overdraft of County Council.

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

"That we apply to our Treasurer for continuance of present overdraft of £40,000, to 31st December, 1928 and that the Department of Local Government be requested to sanction this proposal.

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Mr. McCarthy proposed and Mr. O'Byrne seconded the following resolution; *which was passed.* -

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 27th September, 1928, be received and considered.

Rate Collector Cleary. District No. 21.

Mr. Elgee said as this man had been arrested for embezzlement and was at present on bail, it would be advisable that all discussion as regards his position etc. should be taken in Committee.

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

"That the case of Collector Cleary, (District No. 21) be dealt with in Committee."

The following letter under date 6th October, 1928, was read from Messrs. Colfer and Sons, Solicitors, New Ross:-

We have been requested ~~by~~ by Mr. Bernard Cleary of Rochestown, Collector for No. 21 District, to write to you and ask you to place the following facts before your Council:-

For the past two or three years Bernard Cleary through inexperience and want of sufficient care allowed his private monies and the monies received by him from the Rate Payers to become part of a single account with the result that when he was directed to lodge the entire amount of his warrant he discovered that he was between £280 and £300 short.

On our advice he went to you on Friday the 28th ult., to explain the position and to inform you that he would sell his farm and stock and ~~make~~ make good the deficiency, but that meanwhile he would obtain the money from friends and lodge it by 11 o'clock on Saturday the 29th ult. He states that he was given to understand that if the money was so lodged the matter would be dropped.

On the morning of the 29th he called here with two friends who were to raise the money. You then informed us that a warrant had been sworn and Cleary would be arrested and prosecuted.

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This completely changed the aspect of the matter from the point of view of the Sureties who were relying on Cleary repaying them. If Cleary was convicted and sentenced his power of earning would be irreparably impaired and consequently the Sureties withdrew.

Cleary thereupon directed us to sell up everything he possessed and after paying the mortgage on the farm to pay over the balance on our hands to the County Council and delivered himself up to the Civic Guards.

He has now advertised his farm and stock for sale and after payment of the charges there ought to be about £150 to be handed over to the Council. A number of friends have come together and are prepared to pay the remaining money. In fact pending the completion of the sale of the farm, they are prepared to lodge the entire shortage by 3.30 o'clock on Monday the 15th.

We submit that Cleary is doing all that a man can do to make good his error and we feel that his attitude will command the respect of the Council. He is a young man and no further purpose will be served by pressing the case against him as the object of the Council to warn other collectors ^{had} ~~have~~ already been effected by the arrest and publicity of the proceedings.

Therefore if the Council consider that the interests of Justice have been served and if they will not press the case on Tuesday the 15th when it comes before the District Justice, Cleary may be allowed out under the Probation of Offenders Act and thus afforded another chance of making good.

The Secretary stated that he had had no conversation with Cleary when he attended at County Council offices, as he directed him to deal with Mr. Elgee. Cleary admitted defalcations amounting to £279 odd.

Mr. Elgee said he had not given anyone to understand that the matter would be dropped if Cleary lodged the amount of the Defalcations. He mentioned that he would not oppose bail and

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it appeared Mr. Cleary thought he meant bail for the money in the bank. Several members were in favour of adjourningⁿ the matter for a month when full inquiries could be made from all the ratepayers in the District. The Council might then be able to take a certain course if all the money found to be appropriated by Cleary was lodged.

Mr. Elgee said the matter was now the subject of a State prosecution and out of the hands of the Council.

After further discussion Colonel Quin proposed and Mr. Brennan seconded, the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That the matter of the prosecution of Bernard Cleary, Rate Collector for No. 21 district, be left in the hands of^{of} Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council.

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

"That the suspension of Rate Collector Cleary (District No. 21) by Finance Committee be confirmed and that the office of Rate Collector for No. 21 District be and is hereby declared vacant.

That the Minister for Local Government be requested to sanction this proposal."

Mr. McCarthy considered there was dereliction of duty on the part of the Official Checker (Mr. M.J. Finn, New Ross) as official receipts had been given in some cases of misappropriation.

Mr. McCarthy then proposed and Colonel Gibbon seconded:-

"That Mr. M.J. Finn, Official Checker of Rates for New Ross district, be asked for an explanation as to how Rate Collector Cleary was able to issue official receipts without detection.

Mr. Corish proposed and Mr. D'Arcy seconded the following:-

"That Mr. M.J. Finn, Official Rate Checker for New Ross

District be requested to attend the meeting of the Finance Committee to be held on 11th October, to explain to the Committee how he dealt ~~with~~ the checking of Mr. Cleary's books.

Mr. Colfer proposed and Colonel Quin seconded the following:-

"That Mr. M.J. Finn, Official Rate Checker for New Ross District, be suspended from office."

After discussion this was withdrawn and the resolution of Mr. Corish directing the attendance of Mr. Finn at the meeting of the Finance Committee on 11th October was unanimously agreed to.

Letters were read from Laurence Kehoe, Rochestown, New Ross, and W. Leacy, Cushinstown, Ballynabola, New Ross, sureties for Bernard Cleary, recommending Martin O'Hanlon, Rochestown, as a temporary Collector for No. 21 District. Mr. O'Hanlon was also recommended by his Parish Priest, Rev. P. Parker, Cushinstown, New Ross, and by Rev. M. O'Connor, C.C. Wexford.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Cooney and adopted nem. con.:-

"That, subject to the sanction of the Local Government Department, ~~Thomas~~ Martin O'Hanlon, Rochestown, New Ross, be appointed temporary Rate Collector for No. 21 District at a poundage fee of 7d. in the £ to close Rate Collection in said district and to remain in office until date allowed for closing Rate Collection in respect of periods ending March, 1929.

Rate Collector J.J. Kelly. In connection with recommendation of the Finance Committee to suspend Mr. J.J. Kelly, Rate Collector (No. 14 District), Mr. J.J. Brennan, Solicitor (Hugard, Brennan and Godfrey) appeared for Mr. Kelly and said he understood that Mr. Kelly had been appointed in 1921. At that time matters were in a very disturbed condition, but he understood that for the years 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, and 1925 the entire amount of rate was collected by Mr. Kelly. In 1926 a sum of £5.3.4. was not collected, and Mr. Kelly had told him that with regard to the last twelve months there was roughly about £600 outstanding.

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It was absolutely unnecessary for him (Mr. Brennan) to point out to the Council the difficulty that there was in Collecting rates recently. Mr. Kelly said that possibly in a few instances he might have been a bit too lenient, but he found it exceedingly difficult, ~~if~~ not impossible ~~in~~ in a good many instances to collect rates. On behalf of Mr. Kelly he asked that the suspension be deferred for a month to enable Mr. Kelly to do his best to get in the money. He asked the Council to take into consideration that Mr. Kelly had been a very good Collector, and also to remember the difficulty of the times at present.

Colonel Quin asked if it was correct to say the Collector had collected all up to January, 1926.

Secretary-He was a very good collector up to then.

Mr. Brennan said he understood there was nothing outstanding up to 1926. For the last twelve months Mr. Kelly had had a good deal of illness in his family.

Mr. Keegan said he quite agreed it was almost impossible to collect rates, but the time was coming when people would have money, and after all £600 was not so much. He was quite confident that Mr. Kelly would be able to satisfy the Council.

Mr. Gaul agreed with Mr. Keegan. He thought it was hardly fair to suspend collectors at a time when it would be possible for them to get the money - when farmers would be selling their corn.

Mr. D'Arcy also agreed with Mr. Keegan.

The Chairman said that of course they all agreed that there were no defalcations or anything of the kind against Mr. Kelly.

Mr. Brennan said it was not as if Mr. Kelly was neglecting his duty, as there was only about £600 outstanding out of a total collection of £6,000 or £7,000 warrant for year ended 31st March 1928.

Alderman Corish said he thought they were entitled to take into consideration the position of his collection up to 1927.

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He thought it was very creditable for the collector to be able to state that at the end of 1926 there was only something about £5 outstanding.

On the proposition of Colonel Gibbon, seconded by Alderman Corish, it was unanimously decided to allow the collector another month to close his collection for period ended 31st March, 1928.

Deputy Collector Michael McCarthy. With reference ^{to} recommendation of Finance Committee to ^{withdrawal of} approval to the appointment of Mr. Michael McCarthy as deputy for his brother, Charles McCarthy (No. 5 District) the Secretary mentioned that there was a sum of £701.17.3d. outstanding on March 1928 Rate and £299 on Old Rates.

Mr. Hayes said he had been speaking to Mr. McCarthy who said he had not got a fair crack of the whip. He was appointed in his brother's place, and as his brother had collected all the easy monies, he had to take up the hard cases, and he was suspended at an opportune time when the corn would be sold. He thought the Council might favourably reconsider the matter.

Mr. McCarthy was called before the meeting, and stated that at the time he was appointed all the easy rate had been collected. He was also new to the district and it took some time before he could find his way around.

Mr. McCarthy ^{added} ~~said~~ that the time he got the books was the scarcest time in the year with regard to money, and most of the ratepayers had promised to pay the two rates together.

Mr. Keegan-How long would it take you to collect this money now when the harvest is here?

Mr. McCarthy-I should finish ~~up~~ the old rate in a fortnight or three weeks.

On the proposition of Mr. Keegan seconded by Mr. Corish, and supported by Colonel Gibbon, it was decided to allow collector to 12th November, to close collection for periods ended 31st March, 1928.

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Payment of Rate Collectors.

Miss O'Ryan said she thought the question of Rate Collection generally should be reviewed. The present system of paying ~~men~~ ^{Collectors} must be wrong or there would not be so many men going wrong. She admitted that it was not the fault of the County Council that men were not paid more regularly and she understood that some Collectors had not got poundage fees since last January. She thought they should inquire into the system of having the rates collected through the post office or banks. It was done in County Kerry and it was a saving to the Rates. Otherwise they would have to consider paying the men by the week.

In the course of a long discussion Mr. Corish said he agreed with Miss O'Ryan that the system in force at present was open to abuse. Of course he knew it was not the Council's fault, as it was the absolute order of the Local Government Department that the Council was not allowed to pay a man until he finished his warrant. It was certainly an ^{inducement} ~~incitement~~ to a man to confiscate the Council's money. The matter should be taken up with the Department with a view to going into the question of revision. He was not going so far as to say that the rates should be collected through the Post Office. It might or it might not be wise to have the rates collected through the Post office, but he believed that in the state the Country was in at present ~~no~~ people would be very loath to go there to pay their rates. They all knew that at present collectors had to call four or five times to get the rates from the people. He would go so far as to say that there should be an inspector appointed to make periodical visits to the different collection districts, because it would have a deterrent effect.

Secretary-We have made a few surprise visits.

Alderman Corish suggested that there should be more surprise visits, because if a rate collector knew that an inspector might visit his district at any time it would have a deterrent effect.

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Mr. D'Arcy said there was something very seriously wrong not only with the system in vogue, but there was certainly something wrong with collectors when people willing to pay their rates had not been served with a demand note ~~xxx~~ for the past two years and a half. It was not ^{the} system ~~that~~ was wrong there; it was the man that was wrong. He suggested the Council should recommend to the Government ~~that~~ the men be paid on account of what they collected per week., and that there ~~should~~ always be a certain percentage held over a collector's head to induce him to complete his collection.

The Chairman said he did not think that system would ~~work~~. A Collector might first go to those who paid without trouble and then could afford to throw up his job, and ~~the~~ Council would ~~have~~ trouble with the remainder of the Collection.

Mr. Hayes said the Mr. D'Arcy had stated ~~that~~ he had knowledge of a demand note not being served for two years and a half. He thought Mr. D'Arcy should give the name of the collector concerned.

It was stated that the Collector referred to had left the employment of the Council.

Mr. McCarthy proposed and Mr. ~~C~~orish seconded the following resolution which was adopted without dissent:-

"That a special meeting of the Finance Committee be held to consider the ~~q~~uestion of the Rate Collection and make what recommendations they considered advisable so as to place the Rate collection on a business footing.

The following resolution was then adopted on the motion of Mr. McCarthy seconded by Colonel Quin;→

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 27th September, 1928, be and are hereby confirmed, except in so far as same have been amended by decisions taken by Council at this meeting.

Roads Committee.

The following minutes of meeting of Roads Committee of 24th September, 1928 were submitted:-

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The monthly meeting of the Roads Committee was held in the County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 24th September, 1928.

Mr. M. Doyle, (Chairman) presided.

There were also present:- Colonel Gibbon, Colonel Quin, Messrs. Shannon, (Vice-Chairman) Corish, O'Byrne, Hayes, Culleton, Colfer, Keegan, Hall, McCarthy, Roche and Meyler.

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

County Surveyor's Report.

The County Surveyor submitted the following report:-

As directed by the Council I have had the tolling work put into operation at Inch Creamery. The sides of the road at this place are very weak, and it will be difficult to make a thoroughly satisfactory job without extra material. In regard to the section of the road beyond Inch Village of which complaint was made in regard to the defective drainage I must point out that the sides of the road are in this place very soft. Some years ago along this section of road I put in extensive French Drains, and more recently when we were rolling the road I put in shorter lengths. Now the 'Bus and Lorry traffic is bulging up the sides, and there are only two methods of dealing with this:- By excavating all the soft clay and filling in sides right into the footpath or edge of the road it may be possible to form a haunching, but this will entail a very large expenditure on material, and as an alternative I suggest putting in a concrete kerb sunk some depth below road level, and I suggest that I be authorised to expend a sum say of £100 on this class of work. We will have a clear test then of the ¹efficiency of this method, and later it may be continued if found satisfactory, as I think it will.

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In regard to the proposed new sluices at Courtown Harbour I have made inquiries in regard to obtaining from Castleboro Oak necessary for the work, and I shall be able to obtain this on satisfactory terms if the work is to proceed. Regarding the dredging of the channel I have been in communication with Manufacturers who specialize in this class of machinery, but up to the present I have not any detailed information. One of the Firms I communicated with is an American one, and it may be some time before I get particulars of plant.

On the 21st instant I had an interview with Mr. James O'Connor, Solicitor, Wexford, in regard to the plans for the proposed Courthouse in Wexford, and gave him particulars as was requested at last County Council meeting. Mr. O'Connor was accompanied by an Architect from Dublin, Mr. Moore, and also by Mr. Morris Acting Borough Surveyor for Wexford.

As directed by the Council I have had the Judge's Room at the Old Courthouse prepared as Office for the Sheriff, and the County Registrar is satisfied with same.

On the 21st instant I inspected New Ross-Camblin-Duncannon Line, and discussed with Mr. O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor the work to be carried out in the event of the proposed Loan being obtained. I believe that with the £4,000 proposed I shall be able to make a satisfactory job between New Ross and the turn at Slaght where the Fathard Road branches off. The remainder of the road will, no doubt, later require special treatment, but with the ordinary maintenance proposal I shall be able to keep it.

As the County Council rejected the proposal for the Gorey-Wexford ^{Road} I believe it ~~will~~ will be necessary to allow for it a very much increased maintenance expenditure, and I shall bring forward special proposal at the November meeting.

On the 15th instant I met the Special Committee and inspected Electricity Supply Poles in Gorey. I have furnished

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the Secretary with copy of the Committee's recommendations and correspondence with the Electricity Supply Board.

I have made special inspection of the New Ross Wexford Road, and cannot agree with the statements made at a recent meeting ~~that~~ it was in such a bad condition. The two ends and the centre section between Poulpeasty and Raheenvarren are good, and the remainder of the road has been maintained with stones, chippings and tar as far as funds allowed.

As directed by the Council I have had hand-breaking put in operation in Gorey Hill Quarry, and have arranged with the Assistants generally to employ this work where such is possible.

The building of Mountgarrett Bridge is in progress, but delay has happened owing to some of the piles on the Wexford side having given trouble in the driving. All the Piles and Cylinders on the Kilkenny side are in position and timber casing for the beams and decking of this side are now in place, and also most of the reinforcement. The concreting of the work on this section will be started at once.

On the 21st instant I made examination of the under structure of New Ross Bridge and found that ⁱⁿ a number of places the water appears to be coming through. I believe that this is caused on the up stream side certainly by defective water mains, and I shall take immediate steps to have the cause removed. There is no serious defect at present. The recent bitumen coating of the macadam surface will to a large extent prevent percolation of water, but I consider somewhat more extensive work of this nature will be required. I shall bring forward a proposal for this in November. The cost of the work already done is in excess of the allocation made for the job, and I ask for further allocation of £30 out

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of the Public Works fund. I should note that in connection with this that there is a surplus of £15 in the allocation for the caretaking of this Bridge, so that it will mean only an extra £15. The repair of ~~the~~ Chilcomb Bridge in New Ross will amount to an extra sum of £8.18.0d, over and above what we ~~will~~ obtain from the Railway Company and I

ask for allocation out of the Contingencies Fund to meet same. The future maintenance of this Bridge will be within the sum to be obtained from the Railway, and I should point out that the adjoining roadway has been improved under Special Road Fund Grants, and this section should be taken up with the next Grant we obtain.

I submit reports from Mr. Ennis in regard to a number of roads in his Area for which he asks for special allocation from the Contingencies Fund. As the present time I cannot see my way to recommend this in full as it will deplete the Fund too much at this early date. I, however, place ^{the} matter before you as an indication of what may be expected with the continuance of the present traffic.

I submit report received from the Insurance Company in regard to the inspection of our Machinery under working conditions, and you will note that the report states- "The excellent condition of the plant has been fully maintained." This is a highly satisfactory state of affairs.

The Grant work in the County has been progressing well recently during the fine weather, but is, of course, to some extent in arrears owing to the previous wet season.

The proposal for Diving Plant recently purchased did not cover an item which we now must meet and that is the Customs Duty. This has been met by the Manufacturers, but we must now refund it. The amount is £12.16.9d, and it should be obtained out of the Public Works Fund.

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

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

Road at Inch Creamery.

Colonel Quin complained that no provision had been made for the drainage of this road and no arrangement for proper upkeep of water tables.

Mr. O'Byrne mentioned that the water tables had been destroyed because the sides of the road had been driven into them owing to heavy lorry traffic.

After considerable discussion the following resolution was proposed by Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. McCarthy and adopted by a majority vote.

"That we recommend the sum of £100 be placed at the disposal of the County Surveyor from the Contingencies Fund to cover the cost of erection of concrete kerb for about 100 yards at each side of road at Inch Creamery."

The Chairman declared the resolution passed.

New Ross Bridge.

Proposed by Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne and passed without dissent.

"That the sum of £30 be withdrawn from Public Works

Dund to cover excess in allocation made for cost of Bitumen coating of the Macadam surface of New Ross Bridge.

Chilcomb Bridge.

Proposed by Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. McCarthy and passed.

"That the sum of £8.18.0 be withdrawn from Contingencies Fund to make good extra cost of repairs to Chilcomb Bridge in accordance with report of County Surveyor.

Allocations from Contingencies Fund-District of Mr. Ennis.

The County Surveyor submitted correspondence from Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, stating he would require extra money as follows:-

Section E, (Enniscorthy-Moyeady) £150.

" B.8 (Moyeady-County Bounds) £100.

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Section C.2. (Ferns Streets) £60.

" H. 19. (Wexford-Gorey) £80.

" C.34. (Ferns-Bunclody) £80.

" A. 13. (Bunclody-Carnew) £90.

Total £560.

The County Surveyor stated that as pointed out in his report he considered it inadvisable at the present stage to deplete the Contingencies Fund to the extent of the proposal made by Mr. Ennis. He suggested that £250 be withdrawn from the Fund and he would adjust the amount to cover the roads mentioned in Mr. Ennis' report so that the best value would be obtained.

Mr. Keegan proposed and Mr. Colfer seconded the following resolution, *which was adopted*: -

"That the County Council be recommended to ~~renew~~ allocate £250 to cover portion of proposed cost of repairs to roads in district of Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, in accordance with reports from Mr. Ennis under date 20th and 21st September, 1928.
Courthown Harbour.

It was decided to recommend the Council to pay £12.16.9 Customs Duty on Diving Plant recently purchased.

Col. Gibbon proposed and Col. Quin seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That we protest against the imposition of Customs Duty on Diving Suit purchased for the use of Wexford Harbours and we consider it to be a straining of the existing law to describe Diving Suit as clothing. In our opinion it never was the intention of the Legislature to impose Customs Duty on articles of this description."

"That Mr. Jordan and Mr. Corish, T.Ds. (members of the Council) be requested to bring this matter to the attention of the Minister for Industry and Commerce."

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

"That the report of the County Surveyor be and is hereby adopted."

Machinery Plant.

In connection with reference in County Surveyor's report to this matter, the following under date 18th September, 1928 was submitted from the New Ireland Insurance Company Ltd., Dublin:-

We have pleasure in enclosing herewith reports of Examination under working conditions of the Road and Quarry Plant insured under the above Policies.

The excellent condition of the Plant reported on in ours of the 25th May last following Thorough Examination has been fully maintained, and the attendants were found to be very careful and attentive to their Engines, and kept them in a very clean condition considering the nature of their work.

Handbreaking-Gorey Hill Quarry.

Under date 18th September, 1928 the following report was read from Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, Gorey District:-

I started four men at above work to-day and was later approached by a deputation representing thirty others requiring to be employed. There are many reasons why a large number of men should not be taken on. To begin with there is already enough material broken in quarry to meet requirements for this year. Again the material broken by hand, however, carefully done is not suitable for maintenance work. In the old days when there was only slow moving traffic it was all right, but now any stone over 1½" gauge does not bond well.

Hand broken stone would serve for rolling, but I have no such work available, and very little prospect of same unless a Grant be got for Courtown Harbour Road, when I could use a considerable amount of such material.

In view of above I have decided not to take on any more than six men until after next Roads Committee meeting when this matter can be discussed.

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Mr. Treanor in dealing with the report stated that the men were able to break about one cubic yard per day for which they were paid 2s.10d. the average cost of machine breaking in the district.

Mr. Keegan said that handbreaking material should be extended to all the quarries of County Council provided the cost did not exceed the cost of machine broken stones.

A long discussion took place in the matter, but no further action was taken Mr. Keegan mentioning that a deputation from the Gorey unemployed would attend at the meeting of the County Council on the 8th October, 1928.

Electricity Supply-Shannon Scheme.

Under date 18th September, 1928 the County Surveyor presented report of Electric Light Sub-Committee for Gorey District setting out the details of the position of 15 poles which required to be moved as they were a source of obstruction in the view of the Committee.

The Committee concluded their report with the following statement: In connection with the setting of these poles the Committee observed that they had been set actually in the flagged footway whereas if they had been put in line with the kerb they would form less obstruction and in any case where this latter could be done the Committee were of opinion that the position of the poles should be altered.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Thomas A. MacLaughlin of the Electricity Supply Board under date 20th September, 1928, stating that he had arranged that the Boards' Engineer would inspect the complaints re poles in Gorey.

The Council should realise that in designing the net work for Gorey every precaution was taken to prevent any obstruction to traffic, or interfere with the amenities of the town.

The County Surveyor said he had arranged to meet the Engineer of the Electricity Supply Board on Wednesday 26th inst. in Gorey.

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

"That the County Surveyor in his interview with the Engineer from the Electricity Supply Board be accompanied by the Gorey Sub-Committee appointed to deal with the question of Electric Light poles in that town.

"That Messrs. Jordan and Corish be also requested to attend."

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

"That the Electricity Supply Board be asked to furnish plans of sites of all poles which they propose erecting on roads or streets under the control of the County Council."

We believe that consideration of these plans previous to actual erection of Poles will lead to smooth working and obviate in the future all complaints/in this connection.

Wexford- Enniscorthy Road.

Colonel Gibbon mentioned that when the County Council took over this road it was arranged it should be regularly inspected by the Surveyors quarterly and reports made as to how it was standing up to the traffic. He inquired if the road had been examined in connection with such reports.

The County Surveyor stated the road was regularly inspected for cracks by the Assistant Surveyors in whose Districts it ran and they found nothing wrong.

In connection with the cost of sidefilling the following figures were submitted by the County Surveyor:-

Wages and Insurance	...	£1327. 19. 0
Haulage	...	1385. 11. 9
Materials	...	1379. 12. 8.
Roller	...	49.14. 0
Sundry Costs	...	8. 15. 0
Clerk of Works, cement testing etc.		<u>365 . 16.10</u>

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Portion of this had been paid by the Department of Local Government having been taken from an amount allocated for work in Enniscorthy Urban District.

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

"That the Department of Local Government be requested to carry out their promise by forwarding amount outstanding in respect of cost of sidefilling Wexford-Enniscorthy road viz., £2640. This amount has been advanced from Rates on the strength of the promise made by the Department that it would be recouped.

Road Matters Generally.

Colonel Gibbon mentioned that during the last week he had travelled in eleven Counties and he did not think that as regards their main roads the Wexford County Council had anything to be ashamed of. Having travelled over 700 miles he was satisfied their main roads were as good as those in any other County in Ireland. Colonel Gibbon further mentioned that a good many ^{Engines and steam lorries} ~~threshing~~ were filling their engines with water at fixed places on the road where they dropped an enormous amount of oil. This tended to make the road very slippery for horse traffic and certainly oil deteriorated concrete. He considered the County Surveyor should put up warning notices at the places where this practice was in existence.

Referred to Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, to advise the Council as to their powers.

Petrol Pump Licence.

Under date 18th September, 1928 application was received from Mr. James T. Moran, for a licence for second petrol pump at Central Garage, South Street, New Ross.

Report was received from Mr. O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, stating that as carriage way at this place was 40 feet wide and footpath 10 feet wide he did not think the second pump

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would cause any inconvenience.

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

"That Petrol Pump Licence issue to Mr. James T. Moran, Central Garage, South Street, New Ross provided tank for said pump is on Mr. Moran's own premises."

New Ross Bridge, Etc.

Under date 16th September, 1928, the following was read from Mr. M.J. Finn, Town Clerk, New Ross:-

At a meeting of my Council on the 19th June last the Town Surveyor reported that the County Surveyor discussed with him the advisability of my Council taking over the maintenance of the New Ross (River) Bridge and also the overbridge and approaches at Chilcomb.

A discussion took place on the ^{matter} which resulted in the following resolutions being passed by my Council, viz:-

"That the Council agree to surface-spray, grit, and maintain the surface of the New Ross Bridge for the sum of £70. (seventy Pounds).

"That the Urban Council agree to patch for the ensuing year the section of road from Barrow Boat Club to Mr. Hearn's Gate, with tarred chippings, as required, for the sum of £79. (seventy-nine pounds).

Kindly say if the Council has accepted the proposal of the Urban Council.

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

"That County Council be recommended to agree to proposal of New Ross Urban Council, as set out in letter from Town Clerk, New Ross, under date 6th September, 1928 relative to maintenance of New Ross Bridge and patching of section of road from Barrow Boat Club to Mr. Hearn's gate at the following amounts respectively:-

£70, and £79.

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

"That the Minutes of meeting of Roads Committee of 24th September, 1928, be received and considered."

Handbreaking Material-Gorey Hill Quarry.

Mr. Keegan held that, in regard to work carried out at Gorey Hill Quarry, unemployment had not been relieved. The idea behind his motion was to relieve unemployment.

The County Surveyor pointed out, that when extra work was to be done, they always gave preference to men previously in the employment of the County Council though temporarily out of it.

Mr. Keegan stated that the men referred to by the County Surveyor had their insurance cards stamped and could afford to remain out of employment for a while. The men who had no cards stamped might starve.

Mr. D'Arcy pointed out that, while men at Gorey Hill Quarry were paid 2s. 10d. per cubic yard for breaking, the rate in Annagh Quarry was 4/-. He wished to know why material should cost 7/- a yard while wages and coal had gone down in price. He believed this matter should be gone into thoroughly, as in his opinion, it was one of the greatest leakages in the County Council service. As far as employment was concerned, a certain section and certain men would be only taken on.

After considerable discussion, Colonel Gibbon mentioned that in his opinion, the entire County Council would be too ~~unwieldy~~ ^{unwieldy} to go into the matter. He suggested that Mr. D'Arcy should nominate two members to act as a small Sub-Committee with himself, and Mr. Shannon, Vice-Chairman of the County Council, two others.

Colonel Gibbon then put his suggestion in the form of a proposal which was seconded by Mr. D'Arcy, and agreed to, the following being appointed:-

The Chairman, Colonel Gibbon, Messrs. Keegan, D'Arcy,

McCarthy and Hayes, to meet in the County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 13th October, 1928, the terms of reference being:-

(1) To report as to cost of ~~pro~~duction of road material in the various quarries, by handbreaking and by machine; (2) Employment of single and married men on road work and in quarries; report of Committee to be submitted to next meeting of the Roads Committee.

Electric Supply, Shannon Scheme.

Colonel Gibbon mentioned that representations should be made to the Electricity Supply Board as to the position of their poles. He suggested that it might be possible to make some arrangement in regard to having the posts put in positions which would not be unsightly. They might be masked by trees and in the case of beauty spots such as Wells, etc., they might be concealed from view. In England, a great deal had been done to avoid interference with their beauty spots, but so far as he could see, as regards the Shannon Scheme, posts were being stuck up indiscriminately everywhere.

Colonel Gibbon's suggestion was agreed to.

Petrol Pump Licence.

In connection with issue of petrol pump licence to Mr. James T. Morah, Central Garage, South Street, New Ross, Colonel Quin challenged the figures in the report of the Assistant Surveyor, who had stated that the carriage way at the site where the pump was to be erected was 40 feet wide and the footpath, 10 feet wide. From an inspection of the place, he (Colonel Quin) held that the carriage way was only about 30 feet wide and footpath, 6 feet. He looked upon it as a very serious matter that one of their own Surveyors should give a false report. He proposed the following resolution:-

"That the County Surveyor be requested to measure the carriage way and footpath at the site of petrol pump of Mr. James T. Moran, Central Garage, South Street, New Ross, and report to next meeting of the Roads

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Mr. McCarthy seconded the resolution which was adopted.
Wexford-Enniscorthy Concrete Road.

Colonel Gibbon referred to the damage which was being done at certain points by oil from traction engines and steam lorries. So far as he knew the Council had no power, to prohibit engines from dropping oil on the roads. He proposed:-

"That the Council request Mr. Quigley, ^{Chief Engineer} /Local Government Department, to inform the Council if they have any powers in this matter and if anything can be done to prevent the practice of engines and steam lorries dropping oil on roads and which was having a ~~deleterious~~ ^{deliberate} effect particularly on the new concrete road."

The Chairman seconded. Passed.

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

"That the minutes of meeting of Roads Committee of 24th September, 1928, be and are hereby confirmed."

Scholarship Sub-Committee.

The following report of Scholarships Sub-Committee was approved on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Brennan:-

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A meeting of the Scholarships Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 29th September, 1928.

Present:- Rev. W.F. Murphy, President, St. Peter's College, Wexford, Rev. T. Talbot, Messrs. James Hall, Sean O'Byrne, and J.J. Kelly.

The Secretary of the County Council was also in attendance.

On the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Kelly, the chair was taken by Father Murphy.

Primary Scholarships Scheme.

Considerable discussion took place as regards the non-success of this scheme. A very small number of pupils were presented each year for examination and there were not sufficient successful candidates to fill the Scholarships.

It was decided that Mr. Kelly be requested to ask the meeting of the County Wexford Branch of the National Teachers' Organisation at their meeting on 6th October, to consider the present situation and that the meeting consider the advisability of appointing representatives to meet the Scholarships Committee with a view to effecting such amendments in the scheme as will commend it to the Teachers and secure at least reasonable competition for the award of the Scholarships.

University Scheme.

The provisions of University Scholarship^{Scheme} for 1928-29 were considered and agreed to.

The Secretary was instructed to write to the Secretary of the General Council of County Councils and ask him if the Committee appointed to consider the question of post graduate Scholarships had yet made any recommendations or furnished any report.

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Drainage Sub-Committee.

The following minutes of meeting of Drainage Sub-Committee of 25th September, 1928, were submitted:-

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The first meeting of the recently appointed Drainage Sub-Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 25th September, 1928.

Present:- Messrs. J. Gulleton, M. Smyth, Sean O'Byrne, and Colonel Gibbon.

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

On the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Gulleton, the chair was taken by Colonel Gibbon.

Sow Drainage Scheme.

The following trustees of the Sow Drainage Scheme came before the meeting:-

Patrick Murphy, (Chairman), Walter and John Merhagh, Clonmore.

This deputation with the members of the Committee considered the original award made in connection with the scheme also the correspondence between the County Council and the Office of Public Works.

Mr. Murphy contended that, in the recent restoration work carried out by the office of Public Works, the river had not been sunk to its original depth. The main drain was not as deep as formerly and certain side drains had not been cleaned. The restoration work did not dry the land as it should have done if the original levels of the main drain had been maintained. He contended that the side drains cleaned by the tenants had been sunk as deep as the main drain was able to take the water from them.

The Trustees had been promised by the Engineer who came down from the Board of Works that the whole system would be put back in its original condition.

In addition to not carrying out this promise the work had been inefficiently done and value was not got for the expenditure of the £3,200 spent.

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The Trustees were always prepared to pay if the job had been properly carried out.

The Chairman pointed out that the Board of Works contended that they had carried out the work they had agreed upon with the Trustees and they also held that if any Board of Trustees failed to maintain the Drainage Area for which it was responsible and which was created with Public money the Board of Works had a right to take up that drainage area and repair the neglect of the Trustees, spending what they considered necessary without consulting anybody, and, further, after having carried out any work they believed necessary they could hand it over to the County Council for future maintenance and collection of rate for that purpose.

Mr. Peter Cullen, Killesk, representing himself and fourteen other tenants, came before the meeting and said he considered it was very unfair that he and those he represented should have to clean the drains on their own land, without any assistance and still have to contribute to the rate for the maintenance of Sow Drainage System.

The Chairman said that Mr. Cullen would be in a position to claim from the Land Commission on purchase of his holding rebate for his liability in this respect.

The drains on the townland of Killesk according to the original award appeared to have been made directly by the Landlord who was responsible directly to the Government for the repayment of the Loan.

After a very long discussion it was decided that the County Surveyor should examine the main channel and of the Sow system at various points and compare the depths with the datum levels given by the Board of Works and that a further meeting of the Committee be held when the County Surveyor be in a position to make his report, the Trustees of the System to be notified of the date.

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A resolution was adopted recommending the County Council to again point out to the Office of Public Works that they must decline to take over any Drainage system or make themselves responsible for its maintenance in any way unless the local people were satisfied with its condition when it was about to be handed over to the Council.

Proposed Drainage Scheme in Boira.

Under date 29th August, 1928 letter was read from Mr. Thomas Middleton, Ballyatt, Killena, enclosing petition for the establishment of new drainage system in Boira.

It was decided to inform Mr. Middleton that it is necessary for him to supply one inch ordinance map giving a description of the works which were proposed and on which the existing mains should be shown in blue, the proposed improvements marked in red, and holdings of signatories to the petition shown in colours of various washes as convenient.

The land to be improved should be marked out in dotted lines on the map.

That Mr. Middleton be informed that the Committee will not be in a position to consider the petition until this map has been furnished.

Ford of Lyng.

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

"That the Office of Public Works be requested to inform Wexford County Council as to what action they intend taking to enforce the law compelling the proprietors of the South Slob who infringe, by flooding, the rights of owners adjoining the South Slob lands, Wexford District.

Application for Drainage Scheme.

Under date 2nd August, 1928, Mr. Philip Kelly, Ashfield, Palace, New Ross, wrote that he required 27 acres of bog or damp land drained; ^{and} also asked information as to repayment of Loan for drainage.

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It was decided to refer Mr. Kelly to the Arterial Drainage (Minor Schemes) Act, 1928 and also to point out to him that at least three persons must apply to the Council for the establishment of a drainage scheme under this Statute.

Arterial Drainage (Minor Schemes) Act, 1928.

Circular letter from the Department of Local Government under date 3rd August, 1928 S.55036/1928 Ilgh.(B?C.T.) relative to the above was read.

The various sections of the Act were also considered

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

"That the Department of Public Works be requested to state if the County Council have power to compel owners of property to fence waterways under drainage schemes to prevent damage. This Committee recognises that there must be certain points of access for watering of cattle but in the event of fences being injured at other points of the system have the County Council power to hold owners responsible for repair of damage.

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Colonel Gibbon referred to the Arterial Drainage (Minor Schemes) Act, 1928, pointing out that the County Council should press for some regulation as to the maintenance of fencing under these minor drainage schemes. He apprehended there would be a great many applications, ~~xxxxxx~~ as it was only necessary for three persons to make application to have a drainage scheme established. If no regulations were provided which would prevent cattle breaking down the fences, the money expended would be thrown away. He was also of opinion that the maps to be provided under the Act should give more particulars than appeared to be necessary, under the ~~the~~ statute. There was no direction, as far as he could see, as to the number of years during which repayment of the expenditure would be made. There was also the question as to the employment of the County or Assistant Surveyors to examine these schemes and he did not think they would be justified in taking into consideration at present any expense anticipatory to schemes coming into being. He was also of opinion that, without the use of modern machinery, it would not be possible to carry out the work of the schemes at a cost which would be within the scope of those concerned to meet.

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

"That the report of Drainage Sub-Committee as presented to this meeting, be and is hereby approved."

County Courthouse Sub-Committee.

The following minutes of meetings of County Courthouse Sub-Committee of 25th September, 1928 and 5th October, 1928, were submitted:-

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The Sub-Committee appointed by Wexford County Council to ~~sonsider~~ consider the question of proposed site of Wexford Courthouse met in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 25th September, 1928.

Present:- Messrs. Culleton, Cummins, Corish, Gibbon, Sean O'Byrne and T. McCarthy.

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

Mr. Culleton moved and Mr. O'Byrne seconded Colonel Gibbon to the Chair.

Mr. James J. O'Connor, Solicitor, Wexford, came before the meeting and asked if they would make arrangements to hear Mr. Moore (Donnelly, Moore and Keating) Dublin as to the probable cost of erection of Courthouse on both sites, viz., Quay, Wexford, and the Old Jail. He also asked the Committee to adjourn to give him a opportunity of bringing Mr. Moore and ~~probably~~ Mr. Delap before them.

The Chairman said the Sub-Committee did not contemplate coming to any decision that day.

After further discussion it was decided that the Sub-Committee meet on Monday 1st October, 1928 at 10.30 in County Council Chamber, Wexford and that Mr. Moore be heard on that day.

Mr. Corish proposed and Mr. McCarthy seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

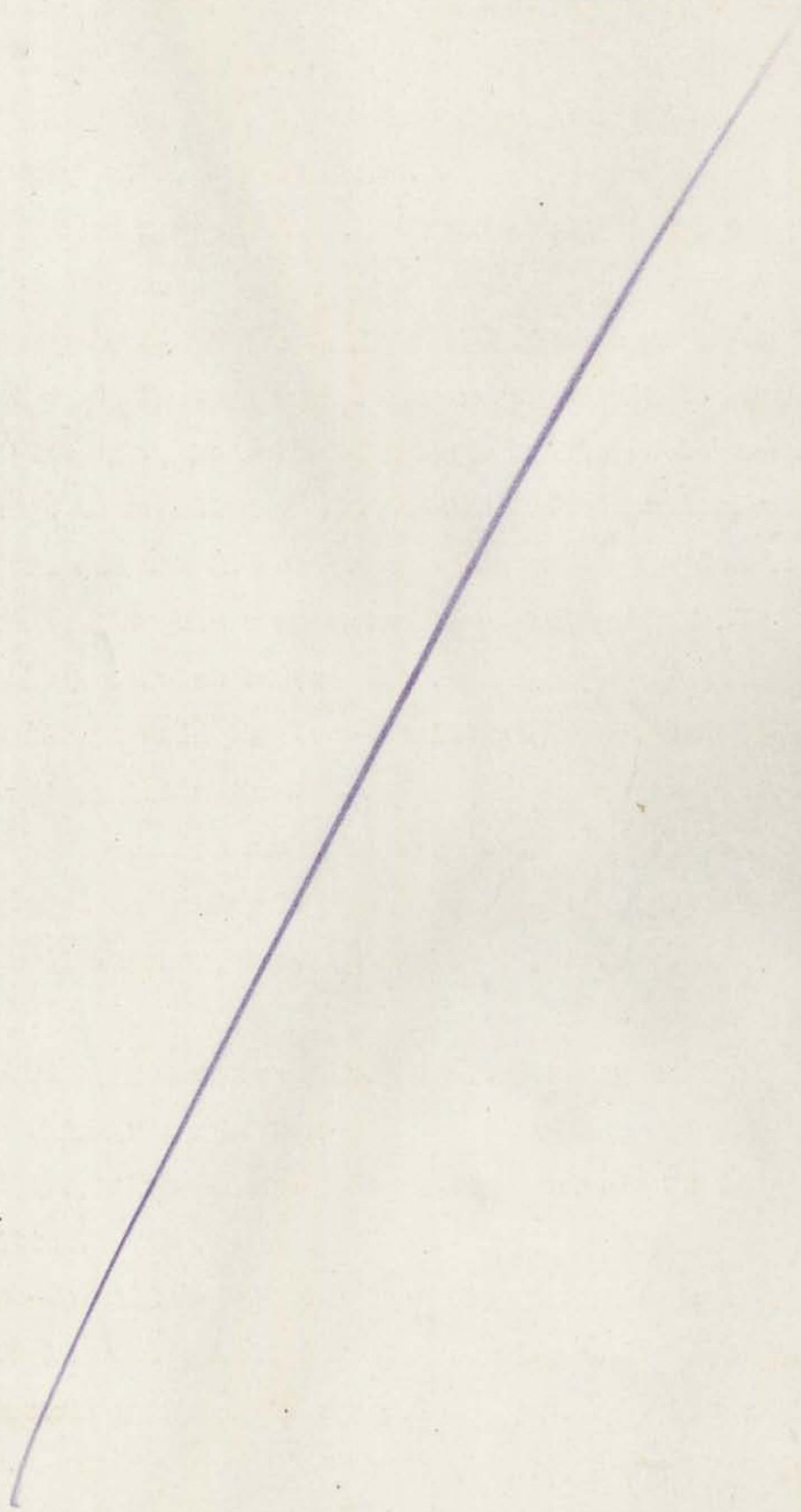
"That Mr. Delap be asked to attend Monday's meeting of this Committee."

The Sub-Committee then examined the plans for both sites and also dealt with a letter from Mr. Delap under date 7th October, 1925, ~~xxxxxxx~~ in which it was pointed out that it would be impossible to alter the Old Jail to give anything like the accommodation required, except at exorbitant cost.

Subsequently the Committee inspected both sites with the County Surveyor and County Secretary and went fully into all

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details as to amount of accommodation to be provided, etc.



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Wexford Courthouse.

The adjourned ~~meeting~~ of the Sub-Committee appointed by the Wexford County Council to consider the question of the proposed site of Wexford Courthouse was held in the County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 5th October, 1928.

Present:- Colonel Gibbon, Messrs. R. Corish, J.J. Culleton, John Cummins, T. McCarthy, Patrick Hayes, and Sean O'Byrne.

The Secretary, the County Surveyor, Mr. J. Elgee, Solicitor, Mr. A.D. Delap, Engineer, and Mr. Moore (Donnelly, ~~Moore~~ and Keating) Architect, with Mr. James J. O'Connor, Solicitor, were in attendance.

On the motion of Mr. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Sean O'Byrne, the chair was taken by Colonel Gibbon.

The Chairman explained what happened as regards the deliberations of previous Sub-Committees which had gone into the matter, and pointed out that the present Sub-Committee were approaching the question entirely ~~independant~~ of any decisions or recommendations of the previous Sub-Committees.

Mr. James J. O'Connor, acting for a number of Wexford rate-payers, held that the ~~site~~ on the Quay was, from the point of ~~general~~ ^{general} convenience, much more suitable for a Courthouse than the Jail Site. This was particularly the case ~~was~~ regards Solicitors who had business very constantly with the County Registrar etc. Mr. Moore was prepared to say that the Courthouse could be built upon the old site for £6,000. £5,000 had been awarded by the Shaw Commission and the ~~interest~~ ^{interest} to date would make the total amount £5,875, so that very little would be needed from the ratepayers to meet the total cost.

Mr. Moore stated that, in his opinion, a perfectly suitable building could be erected on the old site for a Courthouse for £6,000. The Jail was not so suitable. In the first place, the buildings would be extremely difficult to convert, and in

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addition a large portion of the plans would be left untouched. He based the figures he had given on Mr. Delap's plans, with some minor alterations. He did not consider the County Surveyor's plans impracticable and he believed £3,600 was a reasonable figure if they could be carried out.

The Chairman pointed out that, although Mr. Moore stated he had gone in Mr. Delap's plans, he admitted there had been no regard to sections or elevations, or the question of interior accommodation, whereas Mr. Delap's estimate of £10,000 covered all fixtures. The latter also allowed a fairly high figure for contingencies whereas Mr. Moore had provided only £200.

Mr. Delap explained that, when he was authorised to associate an architect with him, he tried to secure the best service in this regard and selected Mr. Richard Orpen, a leading architect in Dublin and a personal friend of his own. They had spent a considerable time on the sites of both places and went very closely into the amount of accommodation and got out a careful and elaborate schedule of what accommodation would be provided at the Courthouse. Their estimate for this was £13,000 which was considered too high and the accommodation was cut down to allow of an estimate of £10,000. But he would like to point out to the Committee that an accurate estimate could not be obtained without taking out quantities by a quantity Surveyor. Mr. Orpen's idea was that the fine old building of the Courthouse should be restored to its pristine attractiveness commensurate with the plainest possible work. It never came into their heads that the building was to be a monument to the Architect. He was at one with Mr. Moore and Mr. O'Connor in favour of the Courthouse. If quantities were taken out for the building there would be the usual fees of 1½ per cent or 2 per cent to the Quantity Surveyor and 3 per cent to Architect.

Mr. Corish pointed out that, since Mr. Delap's estimate had been prepared, the cost of materials, particularly cement, had

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gone down considerably.

Mr. Delap mentioned that to balance this the building at the Quay had deteriorated considerably within the last two years. He had given a very carefully considered opinion in favour of the Courthouse site and it was hardly human to expect him to be a just critic of the County Surveyor's plans which dealt with a site which he and Mr. Orpen had definitely turned down. The County Surveyor however was an architect as well as an engineer; and if the County Surveyor were satisfied with his plans he (Mr. Delap) considered the Council should give every consideration to them. One of the matters which ran up his estimate very considerably was the almost prohibitive cost of cutting the walls for windows to give proper light such as was necessary for modern offices.

The County Surveyor stated he did not propose to interfere with the walls but the windows would be furnished with sashed.

Mr. Delap in reply to the Chairman, stated that another matter which weighed in their minds with the Jail was interference with the roof. If he were to criticise the County Surveyor's scheme, it would take him a week to deal with it, adequately. On the face of it, if he were asked for an engineering opinion only the probability would be that his report would state that what the County Surveyor proposed was perfectly sound engineering, but very bad business as regards accommodation, etc. The windows should be one tenth of the floor space, and there was just barely this minimum amount on the Jail site.

The Chairman stated he considered they should not pay very much attention to the statement of Mr. Moore, in view of the fact that it was based purely and solely on a plan which did not give any sections or elevations. As regards the Jail site, Mr. Delap had admitted that the position was considerably changed if the County Council were prepared to accept the existing windows as providing sufficient light. Mr. Delap, however, considered this inadequate. They would also notice that Mr. Delap was not prepared to give a considered opinion from an engineering point of view on

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the plans of the County Surveyor unless he had an opportunity of considering them in detail and for some time. He believed the Committee should make a representation to the County Council to have the plans submitted to Mr. Delap.

Mr. Culleton proposed and Mr. O'Byrne, seconded :-

"We recommend the County Council to accept the County Surveyor's plans for proposed Courthouse on the Jail site without submission of same to Mr. Delap."

As an amendment Mr. Corish proposed:-

"That as Mr. Delap and Mr. Orpen have given a very decided opinion that the Jail site is impracticable, the plans of the County Surveyor in this regard be submitted to them for examination and report; also, that the plans of the County Surveyor and of Messrs. Delap and Orpen be submitted to a quantity Surveyor."

Mr. Corish's proposition was not seconded.

Mr. Delap stated that at present none of the plans were in a position to be submitted to a quantity surveyor. In order to prepare them for this purpose, they should recollect they would have to provide for an Architect's, and Quantity Surveyor's fees.

In reply to the Chairman Mr. Delap stated that if his opinion only was required on the County Surveyor's plans and certain technical questions, the fee would probably be about £15.15.0d. At present Mr. Orpen and himself had been working on a certain amount of remuneration for each day., but as soon as orders were given to go into the definite details of these plans for submission to a Quantity Surveyor, the fees would have to be calculated on.

Chairman-What approximately would it cost to get out plans and quantities survey for the Courthouse, if after all we do not go on with the work?

Mr. Delap - About £550.

Mr. Corish then proposed and the Chairman seconded:-

"That the County Surveyor's plans be submitted for engineering opinion on certain definite points."

The Chairman, after further discussion took a show of hands with the result that there voted for Mr. Corish's amendment:-

Mr. Corish and the Chairman2.

Against:- Messrs. O'Byrne, Culleton, Cummins, Hayes, and McCarthy.....5.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost, and Mr. Culleton's motion was then put and passed without dissent.

The County Surveyor pointed out that in order to prepare plans for submission to a quantity Surveyor he would have to employ an Architectural Draughtsman, the cost of which would be about \$50.

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

"That the County Surveyor be empowered to employ an Architectural Draughtsman to prepare detailed plans of Courthouse at Jail site in order to procure quantity survey."

Mr. McCarthy proposed and Mr. O'Byrne seconded the following resolution which was adopted, Mr. Corish dissenting

"That we recommend the County Council to empower Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, to complete the purchase of all the interests concerned in the old Courthouse, ground rents, so that the site may be held in fee simple."

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Colonel Gibbon, having dealt with the minutes of Courthouse Committee, Mr. James J. O'Connor, Solicitor, said he appeared before the Committee on behalf of a large number of ratepayers who were anxious for the rebuilding of the Courthouse on the old site. The Jail was outside the precincts of the town, while the site on the old Courthouse was close to the Main Street, the Railway Station, the chief Hotel, and the business establishments. On the question of cost he understood Mr. Delap was asked to submit an estimate for rebuilding on the old site. His estimate amounted to £13,000, which was considered excessive by the Local Government Minister. The plans were submitted to Mr. Delap, who amended his estimate to £10,000. Subsequently the County Surveyor submitted an estimate for £3,600 for the reconstruction of Council offices, Court accommodation in the Jail. He (Mr. O'Connor) was informed—he did not know rightly or wrongly—that in order to be allowed to spend the amount of the award on the jail the Council would have to satisfy the Redmond and other interests in the old Courthouse site which, he understood, would cost £4,000. On the instruction of ratepayers he asked Messrs. Donnelly Moore, and Keating, Architects to come to Wexford and inspect both sites. Mr. Moore had given him estimate showing that the Courthouse could be built on the old site for £6,000. Adverse criticisms had been made by Colonel Gibbon. As the plans which Mr. Moore had were not detailed, his estimate was only a rough one, but if the Council wished he (Mr. O'Connor) thought he could produce a contractor who would be prepared to undertake the work of reconstructing the courthouse on the old site for £6,000. The ratepayers were most anxious about the matter, and as there had been so much controversy about it he asked the Council not to accept the recommendation of the Committee, but if necessary to ask the Ministry to hold a public inquiry into

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the whole matter and let proper plans be prepared. He was instructed that interest, approximating £875, would be paid with the award, which would bring the amount for the rebuilding on the old site to practically £6,000.

Mr. J. Cummins-We haven't got the interest.

Chairman-Unless they deviate from what has been their practice in the case of ~~awards~~ for destruction I don't think you will get any interest.

Colonel Gibbon asked Mr. O'Connor were the Council to under stand from his word "rebuild" that the courthouse would be rebuilt, refitted and equipped?

Mr. O'Connor-Yes.

Colonel Gibbon-With fitting ~~and~~ furniture etc.?

Mr. O'Connor-No Furniture

Chairman-One would think talking about Wexford that Wexford town was going to build the Courthouse. Remember that the County-at-large and not the people of Wexford ^{alone} have ~~some~~ a say in this matter.

Mr. O'Connor replied that Wexford paid one-sixth of the rates,

Chairman-I ~~may~~ say they are not or anything approaching that.

The Secretary stated that the valuation of Wexford Urban District was about one-twentieth of the valuation of the County.

Mr. McCarthy, moving the adoption of the Committee's recommendations, said that ~~the~~ for almost three years the question had been before the Council, and if they were to build the Courthouse, it was time to bring the question to finality. At first the Council decided to rebuild on the old site, but subsequently the majority changed their minds, and since then had expressed on several occasions the opinion that the old jail provided the best accommodation. In utilizing the jail the Council and court offices would not be possessed of

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outstanding architectural features, but they would get commodious comfortable and suitable accommodation. In addition to providing a Courthouse and County Council Offices they hoped to be able to provide accommodation for the County Library Service, for which they were at present paying a rent of £65 per annum for other premises. Furthermore, there would be room for expansion, which the old site could not offer. Coming to the financial side, the final estimate of rebuilding the old site was £10,000. At the present time they had two white elephants on hands, the Courthouse site for which they paid £180 per year, and the Jail for which they paid £207 per year. Under the scheme which the Council was asked to adopt it was intended to buy out all the interest in the old courthouse, and acquire the fee simple, which would probably cost about £3,600 or something more. At any rate they would have acquired it in fee simple, and possibly would be able to dispose of it. It should be worth something considering that when the courthouse was built in 1812 it was valued at £1 a foot. They had £3,000 to spend on the renovation of the jail. It might cost that amount. Mr. Barry's estimate was less, but they would have £5,000 available. If they paid £3,600 for the purchase of the site on the Quay, and sold the present Council Offices for which they should get nearly the £2,000 paid for them they would have the latter sum to pay for the purchase of the premises on the Quay; so that they would not have any more than £2,000 to raise by loan, and would have extinguished £180 rent at the old Jail site.

Colonel Quin seconded the motion.

Mr. Corish said he was totally opposed to the Jail and had a considerable volume of opinion behind him. He held it was not possible with any degree of accuracy to estimate the amount it would cost to reconstruct the Jail into a courthouse. It had been the invariable practice of the Minister for Finance

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to deduct 20 per cent of the amount ^{of} awards. He hoped that would not happen in the case of the Courthouse award as he did not want to see the County done out of any money, but in view of the fact of what had been happening in any cases he had to deal with he believed it would happen in this case. If that took place the amount which would be available would be £4,400. Taking Mr. Barry's estimate (£3,600) and the sum of £3,600 to buy out the Redmond ~~estate~~ and other interests in the courthouse site would make a total of £7,200. A Sum of £4,400 would be available which meant that the Council would have to make up a deficiency of £2,800 for the Jail site. If they adopted the Quay site Mr. Delap's estimate was £10,000. They would receive £5,500 from the Government which would include interest which would leave a deficiency of £4,500, taking that deficiency of £4,500 with the deficiency of £2,800 on the Jail site it meant only £1,700 ^{extra} to reconstruct the Courthouse on the proper site and provide a properly equipped building. By the ~~erection~~ section of the Courthouse on the old site they would be saving money, because if it were erected in the Jail it would mean continued expenditure in consequence of the deterioration which everyone would agree had set in in the Jail premises. He wondered if Mr. Barry had taken that into consideration. If the Court house were erected in the Jail the whole jail itself would have to be kept in repair and it would cost more for maintenance than it would for a new building on the Quay. He agreed with the Chairman that the matter was a County one, but the ratepayers of Wexford had a right to make their voice heard. The objection of a great many of the Wexford ratepayers was that they did not want to see the old Courthouse an eyesore. No matter what was done with the Jail it would still be looked upon as the Jail and it certainly would not be a very edifying building or one that Wexford was entitled to have a proper Courthouse.

The Chairman asked if any amendment was contemplated.

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Proceeding he said that in the later^t part of Mr. Corish's statement a great deal of sentiment was introduced. "I need not tell you" continued the Chairman "that the rate-payers are not out for sentiment. It's value they want and not sentiment. We want to get the rates down from their present abnormal figure seeing the conditions prevailing in the Country and you will not lower them by spending money to carry out sentiment".

Replying to Mr. Hall, the County Surveyor stated that the Jail when ~~light~~ reconstructed would be lighted by electricity.

Mr. D'Arcy-Is there any danger of the Minister not giving the award if we proceed with the Jail scheme?

Chairman-No. He has already said he would give it.

The Secretary there was a letter from the Minister stating that if the Council satisfied the Redmond and Hungerford interests in the old site of the Courthouse, he would be prepared to fall in with the wishes of the Council.

Chairman-And we are satisfying them.

On a poll being taken on Mr. McCarthy's proposition that the recommendations of the Committee be adopted, the voting resulted as follows:-

For:- Messrs. Brennan, Colfer, Culleton, Cummins, D'Arcy, Doran, Hayes, Jordan, Mayler, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, Roche, Shannon, Hall, Smyth, Walsh, Miss O'Ryan, Colonel Gibbon, Colonel Quin, and the chairman.....21.

Against:-Messrs. Corish, Cooney and Gaul.....3.

Messrs. Cline and Keegan did not vote.

The Chairman declared the motion accepting the Committee's recommendations carried.

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Rosslare Sewerage and Water Schemes.

Colonel Gibbon referred to the cost of the above schemes and stated he had been requested by some farmers and ratepayers of the Wexford Rural District to raise the question of the area of charge. The Schemes contemplated extensive and expensive works. He admitted that those were matters purely and simply for the Board of Health, technically, and it was for them to state whether the schemes were essential, but he submitted that the County Council had a right to see what districts should be levied for the charges. It would be grossly unfair to the ratepayers of Wexford rural district if the charge were levied on them. The ratepayers of Wexford Rural District had several watering places in the area to which the residents went. Rosslare only tapped a small agricultural district and was resorted to by people almost entirely townspeople, from outside the district who came by special trains and motor buses from Wexford, Enniscorthy and elsewhere. Those people were creating the need of watering places, and yet were not to bear one single item of the expense. The Corporation of Wexford and the townspeople were not to bear any portion of the expense. It had been suggested that the people of Rosslare district would benefit by the sale of their agricultural produce. That was absolute nonsense. The people who came to Rosslare for a day brought their own lunches and requirements. The hotels had small gardens and farms, which supplied them with milk, butter, eggs and vegetables. If the development works were carried out they would be in the interests of the railways, the motor buses, and the people from the different towns who wanted a place to which they could have easy access by rail and bus. He submitted that the County Council should take cognizance of the proposals which were put forward that the whole of the enormous charge should be levied on a little district.

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Mr. D'Arcy-Has the Council decided on these works?

Mr. McCarthy-The whole thing is sub judice.

Colonel Quin-Gorey district paid for its own scheme. I am six or seven miles from Gorey and I don't get anything out of it.

Mr. P. Hayes said the Gorey work differed from Rosslare. The necessity was due to the influx of people to Rosslare. The people of Wexford rural district benefited very little. If there is an y necessity for the scheme it should be a County at large charge.

Colonel Quin said he differed from Colonel Gibbon in the statement that people engaged in agriculture would not benefit by the development of Rosslare.

The Chairman sated he was in a position to know as much as anyone present about Rosslare from which he lived only three miles. As far as making anything from Rosslare, he never made a penny piece out of it. The hotels of Rosslare were able to supply their own requirements from their own farms and gardens. Proceeding, the chairman mentioned that medical inspectors who visited Rosslare, agreed that sewerage and water schemes were necessary. A meeting of the Local people was held, to which he (Chairman) was invited, and an Inspector gave the promise of a grant of £1,000 to help the schemes, which were also supported by the local medical officer. When the offer of a grant was made he (Chairman) thought it would be a bad thing to refuse it, if in the event of a year or two they were compelled to proceed with such schemes. The proposals were discussed at least twenty times by the County Health Board to which deputations came. Eventually a scheme was drafted which it was estimated would cost £8,000. The water works scheme was advertised and a tender for £5,000 was accepted. That scheme was now drawing to a close. Rosslare was badly off for water, even if they never went on with the sewerage scheme, For the sewerage scheme a plan was submitted which it was estimated

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would cost £12,000. That was turned down. He would not contemplate any expenditure in excess of the amount first calculated. The sewerage scheme was modified several times, but still it was not brought down to the original estimate of the Engineer of the Health Board and as long as this held ~~he~~^{he} would not countenance the scheme. Colonel Gibbon had given an expression of opinion on behalf of ratepayers in Wexford rural district. He (Chairman) ~~also~~ consulted a considerable number, and everyone of them was totally opposed to the scheme. The present season was one of the worst they had had for a considerable time as far as their crops were concerned in the Baronies of Forth and Bargy. They had no turnips, practically only half a crop of potatoes, with barley and oats anything but an average crop. The price of cattle had fallen ~~down~~ on Saturday last to 8½d ~~per~~^{per} pound in Birkenhead. In the face of these conditions they could see that the outlook was not a bright one to justify any increase of taxation.

Mr. D'Arcy-~~What~~^{What} is the jurisdiction of the County Council?

Chairman) I am not in a position to tell you. This was solely brought on by the medical officers of the Local Government Department and of the district.

Mr. D'Arcy-If the Health Board decided on spending the money could we ~~refuse~~^{refuse} it?

Chairman-I don't know.

Colonel Gibbon said he wanted to make it clear that he was not questioning the Board of Health as to the technical matter of whether the schemes were necessary. What he particularly opposed was the levying of the charge on the rural district of Rosslare.

In answer to a query of Colonel Gibbon, the Chairman said that the charge would be 4d. in the £, but not more than a halfpenny in the £ if made a County at large charge.

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Replying to Miss O'Ryan, the Chairman stated that the old Board of Health passed schemes estimated to cost £8,000, but they were turned down by the present Board, before which a further scheme was submitted that was not definitely refused or approved.

Colonel Gibbon-Does that fourpenny rate include the waterworks?

Chairman-Yes.

Mr. D'Arcy-I don't see why we in the North of the County should be required to pay for a Rosslare scheme.

The Chairman stated that 5 per cent of the people of Wexford rural district did not frequent Rosslare.

Mr. O'Byrne concurred with Mr. D'Arcy's opinion.

The Chairman held that Rosslare was vastly different from any other seaside place in the County. The necessity for schemes were created by people who went there from outside Wexford, including Gorey, with special trains.

Mr. Keegan considered it would be a bad procedure to abandon the sewerage scheme if the water schemes were finished. If Col. Gibbon were in England and found that such a state of affairs existed he would not drive his car through it. He agreed with the point that it would not be fair to burden a small district with the cost, but some way should be found by the Council to lessen it. Courtown Harbour was not solely supported by the people of Gorey. Visitors came there from Dublin and other places, even Galway, who were there at the moment.

Mr. D'Arcy-Let them all pay.

Mr. Keegan-Then make it an all Ireland charge.

Mr. D'Arcy-Rosslare is the playground of Wexford people.

Alderman Corish said he did not deny that a great many Wexford people went to Rosslare. They were prepared to pay their share, but the Local Government Minister objected. He did not think they should take a narrow-minded view of this matter. As far as he was concerned he was prepared to give his voice and

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vote towards helping all seaside resorts.

Colonel Gibbon said he was not objecting to the development of seaside resorts. He objected to the ratepayers of a small district being held responsible for the cost.

The Chairman stated the matter would be further discussed at the next meeting of the County Health Board.

Road and Quarry Workers as Members of Trades
Unions.

The following motion of which he had given ~~previous~~ motive stood in the name of Mr. O'Byrne:-

"I hereby give notice that I will move at the meeting of the County Council to be held on 8th October, 1928 that the resolution ~~passed~~ today (10th September, 1928) on the motion of Mr. Jordan be rescinded."

The assenting signatories to this notice of motion were:-
Messrs. Shannon, Hayes, Gaul, Cooney, Clince and Colfer.

The following is copy of Mr. Jordan's resolution:-

"That the resolution of the County Council compelling workers to be members of a grades union be rescinded."

Mr. O'Byrne said that his object in giving notice of motion was that some of his farmer friends on the Council, ⁽¹⁾ would have a month to consider the effect of adopting Mr. Jordan's proposal. The resolution ~~rescinded~~ by this proposal was put on the books by the County Council more than five years ago, and it was put there when the farmers made up the majority of the Council. The work had been carried on in the County Wexford as in no other County in Ireland. Better satisfaction had been given by the road workers than under any other system in Ireland, ~~he~~ believed. He asked the members not to strike at either ~~farmers'~~ trade union or Labourers' trade union. The Labour representatives had stood for the Council getting efficiency, and no man whose case had come before the Council and who had been ~~shown~~ not to be efficient had ever had advocates in the union or in its representatives. They tried to have the direct labour scheme made a success, and they realised that if the workers did not give satisfaction it could not be a success. The union always stood for the Council getting value for the money spent. He asked that the resolution passed on the motion of Mr. Jordan be rescinded, as he did not believe it would do any good.

Mr. Shannon ~~seconded~~, and said they always stood for efficiency; and never stood behind any man that was slacking.

Mr. Hayes said that Mr. O'Byrne's motion to rescind Mr. Jordan's resolution had given a month of grace to the members of ~~the~~ Council who voted against the resolution on the

books, and had enabled them to think over the question as to whether it was wise to scrap the resolution. He suggested that the resolution with regard to the employment of only union labour was largely responsible for the success of the direct labour scheme in the county. Statements had been made that men had been treated unfairly, but, speaking as a representative of the union, they had always been ready to give assistance to bring about a favourable settlement where-ever any grievance had been brought forward. He did not know that the Council would benefit much by the scrapping of the resolution. If it

was in the minds of any of the members that there had been any injustice done he suggested that they should at least postpone the matter of rescinding the resolution for twelve months or six months, and in quire into any miscarriage of justice in regard to employment ~~of~~ by ^{the} union or any of the officials of the union.

Colonel Quin said that Mr. Quigley, engineer to the Department, told them that they were one of the most expensive counties, and got the least value for their money. He (Colonel Quin) did not think there was anyone against the union. No trades' unionist would be refused work, but what he thought they wanted to stop was peop, ~~he~~ being hounded out of their work because they did not pay to the union.

Mr. Keegan proposed that the question should be left over for three months to give the Labour Party time to reorganise in view of complaints that had been made. They should see that every man got work, whether he paid into a union or not.

Chairman-You can't do that and leave the order on the book.

Mr. Keegan said he thought the two big parties in the Council should be more charitable to each other, and the fact of a resolution being scrapped that day would not make matters any more satisfactory for anyone. He was quite sure Mr. Jordan would not mind giving labour three months to reorganise. He was making those remarks but he would not vote on one side or the other. After all if farmers had a right to be in ~~the~~ union labourers also had a right.

Mr. Cooney seconded Mr. Keegan's resolution but after considerable discussion it was withdrawn.

Mr. Cummins said he intended to support Mr. O'Byrne's motion. He was a member of the Council in 1922 when the resolution on the books was passed by honourable men, some of whom were present. If he had not thought the resolution necessary in 1922 he would not have supported it, and having supported it then how could he oppose it that day? The motion to adjourn for three months was consistent with fair play. He was sorry to notice that day the spirit of labour against farmer, and he wanted the Council to bury that. The farmer was in a bad state and the labourer was in a bad state, and their policy should be to lift them out of that state and use every means in their power to do so. They should try to bring a better spirit amongst them, and if they succeeded the Country would be prosperous.

A poll on Mr. O'Byrne's motion resulted as follows:
 For:-Miss O'Ryan, Messrs. Corish, Cline, Shannon, Colfer, Cooney, Cummins, Waul, Hayes, McCarthy and O'Byrne.....11.
 Against:-Colonel Gibbon, Colonel Quin, Messrs. Brennan, Colleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Hall, Jordan, Mayler, Murphy, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman.....14.

Mr. Keegan did not vote.

Mr. O'Byrne's motion was declared lost, and, accordingly, Mr. Jordan's proposition for the rescinding of the trades union resolution comes into force.

Work Versus Dole.

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

" As some Road workers now out of work are in receipt of unemployment benefit this Council is of opinion that representations should be made to the Ministry of Industry and Commerce ^{or} ~~and~~ other Ministry responsible whereby the money allotted for this purpose viz., benefit, should be handed over to Ministry of Local Government and paid to the County Council for their workers for some public remunerative work, thus getting work done for money paid and ensuring that County Council employees should only receive pay for work done.

Sanction of Mr. Art Dunne, Rate Collector.

Under date 26th September, 1928, the Department of Local Government wrote, (G.65330/1928-Loch Garman Fa), stating that the Minister sanctioned the temporary appointment of Mr. Art Dunne as poor Rate Collector for No. 15 Collection District, provided he took up residence in the district, and that the County Council were ~~satisfied~~ satisfied with his sureties.

Road Fund Grants.

Under date 1st October, 1928, letter was read from the Department of Local Government (Roads), stating that a payment of £1245 was made out of the Old British Road Fund Grant for Mountgarrett Bridge to the Treasurer of the County Council on 28th September, 1928.

Under date 15th September, 1928, (S.G.E./32), letter was read from the Department of Local Government (Roads), stating that payment of £200 out of allocation of £6720 from Grant of £200,000, was made to the County Treasurer on 5th October, being 80 per cent of the grant allocated in respect of work No. E852, Road T.8.

Under date 26th September, 1928 (R.G.M./32), the Department of Local Government wrote that a payment of £1173 out of Road

Maintenance Grant of £6331 No. 7988/29 had been made to the County Treasurer on 25th September, 1928,.

Under date 19th September, 1928, the Department of Local Government (Roads) wrote (S.G.N./32/2) that a payment of £3921 under National Road Scheme, -Road T.8, works No. N.886, - had been made to the County Treasurer on 14th September, 1928.

Gorey Courthouse.

An application was received from Mr. D.J. Bolger, Gorey Operatic Society, for use of portion of Gorey Courthouse for practices in preparation for the production of Operas.

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

"That the use of Gorey Courthouse, (provided same will not interfere with the administration of Justice or the technical classes of Gorey Technical School) ~~will~~ be granted to the Gorey Operatic Society."

Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd.

The report of the Directors of Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd., to be presented to the meeting of the Company on 12th October, 1928 was submitted.

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

"That Mr. James Gaul, County Councillor, be appointed to represent the County Council at the meeting of the Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd., on 12th October, 1928 to vote and exercise every other right and power incidental to such membership of the Company by the Wexford County Council."

Courtown Harbour.

Under date 27th September, 1928, the Department of Fisheries wrote (d/5/2), asking for details of the estimate of £2130 of County Surveyor in connection with proposed work at Courtown Harbour, and for particulars of the type of grab dredger proposed to be acquired and the arrangements to be set up for its working.

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Under date 3rd October, 1928, the following letter was read from the County Surveyor:-

"In reply to your letter of the 29th ultimo enclosing copy of letter from Department of Fisheries under date 27th ult., I beg to report as follows:-

On the 22nd December last in company of Special Committee I inspected the Harbour, and Mr. Hassard, representing Department of Fisheries was also present. In my report to the Roads Committee on the 2nd January, 1928 I referred to this inspection and verbally reported as follows:-

"The County Surveyor stated that he estimated essential repairs at the end of the pier at £150; new lock gate and sluices he estimated at £480. There was a gravel bank which formed at the end of the pier and which interfered with the sluicing being really effective as the power of the sluices was largely gone by the time it reached so far down the harbour. This bank could be removed only by the use of a hand grab dredger running on rails and which he estimated would cost £450. It was to be worked by the fishermen and if it was in operation the largest boat in the harbour would be able to get to sea. It was also suggested, that and he believed rightly, that dredging of 8,000 cubic yards should be done in the inner basin. This at 3/- per cubic yard would run to £1,200. This work might be done for less but the £1,200 was his estimate for it. The total amount was £2,280. The local men would have to guarantee to work the grab dredger if provided. If while the bank remained at the mouth of the harbour they would not work this dredger it would be to their own loss."

The item for the repair of the end of the Pier amounting to £150 was approved by the County Council, and the work has now been done and the money expended. In regard to the other items amounting to £2,130 the County Council has recently approved of them provided that the Department gives a Grant of 50%. I have now been in communication with the Manufacturers of dredging

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machinery, but have not yet arrived at a satisfactory design for a Grab dredger, and await further information from makers. Recently with two members of the County Council I inspected the dredgers employed on the Barrow Drainage Scheme, and it is possible that the County Council may purchase some similar style of dredger for use in connection with the Local Drainage Schemes, and the several Harbours around the County. If such a machine be purchased there would be no difficulty in dredging out the inner Harbour at Courtown, but this machine would not be suitable for dredging outlet channel.

I have carefully gone into the existing design of the gates and sluices, and am satisfied that we can with modifications and improvements construct new gates at the estimated cost of £480. I originally contemplated altering the design of these gates, but find that such is not practicable as any alteration would entail serious changes in the masonry work. Recently I have had a diver engaged in under water inspection of the Gate Chamber, and I believe we shall not have any difficulty in dealing with this work. My estimate for the improvement works thus remains at £2,130 which is the figure set out in the letter from the Department and is made up as follows:-

New Gates and Sluices	£480.
Grab Dredger on Rails	£450.
Dredging inner basin areal acre x 5' deep ---- say 8,000 cubic yards	£ 1,200
Total.	<u>£2,130</u>

Approved.

Kilmore Harbour.

Under date 28th September, 1928, the Department of Fisheries wrote (D/73/1) that they had been notified by the Commissioners of Public Works that they considered it unsafe to send a dredger to Kilmore at this season of the year. The matter must therefore be postponed for consideration as to whether arrangements could

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be made to ~~have~~ a dredger available for Kilmore in the late Spring or early Summer of next year.

The County Surveyor mentioned that, if the County Council would procure some sort of special grab dredger, it would be very useful for small drainage schemes and for harbours. It would certainly be able to do most satisfactory work at Kilmore.

Mr. Roche pointed out that, if the dredging work was not carried out early next year, the Harbour would be a complete failure.

Mr. Corish suggested that the County Surveyor should ascertain the cost of a trap barge in order to carry out the dredging at Kilmore as he believed a steam launch would be available.

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

"That, unless the Council receive intimation from the Department of Fisheries that a dredger can be made available ~~for~~ for Kilmore early next year, steps be taken to have dredging carried out by some other means."

Cinematograph Act.

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

"That Sergeant P.A. Hanley, 1801, Garda Siochana, Rosslare Strand, be appointed Inspector under Cinematograph Act, 1909 for Killinick, G.S. Sub-District, vice Sergeant T.B. Dunleavy, (2299), transferred from the District."

Appointment of Solicitor

Under date 20th September, 1928, (L.A.16/1/28), letter was read from the Local Appointments Commissioners, recommending Mr. John Elgee, 2 George Street, Wexford for appointment as Solicitor to Wexford County Council.

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

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"That Mr. John Elgee, 2 George Street, Wexford, be appointed Solicitor to Wexford County Council at a Salary of £250 per annum, with out-of-pocket expenses; this salary to cover travelling expenses incurred within the County.

Appointment to be determined by three months' notice in writing on either side."

Sports Fields.

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

"That ~~the~~ Offaly County Council urge the Government to amend the Land Act in such a manner that it shall enable the Irish Land Commission to allot suitable land wherever it may be needed for Sports Fields, or any other purpose, ~~for~~ Public use."

Capitation Grant-Mental Hospitals.

The following resolution from Ballinasloe Mental Hospital Committee was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Brennan:-

"That all County Councils in Saorstát and Mental Hospital Committees be requested to make an organised effort to secure the restoration of the Capitation Grant to the scale of one-half the cost of maintenance, as was originally the case."

Payment of Land Annuities.

The following resolution was submitted from Wicklow County Board of Health and marked "read":-

"That owing to the general distress existing amongst all classes of the agricultural community in this country we call upon the Government to extend the period of payment of Land Commission annuities by a term of fifty years, Failing this being done, we consider the Government should arrange that no annuities should be ~~paid~~ called for during the next two years and that the amounts due for these two years should be spread over the succeeding ten years. We further consider the the Government contribution to

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Local Rates should be put on a more equitable basis than at present.

Michael Doyle
