

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

M I N U T E S

MEETING HELD ON 13th OCTOBER, 1930.

N. J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

FORTVIEW,
WEXFORD.

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A meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 13th October, 1930.

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

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

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

THE LATE MR JOHN DOYLE, RATE COLLECTOR NO. 19 DISTRICT.

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

"That we regret to learn of the death on 12th inst of Mr John Doyle, Scullabogue, Newbawn, Rate Collector, an official of this County Council who discharged his duties in a capable and efficient manner. We offer our sympathy to his relatives in their loss."

The Secretary said Mr Doyle was an officer of this Council for four and a half years. He was most popular with all his colleagues, had considerable tact and discharged his duties to the satisfaction of everyone with whom he came in contact.

THE LATE MR MEYLER, HARRISTOWN.

The following resolution was adopted in silence on the motion of Mr Murphy seconded by Mr Gaul:- "That we offer our esteemed colleague, Mr Thomas Mayler, our heartfelt condolence in the death of his uncle Mr Philip Mayler, Harristown. Mr Mayler has the sympathy of all his colleagues in his bereavement."

The Chairman, in putting the motion said that as long as he could remember the Maylers were an outstanding family in the County and had been connected with every movement for the public good.

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The deceased and his two brothers who had also passed away lost no opportunity of forwarding the interests of their county. One of them had been a member of the County Council and his nephew Mr Thomas Mayler had followed in his uncle's footsteps. He (Chairman) was indeed very sorry that the occasion arose for their resolution.

MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEES.

The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 11th September, 1930, were submitted as follows:-

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The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 11th September 1930.

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

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £5356:17:1d. was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION.

The state of Rate Collection as follows was submitted:

| | | Collected on Year's Warrant and Arrears. |
|---------------|--------|---------------------------------------------|
| P. Nolan | 30.6 % | " |
| M. McCarthy | 30.0 % | " |
| John Curtis | 30.0 % | " |
| E.J. Murphy | 27.5 % | " |
| J. Quirke | 27.5 % | " |
| Patk. Carty | 27.0 % | " |
| Jos. Cummins | 26.5 % | " |
| John Doyle | 24.5 % | " |
| Sean Gannon | 24.0 % | " |
| J. Deegan | 23.3 % | " |
| Thos. Roove | 23.3 % | " |
| W. Cummins | 23.1 % | " |
| Art Dunne | 23.1 % | " |
| Matthew Kelly | 22.6 % | " |
| J.J. O'Reilly | 22.4 % | " |
| Phil. Doyle | 22.4 % | " |
| Patk. O'Byrne | 22.1 % | " |
| T. Bolger | 21.8 % | " |
| J.J. Sinnott | 21.0 % | " |

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| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------|
| Thos. Sutton | 19.4 % | Collected on Year's Warrant and Arrears. |
| Patk. Donohoe | 15.1 % | " |
| Average Percentage Collected 24.2 % | | |

No. 2 District (Collector Sutton): The following report from Rate Inspector was read:-

"I visited No. 2 District on 9th and 10th September. I find that Collector Sutton has not called on several of the rate-payers since he posted the demand notes to them. In a few cases the rate-payers state that Mr Sutton had not called on them for years.

Mr Hayes Crosstown. This ratepayer owes arrears of 1930 rates and I found out that his land was let for grazing to three different people in Wexford. Mr Hayes was not at home at the time of my visit.

Mr Wm. Kinsella Crosstown. Visited above ratepayer, drew his attention to the current half year's rate being still due. He stated he paid Collector Sutton on Saturday 6th and he promised to send receipt as he was in a hurry to catch the bus. The receipt was still in the book on 9th Sept. when I checked the books.

Mary Rowe, Ardavan, Wm. Doyle, Crory Upper, and Henry Roe, Ballyharron, stated they had paid the rates to 30/9/30 at Kehoe's, South Main Street. The receipts were still remaining in the books ~~in the books~~ when I checked them on 9th September.

I have drawn Collector Sutton's attention to these irregularities and asked him to give an explanation to the Finance Committee today."

Collector Sutton attended before the meeting. He admitted having received rates from the persons named in report. He was paid by Mr Kinsella last Saturday just as he was catching a bus and had already sent receipt to Mr Kinsella. This could be verified by examination of his books which were in Mr Kennedy's possession.

In the other cases the amounts were small (each being

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under £1). His failure to issue receipts in these cases was due to carelessness. He would seize stock grazing on land of Wm. Hayes, Crosstown.

On the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr McCarthy it was decided that report be adjourned for a fortnight, the Rate Inspector in the meantime to investigate the remainder of Sutton's district.

Collector Donohoe. No 12 District: The question of making arrangements for closing Collection in No. 12 District was considered.

Mr Hall stated he was not satisfied that Collector Donohoe who had improved his Collection over this time twelve months, deserved the suspension decided on at last County Council meeting. He intended to move by notice of motion at next County Council meeting that suspension be removed.

After discussion it was decided that Rate Inspector ascertain if, in the event of a vacancy occurring for a Collector in No. 12 District, Collector W. Cummins, or failing him Collector Gannon, would be prepared to close collection in No. 12 District, subject to approval of their own and Collector Donohoe's sureties, and of Local Government Department.

COUNTY COUNCIL OVERDRAFT.

The following letter was read from Local Government Department under date 5th September 1930 (No. G 64250/30 Fa. Loch Garman):

"With reference to your letter of the 29th ultimo relative to the continuance of the present Overdraft of £40,000 to the 31st December next, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to refer you to the concluding paragraph of your letter of the 10th April last in which you anticipated that the maximum overdraft likely to be required after the 30th September would be £30,000, and I am to ask for an explanation of the present application.

The Minister has repeatedly addressed the Council on their unsatisfactory financial position and the recurrent unproductive

charges for interest involved on overdraft accommodation. A considered financial policy which would obviate or largely reduce these charges is a matter of urgency and I am to invite the serious attention of the Council to the matter.

I am to ask for details of the financial position of the Council showing anticipated receipts and outgoings up to the 31st December next and to inquire whether the Bank are willing to extend the accommodation sought!

It was pointed out that although Rate Collection had improved it would be inadvisable to reduce the maximum overdraft as the Urban Councils were considerably in arrears with their Demands, and the County Council had to finance the rebuilding of Courthouse repayment by Finance Department being made many months after the Contractor had been paid by the Council.

The amounts due to date by Urban Councils were as follows:-

| | Demand to 31/3/30. | Current Year's Demand. | Total. |
|-------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Enniscorthy | 644: 2: 9d. | 1324: 5: 9d. | £1968: 8: 6d. |
| New Ross | 570: 3: 11d. | 1224: 3: 0d. | £1794: 6: 11d. |
| Wexford | <u>1645: 18: 5d.</u> | <u>2836: 8: 6d.</u> | <u>£4482: 6: 11d.</u> |
| | £2860: 5: 1d. | £5384: 17: 3d. | £8245: 2: 4d. |

It was decided that Local Government Department be requested to sanction extension of period of present maximum Overdraft of £40,000 to 31st December and that the particulars asked for in Department's letter be supplied.

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 11th September, 1930, be and are hereby confirmed."

The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 25th September, 1930, were submitted as follows:

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 25th September, 1930.

Present:- Messrs T. McCarthy, John J. Culleton, Jas. Hall, Sean O'Byrne and James Shannon.

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

On the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall, the Chair was taken by Mr McCarthy.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £3,987:18: 4d. was examined and signed.

STATE OF RATE COLLECTION.

The State of the Rate Collection up to 25th September, 1930, was submitted as follows:

| | |
|-------------------|--------|
| 1. John Curtis | 35.7 % |
| 2. Patrick Nolan | 34.2 % |
| 3. M. McCarthy | 33.8 % |
| 4. E.J. Murphy | 33.7 % |
| 5. Joseph Cummins | 32.8 % |
| 6. Thomas Rowe | 31.5 % |
| 7. T. Bolger | 30.5 % |
| 8. Jas. Quirke | 30.4 % |
| 9. PO'Byrne | 29.5 % |
| 10. Art Dunne | 29 % |
| 11. Patrick Carty | 28.9 % |
| 12. John Doyle | 28.9 % |
| 13. Sean Gannon | 28.5 % |
| 14. John Deegan | 28.2 % |
| 15. Philip Doyle | 27.6 % |
| 16. W. Cummins | 27.5 % |
| 17. J.J. O'Reilly | 27.2 % |

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| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| 18. Matthew Kelly | 26.5 % |
| 19. J.J. Sinnott | 24.9 % |
| 20. Thomas Sutton | 22.9 % |
| 21. Patrick Donohoe | 15.8 % |

The following report under date 25th September 1930 was submitted by the Rate Inspector:

"Since last meeting I have visited several ratepayers in No. 2 District (Thomas Sutton) and have not discovered that any further payments were made without the official receipts having issued.

I attach correspondence from Collector J.J. Sinnott re holdings in Boira South.

The Saltee Islands: Messrs Huggard Brennan and Godfrey have notified the Council that they have transferred Saltee Island (Great) from Reps. J. Pierce to Mr N. Brennan, 17 Hardwicke St. Dublin. I have called on Mr Brennan who lives in the top room of a tenement house. He has no money to pay the rates. I am demanding the arrears from the Reps. J. Pierce"

The correspondence submitted by the Rate Inspector showed that Major A. Loftus Bryan had transferred portion of the lands of Boira South in Mr Sinnott's District to a Mrs Serres Gan Basses, Pyr^enees, France. After discussion it was decided that the question of recovery of current Rates on Great Saltee Island and on Boira South be adjourned to next meeting when Mr Elgee County Solicitor will be in attendance.

The Rate Inspector was instructed to communicate with Mr John Muldoon, K.C., Registrar in Lunacy, Dublin Castle, as regards the payment of Rates on the Small Saltee Island as the owner is in Enniscorthy Mental Home.

Mr Shannon referred to arrears of rates on Blackstairs and Bantry Commons. The Council had made a big mistake at their meeting on 8th September in publicly discussing this matter as the "tail" even of a Carlow sheep was not visible on the Mountain from the day the report of the meeting appeared in the local press. The persons adjoining the Mountain from

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the County Wexford had not put on sheep for a considerable time. He had spoken to one man who was rated for the mountain and suggested that the question of payment of the rates should be settled, and asked what facilities the ratepayers required. This ratepayer~~s~~ said they wanted no facilities as they were not going to use the mountain any more. Heretofore the Ratepayers could get turf at the Mountain but they had now to go so far up that it would not pay them. Then everybody realised that help was scarce and no one was doing the amount of work they did some time ago. Another factor which affected the situation was that the people had secured a better breed of sheep and these would not live on the Mountain and also grass in late years was cheap and could be secured down the country. All this militated against the grazing or use of the Mountain, and the Ratepayers concerned were not going to have anything more to say to it. The discussion on the 8th September "finished" the business, and they would not be able to move further until the Carlow people put their sheep back on the Mountain.

The Chairman considered that the Rate Collectors should be able to secure a decree against the Ratepayers who were rated for the Mountain.

Mr O'Byrne thought if it was decided to plant the Mountain to-morrow every one of the Ratepayers there would have an interest which would be very difficult to purchase. There certainly would be a very high value put on it.

Mr Shannon said if it was decided to plant the Mountain the rate-payers concerned would welcome it and give every assistance to the scheme.

The Chairman said he saw nothing in the way of the Collectors obtaining ordinary decrees in this case.

After further discussion it was decided that the Rate Inspector interview Messrs E.J. Murphy and P. O'Byrne, the Rate Collectors concerned with a view to the adoption of the best steps to secure payment of the rates in accordance with instruct-

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ions of County Solicitor.

Under date 18th September, 1930, the Department of Local Government wrote that the Minister agreed to the proposal of the Council to contribute £3 towards the cost of Fidelity Guarantee Bonds of Rate Collectors whose poundage fees will not exceed £150.

OVERDRAFT ACCOMMODATION.

Under date 16th September, 1930 the Department of Local Government wrote (G 669307 - 1930 Fa) forwarding the sanction of the Minister to the continuance of overdraft accommodation not exceeding £40,000 up to 31st December next, interest to be paid thereon at the agreed rate.

In connection with this matter the following under date 23rd September 1930 was read from the Manager of National Bank Wexford:

"Re application to sanction continuance of Overdraft Accommodation at a limit of £40,000, until 31/12/30, the sanction of the Local Government Ministry having been obtained.

"I submitted the above Application to my Directors, who direct me to inform you that they sanction my allowing the Wexford County Council continuance of Overdraft Accommodation at a limit of £40,000 until 31st December next, the sanction of the Local Government Ministry having been obtained therefor, but at the same time they desire me to call for your explanation in course as to why a reduction of £2,000 should have been promised on the expiration of the period required, since it should be clearly understood between the Bank and the Council that the entire Overdraft is a purely temporary advance, which circumstances leaves the Board at a loss to understand the comparatively insignificant reduction promised.

I am also desired to point out to your Council that such large Overdrafts as that now sanctioned are an obstacle to the making of Loans if required.

Please let me hear from you on the matter to enable me to reply to my Directors."

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

"That the Treasurer of the County Council be informed it is considered that by 31st December next the Rate Collection will have so improved that the maximum amount required for overdraft accommodation will be reduced by at least £2,000.

Should the amounts due to the County Council by the three Urban Districts show a reduction on that date the limit for overdraft requirements will be correspondingly less.

This Committee also points out that some time ago they received sanction from the Department of Local Government to raise loans repayable in five years to extinguish the debit balances on Rural District Charges Account, amounting to £18,000 and if the Treasurer had found it possible to agree to this proposal £18,000 of present overdraft would have been repaid through usual mortgage within five years.

The Committee further wishes to state that the actual average overdraft as shown by amount of Interest paid has been very considerably under sanctioned limit: also that the amount repaid in the past three years in respect of loans is much in excess of new loans obtained.

The adverse abnormal weather has had the worst possible effect on the Rate Collection.

The County Council would be glad to be rid of the incubus of overdrafts, but in present circumstances this is prevented by the condition of the ratepayers. The only available step is to reduce this indebtedness gradually, and this the Council are doing to the best of their ability."

SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES.

The following under date 18th September 1930 was read from Miss Mary Kavanagh, Loreto Coll^ge, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin:

"I wish to apply for an extension of my Scholarship Grant for this year.

On passing the Intermediate Certificate with Honours, I

was appointed pupil teacher here, and was entitled to a grant of £40 per annum, for two years. As I had a County Council Scholarship the Education Board only allowed me £15 of the £40 to which I was entitled for last year.

I am getting on very well as enclosed letter from Rev.M.T. Austin testifies and I expect to get into the Training College for teachers, Blackrock next year on the result of Leaving Certificate.

My father is an agricultural labourer and £40 pupil - teacher Scholarship would be insufficient to pay my pension, clothe and enable me to buy books etc.

I trust you will favourably consider my application, and thanking you in anticipation."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "The Finance Committee regret that there is no power to extend a Scholarship held under Secondary Scholarship Scheme beyond the fourth year, but, in view of the fact that the Department of Education allowed to this student only £15 of their normal grant of £40 for teachers in training we consider that the Department should, as County Council Scholarship has lapsed, make up to Miss Kavanagh the £25 deducted from ordinary Grant in order to allow her to complete her training. Her father is an agricultural labourer and is not in a position to make any contribution towards cost of her College course."

In connection with University Scholarship Scheme the following letter was read from Rev.Br.J.S. Lutteral, Christian Schools, Wexford:-

"May I ask you to bring before your Council the advisability of including Commerce in the list of subjects for the University Scholarship Course adopted by your Council.

Apart from the obvious utility of Commerce as an important branch of education, I would remind you that it is now a faculty of the National University."

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

"That copy of letter from Rev. Br. Lutteral, Wexford, as to inclusion of Commerce in the list of subjects under University Scholarship Scheme be furnished the Academic Council of National University and that they be requested to be kind enough to advise the Council in the matter."

The following under date 23rd September 1930 was read from Miss Elizabeth Hogan, Training College, Carysfort Park, Blackrock, Dublin:-

"I am very pleased that I have been successful in obtaining a University Scholarship given by the Wexford County Council.

I have been equally successful at the Easter Scholarships Examination for National Teachers as I obtained first place in the Saorstat and was called to training.

I am at present in training, and I wish to apply for permission to avail of the University Scholarship when my training course is completed. I am anxious to obtain the Higher Diploma of Education and the Scholarship would enable me to do this.

I believe there is a precedent for this in the County - that there is a young man from Wexford in training at present, for whom a Scholarship is being held over. I shall be grateful if the same privilege be extended to me.

Thanking you very sincerely.

Mr O'Byrne handed in the following notice of motion:

"I hereby give notice of my intention to move at next meeting of Wexford County Council that University Scholarship awarded this year to Miss Elizabeth Hogan be held over until she has completed her training as an elementary teacher."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 25th September, 1930, be and are hereby adopted."

The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 9th October, 1930, were submitted as follows:-

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The fortnightly meeting of Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 9th October, 1930.

Present:- Messrs John Culleton, James Hall, Thomas McCarthy, Sean O'Byrne, James Shannon and J. E. Walsh.

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

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

(Mr. M. Doyle, Chairman, attended after consideration of the state of the Rate Collection and presided during the remainder of the business).

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £5946: 5: 9d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

The following shows the state of the Rate Collection to date:-

| | | <u>Percentage of warrant Collected</u> |
|-----|-----------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1. | E. J. Murphy | 42.1 |
| 2. | J. Quirke | 41.1 |
| 3. | John Curtis | 39.2 |
| 4. | Patrick O'Byrne | 39. |
| 5. | Thady Bolger | 38.6 |
| 6. | Patrick Nolan | 38.5 |
| 7. | M. McCarthy | 38.3 |
| 8. | J. J. O'Reilly | 37.4 |
| 9. | Art. Dunne | 37.1 |
| 10. | Thomas Rowe | 36.4 |
| 11. | Joseph Cummins | 36.2 |
| 12. | John Deegan | 36 |
| 13. | Philip Doyle | 35.9 |
| 14. | Patrick Carty | 35 |
| 15. | Sean Gannon | 33.4 |
| 16. | Walter Cummins | 33.1 |
| 17. | John Doyle | 32.2 |
| 18. | Matthew Kelly | 31.6 |
| 19. | Thomas Sutton | 30 |
| 21. | Patrick Donohoe | 15.6. |

Medical certificate from Dr. Ryan, Taghmon, was submitted on behalf of Mr. John Doyle (Collector) under date 2nd October, that Mr. Doyle was under Dr. Ryan's care and unable to attend to

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his duties.

The Secretary reported that Mr. Doyle was at present in the County Hospital where he had been operated on for throat trouble.

The following resolution was adopted:- "That unless Mr. John Doyle, Rate Collector No.19 District, is able to resume duty within eight days from this date Mr. John Curtis (Rate Collector for No.20 District) be appointed as temporary Collector during Mr. Doyle's illness"

Under date 8th October the following letter (G.72125/1930 Loch Garman) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of Form 61 for the month of September and to state that it is observed that only 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ % approximately of the year's rates have been collected at the close of the financial half year. Special attention is drawn to the very backward state of the collections in the Nos. 12, 16, 2 and 13 Districts. It is presumed that arrangements pursuant to Article 104 of the Public Bodies Order 1925 are being made for the carrying out of Collector Sinnott's duties during his illness."

+ The following recommendation was adopted:- "That we point out to the Minister for Local Government that since poor rate return for the month of September has been submitted Rate Collector Sutton (No.2 District) and O'Reilly (No.13 District) have considerably improved. John J. Sinnott (No.16 District) has been ill and P. Donohoe (No.12 District) has been removed from Office. Sinnott was now about to return to duty. "

The following, under date 26th September, 1930, (G.69687/1930 Fa Loch Garman) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd instant, and I am to draw attention to Article 99 of the Public Bodies Order, 1925, from which it will be observed that

that Mr. Donohoe has ceased to hold office as Poor Rate Collector. The Minister's decision is final and cannot be withdrawn.

'It is presumed that as required by the Article the ex-Collector's warrant and books have been taken up. The Council should, without further delay, proceed to make suitable arrangements for the future collection of rates in the area'

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

"That we recommend the Council to request the Minister for Local Government to reconsider his decision as regards the removal of Rate Collector P. Donohoe (No.12 District) from office. We believe that if the Minister will agree to this suggestion no fault will be found in future with the manner in which Mr. Donohoe will carry on his duties.

'In the meantime we recommend that Rate Collector Thady Bolger (No.14 District) be appointed temporary Rate Collector in No.12 District.'

APPLICATION FOR PAYMENT OF POUNDAGE

The following, under date 5th October, 1930, was read from Mr. James Quirke, Hon. Secretary to Co. Council Rate Collectors:-

'I have been requested by the County Rate Collectors to again ask you to bring the question of payment of their poundage before the next meeting of your Finance Committee.

'I believe all the Collectors have done their best during the past half year to make a good collection and it is only fair to them to have their poundage paid to date.

'Trusting this matter will receive the favourable consideration of your Committee.'

It was decided to request the Department of Local Government to forward approval to proposal of Council to pay poundage to Rate Collectors on all amounts collected in respect of last year's

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warrant and arrears. That application for payment of poundage on current year's warrant, submitted to this meeting, be adjourned to next meeting of Finance Committee. ."

In connection with transfer of Boira South in district of J. J. Sinnott from Major A. Loftus Bryan to Mrs Serres Gan Basses, Pyrenees, France, and of the transfer of Great Saltee Island from the Reps. of the late J. Pierce to N. Brennan, resident in a tenement house at 17, Hardwicke Street, Dublin, Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, said he feared the County Council had no remedy unless they were in a position to prove that the transfers had been made for an unfair or fraudulent purpose. He considered the only thing that could be done was to regard the rates on both places concerned as uncollectable for the time being.

The Committee decided to recommend this course to the Council.

SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIPS

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Culleton:- "That in accordance with reports of Department of Education 29th September, 1930, and 2nd October, 1930, the County Council be recommended to grant renewal of Secondary Scholarships to the following:-

John F. O'Brien, Christian Schools, Synge Street, Dublin.

Eileen Cadogan, Loreto Convent, Wexford.

Thomas Cogley, St. Peter's College, Wexford.

Patrick Doyle, St. Peter's College, Wexford and
renewal of bursaries to James Hargadon and Patrick Sheehan,
Christian Schools, Gorey."

The following recommendation was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Walsh:- "That clause 3 of Secondary Scholarship Scheme, as follows, be deleted:-

"Competition for above is limited to children whose parents or guardians reside in the rural districts of the county, and who are rated on a valuation not exceeding £75, in the case of families with seven or eight children under 18 years; £65 for families with

five or six children; £60, four or five children; £55, three or four children; £45, two or three children."

and that the following be substituted therefor:- "Competition for above is limited to children whose parents or guardians reside in the Rural Districts of the County and who are rated on a valuation not exceeding £75 in the case of families with eight children or more; £65, for families of six or seven children; £60 for families of four or five children; £55 for families with three children and £45 for families of one or two children. The children in all cases must be under 18 years old."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Culleton:- "That, in accordance with the provisions of Secondary Scholarship Scheme, a sum of £1: 5: 9d be paid Julia Browne a candidate for Scholarship to cover her travelling and subsistence allowance in connection with said examination."

OVERDRAFT ACCOMMODATION

The following, under date 4th October, 1930, was read from the Manager of National Bank, Wexford Branch, County Treasurer:-

"I placed the contents of your letter before my Directors regarding the proposed reduction of £2000 in the Overdraft Accommodation at the end of the current sanctioned period, and as already pointed out to you my Directors have again requested me to inform you that the Bank by reason of the nature of an advance by way of Overdraft, cannot commit itself to recognising any definite arrangement for reduction as such advance must be of a purely temporary character and subject to repayment on demand.

'I shall thank you to have this matter made clear to your Council!'"

ENNISCORTHY COURTHOUSE

Under date 2nd October, 1930, Mr. R. Whelan, Caretaker, Courthouse, Enniscorthy, wrote asking that electric lighting

should be extended to the residential portion of the Courthouse. During the circuit Court one room of the dwelling house was used for keeping prisoners and another was used by Solicitors. It would be very inconvenient next month when the Circuit court was being held not to have lights.

The County Surveyor said that it was too late now to apply to have the lights ready for next month and the circuit court in January would be the last held in Enniscorthy. The electric light, however, had been installed in the residences of the caretakers of New Ross and Gorey Courthouses.

Mr. O'Byrne proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Mr. Shannon:- "That the necessary wiring for installation of electric light to the caretaker's residence in Enniscorthy Courthouse be carried out on the understanding that the caretaker pays for the supply of current."

Mr. Culleton proposed, and Mr. Hall seconded, the following amendment:- "That the application of caretaker, Enniscorthy Courthouse, for electric light installation to the residential portion of the premises be refused."

The amendment was carried by 4 to 3.

APPOINTMENT OF FOOD AND DRUGS INSPECTORS

The Chief Superintendent, Garda Siochana, Wexford, wrote, under date 1st October, 1930, asking the Council to appoint two Inspectors under Food and Drugs Act for Enniscorthy District.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Culleton:- "That, in accordance with the request of Chief Superintendent, Garda Siochana, Wexford, the County Council be recommended to appoint Garda Cecil A. Geary as ex-officio Inspector under Food and Drugs Acts for the Sub-Districts of Ferns, Oulart, Blackwater and Oylegate and Garda M. Carroll as ex-officio Inspector under Food and Drugs Acts for the sub-Districts of Enniscorthy, town, Clonroche and Killanne."

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATION

Mr. Gregory, District Court Clerk, Wexford, forwarded notification of an application for the committal of Catherine Whelan, Faythe, Wexford, to an Industrial School, which was made at Wexford District Court on 8th instant.

Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, said that the child was living with her grandfather who was working in Kerlogue quarry. The mother was a domestic servant. She and her husband separated shortly after marriage and she had not seen him since. The application had, on the question of means, been adjourned to next court day.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr O'Byrne: "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 9th October, 1930, be received and considered."

Rate Collection: It was decided on the motion of Colonel Quin seconded by Mr O'Byrne that all matters in connection with Rate Collection be discussed in Committee.

As regards the transfer of Great Saltee Island to Mr N. Brennan and portion of Boira South to Mrs Serres, Gan Basses, Pyrnees, France, Mr Elgee, Solicitor was instructed to have a search made in Registry of Deeds to ascertain definitely what lands had been transferred and for what consideration etc and to report to first available meeting of Finance Committee.

Colonel Gibbon said he would call on the Hon Secretary for the Protection of Birds on Thursday as regards taking over the Great Saltee Island. If they could be induced to do this it would be a benefit from every point of view, not only from the point of view of the County Council but of the County, as these islands formed a great attraction and it would be to everyone's interest to have them under proper control.

Bantry and Blackstairs Commons: Mr Elgee said he had seen Mr O'Byrne, Rate Collector, and had explained to him that the best course to adopt was to make a seizure under his own warrant in the first instance. Mr O'Byrne had some one watching the place and was arranging to have a seizure at the mountain as soon as possible.

Collector Donohoe No. 12 District: Colonel Quin dissented from the resolution of the Finance Committee asking the Minister for Local Government to reconsider his decision as to removal of Collector Donohoe from office.

Electric Light for Enniscorthy Courthouse Caretaker's residence:

Mr O'Byrne moved the amendment which had been defeated at the Finance Committee meeting viz., "That the County Council agree to bear the expense of the necessary wiring in this case

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the caretaker to be responsible for payment for supply of current.

Mr Shannon seconded.

A vote was taken with the following result:-

For the Amendment - Messrs Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne and Shannon - 11.

Against - Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Murphy, O'Ryan, Quin, Smyth and the Chairman - 11.

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

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr McCarthy:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 9th October, 1930, be and are hereby confirmed."

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME.

The following ~~motion~~ of which he had given previous notice was moved by Mr O'Byrne: "That the University Scholarship awarded Miss Elizabeth Hogan, New Ross, be held over until she has completed her training as an Elementary Teacher."

Mr Clince seconded the motion which was adopted, without dissent.

APPOINTMENT COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Under date 17th September, 1930, the following letter (L.A.2.3.30) was read from Local Appointments Commission:

"In compliance with the request received under Section 6 (2) of the Local Authorities (Officers and Employees) Act, 1926, in connection with the abovementioned position I am directed by the Local Appointments Commissioners to state that they recommend Dr. Christopher Bastible, 50 Hamnaville Park, Terenure, Dublin for appointment as County Medical Officer of Health, Co. Wexford, who will also act as School Medical Officer.

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A summary of the recommended candidate's qualifications is given hereunder.

Date and Place of Birth:- 24th December, 1896, Midleton, Co. Cork.

Qualifications and Experience:- Graduated with 1st class Honours M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. (N.U.I.) 1919. D.P.H. (Hons) 1930. M.D. 1930. Diploma in Laryngology, Budapest University. B.Sc. (Hons.). House Surgeon, North Infirmary, Cork 6 months; Clinical Assistant, Glasgow Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital, 9 months; post-graduate study of Nose, Throat and Tuberculosis work at Vienna Univ.; Extern Clinical Assistant Glasgow Maternity Hospital and Royal Samaritan Hospital, Glasgow, 6 months; Visiting Physician to St. Vincent's Hospital, Glasgow and Visiting Surgeon to Grosvenor Private Hospital, Glasgow 9 years (1920 - 1929); in general practice in Glasgow (panel and private) 9 years (1920 - 1929); part-time School M.O. under Glasgow Education Authority 8 years (1921-29). Temporary Assistant M.O. Crookslin Sanatorium, 3 months (one month Acting Resident Medical Superintendent).

Has a competent knowledge of Irish."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr Colfer:-

"That Dr Christopher Bastible, 50 Hannaville Park, Terenure, Dublin, be appointed County Medical Officer of Health for the County Wexford at a salary of £500 per annum with allowances to an amount not exceeding £200 per annum of all duly vouched travelling expenses properly and reasonably incurred in the discharge of the duties of said office. That £400 of said salary and 50 per cent of said travelling expenses be reckoned for recoupment in connection with the duties of Dr. Bastible under School Medical Service.

APPOINTMENT COUNTY WEXFORD VOCATIONAL COMMITTEE.

The following under date 20th September, 1930 (7779-30) was read from Department of Education - Technical Instruction

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Branch:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Education to inform you that in pursuance of the powers vested in him by Section 9 (1) of the Vocational Education Act, 1930, he has, with the consent of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health, appointed the 13th day of October, 1930, as the day for the first election by your Council of members of the County Wexford Vocational Education Committee. It will accordingly be necessary for you to take steps to have this business included in the agenda of a meeting of your Council convened for that day.

It is provided by Section 8 (3) of the Act that fourteen members of the County Vocational Education Committee shall be elected by your Council of whom not less than five nor more than eight shall be persons who are members of the Council; and Section 8 (4) specifies the considerations to which the Council shall have regard in making their selection.

As soon as possible after the election particulars of the persons elected should be transmitted to the Department."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Colonel Quin:- "That the number of County Councillors to be elected as members of Co. Wexford Vocational Committee be eight."

Mr Cummins proposed and Mr Murphy seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That two County Councillors from each of the four Electoral areas of the County be appointed."

Colonel Gibbon proposed and Mr Jordan seconded the following resolution:- "That the members of each County Electoral Area in attendance at this meeting select their own representatives on County Vocational Committee."

Colonel Quin proposed the following amendment:- "That the selection of County Councillors from each County Electoral Area as members of County Wexford Vocational Committee be made by the full County Council as assembled at this meeting.

Mr Keegan seconded.

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

For - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Cooney, Cummins, D'Arcy, Gaul, Hall, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Quin, Shammon and Smyth - 14.

Against - Messrs Brennan, Colfer, Corish, Culleton, Gibbon, Hayes, Jordan, Murphy and the Chairman - 9.

The Chairman declared the amendment carried. On being put as the substantive motion it was adopted nem con.

Gorey Area. Mr Smyth proposed the election of Mr D'Arcy.

The Chairman seconded.

Mr Culleton proposed Colonel Quin. The Chairman seconded.

Mr O'Byrne was proposed by Mr Corish seconded by Mr Clince.

Mr Cummins proposed Mr Keegan. Mr Cooney seconded.

Mr Hall was proposed by Mr McCarthy seconded by Mr Murphy.

It was decided that on the poll each Councillor would vote for two members.

The following is the result:

For Mr Hall - Messrs Brennan, Clince, Culleton, Cummins, Gaul, Gibbon, Jordan, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Ryan, Smyth and the Chairman - 12.

For Mr O'Byrne - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Gaul, Hayes, McCarthy, Quin and Shannon - 10.

For Mr Keegan - Messrs Armstrong, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Hayes, O'Ryan, and Shannon - 8.

For Mr D'Arcy - Messrs Brennan, Murphy, Quin and Smyth - 4.

For Colonel Quin - Messrs Culleton, Gibbon, Jordan and the Chairman - 4.

Messrs Hall, O'Byrne, Keegan, D'Arcy and Quin declined to vote.

Colonel Quin and Mr D'Arcy having withdrawn, a vote was taken between Messrs O'Byrne and Keegan with the following result:-

For Mr O'Byrne - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Culleton, Gaul, Gibbon, Hayes, Jordan, McCarthy, Murphy,,

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Quin and Shannon - 14.

For Mr Keegan - Messrs Brennan, Cummins, D'Arcy, Hall, O'Ryan, Smyth and the Chairman - 7.

Messrs O'Byrne and Keegan did not vote.

The Chairman declared Messrs Hall and O'Byrne elected.
Enniscorthy Area. Mr Cline proposed the selection of Mr Shannon and Mr Corish seconded.

Passed.

Mr Jordan was elected on the motion of Mr Murphy seconded by Mr Culleton.

New Ross Area. Mr Cummins, was proposed by Miss O'Ryan, seconded by Mr Keegan.

Mr Colfer was proposed by Mr Corish seconded by Mr Cline.

Mr Brennan was proposed by Mr Murphy seconded by Colonel Gibbon.

A poll was taken with the following result, each member voting for two:-

For Mr Cummins - Messrs Armstrong, Cline, Cooney, Corish, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gaul, Gibbon, Hall, Hayes, Jordan, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Quin, Shannon, Smyth, Keegan and the Chairman - 20.

For Mr Colfer - Messrs Armstrong, Cline, Cooney, Corish, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan and Shannon - 11.

For Mr Brennan - Messrs Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Jordan, Cummins, Murphy, Quin, Smyth and the Chairman - 9.

Messrs Colfer and Brennan did not vote.

The Chairman declared Mr Cummins elected and was of opinion that a further poll should be taken between Messrs Colfer and Brennan.

Mr Elgee said he held Mr Colfer who was second highest on the poll had been duly elected.

The Chairman then declared Mr Colfer elected.

Wexford Area. Colonel Quin proposed Colonel Gibbon. Mr Culleton seconded.

This motion was subsequently withdrawn.

Colonel Gibbon proposed the selection of Mr Doyle, Chairman of the Council. Colonel Quin seconded.

Mr Cooney proposed Mr Hayes and the motion was seconded by Mr Corish.

Mr Cummins proposed Miss O'Ryan. Mr Hall seconded.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Clince seconded the selection of Mr Gaul but ~~the~~ latter declined to allow his name to go forward.

A poll was then taken between Miss O'Ryan, the Chairman and Mr Hayes with the following result, each member voting for two.

For Miss O'Ryan - Messrs Armstrong, Brennan, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Culleton, Cummins, D'Arcy, Gaul, Gibbon, Jordan, Hall, Keegan, Murphy, O'Byrne, Quin, Shannon and Smyth - 19.

For Mr Doyle - Messrs Brennan, Culleton, Cummins, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Keegan, McCarthy, Murphy, Quin and Smyth - 12.

For Mr Hayes - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Gaul, McCarthy, O'Byrne, and Shannon - 9.

Miss O'Ryan and Messrs Doyle and Hayes took no part in the voting.

The Chairman declared Miss O'Ryan and himself elected.

As regards the election of the six outsiders on the Committee the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Colonel Gibbon seconded by Mr Corish:-

"That one outside member of County Vocational Education Committee from each of the four County Electoral areas be selected. Gorey Area. Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Clince seconded the election of Mr Andrew McCann, Newbridge, Camolin. This motion was adopted.

Enniscorthy Area. Mr McCarthy proposed the election of Rev. John Codd C.C. St. Aidan's, Enniscorthy.

Mr Gaul seconded.

Colonel Gibbon proposed and Colonel Quin seconded the election of Dr Greene, Glann - na - Smoll, Enniscorthy, but this motion

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was subsequently withdrawn and Father Codd was elected, unanimously.

New Ross Area. Mr Cummins proposed the election of Mr Henry P. Gahan, Little Graigue, Fethard. Mr Colfer seconded.

Mr Brennan proposed Mr William Thorpe, Knockroe, New Ross. Mr Murphy seconded.

A poll was taken with the following result -

For Thorpe - Messrs Brennan, Cooney, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, McCarthy, Murphy, Quin, Smyth and the Chairman - 12.

For Gahan - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Corish, Cummins, Hayes, Keegan, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Shannon - 10.

Mr Gaul did not vote.

The Chairman declared Mr Thorpe selected.

Wexford Area. Mr Corish proposed the election of Mr Christopher Culleton, Ringaheen, Ballygogley. Mr Shannon seconded.

Mr Culleton proposed the appointment of Miss Browne, Rathronan Castle, Bridgetown. Colonel Quin seconded.

Mr O'Byrne proposed the election of Rev. John Butler C.C. The Presbytery, Wexford.

Mr O'Byrne then withdrew the name of Fr. Butler and a vote was taken as between Miss Browne and Culleton with the following result.

For Culleton - Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Shannon & 12.

For Miss Browne - Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, McCarthy, Murphy, Quin, Smyth and Chairman - 11.

The Chairman declared Mr Culleton elected.

Colonel Gibbon then proposed the selection of Rev J. Butler C.C., The Presbytery, Wexford, and Rev T. Talbot, Rector, Horetown, Taghmon. Colonel Quin seconded.

Mr Clince proposed and Mr Cummins seconded the selection of Mr Edward P. Foley, Crossabeg, Wexford.

A poll was taken with the following result each member voting for two.

For Fr. Butler - Messrs Armstrong, Brennan, Cline, Colfer, Corish, Culleton, Cummins, D'Arcy, Gaul, Gibbon, Hall, Hayes, Jordan, Keegan, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Quin, Shannon, Smyth and the Chairman - 22.

For Rev Mr Talbot - Messrs Armstrong, Brennan, Corish, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gaul, Gibbon, Jordan, McCarthy, Murphy, Quin, Smyth and the Chairman - 13.

For Mr Foley - Messrs Cline, Colfer, Cummins, Hall, Hayes, Keegan, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, and Shannon - 9.

Mr Cooney declined voting.

The Chairman declared Father Butler and Rev. T. Talbot elected.

VACANCIES ON OLD AGE PENSION SUB-COMMITTEES.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Murphy seconded by Mr Cline:- "That Rev Mark Newcome C.C. Ballymitty be appointed a member of No. 1 Sub-Committee (Old Age Pension Committee) vice Rev J.J. Murphy C.C. left the district.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Cline seconded by Mr Culleton:- "That Rev N.J. Redmond C.C. Blackwater be appointed a member of No. 8 Old Age Pension Sub-Committee vice Rev. J. Somers C.C. left the district.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr McCarthy:- "That Rev. Br. J.B. Lutteral Superior Christian Schools Wexford be appointed a member of Co. Council Scholarship Committee vice Rev. Br. E.C. Markey transferred from Wexford."

RATING FOR LIBRARY SCHEMES.

The following under date 22nd September, 1930 (Circular No. 37 - 1930) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that it is evident from correspondence received by the Department that where Urban Districts are in-

cluded in County Library Schemes the method of rating involved by Section 65 (6) of the Local Government Act, 1925, is not properly understood and I am to request that all steps necessary to bring about compliance with the Act of 1925 may be taken prior to the making of the rate for 1931/32.

The various steps are as follows:-

1. The adoption of the Public Libraries (Ireland) Act 1855 by formal resolution of the County Council under section 65 of the Local Government Act, 1925.

2. (a) The adoption of the Public Libraries (Ireland) Act, 1855 by formal resolution of the Urban District Council in accordance with the procedure laid down by Section (1) of the Public Libraries (Ireland) Act, 1894, which involves special notice of the meeting, subsequent publication of the resolution, etc.

(b) Then the relinquishment in favour of the County Council by formal resolution of the Urban District Council of their powers and duties under the Libraries Acts, 1885 to 1920, on terms agreed to by both Councils.

(c) The approval of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to these terms of agreement.

3. The County Council thereupon become the Library Authority for the Urban Area as well as for the non-urban area for which they adopted the Act 1855.

4. The Administration of the Service is conducted through a Libraries Committee appointed by the County Council with certain defined powers and functions.

5. By circular of the 11th December, 1928, County Councils were recommended to confer the power of making payments on such Committees under Section 58 of the Local Government Act, 1925.

6. The approval of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to the delegation of this power to the Committee is required.

7. The Urban Council having divested themselves of their powers under the Libraries Acts no longer have the power of mak-

ing a Library rate - this power has passed to the County Council .

8. The expenses of the County Council for the non-urban portion of the Library service are chargeable to that area under Section 65 (3) of the Local Government Act, 1925. In practice the proceeds of the rate levied within the maximum limit of 3d. will be transferred to the Libraries Committee for administration.

9. The expenses of the County Council for the transferred Urban portion of the Library service are chargeable to the Urban area under Section 65 (3) and (6) of the Act of 1925. The County Council will accordingly demand the requisite sum from the Urban Council to be raised by the latter body in the Poor Rate the amount being shown as a separate item of the ordinary Poor Rate Demand. The County Council Demand for the Urban Library Service must fall within the maximum rating limit of 3d and also within any lesser limit fixed by the terms of their approved agreement with the Urban Council as referred to in paragraph 2 (b) above.

I am to request an assurance that the various steps outlined have been taken and, in particular, a reference to the resolutions of the Councils and the approval of the Minister ^{where} ~~were~~ required. Copies of this circular have been sent to the County Librarians for the information ~~of~~ their Committees and additional copies are enclosed for transmission to the Clerk of each Urban District Council concerned."

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

"That we, the Wexford County Council hereby adopt the Public Libraries (Ireland) Act 1855 for the whole of the Administrative County of Wexford exclusive of the Urban Districts."

CARE ETC OF THE BLIND.

The following under date 29th September (P.H. 70221/1930. + Loch Garman.) was read from Department of Local Government:-

"With reference to the resolution adopted by the Wexford County Council at their Meeting on the 8th instant, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to ex-

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plain, for the information of the Council, that the State is already contributing towards the provision of facilities for the education, industrial training and employment of blind persons in workshops and for their maintenance in Hostels and Homes established by approved agencies. During the year ended 31st March last the amount of the State contribution to approved agencies was £7,820.

I am to point out that the Schemes for the Welfare of the Blind which have now been adopted practically universally in Saorstát Éireann make ample provision for the needs of the necessitous blind."

MOUNTGARRETT BRIDGE COMMITTEE.

Under date 25th September, 1930, the Department of Local Government wrote (76275/30) forwarding report of their Auditor on his audit of the accounts of the Mountgarrett Bridge Committee for the six half years ended 31st March, 1930, with certified abstracts.

The lowest tender for erection of the Bridge from Messrs John Hearne & Sons, Waterford at £18,839: 0: 5d. had been accepted. Later a tender for erection of caretaker's house at £370 - the lowest was accepted. To the 31st March last the net expenditure had been £21,755: 7: 9d. in respect of the bridge and £5: 16: 6d. in respect of the caretaker's house and there remained about £60 to be paid for incidentals.

The Committee had held 23 meetings to date and the Government had so far contributed £4,500 towards the work.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

Under date 4th October 1930 the Department of Agriculture wrote (L. 3661 - 30) that an officer of the Department had during the month of September last obtained the following samples of butter which on submission to the County Analyst were found to be genuine:- Enniscorthy 4; Ferns 4; Buncloody 4 and Gorey 4.

DATES OF EXAMINATION FOR SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL
SCHOLARSHIPS.

Under date 30th September the following was read from the Department of Education:-

"With reference to your communication of the 6th instant, I am directed to inform you that the Department found it necessary to change the date of the Examination for entrance to Preparatory Colleges from June to Easter Week and that it is most convenient to hold the County Council Scholarship Examination at the same time as the Preparatory College Examination. The County Councils generally have agreed to the arrangement. In the circumstances I am to request you to be good enough to bring the matter before your Council for reconsideration with a view to saving the expense and trouble of a special Examination."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Colonel Gibbon:- "We desire to point out to the Department of National Education that our Scholarship Committee are most emphatic in stating that the holding of County Council Examination for Secondary Scholarships at Easter will mean that pupils would have only three fourths of the normal period for preparation."

APPLICATION FOR REMISSION OF RATES.

Mr James Bent, the Burrow, Rosslare, wrote asking for a remission of his rates, and in support of his application dealt with the poor quality of his land, the amount of it taken away by the inroads of the sea, and complaining of the impassable state of the approach to his house.

The Chairman stated that Mr Bent was seeking to have a storm wall erected so that he could have a roadway to his house. Such a storm wall would require to be half a mile in length or a little more and he (Chairman) did not know that the Council would be justified in the expenditure.

Colonel Gibbon stated the Government were experimenting with rice grass and other seed to build up land there, and if the Government could be prevailed upon to take similar action at the place where Mr Bent resided no better site for the ex-

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periment could be obtained than between Hopeland and Mr Bent's gap. It might build up the place on which he then could get a roadway. Colonel Gibbon suggested that the T.D.'s should make representations to the Government to provide a certain amount of seed for the purpose.

Replying to Mr Corish T.D., the Chairman stated that Mr Bent was a purchased tenant of the Boyd estate. He did not know the position in regard to Mr Bent's holding at Hopeland.

Mr Corish stated there was always a certain amount of money available for certain work in the Land Commission, but he could not say whether any of it would be allocated for the matter under discussion.

Chairman - The man is certainly enduring a lot of hardship.

Mr Corish - He is in a bad way.

The Chairman further stated that Mr Mobbs, engineer, Lowestoft, who visited Rosslare, recently spoke about using rice grass.

Colonel Gibbon stated he specially brought Mr Mobbs down to the place where Mr Bent lived.

It was decided that Mr Jordan and Mr Corish, T.D.'s should take up the matter with the Land Commission.

POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT. -----

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Clince:- "That Licence under Poisons and Pharmacy Act issue to Mr Edward Brennan, Taghmon."

ELECTRICITY CABLE IN NEW ROSS. -----

Letter from Electricity Supply Board as to laying of cable in New Ross and suggesting that the work of reinstating the streets consequent on this work should be carried out by the County Council at the cost of the Board was referred to the County Surveyor who was empowered to deal with the matter.

HOUSING BOARD FOR AN SADRSTAT. -----

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr

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O'Byrne seconded by Mr Cummins:- "That the Government be asked to establish a Housing Board, financed and controlled in such a manner as to be enabled to build houses either by Direct Labour or by Contract, and at such a rate as to ensure the erection of 50,000 Houses within a period of the next ten years, thereby eliminating one of the gravest dangers to Public Health, arising out of the overcrowded condition of the housing in this Country, which, according to the standard of civilised countries, is estimated at seventy-five per cent."

IRISH INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

Mr A.M. O'Brien, General Manager of the Irish Industrial Exhibition (Cork) wrote stating that he had been instructed by the executive council to request the name of the Chairman of the Council to be included amongst the Hon. Presidents of the exhibition to be held ~~at~~ Cork in 1932. The Exhibition, he stated, aimed to bring together under one roof all the manufactures and products of Ireland, it would serve to stimulate trade at home would be fully pre-eminently Irish in character and afterwards International. The Exhibition has the patronage of the President of the Executive Council of the Free State.

On the proposition of Mr Sean O'Byrne, seconded by Mr Hall it was decided to submit the name of the Chairman to the Exhibition Executive as requested in their communication."

EXPORT OF OLD AND WORN OUT HORSES.

Communications were read from Miss O'Flaherty, Hon. Secretary, Enniscorthy and District Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, asking the County Council to condemn the traffic of exporting old and worn out horses in view of the extreme cruelty with which the trade was carried on.

No action.

PROFESSOR OF NATIONAL ECONOMICS → NATIONAL UNIVERSITY.

The following resolution from the Gaelic League, 25 Parnell Square, Dublin, was approved on the motion of Mr O'Byrne, sec-

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ended by Mr Hall:- "As we understand a Professor of National Economics will shortly be selected by the Senate of the National University in the room of Fr. Finlay retired, we consider the Professor appointed to the position should be not alone a fluent Irish speaker but have a real National outlook and thus help to bring about the Gaelicization of the University and also of the Country as a whole."

NO ROAD TO HOUSES.

Mr Cummins called attention to the position of Messrs Michael Fortune, Slade and Patrick Moran, Slade, purchased-out tenants who had no roadway in or out of their holdings. They were at present using a passway through another man's land and they did not know how long this favour would be allowed to continue. Two officials from the Land Commission had been with the men recently and admitted they were entitled to some means to get in and out of their places. They had recently received a Civil Bill for their annuities and he Mr Cummins considered that the claims of the men should be considered and satisfied before they were brought to Court.

It was decided to call the attention of the Land Commission to the matter.

GRAIN GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

The Secretary, in reply to Mr. Cummins, said that no communication had been received from Mr. J. J. Bergin, Secretary Irish Grain Growers' Association, in reference to the resolutions from that body which were passed by the Council.

Mr. Cummins stated he had proposed that the Council ask the T.D's for the county to attend before the Council so that they could be given instructions as to the state of the country, with the object of bringing the matter before the Dail.

The Chairman stated that before the last conference of the Grain Growers' Association he received a letter from the Secretary asking him to nominate a member from the Council to attend. As there was no meeting of the Council between then and the conference, and as no expenses were allowed for the attendance of a delegate, he decided not to ask anyone to go to Dublin on his behalf.

Mr. Corish - I was there.

Chairman - I am explaining why we were not represented.

If the County Council desired to be represented at the meeting of the Grain Growers' Association they should pay the expenses of their representative.

Replying to a query, the Chairman stated that he did not know whether the Department would allow expenses to a delegate. The Grain Growers' Association had funds. It was, more or less, a shame that Co. Wexford which was a big tillage county, had no branches of the association. Other counties which had branches had their own funds and they could afford to send delegations to the meetings.

Mr. Hall - They are collecting outside their own counties; they are collecting in this county.

Chairman - They are not collecting.

Mr. Hall - They were looking for it.

Chairman - I know they were, and I know they got no money.

Mr. Hall - I don't believe they got much.

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Mr. Cummins said that his proposition at the previous meeting was more necessary to-day than when he moved it. They all knew from the position of affairs that it was more essential to carry it into effect. His proposition, as he already stated, was that they request the T.D.'s for the county to attend at the County Council meeting so that they could be instructed as to the requirements of the people, so that they could raise the matter in the Dail. They had Mr. Jordan and Mr. Corish present that day, and as the next meeting of the County Council was so far away, they should consider his suggestion so that some steps be taken immediately for the redress of the disabilities under which the people not only of the County, but, of the whole country, were suffering.

The Chairman stated he understood that at the last conference of the Grain Growers' Association a strong resolution was passed, and it called upon President Cosgrave to summon a special sitting of the Dail.

Mr. Cummins said that the members of the Government and the Dail had holidays long enough, and it was time they came to the rescue of the people. The country was in a terrible state, and something should be done.

Chairman - What resolution do you intend to propose ?.

Mr. Cummins - Calling on the T.D.'s to have a meeting of the Dail summoned immediately.

Chairman - The Grain Growers' Conference have done that.

Mr. Cummins said the T.D.'s were the representatives of the people, and the Government was formed from them. They had been sent to the Dail as the representatives of the people, who had to decide the government which the country should have. The representatives were only sent to the Dail as the people could not go there themselves.

The Chairman said that as far as he knew the Grain Growers' Association was awaiting a reply to their resolution calling for a special meeting of the Dail. He, therefore, did not see how

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the could go any further.

Miss N. O'Ryan suggested, as the Council was not officially represented at the Conference they could agree with the resolution passed by the Conference and say they were behind it in the demand which it made. She proposed the following which was seconded by Mr. Keegan and adopted:- "That we fall in with the Grain Growers' Association asking to have a special meeting of the Dail in order to have the resolutions adopted at the last meeting of this Association put into effect!"

SLIPPERY ROADS

Mr. Shannon referred to the Enniscorthy-New Ross Road, and said that several serious accidents had happened on that road.

Chairman - This is not a Roads' meeting.

Mr. Shannon - I know, but if something can be done it is very important that it should be done before the Roads' meeting.

Proceeding Mr. Shannon said there were six accidents on the slippery surface of the road, one of which was near being fatal, within the past month or six weeks. It was impossible for a horse to travel on the road. He wished to know if anything could be done to relieve the slipperiness. It was putting the agricultural man off the road altogether as far as horse traffic was concerned. There were people going to Enniscorthy at present by a circuitous route for the simple reason that they could not travel on the road in question.

County Surveyor - Bitumenous roads are bound to be slippery. I don't see what you can do.

Mr. Shannon - It is beyond slippery, it is dangerous.

The Chairman said that the bit of road from Wexford to Kerlogue was very bad also. He never saw it worse than it was on the previous Thursday.

Mr. Shannon asked if it would be possible to have some sand put on each side of the Enniscorthy-New Ross road so that a horse could keep his feet?.

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County Surveyor - We tried that, and it goes away after a fortnight or so.

Mr. Hall said he agreed with Mr. Shannon. The people from the district in question had told him also that they could not go to Enniscorthy. They told him they would not get to go to Enniscorthy if something were not done - they would have to go some place else for their market.

Mr. Keegan said that with regard to road at the place where he resided, he had got so nervous that when he saw a horse coming he went away and shut the door for fear he would be on an inquest. It was miserable to try and get down and up that street. It was a sheet of ice - a proper death-trap. He did not say that the whole street was bad, but the place he referred to was very bad. He pointed out its condition six or seven times, and not a ha'porth was done.

The Chairman said he had had a communication from Mr. Keegan's district with reference to someone who had experienced a few falls, and it was stated that the roads were entirely impassable for horse traffic.

Mr. Shannon - Another thing in connection with this road I refer to: it is doing a great injury to the town of Enniscorthy; as people can't get into the town.

Chairman - I think this question has been before the County Surveyor for a good while.

County Surveyor - We put sand on this road in places on the hills, and it was just as bad in a fortnight.

The Chairman said he thought the construction of the road surface was at fault. The new road from Jones' Cross to Kerlogue was not slippery, because, he thought, as much tar was not used on it as on other roads. There was no sign of tar on top at all, and it was quite passable for anything.

Colonel Gibbon said he recently read reports on tarred roads

in England, and his impression was that when such roads were laid there was no way of getting a new surface that would not be slippery unless by relaying by a new method. A new bitumen, with shell in it that would obviate slipping had apparently been discovered, but it was a new substance and was not available in any quantity. He did not think that the County Surveyor could do much with the roads in question with regard to remedying slipperiness, as the cost would be prohibitive and would mean bigger charges on the county, when they could not afford the charges that were on it already. He thought that the County Surveyor should consult with the Roads Board and see if a remedy could be found but he thought the Council could put it out of their minds that one would be found.

Mr. Keegan proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Mr. Hall and adopted:- "That the County Surveyor be instructed to submit to next Roads' Meeting of the Co. Council suggestions with a view to dealing with the slippery nature of tarred roads so that horse traffic may be possible thereon"

Michael Doyle

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

MEETING 27TH OCTOBER 1930.

MINUTES.

FORTVIEW,
WEXFORD.

N.J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

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A meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 27th October, 1930.

Present - Mr M. Doyle (Chairman) presiding; also Messrs James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Clince, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Col. C.M. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, William P. Keegan, Thomas McCarthy, Sean O'Byrne, James Shannon, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, County Surveyor, Assistant Surveyors Kehoe, Treanor, Ennis, O'Neill, and Cullen, and Mr Elgee, Solicitor, were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £2520: 5: 5d. and for £600 (Transfer of Road Grant to Wexford Urban District Council) were examined and signed.

REPLIES TO VOTES OF SYMPATHY.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That letters of Messrs T.J. Maylor, and W. Doyle in reply to votes of sympathy passed by this County Council be inserted on this day's minutes.

Mr Maylor wrote:-

"Will you please convey to the members of the Council and of your staff my deep appreciation of their kind expression of sympathy on the death of my uncle R.I.P. Also accept my thanks for your kind personal message as one long acquainted with the family."

Mr William Doyle wrote:-

"I beg to acknowledge with thanks on behalf of myself and relatives your vote of condolence on the death of my dear brother. Also Secretary and Staff of the Council for their sympathy in our recent sad bereavement."

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COUNTY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The following report was submitted by the County Surveyor:-

"I am at present preparing my Estimate for the year 1931-32, and shall submit same to the Council in due course. In connection with this I wish to point out that under the Public Bodies Order County Councillors who wish to bring forward proposals should submit same to the County Surveyor in writing before the 1st prox.

Recently I have had communication from the Local Government Department asking for returns of the estimated cost of maintenance of Main Roads for the next three years, and also for details of Main Roads requiring reconstruction within the period, and the estimated cost of same. I have furnished these particulars to the Department.

In connection with the reconstruction work I wish to point out that there are several roads that are in a particularly bad condition at the present time, and there is no hope of any improvement without aid of a substantial Government Grant. The roads I refer to are about three miles of the Enniscorthy-Bunclody road; long lengths of the Duncannon road, and also road between Wexford and Castlebridge. The completion of the Wexford-New Ross Road is also of pressing necessity.

The cement macadam work on the Wexford New Ross Road, and the Gorey-Courtown road is very forward, and on completion will be a good job.

I have gone into the cost figures of the Rosslare road, and owing to the heavy nature of the work, and the necessity for using extra cement and sand the expenditure has gone beyond what was originally contemplated. The Council considered that a sum of £240 was a reasonable extra on the Gorey-Courtown Road for extra cement, but for the Rosslare Road this has not proved sufficient. Making allowance for this £240 there

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is still an excess of £104 on the whole job. At the present time the Machinery Account has not been dealt with in connection with the work. I propose bringing forward proposal in my Estimate for dealing with deficit.

On the 21st instant the Committee to deal with screenings in Gravel Pits was summoned, and Mr Armstrong was the only Councillor in attendance. I discussed with him and the Assistant Surveyor the question^{of} the sale of a large bank of existing "tailings" in Clohamon Pit, and we decided to recommend the Council to sell to local people the stuff at 1/- per yard. This stuff is fair sand but is not sufficiently clean for important floor or road work. It would be impossible without very high expense to separate out the clay from the tailings when preparing gravel for the roads,

On the 24th instant the Committee was summoned to deal with the Bye-roads damaged by the work on the Gorey-Courtown Road, possibly owing to the hour at which the Committee was summoned only Councillor Mr Keegan was in attendance. I interviewed Mr Keegan, and we discussed the work generally, and report that nothing more can be done than is at present being attended to.

At last meeting of the County Council I was directed to consider what steps should be taken to deal with slipperiness of roads that have been Bitumen dressed. I have already this Summer been considering the matter, and have made some attempt to prevent this nuisance. In some places on hills I have used extra large chippings, and an increased quantity, which have been rolled in. This will certainly have a good effect, but I do not believe it will be permanent, and I also am of opinion that such work if made general will considerably increase the cost of maintenance, and moreover, will depreciate the life of the road. In Gorey Street on the 24th instant I observed horses slipping on the surface, and have arranged to have fine chippings spread on each side so as to give some chance to horses travelling up and down. This will, I believe, be only a temporary measure.

I have received from the Minister of Justice notification

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that direct communication from the cells to the dock must be provided in the new Court in Wexford. I brought this matter before the Finance Committee on the 23rd instant, and was directed to again communicate with the Minister in regard to the provision of the money for the work, and this has been done.

There is no further communication from the Minister of Industry and Commerce in regard to the provision of new gates at Courtown Harbour. I consider that we should at once have a decision, as otherwise next Spring and early Summer we will be unable to carry out the work which is essential.

Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, has obtained tenders for the repairs of the Union Buildings in Gorey, and I shall submit same for your consideration.

I have received letter from Messrs O'Flaherty and Son, Solicitors, complaining of damage done to Miss Forrestal's premises at Killagoley by flooding. I shall submit same to the meeting.

I submit list of Defaulting Contractors against whom proceedings should be taken, or their roads taken up under 54th Section."

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

Gorey-Wexford Road: The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Culleton:- "That the Department of Local Government (Roads) be requested to inform this County Council as soon as possible of the amount of Grants which it is proposed to allocate to County Wexford for works of road reconstruction. We would direct the attention of the Department to the reference in County Surveyor's report to the condition of Enniscorthy-Bunclody Road, the Duncannon Road and also the Road between Wexford and Gorey long stretches of which require reconstruction. It would be much appreciated by this County Council if the Local Government Department would afford

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early information if they intend allocating Grants for the reconstruction of these roads and what would be the approximate amount of road Grants.

Deficit in Rosslare Concrete Road: In reply to the Chairman the County Surveyor said the deficit on this road would be about £350.

The Chairman asked if it had been ever apparent while the work was in progress that there would be a deficit.

The County Surveyor said this could not have been ascertained until the road had been finished.

Chairman - I asked you three or four times were we within the limit and I was told we were.

The County Surveyor said owing to the nature of the road a lot more cement had to be used than was contemplated. When Mr Quigley of L.G.D. was before the Council it was found that the amount of cement used in the mix was not sufficient.

Chairman - I asked you two or three times if we were within our bounds and I was told we were - for everything.

The County Surveyor said the lowest tender was a couple of thousand pounds over the amount at which he had taken up the job at direct labour, and if they had not provided for the additional cement the job would not have been satisfactory. The Chairman had seen the way the bottom of this road went to pieces.

Chairman - I called your attention to the expenditure several times and I was told always that we were within the limit.

Colonel Gibbon said when extra expense of this nature arose the County Surveyor should come at once to the Council and not wait for months after and until the money provided had been all spent. On the Gorey-Courtown Road a similar state of affairs as regards the provision of extra cement prevailed but the Council curtailed the work.

Mr Keegan said he would like to know when the work on Gorey-Courtown Road had been curtailed: he denied that this was a fact.

The County Surveyor said he expected in the beginning he would have had a saving on the Rosslare Road.

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Mr Culleton said the job had been finished two months ago and it was only now their attention was called to the deficit which might have been £1000.

Chairman - We were never led to believe the job would exceed the amount which had been specified. We were told that savings would balance any extras. I would not mind if we were told of this during reconstruction but it seems late in the day to bring it before us months after the job has been finished.

Mr Hayes - What's the amount of expenditure as compared with the Contractor's tender ?

Chairman - We are not up to it.

Mr Hayes said he thought he remembered a discussion with regard to the portion of the concrete road between Ashfield and Rosslare, and it was admitted by the County Surveyor, or by Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, that they would not be able to keep within the estimate, but would have a saving, as a set-off on the tarred portion.

County Surveyor - That's what we expected, but we had to expend the whole money to do a proper job.

The Chairman said that both the County Surveyor and Mr Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, got ample time in the matter. Questions were put to both of them during construction and afterwards, and the Council, as far as he remembered, were never led to believe that the job would have exceeded the amount specified. The Council were told about the saving here and there that would counter-balance anything extra, but now it was a matter of £300 odd over and above. He would not mind if they had been told about that during the construction, but it seemed a bit late to come along when everything was finished and tell them about the £300 odd over and above. He supposed that all they could do now was try and find some ways and means of paying that.

The discussion ended.

Screenings in Gravel Pits: The Suggestion of the County Surveyor to sell the bank of existing "tailings" in Clohamon gravel pit at

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1/- per yard was approved on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Keegan.

Gorey-Courtown Road: Injury to By Roads: Mr Keegan called attention to the injury which was being done to three roads in consequence of the reconstruction of Gorey-Courtown road.

(1) Fairy Lane; (2) "Pass-if-you-Can" and (3) Boleany and Ballycale Road. The two first were under contract and the third - Boleany - which was the most important was in charge of the County Surveyor. This was being repaired with sea gravel which - owing to the nature of the traffic - was waste of money. "Pass-if-you-Can" was in a wretched state. The sides had not been cleaned up for years, and the same observations applied to Fairy Hill. The gravel was the same as sawdust on the road for usefulness.

The Chairman said it was evident they had caused a lot of mischief by repairing Gorey-Courtown Road (laughter).

Mr Treanor said that the Contractors for "Pass-if-you-Can" and Fairy Hill were ^{up} ~~set~~ for prosecution.

Mr Keegan said that the County Surveyor could get material for the cartage of it in Gorey Hill Quarry.

Mr Treanor said that if he had the money to pay for the cartage he could spread this material at once. It would cost practically nothing.

It was decided that the County Surveyor should consider the provision of funds for payment of the cartage of materials in this instance.

Slippery Roads: Mr Shannon said that there had been two further accidents on the road that he had referred to at the previous meeting of the Council. To his mind the Council would have to do something or the general public would be up in arms against them. He wanted to know from the County Surveyor if there would be any chance of getting a machine something like a manure distributor so that they could, every fortnight or so, distribute sand along the side of the road.

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The County Surveyor said there were machines of the kind.

Mr Shannon - I think one will have to be got, because something will have to be done.

The County Surveyor said he thought Mr Shannon's suggestion was a good one. It might be the most economical way of dealing with the matter, because if they had ordinary labour carting out stuff it might run into a great amount of money.

Mr Shannon said that public opinion was up against the Council on the point, and something would have to be done. He held it was out of the question for a farmer to cart on that road. He suggested that it would be a good thing if a machine could be got to spread material.

County Surveyor - Your proposal is to do only the sides of the road ?

Mr Shannon - That's all.

County Surveyor - Because it would be little or no use in the middle, as it would be knocked off.

Mr Shannon - I only want to give people a chance to travel on what I call one of the best roads in Ireland.

The Chairman said that first of all they would want to find out the cost of the machine, and the cost of the stuff to be put on the road.

Mr Shannon - I think you may leave the cost out. Something will have to be done.

The Chairman said that the road at Kerlogue had wanted to be done quite as badly as the road Mr Shannon referred to, and there were not so many complaints about it now. They had a bitumenous road from Jones' Cross to Kerlogue completed recently, and if all the roads were done like that they would have no complaints, as there was no slipperiness on it whatever.

Mr Shannon remarked that the road he referred to was a tip-top road.

Chairman - It is tip-top, but it is no use to the farming community. What's the difference between the construction of the

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Rosslare road and other roads ?

Mr Culleton asked if the Rosslare road would not wear smooth after a time.

The County Surveyor said it would, but it would take a longer period in which to get smooth.

Chairman - I don't believe it will ever be as bad as the Kerlogue road, because there was not as much ^{put} tar/on it.

Mr Shannon said that a horse could travel safely on a concrete road, but not on a tarred road.

It was decided that the County Surveyor should submit to next meeting of County Council the cost of a grit distributor and the approximate cost of the application of grit at specified intervals.

Position of Prisoner's Dock in County Courthouse: The following extract from Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 23rd October, 1930, was submitted:-

"The County Surveyor submitted letter from the Department of Justice under date 17th October 1930 (297-25) in which it was pointed out that the Circuit Court Judge had written to the County Council that there should be direct communication to the Dock without the prisoner coming in contact with the public and that this could be effected only by having the Dock at the side of the Court, the front facing the Bench and the Jury Box. The following is the concluding paragraph of the letter:-' "The Minister assumes that the County Council will comply with the Judge's suggestions as regards the position of the dock and that you have already received the advice of the Architect from the Board of Works as to the manner in which the change can best be effected, and this Department, therefore, is not in a position to issue any further instructions or suggestions in the matter."'

"It was decided to direct the County Surveyor to inform the Department of Justice that as a change in connection with the position of prisoner's dock in the Courthouse was for the convenience of this Department they should pay the expenses in relation to same, which would amount at about £70."

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The County Surveyor submitted letter from Department of Justice (25 October 1930/297/25) in which it was stated there was no fund at the disposal of the Department out of which the cost of the erection of a staircase leading to the dock could be defrayed.

Chairman - Then they refuse to contribute anything. That's the end of it. Didn't we decide that we would not do it otherwise?

The Secretary said the Council decided to do the work if the Minister contributed towards the extra cost.

The County Surveyor said that according to a resolution passed on the 22nd September the Council decided to carry out the work in accordance with the plans and specifications, that had been approved, and considered that if any alterations were required they should be paid for by the Government.

Chairman - I suppose the resolution must stand when they have refused to comply with the latter part of it.

X It was decided to refer the Ministry to the Council's resolution.

Courtown Harbour Sluice Gates: The County Surveyor further stated that the Ministry agreed to pay half the cost of the gates, and the Council agreed to put up the other half. He had spoken to the Minister in April with regard to the matter, and he said he thought it had been already arranged, and told him to make formal application and the matter would be dealt with. The application had been made, but had not been dealt with, yet.

Mr O'Byrne said they had been given to understand that the Ministry would pay half if the Council agreed to pay the other half. The Council agreed but nothing had yet been done, and the people were suffering.

Mr Corish said it was important that something should be done about Courtown Harbour, and he thought the proper thing to do would be for the County Surveyor and someone else to go to the Ministry and deal directly with the matter.

The following resolution was then adopted on the motion of

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Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:- "That a deputation consisting of Councillors Corish T.D. and Keegan be appointed to wait on the Minister for Fisheries with the County Surveyor. That Mr Allen T.D. be requested to accompany the deputation. That the County Surveyor make arrangements with the Department of Fisheries for the reception of the deputation."

Gorey Old Union Buildings: Mr Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, said that as the result of several storms a good deal of damage to the old Gorey Union Buildings had occurred. He had invited tenders for repair but had received only two replies. Mr John Duncan, Gorey, tendered at £84 and William Willoughby & Sons, Gorey, at £103.

It was decided on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Brennan that consideration of tenders be adjourned.

Flooding at Killagoley: The County Surveyor submitted the following letter under date 23rd October, 1930, and which he had received from Messrs O'Flaherty & Sons, Solicitors, Enniscorthy:-

"We are instructed by Miss Forrestal of Killagoley that owing to the action of the County Council during the making of the new road to Wexford that all the shores which used to take the water from her fields over the road have now been closed with a result that both her dwelling house and out-offices and land under the road have been continually flooded at a great loss to her. We are instructed to take proceedings against the Council and for this purpose we are having the damages assessed. Meantime we would be glad if you had the matter remedied so that no future damage may occur."

It was decided on the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Brennan that the matter be considered in Committee.

The County Surveyor said the water came off Miss Forrestal's own land and crosses the road in heavy flood at times. He thought he might be able to remedy the flooding by a larger grating and a deflector.

After further discussion the following Sub-Committee was appointed to examine the place and report to the Council :-

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Messrs McCarthy, Hall and Shamon with the County Surveyor and County Solicitor, the County Surveyor to arrange for date and hour of inspection and to notify the members of the Sub-Committee.

Mr Elgee said that as long as the water came from Miss Forrestals' land and that, as the County Surveyor stated no alteration was made in the actual drainage when the road was reconstructed he did not see how the Council could be held responsible.

Mr Hall contended that ~~the~~ ^{had} alterations been made.

Defaulting Road Contractors: The County Surveyor submitted the names of the following Road Contractors for prosecution for neglect of their roads:- Bernard McDonald, Kilbora, Camolin, (Road 207); James Hughes, Clones, Castletown (105); David Doyle, Ballinagam, Killenagh; ⁽³⁵⁵⁾ Ml. Codd, Ballyscarton, Gorey (144 and 218); John Hayden, Monamolin, Rathnure (465); Samuel Elmes, Rochestown, New Ross (663 and 664); Joseph Nolan, Ballintreskin, New Ross (685 and 686); Patrick Kennedy, Ballyvergin, Adamstown (744 and 750).

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Corish:- "That proceedings be instituted against the Road Contractors reported to this meeting as being in default unless they carry out at once the necessary work to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor."

The following resolution was then adopted on the motion of Colonel Gibbon seconded by Mr Hall:- "That the report of County Surveyor as submitted to this meeting be and is hereby approved."

KILMORE HARBOUR DREDGING.

The following letter (14667/30 under date 23rd October 1930) was read from the Office of Public Works:-

"We have had under consideration your letter of 5th August 1930. The points raised are not new and have been dealt with in our former letters. It is possible that the County Council

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misapprehend the nature of the engagement into which they entered when they voted the original contribution of £200 (in March 1929) and the additional contribution of £100 (on 30th August 1929). It would appear that the Council suppose that we made a contract with them to produce certain results for a sum of £600 or less, one-half to be paid by the Council, and that the Council has the right to refuse payment if the desired results are not produced. This is not the case. We made no contract. The Council indicated their wishes and gave us certain information as to the conditions existing at Kilmore. We estimated that, assuming these conditions to exist, it might be possible to produce the desired results for £400. The conditions were not as stated by the Council and for this and other reasons it has proved impracticable to produce the results desired even for £600; but we have done the best that could be done for £600 under the existing conditions. We have no responsibility to the County Council to produce any definite result, but only to do the best that can be done, of which we are the judges. The sum of £297:13:2d. is due to us by the Council; if it is not paid by the 15th proximo we shall report the facts to the Department of Finance with a recommendation that the amount be stopped out of Grants payable to the Council, and it will also be our duty to report the facts to the Department of Local Government and Public Health."

County Surveyor - The information we gave them was what we had from previous Fishery Departments or the Board of Works.

Chairman - Where were the conditions altered ?

County Surveyor - There were rubble stones instead of sand. That's really the only thing in it.

Colonel Gibbon said he did not see that the Council could do anything. All the blame was thrown on the Council. The County Surveyor told the Council in his report that he informed the Board of Works that the stuff to be dredged was sand, He (Colonel Gibbon) and other representatives of the Council accompanied the Government Engineer to Kilmore, and they asked him what was to be done before the Council did anything. It was

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more or less on his opinion that they acted, rather than on the report of the County Surveyor, whose main work was, after all, on the roads, and who was not set up as a real expert on the dredging of harbours, whereas the man sent down was an engineer, sent down in the capacity of an expert.

Chairman - What about submitting that argument to the Board of Works ?

Mr Corish said that, as far as he remembered, the position as outlined by Colonel Gibbon was correct. Apparently they were in the hands of the Board of Works in the absence of a proper contract, but at the same time he thought they were entitled to better service from the Board of Works for the amount of money expended. He remembered the time that the last £100 was asked for, and he thought he would be correct in saying that the Department's representatives told them that for the extra money the place would be made navigable. He regarded the place as a monument of inefficiency so far as the Board of Works was concerned. After all the Council would expect from a Government Department that they would at least make a place navigable before they left it, and even if it cost an extra few pounds the Government should have been prepared to do something by way of extra contribution to make the place better than it was before. The place was really worse than it was. It would not do a bit of harm to have the Board of Works report the matter to the Department of Finance and to the Local Government Department so that the circumstances can be ventilated. The County Council had been treated very shabbily by the Board of Works and they should not let the matter rest as it stood. The first interest of the County Council in this matter should be to the local rate-payers and they should do that especially when the Board of Works did not do a good job at Kilmore.

Chairman - I think we should stress that part of it - about the £100 extra, and that they were to make the place navigable, and that it was on their expert advice more than on the advice

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of our own engineers that we acted.

Mr O'Byrne - It was certainly on their expert advice that the £100 was given.

County Surveyor - It should also be pointed out that the question of the sand as the material to be dredged was from their own reports.

Mr Corish - There is no use in knuckling down too easily.

It was decided that a report on the lines suggested should be submitted to the Board of Works.

ROSSLARE COAST EROSION.

The following Report of Mr Sydney Wilfred Mobbs, Borough Surveyor and Engineer, Lowes^tcroft was submitted to the meeting:-

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ROSSLARE COAST EROSION

(COPY)

REPORT

From

MR SYDNEY WILFRED MOBBS
M. I. M. & Cy. E.

Borough Surveyor and Engineer of

LOWESTOFT - EAST SUFFOLK
E N G L A N D

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

OCTOBER, 1930

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To the Chairman and Members of the
WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

1.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the following report with respect to coast erosion between Rosslare Point and Rosslare Harbour Pier, and particularly with respect to Rosslare Strand and its vicinity.

I have examined the coastline between the above points and have made the fullest possible inquiries as to the history and circumstances now prevailing on this length of shore. I should at this point like to acknowledge the very great assistance of your County Surveyor and other Council Officers who have given me the greatest possible help. It is however regrettable that no recent hydrographic survey of the Bay is available.

PRESENT POSITION

The position as I have gathered is as follows:-

The whole shore about $7\frac{1}{4}$ miles in all is at present being eroded - intermittently at some portions - with the exception of about 400 yards at the root of Rosslare Pier, and the erosion is most severe to the Southern end of the Bay tapering off to comparatively little near Rosslare Point.

RECENT ABNORMAL PERIOD

Erosion has been greatly accentuated during the past two years. It may be taken however that this is abnormal - a condition by no means confined to this particular shore - and is due to the long succession of unfavourable winds experienced within that period. For some unexplained reason long successions of South-westerly winds as generally prevailing have not been so frequent as of yore, and, consequently increased rates of erosion have been experienced on many other portions of the East Coasts of Ireland and England.

CHARACTER OF COAST

The Coastline between the two points is of two distinct classes. To the South for a distance of about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Rosslare Pier northward it consists of cliffs of marl of varying heights, with some small outcrops of rock at the base, and further northward to Rosslare

Point it consists of low sandhills, which at some distant period have accreted from the sea, in parts to a considerable distance. The beach of the Southern portion is mainly marl with an overlying skin of sand for the most part, and the northern portion is of firm sand with at times a considerable amount of shingle.

CAUSES OF EROSION

Littoral Drift, by which is meant the trend of movement of material of which beaches are formed, i.e., the debris of erosion of cliffs and shores and sand and material brought down from estuaries and harbours, is markedly from south to north, and it is by interference by artificial means with this drift that the primary and principal cause of the erosion is in my opinion to be found.

The Railway Company's Pier at Rosslare Harbour is responsible for the major portion of the trouble. The building of the pier and its extension has so interfered with the littoral drift that material is considerably obstructed at the root of the pier, resulting in a large accumulation of material at this point, tides have been deflected and the necessary dredging has provided so to speak a settling tank which traps large quantities of sand carried in suspension; this is again dredged and taken away southwards and the beach further north is deprived of its natural supply.

Another contributory cause is the removal of shingle of sand from near Rosslare Strand although to a far less degree.

It is not generally understood that a beach subject to tidal and wave action has a constantly changing surface. Under certain weather conditions all beaches are subject to attrition, the eroded material either temporarily being dragged seaward or moved further along the coastline. The material so moved is replaced by other material travelling along the coast and nature thus in a stable beach preserves balance. Obstruction of travel of material at any point by artificial means thus upsets the balance by obstructing and accumulating material, and erosion, as it is generally termed, takes

place further along the shore; in other words the beach is starved of compensating material.

POSSIBLE MEASURES OF PROTECTION

Under present conditions to adequately protect the whole of the coast between the two Harbours would be a very serious and costly undertaking. The southern $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles with marl cliffs adjoining would require very heavy and costly works; cliffs of this type are very treacherous and require not only groynes to arrest shingle but also heavy sheet piled retaining walls and adequate land drainage, and is moreover very awkward to get at. This portion would cost at least £220,000 to make safe, and assuming the construction of such works are within the legal powers of the Council it is doubtful whether the value of adjoining land is sufficient to warrant such outlay.

The remaining $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles of coast is of entirely different character, bordered by low sandhills. This portion could be adequately protected by means of groynes and a light reinforced concrete revetment, at the rate of approximately £25,000 per mile. Groyning would cost £1:10: 0d per foot run of coast and revetment £3: 0: 0d per foot run of coast. Thus the total cost of protecting the whole length between the two harbours would cost approximately £340,000.

LENGTH OF COAST OPPOSITE COUNTY COUNCIL ROAD

With respect to the County Council Road southward of the Coastguard Station, I have to say that nothing can now save this road for the major portion of its length.

It is possible to stabilise the foot of the cliff by means of groynes and revetment (as shown in red on enclosed maps), but the angle of cliff is so steep that inevitably further falls would occur, by reason of ordinary weather and drainage conditions, until the cliff attained a natural slope, the crest of which would be well at the rear of the existing road.

The cost of protection for the length of 300 yards would be approximately £4,500, and furthermore protection of an isolated portion such as this would have the effect of increasing to some extent, for a time - probably a year or two - until the groynes became full, erosion

in front of Rosslare Strand.

In this respect I find myself in direct opposition to Mr Delap (report to Rosslare Tourist and Development Association - January 20th 1930). Protection of this portion of the shore, having regard to the direction of Littoral Drift, would not in my opinion save the Sea Front of Rosslare.

Apart from the consideration that in any case it would be more economical to divert the road, even if it were possible to retain same on its existing site, the Council would have to decide if such temporarily accelerated erosion could be afforded in front of property in Rosslare Strand.

I cannot recommend that if any permanent protection work is undertaken less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of coast should be dealt with at one time (as shown in blue and red on enclosed maps), extending from opposite the County Council's roadway to Rosslare House, at a cost of approximately £37,500; suitable types of defences are shown on attached plans.

The type of groyne shown is that invented by myself and now largely used on the East Coast of England, consisting of thin reinforced concrete slabs of triangular section held together by heavy chains and capable of some amount of lateral movement.

It is not patented in the Irish Free State.

Assuming this were done there would still be the risk of somewhat accelerated erosion for a mile or so to the northward for a year or two, after which the works would have no effect - detrimental or otherwise on adjacent portions of the beach.

OTHER MEASURES

In my opinion as already expressed valuable help will be given the shore:-

(1) By stopping the removal of material - particularly shingle - from being removed from the shore.

(2) Inducing the Railway Company to deposit dredging as near to the shore as possible northward instead of southward of Rosslare Pier.

Owners of property at Rosslare Strand will be well advised to conserve and fix sand along their frontages by systematically planting

marram (or bent) grass as sand accumulates as near as possible to High Water Mark. Marram on top of sandhills is of very little service, but close to sea level is very resistant to erosive action.

The use of faggoting of any kind is also useful.

Assuming that these measures are adopted it may be found possible - it is impossible to forecast with any degree of certainty - that the beach may be so improved that the beach opposite Rosslare Strand can be stabilised by means of groynes alone, if so the cost of protection would be reduced within reasonable limits, amounting to £8,000 per mile. Thus Rosslare Strand might be saved at a cost of about £12,000.

I recommend that the latter policy should be adopted.

In my opinion the higher portions of the slob behind the spit to Rosslare Point can be successfully raised and reclaimed over a period of years by the planting of rice grass; experience of this is already available in Ireland and one of your scientific institutes could by analysis of the mud decide as to its suitability and a trial over a small area would cost a very nominal amount.

In conclusion I should be happy to further amplify any points not sufficiently clear in this report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) SYDNEY W. MOBBS.

Colonel Gibbon said that at the last meeting of the County Council he proposed that the Press should be given the report of Mr Mobbs, engineer, with reference to Rosslare Coast Erosion. The County Council ordered that the Report should not be given to the Press, and he was surprised to see that, without any meeting having taken place since, the report had been given to the Press and had been published. He thought it only right to call attention to the matter, because he suggested that it should be given to the Press at the last meeting.

The Chairman said it struck him also as being peculiar to see the report in print though the Council's order at the last meeting was that it was to be circulated to the County Councillors and not to be given to the Press. He did not know how it came to be in the Press.

Secretary - I got a copy of the report from the County Surveyor and that's all I know about it.

County Surveyor - I gave no instructions to have any copy given to the Press, and to my knowledge none was given from my office.

Colonel Gibbon said he only brought up the matter because it was obviously an irregular thing to have happened, and while he did not think any harm had been done - he originally thought the report would not have done any harm if published - yet he thought it was a wrong precedent to establish. If they made an order they should be quite certain that a document would not appear. In another case it might be veryⁱⁿ⁻advisable to have a document published.

Chairman - The only difference I see that publication has made was that it armed everyone in Rosslare with a veto to drive everyone off the strand within the last few days. That's all the harm that I see it has done.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Hall:- "That a copy of report of Mr Mobbs Borough Surveyor and Engineer, Lowercroft, be furnished the Department of Industry and Commerce and that it be pointed out to

them that the enormous amount estimated by Mr Mobbs to counter-act erosion at Rosslare is beyond the financial ability of any County Council even if the law allowed the Council to provide the necessary funds. We consider this work should be undertaken by the State and without delay."

Under date 17th October, 1930, the following letter (M. S. 447) was read from the Department of Industry and Commerce:-

"I am desired by the Minister for Industry and Commerce to refer to previous correspondence relative to the removal of beach materials from the strand at Rosslare, County Wexford, and to state that, on the application of your Council, an Order has now been made under the Harbours Act 1814 prohibiting the removal of shingle or ballast from the seashore.

A copy of the Prohibitory Order is enclosed. It will be observed that the Order prohibits the removal of sand. It has come to the notice of the Department, however, that certain tenant purchasers of the Boyd Estate a list of whom with their addresses is enclosed have been accustomed to draw sand for agricultural purposes from this beach. The Department cannot recognise that these tenant purchasers have any legal right to make removals from the foreshore which is the property of the State. Nevertheless, it is considered that the complete stopping of this practice might impose undue hardship upon the farmers concerned and it is suggested that, for the present, no interference might be made with these tenant purchasers provided that the removals of sand made by them from the foreshore are used solely for agricultural purposes upon their own lands and do not exceed the total amount of 500 tons per annum. It should be clearly understood that such non-interference is not to be taken as a recognition of any adverse claim to State foreshore and that the removal of gravel, shingle and ballast is totally prohibited.

A copy of the "Iris Oifigiuil" containing the Order will be sent to you in due course for production to the District Justice in the event of a prosecution under the Order.

Copies of posters containing the Order will be forwarded

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with the necessary instructions in due course."

The following is copy of the Order:-

SHORES OR BANKS OF THE SEA AT ROSSLARE, CO. WEXFORD.

WHEREAS the Minister for Industry and Commerce, acting in pursuance of the Harbours Act 1814, as amended by the Harbours Transfer Act, 1862, finds it necessary for the protection of the Port of Wexford to prohibit the taking or removing of shingle or ballast from the shores or banks of the sea between Rosslare Pier and the point to the North of Rosslare Strand known as the Fort.

NOW the Minister for Industry and Commerce does hereby, by this Order, Prohibit the taking or removing of any shingle or ballast (including gravel and sand) from the shores or banks of the sea mentioned above.

GORDON CAMPBELL

SECRETARY.

Department of Industry and Commerce.

Dated this 12th day of October , 1930.

Note:- Any person removing shingle or ballast (including gravel and sand) in contravention of this Notice is liable on conviction to a penalty of £10."

Colonel Gibbon said that first he wanted to know if the Council were responsible for seeing that the five hundred tons was not exceeded. Secondly, so far as the Order was concerned there was no dividing up of the amount amongst the tenants and, therefore, he wished to know could some two or three tenants remove the five hundred tons, and everyone else be prevented from taking sand for twelve months, or were the Council going to allocate the amount of sand to be taken away in accordance with the size of the holdings of the men concerned. Another question was that if the Council were responsible for seeing the work done was it their duty to pay a man to see that the sand was not removed by a person authorised, and ~~to~~ the extent authorised, or was it the business of

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the business of the combined people of Rosslare, who were interested, to pay a man to look after the matter.

The Secretary said the Order would be enforced by the Garda Síochána and the only responsibility the Council would have was to send their Solicitor to Court if prosecutions were instituted.

Mr Colfer - Why should we do that when it is a Government job ?

Chairman - Are we in any way liable to look after the interests of those people at all ? Is it incumbent on us to take any hand, act, or part in the removal ? Let anyone that likes look after it, but we are not going to be responsible.

Mr Keegan - Aren't the Civic Guards the proper authority ?

Chairman - As long as we aren't going to be at any loss by carrying out the order, it is all right, but I think it is not incumbent on the County Council to have to appoint men to look after those people's interests.

Mr Keegan - I think we have nothing more to do with it than if it was private property.

With reference to the questions put by Colonel Gibbon, Mr Elgee, Council's Solicitor, said he could not possibly answer them, at the moment. He was asked by one of the gentlemen in charge of the Inquiry if the Council would guarantee to carry out an order. He replied that the matter had not been before the Council, and that it would have to go before the Council before there could be an answer. The Inquiry was about to be closed down on that reply, but it was subsequently decided to carry on.

Secretary - The question is will the Council proceed in any case reported by the Civic Guard ?

Chairman - Considering the Government is claiming the foreshore, I think myself that it is to the Government's own interests to look after it.

Mr Corish - Haven't they coast watchers at those places ?

Chairman - They have .

Mr Corish - Couldn't they get one of them to look after the shore ?

Chairman - I don't think it matters who they get to do it ?

Colonel Gibbon proposed that the Council should pass a resolution to the effect that as they understood the Department of Industry and Commerce was prepared to appoint the Civic Guard to administer the Order the Council would be glad if the Department would make all arrangements, including the allocation of the amounts of sand to be taken by the various men, and that the Council would take the necessary steps to publish the order.

Chairman - Would this entail any extra expense on us ?

Secretary - It would entail the cost of the notices, and the expense of Mr Elgee's attendance at any court where there are prosecutions.

Chairman - Why should it be incumbent on us to have expenses ? This is all private matter. We are not owners of the burrow, or owners of anything down there. We never claimed to be owners of anything except the public road. We had the upkeep of that.

Colonel Gibbon - Are we legally entitled to spend any money on such an affair ?

Chairman - I think it is outside the ratepayers' concern altogether.

In reply to the Secretary's query as to whether the Council would go so far as to publish the notices, the Chairman said he did not think they should touch the matter at all.

Mr Corish - I propose that we write to the L.G.D. pointing out that this Order has been made, but that we feel we should not involve ourselves in any expenditure owing to the fact that we have no jurisdiction at all.

Secretary - Ask for further advice ?

Mr Corish -Yes. I prefer to deal with them rather than with the Ministry of Industry and Commerce who have no interest in the County Council.

Chairman - We have no interest in the matter at all, except as regards the bit of burrow that runs up by the road, and I think the road is not going to stay there. Why should we protect prop-

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erty for private people and the State ?

Colonel Gibbon said he would withdraw his proposition and would second Mr Corish.

Mr Corish - And that in the meantime, of course, that we take no action good, bad, or indifferent.

Chairman - I think that the Ministry, having issued this order, ought to see it carried out.

Mr Corish - It is a State matter entirely.

The proposition of Mr Corish was passed without dissent.

Colonel Gibbon mentioned that as regards the suggestion to plant Rice Grass at the North end of the Burrow, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, England, had issued a booklet entitled "Rice Grass - Its Economic Possibilities," Miscellaneous Publications No. 66, price 8d. post free and obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office or the Ministry which he recommended to County Councillors for perusal.

After discussion it was decided on the motion of Colonel Gibbon seconded by Mr Hall, that extract from report of Mr Mobbs as regards the planting of Rice Grass be furnished the Wexford Harbour Board and the Department of Industry and Commerce and that the question of making experimental plantings be discussed with this Department on the occasion of the visit of the deputation to the Ministry of Fisheries, the same deputation to act as was appointed to wait on the Minister for Fisheries as regards sluice gates at Courtown Harbour, and be accompanied by a member of the Wexford Harbour Board.

SOW DRAINAGE DISTRICT.

The following extract from Minutes of Finance Committee Meeting of 23rd October, 1930, was submitted:-

"The following under date 15th October, 1930 (19973/29) was read from the Office of Public Works:-

' " We have to inform you that three instalments of £131:12:2d. each together with poundage at the rate of 1/- in the £ amounting in all to £414:11:3d. are still outstanding in

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respect of the expenses incurred in the restoration of the above named Drainage District under the Drainage Maintenance Act 1924. If this amount is not lodged to our credit before the 15th November next we shall be obliged to report the matter to the Department of Finance with a recommendation that the sum be deducted from grants payable to your Council. We may add that it will also be our duty to report the facts to the Department of Local Government and Public Health."

"The following resolution was adopted:-

"The Finance Committee cannot see their way to recommend the Council to meet the demand of the Office of Public Works in connection with Sow Drainage District as on more than one occasion the Council have expressed their determination to refuse to take over any drainage district in regard of which reconstruction work had not been carried out to the satisfaction of the Drainage Rate payers."

The recommendation of the Finance Committee was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Culleton with the following addendum "And that the attention of the Office of Public Works be called to Section 8 (3) of the Drainage Maintenanceⁿ Act 1924."

ROAD FLOODING. -----

Colonel Gibbon said that on an occasion that he was motoring from Dublin at night, and when there was very heavy rain, he suddenly ran into a pool of water which was on the road just above the cemetery at the far side of Enniscorthy. The pool must have been nearly a foot deep. He was travelling at about thirty miles an hour, and if he had not been minding very well there might have been an accident, as the water went over everything. It appeared to him as if a sewer was blocked or not capable of carrying the water. He had seen the road in the same way at other times.

Mr Ennis said that the grating of the trap at the place occasionally got blocked with leaves, and to keep it clear they would want to have a man there continually. It would get blocked no matter what they would do. There was a big grating, but a

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terrible lot of rubbish went into it. However, the flooding cleared away almost immediately, and he often cleared the obstruction himself.

WORK ON ROADS. -----

The County Surveyor reported that recently he had a communication from the Local Government Department asking for returns of the estimated cost of maintenance of main roads for the next three years, and also for details of main roads requiring reconstruction within the period and the estimated cost of same. He had furnished these particulars to the Department. In connection with the reconstruction work he wished to point out that there were several roads that were in a particularly bad condition at the present time, and there was no hope of any improvement without aid of a substantial Government Grant. The roads he referred to were about three miles of the Enniscorthy-Buncloody road, long lengths of the Duncannon Road, and also road between Wexford and Castlebridge. The completion of the Wexford-New Ross Road was also of pressing necessity. The cement macadam work on the Wexford New Ross Road and the Gorey-Courtown Road was very forward, and on completion would be a very good job.

TEMPORARY CLOSING OF ROAD. -----

Under date 24th September, 1930, the Local Government Department (Roads) (IR/107/1) forwarded copy of Order made under Section 29 of Local Government Act 1925 authorising the Council to close for a period of seven days from the 29th September, 1930, inclusive portion of Road 583 from Rathnure to Old Ross between the Enniscorthy-New Ross Main Road and turn in Templenacrow at Palace East Railway Station for the purpose of enabling repairs to be executed at Palace Railway Bridge.

ROAD GRANT. -----

Under date 20th September, 1930, the Local Government Department (Roads) wrote (R.G.32) that a payment of £600 in respect of Road L159 had been made to the Treasurer of the County

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Council.

A BLACKWATER ROAD.

The following under date 18th October was read from Mr Pierce Ryan, Ballinellard, Blackwater:-

"I am forced to draw your attention at the bad state of the Road alongside my house and also my whole premises in which there are two feet of water. The flood is caused by a marl hole at the opposite side of the road in which the gripes are not cleaned up or looked after. There are no gripes on the road cleaned up to carry the water etc, also there is a gullett 100 yards from this House that was never looked after. It is no use in putting gulletts on the Roads if the gripes are not cleaned up so place this letter before the Council next meeting. If there is nothing done we can pay no more rates as we have no satisfaction during the wet time."

Mr Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, explained that the flooding was caused by the overflow of a marl hole owing to the failure of Mr. Murphy, Ballinellard, Blackwater, to clean up a drain on his land.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Brennan:- "That in order to obviate the flooding of road at Ballinellard, Blackwater, Mr Elgee, Solicitor to this Council call on Mr. Murphy, Ballinellard, to clean up the drain on his land which is the cause of this flooding and, in the event of refusal or neglect, to carry out this work, Mr Elgee take such steps against Mr. Murphy as he may consider advisable."

SANDWICH CONCRETE MAIN ROAD - WILLIAM ST. WEXFORD.

Colonel Gibbon raised a question with regard to the new concrete road in William St. Wexford, and which had gone into pot-holes. Would the County Surveyor make some statement about it?

The County Surveyor said there was one line along where the Corporation put in a sewer immediately before the work was done, and the result was that the bottom was bad, and there were pot-

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holes coming in. He had had them filled with bitumened chips temporarily, and, of course, the piece should be cut out and made good afterwards. The condition was entirely due to the laying of the sewer. The rest of the road was all right.

Mr Hayes - I don't agree. I think other parts of the road have pot-holes also. In the centre of the road there are pot-holes too.

Chairman - I would not call them pot-holes. There is one bad spot in the middle of the road, and only one, I think. It seems to me to be a defect in the concrete. It isn't all holes.

The County Surveyor said he was waiting till he saw the end of the damage before tackling it thoroughly.

The discussion ended.

WILD BIRDS PROTECTION ACT. -----

The following under date 8th October, 1930, was read from Colonel Gibbon:-

"I have been asked by the Irish Society for the Protection of Birds to do what I can to have an order made to protect the following birds in the County Wexford including the Saltee and Keragh Islands:- The Chough, Fulmar Petrel, Gannet, Kingfisher, Turtle Dove, Tern (or Sea-Swallow) of all kinds. I want to obtain from the County Council a resolution passing an Order (subject to sanction by the Minister for Justice) prohibiting for a period of ten years the taking of the eggs of the above birds. I shall be glad if you could kindly have me put on the Agenda as giving a Notice of Motion. I do not think there ought to be any objection as the birds in question are extremely rare, and I do not think there can be any controversy about them."

Miss A.L. Massy, Galteemore, Baily, Co. Dublin, Hon Sec. to the Irish Society for the Protection of Birds wrote as follows:-

"With regard to yours of September 12th my Committee have asked me to express great regret that the Wexford County Council did not consider the subject of my last communication a pressing one. I would like to remind them that we only asked for protection for the eggs of a small number of birds, all rare and in

danger of having their numbers very badly reduced if raids on their eggs are still to be permitted, some of them being only very recent settlers within the County. What makes the matter so urgent is that it has lately come to the knowledge of some English Collectors of birds eggs that certain rare eggs which have been protected elsewhere are now to be had on the Saltee Islands or in one or two other localities on the Wexford Coast. Owing to the fact being known one raider from London visited the Island in the Spring of the present year, and it is certain that if the taking of these eggs is not made illegal pretty promptly the birds in question will soon cease altogether to breed in this County, as they only do so at present in very small numbers. It is therefore urgently desirable that an Order to forbid the taking of the eggs of these birds should be sent to the Minister for Justice in time to enable him to publish it in the Gazette before the breeding season of 1931 begins. The birds for whom my Committee makes this application are all interesting and perfectly harmless species. They are the Chough, Fulmar Petrel, Gannet, Kingfisher, Turtle Dove, and every kind of Tern (or Sea-Swallow). I may add that no order giving any kind of special protection to the Cormorant has ever been made or asked for by this Society, nor is the taking of this bird's eggs ever interfered with."

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

"That the Minister for Justice be requested to issue under Section 7 (1) of the Wild Birds Protection Act 1930 an Order to prohibit generally because of the rarity of the birds concerned and the attraction they provide, the taking or destroying of the eggs of the following wild birds in the Administrative County of Wexford:- Chough, Fulmar Petrel, Gannet, Kingfisher, Turtle Dove, and all varieties of Tern or Sea-Swallow."

PETROL PUMP LICENCES.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Cooney seconded by Mr Colfer:- "That Licence for Petrol Pump

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issue to Mr Harry Ellis, 28 John Street, New Ross, provided
the site selected meet^{with}/the approval of the County Surveyor.

RATE COLLECTION.

The following extract from Minutes of Finance Committee of 23rd October, 1930, was approved on the motion of Mr Corish seconded by Mr Brennan:-

Rate Collection District No.19: Under date 16th October, 1930, Mr Willaim Doyle, Scullabogue, Newbawn, brother of John Doyle, deceased Rate Collector, applied for the temporary position. He pointed out that he had on many occasions assisted his brother in the collection and knew the district thoroughly. He understood that provision had been already made for the temporary appointment, but, in view of the honourable way in which Mr John Doyle had carried out his duty the writer would be glad if the application for the position by him would be favourably considered. If appointed he hoped to perform the duties in as capable a manner as his late brother had done.

Mr Thomas D. Doyle, Scullabogue, Newbawn, and James L. Doyle, Scullabogue, Newbawn, the personal sureties for the late Collector, wrote asking that the temporary position should be given to William Doyle.

The Rate Inspector stated he understood that Collector Curtis had no objection to Mr W. Doyle being appointed to close Warrant.

Mr Hall proposed and Mr O'Byrne seconded:-

"That we recommend Mr William Doyle, Scullabogue, Newbawn, for appointment as temporary Collector to close current warrant in District No. 19, as recommended by the late Collector John Doyle's sureties."

"The proposition was unanimously adopted."

WEXFORD COURTHOUSE RECONSTRUCTION.

The following extract from Minutes of Finance Committee meeting of 23rd October, 1930, was approved on the motion of

Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Hall:-

"The following under date 15th October was submitted by the County Surveyor from McNally & Co., Contractors for the reconstruction of the Wexford Courthouse:-

"We have been in communication with the makers of the Entrance Gates and Iron Stairs, and this firm will not be able to complete the delivery of these goods for about six weeks. The new fittings for the Court we will not have ready for about the same time. The alterations to the cells etc., will take about four to six weeks to complete."

"Under the circumstances we respectfully apply for an extension of time to enable us to complete the works. If the Council would grant an extension until, say the 1st January, everything would be well finished by that date."

"The County Surveyor stated he was not prepared to recommend that the extension to the 1st January should be given, but he considered an extension to the 1st December reasonable. It was very difficult in the case of reconstruction work to fix an exact time for conclusion of the contract and all he could say in regard to the present job was that the work had not been held back in any way whatever.

Mr O'Byrne proposed and Mr Hall seconded the following resolution :- "That we recommend the County Council to grant an extension of time to McNally & Co. from the 20th October to 1st December relative to Contract for reconstruction of Wexford Courthouse"

TELEGRAPHIC LINES - ENNISCORTHY.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Corish seconded by Mr O'Byrne:- "That this County Council offer no objection to the erection of underground telegraphic lines from Post Office to Railway Bridge, Enniscorthy; from Market Square to Spout Lane: from Enniscorthy bridge to Templeshannon road provided that, so far as lines pass under Main roads the work and the replacement of street surfaces be carried out to

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the satisfaction of the County Surveyor"

PROPOSED ENTERTAINMENT HALL AT DUNCANNON.

In connection with application of Mr B. Downes, Duncannon, as to erection of Entertainment Hall there, the County Surveyor said that according to the plan which had been submitted the building would encroach too much on the road and he did not think permission for its erection should be given. It was not 30 feet from the centre of the road and would in his opinion block the thoroughfare.

Mr Hall proposed and Mr O'Byrne seconded the following resolution :- "That in view of the opinion expressed by the County Surveyor the application of Mr B. Downes for permission to erect an Entertainment Hall at Duncannon be refused."

Mr Colfer proposed and Mr Cline seconded as an amendment that the necessary permission be given.

Messrs Culleton and Walsh held that as it was illegal to erect any new building within 30 feet of the centre of the road it was ultra vires to take a vote.

The Chairman said that a vote would be the quickest manner of ending the discussion.

A poll was then taken on Mr Colfer's amendment when the following voted for - For - Messrs Colfer, Cline, and Cummins - (3).

Against - Messrs O'Byrne, Brennan, Smyth, Corish, Hayes, McCarthy, Hall, Gibbon, and the Chairman - (9).

Did not Vote - Messrs Cooney, Keegan, Armstrong, Walsh, Culleton, and Shannon - (6).

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

The resolution was then put and was passed nem con.

APPLICATION - CINEMA LICENCE.

In connection with application for licence under Cinematograph Act of 1909 the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Keegan:- "That Licence in respect of Taravie Hall, Courtown Harbour, be issued to

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John J. Heaney, provided that the alterations being made at Hall receive the approval of the County Surveyor.

ANALYST'S REPORT.

Report of Miss Ryan M. Sc. County Analyst for the Quarter ended 30 th September 1930 showed that the following analyses had been carried out:- Foods 111; Drugs 52; Waters 2; Total 165. Number adulterated:- Whiskey 1; Drugs 1; Water condemned 1.

RESTRICTION OF HEAVY MOTOR TRAFFIC ETC.

Urban

The following resolution from Longford ~~County~~ Council was submitted:- "That owing to the abnormal increase in local rates occasioned by the upkeep and maintenance of main roads, we call upon the Government to substantially restrict heavy motor traffic, and at the same time to regulate the speed of lighter motor trading vehicles to a maximum of ten miles per hour; that in view of the serious loss of goods and passenger traffic sustained by the Railways, whereby they are compelled to considerably reduce their workers and so add to unemployment, we call on all public bodies in the Free State to give their earnest consideration to this resolution, and in dealing with it to take into account the fact that the railway companies pay their full share of the local rates, whilst the motor traffic owners pay nothing, although their traffic is responsible for almost all of the wear and tear of the roads."

Chairman - The first portion, dealing with heavy motor traffic, might be feasible, but I don't know about the small lorries. It is all very fine to talk about the railways, but you will also stop employment if you put the lorries off the road. The heavy motor traffic is the most injurious.

Mr Walsh- Considering the way the rates of the railways are going up I think the roads will have to suffer again.

Colonel Gibbon said that some of them had put forward that the all-in weight of a lorry should be only four tons,

except on roads constructed to carry a heavier weight, which, he thought, was mentioned as ten tons, or whatever the Government would authorise, and that steps should be taken to get rid of the heavy antiquated motor lorries, but their request was refused altogether.

The Secretary said that with regard to motor tax, there was a statement made at a meeting of Wexford Harbour Board that all the tax went to the County Council, but that was not the case. They simply collected the tax for the Government and sent it to them. They never retained a penny. They could not do so. Every penny had to be sent to the Government.

Mr O'Byrne referred to a suggestion from the Executive Committee of the General Council of County Councils that the duty on heavy lorries over four tons should be increased to such an extent that they would pay for the actual damage they were doing.

The Secretary remarked that considering the damage some of them were doing it would be more than the value of the lorries.

The County Surveyor said that speed had an influence on damage as well as weight.

Mr Keegan said there was a trailer carrying six to seven tons at the moment in connection with the repair of the Gorey-Courtown Road. He was informed that the licence on that tractor and trailer was £19 a year. He wanted to know if that was fair to the travelling public. He had a car that weighed something like nine cwt., and he had to pay £10 a year for it.

County Surveyor - I think that those trailers behind tractors are very destructive.

Mr Keegan - And surely you won't argue that one axle with seven or eight tons is paying its way with £19 a year.

Chairman - But you will agree that it is only being used temporarily?

Mr Keegan - It is where they like all the year round.

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Chairman - I say it is the worst possible vehicle you can put on the road for destruction.

It was suggested that the first part of the resolution:-

"That owing to the abnormal increase in local rates occasioned by the upkeep and maintenance of main roads, we call upon the Government to substantially restrict heavy motor traffic." - should be adopted.

Colonel Gibbon - And I suggest that we add that - "And we believe that this can best be done by increased taxation."

On the proposition of Mr O'Byrne , seconded by Mr Brennan, the first portion of the resolution, with Colonel Gibbon's addition, was adopted.

GOREY STREETS -WATER AND SEWERAGE SCHEMES.

Mr Keegan raised the point that the water and sewerage Schemes of the County Board of Health did not include the people of Gorey Bridge and Clonattin Road, Gorey, in which there were respectively 77 and 51 people. He thought the County Board of Health should appoint a small Committee to go into the matter.

Mr Hall said as a member of the County Board of Health he was surprised to hear the statement of Mr Keegan as he (Mr Hall) had been always under the impression that the water and sewerage schemes referred to dealt with the whole town of Gorey.

It was decided to communicate with the County Board of Health and call attention to the statement of Mr Keegan.

Michael Doyle