

Quarterly Meeting, February, 11th 1908.

The Quarterly Meeting of the County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford, on 11th February 1908.

Present:- Mr. M. A. Ennis (Vice Chairman) presiding.
Other Members:- Hore, Peacocke, Donohoe, Browne, Doyle, Kickey, Kinsella, James Codd, W. Forrestal, Asple, J. Cummins, J. J. Kehoe, John Linnott, M. Codd, Kavanagh, J. Bolger, J. Bolger, and James Linnott.

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

The Minutes of Meetings of 3rd, December, '07, and 13th January '08 were read and confirmed.

Notice of Motion - Land Act Finance.

Mr. Peacocke, proposed:- "That the question of asking for a rebate of £2773 deduction from Estate Duty Grant be considered at next meeting of the County Council."

. "Passed"

The Rates.

Proposed by Mr. Peacocke,
Seconded by Mr. Asple.

That we hereby adopt the estimate of our Secretary for Rates for General and Separate Charges for the financial year 1908-9 (as already agreed to by the Finance Committee) and determine the rates in the £ to be levied off the several Rural Districts of the County for general Rates as follows:-

	Land.	Buildings.
Enniscorthy,	2/4	4/-
Gorey,	1/11	3/4
New Ross,	2/5	4/3
Wexford	1/8	3/3

and we further determine the amounts to be demanded from the Urban Districts of the County to be as follows:-

Enniscorthy	£1000 - 7 - 5
New Ross	£1246 - 2 - 3
Wexford.	£1898 - 13 - 4

Passed.

Direct Labour Inquiry

The following report of the Direct Labour Inquiry, was laid before the Meeting:-

Report of Committee, appointed by the County Council at its Meeting on 3rd, December, 1907, to consider the advisability of employing direct labour for Road Maintenance.

We the undersigned Members of the Committee appointed by the Council at its Meeting on the 3rd, December, 1907, to inquire regarding the proposal to adopt a scheme of direct labour on the roads of the County Wexford beg to report as follows:-

We held a preliminary meeting at Wexford on the 19th December 1907, for the purpose of:-

- 1.- Considering the position and powers of the Council with regard to direct labour schemes under the provisions of the Local Government Board (Procedure of Councils Orders 1899, 1901 and 1905)
- 2.- Formulating a method of procedure.
- 3.- Taking general evidence on the subject of the inquiry from the County Surveyor.

The power to initiate and put into operation a scheme of direct labour rests solely with the County Council, but the District Councils are entitled to specify the roads within their respective areas which they claim to have included in any scheme of direct labour put into operation by the County Council within such area and further should any district council disapprove of a scheme of direct labour initiated by the County Council within the area of their administration, the District Council may appeal to the Local Government Board to hold an

inquiry and determine the matter.

We decided to hold meetings in Enniscorthy, New Ross, Wexford and Gorey, in order that representatives of the District Councils, and of Labour Organisations, Road Contractors, Clergymen, Doctors and others interested in the question might without inconvenience to themselves, attend and state their views before this Committee. Circulars were issued by our Secretary inviting such attendance.

The County Surveyor was examined and in general terms stated that in his opinion the adoption of direct labour would mean increased cost and at the same time increased efficiency.

He was requested to prepare estimates with regard to particular groups of roads within each of the four districts. Such groups to be selected by him as would be favourably situated for an experiment in direct labour, capable of being worked by one gang, and to submit such estimate comparing the cost of direct labour with the cost of existing contracts, to the meetings to be held within each district.

We decided to hold the first of the four meetings above specified at New Ross, our reason for this selection being that the County Council decided to hold this inquiry on the motion of the Chairman of the New Ross District Council.

This sitting was held in the Courthouse, New Ross, on January 3rd 1908.

The members of the Committee present were:- Messrs M. A. Ennis, (presiding) James Donohoe and John Cummins.

M^r. H. Webster, County Surveyor, was examined and submitted his estimate for a group of roads selected by him in the vicinity of New Ross. Total mileage 20 miles; direct labour estimated to cost between 26% and 27% over the present contract prices.

M^r. W. H. Jones, Assistant Surveyor, was examined and handed to the Committee excellent samples of material for road metal from Quarries in the following localities:- Carrigbyrne, Palace or Rath-
turlin, Haggard, Ballintestuin, (Whitechurch) Boley, Burkestown, and Ballymacar,

Letters were received from Sir Thomas H. G. Esmonde and the Clerk of the Wexford Rural District.

The following witnesses were examined by the Committee:- Messrs L. Casey, W. Forrestal, M. C. E. Reville D. C., Wm Thorpe, D. C., J. Jeffares, D. C., - Motony, D. C., W. H. Jones Assistant Surveyor, J. P. Rossiter, M. Hickey, M. C. C. John Kelly, D. C. M. Breen, D. C., P. Carey, D. C., - Keane and Henry Webster, County Surveyor.

Details of the County Surveyor's estimates, the text of the letters received, and of the evidence verbally submitted by the witnesses examined at this, and subsequent meetings are contained in the appendix to this report.

On the 28th January 1908 the Secretary received from the Clerk of the New Ross Rural District Council, a copy of the following resolution passed by a large majority of that body at its meeting on 25th January:-

"That, owing to the enormous additional expense necessary to carry out the system of direct labour, we decline to approve of it; furthermore, we are of opinion that if the County Surveyor and his Assistants carry out their duties as defined, and insist on having the contracts carried out in accordance with the specifications, the present system would be found effective, and better suited to this tillage County. That this be an instruction to our Representatives on the County Council, and that the Clerk be directed to furnish a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of the County Council."

The second sitting of the Committee was held in the Courthouse, Enniscorthy, on 13th January, 1908.

Members of Committee present, Messrs M. A. Ennis, James Donahoe, and Thaddeus Bolger.

The County Surveyor submitted his estimate for a group of roads in the vicinity of Enniscorthy, total mileage $19\frac{1}{3}$ miles. Excess cost of direct labour as compared with contract system $12\frac{1}{4}\%$.

The following resolution passed by a ^{large} majority of the Enniscorthy Rural District Council was received:-

"The feeling of this Council is against direct labour on roads, as it is their opinion that there

could be as many more labourers employed, to get anything like reasonable results out of the land to enable farmers to hold their own against foreign competition. Besides if the present scheme of 500 cottages pass in this Rural District, it will take an enormous number of labourers to have them built in any reasonable time."

Letters were received from Mr Pope, Clerk of New Ross Rural District; Local Government Board; Clerk Enniscorthy Rural District Council; Clerk Gorey Rural District Council; Rev. Canon Macbeth; Rev. A. Cooper, Killane; Dr. Greene, Ferns;

The following witnesses were examined:-

Messrs Henry Webster, County Surveyor,

Laurence Casey,

Harold A. Lett,

Mr. Murphy, D.C.

Rev. J. Walsh, P.P. Ballymurrin.

Rev. J. Quinn, Rector, Clonmore,

John Carroll, Enniscorthy,

Mr. Murphy, Land & Labour Association, Oylegate, and
Glenbrien Branch

The third sitting of the Committee was held in Gorey Courthouse on 23rd. January, 1908.

Members of Committee present:- Messrs M. A. Ennis, and James Donohoe.

The County Surveyor's estimate for a group of roads in the neighbourhood of Gorey Town was submitted. Total Mileage 19.6 miles. Difference in favour of Contract system 20.6%.

Mr. Thomas Paddle, Assistant County Surveyor, was examined and submitted samples of good stone from the following quarries:-

Dreighton's (Clonsilla) Quarry.

Karrismount Quarry, (Property of Lord Courtown)

Ballyfarrel Quarry, (Edward Doran's Land)

Corrigue Quarry, (Mr. Haughton, Owner)

Ballyfad Quarry,

Collogue Quarry,

Corriguea Quarry.

The subjoined resolution passed by a large majority of the Gorey Rural District Council was received:-

"That this Council consider that the roads and Public Works of the County are more satisfactorily maintained by the present contract system than they would be under any system of direct labour."

Letters were received from:-

Rev. Owen Kehoe, C. C., Camolin

Rev. Canon Aylward, P. P. Blackwater

D^r. W. C. Lawler, Newtownbarry,

Rev. J. Ridgeway, Rector, Gorey,

Rev. W. F. A. Ellison, Rector, Monart,

Rev. W. G. Squires, Rector, Kilnahun,

M^r. P. Kavanagh, J. C. Gorey Trade & Labour League.

The following witnesses were examined:-

M^r. Poole, D. C.

D. Murphy, Town Clerk, Gorey.

H. Webster, County Surveyor,

P. O'Neill, Ballingarry

Thomas Paddle, Assistant Surveyor,

Terence Dunne (Road Contractor)

The final sitting of the Committee was held in the County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 1st February, 1908-

Members of Committee present:-

Mess^{rs}. M. A. Ennis,

J. Donohoe,

J. Bolger,

The Estimate submitted by the County Surveyor for a group of roads near Wexford showed a total mileage of 22.2 miles and 26.4% difference in cost as against direct labour.

M^r. John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, was examined and produced samples of the best stones in his district, from the following quarries:-

Ballingly Quarry,

Knockaroon Quarry. (Taghmon)

Maudlintown,

Ballyconnick,

Edwardsstown

Cromwellsfort.

Kerlogue.

The following resolution passed by a large majority of the Wexford Rural District Council, was received:-

"That at a specially summoned meeting held on Saturday the 28th inst, the Council declared themselves against direct labour being adopted in their district, and in favour of the Contract System being continued in respect of all roads; they also decided not to appoint delegates as requested."

Letters were received from:-

Rev. P. F. Kehoe, C. C. Bridgetown,

Rev. W. Hanton, C. C. Inverntown,

Rev. J. J. Scallan, C. C. St. Leonards,

Very Rev. Canon Luke Doyle, P. P. Taggart

The following witnesses were examined:-

John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor.

Dr. Keogh, Bannow

James Murphy, Bridgetown,

Philip Moran, Duncormick,

John Power, Kerlogue,

Lawrence Casey.

Having given our earnest and careful consideration to the resolutions submitted to us, the letters received, and the large mass of oral evidence tendered by competent witnesses we have, ^{unanimously} arrived at the following

Conclusions.

(1) - We are not prepared to recommend the County Council to initiate a scheme of direct labour in the County immediately for the following reasons:-

(a) - The opposition of the four district Councils indicated by resolutions passed by large majorities of these bodies. Whilst the legal right of the County Council to carry out a scheme of direct labour with or without the assent of the District Councils is undoubted, wisdom and prudence appear to us to call for sympathetic consideration of the views of the District Councils, as partners in the work of road maintenance in the County.

(b) Outside of the District Councils the evidence before us discloses a wide cleavage of opinion on

the subject.

(c) In our opinion the present Engineering Staff of the County is too small to permit of the close and efficient supervision which we deem it would be essential to provide in conjunction with any scheme of direct labour.

(d) The acquisition and working by the Council of good quarries should precede any attempt to establish a system of direct labour other than experimentally.

(e) Direct Labour could only be put into operation with any chance of success on groups of roads of an average high contract price, conveniently situated and adjoining each other, and such groups could only become available as the existing contracts fall in an operation calculated to occupy two or three years at least.

(2) Whilst the strongest divergence of views exists on the question of direct labour on the roads, nearly every witness examined before us, whether in favour of continuance of the contract system, or for direct labour, joins in favouring and recommending the acquisition by the County Council of the best stone quarries in various parts of the County, and the provisions therefrom in future of the metalling for the County roads. Mr Jones, Assistant Surveyor, gave it as his opinion, that one ton of good material is more effective than four tons of indifferent quality, and this contention is in our opinion much strengthened by the evidence we have received from Mr Paddle as to the great improvement effected on some roads in North Wexford by a comparatively small quantity of first class metalling from the Council's quarry at Tara Hill. Many other witnesses adopted and emphasized these views.

(3) We recommend to the consideration of this or the incoming Council the question of acquiring and working good stone quarries in various parts of the County.

The samples laid before us by the Assistant Surveyors, shew that really good material is fairly widely distributed in most districts of the County Wexford and whether direct labour or the present contract system or a judicious admixture of both ultimately prevail, the quality of the metalling to be used on the roads is

a matter of primary importance, and we are clearly of opinion that the present very unsatisfactory condition of our roads taken as a whole is due to the use of material of rubbishy inferior character wholly unsuited for road maintenance.

(4.)- The provision of Council quarries would have the effect of ensuring:-

- 1- That material of proper quality would be used for road metalling
- 2- That the full quantity specified would be used.
- 3- That very considerable employment of direct labour by the Council in quarrying operations would result therefrom.

M. A. Ennis,

J. Donohoe,

John Cummins

John Bolger,

J. Bolger.

Mr. Donohoe signs the report with the following reservations:-

1. (b). In connection with the reference in this paragraph that "the evidence before us discloses a wide cleavage of opinion on the subject" he considers that outside the District Councils, the weight of evidence submitted was in favour of Direct Labour.

1-(c) as to the supervision by the Engineering Staff Mr. Donohoe considers this would be efficiently done under direct labour by the present staff, as they would have the assistance of working gaffers.

2- In reference to first line - "whilst the strongest divergence of views exists on the question of direct labour on the roads". Mr. Donohoe considers the above should read:- "whilst the strongest divergence of views exists on the question of direct labour on the roads, opposition to the proposed system being principally confined to District Councillors etc.,

Mr. Donohoe proposed:- "That the report presented by the Direct Labour Inquiry Committee be adopted."

Mr. In. Doyle, seconded.

Mr. Stickey was against direct labour being employed. If good material was put on the roads, after three years there would be a great improvement in the roads, and no direct labour would be required at all."

Mr. Asple pointed out two roads which on renewal at last meeting of a district council, showed an increase of 10% per cent.

Mr. Browne, asked if Mr. Webster had estimated the figures on the basis of present contracts.

Mr. Webster replied in the affirmative.

Mr. Browne:- Then the whole is a farce, because the prices will be doubled in two or three years.

Mr. Donohoe:- Said that these estimates were on high priced roads and they could not expect that the prices of those roads would be doubled.

Mr. Hore said the percentage of bad contractors was increasing at least the number of prosecutions had had increased considerably. If this was to go on, he did not know how they were to carry out the contract system. He condemned the action of the District Councils in accepting bad contractors. He advised the reduction of the tonnage, and to ensure contractors got the very best available material."

Mr. Peacocke proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee for the report which they had presented. He thought they should give direct labour a trial, and the Council should have it tried nine or ten miles from a town. But the remodelled system for contract work which had been adopted had not yet been properly tried. More stones had gone out on some roads in his locality within the last six months than in the 38 years of his experience.

The Chairman said they would not be able to obtain a suitable group of roads within two or three years.

Mr. Browne thought the Committee should have made a direct and plain recommendation that the Council should carry out a small experiment.

The Chairman said that the bulk of the roads in the County, owing to their small cost must be continued under the contract system. It would likely result in failure if they started direct labour on

the roads before they obtained proper quarries.

In the comparisons made by Mr Webster, he had taken the amount specified to be put on the roads, but what should have been taken was the average amount which actually went on the roads as per returns furnished by Mr Webster. He was in favour of direct labour when they were properly prepared for it.

Mr Kinsella was in favour of the Council acquiring quarries and to secure better supervision the Engineering Staff should be increased. He did not think it would be an advantage for the labourers to have direct labour but a small experiment would be desirable in each of the four districts.

Mr Forrestal was in favour of a trial being made with direct labour.

The report was then adopted.

Mr Peacocke moved.

Mr Kehoe seconded and it was passed:-

"That Mr Webster be requested to formulate a group of roads in each of the four districts which would be suitable for an experiment, to test the effect of direct labour, and that he submit the report to the May meeting of the County Council."

Passed.

Hours of Meetings

Proposed by Mr Browne.

Seconded by Mr Cummins, and passed:-

"That the Quarterly, Half-Yearly and Annual Meetings be held in future at 10.30 O'clock a.m."

Valuation Office.

Proposed by Mr Codd,

Seconded by Mr Kavanagh, and passed:-

"That the General Valuation Office be requested to explain for the information of the Council, why, in making out the Valuation Lists, since 1904, they adopted the practice of dividing up holdings,

by which the County Council have been obliged to pay higher fees to the Clerk and Rate Collectors of Enniscorthy Union, under the Parliamentary Franchise Act, and have been obliged further to pay a higher figure for copying and appplotting of Rate Books and copying receipt and demand notes."

Rate Collection

The following recommendation of the Finance Committee was adopted on the motion of the Chairman:-

"That the Secretary write to the following Rate Collectors complaining of the backward state of their collection:- Collectors Mullett, J. Walsh, E. Somers, Linnott, Redmond, Lacey, Poole, Smith, Lennon, Blake, James Barron, Banville, Doyle."

Gaelic League

The following resolution was received from the County Wexford Committee Gaelic League:-

"That considering the stimulus given to the Industrial Revival by the holding of the Annual Industrial Exhibition in connection with the County Wexford Feis, the County Committee of the Gaelic League confidently apply to the County Council to support them in their appeal for a subsidy from the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction."

On the motion of the Chairman, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That we will have great pleasure in supporting any appeal for funds made by the Gaelic League to the Department for helping the Annual Industrial Exhibition of the Feis."

Sewerage of Blongeen.

Sealed order No 61,331-1907. was received from the Local Government Board fixing the area of charge for Sewerage of Blongeen on New Ross Rural District.

The Guarantee Fund of the Land Act 1903

under date 17th January (letter No. 3452-1908 Miscellaneous) the Local Government Board wrote that from a copy of certificate furnished by the Commissioners of National Debt, it would appear that there would be no deductions from the grants payable to the County Council during the current year of account of an insufficiency of income or arrears in purchase annuities, in connection with the Act of 1891, but precise information was not obtainable until the lapse of another month with respect to arrears under the Act of 1903. It was however anticipated that any withdrawals from funds for this purpose would be extinguished by the excess of repayment.

Examination of Assistant Surveyors.

The Local Government Board wrote (Circular letter No. 1 M. '08. Miscellaneous) pointing out that an examination for Assistant Surveyors would be held at the Custom House, Dublin; and at the Courthouse, Cork; on the 12th and 13th February.

Marked "Read"

Local Government ~~Board~~ Elections

under date 3rd December '07. (letter No. 60008-1907. Mis.) the Local Government Board wrote stating that in consequence of factitious nomination papers being sent by post to the Returning Officer for Local Government Elections in one County it had been suggested that No. 2. Election Order should be amended, so as to provide that the nomination paper or notice of withdrawal be handed to the Returning Officer or his deputy by one or both of the persons signing the same, or by some person known to the Officer duly authorised in writing on their behalf.

The following recommendation had been made by the Finance Committee:-

"The Finance Committee report to the Council.

that no fictitious nomination papers were lodged in this County at any Local Government Elections, and, in consequence, they do not consider it advisable to ask that nomination papers or notices of withdrawal should be handed in person, or by legally authorised agent to the Returning Officer."

Under date 7th February 1908, further letter No. 5704. 1908 Miscellaneous, was received from the Local Government Board in which they pointed out that having considered the representations made to them, they were not prepared to make any alterations in their Election order, but considered that, if, in any County where the danger of fictitious nomination papers was likely to arise, the Returning Officer were to make it clear that nomination papers should be sent only to the Deputy Returning Officer for the County Electoral Division concerned, the local knowledge of these latter officers would enable them in a large degree to minimise the difficulty complained of.

In connection with these elections the following recommendation from the Finance Committee was laid before the meeting:-

"That we recommend the appointment of Mr. Trizelle, Secretary to the County Council as Returning Officer at the forthcoming Local Government Elections on the following terms: Vix:- £50 which is not to cover any travelling or out of pocket expenses. That in addition to the £50 above mentioned, the Returning Officer be allowed locomotion expenses, 2nd. Class rail, return, car hire, when necessary, or a bicycle allowance of 2^d per. mile.; items of car hire for 5/- and over to be produced; clerical assistance to be paid for in addition by the Council."

"The above resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Kinsella seconded by Mr. Peacocke."

On the motion of Mr. Rose,

Seconded by Mr. Kehoe:-

It was decided that the elections should be held on Monday 1st June, and that the polling in the Rural Districts of the County should be from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and in the Urban Districts for County Councillors from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The first meeting of the new District Councils will therefore be held on the 6th June and of the new County Council on 13th June.

Increases of Salary to Assistant Surveyors.

The following letters were read from the Local Government Board; under date 16th December 1907. (N263325-1907)

"I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant, relative to the proposed increase of the salaries of Messrs Brennan and Paddle, Assistant Surveyors in Wexford County, by a sum of £5 each, and, in reply, I am to state that the Board see no objection to the proposed increments.

With regard to the entry in the minutes of Proceedings of the County Council on the 3rd instant in regard to the proposal to make a grant of £5 to Assistant Surveyor Paddle for extra work in connection with Tara Hill Quarry, I am directed by the Local Government Board to state that they would be glad to be furnished with the Council's reasons for making this payment.

under date 2nd January (Letter No. 64240):-

"With reference to your letter of the 17th ultimo, relative to the proposed payment by the Wexford Co. Council of a sum of £5 to Mr Paddle, Assistant Surveyor, in respect of services in connection with Tara Hill Quarry, I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland to state that although consider that the inspection and supervision of quarries form part of the ordinary duties of an Assistant County Surveyor, yet, in the circumstances of the present case, they will raise no objection to the payment proposed."

Marked "Read"

Close Season for Fishing on River Slaney.

under date 9th December 1907, the following letter (No. 5751-'07 F.B.) was read from the Department of Agriculture, & Technical Instruction, relative to the change of.

close season for salmon fishing on the river Slaney:-

"With reference to the resolution passed on the 3rd inst. by the Wexford County Council, I have to state for the information of the Council, that inquiries into applications for change of close seasons are suspended pending such legislation, enabling the Department to deal with them in a satisfactory manner, as was contained in the Fishery Bill introduced into Parliament in the year 1902 by the then Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant.

The application of your Council, has however been noted.

Under date 8th December, '07.- Mr. Eugene Mc Coy, Hon. Sec. Oylegate Branch, Land & Labour Association forwarded the following resolution:-

"That this meeting of the Irish Land & Labour Association, Oylegate in conjunction with the fishermen from Killurin, Ferry Barrig and Castlebridge; held at Oylegate on Sunday, 8th December to offer our very best thanks to Mr. Thomas Asple, Alderman Doyle, Mr. J. Cummins, Mr. James Donohoe, Mr. M. A. Ennis, Mr. J. Bolger and Mr. R. J. Frizelle, and all the other members of the County Council of Wexford for the very able manner in which they supported our resolution at the County Council Meeting at Wexford on 3rd. December, and we pledge ourselves to give Mr. Thomas Asple our utmost support at the next County Council Elections if he should be opposed."

Marked "Read."

Butter and Margarine Act 1907.

The Local Government Board and the Department of agriculture, forwarded circular letters (No 50191-1907 Miscellaneous from the Local Government Board) and 31202-07 from the Department, calling attention to the provisions of the Butter & Margarine Act 1907. Method of registration of premises, etc.

Marked "Read."

Burial of carcasses.

Under date 16th December '07. (Letter No 6255-07. V 13). The following letter was read from the Department of.

Agriculture:-

"With reference to your further letter of the 11th inst I have now to convey hereby the Department's approval of the arrangement made on the 3rd instant by the Local Authority for your County, whereby Mr. Flaherty, the Harbour Master at Kilmore, will attend to the burial of carcasses washed ashore in the Kilmore District for a period of one year, in consideration of a sum of £4. It is however, desirable to add in this connection that the notification which it has been customary to send in such cases to the Department's Port and Veterinary Inspector at Wexford with a view to the examination of the carcass in each instance prior to the burial should be continued."

Marked "Read".

Poulduff Pier.

Under date 9th December, 1907. (Letter No 5446-07. F.B.) the following letter was read from the Department of Agriculture, etc., relative to improvements at Poulduff Pier:-

"With reference to your letter of the 13th ultimo, I have to state that the sum of £650. is at present payable by the Wexford County Council to the Department in respect of the execution of the Harbour Works at Poulduff."

The amount is arrived at as follows:-

Amount voted by County Council at their meeting on 23 rd February 1904	£1,000-0-0
Amount voted by County Council at their meeting on 26 th June 1907. towards the cost of the extension of the Pier. (the actual cost was £616-3-0)	£150-0-0
	<hr/> 1,150-0-0

Amount received by Department from County Council on 5 th December 1906.	£500-0-0
Balance now payable to Department by County Council.	£650-0-0

In reply to your letter of the 16th ultimo, I have to state that the Poulduff Pier was and is, a County

work, and consequently the payment by your Council of the final instalment for the repairs carried out is the closing transaction in connection with the matter."

Mr. Webster, County Surveyor, under date 16th January 1908 certified for the payment of the final instalment.

Proposed by Mr. Peacocke,

Seconded by Mr. Kehoe, and passed.

"That the final instalment of £650, on foot of agreement between the Department of Agriculture, and the Wexford County Council for improvements at Poulduff be paid by the County Council."

Fechard Pier & Watchhouse.

Under date 9th December 1907. the Solicitor to the Board of Works wrote as follows:-

"Referring to your letter of the 2nd ult., addressed to the Board of Works; I shall be glad if you will instruct your solicitor to prepare and submit to me for approval the draft conveyance of the property, see Sections 15 and 2 of 27 & 28 Vic. cap. 57."

"The Secretary said that he had referred this matter to Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, to have the necessary documents prepared, and his action in this matter was confirmed on the motion of the Chairman."

Inspector of Factories & Slade and Poulduff Piers.

Correspondence was submitted from the Inspector of Factories asking if various works at Slade and Poulduff Piers comply with the provisions of the Factory Acts; and reply of County Surveyor that as it was only found practicable to take a contract for the works at Poulduff, Fecharde and Slade Piers, 7 days previous to the date of the letter of the Factory Inspector, no progress had been made with the work further than that steps had been taken for the making of the fences.

Marked "Read".

= Water Pipes of Great Southern & Western Railway Co. =

Under date 16th December, 1907. the following letter was read from the Clerk of Wexford Rural District Council:-

"I am directed by my Council to bring under the notice of the County Council the fact that the Great Southern & Western Railway Company have, notwithstanding that permission was (the Council understands) refused them by your Council, laid down water pipes across the road at two points at Kilrane and Ballygeary."

The Chairman moved the following:-

"That the County Council instruct Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to proceed at Petty Sessions against the Great Southern & Western Railway Company, failing their giving an undertaking about the water supply."

On a poll being taken the following voted for the resolution:- Messrs Kinsella, Jas. Codd, Browne, Hore, Ennis, Kehoe, Asple, John Sinnott, Mark Codd.- 9

Against:- Messrs John Bolger, Peacocke, M. Doyle, Kavanagh, James Sinnott, J. Bolger, Cummins, Hickey.- 8.

The Chairman declared the resolution carried.

Mr. Cummins handed in the following:-

"I beg to give notice, that I will move at the next meeting of the County Council that the resolution directing our Solicitor to proceed against the Railway Company, be rescinded."

John Cummins

J. Bolger.

J. Sinnott.

D. Kavanagh

M. Doyle.

C. H. Peacocke.

Michael Hickey

John Bolger.

National Bank and Proposed Loan.

under date 29th January, 1908. the following letter was read:-

"I have pleasure to inform you that the Directors have sanctioned my making the above "advance" to the Wexford County Council, at the rate of 3% per annum, to be reduced by half yearly payments, such as the Finance Committee may deem prudent.

I shall direct our Solicitor to submit to Mr. Elgee for his approval a Draft of the mortgage that will be needed

Ordered:- "That the matter be referred to Mr. Elgee, Solicitor."

Hulk at Duncannon.

under date 24th December, 1907. the following letter was read from the Secretary of the Waterford Steamship Co² relative to purchase of Hulk at Duncannon:-

"Replying to your favour of 14th instant. I am instructed by my Directors to inform you that this Company accepts the offer of the Wexford County Council on condition that a like sum of £50 each be paid by the Waterford Harbour Commissioners and the Waterford and Duncannon Steamboat Company, making a total of £150 for the Hulk.

When the matter completed, and money handed to us we shall be glad to convey the Hulk and its appurtenances to your Council."

under date 14th January, 1908. Mr. Allingham, Secretary, of the Waterford Harbour Commissioners forwarded the following resolution which had been adopted the previous day by his Commissioners:-

"That a contribution of £50 be made by this board towards the purchase of Duncannon Hulk by the Wexford County Council for accommodation of the river Steamboat service, the Hulk to be the property of, and maintained by the Wexford County Council."

under date 15th January, 1908. the following was read

from Mr A. Poole, Director of the Waterford and Duncannon Steamboat Company:-

"At a Board Meeting of the above Company it was resolved that a contribution of £50. be made by this Company towards the purchase of Duncannon Hulk by the Wexford County Council for the accommodation of the river steamboat service.

The Hulk to be the property of, and be maintained by the Wexford County Council, as per your letter of the 9th instant.

We will send you a cheque for above amount, or to the Waterford Steamship Company if you prefer it."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Cummins:-

"That this County Council confirm the recommendation of the Finance Committee as follows:-

"That as regards the purchase of the Hulk at Duncannon, if the Waterford Harbour Commissioners agree to contribute £50 and the Waterford & Duncannon Steamboat Company Ltd. agree to contribute a like amount, both contributories being willing that the Hulk and its appurtenances should be vested solely in the Wexford County Council, the latter be recommended to have the purchase carried out; the mooring chain, spare chains and other appurtenances to be handed over in the same condition as when inspected by the Committee of the County Council, and agree to maintain same and appurtenances when same have been vested in us."

Courtown Harbour.

The term of office of Courtown Committee having expired on the 5th February, the Secretary stated it would be necessary to make fresh appointments.

The old Committee were:-

Rev. J. Ashton.

Lord Stopford,
 Major Richards,
 Mrs. Richards
 Jas. Sinnott,
 Jas. Kavanagh,
 E. Fanning,
 J. Whitters,
 Alban Kelly,
 W. W. Shuldham,
 C. Riordan

On the motion of Mr Peacocke, seconded by Mr Kinsella, the old Committee were re-appointed."

Courtown Harbour.

The following report in connection with works at Courtown Harbour was submitted:-

At the last meeting of the County Council, a sum of £200 was given in charge of the County Surveyor, and it was decided that the Piers & Harbours Committee consult with him as to the proper expenditure on this work, prior to its commencement.

The visit of the Piers & Harbours Committee was fixed for Saturday 7th inst. but Mr M. A. Ennis, Vice-Chairman of the Council, was the only member of the Council who attended. Lord Stopford was also in attendance, and Mr Webster, County Surveyor was present.

Inspection was made of the portions of sand banks cut away by the recent gales, and the best methods to be adopted for protecting same from further damage. Those present were unanimously of the opinion that the damage was chiefly caused by heavy seas rolling along the smooth apron of the north breakwater, following the curve of the shore and impinging upon the sand banks.

It may be mentioned that some years ago, this apron was of rough stone, but it was cemented over sometime previous to the County Council obtaining possession of the Pier. It appears to have been since the surface was rendered smooth, that the

seas come in with such force as at present.

With a view to checking the rush of these huge waves against the sandy foreshore it was unanimously agreed that a couple of short groins should be constructed at the back of the pier, and which would probably have the desired effect.

These groins could be constructed most cheaply and easily by a double row of old railway sleepers 9 feet long, (which can be procured for about six-pence each) filled in between with stones and the heads of the sleepers to be confined with paling wire.

The County Surveyor was directed to carry out this work with all reasonable despatch, and to make such further protection to the seabanks in the immediate vicinity as would appear to be absolutely necessary, leaving the effect of the protection of the groins to be ascertained before any further work on the sandbanks would be undertaken. It is hoped the work above indicated may probably be carried out at a cost not exceeding £100. It was also reported by the Harbour Master that the sill of the sluice gates has become defective in some manner which he is unable to discover.

The gates will not shut properly and even when nearly closed the water bubbles up apparently from the foundation as if portion of the sill had been carried away. Efforts were made to close the gates, and to sound by means of boat hooks to ascertain what was wrong, but without success.

M^r. Ennis and Lord Stafford believe it will be necessary that a diver should be employed to report as to the exact position in which the sill is, in order that repairs may be carried out.

The following resolutions adopted at a meeting of Courtown Fishermen were forwarded for consideration:-

" That we hereby direct the attention of the County Council to the present hopeless condition of the Courtown bar, which is such as to

render it impossible for any boat to get to sea. we respectfully point out that this silting of gravel and sand across the bar entrance is due to the defective state of the south pier, and that till same is extended further to sea and present portion repaired so as to prevent the sand and gravel on the south strand from working through into the bar mouth, there never will be any hope that the fishing industry can be pursued at Courtown, and further we urge that as past experience must have proved to your Council the scheme for temporary improvement pursued in the past at Courtown have resulted in a dead loss to your Council, and no benefit to the fishing community; in fact its present state is as bad as when your Council took it into charge."

under date 13th January, the Harbour Master wrote as follows to the County Surveyor:-

"In reply to yours of the 11th inst. I beg to inform you that there is a bad sand drift in bar mouth at present owing to recent storms but as the fishing is over for the present it will cause no inconvenience at not sooner than the middle of March, and by that time I shall have it removed. as to the South Head it is just the same as when it was sheeted over last summer (no sand going through)."

"In connection with the report of the Committee, the Finance Committee recommended that the County Surveyor be empowered to employ a diver to ascertain the damage to the sill of the sluice gates at Courtown, and have any essential work to make the gates work, properly carried out as soon as possible."

Mr. Kinsella moved the adoption of the foregoing recommendation of the Finance Committee.

Mr. J. Bolger. Seconded. Passed.

On the motion of Mr. Kinsella,

seconded by Mr. Peacocke.

The report was adopted.

Mr. Webster explained the steps he had taken to carry out the recommendations in the report.

Proposed by Mr. Peacocke.

Seconded by the Chairman, and passed:-

"This meeting having considered the resolutions from the Fishermen's meeting and having obtained the views of Mr. Webster regarding the expenditure of money at Courtown, they find that according to his statement, and according to the knowledge of some members of the Council the money spent in the past at Courtown Harbour has been well expended."

Lamps &c. at Harbours.

under date 9th December, 1907. the following letter (No 59-107) was read from the L. G. B.:-

"With reference to your letter of the 19th ultimo, relative to the appointment of three caretakers by the Wexford County Council for the lighting and extinguishing of lamps at the Harbours of Kilmore, Duncannon, and Archurstown, I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland to draw the attention of the County Council to the terms of Section 8 of the Grand Jury (Ireland) Act, 1853, and to state that it appears to the Board that the question of these appointments is within the discretion of the County Council and does not require the Board's approval."

For Lighting Lamps &c. at Piers under Factory & Workshop Acts, the following were appointed:-

For Poulduff Pier:- John Redmond, Cahore, Gorey; was appointed at £4 per annum on the motion of Mr. Kavanagh; seconded by Mr. Kehoe.

Fechara:- The County Surveyor stated that he had received applications for lamp lighting at Fechara from the following:-

Christopher Bird, Quay, Fechara.

Michael Hanarick, Quay, Fechara.
Patrick Malloy, Fechara Village.

On the motion of Mr Bolger,
seconded by Mr Kehoe:-

Christopher Bird, was appointed at
a salary of £4 per annum."

Slade: Thomas Moran, Slade. at £4 per annum.
Proposed by Mr Kehoe,
seconded by Mr Kavanagh, and selected.

The above three appointments to date from commencement of lighting of lamps and to be determinable by a month's notice at either side."

Fees under Parliamentary Franchise Acts.

In connection with the question of the payment of fees to the clerk and Rate Collectors of Enniscorthy Union, the Secretary read the judgement given by County Court Judge Brereton-Barry and a copy of which he had forwarded the L. G. B.

Dublin & South Eastern Railway

Letters were read from Messrs Wm Fry & Son. 14 Lower Mount Street, Dublin asking the County Council if they had any objection to the Dublin & South Eastern Railway, Company, interfering with the public road at Macminn in connection with the application to Parliament to extend the time for the compulsory purchase of lands, houses etc. under the Shillelagh Extension Act 1897.

"Mr Webster said he had received a letter from the Engineer of the company that they proposed to divert the road at Macminn, and make a level crossing."

Mr Asple, proposed.

Mr J. Bolger, seconded:-

"That we refuse to agree to the application for the Dublin & South Eastern Railway, as the diversion of the road contemplated at Inacmine would interfere with the public convenience."

Passed.

Great Western Railway Company.

Under date 22nd January, '08, the following letter was read from Mr W^m Beddoes, English & Irish Representative Great Western Railway Company:-

"With reference to the interview which I had the pleasure of having with you recently when I explained the desire and efforts of my Company to get through goods and Merchandise Rates arranged via Rosslare & Fishguard between the principal Stations on the Dublin & South Eastern Railway, and the Great Western System including London, Birmingham, the Midlands, South Staffordshire, the South & West of England, Bristol Reading, and the populous centres of Swansea, Cardiff, South Wales, etc.,

The subject is expected to come before the Railway & Canal Commissioners in Dublin during next month, and if your Council were to pass a resolution in favour of granting through Rates between stations on the D. & S. E. system ^{and} the Great Western Railway, it would no doubt materially assist us.

I shall also be further obliged if some member or members of your Executive were deputed to give evidence if such is necessary in support of same.

I need hardly point out that the question of getting through rates for Goods to and from the towns and districts represented by your Council is an important one as effecting your trade and commerce generally.

Hoping for your assistance and awaiting the favour of a reply."

Proposed by Mr Bolger.

Seconded by Mr Cummins, and passed.

"That we the County Council approve of the application of the Great Western Railway Company, to be granted through rates for Goods and Merchandise on the Dublin and South Eastern Railway, and that our Vice-Chairman, Mr. M. A. Ennis, be appointed to give evidence at the Railway Commission if necessary."

Wild Birds Protection Act.

The Secretary pointed out that under section 4 of this act it is necessary three weeks previous to the order becoming operative every year, to publish notices and advertise in at least two local papers circulating "in or near that place". He wished for the instructions of the Council in the matter, as the contract for advertising was with one paper only."

"On the motion of Mr. Kehoe, seconded by Mr. J. Bolger, it was decided that the required notices be published in the Free Press, People, and Echo Newspapers."

Suretyship for Road Contractor.

Under date 31st December '07. Mr. Patrick Gahan, Annagh Killenore, who had been recently co-opted a member of the Gorey Rural District Council, wrote asking to be relieved of his suretyship, and stated that Edward Kelly, Templederry, Clonevan, was satisfied to replace him."

Proposed by the Chairman.

Seconded by Mr. Codd:-

"That Patrick Gahan of Annagh, Killenore, be released from his suretyship as Road Contractor for Road No 48 Gorey District (Patrick Fortune Contractor), and that Edward Kelly, Templederry, Clonevan, be accepted in his place."

Tara Hill Quarry.

In connection with the proposal to purchase the interest of Mrs. Elizabeth Murphy, Tara Hill, Gorey; in a field of 1 rood, 3 perches thereabouts, which it was necessary to take in order to properly work the Council's quarry. Correspondence was submitted from Messrs. Suggard & Brennan, Solicitors, for Mrs. Murphy. In their letter of the 17th Dec. '07 they stated that Mrs. Murphy would take £17-10 for her interest in the plot. This offer was recommended for acceptance by the Finance Committee.

In connection with the same field, Messrs. Stopford & Turner, Agents for Lord Courtown wrote under date 23rd. January 1908. agreeing to accept the offer of the Finance Committee of the Council for a lease of 31 years at £1 per annum.

On the motion of the Chairman the following resolution was adopted:-

"That our Solicitor prepare the necessary documents in reference to purchase of field of 1 rood, 31 perches, held by Mrs. Elizabeth Murphy, at Tara Hill, from Lord Courtown. That the purchase money agreed on £17-10/- be paid at the meeting of the County Council to be held after the signing of the conveyance. That we agree to the proposal to take a lease from Lord Courtown for the term of 31 years at £1 per year."

On the motion of the Chairman, the following recommendation of the Finance Committee was adopted:-

"That broken stones at Tara Hill Quarry be sold at the rate of 3/- and screenings at the rate of 2/- per cubic yard."

License for Sale of Explosives.

Under date 6th December 1907, Mr. Thomas Cowman, Campile, applied for a license from the County Council for a store license for the sale of Gun-

powder. This license was formerly in the name of the late John Kenny, and Mr Cowman was the Trustee of the property of Mr Kenny.

On the motion of Mr. T. Bolger, seconded by Mr James Good, it was decided that the license applied for be granted."

Fuel for Archurstown Courthouse.

Under date 6th. January. '08, Mr J. B. Wallis, C. P. S. Archurstown wrote:-

" The Courthouse here is very damp, water actually running down the walls in damp weather, and all my official books and papers are being ruined and destroyed. I cannot afford to keep fires going in it at my own expense, and I am not allowed anything for having either fire light or having the Courthouse kept clean for Court days.

Could you get the Council to grant a supply of coals per year. It would require at least a ton, and allow something for having Courthouse cleaned out, and some oil and candles. I would be willing to have the lot done and proper fires kept there, for £2 per year.

Kindly see what you can do in the matter because if the place is not aired, I cannot be responsible for the condition of the Law Books. I've kept fires going there constantly out of my own pocket, but could not afford to keep it up."

In a communication of January 20th:- Mr Wallis wrote that if the County Council would grant him two tons of coal, or at least 1½ tons per year he would be able to see that the Courthouse was kept aired."

On the motion of the Chairman, it was decided that the Courthouse of Archurstown, be allowed one ton of coal for the use of Archurstown Courthouse."

Old Windmill, Vinegar Hill.

Messrs W. Flaherty & Sons, Enniscorthy, Solicitors, and Agents for Lord Portsmouth wrote, saying that Lord Portsmouth appeared to have overlooked the application of the County Council requesting him to hand over to them his interest in the Old Windmill at Vinegar Hill which the County Council desired to acquire as an ancient monument.

Mr John Murphy, Secretary of the National Council, Enniscorthy, wrote asking what had been done by the County Council in the matter and pointing out that the Old Windmill was rapidly crumbling to pieces.

"On the motion of the Chairman this matter was postponed to the next meeting of the Co. Council, as the Council anticipate a reply will have been received from Lord Portsmouth by that time."

Ford of Lyng.

The following resolution, received from the Wexford Rural District Council, and which was postponed from a previous meeting was brought up for consideration:-

"That we call on the County Council to take the necessary steps to compel the owners of the Sloblands to drain the marsh between the Ford of Lyng, and the Slob Canal, so as to prevent the flooding of the road at the Ford of Lyng."

Adjourned to next meeting

Leinster Training College for Irish

The Hon. Officers of the College Established in Leinster for teaching Irish wrote soliciting subscription.

Resolved. "Read"

Proposals for Payment.

On the motion of Mr. Asple.

Seconded by Mr. Kehoe:-

The following resolution was adopted:-

"That the several proposals for payment submitted by the proposal Committee, and amounting to £3730-15-10 are hereby approved."

Recommendations of Finance Committee.

Aughnagroath Bridge.

"With reference to the injury to Aughnagroath Bridge supposed to have been done by Motor Wagon of Messrs Davis, Enniscorthy, it was decided by the Finance Committee that the matter be left in the hands of Mr. Webster, to use his discretion in making a claim on Messrs Davis."

"Agreed to."

Weights & Measures.

The following letter from Mr. R. W. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council was referred to the County Council by the Finance Committee:-

"In pursuance of the directions of the County Council given at their meeting held on 3rd Inst., I beg to report that I have looked into the provisions of "The Weights & Measures Act 1904" as to prosecutions, and I find that by Section 14. It is enacted that an Inspector of Weights & Measures may with the consent of the Local Authority (in this case the County Council) prosecute before a Court of Summary Jurisdiction or Justices any information or complaint or proceeding arising under the Weights & Measures Act or in the discharge of his duties as such Inspector.

By the Act the Board of Trade are authorised to make general Regulations for the carrying out of the Act.

On the 27th August 1907. the Board of Trade made such regulation and by the Schedule thereto, under the head of "Instructions to Inspectors of Weights & Measures" clause 25. It is provided that when an offence has been committed which appears to the Inspector to call for prosecution, legal proceedings should be taken as soon after the detection of the offence as possible, and in the same clause it is stated that it has been held that a General covering consent to prosecutions by the Inspector is sufficient without each separate case being brought before the Local Authority to obtain their consent thereto.

This being so, the Council can, if they think fit, give a general consent to prosecutions being brought, but if the Council does not wish to do this, they can require that each separate case should be reported to them before prosecution.

There doing this however might hamper the Inspector as although there is no limit of time mentioned in the Act within which such prosecutions are to be brought, yet the Board of Trade Regulations require that they should be commenced as soon as possible, and the Inspector might have to wait two or three months before he can obtain the sanction of the County Council to proceeding, and thereby cause the person proceeded against to complain of delay so I think the only thing for the Council to do, would be to require the Inspector to report each case to the Secretary, and then empower the Finance Committee to consider each case so reported, and to give or withhold authority to prosecute, as they think fit, though I am not at all sure that under Section 14 of the Act they have power to do this, the words of it being, "with the consent of the Local Authority."

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

"That a general covering authority be given for one year to the Constabulary under "The Weights & Measures Act. 1904"

Lights on Vehicles Act.

The following letter from Mr. R. W. Elgee, Solicitor, of the Council, was referred to the Council by the Finance Committee, with a view to the Council agreeing to all possible exemptions provided for under this Act:-

"In accordance with the resolution of the County Council, passed at their meeting held on the 3rd instant, I have to report that I have perused "The Lights on Vehicles Act 1907" and that I do not find any provision in it requiring the County Council to take any steps to put the Act in force, it comes into force automatically on the 1st prox.

The County Council may if they think fit make an order exempting from the operation of the Act, Vehicles carrying in the course of Harvest operations any farm produce to Stack or Barn during such months or periods in the year as may be specified in such order. I may mention that this Act does not appear to apply to Bicycles or tricycles they come under another Act."

The Chairman proposed,

Mr. Asple seconded, and it was adopted:-

"That the necessary order embodying all possible exemptions under "The Lights on Vehicles Act. 1907" be prepared by our Solicitor and submitted to the next meeting of the County Council."

Quoins for Labourers cottages.

An application was received from Mr. R. Brighton, Clerk to Gorey Rural District Council, asking the Council to sell quoins to contractors for Labourers cottages in their district.

The matter was referred to Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, who wrote as follows, under date 14th January, 1908:-

"I duly received your letter of the 4th inst., with copy of resolution of the Finance Committee as to the power of the County Council to sell stones of Tara Hill for the purposes of the building of Labourers cottages, and in reply I write to say that in my opinion the bo-

has no such power.

The 12th. Section of the Act of 1898 is that which empowers the Council to purchase Quarries, and the words of it are that the Council may for the purpose of "the maintenance of Roads in their County, whether main or other roads acquire purchase take or lease or exchange any land from which materials may be got for the repair of such roads," and this being so, although there are no words directly prohibiting the sale of stones to outsiders, it seems to me, that having regard to the terms of the section, the plain and common sense view of the matter is that the stones should only be used for works under the control of the Council."

The Finance Committee had adopted the following resolution:

"That our Secretary write to the Local Government Board, and ask them if there would be any objection to the County Council selling quoins from Tara Hill Quarry, to contractors for the erection of Labourers Cottages under ~~the~~^a scheme of Gorey District Council."

The Clerk of the Gorey District Council, has expressed the opinion that if this course can be adopted the District Council will be enabled to take contracts for the erection of cottages at from £5 to £8 less per cottage than they have been paying to the present.

These quoins can be sold without disadvantage to the County Council, as sufficient other material is being obtained from the Quarry to keep the stone-breaker employed. The Council will charge such a price for the quoins as will be ample to provide against any loss and contractors for cottages have represented to the District Council, that they cannot procure suitable quoins nearer than Aughrim in the County Wicklow."

Mr. J. Bolger proposed.

Mr. James Good seconded, and it was passed:-

"That the Local Government Board be urged to favourably consider the recommendation of the Finance Committee, in reference to the sale of quoins to contractors for labourers cottages in Gorey District."

Malicious Injury Charges.

That we draw the attention of the County Council to the hardship inflicted on ratepayers by payment of what are known as Criminal Injury Charges, and request the Council to have the existing law in Ireland assimilated with the law in England."

Mr. Browne, proposed:-

"That the law in this country as regards compensation for what are known as criminal injury claims, should be assimilated to the law of England. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Secretary for Ireland, Messrs John. E. Redmond. M. P. Sir Thomas Esmonde. M. P. and Mr. Peter French. M. P."

Mr. Kinsella seconded. Passed.

Amongst the Miscellaneous recommendations of the Finance Committee were:-

"Agreeing to holidays to County Council staff from 24th December to 28th December;"

agreeing to pay 16/- for stove to replace one purchased by Grand Jury in Ferns Courthouse, now worn out; instructing Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to defend claims made by Clerk and Rate Collectors of Enniscorthy Union, for fees under Parliamentary Franchise Acts; and empowering the Secretary to employ the usual temporary staff for writing up Rate Books, and Receipt & Demand Notes."

The above were confirmed on the motion of Mr. J. Codd, seconded by Mr. J. Bolger.

Diseases of Animal Acts Committee

Recommendations

At a meeting of the Diseases of Animals Acts Committee held on the 14th September 1907. the following recommendation was made:-

"That in consequence of loss inflicted on Sheep owners by killing and worrying of sheep by dogs

the County Council be requested to make an order by which the owners of all dogs shall be compelled to keep them inside their houses or premises between sunset and sunrise for the whole year."

"Consideration adjourned to next Meeting"

Sheep Dipping

In connection with the Compulsory Sheep Dipping Order the following recommendation had been made:-

"That our Secretary communicate with the Constabulary Authorities and point out that it is the wish of the Committee that in any case in which it has come to their knowledge that a man who has failed to lodge the annual declaration and has also neglected to dip his sheep, a prosecution should in their opinion be instituted; but in cases in which sheep have been dipped and the owner through inadvertance has failed to send in the declaration, the Committee are of opinion that for this year, no prosecution should be instituted, if the police have reason to believe that in these cases the sheep have been dipped."

"This recommendation was confirmed"

Flooding of Road at Carcarr.

Mr. Webster reported that the County Council were threatened with an action by a man named Thomas living at Carcarr for the flooding of his cottage.

He (Mr. Webster) found that the flooding was really caused by a sewer constructed by the Dublin and South Eastern Railway Co. He then read the correspondence which had passed between him and Messrs. M. J. O'Connor & Co Solicitors for Mr. Thomas, after which the following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Codd:-

"That having heard the explanation of Mr. Webster the Council is of opinion the County

Surveyor had carried out all that the County Council were legally called upon to do, and they believe they have no further legal liability in the matter."

Road Diversion.

Mr Webster read correspondence between himself and the Chief Engineer of the Great Southern and Western Railway Co. as to the liability for maintenance of roads made as road diversions by the Railway Company in the construction of the line from Rosslare to Waterford. Mr Gordon repudiated the liability of the Railway Company to maintain the surface or fences of these roads and relied on a certificate which he had obtained from two magistrates that the roads and fences had been constructed to their satisfaction, and that being the case, the County Council were liable for future maintenance of the road diversions in question.

On the motion of the Chairman, the matter was referred to Mr Elgee to advise the Council as to whether the mere obtaining by a Railway Company of a certificate from two magistrates that the roads and fences were in order is sufficient to throw the liability for future maintenance on the County Council.

Analyst's Report.

The following was read:-

City Laboratory.

17 Castle Street, Dublin.

30th January, 1908.

Report of Sir Charles Cameron, B. Sc., M. D., Public Analyst for the County Wexford on articles submitted to him for analysis during the quarter ended 31st December 1907.

52 articles were received from the Food Inspectors R.I.C. as follows:-

<u>Article</u>	<u>Number</u>
Milk.	17
Butter.	16
Whiskey.	13
Buttermilk	5
Ginger Cordial	1

Certificate sent to Constable White, Gorey, for specimen of buttermilk adulterated with at least 19 per. cent of added water exclusive of 25 per. cent allowed for churning purposes.

For the Guardians of Gorey Union fifteen drugs and two specimens of water were analysed. One of the drugs, namely, Syrup of Tolu, was slightly low in gravity.

The specimens of water had the following compositions:-
One Imperial Gallon contained in grains.

	<u>No 1.</u>	<u>No 2.</u>
Total solid matters	21.560	15.680
Including.	0.032	
Albuminoid Ammonia,	0.032	0.019
Saline Ammonia.	0.004	0.008
Nitric Acid.	0.500	0.930
Chlorine	3.379	2.286
Sulphuric Acid.	3.603	1.4412
Equal to Calcium Sulphate.	5.000	2.0000

No 1 was a polluted water unfit for use.

No 2. was a very inferior water.

For the Guardians of Enniscorthy Union nineteen drugs and four specimens of tea were analysed.

One of the drugs namely, Liniment of Camphor, was slightly low in camphor. Another, namely, Ammoniated Liniment of Camphor was low in ammonia.

There were three Butters analysed by directions from the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, Upper Merrion Street, Dublin, which was taken up in the County Wexford. One contained an excess of water namely 17.3 per. cent.

One specimen of feeding stuff was analysed for Mr J. Kehoe, Ballycullane.

Two specimens of milk analysed for Mrs Hughes, Tykillen Cottage, Wexford. were free from dangerous micro-organisms of tuberculosis etc.

For Shillelagh Union which is partly situated in the County Wexford, six drugs were analysed and were correct.

Total Analyses. 104.

Chas. A. Cameron.

(W. B.): I may mention that a sample of Whiskey re-

ceived from Sergeant White, Taghmon, was first reported as being 26 degrees underproof or one degree below standard.

On repeating the analysis which is done in every case, I found the strength to be 24 degrees underproof, which a third determination confirmed. By an oversight I reported first result before I had confirmed it. I sent correct report to Sergeant.

C. A. Cameron.

Marked "Read"

M. Morris

15. 4. 1908