

QUARTERLY MEETING. - 1st AUGUST 1917.

The Quarterly Meeting of the Wexford County Council, was held in the Co. Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford, on 1st August 1917.

Present:- Mr John Bolger, (Chairman) presiding.

Also:- Messrs J. S. Hearn, J. A. Doyle, N. J. Cowman, R. Scallan, James Lynch, M. Codd, James Codd, M. Cloney, L. Barry, J. J. Kehoe, P. Keating, J. J. Stafford, M. Maddock, J. Redmond, J. E. Mayler, A. Kinsella, W. Thorpe, T. Asple, Lord Courtown, Sir Thomas Esmonde, Bart., and J. J. O'Byrne.

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

Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of last Meeting were read and confirmed.

The late Bishop of Ferns.

The Chairman proposed, Mr Scallan seconded, and adopted:-

"That we offer to the relatives of our late revered Bishop (Most Rev Dr Browne) and to the Clergy of Ferns diocese, our heartfelt condolence in the loss they have sustained by the death of His Lordship, who directed the spiritual affairs of this Diocese with consummate ability and tact for over quarter of a century."

Motor Car Licence Duties.

Under date 9th July 1917, the Local Government Board wrote (letter No. 29597-1917) forwarding certified statement received from the Postmaster General showing the value of Motor Car Licence Duties levied by each County and County Borough in Ireland for the year ended 31st March 1917.

The amount for Wexford County was £879. 18.6d."

In connection with fine of £20 and costs imposed on Mrs Catherine Sheehan, New Ross, for unlawfully keeping and using a motor car without having a proper licence therefor, the Under Secretary, Dublin Castle, forwarded a petition addressed to His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, asking that the entire of the fine should be remitted, or such portion as his

Excellency considered just.

Mr C. H. Richards, Registrar Motor Licence Duties, Co Council, submitted a reply to the Memorial of Mrs Sheehan.

The following recommendation was submitted by the Finance & Roads Committee:-

"That a copy of Memorandum submitted by Mr C. H. Richards, Registrar Motor Licence Duties, in connection with the appeal of Mrs Catherine Sheehan New Ross, for remission of fine of £20 under the Motor Car Act be submitted to the Lord Lieutenant, and that we recommend His Excellency to remit the fine to £10. 10/-, Mrs Sheehan to be still held liable for payment of £6. 6/ motor licence duty, as we understand from the statement of Registrar of Motor Duty that the Car has been used for other purposes than as a hackney carriage."

"Recommendation confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

The following recommendation was also submitted:-

"That Mr C. H. Richards communicate with Mr Peter Whelan, Bridgetown, as to not having proper hackney carriage plate in front of motor car, and that if he refuses or neglects to have this carried out that he be prosecuted."

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Under date 2nd July 1917, the Local Government Board wrote forwarding pay Order for £43. 19. 11d., and payable to the County Council, in respect of duties on licences for Motor Cars during the year ended 31st March 1917.

Under date 30th July 1917, the Under Secretary, Dublin Castle, wrote that the Lords Justices had reduced the fine in the case of Mrs Sheehan to £10. 10/- as recommended by the Finance & Roads Committee, and made no order as regards the prayer of the petition as to remission of payment of licence duty.

On the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Mr Kinsella, the following resolution was adopted:-

that the Road Board has since the commencement of the War failed to contribute by any new grant to the upkeep of our roads, and further that the Irish Motor tax which was imposed with a view to the improvement of the Irish roads, is diverted from its proper purpose, and unless we receive the Road Board contribution we decline to collect this tax in future."

Ballybro Flooding.

In connection with flooding at Ballybro, Mr R. W. Elgee, Solicitor to the County Council, submitted opinion of Mr John E. Walsh, B. L., who stated that in his opinion the proper persons to clean up the channel through the reclaimed lands, were the District Board of Commissioners, and he considered the appropriate form of proceedings would be a Declaration in Chancery.

The following resolution in this matter was submitted from the County Wexford Committee of Agriculture & Technical Instruction:-

"That we request the County Council to take steps under Regulation 2M of the defence of the Realm Act Regulations to approach the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction to have the flooding at Ballybro dealt with."

Letter from the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction under date 20th June 1917, and No. 43290-17, pointing out that Regulation 2M was not intended to cover large operations but merely to deal with small works capable of being effected at limited expense, and with a view to an immediate increase in the area of land suitable for the purposes of food production.

On the motion of Mr Cowman, seconded by the Chairman, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the matter be further referred to Mr R. W. Elgee, Solicitor to endeavour to obtain the names of the District Commissioners for the Reclaimed Lands."

Appointment of Lamplighter at Ballyhack.

The Secretary stated that the appointment of lamplighter at Ballyhack Boatslip had been referred to the Finance & Roads Committee. They had received only the one application, and had made the following recommendation:-

"That we accept the application of Mr Patrick Cummins, Ballyhack, for the lighting of lamp at Boat Slip Ballyhack at £5 per annum. Appointment to be in accordance with the terms of the Advertisement of the Co. Council."

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Applications Increases of Wages.

Mr John J. O'Gorman, foreman with County Council gang of men applied for an increase of 10/- per week in his wages of 25/-. He could not live on the last named sum, and was now doing twice as much work for the County Council as when he first entered their service.

The Finance & Roads Committee had made the following recommendation:-

"That the County Council be recommended to increase the wages of Mr John J. O'Gorman, foreman with County Council gang attending Stonebreaker, by 5/- perweek, as from 18th July 1917."

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Mr P. Byrne, blacksmith, Tara Hill Quarry, applied for increase in his wages from 28/- to 36/- per week. He stated he was paying £1 per week for board and lodging, and unless his application was agreed to he could not see his way to remain in the service of the Council.

The following recommendation was made by the Finance & Roads Committee

"That the application of Mr P. Byrne, blacksmith at Tara Hill Quarry for an increase of wages, be refused."

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Peter Dwyer, John Dwyer, James Dwyer, John Kehoe, John Doyle, and Patrick Tomkins, quarrymen working with the County Council living van, applied for an increase of their wages from £1 to £1. 5/- per week. They considered they were the hardest worked and the worst paid officials of the Council.

The following recommendation was submitted by the Finance and Roads Committee:-

"That we recommend the County Council to grant an increase of 3/- per week to Messrs Peter Dwyer, John Dwyer, James Dwyer, John Kehoe, John Doyle, and Patrick Tomkins, men working in Co Council quarries and attached to living van, said increase to run as from the date of this meeting."

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Myles Hyland, Borelia, Kilcotty, Rock Drill Operator, applied for an increase in his wages from 30/- to 35/- per week.

The following recommendation was submitted by the Finance & Roads Committee:-

"That we recommend the County Council to fix the wages of Myles Hyland, Rock Drill Operator of the breaker by a sum of 5/- per week, said increase to date as from the present Meeting."

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

RECOMMENDATIONS FINANCE & ROADS COMMITTEE.

Courtown Sewers:- "That the application of Grey R. D. Council in connection with sewers at Courtown Harbour be referred to the County Surveyor for report to next meeting."

On the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Mr Lynch, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee be confirmed. That Mr Creighton, Clerk Gorey R. D. Council be requested to furnish a rough sketch plan and levels of the proposed course of new sewers at Courtown Harbour."

County Wexford Infirmary:- "That the deputation from County Wexford Infirmary relative to increased grant for the institution be heard at the General Meeting of the County Council on 1st August 1917."

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Wall at Ferrybank:- "That the letter of Major General Doran, as to repair to wall at Ferrybank be referred to the County Surveyor with instructions to inform Major General Doran that the County Council are not liable for

repairs mentioned in his letter. That the County Surveyor be further directed to furnish the Secretary, Wexford Harbour Commissioners, with a copy of letter from Major General Doran, with his observations that the work is one for which the Harbour Board are liable.⁶

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Preparation Road Material Etc.,:- "That the following from the Enniscorthy R. D. Council be referred to the County Surveyor-

"That the attention of the County Council be called to the necessity of having the road material prepared in time to enable Contractors to have it drawn before the Harvest."

"That their attention be also directed to the state of the Road from Ballynadaragh Bridge to Clough in Davidstown District."

"Recommendation confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Clohamon Bridge:- "that the County Surveyor be instructed to interview Mr John Browne, Contractor for repair of Clohamon Bridge and point out to him the lack of progress exhibited in having the work carried out. In another month (owing to floods) all operations at the structure may have to be suspended until next Summer thus causing considerable inconvenience to the people of the locality.

That the County Surveyor do all possible to have the work pushed forward without further delay."

Subsequently Mr Browne attended the meeting and explained the manner in which the work was proceeding. He promised to have it completed by the second week of September next.

"Recommendation confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Duncannon Pier:- "That the County Surveyor be instructed to have the necessary work at Duncannon Pier carried out by direct labour."

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir T. Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

"That the County Council be recommended to agree to pay Mr E. Stephens, Duncannon, for superintending work at Duncannon Pier and keeping

a record of the time of the men employed there a sum not exceeding £10."

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir T. Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

"That the County Council be recommended to empower the County Surveyor to purchase suitable safety chains for Duncannon Pier provided he can procure same at what he considers to be a moderate price."

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Yard at Enniscorthy:- "That we recommend the County Council to empower the County Surveyor to purchase Pulley Block and Torpeda fan for forge at yard at Enniscorthy, at a cost not exceeding £10."

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Mountgarrett Bridge:- "That our County Surveyor in conjunction with the County Surveyor of Kilkenny arrange to carry out the necessary repairs to Mountgarrett Bridge."

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Deeps Bridge:- "That the County Surveyor be instructed to take steps to have the road at Deeps Bridge raised so as to prevent flooding and reset the concrete posts. That the joints in coping where necessary should be re-pointed."

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Use of County Council Boat:- "That Mr John Kenny, Emmet Place, Wexford, be appointed to caretake the boat of the County Council provided he be prepared to enter into an agreement to repair the boat when necessary, and replace same should the craft be lost when in his possession."

"Confirmed on the motion of Lord Courtown, seconded by Sir Thomas Esmonde."

Kimore Pier Repairs:- "That the County Surveyor be instructed to see that the Contract for Works at Kilmore Harbour be proceeded with at once."

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Arthurstown Pier:- "That the question of repairs to Arthurstown Pier be adjourned pending the result of inquiries by the County Surveyor."

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Haulage of Material:- "That no objection be offered to the proposal of the County Surveyor to employ Mr Martin Flood, Castleboro, Clonroche, for haulage of material from Cherryorchard and other quarries at 6/6 per cubic yard, the County Surveyor to arrange that the checking of the material be carried out by Mr Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor."

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Alleged Removal & Conversion of Road Material:- "That Mr Elgee, Solicitor, and Mr Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor, consult as to alleged removal of road material from Road No. 200E (Edward Cullen, Boolabawn, Screen) and that proceedings be instituted against this Contractor should Mr Elgee consider that there is a reasonable prospect of succeeding in Court."

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Machinery-Cherryorchard Quarry:- "That the County Surveyor be requested to furnish to next ordinary meeting of Finance & Roads Committee, a report as to machinery offered for sale at Cherryorchard Quarry by Mr George Sharpe."

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Food Controller & Cattle Prices.

On the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by the Chairman, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That in view of the recent regulations of the Food Controller with regard to the prices of Irish Cattle, we note that these prices are:- 74/- in September, 72/- in October and November, 67/- in December, and 60/- in January. These prices should apply only to grass fed cattle. If it is proposed to apply them from December on to fat cattle, when stall fed cattle are being offered for sale, they will most injuriously affect the tillage farmers throughout Ireland.

The Government should recognise that tillage farming is much more

expensive to carry on and that it was the efforts of the tillage farmers which have helped to stand between the country and privation. Tillage farming is absolutely essential to the proper conduct of agricultural operations seeing that it is thereby we produce the manure necessary for the fertilisation of our land.

We regard the drop in prices after December as a direct blow to the tillage farmers of Ireland. As a matter of fact prices should be increased from the period when stall fed cattle are ready for market.

That copies of this resolution be furnished to the Food Controller, the County Members of Parliament, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction for Ireland."

Naval & Military War Pension (Administrative Expenses) Act 1917.

Letter from the Local Government Board under date 29th June 1917, (No. 112M-1917) relative to administrative expenses of Local War Pensions Local Committee being defrayed by the County Council was read. One-third of the expenditure incurred under this head would be payable out of the County fund and two-thirds would be recopped by the Treasury.

The Local Government Board in this connection also forwarded copy of the Naval & Military War Pensions (Administrative Expenses Act 1917, and copy of their Sealed Order "The War Pensions Committees (Ireland) Order 1917.

The estimate of the County Wexford War Pensions Local Committee amounting to £121. 10/- to March 1918, was laid before the Meeting.

On the motion of Lord Courtown, seconded by Mr Kehoe, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee agreeing to estimate submitted by War Pensions Local Committee for the period from 17th May 1917, to 31st March 1918, and amounting to £121. 10/- be and is hereby approved."

Vacancies on War Pension Local Committee.

On the motion of Mr Stafford, seconded by Mr Kinsella, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That Messrs William Thorpe and Michael Maddock be appointed representatives of County Council on County Wexford War Pensions Local Committee, vice Mr Hearn and Mr Lynch, resigned."

Advances of supplies of Seed Potatoes, Etc.,

Under date 13th July 1917, the Local Government Board wrote (letter No. 118M- 1917, Miscellaneous:) stating that repayment of cost of advances of supplies of seed potatoes, seed oats and manures to Cottagers and small holders was to be made in the case of small holders by means of a rate to be levied next year as part of the Poor Rate, or as a special rate on the small holders or the subeties of non-rated cultivators.

The Rural District Councils of Enniscorthy, Gorey, and Wexford, had been communicated with by the Local Government Board as to the preparation of the necessary lists of persons who will be specially chargeable with the rates in 1918.

"The Secretary stated that he had received the list in question from Wexford Rural District Council."

"No Order"

Economy in the use of Timber.

Under date 13th July 1917, the Local Government Board wrote (letter No. 34,234 : 1917, Miscellaneous) as to the urgency of reducing to a minimum the consumption of timber, for all but the most essential needs.

"No Order"

Audits of Accounts.

The following report of the audit of the Accounts of the Wexford Co. Council for half-year ended 31st March 1917, was read:—

"I have the honour to report that I have audited the accounts of the County Council of Wexford for the half-year ended March last, and I forward herewith a certified abstract thereof in pursuance of your Order in that behalf made.

The accounts were prepared and submitted for audit in a satisfactory manner and no item of expenditure calls for any remark upon my part."

Reports of the Auditor of the Local Government Board as regards audit of the accounts of the following County Bodies, were also laid before the meeting:—

Gorey Union and R. D. Council, Wexford Union and R. D. Council, New Ross R. D. Council, County Wexford Tuberculosis Committee, County Wexford Committee of Agriculture & Technical Instruction, Enniscorthy District Lunatic Asylum, New Ross Union.

"No Order."

Rate Collector Somers.

Under date 17th July 1917, the Local Government Board, wrote (letter No. 36724-1917 Wexford Co.,) that they would now agree to Collector Somers being paid poundage fees in respect of half-year ended 31st March 1917. They added that the Collector should in future take care that any necessary proceedings for the recovery of rates are taken in good time."

"The Secretary stated that a copy of the letter of the Local Government Board had been furnished Mr Somers."

Marked "Read"

Proposed War Bonus to Road Contractors.

The following extract from the Minutes of Finance & Roads Committee of 9th July, relative to proposed War Bonus to certain Road Contractors was submitted:-

"A long discussion took place on the application of certain Road Contractors in the Districts of Enniscorthy, New Ross and Wexford, for a War Bonus.

Mr O'Neill proposed:- "That owing to enhanced prices of materials and increased cost of labour, we unanimously recommend the Co. Council to grant the following War Bonus as from 31st March 1917, to contractors making application for same to this day's meeting, viz:- an increase of 20 per cent to contractors who provide their own material, an increase of 20 per cent on four-sevenths of their contracts to contractors who obtain their material from Co Council Quarries, and an increase of 20 per cent on two-thirds of their contracts to contractors who obtain sea-gravel."

Mr Stafford seconded the recommendation which, however was withdrawn.

The following recommendation was unanimously adopted on the motion of Mr Stafford, seconded by Mr Asple:-

"The County Council having received an application for War Bonus from certain Road Contractors whose contracts were entered into on or before 30th June 1915, and same having been referred to the Finance & Roads Committee for consideration, we believe the application in question should be favourably dealt with, but before putting forward any recommendation in the matter to the County Council, we desire to obtain an

expression of the views of the Rural District Councils concerned, viz:- Enniscorthy, New Ross, and Wexford, for submission to the County Council Meeting of 1st August."

"On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Codd, the following recommendation was adopted:- "That the County Surveyor be instructed to attend the meetings of the Rural District Councils of Enniscorthy, New Ross, and Wexford, at which the question of the granting War Bonus to certain Road Contractors will be considered."

"Mr Elgee called attention to the letter of Local Government Board forwarded to Messrs M. J. O'Connor & Co., Solicitors, Wexford, acting for the Road Contractors, (No. 22556: 1917-Wexford County) and under date 1st May 1917."

Under date 17th July 1917, the Clerk, Wexford R. D. Council, wrote that when the matter was considered by his Council six voted on a poll for a 30 per cent War Bonus and 16 for a 20 per cent, and it was accordingly recommended to the County Council to grant a War Bonus of 20 per cent calculated on the different lines set out in the application for three different classes of Contractors.

Under date 24th July 1917, the Clerk New Ross Rural District Council, wrote that his Council (one member dissenting) agreed to recommend the granting of War Bonus to the affected Contractors, and further recommended 20 per cent as the maximum increased payment.

Under date 28th July, the Clerk, Enniscorthy Rural District, wrote that his Council had unanimously approved of the application on the terms stated in Messrs O'Connor's letter of 2nd July, i.e., Class A-Contract price to be increased by 30%, B.-Increase of 30% on 4/7ths the annual amount, Class C.- increase of 30% on 2/3rds Annual amount.

The following resolution under date 28th July 1917, was read from Gorey Rural District Council:-

"That this District Council considers that the Road Contractors of the Gorey district are equally if not more entitled to a War Bonus and we cannot understand why the Finance Committee passed over their claims as they were the first body to put their grievances before the County Council."

The following letter under date 28th July 1917, was read from Messrs Huggard & Brennan, Solicitors, Wexford:-

"We are acting for the Road Contractors of the Gorey Rural District Council, and we wrote the County Council some considerable time ago, and also appeared before them on behalf of these contractors.

We see from the local press that the County Council has invited the opinion of the District Council as to the granting of a War Bonus of 20% to the contractors owing to the difficulties that have arisen in the carrying out of the contracts.

We are informed that the Gorey Rural District Council at their last meeting unanimously passed a resolution in favor of the bonus being granted to the contractors. We would therefore feel much obliged if you would kindly bring before the Finance Committee the claims of the contractors in the Gorey Rural District Council.

We shall send you as soon as possible a detailed list giving the names of the contractors."

Mr Michael Kavanagh, Tomcoyle, wrote under date 16th July 1917, applying for a War Bonus on Contracts 56G and 58G taken from March 1913.

Under date 31st July, Mr John Doyle, Ballycoursey, Glenbrien, wrote applying,- "for the War Bonus which I am entitled to on my Road Contract".

On the motion of Mr Stafford, seconded by Mr Kehoe, the following resolution was adopted, on the recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee:-

"That the County Council having carefully considered the application of certain road contractors who have entered into their contracts on or before 30th June 1915, and who have applied for an increase on the annual amount being paid to them for the carrying out of their contracts, by way of war bonus, and being satisfied that these contractors are entitled to such payment, do grant to these contractors the following increased payment, i.e., an increase of 20 % on the whole amount to those contractors who supply material and labour themselves, an increase of 11.4% or 20 % on 4/7ths of the amount to those contractors who obtain material from County Council quarries, no increased charge being made by the County Council for material, and an increase of 13.3%

or 20% on 2/3rds of the amount to those contractors who use seagravel, until the expiration of the contract or until one year from the end of the war, whichever event should first happen, but that such increased payment only be made to contractors, who, in the opinion of the County Surveyor have done their work efficiently, and further that the procedure suggested by the Local Government Board be carried out, namely, that the County Council shall issue advertisements inviting tenders from outside persons for the contracts, taking this new increased amount in each case as the minimum price at which the contractor will be willing to carry on the work until the expiration of his contract, and if no tender at a lower amount is obtained, that a fresh contract be entered into with each contractor concerned at this new increased annual amount for the unexpired term of his contract, the increased percentage only to be paid for a period ending one year after the conclusion of the War."

Clonroche Courthouse.

Mrs Tector, Landlord of Clonroche Courthouse, wrote under date 13th July 1917, applying for an increase in rent of Clonroche Courthouse from £10 per annum to £15. If not granted she stated, she would withdraw the use of the Courthouse from the County Council.

The Finance & Roads Committee made the following recommendation:-

"The Finance Committee cannot see their way to recommend the County Council to pay an increased rent for Clonroche Courthouse."

"Recommendation confirmed on the motion of Mr Cowman, seconded by Mr Kehoe."

County Wexford Infirmary.

At the meeting of Finance & Roads Committee on 13th July 1917, a letter was read from the registrar, Co. Wexford Infirmary, asking the County Council to hear the views of Lady M. Fitzgerald and the Mayor of Wexford, as a deputation from the Infirmary Committee, relative to having an increased grant given to the Institution.

The Finance & Roads Committee adopted a resolution that the deputation be heard at the General Meeting of the Council to be held on 1st August."

In connection with this matter the following resolution was read from the Wexford Trades & Labour Council:-

"That as the County Infirmary is of very great benefit to the people of the County Wexford, we strongly urge upon the County Council to give such a grant to the Committee as will enable them to get over their present financial difficulty. At the same time we are of the opinion that if the infirmary is to be utilised so as to be of the greatest benefit to the community an effort should be made to secure funds in order to have the institution properly equipped as a surgical infirmary, and to secure the services of a surgeon who has had experience in carrying out operations in a surgical infirmary. We suggest that an appeal be made to the public for support, as is done in other parts of Ireland, and are confident that sufficient funds would be forthcoming to put the infirmary in a sound position. We demand that the workers be accorded their proper share of representation on the infirmary Committee."

Lady M. Fitzgerald and Mr Byrne (Mayor of Wexford) attended and put the case of the present financial position of the Institution before the Council, and pointed out that unless the present grant from the County Council be increased by £200 or £300 for the duration of the War, the Institution could not be carried on."

Mr Kinsella proposed:-

"That the grant to the County Wexford Infirmary be increased by £200 per annum as from 31st March 1917, said increase to continue to be payable for twelve months after the conclusion of the War."

Mr Kehoe seconded.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For the resolution:- Messrs Maddock, Stafford, Kinsella, Keating, Barry, James Codd, Cowman, Kehoe, Asple, Cloney, Mayler, and the Chairman.- 12.

Against:- Lord Courtown, Messrs Scallan, Hearn, Lynch, Mark Codd, Redmond, Thorpe, and J. A. Doyle.- 8.

The Chairman declared the resolution carried, after which the Members of the deputation returned thanks.

Artane Industrial School.

The following letter under date 3rd July 1917, was read from the Manager, Artane Industrial School:-

"With one or two exceptions all Borough and County Councils have given us an increase of, at least, sixpence per week, per head, from 1st

October. Up to the present this School has been paid the 2/6 rate. If there is not at least sixpence of an increase on that the Treasury will not give any increase. Already we have had to considerably overdraw our Bank account to meet our expenses. Kindly say at your earliest convenience if your Council will be good enough to give us the general rate of 3/- per head, per week, in order that we may secure a like increase from the Treasury."

"No Order"

In connection with the committal of a boy named Michael Murphy, Enniscorthy Workhouse to Artane Industrial School, a letter was read from Mr A. A. Connolly, Clerk, Enniscorthy Union, under date 10th July 1917, stating that the School would charge 5/6 per week for this boy during the War and 5/- per week afterwards.

The following recommendation was submitted from the Finance & Roads Committee:-

"That as the County Council have refused to pay any increased grant to any Industrial Schools at present receiving 2/6 per week, our Secretary be instructed to send a list of the Industrial Schools and the rate per head chargeable therein to the Clerks of Petty Sessions, with a request that in the event of any school declining to accept children - except at a higher rate- the attention of the Council be called to the matter before any orders for committal of children be made."

"Recommendation confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Proposed Agreement between Co Council & Co Insurance Committee.

In connection with contribution of the County Insurance Committee towards the salaries and expenses of Chief Tuberculosis Officer and Nurse, the following recommendation was submitted from the Finance & Roads Committee:-

"That the County Council be recommended not to accept proposed liquidated payment of £100 in lieu of £552. 17. 6d due by County Insurance Committee to County Council for services of Tuberculosis Officer and Nurse to 31st March 1916, or any payment less than the full amount of the debt."

"That as we realise the County Council would be in a worse

financial position by entering into an agreement with the Co. Insurance Committee for the treatment of patients, we recommend the County Council not to enter into said agreement."

Under date 26th July 1917, the following letter was read from Miss O'Ryan, Clerk County Insurance Committee:-

"The following is copy of letter received from the Irish Insurance Commissioners, dated the 20th July and No. 30969: 1917, I. C., for the County Wexford:-

"The National Health Insurance Commission (Ireland) have had under consideration your letter of the 10th instant, from which they observe that the Roads & Finance Committee of the Wexford County Council have recommended to the Council that the contribution to be paid by your Committee in respect of the services of the Tuberculosis Officer and of the Dispensary system to the 31st March 1916 should be £552. 17. 6d, i.e., at the rate of one-third of the salaries and expenses of the Tuberculosis Officer and of the Tuberculosis Nurses.

The date mentioned should presumably be 28th February 1916 as the Commission have sanctioned, and the Council have accepted payment at the rate of one-fifth of the salaries and expenses of the Tuberculosis Officer and Nurse as from that date.

In reference thereto I am to state that the Commission are not prepared to sanction payment for the former period at a higher rate than one-fifth of the salaries and expenses of the Tuberculosis Officer and Nurse which up to the date 28th February 1916 would amount to £331. 14. 6d. In addition, there is due to the Council a contribution in respect of the period from 1st March 1916 to 30th June 1917 of £160. The total amount due to the Council is therefore £491. 14. 6d. It appears to the Commission that in view of the Council's attitude that sum should at once be paid."

In face of above and in order to arrive at an early as well as an amicable understanding, I was directed by the members of this Committee at their meeting on yesterday to ask you to lay the

foregoing before the next meeting of the Council, and at the same time ask the Council to appoint delegates (three in number if the Council so decide) to meet three delegates appointed from yesterday's meeting in conference at a place and time to be chosen by your Council.

If your Council agree to this Conference the matter could be discussed and much misunderstanding avoided. If you will kindly let me know time and place of meeting, I could summon the members appointed by this Committee to attend. Any day during week beginning 12th August would suit."

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Kehoe, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee be confirmed, and that the letter from the Clerk of County Insurance Committee as to proposed Conference be referred to next ordinary meeting of Finance & Roads Committee."

Importation of Horses Order.

Under date 21st June 1917, the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction forwarded Order No. 460 prohibiting the movement of any imported Horses, Asses, or Mules, except on licence issued by an Inspector or other Officer authorised by the Department.

"No Order"

County Insurance Committee.

Under date 27th June 1917, letter No. 33M.-17, was read from the National Insurance Commission, extending until the 30th June 1918, the terms of office of the existing Members of Insurance Committee including Members appointed by County Councils and County Borough Committees whose period of office would, otherwise, have terminated on the 30th instant."

"No Order"

Replies to Votes of Condolence.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Kehoe, the following resolution was adopted:-

That the letters of Mr R. Scallan, and Messrs Moore Kelly and Lloyd, in reply to votes of condolence adopted by the Council be set out on the Minutes of the present Meeting:

The following are the letters in question:-

"Please convey to the Members of the County Council my sincere thanks for their kind vote of sympathy on my Mother's death.

Sincerely Yours

Rishard Scallan."

"We received your letter and the copy of the Resolution adopted at the meeting of the Wexford County Council for which we are obliged, and we will have much pleasure of conveying the purport of the Resolution to the relatives of the late Mr C.H.Peacocke.

We are also obliged for your expression of regret, which we will also convey to them.

Yours faithfully

Moore, Kelly & Lloyd."

Loading Bank at Sparrowsland.

Under date 18th June the following letter was read from Mr John Coghlan General Manager, Dublin & South Eastern Railway, relative to proposed improvement of loading bank at Sparrowsland:-

"Referring to your letter of 23th ult., I have looked carefully into the question of opening the Sparrowsland Siding for traffic, and regret to say that I could not recommend my Board to open the siding for general purposes. It may be in your recollection that some years ago we had a Siding at this particular place, and we were compelled to close it owing to the fact that it was worked at a loss.

The Siding could not be opened for the carriage of stones alone, for once opened it would have to be used for general purposes, and this would entail a staff of a couple of men to efficiently carry out the work, and I cannot see any prospect of it ever being a remunerative transaction. Roadways would have to be made, and loading banks and offices built."

On the motion of Mr Asple, seconded by Mr Lynch, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That we request the directors of the Dublin & South Eastern Railway Co., to reconsider their decision as to refusing to improve loading bank and road at Sparrowsland. The outlay for this purpose would be comparatively small, and we believe a satisfactory arrangement could be arrived at by payment of a gratuity to the woman living in the railway

house adjoining the siding. The improvement in question would greatly facilitate the Council in obtaining road metalling from Ballybrennan quarry and be also a source of great convenience to the farmers of the district. The Council would be obliged if the Directors could see their way to comply with the wishes of the Council in the matter, as they would be prepared to pay half cost within a reasonable amount."

Application for Increase on Contract Price.-Jurors Lists.

Under date 4th July 1917, the following was read from Messrs J.English & Co., Contractors for the printing of Jurors Lists:-

"I will be glad if you will kindly ask the Finance Committee if I may appear before them to-day in support of our application for an increase on our Contract price for printing the Jurors Lists."

"No Order"

Boyce's Bay Contract.

In connection with above the following recommendation was submitted by the Finance & Roads Committee:-

"That the letter of Mr H. P. Gahan, under date 2nd July 1917, as to payment of decree re Boyce's Bay Contract, be referred to Mr Elgee, Solicitor."

"Confirmed on the motion of Sir Thomas Esmonde, seconded by Lord Courtown."

Application-Road Material.

Under date 19th June 1917, Mr Peter O'Brien, Kiltomas, Ferns, wrote applying for 30 yards broken stones from Doran's Hill quarry, to repair the lane leading to his premises.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Kehoe, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That Mr O'Brien's application for 30 cubic yards of material be acceded to when material not required for road metalling is available."

Poisons & Pharmacy Act Licences.

Applications were received from the following for renewal of their Poisons & Pharmacy Act Licences:-

George Stafford, John Street, Wexford, Patrick Healy, 82 North Main Street, Wexford, Patrick Redmond, The Harrow, Ferns.

On the motion of Mr Kehoe, seconded by Mr Lynch, the applications of the above-named were acceded to.

Proposals for Works.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Lord Courtown, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the several proposals for Works as submitted by the Proposal Committee and as appearing on Form 20 be and are hereby approved subject to modifications and other orders noted thereon and initialled by the Chairman."

Proposals for Payment.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Lord Courtown, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the several proposals for payment submitted by the Proposal Committee and recommended by the Finance & Roads Committee, and dealing with matters other than public works, also transfers to Public Bodies be and are hereby approved subject to the modifications and other orders noted thereon and initialled by the Chairman."

Doran's Hill Quarry.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Lynch, the following recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee was adopted:-

"That the County Surveyor be directed to arrange for a stone fence at Doran's Hill Quarry."

Motor Direction Signs.

The Secretary, Gaelic League, Dublin, wrote under date 15th June 1917, hoping it was not too late to impose the condition that the direction signs which were to be provided by the Ford Motor Co., should be in Irish as well as English, and asking that the Council would communicate with Mr Ford about the matter.

On the motion of Mr Stafford, seconded by Mr Maddock, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That copy of the letter from the Secretary, Gaelic League, as to directions on Motor Signs supplied by the Ford Co., being set out in Irish as well as English, be forwarded the Ford Motor Co., The Co.

Council would feel obliged if the Ford Co., can see their way to accede to the wishes of the Gaelic League in this matter."

Beds at Newcastle Sanatorium.

A proposal was submitted from County Tuberculosis Committee for sanction of four contract beds in Newcastle at 28/- per week.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Kehoe, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That we approve of the arrangement entered into with Newcastle Sanatorium by the Tuberculosis Committee for four Contract beds in that Institution."

Stacking Corn.

The following resolution was submitted from the Limerick County Council:-

"That as the harvest is fast approaching, it would be advisable that our County Instructors will pay particular attention to the question at of stacking the Wheat, Oats, and Barley, by every available opportunity imparting information to the people, as to the best means of stacking Wheat, Oats, and Barley, so as to preserve them through the Winter against the attacks of rats and mice and the weather.

It is an absolute certainty that there is sure to be a scarcity at the spring of 1918, and possible it may prove serious, therefore, it is wise to be on the alert in time."

"No Order"

Bread & Regulation Flour.

The following resolution was submitted from Rural District Council of Ballinrobe:-

"That we desire to call the Food Controller's attention to the grave public dissatisfaction with the bread produced from the present Regulation Flour. That the use of its admixtures should be discontinued, there is nothing gained by continuing same, as the first war grade produced 25 per cent more bread than the present grade from a given weight of flour, and the present Regulation Flour having a tendency to go bad both in storage and baking, in our opinion it is dangerous to the health of the Community. We therefore recommend re-adverting to the first war grade, thereby saving the health of the people (especially the

young and the feeble) and waste of valuable grain that could be used for other food."

"No Order"

Sunday Trains-Rosslare.

Under date 29th June 1917, the General Manager, Gt S. & W. Railway Co., wrote that arrangements were being made to run a service of Sunday trains as heretofore on and from 8th July, as an experiment.

Roads & Quarries.

On the motion of Mr Kehoe, seconded by Mr Maddock, the following recommendations of Finance & Roads Committee were adopted:-

"That a small Committee be appointed to examine the present system of supervision of roads and working of quarries, and that they be empowered to incur whatever expense is necessary to visit the County Council quarries, investigate their working, and report in due course to a meeting of the County Council."

The following Committee were appointed:- "The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Messrs J. J. Stafford, T. Asple, A. Kinsella, R. Scallan, M. Cloney, Hearn, Cowman, and Thorpe, the first meeting of the Committee to be held on Tuesday, 7th August, at 10. 0'C., a.m.,"

(Signed)

Michael Doyle
Presiding Chairman.

Dated this 19th day of September 1917.