

Special Meeting — 3rd April 1906

A Special Meeting of the County Council, was held in the County Council, Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford; on 3rd April 1906.

Present:- In the chair - Mr. M. A. Ennis Vice-Chairman.

Other Members:- Messrs D. Dempsey, M. Hickey, M. Codd, James Codd, Thaddens Bolger, J. E. Mayler, N. C. Murphy, James Donohoe, C. H. Pearcocks, M. Browne, C. More, and Mr. Doyle.

The Secretary, and Mr. Elgee Solicitor were in attendance.

Appointment of Secretary.

Under date 10th March 1906, (letter no. 12,654-1906 Wexford County) the following was read from the Local Government Board:-

"With reference to the Minutes of Proceedings of the Wexford County Council, on the 26th ultimo, relative to the appointment of Mr. N. J. Trizell as Secretary to the County Council, I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland to state, for the information of the County Council, ~~and~~ that the Board have approved of Mr. Trizell's appointment to that Office."

"Under date 13th March 1906 (letter no. 1324/06) the Department of Agriculture, wrote:-

"With reference to your letter of the 1st Instant, I am directed by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, hereby to express their approval of your recent appointment by the Wexford County Council as Clerk to the Local Authority under the Diseases of Animals Acts, at a salary of £48 per annum, such appointment to take effect from the same date as your separate appointment as Secretary to the Wexford Council Council."

Relative to the bond to be entered into by the Secretary, the following letter (no. 16412-1906 Wexford Co.) was read from the Local Government Board:-

"I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant relative to your security as Secretary to the Wexford County Council; and I am to return, herewith, the draft bond submitted by you, and to state that the Board see no objection to its acceptance by the County Council."

Mr Elger said he had perused the draft bond, and had initialed it on behalf of the Council.

New Telegraphic Line

Under date 3rd April 1906, the Secretary of the Post Office wrote asking for the consent of the Wexford County Council to the placing of an over-ground telegraphic line along the public road between Oylegate Post Office, and Edermine Ferry Railway Station.

"On the motion of Mr Donohoe, seconded by Mr Bolger, it was decided that the Council agree to allow the telegraphic line, as applied for, to be erected on the public road."

Auditors' Reports.

The Reports of Local Government Auditors in connection with the accounts of the following bodies in respect of the half-year ended 30th September 1905, were read for the Meeting:- County Council; County Committee of Agriculture, and Technical Instruction; Wexford, Gorey, Enniscorthy, and New Ross, Guardians; and Rural District Councils; District Lunatic Asylum.

With reference to the Auditor's report of Enniscorthy Rural District Council, Mr J. Bolger moved and the Chairman seconded:- That Mr Connolly, Clerk, be requested to call the attention of the R. D. Council to the necessity of having Collector Doran enter into a new bond in connection with collection of Rents of Cottages, as pointed out by the Auditor

Road Maintenance Inquiry.

Under date 5th March 1906 (letter no. 12415-1906 Wexford Co) the Local Government Board wrote:-

"I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland to forward, herewith, for the information of the Wexford County Council, a copy of a letter received from the County Surveyor in regard to the inquiry recently held into the system of road maintenance in County Wexford; and I am to state that the Board regret that in the third paragraph of their letter of the 23rd ultimo the words "The County Surveyor admitted" were by an inadvertence in drafting the letter made to apply to the final clause of that paragraph without qualification, and they are of opinion that the words "except in a few instances" should have been added to the paragraph.

While the Board are glad to have an opportunity of rectifying the clerical slip in their letter, which the County Surveyor has pointed out, it in no way modifies the general effect of the evidence or their conclusions arrived at thereon."

The following is the copy of the letter of the County Surveyor referred to in the letter of the Local Government Board:-

"With reference to the communication from your Board to the County Council, re thest Sworn Inquiry (recentst) in this County, when the matter came before the County Council today, I drew attention to an inaccuracy which occurs at the end of the third paragraph.

It is stated there that with reference to checking the measurements of road metalling made by my assistants, I admitted that I "only intervened in cases of dispute between the Assistant Surveyors and Contractors.

If you turn to page 109 of the transcript of the Shorthand notes taken at the Inquiry you will see that I made no such admission, but on the contrary, I stated that I had measured myself, to check the Assistants, the material on ten different roads

prior to the 4th of November, of which only two measurements were made on account of disputes between the Assistants and Contractors

I shall feel obliged if your Board will be good enough to have the matter made right with the least possible delay.

Estimate of Rate

Under date the 14th February 1906, the Local Government Board wrote (letter no. 9701-1906 Wexford County) acknowledging with thanks the receipt of copy of Estimate and Demand of the County Council for the service of the ensuing financial year

Assistant Surveyors

Under date 23rd March 1906 the Local Government Board wrote that an examination of candidates for qualification as Assistant Surveyors would be held under the direction of the Board at their Offices, Custom House, Dublin, at 10 o'clock a.m. on Wednesday and Thursday the 2nd and 3rd of May 1906.

Error in Road Contract.

Under date 10th March 1906 (letter no. 9702-1906) the Local Government Board wrote:-

"With reference to the entry in the Minutes of Proceedings of the Wexford County Council on the 12th ultimo, relative to an error in a road contract entered into by Mr. James Howell; I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland to state that under the circumstances they will raise no objection to the proposal of the Council to grant an additional sum of Ten Shillings per annum to Mr Howell in respect of this contract.

At the same time, the Board think it well to point out to the County Council the advisability of obtaining tenders in the manner proposed in the form of tender recently issued by the Board, which was drawn up with a view to avoiding the occurrence

of difficulties and possible litigation which might arise in connection with the acceptance of tenders at a specified price per perch."

Fowtown Harbour.

Under date 22nd March 1906 (Letter No. 1233/06 F.B.) the Department of Agriculture, Etc. wrote:-

"Adverting to your communication of the 27th ultimo, embodying a resolution adopted at a meeting of the Wexford Council on the previous day, in reference to Fowtown Harbour, I have to state for the information of your Council, that, in view of the condition of the funds at their disposal, the Department regret that they cannot at present entertain the consideration of any scheme of improvements at Fowtown that would involve serious expenditure.

The Department will, however, obtain a report from their Engineer as to the state of the entrance to the Harbour in order that they may be in a position to consider the question of clearing it by dredging."

On the motion of Mr Donohoe, seconded by Mr. J. Bolger the following resolution was adopted:-

"That this Council desires to express the hope that the Department may see its way to give favourable consideration to the question of a grant for the improvement of Fowtown Harbour as soon as possible.

The Council would be glad to receive from the Department a copy of their Engineer's Report, and as the Council will be under the necessity of carrying out (owing to damage caused by a recent storm) repairs to the outer pier within a month or six weeks, they would be glad to have the views of the Department on the subject of the dredging of the harbour before them, when the question of the repairs will be under consideration."

Food and Drugs Inspector.

"On the motion of Mr N. C. Murphy seconded by the Chairman, Sergeant Christopher Bready R. I. C. Killenick, was appointed ex-officio Inspector under Food and Drugs Acts, vice Sergeant Farrell R. I. C. transferred"

Contribution for Millpark Road Culvert

The following letter under date 13th March 1906 was read from the Clerk of the Enniscorthy Urban Council:

"With reference to your letter re above informing the Urban Council, that the County Council had refused a motion to contribute towards same.

I have been directed by the Council to request that the County Council reconsider their decision in this matter, considering that Enniscorthy has to contribute its share of £678.10.0 towards the repairs of Bridges throughout the County, not considering that they have also to contribute to Piers, Harbours, etc."

The Secretary said that the amount of the Contribution asked for by the Urban Council was £9

On the motion of Mr Donohoe seconded by the Chairman it was decided to refer the legality of a Contribution for this purpose to Mr Elgee, the County Council having decided that the main roads scheme should cease as from 31st March 1906.

Special Meeting of the Council

On the motion of Mr J. Bolger, seconded by Mr Dempsey, the following resolution was adopted.

"That a special meeting of the Council be held on 20th April immediately after the disposal of the business of the Proposal Committee for the purpose of considering the report of the Roads Maintenance Inquiry Committee and of striking the Rate for the current financial year."

Substitution of Security

The following letter from John Murphy, Road Contractor Ballygarraon Kilmuckridge, under date 26th March 1906 was read:-

"With reference to my contract no. 80 Gorey Rural District, for the maintenance of 492 perches of road between the bounds of the barony of Coolroe and Kilmuckridge, I would be glad if you would give permission to substitute as one of my sureties the name of Mr. John White Ballylurkin, Kilmuckridge to replace the name of Mr. William Ransome Ballygarraon.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Dempsey, it was decided that John White Ballylurkin Kilmuckridge be accepted as surety for John Murphy, Ballygarraon, for road no. 80. Gorey Rural District.

Mulrankin - Castle

Under date 26 February 1906, (letter no 3276-06) the following letter re Mulrankin Castle was read from the Secretary of the Estate Commissioners:-

"With reference to your letter of the 16th inst, I am directed by the Estates Commissioners to inform you that the Board of Works have declined to have Mulrankin Castle vested in them, but, as the preservation of the ruins may be a matter of local interest, they have suggested that the County Council be approached to take over the vesting."

On the motion of Mr. Browne, seconded by the Chairman it was decided that this letter be held over until Sir Thomas. H. G. Esmonde Chairman of the Council be able to attend. The Secretary was directed to forward a copy of the letter from the Estates Commissioners to Sir Thomas Esmonde.

Compulsory Dipping of Sheep

Circular no. 1342/06 from the Department of Agriculture etc., (Veterinary Branch - March) was read. The circular pointed out that sheep dipping had been

taken up with great activity by local authorities in Great Britain and that failure on this side of the channel to adopt similar means for the suppression of sheep scab cannot but, in the end react prejudicially on the large Irish export trade in sheep.

"On the motion of Mr Seacocks, seconded by Mr Hore the following resolution was adopted:- That we approve of the principle of compulsory dipping of sheep.- When this matter was previously before the County Council, one of the strongest reasons for their refusal to put the order in motion, was the fear of exorbitant expenses for inspection. The County Council would be satisfied to provide sheep dipping apparatus if the Government would place at their disposal the services of the Constabulary free, for inspection purposes. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded the Chief Secretary for Ireland, Sir Anthony McDonnell, and the County Wexford Parliamentary representatives

Cloneranny Lane

"On the motion of Mr Seacocks seconded by Mr Murphy it was decided that the amount of compensation given owners for compulsory acquisition of land and costs incurred at the hearing of the petition for the widening of Cloneranny Lane. £77.13.10 be a charge on Gorey Rural District"

Criminal Injury Application

Under date 20th March Mr. R. W. Elgee wrote that at the Wexford Assizes, Mr. Justice Gibson had reduced the amount of the decree in the criminal injury application of Messrs Mc. Alpine v. The County Council from £128:12:5 to £81:1:8 but gave the claimants £11:19:10 for their costs, and witnesses expenses in the Court below, and £20. costs, and witnesses expenses on appeal being in all £113:1:6, which is to be levied off the County-at large.

Acknowledgments of Resolutions

Mr Connolly Clerk of the Enniscorthy Rural District, wrote that his Council had approved of the principle of the resolution of the County Council for the establishment of Veterinary Dispensaries."

The Under Secretary Dublin wrote acknowledging the resolution of the Council on the subject of the Inquiry to be held into the working of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction"

The Rate Collection.

The Secretary reported that all the Collectors had closed their collections on the 31st Inst., except the following:-

Mr. John J. Sullivan who was late for the bank with the balance of his collection, but, who, had lodged on the 2nd April leaving only a sum of twopence outstanding; Mr. John Walsh had still outstanding £20:10:0
Mr. James Gogley who only received his warrant on the 15th September 1905, and had then two moieties to collect had outstanding to complete his warrant £187:13:7.

At previous Meeting of the Finance Committee had granted a month's extension to Mr Gogley.

The following resolution was adopted at the meeting of Finance Committee.

On the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Donohoe:-

"That the Local Government Board be asked to agree to the extension of one week for the close of the collections of Messrs Sullivan and Walsh; and an extension of one month in the case of Collector Gogley who had only received his warrant on the 15th September 1905, for the collection of two moieties"

Transfer of Funds to County Bodies

At the meeting of the Finance Committee, the following resolution was adopted:-

On the motion of Mr. Murphy seconded by Mr. Beacocke
"That a sum of £15,368:8:0 be transferred to the County bodies as follows:-
Guardians - Enniscorthy £2316:12:8;
Grey £1485:3:3; New Ross £2067:0:11; Wexford £1789:10:0

District Councils—Enniscorthy £1500:6:2; Gorey £634:5:0
 New Ross £719:10:0; Wexford £1226:0:0;
 District Asylum—£3630:0:0

The above recommendation was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Bolger

Office Furniture.

Mr Elgee solicitor for the Representatives of the late Capt Pigott wrote, that if the Council wished to take over the Furniture in the County Council Office belonging to the late Capt Pigott they could do so at the valuation of Mr John J. Walsh auctioneer.

At the meeting of the Finance Committee a recommendation was adopted on the motion of Mr. Donohoe, seconded by Mr Peacocke that the furniture be taken over on the terms of Mr. Elgee's letter.

This recommendation was confirmed on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Dempsey

Co. Committee of Agriculture

On the motion of Mr Bolger seconded by the Chairman the following resolution was adopted (on notice of motions)

"That the name of Mr. James Donohoe, County Councillor be added to the County Committee of Agriculture. Mr. Donohoe was recently appointed one of the Representatives of the County Council on the Council of Agriculture and in order that the Council should derive full benefit from his services on this Council, it is necessary he should be in close touch with the working of the various schemes of the County. And it is only by Membership of the County Committee, this knowledge can be satisfactorily obtained

Increase of Salary - Office Staff

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Peacocke the following resolution (for which notice had been served on 26th February 1906.) was unanimously adopted:-

"That Mr. P. Donohoe County Council Office, be granted an increase in his salary of £26 per annum, and Mr. C. H. Richards of the County Council Office, an increase in his salary of £13 per annum, both amounts to date from 26th February 1906.

Campile New Fair

On the motion of Mr. Stickey seconded by the Chairman the question of the powers of the County Council as regards the establishment of new fairs for live stock etc., was referred to Mr. R. W. Elgee Solicitor, who is to report to next meeting of the Council.

M. J. Morris

15. 5. 06

A Special Meeting of the County Council was held in the Council Chamber Courthouse, Wexford, on 20th April 1906, for transaction of the following business:-

1. To strike the Rate for General and Separate Charges for the Financial Year 1906-7.
2. To consider report of Roads Maintenance Inquiry Committee.

Sir Thomas H. Grattan Esmonde Bart. M. P. Chairman (and subsequently Mr. M. A. Cunnis vice-Chairman) presided.

Also present:- Messrs Edmond Gore, David Dempsey, J. E. Mayler, Mr. Browne, James Donoghue, John Bolger, Thomas Cople, Denis Karanagh, C. H. Peacocke, Matthew Doyle, John J. Kehoe, R. C. Murphy, Michael Kickey, Thaddeus Bolger, John Sinnott, and James Coad.

The Secretary, Mr. A. W. Elgie Solicitor, Mr. Webster Esq. Surveyor, and Messrs Ready Kehoe, and Jones Assistant Surveyors were in attendance.

The Rates.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman:- "That we hereby strike the rates for General and Separate Charges as agreed to at the meeting of the Council on 12th February, and allow and make same as assessed in the Rate Books, said rates being in conformity with the valuation in force for the time being. That the allowance for said rates as entered at the foot of each Rate Book, and signed by the Chairman of the meeting, and two Members of the Council present at this meeting be adopted, attested by the Seal of the Council, and countersigned by the Secretary. That the warrants of the Rate Collectors to collect the said Rates be sealed and signed in

the same manner as the Rate Books.

That the demands on the Urban Districts of Ennisworthy, New Ross and Wexford, be duly sealed and signed, the Amounts demanded for above Urban Councils (after allowance for credit items in Form 51) being

	<u>County</u>	<u>Union</u>	<u>Separate</u>
Ennisworthy	£ 378. 9. 2	£ 534. 10. 6	
New Ross	292. 9. 3	554. 8. 4	£ 19. 19. 3
Wexford	831. 16. 0	905. 8. 1	

Roads Committee

The following Report of the Roads Maintenance Inquiry Committee was read for the meeting.

Wexford County Council

Report of Committee.

Appointed by Resolution of Council dated 26 February 1906, viz:

Proposed by Sir Thomas Esmonde Bart M.P.
Seconded by Alexander Kinsella.

"That a Committee consisting of twelve members of the Council, four to form a quorum, be appointed to consider in full detail the questions raised by

(a) The Report of the Roads Committee of the Council,

(b) The Reports of the Local Government Board thereon.

And in the light of these documents, and of any further evidence upon the matters raised therein which the Committee may procure, or may find available, to formulate and submit to the Council at a future meeting a detailed scheme providing for an improved system of Road Maintenance on lines of efficiency and economy, and for more effective control of the Officers charged with the administration of this and kindred services"

Committee

Messrs John Bolger, John Linnott, Edmond Horl, Michael Browne, James Donohoe, R. C. Murphy, J. Bolger, M. Hickey, A. Kinsella, M. A. Ennis, C. H. Peasocke, and J. Asple.

Mr. Ennis to act as Hon. Secretary to Committee.

"We the Committee constituted in accordance with the foregoing Resolution of the Wexford County Council having given the matters intrusted to us most careful and mature consideration, embody our unanimous conclusions in the following recommendations, which if carried into effect, would in our judgment provide an efficient and practical system of road maintenance, and supervision at reasonable and moderate cost.

County Surveyor

1. - As the system of quarterly payments to Road Contractors will completely terminate in June 1906, we recommend that the Salary of the Co. Surveyor as from September 30th 1906, be restored to the amount at which it stood on date of transfer of his service to the County Council, viz: a salary of £600 per annum, with in addition an annual Allowance of £50 for a Clerk.

2. - In view of the persistently unsatisfactory manner in which the County Surveyor has hitherto performed his duties, in spite of repeated warnings and censure, this Committee would, under ordinary circumstances, recommend the Council to call for his immediate resignation, but regarding the findings of the Local Government Board on the recent Inquiry, as a suggestion that Mr. Webster, should be given one year further wherein to realise the grave responsibility imposed upon him by virtue of his office, and to endeavour to fulfil his duties, to the entire satisfaction of the Council

the Committee are disposed to recommend the Council, to fall in with this suggestion, subject however to its being distinctly understood, that the question of the County Surveyor's retention of office or otherwise, remains to be dealt with by the Council, at the conclusion of this probationary term or at any future period

3. — We recommend the Council to require the County Surveyor to exercise efficient supervision in future over the measurement of road metalling quantities, by personally checking the measurements of his Assistants, in regard to at least ten per cent of the total quantity contained in the annual report furnished to the Council and that he should indicate by asterisks, for the information of the Council, the quantities which he has personally measured, and in the event of discrepancies between his measurements, and those of his Assistants that same should be indicated in the Report.

4. — That the County Surveyor be called upon to frame regulations defining the duties of the Assistant Surveyors, for their guidance, and that these regulations be submitted to the County Council for their approval.

Assistant Surveyors

5. — We recommend the Council to re-applot the County into five Assistant Surveyors' districts averaging 400 miles each in lieu of the existing arrangement of four district, averaging 500 miles each.

6. — We consider that the Council should call for the resignations of Messrs Murphy, and Leary, Assistant Surveyors, and we recommend that each be granted a superannuation allowance of £40 per annum.

7. — We recommend that the salary of M^r. Jones, Assistant Surveyor be reduced as from the 30th September 1906 to £100 per annum.

8. — As M^r. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor has given four years' satisfactory service, we recommend that his salary be increased as from the 30th September 1906 to £100, in lieu of the present figure of £80 per annum.

9. — We recommend the Council to appoint three duly qualified Assistant Surveyors at salaries of £80 per annum each rising

by yearly increments of £5, conditional upon good service to £100. per annum.

10. - We recommend the County Council to give to the Assistant Surveyors any reasonable period for measuring road metalling which the County Surveyor may consider essential.

General

11. - We recommend that the County and Assistant Surveyors be regarded as whole time officers precluded from undertaking other duties save by express permission of the Council.

Signed M. A. Ennis C. H. Peacock

James Donohoe C. Hore.

Thomas Asple. J. Bolger.

W. Browne J. Bolger.

John Sinnott.

Mr. J. Bolger raised the question as to the explanation to be offered by the County Surveyor as to deferring and striking off money from Road Contractors where in one case they had the admission of an Assistant Surveyor that he had not measured the material in the depots.

The Chairman said the Council could not go into this matter as it was not on the Agenda paper, moreover he had consented to receive a deputation of the Gorey Road Contractors, on Sunday next, and in the circumstances it would be better if the question was adjourned until the next Meeting of the Council on the 15th May.

Mr. J. R. Brennan Solicitor, who appeared for the Gorey Road Contractors, promised to prepare a statement of the views of the Road Contractors and send it to the Secretary of the Council, who was directed on the motion of the Chairman to have it printed and circulated amongst the Members of the Council previous to next Meeting.

Mr. M. J. O'Connor Solicitor for Mr. Webster County Surveyor, asked to have the Meeting resolved into Committee, as he had a proposal to make to the Council.

The Chairman proposed that the meeting resolved itself into Committee. Passed.

Mr. O'Connor then stated that as Mr. Webster was anxious to meet the Council and to allow by-gones to be by-gones he

would be prepared to accept a salary of £700 per annum Mr. Webster confirmed Mr. O'Connor's offer, and said that although the Council were about having half-yearly payments his duties would be considerably increased over what he had to do under the Grand Jury. He had to pay for a clerk, and could not take private practice and his travelling expenses and responsibilities were greatly increased.

Mr. Ennis moved and Mr. Bolger seconded the adoption of the report of the Committee.

Mr. Doyle moved as an amendment that Messrs. Murphy and Leary, Assistant Surveyors be given a salary of £100 per annum, and allowed to remain in office.

Mr. Kavanagh seconded but after further discussion said he would be in favour of a motion allowing Mr. Leary a superannuation allowance of £60 per annum.

Mr. O'Connor Solicitor, said that Mr. Leary would be satisfied to accept this amount.

Subsequently the Report was agreed to paragraph by paragraph Mr. O'Connor Solicitor said he should be taken as objecting to paragraphs 1 and 2. He respectfully submitted that the County Council had no power to pass these paragraphs unless with the sanction of the Local Government Board.

Mr. Doyle moved the rejection of paragraph 6.

A vote was taken with the following result:-

For retaining the paragraph in the report:- Messrs J. Bolger, J. Bolger, Codd, Browne, Hore, Maylor, Sinnott, Asple, Peacocke, Donohoe, Ennis, Murphy, Kehoe, Hickey, and the Chairman. (Sir Thomas Esmonde.) 15

For deleting paragraph 6:- Messrs. Doyle Kavanagh, and Dempsey:- 3

The Chairman declared the amendment lost and the paragraph was retained.

In connection with paragraph 7. Mr. Jones said he would be satisfied to meet the Council Half-way, and would be satisfied to accept a salary of £120 per annum.

The paragraph was retained.

Mr. Jones said he protested against this paragraph being

agreed to

The remainder of the report was agreed to, and on the suggestion of Mr. Peacocke paragraph 4 was referred to the Roads.

Maintenance Inquiry Committee

Department of Agriculture, and Technical Instruction
Inquiry Committee

Under date 14th April, the following letter was read from Mr. John J. Taylor, Secretary of Department of Agriculture: and Technical Instruction Inquiry Committee.

I am instructed to transmit to you for the information of the County Council of Wexford, the accompanying copy of the warrant of the Lords Justices constituting the Committee under the Chairmanship of Sir Kenelm Digby, K. C. B., to inquire into and report upon the matters set forth in the Warrant. I have to state that the Departmental Committee will be much obliged for any observations in writing which your Council may wish to offer upon the questions referred to the Committee, and I am to add, that it would facilitate the business of the Committee if you could arrange to communicate these observations to me, for their information at as early a date as practicable."

It was decided that the following should be appointed a Committee to draw up suggestions for the adoption of the Council at the meeting on 15th May:-

Messrs. J. Bolger, Ennis, Hone, Codd, and Peacocke, to meet on Saturday 28th April 1906. at 2.0'clock, p.m.

W. Ennis

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