

Quarterly meeting- 7th August 1906.

The Quarterly meeting of the County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford; on Tuesday 7th August 1906.

Present:- Sir Thomas A. Grattan Esmonde Bart., M.P. Chairman, (presided)

Other members:- Messrs M. Browne, M. A. Ennis, E. Hore, C. H. Peacocke, James Codd, J. Donohoe, John Sinnott, M. Codd, M. Doyle, J. Bolger, J. Cummins, J. J. Kehoe, and M. Hickey.

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

Confirmation of minutes

The minutes of the meetings of the Council, of 11th and 18th June, were read and confirmed.

Vote of Condolence

Mr. Davitt and family wrote returning thanks to the County Council for the vote of condolence passed in reference to the death of her husband Mr. Michael Davitt.

Superannuation of Assistant Surveyors.

Mr. Ennis moved the following resolution of which he had given notice on 18th June:-

"That a superannuation allowance of £40 per annum be granted to Messrs J. P. Murphy and Patrick O'Leary, Assistant Surveyors, under section 3-28 and 29 Vic Cap 26, and section 88 of the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898, in accordance with the County Council's resolution of the 20th April, 1906."

Under date 18th July, the following was read from Dr. Nolans, Mayfield, Gorey:-

"I certify that I have examined Mr. J. P. Murphy's

eyes, and find him suffering from a considerable degree of Presbiopia, and in consequence will find it difficult to do much clerical work."

The following was submitted from Mr. O'Leary from Rev D. W. Redmond P. P. Glynn:-

"In the Registry of Baptisms kept at Glynn, I find that Patrick, son of Patrick Leary and Anne Higgins was duly baptised on the 20th February 1836. Glynn. Aug 4th 1906. D. W. Redmond P. P.

Mr. Ennis said in addition to the resolution of which he had given notice he would move the following resolutions:-

"That as Mr. J. P. Murphy has 34 years service as an Assistant Surveyor and as he has handed in a medical certificate stating that he is suffering from defective eyesight which would in future prevent him from performing his duties in that efficient and satisfactory manner which the Council will insist upon, he be granted a superannuation allowance of £40 per annum."

"That as Mr. Patrick Leary has 24 years service as an Assistant Surveyor and as he has handed in a baptismal certificate showing his age to be 70 years; he be granted a superannuation allowance of £40 per annum."

Mr. J. Bolger seconded.

Passed.

Report of County Surveyor.

The following report from the County Surveyor under date 4th August was read:-

"I beg to report that on the 20th ult., the S. S. Mayflower of Cardigan collided with New Ross Bridge and damaged it. Messrs R. & D. Jones, 28 Brunswick Street Liverpool are the owners of the ship, Robert Roberts is master, and

Michael Whelan was the pilot. The collision occurred at about 4.30 p.m.; the ship was coming down the river through the bridge against the rising tide about one hour before high water; it first struck the pier on the New Ross side of the swing bridge and then struck the down stream dolphin.

I was wired for by the caretaker of the bridge, and I went over the next morning to inspect the damage. I found that the ornamental screen or moulding was smashed between the top of the cylinder and the capping over the main girder, and also a portion of the moulding under the top of the cylinder; also a panel of the hand-rail near the centre of the swing bridge has been injured.

I estimated that the cost of repairs would be about £150. I at once put the matter into the hands of Mr. Elgee, and, on the 27th ult., I had to again go to New Ross to point out the damage to a surveyor sent over by the company or their underwriters; the surveyor said he thought I had over-estimated the damage, but I ^{am} still of opinion that my estimate was fair. I have gone into the figures as regards the cost and maintenance, and special repairs to Ferry carrig Bridge, and find that the total for the last ten years was £900. 8. 10 which would give an average cost of about £90 per year.

I have made inquiries re dredgers for the harbours of the Waterford river. The Secretary of the Waterford Harbour Board has written to me that his Board have no Bucket dredger available at present, but that later on should any of their plant be disengaged he will write to me again. I have as yet received no reply from the Waterford Harbour Board, but I have

been informed that their bucket dredger is at present engaged.

The caretaker of the jail has pointed out to me a few repairs necessary to slating, eaveshoots and a downpipe in the jail, also a small beam under the gangway leading into the garden which is rotten and hanging down, should be removed. About £3 would be required for the work.

I have written to Arklow and Waterford to inquire if any hulks are to be got in these harbours suitable for the work required at Ballyhack. I am informed that there are none. I have inserted an advertisement in the Wexford Independent re same, but have so far received no reply. I am informed that an advertisement put in the "Shipping Gazette and Lloyd's List", 54 Gracechurch Street London, would elicit a good many replies.

"On the motion of the chairman it was decided that the repairs at the jail be carried out, cost not to exceed £3."

"Regarding the question of hulks, it was decided on the motion of the chairman, that the matter be left in the discretion of Mr Webster, County Surveyor."

"Mr Elger, Solicitor to the Council, stated that he had received a communication dated 31st July from Messrs Jones & Co, Solicitors for the Owners of the Steamer Mayflower, offering £150 in settlement of the claim."

The chairman proposed:- "That this amount of compensation be accepted." Passed.

New Ross Bridewell

The following was read from the Secretary:-
"On the 31st July 1906, I attended at New Ross

courthouse, and accepted at the Bridewell, from Mr. William Fritton, courtkeeper, and late Bridewell keeper, surrender of the Bridewell, from the General Prisons Board. As Mr. Fritton is an officer of the Co. Council to some extent as courtkeeper I requested him to retain the keys for the present."

"On the motion of the chairman it was decided that on the occasion of the next meeting of the county committee of agriculture at New Ross, the members of the county council who are also members of the county committee should see the Bridewell and report to the subsequent meeting of the county council."

— A scheme of Veterinary Dispensaries. —

The following was read from the Secretary:—
"The question of the establishment of a system of veterinary dispensaries has engaged the attention of a large number of public bodies recently. It has been discussed by several county councils and county committees, and furnished an interesting debate at a meeting of the Irish Councils' General Council."

Several suggestions were made towards the drafting of a scheme by county committees, and at least one veterinary surgeon drew up a series of proposals which he considered would meet the wishes of the profession.

The utility and necessity of striking out some plan under which poor farmers would be placed in a position to secure veterinary advice is clearly admitted. Numbers of animals die annually, either through lack of advice or delay in seeking it, and, as our live stock is our most valuable national asset, the consequent loss must be enormous.

It is an absolutely wrong principle that doctors

and veterinary surgeons must live by disease; instead of by its prevention, and, if ^{the} agricultural industry of Ireland was organised as it should be, one would expect that under a national insurance co-operative insurance scheme for live stock the attention of the veterinary surgeons would be directed towards eradicating disease.

This desirable state of affairs is yet in the making, and until there is a brighter prospect of its fulfilment than appears at present, veterinarians must in a very large measure deal with disease pure and simple, and allow hygiene, etc., to take care of itself.

The veterinary dispensary system is apparently the simplest way to hand of attaining this object. And towards the solution of the dispensary veterinary system the County of Wexford has taken a step in advance by the holding of a conference of veterinary surgeons, and representatives of the county council.

The gathering was informal, and was called to ascertain if any scheme was feasible, because some prominent members of the veterinary profession are strongly opposed to it.

It was felt that through a round table conference the representatives of the county council could discover how far the veterinary surgeons were prepared to go to meet the county council, and the veterinary surgeons might be able to outline a scheme to which they would not object.

The meeting was held in the county council chamber, on 31st July.

On the part of the county council there were present: Messrs C. H. Peacocke, M. A. Ennis, and the Secretary.

The veterinary surgeons in attendance were: Messrs

James Malone, Gorey; Arthur Doblyn, Waterford; W. J. Doyle, Enniscorthy; F. W. Taylor, New Ross, and J. A. Norris, of the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Peacocke was elected to the chair.

The following conclusions were arrived at:-

1.- That a dispensary veterinary system is necessary in the interests of the county generally, and is urgently needed for small farmers.

2.- That dispensaries be established in certain districts at which the V. S., will attend at stated hours for one day each week, and on which day chronic cases are to be treated. It is expected that animals suffering from chronic affections will be brought to the dispensary. So far as possible the veterinary surgeon will, on dispensary days, arrange for attendance on other cases which cannot be treated at the dispensary. Should his services be required outside dispensary days for any urgent cases he will be bound to attend them.

3.- The following fees are to obtain for all cases treated at the Dispensary, or at the establishment of the Veterinary Surgeon of the district:- Farmers with a valuation up to £20 to pay 2/6. Farmers from £20 to £40 5/-, medicines to be paid for in addition.

Operations at the Dispensary- 5/- for castration of horses, firing and other major operations. 2/6 for minor operations, 1/- per head for inoculating calves against black leg.

4.- The following fees were agreed to for visits at the homes of farmers to cases which cannot be dealt with at the dispensary 5/- for first visit to animals the property of farmers whose valuation does not exceed £15, and 7/6 in cases of farmers up to £40, beyond this figure no one to be entitled to the benefits of the scheme, half above

fees to be paid for each subsequent visit,
medicines to be paid for by the farmer.

Suggestions as follows were made regarding dispensaries:-

For Enniscorthy:- Mr Doyle's establishment at Enniscorthy, The Ballagh, and Ballindaggin.

For Gorey:- Mr Malone's establishment in Gorey and Ballycanew.

New Ross:- Ramegrange and another centre to be selected by Mr Dobblyn.

New Ross:- Mr Taylor's establishment in New Ross, also Adamstown, provided it can be included in Mr Taylor's district.

With the opening of the new railway between Wexford and Waterford it would be a great benefit to New Ross farmers if a redistribution of the districts of Mr Taylor and Mr Dobblyn could be effected. These gentlemen promised to consider the matter and to advise the County Council if they find themselves able to come to an agreement.

At present the veterinary surgeons have roughly £70 per annum for duties which are confined to the Diseases of Animals Acts.

The following is the financing of this scheme which would probably be regarded as equitable and which there would be a reasonable probability the veterinary surgeons would accept:-
Five veterinary surgeons at £130 per annum:-

£650

To be contributed as follows:-

County Council	£375
Department	200
Co. Committee	<u>75</u>

£650.

At present the County Council are contributing £328 towards veterinary salaries under the Diseases of Animals Acts.

The Department of agriculture are to be asked to sanction this scheme as an experiment for the province of Limerick, and are recommended to have experiments on somewhat similar lines carried out in one county in each of the three other provinces, provided the Co. Council, the County Committee, and the local veterinary surgeons support it.

The scheme is to remain in operation for three years, and not to be continued after that period unless it receives the approval of all concerned in its working. Should experience at any time prove that details require alteration the necessary amendments can be made so long as they will not militate in any way to the prejudice of the veterinary surgeons.

"On the motion of Mr. Ennis, seconded by Mr. J. Bolger, the above scheme was approved."

The Chairman moved:—"That a copy of this scheme be sent to the Secretary of the General Council of the Irish County Councils, with a request that the matter be brought up for discussion at next meeting. That our Secretary forward the scheme to the Department for approval." Passed.

Assistant Surveyors.

On the motion of the Chairman the following draft advertisement from the Finance Committee was agreed to:-

Wexford County Council.

Assistant Surveyors Wanted.

Notice is hereby given that the above Council will, at special meeting to be held on Friday 24th August 1906 at 2.10 o'clock. proceed to the appointment of three Assistant Surveyors for the

following Districts:-

No. 1. District (comprising all the Rural District of Gorey) approximate mileage - 385.

No. 2. District - adjoining No. 1. - (new division) approximate mileage 396.

No. 3. District - (new division) approximate mileage - 397.

The appointments will be made under the following regulations prescribed by the Local Government Board (Order dated 9th February 1900) for the appointment of Assistant Surveyors for Counties in Ireland.

1.- Every person who is appointed an Assistant Surveyor in any county in Ireland must produce satisfactory evidence to the Local Government Board for Ireland that his health and character are good, and except, in the case of an Existing Surveyor within the meaning of section 109 (1) of the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898, that at the date of the resolution of the County Council appointing him his age was not less than 21 years, or more than 45 years.

2.- Every person appointed as aforesaid who
(a) has a diploma or degree in Engineering from a University or College of Science in the United Kingdom, or a certificate from his Majesty's Civil Service Commissioners that he is qualified to act as a deputy for a County Surveyor, or

(b) is an associate member of the Institution of Civil Engineers, London, or an associate member of the Institution of Civil Engineers, Ireland, or has a certificate of having passed the Voluntary Examination for candidates for Surveyorships held by the Incorporated Association of Municipal and County Engineers.

(c) was on the first day of April, 1899, an Assistant Surveyor in a county in Ireland, or if appointed

in any such county between the first day of April 1899, and the date of this Order, satisfies the Local Government Board for Ireland, that he is fully qualified to discharge the duties of his office; shall be deemed qualified for the position of Assistant County Surveyor without further examination.

3.- Every person appointed as aforesaid who is not qualified under the provisions of the foregoing Article of this Order, must produce to the Local Government Board for Ireland, satisfactory evidence that he has profited by training in one of the two following ways, that is to say, either

(1)- By service with a County Surveyor, Civil Engineer or Architect for not less than two years;
or-

(2)- By attendance at an Engineering School of some university or college of science in the United Kingdom for not less than one year, and by having been engaged in practical work in connection with Civil Engineering or Building for one year at the least.

4.- Every person appointed as aforesaid who is not qualified under the provisions of Article 2. of this Order must, in addition to possessing one of the qualifications specified in Article 3, also pass a qualifying examination to the satisfaction of the Local Government Board for Ireland in the following subjects:-

(1) English Composition as tested by writing a business letter from rough notes, or a short essay on some subject connected with his profession.

(2) Arithmetic

(3) Mensuration

(4) Building construction

(5) Construction and maintenance of roads.

(6) Chain surveying and levelling.

Salary £80 per annum rising by annual increments of £5 each, (conditional upon good service) to £100 per annum.

The appointments will be subject to a discretionary power vested in the County Surveyor, with the consent of the County Council, to transfer assistants from one district to another as he considers the needs of the County may require.

A copy of the Instructions and Rules prescribing the duties of the Assistant Surveyors may be had by intending candidates, on application to the undersigned.

A map of the County Wexford setting out the boundaries of the Assistant Surveyors' Districts can be inspected at the County Council offices from this date up to the date of the election.

By the Standing Orders of the Wexford Co. Council testimonials of candidates must be lodged with the Secretary ~~six~~ clear days at least before the day of election. Formal application for the position will be received up to 10 O'clock a.m. on the morning of the above mentioned meeting.

Successful candidates must satisfy the Local Government Board as to their fitness for the position, and be prepared to take up duty prior to 31st August 1906.

Successful candidates must reside in the Districts for which they are appointed except by express permission of the Council, under exceptional circumstances.

The Council do not bind themselves to make any appointment at the above meeting.

Candidates must be in attendance on the date of the above meeting.

N. J. Frizelle
Secretary

Courthouse, Wexford.

7th August 1906.

— Main Roads. —

Under date 18th June, Mr. P. J. Shaw, Clerk to Enniscorthy Urban Council wrote that the following Order had been made in connection with the resolution of the County Council to have no main roads- "Appeal to be entered on main Roads' question and lodged with Local Government Board."

Under date 18th July, the following letter was read from Mr. Shaw:-

"With reference to appeal re main roads at special meeting of the Council (Enniscorthy Urban) the following Order was made thereon:-

That the Council do not take any further action with regard to appeal re main roads declaration."

— Contract for work at Fethard Harbour. —

Under date 11th June, 1906, the following letter No. 33,388, 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 2nd instant, relative to the acceptance of a tender by the Wexford Co. Council for clearing sand from Fethard Harbour, and I am to forward herewith, for your information a copy of a letter addressed to Mr. George H. Bassett on the subject."

The following is copy of the letter addressed to Mr. Bassett, under date 11th June:-

"With reference to your letter of the 23rd ultimo relative to the acceptance of a tender by the Wexford County Council for clearing sand from Fethard Harbour, I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland to inform you that they understand that the County Council have made a rule that tenders will not be accepted unless the sureties are in attendance."

I am to add that the Board have no authority to interfere with the decision of the Council, which, however, seems to be justified by the circumstances of the case."

— Proposed Fair at Ballycullane —

Under date 14th June, the following letter No. 12780 was read from the Under Secretary, Dublin Castle:-

"I am directed by the Lords Justices to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, with accompanying resolution adopted by the Wexford County Council in favour of the proposal to establish a Fair at Ballycullane."

— Irish Development Association & Railways —

Under date 14th July, the following letter was read from Mr. M. J. Slattery, Hon Sec Irish Industrial Development Association, Tullamore:-

"At the last meeting of the above Association the following resolution was unanimously adopted:-

That we believe the purchase of the Irish Railways by the County Councils of Ireland would be of immense service to Irish industries, and is a question of a pressing nature. And we request the General Council of County Councils to discuss the matter at their next meeting, with a view to instructing the people as to the danger to Irish industries by the threatened purchase of the railways by the British Government, and also to consider the question of their purchase by the County Councils of Ireland. That copies of this resolution be sent to all the County Councils of Ireland, and to the General Council of County Councils.

Marked. "Read."

— Southern Harbours & the Waterford Harbour Board —

Under date 26th July, the following letter No. 9496.

was read from the assistant Secretary to the Board of Trade.

"I am directed by the Board of Trade to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, enclosing a copy of a resolution adopted by the Wexford County Council on the subject of the up-keep of the harbours of Athurstown, Duncannon, and Ballyhack, and the power of the Waterford Harbour Commissioners with respect to these harbours. In reply I am to refer the Council to the Waterford Harbour Act, 1846, which defines the powers of the Harbour Commissioners within certain specified limits, including the harbours in question. I am to add that the Board are not in a position to express an authoritative opinion on the points raised in the Council's resolution."

The Chairman moved: - "That our Secretary send a copy of the letter of the Board of Trade to the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and point out to him that it is impossible for the County Council to do anything with these harbours in the present indefinite state of the law; that it is not possible for the County Council to collect dues at these harbours, if the Waterford Harbour Commissioners are also to collect them; that in view of the doubt which exists upon the question that the Chief Secretary be requested to submit a case to the law officers of the Crown to ascertain who has the control over these harbours. If it is found that the liability for keeping these harbours in repair rests with the Wexford Co. Council, whether he will see his way to direct his attention to the desirability of promoting a Marine Works Bill next Session for the South Eastern coast."

Army Meat Contracts.

Mr. A. Keogh-Nolan, Secretary to the Irish Councils General Council, forwarded for adoption the following resolution:-

"That this Council calls upon the Secretary of State for War to reconsider the change recently made in the Army meat Tender Form, under which contractors can supply foreign meat killed at the Port of arrival, instead of native home bred meat which the late Government some years ago gave an undertaking to encourage. We further call upon the Government to invite, in future, tenders to supply native agricultural produce, such as Oats, Hay, and Straw for troop horses, and as far as possible to give Irish contractors a chance in the competition for the equipment of troops and horses stationed in this country."

"The above resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Peacocke, seconded by Mr. J. J. Kehoe."

Annual meeting - Irish Co. Councils General Co.

"Mr. Keogh-Nolan, Secretary to the Irish County Councils General Council wrote that the annual meeting would be held on the 18th October, and asking if there were any matters which the Wexford Co. Council desired to have discussed at this meeting."

"Postponed to meeting of the 24th"

Gorey Road Contractors

Under date 23rd July 1906, the following resolution was received from Mr. P. O'Neill, Hon Sec, Gorey Road Contractors' Association:-

"That we the members of the Committee of the Gorey Road Contractors' Association, beg to remind the County Council that they relied on Mr. Elgee's opinion that it was unlawful to give the contractors the money 'struck off'; and they did this contrary to the opinion of Messrs

Brennan and Dempsey. As Mr. Elger's opinion has proved not infallible before the County Court judge, we think it quite possible that he may have been misled regarding the "struck off" money. We further ask the Co. Council to do one of two things, viz: either appoint a committee to inquire into the whole affair, or call on the Local Government Board to hold a sworn inquiry, and, in the event of the Co. Council refusing to do so we shall feel compelled to appeal to the Local Government Board to hold a sworn inquiry into the matter. We are confident that Inspector Cowan never intended the County Surveyor to sweep away the salaries wholesale."

"The following Minute of the Finance Committee was approved:- That we adhere to the advice of our Solicitor in this matter."

— Poulduff Pier. —

Under date 24th July, 1906, the following letter No. 3791/06- F. B. was read from the Department of Agriculture:-

"Adverting to previous correspondence, I have to request that you will be good enough to state whether any sum was set apart at the last meeting of the Finance Committee of the Wexford Co. Council for lodgment to the credit of this Department, as an instalment of the County contribution towards the cost of repairing and improving Poulduff Harbour. If not, the Department will, immediately before the next meeting of the Finance Committee, (which it is understood will take place early in November next) submit an estimate of the amount of work then accomplished when provision should be made for paying to the Department a proportionate amount of the County contribution."

Proposed by M^r Peacocke, seconded by M^r Kehoe, and passed:- "That the attention of the Department of Agriculture be drawn to the cement used for improvements at Coulduff Pier being of foreign manufacture. And we request that in future the cement to be used should be of Irish manufacture, cement of a first class quality being manufactured in County Wexford."

Proposed by the Chairman:- "That we inform the Department we are quite ready to pay over the County contribution for Coulduff Pier improvements on receiving a demand for same from the Departments." Passed.

Knowledge of Irish.

The following resolution was received from the Guardians of the Oughterard Union:-

"That we, the Board of Guardians of the Oughterard Union, knowing the necessity which exists that the officials of public bodies in Ireland, especially those in the districts in which Irish is spoken, should have a knowledge of the language of the people, call on all the Union, District, and County Boards in Ireland to insist that the Local Government Board make it compulsory that a spoken and literary knowledge of the Irish language be a necessary qualification of all officials to be appointed in future to positions in the gift of Boards, District Councils, and County Councils; and that we call upon the Irish Parliamentary Party to press the urgency of this matter with a view to early legislation."

marked. "Read."

Sheep Dipping Orders.

Under date 20th July, the Department of Agriculture (letter No. 3883) wrote as follows:-

"The Department of Agriculture and Technical

Instruction desire to forward for the information of your Local authority, the accompanying copy of a Poster which the Department have had prepared with the view of drawing the attention of the public, interested in the exportation of sheep to the scope of certain regulations in the above mentioned Orders of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries of Great Britain. Under these regulations it will be observed that during certain specified periods of the year, no sheep, whether British or Irish owned, will be allowed to be exposed for sale in a market, fair or saleyard, within any of the three areas to which the Orders (Sheep Dipping Scotland Orders of 1906, Sheep Dipping North of England Orders of 1906, Sheep Dipping Wales Order of 1906) apply, unless the animals are accompanied by a declaration in the form prescribed in the schedule to the Order relating to that area. As the Poster indicates persons in Ireland who may desire to make declarations in accordance with these regulations will be in a position to obtain forms for the purpose by applying at any Police Barrack. The Department are arranging to have the Poster exhibited at Police Stations, and I have to suggest that it would be advantageous if, in addition, your Local Authority took steps to have it displayed otherwise throughout their district."

Ordered: "That the Orders in question be advertised and posted throughout the County."

— Sealed Orders, Local Government Board. —

Sealed Orders were received from the Local Government Board making rural districts areas of charge for the following:-

Gorey Rural District - Water supply at Hollyfort, repairing well at Blonoe, repairing wall at Rahen.

Enniscorthy Rural District - blonroche telegraph office and pump at Ballyroebuck.

University Scholarships.

The following resolution for the consideration of the County Council was forwarded from the County Wexford Committee of Agriculture and Technical Instruction:-

"That this Committee having received an instruction from its parent body, the Wexford Co. Council, to include in its technical instruction scheme for session 1906-7. two scholarships tenable at an Institution of University standing, on detailed conditions prescribed by the Council, we the members of the Committee here present, do not feel ourselves justified in agreeing with the Department to any scheme from which these scholarships may be omitted. We refer this most important matter to the County Council for consideration at their meeting to be held on 7th August, and we authorise our Secretary should the Council consider it desirable to discontinue connection with the Department, with regard to Technical Instruction, and should they decide in favour of independent action, to take any steps necessary to facilitate the proceedings of the Council."

Proposed by Mr. Ennis:- "That the consideration of this question be adjourned until the 24th inst., and that in the meantime we request the Department of Agriculture to favour us with a reply to the queries submitted by the County Committee of Agriculture at their meeting on the 24th July in order to enable this Council to deal definitely with the matter; and that copies of the resolutions adopted by the County Committee be forwarded to Father Finlay our representative on the Board of Technical Instruction."

Mr. Donohoe seconded. Passed.

The Chairman moved that the Standing Orders be suspended to enable Mr. Donohoe to raise the question of University Education in Ireland."

This having been granted Mr. Donohoe moved the following:- "Resolved. That we the County Council of Wexford having been invited in common with other public bodies in Ireland, by the letter of the Revd William Delany S. J. in the Freeman of the 6th inst., to express an opinion in connection with the Trinity College University proposals now before the public, hereby record our opinion that apart from the Educational merits, the proposal could not be safely entertained unless Catholics had full representation on the governing body, and even then we doubt if the scheme on its working would ensure the harmony necessary to success; and we therefore recommend in preference the proposals outlined by the Robertson Commission, and trust the Government will at last do justice to Catholics by formulating a scheme of University Education that will be as satisfactory to them as Trinity College is to Protestants."

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Ennis, and passed.

The Labourers Bill.

Under date 28th June, 1906 the following letter was read from Sir J. H. G. Esmonde Bart. M. P.:-

"With reference to the resolution you have sent me from the County Council regarding the extension of the financial advantages of the new labourers acts to those Unions which have made a generous use of the previous acts, I write to state that the question is engaging the serious attention of the Irish Party. Amendments to that effect will be moved when the Bill gets to Committee, and I will not fail

to give the question special attention at subsequent stages of the Bill in the event of the Committee not agreeing to our proposals."

Mr. Peter French, M.P. wrote under date 14th June.

"I am in receipt of resolution passed by County Council on the 11th inst, which shall have my best attention. Kindly convey my best thanks to the County Council for sending me a copy of Mr. O'Sullivan's pamphlet on the Labourers' Bill, which contains much useful information."

The following resolutions were received from the Wexford District Council for adoption:-

1.- "We consider the financial provisions of the Bill unjust, and, in the event of the Government not making same retrospective as regards existing loans, we strongly urge the Government in the interests of a large number of Rural Districts, where (when there was no inducement of Government aid) the Labourers' Acts were in the past put in force to a large extent, to supplement the Eschequer contribution by such a sum as will relieve in these heavily-taxed districts by at least the difference between the old and new terms of loans.

As an instance applicable to our own district we wish to point out that under the financial clauses of the new Bill the total expenses on the rates would be 10/- to 15/- per house as compared with £2: 15/- which each old house is now costing the rates."

2. - "In case of a scheme a preliminary notice requiring assent or dissent shall be served by the Clerk on the Owners and Occupiers on receipt of the representation.

and in the case of assent the notice required under clause 4 need not be served."

3.- "That when a fair rent has been fixed in respect of any land formerly regarded as demesne land or a home farm, or where advances under the Land Purchase Acts have been made, or are about to be made, in respect of any such land, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any Act, parcels of land may be acquired on such lands for the purpose of the Labourers Acts."

4.- "That we are of opinion that sub-clause 5 of clause 11. in allowing persons to proceed against councils for purchase money paid six years previously to the then Owner or Occupier should be eliminated as we consider that the consciousness of being open to litigation for 6 years after purchase money has been paid would make councils slow in exercising the concession in sub-clause 1 of the same section, and thereby retard the acquisition of the land, making the clause practically a "dead letter."

5.- "That in cases where Owners, Occupiers or other persons interested oppose the erection of cottages, such persons should, in the event of being unsuccessful either at the Local Inquiry or on appeal bear their own costs."

6.- "That where inquiries are held under the Acts, Inspectors shall, on the representation of the councils concerned, appoint local reporters to take the shorthand notes of such inquiries."

7.- "That in clause 10 on line 30 after the word "effect" insert. "and the county council be empowered to overdraw with their Treasurer to meet such sums."

8.- In clause 2 on line 13 after the word "enlarge" or to erect a shed or other outhouse in connection with."

9.- That we desire to draw attention to the exorbitant sums awarded by the arbitrators (in many instances 30 per cent over the amount paid for good land in agreement cases) and that in view of the class of persons always appointed as arbitrators not having the confidence of the people, and from whose award there is no appeal, we suggest that the county council a neutral body should have the appointment of the arbitrator."

The resolutions from Wexford Union were marked "read," as the Bill had passed into law."

Mr Peacocke proposed that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to Sir Thomas Esmonde, and Mr Peter French, Parliamentary Representatives for Wexford County for their action in connection with the improvement of the Labourers Bill of the Government. Mr Ennis seconded the proposition which was passed.

Auditors' Reports

The Local Government Board forwarded for the information of the county council copies of the reports of their auditors in respect of the accounts of the New Ross Rural District Council and Union, and Enniscorthy Lunatic Asylum."

Telegraph Office, Killurin.

Under date 16th July, the Secretary to the Post Office wrote asking for the consent of the Co. Council to the placing of an overground telegraphic line along the public road from Killurin railway station to Killurin post office.

"On the motion of Mr Peacocke, seconded by Mr Ennis, a resolution was adopted giving the desired permission."

Analyst's Report.

The following was read:-

City Laboratory
17 Castle Street
Dublin, 31st July 1906.

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 30th June 1906.

22 articles were received from the Food Inspectors
R. J. G., as follows:-

<u>Article</u>	<u>Number</u>
Butter	16
Whiskey	5
Milk	1
Total	<u>22</u>

They were pure.

For the Guardians of the Gorey Union, fifteen
drugs, ten specimens of wine, eight of whiskey
and one of water, were analysed. One of the
drugs namely, Cherry Laurel water was
deficient in hydrocyanic acid.

The specimen of water had the following
composition.

One imperial gallon contained in grains:-

Total solid matters	7.960
including	
albuminoid ammonia	0.0065
saline ammonia	0.005
Nitric acid	Trace
Chlorine	1.192
Sulphuric acid	0.7206
Equal to calcium sulphate	1.0000

A fairly good water.

For the Guardians of Enniscorthy Union, nine
drugs, twelve specimens of tea, and eleven of port
wine were analysed. One of the drugs,

namely, compound mixture of senna was high in gravity.

Two specimens of water analysed for Enniscorthy Urban District had the following compositions:-

One imperial gallon contained in grains-

	<u>No. 1.</u>	<u>No. 2.</u>
Total solid matters	15.400	39.760
including		
albuminoid ammonia	0.009	0.007
saline ammonia	0.0085	0.005
Nitric acid	1.500	1.870
Chlorine	2.087	1.590
Sulphuric acid	None	Trace
Equal to calcium sulphate	None	Trace
Tolerably good waters.		

For Enniscorthy Asylum four specimens of milk were analysed. One was of poor quality.

Seven specimens of fertilizers analysed for the County Committee of Agriculture were up to the guarantee.

Two fertilizers were analysed for the Ramsgrange Co-operative Society.

One specimen of milk analysed for Mr. H. Scott, Gorey; was of poor quality.

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

Total analyses. 92.
Charles A. Cameron.

Amendment of Public Bodies Order.

Under date 15th June the Local Government Board wrote:- (Circular letter No. 76 M. 1906) forwarding copy of Order which the Board had made

amending the Public Bodies Order, 1904, with regard to the qualifications for appointment as collector of Poor Rate."

— Security of collector John Sinnott. —

Under date 23 June, 1906, the Local Government Board wrote (letter No. 35,138) relative to the security of collector Sinnott:-

"With reference to the entry in the minutes of Proceedings of the Wexford County Council on the 11th instant, relative to the security of Mr. John Sinnott, collector of Poor Rate, I am directed by the Local Government for Ireland to state that they concur in the proposal to reduce the amount of this officer's security to £750."

— Salary of County Surveyor. —

Under date 25th June, 1906, the Local Government Board wrote, letter No. 36344 (New Ross Urban District) forwarding copy of letter which they had received from the New Ross Urban District Council, relative to the salary of the County Surveyor, together with a copy of their reply.

The following is a copy of the letter written on behalf of the New Ross Urban District:-

"I am directed by my Council to apply to the Local Government Board for Ireland to have this Urban District exempt from contributing to the salary of the County Surveyor of the County of Wexford, inasmuch as that Council has now decided that there shall not be any main roads in future, and the County Surveyor shall not therefore be required to perform any duties in connection with this Urban District."

Under these circumstances my Council considers it very unfair to be required to contribute any portion of his salary."

The following under date 25th June is a copy of

the reply of 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, claiming exemption on behalf of the New Ross Urban District Council from contributing towards the salary of the County Surveyor; and, in reply, I am to state, that the Board see no reason why the Urban District Council should not, as part of the county, bear their proportionate share of this expenditure."

The Department of Agriculture & Hire of dredger.

Under date 16th July 1906. The following letter No. 3727. F. B., was read from the Department of Agriculture; etc.:-

"Adverting to your letter of the 13th instant, on the subject of the removal of the mud from the Harbours of Arthurstown, Duncannon, and Ballyhack, I have to state, for the information of the Wexford County Council, that the Department have not control of any dredger other than one of the suction type."

Proposed by the Chairman; seconded by Mr. Peacocke: "That we call the attention of the Chief Secretary for Ireland to the reply received from the Department of Agriculture in reference to Southern Piers. It is seven years ago since this Council first drew the attention of the Government to the condition of the Harbours in this county, and we have been bandied about from Pillar to Post since, and nothing has been done. That this Council desire to know whether there is any chance of attention being ever paid to the resolutions from this Council or any other body regarding the conditions of the Harbours in this county. The Co. Council desire a reply to this resolution"

Passed.

Level Crossings on Railways.

The following letter under date 6th inst. was read from Mr. Aspley, County Councillor:-

"Fearing that I would not get to meeting tomorrow I would like you would bring before the meeting the fact that several persons who were going to Bullinstown last week were delayed at the crossing at Wellington Bridge:- in one case for over an hour. This seems to be unnecessary and perhaps it would be well if the Council took some action in the matter.

I was down there myself yesterday and a good many people were complaining of being delayed, particularly those who drove long distances to see their friends."

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

"That a copy of Mr. Aspley's letter be sent to the Secretary, G. S. & W. Railway Co., and that his attention be also directed to the fact that the manner in which the level crossing at Mayglass is being managed has also given rise to complaint."

Zara Hill Quarry.

Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Ennis and adopted:- "That Mr. Elgee, Solicitor be directed to take the necessary steps to obtain possession of Zara Hill Quarry for the Co. Council."

Templenacrow Quarry.

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

"That the following committee of inspection for Templenacrow Quarry at Palace Railway Station be summoned on a date to be fixed by our Secretary about the 1st September to inspect this quarry and furnish a report re same to the County Council:- Messrs Ennis, Aspley, J. A. Doyle,

John Sinnott, A. Kinsella, and the chairman."

Holidays.

"On the motion of the chairman, the Secretary was granted a fortnight's holidays to be taken at his convenience, and the County Surveyor a month's holidays; three weeks to be taken now."

Bye Laws, New Ross Bridge

Under date 30th July, the following letter was read from Mr. Finn, Town Clerk, New Ross:-

"I am directed by my Council to send you the enclosed copy of a letter which they have received from their solicitors in reference to the proposed alteration in the existing New Ross Bridge Bye-law, and to request the favour of your Council's observations upon it."

"The following from Messrs Colfer & Gethin, Solicitors, New Ross, is a copy of the communication referred to in the letter of Mr. Finn:-

"Referring to yours of the 15th ultimo (June) we have to say that on revising the Bye-laws, which we drafted in accordance with the directions of the Council, we are not satisfied that the Council have power to make a bye-law prohibiting vessels from mooring to the Bridge, or to the warping buoys, and we would not like to make ourselves responsible for the preparation of a bye-law on this point, unless under the advice of Council. Such an important matter is invariably recognised as a fit subject for Council's advice."

The Secretary stated that he had forwarded a copy of the letter of Messrs Colfer & Gethin to the County Solicitor, Mr. Elgee, who had written as follows, under date, 1st August:-

"I am in receipt of your letter of yesterday enclosing copy of one from Messrs Colfer & Gethin,

to the Town Clerk of New Ross, as to these draft bye-laws, and I quite agree with what Messrs Colfer & Gethin says as to submitting them to counsel, because the bye-law prohibiting vessels mooring to the bridge or to the warping buoys is a most important one, and it is therefore advisable that the Urban Council should be clear on the point as to their power to make it. I think therefore that the County Council ought to pay counsel's fee, along with the costs of the case to him and the other costs, but you should limit the amount of counsel's fee to £2:2/-."

"The Chairman moved that this matter be referred to Mr. J. J. Blancy, counsel's fee not to exceed £2:2/- and that this Co. Council agree to bear the costs of preparing the bye-laws."

Passed.

— Exportation of Sheep. —

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

"That the attention of the public be directed to the fact that they cannot send their sheep to England, Scotland & Wales, unless they are dipped in an efficient dip, and unless the regulations of the Orders governing importation of sheep be carried out."

— Confirmation of Minutes —

On the motion of the Chairman the minutes of the Finance, Proposals, and Diseases of Animals Acts, Committees were confirmed.

— Payments, etc. —

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman:-

"That the several proposals for Payment sent up

by the Proposal Committee and the various Rural District Councils of the County, be confirmed subject to the several Orders noted thereon and initialled by the Chairman."

Mulrankin Castle

The Chairman moved, - that the Estate Commissioners be informed that the County Council is satisfied to take over Mulrankin Castle. Mr. Ennis seconded the motion which was passed.

Explosive License

Mr. Patrick Doran, 26 Main Street, Gorey, applied for an explosive license:-

"On the motion of the Chairman it was decided that Mr. Doran's premises be registered for the keeping of mixed explosives."

Prosecuting a Road Contractor

Mr. Webster, County Surveyor received directions to institute a prosecution against John Roche, the Divr; and his sureties, for neglect of Road No. 137 Wexford District.

M. Ennis

4.12.1906

Special meeting - 24th August 1906.

A special meeting of the County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse Wexford; on Friday 24th August 1906.

Present:- Mr M. A. Ennis, Vice-Chairman (presiding)
Other Councillors:- Messrs E. Hore, Daniel Dempsey, J. E. Mayler, Michael Browne, James Donohoe, John Bolger, John Cummins, Thomas Aspley, Mark Codd, Denis Kavanagh, James Sinnott, J. A. Doyle, C. H. Peacocke, Patrick Cleary, Matthew Doyle, John J. Kehoe, R. C. Murphy, Thaddeus Bolger, John Sinnott, and James Codd.

The Secretary; and Mr R. W. Elger, Solicitor to the Council, were in attendance.

Election of Assistant Surveyors.

The Secretary having read the advertisement for the appointment of three Assistant Surveyors applications for the positions were read as follows:-

1. Abbey Street, Wexford.
22nd August 1906.

Dear Sir,

I beg to apply for the position of Assistant County Surveyor (District No. 3) under your Council. The Local Government Board's certificate which I enclose, shows that I am qualified under the terms of the advertisement.

I have already forwarded to your office testimonials as to my character and ability from my present employer, Henry Webster Esq. M. Inst. C. E. County Surveyor; Rev P. Doyle adm., Wexford; Rev J. F. Kennedy C. C. Wexford; and Rev Mark Byrne C. C. Wexford.

If elected I shall do all in my power to give the Council every satisfaction in the discharge

of my duties.

I would be prepared to take up duty immediately when called upon by the Council to do so.

H. J. Frizell Esq.
Secretary.

Yours faithfully
Robert Brennan.

Boonaboy Oylegate.
Enniscorthy. 23/8/06.

To the Chairman & Gentlemen

County Council, Wexford.

Mr. Chairman, & Gentlemen of the Co. Council, I beg to offer myself as a candidate for the position of Assistant County Surveyor for District No. 2. in accordance with your advertisement in the County Wexford Independent. I herewith enclose certificates of qualifications etc.,

Hoping to receive your kind consideration and support by electing me to the position. I trust I will be able to fulfil the duties to the best of my ability, and in every way to the satisfaction of the Council and the Co. Surveyor.

I remain Gentlemen

Yours Respectfully
Thos. J. Ryan.

Bastlicomer, Co. Kilkenny.
16th August 1906.

To the Chairman of the Wexford Co. Council.
Mr. Chairman, & Gentlemen;

I beg to offer myself as a candidate for the position of Assistant Surveyor, for one of the vacant districts mentioned in your advertisement in the Wexford Independent of the 11th Inst.

I am fully qualified for the position as I hold a "Certificate of qualification" from the Local Government Board.

I have already done temporary duty as Assistant

Surveyor in the counties of Kilkenny, and Kildare and hold testimonials from the County Surveyors of those counties, and these I beg to enclose.

Should you appoint me to the above position, I shall endeavour to the best of my ability to discharge the duties to your satisfaction.

I beg to remain,

Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen
Your obedient servant
Thomas Paddle.

Castletown, Berhaven,
Co. Cork, 18th Aug. 1906

Sir,

With reference to the appointment of 8. Assistant Surveyors, which is to be made by your Council on 24th inst., I beg to apply as a candidate for one of the posts. My age is 32 years, and the following is an account of my qualifications and experience viz:- With a view to obtaining a good ground-work for my profession, I commenced my career by serving a term of 4 years under a Firm of Builders. Then, I became an Engineering pupil of S. A. Kirkby's, Esq. M.I.C.E. (County Surveyor, Cork) and served under him for a period of 3 years; during that time I superintended the making of roads, bridges, sea-walls, etc. I also acted as Assistant Co. Surveyor (pro tem) and passed the Board of Works Exam. for that position.

On the completion of my pupilage I was employed by the War Department, as Clerk of Works, etc., for a period of 54 years, and superintended the erection of the following works:- The building of a Pier; the laying out and making of new roads; the building of Officers and married Soldiers quarters, Barracks; Store-houses, Fortifications, Water supplies, Drainage Works etc.

I may also mention that I hold a Diploma as an Associate member of the Institution of Civil Engineers, of Ireland, (this Diploma renders me qualified for the position) as well as being a Fellow of the Institute of Sanitary Engineers, and member of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

I have much pleasure in enclosing you copies of my testimonials.

As I am at present engaged in superintending the building of an important Pier for the Cork County Council and Congested Districts Board jointly, I am not quite sure whether I shall be able to attend the meeting on the 24th inst, but I shall do my best to be present.

I am Sir,

Your obedient servant
J. F. Blanchard, F.M.S.E.C.I.

The Secretary.

Wexford Co. Council.

44 Mountjoy Square Dublin.
August 23rd '06

Gentlemen,

In reply to your advertisement for three Assistant Surveyors, I respectfully beg to offer myself as a candidate for one of the positions.

I have carefully read your list of rules for Assistant Surveyors, and am fully prepared to carry out the duties in same, and consider I am eligible to fill one of the vacancies, having served my time to the Building trade, and have a certificate for Building Construction and Drawing, and quantity surveying from the Technical schools.

I have for the past 4 years held the position of general Superintendent of Buildings in course of erection, to Mr. B. Millard, Builder & Contractor

Pleasant St, Dublin, I am also Town Surveyor to the Trim Urban Council.

I have already sent you copy of testimonial from Mr. Millard.

If appointed I guarantee that the roads in my district would be kept in a first class manner, being a member of the Irish Industrial Development Association, I would see that all materials for contracts were of Irish manufacture, and that all works were carried out strictly in accordance with the specification.

Hoping to be honoured with one of the appointments.

I beg to remain,
Gentlemen.

Your obedient servant
Joseph. P. Macken.

To the Councillors,
Wexford Co. Council.

Linahely, Co. Wicklow.
August 24th 1906.

Gentlemen,

I beg to make application for the position of assistant Surveyor, for No. 1 District. I am 32 years of age and have a thorough knowledge of the duties to be performed.

Unfortunately my original testimonials are in the hands of the Congested Districts Board, but I append copies and shall guarantee to satisfy the Local Government Board in that respect, should your body feel pleased to favour my appointment.

I am Gentlemen
Yours obediently
James C. Traynor.

To the Wexford Co. Council.

Messrs Blanchard, and Traynor, were not in attendance. The latter wried that he had missed his train.

The chairman ruled that the applications of candidates who were not in attendance, could not, under the terms of the advertisement, be considered.

Mr. Peacocke proposed, and Mr. Kehoe seconded the appointment of Mr. J. J. Ryan, as assistant surveyor for No. 2. District.

No other candidate was proposed and the chairman declared Mr. Ryan elected, nem con.

Mr. Browne proposed, the appointment of Mr. Robert Brennan, as assistant surveyor for No. 3. District. Mr. Asple seconded.

There being no other proposal the chairman declared Mr. Brennan elected.

Mr. Cummins, for No. 1 District proposed Mr. Thomas Paddle, as assistant surveyor. Mr. John Sinnott seconded.

Mr. Dempsey proposed, and Mr. J. A. Doyle seconded the appointment of Mr. Macken.

A poll was taken with the following result:-
For Mr. Paddle:- Messrs E. Hore, J. E. Mayler, M. Browne, J. Donohoe, J. Bolger, J. Cummins, M. Codd, James Sinnott, C. H. Peacocke, P. Cleary, M. Doyle, J. J. Kehoe, N. C. Murphy, J. Bolger, John Sinnott, James Codd, and the chairman, 17.

For Mr. Macken:- Messrs J. A. Doyle, and D. Dempsey-2.

Declined to vote:- Messrs J. Asple, and D. Kavanagh-2.

The chairman declared Mr. Paddle elected.

On the motion of Mr. Browne, seconded by Mr. Kehoe, it was decided that Mr. Brennan,

be allowed to live in the Town of Wexford, which is about half a mile outside his district.

The following are the testimonials lodged by the successful candidates:-

County Surveyor's Office, Wexford.
August 12th 1906.

M^r. Robert Brennan has been in my Office for the past seven years as clerk.

I have much pleasure in testifying that I have the highest opinion of his character and abilities.

He is applying for the post of Assistant Co. Surveyor. I consider him eminently qualified for the position; and though I should be very sorry to lose his services in my office, I shall be very pleased to have him as an Assistant.

Henry Webster, M. Inst. C. E.
County Surveyor.

M^r. Robert Brennan, a native of this parish, is seeking the position of Deputy Surveyor from the County Council. I know him for a considerable time, and I can testify that he is a young man of excellent character, whom I can recommend highly, and who, I have every confidence, from his abilities, will give satisfaction to the County Council.

Patrick Doyle, Adm.,
Wexford, Aug 16th 1906.

Gentlemen,

I have known M^r. Robert Brennan, intimately, for the last four years, and I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to his excellent character. He is a young man of great ability, industrious, and heartily devoted to his duties. I have every reason to hope that if you entrust to him the responsible office he

sucks, that he shall prove himself trustworthy and eminently efficient in discharge of his duties.

Yours truly
J. F. Kennedy. C. C.

The Manse, Wexford.
Aug. 21st 1906.

The Manse, Wexford.
Aug 18th '06

Gentlemen,

It gives me much pleasure to recommend Mr. Robert, for the position of deputy Surveyor. I have known him for several years, and have always found him a most sober, trustworthy and self-respecting young man.

In view of his distinguished career in the Intermediate Examinations, etc., there is no need for me to dwell on his intellectual attainments. There can be no doubt that he is most competent to fulfil all the duties of his office.

I remain
Yours truly
M. Byrne C. C.

I know the Bearer Thomas Ryan of Coolnaboy. He is a good young man. He is a candidate for the office of deputy Surveyor, and I think that if elected, he would make an excellent one.

James Walsh. P. P.
August 7th 1906.

As I believe Mr. J. J. Ryan to be a well conducted intelligent young man, I have great pleasure in recommending him for the position of Deputy Surveyor.

P. Sheil P. P.

Aug. 13th '06

Gallally, Enniscorthy.
13/6/06.

The bearer Mr. J. J. Ryan, is a young man of excellent general character - honest and trustworthy in every way. If elected I consider he will make a very satisfactory deputy surveyor.
(Signed) J. M. Ryan C. C.

Edermine Rectory, Enniscorthy.
Co. Wexford. 8th Decr 1902.

I have much pleasure in giving my recommendation of the bearer, Mr. Thomas J. Ryan, in the highest sense, for, having known him for many years and having never heard of anything to his disadvantage, but rather in every way to his credit. I quite believe in the promise that is given by his excellent conduct and character as well as his close application to all such studies as have qualified him to work for a good post.

I am his anxious friend
J. M. Swift-Dennis. Rector.

The National Bank, Lth Enniscorthy.
16th August 1906.

I have known Mr. J. J. Ryan for several years, he is a steady energetic young man, and I consider that if he is appointed to the post of Assistant County Surveyor, that he will discharge the duties in a satisfactory manner.

J. J. Lloyd Manager.

County Surveyor's Office
Wexford, December 6th 1902.

Mr. Thomas James Ryan, has worked under me for over three years as contractor for the maintenance of the Deep Bridge, over the river Slaney, in which work he has gained considerable experience in timber work, scarping of piles, etc., and

repairs to the road surface over the bridge.

Henry Webster
County Surveyor
Wexford.

Royal College of Science,
Stephen's Green, East.
Dublin. Aug 11th 1902.

Mr. James Ryan has attended the courses in the College in building construction, Road making, Surveying, and plotting, and drawing. He has worked very steadily and made great progress in his work. Considering all the circumstances of his case, I think he has made remarkable use of his opportunities here, and that he would be well qualified for the post of Assistant Surveyor.

James Lyon
Professor of Engineering

County Surveyor's Office,
Kilkenny. 6th Sept. '05

Mr. Thomas Paddle, has acted as temporary assistant surveyor in this county for the past twelve months during which time he has carried out the duties to my entire satisfaction.

He is fully qualified for the work and understands it thoroughly.

A. M. Burden
County Surveyor

County Surveyor's Office, Courthouse,
Naas, Co. Kildare. 29th Aug. 1905.

Mr. Thomas Paddle, was a temporary Assistant Surveyor in this county from 8th September 1903, to 30th April 1904, during the illness of Mr. H. S. Hurley Assistant Surveyor.

Mr. Paddle is an honest, hardworking conscientious man and is qualified and well fitted to discharge

the duties of an Assistant Surveyor. That is my opinion of Mr. Paddle after seven months' experience of him.

Edward Giver. Co. Surveyor.

The Question of University Scholarships

Under date 11th August 1906, the Department of Agriculture, etc, wrote, (letter No. 20293-06) forwarding for the information of the County Council, copy of the following letter which had been forwarded by them to the County Committee of Agriculture and Technical Instruction on the subject of University Scholarships having been included in the scheme of Technical Instruction for the session 1906-7:-

"With regard to the proposals for establishing two University Scholarships in the scheme of Technical Instruction for the County Wexford for 1906-7, the Department are advised by the Law Officers of the Crown that expenditure for the purpose of these proposals is not permissible under the Technical Instruction Acts of 1889 and 1891, or under the Agriculture and Technical Instruction Act of 1899.

I have accordingly to request the Committee to be good enough to resubmit the scheme with this provision omitted, and to note that, in the circumstances, it will not be possible for the Department or the Board of Technical Instruction to take these proposals into further consideration.

In reply to the request in the minutes of the meeting of the Committee on the 24th ultimo, for details of the system upon which funds are allocated for technical instruction to the various counties, I have to point out that the amounts allocated to each scheme are furnished annually in the appendices to the General Report of the

Department, and to add that the Department intend to issue to the Technical Instruction Committees this year a volume containing fuller details of all the schemes of Technical Instruction in the country, and the funds allocated thereto, which have been considered and approved by the Board of Technical Instruction. These particulars, however, will not be available before the close of the year.

With regard to the queries on pages of the Committee's minutes, the Department regret that they must decline to answer queries of the kind respecting the proceedings of their Advisory Boards.

Regarding the statement as to Mr. Ennis asking to appear personally before the Board of Technical Instruction, it was not understood that Mr. Ennis expressly made such a request, but he was informed that procedure of the kind would not be in accordance with precedent.

Under date 16th August the following letter was read from Sir Thomas Esmonde:

"As to the University Scholarship, our answer to the Department is (1) - That we have no less than two legal opinions in our favour - one lawyer is as good as another - Two therefore should be better than one.

(2) - That if there is by any chance anything remotely savouring of illegality in our proposal, they can make the thing legal by confirming it under their act. The settling of the difficulty (if there is any difficulty) is in their hands - as the making of it was theirs. and finally (3) that we have carefully chosen our position - and that we mean to hold it - whether the Crown lawyer approves or not - or whether the Department approves, or not.

We have given them every warning and every opportunity to avoid an irreconcilable attitude

towards us; and if they choose to adopt such an attitude we are equally determined to hold our own."

The Chairman proposed:- "That in view of the fact that this Council are fortified by the opinions of two eminent K. C.'s. that the proposal for the establishment of two University Scholarships embodied in the proposed Technical Instruction Scheme for Session 1906-7 is perfectly legal, and comes within the provisions of the Technical Instruction Acts of 1889 and 1891, and the Agriculture and Technical Instruction Act of 1899, we call upon the Department to furnish us with the text of the statement of the case submitted by them to the Law Officers of the Crown for their opinion, and the text of the reply of the Law Officers of the Crown thereto."

The foregoing resolution was adopted, nem con.

On the motion of Mr. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Donohoe, the following resolution was also adopted:- "That we request Mr. Elgee our Solicitor to obtain a further legal opinion from Messrs J. J. Clancy, and Mr. J. Dunn, K. C.'s. (in consultation) in order to have drafted for us an amended scheme under which it will be necessary for us to proceed if we are forced to break off relations with the Department, on the Technical Instruction side."

On the motion of the Chairman, the following resolution was adopted:- "As perfect equality with regard to facilities for higher education is the inherent right of every tax-paying citizen, we call upon the Government to take such steps as may be necessary to confer on all Irishmen irrespective of religious denomination, equal

facilities in the matter of University Education, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Secretary of the General Council of Irish County Councils for discussion at Annual Meeting."

— Veterinary Scheme —

It was decided that the Secretary furnish a copy of the proposed Veterinary Scheme to the Secretary of the Irish Councils' General Council for discussion at Annual Meeting."

— Auditor's Report. —

The following report of Mr. C. D. Barry, Auditor of the Local Government Board, under date 8th August 1906, 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.

The accounts were prepared and submitted for audit in a very satisfactory manner."

— The Department & Poulduff Pier. —

Under date the 15th August the following letter (No. 4149:06 F. B) was read from the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, on the subject of Poulduff Pier:-

"Adverting to your letter of the 8th instant, I have to state that the Department note that the Wexford County Council are quite ready to pay over the County contribution for Poulduff improvements on receiving a demand for the same.

Regarding the question of the cement used, the Department understand that the supply which the contractor has already on the ground will suffice for the completion of the work."

"No Order."

New Ross Bridge & Grand Canal Coy.

Under date the 15th August, the following letter was read from the manager of the Grand Canal Company, Dublin:-

"On the 28th July our steamer and one of our boats arrived at New Ross bridge at 9 a.m. and the caretaker was asked to turn the bridge, and let them through, but refused to do so until the mail train would pass at 9.40 a.m. consequently the steamer and boat missed a tide and delayed 10 hours.

I shall be glad if you will give instructions to the bridge keeper to prevent this happening again."

"The Secretary said he had furnished a copy of the letter to Mr. Webster, County Surveyor, and to the caretaker of the bridge for his observations."

"Postponed for the attendance of the County Surveyor, who is at present on holidays."

McMinnis

4.12.1906