

STATUTABLE HALF-YEARLY MEETING.- 5th DECEMBER 1917.

The Statutable Half-Yearly Meeting of the Wexford County Council, was held in the Co Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford, on Wednesday, 5th December 1917.

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

Also:- Messrs J. J. Stafford, J. J. Kehoe, M. Maddock, W. Thorpe, James Codd, J. J. O'Byrne, R. Scallan, A. Kinsella, Philip Keating.

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

Confirmation of Minutes.

The Minutes of last Meeting were read and confirmed.

Congratulations to new Bishop.

Proposed by the Chairman,

Seconded by Mr Scallan, and adopted:-

"That we offer Most Rev William Codd, D. D., our most respectful congratulations on his appointment to the bishopric of the Diocese of Ferns, and wish him the enjoyment of many years of life and happiness in the performance of the duties of his sacred and exalted office."

The late Mrs Cloney.

On the motion of the Chairman,

Seconded by Mr Keating, the following resolution submitted by Finance and Roads Committee, was adopted:-

"That the sympathy of the Wexford County Council be extended to our much esteemed Colleague- Mr Michael Cloney- in the loss sustained by him in the death of his beloved wife. That a copy of this resolution be furnished Mr Cloney."

On the motion of the Chairman,

Seconded by Mr Keating, the following letter from Mr M. Cloney, M. C. C., was ordered to be inserted on the Minutes:-

"I find that I shall not be present at Meeting of County Council on 5th inst, Therefore will you kindly convey to its Members my most sincere thanks for their kind sympathy expressed in their resolution to me in my recent bereavement.

And to you also I wish to express my heartfelt thanks for your kind words of sympathy contained therein on the great loss sustained by

Capitation Grant-Reformatory & Industrial Schools.

Mr Kinsella submitted the following of which he had given previous notice:-

"That an extra 6d per head per week, be voted Industrial and Reformatory Schools in respect of Wexford Children maintained in these Institutions."

"Correspondence was submitted showing that the increase had been already given in nineteen Counties."

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was substituted for the Notice of Motion by Mr Kinsella, and was unanimously adopted on the motion of Mr Kinsella, seconded by Mr Kehoe:-

"That we recommend the County Council to grant an extra 6d per head per week to all Schools at present in receipt of 2/6 per head per week."

"That the increased rate of 3/- per head per week date as from 1st October 1917."

Tenders-Rural District Councils.

A number of tenders for Roads and Works were then considered and particulars entered on the appropriate forms 20.

A letter was read from Mr P. J. Fanning, J. P., Cullenogue, Gorey, that Michael Staunton, Clonroe, Tinahely, who had been accepted as Contractor for Road No. 56G at Gorey R. D. Council Meeting, had been blacklisted as an unsatisfactory contractor., etc.,

"In view of the statement of the County Surveyor that in his opinion no other person could be secured to perform the work in the event of the rejection of Staunton's tender, it was decided to allow the tender to stand."

Sealed Orders.

Sealed Order No. 45100-1917, and dated 19th November 1917, was read from the Local Government Board, fixing the Broadway Dispensary District as the area of charge for water supply at Ballycushlane.

Sealed Order No. 56894-1917, and dated 22nd November 1917, was read from the Local Government Board, fixing the Wexford Dispensary District as the area of charge for improvement of water supply at Maudlintown."

"No Order."

Auditors Reports.-Public Bodies.

Under date 6th November 1917, letter No. 53607-1917, was read from the Local Government Board forwarding copy of their Auditor's report on his audit of the Accounts of the County Wexford Tuberculosis Committee for the half-year ended the 30th September 1917.

Under date 6th November 1917, letter No. 53608-1917, was read from the Local Government Board forwarding copy of their Auditor's report on his audit of the accounts of the Co Wexford Committee of Agriculture & Technical Instruction for the half-year ended 30th September 1917.

Under date 21st November 1917, the Local Government Board wrote (letter No. 54597-1917) forwarding copy of their Auditor's report on his audit of the Accounts of the Wexford County Infirmary for the half-years ended 31st March and 30th September 1917.

"No Order"

Compensation-Parliament & Registration Act 1916.

Under date 23rd November 1917, letter No. 58123-1917, Wexford County, was read from the Local Government Board, stating that they had had under consideration the claims of the Local Officers in Wexford County for compensation for temporary loss of emoluments under the Parliament and Registration Act 1916. They had directed that such of the Local Officers to whom compensation was awarded in respect of the Registration Year 1916, and who still remained in office (and also Ex-Collector N. O'H Walsh) should in respect of the current registration year be paid by the County Council the same compensation as was awarded them in the year 1916 under Section 3 of the Act.

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

"That we approve of Mr Tobin, Rate Collector, receiving compensation under Parliament & Registration Act 1916, as in the case of other public officials as according to the terms of his appointment compensation was not to be paid him except by special sanction of the County Council."

Proposed Imprest Account.

Under date 3rd December 1917, the following letter from the Local Government Board (No. 47845-1917, Wexford County) was read:-

"The Local Government Board for Ireland have had before them the

proposals of the Wexford County Council relative to the making of payments in connection with the working of the quarries for road maintenance in Wexford County.

The Board desire to state that the suggestion to provide an imprest account on which the Assistant County Surveyor in charge of the quarries should be empowered to draw is one which the Local Government Board cannot approve. Payments out of the County funds can only be made by the direct authority of the County Council acting through the Finance Committee, and the Board have no doubt that it would be possible for the Finance Committee in County Wexford to meet at frequent intervals to authorise any necessary payments to be made. A small number could be fixed to constitute the quorum of the Finance Committee."

"Mr Barry explained that in existing circumstances he did not consider the proposed Imprest a/c., was required, and in consequence no order was made on the letter of the Local Government Board."

Applications for Increases of Salaries.

Under date 27th November 1917, an application for increase of salary was read from Mr T. Paddle, Assistant Surveyor:-

"In his application Mr Paddle, stated, that when appointed to the position of Assistant Surveyor over eleven years ago, the condition of the roads, as well as the system generally, was anything but satisfactory. He had lost no time in introducing improved materials, seeking out suitable quarries, weeding out bad contractors, getting increased prices passed and had done everything to improve the roads and the conditions of their upkeep. It had been admitted that there a general improvement in the condition of the roads and he had been complimented by the Council as having the greatest number of days to the work of the Council. Nevertheless, his first application for increase of salary had been refused. On the introduction of steamrolling his work had been increased and a further application made by him in conjunction with the other Assistant Surveyors, was also refused. He then applied for a War Bonus to compensate him for the abnormally increased cost of living but this was also refused by the Council. He had no other means of livelihood, and men in similar positions in adjoining Counties were getting from £150 to £200 per year, and were allowed to hold other positions."

Under date 1st December 1917, the Local Government Board

(letter No. 47845: 1917, Wexford Co.,) wrote approving of the proposal of the County Council to increase the salaries of Assistant Surveyors Jones, Kehoe, Paddle, and Doyle, by £5 per annum, with an annual increment of £5 to a maximum salary of £120 a year."

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

"That in consequence of the small attendance of Members present at meeting, the application of Mr Paddle, Assistant Surveyor, for an increase of salary be adjourned to next meeting of Finance & Roads Committee."

Sir C. Cameron, County Analyst, wrote under date 16th November 1917 applying for a temporary addition to his salary of £30 per annum, until the price of Chemicals, etc., became more moderate.

In Local Government Board Report (1906) lists of Analysts for County Boroughs and County Councils was printed. Sir C. Cameron was acting for 8 Boroughs and 25 Counties, besides being Medical Officer of Health for Dublin Corporation.

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

"That Sir C. Cameron be informed that the Wexford County Council cannot see their way to accede to his application for an increase of his salary."

Enniscorthy R. D. School Attendance Committee.

The following resolution adopted at the last meeting of Enniscorthy R. D. School Attendance Committee, was submitted to the Meeting:-

"That we respectfully request the County Council to grant a War Bonus of £5 a year to School Attendance Officers Fortune and Kelly, and £2. 10/- to Jasper Whitty, Secretary."

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

"That the resolution of Enniscorthy R. D. School Attendance Committee re granting War Bonus to their Officials be referred to the Enniscorthy R. D. Council for their observations, as any War Bonus which may be granted will constitute a charge on the Rural District."

Proposed Second County Surveyor.

Under date 3rd November 1917, the following resolution unanimously adopted at the meeting of the Enniscorthy R. D. Council, on 31st October 1917, was submitted:-

"That we are of the opinion that one County Surveyor is not sufficient for the County, and we request the County Council to appoint two Surveyors, one for North and one for South Wexford."

On the motion of Mr Scallan, seconded by Mr O'Byrne, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the resolution of the Enniscorthy R. D. Council, relative to appointment of second County Surveyor be adjourned until the Annual Meeting of the County Council to be held in June 1918, so as to allow of the new system for dealing with roads and quarries as recommended by Special Committee, receiving a fair trial."

Steamroller Enniscorthy Rural District

Under date 20th November 1917, the Clerk, Enniscorthy R. D. Council, forwarded the following resolution adopted at the previous meeting of his Council:-

"We request the County Council to purchase a steamroller for the use of the Enniscorthy Rural District."

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

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to issue advertisements in Trade papers for the purchase of a second hand steamroller as under existing conditions it is impossible to purchase a new roller."

St Brigid's Inebriate Home.

Under date 3rd December 1917, the following was read from Sister M. V. Keating, Superintendent of St Brigid's Inebriate Reformatory:-

"Owing to the small number of patients we have at present, and owing to the enormous increase in the price of food, clothing, etc., and owing also, to the fact that the capitation grant was considerably reduced about two years ago, we find it impossible to carry on the Inebriate's Home any longer, consequently we are compelled to give the Co. Council the six months notice agreed to, at the time of our opening this Reformatory.

expiration of the six months notice, owing to the enormous sum of money we spent remodelling it. Our intention at present is, to open a Home of Imbecile Children, provided we are able to secure a sufficient grant from the British Treasury.

In view of this we shall feel grateful if you ask the County Council, if they would allow us to hold this place, free of rent for one year from January 1st 1918, or a longer period if necessary, meanwhile we shall endeavour to secure the requisite grant and get the place into working order once more.

Thanking you in anticipation."

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

"That owing to War conditions we agree to the request of the Community of St John of God to hold the Co Wexford Inebriate Reformatory free of rent for one year as from the 3rd June 1918, the expiration of the six months' Notice provided by lease. That this resolution is adopted by the Council and is to be accepted by the Community of St John of God, as in no way interfering with the provisions of the existing lease of the premises."

Road Material from Doran's Hill Quarry.

Patrick Roche and other Ratepayers of Efferogue, Ferns, wrote applying for 40 yards of broken stones from Doran's Hill Quarry, to repair the roadway leading to their residences, as it was impossible to get material elsewhere.

Under date 3rd December 1917, Mr Edward Kavanagh, Rosemary Hill, Ferns, wrote, applying for five yards of stones from Doran's Hill Quarry to repair a lane leading from the public road to Ferns Chapel.

Under date 3rd December 1917, a joint application was read from Mr Aidan Walsh, Mr John Borthistle, Mrs Byrne, and Mrs Bridget Bolger, for 60 cubic yards of broken stones from Doran's Hill Quarry, to repair a public lane leading to their farms. They could not get material elsewhere, and were willing to pay full price.

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

"That the material applied for by Mr Patrick Roche, and other Ratepayers of Efferogue, Mr Edward Kavanagh, Rosemary Hill, Ferns, and Messrs Aidan Walsh, Mr John Borthistle, Mrs Byrne, and Mrs Bridget Bolger, of

Effernogue, be supplied by the County Surveyor, provided he does not require same for road maintenance."

Confirmation of Minutes.

Proposed by the Chairman,

Seconded by Mr Kehoe:-

"That the several Minutes of Proposal Committee, and Executive Committee under Diseases of Animals Acts, be and are hereby approved."

War Pensions Administrative Expenses,,

The Secretary submitted a supplementary estimate for War Pensions Committee amounting to £36. 8. 10d, the amount to be paid by the County Council being £12. 2. 11d.

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

"That the supplemental Estimate of Administrative expenses of War Pensions Local Committee and amounting to £36. 8. 10d be and is hereby adopted."

War Bonus for Road Contractors.

Proposed by Mr Kehoe,

Seconded by the Chairman:-

"That the following recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee be adopted:-

That the County Council having carefully considered the application of certain road contractors who have entered into their contracts on or before 30th June 1915, and who have applied for an increase on the annual amount being paid to them for the carrying out of their contracts by way of war bonus, and being satisfied that these contractors are entitled to such payment, do grant to these contractors the following increased payment, i.e., an increase of 20 % on the whole amount to those contractors who supply material and labour themselves, an increase of 11.4% or 20% on 4/7ths of the amount to those contractors who obtain material from County Council quarries, no increased charge being made by the County Council for material, and an increase of 13.3% or 20% on 2/3rds of the amount to those contractors who use seagravel, until the expiration of the contract or until one year from the end of the War, whichever event should first happen, but that such increased payment only be made as from 31st March 1917, and to contractors who in the

opinion of the County Surveyor, have done their work efficiently, and further that procedure suggested by the Local Government Board be carried out, namely, that the County Council shall issue advertisements inviting tenders from outside persons for the contracts, taking this new amount in each case as the minimum price at which the contractor will be willing to carry on the work until the expiration of his contract, and if no tender at a lower amount is obtained that a fresh contract be entered into with each contractor concerned, at the new increased annual amount for the unexpired terms of his contract, the increased percentage only to be paid for the period ending one year after the conclusion of the War.*

War Bonus.

In connection with proposed War Bonus to Road Contractors the Secretary submitted correspondence with Local Government Board.

Under date 17th November 1917, he wrote to the Board asking if it were essential that new contracts should be entered into with all contractors in whose cases payment of War Bonus had been agreed to. There were then 390 cases in which War Bonus had been passed, and according to letter of County Surveyor about 15 per cent of these would never get any bonus. In the circumstances the Local Government Board were asked if they considered it essential that new contracts should be entered into in all cases for War Bonus, or would it be sufficient if bonds were entered into with contractors to whom payment was certified by the County Surveyor to be duly executed in each case before payment was made.

The following reply under date 3rd December 1917, (No. 58,388/1917, Wexford Co.,) was read from the Local Government Board:-

"With reference to your letter of the 17th ultimo, relative to the grant of a war bonus to road contractors in County Wexford, I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland to state that it appears to them that the course suggested by the Council in these cases might lead to difficulties in the event of proceedings being subsequently found necessary by either party to enforce the new arrangement.

In so far as the County Council are concerned, the Council should be careful to be advised by their Solicitor as to their legal position if the new contract were not perfected in any case. The period for which any existing contract has yet to run might of itself render it desirable

that a new contract should be completed.

It should be remembered that the step which has been taken by the County Council is in the nature of a concession to the contractor, and it is not unreasonable to expect that he should be prepared to suffer some inconvenience to secure the advantage gained thereby."

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

"That for the present we consider it sufficient to take new contracts only in cases in which War Bonus is being actually paid. That our Secretary issue Pay Orders only in cases in which he has received such new contracts. That the letter of the Local Government Board under date 3rd December 1917, (No. 58388, Wexford County) be referred to our Solicitor for his advice as to whether he considers it necessary to enter into new contracts in all cases of War Bonus grants in view of the statement of the County Surveyor that at least 15 per cent of such Contractors will not receive any payment as War Bonus."

Division of Ranches.

Under date 17th October 1917, a letter was read from Mr J. T. Dolan, Ardee, stating that a number of large grazing farms mostly non-residential would be offered for sale by auction this season, under pressure of the Tillage Order, and inducement of the high prices of land. They would probably be bought in most cases, -by Capitalists, either graziers, who already owned other farms, or Shopkeepers, etc., and would be kept as grazing farms. The Ranching system and depopulation of the country would thus be perpetuated, and a rare opportunity of having the land divided into small tillage farms and a working population planted on it would be lost for a generation. If the Allotments Act were applied to Ireland, and County Councils enabled thereby to buy up lands for re-sale in small lots, and if the Estates Commissioners were empowered by Act of Parliament or Regulation to pre-empt at Market prices non-residential grazing farms subject to Land Commission Annuity and to sell them in small farm lots for cash, or, if necessary on Annuity to working farmers who had no other land and no other occupation, and who would be obliged to live on and till the farm, it would be a very practicable way of extending tillage, and of re-populating the Country, and could be done easily this season by Act of this Session of Parliament.

received and "Adopted", on the motion of Mr Kinsella, seconded by Mr Maddock."

Proposals for Payment.

Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr Kehoe, and Passed--

"That the several proposals for payment submitted by the Proposal Committee and Rural District Councils as appearing on Forms 22, and for all matters dealing with general payments, as submitted by the Secretary, and Recommended by the Finance & Roads Committee, also transfers to Public Bodies, be and are hereby approved subject to the modifications and other orders noted thereon and initialled by the Chairman."

Proposals for Works.

Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr Kehoe, and passed:-

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

Form 22-New Ross.

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

"That in view of the statement of the County Surveyor, that the sum of £20 appearing in form 22 New Ross Rural District, as payable to John Whitty on Road 12R, be transferred to the deferred Column, as the County Surveyor has informed the Council that the amount which should have been deferred in the first instance was entered in the "Pay" Column through a clerical error."

Defaulting Road Contractors.

The County Surveyor submitted the names of the following Contractors whom he intended prosecuting:-

C. Molloy 64E, T. Dempsey 63E, P. Brennan 127E, P. Hayden 7R., E. O'Leary 333E, James Doyle 141E, Patrick Freeman 98R, 102R, M. Nolan 160R, John Floey 90R, Michael Cullen 52E, Matthew Brien 183E, James Nolan 220E, James Fenlon 322E, Patrick Kavanagh 337E, James Furlong 47E, Denis Dempsey 185E, Michael Dempsey 157E, 160E, Patrick Kinsella 221E, Walter Dooley 181E, Michael Fortune 6W, 7W, John Lacey 124, 125, Michael Browne 3W, William Murphy 88W, Daniel Connors 90W, 91W, Edward Browne 258W, Edward 127E, Michael Byrne 129E, Michael Byrne 129E, 131G, John Byrne

129G., Edward Staunton 8G., 55G, Michael O'Reilly 170G, Michael Lawless, 147G, Patrick Mordaunt 142G, S. O'Brien 18G, William Doyle 119G, Richard Doran 145G, J. Foley 189G, A. Dwyer, 174G, J. O'Brien 183G, 179G, P. Higgins, 120G, J. Woodbyrne 69G, James Murphy 72G.

On the motion of Mr O'Neill, seconded by Mr Scallan, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the County Surveyor be empowered to institute legal proceedings against those contractors whose names appear on the list submitted by him to this meeting should the necessity arise for such a course."

Dates of Meetings.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Kehoe, the following dates of Meetings of Councils were agreed to:-

Enniscorthy R. D. Council.-	Wednesday-10th April 1918	at 11 a.m.,
Gorey	" "	Thursday 11th April 1918 at 11.30 a.m.,
New Ross	" "	Tuesday 9th April 1918, at 11.30 a.m.,
Wexford	" "	Saturday 6th April 1918, at 10.30 a.m.,
Proposal Committee (Quarterly)	Wednesday 3rd April 1918	at 10.30 a.m.,
" "	(Half-yearly) "	8th May 1918, at 10.30 a.m.,
Co Council Quarterly Meeting.-	Wednesday 6th February 1918	at 11 a.m.,
Co Council Half-Yearly Meeting.-	"	8th May 1918, at 11 a.m.,

Road Contractor Michael Browne.

The following report of the County Surveyor was referred from the Finance & Roads Committee to the Co Council for disposal:-

"Sometime ago I directed a Notice to be served on Mr Michael Browne, Contractor for Road No. 3W, and Mr Doyle, Assistant Surveyor, reported to me that the Contractor was not carrying out the work. I thereupon made arrangements with another man to undertake the job and notified Mr Browne. Mr Browne stated he was carrying out the work, and accordingly with Mr Doyle I inspected the road on the 27th inst., subsequently in my office I informed Mr Browne, that I was not satisfied with the way the work was being done and that I considered it was necessary to get another person to do it, and that if any payment were due to him on account of material I would adjust this. Mr Browne thereupon stated that he would not allow anyone to touch the material until he was paid and that he would shoot anyone who came on the road.

following resolution was adopted:-

"That Mr Michael Browne, Commercial Quay, Wexford, contractor for Road No 3W, be informed that if he interferes with any person employed by the County Surveyor or the County Council, to carry out any work on this road the County Council will direct legal proceedings be instituted against him."

Wages of Foreman-Tara Hill Quarry.

At the Meeting of the County Council on 3rd October 1917, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the application of Mr John Lannen, foreman, Tara Hill Quarry, for an increase in his salary of £1. 2. 6d be adjourned until Tara Hill Quarry is again in full working order."

The County Surveyor stated that the Quarry was not in full working order.

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

"That the wages of John Lannen, foreman Tara Hill Quarry, be fixed at £1. 7. 6d per week, being an increase of 5/- per week, as from the date of this meeting."

University Scholarship Scheme.

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

"That the balance of £8. 0. 6d standing to credit of Thomas J. O'Rourke on his first year's University Scholarship be paid, as he had joined H. M. Forces before the completion of his first year, and has been granted by the University Authorities his first year's Engineering Examination.

That Mr James O'Connor, who joined H. M. Forces, before completion of his first year's course be paid the balance of £8. 10/- standing to his credit in Scholarship fund for that year."

RECOMMENDATIONS FINANCE & ROADS COMMITTEE.

Tara Hill Quarry:- "That Mr McCabe, D. C., Inch, Gorey, be allowed to obtain from Tara Hill Quarry, ten tons of screenings and broken stones (mixed) provided the County Surveyor does not require these for road maintenance."

"Confirmed on the motion of Mr Kehoe, seconded by the Chairman."

County Council Quarries:- "That Mr Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor, furnish to the meeting of the Finance & Roads Committee, to be held on 5th December 1917, a list of the County Council Quarries, and any others, which are at present worked under his control, with the amount of material required from each quarry for one year, with a statement of the expenditure on each quarry, and the working conditions pertaining to each, with his observations thereon."

"Postponed to the next meeting to allow of attendance of Mr Cowman."

Extraordinary Traffic:- On the motion of Mr Kehoe, seconded by the Chairman, the following recommendation was adopted:-

"That the question of proceeding against persons under the Public Bodies (Ireland) Act 1911, in respect of extraordinary traffic over and above ordinary commercial traffic be left in the hands of the County Surveyor."

Wexford Bridge Motor Traffic:- On the motion of Mr Kehoe, seconded by the Chairman, the following recommendation was confirmed:-

"That Mr Philip Duff (Duff Bros., Wexford) be informed that in view of the opinion of the County Surveyor, and owing to the fact of the existing by-laws it is impossible for the Finance Committee to recommend the County Council to accede to his request to allow a laden motor lorry to cross Wexford Bridge.

That a reprint of the By-laws be obtained by the County Surveyor and be posted at each end of the Bridge, and that same be advertised in the local papers."

Increases Salaries-Co Council Staff:- On the motion of Mr Stafford, seconded by Mr Kehoe, the following recommendation was adopted:-

"That the salary of Mr J. H. Cadogan, Assistant in County Council Office, be increased from £52 to £65 per annum, as from the date of this meeting."

"That the salary of Mr C. H. Richards, Co Council Staff, be increased from £104 to £117 per annum, as from the date of this meeting."

"That the salary of Mr M. J. O'Leary, Clerk to County Surveyor, be increased by 2/6 per week, as from date of present meeting, provided he commence work at 9 a.m., each morning, instead of at 10 a.m., as at present."

Wexford Bridge & Admiralty:- The following recommendation of the

Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr Kehoe, seconded by the Chairman:-

"That the Admiralty be allowed to use Draw Arch of Wexford Bridge but that they be informed that as it has been very infrequently opened it is not in proper order."

"That the Admiralty be also allowed to run water pipes along the Bridge as per their application to the County Surveyor."

Waterford & Duncannon Steamship Co. :- The following recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee, was confirmed on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Kehoe:-

"That Mr C. J. Furlong, Kileloggan, Fethard, and Mr M. Cloney M.C., C. Dungulph, be requested to state if there is any prospect of a new Company for provision of a Steamship service between Duncannon and Waterford being formed in the near future, otherwise the County Council would endeavour to avoid the risk of leaving the Hulk at her present station during the storms of the coming Winter."

"That the Waterford & Duncannon Steamship Co., be requested to inform this Council as to the position of the waterford & Duncannon Steamship service, and if they propose to continue said service. This Council has spent close on £2,000 in repairing the Hulk during the last few years to facilitate their trade, and consider the service should not have been discontinued without the Council being informed of such fact."

Storage of Gellignite:- The following recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Kehoe:-

"That the County Surveyor be empowered to have a magazine for storing of explosives constructed at the premises of Mr G. B. Cooke, Main Street, Wexford, cost not to exceed £5."

Market Square, Gorey:- The following recommendation was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Kehoe:-

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to repair Market Square in Gorey."

New Stonebreaker-Claim against Makers:- The following recommendation was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Kehoe:-

"That the claim of the County Council for loss caused them by defect in Stonebreaker supplied by Messrs Goodwin Barsby & Co., be referred to

Mr Elgee, Solicitor, to report to next Finance & Roads Committee Meeting."

Mileage allowance-Mr Treanor:- The following recommendation was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Kehoe:-

"That Mr Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor, be paid a sum of £9. 0. 3d for mileage allowance to 30th September 1917."

Flooding at Ballybro:- The following recommendation was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Kehoe:-

"That Councillors Stafford, Kehoe, Keating, James Codd, and M. Doyle be appointed a Committee, with the County Surveyor and County Solicitor, to interview Mr T. Newenham, Manager of the Sloblands, as to the flooding of Ballybro, and point out to him that this flooding cannot be obviated unless the necessary drainage on the Slob be carried out, and that they endeavour to induce Mr Newenham to arrange to have this done."

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(Signed) _____

Presiding Chairman.

Dated this 6th day of February. 1918.

SPECIAL MEETING.- 19th DECEMBER 1917

A Special Meeting of the Wexford County Council, was held in the County Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford, on 19th December 1917.

Present:- Mr Michael Doyle (Vice-Chairman) presiding.

Also:- Messrs M. Maddock, L. Barry, R. Scallan, P. Keating, N. J. Cowman, W. Thorpe, J. J. O'Byrne, P. Whelan, P. O'Neill, J. J. Stafford, M. Lynch, J. T. Mayler, J. J. Kehoe, M. Cloney, J. A. Doyle, James Codd, T. Asple, A. Kinsella, J. Redmond, .

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

Mr N. O'H. Walsh, Rate Collector.

Mr Cowman moved the following of which he had given previous notice:-

"That the question of considering the granting of a superannuation allowance to Mr O'H. Walsh, late Rate Collector, (who is over 65 years of age, and who has 30 years' service) be taken into consideration, and, in the event of the Council agreeing to the proposal to allow superannuation the amount be fixed, and that the Local Government Board be applied to for sanction to same."

Mr Kehoe seconded above resolution which was adopted.

The Secretary stated that the maximum superannuation to which Mr Walsh would be entitled was £75. 7. 5d.

The following recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee was adopted on the motion of Mr Kehoe, seconded by Mr Lynch:-

"That Mr O'H. Walsh be granted a superannuation allowance of £50 per annum, as from the date of his resignation."

Appointment of Rate Collector.

For the position of Rate Collector for No. 1 Collection District, rendered vacant by the resignation of Mr N. O'H. Walsh, applications were received from the following:-

Browne, Philip, Bleachlands, Enniscorthy.

Healy, Patrick- Castlebridge.

Nolan, T. J- 6 Clifford Street, Wexford.

O'Byrne, P. F- Commercial Quay, Wexford.

Quirke, James- Hayestown, Murrintown.

Ryan, John A- Ballygoman, Barntown.

All the Candidates were present except Mr Healy.

Mr Elgee stated that in his opinion as Mr Healy had not ceased to be a member of Wexford Rural District Council for a period of six months, he was ineligible for election.

It was decided that a poll be taken without any proposition.

The following was the result of the first Poll:-

For Browne:- Messrs Barry, Kinsella, Asple, and the Chairman.- 4.

For O'Byrne:- Messrs Thorpe, O'Byrne, Whelan, Stafford, Cloney, and J. A. Doyle.-5.

For Quirke:- Messrs Kehoe, J. Codd, Redmond, and Scallan.-4

For Ryan:- Messrs Maddock, Keating, Cowman, O'Neill, Lynch, and Mayler.-6.

A vote was then taken as between Browne and Quirke, as to which of them would remain in the running.

The following was the result:-

For Browne:- Messrs Barry, Keating, Cowman, Thorpe, O'Byrne, Whelan, Kinsella, Mayler, Cloney, J. A. Doyle, Asple, and the Chairman.-12.

For Quirke:- Messrs O'Neill, Stafford, Lynch, Kehoe, James Codd, ^{Redmond} and Scallan.- 7.

Mr Maddock did not vote.-

Mr Browne then remained in and a voting was taken as between Browne, O'Byrne, and Ryan.

The result was as follows:-

For Browne:- Messrs Barry, Redmond, Asple, Scallan, and the Chairman.-5.

For O'Byrne:- Messrs Thorpe, O'Byrne, Whelan, Stafford, Cloney, J.A. Doyle.- 6.

For Ryan:- Messrs Maddock, Keating, Cowman, Kinsella, O'Neill, Lynch, Mayler, Kehoe, and James Codd.-9.

Mr Browne then fell out and the final poll was taken between O'Byrne and Ryan, with the following result:-

For Ryan:- Messrs Maddock, Barry, Keating, Cowman, Kinsella, O'Neill, Lynch, Mayler, Kehoe, James Codd, Redmond, and Asple.-12.

For O'Byrne:- Messrs Thorpe, O'Byrne, Whelan, Stafford, Cloney, J. A. Doyle, Scallan, and the Chairman.- 8.

The Chairman declared Mr Ryan elected.

Mr Ryan returned thanks for his election.

Motor Car Act.

Mr Thorpe moved the following of which he had given previous Notice-

"That Mr C.H. Richards, be allowed his travelling expenses from the fines recovered under the Motor Car Acts."

Mr O'Byrne seconded.

Passed.

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

"That Mr C. H. Richards, Assistant in County Council Office, be allowed his locomotion expenses, viz:-Railway fare and Car hire in connection with prosecutions instituted by him on behalf of the Council under the Motor Car Acts."

"Confirmed on the motion of Mr Lynch, seconded by Mr Kehoe."

Assistant Surveyor Paddle.

The adjourned application for increase of salary from Mr T. Paddle, Assistant Surveyor, Gorey, was considered.

The following recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr Maddock, seconded by Mr Lynch:-

"That the application of Mr Paddle, Assistant Surveyor, for increase in his salary be refused."

Application Increase of Salary-P. Byrne, Tara Hill Quarry.

The following application for increase of salary was read from Mr P. Byrne, blacksmith, Tara Hill Quarry:-

"I beg to lay before you my application again for an increase from my present rate of 28/- which I think you know yourself is very little now considering the enormous cost of living. I am in your employ for 10 years and always did my work independant of anyone, so now I leave it to your own kind consideration.

Thanking you in anticipation of a favourable reply."

On the motion of Mr Kehoe, seconded by Mr Stafford, the following recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed--

"That the salary of Mr Byrne, blacksmith Tara Hill Quarry, be increased from 28/- to 32/- per week, from date of present meeting."

Application-Mr O'Leary, Clerk to County Surveyor.

Mr M. J. O'Leary, Clerk to County Surveyor, wrote under date 13th

December 1917, that he was asking the Finance Committee to re-consider his application for increase of salary, and to grant him the same increase as was given Messrs Richards and Cadogan. He stated, he was asking the Finance Committee to allow him to be present at the meeting to arrange the question of the hours of his attendance, etc.,

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

"That we consider Mr O'Leary (Clerk in the Office of the County Surveyor) would be well advised to accept the salary granted to him at last meeting of the Council, and attend in his office at nine a.m., each morning. That he be not heard at the present Meeting."

Wexford Bridge.

The County Surveyor mentioned that Motor Lorries had been passing over this bridge and that it would not be able to stand the strain as some of the meeting rails had been shifted on account of this traffic. The bridge was perfectly safe for ordinary traffic, but would not take traffic of 3 or 4 tons such as these lorries.

"It was decided that the matter be left in the hands of the County Surveyor, and that no action be taken by the Council."

Caretaker-Duncannon Hulk.

The County Surveyor submitted an application from the Caretaker, Duncannon Hulk, for payment of £2. 16/- for cleaning the Slip at Duncannon for 14 months.

The County Surveyor mentioned that this was extra work, and was not included in the ordinary duties of the Caretaker. The cleaning was absolutely necessary and was carried out by the instructions of the Council, as otherwise people using the place would be likely to be thrown into the water. The lime for the purpose was supplied by the County Council.

The Finance & Roads Committee submitted the following recommendation

"That Laurence Monahan, Caretaker Duncannon Hulk, be allowed 1/- per week as from 1st July 1917, for cleaning slip at Duncannon, and so long as steamboat service to Waterford is continued."

"Confirmed on the motion of Mr Stafford, seconded by Mr Lynch."

The following letter from Mr A. J. Stephens, to the County

Surveyor was read:-

"I wired you this morning stating the Hulk had broken away and sunk at back of Pier, but find my Wire did not get through up to time of writing. I examined Hulk at low water to-day, and could only find about three places where water was getting in, and if I could get at her at once there is every chance of floating her into Dock. I wired Capt Farrell asking him if he could let me have a couple of pumps when I am sure I could get it fine I would be able to float her. The stage is smashed up and every chain parted except one which held her into back of pier, when grounding she holed herself, and then filled on the rising tide."

On the motion of Mr Cloney, seconded by Mr Thorpe, the following recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed:-

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to have the Hulk at Duncannon lifted and secured in a place of safety at once."

Resignation-Sir C. Cameron.

Under date 10th December 1917, the following letter was read from Sir C. Cameron, County Analyst:-

"Since my last letter I have looked into my books and am amazed at the number of analyses which I make for you.

In the year ending 30th September 1917, it amounted to 567. As my salary is £30 a year the fee for each analysis was 1/1 to pay for chemical apparatus and reagents, stamps and stationery and skilled professional work.

The average fee for an analysis by a private analyst is a guinea. When in a legal case the analysis of a Public Analyst is disputed, the Magistrates sometimes direct a sample of Milk or butter to be sent to the Government Laboratory, London. The charge for analysis is a guinea.

When a public analyst has a salary, he is obliged to perform analyses for the Public at 10/6 per sample. In England the Public Analysts have between salary and fees about £1 per analysis.

Water is very often analysed for County Authorities, Rural Councils, and a chemical largely used in the analysis namely permanganate of potash, has increased in price to 300 per cent, 1/1 does not pay for the chemicals and apparatus used.

Under these circumstances I must ask you to get some Analyst if you can, who will accept a fee of thirteen pence per analyses. Until you make a new appointment I am willing to act pro tem."

On the motion of Mr Scallan, seconded by Mr Maddock, the following recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed:—

"That the resignation of Sir Charles Cameron be accepted, and that the County Council be recommended to advertise for an analyst at a salary of £30."

Cherryorchard Quarry.

Under date 29th November 1917, Mr George Sharpe, wrote that having disposed of his farm and quarry at Cherryorchard, and having made a roadway into same at considerable expense, he applied for £40 for workmanship on same. It would have cost the Council considerably more if they had executed the work themselves.

Under date 1st December 1917, the following letter was also read from Mr George Sharpe:—

"Your County Council offered me an increase of 4d per cubic yard for the preparation of road material from Cherryorchard quarry. I offered to do it at 6d which price they could not see their way to give, and having prepared a considerable amount, I beg to make application for the fourpence allowed.

Kindly lay the matter before your County Council. Hoping it will receive their kind consideration."

The Finance & Roads Committee made the following recommendations--

"That the application by Mr Sharpe for £40 for roadway into Cherryorchard Quarry be refused."

"That the application from Mr Sharpe for payment for road material be adjourned for Mr Barry to ascertain the amount to which Mr Sharpe would be entitled at 4d extra per cubic yard."

"Confirmed on the motion of Mr Stafford, seconded by Mr Lynch."

Bonds for War Bonus-Road Contractors.

In connection with the question of obtaining bonds from Road Contractors who have been granted War Bonus the following letter under date 15th December 1917, was read from Mr R. W. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council:—

"I duly received your letter of the 6th inst., with Resolution of the County Council passed on the 5th inst., relative to the question as to whether it would be necessary to have New Contracts entered into in all cases of payment of War Bonus Grants to Road Contractors.

I have now considered the correspondence with the Local Government Board on the matter, which you sent me, and I am of opinion, that, having regard to the fact that the Bonus will only be payable to contractors who have carried out their work to the entire satisfaction of the County Surveyor, and on his Certificate, it will only be necessary for the Co. Council, to enter into New Contracts, in such cases as the County Surveyor has certified that the work has been completed to his satisfaction.

These New Contracts must however be completed before the Council make any payments to Contractors who become entitled to the Bonus.

As to the Legal position of the Council with regard to those Contractors, who do not become entitled to the Bonus, I consider that the Council are amply protected by the existing Contracts, because if proceedings have to be taken against any Contractor, this implies, that he has not carried out his work to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor, and consequently is not entitled to the Bonus, and the existing contract and bond will still be in full force and effect."

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

"That the Secretary be instructed to have Mr Elgee's advice regarding preparation of bonds in connection with War Bonus for road contractors carried out."

Rate Collection.

The Secretary submitted the state of the Rate Collection.

"The following recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr Stafford, seconded by Mr Whelan:-

That our Secretary call the attention of any Collector who has not lodged at least 10% of his collection to the fact that he is not in the opinion of the Committee performing his duties satisfactorily.

That Collectors Doyle and Mullett be informed that unless they see their way in the future to apply the resolution adopted as regards lodgments of the first moiety, viz:- 20% in the first month, and 40% in the first three months, to the second moiety, the County Council will be recommended to dispense with their services.

That Collector Doyle be informed that unless he shows considerable improvement in his Collection by next meeting the Council will be recommended to call for his resignation."

Postal Arrangements-South Wexford.

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

"That we the Members of the Wexford County Council protest against the proposed withdrawal of the afternoon postal service which leaves Waterford by the 2.35 p.m., train for Wexford for those portions of Wexford in Waterford postal area including Campile, Ballycullane, Fethard, Arthurstown etc., We consider such withdrawal injurious to the interests of the various classes in the district and will seriously hamper the successful carrying on of the agricultural industry-so important at this crisis. We request the Postmaster General to continue the afternoon postal service.

That copies be sent to Postmaster General etc.,"

Xmas Holidays.

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

"That the County Staff be granted Xmas holidays for week ended 29th December 1917."

Prosecution-Road Contractor.

The following under date 14th December 1917, was read from Mr R. W. Elgee, Solicitor to the County Council, relative to prosecution of Mr Richard O'Connor, Waddingtown, Taghmon, Contractor for Roads 20W, 110W, and 161W:-

"I beg to report, that as directed by the County Surveyor pursuant to instructions from the County Council, I had Summonses served in the above cases for neglect and inattention to the above roads by Richard O'Connor the Contractor.

The Summonses were heard at Taghmon Petty Sessions yesterday, when same were dismissed by the Magistrates with 15/- Costs in each case on the ground, that as the deficiency in the Material placed on the Roads was caused by the fact, that the County Council did not supply the Contractor with the Material out of Ballyconnick Quarry (which was the Quarry mentioned in the Specification) and he could not be held responsible for the shortage.

I may add that the Magistrates expressed the opinion, that under the circumstances the Summonses should not have been brought."

Enniscorthy R. D. School Attendance Committee.

At the meeting of the County Council on 5th December 1917, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the resolution of Enniscorthy R. D. School Attendance Committee re granting War Bonus to their Officials be referred to the Enniscorthy R. D. Council for their observations, as any War Bonus which may be granted will constitute a charge on the Rural District."

"Adjourned pending receipt of recommendations of the Enniscorthy Rural District Council."

Maintenance of Live Stock (Ireland) Order of 1917.

The Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction under date 15th October 1917, forwarded above Order prohibiting the slaughter or exportation of any in-calf animals from 18th October 1917.

"No Order"

Application for Material from Quarries.

Messrs David Bolger & Sons, wrote applying for about 15 or 20 loads of road metalling for their yard from Doran's Hill or Carrigeen Quarry.

Mr Barry Walker, Latimerstown, Wexford, wrote applying for 20 cubic yards of material from Kerlogue Quarry.

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

"That applications for material from County Council Quarries be dealt with by the County Surveyor."

Waterford & Duncannon Steamboat Service.

Under date 11th December 1917, the following letter was read from the Secretary, Waterford & Duncannon Steamboat Co.:-

"I beg to inform you that your letters of the 6th and 8th inst., were placed before my Directors at a Board Meeting held to-day when the question of the Steamboat Service was before them for consideration. The Directors, however, came to no decision, the matter having been adjourned till the next Board Meeting which will be held early in January.

I have been requested to inform you that at the present time the Service is being maintained at a heavy loss to this Company."

The following letter under date 7th December 1917, from Mr C. Furlong, Killogan Castle, Fethard-on-Sea, was read:-

"Your letter of the 6th inst., with reference to Duncannon Steamship Service to hand, I am not in a position at present to give you a definite reply. Negotiations are on foot with a view to keeping the Steamer on the station. If these are successful the steamer will be retained if not, she will I believe be sold. When I know the result of the negotiations I will let you know, but in the meantime I hope your Council will not take any steps to remove the Hulk from Duncannon."

"No Order"

Motor Traffic on Public Roads.

The following resolution was read from Adamstown Farmers Society:-

"That we consider that the increasing traffic on the public roads by the use of Motor lorries and Steam tractors for drawing timber, corn, coal, etc., is causing serious damage both to the roads and bridges of our County, and is consequently a severe burden to the Ratepayers and road contractors, we therefore believe that steps should be taken to impose a reasonable sum on the owners of these machines by way of compensation."

"No Order"

De-afforestation.

The following resolution was read from Adamstown Farmers Society:-

"In consequence of the large number of Estates in the County Wexford off which the timber has been sold with the consequent result that the property has very much deterioration in value the following resolution was unanimously passed at the last meeting of Adamstown Farmers' Society:- That we view with alarm the action of certain tenants on Estates throughout the County in selling the timber in huge quantities off their farms thus reducing its value and in view of the fact that all Estates purchased under the Land Acts where deficiencies occur in payments to the Commissioners the remaining tenants will be obliged to make good such deficiencies to their own annual payments, we consider some action should be taken by the Estates Commissioners to have such destruction as already exists to our groves and plantations stopped both as a matter of justice to the other tenants on such estates and to retain the picturesque scenery which our woods and plantations afford."

"Adopted on the motion of Mr Maddock, seconded by Mr Whelan."

Treatment of Insured Etc., Persons.

A series of resolutions was received from Co. Waterford

Insurance Committee, and Waterford County Tuberculosis Committee, as to provision of special nourishment for Insured and Exempt persons, and as to the Local Government Board coming to an agreement with the Medical Profession as to the services which they should render and remuneration they should receive in connection with the working of the Tuberculosis Act.

"No Order".

Agricultural & Technical Instruction Schemes.

The following resolution was read from Co. Cavan Committee of Agriculture & Technical Instruction:-

"That in view of the fact that the Educational Schemes of this Committee are in great danger of being seriously hampered through lack of funds, our credit balance under the present arrangement with the Department, being rapidly consumed. We demand from the Treasury equal comparative treatment to that extended to similar educational work in England, by, immediate financial relief to the Department and County Committees of Agriculture towards the conduct and extension of their joint work, which under the present outlook, is of most vital consequence to this Country."

"Adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr James Codd."

Advanced Cases of Tuberculosis.

A resolution was read from Kerry Co Insurance Committee requesting the Government to provide a grant for the provision of suitable Institutions for the treatment of advanced cases of tuberculosis, and also to take effective steps to improve housing conditions of the working classes, so as to give the efforts which were being made in the fight against Tuberculosis a fair chance."

"No Order".

Housing Accommodation for Working Classes.

A resolution was read from the Limerick City Housing Committee calling upon the Government to provide a sufficient sum of money free of Interest to finance the necessary building schemes for the housing of the ~~Irish~~ working classes also to prevent inflation of the price of land in the vicinity of Cities. Also, that all Public Bodies concerned should devise plans, and estimates covering probable cost of dealing with the housing problem in their area on the lines abovementioned."

"Adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Cloney."

(Signed)

John Bolger
Presiding Chairman.

Dated this 6th day of February 1918.