

Statutable Quarterly meeting - 9th February 1909.

The Statutable Quarterly meeting of the Co. Council was held in the Council Chamber, Bowthouse, Wexford on 9th February 1909.

Present:- Mr. E. Hore, vice Chairman, presiding.
Other members:- Messrs P. Fortune, J. E. Mayler, M. Browne, P. O'Neill, John Bolger, J. Cummins, Thomas Asple, Mark Codd, Denis Kavanagh, J. S. Hearn, M. Doyle, C. H. Peacocke, Walter Forrestal, J. J. Stafford, John J. Kehoe, P. J. Fanning, M. A. Ennis, and James Codd.

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

Confirmation of minutes.

The Minutes of last meeting and of Special meeting of 30th December, were read and confirmed.

Vote of Condolence.

On the motion of Mr. Peacocke, seconded by Mr. Ennis, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That we offer to our Chairman, Sir J. H. G. Esmonde, our sincere condolence in the loss which he has sustained by the demise of his brother, Capt. Walter Esmonde, and that we direct our Secretary to convey this expression of our sympathy to Sir Thomas Esmonde."

Rates 1909-10.

On the motion of Mr. Peacocke, seconded by Mr. Cummins the following resolution was adopted:-

"That we hereby adopt the estimate of our Secretary for Rates for General and separate charges for the financial year 1909-10. (as already agreed to by the Finance Committee) and determine the Rates in the £ to be levied off the several districts of the County for General Rates as follows:-

	Land	Buildings.
Enniscorthy	1/11	3/8.

	Land.	Buildings.
Gorey...	1/11	3/4
New Ross...	2/8	4/6
Wexford	1/8	3/3.

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

Enniscorthy	£ 1044 : 6 : 1.
New Ross	1246 : 16 : 8
Wexford	1955 : 19 : 2.

The following letter under date 6th February 1909. No. 18,771: '09, miscellaneous; from the Local Government Board, was read:-

"With reference to the preparation of your estimate to provide for the expenditure of the County during the next financial year in connection with liability for land purchase, I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland, to inform you that they have now been furnished with a copy of a certificate of the Commissioners of National Debt, from which it appears that the sums withdrawn from the Guarantee Fund during last year under Section 29 of the Land Act of 1903 amounted to £1,139: 19: 2, and consequently this sum will be deducted from the Grants payable to Co. Council during the current financial year on account of "insufficiency of income."

In reference to the arrears in purchase annuities under the Acts of 1891 and 1896; the Board have been informed that they may be regarded as inconsiderable, but no precise information can be forthcoming for nearly another month with respect to the similar arrears under the Act of 1903. During the year ended in 1908, however, the withdrawal from the guarantee fund on account of such arrears exceeded the repayment thereto by £587: 17: 3, and this sum, which may be regarded as an approximate measure of the county liability in the matter, when added to the sums mentioned in the first paragraph of this communication gives a total of £1,674: 16: 5.

So far as the Board can ascertain, the foregoing

information is the best that can be obtained at the present time."

Notices of motion.

Transfer of Insurances.

Mr. Ennis moved: - "That the County Council transfer its fire insurances to the Hibernian Insurance Company from date of the maturing of the premiums."

Mr. B. H. Peacocke seconded.

Mr. Bolger proposed that the question be postponed for one year.

Mr. Hearn seconded.

A poll was taken with the following result: -
For the amendment: - Messrs Mayler, Hearn, Stafford, Bolger and Mr. Codd. ... 5.

Against: - Messrs J. Codd, Orrell, Browne, Ennis, Peacocke, Kehoe, Fanning, Doyle, Fortune, Asple, Cummins, Forrestal, and the Chairman... 13.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost, and the resolution was then put and passed.

University Scholarships.

Mr. M. Browne served notice of motion to move the following: - "That in deference to the wishes of the vast majority of the Ratepayers of this County, the further consideration of the question of County Scholarships for the National University be postponed, until such time as the Senate of the University deems it expedient to make the Irish Language and Irish History essential subjects for entrance examinations and for after studies in the University."

Mr. Browne on permission of the meeting altered his resolution to read as follows: - "That in deference to the wishes of the vast majority of the Ratepayers of this County the further consideration of the question of County Scholarships for the National University be postponed until such time as the Senate of the University deems it expedient to make the Irish Language an essential subject for entrance examinations, and the Irish Language and Irish History essential for after studies in the University."

Mr. Asple seconded.

Mr. Ennis as an amendment proposed and the chairman seconded the following:-

"That this Council agrees to defer striking a rate in aid of the University Scholarships sanctioned by resolution of the Council, until the Senate of the National University of Ireland shall have formulated regulations whereby the Irish Language will become a compulsory subject for matriculation in the University, within a period not exceeding three years from this date."

A poll was taken with the following result:-
For the amendment:- Messrs Mayler, Hearn, James Codd, O'Neill, Ennis, Doyle, M. Codd, and the Chairman. - 8.

Against:- Messrs Stafford, John Bolger, Browne, Peacocke, Kehoe, Fanning, Fortune, Asple, Cummins, Forrestal. . . 10.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost and the resolution was then put, and passed *unanimously*.

Contractors not appearing.

The following motion of which previous notice was given was to have been moved by Mr. Asple:-

"That any Road Contractors who do not answer to their names when tendering for works under the County or District Councils will be disqualified for tendering for County and District works in future."

Mr. Asple altered his notice of motion to read as follows:- "That any Road or other Contractors who, without just or reasonable excuse, do not answer to their names when tendering for works under the Co. Council will be disqualified from tendering for public works in future, and we recommend the Rural District Councils of the County to adopt a similar resolution."

Mr. Fanning seconded the resolution which was adopted.

The Grand Jury System.

The following motion of which previous notice had

been given was moved by Mr. Peacocke. :- "That if in the altered circumstances of this country, it is considered advisable to continue Grand jurors, we invite our members of Parliament to take such action as they consider expedient to have the present system of calling Grand jurors altered so that the highest rated ratepayers should be those from whom Grand jurors should be called."

Mr. Kehoe seconded the resolution which was adopted.

Day of Statutable meetings.

The following motion of which previous notice had been given was moved by Mr. M. Doyle:-

"That the day for holding the quarterly and half-yearly meetings of the Council be changed to Wednesday."

The resolution was seconded by Mr. John Bolger and adopted. Change not to apply to next Statutable meeting of the County Council date of which has ^{been} already agreed to.

The Late Mrs. Pigott.

With reference to the vote of condolence passed by the Council in connection with the death of Mrs. Pigott, Mrs. R. W. Elger (Jnr.) Pearmount, Wygram Place, Wexford, wrote under date 3rd December 1908:-

"Would you please convey to your Council my sincere thanks for the vote of sympathy passed by them to my sisters and myself on the occasion of our recent great loss by the death of our dear mother. Thanking you also for your own expression of sympathy."

Mr. Geo. H. Scott, 3 Willoughby Place, Enniskillen, wrote under date 4th December 1908:- "On behalf of my wife - Mrs. Scott. I would ask you to convey to Mr. Ennis, Mr. Peacocke, and the other members of the Co. Council her sincere thanks for their expression of sympathy in the loss of her mother. She also asks me to thank you, yourself for your kind appreciation in her great trouble."

Mr. Chambers, Provincial Bank House, Wexford;

wrote under date 11th December 1908 :-

"Kindly convey to the members of the Council my best thanks for their vote of sympathy on my recent bereavement so kindly expressed by Mr. Ennis and Mr. Peacocke. I take the opportunity for informing the Council how deeply my dear mother appreciated the unvarying kindness and consideration so consistently shown by them, to my late Father in the last trying years of his life, where such consideration went so far in making those years less painful than they might have been.

My family's connection with the Council has always been one of most pleasant memories to which the resolution above referred to is a graceful and fitting conclusion.

Thanking you for your personal expression of condolence."

On the motion of the Chairman these letters were ordered to be inserted on the minutes.

Sanction of Proposals.

On the motion of Mr. Ennis, seconded by Mr. Peacocke the following resolution was adopted :-

"That the several proposals for payment and as regards public works sent up by the Proposal Committee be adopted subject to the modifications noted thereon and initialled by the Chairman."

On the motion of Mr. Ennis, seconded by Mr. Kehoe the following resolution was adopted: "That we approve of proposals nos 93, and 94, for expenditure of £100 for Mountgarrett Bridge, and £70 for new Ross Bridge. Works to be given in charge of the County Surveyor."

Proposed Bacon Factory.

The following resolution adopted at a meeting of joint committee of Co. Council, and North Wexford Farmers Society held on 3rd February was submitted to the meeting :-

"That the attempt now being made by the Farmers Societies of Wexford to establish a bacon factory and dead meat trade should be supported by the

Department of Agriculture, and a special grant of money be made to defray the preliminary and organizing expenses which otherwise must be borne by private individuals, for doing a public work, and that the Co. Council be requested to use its influence with the Department to come to the assistance of the Wexford Farmers Societies with a substantial grant for developing these projects."

adjourned to meeting of 17th instant."

Advertising of Co. Council Etc.,

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Peacocke, seconded by Mr. Kehoe:— "That we approve of the proposal of the Proposal Committee to accept the tenders of "The People" and "Echo" newspapers, for the advertising of the County Council, all committees of the County Council, the offices of the Clerk of the Crown Peace, and the County Surveyor, at £90 per annum for one year for each paper, and we recommend the Proposal Committee at next meeting to adopt notice of motion which will be moved by Mr. Ennis that the tender of the Free Press, for performance of similar work at £90 per annum for one year be accepted."

Local Inquiry - Slaney Bridges.

Under date 3rd February the following letter no. 5142-19, was read from the Local Government Board:—

Sir

I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland, to state for the information of the Wexford County Council, that they have had under consideration the minutes of evidence taken at the Inquiry held by their Chief Engineering Inspector, Mr. P. C. Cowan, on the 30th September last, with regard to the alleged defective condition of certain bridges in County Wexford, together with the Inspector's report thereon.

The Board desire to briefly refer to the circumstances which led to the Inquiry. It appears from the evidence that the County Secretary was informed in August last, that the Deep's Bridge was dangerous for traffic, and that on the 13th August a horse belonging

to Colonel Walker had put his hind legs through one of the planks of this bridge and made a large hole. Two special meetings of the County Council were held to consider the matter, and they appointed a Committee to visit and report on the condition of the Deeps and Ferrycarrig Bridges. The Committee visited these bridges and they reported that as regards Deeps Bridge all the planks in the opening span - forty six in number - were unsound, and they invited the attention of the County Council to upwards of twenty planks taken from the bridge which they caused to be piled outside the fourthouse, to show the condition of the timber. They further added that with regard to the substructure of the bridge, while there did not appear to be defects sufficient to cause actual danger, a considerable outlay seemed to be necessary to put the bridge in that efficient and serviceable condition in which they considered the Council would desire to maintain the County works.

With regard to Ferrycarrig Bridge, the Committee reported that it revealed such a state of decay and unsoundness, especially in the planking of the carriage-way and footpath, as to make the statement of Assistant Surveyor Brennan, that the bridge was safe for traffic within the two months preceding their inspection, incredible. Sixteen planks taken from Ferrycarrig Bridge were also placed outside the fourthouse for the inspection of the County Council. So dangerous did the Committee consider the state of this bridge, that unless they had been able to arrange for its immediate repair they would have taken the responsibility of closing the bridge. In their opinion the unsatisfactory state of the bridge was not due to defects in the specification, which appears to be fairly satisfactory, if reasonable attempts at carrying it out, had been made by the contractor and if the conditions thereof had been enforced by the County Surveyor. The substructure also appeared to need considerable repairs.

The Committee made certain recommendations in reference to the thorough repair of the Deeps and Ferrycarrig Bridges, and in conclusion they

drew attention to what appeared to be one of the underlying causes of the extraordinary state of disrepair into which the Ferrycarig Bridge had been allowed to fall, namely, the extreme economy practised which they submitted was economy of a type likely to prove eventually extremely expensive. The figures for the period from March, 1901 to the 8th August, 1908, are as follows with regard to this bridge:-

Amount estimated in March 1901 as being necessary to put the bridge in good repair.	£ 500 : 0 : 0
Cost of annual maintenance £200 a year for 7 years	£1400 : 0 : 0.

£1900 : 0 : 0

Amount actually expended in the period from March 1901 to August 1908	£660 : 0 : 0
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And the Committee added that in their opinion it was the first duty of a public body to keep the works in their control in good and sufficient repair for the purpose for which they were designed to serve.

This report was adopted by the County Council who, in addition to employing an expert to inspect the bridges, asked for a sworn inquiry to fix the responsibility for the condition of the bridges over the Slaney.

The accuracy of the report of the Committee was fully borne out by the evidence taken at the inquiry, and the contention of the County Council that it was the fault of the County Surveyor that they were not in the proper condition they should have been, appears to be justified.

Mr Cowan, who inspected the bridges prior to the Inquiry reports as follows:-

"Taking them in their order down the river from Enniscorthy, their condition at the time of the Inquiry was as undernoted:-

"(1) Bdermine Bridge. A number of planks in the drawbridge floor were partly rotten, and I had no difficulty in passing a small penknife through the three-inch planking near the edges

" but leaving wood all round the hole.

" This is a comparatively new bridge built in 1897-8,
 " the roadway over it is macadam except at the
 " short opening span. The substructure appeared to
 " be in a sound condition so far as a somewhat
 " superficial examination enabled me to judge. No
 " complaint was specially made as to the condition
 " of this bridge, but the resolution of the County
 " Council refers to all the bridges over the Slaney,
 " between Enniscorthy and Wexford. Repairs recently
 " made on planked floor have not been carried
 " out in accordance with the specification. Defective
 " planks have been patched and not replaced

" (2) Deeps Bridge. The evidence clearly shows
 " that the timber flooring of the opening span of this
 " bridge was not carefully maintained in good order,
 " and the evidence of Sergeant Maher and other
 " witnesses is convincing as to its unsafe con-
 " dition in the month of August, 1908

" The Deeps bridge like the Edermine Bridge
 " has a macadam roadway, except over the draw
 " bridge or opening span. The substructure of
 " the bridge, including the piles, caps, and braces
 " is not in a sound condition, and requires ex-
 " tensive renewals and repairs. When I inspected
 " the bridge on the 29th September, 1908, I found new
 " planking had been laid over the whole of the
 " opening span, but that some of the piles were
 " greatly decayed. I had no difficulty in kicking
 " away a large part of the head of a principal
 " pile at the opening span, pieces more than a
 " foot long and roughly, about four inches (square)
 " in cross section falling into the river.

" (3). Ferrycarrig Bridge. This bridge is en-
 " tirely constructed of timber and has a planked
 " deck or floor, on one side there is a footpath.
 " The decking is made with three inch planks which
 " are laid across the carriage-way, but lengthways
 " along the footpath.

" The evidence proves that the floor of this bridge
 " has not been carefully maintained for many
 " years, and that its condition was very unsound

"and unsafe in recent months. When I inspected
 "the bridge on 29th September, 1908. I found the
 "carriage-way generally in fair condition as
 "viewed from above, though there was a number
 "of very doubtful looking and worn planks in
 "it I had no means for lifting the planks. A
 "number of planks were not properly spiked down
 "and in consequence the spaces between them
 "were uneven and rather wide in places, so
 "that there was some risk to animals crossing
 "the bridge, especially sheep. Moreover the loose
 "planks were very noisy when vehicles passed
 "over them, and in some cases they were too
 "short. The spaces at their ends had been
 "clumsily covered by short pieces laid on top
 "of the floor. The wooden curbing of the foot-
 "path was decayed in several places, and a
 "number of the planks on it in very bad
 "condition. With the heel of my shoe I stamped
 "a hole through a plank and on stamping
 "on another plank it went to pieces and fell
 "into the river. The substructure of this bridge
 "including piles, caps, stringers and bracing
 "is in a better condition than the corresponding
 "parts of the Deeps Bridge, but there are some
 "defective timbers in it. The condition of the
 "floor of this bridge must have been very bad
 "in August, 1908, as since then, 80 new planks
 "have been laid down.

"(4) Wexford Bridge. This is a long
 "bridge with a roadway of macadam carried
 "on iron decking except at the opening
 "span where the roadway is formed with
 "three-inch planks. The roadway planking
 "was in fair order when I inspected it. The
 "substructure is of timber and has been very
 "heavily tarred, so that it is difficult to as-
 "certain its condition. I found a number of
 "decayed timbers near the opening span, which
 "should be carefully examined and made good
 "by renewals or repairs.

"The macadam on the roadway of the

"bridge has been allowed to wear down to a bad
 "flat shape (though the specification provides for
 "a convex surface and thickness of 8" of stones) so
 "that it does not readily discharge rain water
 "to the drainage openings at the sides This un-
 "doubtedly leads to deterioration of the superstructure,
 "and should be remedied as soon as possible.

"The condition of all the bridges was on
 "29th September discreditable to the County, and
 "evidently as regards the Ferrycarrig and Deeps
 "Bridges has frequently been dangerous for public
 "traffic.

Three of the four members of the committee gave evidence
 at the inquiry in support of their report to the County
 Council and pointed out that the County Surveyor had
 been requested to ask for more money from the County
 Council to put the bridges in order, but that Mr.
 Webster would not do this, and that the County Surveyor
 had never been refused any money he asked for the bridges.

The County Surveyor in his evidence stated that
 since his appointment in 1891, he had been in charge of
 these bridges, but that he had made no special report
 with regard to them.

He admitted that Mr. J. J. Ryan, who was appointed
 Assistant Surveyor, was contractor for Deeps Bridge at
 the time of his appointment and that the contract had
 not been broken although he (the County Surveyor) had
 taken up the contract on a ten days' notice, and
 that he subsequently wrote to Ryan's father that so long
 as he would carry out the work satisfactorily he (the
 County Surveyor) would let him have the bridge until
 the expiration of his son's contract (March 1909). Mr.
 Webster also admitted that he frequently threatened
 the contractors for the Deeps and Ferrycarrig Bridges
 with proceedings for their neglect to keep the bridges
 in repair, but that he had not reported them to the
 County Council, or taken proceedings against them.
 He stated that Assistant Surveyor Brennan was in charge
 of the bridges over the Slaney, but that he was not
 required to report on their condition, nor was the County
 Surveyor able to produce any reports as to their condition
 during the last seven years except correspondence.

He further deposed that he inspected the Deeps Bridge in July last, and found nothing much wrong with it, but he made no note of this inspection or of the other occasions on which he had been over it, and he stated that Ryan got a good deal of extra work (sudden damage orders) in connection with Deeps Bridge. He also admitted that Ryan, Senior, was not a satisfactory contractor, and that it would have been better for him to have got some one else to do the work when he took up the contract in 1906, on the appointment of Ryan Junior as Assistant Surveyor.

Assistant Surveyor Brennan stated that all four bridges were in his district, and that he had no special directions from the County Surveyor about them. That he never inspected the bridges nor the roadway carefully. That he had informed the County Surveyor that he went over Ferrycarrig Bridge, and found a dangerous plank had not been removed, but that he did not consider it his business to inspect the bridges.

He admitted that the instructions to Assistant Surveyors contained a clause that all gullies, bridges, and other work should be carefully examined, and where repairs were needed the County Surveyor should be notified, but that he did not look at the bridges at all.

On careful consideration of the evidence the conclusions which the Local Government Board have arrived at, are that:-

(1) The condition of the four bridges in August 1908, was defective, and that the Ferrycarrig and Deeps Bridges were at that time unsafe for traffic.

(2) The responsibility for the state of these bridges lay with the County Surveyor.

Mr. Webster appears to have taken no effective steps to ensure that these bridges should be put into and maintained in a sound and safe condition even as regards the superstructure, no arrangements were made by him for careful systematic inspections, nor do any records of their condition at reasonable intervals seem to have been made, and although new regulations were made for the discharge of the duties of Assistant Surveyor in May 1906, consequent upon an inquiry held by Mr. Bowan in January of that year,

which provide for the careful examination of all bridges by the Assistant Surveyors, no regular reports were received by the County Surveyor, nor did he appear to expect any.

Something might be said in the defence of the County Surveyor, as to the great age of the Ferrycarig Bridge and Deepo Bridge, and the gradual way in which such wooden structures deteriorate; but, with proper administration since 1891, when Mr. Webster was appointed, these bridges should have been practically rebuilt many years ago; and in any case if due regard has been paid to the specifications for the maintenance of the bridges they could not have fallen into the bad condition in which the Inspector found them on the 29th September last.

The Board have not thought it necessary to refer to the report of Mr. Ryan C. E. of the 22nd September, 1908, on the bridges, as he did not attend the Inquiry in support of his report although particularly requested by telegram to attend.

The County Surveyor is the officer of the County Council, and it remains for them in the first instance upon the consideration of this letter, and the minutes of evidence forwarded herewith, to decide what action they deem it necessary to take with regard to their officer.

The County Surveyor further deposed, and it was not controverted, that it was with the knowledge and in accordance with the wishes of the County Council that he served Mr. J. J. Ryan with a ten days notice, and took up the work because Mr. Ryan could not become an Assistant Surveyor, and continue as contractor at the same time. The contract however, does not appear to have been terminated, and in law Mr. J. J. Ryan seems to be still the contractor. As matters now stand his appointment and any payments of salary made to him, appear to be illegal having regard to Section 44 of the Grand Jury Act, 1836, as adapted by the Local Government (Adaptation of Irish Enactments) Order 1899. The Council should therefore consider whether Mr. Ryan can be retained in office.

The evidence given by Mr. Brennan at

the Inquiry raises grave doubt as to his competence to hold the position of Assistant Surveyor. It is for the Council to determine whether he should continue to be entrusted with the discharge of the responsible duties devolving on him.

On the motion of Mr. Stearns, seconded by Mr. Peacocke, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That this matter be postponed to an adjournment of this meeting to be held on the 17th instant at 10 O'clock A.M., that each member of the County Council, Mr. Webster, County Surveyor, Assistant Surveyors Ryan, and Brennan, and Mr. R. W. Elgee Solicitor to the County Council, be furnished with a copy of the letter of the Local Government Board.

That the attention of Mr. Elgee be called to the paragraph in the letter of the Local Government Board referring to the payments of salary made to Assistant Surveyor Ryan.

Prosecution of Road Contractors.

On the motion of Mr. Peacocke, seconded by Mr. Kehoe, Mr. Webster was given permission to prosecute Daniel Connors, contractor for Road no 58 in Wexford, and Patrick Doyle, contractor for Road no 45 in Wexford.

Deferred and Struck off Payments.

The Local Government Board wrote letter no 16,058:1909 under date 8th February 1909, enclosing copy letter which they had addressed, to the Wexford Rural District; as follows:- No 16,058:1909. Wexford County.

With reference to your letters of the 9th December, last, and the 21st ultimo, relative to the question of payments to road contractors, I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland to state that they have taken legal advice on the subject of County Surveyors' certificates, and they are of opinion that the only part of the County Surveyors' recommendation which the District Council are authorised to deal with by making a proposal, or the County Council by passing a resolution, is that

relating to the amount of money which he recommends shall be then paid to the contractor, neither of the Councils have any power to deal with any part of his recommendation, which relates to deferring payment or striking off money. They can only deal with his recommendation for payment which in itself constitutes the application in respect of which the District Council may make a proposal which in its turn is to be considered by the County Council and dealt with by passing a resolution with respect to it.

With regard to the question of deferring payments in the case of maintenance contracts I am to state that the Board are of opinion that circumstances might arise in which the County Surveyor would deem it equitable and justifiable to "defer" rather than "strike off" in the event of the contractor not performing the full amount of work on a road in a particular quarter. They consider however that no payment should be deferred save in a very exceptional case, and when the County Surveyor defers a payment it will rest with him to satisfy the Auditor as to the propriety of his action, and as to the correctness of the certificate for which he is responsible.

marked. "Read"

Report of L. G. Auditor re Co Council Accounts.

Under date 18th December 1908 the Local Government Board (letter no. 73420-08 Wexford Co.) forwarded copy of Report of their Auditor Mr. B. D. Barry, B. L., on his audit of the Accounts of the Wexford County Council in respect of the half year ended 30 September 1908:-

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

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

marked: Read.

Tuberculosis Act

Under date 18th January the Local Government Board (circular letter no. 371.1909) wrote forwarding copy of the Tuberculosis Prevention (Ireland) Act 1908, requesting that it should be brought before the Council on an early occasion and pointing out that it would come into force on 1st July next. In the meantime the Local Government Board would take a further opportunity of addressing the Council in regard to its provisions.

The Secretary having explained the various provisions of the Act, it was decided not to take any steps in the matter until the Council is in receipt of the further promised communications from the Local Government Board.

Examination Assistant Surveyors

Under date 12th January the Local Government Board wrote pointing out that an examination of candidates for qualification as Assistant Surveyors would be held at the Custom House, Dublin, on 17th and 18th February, and giving details of Examination arrangements.

marked "Read"

Sealed Orders

The Local Government Board forwarded Sealed Orders:-
 For Pump at Imbrack, area of charge, Rural District of Enniscorthy, and Ballytramon water supply, Rural District of Wexford. Water supply at Rosslare, area of charge Rural District of Wexford; Water supply at Tara Hill, area of charge Rural District of Gorey.

marked "Read"

Carnegie Hero Fund

Under date 15 December the Local Government Board wrote (letter no. 67246: 1908) transmitting circular which had been received from Trustees of the Hero Fund established by Mr Andrew Carnegie, which is to be administered chiefly for the benefit of persons who have disabled as the result of voluntary effort to save life, or who in the event of death may have left dependents in straitened circumstances.

The local authorities were addressed in the hope that they and their officers will be willing to co-operate to the extent at least of furnishing information regarding cases of heroism to which the fund may be applicable. The fund yields £12,500 per annum.

The secretary having explained the statements in the circular several members stated that they would be glad to bring under the notice of the Trustees any cases that would come under their notice.

Wexford Prison Premises.

Under date 31st December, 1908, the Under Secretary for Ireland, wrote (letter no. 27901) acknowledging the receipt of letter of 30 December on the subject of the letting of Wexford Prison premises for the purpose of a certified Inebriate Home. marked "Read"

Council of Agriculture.

Under date 10th December 1908 the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction wrote asking the County Council to appoint two representatives on the Council of Agriculture to hold office for three years from 1st April 1909.

The Secretary explained that Messrs Peacocke and Donohoe had been the representatives for the past three years. Mr. Donohoe was not now a member of the County Council, and tho' this was no disqualification, it was the custom of the Council to only appoint two of its own members to the position.

On the motion of Mr. O'Neill, seconded by Mr. Kearney, it was decided that Mr. Peacocke and Mr. John Bolger be appointed as representatives of the Council on the Council of Agriculture for three years from 1st April 1909.

Dredging Small Harbours.

The following letters were read from the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction relative to dredging

the small harbours of the County Wexford.

Under date 10th December 1908, no. 7983-08. F.B.

"Adverting to your letter of the 2nd instant, I have to state, for the information of the Wexford County Council, that the Department are prepared to provide suitable dredging plant to deal with the small harbours of the County Wexford, as soon as work can be arranged for between your Council and the Department in regard to any of these harbours, and within the limits of the funds which the Department have at their disposal for schemes of that nature."

Under date 22nd January 1909- no 301 F.B.

"I have to request that you will be good enough to remind the Wexford County Council that the Department are not yet in possession of their views as to the nature and possibility of the work required at Courthouse Harbour, and do not know the extent to which the County Council are prepared to co-operate with the Department in effecting improvement. One scheme which might meet the needs of the Harbour would embrace the permanent provision of a crane and Grab carried on a suitable staging beyond the north pier head, the working and maintenance of which, however, would involve a considerable annual outlay by the County Council.

Another scheme which, while of less efficacy in keeping the Harbour open, would probably result in securing a moderate degree of permanent improvement, consists in the provision of a subsidiary sluice near the junction of the artificial channel of the River with the Harbour Basin. The prime cost of carrying out this scheme would be limited to a few hundred pounds, while the annual working expenses would be trivial.

Although the Department at the present moment have no funds available for expenditure at Courthouse Harbour, they are of opinion that it would be advisable that the entire matter should be considered now, so that definite ideas may be formed as to the nature of a useful scheme, the execution of which will be within the limit of the total expenditure contemplated by the County Council.

* Under date 25 January 1909 no 6841. F.B.

"I have to request that you will be good enough to draw the attention of the Wexford County Council to my letter of the 24th October, last, in which it is stated that the Department are satisfied that, with proper arrangements, their dredger "Fag an Bealach" would dredge Kilmore Harbour as cheaply as any vessel that can be procured.

The Department are not aware of the amount of dredging which the Council contemplate as within the limit of the total expenditure to which they would contribute. While a proper survey would be necessary before more definite ideas can be formed, it seems probable that substantial improvements could be effected for a sum within £300. The Department are prepared to entertain the question of providing two-thirds the cost of an undertaking of that magnitude; but, before incurring the expenses of a survey, would be glad to have the views of your Council both as to the limit of the total expenditure contemplated on the improvement of the harbour and the proportion thereof which would be forthcoming locally.

Under date 17th December 1908 the following was read from Right Hon. J. W. Russell, M.P. Vice-President Department of Agriculture, and Technical Instruction.

Since my recent visit to Wexford I have had several consultations with Mr. Green of the Fisheries Branch in regard to the question of procuring an additional dredger to operate on the small harbours around the coast. Mr. Green is strongly of the opinion that no necessity exists for the purchase of a new dredger, and that the work can be done as thoroughly, and much more cheaply by hire. I wish you, therefore to convey to your Council the decision at which the Department has arrived, viz:- That if the Council will submit a note of the work to be done in connection with harbours under their control, the Department will endeavour to supply a suitable dredger for the purpose.

I may add that in giving the preference to the hire of a dredger over purchase, the Department has been largely guided by the fact that no dredger could be procured which could do the necessary work in all the harbours requiring attention.

On the motion of Mr Ennis, seconded by Mr Browne, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That this Council have had the letters of the Department relative to dredging, under consideration, and are still of opinion that the Dredger "Jag au Bealach" draws too much water, to efficiently dredge Kilmore Harbour, but as the Department hold a different opinion we would be glad if they sent this dredger to Kilmore for a trial working for a fortnight or three weeks, to prove whether she is suitable for the work or not, this Council being charged one-third of the expenditure for that period."

In connection with Courtown Harbour the following minute of the Courtown Harbour Committee of 2nd February was read for the meeting:-

"That having examined the discharging boats the Committee are of opinion that two of them are completely rotten and past repair and we recommend that two new ones be procured either at Wexford or Arklow, as there is no means of building them at Courtown, and that if they be advertised to be built by contract that it be specified they be delivered at Courtown on, or before May 1st."

The following was laid before the meeting:-

Courtown Harbour.

Minutes of Special Committee

A meeting of Special Committee appointed to consider the damage to work at back of North Pier, was held in County Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford, on 30 December 1908.

There were present:- Messrs Ennis, J. Bolger, J. J. Kehoe, and J. J. Stafford.

Mr Webster, County Surveyor, and the Secretary were also in attendance.

Mr Webster said he had visited Courtown that day quite prepared to find all the work gone. From the first to the second groin the work was hardly touched at all. Between the second and third groin what

has happened was, that the skin of paving had been taken away for the whole length. There were a couple of bulges and slight sinkings here and there in the dwarf wall, but a little repair would make them all right. But the worst damage of all was where no protection had been effected to the north of the wall. The shore there had gone in about eight yards out of line with the wall, but if the wall had not been there the sea would have been in the harbour now. He proposed that they should protect the portion between the middle and north groin with loose rubble and also to make a protection for the place where there was no wall. The whole amount would be 215 cubic yards.

After considerable discussion it was decided to sign a Sudden Damage Order for £100, as the committee considered the expenditure of any smaller sum would not keep the place safe.

Mr Bolger submitted a plan for protecting the new work with concrete bags, and which was referred to Mr Webster.

On the motion of Mr Hearn, seconded by Mr Peacocke the following resolution was adopted:—

"That Messrs Ennis, Lanning, and Kinsella, be appointed a committee to consider the question of providing two new discharging boats for Courtown Harbour, and that they also report to the council, their views as to the present system employed at the Harbour for the discharging of cargoes of coal, etc, and recommend to the council what could be done by the Department and the County Council to keep the harbour in an efficient condition.

Waterford Bridge.

The Secretary stated that plans of proposed new bridge at Waterford had been received by him on 8th December. He had given them to Mr Webster to examine.

A number of acknowledgments from the public bodies of the county, relative to the resolution of the county council protesting against the import which the erection of this bridge would mean on County Waterford were received.

The following letter addressed to the mayor of Waterford, from Messrs Baker and Sturtzicg, Engineers, London, and forwarded by Mr. Feely was read for the meeting:-

We are obliged for your letter of January 27th, and in reply, beg to say:-

(1) The cost of preparing the necessary plans and estimate for the Bridge over the Quir you ask for, suitable to the requirements of Waterford, for submission to the Privy Council would be 250 Guineas.

These would not be detailed Contract Plans, and we assume the Corporation of Waterford will supply us with all information of the site, as time is too short for us to obtain these physical particulars; also details of the requirements of the Bridge, such as width of roadway and footways, clear headway above High Water Mark, position and clear opening of the Opening Span

(2) Giving evidence in support of these plans would be based on a personal fee of 15 Guineas per day for Mr. Sturtzicg with travelling expenses and assistants, say about 75 Guineas.

The evidence must be restricted to our plans, as we will not undertake a criticism of the plans and estimate put forward by the Sub-Regal Commission.

In the event of the construction of the Bridge being ultimately entrusted to us as Engineers for the Corporation of Waterford, the above sum 250 Guineas would be merged in the usual professional fees.

We regret slight delay in replying to your letter. This was owing to Mr. Sturtzicg's absence from England."

Resolutions were received as follows in connection with this matter:-

From Waterford Corporation

"That we will cordially unite with the other contributing areas and ask them to co-operate with us in obtaining the best expert engineering assistance for the preparation of plans and designs for a proper bridge, which can be produced as evidence before the Privy Council, on the hearing of any appeal which may be taken in connection with the proposed construction of the New Bridge at Waterford."

From Joint Conference held at Waterford

"That the services of an expert engineer be retained

to prepare plans and estimate to be given as evidence before the Privy Council on the hearing of the Waterford Bridge Appeal, and that he be appointed at a further meeting of the Committee"

"That the different County Councils be asked to appoint two members of their Body to act on a sub-Committee in connection with the Bridge plans, and that they be asked to summon a Special meeting for the purpose."

From Waterford County Council:-

"That we consider the Bridge proposed to be built across the Chuir at Waterford, and which is estimated to cost £114,500 to be far too pretentious and expensive; and we are of opinion that a Bridge which could be erected at from £50,000 to £70,000 would meet the necessary requirements; and we suggest that a conference of representatives of the County Councils within the area of charge and of the Corporation of Waterford be held, for the purpose of taking joint action to obtain a suitable bridge at a reasonable cost."

"That we ask the co-operation of the Corporation of Waterford and the County Councils of Tipperary (South Riding) Kilkenny and Wexford, in defraying the expenses of appealing to the Privy Council in protest against the costly design of the new bridge to be erected across the Chuir at Waterford. That the contribution be in proportion to the levy as already set out. With regard to the equity or otherwise of this levy, it is understood that the Councils be free to take their own course. In the event of the bodies named refusing to co-operate, as suggested, this Council will be reluctantly compelled to take no further action in the matter."

From Carlow County Council:-

"That we, the Carlow County Council, having heard with much surprise and regret, the Report of the Vice-Regal Commission re the proposed new Bridge at Waterford, whereby it is recommended that the County Carlow be charged at the rate of 3 per cent of the cost thereof, hereby protest most emphatically against said recommendation, as we consider it most unjust and inequitable, and we authorise our Solicitor to take such steps as he may be advised by counsel by appealing or otherwise to protect the interests of the ratepayers of this County."

Mr Peacocke proposed, and Mr John Bolger seconded the following which was adopted:- "That the Council appoint two members as delegates to the conference of Waterford on the question of employing expert advice in connection with proposed bridge at Waterford. That the delegates be instructed to limit the expenditure on this matter to a sum not exceeding £500, the contribution from this County Council to be in the proportion, not of the assessment as appearing in the report of the Vice-Regal Commission, but of whatever assessment may be fixed, by the Privy Council on appeal."

Proposed by Mr Hearn, seconded by Mr Staple & adopted:-
"That Messrs Peacocke and Ennis, be appointed representatives of this County Council at the meetings of the Joint Conference of the Contributory areas of Waterford Bridge, and that in the event of Mr Ennis not being able to attend that Mr J. S. Hearn be requested to act as his substitute."

Proposed by Mr Ennis, seconded by Mr Browne & passed:-
"That we direct our Solicitor to lodge the necessary appeal in the case of Waterford Bridge pursuant to section 3 of the Bridges (Ireland) Act 1834 (4 & 5 William 4 cap 61) and that the Chairman be authorised to sign this appeal when prepared for lodgment."

Proposed by Mr Ennis, seconded by Mr Kehoe and passed:-
"That we authorise Mr Blgee to obtain a transcript of the evidence taken at the Vice-Regal Commission in connection with Waterford Bridge"

Sheep Dipping Order

Under date 3rd December 1908, the Department of Agriculture (letter no 5448 V.B.) wrote, that as regards the administration of Sheep Dipping Order the request of the County Council, as to the distribution by the police, of form C would in due course be brought under the notice of the Inspector General.

The Department had no objection to the explanatory statement suggested being added to Form C."

Marked "Read"

Food & Drugs Acts.

under date 30th november 1908 (letter no. 35901-08) the Department of Agriculture, wrote that two samples of butter taken up by their officer on the 3rd november 1908 at Enniscorthy were found to be pure.

A similar report was read in connection with two samples taken up at Gorey on 7th January

under date 26 January the Department of Agriculture wrote that a sample of butter purchased by their office on 7th January at the premises of Mr. Patrick McEann main St Gorey, was found to contain 3.4 per cent of water in excess of the maximum proportion (16 per cent) allowable in a genuine sample of butter, and an offence under section 6 of the Sale of Food & Drugs Act 1875 appeared to have been committed.

The Finance Committee had considered this letter and directed the Es. officio Inspector under Food and Drugs Act to issue a summons against Mr. McEann main St Gorey.

The recommendation of the Finance Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr. Peacocke seconded by Mr. Kehoe.

Wrecks at Burracloe & Blackwater

Under date 5th December 1908 the Secretary to Irish Lights Office wrote (letter no. 720) stating that the Commissioners of Irish Lights could not take any action in the matter of removal of wrecks at Blackwater, or Burracloe, as they were in no way dangerous to navigation or to life-boats.

Under date 7th December 1908, the Department of Agriculture wrote letter no. 7982. F.B. as follows:-

"Adverting to your letter of the 2nd instant, I have to state for the information of the Wexford County Council, that Mr. William Armstrong, of 3 South main St Wexford, has asked for permission to tender for the removal of the old wrecks at Burracloe and Blackwater. If your Council think well to arrange with this gentleman the Department would consider what contribution they might give towards the cost of the project.

It would of course be necessary to obtain the consent of the Board of Trade before commencing operations.

The Secretary stated, that the Board of Trade had requested to be furnished with a chart, showing these wrecks and this had been prepared recently by Mr. Webster, and forwarded to the Board.

"no action taken pending receipt of consent of Board of Trade to removal of wrecks."

Level Crossings - Great S & W Railway

Under date 16th December 1908, the following letter (no 13845) was read from the Railway Department, Board of Trade, London:-

"with further reference to your letter of the 5th August last complaining of certain arrangements at the level crossings on the Rosslare and Waterford Branch of the Great Southern and Western Railway, I am directed by the Board of Trade to transmit to you, for the information of the Wexford County Council the enclosed copy of a reply from the Railway Company to a communication addressed to them from this Department on the subject

I am to add that in a subsequent communication, the company state that proper persons are employed at night to open and shut the level crossings in question.

The letter of the Railway company stated that they had had a record kept at the crossings and found that the gates had only to be open for the public road on very few occasions at night and that the delay caused to road traffic in such cases was very trifling
marked "Read"

Checker for Rate Collectors' a/c's Enniscorthy District

In connection with the resignation of Mr. Owen Connolly, Clerk of Union Enniscorthy, the Secretary said that it would be necessary to appoint an official checker for the accounts of the Rate Collectors of Enniscorthy district as from 31st March 1909. Mr. Connolly had under date 8th February '09 written that he would complete the checking of the accounts for the present half-year.

Applications were received from the following:-
Messrs P. J. Shaw, Town Clerk, Enniscorthy, D. M. Donald
Priory Hill Enniscorthy, P. Donohoe County Council Office.

A. A. Connolly, Inniscorthy Union, and J. Barty, 17 George Street, Inniscorthy.

Mr. O'Neill proposed, and Mr. Hearn seconded the election of Mr. Shaw.

Mr. J. Bolger proposed, and Mr. James Bodd seconded the election of Mr. McDonald.

Mr. Browne proposed, and Mr. Ennis seconded Mr. Donohoe.

Mr. Kavanagh proposed, and Mr. Kehoe seconded Mr. Barty.

Mr. Kehoe proposed, and Mr. M. Doyle seconded Mr. A. A. Connolly.

A Poll was taken with the following result:-

For Mr. Shaw:- messrs Hearn and O'Neill. - 2

For Mr. McDonald:- messrs Stafford, J. Bodd, J. Bolger, Doyle, M. Bodd, and Asple. - 6

For Mr. Donohoe:- messrs Browne, Ennis, Peacocke, Kehoe, Fanning, Fortune, and the Chairman. - 7

For Mr. Barty:- Mr. Kavanagh.

The latter having fallen out a poll was taken between messrs Shaw, McDonald, and Donohoe; which resulted as follows:-

For Shaw:- messrs Hearn, O'Neill, and Kavanagh. - 3

For Mr. McDonald:- messrs Stafford, James Bodd, Bolger, Doyle, M. Bodd, and Asple. - 6

For Mr. Donohoe:- messrs Brown, Ennis, Peacocke, Kehoe, Fanning, Fortune, and the Chairman. - 7

Mr. Shaw having fallen a poll was taken between Messrs Donohoe and Mr. Donald with the following result:-

For Mr. McDonald:- messrs Hearn, Stafford, J. Bodd, O'Neill, Bolger, Doyle, M. Bodd, and Asple. - 8

For Mr. Donohoe:- messrs Brown, Ennis, Peacocke, Fanning, Fortune, Kehoe, and the Chairman. - 7

Mr. Kavanagh did not vote. The Chairman declared Mr. McDonald elected.

The following is the application of the successful candidate:-

"Having heard that your Council will at their meeting on tomorrow proceed to elect a checker of Rate collectors' accounts for the Inniscorthy Union I beg to offer my services for the position.

I have spoken to some of the Rate collectors here on the subject and they are very much in favour of a resident of the town of Inniscorthy being appointed, as they point out it would be very much more

convenient for them to have a person here on whom they could call at any time, and have their accounts checked frequently.

Should your Council see its way to favourably consider my application I promise them they will not have cause to regret their choice."

Burial of barcases washed ashore.

Under date 7th January 1909 (letter no. 5617-08. B) the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction wrote approving of the proposal of the County Council at their meeting on 1st December 1908 re-appointing Mr. E. O'Flaherty Harbour Master Kilmore, to carry out the burial of carcasses washed ashore in that district at a salary of £4 per annum marked "Read"

Deepening River Slaney.

Under date 25th January the Department of Agriculture, wrote (letter no 5411.- F. B.) forwarding the following copy of a letter on the subject of deepening the river Slaney, and which had been addressed to the Town Clerk Enniscorthy:—

"I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant; and, in reference thereto, to state, for the information of the Enniscorthy Urban District Council, that the Department have received from their Engineer an estimate, amounting to £653 of the total cost of deepening the River Slaney from its junction with the tributary on which Messrs Davis' mill is situated to the Enniscorthy Quay, so as to allow the small steamers and lighters, which can now reach the Quay at high water of spring tides only, to do so with certainty at high water of all tides.

The above estimate does not take credit for the sale of any sand or gravel.

The Department are prepared to contribute one-third of the cost of carrying out the works, any saving on the estimate to be either distributed pro-rata between the local authorities and the Department or expended on the improvement of the river.

All consents required from the local Government.

Board and from riparian proprietors along the stretch of the river to be dredged, as well as for the dumping of the spoil, must of course be obtained from the County Council with whom and the Department's representative it might be well to arrange for a conference in regard to details of execution and supervision.

A copy of this communication is being sent to the County Council.

Referred to Proposal Committee, Mr. O'Neill having announced his intention of serving notice of motion in connection with the project to this Committee.

Anchors near Courtown Harbour.

The following letter under date 13th January 1909 and no. 1014 was read from the Irish Lights Office, Dublin:-

"With reference to your letter of the 13th November last in which you convey a request of the Wexford County Council that the Commissioners of Irish Lights will take the necessary steps to have the anchors removed from the vicinity of Courtown Harbour; I am directed to inform you that as these anchors, are in positions where they are no danger to navigation, or lifeboats, the Commissioners have no jurisdiction in the matter. As the work of removal is solely in the interests of the local fishermen, it should be undertaken by the men themselves, or the Department of Agriculture (Fisheries Branch) may perhaps see their way to take steps in the matter."

"Adjourned to meeting of 17th February"

Steam Wagon & Roads

Under date 8th December 1908, the following letter was read from Messrs S & H. G. Davis, St John's Flour Mills, Enniscorthy:-

Our Steam wagon went down in the road twice yesterday, in its journey to Taghmon, the first place in Killurin and the second in Taghmon itself. Our man informs us that there are only a few bad spots on the road, but if these are not put into proper order, it may seriously interfere with our Motor service to Taghmon; even as it is we have to travel a long round in order

to get a road fit to run on. Our motor is a great convenience to the people in Saghmon as previously we had to send to Wexford by rail, hence by road, we are now able to give the Saghmon people better value and so it is not alone a convenience but a saving to everyone. We hope your council will endeavour to assist us in promoting an Irish Industry; by giving us roads we can work on"

"Adjourned to meeting of 17th February"

New Ross Rural District School Attendance Committee

Under date 15th January, 1909, the Secretary, Office of National Education, wrote asking the County Council to appoint the five representatives of the Local Authority for New Ross District School Attendance Committee, and to supply particulars of the appointments before 1st April.

Under date 26th January, a letter was read from Mr. P. A. Pope, Clerk, New Ross Rural District Council, (and which body has been asked to recommend five members on the School Attendance Committee) stating that consideration of the matter had been adjourned for four weeks to obtain from the school attendance committee their opinion as to the working of the Act. The District Council were anxious that the County Council would meet their wishes in the matter."

"Adjourned to meeting of 17th February"

Death of Mr. J. R. Webster, V. S.

The Secretary reported that in consequence of the death of Mr. J. R. Webster, V. S. Ennisecorby; who looked after the business of the Contagious Diseases Animals Acts in the following district electoral divisions of Gorey Union:— Ballybeg, Ballyoughter, Cahore, Ford, Hilcomb, Kellincwoley, Monomolin, and Wells; the Finance Committee had made arrangements with Mr. James Malone V. S. Gorey to carry on the work of these divisions at the rate of 15/- per case, pending a permanent appointment.

Adjourned to meeting of 17th February

Position of Mr. J. S. Ryan Assistant Surveyor.

Under date 8th February, the following was read from

Mr. J. J. Ryan, Assistant Surveyor:-

"With reference to complaints re measurements of road metalling in my district, I am extremely sorry that such an unaccountable mistake should have occurred

If the County Council could see their way to overlook this matter, I shall give no cause for complaint in future."

It was decided that this letter and the general question as to Mr. Ryan's position as Assistant Surveyor be referred to the adjourned meeting of the Council on the 17th inst

Old Age Pension Sub-Committee.

Under date 27th January the following letter was read from Mr. Nicholas Kehol, Clerk Wexford Union:-

"I am directed by my Board to suggest to your Council when again appointing Sub-Committees under the Old Age Pensions Act, or when, in the meantime filling casual vacancies thereon, the advisability of giving more representation to the Board of Guardians on the Sub-Committees within the union area.

The Guardians consider it is essential for them when considering applications for out-door relief to know what persons in their several districts are in receipt of pensions and thus prevent the possibility of persons getting aid from both sources."

"Adjourned to meeting of 17th February"

Shelter for Out-door Relief Recipients

Under date 26th January 1909 the following letter was read from Mr. N. Kehol, Clerk Wexford Union.

"Recipients of Out-door Relief having at present to stand in the street while waiting to get paid on Saturdays it was decided by my Board to ask permission of your Council to allow them the shelter of the Court House and also the use of one of the Courts (when not otherwise engaged) for the Relieving officer in which to distribute the relief

would you kindly bring the matter under the notice of your Council at the first opportunity

The following recommendation was made on this

letter by the Finance Committee:-

"we recommend the County Council to consent to the application of the Board of Guardians for permission that the recipients of out-door relief in Wexford should obtain shelter in the Courthouse while waiting for payment, so long as this use of Courthouse does not interfere with the administration of Justice or any use of the Courthouse by the Sheriff or Justices, and that intimation be conveyed to the Sheriff that such permission has been accorded"

The above recommendation of the Finance Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr. Bunnis seconded by Mr. Kehol.

Bye-Law Fowl Markets

Under date 3rd December 1908, Mr. J. Kavanagh M. L. C. wrote:-

"In regard to by-law for fowl markets at Kilmuckridge. I am most anxious that the market should be held at seven o'clock in summer, and eight o'clock in winter. Everyone in this locality is very eager for it."

Mr. M. Brown M. L. C. Bridgetown wrote that it would be well to have Kilmore included in the By-law"

"Adjourned to meeting of 17th February"

Proceedings Against Co Council

Under date 28 January 1909, the following letter was read from Dr. W. J. Brown, Solicitor New Ross:-

re Road Contract Haggard Cross to Ballystraw

"I am instructed by Mr. Robert Severens of Battelstown to inform you that unless he is allowed to carry out his contract for the repair of above road entered into with him by your Council for five years which will expire in 1910, which he is ready and willing to do, he must hold the Council liable for damages for breaking their contract with him, which they did on the 21st December 1908, when they ordered him to desist from working upon the said road and gave the contract to Thomas Brien of Booley, Tethard, in defiance of the accepted tender, contract, and bond of the said Robert Severens. I am writing to Thomas Brien of Booley Tethard informing him that I am writing to you.

Unless I hear from you within a week that my

Client can proceed with his contract, I must take satisfaction against your Council for damages as I may be advised."

The Secretary stated that he had furnished a copy of this letter to Mr Elger, Solicitor to the Council, and the County Surveyor, and had informed Dr. Browne that Mr Elger would look after the interests of the County Council in the matter."

"Adjourned to meeting of 17th February"

Report from County Surveyor.

Under date 1st February 1909 the following was read from the County Surveyor:-

"In accordance with your instructions I visited Barrytown on the 7th ult., and interviewed Mr. W. H. Lett with reference to his request for permission to run a tram-line across the road from the mines to the sea. I pointed out on the spot, how the level-crossing should be constructed.

I would suggest that Mr. Lett's request be acceded to, in accordance with the terms of his letter of the 29th December 1908, with the proviso that the work be done to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor, and that Mr. Lett shall be responsible for any accidents that may occur owing to the laying of the rails across the road.

I beg also to report, with regret, that I have received news of the death of Mr. James Kent, who had charge of the lamp on Arthurstown Pier. His son, Mr. Patrick Kent Arthurstown has applied for his father's post. I have instructed him to continue caring the lamp until you can make a fresh appointment; I think he would be suitable for the work."

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

"That the Council as recommended by Mr. Webster, agree to allow Mr. Lett, Balloughton, Bannow, to run a tram line from Barrytown mines to the sea. Work to be carried out to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor, the line to be removed on demand of the County Council, and Mr. Lett to be responsible for any accidents, that may occur owing to the laying of the rails across the road

"That the appointment of lamplighter at Arthurstown Pier be postponed to the meeting of the 17th inst."

Grievances Rosslare Fishermen

Under date 21st January 1909, Mr Edward Wickham Fort, Rosslare, forwarded the following:-

Gentlemen.

At the meeting of the Rosslare Fishermen, and others interested in the project at which over eighty persons were present, it was decided by resolution un-animously to lay some of the principal grievances of the Rosslare Fisherman before your Council with a view that your Council would take some steps to assist in having these grievances remedied.

There are at present engaged in the herring fishing from Fort to Ballygeary about thirty two boats, each with a crew of four hands which would total 128 people on this portion of the beach, as well as others from Wexford, and occasionally in a good season some boats from Kilmore, come to Rosslare. The average amount of money earned for the past three years was about £700 per year. (This average is taken from the Coastguards statistics). This sum would be more than doubled if the grievances at present existing, could be removed.

The chief impediment to the fishing is the remains of five old wrecked vessels sunk on different occasions in Rosslare Bay. Three of those old wrecks are very injurious, as they are situated in the very best fishing portion of the bay. Those three old wrecks cause damage estimated at £64 each year in loss of nets alone, - and in one fair fishing season, it is estimated, that the loss of herrings would total £900, owing to the existence of these three old wrecked vessels. If these vessels could be removed each boat engaged could carry an additional train of 6 or seven nets more than can be used at present, and 15 or 20 boats more than at present engaged could fish with comfort and safety. The great annoyance and extra labour caused by those wrecks is very considerable, and when in their vicinity, very often the boats must haul in their nets, otherwise they would lose them by becoming entangled in this sunken wreckage. This hauling in has often caused large losses to the boats, as it might be at time a shoal of herrings would be swimming in that locality of the bay.

Now the request of the fishermen to your Council is, that they take steps to have this sunken wreckage removed from the Bay, - the removal of this wreckage may not cost much money, and it is the first favour ever sought from the Council or Department in this vicinity. Several costly jobs on Piers and Harbours have been done elsewhere through the County. This is our first request from this Quarter, and the Rosslare Fishermen hope the Council may favourably consider it, by doing which they would greatly augment the meagre income of these small holders and fishermen in the vicinity.

The past wet seasons wrought great havoc on the small holders in Rosslare, and they scarcely had the amount of seed sown in many cases, and were it not for the herring fishing many would not survive in this quarter.

A small deputation would wait on the County Council and further explain matters if necessary."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. Hearn:-

"That a copy of the statement on behalf of the Rosslare fishermen be forwarded to the Department of Agriculture, and the Board of Trade, and that the former be requested to give some contribution, towards the works of having these wrecks removed.

Road Conference.

Circular letter of December 1908 was received from English County Councils Association in respect of the holding of a conference early in May to consider the resolutions passed at the first International Road Congress in Paris, and asking the County Council to appoint representatives thereto.

"Adjourned to meeting of 17th instant."

Rate Collectors Application

Messrs John Sinnott, John Mullett, Andrew Lennan, James Bogley, and Francis Blake, under date 1st February forwarded the following:-

"We the undersigned beg to call the attention of the County Council (1st) to the difficulty that we experience

in collecting the Rates. (2nd) The large amount that it is necessary for us to draw out of the Bank year by year in order to close our Books. (3rd) The increasing interest that we have to pay on it; and (4th) the exorbitant Demands of the Guarantee or Insurance Society; and we hope that, considering these facts, they will reconsider their former decision with reference to the increase in poundage, and deal more favourably and justly with our case this time, by increasing the poundage in order to enable us to meet the above demands."

Adjourned to meeting of 17th instant

W. H. Edmunds
15 April 1889

Special meeting 17th February 1909.

A special meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford, on 17th February 1909.

Present:- Mr. E. Hore, vice-Chairman, (Presiding)

Other members present:- Messrs J. S. Hearn, John Bolger, M. Browne, J. J. Stafford, M. A. Norris, John J. Kehoe, Thaddens Bolger, P. J. Fanning, M. Codd, P. Fortune, James Codd, J. Asple, J. Hummins, G. H. Peacocke, G. Walsh and M. Doyle.

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

The Recent Inquiry re. Bridges

The letter from Local Government Board No 5142 under date 3rd February in connection with the recent inquiry into the condition of certain of the County Bridges on the river Slaney, and as appearing in Minutes of meeting of 9th February 1909, was read for the meeting.

On the motion of Mr. Hearn, seconded by Mr. Peacocke, the following resolution was adopted:- "That this County Council meeting resolve itself into Committee for the purpose of considering the letter of the Local Government Board relative to the state of certain of the Bridges on the river Slaney, and also to go into the position of Mr. J. J. Ryan Assistant Surveyor."

Mr. Hearn proposed:- "That Mr. Webster County Surveyor, be asked if he intends to resign."

Mr. Peacocke seconded.

This resolution was put and passed, Mr. Hummins dissenting. Mr. Webster was then called before the meeting, and said:-

"Well gentlemen, I had not for one moment thought you would have asked me to resign. I certainly did not consider that phase of the question, and all I can say about the Bridges in future is, that if my applications were carried out, that is, that I be given the bridges in future into my charge, that is, the surface of the Bridges as well as the sub-structure. I am pretty sure there would be no reason for complaint, I'd be well able to look after them, and giving as many inspections as you would wish, and I could point out that since I got the sub-structure into my charge the improvement is very

considerable. Even Ferrycarrig is a marvellously different bridge to what it was, when I first came to the County. As regards my resignation, I don't see my way to say I'd resign.

The Chairman proposed:- "That the County be divided into two parts, and that two Surveyors be appointed at salaries of £400 each to cover salary, travelling expenses, and any allowance for clerical assistance. That a small committee of the Council be appointed for the purpose of carrying out division. That the County Bridges on the Slaney be placed in charge of the new Surveyor.

Mr Asple seconded.

The resolution was put and passed nem con.

Mr. Webster was again called in, and the Chairman said to him:- Will you accept £400 a year and discharge the duties of Surveyor for half the County, which ever half is allotted to you.

Mr. Webster:- Of course that is a bolt from the blue, and it is very hard to answer a question like that. When do you propose making the division?

Chairman:- As soon as possible; as soon as we hear from the Local Government Board and can strike the boundaries. You must consent to resign your present salary, and other little emoluments on the conditions that you will be re-elected for half the County as a perfectly new officer.

Mr. Webster:- Nice questions arise on the question of age. If I resigned my present appointment would I be qualified as regards age as a County Surveyor. There is a law in the matter. If I resigned you might be willing to appoint me, but I might be over the age, the law might be against me on account of age. There are lots of things to be considered. You say there will be no office allowance.

Chairman:- No., and this £32. 13. 4, for loss of income is to be given up. You are to be appointed a new officer at £400 per annum, for half the County. That is the decision of the Council.

Mr. Webster:- Thank you very much for the offer, only the conditions are altogether beyond the mark. To offer me at my age, after my lifelong service £400 a year, and pay my own travelling expenses, and not to be supplied with an office, and to waive my compensation for loss of office. I think I ought to get compensation for reduction of salary. Really what you

are asking me to do is to resign a first class County. It would be only playing with you to ask you for time to consider it. Even if I had a year to consider it I don't see how I could accept it. I am sorry, I'd like to have met you as well as I could, but really I value my services at more than £400 a year. When would you wish me to resign?
 Chairman:- That was not considered; it was expected it would be done immediately

Mr. Webster:- Supposing I refuse to accept this offer when do you wish me to resign?

Mr. Stafford:- Forthwith.

Mr. Peacocke:- I propose that Mr. Webster get until after lunch to decide what decision he will come to.

Mr. Janning seconded.

This resolution was passed.

Mr. Webster said that sooner than accept the ignominious position of becoming a third class surveyor he would have great pleasure in tendering his resignation. He would, however, suggest, as there was so many things to be arranged, books, and money in his charge, with a certain amount of money in the bank over which he had absolute control, and that he would like to arrange to have audited, and to leave the County with honour anyway, that the Council would agree to accept his resignation from the 30th June. If they agreed to that he did not see anything against sending in his resignation now. In some ways he would sever his connection with the County with great pain because he had lived here 17 years, and he did not think that during that time he had made many enemies.

At the same time he could say with perfect confidence that supposing they accepted his resignation he had not the slightest doubt whatever, thank God, that he would make a better living elsewhere. Certainly £400 a year for a man - they might say he was wrong in saying it - but of his ability was not a proposal that he would accept. They might consider he had shown neglect in carrying out his work, but he, certainly, did not consider it so. He had done his best to work up the County and to improve the roads. But there was no use in the meeting asking him to consider any longer a proposal to accept £400 a year, with all other emoluments cut off. He would like to have everything cleared up before leaving the County, and his books audited, by the

Auditor. He did not think anyone could point a finger to anything he had done wrong in the way of figures. He had been most careful in the book-keeping of his office. If the Council would agree to date his resignation from the 30th June next he would hand in his resignation now.

He then handed in the following

To the County Council of the County of Wexford
Gentlemen

I beg to tender my resignation as County Surveyor
of the County Wexford from the 30th June "

Faithfully yours

Feb'y 17th 1909

Henry Webster.

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

"That we accept Mr Webster's resignation as County Surveyor as from 30th June next

On the motion of Mr. Keacocke, seconded by Mr. Bunnis, the following resolution was adopted:- "That should the County Surveyor wish to sever his connection with the County Council at an earlier date than the 30th June, the Secretary be instructed to call a special meeting of the Council to consider what steps should be taken to relieve Mr. Webster from the duties of his office."

On the motion of Mr. Stearn, seconded by Mr. Kehoe the following resolution was adopted:- "That the question of appointing one County Surveyor, or two County Surveyors for the County be taken into consideration at the next meeting of the County Council."

Mr. Browne gave notice of his intention to move the following which was signed by Mr. Browne himself, and Messrs Bunnis, Store, Keacocke, Kehoe, Fanning, and Asple:-

"That the resolution approving of appointing two County Surveyors be rescinded.

With regard to position of Mr. Brennan Assistant Surveyor the following resolution was adopted:-

"That Mr. Brennan Assistant Surveyor be continued in office for twelve months to see how he will discharge the duties of his office. That a strong reprimand be conveyed to Mr. Brennan for his statements in connection with Ferry-carrig Bridge prior to the holding of the Local Government Board Inquiry in connection with the condition of the

Slaney Bridges.

Position of Assistant Surveyor Ryan.

The following letter under date 8th February 1909 was read from Mr. J. J. Ryan Assistant County Surveyor:-

"With reference to complaints re measurement of road metalling in my district, I am extremely sorry that such an unaccountable mistake should have occurred.

If the County Council could see their way to overlook this matter, I shall give no cause for complaint in future." Mr. Ryan:- If you give me this chance gentlemen, I promise you to have the measurements as accurate as possible in future. I find it is very difficult in some places to get the proper depths; and I intend in future to use an instrument similar to the one Mr. Ennis used.

Mr. Hearn proposed, and Mr. Peacocke seconded the following resolution which was adopted unanimously

"That Mr. Ryan be called on to resign as Assistant Surveyor, resignation to date from 31st March next."

Mr. Ryan was then called before the meeting and consented to resign.

Wexford Tobacco Growers' Society

The following resolution received from the Wexford Tobacco Growers Society, was adopted on the motion of Mr. Store seconded by Mr. Ennis:-

"That as tobacco growing in Ireland is being seriously handicapped owing to the system of tobacco taxation, which is imposed upon this industry in its infancy, and the natural difficulties of adapting a new crop to new conditions, we, the Wexford Tobacco Growers Society who have been growing tobacco for experimental purposes for the past four years, protest against the imposition of the prohibitive duty which has been placed upon Irish tobacco, thereby rendering impossible the establishment of an important industry in Ireland, and frustrating the intentions of the Irish Tobacco Act of 1907.

That we call upon the County Council and the General Council of County Councils to support this movement which has for its object the promotion of a new branch of Irish Industry, which is calculated to have an elevating

and diversifying influence upon our system of Agriculture

Transcript of minutes - Local Inquiry

Proposed by Mr Ennis, seconded by Mr Peacocke, and passed:-

"That as the recent local Inquiry into the question of the condition of the Bridges lasted two days, we agree to the payment of six guineas to Mr. G. O'ballaghan for note taking and supplying transcript of same to County Council, as agreed on at the County Council meeting of 21st September

Complaint re. Roads.

In connection with complaints made by Father Walsh P.P. Ballymurn as to roads in his district the following letter to Mr. Janning M. C. C., was read from Father Walsh:-

"In reply to yours I beg to say there is no good quarry in Castlebridge parish or in this parish. The nearest I think is at Drumgoold, near Inniscorthy. There is another, I heard, at Brownswood, near Inniscorthy also fairly good. I send three samples of road material, one near Screen, the same as last week, but more of it. It is largely used on many roads about Screen, Castlebridge and Blackwater.

The other two samples are taken from the road from Ballylucas and Ballymurn, on which there is much traffic of Inniscorthy people, coming to the seaside in the summer. It is very soft material and soon turns into mud. The more of this stuff is put on the road the worse the road is, as there is much more mud on it. We are only four miles here from Edermine Railway station, so that if the Arklow stones were brought down by rail, as I hope they will, two hours would cart them here. I hope no more of this bad, wretched stuff will be allowed as it only makes the roads much worse"

Mr R. Brennan Assistant County Surveyor wrote as follows:-

"With reference to Father Walsh's letter to Mr. Janning and the sample of material from Ballyfarrogue, I beg to state, that I did not approve of this material on contracts no 139 Inniscorthy R.D. and no 96 Westford R.D. I refused to return a measurement for it, and deferred the contractors' money, until he should screen the material. It was in consequence of this action of mine that the contractor (Mr. William Whelan)

came before the County Council in December last and asked that his contract be broken. The County Council though, they did not come to any definite decision about the matter, seemed to think that the contractor should be allowed to spread the material this year, and that his quantity should be reduced if he had to get quarry stones next year. After consulting the County Surveyor, I decided to allow the contractor to spread the material this year.

Father Walsh is right when he says this is not the worst material. It is considerably better than was used on the same road last year. Similar material is used on the following contracts in the vicinity. Enniscorthy. R.D no 170 Thomas Linnett. no 173 George Browne, no 177 Patrick Brien, no 181 Moses Brien, no 249 James Byrne, no 276 Wm Whelan, no 314 James Walsh, no 320 Simon Sutton. Wexford R.D. - no 109 Richard Fortune, no 110 Simon Neville, no 128 Andrew Murphy, no 155 Thomas Browne, no 163 Richard Fortune, and no 164 Edward Browne.

On some of these roads the material is much better than the sample, on others considerably worse. I understand that this material has been used for a long period on the roads mentioned. I think if this pit gravel were screened it would keep the roads in fairly good repair, - as good as field stones usually do. In the new specifications for this district, screened gravel is being specified. So far as I am aware there is no good quarry in the vicinity. There is a quarry at Blackwater mill, but the material is only middling.

There are two fairly good quarries at Castlesow - Doran's and Connolly's - $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Screen and 7 miles from Blackwater - a better quarry at Ballyboggan, 4 miles from Screen and $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Blackwater, a good quarry at Ballynury, 5 miles from Blackwater, and $6\frac{1}{4}$ from Screen; Herlogue Quarry which is the best in the district is $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Screen and 11 from Blackwater, & Brownswood is about the same distance.

With reference to the postscript to Father Walsh's letter, I beg to say that the case is not as stated. The road referred to, is that running from Hillala through the streets of Blackwater to Ballyconigar Gap. - no 314 Enniscorthy R.D James Walsh Ballyconigar, contractor. Before I saw the Blergymean mentioned by Father Walsh at all, I had decided not to measure the material. There were three kinds of material on the road, - a bad blue slaty quarry stone,

pit gravel that was three parts sand, and about ten yards of field stones. I measured the field stones and refused to measure the rest. I refused to measure this slaty material on several roads in the same vicinity. In the case under discussion the contractor's money was deferred. At the Ennisecorthy R.D. Council half-yearly meeting Mr. Moses Fortune, J.P., D.C., complained of my action, and stated that the material was very good, etc., and several councillors backed him up.

Finally the matter was left in the hands of the County Surveyor, with a recommendation that the material be allowed for this year. Mr. Webster and I after consultation agreed to let the contractor spread the quarry stones as a trial on the sea end of the road which is very sandy. The contractor was to screen the gravel and spread it on the Blackwater end. The contractor fulfilling these instructions so far as the quarry stone was concerned, but did not screen the gravel. He spread it as it was, contrary to instructions. The clergyman, who informed Father Walsh, was incorrect.

Mr. Janning proposed:— "That a supply of Tara Hill stones be brought by rail, to the parishes of Castlebridge, Blackwater and Ballymurn, and that the contractors for the maintenance of roads within these parishes be required to use a reduced equivalent of these stones instead of the present material they are using".

Mr. Webster said that he thought Kerlogue stones were very suitable.

There was no seconder to Mr. Janning's proposition, and the matter therefore fell through.

Mr. Whelan Garrylough, one of the contractors concerned said, he could not consent to draw stones from Kerlogue. He was satisfied to put on a reduced amount of stones from Murphy's quarry if he could get it.

Mr. Webster said there was excellent stones in Murphy's quarry.

The matter was referred to the County Surveyor and Mr. R. Brennan Assistant Surveyor.

Death of Mr. J. R. Webster V.S.

The Secretary reported that in consequence of the death of Mr. J. R. Webster V.S. Ennisecorthy, who looked after the business of the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts, in the following districts Electoral Divisions of Gorey Union:— Ballybeg, Ballyoughter

Bahore, Ford, Kilcomb, Kellincooley, monomolin, and wells.

The Finance Committee had made arrangements with Mr. James Malone & J. Gorey to carry on the work of the divisions at the rate of 15/- per case, pending a permanent appointment.

There were 26 Electoral Divisions in Gorey Union, and Mr. James Malone had charge of 18.

He was paid £70 per annum the same as the Veterinary Surgeons for Wexford and Enniscorthy. The late Mr. Webster was paid at the rate of 15/- per case, but it was some years since a bill was received from him.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Ennis the following resolution was adopted:- That a successor to Mr. J. B. Webster V. S. deceased, be appointed at next meeting of the County Council at a salary of £20 per annum to discharge the duties of veterinary surgeon under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts in the following eight district Electoral Divisions of Gorey Union. Viz:- Ballybeg, Ballyoughter, Bahore, Ford, Kilcomb, Kellincooley, monomolin, and wells, and that the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction be requested to sanction this arrangement.

Ford of Lyng.

In connection with the flooding of the road at Ford of Lyng (Wexford R.D.) Mr. Elgee Solicitor to the Council, stated that in his opinion the County Council had no power to make a contribution to the proposed work.

Under date 16th February the following letter was read from Mr. N. Kehoe, Clerk Wexford Rural District Council.

re provisional proposal, - Ford of Lyng

"As you are aware the above proposal was provisionally adopted by my Council, at their last half-yearly meeting on condition that the owners of the sloplands would contribute a third of the cost of the proposed work.

I enclose for your information copy of my letter to Mr. Stokes, the agent on the subject, together with a copy of his reply."

The following letter is the communication referred to above:-

"The owners whom I represent do not approve of the new scheme for draining the Ford of Lyng, and not being liable they decline to contribute."

"on the motion of the chairman it was decided to refer the matter to the Wexford Rural District Council.

Proposed Bacon Factory

The following resolution adopted at a meeting of Joint Committee of County Council, and North Wexford Farmers' Society, held on 3rd February was submitted to the meeting:-

"That the attempt now being made by the Farmers' Societies of Wexford to establish a Bacon Factory, and dead meat trade, should be supported by the Department of Agriculture, and a special grant of money be made to defray the preliminary and organising expenses which otherwise must be borne by private individuals for doing a public work, and that the County Council be requested to use its influence with the Department to come to the assistance of the Wexford Farmers' Societies with a substantial grant for developing these projects"

Mr. Browne proposed the approval of the County Council to this resolution. Mr. Peacocke seconded, and the resolution was adopted. Mr. Doyle dissenting.

At this stage the chairman had to leave, and, on the motion of Mr. Peacocke, seconded by Mr. Fanning the chair was taken by Mr. Ennis.

Courtown Harbour

With reference to letter of 12th January (no. 10144) from Irish Lights Office in connection with submerged anchors in the vicinity of Courtown Harbour, and which appears on last minutes of the County Council, the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. J. Bolger seconded by Mr. Ennis:- "That a copy of the letter from the Commissioners of Irish Lights, re anchors at Courtown Harbour be forwarded to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, and that they be requested to have these obstructions removed."

The following resolution was received from the executives of North Wexford Trade and Labour Association:-

"That we place before the County Council the great necessity which exists to have the wreckage in the sea along the coast between Curracloe and Blackwater removed, in order that the fishing industry could

be carried on"

On the motion of the Chairman the following resolution was adopted:— "That a copy of the resolution of North Wexford Trade & Labour Executive be forwarded the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction.

Wrecks in Rosslare Bay

Under date 13th February 1909 the following letter (no. 1088-09) J.B) from the Department of Agriculture was read:—

"Adverting to your letter of the 11th instant, I have to state that the Department would feel much obliged if the Wexford County Council, would kindly have marked on the annexed chart the position of the wrecks in Rosslare Bay.

The Department would also be glad to receive any further information with regard to the wrecks which the County Council might be able to furnish."

On the motion of the Chairman, the Secretary was directed to communicate with Mr. Edward Wickham, Fort, Rosslare

Wrecks at Curracloe and Blackwater

Under date 9th February 1909 (letter no. 1523) the Secretary Board of Works, wrote as follows:—

"With reference to your letter of the 8th December last, in the matter of certain old wrecks at Curracloe and Blackwater, I am directed by the Board of Trade to acquaint you, for the information of the County Council, that the Board are in communication with the Committee of Lloyds with respect to the desire of the Council to take steps towards the removal of the wrecks in question. A further communication will be addressed to you as soon as possible"

New Ross, R. D. Council School Attendance Committee

In connection with letter received from National Education Office under date 15th January, and letter from Mr. Pope, Clerk, New Ross, R. D. Council, under date 26 January 1909, both of which appeared on last County Council minutes, the following resolution was adopted, on the motion of the Chairman:—

"That the Secretary National Education Office, be

informed that as New Ross R. D. Council are anxious to have an opportunity to consider the working of the Irish Education Act in their district it will not be possible for the County Council to appoint their representatives on the New Ross Rural District School attendance Committee before the 16th April."

Old Age Pension Sub-Committees.

In connection with letter from Mr. Kehol, Clerk, Wexford R. D. Council, under date 27th January stating that his Board of Guardians wished the County Council to consider the advisability of giving greater representation to Guardians on sub-committees old Age Pensions Act, and which appeared on last County Council Minutes. The following resolution was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Kehol, seconded by Mr. Ennis:- "That we inform the Wexford Board of Guardians, that their letter will receive due consideration when any vacancies occur on Old Age Pension sub-committees"

Proceedings against County Council.

In connection with the letter from Dr. Browne, Solicitor, New Ross threatening proceedings against the County Council on behalf of Mr. Robert Severens Road Contractor (Road No. 4. New Ross R. D.) and which appears on last County Council Minutes, the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Ennis, seconded by Mr. Peacocke:- "That this matter be referred to Mr. R. W. Elgee Solicitor to the Council."

Steam Wagon on Roads

With reference to the letter of Messrs S. & A. G. Davis, St. John's Mills Enniscomorthy, under date 8th December 1908, relative to their steam wagon breaking through roads, and which appears on last Minutes of County Council, the following resolution was adopted, on the motion of Mr. J. Bolger, seconded by Mr. Peacocke:- "That Messrs Davis be informed, that the matters complained of in their letter have been rectified by the County Surveyor. The Council desire to point out to Messrs Davis, that they should instruct their Engine Drivers not to allow their steam wagons to rest on crown of road bridges when

taking in water. Their attention has been called to this matter by Mr. Webster, but we understand from him that the practice has not yet been discontinued."

Lampighter at Arthurstown

Under date 1st February 1909 Mr. Webster County Surveyor reported the death of Mr. James Kent, Lampighter at Arthurstown pier, and recommended that Mr. Patrick Kent, son of the late James Kent be appointed to the position.

On the motion of Mr. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Bunnis, the following resolution was adopted:— "That Mr. Patrick Kent Arthurstown, be appointed to succeed his father as caretaker of lamps at Arthurstown Pier at a salary of £4 per annum to date from 1st January 1909, as we understand from Mr. Webster that he has been in charge of the lamps from that date

Lamps at Ballyhack Quay.

On the motion of Mr. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Keacocke the following resolution was adopted:— "That we call the attention of the Waterford Harbour Commissioners to the necessity which exists for a lamp to be placed at the opening near the old slip at Ballyhack Quay as we understand that owing to the want of a lamp, these persons resorting the place are in grave danger of losing their lives"

Application from Rate Collectors.

In connection with an application from Rate Collectors John Mullett, John Sinnott, J. Bogley, A. Lennon, and J. Blake for an increase in their poundage fees, and which appears on last Minutes of the County Council.

Mr. Cummins moved and Mr. Kehol seconded:—

"That the poundage fees of Messrs Bogley, Lennon, and Sinnott, Rate Collectors, be increased from 6. to 7 in the £

The following voted in favour of the motion:— Messrs Walsh, J. Bolger, Kehol, J. Bolger, M. Doyle, M. Lodd, Asple, Fortune, and Cummins... 9

Against:— Messrs Jas Lodd, Browne, Keacocke, Fanning and the Chairman (Mr. Bunnis)... 5

The Chairman declared the resolution carried

Bye Laws Fowl Markets.

Communications from Mr. M. Browne, and Mr. J. Kavanagh, County Councillors as to the hours of holding fowl markets and which appeared on last minutes were read:-

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

"That Fowl Markets in Kilmore, Oulart, Kilmuckridge and Ahern, be held, not earlier than 6 o'clock a.m., during the half-year from 1st April to 1st October, and than 7 o'clock a.m. during the half-year from 1st October to 1st April, and that Mr. Bolger take steps to have this bye-law legalized."

Road Conference in London

With reference to proposed road conference in London, promoted by English County Councils Association, and which is referred to in last County Council Minutes, no order was made as to the appointment of delegates.

Inniscorthy School Attendance Committee.

The following resolution was read from Inniscorthy School Attendance Committee:-

"That the Inniscorthy Rural District School Attendance Committee desire to place on record their objection to the action of the County Council in re-arranging salaries of their officers, without obtaining their views on the matter, also to the co-operation on the Committee of any new member without consulting them. They also draw attention to the fact that of the £65 allowed this committee, £5 has been withdrawn without any notice to the Committee."

marked "Read"

Daylight Saving Order

Several communications were read from Mr. W. Willett, M.P. relative to Daylight Saving Bill. no order

Education of Blind & Deaf and Dumb.

The following resolution from the Guardians of North Dublin Union was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Janning seconded by Mr. Peacocke

"We desire to impress on the Government the necessity of giving effect to the recommendation of the Royal Commission by making adequate provision for the education and industrial training of the Blind, Deaf and Dumb. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Secretary for Ireland, Sir Thomas Lamonde Bart. M.P., and Mr. Peter French, M.P."

Appointment of New Assistant Surveyor

The following resolution was proposed by Mr. J. Bolger, seconded by Mr. Janning, and adopted:- "That in order to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. J. J. Ryan Assistant Surveyor at a salary of £60 per annum be advertised for, and that the conditions of employment etc., be drafted by the Finance Committee."

Proposals for works.

On the Motion of Mr. J. Bolger, seconded by Mr. Peacocke, the following resolution was adopted:- "That the several proposals for works passed at the adjourned meeting of the proposals Committee held this date be confirmed, and that these works be given in charge of the County Surveyor"

New Ross Urban Council.

The following resolution was received from the New-Ross Urban Council:-

"That the County Council be informed this Council will refuse to pay the Demand of the County Council, in which the expense of maintaining the public roads is included, until the roads (at least those within a seven miles radius of New Ross) are put into a proper state of repair."

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

"That New Ross Urban Council be informed that no amount for maintaining the public roads is included in the Demand of the County Council."

Finance Committee Recommendations

Mr. Peacocke proposed, Mr. Kehoe seconded the adoption of

the following recommendations of the Finance Committee from meeting of 5th December 1908 to date:-

"Provision for block for County Council Office at a cost not exceeding 30/-"

"Agreeing to Christmas holidays from 23rd December to 28 Dec 1908 inclusive"

"Appointment of Mr. Ennis, and Mr. John Bolger to examine accounts of Tara Hill Quarry."

"Re-arrangement of office management as regards position of Accountant."

"Asking members of Waterford Bridge Committee to attend conference at Waterford on 7th January in connection with Waterford Bridge."

"Issue of duplicate Pay Orders to - Patrick Dillon, Tom. atee Ballycarney (road no 99 Enniscorthy) no 114 for £12:15:3 (original order burnt by Payee's children). No 95 to John Furlong Churchtown Kihane for £51:10:0, issued 1st December and lost in post, and no 47 (subsidiary ac) issued on 9th May 1908 to Michael Rhythen, Ballyboy, Ballaghkeene, for £1:6:10 and which apparently had never reached him."

"Calling attention to Rate collectors who were not making progress with their collections."

"Informing the sureties of Mr. J. L. Doyle collector, that the Finance Committee will recommend his dismissal from office if he did not improve his present methods of collection or tender his resignation."

"Appointing Messrs Kehol, Stafford, Ennis, & Keacock, to conduct an examination of temporary staff."

"Requesting Treasury to pay direct incidental expenses and fees of clerk Old Age Pension Committee, and clerks of sub-committees under Old Age Pensions Act."

"Recommending that in any case in which the County Council agree to substitute a security on an existing road contract, the permission of the County Council be operative only, where the contractor, and existing, and new surety attend at the County Council on the day of meeting and enter into a new bond"

"Agreeing to Secretary's estimate for Rates for General and separate charges for 1909-10"

"Recommending the County Council to enter into a contract with two local newspapers for advertising of County Council, and its committees at £90 per annum, for

each paper; and recommending the Proposal Committee at a future meeting, to enter into a contract with the third newspaper at a similar price, viz £90 a year"

"Directing Constable R. White Gorey to proceed against Mr Patrick Mc Lann Gorey, for an alleged breach of Food and Drugs Act."

"Recommending County Council to grant a sum of 5/- per week as present increase to the salary of Mr. C. H. Richards, County Council Staff, in consideration of the hope held out to the County Council Staff at the time of the appointment of the New County Secretary."

"Allowing use of County Courthouse to recipients of out-door relief in Wexford while waiting for payment, so long as this use of the Courthouse does not interfere in any way with the Administration of Justice, or any use of the Courthouse by the Sheriff or Justices"

"Agreeing to the appointment of Mr. James Malone B.S. to the district of the late Mr J. R. Webster B.S. in Gorey Union, for work under Contagious Diseases (A) Acts, at the rate of 15/- per case, and pending a permanent appointment in the district"

The Chairman

15 April 1909.