

MEETING, 12th February 1923.

A Meeting of the Wexford Co. Council was held on 12th February 1923 in Co. Hall, Wexford.

Present:- Mr. E. P. Foley (Vice-Chairman) presiding  
also present:- Messrs. James Byrne, Michael Byrne, Michael Cloney  
John Cummins, R. Corish, G. Devereux, Michael Doyle, James Hall,  
M. Hughes, David Kavanagh, John O'Byrne (Gorey) John J. O'Byrne  
(Cushinstown) Patrick O'Byrne, M.M. O'Donoghue, John Pender, M.  
Redmond, James Shannon and John Sinnott.

The Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the Co. Surveyor, Mr.  
T. Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor and Mr. R.W. Elgee, Solicitor,  
were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last Meeting were read and confirmed.

The late Mrs. Culleton.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. John O'Byrne  
the following letter from Mr. C. Culleton, in reply to vote of  
condolence adopted on the death of his wife was ordered to be inserted  
on the Minutes of meeting:-

"I received your letter conveying the vote of sympathy passed  
by the Co. Council at a recent meeting of same on the death of my  
wife, and also expressing your own personal sorrow for my trouble  
and bereavement, a week or so before I came here. I was so sick at  
the time that I was utterly unable to write, hence delay in  
acknowledging same. I beg to state that I feel deeply grateful to  
my friends and colleagues on the Council and also yourself for your  
expression of sorrow on that sad occasion. It was indeed a bitter  
blow to lose so good a partner at a time when her care and help over  
a soft family was most required. But it was a trial that God in  
His wisdom saw fit to send me and as a Christian I must submit to  
His holy Will and pray for strength to bear my cross. I am sure  
that the members of the Council and yourself will regret to learn  
that I have suffered a complete breakdown from which I have been  
suffering for a considerable time and am at present domiciled here  
under the care of a specialist. I am not long enough here to have  
made any progress but hope with God's help to recover soon and be



able to take part in the business and affairs of the Co. Council again.

Again thanking you".

The late Mr James Malone, V.S.

On the motion of Mr. John O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Michael Doyle a vote of condolence was passed to Mrs. Malone on the death of her husband, Mr. James Malone, an old and valued official of the Council.

The late Mr. Wm. Doyle V.S.

On the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Shannon, a vote of condolence was passed to Mrs. Doyle, Enniscorthy on the death of her husband, Mr. W.J. Doyle V.S., a highly esteemed official of the Council since its establishment.

Chargeability for Outdoor Relief.

The following notice of which he had given previous notice was moved by Mr. Corish and seconded by Mr. John O'Byrne:-

"That the resolution of the Council fixing the chargeability for Outdoor Relief on each Urban and Rural District is inequitable to the Urban Districts, that same be rescinded and that the Co. Council fix the chargeability for this item of expenditure on each Union area, Rural and appropriate Urban District combined in each case".

In the course of the discussion Mr. Corish stated that owing to the abnormal unemployment which had existed for some time in the Urban District, the cost of outdoor relief had increased very considerably. As a better state of things was anticipated for the coming year he would be satisfied if the terms of his notice of motion would remain in force for one year only.

After a long discussion the Chairman was about to take a show of hands when Mr. Corish demanded a poll which resulted as follows:-

For the motion:- Messrs. Pender, P. O'Byrne, Hughes, Shannon John O'Byrne, Corish and Sinnott.- 7.

Against:- Messrs. Doyle, O'Donoghue, Kavanagh, Cloney, Devereux Hall, Redmond, Cummins, J. Byrne, J.J. O'Byrne, Michael Byrne and the Chairman.- 12.

The Chairman declared the motion lost.



proposed Superannuation- Mr. J.C. Smith  
ex-Rate Collector.

The following notice of motion of which he had given previous notice was moved by Mr. John O'Byrne:-

"That the resolution of the Wexford County Council, refusing a superannuation allowance to Mr. J.C. Smith, ex-Rate Collector be rescinded, and that the matter of agreeing to a superannuation allowance in this case be considered at next meeting of the Council".

Mr. P. O'Byrne seconded.

The Chairman pointed out that on the 30th October 1922 the following resolution had been adopted by the Council:-

"That application for superannuation from any officer of the Council who was dismissed for not carrying out their orders be not entertained by the Council".

In connection with the proposal in Mr. O'Byrne's notice of motion, correspondence was read from the Local Government Department, including the following letter under date 30th November 1922 (L.G. 30/242):-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that further representations have been received from Messrs. M.J. O'Connor & Company, Solicitors, Gorey, in regard to the claim of Mr. J.C. Smith, formerly Rate Collector in Wexford County, to the grant of Superannuation Allowance by the Wexford Co. Council.

It is observed from the Minutes of Proceedings of the County Council at their meeting on the 30th ultimo that a resolution to grant Mr. Smith superannuation was declared defeated by the Chairman of the Council. The Minister regrets that this decision was arrived at, especially in view of the strong representations in favour of granting an allowance which were placed before the Co. Council by the Gorey Rural District Council. He has been much impressed by the terms of the Rural District Council's resolution, reflecting as they do a desire upon the part of the ratepayers of the district in which Mr. Smith served that he should be granted a pension., and he would invite further consideration of the case by the County Council.

Messrs. O'Connor on behalf of Mr. Smith have requested that the



matter should now be taken up and dealt with by the Ministry. Under the existing law, as embodied in the Local Government (Ireland) Act 1919, the right to and amount of an allowance or gratuity in case of dispute is required to be determined by the Minister for Local Government, but he proposes to defer action at present in view of the foregoing request for further consideration of the case on the part of the County Council.

An intimation of the date on which it will be considered by the County Council is desired".

After considerable discussion the Chairman took a show of hands with the result that two members voted for the motion and eleven against.

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

#### Repair Wexford Bridge.

Under date 9th February 1923, Mr. John Browne, Contractor for repairs of Wexford bridge, wrote asking the Council for the payment of balance due to him on his contract for repairing Wexford Bridge.

The Co. Surveyor stated that Mr. Browne had supplied the Military with materials to complete the repairs. He had not yet received any particulars from the Military as to the amount they intended to charge for labour, the repairs on the bridge were practically completed.

The Chairman said they had no definite information as to the actual amount to which Mr. Browne was entitled, or as to what the Military were claiming. The Council could not deal with the matter until they had this information.

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

"That the application of Mr. Browne, Contractor for repairs at Wexford Bridge, for payment of balance on foot of Contract be adjourned to next meeting of the Council., in the meantime the Co. Surveyor to procure from the Military authorities particulars of their claim for labour supplied by them".

#### Appointment Veterinary Surgeon Southern portion New Ross District.

The following resolution was adopted at last meeting of the



"That a Veterinary Inspector for the Southern portion of New Ross District, at a salary of £60 per annum, be appointed by the Wexford Co. Council at a meeting to be held on Monday, 12th February 1923".

Applications for the position were received from Mr. F.W. Taylor V.S. New Ross and Mr. Joseph Lynch, V.S. New Ross.

Both candidates were in attendance.

Mr. J.J. O'Byrne proposed the following resolution:-  
which was seconded by Mr. Redmond and passed unanimously, Mr. Taylor not having been proposed:-

"That Mr. Joseph Lynch V.S. New Ross be appointed Veterinary Inspector for the following District Electoral Divisions in New Ross Rural District, viz:- Carnagh, Dunmain, Inch, Newbawn, Clongeen, Horetown, Fethard, Rathree, Templetown, Tintern, Adamstown, Barronstown Kilgarvan, Ballyhack, Kilmokea, Killesk, Whitechurch and Rochestown (13) under Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts & Bovine Tuberculosis Order at a salary of £60 per annum. That this appointment be made subject to the sanction of the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction".

Mr. Lynch returned thanks for his election. He promised to carry out his duties faithfully and to the satisfaction of the Council.

#### Appointment V.S. Gorey District.

The Secretary reported that Mr. James Malone V.S. died on 16th January 1923.

He read a letter from Mrs. Malone under date 23rd January 1923 that her husband's assistant, Mr. T. Aidan Mernagh, V.S. had been carrying on Mr. Malone's practice and official duties and would continue to do so until such time as the vacant appointment be filled or until end of present quarter in March next.

Under date 5th February 1923, the Veterinary Branch of the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction wrote (letter No. 211-23) that they would offer no objection to the proposed arrangement whereby, pending a regular appointment, the duties of Veterinary Inspector for Gorey District would be performed by Mr. Mernagh at



the same rate of remuneration as was paid the late Mr. Malone and presumed that steps were being taken with a view to a regular appointment being made at the meeting of the Co. Council on 12th February.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. J. O'Byrne, seconded By Mr. P. O'Byrne:-

"That Mr. T. Aidan Mernagh, V.S. Gorey, be appointed as temporary Veterinary Inspector for Gorey Rural District at a salary calculated at £90 per annum, pending permanent appointment of veterinary Inspector for this District".

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mr. John O'Byrne:-

"That subject to the sanction of Veterinary Branch of the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction, the Council proceed to the appointment of Veterinary Inspector for Gorey R. District at a salary of £90 per annum, appointment to be made at meeting to be held on 12th March, Secretary to advertise the position on receipt of sanction of Department of Agriculture & technical Instruction".

#### Appointment V.S. Enniscorthy District.

In connection with vacancy created by the death of Mr. Wm. J. Doyle V.S. the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Kavanagh:-

"That Mr. Philip J. Hayes V.S. be appointed as temporary Veterinary Inspector for Enniscorthy Rural District as from 16th February 1923 until a permanent appointment be made by the County Council.

That salary for temporary appointment be calculated at the rate of £90 per annum".

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

"That, subject to the sanction of the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction, the salary of permanent Veterinary Inspector for Enniscorthy District be fixed at £90 per annum. We desire to point out to the Department that Enniscorthy R. District is almost twice as large as Gorey R. District, and as the salary for the latter



is £90, we consider that at least a similar amount should be paid for the duties in Enniscorthy R. District. That, on obtaining sanction from Department, our Secretary advertise the position, appointment to be made at meeting of Co. Council on 12th March 1923"

Rate Collection.

The Secretary submitted the state of the Rate Collection to 9th February 1923 from which it appeared that £6340. 2. 4d was outstanding in respect of old Rates to March 1922. As regards Rate for March 1922-23 the Collectors had lodged £2403. 6. 9d for March before books were recalled., private lodgments in Bank to the 9th February 1923 (the first lodgment being on 23rd January 1923) amounted to £3599. 12. 8d.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. James Byrne, seconded by Mr. Redmond:-

"That our Secretary be instructed to ascertain definitely from each Rate Collector when he finished the laying down of demand notes in his district".

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. James Byrne, seconded by Mr. Redmond:-

"That old decrees for Rates be executed where possible, that Rate Collectors forward same to the Ministry of Home Affairs and make representations to said Ministry regarding the execution of said decrees, pointing out that the fact that these decrees have remained ineffective to the present, has had a demoralising effect on Ratepayer and greatly impeded the Rate Collection in the County".

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. J. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Shannon:-

"that Rate Collectors be directed to proceed against Ratepayers who have refused to pay Rates in respect of any financial period to 31st March 1922".

County Wexford Infirmary.

Under date 12th February 1923 the folloing was read from the Secretary, County Board of Health:-

"I am directed by the Board of Health to forward to the Co. Council the enclosed copy of a letter recently received from the Local



Government Department and to inform you that in connection with the matter the following resolution was passed by the Board of Health at their last meeting, viz:-

"That, in the event of the subsidy to the Co. Infirmary being continued, the Co. Hospital be closed".

Please lay this matter before the next meeting of the Co. Council and let me know the result of their decision and oblige".

The following is copy of letter from Ministry of Local Government Department (No. 3265-1923) referred to in letter of Secretary of Co. Board of Health:-

"With reference to the entry in the Minutes of Proceedings of the Wexford Co. Board of Health on the 20th December last in connection with the payment by the County Council of the subsidy to the Co. Infirmary, the Ministry of Local Government desire to state, under section 15 of the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898, that the County Council are legally bound to contribute towards the funds of the County Infirmary.

It should however be possible for the County Council so to amend the Amalgamation Scheme as to eliminate one of the Hospitals in Wexford town".

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. John J. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Redmond:-

"that, for financial year 1922-23, the contribution of Co. Council to Co. Wexford Infirmary be limited to a sum of £500 which is the amount raised in estimate of Rate., that no subsidy be included in Rate Estimate for 1923-24 as a contribution to said Infirmary".

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Doyle seconded by Mr. O'Donoghue:-

"That the Minister for Local Government be requested to insert in Bill legalising Amalgamation of Unions, a clause empowering Co. Councils to refuse, should they consider such a course desirable, any contribution to the maintenance etc. of a Co. Infirmary".

Estimate Co. Board of Health.

Under date 7th February 1923 the Secretary, Co. Board of Health forwarded his Estimate for financial year 1923-24, amount being



£48,380 in respect of general charges and £3,695 in respect of repayment of loans.

Referred to meeting of Co. Council at which Co. Estimate will be considered.

#### Repair Roads & Bridges.

Circular letter was read from Local Government Department, under date 11th January, as to the necessity of making adequate provision for the upkeep and repair of roads and bridges, and pointing out that if this would entail an undue burden on the rates of any District for the coming year, it was open to the Rural District to raise a loan for a number of years for the purpose.

#### Grants payable to Council.

Under date 9th February 1923 the following letter (No. 5050-1923 Wexford Co) was read from the Ministry of Local Government:-

"In reply to your letter of the 31st ultiom., regarding the preparation of the Estimate of the County Council for the forthcoming financial year, the Ministry of Local Government desire to state that, while they are not in a position yet to furnish the exact amounts due to the Council on foot of Grants payable out of the Local Taxation Account, they assume that the amounts will be similar to those allocated in previous years.

The Grants are still retained in the Guarantee Fund, and the Ministry do not know when they can be released for distribution but if you desire definite information as to the amounts outstanding you should communicate with the Ministry of Finance".

#### Next Meeting of Co. Council.

It was decided that next meeting of the Co. Council be held on 12th March 1923 and that Estimate of Rates for 1923-24 be considered. Also that a meeting of the Proposal Committee be held on same day for consideration of applications of Co. Surveyor".

#### Co. Council Offices.

#### Report of Hall Committee.

The Committee appointed to obtain premises for Co. Council offices owing to the taking over of Co. Hall by Military Authorities met recently on three occasions. Owing to the lack of definite



information from the Military Authorities nothing could be done at the two first meetings but at the meeting of the 6th February 1923 at which Mr. E.P. Foley (Vice-Chairman of the Council) and Mr. John Sinnott were present, the following letter was read from the Commander-in-Chief to Alderman Corish T.D.:-

"I got yours of the 31st., and the position is that:

1. We shall require to have the Jail exclusively for our own use at least until such time as a Military Barracks is built in Wexford.  
 LL. The matter of payment of rent or otherwise in respect of the Jail is having the attention of the Office of Public Works and the position is that they will deal with the matter in one of three ways- whichever is the most economical from their point of view.

(1) By Purchase.

(2) By leasing the premises, or,

(3) By paying the rent for alternative premises for the County

Council. If the County Council people have something definite in mind that they wish to do, this information ought to be sufficient to allow them to take a decision".

The Committee desire to point out that they have been unable to rent suitable premises. The Military stated they would be prepared to hand over George Street Barracks but not alone would it be difficult to convert it for Co. Council purposes, except at a prohibitive outlay, but it carries an annual rent of £80. An offer was also made that the Council should take over the present Military Barracks but these would also entail very considerable expense and would be found to cost so much for upkeep that the Committee could not see their way to recommend the Council to accept the offer.

In the circumstances they believe the purchase of Fortview for £2,000 is the most suitable course to take. The premises will be rent free and will allow of the erection of a proper machinery yard when a favourable opportunity arises. It is manifest from the communication of the Commander-in-Chief that several years must elapse before the occupancy of Co. Hall could be resumed, and in the meantime the Military may decide that the site is the most suitable to be obtained for the proposed Military Barracks.

The Committee further recommend that the Co. Hall premises



should be offered to the Military Authorities for £3,000 (exclusive of furniture and fittings)

The Committee consider it most inequitable that the letter of the Commander-in-Chief should make no provision for compensation for disturbance and the cost of fitting up new offices, and direct attention to the fact, that when the Co. Hall was taken over by the British Military for the "Black & Tans", provision was made for cost of removal to Wexford Workhouse, the rent charged for the premises occupied there by the Council, and the ground rent of the Co. Hall. They hold they should not now receive less favourable treatment, and will expect in the event of the Council agreeing to purchase Portview, that the Military Authorities (in the event of declining to purchase Co Hall) should pay at least the rent which is payable by the present tenants of Portview. The least, the Committee state, the Military Authorities should ensure is that the Council should not be at a loss by a step which is taken for Military convenience. All the Committee suggest the Military pay for the premises is the amount actually paid by the Council when they entered into possession.

If the Council adopt the recommendation of the Committee in respect of the purchasing of Portview, the Committee further recommend if Co. Hall premises be not taken over for proposed Military Barracks, that the Council should subsequently deal with a proposal to sell the place for building site and in this way cancel their liability for payment of ground rent, in view of the fact that the maintenance of the large buildings in Co. Hall would be found extremely costly in future.

Mr. M.J. O'Connor, Solicitor, Wexford, who is acting for owner of Portview, came before the meeting by request, and explained that possession of the premises could be obtained in three weeks.

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

"That the Council purchase the premises known as "Portview", Wexford, as Co. Council offices, for the sum of £2,000 on condition that they can secure possession of the premises within three weeks from this date, 12th February 1923. That the amount of the purchase money be paid over to Mr. M. J. O'Connor, Solicitor for Vendor at



meeting of Co. Council to be held on 12th March 1923. That Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council, be instructed to examine the necessary deeds etc. That Mr. M. Doyle T.D. and Mr. R. Corish T.D. be requested to use their influence with the Military Authorities and the Board of Works to secure adequate compensation for surrender of Co. Hall premises for Military purposes".

#### Cutting Hedges.

Under date 18th January 1923 the Local Government Department wrote (Ref. A/408) calling attention to the powers vested in the Co. Council to have hedges cut and lopped, also trees, which prejudice or obstruct Public Roads.

The Co. Surveyor explained that he had taken some recent prosecutions in regard to this matter.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. J.J. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. John O'Byrne:-

"That the Co. Surveyor be instructed to take steps to secure the cutting of all such hedges or trees as are injurious or form an obstruction to public roads in the County".

#### Road Administration.

The following Extract from the report of Mr. Raftery, Engineering Inspector, Local Governemtn Department, which accompanied this letter of 15th November 1922 (Ref. 34/3) from that Department was laid before the Meeting:-

"I attended at County Hall, Wexford on the 25th, 26th and 27th October with Mrs. Crofts, Local Government Inspector, and investigated as far as circumstances would permit, the state of Administration of the Roads department of the Wexford County Council.

I have set out on Table A and Table B attached particulars of the Survey Staff and statistics pertaining to their work.

It will be observed that the staff comprises one County Surveyor six Assistant Surveyors and three Road Clerks. The County Surveyor is not allowed travelling expenses and consequently spends most of his time in the office. A very important part of his duties the supervision of the Council's quarries and machinery is deputed to one of the Assistant Surveyors, while the road mileage of the County is divided in charge of the remaining five of the Assistant surveyors.



In my opinion, the office is overstaffed for two competent clerks would be quite sufficient to cope with the work if it were properly distributed and the "outdoor" portion of it put on a systematic basis. The roads in Wexford are maintained by the "Contract" System, but 1,023 miles, being more than half the total mileage, have been placed in "hands of the Co. Surveyor". These latter roads are said locally to be done by Direct Labour but it is obvious the practice has all the defects and not one of the advantages of a regular Direct Labour Scheme. Isolated roads, places in charge of the Co. Surveyor cannot be maintained efficiently or economically and the Wexford Co. Council would do well to endeavour to have all the roads in the County done by Contract or else adopt a wholesale Direct Labour Scheme.

The County Council own 61 quarries as follows:- Gorey 8, Enniscorthy 21, New Ross 15 and Wexford 17, and employ a large staff of workmen in the preparation of road material. Owing to lack of co-ordination and proper supervision, these quarries are worked in a very unsatisfactory manner and the mere submitting of a report to the Co. Council by the Surveyor responsible, such as that considered at the Meeting 17th July, even though it disclosed serious irregularities and prohibitive cost of working, will not remedy matters.

The Council supply road Contractors with metal from these quarries, at a price mentioned when contract was entered into, even though it is costing several times the figure mentioned, and charge up the difference to the Rural District in which the Contract Road is situated.

Quarries must be considered an adjunct to roads and should be worked in as part of the road maintenance, and not as a non-paying commercial undertaking absorbing a large proportion of County Council funds and time of the executive staff.

There is a great deal of overlapping and yet want of fixed responsibility in the supervision of this quarry work, and in my opinion, conditions will never be satisfactory until each Assistant Surveyor is made responsible for all work, including quarries, in his particular area under the supervision of the County Surveyor. In this way it will be possible to locate defects immediately and concentrate on improvement., and at the same time cause no interruption



where matters are running smoothly.

Apart from certain overlapping of duties with those of County Surveyor it is physically impossible for Mr. Treanor to directly supervise the working of all quarries throughout the County and carry out all the office work so essential in an undertaking of its kind and it would certainly lead to efficiency and economy if he were allotted a particular area the same as the other Assistant Surveyors.

One of the other Assistant Surveyors has charge of 475 miles of roads, another physical impossibility if efficient supervision were expected and I have no doubt that if the total road mileage of the County were <sup>re</sup>/allotted among the six Assistant Surveyors, giving each man approximately 325 miles, beneficial results would follow.

The County Surveyor is agreed that the fixing of the Surveyors' Districts as follows:-

1. North Gorey. 2. East Enniscorthy, South Gorey, 3. West Enniscorthy 4. New Ross, 5. South New Ross, South West Wexford, 6. East Wexford. would fit in admirably. I understand Mr. Traynor will raise no objection to being put in charge of No. 1 District, and No. 2 and No. 6 District can be allotted to the successors of Messrs. Kirby and Curran when the circumstances in connection with the vacancies have been cleared up.

It was impossible to check work done for the Nine Thousand odd Pounds allocated to Wexford Co. Council under the Unemployment Scheme. A bulk sum account was taken for each Rural District, and the money expended in ordinary surface work, irrespective of locality or definite items to be completed. Being ordinary road maintenance which should in the usual course be performed by the County Council, the Government funds may be said to have applied for the relief of rates rather than relief of unemployment.

Before further Grants are made available, the Ministry should insist that definite Schemes be submitted and that proper supervision should be exercised and requisite records and accounts be kept as the work proceeds.

The workmen engaged in the quarries and on the roads in Co. Surveyor's office are paid weekly and at the rate of 9.12 (Nine point one two pence) pence per hour. This smacks of a highly organised



industrial concern, but considering the almost absolute lack of supervision in Wexford, and that the men are paid for all broken time, it is simply futile having a clerical staff employed on involved calculations, when the Paysheet is no criterion of the actual money earned.

In the attached copy of an actual Paysheet discharged by the County (C) it will be seen that men returned by the Ganger in charge as having worked 39, 38, 37, 50 and 37.45 hours were paid at the flat rate of 50 hours while the total actual time of 412.40 was increased to 507.45 hours for the purpose of payment. A man on this Sheet returned as having worked 35 hours just got paid for the actual time, while on the same week men returned on another Paysheet (D) copy attached, as having worked 36 hours each got paid for 50 hours. Apart from this haphazard method of dealing in the office with workmen's time, the fact of different men in a Gang having been returned as having worked 9, 8, 7, 50 and 7.45 hours each in one particular day shows lack of discipline of the works.

The working week is Thursday to the following Wednesday, involving more reference as regards insurance and bringing the usual half holiday mid period.

The Paysheet contains no certificate of any responsible official of having visited the works or having seen any of the men employed and the whole system must be radically altered before any improvement will be possible!

The following reply was submitted from Mr. Barry, Co. Surveyor:-

"I have been furnished with a copy of above report and shall deal with each paragraph in rotation.

I must first however draw attention to the destructive nature of Mr. Raftery's report, whereas we were informed that a constructive scheme of Road Maintenance applicable to all the 26 Counties would be laid before the County Council.

Pay sheets were not prepared in a haphazard manner. They were prepared strictly in accordance with the orders of the County Council. The Council had local labour troubles and finally fixed the wages rates etc., in conjunction with representatives of the labourers.

The Chargehands in the Quarries are responsible men appointed under



this agreement.

I must point out also that there is an entire misconception of the system of Quarry charges. The actual cost of material is borne by each Rural District and it is really a matter of indifference whether the Co. Council be paid directly by the Contractor or directly by the Rural District Council or in part by the Contractor and the balance by the Rural District Council. Whatever the price charged for material the Contractor must add it to his tender for the road and the amount is deducted from him and paid directly to the County Council for the credit of the Rural District concerned. Balances, if any, are paid by the Rural District Council to the Co. Council without passing through the Contractor's account.

3. There are five District Assistant Surveyors and one General Assistant. In only two Districts (South Wexford and New Ross) have there been any changes in the past ten years. There were three changes in the past ten years in Gorey, four in North Enniscorthy and five in South Enniscorthy. These changes do not tend to efficiency.

For some time now there have been only two clerks in Co. Surveyor's office. The junior clerk was appointed for dealing with weekly pay sheets. The lack of County Surveyor's <sup>travelling</sup> expenses has not been a consequence of time in office. Outside inspections whenever possible and necessary in connection with matters of importance and settlement of disputes or irregularities have always been made. The allocation of the Senior Assistant to supervision of Quarries and Machinery was absolutely necessary at the time. He had to arrange for rock drilling, blasting and stone breaking, also permits and escorts where necessary in using explosives. When complete contract system was in force, there was only one clerk, and as there were a gradually increasing number of payments for roads and quarries on Form 16, a second and then a third clerk was appointed. Under a full system of Contract or Direct Labour System, with the Assistants preparing the paysheets for fortnightly payments, two clerks will be sufficient.

4. The Contract System failed owing to lack of Contractors tendering for roads. It was only this year to meet exceptional circumstances, that roads were placed directly in the Co. Surveyor's charge without



asking for tenders. These were all first or second class and tenders were invited for all third class. Untendered roads were placed in Co. Surveyor's charge. The Scheme was only temporary pending general settlement of Financial, Labour and other difficulties.

5. Half the Co. Council Quarries were recently opened to meet the above requirements. Contractors on many roads formerly obtained their own supply of material, and this had now to be supplied by the Council. With a smaller number of quarries and piece work in operation, co-ordination and supervision were satisfactory. The report of 17th July and other reports did remedy matters to a large extent by the action of the Co. Council. These reports show that careful supervision was exercised.

6. The supply of material at a fixed rate was necessary as the price of contract could not be varied. The Rural District Council paid the full cost of material no matter whether Contractors were charged nothing or only a portion of the price.

7. Quarries were considered as an adjunct of Roads and not merely as a Nonpaying undertaking. The cost of the Quarries was charged to Road Maintenance and added to the other expenditure and the total kept within the Financial Limit of Expenditure allowable. Thus each District's Expenditure on roads was exact. The time of the staff will always, under any scheme, of necessity be taken up with Quarry work as being part of road work. Under the proposed new system (six district Surveyors) road mileage will be taken from five Assistants and added to the sixth, and quarry work will be taken from the sixth and divided amongst the other five. It is merely a re-division of the total work. This was fully explained to Mr. Raftery.

8. Under the System as it grew up it was impossible for each Assistant to deal with Co. Council quarry work. If each Assistant is to be held responsible for quarries in his District he must be provided with a complete machinery outfit and explosive magazines and must have authority to use explosives. There will also be required at least two machinery repair yards and stores in the County. Up to the present blasts had to be arranged for from a centre where the explosive was stored. The limited supply of



machinery had to be used up and down the country as found to the best advantage and centralization was necessary.

9. With the present increasing number of Co. Council Quarries the difficulty of supervision by one man is recognised but radical changes will otherwise be necessary if each Assistant is to take up the work (see par. 8) Wexford is differently circumstanced from most other counties as regards Quarry working, having a number of large quarries worked constantly with large output, throughout the year, instead of small quarries or pits supplying only a very limited area with a limited quantity.

10, 11. If conditions as in paragraph six are fulfilled six Assistants in charge of Districts would have only about 325 miles each with the necessary quarries.

12. When this money was allocated the Co. Surveyors were informed that the work should be put in hands at once to provide employment and to restore roads neglected during the troubled times. In this County unemployment was general and therefore the employment was given over the whole County to the best advantage. The work done could not owing to financial difficulties have been done otherwise. Accounts were kept and definite work done under a definite scheme.

13. Definite Schemes were always submitted in connection with former Road Board Grants and full details of work and expenditure kept under proper supervision.

14. The paysheet (C) referred to is that for Monarigg Quarry at the Finance Meeting held on 13th July 1922. In this case there was a Church Holyday, nine hours and also two hours wet and by order of Co. Council payment was made for this time to the men. Other men who were absent on other days were paid only for time worked at rate of 38/- per week of 50 hours, this is 9.12d per hour. In comparison with Paysheet D (Carrigfoyle Quarry) the men paid for only 35 hours did not put in full possible working hours, whereas the man who was paid in full for 36 hours worked the full possible time there being 9 hours Holyday and 5 hours wet time in this Quarry for that week.

16. This division of the week was adopted to avoid unnecessary delay in paying the men. With fortnightly payments as provided for in Local Government's Department's Forms and Assistants each sending



in Paysheets for Quarries etc. Saturday can end the week.

17. The Quarry Assistant checked the work in the Quarries and in the case of road work the other Assistants furnished certificates."

The meeting took no action in the matter as they believed the new scheme of Direct Labour will secure such changes as will prevent any slackness in road administration.

Application of Co. Surveyor for  
Travelling Expenses.

The following resolution was adopted at meeting of Co. Council on 20th November 1922:-

"That the application of Co. Surveyor for travelling expenses be adjourned for the present, and that same be considered by special meeting appointed to deal with Scheme of Road Maintenance".

It was decided that the application be adjourned to the meeting of Co. Council at which the full Scheme of Direct Labour with Road schedules dealing with same, will be considered.

Overdraft of £26,000

Under date 17th January 1923 the Local Government Dept. wrote (letter G 1952/1923) sanctioning the borrowing by Wexford Co. Council of a temporary overdraft not exceeding £27,000 to the end of the current financial year.

Under date 26th January the Manager, National Bank, Wexford, wrote that his Directors had sanctioned his allowing the Co. Council a temporary advance of £26,000 subject to a rate of half per cent under Irish Banks' Rate, varying with a maximum of 4 per cent. This would mean a rate of 4 per cent at present.

ship  
Treasurer/of Co. Board of Health.

Under date 26th January 1923, the Manager, National Bank, Wexford wrote that, now that the Council had obtained the temporary advance of £26,000 from his directors, he wished to point out that when the Wexford Union A/c was closed at his Bank, the A/c of Co. Board of Health was opened in another Bank instead of being continued in the National Bank as it should have been, as he contended that the A/c of Co. Board of Health was only a continuation of the old Union A/c. As the National Bank had always been great financial supporters of the



Council as a favour to see that the account of the Co. Board of Health was transferred to the National Bank. The Co. Board of Health being supplied with funds by the Council, he took it that it was a subsidiary account to the A/c of the Co. Council and consequently the Council would have, he assumed, a discretion as to where the Banking business of the Board of Health ought to be transacted.

The Chairman proposed:-

"This Council feels that it is an injustice to the National Bank that it was not selected as treasurer to Co. Board of Health, a subsidiary body of the Council, and request the Co. Board of Health to reconsider the appointment of permanent Treasurer".

After discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Cummins:-

"That copy of letter from Manager, Wexford Branch of National Bank as to Treasurership of Co. Board of Health be transmitted to the latter for their observations".

Application from D. & S.E. Rly. Co  
re Overline Bridges.

The Co. Surveyor reported that he had received an application from D. & S.E. Railway Co., that they wished to narrow overline bridge at Tinnock on the road between Gorey and Arklow from 35 to 22 feet. The District Council of Gorey had discussed the matter and were not favourable to the proposal. Besides this was a leading road and the bridge was situate on a turn.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. J. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Corish:-

"That the application of the Dublin & South Eastern Railway Co. to decrease the width of Tinnock Railway Bridge from 35 to 22 feet be refused as the change would tend to considerable inconvenience of the public".

Railway Bridge at Palace.

The Co. Surveyor stated he had received an application from Dublin & South Eastern Railway Co. for permission to alter the head room of Palace Railway Bridge from 13 feet 7 in. to 12 ft. 7 in. Some of the stonebreakers required headroom of 13 ft. 4 in. and if the application were granted the road level would have to be sunk. ✓



The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. J. J. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Shannon:-

"That the application of Dublin & South Eastern Railway Co. for permission to alter the headroom of Palace Railway Bridge be refused".

Warping Buoy, New Ross Bridge.

The Co. Surveyor reported that the chain of the warping buoy at New Ross had broken. He had been unable to secure the end of the old chain which was very much worn. A new chain would have to be provided and it was necessary to employ a diver. It would be very difficult to say what the cost would be- something like £50 or £60 and it might run into more. He suggested that he would draft a specification and invite offers from those interested.

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

"That the Co. Surveyor prepare a specification in connection with the re-fixing of warping buoy at New Ross bridge and invite tenders for the necessary work, these to be submitted to next meeting of Co. Council".

Slaney Bridges.

The Co. Surveyor reported that barges which were being used on the river Slaney by Mr. P. Donovan, Ship Owner, Wexford, were colliding with the structure of the bridges and might do considerable harm one of these days.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. John O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Shannon:-

"That the question of barge traffic on the river Slaney by Mr. Donovan, Ship Owner, Wexford, be referred to Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, and that he be instructed to draft an agreement covering liability of Mr. Donovan for any damage which may be caused by these barges to the bridges over the Slaney".

In connection with completion of repair work at Wexford Bridge by the Military the Co. Surveyor reported that Mr. Donovan complained that a reduction had been made in head room in opening span and he could not secure as formerly the full benefit of the tides. But so far as he (Co. Surveyor) could see nothing could be done until the



opening span could be looked after under normal conditions.

Lorry v. Carts for Haulage.

The Co. Surveyor said he proposed to employ steam lorry to haul about 1,000 yards of material from Tara Hill Quarry to the Gorey-Arklow road. Of course objection would be made that there was a good deal of unemployment and that a number of carters in the district were small men dependent practically on their horses and carts for a living. But he anticipated that by employing steam lorry for hauling a saving of £100 approximately would be effected. There was a big surplus of material in Tara Hill Quarry and it would have to be cleared out.

Mr. J. O'Byrne asked for a definite statement as to what would be saved by the use of the lorry.

Mr. Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor stated that haulage by lorry would cost 1/- per yard mile and by carters 1/6d per yard mile.

The Co. Surveyor stated that on these figures the saving would be £125, taking into consideration the length of the haulage from quarry to road.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. John J. O'Byrne, seconded by the Chairman:-

"That haulage of material from Tara Hill Quarry to Gorey-Arklow Road be carried out by steam lorry".

Wicklow Gap Quarry.

Under date 16th January, 1923, the following letter was read from Michael Connors, Wicklow Gap Branch, Irish Transport & General Workers' Union:-

"I would be glad if you would bring under the notice of the Council that the members of this Branch directed me to state that they will require the breaking of the stones in Wicklow Gap Quarry to be done with hammers for if it is done otherwise it will create widespread unemployment".

The Co. Surveyor said it would not be possible to have material broken by hand in Wicklow Gap Quarry. Hand breaking tried previously in this quarry was not satisfactory.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. John J. O'Byrne,



it was decided to leave the application from Wicklow Gap Transport Union Branch in the hands of the Co. Surveyor.

Report re J.J. O'Gorman, Road Overseer.

The Co. Surveyor stated that he had been asked to report as to a complaint made against John J. O'Gorman, Road Overseer, Ballyrannell Glenbrien, that he had employed a man named Kavanagh, who was not entitled to employment and that O'Gorman had his own horse working on the road. O'Gorman informed him that Kavanagh was never employed on the roads at all. As regards the horse, he had lent it to a man who otherwise would not have been able to secure work, and he (O'Gorman) did not derive any benefit from the transaction.

No Order.

Co. Surveyor's Clerical Staff.

The Co. Surveyor reported that Mr. Thomas Cullen, his senior clerk, had been arrested by the Military on the 29th January and he (Co. Surveyor) had had to employ a substitute, Mr. Thos. Cadogan. He now asked that the salary of substitute be fixed.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mr. O'Donoghue--

"that Mr. Thos. Cadogan, Faythe, Wexford, be employed as temporary clerical assistant in office of Co. Surveyor during the absence of Mr. Thos. Cullen, salary £3 per week and appointment to be determined by a week's notice at either side".

Quarry men to work on Roads.

The Co. Surveyor stated that he had received representations from various County and District Councillors with a view to having work done on some of the roads for which material had been provided. It had been suggested that men be taken from the quarries and employed on the roads. In this way the weekly expenditure would not be increased and the roads would be improved. The work would run for about a month.

Mr. John J. O'Byrne proposed and Mr. Michael Doyle seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"that the application of the Co. Surveyor to employ men to work on roads, and who are at present working in quarries, for the purpose



of having material spread, be approved".

Kilrane Road.

Under date 31st January 1923 Mr. J. Callaghan, Secretary Rosslare Harbour Co-operative Society, Ltd., wrote that Kilrane road, about the condition of which general complaints were being made, was not a laneway as contended by a member of the Council at last meeting but a presented road. He hoped that the matter would be dealt with satisfactorily and would not be unduly delayed.

The Co. Surveyor stated this matter had been referred to Mr. M. Doyle, Co. Councillor and to him. Owing to his duties as T.D. Mr. Doyle was not able to visit the road but he (Mr. Barry) saw it with Mr. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor. It was as he expected- drains running along at the back of Ballygeary by Ballybro and out into the reclamation works to the Slob were choked and this was the cause of all the trouble. The matter had been for years under the consideration of the Council. He tried to get the Slob people to clean up the lower end as those living at upper end would not do anything until an outlet was provided. It was a very serious matter as the road was being constantly flooded, children were hampered going to school and people had to make detours to get to Mass on Sundays.

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

"that the Co. Surveyor be directed to furnish to the Minister of Local Government for his advice, a full statement as to the condition of Kilrane road, calling particular attention to the vast amount of inconvenience caused to a large community by the flooded condition of this thoroughfare from time to time".

Road, Aclamon, New Ross.

Under date 17th January 1923, an application was read from James Murphy, Secretary, New Ross Branch, Irish Transport & General Workers' Union, for employment for some members of the Branch on the road from Aclamon through Ballylane to bounds of New Ross.

On the motion of the Chairman, it was decided to refer the matter to the Co. Surveyor.



Complaint of Employment of Non-Union  
Road men.

Under date 11th February 1923, Mr. G. Keyes, Secretary Ferns Branch, Irish Transport & General Workers' Union wrote that the Ballycarney section of Union complained that Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, had engaged a non-Union man on the roads while Union men were idle. A man named Andrew Redmond and his son were engaged drawing stones., they were not members of a Union and men who had horses and were members of Union contended they were best entitled to such work.

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

"That copy of letter from Mr. G. Keyes, secretary, Ferns Branch Irish Transport & general Workers' Union as to employment of non-Union labourers on roads be furnished the Co. Surveyor with directions to obtain observations of Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, thereon".

Assistant Surveyor.

In connection with the proposed appointment of Assistant Surveyor, the following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. John J. O'Byrne--

"That the question of appointing new Assistant Surveyor be deferred for the present".

Postponement of Local Elections.

The Act of Dail Eireann postponing elections to Local bodies was explained to the meeting., Circular of 22nd December 1922 from the Ministry of Local Government accompanying the Act was also read.

Bannow Water Supply.

Sealed Order No. 143/12-1922 under date 19th December 1922, and fixing Bannow Dispensary District as the area of charge for improvement of Bannow Water Supply was read.

Conveyance of Patients to  
Mental Hospital.

Under date 16th January 1923 the following letter (No. L.G. 703-M.H. 1087) was read from Ministry of Local Government:-

"With reference to your letter of 4th instant I have to inform



you it is contemplated that, when normal conditions with regard to the committal of lunatics are established, the expenses incurred in conveying lunatics to the mental hospital will be in accordance with the scale applicable to the Civic Guard. In addition to the Justice's certificate the Account of the Paying Officer of the Civic Guard which will be rendered to the Co. Council, will be certified by the Chief Superintendent who would be in a position to deal with any question raised as to the amount or the accuracy of the Account".

#### Primary Scholarship Scheme.

Under date 27th November 1922 the Secretary, General Council of Co. Councils, forwarded draft of recommendations as to conditions attaching to the award of Scholarships from Primary to Secondary schools.

No order, as the Council have already a Primary Scheme suitable to the County in operation.

The Secretary submitted correspondence from Ministry of Education as to minor changes in the provisions of Co. Primary Scholarship Scheme and stated that the amendments suggested by the Minister had been printed and circulated.

#### University Scholarship Applications.

In connection with the eligibility of candidates for University Scholarships for 1923 the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Michael Doyle, seconded by Mr. J.J. O'Byrne:-

"That our Secretary furnish each Co. Councillor with the names and addresses of applicants for University Scholarships in 1923. That Councillors be requested to inform the Secretary of any case in which in the opinion of a Councillor the parents or guardians of an applicant is in a position to pay for a University training".

Under date 23rd January 1923 Mr. John Mooney, Killanne, Enniscorthy, wrote:-

"I suppose you were wondering why I never wrote and told you if I intended taking up the scholarship or not. The fact is I was prevented by circumstances and could not give a definite reply. I would take it up now if I could do so, I would be very pleased if



you would let me know if it is possible to renew it".

Mr. Hall proposed, Mr. Shannon seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That John Mooney, Killanne, be awarded University Scholarship with-held by Co. Council some time ago as applicant is now intending to take up a secular profession".

General Council Irish Co. Councils  
and Roads etc.

The following resolutions were received from the General Council Irish Co. Councils, having been adopted at the annual meeting of that body:-

"that this Council desire to impress on the Government and on each County and District Council the need for improving roads generally, thereby affording much needed employment and restoring the roads to a satisfactory standard".

That this Council desire to urge upon the Minister for Local Government the desirability of appointing a representative Commission or Committee to take into consideration the entire question of the Control and maintenance of Roads and the taxation of Road Users".

"County Surveyorship Examinations"

"That this Council impress on the Local Government Department the immediate necessity of speeding up the examinations for the vacant County Surveyorships and ask the Department to allow Assistant Surveyors to sit for these examinations".

Reply of Local Government Department under date 27th January 1923 to resolutions of General Council of Co. Councils was also read.

Representative of Co. Council on  
Wexford Harbour Board.

Under date 16th January 1923 Mr. Gordon, Secretary to Wexford Harbour Commissioners, wrote that there was a seat now vacant on the Harbour Board in consequence of the death of Mr. James French, and asked to be supplied with the name of member of the Council proposed to act as their representative on the Board.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall.



seconded by Mr. Devereux:-

"That Mr. E.P. Foley, Vice-Chairman of the Council, be appointed as the representative of the Council on the Wexford Harbour Board".

Applications from Public Bodies  
for Funds.

Application was read from Wexford R.D. Council for instalment on foot of annual demand.

The Co. Board of Health wrote applying for £2,800 to cover payments for January and £3,000 for amounts to be paid in February.

The Mental Hospital, Enniscorthy applied for £3,000.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. James Shannon, seconded by Mr. J. J. O'Byrne:-

"That our Secretary supply as much money as he possibly can consistent with the financial position of the Council, to the subsidiary bodies financed by the Co. Council".

Juries Acts.

The following resolution was adopted:-

"That payments in respect of preparation of Jurors' Lists for 1922-23 be made to the officers concerned.

That A/c from Under Sheriff for £10. 11. 3d for service of Jurors' Summonses be referred to Local Government Department for their observations., that they be asked to advise the Co. Council in connection with claim for £88. 7. 3d furnished by Clerk of Crown & Peace for preparation of Jurors' Lists in 1921 and original of which was furnished Local Government Department on 16th November 1922".

Motor Car prosecutions.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. John O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Shannon:-

"That Mr. C.H. Richards, Local Taxation Officer, Wexford, be empowered to proceed against the following for alleged offences under Motor Car Acts:-

James Ward, Ward's Hotel, Bagnalstown, Co. Carlow, T.J. Sheridan 19 The Quay, Waterford, Michael Ryan, The Garage, Mary Street, Waterford., Peter Sinnott, 50 High Street, Portlawn, Waterford, John J. Kelly, 16 William Street, Waterford., John Kelly, Catherine



Street, Waterford., Collier Bros. Newtownbarry, Aidan Hughes, Monamolin, Laurence Hanrahan, Ferns., John Byrne, Ballycale, Gorey, Michael Hobbs, 3 Rafter Street, Gorey., Henry dempsey, Bull Ring, Wexford., Michael O'Gorman, Tomhaggard., John Keating, Taghmon., Edward Rossiter, Quay, Enniscorthy.

That in the case of persons residing outside the County, on above list, the Local Taxation Officer endeavour to avail of the services of the Civic Guard for services of Summonses etc.

That Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, in all cases in which alleged offences are proved, be directed to press for full penalty, as amounts secured in fines etc., are applied to maintenance of Roads by Roads Department of Ministry of Local Government".

#### Applications for Salary etc.

Applications for payment of salary were received from the Under Sheriff, Mr. J.J. Roche, Coroner, also from Mr. Banville, in reference to his superannuation allowance.

The Chairman said these applications could not be considered in view of the present financial position of the Council.

#### Old Age Pension Business- Filling

#### Vacancies on Sub-Committee No. 4.

Under date 6th February 1923 the following was read from Mr. J. J. Fanning, Clerk No. 4 Sub-Committee:-

"At the monthly meeting of my Pensions Sub-Committee held yesterday Feb. 5th., it was decided to fill the vacancies now existing on Committee by the death of Mr. James Malone, V.S. and by Father Doyle's absence.

The following names were recommended to be forwarded to the Co. Committee for co-option:- Messrs. Thomas Williams, Main Street, Gorey and John Gannon, Tara Hill, Gorey.

Will you please bring this matter before your next meeting and oblige".

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. John O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Shannon:-

"That Messrs. Thomas Williams, Main Street, Gorey and John Gannon, Tara Hill, Gorey be appointed to vacancies on Old Age pension Sub-Committee No. 4 caused by transfer of Rev. P. Doyle C.C.



from Gorey and demise of Mr. James Malone V.S."

#### Local Government Officials (Ireland)

##### Trade Union.

The following resolution adopted at the Annual Conference of above Union held on 28th October 1922 was adjourned to next meeting of the Council.

"That all clerical appointments in the service of Public Bodies should be filled by competitive examinations and further that no person shall be appointed to any professional position under a Public Board unless they have adequate qualifications for such positions".

##### Civic Guard and Local Authorities.

The following resolution was received from Waterford Corporation

"That this Council urge upon the Government and Dail Eireann the desirability of giving Local Authorities some voice in the control of the Civic Guard in their areas, as we believe this would conduce to greater efficiency and to an increased sense of civic responsibility among the general public.

That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister for Home Affairs., the local members of Dail Eireann and to each County and Borough Council of the Irish Free State".

It was decided that the Secretary ask Waterford Corporation what they suggested should be the nature of the control which Public Bodies were to have in connection with the Civic Guard.

##### Army Supplies.

The following resolution was received from Monaghan Co. Council:-

"That attention has been drawn to a report that the Army Council have given instructions that all supplies be ordered from central depots in the large cities, thereby depriving the local traders and manufacturers of the opportunity of competing. This would cause serious loss to the country, as most of the goods could be supplied locally at a cheaper rate than is required in the cities. It is also keenly felt that such a course is an injustice to those who sustained and whole heartedly supported the Irish Army during all the years of the war, and we call on the Council to suspend this



Order.

Copies of this resolution to be sent to the Minister for Local Government, the Army Council and other County Councils".

No Order

Longford R.D. Council and Peace.

The following resolution was read from Longford R.D. Council:-

"That as in our opinion, the executions of prisoners by the Government and the shooting of Members of Parliament by the forces opposed to the Government, will not bring Ireland one step nearer to peace, we call upon the Government, in the most earnest manner, immediately to arrange a truce".

That we call upon the old officers of the I.R.A. who were in charge during the Black & Tan Terror, and who at present maintain a neutral attitude, to arrange for an All-Ireland meeting, with a view to bringing the conflicting parties together, and finding for them a common platform.

That we call upon the last Sinn Fein Ard Fein, without loss of time, to convene a meeting for the purpose of finding some means of delivering our country from the present appalling state of affairs".

This resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Cummins seconded by Mr. Sinnott.

Income Tax.

An account for Income Tax in connection with premises at Courtown Harbour was received from Mr. Eugene O'Connor, Collector, Gorey.

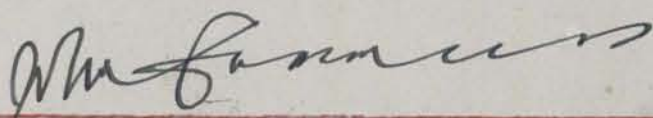
The Council decided to make no order in the matter.

Proposals for Payment.

On the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. John O'Byrne (Gorey) the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the several Proposals for Payment as recommended by the proposal Committee for ordinary salaries and items of expenditure in respect of quarter ended 31st December 1922, be and are hereby adopted."

(Signed)



Presiding Chairman.