

MEETING, 17th JULY, 1922.

A Special Meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in the County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford on Monday, 17th July 1922.

Present:- Mr. E. Foley (Vice-Chairman) presiding.

Also:- Messrs. M. Byrne, R. Corish, D. Kavanagh, J.J. O'Byrne, J. Cummins, and J. Sinnott.

The Secretary, the County Surveyor, Mr. R.W. Elgee and Mr. T. Treano Senior Assistant Surveyor were also in attendance.

Confirmation of Minutes.

The Minutes of last Meeting were read and confirmed.

Letter from Chairman.

The Chairman wrote apologising for non-attendance at meeting as he had to attend to an urgent private matter in Dublin. As regards repair of bridges he failed to see what could be done except to prevent accidents and render the structure passable. An inspection should be carried out and the quarry work should be carried on.

Damage to Bridges.

The County Surveyor called attention to the damage which had been caused several bridges by Irregular troops.

Great inconvenience was being caused the general public by the closing of the New Bridge at Wexford. The bascule of about 50 feet and two abutments at each side of the bascule had been destroyed leaving a gap of 90 feet. To effect repair which would allow of the passage of light vehicular traffic would cost £1200, while replacement in original condition would run to from £2500 to £3000.

The members did not consider it advisable to arrange for an immediate repair of the bridge.

It was agreed that the Secretary should make arrangements with Mr. S.V. O'Leary, of Wexford Dead Meat Factory, for hire of ferry boat to accommodate the general public and to provide transit for funerals, to Crosstown Cemetery, also for goods etc.

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

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to communicate with the Ministry of transport and endeavour to ascertain what would be the



amount of the Government Grant which the Council could calculate upon towards the cost of new bridge to be erected at the Courthouse site".

The County Surveyor mentioned that some injury had been done to the bascule of Ferrycarrig Bridge, but the leaf of the bascule had been lowered by the Military and the bridge was now passable.

As regards the Deeps Bridge, portion of the leaf of bascule which had been raised had been burned and he suggested that the bridge should be repaired so as to allow of its use by foot passengers.

It was decided that the suggestion of the County Surveyor be carried out and as damage to bascule might not on examination be so extensive as was believed, the County Surveyor was also instructed to provide a passage way for horses and carts.

As regards the road bridge on Road 3R the following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. M. Byrne:-

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to take what steps that may be possible to have bridge on Road 3R repaired with rough timber. That a similar order be made as regards bridge between Camolin and Gorey, and Broadford Bridge between Ferns and Camolin".

#### Seizure of Gelignite.

Under date 8th July 1922, the County Surveyor reported::

"I have to report that on yesterday the Military Authorities from the Barracks here in Wexford searched the County Hall and took away explosives which we had for quarry work. I am now making formal application to the Military Authorities to return the explosives to us in bulk or in parts so that our quarry work may not be entirely held up. I am stating that without explosives we must close down work and throw out of employment a large number of men.

The key of lock was eight miles away at Ballyconnick. However, the door was opened with another key from where obtained I do not know".

The County Surveyor mentioned that about 300 lbs of gelignite had been taken, but on his letter about 50 lbs only had been returned.

The Council considered they could not make any order in the matter.

#### Exploder etc. taken.

The County Surveyor reported that on the night of 29th June the exploder, cable, galvanometer, used in connection with quarry work, had



been taken from the Caretaker's premises in which they had been left for safety. On the day in question four snipers of the Irregular troops had been located in the County Hall, and as the Caretaker feared to stop in his quarters, he left at half past ten at night, when everything was normal. When he returned early next morning the lock of the entrance door had been forced and the articles referred to removed.

No Order was made.

#### Proposed County Police Force.

The Chairman considered that in view of the present condition of the County, no useful purpose would be served by dealing with the proposed establishment of a County police force, and he moved that the question of the visit of the County Council's deputation to the Minister for Local Government be postponed for the present.

"It was agreed to".

It was also decided that the Secretary ask Brigadier Kehoe who is in charge of the National troops, if he intends doing anything to provide a temporary police force".

#### Removal Trees and filling Trenches.

The County Surveyor called attention to the fact that a number of roads were blocked by felled trees and open trenches.

Mr. John O'Byrne proposed:- "That the Military be requested to remove trees and fill trenches which are blocking roads, the Co. Council to give what help they possibly could.

This was not seconded.

After discussion it was decided that no order be made in the matter.

#### Continuance of Quarry Work.

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

"That the Military Authorities be approached by the County Surveyor and Mr. Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor, with a view to procuring a supply of gelignite to enable quarry work to be carried on."

Mr. Treanor pointed out that if gelignite could not be procured twenty or thirty quarries would have to close down and about 120 men would be thrown out of employment.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman



seconded by Mr. M. Doyle:-

"That the County Surveyor and his Assistants make arrangements to keep working in County Council Quarries as many men as possible".

Absence of Members of County Council Staff from Duty.

The County Surveyor reported that Mr. Denis Radford, Clerical Assistant in his office had been absent from duty from Friday, 29th June. He had on that date written to the County Surveyor that he would not be in the office for the day. That morning (17th July) he (County Surveyor) had received a letter from Mr. Radford "for a further extension of his leave as the work upon which he was engaged was not yet completed".

The Secretary reported that Mr. Stephen Hayes, Clerical Assistant in County Council office, had been absent from duty without leave from Monday 3rd July.

On the motion of the chairman, seconded by Mr. Corish, it was decided that the matter be decided in Committee.

Mr. Cummins proposed:- "That Messrs. Radford and Hayes be directed to furnish an explanation as to their absence from duty without leave., that this explanation be considered at next meeting of the Council, and that in the meantime these officials be allowed to resume duty".

Mr. Michael Byrne proposed:- "That Messrs. Radford and Hayes be directed to furnish an explanation as to their absence from duty without leave, and that should said explanation be considered to be satisfactory by next meeting of the County Council, they be reinstated. In the meantime these officials are to be suspended from duty". The Chairman seconded.

Mr. John J. O'Byrne seconded.

A vote was taken with the following result:-

For the amendment:- Messrs. J.J. O'Byrne, John O'Byrne, M. Doyle, D. Kavanagh, and Mr. M. Byrne.- 5.

Against:- Messrs. Cummins and the Chairman.- 2.

Mr. Corish did not vote.

The Chairman declared the amendment carried.

On being put as a substantive motion Mr. Corish moved:-

"That Messrs. Hayes and Radford be allowed to return immediately to duty but they be warned they will be dismissed if at any future time they are absent without the permission of the Secretary and Co. Surveyor respectively".



This amendment was not seconded and the amendment which had been carried was then put as the substantive motion and carried nem con.

Finance & Roads Committee.

The following Minutes of Finance & Roads Committee Meeting of 28th June 1922, were read:-

"A Meeting of above Committee was held in Co. Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 28th June 1922.

Present:- Mr. E. Foley, Vice-Chairman (presiding) Also:- Messrs. J. Cummins, John J. O'Byrne, John O'Byrne (Gorey) Michael Doyle and G. Devereux.

The Secretary, the County Surveyor, Mr. T. Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor, Messrs. C.P. Curran and R.J. Ennis, Assistant Surveyors, were also in attendance.

Application Increase Salaries etc. from Assistant Surveyors:- The following application under date 6th June 1922, was read from Assistant Surveyors C.P. Curran, R.J. Ennis, J. Kirby and John Kehoe:-

"We the Assistant County Surveyors, beg to make application for the arrears of salary due to us for the period from the 16th April 1921 to February 1922.

During this period we were in fact the officers of the County Council. Our services were always available and were occasionally required. It was due to no fault of ours that work was suspended. We were prohibited from seeking for other employment as we did not know how soon the County Council would require us to perform our duties.

Furthermore, the reason given for non-payment of our salaries was lack of funds due to the withdrawal of grants. These grants are, we understand, now forthcoming, and there would not therefore appear to be any reason why the arrears should not be paid.

We would therefore ask the Council to let us have payment as soon as possible, as being deprived of our salaries for such a length of time, is a very great hardship to us.

We also beg to ask the County Council to reconsider the question of our remuneration generally both as to salary and expenses. The County Council is aware that a new system of road-making has recently been introduced which entails considerably more work and more supervision than under the old system. We have, each of us, on an average about three



hundred and ninety (390) miles of roads to look after and under the present arrangement these require very close and constant supervision as well as the keeping of accurate and complicated accounts. The First and Second Class roads in the County to be worked by Direct Labour comprise 432.5 miles the material required for same amounts to 27,253 tons of road macadam, and the expenditure is £33,452. In addition the Third class roads which were untendered for are, by order of the County Council, to be also worked by Direct Labour. These untendered roads amount to 540 miles material required is 16,400 tons and the money to be expended is £11,700. Very few tenders have been received for haulage so on the Assistant Surveyors falls the work of making complete arrangements for the haulage and distribution of about forty thousand tons of material. Most of the hauliers will be small farmers or labourers to whom payments must be made at frequent intervals. This entails a very large amount of extra work- constant measurement of material calculation of quantities and the making out of pay sheets etc. In addition to the above there still remains about nine hundred miles of contract roads to be worked.

We are wholetime officers and have not therefore any opportunity of adding to our salaries by private professional work. Our present salaries are £185 per annum (£200 in the cases of Messrs. Kehoe and Jones) out of which we have to pay all our expenses which would amount to about £40 per annum, leaving the nett salary £145, which is less than that of a shop assistant or tradesman.

We do not make this application without giving this matter very close consideration. We do not wish to be in the least unreasonable, but merely wish to be remunerated in accordance with the responsible and exacting nature of the duties now placed upon us, and we may add we are quite satisfied that the entire matter be referred for settlement to an Arbitrator to be appointed by the Local Government Board of Dail Eireann<sup>"</sup>.

Mr. Brennan, Solicitor, (Messrs. Huggard & Brennan) put the case of the Assistant Surveyors before the meeting.

The Committee having consulted made the following recommendation:-

"The Committee desire to point out that the Council elected an Assistant Surveyor on Monday, 26th inst., and had three applications for the position from University Graduates. The suspension of Road Work occurred through no fault of the County Council, and it is not possible



for the Committee to single out the Assistant Surveyors for consideration in this respect when so many others of the Council's employees were disemployed without compensation. The Committee believe it would be invidious for them to select one particular class of employees for consideration and leave others out of question. Besides, taking into consideration the present condition of road work in the County and the finances of the Council, the Committee feel that the Council cannot deal with the matter at present. Claims for disemployment owing to war conditions have been made against the British Government by ex-prisoners etc., and we recommend the Assistant Surveyors to adopt the same course.

As regards the application for increase of salary, the Co. Council feel they would not be justified in the eyes of the country and particularly in view of the slump in prices of Agricultural produce, in agreeing to the application.

The Committee would point out that the County Council have relieved the Assistant Surveyors of their locomotion and kindred expenses by purchase of motor cycles, and in agreeing to pay for running of same. and which is tantamount to a very substantial increase in salaries. In fact it was because the present salaries justified some relief being given to the Assistant Surveyors that the County Council undertook the payment of their locomotion expenses. The Government Grants referred to in the application of the Assistant Surveyors had not been paid, and the Council were not in a position to say when they would be received<sup>n</sup>.

Quarries in Kilmuckridge District:- Mr. M. Downey, Secretary, Kilmuckridge Branch, Irish Transport & General Workers' Union, wrote under date 26th June 1922:- "I am directed to write to you in regard to the opening of the quarry in this district, At a Committee meeting held on Sunday evening (25th June 1922) it was passed not to allow sea-gravel to be put on the roads which is considered a loss of time and money. When stones can be got so convenient and plenty of unemployed to do the work, we think there is no reason at all why the quarry should not be opened at once<sup>n</sup>.

The following recommendation was agreed to:-

"That the Secretary of the Kilmuckridge Branch of Irish Transport & General Workers' Union be informed that the Co. Council will act on the report of their officers as regards what quarries will be opened, and will



take no dictation from any outsiders. The Council were about to open a quarry on the lands of Mr. Michael O'Brien, Killincooley, Kilmuckridge, but the Committee will now recommend that no further steps be taken in this matter".

Reports Quarries:- The following report under date 24th June was read from Mr. Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor:-

"I beg to report that on my rounds of inspections of quarries I find that in many cases work is not being properly proceeded with. Some time ago I noticed each charge hand that a certain minimum output must be obtained, and on my visits to quarries impressed upon charge hands the necessity of such an output being given in return for wages paid. I find from check measurements made in some quarries that this has not been done.

In Ballygarvan Quarry (New Ross R.D.) work done is very much below average, there being only 18 c. yards quarried and banked and ten cubic yards broken from 30th May to 13th June, wages paid six men for this work £20.6.2d though the cost should not exceed £6.

Tomgarrow Quarry (Ross R.D.) where there eight men employed only produced about 70 c.y. quarried and 20 c.y. broken in three weeks, wages £41.5.3d, cost in this case should not exceed £15. In connection with this quarry I beg to report that on inspection made on 13th inst., I found two men idling and when charge hand was spoken about this, he stated he could not get men to work properly. On 14th inst., I made further inspection at 8.20 a.m. and though all the men were in quarry they had not begun work, and only began when I arrived in quarry. Breaking by hand is not producing results approaching payments made, as I find from measurements the cost of hand breaking is so high as to make this class of work prohibitive. I submit herewith cost of such work:-

Monarigg Blackwater, about 18/- per cubic yard

Dirr	"	17/-	"
Ballyconnick	"	13/-	"
Gerrigbyrne	"	9/-	"
Wicklow Gap	"	9/6	"

These prices are exclusive of quarrying.

In many cases I have been unable to make check of work done as a lot of time spent in hand boring and cleaning.

Only in one case, Ballynabola have I to report absence of chargehand



absent though he arrived during my stay in quarry. Mr. Jones also reported absence in this case,

I am convinced that all round fair results will not be obtained on time rate system and would again strongly recommend that County Council revert to piece rates for work in quarries. In this regard I may point out that I have received application from four quarries to allow men to do work on piece rates.

I may also point out that in the event of County Council being unable to purchase engines soon it will not be possible to complete breaking work this year, as hired engines will be taken away for threshing work in August or September<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Treanor in reply to the Chairman said the actual cost of breaking material in Monarigg Quarry was 17/8 and there would be also 5/- a cubic yard for quarrying. This would leave the stuff 22/9d per yard as against the estimated price of 10/-.

Joseph Ward, the foreman of the quarry who was present, contended there were 120 yards of material in the quarry, not 75 as measured by Mr. Curran, Deputy Surveyor. If Mr. Curran again visited the quarry he would not get out of it so easily as he did on the last occasion.

The Members pointed out that if this was to be the attitude taken up by the workers it would be very difficult for the Council and its officials to carry on.

Mr. Treanor said he would re-measure the material in this quarry.

In Carrigbyrne quarry the material was costing 9/- to break, but the foreman who was in attendance, believed he would be able to bring about an improvement. Some of the men had no previous experience of breaking stones but they were doing their best.

Wicklow Gap:- Mr. Treanor pointed out that the stuff in Wicklow Gap was much harder than in Monarigg and the men were quite as "green" at the work, but the stuff was costing only 9/6d per cubic yard as compared with 17/9 in Monarigg.

Dirr quarry:- Mr. Treanor said that handbreaking would have to be discontinued in this quarry as the men were unable to break the material by hand. The Council found it absolutely necessary to bring the breaker there, and when they did so there should be no interference with it. There was a rumour that the breaker would be interfered with if it went



In Ballyconnick Quarry the breaking had been costing 13/- per cubic yard, it was now down to 11/- since the check was made. He expected some of the men would be able to break stuff at a reasonable price and some of the men were not able to do it. There was a difference of 6/- per cubic yard between some of the workers, and the Committee considered this was not a state of things which should prevail.

Ballygarvan Quarry:- Attention was directed to the paragraph in the report of Mr. Treanor that the actual cost of work in this quarry should have been £6 for period from 30th May to 13th June, and the amount actually paid was £20. 6. 2d over three times what was reasonable.

The foreman alleged the men had not been supplied in time with proper tools.

Mr. Treanor suggested that the quarry should be carried on for a further fortnight, and if results were not found satisfactory it should be shut down

Tomgarrow Quarry:- Mr. Treanor read a letter from Neill, Chargehand resigning his position. Mr. Treanor said the work in this quarry had considerably improved, but it was not yet up to standard. Neill admitted to him that he was not able to hold control of the men.

"It was decided to allow the work to continue for a fortnight and see how work would go on in the meantime.

Ballynabola Quarry. Mr. Treanor reported that the charge hand in this quarry had been absent on three occasions.

M.J. O'Kelly, Charge hand in this quarry explained he had been informed by a County Councillor that he was not supposed to work in the quarry but it was explained to him he had been appointed as an ordinary working charge hand.

"It was decided that Mr. O'Kelly be instructed to take up duty in the quarry as an ordinary charge hand and if an improvement be not found within a fortnight the Co. Council will be asked to deal with the matter".

Mr. Treanor read letters from Dunanore (Enniscorthy) Barntown (Bishop's Quarry and Windy Gap Quarry) and Ballybrennan Quarries, asking that County Council should resume piece work in the quarries.

After considerable discussion the following recommendation was unanimously adopted:-

"That the County Council be recommended to revert to piece work in the quarries on a 50 hour per week basis, if in the immediate future a vast



improvement be not found in the output of the quarries on time rate".

Position of County Surveyor:- The following recommendation was adopted:-

"We recommend that Mr. Barry, County Surveyor, be requested to resign on superannuation".

Advertising Contract:- The following recommendation was adopted:-

"That in order to effect a settlement of dispute as regards advertising contract, we offer the three local papers 6d per line- the same terms as they have accepted for advertisements of Co. Board of Health".

Order of Business:- The following recommendation was unanimously adopted:-

"That we recommend the County Council in future not to discuss any matter which does not appear on agenda paper, that should exceptionally urgent circumstances necessitate immediate action by the Council, the Standing Orders should in all cases be suspended to allow of discussion.

That requests and complaints which are to be considered by the Council must be received five days prior to the meeting of the Council to allow of inclusion on agenda paper".

-----ooOoo-----



WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

SPECIAL MEETING, 17th July 1922.

A Special Meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in the County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on Monday 17th July 1922.

Present:- Mr. E. Foley (Vice-Chairman) presiding.

Also:- Messrs. M. Byrne, R. Corish, D. Kavanagh, J.J. O'Byrne, J. Cummins and J. Sinnott.

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

Confirmation of Minutes.

The Minutes of last Meeting were read and confirmed.

Letter from Chairman

The Chairman wrote apologising for non-attendance at meeting as he had to attend to an urgent private matter in Dublin. As regards repair of bridges he failed to see what could be done except to prevent accidents and render the structures passable. An inspection should be carried out and the quarry work should be carried on.

Damage to Bridges.

The County Surveyor called attention to the damage which had been caused several bridges by Irregular troops.

Great inconvenience was being caused the general public by the closing of the New Bridge at Wexford. The bascule of about 50 feet and two abutments at each side of the bascule had been destroyed leaving a gap of 90 feet. To effect repair which would allow of the passage of light vehicular traffic would cost £12,00, while replacement in original condition would run to from £2500 to £3,000.

The Members did not consider it advisable to arrange for an immediate repair of the bridge.

It was agreed that the Secretary should make arrangements with Mr. S.V. O'Leary, of Wexford Dead Meat Factory, for hire of ferry boat to accommodate the general public and to provide transit for funerals, to Crosstown Cemetery also for Goods etc.

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

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to communicate with the Ministry



of Transport and endeavour to ascertain what would be the amount of the Government Grant which the Council could calculate upon towards the cost of new bridge to be erected at the Courthouse site".

The County Surveyor mentioned that some injury had been done to the bascule of Ferrycarrig Bridge, but the leaf of the bascule had been lowered by the Military and the Bridge was now passable.

As regards the Deeps Bridge, portion of the leaf of bascule which had been raised had been burned and he suggested that the bridge should be repaired so as to allow of its use by foot passengers.

It was decided that the suggestion of the County Surveyor be carried out and as the damage to bascule might not on examination be so extensive as was believed, the County Surveyor was also instructed to provide a passage way for horses and carts.

As regards the road bridge on Road 3R the following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. M. Byrne:-

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to take what steps that may be possible to have bridge on Road 3R repaired with rough timber. That a similar order be made as regards bridge between Camolin and Gorey, and Broadford Bridge between Ferns and Camolin".

#### Seizure of Gelignite.

Under date 8th July 1922 the County Surveyor reported:-

"I have to report that on yesterday the Military Authorities from the Barracks here in Wexford, searched the County Hall and took away explosives which we had for quarry work. I am now making formal application to the Military Authorities to return the explosives to us in bulk or in parts so that our quarry work may not be entirely held up. I am stating that without explosives we must close down work and throw out of employment a large number of men.

The key of lock was eight miles away at Ballyconnick. However, the door was opened with another key from where obtained I do not know".

The County Surveyor mentioned that about 300 lbs of gelignite had been taken, but on his letter about 50 lbs only had been returned.

The Council considered they could not make any order in the matter.

#### Exploder etc, taken.

The County Surveyor reported that on the night of 29th June the exploder cable, galvanometer, used in connection with quarry work, had been taken from



the Caretaker's premises in which they had been left for safety. On the day in question four snipers of the Irregular troops had been located in the County Hall, and as the Caretaker feared to stop in his quarters, he left at half past ten o'clock at night, when everything was normal. When he returned early next morning the lock of the entrance door had been forced and the articles referred to removed.

"No order was made".

#### Proposed County Police Force.

The Chairman considered that in view of the present condition of the County, no useful purpose would be served by dealing with the proposed establishment of a County police force, and he moved that the question of the visit of the County Council's deputation to the Minister for Local Government be postponed for the present.

"It was agreed to".

"It was also decided that the Secretary ask Brigadier Kehoe who is in charge of the National Troops, if he intends doing anything to provide a temporary police force".

#### Removal Trees and filling Trenches.

The County Surveyor called attention to the fact that a number of roads were blocked by felled trees and open trenches.

Mr. John O'Byrne proposed:-

"That the Military be requested to remove trees and fill trenches, which are blocking roads, the Co. Council to give what help they possibly could".

This was not seconded.

After discussion it was decided that no order be made in the matter.

#### Continuance of Quarry Work.

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

"That the Military Authorities be approached by the County Surveyor and Mr. Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor, with a view to procuring a supply of gelignite to enable quarry work to be carried on".

Mr. Treanor pointed out that if gelignite could not be procured twenty or thirty quarries would have to close down and about 150 men would be thrown out of employment.

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



seconded by Mr. M. Doyle:-

"That the County Surveyor and his Assistants make arrangements to keep working in County Council quarries as many men as possible".

Absence of Members of Co. Council Staff from duty.

The County Surveyor reported that Mr. Denis Radford, Clerical Assistant in his office, had been absent from duty from Friday, 29th June. He had on that date written to the County Surveyor that he would not be in the office for the day. That morning (17th July) he (County Surveyor) had received a letter from Mr. Radford "for a further extension of his leave as the work upon which he was engaged was not yet completed".

The Secretary reported that Mr. Stephen Hayes, Clerical Assistant in County Council office, had been absent from duty without leave from Monday, 3rd July.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Corish, it was decided that that the matter be decided in Committee.

Mr. Cummins proposed:-

"That Messrs. Radford and Hayes be directed to furnish an explanation as to their absence from duty without leave, that this explanation be considered at next meeting of the Council, and that in the meantime these officials be allowed to resume duty".

The Chairman seconded.

Mr. Michael Byrne proposed:-

"That Messrs. Radford and Hayes be directed to furnish an explanation as to their absence from duty without leave, and that, should said explanation be considered to be satisfactory by next meeting of the County Council, they be reinstated. In the meantime, these officials are to be suspended from duty".

Mr. John J. O'Byrne seconded.

A vote was taken with the following result:-

For the amendment:- Messrs. J.J. O'Byrne, John O'Byrne, M. Doyle, D. Kavanagh, and M. Byrne.- 5.

Against:- Messrs. Cummins and the Chairman.- 2.

Mr. Corish did not vote.

The Chairman declared the amendment carried.

On being put as a substantive motion Mr. Corish moved:-

"That Messrs. Hayes and Radford be allowed to return immediately to duty



but they be warned they will be dismissed if at any future time they are absent without the permission of the Secretary and Co. Surveyor respectively".

This amendment was not seconded and the amendment which had been carried was then put as the substantive motion and carried nem con.

#### FINANCE & ROADS COMMITTEE/

The following Minutes of Finance & Roads Committee Meeting of 28th June 1922 were read:-

"A Meeting of above Committee was held in Co. Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 28th June 1922.

Present:- Mr. E. Foley, Vice-Chairman (presiding) Also:- Messrs. J. Cummins John J. O'Byrne, John O'Byrne (Gorey) Michael Doyle and G. Devereux.

The Secretary, the County Surveyor, Mr. T. Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor, Messrs. C.P. Curran and R.J. Ennis, Assistant Surveyors, were also in attendance.

Application Increase Salaries etc., from Assistant Surveyors:- The following application under date 6th June 1922, was read from Assistant Surveyors C.P. Curran, R.J. Ennis, J. Kirby and John Kehoe:-

"We, the undersigned Assistant County Surveyors, beg to make application for the arrears of salary due to us for the period from the 16th April 1921 to February 1922.

During this period we were in fact the Officers of the County Council. Our services were always available and were sometimes required. It was due to no fault of ours that work was suspended. We were prohibited from seeking for other employment as we did not know how soon the County Council would require us to perform our duties.

Furthermore the reason given for non-payment of our salaries was lack of funds due to the withdrawal of grants. These Grants are, we understand, now forthcoming and there would not therefore appear to be any reason why the arrears should not be paid.

We would therefore ask the Council to let us have payment as soon as possible, as being deprived of our salaries for such a length of time is a very great hardship to us.

We also beg to ask the County Council to reconsider the question of our remuneration generally both as to salary and expenses. The County Council is aware that a new system of road-making has recently been introduced which entails considerably more work and more supervision than under the old system.



We have, each of us, on an average about three hundred and ninety (390) miles of roads to look after, and under the present arrangement these require very close and constant supervision, as well as the keeping of accurate and complicated accounts. The First and Second Class roads in the County to be worked by Direct Labour comprise 432.5 miles, the material required for same amounts to 27,253 tons of road macadam, and the expenditure is £33,452. In addition the Third-Class roads which were untendered for are, by order of the County Council, to be also worked by Direct Labour. These untendered roads amount to 540 miles-material required is 16,400 tons and the money to be expended is £11,700. Very few tenders have been received for haulage so on the Assistant Surveyors falls the work of making complete arrangements for the haulage and distribution of about forty thousand tons of material. Most of the hauliers will be small farmers or labourers to whom payments must be made at frequent intervals. This entails a very large amount of extra work-constant measurement of material, calculation of quantities and the making out of pay sheets etc. In addition to the above there still remains about nine hundred miles of contract roads to be worked.

We are wholetime officers and have not therefore any opportunity of adding to our salaries by private professional work. Our present salaries are £185 per annum (£200 in the cases of Messrs. Kehoe and Jones) out of which we have to pay all our expenses which would amount to about £40 per annum, leaving the nett salary £145, which is less than that of a shop assistant or tradesman.

We do not make this application without giving the matter very close consideration. We do not wish to be in the least unreasonable, but merely wish to be remunerated in accordance with the responsible and exacting nature of the duties now placed upon us, and we may add we are quite satisfied that the entire matter be referred for settlement to an Arbitrator to be appointed by the Local Government Board of Dail Eireann<sup>#</sup>.

Mr. Brennan, Solicitor (Messrs. Huggard & Brennan) put the case of the Assistant Surveyors before the meeting.

The Committee having consulted made the following recommendation:-

<sup>#</sup>The Committee desire to point out that the Council elected an Assistant Surveyor on Monday, 26th inst., and had three applications for the position from Univeristy Graduates. The suspension of Road Work occurred through no fault of the County Council, and it is not possible for the Committee to single out the Assistant Surveyors for consideration in this respect when so many others



of the Council's employees were disemployed without compensation. The Committee believe it would be invidious for them to select on a particular class of employees for consideration and leave others out of question. Besides taking into account the present condition of road work in the County and the finances of the Council, the Committee feel that the Council cannot deal with matter at present. Claims for disemployment owing to war conditions have been made against the British Government by ex-prisoners etc., and we recommend the Assistant Surveyors to adopt the same course.

As regards the application for increase of salary, the Co. Council feel they would not be justified in the eyes of the country and particularly in view of the slump in prices of Agricultural produce, in agreeing to the application.

The Committee would point out that the County Council have relieved the Assistant Surveyors of their locomotion and kindred expenses by purchase of motor cycles and in agreeing to pay for running of same, and which is tantamount to a very substantial increase in salaries. In fact it was because the present salaries justified some relief being given to the Assistant Surveyors that the County Council undertook the payment of their locomotion expenses. The Government Grants referred to in the application of the Assistant Surveyors had not been paid, and the Council were not in a position to say when they would be received."

Quarries in Kilmuckridge District:- Mr. M. Downey, Secretary, Kilmuckridge Branch, Irish Transport & General Workers' Union, wrote under date 26th June 1922:- "I am directed to write to you in regard to the opening of the quarry in this district. At a Committee meeting held on Sunday evening (25th June 1922) it was passed not to allow sea-gravel to be put on the roads which is considered a loss of time and money. When stones can be got so convenient and plenty of unemployed to do the work, we think there is no reason at all why the quarry should not be opened at once".

The following recommendation was agreed to:-

"That the Secretary of the Kilmuckridge Branch of the Irish Transport & General Workers' Union be informed that the Co. Council will act on the report of their officers as regards what quarries will be opened, and will take no dictation from any outsiders. The Council were about to open a quarry on the lands of Mr. Michael O'Brien, Killincooley, Kilmuckridge, but the Committee will now recommend that no further steps be taken in the matter".



Reports Quarries:-

The following report under date 24th June was read from Mr Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor:-

"I beg to report that on my rounds of inspections of quarries I find that in many cases work is not being properly proceeded with. Some time ago I noticed each charge hand that a certain minimum output must be obtained, and on my visits to quarries impressed upon charge hands the necessity of such an output being given in return for wages paid. I find from check measurements made in some quarries that this has not been done.

In Ballygarvan Quarry (New Ross R.D.) work done is very much below average there being only 18 c. yards quarried and banked and ten cubic yards broken from 30th May to 13th June, wages paid six men for this work £20. 6. 2d though the cost should not exceed £6.

Tomgarrow Quarry (Ross R.D.) where there eight men employed only produced about 70 c.y. quarried and 20 c.y. broken in three weeks, wages £41. 5. 3d, cost in this case should not exceed £15. In connection with this quarry I beg to report that on inspection made on 13th inst., I found two men idling and when charge hand was spoken to about this he stated he could not get men to work properly. On 14th inst., I made further inspection at 8.20 a.m. and though all the men were in quarry they had not begun work, and only began when I arrived in quarry. Breaking by hand is not producing results approaching payments made, as I find from measurements the cost of hand breaking is so high as to make this class of work prohibitive. I submit herewith cost of such work:-

Monarigg Blackwater about 18/- per cubic yard

Dirr	"	17/-	"
Ballyconnick	"	13/-	"
Carrigbyrne	"	9/-	"
Wicklow Gap	"	9/6	"

These prices are exclusive of quarrying.

In many cases I have been unable to make check of work done as a lot of time spent in hand boring and cleaning.

Only in one case, Ballynabbola, have I to report absence of chargehand from quarry on my instructions. On two visits to this quarry I found charge hand absent though he arrived during my stay in quarry. Mr. Jones also reported absence in this case.

I am convinced that all round fair results will not be obtained on time



rate system and would again strongly recommend that County Council revert to piece rates for work in quarries. In this regard I may point out that I have received application from four quarries to allow men to do work on piece rates.

I may also point out that in the event of County Council being unable to purchase engines soon it will not be possible to complete breaking work this year, as hired engines will be taken away for threshing work in August or September."

Mr. Treanor in reply to the Chairman said the actual cost of breaking material in Monarigg Quarry was 17/9 and there would be also 5/- a cubic yard for quarrying. This would leave the stuff 22/9 per yard as against the estimated price of 10/-

Joseph Ward, the foreman of the quarry, who was present, contended there were 120 yards of material in the quarry, not 75 as measured by Mr. Curran Deputy Surveyor. If Mr. Curran again visited the quarry, he would not get out of it as easily as he did on the last occasion.

The Members pointed out that if this was to be the attitude taken up by the workers it would be very difficult for the Council and its officials to carry on.

Mr. Treanor said he would re-measure the material in this quarry.

In Carrigbyrne quarry the material was costing 9/- to break, but the foreman who was in attendance, believed he would be able to bring about an improvement. Some of the men had no previous experience of breaking stones, but they were doing their best.

Wicklow Gap:- Mr. Treanor pointed out that the stuff in Wicklow Gap was much harder than in Monarigg and the men were quite as "green" at the work, but the stuff was costing only 9/6 per cubic yard as compared with 17/9 in Monarigg.

Dirr Quarry:- Mr. Treanor said that handbreaking would have to be discontinued in this quarry as the men were unable to break the material by hand. The Council found it absolutely necessary to bring the breaker there, and when they did so there should be no interference with it. There was a rumour that the machine would be interfered with if it went there.

In Ballyconnick Quarry the breaking had been costing 13/- per cubic yard, it was now down to 11/- since the check was made. He expected some of the men would be able to break stuff at a reasonable price, and some of the men were not able to do it. There was a difference of 6/- per cubic yard between some of the workers, and the Committee considered this was not a state of things



which should prevail.

Ballygarvan Quarry:- Attention was directed to the paragraph in the report of Mr. Treanor that the actual cost of work in this quarry should have been £6 for period from 30th May to 13th June, and the amount actually paid was £20. 6. 2d over three times what was reasonable.

The foreman alleged the men had not been supplied in time with proper tools.

Mr. Treanor suggested that the quarry should be carried on for a further fortnight, and if results were not found satisfactory it should be shut down.

Tomgarrow Quarry:- Mr. Treanor read a letter from Neill, Chargehand resigning his position. Mr. Treanor said the work in this quarry had considerably improved but it was not yet up to standard. Neill admitted that he was not able to hold control of the men.

"It was decided to allow the work to continue for a fortnight and see how work would go on in the meantime".

Ballynabola Quarry:- Mr. Treanor reported that the charge hand in this quarry had been absent on three occasions.

M. J. O'Kelly, Chargehand in this quarry explained he had been informed by a County Councillor that he was not supposed to work in the quarry but it was explained to him he had been appointed as an ordinary working chargehand.

"It was decided that Mr. O'Kelly be instructed to take up duty in the quarry as an ordinary working charge hand and if an improvement be not found within a fortnight the Co. Council will be asked to deal with the matter".

Mr. Treanor read letters from Dunanore (Enniscorthy) Barntown (Bishop's Quarry and Windy Gap Quarry) and Ballybrennan Quarries, asking that County Council should resume piece work in the quarries.

After considerable discussion the following recommendation was unanimously adopted:-

"That the County Council be recommended to revert to piece work in the quarries on a 50 hour per week basis, if in the immediate future a vast improvement be not found in the output of the quarries on time rate".

Position of County Surveyor:- The following recommendation was adopted:-

"We recommend that Mr. Barry, County Surveyor, be requested to resign on superannuation".

Advertising Contract:- The following recommendation was adopted:-

"That in order to effect a settlement of dispute as regards advertising



contract, we offer the three local papers 6d per line, the same terms as they have accepted for advertisements of Co. Board of Health".

Order of Business:- The following recommendation was unanimously adopted:-

"That we recommend the County Council in future not to discuss any matter which does not appear on agenda paper, that should exceptionally urgent circumstances necessitate immediate action by the Council, the Standing Orders should in all cases be suspended to allow of discussion.

That requests and complaints which are to be considered by the Council must be received five days prior to the meeting of the Council to allow of inclusion on agenda paper".

-----  
On the motion of Mr. M. Byrne, seconded by Mr. Kavanagh, the recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee as regards application for increase of salary etc., was confirmed.

As regards letter from Secretary, Transport Union, Kilmuckridge Branch, the recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. J.J. O'Byrne. Messrs. Corish and John Byrne dissenting.

Mr. S. Doyle proposed the confirmation of the Minute of Finance & Roads Committee as to proposed reversion to piece work in quarries, should a satisfactory output be not obtained on time rate.

Mr. M. Byrne seconded.

Mr. Corish moved:- "That the opening words of recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee as regards future working of quarries be made to read:-

"That the County Council be recommended to consider the advisability of reverting to piece work etc".

Mr. John O'Byrne seconded the amendment.

A show of hands was taken with the result that two voted in favour of amendment, and five for the confirmation of the recommendation, and the Chairman declared the latter carried.

In connection with the recommendation that the County Surveyor be requested to retire on superannuation, the Secretary stated that he had received a reply from the Co. Surveyor.

It was decided that this be referred to the Finance & Roads Committee for consideration.

In connection with Advertising Contract, correspondence was received from



"The People" and "Free Press" and "Echo", agreeing to the recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee to insert advertisements of County Council at 6d per line.

The Chairman proposed:- "That the recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee agreeing to advertising contract with "People" "Free Press" and "Echo" at 6d per line be adopted".

The resolution was seconded by Mr. J.J. O'Byrne and adopted.

The recommendation of Finance & roads Committee as to consideration of items on agenda paper at Meetings except by suspension of Standing Orders was confirmed on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. J.J. O'Byrne.

#### Rate Collection.

The Secretary laid before the meeting the condition of the Rate Collection from 24th June 1922 to 14th July 1922, a sum of only £532. 13. 6 had been collected in respect of rate for March 1922., £11. 19. 8d for September 1921 rate and nothing in respect of rate for March 1921. There was roughly £13,000 outstanding on all rates to date.

It was decided that the question of endeavouring to effect the collection of all outstanding amounts be referred to the Finance & Roads Committee.

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

"That our Secretary be instructed to direct Mr. Fanning, Deputy Checker for Gorey District to hand over to Mr. O'Reilly, recently appointed Collector for No. 13 District, the Collecting Books, pending sanction by L.G. Department which has been applied for sometime ago".

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

"That amount of poundage due to Collectors on amounts collected to date be paid forthwith, pending sanction of Local Government Department, and which was applied for sometime ago".

Under date 17th July 1922 the following was read from Mr. James Quirke, Collector for No. 1 Collection District:-

"I would be glad if your Council could see its way to receive a deputation on behalf of the County Wexford Rate Collectors at to-day's meeting".

"It was decided to receive deputation".

Mr. John Sinnott who acted as spokesman stated that the Collectors



considered no further delay should occur in the payment of poundage, and they were also of opinion that some compensation should be made them on account of rate for current year being so low on account of provision being made for receipt of three years' Government Grants.

The Chairman explained that the Council had already adopted a resolution to pay poundage. As regards compensation he considered the proper time for the question to be raised would be when the Collectors knew what would be the amount of Rate for Year 1923-24.

Appointment of Deputy Checkers of  
Rate Collectors' A/cs.

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

"that Messrs. Jasper Whitty, John J. Fanning, M.J. Finn and T.A. Frizelle be appointed Deputy Checkers of Rate Collectors' Accounts for year 1922-23, for Enniscorthy, Gorey, New Ross and Wexford Rural Districts respectively. Mr. Whitty to be paid £30 remuneration and the other Deputy Checkers 5/- per 100 ratings, the same remuneration as has prevailed in the cases of these four officials for some years".

Gorey Rate Collectors.

Mr. J.J. Fanning, Deputy Checker Rate Collectors' Accounts, wrote under date 14th July 1922:-

"I am very troubled in reference to the Rate Collection in this District, Mr. P. Fitzpatrick, Collector for No. 15, is a Captain in the Irregulars and has gone away with the Flying Column. His whereabouts are at present unknown, and it is very unlikely that he will collect any more rates. The worst feature of it is that he has the Rate Receipt Books hidden away somewhere and I cannot get access to them. I am sure if things were settled up he would make everything square as he is a very decent honourable young man, but that is a large "if" at present.

I was anxious to talk to you about this matter a few days ago on the telephone but the line is still closed. If I had any idea that the Irregulars were going to burn the barracks and clear out I could have gone to Fitzpatrick and I am sure he would have given me custody of the Rate Books.

He has been collecting very little for the past month or so as all his time was taken up with Military duties and there is still £983. 19. 7d outstanding on March 1922 rate at date of last meeting. Besides there is



£107. 10. 11½ out on September rate.

I have been unable to get from him Craughwell's receipt about which you wrote to me.

I enclose you the last three receipts I got from him and would like to know if he has made any subsequent lodgments.

John Kelly, Collector for No. 14 District, is with the Free State Forces in Ferns Garrison, and he is also unlikely to do any collection for sometime. He has not attended for more than four weeks, but he will come out <sup>right</sup> later on and besides his amount outstanding is only £634 which he could get in quickly if matters were settled".

After considerable discussion it was decided that the Chairman take steps to have collecting books of Mr. Fitzpatrick and Mr. Kelly recovered with a view to appointment of new or deputy Collectors to close the collection.

The Secretary mentioned that the figures given by Mr. Fanning in his letter of 14th inst, did not agree with those in Co. Council offices. Mr. Fanning over the telephone had agreed that the latter figures were correct.

Rates re Rosslare Strand.

Under date 27th June 1922 the Minister for Local Government wrote (18109-22, Wexford Co) enclosing from Mr. James Bent the following letter and in respect of which the Ministry asked for the observations of the County Surveyor:-

"As I have no road only a strand where the sea flows in over twelve hours, and on Spring tides every six hours into my house, I shall be glad to know if I am entitled to a road, or can the authorities compel me to pay rates where there is no pass only by boat when the tide is in for six hours or twelve hours".

Under date 14th July 1922, the following was read from the County Surveyor

"In reply to your letter enclosing copy letter from L.G. D. I beg to report as follows:-

Mr. Bent lives along the shore of the peninsula running from Rosslare to the Fort on the inner or harbour side, and his claim to have a road made to his place is in my opinion ridiculous. The people living along the shore near Mr. Bent and also those living out at the fort are all placed in exactly the same position and no one but Mr. Bent has claimed a roadway. This case would be quite on a par with any Ratepayer in the County claiming to have his laneway



repaired and should not be considered. There is a County road from Rosslare running to the reclaimed embankment and that is kept in repair".

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

"That a copy of report of County Surveyor (and of which we approve) in connection with demand of Mr. James Bent, Rosslare Strand, to be provided with a roadway) be furnished the Ministry for Local Government".

#### Revisions of Valuation.

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

"That revisions of valuation as submitted by Rate Collectors and General Valuation Office be carried out as usual".

A letter was received from several ratepayers calling attention to the extremely high valuation on their portion of the Castletown (Carne) Estate. The district was about a mile in breadth. It had been reclaimed by applicants ancestors, and machinery could not be used to work the land since it was strewn with huge boulders. The applicants considered it not only unjust but ridiculous to have land such as this taxed as highly as average good land.

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

"That applicants for revision of valuation of land at the Chour be informed that no revision of valuation on land has been carried out since Griffith's valuation was effected and in the existing state of the law there can be no reduction or change in valuation of land".

#### Summoning Jurors for Quarter Sessions.

The Under-Sheriff forwarded account for £10 for summoning 200 Jurors to Gorey and Wexford Quarter Sessions.

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

"That the application from Under-Sheriff for payment for summoning Jurors be marked read".

#### Salary of Under-Sheriff.

Under date 13th July 1922, Mr. James P. Connor, Under-Sheriff, wrote applying for payment of £50 quarter's salary as Under-Sheriff to 30th June 1922.



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

"That no order be made on application of Under-Sheriff for payment of salary".

Application refund of Rates.

Under date 8th June 1922, the Postmaster, Wexford, wrote applying for refund of £2.13.3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d Poor rates which were paid Mr. P. Walsh, Rate Collector, and also paid to the Bank.

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

"That refund of £2.13. 3d be made Postmaster, Wexford, in respect of certain rates which were paid a second time".

Application Refund Motor Fees.

Mr. Thomas Sutton, Hotel, Kilmore Quay, wrote applying for refund of £1. 5/- cost of registering of Motor Car and driving licence for same, which he could not use owing to restrictions.

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

"That no order be made on application by Mr. Thomas Sutton, Kilmore Quay, for refund of motor fees".

Road Contractors' Claims.

Claims from several Road Contractors were referred to Finance & Roads Committee.

Tuberculosis Committee.

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

"That Mr. John O'Byrne (Gorey) be appointed a member of County Wexford Tuberculosis Committee, vice Mr. John Sinnott resigned".

Registration of Voters- Expenses Preparation of List.

Under date 28th June 1922 the Minister for Local Government wrote (L.G. 4221) that the claim of Mr. J.N. Scallan, Clerk Crown & Peace for registration expenses in connection with the Fourth Register of Electors had now been examined. The gross amount payable is £1427., fees received £1. 16s: net expenses £1425. 4s. 6d. When the claim and any outstanding demands in respect of printing have been paid Form 1 should be forwarded to the Ministry.



with an application for payment.

"referred to Finance & Roads Committee".

County Surveyors' Association.

The following resolutions were received from Association of County Surveyors:-

"That in view of the extra work and extra expense imposed on Co. Surveyors and their Staffs in carrying out repairs to bridges, roads and other public works damaged during the recent Irish War, a commission of 5 per cent on the amount expended on such works, should be paid to Co. Surveyors and their Assistants, i.e. 3 per cent and 2 per cent to each respectively".

"That a commission of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent on the amount expended on all road work extra to ordinary maintenance carried out with the aid of Government Grants should be allowed to Co. Surveyors and their assistants responsible for carrying out such works, i.e.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent to County Surveyors and 1 per cent to Assistants, such commission being an allowance to cover expenses in carrying out extra work".

"Referred to Finance & Roads Committee".

County Wexford Infirmary.

Under date 15th July 1922 Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to the Co. Council, wrote forwarding opinion of Counsel as to the position of the County Council in relation to County Wexford Infirmary.

"It was decided to adjourn the consideration of this matter to next meeting of the Council".

Motor Car Administration.

Under date 7th June 1922 (M.T. 32 Wexford) the Minister of Economic Affairs (Transport Dept) wrote as regards the appointment of Mr. C.H. Richards to carry out the duties of Local Taxation Officer, that it was not possible for the Department to indicate or agree to the payment of a fixed sum as remuneration for the duties to be discharged as the work to be done would vary with locality, time of year, number of vehicles to be registered and the number of licences to be issued or renewed. They could not determine how far Local Taxation Officer's salary should be recouped out of Road Fund until the necessary annual returns had been received.

Under date 14th June 1922 (M.T. 32 Wexford) the Minister wrote that he was prepared to agree to Mr. Richard's appointment as a "whole-time" Local



Taxation Officer until the new system had been put into operation, but it would be necessary at a later date to be able to show that the Motor Taxation work would require his entire services before the Ministry would be in a position to agree to a permanent arrangement on these lines".

Under date 10th June 1922 the Minister of Economic Affairs (Transport Dept) wrote that owing to the disbandment of the Royal Irish Constabulary the Inspector General had no record of the disposal of the books and other records used by the police in connection with the licensing of road vehicles in the County Wexford.

County Wexford Insurance Society.

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

"That we confirm the appointment of Dr. James Ryan as a Trustee for Co. Wexford Insurance Society vice Mr. J.J. Stafford resigned."

Wicklow Gap Quarry. Proposed Stonebreaking  
by Hand Labour.

Under date 18th July 1922 the following letter was read from James Walsh, Chairman Irish Transport & General Workers' Union, Wicklow Gap Branch, Tinsahely

"At a meeting of above Branch held on 29th ult., the following resolution was proposed and passed unanimously:-

"That we the Members of this Branch presently engaged on Co. Council Road Work are willing to undertake breaking of material at present banked for breaking at 6/- per cubic yard, with hammer as it will mean much longer work for us and allowing for cost of quarrying and banking of material, it would be inside the Surveyor's estimate of 10/-. This also includes material banked in Cummer Hill Quarry.

You should give this offer consideration as men have a strong objection to breaking with Crusher, as it means only a very short period of work, and may cause trouble".

Mr. James Walsh also wrote:- "I am writing to you with regard to my expenses at Road Committee on 28th June., Train fare 9/8 and 5/- day's pay, as I was brought there by mistake and am entitled to same".

The County Surveyor said that he and Mr. Treanor understood Mr. Walsh was to act as chargehand in the Wicklow Gap Quarry, but it transpired he had declined to act.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded



by Mr. J. O'Byrne:-

"That James Walsh, Worker in Wicklow Gap Quarry be paid 14/6 for his attendance etc. at Meeting of Finance & Roads Committee on 28th June".

Assistant Surveyor W.H. Jones.

Under date 15th July 1922, Mr. Jones, Assistant Surveyor wrote:-

"Your letter of the 1st inst. only received yesterday by me, re motor cycle. Please make known my thanks to the Co. Council for their offer, which I appreciate very much but I would ask them kindly to modify it by allowing me a Ford 2 seater instead, and I will pay the extra price, I told Mr. Treanor about this, he will explain to you. I could do more work under safer conditions".

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

"That Mr. Jones be informed that the Co. Council discussed at their last meeting the desirability of providing him with a motor car, but, in view of all the circumstances, they could not see their way to depart from their decision to provide each Assistant Surveyor with Motor Cycle".

War pension Committee (British).

Under date 19th May 1922 the Secretary Ministry of Pensions (British) wrote (L.C. 326/3) pointing out that in view of the re-organisation of War pension Committee areas which was then proceeding, it was suggested that where the term of office of a Local Committee expired during the present year and vacancies had not yet been filled it might be convenient to continue such members in office until the date at which the Local Committee would cease to exist.

"No Order"

Under date 26th May 1922 the Regional Director for Ireland South Region Ministry of Pensions wrote, forwarding order terminating the appointment of Mr. John Murphy, Taghmon, as a member of County Wexford War Pensions Committee.

Garden at County Hall.

It was decided that an attempt be made to have fruit in Garden of County Hall sold immediately.

-----ooOoo-----

(Signed)

*E. O'Connell*

Presiding Chairman

Dated this 31<sup>st</sup> day of July 1922



SPECIAL MEETING, 31st JULY, 1922.

A Special Meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in the County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford on 31st July 1922 by direction of the Chairman, principally to consider representations from Wexford Farmers' Union and Citizens of Wexford, relative to the necessity for repair of Wexford Bridge.

Present:- Mr. E. Foley, Vice-Chairman Co. Council (presiding)

Also:- Messrs. M. Doyle, G. Devereux, James Shannon, John Murphy, R. Corish M.M. O'Donoghue, A.F. Smith, J. Cummins.

The Secretary, the County Surveyor, County Solicitor and Mr. T. Treanor Senior Assistant Surveyor were in attendance.

Resolution suggesting Peace.

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

"This County Council is deeply pained and alarmed at the awful plight to which the Country is being reduced by the continuation of the present deplorable Civil War, which can only end in bankruptcy, chaos and ruin, and will leave behind an aftermath of hatred which will not disappear for generations.

Like many business firms and factories the County Council find themselves to-day obliged to dispense with the services of numbers of their employees and the suspension of road and quarry work will entail suffering and destitution to hundreds of families.

Explosives for quarry work cannot be procured, Rates cannot be collected, public institutions cannot be financed and the position will become worse and worse daily. To this County Council it is really an extraordinary state of affairs to find men so long and so unitedly, who worked- practically as bosom friends- to secure the independence of Ireland, who will not seek some other effective way out of the present impasse except by force of arms. We therefore appeal to the responsible leaders at both sides to put into effect forthwith the earnest wishes of the people of Ireland for peace, and for the reunion of old and tried friends to work for the common good of our beloved Country. In our opinion a just and lasting peace will only be achieved by negotiation not by Military operations.

That we are also of opinion no further delay should be allowed in



assembling An Dail to deal with the present position, and we request the three members of our Council who represent the Wexford people in the National Assembly to at once communicate with the Speaker of An Dail with an view to a immediate Meeting to explore every avenue which may lead to peace.

That a copy of this resolution be furnished each County Council and to Messrs. A. Griffith and E. de Valera<sup>H</sup>.

Wexford Bridge.

The following letter under date 20th July 1922, was read from the Secretary, County Wexford Farmers' Association:-

"I have been requested by the people in the districts of Castlebridge, Blackwater, Curracloe, Screen, etc., to bring to the immediate notice of your Council the vital necessity of having steps taken to have the Wexford Bridge put into some sort of repair. While the hardships that exist at present are somewhat relieved by the fact that your Council have put on a ferryboat, it does not meet the immediate requirements of the people in the districts referred to. The attention of your Council is particularly directed to the following:-

- (1) There is no means of bringing farm produce, cattle, sheep or pigs to fair or market except by Ferrycarrig, which means a long road journey for the people in the affected areas.
- (2) There is practically no convenience at Ferrybank for people to leave their carts, and consequently extra people have to be brought in every case to mind cars and animals while marketing is being done in the town. This in itself is a great hardship, and will be particularly so during the harvesting period which will be coming along shortly.
- (3) While the Ferryboat is very useful for passengers and small parcels, a great deal of inconvenience and labour is caused to those who require large supplies of feeding stuffs, in consequence of the necessity of having to load and unload at both sides of the river.
- (4) Great difficulty and inconvenience is experienced by milk suppliers in the areas affected, particularly in the afternoon, as the hour at which the boat stops running is not suitable.
- (5) Many work people are also at a disadvantage because the boat does not commence running until 9 o'clock, and some of those people have to return to the other side of the river for their mid-day meal.
- (6) The Schools will be re-opened in a short time, and there are a number of



children from the Castlebridge side who usually attend at Wexford, and in the event of bad or wet weather, it will be unsatisfactory and unpleasant for the children to attend.

In view of the foregoing I trust your Council will give the fullest possible consideration to the matter, and see what can be done to meet the wishes and convenience of the people in the districts affected".

The following resolution was read from Crossabeg Branch of County Wexford Farmers' Association:-

"That we the Members of Crossabeg Branch of the Farmers' Association, call upon the County Council to have immediate steps taken to remedy the existing conditions of the Wexford Bridge in order to relieve the extreme hardships endured at present by the general public and particularly the farming community in the districts concerned".

Under date 29th July 1922, Mr. Doran, Secretary to the Co. Wexford Farmers Association, wrote asking if the Co. Council would, at their meeting on Monday, receive a deputation from the Association regarding putting Wexford Bridge into repair.

The Meeting decided on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Corish to receive the deputation.

The following were in attendance:-

Representing the Farmers' Association- Messrs. J.S. McDonald, J. Fortune and Mr. <sup>M.</sup>~~B.~~ Doran (Secretary).

Wexford Corporation- Messrs. H. Thompson and James Sinnott.

Wexford Trades Council- Messrs. P. White, Thomas Walsh, and Thomas Roche.

Wexford Harbour Board-- Messrs. J.J. Kehoe and James Billington.

Employers' Federation:- Mr. A. Nolan.

Messrs. Thompson, White and McDonald, having put the views of their bodies urging immediate temporary repair of the Bridge, Mr. R. Corish proposed

"That the Co. Surveyor be instructed to have the necessary temporary repairs carried out at Wexford Bridge as per report of County Surveyor at meeting of 17th July".

Mr. John Cummins seconded. "Passed"

The following were appointed a Special Committee to deal with quotations received by County Surveyor in reference to this matter:- Messrs. E. Foley, M. Doyle, and R. Corish, to meet on Thursday, 3rd August at 12 noon".



Ferryboat for Wexford.

The Secretary stated that as instructed by the meeting of Co. Council on 17th July, he had seen Mr. S.A. O'Leary, 2 Waterloo Road, Wexford, as to employment of his motor boat for Ferry purposes, which was necessary owing to the closing of the Wexford Bridge. The boat was put on service on the 19th July 1922, when the following proposal from Mr. O'Leary as to hire was accepted by the Secretary to the Co. Council, on behalf of that body:-

Hire to be at the rate of £2.10/- per day to cover use of boat, labour fuel, Insurance and all liability of the Council. Arrangement to be terminated by a week's notice in writing on either side, boat to be on service from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and to run on Sundays as well as week days.

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

"That we confirm arrangement made by our Secretary with Mr. Stephen A. O'Leary, 2 Waterloo Road, Wexford for hire of boat for ferry purposes between Wexford and Ferrybank at £2.10/- per day, which is to cover all liability of the Council".

That this arrangement be subject to determination by one week's notice in writing on either side".

Financial Position of Co. Council.

The Secretary referred in detail to the financial position of the Council

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

"that our Secretary be instructed to have transferred from the Deposit A/c of the Council to the revenue A/c the sum of £4,400 advanced by Dail Eireann, and that our Treasurer be requested to transfer loan for £4,400 also to Revenue A/c".

Re Proposed Police Force.

Under date 27th July 1922, Commandant C. McAllister wrote that the resolution adopted by the Council in connection with a detachment of Military being detailed for police duty had been noted but Col. Comdt. Keogh desired him to say that all matters of this nature are to be referred to the Minister of Home Affairs, who alone has authority to organise or represent a police force. It was however, the duty of the Military to see that the Police force, when organised, shall receive any assistance required in the execution of their



duty in the protection of person and property.

"No Order"

Re Proposed New Bridge for Wexford.

The following resolution was adopted at the meeting of the County Council on 17th July 1922:-

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to communicate with the Ministry of Transport and endeavour to ascertain what would be the amount of the Government Grant which the Council could calculate upon towards the cost of new bridge for Wexford to be erected at the Courthouse site".

The Ministry of Economic Affairs, Transport Department, (Roads Section) wrote under date 21st July 1922, ~~that~~, referring to the final paragraph of a letter which they had addressed to the County Surveyor on 27th June 1922, in which it was pointed out that the Department would not be in a position to consider applications for new Grants until such time as the financial arrangements consequent on the enactment of the Irish Free State (Agreement) Act 1922 have been completed and the policy to be adopted as regards future assistance to Highway Authorities out of Road Fund had been decided.

The following letter to the County Surveyor from the Ministry of Transport under date 26th July 1922, I.R.C. /32 Wexford, was read:-

"I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant, relative to the proposal of the Wexford County Council to construct a new bridge at an estimated cost of £100,000. With reference thereto, I am to forward for your information, a copy of a letter on the same subject addressed to the County Secretary on the 21st instant in which it was pointed out that the Ministry were not yet in a position to consider applications for new Grants.

When replying to the County Secretary's letter of the 20th instant, the Ministry were not in possession of the details which you have now furnished and they therefore think it well to state for the information of the County Council, that, apart from the question of the policy that may be adopted in regard to Grants out of the Road Fund, it is not anticipated that the balance (if any) of the Road Fund which may be left after the claims for assistance towards road works have been met would be sufficient to permit of any further grant being made.

It is noted that the bridge is estimated to cost £100,000 and it is feared that even if a grant were available out of the Road Fund for a work of



the kind it would be too small to be of any appreciable assistance".

Edermine Bridge.

The County Surveyor mentioned that he had inserted advertisements for Caretaker of Edermine Bridge. He had no replies but applications had been made for list of duties.

"Adjourned to next meeting of Finance & Roads Committee".

New Ross Bridge.

Under date 20th July 1922 the County Surveyor wrote that the agreement for Caretaking New Ross Bridge, which was set to Messrs. Lawler & Son at £50 per annum, expired on 30th June 1922 and he had now made arrangements with Messrs. Lawler to carry on, on the same terms until a new proposal had been made by the Co. Council.

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

"That agreement entered into by County Surveyor for maintenance of New Ross Bridge (until the adoption of proposal for this work) with Messrs. Lawler & Son, New Ross, be and is hereby confirmed".

The County Surveyor reported that a large gear wheel in connection with the opening span of the New Ross Bridge was damaged lately, and he had asked Messrs. Davis, Enniscorthy, for a quotation for casting a new Wheel. This latter was an essential part of the structure to enable the bridge to be opened.

Proposed by Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Cummins and adopted:-

"That we approve of action of County Surveyor in having gear wheel of New Ross Bridge repaired".

Ferry carrig Bridge.

The County Surveyor submitted letter from Mr. Patrick Donovan, Shipowner, Wexford, that in reference to sunken pile in centre of draw arch Ferry carrig Bridge, Messrs. Wickham Bros. were prepared to supply diver and gear and remove pile for the sum of £20. He (Mr. Donovan) would supply free of charge, a tug to drag pile away when diver had fastened on tackle. The pile at present was a serious menace to navigation and Mr. Donovan requested it should at once be removed.

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



"That this matter be referred to next meeting of Finance & Roads Committee and in the meantime the County Surveyor endeavour to procure a quotation from another diver".

Relations with Ministry of Transport re Grants.

Under date 29th July 1922, the following letter was read from the County Surveyor:-

"I have had a demand from the Ministry of Transport for particulars of the damaged bridges and roads in this County, and herewith I send you copy of my reply covering the damage to each as far as I am acquainted with them".

I send you also Memo showing you the position of the Council with regard to Grants. You will see that the road grant, No. P 9, entails heavy expenditure before we can obtain any money on same, and on Grant P 48, for Machinery there is a sum of £439 owing to the Council. This takes account for money paid for machinery out of road grant which of course must be adjusted. Taking the two grants together we have a big balance against us. On the Unemployment Grant of £10,000 we have received nothing, though we have expended nearly the full amount. In connection with this and also the road grant P 9, there should be an immediate expenditure on road 6W from Ferry-carrig to Kyle, but unless we put up the district proportion of the money which was to have been obtained under loan, I do not see how we can proceed with it".

From the statement of County Surveyor, it appeared that it would be necessary for the County Council to expend £4897. 5. 10d before they would be in a position to apply for any further grant from Ministry of Transport.

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

"That with reference to the payment of the Unemployment Grant promised to this Council, we feel we have been very unfairly treated. The Council by directions of the Ministry of Local Government, spent £8599 out of their Revenue a/c., in the expectation that prompt recoupment would have been made by the Ministry of Transport. There was no objection or protest made to the estimate and proposals of the County Surveyor in this connection, but in spite of the fact that months have elapsed since the money was expended, the County Council have not yet received a penny of the Grant. No date has been given the County Council as to when they may expect the money and, in view of the fact, that the Council are now in straitened financial circumstances, we must



request the Local Government Department or Ministry of Transport, whichever is responsible, to name a date when the Council can count on a settlement".

Ferryarrig-Kyle Road.

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

"That as regards the Ferryarrig-Kyle Road (Wexford R.D.) the County Surveyor be directed to have holes filled and levelling carried out, cost not to exceed £200 which is not to cover value of material at present in road depots".

Damage to Roads & Bridges.

The following letter was read from County Surveyor to Assistant Director Ministry of Transport, under date 28th July 1922:-

"In reply to yours of the 25th instant, I beg herewith to submit particulars of damaged roads and bridges in this County as far as I am at present informed of such. You will note that in some cases the damage was repaired and has since been re-damaged. In a number of cases where I have endeavoured to get men to attend to this repair work they have refused and I consider that a further endeavour to make <sup>good</sup> the damage at the present time will be of no avail owing to the fact that any repair work is immediately un-done if not prevented from being carried out. With regard to bridge on 3R (New Ross) I had myself arranged for its repair and the work was put in hands the following day, but was destroyed immediately on completion. Also the bridge on 24W (Wexford) I inspected it on Wednesday evening and was arranging with regard to making good the roadway, but I am informed to-day that further damage has been done by blast last night.

With regard to the County-at-large Bridges over Slaney and Barrow Rivers I have given you all particulars of their present condition, and I consider any temporary repairs now would be absolutely worthless unless a guard can be put on the structures,

I shall keep you posted from time to time as further damages come under my observation".

---

Note:- There are no scheduled "Main Roads" in this County.

County-at-Large Bridges.

Wexford Bridge:- Timber Bridge over Slaney- leading road Wexford to Gorey also serves extensive district around Blackwater. Bascule



and two adjoining spans about 90 feet in all burned out., traffic completely stopped. If restored as formerly will take at least 10 to 12 weeks and will cost from £2,500 to £3,000. If temporary repairs without bascule opening will take about 6 weeks and will cost say £1,200. No repairs yet carried out fire was cut off and roadway fenced.. A Motor ferry has been provided by Co. Council to take foot passengers and light goods.

**Ferry carrig Bridge:-** Reinforced concrete bridge over Slaney - leading road to Enniscorthy and thence Ferns and Gorey. Bascule was lifted and attempt made to burn timber decking- hand-railing broken. Bascule was partially lowered by Military to allow of traffic. Have since completed lowering of bascule and repaired decking- also erected temporary (timber) handrail. Iron handrail being repaired.

**Deeps Bridge:-** reinforced concrete bridge over Slaney at Killurin provides communication between east side of river and Killurin Railway Station otherwise not much through traffic. Most of timber decking of bascule burned out and bascule lifted. Have had roadway fenced and by directions of Co. Council had arrangements made to lower bascule and repair roadway decking to provide a footway to give access to Railway Station. Have now been notified by charge hand that no man will work at repair. Complete restoration will cost about £ and will take three or four weeks.

**Mountgarrett Bridge:-** Timber bridge over Barrow (1½ miles north of New Ross) leading road to Rower district of County Kilkenny (the triangle bounded by Nore and Barrow Rivers). This bridge was burned sometime ago and was recently repaired at a cost of £714. Now partly burned again but traffic not completely stopped. Four longitudinal beams in half bascule burnt and some decking also destroyed. This bridge is jointly owned by Counties Kilkenny and Wexford, and the Co. Surveyor of Kilkenny usually attends to repairs.

**New Ross Bridge:-** Bridge over Barrow in town of New Ross- leading road from New Ross to Waterford and south of Kilkenny. Swing span was opened and some of gear damaged. Bridge now closed and traffic now normal. The swing span is worked by two capstans through flooring. A large 3ft gear wheel in one gear has been broken and steps have been taken to replace



same as at present the working of swing span depend on one gear only.

#### RURAL DISTRICTS.

##### Gorey Rural District.

Tinnock Railway Bridge:-

2G.

Tinnock over Railway Bridge destroyed on leading road Gorey to Arklow. Traffic completely stopped. This is Railway Company property.

Ballinstray Bridge 21G:- About half a mile from Courtown Harbour on road to Gorey. Roadway blown up but arch not injured.

Bolaney Bridge 139G:- On bye road  $\frac{1}{2}$  miles due west of Courtown Harbour. Very little damage done- traffic normal.

Bridge on 13G:-

Leading road Gorey to Camolin and Ferns about 1 mile north of Clogh. Six foot span arch completely destroyed- temporary repair being carried out with railway sleepers- will be completed on 30th instant.

##### Enniscorthy Rural District.

Kiltrea Bridge 251E:-

Over River Urrin 3 miles west of Enniscorthy on road from Enniscorthy to Killann. Centre arch almost entirely gone- passable for foot passengers.

Do. 230E :-

Over Urrin.  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile south of above- large single span completely blown up.

Broadford Bridge 5E:-

On leading road from Gorey through Camolin to Ferns and Enniscorthy-  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles northeast of Ferns- six foot arch almost completely gone- loose stone packing built up to provide sufficient width for traffic is dangerous.

Kilrush 74E:-

Bridge  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile N.W. of Kilrush at Church Gate- on road to Newtownbarry.

Strahart Bridge 36E:-

On road from Ferns to Clohamon and Newtownbarry- passable for wheeled traffic.

Templeshambo 96E:-

Bridge 7 furlongs north of Templeshambo Church. Torn down.

Coolattin Bridge 8E:-

On leading road Enniscorthy to Newtownbarry- 3 miles from Newtownbarry. Passable for wheeled traffic.

Glasslacken 37E:-

Bridge on road from Newtownbarry to Kiltalea- about 2 miles out of Newtownbarry. Former damage just repaired- now damaged again. Passable for wheeled traffic.

Roads:-

A large number of Roads blocked with trees and trenches- most have been removed or filled in.



At present the mountain road in Grange on slopes of Blackstairs Mountain is blocked with trees.

New Ross Rural District.

Woodville 3R:-

Bridge between Ballyanne and Mountgarrett on leading road from Enniscorthy to New Ross- 2 miles from New Ross. This bridge gives access to New Ross from Ballywilliam and Southern end of County Carlow. It is a large single span masonry arch- was damaged sometime ago and temporary repairs (timber) were made. Timber work destroyed lately and by order of County Council further temporary repairs (timber) were carried out. Immediately on completion of repairs, before workmen had left site armed men ordered workmen to throw all timber into river. This was done and the small remaining portion of arch which had been used for traffic was destroyed- now impassable for wheeled traffic.

23R, 24R, and 216R.

Road from New Ross to Duncannon and Fethard blocked in several places with trees and trenches- some removed at once, other obstructions made.

8R.

Road blocked with trees at Corcoran's Cross roads on leading road from Enniscorthy to New Ross ( $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles in direct line N.E. of New Ross).

18R.

Between Camross and Scullabogue on leading road from Wexford to New Ross the road is blocked with trees.

158R.

Road from New Ross to Tellarought trenched- old trenches filled but now reopened.

Wexford Rural District.

Newtown Bridge 124W:-On road from Wexford to Barntown  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles W. from Urban Boundary- two holes 6 ft square blown out of centre of arch- light traffic can cross at side. This bridge was recently repaired after former damage.

Ardcandrisk Bridge 9W. On leading road from Wexford to Killurin and Clonroche one mile to W. of Ferrycarrig. This is quite close to Railway over road Bridge- hole about 8 ft square blown out of arch and rest of arch shaken- dangerous.

Bridge 23W:-

On road at back of Ardcandrisk- about 12 ft of arch blown up- passable on foot.

Tinogue Bridge 28W:-

On road from Wexford to Kilmore- 4 miles south of Wexford- hole blown in arch- road impassable but traffic can pass by slopes beside bridge and through water-foot passage over bridge.



Rathaspeck Bridge 23W:- Hole blown in roadway and trees across road adjoining- was passable with care up to night of 27th instant. Now further hole blown up and impassable. The arch has several feet of cover and is uninjured.

Clonard Great 18W:- Bridge adjoining crossroads on leading road Wexford to Duncannon  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles S.W. of Wexford had hole blown in road surface, but now restored".

#### Loughgar Bridge.

Mr. M. Doyle mentioned that Loughgar Bridge, one of the principal thoroughfares between Wexford and the barony of Forth, had been damaged the previous evening.

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

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to have Loughgar Bridge made passable".

#### The Position of the County Surveyor.

The following letter under date 7th July 1922 was read from the County Surveyor:-

"I am in receipt of yours with copy of recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee remy resignation. I note there is no reason stated for the request, and I shall be obliged if you will ask the Committee to supply this omission. Further, I wish to state that I consider I should have been heard by the Committee before such a recommendation was adopted. Please also ask the Committee to state on what terms the superannuation will be dealt with".

"referred to Finance & Roads Committee".

#### Rate Collection.

Mr. P.J. Fitzpatrick, Gorey, Rate Collector for No. 15 Collection District wrote under date 27th July 1922 that he was not at liberty at present to carry out his duties as Rate Collector he had appointed Mr. Sean Gannon, Tara Hill, Gorey, to act as deputy until such time as he (Fitzpatrick) could resume work. He had handed his books over to Mr. Gannon in order that they would be checked by Official Checker. He hoped the Council would approve of this arrangement.

On the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted:-



"That we approve of Mr. Sean Gannon, Tara Hill, Gorey, being appointed deputy for Rate Collector P.J. Fitzpatrick, the latter and his sureties to be responsible for the closing of the collection, Mr. Gannon also to provide bond".

Under date 29th July 1922 the following letter was read from Mr. Jaspe Whitty, Official Checker, Rate Collectors Accounts, Enniscorthy District:-

"In reference to conversation on telephone re Rate Collectors, I went on to Brideswell on yesterday, and got the books belonging to Collector Deegan, which I have here. I will go through them as soon as possible and let you know the result. In reference to Collector Byrne, I sent a message to him through his brother to have his books with me not later than to-day, but he did not send his books. I sent him word to-day to have his books here on Monday without fail otherwise serious notice will be taken of his failure to do so. I will ring you up on the phone on Monday in time for the meeting and let you know if he has done so. I enclose bill for motor to Brideswell for Deegan's books.

Collector Kelly called here to-day with books, he has no money collected since last return. All the Collectors have now attended only Byrne and Deegan. As soon as I hear from Byrne I will send you Form 62".

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

"That Mr. John Deegan, Brideswell, Carnew, be appointed deputy for his brother Collector M. Deegan, the latter and his sureties to be responsible for the close of the collection. That Mr. John Deegan enter into a bond for the discharge of his duties as deputy Collector. That Account for £1. 12. 6d for motor hire of Mr. Whitty be approved for payment".

In connection with the close of Rate Collection for District of Collector P.J. O'Byrne, the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Smith:-

"That arrangements to effect close of Rate Collection of Mr. P.J. O'Byrne be left in the hands of Mr. E.P. Foley and Mr. John Murphy, County Councillors and who are to report to next meeting of Co. Council".

Under date 26th July 1922 the Minister for Local Government wrote (20204-22 Wexford County) sanctioning the appointment of Mr. John O'Reilly as Poor Rate Collector for No. 13 Collection District, subject to his entering into bond as prescribed by Public Bodies Order, remuneration to be at rate



of 7d in the £.

Under date 28th July 1922, Mr. J.J. Fanning, Official Checker for Gorey District, wrote that he had been informed by one of the Collectors that it was next to impossible to get rates paid now. He expected to be able to take up Fitzpatrick's books and would check them. He had handed collecting books to new Collector for No. 13 Collection District Mr. John O'Reilly".

#### Ballinaboola Quarry.

Under date 20th July 1922 the County Surveyor forwarded copy of letter which he had forwarded Mr. M.J. O'Kelly, who was in charge of Ballinaboola Quarry and calling attention to the fact that on the 18th inst., shortly after 4 p.m. he found Mr. O'Kelly absent from work in Ballinaboola Quarry. On former occasions Mr. Treanor and Mr. Jones, Assistant Surveyors had complained of Mr. O'Kelly's irregularity in attention to his duties and the matter had been before the Council.

He (County Surveyor) would report Mr. O'Kelly's absence from duty on 18th inst., and would ask the Council to deal seriously with him.

The County Surveyor further mentioned that Mr. Jones, Assistant Surveyor, had made a report as to a further absence from duty by Mr. O'Kelly.

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

"That the County Surveyor be directed to summon Mr. M.J. O'Kelly, Ballinaboola Quarry, to meeting of Special Committee of Council on Thursday 3rd August, to explain his absence from duty on various occasions".

#### Quarries in Kilmuckridge District.

The following resolution from Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed at the meeting of the Co. Council on 17th July 1922:-

"that the Secretary of the Kilmuckridge Branch of Irish Transport & General Workers' Union be informed that the County Council will act on the report of their officers as regards what quarries will be opened and will take no dictation from any outsiders. The Council were about to open a quarry on the lands of Mr. Michael O'Brien, Killincooley, Kilmuckridge, but the Finance & Roads Committee will now recommend that no further steps be taken in this matter.

In reply to this the Secretary to Kilmuckridge Branch of Transport & General Workers' Union wrote, under date 18th July 1922 that his branch were



greatly surprised at the position taken up by the Finance & Roads Committee regarding the opening of the quarry in this district. As regards dictation there was nothing of the kind meant, but merely a request from the unemployed that the quarry might be opened when the stones were suitable and so badly required for the roads around there. Even the largest ratepayers admitted that sea gravel was not suitable for the sandy roads.

"No Order"

Wicklow Gap Quarry.

Under date 24th July 1922 the following letter was read from Mr. Michael Byrne, Secretary to Wicklow Gap Branch Irish Transport & General Workers' Union:-

"I am directed by the Wicklow Gap Branch to notify you that this branch does not agree to let an engine to break the stones in the quarries in this area as there is so many men unemployed. If the Council think the men are not able to break the amount required, the men are willing to break by piece-work. The Branch would not have let Darcy broken the stones on the last occasion only it was an old contract.

There is 16 men idle in this district and every man wants a loaf. Trusting this application will receive the attention of the Council".

The following resolution of this Branch of Transport & General Workers' Union had been before last meeting of the Council and adjourned:-

"That we the Members of this Branch presently engaged on Co. Council work are willing to undertake breaking of material at present banked for breaking at 6/- per cubic yard, with hammer as it will mean much longer work for us and allowing for cost of quarrying and banking of material it would be inside the Surveyor's estimate of 10/- This also includes material banked in Cummer Hill Quarry".

You should give this offer consideration as men have a strong objection to breaking with Crusher as it means only a very short period of work and may cause trouble".

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

"That the County Surveyor make arrangements to have material in Wicklow Gap and Cummer Hill Quarries broken by hand at 6/- per cubic yard!"

Mr. Corish dissented from the resolution.



Canal Commission.

Under date 18th July 1922 the Secretary to Canal Commission, 11 Parnell Square, Dublin, forwarded suggested heads of evidence for local authorities.

The matter was adjourned to next meeting.

County Wexford Infirmary.

Mr. R.W. Elgee submitted Counsel's opinion from Mr. St L. Devitt B.L. as to the position of Co. Council in relation to the County Wexford Infirmary, as follows:-

Question:- can the County Council close down the Co. Infirmary?

Answer:- In my opinion No.

Are the County Council the Owners of the County Infirmary premises including the buildings, equipment and furniture?

Answer:- Yes, Article 15 (1) of the Schedule to the Application of Enactments Order had the effect of transferring to the Co. Council the land on which the Infirmary was built, the building, furniture and equipment thereof. Previous to the L.G. Act this property was vested in the Governors and Governesses of the Infirmary as a Corporation.

Question:- Can the County Council withdraw the Grant which they at present make for the upkeep of the institution, and if they have power to do so, what Notice (if any) should they give the Committee of Management of their intention to do so?

Answer:- By Sec 15 (1) of the L.G. Act a County Council shall annually contribute towards any County Infirmary or Fever Hospital which is situate in their County a sum not less than was so contributed out of the County Cess in the Standard financial year or any less minimum which the L.G. Board sanction. This section is mandatory and as long as there is a County Infirmary this contribution must be made by the County Council and cannot be withheld.

Question:- Can the County Council withhold the payment of the salary of £94 a year to the Surgeon of the Infirmary and if so what Notice (if any) should they give to the Surgeon of their intention to do so?

Answer:- No.

Question:- Can the County Council dispose of the Infirmary Buildings and the equipment and furniture therein, or transfer the equipment to the new County Hospital?



Answer:- The County Council can in my opinion sell the Infirmary building and Furniture, I understand the Public Health Board have established a County Hospital and that the present Infirmary therefore is no longer required. By the 48 Geo III C 113 in such cases where a new Infirmary is erected and it is desirable to sell the old one, power was given to the Grand Jury to appoint Commissioners to sell such old Infirmary the money to be paid to the Treasurer of the County to be disposed of by the Grand Jury for the general advantage of such County.

Under Article 15 of the Schedule to the Application of Enactments Order all property held for any public use was transferred to the County Council "for the same estate, interest and purposes subject to the same covenants conditions and restrictions subject to which that property is or would have been held if the Act had not passed". It is probable that these words used pass the power of sale given under the 48 Geo 3 c 113 to the Grand Jury to the Co. Council. But Sub sec (3) of the same Section 15 gives an express power of sale to the Co. Council of all such transferred property with the consent of the L.G.B.

In the Tyrone Infirmary case (1903) 2 I.R. 324 it was held that this Sec passed the property of the Co. Infirmary to the Co. Council.

Question:- In the event of the closing down of the Co. Infirmary are the officials of the Infirmary, viz:- The Surgeon, Matron, Nursing Staff, Registrar, and Gatekeeper or Porter, pensionable officers, and if so, on what scale would their Pensions be calculated whether by an annual payment or a lump sum by way of compensation?

Answer:- No. In R. v Neligan 14 L.R. 149 it was decided that the Surgeon of an Infirmary held his office at will as the County Infirmarys' Act 1765 gave the Governing Body power "to elect or remove a Physician or Surgeon and servants". The L.G. Act 1898 Sec 15 (8) provided that except an existing Officer "every Officer of the hospital or Infirmary may be appointed and removed by the Committee appointed under this Section" existing Officers must have the consent of the L.G. B. to their removal but as to all others the meaning of Sec 15v sub sec 8 is to vest in the Committee an unqualified discretion as to the removal of future officers. The enactment relates to all hospital and Infirmary officers from the highest to the lowest, without distinction of rank or function" 2 v Blaney 1901 L.I.R. 93 per Gibson J)

If any of the officials were in office at the time of the L.G. Act the L.G.B.



must consent to their dismissal but as to all the others the Committee can dismiss them at once.

Question:- What interest (if any) have the Governors who subscribe annually to the Infirmary or are life Governors in the County Infirmary?

Answer:- These have no interest, their powers are vested in the Committees on which they are represented by Members chosen from their body.

Question:- Such general advice on the matter as Counsel may consider necessary?

Answer:- A County Infirmary is now managed by a Committee chosen from the old Governors and by the County Council. The County Council have vested in them the property of the Infirmary with a power of sale probably but certainly with the consent of the L.G.B. The Co. Council have to contribute to the upkeep of the Infirmary. As I understand the present Infirmary is no longer necessary and it is proposed to dispense with it in my opinion this can be effected by the Co. Council and the Governing Committee in co-operation. The Committee can discharge the Surgeon and Staff of the Infirmary and the Council can apply to the L.G.B. for their consent to sell the building and land as no longer required. Once the Infirmary is disposed of in this way the liability for its upkeep will of course cease.

-----

On the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. M. Doyle, the following resolution was adopted:-

"that the Local Government Department be requested to sanction the closing of County Wexford Infirmary by Wexford Co. Council".

#### Deputy Checkers Rate Collectors' Accounts.

Under date 28th July 1922 the Minister for Local Government wrote (20033-22 Wexford County) sanctioning appointment of Messrs. Jasper Whitty, John J. Fanning, M.J. Finn and T.A. Frizelle as deputy Checkers of Rate Collectors' A/cs for year 1922-23.

#### Payments to Under Sheriff.

Under date 28th July 1922 the Minister for Local Government wrote (letter 20033-22 Wexford Co) that the Ministry considered that the County Council might now resume responsibility for payment to Under Sheriff of his salary and remuneration in respect of summoning Jurors to Quarter Sessions.

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



"That no action be taken for the present as regards payment to Under Sheriff for salary or for summoning Jurors".

Proposed Grant of Petrol for County Surveyor.

Under date 27th July 1922 the following letter (No. 19053/22) was read from the Minister for Local Government:-

"With reference to an entry in the Minutes of the proceedings of your Council on 26th June 1922 in which it is stated "that the County Surveyor applied for an allowance towards the cost of petrol for his motor car when engaged on Council business", I have to inform you that the Department will not sanction your Council's proposal to grant an allowance of £20 per annum for such a purpose. In this connection I desire to refer you to Circular R/101 (copy to follow)"

Referred to Finance Committee.

Jurors Lists.

Under date 18th July 1922 the Minister for Local Government wrote (19316-22 Wexford Co) that Jurors Lists for the County should now be prepared as usual, but the Voters Registers should be deferred pending further instructions.

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

"That we approve preparation of Jurors' Lists and empower Finance & Roads Committee to accept tender for printing of same".

Motherhood and Child Welfare Scheme.

Under date 17th Jly 1922 the Minister for Local Government called attention to the desirability of making adequate provision for the well being of mothers and young children, and asked the Council to consider the needs of their area in this important matter, bearing in mind that a National Grant to cover half the cost of approved scheme was available as from 1st January last.

As a first step it was suggested that the subject should be considered by a special Committee including in addition to Members of the Council others particularly acquainted with the matter, especially representatives of existing voluntary bodies in order to unify and develop the work.

The views of Medical Superintendent Officers of Health and Medical Officers of Health might be considered in forming the Committee, and they



might be asked to prepare draft reports for the consideration of the Committee. The Urban District Councils had been communicated with and for a commencement the Minister suggested that the County Council should confine its attention to the population of the Rural Districts, for whom the principal requirements appeared to be the establishment of an efficient health visiting system in association with the local medical officers of health and perhaps it might be necessary in some districts to provide a more adequate milk supply for necessitous mothers and young children.

The County Councils would do well to urge the Rural District Councils to adopt the provisions of the Notification of Births Act 1907.

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

"The County Council are not at present in a position to deal with Schemes of Motherhood and Child Welfare".

#### Income Tax.

Under date 21st July 1922 the Minister for Local Government wrote that as Income Tax was now being collected on behalf of the Irish Government the Council would facilitate the Revenue Authorities by furnishing them with any information for which they ask.

Adjourned for the present.

#### Motor Cycles for Assistant Surveyors.

Under date 25th July 1922 the Minister for Local Government (Trade) wrote that the Ministry were making arrangements to have ready the Motor Cycles ordered by the County Council for the Assistant Surveyors.

Under date 25th July 1922 the Minister for Local Government, Upper Merrion Street, Dublin, wrote (19314-22) asking if any arrangements had been made for the repayment of cost price of motor cycles to be furnished the Assistant Surveyors, and enclosed a Circular which was being issued by the Department.

The Circular pointed out that the Department were not prepared to sanction the purchase of motor vehicles to be supplied free to Surveyors nor would it sanction the payment of a bulk sum in lieu of travelling expenses. The Department would sanction travelling expenses only to Surveyors who provided and used motor vehicles for the discharge of their duties. Payment would be on a mileage basis to be vouched weekly on Roads Dept Form R.F. and paid monthly by the County Council.



Until further notice the Scale would be:-

Nine pence per statute mile where Surveyors use their own Motor Cars and four pence per statute mile where motor cycles or cycle cars were used.

Third class railway fare and a subsistence allowance of fifteen shillings per night of unavoidable absence from home may be allowed when Surveyors had to leave their Counties for Law Cases, Conferences, etc., but no allowance for local travelling would be sanctioned.

To enable a Surveyor to purchase a motor vehicle the County Council may advance a loan free of interest repayable in four years, quota to be deducted from each monthly payment of Surveyor's salary. The Surveyor should pay motor tax each January and which would be refunded by the Council on production of receipt. He shall insure the motor vehicle to the full amount of its value in the joint names of the Council, and himself until the loan has been paid off, the policy to be deposited with the Council.

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

"The County Council consider the arrangements which they arrived at in respect of providing motor cycles for Assistant Surveyors are more desirable than those now suggested by the Ministry for Local Government, and they request sanction for same in view of the careful consideration which the proposals of the Council had received at several meetings of the Finance & Roads Committee and of the County Council".

Printing & Advertising for Clerk of Crown & Peace.

Under date 9th July 1922 the Minister for Local Government wrote referring to the refusal of certain County Councils to pay for printing and advertising expenses incurred by the Clerk of Crown & Peace. Councils were not bound to meet those claims but if on the grounds of convenience and economy they would do so as it would be a satisfactory solution of the matter and the Co. Council were requested to resume liabilities as formerly on behalf of Clerk of Crown & Peace.

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

"The Wexford County Council for a number of years past refused to pay for cost of printing and advertising for Clerk of Crown & Peace, and they cannot



now see their way to assume responsibility for these items".

Defence Criminal Injury Claims.

Under date 26th July 1922 Mr. O'Sullivan, Clerk R.D. Council, Wexford, wrote asking if the County Council intended to oppose Malicious Injury Claims made since the Truce.

Under date 21st July 1922 the Minister for Local Government wrote referring to the Minutes of the County Council on 26th June 1922, that claims for Malicious Injuries lodged since the Truce should be defended.

On the motion of Mr. M. Doyle, seconded by Mr. G. Devereux, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the County Council take no action to defend claims for Malicious Injury. Demands for large sums under this head are being received daily and the Ratepayers of the County are not in a position financially to allow them to meet same. Consequently we cannot see our way to recognise or accept responsibility for said claims".

County Board of Health.

Under date 14th July 1922 the Ministry for Local Government (13930-22 Wexford Co.) wrote that as regards their letter of the 16th May 1922 on the subject of chargeability of expenses for County Board of Health, they wished to convey that the charges be "either County-at-Large" or "District" not "Union", as the latter had disappeared as an administrative Unit there could be no "Union" charge as such.

The Secretary also read the following extract from letter of Ministry for Local Government to Secretary County Board of Health, under date 21st April 1922:-

"The Ministry approves of your decision to make the administrative charges for County Home, County Hospital and District Hospitals in New Ross and Gorey, County-at-Large Charges, and to have maintenance of patients in the County Hospital, County Home and District Hospitals chargeable to each Rural District according to the number of patients sent from these districts"

The Secretary read the following letter which he had written the Local Government Department under date 19th July 1922:-

"In reference to your letter of 14th inst (15930-22 Wexford Co.,) as to areas of charge for expenditure incurred by County Board of Health it was by accident I heard of a letter from your Department to the Secretary County



Board of Health under date 21st April last and of which the following is an extract:-

"The Ministry approves of your decision to make the administrative charges for County Home, County Hospital and District Hospitals in New Ross and Gorey, County-at-Large charges, and to have maintenance of patients in the County Hospital, County Home and District Hospitals, chargeable to each Rural District according to the number of patients sent from these districts".

This is much more definite than the letter of the 14th inst., stating that the chargeability should be either "County-at-Large" or "District" but it contains one important omission if it is to be strictly read, viz:- The Urban Districts will escape any contribution for maintenance of patients.

There appears to be a certain amount of contradiction between the letter of 16th May and 14th July and the communication of the 21st April to the Secretary of County Board of Health and, in view of this, I would suggest that the letter of 14th July (15930-22) should be cancelled and copy of letter of 21st April 1922 to the Secretary of County Board of Health amplified providing for a debit to Urban Districts according to number of Institutional cases. Such a letter would afford more solid ground for consideration. But there will be considerable complaint if outdoor relief is to be treated as part of the administrative charges and if your Ministry would agree that administrative charges except outdoor relief should be County-at-Large charges and that outdoor relief and maintenance of patients in various institutions should be chargeable to the Urban or Rural Districts directly concerned there is a possibility that my Council would agree and the correspondence on this subject, which has now gone on for a considerable time could close".

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

"That we approve of the letter of our Secretary to the Minister for Local Government as to the chargeability of expenses in connection with expenses of County Board of Health".

Under date 28th July 1922 the Minister for Local Government wrote that as regards the request of the Council that the Membership of County Board of Health should be increased by one in order that Mr. Denis Whelan, District



Councillor, The Deeps, Kyle, might be appointed as additional representative for Wexford R.D. Council, the Amalgamation Scheme would be revised early in 1923 when the question of representation could be raised

"No Order"

#### Motor Car Administration.

The Secretary submitted R.F. 12/10 from Mr. C.H. Richards, Local Taxation Officer, as to refusal of Mr. James O'Brien, Merchant, Bull Ring, Wexford to pay Motor Tax. Mr. O'Brien stated he never paid licence and does not intend to begin.

On the motion of Mr. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Corish, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the question of proceeding against Mr. James O'Brien, Bull Ring, Wexford for failure to pay motor duty be referred to the Ministry of Transport for action".

#### Maintenance Courthouses.

The Secretary submitted a/c from Wexford Gas Co., for £6.1.5d for gas supplied Wexford Courthouse for quarter ended 30th June 1922.

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

"That as Gas Bill for County Courthouse for last quarter in respect of Caretakers' apartments and as Caretaker has been appointed by the High Sheriff we refer the Gas Co. to the latter for payment".

#### Courthouse Administration- Gorey.

Under date 24th July 1922 Mr. J. Prendergast, C.P.S. wrote that he had been directed by his Authorities and Magistrates to write requesting that the County Council take action towards providing accommodation for the holding of petty sessions for Gorey District. Article 15 of the Local Government (Application of Enactments) Order 1898 directs that a County Council shall provide such accommodation and rooms etc., as may be determined for the due transaction of the business of Justices.

On the motion of Mr. Foley, seconded by Mr. Devereux, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That no order be made on application of Petty Sessions Clerk for Gorey to provide accommodation for petty sessions Courts, as so far as the County Council is concerned petty sessions courts are obsolete".



County Surveyors' Association.

The following resolutions were received from Association of County Surveyors:-

"That in view of the extra work and extra expense imposed on Co. Surveyors and their staffs in carrying out repairs to bridges, roads and other public works damaged during the recent Irish War, a commission of 5 per cent on the amount expended on such works should be paid to Co. Surveyors and their Assistants i.e. 3 per cent and 2 per cent to each respectively".

"That a commission of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent on the amount expended on all road work extra to ordinary maintenance carried out with the aid of Government Grants should be allowed to Co. Surveyors and their Assistants responsible for carrying out such works, i.e.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent to County Surveyors and 1 per cent to Assistants, such commission being an allowance to cover expenses in carrying out extra work".

"Adjourned to next Meeting".

Primary Scholarship Examinations.

The Secretary submitted the following time table in connection with award of Scholarships to pupils of Primary Schools:-

Monday 28th August. 10.30- 11.45 Arithmetic.

Dictation.- 11.45 - 12.15., 12.15- 1.0 Composition. 1.0- 1.15 Handwriting., 1.15- 2 p.m. Recess., 2.0- 3.15 Algebra., 3.15- 4.15 Grammar. 4.15- 5.30 Hygiene.

Tuesday, 29th August:- 9.- 10.15 Geometry & mensuration., 10.15- 11.15 Irish (written) 11.15- 12.30 Irish (Oral) 12.30- 1.30 Recess., 1.30- 2.15 History., 2.15- 4 p.m. Needlework.

Reading Examination will be conducted during Needlework Examination.

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

"That we approve of programme for Primary Scholarship Examinations and fix revised dates for Examination on 28th and 29th August 1922".

Registration of Voters- Expenses Preparation of List.

Under date 26th June 1922 the Minister for Local Government wrote (L.G. 4221) that the claim of Mr. J.N. Scallan, Clerk, Crown & Peace for registration expenses in connection with the Fourth Register of Electors



had now been examined. The gross amount payable is £1427, fees received £1. 16/- net expenses £1425.4. 6d. When the claim and any outstanding demands in respect of printing have been paid Form 1 should be forwarded to the Ministry with an application for recoupment.

Mr. Scallan, Clerk Crown & peace, wrote that the net amount still unpaid was £225. 4. 6d.

On the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That when funds of County Council allow the sum of £225. 4. 6d due for preparation of register of Voters, be paid".

Payment to Public Bodies.

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

"That in regard to demand of £4838. 16. 7d from County Board of Health our Secretary be directed to apportion payment to public bodies financed by County Council according to amount of money available".

Claim Recoupment Voters' Lists.

Correspondence was read from Mr. M.J. Finn, Town Clerk, New Ross, for remuneration in lieu of fees in connection with Voters Lists for the New Ross Urban District for 1921, the preparation of which was not carried out having received instructions not to prepare them. The amount claimed by Mr. Finn is £28. 8. 0d

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

"That the claim of Mr. M.J. Finn, Town Clerk, New Ross, for remuneration under Voters (Acts, for 1921 be paid subject to sanction of Local Government Department".

Proposed Carnegie Library.

Under date 26th July 1922, Mr. Lennox Robinson, Secretary to Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, wrote that the Trustees acting on the advice of their Irish Advisory Committee had agreed to make a grant of money to establish and maintain for two years a Scheme of book distribution in County Wexford, in the expectation that at the end of that period the Scheme could be carried on by the County. In that case the trustees would present the County with the books, book boxes and other



equipment, but if the County, for any reason is unable to carry on the Scheme the Trustees would remove the equipment elsewhere. The work of book distribution would be started so soon as circumstances would permit.

Explanation Absence from Duty.

Mr. Stephen Hayes, Assistant County Council Office, under date 30th July 1922 submitted the following explanation of his absence from duty:-

"In reply to yours of the 20th inst., re my suspension, I beg to offer you the following explanation.

Owing to circumstances over which I had no control I was detained from my usual work in the Co. Council offices.

I now also apply for a further week's leave in order that I may, in case the foregoing explanation proves satisfactory, be able to resume my usual duty.

Thanking you for your kindness and courtesy in the past".

"It was decided that consideration of this letter be adjourned".

Explosives for Quarries.

The following letter under date 20th July 1922 was read from the Minister for Local Government:-

"We are in receipt of yours of the 18th instant, and wish to state that the Military have stopped all permits for the supply of explosives for the present, which you will understand is reasonable under the existing conditions. We have, however prevailed on them to make the following concession. If you will approach the O.C. in your district and ask him to send an escort, say 4 to 6 men in a motor car to Dublin, they will allow you to have 300 lbs gelignite. You will require to let the Authorities in Portobello Barracks know that you are doing so a couple of days previous, so that there will be no delay when your escort arrives. Please address your letter to Capt. J.W. Boylan, Portobello Barracks, Dublin

Under date 28th July 1922, Comdt C. McAllister wrote that it was not possible at least for the present to provide an escort for explosives, as the Military had not a sufficient number of men to allow a party out on this particular work. When they had eventually quelled disorder in County Wexford or even when they were sufficiently reinforced they would be happy to meet the request of the County Council in the matter.

"No order"



Removal Children from Wexford Industrial School.

The following report was read from the Secretary:-

"On Saturday 22nd July 1922 I received a message from St. Michael's Industrial School Wexford, that a man named Fitzgerald, a railway employe residing at Ballygeary had presented to the Sister in Charge of the Industrial School an order signed by Capt Clarke, Military Barracks, Wexford, to give up to Fitzgerald the three children of the latter aged four, eight and eleven. As the order was written on a small piece of Account paper and had no heading, the Sister declined to act upon it until it had been verified, whereupon Fitzgerald went to the Barracks for a Military escort (which he stated he had been promised) to remove his children by force.

I then rang up Capt Clarke on the telephone and asked him to withdraw the Order and direct Fitzgerald to attend next parish court at Tagoat, but he declined stating that Fitzgerald wanted to go to Waterford immediately that he was entitled to get his children and that he (Capt Clarke) would assume all responsibility for handing the children over. In the circumstances the Managers had no option but to give up the children. They were committed by Mr. John Lambert and Mr. James Murphy, local Justices at Tagoat Parish Court on 26th June last, and were practically naked when they were brought to the Industrial School. The local Officer in charge of the administration of the Act for Prevention of Cruelty to Children stated that these children were absolutely neglected and that in normal times Fitzgerald would have been prosecuted by him.

The Managers of the Industrial Schools will not be able to keep children in the Institution or fulfil directions of local courts if incidents such as I now report are likely to recur".

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

"That we protest in the strongest possible manner against the interference of Capt Clarke or any other Military Officer with the business of this Council. The special attention of the Local Government Department is called to this case, and they are requested to see that arrangements are made by which County Councils are allowed to function without Military interference".

-----ooOoo-----  
(Signed

*E. H. O'Connell*