

MEETING.- 15th MARCH 1921.

A Meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in the County Hall, Wexford, on Tuesday, 15th March 1921.

Present: Mr. J. J. O'Byrne (Vice-Chairman) presiding.

Also:- Messrs. R. Corish, James Hall, M. Redmond, Thomas Murphy, G. Devereux, C. Culleton, E.P. Foley, James Shannon.

The County Surveyor and the Accountant were also in attendance.

Dublin Executions.

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

"That we express our admiration at the truly heroic manner in which the six men executed in Dublin on Monday, 14th March 1921, met their fate.

That we tender to the relatives our deepest sympathy".

Arrest of Secretary.

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

"That we protest against the arrest of our Secretary, Mr. N. J. Frizelle, who has evidently been deprived of his liberty along with our Vice-Chairman and several members in order to hamper and impede the administration of this Council".

Leave of Absence.

On the motion of Mr. Foley, seconded by Mr. Devereux, the Secretary was granted leave of absence for the period of his detention".

Appointment of Acting Secretary.

On the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. Foley, Mr. T. A. Frizelle, Accountant, was appointed Acting Secretary during the absence of the Secretary.

Public Bodies Estimates.

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

"That the revised Estimates received from Public Bodies be agreed to except that received from Lunatic Asylum Committee for £34235. This amount being a reduction of only £1000 on the original

should be summoned to again consider the estimate especially the amount included for fuel and light, (£6000) and which we consider excessive.

That the R.M. S. be requested to inform the Council the period over which the 700 tons of coal estimated for carries the Institution, and whether it is proposed to pay for the full amount of this coal during the coming financial year".

As regards Road Estimate adopted by Enniscorthy Rural District Council the County Surveyor pointed out that the sum agreed to by the Rural District Council was £18549: 7: 0, while his estimate was £25566: 2: 6. This meant a reduction of £7016: 18: 6. He stated the amount passed by the Rural District Council was altogether inadequate.

Mr. Hall stated that if the Estimate were again returned to the Enniscorthy Rural District Council it would be further reduced.

After discussion the Estimate as adopted by the Rural District Council was accepted on the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Corish, the County Council having no other alternative.

Rate Collection.

Messrs. O'Byrne, (Raheen) and O'Byrne (Camolin) wrote recommending Mr. John Kelly, Clonee, Camolin, for position as Rate Collector to No. 14 Collection District. They considered him more suitable for the district than Mr. William Roche, whose name was suggested at last meeting.

On the motion of Mr. Redmond, seconded by Mr. Shannon, Mr. John Kelly, Clonee, Camolin, was appointed Rate Collector for No. 14 Collection District".

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

"That Mr. William Roche, Tongarrow, Adamstown, be appointed Rate Collector for No. 13 Collection District, vice Mr. Wm. Doyle. resigned".

On the motion of Mr. Devereux, seconded by Mr. Foley, Mr. Patrick Sinnott, Mountaingate, Cleariestown, was offered the appointment as deputy for his brother Mr. Richard Sinnott, recently arrested, Mr. Sinnott to take up the position if Members of the Council ascertain that

he is willing to act.

On the motion of Mr. Foley, seconded by the Chairman, the appointment of deputy in the case of J. Quirke was referred to the Finance Committee.

The following letter was read from Mr. P. Codd, Newtownbarry:-

"I had a letter from the Local Government Board this morning saying that as your Council have re-appointed the National Bank Treasurer, I am to lodge Rates as prescribed by my bond. I have collected no rates up to the present. I am starting to-day, and I hope to have the goodwill of your Council in doing so.

I expect to be able to make some very good lodgments in a few days".

Appointment of Edward Roe.

A letter was read from the Local Government Department that owing to Mr. Roe's carelessness about submitting names of sureties and as he was also under 21 years old his appointment would not be sanctioned. The County Council should make a new appointment.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Murphy, it was decided to request the Local Government Department to sanction Mr. Roe for the present collection period, as he has now submitted names of sureties and he is now working hard at the collection".

Mr. R. W. Elgee submitted Draft Bond for new Rate Collectors".

It was decided that the matter be postponed for the present".

The Meeting considered the state of the Rate Collection.

"It was decided on the motion of the Chairman, that Collectors be urged to expedite their Collections"

The Meeting noted that the following had lodged to the Council's credit amounts of rates collected and which had remained in their personal Accounts:-

G. Rossiter £198: 8: 10, P. Rossiter £1113: 6: 2, E. Cummins £154: 13: 8, J. Banville £151: 1: 4, J. Cogley, £386: 12: 5".

Treasurership.

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

"That the National Bank be appointed Treasurer of the Council and

that Rate Collectors be instructed to lodge Rates collected to Treasurer's Account".

It was also decided that the question of the Treasurership be again considered at the first available meeting after the close of the present financial year".

Payment to Department of Agriculture.

The County Surveyor stated he had included in accounts for present meeting a certificate for payment to Department of Agriculture for dredging at Kilmore.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Foley, it was decided to postpone payment of this Account for the present owing to the Council's financial position".

Financial Position.

The Council considered their present financial position.

The County Surveyor submitted a statement giving particulars of payments urgently requiring attention. As amounts due to Contractors in respect of surrendered roads.

On the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by the Chairman, the County Surveyor was authorised to certify payments up to £1500 limiting the amount certified to contractors in respect of surrendered Roads to 50 % of the amount due, the County Surveyor to inform those Contractors that the balance cannot be certified until he is informed by them that they have paid the second moiety of their Poor Rate for the current financial year".

Payment to Public Bodies.

Letters were read from the Clerks of the four Unions asking for further payments on account of final instalment of Demands.

On the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Hall, payments were passed in favour of Public Bodies as follows:-

Enniscorthy Lunatic Asylum	£1242
County Infirmary	50
Enniscorthy Union	718
Gorey Union	289
New Ross Union	547
Wexford Union	<u>373</u>

Road and Quarry Work.

The County Surveyor asked for instructions as to whether Road and Quarry Work should be continued.

The Chairman pointed out that the County Surveyor had heard the statement of the financial position explained by the Acting Secretary, and also the discussion thereon at the present meeting.

"The County Surveyor was authorised to notify Workers that if funds permit (that is if Ratepayers pay their Rates) work will continue but should the Rates cease to be paid work must cease".

Hall Committee.

The following report of Special Meeting of Hall Committee was read:-

"Special Meetings of Hall Committee were held on 26th February 1921, and 1st March 1921, when Messrs. R. Corish, E. P. Foley and G. Devereux attended.

On both occasions the sittings were entirely devoted to examination of Bill of Mr. Underwood for Gas fittings etc.

The Committee recommended a deduction in wages from the account of £15:15: 0. They have ascertained that Mr. Underwood pays his gas fitter a wage of £3:10- 6d per week, and helper 15/- per week. or £4:5: 6d per week to the two men. The wages charged for them in the account is £7: 10- -. The Committee consider that the actual wages £4: 5: 6 plus £1: 2: 6d - profit should be enough to allow. Taking the time spent at the work this would mean a reduction in the wages account of £17: 15: 0.

The Committee recommend that £150 on account, should be paid as soon as possible.

The Committee then adjourned for the purpose of checking prices, having checked quantities.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. G. Devereux, it was decided that a further meeting of the Hall Committee to finally dispose of Mr. Underwood's claim".

"That the Account submitted by Mr. T. Malone for Gate etc., at entrance to Machinery Yard be also referred to the Committee".

Mountgarrett Bridge Committee.

The following report of Mountgarrett Bridge Committee was read:-

"The Joint Committee for the Counties of Kilkenny and Wexford met at Mountgarrett Bridge on the 10th inst. The Committee made an inspection of the bridge going under same in a boat and found the timbers generally in a bad condition. It was decided to adjourn the consideration for the re-building of the bridge for three months, and in the meanwhile the two County Surveyors were directed to prepare a plan for the repair of the bridge. It was directed that full steps should be taken to be ready to carry out the repair work if such be decided on and that the necessary timber should be purchased. No actual repair work is to be undertaken at present pending further consideration of the Committee. If it be decided later on that the re-building should be put in hands the purchased timber could be used in the temporary bridge at little or no loss. If it be not found practical this year to commence re-building of the bridge, then the necessary repairs will require to be done during the summer months. The Committee decided to meet again at a later date when the financial state of the Counties can be gone into and to decide on re-building or otherwise accordingly.

The following Members of the Committee attended:-

Messrs. G. Dooley, Thomas Galavan, Patrick galavan, J. J. O'Byrne, and Thomas Murphy.

Mr. Burden, County Surveyor, Kilkenny and Mr. Barry, County Surveyor, Wexford, were also in attendance".

The Chairman pointed out to the County Surveyor that his impression at the Meeting was that the County Surveyor be instructed to make enquiries regarding the price of timber, but the Committee did not give directions for the timber to be purchased.

Roads Committee.

The following Report of Special Roads Committee was read:-

"The first meeting of the newly appointed Roads Committee was held on 3rd March 1921, in the County Hall, Wexford.

Present:- Mr. J. J. O'Byrne (Vice-Chairman) Co. Council) presiding.
also:-

Representing Rural District Councils- Messrs. W. J. Furlong, Chairman, Enniscorthy Rural District Council, and C. Culleton Chairman, Wexford Rural District Council.

Representing Farmers' Union- Messrs. J. S. McDonald and W. Boggan.

Representing Labour Unions- Mr. D. Whelan.

Mr. M. Doran, Secretary County Wexford Farmers' Union, the Secretary to the County Council, Mr. W. F. Barry, County Surveyor, and Messrs. Kehoe, Ennis, Kirby, and Curran, Assistant Surveyors, were also in attendance.

After discussion Mr. M. Boggan proposed and Mr. Corish seconded the following resolution which was adopted nem. con:-

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to furnish particulars of the roads in his charge to each Parish Committee concerned, with amount of material and money available for upkeep, apportioning the latter to (1) amount for cartage of macadam from Quarry to road, (2) amount for spreading of material, and (3) upkeep of water-tables. That the Committees be requested to recommend to the County Surveyor a contractor for Nos. 1, 2, and 3, or for any one or two of these works. That, if the Parish Committees consider material available for any particular road not sufficient, it is requested they would take steps to obtain the necessary balance through field stones or gravel pit, but these classes of material cannot be utilised until they have been approved by the County Surveyor as regards quality and price, or by the Deputy Surveyor of the District, acting on behalf of the County Surveyor".

As regards the quantity of material available, Mr. Ennis stated that the normal supply in his district was 10,000 yards, from County Council quarries, and 5,000 yards of field stones, material broken by contractors and produce of gravel pits. He considered that, under present circumstances, he could only count on 2,000 yards from Co. Council quarries and the usual 5,000 yards supply from other sources.

Mr. Kirby believed the only shortage he could calculate on would be in Carriganeagh and Ballyregan. Gorey Hill would take the place of Carriganeagh, and he had any amount of material in Wicklow Gap and also in Gorey Hill. In the aggregate, he considered he would not be more

than 1,000 cubic yards short as compared with full working.

Mr Curran said he would require usually from 10,000 to 12,000 cubic yards annually. He anticipated being able to get from 75 to 80 per cent of material from County Council quarries.

Mr. Kehoe said that about one-third of his district was maintained by sea gravel, he estimated that about 70 per cent of a full supply would be available.

Mr. Jones, (Assistant Surveyor, New Ross District) was not in attendance.

The Chairman said the County Surveyor and his Assistants had a number of men working on the roads in certain districts on a direct labour scheme, and they were doing very good work. Once March or April was over, these men would have very little to do on the roads, and in normal times, these men could then be put into quarries, get out all the material necessary and have it broken. It would then be a question for the Parish Committees to get the stuff on to the roads, and into the depots as quickly as possible, and then arrange how it was to be spread, either by direct labour or by contract. He believed if the County Council had such a scheme, and with the Parish Committees calling the attention of the Surveyors to anything they believed needed attention, they would have an ideal system.

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

"That with reference to forthcoming meetings of Rural District Councils to consider proposals for upkeep and maintenance of roads, we direct the County Surveyor to circularize each Parish Committee, showing the amount it is proposed to spend on the proposals for the roads of the parish for the forthcoming year, and that the recommendations of the various Parish Committees, as to the various items of the estimate, be brought before the Rural District Councils concerned".

The Meeting then adjournes.

"Report received and adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Devereux".

Roads Trenched.

The County Surveyor asked for instructions as to repair of above.

"The Council made an Order".

In connection with above the County Surveyor stated that some tools, the property of the Council, were taken from Ferrycarrig and Ballyboggan Quarries and left on the road at Larkin's Cross.

These tools were subsequently removed by the Military.

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

"That the County Surveyor be directed to apply to the Military Authorities for the return of the Council's tools".

Analyst's Report.

The following Report of the County Analyst was read:-

"Report of Sir Charles Cameron, C. B. M. D. Public Analyst for the County Wexford, on articles submitted to him for analysis during the quarter ended 31st December 1920.

6 articles were received from the Food Inspectors, R.I.C. as follows:-

For Sergeant Torsney, Newtownbarry, three specimens of milk, one of butter, one of margarine, and one of cheese were analysed and were pure.

There were four specimens of butter analysed by directions from the Department of Agriculture, Upper Merrion Street, Dublin, which were taken up in the County Wexford and were pure.

For the Guardians of Enniscorthy Union twelve drugs were analysed and were correct.

For the Guardians of Gorey Union twelve drugs and a specimen of water were analysed. One drug was incorrect. The specimen of water had the following composition:-

One imperial gallon contained in grains

Total solid matter	45.500
Including	
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.009
Saline Ammonia	0.003
Nitric Acid	2.870
Chlorine	4.880

A good water.

A specimen of water analysed for H. H. E. Hunt, Esq., Irish Margarine Works, Enniscorthy, had the following composition

One imperial gallon contained in grains.

Total solid matter	13,300
Including	
Albuminoid Ammonia	0,012
Saline Ammonia	0.007
Nitric Acid	Trace
Chlorine	1.980

A tolerably good water.

A specimen of feeding stuff was analysed for The Enniscorthy Co-operative Society, Enniscorthy.

A specimen of basic slag was analysed for Mr. J. J. Stafford Wexford.

For Shillalah Union, which is partly situated in the County Wexford, eight drugs were analysed and were correct.

In the original reports on the waters above referred to, full details, chemical and microscopical, were given, but in the foregoing, only the more important points are given.

Total analyses46

"No Order"

Appointment of County Analyst.

It was reported that Sir Charles Cameron, County Analyst, died on 27th February 1921.

On the motion of the Chairman, it was decided that the question of appointment of a new County Analyst be postponed.

Messrs. Thompson's Machinery A/c.

Messrs. M. J. O'Connor & Co. Solicitors, Wexford, forwarded the following letter and enclosure they had received from Messrs. Thompson's Motor Car Co.:

"Dear Mr. O'Connor,

I am extremely obliged for your cheque £500 to hand this morning and enclose our receipt for same.

I do not understand the recommendation of the Finance Committee that they will not pay us any more until the whole four Trailers are forwarded, as we have instructions from Mr. Barry, copy herewith, not to send these on for the present as they have no place to store them.

I wish you would get this point fixed up with them, as if they require the trailers despatched, we can do so at once. They of course will have to pay the carriage from Warwick to Wexford on arrival of the wagons at Waterford, as I believe they could not be shipped direct from Rosslare to Wexford. If the Rosslare people would take them they could of course come by that route. Perhaps you will ascertain from them which route they would like the trailers sent. This is a matter for them to decide as they pay the carriage".

The following is copy of enclosure referred to in above letter:-

"Dear Mr. Thompson,

With regard to the wagons ordered from you I have gone through the correspondence and find that on the 16/6/20 I ordered two trailer wagons which were paid for on the 11th November last. I should note that on the 17/6/20, you wrote acknowledging my order for two wagons.

Subsequently on the 26/6/20 you quoted for 10 sidetipping trailers and on the 14/7/20 you confirmed my order for the 10 trailers which I acknowledged on the 16/7/20, you will thus find that at the present time it is only a matter of the 10 trailers we have to deal with.

With regard to the delivery of these wagons, I shall be much obliged if you will hold over delivery until we can make further arrangements and of course as we are at present circumstanced, and without having steam lorries the wagons would be of little use and possibly would be rather in the way".

The Chairman and Mr. Foley stated that at the last meeting the Council were under the impression that Messrs. Thompson were to blame for the non-delivery of the four Trailers. The Council were not aware of the County Surveyor's letter of the 16th February.

"On the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Foley. it was decided that the Co. Surveyor arrange to have the Machinery shipped direct to Wexford if possible".

Food & Drugs etc. Accounts.

The County Inspector, R.I.C. Wexford, applied for payment of expenses under Food & Drugs Act, Weights & Measures etc.

"It was decided that payment be refused".

Posting Valuation Notices.

The Clerk, Wexford Union, wrote informing the Council that the Relieving Officers expect £5 each for posting Valuation Notices in Wexford District".

The Meeting considered the claim excessive and adjourned it".

Expenses Winter Assizes.

A claim for 11/8 Courtkeepers expenses re Winter Assizes was refused.

Flooding of Road at Fisherstown.

The following letter was read from Messrs. E. & G. Stapleton, Solicitor, under date 24th February 1921, with reference to flooding of road at Fisherstown:-

"Referring to your letter of 5th January as to the damage caused to the road owing to the breaches in the Fisherstown banks we have now had an inspection made of same by our Engineer and he reports that so far as the banks belonging to Mrs. Galloway are concerned that same are in perfect order and that the flooding is caused by the breaches in the banks on the holding of one of the tenants on the Ryland Estate, flooding portion of Mrs. Galloway's tenants' lands and consequently the Road.

We think it would be well if you were to have an inspection made by your Engineer and for the Council to take such steps as they may be advised against the defaulting person".

On the motion of Mr. Devereux, seconded by Mr. Corish, the County Surveyor was directed to again communicate with Mr. Jones, Assistant Surveyor, in the matter.

Gorey Courthouse.

The following letter under date 12th March 1921, was read from Mr. R. W. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council:-

"I enclose you herewith a copy of a letter I have received from Messrs. Huggard & Brennan. I have replied to same stating that as far as I am aware the High Sheriff has taken over the control of the County and Civil Bill Court Houses, and that the County Council have

no more to say to them".

The following is the copy letter referred to above:-

"Our client, Mr. Matthew J. Breslin, has purchased the Lessors interest in the Courthouse, Gorey, from the Kirk Estate.

The Courthouse would appear to be held by the County Council under a Lease dated the 17th February 1854 at the yearly rent of £10.

On the 4th September last a Notice was sent by Mr. Frizelle, Secretary to the County Council and directed to Messrs. Stopford & Turner, stating that the County Council wished to surrender and give up possession of the Courthouse and premises at Gorey.

If they wish to do this our client will be prepared to accept a surrender of the Lease from the County Council, provided of course that the rent is paid to the date and the other covenants in the Lease complied with.

You might kindly let us hear from you in reference to the matter as soon as possible".

"No Order"

Appointment of William Murphy, Machinery Overseer.

With reference to a paragraph in the County Surveyor's Report which was adjourned from last meeting of the Council, it was decided on the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Culleton, that the employment temporarily of Mr. William Murphy, Enniscorthy, Machinery Overseer, by the County Surveyor at £5 per week be agreed to.

Screenings sold from Ballyboggan Quarry.

In reference to County Surveyor's Report to last meeting of the Council regarding screenings sold by Miss Bishop from Ballyboggan Quarry, it was decided on the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by the Chairman, that the matter be referred to Mr. Elgee.

Malicious Injury Decrees.

A number of letters were received from Solicitors asking for payment of Malicious Injury Decrees.

It was decided that payment be refused in all cases".

White Cross League.

On the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. Corish, Messrs. Foley and Walsh were appointed Representatives on the Local Committee

to be appointed in connection with the work of the White Cross League.

Rent Enniscorthy Machinery Yard.

Mr. C. Byrne, Enniscorthy, applied for increased rent for Yard let to the Council at 6/- per week.

Adjourned to next Meeting, the County Surveyor to enquire in the meantime if other suitable yards are available in Enniscorthy, and the rent of same".

Insurance of Ex-Service Men.

Regarding an accident to one of the ex-service men, the County Surveyor mentioned that the Hibernian Insurance Co., stated that these employees were not covered by the Council's Workmen's Compensation Policy.

The Ministry of Transport wrote that the Council's Workmen's Compensation Policy should cover these men.

"The County Surveyor was directed to refer the matter to the Insurance Company, and Ministry of Transport".

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(Signed) _____

Presiding Chairman

Dated this day of 19 .

MEETING.- 30th MARCH 1921.

A Meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in the County Hall, Wexford, on 30th March 1921.

Present:- Mr. John J. O'Byrne (Vice-Chairman) presiding.

Also:- Messrs. James Byrne, Richard Corish, C. Culleton, John Cummins, G. Devereux, Michael Doyle, E. P. Foley, James Hall, David Kavanagh, Simon Kehoe, Thomas Murphy, Patrick O'Byrne, Michael Redmond.

The County Secretary, County Surveyor and the Assistant Secretary were also in attendance.

Leave of Absence- Secretary.

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

"That a fortnight's leave of absence be granted to the Secretary of the Council owing to illness".

Mr. T. A. Frizelle appointed Assistant Secretary.

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

"That Mr. T. A. Frizelle, Accountant, be appointed Assistant Secretary to this Council".

Appointment on Asylum Committee.

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

"That Mr. Patrick Lynch, Priory Place, New Ross, be appointed a Member of the Asylum Committee vice Mr. Michael Byrne resigned".

Financial Position of the Council.

On the motion of Mr. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Redmond, it was decided that the following statement be issued to the public:-

Wexford Co. Council and the British Blockade.Rate Payers to the Relief.

Fellow Wexfordmen,

We the members of the County Council deem it our duty to publish the following Statement of facts, for a two-fold purpose:-

1. To render to the Ratepayers an account of our Stewardship.
2. To rally to our support all who have at heart the cause of Irish Independence.

Nine months ago, we were freely and constitutionally elected by you to conduct the business of the Wexford County Council, on the express understanding that we should act independently of, and, if necessary, in defiance of all British interference. Fully conscious of the sacrifices which such a course of action would entail, we accepted office, believing as you did, that the day had come for Irishmen, not merely to claim, but to exercise the right of managing their own affairs. Accordingly, to be consistent, we pledged our allegiance to Dail Eireann, and since then we have striven faithfully to carry out its commands and suggestions.

You know the consequences. The Acting Chairman, Dr. O'Ryan T. D. and several prominent members of the Council, have been arrested and imprisoned. The County Council Offices have been raided and ransacked more than once by the military and police. The so called "Grants" i.e. monies legitimately due to our County by way of refund for over-taxation, amounting roughly to £40,000 have been withheld and confiscated by the Agents of British rule in Ireland, the Local Government Board. From the same source, came the ukase to our Rate collectors forbidding them under grave penalty to make any further payments to the Council, by whom they were appointed, by whose authority they functioned, and to whom alone the rates were due. Several of our officials, we regret to say, slavishly submitted to this preposterous ruling of an alien government board, and thereby set at naught the authority of the Wexford County Council.

No alternative was left us but to dismiss those disloyal servants of the Council, and appoint other rate collectors, who undertook to carry out the will of the people rather than the tyrannical dictates of their Country's oppressors.

Immediately a notice appeared in the public press outlawing any person who should dare to collect rates without having first obtained the sanction of the British Local Government Board.

On discovering that the notice was ignored and that the rates were being paid to the duly appointed officers of the County Council, the Local Government Board had recourse to Militarism, and instructed the armed forces of British Crown to deal as they might fit with the Wexford County Council, its "illegal" agents and abettors. A few

days later Mr. Frizelle, the Secretary and two of the rate collectors were seized and thrown into prison. Not content with waging war on the Co. Council the military governor has now issued a proclamation with the object of terrorising the rate-paying public. The original document has reference to collections made without a military permit. But, lest the public might reasonably assume that the payment of rates legally due to the Co. Council could not become a crime by virtue of any proclamation whatsoever, the O.C. Troops, Wexford, has taken care to add the following explanatory note:-

"That it is illegal to pay rates to any collector without a permit from the military governor, and that any one found paying such rates to unauthorised collectors is liable to prosecution".

We are not at liberty to explain in detail the means by which we are counteracting those various attempts to hold up the business of the Co. Council, and drive us into bankruptcy, we need only say that the meetings of the Council are being held regularly so far, and no business of urgent importance has been left undone, that thanks to the loyalty and generosity of certain patriotic fellow-countrymen we have been able to tide over for the present the financial crisis caused by the withdrawal of £40,000 in Grants and by the difficulty of getting sufficient rates to meet our more pressing liabilities. Without wishing to boast we consider it no mean achievement, that, notwithstanding we have our depleted exchequer, not failed to make partial payments to the various boards and hospitals which we trust will enable them to carry on until conditions become somewhat normal.

We thoroughly realise the straits to which these boards have been reduced by reason of our inability to pay in full their allotted percentage of the County rates. Our watchword to them and to all our fellow-Wexfordmen is, No Surrender. As long as the people are with us, we care not who is against us. Individually and collectively, the Members of the Wexford County Council are prepared to fight on to a finish. Surrender at this stage of the struggle would spell disaster. The freedom or the slavery of our public bodies for generations to come depends on the issue of this conflict with officialdom and militarism, as forty years ago the emancipation of serfdom of tenant farmers

turned on the defeat or victory of landlordism. Now as then, we rely on the will of the people, their indomitable courage, their spirit of sacrifice and their strength of endurance. And rightly so, for never in the history of our country have there arisen braver men and women than those who stand to-day in the gap of danger.

The position we, members of the Wexford County Council, have undertaken to defend, important though it be, viewed as an integral portion of the line of defence- can be held with comparatively little risk or sacrifice, provided we be not deserted or betrayed by our supporters, the ratepayers of Co. Wexford. If they refuse or neglect to supply us with the munitions of war, we shall eventually be forced to abandon the struggle and leave in the hands of Dublin Castle and its military governors the administration of our local affairs.

Now it is difficult to believe that there are to-day in our County, not a few, so devoid of patriotism and so dead to shame, that they are prepared, for the sake of so many paltry pieces of silver, to renege their national principles, to act the traitor and admit the enemy within the gates at the very hour when victory is in the balance, when their gallant fellow-Irishmen elsewhere, the men of Munster and the men of the West, are facing death that Ireland may live.

Yet such cowards and sordid self-seekers are to be found in our midst, to our shame be it said. Some make the plausible excuse that they know what to do, others fear that they may be obliged to pay on the double, others cling to the hope that they may evade altogether the payment of County Rates, others plead that it is now impossible to pay owing to the danger of prosecution under martial law.

Of such weak-kneed wobblers and dishonest quibblers, all we shall say is:- Where there's a will, there's a way. If they wish to pay their rates, there is still a safe and simple way of doing so. Let them forward a cheque for the amount of their rates to the Treasurer of the Wexford County Council. They will receive an official receipt which will be the only safeguard against the illegalities of British law, etc. etc.

If they are determined not to pay their rates in the hope that they will be so much richer, they are deceiving themselves. The

Wexford County Council will take whatever steps they may think necessary to deal with persons of that kind, and on themselves will rest the responsibility if their opposition leads to unpleasant consequences. And, should the County Council fail to bring them to justice, their second state will be worse than their first, for they will discover to their cost, that a much heavier byrden is waiting for them at the hands of their "friends" the British Government. So, let them be wise in time, and not become pariahs in their own land.

Hear the watchword once more:

No Surrender - Now or Never.

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

"That Messrs. E. P. Foley, R. Corish and G. Devereux be appointed a Committee to secure as wide publicity as possible for the above statement of the Council".

Rate Collection.

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

"That Mr. Ben Radford, Gurteenminogue, Murrintown, be requested to act as deputy Rate Collector for No. 1 Collection District".

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

"That Mr. Patrick Roe, Cushinstown, be requested to act as deputy Rate Collector for No. 18 Collection District".

Poundage fees of Mr. P. J. O'Byrne.

Mr. J. Shannon, M.C.C. wrote under date 27th March 1921, asking the County Council to pay the poundage fees of Mr. P. J. O'Byrne, Rate Collector for No. 9 district.

"It was decided to refer the matter to the Finance Committee".

Suspension of Road Work.

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

"That in view of the present financial position of the Council all road and quarry work (including contracts for repair and

maintenance of roads) be suspended as from 31st March 1921, until the finances of the Council will allow of the resumption of such work".

Suspension of Five Assistant Surveyors.

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

"That the five Assistant Surveyors, viz:- Messrs. Jones, Kehoe, Ennis, Kirby and Curran, be suspended from office as from 31st March 1921, as in consequence of decision of Council to discontinue road work, these officers will have no duties to perform".

Conference re Estimates of Road Expenditure.

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

"That a Conference between the County Council and Roads Committee be convened for Tuesday, 5th April 1921, at 11.30 a.m. in the County Hall, Wexford, to consider the advisability of agreeing to the suspension of road work for next financial year other than work absolutely essential with a view to having the road rate for 1921-22 reduced to as low a figure as possible.

That the Chairmen of the four Rural District Councils as members of the Roads Committee be specially requested to attend the above Conference".

Estimate of Rate.

It was decided that the consideration of Road Estimates be adjourned pending the report of the Conference of County Council and Roads Committee in respect of proposed decrease in Road Estimates.

New Ross Courthouse.

Under date 1st March 1921, Mr. Hugh R. Hamilton wrote that Notice of surrender of Courthouse New Ross would expire on 31st inst., and asked if the Council would arrange for handing over the premises.

"No Order"

Proclamation re Rates.

The following was read from Capt. Park, O.C. Troops, Wexford:-

"I enclose a copy of Divisional Proclamation No. 8. I wish you to draw the attention of the County Council to Para. 1 (b) in which it states:-

"Any person who, without such permission, collects or receives or solicits any such subscription or donation shall be guilty of an offence, and shall be liable to Prosecution".

Will you also inform your Council that I as Officer Commanding Troops in Wexford, do hereby warn you that all Rate Collectors for the Council must be in possession of a permit, and that application for such permits must be made through me, and that I warn you that permits will be only granted to those Rate Collectors who have been sanctioned by the British Local Government Board. Any infringement of this Order will be most severely dealt with".

The Proclamation referred to in above letter was as follows:-

No. 6.

Divisional Proclamation

By the General Officer Commanding 6th Division and
Military Governor.

Whereas, Martial Law has been declared in the Counties of Cork, Tipperary, Kerry, Limerick, Clare, waterford, Waterford City, Wexford, and Kilkenny, and Whereas, the Generals or other Officers Commanding 6th Division, 16th 17th 18th and Kerry Infantry Brigades, have been appointed Military Governors for the administration of Martial Law in the above Counties, and all persons ordered to render obedience to their Orders in all matters whatsoever.

Now, I. Major-General Sir E. P. Strickland, K.C.B. C.M.G. D.S.O. Commanding 6th Division, and Military Governor, do hereby give Notice and Order that:-

1. (a) The collection for any purpose whatsoever of Subscriptions or Donations of money, or valuable securities, in any street or public place, or by house to house visits, or by post, is forbidden, unless the permission in writing of the Military Governor has previously been obtained.
- (b) Any person who, without such permission, collects or receives or solicits and such Subscription or Donation shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to Prosecution.
- (c) Any person who subscribes, pays or remits any such Subscription or Donation to anyone not duly authorised by the written permission of the Military Governor shall be guilty of an

offence and shall be liable to Prosecution".

This Order shall come into force on 21st February 1921.

Signed this 14th day of February 1921.

E. P. Strickland, Major-General
Commanding 6th Division, Military Governor.

Erection of Hoarding etc.

Mr. Thomas McDonald, 90 Main Street, Gorey, under date 23rd March 1921, wrote asking for permission to erect a hoarding outside his premises in Church Street, Gorey, as he intended starting building operations. He also requested permission to encroach nine inches on the footpath in order to bring the front wall straight, work to be carried out to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor.

The latter stated that the proposal of Mr. McDonald would not interfere with the convenience of the public in any way.

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

"That the permission asked for by Mr. McDonald, 90 Main Street, Gorey, in his letter of 23rd March 1921, as to erection of hoarding and encroaching on footpath be agreed to".

Malicious Injury Decrees.

Letters were read from Mr. T. B. Dunbar, Solicitor, Enniscorthy, asking for payment of malicious injury decrees for James Gorman and Mary Kate Doyle and others. Mr. Dunbar stated that unless the amounts were paid such application or proceedings would be taken on behalf of the applicants as they may be advised.

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

"That no action be taken on applications of Mr. Dunbar, Solicitor for payment of amounts of Malicious Injury Decrees".

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(Signed) _____

Presiding Chairman

Dated this day of 19