

Quarterly Meeting 5th May 1905.

The Statutable Quarterly Meeting of the County Council, was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford, on 5th May 1905.

Present :- Mr. Edmond Hore (Vice-Chairman) presiding
also present :- Messrs C. H. Peacocke, Michael Browne,
John Bolger, M. A. Ennis, James Donohoe, John J.
Kehoe, Alexander Kinsella, Michael Murphy,
John Sinnott, John Cummins, Daniel Dempsey,
James Sinnott, J. F. Walsh, and M. J. Furlong.

Mr. R. W. Elgee Solicitor to the Council, Mr.
Henry Webster, County Surveyor, and Mr. H. J.
Frizelle Acting Secretary, were in attendance.

Proposals for Payment.

Proposed by Mr. Ennis.

Seconded by Mr. J. J. Kehoe, and adopted.

"That the several proposals for payment sent up by the district councils of the County, and by the Proposal Committee, for the quarter ended 31st March 1905, be approved, subject to the modifications and other orders noted thereon and initialled by the Chairman."

Edmond Hore.

Half-yearly meeting - 5th May 1905.

The Statutable half-yearly meeting of the Co. Council, was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford, on 5th May 1905.

Present:- Mr. Edmond Hore (Vice Chairman) presiding.
also present:- Messrs C. H. Peacocke, Michael Browne, John Bolger, M. A. Ennis, James Donohoe, John J. Kehoe, Alexander Kinsella, Michael Murphy, John Sinnott, John Cummins, Daniel Dempsey, James Sinnott, J. F. Walsh, & M. J. Furlong.

Mr. R. W. Elgu, Solicitor to the Council, Mr. Henry Webster, County Surveyor, and Mr. N. J. Fitzell, acting Secretary were in attendance.

Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of last Quarterly meeting, half-yearly meeting, and of special meetings on 3rd and 14th April were read and confirmed.

Illness of Secretary

Capt Pigott wrote applying for a further month's leave of absence. He forwarded the following certificate from Dr. Douse.

"Capt Pigott though rather better is still quite unfit to attend to business. I would strongly recommend that he be granted another month's sick leave, as a shorter time would be of little use."

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

"That Capt Pigott be granted a further month's leave of absence, from this day, and that Mr. Fitzell, act as Secretary, during this period at a salary of £2 per week."

Rate for Financial Year 1905-6.

Under date 17th February 1905, the Local Government Board wrote (letter no. 9,435 - Wexford County) as follows, in connection with the striking of the Rate:-

"I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant, relative to the striking of the poor rate in the County of Wexford, for the financial year ending the 31st March, 1906, and, with reference thereto, I am to point out that under section 51 (6) of the Local Government (Ireland) Act 1898, the rate must be made immediately prior to, or at the beginning of each financial year. The Public Bodies Order 1904, provides that the Rate must be made within a month after 1st April, but in the special circumstances stated in your letter, the Local Government Board assent in the present instance to an extension of the period to the 5th of May next within which the poor rate may be struck.

The Board would, however, suggest to the Council that, in arranging their meetings in future years, care should be taken that some meeting of the Council should take place between the date of the adoption of the Estimate and the 30th April at which the rate can be made."

On the motion of Mr. Kehoe.

Seconded by Mr. Ennis, the following resolution was adopted:- "That we hereby strike the Rates for General and Separate Charges, as agreed to at the meeting of the Council on the 7th February 1905, and allow and make the same as assessed in the Rate Books, said Rates being in conformity with the valuation in force for the time being. That the allowance for said rates as entered at the foot of each rate book and signed by the Chairman of the meeting and two members of the Council present

at this meeting, be adopted, attested by the Seal of the Council, and countersigned by the acting Secretary. That the Warrants of the Rate Collectors to collect the said Rates be sealed and signed in the same manner as the Rate Books.

Proposed by Mr. Peacocke, seconded by Mr. Ennis

"That the demands on the Urban Districts of Enniscorthy, New Ross, and Wexford, be duly sealed and signed, the amounts demanded for above Urban Councils (after allowance for credit items in Forms 51) being

	<u>County</u>	<u>Union</u>	<u>Separate</u>
Enniscorthy	£ 363 : 13 : 4	358 : 9 : 8	70 : 10 : 0
New Ross	504 : 5 : 7	729 : 7 : 10	26 : 10 : 1
Wexford	739 : 7 : 9	693 : 4 : 4	

The amounts estimated for the above Urban Districts in Forms 45 were :-

	<u>County</u>	<u>Union</u>	<u>Separate</u>
Enniscorthy	£ 491	£ 484	£ 70 : 10 : 0
New Ross	504	729	26 : 10 : 1
Wexford	1066	998	

"Adopted"

Asylum Loan.

Under date 29th March 1905 (letter No. 18.636 Wexford County) the Local Government Board wrote that they had recommended the Board of Works to issue £500, the balance of the loan of £6,500 sanctioned for the purpose of lighting the Enniscorthy District Lunatic Asylum by Electricity.

Reports of Local Government Auditors

Reports of auditor of the Local Government Board as to the audit of accounts of New Ross Union and District Council, for the half-year ended 30th September 1904 was laid before the meeting.

— Sale of Food & Drugs —

Under date 6th and 7th April (letters No. 8150 and 9107) the Department of Agriculture etc., wrote:-

"A sample of butter obtained at Ferns, and four samples of butter procured by their officer at New Ross were examined by the Public Analyst and found to be pure.

— Poulduff Pier. —

Under date the 16th February 1905 (letter No. 509 F. B) the Department of Agriculture, wrote that the Department would apply for the first instalment of the county contribution to the cost of repairing and improving Poulduff Harbour two months after ^{the} date on which the work shall have been commenced. The amount would be one-half the cost of the works then executed as certified by the county surveyor. The balance of the county contribution would be applied for at intervals of two months on similar terms.

Under date 13th March 1905 (letter No. 11436) the Local Government Board wrote that so far as they were concerned, they would raise no objection to the proposal that the balance of the county contribution should, at the meeting of the Wexford County Council to be held in May be transferred to the subsidiary account.

— New Works and Renewals of Contracts —

"Tenders for Roads were accepted by the council and orders made thereon as per particulars entered on Form 20 in each case and initialled by the chairman."

Proposed by Mr. Cummins, seconded by Mr. J. Minott:-
"That the several proposals for ordinary new works and renewals of contracts sent up by the Rural District Councils of the county, and by the Proposal

committed, be approved subject to the modifications and other orders noted thereon and initialled by the chairman."

"In the County Surveyor's report there appeared the following reference:- "In NewRoss Rural District the construction of a new road to Bantry Commons comes up for final approval the road will not be a through road; it terminates on the commons."

Mr. Colfer (Solicitor) appeared on behalf of the NewRoss District Council, and held that the County Council had power to make this road.

He contended that the reference in the report of the Local Government Board for the year ended 31st March 1904 referred only to existing laneways and had nothing to say to the making of a new road. The question of surcharge with regard to the making of a new road had not arisen and cannot come under the Auditor's jurisdiction.

If the Co. Council were surcharged the Rural District Council would be prepared to indemnify the Co. Council. He felt perfectly confident that this was a matter that could not come under the jurisdiction of the Auditor for surcharge.

Mr. Bryan O'Hill D. C. explained that people of four or five townlands used the place for sending their cattle on to the commons, and for drawing stones for repair of roads etc.,. There was plenty of granite also drawn there and people brought turf through the place. It meant the saving of five Irish miles going to Borris and three miles to Graigue."

Mr. Peacocke proposed that the work be passed as a new road. Mr. Kehoe seconded.

Mr. Elgee said no matter whether brought

under section 50 or section 55, the whole question was whether it was a work of "public utility" or otherwise, and the Auditor could deal with it, and would have a perfect right to look into it.

Mr. Webster (Co. Surveyor) said he should honestly say he was not convinced himself this was a work of public utility. It would be a work of very great advantage to the persons making use of the road. "Passed."

In reference to work No. 7 G. - Gorey - "That the Broghan Lane, in the townlands of Barrackeroghan, Broghan middle, and Glenogul, be put in repair and a bridge erected over the river Bann, where it crosses the lane, not to exceed £250, the expenditure to be a rural district charge.

The following order from the Estate Commissioners, was laid before the meeting:-

"The Estate Commissioners have had the matter under their consideration, and have ordered that a grant of £100 be made on the understanding that the work be properly executed by the District Council, and that it be approved by a competent person appointed by the Estate Commissioners.

Proposals for Payments.

Proposed by Mr. M. A. Ennis; seconded by Mr. J. J. Kehoe, and passed:-

"That the several proposals for payments sent up by the District Councils, of the County and the proposals committee for the half-year ended 31st March 1905, be approved, subject to the modifications and other orders noted thereon and initialled by the Chairman."

State of a Road.

The following letter under date 29th April 1905

from Mr. E. A. Gibbon, Sleedagh, was read :-

"I hope you will pardon my writing and asking you to kindly bring this letter "relative to the state of the road from Sleedagh to Mr. Moody's cross at Rathaspeck" before the next meeting of the County Council.

I don't think a satisfactory answer was given to that part of my letter of the 7th January last, asking about the expenditure of the money obtained from the Railway Contractors for the repair of this road; as far as I could gather from Mr. Webster's answer he acknowledged that some of this money was still in his hands. From the results, I should think, but a very small portion of the money was ever expended on this work it was intended for, and certainly none since your last meeting.

Since then there has literally no work been done on this road. I pass over it constantly and have never seen any one working on it; and have been informed that the contractors and their men, have only been on it once or twice during that time. The water tables are full of winter scrapings of the road. No stones have been put out, and there has not been a pound of stones in any of the depots.

I would also beg to bring specially to the notice of the Council, the state of that part of the road at Brookfield bridge; it is always bad the water lies in it continually, and it is full of ruts, it is plainly to be seen that the road has been allowed to sink below its original level, and some of the openings in the wall intended for the water to pass through are above the road and useless, so that the water must percolate through the substance of the road between the two walls making it always soft and shingly.

I submit that it is due to the ratepayers using this road to have their grievances looked into and amended.

I came here from Dublin on Thursday last by the late train and had great difficulty to prevent being rolled off the car. I am sure any member of your Council, who have unfortunately for themselves, to use this road, can back me up in what I say."

"Mr Webster said he was taking the road out of the hands of the contractor, and was going to work through the sureties, any balance in his hands of the funds received from the Railway company would be spent on this road."

Kilmore Pier.

With reference to the proposal from the Proposal Committee to spend £180, for repairing the breaches at Kilmore Breakwater, "Mr. Donohoe moved that the ends of the present breaches at the breakwater, be healed up, to prevent them ravelling, and that the breaches themselves be left open pending the passage of a Marine Works Act, cost to carry out the work not to exceed £30. Work to be given in charge of the County Surveyor.

Mr Murphy seconded.

Mr M. Browne, read a petition from the people of Kilmore and vicinity, requesting the County Council to proceed with the work as it was ^{an} absolutely necessity.

A vote was taken with the following result:-
In favour of the Proposal Committee's recommendation:- Messrs J. F. Walsh, G. H. Peacocke, M. A. Ennis, J. J. Kehoe, W. Dempsey, John Sinnott, M. Browne, E. How, J. Cummins. - 9.

Against:- Messrs John Bolger, M. J. Furlong, J. Donohoe, Mr. Murphy, James Sinnott, and A. Kinsella - 6

The Chairman declared the resolution carried.

— Gorey Road Contractors —

The following resolutions were received from Mr. P. O'Neill of Ballingarry :-

Resolved :- 'That we the Road Contractors living within the Gorey Rural District, submit that the practice followed by the County Surveyor, of allowing no credit for any quantity of broken stones on the roads after the first of September in each year, is unfair to us, as we find it much easier to get stones broken in the autumn, than any part of the year.

That we ask, and consider it only reasonable to be allowed credit for any part of the specified amount, placed on the roads in an unbroken state at or before the time of measurement.

That we respectfully request your Council to extend the time for completing the supply until the first of October, as, if we are tied down by a hard and fast rule, to have the full supply just out by the first of September in all cases it will have the effect of reducing road making to a gamble.

That we condemn the practice followed by some non-experienced people, of tendering for roads at an impossible price, and then, when they fail to perform their contracts, bring discredit upon hard working honest men.

That we call on the District Councils, to use every means in their power, to put a stop to the baneful system of allowing road grabbers to take advantage of the low tender order, to capture well kept roads, in the hope of living for five years, on other men's labours.

That we know of such cases as is mentioned above where men of some influence in order to

avenge imaginary wrongs, or to satisfy petty spite, or spleen, tendered at one-fourth of the amount allowed for roads, in order that they might in some way crush their poorer neighbour, and then allow the road to deteriorate to such an extent, that it required years of hard work to get it into repair again, only to be grabbed in turn by some other adventurer.

And we beg leave to remind your Council of the fact, that we know of men, who took roads for the purpose mentioned above, and when the County Surveyor, was bringing an action against them, and their sweeties, those clever men, appeal to their friends in the Councils to break their contract, and thereby succeeded in evading the law.

That we request the County Council to allow the Surveyor some discretionary power in the matter of material; for we know from experience that proper attention to drainage, and extra surface work, serve some (mountain) roads better than heavy tonnage.

Recommending the above to your best consideration."

Mr Cummins proposed and Mr John Sinnott seconded, that the resolutions be referred to the County Surveyor." Passed.

Food and Drugs Inspectors.

Mr O'Neill. F. Kelly, D. J. R. J. C. wrote under date 28th April; that owing to the transfer of Sgt Howard R. J. C. to Newtownbarry from Wexford, and Sgt Farrell from Newtownbarry to Wexford, fresh appointments as Inspectors under Food and Drugs Acts were required."

Proposed by Mr John J. Kehoe

Seconded by Mr M. A. Ennis

"That Sgt Howard R. J. C. be appointed Inspector under the Food & Drugs Acts for Newtownbarry Petty Sessions

district, and Sergt Farrell, be appointed Inspector under the Food and Drugs for Wexford Petty Sessions district." Passed.

Dates of Quarterly Meetings.

Wexford Rural District	- Saturday	8 th July 1905	at 10.30 O.C.
Gorey	"	Tuesday	11 th " " 11.30 "
Enniscorthy	"	Thursday	13 th " " " "
New Ross	"	Saturday	15 th " " 12 noon
Proposal Committee	Friday	14 th	" "
Co. Council Meeting	Tuesday	1 st August	

Sheep Scab.

Under date 31st March 1905, the Department of Agriculture (Veterinary Branch) wrote (letter No. 1670-05) calling attention to the two orders issued by them for the prevention and treatment of Sheep Scab - Sheep Scab (Ireland) Order of 1905 (Order No 55) and Sheep Scab (Local Regulations) (Ireland) Order 1905 (Order No 56) which came into operation on the 18th April 1905.

The former Order 55 contemplates that detention restrictions imposed in respect of flocks in which disease has appeared, shall remain in force until the sheep have been thoroughly dipped in an efficient sheep-dip in the presence and to the satisfaction of an Inspector from the local authority, and are free from Sheep Scab, and that the premises have been cleansed and disinfected. Also for the isolation of any sheep (other than those diseased) that from proximity to place of outbreak or association with any animal in the diseased flock, or from any other cause, may be suspected to have been exposed to infection - for a period of 56 days.

The Department trusted that the County Council would direct the attention of their Inspectors to a memorandum which they had issued to secure uniformity and thorough action in the application

of the provisions of the order. As it was possible that the Inspectors might require assistance in placing under isolation the various flocks that might be regarded as exposed to infection, the order allowed for the appointment of additional officers.

Order No. 56 provides for the compulsory dipping of sheep, and for regulating the movement of sheep into and out of the county and providing sheep dipping tanks.

The Department pointed out that "very stringent measures had been recently adopted for combating sheep scab in Great Britain, and unless it becomes apparent that due effort towards the same end can be relied on, to be taken also in this country, there is grave reason to fear that the question of restrictions on sheep exports from Great Britain hitherto one of the most important branches of the Irish live-stock trade - will be seriously raised."

Under date 29th April 1905 (letter No. 1758/05) the Department of Agriculture, forwarded a Memorandum setting out the Sheep Dips under the sheep scab (Ireland) Order of 1905, approved of by them, and stating that they would keep the local authority, and their Inspectors supplied with particulars respecting any preparations, additional to those furnished in the present list."

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

"That this Council considers it desirable to wait until Order 55 has been for some time in force, before considering the adoption of Order 56."

Arterial Drainage

The Secretary of Kildare Co. Council forwarded for

consideration of the Wexford County Council copy of minutes of meeting of joint Committee representing the counties of Kildare, Carlow Kings and Queen's County in reference to the question of the Barrow drainage.

The minutes of the joint Committee pointed out the urgent necessity that existed for the drainage of the basin of the river Barrow directed the attention of the Government to the necessity of proper systems of arterial drainage, and suggested methods for their formation, including the amendment of the Local Government Act."

"Resolutions in the same terms, omitting the reference to the drainage of the Barrow basin were received from the Lavan Co. Council."

"As against this view a resolution was received from the County Council of Tipperary (S.R.) disapproving of the resolution in favour of setting up drainage boards, for the mere purpose of transferring their powers to County Councils."

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

"That this Council considers that the question of arterial drainage cannot be entered upon until the Land Question has been settled."

General Council- County Councils.

The following series of resolutions adopted at the annual meeting of the Irish County Councils General Council, and which was postponed from last meeting of the Council came up for consideration:-

National Self-Government

That the Irish people ought to be a free people with a natural right to govern themselves. That

no Parliament is competent to make laws for Ireland except an Irish parliament sitting in Ireland. and that the claim of any other body of men to make laws for or to govern Ireland is illegal and unconstitutional, and a grievance intolerable to the people of this country."

Support of Irish manufacture

That for the sake of the very existence of the Irish Nation which is rapidly disappearing owing to continued emigration, the Irish public generally and all public bodies that are elected by Irishmen should contract for and use only Irish manufactured goods, when they can be obtained at a reasonable price; and tillage must be encouraged by the agricultural committees of county councils as far as they have power, as it was encouraged through the means of bounties by the Irish Parliament a century and a half ago. That Irish manufacturers are hereby called upon to take immediate steps to make known to the public boards, and the Irish public generally, the goods manufactured in Ireland; otherwise the manufacturers cannot expect that support which is necessary for their several interests and the general interests of the country.

National Exhibition

That we express the opinion that the proposed International Exhibition would be most detrimental to our wish that Irish manufactured goods should be alone used in Ireland; and we request any patriotic Irishmen who have advocated such an exhibition to withdraw their support from it, and, on the other hand, to support the holding of a National Exhibition in order that the public may see what can be produced in Ireland, and may be induced to demand of the shopkeepers that in future home manufactures

be pushed in their shops instead of foreign goods, as is done at present.

Catholic University question.

That this Council is of opinion that in the matter of higher education for the Catholic youth of this country, they should be suitably equipped in and have all the advantages of those of their Protestant fellow-countrymen, so as to enable them to take their proper place in the development of the Industrial resources of Ireland.

Suggested Amendments to Irish Local Government Acts. etc.,

That this Council is of opinion that the Local Government Act 1898, and the Local Government Board Orders thereunder, require amendment to meet the following points:-

(a) Under the Acts the Rates must be made not later than the first of March, and, as the Commissioner of Valuation is only bound to supply the revised list on the same date, it follows that the Rate must be struck on the old valuation which makes a substantial difference to the rate-payers in a County like Dublin, where there is a large annual increase in the valuation.

(b) The interval between the statutory meetings of the District Councils, and the meeting of the County Council, at which the District proposals are approved or rejected, is too short to allow of their being dealt with by the County Council; the result is therefore that the rate is struck on a suppositious estimate of the amount required, instead of on the actual figures.

(c) With regard to the remission of Rates on vacant houses the only proof required of premises

being unoccupied is the declaration of the collector.

Under the Poor Law a person claiming remission was obliged to make a declaration and this Council thinks that such a corroboration of the collectors' statement would be desirable.

(d) That the law should be amended as regards dual representation on District Councils where desirable.

(e) That power should be given to every County Council to initiate drainage schemes.

(f) That in cases of illegal payments made by Councils the only members liable to surcharge should be those voting in favour of such illegal resolution.

(g) That we consider section 6 of the Local Government Amendment Act 1902, which places the entire amount for increases of salaries on the local rates to be most unjust, and we emphatically urge the repeal of this section.

(h) That as local councils asylum committees etc., have no voice whatever in the appointment of auditors, arbitrators, etc., we consider the fact of those bodies being compelled to pay excessive expenses to be most unjustifiable, and we call on the local bodies throughout the country to resist payment of those gentlemen till they secure a voice in their appointment.

(i) That we consider the action of the Local Government Board in announcing the fact that many of the Orders in Council in existence, as well as the present system of accounts, are to be done away with, without consultation with the bodies immediately concerned, to be in keeping with the anti-Irish spirit of the Local Government Board, and we claim as representatives of the Councils of Ireland that they should have been consulted in connection with any such sweeping changes.

(f) That we protest against charges being made

on County Councils (as in the case of the South Tipperary County Council) for the expenses incurred in gazetting the appointments of deputy lieutenants appointments in which the representatives of the people have neither voice nor concern and demand that such charges be withdrawn in the future.

Importation of Swine into England.

That in view of the importance and volume of the Irish pig trade with England, we are of opinion that County Councils in Ireland should be very active in protesting against any unfair regulations being made by the Agricultural Department in England, injuriously affecting the importation of pigs into that country. We approve of the action of the Galway Co. Council in inaugurating the proposal of holding conferences of those interested in the pig trade in consequence of which the Mayor of Limerick convened such a conference and it was held in Limerick on the 17th December.

We desire to approve heartily of the resolutions adopted at the conference, as we know they voice the opinion of those best calculated to speak on the subject. We hope those resolutions will receive the attention of the Irish party in order that the unnecessary and obnoxious regulations of the Board of Agriculture in England relative to the importation of Irish swine into Great Britain may be withdrawn without delay.

Re-forestation of Ireland.

That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable that immediate steps should be taken to ensure the hearty co-operation of all Irish Co. Councils in acquiring waste land, spaces suitable for re-forestation. That the Government be requested to allocate a sum sufficient to start a forestry

department, elected by popular suffrage which could be taken from the amount due to Ireland through over-tascation according to the union contract

Regulations for lighting of bicycles

That it is desirable to make regulations for the lighting of bicycles after dark.

The duties of county & deputy surveyors.

That the Local Government Board be requested to define the duties of the county and deputy surveyors in such counties where satisfactory arrangements have not been come to, between the county council and the surveyors, especially on the following points -

- (a) are the surveyors whole time officers
- (b) if not, how much of their time belongs to the public.
- (c) How often the county surveyor is supposed to inspect roads, etc.,
- (d) How often the deputy surveyors are supposed to inspect roads, etc.,
- (e) What time have the county councils to check the work and time of surveyors.
- (f) What remedy have co. councils against surveyors if the Roads, waterables, and footpaths, are in bad order.

and that the Local Government Board be further requested to prescribe a report book for county and deputy surveyors to show in detail the roads etc, inspected by them, and other works arranged for, with the various dates of their inspection. That the county councils be afforded an opportunity of inspecting the reports made by the deputy surveyors to the county surveyor in respect of the various contracts for roads etc., said reports to be presented at a statutable meeting of the county council, and more often if required.

Out-door relief

That the Poor Law be so amended that men and women having reached the age of 60 years and having led respectable lives should be permitted to live outside the workhouse, and they should receive in money the equivalent amount they would cost the rate-payers inside the union.

This would prevent the unnatural course of separating old married couples as soon as they enter the gate of the union.

Insurance companies & claims for
malicious injuries

That the law relating to compensation for malicious injuries should be altered, so as to prevent insurance companies that have accepted premium on risks from recovering from the rate-payers under claims for malicious injuries.

Representatives for Irish produce in other markets.

That in our opinion it is absolutely necessary to have a genuine representative for Irish produce in the markets of Great Britain, with duties analogous to those of the Danish Commissioner for the protection of Irish interests and the extension of sale of Irish products.

The following are the replies of the Local Government Board, to the above resolutions, in so far as they dealt with matters connected with the Local Government Acts, and their administration.

(a) Valuation Lists

"The Commissioner of valuation now supplies these lists to Rural District Councils, on the 1st February in each year, and as a matter of fact the rates are assessed on the new valuations, although the estimate may, in some cases, be based on the valuations of the preceding year.

It would, no doubt, be advantageous that

these lists should be ready at an earlier date, but the arrangements to be made to carry such an earlier date, but the arrangements to be made to carry such an earlier issue are matters for the consideration of the Commissioner of Valuation rather than for the Local Government Board.

(b) Rates

"The meaning of this resolution is not clear as rates are properly struck on the basis of estimates, and cannot be struck on actual figures."

(c) Vacant

"The Board concur in the recommendation of the Council. This matter does not apparently require legislation, but is one within the discretion of rating authorities, who may refuse to remit rates in respect of any vacant premises unless the vacancy is proved to their satisfaction."

(d) Dual Representation on District Councils

(e) Drainage Works.

"These recommendations (d and e) will be submitted to Government in the event of further Local Government legislation."

(f) Surcharges.

"It appears to the Board that it might be possible for local authorities to give effect to the proposal of the Council, by passing a formal resolution authorising the making of each payment, and having the names of all the members voting in favour thereof recorded."

(g) Section 6 Local Government Act 1902.

"The Local Government Board cannot hold out any hope that this provision of the law will be repealed."

(h) Appointment of Auditors, Etc.

"The Board desire to point out that, in pursuance of the policy approved by Parliament of having audits of Local Government expenditure carried out by officials independent of the authorities whose accounts they audit, the Local Government auditors are constituted

permanent civil servants, whose qualifications are certified by the Civil Service Commissioners, and whose salaries and pensions are charged on public funds, although portion of the salaries are subsequently recouped by local authorities to the Exchequer.

(ii) Accounts Orders.

The General Council are under a complete misapprehension in this matter.

The old system of accounts is not abolished by the new Public Bodies Order, which merely consolidates the old orders, with such amendments as experience has shown to be necessary for the purpose of facilitating the transaction of the business of the Councils. Three months before the order was made, a draft was forwarded to the Secretary of each Co. Council and County Borough Councils in Ireland, and the suggestions received were carefully considered and as far as possible adopted.

(i) Appointment of Deputy Lieutenants

This appears to be a statutory charge, and the amount involved is very trifling.

" The Duties of County and Deputy Surveyors.

The Board desire to point out to the Council that under the provisions of Section 115 of the Local Government Act, existing officers, transferred to County Councils from the former Grand Jurors hold office on the same terms and conditions as before their transfer, and, while the Co. Councils cannot impose on them any conditions as to giving their whole time to the service, it is open to them to make agreements in this respect in so far as they have not already done so.

With regard to new appointments, County Councils can make such conditions as regards the giving of the whole time to the service as they think right when deciding on the terms of appointment.

With regard to all officers, whether existing

officers or otherwise, County Councils are entitled to require from them that their duties shall be adequately and satisfactorily discharged, and any County or Assistant Surveyor persistently neglecting to discharge his duties efficiently would render himself liable (with the concurrence of the Local Government Board) to dismissal.

The Board desire to state that no definite replies can be given to queries c. d. and e.

Surveyors should inspect their roads as frequently as circumstances admit. In some Counties the Board are aware that the districts assigned to these officers by the County Council make it impossible to carry out as frequent inspections as might be desirable.

The County and Assistant Surveyors, as officers of County Councils, are bound to carry out their lawful orders, and it is open to the Councils to make any reasonable regulations as regards the conduct of the work by these officers, and the diaries they should keep showing their inspections, etc., "

Poor Relief.

This resolution has been forwarded to the Poor Law Reform Commission for their information.

"On the motion of Mr. Donohoe, seconded by Mr. Peacocke, it was decided that the matter be postponed for consideration by the new Council."

Foreign Fats in Butter

The following resolution was received for adoption from the Cork Co. Committee of Agriculture etc.

"That we earnestly ask to Co. Councils and County Committees of Agriculture and Technical Instruction in Ireland, to urge on the Department the absolute necessity of taking immediate action to suppress the gross fraud on the staple industry of Ireland

which enables foreign fats to be successfully blended with butter to the extent of 30 per cent according to evidence of Somerset House Analyst in a recent case held in Cork, and that pending the introduction of a Bill for such purpose the Department be asked to exercise the closest supervision in watching the introduction and disposal of margarine under whatever name it is imported."

"On the motion of the chairman, seconded by Mr Peacocke, the above resolution was adopted."

Labourers cottage Grant

From Waterford County Council, the following resolution was received for adoption:-

"That this Council of the County Waterford desires to place on record its approval of the suggestions in Mr. William O'Brien's speech at Macroom recently advocating the formation of a conference to formulate a scheme by which Parliament would be induced to allocate a Grant for labourers cottages in this country."

"On the motion of Mr. Peacocke, seconded by Mr. Kehoe the above resolution was adopted."

Traction Engine Traffic - New Ross Bridge.

The following report was read from Kilkenny County Council, in reference to traction engine traffic over New Ross Bridge:-

"I beg to state that the Committee appointed to meet the Representatives of the Wexford County Council, and Engineer, have met on New Ross Bridge and have come to the unanimous conclusion to advise the passage of steam traction engines with drawn elevator, or empty wagon under steam, no loads of any kind; engine not to travel at a greater speed than one mile per hour, or at a rate of four minutes across the bridge."

(signed) James G. Dooley
Reps. of Kilkenny Co. Council

"The Secretary stated that on the 4th February 1905 the following resolution was adopted by the Wexford County Council, and forwarded to the Secretary of Kilkenny County Council, but no reply had been received:-

"That the Kilkenny County Council be asked if they are prepared to pay half the expense of altering the existing by-law relative to traction engines crossing New Ross Bridge; if Wexford County Council will bear the other moiety."

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

"That the attention of the County Council of Kilkenny, be again called to the resolution of the Wexford County Council, adopted on the 4th February 1905."

Payments to Road Contractors

The following resolution was received from the Meath County Council:-

"That this Council call on the Government to amend the Local Government Act, at next coming Session of Parliament in such a way as will give power to the County Councils of Ireland, to make payments monthly for the maintenance of roads and other Public Works; which can be done by a Committee appointed by the County Council to do so, so as to enable the labourers to compete for said contracts, as the present system of quarterly payments debaro labourers from tendering for said contracts, as no payment can be made during the first six months of a contract.

The reason we ask the Government to amend the Local Government Act, is to give employment to the labourers of this country." "Marked:- Read"

Road Contractors' Security

The following letter under date 2nd May 1905 was read from Mr. W. J. Walsh, Rosslare:-

"Having been nominated as D. C. for Rosslare district, I desire to obtain leave from County Council, to withdraw from being security for two road contractors; viz:- Mrs Byrne, Hill-of-Sea, Mr. John Barrett, Walshislough;

Mr. Stephen Hore, Hill of Sea, has consented to become security for both parties in my place.

I have already informed Mr. N. Kehoe, Clerk of Union, and Rural District Council.

Hoping you will kindly bring the matter before your Council, and inform me if there is any further steps to be taken in the matter."

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

"That Mr. W. J. Walsh, be released from his security for Mrs Byrne, and Mr. Barrett, as Road Contractors; and that Mr. Hore, Hill-of-Sea be accepted as surety vice Mr. Walsh."

Missing Paying Order.

The following letter, under date 2nd May 1905, was read from Mr. H. J. O'Byons, Cashier of the National Bank, Wexford:-

"I should feel much obliged by your granting me a duplicate Cheque- for one lost by me on the 5th September last, payable to Mr. P. Donohoe; I can't charge the subsidiary a/c with same till I have a cheque to pass thro' a/c; should the cheque ever turn up I will be responsible for same."

"On the motion of Mr. Furlong, seconded by Mr. Ennis; it was decided that duplicate Pay Order for £4 amount of the missing order referred to in the letter of Mr. O'Byons be issued."

Report of County Surveyor.

The following report of the County Surveyor, for the period ended 31st March 1905, was read:-
Wth Chairman, and Gentlemen,

In my reports to the Rural District Councils I have pointed out the necessity for Road Contractors to lose no time in getting ready their road metalling for the coming winter; so that they may have their full quantities ready for measurement in September, as I have under consideration the desirability of refusing to certify for any payments in October to contractors who are short in their tonnage at the time of measurement.

I am anxious to see steam-rolling adopted for the main roads; from the experience we have had in Enniscorthy, I am satisfied that the system leads to economy, and it is unnecessary to point out the great advantages gained by an up-to-date method of road maintenance. I would suggest that the Council should purchase a couple of steam or oil engine rollers; the money could be raised by a short loan, and the rollers could be hired out to the District Councils; the District Councils could also raise money by short loans for rolling their roads; so that the cost would not be increased in the first year.

Generally speaking, on a fair priced main road four years of metalling should be rolled in the first year, and then one ordinary year's supply would suffice for the remaining four years. Later on, the contracts on suitable main roads will expire, when this important subject will, I trust receive the careful consideration it deserves.

The great storm on the night of the 14th instant, threw down many trees, and many roads were blocked for a while, but the road contractors and occupiers had the obstructing trees removed as quickly as possible.

The storm did some damage, to the back of the pier, at Kilmore, but very little further damage, has been done to the breakwater since the storm in January. I am making applications for repairs to both the pier and the breakwater; for the latter I have prepared plans for rebuilding the breaches with concrete in situ, more or less on the lines suggested by Mr. Cowan; but I do not think it advisable to alter the batter from 1 in 2 to 1 in 1.

Some pointing is required at the end of Fethard pier, for which I am making an application. I attended a Committee Meeting at Duncannon relative to the proposal to construct a breakwater. There is no doubt a breakwater is much needed to protect the piers from north-west gales.

Dredging is required at all the small harbours round the coast, including Courtown, Kilmore, Fethard, Duncannon, and Arthurstown, and in nearly all these harbours, the dredging should be done periodically, so that, as mentioned in a former report, I think that the best plan would be for the County Council to purchase a small dredger of light draught, it could go from harbour to harbour as required. A bar seems to be forming again at the entrance of Courtown Harbour.

By an order made by the Secretary of State in October 1904, under the Factory and Workshop Act 1901, I believe it will be necessary to have railings erected around steps and slips etc., on all the piers in the County not so protected. An Inspector has visited Courtown Harbour, and has ordered a railing to be put up at the steps on the East Quay.

I am making application for this work.

I forwarded some time ago to the Department the plan and draft specification for work

required at Courtown Harbour. I consider the underpinning of the apron at the back of the north pier should be done with the least possible delay.

The Engineer for the Department of Agriculture has submitted to me plans for Coulduff Pier. I have been in correspondence with him with reference to certain details to which I objected, but with reference to which we have come to a satisfactory agreement, and I have now formally approved of the plans.

Lord Courtown, and I, have signed the plan of Courtown Harbour, showing boundaries, and I have promised to make a duplicate copy for his Lordship as soon as possible.

There are a couple of proposals for new works coming before the Rural District Councils of New Ross and Enniscorthy in which the question of public utility arises; in New Ross Rural District the construction of a new road to Bantry Commons comes up for final approval; the road will not be a through road; it terminates on the Commons.

In Enniscorthy R. D. there are four applications to extend the lane at Killanure to the bounds of the County Carlow, at the Clody river at Kilbranish; I have walked over the whole route and find that the Carlow road to which this extension is to be made is a mere breen, not in contract. Killanure lane, to which it is proposed to extend, is the lane contracted for at the last half-yearly meeting, and to which I drew your attention as not being a work of public utility.

The storm of the 14th ult. blew down the store house at the north end of Ferryarrig Bridge; I don't think it would be fair to ask the contractor to rebuild this store; he has kept it in repair up to this. I am making an application for the work.

The contracts for the maintenance of the survival of New Ross bridge, and for the maintenance of Ferry carrig Bridge expire at the end of June and should be renewed this time. I am putting the latter contract on the same footing as the other bridges, so that the repairs to the sub-structure will be done by special contracts.

"It was agreed that the recommendation of the Surveyor, as to the purchase of oil rollers for roads be considered by the new council."

Courtown Harbour.

The following minutes of the Courtown Harbour Committee were read for the meeting:

"That Lord Stopford be Chairman for the ensuing year."

"That Rev F. E. O'Rourke, be vice-Chairman."

"That the meetings be held on the first Tuesday in each month at 12 o'clock."

"We recommend that Mr C. Riordan be appointed on the Courtown Harbour Committee."

A letter was read from Michael Bolger, regarding two small houses at the back of the Harbour Master's House. The Committee recommend that he be allowed to retain the one he erected at a rent of 1/- per year, and that he give up possession of the other, as it is required by the Harbour Master."

"We recommend that the Harbour Master be directed to obtain the necessary attendance in building and repairing the discharging boats, and that in future a contract be taken for a term of years, for keeping them in repair."

"We wish to call the attention of the County Council to the present state of the bar at Courtown Harbour, and urge on them to represent the great necessity of a proper dredger being sent as soon as possible, as owing to the."

accumulation of sand the boats are unable to go to sea for the Spring fishing."

"We recommend that the Harbour master obtain some poles for oars, and to get the oars made at a cost not exceeding £6."

"That the Harbour master be authorised to obtain 200 coal bags at a cost not exceeding £10."

The Committee recommend the County Council to adopt the by-laws as revised by the Committee also the scale of dues which has been in force for some years."

The Committee checked the Harbour master's accounts and found them correct."

"The Committee recommend that a wooden sheeting be built on the wall where the coal is discharged to save the bags being cut by the stones in the quay wall."

Bills for the amount of £14 : 6 : 6 were submitted by the Harbour master and found correct, and we recommend Paying Order for same be issued by the Finance Committee."

We recommend that Mr R. Garland, Courtown Harbour, be also appointed on the Committee."

"The Committee find that hawsers in use for mooring the discharging boats have become ineffective, and recommend the purchase of new hawsers, cost not to exceed £1 : 10/-."

"The Finance Committee recommended the adoption of the above minutes, and on the motion of Mr Ennis, seconded by Mr Kinsella the recommendation was confirmed."

"On the motion of Mr Bolger, seconded by Mr Peacocke the following was adopted:-"

"That the repairs to the apron at the back of the north pier referred to in the report of the Co. Surveyor be carried out immediately."

Fethard Pier

Under date 4th April (letter No. 1631) 7th April (letter No. 4541) and 27th April (letter No. 4541) the Board of Works, wrote asking if the County Council had decided to carry out the repairs to Fethard Pier.

The acting Secretary stated that he had written the Board of Works pointing out that the proposal committee had adopted a proposal for carrying out the repairs, and had called for tenders for the work.

Ordered: - Board of Works to be informed that a tender has been taken for the work.

Dredging Kilmore & Courtown Harbours.

In connection with the hire of the Board of Works No. 2. dredger by the Council for dredging Courtown and Kilmore Harbours, the following letter was read from the Board of Works under date 28th April, 1905 and No. 5328-

"With reference to your letter of the 4th instant relative to the proposed hiring of No. 2 dredger by the Wexford County Council, I am directed by the Commissioners of Public Works to inform you that owing to the unfavourable weather the painting and general over-hauling of the vessel has been delayed, and it will not be ready to leave Kingstown before the 10th proximo, or as soon after as the weather will permit.

The Board have received a copy of the policy of insurance from Mr. George Bell, 27 Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin, but it will be necessary that the County Council should lodge the original policy of insurance in this office before the dredger leaves her moorings at Kingstown.

In connection with the question of the insurance of the dredger the following letter was read from Mr. George Bell, 27 Sir John Rogerson's Quay Dublin:-

Dredger No 2.

"I have yours of the 29 ulto., contents noted.

I have written London asking them to complete the stamped Policy as from the 10 inst., and no doubt but will have the policy in ample time for the Board to allow of her leaving on this date."

Mr J. J. Walsh Contractor for repair and dredging works at Kilmore wrote, under date 10th April:-

"I duly received yours of 4th inst., re dredging of Courtown and Kilmore. Please excuse me omitting to acknowledge same. I am quite satisfied with the terms as arranged for the hire of the B. of W. No 2 Dredger. As far as the Insurance is concerned, I am quite satisfied to leave the matter in yours and the Co. Council's hands."

Proposed by Mr Peacocke, seconded by Mr Ennis, and Resolved:- "That the Corporate Seal of the Wexford County Council be affixed to the agreement in duplicate, whereby the Council agree to pay for the hire of Dredger No 2 for two months from whatever day in May 1905 the said dredger leaves her moorings in Kingstown; the sum of £5 per week, together with a sum of £12 per week for costs of working, and undertake to insure the said dredger for the period above mentioned in the sum of £2,800 in the name of the Kingstown Commissioners."

"That the attention of the Board of Works be called to the fact that the Council require the dredger for July and August or longer if necessary."

Leases Courtown Harbour

Mr Elger Solicitor, read a letter from Messrs Sutton, Solicitors to Lord Courtown, that his Lordship and Lord Stopford had power only to give a lease of the Harbour-Master's House and plot at Courtown

for a period of 31 years.

On the motion of Mr. Ennis, seconded by Mr. Donohoe, the following resolution was adopted.

"That the County Council take from Lord Courtown a lease for 31 years of the Harbour Master's house and plot at Courtown, and that the lease given to Lord Courtown from the County Council in respect of the small plot given in exchange be also for 31 years."

Courtown Boat-House.

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

"That Mr. Elger be directed to enter into negotiations with the Admiralty as to letting to them, the Courtown Boat-house."

Life-Boat. House

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

"That the Life Boat house at Courtown be let to the National Life Boat Institution, at a rent of one shilling per year."

By-Laws, Courtown Harbour.

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

"That the by-laws for Courtown Harbour be approved, and that the common seal of the Council be affixed thereto."

Dues, Courtown Harbour.

Proposed by Mr. Bolger, seconded by Mr. Ennis and passed - "That the Schedule of dues for Courtown Harbour be approved and that the common seal of the Council be affixed thereto."

Main Roads Declaration

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

"That as the Main Roads' declaration will expire on the 30th June 1905, this Council should be afforded an opportunity of considering whether

it would lead to more efficient administration if each Rural district paid for the maintenance of its own roads and works. We request the Local Government Board to advise us as to the steps to be taken to allow the Council to refuse having a Main Roads' declaration, should the Council believe this to be desirable."

Erection of Telephone Pole.

Under date 17th April, the District Manager of the National Telephone Company, wrote applying for approval to the erection of telephone pole on the Rosbicon Road in the position marked on plan No. 705.

"On the motion of Mr Ennis, seconded by Mr Kehoe, the request of the District Manager of the Telephone Co, as set out in his letter of the 17th April was acceded to."

Typewriting Machine for Co. Surveyor's Office.

Under date 3rd April, the following letter was read from the County Surveyor:-

"So many specifications and reports have to be prepared in this office that it is desirable that I should have a typewriter of an approved pattern. Would you kindly lay the matter before the Co. Council and oblige"

"The following recommendation in this matter was made by the Finance Committee - "That the request of the County Surveyor for typewriter be acceded to, price and make of machine to be fixed by the Council."

"On the motion of Mr Peacocke, seconded by Mr Ennis, it was decided that the County Surveyor be allowed to purchase a Remington Machine, cost to be borne by the Council."

School of Irish Learning.

The following letter was read from Mr R. W. Elgee

under date, 24th February with reference to application for grant to School of Irish learning.

"With reference to your letter of the 8th inst., with copy Resolution of the County Council, referring to me the question as to whether the Council were in a position to contribute to this school, I write to say that I have gone carefully through the Local Government Act, and I cannot find anything in it, which would authorise the Council to do so, and therefore, I cannot advise them to subscribe; and I would appear to be borne out in this view by the fact that there is not in the list of Donations and Subscriptions to the School; a subscription from any County Council in Ireland."

"On the motion of Mr. Peacocke seconded by Mr. Ennis, it was decided, that the Managers of the School be informed of the opinion of Mr. Elgee in the matter."

Acknowledgment, Resolutions - Piers & Harbours,
and Rule 127 (b) of the Code - National Education.

Under date 18th April, the following were read from Mr. J. J. Taylor - of the Irish Office London

"I am directed by Mr. Long to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, enclosing copy of a Resolution passed at a special meeting of the Wexford County Council, on the same date, requesting him to make arrangements at an early date for a personal inspection of the Piers and Harbours on the Wexford coast."

"I am directed by Mr. Long to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, enclosing copy of a Resolution in reference to Rule 127 (b) of the Code of the Commissioners of National Education, adopted at a Meeting of the Wexford County Council, held on the same date."

Under date 21st April, the following was read

from Mr Peter Ffrench, M.P.

"I am in receipt of resolution with reference to Rivers and Harbours, also resolution with reference to Rule 127 (b) of the Commissioners of National Education. These matters have been occupying the attention of the Irish Party for some time, and I hope we may be successful in inducing the Government to take up the Marine Works Bill for the South East Coast as well as inducing the Chief Secretary to come and visit our Harbours."

You have seen that the Chief Secretary in reply to Mr James O'Connor, M.P. stated the Teachers would not suffer any injustice on account of the new Rule 127 (b)."

Teaching of Irish

The following series of resolutions was received from the Gaelic League, Dublin for adoption:-

"That we the Wexford County Council call the earnest attention of the Country to the disastrous consequences to the interests of the Nation ensuing from the starvation policy pursued by the British Treasury towards Primary education, in Ireland which owing to the beggarly rates of salaries now offered to teachers degrades the profession, and threatens to staff the schools of the Country with an intellectually inferior class of men and women, and which in many other ways, regardless of efficiency; continually exerts an undue pressure on the educational authorities to diminish their expenditure."

"That we call on the Commissioners of National Education to remedy the grave injustice which is being inflicted upon the teachers in respect of payments for teaching Irish by the system lately adopted for calculating the number of days required to be made by each pupil in the year credit being given only for two attendances each

week, even where the pupil has actually been present at five lessons, and we request that either every actual attendance should be counted or else that the percentage of meetings required by Rule 123 (b) should be reduced from 75 per cent to 60 per cent.

We also demand that the teaching of Irish as an extra, should not depend on the efficiency of schools in any other subjects; and

That pupils in the Second and Third Standards should be eligible for fees for Irish as an extra.

That while the concession, belated though it was, of a Bilingual Programme for introduction into schools in districts where Irish only is spoken, or both Irish and English, has been received with satisfaction, we regret to find that neither the Board of National Education, nor its Inspectors have taken any steps to promote its adoption, either by encouraging or helping teachers to introduce it, or by appointing Itinerant Instructors to train the teachers in the best methods of conducting a school on bilingual lines.

That we demand that only Inspectors who are Irish speakers, and otherwise thoroughly competent to examine in Irish, be deputed to inspect schools in which the Bilingual system is in operation as it is evident that it would be most unfair, that the efficiency of such schools should be judged from the English side of the programme, or that full credit should not be given for the work done through the medium of Irish; and we further demand that where Irish is taught as an extra a similarly qualified Inspector be employed.

That we call upon the Training Colleges to make Irish a compulsory subject for their entrance examination, to make it a subject carrying merit at all Intermediate Examinations; and at the final examination for Teacher's Certificate.

That as only through the effective teaching of the language to the rising generation of the youth of Ireland, from their earliest years, will it be possible to make the Nation Irish-speaking again, and the present, a rational continuation of our past, we call upon all the schools, to teach the language daily to every school-going child in the country, and also to give adequate instruction in the history and traditions of Ireland, and thereby impart such an education on National lines as the Irish people through the Gaelic League desires and demands."

"On the motion of Mr Peacocke, seconded by the Chairman the above resolutions were adopted."

On the motion of Mr Kehoe, seconded by Mr Donohoe the following recommendations from the Finance Committee were confirmed:-

Waste Paper.

"That tenders be invited (for the purchase of waste paper) by the County Council."

Income Tax- Gorey Courthouse

"That the Council be recommended not to pay claim for 7/8 by the Income Tax Commissioners in respect of the assessment of caretaker's residence Gorey Courthouse."

Transfer Subsidiary account.

"Recommended - That as the sum of £470 has been expended out of the Subsidiary account for the quarter ended 31st March, 1905, and as the Department of Agriculture will require to be paid on account - per certificate of the Co. Surveyor - for the contract for improvements at Poulduff Pier to which the County is contributing a sum of £1,000, that a sum of £1,000, be transferred to the Subsidiary account to meet the expenditure for the current quarter."

Road Contractors Bonds, etc.

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

"That the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to the bonds of all contractors for works, for half-year."

Labourers Cottages

The Board of Works forwarded particulars of agreement with the Enniscorthy Rural District Council to advance the sum of £23,600 under the Labourers Act. Interest at the Rate of £4 : 5/- per cent per annum, to be repaid by an annuity or rent charge composed of equal half-yearly instalments each to be calculated at the rate of £2 : 8 : 5, for every £100 of the loan advanced for the term of 50 years.

Form of Tender

Under date 1st May 1905 the following circular letter No. 68 M '05, Miscellaneous was read from the Local Government Board:-

"Adverting to their circular letter of the 21st May 1903 relative to the acceptance of tenders for public works, I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland, to state that in Counties and Rural Districts, where the Council have required a deposit to be lodged with tenders for public works, there appears to be a want of uniformity in regard to the manner in which such deposits, when received, are accounted for, and they recommend that the following procedure should be adopted:- a formal receipt should be given by the Secretary or Clerk for each sum deposited, and every deposit received should be recorded in a special book provided for the purpose, and the amount lodged without delay with the Treasurer, to the credit of the Council.

Persons entitled to a refund of deposits should be paid immediately after the adjourned meeting

of the Proposal Committee, or Rural District Council, at the office of the Secretary, or Clerk, who should be supplied with sufficient funds for the purpose.

The receipt originally given should in all cases be returned to the Secretary, or Clerk, when the money is refunded, and should be endorsed on the back with an acknowledgment of the payment.

The transaction should be concluded by a note of the refund being made opposite to the corresponding entry in the deposit book.

I am to add that having regard to the differing requirements of various localities, the Local Government Board have ^{not} considered it desirable to prescribe special forms of specification, tenders and contract for public works, but representation have been made to the Board that a general form of tender and Bond would facilitate the work of the County and Rural District Councils, they forward, to be laid before the Council, for adoption if found suitable, forms which they have had prepared in connection with the matter."

"On the motion of Mr. Donohoe, seconded by Mr. Ennis the following resolution was adopted:- "That no change be made in respect of the present system of dealing with deposits received from contractors for tenders at the Proposal Committee."

Application Grant for Footpaths

The following resolution adopted at a meeting of the Enniscorthy Urban Council, on the 12th inst, was laid before the meeting:-

Resolved:- "That a concrete footpath be put down from Enniscorthy Bridge by river wall by Christian Brothers' Schools to River Line at a cost of £2.10/- and that we respectfully request the County Council to contribute half the cost, this being a main road and the principal road by which children must pass along when going to the Christian schools."

"also a concrete footpath on Shannon Hill, from end of present flagged footpath to end of the Missioners' Wall, at a cost of £15: 4/- this being a main road, we respectfully request half cost."

"at the meeting of the Finance Committee the following resolution had been adopted on the motion of Mr Donohoe, seconded by Mr Peacocke:-

"That the application of the Enniscorthy Urban Council, in re new footpaths on main roads be recommended to the Council for adoption."

"On the motion of Mr Peacocke, seconded by Mr Kehoe, it was agreed that the application be acceded to."

— Public Bodies' Order-Requirement Book. —

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

"That we request the Local Government Board to vary the provisions of the Public Bodies Order 1904 (Art. 22) so as to allow of the Finance Committee to give authority from time to time by any member of the County Council staff for the ordering of any goods to be supplied or work to be done, the subsequent sanction of the Council to be obtained."

— Finance Committee Minutes —

The following minutes of the Finance Committee were confirmed:-

Meeting - 18th February - Payment of £47: 3: 11.

Meeting - March 4th - Payment of £76: 13: 11: - Meeting March 18th

"Recommendation that Capt Pigott, be granted leave of absence for a month; and that Mr Frizelle/assist Secretary, be appointed acting Secretary at a salary of £2 per week, during the illness of Capt Pigott."

"That the attention of collectors Blake, and Lennon and their Surtees be directed to the large amount of rates outstanding in their districts; that only a fortnight now remains to the close of the half."

year; and that the collectors in question be warned that no poundage fees can be paid them unless they lodge the full amount of their warrants by the 31st inst.

That the Acting Secretary communicate with collectors Smith, Earle, J. Barville, and J. Barron and point out to them, that they have a very large amount of Rates outstanding as compared with the same period last year."

"That the attention of collector Doyle, be again called to the extremely unsatisfactory manner in which he is discharging his duties; the Finance Committee are surprised to find that within a fortnight of the close of the half year, he has not yet collected half the amount of his warrant.

"That this resolution be brought to the special notice of the next meeting of the County Council; and that Mr. Doyle's sureties be informed of the Finance Committee's disapproval of the manner in which he is performing his duty."

Payment of £59 : 7 : 0

Meeting - April 1st - payment of £70 : 18 : 3.

"That Paying Order for £18 : 7 : 1 to Harbour Master, Courtown Harbour, be not issued until vouchers for this amount have been submitted to the Acting Secretary. That the Harbour Master be informed that he should submit his accounts to the monthly Meetings of the Courtown Harbour Committee, and have a statement inserted on the Minutes of this Committee, as to the amount of expenditure which has been approved by them."

"The state of the Rate collection was laid before the meeting and the following resolution adopted:-

That as the County Council meets within two days from the present Meeting of the Finance Committee the question of the state of the Rate collection be referred to the Council."

Meeting - 15th April - Payment of £228 : 7 : 9.

The following minute of Courtown Harbour Committee

was approved: - "We recommend that the Harbour Master obtain some poles for oars, and get the oars made at a cost not exceeding £6.

"We recommend that the Harbour Master be authorised to obtain 200 coal bags at a cost not exceeding £10.

Meeting - 29th April 1905 - Payment of £272: 7: 5.

"Resolution of confirmation was moved on the motion of Mr. Kehoe, seconded by Mr. Donohoe."

— Proposal Committee Minutes —

On the motion of Mr. Kehoe, seconded by Mr. Donohoe, the following resolution was adopted: -
"That the Minutes of the Proposal Committee for Quarterly Meeting - 14th April, half-yearly Meeting - 14th April, and adjourned half-yearly Meeting - 5th May, were approved."

Edmund Forey