

Statutable Half-Yearly meeting- 15th May 1906.

The statutable meeting of the county council was held in the council chamber, courthouse, Wexford; on 15th May 1906.

Present:- Mr. M. A. Ennis, vice chairman, presiding.
Other members:- Messrs Edmond Hore, Daniel Dempsey, James E. Mayler, Michael Browne, John Bolger, John Cummins, Alexander Kinsella, Thomas Asple, Mark Codd, Denis Kavanagh, James B. Hearn, James Sinnott, James A. Doyle, Matthew Doyle, John J. Kehoe, R. C. Murphy, Michael Hickey, Thaddeus Bolger, John Sinnott, and James Codd.

The county surveyor, county secretary, and Mr. Elgee, solicitor, were in attendance.

Confirmation of minutes.

The minutes of statutable meeting of the 12th February, and of special meetings on February 28th, 3rd April, and 20th April; were read and confirmed.

Absence from meeting

Mr. C. H. Peacocke wrote regretting his inability to attend the meeting owing to having to be present at the Council of Agriculture.

Lease Courtown Harbour Boathouse.

On the motion of the chairman, seconded by Mr. Dempsey, the following resolution was adopted:- "That the lease of Courtown Harbour Boat-House from the county council to the admiralty be sealed and signed."

Alteration of Boundaries.

Under date 28th April 1906 (letter No. 40603) the Commissioner of Valuation wrote:-

"It is directed by the 10th section of the Boundary Survey (Ireland) act, 17 vic Cap 17, that "in all cases in which it is proposed to make any alteration of the boundary of any county or barony, the boundary surveyor shall submit to the Grand jury of such county for approval a report setting forth the detail of the proposed alterations in such boundaries, the grounds for making the same, accompanied by a map showing the boundary or boundaries as originally laid down on the Ordnance plans of such county."

Since the passing of the Local Government (Ireland) act 1898, this duty of the Grand jury has devolved on the county council.

In compliance with the above enactment I beg to submit, for the approval of the county council of the county of Wexford, a report in detail of the alterations proposed to be made in the revised Ordnance survey plans, relating to certain boundaries between the county of Wexford, and the counties of Wicklow and Carlow.

The alterations were caused by the former boundaries having been defaced on the ground and new lines adopted by proprietors which it is necessary to include in the revised survey.

Mr. Thomas Talbot, Chief Valuer of this Department, will wait upon the county council on the 1st proximo, to afford any additional information that may be required and to produce the maps and reports.

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

"We approve certain alterations in Ordnance sheets Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 13, 23, of county Wexford in the boundaries between said county and counties of Wicklow and Carlow, as set forth in a Report

and accompanying maps submitted to us by Sir John G. Barton, C. B., Chief Boundary Surveyor under the acts recited above."

Securities of Rate Collectors

Under date 18th April 1906, the Local Government Board (No 20904) wrote forwarding copy of correspondence with Mr John Mullett, Rate collector, Bree:-

The following are the letters:-

"I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland, to forward, herewith, for the information of the Wexford County Council, a copy of a letter received from Mr John Mullett, collector of Poor Rate, relative to the security of the collectors in the County together with a copy of the Board's reply."

"On behalf of the Rate collectors under the Wexford County Council, who have to pay Guarantee Society at the rate of from 10/- to 15/- per hundred pounds security required, I wish to lay our grievances before your Honourable Board for your kind consideration, hoping for you to see justice done in our cases, by making the County Council either pay Premium for us or to relieve us from Guarantee Society to that of private security same as our fellow collectors."

Our first grievance is that when we became collectors of Poor Rate we then did not know that we would be compelled to lodge the full amount of our warrants, and also lose all money on default lands and old Hill commons, besides all bad debts of which we meet many.

Second, when we began we had only 6/- per cent, to pay, now we have 15/- and 10/-, and the men who pay 10/- had to give private security or else they would not have got it for that price.

We have on different occasions laid our case

before the County Council, but all to no avail, but now that our premiums are again becoming due we would like the opinion of your Honourable Board before paying same, as we believe that by law we could not be compelled to pay more nor the 6/- of which we had to pay when we became collectors.

The most of collectors who have to pay Guarantee Society Security have only 6^d in the £ for collections and again they pay the premiums of £6. 15/- annually it takes from their poundage another 1^d and in some cases 1½^d. We also are of opinion that the security required £900 is altogether too large as a collector with only £700 every half year could not collect the full amount of his warrant in one slap so as to defraud the County Council.

We sincerely place ourselves at the mercy of your honourable Board for their kind consideration as we consider the County Council did not do us justice on any of the occasions on which we laid our application before them.

I am Sir, on behalf of collectors
paying Guarantee Society
John Mullett, Hon Sec.

"In reply to your letter of the 8th instant, relative to the security of the collectors of Poor Rate in County Wexford, I am directed by the Local Government Board, for Ireland, to state that they can only refer you to their letter of the 9th June 1905. (No 36,085/1905) in regard to this matter."

The following is a copy of letter of Local Government Board, (No. 36,685-1905) under date 9th June 1905, referred to in the correspondence:-

The Local Government Board for Ireland direct me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, relative to the security of collectors of Poor Rate in County Wexford, and they desire

to state that the question whether the security of Poor Rate collectors shall take the form of a Guarantee of an Insurance Society or the bond of personal sureties is a matter for the determination of the county council.

I am to suggest that the collectors concerned should lay their case before the Wexford Co. Council.

I am to add that in some counties the council pay the premiums on collectors' bonds, while in others they make a contribution towards the cost."

"On the motion of Mr. Hearn, seconded by Mr. Murphy, the following resolution was adopted:

"That the Finance Committee take into consideration the proportion of the amounts of the bonds of the Rate collectors to the amounts of their Warrants and report to next meeting."

Liability for Half-Rent.

Mr. Mullett Rate collector, wrote enclosing letter from Mr. J. A. Sinnott, Solicitor in reference to refusal by Mr. Wm. D. Pouden, Lisburn, to pay the rates on half rent for Sweetfarm, Enniscorthy; and asking the county council to guarantee his expenses in the event of not being able to obtain a decree against Mr. Pouden at Quarter Sessions. "after a long discussion, Mr. Elgee advised that the county council could not comply with Mr. Mullett's request, as the latter had lodged the full amount of his warrant, and the amount due was now a personal debt to Mr. Mullett.

It was decided to take no action."

Proposed Transfer of Contract

Under date 13th May the following letter was read from Mr. Thomas J. Ryan, Coolnaboy, Cyllegate:-

"I beg to apply to the County Council for a transfer of the contract of the Deeps Bridge to my Father, Michael Ryan; his sureties are the same persons who acted for me, Mr. James O'Farrell, Wexford and Mr. Patrick Kelly, Wexford."

Mr. Dempsey proposed: "That the transfer of the contract for maintenance of the Deeps Bridge, from Mr. Thomas J. Ryan, to his father, Michael Ryan, be agreed to."

Mr. Cummins seconded.

Mr. Elger considered that it was not legal to agree to the resolution.

After discussion the Chairman said he refused to put the motion, as he considered it was not legal to entertain it. The following was then handed in by Mr. Cummins: "That the transfer of contract from Mr. Thomas J. Ryan, to his father, Michael Ryan, for Deeps Bridge be agreed to."

(Signed) John Cummins
Matthew Doyle
Denis Kavanagh
D. Dempsey

Road Contractors

The following statements on behalf of the Road Contractors of Gorey and Wexford were laid before the meeting:-

Statement

on behalf of the Gorey Road Contractors Association for submission to the County Council.

The Gorey Road Contractors wish to lay before the County Council the following facts for the consideration of the County Council with reference to their contracts.

It has been the principle during many years past that provided the Road Contractor kept his road in a good and sufficient state of repair, his money was paid to him irrespective of the

fact that the full quantity of stones specified to be put out on the road was put out or not.

In many instances by careful tending of the road it is possible for the contractor to keep the road in a good condition without putting out the full quantity of stones or without putting out as great a quantity as if the road were not carefully tended.

Acting on this assumption the contractors have been in the habit of tendering for the roads at a less rate than they would have tendered had the full quantity been insisted upon.

It may perhaps be well in this connection to point out that it was only since the present county surveyor took over control of the roads that the quantities were specified for any but the main roads and this may easily account for the system which has existed.

Though the principle is undoubtedly a bad one and as such cannot be defended, still, the fact that it has existed and that contractors have acted upon it, cannot be denied, and the working of it does not involve such serious loss to the county council as may at first glance appear, because the county council although they are intitled to expect that a certain quantity should be expended on each road, nevertheless they do not in fact pay for this quantity, inasmuch as the contractors tendered in accordance with the idea, that as long as the road was kept in repair they would be paid, which idea they were allowed to hold for a great number of years.

If the county council now insist on each contractor putting on the road his full quantity of stones, it will mean a considerable loss to that contractor, and this is instanced by the fact that several of the contractors who claim to have put out the full quantity of stones on each road,

have in every instance done so at a personal loss.

Money has been deferred from and struck off from the contractors in this District, some of whom claim to have put out their full quantity even at personal loss to themselves and these men state that they were entitled to the full payment in respect of their contracts and that no portion should have been struck off.

The contractors say that owing to the loose way in which the work has been done up to the present it is impossible for the County Council to say definitely in what cases a shortage has taken place, and that being so the contractors do not think it equitable that payment should be struck off until a definite system of measurement has been arrived at and the measurements first accurately ascertained.

Having shown the system which has up to the present existed with regard to the road maintenance in this County, the contractors wish to put before the County Council, now that they have taken the matter in hand, that the County Council cannot remodel one portion of the system and not touch the remainder. If one portion of the system is remodelled it is almost bound to work hardship unless the other portions of the system are remodelled accordingly, and the contractors therefore suggest that the contracts entered into by them as forming perhaps the most important portion of the whole system require to be reviewed.

Owing to the way the matters stand at present it seems to be an impossibility for the County Council to arrive at any definite estimate of how matters really stand between the contractors and their payments and in many instances where money has been struck off, the roads are admittedly in a first rate state of repair, and great hardship has been worked on the contractors.

What the contractors therefore wish to

respectfully put before the Council is, that in view of the facts that the full tonnage will in every instance be now required, and that the contractors by reason of the circumstances mentioned have tendered at such a price that would render it impossible for them to perform this, the Council may be pleased to annul the contracts at present existing and that fresh contracts be entered into on the basis that every ounce of stones specified by the County Surveyor be expended on the roads, and that the contractor must fulfil the full letter of his contract.

Dated this 7th day of May 1906.

Signed on behalf of the contractors.
Huggard & Brennan
Solicitors, Gorey.

We the members of the Wexford Road Contractors Association, respectfully ask you to bring the following resolutions before the County Council at the next half-yearly proposal meeting:-

1.- We respectfully request the County Council to re-arrange the quantity on the different roads as it is proved beyond doubt that in many cases the full price allowed by the County Surveyor would not be sufficient to put the full amount of tonnage on the roads, apart from spreading cleaning water-tables, scraping, etc..

2.- To revise the tonnage on all existing contracts at the rate of 30 per cent as it is a well known fact that the full tonnage was never expected to be put out, failing this, to break all existing contracts, and let them be tendered for again or done by direct labour as it is impossible to put out the ^{full} tonnage.

3.- To extend the time of putting out the tonnage from the 1st September to the 1st October, as August and September are the two busiest

months in the year.

4.- The County Council may rest assured that if the full pound of flesh, is insisted on, it will effect the ruin of fifty per cent of the contractors.

5.- Therefore we respectfully ask the County Council to direct their Surveyor to take an account of such contractors, as may wish their contracts broken or revised, and fix the tonnage in accordance with the price; - of course it is to be understood that we only refer to existing contracts.

6.- That we think it is only fair to state that we will not ask for any concessions for those contractors who may enter into contracts in future.

7.- That in view of the decision of the Local Government Board, re measurements etc., we are compelled to ask the respective Councils to bear the cost of preparing the depots and putting existing ones in repair, we believe that the councillors will admit that it would be most unfair to expect the poor contractors to do such extra work, as in many or most cases it would require a contractors whole salary to do so.

8.- That as it is an understood fact that all stones will be accurately measured in the coming autumn, the contractors are bound to suffer grave injustice, as it is well known that in most places, the depots are eaten away from one to two feet beneath the road surface, by the continual shovelling of broken stones off the bottoms, and in many cases there is no proper receptacle for stones, as they are thrown into every hole, and bit of waste or unused portion of the road.

George Brosbie, Hon Sec., Wexford Road
Contractors Association.

Road Contract in Forns District

The following letter from Mr. J. B. Moffat Solicitor, Enniscorthy, on behalf of Martin Dunbar, Road Contractor, and under date 19th April, which had been referred to Mr. Murphy Assistant County Surveyor for explanation; was read:-

"I have been instructed by Mr. Martin Dunbar of Forns to bring under the notice of the County Council what he regards as a grievance in connection with the stoppage to the extent of £7, in respect of his contract between Forns and Brooy.

Mr. Dunbar informs me that Mr. Murphy the Deputy Surveyor, was written to by him and asked to state how much additional stones should be put out. Mr. Murphy, I am instructed, called and stated after inspecting the road material, that 20 additional loads were required.

This amount was put out by Mr. Dunbar within ten days after Mr. Murphy's inspection, which I am instructed was about the middle of March. Mr. Murphy was then asked to again inspect, which he did. On the date of his inspection portion of the 20 loads were not broken; inasmuch as there was no time for doing so, but Mr. Dunbar complains that after he had placed the full amount of road material required by Mr. Webster, £7 was stopped from the payment to him of his contract. and further, that this was done within three weeks of Mr. Murphy's inspection and after the full amount had been placed out; the only complaint being that some portion of the last 20 loads of material was not sufficiently broken. Mr. Dunbar thinks that under the circumstances he has been dealt with very severely.

The full amount of material was placed as required by Mr. Murphy, and the £7 was stopped because some portion of the last 20 loads was not broken within a week of its being put out.

I would be much obliged if you would draw the attention of the Council at next meeting to the matter.

Mr Dunbar instructs me, that Mr Murphy was written to in November and again in December with a view to ascertaining the amount of stones still required, and no reply was given to these letters. Under the circumstances Mr Dunbar certainly seems to have a grievance."

Mr Murphy wrote on a Postcard as follows:-

Fernville, Gorey
April 23rd '06

Dear Sir,

In reply to your of 21st my observations re 26 Enniscorthy, Martin Dunbar, are in the County Surveyor's office, where you can see them.

Truly yours

J. P. Murphy.

The following from the County Surveyor (under date 25th April '06) in reply to a letter from the Secretary; was read:-

Contract No. 26. Enniscorthy

Dear Mr Frizelle,

In reply to yours of the 24th inst., I beg to state that the following are Mr Murphy's observations, re Mr Dunbar's contract.

"26. 2. Quantity spread. Generally untidy work done."
"28. 3. Contractor writes he has the deficient quantity out."
"Ap^l. 2 I found 20 loads of stone out unbroken. (only about 2 loads broken)"

I may add that on the 17th March last I made a special inspection of this road myself, and could only find one heap of extra material. It was unbroken and was 15 yards long 3' 6" wide, and I estimated that when broken it would only be 10 inches deep. The total quantity, when broken,

would therefore be a little less than 5 cubic yards.

I observed several faults with the road including old scrapings not removed. I inspected this road yesterday and observed the same faults.

Yours truly
Henry Webster
County Surveyor

P.S. The deficiency of quantity which Mr. Dunbar should have made up was 35 cubic yards. H.W.

Mr. M. Reddy writing on behalf of his son, James Reddy, Rahen, Camolin; stated that his son took the contract for the road No. 58. in Gorey District in March 1903. He had the quantity out and broken, and water tables cleaned, and still in September of the same year £1. was struck off. In the Spring of 1904 he put out 25 tons extra; in Spring '05 32 tons extra; and no credit was ever given for this extra tonnage, but instead £3 had been struck off. Mr. Webster according to Mr. Reddy when asked why this amount had been struck off, said the stones were soft. Mr. Reddy said they were as hard as could be procured in the district, and Mr. Murphy Assistant Surveyor could certify that this statement was correct. Mr. Reddy considered that Mr. Webster had acted very unjustly in this case."

The following testimonial on behalf of Mr. J. P. Murphy, Assistant County Surveyor, was forwarded by Mr. Denis Murphy, Town Clerk, Gorey, from the Gorey Town Commissioners:-

"We the Town Commissioners of Gorey, wish to certify to the efficiency and energy which Mr. James P. Murphy has at all times displayed as a

public official in his capacity as a Deputy Surveyor.

We have personal knowledge of the manner in which he carried out his duties in connection with contracts in and around the Town of Gorey, and we can say that at no time have we found him lacking in any of the qualities or qualifications which should be possessed by any public officer in the position occupied by Mr. Murphy.

We consider that he has at all times, and in all respects faithfully performed the duties appertaining to his office, and with due regard to the divergent interests of the different public bodies and parties with whom he was concerned."

Dated this 25th day of April 1906.

James Whittiers Chm
Alex^r Kinsella
John Byrne
Myles Webb
W^m Cooke

Thos. J. Doran
Patrick Doyle
John Doyle
Patrick Kavanagh
D. Murphy, Town Clerk.

Mr. J. R. Brennan, and Mr. O'Dempsey, Solicitors, appeared for the Road Contractors:-

"Mr. Kavanagh proposed:- That all existing contracts for the repair of roads be cut down by 40 per cent."

Mr. Elger said it was not legal to alter the terms of the contracts. The proposition was withdrawn.

Mr. Brennan suggested that a circular should be issued to each contractor, asking him if he wished to surrender his contract. Should the contractor do so, the County Council to accept the surrender, and readvertise the contracts.

Mr. Kavanagh proposed:- "That we annul any contracts which the contractors desire to determine."

Mr. John Sinnott seconded.

Mr. Elger considered this course was not legal and the resolution was withdrawn.

The Chairman said he would hold that a contract could only be interfered with under the 54 section and the subject was dropped.

"With reference to No 58 Gorey. James Reddy, contractor. Mr. Webster said, that the amount in question had been struck off, for the reason stated - the unsuitability of the metalling."

"Mr Michael Maquire, Ballinakill, Ferns; wrote complaining that £3 had been struck off his contract."

"Mr. Webster explained that the amount had been deferred, not struck off."

"Joseph Cullen, Kiltrea; Mr. Martha Brien, Milltown, Killann; James Bolger, and P. O'Neill, both of Gorey District; also complained that they had been harshly treated; but after hearing the explanation of Mr. Webster, the Council decided to make no order."

"Mr. Elgee advised that the Council could pay a contractor only on the certificate of the County Surveyor, and that once an amount had been struck off by the County Surveyor; there was no legal machinery by which it could be reinstated."

The Report of Roads Maintenance Inquiry Committee.

Under date 14th May 1906 (No. 28,409-1906) the following letter was read from the Local Government Board:-

"The Local Government Board for Ireland have had before them your letter of the 11th instant, and the minutes of the Wexford County Council of the 20th ultimo, containing certain recommendations made by the Roads Committee, and adopted by the County Council, with regard to the County and Assistant Surveyors; and, in reply, the Board desire to call attention to the terms of

section 12 (5) of the Local Government (Ireland) act 1902, viz:-

"If by reason of anything done in pursuance of this section, the duties of any officer of a county or District council are increased or diminished, the officer shall be bound to perform those duties, and shall receive such increase or diminution of remuneration in proportion to the increase or diminution of his duties, the Local Government Board may determine, subject, nevertheless, in the case of diminution, to such compensation as is provided by sub-section 19 of section 115 of the principal act, and that sub-section shall apply accordingly to any such officers in like manner as it applies to existing officers affected by the principal act."

Before expressing any definite opinion on No 1:- (the proposed reduction of the County Surveyor's salary), the Board desire to afford Mr. Webster an opportunity of submitting his views on the matter.

As regards the proposed reforms in the methods of working the County Surveyor's department, the Local Government Board, have no comment to make on 2, 3, 4, 5, and 10.

With reference to recommendation No. 6, the Board would be glad to learn whether Messrs Murphy, and O'Leary have resigned their positions as Assistant Surveyors, as, if not, this question will require to be further considered by the Board.

In the event of their vacating office, the question will arise as to whether those officers are qualified for superannuation not only as regards age and length of service, but also on the question as to whether their whole time was devoted to the service of the Council. In the case of officers qualified for pension a calendar month's notice is also necessary before a resolution proposing to grant a super-

annuation allowance can be validly passed by the County Council.

With regard to recommendation No. 7. proposing to reduce the salary of Mr. Jones Assistant Surveyor to £100 per annum from the 30th September next, the Board would be glad to be informed whether this proposal is in connection with the change from the quarterly to half-yearly meetings, and whether Mr. Jones has assented to the change.

As regards No. 8. the Board would be glad to be furnished with further particulars respecting the proposed increase in Mr. Kehoe's salary.

With reference to recommendation No. 9. the Board desire to point out that the adoption of this proposal will of course depend upon whether Messrs Murphy and O'Leary vacate their present positions."

"In reply to the Chairman, the Secretary said that on 21st of April, the County and Assistant Surveyors, were furnished with a copy of the Report of the Roads Maintenance Inquiry Committee, and were informed that it had been adopted by the County Council, the previous day."

It was decided that the whole question be postponed. Mr. M. Brown, having intimated that he would give notice of motion to rescind that portion of the road committee report which dealt with Mr. Webster's salary, and to move that Mr. Webster receive in future a salary of £650 with £50 for office rent and clerk, having regard to the fact that Mr. Webster was satisfied to accept this amount in settlement."

Main Roads

In connection with the adoption by the County Council of the final declaration to have "no main roads" the following letter under date 11th May 1906 (No 25,353-1906) was read from the Local Government Board:-

"I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo, relative to the Declaration provisionally adopted by the Wexford County Council, that there be no main roads in the county; and in reply to your inquiry, I am to state that the Board have not been advised, "that the county council must, under the Local Government (Ireland) Act 1898, have main roads;" but they have recently had before them an opinion by eminent counsel to another County Council in Ireland, in which he expresses a doubt as to whether a no main road declaration is not ultra vires, inasmuch as in his opinion, the statute clearly contemplated that there should be some main roads in every county, and the Board think that the county council would do well to consider this question, as there appears to be a risk in adopting a no main road declaration, even though no opposition may be offered at the time to such a declaration.

The County Council will of course understand that the functions of the Local Government Board in connection with a main road declaration only arise in the event of an appeal being made by a District Council, to the Local Government Board, against a Final Declaration made by the County Council. If the District Councils in the county are satisfied with the Declaration made by a County Council, and no appeal is made to the Board, therefrom, the Board have no power to intervene in the matter, and the Declaration becomes operative forthwith, and could only be set aside by the High Court."

The Secretary said that the opinion in question had been given by Mr. Stephen Ronan, K.C. to the Mayo Co. Council. Mr. Ronan said :- "The statute clearly contemplates that there shall be some main

"roads in every county. The new declaration might possibly take the form that no roads shall be main roads, but I don't think this would be safe. It would certainly be prudent to name one or two of the principal roads as main roads. If the District Council appealed I think the Local Government Board would possibly make the old principal mail and Post Roads "main Roads". The County Council should therefore act with caution in the matter."

The Secretary explained that in view of the importance of the question he had taken on himself, to direct Mr. Elger to take Counsel's opinion. Mr. Elger had taken the opinion of Mr. M. J. Dunn B. L. who had advised the Council previously in several matters, and Mr. Dunn advised that although the matter was not absolutely free from doubt, he considered the Council would be safe and would be acting within their powers in finally adopting a "no main roads declaration".

The Secretary explained that the result of adopting a "no main Roads Declaration" would be that Enniscorthy Rural District would save annually on present contract figures £29: 13: 11; Gorey Rural District £118: 11: 10; and Wexford Rural District £59: 15: 1; while New Ross Rural District would lose £63: 16: 4; because it had a larger number of main roads, and a very low valuation. The net gain to the Rural Districts would be £144: 4: 6, and this was the amount lost by the Urban Districts - New Ross Urban losing £110: 14: 10; and Enniscorthy £33: 9: 8. Owing to the Financial Relations adjustment Wexford Urban was not affected either way.

Mr. J. Bolger proposed :- "That as the Rural District Councils are against having main roads, we hereby confirm the 'No main Roads Declaration'." - Mr. Kehoe seconded. - Passed. Mr. Hearn dissenting.

Limit of Road Expenditure - New Ross.

Under date 14th May 1906, the following letter (No 28,483-'06) was read from the Local Government Board:-

"With reference to your letter of the 3rd instant. on the subject of the limit of expenditure on Roads in the New Ross Rural District, I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland, to state that they have assented to the limit of expenditure being increased for 5 years from the 1st April 1906, by the yearly sum of £500."

Proposals for Payment

Proposed by Mr. Browne, seconded by the Chairman:
"That the several proposals for payments from the Rural District Councils, as per forms 22 be and are hereby approved."

Proposed by Mr. Browne, seconded by the Chairman:-
"That the several proposals for payments for the county at large, as sent up by the Proposal Committee in respect of public works, and for ordinary payments be and are hereby approved."

Proposed by Mr. Browne, seconded by the Chairman:
"That the several proposals for new works and for maintenance contracts, as sent up by the Rural District Councils of the county, and from the Proposal Committee as per form 20, subject to the modifications and other orders noted thereon, and initialled by the Chairman be and are hereby approved."

As regards the works referred from the proposal committee the following credits were made:-
No. 29.- Courtown Harbour; not to exceed £250. Given in charge of the County Surveyor; on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Kinsella.
No. 30.- Kilmore Breakwater repairs. £160. Given in

charge of the County Surveyor; on the motion of Mr. Hore, seconded by Mr. Kehoe.

No. 31.- Flooring New Ross Bridge.- £50.- Given in charge of the County Surveyor; on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Kinsella.

No. 32.- New Ross Swing Bridge.- £250.- Given in charge of the County Surveyor; on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Kinsella.

No. 40.- To supply chairs for magistrates at Duncormack Petty Sessions.- £3.- Given in charge of the County Surveyor; on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. Kinsella.

Coals for Courthouse.

Mr. James Bullimore, Quay Wexford; tendered to supply coals to County Courthouse, from Mon & Cum bolleries, unscreened at 19/6 per ton; and screened at 22/- per ton. Mr. James J. Stafford at 21/- for Newport coal and 20/- for Standish Wigan. Messrs Marlow & Co., - Powells or Mon & Cum at 21/- per ton, for screened and 20/6 per ton for unscreened.

"The Secretary said that the advertisement specified for Powell's or Mon & Cum."

"On the motion of Mr. Kehoe, seconded by Mr. Hore, the tender of Messrs Marlow & Co., for screened coal at 21/- per ton was accepted."

District Works.

The following orders were made on works untendered for at Rural District Council meetings:
No. B.- To rebuild retaining wall at Ballyeden, not to exceed £64.

This matter was referred to the County Council from Enniscorthy District Council, on the grounds of alleged collusion between the persons tendering.

The County Council received the following tenders after re-advertising the work.-

Patrick Barty, Rahen, Blonroche; at £54. Michael Stafford, Bridgetown; at £58. Nicholas Fortune,

Barmoney Bree; at £58.

Mr. Browne proposed that Barty's tender be accepted, provided he executes bond within a week. Mr. J. Codd, seconded.

Mr. M. Doyle, proposed that Stafford's tender be accepted as Barty's sureties were not in attendance. Mr. Cummins, seconded.

Barty stated that his tender altho' lodged in time was not read at District Council meeting at which he had his sureties.

Mr. J. Bolger, Chairman of Enniscorthy District Council, stated that Barty's tender was not found till the end of the meeting, and when the business was disposed of.

A poll was taken with the following result:-
For accepting Barty's tender - Messrs J. Codd, Browne, Hone, Kehoe, Dempsey, James Sinnott, J. Bolger, J. A. Doyle, John Sinnott, and the Chairman - 10
For Stafford's tender - Messrs Murphy, Kinsella, Karandagh, Cummins, Doyle, M. Codd, & Mayler - 7
 Mr. Hearn declined voting.

The Chairman declared Barty's tender accepted.

No. 7. - To repair Blonegal Bridge (half to be raised off County Carlow) not to exceed £80 for whole work. Given in charge of the County Surveyor.

No. 11. - To erect a footbridge at Ballybawn, not to exceed £20. (half to be levied off New Ross District) Given in charge of the County Surveyor.

No. 11. - To erect a Bridge at Koulpeasty; not to exceed £24. Denis Gordon, Koulpeasty, Clonroche; tendered at £19: 10/-, and Edward Blancy, Coolnacron at £24.

Gordon was accepted at the District Council, but through a misunderstanding did not complete his bond altho' his tender was accepted.

Blancy in a letter to the County Council claimed that his tender should be accepted owing to Gordon's failure to execute the bond.

"On the motion of Mr. Browne, seconded by Mr.

Kehoe; Gordon's tender was accepted."

No. 318.- To keep in repair 225 perches between Mrs. Foley's, Killanure, and the turn to Mandoran for two years and nine months.

John Foley, Killanure, tendered at £6: 7: 6 per annum; and was accepted on the motion of Mr. J. Bolger, seconded by Mr. John Sinnott. Foley's was the only tender.

Provisional Proposals from Enniscorthy District as follows were laid before the meeting for first reading. No.- K.- Knocknasilloque Lane £81: 12/-
No. N.- O.- P.- & Q.- (amalgamated). N.- 83 perches Killanure Lane £66: 10/- O.- 76 perches Killanure Lane £66: 10/- P.- Bridge and Gullett Killanure Lane £75. Q.- Craan Lane-238 perches £45.

New Ross District.

No.- C.- To widen the end of road at Patrick's Bay. Given in charge of the County Surveyor.

No.- D.- To rebuild a gullet at Mulgarrow. Referred back to District Council.

No. 75.- Bridge at Ballybawn river. £20. (half to be levied off Enniscorthy District). Given in charge of the Co. Surveyor.

The following Provisional Proposals from this district were laid before the meeting for first reading.

No. 69.- 468 perches of lane from forge of Camross. Amount £170: 8/-

A letter was read in connection with above work from Rev. J. Murphy. b. b. who stated he objected to the work, unless the proposed road followed the route of existing lane.

No.- 74.- 446 perches Newtown Lane. Amount £66: 18/-

Gorey District

No. 190.- To repair Blonerranny lane, not to exceed £300.

Joseph Murray, Kilpatrick, tendered at the full amount, this was the only tender, and it was accepted on the motion of Mr. John Sinnott, seconded by Mr. Kehoe.

No. B.- To repair share Bridge. £6. Given in charge of the County Surveyor.

No.-160.- 396 perches between Killinor and Gurtin roads. Given in charge of the County Surveyor, for a year. Amount £76. 10/-.

No.-161.- 880 perches from Craanford to Camolin. Given in charge of the County Surveyor, for one year. Amount £55.

Wexford District.

No.-45.- 598 perches from Modabeg to Bricketstown. Amount £9. 19. 4. Referred back to District Council.

No.-M.- To build a gullet at Churchlands. Amount £3. Given in charge of the County Surveyor.

Bonds.

Proposed by Mr. Browne, seconded by the Chairman. "That the Bonds of contractors in respect of tenders taken by the Rural District Councils of the County and the Proposal Committee, be sealed."

Adjourned Meeting.

The remainder of the business was adjourned to 23rd May at 10 o'clock, a. m.

M. Ennis

11. 6. 06

Adjourned Statutable Meeting

The adjourned statutable half-yearly Meeting of the County Council, was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford, on 23rd May 1906.

Present :- Mr. M. A. Ennis (Vice Chairman) presiding.
Other members :- Messrs Gore, John Bolger, Browne, Peacocke, M. Doyle, J. J. Kehoe, John Sinnott, A. B. Murphy, James Goad, and John Cummins.

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

Confirmation of Minutes.

Mr. Peacocke proposed, Mr. Ennis seconded, the confirmation of the minutes of Proposal, Finance and Diseases of Animals Committees, and Kilmori and Courtown Harbour Committees.
Passed.

Dates of Meetings

Council meetings for the Quarter ending the 30th June 1906.

Wexford. R. D.	Saturday July 7 th	10.30 o'clock.
Enniscorthy	Tuesday "	10 th 11. "
Gorey	Thursday "	12 th 11.30 "
New Ross	Saturday "	14 th 11.30. "
Proposals Committee.	Friday "	13 th
County Council.	Tuesday August 7 th	

Council meetings for the Half-year ending 30th September '06

New Ross. R. D.	Saturday 3 rd November	12 o'clock
Gorey	Wednesday 7 th "	11.30 "
Enniscorthy	Friday 9 th "	11. "
Wexford	Saturday 10 th "	10.30 "
Proposals Committee.	Wednesday 14 th "	
County Council.	Tuesday 4 th December	

Sealed Orders - Areas of Charge.

The Local Government Board forwarded sealed orders fixing as the areas of charge for guarantee under the Post Office Act 1891 for telegraph offices at Ramsgrange and Oylegate, the Rural Districts of New Ross, and Enniscorthy, respectively.
marked "Read".

Irrecoverable Rates.

Under date the 27th April 1906 (letter No. 23724) the Local Government Board wrote forwarding their rulings on lists of irrecoverable rates presented by the Rate Collectors of the County.
marked: "Read."

Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction
Inquiry.

In connection with the letter of the 14th April '06, from M^r John J. Taylor, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction Inquiry Committee, asking for the observations in writing of the County Council on the questions referred to the Committee, the following suggestions of the County Council Committee were put forward for adoption:-

Departmental Inquiry Committee

Meeting - 28th April 1906.

Present:- Messrs M. A. Ennis, C. H. Peacocke, E. Hore, and James Dodd.

The Secretary was also present.

The Committee consider that the Live Stock and Agricultural schemes are, in a general way, satisfactory.

The Committee consider that the schemes as formulated by Committees, and approved of by the Department should be more elastic, in character; and that savings under one head of expenditure set out in the scheme should be made applicable to others in which the needs might be found to be greater

than originally anticipated.

Regarding the question of Agricultural Banks it was decided that the Department should adopt a more comprehensive scheme of providing capital, and that the official in charge of the work of organising agricultural banks should be a Department Official, and have no connection with any other body.

That if County Councils promote a scheme for floating County Stock, they should have as one of their objects (should they desire to do so) the financing of agricultural banks on reasonable terms.

That the County Council should possess a limited form of control over inland fisheries within the areas of their various Counties.

The second meeting of the Committee was held on Saturday, 5th May 1906.

Present: Messrs M. A. Ennis, C. H. Peacocke, and James Codd.

The following suggestions were agreed to:-

We consider there should be more correlation between the National Education Commissioners and the Department. Instruction in simple cookery and elementary hygiene should form portion of the curriculum in National Schools for girls in Rural Districts; while Instructors in Agriculture, and Horticulture employed by the Department and the County Committee should be allowed to take classes at the schools in country districts.

We consider that the whole system of primary education in rural districts requires revision and should be made more applicable to the after-life of the pupils. We consider the teaching in the National Schools at present is conducive to draw boys from the land in after life. In our opinion provision should be

made for the teaching of Agriculture, Horticulture, and the principles of cottage industries. School gardens should be attached to National Schools outside of towns, and special attention should be given in the training of girls to the cooking of vegetables raised in these gardens.

That further agricultural stations for the teaching of agriculture to boys, and run on similar lines to the station at Glonakilly should be established by the Department. Wexford County is admirably adapted for a station of this character.

We are of opinion that the money allocated for technical instruction in rural districts does not bear a just proportion to the amount contributed by the ratepayers of rural districts in view of the contributions given by the Department to urban centres.

The question of the establishment of veterinary dispensaries, is one of the utmost importance to the agricultural community, and should be looked into with the closest and most careful attention.

This Committee is of opinion that the estimates which are stated to have been formed with regard to the cost of these dispensaries would be found to be exaggerations of the probable facts, if the veterinary dispensary system was established.

We believe that before adopting a uniform system for all Ireland, it would be well if the Department made three or four experiments in different counties - say one county in each province. This Committee are prepared to lay before the Department the nucleus of a scheme in respect of which an experiment might be made.

The curriculum of National Schools is not by any means well suited for agricultural districts. Text books for reading classes, and in classes for teaching arithmetic should be made to deal

with subjects connected with agriculture.

We have found the Scholarship Scheme for Day Secondary Schools to work admirably, and a further extension of the system is desirable.

We desire to call attention to the advantages offered by the scheme for university education inaugurated by the Wexford County Council at their meeting of 17th November 1905, and subsequently adopted by the General Council of the Irish County Councils. It cannot be alleged that this scheme leads to the subsidizing of denominational education inasmuch as the students of secondary schools of every denomination are eligible for scholarships which, when obtained, may be taken at the option of the student, and with the consent of the County Council at any institution of University standing, not only in the British Isles, but on the continent.

In arriving at the amount to be applied for technical instruction purposes in urban centres (outside the County boroughs) and rural districts the Department act on the advice of the Board of Technical Instruction and the representation of the Borough Councils (which would naturally favour the urban areas) exceeds the representation of all rural Ireland by more than 2 to 1, while the contributions of the Department to technical instruction schemes in the towns exceeds the contributions to technical instruction schemes in the County (taking the condition of things in this County for comparison) in direct ratio to the contribution from the localities by 10 to 1.

Proposed by Mr. Bolger, seconded by Mr. Sinnott:-
That as we have taxed ourselves in this County to the extent of 1^d in the £ for the promotion of Agricultural and Technical Instruction schemes

we believe the Department should directly administer the funds at their disposal, and they should not hand over any of these funds to any outside body over which the people have no control. We believe it is the business of the Department to organise Agricultural Industries in Ireland themselves." Passed.

Proposed by Mr. Kehoe, seconded by Mr. Peacocke:-
 "That we consider that the administrative Body of the Department of Agriculture, should be composed of say, four paid commissioners for the technical side. These commissioners should be elected by the county councils, one for each province and hold office for a term of 5 years. The Vice President to be chairman of these commissioners."

Proposed by Mr. Browne, seconded by Mr. J. Bolger:-
 "That everything tending to facilitate and promote tillage in the country, merits the close attention and support of the Department."

The whole report with the above additions, was agreed to, on the motion of Mr. Ennis, seconded by Mr. Peacocke."

Cashel Excursionists.

Proposed by the chairman, seconded by Mr. Peacocke:- "That the Cashel Excursionists be given every facility to visit Wexford Prison, on the 24th June next." Passed.

Ford of Lyng.

Correspondence between the clerk of the Wexford District Council, and the Local Government Board in connection with the flooding of the road at the Ford of Lyng was laid before the meeting. In their letter of the 23rd March 1906 (No 15310-Wexford

county) the Local Government Board pointed out that if the flooding is caused by the act or default of the owners of the canal, or if the adjoining reclaimed lands, the Wexford County Council, would be the proper authority to take proceedings against any parties responsible, if that appeared to be the best course to adopt with a view to preventing the flooding. If the matter could be remedied by raising the road, and if it was decided to follow that course the application and proposal for raising the road should originate with the Rural District Council in the usual manner."

["The Finance Committee recommended that Counsel's opinion be obtained; and this was passed on the motion of Mr. Hore, seconded by Mr. Keacocke."

Transfer of Contract.

Mr. Thomas J. Ryan, applied to the Council to transfer his contract of the Deepo Bridge, to his father, Michael Ryan.

"Mr. Elger said from the bond the word "assigns" was expressly omitted, and he could not see how an assignment could be made, and if the transfer was granted there would legally be no contract at all."

Proposed by Mr. Hore, seconded by Mr. Cummins "That this matter be referred to the Co. Surveyor."

Passed.

Poundage Fees.

Under date 25th April 1906 (letter No. 23,203-1906) the Local Government Board wrote assenting to the payment of poundage fees to collectors Sullivan J. Walsh and J. Bogley.

marked "Read."

Regulations for Docks - Kilmore Wharf.

Under date 20th April '06. H. M. Inspector of Factories wrote that the following should be carried out at Kilmore to comply with the regulations of docks. -

"Fencing required for two sets of steps, one slip, and end of quay. No life belt or means of support at water's edge. No lighting provided. Three lights are required to light this quay efficiently.

"Mr Peacocke proposed - That 3 Life Buoys; Railing for protection of steps, and slip, and end of quay; and 2 lights be procured.

Mr. Kehoe seconded."

Passed.

Food & Drugs Acts.

"The Department of Agriculture, wrote under date 9th April '06. (No 7483-06) that 2 samples of butter taken by their Officer, in Ferns, and 4 in Gorey, recently were found to be pure." marked. "Read."

Compulsory Sheep Dipping.

The following letter under date 20th April 1906. (No. 8127) was read from the Under Secretary:-

"With reference to your letter of the 4th instant, inclosing a copy of a resolution adopted by the Wexford County Council, on the subject of the compulsory Dipping of sheep, I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant, to inform you the question of employing the police in inspecting such compulsory dipping has already been considered, but it has been decided that the duty is not one which could properly be imposed on them."

"The Secretary said he had asked the County Inspector, R. J. C. Wexford, if the services of the constabulary could not be obtained for this purpose, by payment of a small fee. He received the following reply:-

"In reply to your communication of the 21st inst., relative to the employment of the Royal Irish Constabulary as officers for the inspection of sheep at dipping.

I have to inform you, that before I could give you any information as to terms on which the proposal might be carried out, the sanction of Government for so employing the Force should be obtained."

Proposed by Mr. Peacocke, seconded by Mr. Hore:-

"That we approve of compulsory dipping of sheep, and are satisfied to put it into force when an order has been promulgated for compulsory dipping in respect of all Ireland. That the Authorities in Dublin Castle be asked if they will sanction the employment of the police, for this purpose and on what terms. In the event of a reply being received in the negative, that our Secretary be instructed to forward a statement of the case to our Members of Parliament; as we understand the English Police have acted as Inspectors under these orders in some portions of England. Passed.

Extension of time. Road material.

"Under date 25th April 1906, a letter was read from Mr. Kehoe, Clerk Wexford District Council, that the County Council be requested to grant the road contractors an extension of a fortnight within which to put out their material in future."

"No order made, as any extension would interfere with the measurement of stones."

Direct Labour.

Mr. P. Barry, Shelbaggin Athurstown, Hon Sec of Ramegrange Branch of the Labour Association, forwarded the following resolution which has been

adopted by the Association:

"That we call upon the County and Rural District Councils to adopt the principle of direct labour on roads and other public contracts, as we are of opinion it will lighten the burden on the rate-payers as we find it has done in other counties.

It will also help to stem the tide of emigration, what each and every good patriotic Irishman is striving for."

"Consideration postponed."

New Form of Tender & Bond.

Mr R. W. Elgee, Solicitor, wrote under date 9th May - "that as directed by the Council he had perused the form of Tender, Bond, and contract, for special works; and saw no objection to them, save that it might be difficult, having regard to the Indemnity clause to obtain contractor."

"The Secretary said the suggested form of Tender and Bond, was now being used."

Establishment of Fairs.

Mr R. W. Elgee, Solicitor, wrote as follows, under date 9th May 1906:-

"In pursuance of the Resolution of the County Council of the 3rd of April ult. I beg to report that I have looked into the question of the powers of the Council to establish new Fairs in the County, and I have come to the conclusion that it has no such power.

It appears that no person can acquire the right of franchise Fair market, or 'Free market' unless by grant or patent from the Crown, prescription or Act of Parliament.

The reason the franchise right of having a course of buyers and sellers to dispose of commodities in respect of which the franchise is given, can only be acquired in this manner, would seem to be for the preservation of order and the

prevention of irregular behaviour, by ensuring that the market should only be carried on under proper restrictions and a proper authority.

There is no act of Parliament containing a general power enabling a Public Authority to provide a Fair, not even "the market and Fair clauses act 1847," or "the Public Health (Ireland) act 1878" as extended by the act of 1896, nor does the Local Government (Ireland) act 1898" contain any such power.

In my opinion therefore the Council have no power or jurisdiction to establish a Fair at the place in question or in any other place.

I do not exactly know how a Fair could be established but it would seem it might be done by memorializing the Lord Lieutenant to grant a Patent."

Mr. Cummins proposed:—"That the Lord Lieutenant be requested to accede to the prayer of the memorialists, asking him to grant a patent for the establishment of a fair in Ballycullane."
Mr. Murphy seconded.

Mr. Browne proposed, Mr. Bolger seconded, as an amendment, "that the matter be postponed till next meeting."

On a poll being taken the following voted for the amendment:—Messrs Browne, Bolger, Horc Peacocke, Kehoe, Codd and the Chairman.—7.
Against:—Messrs Murphy, Sinnott, Cummins and Doyle.—4.

The amendment was subsequently put as the substantive motion and carried.

Advertising on County Roads.

The following letter under date 19th February, from Mr. G. Diamond, Cycle Works, Wexford, adjourned

from meeting of 26th February, came up for consideration:- "I want advertising space through the country, to fix enamelled Plates, a friend advised me to apply to the County Council for permission to fix one on the Bridge at Bridgetown. Kindly say if they would allow me to do so, and if they make a charge what it would be per year or permanently. The Plates are 5 ft 6" x 3 ft. marked. "Read."

— Change of date:- Enniscorthy Sessions. —

Requisition etc., of the Clerk of the Crown & Peace, dealing with the resolution of the Enniscorthy magistrates declaring that in future the Petty Sessions there be held once each fortnight, instead of weekly, was laid before the meeting."

marked. "Read."

— Development Association. —

The following letter under date 25th April 1906 from Rev P. Murphy M. S. S., Hon Sec., of the Gaelic League, was read:-

"A conference representative of County Wexford manufacturers of Public Boards, and of all classes, will be held in Enniscorthy on Whit Monday for the purpose of introducing into Co. Wexford, the Irish Development Association.

Kindly ask the County Council to send delegates - as many as can conveniently attend. Mr. Riordan, Secretary of the Cork Industrial Development Association will be present to explain the objects of the association.

Trusting the members of the County Council will heartily support the Industrial movement by their presence at the conference at which the chief manufacturers of the County have promised to attend, and in whose name the conference will be summoned."

[Mr. Peacocke proposed; Mr. Doyle seconded:-

"That the entire Council be appointed a delegation

to the forthcoming conference in Enniscorthy for the purpose of introducing the Irish Development Association, into the County."

Passed.

Appointment of Official checkers.

On the motion of the Chairman.

Seconded by Mr. Peacocke, the following resolution was adopted:—"That we hereby re-appoint the following as checkers of the accounts of the Rate Collectors, for the financial year 1906-7. Messrs N. Kehoe (Wexford District) Owen Connolly (Enniscorthy District) R. Brighton (Gorey District) and M. J. Finn (NewRoss District).

The County Surveyor's Salary.

Under date 21st February 1906, the following was read from the Clerk, NewRoss Urban Council:

"My Council consider that as there will be no main roads in future in Urban Districts, the latter should not be called upon to contribute to the salary of the County Surveyor, since each District has to have its own Surveyor, whose duty it is to look after the maintenance of all public works in the district."

The Secretary said that as the salary of the County Surveyor, was a County at large charge each district was obliged to contribute towards it.

Ordered:—"That a copy of the letter of the Local Government Board to Mr. E. G. O'Connell, Portmagee Kerry, be forwarded to NewRoss Urban Council."

County Abstracts.

Mr. Pope Clerk NewRoss District Council, wrote under date 18th April 1906:-

"My Councillors want to be furnished with copies of the County Abstracts of the accounts as well as the printed Abstracts of Roads and Works, and Proposals for Payment. Are the County Council

willing to supply the number required; 60 copies of each?"

"Mr. Browne proposed the adoption of the following recommendation of the Finance Committee: That the New Ross District Council be informed that the present printing contract does not contemplate the supplying of a sufficient number of copies to furnish the District Council. That the matter be entered upon the minutes, and be referred to, when next the printing contract is entered into in November 1907." Mr. Hore, seconded.

Mr. Cummins proposed: "That the New Ross District Council be supplied with the County Abstracts and Schedules. There being no seconder, the recommendation of the Finance Committee was adopted."

Railways.

"Under date 28th February, a letter was read from Mr. F. W. Crossley, Secretary Irish Tourist Development Association, asking the County Council to adopt a resolution in favour of the state purchase of Irish Railways."

"Postponed till annual meeting of the Council."

Amendments Local Government Act.

"Under date 28th April 1906, Mr. Keogh Nolan Secretary to the Irish Councils General Council wrote that a Bill to amend the Local Government Act, had been introduced to Parliament, by the Irish Party, and would be read a first time on the 8th June. He wished that such amendments to the act as the Council considered desirable, should be sent to those in charge of the Bill."

"No order was made, as the County Council understood there was no possibility of having an amending act this session."

Canals & Waterways.

Mr. A. Keogh-Nolan, Secretary to the Irish Councils General Council, wrote calling the attention of the Council to the sittings of the Royal Commission on canals and waterways, and asking them if they desired to make any written communication to the Commission on the matter particularly to the question of the expediency of canals being made or acquired by public bodies or trusts, and the methods by which funds for the purpose could be obtained or secured; and what should be the system of control and management of such bodies and trusts. And further to select witnesses to give evidence from the County Council point of view as the Commission would sit in Ireland in October.

Marked. "Read."

Tillage & Untenanted Lands.

The following resolutions were received from Meath County Council, for adoption:-

"That we request the Agricultural Board, and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, to make a larger allocation of its funds for the encouragement of tillage."

"That this Council call on the Government to amend the Land Act of 1893, by having a clause inserted of compulsory sale of all tenanted land to the occupiers, and of all untenanted lands in Ireland, through the Estate Commissioners, for distribution amongst the farmers' sons, labourers, and artisans, and evicted tenants of this country, which would be a means of stopping the tide of emigration, and provide a means of living for our young Irishmen and women in the land of their birth."

"Adopted on the motion of Mr. Bolger, seconded by Mr. Browne."

Maintenance of Lunatics.

The following resolution was received for adoption, from the Donegal Asylum Committee:-

"That as a new Parliament is now appointed, we, the Ballinasloe Asylum Committee, do hereby bring under the notice of those interested in Parliament for the promotion of remedial legislation in favour of the relief of local taxation, the crying grievance which exists in Ireland for the upkeep of pauper lunatics in our Asylums, and we call on the Government to pass an Act of Parliament to make the charge one payable out of Imperial Funds. This legislation will have the cordial support of the National members of Parliament from Ireland, also the other members from Ireland who are not members of the Irish Party."

"Adopted on the motion of Mr. Peacocke, seconded by the Chairman."

Certified ¹⁹⁰⁶

Catholic Inebriate Home.

Rev. P. Feeney, Superintendent St. Patrick's Catholic Inebriate Home, Hennessy's Road, Waterford; wrote calling attention to its establishment, and asking the County Council if they would agree to contribute 5/6 weekly for each male committed under section 2 of the Act of 1898.

"Action postponed till August meeting of the Council."

Irish Fisheries.

The following resolution was received for adoption from Cork County Council:-

"That this Council is of opinion that the present Government has, in view of the inquiry into the working of the Agricultural and Technical Instruction Department, an excellent opportunity of placing the Sea Fisheries of Ireland, on a popularly sound and practical

basis, by appointing a representative Fishery Board, as in Scotland, with thoroughly competent and practical experts as Inspectors, and establishing a Government Brand for mackerel, and Herrings, which has proved of such great advantage to Scotland, in its Herring Fishery, and so often asked for by the fishermen and merchants engaged in Fish curing in this country."

"Adopted on the motion of Mr. Peacocke seconded by Mr. Hore."

Canadian cattle.

"A memorial was received from the Royal Dublin Society, and a resolution from the Dublin County Council, protesting against the removal of restrictions on the importation of foreign cattle."

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

Sale of Sheep Dips, etc.,

Mr. Matthew Flanagan, J. P. Donora Dubsk, Co. Roscommon, Secretary of the Roscommon Flock Book Society, wrote asking the County Council to adopt the following resolution:-

"This Council hears, with great regret, that the Government has accepted an amendment excluding Ireland from the benefits of the Bill recently introduced into the House of Lords for removing the restrictions which confines the sale of these commodities to Registered Chemists."

A considerable proportion of the trade in these articles in Ireland is, and always has been, in the hands of non-registered traders, and it would be a calamity to the agricultural interests of Ireland if the farmers were restricted from purchasing them, as they have done in the past."

It would also be a disturbance of the business of hundreds of respectable traders if they were

suddenly deprived of this portion of their business.

They have, without the slightest injury to the public good and to the great benefit of agriculture, been for many years carrying on this trade, which they thoroughly understand. It is suggested that the fact that so large a proportion of the trade being in the hands of unregistered persons, in spite of legal restrictions to the contrary, is presumptive evidence that in many localities, at anyrate, this is the natural channel for such trade.

This Council respectfully suggests that they, or some other public body, should be authorised to grant licences, where, in their opinion, the public interests may require it, and that the amendment excluding Ireland from the benefits of the Bill should be rescinded.

A communication was also received from the Secretary of the Irish cattle Traders' and Stock Owners Association, asking the County Council to adopt a similar resolution.

Proposed by Mr. Peacocke, seconded by the Chairman:— "That in so far as the sale of Sheep Dip is concerned, we consider that the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill should extend to Ireland." Passed.

Reclamation of Waste Lands.

The following resolution was received for adoption from the Kerry County Council:— Resolved:— That the County Councils of Ireland get power to reclaim lands, work and reclaim peat lands, to explore and work coal, and other mines. That Grants and loans be given for these purposes, as we claim them as a right; Ireland being unjustly overtaxed for the last century.

We hope the Government will grant this request, which is of vital necessity, as the

greater number of the working class have to leave this country for want of employment."
 "Adopted on the motion of Mr Hore, seconded by Mr. Keacocki."

— Contribution - Enniscorthy Urban. —

Mr. R. W. Elgee, Solicitor, wrote under date 4th May 1906, that he had considered the application of the Enniscorthy Urban District Council for a contribution towards the cost of constructing a culvert across Millpark Road, and regretted, that he should advise the Council, that as the Main Roads Scheme is at an end, they had no power to comply with the request, neither the Local Government Act 1898, nor any other Act, or Order that he could find enabling the Council to now give such a contribution.

"No order was made."

— Southern Harbours. —

With reference to previous correspondence the following letter under date 15th February 1906, from the Secretary of the Harbour Commissioners Waterford, was read:-

"I duly submitted your letters of yesterday to my Commissioners. The sum of £13 : 15 : 10, received for 1904, from vessels using Arthurstown and Duncannon piers, includes all harbour dues paid by these vessels, of which more than one-half the total would represent pilotage and light dues. The Commissioners consider that these piers are reasonably efficient for the amount of traffic they accommodate, and would not be prepared to hand over any of their funds in the manner suggested. If your Council wishes to hire the small dredger previously offered, the inclusive charge would be £15 per week, to cover everything except fresh water for the boiler, which you would have to

arrange to supply. The dredger is not self loading, so that you would have to arrange for the removal of the spoil."

Proposed by Mr. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Ennis, and passed: "That a committee consisting of Messrs. Ennis, Peacocke, N. B. Murphy, Hickey, J. B. Kearne, J. A. Doyle, and John Cummins, be appointed to consult with Mr. Elgee, as to the Waterford Harbour Act, and to inquiry into statements made, as to former repairs and maintenance of the Harbours at Arthurstown, Duncannon, and Ballyhack, by the Waterford Harbour Commissioners, and to consult with the local representatives, as to the improvement of these harbours. That the County Surveyor, and County Secretary accompany the committee when visiting the above Harbours."

Land Commissioners.

The following resolution was received for adoption from the Kerry County Council:-

"Resolved. That the Kerry Co. Council unanimously request the Government, when appointing Land Commissioners after the 31st March next, when the term of office of the present temporary Commissioners expires, to appoint competent and impartial men, in whom the tenant farmers of Ireland will have confidence. The farmers have no confidence in the Land Commission as at present constituted, the members of which were mainly appointed by landlord influence.

That the Government and the Irish Party be requested to bring forward a Bill, to shorten the judicial term from fifteen to ten years, and to provide that in the fixing of judicial rents, the tenants will be allowed for the full value of their improvements."

"No order made."

Magistrates

The Loughrea District Council forwarded for adoption the following resolution:-

Resolved:- "That we the Loughrea District Council, in view of the numerous hardships inflicted on persons attending local petty sessions courts in this county, through want of sufficient magistrates for attending same, call upon the Government to appoint in each Rural District a certain number of local men to attend these courts. That at present the number of magistrates is quite insufficient, and in the majority of cases unacquainted with the habits of the people, resulting in a miscarriage of justice in numerous cases."

"On the same subject the following resolution was received from the Lismore Rural District Council, for adoption:-

Resolved:- "That in the opinion of this Council the right of nominating magistrates (now enjoyed by Lord Lieutenants of counties) should rest in county councils."

"No action taken"

Maguire v. Cavan Co. Council.

The following resolution in connection with the decision of the Court of Appeal, in the case of Maguire v. Co. Council of Cavan, from the Irish Co. Councils General Council, was brought before the meeting:-

Resolved:- "That as the judgment in the case of Maguire v. Cavan Co. Council goes further than any previous case we are of opinion that the county councils should - as suggested by Messrs D. S. Henry, K.B., Patchell, K.B., and Lawrence Smith, K.B., - consider the question of obtaining the sanction of the Local Government Board to stand in with the Cavan Co. Council, and share the cost of

an appeal to the House of Lords, which the small amount of damages involved would not warrant the Cavan Co. Council to undertake alone."

The Chairman proposed:- "That the Secretary of the Irish Co. Councils General Council be informed that if 20 Co. Councils are satisfied to join with the Cavan Co. Council to take an appeal to the House of Lords, in the case of Maguire v. Cavan Co. Council, the Wexford Co. Council are satisfied to bear its share of the cost, such sum not to exceed £25." "Passed."

Piers & Harbours.

The following resolution was forwarded from a meeting in connection with the proposed Marine Works Bill held in Duncannon on 11th March:-

"That as our Piers and Harbours require immediate attention, to afford the fishermen an opportunity of proceeding with their avocation we call upon the County Council to take prompt action to carry out the necessary works and repairs, for the protection of the fishermen."

"Postponed till next meeting."

Voters & Jurors Lists.

Mr. Peter French, M.P. forwarded a reply received from the Chief Secretary for Ireland, regarding a change in the legislation fixing the remuneration for services under the Voters and Jurors Acts.

"Proposed by the Chairman:- "That the matter be held over pending the introduction of an amending measure of the Local Government Act." "Passed."

New Ross School Attendance Committee

The following were appointed by the Commissioners

of National Education, as members of the New Ross School Attendance Committee:-

Rev. D. Bolger, b. b. Rathgarogue, New Ross,

Rev. W^m Gibson, B. A. Adamstown Rectory, Enniscorthy.

Rev. David Hore, b. b. Terverath, New Ross,

Rev. Patrick Sinnott b. b. Horeswood, New Ross,

Rev. Pierce Power, b. b. Raheen, New Ross.

— Testimonial - Gorey Town Commissioners. —

A testimonial was received from the Gorey Town Commissioners, testifying to the efficiency and energy which Mr. J. P. Murphy, had at all times displayed as a Public Official, in his capacity as a Deputy Surveyor.

The Chairman proposed:- "That our Secretary forward the Town Clerk of Gorey, a copy of the findings of the Local Government Board, on the recent inquiry into the road maintenance of the County, marking the passages referring to Mr. Murphy, therein."

Passed.

— Courtown Harbour. —

Under date 14th May 1906, the Department of Agriculture etc., (letter No. 2553/06 F. B.) wrote, forwarding for the information of the County Council a memorandum giving the substance of the report made by the Department's engineer on the recent survey of Courtown Harbour:-

"I have now had a survey of Courtown Harbour completed. The result shows that the Bar has silted up to 1' 6" at low water springs, and 2' 6" at neaps. Opposite the north pier head there is 3' of water, opposite the southern pier 5' and the depth increases beyond this to 10' 8" at 170', shoaling up again to 5' 6" at 330', from which it drops to seaward.

m. L. W
of
Spring Tides.

Both of the pier heads are now in a ruinous state, and the result of any serious dredging work

in their vicinity would be to bring them both down. The real obstruction is due simply to the accumulation of gravel some distance in between the pier heads, the depth of water beyond the pier heads being practically sufficient for the local purposes. The total amount of gravel causing this obstruction does not exceed 200 tons, and could without any extraordinary difficulty be removed by men with shovels working from boats. The provision of a small hand crane and small grab would enable it, perhaps, to be dealt with more efficiently, but I think a still better arrangement would be a spoon and bag worked from the pier, coupled with some kind of scraper to draw the shingle within its reach. This, however, will of course, always involve a more or less continuous, though small expenditure. I am strongly of opinion that the proper solution of the question would consist in a modification of the scouring arrangements. At present the scouring arrangements can only be worked when the river is in fresh. The reason for this is that the whole scouring basin is open to the floating basin, and consequently for the time boats want to go out or in the water accumulated must be allowed to escape. Accordingly the periods during which the gates can be kept shut are insufficient to accumulate water enough to have any effect. If a second set of gates were placed at the upper end of the floating basin a sufficient amount of water would be accumulated in the channel, and the Courtown House ponds to provide a fairly efficient flush, and this could be at all times accumulated and never let away except when required. I have not had an estimate made of the cost of these gates, but do not think it could reach £200. Of course

I cannot say whether Lord Courtown would consent to this arrangement, which would have the effect of more or less permanently keeping up the level of the ponds, but I suppose he would like it; but neither this nor anything else which would have the effect of materially improving the depth can be attempted until the piers are repaired. The removal of the piles is also, probably, more important than the bar."

Proposed by Mr. Bolger, seconded by Mr. Ennis, and passed:- "That the report of the Inspector on Courtown Harbour be brought up for consideration, when the County Surveyor reports that the present work of repairing the Pier has been completed."

— Remuneration - Roads Maintenance Inquiry —

Mr. G. J. O'Ballaghan, applied to the Council, for remuneration for supplying them with a copy of the official report of the Inquiry.

Mr. Browne proposed, Mr. Bolger seconded:- "That Mr. O'Ballaghan be paid a sum of £3:3/- for a copy of the official report supplied."

Passed.

— County Surveyor's Department. —

The following instructions and rules for the Assistant County Surveyors were presented for adoption by the Roads Maintenance Inquiry Committee:-

County Wexford.

Instructions & Rules for the Assistant Co. Surveyors.

1. The Assistant Surveyors will be provided by the County Surveyor with copies of the plans and specifications of all works which it will be their duty to supervise, and they will see that the

specifications for road maintenance and other works are carried out; no deviations from the plans and specifications except those of a trivial nature, to be permitted without the written consent of the County Surveyor.

2. They will be required to attend the half-yearly and adjourned half-yearly meetings of the Rural District Councils in their several districts, and also the half-yearly meetings of the County Council, and any other meetings which the County Council, or the County Surveyor may direct.

3. They shall attend Petty Sessions and Quarter Sessions, as may be directed, in connection with prosecutions of contractors, or any other business of the County Surveyor's department.

4. They shall make at least four thorough inspections of the roads in the year, and in addition they shall make such special inspections of roads and works as the County Surveyor may require.

The Spring inspection should begin about the 1st March, and end about 26th April.

The Summer inspection should begin about the 15th May, and end about 20th June.

The Autumn inspection should begin about the 1st September, and end the 15th October.

The Winter inspection should begin about the 10th December, and end the 15th January.

The chief points to be noted in these inspections are as follows:-

Spring Inspection:- To see that all material has been spread and the depots cleared out, surfaces of roads kept clean and footpaths gravelled. Great care is to be taken to see that the empty depots are properly levelled to receive next supply of road metal in order that accurate measurement of same may be obtained.

Summer Inspection:- To see that loose stones have

been picked off, and the roads kept tidy and clean, also that progress is being made with the preparation of metalling for the coming winter. Gulleys, bridges, and other works should be carefully examined, and where repairs are needed the County Surveyor should be notified.

Autumn Inspection:- Road metalling to be carefully measured, in manner hereinafter indicated. It should be noted whether the sides of the roads are trimmed, the surface cleaned, weeds cut, and watertables and drains cleared.

Winter Inspection:- To see that the bulk of the material has been carefully spread before Christmas; the surface of the roads kept scraped and clean, and projecting thorns and bushes cut.

5. Special reports are to be sent to the Co. Surveyor, from time to time on the progress of the special works, and in cases of grave negligence of road contractors, and in all other cases in which the County Surveyor may consider a report necessary.

6. Reports and estimates and plans are to be sent to the County Surveyor, on the proposals to be made by councillors when required by the County Surveyor, not later than three days before the first Rural District meeting in each half-year.

7.- The County Surveyor is to be notified in cases of sudden damage and it will be necessary to see that orders are obtained and signed in urgent cases.

8.- Contractors should not be permitted to spread stones until the surface of the road has been carefully scraped or swept, and in general, contractors are to be urged to keep road surfaces constantly scraped or swept, as this part

of road maintenance is almost as important as the supply and spreading of broken stones. In all cases in which surfacemen are specified for, it should be specially noted if this matter is not being attended to.

9. - Great care should be taken to have bushes and branches of trees cut back, where injurious to the roads, between October and March, and where necessary legal steps are to be taken to compel the occupiers to have this work done; occupiers are also to be compelled to have pipe or covered drains placed under the approaches to houses and fields, where otherwise the water-cables would be obstructed.

10. - Care is to be taken to inspect the foundations of all new works, and to see that they are sufficiently sunk before the masonry is commenced.

11. - The County Council shall provide for the use of the Assistant Surveyors:-

(a) Monthly Diary Report Books.

(b) Measurement Books.

(c) Postcard daily measurement Returns.

(d) Letter Books and Carbon.

And the Assistant Surveyors will be required -

(1) - To enter in their monthly diary report books full particulars of their various inspections of the roads and other works in their charge and full details of everything connected therewith except stone measurements which will appear in the measurement books provided for that purpose. The Diaries, however should, give the dates of such measurements, and the numbers in the schedule of contracts, measured. Monthly Diaries shall be lodged in the County Surveyor's office not later than 10th of the month following the period to which they apply, and they shall be examined and signed by the County Surveyor and produced by

him at the next succeeding meeting of the Co. Council, or to any councillor requiring to see them.

(2)- To enter in the measurement Books, provided, the name of each contractor the number of each work, in Road Schedule, the length, breadth, and depth and the contents and number of each depot on each contract, and the total of the contents measured on each individual contract. Such measurement books should be produced for the inspection of the County Surveyor whenever required, and be finally deposited in his office not later than 25th October in each year.

(3)- To enter upon the postcards provided for the purpose with respect to each day upon which measurements are taken by the Assistant Surveyors, the number of contract in Road Schedule, the name of the contractor and the total quantity measured in respect of each contract, such postcards to be dispatched forthwith by post to the County Surveyor.

(4)- To use the letter books provided for the following purposes. - To serve immediate notice upon any contractor when any payment with respect to his contract has been deferred, informing him of the cause thereof, and directing him with regard to the work to be done. To inform contractors of the total measurement of road metalling for each contract found by them, such notice to be forwarded not later than a fortnight after measurement. Postage to be paid by County Council.

12. - Great care is to be taken with these measurements of road metalling, so that their accuracy may be deposed to on oath where necessary.

Occasional tests of the heaps are to be made by opening them up to ascertain the depth and

the quality, dimensions, etc., of the stones. always carry a two-inch ring. The material should be obtained from the quarries specified. Only broken stones, or gravel, where the use of the latter is stated in the specification to be permitted by the County Surveyor, shall be measured, and in all cases the material must be on the road side before being measured. In the case of a contractor having more than one contract in one locality an effort should be made to measure all his contracts in the one day. No second measurement is to be made without the special permission of the County Surveyor, and should such permission be given care is to be taken to have all the material already measured, spread before the second supply is banked on the road.

13.- Assistants should do all in their power to have contracts carried out to the letter, by advising and warning contractors, so as to induce them to earn their full salaries, the great object in view is to have every penny voted for a road spent on it; where warnings and threats are of no avail, prosecutions (with the consent of the County Council) and ten days' notices under the 54th section must be resorted to. It goes without saying that whereas contractors are to be treated with courtesy and helped with advice, in no case is a favour to be received from them.

The Assistants are not to stop at the houses of Road contractors for the purpose of refreshments, or to make use of their houses or vehicles, in making inspections or measuring materials, and they are not to receive any fee or gratuity from any contractor, or to be in any way connected with or interested in any contract for the repair of Roads, or any Public Works in the County.

In addition to the above list of duties the Assistants

will be required to conform to any other reasonable instructions which the County Council or the County Surveyor may give them from time to time.

"The following was agreed to be added ^{as} ~~to~~ No. 14. in the regulations of Assistant Surveyors:-

"That in the case of roads depending upon supply of sea gravel for their upkeep, the Assistant Surveyors with the sanction of the County Surveyor be permitted to depart to a reasonable extent from the conditions with regard to dates of inspections and measurements laid down by the foregoing regulations.

Mr. Peacocke proposed, Mr. Kehoe seconded:-

"That the regulations for Assistant Surveyors be passed, subject to any alterations as to dates which may be made later on by the Meeting."

"Passed."

Letters from Road Contractors.

Mr. Patrick O'Neill, Ballingarry, Gorey wrote:-

"I regret very much that Mr. Bolger should have interrupted me on last meeting day, as I had made four journeys to Wexford in the hope of being able to obtain a hearing. And when you, Mr. Chairman, did condescend to hear me, I did expect that I would not be interrupted.

However, it is not to complain of this, that I write, but to explain matters that were overlooked by me on the 15th inst. The way I took it at the time was that Mr. Bolger was accusing me of publishing a private conversation, and the very idea fairly unhinged me. Yet, I see by the Press that he himself wanted my permission to make public a private conversation. If I had been able to grasp his meaning I surely would have given the permission sought for.

And I assure you Sir, that I would be very sorry to allow either Mr. Webster or Mr. Murphy

to imagine that I would say anything or make any charges behind their backs that I would not say to their faces. And I may mention that it is not to take sides that I have spent my money going to the County Council chambers. I know right well that the task before your Co. Council is not a very pleasant one, and the Co. Council - the premier body of my native county - have my support so far as their endeavour to obtain £1 worth of work for 20 shillings, goes. But at the same time it must be remembered that the County Council, sitting there as my judge and juror ought to have courage enough to see fair play extended to all. It is admitted by all that I have done my work honestly, and I was foolish enough to think that you would see me paid. I frankly admit that I made special preparation last season as I expected a visit from the Roads' Committee, I went along the roads, and cut the piles with a shovel because I knew, of all contractors, I would receive no leniency. Again it is a well known fact that I defended Mr. Webster, and Mr. Murphy, in particular over the Tobergal lane affair. I then believed and events proved, that I was right.

Of course none of these gentlemen asked me to do so. But I say if it was only out of gratitude they could have paid me. It is to be understood that I have no charges to make against either men further than what I have already stated. Most people imagined that it was Mr. Murphy's doings to have the Gorey road contractors combine, but I can assure the County Council that to my knowledge the suspicion is unfounded. Others thought that Mr. Murphy would give me my money for nothing, but I regret that such is not the case. All I asked for is what I earned hard. Yet, this is denied me, and between the Co. Council and

the Surveyors rests the blame.

What I said to Mr. Bolger is this - "That the County Surveyor stated in his evidence before Mr. P. C. Cowan that he (Mr. Webster) would strike off all the contractors' money if the Co Council so desired, and Mr. Cowan told him to do nothing of the kind." Yet I believe it was to please his masters that he did so, and I have reason to believe that some public men approve of his action.

Ninety per cent of the people around here have it that it was because of my being identified with the contractors' association that I was so badly treated. If that was so, I would hold it most unfair. However, I have no proof of it.

And now, with all possible respect I say to you that if there is not something done to encourage men to work, or some guarantee given that when men do work they will be paid, in two years' time (or less) the roads in the County will be ten shillings in the £ on the ratepayers. Now, I am not to be taken as defending every contractor, for I believe that with themselves lies a lot of the blame. I was surprised to hear some gentleman in your Council say - "That this was the first time that money was struck off," as sums of money have been struck off myself at different times for the last four or five years. I may be allowed to mention that whatever way it may end with Mr. Murphy, I always told him not to compromise himself for me, and it's a satisfaction to know that he has not done so.

It's all very well for big Mr. Walsh, and little Mr. Fanning to make speeches at the Gorey Council board, but if they were working in rain or shine in order to meet their creditors perhaps they would not like to lose their money. I don't see many throwing away seven or eight pounds a year.

I have no hesitation in giving Mr. Bolger liberty to repeat anything I said to him. There is one thing I said, and I don't care who hears it; that when there was a position open in North Wexford it was not for me that Mr. Murphy used his influence. I would not trouble you at such length only I was making an endeavour to meet the Co. Council fairly, and to try and arrange things satisfactorily all round.

Well sir, I am beaten and I am not the man to deny it. My roads are good. I won't promise that they will remain so much longer. The Wicklow Gap road wants to be seen to, it's the main road to the Pallas Creamery, it's all covered with loose stones, it's too bad to have large and small ratepayers in danger of breaking their horses' necks on it. And now, I ask you in all seriousness is there any use of going to leave out money on it. You must admit gentlemen that it is a heartless kind of business to work from now until November, and not know but one is working for nothing. If you permit me I may inform you that it is not alone the contractors but the ratepayers in general who are showing signs of uneasiness. And why? Well at the last meeting of the Gorey District Council, there were several roads up for contract and no tender for them, notwithstanding that the price had been raised 350 per cent over late prices (according to Mr. P. Fanning S.B.)

I must stop, as I have trespassed too far already on your valuable time, and I hope you will be able to form some plan whereby the contractors who held contracts on the first of April 1905, will not be ruined.

I have the honour to remain,

Gentlemen

Your very humble servant

Patrick O'Neill

Under date 21st May, the following letter was read from Mrs. Anastasia Roche, in reference to Road No. 137. (Wexford District)

"I earnestly appeal to you to use your influence with Mr. Webster, and the County Council in the case of my husband's contract. He is very ill in bed, and I have no one to look after it. I am sorry to trouble you but my circumstances compel me."

"Referred to County Surveyor."

Lara Hill Quarry.

With reference to the inspection of Lara Hill Quarry, Gorey, with a view to having it acquired by the County Council; the Vice-Chairman explained that the Committee had seen it. There was about 3 acres on the side of the hill which the occupier - Mr. Darcy - who holds in fee simple - offered to sell at £50. Mr. Smith whose land would be required for accommodation offered to allow the Co. Council to obtain this place for £10, and the landlord of the field, Lord Courtown, was willing to give a lease as long as he could, as per conditions of the Estate, at £2. per annum.

The Chairman said that Sir Thomas Comonde Chairman of the Council was very strongly in favour of obtaining the quarry.

The Chairman then moved: - "That the Co. Council acquire Lara Hill Quarry, Gorey, on the terms stated: £50 to James Darcy, £10 to Mr. Smith, and £2 a year for lease, from Lord Courtown. Mr. Redcocks seconded."

The following memorial was read: -

"We the undersigned, desire to enter our protest against the County Council taking over Lara Hill Quarry as a permanent one. By doing so the Road Contractors who heretofore drew road material out of the Gorey Hill Quarry, will now have to go

to Tara Hill Quarry. This will deprive some 20 men of earning a living, who are at the present time working in the Gorey Hill Quarry. We also wish to add that Mr. Webster, County Surveyor, and Mr. J. P. Murphy, Assistant Surveyor, highly approved of the broken stones in the quarry for road metalling."

(The above was numerously signed.)

Mr. Webster said that the stone in Gorey Hill Quarry was not as good as the stone at Tara Hill. The material was mixed and some of it, from a yellow vein ran into mud."

"The motion was then put and passed."

Proposed by the Chairman: "That our Secretary be directed to inform the memorialists of the Gorey Hill Quarry that the Co. Council have decided to purchase the Tara Hill Quarry, and that they are of opinion their action will not in any way interfere with the existing utility of the Gorey Hill Quarry, or the people employed there."

"Passed."

Proposed by Mr. John Bolger, seconded by Mr. Browne and passed: "That the initial expenses in connection with Tara Hill Quarry be a County at Large charge."

Breaking Road Contract.

Under date 21st November 1905, the following letter was read from Edward Savage, Road Contractor Goreyhill, Gorey:-

"I beg to refer to contract entered into with Gorey Rural District Council on 25th October last, namely: "Rural District Roads" No. 170 - 1016 perches between breagh and Grove Mill, not to exceed 8^d per perch. - for which my tender perfected at 7^d per perch.

I beg to give notice that I withdraw (and have advised my Sureties to do likewise) from this contract

on the grounds that a certain material - as I am now told by the District Surveyor - must be used; was not described in the specification, as well as other responsibilities which I did not understand.

I register the postage of this notice and hold copy.

Your obedient servant
Edward Savage.

"Referred to the County Surveyor."

Analyst's Report.

The following was read for the meeting:-

City Laboratory,
17 Castle Street,

Dublin. 22nd May 1906.

Report of Sir Charles Cameron, B. Sc., M. D., Public Analyst, for the County of Wexford on articles submitted to him for analysis during the quarter ended 31st March 1906.

23 articles were received from the Food Inspectors R. J. G. as follows:-

<u>Article</u>	<u>Number</u>
Milk	10
Butter	7
Whiskey	3
Buttermilk	2
Ginger wine	1
Total	<u>23.</u>

Certificate sent to Sergeant White, Loughmon, for specimen of milk adulterated with at least 10 per cent of added water.

Certificate sent to Sergeant Madden, New Ross, for specimen of milk deprived of at least 20 per cent of its fats.

For the Guardians of Gorey Union nine drugs and a specimen of ~~milk deprived of at least 20~~ water had the following composition

One imperial gallon contained in grains.
Total solid matters, 16.800

Including

albuminoid ammonia 0.010

saline ammonia 0.006

Nitric acid Trace

Chlorine 2.485

Sulphuric acid 2.8824

Equal to calcium sulphate 4.0000

A tolerably good water.

For the Guardians of Enniscorthy Union ten drugs and five specimens of tea were analysed. The drugs were correct.

There were six specimens of butter analysed by directions from the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction for Ireland, Upper Merion St. Dublin, which were taken up in the county of Wexford. They were pure.

One specimen of butter analysed for Enniscorthy District Lunatic Asylum, was pure.

For the County Committee of Agriculture, four fertilizers and two specimens of paraffin oil were analysed. The fertilizers were up to guarantee. The specimens of oil were identical.

One specimen of linseed oil analysed for Enniscorthy Co-operative Society was pure.

One fertilizer was analysed for Mr. J. Sinnott Enniscorthy.

Two fertilizers were analysed for Mr. M. Cloney Tethard.

For the Ramsgange Co-operative Society, Arthurs-town, three fertilizers and two specimens of feeding stuff were pure.

One specimen of feeding stuff analysed for Mr. Wm. Armstrong, Enniscorthy, was pure.

A most careful analysis failed to trace poison in the viscera of a horse, which was sent for analysis by J. R. Webster Esq. T. S. Enniscorthy.

A specimen of water analysed for J. Finnamore Esq. Gorey, had the following composition.

One imperial gallon contained in grains.

Total solid matters 25.200

Including

albuminoid ammonia	0.010
Saline ammonia	0.004
Nitric acid	Trace
Chlorine	2.180
Sulphuric acid	2.880
Equal to calcium sulphate	4.000

A very good water.

Two specimens of feeding stuff, and one of separated milk were analysed for Mr. J. B. Hearn New Ross.

For Shillelagh Union which is partly situated in the County of Wexford, thirteen drugs were analysed. They were correct.

Total Analyses... 89.

Charles A. Cameron

McOmish

11. 6. 06.