

MEETING. 8th May, 1922.

A Meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in the County Hall, Wexford, on Monday 8th May 1922.

Present:- Mr. J.R. Etchingham (Chairman) presiding:-

Also:- Messrs. Michael Doyle, M. Cloney, R. Corish, James Hall, G. Devereux, John O'Byrne, John J. O'Byrne, J. Cummins, E.P. Foley, M. Byrne, James Shannon, M. Hughes, C. Culleton, James Byrne, John Sinnott and M.M. O'Donoghue.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, Mr. Treanor Senior Assistant Surveyor, were in attendance.

Confirmation of Minutes.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Direct Labour Questions.

In connection with the proposed direct labour Scheme, Mr. Corish called attention to the fact that quarrymen should be employed by day work.

The County Surveyor referred to the terms of the agreement which had been agreed to by the Council, and one of the provisions of which read:- "Terms of payment to quarrymen to be same as to surfacemen and the rate for actual time worked will be at per hour. The rate for piece work will be as agreed on between the County Surveyor and Senior Assistant, and the men".

This provision the County Surveyor held clearly decided that piece work was to be enforced in suitable quarries.

Mr. Treanor stated that by fixing the rate for quarrymen on a time basis and paying the quarrymen the same as surfacemen, the former would be in a worse position. Any man who was inclined to work could always earn considerably more per week on piece work than the time rate of wages. He gave instances of quarries in which this had taken place and added that there was no question of piece work in the quarries being objected to until Mr. Houston, Organiser for the Transport Union, came into the County. Under normal conditions piece work could be arranged for in the quarries on a perfectly satisfactory basis, but he would not say this could now be the case.

Mr. R. Corish proposed:- "That all quarrymen be employed at day work and by piece work".

Mr. John J. O'Byrne seconded.

After considerable discussion the motion was adopted.

The following letter was read from Mr. D. Houston, Organiser Transport & general Workers' Union:-

"I am instructed by your Road and Quarrymen, likewise a number of unemployed men, to inform you that they wish to place their views on the following before you at your meeting to-day:-

- (1) the Contract system versus Direct labour.
- (2) Reduction of overseers to quarry foremen.
- (3) Piece rates in the quarries.

Hoping you will make arrangements to hear the men's representations".

It was decided on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Corish, that Mr. Houston and the deputation from Transport Union be received.

The following copy of Minute was furnished from the Enniscorthy R. D. Council:-

Direct Labour.

Mr. D. Houston, Transport Union, wrote as follows:-

"The unemployed workers in Town and Country have requested me to arrange with you to receive a deputation of said men.

"Hoping you will make the necessary arrangements to hear the Deputation".

It was unanimously decided to hear the Deputation of the men on the motion of Mr. Nolan, seconded by Mr. Clince.

Mr. Houston speaking on behalf of the deputation appealed to the Council to refuse to accept any tenders for Road Contracts and to have all roads made by Direct Labour.

The Chairman pointed out that the County Council had made arrangements to have first and second class roads made by Direct Labour and to give the third class roads to Contractors. He considered this a very fair offer.

After further discussion Mr. Clince proposed:- "That tenders

be not accepted". Mr. J. Nolan seconded.

As an amendment Mr. M. Kelly proposed:- "That the Council transact business usual; that Roads for which no tenders were received be done by Direct Labour and that no Contract be given to Farmers with 30 acres of land or more".

Mr. J. Lawler seconded.

A Poll was taken on the amendment with the following result:-

For:- Messrs. J. Hall, E. O'Connor, J. Sinnott, J. Lawler, W.J. Furlong, M. O'Brien, M. Kelly - 7.

Against:- Messrs. P. Buckley, M. Byrne, P. Ronan, J. Byrne, J. Clinee J. Nolan, M. Bennett, M. Doyle, T. Furlong - 9.

Mr. Clinee's resolution was then put and carried by a majority of two votes (9 to 7).

Tenders not being opened the meeting then concluded".

Under date 2nd May 1922, Mr. D. O'Sullivan, Clerk Wexford Rural District Council, wrote:-

"I enclose copy of the Minutes of Proceedings of the adjourned Half-yearly Meeting of my Council, held on the 29th inst., at which resolutions were passed asking your Council, in view of the present economic conditions to (a) maintain all roads in the District by Direct Labour., (b) have all material broken by hand instead of by machinery, and (c) have all road material horse-drawn".

The following is an extract from the Minutes referred to in the letter of Mr. O'Sullivan:-

"The Clerk read resolutions from Kilmore, Cleariestown, Duncormick Kilmannon, Crossabeg and Bannow Branches of the Irish Transport & General Workers' Union, requesting the Council not to accept tenders for the maintenance of the roads in the district, but to have the work done by Direct Labour, so as to alleviate the acute distress prevailing at present owing to unemployment, and likely to prevail during the coming autumn and winter, also to have the material in quarries broken by hand instead of machinery, and that material be hauled by horses and jennets of small farmers until the economic conditions of the country has improved".

Mr. D. Houston, Organiser of the Transport & General Workers' Union, wrote asking the Council to receive a deputation of the

unemployed workers in support of the terms of the resolutions.

On the motion of Mr. Mahon, seconded by Mr. Ennis, it was decided to receive the deputation. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Houston, Organiser and Mr. Hayes, Local representative, addressed the Council at some length in favour of having all the roads in the District maintained by direct labour, and that material be broken by hand instead of by machinery, and that the material be horse-drawn.

Mr. White proposed and Mr. Hayes seconded:- "That the tenders received be opened and that roads untendered for be given into the hands of the County Surveyor to have done by direct labour". Messrs. Devereux and O'Ryan supported Mr. White's proposition.

Mr. Mahon proposed and Mr. Roche seconded:- "That no tenders be opened and that the County Council be requested to have all roads in the District maintained by Direct labour, and that the suggestion of the Transport Union regarding providing and cartage or road material be adopted".

Mr. Mahon's proposition was supported by the Chairman (Mr. Culleton) and Messrs. Whelan, Cousins and Boggan.

On a poll there voted:-

For Mr. Mahon's proposition:- Messrs. Roche, Cousins, Boggan, Cullen Ennis, Whelan, Hagan, Mahon and the Chairman- 9.

Against:- Messrs. O'Neill, Hayes, Devereux, Cleake, O'Ryan and White. - 6.

Mr. Mahon's proposition was accordingly carried and the meeting adjourned pending the consideration of the Council's resolution by the County Council.

The following was read from a number of labourers in the Coolgreany (Gorey) District:-

"We the undersigned unemployed workmen of this district, at a meeting held on Thursday night, respectfully ask your Council to cancel the contract system on the roads and start direct labour immediately. At the present time we have in this district a large number of men with large families with nothing but the pure air to live on, while the roads are taken over by men who surely have

better means of existing than we have.

Hoping dear Sir your Council will give our case their earnest consideration, as our motto is "either work or war" on the men who take the bit out of our mouths".

Mr. Houston and Mr. P.J. Hayes, Organisers for Transport Union, having gone in detail into the points raised in the letter presented to the meeting by Mr. Houston., A long discussion followed in the course of which it was pointed out that any alteration which would be now made in the direct labour scheme agreed to by the Council would, owing to the condition of the finances of the Council, be an alteration on paper only. It would be impossible for the County Council even if they employed every penny at their command, to meet with existing unemployment and resultant distress. Without Government assistance, unemployment in Wexford which had been accentuated by the drop in tillage (on which Wexford was so dependent) could not be relieved. The alteration in the present direct labour Scheme of the County Council would not bring about the result desired by Labour and certainly would not afford any immediate relief.

Mr. Houston and the very large deputation withdrew to discuss the points raised at the meeting.

When they returned Mr. Houston stated they had discussed the matter very fully. He pointed out that the Council found it very difficult to secure payment of poor rates, but if the Transport Union branches were invested with authority they would soon collect the rates. The general experience was that people who could pay the Rates were holding them up, and these were neither labourers nor small farmers. the deputation would agree to the direct labour Scheme of the Council going on subject to the following:-

- (1) No Road Contract Scheme to be continued after 31st March 1923, otherwise the members of the Transport Union would continue their objection to the present Scheme.
- (2) As Mr. Barry, County Surveyor had stated that all Materials for third class roads (those which it was proposed should remain in contract) would be supplied by the County Council and broken by direct labour and by the Workers. The latter

should have the supply of all material.

- (3) All breaking of material (where such can be done economically) to be done by hand.
- (4) The difference between the County Surveyor's estimates and amounts at which Contracts for roads were adopted to be spent by County Surveyor on direct labour works and without delay.
- (5) County Council not to allow any contract with any man who has more than ten acres of arable land., the tenders accepted from Contractors by Gorey and New Ross R.D. Councils to be returned to them with a view to having this provision carried out. That Wexford and Enniscorthy R.D. Councils be allowed to have the tenders submitted to them considered, and that in dealing with such tenders the provision now laid down as to man being awarded a contract who has more than ten acres of arable land to apply.
- (6) Where a contract for first or second class road contains a surrender clause this clause to be put into force without delay.
- (7) Where a road is untendered for at District and County Council Meetings, the work is to be given into the charge of the Council and it is to be carried out by direct labour.
- (8) As the workers are urgently in need of work to obtain relief from their present unfortunate position, and as they recognise that if the County Council devoted all their funds towards that end, the problem would not be solved, the Deputation suggested that the County Council should approach An Dail with a view to obtaining a grant for cutting hedges, cutting off dangerous corners, putting watertables into order and kindred work on roads. the Transport Union would be prepared to furnish a representative on the deputation".

Mr. R. Corish considered that the deputation had recognised the difficulties of the County Council. If men and women of Wexford were not to suffer starvation, it was the duty of the Co. Council to make representations to the Government.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Corish:- "That our Secretary be instructed to arrange with Mr. Kevin O'Higgins, Minister for Economics, to receive the following deputation in connection with procuring a

grant from the Government to relieve unemployment in the County wexford viz:- Messrs. E.P. Foley, J.J. O'Byrne, James Shannon, John O'Byrne Michael Doyle (representing County Council) and Mr. D. Houston (representing Transport union) on 16th or 17th May. That we request our Chairman (Mr. Etchingham) and Mr. R. Corish to introduce the deputation".

In connection with the other suggestions of the deputation Mr. Shannon proposed:-

"That the County Council accept the provisions modifying the Direct labour Scheme as laid down by deputation from Transport Union at to-day's meeting".

Mr. Corish seconded.

Mr. James Byrne proposed:- "That the recommendations from Transport Union deputation as to direct labour scheme of the County Council be considered seriatim".

After discussion Mr. Shannon withdrew his proposal and the various recommendations were dealt with in detail.

In connection with No. 1, the Council made no ruling in view of the fact that between now and March 1923, the entire Road Administration will probably undergo radical changes and in addition a new County Council will take office in June 1923.

As regards No 2 (provision of Seagravel) the County Surveyor pointed out that gathering and hauling should be combined and it was not possible to have any scheme of direct labour in the matter.

Mr. Houston said if it were not possible to deal with Seagravel the County Surveyor should see that approved gravel quarries are opened and worked by direct labour.

The County Surveyor also pointed out that field stones could not be provided by direct labour. There were also a number of men with small contracts maintained by quarries on their own lands worked by themselves.

It was decided to make no order on No. 2 recommendation as the Co. Council did not regard the feasibility of procuring sea gravel by direct labour.

No 3. (breaking material by hand where economical) Approved.

No. 5 (Limitation of Contracts to men holding ten acres arable land) The County Council desire to point out that the maintenance of roads (in the absence of a main road scheme) is a matter for the Rural District Councils. We accordingly leave this matter to the discretion of the Rural District Councils concerned. We direct our Secretary to furnish copies of the recommendations made to this meeting to the Rural District Councils of the County.

No. 6 (Surrender Claims) No action necessary as the County Surveyor explains that surrender claims has appeared for first time in contracts taken at last meeting of the Rural District Councils.

No. 7 (Roads in charge of County Surveyor) Approved on the understanding that the proposals for maintenance are first approved by Finance & Roads Committee.

Proposed Establishment of a County Police Force.

Mr. Foley introduced to the meeting Mr. Richard Sinnott, Brigade Police Officer. Mr. Foley pointed out the absolute necessity which existed at present for the protection of life and property, and held that if the Government was not able to establish a Police Force for that end it was the business of the Public Bodies to form it. Leaving out the Political aspect entirely, a sum of £1,200 had been stolen in the South Wexford area within the last week. People should recollect that all the destruction of property which was being carried out, would have to be paid for later on, by the ratepayers through decrees in the courts. He considered that a local Police Force would secure the respect and obedience of the people better than one established by Headquarters in Dublin. Those associated with this project were of opinion that they should intercept the revenue from licences, petrol, motor car tax etc., and apply the amounts towards the payment of the Police. Until they had a settled Government and an agreement arrived at the Courts could pay over amount of taxation to the local bodies which provided the police force. He suggested a Committee should be appointed say five on behalf of

the County Council, with representatives from the Rural and Urban District Councils, and also from the republican Courts, North and South Wexford. The idea of Mr. Sinnott was that they start with 50 Police which would cost £150 per week, and which would be sufficient for present needs.

The Chairman considered it would be inadvisable to take any steps at the moment in view of the pending settlement between the two sections of the Irish Leaders.

Mr. Culleton called attention to the robberies on the roads which had occurred within the last two or three days, and this would prevent him from agreeing to any postponement.

Mr. Doyle said he believed the first thing the Committee should consider was the question of finance, and in view of the fact that no provision had been made for special expenditure of this nature, they might see their way to begin on a smaller scale.

Mr. Foley said at present all they wanted was an expression of opinion that a police force was necessary. They could let the Committee formulate a Scheme and make a report.

Mr. Corish proposed that the following members of the County Council be appointed to act on the Committee suggested by Mr. Foley:- Messrs. M. Doyle, J.J. O'Byrne (Cushinstown) John O'Byrne (Gorey) J.R. Etchingham and G. Devereux.

Mr. Foley seconded the motion which was passed.

It was understood that Mr. Foley would take steps to have representatives from the Rural and Urban District Councils and the Republican Courts appointed.

Fidelity Bonds-Rate Collectors.

Mr. Foley moved the following of which he had given previous notice:-

"That all Rate Collectors of the County Council be required to enter into Fidelity Guarantee Bonds with an approved Guarantee Society".

In proposing his motion Mr. Foley pointed out that private security, as they had up to the present with the Collectors, could

not be regarded as satisfactory.

Mr. Cummins seconded the motion which was adopted.

Older Officials.

The following notice of motion stood in the name of Mr. Lennon:-

"That the appointment of certain of the older officials of the Council be considered with a view to determination on superannuation".

Owing to the absence of Mr. Lennon, the foregoing was adjourned to next meeting.

Coronership- South Wexford.

The following notice of motion stood in the name of Mr. Sinnott

"That Mr. John J. Roche, Coroner for South Wexford be called upon to resign his position".

Mr. Sinnott had left the meeting when the motion was reached.

In connection with this matter the Minister for Local Government wrote, under date 31st March 1922 (letter No. 8043-22 Wexford County) that the Council had no authority to dispense with the services of Mr. J.J. Roche, Coroner for South Wexford. The Ministry for Local Government had referred the whole file in connection with this matter to the Minister for Home Affairs for his attention.

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

"That the question of the appointment of Mr. J.J. Roche as Coroner for South Wexford, be adjourned indefinitely".

Rate Collection.

The Secretary submitted the state of the rate Collection which showed that a sum of £35,198 was outstanding at 30th April 1922,.

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

"That in view of the fact that we have directed the Rate Collectors to close their collections on the 15th May a special meeting of the Finance & Roads Committee be held on Wednesday 17th May to consider the state of the Rate Collection, and that the Rate Collectors be instructed to attend said meeting, with any statements or documents bearing upon the collection in their possession".

Under date 21st April 1922 No. E-NIC 8328-22, the Minister for Local Government wrote that the Department urged that every possible means be used to complete the Rate Collection which was still so backward.

Under date 18th April 1922, the following letter from Messrs. Huggard & Brennan, Solicitors for Mr. M. Tobin, Ex-Rate Collector, was read:-

"Mr. M. Tobin, of Tinraheen, The Ballagh, has handed us your letter to him of the 12th inst.

Our Client has not committed any criminal offence in connection with the collection of his Rates. He had the money collected and was about to lodge it when his house was raided by men alleging they were sent by the County Council and the money was taken away from him.

He is not in a position therefore to lodge the money to the credit of the Council".

Mr. Elgee, Solicitor pointed out that Tobin would be unable to pay if County Council proceeded against him, but the Council decided to adhere to their decision to have Tobin proceeded against by criminal prosecution.

Appointment of rate Collector for No. 13 Collection District.

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

"That our Secretary be instructed to advertise in "Irish Independent" and "Freeman's Journal" the vacant Rate Collectorship for No. 13 Collection District, poundage fees at 7d in the £ with the usual emoluments".

Ex-Rate Collector Banville.

Under date 8th April 1922 Mr. J. Banville, Horetown North, Foulksmills, ex-Rate collector, wrote thanking the Council for having granted him superannuation.

Payments Subsidiary Bodies.

Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. John O'Byrne:-

"That our Secretary be instructed to make as large payments to Subsidiary Bodies as is consistent with the present financial

position of the Council".

Passed.

£9,000 Unemployment Grant.

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was approved on the motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mr. Cloney:-

"That we instruct our Secretary to point out to the Ministry of Transport that the County Council are unable to make payments to their employees or to the Subsidiary Bodies, for which they are responsible, principally because of the fact that the £9,000 Unemployment Grant, due to the County Council, has not yet been provided by the Ministry of Transport, although the work was performed five or six weeks ago, and carried out on the understanding that the Grant would be immediately available. We must request the Ministry to let the Council have the money at once to enable them to discharge their financial obligations".

Machinery Yard, Enniscorthy.

The County Surveyor reported that Charles Byrne, owner of Machinery Yard in Enniscorthy, applied for a rent of £31.4.0d instead of the present figure of £15.12.0d i.e. exactly double. He (County Surveyor) had had an offer from Enniscorthy Co-operative Society for yard and shed at £50 per annum, which he considered too high.

Mr. Elgee stated they had a lease of the yard of Mr. Charles Byrne.

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

"That Mr. Byrne be paid the difference between Rates on Machinery Yard at time taken by County Council and any increase in said Rates".

Assistant Surveyor for Gorey District.

The Finance & Roads Committee submitted the following recommendation:-

"That County Surveyor inform Mr. Kirby (Assistant Surveyor, Gorey District) his position as Assistant Surveyor will be filled unless he returns to duty within seven days".

The above recommendation was adopted on the motion of Mr. John O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Cummins.

* Mr. Doyle proposed and Mr. Cloney seconded the following, which was adopted nem. con :- "That in the event of Mr. Kirby, Assistant Surveyor not returning to duty within seven days. our Secretary be instructed to advertise for an Assistant Surveyor at a salary of £170 with annual increments of £5, conditional on good and satisfactory service".

Tenderd- Machinery Shed.

The County Surveyor stated he had sent round the Specification for Machinery Shed at County hall and had received the following tenders:-

Laurence Radford, Wexford	£289
P. O'Connor, Wexford	294
Geo. O'Connor, Crossabeg	439
Graves & Co. Waterford (for roof alone and expecting held of unskilled labour	£32.10/-

"It was decided on the motion of Mr. Foley, seconded by the Chairman, that the matter be referred to next meeting of Finance & Roads Committee.

County Bridges.

The County Surveyor stated that as regards the proposal to spend £150 to strengthen the bascule of Wexford Bridge, he had received a letter from Mr. P. Donovan, Shipowner, objecting to any repairs at the bascule of this bridge which would in any way interfere with river traffic. The County Surveyor also mentioned that as Mr. Donovan was using a larger vessel than heretofore for river traffic between Enniscorthy and Wexford, it was necessary to have Edermine Bridge opened three times a week.

It was decided that Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, be asked to advise as to responsibilities of the Council in connection with the statement of County Surveyor relative to Wexford and Edermine Bridges.

Primary Scholarship Scheme.

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

seconded by Mr. J. O'Byrne (Gorey):-

"That the question of appointing Examiners etc. in connection with award of Primary Scholarships be referred to next meeting of Finance & Roads Committee".

County Board of Health- Question of Chargeability.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne (Cushinstown) seconded by the Chairman:-

"That in order to fully explain the resolution adopted by the County Council at meeting of ^{3rd} ~~1st~~ April 1922, in connection with expenses under Public Health Board, we decide that the following basis of chargeability shall apply- Any alterations or changes in the buildings necessary to provide suitable institutions., all Salaries, Rates, Taxes and rents to be County-at-large Charges., while Lunacy fees and Outdoor relief are to remain Union Charges., all other expenses to be as per beds occupied by each district".

County Hospital.

Report from Mr. M. Ua Riain, Engineering Section Local Government Department, under date 16th April 1922 as to site for proposed County Hospital was adjourned to next meeting.

Correspondence in connection with tenure etc. of County Wexford Infirmary from Mr. O'Sullivan, Acting Secretary, County Board of Health, and Mr. R.W. Elgee, Solicitor to County Council were read and adjourned to next meeting of the County Council.

Quarry Overseers.

Considerable discussion took place in connection with the position of Messrs. M.J. O'Kelly, Balynabola, J.J. O'Gorman, Ballyrannell, and Michael McEvoy, Barntown.

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

"That we offer Messrs. M.J. O'Kelly, J.J. O'Gorman and Michael McEvoy the position of charge hand in quarries at 43/- per week. Later, if the more skilled position arises, the County Council would consider favourably the appointment of these men to it".

County Board of Health. Vacancy.

Mr. D. O'Sullivan, Acting Secretary, Co. Board of Health, wrote that Mr. Thomas Neville had resigned his position as a nominee of the County Council on the County Board of Health, the latter recommended the appointment of Mr. James hall, M.C.C. to the vacancy.

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

"That Mr. James hall, M.C.C. Tobergal, Boolavogue, be appointed a member of the Co. Board of Health vice Mr. Thomas Neville resigned".

Under date 26th April 1922, the Minister for Local Government (9830-22) wrote stating that the Ministry had accepted the resignation of Mr. John Sinnott from the County Board of Health.

Under date 6th May 1922 a letter was read from Mr. D. O'Sullivan Acting Secretary County Board of Health as to making a payment on a/c to certain officers of Wexford Union who had been compensated for loss of office and to enable them to tide over the interval between the present and the date when sanction of Local Government Department was received to the amounts of compensation.

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

"The county Council regret they are unable to make any payment to officers whose offices have been abolished consequent upon the establishment of County Board of health, until the compensations have received the approval of the Local Government Department".

printing Jurors' Lists.

Under date 25th April 1922 Messrs. English & Co., Custom House, Quay, Wexford wrote enclosing account for last year's Contract for Jurors' Lists (Amount £135. 9. 6d) the printing of which was suggested although the work had been commenced. Thus Contract they wrote was taken at a very low price, and of course on the understanding that the Co. Council would carry out their share of the Contract".

Referred to next meeting of Finance & Roads committee.

University Scholarship Scheme.

Under date 3rd April 1922 the following letter was read from Mr.

Leo F. Sullivan, 40 Selskar Street, Wexford--

"Owing to a slight illness I have been obliged to spend part of last College term in hospital. Accordingly, my expenses at University Hall have only amounted to half their usual amount. As attendance at any lectures missed will be granted to me on medical grounds, I should feel obliged if you would forward me the remainder of my Scholarship, due for this term at your earliest convenience".

The Secretary stated that £11.11/- had been allowed off Hostel a/c for Mr. Sullivan and in order to meet his medical account, Mr. Sullivan asked the County Council to pay him this amount.

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

"That a payment of £11.11/- be made Mr. Leo F. Sullivan, Selskar Street, Wexford, on foot of his University Scholarship".

Explosives for Quarries.

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was read:-

"We recommend the County Council to explain to the public that if quarry work will be held up, the fault does not rest with the Council. If certain Military eventualities take place, the County Surveyor and his staff have instructions as to what steps they are to take to endeavour to secure the necessary supplies of Explosives for quarry work. In the meantime the County Council have no option but to suspend all work in quarries in which explosives are necessary.

The Committee also desire to point out that the County Surveyor's department has been refused the County Council detonators stored in Wexford Military Barracks and paid for by the money of the ratepayers."

Mr. Corish stated that he had seen Mr. R. Mulcahy, Minister for defence, who had promised to facilitate the Wexford County Council in securing the necessary supplied of explosives to enable quarry work to be carried on.

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

"That the Chairman of the County Council (Mr. J.R. Etchingham T.D.) and Mr. R. Corish T.D. endeavour to arrange with Mr. R. Mulcahy

Minister of Defence, for the supply of explosives required for quarry work in the County Wexford and no action be taken as regards the Minute of the Finance & Roads Committee".

Finances- Quarry Work.

The County Surveyor mentioned that a recent meeting he had received authority to expend £500 to carry on quarry work, as a matter of fact he had expended £518 and he now required £1500 for next month.

"It was decided to refer the matter to the next meeting of the Finance & Roads Committee".

Roads and Road Material.

Mr. Culleton raised the question of sea gravel being provided for roads in the vicinity of Ballynaas quarry, entailing long draught, and he considered sea gravel was not as good material as could be procured locally.

The County Surveyor pointed out that Ballynaas quarry was worked out, and as for Ballycogley quarry, the material was no use.

Mr. Culleton mentioned that there was a gravel quarry in Ballycogley which could be used.

County Surveyor- You would have to shift ten yards of stuff in order to get one yard of material in that quarry.

Further attention having been called to the lack of good material in that district, the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Devereux:-

"That the County Surveyor be directed to interview Mr. P. Browne, Ballysheen, with a view to having a quarry opened on his land".

A further resolution as follows was adopted on the motion of Mr. Devereux, seconded by Mr. Culleton:-

"That Mr. Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor and Mr. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor inspect certain places along the side of the Mountain of Forth with a view to obtaining supply of material which can be broken by hand in order to relieve the present unemployment".

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

"That in the event of the proposed changes in Direct Labour Scheme being agreed to and brought into force, the County Surveyor

be allowed to treat road expenditure as regards the roads concerned, on a group basis".

Petrol for County Surveyor etc.

The question of supply of petrol for County Surveyor and his Staff and of Motor Cycles for the Assistant Surveyors was referred to next meeting of Finance & Roads Committee.

Advertising Contract.

The following resolution was adopted at the meeting of the County Council on 10th April 1922:-

"That the three local papers be requested to state on what terms they would be prepared to let to the County Council Scale Contract seven or other specified space per week for one year.

In reply to this the Managers of the three local papers, "The People", "The Free Press" and "The Echo" wrote that the advertising arrangements existing up to now having been arrived at by negotiation and agreement between the County Council and the County Press, the managers of the papers could not see their way to vary the arrangement by quoting on such a basis as was asked for by the resolution of the Council.

The following recommendation from the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Corish:-

"That we recommend the County Council, in view of the fact that we consider the present cost of advertising unreasonable, to inform the Managers of the three local papers that the County Council will be obliged to arrange for the publication of their advertisements by other mediums, if the local papers cannot see their way to fall in with the Council's request for a scale contract. The advertising contract is entered into yearly, and the County Council are in no way bound by any arrangement made some years ago with the old Council who entered into it very reluctantly".

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

"That in the event of the three local papers refusing to accept the proposals of the County Council as regards the advertising contract, the Secretary be instructed to advertise in the Freeman's

Journal and "Irish Independent".

D. & S. E. Railway System.

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mr. Hall:-

"That we request the D. & S. E. Railway Company to extend the 6 p.m. train from Wexford to Dublin for Summer months at least, as we believe this would make for the great convenience of the public".

Poisons & Pharmacy Act.

Mr. R. Breen, Commercial Quay, Wexford, applied for renewal of Licence under Poisons & Pharmacy Act to enable him to sell Sheep Dip.

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

"That the Licence under Poisons & Pharmacy Act issued to Mr. R. Breen, Commercial Quay, Wexford be renewed on condition that Mr. Breen will stock and sell only Irish Sheep Dip".

Irish Co. Councils' General Council.

Under date 12th April 1922 the Secretary, Irish Co. Councils' General Council, wrote pointing out that Special Standing Committees had been appointed by the General Council on (1) Legislation (2) Financial Matters, (3) Education (4) Health, (5) Roads, (6) Housing, (7) Reconstruction.

In addition to questions referred to them by the General Council it was hoped that these committees would be of assistance to the Constituent Councils by advising on matters of difficulty that may arise in the intervals between meetings of the General Council.

On the motion of Mr. J.J. O'Byrne (Cushinstown) seconded by Mr Hall, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That our Secretary be instructed to avail of the services of the various Committees set out in the communication from the Irish County Councils' General Council, under date 12th April 1922".

Difficulties as to holding Inquests.

Under date 29th April 1922, the following letter was read from Dr. W.C. Lawler, Coroner for North Wexford:-

"The holding of inquests in North Wexford presents a serious difficulty and I must ask for instructions from the County Council.

The Police of the district notify the Coroner and summon the Jury. The presence of the body is necessary for inspection by the Jury and Medical Examination.

We have two rival forces- pro-treaty and anti-treaty, as far as the holding of an inquest is concerned, the police force that holds possession of the body commands the position.

Am I free to hold inquests under the directions of both forces?

In Bunclody and in Gorey (I believe) you have only anti-treaty police. In Ferns pro-treaty and in Enniscorthy both.

On April 10th I held an inquest in Gorey under the auspices of the anti-treaty police. They were the only police functioning and no objection was raised.

In Enniscorthy on April 27th I was notified by the anti-treaty police that Henry O'Connor had been shot under circumstances that certainly warranted the holding of an inquest.

The pro-treaty police spoke to me before the hour appointed and told me I was not to hold it under the guidance of the anti-treaty police. As I had no definite instructions from Co. Council or Dail I considered it prudent not to hold it.

Whatever may be my personal political views I must not give expression to when acting officially and shall be guided by the directions I receive from the County Council".

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

"That for the present no specific instructions be given Dr. Lawler Coroner for North Wexford, as regards the holding of inquests, we are hopeful that an agreement will be arrived at between both sections of the Irish People and there is also the probability that a police force which will function without objection from anyone will be established".

Proposed Carnegie Library.

Under date 13th April 1922 Mr. Lennox Robinson, (Secretary Carnegie United Kingdom trust) 16 Harecourt Street, Dublin, wrote, stating that the Irish Advisory Committee of the trust had received the resolution of the County Council with satisfaction. The Committee hoped to do all in their power to further the Scheme but wished to

to know what measure of support the County Council intended to render.

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

"That our Secretary be instructed to place at the disposal of the Carnegie Trustees any portion of the County Hall which he considers is not required for County purposes in order to allow for storage of books etc., and the members present, one and all, to pledge themselves to help the establishment of a Carnegie Library Scheme for County Wexford in every possible way and have no hesitation in promising their wholehearted support in regard to striking a library rate when same will be required".

Arrears Income tax.

Under date 20th April 1922, the Comptroller, Inland revenue, wrote that large arrears of Income Tax are still due by Wexford County Council for 1919-20, 1920-21 and 1921-22. The Assessment and collection of Income Tax was being carried on with the authority of the provisional Government and all sums now collected for whatever period due were being paid into the Exchequer of that Government. The Comptroller trusted that the Council would arrange to have the arrears due remitted at once to the proper officers in accordance with the demands already furnished.

On the motion of Mr. J.J. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hall, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That no payment be made on foot of any demand for income tax".

The Ministry of War Pensions (English)

& Mr. W. Boggan D.C. Wexford.

Under date 26th April 1922 an Order was issued by the Ministry of War pensions (English) stating that the Local Committee for the Administrative County of Wexford had represented to the Minister that it was desirable with a view to securing the efficient discharge of the Local Committee's functions that Mr. William Boggan, a member of the Committee, should cease to be a member of the Committee, and in consequence the Minister declared that Mr. Boggan had vacated his office of member of the Local Committee.

"No Order"

New Ross R.D. School Attendance Committee.

Under date 5th May 1922 a letter was read from Mr. J. J. Rochford Clerk New Ross Rural District Council, stating that his Council had recommended the appointment of Messrs. James Redmond D.C. Ballintubber New Ross, and Mark McGrath, D.C. Ballywilliam, as members of the New Ross Rural District School Attendance Committee, vice Messrs. Denis Cummins and Wm. Byrne disqualified.

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

"That Messrs. James Redmond, D.C. Ballintubber, New Ross and Mark McGrath, D.C. Ballywilliam be appointed members of New Ross Rural District School Attendance Committee, vice Messrs. Denis Cummins and Wm. Byrne disqualified".

Woodlands.

The following resolution was read from Roscommon Co. Committee of Agriculture:-

"We call the attention of the Department of Agriculture and Land Settlement to the fact that landlords, who are selling their demesnes in Ireland, are selling their woods in many cases to British and other commercial firms for destruction immediately, we deplore this because of the scarcity of woods in the country. We are of opinion that re-planting is not a sufficient return to the present generation for the total removal of the grown woods, and we suggest that an order should be made permitting thinning only, even where woods have already been sold, but are still standing".

Adopted on the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Cloney.

Shooting of Protestants in County Cork.

The following resolution was read from the Cork Corporation:-

"We the Corporation of Cork, 97 per cent Catholic, while very deeply deploring the death of Ireland's young and brave soldier, Commandant O'Neill, appeal to our young men of West Cork to show every conceivable restraint in the present trying situation, and to avoid imitating the horrible and unchristianlike methods of Belfast, and we hereby tender to our Protestant fellow countrymen our sincere sympathy on the cruel and tragic deaths of their co-religionists, and

we assure them of our anxiety for the continuance of the splendid spirit of toleration which has always been manifested in the South of Ireland. We call on the authorities charged with peace and order to afford immediate protection to all classes, irrespective of creed or politics"

Adopted on the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Foley.

Motor Driving Licences.

Under date 2nd May 1922 a letter was read from the Secretary of the Irish Automobile Drivers' and Motor Mechanics' Union, stating that his Committee believed that a competency test should be imposed on all applicants for licences to drive motor cars and cycles., the test to cover physical fitness (including eyesight) and driving proficiency, as the present system of issuing licences to all and sundry was not in the public interest or that of the motoring community.

Approved on the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Foley.

Finance & Roads Committee.

It was decided that the next meeting of the Finance & Roads Committee be held on 15th May previous to the visit of the deputation to the Minister of Economics, Dublin on 16th or 17th May.

-----ooOoo-----

(Signed)

Presiding Chairman

Dated this day of 19

SPECIAL MEETING, 29th MAY, 1922.

A Special Meeting for the purposes of striking the Rate for financial year 1922-23, was held on Monday 29th May 1922, in County Hall, Wexford.

Mr. J. R. Etchingham (Chairman) and subsequently Mr. E. Foley, (Vice-Chairman) presided.

Also present:- Messrs. James Byrne, John Cummins, R. Corish, G. Devereux, James Hall, D. Kavanagh, John O'Byrne, John J. O'Byrne, M. M. O'Donoghue, M. Redmond.

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

Confirmation of Minutes.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Striking Rate for Financial Year 1922-23.

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

"That we hereby adopt the Estimate of rates for General & Separate Charges for financial year 1922-23, as approved by Finance & Roads Committee and agree that the Rates in the £ to be levied off the several Rural Districts of the County in respect of General rate be as follows:-

District	Land	Other Hereditaments
Enniscorthy	4/10	8/3
Gorey	4/7	7/4
New Ross	3/10	7/3
Wexford	3/11	7/-

and we further determine the amounts to be demanded from the Urban Districts of the County to be as follows:-

District	General Charges	Separate Charges	Total
	£ s d	£ s d	£ s d
Enniscorthy	1094.15 6	1094.15 6	

District	General Charges	Separate Charges	Total
New Ross	£ 2069. 4. 5	£	£2069. 4. 5
Wexford	3415. 5. 11		3415. 5. 11

Rate Collection.

The following report of Conference re rate Collection was laid before the meeting:-

"A Conference between the members of the Finance & Roads Committee and the rate Collectors and deputy Checkers of Collectors' Accounts, was held in the County Hall, Wexford on 18th May 1922".

"Mr. E.P. Foley (Vice-Chairman) presided and there were also in attendance, Messrs. John J. O'Byrne (Cushinstown) and John O'Byrne (Gorey)".

"Mrs. Keating, Local Government Inspector, Dail Eireann, the Secretary and Assistant Secretary Co. Council, and all the Rate Collectors and deputy Checkers of Collectors Accounts were present.

"The state of each Collection District was carefully examined. The Committee found a considerable difference even in adjoining districts as to the amounts uncollected, but it may be taken for granted that Collectors who were not held up owing to abnormal happenings and who went about their work in a systematic and diligent manner, have succeeded in making very substantial progress. In some instances the Committee considered Collectors have been too easy going and have not exhibited a whole-hearted interest in their work. It was evident also that a few Collectors regarded the meeting as an Inquisition at which they were to be put up for punishment".

"The Committee found, as a general rule, that two causes were responsible for the backward condition of the Collection (1) The fact that numbers of decrees had been obtained and remained unexecuted. Several of these have been lying dormant for over a year. The result is that people who are not honest enough to pay their Rates, laugh at the idea of a prosecution and point to the fact that the Collector has been powerless to realise the amount in year old cases. (2) General scarcity of money. There has been very few refusals to pay in any district, but numbers of people, owing to the

District	General Charges	Separate Charges	Total
New Ross	£ 2069. 4. 5	£	£2069. 4. 5
Wexford	3415. 5. 11		3415. 5. 11

Rate Collection.

The following report of Conference re rate Collection was laid before the meeting:-

"A Conference between the members of the Finance & Roads Committee and the rate Collectors and deputy Checkers of Collectors' Accounts, was held in the County Hall, Wexford on 18th May 1922".

"Mr. E.P. Foley (Vice-Chairman) presided and there were also in attendance, Messrs. John J. O'Byrne (Cushinstown) and John O'Byrne (Gorey)".

"Mrs. Keating, Local Government Inspector, Dail Eireann, the Secretary and Assistant Secretary Co. Council, and all the Rate Collectors and deputy Checkers of Collectors Accounts were present.

"The state of each Collection District was carefully examined. The Committee found a considerable difference even in adjoining districts as to the amounts uncollected, but it may be taken for granted that Collectors who were not held up owing to abnormal happenings and who went about their work in a systematic and diligent manner, have succeeded in making very substantial progress. In some instances the Committee considered Collectors have been too easy going and have not exhibited a whole-hearted interest in their work. It was evident also that a few Collectors regarded the meeting as an Inquisition at which they were to be put up for punishment".

"The Committee found, as a general rule, that two causes were responsible for the backward condition of the Collection (1) The fact that numbers of decrees had been obtained and remained unexecuted. Several of these have been lying dormant for over a year. The result is that people who are not honest enough to pay their Rates, laugh at the idea of a prosecution and point to the fact that the Collector has been powerless to realise the amount in year old cases. (2) General scarcity of money. There has been very few refusals to pay in any district, but numbers of people, owing to the

depreciation in the price of live stock and farm produce generally, have asked for an extension of time for payment".

"The Committee admitted that the manner in which decrees had been dealt with to the present made the work of Rate Collectors particularly arduous, but hope with the aid of the proposed County police force to devise machinery by which decrees will be realised effectively and expeditiously. Recognising also that farmers and agricultural labourers have been hit by the slump in prices, they agree that the Collectors should be given an extension of time to close their collections to 18th June".

"The Committee are of opinion that Rate Collectors should not have their offices on licenced premises".

"As regards Collection District No. 13, Mr. Fanning, Deputy Checker, was instructed to re-examine the Collecting Books of the late D. Byrne, at once, and report to the Secretary of the Co. Council".

"Mr. Fanning informed the Committee that on his first checking of Mr. Byrne's Accounts a sum of £500 appeared to be due by him".

"It was further agreed that the present Collectors or their deputies as the case may be, are to finish the Collection to March 1922, before any question of resignation can be considered".

"The Committee recommend that as regards the Rate for second moiety of current financial year, a bonus of 1d in the £ on amount of Warrant be paid all Collectors who lodge the full amount of their Warrants by the 28th January 1923. Also that Local Government department be requested to sanction payment of poundage on amounts lodged by Collectors and on private lodgments to 30th April 1922".

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

"That the report of Conference between Finance & Roads Committee Rate Collectors and Deputy Checkers of Collectors' Accounts be approved, but that the proposal to award bonus of 1d in £ to Collectors who lodge the full amount of their Warrants by 28th February 1923, be held over for consideration at a future meeting of the Co. Council"

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. John O'Byrne (Gorey) seconded by Mr. James Byrne::

"That any Collector who had not closed his Collection to the

satisfaction of the Secretary of this Council by 18th June 1922, be suspended from office, pending investigation by Finance & Roads Committee as to the reason for not closing. That a copy of this resolution be furnished each Collector^H.

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

"That Collectors Fitzpatrick, McCarthy, Roe, P, O'Byrne, Deegan and John Kelly be informed that the County Council consider they should have carried out their duties with greater diligence than they have shown to the present, and in view of the fact that no extension of time to close the collection beyond 18th June 1922, will be agreed to the Council will expect that by next meeting these Collectors will have so much improved that no further complaint can be found as to the manner in which they are performing their duty^H.

Under date 16th May 1922, the following (12,950-22) was read from Local Government Department:-

"In regard to Collectors Securities I desire to inform you that the Bond executed by these officers must be in accordance with the provisions of the Public Bodies Order^H.

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

"That our Secretary correspond with Local Government Department as to whether it would not be advisable in view of charges made by Insurance Companies for existing Bond drafted according to the provisions of the Public Bodies Order, to have with the Rate Collector a bond guaranteeing only against dishonesty, defalcation or embezzlement. From experience gained to the present, though the Bond as per Public Bodies Order is most desirable and comprehensive, the Council believe that the cost of same is too high. For the information of the Council the Local Government Department are asked to supply the Council with the names of approved Insurance Societies which will be prepared to enter into Fidelity Guarantee Bonds for Rate Collectors, also (if possible) their scale of charges. Further would Local Government Department sanction the payment of premium by County Council should the latter decide on adopting such a course^H.

Under date 27th April 1922, the Local Government Department

wrote:- "The Ministry have extended to the 15th May next the time for the closing of the Rate Collection for the period ended 31st March. the Collectors' sureties should be notified of the Council's action".

"The Secretary stated this had been done.

In connection with No. 21 Collection District, the Secretary reported that Mr. Thomas Sullivan had called on him about a month ago and stated he would square up the question of amount of rates, etc. which had been outstanding when he acted as the Collector,

Mr. Finn, Deputy Checker, New Ross, wrote under date 20th April 1922, that Mr. Sullivan had not called up to then, and Mr. Finn stated at the Conference with the Collectors on 18th May Mr. Sullivan had not called on him in the meantime.

The matter had been hanging on for a considerable time and some steps should be taken to dispose of it.

It was decided that Mr. Foley, Vice-Chairman Co. Council, interview Mr. Sullivan with a view to having some tangible information obtained from Mr. Sullivan in the matter.

As regards Collection District No. 13, Mr. J.J. Manning, Deputy Checker for Gorey District, wrote under date 23rd May 1922, that the late Mr. D. Byrne had lodged all sums collected by him.

The seeming discrepancy referred to at Rate Collectors' Conference occurred through a mistake made in duplicating the entries in his Abstract when entering up his last receipts. The amount now outstanding in this district was £2529. 4. 10½ on rate for March 1922, instead of £1816. 16/- as stated at Conference.

Under date 17th May 1922, Mrs. D. Byrne wrote asking for payment of poundage on rates collected by her late husband.

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

"That the Local Government Department be requested to sanction payment of poundage to Mrs. Byrne, widow of the late Collector Daniel Byrne".

Rate Collector for No. 13 District.

The following applied for the position of rate Collector for No. 13 Collection District (Ballylarkin) Ballynestragh, Coolgreany Kilgorman, Limerick and Wingfield:-

Sean Breen, 8 McCurtain Street, Gorey.

Mathew Brennan, Camolin.

Andrew Howell, Ballyduffbeg, Camolin.

Walter Jordan, Gurteen, Inch.

William Kavanagh, Cróghan, Ballyfad.

John Lee, Castletown, Inch.

Michael McGrath, Market Square, Gorey.

Philip O'Neill, Ballyconran, Craanford.

John O'Reilly, Bruce, Clonevan.

Luke Smith, Haggardstown, Ballycogley (late of Oulart)

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

"That Mr. Treanor (Senior Assistant Surveyor) and Mr. J.H. Cadogan (Assistant in Co. Council Office) be appointed Examiners and Superintendents for examination of Rate Collectors in Irish, English, and Arithmetic".

After the Examination the following was presented as the result:-

	Irish	English	Arithmetic	Total
Michael McGrath	100	75	100	275
John Lee	70	75	100	245
J. O'Reilly	65	60	100	225
Sean Breen	75	70	60	205
Andrew Howell	30	30	70	130
M. Brennan	90	35	---	125
Walter Jordan	25	30	60	115
Luke Smith	---	30	40	70
Wm. Kavanagh	15	20	20	55

Philip O'Neill was not in attendance.

The Chairman held that four candidates only, viz:- Messrs. M. McGrath, John Lee, John O'Reilly, and Sean Breen had qualified.

It was agreed that a poll would be taken without any proposing or seconding of Candidates.

The following was the result:-

For O'Reilly:- Messrs. Hall, J. Byrne, M.M. O'Donoghue, Devereux

Kavanagh and the Chairman.- 6.

For McGrath:- Messrs. Corish, Cummins, John O'Byrne (Gorey) J.J.

O'Byrne (Cushinstown): 4.

For Lee:- Nil.

For Breen:- Nil.

The Chairman declared O'Reilly elected.

The following resolution was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. O'Donoghue and passed:-

"That Mr. John O'Reilly, Bruce, Clonavan Gorey be appointed Rate Collector for No. 13 Collection District of the County Wexford, subject to the sanction of the Local Government Department".

Enniscorthy Mental Hospital.

The Secretary reported that the Local Government Department had forwarded to the treasurer of the County Council Pay Order for £1975 as an instalment of the Government Contribution for the maintenance of patients in Enniscorthy Mental Hospital.

Advances in respect of Damages to Property.

Under date 11th May 1922 the Ministry of Local Government wrote (L.G. 2356) that in certain cases of injury to property, the Provisional Government were prepared to make preliminary payments by way of loan where such a course was desirable in the interests of industry, trade or employment, and particularly where rebuilding was involved.

Claims for War Damage.

Under date 16th May 1922, the following Circular letter was read from Local Government Department:-

"The Ministry of Local Government request the immediate return to the Office of all claims lodged on behalf of persons who have suffered loss during the period January 1919- July 1921.

This Department looks to every Local Authority for the most cordial and friendly co-operation in dealing with claims for compensation.

The Commission, which is opening on Friday next, at the Court house, Green Street, Dublin, is set up to inquire into these claims which are largely against the British Government. The Commission

is set up by the two Governments and with their consent.

It will be necessary for each Local Authority to assist, as far as lies in its power, the work of the Commission in procuring evidence, furnishing particulars, and expert advice on the value of the damaged property".

It was decided on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. J. Byrne that the Secretary give every information possible to the Ministry of Local Government in connection with applications for compensation for War losses".

County Board of Health.

In connection with the resolution adopted by the County Council at their meeting on 8th May 1922 as to chargeability of expenditure for County Board of Health, the following under date 16th May 1922 (12,950-22) was read from Local Government Department:-

"The entry relating to chargeability for expenses under the Public Health Board has been noted and I desire to inform you that there is no provision for Union Charges under the Amalgamation Scheme as the Union area no longer exists. All charges must therefore be either district charges of County-at-Large Charges".

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

"That the reference from Local Government Department as to chargeability of expenses of County Board of Health under date 16th May 1922 (12,950-22) be adjourned to next meeting and that our Secretary explain to the Department the views of the Council as to why they agreed to the resolution of Mr. John J. O'Byrne".

Under date 27th April 1922 the Local Government Department (8,848/22) wrote that they had accepted the resignation of Mr. James Connors as a member of County Board of Health.

Under date 16th May 1922, the Minister of Local Government wrote that the resignation of Mr. Thomas Neville as a member of County Board of Health had been accepted.

Under date 16th April 1922 the report of Mr. M. Ryan (Engineering Section Local Government Department) as to buildings in Wexford proposed for County Hospital, was read. (It has appeared on previous Minutes).

Under date 26th April 1922, Mr. O'Sullivan, Acting Secretary, County Board of Health, wrote asking for the information of the County Board of Health, a report from the County Solicitor as to how the County Infirmary, including the Surgeon's house, was held or in whom vested. In a report submitted to the County Board of Health on 15th March 1922, it was stated that the County Infirmary was vested in the County Council, but some members of the Committee stated that private interests were also involved. Before approaching the County Infirmary Committee on the subject of handing over the premises he (Mr. O'Sullivan) would like to see Mr. Elgee's report.

In connection with the Lady Esmonde Home which stands on the Infirmary grounds and was now idle, Mr. O'Sullivan asked that Mr. Elgee would communicate with the Trustees on behalf of the County Board of Health and ask the Trustees on what terms, if any, they would be prepared to hand over the Home to the County Board of Health, in the event of its being decided to establish the County Hospital at the County Infirmary and requiring the Home as an adjunct to the Hospital.

The following under date 21st April 1922 was read from Mr. R.W. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council:-

"I am in receipt of your letter of yesterday with copy of one from the Acting Secretary of the County Wexford Board of Public Health, enclosed.

I have looked into the title to, and the ownership of the County Infirmary premises, and although I have no documents of title, I am of opinion that the premises are now vested in the County Council. And they are held in fee, free of rent.

I believe the site was bought and the premises erected, by the old Grand Jury, out of funds raised by Presentment off the County.

The property of the Grand Jury or property held by any other Board or otherwise for any public uses and purposes of a County, was vested in the County Council by Article 15 (1) of the Local Government (Application of Enactments Order 1808) and in my opinion the Infirmary falls within the above description of "Property held for a Public Purpose".

"Re Lady Esmonde Hospital".

"As directed I am writing to the Trustees of this Hospital to ascertain if and on what terms they are prepared to hand over these premises to Public Health Board.

I must point out however, that as this Hospital was carried on by the Trustees, under a Scheme settled by the Chancery Division, the Trustees have no power, in themselves to hand over the premises to the Board without the permission of the Chancery Division being first obtained".

Under date 20th May 1922, the Secretary County Board of Health, forwarded the following resolution adopted at the meeting of the Board on 17th May 1922:-

"That we request the County Council to transfer the theatre equipment of the County Infirmary to the new County Hospital".

The question of the effect of closing the County Infirmary as regards compensation to staff etc., was considered.

Mr. Corish asked if the officers whose offices would be abolished would be entitled to compensation or superannuation.

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

"That Mr. R.W. Elgee, Solicitor to the Co. Council, obtain Counsel's opinion as to the position of the County Council towards County Wexford Infirmary, as to whether County Council can withdraw its grant from the Institution or close it completely., in the event of so doing will the officers be entitled to superannuation or compensation., are County Council owners of equipment in County Infirmary such as operating theatre etc., and generally to advise as to the powers and obligations of the County Council towards the County Wexford Infirmary".

Extension Road Limit of Expenditure.

Under date 3rd May 1922 the Local Government Department wrote (9830/22) extending road limits of expenditure for New Ross and Wexford Rural Districts to £12,000 and £17,200 respectively.

Application Interned Rate Collectors.

The following letter under date 14th April was read from the

following Rate Collectors:- James Quirke, Edward Roe, John J. Sinnott, Matthew Kelly and Patrick Walsh:-

"We understand that the Minister for Local Government, Dail Eirean has issued instructions to all the Public Boards to pay their officers who were imprisoned or interned during the recent hostilities two-thirds their salaries during the term of their incarceration. We believe that Rate Collectors appointed in the War period come under these instructions. We therefore appeal to the County Council to grant us the sum of £2.10/- per week during the term of our imprisonment. We received no grant from any source whatever. Knowing the risk we ran we trust the County Council will give this matter their kind consideration and allow us something in recompense".

Under date 4th May 1922 the Local Government department wrote (10360-22) that the claims of the Collectors will be dealt with by the Ministry for Local Government when they come before the Department recorded in Minutes of proceedings of the County Council.

The Secretary pointed out that the present Commission to enquire into War Damage would not deal with such applications as those received from the Rate Collectors who had been interned.

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

"This County Council are of opinion that steps should be taken by Dail Eireann to see that a Commission be set up to consider claims from men who were interned or who suffered personal damage by agents of the British Government. We hold that as the rate Collectors, who have made application to us for compensation, were interned simply because they were the lawfully appointed Collectors of the County Council, it is the business of Dail Eireann to secure suitable compensation for such men from the British Government by whose instructions they were illegally imprisoned and interned".

Motor Cycles for Assistant Surveyors.

Under date 6th May 1922 the Local Government department wrote stating it was necessary to furnish them with an account of the amount expended in providing Motor Cycles for Assistant County Surveyors.

The Secretary pointed out that the Finance & Roads Committee had

recommended the purchase of 4 H.P. Triumph (Motor Cycle) for four Assistant Surveyors, cost £115 each as most suitable for Assistant Surveyors.

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

"That we approve of purchase of 4 H.P. Triumph Motor Cycles for four Assistant Surveyors and that the question of running expenses and upkeep be referred to next meeting of Finance & Roads Committee".

Motor Car Acts.

The question of the administration of Motor Car Acts and particularly collection of Motor Tax was considered at length.

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

"That in order to have Motor Car Acts properly administered we hereby agree to place in charge of this work, Mr. C.H. Richards, Senior Clerk County Council Offices, provided Ministry of Transport are prepared to recoup the Council his present annual remuneration of £342 per annum. Mr. Richards has experience of the work, and we believe this to be the best arrangement to secure the amount of Registration and Taxation for each Motor Vehicle in the County, and also amount for Motor Driving Licences".

Assistant in County Council Offices.

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

"That our Secretary be empowered to employ clerical assistance for two months for the sorting and filing of papers consequent on removal to the County Hall. That in the event of Mr. Richards' services being made available as Local Taxation Officer under Motor Car Acts to Ministry of Transport, a Clerk in his stead be appointed in County Council offices, position to be advertised, and salary and conditions of office to be fixed by the Council on recommendation from Finance & Roads Committee".

Kitchen Equipment County Hall.

The Chairman (Mr. Foley) mentioned that Mr. Culleton and he were met on 22nd May 1922 by Mr. Hassett, Engineer to Wexford R.D. Council

and who was fitting up County Hospital with a request that he would be allowed to remove one of the kitchen stoves from the County Hall. Mr. Hassett had the men employed at County Hospital and informed them that if he could not have the range in the County Hall, the Board of Health would have to purchase a range at a cost of £35. In view of this and the statement from Mr. Hassett, he (Mr. Foley) and Mr. Culleton agreed that Mr. Hassett should remove the range.

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

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

"That the Council in the circumstances mentioned by Mr. Foley hereby sanction his action and that of Mr. Culleton in agreeing to have range in County Hall removed, to County Hospital. In future all applications of this nature must be in writing to the County Council. That we agree to give plenary powers to the Finance & Roads Committee to allow the County Board of Health to remove from the County Hall any articles or materials which are not required there and which would be useful to Co. Board of Health".

Recommendations Finance & Roads Committee.

The following Minutes of Finance & Roads Committee from meeting of 15th May 1922, were read:-

"Present:- In the Chair, Mr. E. Foley (Vice-Chairman Co. Council) and R. Corish.

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

Mr. Kirby, Assistant Surveyor- Gorey District.

Under date 13th May 1922 Mr. James Kirby, B.E. Assistant Surveyor for Gorey District wrote::

"Owing to the miserable salaries paid their Assistant Surveyors by the Wexford Co. Council and the continued persistence of that body in refusing to effect a reasonable and equitable re-adjustment of the wholly inadequate salaries paid to Surveyors by their predecessors in office, I hereby tender the Council my resignation of the position of Assistant Surveyor in your County. I find it absolutely impossible to continue in the position under the above circumstances"

This resignation is without prejudice to my claim for arrears of salary due to me during the period of suspension of work 1921-22, and I would be obliged for a definite statement of the Council's intention in the matter".

"Referred to County Council".

Gelignite for Quarries.

"It was decided that Mr. Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor, make the necessary arrangements with Military Head Quarters in Dublin for a supply of explosives for Quarries".

Finances for Quarry Work.

"The Committee recommended the County Council to borrow from the Treasurer of the Council, the National Bank, a sum of £6,000 to provide for continuance of work in quarries".

The £10,000 Unemployment Grant.

Mr. Foley mentioned that the Local Government Department, Dail Eireann, did not appear to be satisfied with the manner in which the County Surveyor had presented the Scheme in connection with the Unemployment Grant, they did not consider the particulars furnished were sufficiently definite.

The County Surveyor stated that he had received a letter from the Local Government Department in connection with this Grant asking for the lengths of road dealt with and their location, and quantity of material provided for them, all to be set out in detail. It would take a full fortnight's work to prepare this information.

Mr. Corish said he would have an interview with the Minister for Local Government during the week and would try and have the matter adjusted so that the grant would be paid without further delay.

Motor Cycles for Assistant Surveyors.

Under date 6th May 1922, the Local Government Department wrote (9830/22) stating they required to be furnished with an account of the amount expended in providing Motor Cycles for the Assistant Surveyors.

Under date 5th May 1922, Mr. R.J. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, wrote that the following were the prices of the five motor cycles which would be suitable for the work
/of the Assistant Surveyors.

4 H.P. Triumph	£115
3½ H.P. Sunbeam	130
4 H.P. Norton	124
4 H.P. B.S.A.	114
4 H.P. Indian	112.

Of the above he considered the Triumph to be the best as it was specially made for the class of work performed by Assistant Surveyors. This machine was almost exclusively used for disptach riding during th War. It there was an extensive scheme of direct labour established the Surveyors would require a machine which would run like a clock.

"The meeting recommended the purchase of Triumph Motor Cycles and directed the Secretary to ascertain if these could be obtained through the Supplies Department of the Government and if they could be delivered within a definite time".

Petrol for County Surveyor.

The County Surveyor in view of the fact that the County Council were about to supply petrol and motor cycles for Assistant Surveyors asked that he should be supplied with petrol by the Council for the running of his Motor Car.

"It was decided to refer the matter to next meeting of the Finance & Roads Committee".

Proposed reduction of Tonnage.

Mr. D. Doyle, (Road Contractor) Ballinagam, Clonevan, wrote under date 3rd May 1922, asking that the tonnage on his road 170g be reduced from 84 yards to 64 yards or increase the price from £25.10/- per annum to £32. 10/-

"it was decided that no order be made".

Bed Clothing for Blacksmith.

The Secretary called attention to an account for £5.5/- for providing bed clothing etc., for a blacksmith working at the County Hall.

"It was decided that the amount be paid but that the County Surveyor in future before incurring any expenditure of this character should have the approval of the Finance & Roads Committee".

Primary Scholarship Scheme.

Entries received for the above to date were submitted by the Secretary.

The following recommendation was agreed to:-

"That applications from residents of Urban Districts of Enniscorthy New Ross and Wexford, as regards Primary Scholarships be not entertained As the Council have not arranged to levy a rate for Primary Scholarship Scheme in Urban Districts of the County students of these Districts are ineligible to compete for said Scholarships.

That as no application has been received from boys for Primary Scholarship Scheme, the date of receipt of application be extended to 12th June and that in the meantime our Secretary communicate with the various National Schools of the County with a view to securing entries from boys for these Scholarships".

The following resolutions were adopted:-

proposed by Mr. D. Kavanagh, seconded by Mr. O'Donoghue:-

"That the resignation of Mr. James Kirby, Assistant Surveyor for Gorey District be accepted".

Proposed by Mr. Cummins, seconded by Mr. O'Donoghue:-

"That the Minutes of Finance & Roads Committee for meeting of 15th May 1922, be and are hereby approved".

Proposed by Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. John O'Byrne (Gorey):-

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to open up the necessary quarries with a view to providing sufficient road metalling for this year's work, and that if necessary the Council borrow a sum not exceeding £6,000 to allow this work to proceed effectively".

Appointment of County Analyst.

Under date 1st April 1922, the Minister for Local Government wrote that the Council could proceed to appoint an Analyst for the whole County as proposed.

The following resolution which was adopted at the meeting of the County Board of Health on 17th May 1922, was read for the meeting:-

"That we request the County Council to appoint a County Analyst".

The following resolution was adopted at the meeting of the County Council on 27th May 1922:-

"That Messrs. O'Kelly, Keane and Miss O'Ryan, 26 Upper Mount Street, Dublin, be appointed Analysts to County Council under Food & Drugs Acts at 5/- persample analysed, except water fee for which is to be £1.1/- and for poison cases £2.2/- as per conditions fixed by County Council appointment to be determined by a month's notice on either side".

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

"that Messrs. O'Kelly, Keane and Miss O'Ryan, 26 Upper Mount Street, Dublin, be re-appointed Analysts to County Council to cover analyses from all recognised County Bodies on the terms and conditions of the Co. Council's resolution of 27th May 1921". (Page 289)

Sheep Dipping Order.

Under date 13th May 1922, the Veterinary Branch of the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction wrote (letter No. 855-21) calling attention to the necessity of an active execution and enforcement of the Sheep Dipping Order this year. The general observance of the obligation to dip sheep once in Summer and twice in Autumn is regarded as not only the best precaution against the spread of Sheep Scab, but as calculated to promote the interests of the sheep industry in other ways. As the best results could not be obtained from the Dipping Regulations unless they are uniformly observed no Local Authority could remain indifferent to the condition of affairs in their own district without prejudicially affecting the general interest.. Each Local Authority was armed with the necessary powers for the adequate enforcement of the Regulations and the Department hoped that every Local Authority will take steps to see that during the coming season their powers in the matter would be employed to the best advantage.

As the new Police Force was not expected to be in a position to render any assistance in regard to distribution of Sheep Dipping Forms etc. during the coming season, it was necessary for the County Council to make adequate provision for the work of distributing and collecting these forms. Neither would the police be in a position to supply the Co. Council with the usual particulars as to the numbers and ownership of sheep, and the Local Authority should therefore take steps as would appear to them necessary in order to obtain this

information.

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

"That we re-appoint James Murphy, Coolbaun, Ferns as Sheep Dipping Inspector for the Rural Districts of Gorey and Enniscorthy at a remuneration of £26 for both dipping periods of 1922 and that we re-appoint Mr. James Hayden, Corlican, Killurin as Sheep Dipping Inspector for Rural Districts of New Ross and Wexford, at a remuneration of £26 for both dipping periods of 1922. In the event of either of these officers refusing to act that the position be advertised in accordance with the terms of this resolution. That forms of notice of dipping be furnished the Clerks of Rural District Councils, the members of the County Council and County Committee of Agriculture & Technical Instruction".

Mr. N.E. Walsh, Ex-Jail Official.

Correspondence was read from Mr. N.E. Walsh, Ex-Jail Official as to payment of arrears of his superannuation allowance and a resumption of payment.

Under date 6th May 1922, the Ministry for Local Government wrote that as the British Government had undertaken to restore the local Grants which had been withheld it would be proper for the County Council if they are satisfied that the amount claimed by Mr. Walsh was properly due, to resume the payment to Mr. Walsh, and also any other payments which should be made in the normal course had the grants referred to not been withheld.

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

"That the question of reinstating payment of superannuation of Mr. N.E. Walsh, Ex-Jail Official and also dealing with payment of arrears of same be adjourned until the grants of the Council are received in full from Government".

Application re Road Foremanship.

Under date 20th May 1922, Mr. Aidan Mernagh, Ballinaslaney, Oylegate wrote asking to be reinstated as quarry or road foreman, and promising to carry out the orders of the officers of the Co. Council.

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

"That we request the County Surveyor to endeavour to offer a position as quarry or road foreman to Aidan Mernagh, Ballinaslaney, Oylegate, when same be available".

Direct Labour Scheme.

Mr. D. Houston, Irish Transport & General Workers' Union, wrote under date 29th May 1922 asking the Council for permission to come before them in connection with the question of direct labour on roads.

Permission having been granted on the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. J. O'Byrne, Mr. Houston complained that the Enniscorthy R/D. Council had given road contracts to men who held 25 acres of land although the County Council had agreed that no man holding more than ten acres of arable land should be given a contract.

"It was pointed out that the County Council did not feel themselves in a position to lay down hard and fast rules as to the position which men accepted as road contractors should hold in view of the fact that there was no main road scheme in Wexford County, and all roads were district charges".

Mr. Houston also complained that certain people had been granted haulage contracts and were carrying them out by hired labour. The County Council wages were not being paid in these cases. This was a pernicious system and would not be agreed to by the Irish Transport Union.

After some discussion the Council decided to make "No Order"

Tender Machinery Shed.

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

"That the County Surveyor be directed to advertise for tenders for erection of Machinery Shed at the County Hall".

proposed County Police Force.

The following report of Conference relative to establishment of County Police force was read:-

"A Conference between the County Council, Rural District Council, Urban Councils and Republican Courts, regarding the Policing of the

County, was held in the County Hall, Wexford on Monday 22nd May 1922.

"Present:- Mr. E.P. Foley (presiding) Also:- Messrs. G . Devereux
M.C.C. C. Culleton, R.D. Council, wexford, T. Mccarthy, Chairman
Ennisoorthy Urban Council., Alderman Corish, Mayor of Wexford., T.D.
Wexford
Sinnott, representing North/Republican Courts., and J. McCormack,
South Wexford Republican Courts.

Messrs. Richard Sinnott, Brigade Police Officer, Wexford., and T.
A. Frizelle, Assistant Secretary County Council were also in attendance

The following wire was read from mr. Philip Lennon, Court Registrar
New Ross:-

"Broke down off Road Lynch unable to attend, writing Lennon".

"A discussion took place as to whether it would be advisable to
proceed with a Local Scheme in view of the fact that, owing to the
Agreement between the Political parties in An Dail, the Government
would most probably prepare at once a Scheme for a Policing of the
whole County.

"Some members expressed the view that any Scheme the Government
would put into operation would take some months to be brought into
working order and as robberies and other crimes were very prevalent
in the County at present a Local Scheme which could be started at once
would be very necessary, until the Government's arrangements were
complete.

It was also pointed out that owing to Decrees of the Courts not
being executed the Rates of the County were not being paid as they
should, and this explanation was given by many Rate Collectors as to
the backward state of their collections.

"Mr. T.D. Sinnott recommended that any Local Force that might
be established be under the control of the Courts, which would appoint
a Police Board having full powere over appointments and the efficiency
of the force generally. he believed that if the revenue of the
Courts was utilised for the purpose it would be quite sufficient after
a short period to defray the expenses of the Scheme. It would be
necessary when making a start to ask the County Council to guarantee
a sum of about £2,000 which would be raised for the establishment of
the Force".

"As regards the number of men necessary and rate of pay it was decided that Mr. R. Sinnott prepare a statement for submission to next meeting of the number of men required for the County and their proposed location along with an estimate of the cost of the carrying out the Scheme".

"Mr. Sinnott proposed and Mr. Foley seconded the following resolution:- "That the County Council be requested to guarantee a sum of £2,000 towards the establishment of a Local Police Force. That in the meantime the Secretary get into touch with the Government with the view of ascertaining if they have prepared a Scheme for the policing of the Country and if so, the particulars of same and when it is proposed to have it in operation".

"The Secretary stated that an outline of the Minutes of Conference had been furnished the Minister of Defence who wrote as follows under date 23rd May 1922 (a3677):-

"In reply to your communication of 22nd May re Police, the Government's intention was that until the distribution of the newly formed Police force, the policing of the County would be carried out through the Army Organisation by men employed on full time duties and set aside for police work. Now that a political settlement has taken place the trouble in the Army which prevented this being effectively done up to the present, disappears, and the position is that this work can be effectively taken up now by the Volunteers. In view of this, I consider it inadvisable that any new Force such as you suggest should be started".

"The Chairman did not consider it feasible to employ the Army as Police, and gave several reasons to bear out this opinion".

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

"That the Wexford County Council are prepared to guarantee (if required) a sum not exceeding £2,000 for the establishment of a County Police Force, this proposal to receive the sanction of the Local Government Department".

Examination of Candidates for Positions under Co. Council

Proposed by Mr. John J. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Devereux and

adopted:-

"That in the case of appointments under this County Council to positions in respect of which it is decided to hold a qualifying Examination, we hereby instruct our Secretary to arrange for the holding of Examination the day preceding the day of Election, and if the latter be on Monday to arrange for examination the previous Saturday".

Wexford & Edermine Bridges.

Under date 11th May 1922 the following was read from Mr. R. W. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council:-

"The County Council have no power to close up the opening span of Wexford Bridge, as suggested by putting down piles to support the bascule, as the public using the river can compel the County Council to open the span to allow vessels to pass through".

Under date 11th May 1922, Mr. R.W. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council wrote that he had looked into the by-laws made by the County Council dealing with bridges over the river Slaney and there is no provision in them as to who is to bear the cost and expenses of opening the Bridges. This being so he was of opinion that the County Council would have to open the span of Edermine Bridge at their own expense.

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

"That the question of strengthening bascule of Wexford bridge and proposed appointment of caretaker for Edermine Bridge be referred to next meeting of Finance & Roads Committee for a considered recommendation".

Irish Political Prisoners in English Jail.

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

"That a telegram from this meeting be despatched to Messrs. A. Griffith and M. Collins, Downing Street, London, calling their attention to the number of Irish political prisoners in English jails and asking the Irish delegates to take steps to secure the release of these men".

Repair etc. Secretary's Office.

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

"That our Secretary be empowered to have his office repaired, walls distempered and floor covered with linoleum at a cost not exceeding £12⁰."

Drinagh Cement Works.

Under date 25th May 1922, the following was read from the Minister for Local Government (Trade):-

"As we are informed that the British Portland Cement Company are now engaged in re-opening the Drinagh Cement Works, we consider that the resolution passed by your Council urging a boycott of that Company should now be rescinded. This was agreed on at the Conference with the Cement Company's Directors at which your Council was represented."

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

"That the Minister for Local Government be informed that the Council are not satisfied with the manner in which the work of re-opening Drinagh Cement Works is proceeding. The present operations can be described as tinkering only, and we are satisfied the question of re-opening the Works is not being dealt with by the Company as arranged at Conference. When the Company give some evidence that they are in earnest the Council will be prepared to consider the rescinding of their resolution."

Irish products League.

Circular letter was read from the Head Organiser of the Irish Products League, University College, Cork, asking the Co. Council to pass a resolution calling on the people of the County to support Irish Manufacture until Unemployment has ceased and to join the Irish Products League., further to call a public meeting with a view to founding a branch of the League.

"No Order"

Jurors' Lists.

Under date 25th April 1922, Messrs. J. English & Co., Printers Custom House Quay, Wexford, forwarded account for last year's contract

for Jurors' Lists, the printing of which was suspended altho' the work had been commenced. This contract was taken at a very low price, and of course on the understanding that the County Council would carry out their share of it. The amount claimed by Messrs. English & Co. is £135. 9. 6d.

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

"That Messrs. English & Co. be informed that as the Jurors' Lists for 1921 were not printed owing to War conditions the Council cannot assume liability for payment".

Railway Rates.

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

"That we call on the Irish railway Companies to reduce their local rates for carriage of goods. we are convinced that present rates are hampering trade and commerce and hindering the development of Ireland. We believe that a reduction would not cause loss. We would further point out that if even in their own interests Railway Companies are not prepared to consider the National aspect of this question, every representative man will find himself compelled to help the establishment of a well balanced road transport system in competition with rail transit. We fail to understand why it should be cheaper (owing to favourable railway rates) to have goods brought from Manchester to Wexford than from Dublin to Wexford, a fact which is directly against the development of Irish Trade..

That a copy of this resolution be furnished the Secretary to the Railway Commission and to the Railway Clearing House".

Quarry at Clonroche.

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

"That the agreement for working quarry at Clonroche on the lands of Mrs. Kathleen Tector, be sealed and signed on behalf of the Council. That we hereby agree to pay Mrs. Tector a sum of £25 for right of way over her land to admit access to the quarry., also surface damage at ordinary rate and as mentioned in agreement".

Road Over-seer John Breen.

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

"That Mr. R.W. Elgee, Solicitor to the County Council be directed to proceed against John Breen, Road Overseer, for Bridgetown Road Group, for the recovery of money paid him for purchase of Insurance Stamps for road workers' Cards".

Unemployment in County Wexford.

In connection with the resolution of the County Council adopted at meeting of 8th May 1922, asking the Minister of Economic Affairs to receive a deputation in connection with unemployment in County Wexford, under date 10th May 1922 a letter was read from the Ministry that the Minister had been indisposed for the previous week and it was not possible to say when he would be in a position to resume duty. The letter of the Co. Council asking for the reception of the deputation would be brought to the attention of the Minister at the first opportunity.

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

"That the attention of the Minister of Economic Affairs be called to the abnormal amount of unemployment in County Wexford of which the Councillors have hourly evidence. We direct our County Surveyor to prepare for submission to the Relief Committee set up by Dail Eireann a Scheme for Relief Works which are urgently needed to mitigate the distress in this County. We hereby apply to this Committee for a Grant of £15,000 for this purpose. Numbers of our people are on the verge of starvation and the County Council are besieged with applications for employment and with which they are unable to deal. The Coast fishermen of the County are in dire straits and we call on the Relief Committee to help them to tide over the present period of distress."

Demands- Public Bodies.

Under date 23rd May 1922, Mr. O'Sullivan, Clerk Wexford Union, wrote asking payment of £3,334 amount due on foot of demand of Wexford Guardians to 31st March last.

Under date 23rd May 1922, Mr. T.D. Sinnott, Secretary County Board of Health, wrote asking the County Council to transfer £3,000 to enable the Board to meet the quarterly payments which would fall due on the 1st June 1922.

Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Corish, and adopted:-

"That our Secretary be instructed to make the largest possible payments to the Public Bodies subsidised by the County Council, taking into consideration the present condition of the finances of the Council".

-----ooOoo-----

(Signed)

Presiding Chairman

Dated this day of 19