

Half Yearly Meeting Held on 5th May, 1924.

The Half-yearly meeting of The Wexford County Council was held in The County Council Chamber, Forview, Wexford, on 5th May 1924.

Present:- Mr. E. P. Foley (Chairman) presiding: also present Messrs. M. Byrne, Patrick O'Byrne, Sean O'Byrne, P. Hayes, Jas Lawler, James Hall, John Pender, James Shannon, John Cummins, James Byrne, B. Bullerton, J. J. O'Byrne, M. M. O'Donoghue, R. Borish, and M. Cloney.

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Re-construction of County Hospital.

Mr. Sean O'Byrne moved the following of which he had given previous notice:-

That the resolution, postponing the consideration of carrying out structural alterations etc., and repairs to County Hospital, Wexford, be rescinded, and that, in view of the great necessity which exists to put the Hospital into proper working order, and the saving of unnecessary expense, which would occur through delay, the County Council proceed to carry out forthwith the necessary alterations etc. That the question of the purchase of Rosepark as a residence for the Surgeon, County Hospital, be considered, as it has now been definitely decided that the County Hospital is to be fixed at Wexford."

In moving the motion, Mr O'Byrne stated that the present Hospital was a disgrace to the County, and the money spent on its repair was wasted. They were in duty bound to provide accommodation for the sick poor.

Mr J. J. O'Byrne, seconded the motion, which was supported by Mr Shannon.

After considerable discussion, a poll was taken on the motion with the following result:-

For:- Messrs. Bullerton, Pender, Hayes, Patrick O'Byrne, Joseph O'Byrne
M. Bloney, Shannon, Sean O'Byrne, and Cummins. 10.

Against:- Messrs Hall, Lawler, O'Donoghue, James Byrne, M. Byrne
and the Chairman. 6.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Report of Special Meeting of the County Board of Health.

(April 4th 1924), as appearing on Minutes of County Council in respect
of meeting of 14th April, 1924, and report of Special Committee of
the County Board of Health, which dealt with proposed repairs to
the existing County Hospital, and referred to on minutes of same
meeting, were read.

The following resolution from New Ross Rural District Council
was also submitted:-

That we request the Wexford County Council to refuse to put
into force the recommendation of the Board of Health as regards
the proposed changes in New Ross Hospital. We further recommend
the County Council to select a deputation to wait on the Minister of
Local Government in order to submit for his consideration the
scheme for utilisation of New Ross Hospital, which has been
suggested by the Chairman of the County Council, and which
would meet with the approval of the people of New Ross District.

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

That the recommendation of Special Meeting of the County
Board of Health (4th April 1924), relative to Hospital accommodation
in the County, be received and adopted.

Mr M Byrne proposed, and Mr James Byrne seconded, the
adoption of the resolution from New Ross Rural District Council,
relative to the proposal dealing with New Ross Hospital, but,
after considerable discussion, this was withdrawn.

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

That our Secretary ask the County Board of Health of
Barrow and Kilkenney if they would be agreeable to allow
certain of their District Electoral Divisions, contiguous to New
Ross, to be scheduled, so that such persons from these
Divisions would be eligible to vote at the election also.

if they would be prepared to appoint representatives to attend a conference in New Ross to consider this matter and to agree as to the terms upon which a scheme of this description could be carried out.

The following was proposed by Mr. Borish and seconded by Mr. Sean O'Byrne:-

That our Secretary take the necessary steps to obtain a loan of £14,763, for the purpose of having alterations at County Hospital, Wexford carried out in accordance with plans and specifications, submitted by the County Board of Health to the County Council some months ago. That the County Board of Health be instructed to proceed with the work in accordance with these plans and specifications as soon as sanction to the necessary loan has been obtained, and arrangement for advance of same made with the Treasurer of the County Council.

On a show of hands, this was carried by 8 to 3, the other members present not voting.

Mr. Bulliton moving the following, of which he had given previous notice:-

That the resolution of the Council, agreeing to purchase Rosepark as a residence for the Surgeon of the County Hospital only on condition that the latter would forgo his allowances for fuel, light and laundry from the County Board of Health, be rescinded, and that the Council further consider the matter with a view to ascertaining if the residence cannot be secured on other terms.

Mr. J. J. O'Byrne seconded the motion which was adopted:-

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

That the County Council purchase Rosepark, Wexford, as a residence for the Surgeon of the County Hospital on the best possible terms, but not exceeding £1,400. That the Chairman and the Secretary be instructed to negotiate with the owner as to the proposed purchase. That Dr. O'Brien allowances be computed at £33 per annum on and after his occupation of the premises; that he be responsible for the repairs, and, also, all rates and taxes during the period the premises remain in his possession.

Wages of Road and Quarry workers.

The following notice of motion stood in the name of Mr Shannon:

That the resolution of the council, fixing the rate of wages of Road and Quarry workers, in respect of work under Government Grants and for normal work, at 28/- per week, be rescinded, and that a new rate of wages be fixed at the next meeting.

The Secretary read a letter from Ministry of Local Government, Roads Department, under date 30th April, 1924, (S&A/32), approving of the scheme for the improvement of trunk roads in the county Wexford; amount of Grant, £30,000. The following is an extract from the letter:-

As already notified, the maximum wages which can be paid to labourers, employed by Wexford County Council on work under the Grant, is 28/- per week, and the approval notified in this letter is conditional on the acceptance of this rate of wages and on preference being given to demobilised men of the National Army, suitable and willing to undertake road work.

Mr Shannon, by permission of the meeting, then altered his notice of motion to read as follows:-

That the resolution of the County Council, fixing the rate of wages of road and quarry workers for normal work at 28/- per week, be rescinded, and that a new rate of wages be fixed at this meeting."

Mr Hayes seconded

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Bulliton, Shannon, Pender, Hayes, Patrick O'Byrne, Bonick, Sean O'Byrne, and Summins. 8

Against:- Messrs Hall, Lawler, O'Donoghue, J.J. O'Byrne, James Byrne, Bloney, M. Byrne and the Chairman. 8

The Chairman declined to give his casting vote, and the matter dropped.

Motor Car Acts

Letters from Mr J. H. Cooper, Solicitor, Wexford, and Mr Elgee, Solicitor to the Council, relative to appeals in motor prosecutions (Thompson Bros. John Harris. Joseph Fortune) were referred to the Finance and Roads Committee.

Salaries of County Council Officials

In connection with the deliberation of a sub-committee, consisting of Messrs J. J. Byrne, M. M. O'Donoghue, and R. Bonser, relative to the salaries of the officials of the Council, Mr J. J. Byrne said:-

We met here on the day appointed and went into the figures. We required Mr Elgee's opinion as regards some of them, and we then adjourned until to-day, having agreed to meet an hour before the ordinary meeting. Unfortunately, Mr. O'Donoghue did not get to turn up until the last minute. We found, from the beginning, the matter was too big for the small committee. After going through the matter as well as we could on the previous day and to-day, we found it was a matter that should be referred to a committee of the whole Council. We were supplied with figures of all the salaries of the officials, and we recommended to-day that all the councillors be supplied with these figures that were supplied to the committee, and that the Council would meet as a committee here and go into the matter. And having those figures at home, they could consider whether one salary should be raised and another reduced. Mr Elgee will be present at the committee meeting here and Mr Trizelle, and give the Council in committee any information they require. An amicable arrangement might be come to at the committee meeting. Every member should study the figures at home. If any member requires any legal information, he can write down between this and the time of the meeting to Mr Elgee who would be prepared to give a proper legal interpretation to any questions, and also at the meeting. We found from the beginning that the thing was too big, and that there was a lot of information required as to the revision of the salaries."

Mr O'Donoghue:- We went into the thing to-day and Saturday and found the more we went into it the bigger it got when we came to work it out in figures. Nevertheless, we had not the assistance of Mr Elgee until to-day, and we found it was an impossibility to come to a decision on it, so that we had to leave it, as Mr Byrne explained, to a committee of the whole Council."

Mr J. J. Byrne then moved:-

That a committee of the whole house be constituted to deal with the question of the salaries of the officials, and that each councillor be supplied with the necessary information as to these salaries".

The Chairman seconded this resolution, which was adopted
nem. con.

Rate collection

The state of the Rate collection to the 30th April, 1924, was submitted to the meeting, from which it appeared that a sum of £36,619:10:11. was outstanding on foot of the rate, March 1923-1924 and £2,048-19:5 in respect of previous year's rate.

On the motion of Mr Sean OByrne seconded by the Chairman, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the attention of the Rate collectors be called to the large amount of rates still outstanding, and that, as already intimated to them, the Council have decided that they must close their collections by the 15th May, 1924."

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Sean OByrne, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That, unless Mr. M Kelly, Rate collector for No 6 collection District, furnished Fidelity Guarantee Bond within a week, his collecting Books be taken up by the Secretary."

An application from Mr Charles McCarthy, Rate collector for No 5 collection District, for compensation during internment (British occupation) and which had been adjourned several times was considered.

On the motion of Mr Sean OByrne seconded by Mr Borish, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That Mr Charles McCarthy, Rate collector for No 5 collection District, be paid, at the same rate as was allowed to other collectors, compensation for the period during which he was interned by the British authorities, and that the sanction of the Ministry of Local Government to same be requested."

Bouthouses

Ennisceothy.

In connection with furniture for office of District Court Registrar, Mrs Moore, owner, wrote that she was satisfied to accept £8-10-0 for same, this being the amount recommended by the County Surveyor.

On the motion of Mr Sean OByrne seconded by Mr Cummins the following resolution was adopted:-

That the furniture in the office of the District Court Registrar, Ennisworthy, the property of Mrs Moore, and already dealt with in previous report of the County Surveyor, be purchased for the sum of £ 8-10-0.

Gorey.

With reference to adjourned application of John McLeod court messenger, for payment for clearing hall in which District Sessions are held and for preparing it for each sessions for the past twelve months, Mr Luby, District Justice, wrote, recommending that McLeod should receive £5 for the year.

The matter had been referred to Mr Sean OByrne. M.B.C. for his report.

Mr. OByrne stated he wished to obtain further information, and he would have the report ready for the next meeting of the County Council.

The application of Mr P J OByrne, District Court Registrar, for payment of £ 2:19:0 for coal for his office, was adjourned to next meeting.

County Courthouse Wexford.

A letter was read from Mrs. Mc Nelly, caretaker County Courthouse, Wexford, under date 23rd April 1924, that she had not received any payment from the County Council for some time although she had been carrying out her duties without interruption. Her work had been greatly increased owing to the partial destruction of the premises, and also on account of Quarter and Compensation Sessions being held. She hoped, as directed by the Ministry, the Council would now assume liability for the payment of her salary. If the living rooms in the Courthouse were repaired, she would be only too glad to return to them, and thus help to prevent some of the destruction which was at present being done by the public. Windows and doors had been smashed, and the Court right of way at rear had been interfered with. Things were going from bad to worse, thus entailing extra expense. It would certainly be advisable (she wrote) if the necessary repairs to allow of the occupation of the premises were carried out as soon as possible. For her salary, contingent expenses.

coal and gas, as formerly allowed to her, she claimed from the 31st March 1922, to the 31st March, 1924. £ 59-4-0, and for the rent of apartments from 24th November, 1922, to 31st March, 1924, 70 weeks at 12/6 per week £61-5-0.

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

That Mrs. M. Kelly, caretaker of the County Courthouse, Wexford, be paid, subject to the sanction of the Ministry of Local Government, a sum of £59. 4-0 in respect of her salary and emoluments from 31st March 1922, to 31st March, 1924. That her claim for £61. 5-0, rent of apartments taken by her when the courthouse was destroyed, be adjourned to next meeting, and that the opinion of our Solicitor, Mr Elgie, be obtained relative to same in the meantime.

New Ross workhouse and caretaker

In connection with the resolution of the County Council, adopted at the meeting of the 14th April, 1924, as to the proposed appointment of Mr Martin Kelly, ambulance driver, New Ross Hospital, as caretaker of the New Ross workhouse buildings, Mr Kelly wrote, under date 21st April, 1924, that if caretakership would mean residing on the premises, he would not, under any circumstances, accept the position.

The Council considered that the appointment of caretaker could be further held over, as the hospital was occupied, and the front portion of the buildings was still utilised as District Council Offices.

Sheep Dipping (Ireland) order

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

"That Mr James Murphy, Bocklawn, Tons, and Mr James Hayden, Borlican, Kulluin, be appointed Inspectors under Sheep Dipping order, the former to deal with the Rural Districts of Enniscorthy and Gorey, and the latter, the Rural Districts of New Ross and Wexford, salary to be £20 each per annum, to cover both Dipping Periods of 1924."

Collection of Rates act 1923.

Under date 15th April, 1924, (S.1745/1924 Miscellaneous) the Ministry of Local Government wrote, forwarding copy of collection of Rates Acts, 1923, and pointing out that the Council should immediately consider the propriety of issuing a publicity notice, warning all Ratepayers in arrears of Rates not to be paid forthwith.

The Chairman explained that the Ministry had also requested that a meeting of any Committee dealing with Rates should be summoned without delay. He had directed the Secretary to summon a meeting of the Finance and Roads Committee for the 24th April, 1924, for the purpose, but he and Mr Hayes were the only two that attended with the result that no business was done.

The Secretary explained the various provisions of the Act to the meeting.

Mr J O'Byrne moved:- That the collection of Rates Act, 1923, be, as regards this County, suspended for six months, and that the ordinary law dealing with prosecution of Ratepayers be allowed to take its course.

This motion was not seconded.

Mr Borish proposed and Mr Sean O'Byrne seconded the following.

"That, while disagreeing with the coercive methods proposed in the collections of Rates Acts, 1923, and which we think unnecessary; nevertheless, in order to safeguard the Ratepayers of the County, we direct our Secretary to issue the necessary notices (by advertisement and posters), calling the attention of Ratepayers to the drastic provisions of this Act. That the Rate collectors be instructed to call on all persons in their District who are in arrears and to serve on them final notices. That the collectors be summoned to meet the Secretary of the County Council to go into all arrears in arrears in detail.

That, as the close of the Rate collection 1923-1924 has been extended to the 15th May, 1924, we consider that the provisions of the collection of Rates acts, 1923, should not become operative until 1st June next.

As an amendment, Mr Hall proposed and Mr Cummins seconded the following.

That we decline to have anything to do with the collection of Rates act, 1923, in any shape or form.

After considerable discussion, this amendment was withdrawn, and the original resolution was put to the meeting and declared carried.

Road Limit of Expenditure.

Under date 15th April, 1924, (R/E/32), the Ministry of Local Government (Roads Department) forwarded copy of Order which had been made by the Minister, extending the limit of expenditure on Roads to the 31st March, 1925 as follows:-

Inniscorthy	£22,589
Gorey	£18,402
New Ross	£16,392
Wexford	£18,293

Sanction of loan for Machinery.

Under date 29th April, 1924, the following letter, (S.18982/24) relative to above, was read from the Ministry of Local Government:

With reference to your letter of the 24th instant, relative to the loan of £5,707 sanctioned to the County Council of Wexford for the purchase of Road machinery, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to acquaint you, for the information of the Council, that he approves of a period of ten years for the repayment of this loan with interest at the rate of 4% under Irish Banks' Discount Rate (varying), subject to a minimum of 4%.

A signed duplicate of this letter is annexed for the National Bank.

Defaulting Annuitants Land Purchase Acts

Under date 25th April, 1924, the Irish Land Commission forwarded a list of defaulting Land Purchase Annuitants in county Wexford against whom legal proceedings, have been taken for the recovery of instalments due to the 1st November and 1st December last in respect of advances under the Land Purchase Acts.

The amount involved was £ 8438: 8: 11.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr W O'Byrne seconded by Mr Sean O'Byrne:-

That, as we must conclude from the scrutiny of the list of defaulting annuitants under Land Purchase Acts of the county council supplied by the Irish Land Commission that there are numbers of persons whose names appear thereon and who are well able to pay, we will consider the publication of said list at our next meeting. Governments Grants, which are due to the county council for a considerable period, are being withheld through the action of Land Purchase Annuitants who are neglecting or refusing to pay the instalments of their loans.

Midwives (Ireland) Act, 1918.

Under date 14th April, 1924, letter was read from Central Midwives Board, 33, St Stephens Green, Dublin, that the proportion of expenses payable by the Wexford county council in respect of Section 13 of the above Act for year ending 31st December last was £13-6-7.

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

That pay order for £13-6-7, amount due by this council to the Central Midwives Board, 33, St Stephens Green, Dublin under Section 13 of the Midwives (Ireland) Act 1918, be paid at next meeting available Finance Meeting.

Proposals for works.

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

That the several proposals for works from P. W. O'Connell Committee and from the Rural District Councils

of the bounty be and are hereby agreed to, subject to the modifications and other orders noted thereon and initialed by the chairman.

Proposals for Payment

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

That the several proposals for payment submitted by R D councils and by Proposal Committee be and are hereby adopted by the Council, subject to the modifications and other orders noted thereon and initialed by the chairman.

Road 1674. In connection with the haulage of material to this road James Doyle, of Monmore, Kellena, appeared before the Council and contended that his tender for haulage at 5/9 per cubic yard should have been accepted whereas the tender of Richard Lawless, Kellena at 6/- per cubic yard had been taken. The County Surveyor stated he had received reports from Mr Incevor, Senior Assistant Surveyor, in which it was stated that, from the statements made by Lawless Mr Incevor considered he was entitled to the work though his tender was higher. Doyle objected to Lawless and Mr Incevor had both of the men into Gorey and took statements from them.

It was a rule of the Gorey Rural District Council that no man who held more than 20 acres of land should be employed at haulage. Doyle stated that Lawless had 32 acres of land and that he was dealing in cattle. As against this, Lawless stated that Doyle was a son of a Farmer who held 27 acres (Irish) Doyle contended that he had no claim whatever to the land as it was his father's. Lawless admitted to be the owner of 32 acres (statute) and to buying and selling cattle in a small way. Mr Incevor mentioned that he had entered into the contract with Lawless before he was aware of the real position. He put the facts before the County Surveyor for his decision. The County Surveyor stated he had cancelled tender of Lawless and invited fresh offers.

on the motion of Mr Sean O'Shane seconded by Mr Cummins the following resolution was adopted:-

That we approve of the action of the County Surveyor as regards tender for haulage for Road 1674, and that the matter be left in his hands.

Proposed Sale of House - County Home.

Under date 21st March, 1924, letter was read from Mrs. Bosgrave, regretting that she would be unable to make any further arrangements as to purchase of her house adjoining the County Home. She had lost a large amount of money lately and on account of this she could not proceed with the purchase. She wished to know if the County Council would allow her to have a small amount of land at the back of the premises for convenience as a haggard and would be prepared to pay a reasonable rent for same.

This matter was referred by the County Council to the County Board of Health. The latter appointed a Special Committee to deal with it and they recommended that the small plot required by Mrs. Bosgrave be set to her on terms that would enable the County Board of Health or the County Council to take up possession at any time on giving six months' notice, the County Board of Health to reserve a space of 9 feet behind the shed, Mrs. Bosgrave to erect a paling round the plot according to specification to be prepared by the Engineer, and a similar paling cutting off 9 feet behind the shed.

It was ^{also} suggested that the matter be referred to the Solicitor to the County Council to have the necessary agreement drawn up.

Under date 29th April, 1924, Mr. Elgee Solicitor to the Council, to whom the matter was referred, wrote that he considered it inadvisable to let the premises at the County Home to Mrs. Bosgrave because at present, if you let a person into occupation of a house it was extremely difficult to get up possession from them afterwards if the occasion should arise.

In the event of any proposal to sell any part of the County Home premises, the sale would be hindered while Mrs. Bosgrave remained in possession of any part of them, as a purchaser would object to having a tenant, and possibly would not be in a position to get rid of her.

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

That, in view of the opinion of Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, we regret we cannot agree to let to Mrs. Bosgrave any land attached to the County Home. That a copy of Mr. Elgee's opinion be forwarded to Mrs. Bosgrave to explain the action of the Council.

Under date 7th April, 1924, the Secretary to the County Board of Health, wrote that Mrs. Bosgrave was continually ^{in possession of the premises} ~~in possession of the premises~~ of her.

dwelling. She had given him a note stating that the dairy house was in a very bad state of repair, the roof was broken and leaking and it was impossible to keep anything in the house without its being destroyed.

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

That the County Surveyor be requested to report to next meeting of the Council as to the application of Mrs. O'Grave relative to the repairs to her premises adjacent to the County Home and which she holds from the Council as tenant.

Claim of Mr. Moran, late Master, Wexford Workhouse.

Under date 31st March, 1924, the following letter was read from Mr. Joseph Moran, late Master, Wexford Workhouse:-

On the termination of my employment as master of the Wexford Workhouse, I was awarded Superannuation Allowance by the Board of Guardians of £134-15-10 a year.

I was paid at the rate of £113-15-4 a year from 1st June, 1922, to 6th November, 1923, the date of my pension was determined by the Minister of Local Government.

Under the Local Government (Temporary Provisions) Act, Section 11 (4), I am entitled to be paid at the rate awarded me by the Guardians until the pension was determined, and, accordingly, I claim the sum of £29:17:0, being the amount due from 1st June, 1922, to the 6th November, 1923, at the rate of the difference between that at which I was paid (£113-15-4) and the amount awarded by the Guardians, viz., £134-16-10.

The Secretary stated that until the receipt of Mr. Moran's letter, just read, no one was aware that Mr. Moran was not satisfied with the amount which was awarded by the Ministry.

Under date 2nd April, 1924, the following letter was read from the Secretary County Board of Health:-

I have yours of the 1st instant in reference to the claim put forward by Joseph Moran, late Master, Wexford

workhouse, a copy of which you attached.

The Section of the Local Government (Temporary Provisions) Act 1923, to which he refers, (Section 11-4, or deems that, notwithstanding a determination by the Minister, disallowing the right of any such officer to such allowance, or altering the amount of such allowance, such officer shall be entitled to receive and shall be paid the allowance up to the date of such determination of the rate at which same was granted under the said section 8.

From this it would appear that Mr. Moran is entitled to the amount claimed by him in his letter. The reason why he was not paid at the rate fixed by the Guardians was that he did not raise any objection to the figure at which the Minister suggested his pension should be fixed, when this suggestion came down. The other Wexford officers raised this objection and were paid at the rate of the Guardians Allowance.

The figures given by Mr Moran are correct. The Guardians Allowance was £ 134-16-10. The rate at which he was paid was that originally suggested by the Minister, £ 113-15-4.

Mr Elge, Solicitor, writing under date 22nd April, 1924, stated that, having regard to the proviso at the end of Section 11 of the Local Government (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1923, Mr Moran was entitled to be paid the difference between the amount fixed by the Guardians and that allowed by the Minister on the 6th November, 1923. The amount, as stated by Mr Moran, would appear to be £ 29-17-0.

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

That, subject to the sanction of the Ministry of Local Government, Mr Moran, late Master, Wexford Workhouse, be paid £ 29-17-0, in the circumstances mentioned in his letter under date 31st March 1924. If the Council had been aware that Mr Moran was not satisfied with the Minister's award within the specified time, they would have set up a case of dispute as provided by the Act under which compensations were awarded.

Road Estimate - Wenford Rural District Council.

Under date 25th April, 1924, the following resolution was made from the Wenford Rural District Council:-

That in view of the meeting of the county council, which it is proposed to hold, to further consider the matter of the wages of Road workers the matter of adopting an amended estimate be adjourned, and that a Special Meeting of the Council be held to further consider the matter, when the Council has definite information as to the result of this proposed meeting; no action taken.

Inniscorthy Rural District Council - Quarry work to be done by "Piece"

The following resolution was received from Inniscorthy Rural District Council:-

That we request the county council to have all work in quarries done by piece work as far as possible.

The County Surveyor mentioned that piece work should be confined to hours. It would not be fair to allow men to work 12 or 14 hours per day, and, in this way, keep other men out of employment.

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

That the wishes of the Inniscorthy Rural District Council as regards work in quarries being carried out on the piece system be approved. That the hours for same be fixed by the County Surveyor on the same basis as for workers by the day.

Road 169 E

The following resolution was received from Inniscorthy Rural District Council:-

That we recommend the county council to proceed against contractor for Road No 169 E, as we do not believe in having
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responsible for any failure on the part of the contractor to carry out the work.

on the motion of the chairman seconded by Mr Hall the following resolution was adopted:-

"That contractor for Road 1095 Peter Mythen, Oulart lower Oulart, be prosecuted for his neglect in carrying out his Road contract."

Proposed Surrender of Road Contract.

Under date 3rd May, 1924, Patrick Byrne, Blonnie, Wicklow Gap, Tinahilly, wrote, asking the County Council to accept surrender of his contract for Road 558. He would not be able to provide the existing tonnage, 120 cubic yards. If the County Council would be satisfied to accept half the tonnage from Annagh Gap Quarry at 5/6 per cubic yard, the same as other contractors in the district, he would be satisfied to keep on the contract, as he was part owner of the quarry.

On the motion of the chairman, second by Mr Hall, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the matter be left in the hands of the County Surveyor."

Forth Commons Quarry

Under date 5th May, 1924, letter was read from Wenford Rural District Council, relative to employment of machinery at above quarry.

"It was decided to refer same to next meeting of the Finance and Roads Committee."

Pigs Elbow.

Under date 5th May 1924, the Clerk, Wenford Rural District Council, wrote that the Committee, appointed by his Council to interview the owner of the land, required for the widening or removal of the corners at the Pigs Elbow near Kilbride. The Committee interviewed the

present owner, and he would not agree, under any circumstances to give the necessary land for less than £20. The Wexford Rural District Council recommended the County Council to pay this sum as compensation so that the work could proceed.

The County Surveyor mentioned that he would be able to provide for the £20 compensation, and still keep the proposal within the authorized sum.

Wages of Machinery Employees

The County Surveyor stated that, when the County Council were considering the wages of workers for roads and quays, they did not fix any wage for men employed with the machinery, and he would be glad if they would fix these wages now.

It was decided that the County Surveyor furnish to each member of the County Council particulars of the wages proposed to be paid to machinery employees so that terms and conditions of the employment of this class of workers may be fixed at next meeting of the County Council.

It was also decided that the wages of section gangers and overseer at Tara Hill be also referred to next meeting.

Ballyconnick Quarry

The County Surveyor mentioned that there was a dispute as to work at Ballyconnick Quarry and he found it very difficult to find out exactly the facts in connection with the matter.

It was decided to refer same to next meeting of the Finance and Roads Committee, who would interview the parties concerned should they so desire.

Damaged Bridges

The following letter, received by the County Surveyor, from the Ministry of Local Government (Roads Department), under date 16th April 1924. (L/15/32), relative to repair of Damaged Bridges, was read:-

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 4th instant relative to the repair, etc., of damaged bridges in County Wexford; and I am to state that, as soon as the liability in respect of future damage to bridges is determined, the Minister hopes to be in a position to make grants from the Road Fund for the repair, etc., of damaged bridges in accordance with the terms of Section 14(6) of the 'Damage to Property (Compensation) Act 1923'.

It is not possible to state at present to what extent the cost of repairing damaged bridges will be recouped, but the intention is to recoup as much as practicable, having regard to the contributions paid to the Leagues under Section 14 of the Act.

Motor Car of County Surveyor.

Under date 28th April, 1924, the County Surveyor wrote that he had taken out a policy of Insurance on his motor car under the special terms allowed to County Council Officials with Messrs Boyer & Co., Insurance Brokers, Dublin; the policy was to be made out in the name of the County Council, and he asked for the sanction of the Council to same. It was similar to the policies issued to the Assistant Surveyors for their cars, but he would pay all the premiums himself.

The County Surveyor stated that this application could be withdrawn, as he found he would have to take out a more comprehensive policy in his own name.

Appointment of Analyst.

Under date 28th April, 1924, the following letter, no P.H. 18004/24, Wexford County, relative to the appointment of analyst, was read from the Ministry of Local Government:-

In reply to your letter of the 18th instant, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to inform you that, as a temporary arrangement, he has approved of the appointment of Miss Phyllis Ryan, M.Sc., as Public Analyst for County Wexford.

I am to explain that the Council's power

of appointment of a Public Analyst arises under section 10 of the Sale of Food & Drugs Act, 1875, and extends to the purposes of that and subsequent amending legislation. A similar power is vested to the Council of a Borough, e.g. Wexford, but may be exercised (see section 11) by arrangement with the County Analyst. It is open to other Sanitary Authorities in the County to avail themselves of the services of the County Analyst for the examination of samples of food or drugs collected by authorised officers acting under their directions (see section 13).

The Minister is not aware of any further power of appointment of an Analyst, but the County Board of Health, as successors of the Boards of Guardians and subject to the conditions governing recruitment, are authorised to enter into an agreement with the County or other Analyst, recognised by the Minister, for the analysis of medicines. Again, a Sanitary Authority for the examination of water samples may have occasion, at their discretion, to employ an Analyst.

Report of Analyst.

Report of Analyst for the quarter, ended 31st March, 1924, was read. From this it appeared that the following articles had been examined:-

41 samples of Drugs; 36 samples of food; 15 samples of butter for the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction; 6 samples of water submitted by Rural District Councils;

Poisons and Pharmacy Act.

On the motion of Mr Sean O'Byrne seconded by Mr Cummins, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That licence under Poisons and Pharmacy Act be issued to William Boyce Jackson, Gorey, provided he stock and sell Irish made Dip."

Tourist Organization Society of Ireland.

Under date 11th April, 1924, a letter was read from above, asking that a rate be struck for the development of watering places, etc., to attract to Ireland tourist traffic.

No. order.

Political Prisoners

The following resolution from Dublin Corporation was adopted on the motion of Mr Summins, seconded by Mr. O'Donoghue:-

"That this Council demands that all political prisoners, which sentenced or interned, be at once released."

Purchase of Chairs.

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

That the 18 chairs, offered by the Wexford Rural District Council, be purchased by the County Council at 14/- per chair for use in County Council Chambers.

Edmond O'Connell
19. 6. 1924