

Quarterly Meeting held November 5th 1901

Present: Mr Thomas H. G. Emond, Bart M.P. presiding and subsequently Mr E. Hore.

Other Councillors present:- Messrs E. Hore, James E. Mayler, M. Browne, J. Donohoe, J. Bolger, J. Cummins, W. Whitty, D. Power, J. Linnott, J. A. Doyle, C. H. Peacocke, L. Murphy, J. F. Walsh, M. Hickey, J. Good, J. Bolger, Capt. Walker, P. Ryan & D. Dempsey.

Capt Pigott, Secretary, Mr R. W. Elgee, Solicitor, and Mr Webster, County Surveyor were in attendance.

The Minutes of last Meeting were read & signed.

A letter of apology for non-attendance was read from Capt. Barrett-Hamilton, who was absent from the Meeting owing to illness.

Mr. McGrath - Assurance Corporation

Under date 9th October 1901, the Local Government Board (letter No. 57312: 1901 Weaford County) enclosed a paragraph which appeared in the "Irish Daily Independent" in reference to the case of absconding collector Mr. McGrath, and stated that having regard to the fact that at the instance of the County Council, and as the Board understood, on the request of the Assurance Corporation, they instructed one of their Auditors to attend specially at Weaford for the purpose of examining the accounts of the defaulting collector and to give a certificate of the amount of the defalcations, the Board request that they may be furnished with a statement by the County Council's Solicitor of the present position of affairs between the Council and the Assurance Corporation.

Under date 17th October 1901, the following letter was read from the Secretary of the Assurance Corporation:-

"With reference to the claim which has been made upon this Corporation by the Weaford County Council, as a result of our Representatives investigations, we find that a sum of £298. 8. 8 was paid to Mr. McGrath by the Rate Payers for

which they had receipts. This amount you are clearly entitled to recover, and I therefore enclose you a London cheque in payment thereof. I have also to inform you that we are willing to pay any other sums that can be proved to have been paid to McGrath, but we contend that until it is known that McGrath actually received other sums, no just claim can be made upon us in respect of his default."

The following letter was also read from the Assurance Corporation under date 28th October 1901:-

"Notwithstanding the fact that no evidence has been produced showing that McGrath has ever received the amount you are claiming from us, my directors have decided rather than enter into what would in all probability be a long and expensive litigation to admit the claim of the Wexford County Council upon the corporation and I send you herewith cheque for £711.19.4 in full satisfaction and discharge of all claims which your Council have on the corporation in respect of the Fidelity Bond issued in the name of Michael McGrath."

At the meeting of the Finance Committee Mr Elgee explained that he had written to the Insurance Co. in reply to a letter of theirs in which they stated that they would pay the costs. They also asked that they should be allowed the amount of irrecoverable rates and for the poundage on the collection. He (Mr Elgee) had written that these matters would be looked to after a settlement of the case.

The Finance Committee on the motion of the Chairman approved of the action of Mr Elgee.

The Chairman proposed that the recommendation of the Finance Committee be approved.

Passed

County Bridges

In connection with the County Bridges, the following letter (No 55, 241 1901 Wexford County) under date 8th October 1901, was read from the Local Government Board :-

"The Local Government Board for Ireland direct me to refer to the recent correspondence which has taken place with regard to the condition and maintenance of the Deeps, Ferrycarrig and Wexford Bridges, in the County of Wexford, and I am to inform the County Council that the Board have now obtained a report from their Engineering Inspector, Mr Price, upon the condition of these bridges

Deeps Bridge.

With respect to the Deeps Bridge, which was constructed about 60 years ago, Mr Price states that he found the report of Mr J. H. Ryan C.E. of 25th March last, fairly described the then condition of this bridge except as regards the draw-bridge which had no old or defective timbers in it. At the time of Mr Ryan's first inspection the bridge was undergoing repairs, and these repairs have been continued so that the small defects referred to by him have been remedied under the maintenance contract. The crack in the western masonry abutment to which Mr Ryan called attention is an old one. A crack showed itself soon after the completion of the bridge, and although subsequently portion of the abutment was taken down and rebuilt, the crack soon re-appeared.

The Inspector found portions of the eastern approach fences loose, and on questioning the contractor he replied that he understood that the Council desired that he should do nothing until after the Inspector from the Local Government Board had seen it.

The Inspector adds that he does not consider that there is any evidence of neglect on the part of the Surveyor with regard to this bridge.

Ferrycarrig Bridge.

The report of Mr Ryan, dated 7th March 1901, on the Ferrycarrig Bridge is generally accurate

and agrees with the substance of the report made by the County Surveyor, dated 5th Novr. 1900. Mr Ryan has ~~nowhere~~ expressed the opinion that the structure is in a dangerous condition or unfit for traffic, but he has rather advised the Council as to putting the bridge into a thoroughly good condition, providing iron handrail, &c. It appears that the County Council have, on their own responsibility, ordered all work of maintenance to be discontinued, and that the bridge has therefore remained for the past three and a half months in a loose unfinished state, during which period the public have been using the bridge and a heavy timber and coal traffic is being worked over it. At the time of Mr Price's inspection two carts of coal weighing, with horses, about three and a half tons were on the bridge together, and a herd of fat oxen were driven across - six of the animals, weighing about three tons, being at one time on the same span (the drawbridge span.) Having witnessed such a very severe test Mr Price is satisfied that, if the contractors had been permitted to proceed with their contract for maintenance and repair, the bridge would now be in fair order, though from its age the whole structure is, of course, rapidly decaying. A sum of £1300 was expended on general renewals about 25 years ago, but the bridge is more than 100 years old, and stands in 60 feet of water, and the flooring requires frequent inspection and renewal. The cost of maintenance should, therefore, be expected to increase, though by the returns it appears that there has been a decrease in the sum actually expended. Under the circumstances, the Council would do well to take into consideration the advisability of adopting the suggestion of Mr Ryan to

replace the existing structure by a new iron bridge.

The County Surveyor cannot fairly be held responsible for the present condition of this very old bridge, but at the same time the Board are disposed to consider that he has shown too much leniency towards the contractors, as the specification on which the contract for five years has been let is such that if the work were executed in strict accordance therewith it would probably entail an expenditure of £1000 in the five years, whereas the actual contract rate for that period is now less than £400. The contracts for both bridges require the contractors to keep the machinery of the draw-spans oiled, and to open the bridges whenever required, but as they are never required to be opened except for inspection it is not surprising to find the machinery unoled. However as the contractors were virtually suspended for three and a half months prior to Mr Price's inspection, they, of course, had not oiled the machinery.

Wexford Bridge.

The Inspector reports that Wexford Bridge shows evidence of having been carefully looked after. Repairs to the machinery and timber work are executed according as the surveyor reports that such are necessary but it appears that recently the Council have not authorized all the repairs recommended.

Mr Ryan's report upon this bridge was not borne out by the inspection of Mr Price, and Mr Ryan admitted that many of the defects pointed out were only cases of sap-wood. The Inspector observes, however, that most of the timber at present in the market is not reliable, and there is much difficulty in obtaining timber free from sap-wood.

The Local Government Board have most carefully considered the above report of their Inspector, as well as the resolutions of the County Council in the matter, together with the explanations

submitted by the County Surveyor and the report of Mr Ryan C.E.; and I am to state that the facts of the case do not in the opinion of the Board, warrant them in assenting to the proposed dismissal of Mr Webster from the position of County Surveyor."

In connection with the foregoing, Mr J.H. Ryan, M. Inst C.E. 22 Nassau St. Dublin, wrote under date 16th October 1901:-

"I do not see that any observations of mine could in any way bear upon the Secretary's (Local Government Board) rendering of Mr Price's report, nor do I see that I can add anything to my reports which I had the honour of submitting to your Board."

The following recommendation was made by the Finance Committee:-

It was decided to recommend the Council to refer this letter to the Joint Bridges Committee and on their drawing up a reply that a special meeting of the Council be summoned to consider it.

On the motion of the Chairman the recommendation of the Finance Committee was confirmed.

Collector Barden's Bond

The Local Government Board wrote under date 22nd October relative to the Bond of Mr John Barden, that they considered it would be most desirable that the effect and terms should be the same as those of other collectors in the County.

The Secretary said that Mr Barden had provided another form of Bond which had been forwarded the Local Government Board for their approval.

Irrecoverable Rates

With reference to the amounts claimed by the Rate Collectors for Irrecoverable Rates, the Local Government Board under date 25th October 1901, letter No 60678.1901 Wexford County asked for an explanation in a card in

in collector Rossiter's district, in which he claimed to be allowed on a rifle range on the South Slob. In connection with item 521 on Mr Alexander Barron's list, the Local Government Board wrote that if the Commissioner of valuation had returned the item in question as liable to be rated, the County Council appear to be bound to rate it and recover the amount assessed.

The Secretary said that Collector Rossiter had furnished an explanation with reference to the case of the rifle range which had been forwarded the Local Government Board. As the case in Mr Alexander Barron's district was rated in the valuation books it had been struck out of his account.

Letter no. 62145: 1901 under date 4th November 1901 from the Local Government Board assenting to collector Rossiter being allowed for the rifle range was read.

The above letters were marked "Read."

Estimate of Rate.

Under date 11th October 1901 the Local Government Board letter no. 57315: 1901 wrote acknowledging receipt of the estimate of poor rate for the half year ending March 31st 1902.

Marked "Read".

Salaries of Asst. & Co. Surveyors.

With reference to the resolution of the County Council of the 7th October requesting the Local Government Board to reduce the salaries of the County and Assistant Surveyors, the Local Government Board under date 16th October 1901 (letter no. 57312: 1901 Wexford County) called attention to Article 23 of the Schedule to the Local Government Board (Ireland) Provisional Order Confirmation (No. 3.) Act 1901 from which the County Council would observe that its provisions do not come into operation until the 1st April 1902.

The Finance Committee had made the following recommendation on the above letter:-

"We recommend the Council to inform the Local Government Board that the Wexford

County Council are quite aware that the Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Order, Confirmation (No 3) Act 1901 did not come into force ^{until} till the first April 1902 but the resolution of the Council referred to in the letter of the Local Government Board was adopted in order that the Local Government Board would take notice of the matter and proceed with the necessary calculations immediately so that the reduction in the salaries of the County & Assistant Surveyors may come into force on the 1st of April next, and that the Local Government Board need not expect any further communication from this Council on the subject."

On the motion of Mr Hore, seconded by Mr Peacocke, the recommendation of the Finance Committee was confirmed *rem. con. Wexford Co. Co. and Urban Dist. - Conference.*

The following report of the conference which was held in the County Council Chamber Courthouse, Wexford, on October 15th 1901 between the Representatives of the Wexford County Council and the Wexford Urban District, and which was presented on behalf of the representatives of the Wexford County Council was read:-

"Present - Messrs E. Hore & B. James Codd, C. H. Peacocke and Capt. Walker on behalf of the County Council. The Mayor (Mr B. Hughes) James Hore, John Lyne and Howard Rowe on behalf of the Wexford Urban District Council.

The officials in attendance were - Messrs R. W. Elger, Solicitor to the County Council, and M. J. O'Connor, Solicitor to the Wexford Urban District Council, Capt. Kegan and Mr. Frizell Secretary and Assistant Secretary County Council, and W. A. Broome, Town Clerk.

The conference was held at the suggestion of the Local Government Board - Letter No 53423: 1901 Wexford Urban District - under date 28th

September 1901 "with a view to having the question of the financial relations between the two authorities settled by agreement the terms of which agreement to be subsequently embodied in a Provisional Order."

The items claimed in the letter of Mr O'Connor, were taken up seriatim.

(1) Food & Drugs Acts.

The Conference unanimously agreed that this item should be allowed, although it was but fair to state that it was paid by the Wexford Urban District under the Grand Jury. The town of Wexford pays the expenses of the Inspector under the Food & Drugs Acts, and in this respect is in a different position to the other Urban Districts of the county.

(2) Weights and Measures Acts.

Wexford Urban District being a borough is obliged to supply a set of local sub-standards in compliance with the regulations of the Board of Trade, and pay for the expenses of carrying the Weights & Measures Acts into effect. The Conference were of opinion that it was unreasonable under these circumstances to charge the Urban District of Wexford any proportion of the expenses incurred by the County Council in putting the Acts in question into operation.

(3) Collectors Poundage

By the order of the Local Government Board dated November 1900, Urban Districts in the future will not contribute to collectors poundage fees.

(4) County Surveyor.

The delegates from the Wexford Urban District withdrew their claim under this head in consequence of a suggested agreement as to contribution to the Urban District by the County Council under the "Main Roads Scheme" and which is referred to in claim 9.

(5) Permanent Clerical Staff

This expense will not be charged to the

town of Wexford in future. Vide Local Government Board Order November 1900.

(6) Expenses of Poor Rate Books. Preparing same. The same observation applies to this as to No. 5 claim.

(7) County Analyst.

Under the Grand Jury system the Wexford Urban District paid no salary to the analyst, and under the Local Government (Ireland) Act 1898, they were compelled to do so. The conference considered that the Urban District should not be debited with any share of the expenses incurred by the County Council in paying Sir Charles Cameron. It will be a matter for the County Council to consider what steps they will take in reference to the salary paid the Analyst. in consequence ~~xxx~~ of this addition of £10 to his salary, without any consequent increase of duties, so far as the conference are aware.

(8) Checking Poor Rate Books.

Withdrawn by the representatives of the Urban Council, as it was considered by the representatives of the Co. Council this item could have been included in the salary of the County Secretary towards payment of which the Urban District are not exempt.

(9) Maintenance of roads and bridges.

The conference suggests that under the "Main Roads Scheme" a sum of £172 should be allotted to the Wexford Urban District and that the latter on these terms should under section 27(6) of the Local Government (Ireland) Act 1898 entirely maintain the main roads in their district. The sum in question has been arrived at by taking £2785 "4"4 expenditure under the main roads scheme from 1st July 1900 to March 31st 1901. Adding to this the sum of £1000 estimated expenditure for the quarter ending June 1901, this would leave the total expenditure on the main roads for a full year,

£3785. Of this amount, the Wexford Urban District would contribute the one-twenty-second part which in round numbers would be £172.

With reference to the question of bridges &c the delegates of the Wexford Urban District withdrew their claim as expenses under this head are County-at-large charges.

(10) Audit Fee.

By the Local Government Board Order of Novr. 1900, the Urban District will not in future be charged with any expense under this head.

(11) Inspector of Explosives.

As the Wexford Urban District appointed its own Inspector under the Explosives Act of 1875, and paid for the expenses of the Act, the Conference were of opinion that the Wexford Urban District should not contribute to the superannuation of the late explosive officers or any expenses incurred in connection with this Act in the future.

(12) Compensation to Mr. Enslaw.

This item was included in the estimate of the Co. Council but was not charged, and the Urban Districts of the County are exempt from it.

The following are the items from which the Urban Districts are exempt under the Order of the Local Government Board dated November 1900.

"The salaries pensions and expenses of Surveyors.

"Clerks and Officers in the Co. Surveyor's Office other than the County Surveyor, whether permanent or temporary.

"Clerks and Officers in the Offices of the Secretary of the County Council, other than the Secretary, whether permanent or temporary.

"Expenditure incurred in the printing of Books and forms other than the printing provided for by Section 96 (2) and (3) of the Local Government Ireland Act 1898.

"Publication of Notices and documents not directly affecting the Urban District.

"Improvement and repair to premises or portions of premises used solely as offices of the County Council.

"Remuneration and expenses of collectors of Poor Rate.

"Fees for audit of the accounts of the Co. Council.

It will be observed from the foregoing that in addition to these matters specified in the Local Government Board Order of November 1900, the conference recommends that in future the Wexford Urban District should not be responsible for any share of the expenditure under

The Food & Drugs Acts.

The Weights & Measures Acts.

County Analyst.

Pensions & Expenses under the Explosives Acts.

Refunds

In connection with the matter of refunds the conference considered that refunds should be made under the following heads of the amounts contributed:

(1) Food & Drugs.

To the Wexford Urban District from the 1st April 1899 to the date when an agreement between the Co. Council and the Wexford Urban District as to the readjustment of the financial relations shall come into force. Under the Food & Drugs Acts, the amount of fines in which the Urban District participated, is to be deducted in calculating the amount of the refund, and for the future the Wexford Urban District shall not be given any share of the fines as receipts.

(2) Weights and Measures.

Refund to the Wexford Urban District of their proportion of the amount paid under this head from the 1st April 1899 to the date when

any agreement between the Wexford County Council and the Wexford Urban District shall come into force.

(3) Collectors Poundage

To the Wexford Urban District. In this case the refund is to be from the 30th September 1900.

(4) County Surveyor

Refund to the Wexford Co. Council of the share of the Wexford Urban District to the salary of the County Surveyor from the 1st April 1899 to the 30th September 1900, the amount to be refunded to include the proportionate share of Wexford Urban District to the £100 granted to the Co. Surveyor for bringing the Local Government (Ireland) Act 1898, into operation.

(5) Permanent Clerical Staff

Refund to the Wexford Urban District on payments under this head from the 1st April 1899 to the 30th September 1900.

(6) Expenses of Poor Rate Books - Preparing same.

Refund to the Wexford Urban District for same period as No 5.

(7) County Analyst

Refund to the Wexford Urban District from the date of the commencement of the salary of their analyst to the date when an agreement as to exempting the Urban District under this head shall be entered into.

(9) Maintenance of Roads and Bridges.

Refund to the Wexford Urban District from the 1st June 1900 to such date as an agreement shall be entered into between the two bodies.

(10) Audit Fee.

Refund to the Wexford Urban District from the 1st April 1899 to Sept. 1900.

(11) Inspector of Explosives.

Refund to Wexford Urban District from 1st April 1899 to such date as an agreement will be entered into between the Wexford County Council and the Wexford Urban District as to exempting the Wexford Urban District from this charge.

(13) Printing

Refund to Wexford Urban District in respect of printing of Books and forms other than printing

under section 96 (2) and (3) of the Local Government (Ireland) Act 1898, from the 1st April 1899 to the 30th September 1900.

(14) Publication of Notices.

Refund to Wexford Urban District of amount for advertising not affecting the Wexford Urban District from the 1st April 1899 to September 30th 1900.

(15) Legal advice and law costs.

Refund to the Wexford Urban District under this head for expenses of matters not directly affecting the Urban District from the 1st April 1899 to the 30th September 1900.

In connection with the last paragraph of the letter of Messrs M. J. O'Connor & Co., Solicitors to the Wexford Urban District which ran as follows:-

"The Corporation feel bound to complain that no account has been furnished to them by the Co. Council showing how the money paid by the Corporation to them has been expended."

The Representatives of the Co. Council on the conference wish to state the accounts were made out by the staff of the Co. Council according to the orders of the Local Government Board, and point out that the account as provided by these Orders was furnished to the Wexford Urban District. The Representatives of the Wexford Urban District however consider that this account is not sufficient. Under date 28th August a letter was written from the County Council Offices to the Town Clerk to the effect that either he or his Assistant would be allowed to take any extracts from the accounts of the County Council for the information of the Urban District, but this offer was not availed of."

Signed

G. H. Peacocke, James Boad,

Edmund Hore, Thomas J. Walker

The following report made to the Wexford Urban District Council by Mr D. J. O'Connor, Solicitor, on the Conference was also read:-

"As you are aware his worship, the Mayor, Mr Gore, Mr Lyne, Mr Rowe, yourself and our Mr D. J. O'Connor attended today and met Mr E. Gore J.P. via Chairman Capt. Walker D.L. Mr B. H. Peacocke, J.P. Mr James Gadd J.P. Mr N. W. Elgee Solicitor to County Council, Capt. Pigott Sec. and Mr Inzelle, Assistant Sec. in reference to the financial relations question between the borough and county. The gentlemen who represented the Co. Council were extremely courteous and reasonable. The following is a short report of the result of the conference.

(1) Food and Drugs Acts.

In future the town is not to be required to contribute towards the costs of carrying out these Acts into execution in other districts of the County.

(2) Weights and Measures Acts.

The same remark applies to these.

(3) Collectors Poundage.

Poundage for the County Collectors is henceforth to be charged on the County.

(4) County Surveyor.

Having regard to the Order of the Local Government Board and also having regard to the arrangements which we made in reference to the main roads question, we unanimously agreed to withdraw our claim herein. We all agreed that there is no chance of our being freed from our contribution towards the Co. Surveyors salary.

(5) Clerical Staff County Secretaries Office.

In future this is to be paid by the County.

(6) Expenses of Poor Rate Books Preparing same.

The Borough is also to be freed from this expense as far as the County books are concerned.

(7) County Analyst.

As the town pays £10 per annum to Mr Charles Cameron as Borough Analyst in future the County will pay their £30 for the Co. Analyst's work.

(8) Checking Poor Rate Books.

The County Council could not see their way to free us from this item. The reason they gave was that the Co. Secretary is bound to do this work. If the expense of doing this work had been computed in his salary, the Borough would have been bound to contribute. Accordingly we did not press this claim which was, under the circumstances, untenable.

(9) Maintenance of Roads & Bridges

The declaration for main roads lasts from June 1900 to 1905. Mr. Hazelle made out from the figures in the County Council Ledger that the Borough had been contributing since the declaration was made a sum of £172 per year for main roads. After a very lengthened discussion in which all the members of the Conference took part, it was unanimously agreed that the town should not have to pay this sum having regard to the fact that it keeps up its own roads out of its own rates. Accordingly it was agreed that this sum should be refunded to the Borough every year by the County Council as long as the present main roads declaration exists. If, in the year 1905, any change is made in that declaration, there will also be a similar change in reference to the £172. We think this is a very fair and proper arrangement. The County Council would not free the Borough from contribution towards the Bridges, which are amongst the County at large charges.

(10) Audit Fee.

As the Borough pays for the auditing of its own accounts the Co. Council are hence forth going to pay altogether for the auditing of their accounts.

(11) Inspector of Explosives.

The cost of enforcing the Explosives Act

in the loan is borne by the town and always was. Under these circumstances the Co. Council will hereafter pay the costs of enforcing this Act in the County, outside the borough.

(12) Compensation to Mr. Drislawn

This has not been charged to the Borough.

The other items mentioned in the Local Government Order of 1900, referred to in our letter of the 17th September 1901 to the Local Government Board are all right, and have been allowed to us.

The result of this is that practically everything we asked was conceded, because we asked for nothing that we had not reason for.

The members of the Conference, who represented the Corporation, made a very good case. The result of this is a saving to the town of about £180 a year which will reduce the taxation by 3^d in the £. It was also arranged that there should be a refund to the borough by the Co. Council of what we have overpaid in regard to the above items and also as the borough has to pay its proportionate share of the salary of the Co. Surveyor and as no portion of his salary was charged against the Corporation for the first three half years after the appointed day, that, in like manner the Corporation should give a refund to the Co. Council for its proportion towards the Co. Surveyor's salary for these three half years, and the accounts in the matter of the refund were left to the officials of the two authorities.

Of course all this is to go before the Co. Council for approval and in the same way it has to go before the Corporation for sanction. We have no doubt but that an agreement will be sanctioned by both bodies. We think that at the next meeting of the Corporation there should be a resolution passed approving of what has been done, and authorising us to write to the Local Government

Board to know if an agreement would be sufficient under the circumstances so as not to put the borough to the expense of obtaining a Provisional Order.

We await the Council's directions in the matter."

Agreement.

In connection with the conference the Local Government Board letter No 59106.1901 Wexford County and Wexford Urban District under date 22nd October 1901 forwarded copy of a letter which they had addressed to Messrs O'Connor & Co. and in which they stated that it would be desirable that the Councils concerned should enter into a formal agreement embodying all the matters dealt with. When a certified copy of this agreement was forwarded to the Local Government Board, they would be in a position to determine whether a Provisional Order would be necessary or not.

At the meeting of the Finance Committee Mr Elgee read the draft agreement which it was proposed to be entered into between the Co. Council and the Wexford Urban District Council and which at that meeting had been approved of on the motion of the Chairman.

The recommendation of the Finance Committee was unanimously approved.

Kilmore Pier

With reference to the inspection of Kilmore Pier by an officer of the Department of Agriculture and the request of the Proposals Committee that the Secretary should be furnished with a copy of his report, the Secretary to the Department of Agriculture under date 24 October 1901 letter No. 13572.1901 wrote that inter-Departmental reports such as the one in question could not be treated as public documents and issued as such.

by the Department. In the present instance however the Secretary was permitted to say that the report made after inspection of Kilmore Pier confirmed the representations made by the Deputation from the Co. Council which waited on the Vice President on the 27th August last.

The Chairman proposed that the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland be asked for their views as to the manner in which they considered the position of affairs at Kilmore Pier would be best dealt with.

Sheep Scab (I) Order 1900.

A Circular was received from the Department of Agriculture pointing out that instances had been brought under their notice in which the Veterinary Inspector who seized affected sheep at markets merely gave directions to have them removed from the fair or market and returned to the place from which they came—often a considerable distance away—and took no further steps to see whether the movement was carried out under the proper conditions. The Department were of opinion that the benefits resulting from the inspection of sheep at fairs and markets would be greatly enhanced if action were taken on the lines of the Sheep Scab (Ireland) Order of 1900 so as to have the sheep moved to some convenient and isolated place where the prescribed requirements as to isolation & treatment can be properly complied with, and suggested that the Local Authorities should instruct the Veterinary Inspectors for the various districts of the County to give due effect in future to the provisions contained in Article 13 of the Sheep Scab Order in regard to any disease that may come to their knowledge at fairs or markets which they attend.

On the motion of the Chairman, it was decided that this Circular should be referred to the Committee for the Administration of the Diseases of Animals Acts.

Postal Arrangements Ramsgrange.

Under date 25th October 1901 a letter was received from the General Post Office stating that the question of affording additional postal facilities in the Ramsgrange district and of transferring that district from the Waterford to the Wexford postal area had been further considered but it is regretted that it is not practicable to depart from the decisions communicated to the Council in previous correspondence.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Cummins, it was decided to request the Postmaster General to inform the County Council what were the difficulties in connection with the transfer of the Ramsgrange District from the Waterford to the Wexford postal area.

Mr. Webster's Salary

Under date 9th October 1901, Messrs O'Connor & Co Solicitors for Mr Webster, Co. Surveyor, wrote that having regard to the remarks which the Chairman (Sir Thomas Esmond) was good enough to make, and also to the fact that these had been embodied on the minutes, they had advised Mr Webster to accept the cheque for his salary.

Marked "Read"

Co. Analyst's Salary

With reference to the question of the salary paid Sir Charles Cameron as County Analyst and queries addressed to the Clerk of the Guardians, Mr. Kehoe, Clerk to Wexford Guardians, wrote that Sir Charles Cameron was paid £10 per annum under the Local Government (Ireland) Act. His duties are to analyse drugs for the six dispensary districts and workhouse in the Union, one sample for each dispensary each quarter. For the Wexford Rural District Sir Charles Cameron analyses any samples of water sent him and of course

the same would apply to many other things under the Food & Drugs Act if required, but of course this was paid for by the County Council. No salary has been theretofore paid for analyses by the Wexford Guardians although Mr Kehel was informed the services of the Analyst had been requisitioned in many matters.

Mr Breighton, Clerk Gorey Union, wrote that Sir Charles Cameron had been appointed Analyst for the purposes of analysing medicines supplied to the dispensaries and the workhouse. His salary was £8 a year and a fee of 2/6 for every analysis of drugs only in excess of twenty four.

Mr Owen Connolly, Clerk Enniscorthy Union, wrote:-

"Sir Charles Cameron is paid £10 a year for analysing all medicines tea milk or any drug or food sent from the Union."

Mr Pope, Clerk New Ross Union wrote that neither the District Council nor the Board of Guardians paid Sir Charles Cameron any salary though they occasionally avail of his services as they understand he is acting for the entire County as Analyst. The Rural District Council and Guardians resolved to appoint an independent Analyst and then pay him £10 a year while both the Council and the Guardians have the advantage of his services as often as necessary for the salary."

The Finance Committee recommended that this matter be postponed to next meeting in order that Sir Charles Cameron be requested to furnish the Council with a copy of his letter of agreement with the Grand Jury of 1896.

Confirmed.

Proposed by the Chairman and adopted:-

"That the several proposals sent up by the Proposals Committee of the Co. Council as regards expenditure chargeable to the County at large be approved subject to the modifications and other orders noted thereon and initialed by the Chairman"

Proposals for Payments etc.

Proposed by the Chairman:-

"That the several Proposals sent up by the Rural District Councils of the County as regards expenditure chargeable to the Rural Districts and to the County at large as regards main roads and set out in Schedules A, B, C + D. be approved, subject to the modifications and other orders noted thereon and initialed by the Chairman."

Passed.

Moved by the Chairman and adopted:-

"That the proposals for new works sent up by the Proposals Committee be confirmed."

Proposed by Mr Browne seconded by Mr Dempsey:-

"That the several Proposals for new works sent up by the District Councils of the County, as set out in Schedules F, G, H, K. be approved & that with regard to Schedule E. that the proposal for keeping in repair for four years and eleven months 936 perches of the road between the Rural District bounds near Garrylough Cornmill and the lane in the townland of Ballinamona be referred back to the Enniscorthy District Council on the ground that the County Council are dissatisfied with the tender accepted."

After Council's opinion had been read, a poll was taken:-

In favour of the resolution there voted - Messrs Browne, Aore, Walsh, Peacocke, Codd, Dempsey, Whitty and Mayler 8.

Against Messrs L. Murphy, J. Bolger, J. Bolger, M. Hickey & D. Power. 5

Declined to vote - W. Cummins

The Chairman declared the resolution carried

Before the voting the following resolution on this matter was read from the Wexford Rural District Council:-

"That as half the expense of the maintenance of the main roads is charged to the County at large, we the Westford Rural District Council on behalf of the Rate Payers of this District (who have to pay their share of this expense) protest against the action of the Enniscorthy District Council in rejecting a tender offered by an acknowledged capable man, with first class surties, and accepting a tender considerably higher without any apparent reason except that it was offered by an old contractor; furthermore we regard our share of this unnecessary expense placed on us without our consent and against our wishes as an unjust tax, and we call upon the County Council to use every legal means in their power to protect us from such unnecessary taxation."

Proposed by Mr Peacocke, seconded by Mr Walsh & passed
 "That this work be given in charge of the County Surveyor"

Dates of Meetings.

The following dates were fixed for quarterly meetings of the District Councils and Proposals Committee:-

Enniscorthy, 7th January 1902 at 11.30 a.m.

Gorey, 9th January 1902 at 12 o'clock noon.

New Ross, 11th January 1902 at 12 o'clock noon.

Westford, 4th January 1902, at 10.30 o'clock a.m.

Proposals Committee January 18th 1902 at 2 o'clock p.m.

County Council Quarterly Meeting 4th February at 12 o'clock noon.

Tenders - Rural Districts

Consideration of works for which no tenders were received at the Proposals Committee and Rural District Councils was then taken up.

(Proposals Committee) No. 49. To repair and paint the wall in front of Gorey Courthouse and to paint the railings and gate not to exceed £4-10-0. To be a county at large charge.

No tender was received and it was decided to give the work in charge of the County Surveyor.

No 50. To put up a new hand rail on Ferry-carrying Bridge not to exceed £15 to be a county at large charge. There was no tender put in and the work was given in charge of the Co. Surveyor.

Wexford Rural District no. 19. To keep in repair for four years and eleven months from the 1st November 1901 to 30th September 1906, 587 perches of the road from Modabeg to Bricketstown not to exceed 4^d per perch. Rural District Charge.

David Reilly, Camross, tendered at 3³/₄ per perch and Patrick Doyle, Dungeer at 4^d per perch.

In reply to the Chairman, Mr Webster said that Reilly had a number of roads but was not a satisfactory contractor. Doyle had this particular road previously and had worked well on it.

Mr Donohoe moved that Mr Doyle be accepted contractor.

Mr Hickey seconded.

On a show of hands, twelve were in favour of accepting Doyle and three against.

The Chairman declared Doyle's tender accepted.

Gorey Rural District no. 1. To set an iron grate on the gullet in the townland of Boley not to exceed 25/-; to be a Rural District Charge.

No tender was received and the work was given in charge of the County Surveyor.

Enniscorthy Rural District no. 2. To repair a culvert at the County bounds near Donishall not to exceed £8; half to be paid off the Rural District of Enniscorthy and half off the Rural District of Shillelagh.

John McBrea, Knocknalour, tendered at £7.15.0 and was accepted on the motion of the Chairman.

Irish Geological Dept.

The Chairman moved the following resolution of which he had given previous notice:-

That in the interests of the country generally it is essential that the geological survey of Ireland be directed and controlled in Ireland and that the Government be requested to take the necessary steps to have the Irish Geological Department transferred from the control of South Kensington to

that of the Department of Agriculture for Ireland as provided for by Act of Parliament, and that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the First Lord of the Treasury, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and the Vice President of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland."

Mr John Bolger seconded the resolution which was adopted nem. con.

The following notice of motion was moved by Mr Cummins:-

advertising "That the resolution giving the contract of the advertising to the "Free Press" and "People" be rescinded."

Mr Hickey seconded

After a long discussion a poll was taken with the following result:-

For the motion - Messrs Cummins, Hickey, Power and Murphy 4.

Against - Messrs Walsh, Ryan, Browne, Hor, Keacocke, Dempsey, Eoad, Donohoe, Whitty, Doyle, and the Chairman 11

The Chairman declared the resolution lost.

Street Crossings.

In reply to a letter of the secretary, the clerk of the Urban Council New Ross wrote that the street crossings referred to in his former letter were to be placed on main roads in the New Ross Urban District. At present his Council only proposed to lay five instead of eight as originally intended, viz: two in Charles Street, two in South Street, and one at end of John Street, across the Greywell Road.

On the motion of the Chairman, it was decided to refer this matter to the County Surveyor.

Fertilizers & Feeding Stuff

The Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland forwarded copies of Circular No. 20011.1901 under date October 1901, drawing attention to Section 7 of the Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs Act. The Department pointed out that when preparing schemes for the encouragement of the agricultural industry

it was open to Councils to include in any general scheme proposals whereby the duty of taking samples for submission to the District Analyst might be assigned to the Secretary of the County Agricultural Committee. The Department were prepared to make from the funds at their disposal a reasonable contribution in aid of the expenditure connected with the working of the Act on the lines indicated and would be glad if the Council would be good enough to take the matter into their early consideration with a view to giving effect in their agricultural schemes.

The Finance Committee recommended that this matter should be referred to the Technical Instruction Committee and this recommendation was confirmed.

Expenses of Elections - Scale.

Under date October 31st the Local Government Board wrote that in view of the forthcoming elections of County and Rural District Councillors and of Guardians in Urban Districts requesting that the Secretary would take an early opportunity of calling the attention of the County Council to the terms of Article 6 (1) of the Schedule to the Local Government (Application of Enactments) Order 1898 which provided that "the expenses of any election under this Act shall not exceed the scale fixed by the County Council with the approval of the Local Government Board." As it will be necessary for the Board to signify under seal their approval of the scale drawn up by the Co. Council and as it was desirable that copies of the scale as approved should be forwarded to Deputy Returning Officers and others, the Board suggested to the Co. Council the advisability of taking steps to have the scale printed and of transmitting two proofs to the

Local Government Board Office sealed by direction of the Council with their seal.

Proposed by Mr Peacocke, seconded by Mr Codd and adopted:-

"That this matter be referred to the Finance Committee"

Acquisition of Lands.

The scheme of Antrim Co. Council as to acquisition of lands for new roads and for improving roads was laid before the Council.

no Order

Number of Council Quorum.

A Resolution was received from Kings County Council requesting the Local Government Board to introduce an amending Act next session of Parliament reducing the number of members necessary to form a quorum of the County Council from the proportion fixed by the Local Government (Ireland) Act 1898 to five.

The Chairman said he would bear in mind this resolution and ~~xxx~~ if next session of Parliament he considered there was a necessity for the alteration in the quorum he would be very glad to move in it.

A Resolution was received from the Youghal District Council expressing the opinion that a line of Railway between Dungarvan and Youghal would be a useful and beneficial line for developing the trade of the South of Ireland and the inland & sea fisheries and tourist traffic.

no Order

A resolution was received from the Sligo Co. Council denouncing as "incompetent untried and subversive of the true interests of education in this County, the present Boards of National and Intermediate Education in Ireland" and demanding the immediate dissolution of these bodies.

no Order

A resolution was received from the Stranorlar District Council protesting against the attempt that is being made by a portion of Scotch farmers to permit Canadian store cattle to be imported into the British Isles as likely to again introduce disease among cattle.

No Order

A resolution was received from the Lismore Union asking for a searching inquiry into the administration in connection with the Irish Police force "in view of the recent disclosures on the part of two victims of the dismissed Sergeant Sheridan."

No Order

Copy of an address on the Irish Poor Law System delivered by Dr E. Magennis J.P. at a meeting of the Armagh Co. Council on 12th June last, was laid before the meeting

No Order

The minutes of the Proposals Committee meetings of October 14th 1901 and 5th November 1901 were then read and confirmed by the Council on the motion of the Chairman.

The Chairman moved that the meeting resolve itself into Committee to consider the following resolutions of the Finance Committee:

As Col. G. L. G. B.

"meeting October 21st 1901 That we recommend the Council that having heard from Sir Thomas Esmonde the contents of a letter which he had received from the Chief Secretary for Ireland pledging himself to bring in a Bill next Session amending the Local Government Act

to agree to withdraw from the pending law proceedings in the case of the Co. Council & The Local Government Board and in the case of the County Surveyor & Mr Murphy (one of the deputy surveyors) against the Co. Council. Proposed by Mr Hearn, seconded by Mr Browne and adopted, Mr Donohoe dissenting.

Meeting November 5th. With reference to the question of the actions in the cases of the sealed orders it was decided after a long discussion to let the resolution of the last meeting (October 21st) of the Finance Committee stand, the opinions of Mr Healy K.B. M.P. and Mr J. J. Blaney D.L. M.P. having been read. Mr Donohoe dissented to this course."

Mr Donohoe proposed & Mr Cummins seconded that the meeting do not go into Committee.

The Chairman declined to accept this, as it was merely a direct negative. Mr Donohoe & Mr Cummins could vote against his motion if they wished.

The Chairman then put his resolution and declared it carried.

In connection with this matter the following resolution was read from the Ennis-corney Rural District Council:-

"That in view of the near approach of the hearing of the case of the Co. Council & The Local Government Board's sealed order, directing an increase of salaries to the County and deputy surveyors amounting to £388 per annum from the 1st April 1899 contrary, in our opinion, to the evidence at the Local Government Board Inquiry, and to common justice we hereby place on record our approval of the action of the County Council in resisting to the uttermost limit the arbitrary and unjust Order of the Local Government Board."

After a long discussion a poll was

taken with the following result:-

For confirming the recommendations of the Finance Committee — Messrs. Mayler, Walker, Walsh, Murphy, Browne, Hore, Flacocke, Dempsey, Codd, Sinnott, Doyle, Hickey, J. Bolger, and the Chairman 14

Against — Messrs John Bolger, Donohoe, Power, Whitty & Cummins 5.

The Chairman declared that the recommendations of the Finance Committee were therefore confirmed.

Counsellors' opinion be published

The Chairman moved:-

"That the opinions of Mr Healy R.E. M.P. and Mr J. J. Beaney B.L. M.P. in the cases referred to in the recommendations of the Finance Committee be published."

Passed.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr Browne, seconded by the Chairman and adopted nem. con.

Telephone - Duncormick That we beg to call the attention of the postal authorities to the great necessity that exists in Duncormack village for a telephone office, similar to the offices already established in the villages of Bridgetown, Kellinick & Broadway. The construction of the new railway in the vicinity of Duncormack has created a constant demand for telegraphic communication and as there will be a railway station there, the demand will be continual. Duncormack is the most important Rural Petty Sessions District in the County and the magistrates and police are greatly inconvenienced for want of an office. The District Council has refused to give a guarantee as they considered that under the circumstances it was the plain duty of the postal authorities

to establish an office, particularly as the expense would be so small, the telegraph poles already running within a few piches of the post office. That Sir Thomas Esmonde and Mr French be requested to again press this matter and that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Postmaster General and the other postal authorities in the district."

Edmund Foxe.

Meeting 27th November 1901.

A meeting of the county council was held in the council chamber Court House, Wexford, on Wednesday 27th November 1901.

Present:- In the chair - Mr E. Hore Vice-Chairman.

Other councillors, Messrs D. Dempsey, James E. Mayler, Michael Browne, James Donohoe, John Bolger, John Cummins, G. H. Peacocke, John F. Walsh, P. Ryan, James Codd, J. Bolger, Lord Viscount Stopford, and Capt Walker.

Capt Pigott, Secretary, Mr R. M. Elger, Solicitor and Mr H. Webster, County Surveyor were also present.

The minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

A telegram was received from Capt Barrett-Hamilton stating that it was impossible for him to be present as he was not sufficiently recovered from his illness to be present.

Striking the Rate.

On the motion of Mr Cummins, seconded by Mr Dempsey the following resolution was passed:-

"That we hereby strike the Rate for the half year ended March 1902, for general and separate charges as already agreed to and seal and sign the Rate Books, and the warrants of the collectors."

Sealing - Coll^r Barden's Books.

Proposed by Mr Cummins, seconded by Mr Walsh and passed "That we hereby direct the warrants of collector John Barden for the collection of items for which receipts have been unissued in absconding collector McGrath's collection district in respect of the half year ended 31st March 1901 be sealed and signed."

Checkers' Bonds.

The Secretary said that at the beginning of last collection the Council on the recommendation of the Finance Committee had decided that the checkers of the Rate collectors accounts should enter into a bond with a Guarantee Society for £500. Up to the present Mr M. J. Finn, New Ross, was the only one of the checkers, who had complied with the directions of the Council in this matter.

On the motion of the Chairman, the Secretary was directed to point out to the clerks of the Unions of Enniscorthy, Gorey and Wexford that the County Council direct that they should enter into a fidelity bond in the sum of £500 as checkers of the Rate collectors accounts.

Live Stock Schemes.

The Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, forwarded copies of their live stock schemes for 1902 with a copy of the regulations under which prizes for live stock may be offered at agricultural shows. As soon as it had been decided by the County Council to raise a rate in 1902 for the purposes of the Act the executive sub-committee should be appointed.

The Department would then be prepared to send a representative to confer with this committee.

Rate for J. J. Act.

Lord Stopford proposed that the County Council agree to strike a rate of a penny in the £ for the purposes of Technical Instruction and delegate to the County Committee of Agriculture and Technical Instruction full powers for the purposes of ~~Technical~~ the Live Stock and Technical Instruction schemes under the Agriculture and Technical Instruction (Ireland) Act 1899.

Mr Cummins seconded the resolution which was passed *unanimously*.

Appointment of Live Stock Committee.

Proposed by Mr Donohoe, seconded by Mr Cummins:-

"That we re-appoint the Live Stock Committee for 1901 with the addition of the names of Mr John Bolger, Ferns for Enniscorthy District and Dr Gibbon, J. P. Slidagh, for Wexford District in order to avoid delay, and we request the Agricultural and Technical Instruction Committee to approve of our action in this regard."

"It was also recommended that the Agricultural and Technical Instruction Committee should allot two-thirds of the total amount voted to the committee for live stock and the remaining third for Technical Instruction purposes."

As a further recommendation it was decided that the meeting of the Live Stock Committee to consider the live stock scheme of the Department be held in the County Council Chamber, Courthouse Wexford on December 11th 1901.

The following was submitted on behalf of the joint Bridges Committee for the consideration of the Council.

Joint Bridges Committee

A meeting of the joint Bridges Committee of the Council was held in the County Court-house, Wexford, on Tuesday 19th November 1901, for the purpose of considering the report

furnished by the Local Government Board as to the inspection of the Bridges of the Deeps, Ferrycarrig, and Wexford.

Present - In the Chair - Mr. P. Ryan

other councillors - Messrs E. Hore, C. H. Peacocke, James Donohoe, James Codd, and W. Whitty.

The following report, was drawn up by the committee and recommended to be submitted to the Council for adoption:-

re Deeps, Ferrycarrig and Wexford Bridges.

Gentlemen,

In accordance with your instructions to us to report on the Local Government Board letter respecting the above bridges, we beg to state that we have gone into the matter very fully, including all previous correspondence and reports and recommend the following reply.

Deeps Bridge.

The Local Government Board admit that Mr Ryan's own expert's report, fairly describes the condition of the Deeps Bridge except as regards the draw bridge which has no defective timber this exception is not very material as it only described the one defective beam. On the date of your Inspector's report there remained exclusive of repairs between the two inspections 30 vertical piles, Batter piles, and diagonal piles defective, some very much so, and the estimated cost of repairing and replacing these, and other defects was estimated at £150 including of course the repairs done in the interim and notwithstanding this, and that there was a current and previous contract for the maintenance of the bridge, the Local Government Board Inspector considers there is no evidence of neglect, but he omitted to say, for the guidance of the County Council what would really constitute evidence of neglect.

Ferrycarrig Bridge.

The Local Government also admit that Mr Ryan's report in the case of Ferrycarrig Bridge is generally accurate and agrees with the substance of Mr Webster's report of November 1900 but that report of Mr Webster's was only furnished by order of the County Council after inspection by their committee and not from any sense of diligence on his part thus showing a gross disregard of manifest duty. This is practically admitted by the Local Government Board, - that there were at the time of their Inspector's visit exclusive of rotten and

dangerous hand rails each side no less than 93 defective, some "rotten and dangerous" Beams, Batter Piles, Diagonal braces, vertical piles, crosshead beams, and horizontal beams, and that "the draw span and machinery of same so long in disuse and unattended to" that it is questionable if it could be made available." Yet the Local Government Board says that the Surveyor cannot be fairly held responsible for the state of this very old bridge, notwithstanding his "leniency to the contractors" and his permitting a specification to be scandalously evaded. Certainly if this doctrine obtains, specifications should be abolished, but we hardly think that the Local Government Board really mean all their letter implies, as general repudiation would be the result.

The Bridge cost the County £890 during the ten years ending March 1900. and we hold that had that money been honestly spent it would not at the termination of that period require a special outlay of £500, or of any other sum. The Committee would point out that the Local Government Board Inspector had not the advantage of seeing this bridge when the Bridge Committee paid their first visit early in August 1900, and that in the meantime a sum of £38 which was deferred from the previous contractor, Richard Fortune, had been spent in repairs on the structure in addition to the amount which the County Surveyor obliged the existing contractor to expend.

With reference to the length of time which elapsed since the repairs were stopped the Local Government Board should in ordinary honesty, have admitted that this delay was occasioned by their refusal to pay any attention to the representations of the Council, which had been before the Board a considerable time.

The Board were aware of the fact that the Council had stopped the contractors for the purpose of assisting the inspection of the Local Government Board so that they could see what the condition of the Bridges really was. The length of time which elapsed under that condition of things, was owing altogether to the refusal of the Local Government Board in the first place to listen to the representations of the Council, and in the second place to the delay of the Board in bringing the matter to an issue. The bridge was ordered to be closed owing only to the dangerous condition of the handrail and to the fact that an accident was very narrowly.

averted in consequence of the frail protection it afforded to frightened animals &c being precipitated into the river.

Wexford Bridge.

This bridge has been under contract for successive terms since 1888 for painting and roadmaking only, and the amount so expended amounted to £1050 to Spring 1899. The woodwork and understructure has been repaired from time to time by special contract the last being Summer 1899 which was paid off at the Quarterly Meeting in August amounting to £138. This being so it is not remarkable that the bridge is in fairly good order. It appears however that £100 outlay is now again required exclusive of the broken metal supports. We have no information as to when these metals were broken, nor the period the damage extended over, or whether many of them might not have been saved if looked to in time, and relieved from the pressure that would result from want of general support. However we do not wish to dwell on this part and only refer to it as showing what loss of confidence means to all concerned.

We suggest however that generally it is a well understood principle of business that an annual contract for repairs and renewals as required implies that the work so contracted for must be kept in serviceable order and not allowed to deteriorate and if any violation of that sound and reasonable principle were permitted responsibility would cease and the very foundations of all moral and material responsibility would be destroyed.

Therefore as the body responsible in the County for the just and due expenditure of public money we cannot accept the views of the Local Government Board as to do so would destroy our authority to the sacrifice of public interest.

The roads and bridges of this County cost altogether £20,000 per year for their upkeep, but if contractors were allowed to evade their responsibilities and officers their duties, as they evidently have done in the past, then the heavy tax on the Ratepayers many of them very poor, would increase year by year without any corresponding benefit.

We trust therefore the Local Government Board will be good enough to try and realize our position and acknowledge the impossibility of our retaining an officer responsible for such a large outlay, in whom we have with ample reason lost all confidence.

As the Local Government Board is aware, the

Ferrying Bridge especially requires immediate attention, and a large outlay and as we do not intend entrusting Mr Webster with the work, any further loss of time would be injurious to public interests, and we therefore request authority to supersede him without further delay"

20.

The chairman and County Council.

Mr Donohoe proposed and Mr Dempsey seconded the adoption of the report of the committee.

Mr Browne proposed as an amendment that all words in the report of the committee from the words "corresponding benefit" in the second last paragraph be omitted.

Lord Stopford seconded

For the amendment there voted Messrs Browne, Stopford, and Cummins. - 3

Against - Messrs Peacocke, Donohoe, Codd, Mayler, Walsh, Dempsey, Walker, Ryan, J. Bolger, and the chairman - 10
The chairman declared the amendment lost.

On putting the resolution he declared the ayes in the majority though the minority did not demand a poll.

Mr Webster said he felt very keenly the expression in the report that he was not considered competent to supervise the building of a bridge though he had erected a bridge since he came to this county and only a few years before the passing of the Local Government Act.

The Council had placed certain works in his charge and he wished to know in face of the report of the committee whether he was to go on with these. He was working as hard as he could, and was doing his best like a man, but now that they stated they had no confidence in him, he need not say how much he felt it was an injustice to himself. He should get directions now as to whether he should carry out these works that had been placed in his charge and he did not like to do anything without the directions of the Council.

Chairman - We have no power to supersede you or even to suspend you; it is for the Local Government Board now. We cannot give you any directions

Collector Barden's Bond.

The Local Government Board under date 6th Inst. Letter No.

61,980: 1901) wrote that as the collectors in this county were under the Poor Rate collectors (No 2) order. Collector Barden should give the bond in the form required in such case. The Bond submitted and returned was that used in cases under the Poor Rate collectors (No 1) order.

The Secretary said he had forwarded a copy of the letter of the Local Government Board to the local agent of the Insurance Co. and was expecting an answer daily.

Letter No 63,886: 1901 Wexford County under date 13th November from the Local Government Board was read. It stated that as collector Barden did not receive his warrants till the 12th ~~December~~ September 1901, the Board would be prepared if the county council so desired, to assent to an extension of time to the 12th prox. for the completion of his poor rate collection. The Secretary said a copy of this letter had been forwarded to collector Barden.

Expenses - Inquiry

The Local Government Board (letter No 178 M 1901) Miscellaneous under date 13th November 1901) wrote calling the attention of the council to the Inquiry held by the Board's Inspector, Mr Price relative to the salaries of county officers, and requested the council would be good enough to forward a paying order for £30 .. 6 .. 0 being the amount payable to the Board in relation to the matter. The Local Government Board had now to recoup the public funds this amount.

Mr Donohoe proposed:-

"We decline to pay as the county council did not ask for the Inquiry referred to in letter no 178 M. 1901 Miscellaneous under date 13th November 1901."

Capl Walker seconded the resolution which was passed nem con

Returning Officer

A circular was received from the Local Government Board under date 19th November 1901 No 186/M. 1901 Miscellaneous stating that it would be necessary for the council, in view of the forthcoming Local Government Elections next year, to appoint a Returning Officer for the election of county councillors, and Rural District councillors in the county, and that the appointment should be made at the earliest possible date and the person selected should be fitted to satisfactorily discharge the duties attached thereto.

Mr. Pracocke gave notice of motion to move that a Returning Officer be appointed at next meeting of the County Council.

Kilmore Pier

The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction wrote (under date 15th November 1901, letter no. 13797/01) that his Department had already offered to contribute within a limit of £330, one-third of the cost of the proposed works and to approach the Commissioners of Public Works with the object of obtaining a like contribution from the Sea Fisheries Fund. The estimate prepared by the County Surveyor appeared however at first sight to be inadequate, and the Department have consequently submitted it for the observations of their Engineer.

The Secretary was directed to inform the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction that the plan proposed by the Committee was to make a groyne from the sea end of the existing groyne into the land, and have the harbour dredged; but it did not include any repairs to the concrete of existing groyne as they were considered unnecessary when the new wall would be built at the back.

The Committee did not ask for any grant for repairs but for new works and they wish the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction to consider this statement in connection with the estimate submitted by the County Surveyor.

Analyst's salary.

The following was read from Sir Charles Cameron County Analyst under date 19th November 1901. -

I have not been able to find a copy of my agreement with the late Grand jury. I remember the clause relating to analyses of artificial manures and feeding stuffs, analyses were to be made for the consumer of these articles at 2/6 per sample, and the dealers at 10/6 per sample.

It was decided to adjourn the matter for further consideration.

Irish Language

With reference to the competition for prize of £10 to be paid the teacher of the student who passes the best examination in Irish, the Secretary stated that four entries had been received by the 13th November one from Ferns and three from Wexford. One of the Wexford entrants had since withdrawn. In connection

with this matter the following letter was read from Wm Royce, Slaney St Enniscorthy

Will you please accept if possible the entries of the four herewith named below for the competition in Irish organized by the Wexford County Council. I know that the entries closed on the 14th Inst. We, the entrants, had decided for our teacher, Mr M. O'Sullivan to enter us or were awaiting his instructions with reference to our entering, but owing to an accident he met with almost a month ago, we were unable to see him. The above being the reason why we did not enter sooner or before the date set down. I shall be very happy to let you have any further particulars you may require if you would please let me know.

Names of competitors:- John Gowan, Killagoley, James Delaney, Court Street, Denis O'Brien, Irish St and William Royce Slaney St Enniscorthy

On the motion of Mr Cummins, seconded by Mr Walsh, it was decided that the Enniscorthy pupils of Mr M. O'Sullivan, viz:- John Gowan, Killagoley, James Delaney, Court St Denis O'Brien, Irish St and William Royce, Slaney St be allowed to compete in the Irish competition

Permission to Erect Railing

Mr Donohoe by permission of the Meeting moved the following resolution of which Sir Thomas Esmonde (Chaviman) had given previous notice:-

That the request of the Gorey Centenary Club as expressed in their letter of the 4th November 1901 be complied with. The request asked for additional ground in connection with the monument - viz:- 25 feet in front 30 feet in back and 25 feet at sides which was at present used as a dumping ground for refuse, &c.

Mr J. Bolger seconded the resolution which was passed unanimously

Scale of Expenses - Elections

Drafts of the scales of Expenses for the Election of the County and Rural District Councillors, and for Guardians and County Councillors in Urban County Districts which were submitted to the Local Government Board were laid before the Meeting. The Local Government Board wrote (letter No 66667: 1901 Wexford County) that they were prepared to express their approval under seal to the scales in question on receipt of two copies

as amended sealed with the seal of the county council.

on the motion of Mr. Ryan seconded by Mr. Goad the following resolution was adopted:

That we approve of the scales of Expenses for the election of county and Rural District councillors and of Guardians and county councillors in Urban County Districts as submitted by the Finance Committee and referred to in letter of the Local Government Board (No 66667: 1901 Wexford County under date 26th November 1901)

Analysts Report.

The following report of the County Analyst for the Quarter ending September 30th 1901 was read

To the County Council of the County of Wexford
Mr Chairman and Gentlemen

I beg to report that I have made the following analyses during the quarter ended on 30th September 1901. For the Sergeants of the Royal Irish Constabulary acting as Inspectors of food the following articles were analysed.

| <u>Article</u> | <u>Number</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Butter | 20 |
| Milk | 15 |
| Buttermilk | 4 |
| Whiskey | 2 |
| Guinness Extra Stout | 1 |
| Skimmilk | 1 |
| Rum | 1 |
| Total | <u>44</u> |

Of the specimens of milk one was adulterated with 16 per cent of added water and one was deprived of at least 22 per cent of its fats and was therefore a debased article.

The remaining articles were of good quality. For the Guardians of the Gorey Union eleven drugs and a specimen water were analysed. The drugs were correct. The specimen of water had the following composition.

One imperial gallon contained in grains.

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| Total solid matters, | 17.500 |
| Including | |
| albuminoid ammonia | 0.008 |
| saline ammonia | 0.0025 |
| Nitric acid | 1.680 |
| Chlorine | 3.180 |
| Sulphuric acid | 2.880 |

Equal to Calcium Sulphate 4.000

a good water

For the Guardians of Wexford Union eighteen drugs and a specimen of water were analysed. The drugs were correct.

The specimen of water contained in grains

Total solid matters 67.200.

Including

albuminoid ammonia 0.004

saline ammonia 0.002

nitric acid 4.370

chlorine 18.389

sulphuric acid 8.640

Equal to Calcium Sulphate 12.000

a very good water

a specimen of water analysed for Wexford Rural District Council had the following composition

one imperial gallon contained in grains

Total solid matters 65.100

Including

albuminoid ammonia 0.014

saline ammonia 0.007

nitric acid 4.620

chlorine 8.449

sulphuric acid 14.400

Equal to Calcium sulphate 20.000

a rather inferior water

For the Guardians of Enniscorthy Union eight drugs and four specimens of tea were analysed. The drugs were correct.

The specimens of tea were analysed to determine which was best for use in the workhouse.

Eleven drugs and a specimen of water were analysed for the Guardians of New Ross Union. The drugs were correct.

The specimen of water had the following composition

one imperial gallon contained in grains

Total solid matters 15.400

Including

albuminoid ammonia 0.017

saline ammonia 0.0045

nitric acid Trace

chlorine 1.195

sulphuric acid 1.440

Equal to Calcium sulphate 2.000

a specimen of water analysed for W. P. Rossiter Esq Wexford had the following composition

one imperial gallon contained in grains.

Total solid matters 18.900

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Including | |
| albuminoid ammonia | 0.005 |
| saline ammonia | 0.005 |
| Nitric acid | none |
| chlorine | 2.982 |
| sulphuric acid | none |
| Equal to Calcium sulphate | none |

a good water

For Shillelagh union which is partly situated in the county of Wexford nine drugs were analysed. They were correct.

There were ten specimens of butter analysed by directions from the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland Upper Merion St Dublin, which were taken up in the county of Wexford. One of them was not pure butter but contained at least 14 per cent of fats foreign to butter.

Total analyses 109.

I am Gentlemen

Your obedient servant

Charles A. Cameron

Dublin

17 Castle Street

18th November 1901

Postal Arrangements.

A letter was read from the General Post Office, London under date 23rd November (No 267275) stating that Ramegrange could not be transferred from the Waterford to the Wexford Postal Area unless other adjacent districts were also so transferred, and that if the correspondence for those districts circulated through Wexford, the service generally would be materially inferior to the present service. It was also pointed out that if the districts were transferred as suggested, a service as good as the present service could be provided only be circulating part of the correspondence through Wexford and part through Waterford, and apart from other objections this would entail additional expenditure which the circumstances did not warrant.

The Chairman proposed, that a copy of the letter from the General Post Office be forwarded to Sir Thomas H. G. Esmonde Bart. M.P. and that he be requested to press forward in the House of Commons the adoption of the change which the people of the Ramsgange district require to secure an efficient postal service.

Telegraph Office Duncormick

The following letter No 392667/01 under date 8th November 1901 was received from the General Post Office London:-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th Inst enclosing copy of a resolution passed by the Wexford County Council ~~which will be of great assistance to~~ as to the establishment of a postal Telegraph Office at Duncormick and to assure you that the subject will receive consideration.

The following letter was received from Mr. P. Funch M.P. under date 7th Inst:

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of a resolution passed by the Wexford County Council which will be of great assistance to me in my efforts to procure a telephone office for Duncormick.

Acquiring Land, for Roads

There was laid before the Meeting Circular No 64501: 1901 (Miscellaneous) from the Local Government Board under date 25th November 1901 with accompanying copy of order which the Board had made under section 10 subsection (3) of the Local Government (Ireland) Act 1898 prescribing the advertisements to be published and notices to be served, and the mode in which service of such notices was to be effected on Owners, Lessees or Occupiers of land (other than demesne land or pleasure ground) proposed to be acquired by the County Council for the purpose of widening an old road or making a new road where the Council proceed by means of petition to the Judge of Assize &c

Mr. Grath - Assurance Corporation

Under date 12th November 1901 a letter was read from Mr. J. Reid Representative of the General Accident Assurance Corporation asking for a cheque for £64. 18. 5 made up as follows:- £4. 19. 9 for houses vacant £20. 10. 3. poundage and £39. 3. 5 acknowledged not paid as per list supplied.

Mr. Elgee said that nothing could be done until the collection had been closed and he had written to this effect to the General Accident Assurance Corporation.

Fertilizers & Feeding Stuffs.

In connection with Circular no. 20011:01 from the Department of Agricultural and Technical Instruction in reference to the Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs Act 1893 which had been referred to the Technical Instruction Committee the latter recommended that for the present no person be appointed to carry out the work of taking samples until the Committee had appointed an itinerant Instructor in Agriculture as they considered this officer would be best able to carry out the duty.

On the motion of the chairman the recommendation of the Technical Instruction Committee was adopted.

Loan £1000.

Under date November 25th 1901 letter No 15810:01 Enniscorthy Lunatic Asylum) the Secretary of the Board of Works wrote referring to their letter of the 23rd September pointing out that it would be necessary to obtain the approval of the Lord Lieutenant of the plans &c for works at Enniscorthy Lunatic Asylum on account of which a loan of £1500 is sought, and stating that pending receipt of evidence of this approval the Board were unable to proceed with the case. They had received from Messrs O'Flaherty & Son Solicitors Enniscorthy, a letter in which it is stated that they have been frequently informed that the County Council had not received the loan from the Board of Works though long since applied for and that this is the cause of delay in payment. The Board have referred Messrs O'Flaherty & Son to the County Council for any information on the subject, as it was not their practice to correspond in these cases with contractors employed by borrowers.

The Secretary said that this loan was applied for a considerable time back and the County Council were then informed the matter should be treated as a provisional proposal. This was done and after the six months delay caused by it, application was made to the Local Government Board for sanction to the loan. The Local Government Board requested that they should be furnished with the plans of the strong room. These were obtained from the Asylum and forwarded to the Local Government Board on 28th June and the Local Government Board wrote sanctioning the loan. Application was

made to the Board of works and they replied as already pointed out "that the approval of the Lord Lieutenant was necessary for the new works". It was before this decision that

Mr B. J. O'Flaherty called at the county council office, and was informed that the matter was before the Board of works. As soon as the letter of the Board of works refusing to sanction the loan was received a copy of it was forwarded Mr Pounder, Clerk, Asylum, and he wrote pointing out that the plans of the strong room had been forwarded to the county council office on the 24th June and if they were returned he would forward them to the Inspectors of Lunatics who would obtain the Lord Lieutenant's sanction thereto. Mr Pounder asked if it would not be better to endeavour to get a loan for the supplemental works and abandon the part for mortuary for the present.

In reply to this Mr Pounder was informed that the plans were with the Local Government Board and that if any part of the loan were dropped a new proposal would have to be formulated. This was how the matter stood so far as the county council was concerned.

The clerk of the Privy Council wrote under date November 9th 1901 acknowledging receipt of copy of resolution of the county council urging the transfer of the control of the Geological Survey of Ireland to the Department of Agriculture for Ireland.

Mr Herbert F. Smith private Secretary to the Vice President of the Department of Agriculture &c wrote under date 7th Inst^l acknowledging receipt of the same resolution.

The Ledger was produced by the Secretary posted up to the day of the last Quarterly Meeting with the proper debits and credits as ordered on that day.

The following books were exhibited by the Secretary he having first ascertained the accuracy of the entries made therein: The Register of Separate Charges; The Register of Mortgages; Register of Applications and Proposals.

Edmund F. O'Connell.