

Meeting 14 April 1936

I N D E X

Accommodation Overdraft	25.
Acknowledgment Vote of condolence- Mrs. K. Smith..	1.
Alleged removal of Road Material.....	23.
Alleged employment of non-Trade Labour- Michael Fitzpatrick.....	24.
Allocation Road Contingencies Fund.....	25.26.
Allocation of Loans- Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts.....	33.
Analyst's Report.....	52.
Annual meeting of Wexford County Council.....	1-2.
Application increase in wages- Patrick Beary.....	12.
Area of Charge, Rosslare Sewerage Scheme.....	13.
Appointment of Delegates, National Health Insurance	41.
Appointment of representative Old Age Pension Sub-Committee.....	41.42.
Ballyhack Harbour.....	50.
Ballythomas Quarry- Hand-breaking material.....	34.
Beary Patrick- application increase in wages.....	12.
Board of Health & Public Assistant- Loan for provision of cottages.....	42-45.
Boathouse, Courtown.....	51.
Byrne Patrick- Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts...	6.7.
Camolin Park Road.....	51.52.
Caretaker Gorey Union Buildings- Thos. Lawlor.....	13.
Carley Walter- Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts...	32.
Carne Pier.....	50.
Clare Jeremiah- Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts..	6.
Collection Rate- State of.....	3-5.17-26.
	28-32.
Compulsory Retirement of Officers.....	48.49.
Courtown Harbour Dredging.....	49.
Courtown Coastguard Boathouse.....	51.
County Hall, Telephone Exchange.....	35.36.38.
County Analyst's Report.....	52.
County Council's General Council & Town Planning for rural areas.....	48.
County Councils' General Council & compensation for criminal injury.....	48.
County Wexford Vocational Education Committee & use of County Council Chamber.....	14.15.
County Surveyor & report on Village Streets.....	14.
County Buildings Lease.....	13.14.
County Buildings Ground Rent.....	23.24.
County Council's annual meeting.....	1.2.
County Council Chamber & use of by Wexford Vocational Education Committee.....	14.15.
County Council Insurances.....	7.20.22.27.
County Medical Officer of Health- Leave of absence	10.26.
Criminal Injury Act- Application to County Councils' General Council.....	48.
Criminal Injury Applications:-	
Fortune Patrick.....	5.
Pierce James A.....	36.
Curraclloe Road.....	50.51.
Dempsey Edward- Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts..	6.
Dempsey Peter- Appointment representative Old Age Pension Sub-Committee.....	41.42.
Department of Agriculture-	
Veterinary Inspector for Wexford District....	9.10.
Inspectors under Warble Fly (Treatment of Cattle) Order.....	10.
Department of Local Government & Public Health:-	
Sheep Dipping Order.....	46.
National Health Insurance & Widows & Orphans Pension.....	40.41.

Department of Local Government & Public Health:-	
Approval to employment of James Doyle as temporary Warble Fly Inspector.....	40.
Main Road Upkeep Grant.....	22.23.
Curraclloe Road Grant.....	50.51.
Deputation- Tacunshane Lake.....	52.56.
Dredging Courtown Harbour.....	49.
Druhan J.M.- University Scholarship Scheme.....	36.
Doyle John- Poisons & Pharmacy Act Licences.....	52.
Doyle Joseph- Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts..	6.
Doyle James- Temporary Warble Fly Inspector.....	40.
Doyle John, Warble Fly Inspector- Resignation of	34.
Easter Sunday Celebrations.....	26.
Echo, Ltd. - Printing Contract.....	24.
Echo, Ltd. & printing of Road Works Scheme.....	24.
Employment of temporary Filing Clerk.....	36.
Employment of Rate Clerks.....	12.32.
English & Co.- Tender printing Receipt & Demand	
Note Books.....	33.
Fianna Fail Club & Easter Sunday Celebrations...	26.
Filing Clerk- employment of.....	36.
Finance Committee Minutes.....	3914.17-26.
	28-37.
Fitzpatrick Michael- Alleged non-Trade Labour...	24.
Food & Drugs Act- Appointment of Ex-Officio	
Inspector- Garda P. O'Donnell.....	41.
Fortune Patrick- Criminal Injury Application....	5.
Free Press, Ltd.- Printing Contract.....	24.
Gahan Walter J- Secondary & Vocational Scholar-	
Ship.....	47.
Garda Siachana & Sheep Dipping Order.....	7.8.
General Council County Councils' & Town Planning	
for rural areas.....	48.
Goldie Mrs.- Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts...	32.
Gorey Technical School & temporary fencing.....	14.
Grant- Main Road Upkeep.....	22.23.
Great Island Embankment- Irish Land Commission..	11.
Ground Rent County Buildings.....	23.24.
Hand Breaking Material, Ballythomas Quarry	34.
Haulage Contracts- John Kennedy.....	25.35.38.
Hendrick Charles- Small Dwellings Acquisition	
Acts.....	6.
Hennessey M.J.-	8.
Hiney Owen- Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts....	32.
Improvements Mental Hospital.....	45.46.
Industrial School Application: Bridget Lewis....	35.
Insurances County Council.....	7.20.22.27.
Irish Land Commission- Camolin Park Road.....	51.52.
do. do. do. - Great Island embankment..	11.
Irish Public Bodies Mutual Society- appointment	
of representative.....	42.
Kearon W.H.- Courtown Harbour Dredging.....	49.
Keegan W.P.- Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts...	6.
Kehoe Joseph- Appointment representative Old Age	
Pension Sub-Committee.....	41.42.
Kennedy Mrs. Johanna- Small Dwellings Acquisition	
Acts.....	6.
Kennedy John- Haulage Contracts.....	25.35.38.
Lane- Hopefield & Tottenham Green- Minor Relief	
Scheme.....	12.
Lawlor Thos- Caretaker Gorey Union Buildings....	13.
Leacy Thos. Sow Drainage Rate.....	32.
Lease County Buildings.....	13.14.
Leave of absence of Co. Medical Officer of Health	10.26.
Lennon Denis- Poisons & Pharmacy Act Licensee.....	52.
Lewis Bridget- Industrial School Application....	35.
List of Rate Clerks.....	38.39.
Loan for provision of cottages- County Board of	
Health & Public Assistance.....	42-45.
Loan for Vocational School.....	47.
Local Government Officials Union and compulsory	
retirement of Officials.....	48.49.

Lynch Joseph- Warble Fly Treatment of Cattle Order.	10.
Lynch Joseph- Sheep Dipping Order.....	7.8.
Main Road Scheme- Printing & circulation of New Lists.	46.47.
Main Road Upkeep Grant.....	22.23.
McCarthy P.H.- Rosslare Sewerage Scheme.....	15.16.
Memorandum, Town & Regional Planning Act.....	33.
Mental Hospital Improvements.....	45.46.
Mernagh T.A., V.S. - Warble Fly(Treatment of Cattle) Order.....	10.
Minor Relief Schemes:-	
Road- Ballinacoolabeg & Ballinacoola More.....	12.
Lane- Hopefield & Tottenham Green.....	12.
Road- Riverchapel Village.....	12.
Road- Garrynick.....	11.
Road leading through Garrymil townland.....	11.
Road- Croghan.....	12.
Minutes Finance Committee.....	3-14.17-26. 28-37.
Mullett John- Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts.....	6.
Murphy Mrs- Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts.....	32.
Murphy N.J.- Great Island embankment.....	11.
National Health Insurance- Appointment of delegates	40.41.
Ocean Accident & Guarantee Corporation, Ltd.- County Council Insurances.....	21.22.
O'Donnell Patrick- G.S., Ex-Officio Food & Drugs Inspector.....	41.
Office of Public Works- Ballyhack Harbour.....	50.
Old Age Pension Sub-Committee- Appointment of Representative.....	41.42.
O'Reilly Thos- Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts.....	6.
Overdraft Accommodation.....	25.
Parle Matthew- Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts.....	32.
Pender (nee Corcoran) Mrs. M.E.-Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts.....	6.
People, Ltd.- Printing Contract.....	24.
Pier Carne.....	50.
Pierce James A.- Criminal Injury Application.....	36.
Poisons & Pharmacy Act Licences.....	52.
Planning Scheme- Town & Regional Planning Regulations.	49.
Printing Contract 1936/37.....	24.
Printing Road Works Scheme.....	24.
Printing & circulation of New List- Main Roads Scheme.....	47.
Rate Collection- State of.....	3.4.5.17-20. 28-32.
Rate Clerks- employment of.....	12.32.
Rate Clerks- List of.....	38.39.
Redmond Bros- Printing receipt and Demand Note Books.	33.
Ringwood F.S., V.S.- Warble Fly(treatment of Cattle) Order.....	10.
Road Contingencies Fund- allocation of.....	25.26.
Road Material- alleged removal of.....	23.
Road- Ballinacoolabeg & Ballinacoola More- Minor Relief Scheme.....	12.
Road Croghan- Minor Relief Scheme.....	12.
Road- Riverchapel Village- Minor Relief Scheme.....	12.
Road- Garrynick- Minor Relief Scheme.....	11.
Road- Garrymile townland- Minor Relief Scheme.....	11.
Rosslare Sewerage Scheme.....	13.15.16.
Scully Patrick- Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts...	6.
Secondary & Vocational Scholarship Scheme:-	
Gahan Walter J.....	47.
Sewerage Scheme Rosslare.....	13-15.
Sheep Dipping Order.	7.8.9.46.
Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts:-	
Allocation of Loans.....	33.
Byrne Patrick.....	6.7.
Carley Walter.....	32.
Clare Jeremiah.....	6.
Boyle Joseph.....	6.
Hendrick Charles.....	6.
Hiney Owen.....	32.

Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, continued:-	
Kennedy Mrs. Johanna.....	6.
Mullett John.....	6.
Murphy Mrs.....	32.
O'Reilly Thomas.....	6.
Parle Matthew.....	32.
Pender Mary Anne.....	6.
Scully Patrick.....	6.
Transfer of Advance.....	6.
Smith Mrs. K.- acknowledgment vote of condolence	1.
Sow Drainage Rate- Thos. Leacy.....	32.
Staples Frank, V.S.- Warble Fly (Treatment of Cattle) Order.....	10.
Tacumshane Lake Deputation.....	52-56.
Taylor F.W., V.S.- Warble Fly (Treatment of Cattle) Order.....	10.
Telephone Exchange- County Hall.....	35.36.38.
Temporary Fencing, Gorey Technical School.....	14.
Tenders- Printing Receipt & Demand Note Books...	33.
Tenders- Printing Contracts 1936/37.....	24.
Town Planning for Rural Areas.....	48.
Town & Regional Planning Regulations- Preparation of Planning Scheme.....	49.
Town & Regional Planning Act- Memorandum.....	33.
Transfer of Advance- Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts.....	6.
Tripod for Inspector, Weights & Measures, New Ross.....	37.
University Scholarship Scheme- L.M. Druhan.....	36.
Veterinary Inspector for Wexford District.....	9.10.
Village Streets.....	14.
Vocational School Loan.....	47.
Warble Fly Inspectors.....	10.
Warble Fly (Treatment of Cattle) Order:-	
Resignation of Inspector, John Doyle.....	34.
Appointment of Edward Woods.....	34.40.
Approval temporary employment of James Doyle as substitute to John Doyle.....	40.
Weights & Measures Officer, New Ross.- Tripod...	37.
Wexford Corporation & Town & Regional Planning Regulations.....	49.
Woods Edward- Appointment as Inspector under Warble Fly (Treatment of Cattle) Order....	34.40.

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING 14th APRIL 1936.

M I N U T E S

County Hall,
WEXFORD.

N. J. FRIZELLE,
Secretary Wexford Co. Council.

The monthly meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 14th April, 1936.

Present:- Mr. Denis Allen (Chairman), presiding; also, Messrs. P. Colfer, John Connors, R. Corish, C. Culleton, Wm. Cullimore, John Cummins, John Day, Col. C. M. Gibbon, W. P. Keegan, John P. Kelly, Wm. Kinsella, James Lawler, Sean O'Byrne, Miss N. O'Ryan, Co. R. P. Wemyss Quin, Thos. Redmond, Patk. Ronan, Myles Smyth and M. Sweetman.

The Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor, and the five Assistant Surveyors of the Council were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Notes for £49686. 5. 0 were examined and signed.

REPLY TO VOTE OF CONDOLENCE - LATE MR. ALBERT SMITH

It was decided on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr. Kelly that the following reply from Mrs. Kathleen Smith acknowledging vote of condolence adopted to her in the death of her husband, the late Albert Smith, be inserted on the minutes of the day:-

"I trust you will pardon my delay in writing to thank you for your kind message of sympathy. I ask you to please thank on my behalf the Co. Committee of Agriculture, the Members of the Co. Council, the Co. Surveyor and the Co. Solicitor for their vote of condolence to me.

Albert's death came very unexpected and was a great shock to me. Thanking you again for your sympathy."

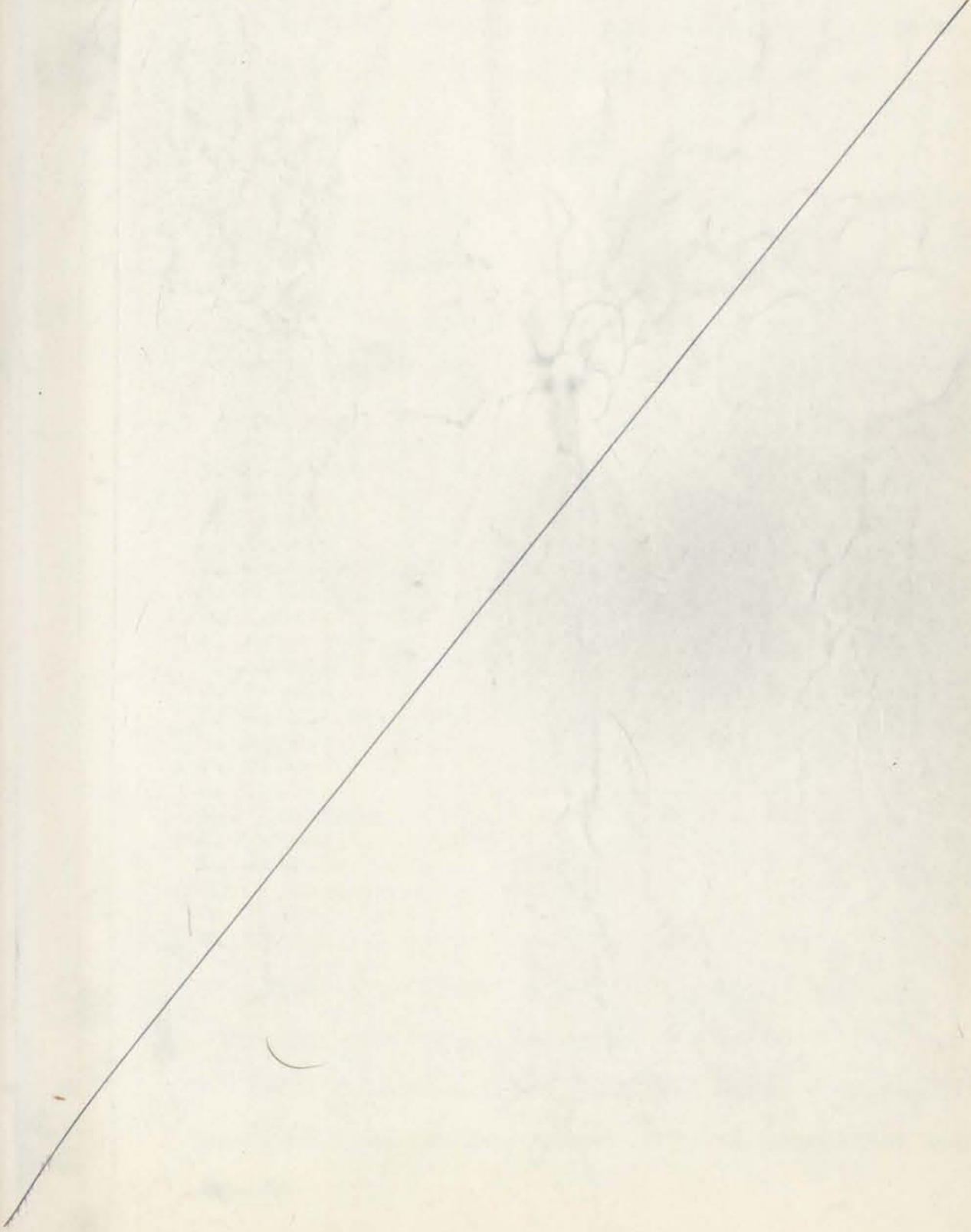
ANNUAL MEETING COUNTY COUNCIL

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr. Kelly:-

"That the annual meeting of Wexford County Council be held on Tuesday, 30th June 1936 at 10.30 a.m. and that the monthly meeting fixed for Monday, 12th July 1936, be cancelled."

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

FINANCE COMMITTEE: The Minutes of meeting of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 13th March 1936 were submitted as follows:-



The fortnightly meeting of Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford on 13th March 1936.

Present: Mr. D. Allen, Chairman County Council presided; also present:- Messrs. P. Colfer, R. Corish, Wm. Cullimore, W. P. Keegan, John P. Kelly, Wm. Kinsella, Sean O'Byrne and Miss O'Ryan.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Solicitor and Rates Inspector were in attendance.

The County Surveyor was absent owing to illness.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurers Advice Note for £2097. 2. 11 was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

The state of the Rate Collection to date was submitted as follows:-

E. J. Murphy	70.5
J. Curtis	68.1
M. Kehoe	61.2
J. Flood	60.2
S. Gannon No. 6	59.2
J. J. O'Reilly	59.1
D. Kenny	59.1
P. Carty	59.1
J. Cummins	59.0
J. Deegan	59.0
S. Gannon No. 10	58.2
P. Doyle	57.9
P. Nolan	53.7
A. Dunne	52.6
M. McCarthy	52.0
J. Quirke	50.4
W. Cummins	49.5
J. J. Sinnott	49.1
W. Doyle	47.6
M. Murphy	46.2

The average was 56 per cent. Compared with the corresponding period last year the collection was .2 better.

The following under date 12th March 1936 (G.47333-36) was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

4

Adverting to your letter of the 4th instant relative to the payment of poundage to Collector John J. Sinnott (No. 16 Collection District), I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that he is not prepared to sanction payment of poundage as proposed, but will raise no objection to payment at the rate of 7d less 5 per cent in respect of the lodgment of an amount equivalent to the first moiety of the current warrant plus arrears applicable to 1934-35.

The position of the collection generally in the County is most unsatisfactory and the Minister desires that a copy of this letter be sent to each Collector. The Council should furthermore at the earliest opportunity fix a date for the closing of the warrants in the County, and the action to be taken in the event of failure to comply should be intimated in advance to the Collectors. I am to ask that you will also take such steps at this stage as may be necessary to impress on Collectors that the lists of irrecoverable items should be submitted within the time prescribed."

It was decided to warn Collectors they must close their collection by the lodgment of a sum equivalent to the amount of current rate plus amount of arrears carried forward from 1934/35 assessment by 18th May 1936. That the Council be recommended to withhold Collecting Books for next financial year from any Collector who, in the opinion of the Council has not taken proper steps to carry out this direction. That where there are no arrears carried forward from previous Collections the Council will refuse to regard as temporary uncollectable any amounts of second moiety of current rate.

The Chairman expressed the opinion that the majority of the Collectors should by the present date have collected at least 80% of their current rate.

The following table gives the percentage of ratings on which the first moiety of rate is still due:-

J. Curtis	3.8
D. Kenny	4.5
M. Kehoe	5.6
E. J. Murphy	5.7
J. Cummins	6.0
J. J. O'Reilly	7.3
W. Cummins	7.3
A. Dunne	8.0
P. Doyle	8.4
J. Deegan	8.4
J. J. Sinnott	8.5
P. Carty	10.9
S. Gannon No.10	12.2
W. Doyle	12.2

5

J. Flood	12.3
M. McCarthy	12.5
M. Murphy	13.1
P. Nolan	13.3
J. Quirke	15.6
S. Gannon No. 6	19.3

It was decided to inform collectors who have 9% or over of holdings on which first moiety rate is outstanding that the Finance Committee are not satisfied with this state of affairs. They believe Collectors who have over 9% of holdings for which first moiety has not been paid have not been sufficiently energetic in getting in the rates. The requests of the Finance Committee to the Collectors calling for a substantial improvement in their collection have met with poor response, and unless better progress be made from now on the Finance Committee will be obliged to urge that drastic action should be taken.

APPLICATION COMPENSATION CRIMINAL INJURY

An application for £50 compensation for alleged wanton or malicious burning of a rick of hay etc. was received from Patrick Fortune, Corah, Ballycarney.

It was pointed out that applicant had been awarded Decrees previously.

A recommendation was adopted to point out to the Executive Council that the Malicious Injury Acts should be repealed as they are used at present in the main for the protection of Insurance Companies. The Finance Committee understand that in England, in which no such Statutes are in existence, insurance rates are lower than in this country.

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS

The following under date 5th March 1936 (H.40,235-36 Loch Garman) was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"With reference to an entry in the minutes of the meeting of the Wexford County Council on the 10th ultimo

on the subject, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state the he consents to the making of the following advances under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts:-

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PREMISES</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Patrick Scully	Blackstoops, Enniscorthy	£130
Patrick Byrne	do.	£155
Mrs. Mary Anne Pender (nee Corcoran)	do.	£170
Thomas O'Reilly	do.	£155
John Mullett	do.	£130
Charles Hendrick	do.	£125
Mrs. Johanna Kennedy	Shelbaggin, Ramsgrange.	£215
Jeremiah Clare.	Custodium, Inch.	£165

I am to add that the advance of £155 to Patrick Byrne is in lieu of the advance of £145 sanctioned on 11th December, 1935 (H.206829/35) and the advance of £165 to Jeremiah Clare is in lieu of the advance of £150 sanctioned on the 19th November, 1935 (H.186,859/35)."

Under date 12th March 1936 Joseph Doyle, Woodville, Ballyhogue wrote that he had applied under above Acts for a loan of £200 and was awarded £135 which was supplemented by a Government grant of £45 making in all £180, which was not sufficient to finish the building of his house which would cost £245. He now applied for another £55.

It was pointed out that Mr. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, had valued the house at £180 and deducting the grant of £45 from this the applicant had been granted a loan for the balance.

It was decided to inform Mr. Doyle that the Finance Committee could not recommend him for a larger loan taking into account the value of his house and the amount of the Government Grant.

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

"That the advance earmarked provisionally for Mr. W.P. Keegan be transferred to ^{Edmund} Dempsey, Ardamine, as Mr. Keegan has withdrawn his application."

In the case of Patrick Byrne, Mr. Kelly said that this man had left the district and did not intend to take up residence in the new house.

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

"That Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor inform James Murphy, New Road, Gorey, and Patrick Byrne, Enniscorthy that, if they do not take up residence in new houses erected under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts by 31st March 1936 the County Council will proceed to take up possession of both houses."

It was decided that at the first meeting of the Finance Committee held after the close of the financial year the list of unsuccessful applicants for loans under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts be submitted along with amount of loan for each Rural District not taken up by applicants to whom it was provisionally allocated.

COUNTY COUNCIL INSURANCES

It was decided that quotations for Insurances of County Council be adjourned to next meeting of the Committee when it is expected that the County Surveyor will be in attendance.

SHEEP DIPPING ORDER

At last meeting of the Finance Committee letter was read from Mr. Lynch, V.S., New Ross that he had reason to believe a big percentage of sheep was not dipped which was chiefly responsible for any outbreaks of sheep scab in South Wexford.

Under date 9th March 1936, the Chief Superintendent, Garda Siochana, wrote that Mr. Lynch when interviewed, was unable to state any instance in which sheep in the New Ross division were not dipped. He had stated instead that it was his opinion that the sheep were ineffectively dipped

and consequently subject to scab.

Under date 6th March 1936 Mr. M. J. Hennessy, Lay Sheep Dipping Inspector for New Ross District wrote that the Sheep Dipping Order was not enforced along the Carlow Wexford border from Buncloody to Drummond. The district on the Carlow side of the Mountain was full of Scab and the disease was imported into Wexford by sheep straying down the mountain on to the Wexford side. Carlow sheep owners hired grass every year in Wexford and Wexford people bought sheep from Carlow owners which caused the disease to spread. He held that sheep along the Carlow side of the mountain were never dipped. It would be difficult to prevent the spread of the disease until the Order was properly enforced throughout Carlow County. As regards dipping not being carried out in New Ross District there may be some truth in the matter as the Garda were very dilatory about sending the Forms to the Inspector. These were left in the barracks sometimes for weeks after the date on which they were handed in. Whenever he (Inspector) called to a barrack he found a pile of them hanging about. By holding the Forms in this way the Garda were not giving the Inspector a chance of supervising the dipping of the sheep referred to therein. At present there were two stray sheep on the Wexford Carlow border in a bad state with scab. They had strayed in from Carlow County and were being hunted all over the place by dogs. Sheep owners feared these animals would introduce scab to their flocks. He (Inspector) had reported the matter about a month ago to the Garda and he did not know if they had taken any steps.

It was decided to furnish the Chief Superintendent of the Garda Siochana with extracts from the letter of Mr. Hennessy, Lay Sheep Dipping Inspector; also to ascertain

if a notice issued by the Council calling attention to the necessity for carrying out the Sheep Dipping Order in an effective manner would be exhibited on the notice boards of Garda Barracks in the County. Owing to the number of rumours in circulation the Council will be obliged to see that this Order is effectively carried out in the future.

VACANCY FOR VETERINARY INSPECTOR WEXFORD DISTRICT

Under date 11th March 1936 the Department of Agriculture wrote (E.1239/36) as follows relative to above vacancy:-

"With reference to your letter of the 17th ultimo, relative to the appointment of a Veterinary Inspector for duties under the Diseases of Animals Acts and Bovine Tuberculosis Order in Wexford district (including Wexford Urban District) in place of Mr. Malone who has resigned, I am directed by the Minister for Agriculture to state that he will offer no objection to the rates of remuneration proposed by your Local Authority for the post., viz., £90 per annum for duties under the Diseases of Animals Acts and £25 per annum for duties under the Bovine Tuberculosis Order, the latter sum being subject to periodic revision.

The Minister also approves of the proposal of your local Authority regarding the description of the district of the Veterinary Inspector viz., the old Rural District of Wexford and the Urban District of Wexford.

I have to add that the duties of the post might be set out as shown in the accompanying memorandum. The regular Veterinary Inspector to be appointed should reside within the district in question."

The following is a list of the duties to be carried out:-

(a) Attendance at all cases or suspected cases of Scheduled Contagious Animal Diseases reported under the respective Orders within the district of the Veterinary Inspector.

(b) The carrying out of duties under the Diseases of Animals Acts and Orders (including the Bovine Tuberculosis Order and the Sheep Dipping Orders) and of all Orders issued or that may be issued thereunder by the Local Authority under the Diseases of Animals Acts.

(c) Attendance at fairs in the district in connection with the various Orders especially of the Sheep Scab Order

and the furnishing of reports at least once a month of the work carried out in connection with attendance at fairs.

It was decided that Statutory Request on the lines already agreed to by the Finance Committee with list of duties supplied by Department of Agriculture be furnished to the Local Appointments Commission in respect of the vacancy.

WARBLE FLY (TREATMENT OF CATTLE) ORDER 1936

Under date 11th March 1936 the Department of Agriculture wrote (E.1022-36) that the names of the Inspectors appointed at the meeting of the Council on 9th instant for the purposes of above Order and the particulars of the districts to which they had been assigned had been duly noted. The decision of the Finance Committee that the Council's Veterinary Surgeons, in the event of their accepting the proposals as to supervision under the Order should meet the newly appointed Inspectors on the 16th instant for the purpose of giving practical illustrations to the Lay Inspectors as to treatment under the Order, had also been noted.

Letters were read from the following Veterinary Surgeons that they agreed to the proposals of the Council as to supervision and remuneration therefor:- Messrs. F.S. Ringwood (Enniscorthy), T. A. Mernagh (Gorey), Frank Staples (Wexford) and F. W. Taylor and Joseph Lynch (New Ross).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER

Under date 9th March 1936 the following was read from Dr. C. Bastible, County Medical Officer:-

"I wish to apply to the Wexford County Council through you for the balance of my annual leave for 1935 plus a week of my annual leave for 1936.

The dates for which I wish to apply are from the 19th March to the 9th April, 1936. I name as my substitute Dr. Thomas O'Sullivan at the usual remuneration of 10 guineas

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a week. Dr. O'Sullivan is at the moment acting as Tuberculosis Officer and he will be able to get another Doctor to do his duty during the period of my absence."

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

"That the leave applied for by Dr. Bastible, County Medical Officer of Health, viz., from 19th March to 9th April 1936 be agreed to subject to the approval of County Board of Health."

It was also agreed that Dr. Thomas O'Sullivan, D.P.H., be appointed as substitute at remuneration of £10. 10. 0 per week with Vouched Travelling Expenses at the rate of £200 per annum.

GREAT ISLAND EMBANKMENT

Under date 11th March 1936 the following (12551/36 - Estate of E.M. Gallwey County Wexford. Rec. No. S.855) was read from the Irish Land Commission:-

"With reference to your letter of the 17th ultimo, forwarding a copy of a resolution adopted by your Council at their meeting on the 10th idem, regarding flooding at Great Island on the above Estate, stated to be due to defective river embankments, I am desired by the Land Commission to inform you that this matter is at present being investigated by them and that a further communication on the subject will be made to you in due course."

It was decided to furnish Mr. N. J. Murphy, Kilmorea, Campile, with copy of this letter for the information of the people concerned.

MINOR RELIEF SCHEMES

The following proposals under Minor Relief Schemes have been approved by the Office of Public Works:-

ENNISCORTHY DISTRICT: Repairing and widening the accommodation road leading through Garrymile townland - the approach to nine dwellings in the townland. Amount £80.

Repair and surface road at Garrynisk. £50.

GOREY DISTRICT: Repair and widen road leading from County road near Riverchapel village at James Daly's house etc. Amount £75.

Repair accommodation road leading from County road in Croghan and going north west to tenants' houses in Croghan Upper. Amount £80.

NEW ROSS DISTRICT: Repair and surface lane at Hopefield and Tottenham Green. Amount £70.

WEXFORD DISTRICT: Repair and surface road in Ballinacoola-beg and Ballinacoola More. Amount £80.

APPOINTMENT OF RATE CLERKS

It was decided that special Committee for appointment of temporary clerks to write up Rate Books and Receipt and Demand Note Books meet at 3.30 p.m. on Friday 27th March 1936 to select those who are to be employed.

Patrick Beary, 3 St. Columbas Villas, Wexford, wrote applying for extra remuneration this year for acting as charge hand when engaged in the following work:- Issue of abatement forms; checking these when returned etc. and also preparation of Rate Books, Receipt and Demand Notes. At present he was in receipt of $\frac{5}{12}$ /- per hour, the same rate of pay as the clerks whose work he directed. He considered that last year he had carried out the work satisfactorily and the members would, he believed, agree with him that a person overseeing the work of a number of men was entitled to something over and above the rate of pay of those of whose work he was in charge.

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

"That Patrick Beary, while engaged as charge hand in connection with preparation of Rate Books etc. be paid at the rate of 1/2d. per hour."

CARETAKER GOREY UNION BUILDINGS

Under date 11th March 1936 Mr. T. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor for the district wrote that he had arranged with Thomas Lawlor, Caretaker, Gorey Union Buildings, about taking over possession on 14th March 1936. He went into the question of claim for repairs carried out in lodge where he resides and valued same at £3.

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

"That we recommend the County Council to allow Thomas Lawlor, Caretaker, Gorey Union Buildings, the sum of £3 for repairs carried out by him at the Lodge, Gorey Union Buildings."

ROSSLARE SEWERAGE SCHEME

Under date 19th February 1936 the Department of Local Government and Public Health forwarded (P.H.9012/1936) Sealed Order fixing the area of Wexford Rural District as constituted before the 1st day of October 1925 as the area of charge on which all expenses for the purposes of providing a sewerage system and maintaining the same at Rosslare. These expenses will be chargeable as between the area of Wexford Rural District as set out in the proportion of nineteen twentieths and one twentieth on the townlands of Bearlough, Mauritiustown, Rosetown, Walsheslough and Whitehouse in Rosslare District Electoral Division.

COUNTY BUILDINGS AND LEASE

In reply to the Chairman, Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, said that it was intended that the fee farm grant about to be taken out would be at the same rent £207. 11. 6d. as was set out in the lease just expired. There was a head-rent of £22 and there was also an annuity of £20, both of which had to be satisfied out of the £207. 11. 6. At twenty

14

years' purchase the capital sum would be £4140.

It was decided that further consideration of the matter be adjourned to next meeting of Finance Committee when the amount of annuity to raise the above amount at 20, 25, 30 and 35 years at 4, $4\frac{1}{4}$, $4\frac{1}{2}$, $4\frac{3}{4}$ and 5 per cent would be submitted.

VILLAGE STREETS

It was decided to ask the County Surveyor to submit schemes for the repair of the streets of the villages of the County to next meeting of the Finance Committee with a view to making application to the Department of Local Government and Public Health (Roads) for a 50% grant towards these repairs.

GOREY TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Under date 7th March 1936 the Principal of Gorey Technical School wrote asking the permission of the County Council to have new holes for erection of fair-day temporary fencing posts opened in the side walk in front of Gorey School in place of those filled in by Co. Council workers.

The following recommendation was adopted:-

"The Finance Committee cannot see their way to recommend the County Council to agree to request from Principal of Gorey Technical School re opening of holes in side walk in front of school but would approve of the erection of a suitable temporary railing which should be erected to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor."

IRISH SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATIONS

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

"That permission be given County Wexford Vocational Education Committee to use County Council Chamber for the purpose of holding the Committee's Irish Scholarship Examinations on 16th May and 23rd May 1936."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Colfer seconded by Mr. Kelly:-

"That the minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 13th March 1936 be received and considered."

ROSSLARE SEWERAGE SCHEME: The County Surveyor submitted the following under date 1st April 1936 from Mr. P.H. McCarthy, 26 Lower Leeson Street, Dublin:-

"I send you herewith a survey to a scale of 20-feet to an inch showing the east side of the public road at Rosslare, the edge of the concrete, the adjoining fence and the houses.

On this I have indicated where the sewer will be laid. The existing water main is between the edge of the concrete and the fence. Owing to the nature of the ground I don't think we could safely keep any nearer to the existing pipe, in fact I think we will be very close to the existing pipes - that is the water mains.

Between Manhole 14 and Manhole 16 you will see we are a good distance away from the edge of the concrete and in this case you will need to keep your new fence between the sewer and the edge of the concrete, but the fact of our sewer being on the land side would not interfere with any building development. The same observations apply from about midway between Manholes 18 and 19 to the final Manhole No. 22 on the Public Road. Mr. Kelly was anxious that none of his trees would be interfered with and I have tried to meet his views by keeping the sewer clear of the trees.

I shall be glad if you could look into the matter and have things arranged at your earliest convenience as the Contractor will soon want to make a start at this portion of the work."

The County Surveyor said that after examining the plan he inspected the place and did not agree with the proposals of Mr. McCarthy. The latter had gone outside the area which the County Council decided to take in as per the agreements they had made for widening the road. He (County Surveyor) was satisfied that the sewerage pipes could be laid under the road footpath as was pointed out to Mr. McCarthy in the first instance and apparently accepted by him.

After discussion the Chairman proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Mr. Culleton and adopted:-

"That Miss O'Ryan, Messrs. Corish, Col. Gibbon, Mr.

P. H. McCarthy (Engineer) with the Secretary to Board of Health and County Surveyor be appointed a Sub-Committee to meet at Rosslare to inspect and report as to the laying of sewerage pipes as regards widening of road . That the County Surveyor fix place, date and hour of meeting when he has arranged for the attendance of Mr. McCarthy.

On the motion of Miss O'Ryan seconded by Mr. Kelly the following resolution was adopted:-

"That Sub-Committee also examine timber structures erected at the end of Station Road, Rosslare and report to the Council thereon."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Colfer seconded by Mr. Kelly:-

"That Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 13th March 1936 be and are hereby confirmed"

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 27th MARCH 1936: The Minutes of Finance Committee for this date were submitted as follows:-

14

The fortnightly meeting of Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 27th March 1936.

Present:- Mr. D. Allen, Chairman (presiding), Messrs. Patrick Colfer, Wm. Cullimore, W. P. Keegan, John P. Kelly, Sean O'Byrne and Miss O'Ryan.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and Rates Inspector were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £5559. 7. Od. was examined and signed.

NEXT MEETING OF COMMITTEE

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

"That as Good Friday falls on 10th April 1936 - the day fixed for next meeting of this Committee - said meeting be held on 9th April."

RATE COLLECTION

STATE OF: The following shows the position of the Rate Collection to date:-

E. J. Murphy	77.3
J. Curtis	71.9
S. Gannon No. 10	68.3
M. Kehoe	67.5
S. Gannon No. 6	67.3
J. Deegan	66.8
J. Cummins	66.0
J. Flood	64.3
D. Kenny	64.1
P. Carty	63.2
P. Doyle	61.6
J. J. O'Reilly	60.7
P. Nolan	60.2
M. McCarthy	57.7
A. Dunne	56.9
W. Cummins	56.2
J. Quirke	54.1
J. J. Sinnott	53.3
M. Murphy	51.3
W. Doyle	50.5

The percentage of amount collected was 1.9 per cent behind the amount for the corresponding period last year.

Under date 23rd March 1936, the following letter (G.45303-36 Loch Garman) was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to inform you that he has had under consideration the position of the Rate Collection in Wexford County, as disclosed in the monthly return for the period ending 29th ultimo, and to state, that having regard to all the circumstances, he is not satisfied that the collection is being carried out with all possible diligence by the Collectors. In five Districts a moiety of the rates has not so far been lodged, and it is apparent that unless the question is now taken up with the Collectors personally, the ratepayers who are in a position to pay will postpone meeting their obligations indefinitely.

I am to request that the following steps should now be taken, viz.:-

1. A copy of this letter should be sent forthwith to every collector in the County, with a request that the active steps so far taken to enforce the collection, and proposed to be taken before the end of this month, should be notified to you in writing within three days. Copies of these statements should be submitted to this Department. The Collectors should be warned that unless these statements are forthcoming by the prescribed time, their suspension will follow. In any case in which the reply is evasive or unsatisfactory, the Collector should be so informed and a further opportunity afforded him to comply. If continued failure results, the matter should be put before the Council for necessary action.
2. The Rate Inspector, assisted, if necessary, by a member of the clerical staff, should arrange to visit the Districts of Collectors J. Quirke, W. Doyle, S. Gannon, J. Deegan, J. Cummins, J. Flood, W. Cummins, M. Murphy and J.J. Sinnott, where the outstanding amounts require special explanation. The Rate Collector in each case should be interviewed as to the manner in which he has so far effected his collection, special attention being paid (i) to the dates on which the Demand Notes were actually served (ii) the methods by which the fact that rates are now overdue are brought to the notice of the ratepayer in default i.e., whether ratepayers who are in arrear and in a position to have paid, have been visited personally by the Collector, and warned as to the consequences, (iii) the number of cases in which six day notices have been issued or legal proceedings instituted. The special reports in all cases should be submitted to this Department.

I am to add that the Minister does not regard the position in any of the Districts in the County as satisfactory, due regard being had to the dates the warrants were issued and the progress made in other counties with comparable economic features. Apart from any disciplinary action by way of removal from office, which may be necessary, it should be borne in mind that up to the present

19

considerable deference has been paid to the wishes of the Council in regard to the poundage payable to Collectors who have not complied with the conditions of their appointments. It is obvious that an impression has now arisen that payment at the maximum basis with in many cases an addition by way of bonus, will follow, irrespective of the dates of closing, provided application to this effect is made.

The Minister now deems it necessary that there should be a clear understanding at this stage, that apart from cases in which graver disciplinary action is necessary, poundage at rates which may hitherto have been regarded as customary, will not be sanctioned unless there is reasonable compliance with the conditions prescribed. The Collectors would accordingly do well to realise that the results by way of remuneration will depend on an early closing of their warrants, and that the responsibility for any reductions made from the basic rate of poundage will rest entirely with themselves.

Furthermore the issue of the warrants for the coming financial year should not be presumed by any Collector who is not prepared to carry out the directions to be issued by the Council in regard to the closing of the current warrant. The Minister sees no reason why a date not later than the 30th proximo should not be fixed by the Council for closing generally in regard to the whole county, and Collectors notified to this effect. The views of the Council on this matter will be awaited."

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

"That the Department of Local Government and Public Health be informed that the County Council have fixed 18th May 1936 as the closing date for warrants of Rate Collectors in respect of current financial year. The Finance Committee request the Minister to acquiesce in this proposal as a number of important fairs are held in the County between 1st May and 18th May."

The Secretary stated it was intended to call in the nine collectors named in the Department's communication to County Council offices on 3rd April 1936, when the amounts outstanding would be examined.

Attention was called to advertisement issued by collectors in Gorey area in which it was stated that they had "received notice from Local Government Department threatening suspension and dismissal of any Collector who does not take immediate and drastic steps against ratepayers in default."

It was pointed out that the meaning of this advertisement could only be that the Rate Collectors in question were only prepared to carry out their duties on threat of suspension or dismissal. The Finance Committee considered this a most undesirable view to take, particularly in view of the contract of service between the Collectors and the County Council to collect rates with all due diligence.

After discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Miss O'Ryan:-

"That in connection with collection of rates, Rate Collectors must, in future, submit to County Secretary, for his approval any advertisement which they propose to issue in respect of collection."

In connection with seizures for rates the Finance Committee adopted a resolution asking the Land Commission, when dealing with cases in which amounts were due for Land Annuities and also for rates, that the amount realised should be on a 50/50 basis.

Attention was also called to a particular case in which nulla bona^{return} had been made by the Sheriff on a holding which had been set. There were nine cows and two year old cattle on the lands and also a large crop of wheat had been obtained from the holding last year.

The Chairman proposed the following resolution:-

"That as regards payment of arrears of rates this Finance Committee are of opinion that the law should be amended enabling growing crops of cereals etc. to be seized and enabling Collectors to obtain a garnishee Order against crops. At present, corn cannot be seized unless in stack."

Mr. Kelly seconded the resolution which was adopted.

COUNTY COUNCIL INSURANCES

The following quotations were received for the County Council Insurances for financial year 1936/37:-

The Ocean Accident & Guarantee Corporation Ltd. quoted through their brokers Messrs. McDonagh & Boland, the following figures:-

Employers Liability: Common Law 1/6%; Sub Contractors 60% 30/-% and all others 30/-%.

Public Liability: Indemnity £1,000; £10,000 for one year; on Wages 3/6%.

The Employers Liability Assurance Co. Ltd. quoted as follows:-

Employers Liability Risk: Common Law 1/6%; Sub Contractors 30/-% and all others 30/-%.

Public Liability Risk: On wages 3/6%.

Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance Co. quoted as follows:-

Employers Liability Risk: Common Law 1/6%; Sub Contractors 30/-%; all others 30/-%.

Public Liability Risk: 3/6% on wages.

Mr. J. J. O'Sullivan, Broker, gave the following quotations:-

Employers Liability Risk: Common Law 1/6%; Sub Contractors 30/-% and all others 30/-%.

Public Liability Risk: Not stated.

G. L. Dexter quoted for the Irish National Assurance Co. at the following figures:-

Employers Liability Risk: Not stated.

Public Liability Risk: Indemnity £1000, unlimited at 4/6% on wages.

Messrs. Kehoe & Co. for Lloyds, London, quoted as follows:-

Employers Liability Risk: 25/-% over all.

Public Liability Risk: 5/-% Roads and Quarries; 2/-% remainder. £5,000 one year - unlimited or Flat Premium £100.

A Representative of the Ocean Accident Company came before the Finance Committee and explained that the rate quoted by them, was the lowest for any County Council in the Free State.

The Chairman pointed out that quotation for the various insurances by the Ocean Accident Company was the same as last year except for Public Liability Risk on Wages, which was increased from 2/-% to 3/6%. He considered that this was not justified.

The Insurance Company's Representative stated that the rate was based on the "incidence of accidents" and the Company were not prepared to reduce it. Next year, if things were favourable, a reduction might be secured.

In the course of further discussion, a point was raised as to the liability of the County Council in the case of carters who were Sub-Contractors and in respect of whom accidents might occur while engaged drawing material for the County Council. It was stated this liability was not covered by present Insurance Policies and a potential liability policy in connection with horse drivers should be obtained.

The matter was referred to the County Surveyor.

Mr. Colfer proposed and Mr. Kelly seconded the following resolution:-

"That the quotations for County Council Insurances from the Ocean Accident Company through Messrs. McDonagh & Boland, Brokers, be accepted."

Passed.

MAIN ROAD UP-KEEP GRANT

Under date 14th March 1936 the Department of Local Government and Public Health (Roads) wrote (RGM/201/36) that a grant of £11958 had been provisionally allocated for the upkeep of Main Roads for Wexford County for year 1936-37. This represents 40% of the amount passed by the

Council for the upkeep of Main Roads, viz., £29,897.

ALLEGED REMOVAL OF ROAD MATERIAL

The County Surveyor submitted the following report from Mr. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, under date 24th March 1936:-

"On 20th instant I inspected above Contract Road No. 602 in company with Ganger Bradley, and found that a depot of unspread material had been removed. This did not appear to have been spread on the road, and we found the stones (approximately nine cubic yards) dumped inside the fence of an adjoining field.

This Contract is in the name of John Butler, Newbawn, but is worked by Nicholas Butler, Newbawn. In the course of further investigation I interviewed the latter, and he told me that he had all material spread on the particular road. Eventually he admitted having removed the stones, and could not give any satisfactory explanation.

These people hold a number of Road Contracts and Haulage Agreements, but are anxious to be rid of the former."

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

"That the report of Mr. Cullen under date 24th March 1936, as to alleged removal of road material from Road No. 602 be referred to Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, with a view to prosecution."

GROUND RENT OF COUNTY BUILDINGS

A discussion took place relative to the redemption of the ground rent of County Buildings, viz., £207. 11. 6d. at 20 years' purchase and figures were submitted showing amount of annuity for 20, 25, 30 and 35 years at 4%, 4½% and 5%.

It was decided that the Treasurer be requested to state if National Bank would be prepared to advance loan for the purpose, and if so, for what period and on what

terms. Also that it be ascertained if loan can be obtained from Local Loans Fund and for what period.

"ECHO" NEWSPAPER AND PRINTING ROAD WORKS SCHEME

Under date 25th March 1936 the following was read from Managing Director, "Echo" Newspaper, Enniscorthy:-

"In reply to your favour of the 18th instant enclosing us copy of the Resolution passed by the Finance Committee relative to the complaint of the County Surveyor as to the delay in Printing of the Road Works Scheme. We regret exceedingly the inconvenience caused. The delay was due to the fact that at the time we had an exceptional heavy rush of work and some of the principal members of our Staff were ill. Needless to say that at all times it is our desire to give prompt delivery and satisfactory work. We are for a number of years Contractors to your Council as well as several other County Councils and Public Bodies and this is the first occasion our work has been the cause of complaint.

We assure you that there will be no delay in executing your work in future."

It was decided to accept the explanation.

PRINTING CONTRACT FOR 1936-37

The following tenders for printing Contract for 1936-37 were submitted:-

"The Echo", Enniscorthy, £111. 9. 0; "The People", Wexford, £116. 18. 0 and "Free Press", Wexford £118. 5. 6d.

The tender of "The Echo" - the lowest - was accepted on the motion of Mr. Kelly seconded by Mr. Keegan.

ALLEGED NON-TRADE UNION FIRM

The following was read from Michael Fitzpatrick, Wexford Lodge, United Operative Plumbers and Domestic Engineers' Association of Great Britain and Ireland:-

"I am instructed by the Members of above Association (Wexford Lodge) to inform you that the firm of Thos. J. Quigley, North Main Street, Wexford, Electrical Engineer, who has been employed by your Council is a Non Trade Union firm, as he has refused to pay the standard rate to the two Electricians who were employed by him. They then had no other alternative but to leave him."

The County Surveyor stated that Mr. Quigley ~~was not~~ was not working for the County Council.

No order.

HAULAGE CONTRACTS - JOHN KENNEDY

The following under date 22nd March 1936 was read from John Kennedy, Ballinaberney, Strahart, Ferns:-

"I received a letter from you some time ago in which it stated that it was reported at a Council Meeting that I took out contracts for haulage in a friend's name. Well, that's untrue, but I carted material for a man by the name of Murphy, who got sick and was unable to carry out his contracts, for which he paid me, but I took out no contracts in his name. And I challenge the person who made that accusation against me to prove it at the next Council Meeting and let Murphy prove the way it happened."

It was decided that copy of this letter be furnished Mr. R. J. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, for his observations.

OVERDRAFT ACCOMMODATION

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Colfer seconded by Mr. Kelly:-

"That the Minister for Local Government and Public Health be requested to approve of overdraft accommodation by the Council with their Treasurer up to a maximum of £40,000 (Forty Thousand Pounds) for the months of April, May and June 1936."

ALLOCATION FROM CONTINGENCIES FUND

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

"That the following allocations be made from Roads Contingencies Funds:-

MAIN

3	£ 8. 0. 0d
12	£ 5. 0. 0d
57	£12. 0. 0d
64	£ 3. 0. 0d
68	£3 . 0. 0d
41	£ 3. 0. 0d
52	£ 8.10. 0d
30	£ 9. 0. 0d

COUNTY

Sect. 1	£10. 0. 0d
" 8	£24. 0. 0d
" 34	£20.14. 0d

LEAVE OF ABSENCE CO. MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

The following letter (P.H.55896/35 Loch Garman) under date 14th March 1936 was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, and I am to state that, subject to ratification by the County Council, the Minister approves of the appointment of Dr. T. O'Sullivan, D.P.H., as substitute during the absence on leave of Dr. C. Bastible, County Medical Officer of Health, as from the 19th instant, with remuneration at the rate of £10/10/- per week and vouched travelling expenses not exceeding £200 per annum.

EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS

Invitation was received from Fianna Fail Workers Club, Cinema Lane, Wexford, as to participation in Commemoration Procession to Crosstown Cemetery, Wexford, on Easter Sunday.

No order.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Miss O'Ryan seconded by Mr. Keegan:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 27th March 1936 be received and considered."

COUNTY COUNCIL INSURANCES: The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr. Corish:-

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to obtain from Messrs. McDonagh and Boland, 51 Dame Street, Dublin, quotation for potential liability policy for drivers of horse-drawn vehicles who are employed from time to time by the Council."

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

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 27th March 1936, be and are hereby confirmed."

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 9th APRIL 1936: The Minutes of this meeting were submitted as follows:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 9th April 1936.

Present:- Mr. D. Allen (Chairman) presiding, also, Messrs. P. Colfer, R. Corish, W. P. Keegan, John P. Kelly, Sean O'Byrne and Miss O'Ryan.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and Rates Inspector were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurers' Advice Note for £5462. 9. 4d. was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

STATE OF: The following gives the state of the Rate Collection to date. It was 6.1 per cent below the amount collected at the corresponding period last year:-

E. J. Murphy	87.9
J. Curtis	84.2
S. Gannon No. 10.	79.1
P. Carty	77.1
J. Deegan	76.7
M. Kehoe	76.7
J. Cummins	76.3
D. Kenny	75.8
S. Gannon No. 6.	71.7
J. Flood	71.7
P. Nolan	71.2
P. Doyle	70.8
J. J. O'Reilly	70.3
M. McCarthy	68.5
A. Dunne	64.2
J. Quirke	61.7
W. Cummins	61.7
J. J. Sinnott	58.6
M. Murphy	58.1
W. Doyle	<u>56.8</u>

70.2

The following report was submitted from the Secretary:-

"Delay in closing warrant in due time is frequently caused through Collectors' failure to take prompt steps to recover first moiety in good time. The result is that numbers of ratepayers pay first moiety in the months of

January and February, and Collectors, therefore, find it impossible to collect second moiety by the 31st March.

It is suggested that Collectors should take definite action against ratepayers, who are in arrear with first moiety, about the middle of November each year. In order that the Council should be kept informed of the position of the first moiety, I consider Collectors should be instructed to lodge rates applicable to first moiety separately so that returns may be easily prepared showing at Finance Meetings the position of each moiety separately.

Some Collectors complain that since decrees obtained through the Courts were not executed this had a detrimental effect on the collection and, also, when a Court decree is obtained, a Collector is not authorised to proceed under his own warrant. It would be well to point out to Collectors, generally, that if a Court decree be obtained for, say, the 1934-35 rate, there is nothing to prevent them seizing on their own warrants in respect of rate for the year ended March 1936. It would be well to ask Rate Collectors to send list of unexecuted Court Decrees to the Rates Inspector so that the matter may be taken up with the County Registrar.

Nine Collectors were interviewed at County Council Offices on Friday, 3rd April 1936, viz:- J. Quirke, W. Doyle, S. Gannon, J. Deegan, J. Cummins, J. Flood, W. Cummins, M. Murphy and J. J. Sinnott.

All these Collectors, except William Doyle had their Demand Notes served by the end of August. The service of Demand Notes in Mr. Doyle's area was not completed until 20th September 1935. The Collectors stated they called a number of times on defaulting ratepayers but three of the Collectors did not obtain Court decrees for current rate within the financial year. Cases were, however, dealt with by the Collectors' Solicitors. I have notified the Collectors concerned that in future they should take steps

to obtain decrees in due time before the end of the financial year.

The attention of Collectors was drawn to the fact that last year in a number of instances one moiety of outstanding rate remained uncollected and had to be carried forward in the following year's warrant. They were informed they should make a special "drive" to secure the hanging half year before Collecting books are closed next month.

It would be advisable that Collectors put greater energy into the early stages of the collection. It appeared that a number of Collectors put off taking definite action against ratepayers until after 31st March. This results in a very poor collection at the close of the financial year. I consider a definite date should be fixed for the closing of the first moiety and that the steps now taken by the Collectors after the close of the financial year, should be taken in respect of the first moiety by mid-November, and for the second moiety by the 1st March."

The foregoing report of County Secretary was adopted on the motion of Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Colfer.

Miss O'Ryan pointed out that the collection in her opinion should be much more forward than it was. There were definite signs of increasing prosperity as compared with last year.

The Rates Inspector stated that the Credit Notes last year had the effect of bringing in at this particular period a large amount of money. The collection would not wind up with a 6% deficit, compared with corresponding period last year.

Miss O'Ryan held that unless the Warrants were satisfactorily closed the services of some of the Collectors would have to be dispensed with.

After consideration it was decided on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Keegan that the two years'

arrears would be brought forward in the new Collecting Books and any arrears over and above this be collected as Separate items.

It was decided that Collectors be called upon at the close of warrant to lodge any items on Collecting Books on which they fail to give the Secretary a satisfactory reason for non-collection.

The Rate Inspector will from his visits to Collectors' Districts note on outstanding lists his observations in respect of undischarged items.

The Chairman considered that from now to the end of the collection, the Rates Inspector should compile a list of people from whom it was expected rates would not be obtained, and have a report for the Finance Committee, at the meeting at which the close of the collection will be considered.

It was also decided that any collector who will lodge the equivalent of current warrant and last year's arrears will be regarded as having made a satisfactory colse. The Finance Committee feel they will be compelled to take drastic steps against Collectors who fail to carry out this direction.

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

"That the County Council be recommended to obtain approval of Minister for Local Government and Public Health to permanent appointment of John Deegan, as Rate Collector for No. 7 District, and to Sean Gannon, Collector for No. 10 District, (which we recommend, should be amalgamated with No. 6)."

"This recommendation is made in view of the fact that both these Collectors have given satisfaction in the past. Should it be decided that an examination for this position is required, we recommend the Council to insert in the ad-

vertisement inviting applications, a provision that any person at present in the service of the Council and who has proved satisfactory, will not be required to sit for the examination."

SOW DRAINAGE RATE: Letter from Thomas Leacy, Killisk, The Ballagh, as to Rates on Sow Drainage Area was referred to the collector concerned.

EMPLOYMENT OF RATE CLERKS: The Secretary was given authority to dispense with the services of any temporary Rate Clerk whose work was not up to the average.

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS

Messrs. M. J. O'Connor & Co., Solicitors, Wexford, made application on behalf of Mr. Matthew Parle, Clover Valley, Taghmon, for loan under above Acts for house which he proposed to erect at a cost of £500, as per plan of Mr. Gerald Flood, Engineer County Board of Health. It was decided on the motion of Miss O'Ryan seconded by Mr. Colfer that a sum of £350 be advanced in this case.

Application from Mrs. Goldie, 1 Wafer Street, Enniscorthy was refused as she lived in the Urban District of Enniscorthy.

The meeting considered that any balance on foot of existing loans and any money which may be made available under any new loans should be reserved for applicants residing in rural areas.

Enniscorthy District: Amount available unspent £250.
Reduction of Loans £170. Total £420.

The following advances were agreed to:- Owen Hiney, Rectory Road, Enniscorthy £180; Mrs. Murphy, Dranagh, Caim £100; Walter Carley, Rectory Road, Enniscorthy £140. These were selected from previous lists of applicants.

Gorey District: Available £200 from previous loans and £140 through reduction of loans. Total £340.

It was decided that allocation be made at next meeting of Finance Committee from existing applicants.

New Ross District: There is a sum of £360 available in this district and it was decided to allocate this at next meeting of Finance Committee.

Wexford District: It was also decided to allocate the £860 available in this district at next meeting of Finance Committee.

A resolution was adopted asking County Surveyor to ascertain from Mr. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor for the district, if it is possible to make a revised value of house (£150) of Patrick Murphy, Rosetown, Barntown.

The steps to be taken by the County Solicitor in reference to houses of Mr. McGrath, Templeshannon, Enniscorthy and Patrick Byrne, 7 Market Square, Enniscorthy, at present unoccupied were approved.

TOWN AND REGIONAL PLANNING ACT 1934

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

"That Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, be instructed to prepare a Memorandum which will afford the requisite information to the Council as to the necessary steps to take to put into effect provisions of the Town and Regional Planning Act in so far as same may affect the rural portion of the County Wexford.

PRINTING RECEIPT AND DEMAND NOTE BOOKS

Two tenders were received for the printing of Collectors' Receipt and Demand Notes for year 1936/37:-

Messrs. Redmond Bros., Enniscorthy at £26. 18. 6, and Messrs. J. English & Co., Wexford at £28. 0. 0.

Redmond's tender was accepted on the motion of Mr.

O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Kelly.

WARBLE FLY (TREATMENT OF CATTLE) ORDER 1936

The Secretary reported that John Doyle, Ballygoman, Barntown, had resigned his position as Warble Fly Inspector for No. 11 district, comprising the following Electoral Divisions:- Glynn, Kilbride, Killurin, Kilpatrick, Art-ramont, Ardavan, Ardcolum, Forth, Carrig, Taghmon and Whitechurch (Glynn).

This was owing to the fact that he had not recovered from the effects of a recent accident.

The Secretary said he had suggested to the Department of Agriculture that the district might be divided between the Inspectors for Nos. 12 and 13, but the Department would not agree and stated they preferred a new man should be appointed to the vacancy.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Miss O'Ryan seconded by Mr. Colfer:-

"That Edward Woods, Kingsford, Barntown, a former applicant for the position, be appointed as temporary Inspector under Warble Fly (Treatment of Cattle) Order 1936 for No. 11 District, vice John Doyle, Ballygoman, Barntown, resigned. We understand that Mr. Woods has been helping John Doyle in this work up to the present. That this temporary appointment be reported to the meeting of the County Council on the 14th instant."

BALLYTHOMAS QUARRY

Mr. Keegan pointed out that as there was a considerable amount of unemployment in the district, and a number of men were available for hand breaking at the above quarry, the County Surveyor should arrange to start work there immediately.

The County Surveyor said that if at all possible he would carry out the proposal of Mr. Keegan.

HAULAGE CONTRACT - J. KENNEDY, BALLYNAHERRY, STRAHART.

In connection with the statement of Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, that John Kennedy had obtained haulage for two roads in a friend's name, a letter from Kennedy denying these allegations had been referred to Mr. Ennis. Kennedy stated in this communication it was untrue to say he had taken contracts for haulage in anybody's name. He had carted material for a man named Murphy who was ill and unable to carry out his contracts. Murphy paid him for the work but there were no contracts taken out by Kennedy in Murphy's name and Murphy was prepared to prove this to the Council.

The County Surveyor said that Mr. Ennis adhered to his statement that Kennedy had tendered for and got two other roads in another person's name.

No order; as the Finance Committee had already dealt with the matter and had decided to warn Kennedy that if a similar complaint was made against him in future he would be debarred from any further work under the Council.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATION

Notification was received from the District Court Clerk, New Ross, that application would be made for the committal of Bridget Lewis, 6 years old, illegitimate child of Mary Lewis, who was unable to support her, and who was at present an inmate of the Good Shepherd Convent, New Ross as a penitent.

Referred to Mr. Elgee.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGE - COUNTY HALL

Under date 9th April, 1936, the following was read from Secretary, County Board of Health:-

"It has been suggested at a meeting of the Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance that telephonic arrangements for the Board's new offices at the County Hall might best be made by providing a telephone exchange for the County Hall Offices and the employment of a special

person to keep the exchange and keep a Departmental Return of telephone calls. I understand from Mr. Allen that he is anxious to discuss this matter at the meeting of the Finance Committee to-day."

The proposal was agreed to on the motion of Miss O'Ryan, seconded by Mr. Kelly.

APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION CRIMINAL INJURY

An application from Dr. James A. Pierse, Wexford, for £20 compensation for damage to gas brackets, globes, mantles, window glass, window frames and doors at Ard Ruadh, Spawell Road, Wexford, was referred to the County Solicitor.

TEMPORARY FILING CLERK

On the motion of Mr. Kelly seconded by Mr. Colfer the following resolution was adopted:-

"That application of Secretary for temporary filing clerk for two months be approved, remuneration to be at the rate of 25/- per week."

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

Under date 3rd April 1936, Mr. J. M. Druhan, 35, Chelmsford Road, Ranelagh, Dublin, a County Council University Scholar, wrote that as a result of an examination he had obtained a position in the Civil Service and he had decided on accepting instead of continuing his University studies. He was not returning to the University next term.

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

"That the County Council be recommended to agree to allow Mr. J. M. Druhan (University Scholar) to accept a position in Civil Service on condition that he repays to the County Council any amount paid on foot of his scholarship from the date of his attendance at his last University Lecture. That this scholarship be cancelled."

TRIPOD FOR INSPECTOR WEIGHTS & MEASURES NEW ROSS

Under date 19th March 1936 Sergeant McGrath, G.S., Ex-Officio Inspector Weights & Measures Acts, New Ross wrote that it was very difficult to verify traders' beam scales owing to lack of suitable means of hanging them. Owing to the construction of the Courthouse, there was no place at which he could erect a plank to hold the scales and it would be objectionable to erect a permanent wooden structure. A tripod having a clearance of 8 feet to carry about eight cwt. would meet requirements.

Quotation from Thomas Lee, Blacksmith, Quay, New Ross, to supply the tripod referred to in Sergeant McGrath's application at £2 was submitted and report from County Surveyor that the quotation would probably be the lowest that could be secured.

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

"That quotation of Thomas Lee, Quay, New Ross, for supply of tripod for Ex-Officio Inspector of Weights and Measures, New Ross, at £2 be accepted."

Mr. Colfer proposed and Mr. Culleton seconded the following resolution which was adopted nem. con.:-

"That Minutes of Finance Committee Meeting of 9th April 1936 as submitted to this meeting be received and considered."

HAULAGE CONTRACTS - JOHN KENNEDY: In connection with this matter the following was read from Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor for the district:-

"I have nothing to add to my letter of 6th February 1936 in this case."

Mr. Ronan said he knew all the people concerned in the matter and understood that Murphy did take out the haulage contracts but owing to varicose veins was laid up and got Kennedy to carry out the work. There were certainly grounds for suspicion.

Mr. Ennis said he interviewed Murphy who was surprised to find that a tender for haulage was lodged in his name.

The matter dropped.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGE: It was decided that Miss O'Ryan and Mr. Corish be appointed a Sub-Committee to deal with this matter and report. It was arranged they should meet on Thursday, 16th April 1936 at 10 o'clock.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Colfer seconded by Mr. Kelly:-

"That Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 9th April 1936 be and are hereby confirmed."

TEMPORARY RATE CLERKS

The following report of meeting of Selection Committee for appointment of temporary staff for writing up Rate Books etc. was approved on the motion of Miss O'Ryan seconded by Mr. Kelly:-

"WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

SELECTION TEMPORARY CLERICAL STAFF - RATE BOOK WORK

A Meeting of Sub-Committee for the selection of Rate Book staff was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 27th March 1936.

Present:- Enniscorthy District - Mr. John P. Kelly.

Gorey - The Chairman and Mr. Keegan.

New Ross - Mr. Colfer.

Wexford - Mr. Cullimore.

The following applicants were selected:-

Enniscorthy District:

Edward Brennan, 27 Market Square, Enniscorthy.

James Whelan, 14 St. Aidan's Villas, Enniscorthy.

Thomas O'Rourke, 16 John Street, Enniscorthy.

Kevin Maher, 28 Island Road, Enniscorthy.

Gorey District:

Mr. Conroy, Clonattin Road, GOREY.

James Sinnott, Newtown, Clonevan.

John Reid, Tara Hill, Gorey.

John Bolger, Garden City, Gorey.

New Ross District:

James Brennan, Chapel Lane, New Ross.

Wm. Kiely, Newbawn.

James O'Shea, Lower Rosbercon, New Ross.

James Whelan, Nunnery Lane, New Ross.

Wexford District:

Thomas Wafer, St. Peter's Square, Wexford.

William O'Leary, 12 Mill Road, Wexford.

Patrick Leacy, c/o Nurse Murphy, South Main Street.

James Roche, 20 Barrack Street, Wexford.

Wexford.

WARBLE FLY (TREATMENT OF CATTLE) ORDER.
APPOINTMENT OF INSPECTOR.

Miss O'Ryan proposed:- "That Edward Woods, Kingsford, Barntown, be appointed Inspector under Warble Fly Order for No. 11 Area for the balance of inspectorial period."

Mr. Cummins seconded.

Mr. Kinsella proposed and Mr. Smyth seconded the appointment of William Murphy, Kilcorral, Castlebridge.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For Woods:- Messrs. Colfer, Corish, Culleton, Cullimore, Cummins, Keegan, Kelly, Lawlor, O'Ryan, Thos. Redmond, Ronan, Sweetman and the Chairman (13).

For Murphy:- Messrs. Connors, Day, Gibbon, Kinsella, O'Byrne and Smyth. (6).

Col. Quin declined voting.

The Chairman declared Woods elected.

Under date 21st March 1936 the Department of Agriculture wrote that the Minister approved of the proposed temporary employment of Mr. Jas. Doyle, Ballygoman, Barntown, as Inspector under Warble Fly (Treatment of Cattle) Order during the illness of his brother, Mr. John Doyle, subject to the approval of the County Council and to Mr. James Doyle complying with the appropriate conditions.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Miss O'Ryan seconded by Mr. Culleton:-

"That we approve of the appointment of James Doyle as substitute for his brother John Doyle as Inspector under Warble Fly (Treatment of Cattle) Order 1936 during the illness of John Doyle."

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE AND WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS'
PENSIONS ACT 1936.

Under date 27th March 1936 the Department of Local Government and Public Health (National Health Insurance)

wrote as to appointment of four delegates who are to participate in the election of five members of Committee of Management of the National Insurance Society. The persons appointed are to hold office for three years from 1st May 1936.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Cummins seconded by Mr. Kelly:-

"That the following members of the County Council who are insured persons be appointed delegates in compliance with letter from Department of Local Government and Public Health (National Health Insurance Section) under date 27th March 1936:- Messrs. P. Colfer, J. Connors, C. Culleton and P. Ronan."

FOOD AND DRUGS INSPECTOR

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

"That Garda Patrick O'Donnell (3862), Enniscorthy, be appointed Ex-officio Inspector under Food and Drugs Act for County Wexford."

OLD AGE PENSION SUB-COMMITTEE NO. 8.

Recommendation from No. 8 Sub-Committee (Old Age Pensions Acts) as to appointment of Joseph Kehoe, Merchant, Blackwater vice M. M. O'Donoghue, deceased member, was submitted.

Mr. Kinsella proposed the appointment of Mr. Kehoe as recommended by Sub-Committee.

Mr. Day seconded.

Mr. Corish said there was no representative of Labour on this Sub-Committee and he accordingly proposed the appointment of Peter Dempsey, Blackwater.

Mr. Kelly seconded.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For Dempsey:- Messrs. Colfer, Corish, Culleton, Cullimore, Keegan, Kelly, Lawlor, O'Ryan, Thos. Redmond, Ronan, Sweetman and the Chairman (12).

For Kehoe:- Messrs. Connors, Cummins, Day, Gibbon, Kinsella, O'Byrne and Smyth (7).

Col. Quin did not vote.

The Chairman declared Mr. Dempsey appointed.

IRISH PUBLIC BODIES MUTUAL INSURANCES
APPOINTMENT REPRESENTATIVE.

Letter under date 25th March 1936 as to appointment by the County Council of a person authorised to attend and vote at the General Meetings of the Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd. was submitted.

Mr. Corish proposed and Mr. Culleton seconded the appointment of Mr. John P. Kelly and the proposal was adopted.

LOAN FOR PROVISION OF COTTAGES

The following motion of which he had given previous notice stood in the name of Mr. Ronan:-

"That the Council consents to County Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance raising loan of £160,000 (One Hundred and Sixty Thousand Pounds) for the purpose of providing 528 Cottages throughout the villages of the County."

(This was circulated to members of the Council on 9th March 1936).

In moving his motion Mr. Ronan pointed out that in the larger villages it was intended to erect 189 cottages and the balance would be built in the smaller places. The "all-in" cost of each house would be approximately £300. The rents had not yet been fixed because in some villages it was realised that some tenants would be able to pay a higher rent than in others, and of course, the status of

tenants would also be taken into consideration. For instance Railway and Post Office Clerks would be asked to pay a higher rent than ordinary workers. The lowest rent, however, would be 2/- plus rates and it could be taken as certain that the Scheme would not impose on ratepayers a larger amount than one halfpenny in the £1, even if it would be that. The state of some villages as regards housing was appalling and it should be remembered that while in the rural areas labourers' cottages had been erected for agricultural workers, nothing had been done for the residents of villages. It was anticipated that the Board of Health would be able to deal with the erection of these houses during the coming summer.

Mr. Keegan in seconding, appealed to the members of the Board of Health to speed up the erection of the cottages, and hoped that they would deal first with the villages which had the worst houses.

Col. Gibbon complained that no detailed figures from the Board of Health as to the cost of the scheme had been put before the meeting. When a similar scheme was under consideration he inferred from the discussion which then took place, and from the Chairman, that in future, fully detailed figures would be forthcoming in connection with such large schemes.

Mr. Kinsella said he understood that in Castlebridge new houses were to be built on a back road. If that were so, and the existing streets left in their present position it would be creating a scandalous position. In his opinion, the matter of getting different rents according to the status of tenants was a humbug.

Mr. Ronan denied this.

Mr. Corish pointed out that the reason why the change of site for the new houses had been decided upon in Castlebridge was that the existing houses were subject to flood-

ing, practically for the whole winter, as he had seen for himself, and it was advisable to have the people housed in a perfectly healthy locality.

Miss O'Ryan said that Mr. Kinsella could rest assured that the old area in Castlebridge would be cleaned up, and would not be left in an unsightly condition.

Col. Quin, while commending the scheme, said that the figures submitted were not satisfactory. The rent of 2/- and "some more" was very vague. It would be extremely difficult to have different rents for the one class of house. They might find that the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in the £ referred to by Mr. Ronan would - before the scheme was completed - amount to several shillings in the £. They did not know if the houses would cost £400 instead of £300. Was there any guarantee that they would be erected anywhere near the estimate. A pretty bad mess had been made in regard to the estimates for the last cottage scheme and he feared that things would be just as bad regarding the present one. He was in favour of the erection of houses but to show what he thought of the very bad manner in which the last scheme had been carried out he would vote against the present proposal. He also had asked that in the case of these large schemes, figures should be circulated to the members of the Council and he thought the Chairman more or less promised that in future such figures would be obtained from the Board of Health and circulated.

Miss O'Ryan pointed out that as regards the last Scheme, Col. Quin was given from the Board of Health Office all the information he required and if he had written for any particulars in connection with the present scheme he would have been also supplied. In her opinion there should be a general direction regarding the amount of information which it was thought was necessary to be submitted with motions of the present character.

Col. Quin asked had they any guarantee that the Scheme would not cost another £50,000. He wanted the Scheme carried out in a business like way and to avoid a large additional sum having to be paid later.

Mr. Smyth agreed with Col. Gibbon and Quin that the Council were promised to have a detailed account from the County Board of Health as regards schemes of this description. This had not been done. He understood that there were large arrears in connection with payment of the rents of cottages.

Mr. Corish pointed out that there was no degree of truth in the statement made by Mr. Smyth. Any arrears in connection with cottage rents referred to old cottages; the rents of new cottages were paid extremely well.

After further discussion the Chairman decided to take a show of hands when it was found that 16 were in favour of the motion and that there was no dissentient.

He then declared it carried.

IMPROVEMENTS AT MENTAL HOSPITAL

The following motion of which he had given previous notice stood in the name of Mr. John P. Kelly:-

"That a sum of £39,520 (Thirty-nine Thousand, Five Hundred and Twenty Pounds) or such lesser sum as may be agreed upon, be obtained from the Local Loans Fund or other approved source for the purpose of carrying out improvements at the Mental Hospital, Enniscorthy."

(This was circulated to Members of Wexford County Council on the 10th March, 1936).

In moving his motion Mr. Kelly said he proposed that the amount of loan would be £39,520 which would be spread over a number of years. The Committee proposed to begin on the most urgent works, viz., the Installation of water supply scheme estimated to cost £5,800 and Kilcarberry

Electrical Power Development which was expected to cost £11,790.

The water supply at the Mental Hospital was a very urgent question at the moment. The full proposals had been considered in great detail by the Mental Hospital Committee and also at previous meetings of the County Council. The Hospitals Trust were contributing the same amount as he now moved. It was essential that the two sections of the Scheme to which he referred should be started at once.

Mr. Sweetman seconded the motion which was passed nem. con.

SHEEP DIPPING ORDER

Under date 3rd April 1936 the Department of Agriculture wrote (E.1619-36) asking to be furnished with particulars of the arrangements which the County Council proposed making for the sheep dipping periods of the current year. The Department stated that no doubt Local Authorities which had adopted dipping Schemes would take care to ensure that the Schemes would be properly enforced.

Some members stated that the manner in which the Order was carried out in some districts left room for improvement and, on the motion of Mr. Cummins seconded by Mr. Thomas Redmond, it was decided to refer the matter to the Finance Committee of 24th April 1936 with a request for recommendations as to how in their opinion any improvement could be effected.

MAIN ROADS SCHEME

Under date 31st March 1936 the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote (R/RD32) enclosing Order under Section 1 of the Local Government Act 1925, declaring the Main Roads in the County Wexford as from 1st April 1936.

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

"That list of Main Roads according to new declaration made by Minister for Local Government and Public Health under date 30th March 1936 (Uimh.RD.32/1936) be printed and circulated to the members of the County Council."

LOAN FOR VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

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

"That our Corporate Seal be affixed to the Deed of Mortgage of the date now read, whereby security is given to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, for the repayment of the sum of £7000, proposed to be advanced by them to us under the Vocational Education Act 1930, and the Local Government (Ireland) Act 1898."

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

"That inasmuch as this Council does not immediately require from the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, the total amount of the sum mentioned in the Deed of Mortgage to them this day executed by this Council, but prefer to receive same by instalments as occasion may require IT IS RESOLVED that the Requisition for each advance shall be intimated to said Commissioners by the Chief Executive Officer of the Vocational Education Committee of County Wexford, for the time being countersigned by the Secretary of this Council. And that each such requisition shall be forwarded to the Accountant of the said Commissioners and that all such advances shall be lodged to this Council's account at The Wexford Branch of the National Bank."

SECONDARY & VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

Under date 25th March 1936 (Trg.2/41241) the Department of National Education wrote that in view of the fact that Walter J. Gahan, Barmona, Boolavogue, did not fulfil all the requirements of the above Scheme as published it

was not possible for the Department to reverse their decision in the matter conveyed in their letter of 20th February 1936 and accordingly, Master Gahan should be informed he is ineligible for admission to the examination.

The Secretary stated that copy of the letter from the Office of National Education had been furnished Walter J. Gahan.

COUNTY COUNCILS GENERAL COUNCIL

The Secretary to above wrote that the next meeting of the General Council would be held during the Spring Show Week - May 5th to 9th.

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

"That the General Council of County Councils be requested to set down for discussion at their meeting to be held during Dublin Spring Show Week the questions of Town Planning for rural areas and the repeal of the Acts dealing with compensation for Criminal Injuries."

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS UNION AND RETIREMENT OF OFFICIALS.

Under date 31st March 1936 the following was read from the Irish Local Government Officials Union:-

"I am directed by the Central Council of the Union to forward to you the enclosed copy of the opinion of Eminent Senior Counsel in relation to the Circular Letter No.18/36, dated 28th February, 1936, issued by the Department of Local Government and Public Health to all Local Authorities in the Free State, relative to compulsory retirement of officials at 65 years of age, and I am to request that you will be kind enough to bring same to the attention of your Council, Board or Committee.

You will please note that Counsel is definitely of opinion that this action on the part of the Minister is ultra vires, and that the Circular need not be acted upon

by Local Authorities."

TOWN PLANNING

Under date 4th March 1936 notification was received of adoption of resolution under Articles 5(2) and 6(2) of the Town and Regional Planning Regulations from Wexford Corporation as to the making of a planning scheme for the Borough of Wexford.

Copy of Resolution in the matter was also received.

COURTOWN HARBOUR DREDGING

Mr. W. H. Kearon, Wave Crest, Arklow, wrote under date 4th April 1936 asking for information regarding the proposals of the County Council to have the dredging of Courtown Harbour carried out. He found on inspection the bar and Channel very good and he suggested the Council should extend the rails for the crane and carry out some dredging in the inner harbour to enable a ship to be loaded. He had been asked to bring in a cargo for the new factory at Gorey and if the dredging is done he could ship the cargo very soon.

The County Surveyor said if the rails were extended they would be able to provide dredging to about 40 feet and which would give berthage at the end of the pier.

Mr. Keegan proposed and Mr. Kelly seconded the following resolution which was adopted nem.con.:-

"That the Chairman of the County Council (Mr. Allen) and Mr. Corish with the County Surveyor be requested to interview the responsible officials of the Office of Public Works with a view to making definite arrangements as to the completion of the dredging at Courtown Harbour."

CARNE PIER

The County Surveyor submitted communication he had received from the Office of Public Works under date 2nd March 1936 stating that the Parliamentary Secretary had

considered the proposals for the extension and improvement of Carne Pier. In view of the relatively high cost of the work and the limited amount of unemployment in the district as disclosed by the latest returns he regretted that he could not recommend a grant from the Relief Vote for the purpose.

Col. Gibbon said that blocks of stones which had been left alongside the Pier rendered it unsafe for boats to be launched. Spring tides were commencing next week when boats should be at the fishing, and if the stones were not removed these Spring tides would be lost and boats would have to wait another three weeks.

Mr. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor for the district, said he had the work mentioned by Col. Gibbon in hands and was proceeding with it immediately.

BALLYHACK HARBOUR

Under date 23rd March 1936 the Office of Public Works wrote if the County Council was prepared to maintain the harbour as improved on completion of these works.

The County Surveyor said that the liability for maintaining the portion of the harbour taken over would mean spending £150 every ten years.

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

"That the Office of Public Works be informed that the County Council are prepared to maintain in the future the portion of the Harbour at Ballyhack which they have improved"

CURRACLOE ROAD

The County Surveyor submitted letter from Department of Local Government and Public Health (Roads) (RG.32) stating that with reference to application for a grant for the improvement of road from Curracloe to village at the Strand

the Minister was not in a position to make a further grant at present to the County Council for the improvement of roads. The estimate submitted was considered excessive.

No Order.

COURTOWN COASTGUARD BOATHOUSE

Under date 8th April 1936 the Office of Public Works wrote (11455/35) that the lease of Courtown Coastguard Station boathouse dated 15th May 1906 from County Council to the Admiralty expired on 1st May 1936. The premises were let to Andrew Byrne on a weekly tenancy at a rent of ^s 2/- per week and the County Council were asked if they would take over the premises subject to this tenancy. The local architect would attend at the premises to hand them over on a date to be arranged between now and 1st May 1936.

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

"That the Office of Public Works be informed the Wexford County Council are prepared to take over the boathouse at Old Coastguard Station, Courtown, in accordance with the terms of their letter under date 8th April 1935 (11455/35) and that Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, Courthouse, Gorey, be appointed as the Representative of said Council to take over the premises on a date to be fixed by the Office of Public Works."

CAMOLIN PARK ROAD

Under date 14th March 1936 the Irish Land Commission wrote (A & R-Revesting 54741-35-Estate of I.L.C. (W.H.Foster) County Wexford Record No. E.C.4198) that they were not prepared to contribute more than £600 towards the reconstruction of the road through Camolin Park and would not agree to execute any agreement accepting responsibility for repairs. The conditions under which the £600 would be granted were set out in the Department's letter of 20th August last.

52

The Chairman mentioned that the County Council had decided they could not see their way to be responsible for erection and maintenance of the long line of fencing which would be necessary in connection with the reconstruction of this road and as the Land Commission were not prepared to accept the responsibility the project would have to be abandoned.

POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT LICENCES

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Miss O'Ryan:-

"That new licence under Poisons and Pharmacy Act 1908 issue to John Doyle, North Street, New Ross, the Civic Guard authorities having no objection. Also renewal of licence to Denis Lennon, Merchant, Buncloody."

REPORT COUNTY ANALYST

Report of County Analyst for quarter ended 31st March 1936 was submitted. From this it appeared that the following samples had been analysed:-

Food 268; Drugs 36; Waters 10; Total 314.

Adulterated New Milks 3; Butter 2; Waters condemned 6; Crossabeg 1; Kiltaly 3 (and one passed); Glynn 1; Gorey 1 (and two passed-).

TACUMSHANE LAKE

The following attended as a deputation in connection with recent work at Tacumshane Lake to obviate flooding:-

Messrs. John Roche, The Island; Sean Murphy, Tilladavins; Frank Rowe, Ballycleary and James Roche, Ballycogley.

Col. Gibbon apologised for the deputation not being able to give the seven days notice of their intention to come before the County Council Meeting as it was only on Friday last that the work of cutting the lake had been abandoned. The members of the deputation alone had about 150 acres of land under water and they were naturally anxious to know what prospects there were of the work of

cutting the Channel there continuing.

The County Surveyor stated that he would have been prepared to expend £20 or £30 there on the chance of having this amount sanctioned, but, after an inspection with an Engineer from the Office of Public Works on the 7th and 8th April they came to the conclusion that such a small sum would be money thrown away and he decided to close down the work until the Engineer from the Office of Public Works had made his report. Between the Lake and the sea they had lowered the water so much that one could walk across where there had been a channel several feet deep. The cut they had made was about 60 yards wide and they had been in great hopes that the Channel would be established but unfortunately storms came on and filled up the place. They subsequently tried to cut it a couple of times but could not get through. When the lake was cut in the past the Channel usually remained open for about 12 or 13 years; last time it had stood for about 20 years. It was particularly unfortunate that the cut had filled because he was hoping to spend the balance he had in hands in opening up drains into the lands which would have helped to relieve future flooding. It was really pitiable to see such a large area of land under water.

Mr. James Roche, a member of the deputation, said that he held 115 statute acres of which 30 were under water. He suggested the construction of a tunnel; cutting the bar was a mere temporary arrangement because the bar shifts.

Mr. Culleton said he had heard that a tunnel did exist and if it was working properly it would drain all Lingstown. He thought the Engineer of the Office of Works should be asked to examine the tunnel.

Col. Gibbon, referring to the tunnel, said he understood it worked for a few years and finally became blocked from various causes. He believed that engineering opinion generally on it was that it would become automatically blocked owing to the difficulty of keeping the tunnel open.

In reply to a query as to how much money would be required to do the job, the County Surveyor stated that it would be about £150.

Mr. John Roche, another member of the deputation believed the flooding could be obviated only by the construction of a tunnel.

The County Surveyor said there would be enormous difficulty in making the outlet of the tunnel in shifting soil and of course it might be blocked at any time.

Mr. John Roche held that the bank which had fallen had been cut too straight and on that account the sides had fallen in.

The County Surveyor said in reply to Mr. Corish that the Office of Public Works knew all the circumstances as they had been reported to them in detail and their Engineers had been at the place. They looked on the work all through as an experiment.

Mr. Sean Murphy, another member of the deputation, stated he was the worst affected person in the area. For the past twelve months over thirty acres of his land was covered with water and most of his houses were flooded to a depth of three feet. He was only living there for four years and he made inquiries of aged residents about the bar and the tunnel and they told him that they remembered hundreds of cattle and sheep grazing outside the subsidiary embankment. He had been told by old men that the tunnel had been blocked purposely.

Mr. Frank Rowe, another member of the deputation, agreed with the others in holding that it would be necessary to construct a tunnel to prevent the flooding.

Miss O' Ryan corroborated the statement of Mr. Murphy as to the flooding of his lands and houses. When she was down there after the first cut had been made everyone was pleased with it tho' she had not much confidence in it

holding. If there had been normal weather the chances were it would have been a good job. It was certainly hard lines on the farmers of the district. There were 1,400 acres flooded. As the cutting of the bar did not appear to be a permanent job they might be losing more money by cutting it again.

Chairman - Is there any possibility if another grant were got that the people would organise and do a little work to keep it open? The County Council had no power of themselves to spend any of the rates on it.

County Surveyor - The tunnel might cost three or four thousand pounds. When I reported to the Board of Works first I mentioned the matter of the tunnel.

Mr. Culleton proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Col. Quin:-

"That the Office of Public Works be requested to obtain from one of their engineers a report on the work done in cutting Tacumshane Lough Bar and his suggestions as to how best the place could be drained in a manner likely to be permanent."

Mr. O'Byrne moved:- "That a Committee of the County Councillors for Wexford Electoral area arrange for a meeting with the local people concerned and endeavour to ascertain how far they were prepared to offer assistance in keeping the channel open once it had been established."

Col. Quin seconded. After further discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Mr. Cummins:-

"That the Chairman (Mr. Allen), Mr. Corish, T.D., and the County Surveyor arrange to wait on the responsible officials of the Office of Public Works with a view to obtaining - in consequence of the urgency of the situation - a further grant to cut the bar at Lady's Island lake and that the resolutions (1) relative to visit of Engineer from

Office of Public Works and (2) as to assistance to be given by the local people be adjourned pending report of the deputation^{to} to Office of Public Works."

Mr. Sean Murphy stated that if a grant were obtained for the opening of the tunnel the people would be prepared to do what they could to keep it working properly.

It was decided that the representatives of Wexford Co. Electoral area and the County Surveyor should confer with the people of the district to decide the best way to do the work in the event of a further grant being forthcoming.

The remainder of business was adjourned to next meeting.

Signed ... *J. Allen* ... 11th May 36 ...