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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

MONTHLY MEETING - 3rd APRIL, 1939

MINUTES

County Hall,
WEXFORD.

N. J. FRIZELLE,
Secretary Wexford County Council.

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The monthly meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 3rd April 1939.

Present:- Mr. D. Allen (Chairman) presiding; also, Messrs. Moses Bolger, (new member), Patrick Colfer, Richard Corish, Christopher Culleton, W. P. Keegan, John P. Kelly, James Lawler, Thomas McCarthy, Sean Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss N. O'Ryan, Col. R. P. Wemyss Quin, Michael Redmond, Thomas Redmond, Patrick Ronan, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

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

The Minutes of ordinary meeting of 13th March 1939 and of special meeting on 22nd March 1939 were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Notes for £4384. 9. 4d Ordinary payments and £38936. 10. 0 Transfers to Public Bodies, were examined and signed.

CO-OPTION OF MEMBER

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

"That, in accordance with the decision of this County Council and in compliance with advertisement as to co-option of member of said Council vice Mr. John Connors, Kilthomas, Ferns, resigned, signed by three members of the Council, we hereby elect Mr. Moses Bolger, Coolnaleen, Camolin, Farmer, to the vacancy thus created."

The Chairman, in putting the motion, welcomed Mr. Bolger and hoped he would find the most pleasant relations with his confreres.

Mr. Bolger thanked the Council for his election and then signed the Declaration of Office.

THE LATE BROTHER FORAN, CHRISTIAN BROTHERS, WEXFORD

The Chairman proposed a vote of condolence with the family of the late Brother Foran (Christian Brothers, Wexford) and with the Order in his tragic death. In moving his motion the Chairman said that Brother Foran was Superior in Wexford for many years and was a member of the Scholarship Committee of the County Council for a considerable time. He was an outstanding figure in his profession and his death was a great loss to the County and to the Scholarship Committee.

Col. Quin seconded.

The Secretary said he knew Brother Foran very intimately. He was a very clever man, and as a member of the Scholarships Committee he gave exceptionally fine service, because he was most keenly interested in education. He could say, personally, that Brother Foran was a splendid teacher, and was a great loss to the cause of education.

THE LATE MRS. ROSSITER, WEXFORD

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

"That the following reply to vote of condolence by Wexford County Council relative to the death of Mrs. Rossiter, Dempsey's Terrace, Wexford, be inserted on the Minutes of the day:-

'The family of the late Mrs. Mary Rossiter, 8 Dempsey's Terrace, Wexford, return sincere thanks for your kind expression of sympathy in their recent sad bereavement.'"

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

FINANCE COMMITTEE 16th MARCH 1939: The Minutes of this meeting were submitted as follows:-

The fortnightly meeting of Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 16th March 1939.

The following were present:- Messrs. Patrick Colfer, John P. Kelly, Thomas McCarthy, Sean Murphy, Sean O'Byrne and Miss O'Ryan.

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

Mr. McCarthy was moved to the Chair on the motion of Mr. Kelly seconded by Mr. O'Byrne.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £3310. 7. 9d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

STATE OF: The following is the state of the Rate Collection to the date of the meeting:-

<u>Name of Collector</u>	<u>Percentage of Warrant Collected.</u>
1. J. Curtis	76.1
2. S. Gannon	69.8
3. D. Kenny	68.7
4. E. J. Murphy	68.3
5. J. J. O'Reilly	66.6
6. P. Nolan	65.4
7. J. Cummins	65.4
8. A. Dunne	65.2
9. P. Doyle	65.1
10. M. Kehoe	64.3
11. J. Flood	64.0
12. J. Deegan	62.9
13. M. McCarthy	60.3
14. P. Carty	59.7
15. J. Quirke	59.6
16. W. Doyle	56.7
17. J. J. Sinnott	56.6
18. W. Cummins	54.6

Average 63.6

The average 63.6 per cent is 2.9 per cent behind the collection at the corresponding period last year.

The Rates Inspector said he had not been out in the district of Mr. W. Cummins but he would arrange visits there

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as soon as possible.

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

"That, as Collector J. M. Curtis has lodged a sum equivalent to 75% of current year's Warrant and Arrears applicable to 1937/38 Assessment, application be made to the Minister for approval of third interim payment of Poundage Fees in his case."

APPLICATION FOR REMISSION OF RATES: The following under date 24th February 1939 was read from Mr. Vincent A. Doyle, Brandon, New Ross:-

"I beg to apply for a remission of rates on my land at Marshmeadows, New Ross, owing to the continuous flooding of the holding, from the River Barrow. I spent a considerable amount on my Banks and Sluices, which are both perfect, but the damage is due to a breach almost a mile distant from my land. I would be glad if you would put this appeal before the next meeting of your Council."

It was decided to recommend Mr. Doyle to apply for revision of his valuation.

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS

D. SHEEHAN, EFFERNOGUE: Messrs. J. A. Sinnott, Solicitors, Enniscorthy, wrote that this applicant was proceeding with his application for loan. The reason for delay was the doubt in Mr. Sheehan's mind as to continuation of the system of Government Grants and that the County Council would not advance loans except in cases in which such grants were available. It would have been impossible for Mr. Sheehan to have the house finished by the 31st March next, taking into consideration the date on which he applied for the loan. They would be glad to know if any loan had been granted in this case.

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The Secretary stated that in January last Messrs. Sinnott & Co. withdrew the application but evidently they now wished to have it re-instated. Mr. Sheehan had been recommended for loan of £175 on a £350 house.

It was decided to inform Messrs. Sinnott & Co., Solicitors, Enniscorthy, accordingly.

JOHN BYRNE, PEARSE STREET, GOREY: Applicant, a factory worker, applied for loan of £315 on house at Ramsfort, Gorey, of an estimated value of £350.

It was pointed out that the maximum loan available in this case is £175 according to the County Council regulations.

It was decided, on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Kelly, to recommend loan of £175 provided Mr. Byrne is able to secure Government Subsidy.

ANNIE FOLEY, BORRMOUNT: At the meeting of Finance Committee on 3rd March 1939 Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, submitted letter under date 16th February 1939 from applicant that she would not accept loan of £145 as, even with the Government Grant, she would not have enough money to cover the cost of erection of house. She said she would endeavour to get loan from the Bank.

Mr. Kelly said that Miss Foley wished to withdraw her decision refusing to accept the loan. She was now building a larger house estimated to cost £300.

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

"That Mr. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor for the district, be asked to furnish a revised valuation as regards change in plan of house proposed to be erected by Miss Annie Foley at Borrmount. Provided Mr. Cullen certifies that the value of house can be taken at £300 the Finance Committee will be prepared to recommend the County Council to advance loan of

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£205 to Miss Foley, this proposal to be conditional on Miss Foley executing a mortgage for the revised amount.

MRS. CATHERINE O'DEA, SWEETFARM, ENNISCORTHY: Applicant, described as "housewife", applied for loan of £230 on a £300 house.

The maximum amount available according to County Council regulations is £205.

After discussion it was decided to recommend Mrs. O'Dea to apply for tenancy of a labourer's cottage.

ALLEGED INJURY TO MILL

The following, under date 7th March 1939, was read from Messrs. Shortle Bros., Castlebridge:-

"We have to again report to you ~~of~~ damage done to roof and loft of our Mill at Crory on Friday, 3rd instant, during blasting operations in Ballyboggan Quarry. When is this to cease?"

The County Surveyor said that Messrs. Shortle Bros. had not made any specific claim although he had asked for particulars. These had not been supplied. If they were lodged with him he would forward them to the Insurance Brokers who had been supplied with copies of all the correspondence in the matter.

EMPLOYMENT SCHEMES - (ROADS URBAN)

Letter from Department of Local Government and Public Health (Roads) under date 6th March 1939 (RU/206/5) as to proposed scheme for road and footpath works in New Ross Urban District for year 1939-40 costing £3180, financed by State Grant of £2795 and local contribution of £385, was read.

Letter under date 10th March 1939 (RU/205/109S) was read from Department of Local Government and Public Health (Roads) as to Scheme of Road Works in New Ross Urban District

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for year 1938/39 which, if possible, were to be completed to allow of the final payment being made prior to the 31st March 1939.

The amount of grant in this case is £1397 and of local contribution £193. The payment of grant was subject to the usual conditions.

Under date 14th March 1939 the Department of Local Government and Public Health (Roads) wrote (RU/206/6) as to the release of £840, portion of grant of £2795 already referred to, and provided £115 of the local contribution of £385 was forthcoming for employment schemes to be carried out during Spring and Summer. The grant was subject to the usual conditions. A scheme covering the expenditure of the £955 was to be submitted as soon as possible.

These communications were referred to the County Surveyor who pointed out the difficulties in carrying them out practically simultaneously and having them completed within the period fixed by the Department.

PARKING OF CARAVANS AT COURTTOWN HARBOUR

The following under date 7th March 1939 was read from Courtown Harbour Committee:-

"We wish to bring to the notice of your Council at the next meeting, the following proposition from this Committee:

The parking of caravans on the County Council's property is becoming a serious source of nuisance particularly on the piece of waste ground overlooking the south beach. We would suggest to the County Council that notices should be erected as soon as possible notifying caravan owners that there is no parking ground on the County Council property in Courtown Harbour."

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

"That the County Council be recommended to adopt

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resolution to prevent parking of caravans on waste ground at Courtown Harbour, but to agree that motor cars be allowed to park for a limited time, though not to remain overnight.

That, if the County Council accept these proposals, the County Surveyor have notices of the Council's decision exhibited at Courtown Harbour."

LANEWAY AT TINNACREE QUARRY

The following, signed by Mr. John Donohoe, Tinnacree, and Messrs. Thomas Buttle, Edward Kelly, Owen Nolan and John Sunderland, was read:-

"We, the undersigned Ratepayers and owners of land, in the townlands of Dundrum and Tinnacree, on the laneway leading to the quarry opened a few years ago by the County Council at Tinnacree hereby respectfully request the Wexford County Council to build fences, and repair existing fences on the laneway leading to this quarry.

We desire to point out the advantages -

- (1) That fencing would keep Cattle from trespassing on the laneway. The trespass of Cattle impedes the drainage of the lane, and is the chief cause of its present bad repair.
- (2) By having the laneway fenced it would be easier kept in repair, thereby facilitating the haulage of stones, and the transit of County Council machinery to and from the quarry.
- (3) There are over thirty unemployed men in the district, and it would give much needed employment in the district.

We hereby further agree to give the County Council free use and right of way on the laneway at all times, provided our access to the lands ~~is~~ restricted in no way, which means that two gates at a certain point must be kept closed when required."

It was decided that County Surveyor present detailed report in this matter to next meeting of the Finance

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BALLYBEG LANE, CARNEW

Under date 7th March 1939, Mr. Patrick Kinsella, Munny House, Carnew, wrote asking that Ballybeg Lane should be put into repair. He pointed out that there were twelve unemployed men in the immediate area and the people of the district were anxious the Relief Grant should be applied for to provide work for these men. The repair of Ballybeg Lane would be most suitable as it was at present in a deplorable state.

It was decided that Ballybeg Lane be scheduled for repair under Minor Relief Schemes Vote.

DANGEROUS CORNER

Under date 13th March 1939 Messrs. F. Kavanagh, J. Mahon and A. Gilbert, Gurteen, Buncloody, and a number of others, wrote calling attention to the very dangerous corner at Gurteen leading to Clohamon where numerous accidents had taken place. They wrote they would be grateful if it could be made safe.

Referred to County Surveyor.

NIGHT WATCHMEN AT WEXFORD BRIDGE

Mr. Murphy asked if it would not be possible to change the employment of watchmen at Wexford Bridge.

The County Surveyor said he would not advocate any change. He would be re-starting the repair work on the bridge very soon and there would be a good deal of employment.

FERRYCARRIG CASTLE

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

"That the Land Commission be informed the National Advisory Committee under National Monuments Act have declared Ferrycarrig Castle to be a National Monument and the Wexford County Council would be glad if the Land Commission would vest their interest in this Castle in the County Council."

TOMNAHELY LANE

Under date 13th March 1939 Mr. P. J. Fanning, Cullenogue, Gorey, wrote urging the repair of lane leading to the farm of Mrs. Martin Kinsella, Tomnahely, Castletown. The portion leading from Keyes' house to Mrs. Kinsella's yard is almost impassable and it was dangerous to cross a gullet there covered with flag stones.

It was decided, on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that Tomnahely Lane be scheduled for repair under Minor Relief Schemes Vote.

NEGLECTED WATER TABLES

The following, signed by Michael Murphy, Ballinellard, Blackwater; Michael Murphy, Garryadden, and Thomas O'Brien, under date 9th March 1939 was referred to County Surveyor for report:-

"We, the undersigned, wish to bring under the notice of your Council that the water tables at each side of the road from Ballinellard turn to Ockanard Bridge, Electoral Division of Castle Talbot, are in such a neglected state, it has left our land adjoining the road flooded as the outlet is altogether closed up, and the expense we have borne in having the land shored. Please see to same at your earliest convenience and oblige."

DICTOGRAPH TELEPHONES

Under date 7th March 1939, Estimate was received from Dictograph Telephones Company, 59 Dame Street, Dublin, for the installation of a Municipal Dictograph Installation consisting of

One three key Master Station (in 10 Key Cabinet)

Three HL or WL 10-1 lamp substations

together with cable, junction boxes, batteries and all other necessary material, all to be installed in an efficient manner and maintained and guaranteed for a period

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of ten years from date of completion upon payment of the quarterly rental of £2. 16. 0 (Two Pounds and Sixteen Shillings) subject to the terms and conditions of the Company's Rental Agreement.

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

"That we recommend the County Council to approve of installation etc. of Municipal Dictagraph Installation on the terms and conditions set out in estimate of Dictagraph Telephones Ltd. under date 7th March 1939."

SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

The following under date 6th March 1939 was read from the Secondary Education Branch of the Department of Education, 1 Hume Street, Dublin, C.2.:-

"With reference to your communication of the 23rd January last conveying the terms of a resolution passed by the Finance Committee of your Council regarding the scholarship holder, Eibhlis Ní Charthaigh, Clochar Lughaídh, Monaghan, I am to direct your attention to Rule 49 of the Department's regulations for 1937-38 which states that a pupil may not benefit in the same school year from an Intermediate Scholarship awarded by the Department and a scholarship provided by a County Council or paid from any public fund or endowment to the total value of more than £50. As this pupil will receive £50 in respect of the scholarship provided by the Wexford County Council the Department regrets that it has no power, in view of the terms of Rule 49 referred to above, to pay her any sum in respect of the Intermediate Scholarship for which she qualified on the results of the Intermediate Certificate Examination, 1938."

The meeting were in favour of amount of both Scholarships being paid to Miss Carty. If this is definitely impossible owing to the Department's Regulations, they considered it preferable to save the amount from Scholarship

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payable by County Council and to favour payment of Intermediate Scholarship £15 by the Department of Education and to reduce amount of County Council Scholarship for the one year from £50 to £35.

ILLNESS OF CLERICAL ASSISTANT

The following medical certificate was Submitted:-

"Peamount,
Co. Dublin.

11th March, 1939.

Mr. Stephen Hayes requires another fortnight's leave; at the end of that period he should be fit to return to work.

A. Barry, F.R.C.P.I."

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

"That Mr. Stephen Hayes, Clerical Assistant, County Council Offices, be granted further sick leave up to and including 25th March 1939.

That the services of Laurence Cleary, Temporary Clerk, employed as substitute for Mr. Hayes, be retained and as no assistant was employed for approximately the first month of sick leave of Mr. Hayes, we ask the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to sanction the continued employment of Mr. Cleary up to 22nd April 1939 in order to deal with arrears of work which accrued during the first month of Mr. Hayes' sick leave."

APPLICATION FROM TEMPORARY CLERK

The following under date 28th February 1939 was read from Mr. Patrick Beary, Temporary Clerk:-

"I beg to apply to your Council to have my employment fixed on a permanent basis from year to year at a remuneration of £3 per week. My present rate is 1s. 3d per hour which for a full week of 44 hours, works out at £2. 15s. per week.

In support of this application I would like to point out (1) I have been employed by your Council since March 1926 (periods varying from three to eight months each year up to and including the year 1933 and almost continuously from January 1934 to the present.) (2) I have acted as Chargehand of the temporary Rate Staff each year since 1928 during the preparation of the Rate Books and Collectors Receipts and Demand Notes and subsequently assisted generally in your Department and (3) I am married with a family of five young children.

Hoping you will submit this application to Finance Committee at most convenient opportunity."

It was decided, on the motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Colfer, to recommend the County Council to increase the remuneration paid Mr. Beary, Temporary Clerk, by 1d per hour from 1s. 3d to 1s. 4d per hour.

PRINTING RECEIPT AND DEMAND NOTES OF RATE COLLECTORS

Two tenders were received for the printing of above:-

"The People", Wexford tendered at £33. 10. 0d and Messrs. English & Co., Quay, Wexford at £35.

The tender of "The People" was accepted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Kelly.

COUNTY COUNCILS GENERAL COUNCIL

The Secretary to above wrote that the Spring meeting of the General Council would be held on 3rd May and that any matters which County Councils desired to have discussed should be furnished before 20th April 1939.

It was decided to point out there should be included on Agenda Paper for the above meeting a request that the Reformatory School of St. Kevins¹ at Glencree, Lough Bray, Enniskerry, County Wicklow, should be financed entirely by the State.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL CASE

Intimation of application to New Ross District Court as to committal of James Barron, Rosbercon, New Ross, aged 15, ~~committed~~ to Glencree Reformatory School was received from Sergeant Kelly, Garda Síochána, New Ross.

It was decided that County Solicitor should ascertain if the residence of this boy was in the Administrative County of Wexford.

OVERDRAFT

Under date 6th March 1939 the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote (G.5246/39 - Loch Garman) that the Minister had sanctioned the period ^{for} overdraft accommodation to a maximum of £35,000 up to 31st March 1939.

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

"That the Minister for Local Government and Public Health be requested to sanction overdraft of £35,000 for the period from 1st May 1939 to 31st July 1939."

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

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 16th March 1939 be received and considered."

PARKING OF MOTOR VEHICLES IN COURTTOWN HARBOUR: Col. Quin said that people who came there in caravans had the right to sleep in them; otherwise it was hitting at the liberty of the subject. It appeared to be simply a matter of some vested interest in the hotels. He was strongly against the recommendation.

The Secretary said the effect of the resolution would forbid caravans from parking in Courtown and only allowed motor cars to park for a limited time.

Mr. Ronan said that the caravans had no sanitary arrangements.

Mr. Corish - They are a menace to the health of the district. Hotels and restaurants pay rates and these people do not have to pay.

Mr. Keegan said the square in Courtown filled up on Sundays with buses and cars, and on the place that the caravans parked there was a wide walk, but it gets blocked up on Sundays with the caravans. The people in the hotels were perfectly right to object.

Miss O'Ryan - It is most insanitary to have them there.

Col. Quin - How is it insanitary to have cars parked there all night? People come there for the week-end, and they have to put their cars there.

Mr. Corish - I have no objection to the cars.

County Surveyor - Some of the cars have a lean-to erected which makes them into a tent.

Col. Quin said that they should let people with motor cars have as cheap a holiday as possible.

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Mr. Bolger said he saw caravans parked on the road from Gorey to Courtown.

Col. Quin - Are the tinkers barred, too? They have their caravans anywhere they like.

The County Surveyor said the tinkers had the road from Newtown to Ferrycarrig in an awful state.

Mr. Keegan suggested that the harbour master in Gorey, with the Assistant Surveyor and the Gardai, should arrange something to meet the needs of the matter.

Mr. Corish - What good is a caravan that squats to such a place as Courtown? These people bring their own food and do not contribute anything to the place. There are people in Courtown who have only a few months to make money out of boarders and it is unfair to let these people set up a domicile without paying rates.

Col. Quin said that people who required a cheap holiday should be encouraged to have it.

Miss O'Ryan said the people who had the caravans were able to pay their way in hotels.

Col. Quin - Everyone has the same rights and the tinkers can have their caravans on the road.

Chairman - It is a free country. The Guards move tinkers off the roads whenever they are a nuisance and we are only giving them the same power regarding the caravans.

The Chairman proposed and Col. Quin seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That consideration of the recommendation of the Finance Committee be adjourned and that the County Surveyor and Assistant Surveyor for the district, after interview with Harbour Master at Courtown, be requested to offer suggestions for consideration at next meeting of the Finance Committee as to the parking of motor vehicles at Courtown Harbour, as the Council at present are not in favour of the recommendation of the Finance Committee as regards parking of private

motor cars." Passed.

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

"That Minutes of Finance Committee of 16th March 1939 as submitted to this meeting be, and the same are, hereby confirmed and approved except in so far as same may have been altered or amended by resolution adopted at this meeting."

FINANCE COMMITTEE - MEETING 31st MARCH 1939: The Minutes of above Finance Committee meeting were submitted as follows:-

The fortnightly meeting of Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 31st March 1939.

Present:- Mr. D. Allen, T.D. (Chairman County Council) presided, also, Messrs. Patrick Colfer, W. P. Keegan, John P. Kelly, Thomas McCarthy, Sean Murphy, Sean O'Byrne and Miss N. O'Ryan.

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

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £7404. 7. 7d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

STATE OF: The following gives the state of Rate Collection to 30th March 1939:-

<u>Name of Collector</u>	<u>Percentage of Warrant Collected.</u>
1. J. Curtis	83.2
2. E. J. Murphy	78.5
3. S. Gannon	78.4
4. J. Deegan	78.0
5. J. Cummins	76.7
6. P. Nolan	76.1
7. D. Kenny	74.3
8. J. Flood	73.1
9. M. McCarthy	72.8
10. J. J. O'Reilly	72.8
11. P. Doyle	72.6
12. M. Kehoe	70.1
13. A. Dunne	69.2
14. W. Doyle	65.9
15. P. Carty	65.9
16. J. Quirke	64.9
17. W. Cummins	61.9
18. J. J. Sinnott	<u>61.6</u>

Average 71.8 per cent.

The percentage collected at 31st March 1938 was 73.2%.

Under date 25th March 1939 Mr. Seumas Murphy, Inspector Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote that he would interview the Rate Collectors and go into the

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question of the Rate Collection generally early in April 1939.

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

"That the Rate Collection for year 1938/39 close finally by 15th May 1939."

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

"That, as Collectors reach the standard for payment of third interim (irrespective of date) application be made for the approval of the Minister to payment."

The following under date 30th March 1939 (G.2732/5/39) was read from Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"With reference to your letter of the 22nd instant, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state he raises no objection to the payment of third interim poundage fees to Collector J. Curtis as proposed."

SEEDS AND FERTILIZERS SCHEME COMMITTEE

Under date 27th March 1939, Mr. Smyth wrote that it was impossible for him to attend the meetings of the above Committee as he was over 40 miles from Wexford. If he had been at the meeting of the County Council at which the appointments to the Committee had been made he would not have consented to act.

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

"That the County Council be recommended to appoint Mr. Sean O'Byrne as a member of Seeds and Fertilizers Committee vice Mr. Smyth, resigned."

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS

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

"That application be made to Office of Public Works for further instalment of Loan (No. 8794) under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts amount £3000 and that the Minister for Local Government and Public Health be requested to authorise the issue of this instalment of £3000 to the Wexford County Council."

ELLEN LEARY, BALLYWALTER, KILMUCKRIDGE: This applicant was sanctioned for loan of £100 and was paid £50 in December 1936. The woman is now an inmate of the Mental Hospital and the house has not been completed. Her husband, though written to by County Solicitor, will not take any step to complete the erection of the house.

Referred to County Solicitor for report and action.

SANCTION OF LOANS - BERNARD BERNE, BALLYBANOGUE, ENNISCORTHY: Under date 22nd March 1939 the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote (H.9207-39 Loch Garman) that the Minister approved of loan of £135 to the above.

JAMES LAMBERT, CURRAGRAIGUE, BALLINDAGGIN: Under date 20th March the Department wrote (H.6901) that the Minister approved of loan of £100 to above applicant.

ARTHUR DOYLE, TOMNALOSSET, ENNISCORTHY: Under date 16th March 1939 the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote (H.4183/2/1939) that no objection would be raised by the Minister to fixing amount of loan to this applicant at £175, being £30 in excess of the amount already sanctioned.

JOHN FIELDING, SEAVIEW, BARN TOWN: In this case loan of £100 had been sanctioned. The estimated value of house is

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£200 and the maximum loan £110. Applicant stated he required £25 to finish his house.

Mr. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor for the district, had stated that the house would probably be valued at a higher figure if the situation had been more attractive, and if the land adjacent to the site were not of such poor quality.

It was decided that Mr. Birthistle be asked for revised valuation of house as, in the opinion of the Committee, the site would be considered quite good by many people.

RICHARD REDMOND, COOLBAWN, FERNS: This applicant described as working Foreman, County Board of Health, applied for loan of £170 on a house the estimated value of which is £240.

The Secretary stated that the maximum amount of loan in this instance was £145.

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

"That the County Council be recommended to approve of advance of £145 to Richard Redmond, Coolbawn, Ferns, for erection of house under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts."

ANNIE FOLEY, BORRMOUNT, ENNISCORTHY: In this case the revised valuation of house by Mr. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, was £290. Maximum amount of advance was therefore £190. The amount already agreed to was £145.

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

"That original loan of £145 to Annie Foley be increased by £45, making advance £190."

JOHN MURPHY, KELLYSTOWN, ADAMSTOWN: Applicant described as a labourer, applied for loan of £200 on a house estimated to be valued at £400.

It was decided to adjourn application to next meeting

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of Committee as in their opinion the plan of house submitted would not represent house value £400.

JOHN WICKHAM, 22 IRISH STREET, ENNISCORTHY: Mr. Kelly stated that in this case a loan for £170 had been sanctioned and the grant was £70. Total £240. Up to the present Mr. Kelly pointed out Wickham had incurred an expenditure of £352. 12. 0 to complete the house.

It was decided to refer the application to Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor for the district, for revised valuation of house.

HOUSES IN GOREY URBAN DISTRICT ELECTORAL DIVISION: In connection with two or three applications for loans in this district and in which certificates of grant from Government had been cancelled the Chairman gave notice of motion to move at May meeting of the County Council that the scheme for erection of houses under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts be amended as regards erection of houses in Gorey Urban Area in consequence of withdrawal of Government grants from Urban Districts.

WARBLE FLY (TREATMENT OF CATTLE) ORDER 1936

SANCTION OF REMUNERATION TO VETERINARY INSPECTORS: The following, under date 21st March 1939 (L.350-39) was read from Department of Agriculture:-

"With reference to your letter of the 4th instant in the matter, I am directed by the Minister for Agriculture to state that he will be prepared to approve of the payment of the following bonuses to the Local Authority Veterinary Inspectors at the end of the present treatment period under the above Order provided that, in the first instance, a detailed report as to the work done by each Veterinary Inspector is submitted through your Local Authority to this Department and that each such report is considered satisfactory:-

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Mr. F. S. Ringwood, M.R.C.V.S.	-	£25.
Mr. T. A. Mernagh, M.R.C.V.S.	-	£25.
Mr. F. Staples, M.R.C.V.S.	-	£25.
Mr. J. Lynch, M.R.C.V.S.	-	£15.
Mr. F. W. Taylor, M.R.C.V.S.	-	£10."

COMPLAINT OF LAY INSPECTOR NO. 10 AREA: The following under date 23rd March 1939 (L.350-39) was read from Department of Agriculture:-

"2 am directed by the Minister for Agriculture to state that a report has been received from a Departmental Veterinary Inspector regarding the work of Mr. William Carty, Yoletown, Ballycullane, temporary Inspector under the above Order in District No. 10.

On the 15th instant the Departmental Inspector visited Mr. Carty's residence and was handed a notebook containing lists of the townlands in which Mr. Carty intended to carry out inspections each day during the week ending 18th instant. The Departmental Inspector failed to trace Mr. Carty in any of the townlands listed for the day of his visit, but finally located the temporary Inspector in a townland listed for the previous day. From the private notebook in which Mr. Carty entered particulars of inspections carried out the Departmental Inspector noted the names of three stockowners stated to have been visited on the 14th instant. These stockowners resided in townlands not listed for inspection on the date in question. When interviewed by the Departmental Inspector they denied that they had been visited by Mr. Carty this year

In view of the apparent unreliability of this temporary Inspector the Minister has decided to withdraw approval of his appointment as from the 25th instant, pending an investigation of his case by your Local Authority. Mr. Carty should be notified accordingly forthwith, and the Department advised, as soon as possible, of your Local Authority's findings in the matter."

The following, under date 27th March 1939, was read from William Carty:-

"I received your letter and enclosure of the 24th instant and note their contents.

My explanation is as follows:- On March 11th, when making out list of townlands to be visited during week ended March 18th, I failed to take account of Ballycullane Fair on Monday 13th, which left me a day late with my work, and as when I did take it into account, I expected to be able to finish the lot during the week, I did not change the dates for the different¹ days work, and did actually visit all the townlands listed.

In regard to three stockowners alleged to having denied being visited by me, I find that the Departmental Inspector, although visiting their premises, did not in fact, interview any of the stockowners concerned."

The following, under date 30th March 1939 (L.350-39) was read from the Department of Agriculture:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Agriculture to refer to your letter of the 28th instant and its enclosed copy of an explanation received from Mr. William Carty, Yoletown, Ballycullane, regarding certain irregularities in the performance of his duties as a temporary Inspector under the above Order reported by a Departmental Veterinary Inspector.

Mr. Carty's explanation with regard to the Departmental Inspector's failure to trace him in the townlands listed for inspection on the 15th instant has been noted.

As regards the question of the inspections recorded by Mr. Carty as having been carried out on the 14th instant on the premises of the three stockowners concerned (Messrs. Myles Dunne, Kilbraney; Pat Murphy, Ballygarvan; and Denis O'Connor, Ballygarvan), I am to state that the Departmental Inspector reports as follows:- Mr. Dunne was absent from home at the time of his visit but two members of his house-

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hold stated that Mr. Carty had not visited the premises on the 14th instant. Mr. Murphy was confined to bed owing to illness. His wife stated that Mr. Carty had not called on the 14th instant. In Mr. O'Connor's absence from home, the Departmental Inspector interviewed his son who denied that Mr. Carty had visited the premises on the date recorded.

I am to request that you will be so good as to bring this communication to the notice of the Finance Committee at its meeting on the 31st instant, at which, it is noted, the Department's communication of the 23rd instant will also be considered."

It was decided to hear William Carty, Inspector, with regard to the complaint.

He said that on 14th March he was with the three farmers referred to in the correspondence. He did not call to their houses but met them on their lands.

The Chairman said it appeared to be Mr. Carty's contention that if the Inspector had interviewed the three stock-owners themselves he would have found that Mr. Carty had been with them.

In reply to Mr. Keegan, Mr. Carty said he did not write up in his report his attendance at the three farms. As the Inspector had questioned the attendances he thought it better to omit mention of them in his official reports.

In reply to the Chairman he said he saw the cattle on the farms of Murphy and Dunne but not those on Mr. O'Connor's as he knew he could rely on the word of Mr. O'Connor. In some cases, but not many, he did not see cattle.

The Chairman said it was part of the duty of an Inspector to see all cattle.

Mr. Carty said that he saw them as far as possible but where cattle were on outfarms and at a distance from a residence he could not see them all as he would lose too much

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time. He met Mr. Murphy on the 14th when the latter was putting out his cattle. He did not see any other member of the Murphy family; at Dunne's he saw only the owner who was on the land following a fair of horses.

In reply to the Chairman Mr. Carty said that he had a record of the visits on the 14th in his private notebook; it was from this the Inspector obtained the particulars of the three farms in question. He wrote up his daily reports once a week. Mr. O'Connor offered to give him a note to show he (Mr. Carty) was at his place on 14th. He was sure he could get notes to the same effect from the other two. But, owing to the fact that the visits had been challenged by the Inspector he did not get these notes or enter the visits in his report. He thought he was carrying out his duties exceptionally well. Up to the present he believed that one person only had dressed his cattle. He had up to now visited about half his district and by 1st May he would cover it all.

The Chairman said that at this rate of progression Mr. Carty would have no means of knowing how many of the people he had seen had dressed their cattle.

After further discussion it was decided on the motion of Mr. Kelly seconded by Mr. Keegan that the Secretary communicate with Messrs. Dunne, Murphy and O'Connor and ascertain from them if Mr. Carty had interviewed them on their lands in connection with Warble Fly Order on 14th March 1939. If affirmative replies are received the Department of Agriculture are to be requested to re-instate Mr. Carty in his position. It was also decided that the attention of Mr. Lynch, M.R.C.V.S., be called to the small number of cattle dressed in Mr. Carty's district.

The following resolution, proposed by Chairman and seconded by Miss O'Ryan, was adopted:-

"That, in connection with administration of Warble Fly

(Treatment of Cattle) Order 1936 we recommend the County Council to give general authority to the Secretary of the Council to suspend any temporary Inspector where such action appears to be necessary."

Under date 27th March 1939 David Grean, Kilmyshal, Clohamon, Inspector under Warble Fly (Treatment of Cattle) Order, No. 1, wrote:-

"It has been reported to me to-day that a cow, the property of Patrick Keane, Kilanure, had died^{as} a result of dressing under Warble Fly (Treatment of Cattle) Order. I also reported the matter to Mr. F. S. Ringwood, M.R.C.V.S."

The following report under date 28th March 1939 was read from Mr. Ringwood, M.R.C.V.S.:-

"I had a report from Buncloody Guards on 27th that Patrick Kane, Kilanure, Buncloody, had a cow dead and that they suspected the Warble Fly dressing to be cause of death. I examined the carcass last evening and in my opinion the dressing was not the cause of death. I have sent a report to the Department."

DRAINAGE COMMISSION

The following under date 21st March 1939 (E.9) was read from Drainage Commission, 6 Harcourt Street, Dublin:-

"With reference to previous correspondence, it occurs to me that it might be of assistance to the representatives of your Council who intend to give oral evidence before the Drainage Commission if I were to indicate some of the points likely to arise in the course of their examination.

The Commission will of course fully discuss with the Council's representatives the written statement already submitted and will afford them every opportunity to elaborate or expand the various points raised in it or to put forward any other views they may have on matters within the terms of reference.

The Commission will discuss the advisability of under-

taking a comprehensive scheme of drainage for the whole country. Such a scheme, if undertaken, would cost several million pounds. Obviously one of the major questions to be considered is as to how the cost of such a scheme would most equitably be apportioned between (a) the State, (b) the Local Authorities and (c) the occupiers of the benefited lands. It would be well that your Council's representatives should be fully prepared to deal with this important aspect of the problem. In this connection it may be well to remind you:-

- (a) That a comprehensive scheme of drainage would only effect about 700,000 acres or approximately 4% of the total area of Eire.
- (b) That the annual improved value to the lands actually benefited would be but a very small percentage of the actual cost of the works.
- (c) That under the 1924 Act the average Government Grant was about 30% and the County Council contribution averaged 10%, so that 60% of the cost fell to be borne by the occupiers of affected lands. Under the 1925 Act the State grant was on average roughly 50% and the County Councils contributed 25% and the remaining 25% is being borne by the occupiers. Under both these Acts the occupiers must in addition bear the full cost of maintenance.

It would be essential that adequate provision should be made for the future maintenance of such large scale drainage works. Having regard to the more or less general omission in the past to maintain drainage works satisfactorily the views of the Council would be appreciated as to:-

- (a) the system of maintenance best calculated to preserve the works in good condition.
- (b) the authority to be entrusted with the supervision of the districts and with the actual work of maintenance and whether this should be a Central State Department or local authorities or a combination of both,
- (c) how the cost of annual maintenance is to be provided - what contribution the Council would make to annual maintenance - would the Council be prepared to meet the full annual cost of maintenance by way of County rate - if a contribution is suggested from the benefited occupiers should such a contribution be made as at present by way of Drainage Rate or by way of increased Poor Law Valuation.

Some indication should be given as to the total rate in

the £ on the Poor Law Valuation of the County the Council would be prepared to strike in aid of (a) the construction and (b) the maintenance of a comprehensive scheme of arterial drainage.

The fact should be borne in mind that catchment areas which often extend into more than one county are the natural units for treatment of rivers both for construction and maintenance purposes.

The Commission will desire to know whether there are in the County any considerable areas in need of drainage other than those mentioned in the written statement of evidence already submitted. Questions will be asked as to the desirability of eliminating the necessity for obtaining the prior consent of occupiers before drainage works are carried out, the extent of fishing or milling interests in the County and their importance relative to the need for drainage, the desirability of taxing towns and urban areas for drainage purposes, the line of demarcation between arterial and field drainage, the degree of flood relief to be aimed at and kindred matters coming within the terms of reference.

In relation to existing Drainage Districts situated in the County but not in charge of the County Council, it would be useful if the Council's representatives could indicate the present condition of these districts and whether the Drainage Boards or Trustees continue to function. The Council may have an opinion to offer as to the desirability of abolishing those old Boards and Trustees and transferring their responsibilities to County Councils or other maintenance authority.

It is the desire of the Commission that the representatives of the Council should be accompanied by the County Secretary and County Surveyor, who can give useful information on various matters such as the methods of administration, supervision and control of existing Drainage Districts

under the Council's charge, particulars of their present condition and the annual expenditure on maintenance.

You will, I am sure, appreciate that I write this letter to you solely with the object of being of assistance to your Council's representatives, and so that they may have a full opportunity of discussing amongst themselves the points I have referred to, and that they may thereby be in a better position to present fully to the Commission the official views of the Council thereon.

If I can be of further assistance, please let me know, and I will gladly do what I can in the way of supplying any other information or help required."

The following under date 27th March 1939 (E.36) was read from Secretary, Drainage Commission:-

"With reference to my letter of the 21st instant indicating the points likely to be discussed in the taking of oral evidence from the representatives of your Council, it occurs to me that the County Surveyor, as the sole representative may find it difficult to reply adequately on behalf of the Council to questions in relation to certain important matters such as the extent to which the Council might be prepared to contribute towards the construction and other costs of a comprehensive scheme of Arterial Drainage.

Having regard to the nature of the evidence which, as indicated in my letter of the 21st instant, the Commission wish to receive from representatives of County Councils it is the desire of the Commission that each Council should be represented before them by their Chairman and one or two members in addition to the County Secretary and County Surveyor. In view of this your Council will no doubt consider it advisable to appoint some of their members to submit with the assistance of their officials the official views of the Council.

It would suit the programme of the Commission to take

at their meeting at this office on Tuesday, the 4th proximo, at 11 a.m., oral evidence from the Wexford County Council. Will you please let me know as early as possible whether this arrangement will suit the representatives of your Council and whom these representatives will be.

As the matter is urgent perhaps you will be good enough to 'phone me a reply."

The Committee decided to submit the following memo. to the Council:-

"In the opinion of the Finance Committee major and secondary schemes should be constructed entirely by State funds and maintenance of major schemes dealt with from same source. As regards secondary schemes such as tributaries of rivers maintenance should be covered by a levy of 75% on improved lands and 25% on County Health District. That as regards subsidiary drains emptying into drains of an established scheme the County Council should be empowered to compel local landowners on whose lands such subsidiary drains are situate to clean up same when they interfere in any way with the effective discharge of water.

That the Acting County Medical Officer of Health be asked for report as to the ill effects upon the general health of the community of dampness in soil and particularly as to the incidence of diseases of the respiratory organs."

THREATENED CLOSING OF RAILWAY LINE - MACMINE-NEW ROSS

The following, under date 21st March 1939, was read from the Town Clerk, New Ross:-

"The New Ross Urban District Council after due consideration of the position respectfully beg to solicit your help in preventing what cannot fail to represent an intolerable state of affairs for New Ross should the Directors of the Railway close down the railway service from Macmine to Waterford.

You will recognise the importance of this matter when

this Council consider it essential to address you with a view to directing all the forces at their command towards the prevention of a prima facie disregard of the primary right of the public to the services of transport by rail.

Upon representations from local industrialists, merchants, farmers and labour the Council instituted enquiries and believe now it is actually the intention of the Railway Company to close this line and that without any consultation with the interests affected in New Ross, Waterford, Carlow, Kilkenny and Wexford - to name only a few of the principal towns.

In view of the facts that the Railway Company is receiving aid from the Government, use the roads at the expense of the rates, deliver goods to consignees and so monopolize complete transport, there would appear to be some necessity for the Directors of the Company to at least satisfy the public of New Ross that the closing of this line will benefit the town. The Council is prepared to prove that such action will certainly not benefit the Shareholders of the Railway Company.

You will kindly understand the considered majority opinion in New Ross is that serious dislocation of business with consequent loss of revenue to the town must immediately result should the Directors persist in their ill-considered intention. Our young industries will suffer beyond repair and much harm will result to trade and labour generally.

A Committee of the Council has been formed to meet the Minister for Industry and Commerce and the Secretary of the Railway Company to discuss the situation and trust you will use all your influence towards the object in view."

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

"That we strongly protest against the proposed closing of Railway line from Macmine to New Ross which is a direct

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blow to the town of New Ross. We consider this step to be unnecessary if effective management obtained in other directions and certainly to be against the interests of the Railway shareholders."

ROAD MATTERS

KILLINICK - TACUMSHANE ROAD ETC.: Under date 18th March 1939 Mr. W. Ross, Hon. Secretary Ballymore Fianna Fail Club, forwarded resolution from Club expressing dissatisfaction with the bad state of Killinick Tacumshane road during the past winter, also asking ~~that~~ a wire fence be erected at the turn at Ballyrane and calling attention to the poor drainage at Killinick village. It was requested that a danger sign should be erected at Killinick village where there was a very bad turning. Attention was also directed to the necessity for cleaning up the river at Assaly to which the attention of the County Council had been already called.

The County Surveyor said he was doing what he could on this road with the available money. He promised to fill the potholes. As regards cleaning the river at Assaly the County Council had applied for its inclusion in works to be done under Minor Relief Schemes Vote and this was all that could possibly be done.

RECTORY ROAD, ENNISCORTHY: Mr. Kelly, County Councillor, wrote under date 15th March 1939 that a number of residents had called his attention to the condition of this road. It was covered with water during the past winter and people could not get to Mass on Sundays. The sides were used as a dumping ground which prevented the water on the road from getting away. The road was potholed. Several new houses had been recently erected in the neighbourhood and it would be a great matter if the place was cleaned up and the water

let off. The job could be done by the ordinary staff of the Council.

The following report under date 30th March 1939 was read from Mr. T. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor for the district:

" A good deal of extra work was carried out on this road last year but there is always trouble to maintain proper drainage. Water courses and streams in the neighborhood are being constantly choked by the dumping of rubbish and debris. This renders the road not only unsightly but causes flooding and serious damage to road surface."

The County Surveyor said he had issued an advertisement to the local papers warning people who were guilty of the practice of depositing rubbish on this road they would be prosecuted, but it was difficult to catch them as the practice was carried out at night. He would have warning notices erected in the vicinity of the portion of the road used as a dump.

It was decided to refer the matter to the County Surveyor with a recommendation that he would employ a Road ganger as watchman to identify parties who were utilising the road as a dump and also that the County Council be recommended to take legal proceedings in this matter if advised by County Solicitor.

ROAD TOMNAFINCHOGUE TURN TO CASTLE ELLIS: Mr. Kelly, County Councillor, wrote under date 15th March 1939, that a number of residents had called his attention to the road from Tomnafinchogue turn to Castle Ellis through Kilcotty and the Ballagh which was in an awful state. The driver of the mail van from Enniscorthy to Blackwater had a number of the springs of his van broken recently and it was a wonder how any motor vehicle could use it. A considerable amount of traffic from Enniscorthy to Blackwater passed over this road and it was now so bad that something in the way of repair should be done immediately.

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The County Surveyor said there was a small amount only allocated for this road. Some work had been done at the Ballagh but the worst end was at Enniscorthy. There was small depressions - not exactly pot holes - in the road which made it very "harsh" on traffic. He expected he would be able to do something in the way of improvement within the next couple of months.

LANEWAY BALLYGOMAN - BARNTOWN: Under date 25th March 1939 application was made to have a lane between the bounds of Ballygoman and Barntown to the road at Cromwell Cottage which was in bad repair improved with funds under Minor Relief Schemes Vote.

It was decided, on the motion of Miss O'Ryan, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that this lane be scheduled for repair under Minor Relief Schemes Vote.

PALLAS BRIDGE (RIVER BANN): The County Surveyor submitted the following letter from Mr. P. H. McCarthy, Engineer in charge of Gorey and Courtown Water Supply:-

"I acknowledge receipt of yours of the 10th instant, and note contents. I note that you consider the responsibility for this damage rests solely on Mr. Lee. I presume that the reason is that Mr. Lee did not apply for permission to open up under the Bridge. If this is the case there is of course a technical liability on the Contractor.

My own opinion on this matter is that even accepting this fact it would be very difficult to fix the entire responsibility for this collapse to be due to a small opening in the wall. You will realise that my position in this matter is rather difficult and should proceedings be taken against Mr. Lee he will have to employ an independent Engineer to act for him."

The County Surveyor said that Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, was taking the opinion of Counsel in the matter.

ROAD TAGOAT VILLAGE - ROSSLARE HARBOUR: The following under date 23rd March 1939 was read from the Hon. Secretary, Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane Fianna Fail Cumann:-

"I am directed by my Cumann to draw the attention of the Council to the dangerous state of the road between Tagoat village and Rosslare Harbour. Between these two villages there are at least a dozen dangerous turns, which constitute a serious menace to life and property. With the tourist season approaching and considering the amount of motor traffic which this will entail to and from Rosslare Harbour, the danger will be increased. It would be greatly appreciated if your Council would do something towards lessening the danger by widening the turns.

Another matter we would like to bring under your notice is the flooding of the roads, fields and houses in the locality. During the last winter the roads and houses in Ballygeary and Ballygillane districts were under water for days at a time. This as you know, constitutes a grave inconvenience and entails great losses to the occupants of the houses, besides being a menace to public health. Even at the present time although the weather has been dry for some time, part of the locality is covered with water. We would indeed be very thankful if your Council will enquire into these complaints with a view to having them remedied."

Under date 30th March 1939 the following report was read from Mr. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor for the district:-

"With reference to complaints from Kilrane Fianna Fail Club, please notify all concerned that the road matters are all provided for a considerable time ago. With regard to the complaints of flooding this will continue in bad weather until the land drainage over this entire area is thoroughly overhauled. I have made repeated applications for drainage work in this area."

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The County Surveyor said they had an Improvement Grant for this road and the worst corners which were between Kilrane and Ballygeary would be dealt with. As regards the flooding he believed they could do nothing.

Miss O'Ryan said while the surface of so many roads was bad she did not think it advisable in the interests of the travelling public that money should be diverted for the purpose of easing corners; it should be spent in providing additional material.

The Chairman said they were not providing sufficient metalling for their roads. There was a considerable amount of money spent on other work besides road metal. According to their outlay they should be able to provide 22 yards of material per mile (if nothing was dealt with but material). Some roads were not getting two yards per mile.

RUANMORE LANE, KILMUCKRIDGE: Under date 28th March 1939 Messrs. John Fanning, Andrew O'Brien and Thomas Murphy, wrote asking for repair of above lane. It was a mile long and it could not be kept in order by three ratepayers.

Rev. J. Sinnott, P.P., Litter, and Mr. R. J. Hughes, Ballinlow, Kilmuckridge, wrote recommending the application.

It was decided to schedule Ruanmore Lane for repair under Minor Relief Schemes Vote.

APPLICATION COMPENSATION ALLEGED CRIMINAL INJURY

Notification was received on behalf of Thomas Nolan, Monument Place, Wexford, of his intention to apply for £15 Compensation for malicious damage done to house at Farnogue, Wexford, his property.

Referred to County Solicitor to defend.

PRINTING - SEED AND FERTILIZERS SUPPLY SCHEME

The following quotation for printing work from "The People", Wexford, at £5. 5. 0 was submitted:-

500 Copies of Scheme and 1000 application forms under Seed and Fertilizers Supply Scheme also quotation for 500 Forms S.G.2 and S.G.3 at £1. 19. 0d.

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

"That quotation from "The People" newspaper for printing forms etc. required under Seed and Fertilizers' Supply Scheme amount £7. 4. 0 be accepted."

ILLNESS OF CLERICAL ASSISTANT

The Secretary stated that at the meeting of Finance Committee on 16th March 1939 the following resolution was adopted:-

"That Mr. Stephen Hayes, Clerical Assistant, County Council Office, be granted further sick leave up to an including 25th March 1939."

The following medical certificate was submitted:-

"This is to certify that Mr. Stephen Hayes is not yet fit to resume duty and will require another ten days."

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

"That, in accordance with medical certificate under date 29th March 1939 a further ten days' sick leave be granted Mr. S. Hayes, Clerical Assistant, County Council Offices, as from 27th March 1939."

SANCTION OF EMPLOYMENT TEMPORARY CLERK

The following, under date 24th March 1939 (G.4508-3-39) was read from Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"With reference to your letter of the 20th instant, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that he sanctions the retention of Mr.

Laurence Cleary as temporary clerk up to the 22nd proximo on terms hitherto approved."

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL CASES

Under date 21st MARCH notification was read from District Court Clerk, New Ross, as to the proposed committal to St. Patrick's Industrial School, Kilkenny of William Donovan (6 years and nine months old) illegitimate child of Annie Connick, Bigerin Loftus, New Ross. The woman's husband, Laurence Connick, was unemployed and they had three other children aged 5, 3 and 1½ years respectively.

Referred to County Solicitor.

Under date 23rd March 1939 Sergeant O'Connor, Garda Siochana, Campile, wrote that James and John J. O'Neill, Whitechurch, New Ross, would be charged at New Ross Court on 4th April with house breaking and it was the intention of the Garda to seek to have them committed to an Industrial School.

Referred to County Solicitor.

VALUATION BILL

Under date 24th March 1939 the Department of Finance wrote (F.91-1-38) acknowledging receipt of further resolution from Finance Committee and confirmed at General meeting of County Council relative to the charge to be made Local Authorities for new valuation and for annual revision.

BALLYCONNIGAR STONE DEPOT - REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCIL COMMITTEE.

The following report of Committee under date 30th March 1939 was submitted:-

"On the 22nd instant the Committee visited Ballyconigar and inspected the site on Mr. Keating's land. There were present Messrs. McCarthy and Kelly, M.C.C.s, also Mr. Lawlor, M.C.C., the County Surveyor and Mr. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor. Messrs. Keating, Senior and Junior were both present.

The County Surveyor gave the history of the take. It appears that some 16 years ago it was decided, in lack of a regular quarry to prepare broken sea stones for the local

roads. Mr. Keating with others agreed to gather the stones and Mr. Keating allowed a portion of his field to be used as a dump. There is no record of any written agreement, but Mr. Keating, junior, states it was agreed to pay £2 per annum for the dump. He says the County Council paid £4 some 16 years ago and nothing since. The County Surveyor states the only record of payment he can find is £1. 10. 0 14 years ago and that this was evidently to cover use when others than Mr. Keating used the dump. After the first couple of years Mr. Keating alone gathered the stones, and by agreement broke them, hiring the Council stonebreaker for the purpose. The County Council paid him so much per cubic yard for the broken stone, and the County Surveyor takes it this covered all cost. No doubt there is some small deterioration of the surface due to usage as dump, and as the Council is no longer allowed to take material from the seashore the owner may have some claim for damages. His claim for rent is statute barred, and he made no demand on the County Council for rent for many years. It is only now when the use of dump etc., terminated that he puts in a claim.

The total area of the field is approximately $2\frac{3}{4}$ acres, and the part used as dump is not more than half an acre. The Committee offered Mr. Keating £5 to cover damage to surface, but Mr. Keating would not accept this.

As an alternative the Committee suggested that the County Council purchase a strip, say sixty feet wide by about one hundred yards long to provide a right of way to shore in substitution of the County Road washed away. This strip is on site of old dump and is about one quarter acre in area. The County Council would fence off the strip and the price suggested was £15. This should be in settlement of all claims by Mr. Keating. Mr. Keating stated they did not wish to part with any land and when pressed, stated that nothing less than £100 would be taken for the strip. Mr.

Keating was asked to reconsider the matter, and to communicate with the County Secretary before the Finance Committee Meeting on 31st instant."

The County Surveyor said he had received a Bill for £28 "for rent of surface ground for 14 years at £2 per year".

Mr. Patrick Keating, Junior, was allowed to come before the meeting and in the course of explanation of his claim said he would be satisfied if he received £21, being 14 years' rent at £1. 10. 0 per annum.

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

"That we approve of report of Committee which investigated claim of Mr. John Keating, Ballyconigar, Blackwater, for payment for surface damage to his field which had been utilised as a stone breaking depot, and that without prejudice Mr. Keating be offered £5, the sum fixed by the Committee to cover said damage."

FORD 15 CWT. TRUCK

The County Surveyor said that when the Council decided to purchase a lorry it was agreed that the 15 cwt. Ford Truck should be sold. He had received offers of £55 and ~~£5~~ £50 for it. If, however, they disposed of it it would be necessary to take the big lorry off routine work for one day or more each fortnight or provide some means of transport for the machinery overseer. It would take about £50 per annum to run the lorry and as the Machinery Overseer covered about 8000 miles per annum it would mean £100 at 3d per mile. If they kept the truck for a year it would mean it might be worth only £10 at the end of that time.

It was decided to recommend the County Council to retain the truck in service.

STOREKEEPER IN MACHINERY YARD, ENNISCORTHY

The County Surveyor stated that the services of Martin O'Leary, 9 Shannon Hill, Enniscorthy, temporary storekeeper recently appointed, were urgently needed in the Machinery Yard but up to the present sanction had not been received from the Minister. He (County Surveyor) wanted to proceed with stock taking immediately.

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 the appointment of temporary storekeeper in Machinery Yard, Enniscorthy, as the services of this official are now urgently required."

ROCK DRILL EMPLOYEES

Mr. Colfer said that the 7s. 6d extra per week voted to Rockdrill Employees had not been paid.

The County Surveyor said he thought sanction of the Minister was necessary and if it was decided this was not required he would have payment made as from the date of the County Council's approval of the increased amount.

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

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 31st March 1939 be received and considered."

WARBLE FLY (TREATMENT OF CATTLE) ORDER: The following, under date 1st April 1939 (L.350-39) was read from the Department of Agriculture:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Agriculture to state that a report has been received from a Departmental Veterinary Inspector regarding the work of Mr. John Morrissey, Camross, Foulksmills, temporary Inspector under the above Order in County Wexford (District No. 9).

On the 16th ultimo the Departmental Inspector called at Mr. Morrissey's residence and found that, despite the explicit instructions issued in the matter, no written particulars as to the townlands in which Mr. Morrissey intended to carry out inspections on that and the following day were available. When interviewed, the temporary Inspector stated that he had visited "Foleys", Camross that morning. Both James and Moses Foley denied, however, that they had been visited by Mr. Morrissey that day or on any previous occasion this season. It is also reported that Mr. Morrissey's official notebook did not contain any record of visits of inspection carried out by him subsequent to the 11th ultimo. It would appear that inspections are first recorded by the temporary Inspector in a private pocket book which does not, however, give the dates of such inspections.

In view of the foregoing irregularities the Minister has decided to withdraw approval of Mr. Morrissey's further employment as a temporary Inspector as from the 4th instant pending investigation of his case by your Local Authority, and he should be notified accordingly forthwith. The Local Authority's findings in the matter should be notified to this Department as soon as possible."

Mr. M. Redmond said that Mr. Morrissey who lived three miles from him seemed to be carrying out his duties with satisfaction. The Point-to-Point Races at Rochestown might have interfered with Morrissey's itinerary. The Inspector to Department went to four places on that day which Mr. Morrissey had just left.

Miss O'Ryan said they would not complain of a close watch being kept on the work of the Inspectors more particularly as there appeared to be some doubt as to whether the warble fly pest was really being brought under control.

It was decided that the Secretary investigate the complaint of the Department in this instance and report result to next meeting of the Finance Committee.

The Chairman said it seemed from Returns that in four areas there was only a very small number of cattle dressed. In one district only five as against over 400 in another district.

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

"That in all cases in which the number of cattle dressed under Warble Fly (Treatment of Cattle) Order appear to be below the average the Veterinary Inspectors and the Lay Inspectors for the district be requested to furnish their observations. The Council will be compelled to take drastic action in the case of Inspectors who are neglecting their duty."

Col. Quin dissented from the recommendation of the Finance Committee regarding Inspector Carty.

DRAINAGE COMMISSION: The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Molfer:-

"That the County Council appoint the following members as a Committee to offer evidence to the Drainage Commission on their behalf:- The Chairman (Mr. D. Allen), and Messrs:

Sean Murphy, T. Redmond and M. Smyth, to meet immediately at the conclusion of the business of the Finance Committee on the 14th April."

Under date 1st April 1939 the Secretary to the Drainage Commission, 6 Harcourt Street, Dublin, wrote that it was noted the Representatives of Wexford County Council could not attend to tender evidence on 4th April 1939. A later date for the purpose would be arranged.

PROPOSED CLOSING RAILWAY LINE MACMINE - NEW ROSS: Mr.

Walsh proposed that the Finance Committee's resolution be adopted and said that a good many Councils had supported it. The Railway Company had announced they were about to close some branch lines but nobody visualised that a line that goes straight through and connects two main lines and serves the traffic between New Ross and Waterford could be described as a branch line. It was a main line in itself. There had been no change in the time table from New Ross to Dublin for a number of years. A person could not get from New Ross to Dublin and back again on the same day with any reasonable time to do business in the city. It was ridiculous that a train took $4\frac{1}{2}$ to five hours to travel 86 to 90 miles. If the Railway Company provided a better service more people would avail of it.

Mr. Colfer, seconding, said that if the line was closed it was probable that none of the farmers along it could grow any more beet.

Mr. Corish, supporting the resolution, said that there was another aspect for consideration. If the line was closed it would be impossible to have in New Ross in future big G.A.A. fixtures such as the County Feis or the Waterford V. Wexford match on last Sunday, because they crowds could not be brought by 'bus. That would be a big loss to New Ross. The County Council should make strenuous efforts to

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help the New Ross Urban Council protest. He could not understand the Railway Company because they deliberately embarded upon road traffic, while at the same time they say that such traffic was against their best interests.

Mr. M. Redmond said that at Chapel Station that morning there was an application for 17 wag~~g~~ons for cattle. That was only one station on the line. What would it amount to if the people wh~~a~~ loaded cattle at all the stations in the year had to go elsewhere with this traffic?

Mr. T. Redmond said that at last New Ross fair 62 wag~~g~~ons of cattle were loaded. How would the cattle be dealt with if the line was closed? Considering the whole district from Macmine to Waterford, thousands of cattle were railed out of it and in addition there was the beet traffic already referred to. Cattle dealers and merchants in Waterford had told him (Mr. Redmond) that they would much prefer to have the South Wexford line via Rosslare closed rather than the Macmine to New Ross line. It would not affect them as much. Any other interest in South Wexford would agree.

Mr. McCarthy supported the resolution and said that the Railway Company may close the passenger traffic and keep on a restricted goods service, and he thought that the people who were arranging for the public meeting of protest in New Ross should put statistics before that meeting and before the Railway Company that would justify them in continuing the services. New Ross was one of the principal towns in the County and if the line was closed it would affect the trade in the whole county.

Miss O'Ryan inquired if the Railway Company were allowed to put all their traffic on to the roads, what would become of them? That traffic was at present carried on steel rails. She thought the County Council should send a resolution to the Minister for Industry and Commerce in

the matter. That Department gave the Railway Company a monopoly of the traffic of the country and assisted the company a great deal, and they should not allow the Railway Company to get away from their responsibilities. If all this traffic to New Ross is diverted, New Ross would become a wilderness. The Railway Company should be able to take the responsibility of giving a railway service to New Ross when they have the monopoly.

Mr. Walsh said that the statistics suggested by Mr. McCarthy would not support the case too well, because the Railway Company had not given a reasonable service to New Ross.

Col. Quin said he had no sympathy with the Railway Company which was losing money by overcharging and unbusinesslike methods. It was far cheaper to send things by lorry than by rail, whereas the rail service should be 50 per cent cheaper. The mid-day train came down from Dublin practically empty, because the Railway charged too much. Now their charges had gone up again. People were getting the bus habit. It was absolutely disgraceful to close the New Ross line.

Mr. T. Redmond said the return ticket from New Ross to Dublin by rail was 18s. 11d and by bus 14s. 6d. Instead of feeding the railways the bus traffic was run in opposition. The Railway Company were bringing the traffic on to the roads, which were maintained by the rates and in respect of which the Railway Company paid no maintenance charge.

Col. Quin - Railway lorries charge 50 per cent more than private lorries.

The Chairman said it was a most serious matter and a national question of which the Government should take notice. The Government handed over the whole transport business to the Railway Company and left the power in their hands to

close down lines. That was all wrong. Here was a suggestion to isolate one-third of the County Wexford, including an important town. It was no wonder the railways were not paying when the Company had their two services, road and rail, competing with each other. At the present time the County Council were paying 60 per cent of the cost of the roads and if all the rail traffic was thrown on to the roads the cost of upkeep would be trebled. The ratepayers were not able to keep up the roads at present and if the rail traffic is thrown on the roads their upkeep would become a national matter, because the ratepayers would refuse to carry the burden. He proposed that a strong resolution be sent to the Government saying that the County Council were of the opinion that the question of closing railway lines should be a national concern and not a matter for the Railway Company alone.

The County Surveyor said that he was in communication with the Chief/^{Roads}Engineer of Local Government Department regarding this matter and he pointed out that a large number of the county roads, apart from the main roads, would require re-construction to carry the proposed traffic and the cost of that reconstruction would not be less than £20,000.

Mr. Keegan said the return fare by train from Gorey to Wexford was 6s. by bus and only 5s. 6d by train, the reverse of the position in New Ross to Dublin. The railway was reducing its staff every day and it was plain they wanted to throw all the traffic on the roads and let the ratepayers maintain them. In 1921 the fare to Wexford from Gorey was 11s. 4d. This was reduced to 7s. 6d when the bus came on the road and then to 4s. 6d., and now it was up to 5s. 6d again since the railway got the monopoly. The railway made the money all the time, because the traffic had to pay it.

Mr. O'Byrne said the single ticket from Gorey to Wexford by bus was 3s. and by rail 4s. 6d.

Miss O'Ryan proposed a resolution protesting against the proposed closing of the line and expressing the opinion that closing of any line should not be left to the discretion of the Railway Company but should be a matter for the Minister for Industry and Commerce after hearing all the interests concerned, ^{which} was seconded by Mr. Corish and passed unanimously.

The Chairman remarked that it was probable there would be new transport legislation after the Transport Tribunal had made their report.

Miss O'Ryan remarked that the Railway Company seemed to be cutting their own throats by bringing traffic cheaper by road than by rail. Their own competition was the most dangerous to them.

County Surveyor - They have to maintain their lines, but you would have to maintain the roads for them.

Mr. T. Redmond - The train to Dublin leaves New Ross at 8.30 a.m. and the bus leaves at 9 a.m. and they travel parallel routes to Dublin and arrive about the same time and the bus is a cheaper fare.

Col. Quin - A Railway Company director told me the bus traffic is the only traffic that pays.

The Chairman said that the privately owned lorries and registered carriers were seriously affecting the railway traffic. If the County Council were going to fight for the railways being kept going they could not fight for other modes of traffic. They could not have their cake and eat it, and they should remember that serious pressure would be brought on them later by other traffic interests in County Wexford. There should be other ways of meeting the matter than by a monopoly or taking the monopoly away.

On the suggestion of the Chairman it was then decided to ask the General Council of County Councils to consider

the loss the County Councils would sustain by the closing of railway lines throughout the country and the diversion of traffic to roads which were never constructed to bear the weight of vehicles used by the Railway Company at present for the conveyance of goods.

In the opinion of this Council the General Council should take steps to have the view point of the Councils in this matter receive due consideration from a proper tribunal.

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

"That Minutes of Finance Committee of 31st March 1939 as submitted to this meeting be, and the same are, hereby confirmed and approved except in so far as same may have been altered or amended by resolution adopted at this meeting."

APPLICATION OF FOUR ASSISTANT SURVEYORS FOR INCREMENTS TO SALARIES - REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following report of Special Committee to deal with the above was read:-

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

APPLICATION ASSISTANT SURVEYORS

The following application on behalf of four Assistant Surveyors from the Wexford Branch of the Local Government Officials Union was referred to a Committee consisting of the following Councillors for examination and report:-

Messrs. J. J. Bowe, C. Culleton, R. Doyle, Michael Redmond, T. Redmond and J. E. Walsh.

"On the 12th October, 1936, this Branch of the Local Government Officials' Union put in an application on behalf of four District Surveyors to have their salaries placed on an incremental basis.

The Surveyors are definitely paid the lowest salaries of any Surveyors in the country. Moreover, not alone are

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the commencing salaries in other Counties higher than the present fixed salaries in County Wexford, but, in most of the other Counties they increase by yearly increments of £10 to £15, to a maximum of £400.

It may be pointed out that the Wexford Roads are among the most difficult to maintain on account of its being such an intensive tillage county.

The Surveyors concerned are naturally not satisfied to remain the lowest paid of their class in the country, and now ask the Council to accede to their request for increments of £15 per annum to a maximum of £400.

There has been some suggestion for combined services in this County, but it would now appear that any such scheme would not be feasible or satisfactory for many years to come.

It is consequently respectfully requested that ~~this~~ application be now definitely dealt with. Their salaries are £275 per annum with no increments and the average length of service of the four men concerned would be eighteen years.

The following is the report of Committee:-

The Committee appointed to consider application from Wexford Branch of Local Government Officials' Union to have the salaries of four Assistant Surveyors placed on incremental scale, met on 13th March 1939.

After exhaustive and lengthy consideration they came to the conclusion that under existing financial circumstances of County Council and ratepayers they could not reasonably recommend the application at the present time.

(Signed) J. J. Bowe.
C. Culleton.
R. Doyle.
M. Redmond.
T. Redmond
J. E. Walsh.

Mr. Corish said he was sorry to have to disagree with the findings of the Committee especially when one of his own colleagues was a member. At the same time he could not understand why their surveyors should be in a position inferior to others in a similar position in other Counties in so far as basic salaries were concerned. It might be pointed out that the Deputy Surveyors were receiving more money than the submission of salary would lead one to believe, but when they examined the position of other Surveyors in other parts it would be found in twenty out of twenty-six Counties salaries were a good deal higher than the salaries paid to their Deputy Surveyors. The average maximum salary was about £400. He thought that annual increments of £10 up to that amount were received, and he thought they would also have to take into consideration that a number of the young men concerned had gone into the service of County Councils from Universities and the initial salaries were more than the maximum that Wexford County Council paid to their Deputy Surveyors. He thought it only right that they should give the Deputy Surveyors something to look forward to, and put them on an incremental basis. Mr. Ennis had 21 years' service, Mr. Cullen 16, Mr. Birthistle 16 and Mr. O'Neill 14.

In view of the good service and attention given, Mr. Corish submitted it was not very good treatment at this stage when the cost of living had increased considerably, that the Committee should turn down the application in its entirety. He submitted that these Officers should be put on an incremental basis. It might have influenced the Committee that at present the Deputy Surveyors were getting a certain amount of money, because of grant work in the County, but it must also be admitted that this meant extra work, and that money was also paid in other Counties to Surveyors/^{who were} on an incremental scale, and who would eventually reach £400. He moved that salaries be increased by increments of £10 up to £400. It would not be a very large impost on the rates.

Mr. Kelly seconded.

Mr. Culleton said that as he stated at the meeting of the Committee and to the Surveyors, he would not oppose an increase, or to have the Surveyors put on an incremental basis, but he could not see his way to make a proposal unless the other members of the Committee were agreeable to act in a similar manner, and another way he looked at the matter - to look at it in a consistent way - they had asked that an increase be given to men working under the Surveyors. He had no hostility at all to the Surveyors - he would like to see their position improved, but the estimate was cut down to such an extent that they could not give a half-crown or even 1s. a week extra to men on roads and in quarries, and he thought it would be very peculiar to turn around with a reduced estimate to recommend an increase to men who were their supervisors. At the same time he agreed with and would support Mr. Corish's proposition.

Mr. T. Redmond, another member of the Committee, said that they went into the position most minutely and every aspect of the case was considered, the point raised by Mr.

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Culleton having been discussed at great length. That the Council decided not to increase road workers' wages was another point that weighed very much with the Committee, and the conclusion arrived at eventually was that in view of the financial position of the County Council and the rate-payers generally, as disclosed at the meeting an hour or two previously, they could not possibly recommend an increase at the present time. He was going to stand by that. He was just as much in favour of an increase for the Deputy Surveyors as any member of the Council. He believed they had long and faithful service. No one could say a word to the service they had given, but when they looked at the position of other sections of the public, the very least they could say was that the Surveyors were as well off as last year and the year before, but other people could not say that. For those reasons he was going to stand by the decision that they arrived at, that they could not reasonably recommend an increase in the Deputy Surveyors' salaries at the present time. That did not rule them out from making a future application, if the financial position of the Council and the ratepayers generally improved.

Mr. Colfer said there was one thing he would like to point out, and it was that he thought that any Committee that was appointed there to go into a certain matter should try to arrange that question without dragging in other things. It had been drawn up that increased salaries could not be given to Surveyors because it could not be given to workingmen. Everyone got an opportunity there of voting for the workingmen, and if they wanted to do it they could have done it. He thought that any Committee appointed to decide a matter should decide it on merits, and not drag in other matters.

The Chairman said that a Committee appointed had a right to consider a matter from any aspect they wished.

Mr. Corish said it was only right to point out that his proposal at the moment would cost £40, but eventually it would cost £500, and that was only about a third of a penny in the £ in years to come, so that it would be a very small impost on the rates. In 21 out of the 26 Counties Surveyors' salaries were on an incremental basis.

In reference to the question of notice of Mr. Corish's motion being required he submitted he was entitled to bring his proposition as an amendment to the Committee's report. If a vote were taken on the Committee's recommendation, it would be waste of time for him to give notice of motion. He asked the Chairman to defer a decision on the recommendation until his motion was being considered.

Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, stated that in his opinion notice of motion would be necessary for any proposal such as referred to by Mr. Corish.

The Chairman thought the Council had a right to decide in regard to accepting or rejecting the report of the Committee. That did not bind them in any way for the future.

On a show of hands the recommendation was adopted by 13 votes to four.

Mr. Corish - My notice of motion would be absolutely useless now.

Chairman - There is nothing to prevent you from handing it in.

Mr. O'Byrne proposed and Mr. Bolger seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That the report of the Committee which considered application of four Assistant Surveyors to have their salaries placed on an incremental basis be received and approved."

NATIONAL MONUMENTS LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The following report of meeting of above Committee held on 15th March 1939 was submitted and approved on the motion of Mr. Kelly seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:-

[The body of the report is crossed out with a large diagonal line.]

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A meeting of County Wexford Local Advisory Committee - National Monuments Act - was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 15th March 1939.

Present, Very Rev. Canon Cloney (presiding); Rev. P. Murphy, P.P., Rev. J. Ranson and Miss K. A. Browne.

The Secretary County Council was also in attendance.

The following letter, No. C.94/49/1/36 was read from Office of Public Works:-

"With reference to your letters of the 20adh and 25adh Meitheamh last on the subject of Ferrycarrig and Mount Garrett Castles, we have consulted the National Monuments Advisory Council in the matter and have to state that these Castles are National Monuments within the meaning of the Act.

In this connection we wish to add, however, that we are advised that a number of Churches situated in graveyards and therefore vested in the Local Authority are in need of repairs, and would be specially eligible for attention. Of these, the most important is the fortified Church at Clonmines, but those at Clone and Bannow are also in need of conservation works."

It was decided to communicate with Rev. M. Rossiter, Crossabeg, and the Land Commission relative to Ferrycarrig Castle and with Lord Mountgarrett as to Mountgarrett Castle.

As regards the burial grounds at Clonmines, Bannow and Clone, the Secretary to the County Board of Health wrote that he was asking the Engineers concerned for a report on each burial ground.

In connection with Mayglass Churchyard, the following under date 19th February 1939 was read from Miss Browne, a member of the Committee:-

"I have just been to Mayglass Churchyard where a number of people had assembled for the "Patron". Father Lambert and several men showed me where serious damage had been done

to the old ruin by the Health Board men. A huge trunk of ivy which has kept the gable standing for at least a century has been sawn through in two places. Mr. Leask's advice to cut the ivy has been taken indiscriminately. No one in their senses would have done what has been done in Mayglass. I think we had better have a meeting and send a request to the Health Board to send an engineer to examine the ruins before workmen are let loose on them, and to ask for an engineer's report on the state of the Mayglass gable. It is thought to be dangerous now."

Miss Bröwne said that Father Lambert C.C., Mayglass, had remonstrated with the men who were engaged in cutting the ivy and pointed out to them they would injure the structure but without effect. The gable was at an angle at the moment and if it fell it would destroy some costly tombstones and crosses.

The following resolution was adopted:-

"That the Board of Health be requested in cases in which it is necessary that ivy on ancient monuments must be trimmed to secure the advice of their Engineers previous to any work of this description being undertaken so that injury to monuments will not result.

The Committee would be glad to have a report on the present condition of ancient monument on Mayglass graveyard."

Fr. Ranson referred to the ruins in Clone and said they were in a bad condition, falling down with the weight of ivy. Some of the carved stones were scattered about the graveyard.

It was decided that the following letter be forwarded the Board of Health:-

"At the meeting of the National Monument Local Advisory Committee today, attention was called to the condition of the ancient ruins in Mayglass Churchyard. It was stated

that serious damage had been done to this recently. A trunk of ivy which had kept the gable end of the ruin standing for a century had been sawn through in two places.

It was further stated that Father Lambert C.C., remonstrated with the men engaged on the work but they paid no attention to his suggestions. The Committee considered that from the manner in which the ivy was dealt with, that as the gable of the ruin is *at* a slight angle at the moment and as the ivy was practically its only support, it may fall any time causing damage to several valuable tombstones and crosses.

They would be glad to have a report from the Engineer of the Board of Health under whom this work was carried out, as to the present condition of the gable ruin. Regarding this matter of removal of ivy they also suggest that any future work of this description should be done under the directions of the engineer. The members of the Committee, viz., Miss K. A. Browne, Rathronan Castle, Bridgetown, Very Rev. Canon T. Cloney, P.P., Templetawn, Chairman, Rev. P. Murphy, P.P., Glynn, Rev. J. Ranson, C.C., Enniscorthy and Mr. E. R. Orpen, Monksgrange, would be glad to meet your Engineer in connection with any work which might be necessary to be carried out in respect of any ancient monuments, in graveyards which are vested in your Board.

Attention was also called to the condition of the graveyard in Clone, Ferns. Portion of the structure had fallen down possibly with the weight of the clinging ivy and some of the carved stones are scattered around the graveyard. It might be possible for your Board to have some restoration carried out there."

In connection with Coolhull Castle it was decided to again communicate with Office of Public Works and ask them

to declare this to be a historic monument.

The owner is willing to have it vested in the County Council and would - in fact - carry out any small repairs necessary to the structure if cement for the purpose was supplied.

It was decided to ask the County Surveyor to make an inspection of Fethard Castle and report to the County Council in the matter.

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Mr. Colfer thought there was some recommendation from the Ancient Monuments Committee to cut the ivy. Now, he thought, they were coming back the other way.

The Secretary said that Mr. Carson (Health Board engineer) informed him he would be glad to meet the Committee any day.

Miss O'Ryan suggested that the report be referred to the Health Board.

Secretary - Mr. Carson says he will meet the Committee.

Miss O'Ryan said there was more or less an insinuation there that the Health Board were a group of irresponsible people that went out to do work and damage ancient monuments without any regard to them. Anything done was under the direction of engineers and at the request of the Committee.

INJURY TO SHEEP FLEECES, SHEEP SKINS, ETC.

The following under date 29th March 1939 (L.4637-38) was read from the Department of Agriculture:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Agriculture to state for the information of your Local Authority under the Diseases of Animals Acts, that it has come to his notice that the value of fleeces, sheepskins and lambskins has been considerably depreciated by the use of dips or bloom powders which contain material of the nature of a dye. Such dips or bloom powders impart a yellow colour to the wool and thus render it unsuitable for general manufacturing purposes inasmuch as the colour is not removed by the washing or scouring process at the mills.

It is, accordingly, suggested that in the interests of flock owners and the woollen industry, all Local Authorities who supply sheep dip in connection with compulsory dipping operations should, when inviting tenders for supplies thereof, consider the question of requiring a guarantee to

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the effect that any dip tendered for is free from colouring matter which cannot be readily washed out from wool.

The Minister will be glad if the matter can be considered by the Local Authority at an early date and he will also be glad to be duly informed of the action decided on in regard thereto."

It was decided, on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Murphy, that the Secretary issue advertisement in the three local papers calling the attention of sheepowners to the advice of the Department of Agriculture as regards the injury done by the use of coloured dyes and bloom powders.

THE CONDITION OF WEXFORD BRIDGE

Mr. Corish asked if there was any word about Wexford Bridge. Was that snake-like route going to continue for the remainder of their lives? He thought it was a terrible state of affairs.

The Chairman said the County Surveyor should go to Dublin and have the matter finished up with the Engineers of the Department.

Mr. Corish said that he would be in Dublin on Wednesday if the County Surveyor could arrange an interview for that day. Certainly something ought to be done. They would be into the summer before any move would be made.

The County Surveyor said he heard from Mr. Delap, Consulting Engineer, that he was to see Mr. Courtney of the Department that day.

+ Mr. Corish - It is going on long enough for their minds to be made up as to what they are going to do.

It was decided that the County Surveyor make arrangements in regard to an interview with Mr. Courtney, Chief Roads Engineer of the Department of Local Government and Public Health and that the Chairman and Mr. Corish, T.D.'s accompany the County Surveyor. +.

FLOODING AT FISHERSTOWN AND GREAT ISLAND

The following under date 24th March 1939 was read from Irish Land Commission:-

"With reference to your letter of the 17th December last enclosing extracts from the Minutes of Meetings of your Council and Finance Committee regarding flooding at Great Island and Fisherstown on the above Estates, I am desired by the Land Commission to inform you that it is hoped to resume work in the early Summer on the repair of the river embankments."

Mr. T. Redmond said that strong representations had been made to the Land Commission two or three months ago as to the flooding of the river between Camblin and New Ross. There was imminent danger the road there would become impassible. There was going to be great trouble there during the next week owing to the Spring tides. He proposed that necessity for repairing the breaches in the banks of the river be again brought to the notice of the Land Commission and they be asked to include this and the repair of the breaches at Ballinabanogue in their proposed scheme of Summer repair. The continuance of the present position was doing almost irreparable harm to 300 acres of good arable land. A far bigger area was involved in the flooding than at Fisherstown or Great Island. The work would have to be done certainly before next winter and could not wait for report of the Drainage Commission, In addition to the flooding of the road the Council would lose a great deal by the non-payment of rates in a flooded area.

Mr. Walsh, in seconding, endorsed the remarks of Mr. Redmond and said the condition of the place was 100% worse than it was three months ago.

The resolution was adopted and it was also agreed that the Chairman and Mr. Corish should interview the officials of the Land Commission in the matter.

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SEEDS AND FERTILIZERS COMMITTEE

The following under date 31st March 1939 (G.10255/39 - Loch Garman) was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"With reference to your letter of the 24th instant, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that he sanctions the recognition of the Committee appointed in connection with the Council's Seeds and Fertilizers Scheme as an authorised Committee for the purposes of Section 63 of the Local Government Act 1925."

AREAS OF CHARGE - WATER SUPPLIES

Under date 13th March 1939 the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote (P.H.15915/4/38 - Loch Garman Pd) forwarding copy of Order made on 24th February 1939 by the Minister altering the areas of charge for provision and maintenance of Sewerage System in Rosslare and Gorey Water Supply to the County Health District of Wexford.

APPROACHES TO CHURCHES IN RURAL AREAS

Miss O'Ryan said the County Council some time ago adopted a resolution directing the County Surveyor to lay down suitable road metalling and tar/^{same} on the approaches to all places of worship in rural districts. She asked the County Surveyor to report to the Finance Committee in how many cases this had been done and also how many he proposed to deal with.

The County Surveyor said as regards this matter he felt bound to point out that a few yards in front of buildings here and there treated with tar might absorb money for three or four miles of roads.

FLOODING AT KILMACKREE

At a recent meeting of Finance Committee the question of flooding of a labourer's cottage at Kilmackree was raised by Mr. Sean Murphy when it was decided that the County Surveyor should consult with the Engineer to the Board of Health in the matter.

Mr. Murphy asked if anything had been done and arising out of this query the following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. T. Redmond:-

"That Messrs. Corish, Culleton, and Sean Murphy, be appointed a Committee to investigate the question of flooding at the premises of Patrick Whelan, Kilmackree, Drinagh and report to Finance Committee in due course.

That Mr. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor; Mr. Carson, Engineer to the Board of Health and Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, attend and assist the Committee in their consideration of this matter."

It was also decided that the Committee meet on Saturday, 15th April, at 2.30 p.m.

ENNISCORTHY URBAN DEMAND

The Secretary reported:- "Arrears due by Enniscorthy Urban District Council to 31st March 1939 amount to £5375. 15. 8d and it is understood that the Urban Council have a certain sum on hands which they are prepared to pay immediately to the County Council, thus reducing the arrears. The proposal put forward by the Urban Council is that the arrear be paid off by an equal amount each year for three years, a condition being that in addition to the above one-third of arrears, the current demand for 1939/40, viz., £3914. 18. 9d should be met on due dates. From the point of view of the County Council it would be preferable that the Urban Council should obtain a sufficient overdraft in the present year to enable them to pay the full arrears to

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the County Council. This procedure would free the County Council from meeting demand for debit Interest on the portion of their overdraft represented by the arrears due by the Enniscorthy Urban Council."

The report of the Secretary was approved and it was decided he should communicate with Enniscorthy Urban District Council on the lines suggested by him

IMPOUNDING OF DEFAULTED LAND ANNUITIES

In reference to the proposal of the County Council to defer for a year the withholding of grants owing to defaulting land annuitants the following under date 24th March 1939 (F.59/1/38) was read from the Department of Finance:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Finance to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant regarding the impounding in the Guarantee Fund on foot of arrears of land purchase annuities of part of the share of the Wexford County Council in the grants for 1938/39 payable out of the Local Taxation Account."

Under date 14th March 1939 the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote (G.8524/39 Loch Garman):-

"With reference to your letter of 6th instant requesting the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to defer for a year the withholding of grants by reason of sums absorbed in the Guarantee Fund in respect of arrears of land annuities in County Wexford, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that he has no power to comply with the Council's request."

POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT LICENCES

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

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"That new licences under Poisons and Pharmacy Act
1908 issue to Thomas Devereux, Boley, Ballycullane, and
Thomas Brothers, Shelbourne Co-operative Stores for premises
at Old Ross."

Denis Allen

8/5/39