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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

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MONTHLY MEETING 12th OCTOBER 1936.

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M I N U T E S

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County Hall,  
WEXFORD.

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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 12th October 1936.

Present:- Messrs. D. Allen (Chairman) presiding; also, Messrs. J. J. Bowe, Patk. Colfer, John Connors, R. Corish, C. Culleton, Wm. Cullimore, John Cummins, John Day, Col. C. M. Gibbon, W. P. Keegan, John P. Kelly, Wm. Kinsella, James Lawler, T. J. Meyler, Sean O'Byrne, Miss N. O'Ryan, Col. R. P. Wemyss Quin, Ml. Redmond, Patk. Ronan, and Myles Smyth.

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

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

#### PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Notes for the following amounts were examined and signed:- £20792. 9. 8d (Ordinary payments including transfers to Subsidiary Account); £34542. 5. 0d transfers to Public Bodies.

#### REPLIES TO VOTES OF CONDOLENCE

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

"That the replies to votes of condolence in the deaths of Sir Osmond Esmonde, Mr. John Sweetman and Aidan O'Rourke be inserted on this day's minutes."

Sir Laurence G. Esmonde wrote:-

"I very much regret that a temporary absence and extreme pressure of business have prevented an earlier reply to your letter of 17th August, which conveyed the County Council's most kind resolution of condolence on the death of my nephew, Sir Osmond, and I beg that you will take the earliest opportunity of returning the most sincere thanks of his family and myself to the Council and the proposer and seconder of the resolution, together with my many apologies for such a long delayed reply, for which I am extremely sorry.

Sir Osmond's sudden and most unexpected death was a great shock. He had apparently every reason to look forward to a long period of usefulness, which unfortunately he was not destined to see. I think, I, too, am aware



how much he regretted the present differences of opinion amongst Irish public men. But he also realised that such things are only natural under a representative government in any country and that differences of opinion on questions of public policy must necessarily arise. And he looked forward with great faith and hope to the future of a self-governed Ireland, a tradition inherited from many generations of his forbears and for which he himself made many and great sacrifices in his own lifetime. He lived and died a good Irishman, than which I think, no better thing can be said of any man. Men pass, but the country remains for all her sons to work for according to the measure of their opportunities, and he did that all his lifetime.

With renewed thanks to the Council for their kindness, of which I am very sensible."

Mr. Malachi Sweetman wrote:-

"Thanks very much for your kind letter of sympathy on the death of my father. We are all very proud of him and are touched by the consideration of you and your staff.

I wish you also to convey the gratitude of my family and myself to the County Council for their vote of condolence."

Mr. John P. Kelly wrote:-

"I desire to return to the County Council and to yourself personally, my sincere thanks for vote of sympathy passed to me on the death of my first cousin, Aidan O'Rourke, St. John's Villas, Enniscorthy."

#### CONFIRMATION MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

MEETING 25th SEPTEMBER 1936: The Minutes of this meeting were submitted as follows:-



The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 25th September 1936.

Present:- Messrs. Patrick Colfer, W. Cullimore, W. P. Keegan, John P. Kelly, Sean O'Byrne and Miss O'Ryan.

On the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Colfer the Chair was taken by Mr. Cullimore.

After the confirmation of Minutes of previous meeting Mr. Allen, Chairman, attended and presided for the rest of the business.

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

#### PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £5156. 10. 4d was examined and signed.

#### RATE COLLECTION

The following shows the state of Rate Collection to date:-

E. J. Murphy	21.1
S. Gannon	19.1
W. Cummins	18.5
J. Cummins	18.2
J. J. O'Reilly	17.4
P. Carty	17.4
J. Curtis	16.8
P. Nolan	16.7
J. Quirke	16.3
P. Doyle	15.9
D. Kenny	15.9
A. Dunne	15.7
M. Kehoe	14.9
J. Deegan	14.7
M. McCarthy	12.6
W. Doyle	12.2
M. Murphy	12.0
J. Flood	11.8
J. J. Sinnott	<u>11.0</u>

Average 15.8%

The Collection was stated to be 4.4 per cent better than at the corresponding period last year.



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COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Under date 17th September 1936, the following letter (P.H.188114/36 Loch Garman Ae) was read from Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"With reference to your letters of the 4th and 14th instant, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that it is noted that the Wexford County Council have now agreed to permit Dr. C. Bastible, to resume duty as County Medical Officer of Health, and the Minister sees no objection thereto."

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS

Under date 19th September 1936 the Department of Local Government and Public Health (Housing Section) wrote (H.175579/36 Loch Garman) as to the amount of advances to be made to selected applicants under above Acts and referred to their letter of 3rd July last (H.126514-36) in which it was intimated that applicants should be required to contribute a reasonable proportion of the cost of the property. The Minister considered that advances should not exceed a figure calculated at the rate of 90% of the value of the house less the full amount of the Government Grant.

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

"That as we consider the deduction of the full amount of Government Grant from 90% of the value of houses proposed to be built under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts represents the considered policy of the Department of Local Government and Public Health, we believe unless some further inducement be offered to applicants the operation of the Acts in County Wexford will be seriously hampered and in order to obviate this we request the Minister to allow the Wexford County Council in arriving at figure for value of house to take into consideration site value up to a maximum of £20."



In connection with loan under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Colfer:-

"That the Minister for Local Government and Public Health be requested to sanction the payment by the Office of Public Works to the Wexford County Council of the sum of £1500 being the second instalment of loan (No. 8547-£10,000) obtained for the purpose of making advances under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts."

Attention was called to a number of applicants who had been granted loans under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts a considerable time back, but, who (up to the present) had failed to furnish title to site of house or furnish explanation of the delay in having this step carried out.

It was decided that Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, communicate with these applicants and inform them they must submit proof of title or furnish satisfactory explanation of the delay by date of next Finance Committee meeting.

Under date 18th September 1936 the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote (H.186755-36 Loch Garman) stating that the Minister had sanctioned advance of £100 to John Carr, Ballywitch, Kilrane, under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts.

Under date 16th September 1936 letter was read from Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, that Michael Ryan, Clonattin, Gorey proposed to sell the house which he erected under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts and in respect of which loan of £100 had been advanced by the County Council. Out of the proceeds of sale Ryan proposed to repay to the Council the amount outstanding on foot of loan.

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

"That in the event of Michael Ryan, Clonattin, Gorey, repaying outstanding amount on loan of £100 advanced for



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erection of house under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts the Mortgage on said premises be reconveyed to him and that the Seal of the County Council be affixed to reconveyance.

#### HARBOUR CHARGES AT COURTOWN

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

"That the County Council be recommended to fix the following charges at Courtown Harbour - All ships 6d on registered tonnage and that merchants be subject to the following charges:- 2d per ton Slate Powder; Bricks; Sand; Gravel and Stone: 6d per ton Coal, Cement and Feeding Stuffs."

#### DREDGING INNER BASIN COURTOWN HARBOUR

The County Surveyor reported that he had had an interview with Mr. Doyle, Engineer, Department of Public Works, and he understood that a proposal would be made to hand over £450 to the Council who would be responsible for the erection of the rails to deal with the crane. The Dredger for which a small sum would be charged would remove the stuff taken out of the basin. It was anticipated that the work would be covered by the £450 and that the dredger would soon reach Courtown.

#### UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

The following under date 23rd September 1936 was read from Mr. Patrick Whitmore, Bishopswater, Wexford:-

"Will you kindly bring to the notice of your Council, at their next meeting, this claim to the Agricultural Scholarship, on behalf of my son, in support of which I ask them to consider the following statement.

A Scholarship was reserved for Agriculture and my son was the only applicant to sit for examination.



The following is an extract from the Prospectus:-

Agricultural Scholarship will be awarded to successful candidate, irrespective of place obtained in results, provided he is entitled to same on marks obtained.

As he passed the Leaving Certificate he is thereby entitled to the Scholarship since it is reserved in the interests of Agriculture, and I ask the members of your Council to give this claim every consideration."

The following report was read from Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor:-

"With reference to the claim of Mr. Patrick Whitmore for the award of a University Scholarship to his son, I would point out that according to the Scholarship Scheme, the recommendations for the award of Scholarships are made by the Academic Council after consideration of the marks obtained by each Candidate and the County Council are absolutely bound by these recommendations.

The Academic Council duly made their recommendations for the Scholarships on the result of the examination recommending four candidates for the four vacant scholarships and stating that there were six other candidates in order of merit who would be suitable for awards of scholarships if same were available. The name of Mr. Whitmore's son is not included in the recommendations, and consequently, he is not entitled to a scholarship."

It was decided on the motion of Mr. Colfer seconded by Mr. O'Byrne that copy of Mr. Elgee's letter be furnished Mr. Patrick Whitmore.

Letters were read from Messrs. James J. Meyler, Blackhall, Glynn, John P. Kehoe, Creacon, New Ross and Miss Anne Hickey, Westgate, Wexford, that they were availing of University Scholarships awarded them by the Council.

Miss Mary E. Kelly, Ballymorris, Ballyhogue, wrote that she was at present training as a National School



Teacher in Mary Immaculate Training College, Limerick, and would not avail of Scholarship.

The Secretary stated that in accordance with the decision of the Council the vacant scholarship had been offered John Flynn, Ballymaclare, Campile, who was next in order of merit on recommendations for Scholarships submitted by the Academic Council.

Mr. Flynn had written he would avail of the Scholarship

Under date 22nd September 1936 the Secretary, University College, Dublin, wrote that the resolution of the County Council as to notification of names of County Council scholars who cease to attend lectures would be submitted to next meeting of the Academic Council for consideration.

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

"That renewal of Agricultural Scholarship to Thomas Walsh, Piercestown, Wexford, be agreed to in view of report of University College Authorities, Dublin, under date 15th July 1936."

#### SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

Under date 22nd September 1936 the following letter was read from Department of Education:-

"I am to convey the Department's sanction for the renewal, in respect of the school-year 1936-37, of the Scholarships awarded by your Council, to the undermentioned pupils:-

#### Loreto Convent, Wexford.

Eily O'Neill  
 Alice M. Devereux  
 Bridget T. Doyle (Intermediate Certificate Honours, 1936)  
 Mary A. Carroll  
 Mary Anne O'Neill  
 Margaret Donovan  
 Margaret O'Leary



St. Peter's College, Wexford.

Thomas Butler (Intermediate Certificate Honours, 1936)  
Patrick Doyle " " "  
Patrick Cousins  
Edward Kavanagh  
John K. O'Leary  
Laurence Jordan

Christian Brothers' School, Gorey.

Peter Doran (Intermediate Certificate Honours, 1936)  
James Doran " " "  
Patrick J. Byrne " " "  
Joseph Finn " " "  
James P. Brennan " " "  
Edward Kelly " " "  
Hubert Sheil " " "  
John Breen

Christian Brothers' School, Wexford.

Edward Carty (Intermediate Certificate Honours, 1936).

St. Louis Convent, Monaghan.

Elizabeth Carty.

Christian Brothers' School, Enniscorthy.

Richard McConville  
Matthew Tracey.

With regard to Katherine O'Regan, Loreto Convent, Wexford, who was awarded a Scholarship by your Council in 1933, Mary T. Mulligan, Loreto Convent, Wexford, Edwin Todd and Gerald W. Fenelon, Christian Brothers' School, Wexford, who were awarded Scholarships in 1934, I am to point out that these pupils presented themselves at the Department's Intermediate Certificate Examination, 1936, and failed to pass with Honours. As, however, there was no provision in your Council's Scheme for 1933 and 1934 requiring Scholarship holders to undergo, in any year, the Department's Intermediate Certificate Examination, the Department will not offer any objection to the Scholarships being renewed for the current school-year.

It is observed that James A. Leeson, Christian Brothers' School, Wexford, who was awarded a Scholarship in 1935 obtained a pass without Honours at the Intermediate Certificate Examination 1936. As, however, he has two more



years in which to fulfil the regulation of the Council's Scheme for 1935 requiring a Scholarship holder to pass the Intermediate Certificate Examination with Honours at or before the end of the third year the Department has no objection to the renewal of his Scholarship for the current school-year."

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

"That renewal of Secondary and Vocational Scholarships be granted in accordance with recommendations of Department of Education in their letter under date 22nd September 1936"

PROPOSED LOAN FOR ERECTION OF SHELBagGIN RURAL  
VOCATIONAL SCHOOL.

The meeting considered the request of the County Wexford Vocational Education Committee relative to supplemental loan for erection of three Rural Vocational Schools at Adamstown, Kilmuckridge and Shelbaggin. A loan of £3500 had been obtained by the County Council for the purpose and handed to the Vocational Committee as a grant in order to ensure payment of 50% of the loan charges from the Department of Education (Technical Instruction Branch). Contracts for erection of schools at Adamstown and Kilmuckridge were taken at £2480 leaving a balance of £1020. Out of this, however, had to be taken the following amounts for the two schools which had been erected:- Architect's fees £124; Fencing £43; Out-offices £118 and Equipment £137; Total £422. This would leave a credit of £598 only. The Vocational Committee had accepted a tender for the erection of Shelbaggin School at £1300. Equipment would cost £250 and Architect's fee would be £65. A sum of practically £1200 would therefore be necessary to put the School in a position to receive pupils.

Mr. Colfer gave the necessary notice of motion to propose at the November meeting of the County Council a



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resolution to borrow the necessary £1200 from the Local Loans Fund to provide for the erection and equipping of Vocational School at Shelbaggin.

#### BUNCLODY STREETS

The Hon. Secretary to Bunclody Town Improvement Committee wrote under date 12th September 1936 to the Secretary of County Board of Health as to the duties of the streets surface man, Tyrrell. They understood one of his chief duties was the keeping of the streets in a proper state of cleanliness, but the Committee had not seen him carrying out this work. The Committee wished to know who was responsible for cleaning the streets after the markets on Saturdays and particularly after fairs when they were held on that day.

The County Surveyor submitted the following report in the matter from Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor for the district:-

"It seems to me that these Streets are being kept in a reasonable state of cleanliness, at least as compared with other Towns. They have not been surfaced in any way, and in certain weather it is impossible to keep them from being either loose or muddy.

The real trouble is the Saturday Market, and the occasional Saturday Fair. I would want to be able to put on say three men and a horse on Saturday evening or possibly more after a Fair. The new Employment Act would seem to make it impossible to do this by way of overtime. If leave were got to substitute Thursday for the Saturday half day when necessary it would be quite simple to arrange.

This question must have cropped up in other Towns, and must have been solved in some such way."

After discussion it was decided to refer the matter to the County Surveyor who was directed to make <sup>the</sup> arrangements he considered would best meet the circumstances.



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MOTOR PARKING PLACE AT BALLYMONEY, GOREY.

Under date 22nd September 1936 the following report was read from Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor:-

"As instructed I have now looked into the question of Dr. Cooke's Title to the Land on which the proposed Parking ground is situate.

I find that Dr. Cooke is registered at Folio 12003 of the Land Registry as the Owner of 3a.1r.37p. Statute Measure of part of the Lands of Ballymoney.

I have obtained a certified copy of the Map of the Holding from the Land Registry and have seen Mr. Barry, (the County Surveyor) as to same, and he informs me that the site of the proposed Parking Place is within the boundary of Dr. Cooke's holding as shown on the map, that is, that Dr. Cooke is the owner of the plot in question and would be in a position to sell same to the County Council on obtaining the consent of the Land Commission to the subdivision."

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

"That arrangements be made to take over the plot at Ballymoney, Gorey, offered by Dr. Cooke for the purpose of widening the road, and, also of establishing a parking ground for motors."

SLIPPERY STREETS IN GOREY.

Mr. Keegan called attention to three slippery sections of roads in Gorey; one at brow leading to Courtown village, one at Esmonde Street, Gorey and the third at Nixon's corner, Gorey. There was a large amount of cartage going on in the district at present and carters found it difficult to bring their animals over the sections mentioned with safety.

The matter was referred to the County Surveyor to have any necessary work to help the carters concerned carried out.



### CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT ACT

Under date 23rd September 1936 the Department of Local Government and Public Health (Roads) wrote that the Minister would raise no objection to the employment of two extra Clerical Assistants at a remuneration of 1/- per hour for two weeks to prepare records in the County Surveyor's office in connection with the conditions of Employment Act.

### INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL CASES

Notification from Sergeant Fulham as to application to Gorey Juvenile Court for committal to an Industrial School of Myles and John Lawler, 13 and 12 years old respectively of Cummer, Gorey, was submitted. The father was a widower in very poor circumstances. The boys were not attending school and were under no control.

Referred to Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor.

Notification was received from District Court Clerk, New Ross, as to application for the committal to Industrial Schools of the following five children of William Carleton, Irishtown, New Ross:- John Joseph 10½ years old; Patrick A. 7; Bridget 5¾; Monica 4¾; and Augustine 1½. The mother died on 20th August last and the father was working with Peter Gahan, Priory Street, New Ross for 15/- per week.

Referred to Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor.



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

"That Minutes of Finance Committee meeting of 25th September 1936 as submitted to this meeting be received and considered."

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

"That we approve of dues for Courtown Harbour suggested by Finance Committee but that these charges do not become operative until the County Surveyor has provided for the dredging of inner basin, for berthage and other contingent works and that instructions issue to the County Surveyor accordingly."

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

"That Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 25th September 1936 be and the same are hereby confirmed and approved."

MEETING 9th OCTOBER 1936: The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of this meeting were submitted as follows:-



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

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

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

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £5666. 0. 3d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

STATE OF: The state of the Rate Collection taking percentage of warrant excluding arrears was as follows:-

J. Cummins	32.8
E. J. Murphy	32.7
S. Gannon	31.7
P. Nolan	29.8
W. Cummins	28.5
D. Kenny	28.1
J. Quirke	26.8
M. Murphy	26.6
A. Dunne	26.6
M. Kehoe	26.3
J. J. O'Reilly	25.4
W. Doyle	25.3
J. Deegan	24.7
J. Curtis	24.7
P. Carty	24.1
M. McCarthy	22.6
P. Doyle	21.8
J. J. Sinnott	21.7
J. Flood	17.9

The average was 26.4 per cent as against 23.8 at the corresponding period last year - an improvement of 2.6 per cent.

The total amount collected on gross warrant was 22.4 per cent.

The Rates Inspector reported he had visited No. 12 Collection District (Collector M. Murphy) during the past fortnight. This collection would have been better if the



Collector had taken stronger action at the beginning of September. A number of ratings which were outstanding could have been collected. An improvement from now on in this district should be apparent.

List of ratepayers visited in Murphy's district was submitted. Six day notices had been served on all who had not paid and unless amounts were discharged within a short period legal proceedings would issue.

Collector Philip Doyle (District No. 3) wrote he was lodging a smaller sum than usual on account of illness.

Miss O'Ryan said the Committee should be as particular about the closing of the first moiety of rate as they were about the closing of the full warrant. Seizures were generally made in Spring and in May and after that people save their hay and take in cattle all through the year.

After a long discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Miss O'Ryan seconded by Mr. Corish:-

"That Rate Collectors be informed that first moiety of Rates for current financial year must close definitely on 30th November next after which Returns of all items outstanding must be submitted. That Collectors who fail to close first moiety by this date or who do not furnish a satisfactory explanation in respect of each item outstanding be suspended."

#### SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS

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

"That the Assistant Surveyors submit quarterly report of progress of work on buildings for the erection of which loan has been granted by the County Council under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts by the County Council, and in respect of which they have furnished certificate to support instalment payments."



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

"That a return be furnished of the names, addresses and amounts of arrears of rent (for quarter ended 30th September) due by persons who have erected houses under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts by means of loans obtained from the County Council."

Under date 6th October 1936 Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, wrote that Thomas Tierney, Cloughcast, Carne, was not proceeding with erection of house under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts.

Patrick Fortune, Monagrens, Monamolin, had executed his mortgage on the 14th May 1936 and it was lodged in the Land Registry. He (Mr. Elgee) had written Mr. Warren, Solicitor for Mr. Fortune asking him to see the latter and arrange to start building at once.

Under date 6th October 1936, Mr. Jordan, Solicitor, Enniscorthy, wrote asking for the transfer of loan of £150 granted to Patrick Hyne, 7 Market Square, Enniscorthy, to Denis Redmond, Blackstoops, Enniscorthy, as Hyne had left the district over a year ago.

It was stated that the amount represented by this particular loan had been transferred to Daniel Sullivan, Ballyland, Davidstown, but money was still available from loan owing to another applicant having withdrawn.

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

"That loan of £150 under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts be advanced to Denis Redmond, Blackstoops, Enniscorthy."

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

"That in the event of the loan agreed to be advanced to Owen Hiney, Rectory Road, Enniscorthy, viz., £130, not being availed of in the near future £100 of it be granted to



An application was received from Mrs. Fitzmartin, Kilrane, asking for reconveyance of mortgage in connection with second house erected by Joseph Swords, Bayview Terrace, Rosslare Harbour, who had obtained a loan of £180 for the erection under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts of the house in which he was living. Swords, as a matter of fact, had erected two houses on the plot and had sold one for £116 to Mrs. Fitzmartin. She wanted this house and plot on which it stood to be freed from mortgage.

Mr. Elgee said that the house in which Swords lived, and the plot on which it had been erected were ample security for the loan.

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

"That provided the County Solicitor is satisfied plot and house occupied by Mrs. Fitzmartin, Kilrane, be released from mortgage executed by Joseph Swords, Rosslare Harbour, to County Council."

APPLICATION OF ASSISTANT SURVEYORS FOR INCREMENTAL BASIS TO BE APPLIED TO THEIR SALARIES.

Under date 2nd October 1936 Mr. J. J. O'Byrne, Hon. Secretary Wexford Branch Local Government Officials Union, forwarded application from four of the Assistant Surveyors Messrs. R. J. Ennis, J. F. Birtistle, Thomas Cullen and Patrick O'Neill for increments to their salaries. The application had the full support of the Union and it was hoped the County Council would appreciate that the work and responsibility of the Surveyors had increased in recent years to such an extent as to render their present salaries as a permanent maximum totally inadequate.

The following is copy of application of the Assistant Surveyors:-

"We, the undersigned District Surveyors, respectfully request that our salaries be put on an incremental basis.



The following is a short summary of the facts on which we base our claim.

Similar Positions

(1) Most positions which are similar to ours such as Bank Clerks - Dispensary Doctors - Civil Servants, and most employees of Public Bodies are all on incremental scales.

(2) Our work has increased, is still increasing, and has all the appearance of still further increasing. Road Fund Grants, Relief Grants and Minor Relief Schemes are all additional to our normal work. We do not object to work, but would like to see some prospects before us.

We would point out that none of us are getting younger, and our prospects of promotion are very remote as only a small proportion of Assistant Surveyors have any chance of getting a County. Thus our jobs are generally a life work in themselves, and in view of all these circumstances, we suggest as reasonable, increments of £15 per annum till our salaries reach £400."

It was decided to adjourn consideration of application from the Surveyors pending report of the following Committee, viz., the Chairman (Mr. Allen), Vice-Chairman (Mr. Corish, Miss O'Ryan, Messrs. T. McCarthy, Sean O'Byrne and J. P. Kelly, who will also consider how far it may be possible to formulate a scheme under which the services of County Council Survey staff can be utilised for work in connection with all the Council's Subsidiary bodies.

SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES

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

"That in view of satisfactory report received from Cork University as to attendance and progress of Miss Nora O'Sullivan, Camolin, her University Scholarship be renewed for third year."



Mr. James J. Donnelly, 69 Grove Park, Rathmines, Dublin, applied for renewal of his University Scholarship for fourth year to secure the Higher Diploma in Education. He could not apply sooner as he was waiting for the results of B.A. examination in which he was successful.

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

"That in accordance with the terms of University Scholarship Scheme scholarship of James J. Donnelly, 69, Grove Park, Rathmines, Dublin (Home address, Ballysitty), be renewed for fourth year to secure Higher Diploma of Education."

The Secretary stated that the following was extract from letter of University College, Dublin, under date 15th July 1936:-

"A report for Thomas Cullimore, Green Street, Wexford; James G. Delaney, Parnell Street, Wexford and Patrick Doyle, Quay Road, Duncannon, will be forwarded in Autumn."

So far no report had been received.

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

"That renewals of University Scholarships to Messrs. Thomas Cullimore, James G. Delaney and Patrick Doyle be agreed to, provided satisfactory report in each case be received from University Authorities."

Miss Johanna Cooney, 23 Larkfield Park, Kimmage, Dublin, wrote under date 6th October 1936 in reply to the resolution of the County Council that they would agree to her application for an extension of her University Scholarship for fourth year to study for Degree of Higher Diploma in Education, provided she obtained the Degree of B.Comm., that she had failed in Accountancy, but got exemption from the other five subjects, and got the June subsidiary subject.



She asked if there was a possibility that the Council would grant the fourth year's scholarship to allow her to get the Higher Diploma and also her Degree of B.Comm.

It was decided to take no further action in this matter as Miss Cooney had failed to comply with the condition laid down by the Council that in order to qualify for extension of her Scholarship she should secure the Degree of B.Comm.

SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL SCHEME: The following is extract from letter of Department of Education under date 29th September 1936 (Trg.2/45474):-

"In connection with your Council's desire to insert a clause in the 1937 scholarship scheme, which will have the effect of reserving a certain number of scholarships for smaller schools, I am to suggest for consideration the following wording:-

Provided that a sufficient number of pupils from such schools qualify at the examination, scholarships shall be reserved for pupils of schools at which the average attendance for the calendar year preceding the examination is less than 85, or in which the staff normally engaged during that calendar year comprises not more than two teachers, a greater average attendance than 85 notwithstanding. Should less than the required number of pupils from such schools qualify at the examination, the unawarded scholarships will be allocated to the candidates placed next highest on the order of merit list."

The following resolution was proposed by Miss O'Ryan, seconded by Mr. Corish and adopted nem. con.:-

"Provided that a sufficient number of pupils from such schools qualify at the examination two scholarships shall be reserved for pupils of schools at which the average attendance for the calendar year preceding the examination is less than 85, or in which the staff normally engaged during that calendar year comprises not more than two teachers, a greater average attendance than 85 notwithstanding. Should less than the required number of pupils from such schools qualify at the examination the unawarded Scholar-



ships will be allocated to the candidates placed next highest on the order of merit list.

That the Department of Education be requested to sanction this clause. In the event of Department not agreeing we recommend that no change be made in scheme which obtained for 1936."

CENTRAL TELEPHONE EXCHANGE

Under date 7th October 1936 the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote (C.193154-36 Loch Garman) :-

"With reference to your letter of the 22nd ultimo, on the subject, I am to state that while the Minister, so far as he may be concerned, would have no objection to the installation of the central telephone switchboard for a purely experimental period, he is not prepared to assent to the temporary appointment proposed, unless it is clear that the Council realise that if a permanent appointment is ultimately necessary, it will be made as a result of an open competitive examination. Furthermore, an assurance should be furnished that the experimental period of working will not exceed six months, and that at the end of that period the Council will definitely decide whether a permanent arrangement should be adopted. A resolution of the Council to this effect will be awaited."

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

"That Central Telephone Exchange be installed in County Buildings, Wexford, for experimental period of six months, at the end of which the Council will definitely decide whether a permanent arrangement in regard to same should be adopted.

That Miss B. Moran, Paul Quay, Wexford, be appointed as Temporary Attendant during the experimental period, remuneration 25/- per week, and that should the Council consider a permanent appointment necessary it will be made as the result of examination after advertisement."

COURTOWN HARBOUR - DREDGING OF INNER BASIN

Under date 8th October 1936 the following letter (C.87/60/1/36) was read from the Office of Public Works:-



"With reference to the letter of the 15th May last from your County Surveyor, Mr. W. F. Barry, and subsequent correspondence relative to above, we beg to say that the grant, not exceeding £450, referred to will be made available to your Council for the proposed dredging at Courtown Harbour and works in connection therewith, including the necessary extension of the existing crane runway, on the understanding that the dredging will be carried out by means of our dredger "Saxifrage" which will be hired to your Council under the usual agreement, at an approximate cost of £60 a week, for operation by her own Captain and crew in respect of whom the Council must effect the necessary insurance. The dredged material will be dumped along the west quay berths and must be thence lifted by the Council's quayside crane and disposed of as the County Surveyor decides, provided it is cleared off the quayside and roadway.

If your Council agree to these terms the County Surveyor may proceed with necessary extension of the crane rails, estimated to cost £140, in preparation for the operation of the dredger. The preparation of the agreement for the hire of the dredger will be put in hands on receipt of your acceptance of the terms stated."

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

"That we recommend the County Council to accept the offer made by Office of Public Works in their letter under date 8th October 1936 (C.87/60/1/36) as to the work of dredging inner basin of Courtown Harbour."

#### REMOVAL OF BEACH MATERIAL FOR ROADS

Under date 8th October 1936 the following letter (H.S.4467) was read from the Department of Industry and Commerce (Transport and Marine Branch, 14 St. Stephen's Green, N., Dublin):-

"I am directed by the Acting Minister for Industry and Commerce to state that he has received representations from a number of local tenants complaining that removals of large quantities of beach material from the stretch of foreshore between BALLYNACLASH townland and BALLYNANONA townland (Ordnance Survey Sheets 27, 28, 33) are largely a contributory cause of erosion of their lands. The tenants ask for the prevention of further removals, under the provisions of the Foreshore Act, 1933.

The Acting Minister is informed that for several years John Keating of Ballyconnigar Lower, Michael Mangan of Ballyconnigar Upper, Denis Corrigan of Knocknasillogue, and Stephen Furlong of Ballyvaldon have without licence been removing large quantities of stone and gravel from the foreshore in question and selling it to your Council for the upkeep of the roads. Arrangements have been made to serve Prohibitory Notices on these persons under Section 7 of the Foreshore Act, 1933.



As a further preventive measure, I am to request that your Council will make the necessary arrangements with the County Surveyor to ensure that beach materials from the foreshore in question will not be accepted in future for any of their road or other works. The Council's co-operation in this direction will be much appreciated by this Department, as there appears to be no doubt that erosion along this stretch of coast has been persistent (see Coast Erosion Report 1931).

I may add for the information of your Council, that the removal of material from State foreshore is not allowed except under licence from the Department."

The County Surveyor said that the roads in the whole area of Blackwater were maintained by gravel and sea stones secured from Ballyconnigar, Cush Gap and Ballyvaldon, and he did not know where it would be possible to get alternative material at anything like a reasonable price. But he would not deny that the Coast there was being eroded.

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

"That the County Council will in future provide other arrangements for road metalling for Blackwater District than by the removal of Beach Material as specified in letter from Department of Industry and Commerce, Transport and Marine Branch (M.S.4467 - 8th October 1936). That the County Surveyor submit report to Finance Committee as to how best this resolution can be carried into effect."

#### UPPER BRIDGE IN CRAAN, BUNGLODY

Representations were received as to the dangerous condition of the Upper Bridge in Craan spanning the river Clody at the boundary of Counties Wexford and Carlow. It was pointed out that serious consequences to life and limb might result if some action was not taken to put the place in repair.

The County Surveyor said this matter was previously before the Council, but was turned down as the Carlow County Council refused to make a road down to the bridge or to pay half the cost of any reconstruction work as they were bound



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to do.

It was decided to refer the matter to the County Surveyor for detailed report.

#### WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACTS

William Stanton, Ballycullane, applied for payment of £1 for cleaning and lighting fire in Ballycullane Hall during the period it was occupied by Sergeant O'Connor, Ex-Officio Inspector under Weights and Measures Acts, testing weights of Traders etc. in the district.

Sergeant O'Connor recommended the payment as the work had been carried out to his satisfaction.

On the motion of Mr. Corish seconded by Mr. O'Byrne it was decided that the claim for £1 be agreed to.

#### CLEANING UP VILLAGE STREETS AFTER FAIRS AND MARKETS

The following memorandum submitted by the County Surveyor was approved on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Keegan:-

"After Fairs or Markets in Towns all cleaning work must of necessity be done in the afternoon. When such Fairs or Markets are on Saturday, which is the "Short Day" under Section 31., work must cease at 1 p.m., (Section 38). Under Section 41 (1)(a) any adult worker may be employed overtime for not more than two hours, and rate of pay Section 43(3) must be at time and quarter. Possibly arrangements may be made to have this work done within the aforesaid two hours. If it be impossible to complete the work within the two hours reliance may be made on Section 54(1) which provides for emergency as good defence to any proceedings taken for breach of the Act.

Workers may object to regularly losing their weekly half holiday, and in such case they shall be allowed to absent themselves, by agreement with the Surveyor, on some other half day without forfeiting their rights to pay for wet days, Church Holidays, or otherwise, under County Council Regulations. If absent on any half day the worker will not be paid for such half day, but as against this he will be receiving pay at rate of time and quarter for Saturday afternoon."

#### SOW DRAINAGE DISTRICT

The following resolution was submitted from the Sow Drainage Advisory Committee:-

"That we apply to the County Council for a subsidiary grant to restore some of the private drains in the Sow area.



As the River Bow drains two thousand acres the grant would not be considerable, and unless this is done the drainage scheme is of little use to a great many ratepayers."

The County Surveyor said he had submitted to the Office of Public Works proposals in this matter.

It was decided to inform Bow Drainage Advisory Committee accordingly.

#### INSURANCES HORSE DRIVING RISKS

The County Surveyor submitted a quotation from Messrs. McDonagh and Boland, Insurance Brokers, 51 Dame Street, Dublin, for policy re above (the indemnity for any one accident being £1000) at the rate of 4/6d per cent on an estimated expenditure of £12,000. The annual premium under this quotation would be £27 per annum.

The meeting considered the quotation too high and instructed the County Surveyor to submit in March next quotations for a Comprehensive Insurance policy as all insurances of the Council expire on 31st of that month.

#### CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT ACT 1936

The County Surveyor reported that the two temporary clerical assistants employed in writing up Cards of Workers in connection with the above Act had not been able to complete the work in the two weeks allowed and their services would be required for a further week.

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

"That, subject to the sanction of the Department of Local Government and Public Health the two temporary clerical Assistants engaged in the preparation of workers cards in connection with the Conditions of Employment Act 1936 be engaged for a further week as requisitioned by County Surveyor."

#### DUPLICATE PAY ORDER

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of



Miss O'Ryan seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:-

"That Duplicate Pay Order be issued for No. 6921 (Subsidiary Account) for £4. 5. 2d, Payee, Joseph Bradley, Adamstown, who did not receive original Order which appears to have been lost in course of post. That payment of original order be estopped."



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

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 9th October 1936 be received and considered."

ASSISTANT SURVEYORS' APPLICATION: Col. Quin asked if the proposal of the Finance Committee meant that the surveyors of the County Council could be lent to the Health Board and other bodies appointed by the Council.

The Chairman said that this could be discussed on the report of the Committee.

Miss O'Ryan said that if they had a revised scheme for engineering work affecting the spending of ratepayers' money they would expect an improved system. The work of the Health Board and Vocational Education Committee was all done by ratepayers' money. No reflection was meant on the work of any employee of the Council or committees. They thought it advisable that the central engineering staff should be responsible in the last instance for any money spent - that they would be satisfied that the money was well spent. They had had some arrangement under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act and in several other instances, and, to her mind, and in the opinion of several members of the Committee, it would be wise if all such works should get an inspection in order to see that the money was well and wisely spent. For instance, the County Council had to vote very large sums by way of loan to the Health Board, and she suggested that it would be right that they should be able to get a report from the County Surveyor that the money was going to be spent to the satisfaction of the Council.

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

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



APPOINTMENT OF VETERINARY INSPECTOR WEXFORD DISTRICT

Under date 18th October 1936 (L.A.15/3/36) the Secretary, Local Appointments Commission, wrote that the Commissioners recommended Mr. Francis R. Staples, V.S., Wexford, for appointment as Veterinary Inspector for the above district. The following is a summary of Mr. Staples' qualifications:-

"M.R.C.V.S. 1903. Registered in the Veterinary Register of Saorstát Éireann, January 1932.

In private practice as Veterinary Surgeon in Wexford since 1903, and is acting in the vacant post since 1934."

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

"That, as recommended by Local Appointments Commissioners, Mr. Francis Richard Staples, M.R.C.V.S., Wygram Place, Wexford, be appointed as Veterinary Inspector under Diseases of Animals Acts and Bovine Tuberculosis Order for Wexford District (comprising the old Rural District of Wexford and the Urban District of Wexford) on the conditions of appointment which accompanied recommendation of the Commissioners under date 1st October 1936 (L.A.15/3/36) Salary £115 per annum made up as follows:- For duties under Diseases of Animals Acts £90 per annum; for duties under the Bovine Tuberculosis Order £25 per annum subject to periodic revision."

PROPOSED 47 HOUR WEEK FOR WORKERS

The following motion of which he had given previous notice was moved by Mr. Culleton:-

"That Road and other employees of the Wexford County Council be placed on a forty-seven hour week working basis commencing on date to be fixed by the Council, this reduction of hours not to affect the wages received at present by the employees."



In moving his motion, Mr. Culleton said he considered the time had arrived when the workers on roads and in quarries should get some concession from the Council. From the time he moved in 1920 for the establishment of Direct Labour the workers had received no concessions, but reductions in their wages, which was one of the reasons why he asked the Council to take a generous view of the present application. The law had compelled the Council to reduce the workers' hours from 50 to 48 and as an act of grace the Council might now give another hour voluntarily, and put them in the category of builders' labourers and other workers in the towns. A 47 hour week was the recognised time for every labouring man in industry and eminent men had recommended the shortening of hours as a means of affording some relief for unemployment. He agreed with that view. He could have asked for an increase of wages, but he was not raising that point. He believed the reason men had received no concession was because they were not in a position to demand it. When the Council employed organised tradesmen they were compelled to give them a 47 hour week owing to their organisation. A 47 hour week would simplify time keeping and make things more satisfactory for all concerned.

Mr. Colfer seconded.

Col. Quin pointed out that the men had done well under the Conditions of Employment Act which was recently passed, securing a concession of a reduction of two hours. They were also much better paid than the agricultural labourers, and in addition to everything else the Council had to think of the ratepayers.

Mr. Kelly said the employees of the Council were the worst paid of any County Council in the Free State.

Mr. Kinsella believed the workers had nothing to complain of, especially when they considered the men at the



other side of the ditch - the agricultural labourers - were not paid as well and were doing more work.

Mr. Corish, in supporting Mr. Culleton's proposal, said it should be admitted that no one would admit more freely than the Labour Party that the agricultural labourer was not paid anything commensurate with the work he did. The concession as Mr. Culleton had pointed out, was a very small one. A good many tradesmen were employed by the Council at present and it was anomalous that these tradesmen knocked off work after 47 hours while unskilled men were kept on for 48. If the Council would agree to the motion of Mr. Culleton it was a gesture that would be appreciated by the workers. He asked them to vote unanimously in favour of the concession.

Miss O'Ryan stated she intended not to vote for the motion at present because she looked upon the employees of the Council concerned as rural workers, and as such had an average good time compared with others of their class, though every County Councillor would be glad to see them in a better position. However, until the other men in rural areas had their positions comparatively improved she would not support any improvement in the status of the road workers. She acknowledged that the employees of the Council gave a good honest day's work.

Col. Gibbon said they should be given some idea of the cost of Mr. Culleton's proposal. If they were going to cut down the time by something over 2% they would increase their expenses, and apart from that aspect he quite agreed with the statement of Miss O'Ryan.

Mr. Keegan denied that Mr. Culleton was primarily responsible for the initiation of the direct labour scheme. There were several others concerned. As regards the reductions referred to by Mr. Culleton Mr. Keegan pointed out



that it was the Labour Party who made these reductions with a view to providing increased employment.

Mr. Ronan also stated he was opposed to the motion. He would rather see the money spent on further employment.

Labour claimed to have been responsible for the Direct Labour Scheme, but they never thought of reducing the hours from 50 until the Fianna Fail Government came along.

Mr. Corish claimed that the week's compulsory holidays provided for the workers under the recent Act had been secured entirely through the efforts of the Labour Party.

Mr. Culleton said that if the wages of workers had been reduced it was because the Labour members had been outnumbered. They had endeavoured in every way to keep the wages at a standard figure but did not succeed because they were in a minority. He believed that the cost of the concession of one hour would be rather infinitesimal compared with the cost that they heard nothing at all about, where highly paid people made applications for increases and received them. When Labour tried to get anything for the workers both political <sup>Sides</sup> came together and talked about costs and everything else. When the scheme of Direct Labour was introduced Dr. Ryan, the present Minister for Agriculture suggested reducing the hours to 40 so as to bring in a number of men at £2 per week. In a sense he (Mr. Culleton) was glad that opposition had come from the two big parties.

The Chairman said that while an hour a week was not much still it was only within the last two or three months that a reduction of two hours a week for the Council workers had been made. These men were working daily side by side with agricultural labourers, who, provided along with the farmers, the means to keep other workers going. In the circumstances, he believed it would be somewhat unfair to reduce the hours of work. The two hours concession already



given would cost the Council £1320 per annum, and this further proposal of an hour would cost another £700, the total being something about 1½d in the £1 extra. They obliged the County Surveyor to tighten his belt every year in regard to the money given for roads and there was no doubt, there would be an outcry from ratepayers if the rates were raised to any great extent. He believed they would be faced with an increase in the future and at this stage they would not be justified in passing Mr. Culleton's motion. If the present or any future Government saw fit to reduce the hours of all workers in the country even down to 40 hours the Council would have to agree, but he believed that the concession of two hours which had been given this year should be accepted for the present.

Mr. Connors pointed out that some workers had to travel long distances to their work, probably five or six miles and it was only fair that they should be allowed something.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

FOR:- Messrs. Colfer, Connors, Corish, Culleton, Cummins and Kelly. - 6.

AGAINST:- Messrs. Bowe, Cullimore, Gibbon, Keegan, Kinsella, Lawlor, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Quin, Redmond, Ronan, Smyth and the Chairman. - 13.

Mr. Meyler (1) did not vote and Mr. Day (1) was not present when the poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

#### ENNISCORTHY - KILTEALY ROAD

The following motion of which he had given previous notice was moved by Mr. Bowe:-

"That Wexford County Council obtain a loan of £2500 for the reconstruction of Enniscorthy-Kiltealy Road provided a similar amount is furnished by Department of Local Government and Public Health."



Mr. Bowe said it was an absolute necessity this road should be reconstructed. Portion had been done by Relief Grant, but at the present rate of progress it would take ten years to finish. Every Spring men were paid to take off the road stones put on in Winter. It was costing £90 a mile at present. It would be good business on the part of the County Council to finish the reconstruction of this road.

Mr. Lawlor, in seconding the motion, had no hesitation in saying that for a link main road it was one of the worst in the County. There was a great deal of motor traffic over it and it never was free from large masses of loose stones. It was in a terrible condition at present and the Council would be well advised in spending the money for this road. It was a road which he should use constantly, but its condition was so bad that he went the by-roads.

Col. Gibbon said it was the coming of motor traffic that had necessitated the high cost of £90 per mile per annum for the maintenance of this road and he was of opinion the necessary amount to convert such roads from their present condition to what was required for modern traffic should be forthcoming from the Road Fund. He thought that before he agreed to an additional charge on the county, very serious efforts should be made to induce the Government to give a grant from the Road Fund, Unemployment Fund or some other Fund and that it should not be thrown on the county.

In reply to Mr. Cummins the County Surveyor said there were several roads in the County in an equally bad condition.

Mr. Cummins suggested they should give the County Surveyor sufficient money to do all the roads. About 12 years ago he (Mr. Cummins) said they would want a million pounds and he believed that if the work had been done at that time the roads would be in a passable condition today. He would make the same proposition as he made 12 years ago that the County Surveyor make out a list of all the roads that



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required to be done and that the County Council formulate a proposal to borrow the amount required, asking the Government, of course, to come to their assistance on the same principle as Mr. Bowe had put in his motion. Before adopting Mr. Bowe's motion he urged they should consider a comprehensive scheme to bring all their roads up to a good standard.

Mr. Redmond said it was generally recognised that there were a number of bad roads in the County and in his opinion this was caused to a large extent by cutting down the County Surveyor's estimate. He was totally opposed to the practice of bringing on during the year improvement of roads by Councillors who had been prominent in cutting down the County Surveyor's estimate. He knew of a number of poor roads in New Ross District but there was no use in talking about them when the County Surveyor's estimate had been cut down.

Mr. Lawlor as the seconder of Mr. Bowe's motion said he had voted against cutting down the estimate.

The Chairman said this was the first link main road brought before the County Council for reconstruction. He agreed that they could spend the million referred to by Mr. Cummins in road improvement but what would the ratepayers who had to foot the bill think of the matter. He did not know if the Government would be prepared to provide 50% of the cost of the reconstruction of the Enniscorthy-Kiltealy road. The Road Fund was distributed to its full extent and they could not expect any more money from it. The Council would have to consider very seriously whether they would spend additional money on roads such as the one under discussion and which was costing £100 per mile seeing they had so many bad roads for which only £14 or £15 per mile was allocated.

Miss O'Ryan said if they had roads which cost £100 per mile and could not at that figure, be kept in reasonable



repair the only thing to be done was for the Council to provide sufficient money for the purpose.

The County Surveyor said there was a great deal of traffic on the road. Parts of it were very bad. They had got grants on it and had done short sections and had done other lengths out of revenue. Though they might have £100 per mile on the road they concentrated expenditure on parts of it so as to bring it up gradually and that was the only satisfactory way to do it. There was a proposal under Relief Scheme for £500 but this would only do a short length. He thought there were a great many roads all over the County which it was necessary to reconstruct in the same manner as was proposed for the Enniscorthy-Kiltealy road.

Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor for the district, said the road was roughly ten miles long. About three years ago they started to steamroll it and now they had nearly 4 miles done, but it seemed as if the road was going to take twelve or fourteen years to finish. The real traffic was lorries drawing corn. The road had been a real trouble to him for some years.

In reply to Mr. Corish as to whether if the loan were raised, much of the maintenance money would be saved, Mr. Ennis said he supposed he could cut down his estimate next year by £150.

Mr. Corish said what he was trying to get at was whether the cutting down of maintenance money would nearly pay the loan.

Mr. Ennis said it would be impossible to get an immediate saving in the first year.

Col. Gibbon said that for the past twelve or fourteen years all the money from the Road Fund had been spent on trunk roads, but he understood that it was probable some of the money could now be applied to the link main roads.



The County Surveyor said they got about £11,000 per year for improvement work and that distributed over the whole county for reconstruction meant a very small mileage.

In reply to Mr. Ronan, the County Surveyor said his estimate for this road was £1890 and the amount allowed £1180.

Mr. Cummins. - Would the Council recommend the County Surveyor to make out an estimate as to the amount that would be required for the purpose of putting all the roads in the County into proper repair? Would the Council then be prepared to borrow that amount spreading it over 20 or 30 years? Continuing, Mr. Cummins said he was prepared to back up the borrowing of a million pounds by a loan spread over 20 or 30 years as this would be in the interests of the ratepayers.

Chairman. - The answer is probably that we can never reach perfection in anything, and every Council that will come here for the next fifty years will have problems the same as we have. The ratepayers will never be prepared to bring all the roads up to perfection. All we can do is carry on from year to year without having any really serious increase in expenditure.

After further discussion a poll was taken on Mr. Bowe's motion with the following result:-

For the motion:- Messrs. Bowe, Colfer, Connors, Corish, Culleton, Cullimore, Cummins, Day, Keegan, Kelly, Kinsella, Lawlor, Meyler, O'Byrne and Smyth. - 15.

Against:- Messrs. Gibbon, O'Ryan, Quin, M. Redmond, Ronan and the Chairman. - 6.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

In reply to Mr. Cummins, the County Surveyor said there were 1,244 miles of third class roads which were really going back. They had an average of a little over £9 per mile on these for maintenance and it was not enough.

After further discussion Mr. Cummins proposed that in order to put all the roads of the County in good repair the



Council agree to borrow one million pounds repayment to be spread over 25 or 30 years.

Mr. Culleton seconded and the motion was supported by Mr. Kelly.

Chairman. - I think Mr. Cummins' motion does not arise because on the County Surveyor's Road Estimate in a month or two Mr. Cummins can make any proposal he wishes. I cannot accept his motion now.

In answer to the Chairman, Mr. Cummins said he would be prepared to give notice of motion in the matter if he had the figures from the County Surveyor as to what was necessary to put every road in the County in passable repair and not have the ratepayers complaining.

The Chairman said he did not accept the motion for the present. There were 2,000 miles of road and the County Surveyor would like to spend £1,500 per mile on them, which meant £3,000,000. If Mr. Cummins liked to hand in notice of motion for £3,000,000 they would discuss it.

The matter dropped.

#### COUNTY COUNCILS' GENERAL COUNCIL

Notification from the Secretary of the General Council of County Councils relative to their next meeting to take place early in December was received.

On the motion of Mr. Corish seconded by Mr. Kelly it was decided to request the Finance Committee to submit any matters which they considered the Council should deal with, to the Secretary of the General Council of County Councils.

#### SHEEP DIPPING ORDER 1915 - PUBLIC SWIM BATHS

Under date 18th September 1936, the following report was read from the Instructor in Agriculture:-

"In connection with your enquiry re above, I have consulted farmers in various parts of the County. As a result of these enquiries I find that the Public Dipping Bath would not be favoured by farmers in County Wexford.



Objections put forward are:-

- (1) That kind and strength of dip used must vary with the breed and health of a flock and that the public dipping bath renders this practically impossible.
- (2) Some flocks would have to travel long distances before and after dipping causing fatigue at times when rest is essential.
- (3) The danger of healthy flocks coming in contact with diseased flocks.

Mr. Poole, Ballybeg, Ferns, Secretary County Wexford Sheep Breeders Society, expressed his willingness, if the County Council so desired, to place the matter before the Society and let you have their views on it."

It was decided on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. Colfer, that copy of this report be forwarded Department of Agriculture for their information.

#### ROAD GRANTS

Under date 21st September 1936 the Department of Local Government and Public Health (Roads) wrote (SGP/32) that the Minister had approved of a grant of £9564 for Road Improvement.

The County Surveyor said there was a grant of £1500 for road diversion at Ferrycarrig Castle which would make the total grant £11,064.

The Secretary reported that since the last meeting a sum of £2320 had been paid on foot of Road Improvement Grant for 1935/36.

#### OWENSTOWN LANE

Rev. T. O'Byrne, P.P. and six ratepayers of Piercestown Parish appealed to the Council to put into repair Owenstown Lane, which was impassable at present, and was constantly flooded and filled up with mud. The surface was badly in need of metalling. It was impossible for the families living in the locality to get to Mass, or their work, while farmers owning the adjacent lands could not reach them.

The County Surveyor stated that an application for repair of this lane had been submitted to the Office of



Public Works about a year ago.

Mr. Culleton proposed that the present application be favourably considered and be submitted to the Office of Public Works. The Lane was about half a mile long and there were three or four families living on it who were unable to avail of medical or spiritual aid owing to its condition.

Mr. Corish seconded the motion which was adopted.

It was also decided on the suggestion of Mr. Corish that a copy of the application should be submitted to the Office of Public Works on recommendation from the Council.

#### REPAIR OF ROADS, TAGHMON

Mr. P. J. Cullen, Hon. Secretary, Taghmon Development Association, wrote that he had been directed to communicate with the County Council with a view to having roads in the district repaired. Most of the road from Taghmon to Wexford leading on to the main road was in a very bad condition, while the roads from Taghmon to Foulksmills and Taghmon to Carrigbyrne were even worse. It was desirable to have these roads put into better repair as they carried practically as much traffic as the road from Wexford to New Ross, while incidentally the work would give much needed employment in the district.

The County Surveyor said he would not agree that the road from Taghmon to Wexford was in a bad state, but he admitted the road from Taghmon to Ballinaboola was in a very bad state.

It was decided to refer the application of the Taghmon Development Association to the County Surveyor to bring into his Road Works Scheme, the amount of money which he considered essentail to put the roads referred to into decent repair.

#### LANE AT RATHEUFF, KILLANNE

Application was received from Messrs. Robert Rowe and



Simon Doran, Rathduff, Killanne, for repair of above lane. They pointed out that about half of the lane had been repaired under Minor Relief Scheme two years ago. It was a terrible hardship in Winter on the people living in the district who were using the lane.

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

"That application for repair of Rathduff Lane be scheduled under Minor Relief Schemes Vote when money will be available."

#### NEW LIFE BOAT FOR KILMORE

Col. Gibbon said that the Royal National Lifeboat Institution were giving a new lifeboat to Kilmore, and arrangements for hauling up the boat would be necessary. He proposed that authority be given to the County Surveyor to approve of any minor works being carried out.

Mr. Corish seconded and remarked that he thought they should afford every facility to the Lifeboat Institution.

The resolution was adopted.

#### POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT LICENCES

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

"That new licence under Poisons and Pharmacy Act issue to Thomas McNamara (of Messrs. McCormack & Hegarty, Timber and Hardware Merchants, Custom House Quay, Wexford) provided no objection be made thereto by the Garda Síochána.

That renewal of licence under the same Act issue to John Mythen, Blackwater."

#### CONDEMNATION OF COMMUNISM

The following resolution was received from Leitrim County Council:-

"That in the interests of Christian Democracy and



constitutional government in this country, both of which are, or may be imperilled by the sinister activity of Russian Communists in our midst, we, the members of the Leitrim County Council, respectfully, but firmly, demand that the Executive Council proclaim and outlaw the Irish Communist Society and all kindred affiliated associations, the members of which advocate the overthrow of organised government by force, as shown at a recent meeting of the Irish Republican Congress in Dublin when renegade apostates to Bolshevism advocated the formation of a Popular Front, as in Spain, to establish an Irish Workers' Republic, or in plain terms a Soviet State, from which religion, morality and personal liberty even for the labouring class, would be banished, and that, as can be seen from the happenings in Spain, the lives of scores of thousands of innocent non-combatants will be in jeopardy in case of civil strife. We impress on the Executive Council that it is its bounden duty to take the necessary precautions in time to prevent such a catastrophe, and to safeguard the lives and property of the Irish people, who will be solidly at the back of the Government in discharging this imperative duty."

Mr. O'Byrne proposed and Mr. Kinsella seconded the approval of the resolution.

Mr. Culleton said he thought the people of this country need have no apprehension at all about the working class people adopting either Fascism or Communism, and there was too much about people advocating improvement in the conditions of the working class having Communistic tendencies.

Mr. Kinsella said that certainly any one who was not a Communist would be in favour of the resolution.

The Chairman said they had a Government in power quite capable of taking the necessary steps to put down any society or organisation in the country that was detrimental to the interests of religion or morality, and he did not think



it was the function or business of that Council to direct a Government in the matter of putting down an undesirable society. The Government had machinery for watching and knowing what the dangers were, and so he thought the matter might safely be left in the hands of the Government.

Miss O'Ryan believed that while every Councillor would accept a resolution condemning Communism they would not stand for every statement in the Leitrim resolution.

Mr. Kelly proposed that the resolution be marked "read"  
Mr. Culleton seconded .

Miss O'Ryan as a further amendment proposed and Mr. Corish seconded the following resolution:-

"That we, as a County Council regard with abhorrence anything in the nature of Communistic tendencies and will help by every means in our power to oppose the spread of Communism in our country."

Mr. Kelly then withdrew his proposal.

The Chairman said there was an effort being made in the country at present by certain persons and certain individuals to put Catholics and people of other religions in two sections. Anyone not in favour of such resolution was supposed to be a Communist. That was effort that was being made by people in the country at present, and it was an effort they would not get away with.

After further discussion Mr. Meyler suggested that it would be wrong to take a vote as between the Leitrim resolution and Miss O'Ryan's proposal. It would be absurd to say that any Councillor who voted against Miss O'Ryan's amendment was in favour of Communism.

Mr. O'Byrne then withdrew his motion to approve of the Leitrim resolution and Miss O'Ryan's proposal was put and passed nem. con.

Signed.....*D. Kelly*.....9/11/36.....