

my intention to recommend to the Council that machinery which could be used in such an emergency should be procured.

In a letter from the Secretary of your Committee, which I have received, it is mentioned that a fever case was not removed from the district. I was aware of the circumstances in this case, and had been kept fully informed. My information was that the woman declined to go to Hospital in the County Council Ambulance. I have made frequent inquiries regarding her condition in the meantime, and my latest information is that she is not now in need of Hospital treatment. At no time, according to the medical information available to me, was this person a danger to the health of the household, or other persons.

Regarding the case of the person who sustained a fracture, I find that this person was a private case. The Doctor who normally would attend the case would be a Doctor from Bray, but he was not able to reach the place. I am informed that this person has procured suitable treatment.

Mise, le meas,
(Signed): M. FLANNERY.

The following letter, which had been received from Mr. W. S. Doyle, P.C., Roundwood, was also read:—

Roundwood,
Co. Wicklow,
17th March, 1947.

To the County Manager,
Wicklow Co. Council,
Wicklow.

A Chara,

In the hope that now our Winter storms have come to an end, and that the re-opening of the roads throughout this district will be rapidly completed, I think it is but right that I should convey to you, to the County Engineer, the Assistant Engineers and the Co. Council workmen generally, an appreciation of the excellent services rendered to Roundwood and district in the most trying time in living memory, and I am doing so because I am one in a unique position to understand the full extent of the conditions and of the work done, and because I know that there are some persons inclined to indulge in what I must consider an uncalled-for and unjustified criticism.

I would like to make it clear to all that with the exception of some two brief periods of about 24 or 36 hours each time, Roundwood itself was not isolated from the outside world. Thanks to the self-sacrifice and excellent achievements of the Co. Council staff, the threat of isolation passed, and the main road via Ashford was kept open for vehicular traffic almost without cessation. In the midst of the blizzards, which succeeded one another with extraordinary ferocity, I have seen the overseers and workmen from this end at work clearing a passage through the drifts, and later I met those working from the Ashford end. Thus it was that bread, post, supplies generally, hay and straw were all conveyed with little stoppage to this village, and thus it was that the people in this elevated place were saved from isolation, and much of their stock saved as well, fodder being made available to them. Except for one or two days, the breadvan from Ashford end arrived in the village. As the principal carrier in this village, I know that my customers were well supplied with food supplies all through the past two months, and indeed it happened I had not to try to get through to Dublin to seek them. The smallmail van was able to come through from Ashford, except on a couple of occasions, and newspapers came by the same means.

The accounts of the isolation of Roundwood which were published in some newspapers were grossly exaggerated, and reflect not at all with credit upon the Council workmen, who rendered such valuable services to the community; as also indeed all other employees of the public services. It is with a desire to do these brave and loyal men credit that I write this letter to you. I want to pay them the fullest possible credit for all they did. I know that the Roundwood-Bray road, especially at Calary, was badly drifted, and traffic this way was held up for weeks, but knowing the position which obtained, I can safely say it was beyond their power, with so many blizzards and so much frost, to do anything beyond what they actually accomplished. Other areas here were also isolated, due to the byroads being so heavily drifted, but here, too, I saw those men hard at work from day to day, and in view of the abnormal weather conditions, I consider that they worked like Trojans to bring relief to the people of the whole area. I have seen these men and the overseers and engineers out at work in blizzards and in conditions when it would have been thought humanly impossible to work or even to travel, and I hope that others will join with me in paying them the tribute that they have all so fully earned and deserve.

Mise, le meas nór,
(Signed): WILLIAM S. DOYLE, P.C.

At the request of Councillor J. Everett, T.D., the following telegram received from the Secretary of Roundwood Parish Committee was also read:—

Received by post at Greystones, Roundwood,
Co. Manager, 25th.
Wicklow.

"Residents of Roundwood district protest against complete paralysis. Council Staff in dealing with blocked roads. Further your staff have prevented individuals from clearing roads. Consider your statement quote "Wicklow People" ill-informed and foolish. If Engineers try to reach isolated districts and failed, it was their duty to have roads opened at once. Ridiculous to state if they mobilised their whole resources, etc., could not have cleared the roads. Few good men sufficient. Have work of clearing started at once.—Brennan, Parish Council."

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., referred to his statements at previous Meetings, in which he had directed attention to the serious situation in Roundwood, Moneytown, etc., following the heavy snowfalls during the months of February and March. In his opinion the Council had not taken steps early enough to clear the roads. He referred to a Meeting of Local Residents held in Roundwood on 14th March, to which members of the County Council had been invited, and following which letters read had been addressed to the County Manager. He stated further that six men who offered their services to the Council's Overseer on the 26th February, 1947, had been refused employment, and that fifty labourers were idle in Laragh when they might have been employed on clearing roads. The statements made in reports that roads had been cleared were not correct; no Bread-vans had been able to get to Roundwood for a period of six weeks.

Referring to Mr. W. S. Doyle's letter, Councillor Everett stated that regard must be had to the fact that Mr. Doyle was an employee of the Council.

Councillor W. Lawless stated that he had also attended the Meeting held in Roundwood on 14th March. In his opinion, many contradictory statements had been made at the Meeting. While he agreed that there might have been delay in commencing work of clearing the roads, it was not possible to anticipate the continuance of snowfalls which, it was admitted, were unprecedented. He had made inquiries from shopkeepers in Roundwood and had been informed that at no time was there a scarcity of bread. He had also inquired from the Postal Authorities and had been informed that the mails reached Roundwood regularly except on two days a week.

Councillors S. Dunne and Dr. J. J. Hickey stated that the invitations sent to them for the Meeting at Roundwood had been received late.

The County Manager stated that he had been fully aware of the grave hardships suffered by people in the Roundwood and other areas of the County as the result of the snowfalls. The Council's Engineering Staff, however, had taken all possible steps to alleviate the conditions. He pointed out that even if the work of clearing the roads had been undertaken earlier, as had been suggested, such work would have been undone by later snowfalls. All available men had been employed, and he was unable to trace the number of men said to have been idle in Laragh. It was found, however, that mechanical assistance was required if the roads were to be cleared, and after some difficulty bulldozers and excavators were obtained. He desired to express his appreciation of the assistance given by Mr. Childers, Parliamentary Secretary, and officials of the Department of Local Government in obtaining these machines. It was incorrect to say that no communication was available with the area. The road from Roundwood to Ashford was passable for heavy vehicles, apart from a short period of two days. He agreed that mechanical aids should be available to cope with any recurrence of heavy snowfalls, and would recommend the Council to authorise the purchase of a bulldozer.

The Chairman directed that the question of authorising the purchase of a bulldozer be placed on the Agenda for the next Meeting of the Council.

Item No. 6—Boghall Road, Bray.

The County Secretary read the following Petition addressed to the County Manager and Members of the Council by occupants of the Council's cottages at Boghall Road:—

March, 1947.

To the County Manager and Members
of the Wicklow County Council.

Sirs,

We address this letter to you as the responsible housing authority in our area so as to place before you the facts concerning the difficulties and hardships with which we are faced.

We are the tenants of Boghall Cottages outside Bray and have been residing here since the cottages were built ten years ago. Each year we have suffered increasing flooding, and on Sunday last, following heavy rains, we were forced to evacuate our homes.

These cottages were built on bogland, and we can only believe that those responsible for the selection of this site had no consideration for the health or needs of the working class.

Your Council is now engaged upon the slow work of altering the bridge at Glennasmole in the belief that the flooding will thus be remedied. We, the tenants, are more familiar with the causes of the flooding than any person, and we state definitely that your present project will not remedy the position, nor can it be remedied by any methods of engineering.

We are unanimous in our demand that these cottages be now condemned as unfit for habitation and a danger to the health and lives of our families, and we ask the Council to undo the harm which has been done and to prevent further suffering by erecting new cottages for us.

We are,

Yours faithfully,

James Connolly, 21, New Cottages, Boghall, Bray.
Gertrude G. Walters, 20, Boghall Cottages, Bray.
Edward Tynan, 19, Boghall Cottages, Bray.
Harry Fields, 18, Boghall Cottages, Bray.
Patrick Gorman, 10, Boghall, Bray.
Ellen O'Leary, 17, Boghall, Bray.
Herbert Coates, 16, Boghall Cottages.
Mary Mesitt, 15, Boghall Cottages.
Patrick Savage, No. 14, Boghall Cottages.
Mrs. Brien, 13, Boghall Road.
Frances Byrne, 12, New Cottages, Boghall, Bray.
Patrick Shannon, 11, Boghall Cottages.
Edward O'Sullivan, 9, Boghall.
Patrick O'Toole, 8, Boghall Road.
William Wolohan, 7, Boghall Road.
Michael Carroll, No. 6, Boghall Road.
John Morris, 5, Boghall Cottages, Bray.
Andrew Newtown, 3, Boghall Cottages.
John Cox, 4, Boghall Cottages.
James Breen, 2, Boghall Cottages.
Joseph W. Johnson, No. 1, Boghall Road.
Leo Breen, 23, Boghall Road, Bray.
Richard Doyle, 24, Boghall Road, Bray.
James Fowler, 25, Boghall Road, Bray.
Lucy Crinnian, 25 Boghall Road, Bray.
Mary Crinnion, 26, Boghall Road, Bray.

Councillor S. Dunne referred to the frequent and serious flooding of these cottages, and stated that in his view the site was altogether unsuitable. He suggested that either the cottages should be condemned and new cottages erected to rehouse the occupants on a different site, or alternatively that a drainage scheme for the entire area would be required. The Engineer's proposals to deal with the flooding would not, in his opinion, remedy the situation.

Councillor Ed. Byrne proposed that the County Manager and County Engineer should meet representatives from the Bray District on the site at Boghall Road, with a view to ascertaining the best solution to the problem. The Council agreed to this proposal.

Item No. 7—Inquiries Arising out of County Manager's Orders: Carnew—Mill Street Sewerage.

Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., referred to the inadequacy of the present arrangements for sewerage at Mill Street Carnew, and stated that it was a matter requiring urgent attention from the point of view of public health. The Chairman suggested that the Council should raise a loan to cover the cost of carrying out all Minor Water Supply and Sewerage Schemes.

The County Manager stated that revised plans and estimate for this work had been prepared and submitted to the Department of Local Government, but that there was not sufficient provision in the Estimates to cover the Loan Charges for all Minor Water Supply and Sewerage Schemes. At the Meeting of the Council held on 13th May, 1946, his report on all proposed Water Supply and Sewerage Schemes had been considered, and the Council had arranged Major Schemes in order of priority. The total cost of all the Schemes would be more than £100,000. Provision of £100 made in the Estimates would not cover Loan Charges on such an Amount. If the Council decided that priority should be given to Carnew Mill Street Sewerage Scheme, arrangements for carrying out this work could be proceeded with. The Council agreed this work should be given priority.

Water Supply to Arklow Rock.

In reply to Councillor P. McCarthy, the Manager stated that plans for the Water Supply to Arklow Rock had been prepared and submitted to the Department of Local Government, and an Inspector from the Department had examined the Scheme. It was the view of the Department, however, that an elaborate Scheme would not be justified having regard to the number of houses to be served. Following that decision, Tenders for the sinking of a Pump had been invited

by advertisement, but no replies had been received.

Dunlavin Cemetery—Flooding of Graves.

Councillor B. Farrell submitted a resolution passed by The Napper Tandy Branch of the Irish National Foresters, directing attention to the flooding of graves in several sections of the Cemetery at Dunlavin.

Assistant Engineer P. J. Foley, B.E., explained that a Pump had been obtained, and that the matter complained of had been remedied.

Obstruction of Roadway at Rathnew.

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., referred to the prosecution of Mr. Patrick Giffney, Rathnew, for obstructing the roadway with logs. It was his view that the prosecution was unnecessary and that the road was not obstructed.

The County Manager said that it was the Council's obligation to prevent any obstruction of the public road, which covered the area between fences on either side. Timber logs had been left on the road margin at Rathnew and there was a danger of such logs rolling on to the roadway. Mr. Giffney had been warned on several previous occasions and asked to remove the logs.

Proposed by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.;

Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Resolved—That we disagree with the Manager's action in prosecuting Patrick Giffney, Rathnew, for obstructing the road at Rathnew.

Passed unanimously.

The following Notices of Motion were handed in and accepted by the Chairman:—

By Councillor J. J. McCrea:

NOTICE OF MOTION.

"I propose moving at the May Meeting of the County Council, or in my absence getting some other member to move for me, that at the May, August, November and February Meetings, the County Surveyor's reports re Roads be submitted for primary consideration at same, and that unless specially summoned the Assistant Co. Surveyors be required to attend only those Meetings."

By Councillor Seán Dunne:

NOTICE OF MOTION.

"I hereby give Notice that at the next Meeting of the Council I, or some member for me, shall move that the Council place Glendarragh Road, Newtownmountkennedy, in a proper state of repair."

By Councillor Seán Dunne:

NOTICE OF MOTION.

"I hereby give Notice that at the next Meeting of the Council I, or some member for me, shall move that Council Road Workers and Carters shall be paid weekly instead of fortnightly as at present."

A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11.30 a.m. on Monday, 12th May, 1947.

The following members were present:—

Councillor J. J. McCrea, Chairman;

Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, Patrick Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, Peter Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Joseph Jacob and C. M. Byrne.

The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, was in attendance.

The County Engineer and Assistant Engineers P. J. Foley, R. L. Farrell, A. N. Dillon and J. P. Caffrey were also present.

BUSINESS:

1. To confirm and sign Minutes of Meetings held on 3rd March, 24th March, and 14th April, 1947.
2. To pass the usual resolution in connection with the Council's application for overdraft accommodation on the Turf Production Account for the month of June.
3. To consider recommendation of the County Engineer for the purchase of a Bulldozer.
4. To authorise the affixing of the Seal of the Council to Mortgage to the National Bank, Ltd., in the sum of £17,000 for the purchase of Road Machinery.
5. To consider letter, dated 30th April, 1947, from the Local Government Department in regard to road surfacing in relation to horse-drawn traffic.
(N.B.—Copy of letter attached for your information).
6. To nominate two persons on the Insured Persons (Local Authorities Nominees) Members Electorate in place of Mr. B. Kavanagh and Miss M. Meagher, resigned.
7. To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor W. Hammond:—
"I propose moving at the May Meeting of the County Council, or in my absence getting some other member to move for me, that, at the May, August, November and February meetings, the County Surveyor's Reports re roads be submitted for primary consideration at same, and that unless specially summoned the Assistant County Surveyors be required to attend only those Meetings."
8. To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor Seán Dunne:—
"I hereby give notice that at the next Meeting of the Council, I, or some member for me, shall move that the Council place Glendarragh Road, Newtownmountkennedy, in a proper state of repair."
9. To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor Seán Dunne:—
"I hereby give notice that at the next meeting of the Council, I, or some member for me, shall move that Council Road Workers and Carters shall be paid weekly instead of fortnightly as at present."
10. To consider Resolution received from a Meeting of Rural Workers at Aughrim in connection with the subsidising of farmers at the rate of £1 per week for each man employed.
11. To consider Resolution received from a Meeting of Rural Workers at Aughrim re increase of Supplementary Allowance to Old Age Pensioners to 5s. per week.
12. To consider resolution received from Tralee Urban District Council in regard to recoupment of retiring allowance and gratuities to officers of Vocational Education Committees.
13. To consider Resolution received from Granard Town Commissioners in relation to equal pay for men and women workers.
14. To consider Resolution from Carlow County Council in relation to the filling of vacancies on clerical staff by Open Competitive Examination.
15. Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.

Item No. 1.—Minutes.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond;

Resolved—That we hereby confirm and sign Minutes of Meetings of Wicklow County Council held on 3rd March, 24th March, and 14th April, 1947.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 2.—Overdraft Accommodation: Turf Production Account.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Seconded by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Resolved—That we hereby authorise our County Secretary to make application to the Minister for Local Government and the Council's Treasurer, The National Bank, Ltd., Wicklow, for such financial accommodation by way of temporary overdraft on the Co. Council's Turf Production Account as may be required, and we hereby direct that the maximum amount for the month of June, 1947, shall not exceed £6,000.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 3.—Purchase of Bulldozer.

The Council considered the County Engineer's recommendation for the purchase of a Bulldozer, to which reference was made in his report in relation to the clearance of snow from roads. The County Engineer had stressed the advantages of the Council's owning a machine of this type, which could be used not only for clearing snow, but for driving compressors, crushing plant, etc., and for hauling machinery. Quotations had been invited by public advertisement and the County Engineer requested the Council's approval to an expenditure of £1,403 on the purchase of a machine.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Seconded by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Resolved—That we approve of the County Engineer's recommendation for the purchase of a Bulldozer in accordance with the quotation received.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 4.—Machinery Loan.

A formal Mortgage to the National Bank, Ltd., in respect of a Loan of £17,000 for the purchase of road machinery was submitted for sealing.

Proposed by Councillor J. Jacob;

Seconded by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Resolved—That pursuant to the Letter of Sanction of the Local Government Minister, dated 22nd March, 1947, the sum of £17,000 be borrowed from The National Bank, Limited, Wicklow, in respect of the purchase of machinery for road improvement works, said sum to be repaid within a period of seven years, with interest at the rate of one-half per cent. under the Irish Banks' rate, rising and falling from time to time with a minimum of £4 per cent. per annum, as in said Letter of Sanction provided, the said loan and all interest thereon to be secured by a Mortgage over the Rates and that the Seal of the Council be affixed to said Mortgage to The National Bank, Ltd.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 5.—Road Surfacing in Relation to Horse-drawn Traffic.
The following letter, received from the Department of Local Government, copy of which had been circulated to each member of the Council, was read:—

DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
ROADS,
Custom House,
Dublin.
30 Abran, 1947.

Committee on Road Surfacing in Relation to Horse-drawn Traffic.

A Chara,

A Committee has been appointed by the Minister for Local Government to enquire into and report on:

1. The extent to which present methods of road surfacing are a contributory cause of accidents to animals or animal-drawn traffic;
2. The possibility of preventing or reducing accidents by the adoption of various methods of surfacing and particularly the desirability of providing specially treated margins on roads in rural areas;
3. The measures which owners of animals or animal-drawn traffic can themselves adopt to reduce or prevent accidents, with particular reference to the shoeing of horses;
4. The changes, if any, to be made in existing practice or legislation whether relating to the treatment of roads or the treatment of animals or their management on the public roads.

I am directed by the Committee to invite your attention to the subject of the enquiry and to state that the Committee would be glad to receive any representations which the Council may wish to make in regard to any of the matters referred to in the preceding paragraph. It would be appreciated if the views of the Council could be furnished in the form of a written memorandum in the first instance. If convenient, five copies of the memorandum should be submitted.

The Committee are anxious to submit their report as soon as possible, and it would greatly facilitate the work of the Committee if the views of the Council could be furnished before the 31st May, 1947.

Mise, le meas.
F. G. CONLON,

To: the Secretary,
to each County Council. Runai.

In the course of a discussion which followed, Councillor W. Hammond suggested that a smaller quantity of tar might be used on roads where possible, as excessive tar rendered the roads more slippery for horses.

Councillor J. J. Metcalfe referred to the excessive camber on the main Dublin-Baltinglass road, and pointed out that the leaving of a narrow margin on the sides of the roads untarred was of no advantage to horse traffic.

Councillor P. Doyle considered that the use of premixed surface dressing generally would be of advantage.

The County Engineer agreed that the use of premixed tar chippings would provide a better surface, but stated that at present sufficient tar was not available for this type of preparation. He stated that in the current year he was using a larger size of chippings, which he considered would provide an effective non-slippery surface.

The County Engineer referred also to the necessity for the Council to purchase additional lorries, and pointed out the advantages which would ensue.

The Council directed that the question of the purchase of additional lorries be considered at the next Meeting.

Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey requested that the County Engineer would arrange for the removal of a tree at the corner of Church Road, Greystones, where a fatal accident had occurred on the previous day. He also asked that steps would be taken to remove a disused house at Violet Hill, Greystones, which obstructed the view at the corner.

Item No. 6.—Appointment of Nominees on Insured Persons (Local Authorities' Nominees) Members Electorate.

The Secretary stated that a letter had been received from the Department of Social Welfare notifying the Council that two of the persons nominated by the Council, Miss Maureen Meagher, Summerhill, Wicklow, and Mr. Bernard Kavanagh, Main St., Wicklow, had tendered their resignations from the Electorate. It would be necessary for the Council to appoint two other persons to fill the vacancies. To be qualified for nomination, a person must be not less than 21 years; an insured person under the National Health Insurance Acts; be resident in the County; and must not be an officer or employee of the National Health Insurance Society.

The Council nominated Mr. Christopher M. Keogh, Ballyknocken, to fill one vacancy, and, in view of the fact that the two previous members were resident in Wicklow, agreed that Councillor J. Everett, T.D., should nominate the other member.

Item No. 7.—Attendance of Assistant Co. Engineers at Meetings.

At the request of the members, Councillor W. Hammond agreed to the adjournment of his Notice of Motion on this subject to the next meeting in view of the small attendance of Councillors at the meeting.

Item No. 8.—Glendarragh Road, Newtownmountkennedy.

Item No. 9.—Weekly Payments.

The Chairman stated he had received the following letter from Councillor Seán Dunne:—

21, Molesworth St.,
Dublin.
9th May, 1947.

Chairman,
Wicklow County Council,
Courthouse, Wicklow.

Dear Mr. McCrea,

I write to inform you that due to pressure of activities in connection with strikes with which my Union is concerned, I regret that I shall not be able to attend the Meeting of the Wicklow Co. Council on Monday, 12th.

I should be glad if you would arrange to have the Notices of Motion which appeared on the Agenda in my name postponed to a future meeting.

I am anxious to know if the Manager will now put the recommendation regarding increased rates for Road Workers into operation without delay. As the Agricultural Minimum Rate has been increased by 6s., there should be no difficulty in securing sanction for the proposed alteration in the Road Workers' pay.

I should also be glad if you would draw the attention of the Council to the fact that the Minister has indicated his willingness to sanction increased rates for Bog Workers at 3s. in excess of the Minimum Agricultural Rate. I would urge the Council to make this increase applicable in respect of our Workers in Wicklow immediately and thereby provide incentive for maximum production of turf which is essential during the present year.

Yours faithfully,

SEAN DUNNE,
General Secretary.

In accordance with Councillor S. Dunne's request, the Notices of Motion standing in his name were adjourned to the next Meeting.

Workers' Wages.

The Chairman stated that he had been informed by the Co. Manager that he had made an Order applying to Road Workers, as from 1st May, 1947, rates of wages in accordance with the increased rates for Agricultural Labourers, viz.: 53s. 6d. in the greater part of the County and 50s. per week in the south-western district.

Councillor P. McCarthy inquired whether the Manager would reconsider his Order on the matter and apply the increased wages from 1st January, 1947, the Council having passed a resolution previously to this effect. The County Manager referred to his statement at the Meeting of the Council on 3rd February, 1947, at which he had informed the Council of his intention to grant, subject to sanction of the Minister, increased rates to Road Workers of 52s. and 50s. per week. This Order had been submitted for the sanction of the Minister. He pointed out that as a result of the extension to the greater part of the County of the higher rate for Agricultural Workers, many Road Workers would obtain an increase of 9s. 6d. per week. In general the application of the new rates from 1st May, 1947, would be of equivalent advantage to the workers as the application from 1st January, 1947, of the rates previously proposed.

The County Manager stated that it had always been the policy to relate the wages of Road Workers to the wages of Agricultural Workers.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. McCrea;

Seconded by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Resolved—That we request the County Manager to review his decision regarding the date of application of the increased rate of wages for road workers, and to recommend the application of the revised rates as from 1st January, 1947, in accordance with the wishes of the Council.

Passed, Councillors W. Hammond and J. J. Metcalfe dissenting.

Item No. 10.—Subsidies to Farmers in Respect of Men Employed.

Having considered the resolution forwarded from a Meeting of Rural Workers at Aughrim, it was

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Seconded by Councillor P. Doyle;

Resolved—That we adopt the resolution passed by the Meeting of Rural Workers in Aughrim requesting the Government to subsidise every farmer at the rate of £1 per week for every man employed, in view of the high cost of living and to aid food production.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 11.—Increase of Supplementary Allowance to Old Age Pensioners to 5s. per week.

Having considered resolution received from Meeting of Rural Workers in Aughrim it was

Proposed by Councillor P. Doyle;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That we adopt the resolution from rural workers meeting at Aughrim recommending the increase of allowances from Public Assistance to Old Age Pensioners to 5s. per week as from 1st April.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 12.—Recoupment of Retiring Allowance and Gratuities to Officers of Vocational Education Committees.

On the proposal of Councillor P. Ledwidge, seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe, the Council adopted the following resolution, which had been forwarded by Tralee Urban District Council:—

"That, in view of the heavy rate burden placed on Rating Authorities, especially the scheduled Urban Areas, by reason of the existing law which compels them to pay Retiring Allowances and Gratuities to Officers of Vocational Education Committees, subject to a recoupment of only 50 per cent. from the State, we call upon the Government to introduce amending legislation whereby the payment of these Gratuities (including Marriage Gratuities) and Retiring Allowances would become a full State liability, for the following reasons:—

- (a) We consider that Vocational Education Officers are as much State officers as are Primary and other teachers whose Pensions are paid by the State.
- (b) Vocational Schools are serving the entire State to as great an extent as are other schools.
- (c) These Officers are virtually under the control of the Department of Education.
- (d) Even on the basis of the existing contribution from the Rating Authority, there is no justification for a 50 per cent. liability by the latter for these Pensions and Gratuities.
- (e) The large number of Retirals under the Vocational Education Amendment Act, 1946, greatly aggravates the position, from the point of view of the Rating Authority, and necessitates immediate remedial action."

Item No. 13.—Equal Pay for Men and Women for equal work.

The Council marked "read" the following Resolution forwarded by Granard Town Commissioners:—

"That we the members of the Granard Town Commissioners are of opinion that there should be equal pay for men and women workers for equal work, and note with disfavour the recent advertisement for vacancies on the staff of Radio Eireann in which different rates of pay were assigned to men and women. We call upon the Government to remove this invidious distinction by reorganising the Civil Service."

Item No. 14.—Filling of Vacancies on Clerical Staff by Open Competitive Examination.

The Council approved the following Resolution received from Carlow County Council:—

"That the Carlow County Council suggest that all vacancies on Clerical Staff of Local Authorities other than appointments under the jurisdiction of the Local Appointments Commission should be filled by open competitive examination and that the Minister for Local Government and Public Health be requested not to sanction any other arrangement. Notice of this resolution to be circulated to each Co. Council."

Travelling Expenses of County Councillors.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Local Government in reply to the Council's resolution fixing a rate of 1s. per mile in accordance with Section 67 of the Local Government Act, 1946, plus 4s. per hour waiting time for hired cars:—

Department of Local Government,
Custom House, Dublin.
8th May, 1947.

G 8838/47.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to refer to your letter of the 1st ultimo and previous correspondence regarding travelling expenses of members of the County Council and to state that he is unable to approve of the proposal for payment for waiting time for hired cars.

Mise, le meas,
R. O MURCHU, The an Runai.

Secretary, Wicklow County Council.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor P. Doyle;

Resolved—That in accordance with Section 67 of the Local Government Act, 1946, we hereby fix a rate of 1s. per mile to be paid to each qualified member in respect of travelling expenses in attending at County Council Meetings.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 15.—Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders. Cottage Tenancy:

The following letter which had been addressed to the Chairman, was read:—

Thonlagee, Kilbride,
Wicklow.

Sir,

I wish to state that I was living with my late father in one of your houses at Thonlagee and have received notice to quit by the Co. Manager. This house was built for my father and he died in January last. I have a brother and I was getting married when my father died, and we have no home unless friends take us in. I am the only one in county that have been refused a tenancy of their father's house. My father was a widower. He had no one but myself to look after him washing and cooking, and we never owed a penny rent.

I am sure that the Councillors will support my claim as I can be recommended by Priests and all the large ratepayers in the area. Will the Council stand to see me evicted and my furniture thrown out on the road.

Signed—Lizzie Doyle.

In reply to inquiries by Councillors the County Manager stated that it was the policy of the Council, in cases where a tenant died to appoint the wife or near relative as tenant where such relative had lived continuously in the cottage for a long period. In the particular case referred to, from information in the cottage he had received he was satisfied that Miss Doyle had not resided continuously with her father. Accordingly, the cottage had been advertised for letting. Members of the Council requested that the matter might be reconsidered in view of Miss Doyle's statement that she intended to be married in the near future.

Minor Water Supply Schemes:

In reply to inquiries by Councillors in regard to Minor Water Supply Schemes, the Co. Manager stated an Engineer was at present engaged on preparing plans for a number of such Schemes, which when completed would be submitted to the Council with a view to raising a Loan for the carrying out of such Schemes.

Baltinglass Hospital.

In reply to Councillor J. J. Metcalfe, the County Manager explained that plans for the extension of Baltinglass District Hospital had been prepared originally by the County Engineer, and subsequently two alternative plans had been prepared by the Architect.

It was intended to adopt the plan which would enable the new maternity annexe to be embodied in a new District Hospital at a later date. The present hospital building at Baltinglass Hospital did not meet requirements of a modern Hospital.

Lime Scheme.

In reply to an inquiry from Councillor P. P. O'Reilly, the County Manager stated that Mr. Tully, Instructor in Agriculture, had received the following report from the Department of Agriculture on the analysis of limestone samples submitted by him.

Department of Agriculture,
Dublin.

5th May, 1947.

NO.E.744/47.

M. Tully, Esq.,

Instructor in Agriculture,

St. Anne's, Blessington, Co. Wicklow.

Appended for your information is a copy of a report on the analysis of limestone samples submitted by you on the 31st March. You are also informed that it is the opinion of the State Chemist that limestones to be suitable for lime burning for agricultural purposes should contain at least 90 per cent. CaCO₃ (Calcium Carbonate).
SEAN O BROIN, Secretary.

ANALYSIS OF LIMESTONES.

Sample	Calcium Carbonate		Magnesium Carbonate	
	Ca CO ₃	Mg CO ₃	Ca CO ₃	Mg CO ₃
TR 27	82.0%	1.7%		
TR 28	83.1%	2.4%		
TR 29	77.6%	2.9%		
TR 30	85.5%	2.1%		
TR 31	76.7%	1.7%		

In view of the fact that none of the samples tested contained more than 85.5% calcium carbonate, the Council decided to refer the report to the County Committee of Agriculture for their consideration.

The following Notice of Motion was handed in by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey:—

NOTICE OF MOTION.

"I hereby give notice that at the next meeting of the County Council, I or some one appointed by me will move that Standing Orders be suspended in order to discuss and recommend salaries of County Medical Officer of Health and Dispensary Medical Officers."

The Annual Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 12 o'clock noon on Monday, 23rd June, 1947.

The following members were present:—

Councillor J. J. McCrea, Chairman;

Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; Patk. Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, Peter P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Ed. J. Byrne, Sean Dunne, Liam O Laoighleis, Jas. Everett, T.D.; C. M. O Broin, Wm. Clarke and Joseph Jacob.

The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, was in attendance.

BUSINESS:

1. Election of Chairman.
2. Election of Vice-Chairman.
3. Appointment of three representatives on Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.
4. Appointment of seven representatives on Rathdrum and Wicklow Joint Burial Board.
5. Appointment of representatives on the County Councils' General Council.

Item No. 1.—Election of Chairman.

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;
Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Resolved—That Councillor J. J. McCrea be elected Chairman of Wicklow Co. Council for the ensuing year, or until such time as his successor has been appointed and takes up office.
Passed unanimously.

Councillor McCrea having signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office expressed his thanks to the members for the honour conferred on him in re-appointing him Chairman.

Item No. 2.—Election of Vice-Chairman.

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;
Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Resolved—That Councillor C. W. Hudson be elected Vice-Chairman of Wicklow County Council for the ensuing year, or until such time as his successor has been appointed and takes up office.

Passed unanimously.

Councillor J. J. McCrea read a letter received from Councillor C. W. Hudson regretting his inability to attend the Meeting due to illness, and thanked the Council on behalf of Councillor Hudson for his re-election.

Item No. 3.—Appointment of Representatives on Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

Proposed by Councillor J. Jacob;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That the following members be appointed to represent Wicklow County Council on Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board:—

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., Summerhill, Wicklow;
Councillor P. P. O'Reilly, Ballyknocken, Vallemount;
Councillor C. M. Byrne, Ballykillavane, Glenealy.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 4.—Appointment of Seven representatives on Rathdrum and Wicklow Joint Burial Board.

Proposed by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.;
Seconded by Councillor J. Jacob;

Resolved—That the following seven members be appointed to represent the Wicklow County Council on the Rathdrum and Wicklow Joint Burial Board:—

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., Summerhill, Wicklow.
Councillor C. M. Byrne, Ballykillavane, Glenealy.
Councillor W. Lawless, Ballycrome, Delgany.
Councillor J. Jacob, Rathnew.
Councillor B. Farrell, Mill St., Baltinglass.
Councillor Ed. Byrne, 3 Oldcourt Tce., Bray.
Councillor P. McCarthy, 43, Rory O'Connor Place, Arklow.

Passed unanimously.

Councillor J. J. McCrea, Chairman, is ex-officio a representative of the Council on Rathdrum and Wicklow Joint Burial Board.

Item No. 5.—Appointment of Representatives on the County Councils' General Council.

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;
Seconded by Councillor J. J. McCrea;

Resolved—That the following members be appointed to represent Wicklow County Council on the County Councils' General Council:—

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., Summerhill, Wicklow.
Councillor C. M. Byrne, Ballykillavane, Glenealy.
Councillor J. J. McCrea, Carnew.

Passed unanimously.

A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, on Monday, 23rd June, 1947, following the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.

The following members were present:—

Councillor J. J. McCrea, Chairman;
Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; B. Farrell, Patk. Doyle, J. J. Metcalfe, Peter P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Ed. Byrne, Sean Dunne, Liam O Laoighleis, James Everett, T.D.; C. M. O Broin, Wm. Clarke and Joseph Jacob.

The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, was in attendance.

The County Engineer and Assistant Engineers P. J. Foley, J. P. Caffrey, R. L. Farrell and A. N. Dillon were also present.

BUSINESS:

1. To confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting held on the 12th May, 1947.
2. To allow and make County Rate for the service of the financial year ending on the 31st March, 1948, to sign and seal Rate Books, and to authorise the affixing of the Seal of the Council to Rate Collectors' Warrants.
3. To consider report on the Rate Collection for the year ended 31st March, 1947.
4. To authorise overdraft accommodation for the quarter ending 30th September, 1947, on: (1) The County Council's General Account; (2) the County Council's Turf Production Account.
5. To consider the Abstract of Accounts of the Council for the year ended 31st March, 1947.
6. To authorise the affixing of the Seal of the Council to the Deed of Mortgage in respect of the Loan of £4,800 to be obtained from the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, for the Killadrennan Sewerage Scheme.
7. To nominate two persons on the Insured Persons (Local Authorities Nominees) Members Electorate.
8. To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor Sean Dunne:—
"I hereby give notice that at the next meeting of the Council, I, or some member for me, shall move that the Council place Glendarragh Road, Newtownmountkennedy, in a proper state of repair."
9. To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor Sean Dunne:—
"I hereby give notice that at the next meeting of the Council, I, or some member for me, shall move that Council Road Workers and Carters shall be paid weekly instead of fortnightly as at present."
10. To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey:—
"I hereby give notice that at the next meeting of the County Council, I, or some member appointed by me will move that Standing Orders be suspended in order to discuss and recommend salaries of Co. Medical Officers of Health and Dispensary Medical Officers."
11. To fill vacancy on Rathdrum No. 2 Old Age Pensions Sub-Committee, caused by the transfer of Rev. J. Brophy, C.C.
12. To consider County Engineer's Report for the three months ended 31st May 1947.
13. To consider County Engineer's recommendations for the purchase of five additional lorries.
14. To authorise the raising of a Loan for the purchase of a Fire Engine to be stationed at Dunlavin for the service of the western area of the County, together with renewal of hose and equipment and new Fire Stations.
15. To consider report in regard to Water Supply and Sewerage Scheme.
16. To authorise the raising of a Loan of £700 for drainage work at Boghall Road, Bray.
17. To consider letter received from the Irish Society for the Protection of Birds, requesting that the Council apply to the Minister for Justice for an Order prohibiting the taking of the eggs of any wild bird within the County.
18. To consider resolution received from Westmeath County Council in regard to the closing of certain railway stations, and the diversion of rail traffic to roads.
19. Inquiries arising out of the County Manager's Orders.

Item No. 1.—Minutes.

Proposed by Councillor P. Doyle;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Resolved—That we hereby confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting of Wicklow County Council held on 12th May, 1947.
Passed.

Arising out of the Minutes, Councillor P. McCarthy stated he wished to raise a very serious matter. He referred to the Resolution passed by the Council at the Meeting held on 14th April, 1947, recommending the application of salary and wages scales as from 1st January, 1947. At the Meeting held on 12th May, 1947, the Council passed a resolution requesting the Manager to review his decision regarding the date of application of the increased rate of wages for road workers and to recommend application of the revised rates as from 1st January, 1947, in accordance with the wishes of the Council. He alleged that the Manager deliberately discriminated against road workers in authorising increases or remuneration to officials as from 1st January, 1947, and increases in wages of road workers only from 1st May, 1947.

Councillor P. McCarthy proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Councillor Sean Dunne:

"That in view of the fact that the Manager has failed to perform the duties of his office satisfactorily, he having refused to carry out the instructions of the Council, we the members of the County Council suspend him while the question of his fitness for office is being investigated."

An Amendment was proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne and seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey:—

That we the members of Wicklow County Council have the greatest confidence in the Wicklow County Manager.

The Chairman read the following letter, received from the Secretary of the Aghrim Branch of the National Labour Party:—

NATIONAL LABOUR PARTY.

Aghrim Branch.

Upper Aghrim, Co. Wicklow.

A Chara,

Aghrim Road Workers adopted the following resolution: "We the road workers of Aghrim, call on our representatives on Wicklow County Council to take drastic action against the County Manager for his refusal to accede to the unanimous wish of the Council making the increase in wages retrospective from 1st January. Furthermore we consider this discrimination against road workers unworthy of any person with a sense of social justice."

Tranking in anticipation,

Mise,

JOHN QUIKLEY, Secretary.

Councillor C. M. Byrne stated that in view of the seriousness of the proposal he felt that Notice should have been given and said in his view the resolution should not be pressed.

Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., referred to the discussion at the meeting of the Committee to examine the Estimates for the current

year, and pointed out that the County Manager had requested provision for increased remuneration to officials only from 1st April, 1947. The application of these increases from 1st January had been made following the Council's resolution passed at the April Meeting.

The County Manager, in reply, stated he considered that before proposing such a resolution the facts of the matter should have been verified. He pointed out that in his Order made on 3rd February, 1947, road workers' wages were increased to 52s. per week and 50s. per week as from 1st January, 1947. The Council were informed of his intention to make this Order at the Meeting held on the 3rd February. No objection had been raised by any member of the Council to these proposed rates of wages. He considered that it was well known to be National Policy that road workers wages should be related to Agricultural Wages, and this policy had been announced in Dail Eireann on several occasions, and should have been familiar to members of the legislature. The Agricultural Wages Board had revised the rates of wages for agricultural workers, with effect as from 19th May, and had fixed rates of 53s. 6d. and 50s. per week for County Wicklow. These rates, it would be noted, were higher than those which the Manager had submitted in his Order of the 3rd February, and which had been accepted by the Council in adopting the Annual Estimates. The application of the revised rates of wages for Council Road Workers was dated from 1st May, 1947, and he desired to point out that there was no resolution of the Council at any time agreeing to authorise expenditure to cover the application of these rates of wages of 53s. 6d. and 50s. as from 1st January 1947. The Manager's Order of the 3rd February, already referred to also granted increased wages to Road Overseers, Lorry Drivers, Roller Drivers, etc., as from 1st January, 1947. Sanction had been received for these increases, but they were only made applicable as from 1st May, 1947. It was quite clear, therefore, that while the National Policy of relating road workers' wages to agricultural workers' wages remained, increases in the remuneration of road workers would not have been sanctioned from an earlier date than 1st May.

The Manager referred to a recent Debate in Dail Eireann on the Local Government Vote and quoted the following statement made by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.: "That the Wicklow County Manager received an order from the Department to increase the salaries of officials much more than the Manager had increased them, and also to give the road workers an increase, and to make the increases payable from 1st January. The officials were paid the increase by the Manager from 1st January, but the road workers were not."

The County Manager stated that this statement of Councillor Everett's was altogether incorrect. No order of such a nature had been received from the Department. He suggested that in view of the policy in regard to Agricultural Workers and Road Workers, already referred to, that Councillor Everett, T.D., in discussing the matter in Dail Eireann might have sought adjustment of the agricultural workers' wages rate from an earlier date. The County Manager stated that under Section 6 of the County Management Act 1940 a resolution for the suspension of the Manager required seven days notice to each member of the Council. He had, however, no objection to the Council's proceeding with the motion, which could be confirmed at a later Meeting.

Councillor P. McCarthy protested that the County Manager had not informed him or the Council that he would not submit the Council's recommendation.

The Chairman stated that in view of the requirement that seven days' notice should be given of the intention to propose a resolution for the suspension of the Manager, he did not consider that the discussion should be proceeded with. He asked Councillor McCarthy if he was prepared to hand in the necessary Notice of Motion.

Councillor P. McCarthy accordingly handed in the following Notice of Motion, which was marked "accepted" by the Chairman:—

NOTICE OF MOTION.

"I hereby give notice that I, or some members for me, shall move at the next meeting of the County Council, that in view of the fact that the Manager has failed to perform the duties of his office satisfactorily, he having refused to carry out the instructions of the Council, we the members of the County Council, suspend him whilst the question of his fitness for office is being investigated."

Item No. 2.—Adoption of County Rate.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;

Resolved—That we now adopt the rates for the service of the financial year ending on 31st March, 1948, and allow and make same as assessed in the Rate Books, and direct that the Seal of the Council be affixed to the Rate Collectors' Warrants for the year ending 31st March 1948.

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;

Resolved—That the Seal of the Council be affixed to the Demands on the Urban District Councils in respect of the sums to be demanded for the financial year ending 31st March, 1948, as follows:—

Arklow	..	..	..	£6,041	1	1
Bray	..	..	..	£23,708	19	6
Wicklow	..	..	..	£5,295	18	3

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 3.—Report on Rate Collection for the year ended 31st March, 1947.

The following report of the Rate Collection for the year ended 31st March, 1947, was submitted to the Council. The County Secretary pointed out that the percentage collected, inclusive of discount, for the year, amounted to 91.29 per cent., and for the year ended 31st March, 1946, the corresponding figure was 92.96 per cent., showing a reduction of 1.67 per cent. In view, however, of the exceptional difficulties experienced by a lot of the collectors on account of the weather during February and March, a slight reduction in the collection was not unexpected. A considerable part of the amount carried forward on the 31st March, 1947, had since been collected.

In reply to Councillor Dr. Hickey, the County Secretary stated that Wicklow County had the third lowest collection in the country for the year 1946/47.

The Council noted the report submitted.

FINAL STATEMENT SHOWING DETAILS OF 1946-47 RATE COLLECTION AS ON 31st MARCH, 1947.

District No.	Collector	Gross Warrant	Credit Notes	Nett Warrant	Amount Ledged	Discount Allowed	Over lodged	Under lodged	Irrecoverable	c.f. to 1947/48 Warrant	Percentage Collected	Irrecoverable	c.f. to 1946/47 Collection
1	L. McDonnell	8795 4 2	1760 10 0	7034 14 2	6965 2 7	15 19 1	1 15 0	30 0 4	309 10 9	21 17 2	99.24	53 15 5	27 18 7
2	J. A. Doyle	5711 0 10	1435 0 8	4276 0 7	4011 9 7	12 16 7	14 4 1	1 1 7	3043 18 6	241 18 6	94.11	20 15 4	146 0 3
3	E. Lynch	4545 3 8	1888 12 10	3457 10 10	3043 18 6	7 10 3	5 6 4	16 2 10	5473 0 11	96 10 5	88.26	2 1 9	441 7 2
4/5	P. Burke	8576 11 2	1888 13 7	6687 12 2	6461 8 2	9 4 7	9 6 4	20 8 8	1192 0 2	1192 0 2	81.86	18 0 11	365 5 4
6	Mrs. M. Healy	7901 1 9	1439 13 6	6461 8 2	4843 7 0	2 15 8	5 6 4	61 3 11	1589 10 6	142 15 6	75.00	38 14 0	1387 12 11
7	J. Sheehan	12669 6 3	512 3 6	12156 15 6	10403 18 10	21 17 3	9 6 4	41 2 5	145 13 9	145 13 9	98.35	34 3 3	437 1 4
8	M. J. Healy	12197 3 3	1575 3 11	10621 19 4	13818 13 5	21 17 3	9 6 4	6 19 1	1115 1 5	1115 1 5	92.15	9 19 6	40 1 11
9	M. J. Healy	17682 8 1	2683 0 11	14949 1 2	13818 13 5	8 4 1	9 6 4	3 12 5	1175 9 10	1175 9 10	80.97	229 1 5	527 3 7
10	Wm. F. Murphy	7240 2 4	1346 17 7	5893 4 9	4714 15 5	4 7 9	3 15 10	31 4 6	810 15 3	192 1 5	87.32	6 19 8	147 14 10
11	Wm. C. Byrne	11089 16 11	1798 6 10	8153 1 6	4240 1 0	4 7 9	3 15 10	810 15 3	434 14 7	389 1 5	94.76	3 17 8	1118 0 0
12	M. J. Roche	15029 4 10	1646 0 2	11841 17 5	11211 3 5	10 19 1	9 6	434 14 7	189 5 11	1611 8 5	82.00	45 12 2	587 16 5
13/14/15	M. J. Roche	11356 12 6	2076 8 8	9280 3 10	7590 16 10	16 19 1	9 6	389 11 5	389 11 5	206 0 3	86.74	68 14 10	1403 3 1
16	P. J. O'Byrne	7768 13 6	1865 2 8	5903 10 4	5557 17 8	21 12 10	4 11	72 12 2	243 0 2	128 11 0	94.75	87 17 1	62 16 1
17	D. J. Kinsella	7723 17 10	1835 7 6	4154 15 6	4020 18 3	3 1 2	4 11	2 0 2	2 0 2	128 11 0	96.86	6 10 3	82 5 2
18	T. Flunnig	5446 7 10	1292 2 4	4154 15 6	4020 18 3	3 1 2	4 11	2 0 2	2 0 2	128 11 0	96.86	6 10 3	82 5 2
19	M. O'Neill	15363 13 3	27430 10 5	126204 2 10	115065 17 6	155 19 8	21 16 4	2311 9 2	1705 14 10	8680 8 1	6.88%	1705 14 10	7917 11 3
					91.17%	.12%		1.83%				1.24%	5.76%

John J. Healy

Wicklow County Copyright

Item No. 4.—Overdraft Accommodation General Account.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
 Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
 Resolved—That we hereby authorise our County Secretary to make application to the Minister for Local Government and to the Council's Treasurer, the National Bank, Ltd., Wicklow, for such financial accommodation by way of temporary overdraft on the Co. Council's General Account as may be required, and we hereby direct that the maximum amount for the quarter to the 30th September, 1947, shall not exceed £90,000.
 Passed unanimously.

Overdraft Accommodation—Turf Production Account.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
 Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
 Resolved—That we hereby authorise our County Secretary to make application to the Minister for Local Government and to the Council's Treasurer, the National Bank, Ltd., Wicklow, for such financial accommodation by way of temporary overdraft on the Co. Council's Turf Account as may be required, and we hereby direct that the maximum amount for the quarter to the 30th September, 1947, shall not exceed £10,000.

Item No. 5.—Abstract of Accounts of Council.

The Council adjourned consideration of this item to the next Meeting.

Item No. 6.—Killdreenan Sewerage Scheme—Sealing of Mortgage.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. McCrea;
 Seconded by Councillor P. Doyle;
 Resolved—That our Corporate Seal be affixed to the Deed of Mortgage of this date now read, whereby security is given to Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland for the repayment of the sum of £4,800 proposed to be advanced by them to us under the Public Health Acts, 1878 to 1931.
 Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. McCrea;

Seconded by Councillor P. Doyle;
 Resolved—That inasmuch as this Council does not immediately require from the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland the total amount of the sum mentioned in the Deed of Mortgage to them this date executed by this Council, but prefer to receive same by instalments a occasion may require, it is resolved that the Requisition for each advance shall be initiated to said Commissioners by the Chairman of this Council for the time being, countersigned by the Secretary, and that each such Requisition shall be forwarded to the Accountant of the said Commissioners, and that all such advances shall be lodged to our account in the Wicklow Branch of the National Bank.
 Passed unanimously.

Item No. 7.—Insured Persons (Local Authorities' Nominees) Members' Electorate.

The County Secretary stated that he had been informed by Christopher J. Keogh, Ballyknocken, Valkeymount, who had been appointed by the Council at the last Meeting, as Nominee on the Insured Persons Members' Electorate, that he would be unable to accept nomination. Mr. Keogh recommended the appointment in his place of Mr. Thomas McDonald, Lacken, Bessington.

Proposed by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.;
 Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;
 Resolved—That we hereby nominate the following two persons to fill the vacancies on the Insured Persons (Local Authorities' Nominees) Members' Electorate caused by the resignation of Mr. B. Kavanagh and Miss M. Meagher—
 Mr. Laurence O'Toole, Convent Road, Wicklow;
 Thomas McDonald, Ballyknocken, Valkeymount.
 Passed unanimously.

Item No. 8.—Glendarragh Road, Newtownmountkennedy.

Councillor Sean Dunne referred to the condition of Glendarragh Road, Newtownmountkennedy, and inquired from the County Engineer whether a report was available for the meeting on the matter.

The County Engineer explained that the road in question was not a County Road, and was scarcely wide enough to be taken over as a County Road should the Council so decide. He explained that on a previous occasion a Grant for a Rural Improvement Scheme had been applied for for the carrying out of repairs to the road, but that one landowner at the time had refused to sign the application. He suggested that a further effort might be made to obtain a Grant for repairs to the road.

Proposed by Councillor Sean Dunne;
 Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;
 Resolved—That the Council request the Commissioners of Public Works to give favourable consideration to an application for a grant under a Rural Improvement Scheme for the repair of Glendarragh Road, Newtownmountkennedy.
 Passed unanimously.

Road to South Beach at Greystones.

Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey referred to the condition of the road connecting Burnaby Road and the Road to De'gany which provided access to the South Beach Greystones. He stated that some years previously roads on the Burnaby Estate had been taken over by the Council but for some reason this particular road had not been included. He considered it was very desirable that the road should be taken over. On the proposal of Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey, seconded by Councillor W. Lawless, the Council recommended that the road be taken over.

Item No. 9.—Weekly Payments.

Councillor Sean Dunne referred to previous resolutions passed by the Council recommending that a system of weekly payments to road workers be introduced, and pointed out that workers employed by Contractors generally received payment weekly, and that road workers were entitled to be paid each week.

During the discussion on the matter several members expressed agreement with the terms of Councillor Dunne's motion.

The County Secretary read the following report, which he had submitted to the County Manager on the matter:—

Courthouse Wicklow.
 I desire to report that I interviewed the Secretary of Dublin County Council on Friday, 2nd instant, in regard to the system of weekly payments to road workers which has been in operation in that county for some time. I submit hereunder a comparison of the position in County Dublin and County Wicklow from which it will be seen that the introduction of weekly payments in this county presents many difficulties which are not experienced in County Dublin.

Number of Payments.
 The average number of Paying Orders issued weekly in County Dublin is 350.

In County Wicklow the number of payments made from General Account in the year ended 31st March, 1947, was 27,011. In addition payments from other Accounts were as follows: Turf Account, 2,249;

Assistance Account, 5,261; Health and Housing Account, 5,158; Capital Account, 2,426

Payments of wages to road workers accounted for an average of 1,000 paying orders each fortnight. (For example fortnight ended 21/6/46—946 Paying Orders; fortnight ended 14/3/47—1,146 Paying Orders).

During the past year difficulties had been experienced in keeping essential records up to date, and in order to avoid further increases in staff a Paying Order Writing Machine was purchased. This machine has been in operation for over a month, and has proved very satisfactory—the machine is utilised for all payments made by the Council. In alternate weeks payments for Roads, Turf and General Purposes Accounts and payments for Health and Housing, Assistance and Capital Accounts are issued, so that the Machine is in continuous operation. The staff in the Accounts Section (four clerical officers) at present deal, amongst other duties, with the preparation and issue of an average of 800 Paying Orders weekly. If weekly payments to road workers were introduced the average weekly payments would be increased to 1,200. It is considered that at least two additional clerical officers; two additional clerk/typists and another Paying Order Writing Machine would be required to deal with so great a number of payments. I desire to point out, however, that there would not be sufficient office accommodation to house such extra staff.

Further, the introduction of weekly payments would double the work of the staff in relation to the stamping of Insurance Cards, and the keeping of records required under the Holidays (Employees) Act, and Conditions of Employment Act. In Dublin County Council a staff of four clerical officers is engaged part-time on the issue and recording of payments amounting, as stated, to 350 per week.

The conditions imposed by the Department of Local Government in regard to the use by the Secretary of a facsimile signature stamp require that each Paying Order be initialled by the Accountant or by a Senior Officer of the Council. It will be appreciated, therefore, that a considerable portion of the time of the Accountant, and Secretary, is occupied with the issue of payments even at present.

Engineering Staff:

In his report of 8/11/45, the County Engineer stated that he considered the introduction of weekly payments would be most undesirable since it would interfere with the proper supervision of road maintenance and reconstruction, and that too great a proportion of the time of the Engineers would be occupied in the checking and certifying of Pay Sheets.

The Engineering Staff in this county consists of County Engineer, and four permanent Assistant Engineers who deal with roads, cottage repairs, cottage building by direct labour, water and sewerage, and all engineering works of the Council. In Dublin County the Engineering staff consists of County Surveyor, Chief Assistant Surveyor, three permanent Assistant Surveyors engaged solely on road works, and six permanent Engineers engaged on Public Health and Housing Works.

The total mileage of roads under the control of Dublin County Council as at 31/3/44, was 748.75. The corresponding figure for County Wicklow was 1,138.

The County Engineer also pointed out that the introduction of weekly payments would double the work of the Overseers in regard to the writing of Pay Sheets. Efforts had been made to simplify the work of the Overseers by the issue of Wages Calculators, and duplicate Time Books, but the entering of the Pay Sheets still absorbs a considerable amount of time. If weekly payments were introduced, less time would be available to the overseers for the supervision of works and other duties.

In the case of Dublin County Council it might be mentioned that a great majority of the road workers are in continuous employment, and the compilation of Pay Sheets does not take up as great a proportion of the Overseers' time.

Costs:

Staff—2 Clerical Officers at £160 (Commencing salary)	
2 Clerk-Typists at £130 (Commencing salary) ..	£580
(increasing to maximum of £1,110).	
Embossing Paying Orders and postage	£375
Paying Orders, Advice Sheets and Envelopes .. .	£225
Paying Order Writing Machine	£132 10s.

It is desired to stress again the fact that sufficient accommodation would not be available in the Wicklow Office to house the extra staff required. It is considered essential also that all the Council's services be operated from the one office at Wicklow if the system of weekly payments were to be properly organised.

It is also desired to mention the great difficulty which has been experienced recently in obtaining sufficient supply of window envelopes, and at the present time the stock in hand is sufficient only for two weeks. Orders have been placed for further supplies, which are obtainable only in small quantities at a time. It is unlikely that sufficient envelopes could be obtained to enable the issue of weekly payments.

(Signed)—K. J. BRANGAN.

8th May, 1947.

County Surveyor.

Councillor J. J. Metcalfe stated that so far as he was aware in his district there was no great demand for weekly payments, and in fact workers preferred the existing system.

Councillor W. Hammond stated that in view of the high cost involved he would not be in favour of the introduction of weekly payments.

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., complained that Paying Orders for the Aghrim district were very often not received by the men until Monday. The Secretary stated that while he was not aware of this complaint as regards Aghrim District, a complaint had been received from Newtownmountkennedy District. Paying Orders, however, had been issued from the office in Wicklow not later than Thursday, and any delay which had occurred must have been due to delays in post.

Proposed by Councillor Sean Dunne;
Seconded by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.:

Resolved—That we recommend that arrangements be made to introduce weekly payments to workers.

A vote having been called for, it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

For the Motion—Councillors J. J. McCrea, P. McCarthy, T. Brennan, T.D.; B. Farrell, P. P. O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Ed. Byrne, Sean Dunne, J. Everett, T.D.; Joseph Jacob—(11).

Against the Motion—Councillors W. Hammond, P. Doyle, J. J. Metcalfe, J. O'Reilly, Wm. Lawless, C. M. Byrne, and Wm. Clarke—(7).
J. O'Reilly, Wm. Lawless, C. M. Byrne and Wm. Clarke—(7).

The resolution was declared passed by eleven votes in favour to seven against.

The County Manager pointed out that in view of the report submitted to the Council it would not be possible to introduce weekly payments at an early date. It would be essential for additional staff to be obtained, and extra office accommodation. The sanction of the Minister would be required to the recruiting of additional staff for the purpose. It was probable that a revision of the engineering staff services would also be necessary. While he agreed that the introduction of weekly payments would be desirable, he considered that the administration difficulties were very great.

Item No. 10.—Revision of Salaries of County Medical Officer of Health, Dispensary Medical Officers, and Medical Officers of Institutions.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Seconded by Councillor W. Clarke;

Resolved—That we suspend Standing Orders for the purpose of reconsidering the salary scales for County Medical Officer of Health and Dispensary Doctors.

Passed unanimously.

Councillor Dr. Hickey asked the Council to agree to authorise an increase of 25 per cent. in the salary of the County Medical Officer of Health in lieu of the increase of 15 per cent. already granted. The salary of the County Medical Officer had not varied since 1930, and he was obliged to devote his whole time to the duties of his office, and could not engage in private practice. He understood that the Minister of Local Government would be prepared to sanction a salary of £1,000 per annum for the position.

Councillor Dr. Hickey also referred to the proposed increase of 25 per cent. in the salaries of Dispensary Medical Officers. The Medical Officers' Association had requested the application of the new Scale of Salary of £350 by £15 to £500 per annum, and he asked that the Council agree to authorise this scale.

Councillor Dr. Hickey asked that the Medical Officers' Association's request for a 40 per cent. increase in the salaries of part-time Medical Officers of Institutions, and also in the allowance of Dispensary Medical Officers as Medical Officers of Health, should be granted.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Seconded by Councillor W. Clarke;

Resolved—That we recommend that the salary of the County Medical Officer of Health be increased to £1,000 per annum, that a scale of salary of £350 x £15 to £500 be applied to Dispensary Medical Officers, and that a proportionate increase in salary be granted them as Medical Officers of Health and to Medical Officers of Institutions, and that we authorise the necessary expenditure for the application of these increases as from 1st January, 1947.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 11.—Filling of vacancy on Rathdown No. 2 O.A.P. Sub Committee.

Proposed by Councillor W. Lawless;

Seconded by Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That we hereby appoint the Rev. G. Hennessey, C.C., to fill the vacancy on Rathdown No. 2 Old Age Pensions Sub-Committee, caused by the transfer of Rev. J. Brophy, C.C.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 12.—County Engineer's Report.

County Surveyor's Office,
Court House, Wicklow.

16th June, 1947.

To each Member of Wicklow County Council.

GENERAL REPORT ON THE ENGINEERING SERVICES OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL FOR THREE MONTHS ENDED 31st MAY, 1947.

Damage caused to roads by severe frost and snow and unprecedented flooding became apparent. Tar surfaced Main and County Roads had withstood the abnormal weather conditions fairly well, except, for occasional damage over short lengths due to excessive and rapid water flooding. The surfaces were greatly pot-holed on Main Roads and the need for renewal of all tarred surfaces with the minimum delay was then clearly indicated.

Main Roads not yet tarred and County Roads in higher districts suffered severely, and although much work has been done to date in repairing them, a considerable time must elapse before they can be brought back to their original condition. Advantage was taken of every suitable weather period and all available transport was engaged to bring the material to the damaged roads, and those which were affected had to be considered in the first instance.

A conservative estimate shows that the cost of snow clearance and subsequent repair of road damage was about £15,000. During April and May, the main concern was to place available labour in (a) Flood Damage Repairs; (b) Tillage; (c) Turf and (d) preliminary levelling up of roads prior to tar surface dressing.

At the request of L.G.D. and the County Council, all tractors were released and arrangements were made with the Assistant Surveyors and the Overseers to make available Council employees immediately on request by farmers for tillage work; the facilities offered in this regard were widely availed of.

After May 1st, turf work received priority and a production figure of 4,500 tons of this year's cutting has been asked for to meet the demands of the County Institutions, Machinery Plant Offices and the Mental Hospital at Grangegorman. To date, approximately 30,000 cubic yards of turf has been cut.

Roads, at the same time, needed urgent attention and labour had to be found to attend to urgent repairs and preliminary tar dressing work. I should like to remind the Council that our roads are now carrying a greater number of heavier vehicles than in the year 1939 and there is a pressing urgency to restore all routes to 1939 standards without delay.

Should weather conditions become more favourable during the coming 3 or 4 months, I hope to complete the major portion of the estimated Tar Surface Dressing and Road Improvements Programme for 1947-48.

There has been a gradual increase in the number of workers engaged on road works. The present policy indicates that this increase is likely to continue and to be maintained, and more workers would appear to be available from the towns with the hope of additional and constant employment.

In mid-June, 1946, the number of workers engaged was: Roads, 506; Turf, 118. Total, 624. In mid-June, 1947, the number of workers was: Roads, 509; Turf, 242; Total, 751. As the weather improves, I am employing more men from day to day.

At the Meeting of the Council held in May of this year, I asked that consideration be given by the Council to purchase additional motor vehicles. I have examined the position carefully again and I recommend that 5 Bedford Tipping Trucks (5 ton capacity) should be procured immediately at an estimated cost of £4,200. Last year, 1946, the Council purchased 5 of these lorries and they were engaged during the year from the month of May onwards, and it is suggested that the purchase was fully justified, having regard to the usefulness in connection with Harvest Work, Road Works, Turf Work and Cottage Building Schemes. There is no doubt whatever, that they are an economical proposition, and now, having regard to the desirability to transport men to and fro to the various quarries, and location of their work, they are more than ever necessary.

Apart from these facts, it is interesting to note that although the Council had 5 lorries during 1946, approximately £5,894 had to be expended for the hire of lorries to outside firms in connection with road works alone. In addition, the sum of £2,874 was paid out of the Turf Account for lorry transport, and approximately £250 was paid out of the Public Health Department. Thus, a total sum for lorry hire amounting to about £9,018 was disbursed under this heading, apart from the cost of the 5 County Council lorries.

Under existing conditions and with a 50 per cent. increase in the Road Maintenance and Improvement Programme, the almost certain continuation of the Turf Production Scheme and the gradual return to normal Cottage Building activities, I estimate that the following amounts will probably be spent on lorry hire during 1947/48:—

Road Services	£8,000
Turf	£3,500
Public Health	£500
Total	£12,000

This figure is, of course, in addition to the use of County Council lorries.

If the Council is to keep ahead of Road Improvement Works and avail of all Government Grants offered the best use will have to be obtained from all available labour, and I have no doubt it will be agreed that the existing 5 lorries provide desirable facilities for the transport of workers from place to place, and particularly from municipal areas; this was clearly demonstrated also during the harvest work of 1946 and the snow and flood disasters of 1947. I must point out also that Insurance Companies appear to be reluctant to effect Insurance Covers under the Road Traffic Act with private lorry owners; which would indemnify the Council. On occasions, in fact, such Cover has been refused; no difficulty is experienced in obtaining Insurance Covers on Council lorries which are serviced and maintained in first-class condition. A high standard of driving is also desirable from the point of view of Insurance. The selection of lorry drivers is very carefully considered and the vehicles must be in proper order.

If the present lorry fleet of 5 is increased to 10 a greater mobility of work is ensured and should it be necessary, over-time can be worked with the assurance that the men will be provided with a comfortable and rapid means of travelling to work.

Regarding the cost of operating our lorries, I have found that it is possible to run these vehicles at a charge of £4 10s. per day and allow for broken time, contingencies, and depreciation. I may say that recent improvements in the organisation of the Machinery Department indicate that a reduction on this charge of £4 10s. per day may be expected. At the same time, the cost of private lorry averages £5 and in some cases £6 per day. The current C.I.E. rates for maximum 5-ton lorries at 8½ hours doing 60 miles is £5 5s. 6d. per day whereas Council lorries are often engaged for 12 hours and cover almost 100 miles for the sum of £4 10s. per day. Wages and working conditions for the Council are equal to and in many cases better than those employed in a similar capacity elsewhere. Also Council lorries are available for work at all times and at short notice for emergency work such as Harvest, Snow Clearing, Fire Fighting, etc. At present, our 5 lorries are located at the following places:—

Enniskerry, Wicklow, Arklow, Tinahely and Donard.
Should the Council approve I propose, with the addition of 5 new vehicles to locate the machines as follows:—

Bray-Enniskerry-Greystones district—2; Wicklow-Ashford district—2; Roundwood district—1; Baltinglass district—1; Donard-Blessington district—1; Rathdrum district—1; Tinahely district—1; Arklow district—1.

Turf Scheme.—The production of 4,500 tons is the target for this year. About 2,500 tons have been cut to date. I am pleased to report that there has been an unprecedented demand from private cutters for turf banks, particularly in the Sally Gap-Greencree district, and to date, over 300 banks have been located. Some cutters propose to cut 1,000 tons each. It is estimated that this year's production on vested and adjoining bogs will amount to almost 40,000 tons, not including the production in the Greencree district under the control of the Irish Land Commission. This figure represents the highest production figure in County Wicklow since the Turf Production Scheme started.

Supply Position.—During the last three months, there has been an acute shortage of cement. It was impossible to obtain sufficient supplies of this commodity to enable me to deal with the several very urgent repair works indicated. These works included, inter alia, the collapse of the main Scalp-Enniskerry Road on 16th March, and various repairs to gulleys and small bridges. The latter includes Killavansy, Annacurra, Mucklagh, Ballyknocken, Kilmullen and the bridge at Aughrim which collapsed on 12th August, 1946. This could not be repaired owing to continued floods, and eventually the shortage of cement. Recently, the cement situation has eased and the work is now in progress on the bridges. A grant was allocated by the Department for the repair and improvement of the White Bridge, Avoca. This bridge is a wooden structure and great difficulty has been experienced in obtaining sufficient and suitable timber beams for the work. It is hoped, however, that the position will be rectified in a short time.

There has been an all-over increase in the cost of all goods, tools, machines and materials required by the Council in connection with its Engineering services. The latest increase is 12s. 6d. per ton in the price of tar, but the Council had already, on my recommendation, purchased about 75 per cent. of its requirements for 1947-48 before this increase took effect, thus saving about £1,500. The total quantity of tar delivered to date is 2,500 tons.

Fire Brigades.—The Fire Service has been considerably extended and is fairly well organised in the County. As the Council will be aware, a large self-propelled Fire Engine is located at Rathdrum and small Trailer Pumps are located at Greystones, Tinahely, Baltinglass and Blessington. In addition, of course, the Urban Districts of Bray, Wicklow and Arklow are also provided with these units. The vital necessity to provide a self-propelled Fire Engine for the western portion of the County, owing to the topographical nature of County Wicklow, has been apparent for a long time and the Council has already approved of the raising of a loan to provide for this proposal. I have now succeeded in obtaining a very suitable unit which will be located in Dunlavin. It is a self-propelled Machine with cabin accommodation for 8 men and a "Sulzar" centrifugal 3-delivery Fire Engine mounted on the vehicle. The cost of the machine is £450. In addition I have arranged for the supply of additional hose and other Fire Fighting equipment.

Town Planning.—During the past three months, approximately 32 applications for permission to build in the County have been examined and approved of by me and reported on to the Manager.

Road Grants.—Special Road Grants notified in recent months are: Sallygap-Laragh Road, £9,730; Sallygap-Roundwood Road, £4,440.

Road Grant applications, with plans and specifications, have been submitted to L.G.D. as follows:—

(1) **Aughrim-Woodenbridge Road Reconstruction.** included the improvement of Coates' Bridge, estimated to cost £8,322. This scheme has been prepared at the request of L.G.D. and C.I.E. in order to make the road available for the restoration of bus traffic.

(2) **The Completion of Wicklow-Arklow Road — Silver Strand Section.** Amended estimates, as requested recently by L.G.D. have been submitted on the appropriate forms of application, which would seem to indicate that the Department is about to release a substantial grant to enable the work to proceed, the estimated cost of which is £26,738, based on recent prices.

Chippings.—Quarry work in the County was restricted during the early part of the period under review, due to weather conditions and to some extent later by the reversion of labour to road repair work and tillage. At the moment, there is a complete but temporary shortage of necessary explosives, but it is hoped to have further supplies before it would be necessary to close down. The Department has indicated that only stone of first-class quality may be used on road work and it has

been requested that samples of stone from all quarries should be submitted for extensive tests to the Director of Road Research, London. The tests are now completed for almost all the quarries and I will let the Council know the results in a later report which should be interesting.

Tenders.—Difficulty has been experienced during the past year in obtaining tenders for many works advertised. Recently no response was received to an advertisement inviting tenders for the reconstruction of bridges in West Wicklow.

Protective Clothing.—Overalls and rubber boots have arrived in sufficient quantities and have been issued to workers engaged on Tarring Operations. Oil-skins, boots, leggings and sou'westers have been ordered for all regular employees and it is hoped to have these distributed at an early date so that broken time can be reduced to a minimum.

Cottage Enquiries.—During the present month of June, the Engineers and Officials have been engaged in giving evidence before a Sworn Enquiry at various centres—Greystones, Rathdrum, Tinahely, Dunlavin, and Blessington—in connection with the scheme for the erection of 480 Labourers' cottages.

Stores.—Temporary Central Storage accommodation of a satisfactory nature has now been provided in the Jail Yard, Wicklow. It is hoped that ample storage accommodation will be available there for petrol, fuel oil, and garaging of lorries and plant. The Council's approval is asked to the purchase of machine tools and a lathe at a cost not exceeding £600. This equipment is required so that repairs may be carried out to lorries and plant. I recommend that the Council purchase a Vibrating Table for the construction of concrete blocks. This machine makes a better type of block than that made with the old type of Block-Making Machine. The cost of this is £185 plus delivery.

(Signed)—J. T. O'BYRNE,

County Engineer.

16th June, 1947.

The Chairman referred to the proposed Scheme for the improvement of the Aughrim-Woodenbridge Road in order to make it suitable for the restoration of bus traffic, and stated that in his view this scheme was intended to provide for a bus service, which would entail the abandonment of the Woodenbridge-Shillelagh Railway line. The Chairman said that the Council should not be asked to make any contribution towards this work.

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., protested against the closing of the Woodenbridge Railway Station, and other Railway Stations in the county.

Proposed by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.;

Seconded by Councillor J. J. McCrea;

Resolved—That we, the members of Wicklow County Council, protest against the action of Coras Iompair Eireann in closing the Woodenbridge and other Railway Stations in the County, and we urge that the Woodenbridge-Shillelagh line, and the Tullow Branch line be re-opened.

Passed unanimously.

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., referred to the condition of Lough Dan road, which required repairs, and to flooding which occurred at Kilbride road due to silting up of bridge.

The Chairman also submitted a Memorial which had been received from a large number of Ratepayers with burial rights in Rosahane Cemetery, requesting the Council to construct a gully or bridge over the river at Foulree on the road from Mucklagh Bridge to the Cemetery. These matters were referred to the County Engineer for his attention.

Councillor W. Lawless stated he had recently visited the Council's bogs at Sallygap, Garryknock and Ballinagee, and wished to congratulate those responsible for the great improvement in the bogs. He said that very little of last year's turf remained on Ballinagee, and that the money spent last year on this turf had given very good results.

Councillor W. Lawless also referred to the Local Enquiry in connection with Labourers' Cottage Scheme, and desired to compliment the Council's staff on the manner in which they had carried out their duties in this matter.

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., stated he had received a letter from a person in Wicklow Town, in regard to the construction of a temporary garage in the Jail Yard, and the construction of offices for Clerk of Works, etc. He wished to know the costs of these works and from what fund these costs were being discharged. He also desired to know whether rates were paid on the Council's offices in Wicklow to Wicklow U.D.C.

The County Manager stated that the particulars requested would be available to Councillor Everett at the next Meeting. These costs formed part of general expenses of machinery and were chargeable against the various Road Works, as had been the practice for many years.

The County Manager pointed out that the question of the valuation of the offices of Wicklow County Council was a matter for the Rate Collector to the Urban District Council. The question as to whether such offices were rateable or not depended on a High Court decision of some years ago. He understood that the offices had been submitted for valuation.

Councillor W. Lawless inquired the cost to the Council of hiring tractors, and stated that the Council should own their own tractors.

Item No. 13—Purchase of Lorries.

The Council considered the County Engineer's recommendation for the purchase of five additional lorries.

Several members raised the question as to whether the purchase of additional lorries would affect the employment of carters. The Co. Engineer stated that in recent years he frequently found it difficult to obtain carters, and that in view of the amounts which the Council spent on hire of lorries he did not consider that the employment of carters would be interfered with.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That we hereby authorise the purchase of five additional lorries as recommended by the County Engineer in his report dated 16th June, 1947.

Passed—Councillors J. J. McCrea and P. McCarthy dissenting.

Item No. 14.—Purchase of Fire Engine.

The County Secretary stated that provision had been made in the Estimates for the purchase of a new Fire Engine to be stationed at Dunlavin for the service of the western area of the County. The County Engineer had succeeded in obtaining a suitable mobile engine at price of £450. Ancillary equipment for the new engine and equipment of the crew, were estimated to cost £400. Replacement of worn-out hose was estimated at £200, and the cost of construction of Fire Stations in Tinahely and Dunlavin was estimated at £200. The approval of the Council was requested to the raising of a loan of £1,250 for the purchase of these items.

Proposed by Councillor J. O'Reilly;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That we hereby authorise the raising of a Loan of £1,250 for the purchase of a Fire Engine to be stationed at Dunlavin for the service of the western area of the County, and to cover renewals of hose and equipment, and the construction of Fire Stations at Tinahely and Dunlavin.

Item No. 15—Water and Sewerage Schemes.

The County Manager submitted the following particulars to the Council in regard to the position of the proposed Water and Sewerage Schemes:—

Wicklow Regional Water Supply.—This was the largest Scheme involved, and the Consulting Engineer had submitted a very detailed report on the matter. Further information, required from the Corporation of Dublin, had not yet been received.

Aughrim Water Supply and Sewerage Scheme.—A Consulting Engineer had been appointed to prepare the necessary Contract Documents for this scheme.

Ballyknocken and Valleymount Sewerage.—As the Council had been informed, the Corporation of Dublin had indicated that they did not approve of the construction of sewerage works adjoining the Poulaphuca Lake. The Council's views on the matter had been submitted again to the Corporation.

Kilcarrig and Greystones Sewerage.—Complete plans and specification for this Scheme had been submitted to the Department. The Department, however, desired that a comprehensive survey be made of the whole district with a view to designing a Regional Scheme, and had asked that a lesser scheme be prepared, taking in such cottages as are at present located convenient to existing water and sewerage mains. This amended Scheme has been prepared and submitted.

Enniskerry Water Supply.—Plans and Specification had been submitted to the Department, and the County Engineer was in contact with Department officials in regard to certain minor engineering points in the Scheme.

Monastery Sewerage.—Plans and Specification for this Scheme for providing sanitary accommodation for some 24 cottages at Enniskerry, had been submitted to the Department.

Kilcol Sewerage and Water Supply.—Plans for the extension of this system had been prepared and would be submitted to the Department in the course of the week.

Rathnew Water Supply and Sewerage Scheme.—Plans and specification to extend the drainage system, and water supply to the remaining cottages in Rathnew had been prepared and will be ready for submission to the Department shortly. The Water Supply is dependent on Wicklow Regional Water Supply Scheme.

Coalby Water Supply.—Plans for this work had been considered by the Department, who have requested details of the water gaugings taken for 1939.

Carnew Water Supply.—The County Engineer is preparing preliminary proposal for an additional scheme, or the construction of an additional reservoir and tank.

Carnew-Mill Lane Sewerage.—Plans and Specification for this work have been prepared and submitted to the Department.

Arklow Rock Water Supply.—Tenders were invited on two occasions for the sinking of two wells, but no Tenders have been received. A further advertisement will be issued in this connection.

Dunlavin Village Sewerage.—It is expected that a Scheme for the extension of the Sewerage Works to the existing village Scheme cottages will be ready within three or four weeks.

Avoca Water Supply.—The County Engineer is having these Works cleaned out and overhauled, but to complete same the approval of the Council is requested to an expenditure of £180 in continuing the pipe line from the reservoir tank up stream to obviate possible contamination.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. McCrea.

7. Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey.

Resolved—That we authorise the expenditure of a sum of £180 in excess of the amount provided in the current year's estimate for the purpose of carrying out improvements to Avoca Water Supply.

Passed unanimously.

The engineer temporarily employed for the purpose is at present engaged on the preparation of plans for Shillelagh Water Supply extension; Croneynhorn Water Supply and Ballingate Water Supply.

Several other small Schemes in the County, which involve the provision of pumps, have been advertised, but no tenders have been received. A further advertisement will be issued.

Item No. 16.—Drainage Work at Boghall Road, Bray.

The County Secretary stated that the plans for works at Boghall Road, Bray, provided for drainage work estimated to cost £700, and the construction of a new Bridge at an estimated cost of £500. The approval of the Department of Local Government had been received to the raising of a loan of £700 in respect of drainage work, but it was suggested that the balance of £500 might be defrayed from revenue.

In reply to members of the County Council the Secretary stated that should it be necessary to carry out any further works to remedy the flooding which had occurred at Boghall Road, the County Engineer would submit a further report to the Council.

Proposed by Councillor Sean Dunne;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey.

Resolved—That we hereby authorise the raising of a Loan of £700 for the carrying out of drainage work at Boghall Road, Bray.

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor Sean Dunne.

Resolved—That we hereby approve of the construction of a Bridge and incidental works at Boghall Road, Bray, the cost to be defrayed from revenue during the current year.

Passed unanimously.

Travelling Expenses of Members.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Local Government:—
G.277/47. 18th June, 1947.
A Chara,

With reference to your letter of 13th May, 1947, in regard to the payment of travelling expenses to members of the County Council, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that he has approved of the proposal of the Council that there shall be paid to each member of the Council in respect of every meeting of the local authority which he attends at a place not less than five miles of any route from his official residence a fixed sum of 1s. (one shilling) a mile calculated in accordance with Section 67 (2) of the Local Government Act, 1946. This sum is payable in respect of each mile of the journeys to and from the place of meeting and the members' official residence.

Mise, le meas.

R. O MURCHU, th.c. Runai,

Secretary, Wicklow County Council.

Payment at the rate sanctioned would be made in respect of Councillors' travelling expenses in attending that Meeting, and all future meetings.

Councillor P. McCarthy inquired whether he might be recouped actual cost of attendance at Council Meetings, as payment at the rate of 1s. per mile would not cover such cost. The County Secretary stated that a letter would be addressed to the Local Government Department on the matter.

The Council adjourned consideration of the remaining items on the Agenda to the next Meeting to be held on 14th July, 1947.

A meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11.30 a.m. on Monday, 14th July, 1947.

The following members were present:—

Councillor J. J. McCrea, Chairman;

Councillors W. Hammond, P. McCarthy, T. Brennan, T.D.; Patrick Doyle, J. J. Metcalfe, B. Farrell, P. P. O'Reilly, Dr. J. J. Hickey, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Edward Byrne, Sean Dunne, Liam O Laoighleis, J. Everett, T.D.; C. M. Byrne, and Joseph Jacob.

Assistant Engineers J. P. Caffrey, A. N. Dillon, R. L. Farrell, and P. J. Foley were present.

The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, was also in attendance.

BUSINESS:

1. To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor P. McCarthy:—

"I hereby give notice that I, or some member for me, shall move at the next meeting of the County Council that in view of the fact that the Manager has failed to perform the duties of his office satisfactorily, he having refused to carry out the instructions of the Council, we the members of the County Council suspend him whilst the question of his fitness for office is being investigated."

2. Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.

3. To consider Abstract of Accounts of the Council for the year ended 31st March, 1947.

4. To consider Scheme for Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools for the year 1948.

5. To consider letter, dated 28th June, 1947, from the Department of Local Government, in regard to the reconstruction of Ashford Bridge.

6. To consider letter of 26th June, 1947, from the Department of Local Government, in relation to Housing Standards.

7. To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor W. Hammond:—

"I propose moving at the next Meeting of the County Council or in my absence getting some other member to move for me, that at the May, August, November and February Meetings the County Surveyor's reports re Roads be submitted for primary consideration at same, and that unless specially summoned the Assistant County Surveyors be required to attend only these Meetings."

8. To consider report and recommendations of County Manager in regard to Road Machinery.

9. To consider letter received from the Irish Society for the Protection of Birds, requesting that the Council apply to the Minister for Justice for an Order prohibiting the taking of the eggs of any wild bird within the County.

10. To consider resolution received from Westmeath County Council in regard to the closing of certain railway stations, and the diversion of rail traffic to roads.

The County Secretary stated that the Chairman had informed him that he would be delayed about an hour due to the breakdown of his car. In the absence of the Chairman, Councillor C. M. Byrne was moved to the chair. With the agreement of the Council it was decided to proceed with Item No. 2 on the Agenda, pending the arrival of the Chairman and other Members.

Item No. 2: County Manager's Orders.**SCALP-ENNISKERRY-KILMACANOGUE ROAD.**

Councillor Hammond inquired when it was likely that approval to the reconstruction of this road, at the estimated cost of £103,000, would be undertaken, and whether the necessary monies would be provided by way of Grant. The County Secretary stated that this pro-

posal was part of a general scheme for road improvement in the County, and it was not known when such works would be proceeded with.

ANNUAL HOLIDAYS FOR ROAD WORKERS.

Councillor Dunne inquired whether road workers released for farming work during the harvest or tillage seasons would be allowed their usual holidays, and Bank Holidays. The Secretary stated that road workers were paid for holidays in accordance with the provisions of the Holidays Employees Act, and Conditions of Employment Act. He was not aware of any complaints from road workers in this regard.

PAYMENT OF ROAD WORKERS FOR SATURDAYS AND FOR WET DAYS.

Councillor McCarthy stated that where road workers had been unable to work on a Saturday due to wet weather the Council had deducted a full day's pay. He considered that workers should be paid according to the number of hours worked, and that accordingly only four hours should be deducted in respect of a Saturday. He contended that where a worker attended for duty on any particular day he should receive payment for that day, even if the weather were wet. Councillor McCarthy stated he would hand in a Notice of Motion in regard to the matter.

IMPROVEMENTS TO COAT'S BRIDGE, ON WOODENBRIDGE-AUGHTRIM ROAD.

Councillor Hammond asked whether a report and plans for the improvement of Coat's Bridge as requested by the Department, had been prepared by the County Engineer, and wished to know whether the Council would be asked to make any contribution to the cost of improvement of the Woodenbridge-Aughtrim road. The Secretary stated that at the request of the Department the County Engineer had prepared plans for the improvement of this road, and for the widening of Coat's Bridge. No indication had been received from the Department as to whether a Grant would be made available for the work, or whether the Council would be asked to make any contribution. The Chairman (Mr. J. J. McCrea) stated that he would oppose any suggested contribution by the Council to such work, since the improvement of this road will probably lead to the permanent closing of the Woodenbridge-Shillelagh Railway.

At this stage, Councillor J. J. McCrea, Chairman, took the chair, and the Council decided to hear a deputation from the Wicklow Industrial Development Association in regard to the Marine Hotel, Murrough, Wicklow.

MARINE HOTEL, WICKLOW.

A deputation from the Wicklow Industrial Development Association composed of the Town Clerk, Mr. S. O'Ceallaigh, Councillor Sutton and Councillor Haskins, thanked the Council for receiving them. Mr. O'Ceallaigh stated that a group of Belgian Industrialists had visited Wicklow during the previous week in regard to a proposed new factory for the town. The factory would produce steel products and would employ sixty men on commencing production, and it was expected that 500 men would be employed after two years. The proposed new company desired to commence operations as soon as possible, and were anxious to know if the Marine Hotel premises could be availed of for the purpose of offices, for the billeting of key men, storage, etc. A site on the Murrough adjoining the Marine Hotel, had been selected for the factory. The Town Clerk pointed out the great advantages that would accrue to the town from the new industry and asked that the County Council might agree in the circumstances, to dispose of the Marine Hotel premises for this purpose.

In the course of the discussion following, Members of the Council expressed their agreement that every assistance should be given to the Association and the town in regard to the proposed new industry. The County Manager stated that consequent on an epidemic of diphtheria in the County in 1944/45, the Council agreed that greater accommodation was necessary for the treatment of fever patients, and acquiesced in the purchase of the Marine Hotel with a view to its conversion into a temporary fever hospital, pending the eventual provision of a new hospital. The initial estimate for the cost of purchase of the premises and the necessary repairs and improvements was £3,666. The Council had approved of the raising of a Loan of £3,750 for the purpose. By direction of the Department of Local Government an architect was employed to prepare plans for the improvement of the building and an estimate of the cost. It became necessary also to employ a consulting engineer to design a suitable heating system. The architect had recently submitted his estimate for the necessary works, which amounted to £11,438. Of this sum, an amount of £5,500 was in respect of the central heating system, which in view of the building's exposed position, was necessary. The County Engineer had examined the architect's estimate and considered that the total cost of the works would amount to approximately £15,000. The County Manager stated that in his view it was scarcely advisable to spend a sum of £15,000 on converting the building to a fever hospital, which it was intended to use as such for only a limited period. In July, 1946, a number of sites for proposed new County and Fever Hospitals had been selected, and submitted for examination by the Department's Inspectors. With regard to the incidence of infectious diseases, no re-occurrence of the epidemic of diphtheria experienced in previous years had since taken place. However, one could not be assured that a similar epidemic might not occur again.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. Hickey;

Seconded by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.;

Resolved—That in view of the estimate of £15,000 for the conversion of the Marine Hotel, into a temporary fever hospital, we decide not to proceed further with the project and that we request the Minister for Health to receive a deputation from the Council and from the Wicklow Industrial Development Association in regard to the proposed utilisation of the premises in connection with a new industry in Wicklow, and also to urge on the Minister, the necessity for the provision of a new fever hospital for the County at the earliest possible date.

Item No. 1: Suspension of County Manager.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Seconded by Councillor S. Dunne;

Resolved—That in view of the fact that the Manager has failed to perform the duties of his office satisfactorily, he having refused to carry out the instructions of the Council, we the Members of the County Council suspend him, whilst the question of his fitness for the office is being investigated. Councillor McCarthy referred to the Council's request that the revised rates of wages for road workers and Council's salary for office staff be made applicable as from the 1st January, 1947. He stated that the officials had been granted increases from that date, but that the road workers had been discriminated against, and had only received increased remuneration as from the 1st May. He considered that the Manager had not carried out the wishes of the Council in not submitting this Resolution to the Minister.

Councillor Dunne, seconding the motion, stated that he did so out of a sense of duty, in that he had always been dissatisfied with the low rates of wages paid to the road workers. Councillor H. J. Byrne appealed for the withdrawal of the motion. He stated it was clear that the Manager was responsible for the control of a staff and for the rates of remuneration, and that he was carrying out his duty. The power of suspension of the Manager was an important one, and it should not

be used lightly. Councillor Hammond agreed that it had been recognised as national policy that the road workers' wages should correspond with the wages of agricultural workers. He pointed out that the eventual increase granted them was more than that previously proposed by the Council. Councillor Brennan stated that since sanction had not been received to the Manager's Order of the 3rd February granting increased wages to road workers as from the 1st January, that the Manager could not be held responsible.

Councillor Edward Byrne expressed his regret that the increased remuneration to road workers had not been made applicable from the 1st January, but that the fact did not warrant the suspension of the Manager.

Councillor P. P. O'Reilly expressed his disagreement with the County Management Act, which he held to be undemocratic.

Councillor C. M. Byrne stated that he had supported the County Management Act in view of the fact that the previous system had broken down. He referred also to the recognised policy of the State in regard to the wages of agricultural workers and road workers.

Councillor Everett, supporting the motion, stated that the Manager had disregarded the wishes of the Council, and pointed out that increases had been granted to road workers to amounts greater than the agricultural wages rates in three Counties.

The County Manager stated that the Members of the Council should be well aware of the fact that when the Agricultural Wages Board fixed rates of wages for agricultural workers they indirectly fixed also the rate of wages of road workers in view of the national policy in that regard. He understood that the Agricultural Wages Board was composed of Members of various organisations, and that the proper policy to be adopted if road workers' wages were to be increased, was to induce the Agricultural Wages Board to revise the rates of agricultural workers with effect from an earlier date. Alternatively the matter might be raised in the Dail as a matter of national policy. From the information he had received from the Department, he understood that in one county only, that is County Dublin, had the rate of wages of road workers been increased over the rate of agricultural workers. He asked Deputy Everett to submit particulars of the other two Counties to which he referred. He pointed out that the Manager had to have regard to the policy of the Legislature in this matter.

A vote having been called for, it was found that the Members present voted as follows:—

In favour—Councillors, J. J. McCrea, P. McCarthy, P. Doyle, B. Farrell, Sean Dunne, J. Everett, T.D., and Joseph Jacob—(7).

Against—Councillors W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D., J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, J. O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne, William Lawless, and C. M. Byrne—(10).

The motion was declared defeated by ten votes against to seven votes in favour.

COUNTY MANAGER'S ORDERS—WAGES OF CARTERS.

Councillor Everett raised the question of the increased wages sanctioned by the Minister for carters employed by the Council. He referred to the previous recommendation of the Council for a substantial increase in the wages of carters, and to the suggestion that the rate of wages should be 20s. per day. The Secretary stated that at the meeting held on the 19th December, 1946, the Council had passed a Resolution recommending that wages of carters be substantially increased in view of the increased cost of upkeep of horses and carts, and in consideration of the cost of living index. On that occasion a rate of £1 per day had been suggested by some Members and the County Manager had stated that in view of the rates paid in adjoining Counties, it was unlikely that the Minister would sanction an increase to that sum. At the meeting of the Council held on the 3rd February, the County Manager informed the Council of a proposed increase for road workers, the amount proposed for carters being 15s. per day, to operate as from the 1st January. Under letter dated 24th May, 1947, the Department of Local Government had approved of payment to carters at the rate of 14s. 6d. per day, the increased rate to be payable only from 1st May, 1947.

Proposed by Councillor Everett, T.D.;

Seconded by Councillor P. Doyle;

Resolved—That we request the Minister to reconsider his decision in regard to the wages payable to carters and to sanction a rate of wages of 20s. per day.

Passed. Councillors Hammond and Metcalfe dissenting.

COOLLATTIN-COOLBOY-TINAHELY ROAD.

Councillor Hammond recommended that an application be made to the Minister for the regrading of this road as a main road. The Chairman stated that application had been made to the Department for approval to the raising of a loan of £4,000 for this road, and referred to the Council's previous deputation to the Minister in regard to the declaration of additional roads as main roads. He asked that the Department be reminded in regard to the raising of the proposed loan.

MACHINERY OVERSEER AND STORES FOREMAN.

Councillor Everett inquired the rate of wages payable to the Machinery Overseer and stated that a rate of £4 per week paid to the Acting Storekeeper was not adequate in view of the responsibilities of the post. The Secretary stated that the rate of remuneration originally fixed for the position of Machinery Overseer was £5 per week, plus the appropriate Emergency Bonus. In view of the general revision of rates of remuneration, the remuneration of Machinery Overseer and Stores Foreman would be revised.

INSURANCE OF CARTERS.

Councillor McCarthy raised the question as to why certain carters employed by the Council were not in receipt of annual holidays. The Secretary stated that carters employed on a daily or hourly basis were insurable and were entitled to annual leave. Carters employed on a contract basis are not insurable, and so do not qualify for holidays. He undertook to investigate particular cases mentioned by Councillor McCarthy.

LETTING OF COTTAGE AT SHRUGHAWN.

Councillor Farrell inquired why a vacant cottage at Shrugawn had been let to a Mrs. Kearney, on transfer from another cottage. He stated that Mr. Kearney had a bootmaking business, and had a house of his own. The County Manager stated that the cottage had been let to Mrs. Kearney on the recommendation of the County Medical Officer of Health. Mrs. Kearney had been under treatment for tuberculosis and the County Medical Officer of Health stated that she was unable to climb the hill from the cottage she had resided in. The County Manager stated he would investigate the matters raised by Councillor Farrell.

LETTING OF COTTAGE AT TOBER, DUNLAVIN.

The following letter addressed to the Chairman by Edward Conway, Church Road, Dunlavin, was read by the Secretary.

Church Road, Dunlavin,

12th July, 1947.

Dear Sir,
I was very disappointed over the decision the County Manager came to over the cottage at Tober which my uncle still holds, and wished to have it transferred to me, his nephew. Before any meeting he even asked to buy out the cottage for me and it would not be sold or transferred. And it is given to a farmer's son with a snug house and only himself, his wife, and one child in it, while I am here, an

agricultural labourer, in my parents' cottage with no house of my own and fifteen in family, in a house here with no sewerage. And two years ago there has been two cases of diphtheria in this cottage. It is for the Board of Health to see and know those conditions and hand over the house to a man with a house and only three in family, as compared with fifteen. I would wish this notice brought before the Board to see who possibly would stand for it.

I remain, dear sir,

Your obedient servant,

EDWARD CONWAY.

Councillor John O'Reilly stated that about a year ago he had raised the question of the occupation of a labourer's cottage by Mr. Horner, an uncle of Mr. Conway, in view of the fact that Mr. Horner also held a Land Commission cottage adjoining his own. As a result of his representations the cottage was advertised for letting. Notice to Quit having been served on Mr. Horner, Mr. Conway had been residing at Kilcullen, Co. Kildare, and had returned to reside with his uncle about two months previously. Councillor O'Reilly considered that it would not be equitable for Mr. Conway to be allocated this cottage in view of the facts. The County Manager, in reply to an inquiry, stated that Mr. Conway had been placed first in order of preference by the local Medical Officer of Health, who had, however, qualified his recommendations by stating that Mr. Conway had been only two months in the district. The Manager had consulted the local Councillors, and Councillors O'Reilly and Metcalfe, who resided in the vicinity of Dunlavin, had recommended the allocation of the cottage to Mr. Denis Walsh. Councillors Farrell and P. P. O'Reilly had recommended Mr. Conway. It was subsequently proposed by Councillor Farrell, seconded by Councillor Everett, T.D.:

"That we disagree with the Order of the County Manager in allocating a cottage at Tober to Denis Walsh."

Passed, Councillors Hammond, Metcalfe, and Brennan dissenting.

LETTING OF COTTAGE AT TOMRILAND, ROUNDWOOD.

Councillor Everett inquired whether any other applications had been received for the cottage at Tomriland, Roundwood, which had been allocated to Patrick Windsor. The County Manager stated when this cottage was first advertised, no applications were received from married persons. It was again advertised and the only married person applying was Patrick Windsor. Councillor Everett stated that Mr. Windsor was seventy years of age, and had forty acres of land, and asked that the matter be investigated.

LETTING OF COTTAGE AT TONLAGEE.

Councillor McCarthy referred to the Manager's Order directing that possession of the cottage at Tonlagree be obtained from Miss Elizabeth Doyle, daughter of the former tenant. He referred to the Resolution passed at a previous meeting of the Council, recommending the Manager to grant the tenancy of this cottage to Miss Doyle. He asked whether subsequent to Miss Doyle's eviction, the cottage had been occupied, and asked that the Manager would reconsider his decision on the matter. Councillor Everett referred also to the Resolution passed by the Council on this matter. The County Manager stated that from the information he had obtained, Miss Doyle had not been continuously residing with her father. The cottage had been advertised and nine applications had been received, six of which were from married persons. He considered that it would not be good housing policy to grant the cottage to a single person without dependants, when married persons with families were seeking accommodation. No personal considerations entered into the letting of this or of any other cottage.

Proposed by Councillor McCarthy;

Seconded by Councillor Doyle;

Resolved—That the Members of the Council disassociate themselves from the Order of the Manager for the eviction of Miss E. Doyle.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 3: Submission of Abstract of Accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1947.

In accordance with the provisions of the Public Bodies Order, 1946, the Abstract of Accounts of the Council was submitted, prior to being forwarded to the Department of Local Government for audit. The County Secretary gave particulars of the accounts.

The Council had authorised additional expenditure on roads amounting to £10,000 in respect of snow and flood damage. Of this sum, an amount of £8161 would be recouped by the Department. The Council had authorised expenditure of £15,000 on the purchase of tar and chippings in preparation for the current year's road works scheme. The actual expenditure under this heading was £14,853. The Council had also authorised expenditure in excess of the estimate under other headings amounting to £9,004. The actual expenditure in excess of the original amount provided, was approximately £8,000, and the net reduction in the credit balance, having allowed for road grants outstanding, was approximately £7,000. It was necessary, however, to re-allocate the amounts already provided by the Council, and to allocate a greater proportion of the sum allowed to Health Charges Account.

Proposed by Councillor P. Doyle;

Seconded by Councillor T. Brennan, T.D.;

Resolved—That we authorise expenditure in excess of the amount provided in the estimate, for the year ended 31st March, 1947, to an amount of £2,000, in respect of Health Charges.

Passed, Councillor J. Everett, T.D., dissenting.

Councillor Everett stated that he was dissenting to the motion since full particulars of expenditure incurred on the clearing of roads from snow had not been submitted to the Council as requested. The County Secretary stated he would arrange for the submission of these particulars by the County Engineer.

Item No. 4: Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools, 1948.

The County Secretary submitted for the approval of the Council, a draft Scheme of Scholarships for the year 1948, copy of which had been circulated to the Members of the Council. Amendments had been made in the Scheme in accordance with the recommendation of the Department of Education, providing that a Scholarship would not as a rule, be renewed for the fourth year, unless the Scholarship holder had previously passed the Intermediate Certificate Examination with honours, or where the Scholarship holder attended a Vocational School, it would not be renewed for a third year unless the holder had passed the appropriate Certificate of Examination for Day Vocational Schools. The Secretary stated that in the previous year's Scheme, the limitation of Means had been extended to correspond with that adopted for the University Scholarship Scheme. It had been suggested in the previous year that the value of the Scholarships for the rural area might be revised.

Proposed by Councillor E. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor J. Jacob;

Resolved—That subject to the approval of the Minister for Education we adopt a Scheme of Scholarship of Secondary and Vocational Schools for the year 1948, in accordance with the draft Scheme submitted. The Scheme as approved by the Council was as follows:—

SCHEME OF SCHOLARSHIPS IN SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, 1948.

Wicklow County Council offers the following Scholarships for competition:—

1. (a) Six (6) Scholarships of the annual value of Fifty Pounds (£50) in the first year and of the annual value of Forty-five Pounds (£45) in the second and each subsequent year to be competed for only by students attending school in a Rural Area.
- (b) Six (6) Scholarships of the annual value of Twenty-five Pounds (£25) in each year, to be competed for only by students attending schools in an Urban Area.

Of the six Scholarships to be awarded in each class, three will be reserved for boys and three for girls provided that in the event of an insufficient number of boys or girls qualifying at the examination the unawarded scholarships may be allocated to the next highest qualifying candidates irrespective of sex.

If less than six candidates in either category (a) or category (b) pass the examination, the unawarded Scholarship, or Scholarships allocated to that category shall be awarded to the next highest candidate, or candidates, in the other category, irrespective of sex, who have not already received a Scholarship.

PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIPS.

2. The County Council shall pay, in two instalments annually, the amount of Tuition Fees, Maintenance Charges, Cost of Books, etc., of each holder of a Scholarship, on receipt of a detailed account from the Head of the School or College, provided that this amount does not exceed the value of the Scholarship. The unexpected balance, if any of each Scholarship shall be paid annually to the parent or guardian of the Scholarship holder to meet the cost of railway travelling, etc.

RESIDENTIAL QUALIFICATION.

3. The parents or guardians of intending candidates must have been bona-fide resident in County Wicklow on the first day of October preceding the Examination.

MEANS OF PARENTS OR GUARDIANS.

4. Competition for these Scholarships shall be confined to children whose parents or guardians,

(a) occupy agricultural land the annual Poor Law Valuation of which does not exceed,

(I) £150 in the case of families of 3 children or less.

(II) £175 in the case of families of 4 children.

(III) £200 in the case of families of 5 children.

(IV) £225 in the case of families of 6 children or more.

(b) derive an annual income from all sources not exceeding,

(I) £400 in the case of families of 3 children or less.

(II) £425 in the case of families of 4 children.

(III) £450 in the case of families of 5 children.

(IV) £475 in the case of families of 6 children or more.

Children referred to in this clause must be under 18 years of age.

The Council may award in special circumstances, subject to the approval of the Minister for Education, the whole or part of a scholarship to a candidate whose parents or guardians do not comply with the foregoing means conditions.

TENURE OF SCHOLARSHIPS.

5. The Scholarships shall be tenable only at schools approved by the County Council and the Minister for Education, for the purpose, and may be renewed for a period not exceeding five years.

The County Council desires that in the selection of schools parents will give preference to schools in which Irish games and pastimes are adopted.

RENEWAL OF SCHOLARSHIPS.

6. The annual renewal of scholarships for such period as the Council may deem fit, not exceeding five years, shall be subject to the receipt of reports as to the conduct and progress of the holder, which are accepted as satisfactory by the Wicklow County Council and the Minister for Education.

In the case of a Scholarship holder attending a Secondary School the scholarship will not, as a rule, be renewed for a fourth year unless the scholarship holder has previously passed the Intermediate Certificate Examination with Honours.

In the case of a Scholarship holder attending a Vocational School the scholarship will not, as a rule, be renewed for a third year unless the scholarship holder has previously passed the appropriate Certificate Examination for Day Vocational Schools.

All renewals of Scholarships shall be subject to the approval of the Minister for Education.

EXAMINATION CENTRE.

7. Subject to the approval of the County Council and the Minister for Education, Wicklow town has been selected as a centre for the 1948 Examination, which shall be partly oral and partly in writing, and will be conducted by Inspectors and Examiners appointed by the Minister. The Examination shall be held during the week immediately following Easter Sunday.

REFERENCES.

8. Every Candidate for a Scholarship shall, before being admitted for examination furnish a completed Application Form together with a Registrar's Birth Certificate, a satisfactory reference from a Teacher or School Manager of his or her school, and a Medical Certificate as to fitness.

AGE LIMIT.

9. Candidates must not be more than 14 years of age on the 1st August, 1948.

MANNER OF MAKING APPLICATION FOR EXAMINATION.

10. Applications from intending candidates, accompanied by Birth Certificates, will be received by the Secretary of the County Council at his office, Courthouse, Wicklow, up to 10th January, 1948, from whom a Form of Declaration can be obtained, which is to be verified by a parent or guardian of the applicant and a Form of Certificate to be filled up by a Clergyman or Peace Commissioner. These documents, when properly completed, will be submitted to the Wicklow County Council and if the application is approved by them the Secretary will make the necessary arrangements for each approved candidate to sit for the examination. Application Forms received after the 10th January, 1948, cannot be considered.

Each candidate must indicate on the application form his selection of optional subjects. Any alteration he desires to make in his selection, subsequent to forwarding the application form must be notified to the Secretary of the County Council on or before the 1st March, 1948. On the day of examination no candidate will be allowed to take a paper in an optional subject unless he has given notice not later than the 1st March, 1948, of his intention to take such paper.

METHOD OF AWARD.

11. Subject to these Rules and Regulations Scholarships shall be awarded in order of merit as determined by the Examination. All awards are subject to the approval of the Minister for Education.

SYLLABUS OF EXAMINATION.

12. The Syllabus of Examination will be the Syllabus of the Sixth Standard Primary School Programme.

12. The following shall be the subjects of examination: (a) Irish; (b) English; (c) Arithmetic; (d) History and Geography; (e) Algebra; (f) Geometry; (g) Drawing; (h) Rural Science or Nature Study; (i) Needlework.

All candidates must present themselves in (a), (b), (c) and (d) above. In addition, candidates may present themselves in one or two, but not more than two, of the subjects (e), (f), (g), (h) and (i).

Irish and English versions of the question papers will be set in each of the following subjects: Arithmetic, History, Geography, Needlework, Algebra, Geometry, Drawing, Rural Science or Nature Study, but only one version, either Irish or English, will be supplied to candidates.

Candidates who answer the questions in any subject wholly in Irish from the Irish version of the question paper, will get a bonus on not more than 10 per cent. of the marks awarded, except in Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Needlework and Drawing, in which the bonus will be not more than 5 per cent. of the marks awarded. No bonus will be awarded to a candidate who answers in Irish from the English version of the paper.

Copies of the question papers set in 1947, for this examination may be obtained from Government Publications Sale Office, 3/4 College St., Dublin, price one shilling and three pence per copy.

CONDITIONS FOR PASSING THE EXAMINATION

14. To be eligible for the award of a Scholarship a candidate must pass the examination.

In order to be regarded as having passed the examination, a candidate must secure not less than 30 per cent. in each of the obligatory subjects, viz. Irish, (b) English, (c) Arithmetic, (d) History and Geography and not less than 50 per cent. of the aggregate marks assigned to those subjects. For the purpose of placing in order of merit those candidates who pass the examination, the total marks obtained by each candidate in the four obligatory subjects will be reckoned, and in addition the total marks obtained by him (or her) in any optional subject (not exceeding two in number) in which he (or she) obtained at least 20 per cent. of the maximum marks assigned to that subject.

15. Every question or dispute which shall arise in relation to the interpretation or construction of this Scheme shall be determined by the Minister for Education, whose decision thereon shall be final and conclusive.

NOTE: It is the intention of the Co. Council when operating a University Scheme to give preference in the allocation of one University Scholarship to a student who declares in writing that his studies are to be devoted to obtaining a degree in Agricultural Science.

SYLLABUS OF EXAMINATION

In all subjects the programme of the Examination for Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools is the programme prescribed for Standard VI pupils in the official programme for National Schools, subject to such alterations therein as are set out in the "Revised Programme for Primary Instruction" (issued in September, 1934) and to such further modifications as are mentioned below:—

SUBJECTS OF EXAMINATION

1. Obligatory Subjects

- (a) Irish (300 marks)
Oral (150 marks)
(1) General conversation
(2) Reading with explanation
(3) Recitation with explanation of 100 lines of Poetry
Written (150 marks)
(1) Composition and letter-writing
(2) Comprehension Test
Suitable exercises in grammar
- (b) English (200)
Written (200 marks)
(1) Composition and letter-writing
(2) Comprehension Test
(3) Suitable exercises in grammar
- (c) Arithmetic (200 marks)
The question papers in arithmetic will consist of two sections. Section (a) straight-forward arithmetical calculations, six questions, all of which are to be worked (100 marks); Section (b) questions of the usual problem type, five questions, three of which are to be worked (100 marks).
- (d) History and Geography (200 marks)
History 100 marks; Geography 100 marks.

II. Optional Subjects (any two, but not more than two may be taken by candidate).

- (e) Algebra (100 marks)
(f) Geometry (100 marks)
(g) Drawing (100 marks)
(h) Rural Science or Nature Study (100 marks)

Primary Schools Programme Syllabus A and B Rural Science; or Syllabuses A and B Nature Study; or Syllabuses C and D Nature Study—according to the type of school.

- (i) Needlework (100 marks)

The programme for the examination is the revised programme in Needlework issued to National Schools in October, 1937.

All candidates must present themselves for examination in (a), (b), (c), (d), above. In addition, candidates may present themselves in one or two, but not more than two of the subjects (e) to (i) inclusive.

K. J. BRANGAN,
County Secretary.

County Council Offices,
Courthouse,
Wicklow.

Dated this 7th July, 1947.

Item No. 5—Reconstruction of Ashford Bridge.

The Secretary stated that a letter dated 28th June, 1947 had been received from the Department of Local Government in regard to the reconstruction of Ashford Bridge and of the approach roads, and stating that no objection would be raised to the acceptance of the tender of Mr. Wm. Lee, Arklow, for the bridge work. A Grant of £10,000 had been sanctioned to be made available from the Road Fund towards the cost of the whole scheme, estimated at £18,634, and it was understood that the balance of the expenditure would be met by way of Loan. The Secretary stated that the Council had made provision in the Estimates for the raising of a Loan of £6,000 towards the cost of this work, and the Department had, on a previous occasion, been informed that it was the view of the Council that any expenditure in excess of the sum of £6,000 should be met by way of Grant. The Department however, now indicated that the maximum sum that could be made available was £10,000.

Proposed by Councillor T. Brennan, T.D.
Seconded by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.
Resolved—That having considered a letter dated 28th June, 1947, from the Department of Local Government, we hereby authorise the raising of a Loan of £8,634, towards the cost of the reconstruction of Ashford Bridge.
Passed.

Item No. 6—Housing Standards.

The Council noted the following letter of the 26th June, 1947, from the Department of Local Government in relation to Housing Standards, copy of which had been circulated to each Member:—

AN RUNAI.

Boinn rialtais aitiuil,
Teach an Chustium,
Baile Atha Cliath,
26ad Meitheamh, 1947.

HOUSING STANDARDS.

A Chara,

1. I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that he has had under consideration the minimum requirements that should apply to the siting, accommodation, construction and equipment of houses provided by local authorities. The execution of the housing programme will impose heavy financial burdens on public funds and the utmost regard for efficiency and economy in the conduct of housing operations is, therefore, of prime importance in the work of housing urban and rural workers generally. It would be a false economy to provide dwellings which, through lack of good judgment in the selection of sites, or through bad planning, or unsatisfactory construction or any other cause, fall short of the highest practicable standards. For the guidance of housing authorities a memorandum has been prepared indicating under three heads, siting, accommodation and construction, the standards to which such schemes should conform. Copy of the memorandum is annexed to this letter.

2. It is not intended, nor indeed is it possible, to lay down minimum housing standards having absolute validity always and everywhere. Rigid adherence to the terms of this circular letter will not be insisted on in circumstances in which better results would be otherwise obtained or in which special considerations must be taken into account.

3. The urgent need for houses should not be allowed to obscure the need for greater variety of house design in the execution of schemes. A certain diversity in house exteriors and interiors need not involve any considerable extra cost. A limited number of different designs might be grouped in various combinations throughout a scheme and in that way a dull uniformity and monotony avoided, while the element of standardisation and repetition which economical building demands would be preserved. The monotonous pattern of a large number of schemes has not been due solely to the repetition of the same house types, but to insufficient consideration to the lay-out. A group of houses can present a pleasing appearance if advantage is taken in such ways as may be possible of the amenities of the site, if for instance large trees are preserved, open spaces judiciously incorporated, the lay-out is adapted to the contours of the site, house designs are suitable to the site and so on. In general the local authority should bear in mind that the houses they provide will remain a feature of their town or countryside for many years to come and that their housing estates should not mar but rather add to the beauty of the surroundings. This result can be achieved if attention is paid to good planning.

4. Diversity of design would achieve little if the designs themselves were poorly executed and unimaginative. The object to be aimed at in connection with each house is the achievement, consistent with economy of a pleasant exterior which will not clash with the surroundings together with the most advantageous use of the space bounded by the outer walls. With this in mind qualified architects should be employed in the preparation of schemes. A further circular letter will be issued which will outline the terms on which the architects may be engaged, and indicate how best their services may be availed of in co-operation with the local authority's engineer and with the planning adviser. Any revision of fees which that letter may authorise will have retrospective effect to cover recent and interim appointments.

5. The importance of Town Planning in connection with housing development should not be overlooked. Local authorities who have not done so should accordingly avail themselves of the powers contained in the Town and Regional Acts and secure expert planning advice in connection with housing and other developments.

6. The selection of sites for labourers' cottages is in a number of cases determined by the wishes of the prospective tenants. While there are obvious reasons for continuing to consult the reasonable needs of tenants in the matter of residing close to their work consideration should be given to improving the amenities of rural life by grouping of cottages within suitable areas on multiple sites. All cottages within a radius of about two miles from a suitable centre might be so grouped; schemes so planned should in general ensure that no tenant had to travel more than two miles to his place of employment. This might be regarded as a general rule, and a greater or less distance settled on as local conditions, transport facilities, the economic circumstances of the tenants and so on might dictate. This recommendation cannot be given effect to always and everywhere but local authorities should bear it in mind when framing their schemes. While the provision of isolated cottages need not be discontinued an effort should be made to reduce their number to a minimum.

7. Groups of cottages should, where possible, be located near villages or towns, so that full advantage may be taken of any existing or proposed facilities for piped water supply, sewerage disposal, and electricity supply, and in order that the tenants and their families may benefit from proximity to church, schools, shops and such other amenities as may be within reach.

8. Where housing sites are to be acquired compulsorily they will be inspected in connection with the public inquiry into the Compulsory Purchase Order. The Department could not undertake to furnish technical reports on sites to be acquired. Local authorities that require such reports will have to obtain them from their own technical advisers.

9. The housing schemes of local authorities have in the past tended to be sharply divided from private housing estates. While some differentiation may be inevitable too great a cleavage between public and private housing is objectionable and may conceivably lead to the isolation of tenants of local authority houses from the rest of the community. An effort should, therefore, be made to counter this tendency by reserving for private development a number of sites on land acquired by the housing authority, by limiting the areas devoted to any single type of housing development, or by such other means as may be possible.

Mise, le meas,
J. COLLINS.

Runai.

To/
Each Housing Authority.

SITING, ACCOMMODATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF
NEW HOUSE MEMORANDUM.

1. SITING.

(a) In the selection of a site regard should be had to the terms of the Department's Circular Letters of 2th March, 1938, No. 24/38 and 2nd April, 1946, No. 31/46. The points to be considered in connection with a site are, briefly, the position of the site in relation to roads and existing services, the quality of the land (this is of particular importance in relation to labourers cottages): access and drainage facilities; aspect; water supply, and the wishes and conveniences of the owner. The site should be reported on by the appropriate medical Officer and by the technical officers concerned including the planning officer.

(b) Where individual cottages are concerned the sites should be on good open land and except where works of development are proposed, the site should adjoin or be accessible from a road or public or private fronting on main traffic routes should be avoided. The site should be of easy regular gradient and so elevated as to have the ground floor of the house above the level of approaches. It should be easily drained and sewerage where sewerage can be provided.

(c) All sites should be inspected by the appropriate medical officer to determine their suitability. The architect should inspect the site with a view to making the best possible use of its physical features and designing a type of house and layout which will be in consonance with the site. The house should be planned so that the greatest number of rooms in each may receive direct sunlight. Each house should be placed in the best position on the site so that it may be easily approached.

(d) The building line should be not less than 25 feet.

(e) The number of houses which the site should accommodate should be determined by reference to the location of the site, the size of the houses, and the presence or otherwise of services such as piped water supplies and sewerage systems. The following table indicates the maximum number of houses which might be allowed for each acre of the site.

District	Sanitary services available	No sanitary services
	Houses per acre	Houses per acre
Central areas in county boroughs and boroughs	16	—
Suburban areas in county boroughs and boroughs	12	—
Large urban areas	10	—
Small towns and villages	8	4
Rural areas	—	4

Where flats are provided the number of separate dwellings should not exceed 30 per acre.

(f) Save in high-density schemes, the curtilage of any dwelling should not be less than 1/20 of an acre. Each house should have a minimum frontage of 20 feet. Where "pends" are provided the frontage should be correspondingly increased.

(g) Schemes for built up areas should contain ample provision for children's playgrounds and for open spaces. In selecting sites due regard should be had to the need to have churches, community centres, schools, shops libraries, post offices and health and transport facilities within reasonable distance of all houses in the scheme. Pedestrian ways leading from homes and schools, shopping centres, etc. should be provided where possible and should in all cases avoid heavy traffic routes.

2. ACCOMMODATION.

(a) **DESIGN:** House designs should, in general, aim at simplicity and convenience. The entrance hall or landing should lead directly to each of the principal rooms and unless it is unavoidable, no room should have to serve as a passage. There should be convenient access to front and rear outside entrances, especially from the kitchen. Door swings should be arranged so as to minimise interference with other doors, furniture, or circulation. It is important that a maximum of light, compatible with freedom from glare should be available in rooms occupied during day-light hours. Living rooms and rooms occupied by the housewife for her domestic duties should therefore face in a southerly direction. Ceilings should have a white matt finish and wall surfaces should be of light colours. Windows should comply with the standard set out in paragraph 5 (2) of the appendix.

(b) **FLOOR AREAS:** It is desirable that the following minimum standards as to floor areas should be maintained. Five main house types are contemplated. Classes A to D are intended for districts where water and sewerage systems are present, or are likely to be provided at an early date. Class E may be regarded as being suited to rural areas generally.

Type	Bedrooms	Living accommodation (Living room and working kitchen or scullery)	Bathroom and W.C.
Class A	Number 4 Floor area (sq. ft.) 440	2 260	1 35
Class B	Number 3 Floor area (sq. ft.) 360	2 265	1 35
Class C	Number 2 Floor area (sq. ft.) 260	2 200	1 35
Class D	Number 1 Floor area (sq. ft.) 120	1 180	1 35
Class E	Number 3 Floor area (sq. ft.) 320	2 220	1 35

No bedroom should be less than 70 sq. feet in floor area. If for any reason it does not appear feasible to comply with the accommodation standards set out the circumstances necessitating the departure should be indicated when applying for approval to the plans.

(c) **BATHROOM:** It is desirable that wherever possible the bathroom and w.c. should be in separate compartments. The w.c. should open off a hallway or landing only and should be ventilated on an outside wall.

It would be advisable to provide bathroom and w.c. space even in cases where water and sewerage systems may not be immediately available. If the houses are likely to be tenanted before they can be linked up with the sewerage service it will be necessary to provide suitable alternative sanitary accommodation.

All bathrooms should be fitted with wash-hand basins. Where baths are not immediately installed, but are contemplated, provision

should be made for a hot-water system which should be connected with the kitchen sink and with the wash-hand basin.

(d) **ROOM HEIGHTS:** Ceiling heights in general should not be less than 8 feet. In two-storey houses where the room is immediately below the roof the height of the room throughout two-thirds of the area of the floor should not be less than 8 feet, and throughout the remainder not less than 6 feet.

(e) **PERAMBULATOR:** Adequate space for a perambulator should be provided in houses types A, B, C and E.

(f) **STORAGE:** There should be adequate storage space for food (with ventilation to outside air and protection against dust and flies), cleaning materials, clothing and other wardrobes should be considered wherever possible. As a general rule external accommodation with a minimum floor area of 50 sq. feet should be provided. Larger storage space should however be provided for Classes A and E and due regard should be had to the use of the outbuilding as a tool and bicycles shed as well as a store for keeping turf.

(g) **LAUNDRY:** Facilities should be provided where possible for clothes washing and outdoor drying.

3. CONSTRUCTION.

(a) **MATERIALS AND APPLIANCES** of Irish manufacture should be used as far as possible. The house should be so constructed as to be proof against weather, damp, fire and vermin.

(b) **VENTILATION:** A flue should be provided in living room, kitchen and at least one bedroom, suitable for solid fuel appliances (i.e. not less than 50 sq. ins. in area); while the other bedrooms should have fixed ventilators.

(c) **INSULATION:** Thermal insulation should be equal to that of 11 inch brick unventilated cavity walls.

(d) **PARTY WALLS:** Party walls should be 9 inches solid or hollow.

(e) **STAIRS:** Stairs should be 3 feet in clear of walls. Walls containing double flights of stairs should be 6 feet in the clear apart.

It is desirable that the rise should not be greater than 7 1/2 inches and the go should not be less than 9 inches, the angle of slope being between 30 deg. and 35 deg. Winders should be avoided. Steps should be regular, uniform and well lit. Winding stairs too narrow for foot-hold near the railside are dangerous.

A doorway at the head of a flight of stairs reduces fire risks, but should have an adequate landing.

(f) **FLOOR LEVEL:** Ground floor level should be not less than 13 inches above the level of finished ground within 6 feet of the building.

(g) **LIGHTING:** Glass area of windows should not be less than 1/4 of the floor area. One half at least of every window should be made to open.

The top glass line should be not less than 6 1/2 feet over floor line. The lower levels of windows should not be below 30" from floor level. Windows should permit of ready cleaning from the inside.

(h) **TIMBER:** The utmost economy should be exercised in the use of timber. Attention is drawn to the suggestions made in this connection by the Building Research Committee, copies of whose Report (Price 2d.) may be obtained directly from the Government Publications Sale Office or through any bookseller. Where native timber is used it should be tested for moisture content in accordance with the Department's circular letter of 26th May, 1944 (H.63/44).

(i) **ACCESS TO YARD:** Provision of secondary access to the yard or garden is desirable, and might in house blocks of four or more dwellings be provided by way of "pends" or passageways between each group of two houses.

(j) **HEATING AND LIGHTING INSTALLATION:** Where gas and electricity services are available, consideration should be given to the installation of either gas stove or electric cooker.

The capacity of the hot water cylinder should not be less than 30 gallons.

(k) **SHELVING:** Shelving should be 9" wide; at least 30 lineal feet should be provided in each house.

(l) **KITCHEN SINKS, ETC.:** Kitchen sinks should have a draining board on the left hand side at height of 36" from floor level, which standard should also be applied to other work surfaces.

(m) **RAT PROOFING:** Consideration should be given to the question of rat proofing in the design of houses. All openings around foundations, pipes, ventilators and so on should be barred.

(n) MISCELLANEOUS.

(i) In order to obviate dirt collection, attention should be paid to the elimination of dust-catching angles, cornered ledges and pockets. Surface joining should be tight fitting and interior surfaces impervious. Washable surfaces should be provided where experience shows that areas of wall or floor space are liable to contamination.

ii) Water piping and tanks should be given maximum protection against frost by lagging, design or by placing storage tanks near chimney flues.

(iii) In rural housing schemes care should be taken that septic tanks etc. cannot contaminate water supplies.

Item No. 7: Attendance of Assistant Engineers, at Council Meetings.

In view of the small number of Members present in the Council Chamber, Councillor Hammond suggested that this Resolution might be deferred to the following meeting. The Council agreed to this course. Item No. 8: Road Machinery.

The County Secretary referred to the authorisation given by the Council at the meeting held on 8th October, 1945, for the purchase of road machinery amounting to £38,310. The County Engineer had revised his estimate of the items of machinery he would require and the amended estimate amounted to £30,278 3s. 0d. The following Plant had been purchased to date:—

Oil Rollers	2	£3,528 0 0
Compressors	2	£1,897 11 9
Crusher Granulators	3	£2,906 16 9
Tar Sprayers and Gritters	5	£4,063 9 6
Patching Sets	16	£480 0 0
Concrete Mixers	2	£576 0 0
Lorries	5	£3,352 5 0
Excavator (Bulldozer)	1	£1,403 0 0
Concrete Vibrator	1	£386 0 0
Total		£18,593 3 0

A Loan of £17,000 had been raised to date. The County Engineer recommended the purchase of the following items:—

Living Vans	5	£1,000 0 0
Crushes Granulators	2	£4,500 0 0
Tar Sprayers (Hand)	2	£500 0 0
Lorries	5	£4,400 0 0
Portable Gritting Machines	2	£100 0 0
Vibrating Table	1	£185 0 0
Machinery Yard Tools		£1,000 0 0
Total		£11,685 0 0

Proposed by Councillor J. O'Reilly.
Seconded by Councillor B. Farrell.
Resolved—That we approve of the recommendation of the Co. Engineer in regard to the purchase of machinery as submitted to the Council, and authorise the purchase of such additional machinery, being financed by the way of overdraft on Machinery Account to an amount not exceeding £13,300, pending the raising of a Loan from the Council's Treasurer when the exact amount required has been ascertained.

Passed unanimously.
Item No. 9.
The Council adjourned this matter to the next meeting.
Item No. 10.

The Council adopted the following Resolution received from Westmeath County Council:—

Resolved—That we the members of the Westmeath County Council view with alarm the closing of certain stations on the C.I.E. system and the growing diversion of rail traffic to the public roads which were never intended for such. That in consequence of this diversion of traffic the cost of maintenance of the roads will place an impossible burden on the already overburdened ratepayers, and we call on the Minister for Industry and Commerce and the Minister for Local Government to take immediate steps to stay the encroachment on the public roads by the C.I.E.

We also call the attention of the respective Ministers to the closing of the Mullingar/Cavan branch of the C.I.E. which compels the diversion of traffic for the Northern counties via Dublin thus adding to the carrying costs of livestock and merchandise as well as inconvenience to the general public and the destruction of fairs and markets."

Proposed by Councillor Farrell,
Seconded by Councillor Metcalfe.

Resolved—That we the members of Wicklow Co. Council hereby extend to Mr. Laurence Moore, Biessington, a former Member of this Council, the assurance of our sincere sympathy on the death of his daughter.

The following Notice of Motion was handed in by Councillor P. Doyle, and accepted by the Chairman.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

"I hereby give notice that I shall move at the next Meeting of the County Council that the Old Assize Buildings in Tinahely and premises enclosed, be leased to Killavenny Parish Council for a period of twenty-five years, at a rent of £15 per year, conditional on a formal undertaking being given to make such available for Courthouse purposes from time to time, as and when required for such, due notice of such having been given in writing. Should events in the course of time permit the option of Purchase by Killavenny Parish Council is to be included in Agreement."

A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11.30 a.m. on Monday, 11th August, 1947.

The following members were present:—

Councillor J. J. McCrea, Chairman;
Councillors W. Hammond, P. McCarthy, T. Brennan, T.D.; Patrick Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Edward Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Sean Dunne, Liam O Laoighleis, James Everett, T.D.; C. M. Byrne, and Joseph Jacob.
The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, was in attendance.
The County Engineer, and Assistant Engineers A. N. Dillon, J. P. Caffrey and R. L. Farrell were also present.

BUSINESS:

- To confirm and sign Minutes of Meetings held on 23rd June, 1947, and 14th July, 1947.
- To consider letter, dated 25th July, 1947, from the Department of Health in regard to the proposed disposal of the Marine Hotel, Wicklow.
- To renew for a further year Scholarships under Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarships Scheme.
- To award Scholarships to successful candidates under the Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarship Scheme, 1947.
- To consider arrangements for the collection of rates in No. 2 District, and Nos. 4/5 District (See note hereunder).
- To consider letter from the Irish Sailors' and Soldiers' Land Trust in regard to the reconstruction of the road at Oldcourt, Park Bray.
- To consider proposals for improvement of Templecarrig Water Supply, and the provision of a Pump at Dillonstown.
- To consider application from Major Wall for permission to erect an Experimental Sewage Disposal Plant at Greystones.
- To consider resolution from the County Committee of Agriculture, regarding the acquisition of the house used by the Committee as offices at Wicklow.
- To consider resolution from the County Committee of Agriculture requesting payment of compensation in respect of Sheep lost following dipping.
- To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor W. Hammond:—
"I propose moving at the next Meeting of the County Council, or in my absence getting some other member to move for me, that at the May, August, November and February Meetings the County Surveyor's reports re Roads be submitted for primary consideration at same, and that unless specially summoned the Assistant County Surveyors be required to attend only these Meetings."
- To consider letter received from the Irish Society for the Protection of Birds, requesting that the Council apply to the Minister for Justice for an Order prohibiting the taking of the eggs of any wild birds within the County.
- To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor P. Doyle:—
"I hereby give notice that I shall move at the next meeting of the County Council that the old Assize Building in Tinahely and premises enclosed, be leased to Killavenny Parish Council for a period of 25 years, at a rent of £15 per year, conditional on a formal undertaking being given to make such available for Courthouse purposes from time to time as and when required for such due notice of such having been given in writing. Should events in the course of time permit, the option of purchase by Killavenny Parish Council is to be included in Agreement."
- To consider letter from Messrs. Stokes and Quirk, Auctioneers, in connection with the sale of lands at Bray Head.
- To consider resolution from Leitrim County Council protesting against increases in salaries and allowances of the President, Deputies, and Senators.
- To consider resolution from Sligo County Council requesting increased pensions for ex-National Teachers.
- To consider resolution from Galway County Council in regard to the encouraging and assisting young men and girls to obtain employment which would increase the supply of goods and services most needed by the nation.
- To consider Minutes of the Meeting of the County Council's General Council held on 8th May, 1947.
- Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.

NOTE:

Mr. John A. Doyle, Rate Collector, No. 2 District (Ballinguilie, Eadestown, Humewood Rathdangan and Talbotstown, has tendered his resignation under letter dated 19th July, 1947. Pending the permanent filling of the post by the Council it will be necessary to make immediate arrangements for the collection of the rates.

Mr. Patrick Burke, Rate Collector, Nos. 4/5 Districts (Dunlavin, Rathallagh, Tober, Holywood, Luggless and Togher) is at present under suspension. It will be necessary to make arrangements for the collection of Rates in these Districts pending receipt of the Minister's decision on the matter.

Item No. 1: Minutes.

The County Secretary stated that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th July, 1947, had not yet been received from the Printers, and accordingly confirmation of these Minutes was adjourned to the next meeting.

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;

Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Resolved—That we hereby confirm and sign the Minutes of the Meetings of Wicklow County Council held on 23rd June, 1947.

Passed unanimously.

Overdraft Accommodation—General Account.

The County Secretary referred to the resolution passed by the Council at the meeting held on 23rd June, 1947, authorising overdraft accommodation on the Council's General Account for the Quarter ending 30th September 1947 to an amount not exceeding £90,000. He explained that in arriving at the figure of £90,000 credit had been taken for Road Grants in respect of the Quarter to the 31st March, 1947, and the Quarter to the 30th June, 1947, which it was expected would be received towards the end of July, or early in August.

The amounts due to the Council in respect of Road Grants were as follows:—

Balance for Quarter to the 31st March 1947	£8,161 0 0
Quarter to the 30th June 1947	£28,774 0 0
Total	£36,935 0 0

The Secretary stated he had been in communication with the Department of Local Government and understood that there was some delay in payment of the Grants. It was necessary, therefore, to ask the Council for approval to overdraft accommodation not exceeding £120,000 to finance the Council's services during the remainder of the Quarter to the 30th September.

Proposed by Councillor T. Brennan, T.D.;

Seconded by Councillor J. J. McCrea;

Resolved—That we hereby authorise our County Secretary to make further application to the Minister for Local Government and to the Council's Treasurer, the National Bank, Ltd., Wicklow, for such

financial accommodation by way of temporary overdraft on the Council's General Account as may be required, and we hereby direct that the maximum amount for the quarter ending 30th September, 1947, shall not exceed £120,000.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 2: Proposed Sale of Marine Hotel.

The Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Health in connection with the proposed sale of the Marine Hotel, Wicklow:—

Copy.

Department of Health,
Custom House, Dublin.

A Chara,

25 Jul. 1947.

I am directed by the Minister for Health to state that he has had under consideration your letter of the 15th instant relative to the proposed sale of the premises known as the Marine Hotel, Wicklow, which were acquired by the Council in 1946, for conversion into a temporary fever hospital. I am to direct attention to the fact that the accommodation for fever patients in the county is entirely inadequate. The existing fever hospital accommodates 36 patients, whereas, during the past year there was 41 cases of diphtheria and 15 cases of scarlet fever in the county. The fever hospital has been consistently overcrowded and it has been found necessary in previous years to seek accommodation outside the county.

The Minister would be very reluctant, therefore, to consent to any proposal which would result in further delay in making additional beds available in the county for fever patients. He notes the Council considers that the cost—estimated at from £15,000 to £18,000—of converting the Marine Hotel into a temporary hospital would not be economic and that it proposed instead to proceed with the erection of a new fever hospital.

Responsibility for the provision of adequate hospital facilities for the inhabitants of the county rests upon the local authority which must decide, therefore, whether the proposed sale of the Marine Hotel is in the best interests of the ratepayers. Should the local authority so decide it should formulate its proposals for the provision of additional accommodation for fever patients immediately. The reception of a deputation will be considered when these proposals are submitted for consideration.

I am to add that an agreement for the sale of the premises should not be concluded until the terms have been communicated to the Minister.

Mise, le meas,

C. F. DOWLING.

Runai, Comharle Conndae Cille Mannain.

The County Manager stated that while the Fever Hospital had been overcrowded some two years previously during an epidemic of diphtheria in the district, the Hospital had not been overcrowded since that time. The building, however, was not suitable in design and the Council had decided that it was desirable to erect a new Fever Hospital in its place. Several sites had been selected for a new Fever Hospital and County Hospital, and submitted to the Department for approval. He suggested that the Department might be requested for their views on the sites submitted.

The Council affirmed the view that the Marine Hotel should be disposed of and that the Department be urged to grant approval to the proceeding with the construction of a new Fever Hospital. It was suggested that a temporary building might be constructed adjoining the existing Fever Hospital to provide additional accommodation for fever patients should such be required.

Following a discussion, it was

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That we request the Minister for Health to receive a deputation from the Council in regard to the proposed disposal of the Marine Hotel, and we request the Deputies for the County to arrange for the reception of the deputation at the earliest possible date.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 3: Renewal of Scholarships under Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarship Schemes 1943 to 1946.

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;

Resolved—That we hereby approve of the renewal for a further twelve months of the Scholarships awarded to the following ten successful candidates under Wicklow County Council's Scholarship Scheme, 1943, provided satisfactory reports as to conduct and progress of these pupils have been first obtained from the Superiors of their Schools:—

Anne J. Toal, Dominican College, Eccles St., Dublin.
Mary A. Lannon, Dominican College, Eccles St., Dublin.
Joan Bergin, Dominican College, Eccles St., Dublin.
Kathleen M. Cullen, Dominican College, Eccles St., Dublin.
Kathleen M. Tierney, St. Louis High School, Rathmines.
Richard W. Purcell, Mountjoy School, Dublin.
M. J. Kavanagh, De La Salle College, Wicklow.
Donal Bergin, C.B.S., Westland Row, Dublin.
Thomas D. Moore, Knockbeg College, Carlow.
John O'Toole, De La Salle, College, Wicklow.

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;

Resolved—That we hereby approve of the renewal for a further twelve months of the Scholarships awarded to the following six successful candidates under Wicklow County Council's Secondary Schools Scholarship Scheme, 1944, provided satisfactory reports as to conduct and progress of these pupils have been first obtained from the Superiors of their Schools:—

Michael J. Reynolds, C.B.S., North Richmond St., Dublin.
Anne P. Murray, Dominican Convent, Dun Laoghaire.
Patrick J. Tumulty, De La Salle College, Wicklow.
Terence Scading, St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny.
May Cullen, Dominican Convent, Eccles St., Dublin.
Phyllis Somers, Collegiate School, Celbridge.

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;

Resolved—That we hereby approve of the renewal for a further twelve months of the Scholarships awarded to the following six successful candidates under Wicklow County Council's Secondary Schools Scholarship Scheme, 1945, provided satisfactory reports as to conduct and progress of these pupils have been first obtained from the Superiors of their Schools:—

William Hayden, C.B.S., Synge St., Dublin.
John V. Dougan, C.B.S., Synge St., Dublin.
John N. Desmond, C.B.S., North Richmond St., Dublin.
Carmel Ni Charthaigh, Dominican College, Eccles St., Dublin.
Maire I. Nic Unraidh, Dominican College, Eccles St., Dublin.
Mary J. Kennedy, St. Mary's College, Convent of Mercy, Arklow.

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;

Resolved—That we hereby approve of the renewal for a further twelve months of the Scholarships awarded to the following twelve successful candidates under Wicklow County Council's Secondary

Schools Scholarship Scheme, 1946, provided satisfactory reports as to conduct and progress of these pupils have been first obtained from the Superiors of their Schools:—

Under Section 1 (a) of the Council's Printed Scheme:

Joseph A. Mulcahy, C.B.S., Synge St., Dublin.
Michael K. Condon, C.B.S., Synge St., Dublin.
William F. Earle, C.B.S., Synge St., Dublin.
Katherine J. Ward, Holy Faith Convent, Greystones.
Mary Murphy, Loreto Convent, Bray.

Under Section 1 (b) of the Council's Printed Scheme:

Michael Marah, St. Joseph's College, Wicklow.
James Duggan, St. Joseph's College, Wicklow.
James A. Hendley, C.B.S., St. Mary's, Enniscorthy.
Patricia Breslin, Dominican College, Dunlaoghaire.
Honoria A. O'Brien, Dominican College, Dunlaoghaire.
Patricia McDonnell, St. Joseph's Secondary School, Mountjoy St., Dublin.

Passed unanimously.

The Secretary stated that the results of the Examination for Scholarships under the Council's Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarship Scheme, 1947, had been received that morning. Forty-eight applicants had been approved of whom seven did not sit for the examination. Of the forty-one candidates who competed at the examination sixteen had passed. One of these, however, was ineligible for the award of a Scholarship. For the Rural Scholarships eight boys had been successful and two girls, and for the Urban Scholarships three boys and two girls. Since only two girls had qualified for Rural Scholarships the third Scholarship was transferred to the next boy, who had qualified, and since only two girls had qualified for Urban Scholarships, and only three boys, the remaining Urban Scholarship of £25 would be awarded to the next successful candidate from the Rural District.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That in accordance with the Local Authorities (Education Scholarships) Act, 1944 (Sec. 6) we hereby approve of Scholarships being awarded to the following successful candidates under Wicklow County Council's Secondary School Scholarship Scheme, 1947:—

Under Section 1 (a) of the Council's Printed Scheme:

Joseph T. Murphy, C.B.S., Greystones.
John Patrick Hayden, C.B.S., Greystones.
Cathal Vincent Cullen, Rathcove N.S.
Catherine B. Byrne, Rathcove N.S.
Kathleen Keddy, St. Brigid's N.S., Greystones.
William Patrick Whiston, C.B.S., Greystones.

Under Section 1 (b) of the Council's Printed Scheme:

Gabriel F. Haughton, St. Joseph's College, Wicklow.
Finbar G. Kehoe, St. Joseph's College, Wicklow.
Andrew Phillips, St. Joseph's College, Wicklow.
Elizabeth M. Ivory, St. Philomena's, Ravenswell Convent, Bray.
Doreen Pyke, St. Philomena's, Ravenswell Convent, Bray.
James Joseph Martin, C.B.S., Blacklion, Greystones.

Passed unanimously.

Appointment of Members to Baltinglass Old Age Pensions Sub-Committee:

Councillor B. Farrell stated that the Baltinglass Old Age Pensions Sub-Committee had recommended the appointment of the following three persons to fill the vacancies on the Sub-Committee arising from the resignation of Rev. M. Parker, Rev. Fr. McDonnell, and Councillor P. P. O'Reilly:—

Rev. C. B. Champ, Baltinglass; Mr. Paul Kehoe, Baltinglass, and Mr. Hugh C. Doyle, Baltinglass.

Proposed by Councillor B. Farrell;

Seconded by Councillor J. Jacob;

Resolved—That we appoint the undermentioned persons as members of Baltinglass Old Age Pensions Sub-Committee in place of persons who have resigned:—

Rev. C. B. Champ, Baltinglass.
Mr. Paul Kehoe, Baltinglass.
Mr. Hugh C. Doyle, Baltinglass.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 5: Arrangements for the Collection of Rates in No. 2 District and in No. 4/5 District.

The Secretary stated that Mr. Patrick Burke, Collector for No. 4/5 Collection District, was still under suspicion. It was expected, however, that the Minister's decision on the matter would be received very shortly, and it was suggested that the Council might approve of the issue of the Demand Notes from the Office.

The Council agreed to this procedure being adopted.

Mr. John A. Doyle, Rate Collector, No. 2 District, had tendered his resignation from the position. It would be necessary for the Council to fix the conditions of appointment for the permanent position, and to authorize the advertising of the post.

The Secretary suggested that in this case also the Council might approve of the issue of the Demand Notes from the office pending a permanent appointment which it was hoped might be made at the next meeting.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond;

That we approve of the collection of rates for the No. 2 Collection District from the County Council Offices pending the permanent appointment of a Collector.

Proposed by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.;

Seconded by Councillor P. Doyle;

That we appoint a temporary Rate Collector for No. 2 Collection District pending the making of a permanent appointment.

A vote having been called for on Councillor Byrne's motion, it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

In Favour—Councillors W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, Dr. J. J. Hickey, W. Lawless, C. M. Byrne—(7).

Against—Councillors J. J. McCrea, P. McCarthy, P. Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Matcafe, H. J. Byrne, Ed. Byrne, Sean Dunne, J. Everett, T.D., and Joseph Jacob—(10).

The motion was declared lost by ten votes against to seven in favour.

Councillor J. Everett's motion was declared carried on the same voting.

Councillor Sean Dunne inquired if any applications had been received for the position.

The Secretary stated that an application had been received from Mr. Michael Byrne, Balymaconey, Rathdangan, Kiltegan.

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;

Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;

That we appoint Mr. Michael Byrne as temporary Rate Collector for No. 2 Collection District, pending the permanent appointment of a collector.

Proposed by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.;

Seconded by Councillor P. Doyle;

That we appoint Mr. Michael Farrell as temporary Rate Collector No. 2 District pending the permanent appointment of a Collector.

A vote having been called for it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

For Mr. Michael Byrne—Councillors W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Wm. Lawless, C. M. Byrne—(8).

For Mr. Michael Farrell—Councillors J. J. McCrea, P. McCarthy, P. Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, Edward Byrne, Sean Dunne, Jas. Everett, T.D., and Joseph Jacob—(9).

Mr. Michael Farrell was declared appointed temporary Rate Collector for No. 2 Collection District by nine votes in his favour to eight votes for Mr. Michael Byrne.

The Secretary suggested that the conditions of appointment for the position of Rate Collector in No. 2 Collection District might be similar to those approved by the Minister for No. 3. District, where an appointment was recently made, namely:—

Person appointed must be:—

- (a) of good character;
- (b) have attained the age of 21 years on or before the 1st August 1947;
- (c) be free from any defect or disease which would render him/her unsuitable to hold the office and be in a state of health such as would indicate a reasonable ability to render regular and efficient service;
- (d) possess a standard of education at least equal to that of National School 7th Standard, or such as would enable him/her to keep the required books and accounts.

Any woman holding the office shall be either unmarried or a widow.

The office would be permanent, part-time and non-pensionable, and remuneration would be by poundage rates, as fixed by the Council and approved by the Minister.

The Warrant for the current year for the District, inclusive of arrears, was £5,173 7s. 6d. The estimated poundage and bonus payable in respect of the collection for the current year would be £160.

Proposed by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.;

Seconded by Councillor P. Doyle;

Resolved—That we approve of the terms of appointment for Rate Collector, No. 2 Collection District, as outlined by the County Secretary, viz. post to be permanent, part-time and non-pensionable; minimum age limit 21 years—no upper age limit.

Item No. 6: Road at Oldcourt Park, Bray.

The Secretary read the following letter received from the Irish Sailors and Soldiers Land Trust in regard to the road at Oldcourt Park, Bray:—

THE SAILORS AND SOLDIERS LAND TRUST,

51 Upper Mount St., Dublin.

1st July, 1947.

Re: Road at Oldcourt Park, Bray.

Dear Sir

With reference to your letter of 20th June and previous correspondence, the matter has now been considered by the Trustees by whom I am authorised to say that the Trust are prepared to pay up to £920 (the amount of the County Engineer's estimate) for the reconstruction of the road, on the understanding that the Council will accept the transfer of the freehold from the Trust relieving them of all responsibility for the maintenance of the road in the future.

A cheque for the amount expended by the Council not exceeding £920, will be forwarded on completion of the work, and the execution of the transfer.

Yours faithfully, Director.

K. J. Brangan Esq., County Secretary, Wicklow County Council, Courthouse, Wicklow.

Proposed by Councillor Sean Dunne;

Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Resolved—That we accept the terms of the offer of the Irish Sailors and Soldiers Land Trust, as set out in their letter of 1st July, 1947, and we approve of the taking over of this road by the Council.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 7: Water Supply and Sewerage Schemes.

The Secretary stated that a complaint had been received from residents in the district in regard to the condition of the Templecarrig Water Supply. The Complaint had been investigated by the County Engineer, who reported that the Templecarrig supply could be connected to the Council's existing supply, or alternatively Dublin Corporation Main could be extended to Redford. If any considerable amount of building was expected in the area he would recommend a Corporation Supply. Estimated costs as follows:—

Extension of Dublin Corporation Main	£700
Templecarrig Supply Extension	£260

The County Engineer later gave his opinion that there was likely to be considerable development in the district.

The Council approved of the proposal to extend the Dublin Corporation Main to Redford at the estimated cost of £700.

The Secretary stated that approval had been received from the Department of Local Government to the proposed Water and Sewerage Scheme for 19 houses at Dunlavin Lower. The estimated cost of the Scheme was £2,912 7s. 1d.

For some time past the proposal to provide a Pump for the residents of Dillonsdown near Blessington, had been under consideration. Since a number of families, which would be served by the pump resided in County Kildare, the Kildare County Council was asked to share the cost of providing the pump. Kildare County Council, however, had decided to erect a Pump for the residents in that area, and it was considered desirable that the Council should also erect a pump for the families residing in the Wicklow area. The provision of a water supply was strongly recommended by the County Medical Officer of Health, since the present supply is situated nearly a mile away and is liable to contamination.

The approval of the Council to the expenditure of £150 for the provision of this pump was requested. The Council agreed to the proposal to provide a pump at Willonstown at an estimated cost of £150.

The Secretary also stated that the Corporation of Dublin had now agreed to the proposed Sewerage Scheme for Ballyknocken and Valéymount, and an amended estimate had been prepared by the Co. Engineer in the figure of £6,660 12s. 5d. Since the plans for this work had been considered by the Department of Local Government some years ago, it was understood that approval to the Scheme would be received very shortly.

The County Manager suggested that the Council might approve of the raising of a Loan for the carrying out of the works already mentioned, and in addition Carnew (Mill Lane) Sewerage Scheme, and Arklow Rock Water Supply.

Proposed by Councillor W. Lawless;

Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Resolved—That we approve of the raising of a Loan of £11,800 for the provision of Water and Sewerage Scheme as follows:—

Dunlavin Sewerage Extension	£2,912
Ballyknocken and Valéymount Sewerage	£6,600
Templecarrig Water Supply (Connection to Corporation Main)	£700
Carnew Sewerage (Mill Lane)	£827
Dillonsdown Pump	£150
Arklow Rock Water Supply	£600

Passed, Councillor J. J. Metcalfe dissenting.

Item No. 8: Experimental Sewage Disposal Plant.

The County Manager stated that an application had been received from Major J. W. Wall, for permission to instal a Demonstration Sewage Disposal Plant, of his own design and at his own cost at the existing Sewage Disposal Works, Greystones. Major Wall had designed a new type of sewage disposal plant, which, if it proved effective, would be of considerable benefit to local authorities, and would reduce the cost of sewerage schemes very considerably.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Resolved—That permission be granted to Major J. W. Wall for the purpose of constructing an experimental Sewage Disposal Works at Greystones.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 9: Resolution from County Committee of Agriculture in regard to acquisition of house at Market Square, Wicklow.

The Secretary stated that the following resolution had been received from the County Committee of Agriculture.

Resolved—That we are prepared in the matter of Co. Vize's application to recommend to the County Council that they acquire the house in which the Committee's Offices are situated, if procurable at a reasonable or economic price.

The premises are held from Colonel Vize at a yearly rent of £40 plus rates, and the Committee had the option to renew the tenancy at the end of each year. Col. Vize is leaving the town of Wicklow, and desires to dispose of the premises.

Following a discussion, it was

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond;

Resolved—That the Council enter into negotiations with Col. Vize in regard to the proposed purchase of the offices occupied by the County Committee of Agriculture.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 10: Resolution from County Committee of Agriculture in regard to sheep which died following dipping.

The following Resolution had been received from the County Committee of Agriculture:—

Resolved—That we request the County Manager to compensate Miss H. Thompson and Mr. D. Curran, Bustyghath, Woodenbridge, in the matter of two sheep each lost after dipping at Johnstown in August, 1946, as we gather our Veterinary Inspector certified that the sheep died as a result of dipping.

At the request of the members the County Secretary gave particulars of the reports received from the Council's Veterinary Inspector and the Sheep Dipping Inspector on the matter. The Council's Law Agent had advised that the Council could not accept liability in the matter, and the Council's Insurers had also refused to admit liability. In view of the report submitted the Council agreed that it was not possible to take any further action in the matter.

Item No. 11: Attendance of Assistance Engineers at Council Meetings.

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

That the County Engineer's reports be considered by the Council at the Meetings held in May, August, November and February, and that unless specially summoned, the Assistant County Engineers be required to attend only at these Meetings.

A vote having been called for, it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

In Favour—Councillors J. J. McCrea, W. Hammond, J. J. Metcalfe, Dr. J. J. Hickey and Sean Dunne—(5).

Against—Councillors P. McCarthy, T. Brennan, T.D., P. Doyle, B. Farrell, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Ed. Byrne, W. Lawless, Jas. Everett, T.D.; C. M. Byrne—(10).

The motion was declared defeated by ten votes against five in favour.

Item No. 12: Taking of Eggs of Wild Birds.

The Secretary read the following letter received from the Irish Society for the Protection of Birds.

IRISH SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF BIRDS,

32, Wellington Road, Dublin.

Secretary, Wicklow County Council.

Dear Sir,

My Committee has learned that the export of the eggs of gulls on a large scale is planned to take place during the current nesting season. The only way to prevent the great harm that such a wholesale robbery of nests would cause to agriculture by the loss of great numbers of birds most useful in the destruction of insects and other pests—particularly the blackheaded gull—is for an order to be made prohibiting the taking of the eggs of all birds except Hoodie Crows or Magpies.

Under Section 7 of the Wild Birds Protection Act, 1930, the Minister for Justice may on the application of a County Council or County Borough make an order prohibiting the taking of the eggs of any wild bird within each County or County Borough.

My Committee feel sure that any such application would receive favourable consideration by the Minister and therefore ask that you will be good enough to give the matter your urgent attention.

Yours faithfully,

A. G. MASON, Hon. Sec.

Irish Society for the Protection of Birds.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Resolved—That having considered representations made by the Irish Society for the Protection of Wild Birds, we hereby apply to the Minister for Justice requesting the Minister to make an Order under the Wild Birds Protection Act, 1930, prohibiting the taking of eggs of any wild bird within the County Wicklow.

Passed, Councillor W. Hammond dissenting.

Item No. 13: Leasing of Tinahely Courthouse.

In accordance with Notice of Motion, Councillor P. Doyle proposed that the Courthouse at Tinahely be leased to Killaveney Parish Committee for a period of 25 years at a rent of £15 per annum, conditional on a formal undertaking being given to make the premises available for courthouse purposes from time to time as and when required, and the option of purchase by the Killaveney Parish Committee to be included in the Agreement.

The Chairman stated that this matter had been raised by him at the January Meeting, and that he understood that the Minister for Justice had been approached.

The Secretary read the following letter which had been received from the Department of Justice in regard to the Council's previous resolution:—

16th April, 1947.

With reference to your letter of 10th ultimo relative to a resolution passed by Wicklow County Council regarding the leasing of the Courthouse at Tinahely to the local Parish Committee, for parochial purposes, I am directed by the Minister for Justice to inform you that he is precluded by the provisions of Section 9 (1) of the Courthouses (Provisions and Maintenance) Act, 1935, for agreeing to the suggested lease.

The Secretary stated that the Section of the Act referred to provided that the District Court Clerk who has the custody and control of the Courthouse might let it out on hire whenever he thought proper to any person for any purpose for any period or periods at such charge and on such conditions as he thought proper, subject to the

limitations that the letting would be by way of licence to use and occupy and not by way of tenancy, and that the letting would not interfere with or prejudice the use of the Courthouse for Court purposes.

Proposed by Councillor P. Doyle;
Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond;

Resolved—That we request the County Manager to approach the Minister for Justice again in regard to the leasing of the Tinahely Courthouse to Killavenny Parish Committee.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 14: Sale of Land at Bray Head.

The Secretary stated that a letter had been received from Messrs. Stokes and Quirke, Auctioneers, drawing attention to proposed sale of 90 acres of land at Bray Head by auction. Since the Bray Urban District Council was considering the matter, the County Council decided to mark the letter "Read".

Item No. 15: Resolution from Leitrim Co. Council re increases in salaries of The President, Deputies and Senators.

The following resolution, received from Leitrim County Council was submitted:—

"That this Council strongly protests against recent legislation proposing to increase the salary of the President, and the allowances of Deputies and Senators, and we call on the President not to sign the Bills until the common people have expressed their views by means of a referendum. We would remind Deputies who have supported the proposals and Senators who intend to support them, that they had no hesitation or qualms of conscience in opposing a recent motion which proposed an increase in Blind and Old Age Pensions—an increase which this Council has recommended by Resolution on more than one occasion."

The adoption of the resolution was proposed by Councillor Dunne and seconded by Councillor W. Hammond.

A vote having been called for it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

In Favour—Councillors J. J. McCrea, W. Hammond, J. J. Metcalfe, Dr. J. J. Hickey, and S. Dunne—(5).

Against—Councillors P. McCarthy, T. Brennan, T.D.; B. Farrell, J. O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Ed. Byrne, J. Everett, T.D.; W. Lawless—(8).

The Motion was declared defeated by eight votes against to five in favour.

Item No. 16: Resolution of Sligo County Council re increased pensions for ex-National Teachers.

The following resolution received from Sligo County Council was adopted unanimously:—

"That we the Members of the Sligo County Council beg to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that no increase of pensions has been granted to ex-National Teachers notwithstanding the greatly increased cost of living since 1939. We request that immediate action be taken by the Government to increase the pensions to equal the cost of living, and that copies of this resolution be forwarded to all County Councils in Eire.

Item No. 17: Resolution from Galway County Council re productive employment.

The following resolution received from Galway County Council was marked "Read":—

"That Galway County Council requests all public representatives and public-spirited persons to do all in their power to encourage and assist young men and girls to obtain employment which will increase the supply of the goods and services which are most needed by the nation rather than in the luxury trades, or in unproductive work."

Item No. 18: Minutes of Meeting of Co. Council's General Council.

The County Council asked that the Minutes of the Meeting of the County Council's General Council be circulated to the members.

Item No. 19: Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.

Councillor B. Farrell referred to the Order directing that quotations be obtained from local victuallers for the supply of mutton, beef and bacon for Baltinglass Hospital, and stated that certain local victuallers had not been asked to quote.

The County Manager stated that all local victuallers would receive an opportunity to quote as was intended.

Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., stated that the Water Supply in Carnew District at present was inadequate due to lack of pressure. The County Engineer stated that the Assistant Engineer would visit Carnew on the following Wednesday to attend to the matter.

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., and Councillor P. McCarthy referred to the recent increase in Old Age Pensions, and stated that apparently in some cases the allowance of Home Assistance to Old Age Pensioners in Wicklow and Arklow had been reduced, so that the pensioners were receiving less than they had received prior to the increase in Pension. They inquired whether any instructions had been issued to reduce the amount of Home Assistance by the amount of the increase in Pension.

The County Manager stated as far as he was aware in the Urban Districts of Wicklow and Arklow the existing allowances of Home Assistance had been continued to Old Age Pensioners following an increase in the rate of Old Age Pensions. No general instruction, however, had been issued, and each case was considered on its merits.

Councillor W. Lawless asked permission to refer to a statement at a previous meeting in regard to the approval of an application for a cottage under the New Scheme, made by a Councillor. He stated that it was the Councillor referred to, and explained the circumstances which lead to his applying for a new cottage. The County Medical Officer of Health had recommended the application, and he protested against the statement made by the Councillor at the previous meeting.

Flood Damage to Roads and Bridges.

The Secretary read the following report received from the County Engineer in regard to damage to roads and bridges as a result of floods on the morning of 2nd August, 1947:—

"I regret to report that a very considerable amount of damage was done to several roads and many Bridges and Culverts as a result of a sudden rain cloud burst which occurred on the morning of 2nd August, 1947. The rain storm, very fortunately, was more or less localised and the severest damage, therefore, was confined to relatively small areas and strangely enough did not happen in the extreme mountainous districts to a severe extent. The districts affected appear to be localised for an area of about 5 or 6 miles round Wicklow Town with some outside places such as Newtown, Killoeddar, Bray, De'gany, Enniskerry district.

"I attach details of the various items, roads and bridges, which were damaged and estimates of cost of repairs and restoration, the total estimate being: Main Roads £2275; County Roads £3325; Total £5600.

"It might be possible to get Government Grants-in-aid for the Bridges, but in the meantime, the necessary work must proceed.

(Signed)—J. T. O'BYRNE,
11th August, 1947."

The Secretary stated that a more detailed report would be available at the next meeting.

The following Notice of Motion was handed in by Councillor P. McCarthy and accepted by the Chairman:—

"I hereby give notice that I will move, or someone else for me, that the question of Scholarship fees under Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarship Schemes be reconsidered at the next statutory meeting of the Council."

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow at 11.30 a.m. on Monday, 8th Sept., 1947.

The following members were present:—

Councillor J. J. McCrea, Chairman;
Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, P. Doyle, T. Brennan, T.D.; Wm. Cleary, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Peter Ledwidge, Edward Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Sean Dunne, Liam O Laoighis, J. Everett, T.D.; C. M. Byrne, and Joseph Jacob. The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, was in attendance. The County Engineer and Assistant Engineer, P. J. Foley, B.E., were also present.

AGENDA.

- To confirm and sign Minutes of Meetings of Wicklow Co. Council held on 14th July, 1947, and 11th August, 1947.
- To pass the usual resolution in connection with the Council's application for (a) overdraft accommodation on the Council's General Account for the quarter to the 31st December, 1947, and (b) overdraft accommodation on the Council's Turf Production Account for the same period.
- To consider applications received for the position of Rate Collector No. 2 Collection District.
- To consider report on the deputation to the Minister for Health in regard to the proposed disposal of the Marine Hotel, Wicklow.
- To consider the County Engineer's report on Tenders received for the reconstruction of Tourboy Bridge and Kilcarney Bridge.
- To consider letter from Mr. A. Cullen, Solicitor for Col. Vize, in regard to the proposal to acquire the premises at Market Square, Wicklow, used as offices by the County Committee of Agriculture.
- To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor P. McCarthy:—
"I hereby give notice that I or some member for me, will move at the next meeting of the Council that the question of Scholarship Fees under Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarship Schemes be re-considered."
- To authorise the raising of a loan of £1,250 for the purchase of Fire Engine Trailer Pump and equipment.
- Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.

Adjournment of Meeting:

As a Meeting of the County Vocational Education Committee had been arranged for 12 o'clock noon, on that date, the Council decided to adjourn and to resume business after lunch at 1.15 p.m.

Item No. 1—Minutes:

The County Secretary stated that the Minutes of the Meetings held on 14th July, 1947, and 11th August, 1947, had only been received in the office on the previous Saturday, 6th September, and would be distributed to the members of the Council during the Meeting. The Council agreed to defer consideration of the Minutes to the next Meeting.

Item No. 2—Overdraft Accommodation—General Account.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Resolved—That we hereby authorise our County Secretary to make application to the Minister for Local Government and to the Council's Treasurer, the National Bank Ltd., Wicklow, for such financial accommodation by way of temporary overdraft on the County Council's General Accounts as may be required, and we hereby direct that the Maximum amount for the quarter to the 31st December, 1947, shall not exceed £80,000.

Passed unanimously.

Turf Production Account:

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
Resolved—That we hereby authorise our County Secretary to make application to the Minister for Local Government and to the Council's Treasurer, The National Bank, Ltd., Wicklow, for such financial accommodation by way of temporary overdraft on the County Council's Turf Account as may be required, and we hereby direct that the maximum amount for the Quarter to the 31st December, 1947, shall not exceed £10,000.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 3—Appointment of Rate Collector No. 2 Collection District.

The County Secretary stated that in response to public advertisement, two applications had been received for the position of Rate Collector for No. 2 Collection District, as follows:—

Mr. Michael Byrne, Ballymaconey, Rathdangan;
Mr. Michael T. Farrell, Slaney View, Manager, Stratford-on-Slaney.
Both candidates qualified for the position.

Proposed by Councillor John O'Reilly;
Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;
That subject to the sanction of the Minister for Local Government, we hereby appoint Mr. Michael Byrne, Ballymaconey, Rathdangan, as Rate Collector for No. 2 Collection District, in accordance with qualifications and particulars of office approved by the Minister for the position.

Proposed by Councillor P. Doyle;
Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;
That subject to the sanction of the Minister for Local Government, we hereby appoint Mr. Michael T. Farrell, Slaney View, Manager, Stratford-on-Slaney, as Rate Collector for No. 2 Collection District, in accordance with the qualifications and particulars of office approved by the Minister for the position.

A vote having been called for it was found that the members present voted as follows:—
For Mr. Michael Byrne—Councillors W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; Wm. Cleary, P. P. O'Reilly, J. O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, P. Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Wm. Lawless and C. M. Byrne—(10).
For Mr. Michael T. Farrell—Councillors J. J. McCrea, P. McCarthy, P. Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, Ed. Byrne, Sean Dunne, J. Everett, T.D. and Joseph Jacob—(9).
Mr. Michael Byrne was accordingly declared appointed to the position of Rate Collector for No. 2 District, by ten votes in favour to nine votes in favour of Mr. Michael T. Farrell.

Item No. 4—Marine Hotel, Wicklow.

The County Secretary read the following report in regard to the deputation to the Minister for Health, concerning the proposal to dispose of the Marine Hotel, Wicklow:—

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.
Proposed Disposal of the Marine Hotel, Wicklow—Deputation to the MINISTER FOR HEALTH.

On Monday, 1st September, 1947, the following deputation attended on the Minister for Health at his office in Dublin Castle, for the purpose of discussing with him the proposal to dispose of the Marine Hotel, Wicklow:—

Messrs. T. Brennan, T.D., M.C.C.; J. Everett, T.D., M.C.C.; J. J. McCrea, Chairman, Wicklow Co. Council; J. Toner (representing Wicklow Industrial Development Association); and the County Manager.

The reasons for the decision of the County Council to make the Marine Hotel available for industrial purposes, were briefly outlined to the Minister. It was explained to the Minister that there were two alternatives to the proposed conversion of the Marine Hotel into a temporary Fever Hospital:—

1. the erection of a new permanent Fever Hospital on one of the sites submitted some time ago for approval;
2. the construction of additions to the present Fever Hospital.

If it were considered that pending the erection of a new Fever Hospital temporary additional accommodation should be provided then the Council considered that instead of converting the Marine Hotel, additions might be constructed in the grounds of the present institution. This solution, moreover, would seem to be a less costly one than the conversion of the Marine Hotel. The Council's Medical Advisers had submitted particulars of the requisite additional accommodation, and the County Engineer had agreed that the grounds of the present Fever Hospital could be used for these extensions.

The Minister stated that it was agreed that a new General Co. Hospital would be required for Wicklow, but that at present it was not easy to determine the long-term requirements for a new Fever Hospital. As a result of preventative measures taken in recent years, such as diphtheria immunisation, there had been a reduction in the incidence of infectious disease, which seemed to indicate that the Fever Hospital accommodation required in the future might not be on the same scale as that necessary in the past. There were at present a number of temporary institutions in use throughout the country similar to the Fever Hospital in Wicklow. Under present circumstances it would seem a more desirable course to make temporary accommodation available in the extensions to the present Fever Hospital could be submitted at an early date, and it was indicated to him that they would be furnished to his Department without delay.

The Minister inquired as to whether the proposal to dispose of the Marine Hotel would result in any loss to the Council, and he was informed by the deputation that the Council would expect to receive for it at least a sum sufficient to cover the cost of acquisition, and all expenses incurred in the meantime.

Details in connection with proposed factory were supplied by the deputation to the Minister. It was pointed out that the factory would furnish considerable employment, and that the building at the Marine Hotel and adjacent site were essential to its establishment.

The Minister indicated to the deputation that he was favourably disposed to the application of the County Council, and asked that details be supplied of the arrangements for providing additional accommodation for fever cases in the grounds of the present institution, and of the price at which it was proposed to dispose of the Marine Hotel.

Wicklow County Manager.
2nd September, 1947.
The following letter, received from the Department of Health was also read:—

Department of Health,
Custom House, Dublin,
4 Mean Fomhair, 1947.

P. (V.W.) 1082/47.
A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Health to refer to your letter of 12th ultimo in connection with the proposed disposal of the Marine Hotel premises and to state that he sees no objection to the sale of these premises, on condition that the additional accommodation for fever cases mentioned in the penultimate paragraph of your letter be provided with all possible expedition.

Mise, le meas,
C. F. DOWLING.

An Runai,

Comhairle Contae Chille Manntain.
The County Manager stated that he had consulted the County Medical Officer of Health and the Medical Officer to the Fever Hospital, and it was considered that the proposed extensions to the existing Fever Hospital should provide accommodation as follows: Three 2-bed Wards; Two 1-bed Wards; One Disinfection Chamber; One Sluice Room; One Apartment for the Storage of Food; One Bedroom for Head Nurse; and Two Bedrooms for Nurses. He pointed out that the existing Hospital contained only four wards and the necessity for segregation of the different types of fever cases might mean that the total bed complement could not be used. The proposed extensions would provide a total of 9 wards containing 28 beds. The County Engineer had estimated the cost of the extensions at approximately £8,000.

Proposed by Councillor Liam O'Cleary;
Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
Resolved—That we note that the Minister for Health is prepared to agree to the disposal of the premises known as the Marine Hotel, Wicklow, subject to additional accommodation being otherwise provided for fever cases, and we hereby approve of the sale of the Marine Hotel to the Company which is being promoted for the establishment of a new industry in this building, and on the adjoining site, the sale price of the premises to be such as will meet all costs and liabilities of the Council in connection with their acquisition, and proposed conversion of the Company also to meet all legal or other costs attaching to this sale of the premises to them.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 5—Reconstruction of Tourboy and Kilcarney Bridges.

The County Secretary stated that the County Engineer had reported on the Tenders received in response to public advertisement for the reconstruction of Tourboy Bridge and Kilcarney Bridge. Only one Tender had been received from Messrs. Lee, Arklow, in the sum of £2,531 5s. 8d. for Tourboy Bridge and £1,272 for Kilcarney Bridge. The original preliminary estimate for these works was Tourboy £1,269 16s. 10d. and Kilcarney £776 15s. Total £2,047 11s. 10d. In view, however, of the expected increase in cost, provision had been made in the Road Works Scheme for a Loan of £3,000. The total cost in accordance with the tenders received would now be £3,803 5s. 8d.

Proposed by Councillor B. Farrell;
Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
Resolved—That having considered tenders received for the reconstruction of Bridges at Tourboy and Kilcarney, we hereby authorise the raising of a Loan of £3,800 in respect of these works and we request the Department of Local Government to make a substantial grant towards the cost of the works.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 6—Proposed Purchase of Premises at Market Square, Wicklow.

The County Secretary read the following letter received by the Council's Law Agent from the Solicitor to Colonel Joseph Vize:—
Church St., Wicklow.
27th August, 1947.

Colonel Joseph Vize re Premises in Market Square.

Dear Sir,
I am in receipt of your letter of the 14th inst. and note that the County Council are prepared to consider the acquisition of the premises in Market Square, the property of my client.

The premises are held under lease dated 21st June, 1898, for the term of 75 years from the 25th March, 1893, at the apportioned yearly rent of £1.

The title is perfect, and as you are aware the premises have been set to the County Committee of Agriculture for the yearly rent of £40 free from all rates and taxes.

The premises are in excellent repair and in a very suitable location.

On the question of price my client considers that the sum of £1,200 would be a very reasonable figure, and you may accordingly accept that figure as the selling price.

If it should happen that you desire any further information, kindly let me know.

As you are aware the sale is in the hands of Messrs. Clarke, Deahunt and Co., Auctioneers, Wicklow, and their commission on will of course have to be paid on the amount of the purchase money.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed)—AUGUSTUS CULLEN.

Joseph Brazil, Esq.,
Solicitor, Wicklow.
The County Secretary stated that the Poor Law Valuation of the premises was £13 and the rates for the current year amounted to £19 10s.

On the proposal of Councillor W. Lawless, seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey, the Council agreed that an independent valuation of the premises should be obtained and recommended the employment for the purpose of Mr. Denis Condren, Auctioneer, Arklow.

Item No. 7—Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarship Schemes.

Councillor P. McCarthy proposed that an increase in the value of the Scholarships awarded under the Council's Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarship Schemes should be granted.
The County Secretary stated that during the years 1923/24 to 1927/28 the value of the Scholarships was £65 for the first year and £55 in subsequent years. From 1927/28 to 1943/44 only one Scheme was operated. From 1934/44 onwards the value of Rural Scholarships was £50 for the first year and £45 in each subsequent year. Urban Scholarships value £25 each were also awarded in the years 1946 and 1947. The amount provided for Scholarships in the current year was £2,015.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Seconded by Councillor J. J. McCrea;
Resolved—That the amounts of the Scholarships awarded under the Council's Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarship Schemes be increased as to Rural Scholarships to £65 per annum for the first year and £55 in each subsequent year, as from the school year commencing in September, 1947, and we authorise the necessary expenditure to meet the cost required.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 8—Loan of £1,250 for purchase of Fire Engine, Etc.

The County Secretary referred to the resolution passed at the Meeting held on 23rd June, 1947, authorising the raising of Loan of £1,250 for the purchase of Fire Engine, and to cover renewals of hose and equipment, and the construction of Fire Stations at Tinahely and Dunlavin. The County Engineer had since reported that it would be possible to adopt the existing premises at Tinahely and Dunlavin, and recommended that a greater quantity of hose be purchased. He recommended that the Loan of £1,250 be expended as follows:—

Fire Engine	£455 0 0
Trailer Pump	£14 10 0
Extension Ladder	£8 15 0
Suction Collection Head	£93 15 0
500 ft. hose—rubber lined 2 1/2"	£583 6 8
4,000 ft. Canvas hose 2 1/2" @ 2s. 11d.	
	£1,250 6 8

The Department of Local Government had indicated it would be necessary for the Council to pass a fresh resolution in view of the change in the proposed expenditure of the Loan.

Promoted by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Resolution—That we hereby authorise the raising of a Loan of £1,500 for the purchase of a Fire Engine, Tractor Pump and equipment for use in western areas of the County in accordance with recommendation of the County Engineer.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 9—County Manager's Orders.

Letting of Cottage at Killincarrig.

Councillor Sean Dunne referred to the recent allocation of a vacant cottage at Killincarrig to Mr. O'Reilly, and pointed out that an advertisement had since appeared in the "Wicklow People" in regard to an auction of the cottage previously occupied by Mr. O'Reilly. He stated that it would appear from the advertisement that the cottage was quite a large building, and desired to know whether the Manager was satisfied that Mr. O'Reilly was the most deserving applicant for the cottage allocated to him.

The County Manager stated that Mr. O'Reilly's application had been recommended by the Medical Officer for the District and also by the County Medical Officer of Health. He pointed out that the Poor Law Valuation of the house was only £1 and that from the information available to him he understood that only two rooms in the cottage had been in use.

Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey stated that he was aware of the facts of the case, and that he was of the opinion that the cottage was quite unfit for human habitation.

The Chairman, supported by other members, suggested that it would be desirable that the local Councillors be consulted in regard to the letting of cottages as in many cases they would be able to give useful information in regard to the applicants.

The County Manager stated that in future he would arrange for list of the names and addresses of applicants for cottages to be sent to the Councillors for the area concerned.

Holiday Pay for Carters.

Councillor Sean Dunne inquired whether carters employed by the day received holiday pay. He mentioned the case of a carter named Mitchell in Bray who had not been paid for holidays.

The Secretary stated that where a carter was insured he was entitled to holiday pay, and stated that the matter would be investigated.

Payment of Workers for Saturdays.

Councillor Sean Dunne, supported by Councillor P. McCarthy, pointed out that workers, who were unable to attend for work on Saturdays lost a full day's pay, though they would normally have to work a half day. He suggested that workers should be paid according to the number of hours worked in such cases.

The Secretary stated that arrangements would be made accordingly.

Salary of Accountant.

The County Secretary referred to the Order, dated 18th August, 1947, placing Mr. L. W. O'Connell, Accountant, on the maximum of the revised salary scale for County Accountant, as from 1st January, and stated that the Department had indicated that approval would be given to the Order if the Council provided the necessary funds.

Members of the Council had raised this question at an earlier meeting. The Council approved of the Order, and agreed as to the provision of the necessary funds.

Erection of Piggery on Cottage Plot.

Councillor W. Lawless referred to the County Manager's Order refusing permission to Mr. Edward Power, Church Road, Newtownmountkennedy, to erect a piggery on his cottage plot. He stated that it was desirable that cottage tenants be granted such permission and encouraged to keep pigs.

The County Manager stated that under the Public Health Acts the keeping of pigs within built-up areas was prohibited and that Newtownmountkennedy would come within the provisions of the Act.

The Council expressed the view that the Manager should reconsider his Order in the matter.

Installation of Oil Burners at County Home.

Councillor W. Hammond inquired whether the saving in cost of the installation of Oil Burners in the County Home would amount to £7 per day, as stated.

The County Manager stated that it was expected that a considerable saving would be effected, and that at any rate it was most desirable that this alternative system be provided.

Ballyknocken Sewerage Scheme.

Councillor J. J. Metcalfe inquired whether the Manager was satisfied that any great number of connections would be made to the Sewerage System at Ballyknocken when installed.

The County Manager stated that the Scheme was originally proposed on account of the possible contamination of the Dublin Water Supply at Poulaphuca. The Board of Health had decided at that time not to proceed with the Scheme in view of the disagreement with the Dublin Corporation in regard to suggested contribution of the Corporation to the cost of the work. A revised Scheme had recently been submitted to the Council and approved by them.

Councillor P. P. O'Reilly stated that he was satisfied that the Scheme would be availed of in the District.

Repair of Flood Damage.

Councillor J. Everett, T.D. asked that the stones and debris at the side of Marlton Road, adjoining the site of the forge which had been washed away during the recent flood, be removed to allow the erection of a new forge, and also requested that repairs be carried out to the bye-road between Annamoe and Laragh.

Rate of Pay for Builders' Labourers.

Councillor J. Everett, T.D. asked that the Council authorise increased rate of pay to builders' labourers who had received no increase recently.

The County Secretary stated that the Department of Local Government had sanctioned payment of tradesmen and labourers "at rates not exceeding those generally recognised for persons in analogous or comparable employments in the different areas in the County." Rates had been agreed between Employees Union and the Federation of Builders, Contractors and Allied Employers as regards tradesmen, and as regards labourers in the Urban Areas and in the Area adjoining Greystones. No agreement, however, appeared to have been reached in regard to labourers in the rest of the County Health District.

The Secretary stated he had been in communication with the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union, and the Federation of Rural Workers, and had been informed by the former Union that the Union was in touch with the Builders Federation and would inform the Council as soon as a new rate was agreed upon.

Dismissal of Workmen.

The Chairman stated that he had received a letter from Mr. Frank Whittle, The Green, Dunlavin, who had been dismissed from his employment by the Council. He stated that he had been employed by the Council for the past 26 years.

Assistant Surveyor P. J. Foley, B.E., explained how the employee in question had on two occasions disregarded his specific instructions in regard to carrying out of tarring work on the roads. He had instructed the Overseer to terminate his employment. The Overseer had, however, transferred the man to other work, and he had again to order his dismissal.

Carrigower River Drainage.

Councillor J. O'Reilly inquired why an extension of time had not been granted to the lowest tenderer for the work of drainage on Carrigower River. He stated that the contract had been given to the lowest tenderer and had later been taken from him, and given to another contractor.

The Secretary stated that a number of tenders were received for the work, and the Assistant Engineer was asked to report on the Tenders. The Assistant Engineer was not prepared to recommend the lowest tenderer without an indication as to the period in which he could complete the work. In view of the short time available for doing the work, Mr. Leniston was asked what was the shortest time in which he could carry out the contract. Mr. Doody, whose Tender had been accepted in the previous year was also asked how long he would require to carry out the work. Mr. Leniston stated he would require until 1st November to complete the work, and Mr. Doody stated that he could complete it within one month. Accordingly the contract was awarded to Mr. Doody. No indication had been given at any time to Mr. Leniston that he had been accepted as contractor.

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A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11.30 a.m. on Monday, 13th Oct., 1947.

The following members were present:—

Councillor J. J. McCrea, Chairman;
Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; Patrick Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, Peter Ledwidge, Ed. Byrne, Liam O Laoighleis, J. Everett, T.D.; C. M. Byrne and Jos. Jacob.

The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, was in attendance.

The County Engineer and Assistant County Engineers J. P. Caffrey, and R. L. Farrell, B.E., were also present.

An apology for inability to attend was received from Councillor Sean Dunne.

BUSINESS:

1. To confirm and sign Minutes of Meetings held on 14th July, 1947, 11th August, 1947, and 8th September, 1947.
2. To consider circular letter G.115/47 of the 15th September, 1947, from the Department of Local Government, in regard to the recruitment, remuneration, and conditions of service of certain officials (Copy enclosed).
3. To consider the County Engineer's report for the period to the 30th September, 1947.
4. To approve of Draft Mortgage for Loan of £3,634 for the reconstruction of Ashford Bridge.
5. To consider the making of contribution to Rural Improvement Scheme for the construction of a new Road at Ennis's Lane, Greystones. (See memo. enclosed).
6. To consider report of Valuer and County Engineer in regard to proposal to purchase premises at Market Square, Wicklow, occupied by the County Committee of Agriculture.
7. To consider Draft Bye-laws in regard to Slaughter Houses (See memo. on Bye-laws enclosed).
8. To consider White Paper issued by the Department of Health outlining proposals for improvement of Health Services.
9. To consider Resolution from Kilkenny County Council in regard to increase price for Wheat and Beet.
10. Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.
11. To consider the Harbours Bill, 1947.

Resolution of Sympathy.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Resolved—That we the members of Wicklow County Council have heard with deep regret of the death of Mr. Matthew Byrne, and we hereby extend to Mrs. Byrne and the relatives of the late Matthew Byrne the assurance of our sincere sympathy.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 1.—Minutes:

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;
Seconded by Councillor P. Doyle;

Resolved—That we hereby confirm and sign Minutes of Meetings of Wicklow County Council held on the 14th July, 1947, 11th August, 1947, and 8th September, 1947.

Passed unanimously.

SCHOLARSHIPS IN SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS.

The County Secretary referred to Resolution passed by the Council at the September Meeting, increasing the value of Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools, and stated that the following letter had been received from the Department of Education:—

Department of Education,
Primary Branch,
Marlborough St., Dublin,
11 Deiradh Fomhair, 1947.

Oil (2) 70317.

The Secretary,

Wicklow County Council
Courthouse, Wicklow.

Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools, County Wicklow.
A Chara,

1. With reference to your communication of the 10th instant regarding the Council's proposal to increase the values of the scholarships awarded under the 1947 and previous schemes, I am to inform you that in order to provide for the increase in the values of the scholarships awarded under the 1947 Scheme to students attending schools in a Rural Area it will be necessary for the Council formally to amend Clause 1 (a) of the published Scheme by the alteration of the amounts prescribed at that section from £50 and £45 to £65 and £55, respectively.

2. In order to increase the values of the scholarships awarded under the 1946 Scheme to students attending schools in a Rural Area it will be necessary to amend that Scheme at Clause 1. This could be done by the addition of the following sentence to the Clause: "As from the commencement of the school-year 1947/48, the annual values of the scholarship awarded in Category (a) shall be increased from £45 to £55."

3. Your communication of the 10th instant refers to scholarships in Rural Areas. The 1946 and 1947 Schemes provided for the award of a certain number of scholarships to students attending schools in a Rural Area and it is presumed, as shown in the foregoing paragraphs, that the Council's proposal relates to these scholarships. As there was no such category specified in the 1945 and previous schemes, it is not clear whether the proposed increased value applies to all the scholarships awarded under these schemes or whether only certain scholarships will be affected.

If it is the Council's intention to increase all the scholarships held under the 1945 Scheme, it is considered that the amendment of Clause 1 (a) by the insertion of the following sentence at the end of that clause would be suitable: "As from the commencement of the school-year 1947/48 the annual value of all scholarships awarded under this Scheme shall be increased from £45 to £55."

4. In the case of the scholarship held under the 1943 and 1944 Schemes, I am to inform you that these schemes cannot be amended now as they were sanctioned under the provisions of Section 17 of the Local Government (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1923, which has been repealed, and the provisions of Section 8 of the Local Authorities (Education Scholarships) Act, 1944, are not sufficiently wide to permit of the Schemes being amended.

In order to increase the values of the 1943 and 1944 scholarships it will be necessary for the Council to formulate new Schemes for these years. The new schemes could be in the form of the Schemes already sanctioned for those years with the addition of a provision at Clause 1 (a) to cover the increased value.

If it is the Council's intention to increase all the scholarships held under the 1943 and 1944 Scheme, it is considered that the insertion at the end of the present Clause 1 (a) of the sentence suggested at Paragraph 3 above would be suitable.

5. The Minister offers no objection to the increased values provided that the Council has sufficient funds at its disposal to cover the extra cost.

6. The amendments and the new schemes referred to at Paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 above, should be submitted for the prior approval of the Minister.

Mise, le meas.

M. C. CONCHOBHAIK.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Resolved—That we authorise the expenditure of a sum of £390 in excess of the amount provided in the Estates for the purpose of providing Scholarships of an increased value under the Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarships Schemes.

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Resolved—

SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS SCHOLARSHIPS SCHEME, 1947.

That we hereby amend Clause 1 (a) of the Scheme of Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools, 1947, as published, by the alteration of the amounts prescribed in that Clause from £50 and £45 to £65 and £55 respectively.

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Passed unanimously.

SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS SCHOLARSHIPS SCHEME, 1946.

Resolved—That we hereby amend the Scheme of Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools, 1946, by the addition of the following sentence to Clause 1 of the Scheme: "As from the commencement of the School Year 1947/48 the annual value of the Scholarships awarded in Category A, shall be increased from £45 to £55."

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS SCHOLARSHIPS SCHEME, 1945.

Resolved—That we hereby amend the Scheme of Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools, 1945, by the addition of the following sentence to Clause 1 of the Scheme: "As from the commencement of the School Year 1947/48 the annual value of the Scholarships awarded under this Scheme shall be increased from £45 to £55."

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS SCHOLARSHIPS SCHEME, 1944.

That we hereby adopt the amended Scheme of Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools for the year 1944 as submitted to the Council at this Meeting, providing that the Annual value of all Scholarships awarded under the Scheme, as from the commencement of the School Year 1947/48 shall be £55.

Passed unanimously.

**SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS SCHOLARSHIPS
SCHEME, 1943.**

That we hereby adopt the amended Scheme of Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools for the year 1943 as submitted to the Council at this Meeting, providing that the Annual value of all Scholarships awarded under the Scheme, as from the commencement of the School Year 1947/48 shall be £55.
Passed unanimously.

Note.—The amended Schemes as adopted by the Council are similar to those previously adopted for the year 1943 and 1944, but in addition provide that the annual value of all Scholarships awarded under the Schemes, as from the commencement of the school year 1947/48, shall be £55.

AGRICULTURAL GRANT ALLOWANCE:

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., directed attention to the case where a farmer, who had employed a labourer for a considerable number of years, was refused Employment Allowance in respect of that labourer in view of the fact that the labourer occupied land with valuation of £5. Since the employer lost an allowance of £6 10s. if he retained this workman, he was obliged to terminate his employment. Councillor Everett stated that it was scarcely intended that the Act should apply in such a manner.

The County Manager stated that the Council was obliged to interpret the Act and they had endeavoured to do so in a reasonable way. He agreed that hardship was caused in the case referred to by Councillor Everett. The Council had obtained legal advice on the matter and had been informed that no allowance could be granted where a labourer was rated for land of £5 or over in valuation. The Manager pointed out that another type of case in which hardship could be caused had recently been the subject of question by the Local Government Auditor. He referred to continuous employment of workmen—a farmer could have three men employed for nine months of the year but would not be eligible for Employment Allowance in respect of them. The Council had in some cases interpreted the act in such a manner that if employment was given which was equivalent to the employment of one man for the entire year the Employment Allowance was made. The Auditor, however, held that there must be continuous employment, and, therefore, in a number of cases Allowances had been disallowed and the Council would not be recouped in such instances. In view of the importance of the matter Counsel's Opinion had been obtained, and while the Clause regarding continuous employment was not easy to interpret it was Counsel's considered view that Allowances could only be made where there was continuous employment. The views of the Council in regard to the matter raised by Councillor Everett would be conveyed to the Department.

Item No. 2.—Circular re Recruitment, Remuneration and Conditions of Service of certain Officials.

The Council considered the following Circular received from the Department of Local Government in regard to the recruitment, remuneration and conditions of service of certain officials:—

ROINN RIALTAIS AITIUIL
(Department of Local Government),
TEACH AN CHUSTUIM
(Custom House),
BAILE ATHA CLIATH
(Dublin).
15th September, 1947.

Circular G.115/47.

**RECRUITMENT, REMUNERATION AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE
OF CERTAIN OFFICERS.****A. Chara.**

1. I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that he has declared qualifications and approved of particulars of office for the following officers:—

A. Officers to which the Local Government (Officers & Employees) Acts apply or have been applied:

- (1) (a) County Manager.
- (b) City Manager and Town Clerk.
- (c) Assistant County Manager.
- (d) Assistant City and County Manager.
- (2) County Secretary.
- (3) (a) County Accountant.
- (b) City Accountant.
- (c) Borough Accountant.
- (d) Accountant to an Urban District with a population of not less than 9,000.
- (e) Accounts Clerk.
- (4) (a) Staff Officer (other than Staff Officer in the Dublin Corporation).
- (b) Whole-time Town Clerk in an Urban District with a population not less than 9,000.
- (c) Whole-time Town Clerk in an Urban District with a population exceeding 9,000 but not exceeding 12,000.
- (d) Whole-time Town Clerk in an Urban District with a population exceeding 12,000 but not exceeding 15,000.
- (e) Whole-time Town Clerk in an Urban District with a population not exceeding 15,000.
- (5) (a) Librarian of a County.
- (b) Librarian of a County Borough.
- (6) Rate Inspector.
- (7) Storekeeper (other than Storekeeper to an Institution).
- (8) (a) County Fire Brigade Superintendent.
- (b) Chief Officer, County Borough Fire Service.

B. Other Offices:

- (1) Clerical Officer.
- (2) (a) Library Assistant.
- (b) Branch Librarian.
- (3) Clerk Typist.
- (4) (a) Rate Collector (whole-time).
- (b) Rate Collector (part-time).
- (5) Town Clerk of a Town under Town Commissioners.
- (6) Gas Slot Meter Collector.

A. & B.

2. The qualifications declared and the particulars of office approved for the offices in question are set out in Appendices A1 to A9 and B1 to B6 attached. The salaries which have been approved for the offices of Manager and Assistant Manager are listed in Appendix A1 (e).
3. The Local Authorities (Officers and Employees) Act, 1926, applies or has been applied by order of the Minister with the concurrence

of the Local Appointments Commissioners, to all the offices listed under A of paragraph 1. It is not intended that the provisions of Section 5 of the Act shall be operated save in respect of the offices at heads 3(c), 3(d), 3(e), and 4 and in these offices only on consideration of each particular case.

RECRUITMENT:

4. When a vacancy occurs, or is foreseen, in any of the offices other than the office of Manager set out under the headings A or B in paragraph 1 and in respect of which no stipulation has been made that the post was to be suppressed or made subject to review on the occurrence of a vacancy, the local authority may make arrangements, in accordance with paragraphs 5 to 8 below for the permanent filling of the vacancy. Beyond a notification that these arrangements are being made no further reference to the Department will be necessary.

C.

5. Where the conditions laid down in paragraph 4 are satisfied the local authority may, when the office to be filled is one of those set out under A of paragraph 1 apply direct to the Local Appointments Commissioners for a recommendation. Two copies of the statutory request form (Appendix C) should be submitted to the Commissioners. Local Authorities should themselves maintain supplies of these forms which may be obtained on application to the Local Appointments Commissioners. The answers to the questions at 4 to 10 of the Form might be that the particulars of the office are those which have been declared generally by the Minister for that class of office. A notification should at the same time be sent to the Department that the office is vacant and that application to the Local Appointments Commissioners has been made.

6. When the office to be filled is one of those set out under B of paragraph 1, the local authority may, where the conditions laid down in paragraph 4 are satisfied (but see paragraph 8), make the appropriate arrangements (e.g. for the holding of open competitive examinations) under Articles 26 and 27 of the Local Government (Officers) Regulations, 1943, for the filling of the office. Such reasonable expenditure as is necessary may be incurred in this connection in the remuneration of persons appointed in connection with the holding of open competitive examinations. No appointment should be made after the date of this Circular from a panel prepared as a result of an open competitive examination the standard for which was lower than that now prescribed.

D.

7. The procedure of Circular G.33/47 (Appendix D) should also be applied to the offices referred to in paragraph 6. All appointments under paragraph 6 will require the formal sanction of the Minister. The usual query forms and medical report forms need not be submitted to the Department in respect of officers so appointed, other than Rate Collectors to County Councils, but the forms should be available for inspection at any time on each officer's personal file. It will suffice, if, in applying for sanction the following information is supplied about each officer: Full name, date of birth, educational standard, and how recruited. In addition a certificate that the officer is possessed of all the qualifications declared for the office, is otherwise eligible to hold the office and has signed the acknowledgment under Circular G.33/47 should be furnished.

8. Local authorities may employ such branch librarians as they consider necessary, without reference to the Department, provided that the persons appointed possess the qualifications declared (Appendix B2 (b)) and that the general particulars of office are adhered to. The remuneration to be paid to branch librarians newly appointed in accordance with this paragraph should not exceed a rate to be sanctioned by the Minister for each hour the branch library is open or such other rate or remuneration as has already been determined.

9. Where any of the offices under B or paragraph 1 are to be filled by interview, regard should be had to paragraphs 7 and 8 of Circular G.129/45 of 27th November, 1945, as to preference for service in the Defence Forces or Auxiliary Defence Services.

AGE DEDUCTIONS FOR SERVICE IN DEFENCE FORCES:

E.

10. The Minister has made general regulations, to apply to all offices for which an upper age limit has been fixed, for specified service in the Defence Forces or Auxiliary Defence Services. A copy of the regulations is attached—Appendix E.

PROMOTION:

11. Nothing in this circular is to be construed as conveying the Minister's sanction to the filling of any office by promotion or by the permanent establishment of a temporary officer. All proposals of that nature will need as heretofore the Minister's specific sanction. Every proposal for the promotion of an officer should be accompanied by the certificate of the Manager that the officer in question is fully qualified and competent and that he is the best qualified and the most competent of those available for promotion.

SUBSTITUTES:

12. A suitable existing pensionable officer of a local authority may be appointed to act as substitute for the holder of any of the offices set out at A and B (with the exception of Rate Collector) of paragraph 1 above for such periods as may be necessary. Where practicable such substitute officer should be of the grade next below that of the office in which he is to act as substitute.

13. Where it is proposed to appoint a deputy rate collector application should be made to the Department, accompanied by the usual completed query form in respect of the person whom it is proposed to appoint as deputy and a certificate that the rate collector has nominated this person as his deputy.

14. No extra remuneration should be paid to substitute officers appointed under paragraph 12 where they are required by the terms of their appointment so to act or where the period during which they act is a continuous one not exceeding one calendar month. Substitute officers carrying out the duties of an officer in the same class will not be entitled to special remuneration. Where the period exceeds one calendar month the rate of remuneration of the substitute for the whole period during which he acts may be fixed at the minimum of his existing remuneration, whichever is the greater, provided that the remuneration of a substitute shall not in any circumstances exceed the maximum of the scale appropriate to the office in which he acts. Where a whole-time officer continues to carry out the duties of his substantive office and in addition acts as substitute for a part-time Town Clerk, he may be paid, in addition to his normal remuneration, the minimum of the scale appropriate to the part-time office.

15. Temporary officers (other than the office of rate collector) set out under B of paragraph 1, and in the office of Town Clerk where there is no officer of the accounting or clerical grades to act as substitute, may be appointed without reference to the Department where the local authority is satisfied that no other suitable arrangement for carrying on the work can be made. Substitute officers for grades other than

those specified in the preceding sentence may not be appointed under this paragraph, but this does not debar the local authority from appointing temporary officers to substitute for such offices where the normal holders of the offices are themselves substituting for other officers.

16. No appointment made under the preceding paragraph may exceed an aggregate period of three months in any calendar half-year; but in exceptional circumstances where an officer is appointed temporarily under paragraph 15 pending the filling of a vacancy or the determination of a suspension, this period may be extended to six months, provided that the employment of any individual substitute officer does not exceed six months in any calendar year.

F.

17. On 30th June and 31st December of each year a return in the form set out in Appendix F, showing the employment of substitute officers during the period, should be submitted to the Department.

18. The remuneration of a substitute officer appointed under paragraph 15 above should not exceed the minimum of the salary scale applicable to the post in which he acts as substitute.

19. The terms of this part of this circular supersede, where appropriate, those of Circulars 7/43 or 12 Eanair, 1943, and G.8/1947 of 18th January, 1947.

TEMPORARY OFFICERS:

20. Temporary officers, other than substitute officers referred to in paragraph 15 above, and those referred to in Circular 7/43 of 12 Eanair, 1943, may not be appointed, or have their appointments continued, without the sanction of the Minister.

21. Temporary officers (other than substitute officers) of the grades set out at A and B of paragraph 1 for whose employment sanction has been given and whose period of employment it is proposed to continue may be employed up to 31st December, 1947, or until the temporary offices are permanently filled, whichever is the sooner. Not later than 31st October next a return should be submitted by each local authority setting out in respect of each person, other than substitute at present temporarily holding one of the offices set out at A and B of paragraph 1, his name, remuneration, the date on which present employment began, and the steps which have been taken, or which it is proposed to take, for the permanent discharge of the duties of the office.

22. The remuneration of a temporary officer appointed to any of the offices set out in paragraph 1 subsequent to the date of this circular should not exceed the minimum of the salary scale applicable to the office which he holds in a temporary capacity.

OVERTIME:

G.

23. Payment for overtime may be made to officers of the grades of clerical officer, library assistant, and clerk-typist in accordance with the terms of Circular G.71/47 of 12 May, 1947, a copy of which is attached (Appendix G.)

TRAVELLING AND SUBSISTENCE:

24. The conditions governing the payment of travelling and subsistence allowances are laid down in Article 14 to 18 of the Local Government (Officers) Regulations, 1943.

25. The provisions of paragraphs 26 to 29 below do not apply to any officer of the grades set out in paragraph 1 who is in receipt of a fixed annual allowance for travelling and/or subsistence or in respect of whose office either travelling or subsistence allowance are not payable.

26. The following shall be, as from 1st September, 1947, the mileage scales determined by the Minister under Article 16 (e) of the Local Government (Officers) Regulations, 1943, for officers of the grades set out in paragraph 1 above who travel on official business by private motor car, motor cycle or pedal cycle.

Private Motor Cars	Mileage up to 4,000 a year	Mileage in excess of 4,000 a year
Under 10 h.p.	7½	3½
10 h.p. and under 12 h.p.	8½	4
12 h.p. and under 14 h.p.	9½	4½
14 h.p. and over	10	5½
Motor Cycles		
Solo	3½	2
With Side-car	4	2½
Pedal Cycles	2d. per mile for all journeys.	

H.

27. Officers of the grades set out at 1, 7 and 9 of A in paragraph 1 may, in substitution for the mileage rates set out in the preceding paragraph be paid allowances in accordance with the terms of Circular No. R.106, a copy of which is attached (Appendix H.H.)

28. The following rates of subsistence may be paid, as from 1st September, 1947, under Article 17 of the Local Government (Officers) Regulations, 1943.

Where the annual salary of the officer rises to a figure	Rate of Subsistence		Day	
	Normal	Reduced	Detention	7 hrs. 10 hrs
(a) exceeding £800	21/6d.	18/-	10/9d.	3/- 7/2d
(b) exceeding £450 but not exceeding £800	20/6d.	17/-	10/3d.	3/- 6/10d
(c) not exceeding £450	17/6d.	14/-	8/9d.	2/6d. 5/10d

Normal rate of subsistence may be paid in respect of absences from home on official business of nights up to 14 in one place. A night subsistence allowance covers a period of absence from home of 24 hours. Reduced rate is payable for nights in excess of 14 but not more than 25 in one place.

Detention rate is payable for nights in excess of 28 in one place.

29. The higher rate of Day allowance is payable under Article 17 (2) of the Local Government (Officers) Regulations, in respect of a period of absence from home of not less than 10 hours and not more than 24 hours. The Minister authorises a departure from the terms of Article 17 (2) of the Regulations to permit the payment of Day allowances as set out in the preceding paragraph in respect of a period of absence from home greater than 7 hours but less than 10 hours.

SICK LEAVE:

30. Where a permanent holder of one of the offices set out under A or B of paragraph 1 above is suffering from Tuberculosis and is undergoing treatment, the Minister approves of a departure from the terms of Rule (iii) of Article 21 of the Local Government (Officers) Regulations to enable salary at three quarters the full rate to be paid to the officer for the second six months of his illness, and from the terms of Rule (i) of the Article to enable salary at half the full rate to be paid to the officer during the third six months of his illness.

SPECIAL LEAVE:

31. The Minister approves of departures from the terms of Article 22 of the Local Government (Officers) Regulations, 1943, for the granting by the local authority of special leave in the following conditions:—

(a) Annual Training with the Defence Forces or Auxiliary Defence Services:

Special leave not exceeding one week with pay and special leave without pay or annual leave at the officer's option for the remainder of the period of training, may be granted in respect of the annual

period of training. This concession may be granted to temporary or substitute officers of the grades set out in paragraph 1 where they have been in the continuous employment of the local authority for at least a month immediately before the special leave is granted on work which they will be required to resume on completion of their periods of training.

(b) Interviews by the Local Appointments Commissioners:

An Officer may be granted not more than three days' special leave without pay for the purpose of attending for interview with the Local Appointments Commissioners.

(c) Acting on Selection Boards set up by Local Appointments Commissioners or the Civil Service Commissioners:

An officer invited by the Local Appointments Commissioners or the Civil Service Commissioners to act on a Selection Board may be granted special leave with pay for the purpose.

RATE COLLECTORS' POUNDAGE:

32. Poundage schemes for rate collectors of county councils may, without reference to the Minister be adopted on the following basis, or on a basis involving such lower allowances as the Manager may determine:—

- Basic poundage at a rate not exceeding the basic poundage payable in the county in respect of the financial year, 1946/47; and
- bonus of one quarter of the 1946/47 rate of bonus for lodgments in each year, in accordance with each of the following conditions, of amounts equal to:—
 - 75% of the total of the first moiety and arrears by 30th Sept.
 - the first moiety and arrears by 31st October;
 - 65% of the warrant by 31st December;
 - 95% of the warrant by the 31st March;
 - 97½% of the warrant by 31st March.

33. Payment of poundage to rate collectors in accordance with a scheme that comes within the terms of the preceding paragraph, or which has been specially approved by the Minister, may be made without reference to the Department. The Manager may accordingly, authorise payment of basic poundage in accordance with the arrangements hitherto prevailing in each area, or as an alternative, authorise the payment, at such intervals as he may think fit but not more frequently than once each month, of advances of basic poundage in respect of not more than 90 per cent. of the sums actually lodged by a collector. Payment of the balance of basic poundage accrued to the dates on which basic poundage has hitherto been paid may be authorised in the usual way. Payment of bonus may be authorised by the Manager only in respect of lodgments that comply with the terms of the appropriate poundage scheme. The determination of the credits to be allowed to rate collectors in arriving at their percentage collections is a matter for the Manager.

34. The preceding paragraph may be applied to all rate collectors, whether county rate collectors or others, who are paid by way of poundage.

35. Sureties of rate collectors should be informed of revised arrangements.

SUPERANNUATION:

36. The Minister consents to the grant of superannuation allowances in accordance with the terms of Section 44 of the Local Government Act, 1925, where the amount of the allowance to a pensionable holder of any of the offices set out under A or B of paragraph 1, who has reached or who will have reached the age of 65, is in accordance with the conditions set out in paragraph 37 below; and such grants need not, therefore, be submitted for individual consents.

37. For each completed year of pensionable service an officer who comes within the terms of the foregoing paragraph may be granted a superannuation allowance not exceeding one sixtieth, up to a maximum of forty sixtieths, of the average of his basic salary, and pensionable emoluments (including emergency bonus) for each of the three years ending on the quarter date preceding his retirement. Where the basic part of the officer's salary at the date of his retirement carried cost of living bonus he may be paid cost of living bonus at the appropriate rate on the part of his superannuation allowance derived from his basic salary.

38. Where the officer's salary formerly carried cost-of-living bonus which prior to the date of his ceasing to hold office had been consolidated with his basic salary, the average of his salary for the three years preceding his ceasing to hold office may be calculated from (i) his consolidated salary and pensionable emoluments, and (ii) his actual basic salary and pensionable emoluments plus the actual cost-of-living bonus paid to him within the period. No cost of living bonus will, in such circumstances be paid on any part of the superannuation allowance.

I.

39. In any case where it is proposed to grant a superannuation allowance under the 1925 Act calculated on a basis other than the foregoing, application should be made on the appropriate form (Appendix I) for the Minister's consent to the grant and the reasons for the proposed departure from the normal practice should be fully stated. Where it is proposed to grant a pension to an officer who has resigned on grounds of ill-health the Minister's sanction should also be sought and the proposal should be accompanied by a medical certificate, setting out clearly the nature of the incapacity which obliged the officer to resign, and a definite opinion of the medical practitioner as to whether the incapacity is permanent. In doubtful cases the local authority should seek an independent medical opinion before making a superannuation proposal.

H.

40. A return (Appendix J) should be submitted to the Department on the 30th September and 31st March in each year setting out details of each superannuation allowance which has been granted in the preceding half-year under the terms of paragraph 37 above.

MARRIAGE GRATUITIES:

41. The local authority may presume the Minister's consent to the grant of marriage gratuities under Section 44 (4) of the Local Government Act, 1925, to women who have retired on marriage from any of the offices set out under A or B in paragraph 1 above where the conditions laid down in paragraph 42 are satisfied.

42. For each completed year of continuous whole-time and permanent service an officer, as defined in the preceding paragraph, may be granted a marriage gratuity not exceeding one-twelfth of her average salary and pensionable emoluments for the three years ending on the quarter date preceding her retirement. Where the service is less than three years the average shall be in respect of each completed year of service reckoned from the date of her permanent appointment. Where an officer's salary during any part of the averaged period carried cost of living bonus the conditions set out in paragraph 38 above shall apply to the calculation of her marriage gratuity.

43. A half yearly return, as required under paragraph 40, should be submitted in regard to marriage gratuities granted under paragraph 42.

I.
44. If in any case it is proposed to grant a marriage gratuity calculated otherwise than in accordance with paragraph 42 above, application accompanied by the officer's marriage certificate, should be made on the appropriate (Appendix I) setting out in detail the reasons for the proposal.

45. It is the duty of a woman officer under Article 33 of the Local Government (Officer) Regulations, to inform the Manager forthwith of her marriage. Where an officer contravenes this Article a marriage gratuity may not be granted to her under paragraph 42 above.

PROSECUTION OF OFFICERS:

46. Where the holder of any of the offices set out under A or B of paragraph 1 above has committed, or is reasonably suspected to have committed an offence against the local authority which would render him liable to criminal proceedings, the local authority should as soon as possible inform the Garda authorities, notwithstanding that the officer in question may be under suspension.

REPRESENTATIONS:

K.
47. All existing officers and each new entrant to the local service should be required to note specially and instructed to adhere strictly to the terms of Circular 31/45 of 6th July, 1945, prohibiting the making of representations otherwise than through the normal official channels in regard to duties, remuneration and conditions of service. A copy of this circular is attached (Appendix K.)

AUDITOR'S REPORTS:

48. Auditors have occasion to refer in their reports to matters which require the attention of the local authority. Managers should ensure that such matters are promptly dealt with so that there will be no occasion for the Minister or the auditor to intervene.

49. A copy of this circular has been sent, for information, to the Lord Mayor or Mayor of each Co. Borough and the Chairman of each Co. Council. The Manager should arrange that copies of this circular should be laid to information before the members of each County and County Borough Council.

Mise, le meas,
J. COLLINS, Runal.

To each County and City Manager.

The County Secretary stated that under Paragraph 6 of the Circular it was provided that no appointment should be made after the date of the circular from a panel prepared as the result of an Open Competitive Examination the standard for which was lower than that now prescribed. It was proposed to hold examinations towards the end of the Month of November for the filling of vacancies as Clerk-Typists and one vacancy as Clerical Officer. The Standard of the Examinations would be Intermediate Certificate and Leaving Certificate Standard respectively.

Rate Collectors' Poundage:

Councillor C. M. Byrne stated that Rate Collectors had not yet received their fees for preparing the Register of Electors for the previous year. He also referred to the Bonus Scheme in respect of Rate Collection, and while not objecting to the Scheme designed to encourage early collection, he considered that undue pressure should not be used by the Rate Collectors in view of the circumstances of the agricultural community this year.

The County Secretary stated that the payment to Rate Collectors for the preparation of the Register of Electors was a matter for the Co. Registrar. The Poundage and Bonus Scheme referred to in the circular was not in operation in County Wicklow for the current year. The Scheme adopted provided for a bonus for the lodgment of 75% of the first moiety and arrears by the 31st October, 1947, and a further bonus for the lodgment of the first moiety and arrears by the 15th Nov., 1947.

Item No. 3.—County Engineer's Report.

The Council considered the following report of the County Engineer, copy of which had been circulated to the members:—

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL,
County Engineer's Office,
Court House, Wicklow.

To:
The Chairman and Members of Wicklow County Council,
Meeting on 13/10/1947.

REPORT ON ENGINEERING SERVICES TO 30/9/1947.

1. Road Works Scheme, 1947/48:

The unprecedented unfavourable weather conditions prevailing during Spring and early Summer of this year 1947, delayed and prevented an early start on the Tar Dressing Programme set out, and indeed the heavy damage done to Main Road surfaces particularly required extensive repair work and patching and levelling prior to the final coating. However, the following work approximately had been done at 25/9/1947:—

- Levelling and patching (Main and County Roads) 124 miles.
- Tar Surface Dressing (Main and County Roads) 65 miles.
- Expenditure on Maintenance to 25/9/1947, approximately £96,180.
- Labour costs included in above £43,340.
- Quantity of tar purchased and used 2,500 tons.

Due to excessive damage done to steam-rolled surfaces both Main and County and the necessity to concentrate all work and plant on these, in the first instance the work on ordinary County Roads was temporarily deferred, but it is proposed to direct attention from now onwards to these. It is essential that our quarries be kept working during the months of January, February and March of each year in order to prepare and deliver sufficient stocks of materials in the way of stone, chippings and fines to roads proposed to be repaired, and surface dressed early in the following Summer Season. I feel sure that the Council will appreciate this and for that reason, I propose to ask that a sum of £25,000 approximately, be made available in anticipation of the 1948/49 Road Scheme which sum to include purchase price of Tar products required. The acceptance of this suggestion will ensure that we should get a good start on our Main Road programmes and at the same time, keep men working during the "lean" time of the year. I have reason to believe that Road Grants will be made by the Department in the same proportion as in 1947/48 and I propose to hand you the Road Works Estimate for 1948/49 at the November Meeting, so that early approval may be given to it.

In connection with the Surface Dressing carried out this year, I would like the Councillors to notice that the use of the large size stone chipping has been adopted as far as possible with a view to meeting complaints regarding slipperiness for horse traffic. The effort is believed to be successful, and indeed latterly four different types of surfacing have been laid down in Tighe's Avenue, Road No. T.7, using unusually large stone instead of chippings, leaving a rough surface and certainly a non-slip one. The continuation of the present unusual "Summer"

weather will enable about a further 20 miles of tarring to be carried out, but after the 9th instant, I am afraid we shall have to restrict the expenditure and call in our Tarring Plant, because the surfaces are unduly cold and damp after the night frost and humidity.

It will be of interest to note the number of men employed on roads, viz:—

	1946	1947
April	304	467
May	363	441
June	473	509
July	507	649
August	491	598
September	489	649
Averages	438	552

In addition to ordinary road repair and tarring, we have in progress the Turf Production Scheme and Special Road Grants allocated by the Department, as follows:—

No. 1: Sally Gap towards Laragh (Road 57)	£7,780	£1,950	(Local Contribution)
			Total £9,730
No. 2: Sally Gap towards Laragh (Road 57)	£6,655	£1,665	(Local Contribution)
All to finish at "Shooting Lodge"	£3,320 = Total		
No. 3: Sally Gap towards Roundwood (Road 37)	£3,550	£890	
	£4,440 = Total		
No. 4: Part Glendalough-Wicklow Gap (Road 83)	£3,574	£2,680	
Total Grants notified in Sally Gap area since 1940	£27,680		

The use of Fuel Oil Equipment has ensured more efficient work to be carried out and a more economical system of Tar and Road repairs plant to be used. Almost 8,000 gallons of fuel oil have been issued through your Machinery Stores at the headquarters in Wicklow. Additional Tar Machines and Engines are gradually being converted to the Oil Burning System, and oil storage is being increased. Petrol tanks and pumps are now provided at Central Depot in Wicklow, and provide a considerable saving in costs of fuel.

2. Store-keeper:

The Auditor has called attention to the necessity for a County Store-keeper, and insists on a very comprehensive and accurate recording of stores, materials, tools, etc. I have already called attention to the matter in previous reports.

3. Lorries:

The five Tipping Lorries authorised by the Council have now been delivered. Three of these are already in service, the remaining two will be put on the road as soon as possible, and at the moment, I am making enquiries regarding suitable drivers.

4. Explosives:

I would like to call attention to the necessity for providing a small van to be used for the purpose of carrying explosives, and which, of course, could also be employed by the Machinery Overseer in transporting small tools and other equipment, oils required for inspection and servicing of your Road Plant on the road side when urgently required. This matter is a most important item. The Guards have directed special attention to the special Bye-Laws governing the conveyance of explosives under Section 37 of the Explosives Act of 1875, and the Council is liable to prosecution if the Regulations are not complied with. This van must be constructed in a certain specified manner to enable explosives to be carried in quantity, and the amount which can be carried at present by an ordinary car is quite uneconomical. In any case, as I point out above, the vehicle can be used for the dual purpose of explosives and as a repair car. The cost of the van will be probably £370, but it is presumed that tenders will be sought. Other County Council, it is understood, have also had to conform to requirements in this respect.

5. Quarries:

As I informed you in a previous report, a survey of the Quarries and the various classes of stone available therein was carried out. The complete results of the Tests on road stone have not yet reached me, but I mention this because it is satisfactory to note that there is generally a good quality of stone in the County. The Department of Local Government, in providing the very substantial Grants-in-Aid for roads, will insist that only the very best stone which is available should be used even if this might involve transport over longer distances, and even if it requires that suitable stone be procured outside the County. It should not be usually necessary in this County to adopt the latter course, but if our local stone is unsatisfactory and our plant insufficient to maintain our supplies, we must go elsewhere. It is with these points in mind that I report that I have under consideration the provision of a large scale Quarry Plant, located in a district or area suitable from the point of view of the material and the topography of the County which the plant would be capable of turning out something like 30 cubic yards, prepared stone per hour, as against the normal output of 40-50 cubic yards per day of the smaller plant.

I would like the Council to consider the matter and its usefulness and economy, and taking the "long view" of the future requirements of the County Wicklow over a period of years. There is no doubt the county is and ought to be the most important from the Tourist point of view, and there is every likelihood of very large Grants being made available for all our Road Systems if we but anticipate now in time, and there is sufficient work ahead to absorb a plant of this type in addition to our existing plant for many years. The cost of this large scale plant, equipment and auxiliary works would be about £13,000. At 26/10/1947, we had seven crushers working, turning out about 130-140 cubic yards chippings per day; a much greater quantity of larger stone would, of course, be produced.

6. Crusher:

During the recent intensive Road operations, I hired a Crusher from the Mining Co., Avoca. The Machine is in good condition and the Company, on request, has agreed to dispose of it to the Council for the sum of £220. We have already incurred hire charges and this will be allowed for in the purchase, so that the Council will agree that the proposal is an economic one. I ask for approval.

7. Grants:

The Department of Defence after prolonged correspondence, has notified a grant of £1,000 to steam roll and repair the Road No. 39, between Devereux's and the Kilpeddar Carr.

I have prepared a scheme and made an application to the Department for a grant to widen portion of the Tinahely-Shillelagh Road which is altogether too narrow for bus traffic.

8. Turf Scheme:

The following is the position as 30/9/47:—

Total spent to Sept. 25th 1947 ..	£204,317
Amounts received from all sources ..	£195,945
Balance still outstanding ..	£8,372
(a) Debtors ..	£2,773
(b) Debit Balance ..	£5,599
Value of tools and Equipment ..	£500

Production, 1947—2,950 tons.

Sold—2,860 tons.

Still in Bog—90 tons (clamped and retained for Machinery purposes)

As in previous years, the apparent loss arising on Turf Scheme will be recovered by adjusting the charge to purchasers.

At the end of the 1946 Turf Production Season, there remained on the bog approximately 730 tons of turf which, owing to the abnormally inclement weather of last year, could not be removed. It will be recollected that expenditure of approximately £800 was incurred in October and November, 1946, in rendering this turf safer. All this turf was got into completely dry condition and removed in the present year.

9. Bridges:

As already reported, Bridges at Roscah (Road 110), Ballygonnell (Wolohan's Road 100), Three-mile-Water Road 102), Ballyteskin (Road 106), Coolbeg (Road 113), were extensively damaged by the cloud burst on August 2nd, 1947.

Wolohan's Bridge has been repaired and reconstructed; Roscah is nearly completed; Three-mile-Water is partly complete, but a recent examination shows foundations undermined. Ballyteskin and Coolbeg are temporarily repaired only. The estimated cost of these works have already been reported. Aughrim Bridge which had to be practically rebuilt, is now open to traffic. The bridge on boghall Road has been half widened and the alteration to the other half is proceeding. Kilmullen Bridge and wall will now be proceeded with. The accepted Contractor for the reconstruction of Ashford Bridge is finding difficulty in securing the necessary steel reinforcements, but he is being constantly reminded that every effort should be made to start the work.

10. Motor Tax:

In connection with future trends in Road Maintenance, requirements and costs, the Council will be interested in the comparative receipts in recent years from Motor Tax in Wicklow County. The following figures illustrate the increase in motor traffic and in Road Tax receipts:—

Year 1937 ..	£22,611	7	4
Year 1938 ..	£20,598	5	4
Year 1939 ..	£22,719	13	8
Year 1947 (from 1st January to 30th September) ..	£28,108	3	0

(Signed)—J. T. O'BYRNE
County Engineer.

Preparation of Chippings and Purchase of Tar for 1948/49:

Proposed by Councillor J. J. McCrea;

Seconded by Councillor P. Doyle;

Resolved—That we authorise an expenditure of £25,000 in excess of the amount provided in the current year's estimates for the purpose of preparing chippings and purchasing tar in anticipation of the Road Works Scheme for 1948/49.

Passed unanimously.

Store Keeper:

The County Secretary stated that a temporary Storekeeper had been appointed, but that it would be necessary to appoint a permanent Storekeeper in the near future. The appointment would be made on the recommendation of the Local Appointments Commission.

Carriage of Explosives:

Proposed by Councillor W. Lawless;

Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Resolved—That we approve of the purchase of a van for the carriage of explosives as recommended by the County Engineer in his report of 8th October, 1947.

Passed unanimously.

Quarries:

The Council indicated that it was not prepared to approve at present of the installation of machinery in a Central Quarry as suggested by the County Engineer.

Purchase of Stone Crusher:

Proposed by Councillor Liam O Laoighis;

Seconded by Councillor P. Doyle;

Resolved—That we approve of the recommendation of the County Engineer in his report of 8th October, 1947, for the purchase of a Crusher from the Mining Co., Avoca, in the sum of £220.

Passed unanimously.

Grants:

Proposed by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Seconded by Councillor B. Farrell;

Resolved—That representations be made to the Department of Defence for a Grant towards the cost of improving the road from Whites-town to the Glen of Inaal (Knockenarrizgar P.O.)

Passed

Councillor J. J. Metcalfe asked whether the Council would continue to vest bogs so as to ensure that private persons would be able to obtain banks. The County Manager stated that a list of such vested bogs would be submitted to the next meeting of the Council.

Bridges:

Councillor P. McCarthy referred to his proposal in previous years for the construction of a Bridge at Sheannabeg.

The County Secretary stated that this proposal had been included in the Road Scheme as submitted to the Council but had been struck out. The County Engineer stated that he would include this proposal in the coming year's Scheme.

Bridge at Beach Road, Greystones:

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., referred to the difficulties experienced by persons residing on Beach Road, Greystones, following the destruction of the Bridge by floods in March last.

The County Manager stated that the road in question was not a County Road and the Council could not take it over.

The Council requested that the County Engineer would investigate the matter.

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., suggested that it would be desirable to carry out improvements to the Bridge at Three-mile-Water at present under repair. The County Engineer agreed that improvements would be desirable, and undertook to submit an estimate of the cost.

Upper Dargle Road:

Councillor P. Ledwidge inquired whether it was intended to carry out repairs to the Upper Dargle Road, Bray.

The County Engineer stated that before the road could be repaired the question of the retaining wall would require attention. The wall was the responsibility of Bray Urban District Council.

At the request of Councillor Ledwidge the Manager stated that he would draw the attention of Bray Urban District Council to the matter in so far as it affected that Council.

Holiday Pay:

Councillor P. McCarthy stated that where workmen had been released by the Council to work for farmers they had been informed that they had become disqualified for payment in respect of holidays.

The County Secretary stated that the Council paid the men for holidays in respect of the period in which they were in the employment of the Council.

Proposed by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.;

Seconded by Councillor P. Doyle;

Resolved—That where men employed by the Council are released for work with farmers, their Employment should be reckoned as employment with the Council for the purposes of the Holidays (Employees) Act.

Passed unanimously.

Councillor P. McCarthy stated that a number of workers in the Aughrim area had been discharged, and inquired whether they would be re-employed. The County Engineer stated that a number of men would now be re-employed on County Roads.

Item No. 4—Ashford Bridge:

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;

Resolved—That we approve of the draft Mortgage submitted by the Commissioners of Public Works in respect of Loan of £8,634 for defraying a proportion of the expenditure on the reconstruction of Ashford Bridge, and direct that the Seal of the Council be affixed to the undertaking that the instalments in repayment of this Loan, as well as of existing Loans, will be punctually remitted on the date on which they become due, viz: 1st May and 1st November in each year.

Passed

Item No. 5.—Rural Improvement Scheme—Ennis Lane, Greystones.

The following memorandum, in regard to the proposals to construct a new access road to cottages at Ennis Lane, Greystones, had been circulated to the members of the Council:—

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.

Construction of New Access Road to Cottages at Ennis Lane, Greystones.

For a number of years past representations frequently have been made to the Council regarding the condition of the roadway, known as Ennis Lane, which provides access to 10 cottages at this place. The surface of the road is liable to severe damage during heavy rainfall, and it has not been possible to keep it in sufficient repair. The former Board of Health, in 1937, had under consideration a proposal to provide a new access road in view of the unfitness of the present roadway. The Engineer then recommended that a new roadway at a cost of £220 be provided, but after consideration of the matter it was decided instead to carry out repairs at a cost of £20. In the meantime repairs have periodically been carried out, but the road is still regarded as being in an unsatisfactory condition.

Some time ago it was decided to apply for a Grant under the Rural Improvement Schemes towards the cost of constructing a new road. The necessary details were submitted to the Special Employment Schemes Office and in a letter dated 12th September, 1947, they stated that the cost of the work of providing a 12-ft. roadway is estimated by them at £708. Since Rural Improvement Schemes are authorised primarily for the benefit of agricultural lands the highest grant which they would be prepared to sanction is £250. The balance of the cost, viz: £458 would require to be met from local sources.

Accordingly, if a new road is to be constructed, and if advantage is to be taken of the Grant of £250, now offered, it will be necessary that the County Council contribute the sum of £450 towards the total cost involved.

6th October, 1947.

Proposed by Councillor W. Lawless;

Seconded by Councillor P. Ledwidge;

Resolved—That we approve of the making of an application for a Grant under the Rural Improvement Scheme towards the cost of construction of a road connecting Ennis Lane with the Bray-Greystones Road at Redford, and authorise the expenditure of £458 in excess of the amount provided in the estimates to meet the contribution for this work.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 6.—Proposed purchase of Premises at Market Square, Wicklow.

The County Secretary stated that he had obtained a valuation of the premises at Market Square, Wicklow, occupied by the Co. Committee of Agriculture, from Mr. D. Condran, Auctioneer, as follows:—

"I have inspected the above premises the property of Colonel J. Vize, which are held by Lease for a term of seventy-five years from the 25th day of March, 1893, at the yearly rent of £1; Poor Law Valuation £13. The premises are let to the County Committee of Agriculture at the yearly rent of £40 plus rates. In my opinion the property is worth £1,000."

In a later letter Mr. Condran stated that the valuation was based on a weekly rental of £1, making a total of £52 per year plus rates, and that deducting the sum of £2 per year for head rent, etc., the net rental profit of £50 per year was left, which at 20 years purchase was £1,000.

The County Secretary pointed out that the actual rent of the premises was £40 per year, and not £52 per year and that no allowance had been made in respect of repairs in arriving at the valuation.

The County Engineer reported that the premises generally were in good repair, but that expenditure of about £30 would be required on repairs of the roof.

Following a discussion, it was

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;

Resolved—That we offer the sum of £1,000 for the premises at Market Square, Wicklow, occupied by the Committee of Agriculture.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 7.—Slaughter House Byelaws:

The following memorandum in regard to Draft Byelaws relating to Slaughter Houses had been circulated to the members of the Council:—

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.

To: Each Member of Wicklow County Council.

re: Slaughter Houses.

The Slaughter of Animals Act, 1935, now applies to the Wicklow County Health District, and to give effect to the provisions of that Act it is necessary that Slaughter Byelaws should be adopted by the County Council. It will be evident, moreover, that the adoption of such Byelaws is intended to lead to an improvement in the Public Health Services for which the Council is responsible, and to further safeguards for the public in the interests of public health.

Briefly, Byelaws, when in force, would require that:—

Every person who uses premises as a Slaughter House, or proposes to erect premises for such purpose, should obtain a Licence from the County Council. A Register of all Slaughter Houses will be kept by the Council.

Every occupier of a Slaughter House will require to keep an adequate supply of water for washing the floors of the premises, the internal

surface of the walls and vessels or receptacles used for the collection or removal of blood, manure, refuse, etc. Receptacles constructed of galvanised iron, or other non-absorbent material shall be provided for holding a supply of water required for cleansing and washing purposes. Further receptacles, similarly constructed and with closely fitting covers must be provided for collecting and removing from the Slaughter House any Blood, Manure, Refuse, etc. All such receptacles and every instrument and appliance, etc., used in the Slaughter House must be thoroughly cleansed immediately after use, and when not in use must be kept in a clean condition. All receptacles containing filth must be removed from the premises at least once in every twenty-four hours.

The ventilation to the Slaughter House shall be kept in proper order, and shall be such that there shall be direct communication with external air on at least two sides of the building.

The drainage to the Slaughter House must be kept in proper order, and the internal surface of the walls and the floor of the premises and pavement adjoining it must be kept clean. Dogs or poultry shall not be allowed to enter into the Slaughter House, and animals shall not be kept in it except for the purpose of slaughtering.

The hide, fat and offal of every animal slaughtered on the premises must be removed from it within twenty-four hours after slaughtering of such animal. Carcases of meat shall not be conveyed through any public thoroughfare except in properly constructed and covered cart, or other suitably covered receptacle.

The Bye-laws provide for penalties for the infringement of any of the provisions contained in them.

Proposed by Councillor P. Ledwidge;

Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond;

Resolved—That we approve of the draft Bye-laws relating to Slaughter Houses, as submitted to the Council.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 8.—White Paper issued by Department of Health.

The County Secretary stated that copies of the White Paper containing outlines of proposals for the improvement of Public Health Services were on order for distribution to the Councillors, but had not yet been received.

The Council adjourned consideration of the Paper.

Item No. 9.—Resolution from Kilkenny County Council.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor P. Doyle;

Resolved—That we adopt the resolution forwarded by Kilkenny County Council calling on the Government to increase the present guaranteed price to farmers for Wheat and Beet—Wheat 5s. per brl.; Beet 5s. per ton—for the 1948 crop.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 10.—Inquiries Arising out of County Manager's Orders.

Inquiries by Rent Collector in Killecole District.

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., stated that the Rent Collector for the Council had made inquiries from a number of tenants in the Killecole District in regard to their means, and asked on what authority such inquiries had been made.

The County Manager stated that he had been asked to investigate complaints which had been forwarded to the Department of Local Government in regard to the sub-letting of cottages, and the income of persons occupying cottages. He was satisfied that so far as the investigation had gone the cottages were properly let.

Councillor W. Lawless urged that the Department be requested to furnish the names of the complainants.

Councillor J. J. McCrea asked that information be obtained from the Department in regard to the proposed new Housing Scheme.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. McCrea;

Seconded by Councillor P. Doyle;

Resolved—That we request the Department of Local Government to forward at an early date the decision of the Minister in regard to the Council's Scheme under the Labourers Acts.

Passed unanimously.

Supplementary Allowances.

In reply to Councillor J. Everett, T.D., the County Manager stated that he would inquire into cases where applications for Supplementary Allowances had not been allowed.

Appointment of Medical Officer.

Councillor J. J. McCrea inquired as to the reason for the appointment of a Doctor from Dublin as Locum Tenens for the Medical Officer of the County Home, in view of the fact that there was a fully qualified and experienced Doctor resident in the town of Rathdrum.

The County Manager stated that it was the practice in such cases to accept the recommendation of the part-time Medical Officer in regard to the appointment of a locum. He stated that the views of the Council would be taken into account in the case of future appointments.

Letting of Cottage at Tonlague.

Councillor P. McCarthy inquired whether the person to whom the cottage at Tonlague had been let had taken up occupation and if not, whether the Manager would consider granting the tenancy to Miss E. Doyle.

The County Manager stated that the cottage had been let on the recommendation of the Medical Officer to a married man.

Public Lighting at Dunlavin.

Councillor J. J. Metcalfe inquired when the additional lamps approved for Dunlavin, would be installed.

The County Manager stated that a Tender had been accepted for providing the lamps and inquiries would be made in the matter.

Water Supply.

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., stated that the pump serving 15 houses at Ballinacfinchogue, Roundwood, was out of order. He asked that consideration be given to the laying of 100 yards of asbestos piping and the erection of a Pump in a new position which would be more convenient for the occupants of the cottages.

Payment of Builders' Labourers.

Councillor J. J. Everett, T.D., stated that no agreement had yet been reached between the Federation of Builders' Contractors and Allied Employers and the Trade Unions in regard to the rate of wages to be paid to builders' labourers in the County Health District of Wicklow. He urged that the Council agree to pay the same rate as that paid by builders in Wicklow Town to workmen employed by them in the rural area. It was proposed by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.;

Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;

Resolved—That we recommend that the same rate of wages be paid to builders' labourers employed by the Council as that paid by Messrs. Kane, and Clarke, Wicklow, to workmen employed by them in Rathdrum Rural District.

Passed unanimously.

The following Notice of Motion was handed in and accepted by the Chairman:—

NOTICE OF MOTION.

"I hereby give notice that at the Meeting of Wicklow County Council to be held on 10th November, 1947, I shall move the following resolution:—

"That learning by the experience gained in the Inquiry recently held throughout the County for the confirmation of the Wicklow County Council Labourers' Order, we urge on the Government to give immediate effect by legislation to the following proposals as being matters which so seriously and urgently affect the well-being of our people.

"1. That working farmers of a valuation of £25 and under be included under the provisions of the Labourers' Acts, and that an order be issued to all local bodies immediately to set in motion, with a promise of priority, a house-building scheme for such applicants for better housing accommodation.

"2. That in order to furnish proof of the need and urgency for such an extension of the Labourers' Acts, and to be the first County in Ireland to avail of such a measure, our County Manager instruct all M.O.s in the county to submit a survey from their respective dispensary districts of farmers under this valuation who are in urgent need of houses by reason of the fact that they are at present living in premises unfit for human habitation or needing extensive repairs. These farmers have hitherto offered no objection to contributing in their rates for the housing of the workers; and it is our belief that no ratepayer will begrudge the contribution needed from rates to give full effect to such a proposal.

"3. That a housing scheme be made available to that class which in the past twenty years of housing activity have had nothing effective done for them—namely, those who, needing houses, cannot afford to build for themselves, of any class in the community, and who are excluded from the benefit of the Labourers' Acts the basis of such scheme being that upon application and proof of the need, the public body will be authorised to erect the houses and let them at a rent which will repay the all-in cost over a period of fifty years, the Government to issue guaranteed loans at a very low rate of interest, it being our belief that such a scheme would meet the needs of farmers, businessmen, artisans and others under a specified valuation or income, who require to renovate or restore their houses, or erect new ones, and those who contemplate marriage and cannot procure housing accommodation."

Wicklow County Council All Votes
 Approved

A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11.30 a.m. on Monday, 10th Nov., 1947. The following members were present:—
Councillor J. J. McCrea, Chairman;
Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; Patrick Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, P. Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne, Liam O Laoighleis, J. Everett, T.D.; C. M. Byrne, and Joseph Jacob.
The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, was in attendance. Assistant County Engineer J. P. Caffrey represented the County Engineer, and Assistant Engineers P. J. Foley, R. L. Farrell and M. C. Kerrane were also present.

BUSINESS:

- To confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting held on the 13th Oct., 1947.
- To authorise the affixing of the seal of the Council to Deed of Mortgage in relation to Loan of £8,634 for the reconstruction of Ashford Bridge.
- To authorise the affixing of the seal of the Council to Deed of Mortgage in relation to Loan of £1,250 for the purchase of Fire Engine and equipment.
- To consider matters relating to the Draft Planning Scheme for the County Health District.
(Mr. Dermot O'Toole, M.R.I.A.I., Town Planning Consultant, will attend to discuss the preparation of the Scheme with the members.)
- To consider correspondence in regard to the reconstruction of Whitebridge, Avoca.
- To consider list of Turf Bogs at present vested in the Council.
- To consider White Paper issued by the Department of Health outlining proposals for the improvement of Health Services.
- To consider the Harbours Bill, 1947.
- To consider the following Notice of Motion handed in at the October Meeting of the Council:—
"That learning by the experience gained in the Inquiry recently held throughout the County for the confirmation of the Wicklow County Council Labourers' Order, we urge on the Government to give immediate effect by legislation to the following proposals as being matters which so seriously and urgently affect the well-being of our people:—
1. That working farmers of a valuation of £25 and under be included under the provisions of the Labourers' Acts, and that an order be issued to all local bodies immediately to set in motion, with a promise of priority, a house-building scheme for such applicants for better housing accommodation;
2. That in order to furnish proof of the need and urgency for such an extension of the Labourers' Acts, and to be the first county in Ireland to avail of such a measure our County Manager instruct all Medical Officers in the County to submit a survey from their respective dispensary districts of farmers under this valuation who are in urgent need of houses by reason of the fact that they are at present living in premises unfit for human habitation or needing extensive repairs. These farmers have hitherto offered no objection to contributing in their rates for the housing of the workers; and it is our belief that no ratepayer will begrudge the contribution needed from rates to give full effect to such a proposal;
That a housing scheme be made available to that class which in a past twenty years of housing activity have had nothing effective done for them—namely those who, needing houses, cannot afford to build for themselves, of any class in the community and who are excluded from the benefit of the Labourers' Acts, the basis of such scheme being that upon application and proof of the need, the public body will be authorised to erect the houses and let them at a rent which will repay the all-in cost over a period of fifty years, the Government to issue guaranteed loans at a very low rate of interest, it being our belief that such a scheme would meet the needs of farmers, businessmen, artisans and others under a specified valuation or income, who require to renovate or restore their houses, or erect new ones, and those who contemplate marriage and cannot procure housing accommodation."
- Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.

Item No. 1—Minutes:

The County Secretary stated that the Minutes of the previous Meeting had not yet been received from the Printers. The Council decided to adjourn consideration of the Minutes to next Meeting.
Arising out of the Minutes, the County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Agriculture:—

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

33 St. Stephen's Green North,
Dublin.

E.4103/47. 31st October, 1947.
Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 21st instant transmitting the text of a resolution adopted at a meeting of the Wicklow County Council held on the 13th October regarding increased prices for wheat, I am directed by the Minister for Agriculture to state that it is not proposed to make any alteration in the price already announced for wheat of the 1947 crop.

The fixing of the price of sugar beet grown under contract, for disposal to Comhlucht Siuicre Eireann Teoranta is a matter for settlement between the company and the Beet Growers' Association. A copy of your letter has accordingly been sent to the company for attention.

I am Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

P. McCARTHY, for Secretary

The Secretary,

Wicklow County Council,
Court House, Wicklow.

The Council directed that copy of the letter be forwarded to the County Committee of Agriculture.

Appointment of Member on Vocational Education Committee:

The County Secretary stated that he had been informed by the Chief Executive Officer of the County Vocational Education Committee that Rev. Fr. F. Sheridan, C.C., Avoca, had resigned his membership on the Committee owing to his transfer to Dublin. The Council was requested to select his successor to fill the vacancy caused by his resignation.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Seconded by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.;

Resolved—That we hereby appoint Very Rev. Fr. Gleeson, P.P., Aughrim, as a member of the County Wicklow Vocational Education Committee, in place of Rev. Fr. Sheridan, who has resigned.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 2—Sealing of Mortgage to Board of Works re Loan of £8,634—Ashford Bridge.

Proposed by Councillor T. Brennan, T.D.;

Seconded by Councillor P. Doyle.

Resolved—That our Corporate Seal be affixed to the Deed of Mortgage of this date now read, whereby security is given to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland for repayment of £8,634 proposed to be advanced by them to us under the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 3—Sealing of Mortgage to National Bank, Ltd., for Loan of £1,250 for the purchase of Fire Engine.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. McCrea;

Seconded by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.;

Resolved—That pursuant to the letter of sanction of the Department of Local Government, dated 10th October, 1947, the sum of £1,250 be borrowed from the National Bank, Limited, to defray expenditure on the purchase of a fire engine, said Loan to be repaid within a period of ten years with interest at the rate of one half per cent., under the Irish Banks' Rate varying with a minimum of £4 per cent. per annum, said loan to be secured by a Mortgage over the rates available for that purpose, AND that the Seal of the Council be affixed to said Mortgage.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 4—Town and Regional Planning Acts:

Mr. Dermot O'Toole, M.R.I.A.I., Town Planning Consultant, addressed the Meeting in regard to the survey of the County on which he was engaged. He submitted a land utilisation map which he was in course of preparing and stated that he would appreciate the views of the members of the Council on the various points which would be dealt with in the survey.

The points mentioned by Mr. O'Toole included the following:—Soil survey, mineral survey, afforestation, rainfall density, meteorological stations, population trends and movements; the Council's policy in regard to cottage building, roads and other forms of communication; the preservation of certain districts as scenic areas; proposed water and sewerage schemes; electricity supply; scavenging and reclamation of land; the provision of community halls in Towns and Villages; archaeological items of interest, etc.

In the course of a discussion which followed it was agreed by the members that it would not be possible to deal with all the matters raised by Mr. O'Toole at that Meeting.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That we adjourn to a Special Meeting, consideration of the draft survey of the County as submitted by Mr. Dermot O'Toole, Town Planning Consultant, and that copies of Mr. O'Toole's statement be circulated to members of the Council.
Passed unanimously.

It was decided to hold a Special Meeting at 10.30 a.m. on Monday, 24th November, 1947.

Item No. 5—Reconstruction of Whitebridge, Avoca:

The County Secretary stated that it was desirable to bring to the notice of the Council the difficulties which had been experienced in connection with the reconstruction of White Bridge, Avoca.

The County Engineer, having reported that it would not be possible for the County Council to carry out the work of reconstructing the Bridge by direct labour, since the Council had not the necessary equipment for the work, tenders were invited by public advertisement in February, 1946.

Four tenders were received of which the Tender of Messrs. Lee, Arklow, in the sum of £985 was the lowest, and was accepted by the Council. Mr. Lee's Tender was subject to the provision that the Council should obtain the necessary Licence for the purchase of timber and that the work would commence when all the timber required was on the site. In April, 1946, the Department of Industry and Commerce informed the Council that the Minister would be prepared to grant a Licence to the Council for the purchase of the timber, but in the following month stated that the Licence could not be amended to authorise the Contractor to purchase the timber. Despite every effort it was not found possible to obtain timber from timber suppliers and when the County Engineer made inquiries with a view to the purchase of standing timber in September, 1946, an offer was received from Messrs. Glenart, Ltd., for the sale to the Council of timber on that Estate which would be convenient to the work at the Whitebridge. Following correspondence with the Department of Industry and Commerce and the Department of Lands the Council was informed that this timber could not be made available at the time. The Department of Lands indicated that they could possibly supply the timber required if advised of the dimensions, and later informed the Council that Messrs. Deans, Glenealy, could supply some of the timber. In December, 1946, the County Engineer informed the Department of the quantity of timber which could be obtained from Messrs. Deans and of the balance which would be required from Forestry Centres. In January, 1947, the Department forwarded particulars of the trees which could be made available in the forests at Glendalough, Camolin, Coolgreaney and Gorey. Due to weather conditions prevailing in the early part of 1947 it was not possible to avail of the Forestry Department's offer at that time. During the month of April, 1947, the timber was inspected by the Council's Engineers, and efforts were made to obtain tenders for the haulage of timber from the Forests. Tenders were invited by public advertisement but it was not until September, 1947, that any tender could be obtained. The total cost of the purchase of the timber, transport, sawing and delivery to the site of the work would amount to £545, which would exceed the amount provided in the Contract by about £150.

On the 24th October, 1947, Mr. Lee stated that on account of the increase in cost of Labour and materials since the date of his tender, the price of the work would now be increased to £1,377 10s., representing an increase of £392 since he held that his tender was conditional on the timber being available on the site. The Council's Law Agent has advised that the Council could not hold Mr. Lee to his original tender and it is recommended that the Contract be re-advertised.

Reference having been made by members of the Council to the fact that there was no agreed rate of wages for Builders' labourers in the rural districts, the Council agreed that the work should be re-advertised when agreement had been reached on this matter.

The County Manager stated that he had been in correspondence with the Federation of Builders' Contractors and Allied Employers in an effort to obtain agreed rate of wages between the Federation and the Unions. If the Federation was unable to reach agreement on the matter, he would be obliged to enter into negotiations directly with the Unions.

Item No. 6—Turf Bogs:

The County Secretary submitted particulars of Bogs which remain vested in the County Council for the period to the 20th April, 1949. The Bogs vested include bogs at Cloughoge, Ballinastoe, Ballygobbin, Ballytiege, Aughavannagh, Revel, Paroreaga, Aughavannagh Mountain, Knocknaskeagh, Ballynuttagh, Kylesbeg, Granamore, Garryknock, Ballinagee, Ballinasillogue, Kippure East, Ballycreene Upper and Ballinatone.

Item No. 7—White Paper on Health Services:

Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey drew attention of the members to a discussion which had taken place at a Meeting of Limerick County

Council, and stated that the medical profession had not been consulted by the Government in regard to the Public Health Act, 1947, and the re-organisation of the Health Services under the Act.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond.

That the Government be requested to receive a deputation from the medical profession in Ireland in relation to the proposals for the improvement of the Health Services.

A vote having been called for it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

In Favour—Councillor J. J. McCrea, P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, P. Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Ed. Byrne, J. Everett, T.D., and Joseph Jacob—(11).

Against—Councillors T. Brennan, T.D.; J. O'Reilly, William Lawless and C. M. Byrne—(4).

The motion was declared carried by eleven votes in favour to four against.

Item No. 8—Harbours Bill, 1947:

The County Secretary explained to the members the principal changes proposed in the Harbours Bill, 1947. A local authority could, in addition to the powers previously available, make a free grant to a Harbour Authority; repay all or part of the Loan raised by the authority, or remit in whole or in part any debt incurred by that authority.

Where the amount raised by a County Council in order to defray the cost of assistance to Harbour Authorities in a local financial year, exceeds a rate of 4d. in the £ in the County at large, the Minister may contribute half of such excess as a contribution towards such cost.

Item No. 9—Provision of Housing:

Proposed by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Seconded by Councillor J. J. McCrea;

Resolved: "That learning by the experience gained in the Inquiry recently held throughout the County for the confirmation of the Wicklow County Council Labourers' Order, we urge on the Government to give immediate effect by legislation to the following proposals as being matters which so seriously and urgently affect the well-being of our people:—

"1. That working farmers of a Valuation of £25 and under be included under the provisions of the Labourers' Acts, and that an order be issued to all local bodies immediately to set in motion, with a promise of priority, a house-building scheme for such applicants for better housing accommodation;

"2. That in order to furnish proof of the need and urgency for such an extension of the Labourers' Acts, and to be the first county in Ireland to avail of such a measure, our County Manager instruct all Medical Officers in the County to submit a survey from their respective dispensary districts of farmers under this valuation who are in urgent need of houses by reason of the fact that they are at present living in premises unfit for human habitation or needing extensive repairs. These farmers have hitherto offered no objection to contributing in their rates for the housing of the workers; and it is our belief that no ratepayer will begrudge the contribution needed from rates to give full effect to such a proposal.

"3. That a housing scheme be made available to that class which in the past twenty years of housing activity have had nothing effective done for them—namely, those who, needing houses, cannot afford to build for themselves, of any class in the community, and who are excluded from the benefit of the Labourers' Acts, the basis of such scheme being that upon application and proof of the need, the public body will be authorised to erect the houses and let them at a rent which will repay the all-in cost over a period of fifty years, the Government to issue guarantee loans at a very low rate of interest, it being our belief that such a scheme would meet the needs of farmers, businessmen, artisans, and others under a specified valuation or income, who require to renovate or restore their houses, or erect new ones, and those who contemplate marriage and cannot procure housing accommodation."

Councillor J. J. Metcalfe in proposing the resolution stated that his object was to provide better facilities for small farmers, artisans and others to renovate or repair their houses, or erect new houses. He considered that the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts did not meet the requirements of this class of the community.

Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., while supporting the principle of the motion suggested that it might be adjourned until the provision of the new Housing Bill, which will shortly be introduced in the Dail, were made available. He understood that the new Bill would provide additional facilities for the provision of houses for persons of the class referred to.

Councillor J. J. McCrea, supporting the motion, stated that he considered it would not be desirable to postpone the motion and that the views of the Council on this matter should be submitted before the Housing Bill was considered by the Dail.

Councillor Ledwidge suggested that the valuation of £25 referred to in the motion was somewhat high, and might be reduced to £15.

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., pointed out that the valuations in County Wicklow were proportionately higher than in the adjoining County of Kildare, and that the valuation was not necessarily an indication of the ability of the landowner to provide proper housing accommodation.

The motion was passed as submitted.

It was the view of the Council that copy of the Resolution should be sent to the Minister, and also to each County Council.

Appointment of Lorry Driver:

Councillor B. Farrell stated he wished to make an inquiry regarding the proposed appointment of a lorry driver in West Wicklow. On the suggestion of Councillor J. Everett, T.D., it was decided that the members for West Wicklow would discuss the matter with the County Manager at the close of the meeting.

Supplementary Allowance to Old Age Pensioners:

The following letter from Aughrim Branch of Cothroma na Feinne, addressed to the Presiding Chairman, was read by the County Secretary:

COTHROM NA FEINNE,
Aughrim.

To: The Presiding Chairman,
Wicklow County Council,
Courthouse, Wicklow.

Dear Mr. Chairman,

We the Old Age Pensioners of Aughrim, respectfully remind you and through you the members of your Council the serious plight of our members. Doubtless you are aware of the resolution passed unanimously by your Council at their meeting of 12th May, increasing the Supplementary Allowance from 2s. 6d. to 5s. Now we are informed that this resolution has been gullotined by Mr. Sean McEnteg, but his colleague, Mr. Frank Aiken, made no concession when introducing his memorable Supplementary Budget. Denying us our leisurely smoke, the one consolation we have in the autumn of our lives. A concession which our contemporaries in the expropriated Six Counties enjoy under our hereditary enemies. Yet your Council democratically elected and representative of Urban and Rural Wicklow knowing well the plight of the pensioners in a country which guarantees equal opportunities for all—at least under the Constitution. What are our opportunities on a maximum of 15s. per week—semi-starvation. Apparently the doors of

the Custom House are locked, bolted and barred against sanctioning this paltry 2s. 6d.

JOHN QUIGLEY,

Secretary.

LAURENCE REDMOND,

President, Aughrim Branch.

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., stated that he had raised the question of supplementary allowances at the previous meeting, and that the Co. Manager had investigated certain cases and had supplied him with information in regard to them. It was his view, however, that the information available to the Manager was not, in all cases, adequate, and that certain of these cases should be further investigated.

The County Manager stated that the Grant available from the Department was sufficient to allow payment of the extra 2s. 6d. to about one-third of the pensioners in the County. All Old Age Pensioners had not applied for the allowance, and in fact the number of applications refused was very small. Of the list of eight applications which had been refused, as supplied to Councillor Everett, two or three had since been allowed. Within the monies available the extra allowance was made in all cases where necessity existed. Councillor J. Everett, T.D., stated that the allowance had been refused in the case of a man whose son was working, and pointed out that only the amount which the son could contribute to the expenses of the household should be taken into account.

Proposed by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.;

Seconded by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Resolved—That we recommend the County Manager to allow a Supplementary Allowance of 2s. 6d. to all Old Age Pensioners in County Wicklow, and that the Department of Local Government be requested to allow an additional Grant to cover this expenditure.

Passed unanimously.

PUBLIC LIGHTING:

Councillor P. Ledwidge inquired whether Public Lighting could now be provided at Monastery.

The County Secretary stated that the Electricity Supply Board had been asked to quote for the supply of public lighting at Enniskerry, Glenealy and Killool. The Board had pointed out, however, that the number of public lamps required should be kept at the minimum.

Councillor O'Reilly inquired whether petrol lamps for public lighting could be provided in villages in West Wicklow.

The County Secretary stated that to date no allowance of petrol had been made available for this purpose, but that a further inquiry would be addressed to the Department of Industry and Commerce in the matter.

ROAD RESTORATION:

Councillor J. J. Metcalfe referred to the return submitted to the Department in regard to Road Restoration Work carried out during the period 1st April, 1946, and 30th September, 1947, and asked that particulars of the work done might be circulated to the members.

The County Manager stated that these particulars would be made available.

KILBRIDE ROAD:

Councillor P. McCarthy referred to the condition of Kilbride Road which carried a considerable amount of traffic particularly since the opening of the new Hotel at Shelton Abbey.

The County Manager stated that the road in question was a County Road, and that the work required to put it into proper condition would be work of improvement rather than restoration, and accordingly would not rank for recoupment under the existing grants. He agreed that in this County many County Roads carried very heavy tourist traffic and possibly more traffic than would be carried by Main Roads in other Counties.

Councillor P. McCarthy stated that he would hand in a Notice of Motion requesting that this road be declared to be a Main Road.

HOSPITAL SCHEMES:

In reply to Councillor J. Everett, T.D., the County Manager stated that the Architect had been asked to prepare amended plans for improvements to Ballyglass Hospital. The plans had not yet been received, but he understood that the Architect had been seriously ill.

The views of the Department of Local Government in regard to the proposed sites for new Hospitals had not yet been received.

LETTING OF COTTAGE:

In reply to an inquiry from Councillor P. Ledwidge in regard to the letting of a cottage to Mr. Kearney, the County Manager stated that particulars in regard to this letting would be available at the next Meeting of the Council.

KILCOOL WATER SUPPLY:

Councillor W. Lawless stated that in his view it was not possible to improve the amount of water supply at Kilcool and that a new supply would be required.

The County Manager suggested that the County Engineer's report on the operation of the filters which were recently overhauled might be awaited.

KILQUIGGAN BURIAL GROUND:

Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., stated that the sod fence at Kilquiggan Burial Ground was apparently broken down, and asked what action the Council was taking in the matter.

The County Secretary stated that the Council had agreed to the provision of a concrete wall at this Burial Ground, and that the work would commence in the coming week.

NOTICES TO QUIT—KILCOOL DISTRICT:

Councillor Edward Byrne inquired the reason for the service of the Notice to Quit on Mr. Gahan, Kilcool.

The County Manager stated that following investigations recently made, it had been found that Mr. Gahan owned a farm of valuation of £34, and still resided in the house on the farm. His family occupied the cottage. In view of representations made by members, the case would be reviewed.

In reply to Councillor J. Everett, T.D., in regard to Notice served on Mrs. Byrne, Pretty Bush, the Manager stated that this case also would be reviewed if Mrs. Byrne gave an undertaking to reside in the cottage and not to sub-let.

The County Manager stated that he had been informed by the Dublin Corporation that Mr. Shannon, the tenant of a cottage at Kilcoole, who was employed by the Corporation, had not, as alleged, possession of a house in Dublin.

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., supported by Councillor W. Lawless, asked that the Department of Local Government be requested to submit the name of the person who forwarded the complaints in regard to tenants in the Kilcoole District.

The following Notice of Motion was handed in by Councillor P. McCarthy and accepted by the Chairman:—

NOTICE OF MOTION.

"I hereby give notice that at the next Meeting of this Council I shall move that the Council request the Minister for Local Government to declare the road from Avoca to Arklow (known as Kilbride Road) to be a Main Road."

A Special Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, on Monday, 24th November, 1947, at 10.30 a.m., for the purpose of considering matters relating to the survey of the County in course of preparation by the Town Planning Consultant.

The following members were present:—

Councillor J. J. McCrea, Chairman.
Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Peter Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, L. O. Laoighleis, J. Everett, T.D.; C. M. Byrne and Joseph Jacob.

The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery was in attendance, and Mr. J. P. Caffrey, representing the County Engineer, was also present. Mr. D. O'Toole, M.R.I.A.I., Town Planning Consultant, attended the Meeting.

The following summary of matters, which had been referred to by the Town Planning Consultant at the previous Meeting, had been circulated to the members:—

TOWN PLANNING SCHEME.

Summary of Items which Town Planning Consultant Desires to Discuss with Council and Obtain their Views Thereon.

GEOLOGY—MINERAL SURVEY.

Geological Maps of the County are available, but the Council may consider that further examination should be made of the mineral deposits in the County and the possibility of working them. Primarily this is a matter for the Department of Industry and Commerce and Mianraí Teoranta. Possibility of greater use being made of Granite and other stone for building and other purposes might be considered. There are granite quarries at Ballyknocken, Arklow, etc.

SOIL SURVEY.

A partial soil survey of Wicklow County already has been made by Mr. Freeman, F.R.C.S. The Council might consider it desirable to have this survey extended and completed. In other counties soil surveys have been found to be very useful for agricultural and other purposes.

ARTERIAL DRAINAGE.

Wicklow does not seem to be presented with the same problems as, say, some of the Midland Counties in this respect. Flooding does, however, occur at some places in the County owing to the heavy run-off from the mountain water-sheds. The flooding which occurs seems to be intermittent in character.

RAINFALL DENSITY.

Records of Rainfall density are useful in relation to agriculture and especially in connection with the provision of water supply services.

COMMUNITIES AND POPULATION TRENDS.

There is a tendency for movement of population towards the towns and towards the East coast. In the latter area there has been much new building in recent years. The tendency towards building (very often by urban dwellers) of "week-end cottages" and huts in the eastern part of the county would have detrimental results in a brief period if a measure of control were not exercised.

ROADS.

In a Scheme of road improvements, the straightening out of all important traffic roads is not altogether necessary, nor completely desirable. One of the attractions of County Wicklow is the new views and vistas which are opened up round each corner on the existing roads. Improvement of the road surface and widening at certain places would be essential. The construction of motor roads to carry very fast moving traffic would scarcely, however, be a matter of immediate necessity on most of the main roads in the County. Super-elevation at corners and widening at corners which may be very dangerous probably would effect a considerable improvement. Apart altogether from the question of prohibitive cost, schemes of radical change in road layout would eventually detract from scenic beauty. The County Engineer is taking these matters into consideration in the schemes for road improvement, which are being designed by him.

There are a number of roads in the County which it would be very desirable to have improved from the tourist standpoint. They would open up to visitors areas of the County which at present are very little visited and are only accessible to motor traffic with some difficulty. The first road is the **WICKLOW GAP ROAD** from **GLEN DALOUGH TO HOLLYWOOD**. At present work is being carried out on a section of this road at the Glendalough end. Another road of tourist importance is that from **GLENCREE TO SALLYGAP ON TO LARAGH**. The section from Glencree to Sallygap already has been improved, and is now in good condition. At present work is being carried out on part of the road between Sallygap and Laragh. The road from **SALLYGAP TO ROUNDWOOD VIA LOUGH TAY** (one of the most charming roads in the County) also requires improvement. The Old Military Road from **DERRYBAWN TO GLENMULRE** if improved would open up a stretch of countryside which at present is infrequently penetrated by the tourist. From **DRUMGOFF TO AUGHAVANNAGH** there is another section of this Military Road, which if improved, would give access to another area of scenic beauty. The Council already has asked that the road from **AUGHBRIM-AUGHAVANNAGH-RATHDANGAN** be declared a Main Road. This would be another tourist road of importance. Apart from providing access for tourist traffic, it is evident that the improvement of the Wicklow Gap road and the Aughrim-Aughavannagh-Rathdangan road would greatly facilitate communication between the eastern and western portions of Wicklow County. At present the mountain ranges in the centre of the County constitute a barrier between communication from east to west, and the improvement of these two roads would be of considerable benefit.

Wicklow, owing to its proximity to Dublin and to all cross-Channel centres of population, is in a very favourable position to attract tourist traffic. Most visitors to the County, however, restrict their travels to the east coast resorts of Bray, Wicklow and Arklow, and the standard routes to the Vale of Avoca and Glendalough. It is obvious that there are many other places in the County which equal in the charm of their scenery Avoca or Glendalough, but unfortunately owing to imperfect communication most visitors scarcely ever see them. The construction of the new lake at Blessington renders it desirable that a suitable road be provided at certain places. Portions of the present road are too narrow for modern traffic. **THE GLEN OF TMAAL ROAD** is another which might be improved. The Council already has had this matter under consideration, and has asked the Department of Defence to contribute towards the cost, since there is heavy military traffic on the road.

The foregoing are some of the roadways which the Council may agree that it would be desirable to improve.

ACCESS TO THE SEA:

The railway line from Bray to Wicklow cuts off ready access to the sea in a number of places. This, however, is not a drawback of any great importance since, apart from Greystones, there are not important stretches of strand between Bray and Wicklow. However, between Wicklow and Arklow it seems advisable that there should be improved access to the sea. At present the only access to the Silver Strand is through private property. Likewise at Brittas, the land adjoining the sea is privately owned. The Council already has arranged for the construction of a coast road between Wicklow and Arklow, and it seems advisable that public access to the sea at points between Wicklow and Arklow should be procured. This proposal would involve the Council in the cost of the acquisition of land, but it is considered that it would enhance the attraction of this section of the coast.

PRESERVATION OF PLACES OF SCENIC INTEREST:

One of the attractions of Wicklow County is its woodlands. In this respect it differs from most other parts of the country, where wooded scenery is infrequently found. There is provision under the Town and Regional Planning Acts allowing a local authority to prohibit the felling of trees, but such prohibition would involve the local authority in the payment of compensation. Owing to the fact that timber, either for commercial purposes or for fuel, is so very scarce it could not be expected that a local authority would agree to prohibit the reasonable felling of trees. Furthermore, tree felling need not necessarily detract from scenic beauty if the trees are felled with discrimination, and if suitable re-planting is carried out.

TOWNS AND VILLAGES:

Some of the towns and villages could be improved by the removal of derelict sites, and such improvements as the planting of trees and shrubs in suitable locations.

There are very few village halls to meet the social needs of the community. The reservation of sites for such halls would be useful. The Council could assist local efforts in this way.

COUNCIL'S HOUSING SCHEME—SITES OF COTTAGES, ETC.:

It has been the practice for local authorities to site cottages as scattered units throughout the countryside. In recent times it has been suggested that consideration might be given to the grouping of cottages. The grouping of cottages has a number of features to recommend it. Amenities, such as electric light, water supply and sewerage could be more readily provided if cottages were sited in groups. It would scarcely ever be practicable to provide these amenities for cottages which are scattered as units throughout the countryside. Again, it should lead to a reduction in building costs, especially where, as in Wicklow, the cottages are built by direct labour, as it would reduce the distance for the transport of materials and workmen. Maintenance costs also should be lessened, as repairs could be more readily carried out. The siting of cottages, however, is a problem attendant with many difficulties: the wishes of the applicant have to be taken into account and, in addition, employers of agricultural labour often desire that the workers shall not be too far removed from the place of employment. Apart from the question of the provision of additional services in the future, the grouping of cottages would result in the establishment of rural communities, and lead to possibilities for the improvement of social life in the countryside. The wives of agricultural labourers would be closer to shopping centres and to the services of the local Doctor or Nurse whenever required. The children would have shorter distances to travel to school. The grouping of cottages, however, would probably require that there should be a reduction in the size of the plots attached to them, or

the provision of allotments at a distance from the houses. There is a wide divergence of view as to the optimum size of such plots. It is contended that in very many cases the plots of half-acre at present provided are not fully utilised. The cottages in Wicklow County generally are of a good and attractive design. The surroundings might receive more attention at times. In this respect the planting of a few trees and shrubs would be an advantage. Fruit trees especially would be very useful to the cottier, and perhaps the Council at some time might consider a scheme for the supplying of such items to cottage tenants at a reduced cost.

CONTROL OF ADVERTISEMENTS:

Control over the erection of advertisements throughout the County would be very desirable. Most of the advertising signs which are found on the approaches to villages and towns, and which are now even erected in attractive rural surroundings, are unsightly and besides may be a distraction to drivers. The Council may consider the adoption of Bye-laws under the Advertisement Regulations Act, 1909.

SCAVENGING AND DUMPING ARRANGEMENTS:

The utilisation of household, street and builders refuse in schemes of reclamation in suitable places would be desirable.

AFFORESTATION—SECONDARY INDUSTRIES, ETC.:

In the past twenty years or so considerable afforestation has been carried out by the State Forestry Department in County Wicklow. The Council might consider, however, that this programme of afforestation could be further accelerated. It is understood that one of the difficulties of the Forestry Department is the acquisition of land; if a scheme could be devised whereby the persons from whom the Department desires to purchase land could be allowed to retain an interest in the plantations and be provided with employment in caretaking them, and attending them, it might overcome this difficulty. Many parts of the County are unsuited to agriculture, and provide only very rough and limited pasture. These areas, however, seem suitable for forestry. In the coming years forestry could be a source of much wealth to the County and could give additional employment. Moreover, as in other countries, the presence of forests would result in the establishment of secondary industries based on timber supplies. The completion of a soil survey could be useful to afforestation as well as agriculture.

AIR TRANSPORT:

During the coming years it is to be expected that there will be a considerable expansion in Air Transport. Consequently, the selection of suitable landing sites will be a matter of importance, especially in the vicinity of populous areas.

FINANCE: In reply to inquiries from members the County Manager stated that the cost of preparing the Town Planning Scheme would amount to £200, and in addition a fee of 7s. 6d. per report was payable to the Consultant in respect of advice on proposals for buildings, etc., submitted to him during the period of the preparation of the Scheme.

The County Manager pointed out that the proposals which would be embodied in the Scheme were of a long-term character.

SOIL SURVEY: The Council agreed that it was desirable to have a Soil Survey of the County carried out. The matter was referred to the Committee of Agriculture for consideration.

ARTERIAL DRAINAGE: The Council agreed with the suggestion of the Town Planning Consultant that it would be desirable, at a future date, to have a Joint Committee formed representing the Counties of Wicklow, Carlow and Wexford, so that joint action might be taken with regard to arterial drainage.

RAINFALL DENSITY: The Council approved of the principle of having a series of gaugings taken throughout the County to ascertain the rainfall density in the different districts. The Town Planning Consultant was asked to suggest suitable machinery for the carrying out of this work.

COMMUNITIES AND POPULATION TRENDS: The Council agreed that there was a tendency generally for the movement of population towards towns and the east coast.

Councillors for the western area referred to the number of derelict sites in towns in their areas. The Chairman stated that part of the reason for the trend towards towns was the lack of housing facilities in the rural areas.

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., referring to derelict sites in the village of Rathnew, suggested that the Council might consider the provision of small houses or flats on these sites, which were the property of the Council, for the purpose of accommodating old persons and single persons. Other Council houses at present occupied by such persons could then be made available for families. He suggested that this proposal might be brought to the notice of the Government in connection with the Housing Bill, which was now under consideration.

The County Manager stated he would examine the position in this regard.

ROADS: Members of the Council pointed out that the roads referred to by the Town Planning Consultant had already been under consideration by the Council for many years.

The County Manager stated that Government Grants had been received towards the improvements of the Wicklow Gap Road and the Glencree-Sallygap-Laragh Road. It was expected that further Grants would be made available for the improvement of this road.

Councillor W. Hammond stated that the roads from Derrybawn to Glenmalur and from Drumgoff to Aughavannagh were not used to any considerable extent, and if improved would be mainly of advantage to tourist traffic. He considered that the more important roads should receive prior attention.

The Council agreed generally with the suggestions put forward.

ACCESS TO THE SEA: The County Manager stated that application had been made for a Grant for the construction of the Wicklow Section of the Wicklow-Arklow Coast Road, and that plans and estimates had been submitted to the Department. He pointed out that the construction of this road would not provide additional access to the sea, since the land between the road and the sea was owned by private individuals, and that the lack of access to the sea might affect the allocation of the Grant.

The Council directed that the Council's officials should investigate the possibility of acquiring rights of access to the sea from the proposed new road.

Councillor P. McCarthy referred to the provision in the Plan for Arklow Urban District of a road to Arklow Rock, via the Golf Links. Portion of this road would be in the County area. The Town Planning Consultant stated that the County Council and Arklow Urban District Council could co-operate in regard to this proposal.

PRESERVATION OF PLACES OF SCENIC INTEREST: The Council agreed that every effort should be made to preserve the natural attractions of the County.

TOWNS AND VILLAGES: Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., stated that it would be desirable to have trees planted on either side of the Main Street in Carnew, and inquired as to the Council's powers.

The County Manager stated that the Council had authority to plant trees on road margins under the Roadside Trees Order 1943, and referred to the Scheme recently carried out by Wexford Co. Council in this regard.

In reply to inquiries from members, the Manager stated that the Council had power under the 1941 Act to provide a hall for an approved local council. In view, however, of the heavy commitments of the Council, he considered that if the Council provided a site for a village hall, the funds for the erection of the hall might be raised by local effort.

COUNCIL'S HOUSING SCHEMES SITES OF COTTAGES, ETC.: While the Council considered that in many instances it would be necessary to build isolated cottages, so that agricultural labourers might reside convenient to their work, it was agreed that cottages might be grouped wherever possible, so as to facilitate the provision of amenities such as water and sewerage which could not be made available to individual cottages.

CONTROL OF ADVERTISEMENTS: The Council agreed that it was necessary to exercise control over the erection of advertisements throughout the County.

Councillor C. M. Byrne handed in the following Notice of Motion, which was accepted by the Chairman:—

"I or somebody on my behalf will move at the next Meeting of the Council that the County Council adopt Bye-laws under the Advertisements Regulations Act, 1909."

SCAVENGING AND DUMPING GROUNDS: Members of the Council stated that it would be desirable to have recognised Dumping Grounds available in each Village.

AFFORESTATION—SECONDARY INDUSTRIES, ETC.: The Council noted that the Forestry Department had carried out a considerable amount of planting in recent years, and agreed that this programme of afforestation should be accelerated.

The Town Planning Consultant suggested that the County Committee of Agriculture might submit to him their views in regard to matters to be dealt with in the survey.

In view of the fact that Monday, December 8th, the date fixed for the next Meeting of the Council, would be a Church Holiday, the Council decided to meet instead on Tuesday, December 9th, 1947.

W. Liban

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A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11.30 a.m. on Tuesday, 9th December, 1947.

The following members were present:—
Councillor J. J. McCrea, Chairman.
Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; Patk. Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Peter Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne, Liam O Laoighleis, J. Everett, T.D.; C. M. Byrne and Joseph Jacob.
The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, was in attendance.
The County Engineer, and Assistant Engineers P. J. Foley, J. P. Caffrey, R. L. Farrell and M. C. Kerrane were also present.

BUSINESS:

1. To confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting held on 10th November, 1947.
2. To pass the usual Resolution in connection with the Council's application for (a) overdraft accommodation for the quarter ending 31st March, 1948, on the County Council's General Account, and (b) overdraft accommodation on the Turf Production Account for the same period.
3. Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarship Scheme, 1948. To consider letter, dated 22nd November, 1947, from the Department of Education.
4. University Scholarship Scheme, 1948. To consider letter dated 21st November, 1947, from the University College, Dublin, enclosing recommendations of the Academic Council in regard to the award of Scholarships under the Scheme. (Copy of the Scheme for 1947, and of recommendations of Academic Council enclosed).
5. To consider the Provisional Road Works Scheme for 1948-9 as submitted by the County Engineer.
6. To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor P. McCarthy:—
"I hereby give Notice that at the next Meeting of the Council I shall move that the Council request the Minister for Local Government to declare the road from Avoca to Arklow (known as the Kilbride Road) to be a Main Road."
7. To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor C. M. Byrne:—
"That I, or somebody on my behalf, will move at the next meeting of the Council that the County Council adopt By-laws under the Advertisement Regulations Act, 1907."
8. To fill the vacancy on Baltinglass No. 1 Old Age Pensions Sub-Committee, caused by the death of Mr. Matthew Byrne.
9. To consider the Architect's report on extensions to and the improvement of Baltinglass District Hospital.
10. To consider letter from the Department of Local Government regarding the acquisition of the premises occupied by the County Committee of Agriculture.
11. To consider letter, dated 26th November, 1947, from the Department of Social Welfare, regarding payment of allowances to Old Age Pensioners under the Emergency Supplemental Cash Allowances Scheme.
12. To consider letter from Messrs. Mianari Teoranta in regard to the Town and Regional Planning Acts, and the housing of mine workers at Avoca.
13. To consider resolution received from Fermoy Urban District Council, protesting against the increased taxation on beer and tobacco.
14. Inquiries arising out of the County Manager's Orders.

Item No. 1—Minutes:

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond:
Resolved—That we hereby confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting held on 13th October, 1947.

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond:
Resolved—That we hereby confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting held on 10th November, 1947.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 2—Overdraft Accommodation:

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;
Seconded by Councillor J. J. McCrea:
Resolved—That we hereby authorise our County Secretary to make application to the Minister for Local Government and to the Council's Treasurer, The National Bank, Ltd., Wicklow, for such financial accommodation by way of temporary overdraft on the Co. Council's General Account as may be required, and we hereby direct that the maximum for the quarter ending 31st March, 1948, shall not exceed £70,000.

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;
Seconded by Councillor J. Jacob:
Resolved—That we hereby authorise our County Secretary to make application to the Minister for Local Government and to the Council's Treasurer, The National Bank, Ltd., Wicklow, for such financial accommodation by way of temporary overdraft on the Co. Council's Turf Production Account as may be required, and we hereby direct that the maximum for the quarter ending 31st March, 1948, shall not exceed £7,000.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 3—Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools, 1948.

The County Secretary gave particulars of the letter, dated 22nd November, 1947, received from the Department of Education in which the approval of the Minister to the Scheme for 1948 subject to certain conditions, had been conveyed.

In regard to Clause 4, the Department's letter stated that it was noted "that the allowance permitted in respect of each child in excess of three is the same both in the Valuation and the Income conditions—viz., £25. The allowance of £25 Valuation appears to be disproportionately high and the Council should, accordingly, reconsider this matter."

The County Secretary gave particulars in regard to valuation of land in different areas in the County, and, following discussion, it was

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Resolved—That we hereby determine to carry into execution the Scheme of Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools, 1948, as approved by the Minister for Education in letter dated 22nd November, 1947, subject to the following amendments of Clause 4:—

(a) The Valuation limits to be:

- £200 in the case of families of 3 children or less.
- £225 in the case of families of 4 children or less.
- £250 in the case of families of 5 children or less.
- £275 in the case of families of 6 children or more.

(b) The Income limits to be:

- £500 in case of families of 3 children or less.
- £525 in case of families of 4 children or less.
- £550 in case of families of 5 children or less.
- £575 in case of families of 6 children or more.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 4—University Scholarship Scheme, 1948.

The Council, having considered the recommendations received from University College Dublin, in regard to the award of University Scholarships, recommended the adoption of the Scheme as follows:—

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME, 1948.

Wicklow County Council offer for competition three (a) Scholarships value One Hundred and Twenty-five Pounds (£125) each annually tenable for three years at University College, Dublin (National University of Ireland) only, subject to the following conditions:—

1. One Scholarship will be reserved for allocation to a student pursuing a course for a degree in the Faculty of General Agriculture. Candidates who intend to compete for this Scholarship must indicate their intention on the Application Form. (See Clause 11).
2. Candidates who shall not be more than nineteen (19) years of age, nor less than sixteen (16) years of age on the first day of January, 1948, must be children of parents or guardians, who have resided continuously in the County Wicklow for three years previous to the 1st January, 1948.
3. Competition for these Scholarships shall be confined to children whose parents or guardians
 - (a) Occupy agricultural land the annual Poor Law Valuation of which does not exceed:—
 - (i) £200 in the case of families of 3 children or less.
 - (ii) £225 in the case of families of 4 children.
 - (iii) £250 in the case of families of 5 children.
 - (iv) £275 in the case of families of 6 children or more.
 - (b) Derive an annual income from all sources not exceeding:
 - (i) £500 in the case of families of 3 children or less.
 - (ii) £525 in the case of families of 4 children.
 - (iii) £550 in the case of families of 5 children.
 - (iv) £575 in the case of families of 6 children or more.

Children referred to in this Clause must be under 19 years of age.

4. These University Scholarships will be awarded by Wicklow County Council on the recommendation of the Academic Council of University College, Dublin, on the results obtained by candidates for such Scholarships at the Leaving Certificate Examination to be held in 1948, subject to the following conditions:—

- (a) Candidates must pass the examination generally and in addition must
 - (1) Pass in the subjects required for Matriculation in the National University of Ireland;
 - (2) Pass in the subjects required for Matriculation for the faculty in which they intend to pursue courses for a degree.
- (b) Candidates must present five subjects for the examination, one of which must be Irish. At least four Honours subjects must be taken. 100 marks will be allotted to each Honours subject, apart from Honours Mathematics to which 200 marks will be allotted, and which will rank as two subjects. Where Honours Mathematics is taken, only three other subjects need be taken. 50 marks are allotted to the fifth subject if a Pass subject.
- (c) Subject to the provisions of Clause 1, the three Scholarships will be awarded to the candidates obtaining the highest total marks. A minimum of 225 marks is required for the award of a Scholarship.

5. The following are the recognised subjects:—
Mathematics, Botany, Irish, French, Latin, German, Greek, Italian, English, Spanish, Physics, History, Chemistry, Geography, Commerce, Applied Mathematics (with experimental treatment), Music, General Science.
6. The successful candidate must reside in the Collegiate Hostel when possible, or either place of residence approved by the Deans of Residence.
7. The County Council will pay over 50 per cent. of the Scholarship in November of each year to the Bursar of University College, Dublin, and the remaining 50 per cent. in the following February, to be disbursed by him. The Bursar will deduct from the Scholarship the fees due to the College, and will pay the balance to the holder in three instalments, one in each term.
8. Applications for the renewal of the payments in respect of the Second and Third Year shall be made by each Scholarship Holder, and no payment will be made in respect of the Second Year in the case of a Scholarship holder who fails to produce a Certificate that he, or she, has passed the first University Examination, and also a Certificate from the College or the duly authorised Officer thereof, of good conduct and satisfactory progress during the previous year, and no payment will be made in respect of the Third Year in the case of a Scholar who fails to produce such a Certificate of satisfactory conduct and progress in respect of the year previous to the application for renewal.
9. A renewal of the scholarship for the Second and Third Year will not be granted if the student takes up paid employment or transfers to Evening Classes.
10. Any Scholarship in respect of which no application for renewal is received within such time as may be fixed by the Council, of which notice will be sent to each Scholar, or in respect of which the Certificate or Certificates, hereinbefore set out, shall not be produced, shall be deemed to have lapsed.
11. Application from intending Candidates, accompanied by Birth Certificates, will be received up to 19th April, 1948, by the Secretary of the County Council, from whom a Form of Declaration can be obtained which is to be verified by a parent or guardian of the applicant, and a Form of Certificate to be filled up by a Clergyman or Peace Commissioner. Candidates must state the course of studies they intend to pursue and indicate whether they wish to compete for the Scholarship reserved for the Faculty of General Agriculture. These documents when properly completed, should be submitted to the County Secretary, Courthouse, Wicklow, and if the application is approved, the applicant will, in due course, be notified to that effect.
12. The Council reserves the right to exclude any candidate from competing for these Scholarships, and the Council's decision on all questions relating to this University Scholarship Scheme shall be conclusive and final.
13. Students desirous of competing for these University Scholarships, and who are not eligible for admission to the Leaving Certificate Examination by reason of their not pursuing an approved course of study as pupils of a Secondary School, may be admitted to that examination at the request of the Council for the purpose of competing for these Scholarships, but will not be eligible for the award of the Secondary Leaving Certificate. Application for admission to the Examination should be sent to the undersigned, accompanied by a Postal Order for 10s., payable to "The Secretary, Department of Education," in respect of the examination fee required.
14. Any successful candidate for one of these Scholarships who has been
- (a) A student in a Preparatory College, or
 - (b) Recognised as a Pupil Teacher, or
 - (c) Admitted to a Training College in preparation for the position of National School Teacher,
- is hereby reminded that under the Rules of the Department of Education, and in accordance with the undertaking signed by him and on his behalf by his parent (or guardian) in the event of his acceptance of the Scholarship and money expended by the State upon him must be refunded to the Department.

K. J. BRANGAN,

County Secretary.

County Council Offices,
Courthouse, Wicklow,
9th December, 1947.

Item No. 5.—Provisional Road Work Scheme, 1948-'49.

The Council considered the Provisional Road Works Scheme for 1948-'49 as submitted by the County Engineer and copies of which had been circulated to the members. Several members, having stated that there would not be sufficient time at that Meeting to discuss the Scheme in detail, and in view of the fact that no definite indication as to the amount of Road Grants to be made available in the coming year had yet been received from the Department, it was

Proposed by Councillor P. Ledwidge;
Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne:

Resolved—That we hereby adjourn consideration of the Road Works Scheme to the Meeting to be held on 12th January, 1948; particulars in regard to the expenditure on Roads during the current year to be circulated to members.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 6.—Kilbride Road.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;
Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne:

Resolved—That we hereby request the Minister for Local Government to declare the road from Avoca to Arklow, known as Kilbride Road, to be a Main Road.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 7.—Advertisements Regulations Act, 1907.

The County Manager stated that it would be desirable for the Council to adopt Bye-laws under the Advertisements Regulations Act, 1907, so as to control the erection of advertisements in the County. He pointed out that advertisements can be a distraction to road users as well as possibly spoiling the countryside. The Bye-laws when adopted would not apply to existing advertisements for a period of five years. Suitable Bye-laws would be prepared and submitted to the Council for approval.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond:

Resolved—That we hereby approve of the adoption of Bye-laws under the Advertisements Regulations Act, 1907.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 8.—Vacancy on Balinglass O.A.P. Sub-Committee.

The County Secretary stated that the Balinglass Old Age Pensions Sub-Committee had recommended the appointment of Rev. James Moran, C.C., Balinglass, to fill the vacancy on the Sub-Committee caused by the death of Mr. Matthew Byrne.

Proposed by Councillor B. Farrell;
Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne:

Resolved—That we hereby appoint Rev. James Moran, C.C., Balinglass, to fill the vacancy on the Balinglass No. 1 Old Age Pensions Sub-Committee caused by the death of Mr. Matthew Byrne.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 9.—District Hospital, Balinglass.

The County Manager stated that he had received from the Architect plans for improvements to District Hospital, Balinglass. The plans had been forwarded to the Department of Local Government for approval. Plans provided for Sanitary Annexes to both wings of the existing Hospital; a new Nurses' Wing, and new Porch; additions to the kitchen, etc., and a new Maternity Wing providing seven beds, which would be connected with the existing Hospital by a covered way. The plans for the extensions to the Hospital had been designed so that the new buildings could be easily embodied in a new Hospital which might be erected on the site of the old Workhouse at some future date. The estimated cost of the work is £21,500.

In reply to an inquiry from Councillor J. J. Metcalfe, the Manager stated that he expected to receive approval to the plans shortly.

Item No. 10.—Proposed purchase of Premises at Market Square.

The County Secretary read the following letter which had been received from the Department of Local Government in regard to proposed purchase of the premises at Market Square at present rented by the County Wicklow Committee of Agriculture:—

Department of Local Government,

Custom House, Dublin.

17th November, 1947.

L.23156/47.
A Chara,

With reference to your letter of the 28th ultimo regarding the proposed purchase of the premises at Market Square, Wicklow, which are at present rented by the Wicklow County Committee of Agriculture, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that he is not prepared to approve the proposed purchase of the premises at the price stated which is considered to be excessive.

Mise, le meas,
N. DE PAOR,

a.s. Runai.

Secretary,

Wicklow County Council,

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.:

Resolved—That we request the Minister for Local Government to reconsider his decision in regard to the purchase by the Co. Council of the premises at Market Square, Wicklow, at present occupied by the County Committee of Agriculture.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 11.—Supplemental Cash Allowance Scheme.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Social Welfare:—

Department of Social Welfare,

Lord Edward Street, Dublin.

26 Samhain, 1947.

H.255.
A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Social Welfare to refer to your letter of the 15th instant regarding a resolution passed by the Wicklow County Council in connection with the payments of allowances to old age pensioners under the Emergency Supplemental Cash Allowances Scheme and to state that the conditions laid down by An Daíl regarding the payment of these allowances to certain old age pensioners and others provide that the allowances will be payable only to persons of the eligible classes who are member of necessitous households. The Minister has no power to depart from the conditions so laid down.

Mise, le meas,
J. J. O'SULLIVAN.

Secretary,

Wicklow County Council,
Courthouse Wicklow.

The Council requested the Manager to indicate to the Department that the amount of the Grant was inadequate, and to ask that a substantial increase be made to meet cases where a serious degree of necessity existed.

Item No. 12.—Housing of Mine Workers, at Avoca.

The County Secretary stated that following the discussion on Town Planning which had taken place at the previous meeting of the Council a letter had been received from Messrs. Mianrai Teoranta, in which the Company stated that they were carrying out exploration work on mineral deposits at Avoca which were very extensive, and that the Company proposed to carry out a considerable amount of work. It was stated that great difficulty was experienced with regard to the housing of workers, and the Company requested an interview with the Council's officials with a view to possibility of the Council co-operating with the Company in this connection. The Council approved of assisting the Company in regard to the housing of the Mine Workers.

The County Manager stated he would report back to the Council following the discussion with the representatives of Mianrai Teoranta.

Item No. 13.—Increased taxation on beer and tobacco.

The Council adopted the following resolution received from Fermoy Urban District Council, Councillors T. Brennan, T.D., and C. M. Byrne, dissenting:—

"That we, Fermoy U.D.C., protest against the recent heavy taxation imposed on beer and tobacco which placed a very heavy burden on the working man and which has already caused unemployment in these trades. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister for Finance and to each Local Authority in Eire."

Road Contingencies.

The County Secretary stated that a report had been submitted by the County Engineer in regard to a landslide which had occurred on the Glenmalure-Barnvore Road No. 82 on the 5th December. The cost of clearing the road is estimated at £190. The report was noted.

Item No. 14.—Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.

Electric Lighting of Cottages.
Councillor P. Ledwidge inquired when it would be possible to have electric light supplied to the cottages at Ennis Lane.

The County Manager stated that he would investigate the matter and inform Councillor Ledwidge of the position.

In regard to the provision of lighting to cottages generally, members of the Council expressed the view that public bodies were not receiving proper consideration from the Electricity Supply Board in the matter.

The County Manager stated that the views of the Council would be conveyed to the Electricity Supply Board.

Cottage at Priestnewtown, Newtownmountkennedy:

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., referred to the service of Notice to Quit on a tenant, Martin Doyle, and stated that the tenant was prepared to give an undertaking that the cottage would not be occupied in future. He asked that in the circumstances the Notice to Quit might be withdrawn. The Manager stated that he would take this undertaking into consideration.

Demolition Order—House at Clough:

Councillor B. Farrell stated that a house at Clough, in respect of which the making of a Demolition Order was under consideration was quite capable of being repaired, and that the owner was prepared to carry out the necessary work.

The County Manager stated that the Demolition Order was made consequent on the receipt of a report from the Medical Officer that the house was not fit for habitation. He stated that the matter would be investigated further.

Water and Sewerage Schemes:

Councillor P. McCarthy inquired whether any Tenders had been received for the provision of a Pump at Arklow Rock.

Mr. Caffrey, B.E., Assistant Engineer, stated that a Tender had been received and submitted to the Department for approval. The Department however, had asked that the specification for the work be revised.

The County Manager referred to the difficulty being experienced in having the various Water and Sewerage Schemes finally approved by the Department, and suggested that Professor Purcell who is acting as Consulting Engineer to the Council in regard to the Wicklow Regional Scheme, might be asked to deal with the other Schemes which were before the Department. The County Manager stated that he would inquire from Professor Purcell as to whether he would undertake this work, and as to the fees payable.

Cottages at Windgates:

In reply to inquiry from Councillor P. Ledwidge, the County Manager stated that applications had been invited for the tenancy of the cottage at Windgates, previously occupied by Mr. Bell. The Acting Medical Officer for the area had placed both C. Kearney and T. Gubbins as No. 1. Some days later the permanent Medical Officer, who had resumed duty, having consulted with the County Medical Officer of Health, recommended C. Kearney for the cottage. The cottage had been allocated accordingly.

Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts:

In reply to an inquiry from Councillor T. Brennan, the County Manager stated that the Council had adopted the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts and had prepared a Scheme some years ago, but that the Scheme had not been put into operation at the time. Counsel's Opinion had been obtained and Counsel had advised that the Council would not have adequate security for the Loan in cases where the land was held subject to Land Purchase Annuity. In such cases it would be necessary to redeem that portion of the Annuity, but it was understood that the Irish Land Commission was not prepared to agree to a sub-division of a holding except for the purpose of a sale.

The County Manager stated that inquiry would be made from the Irish Land Commission in regard to the matter, and that a revised Scheme would be prepared. Particulars of the new housing legislation at present under consideration by An Dail could be embodied in the Scheme.

Home Assistance:

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., stated that delay was occurring in the granting of Provisional Assistance, and asked that the matter receive attention.

The County Manager took particulars of the cases mentioned by Councillor Everett, and stated they would receive attention.

A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11.30 a.m. on Monday, 12th January, 1948.

The following members were present:—

Councillor J. J. McCrea, Chairman;

Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; Patk. Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Peter Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Ed. Byrne, Liam O Laoighleis, J. Everett, T.D.; C. M. Byrne, C. W. Hudson, and Joseph Jacob.

The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, was in attendance.

The County Engineer, and Assistant Engineers P. J. Foley, B.E., J. P. Caffrey, B.E., R. L. Farrell, B.E., and M. C. Kerrane, B.E., were also present.

BUSINESS:

1. To confirm and sign Minutes of Meetings held on 24th November, 1947, and 9th December, 1947.
2. To consider Road Works Scheme for 1948/49 as submitted by County Engineer.
3. To consider letter, dated 18th December, 1947, from the Department of Education, in relation to the Scheme of Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools, 1948.
4. To approve of applications from candidates under the Council's Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarship Scheme, 1948.
5. To approve of Draft Mortgage from the Commissioners of Public Works re Coollatin-Tinahely Road.
6. To consider letter from the Minister for Local Government in relation to turf production by County Councils in the last seven years.
7. To adopt Bye-laws in relation to Slaughterhouses.
8. In relation to the operation of a Scheme under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts: (1) to determine the maximum market value on which loans will be made; (2) the maximum loan in any one case; (3) the percentage of the market value which would be advanced by way of loan.
9. To consider further report of County Medical Officer of Health in regard to the provision of a Sewerage System at Ballyknocken and Valleymount.
10. To consider letter, dated 31st December, 1947, from the Department of Local Government in regard to the proposal to purchase the premises at Market Square, Wicklow, occupied by the County Committee of Agriculture.
11. To consider the procedure for the examination of the Estimates for the year 1948/49.
12. To consider report in relation to expenditure on Assistance and Health Services in the years 1945/46 and 1946/47.
13. To consider correspondence with Mianrai Teoranta re housing for mine workers.
14. Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.

Item No. 1—Minutes.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey:

Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond:

Resolved—That we hereby confirm and sign the Minutes of the Meetings held on 24th November, 1947, and 9th December, 1947.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 2—Road Works Scheme, 1948/49.

The following statements, giving particulars of the amounts estimated for Road Works in 1948/49 as compared with the Estimate adopted for 1947/48, and details of the work carried out on roads during the current year, had been circulated to the Council:—

To each Member of the County Council:

ROAD WORKS SCHEME, 1948/49.

Particulars are given hereunder of the Estimate for Road Works for the year 1948/49 together with corresponding details of the current year's Estimates as adopted by the Council.

It will be noted that in the proposed Scheme for 1948/49 the provision for repairs to County Roads has been substantially increased, the estimated increase in expenditure being £45,891. The increase in the Estimate of gross expenditure on Main Roads is £10,424. Having deducted Grants receivable from the Road Fund, the net increase in the year amounts to £18,580, of which £3,969 would be in respect of Main Roads to which the Urban Councils would contribute, and £14,611 in respect of County Roads, chargeable only to the County Health District. A net increase of £18,580 in the provision by the Council for the Road Works Scheme would, therefore, provide for additional road works to the value of £67,788.

It is anticipated that it would be necessary to provide for an increase in the cost of other expenses chargeable to roads to an extent of approximately £1,500.

ESTIMATE FOR 1948/49.

Table with 4 columns: Category, Main (£), County (£), Total (£). Rows include Repairs, Improvements (A), (Loans) B, Contingencies, and Deduct Grants.

ESTIMATES FOR 1947/48, AS ADOPTED.

Table with 4 columns: Category, Main (£), County (£), Total (£). Rows include Repairs, Improvements (A), (Loans) B, Contingencies, and Deduct Grants.

County Engineer's Office, Court House, Wicklow.

To: Each Member of Wicklow County Council, 8th January, 1948.

REPORT ON ROAD WORK FOR YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1948.

Dear Sir, Members of the Council will be aware that at the beginning of the year 1946 the Council's Road Services were faced with the task of restoring, within three years if possible, roads which had necessarily been allowed to deteriorate during the war years. These comprised 201 miles of Main Roads and 102 miles of County Roads, requiring extensive surface renewal, patching and surface dressing. At the end of September last, when tarring operations for the year were suspended, 123 miles of Main Roads and 24 miles of County Roads had received the required attention, leaving 156 miles of Main and County Roads to be completed next year as far as possible.

It will be readily understood that the programme suffered a serious setback early this year when extensive snow and flood damage delayed the resumption of tarring operations until July, while the funds available were curtailed by expenditure on the unforeseen damage caused by snow, frost and flood.

Detailed particulars are given below of the work carried out to date this year arranged in each Assistant's area:—

South-Eastern Area.

MAIN ROADS: Patched and Levelled with Tar.

Table listing Road No. and location for Main Roads in the South-Eastern Area, including Ballinacarrig, Sentry Box, Deputy's Pass, Bee Hive, etc.

Materials Used:—1,218 tons Chippings, 170 tons Tar.

TAR SURFACED.

Table listing Road No. and location for Tar Surfaced roads in the South-Eastern Area.

Re-shaped and Rolled, and Grouted with Tar. Jack White's—Barndarrig. Materials Used:—460 tons stone, 34 tons cut back.

COUNTY ROADS: Reshaped and Levelled, Patched and Tar Dressed.

Table listing County Road No. and location, including Avoca Streets and Sea Road—Arklow.

Materials Used:—311 tons Chippings, 32 tons Tar.

Repairs to Damaged Roads: South-Eastern Area.

Many County Roads are seriously damaged by floods after the snow and again in June and August. About a total length of 17 miles in stretches of 1/2 and 1 1/2 miles were so damaged without taking into account short stretches and quags. A total of 5,060 tons of metal were prepared and spread on these roads and, in addition, approximately 3,670 tons of metal were prepared and spread for ordinary maintenance work.

The following are locations of County Roads damaged and repaired in this fashion:—

Table listing Road No. and location for County Roads damaged and repaired, including Aghowle-Glen, Cronehorn-Barnbawn, etc.

SOUTHERN AREA.

MAIN ROADS: Patched and Levelled.

Table listing Main Road No. and location in the Southern Area, including Annacurra-Killavaney, Killavaney-Ballinagilkey, etc.

Materials Used:—1,400 tons 1/2" chips, 800 tons 3/4" chips, 100 tons tar.

Reshaping Super-elevation of Corners.

201. Drumman Cross—Killavaney. Materials Used:—1,573 tons spalls, 1,452 tons broken stones, 350 tons clay.

Main Roads—Tarring and Chipping.

Table listing Road No. and location for Main Roads—Tarring and Chipping, including Annacurra-Killavaney, Killavaney-Ballinagilkey, etc.

COUNTY ROADS: Patched and Levelled.

Table listing County Road No. and location, including Tinahely-Ballinglen, Boley-Kilquiggan, etc.

Materials Used:—300 tons 1/2" chips, 20 tons tar.

Tarring and Chipping.

Table listing Road No. and location for Tarring and Chipping, including Lugduff—Mount Pleasant, Oak's Cross—Ballyconnell.

Materials Used:—230 tons 3/4" chips, 30 tons tar.

Summary of Reconstruction Programme.

11 miles of Main Roads surfaced, i.e., 132,000 sq. yds. 2 miles of County Roads surfaced, i.e., 14,300 sq. yds.

Materials Used:—1,573 tons spalls, 1,452 tons 1 1/2" broken stone, 5,230 tons 3/4" chippings, 1,700 tons 1/2" chippings, 327 tons tar.

Materials on Hands:—1,200 tons stones quarried, 150 tons 1/2" stones, 300 tons 3/4" chippings, 330 tons 1/2" chippings, 20 tons tar.

Table for Maintenance and other Works, showing Stone spread on Co. Roads to date with columns for Group, Spread, and To be Spread.

Steam Rolling.

231. Coollattin—Shillelagh. Materials Used:—100 tons spalls, 450 tons 1 1/2" stones.

Special Works Done—Flood Damage.

Remaking Road No. 210 in Kyle, destroyed by floods after snow. Approximately 1 mile. Materials Used:—300 tons spalls, 150 tons surfacing, 30 yards lin. 9" dia. conc. pipes.

Other damage to road surfaces, estimated at £300. Muskeagh Bridge: Repairing centre pier, underpinning and flooring—£80.

WESTERN AREA.

Roads Levelled, Patched and Tarrred.

Table listing Road No. and location for Western Area roads, including Tuckmill Cross—Holdenstown, Whitestown—Tuckmill, etc.

- 279. Bawnogue—Newtownsaunders .. 1 1/2 "
- 276. Whitehill—Newtownsaunders .. 2 "
- 338. Lemonstown—Knockree .. 4 "

Materials Used:—283 tons Tar.
2,535 cu. yds. chips.
The quantities of stone spread are as follows:—
Main Roads .. 1,284 cubic yards.
County Roads .. 1,961 cubic yards.
(NOTE.—Total of 2,509 cu. yds. have been supplied).

Steam Rollings.
Road No. 288 .. 100 cubic yards.
Road No. 278 .. 278 cubic yards.
Road No. 319 .. 80 cubic yards.

Other Works: 4 gulleys repaired; 1 gullet paid; 2 Bridges repaired; River bed pitched with stone. Two-thirds of all road signs painted. Water cuts filled in and pitched with stone on Main Roads Nos. 319, 334, and 298.

Tar Patching.
Main Roads .. 67 cubic yards.
County Roads .. 56 cubic yards.
Metal in pits, approximates: Gravel—180 cubic yards; Broken Stone—300 cubic yards; not broken—2,500 cubic yards.

NORTH-EASTERN AREA.

MAIN ROADS: Tarred.

Road No.			
6.	Scalp—Enniskerry ..	2.2	miles
34.	Glasnamullen—Kilmacanogue ..	0.25	"
23.	Hollybrook—Bray ..	0.8	"
24.	Kilruddery—Killincarrick ..	0.3	"
26.	Greystones—Downs ..	3.8	"
12.	Featherbed—Sallygap ..	2	"
1, 2, 3, 4—	Bray Urban ..	0.5	"
78.	Roundwood—Laragh ..	2.2	"
52.	Roundwood—Knockraheen ..	1.25	"
43.	Willow Grove—Kiltymon ..	5.25	"
Pt.66.	Kiltymon—Rathnew ..	3.0	"
44.	Knockroe—Five-mile-Point ..	0.5	"
65.	Bride's Glen—Silver Strand ..	0.5	"
110.	Ballybeg—Coolbeg ..	2.0	"

Materials Used:—3,149 cu. yards chips.
346 tons tar.
1,022 c.y. 1 1/2" macadam.

MAIN ROADS Levelled, Tar Patched and Part Patched.

Pt.66.	Kiltymon—Rathnew ..	4	miles
112.	Rathnew—Glenealy ..	1	"
44.	Knockroe—Five-Mile-Point ..	2	"
Pt.110.	Ballybeg—Coolbeg ..	3	"
65.	Bride's Glen—Silver Strand ..	0.75	"
6.	Scalp—Enniskerry ..	2.2	"
34.	Glasnamullen—Kilmacanogue ..	3.25	"
18.	Killough—Enniskerry ..	1.5	"
23.	Hollybrook—Bray ..	1.1	"
24.	Kilruddery—Killincarrick ..	2.5	"
26.	Greystones—Downs ..	3.8	"
12.	Featherbed—Sallygap ..	3.2	"
1, 2, 3 and 4—	Bray Urban ..	0.5	"
78.	Roundwood—Laragh ..	2.75	"
52.	Roundwood—Knockraheen ..	1.25	"
70.	Ashford—Ballyduff ..	2.5	"
71.	Ballyduff Cross Roads—Togher ..	0.25	"
43.	Willow Grove—Kiltymon ..	5.25	"

Materials Used:—824 cubic yards chips.
104.3 tons tar.

Main Roads—Special Work:

- 6. Scalp—Kilkerney: Restoration of G.P.O. openings.
- 34. Glasnamullen—Kilmacanogue: Grouted 1 mile and smoke sprayed.
- 23. Hollybrook—Bray: Grouted 0.3 mile and smoke sprayed.
- 12. Featherbed—Sallygap: Super-elevated sinking sides by successive layers of grouting.
- 1, 2, 3, 4—Bray Urban: Restoration of footpaths and roads after G.F.O. work.
- 71. Ballyduff Cross Roads to Togher: Rolling in progress:—
800 cubic yards spalls rolled in.
80 cubic yards mud rolled in.
300 cubic yards 2" macadam rolled in.
1,100 cubic yards available for continuation of work.
- Pt.66. Kiltymon—Rathnew: 1 mile: building up sides and grouted in total width.

MAIN ROADS—Snow and Flood Damage.

- 6. Scalp—Enniskerry: Constructed 3 Retaining Walls to road and back filled, 70 cu. yds. concrete, reinforcing used, 609 cu. yds. masonry, 912 cu. yds. filling.
- 18. Killough—Enniskerry: Made up 1 mile of sides.
- 24. Kilruddery—Killincarrick: Re-shaping footpaths, diversion of water course (Vevay flooding).
- 26. Greystones—Downs: Grouting in 44 cu. yds. of metal.
- 52. Roundwood—Knockraheen: Special grouting work in preparation for tar dressing; 1 mile.
- 70. Ashford—Ballyduff: 3/4 mile re-surfacing torn road: 627 cubic yards metal, 16 tons tar.
- 71. Roundwood—Sallygap: 140 c.y. macadam used for restoration work.
- 12. Featherbed—Sallygap: 160 c. yds. macadam for restoration work.
- 100. Wolohan's Bridge: Bridge reconstructed.

COUNTY ROADS: Levelled, Tar Patched and Part Patched.

Road No.			
7.	Monastery—Enniskerry ..	1.25	miles
22.	Kilruddery—Kilmarney Road ..	1	"
25.	Greystones Streets and Roads ..	3.5	"
76.	Togher—Monestown ..	0.75	"
69.	Ashford—Newrath Bridge ..	1.2	"
46.	Kilcoole Village—Kilcoole Railway Station I ..	1	"
50.	Killadreenan—Newcastle Riv. Station ..	2	"
64.	Dunran—Tighlin ..	0.5	"
48.	Newtownmountkennedy—Kilcoole ..	0.5	"
10.	Kilgarron—Innecrevy ..	0.5	"
27.	Coolagad—Delgany ..	0.75	"

Materials Used:—167 tons tar.
135 cu. yds. chips.
Country Roads Tarred.
7. Monastery—Enniskerry .. 0.2 miles
25. Greystones Streets .. 3.5 "
69. Ashford—Newrath Bridge .. 1.2 "
Materials Used:—637 cu. yds. chips.
67 1/2 tons tar.

County Roads—Special Work:

- 25. Greystones Streets:
Rolling 800 c.y. Roadway .. 200 cu. yds. spalls
220 cu. yds. macadam
- 48. Newtown—Kilcoole .. 108 cu. yds. spalls
Rolling 880 c.y. Roadway .. 380 cu. yds. macadam
- 392. Rathnew Village .. 70 cu. yds. spalls
Rolling 400 c.y. Roadway .. 290 cu. yds. macadam

County Roads—Snow and Flood Damage.

- 50. To Kilcoole Station: Restoration—140 c.y. macadam.
- 11. Enniskerry—Glencree: Restoration—77 c. yds. macadam.
- 35. Old Long Hill: Restoration—59 c. yds. macadam.
- 19. Tinnahinch—Glencormac: Construction of masonry abutment due to road collapse, 160 c.yds.
- 31. Kilmurray—Ballyremon: Filled up cut away section; with 140 tons stone.
- 28. Windgates—Kilmurray: Do. 76 c. yds. materials used.
- 29. Templecarrig—Kilmurray: Do. 49 c. yds. materials used.
- 51. Killadreenan—Ballyduff: Do. 33 c. yds. materials used.
- 59. Laragh—Carrigeenduff: Do. 72 c. yds. materials used.
- 13. Aurora—Bahana: Do. 111 c. yds. materials used.

Maintenance Materials Spread:
Gravel Stone Chips Tar
2,207 3,148 161 15 tons

Materials on Hands in Total Area:
640 2,440 1,800 310 tons

In addition, the work of routine maintenance has proceeded normally. To date, about two-thirds of the necessary edging and draining of all roads has been completed.

Signed: J. T. O'BYRNE,
County Engineer.

The Chairman read a memorial which he had received from residents in Aughrim requesting the Council to provide for the erection of a Bridge at Sheanabeg. A letter addressed by the Parish Priest, Aughrim, to the Chairman, in this connection was also brought to the notice of the Council.

The County Secretary read a letter received from the Secretary of the Aughrim Branch of the National Labour Party, forwarding a resolution passed by that Branch, requesting the Council to erect a bridge at Sheanabeg.

The County Secretary stated that provision had been made in the Road Works Scheme, as circulated, to an amount of £720 for the construction of a new bridge at Sheanabeg.

It was proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey:
That the County Engineer's Estimate for County Roads be reduced by £40,000 in respect of repairs to County Roads.

AMENDMENT No. 1.
As an amendment, it was proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson;
Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne:
That the Roads Estimate be deferred until the Estimates for Social Services and other Services be available.

AMENDMENT No. 2.
A further amendment was proposed by Councillor P. Doyle,
seconded by Councillor J. J. McCrea:
That we adopt the Roads Works Scheme as submitted, subject to a reduction of £20,000 in the amount to be provided for County Roads Repairs.

AMENDMENT No. 3.
It was proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor J. Metcalfe:
That we provide the same amount for Roads as was provided in 1947/48.

A vote having been called for on Amendment No. 1, it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

IN FAVOUR—Councillors W. Hammond, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, P. Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Ed. Byrne, William Lawless, C. M. Byrne and C. W. Hudson—11.

AGAINST—Councillors J. J. McCrea, P. McCarthy, T. Brennan, T.D.; P. Doyle, P. P. O'Reilly, J. Everett, T.D., and J. Jacob—7.

The amendment was declared passed by eleven votes in favour to seven against, and when put as a substantive motion was adopted by the same voting.

The County Engineer referred to the authority given him by the Council to expend a sum not exceeding £25,000 on the preparation of chippings and the purchase of tar in anticipation of the coming year's Road Works Scheme. He stated he might find it necessary to reduce the number of men employed in the Quarries, as if a reduced Road Works Programme was subsequently adopted, the amount of materials required would be much less. The Council indicated that it was desirable to continue to give the maximum amount of employment.

Item No. 3—Scheme of Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools, 1948.

The Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Education in connection with the Scheme of Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools for the year 1948:—

Department of Education,
Primary Branch,
Marlborough St.,
Dublin, C.8.
18ad Nollaig, 1947.

Oil. (2)72668.
The Secretary,
Wicklow County Council,
Courthouse, Wicklow.

Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools, 1948. County Wicklow.

A Caara,
With reference to your letter of the 10th instant, and to previous correspondence regarding the Scholarship for 1948, I am directed to inform you that the further amendment of Clause 4 relative to means, proposed by the Council at its meeting of 9th inst., has been under consideration.

It was intended in the official communication of the 22nd ultimo in commenting on the original proposal in this Clause to indicate that the adoption of a flat allowance of £25 for both valuation and income would operate inequitably in the case of parents in the income group, having regard to the fact that the basic figures for each group were £150 and £400, respectively. The amendment now submitted by the Council retains the feature of a flat allowance for both groups, but, in addition, raises the basic figures to amounts which in the Minister's opinion are too high.

I am accordingly to ask that the Council would be good enough to reconsider the matter further, and in this connection I am to suggest that the amendment of the Clause should take the following form:—

The County Secretary submitted the following figures giving the amount of half-yearly annuity for the repayment of a Loan of £100 at 3%:-

15 years half-yearly annuity	£4 3 3d.
20 years half-yearly annuity	£3 6 10d.
25 years half-yearly annuity	£2 17 1d.
30 years half-yearly annuity	£2 10 9d.
35 years half-yearly annuity	£2 6 4d.

Item No. 9—Ballyknocken and Valleymount Sewerage Scheme.
The following report from the County Medical Officer of Health was submitted to the Council:-

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL,

Public Health Section,

County Home,

Rathdrum.

5th December, 1947.

The County Secretary,
Courthouse,
Wicklow.

Ballyknocken and Valleymount Sewerage Scheme.

A Chara.

I have received your letter of the 4th December, 1947 about the above-named Schemes.

I originally recommended these schemes owing to the proximity of the villages to the new lake, as I considered that they would lessen the danger of contamination of the lake.

If the advisers to the Dublin Corporation consider that untreated sewage from these villages is not liable to contaminate the lake, I think that both schemes might be abandoned.

There are only some four or five inhabitants of Ballyknocken who could afford to instal the appliances, etc., necessary to connect to a sewage scheme without hardship, and there are only eight houses and a school in Valleymount.

If my suggestion is adopted, revision of the priority list is unnecessary.

Mise, le meas.

Signed: G. P. G. BECKETT.

County Medical Officer of Health,

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Seconded by Councillor J. O'Reilly;

Resolved—That it is the opinion of the Council that the Sewerage Scheme at Ballyknocken should remain on the priority list, and be proceeded with.

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

That a census be taken of the persons who will undertake to connect with the Sewerage Scheme at Ballyknocken when installed.

A vote having been called for, it was found that the members present voted as follows:-

IN FAVOUR OF THE AMENDMENT: Councillors W. Hammond, J. J. Metcalfe, H. J. Byrne, P. Ledwidge, and Dr. J. J. Hickey—5.

AGAINST THE AMENDMENT: Councillors J. J. McCreagh, P. McCarthy, T. Brennan, T.D.; P. Doyle, B. Farrell, P. P. O'Reilly, J. O'Reilly, W. Lawless, J. Everett, T.D.; C. M. Byrne and Joseph Jacob—11.

The amendment was declared defeated by eleven votes against to five in favour, and Councillor P. P. O'Reilly's motion was declared carried on the same voting.

Item No. 10—Premises at Market Square, Wicklow.

The County Secretary read the following letter from the Department of Local Government, Custom House, Dublin, in regard to the proposed purchase of premises occupied by the County Committee of Agriculture:-

DEPT. OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT,

Custom House,

Dublin.

31st December, 1947.

L.23156/2/47.

A Chara.

With reference to your letter of the 10th instant regarding the proposed purchase of premises for the County Committee of Agriculture, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that no further reasons have been adduced which would warrant any alteration of the opinion already expressed in the matter.

Mise, le meas.

N. DE PAOR,

a. s. Runai.

The Secretary,
Wicklow County Council.

The Council directed that the County Committee of Agriculture be informed of the Department's reply.

Item No. 11—Estimates for Year 1948/49.

The County Secretary stated that the statutory date for the Estimates Meeting would be Monday, 16th February. The ordinary meeting of the Council would be held on Monday, 9th February.

The Council decided to consider at the next Meeting the question of appointing a Committee to examine the Estimates.

Item No. 12—Expenditure on Assistance and Health Services in the years 1945/46 and 1946/47.

The County Manager submitted figures showing the actual amounts expended in the years 1945/46 and year 1946/47 in respect of Assistance and Public Health Services, and explained the reasons why expenditure was incurred in excess of the amounts originally provided.

Resolved—That we hereby authorise expenditure in excess of the amounts provided in the Estimate for the year ended 31st March, 1946, in respect of the Council's services as follows:-

Health Charges	£2,743 1 7.
Public Assistance Charges	£7,638 8 5.
General Purposes Charges	£100 2 1.

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy.

Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless.

Resolved—That we hereby authorise the expenditure of £914 1s 6d. in excess of the amount provided in the Estimate for the year ended 31st March, 1947, in respect of Health Services.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 13—Housing of Mine Workers.

The County Secretary submitted the following memorandum in of the discussion between representatives of Mianrai Terranta and the Council's officials in regard to the provision of houses for Mine Workers at Avoca:-

MEMORANDUM OF DISCUSSION WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF MIANRAI TERRANTA.

Mr. F. O'Kelly, Managing Director, and Mr. Wilson, Engineer, Mianrai Terranta, attended the Council's office on Monday, 15th Dec., 1947, to meet the County Manager, County Secretary and County Engineer, in regard to the question of the provision of houses for Mine workers at Avoca. Mr. O'Kelly stated that the Company intended to carry out extensive exploration work at Avoca. If the exploration work showed that the Mineral deposits at Avoca were substantial, the Mines would be very greatly extended and a large staff of workers would be employed. Should the exploration work, however, not produce satisfactory results, which was unlikely, the Mines at Avoca would be closed. The Company required the services of about six key-men in connection with the work, and desired to know if the Council could assist the Company. In regard to the provision of houses for these men, the County Manager stated that the matter had been discussed at the meeting of the County Council, and that the Council was anxious to assist the Company in anything which would lead to the development of the Mining Industry at Avoca. He pointed out that there was not, normally, a great demand for houses in the Avoca district, and that if cottages were provided for the Company's employees it might be difficult to obtain tenants for such cottages should the mines be abandoned, particularly in view of the fact that an economic rent would have to be charged for such houses.

After further discussion, it was agreed that an enquiry be addressed to the Department of Local Government, as to whether the grant of £275 per house, under the new Housing Act, would be made available to the Council in respect of the erection of these houses for the Company's employees. The Company would give an undertaking that the houses, if erected, would be rented for a period of at least four years, and that should the Mines at Avoca be abandoned, and the houses no longer required, the Company would pay the County Council a grant sufficient to enable the Council to let the houses at the usual rent for Agricultural Labourers' cottages. An enquiry was to be made from the Department of Local Government, as to whether the housing subsidy would be given in respect of these houses if rented at a later date to agricultural labourers.

The Company agreed to obtain a suitable site for the houses, free of charge to the Council, and to investigate the possibility of having the houses erected in the vicinity of Redcross.

The County Secretary stated that a letter had been addressed to the Department of Local Government on the question, but no reply had yet been received. Messrs. Mianrai Terranta had requested the observations of the County Engineer in regard to the selection of suitable sites for the houses.

Avoca Garda Síochána Station.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;

Resolved—That we hereby accept the dedication to the public service of the strip of ground, adjoining the proposed new Garda Barracks at Avoca, and measuring 246ft. x 6ft., shown coloured blue and pink on the map submitted by the Commissioners of Public Works.

Passed unanimously.

Retirement of Accountant.

The County Secretary read the following letter addressed to the Chairman and members of the County Council by Mr. Wolohan, former County Accountant:-

Ard na Greine Terrace,

Wicklow.

To: the Chairman and Members,

3rd Jan., 1949.

Wicklow County Council,
Gentlemen.

My long term in your offices comes to an end to-day.

It is fitting that I should take this opportunity to thank each and all of you for your kindness and friendship during your membership. I only wish I could also convey directly to all the members of the successive Councils of the last 49 years my grateful thanks for the fair dealings experienced during that long period.

I wish to thank your present County Manager (Mr. Flannery) for his kindness and courtesy to me; similarly, to thank your former County Manager (Mr. Healy), with whom I was so long associated; also your County Secretary (Mr. Brangan), whose kindness and consideration has made my work a pleasure.

To the County Engineer (Mr. O'Byrne) and his staff, as well as to the former County Surveyor (Mr. Gallagher), and to all my colleagues of the secretarial staff of both Wicklow and Rathdrum offices, I have nothing but the warmest feelings of gratitude for their unflinching kindness, co-operation and understanding on all occasions. Wishing each and all many happy years.

I am, gentlemen,

Yours sincerely,

L. WOLAHAN.

The members of the Council paid tributes to Mr. Wolohan's efficiency and courtesy during the period of his long service with the Council.

The County Manager stated that on his own behalf and on behalf of the members of the staff, he wished to be associated with the tributes paid to Mr. Wolohan.

The County Secretary read the following letter, which had been addressed to the County Engineer by the Department of Defence, in regard to the application for a Grant from that Department for the repair and improvement of the road from Whitestown Bridge to the Glen of Imaal:-

Department of Defence,

Parkgate,

Dublin.

3/3967.

A Chara.

With reference to your letter of the 4th November, 1947, relative to the public road leading from Whitestown Bridge to the Glen of Imaal, I am directed by the Minister for Defence to state that he could not agree that military traffic had made this road "excessively dangerous" to the public. Military drivers have been properly trained and are adequately skilled and experienced in the handling of their vehicle.

I am also to say that the Minister cannot accept the contention that heavy and unusual expenditure in the repair and maintenance of the road is necessitated by reason of its use by military traffic. The amount of such traffic represents a relatively small proportion of the total traffic on the road, and much greater damage has, it is thought, been caused to the road surface by the very heavy vehicles of fuel contractors and hauliers who use the road.

In the above circumstances, therefore, while the Minister agrees that the road is badly in need of reconstruction and repair, and that it would be desirable also to ease some bends on it which are of a dangerous nature, he considers that he would not be justified in offering any contribution towards the cost of the execution of these works.

Mise, le meas. Runai.

County Engineer,
Wicklow County Council,
Court House, Wicklow.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Seconded by Councillor B. Farrell;

Resolved—Re correspondence with the Department of Defence, by this Council concerning cost of maintenance of Roads Nos. 321 and 325 (Whitestown to Glen of Imaal), we beg to state their reply, dated 5th January, 1948, is not in accordance with the facts, which are:—

1. Fuel contractors have not and do not use those roads extensively—no turf haulage;
2. Military drivers have been involved in a number of accidents, and are the chief users for military purposes of those roads, which we state are extremely dangerous to traffic, particularly on account of narrowness and dangerous bends.

The County Council, therefore, request the matter be reconsidered with a view to having some grant from this Department made available.

Remuneration of Rate Collectors.

Passed unanimously.

Councillor P. McCarthy inquired whether any communication had been received from the Irish Rate Collectors' Association in regard to the remuneration of Rate Collectors.

The County Secretary stated that an application for the revision of poundage and bonus payable to Rate Collectors had been received.

The Council directed that this matter be placed on the Agenda for the next Meeting of the Council. Councillor J. J. Metcalfe asked that particulars be made available of any remuneration paid to Rate Collectors by the Council in addition to their poundage and bonus on rate collection. The Council also requested that particulars of amounts collected in rates in 1939 and 1947 be submitted at the next Meeting.

COUNTY MANAGER'S ORDERS.

The County Manager undertook to investigate matters raised by the members in connection with repairs to cottages, etc.

The Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11.30 a.m. on Monday, 9th February, 1948.

The following members attended:—

Councillor J. J. McCrea, Chairman.

Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, Patrick Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Peter Ledwidge, J. J. Hickey, M.D.; Ed. Byrne, Liam O Laoighleis, J. Everett, T.D.; C. W. Hudson, Joseph Jacob.

The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, was in attendance.

The County Engineer and Assistant Engineers J. P. Caffrey, P. J. Foley, R. L. Farrell and M. C. Kerrane were also present.

Apologies for inability to attend were received from Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., and Councillor C. M. Byrne.

BUSINESS:

1. To confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting held on 12th January, 1948.
2. To authorise the affixing of the Seal to the Mortgage from the Commissioners of Public Works in respect of Loan for reconstruction of the Collatin-Tinahely Road.
3. To consider letter, dated 22nd January, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act, 1948, and determination of areas of charge.
4. Arrangements for the payment of allowances to National Health Insurance beneficiaries.
5. To receive a report of the results of the Examinations for Clerical Officers and Clerk-Typists, held in January, 1948.
6. To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor H. J. Byrne:—
"I give notice that I, or some person acting for me, will move at the next statutory meeting of the Wicklow County Council that in the Scholarship Schemes in Secondary and Vocational Schools, and in University Scholarships Schemes the means test be amended as follows:—Poor Law Valuation to start at £200 and rise by £10 to a final Poor Law Valuation of £230. The Income to start at £500 by £25 to a maximum of £575."
7. To consider letter from the Irish Rate Collectors' Association, Wicklow Branch, in regard to poundage and bonus to Rate Collectors.
8. To fill vacancy on Newcastle Old Age Pensions Sub-Committee.
9. To consider resolution from Mayo County Council requesting that the upkeep of Main Roads and Mental Hospitals be made a national charge.
10. To consider resolution from Waterford County Council requesting that the Agricultural Grant in respect of employment allowances be increased by 100 per cent.
11. To consider letter from Department of Local Government indicating that the market value limit of houses for which a Loan under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts may be made is £1,750.
12. To consider procedure for examination of Estimates for year 1948/1949.
13. Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.

Item No. 1—Minutes.

The County Secretary stated that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th January, 1948, had not yet been received from the Printers.

The Council agreed to adjourn consideration of the Minutes to the next Meeting of the Council.

Item No. 2—Coillatín-Tinahely Road.

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;

Seconded by Councillor J. J. McCrea;

Resolved—That our Corporate Seal be affixed to the Deed of Mortgage of this date now read, whereby security is given to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland for the repayment of the sum of £4,000 proposed to be advanced by them to us under the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898, etc.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 3—Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act, 1948.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Local Government in regard to the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act, 1948:—

Department of Local Government,
Custom House,
Dublin.

Circ. No. L.10/48.

27th January, 1948.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (SANITARY SERVICES) ACT, 1948.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that he proposes to make an Order under Section 3 of the above-mentioned Act, bringing into operation as from 1st April, 1948, the provisions of Section 50 of the Act, which relate to the general expenses and special expenses of a rural sanitary authority. Under these provisions power, the exercise of which is a function reserved to the elected body, is given to the sanitary authority to apply to the Minister for an Order fixing a special area of charge. If the power is not exercised by the Council, or if no order is made by the Minister, the expenses of all schemes will be charged on the whole of the county health district.

The operation of these provisions will necessitate a change in the procedure to be followed this year in regard to the preparation of the estimates of local authorities, and the terms of the latter section should accordingly be taken into consideration and brought before the elected body at an early date. All expenses incurred or to be incurred should be levied as general expenses in the coming financial year, except in any case in which the local authority decides to apply for an Order fixing a special area of charge and the Minister makes an Order accordingly.

Special consideration should be given by the Council to every scheme in respect of which an area of charge Order on a restricted area has been made. If the Council decide, by resolution, that all expenses should be treated as general expenses, no further action need be taken; but if it is decided in any case that special expenses shall continue to be charged on a restricted area, it will be necessary to apply to the Minister for a fresh Order. The Minister, as a general rule, would favour all the expenses of the sanitary authority being treated as general expenses.

A further communication will be addressed to you in due course in regard to the coming into operation of the remaining portions of the Act.

Mise, le meas,

To: The Secretary of each County Council. J. GARVIN,
The County Manager. Bunal Cunta.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;
Seconded by Councillor J. Jacob;

Resolved—That we hereby confirm our Resolution of 27th Feb., 1945, and agree that the expenses of sanitary services should be treated as general expenses and charged over the County Health District.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 4—Payment of Allowances to National Health Insurance Beneficiaries.

The County Manager explained to the Council the provisions of the Social Welfare (Substitutive Allowances) Order, 1948, under which instructions were given to arrange for the payment of allowances to National Health Insurance beneficiaries. Owing to the suspension of the payment of benefits by the National Health Insurance Society consequent on the strike of clerical staff employed by the Society, it was necessary to make arrangements to avoid hardship to the persons entitled to insurance benefit. The County Council, as Public Assistance Authority, would be obliged to give assistance to such persons, and the provisions of the Order enabled the Council to make payments to National Health Insurance beneficiaries, and to obtain recoupment of the full cost.

The County Manager stated that the Local Government Officers' Union had made a protest to the Minister for Social Welfare in regard to the Scheme and a deputation from the Union had been received by the Minister. It was understood that the Union, having further considered the matter, agreed that officers of the Council would carry out the terms of the Order under protest.

Following a discussion, it was

Proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson;

Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond;

Resolved—That we approve of the continuation of the payment of allowances to National Health Insurance Beneficiaries for a period of a further month until the next monthly meeting of the Council.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 5—Examinations for Clerical Officers and Clerk/Typists.

The County Secretary reported that examinations were held in the month of January for Clerical Officers and Clerk/Typists.

Seven candidates presented themselves for the Clerical Officers' Examination and the following four candidates qualified:—

Miss Nuala Keelty, Newtownmountkennedy;
Miss Elizabeth B. Murphy, Whitechurch, Glynn, Co. Wexford;
Mr. Brian Gormley, 29, Benburb St., Dublin;
Mr. John Clarke, Ballyknocken, Rathdrum.

Six candidates sat for the examination for Clerk/Typists and one candidate qualified, namely, Miss Angela Nolan, The Coppice, Rathdrum.

Particulars of the marks obtained by the Candidates at the examinations are set out hereunder:—

CLERICAL OFFICERS' EXAMINATION.

Name of Candidate	Irish (Oral and Written)	English	Mathematics	Latin	Greek	History	Geography	French	Book-keeping and Typewriting	TOTAL
Nuala Keelty	400	400	600	400	400	400	400	400	400	2600
Eliz. B. Murphy	301	330	240			285	260	220		1636
Brian P. Gormley	265	280	280	240		205	235			1505
John Clarke	270	345	245			230	210		(35)	1300
Rosaleen T. O'Neill	200	170	240	201	180		195			1186
Andrew Doyle	(176)	255	240	(143)		(135)	225			896
Brigid C. Gerrard	(160)	165	(155)	(66)		(135)	165			645
	(170)	(135)	320			(130)	(130)		(75)	625

CLERK/TYPISTS' EXAMINATION.

Name of Candidate	Irish (Oral and Written)	Shorthand	Typewriting	English	Arithmetic	History and Geography	Commerce and Book-keeping	TOTAL
Angela P. Nolan	300	700	700	300	300	300	200	2600
Mary Comer	170	450	434	195	144		188	1581
Mary Mason	178	300	637	120	(80)	(65)		1380
Frances M. Doyle	(96)	280	539	128	(83)		122	1248
Brigid S. O'Connor	162	350	420	130	(76)	(25)		1163
Margaret Pearse	150	(200)	455	174	(43)	(90)		1112
	(127)	280	322	(65)	(35)	(25)		854

The County Secretary stated that he had been informed by the Department of Local Government that an examination for Clerk-typists would be held by Wexford County Council during the coming month. It was understood that a large number of applications had been received, and it was suggested that the Council might avail of this examination for the purpose of filling the remaining vacancies on the staff.

The Council decided that it would not be desirable to participate in the Examination to be held by Wexford County Council, and that a further examination should be held by the Council at a later date.

Item No. 6—Secondary and Vocational Schools' Scholarship Schemes.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That, subject to the approval of the Minister for Education, we hereby fix the following conditions in regard to means of candidates to apply to future scholarship schemes for Secondary and Vocational Schools and Universities:—

“Competition for these Scholarships shall be confined to candidates whose parents or guardians—

(a) Occupy agricultural land the annual Poor Law Valuation of which does not exceed:—

- (i) £200 in the case of families of three children or less.
- (ii) £210 in the case of families of four children or less.
- (iii) £220 in the case of families of five children or less.
- (iv) £230 in the case of families of six children or more.

(b) Derive an annual income from all sources not exceeding:—

- (i) £500 in the case of families of three children or less.
- (ii) £525 in the case of families of four children or less.
- (iii) £550 in the case of families of five children or less.
- (iv) £575 in the case of families of six children or more.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 7—Rate Collectors' Poundage.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Irish Rate Collectors' Association, County Wicklow Branch:—

8th January, 1948.

A Chara,

At a recent meeting of the above Branch, it was decided, in view of the present high cost of living and the increased expenses incurred by Rate Collectors in the carrying out of their onerous duties, to request the County Council to recommend the County Manager to increase the remuneration payable to such Collectors to the following scale, viz.:

A basic poundage at the rate of 8d. plus a bonus of 2½d., subject to compliance with the following conditions:—

1. ½d. for lodgment of 75% of First Moiety and Arrears by 30th September.
2. ½d. for lodgment of an amount equal to First Moiety and Arrears by 15th November.
3. ½d. for lodgment of 65% of Warrant by 31st January.
4. ½d. for lodgment of 95% of Warrant by 31st March.
5. ½d. for lodgment of 97½% of Warrant by 31st March.

I would be grateful, accordingly, if you would be so good as to place this letter before the next meeting of the Council for their kind consideration.

Mise, le meas,

MICHAEL J. ROCHE,

Chairman of Branch.

K. J. Brangan, Esq.,
County Secretary,
Wicklow.

The County Secretary submitted particulars of the poundage paid to Collectors in respect of 1938/39 Warrant and estimated poundage and bonus payable on the Warrant for the year 1947/48. The general rate in the £ in the year 1938/39 was 11/8d., and the general rate in the £ for the year 1947/48 was 17/10d. As a result of the increase in the Rate Warrant the remuneration of the Collectors, by way of poundage and bonus, had increased by an average of 50%. The increases obtained by the Collectors varied from a minimum of 34% to a maximum of 71%. Particulars of the proposed poundage and bonus scheme for the coming year, being poundage of 7d. plus bonus of 1½d. were submitted to the Council. Particulars were also available of payments received by Collectors in respect of Franchise and Jurors' Fees. The only other remuneration received by a Rate Collector from the Council was a receipt of £40 by Collector Thomas Fleming in respect of his duties as Insurance Broker.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;
Seconded by Councillor J. O'Reilly;
That we recommend that the Rate Collectors be allowed similar rates of payment to those paid to Rate Collectors in Co. Wexford.
As an Amendment it was
Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
That we defer consideration of this application to the Estimates Meeting of the Council.

A vote having been called for on the Amendment, it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

IN FAVOUR OF AMENDMENT: Councillors W. Hammond, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, P. Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey and C. W. Hudson—8.

AGAINST THE AMENDMENT: Councillors J. J. McCreagh, P. McCarthy, P. Doyle, J. J. O'Reilly, Wm. Lawless, J. Everett, T.D., and Joseph Jacob—7.

The amendment was declared carried by eight votes in favour to seven against, and when put as a substantive Motion was carried by the same voting.

Item No. 8—Newcastle Old Age Pensions Sub-Committee.

The County Secretary read a letter from the Clerk to Newcastle Old Age Pensions Sub-Committee forwarding a recommendation for the appointment of Rev. Patrick Crowe, C.C., as a member of the Sub-Committee in place of Rev. Joseph O'Hare, who had been transferred to Rome.

Proposed by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.;
Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;
Resolved—That we hereby appoint Rev. Patrick Crowe, C.C., as a member of Newcastle Sub-Committee of County Wicklow Old Age Pensions Committee, to fill vacancy caused by the transfer of Rev. Joseph O'Hare.

Item No. 9—Main Roads and Mental Hospitals as National Charge.

The Council adopted the following Resolution received from Mayo County Council:—

"That we, the Mayo County Council, request the Government to have the upkeep of main roads and Mental Hospitals made a National charge because, in view of the extra heavy traffic that has been diverted on the main roads, we believe that the upkeep of such roads as well as of mental hospitals should be the sole responsibility of the Government, as the ratepayers throughout the country are unable to meet the extra heavy demands with which they have been confronted.

"That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to each County Council in the State."

Item No. 10—Agricultural Grant Employment Allowances.

The Council adopted the following resolution received from Waterford County Council:—

"That we request that the Agricultural Grant in respect of employment allowances for the abatement of rates be increased by 100%."

Item No. 11—Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Local Government:—

Department of Local Government,
Custom House,
Dublin,
28adh Eanáir, 1948.
H.2235/48.
Wicklow Co. Council,
A Chara,

With reference to your letter of the 19th instant on the subject, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that it is proposed to fix the maximum market value at £1,750 for advances under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts.

Mise, le meas,
P. J. DALY,
a.s. Runal.

The Secretary,
Wicklow County Council,
Courthouse, Wicklow.

The Council agreed that the figure of £1,750 as the maximum market value of houses for advances under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act was reasonable.

The County Manager stated that arrangements would be made for inviting applications under the Act.

Councillor H. J. Byrne stated that it would be necessary to arrange for the examination by the Council's Engineering Staff of houses in course of erection, in respect of which moneys would be advanced by the County Council. He pointed out that other local authorities found that in some instances houses were not constructed in accordance with the plans and specifications originally submitted, and would not have a market value equivalent to that calculated at the time of the submission of the plans.

The County Manager stated that it was usual in the operation of a Scheme under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, under which moneys were advanced, for the erection of new houses, to make payment of the Loan in instalments during the progress of the work. Not more than 50% of the value of the work done could be advanced in this manner. These advances would only be made after examination by the Council's Engineers.

It was agreed by the Council that it would be desirable for the Council's Engineers to inspect the buildings regularly during the course of construction.

Item No. 12—Estimates.

The Council decided to consider the Estimates at the Estimates Meeting to be held on Monday, 16th February, 1948.

The County Secretary stated that copy of the County Management (Reserved Functions) Order, 1948, had not been received in time for inclusion on the Agenda for the Meeting. Copy of the Order, together with copy of letter received by the County Manager from the Department of Local Government, had been circularised to the members of the Council.

Item No. 13—Inquiries Arising out of Co. Manager's Orders.

Cottage Repairs.—Councillor J. Everett, T.D., asked that particulars be made available of repairs carried out to Council cottages in the Rathdrum District (including Wicklow and Rathnew) during the previous six months, and giving the nature of the repairs and cost of each work.

The County Secretary stated that these particulars would be made available at the next meeting of the Council.

Public Lighting.—Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey stressed the necessity for providing an additional public light on the Bray-Greystones Road near Windgates.

Councillor P. Ledwidge expressed dissatisfaction in regard to difficulties experienced by the Council in obtaining supply of electricity to cottages, and suggested that the Council request the Electricity Supply Board to receive a deputation on the subject.

In this regard Councillor W. Lawless stated that he was unable to understand why it would cost £46 10s. for the provision of service of electricity to the cottage occupied by Mr. Keddy, Kilcoole. Electric lighting was available in houses convenient to this cottage.

The Council agreed that the Electricity Supply Board be asked to receive a deputation from the Council consisting of Councillors Dr. J. J. Hickey, P. Ledwidge and W. Lawless.

Allocation of Cottages.—Councillor P. Ledwidge referred to the letting of cottage at Enniskerry, and stated that he was not satisfied with the Doctor's recommendation in this respect. He considered that prior consideration in the letting of cottages should be given to applicants who had resided some years in the district. He requested that the Doctor's reports on the applicants be made available at the next meeting of the Council.

The County Manager stated that if the Council made a recommendation in regard to the imposition of a residence qualification for the letting of cottages, he would have regard to it in the future allocations of cottages.

Proposed by Councillor P. Ledwidge;
Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;
Resolved—That we recommend that a residence qualification of three years apply in regard to the letting of Council Cottages.
Passed unanimously.

The County Manager stated further that if the Council wished he would arrange for the examination of all applications for cottages by a Committee of the Council.

The Council agreed that this procedure would be most desirable. The County Secretary read a letter received by the Chairman from Mrs. Margaret Murray, Doodysbothams, Donard, applying for assistance. Mrs. Murray stated that she attended to an old man, who was in receipt of the Blind Pension, and who resided with her. She had only the Widows Pension.

Protective Clothing.—Councillor B. Farrell stated that protective clothing had not been issued to all workers employed in the Stratford and Balinglass areas.

The County Engineer stated that he understood that it was the wish of the Council that protective clothing only should be issued to those workers who were in regular employment of the Council. He undertook to investigate the case referred to by Councillor Farrell.

Dunlavin Graveyard.—Councillor J. O'Reilly stated that the Graveyard at Dunlavin was very subject to flooding, and that it would be necessary to have some drainage work carried out.

The Assistant County Engineer was instructed to submit a report on the matter.

Wicklow

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The Estimates Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow at 12 o'clock noon on Monday, 16th February, 1948.

The following members were present:—

Councillor J. J. McCrea, Chairman;

Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, Patk. Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Peter Ledwidge, J. J. Hickey, M.B.; Edward Byrne, Liam O Laoighleis, J. Everett, T.D.; C. M. Byrne, C. W. Hudson and Jos. Jacob.

Apologies for inability to attend were received from Councillors S. Dunne, T.D., and T. Brennan T.D.

Mr. M. Flannery, County Manager, was in attendance.

The County Engineer and Assistant County Engineers P. J. Foley, J. P. Caffrey, R. L. Farrell and M. C. Kerrane were also present.

DEPUTATION OF ROAD WORKERS:

The Chairman informed the Council that a deputation from road workers employed at Kilpool and Carrigmore Quarries wished to be received by the Council. He suggested that the men be heard before the Council deal with the Estimates.

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., speaking on behalf of the road workers, stated that the men who resided in the town of Wicklow wished to be paid at the Urban rate of pay. He also had a complaint to make in regard to the man employed on the rock drill at Kilpool Quarry. He asked if reports had been received from the County Engineer on these matters.

The County Manager read the following reports received from the County Engineer:—

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.

Courthouse, Wicklow.

16th February, 1948.

County Manager.

Re: Road Works, 1947/48—Kilpool Quarry.

Dear Sir,

I beg to report that on Tuesday, 3rd instant, a number of men who were engaged at work in Kilpool Quarry left their work and came to my office at the Court House, Wicklow. They were met there by the Assistant Engineer and informed him that they demanded one of their number should be employed on the Rock Drill in the Quarry.

All these men were residents of the town of Wicklow and working for the County Council on Road Works; there is no connection with the Wicklow District Council. The Assistant asked the men to return to their work so that the matter might be investigated.

On the same evening, I went to the Quarry myself and interviewed two spokesmen on behalf of the men and they confirmed the demand to which I could not agree. The Compressor moves about from quarry to quarry and the worker whom I have employed on the machine is satisfactory; he is not from the Urban District. The men's representatives also state that they wish to be paid for the time during which they walked from the Quarry to my offices and back to the Quarry again. This, of course, could not possibly be granted.

The men left their work on their own accord, even against advice, and there was no necessity to do so, as I am always willing to go to the quarry and investigate their grievances on the spot. I then left the quarry and I understand that afterwards all the men from Wicklow Town left their work and that is the position as it stands at the moment.

I may say that this action could not possibly be tolerated, and I am satisfied that the majority of the workmen and older members of the group are not at all in favour of such procedure.

Yours faithfully,

J. T. O'BYRNE, County Engineer.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.

Courthouse, Wicklow,

16th February, 1948.

County Manager.

Re: Carrigmore Quarry.

Dear Sir,

On Monday, 9th February, 1948, a number of men who are residents of Wicklow Town left their work at Carrigmore Quarry and walked to my office at Wicklow and stated that they demanded a wage equivalent to the rate paid in Wicklow Urban District.

I informed the men that I have no authority to pay such a wage and advised them to return to their work.

The men were engaged by the County Council and have no connection whatsoever with Wicklow Urban District. The men informed me that they would not go back to work and on that information I had to give instructions for the withdrawal of the Co. Council lorry which was employed in carrying the gang from the town to the quarry. I understand that some of the men did return to the work later without acquainting me, but arrangements had already been made as regards the lorry.

The position at the moment is that work has ceased so far as these men are concerned.

As an alternative, the men were asked to go to Kilpool Quarry but refused to do so. I may say that we have had frequent trouble in both Kilpool and Carrigmore Quarries, but only from those men who are residents of Wicklow Town; no trouble has been experienced from men who are residents of the Country areas, and indeed, there are many of the Wicklow townsmen who are not in favour of this action. The Ganger is frequently complaining to me regarding insubordination and difficulty in carrying out the work.

Yours faithfully,

J. T. O'BYRNE, County Engineer.

Councillor C. W. Hudson suggested that the men's complaints might be investigated by a committee of the Council with the County Manager and County Engineer and it was agreed that Councillors Hudson, J. Everett, T.D., H. J. Byrne and P. McCarthy should act on the Committee with the County Manager and County Engineer to meet representatives of the workers immediately after the Council Meeting.

Proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson;

Seconded by Councillor P. Ledwidge;

Resolved—That we hereby appoint the following members of the Council as a Sub-Committee to investigate representations made by men employed at Kilpool and Carrigmore Quarries.

Councillors J. Everett, T.D.; C. W. Hudson, H. J. Byrne and P. McCarthy.

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.;

Seconded by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Resolved—That all workmen from the Urban District employed in the Rural Area be paid the Urban rate of wages, while so employed and we request the sanction of Local Government Department.

Passed unanimously.

Note.—Following the termination of the Council Meeting the Committee met and considered the complaints of the road workers. It was agreed to request the sanction of the Minister to the payment of workers residing in the Urban District at the urban rate of pay, when employed at Kilpool or Carrigmore Quarries.

The men concerned agreed to return to work.

ESTIMATES, 1948/49:

The Council considered the following statement submitted by the County Manager in regard to the Estimates for the Financial Year ending 31st March, 1949:—

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.

Courthouse, Wicklow.

7th February, 1948.

To: The Chairman and Members of Wicklow County Council.

ESTIMATES FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 1948/1949.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen

Estimates of Expenses and Receipts for the year ending 31st March, 1949, together with Table giving explanatory details, are attached.

The total expenditure estimated for the coming year is .. £562,359
Receipts are estimated at .. £268,074
The net amount to be provided from Rates is .. £294,285
The corresponding figures in the Estimates for the current year were:—

Gross Expenditure £443,910
Receipts £195,071
Net amount to be raised from Rates .. £248,839

The increase, therefore, in the net amount requiring to be met from Rates in the coming year is £45,446. The rate required would be 2s. 2d. in the £, which is an increase of 3s. 4d. over the present year's rate.

COMPARISON OF RATES:

The rates in the £ proposed for 1948/49 compare as follows with those levied in the current year:—

	Rates in the £ 1948/49	1947/48	Increase (+) Decrease (—)
Roads	6/2d.	4/9d.	+ 1/4d.
Public Assistance	5/3d.	5/7d.	— 4d.
Mental Hospitals	2/11d.	2/2d.	+ 9d.
Sanitary Services	1/3d.	—	—
Health Services	—	2/2d.	+ 4d.
Housing	1/9d.	1/8d.	+ 1d.
General Purposes	2/6d.	1/5d.	+ 1/0d.
	21/2d.	17/10d.	+ 3/4d.

In assessing the rates, however, balances have been brought into the accounts. The actual increase for General Purposes is equivalent to 3d., but last year there was a credit balance in favour of this account, which reduced the rate assessed.

The actual amounts of the increases chargeable against the County Health District under each of these headings are:—

Roads	£17,227
Public Assistance	£5,066
Mental Hospitals	£9,483
Health Services	—
Sanitary Services	£5,597
Housing	£1,638
General Purposes	£3,041

It will be noted that the former Health Charges Account has been replaced in the present Estimates by two new separate accounts, the Health Services Account and the Sanitary Services Account. These changes arise from the coming into operation of the Health Act, and will be explained in detail later in this Report.

When submitting the Estimates last year it was mentioned that the future trend of costs could not readily be gauged nor was there any evidence that stability in price levels had been reached. Estimates are made out on the basis of information available at the time of their preparation, but actual costs in recent years have been subject to unpredictable fluctuations. It has not been possible at any time to foresee the changes which may occur in price levels and their results on the costs of the services for which the Council is responsible.

During the war years large increases in the rates levied were

avoided owing to the following reasons:—

- (1) Shortage of Supplies;
- (2) Inability to carry out essential maintenance, repairs and renewals;
- (3) Postponement of new works;
- (4) Stabilisation of Wages and Salaries (apart from the payment of Emergency Bonus which was not made until the end of 1943);
- (5) Use of all available credits to reduce the actual rate requirements.

Moreover in the past few years costs hitherto met by Separate Charges have been charged over the entire County Health District and they represent a rate of almost 1s. in the £. Again steep rises in costs occurred after rates had been determined.

The margin between the rate struck and the rate which would have been represented by the actual expenditure incurred may be illustrated by experience in the year 1945/46. The Estimates then submitted would have required a rate of 15s. 6d. in the £. The rate requirements was reduced to 13s. 6d. by taking into account credits of £24,000. The actual rate struck, therefore, was not representative of the costs as estimated for that year. But it was later found that the actual expenditure in that year substantially exceeded the estimated costs. The total excess in expenditure over the estimates amounted to over £18,000. Consequently the outlay in that year would be equivalent to a rate levy of 16s. 8d. in the £. As already mentioned such increases in expenditure could not have been foreseen; they arose from causes outside the control of the Council—they were almost completely attributable to the rise in commodity prices. In the past seven or eight years commodity prices have risen by from 100 to 300 per cent. in many instances. Supplies in some instances may now be more easily procured but the quality is often inferior and the tendency to rise in prices has not been arrested. A striking example of the effect of the altered conditions may be seen in the costs of heating and lighting for County Institutions. In 1938/39 the cost was about £1,400; for the coming year it is estimated at £6,700.

The greater part of the estimated increase for 1948/49 arises under the headings of Roads and Mental Hospitals; they account for 2s. 2d. out of a total increase of 3s. 4d.

The Council in the past two years has undertaken a very heavy Roads programme for the purpose of overcoming the deterioration which resulted from the lack of maintenance from 1940 to 1946. Apart from reconditioning it has been the object of the Council to raise the standard of maintenance. In pursuance of this policy the County Engineer has recommended additional outlay, with substantial assistance from Government Grants on the County Roads in the coming year. It will be evident that if it were not for the Grants which have been made available the outlay on roads would have had to be curtailed or a very large addition to the rate levy would have been necessary.

The Mental Hospital Demand has required an increased rate in each successive year. In 1938/39 the net cost of this service was £17,350; for the coming year it is £44,708. The cost of this service would be very susceptible to changes in price levels.

Public Assistance (which includes the upkeep of the County Institutions and treatment in extern hospitals) likewise shows an increase in expenditure of £5,066. In 1938/39 the cost was £49,366; for 1948/49 the estimate is £50,347.

It is now necessary to give further details of the charges in the Estimates under the various headings; and to indicate variations between the estimated costs for the coming year and those in the current year.

ROADS:

The gross expenditure on Main Roads is estimated at £111,436; there are Receipts from State Grants of £90,130, which represent 50 per cent. Grant on an outlay equivalent to the average for the 5 years ended 31/3/1946; 75 per cent. on first 10 per cent. over such average; and 90 per cent. on any additional expenditure. In the past two years the work of improving Main Roads has progressed favourably.

For County Road Repairs the estimate for next year is £103,544. It is intended if this expenditure be approved to bring County Roads up to a higher standard. It is doubtful if Grants to a like extent will be available in subsequent years, and it was thought advisable to avail of them. The Grant which might be obtained for a gross outlay of £103,544 is estimated at £62,735.

It is not for the additional assistance from State Grants the proposed expenditure on Roads would require a rate of about 14s. 5d. The rate as now estimated is 6s. 2d.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:

The estimates under this heading include provision for maintenance of County Institutions; the Dispensary Medical Service; treatment of patients in extern Institutions; Home Assistance; cost of maintaining boarded-out children; supplementary allowances and food allowances to persons in necessitous circumstances; provision of footwear for children; and supply of fuel to persons in receipt of Home Assistance in the Urban Areas. A large part of the cost of Supplementary Allowances, food allowances and footwear is met from Government Grants.

The cost of all the Public Assistance Services still tends to increase. Food and Fuel for the County Institutions show an increase over the present year. The contract prices for food supplies are higher now than a year ago.

Under the heading of Repairs a sum of £550 has been included to cover cost of much-needed improvements in the County Home. It is 20 years since any painting was carried out. In addition to painting part of the Institution urgent repairs (plastering, etc.) to the Mens' Wards are required.

Clothing and Bedding for County Institutions show an increase of £360. During the past six years there was difficulty in procuring supplies and it is now necessary to provide new clothing and bedding.

The cost of maintenance in Extern Institutions is estimated at £7,400. Whilst it shows no change from the estimate for the current year the increase in the past eight years has been marked. In the intervening period the maintenance charges in Dublin Hospitals have increased from 3s. and £2 2s. to an average of £3 3s. per week.

For instance to persons in their own homes the same amount is provided as in the current year.

The cost of boarded-out children shows an increase of £800. The allowances to foster parents were increased some months ago.

The increase in the cost of Medical Assistance is due to revision of salaries of Medical Officers and Midwives (£2,600); and an increase in the cost of Dental and Ophthalmic services (£600). The Dental Service for Assistance cases has expanded in recent years and services have been arranged at various centres throughout the county.

The cost of Ambulances and other transport shows an increase of £850 of which £750 is intended to meet the cost of a new Ambulance. Two of the five ambulances owned by the Council are not in satisfactory condition, but having regard to the steep increases in costs of other services it was decided to provide only one new vehicle in the coming year.

The State Grant available in 1948/49 is equivalent to the former Estate Duty and Medical and Educational Grants and the excess of the expenditure for the coming year over the outlay in the current year. The new Grant is estimated at £4,122.

MENTAL HOSPITAL:

The Demand from Grangeorman Mental Hospital Committee for the coming year is £45,835 as compared with £35,239 in the present year, an increase of £10,596. Furthermore, in the present year a Grant from State Funds of £2,500 was available but in the coming year the estimated Grant is only £1,127. The increase which requires to be met from Rates, therefore, is £11,969. Formerly an annual Capitation Grant was made to County Councils to meet in part the cost of Mental Treatment. This Capitation Grant had always been regarded as inadequate by local authorities, but under the system of computation prescribed under the Health Services (Financial Provisions) Act, 1947, a reduced Grant will be available in the coming year. The new Grant is based on the excess of the estimate in the coming year (1948/49 over the estimated expenditure for the present year (1947/48). It now appears that the estimated expenditure of the Grangeorman Mental Hospital Committee in the present year will be greater than the estimate for the coming year. The result consequently will be a saving to State Funds and an increase in the amount to be levied by the County Council. It is understood that the Grangeorman Mental Hospital Committee has made special representations to the Department of Health in connection with this matter.

HEALTH SERVICES:

The coming into operation of the Health Act, 1947, has resulted in changes in the administration of many of the Council's Services and in the charging of their costs. Formerly the Health Services included Water and Sewerage Supplies, Burial Grounds, the Tuberculosis and School Medical Service Schemes, Free Milk and Maternity and Child Welfare Schemes and certain other minor Public Health Services. A distinction is now made between Sanitary Services and Health Services and it will be noted that they are grouped in two separate divisions in the attached Estimates. The cost of the Health Services will be chargeable over the entire County, i.e. including the Urban Districts. The Sanitary Services now include only "amenity" services, viz.: Water Supply, Sewerage, Public Lighting and Burial Grounds and their cost is charged to the Health District only as the Urban Councils provide similar services within their own areas. Briefly the Health Services now will include what is known as the "Mother and Child Service" (embodying Maternity and Child Welfare, Schools Medical Service and provision of Free Milk), and the prevention and treatment of infectious disease. The prevention and treatment of infectious diseases includes the County Tuberculosis Scheme. The various items and their estimated costs are shown in the attached statements. The Maternity and Child Welfare, and Free Milk Schemes administered at present by the Urban District Councils will be taken over by the County Council as from 1st April, 1948, and the Sanitary Officers (Sanitary Sub-Officers, etc.) employed by the Urban Authorities will also be transferred to the County Council.

A new system of providing State Grants towards the costs of the Health Services has been devised. At present one-half the cost of the Tuberculosis and School Medical Service Schemes is recouped by the State. In the coming year the Health Services will be assisted by the State in the following manner: An amount equivalent to the Grants payable in the present year will continue to be paid and in addition the increase in costs of the Health Services in the coming year over the actual expenditure in the present year will be recouped from State Funds. At first sight it might appear that any increase in the coming year's Estimates over the Estimates for the present year would be met from Government Grants. It is now, however, evident that the actual outlay in the present year on Health Services will exceed the provision made in the current year's estimates. The excess outlay is almost altogether ascribable to the Tuberculosis Scheme, which will cost about £24,000 more than estimated. This increased cost is due to substantial increases in the charges for patients maintained in extern sanatoria and hospitals and increased outlay on the provision of food and clothing for patients. The arrangements for supplying clothing, bedding and extra food to persons receiving treatment under the Tuberculosis Scheme were introduced in recent years, and are being availed of to an increasing extent each year.

It is expected that an Assistant County Medical Officer of Health will take up duty in the near future. Provision also has been allowed to ran additional Public Health Nurse.

The expenditure on the School Medical Service is expanding consequent on increase in the number of inspections and in the number of school children being treated for defects.

The costs of the Maternity and Child Welfare and Free Milk Schemes include provision for the services at present administered by Bray, Arklow and Wicklow Urban District Councils.

Arrangements at present are being made for extensions and improvements to the County Sanatorium at Rathdrum, and outline plans have been prepared and submitted to the Department of Health. The extension will provide accommodation for extra beds and would bring the total bed complement up to 54. Moreover it is intended to have separate kitchen, etc., facilities, and to have separate staff accommodation so that the Sanatorium may be a self-contained unit, and aside from supervision it will have no connection with the County Home. The provision of X-Ray and other equipment will allow the medical staff to provide certain treatment for early cases of the disease which up to the present time had to be procured in extern institutions. Some of the required equipment already has been procured.

Under the Housing (Amendment) Act 1946, the Council was empowered to provide extra rooms to the households of persons suffering from Tuberculosis or alternatively to provide chalets. Since difficulty was experienced in providing extra rooms (owing to shortage of materials and difficulty in getting contractors to undertake the work) it was decided to construct a number of chalets. Seven chalets have been designed by the Council's engineering staff and are being constructed by the Council's workmen and will be ready for issue at an early date. It is hoped to have twelve chalets constructed by the end of the present year, and the amount of £1,500 would cover the cost of about 30 additional chalets in the coming year. Their construction, however, will depend on sufficient materials and tradesmen being available. The cost of £1,500 is offset by a receipt from Government Grant of £1,250 which includes Grant due on outlay in present year.

Thus far exact details of the Scheme for providing maintenance allowances to persons suffering from tuberculosis and their dependants have to be received, but, on the information available, and after examining the list of cases with the County Medical Officer of Health, it is estimated that the cost of the special allowances will amount to £8,320. The cost will be recouped in full from Government grant and accordingly a corresponding receipt is included in the Estimates. The Scheme presumably will be administered through the Assistance Officers and will entail extra work for the Council's Staffs.

The amount of £209 for Diphtheria Immunisation includes the requisite provision for the Schemes at present administered by the Urban Councils and which will be taken over by the County Council from 1st April, next.

The Government Grant for Health services is estimated at £24,908 and other receipts are estimated at £1,350, leaving the net charge to be met from Rates £14,491. Of the Grant of £24,908 the sum of £12,196 represents the estimated excess of net expenditure in 1948/49 over

net expenditure in the current year. This excess, however, includes a sum of £8,320 for special allowances to T.B. patients and their dependants to which reference already has been made. The balance of the Grant is mainly made up of Free Milk Grant; recoupment of one-half cost of Tuberculosis; School Medical Service and Maternity and Child Welfare Schemes.

SANITARY SERVICES:

As already explained the principal items chargeable to this new Account are costs of Water Supplies, Sewerage, Public Lighting, and Burial Grounds. These costs include both maintenance and loan charges (for repayment of capital costs). There are no State Grants provided towards the expenditure on the maintenance of these Services. It is the practice, however, to make State Grants towards the capital costs of new Schemes when they are being undertaken.

The cost of maintenance of Water Supplies, Sewerage Systems and Public Sanitary Conveniences show an increase of £500 in the coming year (the respective sums are £1,500 and £1,000). A substantial part of this expenditure is accounted for by minor improvements and adjustments to existing services. In the present year heavy additional outlay was necessary owing to flood damage to some of the services.

Increased provision for Public Lighting has been made for the coming year. Electric lighting recently was installed in Tinahely, Shillelagh, Kilcool, Glenealy and Enniskerry and lighting by petrol lamps was restored in a number of villages.

The sum of £5,485 under Loan Charges includes £400 in respect of new schemes which might be started in the coming year. Preliminary Reports and Outline Plans have been prepared in respect of Wicklow Regional, Glenealy and Aughrim Water Supply Schemes. These are some of the major schemes proposed to be undertaken by the Council. The details of a number of other Schemes have been prepared, but alterations in them have been recommended by the Department of Local Government.

It will be noted that the receipts from Water Undertakings (£502) are very limited compared with the maintenance and capital repayment costs. It is to be expected accordingly that new schemes will result in further substantial increases in the costs to be met from rates. These amenity services, however, are directly beneficial to a large section of the ratepaying community and their costs as represented by the proportion of the total rate levy assignable to them is relatively small compared with the cost of social services such as Public Assistance, Health, Housing and Mental Hospitals.

HOUSING:

The total number of labourers' cottages at present owned and maintained by the Council is 2,751. Of these 1,790 have been erected in the past 15 years. Most of them were built by Direct Labour and 500 were erected in the period from 1939 up to the present date—during a period when housing construction was at a standstill in other rural areas. It is scarcely necessary to mention the difficulties which this housing programme entailed in recent years at a time when materials were in very short supply and the purchase of them required the procuring of licences and special permissions.

The Council has decided to proceed with the erection of 460 further cottages, which it is evident are urgently required to meet the acute shortage of housing which now exists. It is hoped that the Council will be in a position to acquire the necessary lands and start work on the erection of a number of these cottages in the coming year. At present the Council's engineering staff is making preliminary arrangements for this work.

In the present year, apart from ordinary repairs, a drainage scheme to relieve flooding of the cottages at Boghall, Bray, was completed. Arrangements are being made for the installation of electric lighting in cottages in a number of districts.

The net housing costs for 1948/49 show an increase of £1,700 over the estimate for the current year. The increases are ascribable to salaries of office staff (not charged in previous years directly to housing) £797; increase in loan charges £200; increase in insurance £400; Grants under Housing (Amendment) Act, 1948, £300. Under Section 19 of the Housing (Amendment) Act, 1948, the County Council is required to make Grants, varying from £25 to £40 according to type of house for ten successive years to persons erecting houses which comply with certain conditions. The State will recoup two-thirds of the costs of such Grants. These Grants are applicable to houses erected for letting. The foregoing sum of £300 accordingly has been included in the Estimates under this heading.

The Housing Rate for the coming year is estimated at 1s. 9½d. and this represents the assistance which the Council has to provide in order that labourers' cottages may be let at rents which would be within the capacity of tenants to meet.

GENERAL PURPOSES:

The net charges after deducting Receipts for General Purposes are chargeable to Urban Districts £14,838, and chargeable to County Health District £24,347. The corresponding charges in the current year's Estimates were £13,404 and £22,433.

Town and Regional Planning.—A Preliminary Survey has been made by the Town Planning Consultant and the sum of £250 is intended to cover the cost of next stage of the Scheme, viz., submission of Preliminary Report and recommendations and accompanying Maps.

Scholarships.—The number of persons to whom scholarships are payable will be greater in the coming year and in addition the allowances were augmented some time ago. The increase in the cost is £329.

Fire Brigades.—The cost for coming year is estimated at £1,693 as compared with £1,470 in the present year. A new unit with a self-propelled Fire Engine has been provided in Dunlavin and Special Alarms Systems are being instilled in the important centres.

Office Accommodation.—Under the heading of Loan Charges there is provided a sum of £1,725 (£592 in current year). This includes £1,135 to meet half year's loan charge on the Capital cost of a new building at Wicklow which would accommodate the entire County Council office staff including those at present at Rathdrum and would meet the requirements of the County Library Service and Committee of Agriculture. The division of the Council's staff between Wicklow and Rathdrum does not lend to facility or efficiency in administration. A Central Library is urgently required; at present the headquarters are temporarily located in Greystones. The cost of erecting suitable buildings on the site of the present gaol (including demolition of that structure) is estimated at £35,000. The annual loan charges to repay the capital cost in 25 years would be £2,270.

Office Staff.—It has become increasingly evident that the staff employed on the Assistance, Housing and Health Services of the Council is not adequate to ensure efficient administration. In recent years there has been a continuous expansion in the Social Services. Supplemental Allowances, Food Allowances, and Footwear Schemes have been introduced in the past few years. The scope of the Tuberculosis Scheme has been progressively enlarged. The continuous additions in the Council's housing programme have also entailed extra work. It consequently is proposed to appoint an additional Staff Officer to whom would be assigned duties in connection with the foregoing Services. The additional cost arising from this arrangement would be £300.

Engineering Staff.—The estimates include provision for the appointment of a Chief Assistant to the County Engineer. Having regard to the expansion in the services under his control in recent years it is considered that such an appointment is necessary. The Council's

expenditure on Roads and other works for which the County Engineer is responsible is at present considerable and it is advisable that satisfactory standards should be maintained. Furthermore a new housing programme has to be arranged and undertaken. Such an officer already has been appointed in other Counties. The cost arising out of this appointment would be £700.

Bank Interest.—Last year a sum of £1,500 was provided to meet this charge. In the coming year the provision is £2,000 as the charge in the present year is found to be £1,910. The credits which had been available in former years, to meet expenditure in the early part of the year pending the collection of rates are now exhausted as they had been progressively applied towards reducing the rate levy. It has, in consequence been necessary to resort to temporary overdraft from the Council's Treasurer. The Interest Charge has been further increased by delay in the receipt of Grants from the Road Fund. This Interest Charge would be considerably reduced if instalments of Road Grants and Agricultural Grant were issued to the Council at earlier dates.

Rates on Agricultural Land.—In the reports on the Estimates for the two previous years comparisons were given of the rates leviable on agricultural land. The Agricultural Grant has been progressively increased from 1925. The total of such increases amount to over £2½ millions.

Again there is given for your information a comparison of the rates leviable in the year 1940/41 with those resulting from the present estimate on an actual holding of £51 Poor Law Valuation, on which two workmen are employed:—

	Val.	1940/41 @	Val.	1948/49 @
	Benefiting	12/3d. in £	Benefiting	21/2d. in £
Gross Rate		£31 13 3		£55 0 9
Primary Allowance	£20	£5 16 8	£20	£12 19 0
Employment Allowance	£25	£7 5 4	£25	£13 0 0
Supplementary Allowance	£6	18 3	£31	£6 13 10

Total Abatement	£14 0 3	£32 12 10
Net Rates payable	£17 13 0	£22 7 11

All items in the estimates now submitted for your consideration have been carefully checked and reviewed. Any further details required will be readily supplied.

I desire to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the co-operation and assistance which has been afforded to me by the members of the Council during the past year. It is regretted that it is necessary to submit an Estimate recommending an increase in the rate levy but having regard to the circumstances under which the Council's services have to be administered such an increase has been unavoidable.

Yours faithfully,

M. FLANNERY,
County Manager.

The following letter from the Irish Farmers' Federation was read:
THE IRISH FARMERS' FEDERATION.

Springfield,

Kilbride, Wicklow.

13th February, 1948.

K. J. Brangan, Esq.,
Co. Secretary.

Co. Wicklow Co. Council, Wicklow.

Dear Mr. Brangan,

On behalf of the members of the Irish Farmers' Federation I have been directed to ask you to kindly have this letter given to the Chairman of the County Council before the Estimates Meeting begins next Monday. I am directed to enter a strong protest against any increase in the Rates for 1948/49 on the following grounds:—

Farmers' prices have been pegged down for years past and still are while we have been burdened with increased rates and increased wages on several occasions during the past number of years. The extra grant towards relief of rates on Agricultural land has gone to meet in part the increased wages of farm workers, so was really a grant to the workers and of no extra benefit to the farmer. While Farmers' prices are pegged down, it is only reasonable and just that there should be a limit beyond which Rates could not be increased.

As food production is of vital importance to the nation, and any increase in the farmers' cost of production such as increased rates means money from the vital work of food production, we feel that the members of the County Council will give careful consideration to these matters and defer all increased expenditure on items that can reasonably be postponed of which there are many in the list of estimates.

We also consider that too much attention is given to main roads while county roads in mountain areas are neglected.

We also consider it unfair that C.I.E. which had the valuation reduced some years ago on Railway property, is now allowed to tear up our roads with their lorries while not paying rates for same roads. We earnestly request the Chairman and members of the County Council to have the proposed Estimates drastically reduced and give the farmers a chance of producing food.

Yours faithfully,

ELIZABETH F. BOBBETT,
County Secretary.

MENTAL HOSPITAL COSTS:

Councillor H. J. Byrne suggested that the Council ask for an inquiry into the costs of Grangegorman Mental Hospital. The costs of the maintenance of this institution had increased alarmingly in recent years.

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., stated that as a member of Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board he wished to inform the Council that the estimates for the Mental Hospital had been presented to the Board and examined by them in detail. The increased costs were due principally to increases in costs of fuel and food. Representatives of Wicklow County Council on the Joint Board had opposed the adoption of the Estimates, but were not in a position to indicate where savings might have been made. He pointed out that the treatment provided by Grangegorman Mental Hospital was the best of its kind in Europe.

The County Manager stated that full details of the Estimates had been furnished by the Chief Clerk to the Board, with the Demand on the Council. He gave particulars of the increases in costs of various commodities between 1st April, 1939, and 1st October, 1947.

Councillor H. J. Byrne stated that the increase in the cost of beef from 65s. 11d. to 154s. per cwt. of mutton from 72s. 4d. to 261s. 4d. per cwt., and of farm expenses by 228.67 per cent. seemed disproportionately high.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
 Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey.
 Resolved—That we request the Minister for Health to make an inquiry into the abnormal increase in the costs of Grangegorman and Portrane Mental Hospitals.

Passed unanimously.
 The Council decided to examine the Estimates for the remaining services before finally deciding on the amount to be provided for roads.

Assistance.—Having examined the Estimates for Assistance, Health, Housing, Sanitary and General Purposes Services, the Council directed that the following items be excluded:—

- (1) Provision for Chief Assistant County Engineer;
- (2) Provision for an additional Staff Officer in Assistance, Health and Housing Sections;
- (3) Provision of £400 for Loan Charges on new Water and Sewerage Schemes;
- (4) Provision of £1,135 for half year's Loan Charges for the construction of new offices.

The County Manager pointed out that the appointment of an additional Staff Officer in the Rathdrum Offices was essential if the work in these offices was to be maintained in a satisfactory manner. He gave particulars as to how work under these Services had expanded in recent years.

Roads.—Following a discussion in regard to the amount to be provided for roads in the coming year the Council agreed that apart from provision for contributions to Special Grant Works and the provision for the construction of a Bridge at Sheanna, all items of improvements to Main and County Roads should be deferred. This would involve a reduction in the provision for Main Roads of £2,040 and for County Roads of £1,486.

Proposed Councillor H. J. Byrne;
 Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey.
 That we provide the same sum for County Roads Repairs as provided in 1947/48 (Namely, £57,653) and allow the provision for Main Roads as submitted in the Estimates.

As an Amendment, it was
 Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;
 Seconded by Councillor B. Farrell:
 That we allow the provision for Roads as submitted in the Estimates less £3526 under the Heading—Special Works.

A further Amendment was proposed by Councillor W. Hammond:
 That we reduce the Estimate for Repairs to County Roads by an amount of £40,000.

Councillor W. Hammond later agreed to withdraw his proposal. The Amendment in the name of Councillor P. P. O'Reilly was then put to the Meeting, and it was found that the Councillors present voted as follows:—

In Favour: Councillors P. Doyle, P. McCarthy, J. McCrea, B. Farrell, P. P. O'Reilly, J. Everett, T.D.; Joseph Jacob—(7).

Against: Councillors W. Hammond, J. J. Metcalfe, H. J. Byrne, P. Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Ed. Byrne, Wm. Lawless, C. M. Byrne, C. W. Hudson and John O'Reilly—(10).

The Amendment was declared defeated by 10 votes against to seven in favour, and Councillor H. J. Byrne's motion was declared carried by the same voting.

The amendments made by the Council reduced the proposed rate from 21s. 2d. to 19s. 10d. in the £.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
 Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless:

Resolved—That we hereby confirm and adopt the Estimates (Form E.1) now submitted to us as amended, and determine the Rates in the £ to be levied in the County by means of Poor Rate for the service of the financial year ending 31st March, 1949:

Name of Service	Rate in the £
(a) Road Charges	4/11d.
(b) Public Assistance Charges	5/3d.
(c) Mental Hospital Charges	2/11d.
(d) Health Charges	1/2d.
(e) Sanitary Charges	1/2d.
(f) Housing Charges	1/9d.
(g) General Purposes Charges	2/5d.
	19/10d.

No. in Separate Charges Register	SEPARATE CHARGES, Name, Particulars and of Separate Charge	Rate in the £
VII	Vocational Education	5d.
LXIV	Wicklow Harbour	1d.
LXII	Rathdrum Union Loans	—
LXI	Baltinglass Union Loans	1d.
	Rathdrum and Wicklow Joint Burial Ground	1d.

Passed, Councillors W. Hammond and C. W. Hudson dissenting.
 Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
 Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless:

Resolved—That we hereby, in accordance with the Estimates on Form E.1 and the Valuation Lists, do determine the amounts to be demanded from each Urban District Council in respect of the financial year ending 31st March, 1949, as follows:—

	Arklow	Bray	Wicklow
Roads	£1,233 19 0	£5,394 14 0	£1,084 0 0
Public Assistance	£2,792 6 0	£11,933 6 0	£2,454 10 0
Mental Hospitals	£1,486 14 0	£6,354 0 0	£1,308 13 0
Health Charges	£562 4 0	£2,409 0 0	£492 14 0
General Purposes Charges	£508 11 3	£2,169 1 0	£430 12 5
Separate Charges	£272 6 0	—	£238 0 0
	£6,856 0 3	£28,259 16 0	£6,007 3 5

Passed.
 I hereby certify that at the Estimates Meeting of Wicklow County Council held on 16th February, 1948, the Council did by Resolution adopt the Estimates of Expenses set forth at Tables A, B, C, D and E, and did also by Resolution determine in accordance with the said Estimates and Rates set forth in Column 13 of the Tables C and D to be the Rates in the Pound to be levied for the several purposes specified in the said Estimates for the financial year ending on the 31st March, 1949.

(Signed)—J. J. McCREA, Chairman.
 (Countersigned)—K. J. BRANGAN, Secretary.
 Copy of Table Explanatory of the Estimates as circulated to the members of the Council and showing the amounts adopted by the Council is attached hereto.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.

Table Explanatory of the estimates for the local financial year ending on the 31st day of March, 1949.

Purpose of Expenditure	Amount Estimated.			
	To which Urban Areas participate		From which Urban Areas are exempt	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Ordinary Road Works:				
Repairs	£ 111,436	£ 111,436	£ 103,544	£ 57,653
Improvements	3,540	1,500	5,871	4,385
Loan Charges	925 1	1,576	1,853	1,853
Contingencies	500	500	500	500
Special Grant Works:				
Road Fund	8,0000	8,0000	8,0000	8,0000
Other State Grants				
Other Purposes:				
Salaries, etc of County Engineer and Assistants	1,655	1,255	2,918	2,918
Travelling Expenses of Co. Engineer and Assistants	300	200	1,400	1,400
Salaries and Travelling Expenses of Temporary Engineers			900	900
Salaries—Clerical Staff—County Engineer's Office			924	924
Retiring Allowance—Ex County Surveyor	507	507		
Printing Stationery and Advertising Office Equipment	80	80	290	290
Postage and Telephone	135	135	50	50
Stamp Duty—Paying Orders	110	110	135	135
Road Openings and Reinstatements	500	500	110	110
Miscellaneous (inc. E.L. Claims)	25	25	50	50
	£128,364	£125,824	£126,995	£79,618

Nature of Receipts.	Amount Estimated.			
	To which Urban Areas participate		In which Urban Areas do not participate	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Road Fund—Maintenance Grant	£ 90,130	£ 90,130	£ 62,735	£ 28,317
Road Fund—Other Grants	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
Other Receipts:				
Estate Duty Grant			600	600
Contribution of cost of Public Works Insurance Brokers Commission	70	70	60	60
Road Openings and other refunds	500	500	50	50
Miscellaneous Receipts (inc. refund of Insurance Claims)	20	20	525	525
Prop. of salaries and Travelling Expenses of Co. Engineer and Assistant Engineers chargeable to Assistance, Health and Housing Services.	977	727	2,159	2,159
Recoupment—Salaries and Travelling Expenses of Temporary Engineers			450	450
Refund of Road Fund Bonus	100	100	160	160
Sale of Tar Drums and Materials	120	120		
Weightbridge Receipts	40	40		
Railway Overbridges	50	50	25	25
	£100,007	£99,757	£74,764	£40,346

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.

Explanatory Table of the Estimates for the Financial Year ending on the 31st March, 1949.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

	To which Urban Areas Contribute	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
DISTRICT INSTITUTIONS:		
Salaries, Wages, etc.	8,235	8,235
Superannuation	285	285
Food, Drink and Tobacco	9,250	9,250
Farm Expenses	300	300
Furniture and Hardware	200	200
Washing and Cleaning	170	170
Medicines	700	700
Medical and Surgical Appliances	650	650
Heating and Lighting	5,580	5,580
Clothing and Bedding	750	750
Repairs and Upkeep	1,050	1,050
Loan Charges	1,125	1,125
Miscellaneous Institutional Expenses	700	700
Total for District Institutions	£28,995	£28,995
Assistance in Extern Institutions	7,400	7,400
HOME ASSISTANCE:		
Assistance in Cash to Aged, Infirm, etc.	18,600	18,600
Provisional Assistance to Unemployed, etc.	3,000	3,000
Special Food Scheme (Government Grant)	4,312	4,312
Supplementary Allowance (Government Grant)	6,041	6,041
Footwear Scheme (Assistance Recipients)	350	350
Footwear Scheme (Contributory)	1,200	1,200
Boarded-out Children	4,000	4,000
Salaries of Assistance Officers	1,950	1,950
Retiring Allowances	148	148
Fuel Scheme and Other Expenses	882	882
Total for Home Assistance	£40,483	£40,483

Nature of Expenditure	To which Urban Areas Contribute	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Medical Assistance (otherwise than in institutions)	£	£
Salaries of Dispensary Medical Officers, Midwives and other staff	12,140	12,140
Superannuation	400	400
Medical Supplies	1,400	1,400
Loan Charges	40	40
Repair and upkeep of Dispensaries	730	730
Dental and Ophthalmist Treatment	870	870
Miscellaneous Expenses	200	200
Total for Medical Assistance	£15,780	£15,780
OTHER EXPENSES:		
Salaries and Wages of Office Staff	1,026	1,026
Salaries Engineering, Legal and Analyst	629	598
Superannuation	62	62
Printing, Stationery and Advertising, etc.	600	600
Rents, Rates and Insurance	250	250
Postage and Telephones	400	400
Ambulance Service and other Transport of patients	2,450	2,450
Coffins and Burials of Poor Persons	450	450
Registration Birth, Deaths and Marriages	250	250
Fees for Certification of Lunatics	100	100
Other Miscellaneous Expenditure	200	200
Total for Other Expenses	£6,417	£6,386
Gross Total of Expenditure	£99,075	£99,044

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

RECEIPTS.

Nature of Receipt:	In which Urban Areas participate	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
REPAYMENT OF ASSISTANCE:	£	£
In respect of Maintenance in Institutions	3,930	3,930
In respect of Home Assistance	150	150
GOVERNMENT GRANTS:		
Health Act, 1947	4,122	3,961
Assistance in kind—Special Food Allowances	4,312	4,312
Supplementary Allowances	4,531	4,531
Footwear Scheme (Assistance Recipients)	175	175
Footwear Scheme—Contributory	600	600
Rents of Dispensary Residences	198	198
Sale of Farm Produce	200	200
Farm Produce consumed by Inmates of County Home	350	350
Ambulance Hire	70	70
Other Miscellaneous Receipts	90	90
Total Estimated Receipts	£18,728	£18,567

MENTAL HOSPITAL SERVICES.

Nature of Expenditure:	To which Urban Areas Contribute	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Money supplied to Joint Committee	£45,835	£45,835

Nature of Receipt:	In which Urban Areas participate	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Grant under Health Act, 1947	£1,127	£1,127

HOUSING SECTION.

Nature of Expenditure:	From which Urban Areas are exempt.	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Labourers Acts:		
Salaries	£797	£797
Retiring Allowances	83	83
Remuneration of Engineers (Portion)	1,568	1,443
Remuneration of Law Agent (Portion)	188	188
Rent Collectors Poundage	1,800	1,800
Cottage Repairs	4,000	4,000
Loan Charges	44,000	44,000
Insurances	626	626
Rates on Cottages	5,548	5,548
Other Labourers Acts Expenses	74	74
Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts	100	100
Grants under Housing (Amendment) Act, 1948	300	300
Total for Housing Charges	£59,084	£58,959
Nature of Receipts:		
Labourers Acts:		
Rents of Labourers Cottages	19,298	19,298
Housing Subsidy	18,000	18,000
Other Receipts	80	80
Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts	100	100
Recoupment by State of Grants under Housing (Amendment) Act, 1948	200	200
Total	£37,678	£37,678

HEALTH SERVICES.

Nature of Expenditure	To which Urban Areas Contribute	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Salaries:	£	£
Co. Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Co. M.O.H.	2,061	2,061
District Medical Officers	926	926
Public Health Nurses	690	690
Health Inspector, Sanitary Inspector, Infant Life Protection Visitors and Shop Acts Inspectors	1,267	1,267
Office Staff	1,112	887
Analyst (Proportion of salary)	25	25
Retiring Allowances and Gratitudes	234	234
Mother and Child Services:		
Maternity and Child Welfare Schemes	760	760
Schools Medical Services	1,290	1,290
Free Milk Schemes	2,550	2,550
Infectious Diseases:		
Tuberculosis:		
County Sanatorium	6,173	6,173
Other Sanatoria and Hospitals	8,245	8,254
Dispensaries	3,050	3,050
Grants under Housing (Amendment) Act, 1948	1,500	1,500
Maintenance of persons suffering from Infectious Disease	8,320	8,320
Veneral Disease	330	330
Other Expenses:		
Notification of Disease	20	20
Vaccination Acts	36	36
Disinfection	70	70
Replacement of Clothing and Bedding	82	82
Diphtheria Immunisation	209	209
Pathological Examinations, etc.	129	129
Supervision of Food and Drink under Health Act, 1947	10	10
Midwives Act	100	100
Other Expenses:		
Travelling Expenses of Co. Medical Officer of Health and Assistant and Public Health Nurses	870	870
Printing, Stationery and Advertising	600	600
Postage and Telephones	30	30
Insurance Premiums	40	40
Miscellaneous	20	20
Total	£40,749	£40,524

HEALTH SERVICES.

RECEIPTS.

Nature of Receipt	To which Urban Areas Contribute	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Grant under Health Act, 1947	£24,908	£25,092
Grant under Housing (Amendment) Act, 1948	1,250	1,250
Repayments by Patients	100	100
Total	£26,258	£26,442

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.

Explanatory Table of the Estimates for the Financial Year ending on the 31st March, 1949.

SANITARY SERVICES.

Nature of Expenditure	From which Urban Areas are exempt.	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Salaries:	£	£
Office Staff	678	395
Caretakers:		
Water and Sewerage Schemes, Dumping Grounds and Sanitary Conveniences	1,180	1,180
Burial Grounds	835	835
Engineering Staff—proportion of Salaries and Travelling Expenses	1,176	1,082
Analyst—proportion of salary	25	25
Water Supplies, Sewerage Systems and Public Sanitary Conveniences—Repairs and Maintenance	1,500	1,500
Dumping Grounds Maintenance	296	296
Burial Grounds Maintenance	600	600
Public Lighting	1,757	1,757
Loan Charges:		
Water and Sewerage Schemes, etc.	5,485	5,085
Burial Grounds	580	580
Other Expenses	225	225
Total	£14,337	£13,560

SANITARY SERVICES.

RECEIPTS.

Nature of Receipt:	In which Urban Areas participate	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Water Undertakings	£502	£502
Burial Fees	250	250
Miscellaneous	25	25
Total	£777	£777

GENERAL PURPOSES:

Purpose of Expenditure	Amount Estimated			
	To which Urban Areas Contribute		From which Urban Areas are exempt	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Money supplied to County Committee of Agriculture			4,028	4,028
Public Libraries			1,890	1,890
Town and Regional Planning Acts			250	250
Tourist Development	200	200		
Scholarships:				
Secondary University	2,148	2,148		
708	708			
Other Purposes:				
Salaries and travelling Expenses	2,222	2,222	4,676	4,676
Cost of Rate Collection			6,250	6,250
Irrecoverable Rates, Discounts and Remissions			1,000	1,000
Tramway Employees Pensions			974	974
Pensions Late Union Officers	896	896		
Late R.D. Council's Officers Co. Officers	834	834	128	128
Franchise and Jurors Lists	1,620	1,620	700	700
Valuation	175	175		
Legal Expenses			100	100
Coroners and Inquests	250	250		
Postage and Telephones	100	100	350	350
Stationery, Printing and Advertising				
Assessments:				
(i) Local Authorities (Officers and Employees) Act	250	250		
(ii) Local Authorities (Combined Purchasing) Act	250	250		
(iii) Neutrality (War Damage to Property) Act	88	88		
Air Raid Precautions Act	20	20		
Fire Brigades			1,693	1,693
Acquisition of Derelict Sites			100	100
Drainage of Land	100	100		
Reformatories and Industrial Schools	1,850	1,850		
Conveyance of Prisoners	100	100		
Weights and Measures	300	300		
Food and Drugs	100	100		
County Analyst	200	200		
Seeds and Fertilisers Supply Scheme	3,000	3,000		
Milk and Dairies Act			347	347
Blind Persons Act				
Road Fund Expenses	120	120		
Prosecutors' and Witnesses' Expenses	214	214		
130	130			
Diseases of Animals:				
Veterinary Inspectors	350	350		
Sheep Dipping Scheme	1,424	1,424		
General Cattle Diseases Fund	318	318		
Compensation—Bovine T.B. Order	60	60		
Courthouses and Offices:				
Repairs and Renewals	500	500	300	300
Rents and Expenses	375	375	290	290
Courtkeepers and Office Attendant	137	127	185	185
Loan Charges			1,725	590
Expenses of Pounds			50	50
Audit Fees			60	60
Insurance Premiums	12	12	15	15
Travelling Expenses Co. Councillors	500	800		
Harbour Guarantees	393	393		
Interest on Overdraft			2,000	2,000
Miscellaneous			100	100
Materials Expense (Balance)	25	25		
Machinery Expense (Balance)				
	20,309	20,309	27,611	26,476

GENERAL PURPOSES.

NATURE OF RECEIPTS:	Amount Estimated.			
	In which Urban Areas participate		In which Urban Areas do not participate	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Contributions to Retiring Allowances				
Licence Fees:				
Poison	68	68		
Cinematograph	5	5		
Fines under Food and Drugs Act	17	17	6	6
Seeds and Fertilisers Supply Scheme	3,000	3,000		
Public Libraries			138	138
Recoupments:				
Franchise and Jurors Expenses	360	360		
Prosecutors and Witnesses Expenses	130	130		
Diseases of Animals Acts:				
(a) General	175	175		
(b) Sheep Dipping	712	712		
(c) Compensation — Bovine T.B. Order	60	60		
Fees refunded by Co. Secretary:				
(1) Franchise and Jurors'	265	265		
(2) Motor Registration	500	500		
(3) Valuation Certificates	4	4		
Proportion of Law Agent's Salary chargeable to Assistance and Housing Services			375	375
Proportion of Analyst's Salary chargeable to Assistance Health and Sanitary Services	100	100		
Air Raid Precautions Grant			20	20
Bounty in lieu of Rates			2,700	2,700
Miscellaneous	75	75	25	25
	£5,471	£5,471	£3,264	£3,264

COUNTY COUNCIL SEPARATE CHARGES.

Expenditure:	From which Urban Areas are exempt		To which Urban Areas Contribute	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Rathdrum and Wicklow Joint Burial Board			£ 156	£ 156
Wicklow Harbour Loan	1,164	1,164		
Repayment of Loans raised by late Boards of Guardians	46	46	80	80
Pensions—Ex Officers of Co. Council			48	48
Vocational Education Committee:				
Demand	5,487	5,487		
Repayment of Loans	467	467		
Retiring Allowances Miss I. M. Tarrant	59	59		
Total Separate Charges:	£7,223	£7,223	£284	£284
RECEIPTS:				
Recoupment from Department of Education—One half Expenses of Loans for Vocational Education Schools	234	234		
Recoupment proportion of Pensions:				
Department			£29 10 0	
Leitrim	41	41		
Sligo				
	£275	£275		

Nature of Service.	Estimated Gross Expenditure County on each Service ensuing Financial Year	
	Chargeable to the Whole County or to an Area including any Urban District.	Chargeable to Health or
(1)	£	(3)
ROADS	125,824	79
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE	99,024	
MENTAL HOSPITAL	45,835	
HEALTH SERVICES	40,524	
SANITARY SERVICES		13
HOUSING		58
GENERAL PURPOSES	20,309	26
	£331,536	£178

Delay in issue of Road Grants and Agricultural Grants:
 In reference to the amount provided in the Estimates for Interest on Overdraft, the County Secretary pointed out that a substantial saving could be made in this figure if the Council received instalments of Road Grants and Agricultural Grant at an earlier date.
 It was Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;
 Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
 Resolved—That representations be made to the Minister for Local Government for the issue of instalments of Road Grant and Agricultural Grant at an earlier date in each year.
 Passed unanimously.

Housing:
 Councillor J. Everett, T.D., referred to cottage at Greenane, Rathdrum, which he stated had been let to a lady who used it only as a temporary residence. The County Manager stated that this cottage had been advertised on three previous occasions, but no application had been received. In order to avoid loss of rent in respect of the cottage it had been let to the person referred to by Councillor Everett. Councillor Everett submitted the name of a man residing in the vicinity who was anxious to obtain the cottage, and the County Manager agreed to terminate the letting, and let the cottage to this man.

Cottage Repairs:
 In reply to Councillor J. Everett's inquiry in regard to the particulars requested at the previous meeting of repairs to cottages in Rathdrum Area, the County Secretary stated that a list of the repairs carried out was available and details of the repairs carried out in each individual case would be submitted. Councillor Everett referred to cottage at Coonakilly, Glenealy, which was urgently in need of repairs, and asked the committee of the Council inspect the house. It was decided that Councillors J. Everett, T.D.; H. J. Byrne, C. M. Byrne and C. W. Hudson would inspect and report on the condition of the house.

Remuneration of Rate Collectors:
 Councillor P. McCarthy inquired if a decision had been reached in regard to the revision of the remuneration of Rate Collectors.
 It was proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
 Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
 That in view of the increased rate adopted, no action be taken in the matter of the Rate Collectors' remuneration.
 As an Amendment it was proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;
 Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;
 That we recommend that the Rate Collectors be paid at the same rate as that allowed in County Wexford.
 A vote having been called for it was found that the members present voted as follows:—
 In Favour: Councillors J. J. McCrea, P. McCarthy, P. Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, J. O'Reilly, Ed. Byrne, W. Lawless, J. Everett, T.D.; C. M. Byrne and Joseph Jacob—(11).
 Against: Councillors W. Hammond, H. J. Byrne, P. Ledwith, J. J. Hickey, and C. W. Hudson—(5).

The Amendment was declared carried by eleven votes in favour to five against, and when put as a substantive motion was declared passed on the same voting.

COUNTY COUNCIL SEPARATE CHARGES.

Expenditure:	From which Urban Areas are exempt		To which Urban Areas Contribute	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopter by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopter by Council
Rathdrum and Wicklow Joint Burial Board	£	£	£	£
Wicklow Harbour Loan	1,164	1,164	156	156
Repayment of Loans raised by late Boards of Guardians	46	46	80	80
Pensions—Ex Officers of Co. Council Vocational Education Committee: Demand	5,487	5,487	48	48
Repayment of Loans	467	467		
Retiring Allowances Miss I. M. Tarrant	59	59		
Total Separate Charges:	£7,223	£7,223	£284	£284

RECEIPTS:				
Recoupment from Department of Education—One half Expenses of Loans for Vocational Education Schools	234	234		
Recoupment proportion of Pensions: Department .. £29 10 0				
Leitrim .. £7 0 0				
Sligo .. £5 0 0	41	41		
	£275	£275		

CALCULATION OF THE RATES IN THE POUND FOR COUNTY CHARGES.

NET AMOUNTS CHARGEABLE TO DISTRICTS.

CALCULATIONS OF NET SUM REQUIRED TO BE RAISED.

Nature of Service.	Estimated Gross Expenditure of the County on each Service for the ensuing Financial Year.		Estimated Receipts of the County in respect of each Service during the ensuing Financial Year other than those included in the Rate Account.		Net Expenditure on each Service, being the difference between the sums in Columns 2, 3 and 4, 5.		URBAN DISTRICTS (Col. 8)			CALCULATIONS OF NET SUM REQUIRED TO BE RAISED.				
	Chargeable to the Whole County or to an Area including any Urban District. (2)	Chargeable to the Health District only (3)	Applicable for the Whole County or for an area including any Urban District (4)	Applicable to the Health District only (5)	Chargeable to the Whole County or to an Area including any Urban District. (6)	Chargeable to the Health District only (7)	Urban District of Arklow Valuation 10,134 .033282 (8a)	Urban District of Bray Valuation 43,426 .142618 (8b)	Urban District of Wicklow Valuation 8,859 .029094 (8c)	Health District Valuation 242,072 795,006 (9)	Estimated Balance (if any) in favour of Health District (10)	Estimated Balance (if any) against Health District (11)	Amounts Leviable off Health District (12)	Rates in the Pound Health District £240,055 (13)
(1)	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
ROADS	125,824	79,618	99,757	40,346	26,067	39,272	868	3,718	758	59,995				
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE	99,024		18,567		80,477		2,678	11,478	2,342	63,979				
MENTAL HOSPITAL	45,835		1,127		44,708		1,488	6,376	1,301	35,543				
HEALTH SERVICES	40,524		26,442		14,082		468	2,009	410	11,195				
SANITARY SERVICES		13,560								12,783				
HOUSING		58,959		777						21,281				
GENERAL PURPOSES	20,309	26,476		37,678		12,783				21,281				
			5,471	3,264	14,838	23,212	494	2,116	432	35,008				
	£331,536	£178,613	£151,364	£82,065	£180,172	£96,548	£5,996	£25,697	£5,243	£239,784	5,001		240,055	19/10

Delay in issue of Road Grants and Agricultural Grants:
 In reference to the amount provided in the Estimates for Interest on Overdraft, the County Secretary pointed out that a substantial saving could be made in this figure if the Council received instalments of Road Grants and Agricultural Grant at an earlier date.
 It was Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;
 Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
 Resolved—That representations be made to the Minister for Local Government for the issue of instalments of Road Grant and Agricultural Grant at an earlier date in each year.
 Passed unanimously.

Housing:
 Councillor J. Everett, T.D., referred to cottage at Greenane, Rathdrum, which he stated had been let to a lady who used it only as a temporary residence. The County Manager stated that this cottage had been advertised on three previous occasions, but no application had been received. In order to avoid loss of rent in respect of the cottage it had been let to the person referred to by Councillor Everett. Councillor Everett submitted the name of a man residing in the vicinity who was anxious to obtain the cottage, and the County Manager agreed to terminate the letting, and let the cottage to this man.

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Remuneration of Rate Collectors:
 Councillor P. McCarthy inquired if a decision had been reached in regard to the revision of the remuneration of Rate Collectors.

It was proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
 Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
 That in view of the increased rate adopted, no action be taken in the matter of the Rate Collectors' remuneration.
 As an Amendment it was proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;
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 In Favour: Councillors J. J. McCrea, P. McCarthy, P. Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, J. O'Reilly, Ed. Byrne, W. Lawless, J. Everett, T.D.; C. M. Byrne and Joseph Jacob—(11).
 Against: Councillors W. Hammond, H. J. Byrne, P. Ledwidge, J. J. Hickey, and C. W. Hudson—(5).

The Amendment was declared carried by eleven votes in favour to five against, and when put as a substantive motion was declared passed on the same voting.

A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11.30 a.m. on Monday, 8th March, 1948.

The following members were present:—

Councillor J. J. McCrea, Chairman;

Councillors W. Hammond, Patrick Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, Peter Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne, Liam O Laoighleis, C. M. Byrne and Joseph Jacob.

The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, was in attendance.

The County Engineer and Assistant Engineers P. J. Foley, B.E., J. P. Caffrey, B.E., R. L. Farrell, B.E., and M. C. Kerrane, were also present.

BUSINESS:

1. To confirm and sign Minutes of Meetings held on 12th January and 9th February, 1948.
2. To pass the usual Resolution in connection with the Council's application for (a) overdraft accommodation for the quarter ending 30th June, 1948, on the County Council's General Account, and (b) overdraft accommodation on the Turf Production Account for the same period.
3. To authorise the issue of Licences under the Cinematograph Act, 1909.
4. To appoint a nominee to represent the Council at General Meetings of the Irish Public Bodies' Mutual Insurance, Ltd.
5. To nominate three persons on the Insured Persons (Local Authorities Nominees) Members Electorate to hold office for three years from 1st May, 1948.
6. To fill the vacancy on Rathdrum Old Age Pensions Sub-Committee caused by the death of Very Rev. P. Kennedy, P.P.
7. To consider circular No. 16/48, dated 26th February, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts, and to give formal consent to the adoption of a Scheme under these Acts by the Wicklow Urban District Council.
8. To authorise expenditure in excess of the amounts provided in the current year's estimates.
9. To consider report of County Engineer on machinery to be purchased from the Loan of £13,300 approved by the Council on 14th July, 1947.
10. To consider resolution from Waterford County Council in regard to Government Grants under the Health Services (Financial Provisions) Act, 1947.
11. To consider correspondence in connection with the Marine Hotel, Wicklow.
12. To make formal application for approval to Byelaws in relation to Slaughter Houses, as adopted by the Council.
13. To consider application from the Motor Racing Club, Ltd., for the closing of the Enniskerry-Scalp Road between the hours of 2 and 6 p.m. on 17th April, 1948, for the purpose of a Motoring Hill Test.
14. Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.

Resolution of Sympathy.

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;
Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe:

Resolved—That we, the members of Wicklow County Council, have heard with deep regret of the death of Mr. William Byrne, father of Mr. J. T. O'Byrne, County Engineer, and we hereby extend to him and to the members of his family the assurance of our sincere sympathy.

Passed unanimously.

Resolution of Congratulation.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond:

Resolved—That we heartily congratulate Councillor J. Everett, T.D., on his appointment as Minister for Posts and Telegraphs.

Passed, Councillors J. O'Reilly and W. Lawless dissenting.

Item No. 1—Minutes:

Proposed by Councillor J. O'Reilly;
Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless:

Resolved—That we hereby confirm and sign Minutes of Meetings held on 12th January and 9th February, 1948.

Passed unanimously.

Arising out of the Minutes, Councillor J. J. Metcalfe stated that it would be desirable if members of the Council could be furnished with particulars of cottage repairs and the costs of such repairs at regular intervals.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;
Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond:

Resolved—That a Quarterly Report be submitted to the Council giving particulars of cottages repaired and costs of such repairs in each Assistant Engineer's Area.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 2—Overdraft Accommodation:

The County Secretary stated that it would be necessary to apply for approval to overdraft not exceeding £80,000 on the Council's General Account for the quarter to the 30th June, 1948. The overdraft required for the corresponding period in the previous year was £70,000. The expenditure on roads in anticipation of the coming year's Road Works Scheme would exceed the amount spent in the corresponding period last year, and accordingly the Council's balance at the 31st March, 1948, would be reduced.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Seconded by Councillor B. Farrell:

Resolved—That we hereby authorise our County Secretary to make application to the Minister for Local Government and to the Council's Treasurer, The National Bank, Ltd., Wicklow, for such financial accommodation by way of temporary overdraft on the County Council's General Account as may be required, and we hereby direct that the maximum for the quarter ending 30th June, 1948, shall not exceed £80,000.

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor W. Lawless;
Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly:

Resolved—That we hereby authorise our County Secretary to make application to the Minister for Local Government and the Council's Treasurer, The National Bank, Ltd., Wicklow, for such financial accommodation by way of temporary overdraft on the County Council's Turf Production Account as may be required, and we hereby direct that the maximum amount for the quarter ending 30th June, 1948, shall not exceed £7,000.

Passed unanimously.

The County Secretary stated that the actual cost of production of turf in 1946 had now been ascertained, and the necessary adjustments were being made in the rates charged to Grangegorman Mental Hospital, and to the Council's Accounts. It was expected that the adjustments for the year 1947 would be made within the next couple of months, and that the Turf Production Account could be closed before 30th June, 1948.

In reply to enquiries from Councillors as to whether it was intended to produce turf for the Council's institutions during the coming season, the County Manager stated that he understood it would be possible to obtain such supplies as were needed from Bord na Mona at a lower cost than the Council could produce. He stated that it was expected that the labour employed on Turf Production Scheme could be fully absorbed on road works.

The Council asked that a report on the operation of the Turf Production Scheme, and estimate of the quantity which would be required for the Council's institutions be made available for the next meeting of the Council.

Item No. 3—Cinema Licences:

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless:

Resolved—That we hereby authorise the affixing of the Seal of the Council to the Licences under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, in respect of the following Cinemas, subject to satisfactory report of County Engineer:—

Cinema. Owner.

The Courthouse, Rathdrum—Messrs. R. and M. Haughton, Rathdrum.
Carnew Cinema—J. J. Kavanagh, Carnew Cinema Company.
The Picture House, Greystones—John Hipple, Greystones.
Cinema, Baltinglass—Edward Bradley, Baltinglass.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 4—Appointment of Nominee to Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances, Ltd.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless:

Resolved—That we hereby appoint Councillor J. J. McCrea, Chairman, as the Council's nominee in our name and on our behalf to vote and exercise every other right and power incidental to the Council's membership of the Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances, Ltd.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 5—Appointment of Nominees to Insured Persons (Local Authorities Nominees) Members Electorate.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless:

Resolved—That we nominate the following three persons on the Insured Persons (Local Authorities Nominees) Members Electorate, to hold office for a period of three years from 1st May, 1948:—

John McDonald, Drumeen, Annamoe;
Thomas McDonnell, Lacken, Blessington;
Laurence O'Toole, Convent Road, Wicklow.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 6—Filling of Vacancy on Rathdrum O.A.P. Sub-Committee:

Proposed by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;
Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond;

Resolved—That we hereby appoint Very Rev. Fr. O'Keeffe, P.P., Rathdrum, to fill the vacancy on Rathdrum Old Age Pensions Sub-Committee, caused by the death of Very Rev. Fr. Kennedy, P.P.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 7—Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts:

The Council noted the following letter received from the Irish Land Commission:—

Land Commission,
Upper Merrion St.,
Dublin,
25ad Feabra, 1948.

P(D) 44627/47.

**WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL
Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts.**

A Chara,

In reply to your letter received in this Department on 17th December last, I am desired by the Land Commission to inform you that they are prepared to approve the redemption of an appropriate portion of the Land Purchase Annuity payable in respect of a holding, in cases where application is made to the Council for a Loan for the erection of a new house, provided that a tracing showing the site, together with particulars of the amount of Revised Annuity proposed to be apportioned and redeemed in respect thereof is first submitted to the Land Commission for approval.

Mise, le meas.

J. J. COFFEY.

The County Secretary,
Wicklow County Council,
Court House,
Wicklow.

The County Secretary stated that circular letter No. 16/48, dated 26th February, 1948, had been received from the Department of Local Government in regard to the operation of the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts. The market value limit for houses in respect of which Loans might be made had been fixed at £1,750. The Council could charge interest at half of 1% per annum in excess of the rate at which the Council borrowed, that is, the rate of interest chargeable to the borrower would be 3%.

Having considered examples of the cost to the borrower of loans under the instalment system and annuity system, it was

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey:

Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Act, 1899/1948

That the Scheme to be operated by Wicklow County Council under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts, 1899 to 1948, provide:—

- (1) That the repayment of Loans shall be by the Instalment System;
- (2) That Loans be advanced for the erection of new houses and for the purchase of existing houses.

Passed unanimously.

The County Secretary stated that Wicklow Urban District Council had adopted an amended Scheme under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts. A Scheme under these Acts had been in operation by the Urban Council since 1936, but there was no record of formal consent of the County Council having been obtained. The Urban Council now requested the formal consent of the Council to the operation of the Scheme.

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;
Seconded by Councillor J. Jacob:

Resolved—That in pursuance of Section 9 of the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Act, 1899, we hereby consent to the operation of a Scheme under this Act by Wicklow Urban District Council.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 8—Authorisation for Excess Expenditure:

The County Secretary stated that the Council's expenditure in the current year would be within the Estimate adopted on all Services except Health Charges Account. The expenditure on the Tuberculosis Scheme showed a substantial increase due to increased cost of maintenance in institutions and increase in issues of food and clothing under the Domiciliary Benefit Scheme. The amount of the excess over the estimate was estimated at £4,500, of which 50% would be recouped by the State.

Burial Grounds: The Council had authorised the construction of concrete walls around certain new Burial Grounds, the cost to be met from Revenue. This work would be completed within the current year, and the excess cost over amount provided in the Estimate would be approximately £1,800.

Water and Sewerage Schemes: As the result of the heavy floods in the early Summer, additional expenditure was incurred in cleaning and repairs to Water and Sewerage Systems. The excess cost would be £1,850.

The expenditure on the construction of concrete walls to the new Burial Grounds would be offset by receipts from the sale of materials from Shillelagh and Baltinglass Workhouses.

Proposed by Councillor Ed. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor J. Jacob:

Resolved—That we hereby authorise the incurring of expenditure in excess of the amount provided in the Estimates for the current year, to an amount not exceeding £3,000, in respect of Health Charges Account.

Item No. 9—Report on Machinery Purchased:

The County Secretary referred to the Loans of £17,000 and a further loan of £13,300 authorised by the Council for the purchase of machinery. Of the total sum of £30,300 authorised, machinery had been purchased and ordered as set out below:—

Machinery Purchased.	No.	£	s	d
Road Rollers	2	£3,528	0	0
Compressors	2	1,897	11	9
Crusher/Granulators	3	2,906	16	9
Tar Sprayers (Fleppers)	5	2,007	7	6
Tar Sprayers (Hand)	5	500	0	0
Patching Sets	16	480	0	0
Stand-by Boilers	3	1,123	4	6
Gritters	5	932	17	6
Tractor/Angledozer	1	1,403	0	0
Lorries	10	7,190	5	0
Concrete Vibrating Machine	1	386	0	0
Concrete Mixers	2	576	0	0
		£22,931	3	0

Machinery on Order:

Vibrating Table	£123	0	0
Mechanised Shovel	£800	0	0
Explosives Van	£480	0	0
	£1,403	0	0

Balance available:

£24,334 3 0
£5,965 17 0
£30,300 0 0

The County Engineer, in his report of 17th February, 1948, proposed to utilise portion of the balance available for the purchase of the following items of plant:—

Two Stand-by Tar Boilers	£700	0	0
Stone Crushing Plant	£3,200	0	0
Mechanical Shovel	£800	0	0

In regard to Stone Crushing Plant the County Engineer recommended the purchase of a granulating unit capable of very high output to serve a number of quarries in which primary crushers would be operating throughout the year. He recommended the purchase of a Blake Type Primary Crusher at £361, and 22" Cone Crusher at £2,285.

The County Engineer strongly recommended the purchase of a mechanical shovel for use in the western area of the county. The machine would be used principally for loading of chippings into lorries.

Councillor B. Farrell stated that there were a number of men unemployed in the West Wicklow Area, and asked was it not possible to employ such men on road works.

Following a discussion, the Council asked that the County Engineer investigate the labour situation in the Western area of Wicklow.

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey:

Resolved—That we approve of the County Engineer's recommendations for the expenditure of portion of the balance available in the Loan for the purchase of machinery, as submitted in his report of 17th February, 1948.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 10—Health Services (Financial Provisions) Act, 1947:

The following letter, received from Waterford County Council, was read by the County Secretary:—

COMHAIRLE CONNTAE PORTLAIRIGE,

County Secretary's Office,
Dungarvan,
16th February, 1948.

Re: Health Services (Financial Provisions) Bill, 1947.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Waterford County Council to inform you that at a meeting held on 26th ultimo, they passed the following Resolution:

"That the Minister for Health and Social Services be requested, in view of the very great expenditure incurred by Local Authorities in the year 1947/48 by way of increases of salaries for staffs of Institutions, Mental Hospitals, etc., to regard the year 1946/47 as the Standard Year for the purposes of recoupment to County Councils and Local Authorities of the excess of expenditure under Health, Assistance Services, etc."

A copy having been duly forwarded to the Department of Health for the Minister's consideration, the following reply was received:—

"I am directed by the Minister for Health to refer to your letter of the 26th ultimo transmitting a copy of a resolution passed by the Waterford County Council in regard to the Health Services Grant and to state that the Standard Year has been defined in the Health Services (Financial Provisions) Act, 1947, as the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1948. The Minister cannot, therefore, regard the year 1946/47 as the Standard Year. I am to add that payments made during the year 1947/48 in respect of expenditure incurred in previous accounting periods will not be reckoned as portion of the expenditure of the Standard Year."

The Waterford County Council naturally views with concern the proposal as set out in Circular Letter No. 16/ H.S.G. (P.A.) of 26th December, 1947, that the Expenditure on Recognised Health Services in 1947/48 will be adopted as the "Standard Expenditure" for the purpose of determining the amount of the proposed Consolidated Health Service Grant. It will be appreciated that the expenditure for 1947/48 will include the amounts of the recent increases in salaries and wages which have been granted to the various staffs employed in local authorities' institutions, with a consequent adverse effect on the amount of the Consolidated Grant. It is the feeling of the County Council, in view of the above-mentioned circumstance, that it would be more equitable, and more favourable to local authorities, if the expenditure on Recognised Health Services in the year 1946/47 were adopted as the "Standard Expenditure," as such year could more properly be regarded as a "normal year" from the viewpoint of expenditure, rather than the year 1947/48. The present general increases in county rates, rendered necessary by rising expenditure in all local services, will, in the view of the Waterford County Council, impose on ratepayers a very heavy burden, and the Council feels, therefore, that the proposed Consolidated Health Services Grant should be computed on a more favourable basis than the Minister proposes, in order to lighten the increasing burden on ratepayers.

The County Council therefore desires to suggest that, if your Council has not already considered this matter, you might suggest to them the desirability of passing a resolution on the same lines as that set out above, with a view to its submission to the Minister for Health.

No doubt, if the request contained in the resolution were to come from all County and County Borough Councils in the State, it would presumably merit the special and favourable consideration of the Minister.

Although the "Standard Year" is defined in the Health Services (Financial Provisions) Act, 1947, the County Council desires further to suggest that you might request your Council, if they should think fit, to urge the Minister for Health to take steps, by Legislation or Order, as may be required, to amend the statutory definition of the "Standard Year" in accordance with the terms of the resolution set out above.

I shall be glad to be advised, in due course, as to the action, if any, which your Council may take on the subject.

Mine, ie meas.

S. G. U ADUNLAING.
Runal.

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;
Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe:

Resolved—That we adopt the Resolution forwarded by Waterford County Council, requesting that the year 1946/47 be taken as a standard year for the purposes of recoupment to the Council under the Health Services (Financial Provisions) Act, 1947.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 11—Marine Hotel, Wicklow:

The County Manager stated that he had received an offer for the purchase of the Marine Hotel, Wicklow.

The Council having decided to consider the matter in committee, the County Secretary read the following letter received from Mr. Francis Fitzgerald, Wyndham, Fitzwilliam Road, Wicklow, per Messrs. Clarke, Delahunt and Co., Auctioneers, Wicklow:—

"Windham,"
Fitzwilliam Road,
Wicklow.
24th January, 1948.

To: Messrs. Clarke Delahunt and Co.,
Wicklow.

Dear Sir,

Attention of Mr. Clarke.

Further to our inspection of the Marine Hotel, Wicklow. I am interested in converting the premises into a first-class, near luxury Hotel. For this purpose there are two serious disadvantages:—

(a) While it is too vast for a family dwelling, the limited number of bedrooms on the first floor are insufficient, in relation to overheads, for the type of establishment visualised, as the ground floor must be used exclusively for the use and convenience of guests and visitors. For this reason, to restore proportion, an extension for the purpose of additional bedrooms would be essential. I would be prepared to undertake such extensions and continue extending as circumstances should warrant, subject to a licence for liquor being granted the premises.

(b) I did not anticipate the interior being in such an advanced state of general disrepair, in addition to apertures in floors and ceilings. Further, the general internal layout would necessitate considerable alterations, in addition to extensive fittings and accessories. A certain amount of obvious exterior improvement is required, and as Mr. Kavanagh, the Council's representative saw, an unpredictable volume of repairs are necessary to sections of roof and gutters.

I would emphasise these factors as an indication of the substantial cash outlay required, to renovate, restore and adjust the buildings, to a state in conformity with the discriminating requirements of the clientele in mind.

In addition to this outlay, there would be, of course, the heavy cost of furnishing and domestic equipage.

Having regard to all the foregoing considerations and also to the fact that there is no existing goodwill, the venture would be highly speculative, starting from zero and relying on advertising and recommendation for development.

The buildings and land, therefore, is worth no more to me than £2,500, this figure being governed by my estimated subsequent outlay.

You can, therefore, make this offer on my behalf, subject to a 99-year lease and, if accepted, permission to start work on the building pending completion of sale.

I would be grateful for an early decision as I am deferring another matter pending the outcome of this.

Yours very truly,

Signed: FRANCIS FITZGERALD.

The County Secretary stated that the cost incurred by the Council to date in respect of the purchase of the Marine Hotel amounted to £2,687 12s. 10d. There would be legal costs payable in addition.

The County Manager stated that negotiations between the Wicklow Industrial Development Association, Wicklow Urban District Council and a Belgian Firm in regard to the establishment of a factory at The Marine Hotel had not reached a conclusion. The Belgian Firm had been asked to furnish further definite information in regard to capital requirements, availability of raw materials, etc.

The Council decided to defer the matter to the next Meeting.

Item No. 12—Slaughterhouse Byelaws:

Proposed by Councillor P. Ledwidge;
Seconded by Councillor J. O'Reilly:

Resolved—That we hereby apply to the Minister for Agriculture approval to the Byelaws in relation to Slaughter Houses, as adopted by the Council at Meeting held on 20th January, 1948.

Passed unanimously.

The Byelaws as adopted were as follows:—

**BYE-LAWS MADE BY THE WICKLOW CO. COUNCIL
WITH RESPECT TO SLAUGHTERHOUSES**

**AND FOR THE DECENT AND SEEMLY CONVEYANCE OF
MEAT THROUGH THE PUBLIC THOROUGHFARES IN THE
COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT OF WICKLOW.**

Interpretation.

1. Throughout these bye-laws the expression "the Sanitary Authority" means the Wicklow County Council and the expression District means the County Health District of Wicklow. For the Licensing and Registering of Slaughter-Houses, for preventing cruelty therein,

for keeping the same in a cleanly and proper state, for removing filth at least once in every twenty-four hours, and requiring such Slaughter-Houses to be provided with a sufficient supply of water.

**Requirements on Application for a Licence for the
Erection of a Slaughter-House.**

2. Every person who shall apply to the Sanitary Authority for a licence for the erection of any premises to be used and occupied as a slaughter-house shall furnish in the form specified in the first Schedule to these Bye-laws a true statement of the particulars therein required to be specified.

**Requirements on Application for the Use of Premises
as a Slaughter-House.**

3. Every person who shall apply to the Sanitary Authority for a licence for the use and occupation of any premises as a slaughter-house shall furnish, in the form specified in the second Schedule to these Bye-laws, a true statement of the particulars therein required to be specified.

Licence to Erect a Slaughter-House.

4. Every person to whom the Sanitary Authority grants a licence to erect premises for use and occupation as a slaughter-house shall receive a licence in the form specified in the third Schedule to these Bye-laws or in a form to the like effect.

Licence to Use Premises as a Slaughter-House.

5. Every person to whom the Sanitary Authority grants a licence for the use and occupation of any premises as a slaughter-house shall receive a licence in the form specified in the fourth Schedule to these Bye-laws, or in a form to the like effect.

**Registration of Premises to be Used for the Purpose
of Slaughtering.**

6. A register of the slaughter-houses shall be kept in which shall be entered particulars in the form specified in the fifth Schedule to these Bye-laws.

Ventilation to be Maintained in Proper Order.

7. Every occupier of a slaughter-house shall cause the means of ventilation provided in or in connection with such slaughter-house to be kept at all times in proper order and efficient action; and so that the ventilation shall be by direct communication with the external air on at least two sides of the building.

Drainage and Cleaning.

8. Every occupier of a slaughter-house shall cause—
(1) The drainage to be kept in proper order and efficient action;
(2) Every part of the internal surface of the walls and every part of the floor or pavement to be kept clean and in good order and repair;

(3) Every part of the internal surface above the floor or pavement, unless it is constructed of or covered with hard smooth impervious material to be thoroughly washed with hot lime-wash at least four times in every year; that is to say, at least once during the periods between the first and tenth of March, the first and tenth of June, the first and tenth of September, and the first and tenth of December, respectively, and at such other times as may be necessary for maintaining a proper state of cleanliness;

(4) Every part of the floor or pavement of such slaughter-house, and every part of the internal surface of every wall thereof on which any blood or liquid refuse or filth may have been spilled or splashed, or with which any offensive or noxious matter may have been brought into contact during the process of slaughtering or dressing any animal, and every article or appliance which may have been used in slaughtering or dressing any animal, in such slaughter-house, to be thoroughly washed and cleansed, and, if necessary, disinfected within three hours after the completion of such slaughtering and dressing; provided always, that where any such filth or offensive or noxious matter is of a dangerous, infectious nature, the occupier shall without prejudice to the foregoing general obligation forthwith cause to be thoroughly disinfected, washed and cleansed, the floor, pavement or wall surface or any article or appliance on or with which any such filth or matter has been spilled, splashed or brought into contact.

Dressing of Carcase Not in View of Animals.

9. person shall not, in a slaughter-house, dress or cause to be dressed the carcase of any animal, in view of another animal.

Prohibition as to Flowing of Blood.

10. An occupier of a slaughter-house shall not cause or allow any blood or other refuse to flow from the slaughter-house so as to be within the sight of any animal in the waiting pens or lairs, and he shall not cause or allow any blood or other refuse to be deposited in the waiting pens or lairs.

Dogs or Poultry Not to be Allowed Entry.

11. An occupier of a slaughter-house shall not permit any dog or poultry to go into or remain in such a slaughter-house.

Animals Not to be Kept Except for Slaughtering.

12. An occupier of a slaughter-house shall not—
(1) Keep or cause or suffer to be kept in the slaughter-house any animal of which the flesh may be used for the food of man, unless it is being prepared for slaughter in the slaughter-house;
(2) Keep or cause or suffer to be kept in the slaughter-house any animal for longer than is necessary for slaughter;
(3) Confine or suffer to be confined in the slaughter-house or in connection with the slaughter-house elsewhere than in the pounds, stalls, pens, or lairs, provided therefor, any animal for the purpose of preparation for the process of slaughtering.

Removal of Skin, Etc.

13. Every occupier of a slaughter-house shall cause the hide or skin, fat, and offal of every animal slaughtered on the premises to be removed therefrom within twenty-four hours after the completion of the slaughtering of such animal.

Supply of Water.

14. Every occupier of a slaughter-house shall cause the slaughter-house to be provided with a portable water supply kept in proper order

and efficient action, and adequate for thoroughly washing and cleansing the floor or pavement, the internal surface of the walls and every vessel or receptacle used for the collection or removal of blood, manure, garbage, filth, or refuse.

Provision of Vessels for Water, Blood, Etc.

- 15. Every occupier of a slaughter-house shall—
(1) Provide receptacles properly constructed of galvanized iron or other non-absorbent material for holding such supplies of water as may be required for cleansing and washing purposes.
(2) Provide receptacles properly constructed of galvanized iron or other non-absorbent material and furnished with closely-fitting covers, sufficient for collecting and removing from the slaughter-house any blood, manure, garbage, filth or refuse;
(3) When the slaughter of any animal or the dressing of its carcase is completed, cause all blood, manure, garbage, filth, or refuse, to be collected and deposited, in such receptacles;
(4) Not permit contents of viscera to be emptied on floor of slaughter-house;
(4) Cause every cloth, vessel, receptacle, instrument or appliance belonging to and used in the slaughter-house to be thoroughly cleansed immediately after being used, and when not in use to be kept clean;
(6) Cause the contents of any vessel or receptacle containing filth to be removed from the premises at least once in every twenty-four hours.

FOR THE DECENT AND SEEMLY CONVEYANCE OF MEAT THROUGH THE PUBLIC THOROUGHFARES.

- 16. A person shall not—
(1) Convey any carcase of meat or any portion of a carcase of meat, not being smaller than one-quarter of such carcase, through any public thoroughfare in the County Health District except in a properly constructed and covered cart or other vehicle or other suitable covered receptacle;
(2) Sit or rest upon any meat during its conveyance through any public thoroughfare in the district.

PENALTIES.

17. Every person who shall offend against any of foregoing Bye-laws for the registering of slaughter-houses, for preventing cruelty therein, for keeping the same in a cleanly and proper state, for removing filth at least once in every twenty-four hours, for requiring such slaughter-houses to be provided with a sufficient supply of water, for the decent and seemly conveyance of meat through the public thoroughfares, shall be liable for every such offence to a penalty of FIVE POUNDS, and in the case of a continuing offence to a penalty of TWO POUNDS for every day during which such offence shall be continued after the conviction for the first offence.

Provided, nevertheless, that the Court before which any complaint may be made or any proceedings may be taken in respect of any such offence may, if it thinks fit, adjudge the payment as a penalty of any sum less than the full amount of the penalties imposed by this Bye-law.

SCHEDULE 1.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO ERECT PREMISES FOR USE AND OCCUPATION AS A SLAUGHTER-HOUSE.

To the Wicklow County Council, Council Offices, Rathdrum,

I of

do hereby apply to you for a licence, in pursuance of the statutory provisions in that behalf, for the erection of certain premises to be used and occupied as a slaughter-house, subject to the condition that a licence which shall be in force for a period of

be granted by you in respect of such use and occupation; and I hereby declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the Schedule hereunto annexed contains a true statement of the several particulars therein set forth with respect of the said premises.

SCHEDULE.

1. Situation, boundaries, area and description of the proposed site of the premises to be erected for use and occupation as a slaughter-house.

2. Description of the premises to be erected on such site.

- (a) Nature, position, form, superficial area and cubical contents of the several buildings therein comprised.
(b) Extent of paved area in such buildings, and materials to be employed in the paving of such area.
(c) Mode of construction of the internal surface of the walls of such buildings, and materials to be employed in such construction.
(d) Means of water supply—Position, form, materials, mode of construction and capacity of the several cisterns, tanks, or other receptacles for water to be constructed for permanent use in or upon the premises.
(e) Means of Drainage—Position, size, materials and mode of construction of the several drains.
(f) Means of lighting and ventilation.
(g) Means of access for cattle from the nearest street or public thoroughfare.
(h) Number, position, and dimensions of the several pounds, stalls, pens, or lairs to be provided on the premises.
(i) Number of animals for which accommodation will be provided in such pounds, stalls, pens or lairs, distinguishing:—

- 1. Oxen
2. Calves
3. Sheep and Lambs
4. Swine
5. Goats

Witness my hand this day of 19

Signature of Applicant

Address of Applicant

SCHEDULE 2.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE FOR THE USE AND OCCUPATION OF PREMISES AS A SLAUGHTER-HOUSE

To the Wicklow County Council, Council Offices, Rathdrum,

I of

do hereby apply to you for a licence, in pursuance of the statutory provisions in that behalf for the use and occupation as a slaughter-house of the premises hereinafter described for a period of

from the date of such licence and for

the registration thereof; and I do hereby declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the Schedule hereunto annexed contains a true statement of the several particulars therein set forth with respect to the said premises.

SCHEDULE.

1. Situation and boundaries of the premises to be used and occupied as a slaughter-house.

2. Christian name, surname and address of the owner of the premises.

3. Nature and conditions of applicant's tenure of the premises:

- (a) For what term; and whether by lease or otherwise;
(b) Whether applicant is sole owner, lessee, or tenant, or whether applicant is jointly interested with any other person or persons, and if so with whom;

4. Description of the premises:

- (a) Nature, position, form, superficial area and cubical contents of the several buildings therein comprised;
(b) Extent of the paved area in such buildings, and materials employed in the paving of such area;
(c) Mode of construction of the internal surface of the walls of such buildings, and materials employed in such construction;
(d) Means of water supply—Position, form, materials, mode of construction and capacity of the several cisterns, tanks, or other receptacles for water, constructed for permanent use in or upon the premises;
(e) Means of drainage—Position, size, materials and mode of construction of the several drains;
(f) Means of lighting and ventilation;
(g) Means of access for cattle from the nearest street or public thoroughfare;
(h) Number, position, and dimensions of the several pounds, stalls, pens or lairs provided on the premises;
(i) Number of animals for which accommodation is provided in such pounds, stalls, pens, or lairs, distinguishing:—

- 1. Oxen
2. Calves
3. Sheep and Lambs
4. Swine
5. Goat

Witness my hand this day of 19

Signature of Applicant

Address of Applicant

SCHEDULE 3.

FORM OF LICENCE TO ERECT PREMISES FOR USE AND OCCUPATION AS A SLAUGHTER-HOUSE

No. of Licence.....

Reference to folio in Register.....

COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT OF WICKLOW

WHEREAS application has been made to us, the Wicklow County Council, by

of for a licence to erect on a site within the County Health District of Wicklow, certain premises for use and occupation as a slaughter-house.

Now we, the said Council, in pursuance of the powers conferred upon us by the statutory provisions in that behalf, do hereby licence the said

of

to erect upon the site defined or described in the Schedule hereunto annexed the premises whereof the description is set forth in the said Schedule, and which may be used and occupied as a slaughter-house subject to the condition that a licence, which shall be in force for

a period of be granted by us, in respect of such use and occupation.

SCHEDULE

Boundaries, area and description of the premises to be erected for use and occupation as a slaughter-house.

Given under the Common Seal of the Wicklow County Council this day of in the (L.S.) in the year One Thousand, Nine Hundred and County Manager. Present when the Common Seal of the Wicklow County Council was affixed hereto: Chairman or Nominated Member.

SCHEDULE 4.

FORM OF LICENCE FOR THE USE AND OCCUPATION OF PREMISES AS A SLAUGHTER-HOUSE.

No. of Licence Reference to folio in Register.

COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT OF WICKLOW

WHEREAS application has been made to us, the Wicklow County Council, by of for a licence for the use and occupation of certain premises as a slaughter-house. Now we, the said Council, in pursuance of the powers conferred upon us by the statutory provisions in that behalf, do hereby licence the said of to use and occupy as a slaughter-house the premises whereof the situation and description are set forth in the Schedule hereunto annexed for a period of from the date hereof, and which have been registered in the register kept by the sanitary authority.

SCHEDULE

Situation of the premises to be used and occupied as a slaughter-house. Description of the premises to be used and occupied as a slaughter-house.

Given under the Common Seal of the Wicklow County Council this day of in the (L.S.) in the year One Thousand, Nine Hundred and County Manager. Present when the Common Seal of the Wicklow County Council was affixed hereto: Chairman or Nominated Member.

SCHEDULE 5.

FORM OF REGISTER OF SLAUGHTER-HOUSE COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT OF WICKLOW.

Table with columns: Particulars of Licence (For erection of slaughter-house, For use and occupation of slaughter-house), Date of Registration, No. of Licence, Date of Licence, Period of duration of Licence, Christian name, surname and address of owner of slaughter-house, Christian name, surname and address of occupier of slaughter-house, Situation of slaughter-house, Number of animals for which accommodation is provided on the premises (Oxen, Calves, Sheep and Lambs, Swine, Goats).

(L.S.) Made and adopted under the Common Seal of the Wicklow County Council, this 12th day of January, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-eight.

Present when the Common Seal of the Wicklow County Council was affixed hereto: Chairman, JAMES J. MCCREA. County Secretary, K. J. BRANGAN.

Item 13—Closing of Enniskerry—Scalp Road:

The County Secretary stated that application had been received from Irish Motor Racing Club, Ltd., for the closing of the road from Enniskerry National School to the fork of the junction with the Scalp Road, for the purpose of a motoring hill test on Saturday, 17th April, 1948, between the hours of 2 and 6 p.m.

Mr. Darlington, Monastery, Enniskerry, whose house is on this section of the road, had stated that he had no objection to the closing of the road.

Proposed by Councillor P. Ledwidge; Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey:

Resolved—That we agree to the closing of the Enniskerry—Scalp Road, between the hours of 2 and 6 p.m. on 17th April, 1948, for the purpose of a Motoring Hill Test organised by the Motor Racing Club, Ltd.

Passed unanimously.

Infectious Diseases (Maintenance) Regulations, 1948:

The County Secretary gave particulars of the Scheme of Allowances under the Infectious Diseases (Maintenance) Regulations, 1948. The allowances were payable to persons who by reason of undergoing treatment for infectious diseases or taking precautions in respect of such diseases are unable to make the necessary reasonable provision for their own maintenance or for the maintenance of their dependants. The Regulations apply to the following diseases: Tuberculosis, Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis, Typhoid, Diphtheria, Paratyphoid A and B and Typhus.

The allowance payable in the case of a male person with dependant wife or female with dependant husband, was £2 15s. per week. In addition, allowances for other dependants were payable as follows:—

- 10/- where aged 16 or over; 6/- where aged 8 years and under 16 years; 3/- where aged under 8 years.

An allowance was also payable of an amount not exceeding 10/- per week in respect of outgoings for rent.

The corresponding allowance for a single person was £1 5s. per week.

Where a single person was undergoing, free of charge, institutional treatment in a Health Institution, payment would not exceed 5/- per week, plus an allowance for dependants.

The corresponding allowance for a married person would be 35/- per week.

The County Manager explained to the Council the difficulty which would be encountered in administering this Scheme, and stated that it probably would be necessary to appoint a special investigation officer for the purpose of making inquiries regarding the means of applicants for allowances. A clerical officer would be required also to deal with the office work in relation to this Scheme.

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly; Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey:

Resolved—That we approve of putting into operation at the earliest opportunity the Scheme of Allowances under the Infectious Diseases (Maintenance) Regulations, 1948. Passed unanimously.

Extensions to County Sanatorium:

The County Manager stated that he had received a communication from the Department of Health asking for the Council's proposals for providing additional beds for tuberculosis patients in a short space of time. It was suggested that additional beds might be made available by the erection of temporary structures, and accordingly he had consulted with the County Engineer and County Medical Officer of Health in regard to the provision of temporary buildings at the County Sanatorium, Rathdrum, pending the construction of the permanent additions to the Sanatorium. The approximate estimate of the cost of temporary extensions would be £1,624. It would be necessary to provide X-Ray Plant and artificial pneumothorax apparatus, and to construct an X-Ray Room and Dark Room and Operating Theatre. The cost of the X-Ray plant is estimated at £1,500, and with construction of Dark Room, provision of heating installation, bedding, utensils, etc., would bring the total cost to £5,019. In submitting these details to the Department of Health, he had pointed out that the Council would expect that the major part of the costs involved would be met by Grant from Hospital Trusts Funds. The total cost of the erection of the present Sanatorium was provided from this Fund in 1935.

In reply to inquiries from members of the County Council, the Manager stated that there were from 20 to 30 persons on the Waiting List for treatment at the County Sanatorium, and pointed out that it would be desirable to provide additional beds as soon as possible.

Plans for the permanent extensions to the Sanatorium had been submitted to the Department. The Council would appreciate that the construction of the permanent extensions would involve a fairly considerable time. The provision of X-Ray plant and other equipment would enable the Council to provide treatment at the County Sanatorium for early cases of the disease.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Resolved—That we approve of the provision of temporary extensions to the County Sanatorium at Rathdrum, subject to the condition that the costs involved be recouped from Hospitals' Trusts or State Funds.

Passed unanimously.

The following letter from Macra na Feirme (Young Farmers' Clubs) was read:—

SOUTH-MIDLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL,

Kingclough,
Tullow,
Co. Carlow.
5th March, 1948.

The Secretary,
County Council of Wicklow.

The above Council request that you will bring the following matters to the attention of the County Council at their next meeting.

That the lack of suitable arrangements for the loading of animals on to road transport at the fairs held throughout the county of Wicklow is a great inconvenience and hardship to the farmers, lorry owners and cattle dealers attending these fairs.

That suitable sanitary accommodation should be provided in all towns in the County for the use of the public. The lack of such provision being little less than scandalous and a danger to public health.

I am further directed to urge upon the members of the Council that these are matters of public concern and should be treated as matters of urgency.

Yours faithfully,

S. J. C. THORP,
Hon. Secretary.

The Council directed that the question of the provision of loading arrangements for animals for road transport be referred to the County Committee of Agriculture, and noted the suggestion in regard to the provision of sanitary accommodation.

A letter addressed to the Chairman by John Doyle, No. 27, Cottage, Killadreenan, in regard to repairs required to the cottage, was read, and the Council directed that the Assistant Engineer be asked to examine and report on the condition of the cottage.

The following Notice of Motion was handed in by Councillor Ed. Byrne and accepted by the Chairman:—

NOTICE OF MOTION.

"I hereby give notice that I will move at the next Statutory Meeting of the Council that we, the Wicklow County Council, do recommend the County Manager to increase the road workers' wages by 6/6d. per week, instead of 5/-, and so bring their wages to £3 per week."

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