

SPECIAL MEETING.- 3rd SEPTEMBER 1919.

A Special Meeting of the Wexford County Council, was held in the Co. Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford, on 3rd September 1919.

Present:- Mr John Bolger, (Chairman) presiding.

Also:- Messrs J. J. Stafford, M. Doyle, M. Maddock, James Codd, N. J. Fowler, W. H. McGuire, James Lynch, A. Kinsella, L. Barry.

The Secretary, County Surveyor, Mr R. W. Elgee, Solicitor, and Mr T. Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor, were in attendance.

Applications Increased Wages-Co Council Quarry Employees.

Under date 1st August 1919, the following was read from Mr R. F. King, General Secretary, Irish National Agricultural & General Workers Union:-

"On behalf of the quarrymen of the County, I am instructed to apply to have the following rates paid all men engaged in quarries:-

Time work 9d per hour or a minimum of 40/6 per week.

Task work including breaking etc., 75% increase on present rates.

In the case of extra difficult quarries at Ballynabola 5/- per foot for boring with the above rates.

Quarry foreman and Time keepers 50/-

Myles Hyland, drill-operator 15/- increase on present wages.

In the case of the men engaged in Clonhasten Quarry the 75% increase to be applied, and the Council to stand the expense of operations.

All hands to have a half-holiday on Saturdays."

Under date 5th August 1919, the following letter was read from Mr Michael O'Donoghue, Organiser, Irish Transport & General Workers Union:-

"On behalf of the following Workers:- Thomas Breen, Engine Driver, William Copeland, Oiler, Andrew Clear, Pat Morris, John Foley, and John Gaynor, labourers, employees of your Council and members of above Union, We demand the following rates of wages, namely- Engine driver 50/- per week, Oiler 30/- per week, four labourers 1/4 per cubic yard and also 7/6 per day each for labourers when removing from one place to another. These men are a travelling gang engaged at stonebreaking by your Council, and we claim that their present wages are insufficient, especially as the work is very heavy."

Mr William Murphy, Machinery Overseer, applied for time and a half when working overtime, and also for travelling expenses.

Mr J. J. O'Gorman, Overseer, travelling gang, applied for an increase of £1 per week in his present wages of £2,

The Secretary explained that at the Special Meeting held on 20th August 1919, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the applications from Irish National Agricultural & General Workers Union, and from the Irish Transport & General Workers, Union, on behalf of employees of the County Council be referred to the meeting of the Finance & Roads Committee to be held on Wednesday 3rd September 1919, in the meantime that a return as to the wages earned by the individual men in the various quarries be prepared and submitted by the County Surveyor to the Finance & Roads Committee meeting mentioned in this resolution."

On receipt of this resolution the two Labour Unions wrote demanding that a special meeting should be held on 27th August 1919, but as time did not admit of this, it was agreed that a special meeting of the Co Council be held on 3rd September 1919.

Messrs King and O'Donoghue the representatives of their respective Unions having addressed the meeting retired.

The County Surveyor submitted the earnings from July to September of the workmen in the various County Council quarries.

The Meeting considered all the circumstances of each case with the result that the following was agreed to:-

- 1.- That the present rate of 7d per hour paid quarrymen be increased to 8d per hour.
- 2.- That the rate of 10d per cubic yard paid for putting material through stonebreaker be increased to 1/2 per cubic yard.
- 3.- That the present rate of 1/2 per cubic yard for preparing material after blasting for breaker be increased to 1/5 per cubic yard.
- 4.- That the present rate of 2/- per cubic yard for quarrying and banking material for breaking be increased to 2/6 per cubic yard.
- 5.- That the wages of Myles Hyland, drill-operator, be fixed at £2. 17. 6d per week.
- 6.- That the wages of Thomas Breen, Engine driver, be fixed at £2. 5/- per week.
- 7.- That the wages of William Copeland, Engine Oiler, be fixed at £1. 10/- per week.
- 8.- That the wages of William Murphy, Machinery Overseer, be fixed at

£3. 10/- per week.

9.- That the wages of J. J. O'Gorman, Overseer of travelling gang and several quarries, be fixed at £2. 10/- per week.

10.- That the wages of quarry foremen Doyle (Riland) Doyle (Cherryorchard) Hendrick and Kelly be fixed at £2 per week.

11.- That the wages of Patrick Byrne, foreman Tara Hill Quarry, be fixed at £2. 10/- per week.

That above increases are given on condition that they be agreed to by the Unions concerned on behalf of the men to remain in force for at least twelve months, and that all increases are to date as from 20th August 1919."

Poisons & Pharmacy Act.

On the motion of Mr Scallan, seconded by Mr Lynch, a licence under Poisons & Pharmacy Act was granted to Mr Joseph J. Haughton, Ferns.

Rate Collector N. Moore.

Under date 3rd September the following letter was read from Mr N. Moore, Rate Collector for No. 3 District:-

"I desire to inform you that I appoint Mr Edward Ryan, Ballygoman, as my deputy to complete my collection for half-year ended 30th September 1919.

On the motion of Mr Maddock, seconded by Mr Scallan, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That we approve of the appointment of Mr Edward Ryan, Ballygoman, as deputy to Mr N. Moore, Rate Collector for No 3 District, in respect of the collection for half-year ended 30th September 1919."

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(Signed)

John B. G.

Presiding Chairman.

Dated this 8th day of October 1919.