

Buckerell

PUMP AGAIN

WHO SHOULD BEAR THE EXPENSE

The Buckerell pump controversy was revived on Saturday when the Clerk to the Honiton Rural council (Mr E W Hellier) reported to a meeting of that body, presided over by Mr R L D Cruwys, that the Ministry of Health had given formal sanction to the borrowing of £325 for the re-construction of the pump, the loan to be extended over 15 years.

Mr. Shire: We have appealed against the Ministry granting a loan, and they have accepted that appeal.

The Clerk: No, Sir. They have granted the sanction to us.

Mr. Shire: We should refuse to pay the rates and take steps.

The Clerk: It is for the Magistrates to say if you refuse to pay. Replying to a question, Mr. Hellier said the charge was on Buckerell.

The Chairman thought what Mr. Shire had meant to say was that the Buckerell ratepayers had protested against having to bear the expense and had written to the Ministry of Health. The latter had acknowledged the appeal, but had granted the loan.

A member asked who was paying for the work at the present time, and the Chairman replied the Council was.

The Clerk said the Buckerell parish had to repay the Council by yearly sums.

Mr. Shire said the expense would be charged solely on the ratepayers and the owners would not have to pay a farthing because they lived elsewhere.

Mr. Hellier explained that all the expense was paid by the ratepayers. If the amount repayable was under £10 per annum it could be met out of the poor rate, but if over that sum then a special rate had to be made, such as had been done at Sidbury and Salcombe.

After further consideration it was decided to apply to the Ministry to extend the repayment of the loan over 30 years.