

By-Laws Before the People

The usual large number of by-laws respecting public works and improvements were voted on at the municipal elections last month. Some which should have carried were defeated; others which should have been defeated were carried. While the results on the whole were satisfactory, it is regrettable that narrow views so frequently prevail. Were Municipal Improvement Associations more commonly organized throughout the Province, the ratepayers would be in a position to use greater discrimination in casting their votes. Among the by-laws voted on were the following:

Toronto—A by-law to raise \$100,000 for a bridge over the railway tracks at the foot of Yonge street; a by-law for a trunk sewer to divert the sewage of the city from the Bay, and a by-law to extend Exhibition Buildings, were all defeated.

Hamilton—The six by-laws voted on were: Hydro-electric power by-law, sewers extension in annex, electric pumps for waterworks, Isolation Hospital, east end fire station, and Home for Incurables. They were all carried with the exception of the by-law to place electric pumps at the Beach pumping station, which meant an expenditure of \$50,000. In passing the other four money by-laws the ratepayers voted for the expenditure of \$255,000.

London—By-laws to extend the waterworks at a cost of \$575,000, and for an expenditure of \$75,000 on an Isolation Hospital, were defeated.

Woodstock—By-law to establish Parks and Trees Commission, and one to raise \$16,500 for surface draining, were carried.

St. Catharines—Votes were favorable to an extension of the waterworks at a cost of \$6,000; also to return to the ward system of electing aldermen.

Brantford—A by-law to expend \$40,000 on sewer extension was approved.

Stratford—Three money by-laws were defeated. One to provide a market shelter at a cost of \$10,000; one for \$16,000 for a main sewer in the southern part of the city, and the third to put \$3,600 into a Board of Works building.

Ottawa—The Board of Control plebiscite was carried, and the by-law to create the city into a federal district was defeated.

Peterborough—A by-law carried to provide \$21,000 additional to \$40,000 now in hands of Board of Education to erect a new Collegiate Institute.

Lindsay—A by-law to provide filtration for the town water supply was defeated.

Campbellford—A by-law to raise \$12,000 for concrete walks was defeated.

Windsor—By-laws to expend \$12,500 on the electric light plant, and to suspend macadam paving for five years, were defeated.

Southampton—A by-law to raise \$5,000 for waterworks extension carried.

Streetsville—A by-law to expend \$15,000 on electric light plant carried.

Thorold—To raise \$80,000 for waterworks carried.

Bolton—To raise \$2,500 by issue of debentures for concrete sidewalks carried.

Napanee—Sewer extension by-laws, \$5,000 and \$2,250, carried.

Waterloo—Sewer farm improvements, \$23,000, carried.

Listowel—Construction of concrete bridge, \$14,500, carried.

Harriston—To add wing to public school carried.

Renfrew—Sewer extension by-law, \$6,000, carried.

Niagara Falls—To elect aldermen by general vote, carried.

East Toronto—A by-law proposing annexation to Toronto, carried.

Tweed—A by-law to construct concrete sidewalks carried.

Morrisburg—A by-law to extend and improve the electric power plant at a cost of \$20,000 was defeated.

Barrie—A by-law to grant a railway franchise to FREDERICK NICHOLS carried, but the majority, 43, is considered by Mr. NICHOLS too small to be acted upon.

Cornwall and Omemee—By-laws providing for the election of councillors for a two-year term were defeated.

Paris—A by-law to raise \$12,000 for school purposes was defeated.

Barrie—A by-law to expend \$12,000 on a new park was defeated.

Commissions.

By-laws affecting the management of municipal services, by placing them under boards of commissions, instead of leaving them to the control of the council, were more numerous than usual. By-laws taking this step were carried as follows:

Guelph—To place the waterworks and gas and electric light services under commissions. These were carried by large majorities. The street railway is already under a board of commissioners.

Dunnville—A waterworks commission.

Almonte—An electric lighting commission.

Picton—A by-law to do away with the electric light and waterworks commissions, and put these services under the town council, was defeated.

Mount Forest—A by-law to abolish the water and light commission was defeated.

Waterloo—A by-law to create a sewer commission carried.

Woodstock—A by-law to create a park commission carried.

Bowmanville—A by-law to create a waterworks commission carried.

Morrisburg—A by-law to provide for a water, light and power commission was defeated.

Concessions to Manufacturers.

Windsor—Passed an industrial by-law intended to enable the council to arrange with manufacturers seeking locations.

Whitby—Carried the Ontario Car Works by-law.

Wingham—Will loan the Wingham Carriage Co. \$5,000.

Deseronto—Only six voted against the by-law submitted granting the Deseronto Furniture Company a loan of \$10,000.

Welland—A by-law granting fixed assessment and other concessions to the Robertson Machinery Co. was carried.

Goderich—Decided to aid the Rogers Manufacturing Company, the Furniture Company, and Carriage Company.