

The Municipal World

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

In the interests of every department of the Municipal Institutions of Ontario.

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TERMS.—\$1.00 per annum. Single copy, 10c. Six copies, \$5.00, payable in advance.

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THE MUNICIPAL WORLD,

Box 1252, St. Thomas, Ont.

ST. THOMAS, NOVEMBER 1, 1898.

We direct the attention of subscribers to the numbers opposite their names on address labels, which refer to the issue of the paper with which each subscription ends.

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The Renfrew County Council is in favor of holding not more than two regular sessions during the year, and has passed a resolution to that effect for the benefit of the council of 1899.

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Reform in municipal matters does not refer to new legislation but to the proper carrying out of the present laws. This can only be accomplished by the election of councillors having the support of the best elements of every community. Local municipal leagues will do much to disseminate information and arouse the people from the apathy that exists in most places until after undesirable candidates are nominated and elected.

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The monthly reports issued by the Provincial Board of Health show a marked increase in the number of returns received from division registrars with reference to deaths from contagious diseases. For August, 1897, reports were received from 405 of the municipalities, and for August, 1898, the number was 694, or 93%. The total deaths reported were 230, divided as follows: Scarletina, 10; diphtheria, 16; measles, 6; whooping cough, 12; typhoid, 34; tuberculosis (consumption), 152. In August, 1897, 189 deaths were reported, 120 of which were attributed to tuberculosis. In view of the above, we must not be surprised if the Provincial Board of Health adopts compulsory measures for the isolation and treatment of all who may be afflicted.

The Municipal Manual.

We are informed by Mr. C. R. W. Beggar, Q. C., that the "copy" for the first volume of his Manual is about complete, and that it will be ready for distribution to subscribers early next year. It will contain:

1. The Municipal Act (Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1897, cap. 223), and The Act Respecting the Establishment of Municipal Institutions in Territorial Districts (R. S. O., 1897, cap. 225), with the amendments made by 61 Vict., caps. 23 and 36 (Jan., 1898), and 62 Vict., cap. 6 (Aug., 1898), and full notes of all municipal cases reported to November 1st, 1898, in Canada, England and the United States.

2. Forms of By-Laws, Debentures, Rules of Order and Procedure, etc.

3. An historical sketch of the development of municipal institutions in the province from 1788 to 1899.

4. A Synoptical Table showing, in parallel columns, such sections of the Municipal Acts of Manitoba and British Columbia, and of the Municipal Ordinances of the North-West Territories as correspond with or refer to the same subjects as the section of the Ontario Act.

5. A Municipal Calendar for the use of clerks, treasurers and school trustees (showing the dates fixed by law for the performance of their various statutory duties).

6. A Tabulated Guide to the counting of ballots at municipal and provincial elections.

7. A list of the municipalities of Ontario, with names of officers, etc., and of the County Council Divisions established under The County Councils Act, 1896.

8. An Alphabetical Index of the cases cited over (5,000 in number), and a complete Subject Index (200 pp.) prepared by Allam M. Dymond, Esq., Law Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario.

The second part, which will be out some time next summer, will be nearly as large as Part I. (1,250 pages).

It will contain The Assessment Act (R. S. O., cap. 224); Drainage Acts (R. S. O., caps. 40, 41 and 226); Municipal Arbitrations Act (cap. 227); Municipal Accounts Act (cap. 228); Public Libraries (cap. 232); Public Parks (cap. 233); Municipal Light and Heat (cap. 234); Waterworks (cap. 235); Double Tracks in Snow Roads (cap. 237); Toll Roads (cap. 239); Snow Fences (cap. 240); Tree Planting (cap. 243); Early Closing (cap. 257, part); Fire Guardians (cap. 268); Forest Fires (cap. 269); Sheep and Dogs (cap. 271); Pounds (cap. 272); Noxious Weeds, etc. (cap. 279); Yellows and Black Knot in Fruit Trees (cap. 280), and portions (other than those in Part I) of the Schools Act (caps. 292, 294, 301, 303 and 304).

Mike—"The top av the mornin' to yez, Pat." Pat (muddled)—"Shure, Oi've got it, me bhoy; me head's goin' round somethin' awful!"

Canadian Conference of Charities and Correction.

For some years it has been thought desirable by those interested in the management of houses of industry and other charitable institutions throughout the province, as well as the managers of asylums, prisons and houses of correction, that a general conference would be extremely helpful. At a recent meeting the Prisoners' Aid Association decided to take the initiative in bringing about a general gathering, and it has been decided to hold the first annual meeting of the Canadian Conference of Charities in the Normal School, Toronto, on November the 10th and 11th. In the programme, as far as arranged, time has been allotted for the consideration of the following subjects, after the conference is organized: "The Scientific Treatment of Inebriates," "Illustrated Address on Child-Saving," "Child-Saving Work," "Caring for the Destitute Poor," "Organized Charity," "Custodial Care of Feeble-Minded Women," and "Prison Reform." The editor of this paper has consented to act as chairman of the portion of the conference to be devoted to "Caring for the Destitute Poor."

For the last twenty-five years the House of Industry question has been before nearly every county council of Ontario. A large number of county institutes have already been established, some are being constructed, and in other counties an active agitation is being carried on with a view to their establishment in the near future. The management and supervision of a House of Industry is entirely different from the work an ordinary municipal councillor or officer is called upon to perform.

A meeting of those interested will result in the greatest benefit to all concerned. Such subjects as "House of Industry plans," "furnishings," "rules and regulations for the governing of inmates," "employment of inmates," "dietary," etc., are questions that could be discussed with profit to all. The Prisoners' Aid Association has taken an active interest in the distribution of statistics and information relating to the House of Industry question. We hope that the authorities of every county in which a House of Industry has been or is about to be established, will send representatives to the Toronto conference.

Municipal Affairs for September contains a very valuable article upon "Municipal Corporations in the Colonies," by Dr. John A. Fairlie. Little has been known concerning this subject and still less has been written outside of the musty volumes of records and city histories. All this material has been worked over and the important facts unearthed, analyzed and presented in an interesting manner. The student and the general reader will find much of interest and profit.