

WESTMOUNT'S GARBAGE DESTRUCTOR AND LIGHTING PLANT.

The Westmount municipal garbage-consuming and electric lighting and power plant, if not the first municipal undertaking of the kind in the Province of Quebec, is at least the most prominent.

This plant has a peculiar interest, not only for other municipalities, but for all who are concerned in efforts of this nature, for the reason that it is being operated in competition with a strong and well-managed hydraulic plant with headquarters in the city of Montreal, of which city, Westmount may be considered a part.

An interesting feature of the establishing of this plant is the manner in which the contract for its erection was given out.

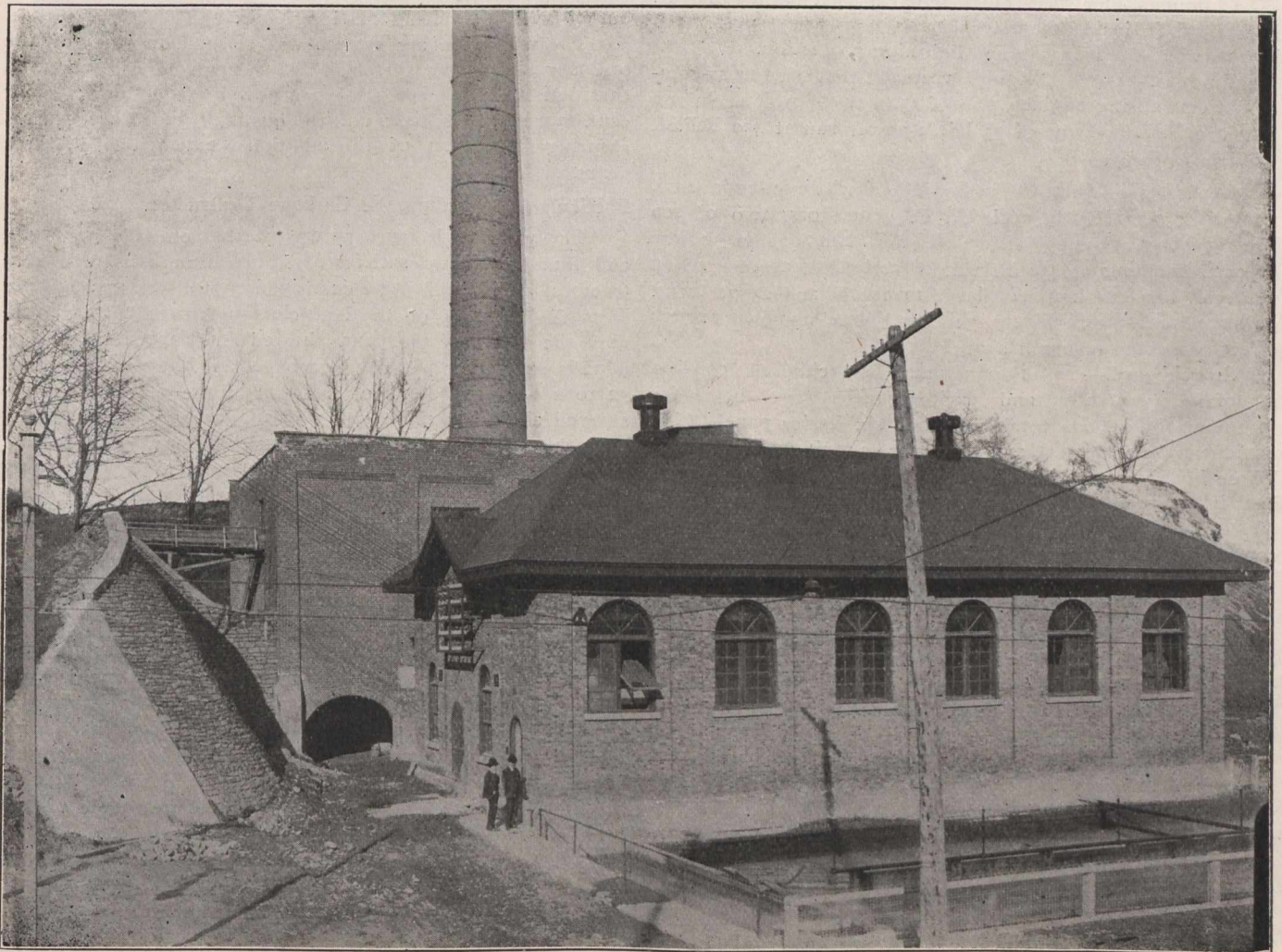
Construction and Operation of Plant.

The contract was given to Messrs. Ross and Holgate, engineers, who, in accepting it, stipulated that after erecting the plant they were to appoint the employees, train them

street lighting was begun on December 15th, at the expiration of the town's contract with the Montreal Light, Heat and Power Company. Messrs. Ross and Holgate have made a report to the town council regarding the results of the work to the end of 1906, and they will continue to operate the plant until the end of the present year, when it will be turned over to the town in full running order. By that time they will have demonstrated what the plant can do, and if its record is not sustained after the corporation has assumed control, the conclusion will be obvious.

Reasons for the Undertaking.

It was about three years ago that the topics which eventually led to the erection of this plant came up in Westmount. They were, how to dispose of the garbage of the town, and how to reduce the cost of lighting. The necessity of burning the garbage soon became evident, and it was but a step from this to the consideration of the utilization of



Westmount Destructor Plant, Showing Destructor and Boiler Building in Rear, with Lighting Station and Cooling Pond in Front.

and operate the plant for a year, turning it over to the municipality in full operation. In this manner they insured themselves against influences which in municipal undertakings frequently prove destructive to the successful operation of the most promising enterprises.

Messrs. Ross and Holgate began the work of construction towards the end of September 1905, and owing to the favorable winter the work was carried on almost continuously. By April, 1906, the buildings were practically completed, being several months ahead of the time anticipated. A temporary engine and generator was installed so as to start the plant operating as speedily as possible. The first lamps were accordingly connected on April 20th, since which time the plant has been in successful operation.

The garbage destructor was started about April 16th, and was tested officially, and accepted on May 3rd, while the

the heat thus generated towards the production of electricity for the town.

Inventory of Land, Buildings, and Plant.

After the reports from Messrs. Ross and Holgate, concerning the electrical end of the proposition, and from the town engineer, regarding the destruction of garbage, had been placed before the council and approved, a by-law was passed authorizing a bond issue of \$225,000 to meet the estimated costs. The contract was given to Ross and Holgate, and work was proceeded with as already described. The report the contracting engineers recently made to the town regarding the plant is certainly as complete a document on a work of this nature as could well be made. The inventory on January 1st, 1907, shows that the plant and adjuncts then consisted of the following:—