

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

EASTERN GOOD ROADS ASSOCIATION.

There was a large attendance at the annual convention of the Eastern Good Roads Association which was held in Ottawa on March 13th and 14th last. The chair was occupied by Mr. J. C. Bradley, ex-warden of Carleton county, who in his opening address referred to the good work that had been done in Eastern Ontario by the Good Roads train. The cost, he said, was proving much less than expected, and the concrete culverts were regarded as a very great saving and highly satisfactory. Sample stretches of road had been completed at Gananoque, Lansdowne, Iroquois, and Alexandria. The estimated cost of grading a mile of road-bed ready for stone or gravel was stated to be \$25 with horses, and \$18 with traction engine, and for macadamizing one mile of highway, 8 feet wide and 8 inches deep, exclusive of excavation, the cost would be \$600. The Sawyer-Massey Company gave the use of all machinery free of charge. As planned at present, the work of the current year would be completed in the following order: Carp, Eganville, Pembroke, Almonte and Kemptville. Mr. T. B. Allen gave an address on "How the Commutation of Statute Labor had Succeeded in North Grimsby Township." Mr. Allen stated that the roads were much improved under the new system, and the cost was fifty cents in place of a day's statute labor.

At the evening session, Senator Dodge, of the Department of Public Roads, Washington, D. C., Col. Moore, president of the United States National Good Roads Association, and Mr. Andrew Patullo, of Woodstock, Ont., delivered addresses showing the stimulating effect of good roads in lessening the cost of transportation, adding to the industry of the country, and improving the home life of the nation.

Addresses on the following subjects were delivered on March 14th: "How Concrete Pipes are Made," by David Moir, Almonte; "The Construction of Concrete Arches, Bridges, etc.," by C. C. Lapierre, Montreal; "Implements required to Make Stone Roads, their Uses and Cost," by Major Jones Sheppard, Queenston, Ont.; "The Value and Economy of Concrete Culverts," by A. W. Campbell, Toronto, Commissioner of Ontario Highways. Mr. Campbell said that the kind of road to be built, its width and depth of material, must depend entirely upon the traffic. A common clay road which could be made for \$50 to \$75 a mile made an ideal summer road. If it were given the right grade and properly drained, or underdrained where the foundation is boggy, it could be easily maintained. A standard road was about 24 feet between ditches, with 10 feet of stone or gravel in the middle, 10 inches deep in the centre, and 8 inches at the sides. On many main roads throughout the country broken stone had been added year by year until it was now 12 to 15 inches deep. But the

traffic had caused the roads to settle until they were lower than the sides of the road. Cutting off the "shoulder" at the sides with a grader and putting on a coating of a fine quality of crushed stone or gravel, thoroughly rolled, would put the road in first-class shape. On the average road this could be done for \$100 to \$150 per mile. Where a new road was built out and out, the cost would average \$600 to \$750 per mile. After the road was properly constructed, \$10 per mile per year would keep it in repair. Mr. Campbell said that quarry stone was preferable to field stone for road-making, and that he was in favor of wire fences as a preventive of blocked roads in winter time.

Mr. A. F. Wood, of Madoc, told how Hastings County secured 400 miles of good roads. The county started half a century ago, and though it now had first class roads, the cost had been about \$2,000 per mile, owing principally to mis-directed efforts.

A deputation from the convention waited upon the Minister of Agriculture and urged the establishment of a Public Roads Department in connection with the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, Warden Cummings, of Carleton; vice presidents, Warden John Brennan, Sand Point, Renfrew county; Warden Dr. Anderson, Lanark county; Warden L. Charbonneau, of the United Counties of Prescott and Russell; Warden H. MacMillan, of the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry; Warden Brown, of the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville; Treasurer, Carleton County Clerk McNabb; Secretary, H. B. Cowan.

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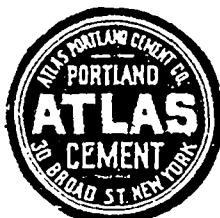
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