

expenses." If the council has to borrow money for this purpose it has no authority to charge the school board with the interest it has to pay on the loan.

#### A Lost By-Law.

226—R. J. B.—A by-law, dividing the municipality into school sections, has been lost. The sections are formed, and three new schools have been built. One school section now objects, although the by-law was passed in 1900 and came into force January 1st, 1901. The by-law is not registered. Kindly let us know, through the columns of your valuable paper, what we can do to replace it?

If there is a copy of the by-law which some person can swear was compared by him with such by-law, and that the same is a true copy of such by-law, that will be sufficient proof of the by-law, assuming that there is also proof that the by-law itself was duly passed and under the corporate seal of the corporation, or the person who compared it can swear what it contained, that will be sufficient proof. Satisfactory proof of the loss of the original by-law, and that proper search for it has been made and that it cannot be found, must be first given before evidence of what it contained can be given. If the by law cannot be found and proof of its contents cannot be made, the only course left is to pass a new by-law.

#### Penalty for Refusing to Perform Statute Labor, and for Overseer Neglecting to Perform His Duty.

227—SUBSCRIBER—1. Please inform me the amount of penalty for any person refusing to perform statute labor during the sleighing season in shovelling snow?

2. Also what penalty for an overseer neglecting or refusing to look after such work?

1. The only remedy provided in such a case is that contained in section 110 of the Assessment Act.

2. Section 537, of the Municipal Act, provides for the appointment of overseers, and in order to constitute a person an overseer, a by-law must be passed appointing him such overseer, and in order to impose a penalty upon him for neglecting or refusing to perform his duties as such overseer, another by-law must be passed under the authority of section 702 of the Municipal Act.

#### Neglect of Police Village to Elect Trustees.

228—CLERK.—A village in this township was some years ago made into a police village by by-law of the county council. Trustees were elected for a few years, and then, through lack of interest or carelessness, the organization was dropped, and no trustees have been elected for several years. How can the ratepayers proceed to reorganize or elect new trustees? It is not even known who the last trustees were.

We think it will be necessary to have the law amended to meet the difficulty in this case, and that you must wait until that can be done.

#### Water Rates Cannot be Collected by Frontage Tax.

229—T. G. W.—The council being about to revise its waterworks by-law and schedule of rates, it has been suggested that a frontage-tax be imposed as well as water-rates, and that the whole of the frontage-tax should be rebated to

water-users. Do you know of any municipalities where such a method is in force? It would be very effectual as regards vacant lands and unoccupied houses. It is desired to get all residents to use the water, and the rebate of the whole of the frontage-tax would certainly be an inducement thereto. The securing of this end without the use of force would be appreciated.

What is proposed to be done cannot be done legally.

#### Advertising of Municipal Securities.

Gustave Simon, bond editor, *The Financier*, New York, in *Printer's Ink*:

At the recent election many municipalities voted in favor of issuing bonds for improvements of all kinds, and efforts will soon be made by the officials to dispose of the securities to the best and highest bidders. It seems very strange that points in the United States claiming to be thoroughly up to date in every respect sometimes fail in obtaining satisfactory results with their bond issues.

Advertising to-day stands ahead of all systems used to give publicity. Whether it be a soap concern, a new perfume, or a hatter, it is an important matter to be considered so long as it does its work for the advertiser. In various instances, however, municipalities fail to comprehend the value of printer's ink. The usual legal procedure of a suburban village is to place a bond advertisement in its local newspaper, evidently expecting the farmers in the vicinity to file a bid on an issue of securities of which they know absolutely nothing. If the same village would bring their notice of sale before the bankers, bond dealers and others generally interested, through the insertion of its call for bids in a reliable banking journal, results would follow that were gratifying to the officials.

It is difficult to make a country official see the value of publishing a bond notice in a reputable financial paper.

To further the interests of a village, town, or even city, any journal of merit will advise as to the market value of a security, and will even construct a sample advertisement if they so desire. Occasionally a town does advertise in a weekly banking organ, but the notice is so rudely prepared that the main details are ignored. Another great fault with advertising municipalities is failure to state the financial condition of the town. This will cause those interested in the offering to somewhat doubt the credit of the city, and will make inquiries regarding this factor, but if this were inserted in the official call it would save the banker unnecessary trouble.

An excellent specimen of a bond advertisement is given herewith, which embodies every detail of importance to the intending bidder.

#### BONDS FOR SALE.

ATLANTA, GA. \$418,000 3½ PER CENT.  
30 YEAR BONDS.

Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the Mayor of Atlanta, Ga., until 12 o'clock m., Tuesday, Dec. 3, 1901, for \$418,000 City of

Atlanta, Ga., 30-year 3½ per cent. Gold coupon bonds, of \$1,000 each, due Dec. 31, 1931, interest payable July and January, in New York and Atlanta. Bids may be for the whole or part of said bonds. Bidders to enclose with bid certified check for five per cent. of par value of the amount bid for; checks to be made payable to the order of Thos. J. Peeples, City Treasurer. Bidders will be required to receive and pay for bonds allotted to them on Dec. 31, 1901. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids. LIVINGSTONE MIMS, Mayor. WM. C. RAWSON, Chairman Finance Committee.

For further information, address J. H. GOLD-SMITH, City Comptroller.

An advertisement of a bond sale inserted in at least three banking journals, even if the outlay is \$50, would insure the receipt of bids at least five per cent. over the average offerings expected.

The writer has solicited bond advertisements from the various municipal officers, and in many instances found errors in the reading, which would have lost the towns many bids. The date of the sales is even inserted incorrectly. Thus, it is part of the business of a financial journal to correct any errors appearing in a bond advertisement, and to notify the officials of such correction.

Goldwin Smith, in a letter to *The Telegram*, refers to municipal affairs in Toronto, and the necessity for better men as follows: "Since I settled in Canada, thirty years ago, our progress has certainly been downwards. What is the moral? The moral is the necessity of a complete change of organization. Nothing less apparently will suffice. It is possible that for the election of aldermen a change might, as many think, be an improvement. But no modification of the present system which can be devised will give you, either for mayor or aldermen, a different class of men. The system of popular and periodical election may be right in politics. Applied to the administration of cities it has everywhere broken down. The business of great cities calls for a skilled, stable, systematic and really responsible administration. In this flux of ephemeral rulers you can no more have real responsibility than you can have skill, stability or system. The people gain by the present system nothing but the phantom of electoral power. None really suffer from inefficient government more than the working class. The money irresponsibly wasted on such things as the Don improvement, the block pavement and the city hall might, if expended by a responsible and far-seeing government, have added to the well-being and attractions of the city, and the franchises would have been owned by the city instead of being alienated to private corporations. More might also have been done for the beauty of our city, whose residential attractions are her richest dower. It will be difficult, no doubt, to bring about the necessary change. It will be impossible unless our leading men will recognize their responsibilities and do their best for the city. But public opinion is moving, and persevering effort may prevail.