# MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

#### ONTARIO MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION.

At the concluding meeting of the Ontario Municipal Association held in Toronto on September 8th, the following important resolutions were carried:

1. That in cities and towns, fire insurance companies be required to file annually, on the first day of June, with the clerk of the municipality, a sworn statement showing their gross receipts and losses in such municipality for the preceding year to enable the municipality to determine whether the rates are equitable or otherwise.

 That the councils of municipalities be given power to regulate the salaries of police magistrates, unless the body that appoints the magistrate pays the salary.

 That sub-section of the municipal act be amended to provide that the finding of the property qualifications of candidates nominated for municipal councils shall apply to all cities and towns.

4. That section 481 be amended so as to provide for the annual appointment by the municipal council, at the first meeting of two persons (resident ratepayers) on the board of commissioners of police in addition to the mayor, the judge of the county court and the police magistrate.

That the expenses of regis rations and

elections for the Ottawa legislature be borne by the province, and that this association present a petition to the Lieutenant Governor in Council in accordance therewith.

It was also carried unanimously that Ottawa's municipal fire insurance system be undertaken by municipalities. This motion would unite all the municipalities of the country in a fire insurance company to compete with fire insurance companies in existence.

### MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENTS AT BRANDON.

The authorities are now well under way with the new pumping station at Brandon, Man., the need for which has been occasioned by the increase in population. The new station is some 11 feet above water mark, which is considered to render it absolutely safe against the flooding to which the old station was subject. Two additional duplex pumps are being installed with a capacity of two million gallons. The station will be a one storey building, and will have an excellently arranged "filter gallery."

Provision has been made for the construction of some six miles of new concrete sidewalk, and the authorities have decided to do the whole of this work by day labor. They have been for some time closely checking the work done by day work and comparing it with that done by contract, with the result that their decision is in favor of day labor. Of 125,000 feet of concrete sidewalk laid this season, 40,000 feet was undertaken by the authorities and is said to have cost two cents per foot

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less than the balance, which was placed under contract, besides which it is considered to be better work.

#### NOTES.

Mr. Thomas Beasley last week celebrated his fiftieth anniversary as city clerk of Hamilton and was the recipient of a congratulatory resolution from the City Council.

Presscake from sewage sludge presses has been burned by the aid of coal dust, according to Mr. James Ashton, whose paper on Disposal and Utilization of Sewage Sludge was printed in a recent number of "The Surveyor." He sprinkled about half à hundred weight of coal dust on each ton of sludge cake, but he states that the gases from the furnace should be passed into the flue of a destructor maintaining a temperature of 1,000 to 1,500 degrees; otherwise there will be a nuisance from the chinney.

Water was turned into the new high level reservoir at Hamilton on September 11th. The reservoir has a capacity of 2,500,000 gallons and is 240 feet above the lake level. It will maintain an even pressure in the city all the time. Only two pumps will be required at the beach where three are now kept going all the time, and a fourth has to be put into operation at times. The opening was marked with an appropriate ceremony. Mayor Morden presided and the chairman of the fire and water committee was presented with a silver wheel.

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