

# The Municipal World

PUBLISHED MONTHLY \$1.00 PER ANNUM  
PUBLISHED MONTHLY

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

K. W. MCKAY, EDITOR,

A. W. CAMPBELL, C. E. Associate  
H. F. JELL, Solicitor. Editors

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

EXPIRATION OF SUBSCRIPTION. This paper will be discontinued at expiration of term paid for, of which subscribers will receive notice.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS. Subscribers, who may change their address, should give prompt notice of same, and in doing so, give both old and new address.

COMMUNICATIONS. Contributions of interest to municipal officers are cordially invited.

HOW TO REMIT. Cash should be sent by registered letter. Draft, express or money orders may be sent at our risk.

Address all communications to

THE MUNICIPAL WORLD,

Box 1252, St. Thomas, Ont.

ST. THOMAS, MARCH 1, 1895.

Owing to the form of assessment roll published by us being slightly different from that supplied by other publishers, we wish to explain that the assessor is only required to enter in the roll the census of children between the ages of five and twenty-one. See section 2 Assessment Amendment Act, 1893. In addition to this the Compulsory Education Act requires the use of a separate school census book, in which the assessor is to enter the names of all children between the ages of eight and fourteen, together with the names of their parents or guardians and residence. See section 14 Consolidated Assessment Act, 1892, and chapter 56 Ontario statutes, 1891.

There is a great diversity of opinion amongst municipal men in reference to the necessity for publication of more than an abstract statement of receipts and expenditures, assets and liabilities, on the 15th December of each year. The treasurers' books are open to inspection by ratepayers, and we think that councils throughout the province should petition for the change and show that a detailed statement is unnecessary.

In the clerks' record of awards filed under the Ditches and Watercourses Act; in inspectors' reports under the Tile Drainage Debenture Act, and in by-laws passed in accordance with the Drainage Act, care should be taken to specify the particular portion of land on which the special tax is to be levied. There is sometimes a difficulty in ascertaining this when property is sub-divided and assessed to different owners.

We notice that in some counties by-laws have been passed to determine the period of residence necessary to render an applicant eligible for admission to the house of industry.

It is the general belief that these institutions are established to relieve the local municipalities of the expense of the care of the poor. If a tramp is disabled, or for other cause requires assistance as soon as he arrives in a municipality, the local authorities are supposed to do what is necessary. If he can be better cared for in the house of industry, he should be sent there and discharged as soon as he has recovered, or the circumstances will permit. To decide by by-laws that persons should not be sent to a house of industry until they have resided in the county for three or twelve months is to impose on these municipalities having to care for unfortunate wanderers, common humanity compels us to care for the poor. Houses of industries are established to assist in this work, and all municipalities contributing to the expense of one these institutions should benefit thereby to the fullest extent.

County councils can do a good work by placing a sum of money at the disposal of the gaoler to aid destitute prisoners in getting to their homes when discharged. To turn a man out in the middle of winter many miles from home with no means of getting there will not assist in reforming him. Many cases are reported, where discharged prisoners have secured their return to gaol by committing another offence, as they were without the necessities of life and unable to reach home.

At a municipal nomination meeting two candidates are proposed for the office of reeve. If no one demands a poll how many clerks would then take the votes of electors present and declare the candidate receiving a majority duly elected? Let us hear from clerks who have had experience in this matter.

There is an advantage in having one physician at least on every local board of health, but it is only a merited commendation to say that some of the best and most careful public health work in the province has been done by non-medical members of local boards of health.

The present indebtedness of English towns and localities for street and road improvements is \$145,000,000. It is not many years since England was a country of wretched highroads and of abominable town streets. All this has been changed, and the transformation which has been costly, has seemed to impose a heavy burden by reason of its rapidity. But it would have been a good investment at almost any price. Fortunately, the work has been done in a permanent manner. The Macadamized roads are so solidly founded that they will endure for centuries.

## House of Industry—County of York.

Extracts from inspector's report for 1894:

Number in home January 1st.....	91
“ “ December 31st.....	88
Average number for the year.....	82½
Admitted during the year.....	65
Discharged “ “.....	42
Absconded “ “.....	11
Died “ “.....	13

Received from county treasurer \$6,705, of which amount \$6,119.18 has been used for running expenses, making an average expense per week of \$1.32¼.

### Abstract of financial statement:

#### RECEIPTS.

Balance from 1893.....	\$ 39 14
From county treasurer.....	6,705 00
For board.....	32 00
Wages earned by inmates..	11 00
Sale of stock.....	381 50
Sale of farm produce.....	102 47

Total.....\$7,271 11

#### EXPENDITURES.

Food, light and fuel.....	\$3,271 37
Clothing and drugs.....	885 65
Miscellaneous.....	1,523 17
Implements.....	15 00
Seed and feed.....	118 97
Hired help.....	535 66
Salaries.....	775 00
Conveying inmates to home..	113 00
Balance to 1895.....	33 29

Total.....\$7,271 11

### Pay the Aldermen.

Mr. Goldwin Smith, writing in New York about municipal problems, holds that men who do public work must get something for it. He says:—

“If you want men to do hard work you must pay them or they must pay themselves. So it will be, at least till the Angel Gabriel is mayor with a city council of seraphims. The pay may be either money or dignity.

Perpetual vigilance is the price of immunity from fire, says the *Monetary Times*. Every town in Canada should examine its fire appliances once a month; should test the cisterns; see that the fire bell can be got at and will ring; take the engine out and set it working; inspect the hose and play through it; strengthen the chain of fire defence at its weakest link. Only by such precautions can a community be ready to fight fire when it comes—as come it will.

Judge—“Were you ever up before this court?” Everett Wrest—“Can't say, judge, What time do your honor get up?”

New policeman—“And where is your permit to peddle?” Peddler—“I have a verbal permit.” New policeman—“Show it to me.”