

TORONTO'S SEWAGE DISPOSAL PROBLEM

AT a meeting of the Toronto city council held last Tuesday, the following motion by Controller Maguire was referred to the Works Committee:—

"That the Commissioner of Works and the Finance Commissioner be requested to associate themselves with the best sewerage experts obtainable, and report on the following:—

"(1) Can the Morley Ave. sewage disposal works be operated efficiently without creating a nuisance to that section of the city where it is installed?

"(2) Was the plant constructed properly, having in view the growth of the city, or were there any engineering defects?

"(3) What would it cost to build an entirely new sewage disposal plant?"

Controller Maguire also introduced the following resolution, which was referred to the Transportation Committee:—

"That the transportation commission apply to the legislature at its next session for power to immediately permit of the construction of car shops in order that we may commence the construction of cars, having in view the giving of employment to those returning from overseas and those who have returned and the taking over of the Toronto street railway in 1921, so as to be ready with first-class rolling stock."

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

(Continued from page 180)

Ontario; and "The Advisability of Electric Companies Handling Appliances and Supplies and Maintaining Standard Prices as Established by the Manufacturers," by W. B. Johnson, manager New Business Dept., Montreal Light, Heat and Power Co.

RECOMMENDED PRACTICE FOR CONCRETE ROAD AND STREET CONSTRUCTION.—Booklet issued free by the Portland Cement Association, Chicago, Ill.; 6 x 9 ins., 48 pp.; well illustrated; coated paper. A reprint of the report presented to the American Concrete Institute by its committee on concrete roads and pavements. The subjects covered are: Materials, design, grading and drainage, organization and equipment, handling and hauling of materials, mixing and placing of concrete, joints and reinforcing, finishing, curing, maintenance, and resurfacing of old concrete pavements.

AN ADVANCED COURSE IN QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS.—By Henry Fay, Ph.D., D.Sc., Professor of Analytical Chemistry in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. First edition 1917. 111 pages, 6 x 9 ins., cloth, \$1.25 net. Published by John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York. Renouf Publishing Co., Ltd., Montreal, Canadian selling agents. An advanced manual of quantitative laboratory practice especially compiled for the steel and allied industries. The latest methods of analysis are set forth in detail, and emphasis is placed upon the possible causes of failure in the various determinations and the means to avoid same. Several of the methods of determination seem to be original with the author and are of considerable interest. Useful tables of logarithms, etc., are included at the end of the reading matter.

At the annual meeting of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, to be held February 17th to 20th in New York City, there will be two joint sessions with the Canadian Mining Institute, and it is expected that a number of prominent Canadian mining engineers will attend.

The short course on "Farm Power" at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, includes a lecture on February 5th by R. R. Graham on "Water Power on the Farm and How to Take Advantage of It"; and on February 6th by J. W. Purcell, of the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission, on "Hydro Installations" and "Hydro-Electric Power on the Farm."

STATE AID FOR HOUSING

IN a circular recently issued by the Ontario Government the provincial scheme for assistance to prospective builders, as worked out by J. A. Ellis, director of the Ontario Bureau of Municipal Affairs, is outlined as follows:—

"The Dominion Government has agreed to make a loan to the Ontario Government for housing purposes. The province will loan to municipalities upon the following terms:—

"Municipalities and companies incorporated under the Housing Accommodation Act (R.S.O., Chap. 220), may acquire lands and construct houses for returned soldiers, and also for working men and women and those of small means. The act will be amended to include all municipalities.

"The type of house to be constructed shall not exceed \$2,500 in cost for the construction of each house. The maximum cost of each house, together with the cost of the land and interest during construction, is not to exceed \$3,000.

"The building scheme of each municipality, including the laying out of the land and the plotting of the buildings thereon, the plans of the houses, the form of construction, and the location of the land to be developed, shall be approved by the Director of the Bureau of Municipal Affairs, or such other person or body as may be designated for that purpose.

"The loan will be for a period not exceeding twenty years, at 5 per cent.

"Municipalities are to make loans to individuals, firms incorporated as before mentioned, and to persons who own their own land and desire to erect houses thereon for their own occupation, and to farmers for the erection of houses for their employees.

"If a municipality itself acquires land and constructs houses, it will be loaned the full amount required therefor.

"The loan to be made to a housing company shall not exceed 85 per cent. of the value of the land and buildings.

"A loan may be made to a farmer, and to a person who owns his own land, to erect a house thereon for his own occupation to the full value of the building. Also to a person for the erection of a house on land owned by the municipality, provided he contributes in cash the value of the lot or 10 per cent. of the whole cost.

"The loan will be made by the province to the municipalities on progress estimates as required.

"It is suggested that all houses be sold on the monthly repayment plan. The period of repayment must not exceed twenty years and the rate of interest 5 per cent.

"The monthly repayment for twenty years to cover interest, and repayment of principal will be about \$20 per month for a \$3,000 house. Interest will be charged on arrears. The whole or any part of the principal may be repaid at any time during the twenty years.

"Municipalities and housing companies must enter into agreements for sale of such houses, and give deeds for same when the payments are completed.

"Such agreements for sale may be cancelled on default for three months, but a person can sell his interest in the property at any time before default.

"A person taking a house must covenant to repair, and to pay taxes and insurance.

"Municipalities are to repay the province monthly at the same rate as the above monthly repayments. These repayments to begin one month after the houses are completed.

"Housing companies are to repay a municipality in the same way, and to give the municipality a mortgage upon all the land and houses for which the loan was secured.

"Interest to be charged on arrears in both cases.

"Any municipality may come under the provisions of the proposed legislation after it is enacted upon a by-law being passed by the council.

"The council must then appoint a commission for the purpose of the act, composed of three members, of whom the mayor shall be one, and the other two nominated by the council, not members of the council, and elected for two years, one retiring each year."