

ESSEX BORDER WATER WORKS

DESIRING to consolidate the existing water systems within the district, the Essex Border Utilities Commission has adopted a report which has been presented by Morris Knowles, Ltd., consulting engineers, Windsor, Ont., and will soon ask the people of the Border Cities to vote upon the scheme.

In the engineers' report, provision is made for five years' development of the water supply systems of the border municipalities, whereby the present generally unsatisfactory conditions of supply in the district will be relieved, and new territory which is not now supplied with water will be made available.

An approximate valuation of the Windsor water works, the Walkerville Water Co.'s distribution system and existing pipe lines in Ford City, Sandwich, Sandwich East and Sandwich West, totals \$950,000, and an approximate fair compensation to Hiram Walker's Sons, Ltd., for pumping equipment is estimated by the engineers at \$30,000. It is recommended that these systems be consolidated under the commission's direction by assuming the indebtedness now carried by the various systems and by issuing debentures to the various corporations for the remaining value.

The first year's program of improvement to the existing system includes the extension of a pipe line from Windsor to and through Sandwich to form a complete loop, at a cost of \$95,000, and the arrangement of a site for consolidated supply and purification works, at a cost of \$200,000.

During the second year it is proposed to start the construction of the consolidated works and filter plant, at an estimated expenditure of \$250,000, and to connect with the Windsor distribution system by means of a 36-in. main, at a cost of \$185,000. This would give a much better distribution system, and as soon as the pumps are ready to operate, would provide, by means of the extensions recommended for the first year, a much improved domestic and fire service for Ford City, Walkerville, Windsor and Sandwich.

Further extension of the distribution system in Windsor and Walkerville is contemplated for the third year, and is estimated to cost \$105,000. The construction of the pumping station and filter plant would also be completed at a further cost of \$225,000.

For the purpose of reinforcing the distribution system in Windsor, and giving much needed fire protection in the business area, several 12-in. mains would be laid during the fourth and fifth years. The distribution system would be extended from Sandwich to Sandwich West and Ojibway, further reinforcing mains in Sandwich bringing the total expenditure for these years to \$220,000, and making a grand total, for the five-years' development, of \$1,130,000.

By acquiring the Windsor pumping station and taking over the pumping equipment of Hiram Walker's Sons, Ltd., it would be possible to utilize in the consolidated pumping station the pumps which have been recently purchased by the Windsor Water Commission and also the newer steam pumps in both the Windsor and Hiram Walker stations.

The Bureau of Municipal Research has issued a bulletin on "Forms of City Government," which says:—"To overcome some of the drawbacks of the mayor-council-board-of-control plan, the formation of an administrative board, made up of the heads of the various civic departments, with one of their number as chairman, has been suggested. This could be tried by any city, without change from the present system, simply by directing the heads of departments to meet once a week for discussion of administrative policies and the taking of joint action wherever possible without special legislative enactment. A mayor, council and board of control could be elected on the plan at present in use, council retaining its legislative and policy-deciding functions. Later, if the working of the board was successful, provisional legislation could be obtained to enable it to undertake the work now done by the board of control. The city council could then keep in touch with the departmental administration through a small executive committee appointed from their number to act with the administrative board."

REGULATIONS UNDER CANADA HIGHWAYS ACT

Order-in-Council States Method of Making Application for Federal Aid and Gives Information Regarding the Proposed Administration of the Act

SECTION five of the Canada Highways Act, which was passed last July by the Dominion parliament and which will be administered by A. W. Campbell, commissioner of highways, states that the governor in council may make such regulations as are deemed advisable for giving effect to the objects and purposes of the Act, which appropriates \$20,000,000 to encourage the provinces in the construction or improvement of highways. In the December 13th issue of the "Canada Gazette," the official medium for notices of government rulings, notice is given of the adoption by order-in-council of the following regulations under the above-mentioned Act:—

"Sec. 5.—The governor in council may make such regulations to be published in the 'Canada Gazette' as are deemed advisable for giving effect to the objects and purposes of this Act."

Work to be Aided

1. The highways to be aided under the Act shall comprise such main and market roads as have been designated by the province as hereinafter provided with a view to encouraging production and stimulating trade and commerce, and as shall be approved by the minister.

To Supplement Customary Expenditure

2. It is understood that the expenditures called for under the Canada Highways Act are intended to supplement the usual amounts granted and devoted to the construction and improvement of its highways by the province itself.

Method of Making Application

3. Before an agreement is made with respect to any road or roads, there shall be furnished to the minister by the provincial government a statement setting forth a programme for construction or improvement of a system of highways in the province, from which projects shall be selected. Such statement shall be accompanied by a general map of the proposed program, bearing the approval of the provincial government and the endorsement of the highways department thereof. Each provincial program shall include, first, roads having greatest local agricultural and commercial importance; and second, roads having both local and general importance, and these programmes shall be so adjusted and arranged that the whole shall be correlated and form, as far as possible, a general system of interprovincial highways. This program and amendments thereto shall be satisfactory to the minister, and applications relating to the construction of specific portions thereof shall be made from time to time as provided for in the following section:—

Plans, Specifications, Estimates, etc.

4. Each application for aid shall be embodied in a project statement, on forms which may be had on application to the commissioner of highways of the department of railways and canals, which shall contain the following information and exhibits:—

- (a) The purposes the undertaking will serve, and why it is in the public interest;
- (b) The character and extent of traffic, present and prospective, on the road;
- (c) How the undertaking relates to the provincial program;
- (d) A statement of the type of construction or improvement it is proposed to make, together with a report of the engineer of the provincial highways department endorsing the adoption of the proposed type and the design thereof as being the most economical and practicable in the public interest, his reasons therefor, and a full explanation of any special or unusual features thereof;