WHAT THEY SAW IN OTHER CITIES

Some Information That a Visiting Committee Gave the Board of Works.

The Board of Works met yesterday afternoon, Chairman Carlyle (St. Thos.) presiding. Ald. Jones, Verral, Shaw, Woods, Barton, Morrison, Carlyle (St. And.) and McMillan were present.

This being the first meeting of the committee since the visit of some of its members to several American cities with the view of inspecting the system of constructing roadways, sidewalks and sewers, the travellers were congratulated upon the beneficial effects of the tour on their physique.

Ald. Verral remarked: "I suppose the chairman is a regular Commercial Unionist now?"

The chairman: "I leave that to Ald. Shaw."

Ald. Shaw: "I am more opposed to Commercial Union than ever."

The committee referred to reported having visited Washington, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New York, Boston, Buffalo and Rochester, in each of which cities they were received with the greatest courtesy. In Washington four different payments were in use—asphalt, distillate coal tar, asphalt blocks and granite blocks. The principal streets are laid with sheet asphalt, with a concrete foundation. The cost was from $2.10 to $2.50 per square yard. The law requires that the contractor shall keep the pavement in repair for five years from completion of contract. The space between the railway tracks is laid with cobble stone, but this was not considered satisfactory.

In Baltimore the principal streets were laid with granite sets and kerbs, and the sidewalks with heavy stone flags.

In New York the committee interviewed the Mayor, whose opinion was that the roadways could be greatly improved. He recommended that a commission of engineers should visit the principal cities of Europe and report upon the road system in use there. The streets of the city generally were paved with granite sets, but the noise occasioned by the traffic over them was almost deafening. His opinion was that asphalt would not stand the traffic, and that probably wooden pavement would be adopted.

While in New York the committee had a conversation with Gen. McAlpine, who favored the gravitation water scheme for Toronto.

In Boston granite sets were in use and were reported as satisfactory. The cost is: large blocks $34.50 to $39 per 1000, small blocks $40.50 to $50.50 per 1000, or about $1.63 per square yard for the former and $1.70 for the latter. The city purchases all the material, the work being let out to the lowest bidder.

The roadways of Buffalo are principally asphalt and Medina stone sets. The asphalt roadways cost about $2 per square yard, and the stone about $2. Many of the latter roadways, laid down in 1881, were still in good condition. The sidewalks were principally of brick or tile on a foundation of sand four inches thick.

At Washington stone block pavement was that principally used. The pavement on the streets occupied by the street cars are, with few exceptions, maintained from kerb to kerb by the railway companies.

In Rochester the streets are constructed with macadam, gravel and Medina stone sets—cobble, wood and asphalt only being used to a very limited extent. The cost of keeping macadamized roadways in repair was far in excess of that of Medina stone—more than four times as great. The stone cost about $2.25 per square yard, including excavation and sand, and its life was from 25 to 30 years.

As the result of their inspection the committee recommended that granite be used on the main thoroughfares, it being the most durable and more easily kept clean. Next in order they placed Medina sandstone, and rocks of similar geological formation. On the subject of foundations for roadways, the committee recommended that they should be deeper and of finer material than those generally used in Toronto. They suggested the exclusive use of stone for kerbing and crossings, and for permanent foot pavements. Granolithic pavements might be advantageously used, but were not as durable as stone. Brick was also a good material for sidewalks, and could be laid down at a cost of one-third more than wood. They hoped to see the latter system discarded.

There was no discussion on the report, which was simply received.

The City Engineer, in his report, recommended a stone flag sidewalk on the south side of King-street, extending easterly from the eastern limit of George-street to the eastern limit of the Little York Hotel; a Scharf granolithic sidewalk on the west side of Spadina-avenue, from Nassau to Oxford-street; a like sidewalk on the south side of Adelaide-street, easterly from the corner of Yonge-street, and that Mr. Robert Forsyth be given the contract for the construction of the same.

The engineer further recommended the acceptance of the tender of Mr. William Jones for the construction of sewers in St. Helen's-avenue, College-street, Jamieson-avenue and a lane, 125 feet north of College-street at a cost of $9485.

Ald. Shaw complained of the delay in the carrying out of contracts, and suggested that a committee should be appointed to devise some means of improving the working of the departments in this particular. He instanced the case of the Bloor-street sewer, the contract for which was let in February last, and yet it had not been carried out. The contractors complained that owing to the tardiness of the city officials they could not proceed with their contracts.

The chairman suggested that the officers should be called upon to furnish a report upon the subject.

Ald. Carlyle said that so far as St. Andrew's Ward was concerned he was satisfied with the manner in which the contractors carried out their work. He thought it late in the year for Ald. Shaw to make his complaint.

Ald. Hunter suggested that Ald. Shaw had gone in for land speculation and hence his anxiety for fault-finding about sewerage work.

Ald. Sullivan McWilliams recommended the appointment of a "routine clerk" as a remedy for the evil.

Ald. Hunter: "That is a very easy way of getting out of it."

It was agreed to call upon the heads of departments for a report as to delay in public works.

The committee appointed to investigate complaints made with reference to the works known as the Don improvements reported that:

The piling north of Eastern-avenue, as far as completed is, with a few exceptions as to timber and workmanship, a fairly satisfactory piece of work, and the exceptions mentioned, will have to be done over again and the work completed in a substantial manner, and in strict accordance with the contract. The timbers and earth filling behind the piling does not appear to have been performed with ordinary intelligence and care, and hence there were frequent deviations from the straight line, which might have been avoided had the engineer in charge exercised ordinary vigilance.

The capping, so far as completed, seems all right, but the top and bottom wassing pieces, so far as completed, appear to have been put in in entire disregard of plan and specification, very many of the screw bolts for the purpose of binding the whole frame work together passing between instead of through the piles, as shown on plans, and using clamps of wood for washers, instead of having the bolts the proper length. The engineer in charge stated that he had repeatedly called the attention of the contractor to this defective work, but his orders had not been attended to. In this he failed in the discharge of his duty, and to the charges made in the document presented by Mr. Myers, the inspector, against Mr. McCullogh, the contractor, the committee was unable, owing to the impossibility of enforcing the attendance of witnesses, and taking evidence on oath, to obtain satisfactory results.

The committee recommended that in the interests of the public the services of the engineer in charge be dispensed with, and that Mr. Sproitt place this important work under the supervision of an engineer possessed of qualities calculated to carry this work to a satisfactory completion and in strict conformity with the plans and specifications.

The report of the committee was adopted without much discussion.

A. W. Godson was declared contractor for the supply of stone pavement blocks at $6.60 per ton, or $2.20 per square yard.

Don't

let that cold of yours run on. You think it is a light thing? But it may run into catarrh. Or into pneumonia. Or consumption.

Catarrh is disgusting. Pneumonia is dangerous. Consumption is death itself.

The breathing apparatus must be kept healthy and clear of all obstructions and offensive matter. Otherwise there is trouble ahead.

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Tampering With Ananias.

WOODSTOCK, Nov. 14.—The Woodstock Assize Court just closed was the scene of a hotly contested slander suit, Strong v. Gessing. The parties are rival storekeepers and leading citizens of the Town of Princeton. B. B. Osler, Q.C., appeared for the plaintiff, Mr. T. G. Blackstock of Toronto opened the defence by calling upon the plaintiff. After a protracted cross-examination the witness admitted he had been guilty of tampering with a witness against him in this way. He carefully cut from his Bible the story of Ananias in the Acts of the Apostles, and in a disguised hand addressed it to the witness. Mr. Blackstock in his address to the jury gave him an unmerciful raking. He was followed by Mr. Osler in an eloquent appeal for his client. The jury gave the defendant a verdict.

Gentlemen

—Who wish to get satisfactory clothing should visit J. D. Cowlar, the tailor, 249 Yonge-street, where they will find a selection of fashionable goods that cannot be excelled in the city, which, together with the A 1 cutting and making, tend to make it a very desirable place to get your clothing. Only first-class workmen employed. 249 Yonge-street. 36

THE DRAWING BOOKS QUESTION.

Certain Contentions by the Publishers Succinctly Put.

There are a number of features of the drawing book question that have not yet been fully brought out, and which are matters of interest to every parent in the province as well as to manufacturers and dealers. Matters of interest in several ways, in this especially, that if the price that has to be paid by the parents for these drawing books is excessive—as it is claimed to be—that price can only be maintained by a direct monopoly, the effect being to unduly enrich the monopolist at the expense of the general public. Every one will agree with this proposition: That in a matter like school books, articles of enforced use, the purchase of which is made imperative by the exercise of an arbitrary—it necessary—power, the purchaser and not the producer is the party around whom safeguards must be thrown. In other words the Government prescribes a certain book to be used, they compel that book to be used, the purchaser's option in the matter then being destroyed Government is in duty bound to see that not a cent above absolute necessity is charged him. So far everybody will be agreed.

Now let us see how the matter stands with relation to these drawing-books. Three years ago the Canada Publishing Company was awarded the right to publish and sell these articles. But in the contract it was provided that:

Any other publisher shall have the right of publication at any time by permission to be obtained from the Department of Education for Ontario, subject to a royalty of 10 per cent. on the retail price, as at first fixed or afterwards reduced, of each and every copy of said book as long as republished, and subject to a proper allowance to cover cost of authorship and other necessary expenses in the preparation of the said books.

This on the face of it looks like a fair proposition giving free trade in publication. But is it? The other publishers who wish to take part in the business affirm directly the contrary. Their contention in short is as follows:

That the royalty of 10 per cent on the retail price goes to the Canada Publishing Company as a bonus.

That 10 per cent. royalty on the retail price is equivalent to 20 per cent. profit on the cost of publication to the Canada Publishing Co.

That this 20 per cent. profit is practically prohibitive if the Canada Publishing Co. wish to cut rates and compete for a trial.

That the "cost of authorship" simply means that the Canada Publishing Co. have a copyright on the work, which as it was prepared under Government auspices, they are not entitled to and competing firms should not be charged for.

That the rival publishers being compelled to pay all costs of arbitration, lawyers' fees on both sides, and incidental costs besides "other necessary expenses," whatever that may mean, are not, to say the least, encouraged to enter into competition.

The above are some of the contentions of the other publishers. When is added the offer of Robertson Bros. to sell the same work at half the retail price, and the fact ascertained by them by fair computation that the Canada Publishing Company make a profit of $10,000 a year out of the contract as it now stands, the publishers add strength to the contention that the case is one the public should be acquainted with.

Don't fail to procure Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, for your children while teething. It has been used by millions of mothers during the last forty years for their children. Cures wind colic, diarrhœa. Be sure and ask for Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. 25c a bottle. 135

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A CHOICE LIST of Fruit, Grain, Stock and dairy farms, wild lands, suburban residences, mills and other properties with thirty provincial and county maps, comprised in "Canadian Land Advertiser," sent free on receipt of 30 stamp for postage. W. J. EARTON & Co., 40 Adelaide-street east, Toronto.

"LAKE'S LAND LIST" contains descriptions and prices of stock, grain, dairy and fruit farms in the Province of Ontario; for sale and exchange. Lists free on application. A. Lake & Son, 22 Toronto-street.

LARGE amount of money to lend on Real Estate, city or suburban property. FRANK LAYCEY, real estate and financial agent, 85 King-street east, cor. Leader-lane.

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Oh, what a row
A rumpus and a riot;
I feel so awfully jolly
That I really can't keep quiet.
Now, just wait until I tell you
What it is all about,
Then you will do the same as me
And just as loudly shout.
Last winter I was pinched with cold,
And of comforts was without;
No stove to warm me when at home,
No overcoat when out.
But now a revolution—
I have stove and coat as well;
And how I came to get them
Is what I want to tell.
You've all heard of the great WALKER;
Well, I was his to whom I went,
And bought on his instalment plan,
And this is what he sent:
STOVE and CARPET for the parlor,
OILCLOTH for the stair,
THICK BLANKETS for the bedroom
In fact furnished everywhere.
The sum I had to pay him
Was only very small,
And such a trifle every week
I scarcely miss at all.
Now just take my advice, friends,
Be comfortable no more,
But furnish on INSTALMENT PLAN
At WALKER'S QUEEN-ST. STORE.

Many people are worrying about where they are to get sufficient money from to buy a stove, now the cold weather is setting in. There is no occasion for this worry, but just go at once to Walker and he will supply you not only with a stove but with housefurnishings of every description, warm clothes, and in fact everything necessary to make life comfortable and happy. All you have to do is to pay a small sum down and the remainder in such small weekly payments as to suit even the poorest. Hurry up, then, to the OLD RELIABLE

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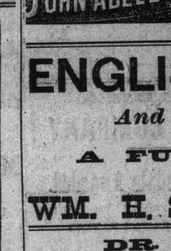

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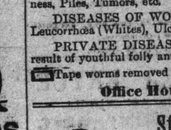

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