

TOWN OF WOLFVILLE

Annual Report For 1923

REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

(Continued from last issue.)

The cost of hauling sand for tarvia work from Port Williams and placing in a storage pile amounted to \$1.70 per cu. yd. The following data are taken from the season's records:—

Area of Main Street and Linden Avenue resurfaced—14,500 square yards.	
Cost of Cold Patching (Material and all labor, mixing and placing.)	\$325.00
Cost of Cold Patching per sq. yd. of total area	2.2c.
Cost of Tarvia B—1300 gallons at 24c.	312.00
Cost of Sand and Hauling	212.00
Total—Tarvia B and Sand	\$596.00
Cost of materials—Tarvia B and Sand—per sq. yd.	4.1c.
Cost of applying Tarvia B and Sand	186.00
Cost of applying Tarvia B and Sand per sq. yd.	1.3c.
Total Cost of Tarvia Work on Main Street and Linden Avenue per sq. yd., including cold patching	7.6c.

This unit cost, considering the cost of materials, is moderate. It must be remembered that we have a three mile haul one way for suitable sand. It will also be noted that quite a considerable amount of cold patching work had to be done before applying the Tarvia B.

Two macadamized streets had special treatment in 1923. Tarvia B was applied to Elm Avenue. Central Avenue between Main and Front Streets was treated with a light asphalt oil. Both these streets stood up well under the traffic and fall rains. It is believed that this same treatment can be continued on other macadamized streets and practically a light dustless pavement built up.

The maintenance of four town horses is a considerable item. If good teams for hire were available at all times during the Spring, Summer and Fall, the use of such teams might be cheaper than the present system. Under present conditions it is just a question as to whether or not it would be wise to dispose of one or more horses. Considering all costs, including investment, maintenances, lost time, and depreciation to horses and equipment, it is estimated that the cost per horse is not less than \$0.15 for each working hour.

The town snow plows were repaired last Fall, one being practically rebuilt. In any but extreme snow falls these plows do good work, and provide a cheap method of keeping the side walks clear. The cost per 100 feet travelled, charging \$1.50 per day for each snow plow in addition to labor and other expenses, is less than 2 cents.

Heavy rains during the late Fall coming when there was no frost in the ground caused several bad washouts in the streets. They were repaired, however, before the snow came.

During the past season the town rock crusher was rented to the Avon River Power Co., with an agreement that it be returned in good order, at the rate of \$5.00 per day. This equipment has already returned the sum of \$430.00 to the town, \$200.00 of which was paid into the Streets Sinking Fund.

Mr. Aubrey Dakin has done good work for the Town as foreman in this and other Works Departments for the past year.

Some of the largest items of street expenditures during 1923 in round numbers were as follows:

Snow removal and keeping streets open during January,	
February, March and April	\$1250.00
Tarvia work—Main St. and Linden Ave.	921.00
Tarvia work—Elm Ave.	80.00
Asphalt Oil—Central Ave. North of Main St.	36.00
East End Extension of Main Street	155.00
Maple Avenue	230.00
Gaspereau Avenue	335.00
Spring Cleaning of Streets	150.00
Weekly Street Cleaning	200.00
Crushing Rock	75.00
University Avenue	106.00
Orchard Avenue	54.00
Highland Avenue	55.00
Highland Place	18.00
Victoria Avenue	20.00
Horton Avenue	12.00
Prospect St.	58.00
Dyke Road to Government Wharf	46.00
Front Street	25.00
Coal and Repairing Steam Roller	125.00
Raking leaves in October	100.00
Sanding Side Walks, December	44.00
Snow Plow in December	32.00
From the Auditors' report the total expenditures on streets, less interest and sinking fund charges, are	\$5371.28
Credits to Street Department	415.44
Net Expenditure	\$4955.84
Supplies on hand, December 31st included:	
Hay and Straw	\$30.00
Crushed Stone	75.00
Tarvia B—250 gallons	60.00
Tarvia K. P.—110 Gallons	41.00
Asphalt Oil—135 gallons	30.00
Total	\$236.00

WATER DEPARTMENT.

To those not familiar with the source of the Wolfville water supply, reservoirs, mains, etc., a brief outline of the system may be of interest.

The town owns a well wooded tract of land on the South Mountain, South of the Gaspereau Valley, containing about six hundred acres. As a source of supply, isolated and free from contamination, and furnishing pure water, this area is probably unexcelled. From the pond created by a small masonry dam built on the stream draining that area the water passes through screens into a six inch pipe line. This pipe line, crossing the Gaspereau Valley, reaches the reservoirs built on the ridge back of the town, where by opening or closing valves either one or both reservoirs may be fed, or the water brought directly into town without entering the reservoirs. In turn, either reservoir, the newer and more southerly of the two being some ten feet higher than the older, may be arranged to supply the eight inch main leading down to Main Street, just East of Mr. Sherwood's house.

Our distribution mains consist of a eight inch cast iron pipe on Main Street from Mr. Sherwood's to Highland Avenue and running up Highland Avenue to Acadia Street. Six inch mains are laid on Main Street from Highland Avenue to Westwood Avenue, on Acadia Street from the hydrant at the college easterly to about 300 feet from Gaspereau Avenue, and on part of Westwood and Victoria Avenues. The remainder of the system is made up of four inch mains or smaller. The percentage of the various sizes of pipe is twenty-one per cent of eight inch; fourteen per cent of six inch; and sixty-five per cent of four inch. The town has forty-five hydrants of various types, twenty-six of which are supplied from four inch mains.

An abstract from a report recently made by the Nova Scotia Board of Fire Underwriters on conditions in Wolfville is given in the Appendix. Their recommendations as to improvements in size of mains alone would mean a very large expenditure if carried out. However, with the purchase of an up-to-date fire engine contracted for, it will be necessary to undertake very soon a program of enlargement of mains. There is on file in the office a copy of a letter from the Board of Fire Underwriters written in 1912, and recommending that no mains smaller than six inch be laid for hydrant supply. The saving in money in recent years by laying four inch mains instead of six inch for hydrant supply would seem to have been doubtful economy.

During the past season some improvements have been made on the system and the ordinary maintenance work carried out. Three old hydrants giving poor service were replaced by modern new ones. Valves are being placed on the branches between the mains and the new hy-

drants. All wooden boxes over main valves were replaced with iron valve boxes and the records of the location of every main valve in town brought up to date. New iron service boxes were placed over curb cocks. The records of the location of shutoff cocks for domestic services is not complete and a beginning has been made to get this missing and important information recorded.

New three-quarter inch service pipes have been laid during 1923 to the following properties:

- W. J. Duncanson, Highland Avenue.
- W. B. Eaton, Summer St.
- C. H. Porter, Main St. W.
- Everett Penco, Main St. E.
- Chas. Whidden, Main St. W.

Service pipes have been renewed, whole or in part to the following residences, resulting in far better house pressure, the old pipes in most cases being found almost completely filled:—

- Mrs. A. W. Dawson, Prospect St.
- Geo. Wood, Prospect St.
- Henry White, Main St. E.
- H. E. Calkin, Main St. E.
- Mrs. Baxter, Highland Ave.

During the latter part of the year the Council received permission from the Government to cut and dispose of timber on the Town Watershed. Messrs. John Eye and John A. Coldwell have made a general survey of those lands and given the Council a valuable and interesting report to the effect that there are in the vicinity of 10,000 cords of timber on the Town lands, much of which is good merchantable timber, both hard and soft wood. This is a source of revenue which will probably soon be taken advantage of.

Although there was no shortage of water during 1923, and in fact, the South reservoir was kept full and not even drawn upon, as a matter of precaution in the dry weather in August the pump on the well at the West side of the old reservoir was put into operation for about two weeks. On starting the pump the insulation of the winding of the electric motor was found to be burnt off. This necessitated having the motor rewound, at a cost of about \$85.00, an unforeseen expenditure.

The intake pond on the South Mountain had not been cleaned out for two years and it was thought advisable to have this done during the summer low water period. The pond was well cleaned of an accumulation of leaves, silt and sticks. The leaks in the dam to a large extent were stopped with cement mortar, and the screen frames, bars and netting renewed at a cost of \$109.00, which also had not been estimated for. However, the Water Committee considered this amount of money well spent.

Water delivered from the South Mountain to the consumer in Wolfville now costs the town about seven cents per thousand gallons, allowing for all costs. Pumping from the deep well at the reservoir, assuming that the pump is in operation for one month only per year, costs about thirty-three cents per one thousand gallons, considering all costs. If the pump is in operation two months per year the cost of pumping per one thousand gallons is about nineteen cents.

The financial standing of the water department at the end of the year was in good shape. The following statement is taken from the books for the years 1922 and 1923:—

Year.	Rates Collected.	Arrears Collected.	Total Collections.	Rates and Arrears Outstanding.
1922	\$4734.33	\$440.84	\$5175.17	\$1621.01
1923	\$5887.90	\$1383.40	\$7271.30	\$355.96

It was considered an opportune time at the end of the year to establish a depreciation fund for the system. Permission was obtained from the Board of Public Utilities to set aside an amount up to 1.5 per cent. of the value of the depreciable property per year. The Council accordingly ordered that \$500.00 be paid into this fund for 1923. This amount, at least, should be set aside yearly and in a few years will amount to a considerable sum and be available for renewals and improvements

(To be Continued.)

AT LAST A JUNIOR GEOGRAPHY

Once in a while somebody prepares a text-book for school use that may be depended upon to interest pupils in the subject treated. Once in a greater while such a text-book gets recommended for use. Probably that is why Colliers series of Highroads in Geography never came into use anywhere, though not here. Geography, which should rival history as a stimulus to the imagination, has always been one of the dreariest subjects in the Course of Study, for which the text-books in use, and the abstract methods of teaching the subject are mainly responsible.

At last a geography suitable to the needs of children of Grades IV, V and VI, has been prepared by one of the successful teachers and educationists of our own Province, Prof. L. A. DeWolfe, Director of Rural Science, Normal College, Truro. It is entitled "Junior Geography, or Journeys near and Far". And the title tells the story in small that the book tells in extenso. The young folk of these grades go most entrancingly to the journey's end over the world, starting not merely from their own Province, Nova Scotia, but often from their own schoolrooms or mothers' kitchens, linking their every day interests with the interests and affairs of the world at large. It is profusely illustrated with cuts that excite interest among children and adults alike, and make the "geography lesson" a living thing. The language is simple without being trite, polished without being ornate, and has the effect of being true in detail, yet at the same time stirs the imagination. In this particular the author has achieved quite a triumph for simple, direct yet stimulating English.

The book also contains some very helpful suggestions to teachers, based on the author's long and successful career as a teacher, and also from his close contact with young teachers all over the Province.

The book is now before the Council of Public Instruction for consideration, having been heartily recommended for adoption by the Advisory Board at its February meeting. A few copies are in circulation, mainly for review purposes. It is published by the Truro News Printing Company which makes it an all-Nova-Scotia-product written by a Nova Scotian for Nova Scotian school children. It is printed in clear type and bound in strong paper covers. A few presentation copies have been issued bound in linen boards, bound, tooled and lettered by the members of the Summer School of Rural Science book-binding class.

In recommending the book, the Advisory Board suggested that it be divided into three sections, suitable for the three grades IV, V, and VI, each section to be published under separate binding. This would make the cost of the sections 18 cents, 24 cents and 28 cents respectively, thus distributing the price and placing the book within the reach of all.

OH, THAT'S DIFFERENT

Mrs. Dibbs—"Every time I raise my hand my husband gives me an awful beating."
Mrs. Dibbs—"Heavens! Why don't you call the police?"
Mrs. Dibbs—"Why? What do they know about bridge?"

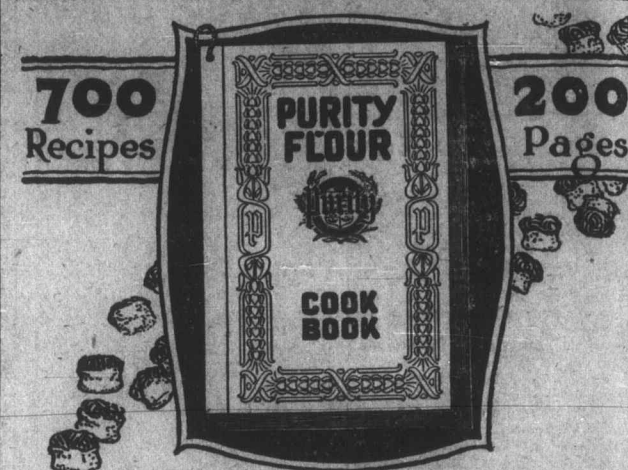
GREATEST ON EARTH

"I believe Canada is the greatest wheat producing country on earth. The time will come when the United States will buy its wheat from Canada. Our commercial relations are close and profitable. We have the consumers, and Canada, for years to come, will be producing foodstuffs in large quantities. The Canadians are a splendid, alert, progressive people." Thus spoke Joseph I. Brittain, United States Consul-General at Winnipeg.

ing foodstuffs in large quantities. The Canadians are a splendid, alert, progressive people." Thus spoke Joseph I. Brittain, United States Consul-General at Winnipeg.

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Vol. XLIII. MOCK PAR

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