

THE MUNICIPAL ASPHALT PLANT IN MONTREAL.

The city of Montreal, P.Q., has a municipal asphalt plant with a capacity of 1,000 sq. yd. of 2-in. topping per day, which has been in use for two years. According to recent statements by City Surveyor John R. Barlow, during the first two seasons there were 51,800 square yards of repairs and new work done by the city; the new work consisted chiefly of repaving streets formerly paved with three-inch tamarack blocks, which were worn out.

The average cost of the asphalt laid was \$1.22 per square yard, and this figure includes all works in connection therewith. When the asphalt work is suspended on account of wet weather the old asphalt taken from the street is ground in a mill and prepared for use in the construction of coal-tar composition sidewalks, so that no time is lost.

The city is this year making experiments with different brands of asphalt and hopes by next year to be in a position to determine which kind of asphalt is best suited to the conditions of our climate. It also hopes that it will thus be able to ascertain the exact area that a ton of each kind of asphalt will cover, together with the cost per square yard in each case.

The total cost of the civic asphalt plant, including buildings which have been erected in corporation yard, tools, repairs, etc., has been to date \$22,881.35.

The approximate total area of pavements of all kinds in the city is 745,223.75 square yards, or thirty-three and one-third miles. Two-thirds of this is now under the city's charge for repairs, and the balance is still under guarantees, which expire yearly up to 1910.

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