REPORT

Of Executive Committee of Citizens' Committee.

(Concluded).

Street Repairing and Cleaning.

To relay the principal streets with Macadam or any system of paving, would involve a large outlay. The Municipal Council has not had sufficient funds at its disposal to undertake any large work of this kind. It is however within the personal observation of every citizen that street repairing and cleaning has been very wastefully conducted.

The Committee has not had time to study this problem, and therefore only states the unpleasantly obvious facts, that the streets of the city are in poor condition, and the cleaning of the same very inefficient. The experiment made last year of oiling the streets is considered to have been very beneficial and should be continued.

Water Supply and Fire Protection.

The forward movement in regard to Water supply, which was began in 1904, has been steadily continued, and for domestic purposes it may be said that the larger portion of the city is adequately supplied. But for fire protection a large expenditure is still necessary.

The amount of property at risk, uncovered by insurance, is estimated at eleven million dollars. It would cost citizens $110,000 to pay insurance on this amount, and if protection can be obtained at anything less than that sum, it is obviously desirable to procure it.

The data which have been furnished by the City Engineer on this important matter are so largely composed of figures, that it is impossible to do more than state broad facts.

At every fire lately it has been noticed that the water supply is insufficient, and to obtain even the amount that has been available, other portions of the city have been left entirely unprotected.

The valuable business premises on the harbor front require special protection, and the Fire Underwriters and the Board of Trade have urged with all the force at their command that a fire boat for the harbor should be procured. But owing to the divided responsibility of the Government and the City in regard to the Fire Department, it has been impossible to persuade either body to move in the matter.

The waste of water in St. John's is enormous, 160 gallons per head per day is sent into the city. Elsewhere 90 gallons is considered an excessive supply.

The City Engineer estimates that it will cost $150,000 to make the water supply of the city perfect, from the point of view of fire protection. At the most this would cost the city $7,500 per annum, as compared to $110,000 yearly premium, to insure the uncovered property of the citizens.

Inspector General Sullivan, in a valuable report, points out that there is almost an entire lack of fire protection regulations in the city, nor is there any inspection of buildings from this point of view. The danger from inflammable oils on steamship premises is very great, and amendments to both the Inflammable Oils and Customs Acts are necessary. There can be no doubt that vigorous measures are required to protect the city from the danger of another conflagration.

Taxation.

It will be said, it is all very well to make plans in this extravagant manner, but where is the money to come from? It will be argued that such a programme would mean greatly increased taxation.

The Committee however feel that while careful study is required before a definite statement can be made as to the power of the city to meet such commitments as are herein suggested, there is no reason to suppose that they are beyond our means, provided an improved organization could be substituted for the present inefficient system. This however is a matter which requires much study, and the need for this investigation constitutes one of the main reasons for the definite recommendation which the Committee proposes to submit to this meeting. In the meantime the question of financing the requisite improvements is one upon which the Committee makes no definite pronouncement in this report, beyond stating that it is hopeful that a solution may be found without increasing the burdens borne by the poorer class of citizens.

A strong committee, consisting of Mr. C. O'N. Conroy, Hon. M. P. Gibbs, Messrs. E. M. Jackman, W. R. Howley, and Hon. John Anderson and the Chairman, has been asked to investigate this important subject. It is one which requires particularly careful study and the data for which are not easily obtainable, consequently this Sub-Committee has been unable to make any report.

The following particulars have been obtained from the Municipal Council.

The total appraisement for the city is $97,655, of which the South Side of Water Street furnishes $28,530.

The total amount of arrears on December 31, 1913, was $90,055.71; of this amount $58,232 was considered good; $23,143 bad, and $8,680 doubtful.

A very cursory examination of the present system of taxation on rental reveals the fact that it is very unfairly apportioned, and operates exactly contrary to systems of taxation in vogue elsewhere. The rentals paid by the poorer class of houses are from 1 per cent. to 15 per cent. on the value. The better class houses are appraised at a rental of about 5 per cent. The total taxes amount to 11¼ per cent. so that while the former class pays over 1 per cent. in taxes, the latter pays less than ½ per cent.

The Committee believes that a method of taxation can be evolved which will easily produce more revenue and be much more fairly distributed.

The city debt stands now at 1½ million dollars, or say $45.00 per head of population. The average debt of 42 Canadian cities is $125.00 per head.

Such are a few of the practical problems now facing the city, but there are many other questions of almost equal importance crying for solution.

That our present system of municipal government is faulty is proven by the present condition of the city. We have been afraid to trust the electorate and their representatives and have hedged the municipal government about with many restrictions. Our Municipal Act has been an experiment from the beginning. It is so inelastic that every forward movement has entailed an amendment to the Act. It is now quite a curiosity in city charters, and in the opinion of the Committee requires to be entirely redrafted.

The science of municipal government has only recently received the study and attention which it merits. Hundreds upon hundreds of cities are finding themselves in the same position as ourselves, and are busy with re-organization schemes. There are almost as many varieties of city government as there are cities, but one idea seems paramount through them all. It is estimated that nine-tenths of municipal government is administrative, and one-tenth only legislative. The principal aim and object of all city charters is now to obtain efficient administration in combination with electoral responsibility.

That is what we want also. The source of government is the will of the people taking effect through their elected representatives. But the administration of the laws, the daily supervision which is necessary, cannot be performed by these representatives and must be deputed to expert officials.

The division of these duties and responsibilities between the elected representatives and the permanent officials requires to be most carefully studied, and to be defined in the charter of the city.

It must we think be obvious to you that such important and such diverse subjects cannot be so thoroughly studied as to permit of any recommendations being made for changes in the Act during the present session of the Legislature.

It will we think be equally plain to you that it is very greatly to be desired, in order that a correct solution of our difficulties may be found, that practical experience in the working of the Municipal government shall be obtained by those who may be entrusted with the preparation of a new charter.

The Committee has given this matter the most careful consideration and have great confidence in submitting to you the following proposal as the best course to be pursued under the circumstances.

We suggest that the citizens should petition the Legislature to pass an Act deferring the Municipal elections for one year, and authorizing the Governor in Council to select and appoint a committee of 10 citizens who shall undertake the government of the city when the present Mayor and Council go out of office. That this committee shall serve without pay for one year and shall prepare a new Municipal Act for the city, by which it may be efficiently governed. The said Act to be approved by a plebiscite vote of the citizens before being submitted to the Legislature in the session of 1915.

10 Boxes PURITY BUTTER,

By S. S. Stephano to-day.

1000 lbs. Fresh Halibut,
due by s.s. Prospero.

300 Fresh Mackerel.
20 boxes Finnan Haddies.
300 lbs. Fresh Codfish.
Smoked Caplin.
Boneless Codfish.
Kippers.
Selected Salt Herring.
300 pairs Fresh Rabbits.
Fresh Eggs, Fresh Oysters.

Bananas.
Tangerines.
California Oranges.
Table Apples (boxes).
Lemons.
10 brls. No. 1 Baldwins.
Valencia Oranges, Celery.
Cauliflowers.
Shelled Almonds & Walnuts.
Desiccated Cocoanut (fresh).
P. E. I. Dressed Turkeys.
Selected Ducks.
Plymouth Rock Chicken.

T. J. EDENS,

151 Duckworth Street, 112 Military Road.

The Best Cough Syrup is Easily Made at Home

Costs Little and Acts Quickly. Money Refunded If It Fails.

This recipe makes 16 ounces of cough syrup, and saves you about $2.00 as compared with ordinary cough remedies. It stops obstinate coughs—even whooping cough—in a hurry, and is splendid for sore lungs, asthma, croup, hoarseness and other throat troubles.

Mix two cups of granulated sugar with one cup of warm water, and stir for two minutes. Put 2½ ounces of Pinex (fifty cents' worth) in a 16-ounce bottle, and add the Sugar Syrup. Take a teaspoonful every one, two or three hours. Tastes good.

This takes right hold of a cough and gives almost instant relief. It stimulates the appetite, and is slightly laxative—both excellent features.

Pinex, as perhaps you know, is the most valuable concentrated compound of Norway white pine extract, rich in guaiacol and the other natural healing pine elements.

No other preparation will do the work of Pinex in this recipe, although strained honey can be used instead of the sugar syrup, if desired.

Thousands of housewives in the United States and Canada now use this Pinex and Sugar Syrup recipe. This plan has often been imitated, but the old successful formula has never been equaled. Its low cost and quick results have made it immensely popular.

A guaranty of absolute satisfaction, or money promptly refunded, goes with this recipe. Your druggist has Pinex, or will get it for you. If not, send to The Pinex Co., Toronto, Ont.

Doctor Said He Had Diabetes

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS CLEARED OUT EVERY TRACE OF IT.

That's Why Mr. David Heon, of Nicolet Co., Quebec, is Recommending the Great Canadian Kidney Remedy To His Neighbors.

St. Wenceslas, Nicolet Co., Que., Feb. 11. (Special).—"I started to take Dodd's Kidney Pills because the doctor told me I was threatened with diabetes. After taking ten boxes I was again examined by the doctor and he told me that all trace of diabetes had disappeared."

This is the statement of Mr. David Heon, well known and highly respected here, and he is only one of many in this neighborhood who have found a new lease of life in the great Canadian Kidney remedy.

It is cures such as this that have given Dodd's Kidney Pills their reputation. They are now known from the Atlantic to the Pacific as the remedy that never fails to cure kidney disease, no matter where or in what form it is found.

Dodd's Kidney Pills are no cure-all. They simply cure diseased kidneys. The reason they cure backache, dropsy, rheumatism, neuralgia, diabetes, urinary troubles and Bright's Disease is that all of these are either diseases of the kidneys or are caused by disordered kidneys failing to do their work.

A novel currant jelly sauce is made by separating a tumbler of currant jelly into small pieces. Add one and one-half tablespoonfuls of chopped fresh mint leaves and tiny shavings from rind of a quarter orange.

Breeding Habits of Seals.

Editor, Evening Telegram.

Dear Sir,—During the debate on the Sealing Bill introduced into the House by Mr. Cosker, the Prime Minister expressed himself in ignorance as to whether seals have young in the far North. In other words, he did not know whether seals that bring forth their young in our waters in March, had young again after leaving our shores.

I would most respectfully refer the Hon. the Prime Minister to an article written by me two years ago, and published in the Trade Review of Feb. 23rd, 1912. Sir Edward may not be ready to accept me as authority on the matter, but I should like him to bear in mind the fact that the article is the result of observation by one keenly interested in such matters. I know for a certainty that seals have young but once a year. I have seen seals killed in the Arctic regions in October that were pregnant, and know also that the young are brought forth in March.

The mating season is in July, just when the seals have shed their coats, so that the period of gestation extends over a period of nine months.

Sir Edward may accept these statements as absolute fact, which no amount of enquiry will ever disprove.

ARTHUR ENGLISH.

St. John's, Feb. 10, 1914.

St. John's Masonic Life Insurance Association.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1913.

To the Members of the St. John's Masonic Life Insurance Association.

Brethern,—Your directors now present to you their 33rd annual report, which through pressure of business, has been delayed for some time.

We regret to state that since our last report, we have to record the demise of seven brethern, viz:—Francis Miles, George K. White, John D. Matheison, Henry Hiscock, Roderick D. McRae, Richard J. Pope and Frederick R. Manual. The regular assessments have been made, and collected, and the beneficiaries paid in accordance with the rules of the Association with bonus, as passed at our last annual meeting.

Three members have withdrawn from the Association having left the colony.

We are pleased to report that forty-two new members have joined the association during the past year, leaving a net gain of thirty-two—thereby giving an increase to the next beneficiary of fifty dollars over this period last year.

The accounts show the Association to be in good financial condition (having on hand and invested $4589. During its thirty-three years in operation there have been paid one hundred and sixty one calls, nearly fifty thousand dollars, to widows and orphans of deceased brethren.

It is only those who are in need of this Masonic benefit can appreciate the amount of good it has been to them.

The directors desire to express their thanks to those brethren who have assisted in securing so many new members the past year, and urgently request all non members to unite themselves with this truly Masonic benefit, and to suggest to those that are members to continue helping forward the good work, by assisting the directorate in obtaining new members, so that the present year may be as successful as the last.

In accordance with the Bye Laws, the following directors retire this year, viz:—Bros. John Cowan, Andrew K. Lumsden, Samuel G. Collier, William N. Gray and James H. Thomas. They are all eligible for re-election.

Respectfully submitted,
LEVI DIAMOND, President,
John Jeans, Secretary.

The directorate now consists of Bros. Levi Diamond, President; John Cowan, Vice-President; Andrew K. Lumsden, Treasurer; John Jeans, Secretary; Samuel G. Collier, Philip Brown, William N. Gray, Tasker K. Cook, James McIntyre, Geo. W. Gushue and George R. Williams.

For the Children's Use.

"Can you," I said to my Druggist, "suggest anything for irritable skin in children. Mine are very prone to skin irritation in winter. A new woollen garment, a slight chafe, exposure to cold winds, and they are in trouble at once. Is there anything to relieve it?"

He handed me a cake of soap, saying: "You will find in this what you need. This is Zylex Soap, and is really first rate for the purpose. Try it."

I did so with most satisfactory results too. Zylex Soap (as well as the Ointment which I always keep on hand) has proven its value to me. Zylex Soap is 25c. a cake; the Ointment, 50c. a box. At all druggists.

jan28,eod,tf

SAINT JOHN'S MEAT COMPANY.

Special for Saturday—Something New.

COOKED NEW ENGLAND HAM ..... 25c. lb.
COOKED HAM, CHICKEN & TONGUE SAUSAGE ..... 15c. each

Splendid addition to the tea table.

HAVE YOU TRIED OUR

Beef and Pork Sausages?

They make a Delicious Breakfast

18 cts. and 20c. lb.

Finest quality of BEEF, MUTTON and PORK at keenest prices.

BOLOGNA SAUSAGE ..... 18c. lb.
LUNCHEON SAUSAGE ..... 20c. lb.

Branches:

WATER STREET EAST ..... Phone 800
WATER STREET WEST ..... Phone 800a
MILITARY ROAD ..... Phone 98

THERE IS STILL TIME TO GET SOME OF OUR

White Sale Bargains.

American Goods Just Opened, in Ladies', Children's and Misses' Wash Dresses, and Boys' Wash Suits.

80c. Lace Curtains for ..... 60c.
$1.70 Lace Curtains for $1.35
$2.50 Lace Curtains for $1.95

35c. Frilled Pillow Cases for ..... 28c.
27c. H. S. Pillow Cases for ..... 20c.
50c. Embroid. Pillow Cases for ..... 40c.

2.20 Fcy. Emb. Bed Spreads for $1.88
2.75 Fcy. Emb. Bed Spreads for $2.28
4.40 Fcy Emb. Bed Spreads for $3.60

3,247 yards of Embroideries and Insertions. Prices from 2c. to 50c.
Worth double what we have marked them.

$1.50 Supper Cloths for $1.20
$2.00 Supper Cloths for $1.50
$2.40 Supper Cloths for $1.95

40c. Twill Sheeting for ..... 32c.
43c. Twill Sheeting for ..... 35c.
55c. Twill Sheeting for ..... 48c.

White Shirting for ..... 9c.
White Flannelette ..... 10c., 12c., 14c.
The value of the season.

80 doz. Ladies' Handkerchiefs, Lace trimmed, Hemstitched and Embroidered.
Only 3c. to 7c. each.

BISHOP, SONS & Co., Ltd.,

484. PHONE. 484.

The Crescent Picture Palace, 9th Week

Holiday Bill—Wednesday and Thursday:

IN SLAVERY DAYS—A 2 reel feature.
THROUGH SOUTH INDIA—Illustrating a fair at Madura, Hindoo encampment, etc.
THAT BOY FROM THE EAST—Showing a western sports' day.
FRIENDLY NEIGHBORS—The biggest laugh in filmdom.
MR. DAVID PARKS, Baritone, sings a new illustrated ballad, "You make me love you."

The Crescent is the Home of Comfort and Safety.

PICTURE FRAMING!

We have just opened a new line of PICTURE MOULDINGS in Plain and Ornamental Oak, Gilt, Veneer, etc., etc. The largest stock and biggest variety in the city.

S. H. PARSONS & SONS, Photographers,

Corner of Water and Prescott Streets.
PIONEER PICTURE FRAMERS IN NEWFOUNDLAND.

Advertise in The Evening Telegram