

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

TAR OR OIL FOR LAYING DUST.

The continental press has given considerable notice to experiments made by Dr. Guglielminetti, of Monte Carlo, for laying dust by means of oiling or tarring the roads, writes Henry H. Morgan, consul at Lucerne. One paper says:

The experiments in oiling or tarring the roads at Champigny were very successful. The apparatus in use were perfected by M. Audouin, engineer in chief of the chemical department of the Compagnie Parisienne du Gaz. Two successive processes of using tar were employed.

1. Distribution by means of a special type of sprinkler, fitted with a fan-shaped nozzle, pierced with two rows of orifices.

2. Distribution by means of a tank of about 200 quarts capacity, heated by a traveling furnace, and operated in the same manner as ordinary sprinkling tank. It is shown that the road, macadamized, and well rounded, should be thoroughly washed and brushed on the day before the tarring operation, and to the extent of laying bare the macadam. After all trace of humidity has disappeared, the hot tar should be spread upon the road in a thin layer.

In the trials at Champigny, when the tar commenced to cool, fine sand was scattered over the section treated. Orders

were then given that the road should be closed to traffic for a few days, and it is assumed that in a few months the value of the experiments will be demonstrated.

A similar trial, conducted six weeks ago at Geneva, has given excellent results. The delegates of the "Ligue Internationale des Associations Touristes" held at Geneva, reported on August 16 that the tarred surface was not slippery, that it was extremely hard, and that the horses' hoofs left no visible trace.

During the time that has elapsed, no softening of the layer has been observed in spite of the very hot weather. The frequent rain storms have done no damage. The water washed the surface without making it slippery, and it ran off rapidly, not being able to soak into the road.

The cost of the tar, reckoned at 50 francs (\$9.65) a ton, came to about a cent for each square yard.

It is evident that a road protected from humidity and inclemency by this impermeable layer will last much longer than if left in its natural state, so that the lubrication process presents economic as well as hygienic advantages.

The "Touring Club de France," the "Automobile Club de France," and the "Association Generale Automobile" are disposed to encourage these experiments.

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Mr. C. H. Rust, city engineer of Toronto, read a paper on "Sewage Disposal" at the November monthly meeting of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers in Montreal.

At a special meeting of the Engineering Club of Toronto held on Tuesday evening, November 18th, an interesting paper on "Recent Applications of Compressed Air" was read by Mr. A.A. Bowman, Toronto, representative of the Canadian Rand Drill Company.

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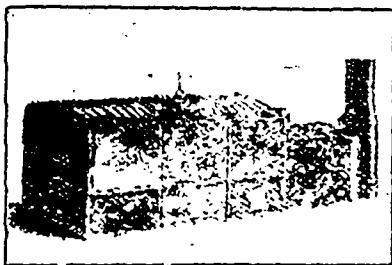
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