

GOOD RECORD BY ENGINEER'S OFFICE

City Works Carried Out For the Year Aggregated in Cost About \$200,000.

City Engineer Graydon has prepared an interesting table of the works which were carried out by his office this year. In addition to the \$49,000 appropriation for ordinary expenditures, there were over \$142,000 worth of local improvements.

Thus it is seen that during the year the engineer's department, exclusive of the works done for other civic bodies, such as the L. and P. S. R. board, No. 3 committee, etc., carried out works aggregating in cost about \$200,000.

"We hear much criticism of the engineer's office," said an alderman in the city hall this morning. "But if any other engineer's office in the city did the work referred to it would cost the city at a 5 per cent fee, the neat sum of \$10,000 this year."

The following shows the local improvement works of the year with the cost thereof, exclusive of sinking fund and interest:

Sewers.	Feet.	Cost.
Dufferin avenue	558	\$ 860.02
Ontario street	465	565.12
Shoebottom street	700	1,122.78
Piccadilly street	1,575	2,732.82
Colborne street	823	1,096.62
Wellington street	747	1,479.68
York street	1,937	2,569.93
Cathcart street	431	816.25
Oxford street	382	734.55
Central avenue	162	201.06
Duchess avenue	733	1,081.02
Marley Place	392	489.15
Teresa street	290	307.67
Grosvenor (Waterloo to Colborne)	700	1,215.09
Grosvenor (Waterloo to Wellington)	700	1,102.90
York (Adelaide to Rectory)	1,100	1,333.00
Tecumseh avenue	1,035	1,478.95
	12,868	\$19,295.61

Sidewalks.	Lineal Feet.	Cost.
North of Dundas and east of Wellington	25,716	\$12,083.76
North of Dundas and west of Wellington	13,946	6,121.40
South of Dundas and east of Wellington	18,891	8,166.01
South of Dundas and west of Wellington	23,332	10,117.09
	81,885	\$36,488.26
Add for inspection		1,560.00
Total		\$38,048.26

Curb and Gutter.	Lineal Feet.	Cost.
22,728 lineal feet of curb and gutter (4 1-3 miles)		\$10,145.14
Add for inspection		390.00
Total		\$10,535.14

Pavements.	Lineal Feet.	Cost.
Richmond street (bitulithic) from Fullarton street to Oxford street, 3,626 lineal feet	3,626	\$33,095.96
Dundas street (sheet asphalt) from Lyle street to Queen's Park, 2,153 lineal feet	2,153	13,139.25
Park avenue (sheet asphalt) from Queen's avenue to Dundas street, 420 lineal feet	420	3,222.50
Market Lane (vitrified brick) from Dundas street to Market square, 153 lineal feet	153	813.75
Talbot street (vitrified brick) from King street to York street, 401 lineal feet	401	4,576.09
York street (vitrified brick) from Talbot street to York street bridge, 1,429 lineal feet	1,429	11,400.67
King street (Kentucky rock asphalt) from Wellington street to Maitland street, 2,343 lineal feet	2,343	8,513.06
16,516 lineal feet, 2 miles		\$74,761.22

Summary.	Lineal Feet.	Cost.
Sewers	24 1/2 miles	\$19,295.61
Sidewalks	35 1/2 miles	38,048.26
Curb and gutter	4 1/2 miles	10,535.14
Pavements	2 miles	74,761.22
	24 1/2 miles	\$142,640.83

CHANGE IN POLICE SYSTEM

Provincial Constable To Be Permanently Located in Each County.

A Toronto dispatch says:

It is reported on good authority that the Ontario Government have about decided to reorganize the provincial police force by stationing at least one permanent constable in each county in the Province, to be under the immediate orders of the county crown attorney. This will involve a large increase in the permanent constables, but will probably altogether do away with the system at present in vogue of having special constables acting temporarily, which has been found to be decidedly ineffective.

GETS \$10,000 DAMAGES

Court Decides Against Railroad in St. Thomas Accident Suit.

Toronto, Dec. 13.—Judgment was given by Mr. Justice McMahon today in favor of the widow of John McKay, a C. P. R. fireman, who was killed in August last in a collision between a Wabash and a C. P. R. train near St. Thomas. The widow sued the Wabash for \$15,000, and the court allows her \$10,000.

Japan is connected with the continent of Asia by a submarine bank, over which the water is nowhere more than 100 fathoms in depth.

Constipation

Headache, biliousness, heartburn, indigestion, and all liver ills are cured by Hood's Pills.

Sold by all druggists. 25 cents.

MORE SUNDAYS OFF FOR FIREMEN

Question Brought Up at Meeting of No. 3 Committee by Ald. Armstrong.

Would the members of the fire department like to have more Sundays to themselves in order that they might attend church more frequently?

That is the question that was raised at the meeting of No. 3 committee last evening. Ald. Armstrong was the means of it being discussed. "Ald. Armstrong is a member of Knox Church, South London, and on a recent Sunday he met at the church a member of the fire department who said that if he had the opportunity he would be seen there more regularly. The alderman accordingly asked the fire chief last night if it was not possible to arrange the schedule of the department so that the firemen would have more Sundays off duty. He was told, he said, that the firemen are off duty only Sundays in a year. He thought they should have greater privileges in that respect."

Chief Clark replied that the only way it can be done is by increasing the strength of the force. "Why," he said, "the London firemen have more time off than the firemen of any other city in Canada, considering the size of the force. They have four days off every month, in addition to ten days holidays or a total of over two months in the year."

"Why not give them more Sundays to themselves?" asked Ald. Armstrong. "There is a schedule drawn up for them, and every man on the department has to go by it," answered the chief. "They are all treated alike."

"But can you give them more Sundays?" asked the alderman. "Yes," said the chief. "You can, by having fourteen or fifteen men off duty at once, instead of four."

The fire chief added that he doubted very much if the firemen want any more Sundays to themselves than they now get. If they wanted to, they could easily trade off with other members of the department. The idea of giving the men more Sundays was tried some years ago, but it did not work.

Ald. Matthews agreed with the chief. He had approached a member of the department two years ago in regard to Sundays off, and he was told that he (the fireman spoken to) did not want any more than he now enjoyed under the schedule. The matter was then allowed to drop.

RELATIONS STRAINED
Farm Hand Sues Son-in-Law to Recover Furniture and Horse.

The case of McConnell vs. Davis was heard today before Judge Macbeth at the sessions. Stripped of its legal terms, the case really resolved itself into a suit by Mr. R. McConnell, an aged farmer, to recover articles of furniture and a horse, which he alleges that his daughter and her husband (with whom the old gentleman resided for over a year, off and on), were illegally depriving him of. According to the evidence, at the time of the daughter's marriage, the old gentleman gave her several household articles, such as a bed and other incidentals, as well as allowing the couple the use of a horse which he valued at \$50.

Matters were running along smoothly for some time, when an argument between the old man and the son-in-law arose over the question of getting a load of gravel from a nearby quarry. Mr. McConnell insisted that he should go along on the wagon, which was being pulled by the horse he had loaned to the couple. Davis consented to see it that way, and in the argument which arose the older man told Davis to take the horse off the wagon. The son-in-law retorted that he would remove the animal when the old gentleman paid his board.

From then on the relations between the parties concerned became strained, and eventually McConnell left the place. When he went after the household goods he was denied them, as well as the horse.

The jury brought in a verdict of \$105 for the plaintiff. His honor granted the defense 30 days' stay in the matter. The grand jury returned a true bill against Fred and Charles Webster and John Prudham on the charge of assaulting and wounding G. B. Buchanan, of Dorchester.

The case against Roy Lindsay, charged with theft, was postponed until the June sessions, owing to the fact that several witnesses for the defense are at present in the United States.

STICK TO EMBARGO

No Chance at Present of Bar to Canadian Cattle Being Raised.

London, Dec. 12.—The vice-president of the board of agriculture, at a meeting of chambers of agriculture, said re Canadian cattle that the board of agriculture saw no reason at all to reverse its policy. On the contrary, it saw every reason to maintain the attitude taken up by its predecessors, and to maintain the present policy it was absolutely undesirable to alter the present state of things.

ESSEX HAS GRIEVANCE.

Sandwich, Ont., Dec. 12.—The Essex county council has been discussing a grievance it has against the Windsor Board of Education because of the treatment of the county representatives by the board. Trustee Thomas complained he and the other county representative had no voice in public school matters, and suggested the Legislature be asked to give county representatives the same powers as other trustees. No action has yet been taken in the matter.

LETTERS ARE SENT TO SANTA CLAUS

About a Dozen Find Their Way to the London Postoffice Each Christmas.

Christmas is supposed to be a season of rejoicing for all, but it is one of good cheer for many, it is a season of hard work for many more, particularly the employees of the postoffice department, who have their busiest time of all the year at Christmas.

Every day the mails are getting heavier. Parcels by the hundreds are already passing through the local postoffice each day and there is every indication that the amount of Christmas mail this season will be a record-breaker. The clerks who handle the Christmas mails experience amusing and pathetic incidents. Many strange Christmas presents are sent through the mails by persons who wish to have "jokes" on their friends. There are letters from little children to Santa Claus, asking him to give them certain things for which they are longing. These letters sent by unsuspecting children who believe with implicit trust in "Santa Claus," never get any further than the wastepaper basket in the postoffice, because no satisfactory mail service has been established with the locality where the Christmas gifts are distributed.

The local postoffice does not receive as many of these letters as some of the larger offices, the usual number being about twelve every Christmas time. Then there are the more or less sad incidents, such as when a parcel contains a long distance from the party to whom it is addressed cannot be found. Often these packages contain some little present from a loved one in a far distant country, perhaps purchased with a few hard-earned pennies, or the handiwork of a sister or mother.

Postmaster Cameron again draws attention to the fact that letters for Great Britain must not exceed half an ounce in weight, unless extra postage is placed on them. Letters for Canada and the United States go at the rate of two cents per ounce.

CONDENSED LOCAL NEWS

—Mr. F. H. Stewart and wife, of this city, are visiting Port Huron friends.

—The report of the London clearing house for the week ended today shows clearings of \$1,305,766.

—Mrs. Macbeth, of this city, is visiting her niece, Mrs. E. Klefer, of Military street, Port Huron.

—This afternoon about 2:30 the firemen were called to J. and G. Bloomfield's grocery store at 261 Dundas street, where some rubbish in the rear had caught fire. No damage was done.

—A good rehearsal of "A Night Off" was held last evening, and another will be held tonight at the Grand Opera House, with the chorus at 7 and the cast at 8:15. The costumes of the chorus were seen to good advantage last night. Enough tickets have been disposed of to guarantee large houses at both performances, on Friday and Saturday nights. The matinee will likely be well attended.

ARRESTED FOR ASSAULT.
Chester Ashman, a boy of 17, was arrested today by Sgt. Monaghan, of the local police force, on a charge of assaulting Tom Woot, the Chinaman who was so roughly handled on Wellington street yesterday.

WHAT WILL IT BE?
Ald. Matthews last evening stated that he will tomorrow announce his intentions regarding the approaching municipal elections. He did not hint at whether he will run for the mayoralty or the council, or whether he will be prevailed upon some quarters today that he may possibly be a candidate for the mayor's chair.

ALD. MATTHEWS ENTERTAINS.
The meeting of the fire and light committee of the city council last evening was the closing one of the year, and at its conclusion the members, together with a number of the city officials, were invited to the home of the chairman, Ald. Matthews, where they were entertained for a couple of hours. A dinner was served, and at its conclusion a toast to the health of Ald. and Mrs. Matthews was proposed by Mayor Judd, the former responding. Both Ald. Matthews and Mrs. Matthews were declared to be ideal hosts.

MCKERCHER-SPARKING.
At the home of Mr. H. McIntosh, 27 Beaconsfield, a quiet wedding took place yesterday morning, a quiet wedding took place, when Miss May Spurling was united in marriage to Mr. Finley McKercher, a farmer of McKillop, Rev. J. G. Stuart, of Knox Church, South London, officiating. The happy couple left on the noon train for points east amid the best wishes of their many friends. The groom's gift to the bride was a Persian lamb coat.

MAGNOLIA'S ELECTION.
At the last regular meeting of Court Magnolia, A. O. F., held on Tuesday, the following officers for the ensuing year were elected:

P. C. R.—S. M. Stewart.
C. R.—J. Upton.
S. C. R.—W. Smith.
Treasurer—S. T. Gale.
Secretary—R. Whitton.
S. W.—J. R. Head.
S. J.—J. R. Swartz.
S. J.—J. R. Bush.
J. B.—J. Dennison.
Trustees—Messrs. Ferguson, Bock, and McBride.
Auditors—Messrs. Gillett, Bailey and McCracken.
Medical Officers—Drs. W. J. Teasdale and E. Williams.
Minute Secretary—M. S. McCracken.
Organist—Bro. Ball.
Correspondent—M. S. McCracken.
Room Committee—S. T. Gale.
Juvenile Committee—W. Smith, H. E. Cesson and D. M. Cameron.
Delegates to District Court—J. Upton and D. M. Cameron.

FUNERAL OF GEORGE FINCH.
The funeral of the late Mr. George Finch was held yesterday from the residence of the deceased daughter, Mrs.

Charles Chambers, corner of Price and Mulr streets, East London. Interment was at Mount Pleasant. The services were conducted by Rev. Mr. Bowen, of the Egerton Street Baptist Church, and the pall-bearers were the Messrs. Bedgood, six in number, sons of a sister of Mr. Finch. The latter is survived by his wife (to whom he was married 34 years ago), three sons and three daughters. Mr. Finch was born near Beachville, Ont., on March 14, 1819, and was consequently in his 88th year. When he was quite young the family moved to Lobo, being among the first settlers of the township. For nearly half a century Mr. Finch had made his home in London and the immediate vicinity, and he had a wide circle of friends who will regret his death. He was a staunch Liberal.

BRICKLAYERS' UNION OFFICERS.
At the regular meeting of Lodge No. 5, International Bricklayers and Masons' Union, held last evening, the following officers were elected for 1907:

President—S. Foxworthy.
Vice-President—C. Northy.
Corresponding Secretary—H. Rymill.
Financial Secretary—E. Herbert.
Treasurer—W. Hawthorn.
Conductor—J. Murray.
Warden—F. Talbot.
Deputy—W. Young.
Alternate—J. Feehey.
Trustees—C. Judge, R. Adams and W. Green.

Auditors—F. Tullett and C. Northy.
At the conclusion of the election, Mr. E. Holliday, the retiring president, was presented with a past president's pin by the union. The installation of the new officers will take place at the next regular meeting.

Up-to-Date Christmas Novelties
AT
STRONG'S Drug Store
184 Dundas St.

BELGIANS EVACUATE.
New York, Dec. 13.—The Herald's correspondent at Alexandria rays news has reached here that the Belgians have evacuated the disputed posts of Bah-el-Gazal, which are now occupied by two Soudanese battalions. Sheikh Abdul Rahman Ben Youssef and ten members of the Suareg tribe have arrived in Cairo on their way to the Hedjaz. This man pretends to be Sheikh of the Moslems in Beru. He arrived by way of Tripoli, bearing news that in August that no French or Turkish troops were in the Bilma oasis.

DON'T WANT GOVT. BY COMMISSION
HUMAN REBELS ON THE WARPATH
New York, Dec. 13.—A dispatch to the Times from Hankow says official telegrams from Chung Shai indicate that the disturbances in Hunan Province are becoming increasingly serious. The rebels, whose object is anti-dynastic, are reported to be several thousand strong, and well armed. They have attacked the town of Liu-Yang, and the officials say that unless checked they will move on Chang-Sha, where the Government's military force is small. Viceroy Chang-Chih-Tung has dispatched 2,000 foreign-drilled troops with six horses and guns. This force is expected to reach Yo-Chau today.

East Huron Liberals Give Hint to Mr. Whitney—Candidate for Dominion House.
Brussels, Dec. 11.—One of the largest conventions in the history of East Huron was held today to select a candidate for the Commons.

Dr. McDonald, the late member, was present, and declined to be a candidate. A. Hyslop, M. P. P. for the same riding, was the unanimous choice of the meeting.

A convention will be held at once to place a candidate in the field for the local House.

In favor of the Dominion Government were passed, and also a motion condemning the Whitney Government, on the ground that the Government should govern, but not by commission, as is being done by that Government.

The riding were elected: President, W. M. Sinclair; vice-president, M. Murdie; second vice-president, A. McLaughlin; secretary-treasurer, W. H. Kerr.

KOMOKA SCHEME MAY BE KILLED
(Continued from Page One.)

by the fact that London allows the ground around the waterworks to be used as a public park, which is frequented by thousands during the summer season.

All things considered, it is claimed that before the commissioners go any further with the Komoka scheme they should secure the sanction of the Provincial Board of Health. It is better to know the verdict now than after a vote of the people has been taken on the scheme.

Commissioner Saunders, when seen by The Advertiser this afternoon, said that so far as he is aware, the Provincial Board of Health has never been asked to pass upon the purity of Komoka water, but he gives it as his opinion that it is outside the bounds of reasonable possibility to suppose that the water there is impure.

It is known, however, that the commissioners are cooling off in regard to the Redmond pond, and it may be that in the very near future they will be compelled to admit that the water is unfit for domestic use.

It is likely this matter and others of great importance will figure in the discussion on the water question in the city hall tonight.

NO FLASK HABIT HERE

Hotelmen Do Not Make Practice of Giving Patrons a Christmas Present.

Toronto hotelkeepers have decided to do away with the practice of giving small flasks of whisky to customers at Christmas, and instead will each donate \$10 to a common fund to be used for charitable purposes. The money will be handed to the license commissioners, who will distribute it as they deem wise. The hotelmen's fund will total \$1,400, as there are 140 licenses in Toronto.

As the flask habit is unknown in London, local licenseholders have made no move along this line.

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British Medical Association Commends Use of Alcohol as a Stimulant.

Blue Ribbon Tea

Gently stimulates the system and conserves the health.

BLACK, GREEN, MIXED—25c to \$1.00 a lb.—ALL GROCERS.

The Merry Christmas Time

—is a good time to give yourself the convenience, the safety and the general satisfaction to which an account in this bank will help you.

It is not necessary that you should have a large business, or undertake to keep a large balance. Small accounts, or large, are welcomed here, and all have equal rights and privileges.