

unanimously in favor of the use of concrete in laying sidewalks as opposed to wood. They declined, recently, to adopt a number of recommendations from the Works Committee for plank sidewalks on certain streets, and referred them back for further consideration, owing to the increased price of wood, and the continued reduction in the cost of concrete. At present sidewalks in the outlying portions are being laid with planks, but the use of concrete is compulsory in the central portions. The use of concrete will likely be extended to all parts of the city within a few months.

Figures submitted by the city engineer prove that concrete is really much cheaper for sidewalks than wood. The cost of a five foot concrete sidewalk is 45 cents a foot, but the cost is extended over ten years, while the 33 cents a foot for wood had to be paid within three years. A concrete pavement would last forty years, perhaps—four or five times as long as a plank sidewalk.

#### PROPOSED DRAINAGE WORKS.

A number of petitions have been received by the Ontario Department of Public Works from municipalities which desire to take advantage of the Drainage Act of last session. The petitions before the Government, which are now being examined by the engineer, are as follows:—

Pelee Island, where the cost is rendered great by the necessity of establishing dykes and removing the water by pumping.

West Tilbury township, in Essex, 55,500 acres to be reclaimed and benefited; estimated cost \$45,673.

Winchester township, large drainage scheme running through Mountain, Russell, and Winchester townships, Dundas and Russell counties, estimated cost, \$38,335.

Mountain and Osgoode townships, for aid in the Silver Creek and Castor River drainage scheme, townships of South Gower and Winchester being also benefited, and the Castor River drainage outlet for a very large territory in Carleton and Dundas counties, estimated cost, \$24,008.

Matilda township, Dundas county, improvement and dredging of Petite Nation River, outlet for drainage systems in townships of Matilda, Mountain, Winchester, and townships to the west of Dundas county.

Osnabruck and Cornwall townships in Stormont, in Aux Raisins River drainage scheme, expensive because of rock excavation; to cost \$35,000.

Cornwall township, Beaver Creek drainage scheme, to cost \$7,500.

Eastern township, in Bruce, 10,000 acres to be benefited, to cost \$11,000.

Bromley township in Kent county waters of Muskrat and Snake Rivers to be lowered, 3,500 acres to be reclaimed and large areas to be benefited by better drainage.

Maryborough township, in Wellington drain affecting lands in townships of Alma Grey, Wallace, Maryborough, and the town of Listowel.

The total expenditure involved in the above will be about \$200,000.

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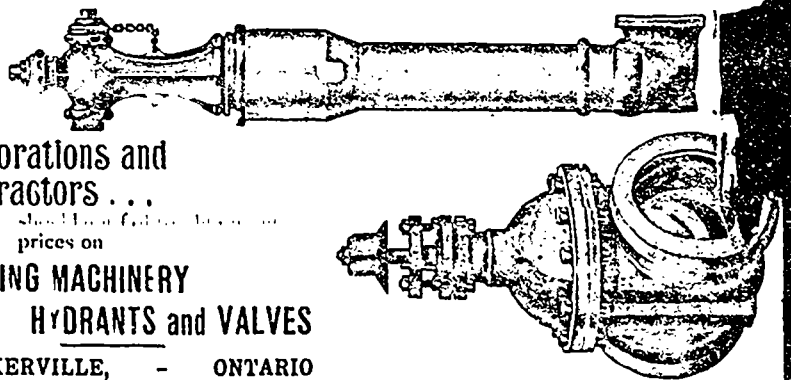
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