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AND REVIEW OF CIVIC IMPROVEMENT

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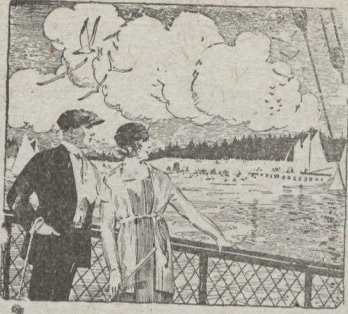
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CANADIAN MUNICIPAL JOURNAL

TRADE DEPARTMENT

To Municipal Executives, Secretary-Treasurers and Engineers:

We are about to organize a TRADE DEPARTMENT in connection with the Canadian Municipal Journal; the idea being to briefly explain with illustrations, those commodities in the Journal's columns that are applicable to and used in municipal construction, public works and municipal offices.

The commodities will cover a wide range, from an electric light standard to a street sweeper, and will include:—

Architectural Supplies.
Artificial Stones.
Automatic Telephones.
Batteries.
Belting.
Boilers.
Bond Papers.
Bridges.
Cables.
Cast Iron Pipe.
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Concrete Mixers.
Cement Supplies.
Concrete Reinforcements.
Culverts.
Dust Preventatives.
Electric Supplies.
Electric Motors.

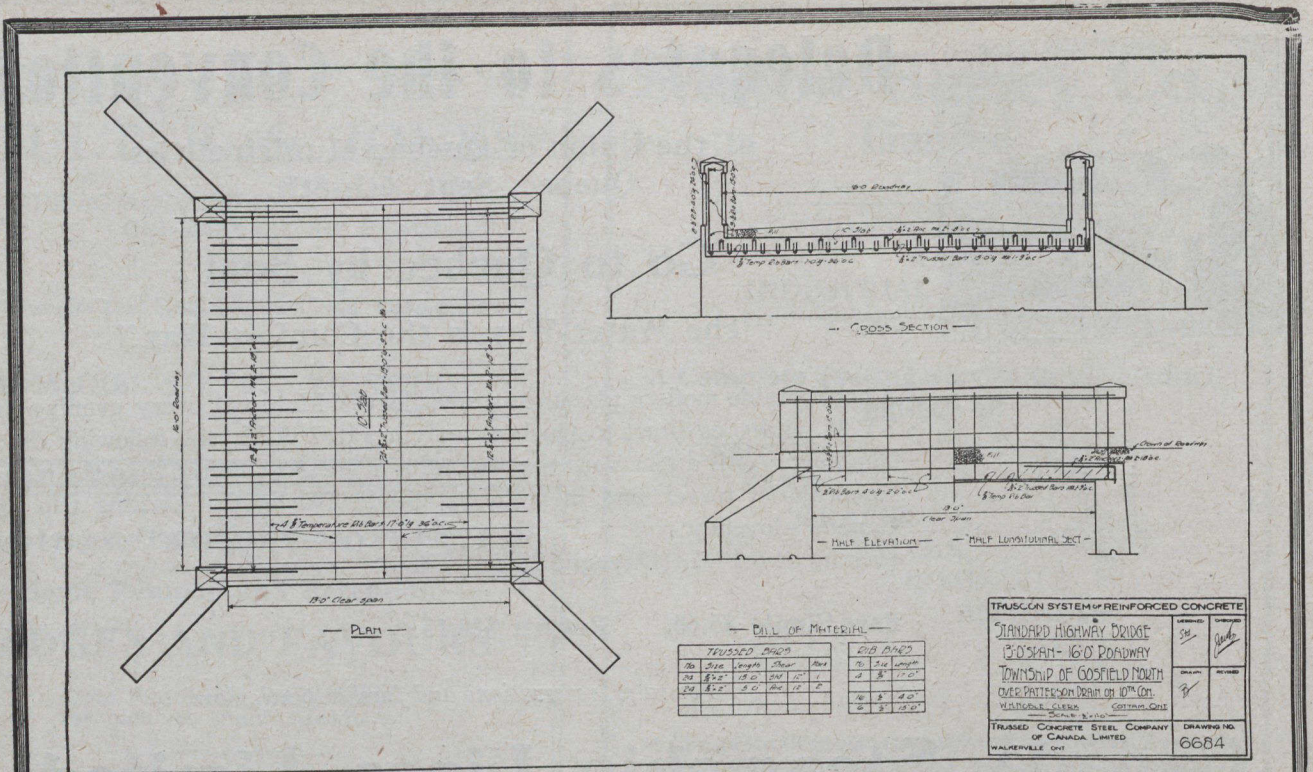
Electric Wires.
Engineering Supplies.
Engineer's Apparatus.
Engraved Bonds.
Fire Alarms.
Fire Alarm Supplies.
Fire Engines.
Gas Engines.
Gas House Supplies.
Jail Cells.
Playground Apparatus.
Lighting Apparatus.
Lithograph Work.
Meters.
Office Supplies.
Office Apparatus.
Ornamental Iron Work.
Numbers for Streets.

Pavements.
Police Supplies.
Road Machinery.
Road Preservatives.
Road Rollers.
Scientific Instruments.
Sewer Supplies.
Steam Engines.
Street Names and Numbers.
Street Sprinklers.
Safes and Vaults.
Stationery.
Telephones.
Telephone Supplies.
Vaults.
Wire Apparatus.

The purpose of the new departure is not propaganda for any particular commodity or device but to bring to the attention of civic officials and executives a few of the many improvements which are specially adapted for municipal purposes.

The Trade Department will introduce itself by taking up a section of an early issue of the Journal, in which will appear illustrated talks on those things that will help in municipal construction and maintenance.

C. V. ROGERS, Secretary.



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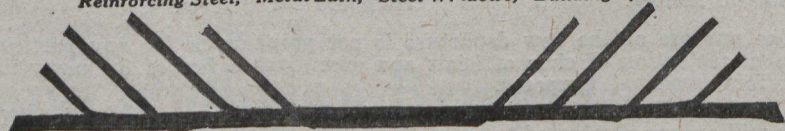
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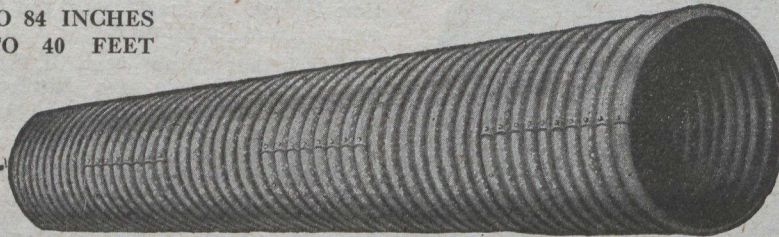
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Sutton Road East of Newmarket, Ont. Constructed 1918, Tarvia Filled Macadam.

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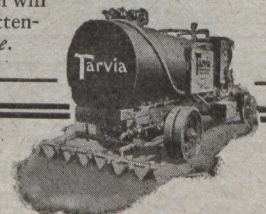
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MONTREAL, SEPTEMBER, 1921

NO. 9

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Proposition for a Provincial Housing Act

The following proposition for a Housing Scheme for the Province of Quebec was prepared by Canadian Municipal Journal and Le Québec Municipal, to be submitted to the Quebec Legislature:

As a result of a conference held in Ottawa in the latter part of December, 1918, between members of the Dominion Government and the Premiers and other members of the governments of the several provinces, legislation was passed by the Dominion Parliament which authorized the Minister of Finance, under the provisions of the War Measures Act, to make, upon request, loans to the government of any Province of Canada, for the purpose of building cottages for returned soldiers and workers. To take advantage of this loan, which aggregated \$25,000,000, the legislature of the Province of Quebec passed legislation authorizing the Government to borrow the proportion of the loan allotted to the Province which on the basis of population would amount to approximately \$9,000,000.

Although this legislation (The Quebec Housing Act) has been in force for close on two years, only eight small municipalities have actually taken advantage of the loan, though a large number of municipalities applied for and were allotted certain amounts in accordance with their requirements and population. On investigation it has been found that the principal reason why these municipalities, with the exception of the eight already mentioned, have not taken up their proportion of the loan, even after allotment, and why many municipalities have not

made application for the loan, is that the conditions of the loan are such that they cannot be economically complied with in the Province of Quebec because of climatic conditions and the housing by-laws of the different municipalities. For this and other good reasons it may truly be said that the Dominion Housing scheme as applied through the Quebec Housing Act is impracticable and unworkable and consequently a failure so far as the Province of Quebec is concerned.

In view of the facts that the Quebec Housing Act has not proved a success, and that the congestion in the urban municipalities of the Province and particularly the City and District of Montreal is fast becoming a menace to the health and comfort of the people, because of the shortage of housing accommodation, it is clearly the duty of the Government and the Legislature of the Province at this coming session to either amend the present Quebec Housing Act or to enact and pass new legislation that will enable the government to float a loan and re-loan same on application of any Town Council through the existing loan or trust companies, for the purpose of building houses for the people, on more equitable terms and conditions than the present loan.

The committee suggests that under such a Provincial scheme as urged in the preceding paragraph the aggregate amount to be loaned shall not exceed \$20,000,000 and the amount of loan to any one municipality shall be in proportion to the requirements of the municipality.

Ten Tests for Your Community

By L. N. FLINT

Questions that people ask about YOUR towns before they decide to make it THEIR own:

1. Attractiveness—Shall I like the town—its “atmosphere”? Does it have the beauty of shaded streets and other beautiful features? Is it a quiet, roomy, airy, well-lighted town? Does it have attractive public buildings and homes? Is it well paved? Is it clean in every sense?

2. Healthfulness—Will my family and I have a reasonable chance to keep well in that town? How about its water supply? Its sanitary system? Its methods of milk inspection? Its health department? Its hospitals? Is it without any congested district?

3. Education—Can I educate my family and myself in that town? How about its public schools—present and future? Its institutions of higher education or of business training? Its libraries? Its lecture and concert courses? Its newspapers? Its postal facilities? Its schedule of salaries to teachers? Its investment in school property?

4. People—Shall I like the people of the town? Are they “home folks” without false exclusiveness? Are they neighborly and friendly? Is the town free from factionalism? Does it have strong religious, fraternal, and social organizations? Is it a law abiding community? Do the people use their public libraries and support ratistic undertakings? Do they keep their children in school and not in factories? Are they good American citizens?

5. Recreation—Can I have a good time in that town—I and my family? How about the theatres, museums, gymnasiums, parks, etc.? Are there active agencies for providing good entertainments, athletic contests, etc.? Are inviting opportunities for pleasure drives afforded by well paved streets?

6. Living—Can we live reasonably and well in that town? Are the best of modern conveniences available for its residents — electricity, gas, telephones, etc.? Are the housing and shopping conditions favorable? Rents, taxes, and prices fair? Hotels good? Home and truck gardens and dairy products plentiful? Is it a good town in which to bring up children?

7. Accessibility—Can we go and come easily? Does the town have adequate railroad connections and train service? Street car lines? Interurban lines? Well marked automobile routes and hard surfaced roads? Desirable proximity to other cities affording additional advantages?

8. Business—Can I make good use of capital in that town? Are there good banking facilities? Manufacturing interests? Up-to-date stores? Good shipping facilities? Favorable labor conditions? A prosperous farming territory? Fair real estate values? Reasonably cheap power? Active co-operation among business interests?

9. Employment—Can I get a job in that town at fair pay and with good prospects for the future? Can I count on co-operation from organizations making it their business to help introduce and establish new commercial interests and to welcome new citizens?

10. Progressiveness—Shall I find that I am in a live town having a progressive city government, active civic organizations, modern fire department, adequate police protection, organized measures for

accident prevention, and a pull-together spirit in everything—a town with a future?—From The Graduate Magazine, Kansas University.

CITIZENSHIP

Service to the community should be the distinctive work of citizenship. When people begin to feel the ties which bind them together, and which attach them to the place which they inhabit, when they understand that their prosperity, their dignity, their happiness are bound up with the welfare of the city; when they learn to cherish their home town, their love for which unites with and intensifies their love for the nation, this is the awakening of civic consciousness.—M. W. Lukin, South African Municipal Magazine.

JERUSALEM TALKS OF WATER POWER

Hydro-electric development is claiming its own in the most ancient as well as the most modern lands. At a recent meeting in Jerusalem of the advisory council of the Zionist organization concerned with the setting up of the new Palestine it was unanimously agreed that in fixing the boundaries of the state, not only water supply for irrigation, but the inclusion of sources of hydro-electric must be assured.

NEW YORK CITY EXTENDS ITS MUNICIPAL TROLLEYS

The Board of Estimate of New York City has appropriated \$383,200 for extensions, improvements, and operation of municipal trolleys. Of this sum, \$83,200 was given to the Staten Island lines to extend service on the Meyers Corners line to Linoleumville and to put into operation a trackless trolley between Schmidt's lane and Seaview Hospital. Of the amount set aside \$150,000 will go to purchase sixty used cars to take care of the summer traffic in Staten Island. A similar amount was appropriated for the purchase of one-man cars for the Williamsburg Bridge.



SIR ADAM BECK

Chairman of the Hydro-Electric Commission of Ontario.

State Owned Hydro-Electric Development Proposed in California

One of the biggest public ownership projects of recent years is under way in the state of California. If it goes through, California will be the first state in the union to swing into line with Ontario and other progressive states in the up-to-date, large scale development of hydro-electric power under public ownership.

On April 12 the State Senate passed unanimously a bill establishing a state hydro-electric commission, along the same lines as that of Ontario—which is now the largest electric production and distribution plant in the world—under which the municipalities of the state may combine for the purpose of the production and distribution of electrical energy. The bill was originally drawn and sponsored by representatives of the California League of Municipalities and was introduced by Senator Johnson.

Will Appeal to Referendum

The bill was finally defeated in the Assembly after having drawn the fire of the powerful corporation interests. But this has only served to arouse and unify the forces of the state who are already preparing to take the measure to referendum vote of the people. So now the real fight will begin.

State to Acquire Water Power Sites.

On the same day that the above bill passed the Senate a committee of the lower house on irrigation passed, also unanimously, a resolution calling upon the governor of the state to immediately begin action for the acquisition of all available power sites in the Sierra region by the state. This action proceeds under Act of Congress of June, 1920, which threw open for filing the water power sites of the nation and at the same time gave states and municipalities equal right to file with individuals or private corporations. So far practically all applications have been made by private individuals and corporations. Municipalities and states, as usual, are asleep. Present indications are that California may be a splendid exception. For if these measures go through this state will have opened a new era in state action in this country.

Tremendous Possibilities

The tremendous possibilities of this proposed action on the part of the state can hardly be realized by the ordinary citizen. The cost of electric current has been reduced from an average of 9 cents a kilowatt hour to 3 cents in a great many cases by public ownership. But that is only a hint of what can be done.

Electricity Within Reach of All

It costs from 5 to 10 cents a kilowatt hour to produce electric current in small, isolated plants using steam power. Big, combined plants, using water power are producing it for as little as $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of a cent a kilowatt. The economies of large-scale production are nowhere more strikingly illustrated than in the field of electricity and especially where water power is used.

The last census report on Electrical Industries has a bulletin on Central Electric Light and Power Stations and on page 130 is a table showing in a most remarkable way this great economy in large-scale production. We have taken the above figures from that source.

No small isolated plant, not even municipally owned, can compete with a great combined plant supplying perhaps scores of cities, using water power and thus producing current at a cost of $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of a cent a kilowatt. And therefore the struggle for the full advantages of public ownership must henceforth assume the form of a struggle for a method of large-scale production. And that can only be secured by station action.

The people of Ontario saw this years ago and have fought their way to the state ownership and operation of the largest electric light and power plant in the world. Norway and Japan have both seen this point and within recent months have had their government engineers here studying the Ontario system. Both countries are establishing very large state-owned hydro-electric systems.

With great combined plants, driven by water power, under public ownership, the possibilities of usefulness, convenience and comfort for the people through the use of electric power are simply wonderful.

POWER PROGRESS IN CANADA

While the increase in power development in Canada in 1920 was substantial, in many portions of the Dominion new installations and developments have not yet caught up with the ever-increasing demand for hydro-electric energy. Increase in power development naturally accompanies expansion of industries. The pulp and paper industry has undoubtedly attracted the greatest attention during the past year, but a large number of smaller industries and the ever-increasing uses of electricity for power and domestic purposes, both in urban and rural communities, are important factors in the increasing power demand. While the total water-power installation of the Dominion at the commencement of 1920 was some 2,500,000 h.p., the ultimate capacity of undertakings, either completed during the past year or under actual construction, will increase this total by some 840,000 h.p. This figure includes the 500,000 h.p. Chippawa development of the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission. Additional projects aggregating some 360,000 h.p. are also under consideration.

The Province of Ontario leads with some 650,000 h.p. in undertakings, which are either under construction or completed; Quebec shows 140,000 h.p.; the Maritime Provinces, 30,000 h.p.; Manitoba, 20,000 h.p.

Undertakings which are projected for the near future aggregate some 200,000 h.p. in Quebec; 15,000 h.p. in Ontario and 20,000 h.p. in the Maritime Provinces, while one project alone in British Columbia involves some 125,000 h.p.—L. G. Denis.

UNSIGHTLY AND DANGEROUS DUMPS

Much of the development of a municipality is retarded by the apathy and indifference of municipal officials who refuse to exert any effort to remedy evils which act as a draw-back to the locality in which they reside. A case in point has been called to our attention by Mr. Frederick W. Wallace, a well-known Canadian author, whose summer residence is at Hudson, Que.

Mr. Wallace says in part:—

"This well-known resort is one of the most popular summer places adjacent to Montreal and is famed for the beauty of the country-side and lake which environ the village. These attractions have prompted numerous Montrealers to build summer homes there and to these citizens the village practically owes its existence. Water, electric light, and splendid roads have naturally followed, and yacht, tennis and golf clubs have been established to add to Hudson's charms.

"At the last municipal election, Mr. James Park, a merchant of Hudson and local manager of a Montreal Bank, was voted in as Mayor, largely through the efforts of a 'Progressive Party,' which was organized to make Hudson more attractive, both as a summer resort and a permanent place of residence. The contest for the honor of filling the Mayoral chair was the keenest for many years and much was expected from Mr. Park's administration.

"One of the new Mayor's first acts was to permit the villagers to use a parcel of land owned by him as a garbage dump—there being no public disposal field handy. This particular piece of property is adjacent to Hudson Depot and alongside the highway leading to Hudson Wharf, the summer homes of several well-known Montreal people, and the Hudson Yacht and Tennis Club.

"All persons travelling to and from the waterfront and the popular Yacht Club have their eyes and nostrils delighted by the miscellaneous and odoriferous collection of garbage scattered liberally over the Mayor's property. Protests were made to the latter gentleman and polite suggestions were made that he be kind enough to save the reputation and appearance of the village by prohibiting the dumping of rubbish and to have the eye-sore cleaned up. The 'Progressive' candidate complained that it wasn't his fault; that he could do nothing. Not wishing to put the Mayor to the expense of clearing up the mess, it was suggested that he have the Council detail a couple of the road men to rake the objectionable material out of sight. This suggestion seemed to receive the Mayor's favor and it was hoped to have the offense removed prior to the Empire Day Holiday, May 24th, when many visitors would be flocking to Hudson.

"It is now a month since the suggestion was

made and the garbage dump still remains as offensive as ever. Nature has done what she can by veiling some of the rubbish with a profuse growth of weeds, but contributions of tin cans, bottles, kitchen refuse, etc., still arrive and continue to keep the place an eye-sore to passers-by. The "progressive' mayor has taken no action of any kind."

Mr. Wallace has, undoubtedly, a legitimate complaint against the local council, whose duty is above all things to see that the citizens, from the highest to the lowest, attend to the best laws of hygiene. In the case the fact of the mayor himself being the culprit—even though it was to oblige the villagers—does not lessen the responsibility of the Council in allowing the nuisance, and the further fact that Hudson is a rural municipality does not make the offense any the less.

"Paris has purchased its subway system and at the same time entered into an agreement with the previous owner, the Compagnie du Metropolitan, to operate the system until 1955 on a minimum annual compensation of eleven and a half million francs with a bonus sufficient to interest the company in efficient management. All the employees likewise are given a bonus based on the returns of the passenger traffic. The city itself undertakes to develop the system on its own account."—Survey.

Milwaukee is to adopt a motor-cycle fire engine equipment. The speedy engine with eight extinguishers and its crew of two can reach a fire before the heavier apparatus.

Kalamazoo, Mich., has elected a charter revision commission which will probably submit a charter based on the mayor-alderman plan. The proposed charter will be submitted to the vote of the people. In the meantime, the city-manager form of government is still operating.

Los Angeles has authorized the expenditure of two million dollars for building municipal docks on Terminal Island, a connecting road to Long Beach Channel and a draw-bridge to the Island from the mainland.

In Sacramento, Cal., on May 3rd, a council of nine was elected under the Hare system of proportional representation.

Two second-class cities of Pennsylvania, Scranton and Pittsburgh, are empowered by law to adopt a system of separate assessment on land and on improvements, making the heavier burden come on the land.

The City Council in Boston has begun a campaign for municipal ownership of gas or electric lighting plants, or both.

THE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE THE BEST HATED MAN.

Our contemporary the Municipal Magazine of South Africa in a report of the annual conference of the South African Association of Municipal Employees quotes the following description of the municipal employee as given by Councillor Maclean of Port Elizabeth, where the conference was held:

"The best hated man in town at the present moment was the municipal employee.

"If he works hard he is trying to curry favour; if he doesn't he is lazy.

"If he is young he is incompetent; if he is old he is a fossil.

"If he carries out the law he is cheeky; if he doesn't he is weak-kneed.

"If he goes to church he is sanctimonious and holy; if he doesn't he isn't respectable.

"If he goes out for tea he wastes the ratepayers' time; if he has it in the office he wastes their money.

"If he ceases work at the appointed time he is a time server; if he doesn't he is seeking overtime.

"If he asks for a rise in wages he is a bolshevik; if he doesn't HE DON'T GET IT.

"It seems to me that to be a successful municipal official, one must be a middle-aged archangel."

It is encouraging to the Canadian municipal employee to know that his colleagues in South Africa are in the same boat as he is when it comes to getting public sympathy. In both countries the municipal official is the butt of disgruntled ratepayers, but fortunately for the community he takes all the growls very philosophically.

MUNICIPAL FORESTS

A rather unusual form of municipal ownership is that of municipal forests. Over 200 cities in the United States own and operate—if it can be called operating—municipal forests.

Chicago owns a forest of 18,000 acres.

Colorado Springs owns a forest of 17,000 acres; Denver, 7,000 acres; Fall River, Mass., 3,000; Holyoke, 2,000; St. Paul, 1,400; Newark, N.J., a watershed forest of 20,480 acres; Salt Lake City, a 25,000-acre forest, and many other cities smaller tracts.

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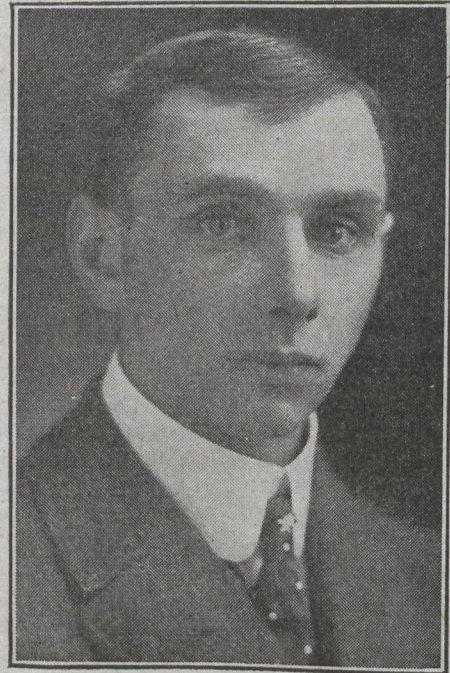
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COMMUNAL DEVELOPMENT

Communal development is a slow process; what an age it has been, due to the clashing of interests, to establish the community value in public utilities such as trams, electricity, markets, abattoirs and water supply; but the clashing of interests still continues; we must ourselves understand that there is an essential community value in say housing; in the supply of milk, meat and bread; even as the community owns its trams and markets so must it own its dairy farms and bakeries. These recognized life-necessities are provided by private interests; we are told that the methods of supply can be regulated and controlled by by-laws; we do our best in this direction; we promulgate the by-laws, we appoint Inspectors to protect the community's health; but the interests concerned then turn round and object to Inspectors; Councils have too many Inspectors and they are paid too much. If communities will hand these essentials to existence over to private interests then the community must pay the cost of the Inspectors appointed to protect them from these very same private interests.—James MacKay (Town Clerk, Germeston, S. A.)

STREET TREES—HOW CITIZENS CAN HELP Improvement of Home Surroundings Will Exert Influence on Neighborhood.

Over 29,000 trees have been planted in the parks and on the streets of Calgary since 1912 by the Parks Board of that city. What these trees will mean in comfort for the pedestrian and in the appearance of the city in a few years can hardly be appreciated. In the meantime, however, these trees must be cared for if the best results are to be secured. In commenting on this phase of the work the Calgary "Herald" says: "Many of the most thoughtful of the citizens assist in the work by watering the trees in summertime, keeping the weeds down and doing all they can to strengthen the hands of the parks department, and to hasten the time toward the city beautiful. It is also true that there are many that do not take the trouble that others do, and allow the weeds to grow, do not bother about watering, and generally adopt the attitude of leaving it to the parks department. True, it is their work, but the point is that the city is something that all have an interest in, and to a certain extent a share in, and a little work of this kind should not be dodged."

The support and co-operation of the individual citizens are a tremendous incentive to those who are laboring in their interest. A little effort in maintaining or improving home surroundings, including boulevards, streets and sidewalks, assists to enhance the general appearance of a district, and to induce others to do likewise.

The water-works system of Providence reports a very successful year financially. After deducting interest charges and \$144,000 for depreciation, the net profit was \$285,000, which has been applied to the sinking funds.

Electricity costs about 9 cents per kilowatt hour under private ownership. Under public ownership hundreds of cities now get it at 3 cents.

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Very strong claims were made for Super Cement. It was claimed that Super Cement could make a stronger and denser mortar and concrete—and could make an absolutely waterproof job.

All these claims have been proven true by results on actual jobs.

PROVEN WATERPROOF AGAINST ODDS.

Gushing water from springs caused trouble in the basement of the Federal Government Customs Building (Connaught Building), Ottawa.

Here was a good place to test Super Cement against heavy odds.

So, at the places where the water came through a space was chipped out of the wall and a thick mortar of one part Super Cement to two parts river sand was used.

In every case, Super Cement kept the water out, and the basement is now dry and is used for storage.

STEWART COMPANY WATERPROOFS A STORAGE TANK.

The Canadian Stewart Company, Limited (Contractors), had a basement tank which had been previously treated with a membrane waterproofing system but was leaking in numerous places. They plastered Super Cement mortar on the inside. All the leaks were stopped.

The fact that the Super Cement mortar bonded perfectly to the old concrete they considered noteworthy, considering it was applied on the inside of the walls.

The big new Union Station at Toronto developed leaks in the basement walls. They were plastered with Super Cement and the leaks stopped.

STOPS LEAKS IN WALLS

The concrete walls of the Avenue Road Concrete Viaduct, Toronto, permitted water and dampness to percolate through. They were plastered this time with Super Cement mortar and are now waterproof.

LEAKY FOUNTAIN WATERPROOFED

E. R. Rolph, Architect, Toronto, had a garden fountain the basin of which would not hold water. Mr. Rolph states that the walls of the fountain were of crude masonry and in very bad shape, and the conditions would not have been worse.

They were repaired with Super Cement and the fountain filled with water 24 hours after application. The

fountain proved absolutely water-tight and has given perfect satisfaction.

EARTHQUAKE VAULTS MADE DRY.

In the Royal Observatory, Ottawa, are deep vaults in which are kept the seismograph instruments for recording earthquakes. Being so far below the surface, these vaults and connecting tunnels were very damp, with water trickling down the sides.

But Super Cement mortar was applied as a plaster on interior faces of walls, floors and ceilings, and the vaults and tunnels were made waterproof.

FLOODED CELLAR NOW DRY

The Rapid Electrotpe Company had a brick basement, laid in Portland Cement mortar, in their Montreal plant. A portion of it was flooded with water forced by a considerable pressure from some unknown source.

Super Cement mortar of one part cement to three parts sand was carefully applied in two coats about $\frac{3}{8}$ " thick. The treatment proved effective. The flow of water has been completely stopped. The interior is now quite dry.

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The Union Trust Company, Toronto, wanted to build the best possible Safety Deposit Vault. They wanted it absolutely waterproof. So they built it of Super Cement, using 70 barrels.

Shortly after the vault was completed, a rainstorm flooded the adjoining parts of the building, but water did not penetrate the walls of the vault which remained absolutely waterproof.

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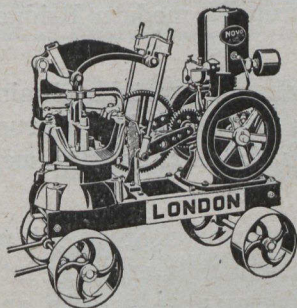
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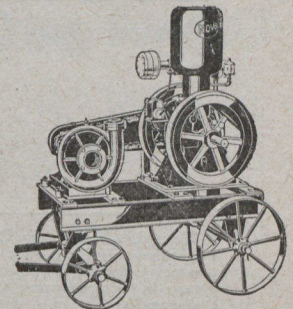


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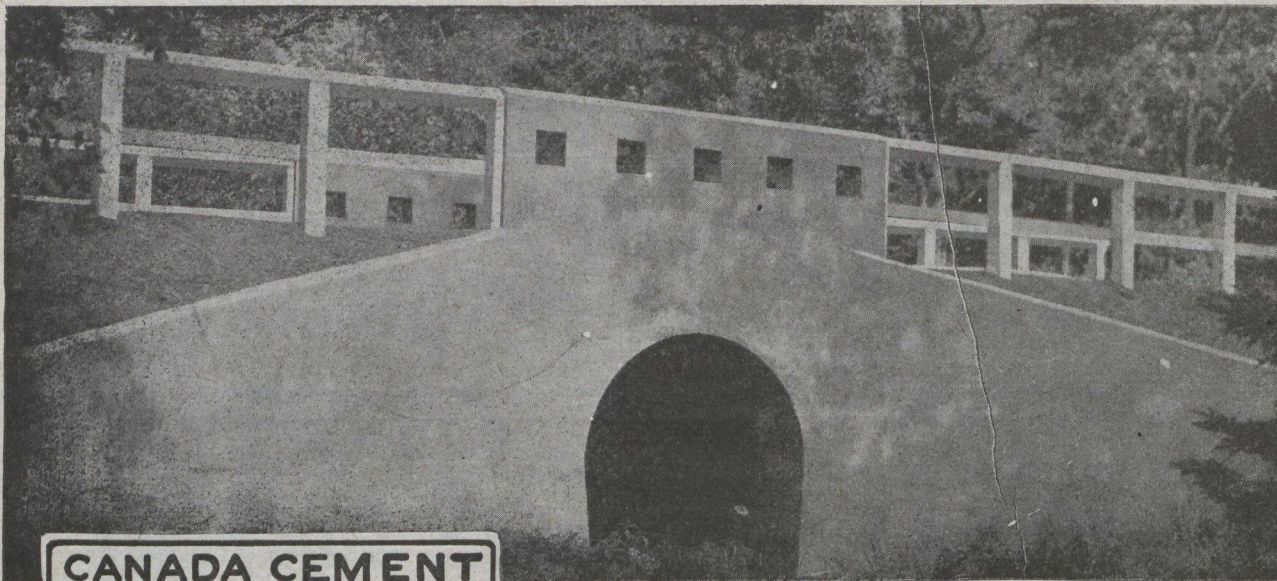
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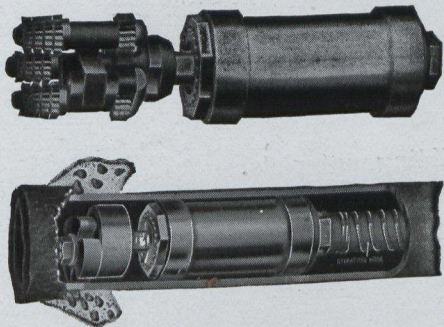
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