### ANNUAL REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS

FACTS, FIGURES AND SUGGES-TIONS FOR TAXPAYERS.

City Engineer, City Treasurer and Street Commissioner Submit Statements Showing the Work Done in Respective Departments the Past Year-Some Recommendations from the Engineer and Street Commissioner.

Below are given summaries of the reports presented to select council last night by the city engineer, city treasurer and street commissioner. They contain much of interest to the tax-

CITY ENGENEER'S REPORT. Durng the past year very little paving. sewering or any other improvements have been done, owing, in the first place to the small amount of money available; second, failure or delays in determining the kind of material to be used, and last of all, the

The following is a statement of the cost of the various improvements, bills for which have been approved by councils: Pavements ...... 5,120 14 Culverts ...... 638 (0 Pipe drains ..... Improvements at east corner of Wyoming avenue and Spruce

CONDUIT WORK.

street .....

Extension to the conduit system made by the Central Pennsylvania Telephone and Supply company aggregated 3,219 lineal feet of conduit, containing 34,956 lineal feet of ducts. Making a grand total to date of 9.572.2 lineal feet of con-duit, centaining 10s.051 lineal feet of ducts. This work was done under the supervis-ion of this department as required by ordinance of councils and was very satis-factory, every effort being made by the company to cause as little inconvenience

to the public as possible. The usual amount of time and labor were taken up in giving lines and grades for the laying of sidewalks, curb, gutters, etc., done by property owners under private contract. In this connection I would respectfully suggest to councils and property owners that hereafter no curb be set until the streets are paved. A good cobble gutter would be far better protection to sidewalks and roadways than curb, and would cost only about one-haif. Much of the curb set on Mulberry and other streets last summer is out of line and when paved (if not before) will have to be reset. If cobble gutters had been constructed they would have prevented much of the washout in the roadway. This dirt, etc., is washed into the street basins and sewers and causes much expense in cleaning, flushing and sometimes damages. I would earnestly recommend wherever sewers have been constructed that the property owners be compelled to pave the gutters, if no sidewalks were even laid.

PIPE DRAINS.

One of the best improvements ever con tructed in the city considering the cost, was the construction of the pipe drain and receiver on Carbon street, under the Lackawanna Iron and Steel company's railroad bridge. Estimates had been made for a pipe drain from the above point to the Lackawanna river, at a cost of about \$900. At my suggestion the feasibility of constructing a pipe line under the abutment and embankment of the above company's railroad and connecting with the sultation with the company's officials, who agreed to the improvement, providing e city engineer would have charge, you decided on the improvement and made an appropriation for the same. Work was commenced immediately after the Fourth of July and was completed inside of three weeks at a cost of \$310. It has worked perfectly and to the satisfaction of all concerned. No water has accumu-lated at this point ever since to interfere with the traveling public, either afoot

IMPROVED STREET CORNER. An improvement which the general pub. lic very much appreciate was the construction of a street basin, the setting of a 10-foot radius circular curb and the elevation of the pave so as to leave but a three-inch step, on the east corner of Wyoming avenue and Spruce street, in place of the square corner and a twelve-inch step. I would recommend that all square corners through the business portion of the central city be improved, as soon as possible, in the same way,

PAVEMENTS.

The number of miles of paved streets the city (calculated at an average width of thirty-four (34) feet, except the cobble stone or boulder) is as follows: Sheet asphalt ......12.319 miles Stone block ...... 1.695 miles 

rious widths) ...... 2.165 miles ...17.117 miles An increase of only .137 miles during the

Only two small paving contracts were executed during the year on which work was commenced and completed, viz., one block on Quincy avenue, between Pine and Gibson streets, and Dix court, from Linden street to the city hall, which was paved with vitrified brick on a six (6) inch base of concrete. The contract for pav-ing Hyde Park avenue, with vitrified brick on a gravel or broken stone base, was executed so late in the season, I deemed it best not to allow the contractors to commence operation and run the risk of having the avenue torn up all winter to annoy and incenvenience the

Contracts have also been let as follows: To pave with vitrified brick on a concrete base. Dix court in rear of city hall. For paving with sheet asphalt on a concrete base, Forest and Breck courts, south of Spruce street, For paving East Market street, from the Lackawanna river to the Boulevard, with vitrific1 brick on a coperete base. Work on these contracts will commence as soon as the

weather becomes favorable.

Ordinances have been passed and contracts will soon be let for the paving of Sanderson avenue, between Green Ridge and East Market streets, and also for Providence road and North Main avenue, from Court street to the city line at Dick-

son City. Both ordinances call for vitri-fied brick on a concrete base, For some reason or other (not at my request or solicitation) the repairs of the asphalt pavements have been placed in charge of the city engineer. While I will charge of the city engineer. While I will not shirk any responsibility or duty placed on my shoulders, which I believe I am capable to perform. I must say this is not a very pleasant task to undertake when I consider the very general indignation that prevails among the public on account of the disgraceful and danger-our condition of our streets in the cerous condition of our streets in the trai city. There is hardly a man living in this city, should these conditions prevail

in the immediate vicinity of his own home, but would, on the approach of a stranger, lock the door and out of shame, hide himself. I hope, with your assist-ance, that long before winter sets in again our streets will show a decided im-provement. It will be the effort of my life to endeavor to insist that as good a pavement be laid in this city as any where else in the country. What has been one elsewhere we should be able to

complish here. There has been so much agitation and misrepresentation by evil-minded mis-chief-makers, with reference to the contract recently let, by your honorable bodies, for the repairs of our asphalt pavements, that I deem it best to publish in this report a copy of the bids received, tabulated, so as to show the number of yards out of bond, the cost per square yard per year, and total cost each year under the several bids. (Here follows a lengthy table, previously published, settioned above. Appended are the totals showing the cest of repairs for ten years under the different bids: Alcatraz company, \$234,058,235; George McDonald, \$305,-233,35; Pennsylvania Paving company, \$187,000.00; Barber Asphalt company, \$175,

From the above all fair-minded people on readily see that the contract was let to the lowest bidder, when let to the Barber Asphalt company.

STREET RAILWAYS. It gives me great pleasure to acknowl edge the efforts made by General Manager Silliman, of the Scranton Railway company to give this city good track construction. I have no doubt but that it will be news to many councilmen, and the great majority of our citizens, to know that in the block on Quincy avenue, paved last fall, we have the best and most modern track construction. No wooden ties were used; the whole track is underlaid with six (6) inches of Portland cement concrete, with the rail for its full length resting thereon, with an additional thick ness of six (6) inches (or twelve (12) inches in all) of concrete under each joint The rail is a six (6) inch "T" rail weighing 62 pounds per yard. Steel challen ties are used every ten (10) feet and a tie

rod at intermediate distances between This same construction will be placed on the Providence road, North Main avenue, Sanderson avenue and East Market street when payed, and I hope on all other paved streets when paved and on the present paved streets when the tracks require renewing. This is due the taxpayers of this city, and I have no doubt but it will be a great protection to our pavements and a saving of considerable proportions in the cost of maintenance to the city. There is no doubt but that water percolates through the joints in the pavements, and along the sides of the rails, into the bed of the street, thus keeping the soil continually soaked, for it is sheltered from the sun and wind, and when winter comes on with its freezing weather, is in the best of condition for Jack Frost to get his work in, thus gradually destroying the pavement on ac-count of the expansion and contraction of the bed beneath, with varying degrees of temperatures

BRIDGES.

Owing to the costliness of maintaing bridges, particularly those carrying highways over steam railroads, rapid dete rioration of the iron work has developed the necessity of procuring a durable coating to protect the metal work from the corrosive action of the gases and from the locomotive blast.

Upon examination a few weeks age I found that the iron work of the Roaring brook bridge, over the Delaware, Lack-awanna and Western tracks, especially the south bound track, and the Linder street bridge, over the Delaware, Lacka-wanna and Western railroad, and the Delaware and Hudson railroad tracks, has been badly corroded by the action of the hot gases from the engines upon the floor beams and the under side of the buckle plates, the iron work has been vigorously attacked by rust. To preven this a protective shield or ceiling of planed, tongued or grooved planks should be placed under that portion of the pany's railroad and connecting with the bridges immediately over the steam rail-Fourth district main sewer (a distance of bridges immediately over the steam rail-road tracks. The two bridges and possibly others need adjusting and painting. The \$1,000 for adjusting, ceiling and repainting the Linden street, Roaring brook, Lackawanna avenue and Cedar avenu bridges in the appropriation ordinance for 1899 will not more than adjust and construct the ceiling mentioned for the Roar-ing brook and Linden street bridges.

SEWERS.

For various reasons there was but little sewer work accomplished last year, but the coming season promises to be an exceedingly busy one in this line. There is at present eight different contracts executed, or about to be executed, which embrace a vast territory distributed in different sections of the city. The con-tracts mentioned are the Seventeenth district main, Stipp court lateral, Von Storch avenue and Honesdale street lateral, Philo street, Providence road and North Main avenue main, Sixteenth dis-trict system of lateral and sections "B," "C" and "D" system of laterals in the Fifth sewer districts, comprising about nine or ten miles of brick and various sizes of vitrified pipes and about nine miles of six-inch house connections.

The cost per view or assessment on sew-ers has gradually increased to enormous proportions, viz., from 88 cents to \$14.18 or from 1.05 per cent. to 14.04 per cent. on he amount or cost of work in each district. In most cases the only reason for having viewers appointed is to equalize the assessments between inside lots and corner lots, where sewers are constructed on both street, rather than assess by the lineal foot of sewer frontage, which would be very unfair. It would be cheaper for the city to assume and pay a cer-tain amount of the corner lot assessment (when assessed by the foot front rule) rather than have viewers appointed. These viewers are appointed by court and are allowed the full limit of compensation per day, the time, the viewers regulate them-selves, according to the elasticity of their conscience; this the table will prove. The bills are also approved by court and all you have to do in the matter is to or-

der the bills paid.
Under the resolution of your honorable bodies requiring an estimate of the cost of relaying and repairing of the several sewers so that efficient sewage and drain-age would be afforded the several territories where sewers are now laid, I beg to report that I am dong all I can in that direction. I have completed the First sewer district, and had reported to the bond ordinance committee an item of ten thousand dollars for the relief of that district. The plans on file in this office will fully explain the method proposed. Considerable work has been done taking levels, sizes and grades of sewers in some of the other districts, and a vast amount of calculations made but not completed.

Since I assumed charge of this office have had made at odd times, a search through what records were to be found including the minutes of councils, since the organization of the city, so that for the first time I am able to publish a com-plete table of all the sewers built up to April 1, 1899. The table gives engths, sizes, material, number of basins, manholes and lampholes, cost of viewers ost of sewer, cost of inspection, total cost, names of contractors and inspectors. Additional basins have been constructed by the street commissioner and

councilmen of which no records appear. STREET SIGNS. As requested by resolution of councils I made an estimate of the cost of street signs and submitted to the bond ordi-nance committee an item of four thousand dollars. I communicated with forty-two of the largest and foremost cities of the country; also with manufacturers and received a number samples, which I have on hand.

GENERAL REMARKS. During the summer and fall considerable work was done in Nay Aug park in the way of surveys, levels, etc., so that some of the proposed driveways and

nds could be constructed immediately

and with as little engineering expense as n the park, I promised the park commissioners to do all I could to help them without waiting for the usual resolution with instructions. All park engineering heretofore has been done by parties out-side of this office and paid for out of the

park appropriations.
I will again respectfully ask your most earnest and deliberate consideration in the election of inspectors on public works. I believe that my specifications will compare favorably with those of any of our largest and best governed cities, and have no doubt of the result, if work is done as required therein. I provide for the best of material, and proper proportions of the different ingredients to secure want of a qualified, practical man to oversee and insist on proper mixture and manipulation of the material? While the cost of inspection at present is charged to and paid for by the property owners abutting along the line of the improve-ments, the result of poor work on account of poor inspection finally lands on the city at large. For reasons given in my last annual report to your honorable bodies the cost of inspection is very much too high. Most of the money paid inspec-tors is money wasted. I would therefore most earnestly recommend that provisions for, say two permanent inspectors (men thoroughly posted in the proper manipulation of different materals, cement especially) at about 360 per month be made, whose duty it will be to inspect all new work, and when not so employed or engaged to systematically inspect the sewers already constructed (or any other duties when ordered). This should be thoroughly done one (twice is possible)

every year. In conclusion, my warmest thanks I reextend to your honorable bodies for the courtesies you have so uni-formly extended to me during the past year. My thanks are also extended to my co-laborers at the head of the vaand to the employes of this department, who have so faithfully aided me in carrying out the wishes of your honorable Very respectfully submitted, Joseph Phillips, City Engineer,

CITY TREASURER'S REPORT. Summary of receipts and disbursements by C. G. Boland, city treasurer, for the year ending April 30, 1899:

To balance cash on hand April 4, 1898 .....\$141,462 07 RECEIPTS. J. G. Bailey, mayor ..... \$ 2,630 56 M. A. McGinley, city solicitor ..... A. B. Dunning, street P. J. O'Boyle, street 

R. J. Murray, secretary .. boar of health ....... 98 34 P. J. Hickey, chief ..... A. P. Bedford, secretary park commission ...... M. J. Kelley, county treasurer, liquor license 69,942 06 P. D. Carter, pound 

Penalty ...... 172 41 Two per cent. on premiums foreign insurance ..... 2,396 62 Interest on \$104,000 bonds of 1893. held by sinking fund commission ..... Interest on interest and sinking 

2,539 71 Collectors, year 1895 ..... 1,003 01 Collectors, year 1894 ..... 89 08 Collectors, year 1893 ..... 18 73 Registered taxes, 1896.... Registered taxes, 1895..... Registered taxes, 1894.... MAIN SEWER ASSESSMENT. Section A Fifth district.. \$ 1,172 69 Section B. Thirteenth dis-Seventeenth district ..... 38 85 1.684.9 Lateral sewer assessments...... 11,673 Paving assessments ...... 15,42 2 Sidewalk assessments .....

Grading assessments ..... Total amount of receipts ..... \$538,595 76 DISBURSEMENTS. Commission of delinquent collec-deemed ...... Warrants on 2 per cent, tax fund 4.674 84 Paving warrants and street im-provement bonds, and interest Lateral sewer warrants paid .... 11,665 2 Grading warrants paid ..... 384 94 Swetland street sidewalk war-

Total disbursements ............\$369,199 25 Balance cash April 4, 1899 ....... 169,796 51 DISTRIBUTION. The balance is distributed as follows: General city account ......\$ 39,166 50 Interest and sinking fund account, 1876 ...... 8,754 11 Interest and sinking fund ac count, 1893 .. Interest and sinking fund ac-Count, 1894 ...... 34,047 29 General sinking fund account ... 1.186 12 Redempton loan account, series No. 1 ...... Municipal building account ..... Fire department purchase

Roaring brook and Linden street bridges ..... Special incidentals ..... City licensa ..... Sidewalks ..... Main sewers ..... Lateral sewers ...... Miscellaneous ..... 3,606 79

STREET COMMISSIONER. Following is the first annual report

of Street Commissioner P. J. O'Boyle; In connection with the important queson of cleaning the asphalt pave, I would desire to point out that the work has not been done satisfactory owing to the de-plorable condition of the pave. While in previous years this appropriation has been overdrawn, there femained this year a respectable balance to carry to the

The expenditures for repairs of sewers has not been so great as in former years owing to the fact that there was no necessity for elaborate repairs. In accordance with your instructions a number of sewer basins have been constructed, and number of basins and munholes re

FLOREY & BROOKS, Agts.

Scranton Store, 124-126 Wyoming Avenue.

### Women's knit underwear

All goods offered in this department are of the first quality, no matter how low the price may seem. All goods advertised here are at special prices—the lowest for goods of equal value—read the descriptions:

Women's 10c jersey ribbed vests, 4c

With tape around neck - no sleeves real value 10c, Special price,

50c shirt waists-

unparalleled

this store.

\$1.25.

pricing at 19c

50c waists at 19c-

Women's 19c jersey ribbed vests at 12 1-2c

In ecru only. Tape around neck - no sleeves. Value 19c. Special,

121/2c

Women's 25c lisle thread vests at 17c-In five different styles, handsomely trimmed with lace and silk ribbon, real lisle thread vests that were formerly marked 25 centsnow while they last.....

> Unparalleled pricing on

The equal of these are not to Prices cut to the lowest notch. be found anywhere outside of No such values possible else-

5c lawns at 2c-

In pinks, blues and many Printed colored lawns in desirable stripes, very good quality of lawn, detachable collar and laundered cuffs, all sizes, from 30 to 42. Real 8c colored outings at 3cvalue, half a dollar.

75c waists at 49c-In lawns and fancy percales, with detachable collar

Special bargain.... 190

and laundered cuffs .. 49c \$1.25 waists at 89c and 98c-Of sheer lawn, in colors and white, with tucked fronts, vertical tucks or bias, detachable linen collar, real value

89c and 98c

domestic goods

many very good patterns. Friday special.. 2C Less than half price on a lot

Friday.... 3C 7c dress percales at 3 1-2c

of more than 1500 yards

All the newest effects and 25 inches wide. Fri-

12 1-2c dress goods at 3c-For Friday only we shall place on sale 1000 yards of shilling dress goods, double fold, at..... 3c jacket offering

The first lot of jackets we speak of here were purchased much under their real value and constitutes one of the most remarkable offerings if not THE most remarkable offerings ever made so early in the season in goods that are absolutely new and just from the tailor's hand.

Women's \$5 silk lined jackets, \$2.98

Made of all wool covert cloth, with tight fitting back and straight fly tront, silk lined through-

\$2.98

pricing on

Unparalleled Dress goods

women's lace ties Very Special-Point d'Esprit Ties, two yards long, and as good as you can obtain any-

ial on Friday and Saturday..... Others from 39c to \$1.50.

where at 25c or 29c. Spec-

Embroideries

and laces

10c torchon laces at 4c-Real value of these laces is up to 19c the yd, width from 2 to 5 inches ..... 4C

12 1-2c and 15c embroideries on Friday at 5c and 8c-

Swiss cambric and nainsook embroideries up to six inches wide,

5c and 8c

covert cloth jackets, \$3.98

Misses' \$6

Made of very good quality of covert cloth, with double stitched seams straight fly front jacket, value \$6.00.

\$3.98

Other good values in women's and misses' tailored outergarments-Jackets and Suits-up to \$25.

> and silk sale unparalleled

50c dress goods at 25c One lot of coverts, checked press goods and tancy diagonal cloth, value 50 cents, at......

15c ginghams at 8 1-2c-Extra quality Scotch ginghams, in the newest and most 

50c wash silks at 30c High class goods in the new corded effects, very desirable patterns, value

50 cents ..... 39c 75c fancy silks at 49c-

All of them very suitable for waist and skirt lining. Special price 49c

59c storm serge at 49c Special offer for today, in black and navy blue storm serge, value 59c 49c

## **VALUES THAT ECLIPSE THEM ALL**

No doubt about these prices being exceedingly low. Neither is there any doubt about the quality of the goods we offer. Every shoe is high grade and up-to-date, and guaranteed to give satisfaction.



### Today's Values Are of Unusual Interest

Men's Fine Russia Vici Kid, Hand Sewed Shoes, cloth top or leather top, worth \$4.00, at \$2.48. Sizes regular, 6 to 11. Men's Fine Black Vici Kid and Calf Hand Sewed Shoes at \$1.98,

Ladies' Shoes in Russet and Black, all stylish, at \$1.25, \$1.49, \$1.98,

Boys', Misses' and Children's Shoes at prices to suit anyone. Call and see our stock of new goods and you will surely save [[]]

# \* DAVIDOW,

307 Lackawanna Avenue.

N. B.—The above goods can be had at our Branch Store, 14 S. Main Street, Pittston, Pa.

BRIDGES AND CULVERTS. A very small balance of the appropria-tion for the repairs of bridges and culverts remained when I assumed office All of the smaller bridges and a number of the large ones have been entirely re with the exception of a few of the larger

A wise reform has been inaugurated in substituting large iron pipes for the old wooden culverts where feasible. A considerable portion of the appropria tion was expended in adjusting several of the bridges, it being necessary to purchase new sockets and other equipments Each bridge, with the exception of Lackawanna avenue, Linden street and

Roaring brook, was repainted at a

expense and they are now in good con-CLEANING SEWERS AND DRAINS. As is well known to your honorable bodies the appropriation for the purpose is insufficient, and they cannot be kept from accumulation of dirt and

There are 465 basins in the city and it is absolutely necessary that a certain number be cleaned daily. Two gangs are employed and on an average they clean 200 basins per month which is totally inadequate to clear th

From Seneca street to Cusick avenu on West Market street was macadamized last spring, and with this year's appropriation I hope to complete the work.

REMOVAL OF ASHES. I venture to ask not only the earnes but prompt attention of councils to the vexatious question of removal of ashes. Many criticisms are heard regarding the condition of our streets, and I must reesectfully beg to submit that in a meas ure your honorable bodies are responsible for the same, by inaction in authorizing your offices. One feature of this department which is a nuisance peculiar to our city, is the removal of ashes.

There is an utter disregard for our streets which is quite criminal and noth-

ing but a vigorous system backed be mandate of councils will correct the evil Outside the central city there prevails

regular custom of dumping ashes or the street, a practice which is not tol-erated in other eitles.

Then again, any person who can pur chase a one dellar horse and a ram chackle wagon is allowed to cart ashes and that on our paved streets just after they have been cleaned at a great exense, scattering ashes and rubbish over the clean pave. It is very discouraging to an officer who takes a pride in clear

There is but one method of suppressing this nuisance and that is by passing regulations governing the removal of ashes and garbage, which should be suf-ficient to prohibit any person from do-ing this work unless equipped with a proper wagon, inspected and approved by the street commissioner. Such cart or wagon should also be licensed and numered, so that the offender could easily be detected.

Unless some regulations are made clear treets in Scranton will be an impossiwill give the matter man.

I remain, very truly yours.

P. J. O'Boyle. will give the matter immediate attention

\$100 Reward \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mueous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in do, ing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers, that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 76c.
Hall's Family Pills are the best. Sold by Druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Finest wines and cigars at Lane's, 320 Spruce street.

WARNING! The recent hotel fire in New York

city should be a Warning to Hotelkeepers and others to protect their property, by having

DEFENDER FIRE EXTINGUISHERS where they can be used in

cases of emergency. Think it over

G. W. S. FULLER, General Agent

THE DICKSON M'F'G CO. Scranton and Wilkes-Barre, P. Manufacturers of

LOCOMOTIVES, STATIONARY ENGINES Boilers, Hoisting and Pumping Mazai ter y

General Office, Scranton, Pa. DEFENDANT DISCHARGED.

Evidence Not Sufficient to Hold A.

W. Jurisch for Larceny. W. Jurisch, the bicycle dealer, ho was arrested a few days ago on a charge of larceny, preferred by W. M. Dunn, of Green Ridge, was given a hearing before Alderman Howe yesterday and discharged, the evidence not proving the charge

The prosecutor alleged that Jurisco had stolen a wheel from him. wheel in question was purchased by the presecutor on a lease, and though all the payments had not been made an extension of time was granted and the time was not yet up.

BUY

NATIONS' PRIDE CONDENSED MILK

Manufactured by

Lager Beer Brewery

Manufacturers of OLD STOCK

PILSNER

435 to 455 N. Ninth St., Scranton, Pa.

Telephone Call, 2333.

## At Retail.

Coul of the best quality for domestic use and of all sizes, including Buckwheat and Birdseye, delivered in any part of the city, at the lowest price. Orders received at the office, first floor,

Commonwealth building, room No. 8;

telephone No. 2624 or at the mine, tele

phone No. 272, will be promptly attended

to. Dealers supplied at the mine.