

# THE WATCHMAN-WARDER.

Vol. XLVI, No. 5

LINDSAY, THURSDAY, JANUARY 29th, 1903.

75 Cents a Year in Advance; \$1.00 if Not So Paid

## LARGE REWARDS

Await the People who deal with us

We offer splendid opportunities for the season of 1903.

Our goods are durable and economical and soon pay for themselves.

It's a good thing to know how to select good values for relative outlays, this we venture to say we do.

A splendid line of Ladies 1-4 Ribbed Heavy Wool Hose, made of well-scoured yarn at per pair 25c.

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Penman's fine Natural Wool Undervests and Drawers, beautifully finished, and one of the best lines of underwear on the market, per suit, \$2.50.

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DRESS GOODS—We are clearing out the balance of our Winter Suitings. A very special line of 52 in. Heavy Fine Venetian Finished Suitings, to clear at per yard 42c.

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## BIG CONTRACT OF CEMENT WALK AWARDED AT A SMALL PRICE

Mr. J. J. Miller Got the Contract for 45000 Feet of Thirteen and a Quarter Cents a Foot

## THE ROADS BYLAW AGAIN

Council is Divided as to Whether Another Vote Should be Taken on it—A Road Roller in Favor

Council met in committee on Thursday night—in one of those committees of which there must be so many to get the things done and in the way that the council outlines. These meetings will be all the more numerous by reason of the small speed in which business is done in them. For example: on Thursday night a letter from Mr. A. D. Mallon protested against having a cement walk past his property. Mr. Mallon's neighbors had petitioned for the walk as required by law, and council had no option in the matter; yet knowing that, the aldermen wasted 20 minutes studying over the streets in that vicinity and discussing Mr. Mallon's letter, instead of going on to matters that could be dealt with. Alertness and despatch are the great need of the new body. The business of this town has become too voluminous to permit of irrelevant matters and side-issues, either in committee or at council. Of course the aldermen will find out that they will never overtake the business ahead of them unless they do business at high pressure when they meet.

Awarding the contract for the 45,000 feet of cement walks to be built next summer, was the chief business done at Thursday night's meeting. A rather important discussion of the good roads question took place also. There were several tenders in for building the walks. The prices asked varied between 12.85 cents and 14.5-8. The Forest City Paving Company of London made the low offer, but had bad luck with their cheque which is required from each tenderer as an evidence of good faith, and is to be 5 per cent. of the tender. First the Forest City people forgot to enclose their cheque with the tender, but finding that out wired that they were forwarding it. When it

his tender neither that nor the total required. Notwithstanding that Ald. O'Reilly moved that he be given the contract, and the motion was seconded by Ald. Robinson and carried.

Mr. Chamberlain said that when he had seen what good walks had been built in Lindsay he revised his opinion as to what price he could tender at in this town.

Ald. O'Reilly—And yet there are people who say our walks will not stand.

Mr. Chamberlain—They talk nonsense. The mayor discovered that the 1500 feet of walk to be built in front of the hospital had been omitted, by a clerical error, from the list supplied the Toronto firm.

Mr. Chamberlain said he had come down under summons to attend the Chalmers' trial. He knew nothing of the case and had to leave a gang of 30 or 40 men at work in the city. He would send the town a bill for his hotel expense and the loss of time from his duties in Toronto. His company would be glad to tender on the good roads when the town was ready to build them.

Mr. L. V. O'Connor asked that Mr. A. J. Graham, clothing merchant, be allowed to put his advertisement on the street sprinkling cart for five seasons on condition that he keep the cart well painted.

Mr. Weldon Brown said that Mr. A. D. Mallon had written council protesting against a cement walk in front of his place. Mr. Brown explained that Mr. Mallon, Mr. Killaby and himself were the only persons concerned. The latter two had petitioned for the walk according to law, and wanted it built.

Ald. O'Reilly—We have no power to interfere with a legal petition. For some time, however, council struggled with the geography and walks of that neighborhood before realizing that it was near 10 o'clock and that there were matters needing their attention.

Mr. Lockwood appeared to say that a letter in the Evening Post made him fear that the trainmen might not be given the council chamber to hold their ball in. Council promised to repeal the by-law forbidding the hall being used for such purposes.

## GOOD ROADS AGAIN

Mayor Sootheran—From what I hear talked lately, I believe \$25,000 by-law for good roads would now be carried by the people. The people seem to have confidence in us; I think it was a lack of confidence that

## PILKIE WILL GET INJUNCTION AGAINST BUILDING THE WALKS

If Mr. Pilkie's opinion is correct, the walks provided for in Mr. J. J. Miller's contract would be no good; and if he carries out his present resolution they will likely never be built. On Monday Mr. Pilkie said to the Watchman-Warder: "Walks built according to the specifications on which it is proposed to build next summer's will not stand. It is not possible to build good walks according to them." If it had been I would have tendered for the contract; but I knew that walks built as these are to be could not last, and I would not build them to go to pieces. The specifications call for 7 parts of lake shore gravel, 2 of sand and 1 of cement. That mixture will not make a durable walk. So sure am I that it will not, that I shall stand by and see that large amount of walks made of it. I shall as a private citizen get out an injunction forbidding the work until council gets a capable man to report on the whole matter."

came it was made out for \$3 instead of \$300, and council declared the tender invalid. This contract was the now famous one that was awarded to Geo. Coombs and taken away from him because Chalmers had arranged to be his partner. The price then was fourteen and three quarter cents. This time Chalmers had one an eighth lower. Mr. J. J. Miller asked thirteen and a quarter cents. The Toronto Construction and Paving Company were represented by Messrs. Orpan and Chamberlain of that city. Their tender offered to do the work for a lump sum and named a rate per foot for only the variations from the exact 45,000 feet of walk to be built. That is what the tender forms called for, and as the Toronto men were the only ones who conformed to it, they suggested that theirs was the only bona fide tender. Council took the opposite view, however, and said that tenders at so much a foot had always been accepted, and that to find out that the lump sum was only a matter of multiplying the number of feet by the rate per foot.

Mr. Chamberlain, a most courteous gentleman, and evidently an expert—he was official inspector of walks in Toronto for years—deeply impressed the council by his remarks some of which were not at all flattering to the tender forms and specifications supplied by the town, nor, moreover, to the council's method of ignoring the express terms of the tender form in awarding the contract. He assured council that such proceedings would be never heard of by the council. Mr. Chamberlain pointed out that Mr. Miller had not named any price for the 13 crossings. Would he build them for 134 cents a foot? Let Mr. Miller total up his price according to the tender and put it into his tender. Then if it was below his company's tender they would withdraw. Ald. Cinnamon said the crossings and all would have to be built at 134 cents according to Mr. Miller's tender. To this Mr. Miller assented, but filled into killed it last time.

Mayor Sootheran—It does not allow us to issue debentures, so we could not get the 4 per cent. rate.

Ald. McWatters—It will cost a good deal to submit the by-law.

The Clerk—About \$150.

Mayor Sootheran—It not be submitted alone. The public library by-law might be submitted too.

Then there is a deficit from last year of \$3000. We might issue debentures for that.

Ald. O'Reilly—Not by any means; that deficit has either got to be paid by a higher rate or handed over to next year's council.

Mayor Sootheran—That is your opinion. I was saying—

Ald. O'Reilly—Well, I have a right to express it.

Mayor Sootheran—Yes, you have, but it would be better not to interrupt.

Ald. O'Reilly—You interrupted me. You are not chairman to-night anyway.

Mayor Sootheran—The two by-laws might be submitted with the one for roads.

Ald. Robinson—Now, go on O'Reilly.

Ald. O'Reilly—No, let Sootheran talk.

Mayor Sootheran—I am through.

Ald. O'Reilly—Go on and say some more.

Ald. Robinson—I am in favor of good streets, but after I have seen the town carved and torn up without any system at all, I will oppose any more expenditure, and I think if I get out and work against it, as I did before, I can defeat it.

Ald. Cinnamon—I fail to see any argument in that. We need the roads, and if the by-law was defeated let us submit it again; get the money and make the roads the town needs. It can be done for little, if any, more than we are paying now for patching. I hear dozens say they have faith in this council, and I think the by-law would carry.

Ald. McWatters—A few may say they will, but we have no assurance that there is any considerable change in public sentiment, but the recent bad defeat looks the other way.

Ald. O'Reilly—Often the man who tells you he will vote for it, has no vote on money by-laws. The property-owners knew as much about the case at the recent vote as they can be told now. I don't believe in adding our deficits to the town's bonded debt either; I could give the names of those who sat in this council years ago and got rid of the deficits that way. Last year's council had a deficit left to it; then extras by reason of increased cost of labor and material, and dealing with snow storms and floods increased it to what it now is. Let us pay it off, or hand it down to next year's council.

Ald. McWatters—It would be foolish to ask for \$25,000 for roads. I would vote for \$75,000 or \$100,000. But we should have good reason to believe that the people want to vote the money before we submit the by-law again.

Mayor Sootheran—There have been no debentures issued for floating debts since 1887. Ald. O'Reilly.

Mayor Sootheran—No, there was not.

Ald. O'Reilly—When was the debt consolidated?

The clerk—In 1892.

Mayor Sootheran—I know I was not in the council.

Ald. Storer—Let us get a steam roller anyway and make some roads. We could, with it and the grader make a big improvement on even our clay streets.

Ald. McCraw—You can run it for \$5 or \$6 a day; a horse roller costs \$10 a day.

Ald. Storer—We can run the steam roller for \$4.25. It takes only one man to run it, and it will draw the grader. We should get a Buffalo-Pitts at \$3,400. We could use a belt link and run the roller in the middle of the road while it was dragging the grader along the road-side. We need a 15-ton roller. I know something about a railway locomotive, and I know I could run one of these steam rollers.

Mr. Chamberlain had re-entered the clerk's office, and when asked his opinion about the roller, said that an ordinary 15-ton roller would be continually getting mired on our clay streets. An 8 or 10-ton roller was the thing for our clay streets. Three men must be counted on; one to run it, his assistant and a night watchman.

Ald. Storer—Oh, there is some gravel on nearly all our streets. We could keep the roller in the centre. That would carry it all right.

Mr. Chamberlain—Oh, perhaps.

Ald. McWatters—How would you get a 15-ton roller over the bridge?

Ald. O'Reilly—The new Lindsay-bridge will carry it, and the government is going to build a new swing part next summer. We should get a foot-walk put on the west side of our part, so that the government will make their part with a walk on both sides.

Mayor Sootheran—Well, as to the sum we should ask for—I do not object to making it more than \$25,000 if you wish.

Ald. Maunder—As far as the people's talk goes, they will talk in favor of which ever side they think the one they talk to is on.

Ald. Cinnamon—Surely they will say what they mean on such a matter.

Ald. O'Reilly—It would be just as sensible to ask the people if they had changed their minds about electing us, as to submit that money by-law again so soon.

Ald. Robinson—Well, we must do Kent-st anyway with screened gravel.

(Continued on Page 2.)

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