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WESTOVER AVE., AN AVENUE OF PIN OAKS.

THIRD REPORT
—OF—
THE COMMISSION ON
BEAUTIFYING THE CITY
—OF—
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA.
July 1913—July, 1915

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MEMBERS
of
THE COMMISSION ON BEAUTIFYING THE CITY

1908-1910

Henry N. Castle, Pres. W. Haywood Moreland, Sec'y.
Barton Myers, Arther Morris,
Hugh M. Murray.

1910-1912

Barton Myers, President
Arther Morris William B. Roper
Hugh M. Murray Benjamin Spigel
Henry N. Castle, Secretary

1912-1914

William H. Sargeant, Jr., President
Arther Morris William B. Roper
Hugh M. Murray Benjamin Spigel
Henry N. Castle, Secretary

1914-1916

Albert R. Turnbull, President
Ralph S. Gale J. Iredell Jenkins
John J. Pitt Wm. B. Roper
Henry N. Castle, Secretary

APPOINTMENT BIENNIALLY

Three by the President of the Common Council.
Two by the President of the Board of Aldermen.

COMPENSATION

Good citizenship and "For the Public Good."

THIRD REPORT

of the

Commission on Beautifying the City.

To the Honorable Mayor, Board of Control, Board of Aldermen,
and Common Council of the City of Norfolk, Va.

Gentlemen : —

The Commission on Beautifying the City herewith submits its third report for the period commencing July 1st, 1913, and ending June 30th, 1915.

As will be seen by figures submitted later in this report, there has been a steady advance in the work of the Commission, and some of the many projects that have been planned have been completed, others are in process of construction, and others—like the tree problem of the City—, will be a continual process for many years yet to come. However, as progress indicates a living organism, so the work that has been done through the instrumentality of the Commission, aided by other City Departments, is indicative of the interest and activity of the Commission in rendering more habitable and beautiful the City in which we live.

In the last report mention was made of the base of the fountain having been set in the ornamentation at the head of The Hague, waiting the generosity of some citizen who might wish to donate to the city a bronze cascade fountain suitable to the location, and as an expression of regard to the city that had enabled him to accumulate a substantial competence for himself and family. It is a gratification to note that an offer has been made to the Commission looking to the donation of such fountain, though not by a single citizen of the city, but through one of its schools which has accumulated a fund to be used for such purpose. As soon as the association has completed its plans, it is expected that drawings will be made for such suitable fountain, and its installation, it is hoped, will be recorded in the next report of the Commission. The ornamentation at the head of The Hague has proved a source of pleasure and benefit to very many citizens and to children particularly, who, during the trying weather of summer have found it a delightful resort fanned by the sea breezes which apparently never cease coming to The Hague.

THE HAGUE

Some progress has been made looking toward the filling, grading, seeding and improvement of the parkway along Dundaff Street, which, when completed, will receive similar treatment as to ornamentation, trees, shrubbery, etc., as is to be found across The Hague on Mowbray Arch.

The opening up of Olney Road Extended has now become an accomplished fact, and will require close attention in utilizing the triangular pieces of ground that are so well adapted to ornamentation and can be made a very attractive part of this improvement.

Though receiving the approval of the public improvement committee, and approved as a very desirable advantage to the city by the finance committee, yet on account of the close margin of the city to its bonding limit, funds have not been available to make the desirable extension of Grace Street from Duke to Yarmouth, and the consequent added area to Lee Park.

Attention is called to the loss that the city is sustaining in the delay, even though necessary, of constructing a permanent retaining wall around Lee Park, and preventing further washing away of its filling with every tide. The temporary bulkhead and retaining wall have become so decayed as to be utterly irreparable, and a continuance of this attrition will cost as much to replace the soil and elevate the surface of Lee Park as the wall itself will cost.

Your attention is called to the constant interest of the Commission in completing this portion of the ornamentation of this central part of Norfolk, and the continued crying necessity for such permanent improvements as will necessitate no further expense. This section from Botetourt Street Bridge up to Monticello Avenue is an improvement that must be taken as a whole, even though sections of it are completed at a time, so that when finally completed, it may be a harmonious whole. The rapid decay of the retaining walls from Botetourt to Dunmore, from Dunmore to Yarmouth, and from Yarmouth around Lee Park to Duke, and the unfinished retaining wall from the foot of Fairfax Avenue to Duke Street, will shortly prove not only a loss to both property holders and to the city, but also become a menace to health and life. Judiciously expended, sixty thousand dollars will make such improvements as will obviate further expenditures for such sea wall, and enable the filling of low places, and the dredging out of Smith's Creek, so that there may be a depth of water at all stages of the tides, to go on slowly and without great expense, until the same shall have been completed, and adding estimated taxable property values to the city of not less than two hundred and fifty to three hundred thousand dollars, with an annual tax revenue at the present rate of about three thousand dollars, to say nothing of large added property expenditures that would normally come from the completion of this much-desired improvement.

There is a steady request upon the part of property owners along Jackson Park for the proper treatment of that section lying between Brambleton Avenue and Falkland Street, and the plans that have been drawn fully provide for an advantageous treatment of these low lying lands, providing a boulevard and parkway one hundred feet wide, a proper concrete drain of such dimensions as will fully provide for the drainage of the large area naturally draining to this portion of Newton's Creek.

POSSIBILITIES OF TREATMENT OF NEWTON'S CREEK RESERVOIR.

A large reservoir basin of lake-like dimensions, that will provide an abundance of water at each incoming tide to thoroughly flush out all drainage matter at the ebbing of the tide, insuring a sanitary condition of this section and providing a sheet of water admirably adapted for Park ornamentation and greatly increasing the beauty of both Park and Boulevard planned to border the lake; and will enable the property owners to make valuable and marketable large areas of at present submerged land, and will add, when improved, not less than an additional three to four hundred thousand dollars to the taxable values of the city. The same shortage of funds that has prevented the completion of the improvement plans upon Smith's Creek has operated in like manner for the commencement of the improvements upon Newton's Creek, and the extension and completion of Jackson Park. It can be demonstrated without question, that these improvements will enhance the value of abutting property, and permit the filling in and improvement of lands now of no value, that the income from such improved property, in the shape of taxation, will more than doubly pay the interest upon the bonds necessary for such improvements, and also provide for the retirement of such bonds thirty years from their date of issue.

The probable erection in the near future of another High School building in this Jackson Park section, now under consideration by the School Board, gives another reason for the immediate commencement of the final reclamation of this section of the city, and permit its filling and grading for permanent residential improvements, sure to follow the completion of the necessary drainage canal and reservoir embankments.

THE STREET TREE PROBLEM.

Pursuing the plans laid out by the Commission, after careful consultation with other cities, discussion as to the needs of our own city, and looking to the ultimate completion of the planting of trees upon all the streets of the city where it was desirable that trees should be planted, the Commission has made as rapid progress as has been permitted with the appropriations granted. Because of the limited amount allowed for office expenses, and the contribution of time in managing the active work, the overhead charges have been so low that the Commission has been enabled to place trees calipering one and a half and one and three-quarter inches, six inches from the ground, guarded with a galvanized iron one-half inch mesh No. 16 wire guard, with a safety collar around the neck to prevent tree chafing, staked to the ground with a 2 x 2 cypress stake, seven feet long and driven into the ground twenty inches, with large openings supplied with an abundance of mulch, and carefully planted, at the uniform price of two dollars per tree, a price about one-half of the amount that the reports from other cities show that it has cost them. Of course this minimum overhead charge cannot be much longer continued, unless other citizens are willing to contribute their time for the advancement of the work, so that allowing a fair compensation to those managing the work, and for office expenses, this minimum price should doubtless be \$1.00 greater, or \$3.00 per tree, staked and guarded.

As will be seen by the ordinances printed in this report, provision was made for planting trees at cost for citizens not wishing to wait their turn, when in the course of time the Commission would be enabled to plant street trees fronting their property without cost to them, and who were willing to pay the initial cost for such planting, the trees thereafter to come under the charge of the Commission to be cultivated, watered, sprayed, mulched and looked after by the Commission hastening the growth of such trees with every facility at the hands of the Commission, and in case of loss of the tree by natural death or

accident, the same to be replaced by the Commission without further cost to the citizen; also for planting without cost to citizens to the extent of its appropriation, upon the largely travelled streets and boulevards of the city, and used by the larger number of citizens and school children. Naturally there has been some complaint that trees are planted without cost for some citizens, and the initial cost required of other citizens, who have requested the Commission to plant trees at once in front of their property; and it has sometimes happened that trees will be planted upon a given street at the corner, without cost, and charge made for trees fronting the lot around the corner for citizens who have requested such latter planting. The Commission has endeavored to make it plain in receiving orders, what the initial charges would be for trees so planted out of the regular order and plan under which the Commission works, and may be briefly summarized as follows:

In outlining its work, the Commission considered it desirable that all citizens should have the benefit of wholesale rates in the planting of trees and shrubbery upon the streets fronting their property, and only because of the large number handled by the Commission, and its low overhead charges, has it been enabled to do the work at the present figure. This has secured to the citizen the planting of a larger tree set in a more careful manner, supplied with a fertilizing mulch, staked and guarded with a strong galvanized iron guard, watered in dry weather, sprayed if necessary, and has secured the renewal of the tree, in case the first one planted died. In estimating the number of trees required to plant all the streets upon which it was desirable that trees should be planted, it was found that it would require about sixty thousand trees. With the appropriations that have been made, the Commission has been unable to average more than two thousand trees per year, including the renewals. It feels that at least four thousand new trees should be planted each year, exclusive of the renewals, and thus bring within fifteen years the complete re-foresting of the city streets. Naturally, provision had to be made for citizens who were not willing to wait from five to fifteen years for the Commission to plant trees free of cost in front of their premises. Hence the drawing of the ordinance providing for the payment of the initial cost of planting, and thus securing the co-operation of any and all citizens who were willing to pay this minimum price, and thus have trees growing around their premises. Citizens who are not willing to pay the price should not give orders for planting trees, nor should they ask of the Commission to stop their

regular work, as laid out by the Commission upon the principal streets and thoroughfares of the city, and make exceptional cases, but simply wait their turn until sufficient appropriations have been made to accelerate the work, and thus bring it within the lifetime of the average individual.

In other States, provision has been made for planting trees along entire streets and thoroughfares, and charging up the initial cost therefor as special taxes to the individual owners, and collecting the same as other taxes are collected. The laws governing special taxation are so uncertain in their workings in Virginia, that no attempt has been made to make them applicable to such improvements in this city, and inquiries as to making them applicable have been met with adverse opinions from those best posted in the law. Apparently, the "sacred rights of private property" are still regarded as paramount to the larger interest and welfare of the public in the State of Virginia. Hence, the provision made in the ordinance for the voluntary application to the Commission upon the part of citizens willing to pay the initial cost of planting, and the preference given by the Commission to such plantings over and above its regularly planned work.

The most advanced thought and ideal method is well expressed in an act recently passed by the Nova Scotia legislature, at the instance of the Halifax Improvement League, the sections bearing upon this subject reading as follows:

Fifth—The cost of providing, planting or transplanting trees in any street, and of suitable guards, curbing and grading for the protection thereof, when necessary, and of the proper replacing of any pavement or sidewalk necessarily disturbed in the doing of such work, shall be borne by the owner of the real property in front of which such trees were planted or set out: and the cost thereof as to each tract of real property shall be certified to the council of such town or city, and also to the officials having charge of the collection of taxes for the said town or city; and upon the filing of said certificates, the amount of the cost of such improvements shall be collected in the same manner as the general rates and taxes of the town or city, and if not paid by the property owner as hereinbefore provides, shall become a lien upon said real property in front of which said trees have been planted, set out or removed.

Sixth—The cost of caring for said trees after having been planted or set out, or for the replacing of such trees so set out, shall be borne or paid for by the town or city, the money to be provided by appropriation to be placed annually in the estimates, such appropriation not to exceed the sum of one-tenth of one per cent of the total revenue raised by assessment on real estate and personal property.

Without doubt the steadily growing interest in this plan of civic betterment, will cause all our States to adopt similar laws, and with the constantly increasing number of cities coming under the Commission or General Manager form of government, this matter of purely local interest in each community will be left where it belongs as to methods and means with the governing municipal authority determined by the expressed wish of the people.

Mention has been made of consultation with other cities which have had several years of experience in handling this problem, before inaugurating the plan upon which the Commission conducted its work. This has enabled the Commission to profit by the experience of other cities, and avoid some of the troubles which they encountered.

The ordinances under which the Commission works, as they now stand, have been found to work satisfactorily, and are given in full for the benefit of not only our own citizens, but for the benefit of other cities making inquiry of Norfolk as to how and in what manner she has succeeded in doing the work that has become noticeable, even though but only fairly started. Requests from departments in other cities similar to our own, from public libraries gathering all available data for the use of their patrons have been received from Maine to California, and from Florida to Oregon, covering nineteen States, and going beyond our own boundaries to the Hawaiian Islands, to Alberta, Canada, to York, England, and Perth, Australia.

The order of procedure followed secured first, an act of the State legislature embodying in the city charter provision for the organization of the Commission, Section 62 of the City Charter reading as follows:

CITY CHARTER.

The City Council shall have the authority to establish a Commission of five to serve without compensation to be composed of citizens who may or may not be members of the City Council to be known as the Commission on Beautifying the City. The said Commission shall be authorized to look into and consider all matters pertaining to the beautifying of the city, such as the appearance and arrangement of streets, parks, buildings, waterways and trees. It shall also be its duty to confer with the county authorities and with the owners of suburban land as to the proper laying out of their property to conform with such general plans as may be devised by said Commission and approved by the Council. The said Commission shall from time to time make to the Board of Control or City Council such reports and recommendations as it may deem best. The Council shall have authority upon the request of said Commission to employ an expert to assist the said Commission in its work. The said Commission shall organize and hold its meetings as may be provided for by ordinance. In case of any vacancy in said Commission from any cause, it shall be filled by the appointing power by which the appointment is made. The City Council is authorized to make from time to time such appropriations for the work of said Commission as it may deem expedient and to make such ordinances in connection therewith as it may deem proper.

Under Section 20, sub-division 7, authority is given to the City Council to have shade trees planted along the streets. Sub-division 22 gives authority to prevent the running of animals at large in the city and to regulate the keeping of same. Sub-division 28 provides that the Council shall have power to make other and additional ordinances as it may deem necessary for the general welfare of the city. Section 21 provides for the imposition of fines for violation of its ordinances.

Under these provisions of the City Charter, the Councils passed an ordinance establishing a Commission on Beautifying the City of Norfolk providing for the appointment of its members and defining the duties and powers of the said Commission. This ordinance approved by the Mayor October 15th, 1908, is as follows:

ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMMISSION.

Section 1. BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Norfolk that from and after the passage of this ordinance there shall be established a commission for the City of Norfolk to be known as the "Commission on Beautifying the City," to be composed of five citizens who may or may not be members of the City Council. The members of the said Commission shall serve without compensation.

Section 2. On the first day of September, nineteen hundred and eight, or as soon thereafter as practicable, and biennially thereafter, the President of the Common Council shall appoint three members of the said Commission.

On the first day of September, nineteen hundred and eight, or as soon thereafter as practicable, and biennially thereafter, the President of the Board of Aldermen shall appoint two members of the said Commission.

Section 3. The members of the said Commission shall each hold their respective offices during the term of their appointment and until their successors are appointed and shall qualify. And in the case of the death, resignation, removal or disqualification of any member of the said Commission, the power appointing the said member shall appoint his successor on the said Commission for the unexpired term of said member.

Section 4. The said Commission shall have the authority to look into and consider all matters pertaining to the beautifying the city, such as the appearance and arrangement of streets, parks, buildings, waterways, and trees. It shall also be the duty of the Commission to confer with the owners of suburban land as to the proper laying out of their property so that the same when laid out shall conform with such general plans as may be prescribed by the City Council, or as may be devised by the said Commission and approved by the City Council, and also with the authority of the County of Norfolk in any matter pertaining to the duties of the said Commission and requiring any action on the part of the said authorities.

The said Commission shall, from time to time, make to the Board of Control or to the City Council such reports and recommendations as it may deem best.

Section 5. The said Commission shall organize by the election of one of its members as President. It may meet at such times and places as it may deem proper, and adopt its own rules of order. The said Commission shall be authorized from time to time to make such expenditures as shall be provided for by appropriation by the City Council.

Section 6. The sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated for account of the said Commission for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1908, which sum shall be paid by the City Treasurer upon warrants drawn on him by the City Comptroller.

Section 7. This ordinance shall be in force from and after its passage, and all ordinance or parts of ordinance in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Organizing under this ordinance, the Commission proceeded to embody rules governing its procedure in the following

CITY ORDINANCE GOVERNING THE COMMISSION.

Section 1. BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Norfolk that the Commission on Beautifying the City shall have the management, control and care of the parking space between the street curbing and the sidewalk, and of all trees and shrubbery on the streets, avenues and public grounds except public parks; shall direct and regulate planting, transplanting, pruning, removal, care and protection of all shade and ornamental trees and shrubbery in the streets, avenues and public grounds of the City; designate the kind, quality and character of all trees and shrubbery to be planted and cultivated; determining distance for such planting, and to have all other necessary and convenient powers incident to the conduct of its duties.

Section 2. Said Commission in the furtherance of its duties shall have authority to establish and maintain nurseries for the cultivation and growth of trees and plants for public use, upon such land owned by the city as may be designated by the Board of Control. Said nurseries shall be under the supervision of the Commission on Beautifying the City, to be operated under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the said Commission. Said Commission is hereby authorized to supply and install free of cost, trees and plants from its nurseries to be planted on the streets of the City at such points as the said Commission may deem expedient, or for the purpose of replacing trees which

have heretofore been planted but which have died; or in such cases as the said Commission may deem it expedient to furnish and install trees and plants at estimated cost, paid in advance, for planting on the street fronting the premises of persons desiring to improve the same.

Section 3. Said Commission in the furtherance of its duties shall have power to purchase or manufacture tree guards for the protection of trees, and hitching posts, and to furnish and to install the same at cost, paid in advance, to citizens desiring to protect trees already growing or that may hereafter be planted on the streets. Said Commission shall keep account of all trees, plants, seeds, mulch, tree guards, hitching posts or materials therefor, made or purchased, also an account of receipts from sale of the same and the cost of installation to citizens; those used by the Commission for the City use; an inventory of those on hand, and render a monthly statement to the Board of Control and City Comptroller and shall turn all receipts therefor into the City Treasury, the same to be credited to the account of the Commission on Beautifying the City for the further use of the said Commission in the line of work already provided for in the appropriations. No diversion of funds to other objects shall be made by the Commission except by approval of the City Council.

Section 4. No person or corporation shall plant or set out any shade trees or cause or procure any person to plant or set out any shade tree in or on any part of any public highway of the City of Norfolk without first obtaining a written permit therefor from the Commission on Beautifying the City, setting forth the conditions under which said tree may be planted or set out and in all respects comply with the conditions of such permit.

Section 5. No person or corporation shall cut, break, climb, injure or remove any living tree in a public highway of the City of Norfolk, and no person or corporation shall injure or misuse or remove or cause or procure any person to injure, misuse or remove any device placed to protect any tree or plant in any street of said city. Any person desiring to cut, trim or remove any shade tree in any street of the city may apply to the Commission on Beautifying the City for a written permit therefor, and upon such permit being granted may climb, cut, trim or remove any tree or trees mentioned in such permit in accordance with the terms thereof.

Section 6. No person or corporation shall, without a written permit from the Commission on Beautifying the City place or maintain or cause to be placed or maintained in a public highway of the city any stone, cement or other substance which shall impede the free access of water and air to the roots of any tree in such highway. Unless otherwise provided for in such written permit there must be maintained about the base of the trunk of each shade tree of the city four square feet of open ground for a tree three inches in diameter, and for every three inches of increase of such diameter there must be an increase of at least one square foot of open ground.

Section 7. No person or corporation shall in anywise interfere or cause or permit any person to interfere with the Commission on Beautifying the City, or its employees, in and about the planting, mulching, pruning, spraying or removing of any tree in the public streets of the City or in the removing of stone, cement or other sidewalk, or stone cement or other substance about the trunk of any tree in any such street of the city, or in cultivating, seeding and caring for the parking space between the street curbing and the sidewalk in any sidewalk of the city.

Section 8. No person shall stand or walk upon or in any way injure the grass growing upon parking space between the street curbing and the sidewalk upon any street of the city.

Section 9. No person shall hitch or fasten any horse or other animal to any tree, box, stake, or guard securing such tree on the streets, avenues or other public grounds of the City of Norfolk, or tie any horse or animal within reach of any tree or shrubbery or turn loose, or permit to be turned loose, or permit to stand unfastened any horse or other animal, or permit the same to graze or roam at large on any street, avenue, park, parkway or other public grounds of the city.

Section 10. No person or corporation shall affix or cause to be affixed to any tree upon the streets of the city or other public grounds any notice, announcement, advertisement or other thing whether in writing or otherwise, or make cuts, paint or marks except for the protection of said trees or for giving its common and botanical name without written permission first obtained from the Commission on Beautifying the City.

Section 11. No person or corporation shall attach or cause to be attached any guy-rope, cable or other contrivance to any tree or shrubbery or to any guard or stake protecting such tree or shrubbery or to use same in connection with any banner or transparency or permit any electric wires, cables, signs, poles, crossarms, brackets, insulators or other wires or fixtures to be attached thereto or come in contact with any shade or ornamental tree standing on the streets or other public grounds of the city, or cut, trim, or chop branches or tops of trees without the written consent from and under the supervision of the Commission on Beautifying the City.

Section 12. Any person or corporation violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall upon conviction thereof, forfeit and pay a penalty of not more than fifty dollars at the discretion of the court in which conviction is had.

Section 13. Nothing in this ordinance shall be considered as preventing other City Departments having proper authority from doing necessary work in parking places, provided that they restore the same to a condition satisfactory to the Commission on Beautifying the City.

Section 14. This ordinance shall be in force from and after its passage and publication according to law, and all ordinance or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

The members of the Commission have found it of exceedingly great value to them in executing the work planned, to have a definite chart before them of things needed to be accomplished, and these definite subjects of discussion and action are herewith given as indicating what the Commission had in mind as a result to be attained by its planning, what it has accomplished, and what it has yet before it to accomplish.

WORK PLANNED BY THE COMMISSION.

1st. The redemption and improvement of Smith's Creek, and of The Hague.

2nd. The Drainage of low lying sections and the filling in of such drained land either for streets or parks, or for business or residence purposes.

3rd. Securing the establishment of, and dedication to the city, of all available parking spaces.

4th. The systematic handling of the tree problem in the city in the cultivation, care, pruning and protection of trees already growing, and in planting additional trees upon the streets of the city.

5th. The preparation and installation of a city nursery or nurseries, and the ultimate growing of all trees required for street and park use and for supplying the citizens of Norfolk.

6th. Securing the passage of such ordinances as would secure proper protection and care of the city trees, parkway areas, etc.

7th. Stimulating citizens to greater care of their premises by the inauguration and conduct of a Beautifying Contest.

8th. The preparation of a map of the territory adjacent to Norfolk City boundry lines covering all territory likely to be platted in the next quarter of a century and ultimately to become a part of the city, and securing such uniformity in future platting as will conform to a general plan securing continuity of streets, uniformity of street names, and the establishment of such parks and parkways as will be needed in an expanding city.

WORK ACCOMPLISHED.

1st. Permanent improvements upon the Hague competed and further ornamentation in process. Construction of concrete drains completed upon upper Smith's Creek and plans drawn for sea walls, drains, road extention of Grace Street and boulevard from Granby to Botetourt Street.

2nd. A steady filling in of low lands has continued from year to year which has greatly improved the low-lying districts and made them available for roadways, parks, business and residence locations.

3rd. All available spaces that can be utilized for parks obtainable have been secured and requests made of owners of other spaces not yet obtained.

4th. As hereinafter more fully described nurseries have been established at West Point and Forest Lawn Cemeteries. The other items planned have been vigorously pushed towards a completion limited only by the appropriations made available.

As Sub-division of Section 4, the Commission outlined for its work an object ultimately to be attained as follows:

LIVE OAKS ON WESTOVER AVE.

THE TREE PROBLEM.

1st. Preparation of street map, atlas and index containing list of the streets of Norfolk and inventory of trees thereon and location of same.

2nd. Assigning to the different streets the kind of trees suitable for planting, after investigation has shown what the soil and location naturally require.

3rd. The determination of uniform distance for tree planting upon the streets, with reference to the growth and spread of different kinds of trees.

4th. Trimming of trees already growing so that a six foot man with a raised umbrella can pass there-under without annoyance, as well as scientific trimming and repair of trees.

5th. Making this department a Bureau of Information and co-operation with citizens desiring to plant trees upon street frontings and upon their premises and of advice and assistance in having such planting done properly.

6th. Give information to the public by articles regularly appearing as to the best shade and ornamental trees adapted to different soils, and minute instructions to be observed in the preparation of the root bed and in the transplanting and subsequent protection and care of the trees.

7th. The removal of diseased, decayed and useless trees, and the immediate substitution therefor, when desirable, of other trees.

8th. Correspondence and consultation with city foresters of other cities, and a careful study of local conditions with reference to prevention and cure of tree diseases and the destruction of the pests.

9th. The continual impression upon the public that the vigorous and healthy growth of a tree is the best preventive of disease and parasitic and fungus growths.

10th. With consent of the owner, where trees, not suitable for the location have been planted and are growing, or where trees have been too thickly planted, to transplant the same to other and suitable location, and to substitute proper trees and care for the same until a healthy growth is shown.

11th. Immediate preparation upon city property, such as a portion of the Forest Lawn Cemetery, of a nursery for the planting of seed gathered from healthy trees in Norfolk and other sections, and for the transplanting and cultivation of shade trees, until the city shall own such a number of young trees of the various kinds found desirable to meet not only its wants for parks and substitution for decaying and worthless trees, but from a schedule of prices, to furnish citizens such trees as they may require in the improvement of their own property.

12th. Preparedness to take contracts as per schedule of prices, for furnishing, transplanting, cultivating, boxing and caring for trees, for owners desiring to improve their property.

13th. To have on hand ready for installation as per schedule of prices, uniform kinds of hitching posts, wood, concrete or metal as desired and their protection, and to install same when so desired.

14th. To secure passage of ordinance placing in the Commission's hands the charge of all street trees with authority to systematically plant trees each spring and fall until all streets of the city upon which it is desirable trees should be planted, shall have been filled out with trees. And further to invest the Commission with the care and protection of the same, and to prepare and secure passage of proper ordinances for the protection and preservation of street trees and shubbery from lawless depredation and by the prevention of running at large of animals or of leaving unhitched or of hitching to trees, horses, and providing for the use of suitable hitching posts. Also for the improvement and care of parking spaces between the curb and sidewalk on all streets where desirable.

The Commission had confronting it at the beginning of its work, the remnants of surviving tree life scattered more or less thinly all over the streets of the city. A few surviving trees had been enabled to live with a complete change in environment from the original surroundings. With the advancement of paved streets, concrete sidewalks, granite curbs, and the necessary curtailment of tree roots and of a living parking space, had come the slow decay and death of thousands of trees that had been planted during the many previous years of Norfolk's growth. It was found that trees that had a flourishing growth when there was more open space between the houses, abundance of light and air, plenty of room in which to grow, could not endure the change, and so had to be eliminated from the list of desirable trees that could endure city life; notably amongst this list are the silver maple and the magnolia, there being but few survivors of the latter, for hundreds that were originally planted in sections of our city, and the silver maple showing signs of deterioration in every part of the city, and necessitating their final removal.

WETSOVER AVE., AN AVENUE OF PIN OAKS.

Comparing the normal life of a tree with a tree surrounded by city improvements, one can readily see what extraordinary care is required to enable plant life to grow at all under such abnormal conditions. Normally, the roots of the tree extend outward from the trunk about the same distance that the branches spread out above leaving ample space upon which the rain falls; the roots extend downward to the moist strata that comes within a few feet of the surface. An abundance of

light surrounds the tree, and pure air circulates all through the branches. In autumn the leaves fall upon the ground and furnish a mulch and fertilizer for the future growth of the tree. The necessary city improvements have changed all this condition, and plunged the tree into unnatural environment. Our cities have been sewerred, and thereby drained of the natural moisture upon which the tree thrives. We have laid concrete sidewalks, cutting off water and air that they require. Instead of an ample parking space being left that which is left is so narrow that there is only about one-fourth to one-fifth for the normal requirements of the tree; and in the older portions of the city no parking space whatever has been left, but the entire surface covered with a brick or concrete pavement. We have built our houses so closely that light and air are curtailed. We sweep our streets, and take away all leaves that fall giving no chance for mulch or fertilizer, except as it is supplied in other ways. We have strung our electric wires to catch the branches above, and installed gas pipes to drain the moisture by the trench, and to poison the roots with leaking gas. The trees not being protected, unattended horses with vigorous appetites gnaw the bark of the tree causing disease and decay. Our houses and factories give off volumes of smoke, and automobiles fill the air with noxious gases. We have bricked over or cemented up the space around the tree. Mischievous boys and thoughtless and careless people have broken the branches, cut the bark or bent the tree over in endeavoring to make swings of them. The San Jose scale is ready to attack trees of feeble growth as its powers of resistance are decreased, and so we find parasitic foes of all kinds in numberless quantities upon the older and decayed trees of the city. Not knowing any better, the ice-cream man empties the salt water from his freezers around the tree, and that means its death.

This gives in brief the situation that faced the Commission at the inauguration of its work, when desiring to make the city more healthful and more comfortable to its citizens by the steady evaporation of moisture thrown off by the foliage, and the air made pure by the absorption of carbonic gas.

It has been estimated that a tree with its trunk twelve inches in diameter and normal top, will, on a hot day, throw off 250 gallons of water in an invisible vapor, thereby cooling the air to such an extent that it has been further estimated by scientific arboriculturists that a street lined with full grown trees, and having the advantage of the grateful shade and evaporation of this invisible vapor, will be ten degrees cooler than the same street with no trees or parkway area, with sidewalks and curbs joining, bare, desolate, wind-swept, dust-laden and sun-beaten a terror to man and beast.

AN AVENUE OF NORWAY MAPLES.

Careful investigation of the movement for beautifying our cities having been made, and the experiments of other cities taken into consideration, the Commission found that it was the consensus of opinion of nearly all cities that the work could be successfully accomplished only by municipal control and management of its street trees and parkways areas, and care of all trees and shubbery upon the streets and avenues of the public grounds of the city. Whatever ordinances have been passed by other cities, as well as our own, have centered around this prevailing idea. One nas but to look at the remnants of the attempts at beautifying and tree planting upon the streets of our own city to be perfectly certain of the lamentable failure that has been made by trusting to individual enterprise. It clearly shows that individual action does not and cannot secure uniformity of results. A public-spirited citizen would improve his property and plant his street trees. His next door neighbor takes no interest whatever or perchance is a non-resident lot owner, and thoroughly believing in the "sacred rights of private property" is utterly indifferent to anything but the rise in value of his property by his neighbor's improvements. Trusting to the beautiful cuts and glowing descriptions of catalogues, undersirable and inharmonious varities of trees would be ordered and planted, and thus instead of harmony and beauty would appear all sorts and varities of trees good, bad and indifferent, as well as lack of trees along the streets of our city. And then the public spirited citizen would die or sell his property, and his successor either not liking the trees or not caring for them would cut them down, or allow them to go to decay.

The time will come, even in Virginia, when the public interest of the hundreds and thousands of citizens who daily pass along the streets, and who pass under the trees, will be considered of a greater and paramount interest than of any single

citizen who has planted the trees, and who claims the "sacred rights of private property." Hence, the logical conclusion has forced its way into state after state that the city as a whole should look after its greater interests, and place its protecting care over its street trees, Hence individual action has come to be supplanted by municipal control, not forgetting the individual interest nor the enhanced value of his property through such improvement, and charging up to him the initial cost, but thereafter removing from him any further care and the larger expense of continuous oversight, which is borne by the city which thus carries the greater cost of perpetual maintenance.

PRUNING AND TREE SURGERY.

The Commission continued its work of pruning the older trees of the city, as well as putting in proper shape the trees newly planted during the summer and fall of 1913 and 1914. Hundreds of trees that had survived their usefulness and were a disfigurement rather than an ornamentation to the streets of the city were removed, and as a rule new trees substituted in place thereof. Trees worth saving were properly treated, removing the decayed portions, covering them with an antiseptic paint and the cavities filled with cement filling, with the probable result of prolonging the life of the tree for a number of years.

AN OAK SAVED. COR. MARINER AND CHAPEL STREETS

The territory already covered embraces the older portion of the city from the line of the Norfolk & Western Railroad upon the east, up to Park Place and Lindenwood on the north, and to the Elizabeth River on the south and west. Also two-thirds of Brambleton, leaving only the portion between Highland Avenue and Princess Anne Avenue, and between the Norfolk & Western track of the city limits. In addition, the Lam-

bert's Point territory lying between the Norfolk & Western Railroad upon the south, the spur track of the Norfolk & Western Railroad running up to Colley Avenue and 49th St., upon the east, 48th St., upon the north and the Elizabeth River upon the west, also that portion of Berkley lying to the west, north and east of St Helena Government Reservation, covering about two-thirds of the work required in Berkley, leaving only a small territory yet to cover outside of Park Place. In 1917 Park Place will become an integral part of the city, and then its street trees will be subject to treatment, which, while needing such treatment at the present time, is not permitted, until the time limit has expired when Park Place becomes the same as any other portion of the city. The Commission is of the opinion that another year's work will clear up all the territory outside of Park Place requiring tree trimming and tree treatment, again going over portions of the city that were treated two years ago, and now requiring the removal of a few dead branches that naturally come from year to year, when but slight expense would be required, from year to year, to keep all the trees of the city in good condition, excepting Park Place which will require a full six months or more work by four men to properly care for and preserve the trees in that section of the city.

CATERPILLARS AND SPRAYING.

1914 will go down in the history of Norfolk as the plague year, a plague of Tussock moth Caterpillars, elm beetles, army worm and persistent and killing drought. If participation in the troubles of a plague can make humans sympathetic, then the inhabitants of Norfolk should have a genuine sympathy for their ancient neighbors, the Egyptians, enduring their ten plagues.

Without the necessary equipment for the destruction of the Tussock moth caterpillar in June, the plague of August and September was a natural consequent. Enough was learned during this fight of weeks and months to make preparation for a vigorous campaign against these pests another year. With proper spraying outfits, and a sufficient force, the Commission would be enabled to rid the city of scale, elm beetles, Tussock moth caterpillars and other pestiferous insects that prey upon our trees. To do this work thoroughly, it would require an appropriation similar to that given in other cities of like size, and who are doing the same kind of work successfully. When it is

remembered that Newark, New Jersey uses for the protection, care and planting of its street trees \$38,000.00 annually, that Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, appropriates \$50,000.00, in order to handle the work properly, and so far as tree planting is concerned, not surpassing Norfolk with its appropriation of \$7,150.00, it can readily be seen that to get control of the work, and anticipate these plague troubles, a much larger force and equipment, as well as a much larger appropriation, is required.

With twelve to fifteen thousand dollars at its command, the Commission would carry out its plans with reasonable dispatch and compass the work, looking to a final result of all streets where it is desirable trees should be planted, completely filled with trees cultivated at least six times each season, watered when necessary, sprayed twice each season, preserve and keep trimmed all the trees of the city, and reduce to a minimum the insect pest which makes life miserable for all citizens who remain in the city during the summer months.

The Commission should have a power spraying outfit, and another horse and wagon to keep up with its requirements.* A large amount of work necessary for the best protection, growth and care of the trees is necessarily left undone from lack of force, and of the requisite appropriation for the payment of such force. The work has now outlined itself in such definite channels, both as the result of our own experience and the experiences of other cities, that the problem has reduced itself to one of accomplishing just so much necessary work for a definite available appropriation. With such definite appropriation hereinbefore mentioned, the Commission expects to have the first planting of all trees required, in fifteen years time. At the present rate, it will require from thirty to thirty-five years to reach this desideratum. Until the necessary equipment and the necessary force is at the command of the Commission, we may expect renewals of the caterpillars plague. To lessen it as much as possible, the Commission has arranged to manufacture "caterpillar torches" in sufficient number that will permit the co-operation of citizens who are willing to assist in the removal of the plague from their own locality. These torches are so arranged that the scorched caterpillars will be caught in a screen like frame placed just below the torch, so that they will not fall upon the ground to again climb the trunk of the tree, or make themselves a nuisance upon steps and porches of the house. In its use of these torches during the summer of 1914, the Commission filled several barrels with

*Purchased January 1916.

these caterpillars thus caught in the screen-like frame, which were taken to the outskirts of the city and destroyed. It is the plan of the Commission to have these torches prepared and placed upon jointed handles, so that branches 20 feet high can be reached from the ground, and higher branches by means of step ladder, and these torches will be available to any citizen upon the deposit of one dollar with the Commission, the torch to be retained by the citizen, if desired, or to be returned to the Commission in good order, and the dollar refunded. By starting in time as soon as the webs begin to appear upon the trees, and with the co-operation of one hundred citizens, together with its own force, the plague can be reduced to a minimum, and the second appearance of the caterpillars in August so reduced in numbers, as to be a negligible quantity.

The spraying of the older trees, particularly the old silver maples of which no more are being planted, and of the elms throughout all portions of the city should begin at once, and be kept up until the San Jose scale and maple and elm scale are completely abolished. The extraordinary care heretofore mentioned should be exercised in this way, in order that the trees may be protected from such parasitic growths, as their power of resistance has by their environment been thus much lessened.

It took Newark, New Jersey, eight years to get the upper hand, but she has succeeded, and the citizens are proud of the healthful appearance, rapid growth and enhancing beauty of their sixty thousand trees, valued at one and a third million dollars, and look upon their annual expenditure of thirty-eight thousand dollars as one of the best investments that the city ever has made, or can make.

An outline to show the continuous round of work that presents itself from one year's end to another, and that must be expected and provided for, in so far as street tree planting is considered, is briefly given as follows:

The beginning of the city's fiscal year, July 1st, usually finds the force busily engaged in cultivating the street trees planted during the three preceding years as well as those planted the current year, the soil having been loosened to the extent of four to six square feet around each tree, according to the size, with pick and spading fork. The trees planted the fall and spring preceding, simply requiring surface cultivation at this time. This cultivation accomplishes two purposes; first, the pulverizing of the soil at the surface prevents the evaporation of moisture from

below and conserves this for the use of the tree. Second, it breaks up the baked surface, and permits the ready access of the requisite air for the best growth of the tree. After the first thorough cultivation in May of which one man can attend to about 50 trees per day, this later surface cultivation can be done at the rate of about 200 trees per man per day. Should there be 6,000 trees to cultivate, this will have taken 120 days work for one man in May, or if six men are employed, it will require 20 days. Then this surface cultivation follows at regular intervals, and should be done every ten or fifteen days, and particularly after hard rains, which beat down the soil and make that caked appearance which is detrimental to the growth of the tree. If dry weather is continuous, another force operating two wagons carrying water is spending its time in a thorough watering of the trees particularly those of the current and preceding years planting, using three and four buckets to each tree. By the use of spading forks a sufficient loosening and opening of the ground is made to permit the water to go down to and beneath the roots, then by covering the surface with dry earth or mulch, this thorough watering will last the tree a week or more. In passing, it might be well to state that watering two or three times a week during continuous dry weather by the property owners, in the manner above described, will materially hasten the growth of the tree, and enable it to attain a size and spread of branches that ordinarily will not be attained in two or three years growth. Meantime the trees in the nursery are requiring cultivation and watering, when dry, to prepare them for future use in street tree planting. July and August is also the season for the harvesting of the rough feed, such as oats, millet, corn fodder and Feterita for the use of the teams, necessary for the handling of the work. The cultivation and watering extend through the dry weather, often-times commencing in May and extending through September. Trees that would otherwise perish for lack of water are preserved and kept growing, thereby preventing the loss of a year's growth of the tree, and the cost of replacing. In September and October the leaves in the Parks and Cemeteries begin to fall, and from that time on until they cease falling in November or December, one team and a man are required in the preparation of a quantity of mulch composed of layers of fallen leaves and loads of street sweepings for use the following year. Large preparations have to be made in this way a year ahead, to furnish the requisite amount of mulch for street tree planting, for mulching trees already planted, and supplying orders to citizens for mulch for lawns and flower gardens. In October prepara-

tions are required in the nursery for heeling in the trees that are purchased from nurseries abroad, and which are preferably ordered and received during the fall of the year, usually in October and November. Upon the arrival of such car-load of trees, the force is employed in removing the same carefully from the cars, protecting the roots from sun and drying winds, and immediately placing the same in the nursery, thoroughly covering the roots with soil and so arranged as to be easily taken up when required for use upon the street tree planting. Weather permitting, tree planting begins the latter part of October or November and extends during the mild weather up to about the first of April. During the colder days, the force is employed in turning the mulch pile to facilitate its thorough decomposition; also during November and December trenches are carefully prepared for planting the slips from the Oriental Planes, Lombardy Poplars, Babylonian Willows, California Privet, and slips from other plants from which future trees and shrubbery are to be raised. During very cold weather and stormy days, the time of the force is utilized in the making of guards, the sharpening and dipping in green creosote stain the cypress stakes used in holding the tree and guard upright. With the appearance of Spring, the Nursery trees require trimming, and where inclined to grow crooked to be straightened by tying to stakes placed alongside. Calls are frequent from citizens as the Spring advances for loads of mulch, and for the planting of trees upon the streets fronting their premises. As Spring advances and prevents further planting of trees, the cultivation is immediately taken up and continued as hereinbefore stated, and this from one year's end to the other, a force is steadily employed in pushing forward the transformation work in protecting and preserving what has been done in preceding years, replacing of the trees that have been destroyed by natural causes or accident; and in the meantime, as sort of side issues, unused plats of city property, triangular strips, irregular sections formed by intersecting streets are graded, ornamented by trees and shrubbery, or provided with flower bed forms for cannas or other varieties of flowers, and the work of cleaning up and making beautiful the city in all of its environs is a subject of thought, consideration and work upon the part of the Commission on Beautifying the City, and the force employed by them.

TRIANGLE PARK. INTERSECTION OF LLEWELLYN AND MORAN AVENUES AND 17TH, ST.

TREE NURSERIES.

In 1911, the Board of Control assigned for the use of the Commission for tree nursery purposes the City property lying to the west and north of West Point and Elmwood Cemeteries, bounded on the west by Forest Lake drain, and upon the north by the property owned by the Virginia Railway & Power Co. This tract was mostly filled land, having formerly been the lowland through which flowed one of the branches of Smith's Creek. This lowland had been filled with all sorts of refuse from the City streets, and was a veritable jungle.

Also there was assigned to the Commission in Forest Lawn Cemetery a tract of woodland, six or seven acres, which it was necessary to clear off and grub out to make it available for tree planting. With its small force at odd times, the Commission cleared the city tract, which it has named "West Point Nursery," and now has available several acres which it is utilizing for nursery purposes. The balance of the property to the north extending to the line of the Virginia Railway & Power Co.'s property, as shown by the city plats and records, is not available at the present time, being covered by the tracks, buildings, ties, poles, etc., of the Railway, who decline to remove the same, though requested so to do. Probably a lengthy law suit will be required to make available this city property assigned for the use of the Commission, the matter now being in the hands of the city attorney.

From the experience of like Commission in other cities, and from its own experience, the Commission found that it was a matter of economy, and almost a necessity, to have a place to which could be removed trees from the street requiring special treatment, and also as reducing to a minimum the loss of trees planted upon the streets of the city. It was found that trees received from nurseries located at a distance not possessing an abundance of fibrous roots, as is desired for trees planted upon the streets, were much more subject to loss, particularly in a dry season, than similar trees taken up from our own nursery and transplanted to the street upon the same day that they were taken from the ground. The shock of transplanting was thereby reduced to a minimum. It was found that an abundance of fibrous roots were developed in the one or two years growth in the nursery. Hence the Commission adopted the plan of purchasing trees for street planting $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{3}{4}$ " caliper as the most desirable size to plant with a chance of the least percentage of loss, and to get trees of one, two and three sizes smaller for plant-

ing in the nursery, that in the course of one, two and three years such trees would attain sufficient growth to become suitable for street planting. The experience of caring for a tree in the nursery is estimated at about 10 cents per year, the nursery being provided with connection with the water main has prevented any loss of consequence amongst the trees planted in the nursery.

With the development of the Forest Lawn Nursery, there will be ample room to plant even smaller sizes which by cultivation will attain the necessary growth, and obviate the necessity of the purchasing of the larger sizes and more expensive trees in the future. The nursery at Forest Lawn is admirably adapted for nursery purposes, being a fine, rich soil of good depth and being surrounded by forest trees, except to the south, making conditions ideal for rapid growth. The Commission has purchased some 5,000 seedlings, Elms, Norway Maples, Pin Oaks and Gingkos, which it is planting and will plant or transplant each year a like number until twenty-five to thirty thousand trees are growing from which can be taken each year those of proper size to fill the requirements of street tree planting. As a full grown tree ready for planting upon the streets is worth a dollar at wholesale nursery rates, sometimes more, it can readily be seen that there will be a constantly increasing growing value to the nursery stock owned by the city, which will enable the city to provide its own trees at a less expense than if purchased directly from outside nurseries. The Commission has provided for drive wells at Forest Lawn, and a force pump with power attachment, which will enable it to irrigate the growing trees in exceedingly dry times.

The economy of a nursery can best be illustrated by a concrete example in street tree planting. During a dry season, it would not be an abnormal loss of ten per cent of the trees planted, although the Commission has not lost through its careful planting any such per cent, though in its plantings it has replaced sets of trees whose loss has been 90% since the original planting by others before the organization of the Commission. Each tree, upon an average, costs in labor, guard, mulch, excavation, filling and tree \$2.00 each. The Commission plans to plant four thousand trees annually. Procured from outside nurseries, it invites a larger percentage of loss. Ten per cent of 4,000 trees would be 400 trees, at two dollars each, would be \$800.00, to which should be added the lost growth of a year, in the most

vigorous variety of tree. Taken from our own nursery, and planted upon the streets, the Commission has experienced a loss as low as one-tenth of one per cent; supposing such loss is one per cent on 4,000 trees. This would be a loss of 40 trees at \$2.00 each, which would be \$80.00, which taken from \$800.00, would leave \$720.00 to the good for care of nursery, or enabling the Commission to care for 7,200 trees in the nursery for what would be a loss without nursery planting, to say nothing of the lessened cost of tree production at ten cents a tree per year, as compared with the cost of a dollar per tree for trees of the requisite street size. That there will be some losses from accident, leaking gas, untoward conditions that could not be foreseen goes without saying, but to provide for such normal losses, the Commission keeps a few trees of each variety corresponding to the number planted each year growing in the nursery, so that in case of a loss of a tree of one, two, three or four years planting upon the streets, a tree of corresponding size is at hand to replace the ones lost upon the streets.

In its work of tree preservation and cultivation the Commission has sought the co-operation and hearty assistance of citizens.

When with recurring regularity as each springtime approaches the appetites of passing horses for the attached bark of handy trees become irresistible unless checked by owner or driver, the Commission has sent out to all concerns and individuals using horses in a business way upon the streets, a letter requesting their using every available care by warning the driver and by nose shields and hitching weights for horses, and enclosing a blotter with following cuts printed thereon.

Commission on Beautifying The City.

Phone City Armory
Monticello Avenue 1470
Norfolk, Va.

ALBERT R. TURNBULL, PRESIDENT
RALPH S. GALE
J. IREDELL JENKINS
JOHN J. PITT
WM. B. ROPER

H. N. CASTLE, SECT'Y & FORESTER

A Bite

The horse isn't to blame
WHO IS?

It's Result

Damaged Tree
\$50.00 Fine.
Everybody Mad.

How to Prevent it

Nose Shield 10c.
Hitching Weight 50c.
Everybody Glad.

?

**WILL
YOU
HELP**

?

As dry periods prevail and the newly planted trees call loudly for water the following card blotter is sent to all who have given orders for tree planting the preceding fall and spring.

Commission on Beautifying The City.

City Armory
Monticello Avenue 1470
Norfolk, Va.

ALBERT R. TURNBULL, PRESIDENT
RALPH S. GALE
J. IREDELL JENKINS
JOHN J. PITT
WM. B. ROPER
H. N. CASTLE, SECT'Y. & FORESTER

How to Water and Care for a Tree.

- 1.—Loosen with a Spading Fork, the ground around the Tree to the depth of the roots.
- 2.—Pour one, two or three buckets of water into these spade cuts and until ground is thoroughly saturated.
- 3.—If very dry weather, repeat the watering twice a week.
- 4.—Keep the surface free from cakes and cracks.
- 5.—Cover the ground around the tree with mulch or lawn clippings two or three inches deep.
- 6.—Each year enrich the ground around the tree.

When indications point to the commencement of building operations and the liability of injury to growing trees, the following letter is sent to both the owner of the property and to the contractor:

COMMISSION ON BEAUTIFYING THE CITY

ARMORY BUILDING
5 MONTICELLO AVENUE
NORFOLK, VA.

ALBERT R. TURNBULL, PRESIDENT
RALPH S. GALE
J. IREDELL JENKINS
JOHN J. PITT
WM. B. ROPER

H. N. CASTLE, SECT'Y. & FORESTER

Contractor! Spare that tree;
Touch not a single bough,
Protect it, root and branch,
And the guard that shields it now.

We believe you will be glad to co-operate with the Commission in protecting and preserving the trees of our city, so that it is hardly necessary to call your attention to Section 5 of the city ordinance which forbids any injury to any tree or guard protecting the tree, on the streets of the city and provides a \$50.00 fine for those who are heedless in the matter. The practice of piling or placing building material against or around or upon the open spaces about the trees is injurious, harmful and hurtful. Instruct your workmen to take a few old boards six feet long and make a temporary box around tree, guard, and all, as indicated in above cut, and then YOU will be safe, the TREE will be safe, and these "children of the city" will live and grow and make a grateful shade for you and your children.

COMMISSION ON BEAUTIFYING THE CITY.

Trees have been planted more or less continuously by the Commission on the following streets:

Armistead Bridge Road, Botetourt, Boush, Bute, Colley Ave., Chapel, DeBree Ave., Dunmore, Duke, Frederick Ave., Farquar Ave., Freemason, Grace, Hanover Ave., Hardy Ave., Highland Ave., Harrington Ave., Holt, Jamestown Boulevard, Lovitt Ave., Maple Ave., Main (Berkley), Manteo, Maury Place, Mowbray Arch, Olney Road, Omohundro Ave., Poplar Ave., Park Ave., Princess Anne Ave., Roswell, Reilley, Shirley Ave., Spotswood Ave., Tunstall Ave., Walke, Washington Park, Westover Ave., 12th, 14th, 15th, 16th.

The Commission has planted trees, by order of the School Board, upon the grounds of the following schools:

Matthew Fountaine Maury High (Moran Avenue and Fifteenth St.), Patrick Henry School (Atlantic City No. 1, Colley and Pembroke Aves.), Robert E. Lee (Atlantic City No. 2, Moran and Graydon Avee.), Robert Gatewood (Berkley No. 2, Poplar and Fauquier Aves.), John Goode (Brambleton No. 1, Claiborne and Reservoir Aves.), Stonewall Jackson, (Corprew and Reservoir Aves.), Henry Clay, (Chapel St. nr. Queen), James Madison, (Bowden's Ferry Road and Lawrence Ave.), John Marshall, (Omohundro Ave. and 15th St.), Abraham Lincoln, (Berkley, Culpeper and Nelson Sts, Colored), Samuel C. Armstrong, (Cumberland and Kent Sts., Colored), Lott Carey, (Princess Anne Ave. Colored), John Henry Smythe, (Queen St. near Bank, Colored), John T. West, (Wilson and Gordon Aves., Colored), Joseph Charles Price, (Church St. and Avenue B.)

The Commission has planted trees in the following parks in Colonial Place by order of the Colonial Place Corporation.

East-Side Park, West-Side Park, Yorktown Circle, Jamestown Circle.

Large orders have been given to the Commission for planting trees upon the streets fronting the respective holdings of The Aobey Land Company, Ghent Residence Corporation, The Ghent Company, Virginia Investment Association, and The Westover Company; while nearly six hundred citizens have co-operated with the Commission in paying the initial cost of two dollars per tree planted, staked and provided with wire guards, ordering from one to a score of trees planted upon streets, in every portion of the city.

Trees have been trimmed and repaired by tree surgery and cavities filled with cement, sagging limbs liable to split from the tree, bolted and cabled, and dead and dangerous trees removed from the following streets:

Accomac, Albemarle, Alexander, Andys Ave., Anne, Argyle Ave., Arlington Place, Armistead Bridge Road, Ashland, Baldwin Place, Bank, Barnard Ave., Baxter, Baylor, Beale, Bellamy Ave., Berkley Ave., Bermuda, Bernard, Beverly, E. Blackwell, Blow, Bluestone Ave., Boissevain Ave., Bond, Botetourt, Boush, Bowden's Ferry Road, Brambleton Ave., Brewer, Brook, Brown Ave., Brown, Brunswick, Bute, Bute Extd., Camp Ave., Canton, Capps Boulevard, Carrolton, E., Castner, Catawba Ave., Cecelia, Chapel, Charlotte, Chestnut, City Hall Park, Claiborne Ave., Clark, Clay Ave., Clifton, College Place, Colley Ave., Colonial Ave., Cooke Ave., Corprew Ave., Crozier, Cumberland, Dartmouth, DeBree Ave., Denby, Division, Duke, Duncan, Dunmore, Dutton, Elizabeth, Elkhorn Ave., Elm, Elmwood Ave., Fairfax Ave., Falkland, Fauquier, Fenchurch, Ferguson Ave., Fort, Franklin Ave., Frederick, Freemason, Front, Gates Ave., Gibbs Ave., Goff, Goode Ave, Grace, Granard, Granby, Granville Ave., Graydon Ave., Grayson, Grigsby Place, Hacker, Hall, Hamilton Ave., Hamlin Ave., Hanover, Hardy Ave., Hanson, Harrington Ave., Hermon Ave., High, Highland Ave., Hill, Herman Ave., Hope, Hough Ave., Howard, Hughes Ave., Hughes, Hull, Ivy, Jacob, Jamestown Boulevard, Jamestown Ave., Jamieson Ave., Jef-

ferson, Kenova, kent, Kimball, Land, Landing, Lee, Lewis, Liberty, Lincoln, Linden, Llewellyn Ave., Lovitt, Maltby Ave., Manteo, Maple Ave., Marshall Ave., Maury Place, May Ave., Middleton, Mill, Minturn, Monticello Ave., Moran Ave., Mowbray Arch, Mozart Ave., Mulberry, Nason, National, New Jersey Ave., Newport Ave., Nicholson, North, Ohio Ave., Olney Road, Omohundro Ave., Park Ave., Parker Ave., Patrick, Payne, Pearl, Pelham Place, Pembroke Ave., Pendleton, Pine, Poole, Poplar Ave., Powell, Powhatan Ave., Pulaski, Queen, Raleigh Ave., Redgate Ave., Reeves Ave., Reilley, Reservoir Ave., Rhode Island Ave., River, Riverview Ave., Rose Ave, Roswell Ave., Rowland, Salter, Scott, Sheldon, Shirley Ave., Smith, Southampton Ave., Spotswood Ave., Stafford, Stansberry Ave., Starr, State, St. Helena, St. Paul, Suffolk, Tunstall Ave., Thetford, Thomas, Virginia, Voss, Walke, Walnut, Ward Ave., Warren Crescent, Washington Park, Wayne Ave., Westover Ave., Westmoreland, White, Wide, Willoughby Ave., Windsor Ave., Wingfield Ave., Wood, Woodis Ave., Wythe, Yarmouth and York.

Acknowledgment is hereby made of the courtesy of the Newark Shade Tree Commission of Newark, N. J., in the loan of two cuts: To the Wm. H. Moon Company of Philadelphia in the loan of a photograph from which cut was made illustrating the possible treatment of Newton's Creek reservoir, and to the Chamber of Commerce for its loan of the cut of the Hague.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

RECEIPTS FOR TWO YEARS.

July 1st, 1913, to June 30th, 1915.

Appropriation for fiscal year 1913-1914	\$6,200.00
Appropriation for fiscal year 1914-1915	7,150.30
Receipts of Commission fiscal year 1913-1914	1,527.08
Receipts of Commission for year 1914-1915	1,840.70

Total Receipts for two years \$16,718.08

DISBURSEMENTS FOR TWO YEARS.

July 1st, 1913, to June 30th, 1915.

Refund to City Treasury June 30th, 1914	\$ 597.55
Refund to City Treasury June 30th, 1915	357.14
Trees purchased for street and nursery planting	3,117.23
Wire for tree guards, stakes, hose and creosote oil	1,416.03
Labor tree trimming and tree surgery	2,077.50
Labor tree planting, cultivating, watering, Nursery preparation and cultivation	4,742.30
Hire of teams for planting, cultivating, spraying, mulch, etc.	285.20
Purchase of horse, wagon and harness	275.30
Tools, lumber, supplies, scalicide, dynamite, sand, cement, etc.	1,016.64
Feed for team	281.42
Repairs of wagon, harness, tools, shoeing, etc.	40.60
Water Rent, Insurance, etc.	86.32
Construction Nursery fence and moving tool house	245.13
Services secretary and stenographer	1,842.75
Stationary, printing, postage, car fare and sundry office expenses	326.97
American Civic Association dues	10.00

Less refund to City Treasurer \$16,718.08
954.69

Total expenditures for two years \$15,763.39

Inventory of Equipment and Supplies on hand June 30th, 1915 -----	\$ 5,986.00
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Summary of trees planted from beginning of Commission:

Spring of 1911-----	112
Fall of 1911 and Spring of 1912-----	967
Fall of 1912 and Spring of 1913-----	1,686
Fall of 1913 and Spring of 1914-----	2,023
Fall of 1914 and Spring of 1915-----	2,042
Total -----	6,830

**SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS BY CITY COUNCIL AND
RECEIPT BY COMMISSION**

From July, 1908 to June 30th, 1915.

Appropriations:

July, 1908 -----	\$ 500.00
July, 1910 -----	300.00
February, 1911 -----	1,000.00
April, 1911 (for Nursery) -----	1,000.00
May, 1911 (for Nursery) -----	450.00
Fiscal year 1911-1912-----	2,100.00
Fiscal year 1912-1913-----	6,945.00
Fiscal year 1913-1914-----	6,200.00
Fiscal year 1914-1915-----	7,150.00

Receipts by Commission from sales of trees, guards,
labor, mulch, etc., to Dec. 31st, 1911--\$ 152.85

From Jan. 1st, 1912, to June 30th, 1913 ---	2,788.80
From July 1st, 1913, to June 30th, 1915 ---	3,367.78
	\$ 6,309.43

Total Receipts 1908 to June 30th, 1915	\$31,954.43
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Refunds to City Treasurer of unexpended balances:

June 30th, 1911-----	\$ 3.44
June 30th, 1912-----	201.52
June 30th, 1913-----	736.21
June 30th, 1914-----	597.55
June 30th, 1915-----	357.14

Total Refund to City Treasury -----	1,896.06
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Net total expenditure by Commission to June 30th, 1915 -----	\$30,058.37
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A completed portion of Mowbray Arch, in the Ghent Residence Section of Norfolk, Va. Plans prepared for a similar method of improvement upon both banks of Smith's Creek, from Botetourt Street Bridge up to Granby Street.

Again the Commission acknowledges its indebtedness to the Shade Tree Commission of Newark, N. J., in the loan of its cuts, instructive of its civic work, for use in this report.

H. N. CASTLE, Secretary.