

the items which go to make up the \$12,000,000 which was suggested on Monday at the Sewerage Commission conference as the amount to be included in the enabling act. In order to make this estimate intelligible some explanation should accompany it.

The committee which you appointed to investigate this matter, Messrs. Fendall and Phelps and myself, after a thorough examination of the plans recommended by the old Sewerage Commission, decided that the plan which they suggested for septic tank treatment of the sewerage at or near the old quarantine grounds, of Masonville, if feasible, would be the more economical plan for disposing of the sewage in a satisfactory manner, and so that no property interests could be injured.

Your committee was also of the opinion that if septic tank treatment of sewerage should not be successful, the next best thing to do would be to convey it to filtration fields in Anne Arundel county, according to the plan first recommended by the old sewerage commission. It is our opinion that, on account of the great expense of disposing of sewerage by the latter plan, some effort should certainly be made to first determine the feasibility of the septic tank treatment. As it happens, the plans recommended by the old sewerage commission for collecting the sewerage and conveying it to filtration beds in Anne Arundel county are such that with slight modification they will apply equally well for the scheme of septic tank treatment at or near the old quarantine grounds, or Masonville. We have therefore concluded that the best method of proceeding with the work would be to build first low level interceptors, pumping station, and force main as far as the old quarantine grounds, or Masonville, and that experiments be made there with the first small quantity of sewage pumped, to determine the possibility of successfully treating it by the septic tank method. The building of lateral sewers in the city can be continued while the experiments are in progress. If they should prove a failure, force mains from the pumping station can be continued to the filtration beds at Glen Burnie, and the building of high level interceptors and gravity mains to the same point can be proceeded with. Realizing the possibility of the failure