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Also, that it would be advisable for the Park Board to co-operate in the survey, because of the tree situation, and to take particular steps to see that no undesirable trimming or removal of trees should occur. An order requesting the City Manager to so arrange accompanies this report.

18 It was brought out that all gas lights in the City, which were turned off during the Blackout, have been either restored to gas or replaced by electricity, except for two which were on private property and one which was replaced by an electric light close to the old gas light location. There are only nineteen gas lights now left in the City. Many of these are in locations where the residents desire to retain gas lighting. The others, all of them one or two lights on a street, are in locations where only overhead wiring is available and, while the residents would like to have electric lights, they insist on underground wiring, which would be a matter of disproportionate expense until any general post-war project for extending the underground conduit areas is undertaken.

As to main traffic routes, a survey has been completed by the City Electrician and the Electric Light Company. Plans for the conversion of the old converted arc lights are completed. These routes comprise Bridge Street, the lower part of Cambridge Street, Harvard Square, the western part of Cambridge Street, various stretches on Massachusetts Avenue, Main Street, and various side streets in the Harvard Square area. The new equipment for Bridge Street has been ordered. It was agreed that Cambridge Street from Lechmere Square to Webster Avenue and Porter Square and Harvard Square are the most pressing locations, and that the order of precedence in the other areas should be worked out in co-operation with the Police Department. An order, requesting the City Manager to have the plans for the lower end of Cambridge Street and for Porter Square and Harvard Square put into effect at once and to arrange for the submission of recommendations for the other locations and the order of action on them, accompanies this report of your Committee.

It was brought out that it takes from fourteen to sixteen weeks to obtain delivery of new equipment, so that none of the desirable improvements except the trimming of trees can be expected till 1946.

For the Committee

Harvey Z. Eaton Jr.

REPORT

OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICE

Relative to street lighting conditions in the City and the recommendations of the Committee for the improvement of the same

October 8, 1945

City of Cambridge

In City Council.....October 8, 1945.....

The

Committee on Public Service

~~to which~~

Reports. Report on Street Lighting

The relaxation of wartime restrictions on the extension of street lighting and purchase of equipment have made it possible to improve street lighting. The crime situation in Boston emphasizes the need for such improvement in Cambridge. Accordingly, your Public Service Committee in connection with questions before it of inadequate street lighting in specific locations, discussed the entire street lighting situation with the City Electrician, the Superintendent of the Park and Recreation Board, and a representative of the Cambridge Electric Light Company.

As to residential streets it was brought out that many throughout the City are inadequately lighted. In a great many locations the trouble is with branches of trees which block the light. One specific complaint before the Committee concerned Washburn Avenue. It was agreed that additional light would be installed there and that the Street would be examined to see whether additional improvement could be made. While a survey of main traffic routes has been made, there has been none as to Residential streets, though complaints have been attended to and defects looked for and taken care of in the course of the regular operations of the Department. It was agreed that a survey of such streets by the City Electrician and the Electric Light Company would be advisable, and would be undertaken at once, to find all locations that are inadequately lighted and to see what needs to be done by way of trimming of trees, installation of additional lights, installing stronger bulbs of different equipment, and so forth.

REPORT

Committee on *Public Works*
Reports on St. Lightway

7-1

Served on Chair
3.55

OCT 8 1945

In City Council OCT 8 1945

PLACED ON FILE

Frederick H. Burke
City Clerk