

WORK AND WAGES AT TEWKSBURY

Use of Imported Steam Shovels for Town Road Work is Severely Criticised.

In a communication received last night from a Tewksbury citizen, there are several complaints relative to certain alleged conditions in connection with the construction of North street, which is now going on. The letter states that it has been the general belief that when work of this size and nature was undertaken, men on the welfare rolls would be hired, but that in this case this is not so.

Complaint is made also of an imported power shovel for excavating, overloading of trucks, excessive speed that the trucks are required to make, speed that is such that if it was by others they would soon be stopped and made to live within the letter of the law. Mention is made also of the discharge of a truck driver by the superintendent only to have him reinstated the same evening by one of the road commissioners.

The writer questions whether the welfare department approves of what the road commissioners are doing in not providing employment for those who need it. He also indicates that if this is to be the policy, that power-loaders should be considered at the next town meeting so that money for their purchase might be appropriated as this would be cheaper than hiring. But in conclusion, he states that "better still, let's load the trucks by hand and provide work and wages."