

OSBORNE GIVEN PLAN TO FILL OLD QUARRY

Excavation Near Municipal
Hospital To Be Made
Safe.

WAS ABANDONED YEARS AGO

Appropriation Of \$2,500 For Work
Is Urged By Chief
Engineer.

Drawings of a deep quarry hole on city property at the Municipal Hospital, near the Montebello filtration plant, were submitted yesterday to Charles H. Osborne, Inspector of Buildings, and by Steuart Purcell, chief engineer of Baltimore. Because of the condition of the hole and its location steps will be taken immediately to prevent accidents, Mr. Osborne said.

Abandoned many years ago, the quarry is close to the power plant at the hospital, and is precipitous. A portion of the quarry is on Water Department property. V. Bernard Siems, water engineer, suggested to Mr. Purcell that part of the embankment be dynamited and the debris used in filling the hole to a height that would remove the danger. As a further treatment Mr. Siems suggested that wash water from the filtration plant be turned into the quarry and a running stream created, with an outlet into a nearby stream.

Safety Measure Offered.

"This stream would be so shallow

that no one falling into it could drown," Mr. Siems said. He added:

"As an additional safeguard the department has worked out a plan for planting a thick hedge around the top of the embankment. We also have a plan for planting trees and other shrubbery, which, in addition to the hedge, will prevent persons from falling into the hole. The hedge and the trees would beautify what is now an ugly spot in connection with the hospital and the Montebello reservation.

"Something must be done with the quarry because of its proximity to the hospital. We could carry out our plan with the money that would be required to inclose the hole with a wire fence."

Cost Put At \$2,500.

Mr. Siems' suggestions were outlined in a letter Mr. Purcell wrote Mr. Osborne, and which accompanied the drawings. An appropriation of \$2,500 for doing the work was recommended by Mr. Purcell.

A recent ordinance of the Mayor and City Council requires Mr. Osborne to order all abandoned quarries to be inclosed with a fence. Mr. Osborne said he would confer with Mr. Siems and Dr. C. Hampson Jones, Commissioner of Health, before deciding finally on a plan for making the hospital quarry safe. There has been several drownings in this quarry, according to Mr. Siems.

Information as to the quarry came to Mr. Osborne through a survey he is having made for the purpose of locating all quarries in the city. The survey will show quarries in active operation, as well as those that have been abandoned.

It has developed that part of the quarry at Twenty-eighth and Sisson streets, where the city is building a refuse incineration plant, is under private ownership. Mr. Osborne said it might be difficult to handle the situation at this quarry.

1924 Sep plan to fill old quarry submitted
MD

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