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City Council To Control All Salary Adjustments Without Committee's Aid

Members Decide Citizens Research Bureau Not Necessary To Carry Out Work, and Will Receive Reports At Next Session.

Some members of the city council appear just a trifle dubious as to the ability of the Citizens Research Bureau to deal with city hall salaries, and to safeguard their position in this regard they determined at last night's session to undertake this question themselves.

Although Mayor Wenige is opposed to the idea and said so several times, they ruled that the members of the finance committee and the board of works will at their next regular meetings deal with this issue, subsequently submitting their respective salary adjustments to the council as a whole for approval.

One of the stellar acts of last evening's performance was the authorized purchase of a Ford sedan for City Engineer Near, regardless of the emphatic protest from Ald. Douglass and Ald. May. And one remarkable feature of this event rested in the established fact that Mayor Wenige voted in the affirmative, despite his stated opinion of recent date that city officials should not be provided with this means of transportation.

Grueling Battle.
It was a long, gruelling battle, and a few deep thrusts were executed. Ald. Ed. Hayden twisting a nimble rapier with Douglass, chairman of the board of works, informing that gentleman that in his opinion the committee was quite capable of transacting business even during his (Douglass's) unavoidable absence. Incidentally under the convenient

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heading of inquiries. Ald. Douglass, remarking pleasantly that while Ald. John Colbert was among the absentees, he could not afford to ignore an opportunity to impress upon all and sundry that he (Douglass) was not a member of "a Tory quietist endeavoring to block the city hall project for political purposes."

Ald. Douglass characterized Ald. Colbert's comment about the city hall issue as "timely political capital" for the former member of the legislature for London, and let it go at that.

Spice of Program.
The proposed purchase of the city engineer's car was perhaps the spice of the program, impelling the oratorical efforts of the councillors. Ald. Douglass leading the opposition on the forward line, with Ald. May right tackle and general interference.

"It was unfortunate that I was not at the last meeting," explained Douglass in his opening shot, "but I would move this back to the committee for reconsideration."

"I thought that this thing was settled and that the engineer was going to use Inspector Piper's car," ventured Ald. Watt.

"We have to let the engineer have a car if he needs it. He can't be walking about," cautioned Ald. Greer.

"We have to decide tonight," admonished Ald. Hayden. "If we have not set aside a sufficient sum for the purpose, let's set it aside. A majority of the board of works has so decided. I fail to see why we should refer this back just because Ald. Douglass was not there. I don't see why this should go back and let him have all the credit."

Challenges Colleagues.
Later on in the game Ald. Hayden arose again and boldly challenged his colleagues as follows: "I can't understand why such a body of men as this council should quibble all night about a small affair as this. It is beyond me."

Ald. Douglass congratulated Ald. Hayden as a capable chairman in his recent absence, but reiterated his contention that the issue should go back to the committee as the members of that unit were not of one mind.

"I want the mayor's views first before I vote," interjected Ald. May, taking up where Ald. Douglass left off.

"We have to have some sort of service," replied the mayor. "If we give an automobile to one we shall have to give it to all."

Ald. Douglass maintained that they were "making flesh of one and fowl of another," and illustrated with Dr. Dowdham, who claims, purchases his own gasoline for a civic car. He also called attention to the fact that the proposed expenditure had been charged to the city paying account and questioned if this was fair to the ratepayers who were expecting pavements to be undertaken this summer.

Cordial Relations.
Another feature of the evening was the apparent cordial relations existing between ward 2 representatives, whose verbal engagements of the past have enlivened many a session—Ald. Douglass and Ald. William A. Wilson. Ald. Douglass handed Ald. Wilson a handsome bouquet, "I maintain," he declared, "that Ald. Wilson's stand at the time the building inspector's car was purchased was the proper one. I stood corrected at that time. The members must be called for. His stand should now be taken in this instance."

After promiscuous argument all along the line and back again the council voted to purchase a sedan. Ald. Douglass, McKay and May opposing. Answering Ald. Douglass, the mayor acknowledged that he would vote in the affirmative.

Ald. John May introduced an interesting subject for debate—city hall salaries. "What has been done," he asked the mayor, who vouchsafed the opinion that nothing should be done in this respect until after the citizens research bureau had completed their surveys of the several city hall departments.

Proposes Session.
Evidently this ended that discussion, as far as the mayor was concerned, for it was insufficient for Ald. May who rose again several minutes later to ask "What about salaries?" and to move that a special session of the council be called this week for that purpose.

Ald. McKay was a prompt seconder and Ald. Judd wanted to know "which salaries?" Ald. May reminded the mayor that he had called a meeting a month ago for the same purpose, and he urged an immediate readjustment.

Ald. Judd explained that while he was quite in accord with the mayor's suggestion to wait until after the surveys, he thought that they could deal with the assessment department at once. He urged also that in any

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event all changes in remuneration would be retroactive to January 1.

Ald. May declared that it would take up too much time waiting for the research committee, and Mayor Wenige stated that if they intended to deal with one office they would have to deal with all.

"It is the feeling of this council, I think, that there should be no interference from the research bureau," volunteered Ald. May.

"They are going to interfere," the mayor reminded.

Burdick Protests.
"The research bureau has nothing to do with city hall salaries," asserted Ald. Burdick, fairly aroused. "I wouldn't let them dictate to me as an alderman what to pay. That is out of their line entirely."

"Hear, hear" from Ald. May warmly.

"I move that we have a special session Friday night," exclaimed Ald. Drake, keeping his promise of a week ago.

"Five weeks ago we were here for the same thing," said Ald. McKay advised. "I was willing to go ahead then and I am now."

Ald. Hayden thought it would be "peculiar" to go into the question now after hiring the citizens research bureau for investigations. Wait for the report he urged.

"Do it now," was Ald. Wilson's announcement. "It will soon be the end of the year. There are some here entitled to increases. There may be some who are too high, but we should deal with them now."

"I think that we are going at this the wrong way," cautioned Ald. Douglass. "Let each committee discuss salaries and make recommendations at their next sessions."

Issues Warning.
"Right," concurred Ald. Burdick. "We have backbone for that. What does this research bureau know about salaries?" Ald. Watt supported the Douglass motion. "I have always opposed granting increases during the dying hours of the year," explained the latter. "I favor action early in the year in order that we can go back to the electorate and tell them just what we have done."

Then Mayor Wenige had a few words of warning. "The members of these committees had first better post themselves as to what funds they have available," he directed.

"I know that now as well as you do," rejoined Ald. Burdick.

"Well, there is one thing," Ald. Drake promised. "The pay for the citizens research bureau is not coming out of the \$5,000 set aside for salaries."

"The council voted for the surveys," retorted the mayor. "You passed the job."

"When you won't take their pay out of that \$5,000," responded Ald. Drake sharply.

Regrets Absence.
When the salary question had been disposed of, Ald. Douglass remarked pleasantly that it grieved him sorely because Ald. Colbert was absent.

"I am truly sorry that he is not here," he commented. "He has a great habit of bringing in clippings from the paper, and I want to refer to one about the city hall. There was a report that concentrated opposition to this project had asserted itself among a number of politicians in the council."

"What my politics are doesn't enter here. I am sorry that he is not here," he declared. "I am sure that he would have been of great help to me in this connection. I was not influenced as has been said, and always will be opposed to a city hall on the McCormick site at this time."

The next meeting when Ald. Colbert is present.

Mayor Wenige chose this opening to read extracts from the minutes of preceding meetings of the council upon the city hall question asking if they were satisfied with the "yeas" and "nays."

Judd Objects.
Ald. Judd objected that his worship was out of order, and that the time was not opportune to reopen a question already settled. Ald. Douglass was Ald. Judd's shield-bearer in this sort. "Quite right. All out of order," concurred enthusiastically. "Vagrant dogs are duly warned to leave for distant parts after legislation enacted last night—authority given the city treasurer to hire a dog-catcher. Ald. Wilson was the sole opponent, his associates being unable to convince him that the measure would apply only to tagless animals. The motion did not include dogs without tags, and Ald. Wilson refused to vote until the same was inserted. Anyone who attempts to take his dog while it carries a regulation tag will find he has picked upon the wrong party, promised the veteran ex-chairman of the board of works."

Supports Measure.
Mayor Wenige essayed the opinion that the measure was admirable, and explained that the Humane Society would undertake the job for nothing, if provided with a second-hand automobile.

"Not the tagged dogs," warned Ald. Wilson, quickly on the defensive.

Alderman Drake moved that Ald. Douglass supply one of the two or three "worn out cars" in the works department. Ald. Douglass nonchalantly ignored this able suggestion, while Ald. Wilson took advantage of another opening to advise that lots of dogs with tags gambled carelessly at large and should not be tampered with.

This dog-catching business is not a new venture, related Ald. Drake, who reminded that it had been done for years. Ald. Douglass agreed that it was a "serious" business when somebody laughed.

The Street Railway Company, represented by R. G. Ivey, vice-president, presented a formal appeal for permission to convert three cars into the one-man variety while it was proposed to operate the new centre-door cars with one man during the slack periods of the day.

Appears Agreeable.
The request goes to the finance committee for consideration with the alternative submitted by Ald. Judd that the company convert six cars into one-man cars and leave the new cars in charge of two men all the time. Mr. Ivey seemed agreeable to the latter proposal.

As the council formally appointed Police Inspector Lucas as the post-license inspector, Ald. John Greer wanted to know from Mayor Wenige if members of the city police force participated in county C. T. pilgrimages, deriving benefit from the subsequent fines.

Ald. Watt reported that Chief Birrell had told him that men off duty sometimes were employed by Cecil Webb of the federal department.

Ald. Wilson also desired to know if Inspector Lucas was going out into the county in search of stills.

Ald. Greer made it quite clear that he did not like the idea of city police, paid by the people of London, engaging in still-hunting in the county.

Mayor Wenige presumed that any member of the force could do as he pleased on his holidays. He added that of course he did not go into the county upon orders from the chief.

July Clearances

Millinery—Thursday

That you may have the most possible wear with one of these sale Hats we have listed this sale. One of the first on the July schedule. With practically the whole summer ahead, the above prices are most tempting, and besides, every Pattern Hat is marked for tomorrow at half the original price. The tables and cases should be stripped in a hurry tomorrow morning.

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These are the hats shown in the cases, all selected models from well known designers. Black, sand, violet, gray, navy, French blue and wood shades. Every pattern hat handsomely trimmed. July clearance, half price \$5.00 to \$12.00

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One table of these smart imported English Sport Hats. Crushable shapes with drooped lines. Fine Italian straw, coarse knotted straw, ribbon and wool braid combinations; colors sand, cherry, paddy, cotton, navy and toast. The golf or traveling hat. July clearing, half price \$4.00 to \$8.00

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One table of close-fitting Straw Hats to be cleared at only a fraction of regular prices; blue, gray, rose, henna and brown. July clearance 59c

Untrimmed and Some Trimmed Hats, \$2.98
The balance of our entire stock of Black and Colored Hats, including banded and ready-to-wear hats for sports, street or dress. July clearance, at fractional price \$2.98

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Children's Hats, grouped in July clearance at one price. Drooping brims, banded streamer fashion, white with colored ribbons, for 6 and 8 years. All one price 59c

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