

# COUNCIL IN FAVOR OF CATARACT OFFER.

Indications Are That It Will be Accepted and Contract Closed at Once.

Motion to Submit By-laws to Ratepayers Re-scinded---Vote Stood 13 to 8.

The outcome of the City Council meeting last night makes it look as if the power question is practically settled; that Hamilton will reject the Hydro-Electric proposition, avoiding the immense expenditure into which the city would be plunged by entering the scheme, and close a deal with the Cataract Power Company on terms to be named by the aldermen.

This was the consensus of opinion when the Council adjourned at midnight, although no decisive action was taken last night. A motion to accept the Cataract offer, after a majority of the Council had voted to rescind the report of the special committee, which recommended that the by-law be submitted to the people, was ruled out of order by Mayor Stewart. His Worship was acting under the rule which says that no business of importance shall be passed by the Council until it has been considered by the committee. An effort to upset this ruling, on motion by Ald. Dickson, seconded by Ald. Lewis, that the rule be suspended, was lost, those in favor of it failing to get the necessary two-thirds vote.

If the Cataract Company will agree to make its offer good for twenty or twenty-five years, and the aldermen say they have been informed that it will, there is no doubt as to how the power question will be settled. Aldermen Dickson and Gardner declared last night that unless the company did this they would not vote in favor of closing a deal with it. A special committee was appointed to deal with the matter. When the Council meets on Tuesday night a motion authorizing the Mayor to sign the contract with the Cataract will be made and it is predicted that it will carry on a division of 13 to 8, as follows:

For—Ald. Howard, Crerar, Clark, Dickson, Lewis, Gardner, H. G. Wright, Peregrine, Evans, Sweeney, Guy, Allan and Farrar.

Against—Ald. A. J. Wright, Hennessey, Nicholson, Jutten, McLaren, Farmer, Bailey, Anderson.

The company's new offer, giving the city power practically on its own terms and insuring the users of incandescent lighting a reduced rate, explains the change of opinion as shown at the Council meeting last night.

**Big Manufacturers are For Cataract.**  
A petition signed by many of the large manufacturing concerns of the city's industries representing a total capital investment of \$7,445,000, was read by City Clerk Kent, when the Council sat down to business. In full it was as follows:

"We understand that the Cataract Power Company has offered to allow you to name the figure at which you will pay them for power for pumping and street lighting, and we also understand that it is ready to sign a binding agreement that their prices for incandescent lighting and domestic and commercial lighting will be at least ten per cent. lower than any prices that will be charged in the city of Toronto for lighting from the Hydro-Electric Commission.

"Under these circumstances we feel that for this city to spend such a large amount of money is proposed for a separate source of power would be a very heavy burden on the ratepayers without any corresponding advantage, and that the propositions made are far more to the city's benefit than anything else offered and will insure more real competition than anything else can possibly do.

"As users of power we feel assured that the prices we are now getting from the Cataract company are reasonable and we are pleased with the service given therefrom. We think that it would be in every way to the city's interests, that a contract should be closed with the company or any other company that will guarantee us power on the same conditions at ten per cent. or more below prices that will be supplied by the Commission or any other corporation in Toronto. Besides that, we understand that the use of their power would also entitle the complete re-equipment of the electrical machinery in our factories, which itself, would mean an enormous expenditure to us.

"As believe therefore, that the only result would be a tremendous increase in the cost of the city and an unnecessary duration of wires for no possible benefit, we pray that your honorable body will consider and accept under proper conditions, the offers of the Cataract Company.

**Who Signed.**  
The petition was signed by the following concerns: T. T. Wright & Company, F. W. Feasby Company, Domestic Specialty Company, Thornton & Douglas, Ltd., Chubb, Bolton Knitting Company, Gurne & Co., Stanley Mills & Company Ltd., Tuckett & Co., Knitting Company, Arthur Thompson Pipe and Foundry Company, Hamilton Steel & Iron Company, Semmens & Elv Casket Company, William Valance, Canadian Shoe & Tool Company, E. C. Atke & Co., London Machine Tool Company, Canadian Steel & Wire Company, Ba Machine Works.

**By-Laws Introduced.**  
On the suggestion of McLaren, who thought it advisable to give the aldermen every opportunity to be enlightened on the new offer, a resolution was introduced, after the following by-laws were introduced:

To raise \$225,000 for a municipal plant to be supplied with power by Cataract.

To raise \$225,000 for a municipal plant to be installed by the Hydro-Electric Commission.

To raise \$300,000 for permanent improvements and road improvement.

To raise \$85,000 for waterworks improvements and extensions.

The committee of the whole, Ald. Sweeney moved that both the power by-law stand over until Friday night.

Ald. A. J. Wright demanded to know the reason for this suggestion.

"There are other matters to be considered in the meantime," was the reply.

"Here is another case of delay," protested Ald. Jutten, who wanted to know if the power question would ever reach the stage when the aldermen could deal definitely with it. He had predicted a week ago that there would be another offer from the Cataract, and sure enough it had arrived.

"But they are getting better all the time," said Ald. H. G. Wright, in a jocular tone.

Ald. Farrar gave Ald. Jutten a prod for wanting to hustle the power question through, when he had pleaded a minute before for delay with the street railway agreement until the aldermen had time to understand it.

This rather nettled Ald. Jutten, who replied that the Council for two months past had been receiving weekly offers from the Cataract. He was prepared to deal with the power question at once, but he demanded that important matters be submitted to the aldermen at least twenty-four hours before they were asked to take action on them.

Ald. McLaren took a similar view and thought that there should be some ruling to govern these matters. He objected to matters of this kind being sent in at the last minute for a catch vote, and said he would like to see the Mayor rule out of order anything that was not received the night before the Council met.

**The Street Railway Agreement.**

At 10 o'clock when the aldermen in Committee of the Whole were taking up the street railway by-law, taking it up clause by clause. This was done after some objection on the part of Ald. Evans and others, who protested that they had no time to study the agreement. It was suggested that the matter stand until Friday to give the aldermen time to sift it, but a majority opposed this. Ald. McLaren, as chairman in the Committee of the Whole, began to read the contract.

One of the amendments approved of was a motion by Ald. Sweeney that the company carry city firemen in uniform and the relief officer free, and to join the street railway tracks with the Bartonville extension on King street within a year. This amendment will be handed to the sub-committee to be incorporated in the by-law when it comes up on Tuesday night.

Mayor Stewart took exception to the clause which excused the company from beginning to pay into the sinking fund until 1914. He thought it should begin in 1910.

Ald. McLaren did not think the company should be forced to pay into the sinking fund during the first three years of the contract. He suggested 1912 as the proper time to begin paying into the fund.

It was decided to have the sub-committee confer with the company on this point.

Ald. A. J. Wright had a motion that a clause be added that the company pay the current wages for labor in doing the work. The sub-committee will also deal with this.

Just before 11 o'clock the rules of order for adjournment were suspended.

Ald. Farrar, seconded by Ald. Bailey, moved that the City Solicitor be instructed to give a written report on the legal points in the new street railway agreement, showing, if at all, how the city's interests would be adversely affected.

**Sprang a Surprise.**

When Ald. Bailey, seconded by Ald. Farrar, made a motion that when the council did rise to adjourn it meet again on Friday night, some of the aldermen seemed to be suspicious that this was a move to block any further discussion of power matters and the council was divided on it. Mayor Stewart explained that it would not block any further business and the motion carried.

The aldermen cocked their ears when Ald. Lewis arose. He recited what had taken place when the power question was before the council on June 9, how the council had considered the special committee's report in committee of the whole, and how a motion instructing the special committee to have a contract prepared, embodying the Cataract offer, was endorsed. The report of the committee in the whole was that the by-law be submitted to the people.

Seconded by Ald. Allan, Ald. Lewis moved that the report of the special committee that the Cataract by-law be submitted to the people be reconsidered.

"What is the reason for this?" demanded Ald. Jutten.

"I tell you," said Ald. Lewis. "I intended to make a motion later as plain as I could. If you want the reason there is no objection to giving it to you. It is that immediately the motion is carried, if it be carried, I desire to move that we do not submit the by-law to the electors, but that we enter into a contract with the Cataract Power Company. That is the object of the motion."

"If I am in order, I move we adjourn," broke in Ald. A. J. Wright.

"What about the delay?" inquired Ald. Allan. Ald. Wright a minute before had been denouncing those who were delaying the power question.

Ald. Hennessey seconded the motion to adjourn.

"Is it in order when another motion is being considered?" asked Ald. Allan. The Mayor advised that it was, and the motion was defeated on a division of 13-8, as follows:

Yeas (8)—Ald. Bailey, Anderson, Farmer, McLaren, Nicholson, Jutten, Hennessey, A. J. Wright.

Nays (13)—Ald. Farrar, Sweeney, Allan, Guy, Evans, Peregrine, H. G. Wright, Gardner, Lewis, Dickson, Crerar, Howard, Clark.

**Moved to Close Deal.**

Ald. Lewis, seconded by Ald. Allan, then moved the following motion:

"That having regard to the remarkably favorable proposals made by the Cataract Company for supply of electric power for pumping and other civic purposes, and are light-

## AND THE FOUNTAIN BLEW UP.

Denver, Col.—When Dr. Sam Rothschild struck a match to light a cigar, in front of a public drinking fountain, there was a terrific explosion. Fragments of the fountain mangled his leg, almost stripped a woman of her clothes, and upset a bicyclist, whose machine was wrecked. Gas from a street main had leaked into the fountain and was pouring from a faucet when the doctor struck the match.

This is almost as remarkable as the experience of Mr. James Dingwall, of Williamstown, Ont. All his life, he had suffered from constipation, "And the only medicine I ever secured to do me any real good was 'Fruit-a-tives,'" he writes. "I am now over eighty years of age, and I strongly recommend 'Fruit-a-tives' for chronic constipation."

"Fruit-a-tives" are fruit juices and tonics in the form of pleasant-tasting tablets. They cure constipation, sweeten the stomach and regulate the liver, kidneys and bowels. 50c a box—6 for \$2.50. At all dealers.

ing, and the safeguards also proposed, regarding moderate charges for incandescent lighting, and also having regard to the proposed expenditure of \$300,000 on the permanent pavement of certain of the leading street thoroughfares of the city, and other considerable capital expenditure in connection with the city's waterworks, this Council is of opinion that the offer or proposal with the optional alternatives there-in contained made by the Cataract Company should be and are hereby accepted, and that a contract based thereon be closed with that company, and that a special committee consisting of Ald. Sweeney, Clark, Jutten, Allan, Lewis, Peregrine, Bailey and Nicholson, be appointed to prepare form of agreement to be submitted to this Council."

**Ruled It Out of Order.**

Ald. Lewis had scarcely begun to speak to his motion before the Mayor ruled it out of order.

"Ald. Lewis, this is not in order," he said. "You have the right to suspend the rule under which I am ruling it out of order if you wish."

His Worship explained that he took this stand on the ground that the matter had never been properly considered by a committee. Such a motion could only be made when it was shown that the committee had neglected to do its duty. No committee had seen this motion and taken with the latest offer of the Cataract, as contained in Colonel Gibson's letter of the 25th, it was out of order. The Mayor pointed out that in the Cataract's new offer the term under which the reduction on house lighting would be enjoyed had been reduced from ten to five years. If it was for a longer period it might be considered a fair contract. But it was just for five years. There was no question or doubt about that. He appealed to the aldermen for their own good as well as for the good of the city to suspend the rule.

Ald. Dickson, in moving that the rule under which the Mayor was acting be suspended, declared that he would not be in favor of any five-year contract for a minute.

"I have been given to understand that it is for twenty years in five-year periods," said Ald. Sweeney. Speaking as one who probably had given power matters as much attention as any man in the Council, he felt that the aldermen in accepting the contract would be acting in a most unwise manner. Otherwise an enormous expense would be created, adding largely to the city's debt, and for practically nothing. He had no love for the Cataract Company, although it must be admitted it had done much for Hamilton, but he was opposed to jeopardizing a local company's business. Otherwise was not competition at all, because the prices quoted were far in advance of those of the Cataract. A majority of the people had been laboring under a misapprehension that they were going to get cheap house lighting by the Hydro scheme. It was doubtful if the city would very long time, if it ever did, would spend a million dollars to establish a house lighting system here. The Cataract Company, he believed, had seen fit to accede to the wishes of the citizens and make a substantial reduction in house lighting. It was doubtful if the city would be able to do this. Why should Hamilton go into a scheme built on figures to boost other places that would be glad to see Hamilton stand three or four notches below where it did and lose the advantage it had maintained?

The Mayor cut short Ald. Sweeney's argument by pointing out that there should be no discussion on a question of ruling.

**Voted This Down.**

Ald. Dickson's motion to suspend the rule under which the Mayor claimed his authority to rule out of order the motion proposed by Ald. Lewis was seconded by Ald. Peregrine.

"It takes a two-third vote to carry this," said His Worship, as he called for a division.

"On what ground?" demanded Ald. Lewis.

"I will explain after the vote," said His Worship.

"I appeal from your ruling," insisted Ald. Lewis, but the Mayor turned a deaf ear.

The motion was declared lost on the same division as before, 13-8.

**The Motion That Carried.**

Ald. Dickson straightened out the tangle by making a straight motion of reference, seconded by Ald. Lewis. He did this by cutting off that part of Ald. Lewis' motion which would have closed the deal with the Cataract. With this expunged, the matter was left in the hands of the special committee, to draw up the form of contract.

Ald. Dickson admitted that the question was one of the most important, if not the most important, matter that the Council had dealt with. It was important because of the length of time it would tie the city up to a contract that would either be a joy or a burden. To move that the proposal should be accepted at once, without more careful consideration, was too serious a matter, and he did not think that it should be rushed through in any sense of the word. Nor did he think that Ald. Lewis had intended that, or he would not have voted with him.

**Clashed With Ald. Wright.**

Ald. Dickson had a word to say about the press. While the newspapers as a rule were eminently fair, this matter seemed to have got on their nerves and they were trying to drive the aldermen this way and that, and intimating that aldermen who had notions of their own were not acting in the interests of the city, but for one party or the other. He had deep regard for the opinion of the Mayor and other members of the Council. There were two sides to the power question, and it was a business proposition all the way. People who took different notions on it should not be branded as Cataract or Hydro men or insinuations thrown out that they were bought, paid for and belonged to the Cataract or Hydro, and that they were there to deliver the goods. It was true he had heard one alderman say that he had never read the contract through, did not know anything about it, and did not want to. The opinion of such an alderman, of course, was not worth much.

"Name him," demanded Ald. A. J. Wright.

Dickson promptly named the interrupter, Ald. Wright said Ald. Dickson must have got his information from the papers.

"No, I was here and listened to it, much to my surprise," said Ald. Dickson.

The Cataract Co. was entitled to consideration, not because the men behind it were Hamiltonians or because it should be given charity, but because its offer was the best thing the city had ever had. Ald. Dickson did not think the city should jump at the offer without careful consideration.

Ald. A. J. Wright said that what he had said at one Council meeting was that he had no time to read the details of the contract and did not believe in splitting hairs because what the people wanted was competition.

Ald. Wright made a long and a strong anti-Cataract speech. He remarked that there was quite a reversal of form. Some aldermen who had been anxious to go to the people were backing up. Were they afraid now to trust the people? He rehearsed the arguments that have been heard time and again as to why the city should jump at the offer without careful consideration.

There are some men around this Board," he said, "who have perhaps larger interests than I have, who have more ability in a minute than I have in a month."

"Hear, hear," heartily assented Ald. Dickson, and there was an outburst of laughter.

"I was not referring to you," continued Ald. Wright, who seemed to be real fussed at the interruption.

Ald. McLaren pointed out that in view of the solicitor being out of the city to-morrow attending the session of the Railway Board, Wednesday being a holiday and there being poor prospects of the street railway by-law being printed by Friday, it would be well to adjourn until Tuesday. His suggestion was accepted.

Ald. Lewis' motion as amended by Ald. Dickson then carried without objection. The aldermen filed out of the council chamber just as the clock tolled midnight.

**Where Money Will be Spent.**

The good roads by-law which was introduced and allowed to stand in committee of the whole provides for the expenditure of the \$300,000 as follows:

Barton, James-Sherman ... \$ 35,500.00

James, Stuart-Guise ... 22,731.35

York, Queen-Dundurn ... 20,775.60

York, Dundurn-cemetery gate ... 8,375.00

James, Hunter-Herkimer ... 10,000.00

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Wellington, Stinson-Main ... 4,166.00

West avenue, Main-King ... 1,242.30

Cannon, James-Wellington ... 16,800.00

Main, Ferguson A-Walnut ... 2,320.00

Jolley Cut ... 10,000.00

To complete Market square ... \$ 5,734.30

\$271,840.30

Of the above amount \$74,098 is for brick and \$176,407 for asphalt.

**Southam Home Again.**

The William Southam Home for Incurable Consumptives, which has been the subject of many a lively debate for several weeks, as a result of the effort to get the institution built on another site, bobbed up again. The Finance Committee recommended that the building now in course of erection be completed, and that a by-law be submitted in January to raise a sufficient sum to

hands of the special committee, to draw up the form of contract.

Ald. Dickson admitted that the question was one of the most important, if not the most important, matter that the Council had dealt with. It was important because of the length of time it would tie the city up to a contract that would either be a joy or a burden. To move that the proposal should be accepted at once, without more careful consideration, was too serious a matter, and he did not think that it should be rushed through in any sense of the word. Nor did he think that Ald. Lewis had intended that, or he would not have voted with him.

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# The Right House

"HAMILTON'S FAVORITE SHOPPING PLACE"

Wednesday, July 1st---Dominion Day---  
this store will remain closed all day

Following the usual custom, as inaugurated  
by us several years ago, this store will  
close at 5 p. m.—Saturdays at 6 p. m.  
—during the months of July and August

The great early summer stock-adjusting  
reduction sales announced in Monday night's  
papers will be continued Thursday. Supply  
all your summer needs