

beginning of May to July 15, by dates; the number of times this matter has appeared, which was constantly delayed and mostly—and I do not blame in that respect—due to Mr. Kelly, but he was at the last minute coming up with something to prevent the passing of the franchise bylaw. But he was given free rein. The evidence in the minute book will show that during that entire period no one on council pressured anyone else. While I presented the subject matter, if there was opposition and reasonable opposition, we would delay. I may state here that my fashion, and it is reflected in the minute book, on any subject while I was mayor, is to bring a subject matter to the attention of the council, explain it, and allow full debate by every member and, then, if the majority is in agreement, let's make up our minds; procrastination being one of the minor vices of every municipal council—let's put it till next meeting. But on this matter here I did—went that extra length to allow full discussion to make positive that this would be aired fully to the satisfaction of everyone.

Gentlemen, here we are, therefore, to this meeting of July 10. There is a letter on exhibit, sent by Mr. Farris, to the city of Sudbury; it concerns three things, if you recall: the service line maximum extension, 66 feet to a property; and the main thing is to proceed after execution of the franchise agreement to have incorporated a subsidiary company with the consent of the city. At the last minute Mr. Kelly said, "I think that we have got to consider something else, the possibility of NONG forming a subsidiary company so that it will operate and keep a set of books for the city of Sudbury alone". Well, that was the last item, objection, and to this I said to Mr. Farris, "you are anxious to get this franchise through". He said, "Yes, please, things are pressing me, will you undertake"—this was openly said—"to supply a letter that if after we give you the franchise, we look into this matter and find some advantage to having a subsidiary company formed by you, you will do this." He said, "I do so undertake", and that is the letter.

I appointed a special committee consisting of Mr. Kelly, the deputy mayor, and Mr. James of the firm of Crawley and Company, chartered accountants for the city of Sudbury. I told them, "You look into that question and you report to council on the advisability of having such a subsidiary". That report is an exhibit; it is filed. So, we are here, therefore, approaching the date of July 15.

The redraft of the bylaw had been sent to the Fuel Board and things appear. The minute book is complete; there was some discussion on the matter. There were three men who voted against the franchise, deputy mayor Fabbro, a man by the name of Alderman Dubary and Alderman Guimond, the three. Their evidence is here and their testimony is that they thought that they could get some better rates.

Senator Cook: How many were voting?

Mr. Landreville: There were 10 members, I believe, at the council on—

Senator Cook: I have it; it is on page 1919.

Mr. Landreville: They gave their reasons. Pertaining to rates, that was one of the objections of one of the gentlemen who voted against. It had been repeated and repeated by Mr. Crozier that the franchise agreement cannot contain rates and the Fuel Board will not allow a municipality to make bargains for rates. It was strictly within the jurisdiction of the Fuel Board to so determine for purposes of uniformity and authority. So that that question was certainly irrelevant.

It is to be noted that at this council meeting I refrained from voting. I may tell you that that was not out of the ordinary. I normally did call on each member to express his views, then would call on a motion and would then call for the vote and, except in a tie, I would not vote. That is contrary to the mayor whom I succeeded. He would always vote. There is no obligation for the mayor—the reason for my policy in doing so, of not voting was to leave the council members free in that respect.

This, therefore—we are leaving our negotiations in the city of Sudbury aside to tell you of my personal relations with Mr. Farris; that obviously was a subject matter, I think, of Mr. Rand. All of you are men of the world. I can presume, therefore, a lot. You meet men that you like and you meet men that you dislike at first blush.

First of all, Farris and I had something in common due to the fact that we were having our birthday on the same day—we were the same age—or just within a day or so, I think, it is. Secondly, he is an extrovert and jovial. Through these meetings I came to befriend him; I kept him in respect and at a distance, indeed, at all times. We would be jovial, but when it came to strict business we never had business tête-à-têtes alone. It was with the