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Eye Glasses or Spectacles should be worn if there is any defect of sight. These things never cure themselves; but better wear no glasses at all than those which are not properly fitted.

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Also Fancy Cushion Tops, reg. 75c,
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We keep the best in
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prices.

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Choice Plums, at Somerville's. All
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The wise man is ready for the chilly days of
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Little Cost for Good Clothes

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Merchant Tailors.

ENGINEER HOLDS HIS JOB ON CASTING VOTE OF MAYOR

Council Equally Divided Over Question of Dismissing City Engineer McNab—A Proposal to Appoint W. H. Carswell—
A \$300 Grant to the West Kent Fair.

All the Aldermen and the Mayor attended the regular meeting of the Council last evening, in expectation of dealing with the expected request from the Board of Works that the City Engineer's resignation be accepted. The Mayor opened the Council meeting with the following report of his trip to Montreal, where he attended the convention of the Union of Canadian Municipalities as the Maple City representative.

To the Municipal Council of the City of Chatham:

Gentlemen,—In pursuance to the resolution appointing me as your representative to attend the Union of Canadian Municipalities, held in the city of Montreal, Sept. 15, 16 and 17, I beg to submit the following report:—

This, the second annual meeting of the Union, was very largely attended and was thoroughly representative, every city of importance, from Victoria, B. C., to Charlottetown, P. E. I., being represented. There was registered in the neighborhood of one hundred and fifty mayors and aldermen from every section of Canada. During the time we were in Montreal we had six business sessions, at which discussions took place on the different subjects introduced and several very important resolutions were adopted and referred to the Executive Committee of the Union to be brought before the different Legislatures and the House of Parliament.

The fact that the Executive of the Union was instrumental in doing good work for the municipalities during the past year was shown by the number of communications read by the secretary from different towns and cities in Canada, thanking the Executive for their efforts and results in securing beneficial legislation.

The principal subjects discussed which are of interest to us in Chatham are as follows:—

1. Civic Embellishment, i. e., the best means and most desirable method to be adopted to make a city beautiful and attractive, the establishment and securing of public parks and squares, and the most efficient manner to render our boulevards beautiful and uniform. The discussion on this subject brought out the fact very forcibly that Winnipeg, Man., has the best system in Canada. Everything there is done under the frontage tax system, and when a street is paved or a new sidewalk put down, the boulevards are laid out and sodded by the city and charged to the land fronting thereon. They are also cared for, rolled and trimmed on the principal streets by the city continually, and a proper proportion charged against the different properties on the streets. You can well understand what a perfect system this would be, and how much more desirable to see the whole street uniform than to have patches here and there neglected by some property owners and which undo, to a certain extent, the efforts of other citizens, who are striving to make the city streets beautiful. I would suggest that the Board of Works write to the Clerk of Winnipeg for their by-law regarding street improvements of this kind and that steps be taken to have a by-law passed here along the same lines.

2. Financial Union. This question was discussed at great length and a resolution adopted referring the matter to the Executive committee to bring the question before Parliament. It is the intention of the Union to endeavor to get the Government to guarantee the debentures of the United Municipalities of Canada, so that they may be enabled to borrow money in large sums at a rate of 2½ or 3 per cent, instead of from 4 to 5½. This is being paid by the different cities and towns of Canada; this, of course, being caused by the small amount borrowed and the fact that small debentures must be placed through the bankers and brokers of Toronto and Montreal.

3. A resolution was passed, asking the Executive committee of the Union to watch and endeavor to stop any encroachment by the Bell Telephone Co. on the rights of the municipalities and to prevent them from raising the rates, as they endeavored to do at the last session of Parliament. While discussing this matter the fact was brought out that there are now 44 telephone companies operating, about to operate, in Canada, and most of them very successfully. As the contract Chatham has with the Bell Telephone Co. expires next year, I would suggest that the Council take up the question at once and endeavor to get a competing company to locate here, as it is unjust that we should pay twice as much for telephones as they do in other cities.

4. The whole body of delegates were a unit for Municipal Home Rule, and

the binding together of the association to resist all encroachments on the rights of the separate municipalities to control their own streets, either by Legislature or Parliament.

5. A resolution was passed favoring public ownership and control of all public utilities, telegraphs, railways, etc., by the Government.

6. The question of level crossings in cities was discussed, and the matter will be brought before Parliament to have them insist on the railways providing better safeguards for the public at level crossings. I may say in regard to this that we have several times notified the C. P. R. to put up gates at their Wellington St. crossing. They have paid no attention to our notice and I would suggest that the matter be brought before the railway committee of the Privy Council, and I am satisfied that they will compel them to maintain gates at this very dangerous crossing. There should also be gates placed at the G. T. R. crossing on Park St., as several accidents have occurred there, and I recommend that this matter be attended to by the same committee and at the same time. There were a great many other subjects, but I have mentioned these few as being of more than ordinary interest to the city of Chatham, and I am satisfied that the meeting will be of great benefit to all of the municipalities identified by the Union.

I must also speak of the warm welcome and reception given the members of the Union by the city of Montreal. Our deliberations were held in the Council Chamber of the City Hall and the delegates had the freedom of the magnificent civic building. A carriage drive through the beautiful city and up through that time-honored and historic mountain, a luncheon at the look-out, followed by a boat ride around the harbor was only a portion of the program laid out for our entertainment by the city fathers of Montreal. The entire delegation were entertained by the city of Westmount on their beautiful park during one afternoon, and we had some chance to view this city, which has an ideal city government and whose affairs are ably handled by that distinguished literary gentleman, Hon. W. D. Lighthall, M. A., who has again accepted the secretaryship of the Union.

Yours very truly,
G. W. SULMAN,
Mayor.

Chatham, Ont., Sept. 22nd, 1902.

Requests to trim trees were received from the Park Street Methodist Church, the Chatham Loan Co., ex-Ald. Henry Weaver, Mrs. Barclay, Mrs. W. H. Cathart, and F. Marx, were referred to the city engineer.

The account of the Regimental Band for six concerts at Dominion park, at \$12 per concert—referred to Park committee with power.

James Glenn wrote that during the regime of Henry Smyth as mayor he proposed that if he (Mr. Glenn) raised the walk in front of his residence at the corner of William and Water streets, that the street would be raised. The letter was referred to the Board of Works to report on.

The account of Robert Cooper was referred to the Board of Works.

The city have rented a strong crusher to the Dominion Paving Co. New plates were secured from the Sawyer-Massey Co. for the crusher. The company agreed to pay for these in addition to the rental.

On motion the account of the Sawyer-Massey Co. was ordered paid, and charged to the contractors.

R. H. Humphrey requested permission to tap the Wellington street sewer opposite his property. Referred to Board of Works.

The contracts with Richard Stevens re the Kirk street and Delaware avenue sewers, were presented and the Mayor and Clerk were authorized to sign the same.

The deeds for the Smith lot on Victoria avenue and the Waddell lot on Water street, were presented and checks were ordered drawn for \$250 each for the cost of each lot, as soon as City Solicitor Wilson was satisfied as to the title.

The account of John A. Morton \$1.25 was referred to the Property Committee.

Mayor Sulman presented the annual report of the City Engineer to the Board of Works. He also donated to that body a copy of the Municipal Guardian, which contained several valuable papers read at the convention of the Municipal Union of American Cities, held at Grand Rapids.

Ald. McKeough gave notice of a by-law for the prompt payment of taxes.

Chairman McKeough, of the Board of works reported advising that the accounts of R. Cooper, \$3.35, and Geo. Lamphard, \$3, be paid. That the service of City Engineer J. D. McNab be dispensed with after this date.

In support of this clause in the report, Ald. McKeough said that the Board of Works had had this matter under consideration for some time. After holding a meeting of the Board of Works, it was thought best to ask the City Engineer to resign, but Mr. McNab saw fit not to accede to the request of the Board of Works. He had been better to have brought this matter up under the head of new business.

Ald. Marshall asked if it was now a fit and proper time to dispense with the city engineer when the pavements and sewers and other works were under way.

Ald. McKeough—I have another recommendation that will satisfy Ald. Marshall's contention.

Ald. McKeough—We could discuss this matter more intelligently if we heard the recommendation.

Ald. Cowan—That's it. We could discuss the matter more intelligently if we knew all. I will move that the

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September
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When our former successes will be surpassed.

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We are prepared as never before to do the very best for our patrons in styles, materials and prices in every line—And to make a Dress or Coat or Ladies' Tailored Suit.

We shall be pleased to see you and shall appreciate every business transaction.

William Gordon

matter be laid over and brought up under the head of new business.

Ald. McKeough—The Board of Works has given this matter serious consideration and have discussed it with all the members of the council. All the aldermen know just as much as the Board of Works.

Ald. O'Brien said he couldn't see why the Board of Works refused to bring the matter up under the head of new business, and seconded Ald. Cowan's amendment.

The amendment carried.

Ald. McKeough then read the second clause of the report, which recommended that W. H. Carswell be appointed city engineer at a salary of \$100 per month.

This matter then dropped for a while.

Ald. Taylor, for the Property committee reported recommending that the Bell Telephone Co. be paid \$56 for putting in fire alarm box No. 43.

That the Bell Telephone Co.'s charge of \$5 for moving a pole on King street was too much and that they be offered \$3, which was sufficient for the work done.

The report was adopted.

Ald. Mounteer, chairman of Parks and Cemetery, reported recommending the payment of two accounts of Quinn & Patterson, amounting in all to \$9.23.

Ald. Cowan called attention to the fact that he had noticed in the paper that the Erie Tobacco plant was destroyed at Kingsville. He had written to the directors and the Industrial committee had a conference with the directors at the Garret Hotel. They appeared impressed with Chatham as a site.

Ald. Cowan moved that the factory be granted exemption from taxes and free water for ten years.

The motion carried.

On motion of Ald. Cowan, seconded by Ald. McKeough, a deputation from the West Kent Agricultural Society was heard. W. W. Scane, Dr. Hall, Chas. Asker, Spencer Stone, and W. H. Robinson were the members of the delegation. They asked the council for a grant.

Mr. Austin pointed out that a fair of this kind was a help to a city like Chatham, which was the centre of a great agricultural district. The fair had been laboring under difficulties, but during the past few years under the management of the fair under making decided progress. Better weather had favored the fair, and it was hoped to have the society on a good basis in the near future.

Ald. Marshall moved the usual grant of \$500.

Ald. Waddell seconded the motion, which carried.

Ald. Cowan asked who was paying for the earth being hauled from the excavation at the Gray factory to fill the tank at the corner of Hyslop and Park streets.

Ald. McKeough replied that the city paid nothing for the earth loaded in wagons. The top of the tank was rotting away and, while the city could get the earth so cheap, Ald. McKeough thought it best to fill the tank up. It would cost a great deal more to have hauled the earth from the city lots.

Ald. Cowan—The city is paying for the hauling. How about the bricks? There must be 15,000 bricks in that tank. They would be worth something to take out.

In reply to Ald. Cowan's query re the petition for a light on Lorne avenue, Ald. Taylor said that he had explained this same thing half a dozen times before. There had been five or six petitions for lights, and on receipt of each and every petition Ald. Taylor had given the same explanation. To put more lights on the circuits would endanger the plant. To increase the plant would cost \$5,000 to \$6,000.

Ald. Taylor didn't like to assume the responsibility of destroying the plant.

In reply to the query of Ald. McKeough, Ald. Marshall said that the estimated cost of the repairs to the Indian Creek bridge was \$75.

The Mayor asked if any arrangements had been made to mark the monument at the intersection of the streets where the new pavements were being put down.

Ald. McKeough said that that was a matter for the city engineer to

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look after and he would see that it was done.

The Mayor said that at Montreal the best filling for pavements had been discussed and cement was pronounced superior to tar. Engineer Rust, of Toronto, said that they had discarded tar altogether as a filling material. The Mayor referred this matter to the Board of Works to look into and have the contracts changed for the new pavements which call for tar if the Board of Works should deem it advisable.

Ald. Cowan said that it was advisable to open Patterson avenue through to Queen street, and the Bank of Montreal was willing to give 33 feet from the Patterson property if the city would grade up a street.

Fred. Stone also promised to do what he could towards contributing to the street. Unfortunately the house stood in the way of Mr. Stone contributing as much as he would have liked.

This matter was referred to the Board of Works to consult with Mr.

Continued on Page 4.

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