

place their pathriotism above their silf interests, but not so high above thim but what they can rach up wance in a while and take it down and look at it just to make shure that it is still there.

"If ye ask wan of our local statesmin what he thinks about the matter, he'll talk himself blue in the face trying to make ye belave that a Boord iv Control will be the salvation iv our fair but misguided city.

"I mit me frind Alderman Casey on the strate yisterday and sez I to him. 'Ye'll soon be out iv a job, old man. Too bad!'

" 'How's thot?' he asked.

" 'Why,' sez I, 'I understand that the city is about to adopt the Commission form iv Gover'mint, that the City Hall is to be entirely rinovated, hosed-out and scoured, and frade iv cock-rooches, rats and aldermin and the like. Thot there'll be no more piano-tuners directing the city's financial affairs and bond issues, thot our bridges will no more be built be grocery clerks and hack-drivers, thot our strates, walks, alleys and sewers will be planned and laid out be ingineers instead iv bootchers and chimney swaypes, and, in fact, thot our city's affairs will be controlled and handled be spicialists, instead iv be any rag-tag and bob-tail crew thot happens to get votes enough to land thim in the City Hall. Ah, sez I, 'Twill be a great day for Vancouver whin the Commission form iv Gover'mint goes into effect. How long will we have to wait, Casey?' sez I.

" 'Until about four days after Hades has froze over,' sez he with some show iv temper. 'Shannahan,' sez he, 'befur Vancouver gits a Commission form iv Gover'mint ye will have been dead so long that yeer discindints will consider yee too pra-historic to be anything but a mimber iv the monkey family, which I have me suspicions that ye are,' sez he. 'No, sir,' sez he, 'We'll have a Boord iv Control or we'll rip up ivery strate in town, if we can find any thot are not alriddy ripped up,' sez he. 'A city with its Boord iv Aldermin turned out is loike a great industrial institootion closed down, like a mighty river dried up, like the stopping iv the earth's rivilootions——'

" 'Or loike a jail delivery,' sez I, be the way iv being sociable.

" 'It will niver come. It will niver come!' sez he, very solemnly. 'We're too dapely intrinched to be routed and we'll foight to the last ditch,' sez he. 'What would the city do with all iv us jobless statesmin on its hands?' sez he. 'Haven't ye ordinary beings that do the voting fer us got any sinse or any gratitude? Would ye take the brid out iv our mouths? Would ye lave us stranded without any friendly craft to rescue us? Would ye——'

" 'Pardon the intirruption,' sez I, 'but me hearin's gitting poor. Did ye say craft or graft?'

" 'What would ye do?' sez he, not minding me quistion.