

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16, 1922.

# MAYOR LEADS FOR THE BODELL OFFER

Continues Tirade of Abuse of Worthy Citizens Who Are Fighting for City's Rights, and Makes Insulting Remark About Engineer Kribs

His Unwarranted Attempt to Create a False Impression Regarding "Veiled Pledge" and Danger That St. John Will Never Get Musquash Power—Commissioners Thornton and Bullock Ask Him Some Pointed and Embarrassing Questions—Discussion to Be Continued Today.

The common council considered Mayor McLellan's recommendations in regard to the Bodell proposals yesterday afternoon but took no definite action in the direction of a plebiscite, after a prolonged discussion which was finally adjourned until 11 o'clock this morning, when a special meeting of the council will be held. None of the commissioners declared their stand on the question, as they had been asked to do by the United Organizations. Commissioner Frink declared he was not moved by any threats of a recall, while the other commissioners made no statement. The matter of the plebiscite, however, will come up for decision at this morning's meeting.

The mayor prefaced the hydro discussion with a request that the commissioners use their own capacity for judgment in the discussion and asked them not to be misled by the campaign of "misrepresentation" carried on by "some of the local newspapers." Threats of recall should have no bearing on the discussion, he said. "If I may term it so, a veiled pledge has been made that outside investors who will assume control of the New Brunswick Power Company, will get control of the Musquash power."

He added: "If by your vote today you turn down a plebiscite in this matter it will mean but one thing—that St. John will never get Musquash power."

He asked the commissioners to be swayed by threats of a recall. He was quite prepared to take care of himself in this matter and he believed that there was an ulterior motive behind the attitude of the newspapers arrayed against it. He made a malicious attack on The Telegraph, The Times and The Globe.

## The Report Is Taken Up.

Commissioner Frink moved that the report be taken up section by section. He added that all the portions comprising a review of the events leading up to the negotiations with the Power Company representatives might be considered as read. Commissioner Thornton objected to this, however, as there was one part of the mayor's resolution of May 11 he wished to discuss. The mayor said they could come back to that part and this satisfied Commissioner Thornton.

The mayor then went on to read his report. He took up first the matter of the hydro resources and declared that this commission had never functioned because of a clause in the act which inferred that the commission could only function after the contract with the Electric Power Commission had been signed. He admitted there had been hastiness in appointing this commission. He read the section from the act.

Commissioner Thornton wanted to know, in view of this, why Mr. Phillips was called into the discussions with Messrs. Bodell and Sanderson.

The mayor replied that he had come as an expert and as a representative of the United Organizations, which had shouldered the fight in the last civic election. In reply to Commissioner Thornton, the mayor said that Mr. Peters, the other appointee, had not attended any of the meetings.

Commissioner Thornton expressed the opinion that this motion of the council of May 11 was in regard to the appointment of this board should be rescinded, and the mayor agreed with him.

Commissioner Bullock—"As soon as you knew then of this difficulty, your worship, we should have been taken into your confidence and by this time a civic distribution system might be under way."

The Retort Courteous!

Mayor McLellan—"Do you think so? If you do, you are densely ignorant." He went on to say that he was waiting for the report from the power commission in regard to the cost of the system.

Commissioner Wigmore—"We were satisfied at the time when you made the appointments, your worship."

The mayor went on to read from his report and at the mention of Gordon Kribs' name, Commissioner Thornton asked: "Who is this Mr. Kribs and what are his qualifications?"

The mayor—"I cannot say. I will say frankly that the last I heard of him was that he was making washing machines."

Commissioner Wigmore—"He is employed by the Power Commission."

The mayor here remarked that during the campaign he had accepted a deal at par but he had found out that he was "gullible."

Commissioner Bullock—"Did not Sir Adam Beck recommend Mr. Kribs?"

The mayor—"We were told so."

"No Truck or Trade."

Mayor McLellan went on to read his report of the negotiations with Messrs. Bodell and Sanderson. At the mention of the mayor's slogan, "no truck or trade with the Power Company" in the report, the mayor looked up and declared that that was his slogan today.

Commissioner Thornton expressed deep surprise. "If this is your slogan, why did you negotiate with the Power Company?"

The mayor—"What I meant during the campaign was that there would be 'no truck or trade' with the Power Company in regard to the company distributing the Musquash current."

Commissioner Thornton—"Well, you made no qualification of that slogan during the campaign and that is what you are doing now."

The mayor said that Mr. Kribs was present at one of the discussions and Commissioner Bullock wanted to know if Mr. Sanderson recognized Mr. Kribs as an electrical engineer. The mayor could not say.

Commissioner Thornton wanted to know how they arrived at the figures presented in the Bodell scheme.

The mayor—"They were figured on a capitalization basis."

When speaking about the valuation on the Eastern Electric Commission, Commissioner Thornton declared that the assets of this concern did not amount to \$10,000.

Has Faith in Mr. Bodell.

The mayor declared that he had received similar information, but Mr. Bodell's inventory showed it was far greater. He believed that Mr. Bodell would not state anything he could not substantiate, and he believed Mr. Bodell's estimate correct.

Going on to deal with the undeveloped hydro resources at Lepreau and Magaguadavic, the mayor said that Mr. Phillips had placed a valuation of \$18 per h. p. for the estimated 19,000 h. p. there. The Harris, Forbes firm, of Boston, who represent the bondholders, had issued a prospectus based on eminent engineering opinions that practically agreed with this estimate.

The mayor went on to say that he had insisted that the greater portion of the common stock of the N. B. Power Company be deposited in the bank before he would place Mr. Bodell's proposals before the citizens. This \$2,000,000 common stock was the "nigger in the woodpile." The mayor declared that Montreal people were offering a higher price for the N. B. Power Company than that at which it was being offered to the city.

Commissioner Bullock—"If more money is being offered, why do they not accept?"

The mayor—"Bodell has not got the refusal of that offer, that is all." He explained the situation. "Who controls the assets of the N. B. Power Company?" he asked, turning to Commissioner Bullock. The mayor answered his own question by saying it was not Bodell and his associates but it was the holders of the common stock, by their voting power. Mr. Bodell had an option on this common stock, dating from February last. The holders of this common stock, Messrs. Thomson, Taylor and others were the ones with whom he would not deal. He had declared that this stock was worthless during the campaign but he had then forgotten the fact that they had the voting power. "Montreal is willing to bid more than \$200,000 for that common stock." He took occasion to say here that the Globe's stand in this matter was "a

myth." He then made a contemptuous remark about the editor of the Globe.

\$3,000 Too Low.

The mayor declared that it was being spread around that he had been bought as \$8,000, but I feel that that is an insult.

Commissioner Frink—"Trying to put you in the piker class, eh?"

The mayor said that Mr. Bodell had told them that he could not guarantee delivery of the preferred stock at \$5, but he would do his best to see that the first came at \$5 and the second at 70. Mr. Bodell had declared that that was all it was worth, said the mayor. He went on to say that the company had paid no dividends for the last three years. Commissioner Thornton read from a report of 1920 that all dividends had been paid up. The mayor continued that reading. It had been spread around that the title to the N. B. Power Company property would not pass under the Bodell proposal, the mayor said. He had seen Lieutenant-Governor Pugsley in this matter and the governor had said that he could not understand how the newspapers could make such a statement.

Why He Had Changed.

He went on to say that the Power Company plan was by no means as dilapidated as had been made out, but he could not understand how the newspapers could make such a statement.

Commissioner Bullock asked him what had caused this change. "Only by explanation," returned the mayor. He had been taken around the plant and had seen for himself.

Speaking about the flat wheels of the present street cars, the mayor advanced an ingenious reason for this. He said that when Thomas McAuley came from Calgary to take charge of the plant, he had been told he could spend only so much. To economize, Mr. McAuley had laid the flat plates of the rails in the wrong way, and this caused the "bumps."

The council received this in silence. He admitted the cars were not modern, but taken all in all, the plant was in fairly good shape.

The mayor went on to pay high tribute to the ability of Sanderson and Porter.

The experts, he said, could start all the juggling they liked in regard to rates and "spaces," but "all this is another dream." The city had been told that the price for the current would be 1.2 cents per k.w.h., said the mayor. "What a beautiful lot of modifiers they must take us for," said the mayor. The province was not going to stand any loss at Musquash for the benefit of St. John alone, and the legislature could easily change that rate if it saw that the province was being put to a loss.

He said, the city of St. John will have to pay, and it would only be a just claim on the part of the taxpayers of the province to be made.

Commissioner Bullock—"Then, why do we need the power if the rates are going to be increased? It seemed to him that the government would not treat the city in this fashion."

The mayor remarked that he had some information left that he could not divulge and this prompted Commissioner Thornton to say that the council should be informed.

Commissioner Frink—"I should judge his worship has his starboard gun still in reserve."

The mayor declared that the Musquash current was worthless without a steam standby, as afforded by the company's plant.

Commissioner Bullock—"That is what Ross said."

The mayor admitted he was wrong during the campaign on this point. He declared that the government had declared that Mr. Bodell would develop a plant not yield enough current, it would go ahead and develop on the Lepreau and Magaguadavic.

Moncton Contract.

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When the mayor had finished, Commissioner Frink arose and said that the council had been there all afternoon and "had been edited." Information had been given that would likely provoke discussion and consideration. As for himself, he was not moved by threats of recall. He suggested that the committee rise and report to council and meet either in the evening or this morning.

Commissioner Bullock—"It will only take me two minutes to state where I stand in the matter."

Commissioner Thornton—"So far as I am concerned I am willing to stay." He went on to say he usually did not say much but when it came to a vote he knew what he was going to do. He thought council should adjourn until the morning.

Commissioner Wigmore said he was willing to stay.

The mayor said he would rather not meet in the evening.

Commissioner Frink got to his feet

## Corns Go Blue-jay to your druggist

Just say

The simplest way to end a corn is Blue-jay. A touch stops the pain instantly. Then the corn loosens and comes out. Made in a colorless clear liquid (one drop does it!) and in extra thin plaster. The action is the same.

## Pain Stops Instantly

and declared he had his views on this matter but had never been given a chance to express them. He was getting started when Commissioner Bullock interrupted: "Save it till tomorrow."

Adjournment of the discussion was then made to 11 o'clock this morning. Included in routine business yesterday was the decision to postpone hearing of certain assessment appeals from Aug. 21 until such time as the city solicitor and chairman of the board of assessors return to the city. The C. P. R. notified the council that it would take up the matter of reconstruction of the overhead bridge in Chesley street.

The mayor presided and all the commissioners were present, in addition to several interested citizens.

The report of the committee of the whole was adopted as read. A communication from the secretary of the Union of N. B. Municipalities regarding payment of dues amounting to \$60 was read and the amount ordered paid.

The mayor of Chatham (Ont.) wrote announcing the holding of the Dominion fire chiefs' convention at Chatham on Aug. 28, 29, 30 and 31. The letter was referred to Commissioner Thornton.

Wellington Ring wrote in regard to an accident sustained by his boy, Niles, when riding a bicycle at the foot of Harrison street. The matter was referred to the commissioner of public works and the city solicitor for report.

Notification from the law department of the C. P. R. in regard to the reconstruction of the bridge over Chesley street was received. Speaking on the matter, Commissioner Frink declared that the company had been asked to widen this bridge and thus do away with a dangerous turn in the road under the bridge. It was finally decided, after discussion, that Commissioner Frink get in touch with the C. P. R. and find out

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Gouraud's Oriental Cream

their intentions in the matter and report back.

Commissioner Bullock's motion that a duly executed agreement, releasing the Dominion public works department from any liability for damages while doing dredging work for the city, free of charge, carried. The council then resolved itself into a committee of the whole and took up the discussion of the mayor's hydro report.

The board of the provincial hospital decided yesterday to connect the institution with the St. John water system. It also was decided to install electric lighting in the hospital annex.

## Are you giving your hair the right treatment?

Different types of hair need different treatment to bring out their beauty and lustre—there is a tested treatment for your individual type of hair

But not with ordinary soaps and cleansers. For you must aim at the Sebium. You must remove it—clear it from your scalp, in a way that will not harm the delicate tissues.

The remedy discovered

Once the cause of hair trouble was known, our chemists began their search for an effective remedy. They have developed in Palmolive Shampoo, we believe, the best way yet known to combat Sebium effectively.

The next thing is to care for your hair as you would your complexion, to bring out its beauty and lustre together. With this Sebium combant our chemists have blended Olive Oil. Nothing throughout the ages has yet proved the equal of Palmolive Oil for bringing out the lustre, sheen and silky softness of your hair.

Free trial treatment

To show you the effectiveness of this shampoo treatment we will give you a treatment to try.

With it comes a book that tells you exactly what else to do for your own type of hair—how to help you restore hair that is oily, dull and brittle, dry, full of dandruff, or thin and falling.

Each treatment has been tested by well-known medical authorities. The results have already been proven. So, for your own sake, stop hit or miss methods. Adopt the Palmolive Shampoo, together with one of these tested treatments, that is right for your type of hair.

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Winnipeg Toronto Montreal

Also makers of Palmolive Soap and Palmolive Shaving Cream

By "BUD" FISHER

## MUTT AND JEFF—WELL, BASEBALL IS AN UNCERTAIN GAME

JEFF: YOU AND I WILL BE 'COLLING IN LUXURY IN A WEEK! NOTHING TO IT! YOU'RE A BOXER, AINT YOU?

MUTT: SURE! I'VE ALWAYS BOXED AS A BANTAM!

JEFF: WE'LL GRAB ONE OF THOSE \$30,000 PURSES AND ROLL IN CLOVER! I'LL PHONE CHAMPION LYNCH'S MANAGER AT ONCE!

MUTT: IN THAT CASE I'LL START TO TRAIN AT ONCE, TOO!

JEFF: YOU SAY YOUR TERMS ARE WINNER TAKE ALL? FINE! THAT SUITS ME, SIR, AND—

MUTT: HUH?

JEFF: ?

MUTT: ?

JEFF: LISTEN! IF THE LOSER DOESN'T GET AT LEAST TEN DOLLARS THERE AINT GONNA BE ANY FIGHT! SEE?