

NEWS FROM THE CITY HALL

COUNCIL MEMBERS WANT TO SEE SIGNED AGREEMENT OF PURCHASE

Alderman Singer Advises That Discussion Be Dropped Until Agreement is Brought Down—'We Are Talking in the Dark,' Says Hiltz—Church Motion Swamped.

Only five members of the city council answered Controller Church's roll call at the meeting last night, when there was a division on his motion to abandon the negotiations to clean-up the franchises. Nineteen members voted to go on with the negotiations. There was a full council. Ald. Maguire did his utmost to increase Controller Church's support and had to see the diminution of an already small minority.

There are left six who are trying to prevent the people having the right to vote on the clean-up of the franchises. They are Controllers Church and O'Neill, Aldermen Rowland, Meredith, Graham and Maguire.

All thru the lengthy debate the six who tried to prevent the question being decided by the people spoke their little pieces as they had been prepared for them.

Ald. Wanless moved that the negotiations for the clean-up of the franchises be extended to include the radial franchises outside the city limits. He repeated a conversation he had with one of the expert valuers (evidently John W. Mayes) to express his contention that the valuation of the surplus profits is an "infernal problem."

"Just to Kill Time," Controller Church interjected. "I can't see that there can be any clean-up of the franchise unless we buy up the radials outside the city limits," Ald. Wanless declared, but when he added that fifteen millions would be quite enough for the railway properties in and out of the city he was generally challenged. "If negotiations fail we should build the tubes," he said.

"We have spent enough money to wait until the agreement of purchase is brought down," said Ald. D. Spence. He scolded the council for talking too much.

"The price is too high and it is not a clean-up," Ald. Cameron asserted, but when challenged by Controller McCarthy he took refuge in the explanation that he is not a lawyer.

"The agreement of sale will give the city complete control of the streets, crossing and all," Controller McCarthy assured the council.

"Will underground franchises be included?" Controller O'Neill asked.

"The Controller O'Neill," Controller McCarthy replied, and there was laughter when he added, "Come in with us and get them included."

Controller O'Neill insisted that the underground situation would prove the big advantage to Sir William Mackenzie.

Ald. Wanless and Cameron were the only voters in favor of Ald. Wanless' motion when it was put. All the other members voted nay.

Then Controller Church's motion to abandon the negotiations for a clean-up of the franchises was slaughtered by the following vote:

Ayes—Church, O'Neill, Rowland, Meredith, Graham, Maguire—5.
Nays—McBride, Dunn, Robbins, D. Spence, Wanless, Ryding, Walton, Cameron, F. S. Spence, Wickett, Whetter, Singer, Hiltz, Smith, Maguire, Risk, Simpson, Hooker, McCarthy—19.

Controller Simpson, at the council meeting yesterday, made an admirable presentation of the recommendation that each controller specialize in one of the civic government. His strongest plea was that the responsibility is now too general for giving requirements of information to the council, and for collaborating in the work of the board of control.

Controller Church, the one controller who is in favor of the reform, made a lengthy harangue on things in general.

Ald. Graham moved that the recommendation be struck out, but only five voted for his motion—Controller Church, Ald. Meredith, Rowland, Graham and Maguire.

COME HERE TO LEARN

Mayor Graham of London, Ont., had a seat beside Mayor Hocken at yesterday's council meeting.

All Ontario recognizes that one has to come to Toronto to learn civic government," he said.

be ready for the next meeting of council. A committee of citizens need not be appointed, for it would not have full data. I believe that public sentiment approves my suggested appointment of a committee to study the problem, and the best solution that can be got for the city.

"As to the value of the surplus profits which I have doubled again in the next seven and a half years. I intend to have the agreement of purchase completed, brought down to this council and sent on to the provincial authorities."

"Mr. Geary should be instructed to stop work on the agreement of purchase until the committee of citizens reports," Ald. Maguire said.

"We should sit tight until the agreement of purchase is completed and we know what we will get for our money," Ald. Smith advised.

"Talking in the Dark," Ald. Hiltz declared. "Until we see the agreement of purchase we cannot talk and vote intelligently."

Ald. Singer urged deferring discussion until the agreement of purchase is brought down. "Is this council going to pass judgment upon something we have not seen?" he asked.

Controller Simpson was interrupted frequently by Ald. Maybee while talking on the question. "This is a sample of the hoodlumism we get in this council," the controller threw at Ald. Maybee. There were cries of "Retract!" but Ald. Maybee accepted his rebuke for infraction of the rules and the matter was dropped.

"We should wait for the agreement of purchase," Ald. Whetter urged.

"We should drop the whole miserable affair and go to the railway board for relief," Ald. Graham said.

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CLAY BOTTOM PROVIDES THE FINEST ANCHORAGE ON JAMES BAY

Alternative Proposals as Regards the Placing of Line With Respect to Waterpower and Directors.

The attention of the Ontario Government is being directed to Moose Factory as the James Bay terminus of the Timiskaming & Northern Ontario Railway. In this regard, J. L. Englehart, chairman of the T. & N. O. Commission, says: "If there is a harbor on James Bay or Hudson Bay, that harbor is at Moose Factory, the only true harbor, notwithstanding what our friends to the east of us say. The bottom is good clay, and nothing is better for anchorage than clay."

A report on the extension of the T. & N. O. Railway to James Bay has just been issued. Two routes have been investigated. One of these is described as the east route, and the other as a west route.

BUSY COUNCIL MEETING DID A DEAL OF ROUTINE

Arthur Lepper Honored for Brave Rescue—Leave of Absence for Cameron.

At yesterday's council meeting, Arthur Lepper of the civil health department, was presented by Mayor Hocken with a Royal Humane Society bronze medal for bravery. On the night of Aug. 20 last three young men were in bathing off Fisherman's Island, when a storm blew up and they were unable to get ashore. Mr. Lepper swam out to them and dragged them ashore, one after another. One of the rescued was too far gone to be resuscitated. Alex. and John Lapp are the rescued who survived.

Revive Committee. Ald. Dunn moved that the committee on legislation and resolutions, abolished two years ago, be revived. The vote was favorable to the introduction of a bill.

Commissioner Harris wrote that the civic survey officials have in their report upon the works department not presented complete information in their possession and have made statements not in accord with facts.

These bills were passed: To acquire land for extension of Earl street westward to Jarvis street; to issue debentures for purchase of Mimico Radial line, and to round the corners of King and Queen streets at Sunnyside for the approach of the new radial.

Ald. Cameron was granted a month's leave of absence.

Treasury Board Augmented. Two more members of the council are to be appointed to the treasury board.

A further grant of \$2000 was given the Social Survey Commission. The health is to be given a \$4500 Russell ambulance.

Mr. George Nixon was given \$1092, a year's salary of his husband, a sewer inspector, who was killed.

Pension for Civic Employees. Controller O'Neill's motion that a special committee confer with the pension and sick benefit fund for civic employees, was adopted.

Controller Simpson's motion that a special committee confer with the Retail Merchants' Association upon having the hours of retail clerks reduced, was adopted.

Ald. Cameron's motion that a special committee buy the year's supply of lumber by contract, it is to be bought in the open market.

McCauley street widening south of Anderson street at the proportion of 25 per cent. to the property owners, was adopted.

Education Commission. Referring to the report of Judge Winchester upon the accounts and contracts of the board of education, Ald. Wickett suggested that the council should have a committee substituted for the board.

Ald. Maguire put thru a motion that the railway board be asked to order night service on the Metropolitan in North Toronto.

Ald. Wanless and Wickett were appointed to the treasury board.

PURCHASE AGREEMENT COMPLETED NEXT WEEK

Mayor Hocken Expects to Have Signatures to Documents in a Few Days.

Mayor Hocken expects that the agreement of purchase for the clean-up of the franchises will be completed and signed next week, and he is considering the advisability of calling a special meeting of the council as soon as the agreement is signed.

"If the Ontario Hydro Commission approves the agreement, and I believe they will, the bylaw will be carried," Mayor Hocken declared.

MOOSE FACTORY BEST TERMINUS FOR ONTARIO GOVERNMENT ROAD SAYS COMMISSIONER ENGLEHART

Clay Bottom Provides the Finest Anchorage on James Bay—Alternative Proposals as Regards the Placing of Line With Respect to Waterpower and Directors.

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Must Either Build Many Bridges or Else Acquire Running Rights Over the Transcontinental Road.

The west route is longer than that of the east of the Abitibi, but would come closer to the water powers on the Mattagami and the Abitibi.

The first problem in connection with this route is to get from Cochrane to the plateau between the Abitibi and the Mattagami. Two plans were considered. The first contemplates the construction of a new line from Cochrane, involving expensive bridges across the Frederickhouse, Deception Creek and Driftwood River.

The alternative is to run over T. C. R. to a point west of the Driftwood River, then turn north and join the line as originally planned at the north boundary of the Township of Colquhoun. This would avoid all the heavy bridges, but would make the distance from Cochrane to Colquhoun thirty-two miles, of which only eleven miles would be new line, compared to twenty-seven miles by the first route.

The distance to Moose Factory by the first route will be 185 miles, and by the T. C. R. alternative 191 miles. Of this twenty-two miles would be over the T. C. R. and 169 would be new line.

The entire route may be conveniently divided into four sections: From Cochrane to the north boundary of Colquhoun, twenty-seven or thirty-three miles, according to the route followed; from Colquhoun to the northern limit of good agricultural land, forty-three miles; thru the transcontinental road, fifteen miles; and across the coastal plain, 100 miles.

Plenty of Good Spruce for Piling and Bridge Work Grows Along Proposed Line to James Bay.

Speaking of the resources along the proposed route, the report says: "There is plenty of good spruce suitable for piling and bridge work along the banks of the streams, and on the dry ground of the higher ridges there is a good growth of spruce, whitewood and some jackpine."

Hudson Bay Company's Ships Discharged Their Cargoes at Moose Factory Harbor Many Years Ago.

Regarding the depth of the water in James Bay in the vicinity of Moose Factory, the report states: "The radius of sounding in the open sea, of channel between outer buoy and Sandy Island may be summarized as follows: Four miles of from six to twelve feet at low water of spring tides; two and a half miles with from fourteen to twenty feet of water, three and one-half miles with from eighteen to twenty-five feet and one mile with from sixteen feet of water off the end of Middleboro Sands to twenty-four off the point of Sandy Island.

"The shallowest water occurs at the bar one mile inside of the outer buoy, five and three days before she could over the bar, and in two years she had to wait nine days, in three years four days, in four years two days, in five years one day. The number of days elapsing between the departure of the packet on board and the departure of the ship may be taken as the time lost in waiting for a sufficiently high tide to enable her to pass out over the bar.

"Out of a total 68 years in which the record of the departures is complete, the ship was enabled to pass out the same day in 7 different years, on the next day in 9 years, on the second day in 16 years, on the third day in 8 years, on the fourth day in 7 years and in from five to eight days after the packet was put aboard in the other 9 years. In 22 years the Lady Head was once delayed for eight days in getting out, twice delayed for six days and twice for five days, three times for four days, five times for three days, five times for two days and four times she went out the same day the packet was delivered. This represents a delay in getting out of the Moose River of 67 days in 22 years, or an average of three days per voyage. The delay occasioned the Lady Head when entering the Moose River in 21 years totals 70 days, or an average of 3 1/3 days per voyage."

BRICK MANUFACTURER'S CONVENTION

The Canadian National Clay Products Association open their Convention in King Edward Hotel, Rooms F and G, Jan. 27th. 10.30 a.m.—Registration, Room F. 2.30 p.m.—Opening. Welcome by President Charles Millar, by City Controller J. O. McCarthy; response, J. S. McCannell. Welcome to Toronto, D. A. Lochrie; response, W. H. Freeborn. President and Secretary-Treasurer's reports and reports of various committees. Election of Officers. Theatre Party at Shea's—8.15. Let all clayworkers attend this Convention. CHAS. A. MILLAR, Pres. JOHN R. WALSH, Sec-Treas.

LABOR SITUATION IS NOT OVERBAD

Those in Close Touch With Unemployed Say Hysteria Has Been Active.

NO SUGAR IN COFFEE

Yonge Street Mission is Criticized—Good Work Goes Begging.

Agents and others in close touch with the unemployed situation in Toronto at the present time, claim that it is no more acute this year than others, but give as a cause for the difficulties of the unemployed, the fact that last June, July, August and September were bad months for the workers.

From some of the men in the various employment agencies comes the story that at the present time there is a great deal of hysteria among the unemployed situation, and that the outlook for a good year beginning about the middle of February is very bright.

Mission Criticized. Some severe criticism has been indulged in concerning the sandwiches handed out to the men at the Yonge Street Mission. It was stated by some of the unemployed that they had received mustard sandwiches and coffee without sugar at the mission. The treatment of the men by the Salvation Army, however, has come in for much praise.

It was reported at the Union Station yesterday that a contractor who visited the city for the purpose of hiring men to go to the lumber camps had offered \$100 per month and board, and had been refused.

More Unemployed. It has been announced that the parks commission will supply work for 250 men today, while the work department is taking on more men every day.

A demonstration of the unemployed will be held tomorrow, when the men will assemble at the armories, and after marching thru the principal streets of the city, will return to the starting point. A mass meeting will then be held.

BANANA GROWERS OBJECT TO REDUCTION IN PRICES

Jamaica Planters Say Trading Companies' Course is Unfair to Them.

KINGSTON, Jamaica, Jan. 26.—(Can. Press)—Jamaica planters are protesting against the action of banana companies trading here in reducing prices by five dollars per hundred bunches. They declare that the freight rates and market prices do not warrant this reduction from the annual contracts heretofore existing.

The contracts now offered by all the fruit companies are identical and the planters allege this denotes a combination to control prices.

UNCLE WAS WISE BOUGHT UP LAND

Bay Street Property Once Easily Acquired, Now Worth a Fortune.

LAW SUIT IS INVOLVED

No One Seems to Know Who Owns It Now Uncle is Dead.

An injunction is being asked before Justice Middleton in the non-jury case, by Harry C. Snider, Toronto, the Canadian executor of the will of the late Thomas A. Snider, against Mrs. Mabel Carlton, New York, and the Central Trust and Safety Deposit Co. of Cincinnati, the American executor, to restrain them from placing a mortgage of \$1000 on the building at 79 Bay street, Toronto.

While the action is in the form of an injunction, it was made for the express purpose of obtaining a correct reading of the will of the late Thomas A. Snider, who is an uncle to Harry C. Snider and Mrs. Carlton.

Mrs. Carlton and her brother, T. E. Snider, were the heirs to the estate, each receive one-half. Mr. Snider went deeply into debt and in order to pay it off gave his right of ownership in the estate to his uncle, Thomas A. Snider. The latter erected a building on the land and received an annual rental of \$1000. He gave Mrs. Carlton \$200 as her share each year, and finally gave her \$20,000 in consideration of her right to half the estate. At that time the property could not sell for \$4000, but it is now worth \$100,000.

Since that time the uncle has made many wills. Mrs. Carlton claims that she still is heir to half the estate, and because of this that the injunction has been asked. She has already placed one mortgage of \$1000 on the building.

The case will continue today.

WILFRED WARD'S LECTURE

Noted Biographer Will Speak at Loretto Abbey on Friday.

The public will have an opportunity on Friday afternoon next of hearing Wilfred Ward, the biographer of the late Cardinal Newman and Manning. He will give a lecture at Loretto Abbey to the students, and his subject will be "The Four Cardinals." It will be a rare opportunity for those who can hear the great English writer. The lecture will commence at 3 p.m.

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By G. H. Wellington