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Underneath all remedies that may be suggested for the better government of any municipality, is the inculcation of the doctrine that they must be ruled on sound business principles, and that the questions of policy that divide the best men in politics have no place in the choice of municipal officers.

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We have decided to send the January issue for 1895 to all whose subscriptions end with the December number. This is as requested by many old subscribers who expect to continue in the council for 1895, and who desire to receive the January number before the first meetings of the local and county councils, when the papers are usually ordered.

Sample copies will be sent to the clerks to be laid before councils at the first meetings.

We solicit the co-operation of all, so that our subscription list will increase rapidly during 1895.

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All accounts due us have been rendered and we would request that they be passed at the 15th December session of the council, or paid when account is received.

We do not send out papers except as sample copies unless ordered, and papers are continued until paid for. Subscribers are always notified when the subscription expires, and of account, if any due at that time.

The prompt payment of all accounts for club subscriptions is a necessity, owing to the change of members that usually takes place in councils every year.

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The question of good roads will receive a prominent place among the subjects to be discussed at farmers' institutes next month. Capable speakers have been appointed and every effort will be made to present the subject to the people in the most practical manner. The low prices now received for the many staple products of the farm, demands that agricultural energy should be directed along other lines. New fields for development await the improvement of our rural highways, and we commend the question to all as one worthy of the most progressive consideration.

The wrong notions entertained by many citizens of their duties towards councillors are only equalled by the ideas of many of the latter of their duties toward the citizens. On the part of the former, the notion is that in voting for a candidate a personal favor is conferred. The elected take the same view as the electors, and look upon the selection as a mark of personal favor, and generally, when one of those friends has an individual interest to urge, he has no difficulty in inducing his representative to take charge of the matter. This is said to be the weakness of all municipal government.

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The most important resolution passed at the National Conference for Good City Government, held in Philadelphia, declared that "It is vital to the attainment of good municipal government that national politics should be divorced from city elections."

We in Ontario point with pride to our efficient systems of municipal government, as compared with those of the United States.

If this habit of appealing to municipal pride is not to be rodomontade, we must keep politics out of municipal elections and elect representatives who realize that a municipality is merely a business corporation, to be conducted on business principles.

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In the report of the convention of the Ontario Good Roads Association we find in the address of President Patullo an interesting estimate of the effect of road improvement on an important Canadian industry. There are, he says, "about 2,000 cheese factories in Canada. The cost of drawing the milk, whey and cheese at each factory is probably \$1,000 a year—perhaps a good deal more—or two millions a year for the whole country. It is evident that with roads anyway approaching those of England this cost could be reduced a fourth. In other words, the profits of the cheese trade in Canada could be increased by half a million dollars each year—a very good interest on thirteen million of an output."

* * *

The streets of a municipality belong to the public and they should not be taken possession of by a company or individual without just compensation. The franchise for a street railway is practically a monopoly; the greatest care should be exercised to arrange the terms of a franchise in the interests of the municipality. The rights of property owners should be considered. In New York state a majority of the property owners along a proposed street railway may refuse permission to lay the tracks, and the Supreme Court may then appoint three disinterested persons to determine whether the railway ought to be built or not. In Ontario the municipal representatives control the whole question and it is very often to be regretted that

the property owners have not the same rights as in New York state. Street railways should give the best service to the greatest number, and when location has been decided on, complete estimates should be prepared showing cost, revenue, etc. With these particulars before them, a municipal council should have no difficulty in determining whether they should give a bonus or require the company to pay a proportion of the revenue into the public treasury. In estimating the revenue from franchises, the gross earnings should be the basis of municipal income, the use of the term "net profits or net earnings" opens the door for legal juggling. A system for arriving at the gross earnings at stated intervals should be decided on and heavy penalties or forfeiture of the franchise should be provided in case of evasion of municipal dues of any kind.

Five Don'ts for Municipal Candidates.

Don't sacrifice principle for the sake of election to a municipal office.

Don't make promises. Reserve your final decision on all questions made prominent for election purposes until you are elected and have consulted with your brother councillors.

Don't descend to personalities during the nomination meeting or election campaign. Preserve your self respect. The electors probably know your opponent.

Don't make politics the basis of your candidature. Ascertain the reforms necessary to conduct the affairs of your municipality with economy and on business principles. Present the facts to the people plainly and often. The electors may disagree with you, but your time will come.

Don't force a contest for the office of mayor or reeve when you are sure of election to a seat at the council. Results are effects which proceed from particular efforts, and electors sometimes deprecate ambition.

A young lawyer talked four hours to an Indiana jury, who felt like lynching him. His opponent, a grizzled old professional, arose, looked sweetly at the judge, and said: "Your honor, I will follow the example of my young friend who has just finished, and submit the case without argument." Then he sat down, and the silence was large and oppressive.

* * *

"What's the judge going to do now?" asked the green juror, in a whisper. "He's going to charge the jury," said the foreman. "Charge the jury?" Charge us? What for? We don't have to pay nothin' for the privilege of sittin' on jury, do we?"
—*Harper's Bazaar.*

Was Qualified.

Tom (during the political debate)—What do you know about municipal government, I'd like to know? Billy—What do I know? Hang it all, wasn't I lookout in a Chicago gambling house for two years?—*Chicago Record.*