

Council Rejects First Of Power Company's Proposals

Decides Against Relief of Obligation Under Musquash Contract—The Other Proposal to be Considered Today.

BOND ISSUE FOR LIGHT SYSTEM FURTHER DELAYED

When the matter of a recommendation from the City Power Commission regarding the installation of an ornamental street lighting system and the purchase of switching equipment was before the Common Council yesterday afternoon Commissioner Thornton took occasion to criticize the work of the Commission. He charged that it was acting without authority, owing to the fact that there was a vacancy. He maintained that the articles creating the Commission called for a stated number of members. One of them had resigned and the Commission had gone on transacting business.

He was informed by Mayor Fisher that the City Solicitor had given the opinion that the Commission was not acting without authority. To this Mr. Thornton replied, "I don't care what the City Solicitor says." He inquired if the bonds issued for the work of the City Power Commission had been approved by the New Brunswick Electric Power Commission and was informed by the Mayor that the City Solicitor had said that the bonds could be issued under the Commission's charter and further that Mr. Foss of the provincial commission, had told him that the bonds would be approved by the provincial commission.

A motion by the Mayor, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, that the tender of the Canadian General Electric Company for the ornamental street lighting system be accepted was laid over until today. The price was \$26,132.

A motion by Commissioner Thornton that he be given authority to purchase an automobile of whatever type and design he might deem satisfactory for use as a city ambulance, the cost not to exceed \$5,000, was lost. Payment was to be made by bond issue and the Mayor and Commissioner Bullock opposed the vote on the ground of lack of information and also that tenders should be called.

The Mayor reported on a request from the firm of Innes, Weyman & Hagen, representing the Harris Abbot Co., Ltd., for the description of the device which the city claimed concealed profits of the company. The "device," it was claimed, had reduced the value of stock held to the extent of nearly \$20,000. His Worship reported that the "device" appeared to have been the transferring of the amount named from stock or merchandise account to another account, the company's appeal from assessment will be heard on April 11.

On recommendation from Commissioner Bullock, the following tenders, which were the lowest, for lumber and material required by the harbor department this year, were accepted:

The City Council yesterday afternoon rejected the proposition made by the New Brunswick Power Company to assume the obligations of the city in its contract with the N. B. Electric Power Commission for Musquash current. A second proposal that the company purchase the energy from the city will be considered this afternoon.

The offer was presented by E. N. Sanderson at a meeting which was attended by several citizens who spoke on the matter. H. W. Frink and J. Fraser Gregory urged upon the Council to accept the company's offer. Mr. Sanderson was of the opinion that under the Kribs' rates some of the small consumers of current would be saved twenty-five or thirty cents a month by using hydro, but the large consumers would benefit by using the Power Company current.

The Mayor said that he still felt that the construction of the second distribution system was in the best interests of the taxpayers. He followed with some telling remarks on the financing of the N. B. Power Company. He denied that the distribution system would cost a million dollars, pointing out that the estimate of the whole system, including sub-station and ornamental lighting system, was \$600,000.

On motion of Commissioner Thornton it was decided to take up the offer section by section.

After some discussion indulged in by Commissioners Bullock, Wigmore, Frink and Thornton, a motion by Mr. Thornton that the offer of the Power Company to take over the city's obligations in its contract with the N. B. Commission be rejected was carried unanimously. It was then decided that consideration of the second proposal should take place at a special meeting this afternoon.

R. A. McAvity, chairman of the City Hydro Commission, at this point remarked that, as the contract between the city and the Provincial commission went into effect on May 1, the civic commission could not be held responsible for any delays which might occur to injure the city's position.

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GARDENS TONIGHT.
Patrons who make it a practice to go to the Gardens on Wednesday night will no doubt have another opportunity to enjoy themselves this evening.

J. A. Hawkes wishes to thank the Nurses and Doctors of the General Public Hospital for kindness to his two children during their illness.

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That St. John is appreciative of any sincere effort to cater to its musical tastes was clearly evidenced last evening when Imperial Theatre inaugurated a month's series of bi-weekly musicals, lasting forty-five minutes, to an audience that literally packed the house. The programme was discussed between the film shows with a full-lighted stage and auditorium.

The Imperial orchestra played the three movements of the Sylvia Ballet (Belles)—Valse Lente, Pizzicato and March and Procession also Rossini's standard number, the overture to "William Tell." Mr. Lawrence of Montreal, who is engaged during the winter in shipping circles here, sang Olney

Speak's colorful setting of Kipling's "The Road to Mandalay." O'Hara's tune to Dr. Drummond's habitation verses "The Week of the Julie Plante" and one of the new popular negro camp meeting "spirituals" entitled "How It Rained." Another delightful number by Mr. Lawrence was that old favorite, "Rolling Down to Rio."

Refinement and artistry characterized the all too brief programme, and to hear the Imperial instrumentalists in chosen selections under real concert conditions was more than ordinarily enjoyable. St. John is justified in its pride of this band. Director Jones was enthusiastic, through the programme schedule, to accede to all the demands for more selections, although he did respond with a little encores. Mr. Lawrence, who has been heard on several occasions in concerts here and is a member of Trinity choir, is a splendid baritone and sang his numbers with musical culture and due appreciation of their varied types. He is to appear in a subsequent concert at the Imperial as Mrs. S. Kent Scott and Miss Beryl Blanch, piano duettists, the St. John Choral Society, Mrs. T. J. Gunn, violinist, Mrs. Louis Leche and others. The Imperial's effort is a sincere one.

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4 lb tin Pure Plum Jam	45c
1 lb glass Pure Strawberry Jam	\$1.00
5 lb pkg Large Prunes	90c
2 lbs Choice Prunes	25c
2 cans Tomatoes	25c
2 cans Peas	25c
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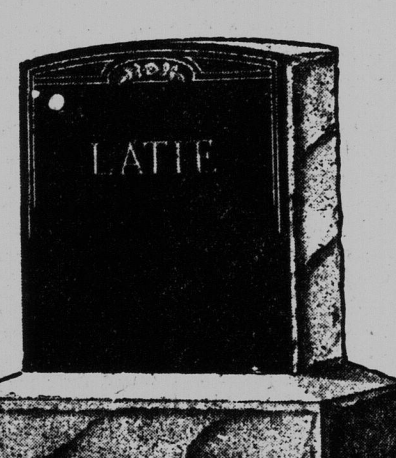
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