

VOTE CATCHING IS FAVORITE PASTIME OF SOME ALDERMEN

Instances Crop Up at Recent Council Meetings.

ONE MAN'S GREAT PLAN

Moves For Work To Be Done, Knowing It Is Under Way.

City Clerk Baker, in his annual report to the ratepayers last year, called attention to the fact that during the year 1917 attempted ward grubbing among the aldermen was entirely absent.

This fact was pointed out to him recently, and he was asked if he could conscientiously say the same about the year 1918 so far as he was concerned. He did not answer. He smiled that peculiar smile of his and started talking of his recent trip to Toronto.

The recent trend of events in the council would lead to the belief that Mr. Baker this year will be obliged to tell some peculiar things in his report to the ratepayers. Something closely akin to ward grubbing was rampant last year. One official of the city recently remarked that this old disease was returning in its most aggravated condition.

There were several incidents. At last night's council meeting that on the face of them appear to be of a nature that will make the lovers of good government weep.

For instance, some time ago, the council decided that no walks would be laid this year. A little later a small committee met and decided that there should be some walks laid.

The aldermen decided among themselves what walks should be laid. They were confined to their own wards. The needs of other wards, the fact that other places might require walks much more urgently, and may have been after them much longer time, was lost sight of altogether.

There have been several serious incidents. In one ward there is one particular sewer which is one particular of which has been laid over. Last night one of the aldermen in question quite candidly told the council that if the sewer were not laid they would be troubled for some time further. The whole question, walks and sewers, goes back to the board of works.

There were other instances. In one rather isolated section of the city an aged woman was waiting for service. Her home is 600 feet from any service. It would be a long time before a woman service, the utilities commission declares.

The commission's policy is that it will lay mains only where there is a guaranteed income of ten per cent on the money invested. The aldermen in question have moved that the commission lay the service in question at its own expense (this would cost \$500, without the guarantee of \$50 per year. If it can possibly do so.)

The members of the council said the honor of such a resolution and let it go through. The same alderman later presented a resolution that the Talbot street pavement from Queen's avenue to Dundas be repaired. It is in a shocking state, he said. Other aldermen remarked that it was just the same as the balance of the street through to York and to the city street. The alderman said he did not care; there were holes in the part in question in which a car could be driven.

Some of the aldermen said that the resolution was useless, as the work would go on in good time. They thought of the alderman's engineer.

At last night's council meeting, "I told the aldermen before the meeting that I was going to start repairing that street in the morning," said the engineer.

"That's the way I get work done," said the alderman. Some of the aldermen seemed to think that the alderman in question was trying to get credit for the work done, and get a motion of his through, having the knowledge that the engineer planned to start the work immediately.

The opinion of the majority of the members of the council was evidenced by the fact that they voted down the alderman's motion that the work should be done.

Later the same alderman presented a motion to have the police commission requested to send a patrol car to the corner of York and Dundas, and get a motion of his through, having the knowledge that the engineer planned to start the work immediately.

And so the ward grubbing goes on. Some of the aldermen are open and barefaced about it. Some go about it in a sly manner. Others never think about it. Certainly it is not the best thing in the interests of the city, but it exists.

AIR FORCE LOOKING TO YOUNGER MEN TO COME FORWARD FOR SERVICE

More Needed of Good Physique to Join the Fliers.

Capt. W. S. Smith, chairman of the R. C. F. sub-committee stationed in this city, today received word from the War Office, London, that the War Office is in a hurry to get more men to join the Royal Air Force, in which it is the largest part of available men of military age were being called to service.

In the future he found necessary to reserve the rating of cadets in the 1918-19 year-old class for cadets in the 1919-20 year-old class.

The letter further stated that for this reason it is the idea of the Royal Air Force to keep the name of the Royal Air Force in the public eye, and to advertise it in all newspapers as well as issuing circular letters, etc.

It is mentioned that some of the cadets forwarded from this city were not up to the standard of efficiency required by the force, and it is thought that it will be possible by careful selection from this large number to raise the physical standard of the men. Mechanics are also needed, and a campaign will be started for these.

A number of copies of the Cadet Wing Review, which is written by the cadets at Cadet Wing, was also forwarded to Capt. Smith, who will distribute these about the city, and place them in public places to encourage the boys.

Matter such as this will be forwarded from time to time to this city.

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VICE-PRESIDENT OF GUILD OF ORGANISTS

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Offenders Making Efforts to Do Away With Nuisances.

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