

WHO'S WHO IN THE MUNICIPAL CAMPAIGN

SIDELIGHTS ON CANDIDATES SEEKING MUNICIPAL HONORS

With Contest Promised in Every Ward and for the Board of Control and Mayoralty, the Elections This Year Promise to Be Unusually Interesting—No Dearth of Citizens Willing to Accept a Place in the Council Chamber.

By Ida L. Webster.

In offering this line of stuff for your "perusal" we realize perfectly that we are rather taking advantage of the Christmas season, because who in this great wide and cold city could deliberately refuse to be kind at so festive a time?

First of all, we would like to rectify what was evidently a most horrible mistake on our part. The other day we said that there was no opposition in Ward 4 for the men who had represented that section of the city this year.

After receiving about 17 telephone calls from aldermen, and three or four underhand jabs from one of the many editors, we finally woke up to the fact that there was opposition. We trust that the people who never make errors will take this as a form of apology. Of course, if they feel that they cannot, then we can only say that we will try to be more accurate with regard to them when the occasion presents itself.

And as for this "effusion," we are not saying that it is the ideas of everyone with regard to the various men, but we do say that it is our own personal opinion, and you can take it at your own valuation.

Now, after all of that, it is almost time for us to wish you all the very best sort of a Christmas, and we trust that the gifts which you have had wished upon you by your friends have been things which you could use, and not jokes which you will have to clutter up the attic with until next year arrives, when you will be able to stick them to someone else. Thanks very much for your kind indulgence (as some of the candidates would say), and do not weaken.

FOR MAYOR.

Thomas L. Church.—Has been mayor for four years with possibly as much success as one could ask, considering the fact that his entire term of office has been held while the war was in progress, which means that he did not have many wealthy civic matters to contend with. He has been a friend to the soldiers, and the soldiers' families, but why should he not have been? Particularly when one remembers that he has been drawing \$7500 a year for performing that very stunt. His worship never misses an opportunity for telling that he works 18 hours a day. We might say that if he was forced thru the cruelness of fate to be a morning paper reporter, he would work 20. So that, being mayor, he has a comparatively easy time. Also he tells at great length that he is a member of 25 different boards. That being the case we can only say that he cannot possibly give any time to any of them.

He is good-natured, and never refuses to meet the wishes of everyone, thus mixing his drinks on many occasions, because every person wants something different, but they cannot face Thomas L. Church. He will promise the moon, and then he is politician enough to side-step with all the

grace in the world if he finds that he is over his head. Has a most remarkable memory, and is a bachelor.

John O'Neill, Jun.—Has been in civic politics constantly since 1893, which really should be a recommendation enough for anyone, because if a man can stick around the city hall for all those years and not make any more enemies than our friend John O'Neill, then, indeed, does he deserve the best in the world, and about 17 crowns in heaven.

He has the courage of his convictions, which is something to be talked of, particularly where there are so many who have not. He was the only man to come forward with a solution of any kind for the housing problem, and although he was not successful in putting it thru, still he was man enough to stand to his guns, even though in doing so he may have lost a few votes.

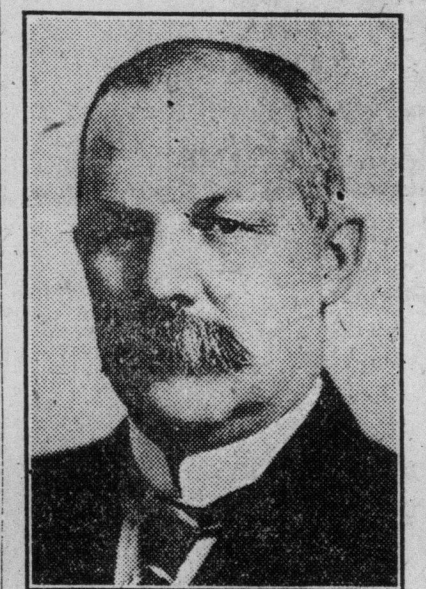
His work at the jail farm is something which will go down in the his-



JOHN O'NEILL

tory of the city, and is probably one of the best monuments that any public man ever had to his name. Then, of course, he was the instrument which made the municipal abattoir possible, which we might add is nothing to be sneezed at. The good things which he has accomplished are too numerous for us to mention at this sitting, but we simply cannot refrain from saying that when one needs a man like John O'Neill, Jun. Unlike the mayor of today, he is a married man.

W. H. Shaw.—Has dabbled in politics more or less for some years, but is not known in any outstanding manner for that part of his public activity. He is the president of the Shaw Business College, and from this source



W. H. SHAW

is well known all over Canada. He is a man of strong ideals, or rather so we gathered when we had the pleasure of interviewing him. He also impressed us as being one who would really try to perform the duties which his office as chief magistrate would call for.

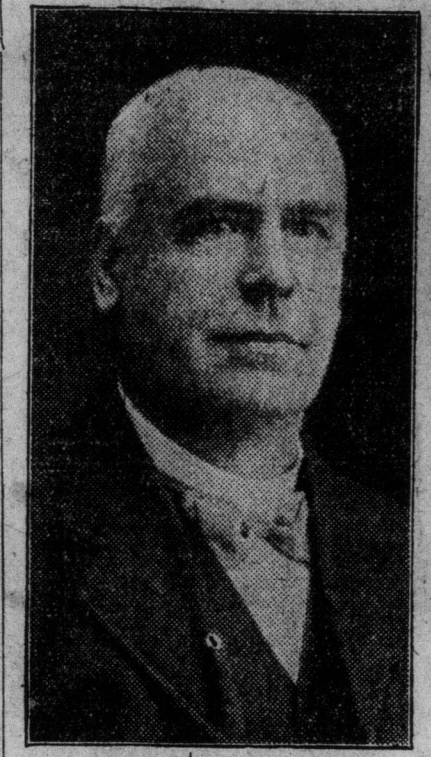
The fact that he has been slightly out of touch during the last year, should not be a detriment, although we must say that times change so very rapidly that one needs to keep on his toes all the time in order to be in a position to cope with the subjects of the day. Mr. Shaw has some excellent ideas for taxation, which unfortunately could not be realized in one term, because everyone will admit that the wheels of justice move slowly.

And if there is any place in the world where justice is slow in being meted out, then it is the city hall of Toronto. One of Mr. Shaw's best planks is that he is not at all in favor of the present police commission. If anything should elect him, it should be that fact, because the citizens know to what lengths poor police administration can put the people. He is also a married man.

Thomas Foster.—This not being his first attempt at being mayor, the public is perhaps more familiar with his thoughts and schemes than they are otherwise would have been. First and foremost, it might be said that he is a man who has a good deal to tell you that Mr. Foster has the extreme honor and distinction of being the only man ever nominated for mayor by a woman.

The very fact that a female of the species did not nominate him in the case of Thomas Foster shows that he cannot be opposed to women taking the place of men, in fact, we might go further and say that it does seem as

if he was quite in favor of suffrage. One of his chief ideas, or rather one of the ones which he pointed out to us as being his "special" one, is the juvenile court. If that could be cleaned up and made into a regular place where kiddies could be taken without so much red tape, then we would be loud in our suggestions to elect Mr. Foster. Whether this trick could be pulled off or not, in view of the fact



THOMAS FOSTER

that the present commissioner is directly employed by the Hon. I. B. Lucas, is a matter for conjecture.

Mr. Foster also has strong thoughts and suggestions for remedying the taxes, but it is so unfortunate that it would not be possible for any one man to make any radical changes in one year, or even two. He also is anxious to change the police commission, and would favor enlarging it to five members from the present of three.

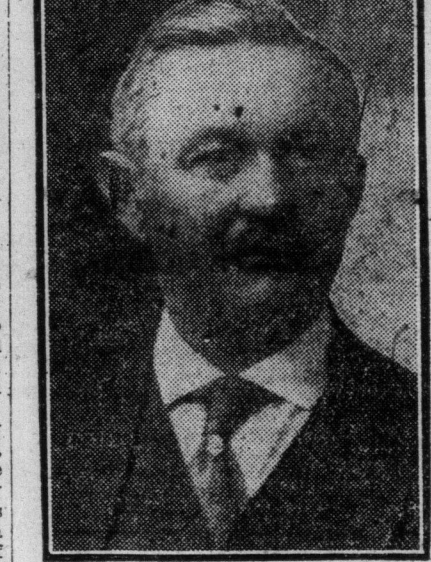
He is a very kind man, but not exactly an aggressive one. He is married.

FOR BOARD OF CONTROL.

Samuel McBride.—Has been in civic politics for years; in fact he is identified with the city hall, and the city hall is identified with him. He is always the topic of conversation where two or three are gathered together in the name of municipal administration. Is a most fearless fighter, and also a most fair one. The two might battle the head off of anyone in the council chamber, yet when he meets them outside, or when they are spoken of in his hearing, he is the loudest of all in his praise.

We have watched him for weeks in the city council meetings, and also at the gatherings of the board of control, and we can truthfully say that there is not a man in the City of Toronto who will dare more, and accomplish more than Sam McBride. There is an under dog with a just grievance he may be relied upon to be the man who will first step forward to help out, even though he may lose out with some of the people who are instrumental in electing the city officials.

The relatives and heirs of the men who died "over there" may thank Sam McBride and no one else, for the present law governing the soldiers' in-



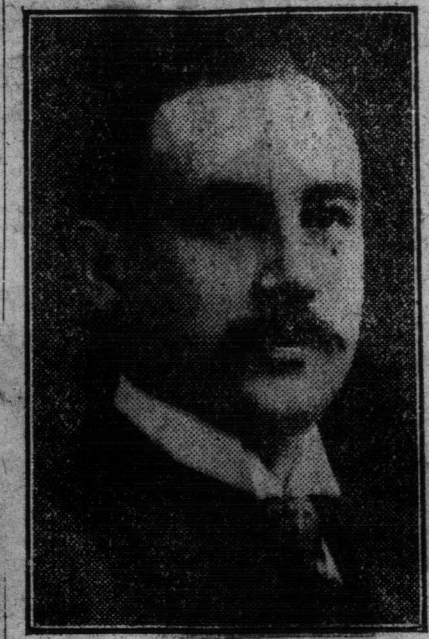
SAM MCBRIDE

surance. He fought the fight all over again when the rest of the members of the city council were ready to pass it on to the people, where it would have been delayed possibly indefinitely, and he came out victorious. We cite that one instance, but there are dozens of others which were just as vital to the citizens of Toronto. When all else fails you may rely upon Samuel McBride to take up the cause and if there is a human chance, he will put it over. Unfortunately for many of the fair sex, he is a very much married man, and also a happy one.

Charles Alfred Maguire.—Commonly known as the Beau Brummell of the city hall, and we might also state that he has been in civic life for 10 years. Has a clean record, and until this last year was called a fighter. However, there have been issues in the past 12 months which Mr. Maguire has rather dealt with in a milk and water style. Then again he has been most firm, so that it is only fair to think that on the days when he did not appear to be taking

a very steadfast interest in the debate, he was merely suffering with what is called "an off day."

If being a member of various clubs is a sign of a man's popularity, then indeed must it be said that Alfred is



ALFRED MAGUIRE

in a class by himself, because he is a member in good standing of practically every club that is worth while in the City of Toronto. He has taken the right stand with regard to the housing problem, and has been hearty in his support of the members of the board of control to sit listening for hours to people who want to build garages.

He is the man who enforced the law whereby motor cars are forced to come to a halt behind a standing car, the only trouble being that the law is not carried out to the letter. He has a most affable manner, and is well liked in the city hall by those who have occasion to solicit his aid in civic matters. One of his chief assets is the fact that he is inordinately proud of being a citizen of Toronto, and he never fails to force the knowledge of the city's greatness upon all who visit here. We might say that that trait in a man is a worthy one. Mr. Maguire is a married man.

William D. Robbins.—Has had seven years' experience in civic politics, and is a most capable man to have in the city hall, as he is connected with the



W. D. ROBBINS

Labor Temple, and is well informed upon all labor questions in the council chamber. One of the most remarkable features of Mr. Robbins' attitude in the city council is the fact that he does not attempt to force the business of the city council in the name of the city hall, but he is connected down the throats of all the citizens. He is a very fair man, and apparently tries to do the right thing, no matter whom it might affect.

It is almost too absurd to mention, but there are those in the city who feel that he may be too much for labor, and not enough for returned men. That is ridiculous. Reconstruction must be allied with labor, and the returned men with reconstruction, so that it would be hardly possible to have too human a man in the role of member of the board of control.

Mr. Robbins is an Orangeman, and about a dozen other things that he is, too, is a member of various societies, which he attends most faithfully. He has decided opinions, and the one might be led to imagine that he is rather too easy-going, yet when it comes to a big issue he will always be found among those very much present. He, like his two colleagues, is a married man.

Frederick George McBrien.—Has been aspiring to civic honors for many moons and has to his credit the fact



FRED MCBRIEN

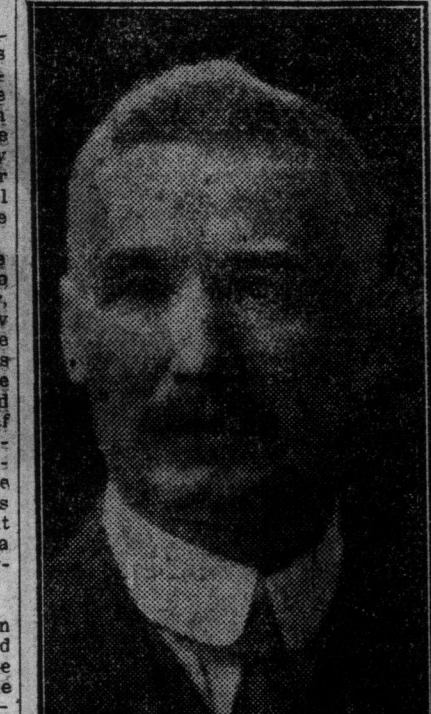
that he is not only the youngest but possibly one of the most aggressive members of the city council at the

present time. He is a straightforward young fellow, and one in whom you might rely with the utmost confidence.

We have been most favorably impressed with the manner in which he handles any or all of the speeches which he has made in the council chamber. A city the size of this one is in need of young blood to keep it from getting stale, but at the same time the youngsters must be of the brand that can hold their jobs without contradicting a severe case of "swelled-headedness." To say that that is a hard trick to do well would be putting it mildly, but to date we have not noticed any of the symptoms in the kid whom we are now speaking of.

At any time that we have seen Mr. McBrien acting in the capacity of chairman, it must be said to his credit that he has shown the utmost business ability. His meetings are always conducted with dispatch, which alone would endear him to the heart of any reporter in the country, and which is also an indication of the art of concentration. When one recalls that that is an almost unknown quality in the city hall, Freddie becomes more desirable still. The young, he is married.

Joseph Gibbons.—Has been connected with the civic life of Toronto for four years, and in that time he has shown that he is an up-to-date man with the right idea in connection with the labor men. Personally, we have seen him enter into some rather extended argu-



JOS. GIBBONS

ments, which may or may not have made a difference in the lives of the citizens. But at the same time these "confusions" showed that he was trying to hold down his position as alderman to the best of his ability.

There is nothing quite so bad as the man who sits in his seat and refuses to open his mouth on any issue. It is very much better to be alone in one's ideas, providing that one has the courage of his convictions, than these birds who get elected and then manage to be out of hearing every time a vote is being polled are too much for us. Mr. Gibbons takes interest in the affairs of the city to pass an opinion.

One instance of his activities is shown in the fact that he was the man who secured the increase in wages for the teamsters. For that one thing alone a certain element in the city should be indebted to him. He is also very earnest in helping the civic employees, or any others who apply to him. As for his work in connection with the Labor Temple we are not in a position to speak at any great length; however, we do know that he is business agent for the railwaymen's union, and heaven only knows how many more. The gentleman is married.

Garnet A. Archibald.—Was at one time a member of the city council, being alderman for one year. Probably one of the things which make him desirable for the board of control this year, is the fact that his nomination was seconded by Mr. Harry McEwen. That means that he must be a good fellow, because so shrewd and successful a person as Mr. McEwen would hardly stand sponsor for anyone who was not worthy of the position.



GARNET ARCHIBALD

After his nomination, Mr. Archibald made a rather lengthy speech, or rather the said speech was handed to the newspapers. In it he tells of what he thinks should be done. It all sounds very nice, but the trouble with speeches is that so much is said that could not possibly be accomplished.

In fact, when we say that he has promised a lot of things, we are being limited in our expression, because it

is doubtful if there has been an issue for the last year that has not been dealt with in the speech.

So you see if Mr. Archibald is elected, he is going to have a rather busy session catching up with what he is now aiming to do. The war has been such a boon this election that one wonders what the various platforms will be next year. The gentleman in question, like all of the other candidates, has ideas of reconstruction. He is also a firm believer in public ownership of all public utilities. He is married.

Robert H. Cameron.—Has been in civic life more or less for a few years. Last year he was defeated for the magistracy by almost ten thousand votes. Indeed, he announced early in the summer that he would try again for the chief magistrate's chair this



R. H. CAMERON

season, but practically at the last moment he changed his mind, and decided to run for board of control.

It was rather a matter for discussion in and around the city hall after Mr. Cameron's announcement, but he had given up all desire for the honor of leading the City of Toronto, and some even went so far as to say that there was a possible chance that he would change his mind again, and not stay in the race for controller; however, it does not seem probable that he will do so.

In Mr. Cameron's favor it might be said that he has been faithfully attending the meetings of both the board of control and the city council. Like a real business man he has tended to shine where his competitors have fallen down. If this was his idea, then he could not have picked a more productive indoor sport than his aspirations to the board of control. He is married also.

FOR ALDERMAN.

Ward One.

Richard Honeyford.—This year he has been more or less in evidence in the council meetings, although it must be said that there have been days and days when we have not heard him open his mouth on any subject, and then again there have been issues upon which he has rather a lot to say. He impresses us as being a man who would feel very strongly, but at the same time he could be intimidated. That is, he would not fight very strongly or furiously if there was very much opposition to his argument. As far as being an alderman is concerned, when assisted by others from the same ward, he is as good as a man as could be had. Offhand, we cannot recall any question in which he has taken a very firm stand.

Frank Marsden Johnston.—Has been in every fight that has occurred within our hearing at the many city council meetings. He has most decided views, and expresses them in a straightforward, concise manner. We have yet to hear him go to the front with any fool idea, in fact, he is rather inclined to be most conservative.

He handles his arguments in a businesslike way, which helps things greatly, and we do not hesitate to say that if all his colleagues were like him the city council would not have to be fed at the expense of the taxpayers, nor driven home in taxis in the wee small hours of the morning. The calendar would be despatched without preamble. Mr. Johnston is a married man and a manufacturer.

William Wesley Hiltz.—Is a business man from the start. When every man in the council chamber has had a crack at a question and it is balled up almost beyond recognition, Mr. Hiltz calmly gets to his feet, and in a few words straightens it away, so that at least the reporters are able to understand what it is all about.

He is open to conviction, but we might say right now that the argument has to be good to change his views. He cannot be hollered down, and has never missed a chance to express his opinion on any live issue. One other thing which is in his favor is the fact that he seldom leaves his seat during the meetings, and is always right there to vote when the time comes. As he is not in the habit of galloping in and out of the room, he is in a position to cast his ballot with intelligence. Mr. Hiltz is a married man, and a builder.

William Henry Fenwick.—Last year ran fourth in the race, which is pretty good going, so that he must have many friends and admirers. He polled a vote of 369, but was beaten by Mr. Honeyford by a majority of 369.

Mr. Fenwick is in the carriage business, and is well known in the east end of the city. Indeed, one man went so far as to say that if he were as successful an alderman as he is a business man, there would be nothing left to be desired.

Arthur Stubbings.—Was a candidate for office last year, but was unfortunate in only polling 918 votes, thus making him the tail-end in the

Ward One contest. With that in view, or rather as a sad memory, he is once again going to make a try for it, knowing that at least he has the gift of stick-to-itiveness, which is after all one of the chief assets of a successful man's life.

Mr. Stubbings is a printer by occupation, and as he is a resident of the east end of the city, and has been for some time, he must be more or less known among the voters. The fact that he was defeated last year should not be a drawback to him on this occasion, because the best of us meet with rebuffs.

Ward Two.
Charles Abner Risk.—Has always impressed us as being a man who was rather amused at the little petty discussions which arose from time to time in the city council, but at the same time we have heard him make some rather strong appeals, although he did it in a very quiet way, and also in a low tone of voice.

Whether the bombastic style is better or whether a man can make his point by using the contrary methods is a matter for conjecture. Certainly there are times in the chamber when a man needs all the force of a rattling gun behind him to sway a question. You see the great difficulty in the Toronto City Council is the fact that the members do not pay very much attention to what is being said, therefore an alderman has got to make a lot of noise to get anywhere. Dr. Risk is a dentist.

Herbert Henry Ball.—Has been in civic politics for years, and has always been able to keep himself in the lead of all the questions. He has decided views, and is not swayed by policy of any party. That is, he will take a stand in spite of his best friend or adviser. He was one of the chief objectors to the housing problem as submitted by John O'Neill.

It would not be possible for us to cite all the questions on which Mr. Ball has taken a stand, but we can say that he is an excellent speaker, and one who speaks to the point. By profession the gentleman is a journalist, which you must admit could hardly be improved upon, so far as professions go. He is as clever an alderman as there is in the city council. He is a married man.

John R. Beamish.—Did not have the trouble of wondering whether he was going to be elected last year, because he and his other pals from Ward Two went in by acclamation. He is what one might term a "distended" speaker, that is, he talks at great length on any subject which interests him. And he very often has excellent points. He was directly connected with the mysterious telephone conversations which took place in connection with the chief of the fire department.

In fact, it was directed to him, and we delivered over his wife. So far as being anything in the matter to disqualify him, it is merely a matter of opinion. Personally we do not think so. Mr. Beamish is a barrister, and we understand a most successful one. Just why he is listed as gentleman only, we do not know, because, of course, it would be commonly understood that he was that.

Joseph Kent.—Has never before made a try for public honors. That is, he has never had aspirations to be alderman in the City of Toronto. He is an extensive property owner, therefore he must be a heavy taxpayer, so that it is safe to assume that he will be anxious to have the rate lowered. That alone should be worth while to those who are affected by what is said as being the exorbitant fee at the present moment.

Mr. Kent is in the insurance business, but owing to the fact that he was out of town we were unable to ask him his platform. However, it is only reasonable to think that he will have dozens of ideas along the lines of reconstruction, because they all have. We understand that he is a married man.

John Winnett.—Is making his first attempt to be elected alderman, and is at the insistence of over 400 taxpayers. A signed petition was tendered to the gentleman asking him to be alderman in Ward Two. That in itself means that he must be highly thought of in his section of the city. He has been a resident here for 51 years, which constitutes the duration of his life to date.

This potential alderman is strong for an economical administration, and in the same breath we might tell him that he is not the only one, because every man, woman and child in the city is in exactly the same class. He is a manufacturer of carriages and wagons, and is married.

Ward Three.
Francis William Johnston.—Polled 1,857 votes last year, which made him among the winners, but at the same time he had about 600 more than his nearest competitor. He is what you might call an inoffensive person, because we have never yet seen him in an argument, let alone heard him. In fact, so far as his talking ability is concerned, the man might as well be tongue-tied.

Notwithstanding that fact, he is personally a most likable man, and there is little doubt but what he is admired by many in his own section. As for public administration, he no doubt has his own ideas, but as we said before, we have not heard him express them. Of course he has always voted, which means a great deal after all, and anyway oftentimes the silent partner is the most effectual one. That all depends upon how you look upon the city council. He is a retired merchant. Married.

Joseph George Ramsden. Well known as the most popular alderman in the city, and undoubtedly for the very reason to which we attribute it. Simply that you know what he is talking about and he also knows when to talk and what to say. He does not waste words or time. Is a thorough business man, and the right idea so far as spending the money which is coughed up by the taxpayers. He has made himself famous by battling with Sam McBride, but they fight with a good cause, and usually between them a regular issue is reached. Mr. Ramsden is always in on the civic questions which are going to

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