

So rapid and complete are the changes in our municipal life—far too rapid for best efficiency—that I feel myself almost the sole survivor of a very active past world of men and events.

The roll of our Past Presidents shows many names which have reached distinction in other spheres, but even of the latest ones, Mayor Church alone remains a Mayor. It is the same with the original battles of our association. We were formed because of attacks, by companies and charter sharks, on our rights, in cases which have long since been decided: As a survivor of those battles and those participants, I want to say a few things to the men of to-day and to-morrow:—

In 1900, the Montreal Light, Heat and Power Company had just merged all the first electric companies of Greater Montreal and had obtained from the Legislature of Quebec, against the strenuous protests of the citizens, including that of Westmount, of which I was then Mayor, a new charter

1919

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