

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1922

Staggering Bill The City Has to Pay

Scheidehelm Report Costs \$7,116.75 and Commissioners Get a Shock—Partner Figures to the Tune of \$1,800—Tidy Sums for Others Engaged in the Work

The last act of H. R. McLellan in the eleventh hour of his tenure of office as Mayor was to take the breath away from every one of the members of the City Council by announcing that it had cost the city \$7,116.75 for the report from Messrs. Mead and Scheidehelm, electrical engineers. This amount will pay the cost of five folios of typewritten matter relative to the Musquash development, each bound in a limp leather cover with gold lettering thereon. While taken completely by surprise, the commissioners felt that there was no way out of the matter except through the Comptroller's office, so they ordered the balance due paid.

The amount voted for engaging an expert was \$5,000. The engineers' bill was for \$6,835.20; other expenses incurred amounted to \$281.55, making the total \$7,116.75.

Here is the document presented to the council by Mayor McLellan on behalf of Mr. Scheidehelm:

To D. W. Mead and F. W. Scheidehelm, Esq.
For services and expenses re matter of advice and report to the Mayor and Commissioners regarding the proposed contract between the City of St. John and the N. B. E. P. Commissioners.

SERVICES.	
D. W. Mead, 12 days at \$150.....	\$1,800.00
F. W. Scheidehelm, 80 days at \$125.....	8,750.00
L. P. Wood, 16 days at \$40.....	640.00
H. R. Kimball, 10 days at \$20.....	200.00
C. A. Wright, 16 days at \$20.....	320.00
W. J. McCormack, 9 days at \$16.....	144.00
Florence Kitt, 10 days at \$10.....	100.00
La O. Veeer, 1 1/2 days at \$35.....	43.75
C. A. Gister, 3 days at \$15.....	45.00
Henry Hunt, 1 1/2 days at \$20.....	30.00
	\$7,086.75

EXPENSES.	
F. W. Scheidehelm, trip October 12-24, New York—St. John—Halifax—St. John—Augusta—St. John—New York.....	\$216.10
Trip, November 9-15, New York—St. John and return, with hotel at St. John for D. W. Mead and F. W. Scheidehelm.....	109.35
D. W. Mead, trip, November 14, Madison, Wis., to St. John and return.....	145.00

A Spoonful of Purity

One uses so little baking powder in comparison with the other materials used in baking that it always pays to use the best.

For making the finest and most wholesome food there is no substitute for ROYAL Baking Powder. It is made from Cream of Tartar derived from grapes and is absolutely pure.

Contains No Alkali
Leaves No Bitter Taste



MADE IN CANADA

DATA.	
Maps from N. B. Crown Land office.....	10.00
Reports, Meteorological Service, Toronto.....	26.00
Photostats and VanDyke prints.....	20.00
	\$7,586.20

Deduction on account of reduced per diem rate of F. W. Scheidehelm from \$125 to \$100, because of length of engagement, 30 days at \$25.....

	750.00
Less amount received on account October 18.....	\$6,836.20
Balance due.....	\$5,935.20
By cash, November 14.....	\$3,116.75
	\$2,818.45

In tabling the bill, the Mayor asked the council to consider the necessity of retaining the services of Mr. Scheidehelm. He explained that when the engineers were here for the first time, Mr. Scheidehelm expected to have his report by Nov. 8 or 4 and estimated that the cost would be \$3,000 to \$4,000, but when the bill was received it was found that the appropriation of \$5,000 had been exceeded by \$2,116.75. The people, he said, had refused to be guided by any report which had been presented, but in his opinion the city was liable for the account. Mr. Scheidehelm, who was in the

Commissioner Thornton also expressed surprise, particularly of the charge made for Mr. Mead's services, twelve days at \$150 and that for other office help. He had anticipated that the highest cost would be \$125 a day and did not expect it to run over that.

Turning to the Mayor he said: "And you criticized the expenditure of \$5,000 for the Ross report?"

He was of the opinion that the expenditure of \$8,750 and \$1,800 for Messrs. Scheidehelm and Mead would be a reasonable return for the services rendered.

The Mayor said that he had anticipated that \$5,000 would cover the cost, and when he found that it had been exceeded by nearly \$2,117 he thought he would be "stuck" for that amount. He had consulted the solicitor, however, who told him that the city must pay the bill.

Commissioner Bullock said that the engineers had been engaged for consultation on the proposed contract, but in view of the amount of the bill, he could not vote to retain their services.

To Mr. Thornton, Mr. Scheidehelm said that if he was retained for advice on the proposed contract the charge would be \$100 a day and expenses.

To Commissioner Frink he said that although it was the rule to charge double for office help, in this case the rule had not been followed. Both Messrs. Wood and Veeer were paid \$20 a day, but the charges had been \$40 and \$35, respectively, to the city.

Another reduction, he said, was made in charging only twelve days for Mr. Mead, whereas he had spent fifteen days on the job; also no charge was made for the expenses of his trip from Madison to New York.

In answer to a question by Commissioner Frink, the Mayor said that he had no arrangement with the engineers regarding the expenses of the other people, but he understood that their expenses would be added.

To Dr. Frink, Mr. Scheidehelm said that about two-thirds of the firm's work was done with private corporations. If asked to guarantee the cost, he said, they would do so if the work could be laid out and they knew exactly to what it led. He doubted if they would have been able to do so in this case.

Commissioner Thornton: "Would you reduce your bill \$1,000?" Mr. Scheidehelm: "We have already reduced it \$2,000. If the bill had been fixed at \$5,000, I doubt if the firm would have entered."

Dr. Frink: "When you found that the cost would exceed \$5,000, did you notify the Mayor?"

Mr. Scheidehelm: "No."

Commissioner Wigmore pointed out that Mr. Mead's services and expenses alone amounted to about \$2,000.

Mr. Bullock declared the whole affair was not business. He said that

In any line one could not afford to take chances on uncertainty.

The Mayor rose to his feet and exclaimed, "I am not going to have it insinuated that this is not business. I know as much about business as you do," he added, turning to Mr. Bullock. "We have the work of the best men in their profession on the American continent, whether the people of St. John think it worth while to recognize it or not."

He said that the vote had been exceeded by some \$2,117, but the city of St. John had received the result of the work. If the city saw fit to pay no more than the amount of the appropriation, he said he would not question the legal status of the city. He quoted the solicitor as saying that the city would have to pay and to Mr. Scheidehelm he said: "If necessary, before you leave the city, it will be paid."

Mr. Wigmore observed that if Mr. Mead had not been brought here the cost would be reduced to about \$5,000. He thought that Mr. Mead's visit here was unnecessary. He had understood that Mr. Scheidehelm's charge of \$125 a day would include any consultation he had with his partner.

Commissioner Frink said that it looked to him now as though the scope of the inquiry had been greater than was anticipated; his understanding was that the engineers had been engaged to discuss the proposed contract and a scale of rates, instead of that they had made a survey of the whole development which resulted in a great deal of scientific work. He felt that the sum voted had been exceeded without the Mayor's knowledge and thought it would have been better had he been advised. He could see nothing to do, however, but to pay the bill, although it was more than he had anticipated and was certainly more than the people anticipated. He was particularly surprised regarding the amount charged for extra help which went to the firm and was of the opinion that the Mayor might have made a better engagement. He had assumed certain expenses by authority but had exceeded that authority. He characterized it as an error of judgment.

It will acknowledge nothing as an error of judgment," he retorted the Mayor. He said he had met experts before and knew something of the etiquette of doing business. He was not ashamed of the bill, although he was surprised at the amount, but he did not want to trade with the firm on this score. He would appreciate the commissioners voting for the bill being paid, but he did not want to do so.

Mr. Scheidehelm would get his \$2,000 if he had to raise it himself and then use the city for it. He had known appropriations before to have been exceeded by \$1,000 or \$2,000. He suggested paying the bill and then the council could decide if they wished to retain Mr. Scheidehelm to discuss the contract. He reiterated that there was no error of judgment on his part, as it could not have been estimated what the work would cost.

After some further discussion along the same lines, Mr. Frink moved that the bill be paid and the vote of \$5,000 be extended to cover the total amount of \$7,116.75.

Questioned by Mr. Thornton, as to the reductions which had been made, Mr. Scheidehelm said that his own time had been cut from thirty-six to thirty days; that of Mr. Mead from fifteen to twelve days, and in addition, several expenses, such as telegrams from the New York office, amounting to \$40.00, report covers, \$40.00, and the cost of a trip for a man from New York to New Haven to assemble the report, had been eliminated.

The City Pays.
On the motion being put to pay the amount outstanding, the measure carried, only Commissioner Bullock voting nay.

Mr. Scheidehelm, answering Commissioner Wigmore, said he would come back to discuss the contract at \$100 a day plus expenses, but he could not guarantee any expense if there was outside work.

Mr. Bullock was of the opinion that it was fortunate that the bill had been entered at this time, as there was the possibility that it might have gone into \$10,000 or \$12,000. He was of the opinion that the amount paid



A "Forty Winks" Chesterfield

Fall back to right or to left—your head rests secure and comfortable in the embrace of the winged back of the lounge chair of this suite de luxe.

It may be taken for granted that the packing, springs and general construction is of the best, so the main interest can centre on the style and covering. The three pieces are large, have loose cushions and the tapestry is over-wearing. It has individuality from its black background, raised on which are large floral effects in old rose, old blue and old gold.

On exhibition in our central window at \$370.

J. Marcus
Furniture, Rugs
30-36 Dock St.

Too Busy To Bake

The strain and drain of getting ready for Christmas is here again with about everything up to Mother—Mother, who rises to every occasion with such an undying spirit that the folks feel themselves leaning on her strength as something without limit.

How about a little of that Christmas gratitude right now—while she is working away steadily and without stint. Why not ask her if she can't balance up a bit by taking a little holiday from bread-baking, and so find out for herself if she won't save more than the strength she is spending at both ends of the day.

Robinson Bread offers these two savings—it frees her for profitable things half an evening and morning at least once a week. It costs less in money—and has more in it, as most everybody knows by now. Find your favorite among

Robinson's 6 Breads

No Approval
No Refunds
Bargain Basement
No Exchanges on these Special Dollar Items.

One Dollar Bargains

Rule Supreme in the Bargain Basement
for Thursday Only

64 Blouses \$1.00
Worth two and three times this Thursday price.
Voiles in white, tan and stripes. Voiles with scalloped neck, lace trimming tucked front. White Poplins, Organdies. A wonderful bargain for early morning shoppers.

25 Wash Dresses \$1.00
Ginghams, Voiles, Linenes and others.
The finest assortment of Wash Dresses ever offered at such a low price. All of them worth from \$5 to \$8.
Come early!

19 ONLY DAMASK Luncheon Cloths \$1.00
Made in Ireland. Maple Leaf, Fleur-de-lis, and other attractive designs.
Size 45x45
And worth double.

27 PAIRS Women's Shoes \$1.00
Cordovan Oxfords, one or two strap, Patent Leather Pumps
And worth \$4.00.

Men! Pyjamas \$1.00
Worth \$2.50 24 pair.
Silk frogs, pearl buttons, fine pyjama cloths.

3 only Kiddies Tweed Winter Coats \$1.00
Size 2 years only.

Men! Negligee Shirts \$1.00
60 only.
Well made, roomy shirts that are worth much more.

HUNDREDS OF OTHER BARGAINS

OAK HALL - Scovil Bros. Limited
King St. Market St. Germain St.

SUCCESS--
Depends on clear thinking and hard work. So also does it depend on faithful eyesight.
Why gamble on one of the first elements of your success?
Our examination will tell you the exact condition of your eyes.
D. BOYANER
111 Charlotte St.

From Now Until Saturday Night
A Big Selling Event in
Women's Winter Coats
Luxurious Winter Coats that women have greatly admired now greatly underpriced. You will be well advised to take advantage of this event before Saturday night.

\$79.50 Beautiful Normandies in Black with self or grey embroidery, Persian or Keromi collar. Also fine Bolivias with Opposum collar.	\$69.50 Very fine quality Normandies with Persian or Keromi collar, and beautiful embroidery. Only five coats in this lot.
\$49.50 Bolivias, Normandies, Velours, with scarf collar or collar of Beaverine. Only eight coats at this price. —So come early.	\$38.00 Fur-trimmed Velours and Suedines, either full lined or half lined. Every coat worth much more.
\$25.00 Fur-trimmed Coats, Bromleigh styles, semi-tailored, velours, silvertones, check backs.	Two only Pony Coats easily worth double the price \$95.

should be sufficient to cover any cost of discussion of the proposed contract. He moved that the matter of further consideration of the contract be taken up at the first meeting with new mayor. There was no second.

Mr. Thornton moved that Mr. Scheidehelm's services be dispensed with, with the understanding that he would be available if required.

Mr. Scheidehelm said that he would remain for today and discuss the contract if they wished without charge to the city.

Mr. Frink remarked that, as the mayor-elect had declared that he would sign the contract, and as Mr. Scheidehelm had advised against signing the contract, he did not see any advantage in having Mr. Scheidehelm remain, chair, as he was not a British subject. He said that he was of the opinion that there was no difficulty in this regard, but thought it wise to investigate the protest.

The ex-mayor then shook hands with each of the commissioners and left the committee room.

Purity Frost Kist bars, 5 cents at all Purity Ice Cream dealers. 11-16

'BY OUR FLOOR COVERINGS SHALL YE KNOW US'
In beauty and design and in exclusive patterns our Linoleums, Oilcloths and Linoleum and Congoleum Squares speak for themselves.
Linoleum Squares in all sizes and prices.
Linoleums in four yard widths. Oilcloths in one and two yard widths.
Congoleum Squares in all sizes.
Come in and see us.
See our windows for bargains.
Pictures at reduced prices.
Blinds 75 cents each upwards.
AMLAND BROS., LIMITED
19 Waterloo Street