

OPPOSED TO GENERAL VOTE

Council Again Defeated the
Municipal Reform Motion.

Want Legislation to Elect Aldermen for One, Two and Three Years.

Proposed \$30,000 Market Debentures Will Not Be Issued.

The Act Debarring Medical Men From Becoming Hospital Trustees Is Satisfactory—Hospital Agreement to Go Before the Legislature.

The movement in favor of the election of the aldermen of the city by general vote was turned down by a vote of 8 to 6 at the special meeting of the council yesterday afternoon. But legislation will be asked empowering the city to elect some aldermen for three years, some for two years and some for one year. It was also decided to bring several other important bills before the local legislature; and one bill relating to the privileges of government employees before the Federal Parliament. The mayor presided. Ald. Winnett moved to grant the petition for the calling of a public meeting to discuss Ald. Jolly's motion re qualification of aldermen. Ald. Wilkey said no large meeting should be held in the hall until it was inspected. Ald. Graham said the petitioners should bear the expense of calling the meeting. Ald. Winnett said that last year Messrs. Jones Bros. inspected the building, and proposed to call the meeting. The expense of calling the meeting was trifling, and in view of the fact that 500 citizens wanted the meeting they should be allowed to have the hall.

Ald. Greenlees said the petitioners knew what the hall was, and he was not opposed to giving it to them. He thought the building safe enough. Ald. Pritchard said that after the exhibition of fireworks at the council meetings the aldermen would be stultifying themselves to grant the hall to these people for the purpose of publicly abusing the city's representatives. If the petitioners had a grievance they should go to the legislature to have it heard. Ald. O'Meara was not opposed to giving the petitioners the use of the hall, but held that they should bear the expense.

Ald. Parnell moved that the petition be laid over until Monday night, when a report upon the safety of the hall will be in. Carried. The report of No. 1 committee was presented by Ald. Greenlees. The first clause, recommending steps for legislation to assess property benefited by storm sewers, but not fronting on them, was adopted.

MUNICIPAL REFORM. The second clause was to petition for legislation empowering cities having between 15,000 and 100,000 inhabitants to elect aldermen, one in every 4,000, by general vote.

Ald. O'Meara moved in amendment that the government be petitioned to divide the city into four wards, Dundas and Wellington streets to be the dividing lines, and that the aldermen be elected ward representatives as at present. Ald. Douglass seconded.

Ald. Garratt moved that the wards be the same as at present, but that the aldermen be elected for three, two and one year terms, the candidates getting the highest vote to be elected for three years, the second highest two years, and the third on the list to drop out at the end of one year. Ald. Drenaney seconded. Ald. Parnell remarked there was much to be said in favor of all three motions. However, he favored the first. If legislation could not be obtained as desired in the first case, legislation to suit Ald. O'Meara could be got any time before July 15. If the others failed he would support Ald. Garratt's motion. It would give continuity of power and had its merits. But first of all, they should endeavor to secure for the citizens the privilege of saying whether or not they wished to elect the aldermen by general vote. Ald. McPhillips favored Ald. Garratt's motion. He referred to the board of education, free library board, board of health, etc., as instances of successful representation along the lines suggested by the motion. Ald. Graham supported the clause.

The ward system was the greatest grievance and if they were to retain it he would just as soon have six or seven wards as four. Why should the council take any steps to prevent the ratepayers having a voice in the matter? He had no doubt such a motion would come before the government from some of the other cities in the province, and he hoped it would be backed up by London.

Ald. Greenlees stated that under the ward system the aldermen were subject to influences that would not exist if the system were abolished. For instance, if some influential person, with a number of voters in the ward, wanted a plank sidewalk his chances for getting it were not slight. By doing away with ward grabbing taxation would be reduced.

Ald. O'Meara said the movement was simply "something new." He had yet to be shown that there would be any benefit to the city, either with respect to taxation or in the service of the representatives.

Ald. Garratt said the scheme had proven a failure in Cleveland in 1886. The representation would be bunched in the center of the city, where the largest interests were. He couldn't get a man in No. 6 ward to vote for himself or his colleagues.

Ald. Greenlees—Try sending a cab. (Laughter.)

Ald. Douglass said it was natural that an alderman would not slight the end of the ward where he got his support. He feared the center of the city would get the best of it if the wards were abolished.

Ald. Wilkey had no objection to the general vote, but held that the wards should continue to exist, and that representatives should have property interests in them.

SEEMED TO BE AFRAID. Ald. Pritchard was fully in sympathy with the clause.

Ald. Winnett replied to the statement that the representation would be bunched in the center of the city. A more fallacious argument could not be advanced, he said. But a small proportion of voters lived in the central part of the city. He went on to say that ward grabbing was a great evil and kept up the taxation. Municipal reform was needed and would come.

Ald. Garratt—The representation was bunched within a block when the board of trade ran the city.

Ald. Parnell wished to put himself on record in favor of municipal reform. He supported the motion because of the opportunity it would afford for public discussion for or against ward abolition. He was not only in favor of the abolition of the wards but also in favor of proportional representation.

Ald. O'Meara withdrew his amendment, and Ald. Garratt's motion carried on the following division: Yeas—Ald. McPhillips, Douglass, Jolly, O'Meara, Reed, Garratt, Drenaney and Wilkey; Nays—Ald. Winnett, Graham, Plant, Parnell, Greenlees and Pritchard—6.

ASSESSING GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

The clause relating to the assessment of Dominion Government officials on income, the same as other citizens, elicited some discussion upon the desirability of an additional petition to prevent the officials from taking advantage of the garnishee act.

Ald. Winnett brought the matter up and moved to that effect. Ald. Parnell supported it.

"The officials themselves want it," said Ald. Graham.

The motion carried.

ASSESSMENT MATTERS.

The council also agreed to ask for legislation amending the assessment act regarding street railway and other companies, and further to co-operate with Brantford in a petition re similar changes in the act.

NO MARKET DEBENTURES.

In accord with a report from the board of health, Ald. Pritchard moved to instruct the city solicitor to incorporate in the proposed bill to be presented before the legislature a petition for permission to issue debentures for \$30,000 to provide for the paving of the market square, without submission to the people.

Ald. McPhillips claimed that in 20 years the increased rentals of the market would reimburse the city for the outlay. There was the greatest necessity for the improvement, he said.

Ald. Pritchard was satisfied that it could be done for \$10,000. The figure in the motion was merely for form. (Laughter.)

Ald. Parnell agreed that the market was a big asset to the city and should be kept in good shape. To do that best was to macadamize it. It was a matter of the utmost importance that the council avoid, if possible, the issue of further debentures.

Ald. O'Meara agreed with Ald. Parnell.

The motion was defeated, Ald. Pritchard and Douglass voting "Yea."

Ald. McPhillips voted with the majority for the purpose of moving a reconsideration on Monday night.

THE HOSPITAL AGREEMENT.

Several other matters on which legislation was proposed had been drafted into a bill by the city solicitor. The first four clauses set forth the hospital agreement between the city and county as previously adopted by the council.

In reply to Ald. Parnell, the mayor said no effort had been made to get the \$15,000 from the county.

"That is not to be paid until the hospital is completed," said Ald. Winnett. The clauses passed unchanged.

TO KEEP THE DOCTORS OUT.

Ald. O'Meara moved to strike out the fifth clause, relating to eligibility of medical men as hospital trustees. Under the act at present no doctor in medical practice was eligible unless he be mayor. The mayor himself had said the doctors would not be good managers for the hospital. They were too busy with their own patients. It was a parallel case in the act which prevented a lawyer from being a license commissioner.

Ald. Garratt and Graham spoke in favor of the clause.

The mayor was sorry some of the aldermen wished to exclude the doctors. All that was desired was to give the people an opportunity of deciding for themselves.

Ald. Winnett said there was good reason for the act. He attributed the increased cost of the new hospital to the doctors' advice. The trust had Dr. Balfour to consult.

Ald. Drenaney and Ald. McPhillips saw no reason for discriminating against the doctors.

Ald. O'Meara said the doctors were able enough, but too expensive. "When doctors were on the trust, jealousy raised a ruction," he said.

In reply to Ald. Plant, the mayor said the request was a personal one, and did not come from the Medical Association nor the hospital committee.

The motion to strike out the clause carried. Yeas—Ald. Pritchard, O'Meara, Winnett, Reed, Plant, Wilkey, Parnell and Greenlees—8. Nays—Ald. McPhillips, Jolly, Graham, Douglass, Garratt and Drenaney—6.

ALDERMEN AS POLICE COMMISSIONERS.

The next clause was to provide for

the appointment of two aldermen to the board of police commissioners.

Ald. O'Meara moved to strike it out. If the clause were adopted and legislation granted as desired, he said, it would give such scope to the aldermen and to the city that the police would be afraid to meddle with such places. The present commissioners were fair, independent men. No complaints had been made against them.

Ald. Pritchard—I agree with Ald. O'Meara. Keep clear of it.

Ald. O'Meara—We have enough on our hands now.

Ald. McPhillips praised the commissioners, but said the aldermen would know more of the real wants of the city than they did. The police force at present was run by the chief constable. All the suggestions came from him. It was what might be called a closed corporation, run by Chief Williams.

The speaker promised the council a surprise as soon as he came into possession of documentary evidence to support his statement. The commissioners were doing the best they could under the circumstances, but they were not fully enlightened on matters coming before them.

Ald. Winnett said, let Ald. McPhillips bring the proposed reforms before the mayor. He had the controlling power on the board. There was no better police force in existence than London's.

Ald. Pritchard—Hear, hear.

"And," continued Ald. Winnett, "if Chief Williams is responsible for such a state of affairs he deserves great credit."

Ald. McPhillips' motion carried. Yeas—Ald. McPhillips, Jolly, Reed, Douglass, Garratt, Plant, Drenaney and Wilkey—8. Nays—Ald. Pritchard, O'Meara, Winnett, Graham, Parnell and Greenlees—6.

Copies of the various bills will be sent to the attorney-general and Col. F. B. Leys, M.P.P. Adjourned.

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PATERSON ON CANADA

The Minister of Customs Tells of Our Growth.

Enormous Expansion of Foreign Trade Compared With Our Neighbors.

Brantford, Feb. 1.—The annual banquet of the Brantford Board of Trade took place in the Kerby House last evening. The chair was occupied by Mr. Harry Cockshutt, president of the board, while Mr. T. H. Preston, the vice-president, occupied the vice-chair. There was a splendid attendance, and among those present from a distance were: Hon. Wm. Paterson, Minister of Customs; Mr. Kemp, president of the Toronto Board of Trade; Mr. Hart Massey, Toronto; Mr. F. J. Massey, London, England; Mr. F. N. Shenstone and Mr. W. F. Maclean, M.P., Toronto.

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A. C. MARTIN, of Nampa, Idaho, writes to the S. C. Wells Company, of Le Roy, N.Y., as follows: "I took Shiloh's Consumption Cure twelve years ago under guarantee from your agents—'No cure no pay.' It cured me when the doctors pronounced me incurable, and I am strong and hearty to-day."

Shiloh's Consumption Cure is sold by all druggists on a positive guarantee that the purchase money will be refunded in case the remedy does not accomplish all that is claimed for it. 25c, 50c, and \$1 a bottle throughout the United States and Canada. In England, 1s. 2d., 2s. 3d. and 4s. 6d.

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