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TAX REFORM TO BE DECIDED BY THE ELECTORS IN JANUARY

Alderman Sam McBride, the Only Member of Council Who Opposed the Proposal to Submit a Bylaw to Ascertain if the People Are in Favor of Applying for Legislation to Assess Buildings, Business Tax and Incomes on a Lower Basis Than Land.

Single taxers, local optionists in taxation members of Manufacturers' Association, retail merchants and labor men appeared before the city council at its meeting yesterday to explain their individual reasons why a question should or should not be submitted to the people on Jan. 1 next, asking them:

"Are you in favor of applying for legislation to assess buildings, business tax and incomes on a lower basis than land?" Council subsequently passed on its submission to the electors.

F. W. Wegenast, counsel for the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, said his clients were not in favor of the proposed assessment, but he appeared in support of the idea of submitting the question to the electors of Toronto.

"I do not propose to go into the merits of the assessment act," he said, "but the general association has adopted a policy which calls for the abolition of the business tax by a general tax on vacant land, thus placing a greater burden on unearned increment, which goes into the pockets of landowners."

He was not prepared to adopt the policy of confiscation of a percentage of unearned increment, which is resorted to by some European countries. A Better Method.

"We should be guided by the principle that the value created by the majority is adequate for the responsibilities of the community, and should be taxed according to its responsibilities," declared Frank Beer, a member of the C. M. A. He stated that the association had given the question very careful consideration and had come to the conclusion that a better method could be resorted to than the imposition of a business tax.

He cited instances where the market values of land jumped hundreds per cent. in three years.

Secretary Trowen of the Retail Merchants' Association just wanted the local business tax reduced by some 15 per cent. "We feel that in asking you to request the people to make this reduction it is only fair to the retailers of Toronto, because we find that 92 per cent. of them will be satisfied. We don't want you to abolish the business tax altogether. Every man should pay according to his ability to pay, and by the abolition of the business tax you will prevent the large stockholder paying his share. You will be allowing the wealthy to escape and the poor man will be forced to meet a building on his property, whether he is able to or not, or on the contrary, pay a large tax on his vacant lot. If you want to place a check on land speculators you must adopt other means."

James Stevenson, a member of the Toronto and Leaside Council, stated that his organization was in favor of local option in taxation on land values.

Local Option. "I am in favor of local option in taxation," declared Controller Church. "Toronto is large enough to have an assessment of its own. Every man should pay according to his ability to pay, and by the abolition of the business tax you will prevent the large stockholder paying his share. You will be allowing the wealthy to escape and the poor man will be forced to meet a building on his property, whether he is able to or not, or on the contrary, pay a large tax on his vacant lot. If you want to place a check on land speculators you must adopt other means."

Encourage Improvements. "We should encourage the people to improve their land, and we should encourage them to hold land in order to derive benefits from other people's enterprise. Such methods are not helping the country, but are merely a means of getting rich. The only way to do this is to place a tax on vacant land."

The question council decided to submit to the people is: "Are you in favor of applying for legislation to assess buildings, business tax and incomes on a lower basis than land?"

The vote was: For—Aldermen J. H. Kennerly, G. A. Perry, J. H. Butler, Secretary John Maghan, Mr. J. H. Kennerly, Mr. J. H. Butler, Sergeant-at-Arms—Joseph Nunan.

Free correspondence—G. B. MacCallum, Auditors—George Gibbard, H. A. Dickson.

Rev. Dr. Gray Will Be Sent to Formosa by Bonar Presbyterian Church Sunday School.

At a special service held last evening in Bonar Presbyterian Church, Rev. Dr. J. Gray was consecrated for missionary service in Formosa.

With the departure of Dr. Gray for his missionary field, the Sunday school of Bonar Presbyterian church will have the distinction of being the only Presbyterian Sunday school in Canada that supports a missionary in foreign lands.

At the farewell service addresses were given by Principal Gandler of Knox College, Rev. A. P. McKay, who performed the religious ceremonies, Dr. Gray, who arrived in the city yesterday morning from Montreal, is a graduate in arts, medicine and theology of Queen's University, Kingston.

Shortly after his marriage to a young lady from Hantsburg, who will take place on Thursday, Dec. 5, Dr. Gray will proceed, in company with his wife, to the place where he will labor among the heathen.

STREET RAILWAY MEN. Nominations For Officers Made at Labor Temple Last Night.

The following were the nominations for officers of the Street Railway Men's Union at their meeting in the Labor Temple yesterday.

President, H. C. Johnston, Joseph Scott, W. R. Stephens, vice-president, J. J. Rogie, A. J. Coombes; business agent, Joseph Gibbons (incl.); finance secretary, D. D. Robbins; secretary, J. J. Rogie, A. J. Coombes, John Travers, Roncesvalles barns, A. Conn (incl.); Lansdowne barns, John Coles, R. B. Brown, T. Lester, Earlington; Kings east barns, John Wilson, H. Green, J. Scotty.

IN THE POLITICAL DRY DOCK.



Anti-Militarists Give France Alarm

Campaign of Socialists Denounced in Chamber of Deputies as Detestable Effort to Grippe Country.

PARIS, Dec. 2.—(Can. Press.)—The danger to the defence of the country caused by the activity of the anti-militarist propaganda was the subject of a lively debate in the chamber of deputies today. M. Bonnetou, referring to the fact that more than 30,000 citizens had either eluded military service or deserted, proposed a bill whereby all deserters or persons who mutilated themselves to avoid military service should be deprived of their electoral rights.

H. Millerand, the minister of war, in an impassioned speech, and declared his entire agreement with such a measure. While he did not believe that many French youths would be found to shirk at the moment of danger, he said that it was the duty of all parties to unite against such a detestable campaign and put the people on their guard against an agitation which constituted a most abominable anti-national crime.

The bill was referred to committee.

G. A. Perry, Chief Ward Four Liberals

With Better Organization, New Club Believes That Conservative Members Can Be Ousted.

At an enthusiastic and well-attended meeting in Broadway Hall last evening the Ward Four Liberals Association was launched and officers elected.

The newly elected president, G. A. Perry, the speaker in Quebec last night, said that the organization they should have no difficulty in ousting from office some of the Conservative members of Toronto.

The following were the officers elected: President—G. A. Perry. Vice-president—George Gilchrist. Second vice-president—J. H. Kennerly. Third vice-president—R. J. Butler. Secretary—John Maghan. Treasurer—E. J. Demer. Sergeant-at-Arms—Joseph Nunan.

Free correspondence—G. B. MacCallum, Auditors—George Gibbard, H. A. Dickson.

Boys and Girls Taken To Weston Sanitarium

Inspector Hughes in Charge of Large Party, Who Were Shown All Thru Buildings.

Inspector Hughes took a very happy party of over fifty girls and boys, representing the different schools, to Weston on Saturday afternoon to see the different hospitals of the National Sanitarium Association.

Cars were supplied free both by the Toronto Street Railway Company and the Toronto Suburban Railway Company. Dr. Dobbie and the chief nurse, Miss Dickson, took the party thru the various buildings, and thru all the institutions in connection with the hospital.

At the close of the visit Dr. Dobbie said that he had never answered so many questions in the same time, and that the questions asked showed an intelligent interest in the subject. The pupils were especially interested in the Queen Mary Hospital, which is nearly ready for opening. One of the things that attracted their interest was the great school room on top of the building, the four walls of which are made of glass. Inspector Hughes offered a prize for the best essay written by any of the pupils describing the institution as they saw it. Miss Dickson entertained the party at the close of their visit.

TO MEET WEEKLY.

Municipal Improvement Association Decides to Hold Luncheons.

It was decided at a meeting of the Municipal Improvement Association, held last night in the Temple Building, to hold weekly luncheons in future, at each of which some prominent person will address the members of the association on various topics of public interest.

NATIONALISM IS GROWING STEADILY

Henri Bourassa Says It is Spreading Rapidly in Ontario and is Far From Dead.

"To the Conservative and Liberal press that declare the Hochelega by-election to be the death knell of Nationalism I say, 'Dead today but alive tomorrow,'" said Henri Bourassa, leader of the Nationalist movement in Canada, when seen by The World at the King Edward Hotel last night.

He is to address the students of the University of Toronto at a dinner tonight.

Mr. Bourassa laughed at the idea of the Hochelega election having a serious effect on the Nationalists. "The candidate was not a Nationalist, but a labor man, who adopted the Nationalist platform because he considered it would help his election," he said. "When you consider that he was opposed with the greatest opposition by both the Conservatives and Liberals, does it not seem wonderful that he polled more than two thousand votes?"

"No, Nationalism is not dead. It is stronger than ever. Not only is it spreading in Quebec but it is spreading rapidly. Up to but recently the people of Ontario considered Nationalism a bad thing—something wicked. This was because the press have purposely given a false view of what Nationalism is. The truth regarding Nationalism is now becoming known, and those who formerly opposed it are now turning to it with interest."

Mr. Bourassa strongly opposed both the giving of a grant to Great Britain to build and protect her navy, and such vessels as would be used solely for coast defence, should be undertaken by an insult, he says.

If it was essential that Canada did something toward the British navy, then Canada should have a voice in imperial affairs. Until such time as this was granted Canada's duty was to uphold and protect her own navy. Ontario could well afford to build her own navy. The support of Canada to that navy would be but an insult.

Kew Beach Will Have Big School

Finance Committee Decided to Rush Work Much Needed on Twenty-Nine Roomed Building.

Work is to be rushed through the winter on the big new six-roomed school at Kew Beach on Williams road. This was assured by the action of the board of education yesterday afternoon.

After some discussion it was decided that the committee report to the board of education on hand to hand contracts for the new school, the site for which has already been procured. The estimated cost of the masonry is \$31,970, and of the carpentry, \$18,540.

The decision on the part of the committee to rush the completion of the work is very timely, as the pupils of the district to be served by the new building are at present housed in portable structures in the school yards.

It was decided by the committee to appoint A. H. Gilley messenger for the board at a salary of \$800 per annum, his duties to commence on Jan. 1, 1913.

Regarding the recommendation that lantern slides of medical inspection work be obtained at a cost not to exceed \$80, for educational purposes, the committee decided to order those immediately after the close of the current year.

Railway Merger is Annulled by Court

Supreme Court Decision of Far-Reach Importance, Prohibits Union Pacific From Controlling Roads.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—(Can. Press.)—The great Harriman merger, created when the Union Pacific Railroad Co. bought 46 per cent. of the stock of the Southern Pacific Railroad by the supreme court of the U. S., as a violation of the Sherman anti-trust law, has been annulled by the supreme court today.

The court said that the merger was a violation of the law, and that the court would not enforce it. The court said that the merger was a violation of the law, and that the court would not enforce it.

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PLANS OF LEASIDE HAVE BEEN FILED

C. N. R. Townsite Has Wide Boulevards, Diagonal Streets With Many Parks and Crescents.

GOOD TRANSPORTATION

Toronto Railway May Be Extended in Order to Give Residents Quick Facilities, Says Mackenzie.

The plans of the Canadian Northern Railway Co.'s new subdivision at Leaside have been approved by the city surveyor, and are now registered with the city. They provide for an area of nearly two square miles, laid out for a model city capable of accommodating a population of 50,000 people.

Altho the matter has not been definitely decided, it is not probable that the land will be placed on the market before next spring. An official of the C. N. R. land department informed The World that the size of the lots and the way they would be laid out was not being decided upon until the city's approval of the street plans had been obtained.

Now that the plans have been approved this has still to be done, and following the staking of the lots out will also have to be undertaken.

One of the most important questions to be met by the C. N. R. is the system of transportation. That Leaside is to be given a radial service, practically decided upon. Asked by The World in this regard just before he left for Ottawa, Sir William Mackenzie, president of the Canadian Northern Railway Co., said that it was altogether probable this would be provided by an extension thru to Leaside of the Toronto Street Railway.

One long boulevard, which bears no name upon the plans, and which runs north and south a short distance from the west side of the subdivision, is 110 feet wide. This has been left exceptionally wide with a purpose in view, and is looked upon as a suitable route thru which to run the street cars.

It is pointed out that the Metropolitan cars and the Toronto Street Railway cars will be brought to a connection at some point on this boulevard.

Provision is made in the plans for one of the 36 feet wide diagonal streets which Assessment Commissioner Forman laid out thru the country. The suggestion of the assessment department in the case today, but his principal finding when he was a judge of the Utah circuit court, to the effect that the two roads were not competitors and therefore no violation of the law had resulted from the purchase, was reversed and annulled.

Justice Day announced the unanimous opinion of the court. Justice Van Deventer took no part in the consideration of the case today, but his principal finding when he was a judge of the Utah circuit court, to the effect that the two roads were not competitors and therefore no violation of the law had resulted from the purchase, was reversed and annulled.

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M'CARTHY'S MOTION IS REFERRED BACK

Council Would Prefer Traffic Commission Appointments Made By Council and Not Electors.

COULD GET GOOD MEN

Legislation Committee Will Advise as to Advisability of Adopting Only One Clause.

That a better traffic commission could be appointed by council than elected by the people, is the opinion of the majority of council, relative to Controller McCarthy's motion, which reads:

"In the opinion of this council it is advisable to create for Toronto a railway traffic commission, to hold, construct, operate and manage the city's street railway and local transit lines."

The board should consist of five members, one to be nominated and elected by council each year for a one year term, four to be elected by the electors qualified to vote in municipal elections, to be re-elected annually afterwards for a four year term; that at the next municipal election the question of reappointing such a commission be submitted to the electors; that, if approved by a majority of the electors, the commission be created by the next session of the legislature for the necessary legislation creating such a commission.

On a vote of 18 to 5 it was decided to refer it back to the legislation committee for further consideration as to the advisability of making the commission directly elected by the electors rather than to council. The city council could use its discretionary powers, and the general public to greater advantage than the electors who would be perforce to elect those who are some of the best men putting themselves up for election.

Where municipal ownership has been successful, declared the controller, speaking in its support, it has happened concurrently with lengthening the term of office of council members, and the general public has been the case throughout all European countries, especially where the term of office of council members is in existence, with the ultimate end in view of bringing about a public ownership of the enterprise in strict business lines, also to provide for the continuity of service.

In New York, after considerable trouble, the authorities appointed a public service commission which has been successful in declaring the controller, speaking in its support, it has happened concurrently with lengthening the term of office of council members, and the general public has been the case throughout all European countries, especially where the term of office of council members is in existence, with the ultimate end in view of bringing about a public ownership of the enterprise in strict business lines, also to provide for the continuity of service.

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