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Aldermanic Crisis

Breach Between the Mayor and Chairman Carrothers.

Effort to Alter the Plan of the Victoria Hospital.

An Eleventh Hour Surprise Sprung Upon the Board.

Warm Words Indulged In All Around—Hospital Situation Remains Unchanged—Other Matters of Interest Deal With.

A sensation was sprung by Ald. Carrothers at last night's meeting of the city council shortly before adjournment. It related to hospital business, and led to an open breach between the chairman of the hospital building committee and the mayor. Some lively remarks passed. Voices were raised to a high pitch, and altogether the meeting was the most turbulent of the year. All the members were present.

The hospital business was first considered, when Ald. Carrothers read the building committee's report. No one moved its adoption.

Ald. Wilkey objected to anything being done, as he had not been notified of the committee meeting.

Warden Elson was present, and his sensitive eloquence was again heard in explanation of the clause in the proposed agreement between the city and county, limiting the cost to be borne by the county to 75 cents per day.

Ald. Taylor wanted fuller information. He was not on the hospital committee, he explained, but doubted if he would be better informed, even if he were a member. He therefore moved that the city treasurer and creditors be requested to appear before the council with regard to the city accepting \$15,000 from the county under the terms offered by the committee of the county council.

Ald. Winnett confidently assailed the warden's statement as to the proportion to be paid by the county, but was obliged to back down before Mr. Elson's Socratic arguments.

Ald. Hunt moved an amendment to the 75-cent clause to provide an option of terminating the agreement on six months' notice in event of the government grant being withdrawn, or if the cost should exceed 75 cents, the county to pay actual cost after such notice be given. Ald. McPhillips seconded.

Ald. Taylor claimed this motion to be out of order. It was to shut off information, he said.

Ald. Winnett—Anything is quite in order when a certain few move it, but not if made by another few.

Ald. Hunt said he was trying to facilitate matters. The whole agreement might be repealed later. His motion was lost on the following division:

Yeas—Ald. McPhillips, Belton, Jolly, Stevely, Hunt, Wilkey, Gerry and the mayor—8. Nays—Ald. Taylor, O'Meara, Carrothers, Winnett, Graham, Cooper, Dreaney, Nutkins, McCallum and Greenlees—10.

Ald. Taylor's motion passed, and other business was proceeded with. But the hospital question had not been completely side-tracked.

When the time for motions arrived, Ald. Carrothers moved that the old contagious ward at the general hospital be not taken down; that the new ward to take its place be not built at present, and that the architect be notified to stop the work for future orders by the council. This, he said, would probably enable the committee to finish that portion of the hospital already begun for \$70,000, and at the same time provide all necessary accommodation for 20 years to come.

The mayor was prepared to meet the motion by a statement showing that the pavilion would cost \$7,000, and that material had been delivered for its construction to the value of \$2,554.03. To leave out the new pavilion would greatly interfere with the arrangement of patients.

Ald. Carrothers—I now understand why the clerk of the works did not meet me here this afternoon to show his plans. Mr. Dodd told him Saturday night, he went on, that the work could be stopped, as not a bit of material was on the ground. Further, the engineer had told him the present work would not be taken off the contractors' hands. The terra cotta was fifth-class, and some of the plastering had to be pulled off.

Ald. Wilkey said the place for these complaints to be made was in the committee.

Ald. O'Meara seconded Ald. Carrothers' motion.

Ald. McPhillips took Ald. Carrothers to task for bringing in his motion in such a way. It was perfectly out of order. The proper course was for it to be discussed in committee first.

Ald. Nutkins denied the statement that the terra cotta was inferior. Contractor Martyn had been unjustly dealt

with. "I can speak freely," he said. "I have not supplied frames or lumber. You can't say I'm connected with it." (Laughter.) "You may laugh," he continued, "but some who laugh are as deep in the mire as others are in the mire." Ald. Winnett supplies lumber for the hospital.

"I deny it," said Ald. Winnett. Ald. Nutkins—I must call you down, Ald. Winnett.

Ald. Gerry gets the lumber from you for the frames he makes. This caused quite a commotion.

Ald. Winnett claimed that he did not know where the lumber he sold was going.

Ald. Cooper thought, in justice to the citizens and to the contractors, the hospital should be finished.

Ald. Carrothers complained that his rights as chairman of the committee were interfered with by "that great I am."

The mayor asked who he referred to. "It's you, I partly mean," answered Ald. Carrothers, and he berated the mayor because of his action at one time the contracts were let. The mayor referred to his exonerated, and a warm argument followed of the "You did it" variety.

Ald. Jolly was surprised at Ald. Carrothers' action, and considered his motion out of order. He moved to refer the matter to the committee.

Ald. McPhillips seconded. Carrothers, Jolly, Stevely, Cooper, Hunt, Wilkey, Gerry, Greenlees, Nutkins, McCallum—11. Nays—Taylor, Douglass, O'Meara, Carrothers, Winnett, Graham and Dreaney—7.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Rev. E. N. English's petition re use of city water for Hellmuth College was referred to No. 1 committee.

James McCormick, of Westminster, gave notice of suit per Stuart, Stuart & Ross for damages sustained by being crushed between a street car and a post at the corner of Dundas and Adelaide streets. He was willing to accept \$250 in full of his claim. Referred to No. 2.

Ed. Paul and others asked for a sidewalk on west side of Wellington street between Central avenue and Hyman street. Laid over.

Laurence E. S. Key, secretary of the citizens' committee of Merritt, asked a grant towards rebuilding the homes of working men, destroyed by the tornado of Sept. 26. Referred to No. 1.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

A recommendation by No. 3 committee that the Canadian Rubber Company's account be paid, a satisfactory guarantee having been furnished, was adopted.

No. 2 committee had a difficult time getting the council's consent to the laying of the following: A mosaic stone walk in front of the properties of Messrs. Metherall and Denny on Dundas street east; an artificial stone walk on the west side of Wellington street, from Queen's avenue north, the depth of Mr. W. J. Reid's lot, and an asphalt walk on the west side of Wellington street, between Central avenue and Pall Mall street.

Ald. Dreaney said of the Dundas street walk it was in such bad shape some one would be hurt by it.

Ald. O'Meara said it meant an outlay equal to the cost of a plank walk, and it should be remembered that No. 2 committee had no funds.

Ald. Taylor and Cooper agreed that the walk should not be laid. The aldermen for the fifth ward held out strongly for the walk.

The mayor ruled that a two-thirds vote would be required unless notice of motion were given. The necessary vote was obtained and the work will be gone on with at once.

Ald. O'Meara—I would ask the chairman where the money is coming from? The Mayor to Ald. Douglass—Can you answer?

Ald. Douglass (smiling)—I can when the time for questions comes up.

COMPLETELY EXONERATED.

The finance committee's report was adopted. In consequence of a reference from the auditors, Ald. Douglass gave a full explanation of the peculiar check to Contractor Graham with which the names of Ald. Douglass and Engineer Graydon were connected. The explanation was entirely satisfactory, and on motion the alderman and engineer were unanimously exonerated from all blame in the matter.

DR. HUTCHINSON'S INCREASE.

Ald. O'Meara pressed his motion that the salary of Medical Health Officer Hutchinson be not increase \$500, and that all extra money paid him be returned. Dr. Hutchinson's assistant, the city clerk and the city treasurer were all more entitled to an increase than Dr. Hutchinson, he said. He believed in paying a man for his labor, not for his name.

While Ald. O'Meara was speaking, several of the aldermen left the room. He severely scolded them for "sneaking out," and had them brought back.

Ald. Greenlees moved in amendment that the matter of the salary of Dr. Hutchinson be referred back to the board of health. That body was the most familiar with the health officer's duties, and therefore best able to deal with the question. The speaker considered the salary of \$1,500 was not too much for a professional man. Ald. Graham seconded.

Ald. Taylor credited Ald. O'Meara with having some feeling in the matter, or he would not be following it up so closely.

Ald. O'Meara quickly retorted that it cost the city something to have Ald. Taylor running around after Dr. Hutchinson.

Ald. Taylor—What do you mean, you miserable old cur? "Order!" "Must a man listen to a wretch like that?" continued Ald. Taylor excitedly.

Ald. O'Meara (laughing)—I said you were at Ottawa, with the health officers.

Ald. Taylor—I was there on business.

Ald. O'Meara—And you know as much about business as a molasses barrel.

Ald. Greenlees' motion carried on a division of 11 to 5. Ald. O'Meara, Wilkey, Nutkins, Gerry and McCallum voting nay.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Ald. Taylor gave notice that at the next meeting he would move the reconsideration of the question of sewage disposal.

Ald. McPhillips' motion re steps to establish the rights of the Bell Telephone Company was again laid over, because no report from the city solicitor on the matter had yet been given.

INQUIRIES.

Ald. Cooper—Is the work on the hospital going on?

Chairman Carrothers answered that the bricklayers, carpenters and painters were at work, but he believed it was not satisfactory.

Ald. McCallum asked of the chairman of the board of works if any action would be taken on a motion passed in the council some months ago concerning Mr. McPhillips' drain.

The matter had been referred to the engineer, said Ald. Douglass. This year the expenditure of money was in the engineer's hands entirely. He spent it without the sanction of No. 2 committee.

Ald. Douglass understood that typhoid fever had resulted from the condition of Carling's Creek. Did the board of health intend to have it cleaned?

Ald. Taylor said no complaint had yet been made, but he promised the board would consider it.

Ald. Jolly complained that a proper inspection of the streets was not maintained. He knew of several dangerous places which should be attended to.

Ald. Carrothers said that the streets were inspected very seldom.

Ald. McPhillips will move for a full statement of the council's present financial position.

The electric lighting bylaw was read three times and passed.

Adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

WESTERN ONTARIO

A Port Burwell Man Fatally Injured in a Runaway.

An Oxford Pioneer Dead—Bad Accident at Springfield—Chatham Woman Seeks Her Children—"Peeping Tom" at Work in Brantford.

Springfield fair was a big success. Woodstock's population is 9,110. Berlin has a temporary isolation hospital.

Ald. Hearn, of Guelph, will move to Toronto. Nine couples were married in Woodstock during September.

Lemuel Shaver, of Galt, fell and broke his arm Saturday.

The West Lambton and Sarnia township fair opens Wednesday.

Brantford had 33 births, 15 marriages and 32 deaths in September.

Berlin has sold its waterworks debentures for \$102,000 for 20 years.

Mr. George Eitel died Friday at Preston at the advanced age of 83 years.

An indoor baseball club has been formed and officers elected in Sarnia.

It cost between \$1,500 and \$1,700 to submit the plebsit in Elgin county.

T. P. Sanders, joint inspector of the M. C. R. and E. and H. at Fargo, has resigned.

John Irving, one of the pioneers of Oxford county, died Saturday at his home in Blenheim at the age of 61.

The condition of Judge Hughes, of St. Thomas, does not improve. His honor is in a very serious condition.

The funeral of the late Mr. Gibbs, lot 15, sec. 8, West Zorra, took place on Saturday morning to the North Embro cemetery.

The collections at the Berlin inland revenue office for September were \$6,517.32, an increase of \$500.73 over the preceding month.

Alf. Sherritt, Brantford's champion bicycle rider, has returned from Vienna, Austria, where he rode against some of the world's fastest riders.

"Peeping Tom" is again on the war-path in Brantford. People are on the watch for him. He has been seen looking in at a number of windows.

James Herendeen and J. Trim, of the Mansion House, Aylmer, have been summoned to appear before Magistrate McCausland, at Aylmer, on a charge of selling liquor on Sunday.

The barn belonging to Christian Wetzel, near Peterborough, was struck by lightning about 5 o'clock on Friday afternoon and burned to the ground, together with all of this year's crops.

James Bruce, the oldest resident of Peel township, died suddenly last Wednesday. He was returning from Glenora with his son, when he suddenly complained that he felt unwell, and inside of a minute he was dead.

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Weaver, of the first concession of Bayham, were thrown from their rig while going to

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Aylmer on Saturday, and both were severely injured. Grave doubts are entertained as to Mr. Weaver's recovery.

A bad accident occurred at Springfield on Saturday night, when Dell Best had his right arm broken below the elbow.

He was riding on the merry-go-round, when he was pushed or fell off, and hit his arm against one of the posts, breaking it.

Application was made before Justice Armour on behalf of Mrs. Matilda Brown, of Chatham, for the recovery of her three children from the Children's Aid Society.

Some three or four years ago Mrs. Brown's husband left her, and her children were given over to the Children's Aid Society of Kent county, by Judge Woods, of Chatham, on account of the woman's inability to keep them properly.

She now comes to court to set aside the writ of habeas corpus by which they were transferred, but this will be a difficult matter, as they have in the meantime been let out to foster-homes.

The deputy attorney-general appears for the Children's Aid Society.

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