

# THE COUNCIL RATIFIED AGREEMENT WITH THE GRAND TRUNK

## Only Two Members Opposed Pinnacle Street Bylaw on Ground of Indemnity—\$70,000 Bonds Sold Locally—Amusement Grounds Problem—Housing Bylaw Carried.

The city council last evening ratified the agreement made between Vice-President Robb of the Grand Trunk Railway and Mayor Riggs and Aldermen Bone and Hanna at Montreal on June 1st. By this agreement, Pinnacle street will have the railway track in the centre of the street. A bylaw was passed through its various stages, embodying the ratification of the agreement.

Council was unanimous with the exceptions of Ald. Wensley and Woodley in its approval of the agreement. These two did not oppose the moving of the tracks but they opposed the liability clause. The rest of the council thought it a minor matter.

City Solicitor Masson had written the council as follows:—

### City Solicitor's Report.

"The resolution prepared by the council is somewhat indefinite as to what they wish my approval of, as it states that the agreement be ratified and confirmed provided the city solicitor approve of same from a legal standpoint. Generally speaking that would mean, was the form of agreement adopted satisfactory from a legal standpoint? But what I gathered from a conversation with Alderman Ponton was that liability would be the city incur by adopting the agreement. If I am right in that supposition I would suggest that the damages which might arise from the entering into of such agreement can be better estimated by an engineer than by a solicitor.

"However there are a few items which occur to me as might be covered by the indemnity that the Grand Trunk asked the city to indemnify them against.

1. Damages which might occur during the changing of the track.  
2. The west side of Pinnacle street from Campbell street to near the north side of Bridge street has just an embankment along the level of the sidewalk which the railway tracks are moved to the centre of the street and a driveway established on the west side of the tracks, there is a liability of rigs, etc., being upset down the embankment, unless a proper guard were put up and if a proper guard is erected, then the question of damages to the property owners might arise.

3. If the track is moved to the centre of the street in winters of severe snow falls the railway company will try to keep their tracks clear so their engine and trains can run over them, but by so doing they will throw the snow to each side of their track and this render the traffic more dangerous.

4. If the railway company do not keep their portion of the road between their rails and for the eighteen inches outside in good condition, accidents might happen by reason thereof and no doubt the railway company would this claim indemnity setting up the damage was due to the increased hazard occasioned by the moving of the tracks. In fact it is hard to conceive of any damage that might be occasioned upon the highway that the company would not say was by reason of the increased hazard.

The damage to property of course would be covered and the city would be responsible for that. It does not appear to me, however, that there would be any large amount of damages to the property of owners, by reason of moving the track, but that is a matter that your engineer would be better able to speak of than myself.

"There is also the question for the council to consider if the tracks are moved into the centre of the street, will they not come right over the present sewer, and if repairs have to be made to the sewer under the track damages might arise by reason of the making of such repairs and this would also be covered by the city indemnity to the Railway Company.

"It is a question for the city council to decide whether they are willing to assume the burden contemplated by the agreement or not. In my opinion all things I have pointed out

and interest bearing 6%, and that the Treasurer is hereby authorized to receive offers for same.

"That bonds of the city bearing 6% interest to the value of about \$100,000, covering the paving of Bridge street east and other streets be offered to the Standard Paving Company in payment for paving of streets at 98 and accrued interest. Said bonds to be delivered to them when the contracts have been completed. Failing their acceptance of this offer by the 24th inst., said paving to be discontinued.

"That the city Treasurer be authorized to pay one half (1/2) of one per cent. to legitimate brokers as commission on bona fide sales of the city bonds to citizens or others but only to authorized persons and only covering the issue of about \$70,000 which will be ready for delivery about 1st July."

### Cheese Board Request.

Acting Treasurer E. P. Frederick brought to the council's attention the need of assistance in the treasurer's department for several months. The request was granted on motion of Ald. Ponton.

The Belleville Cheese Board, through their secretary, Mr. Frank J. Knight, requested the council to allow them the use of the council chamber for their meetings. The present old court room is too small and the city hall is so large that bidding cannot be held there.

The council offered them the city hall, with the suggestion that the board congregate near the platform.

### Wants a Spur Line.

Mr. J. L. Walsley wrote the council stating that his firm desired a railway siding or spur to his property on Pinnacle street. The matter was referred to the committee.

### Buys Harbor Lot.

The Imperial Oil Co. agreed to pay \$2,000 for a lot on the harbor adjacent to their property. Ald. Ostrom thought it unwise to sell the only bit of waterfront the city possesses. Ald. Bone said the property was only 66 feet, that the company would put up \$30,000 in buildings making this a distributing centre.

The council decided to have the solicitor close the deal.

Fire Protection for Rolling Mills. Mr. J. A. Higgs, of the Steel Co. of Canada, wrote the council asking for improvement to the hydrant system. Recently there was a fire which might have had disastrous consequences.

Ald. Woodley said that the expenditure could not be taken out of the waterworks department and spent on private property.

Ald. Bone moved that the council undertake the work as a general expense.

Ald. Ponton suggested a meeting of Mr. Higgs and the solicitor with the council on Thursday as there was the possibility of further development of that district. A scheme of fire protection and water service may have to be decided upon.

Ald. Ponton's suggestion was adopted. A report from the waterworks manager will be presented.

### Housing Bylaw.

Mr. Masson wrote the council as follows in the matter of the housing bylaw:—

"Enclosed I send you two draft copies of bylaw to appoint two new commissioners, one in place of F. D. Denke, whose term has expired and the other in place of George Walton, who, I understand, has resigned, and his resignation accepted.

"At the suggestion of the Mayor and Mr. Frederick I inserted a clause in the bylaw providing that the commissioners may from among themselves appoint a secretary of said commission and for payment of salary to said secretary. I am not sure that this is authorized by the Act. The Act does authorize members of the commission to be paid such salary or other remuneration as the council may think proper. That would ordinarily apply to all the members of the commission being paid alike.

"There is nothing in the Act that I have been able to find authorizing the appointment of a secretary for the commission, and it would appear that the Act does not contemplate

such an appointment as by sub-section 9 of section 5 of the Act of 1920 it says 'The clerk, assessment commissioners, assessor, treasurer, architect, engineer, etc., of the municipality shall at the request of the commission do and perform all such duties under the Act as they would do and perform for the council in the case of the carrying out of the provisions of this Act had been conferred on the council.'

"If the council decide not to grant this privilege to the commissioners, they can strike out clause three as inserted in the said bylaw. If, on the other hand, they decide to leave it in, they can fill in the blank with the amount of salary they propose to pay the secretary.

"I also enclose you draft bylaw in duplicate to make the Municipal Housing Act 1920 apply to this municipality."

Bylaws were passed in accordance with the above and the secretary's salary was set at \$600 per annum.

Ald. Doyle said that he had 15 applications for houses to be built and City Clerk Holmes stated that he had secured 6 applications.

Ald. Ostrom opposed the housing scheme as unnecessary. Why should the city go into the business for thirty years? He would support any private concern undertaking building.

Ald. Doyle said there were 18 or 20 names ahead in people wanting houses.

Ald. Bone thought the council should encourage the housing scheme to make landlords improve their houses.

Ald. Doyle said the people from the outside complain that some people are charging several prices for houses here.

Residents of Elm street petitioned for a concrete walk.

Albion street residents are asking for water service, said Ald. Doyle.

Ald. Bone asked that the Albert College bylaw be "dug up" for the next committee meeting.

Ald. Doyle said that he believed cars were taxed for using the market square on June 3rd.

Ald. Ostrom thought this council should not allow the market lessee to levy toll on cars using the city market.

The chairman of market and city property will consult the solicitor about it.

Ald. Wensley moved that the police force be instructed to see that Dufferin avenue, south of Pine street is kept open for traffic when circus and other attractions are showing here, and that the roadway be not allowed to be obstructed with refreshment booths as has been the custom in the past.—Carried.

Ald. Woodley moved, seconded by Ald. Ostrom, that a committee consisting of Mayor Riggs, Ald. Hanna, and Ponton to work in conjunction with similar committees from the Chamber of Commerce and the Agricultural Society and to wait upon Albert College Board to see if arrangements can be made whereby the city will have the use of the agricultural grounds in conjunction with Albert College.—Carried.

The city desires to have use of grounds for big events such as the G. W. V. A. demonstration.

## Fatal Food Riots in Austrian Capital

VIENNA, June 8.—Violent demonstrations occurred here yesterday, having been caused by the high cost of food. The police intervened and several melees occurred throughout the city, seven persons being killed and twenty-three wounded. Many arrests were made during the day.

## Several Hundred Japs Murdered by Reds

HONOLULU, June 8.—The Japanese war office has announced that according to Russian witnesses several hundred Japanese, including women and children, were murdered at Nikolsk, Siberia, by the Bolsheviks on March 12 and no Japanese had been left alive in the town. According to Tokio advices to The Nippon Jiji, a Japanese newspaper here, the small Japanese garrison commanded by Major Miyuki defended the Consulate for five days, but finding themselves greatly outnumbered, they burned the building with the documents it contained and committed suicide, the despatch added.

## Wire Trouble Between Italy and France

PARIS, June 8.—Telegraphic and telephonic communication between Italy and France has been interrupted since early this morning. The Paris carried no indication as to the reason for the interference, whether it might be due to storms or other causes.

## Liquor Referendum May be Oct. 25

OTTAWA, June 8.—Authority has been given to the Secretary of State to make such preliminary arrangements as are necessary for holding a liquor referendum in the Province of Ontario. The precise date of the plebiscite has not yet been determined, but it will probably be on Monday, October 25, the same date as has been fixed for Saskatchewan.

## No Government Tax to Pay

On Any Clothing in Our Store—Because we do not—Have any Suits Over \$45.00 This Week Did You Get One Yet?

## Panama Hats

We Close Our Sale of Panama Hats at \$3.00 This Week Did You Get One Yet?

## OAK HALL

Miss Nella Bartlett spent a week visiting friends in Belleville. Our milk-drawers started their Saturday evening trips to the cheese factory last week.

The Ladies Auxiliary held their monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. J. and C. Wilson on Wednesday of last week, a good number being present.

Little Ruth Sills spent a day recently visiting her friend Mollie Longwell.

Mrs. Frederick and daughter, Melissa, of the 6th line, visited the former's mother, Mrs. G. Smith, one day last week.

The recent rain just came in time to save the crops, especially the strawberries, as things were beginning to look discouraging.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Townsend, of Halloway, visited at Mr. E. Bartlett's on Sunday.

Mr. R. A. Hamilton, Belleville, spent the week-end in Lindsay.

The Rev. D. G. Ramsay is in Ottawa attending the General Assembly.

Have You The Necessary Need For Enjoying These Nice Summer Evenings? We Are Offering A Sale of Hammocks For The Remainder of This Week from \$3 to \$9.50 At McIntosh Bros

"Service" PHONES: 1100 and 808 UPHOLSTERING Full line of Tapestries and Coverings at Lowest Prices. F. W. Churchill UNDERTAKER Motor and Horse Equipment 194 Front Street Opposite Standard Bank

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SAD TRAGEDY AT TORONTO June 8.—A woman phoned out her throat in a mirror. The husband came home to find the body completed.