

MASS MEETING ON COAL BY-LAW

Aims of Fuel and Food Committee Explained on Terrace Hill Last Night

Reviewing the coal situation, both local and in general, and showing the need of remedial measures, exposing those who had opposed the passing of the by-law and criticizing the coal dealers for having fallen down in their attempts to supply the citizens of Brantford with a sufficient supply of fuel, Ald. M. M. MacBride fired the first shot in the fuel and food by-law campaign.

Other speakers of the evening were Ald. English, Jones and Harry D. MacDonald, coal dealer, and Albert C. Brown, of the Trades and Labor Council.

The Coal Shortage

"It seems quite unnecessary to enlarge on the fact that a serious shortage of coal exists in this city at the present time, in fact has existed for several years now. The situation was particularly acute last winter, and greater suffering would have been experienced in this city were it not for the strenuous efforts of Henry Drayton in handling the freight blockade at Black Rock and Buffalo.

"Having in mind this condition, past and present, Ald. English, after consultation, moved at the City Council in March last, the appointment of a committee to enquire into the coal situation. I was fortunate or unfortunate enough, to be chosen as the chairman of the Committee.

"Our first aim was to get in touch with other municipalities in Ontario, with the object of getting concerted action, and thus bring pressure on the powers that be, to see that the difficulties in the way were removed so that the local dealers would be assured of a plentiful supply, and thus obviate the necessity of the municipality going into the business.

"As you know, the tax rate in Brantford is already a good deal higher than there is any necessity for proper business methods were applied to the different spending boards, and in the present unsettled condition of finance, the committee were reluctant to be compelled to go into the money markets with debentures.

"Representatives of the different municipalities assembled at Galt, and after discussing the situation thoroughly, resolutions were passed urging the government to take action along the following lines:

- 1st. To fix a maximum price at the mines.
- 2nd. To ascertain the quantity available and the Canadian requirements.
- 3rd. To provide transportation facilities.

"Having personal business in Ottawa the following week, I made it my business to call on the members of the Railway Board, whom I impressed with the necessity for prompt action.

"As you know, the Ottawa Government promptly got into communication with the Washington authorities. A price was fixed at the mine, there was plenty of coal available, and there has been no difficulty in transportation. Yet the local dealers did not rise to the occasion. This seemed to be the disposition of the dealers in several cities. Instead of being glad of assistance rendered by the meeting at Galt, the dealers seemed to resent it as an interference with their Divine right to freeze the people if they pleased.

"After observing the inactivity of the dealers, the Committee then decided to introduce a By-law authorizing the municipality to enter into the purchase and sale of fuel. After strenuous opposition on the part of Mayor Bowley, Ald. Dowling, Bragg, Mellon and more or less spasmodic knocks from several others, we finally gave the By-law two readings, and then under the provisions of the Municipal Act we asked the Ontario Municipal Board to give us permission to pass the By-law and have it become operative. The city case was very poorly presented owing to the failure of City Solicitor Henderson to put in an appearance, or in any way to lend his assistance in the matter. As you know, in a matter of this kind the presentation of the case is expected to be in the hands of a duly appointed Solicitor, and notwithstanding the fact that both he and the City Treasurer were asked to attend, neither put in an appearance. This gave our case a black eye on the face of it, and while Mr. Brewster, who was called in at the last minute made a creditable effort, the fact that he had given the

matter little study or preparation, went against us at the first hearing. We were also opposed at this hearing by the local coal dealers, Mann, Caspell, MacDonald and Wilson. Let us just see what these gentlemen said at that time:

Ald. MacBride

Ald. MacBride then quoted from the official report of the proceedings at Toronto, when the Ontario Municipal Board interviewed the Ontario Municipal and Railway Board for the purpose of securing permission to proceed with the purchase and sale of fuel. Ald. MacBride attributed the failure of the visit to the direct opposition of the Mayor and to the negligence of the city solicitor, Mayor Bowley, Ald. Bragg, Ald. Dowling and City Solicitor Henderson were characterized as "a fine quartette of blockers."

When Ald. MacBride was in the midst of his arraignment of the coal dealers, relating the circumstances of their vigorous opposition to the measure Toronto before the board, D. MacDonald, a local coal dealer, jumped to his feet and exclaimed: "There is not a bit of truth in it. We understand our business, and we are trying to protect our business and the people of the city. I have ordered thousands of tons of coal this year, but have been able to secure only a small portion of it."

Mr. MacDonald then claimed that the extracts read from the report of the Toronto proceedings were incorrect, but this statement was challenged by Ald. MacBride. After more hot discussion, when personalities began to appear, Chairman English halted the fray.

Ald. MacBride proceeded: "How could any person expect to get a favorable decision in the face of these statements? "You will observe that I put the proposition to the dealers fair and square. If they would guarantee to supply the needs of the people for coal, that was all that would be required."

"How miserably they have failed everybody knows."

"Why have they failed? Simply because the dealers are merely



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An "ANTI-AIRCRAFT" BATTERY



The BRIDE'S WEDDING ASSOCIATES

TORONTO'S MOST UNIQUE WEDDING

When Miss Margaret Burden became the bride of Major W. A. Bishop, V.C., Wednesday afternoon a last week, in the Eaton Memorial Church, Toronto, unprecedented crowds came to witness the event. An interesting feature was the presence of a corps of V. A. D. nurses under Dr. Margaret Paterson from the Spadina Military Hospital, where Miss Burden had served with them. An interesting sidelight on the wedding is that the maid of honor, Miss Gretta Burden, sister of the bride is to wed the best man, Sergt.-Major Errol Smith.

up to this city to see that the By-Law is carried. Are we democratic or are we shamming? That's the question, and your ballot is the answer."

"How is the city going to handle the business? Just like any business proposition would be handled. I know there are many people who are disposed to throw cold water on every proposition of public ownership that comes along. You will hear the old arguments of "graft" etc., but Brantford is already supplying its citizens with light in a successful manner, and the provisions of the Ontario Municipal Act are stringent enough to guard against any graft or other irregularities in the coal business. If it is good business for the municipality to sell light, why is it not equally good business to sell heat? However, it is the committee's intention, should the By-Law carry, to afford the local dealers an opportunity to dispose of their plant, and the one offering the city the best proposition from a business standpoint, will be given consideration. There are approximately 30,000 tons of coal required for domestic use in this city, and the committee proposes to make a contract at the mines for at least one half of this, and the whole of it, if necessary. That will all depend on the attitude of the dealers after the By-Law is passed.

"The city will be able to get coal alright; don't have any worry on that score. Are the dealers not now making a grand stand play for city assistance? Any man with a grain of common sense knows that a demand on behalf of the city would have infinitely more weight than the disjointed wail of a lot of independent dealers."

"Just a word as to the referendum we proposed taking in January. The reasons the committee preferred to have this vote in January were several.

"In the first place, everybody knows that from now on until February next is the worst possible time to go out hunting for coal, and I am free to confess that the outlook is

not very encouraging for anyone to get relief on the coal question until early in the year. That is why the very men who have been opposing us in every possible way, since June last have forced this By-Law at this time. They hope to see it defeated. That is their object. Just figure it out for yourself. Here are a bunch of men who have blockaded every effort of the coal committee. Bowley, Bragg, Dowling, Henderson. What a beautiful quartette. After their failure to stop the referendum, they right about face and rush a money by-law on the people at this time, giving only a couple of weeks to discuss the matter.

"They don't want a referendum, and by this method they have disfranchised 60 per cent. of the electors of Brantford. You men who are tenants should remember this. Your soldiers wives who are without coal and are now denied the right to vote

should not forget who deprived you of your vote.

"Canada's son, and old Britain's sons are pouring out their blood on the fields of France for what "Democracy," and yet they say you shall not vote. The vested interests must be protected. Just as sure as we are in this war, out of it should come a better condition. The day of a bloated bank account as a criterion of citizenship is gone. Men shall be judged in the future, not so much on how much money they have, but on how much good they have done for their fellow men.

"I am not at all fearful for the vote of the working men who are property owners on this By-Law, but I am fearful about the vote of the landlord who has property in all wards and a cellar full of coal. You men who have votes on this question come out and cast one for your fellow man who has been denied the privilege. See how much good you can do for mankind.

"Don't pay any attention to the chap with the "ingrowing disposition," who calls you to one side and whispers, "graft." Take him out to the sunlight and ask him how much good he ever did for anyone. Croakers don't count.

"They put this By-Law at this time on the old voters' lists with the object of defeating the will of the people. Get out and show your resentment."

"Vote for the By-Law."

Ald. Jones

paid a tribute to Terrace Hill as a residential section of the city and referred to the St. Paul's Ave. subway which was soon to be realized. He also prophesied that the George

COMING OUT of the CHURCH

Regarding the fuel by-law there was one feature which there was a misconception. The by-law did not commit the city to a fuel business, but merely provided the necessary machinery should the emergency arise.

"Our hands will not be tied but we may enter into the business if we desire. The by-law is required before we can enter into the business. When the third reading of the by-law is passed we are equipped to go and fight if we need to fight, but possibly we will not be required to fight."

"The principal of public ownership is not a new one. The question is how far should it be carried out? So far as I am concerned the by-law will have my hearty support. I will ask you properly owners to put forth your best efforts—turn out and carry the by-law."

Ald. Larp

"I came up to this meeting to show that I am in favor of the by-law—not only as regards fuel, but food also, indicating that I am consistent, even though myself an engaged in the sale of groceries. Last night I introduced a resolution into the city council chamber, advocating the sale of government property. Last city council did not agree to intend to continue my efforts in this respect and think that when the situation is better understood, that the councilors will pass the resolution.

Ald. Harp thought that the tenants as well as the property owners should have a vote on such an important question as fuel, and food by-law, affecting as it does every citizen. The lack of a sufficient supply of coal, the speaker attributed to poor distribution. There was more coal in the city at the present time than at this time last year. The by-law outlined would enable the poor man as well as the rich to secure his supply.

A. G. Brown

was in favor of the by-law. He had in mind the question and would exercise the franchise in its favor.

DYSPEPTIC FOR SIX YEARS

Hallifax N. S. Sergeant tried everything on the market, but only Cure was Dr. Cassell's Tablets.

Sergt. Duncan MacNeil (home address 118, Pleasant-street, Halifax, N.S.), writing from Europe, says: "For six years I suffered from frequent attacks of Dyspepsia, and though I tried all the remedies on the market, I obtained little or no relief. I had not been long with the C.E.F., when my old trouble returned. Then a friend told me about Dr. Cassell's Tablets. The first box brought such pronounced relief that I continued, and to make a long story short complete cure was effected."

A free sample of Dr. Cassell's Tablets will be sent to you on receipt of 5 cents for mailing and packing. Address Harold E. Ritchie and Co., Ltd., 10, McCaul-street, Toronto.

Dr. Cassell's Tablets are the supreme remedy for Dyspepsia, Kidney Troubles, Sleeplessness, Anaemia, Nervous ailments, and Nerve paralysis, and for weakness in children. Specially valuable for nursing mothers and during the critical periods of life. Price 50 cents per tube, six tubes for the price of five. From Druggists and Storekeepers throughout Canada. Don't waste your money on imitations; get the genuine Dr. Cassell's Tablets. Dr. Cassell's Co., Ltd., Proprietors, 10, McCaul-street, Manchester, Eng.

Street subway, and an extension of the Street Railway System were the next conveniences needed in the Hill district.

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(From Tuesday's Ralph turned on his could not trust himself inquiries. All his belongings of the trip to sea like cardhouses. Her husband or her course. What a fool he Their ducron floated of the grass, an uncomer and slender craft, holl the trunk of a cottonwo required a nice calculati all their belongings in age.

During this operation served that there were tents, and took heart of more. On such trifles he saved up and down all he could have ended to suppose at any time, question, but he dared of hearing the worst.

When the baggage Nahya commanded Ralph on the spruce-boughs, been laid for him in the stern.

On getting in the crew narrowly escaped pitching other side, to Nahya, ley's undisguised amusem ley took the bow-paddle, stern, and they pushed shore.

Ralph had the feeling cutting loose with one everything he had known to that moment.

"We're off," he tho "I'm elected for someth know what. Where will time to-morrow—this month?"

The lake was like mo under the misty, early a around the shores it wa an unbroken belt of serrated jack-pines. Out die floated the half do lands which had provid "Flat Lake."

"Each had a brim of y a band of willows, and o or two sticking up in and the group instantly engaged in the work of They had not gone abo of a mile when, hearin the sound of a shout b the throat of them, behol a horseman at ride the water's edge at their parture.

He flung himself off from his bulk it was not recognize Joe Mixer.

He shouted to them Nahya and Charley w paddles once like semap coolly kept on. Ralph, to look, sensed the fat in the grass with rage an ing his fists.

In his mind's ear he co surprising oaths. Joe Mix quent and fertile in prof "We not start too so said calmly.

"He'll be laying for come back," said Ralph "You not come back was Nahya's surprisin It provided Ralph wit for thought.

They did not traverse body of the lake, but to bay in the right-hand st no visible outlet, but steadily on, threading through lily-pads and re the shores came closer. The channel narrowed o no more than a slack in interminably through the last a scarcely perceptib gan to bear them on, and that they had entered a "This water go far," N "Far as the sea sur ice-journey, I guess."

It was the first time of hours that she had add and Ralph's heart, look twisted his head to look

OPEN NOSTRILS! END A COLD OR CATARRH

How To Get Relief When Head and Nose are Stuffed Up.

Count fifty! Your cold in head or catarrh disappears. Your clogged nostrils will open, the air passages of your head will clear and you can breathe freely. No more sneezing, hawking, mucous discharge, dryness or headache; no struggling for breath at night.

Get a small bottle of Ely's Cream Balm from your druggist and apply a little of this fragrant antiseptic cream in your nostrils. It penetrates through every air passage of the head, soothing and healing the swollen or inflamed mucous membrane, giving you instant relief. Head colds and catarrh yield like magic. Don't stay stuffed-up and miserable. Relief is sure.

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