

AWAITING REPORT ON THE LIGHT PROPOSAL

Prof. John Stephens and City Engineer J. D. MacKay to Present Report on Various Phases.

The City Council in committee Thursday night considered the proposals of the Maritime Electric Co. in regard to furnishing current to the city and also its proposals concerning a new schedule of rates. No decision was reached. A report from Prof. John Stephens and City Engineer J. D. MacKay on various phases of the matter is to be presented. This report is to cover installation of meters at the Pumping Station and Victoria Hospital as well as the city contract and the schedule of rates for general consumption.

Prof. A. F. Baird appeared last night and gave the council information on various matters answering questions as they came up.

Discussion was general and the aldermen expressed their opinions on various features of the proposals. The question of supplying current to the Pumping Station and to the Victoria Hospital was discussed fully. A difference of opinion arose as to whether the metering should be separate or not. Ald. Mitchell stated his opposition to the city assuming responsibility of supplying the current to the Hospital.

City Engineer MacKay who was present, informed the council that the report which he was preparing would not be ready until Tuesday.

Ald. Mitchell suggested that the report to be presented cover the schedule of rates to the ordinary consumer also. There were some complaints particularly concerning demand charges.

Mayor Clark said that in general the rates were lower but the service charges were higher.

Objection to Demand Charge.

Ald. Mitchell said he opposed the increase to the small consumer. The burden would fall in the wrong place.

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CITY AFFAIRS

To Locate Here.

J. M. Charles of Emo, Ont., has written Mayor Clark to the effect that he intended to remove to Fredericton to reside, with thirty days.

Condition Improved.

The condition of Reginald Bettaney who was operated on for appendicitis at Victoria Public Hospital recently is considerably improved.

Unpopularity of Toronto.

A questionnaire relating to the popularity or unpopularity of the City of Toronto the causes and suggested remedies, has been received by His Worship Mayor Clark.

Slight Damage by Fire.

There was a slight fire at the residence of A. R. Wetmore, Brunswick street, Thursday afternoon. A burning chimney set fire to sheathing in a bathroom. A still alarm called the firemen.

Wanted to Join Navy.

His Worship Mayor Clark recently had an application from a young man who desired to join the Royal Navy. His Worship was stumped for a time but finally advised correspondence with Hon. J. L. Ralston, Ottawa.

To Meet Actual Costs.

The Hospital Aid, through Mrs. E. O. Turner, applied for a substantial reduction in the rental of the City Opera House for a benefit performance. A regulation having been adopted by the City Council that actual costs must be met it was decided that the charge would be \$18.

Civic Rink is Popular.

The civic rink in Queen's Square which is maintained by the Public Playgrounds Committee, has proved exceedingly popular during the winter. Some nights several hundred people gather at the rink for skating. The snow conditions this winter have been very favorable.

MILITARY PENSIONS ARE NOT TAXABLE

Prov. Legislation of 1923 Exempted Canadian Air, Military and Naval Forces — Mayor's Announcement.

The matter of taxation of pensions which was referred to the City Council by the Fredericton Branch of the Canadian Legion in connection with the new City Assessment Act, has been officially referred to by the city authorities, Mayor Clark announcing that by Provincial legislation of 1923 pensions of the Canadian Military, Air and Naval Services were exempt from municipal taxation.

This is the same information which was contained in the letter from Col. E. C. Weyman of Saint John which was published in the Daily Mail of Wednesday last. Col. Weyman in his communication quoted the wording of the Act of 1923.

Postal Employees Assessment.

In addition to this matter another which has come up is objection on the part of the employees of the Post Office Department to assessment on the five per cent of their salaries which is held back by the Department for superannuation.

Ald. Richards last night drew the attention of the City Council to this matter pointing out that the employees did not receive the money.

Ald. Thompson took issue with him claiming that the amount was as liable to assessment as was the money set aside each year by any person to meet life insurance premiums.

Sportsmen to Meet.

The annual meeting of the York-Sunbury Branch of the N. B. Fish and Game Protective Association will be held in the Salvage Corps rooms this evening. Besides the regular business there will be moving pictures of hunting and fishing scenes, wild life, etc.

At Canadian Legion.

The members of the Fredericton Branch, Canadian Legion, last night entertained some of the members of the Mae Edwards Company which is performing this week at the Capitol Theatre.

HOSPITAL BILLS TO CITY ARE HEAVY

Claimed that Legal Residence Not Established in Some Cases — Bills to be Submitted Monthly.

The business between the Victoria Hospital and the city corporation in the matter of payment for treatment of patients who are classed as unable to pay for themselves, is still in a state of uncertainty. The grant which the city pays is considerably exceeded by the demands for patients who are unable to pay. The excess over the grant has now reached the amount of \$2,040.40. The most recent bill presented to the city was for a maternity case.

Course Uncertain.

What the city will do is uncertain. One proposal is that no grant be made but that the City Council pass upon the bills as presented each month. Objection has been made to that on the ground that people well able to pay would present themselves at the Hospital as city patients and the city would have the trouble of collecting from them.

Ald. Goodspeed drew the attention of the City Council last night to the fact that the city had paid in the past for several people who had established no legal residence in Fredericton.

In the future that feature will receive more attention. Some time ago the City Council adopted a resolution requiring all bills from the Hospital to be presented for consideration at the monthly committee meetings.

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