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TOMATOES	19c	\$2.25
CORN	15c	1.70
PEAS	12c	1.35
PEACHES	16c	1.80
PEARS	17c	
BLUE BERRIES	11c	

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BOWERS' DISMISSAL BEFORE CITY COUNCIL LAST NIGHT

Ex-Chief Engineer of Pumping Station Asks for Public Investigation---No Action Taken---Action of Water Committee Ratified by Council---Ald. Everett Tenders Resignation But by Request Withdraws Until February Meeting.

The recent dismissal of C. J. Bowers as Chief Engineer at the Pumping Station was discussed by the City Council last night. A request of the late Chief Engineer for a public investigation was read, but no action taken. Ald. Lemont asked for a reason for Bowers' summary dismissal. Statements by Ald. Burnett, Ald. Shea and Ald. Everett followed, but Ald. Lemont said they did not give him the information he required. Ald. Everett tendered his resignation as a member of the Water Committee, of which he is chairman, but at the request of other aldermen withdrew it until the February meeting of the Council. The Council ratified the action of the Water Committee in dismissing Chief Engineer Bowers.

Ald. Reid was the only absentee.

Ald. Everett Reports.

Ald. Everett reported upon the action in dismissing C. J. Bowers as chief engineer at the Pumping Station, and Mr. Bowers' refusal to accept his dismissal.

The alderman stated he had opposed the action of the Water Committee, believing it was not fair to Bowers to dismiss him summarily, and also that Engineer Malloy should not be placed in charge of the Filtration Plant without greater instruction and experience.

In spite of the lengthy address of Ald. McLellan at a previous meeting, he believed that the results achieved at the Filtration Plant in the past three years had been better than during the previous years. The result of tests made by Mr. H. H. Hagerman showed that.

Mr. Bowers had shown marked ability. He was either a very clever impostor or a much slandered man. He (Everett) did not believe he was an impostor. It was quite true that Mr. Bowers had not received support from the aldermen, who had been too easily influenced by public opinion.

Ald. Lemont's Query.

Ald. Lemont said he never had been informed why Mr. Bowers had been dismissed in that summary manner. His offence must have been serious.

Ald. Burnett.

Ald. Burnett said he presumed he was the guilty man. (Laughter.) No malice entered into the dismissal of Mr. Bowers. A report from the City Engineer made some months ago had seriously censured the Water Committee and the Water Department. As a result of the report it was suggested that Pumping Station and Filtration Plant be separated. Mr. Bowers was considered as the natural head of the Filtration Plant and Engineer Malloy was thought to be the best man to be head of the engineering staff. A letter from Mr. Bowers to Chairman Everett stated that the writer would be Chief Engineer or nothing. Personally he (Burnett) had come to the opinion that there must be a change in personnel at the Pumping Station, and he saw no reason why three men should be dismissed instead of one.

Ald. Burnett then gave statistics gathered at the Pumping Station during nine days Bowers had been Chief Engineer and a similar period during which Malloy had been chief. Malloy had done the necessary pumping with 159,161 revolutions, while Bowers had required 183,776. Malloy's saving in coal had been two tons and forty-five pounds, a cash saving of \$12. In the Filtration Plant there had been a saving in the amount of chemical used, only 100 lbs. per day now being used.

He had no desire to persecute any man. What must come out of the Pumping Station was efficiency. If it were not secured, there would be another change. As far as Mr. Bowers' wages were concerned, if the improvement at the Pumping Station continued the city would be able to pay his salary while he was on the street, and yet save money.

Ald. Shea's Statement.

Ald. Shea said he also was responsible for the dismissal of Mr. Bowers. Conditions at the Pumping Station had been most unsatisfactory and expenses had increased rapidly. Chief Engineer

Bowers had attempted to dictate to the Water Committee and run the plant as he liked, with the result that he was dismissed. Since the change the conditions at the plant had greatly improved. The plant should be self-sustaining, but instead had been a source of expense.

Ald. Everett Replies.

Ald. Everett read Mr. Bowers' letter concerning the proposal to take the superintendence of the Filtration Plant. As far as concerned Ald. Shea's statement that the Pumping Station had not been self-sustaining, but a source of expense, it should be stated that this expenditure was for the purpose of providing a sinking fund. The Water Department never had been self-sustaining when this was taken into consideration. Ald. Burnett had mentioned increased efficiency since Mr. Bowers' dismissal. It was evident that the engines had not been in bad condition when a change resulted in immediate improvement, and showed that the staff at the Pumping Station was now giving attention to their duties. Formerly they had not. Why, he could not say.

Ald. Lemont Not Satisfied.

Acting City Clerk Perkins then read the request of Mr. Bowers for a public investigation.

Ald. Lemont said that he had not yet received a satisfactory reply to his question. He could not see why this summary dismissal should have been made.

Ald. Burnett said that Ald. Lemont should move for an investigation. He would make no charges against Bowers. If the latter wished to work as an engineer in this country he did not want an investigation.

Ald. Shea, seconded by Ald. Burnett, moved that the Council ratify the action of the Water Committee in dismissing Chief Engineer Bowers.

The motion was carried, the following voting in favor: Burnett, Barker, Baxter, McLellan, Shea.

Resignation Tendered.

Ald. Everett then tendered his resignation as a member of the Water Committee.

Ald. Burnett said that the resignation should not be accepted, and moved to that effect. It was merely pique on the part of Ald. Everett that he wished to resign. Ald. Lemont as chairman of the Light Committee had been defeated in his attempt to have the street lighting done by a company. The other members of the committee, Ald. Everett and himself (Burnett) had defeated him, but he did not resign. Why should Chairman Everett resign?

Ald. Lemont—Hear! hear!

Ald. McLellan.

Ald. McLellan said he had expected this explosion for some time. He thoroughly approved of the action of the committee. Ald. Burnett had been very charitable in refusing to state why Bowers had been removed. There were good and sufficient reasons for the removal. He (McLellan) had long before decided that Bowers was incompetent.

There was no reason why Ald. Everett should resign. He should continue and should try to have a form of water analysis which would be intelligible.

Ald. Walker also urged Ald. Everett to remain chairman.

Ald. Everett said that in view of the representations made, he would withdraw his resignation until the February meeting.

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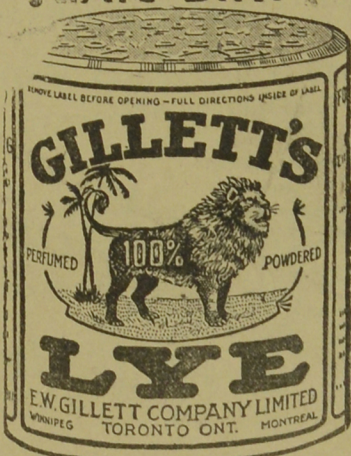
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