

# Special Road Tax on Heavy Vehicles Proposed

## Motor-Trucks and Heavy Waggon to pay as in St. John---City Council on Close Vote Refused to Grant Police Chief Finley Fifty Dollars for Expenses at Convention---Water-Supply Adequate for any Fire.

The adjourned meeting of the City Council last night proved fairly lengthy and included a considerable amount of important business.

In response to fears expressed by Ald. Wilkinson that the city needed fire protection in addition to the pumping station Ald. Shea stated that with the improvements now being made at the pumping station the citizens need have nothing to fear as far as a water supply to fight fire was concerned. The grant of fifty dollars toward the expenses of the Chief of Police to the Chief Constables' Convention at Hamilton, Ont., was not voted, the decision reached in committee Tuesday night being reversed by the close vote of 5 to 4. Ald. Shea changed his opinion in regard to the voting against the grant. A report on the number of dilapidated buildings in the city which are a menace in case of fire was received from Building Inspector Ross. The owners will be required to repair or remove them. At the next meeting a bylaw dealing with the matter will be considered. A special road tax on motor-trucks and heavy wagons was proposed by Ald. McKay and will be followed up at the next meeting.

### Auditor's Report

The report of the auditor upon expenditure for the month of June was

Water .....	\$1,917.79
House Connections .....	118.51
Sewerage .....	16.55
Municipal Home .....	78.00
Roads and Streets .....	\$65.51
Ad. of Justice .....	541.91
Lights .....	41.06
Fire .....	111.72
Market .....	5.00
Contingent .....	311.31
Total .....	\$4,630.98

### Tax Collections

Ald. Wilkinson for the Finance Committee reported on tax collections as follows:	
June 1918 .....	\$2,160.89
June 1917 .....	\$1,456.55

### Dangerous Buildings

Ald. Wilkinson presented a report of Building Inspector upon the buildings in the city considered by him to be dangerous and delapidated, and menaces in case of fire.

The alderman stated that the owners of many of the buildings when their attention should be directed to the matter would repair or remove them. Beyond that he was prepared to support the rigid enforcement of a bylaw for the removal of such dangerous buildings.

Mayor Hanson stated that the bylaw was not yet drafted but probably would be submitted at the August meeting.

On motion of Ald. Wilkinson the Building Inspector was instructed to notify the owners of the properties named in his report, to repair or remove the buildings.

### Street Dept. Matters

Ald. McKay reported on the matter

of the alleged shortage in gravel delivered during the winter to the Street Department. Investigation had shown that there was a serious shortage. He knew nothing to do but let the matter drop.

The alderman further reported that he had contracted for 200 yards of water-washed gravel from the mouth of the Nashwaak at 60 cents per yard a price considerably lower than that paid last winter.

The matter of the city renting additional land from Mrs. Purdie for use by the Street Department was discussed. A special committee composed of the chairman of the Finance Committee and the City Treasurer was appointed to confer with Mrs. Purdie or her representative and try to reach a settlement.

### Grant Turned Down.

Ald. Walker, seconded by Ald. McKay, moved that Chief of Police Finley be granted fifty dollars toward his expenses to the Chief Constables' Convention at Hamilton, Ont.

Ald. Wilkinson said he had opposed this suggestion in committee, and would oppose it again. Chief Finley received his pay during his vacation and that was sufficient.

Ald. Shea said he had changed his mind since the night before, and would oppose the motion.

Ald. Burpee and Ald. Barker also stated that they would oppose the motion. Ald. Walker replied that towns smaller than Fredericton, such as St. Stephen and Chatham, were paying the expenses of their police chiefs at the convention. It would be small for Fredericton not to do the same. Chief Finley intended to take his holidays a few days at a time, in order to save the expense of hiring an extra man.

Ald. Baxter said he had nothing against Chief Finley, who was an efficient official, but he would oppose the motion.

Ald. McKay said that as smaller towns in New Brunswick were sending their police chiefs to the convention, Fredericton should be above cheese-paring. Chief Finley was a good ficer and should not be turned down.

The motion was lost on the following vote:

Yea—Walker, Cooper, Davidson, McKay.

Nay—Shea, Wilkinson, Baxter, Burpee, Barker.

### Special Road Tax.

Ald. McKay suggested that a special road tax be imposed upon the motor trucks and heavy wagons in the city. A truckman had approached him and asked for money to be expended on York street, a tarvia street built but a few years ago. He had refused, and the truckman had said he was hauling five-ton loads and he (McKay) had replied advising him to reduce the load. St. John had already acted toward the end of taxing heavy vehicles. Mayor Hanson said the matter was one of importance.

City Clerk Perkins said he already had written to St. John for information concerning the tax there.

### Fire Protection.

Ald. Wilkinson drew attention to the necessity for a reserve for the pumping station in case of accident to the engines. There was a grave danger in case of fire. The report to the underwriters mentioned this.

Ald. Shea said he was surprised to hear Ald. Wilkinson's remarks, for he knew that the city was better equipped for fighting fire than at any time in some years. Improvements and changes were being made at the pumping station, which would place the plant in better condition than ever. The citizens could rest assured that the pumping station and fire equipment could handle any fire. There was an auxiliary as well as the very efficient Chalmers pump. The old pump could meet any demands except in the event of an enormous drain, such as occurred last winter. Since then, the daily consumption of water had been reduced to 600,000 gallons and some days to 400,000 gallons.

Ald. Wilkinson, replying to Ald. Shea, said the Fire Department had enough hose in good condition to handle any fire. Next year more hose must be bought.

The chances are that if the Austrians went to the Kaiser and said: "See here, we want to get out of this war—we're licked!" the Kaiser would turn in and give them another licking.

## TROUBLED WITH CONSTIPATION HEART AND NERVE From 16 to 20.

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Milburn's Laxa-Liver Pills are 25c. Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

## M'GILL COLLEGE REMEMBERED

(Canadian Press direct wire.) New York, July 2.—Under the will, filed here today, of James Douglas, former president of the copper producing firm of Phelps, Dodge & Company, \$100,000 is bequeathed to the Kingston General Hospital, Ontario, and McGill University, Montreal, receives \$50,000 for a dormitory.

The value of Mr. Douglas' estate is not given except that it is estimated to be more than \$1,000,000 in personal property and more than \$75,000,000 in real estate. The American Institute of Mining Engineers is bequeathed \$100,000 for a scientific library, and the museum of natural history here receives \$100,000.

The executors are directed not to dispose of the railroad and mining securities. Relatives receive the major portion of the estate. Mr. Douglas died on June 25. He was chairman of the directors of Phelps, Dodge & Company.

In all walks of life those young men of military age are greatly missed; but they would be missed more if they were not doing their duty in the army.

## JULY FOURTH A Strawberry Festival

Will be Held on July 4th, by the ASHBURNHAM BRANCH OF THE RED CROSS SOCIETY

Weather permitting, IN THE GARDEN OF ONE THOUSAND LIGHTS.

Remember that the Stars and Stripes are flying side by side with the Union Jack and that the Red Cross Flag flies over both armies.

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Strawberries and Ice Cream. Band at 8.30. Dancing 25 cents extra. Brilliant illuminations. Commences at 6.00 p. m. Admission 10c.

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## PUBLIC NOTICE For the purpose of conserving coal, electric light and power will be shut off on Sundays from daylight to dark until further notice. It is not anticipated that this curtailment of electric service will continue for more than two months, probably not so long. By order of the Directors of Fredericton Gas Light Co. HARRY D. WHITE, Manager.

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