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CITY COUNCIL IN LAST COMMITTEE MEETING

Will Seek Legislation for Extending Civic Franchise to All Ratepayers, Male and Female—Women Will Be Taxed on Income—Want to Mail Tax Notices—Mayor Hanson Makes Important Suggestions—Children's Aid Matter.

The last meeting of the present City Council in Committee was held last night Mayor Hanson presiding. Ald. J. A. Reid the only nominee for the mayoralty was not present at the meeting his candidature for mayor having forced him to vacate his aldermanic chair. Among important matters discussed were legislation which will be applied for at coming session of the House of Assembly, particularly that relating to assessment. Mayor Hanson brought the matter up and made some radical suggestions all of which were not acted upon by the aldermen.

Assessment Matters

His Worship expressed the opinion that in the past the serving of tax notices had been carried out most imperfectly and that service by mail except for citizens not well known would be better and much more economical. He also suggested that consideration should be given the question of increasing the exemption in assessment on income. A married man he believed should have an exemption of \$600. Possibly others might think the increased exemption might apply to all ratepayers. The fixing of a minimum assessment for non-residents also should be considered. The entire assessment Act could well be recast. The method of taxing money on mortgage was preventing money being invested in farm lands. There also was the matter of requiring a sworn statement of income. If such statements were required a surprisingly large field for taxation would be disclosed. At present only the men with salaries were assessed on full income. The professional classes of which he himself was one, were escaping.

Ald. Wilkinson said he believed \$500 exemption would be sufficient as far as married men were concerned it should be remembered that many supported parents or other relatives.

Consideration of this was deferred. On motion it was decided to have the Assessment Act amended so as to make it permissive to mail tax notices or serve them personally.

Taxation of Women

Mayor Hanson said he knew preparations already were under way on the part of the assessors to assess the incomes of women. Under the circumstances it was only fair they should have the vote in civic elections. At present married women although property owners could not vote.

On the motion of Ald. Cooper seconded by Ald. Camp, it was decided to apply for legislation which would extend the civic franchise to all ratepayers.

War Memorial

The matter of expenditure upon a War Memorial was discussed. On the motion of Ald. Cooper seconded by Ald. Camp it was decided to seek legislation authorizing an expenditure upon such memorial.

Finance Committee

Mayor Hanson reported that the Finance Committee was not yet ready to report upon the application of the John Palmer Company, Limited for extended concessions but that it would be able to report after Tuesday afternoon. The committee already was prepared to report on the application of Gordon G. Scot.

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cation of Gordon G. Scot.

Ald. McKay asked what the Finance Committee was prepared to recommend.

The mayor replied that the committee would recommend a fixed assessment of \$5000 for ten years, demand that all building regulations be complied with, require a rental of nine dollars for every 33 feet of shore frontage and rent to Mr. Scott all the city land formerly rented to The John Palmer Company and the Charles I Atherton Estate.

Mayor's Salary

The mayor also pointed out that the city bylaws limited the salary of a mayor to \$400 per annum. He believed the time had come when the City Council should have the power to set the amount of the salary. The office was worth more than a nominal sum. On ordinary expenditures an incumbent was out of pocket. He could speak freely on this question as his term was practically ended.

Children's Aid

Ald. Baxter asked for information concerning the Children's Aid Society and what it was for. The Society had refused to admit to its home one of the children of the Pond family which was in serious condition. In the cases of three other children the Police Magistrate had had to compel action. Application had been made to the Municipal Home Department for care for the Pond child but the Municipal Home was in such condition that the child could not be cared for there.

Mayor Hanson replied that the Children's Aid Home was for delinquent children only or those abused by their parents and was not a foundling asylum. The Society could not be expected to maintain children for nothing and there must be some authority before a child could be admitted.

THE LIBERAL CHIEFTAIN HAS REMEDY

(Continued from page one.)

Mr. King urged such amendment of the tariff as would meet the wishes of both producers and consumers. He argued for restoration of "the safeguards of liberty and freedom."

"It is not," he went on, "restoration if the parliament buildings that is needed as much as is the restoration of our parliamentary system of government."

Mr. King moved, seconded by Mr. Mackenzie, that the following amendment be added to the address:

"We respectfully submit to Your Excellency that the conditions under which the government was formed and the present House of Commons was elected have now passed away, and that new conditions have arisen which are not being adequately met. The regrettable protracted absence of the prime minister, the widely accepted belief that it is not his intention to return to the duties of his office, the makeshift arrangements for the direction of important departments to which no minister has been regularly appointed, the attempt to carry on the public business when the three eastern Maritime Provinces are entirely unrepresented in the cabinet—these and other things operate to produce a condition of uncertainty and instability from which a vigorous and efficient administration of the Dominion's affairs cannot be expected.

"We respectfully submit to Your Excellency that Your Excellency's advisors should shortly bring forth the promised franchise bill for the enrolment of the electors and give it precedence over all other business, and that upon the enactment of such a measure as may be necessary and the making of temporary provisions for the public service, they should take the proper constitutional steps to obtain Your Excellency's approval of an appeal to the people at the polls."

Sir George Foster replied to Mr. King after recess.

City Claims No Liability

James Mavor has asked the city to reimburse his mother for expenditure incurred when the main sewer in Needham Street froze and caused sewage to back up into the cellar of 439 Needham Street. The City Council has taken no action and the matter will be further considered. City Engineer McDowell claims that no liability rests upon the city in the matter.

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