

The New City Council Gets Settled Down to Work

Members Were Sworn in by Mayor Hooper and Afterwards Held a Meeting for the Appointment of Committees---Ald. Mitchell is Chairman of Roads and Streets, Ald. Clark Has Finance Committee and Ald. Osborne the Police Commission ---First Meeting Was Quite Lively

The City Council which was elected Monday was sworn in yesterday. Immediately after the oath of office was administered by His Worship Mayor Hooper the council met and organized committees for the year. A resolution approving the bill now before the legislature to amend the act relating to a police commission for the City of Fredericton, if the bill were so amended as to provide for one member of the commission to be appointed by the City Council for a term of five years and one by the provincial government for a term of four years was passed by the council. Ald. W. E. Farrell alone dissenting. The other nine aldermen were appointed a committee to act with a citizens committee to promote the bill.

The proceedings were enlivened by spirited protests by Ald. Farrell, the sole survivor of the old council who objected to the resolution as showing lack of confidence in the mayor and who also took exception to the manner in which an advance slate of the committees had been prepared without himself being advised or consulted in the matter, a procedure which he intimated was similar to Star Chamber proceedings. His remarks drew denials from several of the other aldermen that a selection of committees had been decided upon in advance. It was said that a meeting of the council had been called for the purpose of arranging the committees and suggestions in that connection could be made and acted upon.

MAYOR'S ADDRESS

Mayor Hooper after calling the council to order made a brief address in which he pointed out a number of matters of importance which would come before the council during its year of office. The outgoing council had left several matters which would need further attention. The system of street-paving which had been considerably extended during the past year should be still further extended. The erection of modern fire stations and of a police station were matters demanding consideration. His Worship mentioned also the fact that the Publicity Campaign which had been inaugurated about a year since, according to intention was to be continued and that to effect that continuation a grant of \$2,500 from the city would be asked. The City Council also would have to consider the advisability of aiding the Agricultural Society by means of a grant in holding an exhibition in September.

ALD. FARRELL PROTESTS

The appointment of committees was then considered and the slate was passed as it appears elsewhere in this paper. When the motion was made that the Assessment Appeals and Contingencies Committee be appointed as suggested with Ald. Farrell as chairman, that alderman arose and made some emphatic remarks. He desired that consideration of the appointment of this committee be deferred until the others had been appointed. This slate which was being presented to the council had been prepared outside somewhere. As an alderman he protested against such a course. All members of the council had a right to be consulted in such a matter. He had no use for hole-and-corner methods or Star Chamber conferences, and wanted the members of the council to stand out in the open. His request that consideration be deferred until later in the meeting had been made because he wished to learn who had been placed upon the other committees.

REPLY TO ALD. FARRELL.

Ald. Clark, in reply, said that the meeting was open and the committees were then being arranged. If Ald. Farrell had any motion to make it would be in order.

Ald. Farrell—"You're reading from a type-written list that was arranged before you came here."

Ald. Clark—"A motion must be made from something whether from a typewritten or pencil list."

His Worship suggested that the matter be allowed to stand over until later in the meeting.

COMMITTEES FOR YEAR.

- Road Committee — Ald. Mitchell, chairman; Ald. Hoben, Ald. Boyce.
- Finance, Printing and Schools — Ald. Clark, chairman, Ald. Mitchell, Ald. Farrell.
- Water and Sewerage — Ald. Everett, chairman; Ald. Mitchell, Ald. Clark.
- Street Lighting — Ald. Rogers, chairman; Ald. Osborne, Ald. Scott.
- Fire — Ald. Hoben, chairman; Ald. Rogers, Ald. Farrell, Ald. Osborne, Ald. Scott.
- Appeals and Contingencies — Ald. Farrell, chairman; Ald. Clark, Ald. Scott, Ald. Weddall, Ald. Rogers.
- City Hall Markets — Ald. Boyce, chairman; Ald. Farrell, Ald. Scott, Ald. Mitchell, Ald. Osborne.
- Wharves and Cemetery — Ald. Scott, chairman; Ald. Hoben, Ald. Farrell, Ald. Mitchell, Ald. Everett.
- Municipal Home — Ald. Weddall, chairman; Ald. Osborne, Ald. Boyce, Ald. Everett, Ald. Rogers.
- Justice — Ald. Osborne, chairman; Ald. Clark, Ald. Everett, Ald. Mitchell, Ald. Rogers.
- Revisors — Ald. Mitchell, Ald. Hoben.

Ald. Mitchell said no alderman would object to the matter standing over. He was sorry that Ald. Farrell had taken the attitude he had so early in the game. There had been and would be no Star Chamber methods.

Ald. Farrell—"No, not after this." Ald. Mitchell continued and stated that the committees were then being arranged. Suggestions could be made.

Ald. Clark said he could inform Ald. Farrell that the list was prepared in neither Ald. Osborne's office or his own.

Ald. Boyce pointed out that no alderman took office until he was sworn in. Previous to taking office a man could do what he liked. In view of that fact he could see no ground for objection. Personally he had attended no meeting at which a list of committees was prepared.

Ald. Farrell—"You probably could not get there."

Ald. Boyce—"Why?"

Ald. Farrell—"You were too far away."

Consideration was deferred.

On request of the aldermen concerned Ald. Osborne was placed on the City Hall and Market Committee and Ald. Rogers was not placed on it.

Ald. Farrell expressed the opinion that in committee of five each of the five wards be represented. Such representation would be more satisfactory than the other method. Experience of the past year was that with two aldermen from one ward on the same committee the system was not entirely satisfactory.

After all the slate had been passed the matter of the chairmanship of the Assessment Appeals and Contingency Committee was taken up again. Ald. Farrell stated that he had requested that consideration of the matter be deferred because he was afraid he might be appointed chairman of several other committees. He had great pleasure in accepting chairmanship.

On motion His Worship was made ex-officio a member all committees but those on Water and Sewerage and Street Lighting.

POLICE COMMISSION APPOINTED

On motion of the Administration of Justice Committee was constituted the Police Commission. Ald. Farrell—"I suppose that means this year's Justice Committee." He was assured it did.

His Worship—"I don't know whether or not that is sarcasm." Ald. Clark—"Ald. Farrell is

rather sarcastic this afternoon anyway."

Ald. Clark then moved the adoption of the following resolution:—

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED

Whereas a bill to amend the acts relating to a Police Commission for the City of Fredericton has been introduced in the Legislature Assembly, and

Whereas the Committee of Citizens promoting the bill introduced it so as to be in time for passage at this session, but desired that the terms of said bill conform to the wishes of the majority of the citizens of Fredericton and therefore planned that consideration of particulars of said bill be taken up after the civic elections and

Whereas the nine candidates for alderman accepting the platform of a Police Commission independent of the City Council were elected by large majorities.

Therefore Resolved That this council approves and supports the passage of said bill providing it is amended so that one member of the Commission shall be appointed by the City Council for a term of five years and one member by the government for a term of four years neither of which shall be a member of the City Council.

ALD. FARRELL'S OBJECTS.

Ald. Farrell said that the resolution was inconsistent. In one breath an independent commission was asked for and in the next the appointment of one commissioner by the City Council was advocated. The plain fact was that there was a desire to supplant the mayor of 1913 as a commissioner. He could say without fear of contradiction that the present mayor did not want a position as a member of a police commission but no person could deny that during the year he had been mayor that he had proved a hard-working and efficient official. It was strange that up to Monday morning the bill as generally understood, naming the mayor as one commissioner, had been satisfactory to the people of the city and to the nine aldermanic candidates and Monday night, after the election, was not satisfactory. He would state plainly that he was prepared to appear himself before the Legislature and explain the circumstances attending that change of opinion.

VIEWS OF MAJORITY.

Ald. Everett said no definite form of commission had been before anyone. He had felt that it would be better to have an appointee of the City Council substituted for the mayor on the commission as proposed. It would do away with yearly election of a commissioner. He would support the resolution.

Ald. Mitchell said he was sorry Ald. Farrell had taken the action he had and would go before the House. Personally he would go and support the matter of the resolution when the bill came before the House. It was not correct that the people of the city had been satisfied with the bill up to Monday night. It had merely been a suggestion to have the mayor a member of the police commission.

Ald. Scott stated that he had not seen the bill until last night. He had objected to the mayor as a commissioner. A mayor was not independent and a mayoralty election should be conducted without side-issues such as would be entailed were that official also a police commissioner.

Ald. Clark said that the details of the bill had not been made known to the people before the election. He himself had not seen any copy of it before that time. It had been understood that the consideration of the bill would be deferred until after the election.

Ald. Mitchell stated that he had not authorized Ald. Farrell to state that the bill was good enough for the nine candidates before the election. That statement was not correct. He had first seen the bill on the preceding night.

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DR. CARTER WAS HEARD

Discussed Agricultural Education Before Committee of the House

Suggests That Maritime Educational and Agricultural Departments Hold a Conference

At the meeting of the Committee on Agriculture this morning, Dr. Carter, chief superintendent of education, delivered an instructing and interesting address on the subject of the teaching of elementary agriculture in the public schools. He advocated the appointment of a specialist on this subject as such appointment would furnish a connecting link between the educational and agricultural departments of the province. Dr. Carter also spoke highly of the encouraging of the establishment of what is known as the School Gardens. He told of the good results that had come from the few gardens that had already been established in the province. He also advocated the teaching of elementary agriculture in the Normal School so that the teachers who went forth would have knowledge of how these gardens should be made and operated. In conclusion, Dr. Carter thought that it would be a good idea for the agricultural and educational departments of the Maritime Provinces to have a meeting and come to some arrangement where the books used in the schools should be uniform. If such a plan were adopted books could be obtained more cheaply and more up-to-date.

All the members of the committee spoke on the subjects discussed by Dr. Carter and expressed an opinion that his address was one of a most valuable nature.

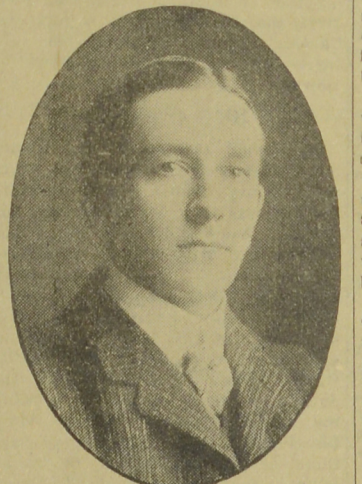
On motion of Mr. Dickson, Kings, seconded by Mr. Woods, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

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JOHN PALMER CO'S ANNUAL MEETING

Officers Chosen for the Ensuing Year ---Six Per Cent Dividend Paid on Capital Stock

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the John Palmer Company Ltd., was held at the company's office this morning, when the following directors were elected: Charles K. Palmer, John Kilburn, J. Fraser Gregory and W. S. Kilburn. The report of the directors showed a very satisfactory year's business, and a dividend of six per cent. on the capital stock was ordered to be paid.



MR. C. K. PALMER
President of the John Palmer Company, Ltd.

At a subsequent meeting of the directors the following officers were elected:

President—C. K. Palmer.
Vice President—John Kilburn.
2nd Vice President—J. F. Gregory.
Secretary-treasurer—William M. Todd.

The company is now occupying its fine new factory in Argyle Street. The outlook for the future is regarded as exceedingly bright.

LIBERALS FIGHTING THE PEOPLE'S BATTLE AT OTTAWA

Hon. Winston Churchill's Gratiutous Insult to Canadians is Strongly Resented ---Hon. Dr. Pugsley Thinks Some of His Statements Would Make a Horse Laugh ---Dr. Michael Clark Scores the First Lord---Hon. Louis Coderre is Still Missing

Ottawa, March 12—There is no sign of weakening in parliament. A continuous sitting is still the order of the day and night. The Churchill letters appear to have put the finishing touches to the opposition's determination that the people shall vote upon the Borden contribution proposal.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier is ill and has been confined to his house since Monday. He has not been in the House since the letters were produced. However, there is a competent fighting line on the opposition side and it has been carrying the war to the government without wavering.

It is rumored in the lobbies that the government is figuring on a compromise and will offer to submit the naval question to the people in the form of a plebiscite. The Liberals want an election and whether a plebiscite will be accepted by them remains to be seen.

The pounding of Winston Churchill continues. One of his fellow countrymen, Dr. Clarke, of Red Deer, got after him today, so warmly that Premier Borden had to break his silence and come to the defence of the first lord of the British admiralty, who is a famous stormy petrel in old country politics.

DR. CLARKE SCORES CHURCHILL

Dr. Clarke noted that the Churchill communication contained three echoes and two statements. The echoes were familiar for they came from voices on the Canadian treasury benches. The Canadian ministers wanted to make it appear that they were voicing the views of the admiralty. They told Mr. Churchill what to say and he echoed it. He had echoed the statement that naval construction would cost from 25 to 30 per cent more in Canada than in England. That might be, but both this extra cost as well as the British cost would go towards Canadian labor and Canadian industry, while if the whole \$35,000,000 were expended in Britain that would be the last of it so far as Canada is concerned.

Mr. Churchill had also echoed Premier Borden's statement that Canada could not get the men. In the first place this was untrue, and in the second it was impertinent even as an echo. Who were to be believed on this point, Mr. Churchill or the men from the Maritime Provinces who told of Canadians enlisting in the United States navy and manning the fishing fleets of Gloucester?

Mr. Churchill had said: "All our manning resources are strained to the utmost limit" yet Canada was to send three empty ships to be manned in Britain. It was no wonder Mr. Churchill had hesitated before consenting to a production of his letters.

"Who among British statesmen would like the role of being Pelletier's gramophone?" Dr. Clarke asked. The postmaster general had been one of Canada's no-navy deputations last summer. He has said to Churchill: "You've got to do this and do it cheap—28 cents a day—for we can't do it in Canada, we can't build the ships or send the men."

As for the statements in Mr. Churchill's letter as distinct from the echoes it was not surprising to be told that "the battleship had been evolved from years of experiment and experience." The Liberals had already known that. The same thing could be said of a piano. But nevertheless the Conservatives had wildly cheered the statement. Probably they did not know why they were cheering.

"All they are allowed to do nowadays," observed the Red Deer man, "is to cheer, vote and explode torpedoes—that is the new imperialism."

The second statement in the Churchill letter was to the effect that there were many trades involved in the evolution of a battleship and that these trades could not be developed in Canada. That was evidently intended to warn Canadians off this English preserve and was apparently what the Canadian government wanted.

BORDEN DEFENDS CHURCHILL

Premier Borden said it was the right and duty of the first lord of the admiralty to respond to a request from the prime minister of Canada for information. He had responded in an impartial and business-like manner. It was not conducive to the dignity of the house or the fairness of debate to impute improper motives to the first lord of the admiralty.

"I would most earnestly deprecate," said the premier, "any interference by us in the domestic politics of Great Britain, and I would equally deprecate any interference from Great Britain in our politics. But when the prime minister of one of the overseas dominions makes a definite request for definite information I cannot see how there can be any objection to the answering of that question I am willing to take all the criticism and to relieve Mr. Churchill of responsibility."

Hon. Dr. Pugsley—"Does the prime minister take responsibility for all the information contained in Mr. Churchill's communication?"

Premier Borden—"I take the responsibility for all that he has done and I believe his letter to be an honest statement of fact."

Hon. Dr. Pugsley declared that the opposition were not condemning Mr. Churchill for replying to the request of Mr. Borden, but they certainly took issue with the conclusions he had drawn and to the manner in which it had been obtained and presented to the house. He displayed such intense ignorance of Canadian conditions "as, almost to make a horse laugh. For instance, Mr. Churchill had said that it would require 150 ton-crane to handle the materials that went into the construction of the biggest battleships. Apparently he did not know that there were hundreds of such cranes already operating in Canada. Mr. Churchill had said that substantial soil was necessary for the shipyards and heavy blocks and other tackle were required. Did he think that Canadians could not provide and operate these?"

"I will give Mr. Churchill the credit to say," continued Dr. Pugsley, "that I don't believe he ever drew up this memorandum. It was probably prepared by some clerk in his department, it is full of inconsistencies. In one part he says that it would take \$15,000,000 to establish a shipyard and plant in Canada and a little later it is admitted that a new British shipyard and plant was recently established at a cost of £750,000."

THE CONNAUGHTS WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Ottawa, Ont., March 13—His Royal Highness the Governor General of Canada and the Duchess of Connaught today entered upon their thirty-fifth year of married life. Their wedding took place in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, March 13, 1879. The Duke was then twenty-nine years of age and the bride was nineteen. The Duchess before her marriage was Princess Louise of Prussia, daughter of Prince Frederick Charles, one of the most illustrious commanders of the Prussian army.

SHORT WEIGHT BUTTER

Chief of Police McCollom yesterday weighed a print of butter from each country team that came into the market. All but one were found to weigh more than one pound, the weight they were supposed to have. The single offender was a cripplé and informed the chief that he had bought the butter himself on the understanding that each print weighed one pound. He was let go with a caution not to offer short-weight butter again.

12 Industrials declined 0.48; 20 active railroads advanced 0.10.