

SOME PRETTY PLAIN TALK.

Ald Farrell Says that the Members of the Police Force

ARE TO BLAME FOR NON-ENFORCEMENT OF CITY BYE-LAWS.

Prof. Jack's Report to be Dealt with at a Special Meeting.

MANY IMPORTANT MATTERS DISCUSSED AT MEETING.

The city council had a rather interesting session Tuesday evening and transacted considerable business. Prof. Jack's report on the water supply was received and laid on the table with the understanding that it be taken up by a special meeting in the near future. A petition from the butchers asking for the enforcement of the market bye-laws, furnish the text for some pretty sharp criticism of the police force. A number of petitions and reports were received and disposed of.

Those present at the meeting were Mayor Palmer and Alds. Farrell, Scott, Stockford, Ross, Everett, Maxwell, Jewett, McKnight, Barbour and City Clerk McCready.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

The auditor's report for December was read by the mayor and adopted. The expenditures for the month classified were as follows:

Roads and Streets	\$ 84.36
Public Works	350.26
City Hall	428.74
Fire Department	311.99
Contingencies	52.44
Administration of Justice	53.75
Wharves	91.52
Market	37.14
Old Burying Ground	6.50
Electric Lights	195.53
Sewerage and Water	1,406.71

Total

Total	\$3,018.94
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Checks were ordered to issue in favor of the city officers for their monthly salaries.

The alms house commissioner's report showed expenditures for the month amounting to \$182.35, an over expenditure of \$32.35. The report was adopted and a check for \$300 was ordered to issue in favor of the commissioner.

PROF. JACK'S REPORT.

Ald. Scott presented a lengthy report from Prof. Jack on the water system, and read a few extracts from the same.

Ald. Farrell said that the matter was a very important one, and as the report was lengthy it might be advisable to take it up at a special meeting of the council. He suggested that Ald. Scott make a motion to that effect.

Ald. Scott said the final report from Dr. Mason on his analysis of the water had not yet been received. In the meantime he thought it would be best to allow Prof. Jack's report to lie on the table. A motion to that effect was put to the meeting and adopted.

Ald. McKnight submitted a report from the road committee in regard to the awarding of the sandstone and snow ploughing contracts. The report recommended that the mayor execute a lease to Ald. John Scott of water lot No. 5, for 21 years, at an annual rental of \$9.

Ald. Farrell suggested that Chairman McKnight should so define the route of the snow ploughing contractor as to include all the public streets of the city.

Ald. McKnight promised to give the matter his attention and have the contract define the route.

The statement of tax collections submitted by Ald. Barbour, was as follows:

Nov. 1903 for 1901	17 56
Nov. 1903 for 1902	222 70
Nov. 1903 for 1903	331 04

Total	\$571 30
Nov. 1904 for 1901	15 00
Nov. 1904 for 1902	124 57
Nov. 1904 for 1903	661 21
Nov. 1904 for 1904	740 09

Total

Total	\$1,540 87
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MUNICIPAL LIGHTING.

Ald. Farrell for the special committee appointed at the last meeting to consider the matter of lighting the public buildings of the city, submitted a verbal report. He said the committee had waited upon the hospital trustees who had expressed a willingness to meet them half way in the matter. All the trustees wanted was a guarantee that the light would be continued to the hospital. The committee had not yet obtained information in regard to the cost of a plant. The committee would like an extension of time to continue the enquiry.

Ald. Stockford wanted to know if any provision had been made for staking out a road across the river at the upper end of the city.

Ald. McKnight replied that the roadmaster was giving the matter attention.

Ald. Everett moved that the poll tax paid by Conrad Miller, for 1903 be refunded to him. He claimed that Mr. Miller was not a permanent resident of the city during that year. He had produced a receipt showing that he had paid a poll tax in Queens County in 1903.

The motion was adopted. A petition from Michael Cooney, asking for relief from poll taxes because of advancing years, was referred to the assessment appeals committee.

THE BAND'S PETITION.

A petition from the Fredericton Brass Band asking for a rebate on the sum of \$40, being the amount paid by them for rental of the opera house, for two non-paying entertainments held recently under their auspices, was read to the council.

Ald. Ross thought that the council should at least refund half of the amount. The band were now trying to raise money to provide new uniforms, and it was no more than right that they should be assisted. He would move that the sum of \$20 be refunded.

Ald. Stockford said in view of the fact that it had been the custom in the past to rent the band the opera house for \$10, it was no more than right that they should be given the refund asked for. He thought the rate should be the same now as in the past.

Ald. Farrell said he did not wish to oppose the motion of Ald. Ross. The band did not work for nothing, and were therefore deserving of no special privileges. If the reduction was made this time there was no reason why it should be made a precedent. His reason for voting for the motion was that he did not think the band had received the patronage they had reason to expect, and had consequently lost money.

Ald. Scott denied that he was opposed to giving the band a rebate. He thought the council should enforce the schedule adopted for the opera house and treat all alike. Under the circumstances however, he would not oppose the motion.

His Worship was inclined to agree with Ald. Scott, that the schedule should be enforced.

The motion was then put to the meeting and unanimously adopted.

A petition from O. M. Hart, asking for a rebate on his assessment, was referred to the assessment appeals committee.

THE WOMEN'S PETITION.

A petition from the Fredericton Branch of the National Council of Women was read by the mayor. It asked for the enforcement of the bye law to prohibit expectation on the public streets, also that measures be taken to prevent the dumping of refuse matter on the streets, by placing receptacles at convenient points. The petition was signed by Mrs. L. W. Johnston and a number of others.

Ald. Scott suggested that the matter be allowed to lie over for the present.

Ald. Farrell after chaffing his brother aldermen for their tardiness in dealing with the petition, said he regarded it as being of the first importance. It should be disposed of in a way that would show the petitioners that their efforts in behalf

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of their fellow citizens were appreciated. It was rather late in the season now to take action, but the council should deal with the matter in a way that would bind their predecessors to do something when the proper season arrived. It would move that the petition be received and that a recommendation be made that the prayer of the petition be complied with when the proper time arrived.

Ald. Scott said he had great pleasure in seconding the motion of Ald. Farrell. His only reason for favoring delay was that it was not now the right time of the year to carry out the prayer of the petition. He was in thorough sympathy with the movement.

Ald. Barbour also expressed himself as being in favor of granting the prayer of the petition. He was not aware that there was a byelaw to prevent expectation on the public streets, otherwise he would have spoken sooner. He remarked that the petition in regard to the sale of cigarettes had not been heard of of late.

THE BUTCHERS' GRIEVANCE.

A petition from George Beattie, A. W. Lampson, Isaac Kilburn, Lilley & Sons, C. N. Goodspeed and Timothy Murphy, butchers of this city, asking for a more rigid enforcement of the market bye-law, was read by the mayor. They complained that non-ratepayers were now allowed to peddle meats, etc., from door to door to the great detriment of the petitioners' business, and thought they were entitled to the protection the law allowed them.

The market bye-law was read to the council by the city clerk by request.

Ald. Jewett said it was true that that some of the grocers dealt in meats, but he thought they had a perfect right to do so.

Ald. Barbour did not think it would be possible to enforce the present law without doing an injustice. He believed that a new market law should be prepared. In the meantime he would move that the matter be referred to the market committee.

ALD. FARRELL SPEAKS OUT.

Ald. Farrell said that it was a fact that matters in connection with the market were very loosely conducted. People who did not contribute a dollar to the revenue of the city were allowed to sell meat and poultry from door to door in violation of the law. He believed a toll should be put upon the market. The farmers obtained good prices for their produce in Fredericton and could well afford to pay the tolls. It was always a source of surprise to him that the bye-laws of the city were not enforced. Nobody seemed to have any responsibility in the matter. People were now allowed to come to the city and cut up meat and pork and sell it about the streets. How long were the people going to tolerate this sort of thing? He believed that the time had arrived when the council should strive to get authority over the police force. If they could not do that they could at least cut off their pay and he would go in for cutting off every dollar of it unless the did their duty. The trouble is the policemen are no good—the force is worn out. They can find some poor fellow drunk in the gutter and arrest him, but they cannot enforce the city bye-laws. At the present, one member of the force spent the whole night in the police station. What good does he do there?

Ald. Scott.—You can't even get him by telephone when you want him. I tried it myself a few nights ago and failed.

Ald. Farrell—I have talked on this subject so often that I am afraid my words have but little weight. He wanted other members of the council to back him up in demanding a change. It is about time that we were doing something. It is true that two of the policemen are around the market on Saturday mornings, but all they do is to see that some fellow with his meat cut up gets a position where he can sell, and the policemen buy from him themselves. What is the use of passing bye-laws when they are never enforced? He hoped that the market committee would get together and prepare a law, and the council would see to it that it was properly enforced.

Ald. Everett said that he was heartily in accord with the remarks of Ald. Farrell. He had felt for some time that the bye-laws of the city

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were not properly enforced. He would like to see the petition of the butchers taken up at once before the Christmas season. He was glad that the veteran leader of the council had entered his protest against the non-enforcement of the bye-laws, and he hoped for better things in the future.

After some further discussion Ald. Barbour's motion was put and carried.

THE OPERA HOUSE.

Ald. Barbour, after a few remarks, moved that a committee be appointed to consider ways and means of providing further safeguards at the opera house in case of fire.

Ald. Ross seconded the motion. Ald. Scott said that he had long been under the impression that the opera house was altogether too small for a city the size of Fredericton. During the past summer, on several occasions several hundred people have been turned away at entertainments. Fredericton was growing rapidly and if the new railway was built, and they all had hopes that it would be, it would in a few years become a city of forty or fifty thousands inhabitants. He believed the council should look ahead, and take steps to enlarge the opera house and have three entrances instead of one.

Motion carried. On motion of Ald. Everett, Charles Wright was appointed a constable for the city.

Ald. Scott moved that a notice be inserted in the city press, requesting that all accounts against the city be handed in by the 28th inst. also that a special meeting of the council be held on the 29th to pass said accounts.

Ald. Maxwell seconded the motion. Ald. Farrell complained that if the resolution was passed it would be very unfair to some of the departments, and would make them appear in a wrong light before the public. This would certainly be the case with the electric light department, which would be charged up with a large quantity of coal ordered for delivery the latter part of this month. If the plan proposed by Ald. Scott had been followed last year it would have been all right, but as matters now stood, the expenditure up to the end of December 31st covered a period of thirteen months.

Ald. Scott said he had made the motion with the object of procuring information. People were complaining that the accounts were juggled to some extent, and his object was to show them that such was not the case. Ald. Farrell's explanations satisfied him that there were difficulties in the way, and with the consent of the seconder he withdrew the motion.

On motion of Ald. Stockford the council adjourned sine die.

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INTERVIEW WITH EMMERSON.

Minister of Railways Recalls Incidents of the Election Campaign.

The Brandon Sun prints the following interview obtained by its Ottawa correspondent from Hon. H. R. Emmerson:

"I have no hesitation in telling you all I know about the Tory plan to overturn the government, said Mr. Emmerson. 'I was in New York on the 18th of September, and a gentleman approached me at the hotel I was staying at and asked me if there was no chance of getting a contract for the construction of the transcontinental railway. The elections he said, were coming off and if a contract was obtained there would be lots of money to swell the campaign fund. I told him that the work would have to be done by Canadian contractors, and refused to have anything to do with him.

"He told me that they were working through Montreal people, and I knew afterwards that Montreal parties acted very suddenly and peculiarly during the campaign. At the hotel was J. N. Greenshields, of Montreal. The Montreal people were said to be friends of David Russell. J. N. Greenshields, two Americans, Dr. Kennedy and a Mr. Green, said to be an Englishman, who resided in the States for some years, visited my province.

"They were riding in a magnificent private car and at Fredericton Junction on October 22, met Mr. R. L. Borden, apparently by appointment. Mr. Borden went on board, having been met at the station by Mr. Dowling, private secretary of Mr. David Russell. During the run to St. John Mr. Borden. Mr. Greenshields and others were closeted together.

"Immediately afterwards Mr. David Russell was boasting and betting of carrying the whole province of New Brunswick for the Conservatives. His newspaper, formerly the Liberal organ of the party, was turned into a campaign sheet against the Liberals. I was to be defeated at any cost. Mr. Russell's party was also met by Powell and other candidates and leading Conservatives in the province. New life was thrown into the Conservative cause, and while I don't know where the money came from, I do know there was plenty of it found its way to the constituencies and was handled by the Conservatives.

In the Province of Quebec La Presse was captured. But this was only preliminary work. There was, so I am told, to be on nomination day some twenty-five Liberal members who would retire. In this way twenty-five Conservatives would be elected in that province by acclamation, and this would secure the return of the Conservatives, when R. L. Borden would have charge of the construction of the transcontinental line and the giving out of the contracts.

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No reasonable man expects to cure a neglected cold in a day. But time and Allen's Lung Balsam will overcome the cold and stave off consumption. Cough will cease and lungs be sound as a new dollar.