The Midnight Guest

By FRED M. WHITE

Author of "The Crimson Blind," "The Corner House," etc.

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(Continued.)

With these words Walter took from his pocket the dingy yellow handbill, and laid it open on the table so that Ravenspur might read. The latter glanced at the printed words, and then turned to Walter with a questioning eye.

"What does it all mean?" he asked. "It conveys nothing whatever to me, and, even if it did, I am the last man in the world to patronise entertainments of that kind."

"You never heard of Valdo before, then?" Walter asked.

"Not I, my dear boy. Who is the fellow?"

"He is a kind of flying man. He is an individual with extraordinarily developed arms and muscles. He can move those arms almost as quickly as a fly does in its flight; with the aid of specially prepared wings he can flutter about a stage like a bird. I daresay there is some secret behind it all, but still the performance is very graceful and attractive, though, as yet, the man tells me his flight is limited to some thirty feet."

"He tells you!" Ravenspur exclaimed. "Do you mean to say that you have actually paid a visit to this theatre?"

"Certainly I have, sir. You see, I regarded this bill as a kind of clue. I knew that you could not possibly have brought it into the house, nor were any of your friends likely to do so. Therefore I came to the not illogical conclusion the other night that your assailant must have dropped it. The man who got into the studio must have been an extraordinary climber or something exceedingly clever in the way of an acrobat. In fact, just the sort of fellow who would be connected with music halls and circuses and places of that kind. That is why I went down to the Imperial Palace Theatre together with a journalist friend of mine who takes an interest in such matters. The only item of the entertainment worth watching was this man Valdo, and, of course, up to a certain point I did not identify him with the outrage upon yourself."

"Why should you do so now?" Ravenspur asked. "I told you that I have never seen or heard of the man, nor does he answer to any acquaintance of mine. Why, then, should you go out of your way to suggest that he had even been here?"

"I am coming to that," Walter said quietly. "I was so interested in the performance that I went round to Valdo's dressing-room afterwards, and had a long chat with him. Just before I came away a woman looked into the room, and asked the performer if he was ready, or something of that kind. She did not notice me; indeed, she did not even look in my direction. It was only just for a moment that I caught a glimpse of her face. It was only by a great effort that I concealed my feelings. And when I tell you that the woman I am speaking about was Mrs. Delahay——"

"Impossible!" Ravenspur cried in great agitation. "The thing is absolutely incredible. I cannot believe it."

"Nevertheless, I am stating nothing but the truth," Walter said. "As sure as I am standing here I saw Mrs. Delahay. And now you know why I am sure that there is something more behind this than has yet come to light."

CHAPTER XII

A Speaking Likeness.

It was some little time before Lord Ravenspur replied. For a moment or two he seemed to be bereft of the gift of speech.

"It sounds almost incredible," he managed to stammer at length. "You are absolutely certain you are not mistaken?"

"No, I am not mistaken. Mrs. Delahay's face is far too striking a one to be taken for that of anybody else. Of course, I am not asking you to give me any information. I am not seeking to pry into your secrets; but this mystery maddens me. The most extraordinary part of the whole affair is this—for three years on and off I have known Mrs. Delahay intimately. I saw a great deal of her in Florence, also in Paris last year. And she has always given me the impression of being absolutely straightforward and single minded. And now, for some reason or another, she has taken it into her head to tell deliberate lies which appear to have no point or meaning. If she had only said that she went to call upon a friend after her husband had gone out, no further question would have been asked. Of course, I had not forgotten the evidence of the man Stevens. I must confess I should like to see him and ask a few pointed questions. But apart from all that, you must see the necessity of getting Mrs. Delahay to tell the truth. It is just possible that she is shielding somebody. It is just possible that the whole thing is capable of explanation. But of that you are the best judge."

"It is a miserable business altogether," Ravenspur groaned. "I am obliged to you for the straightforward way in which you have told me everything, and I will do my best with Maria Delahay. She refused to see me this morning, but I will go round after dinner and make another attempt to get an interview."

It was somewhat later in the evening that Walter looked up his friend Venables again. As he expected, he found the journalist to be greatly interested in the Delahay case. Walter had debated the matter over in his mind. He could see no harm in telling Venables what he had discovered.

"It is certainly a curious case," the latter remarked. "And professional interests apart, I should like to get to the bottom of this mystery. But I see you have some suggestion to make in connection with it. What is your idea?"

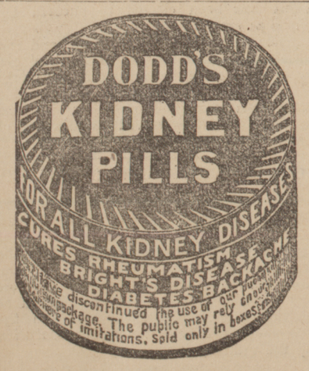
"Well, I have been thinking it out as I came along," Walter explained; "and it seems to me that we might get a good deal out of the witness John Stevens. He is the sort of man who would do anything for money, and a sovereign or two ought to loosen his tongue. I don't want to say anything unkind about Louis Delahay, because he was a great friend of ours; and, so far as I know, his past is a clean and honorable one. But then you never can tell. What is a man like that doing to make an enemy, who is prepared to run the risk of being hanged for killing him? And why does he want to go around to his studio at such an hour in the morning?"

"I thought of all that," Venables said grimly. 'Depend upon it, your unfortunate friend had some secret chapters in his life of which the world will probably never know anything. But what has all this got to do with that fellow Stevens?"

"I was just coming to that point. If I had been the coroner I should have asked Stevens a great many more questions this morning. As it was, the authorities seemed content to let him go after he had given evidence to the effect that he had seen Mrs. Delahay with her husband. He told the court that he had been prowling aud spying about Fitzjohn Square for some months, and he gave a pretty plain hint to the effect that he could tell a story or two about some of the inhabitants there. Now, for six months or more before Delahay went to Florence to be married, he lived a bachelor life at this house; and all this time Stevens was prowling about the neighborhood after dark. It is not a very pleasant thing to have to do, but I should like to talk the matter over with Stevens and see if he can give us any information as regards Delahay. If you will telephone to Scotland Yard and get them to give you Stevens' address, we will go round to his rooms and interview him at once."

It was no difficult matter to get the address in question, and presently the two friends reached the shabby house in the dingy street where Stevens lived. An exceedingly dirty child informed the visitors that Mr. Stevens was out at present, but that he always left his whereabouts behind him in case he might be required professionally. At the present moment, the precocious child informed the strangers, Mr. Stevens could be found at the Imperial Palace Theatre, in Vauxhall Bridge Road.

(To be continued.)



BOURASSA WILL OPPOSE GOUIN

Henri Bourassa Will Contest the St. James Division of Montreal Against Premier of Quebec.

Montreal, May 27—Henri Bourassa today formally accepted the nomination in St. James division of Montreal, where he will have for his opponent Premier Gouin.

The official announcement of Mr. Bourassa's decision came as a surprise in Liberal circles, and by no means a pleasant one, especially after the triumph he achieved a few nights ago at his Monument National meeting.

When Mr. Bourassa did not accept the St. James nomination immediately after that meeting it was thought that he would not attempt to beard the lion in his den, but would content himself with running in St. Hyacinthe. As it is Mr. Bourassa will run in both ridings, as his opponent will run in two, St. James and Portneuf, near Quebec.

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At this time of year you may get a special offer on hard coal from Gibbon & Company that will save you money.

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The most ultra-tailor-made designed for midsummer wear is that of white mohair, that lustrous English weave, in handsome plain and fancy weaves. Coat suits of this material for afternoon calling and reception use are trimmed elaborately with soutache braidings and cord ornaments that drop from the shoulders, the bust line and the hip, points where the braiding is always the most elaborate. The skirts of such costumes are usually plain, the elaboration being confined to the coat. They are most effective when worn with beautiful black picture hats and the new neck ruff of ribbon or malinette, fastening under the left ear or directly in the back.

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THE COLD STORAGE SCANDAL IS AIRED IN PARLIAMENT

Sir Frederick Borden Grilled by Mr. Foster for His Activity in Connection With the St. John Cold Storage Company---Minister of Militia Charged With Promoting Private Concern.

Ottawa, May 27.—A cold storage scandal occupied the whole of the short day. This was one of the grievances which the opposition is entitled to air to prevent the house getting into supply and if the fight on the election bill goes on, as it probably will, a new one every day is promised.

The speech of Mr. Foster, who introduced the subject, consisted almost wholly of excerpts from the government return. It was intended to show that Sir Frederick Borden, his son-in-law and some others were interested in the formation of a company which secured a subsidy from the government for the construction of a cold storage warehouse at St. John, New Brunswick.

The return showed that in October, 1905, F. E. Williams made the first application to Hon. Sydney Fisher. On April 8, 1907, Mr. Williams wrote to Mr. Fisher in which he refers to a proposal of Sir Frederick Borden and his son-in-law and asks for the first consideration on account of the priority of his application. On April 11, Mr. Fisher replied that the government had not yet granted aid, but Sir Frederick Borden had made an application "and I have viewed his application very favorably."

June 2, Mr. Williams wrote Mr. Fisher, pointing out that he had spent a good deal of money coming to Ottawa to urge his claims and that there would be no use of his going to further expense to prepare plans, if a cabinet minister was to be given the preference.

Mr. Foster commented on these letters in strong terms. With the influences working against Williams that gentleman did not proceed with his representations to the government. It appeared that at that very moment the minister of militia was patching a scheme at the council board to grant aid to a cold storage company, he was forming a $1,000,000 company to secure the subsidy.

Borden's son-in-law, L. S. McCoun, appears on December 6, 1906, when he wrote to Mr. Fisher on behalf of Canadian Lands Produce and Cold Storage Limited. R. J. Graham, of Bellville, became interested in the concern and some letters from him appear. On August 17, 1907, he wrote to Mr. Fisher that the Canada Lands and Produce Company had formed an amalgamation with the New Brunswick Cold Storage Company and asked that the name of the latter company be used in the agreement.

Mr. Foster pointed out that the government agreed to give the company 30 per cent. of the amount expended for construction payable in instalments. This would amount, he thought, to $45,000. Besides this grant the New Brunswick government guaranteed principal and interest up to $60,000.

Mr. Williams very properly complained that he was compelled to enter into competition with cabinet ministers and he wrote a letter on August 15, 1907, to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, complaining that Sir Frederick Borden's company had been promised a grant which would be forthcoming when bill was passed. Mr. Borden, he said, had made a proposition to him which he considered unfair, coming from a minister of the crown, and he stated further that Sir Frederick had said he had influence enough to secure the subsidy for his own company. Enclosed was a letter from Hon. H. R. Emmerson, in which that gentleman promised he would not allow Sir Frederick's scheme to interfere with the claims of Williams' concern, and that it was not desirable to have a cabinet minister getting a concession from the government. Mr. Emmerson said there were various methods of doing things and his methods were usually successful.

Sir Wilfrid replied to Mr. Williams on October 5, 1907, saying it was the intention of Mr. Fisher, had he received an application from Mr. Williams, to give it the same consideration as had been given the New Brunswick company.

Summarizing, Mr. Foster said he found that in 1906, a minister of the crown interested himself in the formation of a company, and during that time the minister was sitting at the council board formulating a scheme to grant aid to cold storage companies. The company was to be floated in England, and the promoters were able to say that one of the parties interested in securing the subsidy from the government is cabinet minister.

"This is a thing that would be unheard of in the annals of British government," said Mr. Foster.

It was only when money could not be got in England that the company joined hands with the New Brunswick Cold Storage Company.

It would be a graceful act, even at this late date for the minister of militia to cease to compromise the government and resign.

Sir Frederick rose without applause from his colleagues. "Mr. Foster should be the last man," he said "to appear as the censor of the morals of others. If what Mr. Foster said were true, it did not come with good grace from a man who used his position as an officer of two or three companies, to take the money of an insurance company and invest it and draw a commission for doing so.

"All of which," said Foster, "is absolutely untrue.."

"It was proven by the records," said Sir Frederick.

This Mr. Foster denied vehemently, and Sir Frederick proceeded to say Mr. Foster "is mentally crooked and morally crooked."

"Not that I care," put in Mr. Foster, "but I can't let that go."

The knight withdrew saying "I beg the hon. gentleman's pardon and I withdraw. I say he is mentally and morally crooked in a parliamentary sense and in a Pickwickian sense, how is that?"

Sir Frederick said he was prepared to submit this case to any tribunal and answer the charges of Mr. Williams. It had been suggested that because Mr. McCoun was his son-in-law, he had secured certain contracts, but Sir Frederick answered all this with the observation "so much for the son-in-law argument."

Mr. Borden said the formation of the company was all arranged before the minister of agriculture had adopted the policy of assisting cold storage operations.

Sir Frederick claimed that everything had been done openly. There was nothing to conceal. His only interest in the establishment of the cold storage warehouse was to give the fruit growers in his district a means of keeping their fruit in good condition for market. He did not own a dollar of stock in the company, and did not expect to receive one dollar of benefit. It remained for the member for North Toronto, with his suspicious mind, to unearth this spectre, but he believed his (Mr. Borden's) statement would receive more credence than any statement of Mr. Foster's.

Dr. Daniel, of St. John, who replied, observed that Sir Frederick was the last man who should preach morality. Reviewing the transaction, he showed that Mr. Williams had been badly treated. The importance of the subject warranted its being brought to the attention of the House, but, he would be glad if the minister of agriculture would offer some explanation of the letter which certainly bore evidence that the minister of militia was interesting himself personally in this matter.

Mr. Fisher said that if the opposition would use a litle common sense in the interpretation of this correspondence, they would not fall into such blunders. He confessed that his letter to Mr. Williams was in loose language so that Mr. Foster was able to blaze his whole case upon it. He cited the case of Mr. Chamberlain, to show that even if Sir Frederick were connected with the company, he was not violating the independence of parliament act, Mr. Chamberlain being, he said, a member of a screw manufacturing company, which had large interests with the government.

Mr. Fisher went on to say that in writing to Mr. Williams of the company, as one with which the minister of militia was "connected," he meant only in the sense of his being an advocate of a worthy public utility. Mr. Williams had been given every chance, and put on the same footing as the New Brunswick company. Indeed, he had waited for five months before the closing contract with the New Brunswick company for the construction of a cold storage warehouse in St. John. The people composing the company were estimable men.

Mr. Fowler ridiculed the idea that the letter to Mr. Williams could bear any such construction as the minister of agriculture said and suggested that probably the reason Mr. Williams had no chance against the New Brunswick company was that Mr. Fisher favored Sir Frederick in return for favors to Fisher's Light Dragoons.

The House rising at 6 o'clock, Mr. Fowler will continue on Friday.

On the opening of the house today Speaker Sutherland announced that he had received the resignation of Armand Lavergne (Montmagny) and that he had given instructions for the issue of a writ for a new election.

Mr. Lavergne has thrown himself into the Quebec fight as an opponent of the Gouin government and will contest Montmagny as a Bourassa candidate.

E. N. Lewis appealed to the government to take over the bills standing on the order paper in his name. These are: To amend the immigration act; Respecting the carrying of offensive weapons; Restricting assaults on women and children; to punish for homicide while hunting; Respecting injuries to persons due to motor vehicles.

The prime minister said the government had enough legislation to put through. "We can't even get supply," he complained.

Replying to Mr. Boyce, the minister of railways said on Nov. 25, 1907, the N. T. R. Commission ordered from the Algoma Steel Co. 21,271 tons of steel rails, but owing to the failure of the government to get supply the commission had been unable to place further orders.

Mr. Porter was told by Mr. Fisher that the government had assisted the New Brunswick Cold Storage Company of St. John to the extent of $37,500 and that $15,000 had been paid to the company.

Claude MacDonell asked if it was the intention of the government to proceed with the insurance bill this session.

Mr. Fielding said it was, "as soon as progress has been made in more important work."

Mr. Clements was informed by the minister of agriculture that 183 hogs were destroyed in Essex county in 1905 and 37 in 1906. They were either affected with cholera or had been in contact with hogs so affected.

William E. Foxwell, the well-known druggist of Riverside, Albert Co., has sold his business to W. S. Jones, of Albert. Mr. Jones will continue the business at Riverside, as well as retaining his drug store at Albert. Mr. Foxwell will leave today for the Pacific coast where he will engage in the drug business.

PLAYS AND PLAYERS

AT THE NICKEL

The most successful emotional ballad of the hour is "I'm Starving For One Sight Of You," which was featured a whole week in Keith's new house, the Bijou Dream, in Boston a short time ago, and which is still the big hit in the leading picture and vaudeville houses of the United States. Today and for the remainder of the week, DeWitt Cairns will sing this song at the Nickel, and his successful opening song will, it is expected, be eclipsed by it. Miss Wren is booked to the tuneful number "When the Springtime Brings the Roses."

Yesterday in spite of the inclement weather, the Nickel was crowded afternoon and evening, and the picture bill was highly commented upon, particularly the great Pathe feature, The Haunted Castle, a wonder of wonders in animated photos. A Wife's Devotion was an excellent contribution to the programme and The Students' Jokes brought down the house. The real water in this scene made a sensation. A Champagne Bottle was interesting chiefly because it was one of the first of Danish films to reach St. John; same pictures today.

AT THE PRINCESS

Do not miss seeing the show that is now on at the Princess. The pictures are especially good and the singers are above the average. Hear Mr. Louis Monohan sing "Star of My Life." Baby Calahan will be heard at every matinee. This charming little lady is making a decided hit. To-night $5 in gold will be given to the holder of the lucky ticket. The drawing will take place at eight o'clock sharp, and if the number is not in the house it will be advertised in the morning papers, and if not called for before 7.00 p. m. Friday a new drawing will be held.

KATHLEEN MAVOURNEEN

In the Opera House last evening a fair sized audience enjoyed the performance of the Irish drama Kathleen Mavourneen by the Emerald Dramatic Club of Amherst (N. S.), under direction of L. T. Richey. The piece was well staged and the players acquitted themselves well, giving a pleasing performance. Miss Florence Terrio in the name part made an excellent impression and Misses A. Dalton, M. V. Power and May Davenport were good in the roles assumed. Miss Power received a pretty bouquet.

Mr. Richey as Terence O'More played well, and J. Donalds won honors as Bernard Kavanaugh. Messrs. K. L. Gillis, J. E. Dalton, P. Cassidy, Leo White, N Landry, T. W. MacKay, F. Cormic, L. C. Blanch, J. J. Power and R. White gave good support. Specialties were introduced by Messrs. Cormic and Cassidy and Messrs. Blanch and Landry.

AT THE PALACE

Everyone in Carleton seemed to have decided to enjoy the amateur night at the Palace last evening, and the City Hall was crowded to the top stairway. In the laughable sketch, A Dollar for a Kiss, Fairbanks, Harrisson, Mofatt and Chapman, the performers, made a big hit, and the announcement that it would be repeated this evening was received with cheers. Miss Mofatt made a success in her new song, composed for her by Mr. Harrisson, and the three encores spoke eloquently the appreciation of her audience. Besides the five pictures no less than fifteen amateurs participated in the big programme. A special candy matinee was announced for Saturday afternoon.

CALLED TO ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH

At a meeting of the congregation of St. Matthew's church, Douglas avenue, last evening, a unanimous call was extended to Rev. J. J. McCaskill, B.A., of Fort Kent (Me.). Rev. A. A. Graham, who was appointed moderator, presided. Rev. Mr. McCaskill preached in St. Matthew's on May 10 last and created a very favorable impression. He also preached in St. Stephen's church a year or so ago. He is a native of Cape Breton and unmarried.

A graduate of Dalhousie University, he completed his training for the ministry at Pine Hill Presbyterian College, Halifax. He has been in charge of the church at Fort Kent about six years.

The call will come before the Presbytery of St. John on Tuesday next at a meeting in Richmond near Woodstock, which is being held for the ordination of Rev. R. A. McDonald. J. Fraser Gregory was appointed last evening to attend before the Presbytery as the representative of St. Matthew's congregation.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County. ss.:

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrh Cure.

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Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

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NOVA SCOTIA CROP OUTLOOK

Halifax, May 27—Principal Cumming, of the Truro Agricultural College, says the present season in Nova Scotia is the most favorable for farmers he has seen in four years. The weather has been especially good for seeding and a larger acreage is under crop than for many seasons.

Trains from Boston are crowded with people returning home, driven out of Boston by hard times. Many of them say they are back in Nova Scotia to stay.

The petition asking for the recognition of the services of South African Veterans by the granting of a block of land in the west has been largely signed by the local soldiers and is now in the hands of the authorities at Ottawa and will be read in Parliament when the matter is taken up. Some are quite sanguine of success in securing the grants, while others are not quite so hopeful, but are willing to put forth every effort to obtain the grants.

WATER AND SEWERAGE BOARD'S MONTHLY SESSION LAST NIGHT

At the monthly meeting of the water and sewerage board last evening it was agreed to hold a special meeting on Saturday to consider what action should be taken to provide $26,000 for sewerage maintenance and interest, and decide whether it should be charged to water maintenance or general assessment. The chairman expressed the opinion that while it would add four cents to the rate it would be a fairer distribution if placed in the general assessment. Tenders for supplies were ordered to be called for. H. G. Hunter reported that the city would be supplied with full pressure from Loch Lomond next week. Ald. Rowan brought up the question of extending the mains in Douglas avenue and claimed that the city was losing a large revenue by delaying the erection of a number of houses.

Ald. Frink occupied the chair and Ald. Lewis, Sproul, Pickett, Willet, Rowan, Christie, McGowan, Kelley, and Councillor Hooley were present with the director, Mr. Hunter and the common clerk.

The following tenders for printing the annual report were opened:

	Report.	Appendix.
George E. Day..	85c.	$1.40
John A. Bowes..	54c.	1.14
Barnes & Co..	80c.	1.25

On motion of Ald. Sproul the tender of Mr. Bowes, being the lowest, was accepted.

The question of the water assessment was referred to by the chairman. He said it had been thought best to have the matter taken up at a special meeting as it was of considerable importance. A credit balance of $27,000 last year had been absorbed on account of new mains, breakages and sewerage repairs, and $18,269 was now required for sewerage maintenance, and $8,000 for additional interest on bonds. This sum ammounting to between $26,000 and $27,000 might, under the Act, be charged to water maintenance, but his own idea was that it should be placed in the general assessment. Otherwise a very serious burden would be placed on the tax payers. It would add about four cents to the rate but it would, in his view, be fairer to distribute it over the whole body. The water rate schedule was being revised so as to meet the present conditions, but he thought the report of the director had better be considered at a special meeting.

Ald. Pickett pointed out that by placing the amount in general assessment it would relieve the parish of Lancaster from payment.

The chairman replied that by far the greatest revenue was derived from St. John.

The common clerk raised the question whether, now that the assessment was ordered, the amount referred to by the chairman could be included in the current year.

The chairman said he was under the impression it could be arranged.

Ald. Pickett moved that the matter be taken up at a special meeting, that the director prepare a statement of the number of meters in use and what commission was paid for collection, and also a statement be obtained from the chamberlain giving by the year all arrears on water rates. He noticed, he said, on the agenda paper that $290 arrears in water rates was recommended settled for $75. Such a condition of things should not exist. When water taxes were levied they should be collected. With regard to commissions, he understood men were being paid a commission to collect bills where meters were in use. A much easier remedy would be to cut off the supply and by so doing a large saving would be effected.

The motion was carried. It was decided later to hold the special meeting on Saturday at 8 p. m.

The director recommended, on an application of Thomas Robinson, for a sewer in old Dorchester street, that a sewer and 6-inch water main be laid at an estimated cost of $550.

On an amendment by Ald. Pickett, it was decided to carry out the work if approved by the chairman.

Mrs. Sterling Barker applied for a lease of four acres of the property on the Black River road near Loch Lomond recently purchased by the city.

It was decided to grant a five year lease at an annual rental of $10 a year on condition that no buildings be placed on the property.

On a petition of George C. Godfrey for the extension of a water main in Havelock street, Carleton, the board decided on a report of the director that as the estimated cost was $650, and the water would not rise in the houses even with the aid of a pump, the petition could not be complied with.

A sewer was recommended laid in old Adelaide street to serve six houses, at a cost of $800.

A recommendation to extend the service pipe of Frederick Nice to the premises of George Cobham, in Germain street, Carleton, at a cost of $100, was carried.

A communication from George D. Martin, clerk in the water office, stated that on account of the action of the board of works in increasing the salary of the clerk of their department $10 a month, he would ask that his salary be increased $2.50 a week.

In reply to the chairman the director said Mr. Martin now received $15 a week. He was given an increase not long ago.

Ald. Pickett moved that the communication be filed. They would be adopting a bad principle, he said, to consider an application on such grounds. Mr. Martin did not state that he needed or even merited an increase, but only that he saw someone else had received an increase. Apparently he was quite satisfied until he read the report of the meeting of the board of works in a morning paper.

After further discussion it was agreed that the director should bring in a report.

A recommendation that Michael Carr, sewerage foreman, be paid a salary of $15 a week, was adopted.

Tenders were ordered called for the department supplies for the ensuing year.

On a petition for a water main in Charlotte street extension, Carleton, the director reported in favor of it, as a means to increase the local supply, and as an important feeder of the Carleton system. He estimated the cost at $2,500 with an additional income of about $90.

Councillor Hooley spoke in favor of the work being carried out.

Some doubt was expressed whether the city was in a position to do the work at the present time.

It was decided after some discussion to leave the matter until the next meeting for the other councillors in Lancaster to be present.

On the recommendation of the director, it was decided to accept $75 from Margaret Hilton for water rates, and that the balance be written off.

Recommendations that the assessment against John McMulkin be reduced by $4, and that the tax stand at 40c.; and that assessment against John Keefe be reduced by $2, were adopted.

A recommendation to give T. S. Simms & Co. a rebate of $9.64 was adopted.

The director, replying to a petition from E. B. Jones, for a water main in Campbell street, Douglas avenue, said the cost would be about $600. He recommended that the petition be granted as Mr. Jones had informed him that if a water supply was assured he proposed building a house there to cost $3,500 and another next year. This would give a revenue of eight per cent.

Ald. Rowan asked if anything was ever going to be done to extend the water and sewerage mains down Douglas avenue. He claimed that a large revenue was being lost by the delay. E. S. R. Murray, he said, had plans ready for a $25,000 house, George Magee wished to build a terrace of houses, and George McArthur and others would put up houses if the city provided facilities.

At the alderman's request the director was instructed to bring down the water and sewerage estimates for Douglas avenue at the next meeting.

The director was authorized to employ Charles McLaughlin to write up the water assessment for $150, the same rate as last year.

The director recommended that part of the main sewer in Sheriff street be taken up and deepened, as it was originally laid too low, and did not drain the western side of the street. The city, he said, had already been put to considerable expense in recent years. The estimated cost is $1,500.

Ald. Rowan spoke in favor of the work, and moved for a committee to inspect the locality.

The chairman did not think a committee could do much good. With the director he had already made an exhaustive study of the condition of affairs. The city once paid a claim for damages on account of the defective sewer, and other residents in the neighborhood seemed to think they should all get something. The director was of opinion, if the sewer were lowered it would settle the matter.

Ald. Rowan withdrew his motion, and the recommendation was adopted.

The treasury board was requested to provide funds to settle the award of the court giving $1,400 to W. J. Johnston for expropriation of eight acres at Loch Lomond.

The monthly report of Mr. Hunter, the resident engineer, was read. He stated that No. 2 section of the pipe line was inspected on May 6 and found in good condition. With regard to No. 2 main, he was satisfied that from the reservoir to the metre vaults, it would stand fifteen pounds more than required, and was now under full pressure. On May 19 the section from the vaults to the One Mile House was put under pressure and a break occurred while it was subjected to water hammer. It had been repaired and was now standing ten pounds above normal. He saw no reason why the city should not be supplied at full pressure by the end of next week.

The report was adopted.

It was decided, at the suggestion of Ald. Pickett, that the chairman and director should arrange for the more frequent inspection of the metre at the pulp mill where it had been claimed much water was wasted.

In reply to Ald. Pickett, the director said the new stand pipes for water cars were ordered and he expected they would be ready before long.

The board then adjourned.

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