



Entered as Second Class Matter October 11, 1895, of the Post Office at Chicago, Illinois, under Act of March 3rd, 1879

"INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS, NEUTRAL IN NONE."

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TWENTY-SECOND YEAR, NO. 42.

CHICAGO, SATURDAY, JULY 22, 1911.

WHOLE NUMBER 1,136.

ALDERMEN QUIT

The City Council Adjourns for Vacation After Busiest and Stormiest Session Held in Years.

Mayor Harrison Fills the Vacancies on the School, Library and Bridewell Boards and Names New City Physician.

Ordinance Fixing New Gas Rates Is Passed and Also Ordinance Prohibiting Sale of Fireworks of Explosive Character in City.

Resolution Demanding the Making Public of the "Key" to the Vice Commission's Report Is Defeated After Close Vote, Causing Surprise.

The farewell session of the City Council Monday night was one of the busiest and stormiest ever held. The aldermanic body convened at 7:30 o'clock Monday night, and up to midnight stormy clashes and spirited debate marked the discussion of measures before it. After the stroke of 12, however, the length of the session began to tell on the aldermen, and a lack of interest displaced the attentiveness which marked the opening hours. When the final vote on the ordinance fixing the price of gas was taken, the measure passed unanimously.

The adjournment marked the awakening of the sleepy aldermen, and for several minutes paper balls were tossed to and fro. The merriment was short lived, however, and after farewells the council members dispersed, to meet again September 25.

The aldermen passed the ordinance fixing the rate for gas for the next five years at an average rate of 70 1-5 cents. 75 cents for the first year, 70 cents second and third years and 68 cents the last two years of period.

Defeat of the amendment to the "antnoise" ordinance was indicated in the early hours of the meeting. The proposition was put to a roll call and was defeated by a vote of 42 to 23. The discussion on this was lively, but after the long-drawn-out struggle on the gas question the measure's staunchest supporters put up only a half-hearted battle.

By a vote of 38 to 28 the council decided that the "key" to the vice commission's report shall not be made public.

The action of the council was taken late in the session and after it had sat silent and unanimously approved the report of the finance committee that Alderman Geiger's resolution that the "key" be turned over to the city be placed on file.

Late in the session Geiger offered another resolution to the effect that the "key" be ordered given into the hands of Francis D. Connery, city clerk. Alderman Snow moved to refer the resolution to the finance committee, but Geiger insisted upon a vote and asked for a suspension of the rules.

Mayor Harrison ordered the roll called and when the votes were counted it was found that thirty-eight aldermen opposed the making public of the "key," while twenty-eight wanted it given publicity.

Mayor Harrison filled the vacancies in the school, library and bridewell boards and named a city physician. In announcing the appointment he declared that he had satisfied all of the many races that make up Chicago population.

"The Irish, German, Jewish, Bohemian, Norwegian, English and other nationalities which make up the city's population," the Mayor said, "can be assured that they have obtained fair representation on the school and other boards. It has taken me quite a while to make up the list of appointments, and now I feel that I have done a good job."

The appointments were concurred in by the City Council. They were as follows:

Board of Education.
Pfeiser, David M., representing the Jewish population of the South Side.
Lipsky, Harry A., representing the Jewish population of the West Side.

Harding, John C., an Englishman, a former school board member and an officer of Typographical Union No. 16, representing labor.
MacMahon, Mrs. John, representing the woman's organizations of Chicago.

Sethness, Charles O., a former member of the board and prominent Norwegian-American.
Dibelka, James B., representing the Bohemian population.
Huttman, Henry W., representing the German population.

Library Board.
Roulston, Robert J., president of the board, reappointed.

Henius, Dr. Max, representing Danish citizens.
Kaychi, Phillip M., editor of the Polish daily Skots.

Bridewell Board.
Burger, A. A., friend of Comptroller John Traeger.

Weiskopf, Dr. M. A., friend of Congressman A. J. Sabath.
Aller, Mathias, president Home Brewing Company.

City Physician.
Spencer, Dr. George J.
Probably not in years has such an intricate mass of material been considered in a single session of the council as was passed on last night.

The reports of twelve committees, containing matters of long standing, were rushed into the session at the last moment, otherwise they would have been laid aside and not considered until the council reconvenes in the fall.

The council—
Passed an ordinance prohibiting the use of "siren" whistles and providing for the use of "mufflers" on automobiles and motor cycles.

Passed amendments to the ordinance under which the Chicago Pneumatic Postal Tube Company operates.

Passed Alderman Foell's resolution asking that Aug. 12 to 20 be called "Aviation Week," and asking that public buildings be decorated during that period.

Made arrangements to immediately rehabilitate the West Chicago, West Indiana street and West Thirty-fifth street bridges.

At 2:30 o'clock, while the aldermen were amusing themselves throwing spit balls at each other, the Thomson ordinance regulating the sale and use of fireworks, was passed.

Under the terms of the ordinance the Mayor must issue a permit before a public display of fireworks can be given.

The ordinance also provides that no fireworks of an explosive character be sold in the city.

Other important business of the council included the following:

Passed ordinance prohibiting roller towels in public lavatories.

Passed ordinance forbidding fireworks except in public displays authorized by Mayor.

Received ordinance ordering billiard halls and bowling alleys closed at 1 a. m.

Ordered publication of city pay roll for June.

Made week of Aug. 13-20 "aviation week."

Passed ordinance requested by Chief of Police McWenny forbidding the letting or hiring of horses to children under 18 years of age.

Passed ordinance directing the

Mayor to appoint a commission to negotiate with county officials about placing electric lights around city hall-county building square.

The Water Meter Trust is at work again. It is threatening the health of the people by agitating the installa-



ALEXANDER H. REVELL,
Leading Merchant and Public Spirited Citizen.

tion of meters in every house. This will mean curtailment of the amount of water used in every home, it means the spread of disease and uncleanness. The City of Chicago is behind all other cities in the world with its water system. New York has to go over a hundred miles for fresh water, yet its supply never fails. Chicago has water in plenty at its door and yet it is always talking about water

meters—in other words, yearning for graft. What Chicago really needs is a water works system that pumps water. It needs at least three new water tunnels running out into the lake and connecting with new and modern pumping stations. As for water meters how are they expected to stop waste. A person who has a meter and is willing to pay for the water can have it running night and day and the scarcity will be greater than ever. Water meters will not bring more water. They will bring famine, misery and disease to many and comfort to none. Let the city arise above the vision of meter graft and work for a water works system that is worthy of it.

Building Commissioner Henry Ericson will ask the Finance Committee to appropriate money to pay the salaries of additional assistant building inspectors, whom, he says, he requires to make the annual inspection of all buildings as required by the new ordinance. Ten building inspectors now working on the annual inspection, thirty making regular inspections, and ten fire escape inspectors were summoned to the office of the building commissioner yesterday and plans for the reorganization of the office were discussed. The request for the additional men cannot be made until the Finance Committee meets in September, and it was decided to have the annual inspection made by the present force.

The Marquette Club has invited President Taft to be its guest either on Chicago day, October 9, or Lincoln's birthday, February 12, 1912. The President already has an engagement for the latter day, when he will be the guest of the republican clubs of New York. If he cannot accept the invitation for Chicago day, he will endeavor to make an engagement for some other date.

Comptroller Traeger on Wednesday invested \$1,200,000 of the traction fund in corporate anticipation warrants. This is the first investment made under the new law passed by the legislature which enables the city to use its own special funds to purchase tax

'PHONE SLAVERY

The People of Chicago Pray for Deliverance from the Grasp of the Awful Bell Monopoly.

Chicagoans Forced to Pile Up the Profits of Three Different Corporations and Thus Boost Stock Dividends.

The Bell Monopoly Owns the Local Telephone Company and the Western Electrical Company and Makes One of Them Patronize the Other.

As the Bell Company Wants a Big Profit Itself It Is Easy to See Why Telephone Rates Are to Be Raised.

From a learned "Expert's" reports to the City Council we learn that: Telephone rates should be raised because the Bell Telephone Company owns the local telephone company. Because the Western Electrical Company is also owned by the Bell Telephone Company. Because the local telephone com-

pany has increased its capital stock from the original \$500,000 to \$27,000,000 and \$5,000,000 more in bonds. Because the stockholders would not get big enough dividends on this immense stock issue if the people of Chicago were not squeezed.

Therefore the telephone company has the nerve to ask the City Council to raise the rates on the people of Chicago.

The people of Chicago are to be used as sers by the telephone monopoly and the last drop is to be squeezed out of them.

In the meantime it would be well for the aldermen to inquire into the alleged relations, in the past, of certain city officials with the above electrical company, the twin of the local telephone company, both being owned by the Bell monopoly.

The telephone gang want the council to raise the rates on all phones. To abolish all flat phones and make everybody takes measured service.

To put a nickel in every phone before connection is made.

Fire Marshal Seyferlich asserted that as practically one-half of the fire and police alarms are received by telephone, he did not favor the general installation of the "pay-in-advance" type of telephone instrument now being placed in various parts of the city by the telephone company.

The telephone monopoly obliges the users of nickel phones to guarantee 5 cents per day. If the monthly deposit of nickels falls short of the guarantee the company makes the phone renter pay the difference. If there should happen to be an excess of nickels the company gobbles them all. The phone renter gets no credit for that excess. That's the logic of the monopoly.

From the learned telephone expert whose report was submitted to the City Council in May, 1911, we learn on pages 49 and 50, that the Bell Telephone monopoly that reaches all over the country, owns a controlling interest in the local telephone company and the Western Electrical Company. "The latter is purely a manufacturing company," says the report, "engaged in the manufacture of Bell telephone apparatus and supplies." In 1904 a contract was entered into between the local telephone company and the electrical company, both of them owned by the Bell monopoly, whereby the local company agreed to purchase all of its supplies from the electrical company. Under the terms of this contract the electrical company agrees to deliver to the telephone company all telephone appliances manufactured under the license of the Bell Telephone Company. The local telephone company, on the other hand, agrees to purchase all its supplies from the electrical company.

Here we have a fine sample of how the parent monopoly makes the subsidiary monopolies pile up profits for each other and the public pays the freight.

On page 52 of the report of this "Expert" to the City Council we find the statement made that the Bell monopoly charges a rental of 62 cents per station for each set of instruments used.

This would amount to \$133,300 yearly, but the expert discovered that

the local company really paid the parent company \$355,711 last year.

About this enormous overcharge the "expert" naively says on page 53 of the report now in the hands of the Council committee: "In justification of the payment of the difference between these amounts, or \$322,411, the Chicago company receives certain services from the parent company which it is claimed are worth the amount paid."

These services consist of technical advice and counsel and the use of apparatus patented by the parent company.

What do you think of that? And then the aldermen are asked to raise the rates on the people to help the local company out.

Any alderman who votes to raise rates should be outlawed.

Rates are twice as much as they ought to be at the present time. They should be reduced.

All telephone rates are now subject to revision every five years.

The telephone company wants the city to raise rates and abolish the provision in the ordinance calling for revision every five years.

They want to keep the people where they have them so that they can't get away.

The "expert" on pages 105 and 106 of his report apparently feels much sympathy for the company on this subject.

Will the aldermen show any sympathy for the people?

The telephone company wants the public to pay high rates because of the improvements it has put in the service. If this kind of reasoning holds good, then Marshall Field & Co. and The Fair should charge higher prices for the goods because of the fine buildings and other improvements they have paid for. And on the same like of argument the Northwestern Railroad should double the price of railroad fares because it has erected a \$25,000,000 depot.

All telephone patents should be confiscated by the government when they become the exclusive property of the Telephone Trust. The following from an editorial in the Chicago Daily News of July 17, 1911, hits the case exactly:

"In an argument before the national senate's interstate commerce committee, Senator Kenyon recently urged several modifications of the Sherman antitrust law. One of them provided that when any patent granted by the government is used to build up a trust or combination the patent shall be forfeited."

"Drop a penny in the slot and telephone."

Ald. Herman J. Bauler, who originated the Seventy Cent Gas league in the mayoral campaign, proposes to settle telephone rates now that the league has completed its end of the gas price rates and left it for the courts to say whether the 75 to 68 cent sliding scale ordinance is fair.

Ald. Bauler insists that the penny telephone idea is all right and says he has worked out the idea without the aid of any expert, like Edward W. Bemis or W. J. Haggenah, who were not.

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