VOL. 1 NO. 7

NOVEMBER 16th, 1933

The People's Paper

KITCHENER and WATERLOO

Every Thursday

Bezeau Is Needed For

Ex-Mayor Bezeau is Needed as Mayor for 1934

If the electors of Kitchener are really interested in their own welfare and in the future of this city they will go to the City Hall on the evening of Friday, November 24th, and see that ex-mayor Bezeau is nominated for the Mayoralty; then bring enough moral pressure to bear on him that he will file his qualification papers and enter the race.

The situation in which Kitchener finds itself at the present time is one of unusual seriousness. A hugedeficit of \$300,000 on which we are paying over \$15,000 interest or more than one-half mill on the assessment, is of itself a staggering problem which the present mayor and council have not shown mayor and council have not shown any willingness to tackle and solve. Mayor Sturm has not at any time Mayor Sturm has not at any time to our knowledge given any evidence of having an understanding of municipal financing or solving municipal problems of any kind; and in our opinion his return for e second year would be a very serious matter for the city - much more serious than can readily be appreciated.

During ex-mayor Bezeau's two years in office he showed a remarkable aptitude for solving municipal problems of every kind. He was a real leader in constructive thought - truth recognized and admitted privately, if not publicly, by his strongest opponents. The aldermen who sat in council during his two years as mayor have sadly missed his counsel and his leadership this year.

We realize that in asking ex-Mayor Beazeau to step in and of-fer to straighten out the tangles into which the present Mayor and Council have gotten the affairs of the city we are asking a great deal; but we ask it in the hope that he realizes that the vote of a year ago was not one of ingratitude for services rendered, but rather that ago was not one of ingratitude for services rendered, but rather that the vote was the result of a studied and organized campaign of deception and falsehood carried on by a few who wanted to get control of affairs in the City Hall for their away selfish endered that they own selfish ends; and that thousands who honestly voted against him now see their mistake, and are now anxious to see him return. We ask it also in the hope, we might almost say firm conviction, that his civic pride and civic patriotism are sufficiently strong to out-weigh any feeling of resent-ment which may have crept in because of the treatment he received at the hands of the electors a year

his strongest opponents. The aldermen who sat in council during his two years as mayor have sadly missed his counsel and his leadership this year.

The task facing the mayor of 1934 is a big one; and only a man with a mind trained for the work can hope to do it successfully. We believe that the one man in Kit.



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· NOTICE

Inside Information on the "Public Morgue" Deal

Mr. Ratz, Chairman of the Hospital Board, has not yet answered the questions which I have demanded concerning the public Morgue at the K.-W. Hospital. He evidently wishes us to believe that silence means consent.

"The Coroners and Police Officers were notified as to this and it was asked that all emergency deaths andled through this Morgue."

When the proposal for a Public Morgue was brought before the silence means consent.

Why has he not produced his correspondence with the Attorney Generals department or made public the petition and the signatures thereon?

I have made further inquires on my own initiative. The following is an extract from a letter received from a Member of the Legislature who has access to the public re-

"It was found that provision had been made for a public morgue in the Kitchener Waterloo Hospital, the Kitchener Waterloo Hospital, and the Department was advised in November of 1932, that at the request of the Waterloo County Medical Association and the Waterloo County Funeral Directors Association by the Board of Waterloo Kitchener Hospitals, that they had completely furnished this public moreque and that arrangements. lic morgue and that arrangements had been made for the use of an ambulance for the purpose of transferring bodies to the public

Morgue was brought before the Medical Association, they were not interested and refused to discuss it. There is also no such organization as the Waterloo County Funeral Directors Association, to the best of my knowledge. Would Mr. Ratz be so kind as to give us its history and the names of its president ant its officers.

It would appear that the establishment of a Public Morgue at the hospital was solely in the interests of the Undrtaking firm of Ratz and Bechtel and, so far as can be discovered, Mr. Ratz of this firm and associates were the princilal, if not the only ones, interested in securing it.

After certain and unwarranted abuses of his office, of which the writer has personal knowledge, to further his private interests as an undertaker, the only course open to Mr. Ratz if he wishes to regain the confidence of his fellow-citizens is to resign from his office.

Edward Lippert.

No 1620 A Cash Prize will be paid to the person bring-

ing one of these advertisements (the number of which corresponds to number which has already been chosen by us) to

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Does any of our readers know of an employer who wants to engage the services of a man of the following description: Man was left a good business and made a failure of it, but claims he can save money for any employer who will give him work even though he has more mouth than brains. He is asking \$210. per month, will gladly accept \$125.00, and in a pinch will not refuse \$50.00 per month in order to keep off relief. The man has borrowed money from every person who would lend it to him, consequently he is heels-overhim, consequently he is heels-over- | would like to get a job for him.

WHITHER ARE WE DRIFTING? By Joe Meinzinged

Someone has said that chickens

Was it Allan A. Eby who, a few years ago, was reported to have said something to the effect that half the aldermen had themselves elected for the \$5.00 they received for attending council meetings?

When Funeral formed?

Is it st

Who we have the standard of the standa

Through a combination of cim-

Shortly after Ald. Eby took his seat in council he gave notice that he would introduce a by-law to amend the council proceedings by cutting out half the council meetings and holding committee meetings instead.

At the last seat of the Chairman of the Hosp ital Board name the delegate of the Waterloo County Funeral Directors Association, and the date on which he interviewed the Hospital Board to successfully gain its consent to the request for a public morgue?

Why did the Relief Official Council Meetings instead.

At the last session of the Ler-islature the Municipal Act was amended taking away the power of municipay councils to pay the members for attendance at committee meetings. It is said that Ald. Eby learned of this amendment after he had given his notice of motion.

Had Ald. Eby's proposed amendment to the rules of council been passed it would have reduced the pay of aldermen by one-half. Ald. Eby has not yet introduced his proposed amendment, and we are wondering how much the above fact had to do with his failure to carry out his proposal.

Had Ald. Eby succumbed to the lure of the thing that he is alleged to have said induced his predecessors of a past age to enter council?

It was reported and never denied that L. E. Hagedorn sat and voted in council after he accepted the position of relief officer, and he did so for no other reason than to give Allan A. Eby time to return to the city and qualify. city and qualify.

Men well versed in municipal law are of the opinion that L. E. Hagedorn held his seat in council llegally during the time he was

What do the electors think of a man who obtains and holds a seat in council through another's violation of the law?

Do the electors expect the highest kind of service from a man who appears to have no regard for the law governing the election of members of the municipal council?

The man who is animated by motives of a high ethical order makes sure he is right, whether it is a matter of ethics or one of law, before he goes ahead.

Then what about the fee for attending council meetings? Is it true that at least one member of the present council is more inter-ested in the fee than in what he believes to be the ublic welfare?

Ald. Berges is the man who is alleged to have sated to a meeting of members of council, "Gentlemen, I am in the retail business and I have to be very careful how I vote. I cannot afford to offend any of my customers." my customers.

Ald. Berges is the man who is alleged to have stated to the mem-bers of a council committee, "I know this resolution is right, but I cannot suport it in council because that man is in a ostition to do me a lot of harm in my private busi-ness," or words to that effect.

HOTSHOTS

\$2.00 REWARD will be given the first person turning in the correct answer to the following questions

When was the Waterloo County uneral Directors Association

Is it still in existance?

Who were the President and the Executive in November 1932?

eive fifty dollars extra salary for October when the raise was not authorized until November? Would the Relief Board be as generous to their own employees?

Did the Relief Officer also receive \$35.00 in addition to his salary for car allowance in October?

Why should salaries in the Relief Department be almost as high in October as in January when there were 1200 fewer people on relief in October?

Editor Weekly Advertiser:

It would appear that Ald. Gordon's watchfulness in checking up don's watchfulness in checking up accounts has gotten under the skin of members of the sewer committee. Ald, Tait says he is tired of playing politics with the sewer plant; and Ald. Mullins says "The sewer plant seems to be a running sore to Ald. Gordon" when the sewer committee proposed a further expenditure on the plant. If Ald. Mullins had his ear to the ground he would have learned long ago that the plant is a running sore to the taxpayers; and if he backs up everything that Ald. Tait and Schafer do he will find himself in the same category. the same category.

posel of the sewer committee, composed of Tait, Schafer and Mullins, to install an electric heater at the plant at the cost of \$1.85 per month plant at the cost of \$1.85 per month and Ald. Gordon and Bowman suggested it would be less expensive to install a gas heater at an initial cost of \$48. and heat it with some of the gas that is going to waste at the plant. Ald. Mullins could not see it that way.

Here is the way the thing works out:

The electric heater at \$1.85 per month is \$22.20 a year or \$220.00 for ten years without interest. A gas heater at an initial cost of \$48. with interest at 5% on the total amount for ten yeas would work out as follows:

Interest per year \$2.40 depreciation 10% \$4.80, total per year, \$7.20, as against \$22.20 for the electric heater; or \$72.00 for ten years as against \$220.00 for the electric heater, or a saving of \$148.00 in favor of the gas heater

When one considers that the council has to deal with big matters as well as small matters, and the financing is done in the same careless way one can readily understand why our taxes are so high

True Economy.

Crowned Heads and Other Things Toronto city council proposes to What may we expect from a member of the council who is more concerned about the fee he receives from council meetings than he is in what he professes to believe is in the public interest, or has to consult the personal welfare of his customers before he can vote on any public matter.

build a new sewage disposal plant and are asking the taxpayers to vote the money. In Kitchener the money with the permission of the Great Mogul; but the ordinary taxpayers are not consulted. Over half a million dollars have been spent without consulting the people. build a new sewage disposal plant

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THIS and THAT

Prophetic Vision or Common Sense!

Don't you think it is time the Don't you think it is time the Children's Aid Society became as active in protecting children as the frumane Society is in protecting dump animals? It might be wente interest the Humane Society in child welfare. Surely children are as important as animals.

in addition to being one of the best adjermen this city has had in many years, Aid. Gordon is somewhat of a prophet. Some will say that he just used ordinary "horse sense," but even that is a rare commonly in these days. In any event, less than a year ago Aid. Gordon made a speach in council and is reported in the Record as Tollows:

'Ald. Gordon also paid a tribute to retiring Mayor Bezeau. It had been a great help to him as a new member of council two years ago to sit under the leadership of a man so experienced in municipal proceedure; and he beleved that the mayor's success in office will be better understood in the future than it is at present.

than it is at present.

Seldom has a prediction come true so soon as one that "The mayor's success in office will be better understood in the future than it is at present." Scarcely had Mayor Sturm taken over the duties of his office when the people began to see the difference between th two executives; and appreciation of the former mayor's nanding of municipal affars began to grow. In his inaugural address to the council Mayor Sturm said he had no suggestions to make for the to the council Mayor Sturm said he had no suggestions to make for the guidance of the aldermen; and has continued that policy right down to the present time. True, he has made suggestions such as reverting to committee instead of council meetings, and the two-year term but few people beleve these orginated with himself. In any event they were not considered worth and were not adopted. and were not adopted.

Whether Ald. Gordon had a prophetic vision, or whether he just took a common sense-view of the situaton matters not; for what he said has come true.

Editor Weekly Advertiser:

I hope you will give me space in which to express my views on the present political situation. Both myself and my wife are to be numbered among those who voted against Mr. C. Mortimer Bezeau a year ago. We were influenced by various considerations. We were told that Mr. Bezeau was the cause of the large amount of money spent for relief; but since the cost this year has been double what it was last year we know we were mislead in the matter.

We were also told that the tax-

mislead in the matter.

We were also told that the tax-payers would have to pay for the improvements made in the Westmount district; but we now learn that the cost of this work, including all interest on the money, is to be charged to, and paid by, the owners of Westmount. I can now see how this development supplied work to a large number of men, and to that extent kept down the cost of relief and saved a lot of money to the taxpayers.

We were told also that Mayor

money to the taxpayers.

We were told also that Mayor Bezeau was extravagant; but I do not believe that he would have stood for the ayment of \$1,600 to the consultants; nor for the \$2,000 it is costing to house the relief department; nor for the \$10,000 addition to the sewage disposal plant nor for keeping a road foreman on at \$1,500 when there was no work for him to do. In all told here is for him to do. In all told here is \$15,000 which I believed Mr Bezeau would have saved to the taxpayers had he been in office.

We were told that a salary of 500 was to much. We did not We were told that a salary of \$2500 was to much. We did not stop to figure that the difference in salaries amounts to only about three cents a year for the average taxpayers; and the \$15,000 which Mr. Bezeau would have saved this year would have paid the difference in salaries for the next ten years So I say let us get Mr. Bezeau back again back again.

Eyes Opened

It is said that 150,000,000 pins are made in the world every year yet with that number of pin-heads to choose from the electors find difficulty in picking a good mayor and council.

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Prudent Leadership Needed

One thing we will give the Record credit for, and that is, when it is converted it will testify to the fact. We all remember how in the last election the Record appeared the belief that the second appeared last election the Record appeared to believe that the position of mayor was an honorary one, and that any person could adequately fill the bill. Now it believes that "municipal leadership of prudence and foresight" are required. In a recent editorial the Record says: "The relation of tax arrears to municipal expenditures has assumed a serious significance to muned a serious significance to municipalities, and civic financing in days when property owners are hard pressed to find means required to meet their tax obligations is becoming an increasingly difficult

"It is therefore advisable that municipal voters should be definitely sure their names are included on the voter's list, as the judgment behind every individual vote is required to assure a municipal leadership of such prudence and foresight as will see the corporation through its precarious period."

Apparently the Record has been

through its precarious period."

Apparently the Record has been converted through sheer force of experience. The Record along with many others refused to listen to the voice of cold logic last year; but apparently it has been forced to heed the voice of bitter experience and observation. Experience is a dear teacher; but a very effective one, as thousands of citizens have discovered during the present year. present year.

It is said that an Eastern school-boy claims he has memorized 15, 000 names, dates and historical facts. If we had that boy in Kit-chener we could use him to remind the present mayor and council of at least one-half the mistakes they made this year.

Professor Elmer Barnes says, "Civilization has been going along with one foot in an ox-cart and the other in an arplane." Why did we not think of that when we were trying to find out what was the matter with our municipal

We heard a man say the other day, "Some of these fellows who are trying to run things to suit themselves deserve a two-year term - but not in council."

Our satirist says that if certain neople would keep the one foot in the ox-cart it would not be so bad; but the trouble arises when they want to do all their riding on a coal cart.

It is said that the coming of the automobile has done away with much of the "horse-sense" on the highway. Is the automobile responsible for the passing of that very valuable commodity in municipal circles?

Remember this: The proposal to Remember this: The proposal to institute a two-year term was given a "One year hoist;" which means that if the Great Mogul can elect a mayor and enough aldermen he will have it put through next year. It was Mayor Sturm who first made the idea public, and he was backed by Ald. Eby and Ald. Berges.

Nichlos Murry Butler says, "The function of a university to make students think;" which leads us to suggest a university for the training of mayors and aldermen in the art of thinking for themselves instead of having to depend on the Great Mogul to do their thinking for them. As an alternative we might suggest selecting our mayors and most of our aldermen from ors and most of our aldermen from the collegiate, which is a sort of under-university; or we might select our mayors and aldermen from the Boy's Parliament. Al-most anything would be better than what we now have.

great call is for leadership. "Quite true, but that leadership should be in the open and not from behind

Hitler asked for a five-year term; and no doubt the Great Mogul will ask for five years, if he can get the two-year term through next

The crowned heads of Europe have been falling one by one; and when the electors go to the polls to vote on December 4th, they should see to it that the head of the Great Mogul falls with a thud.

Harold L. Daufman Barrister, Solicitor, Etc.

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Facts About Westmount

At a recent meeting of the Tax-payer's Association it was stated that some person had a dream and then sold the dream to the city proceedure. council in connection with the Westmount project. This fanciful idea of the Westmount project originated with certain real estate men who saw in the Westmount area a strong competitor in the real estate business. real estate business.

The fact is that the work in the Westmount district was undertaken as an unemployment relief mea-sure. Up to the time this work was started all the work done for the relief of the unemployed was paid for by the city and the gov-ernment. It was felt by then Mayor Bezeau that such work could not continue for two reasons. (1) That such works as had been available had been pretty well cleaned up, and (2) if such works were continued with the government and the city paying the cost it would place too heavy a burden on the taxpayers. In looking about for some measure that would relieve the taxayers of the burden he apthe taxayers of the burden he approached the owners of the Westmount area and pointed out to them time for them to make provision that the present would be a good for the future growth of the city. He pointed out that contract prices and material prices were lower they had been in years; and that they had been in years; and that when times again became good both contract and material prices would again go up; and when that time came it would cost a great deal more to do this work than it would at the present time.

This interview resulted in a conference between representatives of Westmount and the Unemployment Relief Committee of which then Ald. Sturm was a member. Ald. Sturm was one of the project's most enthusiastic supporters; and the matter was passed on to the Finance Committee of which Ald. Sturm was chairman. From that time on then Mayor Bezeau took no part in the proceedings except to see that everything was done legally, and that no concessions were granted the owners of Westmount that would not be granted any other property owner who might petition for local improvements. Ald. Sturm voted for every petition presented for these local improvements in the Westmount district. Mayor Bezeau never at any time vote for them. no part in the proceedings except

Early in May of last year, during Mayor Bezeau's temporary absence from the city, and during which time Ald. Sturm was acting mayor, acting-Mayor Sturm gave a dinner at the city's expense, to the owners of Westmount; and in a speech which he made at that time he lauded the owners of Westmount and the project to the skies. mount and the project to the skies, and told these people that he stood behind them and their enterprise 100 percent.

In view of the fact that the government at that time refused to continue payments toward unem-ployment relief works the council at that time had their choice of at that time had their choice of three courses for the relief of unemployed (1) Construct new works and pay the total cost out of the general taxes of the city. (2) Take care of the unemployed by means of direct relief. Or (3) proceed with the Westmount work and assess the total cost back to the owners of the Westmount property.

Which of these three courses would any sane, sound business man have adopted? Any sound man have adopted? Any sound business man would have adopted the course followed by the council—which was to proceed with the Westmount work and save to the taxpayers of Kitchener at least \$100,000 in the cost of relief, Never has any council of this city done a better stroke of business for the taxpayers than was done in the work at Westmount, the cost of relief will approximately be \$125,000 more than it was last year.

The citizens of Kitchener can form their own conclusions as to why Ald. Sturm last year turned his back on the project in the mid-dle of the work, and at a time when Westmount Homesites Ltd. were preparing to start the erection of homes in the district. By some it is said that if the work were not condemned Mayor Bezeau would be able to point to it as a good stroke of business for the taxpayers; and he must not be given credit for anything. He must be placed on the defensive in the matter. Others say different things. Be that as it may, Sturm started in to knock the project which he so enthusiastically promoted at the start; but his statements have not been founded on

proceedure.

He started out by saying that the bank refused to advance the money to proceed further with the work. The answer to that is that the bank DID advance the money, and NEVER AT ANY TIME refused to do so fused to do so.

Then he said the city had to pay the cost. That statement was shown to be so ridiculous that he finally abandoned it. Then he said the city had to ay the interest on the money invested. That statement was also ridiculous, and when it was challenged in open council this year he had to admit he was wrong. The fact is that the interest is added to the principal and all charged against the property awarers. perty owners.

In face of the fact that plans were prepared and excavation work was in progress and permits taken out for the erection of homes Sturm said the owners of Wesmount did not intend to build. The answer to that is that four homes have been built at a cost of over \$30.000 and a strong building program would have been underway had it not been for the opposition which Sturm developed against the project. One cannot expect men to invest in these times a quarter of a million dollars in a building pro-gram when the mayor of the cty knocks them every chance he has.

Some Terse Remarks

By Invita Minerva

Some one has said that if a person is run down by a motorist he cannot tell how badly he is hurt until after he has seen his lawyer. That reminds me that if we buy coal from a run-down-pile we cannot tell how badly we are stung un-til we learn the price of a new fur-

Some aldermen appear to forget there are such people as taxpayers until "just before the battle;" then it is amusing to watch them bow and scrape to att. it is amusing to watch them bow and scrape to attract favorable at-

The man who does not get his "municipal stride" until just before the election has very likely been striding all year in the wrong direction, and should be let out at the first opportunity..

well enough to call you by your first name; but all year up to the present time they did not know you well enough to even pass the time of day when they met you on the street.

Some men get all puffed up immediately after they are elected; but it is surprising how the approach of election day can take down that big chest and high hat demeanor.

The electors should not be led astray by the statement that Mr. So-and-So is a fine fellow, or a good sport. What the electors need now are good municipal administrators

A lecturer recently said that the world's greatest need today is trained minds; and we agree with that statement.

Bowling and playing pool are good pastimes, and good forms of recreation even for municipal executives; but a lifetime in such places is not the best kind of training for a municipal executive. ing for a municipal executive.

Because a man has made a success as manager of a bowling alley and as a coal salesman is not a good reason for believing that he would make a good mayor of a city the size of Kitchener, particularly in these strenuous times. Each requires a different kind of train-

Some people must learn from experience; in other words, "The proof of the pudding is in the eating," After a year of eating pudding may we ask, "How do you like it?"

Some men are worth \$1000 a year from the chin down, while others are worth many times that amount from the chin up. If a man is not worth less than nothing is a liability rather than an

The man who craves a position because it is one of honor is not likely to add dignity to the honor. The honor of holding any position is an empty one unless the man who fills the position earns the honor after he is there.

It is better to be a big man in a small town than be a small man in a big city. For the same reason it would be better to have it said, "He was a good alderman one of the best" than have it said, "He was a poor mayor - one of the worst."

A good alderman makes his position one of honor; while a poor mayor makes the position anything but one of honor.

A mayor who does not maintain honor and dignity of his position is not a credit to his position; nor is he a credit to the city he repres-

The intelligence of a city is judged by the intelligence of its chief

The wise shoemaker sticks to his last; the wise politician knows his limitations and stays within those

Editor Weekly Advertiser:

I do not know when I have seen of not know when I have seen so little election talk so near election time as there is this year. It is difficult to understand the reason for things being so quiet, and I sincerely hope it is not that the people are not interested.

It is time the people are waking up to the seriousness of the sit-uation in Kitchener. Have the electors become so disgusted with the way things have gone this year that they don't give a rip what happens any more? I can, in a

busy and see that the right kind of candidates are in the field. If ever there was a time when ex-Mayor Bezeau was needed that ime is here right now. His detact a year ago was necessary to teach the people a lesson. The only trouble with Mr. Bezeau was that he did too much for the people and herayse he worked for the rle; and because he worked for the people he created a few powerful enemies, but I think these enemies About this time of the year you will find certain aldermen know you well.

At a recent meeting of the Taxpayer's Association one of the prominent members said that Mr. Bezeau is the best informed man on municipal matters in Kitchener; and that is no doubt true. There is a lot of big work to do next year; and a man of Mr. Bezeau's ability is sadly needed now, and will be needed next year even a greater extent.

greater extent.
I thank you for permitting me to put my views before you.

Old Time Elector.

Those little Ones

Did the people who made sacrifices to help the relief fund believe that so much of it would go to boost the salary of the relief officer to say nothing about the \$2000 to say nothing about the \$2000 which it cost to equip and house the relief department?

A new version of that saying of the Friend of Children who lived 2000 years ago is, "Out of the mou-ths of babes and sucklings shall come forth the boost in salary."

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these little ones ye have done it unto me." Do we believe what we profess? or is it all a mockery, a fashion, a dis-

We believe the laborer is worthy of his hire; but better that a millstone were tied about his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should take it out of the mouths of the least of these little

What kind of children do you think you could raise if you had to feed them on 55 cents a week, or two and one-half cents a meal, which is the price of a glass of milk?

The worst kind of a parasite is the kind that gets fat on what it gets from the mouths of babes.

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