THE MAYOR DISSATISFIED WTH CITY'S ASSESSMEN

And Wants the Question to be Fully Considered.

COMMITTEE APPOINTED

TO MAKE A REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

The Mayor Says Vacant Land Is Not Taxed High Enough-The City's Assessment Might Be Raised Two Million Dollars.

Before the City Council started its regular business on Menday evening Mayor Sutherland referred to the city assessment which he regarded as anything but satisfactory. claimed that the assessment was too low, and that if it was raised what it should be, more civic improvements could be undertaken and the tax rate possibly reduced. Vacant land, the Mayor claimed, was assessed too low, and older buildings were not correspondingly raised with the

tention to this most important department of civic administration. The part to which I refer is as follows: 'While speaking on the financial situation it leads one to reflect for a moment on our source of revenue the most important of which is the assessment. Are we going the right way in our assessing of property? Are we leaving too much for one man to do? We expect our City Assessor to do his clerical work as well as his other duties and while engaged in this clerical work are we not forcing him to neglect a more important part of his duties? I would suggest that the Finance Committee look well into the question of a tax commission and see where we can improve matters. A high assessment and a low tax rate is better for all concerned and is a great help in bringing new industries to a city, as one of the first questions asked is. "What is your tax rate?" . I would suggest that the question of dividing the city in zones be considered. In each zone a certain value could be made for assessment purposes. Thereby location would determine the value, and we could obtain a better revenue from land values, and tax improvements less. It is improve-ments we wish to encourage and not land speculations."

One of my reasons for bringing this to your attention is that in look ing into the question of garbage removal I wished a fuller collection made of all house refuse, such as ashes etc., and with this object in view I had a tabulation of all the houses in the city made which shows the number with their assessed values, when this was laid before me I

NO PLACE LIKE HOME-IF YOU OWN IT.

Six room brick veneer house on Six room frame house, near Frontenne Park, with improve-ments, for \$1,850. Solid Brick house on Clergy Street, with hot water furnice, all improvements, stable, \$3,250. Frame house on a corner with good stable, suitable for carter, must be sold by May 1 \$1,200, Rough cast house, six rooms, on very easy terms, \$1,300.

Real Estate and Insurance Office 177 Wellington St.

could not help but feel that something was amiss, as this list included besides all dwellings and stores the larger manufacturers as well, such as the Locomotive Works, Cotton

Assessment Tabulation.

According to this tabulation which duced rate, even with the increased I will designate No. 1, I find we have assessment, he might not be paying the following total of 5,394 building any more than he is to-day, but it per, Clugston, made up of the following divisions: would have the effects of a more Hughes, Litton, Assessed up to \$1,000.... 2,509 equitable distribution of the taxes. Nickle, O'Connor, Peters, Richardson \$1,000 to \$1,500 938 which is the one object I am aiming Stroud, Wright, White and Worm-\$1,500 to \$2,500 1,0 at. If there are any abuses or in- with. 465 justices they should be corrected,

\$5,500 to \$5,500

\$5,500 to \$6,500 \$6,500 to \$7,500 36 to \$7,500 107 I have never seen a tabulation of the city along these lines before and in the face of the facts it seems to throw a new light on our assessment. If we look at the figures we will find scientious official, but are we asking that we have in our city only 945 as- him to do too much, and in so doing sessments over \$2,500 and in these are included our larger stores and

manufacturing establishments. I might also point out the fact ment too severely, but I do think in assessment placed on new buildings. adjoining vacant land is included Mayor Sutherland spoke in part as along with the lot on which the house is built. Therefore the assessment of a property in any of the "You no doubt will remember in above classifications does not really my inaugural address that I drew at- represent the assessed value of the dwelling and lot upon which it is built but on the adjoining property

> In addition to the above table find we have vacant land in the different wards as follows:

Sydenham Ward about ... \$26,200 Ontario Ward about St. Lawrence Ward about. Cataraqui Ward about ... 55,600 Frontenac Ward about .. 48,000 Rideau Ward about 96,200 Victoria Ward about181,800 A total of approximately \$421,600 The property adjoining

lots which are built upon and included in Tabulation No. 1, are I am told in the neighborhood of \$250,000 \$250,000 Which would make a total assessed value of unbuilt

approximately Land Values Too Low. Increasing the tax on the land and you have the honor to represent in

reducing the tax on the buildings Council will no doubt discuss the stimulate building operations which question with you and I might say I would have the tendency of lowering would be pleased to receive any sugrents while taxing buildings equally gestions from any of the aldermen with the land is only penalizing the during the holiday period which he man who is helping to improve the might think would be of service to town and the idea of eliminating the this special committee. speculator in vacant land is a desir-In analyzing the total assessment

of the city I am told that the total value of the buildings is practically double the value of the total assessment of the land. If this be true then it appears that the land values in Kingston are not paying their full share of the taxes. What we want to encourage is the improvement of property and make for the city beautiful. This can be done by making the land pay its full share. Vacant land held for speculative purposes is like dormant capital. It is unproductive. Holders of vacant land should not be considered. They are simply speculament they receive from the improve- aldermen the new electric rates lishing by-law, \$128.25. ment of neighboring properties in the which are now in effect. His Worshape of taxes. These holders do ship's response was that he could not nothing towards town improvement give an intelligent explanation for nor do they expend any monies in the reason that the commissioners

wages in building etc. Our total assessment is in the the matter. He had tried to have neighborhood of \$11,500. If it can the matter made clear but had so far be shown that properties and vacant failed lands are not paying their full share Ald. Graham declared that so far and the total assessment raised then as he understood, he would have to it is clear that more civic improve- pay more for electric lighting under ments can be undertaken and the the new rates than under the old. tax rate not disturbed or there can He intended to use electricity no be a reduction in the rate.

To illustrate should there be found to exist conditions whereby expert of the Council, after a little the city's assessment can be raised

say \$2,000,000 then the present rate of taxation could be reduced practically one sixth which would mean a reduction in round figures of four

THE CITY FATHERS ADJOURN UNTIL OCTOBER 11TH I find upon inquiry that many do

not object to pay their increased assessments but they do complain that General Business Transacted Monday older properties are not correspond-Night-Hydrant Needed At Coringly raised. If this is true and the ner Stuart Street and St. Lawolder properties were raised proporrence Avenue. tionately, a larger revenue could be obtained or a reduction made in the

The City Council is on its summer vacation. On Monday night it ad-If a property owner is now being journed until the 11th of October, under-assessed and an advance made and will only meet in the meantime

in his assessment and a reduction should special business demand atmade in the rate, it would not be a tention hardship on his part as with the re-In attendance at Monday night's Mayor Sutherland and Alds. Cou-

These communications were read

182 and I feel I am not only expressing 89 my own views but yours as well. Communications Read.

A Check-Up Needed.

periodically and comparisons made.

other period which might be decided

upon, and I think would be benefi-

is a most serious question and one

that every alderman and citizen

has either the making or the break-

ing of a city and as I know you all

wish to work for the advancement

of our city I feel convinced that you

will give this question careful con-

In order to get data I would sug-

gest that a small committee of three

be appointed to bring in a report at

A Committee Appointed.

On motion of Ald. Hughes, a com

mittee consisting of Mayor Suther

was appointed to look into the mat-

THE NEW ELECTRIC RATES

Seek "Light."

themselves had different views on

Ald. Newman, the mathematica

instead of paying \$2 a month as he

As Ald. Nickle's question remain-

unanswered, the Council decided

pass on to other business, rea-

continue discussing something about

TALKED LOCAL IMPROVEMENT

Utilities.

Mayor is an advocate of extending

ment plan, but some of the aldermen

do not see eye to eye with him. One

of these is Ald. Nickle, who pointed

to the owner of vacant property to

tax him for something which is of

no value to him. He referred to

owners who did not want to sell the

back of their lots which faced anoth-

"Clear title or no sale,"

motto. McCann.

for the utilities.

which it knew nothing.

longer if such was the case.

sideration during the holiday period,

should give great attention to.

I have felt for some time that this

cial to all concerned.

after its vacation.

out a good deal.

ter and report.

had thought of that.

one is deemed necessary.

Thomas C. Glassford asking remission of street watering tax. In drawing your attention to these City Treasurer and City Auditor conditions I do not wish in any way certifying that the amount paid to to reflect upon the work of our City employees by the Shipbuilding Com-Assessor. We are all agreed that pany is in excess of that required to we have not a more faithful or con-

receive exemption from taxes. Public Utilities Commission certifying that \$1,545 is required to covput a load upon him which tends to er gas main extensions on Upper Wildecrease his efficiency. I do not liam, Stephen and Lower Alber wish to criticize our present assess- streets. Clara H. Cobet asking for reduc-

order to have the highest efficiency tion of taxes. that there should be a checking up Public Library asking for remission of taxes. This might be done by appointing a Y.M.C.A., and Infant's Home ask-Commission every five years or any ing for remission of taxes.

Medical Health Officer regarding complaint of officials of the First Congregational Church that street scrapings were uncovered at the curb over the week-end. Frank W. Dobbs and Joseph B.

Cooke for tree removal. John Doolan applying for the position of caretaker of city dump. City Clerk reporting that the vote on the by-law to repeal by-law No. 66, 1913, Public Utilities Commission was: For 332; against, 549. Inso we can take the matter up immecinerator by-law: For 435; against, diately upon the calling of council 266.

W. H. Carson applying for the position of Garbage Inspector.

The Finance Report.

the first meeting of Council after the The Committee on Finance an holidays or at a special meeting if Accounts recommended as follows: That the following applications What I have said will, I think, for remission of taxes be granted:have the tendency of making every-Y.W.C.A., Kingston Public Library one think over the situation, most and Infants' Home. carefully. Many of those whom

That the application of Public Utilities Commission to furnish \$1, 545 for gas main extensions as follows be granted:-Upper William street from Barrie towards Division Stephen street towards Montreal; Lower Albert street, from Stuart towards King street. That the contract with Smith El-

liott for the collection and removal of garbage which expired on June Ald Couper remarked that the pub-30th be renewed at \$120 a week and ication of the assessment would help to continue until the incinerator is ready to take care of the disposal of Mayor Sutherland replied that he That the request of the Board of

Education for a further appropriation of \$420 to purchase six typeland and Alds. Couper and O'Connor writers for the Collegiate Institute be granted. That the City Auditor be authoriz-

ed to engage a stenographer and typewriter, salary not to exceed \$8 a week, and also to purchase for his Puzzle Some Of the Aldermen Who office one desk and two stools, price of these not to exceed \$55. Ald. Nickle last night again called

That the following unauthorized tors and it is only fair to the com- upon Mayor Sutherland, as the City accounts be paid:-Lighting road to munity that they should pay some Council's representative on the Utili- Barriefield, \$792; By-law election fair portion of the unearned incre- ties Commission, to explain to the expenses, \$196; British Whig, pub-

General Business.

The reports of other committees. as already published, were adopted. evening was Fritzi Scheff in "Pretty The Property Committee report re- Mrs. Smith." This picture in five commended that the tender of Sav- parts was well received by those age and Wightman to paint the large present, and proved to be one of the City Hall dome and the flag poles for best comedies ever presented at this \$270 be accepted. This was adopted. theatre. The other pictures shown the people was given its third read- "Old Maid," a Keystone comedy, "A

Mayor was asked to bring before the pictures. All were good and pleas-Utilities Commission the necessity of ed the audience immensely. extending the water mains on King | The vaudeville consisted of Rusfiguring, informed Ald. Graham that street west and St. Lawrence avenue sell and Grey in a comedy singing so that a hydrant for fire purposes act that proved to be one of the best had under the old rates, he would may be placed at the corner of Stu- seen in this city . The audience was pay only \$1.60 a month under the

WHEN HOT DAYS COME

lizing that it was waste of time to The Happy Coolness of Montserra Lime Fruit Juice.

This healthful golden juice, with its snappy, fruity; aromatic flavour, is a summer necessity as well as a summer luxury. It keeps you well, And Its Application To The Public it does you good, it supplies the pure fruit acid that the system needs. Else why is it supplied by Mayor Sutherland coaxed the City the British Government in such Council to discuss the question of large quantities to the navy and the applying the Local Improvement expeditionary forces? The reason plan for the extension of all the pubis, it keeps people healthy and is a lic utilities. He desired an expresmost satisfying, cooling beverage for ser. sion of opinion as that the Finance a hot day. Montserrat Lime Fruit Juice is hood. tion to come to some conclusion. The

refined from cultivated limes grown the beautiful island of Mont- McClement, All leading druggists and grocers

have it. Get the genuine Montserout cases where it would be unfair

THE TRAFFIC BY-LAW Needs Revising In The Interests Of

The Traffic by-law was made by Ald. Couper was of the some opin- the City Council on Monday night to ion as the Mayor, and said he would conform with the Ontario statutes. adopt the Local Improvement plan | Ald. Nickle brought to the Council's attention the fact that the bylaw was still unsatisfactory. Ten cents a pound added to the claimed that it made no provision for cost of tea means just one twentieth vehicles crossing a street only at a part of a cent per cup. This tiny corner or regarding vehicles which PURE BLOOD MAKES fraction of a cent means all the dif- stood for hours on the side of a roadference between satisfaction and dis- way on which there were tracks. satisfaction. Salada tea costs slight- Accidents had occurred very lately more than ordinary tea but is all ly owing to automobiles crossing the clean, fresh leaves in their most per- street in the middle of a block and

doubtful constituents and, besides, of stores and causing other vehicles never has that unique Salada fla- to turn out to pass. On June 30th, a pretty wedding tee of Alds. Peters, Graham and was solemnized at the Church of St. Nickle to revise the by-law and re-Peter, Hamilton, of Miss Mary Lil- port.

lian Clay, to Alfred Welch, Kings-Mrs. D. Sinclair and family. our Brock street, have left for Windsor.

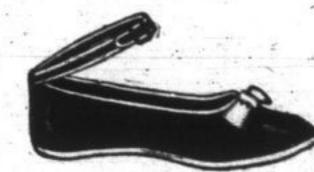
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With stockings attached, \$1.00 in Women's sizes. Girls', sizes 11 to 290c

Prices of plain shoe, like illustration: Women's, 50c; Girls', 45c;

Childs', 40c.

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Kingston's Largest Hat Dealers.

VAUDEVELLE AT THE GRAND.

The Programme Presented is That Pleases The programme of vaudeville and

good, The feature picture of the The Incinerator by-law passed by were a two-reel Mutual photoplay, Corner in Babies." The Pathe News On motion of Ald. Newman, the Film and the Famous Pathe Colored

art street and St. Lawrence avenue. highly pleased, and applauded their several numbers vigorously, among which were "Santa Lucia," "Song Birds, Sing No More," "Back To Kokomo," and as an encore sang "In the Middle of May." The same programme will be given to-night and Wednesday afternoon and evening.

> MOWAT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL The Gifts Are Coming To Hand

From Many Sources. Previously acknowledged, \$377. \$110-Frontenac Chapter, Daughters of Empire, Regent Mrs. T. G.

Smith; Treasurer, Miss S. L. Fra-\$5-Miss Macpherson, Prof. W. T. \$2-Court Addington, No. 1724,

I. O. F., Yarker, Mrs. F. Wilmot.

Three Successful Students. At the examinations of the Toronto Conservatory of Music, recently held in Kingston and conducted by A. Oliver. Miss Ethel Sweet, Leeds and Miss Thelma Ownes, Forfar, successfully passed the piano examinations and Miss Daisy was also successful in passing with honors. The three young ladies are students of Miss M. Timkn, Jones' Falls.

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THERAPION Hoppital The programme of vaudeville and pictures presented at the Grand Opera House last night delighted a large audience. Both parts of the entertainment were exceedingly good, The feature picture of the

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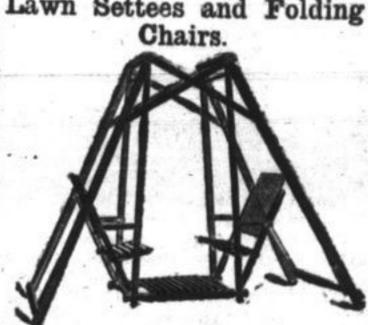
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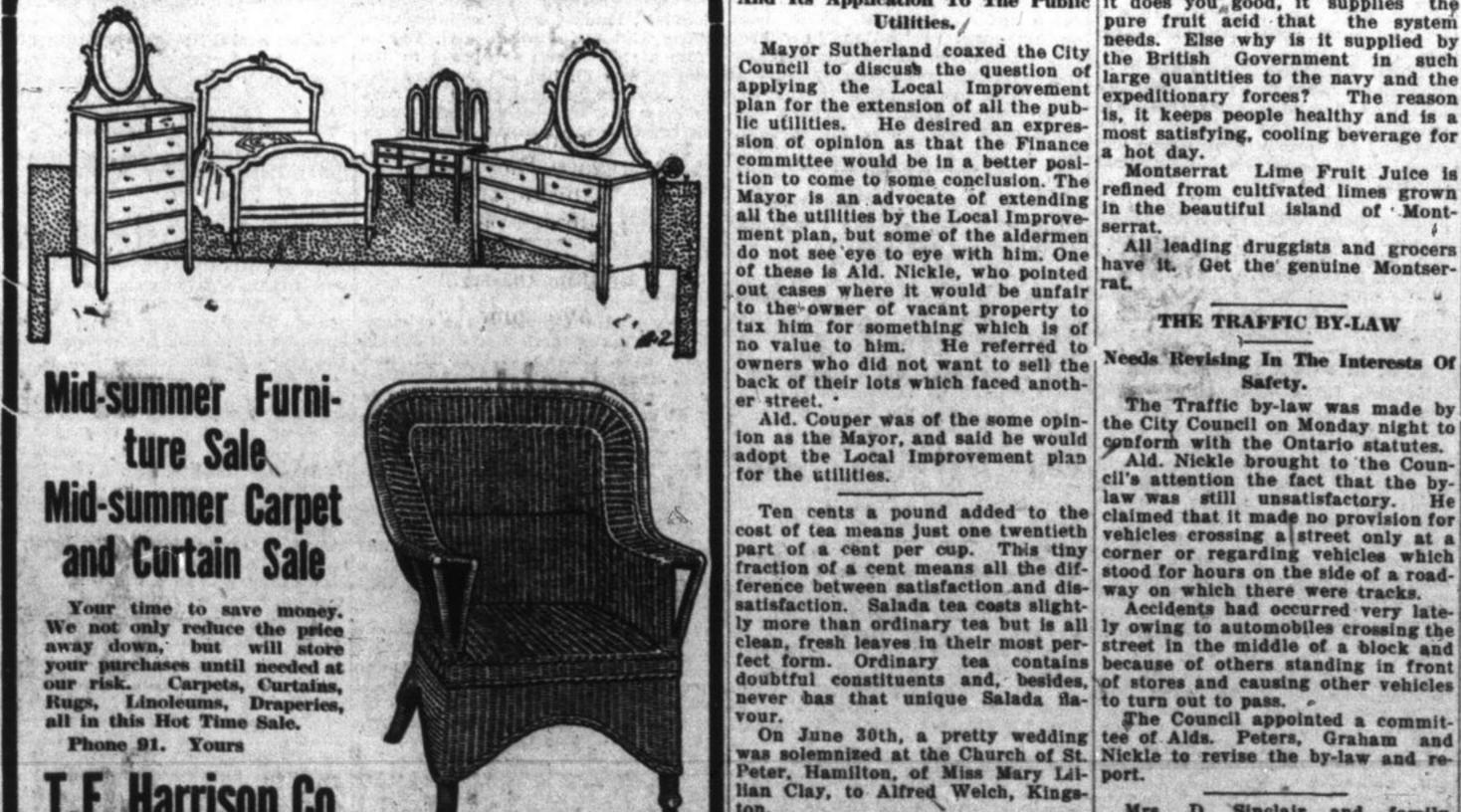
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