

SPECIAL MEETING
EVENING SESSION

8.10 o'clock,
Council Chamber,
City Hall,
May 1st 1931

A meeting of the City Council was held this evening. At the above named hour there were present His Worship the Mayor and Aldermen Dickie, Stech, Mitchell, Donovan, Redmond, Cragg, McInnes, Rains, McDonald, Shields, O'Toole, O'Malley, Probert, Adams and Smeltzer.

The meeting was called specially for the consideration of the following matters.

1. To receive return of Civic Elections
2. To receive report of the Charities Committee re tenders for refrigerator and supplies
3. To receive return Tenders Committee re tenders for printing, stationery and advertising.
4. To receive report of the Police Committee covering resolution re control of Department.
5. Retiring message from His Worship the Mayor.
6. Report City Prison Committee covering tenders for repairs to heating system.

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CITY CLERK'S RETURN CIVIC ELECTIONS

Read return of the City Clerk of the election for Mayor of the City of Halifax, and

May 1st 1931

and of one Alderman for each of the Wards of the
City as follows:

City Clerk's Office,
April 30th, 1931

His Worship the Mayor,
and Members of City Council.

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to the provisions of
the Halifax City Charter and Acts in amendment
thereof in respect to the election for Mayor and
Aldermen, I have the honor to submit the following
returns of the elections for Mayor and Aldermen held
on the 29th April 1931.

I have made separate returns in
respect to the election for Mayor and for the
election of an Alderman for each ward, attached to
which separate returns are the original nomination
papers of the Candidates:

ELECTION FOR MAYOR

<u>WARD</u>	<u>J.W.MCCARTHY</u>		<u>G.E. RITCHIE</u>	
1. A to K	134		216	
L to Z	<u>151</u>	285	<u>213</u>	429
2. A TO K	146		214	
L TO Z	<u>164</u>	310	<u>172</u>	386
3 A to K	113		106	
L to Z	<u>122</u>	235	<u>103</u>	209
4 A to K	99		174	
L to Z	<u>77</u>	176	<u>161</u>	335
5 A to K	88		204	
L to Z	<u>82</u>	170	<u>177</u>	381
6 A to K	100		233	
L to Z	<u>105</u>	205	<u>226</u>	459
		<u>1381</u>		<u>2199</u>

MAJORITY FOR GEO. E. RITCHIE...818

ELECTION FOR ALDERMAN
WARD NO. 1

	<u>F.W.Dickie</u>	<u>A.H.Minshull</u>
A to K	119	234
	<u>122</u>	<u>242</u>
	241	476

MAJORITY FOR A.H. MINSHULL 235

May 1st 1931

ELECTION FOR ALDERMEN

Ward No. 2 Wm. E. Donovan, returned unopposed
Ward No. 3 John Harvey Conn, returned unopposed
Ward No. 4 William Herbert Golden, returned unopposed
Ward No. 5 William Jos. O'Toole, returned unopposed.
Ward No. 6 Edmond John Jos. Probert, returned "

Respectfully submitted,
H.S. Rhind
CITY CLERK

FILED

ELECTION OF MAYOR

Read return of the City Clerk of the
election for Mayor of the City of Halifax as follows:

City Clerk's Office,
April 30th, 1931

His Worship the Mayor,
and City Council.

Gentlemen:

Agreeably to the provisions of the
Halifax City Charter and Acts in amendment thereof
in respect to the election of a Mayor for the City
of Halifax, I herewith submit the original nomination
papers of James William McCarthy and George
Edwin Ritchie for the office of Mayor of the
City of Halifax, together with the polling books containing
the returns of the Presiding Officers at the several
polling places in the different wards for the election
of Mayor, held on the 29th day of April 1931, said
return showing as follows:

Majority for G.E. Ritchie, 818

Respectfully submitted,

H.S. Rhind
CITY CLERK

FILED.

The City Clerk declared George
Edwin Ritchie duly elected Mayor for the City of
Halifax for the Civic Year 1931.

May 1st 1931

ELECTION OF ALDERMAN WARD No. 1

Read return of the City Clerk for
the election of Alderman for Ward No. 1.

City Clerk's Office,
April 30th, 1931

His Worship the Mayor,
and Members of City Council.

Gentlemen:

Agreeably to the provisions of the
Halifax City Charter and Acts and amendments thereof
in respect to the election of a mayor and Aldermen
of the City of Halifax, I herewith submit the original
nomination papers of Frederick Warren Dickie and
Arthur Herbert Minshull for the office of Alderman
for Ward No. 1, together with the polling books
containing the returns of the presiding officers at
the several polling places in the said ward for
the election of an Alderman for the said Ward,
held on the 29th day of April 1931, the said
return showing as follows:

	<u>F.W.Dickie</u>	<u>A.H.Minshull</u>
A to K	119	234
L to Z	<u>122</u> 241	<u>242</u> 476

Majority for A.H.Minshull- 235

Respectfully submitted,

H.S.Rhind
CITY CLERK

The City Clerk declared Arthur
Herbert Minshull the candidate having the greater
number of votes duly elected Alderman for Ward # 1
of the City of Halifax for three years from 1st
May 1931.

ELECTION OF
ALDERMAN WARD No. 2

Read return of the City Clerk for
the election of Alderman for Ward No. 2 covering
the nomination paper of William Edward Donovan:

City Clerk's Office,
April 30th, 1931

To His Worship the
Mayor and Members of City Council.

Gentlemen:

Agreeably to the provisions of the
Halifax City Charter and acts and amendments thereof

May 1st 1931

in respect to the elections of Mayor and Aldermen for the City of Halifax, I herewith submit the original Nomination Papers of William Edward Donovan, of the City of Halifax, Merchant, for the office of Alderman for Ward No. 2 of the City of Halifax, he being the only candidate nominated for the said office at the election to be held April 29th, 1931.

Respectfully submitted,
H.S. Rhind
CITY CLERK

The City Clerk declared William Edward Donovan duly elected Alderman for Ward # 2 of the City of Halifax for three years from May 1st 1931.

ELECTION OF
ALDERMAN WARD No. 3

Read return of the City Clerk for the election of Alderman for Ward No. 3 covering the nomination paper of John Harvey Conn:

City Clerk's Office,
April 30th, 1931

His Worship the Mayor, and
Members of City Council.

Gentlemen:

Agreeably to the provisions of the Halifax City Charter and Acts and amendments thereof in respect to the elections of Mayor and Alderman for the City of Halifax, I herewith submit the original Nomination papers of John Harvey Conn, of the City of Halifax, Electrician, for the office of Alderman for Ward No. 3 of the City of Halifax, he being the only candidate nominated for the said office at the election to be held April 29th, 1931.

Respectfully submitted,
H.S. Rhind
CITY CLERK

The City Clerk declared John Harvey Conn duly elected Alderman for Ward No. 3 of the City of Halifax for three years from May 1st 1931.

May 1st 1931

ELECTION OF
ALDERMAN WARD No. 4

Read return of the City Clerk for
the election of Alderman for Ward No. 4 covering
the nomination paper of William Herbert Golden

City Clerk's Office,
April 30th, 1931.

To His Worship the Mayor,
and Members of the City Council.

Gentlemen:

Agreeably to the provisions of the
Halifax City Charter and Acts and amendments thereof
in respect to the elections of Mayor and Aldermen
for the City of Halifax, I herewith submit the
original Nomination Papers of WILLIAM HERBERT GOLDEN,
of the City of Halifax, Merchant, for the office
of Alderman for Ward No. 4 of the City of Halifax,
he being the only candidate nominated for the said
office at the election to be held April 29th, 1931.

Respectfully submitted,
H. S. Rhind
CITY CLERK

The City Clerk declared William
Herbert Golden duly elected an Alderman for Ward No.
4 of the City of Halifax for three years from May
1st 1931.

ELECTION OF
ALDERMAN WARD No. 5

Read return of the City Clerk for
the election of Alderman for Ward No. 5 covering the
nomination paper of William Joseph O'Toole

City Clerk's Office,
April 30th, 1931

His Worship the Mayor and
Members of the City Council.

Gentlemen:

Agreeably to the provisions of the
Halifax City Charter and Acts and Amendments thereof
in respect to the elections of Mayor and Aldermen
for the City of Halifax, I herewith submit the

May 1st 1931

original Nomination Papers of William Joseph O'Toole of the City of Halifax, Real Estate Broker, for the office of Alderman for Ward No. 5 of the City of Halifax, he being the only candidate nominated for the said office at the election to be held April 29th, 1931.

Respectfully submitted,
H.S.Rhind
CITY CLERK

The City Clerk declared William Joseph O'Toole duly elected an Alderman for Ward No. 5 of the City of Halifax for three years from May 1st 1931.

ELECTION OF
ALDERMAN WARD No.6

Read return of the City Clerk for the election of Alderman for Ward No. 6 covering the nomination paper of Edmond John Joseph Probert:

City Clerk's Office,
April 30th, 1931

His Worship the Mayor
and Members of the City Council.

Gentlemen:

Agreeably to the provisions of the Halifax City Charter and Acts and amendments thereof in respect to the elections of Mayor and Aldermen for the City of Halifax, I herewith submit the original Nomination Papers of EDMOND JOHN JOSEPH PROBERT, of the City of Halifax, representative for the office of Alderman for Ward No. 6 of the City of Halifax, he being the only candidate nominated for the said office at the election to be held April 29th, 1931.

Respectfully submitted,

H.S.Rhind
CITY CLERK

The City Clerk declared Edmond John Joseph Probert duly elected Alderman for Ward No. 6 of the City of Halifax for three years from May 1st 1931:

MAY 1st 1931

The following resolution was submitted:

RESOLVED that the City Clerk do and he is hereby directed to notify the Honorable the Provincial Secretary of the election of George Edwin Ritchie, Esquire, to the office of Mayor of the City of Halifax, and to request that His Honor the Lieutenant Governor may be pleased to name the time and place at which His Honor may be pleased to administer the Oaths of Office to the Mayor elect.

*Col. Hon Gordon
& Haverington*

Moved by Alderman Stech seconded by Alderman McInnes and passed.

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ALDERMANIC VACANCIES

Read reports of the City Clerk on vacancies in the office of Alderman for Ward No. three and Ward No. five:

City Clerk's Office,
April 30th, 1931

His Worship the Mayor,
and City Council.

Gentlemen:

I beg to report that James William McCarthy, Esquire, an Alderman representing Ward three of the City of Halifax, having filed with me a nomination for the office of Mayor thereby under Section 87 of the City Charter, vacated the office as such Alderman and it thereby becomes necessary that the Council shall under Section 84 fix a day for the election of a duly qualified person to fill the vacancy.

The unexpired term of office in this case is two years from 1st May 1931.

Respectfully submitted,
H.S. Rhind
CITY CLERK

City Clerk's Office,
City Hall, April 30th, 1931

His Worship the Mayor,
and Members of City Council.

Gentlemen:

At a meeting of the City Council held on the 12th March last, Alderman Drysdale, submitted his resignation as an Alderman for Ward # 5 of the City of Halifax. On the resignation being read it was moved by Alderman Cragg seconded by Alderman Adams that Alderman Drysdale's resignation

May 1st 1931

be not accepted and that he be asked to reconsider his intention of resigning from the Council.

I have communicated with Alderman Drysdale and he has informed me verbally that he does not intend to reconsider his resignation. It will, therefore, be necessary to declare the seat vacant, and to fix a date for the election of an Alderman to fill the unexpired term which is for one year from April 30th, 1931.

Respectfully submitted,

H.S. Rhind
CITY CLERK

Moved by Alderman Mitchell seconded by Alderman Smeltzer that the office of Alderman formerly occupied by Alderman McCarthy in Ward No. three and by Alderman Drysdale in Ward No. five be now declared vacant and that an election be held to fill such vacancies on Wednesday 27th day of May 1931. Motion passed.

CITY HOME AND. T.B. HOSPITAL
TENDERS FOR SUPPLIES

Read report of the Charities Committee covering tenders for supplies for the City Home and T.B. Hospital and electric refrigerators for the T.B. Hospital:

Halifax, N.S. Apr. 24, 1931

His Worship the Mayor,
and Members of City Council.

Gentlemen:

The Charities Committee met this day and beg to submit the following report.

MEMBERS PRESENT: The Chairman,
Alderman Redmond, Smeltzer Probert and O'Toole.

Tenders for supplies for the City Home and Tuberculosis Hospital for a period of Twelve months from May 1st 1931 were received as follows:

CITY HOME

<u>Groceries</u>	Howards Ltd.	9,854.44
	Geisner & Shatford	10,058.19
<u>Flour</u>	Howards Ltd.	-
	Beaver in 38s Jute	6.35 per bbl.
<u>MEATS</u>	W.A.Maling & Co.	6,495.00
	J.A.Leaman & Co.	6,425.50
<u>MILK</u>	Ideal Dairy (Milk in 10 qt.cans)	.07 $\frac{3}{4}$ per qt.
	C.W.Millard "	.07 $\frac{1}{2}$ " "
	Fraser & Casey "	.08 " "
<u>FISH</u>	H. Bowman	.05 per lb.
	Boutilliers Ltd.	.05 " "
<u>BUTTER & EGGS</u>	R.B.Colwell, Ltd.	3,080.00
	Smith & Proctor Ltd.	2,700.00
<u>MESS PORK</u>	Davis & Fraser	.15 $\frac{1}{2}$ per lb.
<u>DRY GOODS</u>	T.J. Whalen & Co.	4,225.00

TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL

<u>GROCERIES</u>	M.J. Ritcey & Co. Limited	3,009.87
	Howards Ltd.	2,940.77
	Geisner & Shatford	2,994.46
<u>MEATS</u>	W.A.Maling & Co.	1,644.50
	J.A.Leaman & Co.	1,754.00
<u>MILK & CREAM</u>	C.W.Millard	1,437.00
	Ideal Dairy	1,473.00
	Fraser & Casey	1,524.00
<u>FISH</u>	H. Bowman	210.50
	Boutilliers Ltd.	208.20
<u>BUTTER & EGGS</u>	Smith & Proctor Ltd.	1,488.00
	R.B.Colwell, Ltd.	1,736.00
<u>DRY GOODS</u>	T.J. Whalen & Co. @ prices quoted	.
<u>BREAD</u>	Fry's Bakery	.09 per loaf
	J.J. Scriven & Sons	.09 " "
<u>LAUNDRYWORK</u>	Globe Laundry Ltd. (Per 100 pieces)	2.00

ELECTRIC REFRIGERATORS

John Strachan & Co.	1,671.85
F.W.Robertson & Co.	1,776.00
N.S.Light & Power Co., Ltd.	1,650.45

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following tenders are recommended for acceptance.

CITY HOME

Groceries	Howards Ltd.
Flour	Howards Ltd.
Meats	J.A.Leaman & Co.
Milk	C.W.Millard
Fish	H. Bowman
Butter & Eggs	-Smith & Proctor Ltd.
Mess Pork	Davis & Fraser
Dry Goods	T.J.Whalen & Co.

TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL

Meats	W.A.M aling & Co.
Butter & Eggs-	Smith & Proctor Ltd.
Dry Goods	T.J.Whalen & Co.
Groceries	Howards Ltd.
Fish	Boutilliers Ltd.
Bread	Fry's Bakery
Milk & Cream	C.W.Millard
Laundrywork	Globe Laundry Work
Electric Refrigerators	N.S.Light & Power Co.Ltd.

Respectfully submitted,

F.W.Dickie
CHAIRMAN

J. H. Buchanan

Moved by Alderman Dickie seconded by Alderman Rains that the report be adopted.
Motion passed.

PRINTING, STATIONERY AND ADVERTISING

Read report of the Tenders Committee covering tenders for advertising, printing, stationery, etc:

Committee Room, City Hall
April 28th, 1931

To His Worship the Mayor,
and City Council.

Gentlemen:

Your Committee on Tenders beg to report that at a meeting held this day there being present Aldermen Shields, Chairman, O'Malley, Mitchell and Adams, tenders were submitted and opened for the following services:

ADVERTISING

Halifax Herald or Halifax Mail -separate 8¢ per agate
line
Both papers same
date 12 ¢

Halifax Chronicle- 8¢ per agate line
Halifax Star 8¢ " " "
both papers same date 12¢ " "

Catholic Gazette- .40¢ per inch.

Halifax Sunday News 3¢ per line 14 lines to inch

Citizen .40 ¢ per inch.

It is recommended that the tender of the Halifax Herald and the Halifax Mail, and that of the Halifax Chronicle and Halifax Star be accepted, and that the City only advertise in these daily papers.

STATIONERY

T.C.Allen & Co.- Schedule prices, Approx. \$1,041.31
R.W.Wright " " " " 763.46

It is recommended that the tender of R.W.Wright for stationery being the lowest tender be accepted.

PRINTING BLANK FORMS

T.C.Allen- Schedule prices \$2,281.04
Wm.McNab & Son " " 1,576.75
Ross Print " " 1,409.90

It is recommended that the Ross Print tender for printing blank forms being the lowest be accepted.

BLANK BOOKS AND RULING

T.C.Allen & Co.- Schedule Prices \$1,622.75
Phillips & Marshall 1,085.70

It is recommended that the tender of Phillips & Marshall being the lowest be accepted.

Respectfully submitted,

W.E.G. Shields,
CHAIRMAN

Moved by Alderman Shields seconded by Alderman Mitchell that the report be adopted.

Moved in amendment by Alderman
 Smeltzer seconded by Alderman Rains that the report
 be amended by adding to the recommendation that the
 tenders of the Catholic Gazette, Halifax Sunday News,
 and Citizen be accepted and that the City advertise
 in all five papers when dates of publication are
 suitable and that the report as so amended be adopted.

Amendment put and passed eight
 voting for the same and seven against it as follows:

FOR THE MOTION

Aldermen,
 Dickie
 Stech
 Donovan
 Redmond
 Rains,
 O'Toole
 Probert,
 Smeltzer. -8-

AGAINST IT

Alderman,
 Mitchell
 Cragg
 McInnes,
 McDonald
 Shields
 O'Malley
 Adams
 -7-

R. W. Wright
Ross Parrot
Phillips and
on as usual
to left over also
" Chronicle
" Review
" Sunday News
" Catholic
Biog. etc.

POLICE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Read report of the Police Committee
 making certain recommendations in reference to the
 powers to be given to the Chief of Police

Police Department,
 Halifax, N.S.,
 April 21, 1931

His Worship the Mayor,
 and City Council.

Gentlemen:

At a meeting of the Police
 Committee held this date, the matter of giving the
 Chief of Police full control of the Department was
 considered.

Your Committee recommend that the
 Chief of Police be given full power to engage police-
 men for the police force, or dispense with the
 services of any officer, to promote or demote any
 officer or censure any member of force as he sees fit.

Respectfully submitted,
 L.A. Gastonguay
 MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN.

May 1st 1931

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CITY PRISON TENDERS FOR HEATING

Read report of the City Prison
Committee covering tenders for repairs to the
heating system of the City Prison:

Committee Room,
City Hall,
April 27th, 1931

His Worship the Mayor,
and Members of City Council.

Gentlemen:

At a meeting of the City Prison
Committee held this day the following tender was
received for repairs and alterations to the heating
system at the City Prison.

Hines Limited \$401.46

It was recommended that the tender
of Hines Ltd.- less cost of grate bars \$65.00-
\$336.46 being the only tender received be
recommended to the City Council for acceptance.

Respectfully submitted,
W.E. Donovan
CHAIRMAN

Moved by Alderman Donovan

Geo Grand
James L. C
seconded by Alderman McDonald that the report be
adopted. Motion passed.

✓
RETIRING MESSAGE OF HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR

His Worship the Mayor submits
and reads his retiring message to the Council and
in doing so thanked the members for their attention
and all courtesies :.

MESSAGE OF L.A. GASTONGUAY, MAYOR OF HALIFAX

ENDING OF TERM 1931.

This is the last meeting of the City Council at which I shall have the honor of presiding. My three year term of office as Mayor of the City of Halifax is now nearing completion. It is, therefore, not unfitting that upon this occasion I comment upon the regime just closing. I shall not weary you however, with an attempt upon an exhaustive survey of the vital points exhibited in the history of the administration of Halifax during the past three years. I desire simply in an informal manner to discuss a few of the important features bearing upon the Government of this City which I recognize that the citizens themselves are particularly interested in at this time.

It is, my privilege to point out the considerable measure of progress which has accrued to the City of Halifax during this period. Also I consider it my prerogative to mention that the welfare of the City has been advanced through accomplishments at the City Hall, although reform and progress during the past three years has at times been clouded by public discussion of a nature which unfortunately and unjustifiably overlooked the many good things done for the City. I also point out those actions and conditions of the various City Departments which merit appreciation and pride and certainly not the oblivion and criticism which they have at times received.

I wish to express my appreciation for the generous measure of co-operation which I have received from the Council and its changing personnel each year. We have worked together for a common purpose namely to serve the City of Halifax and its citizens. How well that work has been done is for the citizens themselves to judge. Each one has endeavoured to bring his own contribution towards the proper conduct of the city's affairs. As I reflect upon our relationship during the course of the past three years, it is gratifying to me, that I may cherish the memory of the cordial relations which have generally marked the tenor of our work together. It is quite sufficient to recognize that such differences and stresses which may have occurred were after all only of that category which is quite incidental to, and indeed generally indicates the earnestness of those who conscientiously engage their energies in the public service.

My relations with the heads of Departments, employees at the City Hall and of the City have been most harmonious. This personnel in the aggregate, from the viewpoint of critical examination directed for perfection of efficiency, may be properly considered as similar to the officials and employees of a commercial corporation or other institution. Efficiency denotes qualities which are at once a matter of degree. Undoubtedly mistakes will be made. To err is human. But in the parallel which I have drawn, I wish to emphasize this difference, namely, that in the case of an error or mistake of an official or employee of the City service, the individual often has become the target for pitiless publicity, with the unfortunate consequence that the many good qualities of that individual and even the general excellence of his service to the City has been clouded by the mists caused by raucous press assault.

I believe that the members of the Council will agree with me that during my term of office no wilful or deliberate wrong-doing has taken place. When I consider the City service as a whole, it is only right that I should at this juncture place upon record my honest opinion, that I consider the officials and employees of this City render good value to the citizens of Halifax. Complaints have been made at times and I suggest that often the difficulties surrounding an individual case are not taken sufficiently into account. The fullest information, sometimes, has not been brought to light and there is also the problem of satisfying all the public all the time. These are some of the factors which should be kept in mind by the public when an employee, through error of judgment has been a little impetuous and offence is caused to a citizen. I do not mean to say that no improvements could be made at the City Hall, because this would be a most exceptional - even an angelic - state of affairs. We may take it as quite axiomatic that improvements can be made in any organization, commercial, governmental or otherwise, or in fact in any institution erected by the hand of man and whose operation depends, as it needs must be, upon elements which are inexorably human.

CITY CLERK'S DEPARTMENT:

This Department has been maintained at its usual efficiency during the past three years.

The various standing Committees appointed have been very active and have devoted much time to the various subjects allotted to them. During the past three years we have had 69 meetings of the City Council and a great number of important public services have been attended to.

The Civil and Police Courts have been very active of late. Since the enactment of the Nova Scotia Liquor Control Act the work of the Police Court is more than doubled and the number of summons, warrants, convictions and commitments largely increased. Our police and the Nova Scotia Police have been very active in rounding up violators of this Act, and this, coupled with the unemployment problem, the number of persons drifting into the City looking for work and without any visible means of subsistence, has kept the police and this branch of the service very busy during the past year. The work of the City Civil Court has largely increased and it looks as if some change will have to be made in the near future to take care of this increased work. I would suggest that a separate department be created or a Police Clerk appointed who will be able to give his whole time to the duties in connection with the Civil and Police Courts as the Civil Court is now made and used as a last resort for a number of collecting agencies.

Receipts from fines, fees, etcetra, show a healthy increase and I look forward to the future to a still greater increase when the Revised City Charter and Ordinances are in working order.

Mr. Rhind, our City Clerk, the oldest employee in our service (42 years) is most methodical and efficient and devotes his energies whole-heartedly to the public service.

BOARD OF WORKS:

It is gratifying to me to be able to report the following improvements which have been accomplished or undertaken

during the past three years.

Besides other paving, that on Quinpool Road and Oxford Streets. Airport which is now ready for business. Extension of concrete sidewalks, curbs and gutters at approximate cost of \$42,169.95 Sewer extensions and water extensions as ordinarily required, together with a larger amount to relieve unemployment.

Board of Works (Cont)

Lighting Public Gardens and same to be extended.
 Men's Lavatory - Public Gardens.
 Contract let for Women's Lavatory - Public Gardens.
 Completion of Isolation Hospital.
 Industrial Building at Exhibition and Plant mostly completed.
 Much needed addition to the Court House is under construction and nearing completion.
 Miller Street extension to shore of harbour from Young Avenue.
 Grading and acceptance of new streets.
 The new Tree Act is now in effect.
 Completion and dedication of War Memorial on Parade.
 Transfer of Bathing Beach to Horseshoe Island.
 New Green House - Public Gardens.
 Lord Cornwallis Monument to be placed in front of Nova Scotian Hotel.

Among the matters upon which action has already been taken and should be continued to successful conclusion are the following:-

Taxes - Government property which includes Military to pay taxes and the taking over of Federal Government property for Civic purposes.
 The putting through of Brunswick St. to Queen St. removing the Military property on Sackville St. to some other place.
 The question of the City having its own plant for doing paving work.
 The reconditioning of City Hall.
 The question of Comfort Stations.
 The building of an Art School (site is settled)
 The building of a City Library (site is settled)
 More modern and proper equipment for garbage collection.
 The putting into condition the three Commons, so that athletics and recreations can be indulged in, also the improving of the appearance of this splendid open space, which I trust will always be kept for the benefit of the people.

These things are all subject to finances and can only be done by degrees, in this way not causing too much burden upon the taxpayers.

The City Engineer and his Assistant and staff have the interests of the City at heart in the management of this busy department.

Miss Hunter, Clerk of the Board of Works, is a faithful employee of the City and gives conscientious service in her Department, aided by Mr. Moore, Assistant. The City has valuable officials in Mr. Downey, Superintendent of Streets and Sewers, and Mr. Daniels, Superintendent of Water Department.

Mr. & Mrs. Lynch, caretakers of City Hall, have my appreciation for their faithful services.

CITY COLLECTOR'S DEPARTMENT:

Reviewing the work of this department for the past three years, I wish to state that the general condition of the outstanding taxes shows a decided improvement. Many ratepayers who were in arrears for taxes, have taken advantage of paying by instalments and, in this way, they have been able to pay off their indebtedness to the City.

During this period certain changes were made in the method of paying the Current Year's Taxes. The discount period was changed from July 31st to May 31st and August 31st, or, I might say that, instead of the full amount of the taxes being paid at one time, the ratepayer was given the opportunity of paying the current taxes in two instalments. This method has proved to be satisfactory and a considerable number of ratepayers have taken advantage of it. The Tax Arrears are now in a very satisfactory condition and by keeping a careful watch on these, no liens should be allowed to expire. The Reserve for Uncollected Taxes of 2½% would appear to be sufficient to take care of any losses which might occur.

The improvement in the collection of the Poll Taxes even in the face of all the opposition to this tax, is an outstanding feature. Three years ago only about \$4,000. was being collected yearly while in 1929 the amount collected was over \$24,000, and, notwithstanding the depression, this year's Poll Tax Collection will show a like, or a slightly higher figure.

The Local Improvements (Pavement, Sidewalk and Sewer) show an improved collection for the past year. The Pavement Charges have been a bone of contention for some years but, fortunately the City Collector has been successful in collecting a considerable amount of these charges.

The routine work of this Department has been increasing each year, due to the increase in the Assessment Rolls and the programme of Street Improvements such as - New Oiling Accounts, Sewer, Sidewalk and Pavement.

I believe that during my tenure of office, there has been a great improvement in the tax situation, as well as in the system of the office and the service to the public, and Mr. Morrow should be congratulated on the work of his Department. It is with real regret to know that he is leaving the City Service. To lose the services of this trusted and efficient official comes as a distinct loss to the City.

CITY TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT:

In connection with the Trust and Sinking Funds of which I was one of the Trustees, I might say that they have increased approximately \$800,000.00 since June 1928, and also as a Trustee of the various Trust Funds I would say that these have been administered in the usual way to the benefit of the Trusts therein specified.

Outside the Officials', Police and Firemen's Superannation Funds which are more of a personal interest to the beneficiaries thereof, the "Cogswell Scholarship", "Cogswell Military Drill" and "Cogswell Harbour Championship" Trusts all created and perpetuated through the thoughtful generosity of the late Doctor Charles Cogswell, and the O'Connell Picnic Fund, constituting a capital donation of \$10,000. by J.F. O'Connell (Known as the "Picnic King" or "Orphans' Friend") to provide an annual picnic and a Christmas treat for orphan children, these have been administered in the usual way. There is another trust known as "Camp Hill Cemetery Perpetual Care" composed of sums received for the Perpetual Care of the graves at Camp Hill Cemetery. A very active interest has been taken in this trust during the past three years particularly, by the friends and relatives of those who are interred there, and this interest has been reflected in the very great improvement in the upkeep of this piece of hallowed ground.

We have been quite successful in disposing of our various Bond Issues at prices comparing very favorably with those obtained throughout Canada, and it will be of interest to know that there will be no further refunding issues required until after 1940, when the bond obligations then maturing, aggregating some \$1,350,000.00, will be largely retired out of Sinking Funds. Capital borrowings between now and 1940 will altogether depend upon the extent of the betterments, extensions or improvements the City undertakes.

The routine of the Treasurer's Department is being maintained and the department working smoothly under the efficient guidance of Mr. Dimock and his Assistant Mr. Allen.

CITY ASSESSOR'S DEPARTMENT:

The work of the Assessment Department has gone along very smoothly during my tenure of office for which credit must be given to Chief Assessor McManus and his assistants.

Our valuation has shown an increase of \$4,380,270.00. This has been brought about as follows:

- 1st. By the number of new buildings erected.
- 2nd. By the old buildings remodelled and enlarged.
- 3rd. By the local improvements made by the City for Sewerage, Water and Street.
- 4th. By the new businesses opened and the new residents moving into the City.

It may be noted however, that there has been a very sharp decrease in the real estate in the waterfront property and in parts of the business section.

However, with it all, our Tax Rate is ten cents less than when I assumed office.

CITY AUDITOR'S DEPARTMENT:

With reference to the activities of the Audit Department during my term, might I say, that as a result of careful budgeting the maturing of certain long and short term debentures and the increase in assessment due to more prosperous times in our City, the Civic Tax Rate has not only been reduced, but maintained at a reduced level. The services today are by no means scrimped. As a matter of fact the programme for new schools has been dealt with in a complete way so that today there can be no criticisms offered of inadequate school accommodation.

I suggest that as an indication of the more general efficiency appertaining in the department, that we are now able to visualize the collection of the Tax Roll within the 2½% period, allowing for bad and doubtful taxes, thus bringing about a measure of solidarity in the financial structure of the City which was hitherto lacking. This is, perhaps, the best indication that the revenues of the City are being carefully followed and collected to the utmost ability.

The matter of uncollectible taxes prior to 1925 which proved such a problem to previous administrations and which was so capably handled by them, has had a very successful outcome and while it will cost the taxpayers of Halifax substantial sums to liquidate the loss, nevertheless, the loss as we can now see it, is a great deal less than was anticipated in the first instance.

As to the reliability of the members of the Auditor's Department, I can only speak in the highest way. As to the general efficiency of the department, the true answer may be found in the improved position of the Civic finances as we find them today. Mr. Butler and his staff are doing good work in this Department.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Within the past three years, with the purchase of additional motor equipment the Fire Department became fully motorized.

Ten men were replaced in the Department. Some time previous the services of those men had been dispensed with. Systematic inspections have been carried out with good results. The fire losses during the last three years compare favorably with any similar period.

The Department has been issued with new Rules and Regulations which gives the Chief more control over his Department.

Arrangements have been made for the laying of a concrete floor in the Bedford Row Fire Station also for the purchase of an additional pumper of high capacity and for the erection of a drill tower. This tower will be the means of creating a higher standard of efficiency. It might be advisable when finances permit to add more men.

Fire Dept. (Cont)

The appearance of the Department has been favorably commented on upon several occasions, particularly in the parade for the moving pictures shown at the opening of the Capitol Theatre. Under Chief Churchill and his staff the City is receiving excellent service.

PUBLIC GARDENS DEPARTMENT:

I am very pleased with the work of the Public Gardens and Common during the last three years, particularly the last two years when most of the improvements have been made.

The following is a list of improvements.

- 1928-1929 - Front of Entrance Gates on Spring Garden Road concreted and front improved.
1929-1930 - New Comfort Station for Men erected.
New roof on Band Stand.
The Lodge (Tool House) repaired.
1930-1931 - Permanent Lighting System installed.
Modern Green House and Boilers installed.
Foundation of Tea Room repaired and building painted.
Foundation and residence repaired.

There is at present under construction a new Comfort Station for women, and will be finished during the month of May.

A large amount of Evergreens and Deciduous Trees were planted, consisting of the newer varieties, besides perennials in varieties.

We all agree that Superintendent Hall is a competent and hard-working official of our City and deserves the thanks of our citizens.

CITY HOME AND TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL:

The City Home during the past year has taken over the County Poor and Harmless Insane due to the fire at Cole Harbour destroying the County Home Building. Arrangements, financial and otherwise have been made with the County of Halifax which contains an agreement for 15 years from the 1st March, 1931, and which has been approved by the Legislature. The arrangement referred to will assist materially in the proposed extension to the City Home which is under consideration and will likely be built in the near future. Recently new plumbing has been installed and old plumbing renewed.

The morale of all connected with the City Home is all that can be desired. The different Church organizations and the Service Clubs take considerable interest in this institution giving entertainments and supplying treats for the inmates. This is duly appreciated.

T.B.HOSPITAL: This Institution has been running to full capacity with Miss Lyons, Matron, and staff attending to the needs of the patients. Recently provision has been made for painting and placing the institution in first class condition.

During my term of office Dr. Sieniewicz, Tuberculosis Specialist, has been appointed and all will agree that the appointment is a splendid one.

Superintendent Buchanan has these two institutions under his charge and with his Assistant, Mr. Garrison and Head Matron, Mrs. Graves, are rendering good service.

CITY PRISON:

The City Prison has been much improved, I may say almost entirely changed during my term of office, to a modern system, with the exception of the Prison Building itself which was not originally constructed upon modern lines. There is no chance for classification which means so much to the modern prison system, and very little chance of segregation at times.

Governor and Mrs. Grant have the affairs of the Prison well in hand and with their long experience give splendid service.

CITY
ELECTRICIAN'S
DEPARTMENT:

The work of the electrical department under the direct supervision of the City Electrician consisting of electrical inspection of all installations throughout the City, maintenance and operation of Fire Alarm Telegraph System and the overseeing of street lighting operation has involved a great deal of work for this department.

The electrical inspections have been particularly heavy due to a great deal of progress in the construction of new buildings during these years.

The Street Lighting System is a large one consisting of over 1700 lights. This has been improved in different directions during the last three years - some sections having lights installed where none has existed before, other streets have had older fixtures and glassware replaced by more modern equipment. The Halifax Public Gardens have been lighted with ornamental lights and has greatly improved the appearance of these gardens during the night time.

In Grafton Park additional lighting has been added which has improved conditions for pedestrians who use this park a great deal.

The Fire Alarm Telegraph System covers the major part of the city and at present has approximately sixty miles of lines operating in connection with 125 Fire Alarm Signal Boxes. The service rendered during the last three years has been practically 100% efficient. Some extensions have been made to the system embracing additional boxes. I may say that during the last three years the work of this department has been extensive but I believe has resulted in bettering conditions.

Chief Electrician Durling and his staff are efficient in this branch of the City's service.

HOUSING
COMMISSION:

The Commission's financial position is more sound today than at any time since its inauguration. From January 1st, 1930 up to the present the Housing Commission has marketed (under Agreement of Sale) seven repossessed dwellings. While the current year has been a most difficult one, nevertheless, installment and rent payments have been well maintained.

I would direct your attention to the fact that the Commission discharged its obligation (total annual repayment \$59,239.80) to the Provincial Government for the year ending April 30, 1931 without assistance from the Corporation.

As a result of the Commission's efforts to accelerate the collection of tax arrears, the majority of householders are making regular payments in reduction thereof, and collections throughout the period under review show a considerable improvement as compared with previous years.

The Housing Commission and Mr. Mielke, undoubtedly, are rendering effective service.

BOARD OF
HEALTH:

Health work has been well maintained in Halifax during the past three years, the general work of the Department having been maintained up to a satisfactory standard. The Department covers a wide range of work, giving supervision to inspection of food-stuffs, handled and marketed in every phase of commercial activity, both in respect to import and export.

One of the most important branches of work conducted by the Department is that in connection with the inspection of the production, handling and marketing of the milk supply. This work requires the Department to provide personal supervision and inspection at point of production, covering more than 750 shippers throughout all parts of Nova Scotia, and extending nearly 150 miles from the City. But, of course, all the bulk of the supply is produced within a much shorter radius than that. This means that close inspection is maintained over the entire milk supply which Halifax receives each day and amounting to an average of about 16,000 quarts daily.

The City Health Board has well maintained its standard of general inspection work covering every part of the City, this work being carried on not only during the summer months, but each day in the year. During the past three years, special attention has been given to the housing situation and a survey of houses is now being made by a representative body of Halifax citizens interested in bettering the living conditions of those unable to provide themselves with their own homes. The aim is to make each house in Halifax a home and to maintain a higher moral standard among the citizens. A splendid progress has been made in connection with this work and the outlook is that a definite and concrete plan will be outlined during the coming year whereby the housing situation will be improved.

A close inspection is maintained over the entire food supply, systematic daily inspection being carried out on all shops and other places where food is handled and marked for human consumption. An efficient inspection is being maintained of the meat supply in this respect and a regular fortnightly inspection is provided in all restaurants and these places are gradually being improved and brought up to a much higher standard. As a result of this inspection Halifax today has some of the most modern and best equipped eating places which can be desired and the progress in this respect is far from completed.

Under the supervision of the Board, a Hospital is maintained for the treatment of those suffering from infectious diseases. This hospital was erected three years ago on Morris St. and has filled a long felt need. The building is all modern construction and provides accommodations under the best conditions for those who contract infectious diseases. Some idea of the need of this Hospital will be gathered from the fact that for the year 1928-29, 247 patients were admitted and provided with 5,289 days of treatment, while in 1929-30, 278 patients were admitted and provided with 5,358 days of treatment. The number of patients admitted for 1930-31, ending April 30th, will reach a similar figure as that for the previous years and with equally as many days of treatment. The cost of maintaining patients in this Institution is \$2.00 per day which is regarded as low considering the service which is provided to those in all kinds of circumstances.

Another important service which the Department naturally carries out is the inspection of yards, cellars, vacant lots, dumps and other places within the City. Each year a general systematic clean-up campaign is successfully conducted. These campaigns have given fine results and the effort put forth is well justified from the results obtained.

The Board co-operates with all agencies working for the general sanitary improvements of Halifax and this co-operation has been productive of immeasurable good.

The administration of the City Health Department is being maintained at a standard in keeping with the growth and development of the City and no branch of the service is allowed to be weakened because of inattention or lack of efficiency in any way.

Under the supervision of Dr. W.D. Forrest, Chairman the health of the City is well looked after. The Secretary, Mr. A.C. Pettipas is painstaking in his duties.

**POLICE
DEPARTMENT:**

The Police Commission and the members of the Police Force of which we have heard and read so much about is a subject that I would like to go into fully, but this would take up too much time, but I shall say what I consider to be true and fair.

We all know it is easy to criticise the upholders of law and order, and it is easy for anyone agitating along these lines to obtain a certain following who will agree with him. I want to say that, from my past experience in the City Hall with the present Police Force, the Chief, the Detectives, Sergeants and Policemen, I have found them to be more obedient to discipline and temperance than any I have ever known; in fact, the Chief and most of the Executive Officers are teetotallers. During my regime as Mayor there has been no evidence of intoxicating beverages in the Police Department or lack of discipline, and never, to my mind, were the members of the Force, especially the Executive Officers, more attentive to their duty, more faithful and honest than during the past three years. I am sorry to say, though, that these good qualities of the Police Department are never mentioned by the Press and others whose criticism has been rampant.

There is no better way in which you can gauge the efficiency of our Police Force today, than a comparison with the Force of, say, 15 years ago.

What are the main differences? First, you will find a different City, population nearly doubled, liquor laws changed, and the automobile taking its place as the chief means of travel not only in the City but throughout the country as well.

What about the Department in these years? How is it affected? Does anyone doubt the fact that instead of brute strength and stupidity being qualifications today a constable must have education and ability. He is expected to match wits with the cleverest trained lawyers that our Universities can turn out. He must be a model in his living for all the community, as well as a terror to all evil doers, but at the same time he receives moderate pay.

In considering the Force as it is today, our minds turn first to the Chief. Chief Palmer is a man of sterling character. He is a man who has gone over the route from private to Chief and still carries the same aversion to intemperance from the first day of duty up to the present. A man who has never taken a drink and who shows no favoritism; for be you rich or poor, if you are unfortunate enough to fall into the long arm of the law, you will find in the Chief a man who will give you a square deal. Assisting him is Deputy Chief Conrad, whose make-up is on the same strain as his chief. The influence of these two men is fast reflecting itself in the men under them, who find in them both a friend when they are right, but who are both well able to give a proper reprimand when wrong.

Let us look at the changes that have taken place since Chief Palmer has taken over the Police Force. His first act was to stop a number of men from congregating in the station, a practice that had gone on for years to the extent that a police officer when he arrived on his beat with confidential information was surprised to find the news preceded him. The Chief received much commendation for this and some condemnation.

He then undertook the straightening out of the Detective Department, and the wisdom of his choice has been justified many times since. Though his street staff has been reduced by ten men and his inside staff has not been increased, the volume of work that is handled by the Department has increased more than 100%.

Chief Palmer after many requests to different Commissions has installed modern office furniture in his Department, and a modern filing cabinet that takes care of prisoners records and correspondence to and from the Department. This, in itself, speaks well for the Chief's administration as previous to this all correspondence was destroyed as soon as received and very seldom answered. In addition to this the Chief has introduced Sergeants' and Constables' Daily Report Forms, so that today, any citizen wishing for any legitimate reason to learn the movements of any constable at any hour of the day or night may do so.

Police Department (Cont)

The addition of three motorcycles by Chief Palmer and the passing in the 1931 estimates of a light car for the Department brings the Force nearer to the modern conditions that prevail today.

The office work is under the care of Desk Sergeant Macalder, who is capable and obliging and well fitted for the work, and who has charge of filing and care of all records; also an oversight of all Civil and Police Court records; the daily reports of sergeants and men, all accident reports and the registration of bicycles, the taking reports of all men on Ticket-of-Leave both from the Penitentiary at Dorchester and the City Prison and County Jail at Halifax, and the reporting of all to Ottawa, as well as the care of the sending and return of Finger Prints, and the adding of additional records to those already in the Department. The public can readily realize that when the correspondence of the Department has increased from nil in 1921 to an average of 200 letters and enquiries per month in 1930, and with the additional work quoted above plus the Secretaryship of the Police Committee in which he gives the utmost satisfaction, the job of Desk Sergeant today is not by any means an easy one.

The Civil work of the Department under the leadership of Chief Palmer has grown to enormous size. The officer in charge of this work is Acting City Marshal Tilbury. A comparison here is interesting in that during the entire tenures of office of the ex City Marshal, 300 writs of summons per year was considered a large number. In the year 1930 there were over 4000 writs of summons with executions of all kinds amounting to nearly 500. This increase is no doubt due in a large measure to the strict attention to the business of the Court by the officer in charge and his loyalty to his Chief.

The work of the Police Court is carried on by Court Clerk Aitken, and here again the work has increased from morning sittings a few years ago to all day sittings in 1930. The result of these is evident in the reports of the City Prison for the year.

An idea which is of interest to the citizens as a whole and which Chief Palmer introduced is the License for bicycles. Instead of being a source of revenue as some people might think, this is for the use of the police and the protection of the public. Before the licenses were issued a large number of complaints were received as to bicycles being ridden on the sidewalks, and numerous accidents were recorded where a person was hit and the rider rode away without giving his name. Since the introduction of the license, sidewalk accidents have been cut to the minimum, and not only that but numerous bicycles stolen have been recovered through the serial number being registered at headquarters. In this the Chief has set an example that has been adopted in the City of Sydney and other provincial towns. In addition to this he has introduced traffic tickets so that all cases are reviewed by him before summons for traffic violations are issued thus stopping unjust prosecutions.

The Detective Department under Chief Palmer has made rapid strides. His choice of Detective Fox, and later the addition of Stevenson is a tribute to his ability to pick men. Do the public fully realize the importance which finger prints and photographs play in the detection of crime and criminals today? Do they realize that in Halifax it was not until October 1924 that a system of finger prints was established? Now our prints are filed by classification under the system prevailing in other parts of the world, and our detectives have been commended by the Departments of Justice both of Canada and the United States on their ability to classify prints. A fact that cannot pass unnoticed is that in 1930 we registered the first conviction under finger print evidence and as a result an internationally known criminal was deported from Canada. The work in this office is carried on under great disadvantages. In the first place where there were four detectives in the office previous to 1924, there are only two detectives now, besides a

Police Department (Cont)

Special Officer, Thomas Kennedy, a young man who is giving splendid service. The estimates of the whole department have been compared by the different Committees in the last few years that these men are working under the greatest difficulty, having no proper facilities for filing and using only an ordinary camera for pictures, instead of the modern electric ones now in use. The rest of their equipment having in nearly every case been supplied by the officers themselves. And let it be said to the credit of the Chief and the Detectives, that the stool pigeon so evident in the detective department and work in years past finds no place in our department today.

The traffic problem in Halifax today is growing acute; this is due to the narrowness of our streets and in the near future changes will have to be made in different sections of the City, and one-way streets introduced. In the meantime Officer Power handles the traffic to the satisfaction of all. Chief Palmer has attached to Headquarters two motorcycles with side cars in order to give the public the advantage of officers arriving as soon as possible to the aid of citizens when called.

That the department is in better condition today than ever in the history of Halifax is a fact that cannot be successfully contradicted by any citizen who wishes to be fair.

Because certain recommendations were made does not mean that affairs were unsatisfactory. The fact that the Police Commission and the Council gave the Chief of Police full power to hire, promote and dismiss, does not make it that he did not practically have that power before, for the Commission the past year have allowed him this power, but to make it more effective the Police Commission thought it advisable to have the Council concur in it.

Do you expect to get the most highly trained police Force possible and pay them the salary which the City now pays? And if you did get such men, and even if you changed completely the personnel of the Force, do you think under these circumstances there would be no complaints made or any criticisms from the Press? I think there would still be fault finding.

In regard to the constitution of the Police Commission in my opinion it is satisfactory providing you get honest and sincere men endeavouring to do their best. In respect to the Police Commission, of which I have had the privilege to be Chairman, I have been in a position to know that they have done what they have considered to be in the interests of the Police Force. Certainly, if you do not get such men on this Commission or any Commission, the system is like any other human institution, where men are not honest and sincere, it is then a failure.

In conclusion, may I say that the Police Committee as at present constituted has given Chief Palmer consistent and unreserved support. Unfortunately, many of their suggestions received the axe "because of economy". If the City Council will concur in the Police Commission's request and Chief Palmer is allowed to continue at the head of the Force, Halifax will have a satisfactory Police Force.

To sum up Police Situation:

FIRST: I have thought and still think the Police Force of this City, taking it on the whole, is a good Force, and has given and can give the City good service.

SECOND: I did not recommend that an outside Royal Canadian Police Officer be brought here to investigate police affairs, because it is absolutely necessary, but I did so because the public mind, through the unfair criticism of the press, was in a dissatisfied state, and largely on this account I think an investigation will help to settle conditions of the public mind.

Police Department (Cont)

THIRD: Had I thought an investigation really necessary, I would have suggested it before.

FOURTH: In Chief Palmer we have a fair, just and sympathetic man, one faithful to duty and one much preferable when unfortunates are to be dealt with than a Chief who might be unscrupulous or bombastic.

FIFTH: Better executive officers could not be had than Sergeant Macalder, Officers Tilbury and Aitkens, and Detectives Fox and Stevenson; all temperance men and on the job.

SIXTH: Investigating our organization or department system may result in some improvements so it may be worth while to have such an investigation.

SEVENTH: The Police Commission, since I have had the honor of being Chairman, especially the past year's Commission, have always co-operated with Chief Palmer in doing everything possible to carry out that which was for the welfare of this City in respect to adequate policing.

THE PRESS: In commenting on the Press, I want to take this opportunity of thanking them for their kindness to me during my term of office and also for their co-operation at many times in carrying on affairs that were helpful to this City. At the same time, I want also to say that there have been times when the Press has not been fair to me, the police, or the Council. I will not say wilfully so but the Press at times did not have full knowledge of the particulars of the questions under discussion and seemingly did not appreciate the fact that members of the City Council and myself were in a position to be, and were actually seized, of all the details of the situation. In other words, the Press has at times unfortunately approached the problem from only one point of view. It seems strange to me that when one would undertake to controvert or even fairly modify these exaggerated and highly colored statements of the Press, he would be censured and criticized severely by them for doing so. The Press, with its power and virtual control of the channels of publicity evidently feels that its justification to say whatever it chooses lies in the accepted omnipotence of its monopoly. If the pen be mightier than the sword then those using it should be fully conscious of and consider what they write; sensations making people suffer, even though they do produce thrills for the reading public, should not recompense them for their act.

I suggest with deference that sensationalism, high pressure propoganda and blazing forth law-breaking in the Press cannot help the community. It seems to me that publishing the incidents of crime as news with as little ostentation as possible would suffice to serve any proper purpose. Furthermore, in regard to certain methods of press criticism in vogue, we all know when mud is slung at anyone, some will stick and we know when criticism is being harped on, especially if it is unjustifiable, the public mind becomes unsettled.

The Press has the means of making citizens feel that an official or those in authority are neglectful of their duty when such is not the case, which is very unpleasant and an unhappy position for one in a public office to experience. But when those serving the public feel they are doing right, realizing that they know more about the particular question under discussion because of their being in closer touch than those who are criticizing, it is a satisfaction for them to know that they have done their best.

May I put a pertinent question? Why do not people, and particularly those who have such good advice to offer, call at City Hall and talk affairs over with us instead of rushing into print and otherwise stirring up a noise which seldom aids the solution of the problem? This same question may also be put to the Press with the suggestion that the press is too frequently addicted to the habit of propoganda headlines followed by hastily constructed articles, often failing to appreciate all

The Press (Cont)

the facts. This precipitancy to make a sensation often frustrates the laudable object of improvement in the public service. The atmosphere thus created is too unhealthy for sane and helpful discussion, and thwarts the final solution of the question.

The Press would not appreciate having others criticize it in an unfair manner. Simply because one may be a writer of many articles, because it is his job to do so, does not necessarily voice the opinion of the majority of the citizens of the community and he might be absolutely astray in what he says. Certainly the Press would not be pleased to be told how to run their business which they are supposed to know how to run.

CIVIC
PROGRESS:

These are days when the world appears to be encircled with gloom. While the people of greater cities are contending against the results of an almost universal business depression, the citizens of Halifax should realize at this time that we have many things to be thankful for. While there are hardships within our environs, yet the general mass of our people are pursuing the even tenor of their way. We have been remarkably free from business failures and industrial strife and withal growth is untrammelled and the march of progress is still felt. The economic stress of the day which has unfortunately destroyed confidence and has paralysed activity in other places, has luckily found no haven in Halifax. During the past three years Halifax has been undergoing a veritable industrial renaissance and the tide of civic expansion is still flowing onward.

I would point out, however, that in the feverish activity for further expansion, there is a tendency to overlook what has already been accomplished. The citizens of Halifax have a right to view with pride and satisfaction the achievements in our midst. There are few places, if any, of the size and population, that are served with institutions and facilities of a most modern nature upon the same scale as is Halifax. I particularly mention the charitable and educational institutions also the hotels, theatres and ocean terminals. Certainly depression has no place in Halifax.

We have witnessed most extensive building operations in Halifax during the past three years and I refer to:-

- King's College Buildings.
- Archives Building.
- Eaton's Building.
- Capitol Theatre.
- Nova Scotian Hotel.
- Lord Nelson Hotel.
- Canadian General Electric Building.
- Enlargement of Moirs Limited.
- Argyle Garage.
- Court House Addition.
- Halifax Infirmary (Under construction)
- Cold Storage Plant.
- New Railway Station.
- Expansion of Ocean Terminals and Construction of New Pier No.5.

- New Paper Box Industry.
- New Schools.

The construction of the Halifax-Dartmouth Bridge is practically arranged for and awaiting the endorsement of the Federal Government of the bond issue.

There is every reason to hope that the tide of expansion which has set in at Halifax will continue during the years that lie ahead. Let all citizens then co-operate in bending their constructive energies so that the various measures of development shall receive the fullest support and Halifax may experience even greater expansion. In the field of City affairs during the past three years definite progress has been made. Especially is this reflected in the stability and confidence established in the

Civic Progress (Cont)

City's financial position. There are no valuations of real estate upon our assessment roll which should not be collected upon nor any inflated valuations. There are no amounts due for interest or anything else which is not accounted for and all outstanding accounts are settled. The funded debt has always been provided for through Sinking Funds and all bonds paid upon maturity. The Sinking Fund account is in splendid shape and all monies invested in good securities. The general soundness of the administration of the City's financial affairs is shown in the splendid position which the City occupies in the financial world as demonstrated by the strength which our bonds and debentures command in the market.

In closing, I want to say I have done the best I could, giving all my time to the position and attending to all duties possible. In carrying out my duties, it might be that I have not pleased everyone but you will agree with me that this is an impossibility and one can only do what he thinks is just and right. I have endeavoured to be as fair as possible in this report. I may be criticized for some of my statements, more especially regarding the Police Department and Press, but as I said before in this message, what I have stated is the truth and I am willing to be judged accordingly.

I trust my successor in office will receive the loyal support that I have received and that he will be instrumental in carrying out the number of improvements that are required and which certainly could not be grappled with during my term of office on account of limited finances.

I would like to pay tribute to the faithful services of Miss Street who has been an efficient and helpful secretary throughout my term.

On ending my term of office, I want to take this opportunity to thank the citizens of my native city for their kindness to me and for electing me each time as Alderman and Mayor without opposition, an honor of which I trust I have proved worthy; also to say to them that I have given my best and I have nothing to regret for I have done nothing any time that was intentionally wrong.

If, at any time, I can be of service in helping to better conditions in the City or in aiding those whose path in life is burdensome, no matter who they are, I can assure you - the citizens of Halifax - I will be at your service.

Louis A. Gastonguay.
M A Y O R.

May 1st, 1931

✓
DEATH OF EX. ALDERMAN A.W. REDDEN

Alderman Dickie submits the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that this Council place on record its deep sense of the loss the City has suffered in the death of Arthur W.Redden, Esquire, which occurred on the 26th day of April.

His long and faithful service as a member of this Council and of the Legislature merited the hearty approval of all citizens.

His colleagues of the City Council in a special measure can attest to his constant regard for the welfare of this City and its taxpayers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Mrs. Redden.

Moved by Alderman Dickie seconded

Mrs Redden by Alderman Shields and passed unanimously.

Moved by Alderman Dickie seconded

by Alderman Cragg that this meeting do now adjourn.

Motion passed.

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L. P. MacIntyre
Mayor
John R. ...
City Clerk