

NAME ON THE FIRST BALLOT

E. P. Davis Chosen President of the New City Council Last Night.

HAD A PERFECTLY LOVELY TIME.

Mayor Cushing's Last Message Read and Highly Complimented - Morerey's Farewell - All Made Up - Organizing the New Body.

It is now President Davis.

The old city council has quit doing business at the old stand, and the new council is ready to look after the legislative affairs of the city.

All of these changes took place last night. At an early hour in the evening, interested people viewed their way to the city hall, and at 8:15 o'clock when President Lowry wrapped for order, the council chamber was densely packed.

The first thing on the regular program, was a communication from ex-Mayor Cushing, in which he stated that he had approved the contract with the Ketcham Furniture company, and also the contract of the Fenton Metallic company.

Mr. Elasser stated that he had a couple of resolutions that he desired to introduce.

Mr. Chaffee questioned the right of the council to transact any routine business.

President Lowry informed the council that ex-Mayor Cushing was present and asked the council if it would listen to the retiring executive's message.

Read His Last Message.

There was a unanimous request that it should be delivered, and stepping to the front Mr. Cushing spoke for some time.

He referred to the present financial condition of the city and its needs, touching upon taxation for local assessments and the necessities for charter amendments.

The lighting question was discussed at length, Mr. Cushing showing that Omaha paid the highest price for electric lights of any city in the land.

The point was made that the council should take care in buying in the plant, or erecting one for the city, to be put in operation at the expiration of the present existing franchise.

He urged the improvement of parks and the abolishment of several city departments.

Mr. Morerey's Farewell.

The message received amid great applause and as soon as its delivery was completed Citizen Morerey made his final speech for the great occasion of a long suffering public.

He did not want to see the document cast aside without comment. He ventured the opinion that it was the best and most satisfactory message that any mayor in the history of Omaha had ever delivered.

No person present questioned Citizen Morerey's opinion, and then he flew into a rage. He struck a stage article and arraigned the newspapers.

He wanted to get his last month's salary that the press of Omaha would dole less than to the document than it did to the boodle investigation.

As no person offered to cover Citizen Morerey's anger he grew angry. He tore into a rage. He struck a stage article and arraigned the newspapers.

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WILLIAM HARRIS IN THE FOREWARD

Effect of the Policy Outlined in Mayor Bemis' Inaugural Message.

CONSIDERATE WORDS OF CALM COUNSEL

Necessity of Prompt Preliminary Action Pointed Out - Suggestions as to the Future - Plans Talk to City Officials.

What Was Done in a Financial Way During the Year Just Ended.

CITY TREASURER'S REPORT.

Following is the full text of the inaugural message of Mayor George P. Bemis as addressed to the newly organized city council at the meeting last night:

To the honorable members of the City Council: Gentlemen - In assuming the duties of the chief executive of Omaha, I largely rest the hope for a successful administration on the good feeling and cordial relations which exist between the mayor and city council.

It will be my earnest endeavor during the next two years to work in harmony with you for the best interests of the public and to fulfill in the utmost degree the wishes and expectations of those who favor honest municipal government and practical business in the administration of the affairs of the city.

I feel sure that in this direction I will have your cordial support.

At a Critical Period.

We enter upon our duties at an important and somewhat critical period in the history of our city. At no other time has its prosperity and growth been more dependent on the character of its administration than at no other time have the citizens and taxpayers of Omaha been more solicitous for an honest and economical administration.

No other time could they more properly be regarded as faithful and efficient servants. Let us not disappoint them, but prove by our record during the next two years that we are worthy of the trust and confidence reposed in us.

We now have a rare opportunity both to restore confidence in our government and to impetus to private as well as public enterprises which will make itself plainly manifest before the close of the present season.

As we will be able to provide a more regular and efficient service for the city, we will be able to provide a more regular and efficient service for the city.

The best interests of the city and the proper management of its affairs requires not only a thorough and accurate knowledge of the city, but also a firmness of purpose to represent the city independent of all personal considerations.

Every citizen of the city should feel that he has a right to be heard against becoming in any manner interested in any contract with the city.

If a member of the city council or other officials should be interested in any contract with the city, he should disclose the nature of his interest.

The practice of franchise corporations supplying city officials with street railway passes, free gas, water and light, has become a pernicious influence upon our whole system of city government.

It is a species of bribery which cannot be tolerated. It has a demoralizing effect and creates a well founded impression that those who accept such gifts from franchised corporations are not to be trusted.

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CONTRACT TO THE CITY ATTORNEY WITH INSTRUCTIONS

to ascertain the rights of the city and to see if it is not possible to compel the contractor to proceed with the completion of his contract.

TRYING ON THEIR NEW SHOES.

Newly Elected City Officials Assume the Duties of their Offices.

THEIR CLERKS AND DEPUTIES SELECTED.

Comptroller Olson Keeps Some of the Old Force, While Treasurer Holtz Makes a Clean Sweep - Judge Herka Begins Work.

"Good morning Comptroller Goodrich."

"The same to you, Comptroller Olson," and two good hands over the desk of the comptroller in one of the rooms in the second floor of the city hall building.

The speakers were the incoming city comptroller, Theodore Olson, and Charles Goodrich, who has just closed his term and retired from office.

The hour was 9 o'clock yesterday morning. After the formal greeting, Comptroller Goodrich took Comptroller Olson by the arm and showed him about the office, explaining the manner in which the various city funds were kept and introduced him to the various records.

"Now you can handle the business," remarked Comptroller Goodrich. Comptroller Olson replied that he could not handle the business until he had seen the city records.

As soon as Comptroller Olson had made himself familiar with things about the office he arranged his staff by appointing John N. Westberg deputy, Fred Borthwick first bookkeeper and J. J. Hall second. S. R. Nickerson was named as tax clerk and O. R. Nelson as register clerk.

Cricketman and Hall are old time employees, having served under Comptroller Goodrich.

Deputy Westberg occupies the desk vacated by Jerome Herka and Borthwick steps into the shoes worn by J. W. Fead.

In the City Treasurer's Office.

While these changes were going on in the comptroller's office, a transformation scene was being enacted in the treasurer's office in the adjoining room.

John Rush, who for a long time has been the trusty custodian of the city funds, was preparing to take his departure. He was in close consultation with his successor, Henry Holtz.

The consultation did not last long, as Mr. Holtz had everything ready and was waiting for the arrival of the city funds.

Mr. Holtz had a check for \$100,000, 383.35 on hand. Mr. Holtz received for the amount after which Mr. Holtz drew a check for the money and passed it over to Mr. Holtz.

That was the last time that Mr. Holtz attached his name officially to a document.

Mr. Holtz remained about the office for some time, assisting Mr. Holtz in familiarizing himself with the duties of the office and then departed free from the cares of official life.

In leaving Mr. Holtz said to a reporter that he had labored day and night for the best interests of the city and had accounted for every cent of the millions of dollars that had passed through his hands.

When asked if he would take a vacation he replied, "No, I cannot afford it. I shall at once begin work for the Nebraska Savings Bank as register clerk."

There was a clean sweep in the clerical force of the office, as all of the old men went to their homes.

Holtz has named the following men as his assistants: Deputies, Jerome Coulter and Harry G. Counsman; bookkeepers, George J. Holtz and Fred Holtz; clerk, William Schwarick; clerk, J. B. Bruner.

No Change in Groves' Office.

In the city clerk's office John Groves greeted himself as his own successor. He came down to the city clerk's office and found a person who demanded possession of one of the days' work was begun with the same force at the desks as in times past.

At the Mayor's Office.

At the mayor's office ex-Mayor Cushing patiently waited for the arrival of Mayor Bemis, that he might be informed of matters and things in the chief executive office.

At 9 o'clock ex-Mayor Cushing thought of a successor who would not be a failure. He did not, the outgoing official lighted another cigar and started in on another session.

At 10 o'clock Mayor Bemis-O'Connell, parson and city clerk, J. J. Holtz, and city clerk, J. J. Holtz, were spoken to walls of the halls and were lost to the public.

This condition of affairs continued until noon when ex-Mayor Cushing closed his office by card upon his office door and went to dinner.

At 1 o'clock Mayor Cushing returned to the city clerk's office and started in on the hall, waiting to interview Mayor Bemis.

At 3 o'clock Mayor Bemis succeeded in running the gauntlet of office seekers and returned to his office in the city hall.

To start with a batch of official bonds of judgment and constables were presented and referred.

A job lot of bills were presented and allowed, payment to be made from the city treasury, notwithstanding its depleted condition.

Frank Maho was awarded the contract for carrying out the work of an arm of the city on the line Ames avenue. The contract price is \$5,000.

The petition asking for the appointment of J. J. Case as constable was referred to the Board of Public Safety.

The same action was taken upon the request of the Real Estate Owners' association to furnish a list of all county employees, together with their names and salaries.

Druggist Schroeder presented a bill of \$237.50 for drugs and medicines furnished to the city poor during the month of January, 1891.

After long discussion the bill was allowed.

Mr. Borlin was the only committee chairman with a salary of \$1,000 a year. The amount of levy for 1891 is \$1,183.00. Less 10 per cent \$1,064.70.

Available \$25,938.00 Warrants drawn to date \$5,516.30

Balance to meet future contingencies \$20,421.70

Work under contract for which funds must be held.

Hell Creek sewer \$2,227.00

Engine, etc. \$1,000.00

Painting and numbering bridges \$78.50

Waterworks \$1,000.00

Washington bridge \$1,000.00

Total \$10,233.50

This leaves a balance of \$14,188.20 in the fund of 1891 to carry on bridge work until the end of the year.

The board will hold a meeting at 10 o'clock on the 10th inst. to consider the report of the committee which will be held this afternoon.

VERY SHORT OF CASH.

County Commissioners Find the General Fund is Very Short of Cash.

Just now the county commissioners are in a deep study, trying to figure out how to make one hand wash the other, so to speak.

This is caused by the fact that the general fund is in a depleted condition and does not contain enough money to run the expenses of the county during the next thirty days.

It would seem that the county commissioners should have covered that in the \$12,919.70 in sight and it is still six months before one dollar of the 1891 levy is available.

It was made by the commissioners had a span of one year and general levy 3-10 mills for general purposes.

The total levy for 1891 amounted to \$193,130. The statute provides that only \$5 per cent of this amount can be drawn against, which left but \$9,656.50 available.

\$73,132 has been expended, leaving only \$1,919.70 with which to run the county during the next six months.

The county commissioners said that it was a deplorable condition of affairs, but that it was something that could not be helped. They are unable to do anything but to wait until the board which they think is the real cause of the trouble could only be reached by cutting down the levy without taking the penalties into consideration.

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