

WAS ON ITS DIGNITY.

Authority Over Officials Asserted by the Council.

IN AN IRRITABLE MOOD.

Discharge of the Mayor's Terminal Commission.

AFTER KIOLBASSA AND MAY.

New Ordinance Relating to Water-Main Extensions.

TRYING TO GET RID OF DR. TEED.

[The Terminal Commission's report is on the 9th page.]
Chicago's City Council was on its dignity last evening and proceeded to assert its authority and its prerogative in no uncertain fashion. The City Treasurer, the Controller, the Commissioner of Public Works, and the Mayor were all given to understand that the Council is the legislative department and the money appropriating power of the city. Ald. McGillen was in the chair and a great deal of work was done though the session did not last quite two hours.

In the first place Ald. Swift, who has a healthy objection to irrisponsible and expensive Commissioners or boards, quickly and effectively contrived to put an end to Mayor Washburne's Terminal Commission. The report of the commission, of which a synopsis is given in another column, had just been presented with a brief communication from the Mayor. It was not

water pipe. He asked that it be reduced to 10 cents. This was agreed to.

Ald. Mann then proceeded to condemn the ordinance as a whole, and was saying that it was but a half measure when Ald. Madden raised a point of order that a motion to suspend the rules was not debatable. The point was sustained and Ald. Mann thanked Ald. Madden for his courtesy. The motion to suspend the rules was adopted and the ordinance was put through in the following form unanimously. Even Ald. Mann voted for it:

WHEREAS, There is an urgent demand from every section of the city for street improvements; and

WHEREAS, It will be impossible to proceed with any of the streets under assessment until proper provision is made for the extension of water mains; and

WHEREAS, This Council has recently authorized the issuance of water certificates amounting to \$1,000,000, the proceeds of which were to be used in extending and improving the water system; and

WHEREAS, It is of the utmost importance that no part of the proceeds of said certificates be used except for the extension of water mains in localities where the actual number of residents will warrant the outlay from a business standpoint; and

WHEREAS, In the past it has been the practice to pass ordinances for street improvements in uninhabited subdivisions, which said ordinances were promptly repealed when the water-pipe was laid; now, therefore

Be it ordained, By the City Council of the City of Chicago:

Sec. 1. That whenever an ordinance is hereafter passed by this Council for the filling, grading, curbing, and paving of any street, it shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Public Works to ascertain whether the street or streets on which such improvement is ordered contains a sufficient number of houses to pay a revenue to the city of fifteen cents per lineal foot for every foot of water pipe laid on said street or streets. If such be the case he shall at once proceed under the ordinance to lay the necessary water mains. If upon examination it is ascertained that a revenue of 15 cents a lineal foot cannot be derived, the owners of property abutting on said street or streets shall be required to advance the money necessary to cover the cost of all pipe laid on every such street or streets, which said cost shall include the purchase, delivery, and laying.

Sec. 2. The moneys advanced by owners of property for the laying of water mains as pro-



BECK'S SUNLIGHT FLATS AT NORMAL PARK.

read. The Clerk did not have time to read it when Ald. Swift, barely rising from his seat, moved that the report be received, ordered published, and that the committee be discharged.

"Second the motion," said Ald. Madden. There were seconds from other parts of the chamber. The motion was agreed to unanimously and the life of the commission was terminated. It appears that the Aldermen had come to the conclusion that the commission was likely to become a costly luxury and to prove wholly ineffective. The Commissioners have rented offices in the Chamber of Commerce Building, have hired a Secretary and two clerks, and the report presented last evening was merely a preliminary one. Mr. Dreyer said last evening that he expected the commission would not conclude its labors for three years.

Trying to Get Rid of Dr. Teed.

Ald. Noble sent up an innocent-looking petition requesting the Corporation Counsel to commence ejectment proceedings against Mr. Beck of Englewood, who occupies a piece of territory fourteen feet wide and 620 feet long, extending from North Normal Parkway to South Normal Parkway along Wright street. The petitioners, who number 200 of the leading citizens of Englewood, express the opinion that this property is part of Wright street and city trust property, and therefore that Mr. Beck ought to be ejected. It is in the houses erected on this ground by Mr. Beck that Dr. Cyrus Teed, the self-styled "Messiah," has taken up his headquarters, and the ejectment proceedings are directed against him rather than against Beck, though the petitioners do not feel kindly to the latter. The petition was referred to the Corporation Counsel for such action as he may deem proper.

City Treasurer Kiolbassa Reports.

City Treasurer Kiolbassa, in order to anticipate action by the Council, presented the following report:

The banks in which the undersigned has deposited the moneys of the city have allowed the undersigned as interest for the year ending May 1, 1892, on city funds the sum of \$4,500. It has cost the undersigned for clerical hire and incidental expenses to run his office \$16,600. Adding to that as an annual compensation \$15,000, makes a total expenditure for said year of \$31,600, leaving a balance of unexpended interest money of \$12,900, which balance will be applied toward paying the expenses of the office for the current year, no appropriation having been made by your body to defray the expense of my office during this year.

The sum of \$18,000, which the Council appropriated for last year, has not been drawn against or used by the undersigned, but remains the property of the city.

The expense of the office has largely increased in the last year, due to increase of business and the weekly payment of wages.

The undersigned is under no legal obligation to make this report, nor is the city legally entitled to any interest upon the city funds. This report is made simply as an act of courtesy to the Council, and the unexpended amount of the interest is set aside because the undersigned promised to the voters of this city before his election that he would turn over whatever interest he would realize upon the city's moneys over and above the entire expense of conducting the office, including a fair allowance for his services.

PETER KIOLBASSA.

Ald. O'Neill moved that the report, so called, be referred to the Finance committee. Ald. Kent moved to amend that the report be referred to the Finance committee with instructions to examine the books of the Treasurer to ascertain where the city funds were deposited; the amount of the daily balances, the amount of the interest on the same to date, and on what grounds the City Treasurer retained any portion of the same.

Ald. Kentsaid that the Treasurer's report so-called was introduced to anticipate action. However, it was acceptable as far as it went, inasmuch as it was an acknowledgment by the Treasurer that he did receive interest. He had no right to retain that interest, nor had he a right to fix his own compensation.

Ald. Kent's amendment prevailed. Ald. Madden, who took exception to the arrogant and impertinent tone of the final passage of Kiolbassa's report, then presented the following, which was adopted unanimously:

Ordered, That the City Treasurer be and he is hereby directed to report to this Council at its next regular meeting the banks in which he has deposited the city funds, the amount deposited in each, the amount collected by him as interest on such public funds from the time he became Treasurer up to date, and the disposition of the same.

For Water Main Extension.

Ald. Madden got the floor at this point, and moved to suspend the rules to consider an ordinance in reference to the extension of the water mains. He explained that as matters stood but little progress could be made. The ordinance requiring a deposit stood in the way. The ordinance he presented was acceptable, as he understood it, to the people of the new wards. Ald. Jackson objected to the provision requiring that the income from water rents should pay at the rate of 15 cents a lineal foot of

vided in Sec. 1 shall be returned by the city from moneys not otherwise appropriated whenever upon a proper survey it is shown that a revenue of 15 cents a lineal foot is being derived therefrom.

Resolved, That if the moneys so advanced are not paid back within two years interest at the rate of 5 per cent per annum shall be allowed after the expiration of two years until paid.

Sec. 3. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Sec. 4. This ordinance to be in force and take effect from and after its passage.

An Order to the Controller.

While the ordinance was under consideration, and after Mr. Madden had referred to the condition of the city finances, Ald. Swift said he had an order which he would offer in reference to that. He had it sent up and read for information. It was ruled out at the time, but was subsequently passed by a unanimous vote. It is as follows:

Ordered: That the Controller be and he is directed to prepare and send to this Council an exhaustive report of the financial condition of the city May 15, 1892, showing amounts in and due each fund, sums due contractors, and amounts due on current account at date. Also what funds, if any, have been overdrawn or placed to credit of other fund or account. Also the estimated financial resource for the fiscal year.

Ald. Conway revived the memory of the absent Soule by introducing a new ordinance for the Chicago, Jefferson and Urban company. It proposes to give that company the right to run new electric street railway lines on Fulton street, between Western avenue and Kedzie avenue; also on Kedzie avenue, between Fulton street and Palmer place; also on Chicago avenue, between Kedzie and the limits; also on Crawford avenue, between Chicago avenue and Grand avenue; also on Grand avenue, between Crawford avenue and the junction of Grand avenue and Armitage avenue. The lines are to be operated by electricity, but without overhead wires. The ordinance was referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys West.

Ald. Rohde introduced the following, which he has been threatening for some time:

Ordered, That the Commissioner of Public Works be and he is hereby directed to furnish this Council at its next meeting with a statement, verified by affidavit, of the expenditure of his office from Jan. 1 to May 1, 1892; said statement shall contain the name of each employe, the date of his appointment, nature of work performed, duration of service, rate of wages, and total amount paid to each employe during each of the months of January, February, March, and April, 1892.

The order was referred to the Finance committee, much to Mr. Rohde's disappointment.

Ald. O'Neill introduced an order for extending the fire limits so as to include the territory near the entrance to the World's Fair grounds bounded by Sixtieth, Sixty-seventh street, and Cottage Grove and Stony Island avenues. It was referred to the Committee on Fire and Water.

Ald. Haynes Creates a Scene.

Health Commissioner Ware sent in a reply to the Council order asking him to explain why he did not let scavenger contracts to lowest bidders. The Commissioner said the law allowed him to use his discretion, in support of which position he quoted an opinion from the Law Department. It was referred to the Committee on County Relations. Ald. Haynes wanted a reference to the Finance committee, but was beaten. He appealed from the Chair's decision, but failed to get a second. He then howled his protest and caused quite a scene, but was eventually induced to take his seat, the Chairman having taken no notice of him.

A. J. Maher and F. W. Green were authorized to erect a 250-foot steel tower at Sixty-fifth terrace and Stony Island avenue, across the street from the World's Fair grounds.

The only reference made to the Illinois Central track-elevating ordinance was when Ald. Madden moved to have the minutes corrected so that it would appear that Sec. 9, referring to the elevation of the tracks south of Sixty-seventh street, was stricken from the ordinance as reported. The Council refused to have the report thus amended at this time.