

ISN'T CONVINCED

W. D. Clizbe Not Yet Satisfied that the New Form of Government Is Just What Is Needed.

The Commission in 1918 actually collected \$39,000 tax. The council in 1919 collected \$13,000. There should be added to this the water rates, fire, licenses and delinquent taxes. The statement printed by the manager shows that the commission has borrowed and owes as much after the end of their year or as much as the council of two years ago did. They have received between \$6,000 and \$10,000 more and spent it all. The manager further states that \$2,000 was spent for gravel and that about a "million" was spent. He says that about the time he went into the coal business without authority when they took up iron pipe and hydrants of high value and the money it was sold for did not go into the treasury and when he ran into the city and took away the pipe he tried to mail them for without having them to court, he himself should have been "started."

The taxes have been poorly handled and collections of special funds have been neglected. The proceedings of the commission have not been published or brought to the public's attention in any manner.

The people should have known what was done.

Questions of the president and clerk answered. I and T. The American got mad and hurt his leg trying to lift a water pipe all alone after four men were there for that purpose. He walks with cane though we believe he is a lawyer and could do almost any kind of work, yet the compensation board gives him total disability while admitting that he could work if he would. I was not on the council when he was injured. I believe the medically hazardous employed should be paid under the compensation law but I do not think it desirable to pay the outrageous rates charged for paralyzed officers and men in safe employment. The town is now walled by not paying insurance rates from the beginning.

2. The D. U. R. tried to elevate their rails above proper grade but the council made them relay the rails at their own expense. I was on the council.

The village council cannot prevent people outside of the village from laying water pipes where they please. Nobody outside the village has been given any land to the village for any purpose, and the sewer on north side of river cannot be built. The charter is amended so as to acquire land for disposal plant purposes. I suppose that is the reason the commission did not do it this year.

5. Can't find nobody who ever heard of a water main ditch, ditch, ditches. This item is valuable at most of the others in this insane conglomeration. These so-called questions are signed by the president and clerk of the village and to an intelligent reader they show why the business matters of the village are in such a chaotic state. Men who do not or cannot get their own ideas classified in their minds are not capable of properly caring for big public affairs.

6 and 9. Sanitary sewers on 6th and 9th streets to act as outfalls to the sewers on Maple avenue east and west could not be built till this past season because under the old law the auditing property could not be assessed for enough to pay for it. The commission could have done it and they are the only ones who have ever had the right to do it. The pumping station for sewer on Lincoln had to fall under same rule as above.

8. When we got hold of a contractor who would undertake to dig some ten-inch wells in 1917 he could not get the steel pipe wanted on account of government embargo. The arrangements were made later with local wellman for wells of six-inch size and he was ready to put down wells last spring under the new commission and did so, but the management bungled the installation by so many expensive and unwise changes that the wells were of no value to us until the summer was passed.

The snow and ice of last winter was fierce but what froze the outlet in the water drain was the frost and not the incumbent officers of the village. The intense weather froze many water pipes never troubled before.

11. The sewer on Ann street was not laid in 1917 because we had no money for it and because after laying nearly \$20,000 worth of sewers for that year we did not have time to do any more before frost came.

12. Several years ago the farmer who rented the Stanley farm got judgment against the village for running sewage into the farm. This happened because the village way back paid no attention to sanitation. Last year we had the county drain commission on the case and we appointed a committee to secure a county drain down Woodward. That was left to the commission which has done with this the same as with practically all other forward moving matters started by the council.

13. A drunken man ran his car

over the curb near the power house. He crashed up his fender and went on after verbally abusing the bystanders.

14. The D. U. R. raised their rails on the old bed a foot to two feet with gravel and when the road bed was excavated for pavement we got this gravel on our side streets for nothing. It was worth thousands of dollars to us.

15. The main trunk sewer from Woodward to the Septic tank is a sanitary sewer and no surface water on earth drainage is to enter it, so the surface water had to be carried away into a water drain, hence the building of the water drain. These questions show clearly that these officers do not know the difference between a sanitary sewer and a water drain. Can we wonder that the sewer inspection of this year has been minimal?

16. I will take credit for placing a \$6,000 assessment on property saving the main sanitary sewer and thus causing the owners to pay the same for sewer privileges as people on other streets. This is the only way a fund for River beds but I understand the commission has switched it into some other fund. The treasurer says there is no such fund. As it's being legal we certainly know that three attorneys advised their clients to pay and most of them did. It is a good moral deed and is at least on par with the \$10,000 we collected for old sidewalks and water drains many of which were outlawed. It is only just to me and the others with me to publicly state that we saved the town \$40,000 that would now be in bonded indebtedness—local? Well, yes, and morally right.

17. Miss Sly's home has the prettiest frontage found between Detroit river and Pontiac. It cost her about \$25,000 while the village has possible spent \$25,000. Who should worry?

From the failure of the first year we may learn to make a success of the second. No government can be successful without capable officers and there is no kind of government that is not successful if the officers are capable. Our revised charter gives the officers more power in the matter of special assessments and so many things can be done easily now that formerly could not be done at all. Good men have been nominated. Now let us get behind the man elected and work for the good of the town. W. D. CLIZBE.

Cut This Out. It Is Worth Money. Don't miss this. Cut out this slip, enclose with 2 cents to Foley & Co., 2405 Sheffield Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, writing your name and address clearly. You will receive in return a trial package containing Foley's Honey and Tar Compound, for coughs, colds and croup; Foley Kidney Pills, and Foley's Chamberlain Tablets. Sold everywhere. -Adv.

OBITUARY.

Phoebe E. Goff was born in June, 1842, in the new house carved in the open wilderness of Michigan by her parents, Philo and Mary Goff. In due season she married the son of another of these hardy pioneers, Jerome Goff, and together spent their more than 80 years in this vicinity. Six years ago the aged couple came to Birmingham to reside with a daughter, Mrs. Ida Theresa Kelloz, on Martin street.

Last June Mrs. Goff suffered a stroke of paralysis, and from that date had been in poor health. She had eight children, one son and seven daughters, blessed their union, all of whom survive. Ida Theresa Kelloz, Birmingham; Mary Clifford, Anne Schaefer, Detroit; Carrie Layton, Lexington; Cora Hayden, Detroit; Pearl Graver, Ludington; Rev. J. O. Goff, Pontiac; Alma, Gasterston, Detroit. Besides the above there are 25 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren. Two of the brothers also survive, Riley Goff, of Olivet, and Squire Goff, of Pontiac. Six of the daughters served as pall bearers when the remains were laid to rest in Roseland Park cemetery.

Don't Fool Yourself. A man suffering from backache, rheumatism, stiff joints or sore muscles may have these symptoms of kidney trouble "don't amount to anything." It is folly to ignore Nature's warning. Foley Kidney Pills give relief in kidney or bladder trouble and "it is better to be safe than sorry." Sold everywhere. -Adv.

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Evening Reading Room, open daily, except Sunday and holidays, from 2:30 to 5:30 p. m., and Wednesday from 7:30 to 9:00 p. m.

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The farmer was at the mercy of an uncertain, localized market. He had no way of reaching through to the people who needed what he was raising for them. There was no premium upon improving his stocks, for grading was lax or lacking.

The consumer had to accept produce that as a rule, had no known responsible name behind it. He had no way of knowing how long the eggs or the butter he was buying had been lying around in miscellaneous lots in the back room of a country store. Much of the poultry was not properly refrigerated before shipment or properly protected by refrigeration in transit.

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We Will Back Up This Adv. By a Window Display of the Goods

MINER GROCERY CO.

THE HOME OF GOOD THINGS TO EAT

THE VILLAGE COAL PILE.

During the winter of 1917 coal was hard to get. The dealers got every pound they could and when the government took a hand we got another pound. No man or woman having illness or great necessity was not supplied within an hour after word was brought to me as president of the village. The dealers usually had a few pounds under padlock for emergency cases.

I took coal out of my cellar and divided it with others when there was less than 300 pounds there. Many persons did the same thing. Do you suppose the dealers would not have sold us all the fuel we wanted? The government refuses to allow such an arrangement. But as soon as the embargo was lifted our dealers served every one ordering coal and there was no shortage. As soon as the village began entering into the business, Mrs. Tom, I say, those dealers for awhile and later on the tax-payers who pay for the business. You say we have not a cent. Well, you should not be bitter because you know that that pile of black, slacked, mine coal dumped down there on the flats is not worth one-half what it cost and you know that you cannot tell what it cost nor how much there is in the dump, but you do know that the \$100,000,000 was lying in the bank at least only a few days ago and that some people around town still owe our coal. You have no way to collect except they call. It better be remembered that the village furnished the help to run this business when they should have been doing some business for the village. It would have paid our tax-payers better if our coal dealers, what? Let it be said here and truthfully there are no better ones in Michigan. Yours, W. D. CLIZBE.

Going Up

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