

CITY HALL JOTTINGS

Assessment Commissioner Forman presented to the Board of Control a report showing the discrepancy between the assessed values of properties taken for various civic works and the actual prices which the city has paid for them. The prices are in some cases 100 per cent. and more higher than the assessment figures. The discrepancies, Mr. Forman explains, are due mainly to the conservative assessment of the property, while cases of transfers, in neighboring property have been made at prices which justify those paid by the city.

The Controllers gave up the task of selecting a new nominee for Fire Commissioner in a state of nervous exhaustion yesterday morning. Controller Thompson was of the opinion that even Lord Kitchener could not be appointed as Fire Commissioner in Toronto under existing conditions.

The Controllers will get a report from the City Treasurer as to the number of nurses who went to the front from Toronto and York township. The Mayor felt very strongly that all the nurses who left the city for the front should be insured.

"They have to endure greater hardships than the soldiers," declared his Worship gallantly. Whereupon Controller O'Neill looked hard at the Mayor and replied: "Let them stay at home and get husbands."

In reply to the British Imperial Association, which would require contractors on all city work to employ 60 per cent. of their staffs of British workmen, the Board of Control cited the joint report on the subject from Commissioner Harris and City Solicitor Johnston. That report said that the city can only legally require a contractor to refrain from employing alien enemies upon city contracts.

A proposal has been made to the Mayor to hold a celebration of the battle of Waterloo on the 100th anniversary of that occasion, Friday, June 18. Part of the celebration, it is suggested, might be the decoration of the soldiers' monuments and the elevation of flags on all schools and public buildings in the city.

The Board of Health asked Dr. Hastings, M.O.H., to report on the establishment of a municipal ice plant. Ald. Yeomans claimed that many people in the city were obliged to eat tainted food at this time of the year because they were unable to buy ice.