

MAYOR WAS ASKED TO COAL MEETING

Statement of Aid. Archibald Bearing on Ward Five Ratepayers

A further statement in connection with the meeting of Ward Five ratepayers held in Givens Street School last Thursday was made yesterday by Aid. Archibald, who replies to Mayor Church.

Aid. Archibald on Coal.

"At the outset allow me to correct a misstatement that got into the press to the effect that I accused the Mayor of tripping to the "Mississippi," etc. I did not say this, nor did I say anything that would convey the impression that his Worship was not busy doing all in his power to cope with the coal situation; but what I did say was that I personally did not agree entirely with his method in keeping the public on the anxious bench believing that the city was going to create a great coal reserve for the coming winter, which consequently influenced a great many not to put in their supply of coal until the best time for doing so had passed. I also stated that I thought it was poor business to approach the large coal dealers with the cards face up on the table, thus giving them an opportunity to turn the city down, which they did, not wanting to do anything that would prejudice the retailers.

Says Mayor Was Invited.

"His Worship also stated that he had no notice of the meeting where this question was discussed. The Chairman, Mr. George Ellis, made the announcement to the meeting that he had invited the Mayor to be present and had called his office during the afternoon to remind him, but was told that His Worship was too busy to attend.

"It would appear from his Worship's remarks that I was away on a three months' vacation from civic business. This is not so. I have been in Toronto every day this summer and have been at the service of those whom I represent at all times. I might also remind his Worship that as a humble Alderman, receiving the large remuneration of \$300 per year, it might not be expected of me that I would give as much time to civic business as one who receives from the citizens \$7,500.

That Bread Appointment.

"His Worship in his peevishness goes far afield to take a fling at me as one of the prime movers in the appointment of a Civic Bread Committee to reduce prices. I may say, sir, that I had absolutely nothing to do with the appointment of said Committee, but was requested by the Board of Control to act on same. It is true that after a careful investigation of the situation, we did nothing but advise people to bake their own bread. We were gratified, however, to note that when our advice was followed the price of bread went down considerably.

"In conclusion I did not vote to give alien enemies a vote in wartime, but I did vote against disfranchising those who had come to our shores on our invitation to get away from tyranny and autocratic rule, and who, by swearing allegiance to the King and taking out their naturalization papers, had become bona fide British subjects. I am not in favor of extending the franchise to any enemy or to any man who is in any way tied to a foreign Government."