

DOUBLE VOTING IN CITY ELECTION SHOWN BY PROBE

Names of Prominent Citizens Used by Personators, Myers Inquiry Reveals

Many cases of alleged double voting and one further instance of impersonation at the polls, were revealed when the probe of the civic election of Dec. 15 was resumed today by Judge Myers at the court house.

Several prominent citizens' names entered into the investigation. Some of them are listed, according to the exhibits filed by H. J. Symington, counsel for D. J. Dyson, as having voted more than once for mayor or having voted in other than their residence ward for mayor.

Mr. Symington announced he would contend that a voter must cast his ballot for mayor in the ward in which he resides. There are numerous cases, he asserted, where voters cast ballots only for aldermen and school trustees in their own ward, and voted for mayor and controllers in a different ward where they own property. These are improper ballots, he contends.

Prominent Names Listed

Among the names of prominent persons mentioned as being listed by Mr. Symington as voting "improperly," are those of:

B. C. Cockshutt, president of the Cockshutt real estate company; **D. W. Buchanan** and **Martin McKitrick**, prominent single taxers; **B. C. Mills**, president of **Mills and Company, Ltd.**, real estate dealers; **Robert Lawrie**, president of the **Lawrie Wagon and Carriage** company, and **C. H. Newton**, official assignee of the **Province of Manitoba**.

Mr. Cockshutt, according to the poll books filed with Judge Myers, voted a full set of ballots in three different wards. Mr. Buchanan and Mr. McKitrick also are listed as voting full ballots three times. Mr. Mills, according to Mr. Symington, voted in his residential ward for aldermen only, and voted for mayor and controllers in another ward.

Bonds Are Held Up

F. J. G. McArthur, counsel for Mayor **F. H. Davidson**, protested against prolonging the inquiry on the ground that \$5,000,000 worth of city bonds are being held up for the mayor's signature.

"Mr. Davidson is not going to sign all those bonds, and take a chance that he is signing them for someone else," said Mr. McArthur.

It is understood Mr. McArthur will base his arguments against throwing out the election result on the **Smith vs. J. D. Baskerville** case, decided several years ago by the appeal court. Mr. Baskerville, now M.P.P. for Emerson, was elected councillor by a majority of three votes. Mr. Smith contested on the ground that nine aliens had voted for Mr. Baskerville.

The court found that nine aliens had voted in the election, but held that owing to the secrecy of the ballot, they could not inquire whether they voted for Mr. Baskerville or Mr. Smith. Mr. McArthur, it is said, will contend in the event that it is shown there was "plugging" in the mayoralty election, that it might have been as much in favor of one candidate as the other, and that the result cannot be changed.

Dr. Dorman Testifies

Dr. Oscar C. Dorman was the only witness called during the session. He said he had voted in Wards 2, 3 and 4. He denied having voted in Ward 5. The poll book had him listed as voting a full ballot in that ward.

Attorneys for Mayor Davidson pointed out that in Poll 33 of Ward 5, where it is alleged wholesale plugging was practiced, there were 69 bona fide votes for the mayoralty candidates. There were 122 ballots cast for aldermen. They argue that if there were 20 cases of impersonation in the poll, that they apparently were practiced only in the interests of the aldermen. They assert they have checked those listed as voting for mayor, and find all the ballots apparently legal.

Judge Myers said that after today, the city will be represented by **T. A. Hunt, K.C.**, corporation counsel, who will give citizens listed as having voted more than once for mayor, a chance to clear their names. It is said that in many cases incompetence of the election officials is responsible for the muddled condition of the records.