

DUTARD TRACT AGAIN UP TO CITY COUNCIL

Purchase of Second Albina Playground Still Urged.

PROMISE ALLEGED BROKEN

Airy Persiflage Between Mayor Baker and Former Commissioner Kellaheer Enlivens Session.

The usual peace and tranquillity of regular sessions of the city council broke yesterday when Dan Kellaheer, former city commissioner, and Rev. John Dawson appeared before the city council and demanded to know if the purchase of 1½ acres of land known as the Dutard tract for playground purposes had been passed up.

The two gentlemen learned that a majority of the members of the council favored purchase of the Dutard tract—if sufficient money remained after each section of the city had been provided with playground facilities.

The council by unanimous vote purchased 18 acres known as the Spencer tract for a playground for Albina. This tract is not satisfactory to the children of Albina, according to Rev. Mr. Dawson.

Class Lines Are Drawn.

"The children will not associate with the children who will use the Spencer tract. Those children, although entitled to playground facilities, are Russian, and the section in which the Spencer tract is located is known as St. Petersburg," explained Mr. Dawson.

Implied promises, alleged to have been made to residents of Albina who campaigned in behalf of the \$500,000 playground bond measure, that the Dutard tract would be purchased if the bond issue carried, followed by the apparent failure of the city council to carry out the pledges, has brought keen disappointment to the mothers of Albina, according to Mr. Kellaheer.

Pier Waxes Indignant.

"I will not recommend the purchase of the Dutard tract," announced Commissioner Pier, in charge of the park bureau. "To members of the council I wish to state that this matter came before you, and it was by unanimous vote of the council that the Spencer tract was purchased and the Dutard tract passed by as almost worthless as a playground. I won't have the buck passed to me, not for one minute."

Mayor Baker admitted that the council had chosen the Spencer tract in place of the Dutard tract because of the larger size of the tract purchased and the opportunity, as the council thought, of providing better facilities for the children of the district.

Demonstration Was Surprise.

The demonstration of several hundred school children gathered on the Dutard tract to greet the members of the city council recently when the latter were on a park inspection trip was recalled to the council by Mr. Dawson.

"I was surprised to see all those children there that morning," explained Mr. Dawson.

"You don't know the abilities of Mr. Kellaheer," explained Mayor Baker.

"Just one of your old political tricks," explained Mr. Kellaheer.

"Nobody knows the game better than you, Dan," confessed the mayor.

Airy Persiflage Enlivens.

"I've been honest in this matter, George, you know that," asserted Mr. Kellaheer.

"Yes, I believe you have, for once in your life, Dan," agreed the mayor.

"This matter will be referred to the commissioner of finance for further investigation. I believe that the purchase of the property would be a good investment for the city and I favor some plan which will enable us to purchase it without working an injustice on any other section."

"Will you notify Mr. Dawson and myself when the matter is to be considered again?" asked Mr. Kellaheer.

"Yes," agreed the mayor; "but this council doesn't want a packed meeting. You two gentlemen are sufficient."

"We have no traveling show," said Mr. Kellaheer.

"What's the matter; did it break up?" concluded the mayor.