

Council Communications, No. 3814, 1884 (A115).

Transcription: Winnipeg, Jan. 14/83, To His Worship the Mayor and Council of the City of Winnipeg in council assembled. Gentlemen. I beg to call your attention to a communication I sent into the council in the early part of last year accompanied with a plan for the remodeling of the police force and asking for a reduction of salaries. My plan then was to the following affect, that the salary of the chief be fixed at \$12.00 and that two of the four sergeants be done away as useless and that two be retained at a salary of \$9.00 each and two corporals at \$8.50 each and two lans corporals at \$8.00 each and the rank and file as the please. But the question was was it necessary to have a chief at all as that officer could go off at a time for one whole week duck shooting and the same fishing and a pleasure trip to St. Pauls and his wages going on. It is generally said that inspector McGowan does all the work. If so he is the man that should have the place. I might just say to you now that I know of an Englishman that has served in the volunteers in his own country and well understands the duties will be glad to take the office of chief for one thousand dollars per year and as the demand of the citizens is for retrenchment I think he should get it. There is one thing more I would like to say that after a long time the acted on it and reduced the number but not the salary. Mr. Fortune was fighting for the chief with all his might. I hope your Honourable body will take action at once. I have on several occasions for the last two years asked some of the men that worked on the corporation if the would be willing to change places with some of these men at the wages the themselves were receiving and the said the would be glad. There is one thing more I would like to call your attention to. At the last session of the Dominion Parliament there was an act passed giving women the right to vote that had the qualifications and as there are several said to possess large properties in this city which possess more brains than their men and as brains is so necessary at present in the management of affairs I think there ought to be a clause put in the new charter granting all the privileges so that if the and the Electors thought fit the be elected to that board by your Honourable body complying with this request. There many a citizen will feel thankful.

Yours, James French