

Plan Beauty Spot For North End

Plans for a north end beauty spot and recreational centre at Fort Needham were discussed yesterday at the first meeting of the Fort Needham commission at city hall. Mayor J. E. Ahern presided at the meeting, which was attended by three members beside himself and outlined the purpose of the group, formed last May.

The city council already has voted a borrowing of \$25,000 for the improvement of the area, which only awaits approval of the department of municipal affairs. Mayor Ahern said provincial officials were sympathetic toward the project.

It was agreed to seek an early meeting with officials of the Halifax Relief commission to see if they would join with the city in the cost of the work as a memorial to victims and survivors of the Halifax explosion of 1917. The mayor said he had information that the relief commission would take part in the project, but he was unable to disclose details at present.

Present yesterday were Rev. B. R. Tupper, minister of United Memorial church, Kaye street, Alderman R. V. Sullivan and Owen N. Lane. Letters were read from the two members, Msgr. C. F. Curran and Rev. Canon W. W. Clarkson, both of whom evinced keen interest in the project.

PLANS SUGGESTED

Msgr. Curran wrote at some length to suggest that the top of the fort be levelled, that a scenic driveway be built around it, that an observation tower be erected within the enclosure to give a view of the harbor and Bedford Basin and the remainder of the levelled area landscaped and equipped as a recreational centre. He would install a swimming pool and make provision for various outdoor sports. The ground floor of the tower could be used as a canteen, Msgr. Curran suggested.

Mayor Ahern thought that beside the recreational features the park could be beautified to give the north end something comparable to the Public Gardens and he suggested also that a zoo might be included in the plans.

Alderman Sullivan said he saw no reason why the relief commission could not take part in the work and offered a motion that the meeting be held with relief commission officials.

Atomic Energy

Directors and Halifax last of shareholders day. Photograph at the Halifax J. D. Fraser, Toronto; W. Winnipeg; H. Rothesay, N.B. vice-president manager, Tor

Basin Collision Case Con

Neither of the collided in Halifax August, 1942, was "in steady compass collision, Kenneth sel for the Norwegian said yesterday before Committee of the

The Privy Council appeal by the Norwegian based on a collision Basin between the Norefjord and the owned by the Alcoa Company Incorporated carrying 1,400 tons

Norway appealed of the Supreme Court that the Norefjord blame for the collision

Carpmael submitted Norefjord was entitled heading for the purpose other ships at anchor

When the ships other, the regulation ing collisions at sea "be in force." Therefore for the crew of the try to steady her and the Alcoa Rambler he said.

Lord Roche one of justices, asked: 'Why didn't she (the Norefjord) and why was there a

Carpmael replied: my submission the Alcoa Rambler was put astern until a than it was said th

In Hospital Being Hit

Struck by an auto Robie-Almon interviewed evening. L. J. M. Brunswick street, v the Victoria General ly afterward, suffer injuries and possible tures.

Edward F. Wrig street, driver of the officers that he w from the green light was proceeding r

St. Mark's Rectory -

Russell St.

Halifax, N.S.

Nov. 25th 1948.

W. Publicover Esquire
City Clerk.
Halifax.

Dear Sir,

This is to acknowledge with thanks receipt of a request to attend a meeting of Fort Needham Park Commission on Monday, Nov. 29th at 11.00 A.M. & to express my sincere regret that - owing to a previous engagement - I shall be unable to attend.

I am keenly interested in the plans of the Commission & would like to be present at the meeting, but it is impossible, sorry.

Yours truly,

W.W. Clarkson.

PUBLISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF NOVA SCOTIA,
HALIFAX, N. S.

Saint Joseph's Rectory
Halifax, Nova Scotia

November 26, 1948

The Chairman
 Fort Needham Park Commission

Dear Sir:

Apropos of suggestions concerning the future use of Fort Needham Park I would respectfully advise:

1. Levelling the entire summit of the Fort without detriment to the commanding height of the Fort.
2. Arranging a scenic one-way driveway with entrance from Gottingen Street and exit by way of Needham Street. In time a stone wall about two feet in height could be built around the outer edge of this driveway. This wall would add to the scenic attractiveness of the Fort whilst at the same time providing comfortable seating accommodation for spectators.
3. Erecting an observation tower with fairly large covered verandah on top platform. This look-out platform would command a sweeping panoramic vision of Halifax Harbor, Bedford Basin, Halifax and Dartmouth with suburban areas. The Ground floor of the observation tower could be used for a dry canteen and for janitors quarters. A covered platform on this level might serve for afternoon teas and light lunches as well as offering shelter for the foot weary.
4. The main enclosure within the scenic driveway should become a modern community centre equipped for recreation purposes. Among the recreational units available to the general public could be:
 - 1) A modern open air swimming pool architecturally attractive and hygienically maintained for adults and children as well.
 - 2) At least six Tennis Courts capable of providing facilities for many players.
 - 3) Several Quoit beds with flood lights for evening use.
 - 4) Four modern Croquet beds with the latest equipment.
 - 5) Bowling greens for out-door bowling.
 - 6) Courts for deck Tennis and Volley Ball.
 - 7) If space permits a section could be set aside for two soft-ball diamonds.
 The baseball diamonds could be turned into an open-air rink for the winter months. Tobogganing and skiing facilities could be made available on the slopes of Fort Needham.

Before proceeding to finalization of the recreational facilities a competent person should be delegated to visit community playgrounds elsewhere in order to get the latest ideas in this field.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
 HALIFAX, N. S.

Saint Joseph's Rectory
Halifax, Nova Scotia

-2-

5. It is within the range of possibility that the Halifax Relief Commission might undertake the privilege of financing this project as a memorial to the victims and survivors of the historic 1917 Explosion Disaster. Within recent months the Press carried an announcement intimating that the Relief Commission was contemplating something of this nature.
6. As a citizen of Halifax and a life-long resident of the North end the writer would deplore the sacrificing of Fort Needham for commercial purposes even though it be for the praiseworthy motive of erecting homes. The trend in the bigger cities elsewhere is to obtain an increasing number of parks, out-door recreation areas rather than to absorb existing breathing spots. With the exception of the Isleville supervised play field, used practically exclusively by children, the citizens of the North end have no community recreation centre. Fort Needham is one of God's gifts to our city. It should be used to the fullest general advantage. It is elevated, airy -- a natural observatory. Wholesome fresh air recreation provides an outlet for youthful energy, purifies the mind and acts as an effective deterrent to vandalism and crime.
7. The aim in community planning should be to keep in mind the needs of the low income groups -- the welfare of citizens who are unable by reason of their limited means to patronize private clubs and restricted playing fields. A happy and contented populace makes for a law-abiding community. Children who are obliged by circumstances to play in the streets often run foul of the law -- whilst if these same children be able to play, romp, and enjoy themselves in supervised playgrounds all the year around vandalism would soon be reduced to a negligible percentage. Adults are but children of larger growth. Let the grown-ups have their recreational areas, let breathing parks be opened up in densely populated districts all over the city and a better community spirit will be engendered.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles F. Leveson

Halifax, N. S.,
November 29, 1948.

A meeting of the Fort Needham Park Commission was held on the above date.

There were present His Worship the Mayor, Chairman; Reverend B. R. Tupper, Mr. O. N. Lane and Alderman Sullivan.

His Worship the Mayor explained the purpose of the meeting and advanced various suggestions for the improvement of Fort Needham and surrounding areas.

A letter was read from Reverend Cannon W. W. Clarkson expressing regrets at being unable to attend this meeting.

The attached letter from Monsignor Charles F. Curran was submitted and read.

All agreed that Fort Needham should be made into a Recreational and Community Centre and it was decided to request the Halifax Relief Commission to meet with this Commission for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not such a project could be undertaken jointly

It was agreed to request the Commissioner of Works to give early attention to the following matters.

1. The extension of Union Street to Gottingen Street.
2. The extension of Needham Street to Union Street.
3. The construction of a concrete sidewalk on the west side of Gottingen Street between Young and Kaye Streets.

The matter of improving the park at Young, Gottingen and Kaye Streets was discussed and it was agreed to suggest to the Superintendent of the Public Gardens that flower beds be set out there next spring and shrubbery planted also to have several benches placed at suitable locations.

Meeting adjourned.

J. E. Ahern,
MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN.

December 11, 1948.

Honorable R. G. Beazley,
9 College Street,
Halifax, N. S.

Dear Sir:-

At a recent meeting of the Fort Needham Park Commission I was directed to ascertain whether or not the members of the Halifax Relief Commission would be willing to meet with this Commission to discuss matters pertaining to the improvement of Fort Needham and surrounding areas.

I phoned Major Tibbs and was advised by him to write you. I would therefore, appreciate it if you would inform me as to your views on the matter.

Yours very truly,

W. P. Publicover,
CITY CLERK.

WPP/HW.

RECEIVED
HALIFAX N.S.
DEC 15 1948

THE HALIFAX RELIEF COMMISSION

139 YOUNG STREET

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

December 18, 1948.

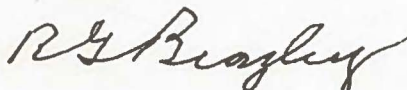
W. P. Publicover, Esq.
City Clerk,
City Hall,
City.

Dear Sir:-

I have your letter of the 11 inst, re-
questing my views in regard to the Fort Needham matter.

The Relief Commission is interested in the
development of that area, and directly after certain necessary
negotiations now underway are completed which we trust will be
soon, you will be communicated with further.

Yours truly,
Halifax Relief Commission.



R. G. BEAZLEY.
CHAIRMAN.

RGB/Y.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.

April 11, 1949.

Mayor J. E. Ahern,
Mayor of Halifax,
City Hall,
City.

Your Worship:

In accordance with your request we confirm our proposal to finance certain permanent improvements of Fort Needham as a memorial to those who lost their lives in the disaster of December 6, 1917, discussed with the Fort Needham Park Commission.

The members of the Fort Needham Park Commission present at the meeting were:

Monsignor C. F. Curran
O. N. Lane and yourself

The Chairman stated that the Halifax Relief Commission proposes to allocate \$100,000.00 to this development, but pointed out that it would be necessary for City Council to approve of this proposal and to agree to assume in full the future maintenance of the Park.

The Chairman also stated to you that a Committee is being set up consisting of the Halifax Relief Commissioners with Mr R. W. McColough, Mr D. F. MacIsaac and, with your concurrence, Mr J. P. Dumaresq, to consider detailed plans for the improvements.

The Hon Angus L. MacDonald, who has expressed himself as most interested in our proposal, has very kindly agreed to arrange for Mr McColough to give us his technical advice, and also suggested that Mr N. V. Jankov, landscape advisor to the Provincial Government, would assist us in preparing our plans.

The Halifax Relief Commission is most anxious to ensure that this Park development shall be a worthy and permanent living memorial to those who lost their lives in the disaster of December 6, 1917.

Yours very truly,
Halifax Relief Commission.

✓
PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.

W. E. TIBBS.

John E. Ahern,
Mayor

Mayor's Office
Halifax, Nova Scotia

April 21, 1949.

C O P Y

Hon. R. G. Beazley,
Chairman,
Halifax Relief Commission,
9 College Street,
Halifax,
N. S.

Dear Mr Beazley:

I was very much disappointed with the story relating to the generous offer of the Halifax Relief Commission regarding Fort Needham. The paper certainly did not print the story as I gave it to them.

I advised them of your plans, pointing out that it was the Relief Commission's Memorial to the people who gave their lives in the great catastrophe of 1917. I felt badly when I read the article because I wanted the Relief Commission to have full credit for providing something that this City has long sought.

I felt that I should drop this little note to you, explaining that it was my desire to show appreciation of your kind offer.

Yours very truly,

John E. Ahern.

JEA/MGV

M A Y O R

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.

THE HALIFAX RELIEF COMMISSION

139 YOUNG STREET
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

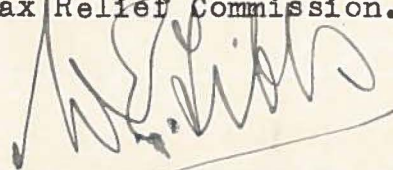
May 3, 1949.

Gordon S. Kinley, Esq.
Mayor of Halifax,
Halifax,
N. S.

Your Worship:

At the request of our Chairman The Honorable
R. G. Beazley, I am sending you herewith copy of a letter
addressed to Mayor John E. Ahern, dated April 11, 1949, also
copy of letter from the Mayor to our Chairman dated April 21,
1949.

Yours very truly,
Halifax Relief Commission.



W. E. TIBBS.
COMPTROLLER.

WET/Y.

ENCL. (2).

Public Archives of Nova Scotia
HALIFAX, N.S.

67
May 4, 1949

MAJOR W. E. TIBBS,
COMPTROLLER, HALIFAX RELIEF COMMISSION,
139 YOUNG STREET,
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

DEAR MAJOR TIBBS:

I AM IN RECEIPT OF YOUR LETTER THIS MORNING
WITH COPIES OF LETTERS ATTACHED.

I AM GREATLY IMPRESSED WITH YOUR OFFER, AND
SHALL COOPERATE WITH YOU IN ANY WAY TO THE
FURTHEST EXTENT.

AT THE MOMENT I AM AT A LOSS DUE TO A
LIMITED KNOWLEDGE OF THE SITUATION, BUT
YOU WILL HEAR FROM ME IN THE COURSE OF A
FEW DAYS IN MORE DETAIL.

YOURS VERY TRULY,

GORDON S. KINLEY
M A Y O R

GSK/MGV

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.



Halifax, N. S.,
May 10, 1949.

To His Worship the Mayor and
Members of the City Council.

Gentlemen:-

The attached letter from the Halifax Relief Commission respecting a proposal to finance certain permanent improvements to Fort Needham, as a Memorial to those who lost their lives in the disaster of December 6, 1917 was considered by the Finance and Executive Committee at a meeting held on the above date.

It was agreed to recommend that the proposal as outlined in this letter be approved.

Respectfully submitted,

W. P. Publicover
W. P. Publicover,
CITY CLERK.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.

18
Report
in Ex. Com.
re
Fort Needham



Members of the City Council
To His Worship the Mayor and

MAY 10, 1949
HATTIES, W. S.

May 13, 1949.

W. E. Tibbs, Esq.,
Secretary,
Halifax Relief Commission,
139 Young Street,
Halifax, N. S.

Dear Sir:-

The matter of your proposal to finance certain permanent improvements to Fort Needham as a Memorial to those who lost their lives in the disaster of December 6, 1917 was considered by the City Council at a meeting held May 12, 1949.

A resolution approving of the proposal as outlined in your letter under date of April 11, 1949, addressed to Mayor J. E. Ahern was passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

W. P. Publicover,
CITY CLERK.

WPP/HW.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.



102-5A.327A (5A.5)326-14

CITY COUNCIL

OFFICE OF CITY CLERK
CITY HALL

Halifax, N. S., May 17, 1949.

*Extracts from Minutes of a Meeting of the City Council of the City of Halifax
held on the 12th day of May 1949.*

FORT NEEDHAM

Halifax, N. S.,
May 10, 1949.

To His Worship the Mayor and
Members of the City Council.

Gentlemen:-

The attached letter from the Halifax Relief Commission respecting a proposal to finance certain permanent improvements to Fort Needham as a Memorial to those who lost their lives in the disaster of December 6, 1917 was considered by the Finance and Executive Committee at a meeting held on the above date.

It was agreed to recommend that the proposal as outlined in this letter be approved.

Respectfully submitted,

W. P. Publicover,
CITY CLERK.

April 11, 1949.

Mayor J. E. Ahern,
Mayor of Halifax,
City Hall,
City.

Your Worship:-

In accordance with your request we confirm our proposal to finance certain permanent improvements to Fort Needham as a memorial to those who lost their lives in the disaster of December 6, 1917, discussed with the Fort Needham Park Commission.

The members of the Fort Needham Park Commission present at the meeting were:

Monsignor C. F. Curran
O. N. Lane and yourself

The Chairman stated that the Halifax Relief Commission proposes to allcate \$100,000.00 to this development but pointed out that it would be necessary for City Council to approve of this proposal and to agree to assume in full the future maintenance of the Park.

The Chairman also stated to you that a Committee is being set up consisting of the Halifax Relief Commissioners with Mr. R. W. McColough, Mr. D. F. MacIsaac and, with your concurrence, Mr. J. P. Dumaresq, to consider detailed plans for the improvements.

SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.
Public



CITY COUNCIL

OFFICE OF CITY CLERK
CITY HALL

Halifax, N. S.,19

Extracts from Minutes of a Meeting of the City Council of the City of Halifax
held on the.....day of.....19

- 2 -

The Hon. Angus L. MacDonald, who has expressed himself as most interested in our proposal, has very kindly agreed to arrange for Mr. McColough to give us his technical advice, and also suggested that Mr. N. V. Jankov, landscape advisor to the Provincial Government, would assist us in preparing our plans.

The Halifax Relief Commission is most anxious to ensure that this Park development shall be a worthy and permanent living memorial to those who lost their lives in the disaster of December 6, 1917.

Yours very truly,
Halifax Relief Commission,

(Sgd) W. E. Tibbs,
SECRETARY.

Moved by Alderman Hosterman, seconded by Alderman Breen that the report be approved and that until such time as the City of Halifax acquires legal title to Fort Needham that legislative authority be secured to expend funds for its maintenance.

Alderman DeWolf: "There is always a little string attached".

Alderman Walker: "If they are going to give us this land; let them give it to us and we will put up working men's houses on Fort Needham. It has good connections for the people to get to work".

Alderman DeWolf: "I would suggest that after all the properties are sold and after they spend \$100,000.00 on this property if they should buy annuities to take care of the present pensioners, there should be left not less than \$600,000.00".

Alderman Vaughan: "Since 1917 no money has been spent for public parks in that district. I would, therefore, take much pleasure in supporting this motion to expend money in this park".

The motion was put and passed 9 voting for the same and 2 against it as follows:

PUBLIC OFFICE OF THE CITY OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.



CITY COUNCIL

OFFICE OF CITY CLERK
CITY HALL

Halifax, N. S.,19

Extracts from Minutes of a Meeting of the City Council of the City of Halifax
held on the.....day of.....19

- 3 -

FOR THE MOTION

Alderman Abbott
Adams
Breen
Burgess
DeWolf
Hosterman
MacDonald
Redmond
Vaughan

-9-

AGAINST IT

Alderman Kitz
Walker

-2-

A true extract,

W. P. Publicover,
CITY CLERK.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.



CITY COUNCIL

OFFICE OF CITY CLERK
CITY HALL

RG 35-102(5A.5)326.17

Halifax, N. S., May 17, 1949. 19

*Extracts from Minutes of a Meeting of the City Council of the City of Halifax
held on the.....12th.....day of.....May.....19 49.*

FORT NEEDHAM

Halifax, N. S.,
May 10, 1949.

To His Worship the Mayor and
Members of the City Council.

Gentlemen:-

The attached letter from the Halifax Relief Commission respecting a proposal to finance certain permanent improvements to Fort Needham as a Memorial to those who lost their lives in the disaster of December 6, 1917 was considered by the Finance and Executive Committee at a meeting held on the above date.

It was agreed to recommend that the proposal as outlined in this letter be approved.

Respectfully submitted,

W. P. Publicover,
CITY CLERK.

April 11, 1949.

Mayor J. E. Ahern,
Mayor of Halifax,
City Hall,
City.

Your Worship:-

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O. N. Lane and yourself

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The Chairman also stated to you that a Committee is being set up consisting of the Halifax Relief Commissioners with Mr. R. W. McColough, Mr. D. F. MacIsaac and, with your concurrence, Mr. J. P. Dumaresq, to consider detailed plans for the improvements.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.



CITY COUNCIL

OFFICE OF CITY CLERK
CITY HALL

Halifax, N. S.,19

Extracts from Minutes of a Meeting of the City Council of the City of Halifax
held on the.....day of.....19

- 2 -

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Yours very truly,
Halifax Relief Commission,

(Sgd) W. E. Tibbs,
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CITY COUNCIL

OFFICE OF CITY CLERK

CITY HALL

Halifax, N. S.,19

Extracts from Minutes of a Meeting of the City Council of the City of Halifax
held on the.....day of.....19

- 3 -

FOR THE MOTION

Alderman Abbott
 Adams
 Breen
 Burgess
 DeWolf
 Hosterman
 MacDonald
 Redmond
 Vaughan

-9-

AGAINST IT

Alderman Kitz
 Walker

-2-

A true extract,

W. P. Publicover

W. P. Publicover,
 CITY CLERK.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
 HALIFAX, N. S.

Halifax, N. S.,
May 18, 1949.

A meeting of the Fort Needham Park Commission was held on the above date.

There were present His Worship the Mayor, Chairman; Monsignor Curran, Rev. B. R. Tupper, Mr. Owen N. Lane, Mr. A. A. Robertson and Alderman Walker.

VICE-CHAIRMAN

His Worship the Mayor suggested that Alderman Vaughan be appointed Vice-Chairman of this Commission for the ensuing year. This was agreed to.

HALIFAX RELIEF COMMISSION

Read extract from the minutes of a meeting of the City Council held on the 12th day of May 1949 respecting the proposal of the Halifax Relief Commission to finance certain improvements to Fort Needham Park as a memorial to those who lost their lives in the disaster of December 6, 1917.

Monsignor Curran referred to a meeting held recently at the residence of Honorable R. G. Beazley, at which time a letter from the Halifax Relief Commission was read giving particulars of what it proposes to do.

It was agreed that the City Clerk should obtain a copy of this letter and have copies of same sent to each member of the Commission.

It was felt that a meeting should be held with the members of the Halifax Relief Commission and Messrs. MacColough, MacIsaac and Dumaresq, so that all may fully understand just what is contemplated. June 1st, at 2:30 P. M. was set as the time for this meeting.

PUBLIC RECORDS OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.

FILED

- 2 -

May 18, 1949.

Mr. MacLeod of the Hydrostone Horseshoe Club stated that a lot had been acquired on Devonshire Avenue, which requires a considerable amount of fill to make it suitable for activities and he wished to know if this Commission would be in favour of letting the Club have some of the surplus fill from the Fort Needham Park project.

Mr. MacLeod was informed that he would have the full co-operation of this Commission, but that he should take the matter up with the Committee on Works.

Meeting adjourned.

Gordon S. Kinley,
MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN.

Halifax, N. S.,
May 18, 1949.

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Meeting adjourned.

Gordon S. Kinley,
MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN.

*Approved June 1/49
C. A. Vaughan*

THE HALIFAX RELIEF COMMISSION

139 YOUNG STREET

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

October 31, 1949.

W. P. Publicover, Esq.
City Clerk,
City of Halifax,
City Hall,
City.

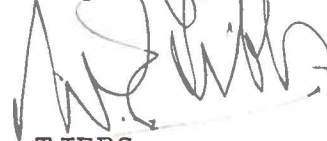
re Mr Harry Levy, 32 Columbus Street.

Dear Sir:-

The above who lost one of his eyes at the time of the Halifax explosion in 1917, when he was only seven years old has asked us to recommend him to you for permanent employment at Fort Needham Memorial Park when you are ready to make such appointments.

The Commission has no hesitation in recommending him to you for such an appointment, particularly as he was one of those injured at the time of the explosion.

Yours very truly,
Halifax Relief Commission.



W. E. TIBBS.
COMPTROLLER.

WET/Y.

PUBLISHED

November 1, 1949.

Major W. E. Tibbs,
Comptroller,
The Halifax Relief Commission,
139 Young Street,
Halifax, N. S.

Dear Sir:-

I acknowledge receipt of your letter
under date of October 31, 1949, respecting Mr.
Harry Levy.

I shall have same placed before the
Fort Needham Park Commission at its next meeting.

Yours very truly,

W. P. Publicover,
CITY CLERK.

WPP/HW.