

City Hall

## CHAPTER VII

### MAYOR JOHN T. COUGHLIN'S ADMINISTRATION

#### Board of Alderman 1906. Other City Officials

The work of preparing this history forms a part of the history of the administration of Mayor John T. Coughlin. It was through the encouragement received from the Mayor and Aldermen that the compilers were enabled to overcome one of the most serious difficulties which confronted them at the outset of their undertaking.

John T. Coughlin took office in January, 1905, with a Board of Aldermen largely opposed to him politically. After the organization of the new government, with James Sinclair as president, relations between the executive and legislative departments began which were in marked contrast with the strife and bickering that prevailed following the adoption of the new charter. Mayor Coughlin respected the prerogatives of the Aldermen, and the board worked in harmony with the Executive. Consultations and conferences were frequent, and at no time did differences arise. Economy was the watchword, and there was a strict observance of the provisions of the city charter governing expenditures and obligations.

The first year of the administration was without a notable incident, save for a mild controversy over the placing of poles in the North Watuppa Pond by the Old Colony Railway Company for the purpose of conveying power from a station in Quincy to the lines in this city. A lease had been entered into by the members of the Reservoir Commission with the company, because of the obstacles put in the way of the railway corporation by owners of private land. The action of the commission resulted in the repeal of the ordinance by which it was created and the devolution of its powers upon the Mayor, city engineer and Water Board.

During the year the Mayor, acting in behalf of the city, solved a problem which had vexed the municipality for a number of years. An agreement was entered into with

the Old Colony Railway Company whereby the expense of removing snow piled by plows in streets occupied by rails should be shared equally by the city and the company.

A review of the Mayor's life appears in the biographical chapter of this work.

The beginning of the second year of the Coughlin administration was attended with some changes in the personnel of the Aldermen. Frederick Kendall gave way to Eugene E. Sullivan; Ephraim C. Niles to William Booth; Frederick J. Gagnon to James H. Kay; William Burgess to John L. Shea; William Turner to Charles Lavoie; Dr. Samuel J. Kelly to Julian Hanson; L. Frank Malone to John T. Kenney; Frank Patnaude to Archibald St. George. Mr. Sinclair was continued as president. The attitude of the Mayor towards his associates in the carrying on of the government remained unaltered. Neither trespassed upon the rights of the other. In consequence there was no clashing. Business ideas predominated, and the hand of the grafter was nowhere visible. Altogether the two years during which Mayor Coughlin has been at the head of the city have been periods of progress and economy, satisfactory to the citizens, irrespective of party.

The present Board of Aldermen was made up as follows:

At Large—Eugene E. Sullivan, Frederick Moore, Charles Lavoie, William Lomax, Julian Hanson, James T. Bagshaw, Alanson J. Abbe, Orlando Draper and Joseph Turner.

From Wards—George Smith, William Booth, Robert L. Manley, James H. Kay, Joseph O'Regan, John L. Shea, James J. Sullivan, John T. Kenney, Edward F. Harrington, Cornelius Kelly, Silfred B. L. Poullot, Archibald St. George, James Sinclair, George F. Johnson, Frank S. Almy, John S. H. Lannigan, William B. Ling and William Westell.

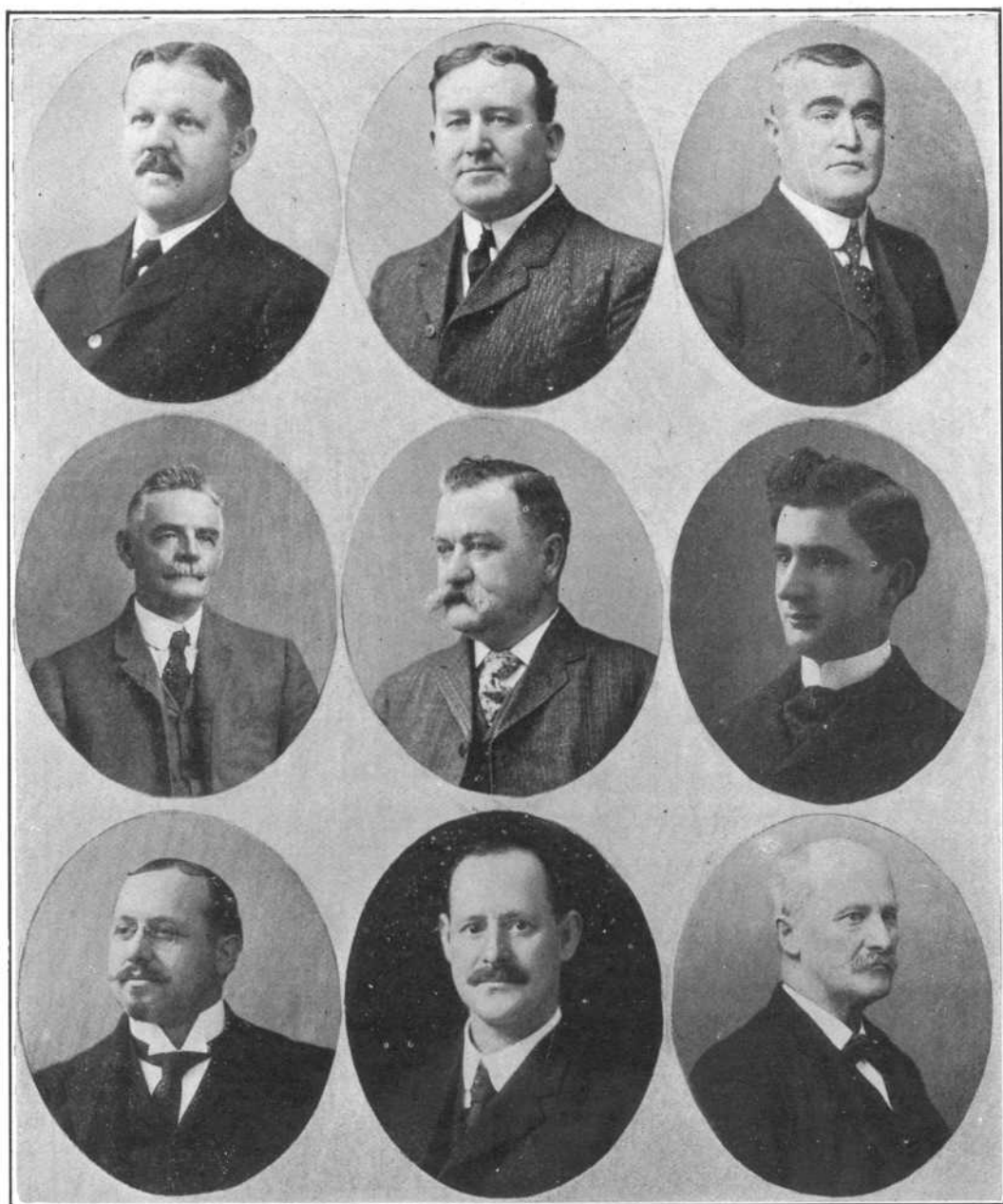


Members of Board of Aldermen: First, Second and Third Wards.

First Ward—George Smith,  
Second Ward—Robert L. Manley,  
Third Ward—Joseph O'Reagan,

William Booth,  
Frederick Moore,  
John L. Shea,

Eugene E. Sullivan,  
James H. Kay,  
Charles Lavoie.



Members of Board of Aldermen; Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Wards.

Fourth Ward—Alderman-at-Large, William Lomax,  
 Fifth Ward—Alderman-at-Large, Julian Hanson,  
 Sixth Ward—Archibald St. George,

James J. Sullivan,  
 Cornelius Kelly,  
 James T. Bagshaw,

John T. Kenny,  
 Edward F. Harrington,  
 Leonidas Peultott.



Members of Board of Aldermen: Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Wards.

Seventh Ward—Hon. James Sinclair, Prest.  
Eighth Ward—Orlando Draper,  
Ninth Ward—Joseph Turner,

Allanson J. Abbe, Vice-Prest.  
Frank S. Almy,  
William Westell,

George T. Johnson.  
John H. S. Lannigan.  
William B. Ling.