

MR. McLANE AS MAYOR

Was Confronted By Questions Of Vast Importance.

GREATER CITY HIS DREAM

Was Courteous In His Intercourse With Others, Genial In Relaxation, But Always Careful Official.

Probably Mayor McLane's most distinguishing traits of character were his uniform courtesy and equable temper. Those who have been most intimately connected with him in his official life have never seen him lose his temper, even under the most trying circumstances.

During all the solicitations to which he was subjected by the army of office-seekers and their friends just after his election he was never accused of treating anyone with discourtesy. Since the great fire, when a multitude of details has constantly pressed upon him, he has been always and under all circumstances the courteous, affable gentleman. Even in administering a rebuke he did it in such an admirable way that it scarcely left a sting, and those who were thrown in personal contact with him never failed to express their admiration for his personality, however widely they might differ with him on questions of public policy.

In his discussion of the various matters that came before him in his official capacity he exhibited invariably the trained mind of the lawyer, and was probably at his best when engaged in an animated controversy over some municipal question of importance.

The public criticism that he received never seemed to ruffle the serenity of his mind. While deprecating the unkind things that might be said or published of him, he seemed always to take them philosophically and never appeared to lose his mental equipoise.

Mayor McLane was by nature of a retiring disposition and shrank from any publicity, and it was this trait that he evidently found it most difficult to overcome when he assumed the duties of Mayor, and, necessarily, had to pose in the public light. He was reserved and rather uncommunicative and it is probable that not even his best friends knew the exact state of his feelings at any time.

Had Been Nervous Recently.

Recently those most closely associated with him say that he has been more nervous and has shown the strain of the constant work and worry. On several occasions lately he has remarked that he would like to take a holiday and many of his friends had advised him to take a vacation. He has invariably replied, however, that it was impossible for him to leave the duties of his office at this time. For the past few days he had been nervous and his eyes have been circled with dark rings. He would frequently allude to the tremendous responsibilities of his position and the inability of the public to comprehend the difficulties under which he labored. They say that adverse criticism preyed upon the Mayor's mind a great deal more than anyone suspected and that behind the mask of his reserve he hid a sensitive organization

that shrank from words of censure.

There was not one of the Mayor's appointees who did not have the highest personal regard for him. With them he was always kindly and considerate, while insisting that every duty should be thoroughly performed.

A Genial Companion.

He had a fund of quiet humor and a remarkably keen sense of the ridiculous, which made him at all times a pleasant social companion. He could tell a good story well and had a number which he was fond of relating and which were always apropos to some question which was being discussed. It was a revelation to those who only knew him as the quiet, reserved and dignified Mayor to see him in his moments of relaxation when he would apparently throw aside his official mantle and become the genial, witty companion.

Probably the last conversation he had with any of his official family serves to illustrate his thoughtful kindness for the happiness of others.

Yesterday being a holiday, the Mayor did not go down to his office in the City Hall, but about 11 o'clock Messenger McGrath called him up from the office to tell him that Judge Harlan's secretary had telephoned for some examination papers which the Mayor was preparing for the University of Maryland School of Law.

"I am finishing them now," responded the Mayor, "and will post them this afternoon, so he will get them tomorrow morning."

"Where are you going today?" he asked. "I thought I would go out and take a car ride," answered Mr. McGrath.

"That's right," said the Mayor. "It will do you good to get out in the air. I wish I could go out for a ride."

This was at 11:15 o'clock yesterday morning, and a few hours later the speaker was a corpse.

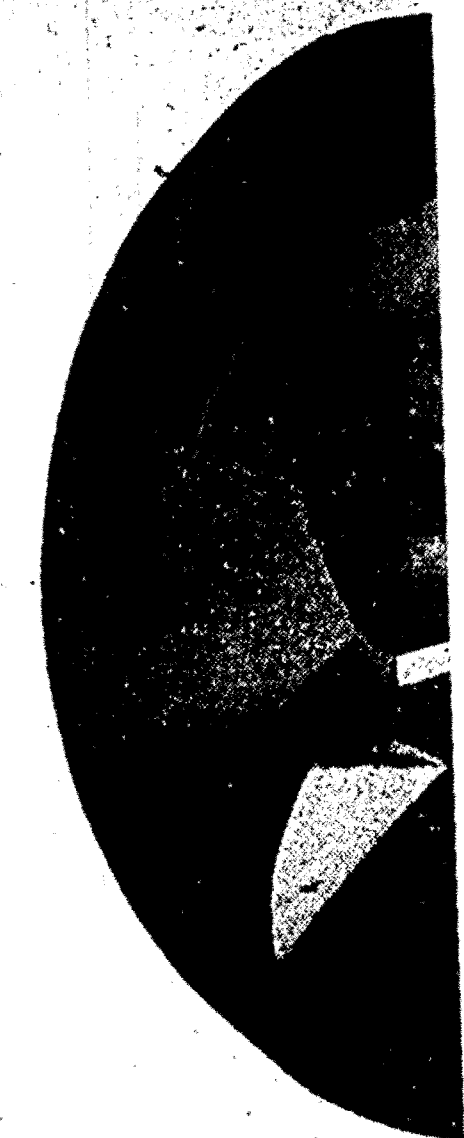
Careful About Details.

When sitting as a member of the Board of Estimates or Board of Awards he usually had a pleasant word and frequently a joke for his fellow-members, but every question that came before the boards was carefully considered, and he would ask numerous questions as to the details and circumstances surrounding the particular case under consideration. He seemed almost abnormally afraid of doing some injustice, and was always careful to discover that the ruling of the board was in accordance with the law and the facts.

He was anxious that all the members of the boards should agree with his view of the matter under consideration, and would spend considerable time in endeavoring to make one member see the question in the same light as himself, although every other member was of the same way of thinking, and the one vote could make no difference in the disposition of the question.

Importance Of His Duties.

No Mayor of Baltimore has had such important questions to deal with as has the



MAYOR E. C.

late occupant of the office. Even before the great fire there were questions of immense public importance confronting the new administration and much was expected of it. The sewerage system was to be built, and one of the first questions to which Mayor McLane turned his mind was that of completing the necessary steps preliminary to the beginning of this work. With this idea in view he directed City Solicitor Bruce to prepare an enabling act for the purpose of authorizing the issue of bonds necessary to carry out the work. The act was drawn and, despite the fact that the great fire intervened before it could be passed by the Legislature, the Mayor insisted on having it pushed through, and it is now a law, and the citizens have only to ratify the act in order to procure the funds for this work.

At the same time the Mayor was engaged in providing for a bill authorizing a bond issue for a new system of street paving, and it was one of his most cherished ambitions to see the streets of the city covered with improved pavements. This plan, as well as another he had for building new school and engine houses, was delayed by the fire.

During And After The Fire.

When the great fire occurred the Mayor was among the first of the city officials on the ground, and throughout that memorable Sunday he was constantly on hand, consulting with different officials and giving directions as to the best means of staying the progress of the flames. Before the fire was under control he was busy with plans for the rebuilding and

only a few hours later had named the members of the Emergency Committee which was to prepare the plans for the Greater Baltimore that was the young Mayor's ideal dream.

In all the innumerable details that have followed the Mayor has kept in close touch with every phase and has given his closest personal attention to the preparation of every important document and the carrying out of every plan. Whatever criticism there may have been of his methods no one has ever questioned his deep sincerity and honesty of purpose.

That he has been the target for much criticism has been the natural result of the difficulties that have surrounded him and his unswerving loyalty to the purposes he had in view. In the appointment of the municipal officials after his election he gave offense to the Democratic organization leaders by his selection. The Mayor steadily contended both in his public utterances and in his private conversations that he had given the organization consideration in every case in which a suitable man had been proposed for the office.

MAYOR'S OFFICIAL FAMILY

Heads Of Departments Appointed By Mr. McLane.

The following heads of departments in the municipal government were appointed by Mayor McLane last September:

- City Collector, Henry Williams; salary \$2,000 and fees.
- City Engineer, Benjamin T. Fendall; salary \$4,000.
- Collector Water Rents and Licenses, J. Spencer Clarke; salary \$2,500.
- Inspector of Buildings, Edward D. Preston; salary \$3,000.
- Commissioner Street Cleaning, Joseph L. Wickes; salary \$2,500.
- Superintendent Lamps and Lighting, Robert J. McCuen; salary \$2,000.
- Superintendent Public Buildings, John T. Murphy; salary \$1,500.
- City Librarian, Willard F. Coyle; salary \$1,500.
- City Solicitor, W. Cabell Bruce; salary \$4,000.
- Judges Appeal Tax Court, Conway W. Sams, W. H. Brune and Oscar Leiser; salary \$2,000 each.
- Water Engineer, Alfred M. Quick; salary \$4,000.
- Harbor Engineer, N. H. Hutton; salary \$4,000.
- Health Commissioner, Dr. James Bosley; salary \$3,500.

The Mayor's private staff consists of his secretary, clerk and messenger. These appointments are considered personal with the Mayor. The present secretary is Harry W. Rodgers, salary \$2,300; clerk, Walter M. Jordan, salary \$1,200; messenger and detective, John J. McGrath, salary \$900.

By virtue of his office the Mayor is a member of the Board of Estimates, Board of Awards, Commissioners of Finance, Topographical Survey Commission and Electrical Subway Commission. The President of the Second Branch is president of the Board of Estimates and a member of the Board of Awards.

The City Comptroller is elected by the people at the Mayoralty election, and the City Register is elected by joint convention of the two branches of the City Council.

AS BUSY

Student And Official.

PUBLIC FAMILY

And Grandson

His Career

McLane was born November 30, 1864, therefore, 30 days old at the time of the youngest Mayor of Baltimore.

James I. McLane, of Baltimore. He was late ex-Gov. Robert McLane's first administrator that the dead

born in Baltimore. of a short time here all his life. education at private Johns Hopkins of 10. While at the classical course and with so much applica-

prizes. When 10, but having earned ship, he stayed at year. At the end of entered the law de- versity of Maryland, characteristic applica- way to the head of

year of his course at land that he was in a fellow-student for was Charles W. Fos- an equally zealous s practically even, and Fossett exerting first position. The then commencement ized that both stu- and presented each

ated in law he was and in 1801 entered a his brother, Allan the young attorney It was only a short appointed Assistant Baltimore under the who then filled the y. He continued in aining success and time of his incum- y Duffy was elected the assistant was y State's Attorney- in this capacity first part of 1807, pend some time in n, several months private practice. In ate's Attorney and at success as to win land. It was his t gained him many d helped him carry

ion as the Demo- or in the spring of party leaders had some time for a can- t, could contest the with Mayor Thom- ddicate for renom- names had been un- sides Mayor Hayes and Mr. Francis E. entered the race. 's Attorney McLane instant favor, al- as he did not possess qualification. The was exciting and in a sweeping vic- who supported es, and who had a Mayor Hayes, his

incipal election Mr. ch an easy victory, ublican opponent, Wachter, by only ices on the Demo- ated, Mr. E. Clay