

*Baltimore Morning Herald*  
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***Mayor's Message a Bitter Pill for Council***

***Solons Must Take Their Medicine Tonight—  
May Find Relief in a New Fight on Sewerage—Daily Sessions Until Wednesday.***

In both branches of the city council tonight there will be introduced "an ordinance to levy and collect a tax for the year 1901." This measure, the practical result of Mayor Hayes' overwhelming defeat of the solons, was prepared by the mayor immediately after the Court of Appeals' decision in the municipal muddle case was announced last Thursday. It is an exceedingly concise and pointed paper, and will be presented in the second branch by Mr. Guyton, His Honor's sole adherent. In the lower house, Dr. Sudler will be its sponsor.

With the ordinance the mayor will transmit to the council an equally concise and pointed message, and in the envelope with the two documents will be a certified and sealed copy of the Court of Appeals' decision. While its burning words are being mumbled by the clerk the Hayes councilmen will smile and the anti-Hayes men will make ready to cast their votes for a tax rate of \$1.81½.

In the second branch the ordinance will be given three readings under a suspension of the rules. In the first branch, owing to the absence of Mr. Megenhardt, it will be impossible to read it more than once. This will defer its final passage until Wednesday night. Thursday morning the mayor will sign it, and it will become the law of the city.

*Sewerage Snags*

Though the solons, by their defeat, have been reduced to a condition of innocuous desuetude as far as the levy is concerned, there is strong likelihood that they will completely block Mayor Hayes' sewerage plans. His action in preparing an enabling act and attempting to select a sewerage commission, without even informing them that he intended to do so, has aroused their ire, and tonight, in all probability, they will fire the first gun of a new war upon him. In this contest, as in the levy fight, Major Venable, of the second branch, and Mr. Morgan, of the first will be the leaders. They constitute a sub-committee appointed by the special sewerage committee to aid the law department in preparing a second enabling act, and their colleagues seem to have hopes that they will prove more lucky standard bearers in the future than in the past.

Councilman Sproesser, it is said, will introduce tonight in the first branch a joint resolution authorizing the law department to prepare an enabling act with a provision that the cost of the sewers be borne by direct taxation, instead of by the assessment of property holders, as the Mayor intends that it shall be borne. If the majority of the solons vote for such a resolution it is probable that the sewerage scheme will fall by the wayside. With but a short time in which

to present the plan to the Legislature and the people a fight between the mayor and the council will be fatal.

*Against Secret Sessions*

Mr. Howser's anti-secret session ordinance will be reported favorably tonight by the committee on city government with an amendment permitting municipal boards to hold private sessions for the consideration of any particular subject, provided they pass a resolution in public session defining that subject and making known their reasons for wishing to consider it in secret. In this form it is probable that the measure will pass. Already its threatened passage has induced the board of public improvements and the mighty and mysterious park board to open their doors.