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Afraid The People Are Hunting Snakes

Democratic Managers Want Time To Educate The Voters Up To The Point Of Voting For A Sewerage System – Mayor Hayes Willing To Wait

Mayor Hayes' sewerage plans in all probability will not be submitted to the voters of Baltimore at the May election.

The Democratic party managers contend that it is only by waiting until the fall that there can be any hope of having the sewerage loan ratified.

Last night Mayor Hayes stated that if the correctness of this view was demonstrated he would favor a postponement.

At present it is professed to be thought by the Democratic leaders that the people are not sufficiently familiar with the details of the scheme to judge it justly. Their line of reasoning is that active hostility of the Republicans and lukewarm support of the anti-Hayes Democrats will lead those who have not studied the matter to believe that there are many snakes in the mayor's bill, and the votes of those who will support it because they realize that a sewerage system is an imperative necessity will be snowed under.

It is also considered unwise to have the sewerage question intervoven with the issues upon which the council manic campaign will be fought.

A good many of the most prominent candidates for the council are active enemies of the mayor, and their animosity, if they are nominated, may be aimed at the bill as well as its author.

During the summer Mayor Hayes proposes to inaugurate "a campaign of education." He says he will take the stump and other friends of the measure will explain its provisions and demonstrate that it is free of snakes.

Mayor Hayes' opponents in the council long ago declared themselves in favor of postponing the bill until the fall. If he agrees with them it will be the first time for many moons that his views and theirs have coincided.

This evening Governor Smith will sign the enabling act, and next Monday the mayor will transmit a certified copy to the council. Should the solons decide tonight to meet again tomorrow, it will be handed to them then. The mayor, however, will not ask them to do so.

"The entire matter," he said last night, "is in the hands of the council. If it passes the necessary ordinance in time the question may be voted upon in May. If, on the other hand, it decides that a delay would be advantageous or is unable to agree upon an ordinance, there must be a wait until the fall.

"Though I believe that the sewerage loan would be authorized by the people in May, I am not at all opposed to a delay. Little work could be done before the fall, and in the meanwhile the matter could be thoroughly discussed and the public could be enlightened upon many points which are at present not generally understood. "The more the public learns of the need of a sewerage system the more solidly it will support any plan to meet this need and place Baltimore upon a plane with the other great cities of the world."