

progress by politically-minded aldermen who had failed in making the plant a formidable competitor of the private company. It was the business ability and mechanical skill of Mr. Anderson and also that of the late Karl Peterson, assisted by Engineer Louis Klaunder, that developed the municipal system up to the high efficiency momentum which it has attained in recent years and now continued under the capable chairmanship of Alfred C. Davis, engineer and financier. All of these men were non-political appointees of Mayor Carlson. None of them could have accomplished what they did unless they had been previously appointed by the mayor. Millions of dollars have been saved for the people as a result of Carlson's early efforts and services in bringing about low rates and the present plant values for the city.

The public records show that Mr. Carlson and the late M. George Martyn were the pioneers in the movement that led to the establishment of the municipal electric and water plants in this city.

Highlights of Career

Some of the highlights in Mr. Carlson's public career include his advocacy of street pavements at a time when there was not a single foot in the city; his paving plan was approved by a referendum after all other plans had been rejected. His proposals for a municipal hospital and public market, both now in successful operation; his introduction of the plan for paving and sewer construction by the city; the confiscation of coal from the Erie Railroad at the time when there was a serious shortage here; efforts to establish a municipal gas plant; movement to bring about the establishment of a municipal milk plant.

During the first World War, he served as chairman of the local draft board, which embraced the entire city.

A signal honor came to him in 1933, when the Carl Schurz Foundation of Philadelphia chose him as a member of a group of 17 Americans to conduct study and research in European cities to stimulate good will between the peoples of the two countries. He was the only mayor so chosen and was named chairman of the group. Upon his return from Europe he wrote a book, "The Saga of a City and a New Concept of Government."