

# Anti-Sherrill Group Welcomes Quarrel Over Radio System

## Political Motives Seen as Cause Of Disagreement

BY ROLLIN EVERETT  
Post City Hall Reporter

Disagreement between Councilman Willis D. Gradison and City Manager Sherrill over the fire and police communications setup of the city has created more of a stir in City Hall political circles than anything for weeks.

Mr. Gradison is regarded by anti-Sherrill Republicans as the key log in a jam by which Col. Sherrill and some other city officials are being kept in office against what the anti-Sherrillites say is popular Republican will.

The more optimistic see the communications tiff as a sign the key log is being stirred by the current of pressure that has been brought to bear and that this may be the beginning of the end of the jam.

### Wanted Change

But others feel that Mr. Gradison was just irritated over what he felt was the breaking of a promise made to him. He wanted the communications system set up so police and fire commanders could talk directly with subordinates over the two-way radio.

When he inspected the new system he understood that he was told necessary changes would be made to make that possible. But Col. Sherrill and the communications officials decided it would be better that all messages be relayed by Station X operators and continued that system without consulting Mr. Gradison.

Anti-Sherrill Republicans say Mr. Gradison is being held to a promise involved in campaign support on the Sherrill matter.

### Discounts Importance

Mr. Gradison told this reporter that he considered the attention being given the matter "rather silly."

There was one thing he was particularly interested in, however, Mr. Gradison said, and he asserted that was a matter he

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was going to stand firm on—that there should be greater inter-departmental co-operation at City Hall.

He felt that taking police and fire communications out from under the command of the police and fire chiefs and placing it under Charles S. Jones as a separate command tended toward separation rather than co-operation.

Just where Mr. Gradison lays the blame for lack of inter-departmental co-operation has not been made plain.

Recognition by the nominal leader of the Republican majority in Council, however, that such a situation exists is hailed as a step forward by the anti-Sherrillites.