

The Colonist.

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FUTURE WATER SUPPLY

It is in order for the water commissioner to immediately call for tenders for the carrying out of the Sooke Lake Waterworks system. The city council, which has considered the plans and specifications for the work with highly commendable promptitude last evening approved these and the installation of the system is within measurable distance of being commenced. We do not exaggerate in saying that this is a considerable move forward in Victoria's municipal progress. The question of an adequate water supply has been one which has agitated the city for many years past, and considering the ever accelerating growth in population it is satisfactory to know that it will now be only a matter of two years before sixteen million gallons per day will be available. Mr. Wynn Meredith it is gratifying to see in making the final surveys, and the plans and specifications which he submitted are as complete as could be desired. The carrying out of the project will mean employment for a large number of men, and to safeguard Victorians it is interesting to note that clauses, satisfactory to the trades and labor council, have been inserted in the contract which the firm that will undertake the work will enter into with the city. There is provision made for a minimum wage of 24 1/2 cents per hour being paid to workmen. This we are given to believe meets with the approval of organized labor. By the end of December, 1913, the city will be drawing its water supply from Sooke Lake and it is certain that not only will the system prove an excellent one but also that it will meet the needs of the community, with the enlargements rendered necessary from time to time, for as many years as we care to look into the future.

FRASER RIVER JETTIES

Our Ottawa correspondent telegraphed that the government has approved of the plan of constructing jetties from the mouth of the Fraser a mile and a half long to deep water. This is what was recommended by Mr. Le Baron, the engineer who, we understand, designed similar works on the Mississippi, and was employed by the people of New Westminster several years ago to investigate the conditions at the point referred to with the view of determining how best to deepen the channel and keep it open. In passing we would like to express our very great appreciation of the enterprise shown by the Royal City in grappling with this very important question in a thoroughly business-like way. The people of Victoria have a direct interest in this proposed work. We are all looking forward to car-ferry connection with the mainland and when these jetties have been built they can be so constructed as to afford shelter within which the mainland terminus of the ferry service can be located. We have not seen the plans but are satisfied that the jetties will serve two purposes. They will give New Westminster a fine deep channel to the sea, and they will contribute towards the solution of the problem of railway connection between Victoria and the lines on the Mainland.

KARBOA IMPROVEMENTS

The locks in the Panama Canal are to be 1,000 feet long and deep enough for ships drawing 41 feet. As the whole tendency of ocean navigation is in the direction of large tonnage, it is reasonable to expect that vessels of mammoth proportions will be employed in commerce via the Canal. Therefore it is not only timely but really urgent to consider where vessels of this character can be docked. Without making any comparisons with other ports we can say of Victoria that dockage facilities can be provided here with a minimum of expense and a maximum of convenience to ocean-going craft of large dimensions. This is the nearest of all Canadian ports of the first importance to the Canal. For all practical purposes it opens directly upon the ocean, for the Strait of Juan de Fuca is one of the best waterways in the world. We may mention some of its valuable features. A vessel approaching the Strait can ascertain its position by soundings, so that in thick weather there is no reason at all for a full-powered ship to go ashore. The course up the Strait is clear from all obstructions and so well defined on either side by soundings that, with the proper course set and the lead freely used, a steamship is as safe in the Strait in the thickest of weather as she would be in a canal. Once the Race is passed on the inward voyage the way to Victoria is absolutely safe for the course is perfectly straight and there is an abundance of water.

The advantages of the approach to and course up the Strait Victoria shares in common with other cities but in respect of proximity to the common highway and in the absolute security of navigation, the position of this city is unique.

This is a geographical fact that cannot be disposed of. There is nothing within the range of human ingenuity that can alter these conditions which nature has created.

It is up to the people of Victoria to see to it that facilities for handling the canal commerce are provided here. Place these facilities at the most accessible point, such as Victoria is, and the moment we have begun to provide them, the railway companies will get very busy about establishing the most efficient connections possible with Victoria.

Ships will come where the best facilities are, especially if those facilities are at a harbor unique in its accessibility from the ocean. Railways will come where the ships discharge their cargoes. Our position is a commanding one. Let us see to it that it is utilized.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier was seventy years old yesterday. The Colonist wishes him many happy returns.

Los Angeles is going to expend \$10,000,000 in harbor improvements, and in addition the United States government will build a \$4,000,000 breakwater at that port. Will those, whose duty it is, urge the immediate improvement of Victoria harbor, kindly make a note of this?

A London telegram to the Montreal Gazette says that the real leader of the Unionist party will be the Marquis of Lansdowne, and that Mr. Bonar Law is only the "floor leader," that is he will lead the party in the House of Commons. Titular leadership is a matter of no great importance, and time alone can determine whether the real head of the party will be in the Upper or Lower House.

The statement is made that there is to be a re-apportionment of Africa arising out of the intention of Belgium to evacuate the Congo country. The powers that are to receive new territory are Great Britain, France and Germany. This is very probable, and we assume that in such a division Great Britain would ask for the western shore of Lake Tanganyika, whereby she would become possessed of a domain extending from the Cape to Cairo.

A few weeks ago the world was informed of the theft of the famous painting known as Mona Liza. Now comes that another celebrated work of art has been carried away by thieves. It is difficult to discover a tenable explanation for these thefts. The thieves cannot hope to sell the pictures. They may perhaps, expect them to be ransomed, but to steal pictures for such a purpose is to take risks entirely beyond any possibility of resulting gain.

Conditions in Seattle are very serious owing to the interruption of the water supply, due to the breaking of the main pipes during the recent storms. There is no reason for any fear as to water for drinking and culinary purposes, but for fire protection and for the maintenance of sanitary conditions the outlook is exceedingly gloomy. The city council of Victoria, in any plans that may be adopted for the Sooke Lake supply, should see to it that the possibility of such a contingency arising in the case of Victoria is fully guarded against.

The reason why the rains cause such great damage in the Puget Sound country is that the Cascade Mountains are near the sea, and the various rivers are really only mountain torrents, which after a wild race through canyons and deep valleys debouch upon the low lands, formed by the detritus washed down from the Range in past centuries. The formative processes, that made the habitable Puget Sound country, are yet at work, and when human creations get in their way, they are brushed aside as if they never existed.

From what we can learn the Y. M. C. A. is to be congratulated in its new secretary. Mr. Thomason comes here with a high reputation, and in conversation with him we have gleaned some of the ideas along which he intends to conduct the work which has been entrusted to his care. He believes that the institution should be run on non-political and undenominational lines, and in these respects he will have both our sympathy and support. He is, we should judge, bright, capable, energetic, and one who will throw his whole heart into the welfare of the local Y. M. C. A. He comes at an important time in the history of the institution when new and commodious quarters have just been opened up. Much of the success of the work will rest with him, and that he will earn the praise which first impressions seem to entitle him to is our hope and belief. Another official recently added to the staff is Mr. H. G. Beall, the physical director, who has already won his way to popularity. He is showing that he is a capable organizer, and his branch of the curriculum will be efficiently supervised.

Man in Toronto has been fined for exceeding the speed limit on Sunday. The defense was that he did not want to be late for church, but it was of no avail. Where else in the world than Toronto would such a defence be pleaded?

It is reported from Ottawa that Col. Hughes, minister of militia, will advise the prime minister that it is desirable to permit the formation of a Sikh regiment of militia in Vancouver, and one or more regiments of Galicians and other foreign-born Canadians in Manitoba.

Oak Bay's municipal census taken with such commendable promptitude, shows that in a population in the neighborhood of 1,500 the Dominion figures fell over 200 short. This seems to us an argument why a municipal census should be taken in Victoria. The government count gave Oak Bay about 1,400 people, while the actual enumeration should have been 1,638. If another, and accurate census were taken in the city we believe that the proportionate discrepancy would be found to be far greater than that in the neighboring municipalities.

Some people are lamenting because Canadians consumed 5.42 gallons of beer per head last year. Of course, this is a good deal of liquid, but when it is recalled that the people of the United States managed to drink 20.03 gallons during the same period, the people of the United Kingdom 21.44 gallons, the Germans 26.47 gallons and the people of Belgium 56.20 gallons, it will have to be admitted that the people of Canada were not very thrifty.

Dr. Haanel, of the mines branch of the Department of the Interior, has strongly recommended the government to take such steps as will prevent gold from the Yukon being carried past Vancouver to Seattle and San Francisco. He does not propose restrictive measures, but only that the Vancouver Assay Office shall be put upon the same footing in respect to charges as the Ottawa mint and the United States assay offices are. We shall be glad to learn that effect is given to this recommendation.

SURF EXPOSED DEAD

Corwin Brought News of Reinterment of Bodies from Whaler Lost Sixteen Years Ago.

The steamer Corwin, which has returned from Cape Nome and Bering sea to Seattle reports having retrieved the bodies of twelve victims of a whaling vessel which occurred about sixteen years ago. The past summer in Bering sea has been a tempestuous one. A succession of gales have swept the coast, making the discharging of cargo slow and dangerous. The heaviest surf in years has plowed its way on the beach of Seahorse Island, disinterring the bodies of a dozen sailors lost on two whaling vessels nearly sixteen years ago. Capt. Warner was told that following the foundering of the craft a few miles off the island, the bodies of a number of members of the crews were washed ashore. They were buried on the beach and the tragedy of the sea forgotten until they were disinterred by the heavy surf. Capt. Warner says that the extreme cold had kept the bodies in a perfect state of preservation and it would be hard to believe that the men had been dead for sixteen years. Graves were dug farther up on the beach for the twelve unidentified men and a spar from one of the wrecked vessels erected to mark their last resting place.

SITUATION AT FERNIE

Tension Relieved - Superintendent Campbell Returning to Victoria.

Superintendent Campbell, of the provincial police, is expected to return today from Fernie, the tension in the situation there between the colliery owners and the miners having been entirely relieved, and the majority of the workers resuming their tasks yesterday. The resumption comes before the advent of real winter, which has threatened all inhabitants of the Kootenay with dire suffering through fuel shortages. Mr. Campbell in a telegram to the attorney-general's department announcing the necessity for his presence at Fernie to have ended, reports also the release of the majority of the police officers drafted to Fernie to assure a sufficient force on the spot to meet any possible emergencies. These officers will now return to their various posts of duty throughout the province.

How to Sleep

Dr. Fischer, a physician practicing in Paris, has turned his attention to the matter of sleeping reform. After a series of experiments he has come to the conclusion that the orthodox way of sleeping is wrong and advocates a complete reversal of the existing order of things. You must have your head on a level with or lower than your feet. If pillows are to be used they must be under the feet instead of the head. The result, he claims, will be amazing, being a sure cure for insomnia as well as a preventative for the nightmare. To prevent any inconvenience by too sudden a change the pillows should be gradually reduced and finally placed under the feet.

F. E. Island Elections

CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I., Nov. 21.—There are rumors of a general election at an early date and also that it will be deferred to spring. Premier Palmer when questioned today stated that he had nothing to say.

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12 x 9ft.	\$27.50
12 x 10ft. 6in.	\$34.00
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12ft. 6in. x 13ft. 6in.	\$42.00
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9ft. x 12ft.	\$27.50

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7ft. 6in. x 9ft.	\$27.00 and \$32.00
9ft. x 10ft. 6in.	\$37.00 and \$42.00
9 x 12ft.	\$42.50 and \$47.50
12 x 10ft.	\$50.00 and \$55.00
10ft. 6in. x 13ft. 6in.	\$55.00 and \$60.00
12ft. x 15ft.	\$70.00 and \$75.00

ORIENTAL WILTON RUGS

2ft. 3in. x 5ft.	\$6.00
2ft. 6in. x 5ft.	\$8.00
2ft. x 9ft.	\$25.00
9ft. x 10ft.	\$40.00
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&c., &c., &c.	

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- Don't allow a restricted expenditure deter you from coming here in search of that present.
- The things that are priced in single figures are greatly in evidence, and rival the more costly bits in bids for preference.
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- It doesn't cost anything to look, remember.

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Following is the full list of the industrial life of who have never been "The Potteries" all year heart of the Potteries. And I think one qu a district and in such the rising tide of det question of Church of religious organization than the Church of E ganized labor so li Christianity as a wh burst the old bottles, ly and wastefully ru In the first place n is a strong new wine brains of thousands today that there is opportunity for all grinding poverty whi great cities before ou should come to an end with hope to a day v chance, and one s phrase—"damned in believe that literally hand." They are tir in another world; th ised a heaven on ea Clough, of Christian

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And the second t fulness is that in th ment is avowedly a anyone doubts this den, Browning Hall entitled "Christ and dresses in Labor W eleven Labor memb settlement there wa louship of Followe rolled on signing s "Jesus said, 'If any let him deny himse follow Me.' Meani be enrolled in the During or before L ration was signed bers of Parliament, importance is the p who spoke through M. P. for Derby, chemist's errand bo gine cleaner, points how a man should lem. Instead of fi as we are apt to i frankly declares t cause of poverty, himself a teetotal theme for faults i and uplifts his he greatest of all ide and the brotherho National Agent of all his life activel temperance work, preacher. "My ov bor movement h Christian Church, was inside that," draw towards the so far as my hum in raising the falli uplifting humanity I could the men a was brought in d spiration and guid obtain day by day sonal communica Heavenly Father, Albert Stanley, M shire, the son of the Primitive M