

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

QUARTERLY MEETING HELD AT THE COURT HOUSE TUESDAY.

The quarterly meeting of the municipal council was held at the court house Tuesday. The members of the council present were: Warden Lee, Councilors Sears, White, Haman, McGoldrick, McMulkin, Purdy, Stackhouse, Maxwell, McArthur, MacRae, Waring, Tully, Lead, Carson, Catherwood, Lowell, Hogan, Radcliff, Mosher, Dean, Rose, Robinson, Smith and Millidge.

The minutes were read and approved. The finance committee recommended the following payments from the contingent fund: Sheriff for reviving voters' lists \$50 00; Lists and office repairs \$45 00; County treasurer for care of office \$4 00; C. A. Knobel, stationary for secretary and registrar's office \$12 00; Christie Woodcock, repairs to jail and registry office \$4 18; Alexander Neil, repeating jail \$3 25; City of St. John \$14 00; Provincial jail \$14 00; Paper in case \$68 21; J. A. McMillan, stationary \$28 75; J. B. Jones, 170 registrations of births, deaths and marriages \$18 70; R. F. & W. F. Starr, coal \$5 75; Coroner Berryman \$49 00; Coroner Walker \$4 00.

The committee reported having considered bills from Justice Edwin Lewis for costs and contempts for convicting and conveying to jail William Bridges, of the Parish of St. Marins, amounting to \$15.25. The committee found the case a frivolous one and recommended that the bill be not paid.

The committee reported that it had before it a number of bills unaccompanied by requisition signed by the secretary, and consequently such bills were not considered.

The report was read and adopted. The report of the bills and by-laws committee was taken up section by section as follows:

"That bills be prepared and forwarded to the legislature at its next session with proper petitions, praying that the same may become law as follows:—

"A bill to vest the appointment of one half of the board of commissioners of almshouse and work house of this county in the council.

"A bill to authorize this council to establish additional polling places for municipal elections in the parishes of St. Marins, Simonds, Lancaster and Musquash, without being required to appoint a collector for each district.

"The committee further recommended that they be granted power to act in securing such legislation.

"On the section of the report relating to the appointment of almshouse commissioners several speakers declared that there was no complaint against the manner in which the present commissioners administered the affairs of the almshouse, but all declared that as a matter of principle the county which paid for the maintenance of the institution should have the control of the commissioners who administered its affairs.

Councillor MacRae moved that the report be amended so that the municipal council should be given the appointment of all the commissioners instead of half of them. The amendment carried. The remaining portion of the report without change, and the amended report was adopted.

A resolution was passed directing the secretary to read an opinion on the disposition of fines collected by the city magistrates from persons committing offences in the parishes and outside the city.

The opinion was given as follows:—"To the Warden and Members of the Council of the Municipality of the City and County of Saint John:—

"Gentlemen,—Having been requested to give an opinion on the following questions, namely:—

"1. What application should be made of fines and penalties imposed and recovered in the police court of the city of Saint John from persons charged with keeping, or being inmates of or habitual frequenters of a disorderly house, house of ill-fame or bawdy house in the parish of Simonds in the city and county of Saint John?

"2. What is the jurisdiction of the police magistrates of Saint John in such cases?

"3. What is the jurisdiction and duties of the police force of Saint John in such cases?

"I therefore, submit the following:—"Sec. 50, cap. 27, of 62 Victoria, acts of the legislature of New Brunswick, directs that 'All sums of money received by the said police magistrate, or at the said police office, for fees, fines, penalties, forfeitures or costs incurred and paid, receivable on any account whatever, shall be paid over by the said police magistrate immediately after the first day of every month, together with an account under oath, to be sworn to before any justice of the peace (which oath any such justice is hereby authorized to administer), of all such moneys to the chamberlain of the city of St. John to be placed to the credit of the police fund in the treasury department of the said city.'"

"I think the provisions of this section can only extend to and apply to moneys over which the legislature of the province has jurisdiction, and cannot in any way interfere with or alter the express provisions of an act or passed by the parliament of Canada.

"Partly of the original code, 1892, under the head of Summary Trial of Indictable Offences, deals, among other things with the offences hereinbefore mentioned and section 783 of said code and paragraph (f) of said section provides as follows:—"Whenever any person is charged before a magistrate with keeping or being an inmate or habitual frequenter of any disorderly house, house of ill-fame or bawdy house, the magistrate may, subject to the provisions hereinafter made, hear and determine the charge in a summary way."

"Section 783 provides that in any case summarily tried under paragraph (f) of said section 783 'if the magistrate finds the charge proved, he may convict the person charged and commit him to the common gaol or other place of confinement, there to be imprisoned with or without hard labor for any term not exceeding six months, or may condemn him to pay a fine not exceeding with the costs in the case, \$100, or to both fine and imprisonment, not exceeding the said sum and term, and such fine may be levied by warrant of distress under the hand and seal of the magistrate, or the person convicted may be condemned, in addition to any other imprisonment, on the same conviction to be committed to the common gaol or other place of confinement for a further term not exceeding six months, unless such fine is sooner paid.'"

YORK COUNTY COUNCIL.

COUNCILLOR SPENCER INCH ELECTED WARDEN.

FREDERICTON, Jan. 17.—York County Council is in session having convened at 10 o'clock this morning. All the councillors are in attendance except Coun. McNally, who is ill at his home. Coun. Spencer Inch, of St. Marys, was unanimously elected warden. Secretary-Treasurer John Black submitted his semi-annual statement. It showed at the end of the present fiscal year on Nov. 30, 1898, that the county had a balance in the bank of \$2,822.77. Since that date this credit balance has been further increased, so that on Jan. 13th the county had deposited to its credit the sum of \$6,800. At the close of the year 1898, the county owed its bankers \$4,877.84; on the same date, 1895, its indebtedness was \$1,768.89. In 1896 the county had a balance in the bank of \$604.49, and a year ago its credit balance amounted to \$1,778.52. This has been increased during the past year so that the county has now on deposit the sum of \$6,800. In addition to the above the city of Fredericton will, in a few days, pay to the county the proportion of the administration of justice fund, which will be over \$1,000, so that the municipality will have \$7,800 in the bank for 1899. The accounts for other demands falling due shortly. No large expenditures are anticipated the present year, and the assessment committees were able to order an assessment of \$2000 less than last year, making the total assessment upon the county for 1899, \$21,000. The accounts also show a reduction in the bonded indebtedness of the county, which at the end of the fiscal year 1898 was only \$15,400.

County officers were appointed for the year, they being John Black, M. P., secretary-treasurer; J. W. McCready, auditor, both of whom were re-elected. The council will be in session all day tomorrow.

I am therefore of opinion and so advise that all fines and penalties legally imposed and recovered under said code for offences hereinbefore mentioned, whether the offence is committed in the city of St. John or any of the parishes in the city and county of St. John, should be paid to the county treasurer for county purposes.

I am further of opinion that all fines and penalties imposed and received under said code, unless otherwise directed by some statute passed by the parliament of Canada, whether the offence is committed in the city of St. John or in the city and county of St. John, should be paid over and used for county purposes as the statute book.

"If it were otherwise an injustice would be done, inasmuch as the county is charged with the cost of the administration of justice therein.

"As to the second and third questions, I would respectfully suggest that they be left to the consideration of the council to obtain, if they desire, the opinion of the recorder thereon."

The opinion provoked a considerable discussion and it was pointed out that all criminal codes were liable to the county and all fines imposed under said code should properly be paid into the county fund.

Coun. Lowell moved that as under the opinion of the recorder the county was entitled to a \$100 fine collected from a Mrs. Perry for keeping a disorderly house, and paid into the county fund, that the treasury board be asked to investigate the disposition of fines collected by the city magistrates in county cases and report. This was carried.

Coun. Carson said he had received a petition from 155 residents of St. Marins praying that the dog law be enforced. The dogs were becoming a nuisance.

The warden stated the law was already on the statute book.

Coun. Carson said he understood the law had been set aside for the county.

The warden said it could be set aside by a petition from a parish, but he said a petition had to be presented each year. The law was therefore in force.

Coun. Catherwood moved that the treasury be authorized to sell a \$500 bond for the parish of Lancaster.

The parish was in debt to the city for water rates. This was the result of the purchase of a fire engine and the taking of money from the water account to pay for it.

The matter was referred to a special committee, consisting of the Warden, Christie, Robinson and Catherwood with power to act.

It was moved by Coun. Lowell and seconded by Coun. Catherwood that the bills and by-laws committee have power to act on the matter of the business licenses for parishes after the sub-committee appointed by the bills and by-laws committee, then power to act and take a bill to the legislature.

It was moved in amendment by Ald. White and seconded by Ald. McGoldrick that the bills and by-laws committee prepare a by-law imposing a business tax on persons not residents against non residents of the county.

The amendment was moved after the county secretary had said the council had authority to prepare such a bill as recommended by the amendment, but not a by-law for the imposition of business tax between the parishes in the county. And county aldermen had stated the parishes sought protection from persons outside the county.

Ald. Christie terminated the whole matter a piece of narrow class legislation and a restriction on business. The matter was discussed, and it was not against residents of other counties protection was sought, but against the residents of the city of St. John.

Coun. Lowell said it was as fair for the residents of St. John to pay a business license for working in the parish of Lancaster as for the residents of Lancaster to pay for working in St. John.

Ald. Christie said the working men of St. John paid an income tax, and it was not fair for the residents of Lancaster who paid no income tax to compete with St. John laborers who did.

Coun. Lowell said an income tax was levied in the parishes.

The resolution and the amendment were both lost, and the meeting adjourned.

What we call our virtues are merely artistic daubs of imagination on the canvas of conceit.

FRANCE WANTS PEACE.

There is no Feeling of Hostility Toward England.

LONDON, Jan. 17.—The French ambassador to Great Britain, M. Paul Cambon replying to an address of the international arbitration association, at the embassy here today, said no feeling of hostility toward the British existed in France. The press on both sides had exaggerated the little friction over the Fashoda incident, which was only temporary. He assured the people of Great Britain that neither the French nation nor the government of France desired war and, speaking from experience, M. Cambon could say, that no European nation desired war. On the contrary, there was an earnest wish for peace, and France cordially supported the ear's aims; but the submission of the arbitration practical realization would be a long time coming.

STUDENTS BURNED OUT.

Narrow Escape Made at St. Ann's College Fire.

MONROTON, Jan. 17.—David and Donald Harnett, two Moncton boys, were students at St. Ann's college, destroyed at Church Point, Digby, N.S., yesterday morning, and arrived home this morning. The Moncton boys state that the students in the college had a narrow escape with their lives, on account of the headway made by the fire before being discovered. Quite a number of the smaller boys were overcome by the smoke and had to be assisted from the burning building. The Harnett boys, and in fact all the students, lost about a third of their clothing, the Moncton lads escaping with less than clothing enough to dress themselves.

NUM, NOT WIFE.

Enquiry as to the Cause of Mrs. Williamson's Death.

TORONTO, Jan. 17.—The village and county around about Horning's mill, Grey county, are greatly excited over the death of Mrs. Margaret Williamson, who expired in great agony after eating her supper. At the instance of Coroner Norton, two doctors performed a post mortem and found the woman died from an irritant poison, probably arsenic. The contents of the stomach have been sent to Prof. Ellis, government analyst. The poison may prove to be paris green, of which a quantity was found in the house. A government detective is investigating the case.

ST. LEONARD'S IMPROVEMENTS.

New Club Building Soon to Be Erected.

ST. LEONARD, Jan. 17.—Irving Hoyt, Maxine Desrosiers, Frank Violette and some of the nobles are daily elaborating the idea of organizing a club, with a subscribed fund of \$2,000, divided into 200 shares of \$10 each, to build one large two-story building near the station. The first part would comprise one licensed saloon, provided with the best of liquors and other necessaries, and a hall for the convenience of travellers to exhibit their samples. The upper story to be finished for a public hall to hold all kinds of meetings.

THE GERMANS DEBY.

That They Are Supporting the Filipinos Against America.

BERLIN, Jan. 17.—The United States ambassador here, Mr. Andrew D. White, today said to the correspondent of the Associated Press: "As a conclusive answer to the question that the Germans wish to stir the Filipinos against the United States, one fact, out of many which may be mentioned, seems to me conclusive to the contrary. It is that from the beginning the German merchants in the Philippine Islands have been the strongest advocates of American rule. When the war with Spain was pending the head of one of the leading German houses at Manila came to Berlin, saw me, and urged the importance of our assuming sovereignty there and taking complete control."

FOR WIFE BEATING.

J. B. Fanneton Gets Fifteen Years.

THREE RIVERS, Que., Jan. 17.—J. B. Fanneton was sentenced today by Magistrate Beaulieu to fifteen years penitentiary for beating his wife.

BRITISH COLUMBIA POLITICS.

Hon. R. E. McKechnie Has Resigned.

VICTORIA, B.C., Jan. 17.—Hon. R. E. McKechnie, of Nanaimo, president of the executive council, has resigned his seat in the British Columbia house on a technical point. He is a farmer, and had accepted fees for his services since becoming a member of the government. Premier Samlita may also have to resign for somewhat similar reasons. The bye-elections in Vancouver and Victoria will take place next week. It is stated on the authority of the lieutenant governor and members of the cabinet that there is no ground for the rumor that Lord Herschell had communicated with the government regarding the law including aliens from the Alia district.

ILLEGAL LIQUOR SELLING.

Ministerial Association Ask Government to Interfere.

TORONTO, Jan. 17.—The Ministerial Association today passed a resolution strongly condemning the prevalence of illicit liquor selling places in the city, and calling on the government to rigidly enforce the law and suppress illicit selling.

CANADIAN MILITIAMEN.

Will Receive Long Service Decorations.

OTTAWA, Jan. 17.—Hon. Dr. Borden has been notified by the war office that long service decorations will be given to Canadian militiamen. The warrant will be issued shortly.

AGAINST AN ALDERMAN.

Harry Brobecker, of Chatham, Has a Grievance.

CHATHAM, Jan. 17.—Mr. Harry Brobecker has entered an action in the Supreme Court against Alderman Flanagan, who is chairman of the police committee, for having him arrested and locked up for creating a disturbance on the streets. When the case was tried in the police court a short time ago the complaint was dismissed, and the accused discharged. Mr. Brobecker has, however, appealed to a higher court.

FRANCE TO JOIN GERMANY.

PARIS, Jan. 17.—Ever since the much discussed conference in Berlin on Jan. 8, between Emperor William and the Marquis De Noailles, French ambassador to Germany, a section of the French press has been actively discussing the possibility of a Franco-German alliance. The idea is meeting with approval in certain quarters, now that Frenchmen have come to regard England rather than Germany as the national enemy.

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PRESBYTERIAN MINISTER

A TREATY IN SIGHT.

Americans and Canadians are Close Together on Questions at Issue. WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—The joint American and Canadian commission was in session during the afternoon today, and after the commission proper adjourned the sub-committees on the Alaskan boundary and on bonding privileges went into session. There are still some minor differences to be settled on these as on other subjects, but the members of the commission express the opinion that they will be able to conclude their labors within the next two weeks. They are very close together on all questions at issue and the opinion is now freely expressed that a treaty covering the numerous questions which have so long been a source of vexation on both sides of the boundary line will be the result of the negotiations.

THE BONES OF COLUMBUS

Are at Cadix on the Way to Seville for Interment.

CADIX, Jan. 17.—The casket containing the supposed remains of Christopher Columbus, which arrived here yesterday on board the Spanish cruiser Conde De Venadito, and which were transferred to the cruiser Giraldo for conveyance to Seville, has been opened. About 30 bones of some shape were found in the casket. It was reclosed and will be re-located at Seville with great solemnity and deposited in the cathedral. The route of the procession will be lined with troops.

DALY FOR MAYOR.

He Has Succeeded in Sweeping the District.

DUBLIN, Jan. 17.—Under the new Irish local government act, John Daly, the former political prisoner, and his supporters, have captured 24 out of the 40 seats comprised in the new Limerick corporation, and Daly is almost certain to be elected mayor of that city, unless he is declared to be disqualified.

HONORING A PRESIDENT.

Iglesias, of Costa Rica, Visits Queen Victoria.

PORSMOUTH, Eng., Jan. 17.—President Rafael Iglesias, of Costa Rica, visited Queen Victoria at Osborne House, Isle of Wight, this afternoon. The warships here dressed ship and fired a salute of twenty one guns in honor of the President.

WRIT ISSUED

Against Toronto By the C. P. Railway Company.

TORONTO, Jan. 17.—A writ has been issued against the city today by the solicitors of the Canadian Pacific Railway for \$10,336 in connection with unsettled amounts over the construction of the John street bridge. The city, however, claims a contra account of \$46,090 for rent of the esplanade front.

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