

Discussing Legislation

Council of the Board of Trade Confer With the City Representatives.

Matters of Interest To Be Called to Attention of Dominion Government.

Indications of a Change of Sentiment Regarding the Corbin Charter.

An important and decidedly interesting meeting of the Council of the British Columbia Board of Trade was held yesterday afternoon in the board room. The meeting took the form of a consultation between the members of the council and the representatives of the city in the Dominion parliament in regard to what action the government at Ottawa should be asked to take upon matters of interest to the people of Victoria and British Columbia generally.

There was one question, however, upon which no decision was arrived at, the Corbin railway charter proposition, and a special meeting of the members of the board is to be called to discuss the subject with a view of ascertaining whether any change of opinion has been arrived at since last year, when the council passed a resolution opposing the scheme.

In the absence of President G. A. Kirk, the Vice-President, Mr. W. A. Ward, occupied the chair, and the following members of the council were present: Messrs. F. O. Davidge, A. G. McCandless, D. R. Ker, W. H. Bone, R. Erskine, L. G. McQuinn, Lindley Crease, T. W. Atkin, J. P. Captain Cox and Secretary Elworthy.

The minutes of the last meeting of the council were read and duly adopted. Secretary Elworthy then announced that the members of the council had been called together specially for the purpose of having a talk with Messrs. Prior and Earle, the members for the city, before their departure for Ottawa to attend the session of the Dominion parliament.

Mr. Earle said he had nothing to say to the council, but as they had taken up matters of interest to the people of Victoria, he would like to say a few words in regard to the Corbin charter, which was the subject of the meeting.

The Sorby Harbor Scheme. The first matter dealt with was suggested by the chairman, the proposed harbor improvements as outlined by architect Sorby. Col. Prior said the matter was brought up last session and he had since then been in communication with Mr. Prior, Mr. Coste, the engineer, and the architect, and he had found it to be a very good one.

Senator Templeman endorsed this and said Mr. Coste had told him that in his opinion, as an engineering scheme, the plan was apparently a good one. The chairman asked for an expression of opinion from the members of the council, and they generally were in favor of the Sorby scheme.

Mr. Erskine asked if anything was going to be done at Ottawa during the coming session in regard to the Sorby harbor improvements. Col. Prior replied that he thought the matter now rested between the two governments. He and Mr. Earle had consulted the members of the government and they were in favor of the scheme.

be altogether out of proportion to the cost. Mr. McCandless had had many conversations with Mr. Sorby in regard to the matter, and knew that gentleman was very willing to meet any commission and lay before them the details of his plan.

Mr. McCandless was here informed that the council at a meeting held during the day had appropriated the sum of \$2,500 for that purpose, which Mr. McCandless was very glad to hear. He believed it was necessary that the matter should be gone into thoroughly and at once.

Col. Prior said that was a moot point; it had been suggested that no act would be necessary from the provincial legislature, but that the Dominion government should be asked to take up the matter.

When the subject of the Corbin railway proposition in the Kettle River valley came up, Mr. McCandless said he was strongly in favor of the scheme, but he had been through the country and could see that if the road were not built the result would be a monopoly for the C. P. R., and that he could not inform the council, would be a bad thing for Victoria.

Mr. Ker—"What advantage of cheapness do you have now with the American roads?" Mr. McCandless retorted that there might be some advantage in that respect, but he did not believe the merchants of Victoria would have to pay for the American roads.

Mr. Erskine supported Mr. McCandless on that point, and thought the council should certainly express an opinion on the matter of the Corbin charter. Last year when the representatives were at Ottawa and the matter came up, one of the "business" men of the city, Mr. J. P. Captain Cox, was on the subject, and the council met and sent a strong resolution opposing granting the charter.

Mr. McCandless said he did not want to endorse the scheme, blindfold, but did wish to have a commission appointed. The work of such a commission would be well worth the \$2,500 the city proposed to spend upon it, because if vessels could come into the inner harbor it would mean much business for the merchants of the city.

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Mr. Davidge thought it would be well to ask the members to urge upon the government the desirability of sending an immediate reply in regard to the fisheries regulations. This is a matter which must be settled within a few weeks now and the other questions were not so urgent.

new regulations cannot be kept up. They are simply inoperative. The fishermen themselves were beginning to flout the law, and could not obtain licenses because they had not their tax receipts or had not the necessary residence qualification.

Joint High Commission. In reply to a question by the chairman, Captain Cox said he had nothing to bring up about the commission, nor was there anything he wished to say.

More Harbor Lights. Col. Prior asked if there were any more lights needed, but it was agreed that the government have done good work in this connection in the year, and that the government to continue as they had been going on.

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be forwarded to the representatives of the city and to Senator Templeman at Ottawa. Mr. Ker expressed the opinion that the matter would not come up again at Ottawa. Mr. Corbin might hawk the charter around to make some use of it.

Some further conversation followed, in the course of which Mr. McCandless reminded Mr. Ker that he had tried to educate the public in regard to the matter by writing letters to the newspapers, but that he had not been able to do so.

Col. Prior next brought up the subject of pilotage fees, which he said some citizens complained of as excessive, while others said they were not. From an examination of the pilotage fees in Liverpool and London, he was of the opinion that they were reasonable here as in Liverpool or London.

Col. Prior said that it was not possible to compare Victoria with Liverpool or London. Here we are situated in a position of our own, and on the other side of the line there was no pilotage fees.

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LOCAL NEWS.

Gleanings of City and Provincial News in a Condensed Form. (From Tuesday's Daily.) An important meeting of the Law Society was held yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock to discuss ways and means of restoring the law library destroyed in the New Westminster fire.

The remains of the late Jacob Lenz, who expired on Sunday last, will be taken by the City of Kingston to Tacoma this evening, from where they will be sent on by train to San Francisco. Services were held at deceased's residence, Yates street, this afternoon.

Rev. E. G. Miller, the successor of Rev. J. B. Haslam in the rectorship of St. Barnabas church, preached his first sermon in that pulpit on Sunday, and delighted a large congregation by his lucid treatment of his theme. Mr. Miller was educated at St. Augustin College, Canterbury, and is still a comparatively young man. He will be formally inducted to his new charge at Easter.

The erection of new buildings in the Naval Yard at Esquimalt this year will result in a large increase in the consumption of bricks, and Messrs. Humber are making preparations to meet the demand. Mr. Russ Humber last evening brought from the South a carload of fine draught horses, which will be used in hauling brick to Esquimalt during the spring and summer.

Col. E. G. Prior, M.P., and Mrs. Prior yesterday received a pleasant message of their marriage from the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of No. 3 company. Col. Prior's old company before his going on the staff. The souvenir consisted of a handsome cut glass bowl and stand on an ebony base, the cutting being very elaborate.

A meeting of the Danlanes Mining and Milling Company was held today at the offices of Tupper, Peters & Potts in the Board of Trade building. There was a fair attendance of shareholders. Satisfactory reports were submitted from the treasurer and from Manager Trethewey.

Mr. Davidge fully agreed with the chairman, and as an illustration of the price of the Japanese reminded the council that the amount and price of the government insisted that any Japanese going abroad should deposit with them sufficient to pay his passage back in case of distress, so that he might, by applying to any consular agent, obtain a loan and avoid being a charge on the country in which he was.

The City of Kingston last evening bore all that remained of the late Jacob Lenz to Tacoma. The body was accompanied by Mr. G. A. Seelig and Mr. Max Leiser, who return this afternoon, while Mr. Gustav Mrs. S. Leiser and Mr. M. Lenz will attend the body to its last resting place in the Home of Peace cemetery, San Mateo, Cal.

The Full Court this morning delivered judgment in Scott v. Rogers, dismissing the appeal. They held that they were bound by the ruling of the majority, which awarded the plaintiff \$1,200 damages for the death of her husband. The chief justice delivered a dissenting judgment, Justice Morrison for the appeal and Justice Henderson for plaintiff respondent.

It should be stated that the civic authorities this morning notified the company that the Rock Bay bridge no longer safe for tram car traffic, and consequently the company this afternoon ceased running the cars across the bridge. The bridge will be repaired for use, the company will run a car from Salmon's corner to the power house, and passengers will have to cross the bridge on foot, and two cars will be run on the other side to convey them to their destinations. The company will endeavor to give the same service as at present.

News has reached here from Halifax that a cable has been received from Chatham announcing that the first-class cruiser Warspite was commissioned on Tuesday last week for flag duty on the Pacific squadron, with headquarters at Esquimalt. The pennant was hoisted by Rear-Admiral Beaumont, director of naval intelligence, with senior admiral Palliser. The Warspite relieved the cruiser Imperieuse, which is a sister ship.

A dispatch from Toronto published in an Eastern exchange says: "Rev. Wm. Hammond, a successful clergyman from Lachute, whose career in Havana recently caused so much anxiety to American officials of the foreign church missionary society, has been arrested at Holguin, Cuba, and will be tried for some of his apparently many offenses." Hammond, who is well known to many people throughout Canada, has had a varied and remarkable career.

Hammond, who is well known to many people throughout Canada, has had a varied and remarkable career. He was at one time arrested in Quebec on a charge of perjury, but was later acquitted. He is alleged to have possessed nine wives. In Havana he did a real estate business. Hammond is believed to have married in Victoria some years ago when he worked the bus company.

Action has been begun by Duncan McKinnon and W. A. Enslay, of Wrangell, against the Klondike Mining, Trading and Transport Company to recover claims amounting to over \$300. The Nanaimo Brewing Company are having erected a large store house on the vacant block at the rear of the Queen's hotel. The building is expected to be finished by the end of April.

Another pioneer of the Island has gone to his long rest, Alexander McPherson of North Saanich, having died yesterday at the residence of his daughter, Mr. McPherson had attained the ripe age of 83 years. A party of six old-time Atlantes have made preparations for their journey to the north, and sail by the Danube to Kinross, Tom Jones, G. M. Boggart, J. A. Phillips, J. W. Clarke and J. Murtagh. They are taking in considerable provisions, hardware, mining utensils, etc.

There is one case of insanity at the police station at present, that of a married woman, the mother of a family, who is suffering from what the doctors believe to be but a temporary fit of mental aberration. She will not be removed to the asylum, the medical men entering the case, with the police, but attention shall be given to her recovery.

George, a Saanich Indian, was fined \$10 and \$21 costs, with the option of 20 days' imprisonment, this morning for being drunk. He stated that he had obtained the liquor from Ah Sue, a Chinaman, who was afterwards brought to the station and will answer tomorrow to the serious charge of supplying an intoxicant to an Indian, in the form of a quart bottle of rye whiskey. The whiskey is manufactured in China, its appearance and has evidently been manufactured on the premises.

Llewellyn Williams, the musician whose instance action was instituted for the arrest of Louis Young of the New England hotel for theft, did not appear this morning, and the magistrate discharged the case. The police do not know what has become of their man, though in entering the charge they acted in the utmost good faith. Few treated the case seriously, however, the excellent reputation which Young bore, and his ways were borne, and the good character of the hotel giving a very improbable time to the whole story.

Provincial News

YANCOUVER. George R. Maxwell, M. P., Ottawa on Thursday. One of the sailors on the Empress of China fell down on Monday and was rather badly hurt.

A shipment of machinery made from here for the Potlatch at Kamloops. City Clerk McGuigan has telegraphed to the effect that the telegram from the new superintendent of city hospital, will probably reach about March 23rd.

The C. P. R. steam shovel was shunted into the yards on Monday the street car with a Potlatch damaged were gave the British Electric Railway Company's a considerable amount of work. The firemen were called out last night, but they were not called out on Monday night.

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