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DOING SOMETHING FOR
VICTORIA!

When Premier McBride addressed the electors of this city on the evening of election day, 2nd February last, he assured them that it would be his aim to do all in his power to promote the interests of the city of Victoria. Under the circumstances one would suppose that Mr. McBride would have early sought opportunity to make good his promises. As it happened, however, there was no need for him to seek for opportunities, because they were thrust upon him, and it is seldom that a public representative at one single session of a Legislature has such good opportunities to promote the interests of his constituents as Premier McBride had at the recent session of our Legislature.

In the first place, there was the universal demand that went up from this city for a Normal School. The urgency as well as the reasonableness of this request was so apparent, so fully demonstrated, and so generally admitted on all sides, that we do not propose to occupy space in dealing with it in this article, remarking only that the men who most strongly urged the matter in the press and on the deputation that waited on the government were such men as ex-Mayor Redfern and ex-Mayor Hayward, thoroughly respectable men, and strong Conservatives as well.

Mayor Morley, Mr. Redfern and other spokesmen on the deputation were careful to say that they had not the least objection to the \$40,000 grant for the Vancouver Normal school building, but only asked fair play for this city; pointing out to the government that Victoria was the only capital city in all the provinces of the Dominion that did not possess a Normal School, and that the omission of the government to establish one here was not only a serious handicap to this city from an educational standpoint, but was of most vital concern to a very large number of families who could not afford to send their sons and daughters to Vancouver for a year's course at the Normal School there at a cost of about \$500 each. However, the result was that the city of Vancouver got its grant for a Normal School, but the request of Victoria was refused.

Another question that came up at the meeting of the legislature was the act creating a Provincial Court of Appeal, which when it comes into force will require four new appeal judges to be appointed. Now in every other province in the Dominion, without a single exception, the provincial appeal courts are established at the provincial capitals. The governments of every other province very properly decided that the Court of Appeal should be located at the seat of government. But Premier McBride and his ministry evidently think that the city of Victoria should be shorn of her rightful position as the capital city of this province, for in the act passed at the recent session of the legislature they have introduced a section which provides for the court sitting in Vancouver. Why should not this city be given her proper status as the capital of the province and the Court of Appeal be established at the capital, as is done in other provinces?

Still another matter that was strongly urged upon the government before the legislature met was the construction of the Goldstream and Mill Bay road, but while the government appropriated lavish expenditures out of its boasted surplus for the construction of suburban roads in other cities, not one cent was voted for the Goldstream road. The board of trade is still pressing the matter on the attention of the government in the hope of getting some results next year. But we are dealing in this article with the events of last session, and that brings us at once to the most natural question, namely, what did Premier McBride, the senior member for this city, do or say about these matters? Was he found at any time advocating the reasonable, fair and just claims of this constituency?

To say that Premier McBride was indifferent to the interests of Victoria would be a very mild criticism indeed. Some of the matters we have alluded to are of very deep concern to the people of this city; they would not involve a very large expenditure of money and therefore it was all the more reasonable that Premier McBride should have given them his support.

If Mr. McBride were appealing to the electors of this city to-morrow for their votes, he would not dare to come before the people and say that Victoria was not entitled to a Normal School,

nor could he defend the course of the government in the other matters we have mentioned. Why then does he stand idly by and refuse to see that this city is given her just rights? Is there one honest elector who will say that the Premier has done his duty as the senior member for this city? Will anybody pretend to say that the record of Mr. McBride as member for Victoria will bear the faintest comparison with the record of Mr. McBride as member for Dewdney?

It is also very significant that the other members for Victoria, like the Premier, maintained throughout the session an absolute silence on all questions affecting the interests of this city. The only inference to be drawn from their silence is that they were careful not to embarrass Premier McBride and were anxious to serve their party rather than the interests of their constituents. The people of Victoria find themselves in this position: that notwithstanding the four members they have elected possess the obvious advantage of sitting on the government side of the House, and notwithstanding the fair promises made by the Premier, not only has there been absolutely nothing done for Victoria, but instead this city has been denied the things that naturally belong to her and has been discriminated against in a manner for which no parallel can be found in any other province in the Dominion of Canada.

RESISTING MARCONIISM.

Signor Marconi, although one of the foremost men of an inventive age, appears to be just a trifle behind the public sentiment of the times. At a stage in the history of this country when the public is seriously considering whether all telegraphs ought not to be taken over, in conjunction with telephones, and operated by the government, it does seem somewhat reactionary of the Marconi Company to claim the right to a monopoly of the wireless telegraph business in Canada. This altogether apart from the legal aspects of the bargain, the Marconi Company claims to have made with the Marine and Fisheries Department of the government at a time when the possibilities and the usefulness of wireless telegraphy were more or less "on the air." The predominant idea behind the project of establishing wireless telegraphic stations in Canada is the safety of shipping and the salvation of human life in case of accidents at sea. The Marconi system of wireless telegraphy may be the best in use for all we know to the contrary, but what the government is forced to take cognizance of is the fact that there are other systems in use. In fact other systems appear to predominate as far as the shipping business is concerned. If the Marconi claim to a monopoly were recognized, communication between the land stations established by the government and the majority of sea-going vessels would be impossible. The idea of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries is to make the wireless telegraphic system of the government as useful as possible—that it shall fulfil in as high degree as possible the purpose for which it has been or is to be established. It is in pursuance of this purpose the claim of Signor Marconi of a monopoly is being resisted. The Minister of Justice has expressed his opinion that the Marconi people have presented claims that cannot be established in the courts. The acting minister is therefore well fortified in his position. He has not only eminent legal opinion behind him in his determination to resist monopolistic claims; he has the stronger force of public opinion. It is evident the Marconi people realize they have no case or they would not be so anxious to mislead the public by persistent misrepresentation through newspapers which are more anxious to score a point against the government than to help the government to gain a point in favor of the people.

The ladies of the East are raising an "exceeding bitter cry" against the existing order. The complaint is not confined to any particular portion of the country. It is general. It has reference to the scarcity of domestic help, which cannot be procured for money or for any of the advantages which are supposed to attract labor from the household to the factories. Wages have been increased threefold within a very short time, but without lifting the famine. It is even said that so serious has the matter become in one section of the United States that young brides are perishing by the way in their crude efforts to conduct their own household affairs. It is rather strange that these eastern people with millions behind them and too much work in front of them have never thought of the Chinese, who are said to be so highly valued in the select circles of Victoria. The Mongolians can be had if the women of Newport and other resorts of millionaires will pay the price. Apparently with them it is either a case of inferior labor or immigration to a country in which people are brought up in the station of life, for which providence intended them. Reversion to first principles (in which condition every woman in the United States outside of the "slave belt" performed her own household duties) is not to be thought of for a moment.

We are told the people have pronounced judgment in the Green-Carroll McBride case. The people did not know all the facts when the election was held. That is the chief reason why the election was brought on so suddenly.

SAANICH COUNCIL
HOLDS SESSIONROUTINE BUSINESS
ENGAGES ATTENTIONRise in Price of Gravel Agitates
Councilors—May Open Up
Their Own Pits.

(From Monday's Daily.)

The members of the council of the Municipality of South Saanich held their 13rd bi-monthly meeting on Saturday night in the Municipal hall. The session was a short one, no business of much importance being on hand to demand the attention of the council.

Mr. J. R. Carmichael, the recently appointed clerk for the municipality, tendered his resignation from the board of license commissioners and was respectfully accepted. His successor would be appointed next meeting.

Attention was drawn to the fact that the poll tax was being successfully evaded by many, one councillor stating that only one collection had been reported. It was unanimously decided to instruct the constable to collect the tax allowing him 10 per cent of all monies collected.

A letter from Mr. Piercy, informing the council of his intention to increase the price of gravel from 10c to 20c per cubic yard, aroused some discussion, the majority present holding the opinion that 20c per yard was too high for gravel. Acting upon this opinion the council was resolved to instruct the road superintendent to prospect upon the Sayward property for another gravel pit, and failing in this, the council might expropriate some land and open up their own pits.

A letter was read from A. T. Goward, manager of the B. C. Electric Company, stating in reply to a complaint of the council about its cars, obstructing Tolmie avenue, that the action was covered by their statutory rights. The letter added that should the company desire to do any work in the municipality, it would be very pleased to take the matter up with the council.

It was decided to ask the company to fill in with earth between their ties on the track on the avenue and to remove any debris and loose dirt from off the public highway.

The offer of George Hicks to supply 100 yards of rock for the new crusher and deliver the same at any convenient point on the Saanich road for \$75 was referred to the road superintendent for his report.


A communication was received from Signor Marconi, chief of the staff of Jacob A. Windsor, as follows: "Take notice that application will be made to His Honor, Judge Lammann, on Friday, August 9th, 1907, at the Law Court, Bastion Square, Victoria, by Jacob A. Windsor, petitioning that certain unopened roadways, running through his property in section 38 map 492, Mount Tolmie park estate be annulled. The petition of said Jacob A. Windsor, and plan showing proposed roadways to be annulled, can be seen on file at the county court registry, Victoria."

Reeve Brydon explained that the application had not yet been heard owing to the absence of the judge from the city, but it would be heard in the next few days. The lands in question were situated immediately opposite the Presbyterian church at Mount Tolmie and the petitioners having purchased them, wished to close up the proposed roadways and have the ownership of them vested in himself. The reeve said to say that the municipality was the owner of these roadways and that they had a certain value. The meeting decided to instruct Mr. Yates to look after the interests of the municipality in the matter.

Mr. R. Fowler, secretary of the Cloverdale municipality wrote, asking if the council could lay a sidewalk on Avonlea avenue from Saanich road to Oak street and also have the railway crossing on Cloverdale avenue opened and graded. The railway company would provide material to fill in on their property, stated Reeve Brydon, so their offer to do so was accepted. The request of Mr. Cunningham to have loads of gravel from the large pile near his, owned by the council, to be used in filling in his driveway, was granted.

The road superintendent was instructed to improve the culvert at Saanich road near Tolmie hill at a cost not exceeding \$25.

J. J. Russell, constable, reported having collected \$315 in liquor and

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trade licenses and to have paid \$310 into the Bank of British North America and given \$5 to the treasurer. There were two cases of scarlet fever in the municipality, which he had reported to the health officer. He had also investigated complaints about stray cattle. The following accounts were authorized to be paid: Hamilton Powder Company, \$12.75; W. S. Francis, \$5.10; J. A. Sayward, \$15.35; Colonist, \$19.05; Sweeney & McConnell, \$7.50; Pope Stationery Company, \$1.35; B. C. Telephone Company, \$8.25.

The account of Musson, Limited, of \$1,789 for the new rock crusher, was authorized to be paid after a satisfactory test of the crusher.

The plans of Mr. Thompson's property, South Saanich, being for a new sub-division, were submitted by E. Wilkinson for approval of the council.

It was decided to ask applicant to make the roads 40 feet wide instead of 30 before the council will give its approval.

The following were the councillors present: Reeve T. A. Brydon, Clerk J. R. Carmichael, Councillors Quick, Pointer, Moore, Buckle, Durrance and Grant.

AN IMPERIAL OFFICIAL.

F. B. Sherring, from Northern India, on His Way Home to England.

F. B. Sherring, an Imperial government official from Northern India, is in the city, making a leisurely trip homeward. En route he passed through San Francisco, where he says things are still in a very ruinous condition.

Speaking of India, Mr. Sherring says that the natives of the united provinces, of which the city of Lucknow is the centre, all have their own village councils, in which they are very much interested, but they are not usually concerned about national affairs. The people of one village belong to one caste and they look upon them as very much their neighbors. The people are usually uneducated, and are mostly of the soil. The present troubles have all developed since Mr. Sherring left, and therefore he knows nothing about them. He does not think, however, from his knowledge of the people that anything serious is likely to result.

PROMISING WELL
IN THE OKANAGANR. M. Palmer Reports on Fruit
Crops—Influx of English
and Scotch Labor.

(From Monday's Daily.)

R. M. Palmer, of the provincial bureau of immigration, returned home yesterday morning from a tour of the Okanagan district. He finds the fruit crops very good except in Vernon, where a hail storm delayed a good many of the apples and plums. This will, to some extent, affect the export market.

At Peachland and Summerland, the early peaches have just been marketed, and have yielded well. The prices have been high for these early varieties are not the best, yet they brought as high as \$1.10 to \$1.30 per crate f.o.b. The later varieties look well.

There has been a large influx in all that country and as a result the feed on the ranges is very good. This means fat cattle in the fall, so that prospects for every line are bright.

In the Okanagan the labor market is fairly well supplied with one exception. Teamsters are needed and these can earn big wages, the farmers being willing to pay from \$40 to \$45 per month and board, or even more to good men. There has been a large influx of labor into the district, mostly English and Scotch. They are a good class of working men.

The young orchards at Summerland and Penticton look excellent. The trees show a large growth, especially on the benches. The land is well tilled and everything is looking prosperous. Among these is the orchard owned by Premier McBride. It is planted mostly to peaches and looks extremely well. There has been plenty of water in the creeks this year for irrigation purposes, a good deal more than has been usual.

As in Victoria, the people of Okanagan look forward to a rush of settlers from the prairies in the coming autumn. There is no doubt, but that a great many will come if the crops there turn out all right.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

By-Law May Be Introduced in Council as Result of Recent Enquiry.

(From Monday's Daily.)

Ald. Fullerton, chairman of the fire wardens, will move at to-night's meeting of the city council for leave to introduce a by-law to amend the present fire department and regulation by-law, with the object of bringing about several changes in the department consequent upon the recent fire enquiry. The report of the council, as a select committee, upon the results of the fire investigation may be presented this evening, and should prove of more than ordinary interest as the aldermen prepared the recommendations for it behind closed doors.

Ald. Henderson will have his usual proposed improvement works on the taps. He will move that the council take steps to continue Vancouver street, through to Beacon Hill Park, by continuing the street lines and abolishing Moss street. For this purpose certain real property will be expropriated and Wallace street will be disposed of.

Ald. Vincent will introduce a by-law to amend the explosives by-law.

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DINING TABLES, GOLDEN OAK FINISH

MASSIVE SOLID QUARTER CUT OAK
DINING TABLE, 8 ft. x 4 ft. Regular
value \$28.00. August sale price.....\$22.50

MASSIVE SOLID QUARTER CUT OAK
DINING TABLE, 10 ft. x 4 ft. Regular
value \$32.00. August sale price.....\$25.50

VERY HEAVY QUARTER CUT OAK
DINING TABLE, 10 ft. x 4 ft. Regular
value \$27.50 August sale price.....\$21.00

SOLID QUARTER CUT OAK "VILLA"
DINING TABLE, 8 ft. x 42 inches. Reg.
value \$27.50 August sale price.....\$22.00

HEAVY PLAIN CUT OAK DINING
TABLE, 8 ft. x 45 inches, reeded legs.
Regular value \$19.00. August sale price.....\$15.00

HEAVY PLAIN CUT OAK DINING
TABLE, 8 ft. x 44 inches, reeded legs.
Regular value \$16.00. August sale price.....\$12.00

HEAVY PLAIN CUT OAK DINING
TABLE, 10 ft. x 45 inches. Reg. value
\$17.00 August sale price.....\$12.50

And a long line of cheaper tables at proportionately reduced rates. These latter are made in plain oak, elm, ash and imitait on oak.

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Buffets, Dining Tables, Writing Tables, Sideboards, Parlor Suites, Card
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20 designs of high-grade Axminster Carpets, borders for all: a carpet with a reputation for durability and appearance. Regular price \$2.00 per yard. Aug. Sale Price, per yard.....\$1.65

QUEEN ANNE CURTAINS

Reg. price, \$ 6.75. Aug. sale, pair.....\$4.75
Reg. price, \$ 8.75. Aug. sale, pair.....\$5.75
Reg. price, \$12.50. Aug. sale, pair.....\$7.50
Reg. price, \$15.00. Aug. sale, pair.....\$9.50

ENGLISH AXMINSTER SQUARES

Sizes 2 1-2 yards x 3 1-2 yards, 3 yards x 3 yards, 3 yards x 3 1-2 yards, 3 1-2 yards x 4 yards, 3 1-2 yards x 4 1-2 yards.

Reg. price, \$30.00. Aug. sale price.....\$25.50
Reg. price, \$36.00. Aug. sale price.....\$30.50
Reg. price, \$42.50. Aug. sale price.....\$36.00
Reg. price, \$46.50. Aug. sale price.....\$39.50
Reg. price, \$57.50. Aug. sale price.....\$48.75

QUEEN ANNE CURTAINS

Reg. price, \$17.50. Aug. sale, pair.....\$11.75
Reg. price, \$22.50. Aug. sale, pair.....\$13.75
Reg. price, \$25.00. Aug. sale, pair.....\$16.50
Reg. price, \$35.00. Aug. sale, pair.....\$17.50

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Colgate's Scented and Unscented Soaps, Cashmere Boquet, Violet, Dactylus, Lettuce, White Lilac, Polwort, Brown Windsor, Sweet Lavender.

Colgate's Shaving Sticks and Barbers' Shaving Soap at Special Prices.

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LOCAL NEWS

—The Holt Hill, British sail is expected to finish discharge to-morrow, after which proceed to Vancouver to load.

—Grass fires on Edmonton the fire brigade two runs evening. They were speed gulshed.

—D. Hansen, a seaman steamer Manuka, is being provincial police court this on a charge of refusing duty.

—The funeral of the infant Capt. J. Fynn, of Johnson place this morning, Rev. Adams officiating.

—The local fire brigade is actively engaged at present gulshing grass fires, and was summoned to a suburb Gorge road, which was with little difficulty.

—At St. Joseph's hospital the death took place of William the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Swords, of Ellice street, Victoria. Deceased was only three months old.

—J. Thompson is erecting a roomed house, costing in the hood of \$2,100, on Green street, of his home which was the recent fire which swept the eastern section of the city.

—A large consignment, a case of French macaroni and soap, received from the Ning in a very badly damaged condition, being all mixed up with smashed and broken.

—Provincial Constable D. M. of Claycut, who was reported fire chief at Fernie, has resigned the position to Mr. McDougall was formerly in this city and served out Deasy.

—At the corner of Chatham streets, on the area, recently devastated by fire, are now in progress for the a tenement house, which will be working by Monday or Tuesday. The plans are now building inspector, and a permit is granted the building proceeded with. It will cost over \$5,000 a day.

—The new pump at Beaver been coupled up to the 12th and will be tested either tomorrow or to-morrow. It is the chief officials of the water works, be working by Monday or Tuesday. The test proves satisfactory, the water supply will be increased to 50,000 gallons a day.

—J. Michaud, contractor at act, has prepared plans of eight-roomed bungalow to be built on the corner of 52nd street. The plans are now building inspector, and a permit is granted the building proceeded with. It will cost over \$5,000 a day.

—Miss S. Little, B. A., secretary of the Dominion County Women's Christian Association of Canada, is in the city and at "Roccella." A public reading arranged for Monday evening, which further will be Miss Little has been organ association's work in Brandon.

—Hog cholera is said to exist in the neighborhood of Kilmichael, purpose of investigating the Tolmie, Dominion chief livestock, has despatched Dr. to the north by the steamer May. He will leave that at Hartley Bay, from which proceeded to Kilmichael on the Cook's tug Donnie.

—The provincial government week declared the extension close season for all kinds of game in the Fraser river until the 1st of October. This leaves a season for the shooting of the is the season closes at the rear.

—Magistrate Hall to-day cases brought by the p. Purdie, a James Bay by Edward Pottinger, in which boy was charged with injury through shooting him with a gun. The magistrate secured all the children present lancers of using catapults such playthings.

—A notice which appears in the number of the British Gazette says: "The driveway front and rear of the parcels are not public thorough may be used only by those business with the department of entering and v. building. Automobiles pass the driveway in front of the must go at a speed not exceeds an hour."

—At the midsummer exam George Watson's Ladies' College, Miss Thelma Thornton, entitling her to a position, entitling her to a position for the season of 1907. Thomson, who is a daughter of Thomson, the manager of the Bay Company in this city, will



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