

## THE CITY COUNCIL

Council Has Discovered that with Proposed Disposal by Strathcona of that City's Street Railway Franchise that Edmonton's Position is not of the best. Alderman Manuel Holds up Passing of Cold Storage Plant By-law. Routine Business of Unimportant Character.

### From Wednesday's Bulletin.

While the Edmonton Council slept the Strathcona Council has decided to dispose of its street railway franchise, and if the people of Strathcona sanction the disposition of the street railway franchise Edmonton will be in a peculiar position. It is generally admitted that unless the two cities work together in the matter of their franchises a street railway would not be made remunerative for many years. If the Strathcona franchise is disposed of to a private corporation Edmonton's municipal street railway undertaking would necessarily be held in abeyance for years, unless the Strathcona franchise were purchased. So far as Strathcona is concerned, without Edmonton connections the franchise is practically valueless. The situation is now in a tangle.

The question was referred to at the meeting of the city council Tuesday night, at which Aldermen Nansen, Stuart, Garney, Walker, Picard and Manuel were present. The mayor was an absentee being in Wabeskiwin at the Conservative convention. Alderman Picard was made chairman.

### The Communications.

R. Hookley & Co. wrote asking for ratification of the three year contract for the police and fire departments' clothing. The letter stated that it was understood when the tender on this was put in that the contract should be for three years, but that upon looking up the contract the company had discovered that no mention was made of the term. The letter was referred to the commissioners for report. Alderman Garney's motion was that the council had no right to make such a contract for three years.

The public works department, Ottawa, wrote stating that the Grosvenor street land slide in the east end of the city was being investigated, and until the report of the engineer on the question was received, it could not say definitely whether the matter came under the jurisdiction of the federal parliament. The letter was referred to the secretary of the St. Albert Agricultural society asking permission for the placing of a streamer across Jasper avenue at MacDougall street, advertising the society's fall fair at Morinville this week. The request was granted.

Archie Harrington wrote stating that he vacated the premises known as the C. N. R. restaurant on MacDougall street three miles back, having taken on out of his license, and he asked for a refund of taxes. The letter was referred to the commissioners for report. Canada Paying Construction Co. wrote soliciting business. This company lays Bermuda asphalt pavement, a pavement which is being advertised in the city by Winnipeg. The letter was filed.

A petition was received for a sidewalk on Vermilion avenue from Fifth street west. The petition was referred to the commissioners for report.

**One Petition Presented.**  
A petition to which over sixty names were attached was received protesting against the early closing by-law, claiming that the conditions included in the by-law should be optional. Alderman Garney moved the petition be laid on the table. He said he wanted to look into the question of the advisability of amending this by-law to make it inoperative during the winter months. The motion was carried.

**Cold Storage Plant By-Law.**  
The Edmonton Produce Company received their application to the council for certain concessions incident to the establishment of a cold storage plant to cost not less than \$7,000, and to be located within the city limits. This company's application, when presented to the ratifiers some months ago, was not endorsed. In the renewal of the application the concession of exemption from taxation, included in the last by-law, was eliminated, and the concessions asked were for free water, light and power for a period of thirty years.

Ald. Garney wanted an arbitration clause included in the by-law. Ald. Picard gave expression to an important point, when he advised that the request for free water, light and power be made specific as to the quantity required.

Ald. Manuel asked if it were not necessary to make some provision to meet such an event as the sale of the city's public utilities. Assuming that at some future date the waterworks or electric light and power systems of the city were disposed of, without such a clause making provision for the freeing of the city from responsibility, the company might hold the city for the cost of the water, light and power.

The question also of the company being required to bear the cost of the submission of the by-law to the people was discussed. The commissioners, City Solicitor Brown and A. F. Ewing, representing the company, retired at this juncture and amended the by-law to provide for the regulation of the amount of free power. This was placed at thirty-five horsepower. Any power required above that amount is to be paid for at minimum rates.

The by-law was given its first and second readings, and would have been given its third reading and sent along to the people but for Alderman Manuel's insistence that an arbitration clause be inserted in the by-law. It was shown that such a clause would be of no value, and the other aldermen were not inclined to give Alderman Manuel the bit. Under the charter a by-law cannot be given its three readings without the unanimous consent of the council, and in an effort

to gain his point Alderman Manuel availed himself of this clause in an attempt to hold up the council. But the council was not to be held up, and although anxious that the by-law should be given its full three readings in order to expedite its early submission to the people, refused to concede the point to the aggressive junior member of the board. Consequently the third reading was left until the next meeting, when the by-law will be passed despite Alderman Manuel's objection. Ald. Manuel stated he was not opposed to the by-law. He was in favor of it, but he thought if the inclusion of an arbitration clause would do no good, it would at least do no harm.

The cold storage plant which the Edmonton Produce Company propose establishing will be located on the C. N. R. Under the proposed by-law building operations must commence before June 1, 1908, and the plant must be in operation before December 1, 1908. Voting on the by-law was fixed for November 4.

### Rat Creek Trunk Sewer.

The report of the commissioners in reference to the operation of the Rat Creek trunk sewer is as follows:

The provisions of the Health Act recently passed by the Alberta Legislature demand that all sewage must be treated before being discharged into any stream or open waterway, and this matter has been under discussion for some time in connection with the proposed Rat Creek outlet. The Provincial Health Board had a meeting last week with the commissioners and city engineers, and a definite arrangement was arrived at in this connection. The proposed arrangement is described in the city engineer's letter hereto attached and consists of the utilization of the enlarged part of the trunk sewer, which for a distance of some 700 feet is of an oval shape, with the dimensions 4' x 10' at the extremity. It is proposed to partition off the end of this and form septic tanks and settling beds, in which the effluent will undergo treatment before being discharged into a filtering-compartment, which it is proposed to build outside the sewer outlet. This compartment is to be of a temporary nature, besides being of puddled earth and roofed over with timber as a protection from the weather. The estimated cost of this whole work is \$1,500.

The Government Health Board has approved of this plan provisionally, asking, however, that the city will agree to institute measures of a more permanent nature, which will be stated later on that this does not produce sufficiently satisfactory results, as they are not permanent.

Your commissioners recommend that the council will approve of this plan and authorize the proceeding with the contemplated work. In connection with the completion of the trunk sewer, which it is hoped to put into service before the winter, your commissioners recommend that the city should give them assistance in the treatment of the effluent from the other sewer outlets will be undertaken at the earliest possible date next season. In the meantime they anticipate that very little harm can be done from the absence of treatment, and they have no objection to the work being continued, which might be inconvenient and burdensome upon the city at this time.

The report was adopted.

**Sidewalk Petitions Granted.**  
The commissioners reported recommending the granting of petitions for plank sidewalks. The report was as follows:

Regarding the petition for plank sidewalk on north side of Morris street—Kinsington to Syndicate—your commissioners recommend that the prayer of these petitioners be granted.

In reference to the petitions for sidewalk, north side Ross street—Nadawito to Kinsington; side, sidewalk, Wilson street—Kinsington to Syndicate, and sidewalk, south side Cameron street—Grisson street to River street—your commissioners recommend that they be authorized to construct a 4 ft. plank sidewalk on these streets.

This action on the part of the commissioners is unlike any during the past few months. Since the financial stringency became oppressive no new public work has been sanctioned, but the sale of the debentures and the consequent improvement of the financial situation of the city permits of resumption of work, hence the report of the commissioners.

The committee appointed to inspect the Isolation Hospital building before approving the account submitted by the architect for the final payment on this contract, reported progress. Alderman Manuel said the work on the building was anything but a creditable job, and he was in favor of suing the architect for damages.

Alderman Garney moved that City Solicitor Brown be engaged to make a consolidation of the by-laws of the city. The motion was passed.

**Answers to Inquiries.**  
The Mayor submitted the following answer to a question propounded by Alderman Smith at the last meeting of the council.

Alderman Smith: Has the assessor authority to charge for looking up back taxes on property to anyone calling to pay their taxes?

Answer: By-law No. 113 of the City of Edmonton reads "The assessor of the city shall be authorized to charge for the assessment of any property or tax roll of the city first entry and 5c for each subsequent entry in respect whereof the search is made at the same time."

This implies the exercise of certain discretionary power by the assessor, and he has been instructed to exercise this power with justifiable leniency.

creating even permitting this must be blinding themselves to their duty to God and their fellow-creatures.

**Responsibility of Women.**  
It was a grave problem, and one whose solution rests largely with the women of the country, so the mothers and daughters of the west were called upon to unite in combatting the evil. Women had a grave responsibility in this regard, and so were called upon to make new homes for themselves.

Would these people from other lands with other ideals adapt themselves to Canadian conditions? Would their ideals of life eventually predominate? Would a continental Sunday or a Canadian Sunday prevail among these new people whose children would soon take their share in moulding the destinies of Canada. Would polygamy be practised? As an instance of the successful future of the country.

As on Friday night Mrs. Wright dwelt with enthusiasm upon the glorious nature of the west, the speaker's words were the boundless fertile prairies. They were incomparable and already being dotted with progressive towns and villages. The future destiny was being shaped by the speaker's intense regret, she stated, that she was staked most bravely through the streets of several of these western cities.

**Prohibition Prevents.**  
Considering the system of prohibition as an obstacle to the progress of civilization, the speaker stated that she believes the time now ripe for a national law governing the whole Dominion. As an instance of the successful administration of a prohibitory law the speaker referred to North Dakota and the eastern provinces were in the same position as we are out here.

Crops in Ontario are light and short. The poor pasture is worth \$20 per ton. The cheese and butter manufacture in Ontario is very severe. While Mr. Rutherford was away the weather in the east was cool and wet.

**FIFTEEN YEARS IN FAR NORTH.**  
From Monday's Bulletin.  
Among those coming in from the north on Saturday was one of the pioneers in the person of Rev. T. J. Hill, of the Great Northern Railway Company and the Granby Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company, of Grand Forks, B.C., are large shareholders in the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company. This, however, has not, and will not, result in any change in our policy. In reality there has been and is no conflict of interests so far as the company is concerned. Mr. Cox, with considerable emphasis.

"An erroneous impression prevails respecting the alleged fabulous earnings of the company. While ten per cent. annual dividends are being paid on the nominal capital of four million dollars, the actual cash paid in by the shareholders represents over eight million dollars, all the latter having been paid in full. The company has issued at \$250 per share, or at a premium of 150 per cent."

Senators stated today that they are leaving this evening at nine o'clock over the C.N.R. for Winnipeg.

**PAID TREATY MONEY TO THE 4,000 INDIANS.**  
H. A. Conroy, of the Department of Indian Affairs, Back from Trip to North-Indians Are in Fairly Good Health—Denies Reports of Starvation at Fort Chipewyan.

From Monday's Bulletin.  
H. A. Conroy, of the department of Indian Affairs at Ottawa, has just returned to the city from his annual tour of inspection of the treaty Indians in the north. Mr. Conroy left Edmonton for the north last May. To a Bulletin representative Mr. Conroy stated today that in all there are about 4,000 Indians under treaty between Edmonton and Fort St. John, while the non-treaty Indians in more remote districts number approximately 3,000. Most of these would like to come under treaty, as it in no way interferes with their present hunting privileges, and means in addition the payment of \$5 annually to each member of the tribe with \$20 for the chief, and \$10 for each of his headmen or councillors. These latter receive in addition good suits of clothing every three years.

**Few Live on Reserves.**  
These treaty Indians who were brought under treaty by the commission headed by Hon. David Laird in 1899, live in widely scattered bands belonging mainly to the Cree and Chipewyan nations. "Reserves have been allotted to each band," said Mr. Conroy, "but for the present only the Cree at Lesser Slave Lake live on their allotments and raise small crops. Until the country becomes more settled they will continue to live so, and expect, with hunting as their main support."

"The halfbreed takes to farming; the Indian does not. But here as in Eastern Canada the Indian has the fine hand skill of the Oriental races. They have little opportunity for its development in the needs of their present simple mode of life, but they are not without it. The Loucheux particularly are gifted in this and make handsome porcupine-embroidered belts, rosette baskets, willow nets and hunting coats of skin richly worked in beads or porcupine quill."

"How many posts did you visit?"  
**A Varied Trip.**  
"Eighteen in all, making payments to the small band of Indians accustomed to meet me at each. I left Edmonton on May 1st and as the season was late and the lakes not yet clear of ice I drove from the Landing to Peace River Crossing in a lumber wagon, and the lakes not yet clear of ice we had to raft our wagon across the Athabasca and swim our horses over. The weather was cold and disagreeable, too, at first."

"Did you have to continue your trip under difficulties of that nature?"  
"No, King was very kind, and the Hudson Bay company steamer to Fort St. John's, made a payment there, and returning by the steamer, stopped at several posts, making side-trips to various posts by pack train, canoes and wagons. Some of the places I called on were Dunvegan, Vermilion, Chipewyan, Wolverine

Point, Fort Smith, Fort Resolution, Fond du Lac, Hay River, Pelican, Murray with side trips to Wabeskiwin and other points."

**The Chipewyan Indians.**  
"Did you find that the Indians at Chipewyan had suffered much last winter as reported?"  
"I did not learn that they did. They were short of food to some extent, but there were deer most of the winter and within one and a half and two days' journey of the post, and they should have done more hunting. The traders and Hudson Bay company helped them over the hard time."

"How did you find the Indians were faring generally?"  
"Very well on the whole, I had Dr. Barrow with me on most of the trip, and we found that with the exception of Hay River, where there were a number of deaths, the health of the Indians had been fairly satisfactory. Of course, there is always a certain amount of weakness from scrofulous diseases, which have a hold upon them, as the result of intermarriage and an unhealthy mode of living."

**Generally Well to Do.**  
"There has been, I believe, a slight increase in the births over the deaths this year, so the census will be higher. Some of the families are comfortably well off as a result of their fur sales. Most of them indeed could be very comfortable the year round if they were not so very improvident by nature. Mr. Conroy leaves soon for Ottawa, where he will turn in the reports of his trip to the department."

**TWIN CITIES MUST JOIN TOGETHER.**  
From Tuesday's Bulletin.  
During the past few weeks the question of the handing over of the street railway franchise by the City of Strathcona to a private company has been before the city council of the southern municipality.

At the same time an animated discussion has been in progress in Edmonton in connection with the disposal of the partly completed railway and the franchise held by the City of Strathcona to a private company has been before the city council of the southern municipality.

Speaking to a Bulletin representative this morning, Mayor Griesbach made the following statement: "My attention has been drawn to the statement that the City of Strathcona is about to part with its street railway franchise to a local concern who happen to get a charter whereby I am led to believe, covers the surrounding country for eighty miles in every direction."

"It is my understanding that it is this particular charter which Mr. Cronin desired to purchase in connection with the railway franchise. I am endeavoring to obtain from both cities. If the local company in question can obtain from the city of Strathcona a street railway franchise, it is my understanding that the City of Strathcona, with the city of Edmonton, but with the above franchise, will be in a position to sell the company have to sell is made vastly more valuable by reason of the possession of the Strathcona franchise. This in turn complicates the situation so far as Edmonton is concerned, assuming for the moment that the city growth of Edmonton."

"It may be a matter of doubt as to whether a street railway operated in the city of Edmonton alone will pay for itself. It will, I believe, be admitted by all concerned that a street railway operated in Strathcona alone will not pay for itself. It will, I believe, be admitted by all concerned that a street railway operating in the two cities and connected by means of a high level bridge will pay almost from the start."

"To that end, therefore, both cities should negotiate together either in the form of a franchise, or in the sale of them. During April last I took up the matter of the City of Edmonton acquiring the street railway franchise of the City of Strathcona, and called the attention of the executive of that city to the importance of such an arrangement so far as both cities were concerned."

"I received from the mayor of Strathcona a communication which led me to believe that he and his council were alive to the importance of the matter, and it therefore comes to me as somewhat of a surprise to find that the authorities in Strathcona are even considering a sale of their franchise."

"When I lay down these two propositions, which occur to me to be incontrovertible, either that if we dispose of our franchise, we lose the franchise, or the same company to prevent a difference in management as between the two cities, or we should, if we retain our franchises, operate a street railway in both cities under the one management."

"Such at all events was the proposal which I laid before the mayor of Strathcona in April, and to which I received a reply indicating that the latter was the policy of that city."

"If the city of Edmonton to-day owned the street railway franchise of the city of Strathcona, the latter would profit by the arrangement, either in the event of sale on the one hand or municipal operation on the other. In the case of sale better terms would be obtained for both cities, and in the event of municipal operation the financing of the proposal would be immensely easier."

"If I might presume to give advice to the people of Strathcona I would say hang on to their franchise until we can get together either for the purposes of sale or for the purposes of municipal operation. Our interests are too closely allied to admit of a difference of opinion on this point."

**Cases in Winnipeg Court.**  
Winnipeg, Oct. 9.—At the assize court in session here now, the case of "No. King vs. G. Love & McHugh" was reserved.

The conspiracy suit which was commenced until next term. Justice Phippen gave decision that the conspiracy and the reserved case was granted on the grounds that certain evidence considered necessary by the prosecution was refused.

permitted to the progress made by the temperance movement throughout the world, and numerous statistics of the work in each continent were introduced. Twenty-five ladies participated.

The sessions are being continued to-day.

**PREMIER RUTHERFORD IS HOME FROM THE EAST.**  
From Monday's Bulletin.

Premier Rutherford has returned from his trip east and was in his office this morning. While away Mr. Rutherford visited Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa. In Toronto he was received principally in attending the university function. The premier has formed a very high opinion of Principal Falconer, and says there seems to be no doubt about the selection of the Nova Scotia man for the most important educational position in Ontario.

Mr. Rutherford was presented for his degree by Premier Whitney, who remarked that he and Mr. Rutherford were born in adjoining counties, both educated at McGill university, and that they were both students of the same university.

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