SOUTH SAANICH COUNCIL MET

DISPUTE AROSE OVER SUPERINTENDENT'S SALARY

The Top Soil of District Will Be Guarded by Special Constables.

At the fortnightly meeting of the South Saanich municipal council held on Saturday night at 8 o'clock the business of the council went along smoothly until the clerk put before the councillors an application from James Pim, the road superintendent of the municipality, for an increase of $10 per month salary, when Councillor Nicholson took the floor and loudly protested against the increase, arguing against the support of Chairman Reeve that the request be granted and the increase so ordered.

Councillor Reeve held that the road superintendent was entitled to the increase as he was a good man in the right place, and for three years had served the municipality at ninety dollars per month, and had been put to some extra expense in providing a horse and rig, which had saved the council some charges in hauling as the road superintendent had frequently brought goods from the city. He said the road superintendent had given the council great satisfaction and they had never been served better than by the present holder of the office who had proved himself a faithful worker and servant of the municipality.

The chairman's expression of opinion was given on the request of Councillor Nicholson, who, as soon as the request had been read, jumped to the floor and said he desired to speak on the matter but first required an expression of opinion from the chairman.

In reply to the chairman's support of the proposed increase Councillor Nicholson attacked the proposal vehemently. He said Mr. Pim had nothing to do but boss three or four men throughout the winter and was not overworked during the summer months. He thought Mr. Pim had a "pretty soft snap," and he didn't see why he should jump on the council just at this time. He said if Mr. Pim did not like his present salary he could resign and there would be plenty of men willing to lie round for five or six months of the year and work the rest at ninety dollars per month. He moved that the application be refused.

Councillor Dunn supported the increase in the road superintendent's salary, and moved as an amendment that the request be granted. He said Mr. Pim was a good man and had always served the municipality faithfully. At the same time he thought that the matter should be fully aired before the increase was passed, as people did not know what went on in the council chamber, and thought as soon as salaries were increased that the council was wasting the people's money. Before the amendment was seconded a third resolution was moved that the matter be laid over until the estimates were considered.

Other councillors thought the matter should be thrashed out there and then, and Councillor Dunn's amendment was finally seconded and carried, by the vote of the chairman, who voted with the three councillors who were in favor of the increase.

Councillor Nicholson at once jumped up and accused the chairman of a wrong ruling, saying he was not allowed to vote except on a casting vote. The council by-laws were referred to and the matter finally settled that the reeve was entitled to a vote other than the casting one. Councillor Nicholson then requested the secretary to record the names of the councillors and the way in which they had voted on the increase.

Councillor Scott, who voted for the increase, stood up and declared his name could be written in red ink if Councillor Nicholson so desired; and Councillor Dunn offered, so there should be no mistake as to the way in which he had voted, his name might be written on the records of the council in letters of blood.

West Saanich Road.

The next matter before the council was a request from thirty-seven ratepayers that certain repairs should be made to the West Saanich road so as to make it safe for traffic.

Immediately the request had been read Councillor Nicholson rose and remarked that he thought the undertaking should be put in hand at once as the council was in a generous mood and ought to grant everything.

Councillor Scott supported the motion, saying "All jokes apart, it will have to be granted."

Councillor Nicholson interjected: "Oh, yes, grant it, expense is nothing to us. We have lots of money." The matter was finally laid over to be taken up with the estimates.

The Accounts.

The accounts for the month as passed by the finance committee were next taken up. When the clerk asked if he should read them over, Councillor Nicholson remarked, "Certainly."

After the reading Councillor Nicholson, as chairman of the finance committee, was at once on his feet. He moved that no more time checks be paid until after they were passed by the finance committee. Speaking to the resolution he declared that the finance committee as it stood was a nonentity, and that for it to have to pass on the accounts after they had been paid was an absurdity.

"It is a nonentity to have a finance committee to pass on pay checks after they have been paid," he declared. "Here is one man getting $2.25 and another $2.50 and as chairman of the committee I'm in charge of the people's money and I am going to inspect the checks before they are paid, road superintendent or no road superintendent. If I don't I'll resign right here. I'm not going to sign a thing that has been paid already, and if this motion doesn't go through I resign to-night."

Several other councillors supported the motion and said every single dollar of the funds should go before the finance committee before they were paid. A difficulty arose as to holding back the men's pay until the committee could meet.

Councillor Dunn said he did not think there was anything wrong with the accounts. "If it was in San Francisco," he declared, "there might be a chance for graft, but here as cheques are given we are fully protected."

Councillor Nicholson: "You saw fit to appoint me as chairman of the finance committee, and if I am not upheld in this matter I will resign."

After considerable discussion on the subject the motion, that all accounts and time checks be passed by the finance committee before payment, was carried.

Hauling Soil.

The road superintendent reported that Mr. Haggerty's teams had been hauling black soil from Blenkinsop road on Saturday off municipal property.

The matter was referred to the constable for report, and to be referred to the chairman who had power to proceed if necessary.

It was considered that more protection was needed in the municipality and a resolution offered that two special constables be appointed in each ward where necessary. The motion was carried, several applications being in the hands of the councillors for the offices. The remuneration fixed for the duties was half of all fines collected.

A letter from D. Dunford and J. O. Dunford, owners of lots 31 and 32, section 81, Victoria district, asking that Eldon street be cleared of scrub, was received. The cost of the work was estimated at about $40. As it was found the work would not establish a precedent the request was granted. Messrs. Dunford propose erecting a $4,000 house on their property.

Annie James wrote asking that the culvert across Columbia avenue be repaired. The matter was referred to the road superintendent with power to act.

A letter from T. W. Gamble, public works engineer, was read asking the council to call for tenders for the construction of Appleton road, the work to be paid for by the government.

Councillor Nicholson objected to action being taken. He said the government had, in its wisdom, seen fit to put a road there and they should be let carry out the road.

The chairman said the government had already done some of the work in an unsatisfactory manner.

Other councillors supported Councillor Nicholson. It was finally decided that tenders be called for provided the government provide a competent overseer for the work.

Letters were received from Lieutenant Colonel Rowcroft and R. Holmes asking that the sidewalk on Tolmie avenue between Glasgow avenue and Quadra street be made. The matter was referred to the road superintendent for a report and estimate.

MUCH ACTIVITY IN KETTLE VALLEY

Number of Men Find Employment on Ranches—Planting Potatoes.

Grand Forks, April 3.—With the advent of spring the Kettle valley surrounding Grand Forks has taken on a new life, and much activity on all sides is now in evidence among the ranchers. During the past week probably about 100 idle men found employment on these ranches. Ploughing has been in progress for the past two weeks, and the planting of the potato crops has already begun. From present appearances the growing of potatoes will be prosecuted very extensively here this year.

It is reported here this morning that Lorn A. Compbell, the general manager of the West Kootenay Power & Light Company, has just awarded a contract to W. H. Fisher, the well-known contractor here, to clear his farm just south of the city, of all brush preparatory to the planting of some eighty acres of this land in potatoes. The ranchers of this valley feel that the potato makes a sure crop of an average of four tons to the acre. These vegetables find a ready market in the fall of the year at $18 per ton at the markets of the middle provinces, which are practically unlimited.

SALT SPRING ISLAND.

Population of Tributary District is Increasing Quickly.

Salt Spring, about twenty-five miles from Victoria, is fast becoming a centre of considerable importance, and the population which has increased considerably in the last year, now numbers over a thousand inhabitants. Recent visitors from the progressive island tell of improvements that are going ahead and of the fine outlying fruit and farming country which is quickly being taken up for fruit growing, chicken raising and dairying.

Mr. Gatt, who formerly owned the Alderly hotel at Duncans, is among the recent purchasers of townsite property there, and is reported to be about to erect a $10,000 hotel at Ganges harbor.

An anti-tuberculosis society was recently formed, with Dr. Beech as president and A. J. Smith, secretary. The society now numbers one hundred members, and will hold a concert to augment the funds during Easter week.

Altogether a very bright outlook is held for the future of the island. Business is reported as being good and a considerable influx of visitors is looked for this summer.

DESERTER AS THIEF.

Vancouver, April 4.—In the police court to-day John Fowler was convicted of stealing a suit of clothes and other articles from a room in a downtown hotel, and was sent to jail for six months. "There is so much of this stealing from hotel rooms that I will have to make an example of you," commented the court in passing sentence. Fowler was a deserter from the garrison at Esquimalt. The police suspect him of other thefts.

Fred Wilson was to-day formally charged with stealing $18 from Mrs. Manuel, Bridge street, his boarding mistress. He pleaded not guilty, and was remanded until Tuesday.

NANAIMO WRESTLES WITH WATER PROBLEM

Council Meets Opposition in Desire to Draw From South Fork.

(Special Correspondence).

Nanaimo, April 4.—The most interesting thing about the week's news in Nanaimo was the hearing of the application of the city on Thursday night before Government Agent Bray for the right to take water for the city waterworks system from the south fork of the Nananmo river. The city is facing the same problem as Victoria in its water supply, and requires more water. At the rate people have been coming into the city during the last few months it is only a question of a short time before a better and larger water supply is needed. Indeed now, during the dry spell in the fall, restrictions have to be put on the use of the water and the city has to husband it as much as possible until the rains come.

Recently a by-law was submitted to the people authorizing the loan of $75,000 for the purpose of going to the south fork of Nanaimo river where there is an almost inexhaustible supply of water sufficient for fire and ordinary consumption, and also for the use of present and other industries that may come. The by-law carried and a staff of surveyors were placed at work. The proposition was pronounced feasible and the necessary notices were placed at the forks. When it came to the hearing of the application on Thursday night it developed that there was to be some opposition to the city's desire to get water there. The Wellington Colliery Company protested in a communication against granting the city the right to take water from the forks, and wished its ownership of the water recognized. J. H. Simpson, who appeared for the city, denied the right of the company to the water. If this right is recognized he argued, then it means that the city becomes a lessee, tenant, or assumes some other similar position towards the company. The possibilities in this event are many, and not at all alluring to the city of Nanaimo. The company as yet has not furnished any proof of its ownership to the water, as the matter is still in abeyance, and will be until it is fully considered. In any event should the company prove its right the city is not alarmed, as it believes it can force the company to give water to the city by expropriation under the statute from 1896, which reads as follows:

"Any municipality shall, from time to time, where a sufficient supply of unrecorded water is not available within reasonable limits of distance and expenditure, have, subject to the approval of the lieutenant-governor in council the right of expropriation over recorded water and all works in connection therewith, to the extent proved by the municipality to the satisfaction of the lieutenant-governor in council to be necessary to obtain a proper and sufficient source of water supply for ordinary household purposes and fire protection purposes."

WILL OPEN ELECTRIC LINE TO CHILLIWACK

Formal Date for Inauguration of Traffic Set for May 24, 1910.

Vancouver, April 6.—The Chilliwack-New Westminster electric railway line will be formally opened on May 24th, 1910. Managing Director Buntzen, of the B. C. E. R. Co., has said so, and that settles it. Mr. Buntzen and Assistant Manager Glover returned on Saturday from an inspection trip to Chilliwack.

In company with Reeve Kickbush, of Chilliwack municipality, and Mayor Cawley, of the city of Chilliwack, an extensive tour of the vicinity was taken and an examination made of points affected by the dyking and draining, as well as the railway projects. An inspection was made of the property secured in Chilliwack city for terminal purposes, and Mr Buntzen expressed himself as well satisfied. It is right in the heart of the city.

A number of persons who had been objecting to the dyking scheme, waited on Mr. Buntzen, and after hearing from him that the B. C. E. R. Co. was going to take the matter up in earnest they went away perfectly satisfied.

As soon the plans can be completed tenders will be called for the work on the railway construction by sections, and as stated at the opening, Mr. Buntzen has fixed May 24th, 1910, for the opening day.

RECEIVES NASTY INJURIES.

Visitor at Vancouver Hotel Discharges Colt Accidentally.

Vancouver, April 5.—A distressing affair occurred at the Badminton hotel shortly after 8 o'clock last evening when E. Dyson Currier was found in his bedroom bleeding profusely from a bullet wound in the mouth.

The first intimation that the hotel staff received of the incident was when Mrs. Currier rushed downstairs, exclaiming that her husband had accidentally shot himself.

Drs. Verner and Tunstall were immediately summoned, and after temporary bandages had been applied, the injured man was taken in the ambulance to the General hospital, where he now lies.

Seen after the accident, Dr. Verner stated that he had carefully examined Mr. Currier and found that his injuries were merely superficial. The injured man had made a statement to him to the effect that he was fooling with the Colt automatic when it went off.

Mr. Currier comes from Ottawa and has been in Vancouver for over two years. He and Mrs. Currier have been guests at the Badminton hotel for some months.

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HARBINGERS OF SPRING ON PENDER ISLAND

Air of Reawakening Activity Among Community—Amateur Acting.

(Special Correspondence).

Pender Island, April 4.—There is a springiness in the air that makes one think of gardening. There are animated discussions over the seed catalogues, while visions of brilliant-hued flower-beds and abundance of succulent vegetables, float pleasingly before the eyes of the amateur gardener—with never a thought of the long rows of hoeing to be done, before the visions become fulfilled realities. There are daisies and daffodils, dandelions and violets, lifting their heads modestly, and whispering that spring time has come. There's a sweetness in the robin's note and the chirrup of the meadow lark. There's a softness in the breezes, and a glamor in the sunshine that makes one want to be outdoors every moment. Everything tells of nature's glad awakening. Mother Earth is silently preparing for her spring cleaning, and the donning of new and becoming shades of green—before summer visitors come! Indoors the housekeeper views with disapproval the weaving of fresh cobwebs, the fading carpets and curtains yellowing as with age, and the dinginess of things in general which the more brilliant spring sunshine reveals. She fortnwith meditates spring cleaning, and thereat her husband effaces himself, or is given over to despair, for the next few weeks. But all things come to an end, and so will this yearly tidal wave, in life's domestic ocean, if man but possesses his soul in patience. And once more will he find a resting place for the soul of his foot—by his ain clean fireside.

As I write, a letter from a friend in the East tells of "how very cold it is, and how long the winter lingers," while here we have been enjoying a seemingly fully ushered in spring.

Amateur Theatricals.

A very pleasant evening's entertainment was given last night by the young people of the island. The first part of the programme consisted of an amusing little play entitled, "The Bulldog and the Baby." Miss Jean Hamilton took the part of Miss Tennant," and Miss Moore acted as maid, while Mr. Neptune Grimmer was "Mr. Stoddard," and Percy Corbett was porter. The acting was done very creditably to those who took part throughout. In the interlude which followed, a series of limelight views were given. The programme ended with a laughable little farce, called "The Engaging of a Servant Girl," in which the characters of the servant girl's applying for the position were taken by the boys, their make-ups causing much amusement. The entertainment closed with the reappearance of all the performers on the stage, and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

Progress in Spring Work.

The spring work is now well under way. Trees have been sprayed, and gardening and spring ploughing is the order of the day and promises to be gone into more largely than last year. Some new residences are being planned and there is an air of general activity on the island.

VICTORIA DAY CELEBRATION.

(Special Correspondence).

Nanaimo, April 4.—The 24th of May celebration in Nanaimo is somewhat of an historic institution, attended by large crowds from the Mainland and different parts of the Island. Steps have been taken to prepare for this year's celebration and a public meeting has been called for Wednesday evening to consider the nature of the entertainment this year.

DRUGGING CHILDREN A SOURCE OF DANGER.

When you give your child a so-called "soothing" medicine you are not curing its sickness. You are merely drugging it into temporary insensibility. Soothing medicines contain opiates and an overdose may kill the child. When you give your little one Baby's Own Tablets you have the guarantee of a government analyst that this medicine is safe. And you have the word of thousands of grateful mothers that this medicine will promptly cure all the minor ailments of childhood. Mrs. L. W. Smith, St. Giles, Que., says—"I have used Baby's Own Tablets for my little girl for constipation and other troubles and have found them the best medicine I have ever used.' Sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. William's Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

To test a diamond, place the finger behind it; if the grain of the skin is visible, the stone is not a diamond.

CRIMINAL WORE CINDERELLA SHOES

Young Girl's Share in Awful Crime Traced by Blood-stained Slippers.

The complicity of a girl of eighteen in the murder of an old woman named Coudray near Tours last autumn has been dramatically exposed by the prints left on a floor by her tiny blood-stained slippers.

Mme. Coudray was a wealthy woman of somewhat intemperate habits, but great charity, who lived almost alone. On the morning of September 20th last she discharged her servant, Scouarmet, and on the same day, between twelve and one o'clock, she agreed to employ a woman named Durand, who was to enter upon her duties at five o'clock. On arriving at the house at that hour Durand found the door shut, and knocked and rang without effect. The police were called, and broke in to find Mme. Coudray lying dead in the passage with her throat cut and wounds in the face and head.

Attention was attracted by numerous traces left in the house by the marks of two bloodstained slippers. They were evidently the footmarks of a woman, and of a woman with very small feet. The police attention was, however, distracted at the outset from the importance of this clue by the statements of a neighbor.

A dressmaker, 18 years of age, named Gilberte Girault, related that she had noticed two men of "horrid appearance" hanging about the house that afternoon. The police, however, could learn nothing more about the two strangers. Then they made inquiries nearer home, and ascertained that the little dressmaker herself had paid a long visit to the venerable widow on the very day she was killed.

A postman said that he had been treated to a glass of wine in her company, and neighbors stated that she had returned to her abode in such a heated condition that she had asked them not to mention it to her father, as he would scold her, adding that she feared that some mischeief would befall the old lady, as she had left two queer-looking individuals with her.

All this seemed very odd, particularly as the girl, who must have stayed so long with the old lady, was barely acquainted with her.

A search was accordingly made at the girl's home, and a pair of slippers bearing traces of human blood was discovered hidden away. The petticoat and skirt worn by the prisoner on the day of the murder were found to have bloodstains on them.

The girl's slippers, on being measured with the blood marks in the house, were found to fit the marks exactly. Moreover, one of the slippers had a hole on the left side. The blood marks traced to this hole were distinctly visible in the imprints on the floor of the murdered woman's house.

The result is that Gilberte Girault was charged at Tours with murder.

NEW YORKERS BUY MOLLY GIBSON GROUP

Rossland Property to Be Exploited—Mining Activity in District.

Rossland, April 4.—The Molly Gibson group, near Rossland, has been sold to a New York syndicate for $50,000. J. B. Singer, J. McNeilly and Charles Schwartzenhauer were the owners. There are five claims in the group, and the surface showing is large. The property is conceded by every expert who has examined it to be valuable. In one place the ore can be quarried, so large is the deposit at this point. The ledges are wide and well defined. The principal value of the ore is in gold, and assays show that some of the runs over $100 to the ton. Development of the property will be commenced by the New Yorkers on a large and comprehensive scale, with ample capital to bring it to a paying condition.

M. A. Henderson has leased the Iron Horse for a year from the Iron Horse Gold-Copper Mining and Milling Company. Work has been commenced at the east end of the claim in the tunnel, which is in a distance of 140 feet. This tunnel was driven by Phicket, who had charge of the Iron Horse in 1896. He shipped two carloads of ore during that period, one car running $32 to the ton and the other $38. At that time the cost of freight and treatment was $14 per ton, as the ore had to be hauled in wagons to the smelter at Trail, while the present cost of transportation and treatment is as low as $6.50 a ton. There is considerable ore on the dump, and assays made of this for Mr. Henderson show that it runs from $5.40 to $41 per ton. The ore is being shipped to the Trail smelter. The Iron Horse has been closed down since July 10, 1899, before which it was operated by the Iron Horse Gold-Copper Mining and Milling Company. A double compartment shaft was sunk for 300 feet. A crescent ran 112 feet north to War Eagle ledge, and one of ninety feet south to the Le Roi ledge. The company, however, ran short of funds and work had to be closed down, although it was claimed by the management that a little more exploration would have led to the finding of rich chutes.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTE.

Programme of Meeting to be Held in Vancouver This Month.

Vancouver, April 6.—The Provincial Teachers' Institute will be held this year in the Vancouver High school on April 21st, 22nd and 23rd. The programme has been issued and the three days' work mapped out. The officers of the institute are, Messrs. W. P. Argue, (city superintendent), president; G. E. Robinson, B. A., first vice-president; G. H. Deane, second vice-president; J. B Bennett, third vice-president; E. Cassell, secretary; T. Leith, treasurer. Additional members of the executive are, Misses K. Draper, E. G. Lawson, S. Thom, and Messrs. A. Graham and D. H. Hunter.

The institute will open on April 21st with an address by President Argue, and will close with an "at home," to be given by the Vancouver staff to the members of the institute on the evening of April 23rd. W. A. McIntyre, principal of the Winnipeg normal school, will be among the visitors who will read papers and take part in the discussions. A public meeting will be held on the night of April 22nd, at which addresses will be given by Mr. Alexander Robinson, British Columbia superintendent of education; Rev. John Mackay, M. A., D. D., principal of Vancouver Presbyterian theological college, and W. A. McIntyre, B. A., who will deal with "Education and the Social Crisis." Manual training and domestic science will occupy a large place in the deliberations of the institute.

ROUND UP IN CHINATOWN.

Twenty-One Vancouverites Fined for Watching Illegal Game.

Vancouver, April 4.—In the police court to-day twenty-one men, captured in last night's raid in Chinatown, pleaded guilty to being onlookers at an illegal game and were fined $25 and costs each. The two Chinamen, Che Bang Wah and Ah Wee, were charged with being keepers. They pleaded not guilty, though their counsel offered to plead guilty to being onlookers. Some evidence was taken, but the case was enlarged until Tuesday. The raid was led by Inspector Mulhern, with Sergeant Preston and others.

The colony of Barbary apes on Gibraltar, the only one in Europe, is regarded as sacred, and none of the animals may be killed.

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COAST LAND DISTRICT.
DISTRICT OF BELLA COOLA.

Take notice that I, T. H. Thorsen, of Bella Coola, B. C., by occupation a farmer, intend to apply for permission to purchase the following described land: Commencing at a post planted at the S. E. corner of H. Thorsen's pre-emption, Section 30, Township 1, thence S. 20 chains, W. 20 chains, N. 20 chains, thence E. 20 chains along H. Thorsen's south boundary to post of commencement, containing 40 acres more or less.

T. H. THORSEN.

Jan. 20th, 1908.

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COAST LAND DISTRICT.

Take notice that E. N. Brynildsen, of Bella Coola, occupation, farmer, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted at northwest corner of Lot 251, thence west 17 chains 42 links to shore line, thence in an easterly direction to the west line of Lot 251, thence north 3 chains to point of commencement.

E. N. BRYNILDSEN.

February 29th, 1908.