

## VICTORIA WEST HEARS HENDERSON

## SPEAKER ADVOCATES Sooke Lake By-Law

## Aldermanic Candidates Present Themselves And Ask Support of Electorate.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

Before a handful of electors at Semple's hall, Victoria West, last night, Ald. Henderson, a candidate for mayoralty honors, went over the works of the council for the past year in a manner similar to his speech at the A. O. U. W. hall the night before. He then addressed the people present on the water question, and urged them to pass the Sooke measure giving the council power to borrow \$150,000 to bring the Sooke water to Victoria. On the necessity for the passage of this by-law the alderman was most emphatic, reiterating his previous statement that he would not care to be returned as mayor if the water by-law is not passed.

There were three other speakers at the meeting who addressed the electors. They were Ald. Ross, who has been a year in the council, and W. N. Mitchell and William Birnie, who have announced themselves as candidates for Ward I. as aldermen. All the speakers were well received, and a number of questions were put to the two aldermen who gave satisfactory answers to those who asked the ques-

Ald. Henderson said the city, since the 1960s, has had a "strong" council, had put down fifteen miles of boulevard, and he then touched briefly on the various departments of the city. Referring to the market building, he said the time was now when the city would be able to use the object intended. He would, when returned mayor, take this matter up and open the markets as was the tradition when they were built. On the question of the market building, he said West people would vote against it, but Ald. Henderson told them if the city got a Sooke Lake line through the district the city would be able to hold back the Esquimalt Water Company.

A questioner asked if the city rates were higher than the Esquimalt, would not that have the effect of raising the Esquimalt Water Company's rates? The mayor replied that the Esquimalt water rate in the city was enough to carry the Sooke scheme, and he did not contemplate that the water rate in the city with Sooke would ever be higher than the Esquimalt rate. It was enough for one hundred years, and there would in five years be \$1,500,000 spent in the city. Concluding, Ald. Henderson said: "Had I not felt that I was doing my duty to the city, to myself and the city I would not have come forward to seek election. While I feel my chances are not the brightest of being elected, as there is a somewhat considerable opposition, I feel that I have the thinking part of the community with me."

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W. Mitchell said he appeared before the electors as a candidate for a German. John Wilson had, among other things, asked him to stand for election to him and asked him to stand for election. He told the electors he was a silent partner in a Moose Jaw firm which collected dividends. He had been here over 20 years, and he and his wife were very much pleased with Victoria. He had a good job, and he had a good salary. He had a good salary, but he was not a Sooko scheme. He came up just now, as the ratemakers have not been charged to the electors' account. They should have all the facts and figures before them, but all the same he was in favor of Sooko Land. Regarding the city grant, he was in favor of it. He was decidedly not in favor of it. If the city became a partner in the theatre there would be responsibilities in connection with it. He was in the theatre at the time he had enough business without entering into the theatre management. He believed in a land tax and not an income tax.

"Mr. Birnie, another candidate, said, 'I am an ordinary man and a farmer. There is no political body pushing me. If I go in I will work as well as possible for the city and for Victoria.'"

Ald. Ross said: "I came here to hear what the mayors had to say. I expected to see at least a couple of them here, anyway. Now suppose I go in and I know what I will be doing in the council. Well, I did come as well as I could."

He said he had tried to get enough in the district cleared out, his efforts to get the city council to make the attempt to get improved sewerage in the district had been delayed owing to the non-arrival of

pump. Referring to the E. & N. p. 1  
 way across the railroad bridge,  
 Ross said, "I want a couple of cops at  
 the ends of the bridge, and kick the b  
 cede away; that's what I would h  
 done, and let them sue the city. N  
 there is a little bill from an owner  
 a little bit more rental for an owner  
 rental for allowing people  
 crass."

Referring to the engineering dep  
 ment of the city, Ald. Ross said:  
 "This back could have been  
 been a public engineering department  
 this city. It's not all plain sailing  
 run the city's affairs. There's pl  
 of snags. I went there a green h  
 and I'm green yet, but I've learn  
 few waters."

Ald. Ross said, "All the more reason

we should send you back."

Ald. Ross: "Well, if you send me back I'll do what I can for the district and I am in favor of the Sunka Lake water scheme, but if you don't send me back again I'll stay at home satisfied and won't feel hurt about it."

With a vote of thanks to the chairman, Capt. Gidley, the meeting came to a close.