

## STANDING PAT

Ottawa, March 24.—This afternoon in the commons Dr. Sproule, East Grey, quoted a Canadian Associated Press despatch to the effect that when interviewed J. Obed. Smith, assistant commissioner of immigration in London, stated that it was not the intention to exclude any but the worst class of immigrants. Had Mr. Smith correctly stated the attitude of the department?

Hon. Frank Oliver said that he assumed Mr. Smith was misquoted, as the despatch does not correctly describe the attitude of the department as to assisted immigration. Hon. George E. Foster called attention to the cable protest to the Rt. Hon. John Morley of a mass meeting of Hindus on the Pacific coast, protesting against the treatment they were receiving. The matter was exciting a good deal of interest outside of Canada and the government should make a clear statement of policy.

The premier said the matter was very easily explained. In order to avoid complications in returning undesirable to the land of their birth, it was necessary that should come direct. Consequently new regulations were framed, which were not directed against the Hindus, but against all nationalities. The Hindus were treated no worse than other people.

Three government bills passed, one permitting, bonds, debentures and other securities to be issued in terms of English, French and German currency. The gold-silver marking act was amended to defer enforcement till March 13, 1909; as also was Hon. A. B. Aylesworth's bill amending the Supreme Court act, providing that appeals be divided and heard in order: 1. Election cases; 2. Western cases; 3. Maritime cases; 4. Quebec cases; 5. Ontario cases.

The house went into committee of supply on the justice department estimates. In supply Hon. W. S. Fielding said that as the beginning of the new fiscal year had already been passed should be commenced in and one-eighth of the total of the remaining sum should be voted and incorporated in the supply bill.

R. L. Borden said that the understanding was the same as in former years. It would leave the house free in regard to all of the remaining votes.

The total amount of the items passed is \$1,000,000, with one-eighth, and the 1907 supplementary, will make a supply bill of twenty millions. Among the supplementary votes the sum of \$5,000 to encourage the production and use of silver seeds on farms and for the enforcement of the seed control act.

At this evening's session after a further discussion on Duncan Ross bill to incorporate the Shuswap and Thompson River boom company, was given a third reading and the house again went into supply on the I.C.R. estimates.

The debate on the budget will be resumed on Wednesday. Senator McDonald of British Columbia. In the upper house today gave notice of a resolution against the purchase of government supplies through middlemen and expending over competition for all purchases of over \$1000.

Hon. R. W. Scott moved the second reading of the act respecting co-operation, explaining that it was to authorize people to organize for mutual benefit. He pointed out that in England and other countries farmers and other classes had organized these societies with great benefit to themselves.

Loughed wanted to hear evidence on the bill before the commons committee. It was there only that it could be accepted whether the bill would accomplish the objects aimed at.

The bill was given a second reading and was referred to the banking and commerce committee.

The governor general has received a cable from Lord Northcote, retiring governor general of Australia, regarding the ability of the commonwealth's ministers at the Quebec tercentenary celebration. They have asked the governor general to designate the Earl of Dudley to represent the commonwealth on his way to assume office.

Ottawa, March 24.—The civil service commission's report is ready for parliament. It lays stress on the increased cost of living in Ottawa which practically means a recommendation for increased salaries.

Richard Wilkinson, manager of the Owen Sound Dredging company of which A. G. Mackay, leader of the liberals in the Ontario legislature is president, was before the commons public accounts committee this morning regarding dredging done in the morning dredging done in the morning.

The witness had certified to work done by various dredges after statements had been signed by government inspectors and as far as he knew the accounts were correct, but W. H. Bennett, East Simcoe, wanted to know how inspectors could certify to work carried on at the same time by two dredges which were a mile and a half apart. Bennett questioned the witness regarding visits he made to Ottawa in 1905 and 1906 to tender for dredging work and the Great West and the Owen Sound Dredging Co. and the Penetanguishene Dredging Co., but the witness denied all collusion.

Premier Scott, accompanied by Mrs. Scott and daughter left yesterday for Regina. He had an interview with Laurier before leaving. Asked to correct the report that he contemplated returning to federal politics, Scott replied:

"I have not seen any newspapers since I went away but you can state there is nothing in the rumor as far as I am concerned. I am anxious to continue my energies to the province of Saskatchewan, where there is plenty of room for work and where the prospects of the liberal party are still bright. Mr. Scott has recovered his health and will re-enter on his official duties in full vigor."

The second reading has been given to bills referring to the Western Railway, the R. G. Macdonald and Occidental Fire Insurance company, Dunsan Ross.

## NELSON ROWING CLUB

Well Attended and Harmonious Annual Meeting Last Night

(From Tuesday's Daily)

Dr. G. A. B. Hall, M.P.P., was the chairman at the annual meeting of the Nelson

rowing club last night in the court house. There was a good attendance and the gathering was enthusiastic and harmonious and a good season is looked for as a result of the rowing men and their friends all pulling together for the good of the sport and the welfare of the club. It was decided to strictly enforce the rules this year that all club dues shall be paid up by June 1.

The finances of the club were shown to be in a fairly satisfactory condition but a debt of \$300 remains to be liquidated. It is hoped that among the many new arrivals coming here this year some good additions may be got for the fours and singles. All rowing men are cordially invited to join the club at the earliest possible moment.

The good work of the crews sent to Seattle last year when the junior four won, was referred to in glowing terms and the regatta this year at Seattle is looked forward to, and the general feeling of the meeting last night was that Nelson would be creditably represented. Arrangements will be made to hold the regular home regatta during the summer.

The following officers were duly elected for the ensuing year: Hon. president, Dr. G. A. B. Hall, M.P.P.; president, E. C. Wragg; vice-president, W. F. Mawdsley; captain, P. Nott; vice-captain, A. Pool; secretary-treasurer, J. Teague; executive committee, T. D. Macpherson, R. Sharp, C. A. Lee, H. W. Robertson and W. Pearce.

## BUDGET FROM HARROP

A MOST SUCCESSFUL SEASON IS ANTICIPATED

MANY NEW ARRIVALS AND STILL MORE COMING

Harrop March 24.—The fact that this season will be the most successful ever known among ranchers in this settlement is already and taking up land while the older residents are making all necessary preparations for the busiest season they have as yet had.

James Thompson, who recently purchased a tract of orchard land here has offered to donate five acres for the B.C. university to encourage its creation. Harrop is taking the matter up with the authorities at the coast.

Don Phares was here this week looking over several properties with a view to incorporating them into the Harrop ranch. He is taking the matter up with the authorities at the coast.

With the opening of the fishing season next week and until the close of the season, numbers of tourists and fishermen will be entertained in this district.

A meeting of the local school trustees will be held shortly for the purpose of appointing a successor to Rev. C. H. Reynolds, who finds that his clerical duties will not allow of his being a member of the board, and to make arrangements for the opening of school here in the fall.

Mrs. Parks Southworth has returned home after spending several weeks at the hospital in Nelson, having fully recuperated from her protracted illness.

Mrs. E. Harrop and family are spending the week in Nelson.

## IN REAS'D PROTECTION

RAPID GROWTH OF FERNIE CALLS FOR A CHANGE

CORONER'S JURY POND VERDICT OF ACCIDENTAL DEATH

(Special to The Daily News)

Fernie, March 24.—At the last meeting of the city council several matters of importance were discussed. The question of establishing a substitution for the fire department was introduced, but nothing of a definite nature was decided on.

The city council has decided to cover so large an area that there is a pressing necessity for increased fire protection and it was suggested that a station should be erected at the east end to house a fire wagon and 500 feet or less. As another team of horses will be required for city work during the summer, they could be utilized by the fire department for fire work.

The coroner's jury enquiring into the death of Mrs. A. Cassin, who was killed on the tracks of the Morrissey, Fernie and Michel railway in the Fernie yards, brought in a verdict exonerating the company and train crew, finding that the unfortunate woman was trespassing at the time she met her death. It is miraculous that more fatal accidents do not occur at this point where the people are daily employed gathering coal from the tracks and storing it from the cars and the company has recently held an investigation into the matter. They have discovered that several tons of coal are stolen every day and the coroner has ordered a watchman in the yards and will prosecute to the full extent of the law any persons caught stealing their property.

Two serious runaways occurred on Victoria avenue yesterday and though the sleighs were badly smashed fortunately no one was injured. These accidents have been of frequent occurrence lately and are mostly caused by the neglect of ice divers to tie their horses or to use whips.

SLOCAN NOTES

(Special to The Daily News)

Slocan, March 22.—The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. William Hicks died at the home of his parents of pneumonia. The interment was made in the Slocan cemetery.

The Slocan fire chief, Mr. McPhee of the Patrick Lumber company, have arrived here from Pembroke and will live in Slocan.

The Slocan rifle club, N. Morrison, captain, used the new Ross rifle for the first time at last Saturday's practice. The club has lately enlisted several new members.

The Slocan band has been reorganized. A steady rain has been falling since early last night.

Major Taylor said 30 days' notice was not given.

New York, March 27.—Daniel Leroy Dresser, former president of the Trust Company of the Republic, who recently was arrested on a charge of larceny, today was declared not guilty and discharged in lieu of \$20,000 bail.

Major Taylor said 30 days' notice was not given.

## RIGID ENQUIRY

(From Tuesday's Daily)

The council meeting last night was fully attended and a good deal of city business was transacted. The chief points taken up were the safety of public buildings and the sale of the school debentures.

After the reading of the minutes the report of the finance committee recommending the payment of sundry accounts and the payroll was adopted.

Mayor Taylor objected to paying \$5.50 a cord for wood for the power plant buildings and instructed that bids be procured for the supply of this wood. Furthermore, ascertaining that there was no real check on groceries being sent down to Bonington, the mayor ordered that such a check be instituted in future.

It transpired that the payroll had not been properly checked up and a resolution was passed that in future payrolls would not be considered by the council unless in order.

A legacy from the old council came up. This was an unsettled bill against the city by Judge P. E. Wilson for legal services rendered the city when city solicitor. The matter was turned over to the present city solicitor for settlement and the treasurer was instructed to pay the bill.

The fire chief Deary reported on the condition of various public buildings in the city. As to the opera house the furnace room was directly under the stairway. It was not in charge of a person in attendance during the performance. The stairway did not run straight out of the building. The exits were not lighted, nor marked with red lights. There was no fire proof curtain, neither any sprinklers on the stage.

City engineer Lawrence reported the building "fairly structurally strong," but as far as the exits, passages, heating and lighting were concerned, the place was as bad as a death trap.

The council on a general discussion suggested more exits, the moving of the furnace room, the placing of fire escapes, the alteration of the stairways and other minor points.

The fire, water and light committee was instructed to make a thorough investigation and submit a report to the council as to the condition of the building.

As to the central school the fire chief reported the furnace room unsafe and recommended the substitution of stoves in all rooms. The high school was not provided with fire escapes. The Baptist hall was fairly safe, as was Fraternity hall.

This matter was left to the same committee to report on.

The convent school was in good shape. The churches were also fairly safe. The Congregational church an additional exit was suggested.

The fire, water and light committee was instructed to investigate these buildings also.

The roller rink was in good order but the windows should never be covered with inflammable materials such as bunting. In conclusion chief Deary recommended that the fire chief and building inspector prepare a consolidated bylaw covering the whole subject.

Mayor Taylor thought a consolidated bylaw might be advantageous and a resolution was carried asking the fire chief and building inspector to submit the bylaw.

The sanitation inspector made a request for an extra team of horses.

Ald. Procter asked what had been paid last year for hired teams.

Chief clerk Watson was not prepared to answer the question off hand.

The tramway and health committees were instructed to report at the next meeting.

There being some complaint as to the team charges, the city clerk was instructed to pay no more than \$1 for a double horse a day and \$1 for a single horse.

Reporting on the progress of the work at the power plant, the mayor said the weir had been completed and the wheel pit was being filled up and the masonry had now reached a height where it would be possible shortly to fill around the form for the construction of the weir cross-walls owing to the foundations not being as expected.

Ald. Procter said electrical engineer Hargrave had stated at the last council meeting that the draught tube would be completed by March 25; yet it had not even been started.

Mr. Taylor said that all despatch was being used and that the man really in charge, W. Shackleton, was a first class workman and the city was lucky in having his services. Delay was owing to the large amount of work to be done.

Mr. Brown was only nominally in charge, the man really in that position being Mr. Shackleton.

Mr. claim of G. F. Motion on a water pipe bursting, city collector Macdonald advised that the city was not responsible.

Mrs. Hoskins wrote saying that she was in a position to put in a sewer this year. The matter was laid over for future consideration.

Ald. Hale asked if the sewers had been flushed.

City engineer said this would be done in a fortnight's time. In the meantime the catch basins, etc., had been cleared. The extension of the sewer across the flats was being done.

Ald. Procter pointed out that it would soon be too late as the water was coming up rapidly.

The Canada Zinc company's contract had been cancelled. This was a question of the due performance of the contract for the proper construction of the pole line within a certain definite time. The pole line was not completed by the time specified.

Wilson for \$2000 was offered. This the council considered to be sufficient and the city solicitor was accordingly instructed to accept the bid.

regulate in the case of city employees. No notice was required.

Ald. McKinnon remarked that the matter had been three times threatened out and this was the first he had heard of the overtime charge. He moved the application be filed.

The Building-Heberlein process, recommending the payment of sundry accounts and the payroll was adopted.

The mayor suggested that the fire, water and light committee take up the question of the management of the power plant, consider what applications might be made and present a report on April 6, after consulting with the city engineer. This course was adopted.

The mayor reported that he had met the school trustees that evening at 7:30 and a resolution had been passed authorizing Aemilius Jarvis to sell the school debentures in \$5000 and \$10,000 blocks, that he should be given until April 15 to complete the sale and that if half of the amount were sold by that date a further extension of ten days be given. Nelson is not yet on the debenture market.

Ald. McKinnon brought to the attention of the council the tacking of signs on telephone and other poles.

It was decided that all city officials to tear down any such signs. Complaint was made by Ald. McKinnon as to chickens running at large.

Mayor Taylor thought that this nuisance was not confined to chickens. The chief of police was instructed to issue proper warnings.

Mayor Taylor said the police had instructed the constables without fear or favour to clean up their back yards.

The council then adjourned.

## REAL SURPLUS

Ottawa, March 25.—When the house met this afternoon, D. W. Bole (Winnipeg) explained that the government contract secured by his firm amounted to \$142 and consisted of drugs for the penitentiaries. Neither before nor since being in parliament had he permitted solicitation on a government business. This was the first he had heard of the occurrence and the government officer must have collected the business or it would not have been so.

The premier made a statement that "up to March, including the Chaudiere bridge and the railway approaches, the Quebec bridge had cost \$2,393,000, to which the high school was added, \$200,000, and the bridge approaches, \$100,000, for a total of \$2,693,000.

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## GOD PROVES

At the annual meeting in London of the shareholders of the Hill Mining and Smelting company, Limited, held on March 12, the directors submitted the following report:

"At the last annual general meeting, shareholders were informed that it had been decided to adopt the Huntington-Heberlein process. The new plant was finally completed, and operations commenced on the accumulated lead ores in November, 1906. The result of the first month's operations was most disappointing, the cost of working being about \$3 per ton in excess of that under the old conditions. In December, the smelter manager, Mr. R. R. Hedley, having entirely failed to justify his estimates of working costs, tendered his resignation, which was accepted."

"The Huntington-Heberlein process, having been a success at other smelters in the same district, and considerable stocks of ore remaining to be treated, the services of Mr. Blaylock, who was familiar with the new process, was secured. The costs were at once reduced by about \$4 per ton, but as the accumulated ores were being gradually worked up, it became evident that a grave error had been made by the late smelter manager in largely over-estimating the metallurgical contents, the values and quantities of the stock on hand. Subsequent enquiries showed that the furnaces had been fed with far larger charges of ore than had been reported."

"The board had relied upon the figures supplied by Mr. Hedley, and especially as the company's bankers had made large advances on the strength of them. When these circumstances were disclosed, all further advances by the bank were stopped, and instructions were given by the board to treat and sell every available ton of ore, so that the actual amount of the deficit might be ascertained. Seeing that without further advances from the bank it was impossible for the company to carry on smelting operations, negotiations were opened, and were progressing favorably for leasing the plant, when the financial crisis in America, the influence of which extended to Canada, put an end to any dealings of the kind."

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