

Discussion Continued

On Early Closing Question at City Council Session Last Evening.

Accepted an Invitation to Attend Lecture and Adjourned at Ten Thirty.

The city council last evening agitated itself on the early closing by-law, and all the orators on the aldermanic board had full fling. In the early portion of the session the council received and accepted an invitation to attend in a body the mass meeting under the auspices of the Lord's Day Alliance addressed by Rev. Mr. Shearer, and the intention was to expedite business and then adjourn.

But the oratorical microphone performed its duty, time destroying work, and when the council did adjourn, 10:30 had struck. It might have been more advisable to have laid the invitation on the table pending the consummation of the evening's business.

After the usual preliminaries communications were taken up. Secretary Elworthy, of the board of trade, wrote on the question of advertising. He stated that the Klondike advertising committee favored the incorporation of the sum of \$2,000 in the estimates for advertising the city. Laid on the table.

The secretary of the school board asked for a definite expression of the council's opinion regarding the board's request for an appropriation of \$30,000 for a new high school. He drew attention to section 39 of the School act bearing on this point.

Ald. Yates advocated the expression of the council's disapproval of the request and this would give the board a ground work on which to base their petition. This action was decided upon.

C. A. Holland, of the B. C. Land & Investment Agency, asked for a new sidewalk on Ontario extension and the grading of the thoroughfare. They offered to contribute half of the cost of the work, which would be \$21. Referred to streets, bridges and sewers committee.

Horace J. Knott, on behalf of the Lord's Day Alliance executive, invited the council to the mass meeting to be addressed by Rev. Mr. Shearer last evening at the Philharmonic hall. Ald. Brydon advised that the council expedite business and afterwards attend the meeting. He emphasized the importance of the question of Sabbath observance, and moved that the invitation be accepted.

Ald. Beckwith spoke in similar strain. He thought that some of the aldermen could gain considerable useful information in attending the meeting.

Aldermen—"Who is he driving at?" The motion of Ald. Brydon was carried.

The Imperial Automatic Voting Machine Co. suggested that a conference be held between the city solicitor and the company's solicitor, H. McKenzie Cleland, in order to ascertain whether the machine fulfilled the requirements of the act.

Ald. Kinsman eulogized this machine as a great time saver. He moved that the request be granted. Ald. Hall seconded incidentally, expressing his admiration of the machine.

On the other hand Ald. Yates thought that the council should know whether the machine would or not. The council should not bind itself to the acceptance of the result of a test, which the two lawyers would undertake. He advised that practical men undertake the test. Finally it was decided that Mr. Northcott shall act with the city solicitor in the matter.

Miss Margaret Anderson applied for water connection with her premises on Princess avenue. Referred to water commissioners.

Edmund Harris, of Milne street, Spring Ridge, wanted something done to the ditches on that thoroughfare. He also objected to the fumigation of his residence, in consequence of the death of his son of diphtheria, which he claimed destroyed clothing and household effects. This was referred to the city engineer and health and sanitary inspector.

John Haggerty offered to supply the city with gravel for \$1.20 per cubic yard. Referred to streets, bridges and sewers committee.

H. Smith directed attention to want of drainage on Cook street near his premises. Referred to city engineer for report.

Wm. Emery, of North Pembroke street, called attention to west side of Shakespeare street, where drainage construction was necessary. This communication was referred to city engineer for report.

Mason & Bradburn, city solicitors, reporting on the claim for damages of Geo. Watto, advised that it be opposed. Received and adopted, and Mr. Watto, solicitor for Mr. Watto, to be notified.

Senator Macdonald and 64 others drew attention to a number of street improvements, which were necessary, in James Bay. The streets were Michigan from Menzies to Oswego from Michigan to Niagara, Niagara from Oswego to Dallas road. Referred to city engineer for report.

J. B. Burns and others wanted an extension of the water main along Poul Bay road. Referred to water commissioner.

The board of fire underwriters wrote as follows: To His Worship Mayor Hayward and the City Council of Victoria: Gentlemen:—The question of the advisability of changing the fire department of this city to a full-paid force having been brought prominently before the public on the 27th inst., we the undersigned fire underwriters in Victoria, contributing nearly \$9,000 per annum as a fire insurance tax to the city funds, desire again to emphasize our conviction that such a change would be in the best interests of fire protection in this city, and we respectfully pray that your honorable body will effect this long-desired and much-needed improvement at an early date.

Signed on behalf of thirty companies by their representatives in the city. Ald. Beckwith moved that this be tabled until after the forthcoming investigation.

The mayor remarked that at the fire warden's meeting the other day, in reply to a question, the chief had told him that the fire department was never in a more efficient state than at present.

Ald. Beckwith ultimately withdrew his motion, and the communication was laid on the table until after the consideration of the estimates.

M. Baker and five others of the eastern end of Johnson street wanted the work of the road extension completed, a sidewalk constructed, and a tile drain laid down. Referred to city engineer for report.

The report of the special committee appointed to estimate the cost of inaugurating a recreation park at the upper portion of Pandora street, near Cook street, was laid over.

James Wilson, sanitary inspector, wanted a raise in salary, in view of the recent increase in his duties. Laid on the table pending consideration of estimates.

Tenders for street sprinkling from Joseph Ryle, 50 cents per hour for each team, and five others of the eastern end of Johnson street wanted the work of the road extension completed, a sidewalk constructed, and a tile drain laid down. Referred to city engineer for report.

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"Saving the Sabbath"

Rev. J. G. Shearer Gave an Address in Philharmonic Hall Last Evening

Leaves for Vancouver on Thursday to Attend Provincial Convention of Alliance.

Rev. J. G. Shearer, general secretary of the Lord's Day Alliance, gave his second and last address in this city last evening at the Philharmonic hall.

Shortly after 8 o'clock the executive of the local branch of the Lord's Alliance took their seats upon the platform and the meeting was opened by the singing of the National Anthem, after which Mr. Shearer was introduced by Senator Macdonald, who presided.

On rising Mr. Shearer said that last evening he had talked on the "Imperial Sabbath," and he intended to speak on this occasion on "The Saving of the Sabbath." Before he commenced, however, he wished to keep a promise made the other evening when he said he would give his impressions of that great West, and British Columbia in particular. He left Toronto on the 5th of January, and did not expect to go back again for some time yet. During the interval he had visited most all of the cities of Manitoba and British Columbia. Coming through Manitoba he had been greatly impressed with the endless prairie, and when he reached the snow-capped Rockies he had been still more impressed with the almost measureless natural resources of our province. He had also been greatly impressed with the moral tone of the people. He had, however, been surprised when walking through Chinatown and some of the principal streets to see that we allowed the foreigners to keep their places of business open on the Sabbath. While he had heard stories of the Wild and Woolly West, but he had not seen any of it yet.

Continuing, Mr. Shearer said: "Have you not seen in the battle fields of South Africa that as good blood flows through the veins of Canadians as through the veins of Englishmen, then will we not prove that we have moral courage enough to stand up for the right of a resting day in seven and fight the fight to a finish?"

"If we wish to keep the Sabbath in Canada we must see that the pulpit and pew are alike prepared to stand up for each other in order to keep the Lord's day. Unless the laboring people stand together with the preachers of the Gospel, we will not be able to keep the Sabbath. Labor should realize the great stake at hand, for it is against the law of nature as well as God that we should work without having one day in seven to ourselves."

Mr. Shearer explained that the Lord's Day Alliance was not to force a religious observance of the Sabbath, but simply to have the day strictly observed in the home, if it is asked for in the shops he closed at 4 o'clock. Ald. Beckwith had said that his (Ald. Yates's) motion was an attempt to interfere with the wishes of the people, who had the law to govern its action. But the committee was seconded by W. McKay, who was desirous that the by-law should be placed in proper form for passage. In regard to the condition of clerks, Ald. Yates expressed sympathy for them. He then mentioned the case of last year, when the clothiers closed at 7 o'clock sharp by an agreement. He was not opposed to early closing.

Leave was finally granted, and the by-law was read a first time. It was also read a second time, and a special committee was appointed consisting of Ald. Yates, Beckwith and Hall, to assist in classifying the trades. The council will go into a committee on Monday next.

When the clothier's early closing by-law came up, Ald. Yates pointed out that only eleven of the names on the list were those of clothiers, according to the proper definition of the term. There were in all forty-two names in the list, among them Chinese, and if three-quarters of this trade were not represented he could not see that the council should be too precipitate in passing this law.

Ald. Yates explained that Ald. Yates had confused clothiers with tailors. The city solicitor had been consulted, and no objections to the list had been raised. It looked as though there was a movement on foot to prevent the passage of the by-law.

Ald. Yates, with some warmth, repudiated what he considered an imputation, and a passage of arms resulted between the two sons.

Ald. Stewart drew a lesson from the discussion. He pointed out that it all showed the necessity for a classification of the trades.

The clothing by-law was ultimately laid over until Monday evening next, as was a question of police and firemen's salaries.

The council then adjourned until Wednesday.

LONDON HUMORS. It is Current Gossip that Lord Salisbury Will Retire at End of Session.

New York, Feb. 27.—Humors are current in London says the Tribune's correspondent, that Lord Salisbury will retire at the close of the session of parliament and that the Duke of Devonshire will not take his place. This would leave the field open for Mr. Balfour, with a possibility that he would be raised to the peerage, and Mr. Chamberlain would lead the Commons. This is current gossip, but it is obviously premature.

ANOTHER PIONEER DEAD. James Rees Succumbed at San Francisco on Monday—Prospected Largely at Various Places.

The death occurred in San Francisco on the 25th inst. of John Rees, a pioneer miner and prospector of this province. He was a native of Glamorgan-shire, Wales, and came to this province in March 1854, proceeding to Cariboo with Edwin John, of South Saanich. From there he went in 1874 to Cassiar and mined on McDame and other creeks for twenty years. In 1885 he went to the Yukon country by way of the Chilcotin Pass, locating on Mastodon-creek near Circle City, where he owned properties up to the time of his death.

When the great Klondike strike occurred, Mr. Rees went to Dawson and purchased a claim on the Klondike creek. During the past two years, however, he had engaged in mining at Cape Nome. Owing to impaired health he left that place last October, and after undergoing treatment at the Jubilee hospital left for California on January 24th for the benefit of his health. He was 62 years of age, and a member of the Pioneer Society of this city. He had no relatives in this city. His remains will be brought here for interment.

The Date of Exhibition

Changed to Second Week in October to Meet Wishes of the Mainland.

Permanent Secretary Elected and the Various Committees Appointed.

The enthusiasm manifested at the meeting of the British Columbia Agricultural Association last evening augurs well for the success of the coming exhibition. A feature which assisted very materially in arriving at a satisfactory solution of the question of a date upon which to hold the exhibition was the presence of a number of men from the Mainland who are interested in the various exhibitions which are to be held throughout the province, and who represent very closely the agricultural and stock breeding interests of the different districts. The necessity for having the Victoria exhibition form one of a circuit of fall fairs was very clearly pointed out by Mr. Paisley, of Chilliwack, and others associated with him. By so doing the large breeders of stock will be enabled to ship their stock from New Westminster to this city, which will prove of inestimable value in making Victoria's show what the directors are aiming to make it, the best in the province. In compliance with this advice, the date upon the executive council had been changed from the date decided upon at a previous meeting to the second week in October.

Major Hayward occupied the chair at the meeting last night, while W. F. Best acted as secretary.

Various communications were read from different exhibitors, stating their intention of showing stock at the Victoria show if arrangements could be made by which it would not interfere with their exhibiting at other shows on the Mainland. Among these was one from W. H. Keary, secretary of the New Westminster exhibition, in a communication, offered to do all he could to assist Victoria in making their exhibition a success.

The finance committee, consisting of H. Dalles Helmecken, M. P. P., W. H. Hayward, M. P. P., and John Shakespear, reported that they had waited upon the executive council of British Columbia and asked that assistance be given to the B. C. A. A. The ministry was unable to say at the present time just what assistance they could give, but the committee was of opinion that they would deal liberally in the matter.

Messrs. Helmecken and Peirson, presented a report of the various suggestions offered by the delegation from the Mainland in the conference which had taken place on February 22nd with regard to changing the date of the Victoria exhibition.

It was suggested that as Messrs. Paisley and Helmecken were present they might present their opinions to the meeting.

Mr. Paisley said that he felt assured that they should work in conjunction. The only selfish reason which the people of the Mainland could have in the success of the Victoria exhibition was in order to make a market for the products of the Fraser River valley. They wanted to make Victoria show a success, and wished to attend. Chilliwack exhibition had been decided upon for September 25th, 26th and 27th. At the exhibition there had been over 2,500 entries, and he felt safe in saying that a large proportion of these exhibits would also be shown in Victoria if a date could be fixed for the exhibition there which would not interfere with the Mainland fairs. There were 500 plates of fruit which would in all likelihood be brought to Victoria. There would also be a very large entry of stock, including the great short-horn exhibit. With New Westminster fair following Chilliwack in the first week of October, the second week of October would make a suitable date for Victoria's show accommodating the owners of stock.

Wm. Dalby was of opinion that there should be arrangements made to meet the wishes of the people. He would favor fixing the date to follow that of New Westminster exhibition.

Mr. Peirson pointed out that the Oregon state exhibition came on September 25th and 26th. By changing the date of Victoria's fair the great short-horn exhibit could follow in circuit the various shows. The second week of October would accommodate this. The E. & W. had acquiesced with the wishes of the exhibitors by which the stock could be brought over by ferry in their special stock cars.

John Oliver, M. P. P. of Delta, pointed out that the harvest on the Mainland would not be finished until late in September. New Westminster's fair was a success until the date was changed to the beginning of October.

Mr. Paisley said stock could be removed on Friday, come over on Saturday by steamer and be not ready for Victoria show on Tuesday, October 5th. Being in charge of the Chilliwack district exhibit at Westminster exhibition, he would guarantee that that exhibit would be brought.

The suggestion that Victoria's show be put earlier than that of the Mainland was open to the objection that it would interfere with the Mainland exhibitors, as it came during harvest. He was sure that if the exhibition was held during the second week in October, the bare fact of the short-horn exhibit being present would be sufficient to crowd the grounds day after day.

The report was received and laid on the table. Then, upon the motion of Mr. Dalby, the date for holding the exhibition was changed to the second week in October.

Ex-Mayor Redfern, in seconding the motion, said that they should make arrangements to meet the convenience of the agricultural classes. It was necessary to get large exhibits from the Mainland, not alone from the Island. This should be a provincial exhibition. He thought that the second week of October the weather was usually favorable for such.

Mr. Lugin, speaking of the necessity for making dates to suit the Mainland, said that the exhibit at New Westminster was equal in quality to any exhibit anywhere. Good live stock always

proved a drawing card. Jno. Shopland believed that the exhibition would be patronized by the Mainland exhibitors, whether the dates were changed or not. They should meet the wishes of them however if possible.

Discussion as to the advisability of having a three or four day exhibition, and also as to whether Saturday should be included as one of the days of the show, followed, in which R. M. Palmer, fruit inspector; Noah Shakespear, Victoria Amstun and others took part.

After unanimously deciding upon changing the date of the exhibition, Messrs. Paisley and Oliver thanked the society for enabling the Mainland exhibitors to take part in the exhibition, which could only be made possible by such a change in the date.

The election of a permanent secretary followed, which resulted in Beaumont Boggs being elected.

The report of the advisory committee as to the standing committees was read and adopted. The committees are as follows: Printing and advertising—Messrs. A. J. McCandless, H. Cuthbert, Jas. Peirson, W. F. Best, A. C. Wells, Major Mutter.

Hall—W. H. Price, M. Maker, Hamilton Smith, W. J. Pondray, F. H. Norris, Miss Cameron, Miss Perrin, A. J. Morley, F. Sere, John Weston, B. R. Senbrook, T. G. Earl, R. M. Palmer.

Yards—Watson Clark, J. S. Shopland, S. P. Tolmie, J. Bothwell, F. H. Pemberton, H. M. Bullock, Geo. Deans, W. H. Ladder, A. Munro, Wm. Thompson, Major Mutter, C. C. Reeves, W. H. Hayward, J. Bryce, H. F. Page, Joseph Nicholson.

Band—Victor Amstun, N. Shakespear, Dr. L. Hall, C. H. Lugin, L. Steimler. Reception—President, the officers and board of directors. Prize list—F. Norris, W. H. Ladder, Watson Clark, S. F. Tolmie, F. Sere, J. S. Shopland, Jas. Bryce, Miss Cameron, Miss Perrin, J. Meston, George Dean, C. Spencer, J. J. Morley, L. Goodacre, W. H. Hayward, H. W. Bullock, W. H. Price, M. Baker, F. Turgoose, D. Evans, T. J. Trapp, G. H. Holwin, R. M. Palmer.

Racing and sports—H. D. Helmecken, J. Bothwell, Carl. Royds, S. F. Tolmie, Wm. Dalby, F. Pemberton, H. Cuthbert, T. J. Trapp.

Building and grounds—W. H. Ladder, Watson Clark, F. Sere, Jas. Peirson, J. Steimler, L. Goodacre, W. Buckle, Wm. Thompson.

Minerals—S. M. Robins, H. E. Crossdale, John Matthews, Col. Hayes, F. W. Rolt, Herbert Cuthbert, Hy. Croft, F. B. Pemberton, C. H. Lugin, W. F. Best, W. H. Hayward.

Arts and fancy work—Miss Agnes D. Cameron, Miss Perrin, with power to add to their number.

Transportation—M. Baker, Jas. Peirson, B. Boggs, R. Senbrook, L. Goodacre, D. R. Ker.

Mr. Peirson brought the attention of the society to the importance of publishing the list of subscribers in the papers from time to time.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Best who had acted as secretary pro tem, was carried, and the finance committee recommended to pay to Mr. Best such a sum as they thought necessary.

The meeting then adjourned.

ROAD MATTERS DISCUSSED

At a Meeting Held at Colwood on Saturday Night.

An adjourned meeting of the electors of Esquimalt and Highland district was held at Colwood on Saturday to consider road matters generally and receive their road foreman's report. Arthur Peat was chairman and Joseph Shaw secretary.

The chairman opened the meeting by expressing his regret that their foreman, H. Pike, had not put in appearance as requested.

The secretary stated that he had written to Mr. Pike as instructed, and had not received any reply or information.

It was decided not to go into the matter at the meeting, but to be moved by Wm. Dale, seconded by John Leacore, that a vote of censure be passed upon H. Pike for his non-attendance. This carried unanimously.

A discussion was then opened by P. Atkins as to the best method of proceeding for the coming season. This matter was fully discussed by J. Knox and others, the following resolutions being all carried unanimously:

That the people continue to elect their own road foreman, and that the government be respectfully asked to accept their recommendation of a superintendent for the district instead of an engineer; that Messrs. Knox and Atkins be hereby appointed to join the deputation from the Good Roads Association to wait upon the government and explain these matters upon them; that Mr. Dale and the secretary be empowered to call a meeting early in the season, to elect a new road foreman; that the election be by open ballot; that there be only one road camp in future, and that the road foreman be on duty daily from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.; that as the chairman had been one of a party to select the best route for the remaining portion of the road through to San Juan and had the tracings and notes relating thereto, he be added to the deputation of the Good Roads Association.

Attention was again called to the danger to drivers in case of a runaway down the 4-mile hill by the loss of the railway bridge, also that by diverting the road both the hills would be materially lowered.

As considerable interest was manifested in the Good Roads Association, the secretary explained its objects and its methods and objects for the benefit of those who were unable to attend its first meeting, after which a vote of thanks to the chairman and secretary brought a very practical meeting to a close.

EXPLOSION ON WILLAPA. Vancouver, Feb. 27.—Steamer Willapa arrived this morning from northern British Columbia ports. On the way down a case of turpentine near the engine room exploded, smashing the electric dynamo and setting fire to the wood-work. An attempt was immediately made to beach the vessel, but before shore was reached the fire was put out, the damage being several thousand dollars. The steamer then resumed her voyage for Vancouver, no one being injured.

James Hatch, merchant, of Mount Pleasant, died this morning. Alex. Laurie, telegraph operator in the C. P. R., also died this morning of consumption.

PRIVATE COURT. Pte. S. Court, who was one of the triumvirate in khaki to return last night, joined the first contingent as a member of the Victoria quota which responded so nobly at the call to arms. He has been spending some time with relatives in Wales, meeting Ptes. Dixon and Andrews at Shorncliffe Colonial station, and made the journey from there in their company. He is accompanied by a brother.

More Men In Khaki. Another Triumvirate Returned From the Front Last Evening After Good Trip. Participated in the Great Funeral Procession in London—General Retrospect.

Another triumvirate of the first contingent returned last evening in the persons of Ptes. Dixon, Roberts and Court. They have been sojourning with relatives and friends, and appear to be in improved health and spirits in consequence.

In conversation with a Times representative this afternoon, Pte. Dixon gave some particulars of the great procession in London on the day of the Queen's funeral, which he characterized as solemnly magnificent. He was in attendance among the colonials, and thus participated in an event which will go down in history as notable in the annals of the British Empire.

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A MESSAGE OF HOPE

To Mothers, Wives and Daughters.

PAINE'S CELERY COMPOUND

The Only Banisher of Disease and True Life-Giver for Brokendown and Afflicted Women.

The Wondrous Medicine That Cures When All Others Fail.

Thankful and grateful women throughout Canada take pleasure in recommending Paine's Celery Compound to their afflicted sisters. The marvellous medicine promptly gives that health and strength that all wretched, nervous, despondent and brokendown women so much need.

Jessie M. Ross, Quyon, Que., writes as follows: "It affords me much pleasure to testify to the great good that Paine's Celery Compound has done for me. I was completely run down in health and a victim of female weakness, and after using three bottles of the great compound I was completely cured. It is the best blood purifier I know of, and I recommend it to all who suffer as I did."

Dr. L. Hall, C. H. Lugin, L. Steimler. Reception—President, the officers and board of directors. Prize list—F. Norris, W. H. Ladder, Watson Clark, S. F. Tolmie, F. Sere, J. S. Shopland, Jas. Bryce, Miss Cameron, Miss Perrin, J. Meston, George Dean, C. Spencer, J. J