PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Third Session of the Seventh Parliament.

EIGHTEENTH DAY.

MONDAY, March 8, 1897.

The Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock. Prayers by Rev. J. H. Sweet.

Mr. Booth presented the sixteenth report of the private bills committee as follows: That with respect to petition No. 49, your committee is of the opinion that the standing orders should be suspended so as to allow the bill for the incorporation of the Nanaimo-Alberni Railway Co. to be introduced, and beg to recommend the same accordingly. Your committee also beg to report that they find the preamble of the under intituled bills proved, viz.: An act to incorporate the West Kootenay Power & Light Co., Ltd. An act to incorporate the Revelstoke Trout Lake & Big Bend Telephone Co., Ltd., and submit the same with amendments.

The report was received.

Mr. Booth moved that the fourteenth report of the committee on private bills be adopted, and the time limited for the reception of reports on private bills be extended to March 22.

The report was adopted.

Immediately after this the Premier rose and said:

Mr. Speaker, as your are aware since the house adjourned last week this province has sustained the loss of a valued citizen in the death of the late Honorable A. N. Richards, and I am sure that I shall voice the feeling of the house by a motion to adjourn, and in expressing sympathy with the surviving members of his family. The late Mr. Richards played no unimportant part in the history of this province and of Canada. He was, I believe, the last surviving member of the old Executive Council of Canada and was also, I understand, Solicitor-General of Upper Canada from 1863 to 1864. He was long a resident in this province and bore an important part in public affairs. He filled the highest office in the province, that of Lieutenant-Governor, and during the whole period of his residence here he was to a great extent a public man giving his efforts to what he thought were the best interests of the province. I am sure that the general feeling of the people is that they have lost an honest and upright citizen and one who did what he thought was in the interests of the province, never swerving from the path of duty nor from the course that he thought was right.

Mr. Semlin—"I am sure that this side of the house joins with the Premier in his expression of regret, and I beg to second his motion to adjourn.

The house then adjourned.

NINETEENTH DAY.

TUESDAY, March 9.

Mr. Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock. Prayers by Rev. J. H. S. Sweet.

Mr. Hume presented a petition from A. St. G. Hammersley and others, and asking for leave to present a private bill to incorporate the Bedlington & Nelson railway. The private bills committee had already reported that the bill had not complied with the standing orders as to the time for publication, but the proper length of time having since elapsed the company sought to have their bill reinstated.

The request was granted, Mr. Speaker intimating that the payment of double fees would be necessary to reinstate the bill.

Mr. Cotton presented a petition from free miners in Kootenay district asking that the legislature would not grant any charters to divert water from the streams of that district without due care being taken to preserve water for the use of the public.

The annual report of the librarian was presented and received.

Mr. Kennedy introduced a bill to further amend the Pharmacy Act, 1891.

The bill was read a first time; second reading on Thursday.

The Hon. Mr. Turner moved that the speech of His Honor the Lieut.-Governor at the opening of the present session be taken into consideration on Monday next.

Carried.

Hon. D. M. Eberts presented a message from the Lieutenant Governor transmitting a bill "to consolidate in one act certain provisions usually inserted in acts authorizing the taking of lands for undertakings of a public nature."

The message was considered in committee of the whole, and the bill was reported to the house and read a first time; second reading on Wednesday.

On motion of Mr. Booth the house resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Hume in the chair, to consider the advisability of introducing a bill for placing restrictions on the granting of licenses in rural districts.

The committee rose and reported; the bill was read a first time and placed on the orders for second reading on Monday.

Mr. Walkem moved, seconded by Mr. Helmcken that an order of the house be granted for a return giving a detailed statement of the travelling expenses of ministers on duty, together with a statement of any advances made in connection therewith; the dates thereof; such return to embrace a period between June 30, 1896, and 31st December, 1896. Carried.

Mr. Forster moved—Whereas, in the present stage of mining development in British Columbia, the construction of railways has become an imperative necessity; and whereas the construction of a railway from the Coast to Southern Kootenay and on through the Crow's Nest Pass, has become particularly desirable; and whereas it is deemed to be in the interest of the people that such railway should be constructed and owned by the government; and whereas the province annually pays into the Dominion treasury a sum several hundred thousand dollars in excess of the sum returned to it in subsidies, public works and its share of the cost of administration; therefore be it resolved that in the opinion of this house the government of British Columbia should enter into negotiations with the Dominion government to secure the construction by that government, or by that government with the assistance of this province, of a railway from the Coast to Crow's Nest Pass; and that failing the acceptance by the Dominion government of this policy, the provincial government should endeavor to obtain from the Dominion government such assistance as will enable the province to build the railway as a provincial work without straining its resources too heavily.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the motion was out of order as contemplating the expenditure of public moneys.

Mr. Walkem moved, seconded by Mr. Semlin, that an order of this house be granted for a return giving a detailed statement of all money donated to the Kamloops Fire Company prior to the incorporation of that town, to whom paid, and details of expenditure, if any. Carried.

Mr. Macpherson moved that an order of this house be granted for a copy of all correspondence in connection with the resignation of Dr. Watt as secretary of the provincial board of health, and of all applications for the position. Carried.

Mr. Walkem moved, seconded by Mr. Helmcken that an order of this house be granted for a return showing the fees and emoluments received by all sheriffs, such return to include all fees received by them, their deputies and bailiffs, from chattel mortgages, bills of sale and distress warrants, for financial year ending June 1896. Carried.

Mr. Booth moved that the fifteenth report of the committee on private bills be adopted, and the standing rules and orders be suspended to enable the bill entitled "The Yukon Mining, Trading and Transportation Company" (Foreign) to be introduced.

Carried.

Mr. Braden to ask the Minister of Mines the following questions:

1. Have any applications for record of mineral claims in lands granted by the Hudson's Bay Company to settlers on Vancouver Island, the minerals in which have been reserved by the Hudson's Bay Company, been refused?

2. If so, what are the names of the applicants and the dates of the applications?

3. And the grounds upon which such applications (if any) were refused?

Hon. Col. Baker replied:

1. "Yes."

2. "F. G. Richards and others in 1891, and Alfred Deakin in February 1897."

3. "On the ground that the property was not land whereon the right to enter and mine for gold and silver has been reserved to the crown and its licensees."

Mr. Macpherson, on the motion to adopt the report of the committee on the Lillooet, Fraser River and Cariboo Gold Fields bill, moved to insert the provisions of which he had given notice prohibiting the employment of Chinese or Japanese on the works of the company.

Mr. Sword inquired of Mr. Speaker if the clauses proposed by Mr. Macpherson were in order, for they seemed to go beyond the scope of the bill as introduced and it was, in Mr. Sword's opinion, against the whole spirit of private bills legislation to go so far beyond the scope of the bill, which merely asked for leave to remove any doubts as to the company's power to change their articles of incorporation. He was not able to quote any authority on the matter, but he was sure that it was only when introduced by the government that such an amendment was allowable.

Hon. Col. Baker believed that the adoption of such an amendment making such a great change in the act when all the company had come to the house for was to make it clear that they could alter their articles of agreement, would tend to discredit the whole legislation of the house.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the amendment was out of order, because such an amendment could not be brought up on report. Notice might be given of its being moved at the third reading, however, though it was even then open to the objection that it travelled beyond the scope of a bill that asked for no powers.

The debate on Dr. Walkem's motion that in the opinion of the house the tax upon mortgages bears upon different members of a community, was adjourned till Friday.

Mr. Helmcken brought up a question of order in regard to the proceedings in the house on Thursday. He had noticed that after the recess which had been taken to await the Lieut-Governor's arrival to assent to the Incorporation of Cities bill, the Lieut.-Governor and not the Speaker had been in the chair when the house opened again. Should not the Speaker have opened the house, and would the omission have any effect on the validity of the bills assented to, he wanted to know?

Mr. Speaker considered the question an important one, and recalled the incidents that had taken place on the day in question. He had called a recess till 3:30 and had requested to be informed in his room when the Lieut.-Governor was ready to enter the house. He had, however, through some inadvertence, not been called at the time. He thanked Mr. Helmcken for bringing up the matter, and remarked that there might be a question of procedure as to whether the business of the house could be carried on without the presence of the speaker. He had done what he could to remedy the matter by signing the record, and hoped the oversight would have no bad effects.

Hon. Col. Baker presented a return of the securities deposited with the government on January 10, 1891, and regularly renewed for the faithful performance of the duties of official administrators of intestate estates.

Hon. Col. Baker also presented a return of correspondence in relation to a railway from the coast to the Columbia river. Among these letters is one from C. H. Wilkinson last year, making a proposition to the government in regard to the Sumas and Chilliwack reclamation scheme. The promoters of which desired the government to guarantee their bonds. Mr. Wilkinson points out that it is necessary to carry out this scheme in order to allow the first instalment of the line from the coast to Kootenay to be built. Mr. T. E. Julian outlines for the government the Peoples' Railway scheme and encloses letter from H. W. Wolff dated from the Reform Club, London, from T. W. Fox, 14 Deans Yard, Westminster; from C. H. Wilkinson to Messrs. H. C. Beeton estimating cost of line of 350 miles at a total amount of $11,500,000 for the whole. Here also the promoters wish the government to guarantee 3½ per cent. and Mr. Wilkinson says: "If the government will guarantee interest at 3½ per cent. I will build the lines for bonds and if necessary I will arrange to postpone the payment of interest for say three years on the equivalent being added to capital. This would involve an annual charge of £80,500 ($425,000). It seems almost certain that the Dominion Government would give the orthodox $3,200 per mile perhaps even more and this may be put down at 320 miles (without the B. I. and F. V. Railway and the Steveston say $1,024,000) or nearly enough to pay the bonded interest for the first three years."

Hon. Premier Turner replying to Mr. Julian under date January 28 last said a general railway policy was being formulated by the government. The correspondence also includes copies of resolutions passed by the city councils of Vancouver, Victoria and other places in regard to the Vancouver, Victoria and Eastern Railway and Navigation Company.

The house then adjourned.

[FROM THE DAILY COLONIST, March 9.]

SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

THE WHEEL.

VICTORIA MAY READ A LESSON.

VANCOUVER, March 8.—(Special)—The petition for the improvement of the roads to Stanley park for the benefit of the 1,000 resident riders of wheels and another thousand that will be riders in the next twelve months, reached huge proportions before it was presented to the council to-night. It included the names of nearly every prominent citizen in Vancouver, and when preseted to the council received any amount of moral support from the presence at the council chamber of an influential assemblage of wheelmen. The petition will receive the careful consideration of the council, but is bound to be favorably considered as there is no class of the community that will not be benefitted by the improvements suggested.

THE OAR.

VANCOUVER'S CHOSE OFFICERS.

VANCOUVER, March 8.—(Special)—The Vancouver boating club met at the Merchants exchange Saturday night and elected officers as follows: Mr. H. Abbott, honorary president; A. G. Ferguson, president; H. Cambie, vice-president; L. G. McPhillips, second vice-president; J. L. Heimick, secretary; F. W. Charleson, treasurer; J. H. Senkler, captain. Delegates to the N. P. A. A. O.—J. H. Senkler, J. E. Heimick; committee—Messrs. F. V. Bodwell, C. C. Bennett, W. E. Gravely, Jno. Boyd, F. M. Robertson, J. O. Benwill, C. W. Beecher, C. A. Worsnop, P. N. Thompson and F. W. Boultbee.

THE RING.

FORTUNES FOR CHOICE SEATS.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 8.—The sale of seats for the Corbett-Fitzsimmons fight began in this city at noon on Saturday. As soon as the sale opened Charles L. Asher of the Baldwin purchased $1,500 worth of $40 tickets. During the afternoon nearly 200 tickets were sold. About half were $40 seats and the proceeds according to the agents amounted to nearly $6,000. Many tickets were also sold in the evening. It was expected that 5,000 tickets would be sold in this city alone, but that estimate has been reduced considerably, as shown by the fact that just 2,000 tickets have been retained to supply the demand of both Oakland and San Francisco.

Harry Corbett will leave for Carson to-morrow. He was questioned to-day in regard to the betting on the fight, and said the real betting had not yet commenced. He has a big commission to bet on Corbett at odds of 10 to 7, while the Fitzsimmons money he has on hand is to be wagered at the rate of 6 to 10. The odds eventually promise to be 10 to 6½ in favor of Corbett.

RANDOM NOTES

OF INTEREST TO ALL SPORT LOVERS.

The Westminster lacrosse club holds its reorganization meeting on the 16th instant.

J. J. Mulholland, of this city, has obtained the agency for the famous R. A. McCready & Co. "pink flyers."

The Harvard and Ottawa College hockey teams played a spirited international match last evening, the Canadian team winning by 5 to 3.

The ladies' hockey team practice on the club ground to-day at 3 o'clock.

J. K. McCulloch, amateur skating champion of the world, says he has been asked by the Canadian Association to visit Europe next year as its representative at the world's championship meet, and he will do so. He will in all probability train at Montreal two or three weeks before starting, and then take the same length of time to practice in on the other side before the races.

ALBERNI NOTES.

News was received from Alberni last evening (Thursday) that there has been over a week of fine, clear weather on the West Coast, and that in consequence everyone in the district that could possibly spare the time has been off down the canal prospecting, and that a large number of claims were being staked every day. The prospects are said to be very good, but no finds of exceptional interest had been reported at Alberni up to last evening.

A mining man has gone into Alberni to examine the Mountain Rose in the interests of Vancouver parties. It is supposed that the owners are having the property examined with a view to further development work being put on it.

The tunnel on the Minnesota was yesterday in 289 feet and the lead had not been reached. The work is now being pushed with all speed as it is thought the ledge must be only a few feet further as it was first calculated that it would have been reached before this.

The work of prospecting in the mountains has hardly begun yet, but, though general attention is now directed towards the finds lower on the canal, it is thought that in a few weeks there will be quite an army of searchers out among the mountains.—Nanaimo Free Press.

ROBERT SMITH, for many years a resident of this city, died at the residence of his son, Mr. T. R. Smith, on Sunday morning at the age of 84 years. The funeral takes place to-day.

SOLD AT A LOSS.

In order to convince the public that Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills are far superior to any liver pill ever placed on the market, the manufacturer has for the past six months sold them at 10 cents for a vial of 40 doses; or at a clear loss of 50 per cent. of their cost price. The truly wonderful merit of Dr. Agnew's Pills is now recognized in three-fourths of Canadian homes, and from this time on the retail price for a vial of 40 doses will be 20 cents, or five cents a vial less than is charged for other brands of liver pills. They are the smallest, cheapest, best.

Sold by Dean & Hiscocks and Hall & Co.

STILL COQUETTING.

The Coy and Unstable Siwash Plays Havoc With Sealer's Plans.

Steamer "Boscowitz" Returns From the North—Gossip of the Docks.

Through the return of the C.P.N. steamer Tees, Capt. Roberts, from Kyuquot and way ports on Sunday morning, the major number of the sealers now cruising along the West Coast in search of seals, or in shelter awaiting their Indian crews, were heard from. The Tees brought the first lot of '97 skins to port, consisting of 155 from the C. D. Rand, 36 from the E. B. Marvin, 68 from the Sapphire and 35 from the Triumph. The Triumph and Marvin were at Ahousett and the Sapphire at Clayoquot. All sailed on Friday last, and the C. D. Rand, which was met at Eucluelet, left in their wake and not far behind. The trouble on the Rand, Capt. Buchnan—who went down on the Tees for the express purpose of meeting her—reports as having been very trifling and is now entirely at an end. At Dodge's Cove the Enterprise and Minnie were met; the Maud S. was seen at Village island; the Ocean Belle, at Euculet; the City of San Diego, at Kyuquot; and the Zillah May was heard from at Hesquoit. She had not secured her Indians as contracted, and had sailed further up the coast in anticipation of meeting better luck. Captain Balcom, of the Zillah May, is one of those sealing men who had gone down the coast in advance of his vessel, and his second trip was made in view of the arrangement which he had then entered into with the Siwashes at Hesquoit. By this he was to give the Indians $2 a skin wages throughout the season and was to call for them at Hesquoit. When all was ready for their embarkation, however, the Indians objected to leave except on condition that they receive $3 lay money This Captain Balcom would not consider and he in consequence is now in the same position as many of the other captains whose vessels lay at anchor along the coast without crews and with small chance of securing them unless the Indian's terms are recognized. Among the passengers to arrive on the Tees was the cook of the Triumph, who had been fined $5 and costs by two justices of the peace for refusing duty aboard. The Tees' complete passenger list was as follows: Capt. Buchnan, J. J. McKenna, of the provincial police, J. Stanton, F. Jacobson and wife, Capt. Kelly, W. Ralph, Mrs. Spain, Rev. Father Van Nevel, T. White, Mrs. White, J. C. Anderson, F. McCurdy, W. McCurdy, E. B. Hill.

THE "BOSCOWITZ'S" ARRIVAL.

Between 8 and 9 o'clock last evening the steamer Barbara Boscowitz returned from the North, having met on the way South two steamers, the Danube bound North from here, and the Coquitlam bound North with lumber and other material to be used in the construction of a cannery at Rivers Inlet. Very little freight arrived on the steamer, and not more than half a dozen passengers occupied her cabin accommodations. One of these was unable to stir from his birth when the steamer made a landing. John Smith was the unfortunate, and he suffered from a severe cut just below the kneecap, inflicted by an axe. He sustained the injury while helping clear a site for a new cannery building at Rivers Inlet for Mr. Wadham. The blow was struck to renew Mr. Smith's hold on a big log he was standing on, and it missed its aim through his slipping at the same instant. The accident happened three weeks ago, and its effects are therefore likely to be very serious. Dr. Fraser has ordered the patient to the Jubilee hospital.

ITS VOYAGE ENDED.

Captain William Cox, of the schooner Sapphire, while off the coast of Oregon, picked up a bottle on February 21, containing a blank form for recording the position in which the bottle was found. On October 8, 1895, this bottle was dropped from the Norwegian ship Albert Richmeres, in latitude 43 deg. 28 N., and longitude 178 deg. 24 W., and picked up by Captain Cox in 47 deg. 29 latitude N., and 124 deg. 53 W. The paper enclosed requested the finder to record the position where found, and to forward to the nearest Norwegian consulate.

PACIFIC COAST CHARTS.

The U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey has published new editions of the following charts: No. 5,581, San Francisco entrance, California; No. 9,375, St. Michael Bay, Alaska, and the northwest coast of America, in three sheets, viz.: No. 7,000 (Sheet 1), Cape Flattery to Dixon entrance; No. 8,000 (Sheet 2), Dixon entrance to Cape St. Elias; and No. 8,500 (Sheet 3), Icy bay to Somidi islands. The last named is the best chart obtainable of Cook inlet and Prince William sound.

THE STORY OF A CENTURY.

One of the largest meetings yet had of the Natural History Society was held last evening in the library of the legislative assembly, the special feature being the sixth paper by Capt. Walbran in his series on the early navigators of the northwest coast. He gave the account in this of the capture of the British merchant ships Argonaut and Princess Royal by the Spaniards at Nootka in 1789.

It was pointed out that the seizure of these vessels marked the wane of Spanish ascendency on this coast, through the spirited action of the British government in resenting the indignity offered to British subjects by being imprisoned illegally and under false pretences and their property confiscated.

The varying and contradictory statements made in connection with this now celebrated historical episode, and the various stages in the Nootka controversy were referred to, and the diplomatic conduct of Captain George Vancouver in maintaining the dignity of the British crown dwelt upon.

Captain Walbran, in concluding his very interesting lecture, described the condition of Nootka at the time of Vancouver and as it is to-day, showing that in 103 years which have elapsed the place is practically the same, with the exception that the native population has dwindled from 3,000 to 300. The only vestiges of the old Spanish occupation in existence at the present day are the old well—which is still intact near the village—and a few bricks belonging to the foundation of the old Spanish church.

In his next paper Captain Walbran will give a description of Vancouver's exploration of these shores, which will complete the series.

Mr. Joseph Drinkwater, of Somenos, presented to the society, through Major Mutter, M.P.P., a native spearhead. It is in a very complete state of preservation and one of the best specimens yet obtained. Arrangements are being made for a lecture by Mr. Laing on the trip across Vancouver Island last summer, which will be illustrated, as in San Francisco, by limelight views.

THE CITY.

"BUD" KING was yesterday committed for trial, by the police magistrate, on a charge of indecent assault.

MR HAROLD E. BIRCH of the University of London, England, has joined the staff of Victoria College, Beacon Hill Park. Principal Church is to be congratulated on having obtained so valuable an addition to the staff and on the steady progress of the College which necessitates it.

T. H. PROSSOR left this morning on a business trip to Spokane and Rossland to inspect the various mining interests owned by his firm. He will while away meet W. G. Estep, of Spokane, managing director of the Palo Alto, when they will together proceed to Rossland to accept the Palo Alto's new machinery and employ a gang of men, when the work will be vigorously prosecuted.

FRED. ROGERS, who formed one of Captain Black's party which left here for Omineca a few weeks ago, has, according to a telegram just received, contracted a severe attack of pneumonia, necessitating his return to Victoria. A letter, which was written when the party was 200 miles above Lillooet, states that notwithstanding the fact that each man hauled 400 pounds on his sleigh, the party's progress averaged twenty miles a day.

THE choir for the Scottish concert to be given in the Victoria theatre on the 24th inst.—in aid of the Burns memorial fountain fund—had its first rehearsal last night under the direction of Mr. J. G. Brown. There were 75 voices in the chorus, and it is expected this number will be increased at the next rehearsal, which takes place at the First Presbyterian church schoolroom on Monday next. Last night's rehearsal gives promise of a first-class concert.

AN interested brother has at last turned up to make inquiry about George Hansen, or "Alabama George" as he was commonly called, who died very suddenly in the Jubilee saloon a month or two ago. The inquiry is made in the form of a letter to Captain Sievewerd, and asks information as to what has been done with the property of the deceased and also with the ticket for North Dakota which the deceased had on him at the time of his death. The police can readily supply the desired information, and it is understood propose communicating with the inquirer at an early hour.

AN old and feeble Frenchman, who lives at the Old Men's Home gave the caretaker of that institution a little "scare" yesterday morning. Some short time after he started for a walk, he was found lying on the roadside completely fagged out. Members of the Moss street dairy who found him, had taken him into their care and were treating him hospitably when the caretaker had discovered his absence. Owing to the man's weak condition, the caretaker became quite alarmed and at once communicated with the police on the subject. Officer Abel began the search and after a short hunt found the old man being well provided for at the dairy.

HARRY HENSLEY HEYWOOD died last evening at his mother's residence in this city after two months' illness. The deceased was born in Sacramento, California, and was brought to this city by his parents in the early sixties as a babe. He was educated at the public schools here, and took a thorough course of commercial training at Heald's business college in San Francisco. Afterwards he occupied an important position for some five years in the S. P. R. R. offices at San Francisco, and had it not been for poor health he might now have been in a first class position with that company. He was a most competent bookkeeper, and was often called upon to assist in that line at the city hall here. Mr. Heywood was also for a time engaged on the staff of the Times of this city.

A SMALL boy, who will evidently make his way in the world, and who early in life aspires to great things, like many a great man has gone before played truant from school yesterday and betook himself to the stately hall of legislation. He walked leisurely into the hall with the confidence of youth and began to make an inventory of its contents, examining the members desks and papers with great interest, heedless of the "powers that be." It was soon found, however, that the new member was not acknowledged by any consticuency, and the police were called upon to remove him. Almost at the same time, the police received inquiries, as to whether the whereabouts of a young gentleman, answering the description of the young aspirant to parliamentary fame were known, and soon the distracted parents were made joyful by the return of the wanderer.

With the "Diamond" Success Is Fully Assured.

The world renowned Diamond Dyes are put up for every color, with special dyes for cotton and all kinds of mixed goods, and are so simple and easy to use that even a child can dye a perfect color with them—colors that will not fade, crock or wash out equal to the best colors made by professional dyers.

If women are induced to buy imitations of Diamond Dyes they must be prepared for failure and loss of goods.

Insist upon getting the Diamond Dyes from your dealer; they cost no more than the poor imitation dyes sold for the sake of large profits.

THAT COFFERDAM.

Aldermen Don't Want to Raise It Without More Information on the Subject.

A New Keeper Selected for the Isolation Hospital—Dr. Helmcken's Offer.

There was food for quite a little discussion at the city council last night in a motion moved by Ald. Stewart, on recommendation of the Mayor, that the cofferdam at Beaver lake be not removed but be retained as a permanent work, and raised to a height of at least two feet above high water mark. The Mayor explained that as a result of the opinion expressed by Mr. Rudolf Hering, the eminent engineer who was here some time ago, the water committee after consultation with the city's legal advisers had decided that it would be advisable to retain the space between the cofferdam and the filter beds as a settling basin. It would, however, be necessary to raise the cofferdam above the chance of high water.

Ald. Hall wanted to know the cost.

The Mayor explained about $1,300 to $1,500.

Ald. Partridge thought that before the mayor had made his recommendation he should have taken the council into his confidence. He would like to know now what the position of the council would be in reference to their responsibility towards the contractors if they touched the cofferdam at all at the present stage. He moved that the matter lie over until the council was in receipt of more information.

His Worship explained that the recommendation had not been made without consultation with the city barrister and city solicitor.

Ald. Vigelius would not object to the resolution if he thought that the cofferdam would stand all right.

Ald. McCandless did not know the first thing about the matter, and would not vote for any resolution of the kind proposed until he had more information. He preferred that the question stand over for a few days so that the council might have a chance to discuss is properly.

Ald. Kinsman was of the same opinion, whereat Ald. Stewart, for the water committee, explained that they had not gone about the matter blindfold. It was only a question of raising the cofferdam three feet, so that the necessary repairs might be made to give the people a pure water supply as quickly as possible.

Some further discussion followed in which, at the request of the council to give an opinion, Mr. C. D. Mason, the city solicitor, remarked that there had been an agreement prepared which met with the approval of the contractors and which stipulated that the city in taking over the reservoir could do so without prejudice.

Ald. Hall was in favor of laying the matter over till Wednesday. It was a long time between——

Ald. McGregor—"Drinks?"

Ald. Hall—"No; a long time between the commencement of the water improvements and the present." He was anxious to give the people pure water to drink as soon as possible. It was finally agreed to refer the matter to a special meeting on Wednesday evening.

The acceptance of the city's offer of $375 to St. John's church for the moving back of the fence on the church property was read and filed.

In further explanation of his offer made to the city a week ago in regard to the Invertavish estate, Hon. J. S. Helmcken wrote that he intended to offer the city the right of purchasing the estate (save the manor house, &c) at any time during the ensuing three years from date of agreement for $12,500 on condition that $500 be paid to him at the time of signing the agreement to preserve the right for one year, and that the future Councils shall pay $500 each ensuing year for the three years to continue the right unless the property is purchased at an earlier period. Further that during the term of the agreement the property shall be free from civic taxation. The money received for the right to purchase to be deducted from the purchase price should the city conclude to buy the property.

The city engineer and city assessor having reported that the steamer Katie and her scow were quite capable of carrying the city garbage, the Mayor remarked that the contract had been signed that afternoon by Michael Hare.

The Chief of Police having requested that tenders be invited for summer clothing, including overcoats and waterproofs, for the police, Ald. McCandless remarked that as he believed there was only $500 set down for the police clothing, this would not provide for both waterproofs and overcoats. He recommended that the Chief be seen and an understanding arrived at as to which the men preferred—waterproofs or overcoats.

It was decided to advertise anyway, and in the meantime it will be found out how many waterproofs and overcoats are required.

On recommendation of the streets committee it was decided to grant the request of Lee Mong Kow and others, asking that the streets of Chinatown be watered during the dry months of summer. The same committee did not consider it in the interest of the city to take over St. Andrew street at present. These reports were adopted.

Another report from the streets committee gave the information that tenders for supplying teams for sprinklers had been received from: S. Fraser, 40 cents per hour; W. Christie, 45 cents per hour; F. Curran, 44 cents per hour; and F. H. Lindsay, 39 cents per hour per team. Consequently the committee recommended that Mr. Lindsay's tender be accepted, and this recommendation was approved.

Ald. McCandless introduced "a by-law respecting the expenditure and management of the revenue and money belonging to the corporation." It was read a first time and set down for second reading next Monday.

Harry Collier was chosen caretaker of the isolation hospital on the second ballot, there being 12 candidates, and the council then adjourned.