

CONTRACT FOR DOUGLAS AVENUE WORK AWARDED

The Stephen construction Company was awarded the contract for the paving of Douglas avenue at the regular weekly meeting of the common council held yesterday. The amount of the contract was \$188,620.50. This tender was the only one received that was according to the specifications. Contracts were let for lumber for wharves and board of health recommendations and other matters were dealt with by the council. Mayor Sibley occupied the chair and all commissioners were present.

Mr. Frink recommended that the G. W. V. A. be allowed the use of the Shamrock grounds for the purpose of holding a carnival there in August next. Mr. Bullock said that the Y. M. C. A. had applied for the use of the grounds two nights a week for football. Mr. Frink thought it a mistake to open the grounds to the public with blasting going on there and, while the matter is under consideration, both applications were referred to Messrs. Frink and Bullock for a further report.

A report received from the board of health caused considerable debate. It recommended that sewers be installed in Barker street, that a sewer be extended to the north end of White street, that water be furnished to Bellevue avenue, and that the buildings on the water sheds at Spruce Lake and Loch Leonard be removed and no more be allowed to be built.

On motion it was decided to refer the matter to Commissioner Jones for report.

On recommendation of Mr. Bullock, tenders for lumber for the harbor department were accepted as follows: S. Gregory, 8-inch spruce deals, \$28.4; 8-inch x 8-inch spruce, \$34; J. A. Likely, Limited, 12 x 12 inch Douglas fir, \$53.75 and 8 x 8 inch Douglas fir, \$53.75 with the option of taking small lots delivered on the west side at \$58.75 and delivered on the east side at \$57.25; John E. Moore & Co., Limited, 12 x 12 inch hemlock, \$35; S. Gregory, piling, 7-inch at the top, 7 1/2 cents per lineal foot.

An application was received from the Caldwell Fuel Company for the rental of a city lot on the east side of their premises. This matter was stood over until this morning, when the council will go to the west side for certain inspections.

On recommendation of Mr. Bullock the following tenders for the use of city lots for gardening purposes were accepted: Alfred Bentley, \$20; Albert Taylor, \$20; Albert Taylor, \$10; J. S. McPherson, \$25; John M. Thompson, \$5; Leonard Trafton, \$2.50; Albert Warren, \$2.50.

On motion of Mr. Jones, Commissioners Frink and Thornton were appointed revisors for the year.

On application of Mr. Thornton a bill of \$368.23 for two fire alarm boxes, recently installed, was ordered paid.

The application of Webb & Bates of the St. John Garage, for permission to erect a gasoline tank was granted.

Douglas Avenue Tenders.

The Douglas avenue tenders were next considered and Mr. Frink reported that the road engineer advised him that the tender of B. Mooney & Sons, Limited, calling for a two-inch asphalt surface, amounted to \$172,875.00 and that of the Stephens Construction Company, calling for a three-inch surface, was \$184,495.50. Both of these tenders figured for a broken stone concrete base. The report of the road engineer said that it was impossible to compare the tenders as they did not comply with the specifications and there was really only one tender. Mr. Frink moved that the tender of the Stephens Construction Company of \$188,620.50 be accepted. This called for a gravel concrete base. The estimated cost of the work was \$232,981.50, the difference being made up in the cost of the granite blocks, which the city will supply and the cost of catch basins, etc. The total cost, however, would be about \$8,000 less than the estimate.

The council went into committee of the whole to hear M. F. Mooney. He said that the Warren Company had advised him that it never laid a three-inch surface. He thought it would not be fair to give the contract to Mr. Stephens and then have the city lay the surface.

Mr. Hatfield, the road engineer, said that all specifications called for a three-inch surface. It was found that a two-inch surface soon played out and that repairs had to be made before the guarantee period expired. He said that there was nothing to prevent the laying of a three-inch surface.

The committee then rose and went back into council session and the motion that the contract be awarded to the Stephens Construction Company was passed.

At the request of the residents and property owners in Lansdowne avenue it was decided to finish the surface of that street with two penetration coats of asphalt, instead of water-bound macadam and the estimates for the work were increased from \$10,728.50 to \$11,428.50 to allow for the change.

On motion the council adjourned.

Liquor Warehouse.

Notwithstanding objections raised by Commissioner Frink, an application from J. J. Bradley, Ltd., for the rental for five months of a city warehouse, to be vacated soon by Gandy & Allison, for the storage of liquor, was referred to Commissioner Bullock with power to act.

On account of the opposition of the board of fire underwriters, Commissioner Bullock recommended that the application of the Shell Oil Co. of Canada for an easement for laying a pipe line in West St. John be not granted. He also moved that negotiations be continued in connection with other sites for oil tanks. Both motions carried.

COMBAT HOUSE SHORTAGE BY SLEEPING IN TENTS

New York, April 27.—Park Commissioner Hennessy has reported that excessive rentals in this city, coupled with unemployment, probably will cause many New Yorkers to sleep under canvass this summer. He said that whereas last year 925 families camped all summer on Orchard Beach at City Island, this season he already had 500 applications for tent space. He predicted that before long all the "lots" on the beach, which is mapped out to accommodate 2,500 persons would be taken. "Waterfront" sites rent for \$25 a season, and sites more removed from the sad sea waves for \$20.

A barn owned by Jenkins Express Company, King street east, and a woodshed and the rear wing of the residence of H. V. Copp, 159 Leinster street, were damaged by fire early this morning. A still alarm was sent in by R. L. Daniel, who also notified W. H. Golding and Arthur F. Stilwell, who both live at 159 Leinster street. The quick action of the fire department had the fire under control and it was put out about 2:40 o'clock.

FIGHTING NOISE

Acoustic Laboratory for Making of Experiments in Eliminating Unnecessary Clanging, Wheezing, Screeching Noises.

Geneva, Ill., April 27.—An acoustic laboratory, the only one of its kind in the world, in which to make experiments in doing away with the unnecessary clanging, wheezing, screeching noises of the city, is being erected by Col. George Fabayan on his estate near here.

Work has been going on for a year. Col. Fabayan said today, and more than \$100,000 has been spent on the project. The plant is unique, and includes buildings within buildings, organs that are played with magnets, a camera to photograph sound, a telescope through which sound can be seen, and scores of other odd devices.

Mysterious doors, like bank vaults, dark chambers out of which deep, strange tunes, scores of odd musical instruments, make this the most weird scientific structure in the world. It is to be called the Wallace Cement Sabine Laboratories, named in honor of Col. Fabayan's late friend.

"We are fighting the noise which shortens the lives of city dwellers," said Col. Fabayan. "We've been at it four years now, pioneering all the way, carving our own path, slowly unearthing the secrets of nature. It is a humanitarian

task, and we may soon master the racket organ."

Passing into a silent chamber, the colonel sat at an organ keyboard and played. Chimes sounded softly and far away between the notes of a familiar hymn.

"This keyboard has no connection, wires, pipes or cords, with the organ yonder," he said. "Magnets, sir!"

In another room were F. B. Eisenhour, inventor of the phonometer to measure sound; F. W. Kranz, who made a filter for electricity, and Paul Sabine, who has made a specialty of acoustics.

"Look through this telescope thing," invited the colonel, as he struck a tuning fork. A flickering light was visible, like a gas flame.

"That's the sound made by the tuning fork," the colonel went on. "Sure you're seeing sound!"

In a sound room the scientists measure the penetration of sound waves and the insulation of different fibres, metals, woods and glass.

GRAND MASTER OF MASONIC ORDER IS RE-ELECTED

The opening session of the fifty-fourth annual communication of the Masonic Grand Lodge of New Brunswick was held yesterday, when the reports of the various officers were received, and the officers for the coming year were elected.

Lieut. Col. J. D. B. F. MacKenzie, of Chatham, was re-elected Most Worshipful Grand Master and LeBaron Wilson, of this city, was re-elected Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.

At the conclusion of the afternoon session, a banquet was served in the Masonic Temple, when short addresses were delivered by the grand master and Hon. Robert Murray, former provincial secretary-treasurer.

The first part of the evening session was taken up with the exemplification of the fellowcraft degree by a picked team from the Lodge of Emulation. This was followed by the election of officers. George D. Ellis was elected grand treasurer; Archibald Brittain, of Hampton, senior grand warden; A. E. Pearson, of Sussex, junior grand warden; and Rev. C. G. Lawrence, of Hampton, grand chaplain. The installation of these officers will take place today when the other officers of the grand lodges will be selected. The concluding session of the communication will be held this afternoon.

THE SWELLING DOLLAR.

Washington, April 27.—(By Canadian Press)—Approximately 9,000,000 women workers, including school teachers and widows and orphans, according to returns of the census bureau, are the chief beneficiaries of the increased value of the dollar in the United States. The dollar now is worth eighteen cents more than last May, as far as food is concerned. The food dollar is worth sixty-four cents in comparison with its pre-war counterpart, the official figures show. Last May the dollar was worth forty-six cents. The effect of this inflation is to give what amounts to an increase in income to those whose resources remained stationary during the time of the increase in cost of living.

FLOOD LEMBERG WITH FAKE AMERICAN MONEY

Warsaw, April 27.—Counterfeit American bills, representing approximately \$5,000,000, have been confiscated in Lemberg by the Polish authorities, who discovered a counterfeiting plant in full operation.

Mr. and Mrs. Simon Lisner and Lisner's sister-in-law and her husband have been arrested in connection with the case.

The bills consist of denominations of \$100, \$50 and smaller sums. The American consular authorities who have seen the bills declare they are splendid imitations of real American money.

SIX-FOOT DEVIL FISH ARRIVES AS STOWAWAY

New York, April 27.—A stowaway on the steamship Caronia, from Liverpool, was a devil fish six feet in length which was hurled upon the forward deck of the steamer during a storm on April 15, when the vessel was near a point off the coast of Ireland known as "The Devil's Home." The giant fish grasped John Taggart, the ship's carpenter with one of its tentacles. Taggart put up a vigorous battle and, assisted by several sailors, released himself. He suffered only a few scratches. The fish was then dispatched and its carcass taken below to the jee box.

The regular meeting of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Y. M. C. A. was held yesterday afternoon with Mrs. H. D. Fritz, the president in the chair. The usual routine business was dealt with. Meetings will be discontinued until after the summer vacation.

LEFT BY FREIGHT TRAIN.

Dr. James Asa White, the international secretary for the R. Y. P. U., who had been speaking before large meetings in St. John recently, caused some speculation when he announced at the meeting in the Main street Baptist church on Monday evening that he was forced to leave at 9 o'clock to catch a train as it was known that no passenger trains departed from the city at that hour. The doctor, however, left on a freight train and made connections at the Maine border with a passenger train, thus enabling him to reach Chicago twenty-four hours earlier than he would otherwise have been able to do. The urgency of the case was caused by the doctor having an important engagement in Chicago.

G. Jacobson, who contracted smallpox on the way here from Antwerp, and who has been under quarantine at Partridge Island, was released yesterday and will spend a few days in the city visiting friends.

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