EDMONTON NEWS

LOCAL.

A petition is being largely circulated among the merchants of the city asking for a weekly half holiday on Wednesdays during the summer months. The petition is being largely signed.

At the R.N.W.M.P. barracks Monday morning Dugald Graham, who is being held as he is thought to be insane, was remanded until next Thursday morning.

At the office of the building inspector this morning permits were taken out by Mrs. Ferrier for two double house on the east side of block 29, Kirkness street, in Norwood. The houses will be among the most substantial yet constructed in that subdivision, and will cost $3,000 each.

It is reported that Kane, the young man who jumped from a car window three weeks ago while en route from Leduc to Strathcona in charge of a R.N.W.M. policeman, has been seen on several occasions near Inisfail and Carstairs. It is said that his arm is in a sling, his face slashed and his ankle badly sprained as the result of his dive through the car window.

J. M. Horn arrived from Winnipeg Saturday morning to succeed J. G. Gillies, contracting freight agent of the Canadian Northern, who has resigned from the service of the company. Mr. Horn will have the title of District Freight Agent, with an office at 115 Jasper Avenue, east, in the present Canadian Northern offices. He has been City Freight Agent for the Canadian Northern in Winnipeg for the past five years.

Miss Ada T. Ward, of Drayton, Ont. and Elgin W. Gray, of Edmonton, were married at the Methodist parsonage, Calgary, by Rev. G. W. Kerby, pastor of Central Methodist church, on Saturday morning last. Mr. Gray is well known in Edmonton, where he has resided for many years. In business life he is connected with the Edmonton Standard Coal Co. After a brief stay in Calgary the bridal couple will take up their residence in Edmonton.

READY FOR EXTENSION WORK.

Water and Sewer Superintendent McLean is now all ready to begin the year's work in water and sewer extensions and expects to get his first gang of men in the field tomorrow morning. The first work will be done on Fraser avenue, in preparation for the paving operation on that thoroughfare. After that street has been got under way, the applications for water and sewers from other parts of the city will be taken up in the order in which they have been received.

Mr. Jenkins, local manager of the Bitulithic & Paving Company, says that work on paving will probably be begun before the end of this week if the weather keeps fine. It is most probable that a start will be made on Fraser avenue, though he has not yet received any definite information upon that point.

FATAL SHOOTING ACCIDENT.

A shooting accident which had a fatal termination occurred at St. Albert on Friday evening about six o'clock. The victim was Jos. Beauchamp, a man 28 years of age, who was employed as a butcher with A. Piquette.

The unfortunate man was out on the lake near St. Albert engaged in shooting with a number of companions. He was in a skiff and coming near the shore sprang out and reached to pull his gun, muzzle first, out of the boat.

In some way the trigger caught and the weapon exploded, the charge entering his body below the right shoulder. He was immediately taken to the General Hospital, Edmonton, and operated on on Saturday, but the shock caused by the shooting was too great and he died yesterday morning.

The deceased, who was a native of St. Albert, leaves a wife and two children.

BACK FROM THE COAST.

Wm. Short, K.C., and his son Allan returned on Saturday from a ten weeks' trip to the Coast. Mrs. Short and infant daughter remained at Victoria for a few weeks. It was at first their intention to proceed to Honolulu, but owing to one of the number being unable to take the trip it was abandoned. Mr. and Mrs. Short spent most of the time at the beach at Los Angeles, where the weather was at its best.

In conversation with The Bulletin, Mr. Short stated that business prospects are looking good at Vancouver, the people there anticipating an excellent season as the result of the proposed extension operations of the C.N.R. and G.T.P. to that city. It is thought there that the two railways will unite and build one line from the Yellowhead Pass.

At Seattle, the people are enthusiastic over the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, which it is claimed will be the "biggest ever." Mr. Short says that Edmonton people who contemplate a visit to the fair would do well to arrange for accommodation beforehand, as there is likely to be a crush and exhorbitant prices will prevail.

Suffragists Congratulate Wilhelmina.

London, May 1—The Women's International Suffrage alliance today re-elected Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, of New York, as president without a dissenting vote. A telegram of congratulation was sent by the congress today to Queen Wilhelmina on the birth of her daughter.

EDMONTON STILL LEADS.

One of the monthly returns that is watched closely by those most interested in the growth of the two leading cities in Alberta, Edmonton and Calgary, is the record of the building permits of the two rivals. These undoubtedly gives the best record of the growth of a city. While the totals in both cities have been large, for the past two years Edmonton in the extent of her total building has led Calgary almost every month. In April last Edmonton's total was $210,000 and Calgary's $174,000. In March Edmonton's total was $179,395 and Calgary's $94,500. The record has been similar to this all through 1908 and 1907, there being scarcely a month, if any at all, when the Southern city was in excess of the capital.

RUTHENIAN MILITARY MEETING

A largely attended meeting of the Ruthenians of the city was held on Saturday evening in Paul Rudyk's Hall, Kinistino avenue, to discuss the question of the formation of an infantry regiment among the Ruthenians in this part of Alberta. Michael Gowda acted as chairman of the meeting.

Captain W .A. Griesbach, of "A" Squadron 19th A.M.R., addressed the meeting, explaining the purpose of military organizations in Canada and the method of procedure.

J. Krikewski spoke in Ruthenian, and for the benefit of those who have difficulty in understanding English, outlined the different steps to be taken in the organization of a Ruthenian regiment.

Mr. Gowda, the chairman, explained fully the oath of allegiance and its meaning and impressed on his hearers the importance of citizenship.

John Litowski, who is enlisted with the 101st Fusiliers, also spoke in Ruthenian, giving the audience the benefit of his personal experience in militiary organizations in Canada.

A letter from Peter Zworyck, of Vegreville, was read, congratulating the Ruthenians of Edmonton on the energetic manner in which they were taking up the work of organizing a Ruthenian regiment. He stated that widespread interest was being shown in towns along the C.N.R. by Ruthenians in the matter of military organization.

All those present at the meeting expressed their hearty approval of the proposed organization. At the conclusion of the meeting a flash-light photograph was taken of about 125 prominent Ruthenians who were present at the meeting. Another meeting will be held in the course of two or three weeks, when reports will be received on the progress of the work. Petitions asking for the formation of a Ruthenian infantry regiment at Edmonton are no wbeing circulated and are being largely signed. They will be forwarded to the Militia Department at Ottawa about July 1st.

ALLEGED ARCHITECT'S COMBINE

The action of the Alberta Architects' Association in connection with the submitting of plans for the Claresholm public school has led the board to lay a complaint with the Education Department at Edmonton against what is considered to be a combine in restraint of trade.

Asked by a Bulletin representative this morning as to what steps the Department had taken in the matter, D. S. Mackenzie, deputy minister of education, said that a suggestion had been forwarded by him to the school board at Claresholm to the effect that if Alberta architects could not be found to submit plans for the new school without requiring submission by the school board to the stringent rules of the association, the board would be justified in getting an outside architect to draw up the plans. He also advised the members of the board to look about them and see the sort of building they desired and have the plan of their building drawn in accordance with it, the idea being that if they knew what they wanted there would be no need of any competition among the architects.

Mr. Mackenzie had no hesitation in saying that it was ridiculous for the Architects' Association to expect that the trustees, having in mind a $20,000 school building, should be compelled to throw open the submitting of plans to competition before any one Alberta architect would undertake the work. If the school board submitted to this and paid all the architects who took a crack at it a good figure, whether successful competitors or not, it would take a goodly proportion of the school appropriation to pay for the preliminary plans. The successful competitor would then make another charge for drawing up the plans in detail for the contractors to follow.

In the letter which Mr. McKenzie wrote to the school board at Claresholm, in reply to their complaint, he did not commit himself to a statement that the architects have a combine in restraint of trade, nor did he say it was probable the government would ask the Association of Architects to amend their rules.

Such proceeding on the part of the government would be undertaken by the Attorney General's department, Deputy Attorney General Woods stated, on receipt of a complaint from the Claresholm School Board. The Department of Education would have no jurisdiction in such matters

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MILITARY ENGINEER HERE.

Capt. Hughes, of Victoria, B.C., military engineer for military district No. 11, which comprise British Columbia, is in the city in connection with the rifle range on the southern side of the city. Capt. Hughes is now engaged in checking over the plans for the proposed enlargement of the range which will be made this summer. It is possible that he may return to the city after the contract for the enlargement of the range is awarded.

LOOKING FOR ARBITRATION.

Geo. H. Pope, right-of-way puchasing agent for the G.T.P., is in the city today in the hope of winding up all the negotiations for the right-of-way between Winnipeg and Edmonton.

"There are only two hitches in the right-of-way purchase between here and Winnipeg" said Mr. Pope to a Bulletin representative. "These are on the Hagerman estate where Messrs Marsan and Girouard are holding out for better terms against the decision of the courts and the Railway Commission. When the Railway Commission sat in Edmonton the railway company got an order to go ahead and expropriate the property. The solicitor for the property holders appealed from this order and a settlement seems to be no nearer than before."

An attempt will be made on the part of Mr. Pope and Henwood and Harrison, solicitors for the G. T. P., to get the consent of the parties to submit the dispute to arbitration. If such arrangement can be decided on the proceedings will be similar to the settlement of the G.T.P. with the owners of the Beachmount estate. The case will be argued before a tribunal of disinterested jurors, one chosen by the company, another by the property holders and a third chosen on the suggestion of the first two named.

MONTHLY STATISTICS.

The monthly statistics of Edmonton and the Edmonton district tell the same story of progress and development as has been recorded in past months. Edmonton is constantly going ahead in every line of activity and the statistics month by month tell the story in the most complete way. Following are some of the returns:—

Land Office Returns.

The Dominion Land Office give the following summary of the business done in April of this year in comparison with the same month in 1908.

In April 1909, the number of homestead entries granted was 674. Applications for patent were recommended to the number of 199. Letters received were 5531 and letters granted 2012.

The corresponding month of last year did not give nearly as good a showing. The homestead entries were 528, applications for patent recommended 123, letters received 4436, and letters sent 3660.

Bank Clearings.

The Edmonton clearing for the month total $4,044,054.72 as compared with $2,890,273.20 for April 1908 and $4,275,328.77 in April 1907. For the week ending Thursday the total was $979,556.61. For the similar week in 1908, 650,079.38 and for the similar week in 1907, $882,195.24.

Customs House Returns.

Custom house returns record the same story of monthly increase as in previous months. In April 1909 the total of duties paid were $25,778.60 while in April 1908 the total was only $18,630.72 an increase of $7,147.88 this year. In April 1909 there were 316 express parcels cleared and in 1908, 223 parcels.

City Ambulance Calls.

The calls for the city ambulance at the West End fire hall established a new record this month, the total calls amounting to 52. The largest previous record was 47 last month.

Vital statistics for the month of April, furnished by Registrar St. George Zellett are as follows, births 42, marriages 28, death 35.

SATURDAY THE BEST DAY.

The figures giving the returns from the hospital fair which closed at the Thistle rink on Saturday night, tell the story of the magnificent success which has attended the efforts of the Women's Hospital auxiliary when the mathematicians had taken account of all the entries they found that the receipts totalled $8,268, or an average of over $2,000 for each of the three days. The actual receipts for each day of the fair were: Thursday, half day, $1,775; Friday, entire day, $2,143; Saturday, entire day, $2,350.

Data as to the number of people who attended the fair it is impossible to ascertain. It is estimated that some where near 8,000 people passed through the doors. Over 3,000 were served in the dining hall during the luncheon and dinner hours of the three days and receipts from the tables were over $500. A tribute to the success of the fair was that the last day was the best of all. That the event did not pall on the public is shown by the total receipts for Saturday of $3,918. Long before the hour of closing many of the booths were sold out and had to turn away the crowds. The full dress parade in the early part of the evening was a brilliant affair.

During the day the ladies of Vegreville sent a contribution of $26 and two packages of fancy goods for sale in the booths. Mrs. A. W. Fraser forwarded the generous contribution which was highly appreciated by the Edmonton ladies.

The fair marked the tenth anniversary of the organization of the Women's Hospital auxiliary. Ten years ago in 1898 the ladies of Edmonton set the organization on its way and during this period the auxiliary has practically equipped the present hospital building on Kinistino avenue. Their most brilliant effort was when by means of the bazaar just closed they raised $6,000 toward the erection of a new hospital for Edmonton. The ladies of the art booth, over which Mrs. O'Connor presided, presented Mrs. Murphy, president of the Aid, with a very handsome framed engraving as an appreciation of her management of the bazaar.

Those who have accounts against the fair are requested to send them to Mrs. (Dr.) Sloane, Namayo, before Wednesday of this week.

HIGH LEVEL BRIDGE PLANS IN PREPARATION

It will likely be three or four weeks before the plans for the traffic section to the C. P. R. high level bridge will be received in this city. The rough draft showing the structure desired by Edmonton and Strathcona will be forwarded to the head engineering office of the C. P. R. at Montreal, and the new bridge plans will be prepared there in accordance with the desire of the cities. The company will also make an estimate on the cost, which, it is expected, will be between $300,000 and $350,000. When the plans and the estimate arrive here a joint meeting of the Edmonton and Strathcona councils will be held to make final arrangements. Till this meeting is held it will be impossible to complete the C. P. R. agreement for submission to the ratepayers.

DOGS REPORTED POISONED.

Reports have reached the police that a number of dogs were poisoned in the north of Norwood and in Fairview, on Saturday afternoon last. H. Coles lost a valuable thoroughbred English grayhound, which he estimates was worth $50; Messrs. Doherty and Maloney, who live nearby, also lost dogs. It appeared from the symptoms as if the animals suffered from struchnine poisoning and it is thought that this was scattered around among the bushes by some person. The police are making an investigation of the cases.

SALE OF SCHOOL LANDS.

Public notices have been sent out that a number of school lands in the vicinity of Lloydminster, Saskatchewan, will be offered for sale by public auction at that point on Wednesday, 23rd of June, 1909, at 10 o'clock, a.m.

The lands will be offered in quarter sections subject to a certain upset price in each case, and will be sold without regard to persons who may be in illegal occupation of the same, but such persons as well as those whose leases have been terminated in view of these sales, will be allowed a period of thirty days after the sale within which to remove any improvements they may have on the land.

The sales will only convey the surface rights and will be subject to the usual reservations in favor of the crown.

BOARDS OF TRADE CONVENTION.

The convention in Saskatoon on the 15th and 16th and 17th of June of the Associated Boards of Trade of Western Canada promises to be of the greatest importance to Canada, particularly at the present time. In the circular sent out by John T. Hall, of Medicine Hat, secretary of the convention to the Western Boards of Trade, it is pointed out that the financial stringency and depression of last year will be followed in all probability by a tidal wave of prosperity greater than Western Canada has yet witnessed and it is of vital importance that the representative business men of the west should meet together and discuss the problems of the present, and the possibilities of the future for the Great West.

The secretary on behalf of the city of Saskatoon extends a hearty welcome to all western boards to have representatives attend the convention. Invitations have been sent to one hundred and twenty boards. All chartered boards, and all non-chartered boards having been in existence six months prior to the convention and having a paid-up membership list of 15 members or over are eligible for affiliation. A request is made that the list of deleagtes and the annual fee be sent as early as possible prior to June 1st.

LATEST DATE ON RECORD.

The final breaking up of the ice in the river between Edmonton and Strathcona Monday marks the latest date in which the Saskatchewan has opened in the past twenty-nine years over which the records extend. Although the break was almost daily expected since the middle of April, it was greatly retarded by the unexpected cold wave during the latter part of the month.

The mild weather of Saturday and Sunday, however, had its effect and by Monday afternoon the river was running clear. For over two weeks there has been a channel down the north bank from the power house to the bridge and for over a month Huff's gravel dredge has blen working a short distance below the power house.

At the bend in the river above Walters mills the ice is still tightly jammed and reports from the lumber camps 100 miles up the river are to the effect that the river is completely bridged over in places with tracts of open water between. In the course of a week it is expected to be running freely, however.

The break-up this year is about two weeks later than last.

The dates of the break ups since 1881 are as follows:—

1881	April 19
1882	No record
1883	April 19
1884	No record; 8 in. snow Apl. 25
1885	April 7
1886	April 18
1887	April 23
1888	April 24
1889	April 11
1890	April 29
1891	April 17
1892	April 21
1893	No record
1894	April 23
1895	April 15
1896	April 26
1897	April 17
1898	April 18
1899	April 25
1900	No record
1901	No record
1902	No record
1903	No record
1904	April 14
1905	April 8
1906	April 13
1907	April 25
1908	April 19
1909	May 3

*This year the late Wm. Cust, of St Albert, had oats three inches high, and all his wheat up on April 15th.

DEATH OF MRS PETER GUNN.

Word reached the city last evening of the death at Lac Ste Anne Tuesday of Mrs. Gunn, wife of Peter Gunn, M.P.P., after an illness of eight months. The deceased lady underwent treatment in the General Hospital in Edmonton last October but it was then apparent that the disease from which she was suffering was incurable. The end came Tuesday. The late Mrs. Gunn leaves to mourn a husband and a large family, the eldest of whom is about sixteen years of age. The deceased was a native of the Orkney Islands and was one of the oldest settler in the Lac Ste. Anne district.

LEAVES SHORTLY FOR NORTH.

Alfred Von Hammerstein, who for a number of years past has been engaged in boring for oil at Fort McMurray, returned to the city last night from Winnipeg and New York where he has spent the winter. He intends to leave in the course of a few days with a party of eight men on return to the north, where he will continue his boring operations during the summer months. Mr. Von Hammerstein is naturally reticent over the progress of the work but from his remarks it is evident that the prospects for a big output shortly are excellent.

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