

PUTS THE PARK UP TO M'BRIDE

MAYOR GIVES PREMIER A HARD NUT TO CRACK

Will Ask Him to Assist Council on Songhees Reserve Question

As an outcome of a discussion at the city council yesterday night, following the reading of a letter from Premier McBride relative to the matter of the disposition of the lands contained in the Songhees Indian reserve, it was decided to ask the premier and the three other representatives of Victoria city in the legislature to confer with the whole council in special meeting.

During the discussion it was explained by Ald. Okell that the people of Victoria West are much incensed at the action of the government in refusing to entertain the suggestion that a public park should be created, and that petitions are being circulated in the district which will shortly be presented to the legislature. The premier's letter read as follows:

"Dear Sir—I beg to thank the municipal council of the city of Victoria for the letter dated January 5, expressing gratitude at the steps taken by the government to settle the question of the Songhees Indian reserve. As the negotiations with reference to these questions are on an entirely different plane than heretofore, the old arrangement cannot be looked upon as still in vogue. However, when the present negotiations have concluded the government will be very glad to place at the disposal of the city and all others interested full particulars of the plans proposed for the disposition of the same.

Yours very truly, RICHARD M'BRIDE. Ald. Langley interpreted the letter to mean that the agreement between the government and the city of four years ago in which provision was made for a public park for Victoria West, had been terminated.

The Mayor—It takes two to break a bargain, Ald. Langley—that is quite so, but what is the purport of the letter? The Mayor—it is not very definite, but in any event the city has to be heard from. Ald. H. M. Fullerton thought the council should deal with the question in a broad spirit. The question had been a very difficult and annoying one for years, and the government had been at great expense, come to an arrangement with the Indians. It was, in his opinion, only fair that the council should recognize the great services which had been rendered by the government and meet the latter in a friendly way. He had a proposal to make which would probably solve the difficulty. This was to have the government set aside the necessary area for the public park, subdivide and sell the balance, the city then to reimburse the government for the park on the basis of the land purchased from the sale of the balance of the property, the necessary authority to do so being obtained from the ratepayers by law.

NEW CITY HALL SCHEME IS UP

REPORT FROM THE BUILDING COMMITTEE

What to Do With Market Building is a Factor in the Situation

The suggestion that the time has arrived when the council should take into consideration the erection of a new city hall and consider a future policy in respect to the maintenance of all civic buildings was thrown out by the chairman of the buildings committee, Ald. Ross, at Friday night's meeting of the council, in the following report, which will be considered at next week's meeting of the board of works.

Having considered the question of the utilization of the market building your chairman of the building committee begs to report as follows: To complete the headquarters of the fire department as per plan attached, estimated cost, \$2,500.

To install present date police headquarters in the west half of the market building, estimated cost, \$50,000. To render the market yard available for market purposes, the whole yard should be paved, additional shed accommodation erected along the north side, and a roof shelter 180 feet long by 32 feet wide, erected in the middle of the yard, estimated total cost, \$15,000.

As in any event it will be necessary, in order to accommodate the new apparatus, to make the above proposed changes to the fire department headquarters, it is hereby recommended that this be done at once at a cost of \$2,500.

Before making any further recommendations, it will be necessary for your honorable body to give serious and prompt consideration to the whole policy of public buildings, and in order that you may do so intelligently, the following figures are submitted: Estimated present value of the market building and grounds, \$500,000. Estimated present value of city hall and grounds, \$150,000.

Estimated expenditure to improve market building and grounds, \$15,000; market yard and buildings, \$15,000; total, \$45,000. Estimated cost of modernizing present city hall, including heating and ventilating, \$50,000.

Total amount the city would have invested if the above plan be carried out, \$45,000. Estimated cost of purchasing a new city hall site, \$200,000. Estimated cost of new city hall building, including headquarters for fire and police, \$350,000.

Incidental expenses, \$50,000. Total amount the city would have invested on the new plan, \$600,000. Total amount invested under the new plan in the Park, or some other site at present owned by the city were used, \$400,000.

The above figures make it appear that the city could dispose of its present properties at present values, and obtain modern buildings on a grand scale at a saving of \$47,500, providing a site now owned by the city be used, or at an additional cost of \$125,500, if the block is purchased, say on "rates" street or some other central location.

If arrangements can be made, whereby our present holdings be not disposed of until toward the completion of the new city hall, the city would benefit to the extent of a two and a half to three years rise in selling values, which would materially reduce the cost of the new venture.

It must be borne in mind that money spent on modernizing old structures is seldom satisfactory unless there is a very large saving involved. The erection of monumental public buildings such as would satisfy the future requirements of our city is worthy of the best frame and surroundings to set it off, and should not only be an ornament to the whole city, but should be the means of creating a model civic centre, such as is being aimed at by every important city to-day.

Whichever plan is adopted in whole or in part (except as to the \$500,000 for land improvement), it will entail the consent of the ratepayers by law.

GUILTY OF CONTEMPT. Seattle Real Estate Man Liberated on Bonds Pending Trial of Charge of Conspiracy.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 23.—Clarence D. Hillman, the millionaire real estate man, who says that he has made his millions selling house lots to poor people on the installment plan, is again at liberty to-day, furnishing \$2,500 bonds after being adjudged guilty of contempt of court by Federal Judge Donworth. It was proved that Hillman sent circular letters to jurors who are to hear evidence against him.

Hillman is under \$20,000 bonds for trial next Tuesday on a charge of conspiracy in using the United States mail to defraud. He mailed circulars to 25,000 of the circulars promiscuously and did not intend to mail them to the jurors specifically. Hillman's printer swore that he had delivered only 500 of these circulars to Hillman's office.

FUNERAL OF J. E. SCHWITZER. Ottawa, Jan. 23.—The funeral took place here yesterday of J. E. Schwitzer, chief engineer of the C. P. R. Among those who attended was J. A. Clarke, relieving purchasing agent, who immediately after the obsequies was stricken with paralysis and lies in the hospital in a dangerous condition.



GILDING IT OVER. Montreal Witness.

MUCH WORK IS OUTLINED

BIG PROSPECTS BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

Great Activity in Building—Some Important Subdivisions

Friday the Times set out some evidence that the city will undertake a vast quantity of work this year, but going outside the field of civic undertakings, there is ample guarantee that the season will be an exceptionally busy one, because of private enterprise. Large sums of money will be spent in the erection of new business blocks. The Times has been informed of the details of several large enterprises of this character, but the promoters consider it inappropriate to publish the facts at this time. It is known with certainty, however, that the whole of the area comprised in the ruins of the recent big fire will be the site for a number of huge buildings, plans for which have already been drawn. The outlook for the building trade, in the opinion of architects and contractors, was never brighter.

A feature of civic development during the year will be the large number of subdivisions which will be thrown open to home-seekers. In some of these where surveys have been made streets are being graded and water mains laid, this work alone calling for much labor.

It is said by those in a position to speak with authority that this year will witness a commencement on the big task of laying out for residential building purposes what experts declare to be the finest high class residential area on the whole of the Pacific Coast—Upland, Ferns, which was acquired by a syndicate of British and Winnipeg capitalists from the Hudson's Bay Company about three years ago. The company purposes expending no less a sum than \$500,000 in preparing the property for settlement by home-seekers. The plans for the subdivision were drawn by one of the most famous landscape gardeners on the continent. The company has agreed with the corporation of Oak Bay to expend the half million dollars for the purpose mentioned, the municipality on its part returning to exempt the property from taxation for a period of ten years. Beautiful asphalted roads and drives are to be built, cement sidewalks laid; there will be fountains and small parks; a building limit will be placed on all who buy property, so as to secure uniformity in structures, and altogether the plans of the company are on the most elaborate scale.

During the present year also three other big enterprises calling for large expenditure will be taken in hand—the construction of the first 40 miles of the Canadian Northern Pacific system on Vancouver Island, the extension of the lines of the B. C. Electric Com-

pany to the Saanich peninsula and the subdivision of the Songhees Indian reserve. The B. C. Electric enterprise included in the list for the reason that though no official announcement has been made as to the certainty of the enterprise, it is assumed that the great growth of population in the peninsula will simply demand that the company proceed with the undertaking.

FEAR MASSACRE IN ASIATIC TURKEY

TURKISH GARRISON IS BEING REINFORCED

Yemen Arabs Are Determined to Establish an Independent Kingdom

Constantinople, Jan. 23.—Grave fears that recent massacres of Armenians and other Christians in Yemen may be renewed in the near future, are felt here to-day through the receipt of messages from Asiatic Turkey. These dispatches say that the Yemen Arabs have determined to establish an independent kingdom and are already levying taxes under a provisional government.

To offset a possible outbreak, the garrison at Adana, the centre of last year's massacres, will be strengthened as the soldiers there are no longer considered trustworthy.

The Yemen revolt now includes all the Arabs, who far outnumber the rebels.

YOUTH WHO KILLED FATHER IS INSANE

John Dorst Will Probably Be Sent to Washington State Insane Hospital

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 23.—Coroner Beckwith has decided that John Dorst, the 22-year-old youth who shot and killed his father on the Dorst homestead at North Bend, is insane and young Dorst will probably be committed to the state insane hospital at Vancouver Island, the extension of the lines of the B. C. Electric Com-

BODY BLOW TO OAK BAY BILL

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF POSSIBLE INQUIRY

City Solicitor Will Contend That Bill Should Logically Stand Over

Acting on instructions from the council, as conveyed to him Friday evening, F. A. McDiarmid, city solicitor, will oppose the application for a private bill being made by the corporation of Oak Bay, the aim of which is to secure power to lay pipes to connect with the system of the Esquimalt Waterworks company.

It was disclosed during the brief debate on the question Friday night that the solicitor will take the position that inasmuch as the government may possibly appoint a commission to enquire into the whole question of water supply, as it affects the southern part of Vancouver Island, it could hardly refuse the suggestion from the city that the private bill be over until such commission has reported.

The matter was brought up on the reading of a request from the solicitor that he be instructed in the matter. The mayor was of the opinion that Oak Bay had no excuse whatever to make another application to the legislature for a right to connect with the water system of the Esquimalt company.

The names of those injured are: Max Gordon, Star City, lower jaw broken; Burn Jones, Star City, right leg cut; D. Stein, injured back; R. Wagner, Edenbridge, scalp cut; E. Siegel, Edenbridge, burns; Springman, left shoulder sprained and burnt; M. Ralain, Edenbridge, chest and stomach injured.

CHICAGO LABOR TROUBLES. Street Railway Companies Will Be Urged to Make Concessions in Order to Prevent Strike.

Chicago, Jan. 23.—In an effort to prevent a threatened strike of 5,000 street car men here, Mayor Burke today called a conference of presidents of traction lines for Monday, when he will urge that concessions be made to the men.

The trouble is due to a dispute regarding the interpretation of a clause in the agreement between the Chicago City Railway Company and the Chicago Railways Company, the two big systems, and their employees. The agreement provides a minimum working day of nine hours with a maximum of eleven hours. The unions claim that men employed on extra runs for one or two hours should be paid for a full eight hour day. This demand is vigorously opposed by the companies.

TO ENCOURAGE FOREST STUDY

A. C. FLUMERFELT'S PRIZE FOR ESSAYS

Teachers Asked to Outline an Effective Form of Lesson for Schools

One of the big problems British Columbia has to face is the conservation of her immense timber resources. Regarding the extent of these and the need for the most watchful care in their handling the people of the province generally have very little conception. In order to encourage a study of the problem A. C. Flumerfelt, who was a member of the Forestry Commission and takes a keen interest in the subject, is offering a prize of \$50 for competition among the teachers of provincial schools, such competition to take the nature of a model lesson of a length suitable for use in the schools—in the form of questions and answers by the teacher and pupils, the subject to be written upon being "Why and how must we protect our forests?"

Letters should be addressed "Forestry," P. O. Box 690, Victoria, and should be in by April 15, when the competition closes. F. J. Fulton, K. C., Kamloops, and A. E. Goodwin, M. P., Rosedale, who were Mr. Flumerfelt's fellow-commissioners, have kindly consented to judge the essays and award the prize.

Speaking to a Times representative Saturday Mr. Flumerfelt said: "No matter how well conceived the forestry policy of any government may be, its success or otherwise depends directly upon the sympathy and co-operation of the public. A quotation given in the forestry report upon this matter is a nutshell: 'The railroad will set fire to its right-of-way promiscuously and destroy millions of feet of standing timber and millions of dollars of future traffic by carelessly allowing towards prevention. The logger will operate the "donkey" equally as recklessly as long as he thinks his own property is safe. The farmer will set a slashing fire that will destroy hundreds of thousands of acres of adjacent timber, the development of which would bring railroads to his doors, build towns and cities in his vicinity, increase his markets and enhance the value of his land. The camper will likewise leave carelessly a fire to destroy all his pleasure property whose loss will be felt by an entire state.'"

"More and more each year as this province develops, manufactures, and mines must depend upon electric power. Agriculture upon irrigation, both power and irrigation in their turn upon regularity of water supply. So much does the navigation of our rivers and the propagation of our most important fish, the salmon.

"Following this thought, we find the steadiness of water supply depending upon the maintenance of forest-cover; indeed the whole future of British Columbia is contingent upon her forest policy.

"As a mere matter of dollars and cents, we must educate our people to take intelligent care of this great inheritance. We must conduct a campaign against forest waste similar to the one we are waging through our schools, against that form of human waste, tuberculosis. We must begin with the young.

"Permit me to suggest that every school teacher in the province should be given a leaflet on this subject, and the initial step might be taken by the department of lands furnishing each with a copy of the forestry report."

SEVEN INJURED IN WRECK. Melfort, Sask., Jan. 27.—The east-bound passenger train ran into a cable car on a freight train on the west end of here Wednesday. Seven men were injured. The freight train had been stopped by snow earlier in the day. The man who had been brought from Star City to help drive the train and afterward they went to sleep in the caboose. The engine of the passenger train went half through the caboose, and the latter caught fire. The injured men were brought to Melfort about 3 o'clock this morning, and were looked after by Dr. Hawke. Five of the victims are at present in the hospital here. The names of those injured are: Max Gordon, Star City, lower jaw broken; Burn Jones, Star City, right leg cut; D. Stein, injured back; R. Wagner, Edenbridge, scalp cut; E. Siegel, Edenbridge, burns; Springman, left shoulder sprained and burnt; M. Ralain, Edenbridge, chest and stomach injured.

TRADE AGREEMENT MAY BE KILLED

PROVES UNPOPULAR IN UNITED STATES

Will Probably Not Get Beyond Committee Stage in Congress

(Times Leased Wire.) Washington, Jan. 23.—President Taft's reciprocity agreement with Canada, according to the opinions of most legislators here to-day, is dead and buried.

The two places of interest, it is freely said, will be found to be the senate finance committee and the house committee on Ways and Means, in which the proposed treaty has been referred.

There is believed to be no doubt that the senate committee will please the plan. Every member of the committee, it is reported, is against the measure, as shown by a caucus of congressmen, in discussing the probable action of the House, said today: "You have seen the rest of it."

From not one angle does there seem to be a chance that the measure will be put through. Both the House and Senate committees are at present controlled by high protection advocates, and they are expected to do anything to break down the tariff bill. Even the Democrats will not rally to its defence. They, it is said, will oppose action at this time on theory that while tariff reform is needed, the country has declared for Democratic principles, and it is "up to the coming Democratic congress" to make their own bargains, get the credit and take the responsibility.

Discussing the status of the reciprocity agreement to-day, Senator Forah, of Idaho, said he did not believe there was a chance for its ratification at this session.

One northwestern insurance salesman is not divulged, is quoted as branding the agreement as "rotten." Senator Curtis, of Kansas, was non-committal. He said that on general principles he had always been opposed to reciprocity with Canada on farm products, but that he desired to withhold his judgment on the present proposal until he had more opportunity to examine into its details.

The views of the northwesterners were expressed by Senator McCumber of North Dakota. He flatly condemned the treaty as one which would place the western farmer at the mercy of Canadian competition, while we would receive no benefit. The northwest he said, would protest against the admission of Canadian lumber. He would see nothing of advantage in the treaty of his section in the agreement.

Light on the probable fate of the reciprocity plan is seen here to-day in the history of former attempts to pass Canada and the United States together. Once, years ago, a treaty bill was passed by the House providing that concessions might be exchanged with countries negotiating with America, a commission was appointed to confer with all the leading commercial nations. The president approved them, and they were submitted to the senate for ratification. The treaty was rejected by the senate.

Manufacturers' Views. (Special to the Times.) Ottawa, Jan. 23.—The views of W. H. Rowley, president of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, do not coincide with the opinions of those who favor the proposed trade arrangement between Canada and the United States is evidenced from a statement which he handed out to the press last evening, says that "reciprocity open the market for our goods to the United States, and we are not prepared to do so."

Mr. Rowley's principal contention is that the time is not yet ripe for reciprocity trade relations with the United States, because of the tariff. "There is absolutely no necessity for any change at the present time, but it is just possible that in the future, when changes in the tariff may be made, it will be important to readjust our tariff with the United States now. We should wait until we see what the Democratic party will do in regard to the tariff. It is too early to say whether there is anything to be done."

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TWO V

Tees Runs on Cape

(From Fri)

With her engine speed at flood tide P. R. steamer "Tees" which went ashore on Rowland Sound, floated her way to Albern. The tugs, the Lorne and life, which were night following news, was not in Capt. Gilliam made o'clock to dislodge with success.

When the Tees floated for a while in the Tees was not to be the big forward bulkhead what water she is own pumps are at o'clock preparation to tow the Tees to and it was thought make the trip safe.

The Tees at the ing was southbound was making her. She encountered a after entering Bar. The steamer was slow bell and the night was not a little sea at Gilliam ordered the ing thirty-one first second class, to be life-boats to seek confusion aboard was only resting rocks with fifteen all sides of her.

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Wireless message The operating of the her position at

Which ran on a was in. The Dom chens heard the message to the boat to proceed to sage was also a twenty minutes at the B. C. Coast word of it and assistance. The V. B. Salvage sent and a grounding just of Tees was floated.

With the word danger off the of the wireless at night began blowing. Informing the Y. Lie-saying crew. Lorie and A. J. vices were met that the crew and it is worthy of a full response to member being misval at the C. P. however, informed boat had put out necessary for the Jolliffe.

This is the first met with under the Gillam on the West a most competent the West Coast accident is looked to have been unavailing snowstorm.

Capt. Troup this of the wireless on last night, stated ingly good. He said twenty minutes at ed, that he received the wireless message as successful in o morning, however. Letter, receiving vessel was floated had been accom highly of the win Dominion govern Coast.

COTTAGE CRASHING INTO THE ROCKS OF CAPE MURPHY TO SEYMOUR NARROWS AT 2:30 O'CLOCK SNOWSTORM, THE ST