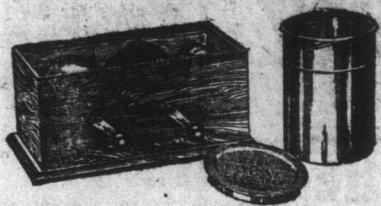


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### Civic Commission.

REPLIES TO INSPECTOR GENERAL.

[COPY.]

Chas. H. Hutchings, Esq.,

Inspector-General Constabulary.

Dear Sir,—Your letter of March 8th

was laid before the Council at the

earliest opportunity, namely at the

meeting on Thursday, 10th inst. As

it was obviously impossible to pre-

pare an answer to such a voluminous

document at once, it was deemed ad-

visable to offer it for publication as

soon as a reply could be made, when

both documents could be read and

considered by the public at the same

time. One would suppose from the

tone of your letter that the City En-

gineer, Mr. Ryan, had made his re-

port with the intention of disparaging

the Fire Department, and so covering

up a fault of his own, or a deficiency

of the water supply. Are you not

laying yourself open to the retort that

the Fire Department are endeavoring

to throw the blame for failure of

their attempts to reach the Palace

roof, on the night of the fire, upon

the Engineer or the water supply?

As a matter of fact, and as stated by

you, when you had only two streams

of water laid on, one from Garrison

Hill and one from Port Townsend,

(which was first out of quite imma-

terial) you found that you had in-

sufficient pressure to reach the roof.

You then instructed Mr. Dunn to tele-

phone to Mr. Ryan, and ask if, by

opening or closing the sluices, he

could give an increased supply. Mr.

Ryan, therefore, did not force himself

upon you or the Fire Department,

but only acted upon invitation.

It was stated in the papers next

day that the water supply was insuffi-

cient, and Mr. Ryan was instructed

to make a report upon the matter to

the Council. This he did in a manner

intended so far as possible not to

reflect upon the Fire Department.

The tone of your reply seems, there-

fore, somewhat unwarranted; but as

you are so anxious for publicity, it is

only right that you should have it.

As soon as Mr. Ryan heard from Mr.

Dunn he consulted Mr. Donnelly

over the "Press" at the Water Street,

hurried on his clothes and ran to the

Palace. He is of opinion that he was

there within 10 or 15 minutes from

the time Mr. Dunn phoned him. In

passing it is as well to note that he

and Mr. Donnelly could not see that

there was anything they could do

immediately to increase the pressure.

Between the time Mr. Dunn phoned

## Mackintosh's Toffee,

4-lb. Tins.

THREE VARIETIES, 66c. lb.

STRICTLY FRESH NEW LAID EGGS, 75c. doz

BAKEAPPLES, 1 lb. cans . . . . . 45c. can

FRAY BENTOS, C.C. BEEF, No. 1 tins, 30c. can

LUNCH TONGUE, very finest; sliced . . . 68c. lb.

CORNED BEEF, best quality; sliced . . . 38c. lb.

LUNCH TONGUE, No. 1 tins . . . . . 65c. can

FAT BACK PORK, very best obtainable, 20c. lb.

CARNIVAL PEACHES, large 2½ tins . . . 40c.

APRICOTS, large 2½ tins . . . . . 40c.

ICING SUGAR, "Pure Gold", per pkt. . . 18c.

"DEL MONTE" PINEAPPLE, large 2½

tins; sliced . . . . . 55c.

"DEL MONTE" JELLY, assorted, 1 lb.

glasses . . . . . 35c.

"DEL MONTE" TOMATOES, 2½ tins . . . 20c.

# C. P. EAGAN,

Duckworth Street & Queen's Road

played on the fire in the top flat of the building effectively. It has also been reported to me that some men were set to work digging in the snow for an old wooden hydrant in the front yard of the Palace, which had been abandoned for a number of years.

Whether these reports are correct or not, the fact remains, proven by yourself, that the nearest and best hydrants were not used until say from half to three-quarters of an hour after the fire started. Even when they were at length connected up, it does not appear that the Campus hydrant was properly used. Mr. Ryan states that he met Mr. Nairn, one of the most trusted of the City Water Works men, at the gate leading to Bonaventure College; that they went at once to the hydrant in the Campus and found that the hose was connected at the far side of the hydrant; that it took a wide detour into the Campus, then back through the archway; that it lay in coils round the yard, and thence to the roof of the annex. They estimate that there were 8 or 9 lengths of hose attached to that hydrant. When Mr. Ryan saw this, he went at once to Mr. Dunn and pointed out to him that the friction loss in so many lengths of unnecessary (as it appeared to him) hose must greatly reduce the nozzle pressure. No notice was taken of Mr. Ryan's suggestion. He then went to you, and your reply to him was to ask if he knew more about fire fighting than Mr. Dunn, or something of that sort. Be it remembered that this was after his assistance was asked for.

In your letter you speak of Mr. Ryan running over to "spy out the land for himself." The public, I think, will acquit Mr. Ryan of the accusation and will accord him full credit for his prompt endeavor to render assistance.

I would here like to ask some questions. During the half or three-quarters of an hour when you were trying to make streams from the Garrison Hill and Port Townsend hydrants perform an impossible task and during which time you neglected to use the nearest and most efficient hydrants, would it not have been possible to bring your pumping engine a few feet outside of the door of the Fire Hall, and have coupled it up to the hydrant in the yard and then have put a stream of water over the Palace many times more efficient than that obtainable from the hydrants alone? Why also was not the Chemical Engine made use of in the early stages of the fire?

You appear to doubt the figures given by Mr. Ryan for the loss of pressure through friction. If you would like to consult the authorities, Mr. Ryan will be pleased to show them to you. The fact of your Department trying out what you called "Mr. Ryan's theory" shows lack of knowledge of a very common and easy method of reducing hose friction and conserving pressure for hose muzzles. With a hydrant pressure of 50 lbs. the loss, per 100 feet, on single line of hose is 8.3 lbs., whilst the loss by siamese lines is only 2.3 lbs. for the same distance. If then, instead of running another line from the Port Townsend hydrant to the fire and thereby doubling the friction loss, you had redoubled your first hose line to a siamese connection, thereby cutting down the friction loss as above, you would have attained the necessary nozzle pressure on the top flat of the building. In face of the fact that the stream from the Campus hydrant hose was ineffective, it is unimportant to argue whether there was out 200, 300 or 400 feet of hose. The quantity was too great, whatever it was.

Mr. Ryan finds it somewhat difficult to understand your account of your experiments. It appears that you are confusing closed pressure, as shown by a pressure gauge, with velocity pressure, as shown by a velocity meter. I understand that you have the former but not the latter instrument. You say that you ran up a double line of hose from the Garrison Hill hydrant, joined them with the siamese connection and got the same pressure at the nozzle as you obtained on the single line of hose. It is doubtless closed pressure to which you are referring; and I may add that if you had experimented with a half inch and a ten inch hose you would have found the pressure still to be the same.

One is surprised to find that you offer an opinion contrary to Mr. Ryan's as to the number of hose that could be effectively used, from the 6" main in question. He said that the pressure on the Port Townsend line would be reduced by opening the Garrison Hill, or vice versa. You say "he is not correct. A 6" main, especially when supplied from a 16" main on Harvey Road, would carry ten or a dozen streams, all with practically the same flow as a single one. There would be some slight difference but very little." It seems hardly necessary to confute such a statement. The amount of water that can be delivered by a 6" main will, of course, vary greatly with the pressure; but, in no case, could even 2 efficient streams be taken from it without diminution of flow and serious reduction of pressure.

If you were to endeavor to put in practice the theory you have above announced, that any 6" main is capable of feeding 10 or 12 fire streams,

## ROYAL YEAST is now made in square cakes.

The number of  
cakes in a package  
has been reduced  
from six to five,  
but the five square  
cakes are equal in  
quantity to the six  
round cakes.

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perfect keeping  
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Cakes—make  
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without loss of pressure, the city would be subject to a fire hazard, which has not been counted on. You ask why Mr. Ryan did not accede to Mr. Dunn's request for an increased supply of water by sluicing; and if Mr. Ryan is to be the judge of the Firemen's requirements. In the light of the present expose, I have no hesitation in saying that Mr. Ryan would be in error to change the water system of the city at the request of the firemen. The present supply and distribution system was arranged by an expert, Mr. Longley, for the very purpose of affording ample protection for the city, without the very dangerous practice of sluicing. To alter this system at the request of the Fire Department, because (in the case of the Palace fire, at least) they failed to use the supply they had to the best advantage, would be a piece of egregious folly. It is difficult to imagine a circumstance which would render it necessary to leave one part of the city unprotected, in order to increase the supply over and above that now provided. Mr. Longley was advised of the practice here of letting the taps run during the cold weather, and he made provision for it, as can be seen by his report. It is physically impossible to get a higher pressure in the upper part of the town; and the summer pressure is higher than the winter pressure; but, withal, St. John's has a better natural water supply and distribution than most cities.

I am sorry to have to write on this matter in so severe a strain, but I feel that I should be neglecting my duty if, when knowing the facts, I failed to make them public. I should add that I do not intend to pose as an Engineer of Hydraulics, and that my information on technical matters has been supplied by Mr. Ryan, with such additional knowledge as I had obtained from the late Mr. John Ryan and Mr. Longley. This letter has the full approval of the Council; and a copy has been ordered to be sent to the Minister of Justice, with a request that a Commission should be appointed to inquire into the manner in which the fire at the Palace was handled by the Fire Department.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) W. G. GOSLING, Mayor.

City Hall, March 15, 1921.

For your health's sake we offer Nature's answer to Constipation, "LES FRUITS," EL-LISS—4c6c.6t

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Now for Your  
Easter Trade.

Super Cream in  
7 1-2 oz. Tins  
15 oz. Tins  
4 dozen to Case.

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## An Historic English Bet

While betting is illegal in Great Britain, bookmakers flourish; newspapers publish the odds on all horse races, and some periodicals go so far as to publish advertisements of bookmakers, although this is strictly contrary to law. Police wink at violations of the betting acts.

A Derby without Tattersall's ring and the bookmakers' stalls outside would not be England's premier race. Every London club organizes its sweepstakes for all the important racing events. Millions of pounds are chanced hands every year and no attempt is made to check the practice.

The courts, however, know no better. Therefore, a case recently decided in the King's Bench in London created consternation throughout the kingdom. A man bet £50 (nominally \$250) on one of England's classic races, the Cesarewitch, paying the amount by check. He lost. The check was duly paid to the winner by the bank on which it was drawn. Thereupon the loser brought suit against the winner to recover his £50. The court held that a check given in payment of a gambling debt was not legal and awarded the loser his £50.

Under this decision, any better who pays his bookmaker by check and loses his money can sue for its return. Bad for the bookmakers. But bookmakers also pay by check when they lose. Therefore, any bookmaker can sue a winning client who has been paid by check. In short, there is opportunity for repudiation on both sides, and the only protection which the betting fraternity has is to pay cash—a very inconvenient procedure for both sides. The case has been appealed to the House of Lords.

One of England's historic bets was recorded in 1809. At a dinner at the home of Sir Mark Sykes the conversation turned on the risks of assassination which Napoleon ran. Sir Mark offered to pay a guinea a day for every day Napoleon continued to live to any one who would pay him 100 guineas on the spot. A clergyman named Gilbert accepted the proposal. For three years Sir Mark paid him his daily guinea, and then, repenting of his bargain, refused to be bound any longer. Gilbert brought suit; the court held that the transaction was a bet, and therefore illegal.

## Judge's Novel Plan.

Everyone Must Vote For Dry Law—And Those in Favor to Pay Cost of Enforcement.

(Boston Post.)

Judge Charles M. Bruce, of Malden, has given a Post reporter his idea of a plan of a solution of the prohibition problem. Judge Bruce said that there are practically the same number of persons brought before him on charges of drunkenness since prohibition went into effect as there had been in the days of the open saloon.

"Attempts to enforce prohibition, up to date, are a farce, and are getting us nowhere," said the judge. "After thinking the subject over I will now give you my method which I think would make for the reduction of taxation and the elimination of hypocrisy."

"The several States of the Union shall prepare a ballot. 'Are you in favor of the Amendment and the enforcement of the Volstead Act?' to answer Yes or No."

"This shall be sent to every registered voter. Notice of sending shall be advertised in the daily press, and thereupon, if the voter fails to receive a copy of the ballot, it becomes his duty to procure one."

"These ballots shall be marked and signed by the voter giving his voting address and mailed before a designated date to the city or town clerk of his voting district."

"It shall then become the duty of such clerk to check the voting list in accordance with such received ballot."

"In order to obtain an entire voting list return all unsigned ballots shall be marked 'yes,' irrespective of actual marking. All voters failing to return a vote shall be marked 'yes.'"

"The said clerks shall thereupon immediately prepare a list of names and addresses of all those voting 'yes,' or marked 'yes,' and forward the same to the Prohibition Enforcement Bureau, Washington."

"The bureau shall estimate the yearly cost of enforcement (\$400,000, or \$700,000,000 or \$1,000,000,000), and shall assess each name so returned, pro rata, as this is a moral question, and morals do not depend on property interests; in fact, many instances of other morality are found in the poor than in the rich, also it is based upon the proposition, 'Then's that want, pay.'"

"Public notice of the amount so assessed shall then be given and that amount immediately becomes due and payable."

"If not paid within 30 days of such announcement, the delinquent shall be arrested and confined in the county jail until payment is made with such boot-leggers as may have been arrested, convicted and confined."

"All boot-leggers and delinquents shall be confined in one common room in order that association and consultation may tend to a speedy solution of the present problem."

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Minard's Liniment For Burns, Etc.

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of **150** PER CENT.  
on a Capital of \$9,000,000. Just imagine \$13,500,000. in DIVIDENDS IN ONE YEAR. As millions of tons of this coal which

helped to make those MILLIONS of DOLLARS was taken from seams smaller than have been proven to exist on the property now being developed by THE ST. GEORGE'S COAL FIELDS, LTD., there can be no doubt but in the near future you will be reaping a similar reward, IF YOU BUY SHARES NOW AT

**ONE DOLLAR EACH.**

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## Household Notes.

A delicious cake filling is made with a cupful of cream whipped and sweetened with one-fourth cupful of grated maple sugar.

Fish omelet is an excellent dish for using a small amount of left-over fish. Serve with a border of hot, sliced, buttered beets.

If you wish a very tender crust in your bread rub the warm loaves with butter. For a crisp loaf, rub with a beaten white of egg.

Cook beets without removing the skins or breaking off the fine roots; in this way the flavor, juice and color are not withdrawn in cooking.

If oysters are parboiled slightly and drained before rolling in crumbs preparatory to frying, they are better, and spatter less in frying.

Stuffed eggs are good rolled in breadcrumbs and beaten egg and then again in crumbs and fried in hot fat. Drain and serve with tomato sauce.

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