FINANCES OF THE CITY OF VICTORIA

STATEMENT IS READY FOR PUBLICATION

Assets and Liabilities Have Increased Over $2,000,000 Since Last Year

The financial statement of the corporation of the city of Victoria will be issued in the course of a few days in the usual annual report of the city council. It has been delayed somewhat owing to the treasurer's staff having had to make certain alterations in methods of accounting in consequence of the recommendations of J. H. Hellwell, the actuary of Vancouver, who last fall went over the books of the corporation. The report, which is signed by Chas. Kent, treasurer, who recently resigned that office, shows the assets and liabilities to be as follows:

Assets.

Active—		
Bank B. N. A. local improvement construction accounts (Schedule A)	$ 96,005 56	
Bank B. N. A. public works construction accounts (Schedule K1)	168,389 72	
Bank B. N. A. sundry balances (Schedule K2)	11,792 76	
Bank B. N. A. general revenue	1,649 50	
Construction expenditure local improvements (Schedule A)	1,063,846 63	
Construction expenditure public works (Schedule K3)	329,994 16	
Sundry debtors (Schedule K4)	7,461 28	
Municipal taxes outstanding (Schedule B)	37,243 17	
Local improvement assessment arrears	36,214 89	
Debentures held for delivery	652,219 42	
Cash on hand	3,030 64	
		$2,407,047 78
Reserve—		
General purpose sinking funds, Bank B. N. A.	$ 434,806 28	
Local improvement debentures purchased	256,996 91	
Local improvement debentures, accrued interest	5,286 81	
Local improvement sinking funds, Bank B. N. A.	240,400 32	
		937,490 33
Passive—		
Streets, bridges, sewerage systems, etc. (Schedule D)	1,183,934 60	
Local improvements (Schedule D)	437,513 69	
		1,621,448 29
Fixed—		
Real property (Schedule C)	1,442,630 00	
Other property (Schedule C)	1,823,591 22	
		$3,266,221 22
		$8,222,807 66

Liabilities.

Loans—		
General purpose debentures (Schedule E)	$4,362,771 81	
Local improvement debentures, city's share (Schedule F)	360,218 39	
Local improvement debentures, property holders' share (Schedule F)	675,518 17	
		$5,398,508 37
Advances—		
Bank B. N. A., notes (Schedule J)	$1,141,747 67	
Bank B. N. A., special (N. park loan)	7,000 00	
Bank B. N. A., overdrafts local improvement construction accounts (Schedule A)	34,184 52	
Bank B. N. A., overdraft public incinerator	182 29	
Bank B. N. A., overdraft sewer loan guarantee	1,996 79	
		1,185,111 27
Balances—		
Construction accounts (Schedule K2)	$ 11,792 76	
General revenue (Schedule L5)	19,861 34	
Port street local improvement	396 87	
Sewers rental and sewers tax	924 80	
		32,975 77
Corporation of the City of Victoria—Surplus assets over liabilities	$1,676,212 28	
		$8,222,807 66

Compared with last year's annual statement of revenue and expenditure the revenue for 1910 is given as $1,613,337.79, as compared with $1,140,397.27 for 1909. The expenditure was $1,614,560.68, as against $1,137,362.74. The failure to close up the local improvement loans accounts in a large measure for large overdrafts at the bank, but steps are being taken to rectify this matter at the earliest possible date.

FIVE MEN INJURED.

Sorel, Que., April 5.—A pot of molten iron exploded at the Beauchemin foundry here yesterday afternoon. Five men were seriously burned and three are not expected to recover.

FATAL QUARREL.

(Special to the Times.)

North Bay, Ont., April 5.—Lawrence Morin, 50, was shot and killed by John McDougal, 52, in Widdifield township yesterday. McDougal claims they quarrelled over a debt and Morin set a savage dog on him. McDougal declares he fired at the dog but the charge struck Morin.

BATTLE IS ON; FACTS FOR VOTERS

OUTLOOK IN THE MAYORALTY CONTEST

Interesting Aldermanic Contests in Wards Two and Four

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

With nominations held yesterday and the first gun fired at a public meeting held in the North Ward school last evening, the special civic election contest may be said to be well under way. Chief interest, of course, centres in the fight for the mayoralty, the contestants being A. J. Morley and A. M. Bannerman. It is said by those familiar with the situation that the newly-compiled lists are rather favorable to the opponent of Mr. Morley, inasmuch as there are nearly one thousand names less thereon than at the last contest, the figures being: January last, 7,282; this contest, 6,463.

Interesting aldermanic contests will be held in Ward Two and Ward Four, where a strenuous effort will be made by the Voters' League to seat in Ward Two John Meston, ousting one of the sitting members, H. M. Bishop and Russ Humber; and in Ward Four to find a seat for ex-Ald. McKeown against H. M. Fullerton and W. C. Moresby.

In view of the very great interest attaching to the present contest, the results of the polling on January 12 last are republished for general information as follows:

Alfred J. Morley	1881
William E. Oliver	1301
John A. Turner	1243
Majority for A. J. Morley	580
Ward One.	
George A. Okell	259
Wm. McK. Ross	231
Wesley N. Mitchell	230
Bernard J. Perry	224
John E. Shenk	181
Ward Two.	
W. R. Russell Humber	622
Harry F. Bishop	568
John Meston	424
W. H. Parsons	300
Ward Three.	
W. F. Fullerton	661
W. A. Gleason	519
A. M. Bannerman	499
Ward Four.	
Wm. C. Moresby	332
Herbert M. Fullerton	319
Angus McKeown	166
W. J. Hanna	136
H. E. Levy	67
E. E. Greenshaw	61
Ward Five.	
Alexander Peden	452
W. H. Langley	440
John Dilworth	434
A. G. Sargison	425

FIVE CENTS DAMAGES IN LIBEL ACTION

Vancouver Jury Gives Verdict for Plaintiff in Case Against the Saturday Sunset

Vancouver, April 5.—A verdict of five cents for the plaintiff, or what is known as contempt damages, was awarded last night by the jury sitting in the case of J. S. Emerson against the Saturday Sunset, a weekly newspaper. The decision was arrived at after about two hours deliberation. The question of costs is to be argued before Mr. Justice Gregory at a later date.

According to the definition given to the jury by His Lordship, their verdict means that in their opinion the action should never have been brought. The Sunset commented unfavorably on Emerson, who is a millionaire having built a very high fence between his own house and that of his neighbor, McLeod, who, curiously enough, had no objection to the fence.

MINING CLAIMS BONDED.

Ashcroft, April 4.—Papers have been signed by all the interested parties bonding three of the most important groups of copper claims in Highland Valley. These properties which comprise the Tamarac, Blue Jacket and Topnotch, are owned respectively by Messers. Sanson, Ward, McGillivray, Norton, Cameron and Chataway, and much development work has been done on them during the past few years. Good values in copper and silver have been found in these ore bodies, and the size of the mineral ledges warrant the assumption that with the proper capital to develop same a large mining camp will be stablished in Highland Valley in the near future.

The bonders are a firm of Glasgow mining people, and the amount of the option is $160,000, of which 5 per cent. is to be paid at the end of three months and the balance in 6, 12 and 18 months. The Scotch Mining Company under the terms of the bond are to do certain development work and this spring will see active work commenced on these valuable mineral claims.

FIRED ON CANONS.

Rome, April 5.—A man identified as Pietro Pesand, and thought to be insane, entered St. Peter's church yesterday armed with a revolver and without warning fired on the canons who were engaged in the breviary in the choir. The shot went wide and the man was arrested. He fought savagely and slightly wounded a policeman.

DELATE HYAS SKOOKUM TYHEE!

NEWS ITEM: Premier McBride has been invested with the dignity of Honorary Chief of the Songhees tribe.

EVIDENCE OF STATE WITNESS DENIED

SUPPOSED TREASURER OF CAMORRA ON STAND

Calls Attention to Discrepancies in Testimony Given by the Informer

Viterbo, April 5.—One of the most interesting characters in the Camorra, Giovanni Rapia, the supposed treasurer, was heard in his own defence today.

Questioned by President Bianichi of the court of assizes, he made a general denial of the murder of Cuoccolos, called attention to discrepancies in the testimony of Cennaro Abbatemaggio, the informer, and sought to impress the jury by the assertion that having been out of the jurisdiction of the court he voluntarily returned to stand trial.

Rapia has the bearing of a gentleman, and to-day he was dressed in the stylish clothes which he affects. Speaking in a carefully modulated tone, the prisoner betrayed to a degree his social superiority over the other 35 defendants. By profession Rapia is a gambler, and has experienced the usual ups and downs of a follower of chance. The surveillance of Italian police becoming oppressive he went to Paris, and when expelled from the French capital he set up a business in London, subsequently returning to Italy with a fat purse. He founded the Union del Mezziogorne of Naples, to which many aristocracy are said to have contributed their fortune in a single night's play. He conducted gambling places also at Rome and Ostend.

BIG PACKING PLANT FOR PORT ARTHUR

Bristol Capitalists Will Probably Spend Millions of Dollars on Establishment

(Special to the Times.)

Toronto, April 5.—F. H. Keefer, K. C., who is returning to Port Arthur after an extended trip to England, states that as soon as the coronation is over a party of Bristol capitalists will visit Port Arthur with a view of founding a big meat packing establishment at an estimated cost of £1,500,000. They expect to secure a bulk of the contracts for supplying the British army and navy, which have hitherto gone to Chicago concerns.

WILL BE BUSY SEASON.

Fort William, Ont., April 5.—Anticipating by far the heaviest rush at this port ever experienced, as a result of the strike in the Crow's Nest, the Canadian Pacific has put a big gang of men to work clearing ground near their present coal sheds, where will be temporarily stored the tens of thousands of tons of coal which are being rushed up the lakes. Tracks connecting the new site will be laid next week.

BIG DEALS IN LAND CANCELLED

GOVERNMENT'S ORDER BLOCKS TRANSACTIONS

Doubling Price of Land Results in Negotiations Being Dropped

Vancouver, April 5.—It was stated by a prominent realty operator to-day that a number of large deals recently negotiated for lands in the interior of British Columbia would have to be called off as a result of the order made by the government doubling the price of lands which these concerns are seeking to obtain.

In all instances surveys of lands have been made and sales based on this information. The sales have been contingent upon further examinations of the properties and in some cases these second surveys are now going on.

The Manitoba Free Press in a recent issue estimated that 3,000,000 acres of Peace River lands had been disposed of in deals, mostly made in Vancouver, since the first of the year. Several of these embracing millions of acres of land will be affected by the order-in-council.

On the other hand individuals and concerns who have received Crown grants are well satisfied to-day with the order which virtually doubles the value of their holdings.

LONDON JOURNALIST DIES SUDDENLY

Charles F. Moberly Bell, Managing Director of London Times, Passes Away

London, April 5.—Charles Frederick Moberley Bell, managing director of London Times since 1908, died suddenly in his office of heart disease. He was born in April, 1847, the son of the late Thomas Bell, of Egypt, and in 1878 married the daughter of the late Rev. James Chataway. He was the correspondent of the Times in Egypt from 1865 to 1890, when he became assistant manager. He has written much of Egyptian affairs.

PERISHES IN QUICKSAND.

Sioux City, Ia., April 5.—With two companions standing on the shore powerless to help him, Gustave F. Benson, prominent in Odd Fellow lodge circles here, was sucked by quicksand beneath the surface of a small pond on the shore of the Missouri river just south of McCook lake, near here, last evening.

SCHEME FOR IMPERIAL SENATE

PRESS COMMENTS ON SIR J. WARD'S PROPOSAL

Yorkshire Post Says Plan Bristles With Practical Difficulties

Leeds, April 5.—The Yorkshire Post, discussing Sir Joseph Ward's scheme of an imperial senate, says:

"From some points of view political solidarity is even more hopeless now than twenty years ago. The spirit of independence and self-confidence manifested by outlying possessions has grown and strengthened. They will not Joseph Ward himself, as premier of longer tolerate the term "colony." Sir New Zealand, suggested at the last conference that the outlying dominions should be known as states of empire. Yet, in another sense, there is closer unity and fuller recognition of a common purpose and dependence as against the rest of the world. There is need for co-operation in all matters of common interest, especially mutual defense. The problem of statesmanship is to reconcile these two movements of thought and aspiration. When one passes from words to acts, this is found to be one of the most delicate problems ever presented to the mind of man.

The scheme foreshadowed by Sir Joseph Ward bristles with practical difficulties, which quickly become apparent in a free discussion. Should he submit these ideas to the conference they will not at the present stage of imperial development have the least chance of acceptance in concrete form."

MILITARY DISPLAY AT CORONATION

Lord Kitchener Will Shortly Submit Plan to the King

London, April 5.—With the arrival to-day of Lord Kitchener, who is to command the troops at the coronation of King George in June, it was announced that the famous fighter would shortly submit the scheme of military arrangements for the celebration for royal approval.

Lord Kitchener's plans provide for the presence in London of 40,000 troops.

MANITOBA GRAIN ACT.

(Special to the Times.)

Winnipeg, April 5.—Representatives of the grain growers' organizations of the three prairie provinces are in the city conferring with members of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange on certain amendments to the Manitoba Grain Act they desire to secure at Ottawa this session.

SEEK CONCESSIONS FROM STATES

REQUESTS FROM GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE

Anxious to Secure the Same Treatment as Canada Under Trade Agreement

Washington, D. C., April 5.—Intimations are made here to-day in diplomatic circles that France and Great Britain are preparing to ask from the United States the same tariff concession it is proposed to give to Canada.

The impression, however, is general that the request will be denied. It is pointed out that the concessions are to be given Canada only when the Dominion similarly concedes certain points, and that foreign nations therefore will not be in a position to claim the same favors under their trade treaties.

Senator Cummins, of Iowa, chief of the Progressive Republicans, is planning to amend the Canadian reciprocity treaty when it comes up in the senate. He proposes to place additional products than those already named on the free list without asking like concessions from Canada. If his amendment is adopted the United States will be placed in a position where it will be forced to grant similar concessions to other nations. The administration seeks to block Cummins' plan.

France Takes Action.

Paris, April 5.—M. Pichon has directed attention of the customs committee to certain concessions offered to Canada by the United States under the reciprocity agreement. These are more favorable than conditions granted to the same products from France. The committee has instructed the president to draw attention of competent ministers to this fact in relation to the most favored nation clause.

VISITING LONDON.

(Special Correspondence.)

London, April 5.—Sir Thos. Shaughnessy has arrived here from the continent.

AUSTRALIA'S GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

(Special to the Times.)

London, April 5.—Lord Denman, new Governor-General of Australia, in an address here said that while he was going as a new man at the work he had the advantage of having spent four years in personal service of King Edward. He had also personally served King George, who knew Britons overseas as no previous King knew them. He remarked that Australia was strong in the belief in her own future as a nation, but above all was a loyal attachment to the King and the Empire.

STRIKE OF CIVIC LABORERS CONTINUES

Prince Rupert Merchants Are Endeavoring to Bring About a Settlement

Vancouver, April 5.—The steamer Camosun arrived yesterday from Prince Rupert with 70 passengers, reporting a beautiful trip from the north.

She brought word that the strike of the civic laborers is still on, the men demanding 45 cents an hour, and stating that they can hold out for more.

The merchants of the city are losing hundreds of dollars a day owing to the strike, and are striving to bring about a settlement.

The strikers have declared their intention of keeping the peace, but are endeavoring to collect the sum of $250 as compensation for Robert Godsen, recently sentenced to three months' imprisonment for strike disturbances.

MAY DAY CELEBRATION.

New Westminster, April 4.—A public meeting for the purpose of organizing for the May Day celebration in the city this year will be held in the board of trade rooms on Wednesday. It is proposed to make the May Day celebration this year one of the largest and most successful that has been attempted in the Royal City. The reign of Miss Mary Keary is now drawing to a close and already children are discussing the all important question of who will be May Queen this year. The selection of the May Queen is left to the votes of the children and excites greater interest than any other event during the year.

MUNICIPAL HALL.

Plans Submitted to Penticton Council by City Architect.

Penticton, April 4.—Plans for the new municipal building were submitted by the town architect, A. F. Pelton, at the last meeting of the council. Mr. Pelton's plans provide for a concrete building, to cost approximately $16,000. Provision is made on the ground floor for a firehall, municipal chambers, offices, library and reading room. It is also planned to have an assembly hall, with dressing-rooms, etc. This room would have a seating capacity of 600.

AID GRANTED.

(Special to the Times.)

London, April 5.—The archbishops' fund is granting £1,000 in aid of the new bishopric at Edmonton, Alberta.

TAFT'S MESSAGE ON RECIPROCITY

URGES EARLY ACTION ON TRADE AGREEMENT

Says Proposal Meets With Approval of People of United States

Washington, D. C., April 4.—The following message was sent to congress to-day by President Taft:

To the senate and house of representatives:

I transmitted to the 61st congress on January 26 the text of a reciprocal trade agreement which was negotiated by my direction by the secretary of state with representatives of the Dominion of Canada. It was the consummation of earnest efforts extending over nearly a year on the part of both governments to effect a trade arrangement, which, supplementing as it did amicable settlement of various questions of a diplomatic and political character that had been reached, would mutually promote commerce and would strengthen friendly relations existing. The agreement in its intent and its terms was purely economic and commercial. While the general subject was under discussion by the commissioners, I felt assured that the sentiment of the people of the United States was such that they would welcome a measure which would result in an increase of trade on both sides of the boundary line and would open up a reserve of the productive resources of Canada to the great mass of our consumers on advantageous condition and that would at the same time offer a broader outlet for the excess products of our farms, and of many of our industries.

Details regarding negotiations of this kind necessarily could not be published while the conferences were pending. When, however, the full text of the agreement with the accompanying correspondence and the data explaining its purpose and scope became known to the people through a message I transmitted to congress, it was immediately apparent that the fruits of the careful labors of the commissioners had met with widespread approval. This has been strengthened by further consideration of the terms of the agreement in all their prospects. The volume of support which, developed shows that its broadly national scope is fully appreciated, and is responsive to the popular will.

The House of Representatives of the 61st congress, after the full text of the arrangement with details in regard to its different provisions, had been before it as they were before the American people, passed a bill confirming the agreement as negotiated and transmitted to congress. This measure failed of action by the senate.

In my transmitting message I fully set forth the character of the agreement and emphasized its appropriateness and necessity as a response to the mutual needs of the people of the two countries as well as its common advantages. I now lay that message and reciprocal agreement, as integrally a part of this present message, before the 62nd congress, and again invite earnest attention to the considerations therein expressed.

I am constrained in deference to popular sentiment, with a realizing sense of duty to the great masses of people whose welfare is involved, to urge upon your consideration early action on this agreement.

In concluding their negotiations, the representatives of the two countries bound themselves to use their utmost efforts to bring about the tariff changes provided in the agreement by concurrent legislation at Washington and Ottawa. I have felt it my duty, therefore, not to acquiesce in relation to action until the opening of congress in December, but to use my executive prerogative and convoke the 62nd congress in extra session in order that there shall be no break of continuity in considering action upon this most important subject.

(Signed.) WILLIAM H. TAFT.

The senate, following its purpose to mark time and wait for the policy of the House to develop, was expected to adjourn soon after listening to the president's message. The House, however, has an important duty ahead of it. The new Democrat rules will come up for adoption following the disposal of president's message and the Republicans have given notice that they will conduct a sharp fight against them.

A fight in the house over adoption of the Democrat rules was interrupted to permit the reading of the president's message. The message was listened to with some interest, but there was no applause at its conclusion. It was referred to the committee on ways and means. After the message was read in the senate, it was referred to the finance committee.

A Point Cleared Up.

The favored nation clause of the treaties between the United States and other countries does not apply to the reciprocity agreement between this country and Canada. This is the attitude of the president and it was explained to-day that it is only carrying out a consistent policy of the United States in interpreting the favored nation clause of its treaties. The proposed agreement with Canada is a trade contract or bargain by which each country makes tariff concessions. Other nations, it is pointed out, cannot be given these advantages except by similar special agreements. This principle, it is said in official circles, was laid down by the United States years ago when Germany claimed favored nation treatment on sugar in connection with a treaty with Hawaii before that territory was annexed to the United States.

The German post office department is trying out a small three-wheeled automobile for letter carriers' use.

THE BRITISH LIBRARY