

A Surplus for the Year

The Council Has Six Thousand Dollars to Dispose Of.

Supplementary Estimates to Be Dealt With This Evening.

The dead level of monotony at last night's meeting of the city council was broken only by two features, one of which did not really belong to the meeting but made itself known, as it were, on the side, and the other of which was interpolated during a lull in the proceedings. The first feature was that the aldermen were all feeling a little elated that they will be able again to comply with their estimated expenditure and revenue, and will have a balance of about \$6,000 to appropriate which will be made at the adjourned meeting to be held this evening.

The second, the interpolated feature, was a personal explanation made by Ald. Humphrey in regard to the celebrated Victoria West meeting of last week, in which the alderman refused some of the statements made regarding himself and gave a few words of advice to the reverend gentlemen who took part in that meeting.

His worship the mayor took the chair at the usual time, when all the aldermen were present, City Solicitor Mason and Bradburn and City Clerk Dowler in their places, and there being an audience of nine.

Complaints. The minutes were read and duly adopted, and under the next order of business the first communication came from Hon. W. J. Macdonald, complaining of the condition of a water pipe from Montreal, along Niagara street, which was unsatisfactory, and has been condemned as worn out and too small. The mayor explained that this matter has already been referred to the water commissioner and has either been attended to, or is being attended to, by that official. The senator also took the opportunity of calling the council's attention to the condition of the sidewalk between Oswego and Montreal streets; the mud holes from Oswego to Dallas road, and the bad repair in which Montreal street from Simcoe to Dallas road is at present.

The sidewalk and streets matters were referred to the city engineer for report, Ald. Humphrey remarking that he had been along the streets and saw nothing the matter with them.

Advertising the City. From Secretary Elworthy of the Board of Trade came two communications, the first inviting the mayor and aldermen to attend a citizens' meeting to be held on Wednesday evening in the Board of Trade rooms for the purpose of considering the best methods of advertising the city as a business, pleasure and tourist resort, and the second conveying to the council the resolution of the advertising committee setting forth that while agreeing it is necessary to expend money to advertise the city, it is also desirable to improve the streets and roads, therefore they approved of the paving of Port street and trusted the good work would continue.

The first letter was received and filed and the invitation accepted and the second was disposed of without any formal motion being made.

These letters brought up one received from a Mr. Lefroy, managing director of the company which publishes the B. C. Review and had reference to an interview the writer had with the council last Monday evening at the close of the ordinary meeting. Mr. Lefroy quoted the council \$600 for a half page advertisement in the B. C. Review for fifty-two weeks, the matter changeable not oftener than once a month. They would also have the privilege of inserting six illustrated articles. These are the same terms accepted by the cities of Nelson and Rossland, and Mr. Lefroy assured the council the price would leave no profit for the paper, but would possibly repay the company by the increased interest aroused by the insertion of the articles.

The letter was referred to the advertising committee of the Board of Trade.

Ald. Humphrey's Explanation.

It was while the clerk had gone in search of the letter from Mr. Lefroy and there was a lull in the proceedings, that Ald. Humphrey rose and asked permission to say a few words on a matter of privilege. It was with reference to the famous Victoria West meeting last Thursday. He had been called down for stating that no petition had ever come in asking for a light near Mr. Dunsmuir's gate. When he made that statement he had reference only to last year and this, but he had been called upon by a gentleman who made the statement that a petition had been sent in headed by one Favett, and containing 200 names. The speaker had had careful search made and found that a petition was received headed by a gentleman of that name, but it had reference to the removal of a fence. (Laughter.) And it contained only 50 names. Mr. Dowler had searched and there was no petition asking for a light either in 1897, 1898 or 1899.

The mayor said he had no recollection of any.

Ald. Humphrey then went on to refer to something Rev. Mr. Barber had said in reference to himself at that meeting, but the mayor said they had no time to go into that. Ald. Humphrey persisted, however, that now was the time. If the council were slandered it was the duty of the council to resent such slanders. Mr. Barber had said something about the aldermen who voted for the Craigflower road closing by-law being influenced. For himself, Ald. Humphrey could say that no person had in-

fluenced him, others could speak for themselves, but he felt quite sure they would all say the same. He thought Rev. Mr. Barber and Rev. Mr. Macrae had better attend to their flocks instead of getting into that Craigflower road and hole. If they threw mud like that some was likely to be returned and some of it would stick.

"I think," continued Ald. Humphrey, "Mr. Barber has taken this council to be as cheap as himself in regard to being bought."

The Mayor—Ald. Humphrey, I really must ask you to allow us to go on with the business.

Ald. Humphrey—And Mr. Macrae has got the indigestion. (Laughter.)

The Mayor—Ald. Humphrey, that is enough.

Ald. Humphrey—If they had have had a stomach pump there to take some of the bile off his stomach he would not have said what he did.

The mayor had been interrupting Ald. Humphrey with reminders that he was out of all order, and Ald. Humphrey concluded by saying "Oh, I've said all I want to say, now, Mr. Mayor."

The aldermen all indulged in a hearty laugh, and allowed themselves another when the clerk read the next letter.

Dr. McMecken's Prayer.

Hon. J. S. Helmcken again called the attention of the council to the nuisance allowed to exist by the drainage from the public park being allowed to run into the grounds of the Inverloch Nursery.

"How long, oh, how long?" the doctor said, "is this to continue? Hope deferred maketh the heart sick."

Ald. Cameron thought it would be wise to refer this to the city engineer. They had had reports from previous engineers without anything being accomplished, but perhaps Mr. Topp would be able to grapple with the problem. This was seconded by Ald. Williams and carried unanimously.

Rock Bay Bridge.

From A. T. Goward, local manager of the B. C. Electric Railway Company, came another communication referring to the work it is proposed to do on Rock Bay bridge. The special committee had waited upon the company, and on behalf of the company he now informed the council of the company's willingness to contribute to the bridge to last for several years. If the bridge be made safe to carry cars weighing 30 tons, and all specifications are submitted to the company's engineers, the company will pay \$500 towards the total expense, and in addition will lay the ties and rails of their own track.

Ald. Humphrey moved to refer the letter back to the same special committee. The matter is in rather different shape now.

A discussion took place about the 30 ton cars, Ald. Stewart not having any idea that the company had cars so heavy, even when loaded. The mayor said he believed the car that went through the Point Ellice bridge weighed, loaded, 23 tons, but Ald. Stewart said that was very exceptional. He knew it was very inconvenient for the company to have to run small cars on the Esquimalt branch now traffic was increasing.

Ald. Williams wanted to know about Point Ellice bridge. If Rock Bay bridge be so strengthened will Point Ellice need similarly treating?

The mayor said the engineer informed him that Point Ellice bridge is strong enough to carry heavy locomotives.

It further developed that the estimated total cost of the improvements is \$1,500 or \$1,600.

Ald. Beckwith seconded the motion to refer the letter to the same special committee, and it carried without dissent.

That being disposed of, a second letter having bearing on the same subject was read. It came from Messrs. Fell & Gregory, acting for the Taylor Mill Company, and informed the council that their clients object strongly to the proposed plan of alterations. Indeed if they be persisted in, the company will take legal proceedings. They believe the department of marine and fisheries has already informed the council that such alterations will not be allowed, and will interfere with navigation, narrow the waterway and lead to the greater accumulation of silt. Messrs. Fell & Gregory were again writing the department in regard to the matter.

Ald. Beckwith thought the better way would be to refer this letter also to the special committee to confer with the Taylor Mill Co.

Ald. Humphrey moved that it go to the city solicitor for report, and Ald. Brydon suggested that both the solicitor and the committee be asked to report.

Ald. Hayward agreed that the committee should consult with the Mill Company. He thought the latter were under a misapprehension as to the effect the alterations will have. In fact it seemed to him that the narrowing of the waterway would have a tendency to decrease rather than increase the deposit of silt.

Ald. Williams thought the Taylor Mill Co. have nothing to do with the thing in the bridge at this end. The Sayward Mill Co. are agreeable to it.

The letter went to the city solicitor and the special committee.

A Broken Window.

Mr. H. M. Grahame, as agent for the owners of the Five Sisters block, called the attention of the council to the fact that a plate glass window in one of the stores has been broken by the carelessness of the corporation workmen, who, in breaking concrete, allowed a piece to go through the window into the store.

Ald. Humphrey wanted to refer the matter to the city solicitor, believing that if the window is insured the city will not have to pay. A similar accident happened on the other side of the street and the city had not to pay for it.

The mayor thought the city engineer should be asked to enquire into the circumstances and the letter went to the solicitor and engineer together.

A Bad Drain.

A. W. Jones asked the council to attend to a drain on Edmonton and Fernwood roads.

Ald. Humphrey wished to have the letter referred to the city engineer, believing the work should be done.

Ald. Williams agreed that it should be done, as the council would not be much, if he remembered the estimate correctly.

Finally, Ald. Humphrey suggested that the letter be laid on the table for consideration when the supplementary esti-

mates are considered and the suggestion was acted upon.

Ald. Hayward (sotto voce)—What a scramble there'll be for that \$6,000.

Victoria West Matters.

Thomas F. Gold, secretary of the city meeting at Victoria West, Thursday last, informed the mayor and council that a special committee had been appointed at that meeting for the purpose of interviewing the council to present resolutions and discuss matters of interest to the residents of the suburb. The writer hoped the council would arrange for an early meeting.

Ald. Beckwith moved the letter be received and filed and the meeting arranged. It was in accordance with the expressed wishes of the council.

The mayor asked what evening would suit. For himself he was engaged every evening this week on civic business, with the exception of Thursday, and on that evening he intended to be at the hospital ball.

Ald. Cameron suggested next week and Ald. Beckwith favored Saturday night.

Ald. Kinsman did not think Saturday night would suit the reverend members of the committee.

Many alternatives were suggested, but the ultimate conclusion was that Wednesday evening next week be selected if agreeable to the committee.

Even after this had been decided upon, Ald. Beckwith urged an earlier date. He thought a meeting might be arranged for the day time, but it was pointed out that the meeting would in all probability last two hours, and everyone would be in a hurry in the day time. Thursday evening was suggested, but Ald. Humphrey had to go to singing school that evening and there was also the ball.

Ald. Williams was anxious that the meeting be held before the aldermen disposed of the little surplus. The Victoria West people would doubtless ask for some of the money to be expended in their locality.

This did not appear important to other aldermen. Victoria West would get its fair share. They believed that what the Victoria West people require is the expenditure of much larger sums of money than could be taken out of the surplus, and Ald. Stewart mentioned the new fire hall, which would be altogether too large a thing to be undertaken this year.

Ald. Beckwith took a rise out of Ald. Williams. The latter was willing to arrange an early meeting and yet, if Ald. Beckwith made no mistake, he had recommended the people not to meet the council at all.

Wednesday week was adhered to, the mayor expressing regret that an earlier meeting could not be arranged.

Traders' Licenses.

Mr. Baker called the attention of the council to what he considered a most unjust law. He compelled to pay \$100 a year for a wholesale license when he does not wholesale, whereas others who do wholesale, pay only \$10.

Ald. Cameron favored the consideration of the whole matter opened up by the letter. A special committee had better be appointed. He moved in that direction.

Ald. Macgregor agreed and seconded the motion and it carried, Ald. Williams incidentally remarking that while believing the license might be done away with generally, the Trading Stamp act should be made to pay \$100 a month.

The special committee consists of Ald. Cameron, Beckwith and Macgregor.

A Water Works Job.

J. L. Raymur, water commissioner, informed the council that when the pipe connecting the lake and the filter beds was first put down it was intended only as a temporary means of conveying water for the city supply, it being thought the bed was to be filled direct from the lake. Some of the pipe was second hand when put in and there is now a danger it may give out. It is also too small for the purpose and the writer recommends that a new 24-inch pipe be laid, utilizing that now stored at the Albion Iron Works.

The cost of the pipe, estimated, cost is \$1,500, and the work could be supervised by Mr. Leeman now at the water works.

The report was laid on the table to be considered with the supplementary estimates.

Engineer's Report.

From the city engineer came the following:

Gentlemen—I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following report:

Re communication from Messrs. Pemberton & Sons, asking to have a permanent sidewalk constructed on north side of Port street, between Langley and Government streets. I have examined the request and find it reasonable. The funds are available, using granite curb and corners, etc.

Re petition from J. T. L. Meyer and others, asking for improvements on South Pandora street, between George street and Fernwood street. I regret I could not recommend any improvement in this locality. The fences have been moved and the street lines properly defined. I have also examined the proposed extension of sidewalk on north side of street, and find it would be necessary to remove several yards of rock in order to properly construct the walk. Total cost, including rock work, \$80.

Re sidewalks on Clark and North Chatham streets, the city engineer states that above are not so urgent as many others in the city, and therefore would not recommend their construction at present.

Re Pandora avenue improvements, between Douglas and Government streets, I would recommend this section be surfaced with macadam, as same is in very bad condition. Total estimated cost, with catch-basins and pipe connections, \$400.

Re Pandora avenue, between Douglas and Blanchard streets, a distance of 600 lineal feet, I would respectfully recommend same be graded and macadamized about 24 feet wide.

Re Store street, from Herald street to Rock Bay bridge, 1,000 lineal feet, I would recommend this section be surfaced with macadam, and if taken in connection with my previous report, would render said street complete. Total estimated cost, \$320.

The city engineer reports and recommends the construction of the following walks: Craigflower road, west side, from Russell street to Belton avenue; east side, from John street to John street; east side, from Work to John street; estimated cost, \$75. Bay street, north side, from Rock

Bay avenue in a westerly direction, a distance of 200 feet; estimated cost, \$37.

C. H. TOPP,
City Engineer.

Laid on the table to be considered with the supplementary estimates.

The Messiah.

A special committee appointed to consider Mr. P. Victor Austin's suggestion of holding a festival performance of The Messiah with a large choir of voices in the Drill Hall in February or March, the proceeds to go towards the fund for the relief of the widows and orphans of the men who fall in the South African campaign, reported having conferred with Mr. Austin and arrived at the opinion that the enterprise is worthy of the support of the council. They had therefore pleasure in recommending that the patronage of the mayor and aldermen be given to it and that the council guarantee the sum of \$250 for preliminary expenses to be refunded from the proceeds. Also that a special committee be appointed with power to add to their number to arrange the details.

The report was signed by Ald. Hayward, Brydon and Macgregor.

The only amendment suggested was that by his worship to the effect that instead of a special committee, the whole council act in the arrangement of the details, and the alteration was made, the report being then adopted.

Current Accounts.

The finance committee recommended the payment out of current revenue of accounts amounting to \$1,886.11, and on motion of Ald. Stewart the report took the usual course.

Yates Street Paving.

Ald. Humphrey's motion looking to the paving of Yates street between Broad and Douglas under the local improvement plan was seconded by Ald. Brydon and duly carried, Ald. Williams being informed in answer to his request for information that the property owners who formerly expressed their opposition to the plan had now changed their minds.

The annual by-law for dealing with any surplus over estimates was then introduced on the recommendation of the mayor, read a first and second time and left to be dealt with in committee on Tuesday evening.

The by-law introduced and read a first and second time last week, the object of which is to provide for the occupancy of the position of city solicitor by the firm of Mason & Bradburn instead of by Mr. C. Dubois Mason alone, was then taken up in committee.

One clause providing that the barrister and solicitors shall not be compelled to give advice or to prepare a by-law for any individual member of the council, and only for a committee or on the order of the mayor, or by resolution of the council as a whole, met with strenuous opposition. It was regarded as an attempt to prevent the aldermen from exercising their prerogative and being subject to the whim of the occupant of the mayoralty. The same provision has existed in the Procedure by-law, as the mayor pointed out, and it was stated that no inconvenience has resulted therefrom. His worship said the danger was that a "crank" might be elected to the council who would want a by-law preparing every week, and the solicitor might be put to a whole lot of trouble for no practical good, the by-law, as soon as prepared, being vetoed by the council. This possibility, however, did not alarm the council, and the by-law was struck out. Another clause killing the same provision in the Procedure by-law was adopted, so that the aldermen are now entitled to apply to the barrister for advice and to the solicitors for the preparation of a by-law in their individual capacities.

With this amendment the by-law was reported complete, the report accepted, the by-law read a third time and passed.

Ald. Macgregor raised the question whether the assessor's or the clerk's office could not be kept open in the evenings to enable householders to register. He believed there are a number of workmen who cannot make it convenient to get there in the day time. He also asked if it was actually compulsory for a man to hand in his declaration personally.

On the latter point the city solicitor referred to the act which states that the declaration may be made before any justice of the peace, but must be handed in personally. Some of the aldermen characterized that as an absurd provision, but the mayor and the solicitor said that was the fault of the framers of the act.

In regard to keeping the office open, the mayor said it has already been arranged that this shall be done last week of the month and that seemed to him all that is necessary.

Ald. Macgregor wanted to move a resolution insisting upon the office being kept open in the evening for the last two weeks of the month, but the mayor could not accept such a motion. If it were the wish of a majority of the

council that it should be done it could be arranged, but it was a matter of choice and not of compulsion with the assessor.

Under the head of unfinished business the council took up the report of the city solicitor recommending that the government be asked to take a mortgage to secure the indebtedness of the Victoria & Sidney Railway Company to the government and the city. This report was published in the Times when brought in. It recites the opinion that the city would be better secured by such a mortgage being taken and also that the accounts of the railway company are not sufficiently detailed to be satisfactory.

Ald. Macgregor moved that the report be received and filed and the recommendations carried out, and on Ald. Humphrey's seconding, the motion carried unanimously.

This exhausted the business of the evening and Ald. Hayward having moved that the council recess it stood adjourned until Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock, the council adjourned accordingly.

The Financial Position.

During the evening the aldermen were handed statements showing the condition of the city finances and the supplementary estimates, and with at this evening's meeting, as follows:

Interest.

Payments into Court \$1,500 00

City Institutions.

Supply pipe filter beds \$1,500 00

Park 200 00

Found 200 00

Police 100 00

42 50

Sundries 100 00

Fire Department 280 00

Sewerage 75 00

Old Men's Home 300 00

Total \$2,927 50

Miscellaneous.

Election expenses \$250 00

Telegrams and messengers 50 00

Fuel and light 100 00

Refunds 100 00

Charity 150 00

Miscellaneous collections 500 00

Total \$1,850 00

Education.

Aid education debt mutes 50 00

Grand total \$6,097 50

THE CIVIC FINANCES.

A statement of the civic finances, dated October 31, shows the following condition of affairs:

Receipts.

Cash on hand and in bank \$7,337 00

Estimated revenue November and December \$29,000 00

Estimated tax sale 5,000 00

Interest from investments 8,500 00

and sinking fund 33,500 00

Total \$103,837 00

Expenditure.

Estimated expenses re Ry-law 289 \$389,042

Extra votes as per list 14,530 00

Total \$403,572 00

Less appropriations that may lapse 11,025 00

Total \$392,547 00

Actual expenditures to 31st October 298 077 00

October 93,800 00

November 9,976 00

Coupons due first week in January 2,962 00

Sewers rental fund 3,962 00

Total \$6,014 00

SAD INDEED.

It is indeed sad to think of the number who suffer from cancers and tumors. Addressed of those cured without knife or plaster will be sent to those interested. STOTT & JURY, box 9, Rowmanville, Ont.

Croup is promptly cured by Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine, 25 cents a bottle.

What is

CASTORIA

Castoria is for Infants and Children. Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. It is Pleasant. Its guarantee is thirty years' use by Millions of Mothers. Castoria destroys Worms and allays Feverishness. Castoria cures Diarrhoea and Wind Colic. Castoria relieves Teething Troubles, cures Constipation and Flatulency. Castoria assimilates the Food, regulates the Stomach and Bowels of Infants and Children, giving healthy and natural sleep. Castoria is the Children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

Castoria.

"Castoria is an excellent medicine for children. Mothers have repeatedly told me of its good effect upon their children."

Dr. G. C. Osmond, Lowell, Mass.

Castoria.

"Castoria is so well adapted to children that I recommend it as superior to any prescription known to me."

H. A. ARCHER, M. D. Brooklyn, N. Y.

THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE OF

Chas. H. Fletcher.

APPEARS ON EVERY WRAPPER.

THE CASTORIA COMPANY, 27 MURRAY STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

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