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THE LOCAL MARKETS

Retail Prices

Flour	
Royal Household, a bag	$2.00
Lake of the Woods, a bag	$2.00
Royal Standard	$2.00
Wild Rose, per bag	$1.75
Calgary, a bag	$2.00
Hungarian, per bbl	$4.75
Snowflake, per bag	$1.70
Snowflake, per bbl.	$6.80
Moffet's Best, per bbl.	$4.75
Drifted Snow, per sack	$1.70
Three Star, per sack	$2.00
Feedstuffs	
Bran, per 100 lbs.	$1.60
Shorts, per 100 lbs.	$1.70
Middlings, per 100 lbs.	$1.75
Feed Wheat, per 100 lbs.	$2.00
Oats, per 100 lbs.	$1.60
Barley, per 100 lbs.	$1.70
Chop Feed, best, per 100 lbs	$1.50
Whole Corn, per 100 lbs.	$2.20
Cracked Corn, per 100 lbs.	$2.25
Feed Cornmeal, per 100 lbs.	$2.25
Hay, Fraser River, per ton	$16.00
Hay, Prairie, per ton	$15.00
Hay, Alfalfa Clover, per ton	$20.00
Vegetables	
Celery, per head	.15
Lettuce	.05
Garlic, per lb.	.20
Onions, 8 lbs. for	.25
Green Onions, 7 bunches	.10
Potatoes, per sack	$1.00
Cauliflower, each	.15 to .20
Cabbage, new, per lb.	.02
Red Cabbage, per lb.	.05
Green Peas, per lb.	.08
Beans, per lb.	.08
Egg Plant, per lb.	.05 to .15
Tomatoes, per basket	.35
Beets, per lb.	.05
Cucumbers, each	.05
Carrots, per lb.	.05
Sweet Potatoes, 4 lbs.	.25
Dairy Produce	
Eggs—	
Fresh Island, per dozen	.45
Eastern, per dozen	.30 to .35
Cheese—	
Canadian, per lb	.20
Neufchatel, each	.05
Cream, local, each	.10
Butter—	
Manitoba, per lb.	.35
Best Dairy, per lb.	.25 to .30
Victoria Creamery, per lb.	.45
Cowichan Creamery, per lb.	.50
Comox Creamery, per lb.	.40
Chilliwack Creamery, per lb	.40
Alberni Creamery, per lb.	.40
Fruit	
Grape Fruit, per doz.	1.00 to 1.50
Oranges, per dozen	.25 to .50
Lemons, per dozen	.25
Figs, cooking, per lb.	.08 to .10
Apples, per box	1.00 to 1.75
Bananas, per doz.	.50
Figs, table, per lb.	.25
Raisins, Valencia, per lb.	.15
Raisins, table, per lb.	.25 to .60
Pineapples, each	.60
Peaches, Wash., per lb	.10
Peaches, Okanagan, per box	$1.50
Plums, per basket	.25
Melons, Cal., each	.05 to .20
Prunes, per basket	.25
Nuts	
Walnuts, per lb.	.30
Brazils, per lb.	.30
Almonds, Jordon, per lb.,	.75
Almonds, Cal., per lb.,	.30
Cocoanuts, each	.15
Pecans, per lb.	.30
Chestnuts, per lb.	.30
Fish	
Cod, salted, per lb.	.10 to .13
Halibut, fresh, per lb.	.08 to .10
Halibut, smoked, per lb.	.15
Cod, fresh, per lb.	.06 to .08
Smoked Herring	.12½
Crabs, 2 for	.25
Black Bass, per lb.	.06 to .08
Oolichans, salt, per lb.	.12½
Black Cod, salt, per lb.	.12½
Flounders, fresh, per lb.	.06 to .08
Salmon, fresh white, per lb.	.08 to .10
Salmon, fresh red, per lb.	.10 to .12
Salmon, smoked, per lb	.20
Shrimps, per lb.	.25 to .30
Smelts, per lb.	.08 to .10
Herring, kippered, per lb.	.12½
Finnan Haddie, per lb.	.20
Meat and Poultry	
Beef, per lb.	.08 to .18
Lamb, per lb.	.15 to .25
Mutton, per lb.	12½ to .20
Lamb, per quarter, fore	1.25 to 1.50
Lamb, per quarter, hind	1.75 to 2.00
Veal, dressed, per lb.	.15 to .18
Geese, dressed, per lb	.18 to .20
Guinea Fowls, each	$1.00
Chickens, per lb.	.25 to .30
Chickens, per lb., live weight	.12½ to .15
Ducks, dressed, per lb.	.20 to .25
Hams, per lb.	.18 to .20
Hares, dressed, each	.75
Bacon, per lb.	.25 to .30
Pork, dressed, per lb	12½ to .15
Rabbits, dressed, each	.50 to .75
Pigeons, dressed, per pair	.50

MORETON FREWEN ON THE SILVER QUESTION

Claims That Politician Must Grapple With Question In Near Future

(From Thursday's Daily)

"Since the repeal of the Sherman act and the fall of silver, I have seen that the yellow man using white money is cutting the throat of white man using yellow money."

This pregnant remark from the lips of Thomas Reed, the famous Tsar of the American house of representatives, as quoted yesterday by Mr. Moreton Frewen struck the keynote of one of the most able and instructive addresses ever delivered before the Canadian club of Victoria. Mr. Frewen is known in the west as a prominent London financier and one of the directors of the Grand Trunk Pacific, but in England he is also known as one of the most prominent bi-metallists in Europe, a man of wide travel and culture who has given a life time of study to this intricate subject.

Mr. Frewen is also a believer in preferential tariffs as a necessary part of the development of the Empire, to which the federal idea is a necessity, and gave some interesting reminiscences of talks which he had with prominent statesmen of the last generation both in Canada and the United States.

Speaker Introduced

The speaker was introduced by A. E. McPhillips, K. C., who regretted that Judge Lampman, the president of the club, should have been prevented by an indisposition from being present, and referred to the fact that Mr. Frewen had known Canada since 1876, and had been a friend of the late Sir John A. Macdonald.

Rising amid cheers, Mr. Frewen said in part:

"I have been asked to address you on a subject which is generally considered rather a dull one, but the mention of Sir John A. Macdonald conjured up many pleasant memories. It is almost thirty-five years since I visited Victoria, and there have been many changes in that time, but one of the greatest has been the revolt against that pernicious system of free trade in which Sir John A. Macdonald was one of the first leaders, and I like to think that I was one of the first adherents of the preferential idea. I think I got the idea in the first place from the late James G. Blaine. He put the immoral aspects of free trade most clearly and forcibly. Said he:

"'Your people are the most thriftless in the world. They care for and protect their people, educate them at the expense of the state and then put them on the immigrant ship, and they are lost to the country. Why don't you assist and direct immigration, and say to them if you go to Ontario you will have a free entry into our markets, while if you go to Minnesota there will be a tariff wall against you. Do you know that your three millions of people in Australia buy more from Great Britain than the sixty millions in the United States, so one immigrant to Australia is more profitable than twenty which you give to us.'

"I venture to say," continued Mr. Frewen, "that if immigration to the south had deflected to South Africa during the last fifty years by state action, the population of Britishers would so have outnumbered the Boers that there could have been no Boer war. The result of the good company I enjoyed in Washington with Mr. Blaine and others was that it became necessary for me to unlearn many of the lessons which I had learned at Cambridge, and I found that the atmosphere in which I was brought up was tainted with many fallacies both in philosophic and political thought.

The Rise of Free Trade

"The genesis of the free trade idea is to be found further back than the days of Cobden and Bright. It arose out of the dislike which their fathers' generation entertained to the Empire itself. I do not know if we can blame them. They were born in sight of Yorktown. They saw the conditions which resulted from the defeat of the British arms; how it led to the war with France which added 700 millions sterling to the national debt, and so they came to the conclusion that Empire building was a disastrous failure. Cobden believed that an empire was merely a source of weakness and in a letter to Colwell said that the burden of Empire could only be lessened by the imperceptible procession of free trade.

"But see the changes wrought in the world by the experience of the federal system. I often wonder what would have happened had not Hamilton, by almost Divine interposition, invented the federal idea. There was no precedent. He had to go back to early times for anything at all like it. Had Hamilton failed and the Jeffersonian idea of separate sovereign states prevailed we would today have forty-five separate states with forty-five standing armies on the look out for chances for dispute.

Forerunner of Peace

"Peace will come, not by Hague conferences, but by the emergence and development of the federal principle. That is why I welcomed Mr. Joseph Chamberlain and his preferential propaganda. One cannot even think of federation without preference, and so wherever you find free traders there you will find anti-federalists. I was in Australia two years before the federation of the Commonwealth was effected, and I found Mr. Reid, who made over a hundred speeches against Federation on the ground that it would destroy free trade in New South Wales.

"But I am wandering from a subject which is even nearer to my heart than the federation of the British Empire. When I was here thirty-four years ago, even then I saw that the question of silver was of transcendental importance, but it is a question that is but little understood. If it were, every one would be speedily convinced of its importance and the absolute truth of bi-metallism. I have not spoken publicly on this question for twelve years, but the question is forcing itself to the front again, and perhaps this address today will be the first gun in the campaign.

"Silver is more than a question of economics. It is a question of white men against yellow men. Tom Reed, in one of his pregnant phrases, said that since the repeal of the Sherman act and the fall of silver, he had seen that yellow men using the white money were cutting the throat of the white men using yellow money. The use of a single gold standard means that you cannot compete with the silver countries. In Hongkong a few years ago the exchange stood at 4s 2d, today it is 1s 8d.

"When the Chinaman wishes to buy your goods he first has to buy the gold to pay for them. Formerly he could pay 10 sovereigns for 48 of his dollars, but now he has to pay 120 of his dollars. His dollar will buy just as much labor and other native commodities as it ever could, or in other words, silver prices have not advanced gold prices, and the result is that the effective use of our gold currency in the Orient is destroyed.

"I will give you a concrete instance. About 1895, when silver was higher than it is now, the British consul-general at Hakodate, Japan, reported that the city wished to instal a modern water system, and to that end called for tenders for 1,500 tons of metal pipe. An English firm secured the contract at a price of £4 4s per ton, and at the current price of silver the Japanese had to pay 28 of his dollars to get £4 4s, so the pipe cost him 28 Japanese dollars per ton. After a few years the town of Hakodate wished to extend their water system, and called for tenders for more pipe, but in the meantime there had been the great fall in silver, due to the free coinage of silver. The same firm tendered again, this time quoting £4 a ton, or 4s less than before, but at the then rate of enchange it cost the Japanese 40 of their dollars to buy £4, as against 28 to buy £4 4s a few years before. The result is that though the price was lower in gold, the cost to the Japanese in their own currency, which could buy at home as much as ever, was $40 per ton, as against $28. This was more than they could afford to pay, and the end of it was that an iron foundry was established in Hakodate, which today is shipping pipe to various points in the Orient, formerly supplied by us.

Another Viewpoint.

"To look at this question of exchange from another point of view: In China, before the last drop in silver, five Chinese dollars would almost buy a sovereign, and those same five dollars would pay a day's wages to twenty-five Chinese laborers. Now that sovereign costs in China 12 of their silver dollars, a sum which will today hire sixty of the same laborers for a day, and you cannot compete against that. The result is that with gold prices rising and silver prices falling, our exports are breaking down. The Oriental either cannot afford to buy at all or he can make the goods cheaper himself.

"Since the fall in the price of silver consequent on the closing of the Indian mints, Manchester cotton exports to China have increased but five per cent, while the cotton exports from Bombay to the same place have increased 600 per cent. A committee of inquiry was sent out from Manchester to look into the cause of this great comparative falling off of trade, and their reports shows that the exchange, or otherwise the fall in silver, was the reason.

"This state of affairs is getting worse instead of better, I am glad to say, and I am glad because conditions will soon reach a point where the influential men in the large commercial nations will be obliged to examine the subject and apply a remedy. The great interests in New York and New England are already aroused and are sending a commission to China and the Orient with instructions to probe the question thoroughly and to spend, if need be, $10,000,000, and to report in six years. I hope then that the question will be settled.

"I wish you to take this up with your representatives in Parliament, and make them go into the matter. If there were a bi-metallic party in the Canadian parliament it would help us enormously in our work in England, and especially if the Canadian government were to go on record in favor of it. It is not that we expect to get bi-metallism yet awhile. You cannot run before you know how to walk, but palliatives could be introduced which would relieve the nation for a while.

Mr. Goschen's Idea

"Shortly after the great Barings make the exchange. Like silver, these smash the late Lord Goschen, the then Mr. Goschen, made a great speech at Leeds in which he said that part of the trouble was that the gold reserve was too small. To remedy this he suggested buying up the half sovereigns, of which they are supposed to be £60,000,000 worth in the pockets of the people, and keep them in reserve. Instead of the half sovereign he proposed to issue 10s notes, which being so convenient to carry and use for shopping purposes and so forth, he thought that the public would gladly notes were to be legal tender up to 40s (nearly $10). I am sorry now to say, that many people among whom I, perhaps was one of the leaders jumped on Mr. Goschen. We thought then that bi-metallism was coming, and our party was strong in the House of Commons, and we viewed with alarm anything like a contraction of the currency, which we then thought to be none too plentiful. I think now that a little contraction would be a salutary thing. As it was, however, Mr. Goschen did not proceed with the plan.

"His idea was to print two of these notes per capita of the population. If this were done, and a reserve of silver kept to meet them by Great Britain, Germany and the United States this would mean a demand for a 1,000 million ounces of silver, and as the annual output of the mines is about 150 million ounces, silver would soon rise to the value of about a dollar an ounce. With silver at a dollar you will be able to do all the trading you want to.

"A fall in silver also means a fall in the price of wheat. The India agriculturist in the Punjaub exports large quantities of wheat. He asks 22 rupees for his wheat and at that he makes a profit with which he is satisfied. Before the fall in silver, about 10 rupees went to the pound sterling. Now it takes 22 rupees. The Punjaubi still gets his 22 rupees for his wheat but the gold price on the European market is much less. That is a competition your farmers on the gold basis cannot meet.

Recent Disturbances

"You will remember that there have been two ghastly financial disturbances in the last few years. One in 1893 and one last year. Both of these disturbances synchronized with a big drop in the price of silver. The great fall in 1893 took place after the London mints closed. At the Brussels monetary conference, Alfred Rothschild predicted this if something were not done for silver. Nothing was done, and three months after the Indian mints were closed, silver fell 8d an ounce. You know what happened. In England we had the Baring smash, in Australia every bank but one closed its doors, while in the States, besides the bank failure, one-third of the railway mileage of the country went into the hands of the receivers. So what issue can be of greater importance to the world than the silver question?

"I will now put to you the local, and perhaps more selfish view. You have silver mines in this province, and so you have a special interest and should keep up a continual fight for conditions which would increase your prosperity, and nothing would so increase it as prosperous mining conditions. When I was at Broken Hill, Australia, in 1894, there were some 13,000 men working in connection with the Broken Hill mines. There were also in that State some 180,000 persons engaged in agriculture, and the gross amount of wealth produced by the 13,000 miners equalled that produced by the entire agricultural community. It is not that the profits of silver mining are excessive, but it gives such an immense amount of support to all other industries. For instance while the Broken Hill mines are working, the management puts under ground every day £400 sterling worth of B. C. timber. That may help you to realize how it came about that the depression in the United States followed the closing of the mines in Utah, Colorado and Montana. If you could succeed in getting a silver party in the Dominion parliament, in twelve months' time it would immensely reinforce the force of the proposals we expect to receive from Washington and hope to receive from Berlin about the issue of silver notes such as I have described.

"Of all economic writers since John Stuart Mills, I think that Professor Francis Walker of Yale is the greatest of formative writers. I well remember a dinner given by Sir William Houldsworth in his honor in London at which Mr. Balfour and Mr. Lidderdale, the extremely able governor of the Bank of England, were present. After dinner he was asked to speak to us on the subject of silver. I sat amazed at the evidence of overmastering anxiety which he displayed on the subject, and I could see that Mr. Balfour was tremendously impressed with what he said. After dilating on the stimulus which cheap silver offers to the Chinaman, he said:

"'I consider this far more important than any mere question of finance. Believe me that the progress of the civilization of the western nations is bound up in it.'"

Mr. Moreton Frewen resumed his seat amid great applause and cries of "Go on." Mr. Veitch of the Royal Bank of Canada proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker for his "extremely interesting intellectual address." The motion was seconded by Capt. Clive Phillips Wolley in a characteristic little speech.

A Western Man

"I want to bring home one point," he said. "And that is that Mr. Moreton Frewen was not always an eminent financier. He was once a typical western man. I have known him by repute for 20 years, and in 1880 he was one of those Englishmen who are so much abused in the press nowadays, but who are not the least desirable class of immigrants and who wear yellow leggings and riding breeches. In 1880 he came out here and he dared to wear riding breeches. Now we know him as a singularly astute financier.

"In 1884 I was coming across the country and I fell in with a crowd of cowboys, who as was not infrequently their custom, were finding fault with the breeches-wearing Englishman.

"'Can't they ride?' I asked.

"'Hum.'

"'Can't Moreton Frewen ride?'

"'Waal,' said one of the cowboys, 'I seen him ridin' a bucking horse. The horse was buckin' pretty good. He bucked himself out of his bridle, he bucked himself out of his saddle, and then he bucked himself out of his skin, and there was Frewen ridin' on that skin'." (Laughter and applause.)

Mr. Frewen briefly replied hoping that they would think none the worse of him for these somewhat apocryphal stories, and especially that they would allow the fact that he had once been an indifferent broncho-buster to take the effect off what he had said about the silver question.

CAMPAIGN STARTED FOR LOCAL OPTION

Citizen's League Appoint Representative Committee For Temperance Cause

(From Wednesday's Daily)

The nucleus of a committee whose duty shall be to rouse interest in the move being made towards inducing the provincial legislature to introduce an enactment giving the different municipalities local option with respect to the sale of liquor was formed at a meeting of the Citizens' league held last night at the City hall. There was a large attendance and the proceedings were enthusiastic throughout. Addresses were delivered by W. J. Short, Rev. T. E. Holling, Mrs. Spofford, Ald. Gleason and Rev. S. J. Thompson, who occupied the chair.

Mr. Short's Address

After a few introductory remarks by Rev. Mr. Thompson, who explained the object of the gathering, Mr. Short was called on and took the platform amid hearty applause. He said that he was from Toronto, the principal city of a province which had made great strides along the lines of temperance reform. But he had become a resident of Victoria and was pleased to obtain the opportunity to do a little in the same direction in the great west. Reference was made to the wonderful resources of British Columbia, and of the consequent possibilities of advancement. He claimed, however, that unless the young people were taught to make proper use of their heritage, the Pacific coast would not be able to take the place in relation to its sister provinces to which it was justly entitled. If the great evils represented by the sale of alcoholic liquors were allowed to continue unchecked it meant that coming generations would be shackled in their attempt to advance.

Temperance legislation was gaining ground everywhere. It was so in France, the great wine-drinking nation, the same was apparent in Germany, the notorious beer-drinking country and also it was the case in Great Britain. He had been pleased to note that Emperor William, of Germany, was frowning down the use of intoxicants by the men of his army. In England the celebrated labor leader, John Burns, had come out flat-footed in reference to the question. The public house, he had declared was a menace. Other instances of the speedy development of a sentiment antagonistic to liquor were cited by Mr. Short, among which was a declaration from Lord Charles Beresford, who, though he drank occasionally, had specifically stated that he never used a drop while on duty, realizing that even the slightest quantity diminished his mental and physical capabilities.

In the United States

More than half of the people of the United States were living under prohibition laws, Mr. Short affirmed. The movement had gathered head first in the south, but the Dominion wasn't lagging far behind. He maintained that to succeed the Citizens' league would have to educate the populace. It was no use trying to legislate the people into sobriety. It had been said that an "informed church was a reform church." The same might be applied to the public—"an informed public was a reform public." It was necessary that the masses should realize that King Alcohol was seriously injurious to body and mind as well as to spirit.

Influential people were beginning to realize the damaging effect of the liquor traffic, and that the public generally were obtaining knowledge of its evil influence. Of the railways of the United States 90 per cent. discriminated against those who drank, of the manufacturies of the same country 70 per cent. took a similar stand and the same was the case of 65 per cent of the benefit societies. Sir Oliver Mowat had said that 75 per cent. of the crime and poverty of the province of Ontario had been due to intoxicating liquor. Recent statistics proved that 88 per cent. of those incarcerated in the gaols of the Dominion had reached that deplorable end because of the excessive use of the stimulating beverage.

Local Option.

"Is local option the best way out of it?" That was the question in the mind of Mr. Short, and he proceeded to relate the history of the temperance cause in Ontario since the introduction of that legislation. When the residents of that province had first turned their attention to the question in earnest they had thought that the federal authorities would make some move toward prohibition throughout Canada. That, however, had resulted in the plebecite—not at all a satisfactory outcome. After other alternatives had been tried they had settled on the local option plan, and since 1904 it had been through the crucible of severe trial and had not been found wanting. In upwards of 159 municipalities the people had decided against the issuance of licenses (applause), and that, Mr. Short added, in spite of the fact that an amendment had been introduced by the government which was generally known as the three-fifths clause, and which made it imperative that, before bars were closed in any district, sixty out of every one hundred of the residents must be in favor of the move. (More applause.)

Mr. Short explained in detail the operation of the law in Ontario, pointing out that at the termination of a period of three years, at the request of a certain number of the residents of any municipality included in the "dry" belt, the question was presented to them again and if they so decided the prohibitory measure was repealed. But he had great pleasure in stating that in only two or three at the outside instances had such retrograde steps been taken. (Applause.)

Concluding, Mr. Short drew attention to the condition prevailing in the suburbs of Toronto. He stated that there prohibition was in force, and he, who had lived there, had found that the conditions under such a law were much improved.

Situation in Manitoba.

Rev. T. W. Holling, pastor of the Metropolitan Methodist church, was next introduced. He stated that he had been requested to speak of the progress of the movement in Manitoba. He said it had begun in the south and was marching northward. In the province from which he had come, temperance reform, he was sorry to say, had suffered as much from its friends as from its foes. Party feeling always had been so strong on the eve of a general election that the members of the Conservative and Liberal associations had rallied to their respective banners and left the temperance ship sadly in distress. However, he believed that the people were freeing themselves from this, and that the time had arived for a rich harvest. Certainly tremendous advancement had been made there of late, the most important step being the procuring from the Roblin government of the right to obtain an expression from the people of their opinion through local option. There was no three-fifths clause in Manitoba, and inasmuch as the Ontario authorities, in introducing that enactment there, had said that the precedent had been created by Manitoba, and that they were but following suit, he thought that it would be but proper for them to again adopt the same course.

After giving an account of the organization of Royal Templars of Temperance throughout Manitoba, Rev. Mr. Holling stated that there were twenty-nine municipalities under prohibition as an outcome of local option. In about 100 the question would be placed before the electorate next January, and it was confidently felt that half would favor the proposal. (Applause.)

Reference was made to British Columbia in his concluding remarks. He stated that until the government acceded to the request that the local option system be introduced there was no way of getting at the people. All that was wanted at present was the permission to ask the people of the various towns and municipalities of the province whether they wanted the liquor traffic or otherwise. He hoped that any action that was taken would be towards inducing the provincial authorities to introduce an enactment to that effect. (Applause.)

Progress in British Columbia.

Mrs. Spofford, organizer of the W. C. T. U., spoke at some length on the conditions in British Columbia. She spoke of the early and somewhat discouraging efforts of that body and then told of the marked advancement which had been made within the past several years. While for some time after the inception of the body there were only thirty-five branches and a total membership of about 300, now there was an auxiliary society in almost every incorporated city in the province, and the numerical strength totalled something like 1,200. (Applause.)

Figures were quoted going exhaustively into the situation in every community in British Columbia. It was shown that in Victoria there were 25 churches, 2 temperance organizations, as against 70 licensed bars; in Nanaimo there were 10 churches, 3 temperance organizations and 22 licensed bars; in Ladysmith there were 3 churches, 2 temperance organizations, and 17 licensed bars, and in Vancouver there were 26 churches, 9 temperance organizations and 64 bars. It was Mrs. Spofford's opinion that this afforded a clear indication of the forces against which the temperance workers were arrayed in their fight for local option.

The W.C.T.U., she concluded, was in a position and would be willing to assist the Citizens' League in every way possible as they were working towards the same end.

Rev. Mr. Thompson, the chairman, in a few remarks, stated that three things were required, namely, unity, the sinews of war, and immediate action. He trusted that someone present was prepared to set the ball rolling by making a definite proposition.

Resolution Carried

Thereupon Ald. Gleason submitted a resolution which was carried unanimously. It follows:

"That in view of the need and importance of a local option law in British Columbia, this meeting of citizens of Victoria, resolve here and now to form a Local Option Committee, with power to add to its number, which shall have charge of the whole question:

"First, in organizing and carrying out a plan of campaign throughout the city and suburbs, and for obtaining signatures of election to a petition to the legislature asking for the passing of a local option law;

"Second, to conduct a campaign throughout the city, giving effect to the local option law when passed."

The chairman named Rev. Herman Carson, pastor of the First Congregational church, Dr. Ernest Hall and A. J. Pineo were nominated the neuclus of a committee which would have power to add to its numbers in the prosecuting of a vigorous temperance campaign in Victoria. They recommended the following:

Ward 1—Mayor Hall, L. A. Campbell, Wm. Beattie, W. H. Parsons, W. J. Pennington.

Ward 2—D. Spragge, N. Shakespeare, J. M. Campbell, W. Beckwith, Rev. S. J. Thompson.

Ward 3—Ald. Gleason, Mrs. Spofford, F. Andrews, E. B. Jones, A. J. Pineo.

Ward 4—Dr. E. Hall, R. W. Clarke, R. W. Coleman, A. J. Morley and J. T. McDonald.

Ward 5—W. J. Sherett, D. McLean, Capt. McIntosh, J. Renfree, D. Sprinkling.

The meeting then adjourned.

PIPE WANTED FOR NEW WATER MAINS

Oak Bay Council Considers Ordering of Material for Extending System

(From Tuesday's Daily)

"What's the use of a finance committee if it can't finance what's wanted by the council?" demanded Councillor Henderson of the Oak Bay council at last night's regular meeting, in the course of a discussion arising out of the question as to whether the rules would be suspended and an order given for a shipment of water piping without the delay that would be occasioned by following the ordinary routine. The query found no answer. Brother councillors were indulging in undignified laughter, as Councillor Henderson subsided after his question which was directed at Reeve Oliver in his most irate tone, he gradually relaxed the sternness of his attitude and joined in the general merriment. He went on after a slight pause, "I'm only talking for the sake of talking, but I do think that to save time, we might pass a resolution here giving instructions that the order for the necessary pipe be placed immediately. The other of course is a waste of time and it will take three months anyway to get to the city."

An Explanation

Reeve Oliver occupied the chair, and there were present Councillors Henderson, Newton, Noble, Fernie and McGregor. The minutes having been read and adopted Councillor Henderson rose and explained in detail how the plumbing inspector of the municipality happened to be acting in a dual capacity in connection with the work of Messrs. Higgins and Pipps. Being employed by Watson & McGregor he had found himself in the rather novel position of performing what the contract called for and then inspecting his own labor as an official of the Oak Bay municipality, receiving wages for the former and the usual fee for the latter. The councillor stated that there was, as far as he could see, no way of avoiding this as it was impossible to employ a man and provide him with sufficient remuneration that he would be able to devote himself entirely to the interests of the district. That was out of the question and, therefore, the possibility of the same situation occurring from time to time would have to be tolerated.

"It does seem rather absurd that he should pass on his own work," remarked the Reeve," and yet I suppose there is nothing else for it."

An estimate of the cost of construction of side walk on Foul Bay road was received from the engineer and referred to the Roads, Sewers and Bridges committees.

Extending System

The cost of a four inch water pipe on Newport avenue, to the northeast corner of the golf links, it was reported by the engineer, would be something over $800. It was explained that the property owners in that locality had submitted a petition asking that the improvement be proceeded with on the local improvement plan.

The Reeve wanted to know what would be the good of laying a four inch main when the water wasn't available.

"The city has lots of water "promptly retorted Councillor Henderson.

"Rubbish," replied the Reeve. He added that the past summer had been proof enough that the water wasn't plentiful although it was doubtful whether the proposed extension of the system would affect the general distribution system because it was "as bad as it could be."

On motion of Councillor Noble, the engineer's estimates were referred to the Road, Sewers and Bridges committee.

T. Sabison wrote, stating that he had excavated rock on Margot avenue, in accordance with the contract he had obtained, and that the amount due him was $500 odd. Councillor Henderson moved and it was seconded that the communication be referred to the finance committee.

Then the clerk read a statement as to the price of the amount of piping required to complete the various works which had passed the council from time to time during the last few months.

Councillor Newton thought that there should be no delay in placing the order. The material would be shipped by steamer from the Old Country and, therefore, in the ordinary course would be en route three or more months. Under the circumstances he thought that the council would be justified in suspending the regular rule, which would be to refer the matter to the finance committee, and pass a resolution empowering the clerk to take immediate action. If it was found later on, that more material was required the order could be supplemented quite easily by cable.

There was some objection to this on liability incurred would have to be met by the incoming council. The Reeve did not think that any exception could be taken to such procedure in the case of work under the local improvement system where the petitioners furnished the guarantee.

Support of Routine

Then Councillor Noble wanted to know whether it was proposed to ignore the finance committee. He did not believe that the rules should be suspended in this instance. It was not right that the order should be issued until the debentures were placed and that was the duty of the committee mentioned. He strongly objected to the step contemplated.

"What's the use of a finance committee if it can't finance what's wanted by the council?" demanded Councillor Henderson with fire in his eye. As stated, this rather pointed query took the council by surprise. Having supplemented his remark as outlined, Mr. Henderson concluded by making an earnest plea for the expeditious treatment of the matter under discussion.

After further debate the general verdict was that nothing could be done until the debentures were provided for. The majority having come to that conclusion Councillor Newton and Henderson fell in line explaining that what they wanted was to ensure promptness, but, if the others felt that the rules must be respected, they acquiesced.

An account of $92.50 was submitted by the clerk from the provincial police for the policing of the exhibition grounds during the exhibition. Instructions were given that the account should be immediately dealt with in the proper way.

Local Improvement General By-law No. 2 was introduced. It was explained that it was similar to By-law No. 1 with the exception that the first clause was altered. There was some difference of opinion as to the utility of the change proposed. Reeve Oliver asked that it be adopted inasmuch as it had been recommended by the solicitors of the municipality. Therefore it was given a first and a second reading and went through the committee.

A by-law regulating the use of bicycles in the municipality was submitted. Several of the initial clauses had been read when Councilor Henderson jumped to his feet. "What is this anyway?" he wanted to know. "I move that it be laid over for six months," he added. Continuing he explained that he could conceive of no use whatever for the proposed regulations in Oak Bay. This proved to be the consensus of opinion and the by-law was defeated without having been given a first reading.

The meeting then adjourned.

The Michel Fire

Michel, Sept. 30.—Michel was again swept by fire early Tuesday morning, the cause being unknown. Practically all the business houses were wiped out except the Great Northern hotel, the Kootenay hotel, a drug store, a barber shop and a billiard hall. The loss is estimated at $30,000, with small insurance. The property destroyed includes the general store of K. Seigel, the Western Grocery store, belonging to Bonamike, the butcher shop of Mr. Vlasak, McEwen's butcher shop, James Scott's blacksmith shop and the printing plant of the Michel Reporter, belonging to G. G. Melkle.

Sin has many tools, but a lie is the handle which fits them all.—Holmes.

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