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MAY QUEEN BURNED.

The steamer May Queen was burned to the water's edge early yesterday morning and all that remains of that once fine craft is a hulk. The steamer was laid up for the winter season at Cushing's mill and the managing owner, Capt. Colwell, visited her every day or two. He was at a loss to account for the fire unless it was set by some person who had been using the

boat to sleep in. On his last trip he found that the steamer had been broken into and quite a number of articles removed and thinks it possible the blaze may have been caused by some person having used her for a shelter and building a fire. The steamer had passenger accommodation for about 500 persons and was valued at \$80,000. She was insured for about one-quarter of that amount.

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COUNCIL CONTRIBUTES \$15,000 TO COST OF SOLDIERS' HOME

Building Project of Great War Veterans' Association Finds Sympathetic Support at City Hall—To Hold Private Session for Consideration of Power Company's Audit.

The Common Council yesterday afternoon passed a contribution of \$15,000 toward the cost of the home which the Great War Veterans' Association proposes to erect in this city.

It was decided to accept the offer of the Lock Joint Pipe Company for a 42-inch cement pipe around Lake Fitzgerald at a cost of \$14.75 per lineal foot. A request was received from the Canadian Aviation Company that the city present an aeroplane to the Canadian government; the New Brunswick Power Co. wrote complaining of the non-removal of snow from the streets and said they would hold the city liable for extra expense contracted by them through such non-removal; a communication was received from the Board of Trade stating that in the opinion of that body the cost of watchmen at the west side wharves should be borne by the federal authorities; it was decided to pay the costs in the Lucan-LeRogue case and to take up the report of R. A. MacIntyre in private session with the city solicitor.

Mayor Hayes presided and Commissioners Wigmore, McLellan, Russell and Fisher were present.

When the council had been called to order the mayor suggested that the first business be the hearing of the city solicitor who had some things he wished to bring to the attention of the council.

City Solicitor J. B. M. Baxter said he had received a telegram from Fred Lucas, Chief of Police of Newcastle, that a distress warrant had been issued against him in the case of Lucas vs. LeRogue. This was a case where Lucas, acting as a member of the police force of this city, had made an arrest, the magistrate had convicted but on appeal to the county court his decision had been reversed and Judge Forbes had ordered the costs against Lucas as he had no power to assess them against the city.

On motion of Commissioner McLellan the matter was referred to the commissioner of finance and the city solicitor, with power to act and the understanding was that Mr. Lucas should be reimbursed.

The Belyea Lease.

The mayor asked if Commissioner Russell was prepared to submit a report on the Belyea lease of lot No. 5, West Side, and suggested some of the members of the council might want to question the solicitor.

Commissioner Russell said he was prepared to recommend that the lease issue be dated July 1, as this would be after the fishing season had ended and would meet the objections of the buyers of the Diving Bell pier. There had been another suggestion that a new line be run by the city engineer, but neither of these propositions were satisfactory to Mr. Belyea.

In reply to a question from Commissioner McLellan it was said it was doubtful if Mr. Belyea could claim damages if the lease were rescinded. Commissioner McLellan said it was not only a question of the rights of the purchasers of the Diving Bell but of those who used the passage and this might possibly be needed for a bridge approach.

It was finally decided to have a further conference with Mr. Belyea. At this juncture there was a call for return to the commissioner of public works that the ambulance with a patient for the hospital had been stalled on Hospital street because of the fact that the snow had not been shoveled away.

Commissioner Fisher took the matter up at once and promised to have this condition remedied.

The Power Co. Audit.

Commissioner Russell suggested that the report of R. A. MacIntyre, the auditor appointed by the city council to go over the books of the New Brunswick Power Co. be received.

Commissioner McLellan said he thought it should first be considered by the commissioners in private session with the auditor and the city solicitor and then given to the public. Mr. Baxter gave it as his opinion that the proper procedure would be to pass a resolution to the Public Utilities Commission to be published as part of the evidence submitted there.

It was decided to take up the report at an early date in private session and ask the auditor and city solicitor to attend.

Council then resumed the usual order of business.

Asphalt Tenders.

The committee of the whole recommended that the commissioner of public works be authorized to advertise for tenders for asphalt for the season's work repairing sidewalks and pavements and laying the new pavement provided for in 1918 appropriation. The lowest or any tender not necessarily to be accepted. Adopted.

Finance.

The commissioner of finance and public affairs reported payments for the month of January amounting to \$67,890.58, and recommended the payment of the following departmental accounts as certified by the comptroller, namely:

Treasury department, \$429.39; public safety department, \$248.04; public works department, \$1,163.36; water and sewerage department, \$1,259.53; harbors, ferries and public lands department, \$7,217.80.

That he be authorized to make arrangements for collecting the fees for licenses with power to appoint a collector if he thinks it advisable. Adopted.

Harbors and Ferries.

The commissioner of harbors, ferries and public lands recommended that re-

newal lease issue for seven years from 1st May last to the trustees of the Carleton Methodist church of lots Nos. 553 and 559 Guys Ward at \$2.00, present rental \$1.20; that the license to Messrs. Peter Chagnaris and Alexander Memerson to occupy the lot of land on the northern side of the roadway leading along Rodney wharf to the ferry toll house be renewed for another year from the first day of January last and on the same terms and conditions. Adopted.

Streets in Bad Shape.

A communication was read from the New Brunswick Power Co. complaining that the non-removal of the snow from the streets on which the cars operated had put them to a considerable extra expense and notifying the city that the company would hold them responsible for this expense as the city had failed to carry out its agreement with the company.

Commissioner Fisher said his department had been doing all it could in this matter and questioned the liability of the city.

Commissioner McLellan said some of the streets on which the street cars operated were impassable for fire teams and if a big thaw or rain came many cellars would be flooded because the gutters were not cleaned.

The communication was referred to the commissioner and city solicitor.

Other Matters.

The Board of Trade wrote calling attention to a resolution passed by the council of the board in which they expressed the opinion that the watchmen on the West Side wharves should be a matter for the federal authorities rather than the city. The communication was received and will be taken up on Monday.

On motion of Commissioner McLellan that he understood the Ottawa officials would make some announcement regarding this matter before the end of the week.

A communication from the Canadian aviation fund suggesting that the municipality present to the Canadian government an aeroplane was filed.

The secretary of No. 1 Salvage Corps notified the council that W. A. Charlton had resigned and his warrant was ordered cancelled.

The Soldiers' Home.

Commissioner McLellan moved the following resolution:

That this council contributes the sum of \$15,000 toward the cost of a home for the Great War Veterans' Association, said home to cost about \$100,000. This sum not to be available until the whole amount of \$100,000 or the cost of the building had been subscribed, and to be paid in monthly installments as the construction of the building progressed.

The commissioner said he had made this motion without consulting any of his colleagues and had done so because there seemed to be an impression among the returned soldiers that the city was not favorable to aiding them in the building of a home.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wigmore, who said he believed that it was a move in the right direction. The erection of a home would give the boys a memorial or monument and at the same time be of some use to them. This action on the part of the council would also make it easier for the boys to go out and get private subscriptions.

Commissioner Russell said he would support the motion because he believed it was a proper one. Commissioner Fisher would support aid to the boys but thought the first move should have come from the association.

Mayor Hayes thought the council should know more about the proposal. He thought common courtesy called for notifying the commissioner of finance before introducing a motion of this kind. He was in favor of a grant for the work, but wanted more information.

Commissioner Fisher moved in amendment that a communication be sent to the G. W. V. A. asking them to come before the council and prefer their request for aid.

This was seconded by Mayor Hayes. On the motion being put the amendment was lost. Mayor Hayes and Commissioner Fisher voting for it, and the original motion was then carried, Commissioners Wigmore, McLellan and Russell voting for it, the mayor and Commissioner Fisher against.

Commissioner Wigmore presented an offer from the Lock Joint Pipe Company to lay a 42-inch cement pipe around Lake Fitzgerald for the sum of \$14.75 per lineal foot, the city to make the back fill. He moved their offer be accepted and a contract be entered into for the work at the price named. This contract would call for an expenditure of about \$30,000 as the length of pipe was about 2,000 feet. Carried.

The report of the city engineer was received and ordered read.

On motion of Commissioner Fisher Patrick Kane was given permission to erect an electric sign over his premises, 141 Main street west.

Commissioner McLellan drew the attention of the council to the fact that a Bulgarian was running a pool parlor at the corner of Waterloo and Peter streets under the name of the Allies' Billiard Parlor and suggested that the commissioner of public works censor these signs before they were erected.

Tenders for steel rims for the road roller were opened as follows:

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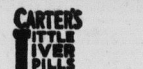


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