

## Rosland Weekly Miner.

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### THE CIVIC CAMPAIGN.

The result of the municipal elections will be accepted by the citizens generally as in the main satisfactory. The composition of the aldermanic board is excellent, and the ratepayers have shown the best of judgment in their choice. It is a council of men who may be trusted to look with singleness of purpose to the interest and advancement of the city, and during the ensuing year we may expect a policy of progressiveness and economy.

The result of the mayoralty contest will not be received with disfavor, and the citizens will experience a feeling of satisfaction that the majority for Mr. Goodeve was not greater than it was. That it was not so was a direct intimation to the most active element behind the mayor that the people are not disposed to submit to a manipulation of their public offices for political purposes or to allow them to be captured that they may advance the ulterior ends of an individual or a clique. It is just as well that the statement should be made frankly and openly that the impression during the past week has taken root in the public mind that Mr. Goodeve, in standing for the mayoralty had in his mind another object in view than finding the position of chief magistrate. That party politics were introduced into the campaign is beyond question, and that it was introduced is a most regrettable fact. In view of this and of all the conditions surrounding the candidature of the opposing candidates the slim majority given to Mr. Goodeve ought to be taken by him as a warning from the ratepayers. When we consider that Mr. Goodeve has been mayor of the city for one year, that he is a merchant of high standing in the community, a man possessed of large interests and one who, as far as his personal character goes, has the unquestioning respect of all classes, we say, without hesitation, and we think that even his staunchest supporters will admit that a defeat—not a victory. During the last few days of the contest the question of the endorsement of Mr. Goodeve's record of last year was dropped out of sight and a determined fight was made by his supporters on the ground that Mr. Goodeve stood for good and pure civic administration and that Mr. McPherson had behind him the elements of the community which it was not desirable should obtain influence, let alone control of the city's affairs. While we do not believe that this was the true relation of the parties, it was quite easy to see what influence it had with the ratepayers, and it was this cry which gained for Mr. Goodeve the victory. It was this cry which proved more powerful with the voters than the suspicions they had regarding the absolute good faith of the active element behind Mr. Goodeve, and had it not been for it we have no hesitation in saying that Mr. McPherson and not Mr. Goodeve would have been elected. There are not a few who will be inclined to the belief that had the elections been delayed for a week, the apprehensions which existed in the public mind regarding the conditions surrounding Mr. McPherson's candidature, might have been removed, and had they been, we are quite within the mark in saying that Mr. Goodeve would have been beaten by three times the majority that he obtained yesterday. We are quite satisfied with the result of the election, and we are satisfied, too, that Mr. Goodeve, and some of the very capable men behind him, will have the shrewdness to perceive that yesterday's result is a very decided slap in the face to the intentions which they designed to serve in his campaign. If Mr. Goodeve so takes it, and works in accordance with facts, as he cannot but see them, it will be better for himself and for the city.

There is one result of the aldermanic campaign which many people will regret, and that is the defeat of Mr. Ross Thompson. He has always been an ardent supporter of every good work in the city and his defeat is a matter in a way to be deplored.

On the whole the result of the elections cannot help being satisfactory to the citizens and the composition of the council augurs good government during the coming twelve months.

### MINING ROADS.

Steps should be taken by the Associated Boards of Trade to obtain from the government a percentage (say about 20 per cent) of the royalty collected on the output of the mines for the purpose of improving and constructing roadways within the limits of the various incorporated

towns and cities in the province which lead to the mines; as well as the mining roads outside of these municipalities.

As it is at present the municipalities are compelled to defray the cost of the roadways within their limits, which lead to working mines, and it seems unjust that the entire royalty which the government derives from the output should be retained for provincial purposes when the towns or cities which, by giving facilities in the way of roads for getting out the ore, bear the whole cost in this respect. It certainly appears reasonable that a proportion of this royalty should go to assist the municipalities in the construction of these highways. Take the case of Rosland for example, the government is obtaining from the working mines here a very considerable revenue from the royalty on the output, and the corporation, which has built and which maintains in good condition all the roadways to these properties does not get a copper for giving the facilities of access to them. The formation of the towns is such, too, that the cost of road building is very heavy and, therefore, a very great burden on the taxpayers. It will not be long before many other towns in the Kootenays are situated as Rosland is and the government should see the reasonableness of giving some assistance towards providing the roads which make possible the revenue which is obtained.

### THE MEAT SUPPLY.

The meat problem in the United States is becoming a serious one, and while the blame for high butcher bills is laid by many people at the door of the "meat trusts," it is not entirely to blame. One cause for the high price of meats is a constantly increasing population and a steadily decreasing area in which cattle, sheep and hogs can be raised. According to the most recent statistics, there are nearly 20,000,000 more meat consumers in the United States than there were 10 years ago, while there are 11,000,000 fewer beef cattle. Then there were 16,000,000 more hogs in 1890 than there were in 1880, and some 11,000,000 more sheep. The population has increased 30 per cent, and the meat supply has decreased at about the same ratio. Ten years since the average cost of beef cattle was \$15.21, but now it is \$26.50. Now that the cattle raising business has become so profitable, it should become more of an industry in this country than it is. There are many millions of acres in Canada, and thousands in British Columbia, where the grass is allowed to go to waste for the want of cattle to feed upon it. While it is true that there are some sections where feeding for a few months in winter may be required, there are other sections where it is not necessary. With a growing market at home and a neighboring country that will soon require more meat than can be raised in its own territory, the outlook for the cattle raising industry in the Dominion seems to be very good. While it is true that there is an import duty levied on meat sent into the United States, still it would seem if the price goes much higher there that the duty will be taken off, and the beef and other meats raised in Canada, Mexico and other countries will be admitted free of duty. Even if the duty is not abrogated, there should be a profit in the future in raising cattle in the grazing regions of Canada for export to the United States.

### THE BURNS CASTLE.

It is said that Mr. P. Burns, the meat king of the Kootenays, is erecting a residence in Calgary that, it is said, looks like an English castle. Wonder if he is doing this on the extra cent per pound which he is charging in Rosland more than he does in other places. This extra cent per pound in a year would build a castle good enough and commodious enough to house the Governor-General. It is not right that most of the burden of the building of the Burns castle should fall on Rosland. At least half of the cost should be borne by Nelson, where Mr. Burns has even more admirers, perhaps, than he has here.

### MR. JOE MARTIN'S ATTACK.

Despite the predictions of opponents and the assaults of Mr. Joseph Martin, the Semin government seems to be holding its own with praiseworthy tenacity, and from all appearances it will weather the storm which was expected to wreck it. Mr. Martin's attacks have apparently had the opposite result to what he hoped for, and instead of alienating support from the ministry and occasioning its defeat, have gone far towards bringing himself still more into disrepute, and jeopardizing his chances of ever again being elected to the House. Fighting Joe has gained a reputation as a cabinet wrecker, and he, no doubt, feels that he is bound to sustain his character in this respect. If he resorted to no questionable or unfair means in doing so, the people might watch his career with curiosity, but without sympathy or admiration, but there is an inbred sense of justice and manliness in the British mind which objects to blows delivered below the belt, and Mr. Martin's efforts to damage the government by exposing secrets which he obtained as a member of the cabinet, can only have the effect of hurting himself, without weakening the administration.

The speech of Mr. Ralph Smith apparently expresses the views entertained regarding Mr. Martin by the supporters of the government, and the faction headed by Mr. Turner has even less liking and respect for him than the ministerialists. They have openly repudiated him as a member of their party, and while they are satisfied to use him, they have no intention of trusting or following him. It looks as if he had played his last remaining political card and lost, and that henceforth a discerning people will dispense with his services as a popular representative.

### UNSATISFACTORY IMMIGRATION.

A wide circulation has recently been given in Canada to a publication called the National Waifs Magazine, which is the organ of a so-called Christian organization for the reclamation of the abandoned children of the large centres in England. The ostensible object of this organization, of which a gentleman named Dr. Barnardo is the head, is to place these children, the gutter-snipes of the English cities, in homes which have been established for this special purpose and after a veneer of decency has been put upon them to ship them to the colonies where they are placed out as assistants in the performance of manual labor. Canada has had a considerable experience of these waifs and her experience has by no means been of a pleasant or satisfactory character. It is an undoubted fact that many of the crimes which have occurred in the rural districts of eastern Canada are directly attributable to individuals who have been placed in positions through the agency of institutions similar to the one of which Dr. Barnardo is the head, and whether rightly so or not, suspicion has not infrequently been pointed against those who have been brought out under his auspices. It is well known that on numerous occasions the labor societies of Eastern Canada have pointed out very strongly and very truthfully the evil results which may be expected to follow from the encouragement of this class of immigration, and although the feeling among the very large proportion of the thinking class of the people is that the position taken by the labor bodies is perfectly right, still this and similar agencies are permitted to ship to Canada every year the refuse of the old country cities. It is impossible that with the early environment and associations of these immigrants that they should ever become good citizens of the country. With hereditary and acquired habits which are antagonistic to the ordinary conception of morality, they are unable, when placed in better surroundings, to free themselves from the ways of thought and the habits which governed them before they came here, and in addition to their inability to reform themselves, they taint with their viciousness those with whom they come into contact. They form a most undesirable element in the community even than the class of immigrants which have been brought over in recent years from the provinces of Russia and the southern part of Europe, and the government should take some steps to supervise agencies which, under the guise of performing religious work are flooding the country with the most debased class of the large English centres of population.

Nobody will quarrel with Dr. Barnardo, or with any other gentleman, who may imagine that he has a mission to redeem the depraved and poverty stricken classes of the English metropolis, but the people here will decidedly object to having these outcasts cast upon our shores very much to our detriment.

### THE C. P. R. TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

If there is any institution in the Dominion which is more given to sharp practices and questionable dealings with its patrons and the public generally than the Canadian Pacific Railway company, it is the Canadian Pacific Telegraph company as the system is operated in this province. This company has received from the Associated Press the right to carry and deliver in this country the dispatches which are made up for the newspapers throughout the continent, and it takes advantage of the franchise it has thus acquired to discriminate against journals which it regards as hostile to the buccaneering designs of the railway system, or which are independent of its control. In doing so it not only emasculates the dispatches, but it delivers them at an hour so late that it means financial loss to the papers which pay for the service. That there is apparent in the manner in which the service is made up and delivered, an intention to scamp the work and defeat the ends for which the Associated Press has been established, there is no doubt, but in addition to this evident design on the part of the company, there is slovenliness in the manner in which the service is prepared and delivered, for which there is no excuse, and which ought to strike the attention and demand the correction of the officials in the headquarters at Montreal.

It is quite true that this company is so lost to all sense of justice that it is impossible to make it experience a sense of shame by exposing its dishonesty in its treatment of the public, but we have been given to understand, and we think that there is ground for the belief, that the managers of the company pride themselves on the shrewdness and business-like

qualities possessed by their servants in every branch of the corporation. It is, therefore, a matter of surprise that those who conduct its service in the telegraph department in various localities should be men so evidently incapable as to excite the utmost wonder that such as they should hold places of such prominence and importance.

The C. P. R. Telegraph company claims that it is simply the carrier of the news and is not responsible for the material contained in the dispatches. This is partially true, but like all partial truths it contains the worst elements of falsehood. We know that the C. P. R. constantly uses the wires for its own purposes to distribute or suppress news as its interests may dictate; we know that during the session of parliament it sends out under the guise of Associated Press dispatches, untruthful accounts of its negotiations with the government, and we know that it has now and again made a spasmodic and ineffectual effort to furnish a certain amount of Eastern Canadian news. We know, too, that there is not a little tenderness to be placed in the word of the management when its own interests are affected.

In British Columbia the papers which pay for the Associated Press service are charged, for a vastly inferior service, a sum greatly in excess of that paid by the eastern papers, and whenever the C. P. R. finds a journal so situated that it can be neglected or swindled out of that to which it is entitled, the results are the same as they have always been wherever any institution has been placed at the mercy of this corporation. While the newspapers which are the patrons in British Columbia of the Associated Press are the direct and immediate sufferers from a financial standpoint, the people, who are the patrons of the papers, and who naturally look for the news which should be furnished to them, and which the daily journals expect, are cheated out of that which they also pay for.

Compare the splendid service given by the Associated Press over the American telegraphic lines to the papers in Seattle, Tacoma and Portland, with the miserable apology for a service that is supplied to the papers of Vancouver, Victoria and elsewhere in this province under the misleading appellation of Associated Press dispatches, and mark the difference between the two. By this comparison, one can realize to what an extent the C. P. R. is cozening and bamboozling the public. In no other country in the world would such an imposition on the people be tolerated for any length of time.

Their operations in this province remind one forcibly of the manipulations of a cheap thimble rigger at a country fair. At this time, above all others, the people of the province are on tiptoe to catch the smallest scrap of news from South Africa. They are deeply interested in all that concerns the weal or woe of the army that is so bravely fighting against odds in South Africa. One would think that at a time like this a public purveyor of the news, like the Canadian Associated Press, would endeavor to give the public as full and as accurate accounts of the important events as possible. Instead of this, the readers of the provincial papers are treated to cut down and flattened out fragments of dispatches, which are principally rumors and conjectures. Instead of showing a little liberality to their patrons, who are paying more than the dispatches are worth, the managers of this miserable makeshift service seem to desire to restrict instead of enlarging, to retrograde instead of advancing.

That there should be a reform is evident, and that this should come to pass immediately is certain. The papers of the Dominion, which constitute the real associated press, should take this matter in hand and no longer allow the domination of a hurtful influence, which is slowly but surely emasculating the service so that in time it will become more useless than even it is now. In the meanwhile a few competent men should be employed who know the relative importance of news. With such as these in the place of the optimistic dullards and egotistical donkeys who are now attempting to fill these places, a reform could be established which would materially improve what is now little better than no service at all.

### HELP SWELL THE FUND.

A performance will be given at the opera house tonight for the benefit of the Mansion House fund. It should be attended as never an entertainment was in this city before, for the proceeds are to be devoted to the wives and children of those who are fighting the battles of the Empire and sustaining the principles of freedom and of good government against those whose rule is oppressive, tyrannical and bigoted, in far away South Africa. The forces in South Africa are made up from every walk of life, many of whom laid down their employment when the call came for troops came, to go to the front. Their families have, in many cases been left unprotected for, and a fund that is called the Mansion House fund, has been created to aid such as these during the time the heads of the households are

in arms. Then, too, some of these families will never again see the breadwinners, for they will have given their lives for the defense, the glory and honor of their country. Hence, there is no danger that the fund will be too large, or that there will be a surplus after all that need aid have been supplied. Under the circumstances, the citizens of Rosland could not honor themselves, and their country more than by attending the performance at the opera house this evening and making it the biggest sort of a financial success.

### CITY FATHERS TO THE FRONT

#### THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE COMING YEAR MAPPED OUT.

The Council Are Omniscient—Everything is Provided For, From the Water and Light to the Smallpox Scare.

What was practically the first meeting of the new city council was held Tuesday night, and the program for the year was sketched out. The feeling seemed to be that no more money be raised to be spent in street improvement, but, on the other hand, there should be no hesitation in selling debentures for money to be spent upon capital account, such as water and light, and for acquiring lots on which to build a fire hall and library, forming a city asset. Incidentally there was some discussion on the sewerage question, city charities and for the Empire, such as the Mansion House fund, giving rise to some little discussion from varying points of view. Altogether the council seemed desirous of pursuing the city's business in an eminently practical spirit, and there is plenty of capacity in the members of the board to enable them to grasp and bring to a satisfactory solution the various questions which are the growth of all new cities.

At 8 p. m. the council went into caucus and elected chairmen for the various standing committees for the year. These are as follows:

Finance Committee—Aldermen Clute, Hamilton and Mackenzie, meeting each Tuesday at 7:30 p. m.; chairman, Alderman Clute.

Board of Works—Aldermen Dean, McRae and Clute, meeting each Monday at 4 p. m.; chairman Alderman Dean.

Fire, Water and Light—Aldermen McRae, Talbot and Hamilton, meeting on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7 p. m.; chairman Alderman McRae.

Health and Relief—Aldermen Mackenzie, Talbot and Dean, meeting on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7 p. m.; chairman, Alderman Mackenzie.

The city council, all members being present and Mayor Goodeve in the chair, then proceeded to the transaction of public business.

Reports were read from W. H. Falding, auditing the city accounts for the past financial year and certifying to the fact that the accounts were correct, and also from the chief of the fire department, recommending that a new fire hall be built on a higher level, and that certain parts of the fire appliances be disposed of and more serviceable appliances be obtained. He urged the purchase of an additional team of horses for a new hook and ladder truck, and the addition of a couple of extra firemen, besides the eight already employed, at a salary of \$75 a month each. Also that the emoluments of the assistant fire chief be raised to \$80. In the report, which gave a resume of the work done by the department since last April, it was stated that there had been 44 fires, making up a total loss of \$9,400, about half of which had been covered by insurance. Of these the most important had been the fire in the Nickel Plate addition, when eight sheds had been destroyed.

Letters were read from the secretary of the carnival committee, stating that a sum of \$2,500 was being raised for the sports, of which one-half had been obtained already, and asking for a contribution of \$250 towards the fund. This was granted. Also a communication from the free library, in the Stone block, desiring a city contribution to the Mansion House fund.

Alderman Clute proposed that each standing committee be asked to submit estimates of the expenditure proposed by each for the coming year. He suggested in connection with the proposed estimates that no money be expended on street improvements. He stated that money would be wanted to build a fire hall and library and to buy lots for the site of same, that further sums would be required to complete the sewer system, and possibly, if no arrangement could be made by the electric light company, some debentures would be wanted to erect a plant to be owned municipally. There was about \$60,000 remaining on the sum voted for the water system.

Mr. Clute pointed out that the most of these expenditures would be for capital account and would not hurt the city's credit in further loans, pointing out that Nelson, owning its own plant for water and light, presumably remunerative, were able to sell their debentures for a much higher price than those sold by this city.

Leave was then obtained to introduce a bylaw at the next meeting, providing for a sum of money not to exceed \$15,000, for the purchase of five lots on First avenue and Lincoln street, and for the erection of a fire hall and library on the same.

It was proposed by Alderman Dean and seconded by McRae, to give \$500 to the Mansion House fund. This, after eliciting a few depreciatory remarks from Alderman Clute as to the state of the city finances, and a patriotic rejoinder from the proposer, was carried, but the amount was reduced to \$300.

On the library question no action was taken, the mayor being desired to report on the matter at the next council meeting. The city bylaws were next dealt with, the mayor pointing out that as several conflicting clauses had caused some difficulty in the enforcement of the city regulations, it would be well to have them revised by the city solicitor, and having been reported to the council, to be there-

after printed. This was agreed to.

A fire bylaw was then recommended to the board of works for report, the mayor stating that its adoption would have considerable effect upon the insurance rate lately adopted.

Just before the meeting adjourned, Alderman Dean brought to the notice of the council that smallpox was prevalent in Spokane, and that he had heard of one case at Northport. He urged the necessity of taking immediate steps to ascertain the truth of the matter, which was being carefully concealed by the newspapers, pointing out that if the epidemic reached Rosland it would infallibly have disastrous effects. In the discussion which ensued, while the presence of smallpox in the neighborhood was somewhat discounted, the necessity of informing themselves as to the matter was apparent to be council, and the health officer was desired to report to the health and relief committee within the next day or so.

The meeting was then adjourned until next Tuesday.

### TOOK A DOSE OF MORPHINE.

A Discouraged Tailor kills Himself in Spokane.

William Coss, a tailor, poisoned himself with morphine in Spokane on Sunday night, and died on Monday morning. Coss was well known in this city. He left here for Spokane on Saturday last, and before that he had been on a spree and had spent about \$200 of the \$500 in his possession. The presumption is that after he arrived in Spokane he lost the remainder of his money while gambling.

Coss came here six months since from Greenwood. He went to work for a short time for Mr. M. J. O'Hearn, and afterward was employed by Taylor & McQuarrie. Coss had made arrangements to go to Sumpter and open a tailoring establishment there. When he came here from Greenwood he had about \$800, and since he has been here he lived in a shack as cheaply as he could, so that he might acquire money enough to carry out his business ambition. It seems, however, that he had an irresistible impulse at times to get drunk, and when this seized him he would spend his money like water. The loss of his money and the depression caused by an overindulgence in stimulants were doubtless the causes that led to suicide. Coss was single, a native of Troy, N. Y., and was aged 35 years. His mother is a resident of Troy.

### PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Appar for Aid for an Excellent Institution.

At the last council meeting the ladies who have started the library in the Stone block brought to the notice of the mayor and council that they had provided for the free use of the public a room well heated and lighted and situated in a central position, which they have supplied with some of the leading magazines and papers. This was costing \$30 per month, not counting the caretaking. It was desired of the council that they would help this reading room as a thing needed by the city. If such help is not accorded the ladies say that they will be unable to keep the room open any longer. They regret having to take this step, but as a matter of fact the lending library of about 1,000 volumes, which they have established at no slight cost, in connection with the above reading room, has not proved anything like as remunerative as anticipated. The membership is not much over 100 and as the fee is only \$1 per quarter the income cannot be said to be excessive and cannot do more than meet running expenses. The free reading room, therefore, under the present circumstances more of an incubus than an asset will be borne by the young institution, and it is on this account that the appeal has been made.

Mayor Goodeve has made it a special duty to inquire into the concern and will doubtless make some arrangement that will be satisfactory to the ladies and to the city, and one that will tide over the time until Rosland possesses a free reading room and library owned by the citizens themselves.

### Captain D. C. Thacker, R. C. A.

Captain D. C. Thacker, now of the Royal Canadian Artillery, will be remembered to all, but the very recent comers to the city, as a clerk in the Bank of Montreal, where he was to be seen daily in the summer of 1898. Mr. Thacker was much respected by his friends here for his catholic grasp of most questions that appeal to men's minds. Socially he was also very well liked. It was an open secret to his friends that the career of a bank clerk was not altogether in consonance with his views of life, and now he is surprised to hear of his having volunteered to go to the front, and knowing his real standing, and his pleasure to see it recognized, the rank bestowed upon him. Captain Thacker goes to the front with the second contingent. His Rosland friends wish him Godspeed, and are sure that his services will reflect credit upon himself and upon Rosland, that once wanted and still counts him, one of its boys.

### That Cupid Again.

It is only yesterday that the Miner opened its columns to chronicle the wedding of Mr. Bert Hunter, and today again its register is to take the name of Mr. A. F. McMillan, well known in this city as a large real estate owner and jeweler. Mr. McMillan left here during Christmas week for his coast and returned last night, and is staying at the Windsor, once owned by him. This time no longer alone. He has brought his bride with him, evidently thinking, and rightly so, that no place is better than Rosland to spend a honeymoon.

### A Distinguished Visitor.

Bishop Dottenwell of the Roman Catholic diocese of New Westminster, arrived last night from the coast, and is paying a farewell visit to this city on his way to Rome. He will probably leave by tonight's train. During his absence, which will extend over several months, the vicar-general, Father Bunoz, will attend to all diocesan affairs.

Mr. A. B. Gray, commission agent of Nelson, arrived here from that city yesterday.

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