

OAK BAY RATE FOR TELEPHONE MUNICIPALITY OBJECTS TO INCREASED PRICE

Questions Disposed of at Last Night's Sitting of the Council.

The telephone company has refused to reduce the rate for its service in Oak Bay municipality, making them the same as those in the city. A letter was read from the manager to that effect at the meeting of the Oak Bay council held last night. The letter stated that the municipality had to pay three times as much as the city for their water and they were not charging anything like that much more than city rates for their service. The rate for telephones in the municipality is one dollar a month for any kind of service. This the council and all those who use phones say is exorbitant as the municipality is now thickly inhabited, much more so than some parts of the city. Besides the extra charge there is usually an extra rate for installing.

The law committee was asked to look further into the matter and to confer with the solicitor as to the powers of the municipality in controlling the telephones and to report at some future date.

There is friction between the school board and the municipal council at Oak Bay. This was evident from the time of the councilors when the by-law came up for consideration. A letter was read from the solicitor stating that the school board had absolute control over the building of the school and the school property. Councilor Noble suggested that as the council held the site at present, when they sold it to the school board the council should insert a clause in the deed giving them some control over the kind of building that should be erected.

Councilor Henderson, who seemed to be the only one in the council who stood up for the rights of the school board, said that there was no danger that the board would do anything objectionable. The council was asked to provide a site and the money to build, and the trustees had full control.

The by-law to raise ten thousand dollars for a new school was amended according to the advice of the solicitor, and passed a third time. It was then that the discussion on the subject became general.

Councilor Newton wanted to see a clause inserted giving the council control over the building. He said that the law committee had met with the members of the school board and had been unanimous in choosing a site.

At a later meeting had been changed by the board and he considered it a great discourtesy.

Councilor Henderson explained that the plans adopted on that occasion had proved to be too expensive. The building, he declared, instead of costing eight hundred dollars, would cost sixteen hundred dollars.

Councilor Noble moved that the solicitor be asked what power the council had in the matter of inserting a clause in regard to control of the building.

Councilor McGregor said that as the school board had submitted their plans to the council he did not see why the school board should not be bound to do the very work that the council wanted to take away from them.

Councilor Henderson wanted some information in regard to the letter written by E. G. Prior & Co. to the council complaining of the form of tender.

There had evidently been an interesting time over this matter on the previous private meetings, for the reeve explained that explanations had been made and he thought anything that had been done by members of the council had been done in good faith, and he withdrew anything that he had said at that time.

Councilor Henderson said that the reeve wanted information as to the reason for a meeting of the retail hardware merchants, Mr. Schwengers had stated that he, Mr. Henderson, had made the announcement in a council meeting, that better hardware and at cheaper prices could be obtained from Fraser & Co. than from E. G. Prior & Co. This he wished to deny. Arrangements had been made to buy hardware from W. Fraser & Co., and he at that time wished the arrangement to be carried out.

It was shown that the survey of the property upon which the boathouse was built had not yet been made, but Councilor Newton promised to have the matter attended to at once.

The reading of minutes of private meetings showed that arrangements had been made to prosecute delinquent taxpayers after the expiration of thirty days from the time of sending in notices, that the Vancouver Portland Cement Company had promised to supply sufficient material to rebuild the culvert on the beach drive which had been washed away last winter, and that arrangements had been made to sell the old school property, and to collect a tallyho tax.

The report of the roads, sewers and bridges committee reported that the tender for feed for the horses had been let to the Brackman-Ker Milling Company on condition that when delivering the company should place the feed in the stable or as required.

Dr. O. M. Jones wrote complaining of tampering with the grading of Transit road by the removal of gravel. The committee stated that this was the first complaint of this kind that had come to light and care would be taken to see that there was no repetition.

city proposed to sell water to the municipality delivered in bulk at the boundaries of the municipality.

The residents of Hampshire Road north of Oak Bay avenue, had been asked what kind of bridge they were ready to pay for over the creek.

Alderman Henderson objected to anything but concrete. There was a regulation of the council to that effect, he said, and he objected strongly to the breaking of the regulation.

Councilor Fernie explained that only four men were directly interested and it might be paid for by the city to erect an expensive structure.

Councilor Noble thought the letter dealing with this matter should have come before the council.

The reeve acknowledged that that would have been the correct way. It was done, however, to expedite business.

Councilor Noble also objected to the ordering of pipe from the Old Country without bringing the matter before the council. He thought everything should come up in open council.

The other aldermen eventually went to the amount to be charged those ordered to pay the cost of 15 cents per cart load, as the by-law read. He thought, would not work out. It also read at present that this charge was for carts entering the wharf premises. If this were allowed to remain as it was there would be nothing to prevent a man driving his cart close to the wharf and carrying the garbage in a barrel or so to the wharf.

When the by-law was called, City Solicitor Mann asked that the measure be allowed to stand over until he had an opportunity to discuss with Aid. Hall the amount to be charged those ordered to pay the cost of 15 cents per cart load, as the by-law read. He thought, would not work out. It also read at present that this charge was for carts entering the wharf premises. If this were allowed to remain as it was there would be nothing to prevent a man driving his cart close to the wharf and carrying the garbage in a barrel or so to the wharf.

On motion of Councilor Newton, it was decided to order the solicitor to draw up a by-law to regulate the holding of fairs, horse races, and exhibitions within the municipality. He thought a small license fee should be charged sufficient to pay the cost of policing and other expenses connected therewith. This met with general favor and it was so ordered. Sergeant Murray and two specials were appointed to do the police work during the time of the races.

Orders were given to the pathmaster to see that none of the rock belonging to the municipality was interfering with.

TORIES STILL HOLD UP SUPPLY CAUCUS DECIDES TO CONTINUE OBSTRUCTION Government Estimated to Put Through Estimates in Spite of Burlesque.

Ottawa, June 9.—At an opposition caucus today it was decided to continue the present tactics in the commons with a view to finally forcing the government either to drop the election bill or to appeal to the country.

The Ontario Conservative members have come back from the provincial campaign in a very arrogant frame of mind and hope by compelling dissolution and an appeal to the country at once to ride into power in the wake of Premier Whitney's victorious ship.

The government, on the other hand, will still insist on the right of majority rule. The next few days will probably see some decidedly interesting developments in the situation.

In the commons to-day the opposition members again attempted to evade the onus of being made responsible for holding up the salaries of many hundreds of civil servants through out the country by obstructing the passing of the estimates.

Hon. W. S. Fielding declared the government had twice asked for a special interim vote to provide for salaries, but in the first case when one-fourth of the total supply had been asked for only one-eighth had been granted, while the second request for an interim supply bill had been refused altogether.

The government was not now going begging to the opposition for a special supply bill every few days to keep the business of the country going, but were determined to put through the balance of the estimates and to assert that the majority should stand.

On the intercolonial estimates the opposition continued the obstruction methods.

SCAVENGING BY-LAW PASSES THE COUNCIL

Ald. Hall's Measure Goes Through With Few Amendments.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

Ald. Hall's by-law, providing for a systematic handling of garbage, was passed by the council last evening, and after it has gone through the usual forms, the measure will be in force. The measure was passed practically as introduced last week. One of the few changes made was in regard to the charge to be made for staff delivered at the city wharf for disposal. In the by-law as introduced the charge was placed at 15 cents per load for each cart delivering garbage to the wharf. Last night this was amended so that larger vehicles will be charged at the rate of 15 cents per cartload. A few minor changes were made, one of which was to reduce the penalty for infractions of regulations was changed from a fine of from \$10 to \$50 for a first offence and a similar fine and cancellation of license for a second offence to a fine of from \$25 to \$50 on the first offence and the same and cancellation for a second. The penalty for people other than license scavengers, who break the regulations, is a fine of not more than \$50.

The by-law as passed provides briefly that all garbage must be taken to the city wharf, on Telegraph street,

where the combustible portion of it will be destroyed in a furnace and be erected for the purpose, and the remainder will be taken out to sea. A change of the amount mentioned above will be levied by the city for handling this garbage. In order that the most ample opportunity may be given scavengers for the delivery of garbage there will be a man at the wharf constantly from 4 a. m. to 8 p. m., between which hours all scavenging will have to be done. No money will be accepted by these men but every one delivering garbage at the wharf must first go to city hall and there secure a supply of tickets, each of which will cost 15 cents. These will be collected by the men at the wharves.

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FOURTEEN INJURED IN C. P. R. WRECK

(Special to the Times).
Rossland, June 8.—C. P. R. train coming up to Rossland yesterday afternoon, at the Cascadia Junction, met with a serious accident. One coach became detached and leaving tracks turned over and slipped down a steep embankment. Fourteen people were injured. Several were brought here to the hospital.

LICENSE BY-LAW IS DISPOSED OF COUNCIL DOUBLES WHOLESALERS' FEES

Proposed Increase for Saloons, Hotels and Shops is Voted Down.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

Ald. Gleason's by-law to increase the liquor licenses in the city was finally disposed of last evening, being passed in a shape that bore small resemblance to the measure introduced. The only licenses affected by the by-law as it will go into force are those of the wholesalers and brewers, which are raised \$75 for every six months to \$150 for the same length of time. Up to the recent session of the legislature all that the city could assess wholesalers and brewers was \$75 for every six months. By an amendment the city was given the right to raise this figure to \$150 for every six months. The council last night took advantage of this power but rejected Aid. Gleason's proposals to raise the licenses of shops, saloons and hotels.

One of the features of the consideration of this by-law was the fact that after the council got through with it they had to put the measure through as it stood restored the saloons, hotels and bottle licenses to the figures at which they stood previous to the increase of last year. Aid. Gleason could not see this as a success, but as soon as the thing became clear haste was made to amend the by-law that these licenses would remain at present figures.

After all the other business had been disposed of this by-law was called and Aid. Gleason moved that the council agree to go into committee to consider it.

The measure was then referred to the aldermen at the previous meeting. He was prepared to accept suggestions as his desire was to secure the by-law as it stood, and he was prepared to stand for some time, at least. Judging from what was said last week the council was agreed that there should be a difference between saloon and hotel licenses, and that the rate of reduction all around if the traffic were on a different footing and conditions warranted it.

Ald. Mable's objection to the clause increasing the shop licenses was considered by the parties referred to the equipment of the Newington with turbine ventilation, so as to adapt her for the carrying of perishable goods to the San Blas concern for north-bound trips with fruit direct from San Blas to San Diego or San Pedro, where it was recently paid a visit to this city, stated that the plantation could produce 8,000 bunches of bananas a month, and that the time will be spent, if the deal is completed, in freighting on the Mexican and Californian coasts.

The Mexican coast-wise and American trade is growing to large dimensions is shown by the recent purchase of the steamship Bonita by the Eros Bros. agents for the Canadian-Mexican line at Guaymas, for use of that route. The Bonita is now loading for Victoria.

Capit. Shadforth will leave to-morrow night on the steamship City of Puebla for San Francisco to confer with Mr. Smith and others interested in the proposition.

Fishing is very good in the upper reaches of the Cowichan river. That is the information brought down by G. T. Fox, who has been to the lower part of the river. He reports that the fishery was not so good as might be desired, but that farther up there were a number of large catches made.

Most of the fishing done below the railway, Mr. Fox says, is being done with bait. In the upper reaches, however, the fly is just as effective and the sport very much better. One man who has just returned, caught sixty fine trout in four days. While there is nothing very large in that catch it is large enough for any sportsman. Many of the people who have been up recently are practical anglers, and they are delighted with the results. The scenery, and the sport combined have given them a most enjoyable time.

Those who wish to take advantage of the fly season in the Cowichan should go up soon for this is the best season of the year for the fish. Very soon when the hot weather has set in, the fish will not be so eager as they are at present.

At the annual meeting of the Sons of St. George, held in the A. O. U. W. hall last evening, the following officers were installed for the ensuing term: F. C. Winterburn, W. Pres.; R. Rudd, Vice P.; G. Pentketh, Sec.; Bro. Howard, Assist. Sec.; Junior officers, Bros. Clark, Watson and Levy. Light refreshments were provided, and were indulged in with gusto after the business of the evening.

Worthy Grand President Price gave a very interesting resume of the history of the lodge. Worthy P. E. S. C. Court gave a very instructive and intelligent discourse on the duties of the Sons, as brothers and patriots. Bro. Bradbury also gave a very lucid and fascinating description of the formation and subsequent vicissitudes of the Sons of St. George lodge, until it is becoming one of the foremost lodges of its kind in Victoria. Bro. Bradbury's description of his recent visit to the Old Country was listened to with keen attention, evoking applause when well known institutions were described. The usual toasts were drunk and responded to with gusto after the business of the evening.

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At the time of the municipal election With this the clause affecting hotels was struck out. The next to come up was that relating to wholesalers and brewers. Aid. Fullerton said that this should be passed. When a party from which so little could be hoped in the way of temperance as that now in power gave the city the power to increase a license in this way it showed that the necessity for the higher tax was patent to all, and he thought that the city should take advantage of the power conferred.

Ald. Pauline objected to any change whatever in the license fees so soon after last year's by-law. He also objected to a higher tax on the wholesalers as they were already heavily taxed by the government in other ways. In addition only a very small portion of the business of these firms was done in Victoria. He could not support the by-law in any way, shape or form.

Ald. Fullerton said that the city should certainly take advantage of the power given it by the legislature. The by-law was presented by act of the legislature in the city so that all that was left for the city to-day was recoup itself as far as possible for what the traffic cost it.

Ald. Hall remarked that if the city were going to increase licenses they should give at least six or eight months' notice. He did not believe in the method proposed by Aid. Gleason. The increase in the licenses was passed without division.

Some time was spent in renumbering the clauses and when this had been done Mayor Hall pointed out that the effect of the voting down of the proposed increases in the saloon, hotel and shop licenses was that the figures in force before last year's by-law went into effect were restored.

Ald. Gleason argued against this for a minute but soon realized that the Mayor was right and the by-law was again amended to provide that the present licenses for these places should hold good.

Then followed a race against time to give the by-law its third reading and pass it before 11 o'clock, the hour of adjournment for the council in which the by-law won out.

There has been placed on the market at Gordon Head one of the choicest subdivisions to be found in that favored district. This is the Appleton estate on the new Ocean Drive. The location is only about six miles from the central part of Victoria and about four miles from the Willows car line.

Visitors to Gordon Head have always admired the situation of the Appleton estate. A beautiful beach fronts on it and the land is admirably adapted for fruit growing. The beaches are of white sand, making them ideal for those who enjoy the water.

In addition to this the area is well supplied with fresh water springs. In all respects the lots offered in this section are admirably adapted for homes. All the advantages of a summer residence are connected with them and in addition there is the rich productivity of the soil making a small area sufficient upon which to make a living.

The lots are so laid out as to give water front in each case. The lots vary from two acres in extent to over twelve acres, there being twenty-two of them in all.

The sale of the lots are in the hands of Pemberton & Son on easy terms, and it is safe to prophesy that they will be snapped up in very quick time.

The St. Paul's branch of the Woman's Auxiliary to Missions will hold a garden party in the rectory grounds of St. Paul's church, Esquimalt, on Tuesday, June 23rd, from 10 p. m., in aid of church funds. Tea and cake will be served both afternoon and evening.

Harold Smith, a partner with Geo