Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD, 1888.

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BY

W. H. ELLIS, A. G. SAUNDERS, W. H. HIGGINS. } ELLIS & CO.

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THE SUMAS DYKING ACT.

The bill to repeal (in part) the Sumas Dyking Act, Fraser river, and throw open the lands to settlement, passed at the last session of the legislature, came into force yesterday, February 1st. With the exception of some lands at Matsqui, the large area of river lands which was embraced in this act, is now in the market. However, for some years past the greater portion of these lands have been cultivated or pre-empted by squatters, who will now be enabled to secure a title and thus be relieved from any nervousness which may have been previously felt. It is understood that the Dominion Government some time since conceded that the proprietorship of these lands, although within the railway belt, was vested in the Provincial Government, and the embargo on them having been now lifted, the addition to the provincial exchequer on account of sales will be in the neighborhood of $45,000.

THE LIBERAL LEADER.

That brilliant Frenchman, the Hon. Wilfrid Laurier, is, it seems, to be deposed from the leadership of the Liberal party. He has not been a success, we are told, and lacks those qualities which would some time in the dim and dusky future ensure the Grit party reaching power at Ottawa. His usefulness is gone, he lacks "aggressiveness," as a writer in the Toronto *Mail* very aptly says, "so essential in a leader to such a party as the Liberals of Canada are." The same writer suggests three names: William Paterson, who paid our city a pleasant visit last year, Oliver Mowat and Sir Richard Cartwright as worthy to fill the place which Mr. Mackenzie was compelled reluctantly to vacate, and which Mr. Blake "through ill health" resigned. Mr. Paterson, he thinks, is of too retiring a nature and is too deeply engrossed in business to accept the nomination, while Mr. Mowat prefers the treasury benches of the rich province of Ontario to a very cold seat on the immediate left hand of Mr. Speaker at Ottawa. To Sir Richard—"the fly on the wheel"—all eyes are turned, and notwithstanding his many faults, he it is who is destined to be the salvation of the "party of purity." The picture of the "knight of deficits," with that aristocratic cast of countenance which despises all "plebeiana," heading a "Liberal party" does, it must be confessed, look a little incongruous, and we have no doubt his assumption of the duties of the office would prove highly satisfactory to the Liberal-Conservative party at least. No one can gainsay his abilities, but he was never born to lead men, and is exceedingly unpopular even with his own party. Mr. Laurier, in stepping down and out, will probably do so with loud imprecations upon the heads of the men who have so cruelly victimized him, causing him to be, as they have, a make-shift to be insulted and displaced before he has even had an opportunity to show of what stuff he is made.

THE LONDON TIMES' CENTENARY.

The London *Times* has just completed its 100th year. On January 1, 1788, the first number of the *Times* was published. It was not an entirely new publication. Its full title on its first appearance as the *Times* was *The Times or Daily Universal Register*, and, as the *Daily Universal Register* had been regularly published for three years previously, the first copy of the *Times* was numbered 940. Various foreign journals sent congratulatory telegrams, but for the most part the other London daily papers maintained a strict silence on an event almost unique in the history of journalism. As the *Times* truly remarks, "From day to day during a whole century the *Times* has written its own history, and it has become more and more as time went on the history of the whole civilized world. Without presumption we may say with Livy, changing only a single word to suit our purpose—'*Res est et immensi operis, ut quæ supra centesimum annum repetatur, et quæ ab exiguis profecta initiis, eo creverit ut jam magnitudine laboret sua.*" The *Times* thus refers to this notable event in its history: On New Year's Day, 1788, was published in Printing House Square, the first number of the *Times*. There was little in the external surroundings of the event to mark the date as a memorable one. Two centuries earlier, the year 1588, had been regarded as an *annus mirabilis*, in which England was delivered from the peril of invasion; one century earlier, another deliverance had rescued the nation from the thraldom of a selfish and unpatriotic despotism. But a hundred years ago, though the world was tottering on the edge of a tremendous cataclysm, statesmen and publicists were able to congratulate themselves on the state of Europe and even on the state of France. Louis XVI. was still firmly seated on his throne; the meeting of the States-General was only a dream of a few advanced politicians; Pitt was a peace Minister, with large and liberal views of fiscal and Parliamentary reform; and Napoleon was a young and obscure officer of artillery. We doubt whether the historian of the future will recognize in the annals of 1788 any event more noteworthy than the establishment of the *Times*. The career of this journal during the century that lies behind us forms, we are bold to say, no insignificant or inconspicuous part of the history of Great Britain. Our record extends far enough back to justify us in speaking of this point with a certain amount of freedom. The *Times*, as it founder described it, even before it assumed the name, was intended to be "uninfluenced by party, uncontrolled by power, and attached solely to the public interest." To that ideal the conductors of the paper have steadily adhered during one hundred years thronged with changes and chances, through all revolutions of political power, of literary expression, and of popular taste. How remarkable the transformation is our readers may judge for themselves by the extracts we print this morning from the first few numbers of the *Times* issued a century ago. Yet a plain-dealing spirit of independence is recognisable, we hope and believe, through every variation of circumstance and costume. We have fought for great causes, victorious or vanquished; we have endeavored to represent, not unsuccessfully, as we are proud to think, the solid sense, the steady patriotism, and the practical instincts of the great body of the people of the United Kingdom, without distinction of class. The *Times* has never been and never will be the organ of a party, however triumphant, or the mouthpiece of a political leader, however autocratic. We are entitled to affirm that this attitude of unfettered criticism has left its mark for good on the amazing development of the British nation during the past hundred years. The position of primacy in the journalism of the world long since established by the *Times* is acknowledged, not throughout the United Kingdom only, but in foreign countries. In Europe, in America, in India, and the Colonies, the *Times* is universally recognized as having a right to speak in the name of England. That high privilege, involving duties even higher, we may confidently assert will never be abused; but will be maintained, in accordance with the traditions of the paper, by the enterprise, the independence, and the resolution that have been crowned hitherto with success.

The other side is thus tersely told by the *Pall Mall Gazette*: We are all proud of the *Times*, and often not a little ashamed of it, and both feelings combine to excite interest in the centenary which is celebrated to-day at Printing House Square. The *Times* is, as the editor of a Vienna journal telegraphs, the most celebrated newspaper in the world, and the centenary of its first publication is an anniversary of which journalists of all others should be prompt to recognize. Of course no one takes seriously the somewhat magniloquent vaunting which appears in that journal's leading column to-day—for the staidest of newspapers may be pardoned for exaggerating a little on its hundredth birthday—but we gladly unite in congratulating our contemporary upon the position which it has attained, a position quite without precedent or parallel in the history of the world. Mr. Lowell condensed into one stanza the expression of a faith which is in all respects so exactly the antithesis of the working creed of the *Times* that is worth quoting:

Then to side with Truth is noble when we share
her wretched crust,
Ere her cause bring fame and profit, and 'tis
prosperous to be just;
Then it is the brave man chooses, while the
coward stands aside,
Doubting in his abject spirit till his Lord is
crucified,
And the multitude make virtue of the faith
they had denied.

All that to Mr. Lowell seemed most cowardly, despicable and vile is to the *Times* the very essence of the duty of a journalist who essays to express the opinions of the best part of the British people. But it does not stand aside doubting. If it had been published at Jerusalem in those days it would have hounded on the chief priests, and have been severely sarcastic upon the dubitations of that weak creature Pontius Pilate who hestitated to deal out exemplary justice to so pestilent and seditious a agitator. A combination of the qualities of the Vicar of Bray with the post of Devil's Advocate against all good causes when in their earlier stages is not the most attractive ideal of journalism, and that the *Times* has survived its disreputable politics is due to its parliamentary reports, its correspondence, its foreign intelligence, and the general respectability of its news, which combine to make it, despite its moral defects, the greatest newspaper in the world.

THE RABBIT PLAGUE IN NEW ZEALAND.

"Yes, the rabbits are crowding us heavily in New Zealand," said Professor F. D. Brown, of the Colonial University, New Zealand, at the Palmer House, Chicago. "The Northern Island," he continued, "is where they are playing the greatest havoc, but in the Southern Island, where I live, we are comparatively free of them. But our neighbors! think of it. Millions of them, long eared, short eared, gray, white, black, red, spotted and all the colors of the rainbow. One can have stewed rabbit, fried rabbit, and rabbit broiled, fricasseed, hashed and scalloped, until the New Zealanders are like the man who ate quail every day for thirty days, only they are not only surfeited and disgusted with rabbit as a steady diet, but their disgust is intensified when they realize that they can't get rid of the surplus, an affliction more plethoric and troublesome than the great surplus in the American treasury vaults. We long for a rabbit war—a war to the death—until the entire race is wiped off the face of the earth, and the country that knew rabbit once shall know it no more forever. 'My kingdom for a horse!' exclaimed King Richard; but New Zealand cries, 'Who shall deliver us from this fiend, the rabbit? Money and glory await the discoverer of a new 'Rough on rabbits.'"

THE FISHERY COMMISSION.

We incline to the belief that the telegrams from Ottawa with reference to the United States getting the upper hand of Canada in the Fishery Commission now sitting at Washington are misleading, and purposely so. The deliberations have been carried on so secretly that it is almost impossible any one could know what has really transpired. Until the result has been made public we would advise readers to take such dispatches "with a grain of salt." We may confidently believe that the Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Sir Lionel Sackville-West and more especially Sir Charles Tupper will see to it that our interests are protected. They have personally too much at stake to allow themselves to be defeated in the negotiations by Bayard, or any one else.

A DRILL SHED.

THE COLONIST has long agitated the establishment of a drill shed in this city, and is gratified that the seed sown by it has not fallen on barren ground, as evidenced by the action of the city council on Wednesday evening. They have taken hold of the matter in the proper way. It is the customary thing in the East in such cases for the city to donate a suitable site while the Government constructs and furnishes the building. When the Minister of Militia was here last year he is understood to have expressed the opinion that the present drill shed was entirely inadequate, and that if the militia of this city were to be placed on a proper footing, it was imperative that proper quarters should be supplied them. Now that the Council have taken the matter in hand, we hope they will not rest until they have carried the matter on to a satisfactory conclusion. The citizens will cordially support them in the view they have taken of their duty, and we have every confidence that when they have chosen a site the Government will come forward promptly and build a drill shed which will be a useful ornament to Victoria.

THE MINING EXPLOSION.

Telegram from the Manager—Mr. E. G. Prior's Opinion as to the Cause of the Explosion.

The following telegram was received by Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir on Wednesday:

WELLINGTON, 1st Feb.—Examined mine again; found no gas; found one exploded powder tin in Lance Robertson's place; also one in R. Robertson's place; the bottom of shaft clear of water; working on the pumps. Miners committee meeting this morning; general meeting this evening.

JOHN BRYDEN.

Mr. E. G. Prior, M. P., who on hearing the news of the explosion, telegraphed that he was prepared to render any assistance in his power, if needed, on Tuesday proceeded to Wellington for the purpose of making a personal examination of the east level, where the explosion occurred. To a representative of THE COLONIST Mr. Prior, who arrived from Wellington by the afternoon train yesterday, stated that he had made a thorough inspection of the whole of the east level. There were evidences of a very heavy explosion, and there was no difficulty in tracing the course the latter had taken. Mr. Prior examined the faces of all the levels and stalls, and did not discover a vestige of gas anywhere. If the mine was in the habit of giving off gas, it would be bound to show now, because all bratticing is blown down, all stoppings blown out, and big caves have occurred. No air is passing into the mine, and it has been standing in this condition for a week, yet there is not a bit of gas to be found in the whole place. Mr. Prior's firm opinion is that the primary cause of the explosion was a blown-out shot in Lance Robinson's place—the face of the main east level. Everything goes to prove that the explosion started from there. All the timbers are blown from that point, and there is a thick coating of soot on that side of all the rocks and timbers. Lance Robinson's powder canister, which was one capable of holding about four pounds, was found within twenty-one feet of the blown-out shot, and the shot itself points in a direct line for the can. The contents of this can had evidently exploded. Some dozen other cans were found in different parts of the levels, headings, etc., where the explosion had passed through, the contents of which had not exploded. These were all more or less full of powder. The heat of the explosion must have been very intense, as the solid coal on the ribs is burned quite into cinder.

Mr. Prior is quite confident that gas played no part in the explosion, but that the latter was started by a blown-out shot, which discharged the powder can and ignited the coal dust. The mine is a dry mine, but by no means a dusty one, and is one which, under ordinary circumstances, he would consider perfectly safe from explosion by coal dust.

THE S. S. MEXICO ASHORE.

She Runs on Gossip Reef, near Plumper's Pass, During the Fog.

The steamer Yosemite, which, in spite of the dense fog, arrived in the harbor at 4:30 Wednesday afternoon, brought the intelligence that the steamship Mexico, Capt. Huntingdon, had gone ashore at 10:30 a.m., on Gossip reef, which lies on the Gulf side of Plumper's Pass. Pilot Ettershank was in charge at the time. When she went ashore the fog was very thick, and, as her engines were not working she did not strike hard, and is now resting easily. It is thought that as she went on two hours after high tide that at high tide to-day she will float off. If not, the steamer Yosemite, which leaves at 5:30 this morning for the purpose, will endeavor to pull her off. The present position of the Mexico is not very far distant from that she occupied when she went ashore last year. The second officer of the steamship boarded the Yosemite at Plumper's Pass and gave letters to the steamship's agents here, Welch, Rithet & Co. "It never rains but it pours," seems to be verified, for, with their best steamers in difficulty, the P.S.S.Co. are having a great deal of trouble. However, the Umatilla will probably be released on Monday, and it is trusted that the Mexico will escape this time without serious injury.

From THE DAILY COLONIST, Feb. 2.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

A Worthy Object.

The Gus Levick Co., will probably play here on their return from the Mainland in aid of the sufferers by the Wellington catastrophe.

The Council Vacancy.

Mr. Richard Collister, one of Johnson street's best men, is spoken of as a probable candidate to fill the vacant seat at the city council board.

Steamer Capsized.

The little steamer Gleaner was capsized near Astoria on Monday last and Miss Hall, Miss Wilms and Jacob Rennell were lost. The vessel sank in thirty feet of water.

Resignation of a City Councillor.

Mr. Pearse, senior councillor for Johnson street ward, has tendered his resignation. This will necessitate a new election in that ward. Mr. Pearse has been an efficient councillor, but has always differed with the majority on the water question.

A Forthcoming Event.

It is the intention of the temperance organizations of this city to give a concert on the evening of the 14th inst. The proceeds will go toward paying off the indebtedness on Temperance Hall. This object, together with the fact that a first-class entertainment will be provided, should fill the hall on that evening.

Foggy Weather.

Yesterday steamboat captains experienced great difficulty in navigating, on account of the dense fog which settled over the straits. The Olympian did not arrive until after 10 o'clock, and the Yosemite and Amelia came in at 5 o'clock last evening through a fog so thick that it was almost impossible to see fifty yards in any direction.

A Prisoner Escapes.

Robert Nordcliff, a Norwegian sailor, who was in durance vile at Port Townsend, charged with burglary, escaped from jail on Monday noon by cutting through the ceiling. Nordcliff robbed Albert Bartlett of $400 last fall and was awaiting trial. The fugitive had not been captured at last accounts.

Drill Shed for the Militia.

The question of providing a new and more commodious and convenient drill shed for the militia, brought to the attention of the council last evening by Mayor Grant, is one that will meet with ready approval. The present quarters at James Bay are wholly unsuitable, and if the force is ever to attain strength in numbers and proficiency in drill they must be provided with proper facilities for drilling.

Smallpox Regulations.

All vessels from ports in San Francisco Bay are compelled to stop at Port Townsend before proceeding up Sound, and undergo an inspection by the health officer. The revenue cutter Oliver Wolcott has been cruising down the straits, speaking vessels and ordering them to Port Townsend. The steamer San Pedro, from San Francisco, was the first vessel from San Francisco to be inspected, and the sum of two dollars and fifty cents was collected by the health officer, one dollar of which he will retain. Vessels are subject to a detention of not less than twenty-four hours or more than three days by the health officer, who has the option of such orders.

The K. de K. Goes to the Bottom.

Steamer K. de K., says the *Columbian*, came to grief last night and now lies with her bottom on the bed of the Fraserriver. It appears that some time after the cold snap commenced one of the exhaust pipes filled with water, froze and finally burst. When the weather moderated the pipe thawed and being below the water mark the water ran in, and escaping through the leak soon filled the steamer and sank her. The K. de K. now lies in a forlorn looking condition, her hull and upper works being almost submerged. The water is high in the river at present and nothing can be done to restore the K. de K. to her former sphere of usefulness, but when the water subsides again it is expected she will be floated without much trouble.

Funeral of the Late Geo. Mills.

The funeral of the late George Mills took place yesterday from his residence, North Saanich, and was very largely attended, both by neighbors and friends from town. The interment took place in the cemetery attached to the new church of the Holy Trinity at North Saanich. The Rev. Mr. Gregory officiated. The two acres of land devoted to burial purposes, and upon which the church stands, formed part of the farm of the deceased and was generously given by him to the church, and by a singular coincidence his was the first burial there. The pall bearers were Coun. Braden, R. H. Walker, J. J. Downey, J. W. Walker, E. S. Wilkinson and Wm. J. Clarke. At the conclusion of the solemn services the Rev. Mr. Gregory announced that a funeral sermon would be preached at Holy Trinity church next Sunday morning.

His Latest Joke.

The latest attempt of Jas. Orr, M.P. P., for Westminster district, to secure town lots at Vancouver, is a novel one. In the old Granville town plot survey a number of lots are laid out on paper, which are the same distance from the shore of the inlet. The railway line passes at one end of these lots, some fourteen in number, and the claim put forward by Mr. Orr is that the grant to the railway company only took in the land lying within the centre of the railway track, and that the lots have never been reserved from the time they were advertised at $100 apiece. Therefore Mr. Orr has tendered at the Government office $100 apiece for a certain number of the lots in question, and has induced several others to do likewise. Whether the lots exist or, if so, have by some lucky chance escaped the railway company grant is not definitely known. But if it should prove that the provincial finances can be added to by their disposal, it is probable that Mr. Orr will have a chance of bidding for them at auction.

The Mails.

No eastern mails again last night and no intelligence as to the cause. Probably no road on the continent transacts its business in so extraordinary a manner as the C.P.R. Accidents occur, and long after they have happened they are magnified in the press, simply because the C.P.R. officials will not allow any authentic statement to be made of them. No news comes of the cause of the delay in the transmission of mails and the public, and more especially business men, are greatly inconvenienced in consequence. Even at the Post Office nothing definite is known. It is seldom found out until the Louise arrives, whether or not she carries mails. This is very disgraceful and certainly shows a great lack of policy on the part of the C. P. R. The *attaches* of the road may imagine they are showing a wise discretion in concealing the difficulties on the line, but public opinion seems to express an exactly opposite view. Our Board of Trade is a very useful body and is doing fine service to the city; it eminently comes within its province to make such a protest to the C. P. R. Company as will abolish so unsatisfactory a state of affairs.

Police Court.

Yow Chuck, the Chinaman who was charged with being of unsound mind on Tuesday, was yesterday charged with being a vagrant and sentenced to pay a fine of $25, or in default one month's imprisonment.

Joseph Dougan, a drunk, was fined $5.

Y. M. C. A.

By eight o'clock last night almost all the suitable sitting accommodation in the hall of the Y. M. C. A. rooms was taken up, and by the time that Mr. Anderson, who was in the chair, announced the first piece in the programme, the hall was crowded, standing room being at a premium. The orchestra opened the concert by playing a selection, with Prof. Sharpe as pianist. The Misses Stevens then played a duet on the pianoforte, and were followed by Mrs. Turnbull who, in response to her song "Caller Herrin'," gave "Who's that Tapping on the Garden Gate?" Mr. F. G. Richards', jr., rendering of the song "Love's Request," showed that that gentleman possesses a very good tenor voice. As the next on the programme the Chairman announced Miss Jessie Rattray, who on her appearance was received with a most demonstrative welcome. The excellent manner in which she played Wienwuski's "Polish National Dance," secured for her rounds of applause, in acknowledgement of which she favored the audience with "The Blue Bells of Scotland," with variations. Prof. Sharpe accompanied the young lady on the pianoforte. Miss O'Neill's song "The Broken Pitcher," was very well rendered, her articulation being especially good. She was loudly applauded and as an *encore* repeated the last verse. After an intermission of a few minutes the orchestra, aided by Mrs. Gall at the pianoforte, played a few selections and were followed by Miss Gibbs who greatly delighted her hearers with "When the Leaves begin to Fall." "The Mountebank's Song," by Mr. Kent, was *encored* and the last verse repeated. A recitation, "How Sockery Set the Hen," by Mr. Kerr, amused the audience so much that they insisted upon Mr. Kerr's reappearance. "Want to Buy a Cat?" a sequel to his first recitation, was then delivered by that gentleman. Major Prior, as was to be expected, received an *encore* to his song, "The Brave Old Oak," and to quiet the audience he was obliged to repeat the last verse. A quintette, Messrs. Johnson, Back, Solloway and the Masters Martens, "Sweet and Low," was *encored*. Last, but by no means the least, was "Annie Laurie," by Prof. Sharpe. It would be doing Prof. Sharpe an injustice to try and comment upon his really excellent rendering of that universally known and popular Scotch song. In response to an *encore* the Professor, by special request, gave "Nearer My God to Thee." Prof. Sharpe's happy endeavors to make the concert the success it was is greatly to be commended, and the managing committee are obliged to that gentleman for his kind services. The chairman here thanked the ladies and gentlemen who so ably assisted at the concert, as also those who, by their presence, showed their appreciation of Y. M. C. A. work. He was glad to say that soon again an "At Home" would be held in the hall. The singing of the national anthem brought the concert to a close.

PERSONAL.

G. F. Kyle came over from the Sound yesterday.

J. W. Harvey and son, New Westminster, are in the city.

Rev. Dr. Reid returned from New Westminster yesterday.

Hon. R. Dunsmuir goes to Nanaimo this morning. He will not probably return before Saturday.

Major E. G. Prior, M. P., goes to Nanaimo to-day to give evidence in the Wellington colliery explosion.

E. M. Johnson will leave for New York to-morrow to meet Mrs. Johnson, who is on her way to that city from England. Mr. Johnson will return to this city, while Mrs. Johnson goes back to England.

W. H. Marshall, general agent of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, with headquarters at Portland, arrived on the Olympian yesterday. Mr. Marshall expects that there will be a large influx of tourists to this part of the world during the coming months. He reports his line as being in good condition, and those who have travelled over the "river route" between St. Paul and Chicago will readily concede that it is a most delightful route, besides furnishing rapid transit and superb accommodations.

MARINE.

Steamer Geo. W. Elder, it is stated, will leave San Francisco on Friday next for this port in place of the Umatilla.

Barks Valley Forge, Don Nicholas and California will complete their cargoes of lumber at Chemainus about Saturday.

Steamer Ancon, Capt. Carroll, arrived at the outer wharf yesterday morning from Alaska. She left again for the Sound at 12 o'clock, noon.

Mr. J. Edwards, freight clerk, has taken the place of Mr. Johnson as purser of the Mexico for a short period, Mr. Johnson having obtained leave of absence.

Am. ship Joseph S. Spinney is now unloading twenty-six miles of railroad iron at the North Seattle ocean dock for the Seattle, Lake Shore & Eastern railway.

Br. ship Cape Verde finished unloading her cargo of railroad iron at Smith's Cove, Puget Sound, on Monday, and will tow to Hastings as soon as possible to load lumber for Valparaiso.

Snag boat Samson will be commissioned to-morrow to place in position the buoys on the sandheads, Fraser river. Capt. J. Gauden and Mr. Owens, mate of the Douglas, will go on the Yosemite to join her.

The U. S. cruiser Corwin has arrived at Port Townsend. Several weeks ago, while cruising outside of San Francisco in a thick fog, she ran foul of an English vessel which carried away the cutter's foretop-gallant-mast.

A large number of vessels are bar bound on the Columbia river, among which are several passenger steamers. It is probably this cause that is detaining the steamer Idaho, which is over due at this port, on her way to Alaska.

B. C. MUNICIPALITIES.

TO THE EDITOR:—Can you inform me what municipalities in B.C. outside of Victoria, Vancouver, Nanaimo and New Westminster are represented by a reeve and councillors?

TOURIST.

Victoria, Jan. 31st, 1888.

[One on the Island, Cowichan, and six on the Mainland, viz: Richmond, Delta, Surrey, Maple Ridge, Langley and Chilliwhack. Ed.]

Eugene Zimmerman, formerly director of the Fidelity National Bank at Cincinnati, who was in London when indicted by the U. S. grand jury for complicity in the transactions of that bank, has returned. He appeared before Judge Sage and pleaded not guilty and gave bonds for $20,000.

In a match game of billards at Milwaukee between Schaeffer and Carter Tuesday night, Schaeffer made the largest run on record, scoring 284 points in the seventh and last inning, balk game. The largest run ever made by Schaeffer before was 230 points: he beat his own record by 54 points.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

The regular weekly meeting of the Council was held last night in the City Hall:—Present, Mayor Grant and Couns. Braden, Harris, Vigelius, Styles, Wilson, Kelly, Coughlan and Powell.

COUN. PEARSE RESIGNS.

His Worship said that since the council last met he had received a letter announcing the resignation of Coun. Pearse as a councillor of Johnson street Ward. Following is the communication:

Fernwood, Victoria, 31st January, 1888.

To His Worship the Mayor:

DEAR SIR—I beg to tender my resignation as councillor for Johnson street ward. No one can regret more than I do, being compelled to take this step. No man with any self respect can sit side by side with a councillor who has on two occasions imputed to a fellow-councillor a "falsehood" without a shadow of foundation for such imputation. On the first occasion, last year, I refuted the charge by the production of documentary evidence. On the last, I felt sure that you, as my late colleague in the Water Works Committee, must believe that the action of the Water Commissioner in refusing to furnish the committee and the majority of the council with estimates of cost of his proposed scheme, was presented directly or indirectly by one or more of the dominant majority. In deference to two successive majorities of the council, I had determined to try and bring this scheme to a successful issue, pleading only that it should first receive the approval of the ratepayers. The majority of the council think otherwise, the responsibility for delay therefore rests with them.

I remain, Dear Sir
Yours sincerely
B. W. PEARSE.

Coun. Coughlan said he did not see what else the council could do but accept the resignation. He moved to that effect.

Coun. Braden said he would not have accused Coun. Pearse of telling a falsehood if he had not stated that the water commissioner refused to give the estimates, having been prompted not to do so by certain councillors. The commissioner would stand by what he said at the special meeting. He would second the motion.

Coun. Vigelius said he was very sorry that Coun. Pearse had resigned, as he was a very painstaking gentleman.

Coun. Kelly thought that Coun. Pearse should be asked to reconsider the step he had taken.

The Mayor said he was extremely sorry, as Coun. Pearse had always tried to do his duty.

Coun. Harris said if he was included in the majority who had kept back information, as Coun. Pearse had stated in his letter, he would state that he had never done so. The councillor thought that Mr. Pearse should not have taken the step he had, as men must expect to be opposed.

Coun. Coughlan asked his Worship to request the water commissioner if he would tell the council whether or not he had refused to grant the estimates required.

His worship said that information had been refused and it was on file.

Coun. Coughlan said the only object he could see in asking for the information was to delay the construction of the new water scheme.

The commissioner said he had always given the information required, except on the occasion when members of the water committee came to him to know the estimates of the Albion Iron Works contract, when he could not give them as they were not complete. He had not been prompted by any councillors not to give the information required.

The resignation was then accepted.

His worship said that it would now be the duty of the council to take steps for the election of a new councillor. The law provides that the election shall take place ten days after the resignation.

Coun. Harris moved that the nomination take place at the city hall on Friday the 10th instant, and the election on the 13th, and that the returning officer, Mr. Bull, be notified. Coun. Braden seconded and the motion was carried.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.

Coun. Coughlan rose to a question of privilege and stated that he was reported in the *Standard* as having said that he was in favor of putting the by-law before the people.

His worship said the gentleman who was reporting for the *Standard* came to him the next day and asked if he had better make a correction, and he had told him he did not think so. The mayor did not think the mistake an intentional one.

Coun. Coughlan—Well, I am satisfied now that it was not, but how comes it that I was misreported in the *Times* the next evening, for a more mixed up report I never saw.

His Worship—Humph! I don't know anything about that.

COMMUNICATIONS.

From John P. Elford, asking permission to move the building occupied by the late Sheriff Harris; granted.

From J. Hunter, superintendent of the E. & N. Railway, submitting that the E. & N. Railway propose to construct the new railway building of timber, covered with corrugated iron, the front of the building being on Store street, being built of stone and brick, and asking permission to do so; granted.

From R. Finlaison, notifying the council that unless the space under the old bridge in the north part of the city is filled up sickness will be the result, and requesting that the ditch on the south side of Queen's avenue to the Bridge Tavern, be extended to Government street; referred to the street committee and city surveyor.

From W. S. Gore, Surveyor-General, acknowledging the receipt of a letter regarding that portion of Dallas road, extending from the southeast boundary to Ross Bay cemetery being placed in a proper state of repair.

Coun. Styles did not consider this an answer to the letter sent by the council.

On motion the letter was received and filed.

From forty-seven ratepayers of Cook, North Park and Pioneer streets, asking the council to reconsider their intentions of removing part of the electric light from the corner of North Park and Cook streets; referred to the electric light committee to report.

From residents of Rock Bay, calling attention to the impassable state of Bay Avenue, and asking that it be graded; referred to the street committee to report.

From four ratepayers of Thirsk street, Work estate, calling attention to the impassable state of that street; referred to the street committee with power to act.

From ratepayers, calling attention to the bad state of Fernwood road, and asking that it be repaired; referred to the street committee to report.

From eight ratepayers, asking that the culvert on Drake street be lowered; referred to the street committee to report.

From ten ratepayers, calling attention to the state of Superior street and asking that the street be placed in proper condition for traffic and that a sidewalk be laid; referred to the street committee with power to act.

From residents of St. James street, James bay, asking that certain improvements be made; referred to the street committee.

From the Victoria Electric Illuminating Co., applying for permission to extend their system by erecting poles between certain streets; referred to the street committee to report.

From Samuel Gray, again applying for a supply of water and a hydrant at the corner of Chatham and Government streets; referred to the water committee with power to act.

From Wm. Charles, asking that the drain on the south side of View street, which is choked up, be attended to at once; referred to the sanitary committee with power to act.

From F. Morris, asking for the street lines of a lot on Chatham street, and that a sidewalk be graded; granted, subject to the usual conditions.

A letter from Mr. Theodore Davie, regarding a license to the Cosmopolitan hotel, was read and the clerk was instructed to inform Mr. Davie that the council has no power to deal with the matter.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

The accounts for the month of January, amounting to $3,199.88, were read and referred to the finance committee to be paid if found correct.

TENDERS.

It was then proposed to open the tenders for the laying of sidewalks.

Coun. Coughlan moved that they be referred to the street committee and city surveyor to award the work to the lowest tender; carried.

MOTIONS.

Coun. Wilson moved the resolution, notice of which had been given by ex-Coun. Pearse, that the by-law asking for the sum of $75,000 for a better supply of water be submitted to the ratepayers, be read a second time.

Coun. Vigelius seconded the motion.

Coun. Coughlan moved an amendment, seconded by Coun. Powell, that the by-law be shelved for six months.

The amendment was put and carried, the vote standing:

Ayes—Couns. Braden, Harris, Styles, Coughlan and Powell.

Noes—Couns. Vigelius, Wilson and Kelly.

REPEAL OF A BY-LAW.

Coun. Coughlan moved the introduction of a by-law to repeal by-law 61, and that it be read a first time. Coun. Braden seconded.

On being put it was declared a tie vote.

Mayor Grant said he was now in a position where he could cast his vote, and he would cast his vote against the introduction of the by-law. (Applause.)

THE STEEL MAIN.

Coun. Styles moved a resolution requesting Mayor Grant to attach the corporate seal to the contract with the Albion Iron Works for constructing and laying the steel main. The mover stated that in the motion he had endeavored to incorporate everything possible to hasten the construction of the work.

Mayor Grant said he would inform Coun. Styles before proceeding further that he would aid him in bringing this resolution before the council. The council could not order him to do anything. If Coun. Styles would change his motion so as to read "that the clerk attach the seal" it would be all right. But they had no right to order him to do so. He would not take upon himself the responsibility of attaching the seal, but they had the power to order the city clerk to do so.

Coun. Styles said that he understood Mayor Grant to say at a previous meeting that he would do anything the majority of the council requested him to do.

Mayor Grant—Legally.

Coun. Styles altered the motion to read as follows: "That the contract for laying and constructing the 16-inch steel main be awarded to the Albion Iron works as per tender read to the council on Monday Jan. 30th, 1888, and that the legal adviser be instructed to prepare the contract, and, if approved by the council, that the clerk of the council be requested to attach the seal of the corporation to the same."

The motion was then put and carried on the following division.

Yeas—Coums. Braden, Harris, Styles, Coughlan, Powell.

Nays—Coums. Vigelius, Wilson and Kelly.

AN OVERDRAFT.

Coun. Harris gave notice that he would move at the next meeting for power to contract an overdraft at the bank.

WATER COMMITTEE CHAIRMANSHIP.

Coun. Powell moved that Coun. Braden be appointed to fill the chairmanship of the water committee.

Coun. Braden thought that the matter should be left in the hands of his worship. He felt that he would act justly in the matter.

The question here dropped.

PERMANENT AUDITOR.

The finance committee brought in a report recommending the appointment of a permanent auditor and annexed a memorandum of his duties, which would greatly facilitate the work of the city.

STREET IMPROVEMENTS.

The street committee reported, recommending that a ten-foot sidewalk be laid on the south side of Chatham street from Blanchard to Quadra street, and a six-foot sidewalk on the south side of Chatham street between Douglas and Blanchard streets; that a sidewalk be laid on the north side of Fort street from the termination of that already laid to the city boundary; that the sidewalk on the west side of Menzies street from corner of Belleville street to the corner of Quebec street, and thence along the north side of Quebec street be graded and a sidewalk laid; that a box drain be laid on the north side of Pandora street from Quadra to Cook street; that a drain be laid on the south side of Fort street from Moss street 200 feet westward; that plans and specifications be prepared and tenders called for grading and gravelling Ellice street from Rock Bay avenue to Bridge street.

Report adopted.

POLICE REPORT.

The police committee reported on the case of Officer Hawton, and stated that he had been suspended for two weeks for allowing a prisoner to escape.

Report adopted.

THE CONTRACT.

Coun. Styles moved that Drake, Jackson & Helmcken be requested to prepare the contract for the steel main with the Albion Iron Works and submit it to the council, as early before Wednesday next as possible. Seconded by Coun. Coughlan and carried.

THE SEA DRIVE.

Coun. Harris moved that the mayor and members of the council confer with the city members and the government in regard to the construction of a driveway along the beach to the summit of Mount Tolmie. Carried.

THE POUNDKEEPER LOSES HIS HORSE.

Coun. Powell said that the poundkeeper in the discharge of his duties had lost a valuable horse, and gave notice that he would move at the next meeting that he be reimbursed to the extent of $75. The horse lost was worth $125.

MILITIA DRILL SHED.

His Worship referred to the desirability of providing a new drill shed for the local militia, and stated that it was the practice in the east for cities to furnish a site while the Dominion Government erected suitable buildings. The site at present occupied by the Yates street skating rink had been suggested, and he himself thought it a very desirable one.

Coun. Braden moved, seconded by Coun. Coughlan, that his Worship appoint a committee to report upon a suitable site for such a drill shed. Carried.

His Worship named Couns. Braden, Coughlan and Vigelius, and stated that he would assist as far as he could.

After some little further discussion the Council adjourned.

Important to Workingmen.

Artizans, mechanics and laboring men are liable to sudden accidents and injuries, as well as painful cords, stiff joints and lameness. To all thus troubled we would recommend Hagyard's Yellow Oil, the handy and reliable pain cure for outward or internal use. tu-th-sat-dw

From THE DAILY COLONIST, Feb. 3.

COUNTY COURT