

LIVELY AND INTERESTING

Meeting of the Council Last Night

Ordinance Given Its First Reading—Others Up for Final Passage.

For the first time since the city council has taken office all the members were present at the regular meeting last night, Alderman Wilson's recent arrival from the outside completing the quota. His presence was responsible, also, for a condition which arose for the first time last night—two tie votes being cast, necessitating the ballot of the mayor in order to effect a decision. In each of the ties referred to the division was between Alderman Adair, Wilson and the mayor on one side and Macdonald, Probst and Vachon on the other. In the deciding vote the mayor was not allowed his judgment to be exercised in any manner by political affiliation, he supporting Alderman Adair in one instance, in the turning of Theodore P. W. Smith's salary and ambitions, and voting against him in the proposed ordinance of firemen's salaries.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted. City Council read a number of communications. One was a telegram from John H. Lester dated at Vancouver, saying he had accepted the position of chief of the fire department and with his family would be in Dawson April 4.

Applications for different positions were read. T. H. Cox and H. Rowling would like berths on the fire department as soon as a vacancy occurs. Mike Stone applied for the position of inspector of eggs, poultry, and butter, his application being backed up by a previously signed petition.

Mr. Kenny would like to be made commissioner. He states he has had much experience in such positions, having been foreman of the fire in San Francisco for a considerable length of time.

Mr. Stewart, the deposed chief of the fire department, applied for appointment of license inspector. A protest signed by Messrs. Probst, Black and others opposing the proposed reduction of the salaries of the fire crews was filed.

Messrs. Ross and J. McNeil gave notice to the council that a cabin situated on the bluff near the Eldorado Hotel was in a dangerous position, a menace to travelers and liable to topple over into the road at any time. They stated it had been in that position for two years, was unfit to be used and asked permission to remove it for the wood it contained.

Thomas Grober, who has been a member of the city since '97, wants the position of inspector of licenses renewed.

A message was read from N. West, the New Westminster fire department, asking for the consideration of an application for the position of fireman.

The following bills were presented:

City Sun	\$ 62.50
City Sawmill	225.00
City Iron Works	8.00
City Water Co.	15.00
City & Smith	6.75
City Co.	23.25

Alderman Adair submitted a report as chairman of the standing committee on finance, recommending the passage of various bylaws already under consideration and the drawing of warrants for the salaries of City Engineer and City Solicitor Donnelly for the month of March, the amounts to be \$300 each. The report provided a new schedule of salaries which was proposed to adopt for payment of the city firemen. The following bills were recommended:

City Iron Works	\$ 56.80
City & T. Co.	25.00
City Bros.	6.00
City Mill Co.	27.30
City Mill Co.	638.12
City Nugget	30.90

The bills of McLennan & McFeely for T. W. Hardy for \$95.20 and for \$200 were rejected, the two named being referred to the city council. Alderman Murphy gave exception to the way in which the bill of Dr. Catto, for professional services rendered an indigent, was passed, and at the conclusion of the meeting of the finance committee's report moved it be laid on the table

for a week. He ventured the opinion that Dr. Catto had undoubtedly been called in consultation by Dr. McArthur, the health officer, and if such were the case he certainly was entitled to some consideration for the services he had rendered. Alderman Adair asked what authority Dr. McArthur had for incurring such bills at the city's expense when he himself was employed for that purpose, to which Alderman Murphy rejoined that the fault lay with the health officer, if a fault existed, but that the bill having been incurred it should not now be repudiated, at least in its entirety. The motion to lay on the table was subsequently withdrawn. Alderman Norquay introduced an amendment and the report of the committee was adopted as amended.

Alderman Macdonald gave notice of his intention to introduce a bylaw providing for salaries for the mayor and aldermen, which was subsequently presented and given its first reading. The bill provides for a stipend of \$4000 to be paid the mayor for the remainder of the year 1902, nine months, and \$2000 to each of the six aldermen.

At this point in the proceedings Alderman Macdonald craved the indulgence of the council and asked permission for Colonel Reichenbach to address the body. The colonel was given five minutes. He called the attention of the mayor and council, in the passage of the various ordinances then under consideration and the appointment of a license inspector, to one very important item which he trusts will not be overlooked, an item which is of the utmost consequence to the commercial interests, the interests which contribute most largely to the revenues of the city. What he referred to was the outside agents coming here with nothing but a lot of samples, men who pay nothing in taxes yet injure very materially the trade of legitimate concerns which are permanently located in the city and which pay their just proportion of the municipal expenses. The colonel would not advocate a closed port, but he would desire a reasonable license imposed upon such so-called commercial travelers and representatives of foreign houses. Such course was pursued in the majority of the cities of Canada and the United States and if carried out here it would not only afford a protection to the merchants to which they are entitled, but it would add largely to the revenues of the city.

Mayor Macaulay informed the colonel that the matter was already under consideration and that it would be finally disposed of very shortly.

Alderman Adair moved the standing committee on bylaws be instructed to interview the acting commissioner with a view to having a meeting of the Yukon council called for the purpose of securing the repeal of the present assessment ordinance. Alderman Wilson offered the suggestion that in the event of Mr. Newlands refusing to convene the Yukon council that the mayor be requested to wire Governor Ross asking that he order a meeting held for the purpose desired.

The bylaws relating to the police force, that concerning the public health, and the one having to do with the streets and the preservation of order thereon came up for their third reading and were passed with some slight amendments. One amendment in the street ordinance was concerning the riding of bicycles on the sidewalks. As amended the cyclists are prohibited from using only the walks of First and Second avenues and the west side of Third avenue and King and Queen streets.

The question of the appointment of a city engineer and street commissioner was brought up by the mayor, when it was pointed out that the engineers qualified to act as such asked the modest sum of \$5000 a year for their services. The suggestion was made that the appointment be left in the hands of the committee on streets and by them referred to the finance committee. Alderman Macdonald objected to any such arrangement and desires any appointments made should be done so in open council. He also gave notice that within two weeks he would move the striking out of those sections in the bylaw relating to the city's finances which necessitates consulting the finance committee before any appointments can be made or a dollar expended.

Alderman Wilson offered the novel suggestion that the city engineer's plum be put up to the highest bidder an idea which was agreed to.

The mayor was given authority to appoint a temporary street inspector and such assistants as may be needed in order that the clean-up of the streets and alleys may be begun without delay. The streets committee will meet and confer with Ser-

geant Smith today relative to the work.

Alderman Adair wants the cost of heating No. 1 fire hall by steam looked into, as he considers the price now being paid for such service far in excess of what it should be.

It May Mean Much.

New York, March 17.—Speeding to St. Petersburg with secret despatches on the situation in Manchuria, from the Russian embassy in Tokyo and Washington, is Prince Lobanow-Rostowsky, a confidential agent of the czar. He is making his journey as short and as rapid as steam, endurance and an unlimited supply of money can make it. The prince has at his entire disposal the services of every Russian embassy, consulate and consular agency from Tokyo to Kronstadt, for the purpose of hastening his urgent message.

The courier of the czar left this city on the steamship Aquitaine for Havre. Prince Lobanow-Rostowsky has been a special attaché of the Russian embassy in the Japanese capital. He left Nagasaki on the Pacific liner Nippon Maru, just before the ratification of the Anglo-Japanese treaty for the maintenance of the integrity of the Chinese empire was communicated to the powers. The imperial courier left Washington on the midnight train. He was preceded by a telegram from the Russian embassy in Washington to the Russian consulate in this city, which instructed the consul here to insure the prince's passage on the Aquitaine at all cost. The passage was obtained and Prince Lobanow-Rostowsky sailed under the name of Lobanow de Rostow.

The mystery and the haste of his transit began in Tokyo, where he had been sent out at the special request of the czar to watch the developments of the alliance which was then in process of negotiation, and which was designed to check Russia's move to obtain the permanent occupation of Manchuria—a province which, in extent, population and future possibilities, is an empire in itself.

The Russian embassy in the Japanese capital knew that the Anglo-Japanese treaty was an accomplished fact for days before the official announcement of its ratification. Prince Lobanow-Rostowsky now is hastening to St. Petersburg to lay before the czar and Count Lamorini, the minister of foreign affairs, important confidential information concerning the immediate prospects of the alliance.

The Russian foreign office is said to have had humiliating experiences with cable messages transmitted in secret codes, which failed to keep their secrecy, so Prince Lobanow-Rostowsky set out to bear the dispatches himself.

Many Strikers.

Boston, Mass., March 12.—From a body of 600 freight handlers of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad, who on Saturday refused to work because they were required to take care of goods brought to the depots in non-union teams, the strike forces in this city had grown to an army of 20,000 men by this morning, and 5,000 persons are idle because the concerns for whom they work have been compelled to shut down. A strike of the team drivers, who were first to join interests with the freight handlers, has forced those industries dependent on daily supplies of material to suspend until the strike is over. The various lines on industry directly reached by the strike this morning included freight handlers, team drivers, wool handlers, longshoremen and railway switchmen. If the threats of the strike leaders are well founded, this day will see the movement extended to the building trades union and to unions connected with the foreign steamship traffic.

After two days it is seen that nearly every branch of business is suffering from the strike more than the railroads, against which the strike is directed. The New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad, and the Boston & Albany system of the New York Central, have forces adequate to handle all the traffic. There is no trouble over the movement of outgoing freight, but the inward merchandise had accumulated in formidable quantities.

At the docks of the steamship lines doing coastwise business, great quantities of merchandise are piled up.

A Curious Palm of South America.

One of the most curious palms in the world is called the Ita and is very abundant on the banks of the Amazon, Rio Negro and Orinoco rivers. In the delta of the latter it occupies swampy tracts, which are at times completely inundated and present the appearance of forests rising out of the water. The swamps are inhabited by a tribe of Indians called Guaranes, who sub-

sist almost entirely upon the produce of the tree. During the annual floods they suspend their houses from tops of the tall stems of the palms. The outer skin of the young leaves is made into cords for hammocks, and the soft inner bark yields a nutritious farinaceous substance.

Asuncion's Rough Trip.

San Francisco, March 17.—Every trip of the steamer Asuncion from Puget sound to this port has been in rough weather, and the last was the worst of all. For a time, while off the northern coast, the big collier was "literally under water," according to the report made by Chief Officer Seddon, which is concurred in by Captain Evans.

The Asuncion left Tacoma March 11 with a cargo of 3,000 tons of coal for this port. When off Cape Flattery a heavy gale sprang up from the southwest, accompanied by a high sea, and Captain Evans turned back into the strait at 3 o'clock on the morning of the 12th. He put into Clallam bay, but it was so crowded with sailing vessels, waiting for the storm to subside, that he took the Asuncion to Port Angeles. The following morning, or on the 13th, the Asuncion again put to sea, but struck a terrific gale and high sea as soon as Cape Flattery was passed. The beam sea was particularly bad, and sent great waves clear over the steamer, burying her completely. From noon until 4 o'clock on the afternoon of the 14th, the Asuncion was hoisted to, and during the great gale experienced heavy squalls of snow and hail. The steamer was 121 hours on the trip, or more than forty hours longer than usual, but suffered no damage.

Mining Notes.

Mr. T. H. Ellis, president of the Yellow Jacket Mining Company, will leave for Alaska next week to start work on installing machinery on the company's Windham Bay properties. The machinery is now ready to ship.

An important mining transaction that has lately been consummated is the consolidation of seven properties in Eastern Oregon, some of them being among the best mines in that section. The properties in the consolidation are the Concord, Blain fraction, Helen, Congo, Red Boy, Golden Monarch and Climax, under the name of the Red Boy Mining Company, with a capitalization of \$3,000,000.

Mr. George Barrett, who has a contract for driving a 300-foot tunnel on the Big Four group, has written W. C. Rutter, president of the company, that in going 150-feet on his contract he has struck two blind ledges, one five feet wide, the other seven feet in width, the ore in which is similar to that in the Concord and the Monarch of the Red Boy Consolidated group.

Manager Robert Frost of the Six Eagles in Okanogan county has completed 350 feet of the 1,300-foot tunnel that he commenced about December 1, and is working twenty men steadily, using two air drills. A concentrating plant will be completed by July 1. The present expectation of the company is to pay a dividend some time next fall.

The Silver Tip Mining Company has been organized to develop a group of claims in the Mount Baker District about two miles from the Post-Lambert properties. The incorporators are J. E. Ballaine, Ira A. Case, W. R. Moultray, J. H. Remington, W. H. Martzall, C. P. Topf and L. G. Valkenburg.

Mr. A. T. Russ of Texada Island was down from that active mining locality this week. He says that the Pacific Steel Company is doing work on the iron mines on the island that belong to San Francisco parties. McKenzie & Mann, who own properties at Blubber Bay, are purchasing machinery for the purpose of pushing work the coming summer.—Seattle Times.

Shot in the Neck.

Shelton, March 17.—While hunting deer on Hartstine island Sunday, George Thompson was shot in the neck by mistake.

While separated from his two companions, and out of a spirit of fun, he began a series of sprints and jumping up and down in imitation of a deer going through the brush. His companions, hearing the noise, approached the scene. As Thompson gave one spring the movement of the bushes caught the eye of Henry Smith, who fired at the place, with the result stated. The unfortunate young man was carefully removed, but, while still alive, is in a precarious condition and is not expected to live. He is 24 years of age and married.

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Wild Goose Story.

A few days ago a very wild goose, weighing sixteen pounds, was shot and killed by a hunter on the shores of Lake Liberty, about twelve miles from Spokane, Wash. The hunter was surprised to see a piece of polished ivory protruding from the breast of the goose about two inches. The flesh had grown tightly around it and the wound had entirely healed. It was a long, sharp arrow point about eight inches long and as large as an ordinary lead pencil. Delicate carvings were on the ivory where it had been attached to the arrow stick. Evidently the bird had borne the arrow point from the far Arctic regions, where it had been shot by some Eskimo hunter. The goose was a full-grown male and had probably received the wound a long time ago.

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