

FINANCE BOARD CUTS TAX RATE THIRD OF MILL

Commissioners Reduce Estimates of Victoria Hospital by \$18,000.

REFUSE SALARY INCREASE

Advanced Cost of City Lighting Adds \$2,881 to Expenditures of No. 1 Committee.

The city commission, on Thursday night, got the tax rate down nearly a third of a mill by paring off \$18,000 on the hospital account and \$1,500 on the board of health estimates and eliminating \$4,000 from the police estimates for a new patrol.

It was a quiet session. There were nine representatives on the commission present besides the city clerk and finance commissioner.

The board of health estimates, slashed by the board before being submitted, and later increased by \$500, were cut by \$1,500.

"It is a shame," said Chairman Seabrook, to grind the board down to such a point, less than half the city will spend on parks."

The main item cut off the board's estimates were \$500 off the \$1,900 appropriation for the Isolation Hospital and \$500 salary increase to Dr. Downham, M. O. H.

There was quite a discussion on this point. Mayor Wilson said Dr. Downham had, he would have to make \$7,000 to \$8,000 in general practice.

Ald. Childs said it was a bad time to make an increase and he moved that it be struck out.

The \$300 increase to the plumbing inspector was left in the estimates. It is the first increase to stand.

There was some discussion on the \$1,000 grant to the Institute of Public Health, but the majority of the members seemed to agree that the institution was worthy of the aid.

Chairman Seabrook said that the city got a wonderful return for it, so it was allowed to stand.

The Public Library estimates were scanned, but could not be touched. They are a few hundred dollars above 1921.

Increased Cost of Lighting.

The increased cost of lighting will add \$2,881 to the estimates of No. 1 committee, Mr. Pocock explained, and the increase was ordered by the hydro commission. The auditor found that the light was being sold below cost, and ordered the increase. If it was found at the end of the year that the increase was more than the cost there would be a rebate made. The mayor said that other items could be trimmed on No. 1 estimates to keep the total to the 1921 level.

Hard to Economize.

Supr. Heard said that it was hard to economize on a hospital. He directly laid the blame on the medical profession in a measure. He cited two experiences of the day. In one case a doctor wanted to get a woman into the home of incurables. He wanted to send her to the hospital, thinking he could achieve his object more easily with his patient in a charge to the hands of the city hospital.

During the day three women were sent to the hospital, a charge of the city. No mention was made by the doctor that there would be babies along with them. This meant an additional charge. He said that it was a hard task to cut wages.

Mayor Wilson said that the hospital could reduce the 10 per cent on wages by reducing the staff. Plans with this end in view are in the making.

It is expected that the commission will meet again early next week.

Members of Parliament in Australia receive \$5,000 a year for their services.

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INGERSOLL BOY'S CONDITION BETTER

Special to London Advertiser. INGERSOLL, March 22.—A marked improvement in the condition of Ralph McKillen, 5-year-old son of Ben McKillen, who was thought to have been fatally injured by falling from a distance of eighteen feet from a veranda and alighting on his head, was announced today. Up to yesterday his condition was considered hopeless, as it was feared he had suffered very serious injuries to his skull as well as internally.

FIRM ORDERED TO PAY WAGES

McKenzie River Oil Company Held Liable For Total of \$5,881.50.

CONTRACTS WERE SIGNED Chief Justice Meredith Finds Agreements Made by Driller Binding.

As a result of contracts made by Frank Stover, oil driller, with four young men to proceed to the Fort Norman oil district, action on behalf of E. E. Davidson, manager of the McKenzie River Oil Co., the company will have to pay these men wages, although they did not actually work one day for the company, totalling \$5,881.50, according to a judgment handed down by Chief Justice R. M. Meredith at the spring assizes Thursday afternoon.

Harry G. Lucas of Middlemiss will receive \$1,185.50; Floyd Hutto, Middlemiss, \$1,865.50; Serle Lucas, Watford, \$1,195; and George Rice of Fletcher, Ont., \$1,785.50.

The case will be appealed, T. R. Ferguson for the defence stated.

Frank Stover, in the witness box, stated that he was employed last April by Mr. Davidson, who instructed him to hire men for operations in the Fort Norman district. He got the written forms on which the contracts were signed from Davidson, he declared.

Witness stated that the men were to be paid from the first of May, and he told them to hold themselves in readiness to proceed north. The men had gone to Toronto once and were told that they would make the trip later.

Witness Cross-Examined. Questioned by T. R. Ferguson of Toronto for the defence, Stover stated that he went north to work for the Fort Norman Oil Company and not for the McKenzie Company, which was not ready to proceed with operations.

Witness told Mr. Ferguson that he knew the latter company was not ready to go on, but hired the men because Mr. Davidson had ordered him to do so.

"Didn't you think that he (Davidson) was insane to do this?" questioned Mr. Ferguson.

"Yes," was the reply.

"So do I," said Mr. Ferguson.

"I don't," observed the chief justice.

"The men might have been employed by another company, if they had not been employed by this one," continued his lordship in explanation.

Serle Lucas said he was employed from May 1, at \$250 a month and board, by Stover. He got word from Stover to report in Toronto on May 15, and did so. He saw Mr. Davidson in the McKenzie River Company office, and was told that the party would not leave till later, and that Mr. Stover would notify him. Witness was told that his pay would start May 1. He had called Mr. Stover on the phone, asking about the delay, and was told that he shouldn't complain about receiving money for doing nothing.

Worked on Farm. Lucas said that he gave up a job of \$30 a week to go on the expedition. He came to the conclusion that the trip was called off about the middle of June and tried to get his work but couldn't. He worked for his father on the farm all summer for his board.

George Rice, a well driller, was working in Chatham when he signed on with the oil company for \$400 a month. On July 4 he got a job at \$7.50 a day.

Wm. Carr, solicitor of Chatham, told of the agreements being drawn up in his office. He was paid by the McKenzie people.

Charles Miller, barrister of Toronto, was the only witness for the defence. He had been a director of the company for a year, he said. The contracts had never been before the board of directors, the only men employed, so far as he knew, being Stover and a geologist. The company had not purchased a drill, and did not have money to pay these men. It would cost \$75,000 to transport a drill to their property. When he heard that drillers had been hired he thought somebody must be crazy.

Holds Defendants Liable. The board of directors appointed Davidson manager of the company, on March 10 last, according to the minutes of the company. Mr. Ferguson submitted that the board did not have power to make the appointment because Mr. Miller was not there.

"The law says these companies shall be protected from fool managers," stated Mr. Ferguson.

"I don't know that law," replied the court.

In giving judgment his lordship stated that he held the defendants liable to the plaintiffs for breach of contract.

W. R. Meredith appeared for the plaintiffs.

FRUIT GROWERS TO CO-OPERATE

London Branch Association Hears of Niagara Market-ing Experiment.

MADE USE OF TELEPHONE

Members of Organization Received Shipping Directions Every Morning.

Members of the London branch of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association heard an interesting and comprehensive report on the work accomplished by the Niagara Peninsula Growers in 1921, their maiden year as a co-operative selling organization, by David Elliott, B.S.A., a member of the sales force, in the office of the department of agriculture here, Thursday night.

Mr. Elliott reviewed conditions which led to the growers organizing, stating that in 1920 only two-thirds of a \$5,000,000 crop had been marketed. The same year, \$32,000,000 worth of fruit was imported from the United States, showing that it was a lack of proper marketing facilities that was to blame for the fact that one-third of the Niagara fruit went to waste.

Limit Shares To Five. Mr. Elliott next explained that no grower could hold more than five shares. A small grower held one share in the association and the larger the acreage under fruit the more shares could be held. All the profits went back to the grower, the speaker declared.

The association started with 456 members, and while half the growers of the district were not members, the larger fruit men were and this meant that over \$1,500,000 worth of fruit had been disposed of by the association in its first year.

The district was divided into 13 divisions, each under a director. From 8 till 10 a.m. each day during the season, every member in the various districts was called over the telephone and asked for an estimate of his day's picking. These reports were passed on to the head office and the fruit was sold by the Carpenter boys and their assistants.

Prices 11 to 45¢ each district was notified where to bill their fruit, to the prices quoted being f.o.b. shipping point.

The fruit train started out at 1 o'clock, and in busy weeks two fruit trains were run each day. Berries that would not stand shipping were sold to the canning factories, so that there was no waste.

Explains Plan Fully. Mr. Elliott explained fully the method used in keeping track of fruit brought to the shipping sheds, each grower getting a book with his number on it. Triplicate forms were used, and the number and grade noted. The growers kept the original, and the others were sent to the head office. Growers received checks twice a month, with 20 per cent being held back till the end of the year. It cost 2¢ per cent to do business last year, the members receiving checks for 8 per cent of what was sold.

The members were kept informed as to the daily pool price for each variety, and could compare it with their own returns.

Mr. Elliott stated that if the season had been more favorable to shipping berries and the growers had the standard American boxes to ship in, many cars would have been sold in the States.

Only 15.8 per cent of the fruit was actually sold on commission, although a number of commission men had purchased fruit outright from the association.

The average prices received for the various fruits as given by Mr. Elliott were: Strawberries, 11.50¢ per box; raspberries, 17.24¢ per box, and 19.14¢ for black raspberries. Sour cherries brought \$1.20 per 11-quart basket, peaches 50¢, plums 97¢, Bartlett pears 78¢, other pear varieties 60¢, with the exception of Keiffers, which brought 40¢ per 11-quart basket.

1,936 Cars Handled. A total of 1,936 cars of fruit were sold during the season.

Mr. Elliott was in favor of shipping tomatoes to the West in two-layer flats. He stated that people on the Prairies had come for the most part from Ontario and naturally preferred Ontario fruit, which was of superior flavor to British Columbia and United States fruit. It was up to the growers to put up better packages so that when plums were purchased the consumer would find them of the same size and quality in each package.

"Give the buyer what he wants, he is paying for the fruit," advised the speaker, who stated that apples should be packed in boxes or half barrels.

Fruit for the West this year would be put through a central packing-house. There would be one at Grimsby this summer.

Select Uniform Package.

"We must have a suitable package and then advertise it," said Mr. Elliott. "You can't put anything across without advertising, and we know it."

It was hoped to standardize varieties in the future, and have a survey made of the number of trees and their ages, variety, etc., recorded so that when a crop was estimated at 50 per cent it would not be hard to figure just how many cars of fruit would be handled.

A hearty vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Elliott at the conclusion of his remarks.

President William England occupied the chair.

ADJOURNMENT OF SENATE EXPECTED

OTTAWA, March 23.—Adjournment of the Senate until after Easter will, it is expected, follow passage of the interim supply bill, which the government is expected to introduce in the commons tomorrow. The Senate is being kept open in order to pass this vote before adjournment in order to give the government funds with which to carry on business after the opening of the new fiscal year.

SUITS SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR STOUT FIGURES

The appareling of stout women has become a science. Formerly the stout woman who wanted to be fashionable had her clothes made to order—at a great expense of time and money. All has been changed. Styles are modified and allowed to create an illusion of slenderness—and the Suits we are showing for stout women are ready-to-wear at no greater cost than fashions for the slender figure.



CANDIES

Cowan's Maple Buds and Medallions, Special 43c lb. Chocolate Bars and Creamy Toffee 6 bars for 25c

SPRING'S NEW COLORS In 58-Inch Homespun Flannels for Jumper Dresses Only \$2 Yard.

This is a special price for such fine quality pure wool homespun dress flannels, 56 inches wide; the material so smart and dressy for girls' jumper dresses or middie. This is much wider than most flannels, and one length is sufficient for the average size girl or young lady. There is just one piece of each color, and we suggest your order be placed early. Colors of canna, jade, Cuba rose, Paddy, sand, brown, navy, black; full 56 inches wide. Special \$2.00 yard

High-Grade Toilet Water

Minty's Toilet Water, in lilac or violet. Price 85c Colgate's Toilet Water in cashmere bouquet, daisy, lilac or rose. Price 50c Piver's Azura Toilet Water. Price \$2.75 Piver's Floramye Toilet Water. Price \$2.75 Hudnut's Rose Toilet Water. Price \$2.00 Hudnut's Sweet Lavender Toilet Water. Price \$2.00 Dier-Kiss Toilet Water. Price \$3.00 Mavis Toilet Water. Price \$2.00 Lov-Me Toilet Water. Price \$2.00

Gage and Fisk Sailors New and Smart, \$3.00 to \$9.00

We have just received a new shipment of Gage and Fisk Sailors. In wide and narrow brims; also the new rolling brim sailors. In rough braid and braids. Lisere Straw with cushion brims. Chrysanthemum Braids with georgette facing and smart crushed band of same material as trimming. These come in all the newest shades, plain, colors as well as two toned effects. Colors of sand, canna, periwinkle, black with white, all black, navy, bright red, nigger, dandelion and grey. Ranging in price from \$3.00 to \$9.00

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ARROW COLLARS

Laundered Collars in the new styles, all sizes, 25c each Soft Collars in a great variety of styles, 25c, 35c, 50c each

New Shirts for Men \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2 and \$2.50 Each

Arrow, W. G. R. and Forsyth brands, all well made of good-wearing materials, proper fitting, neat assorted stripe patterns; a very large assortment to choose from at prices that should attract eager buyers; all sizes from 14 to 19½. Prices.....\$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.00 and \$2.50 each

AFTERNOON TEA. Buckwheat Pancakes and Maple Syrup, 15c.

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TOILET SOAPS

French Castile 32c bar Wright's Coal Tar Soap 3 for 45c Opera Toilet Soap 3 for 25c Eureka Silver Polish 35c Corson's Coconut Oil Shampoo 50c Coconut Oil Shampoo Powder 2 for 25c Dorin Rouge, framboise and brunette 50c Main Aisle.

IN THE BASEMENT

Carpet Beaters, Special 20c Brush Sprat Brooms 69c Jack Sprat Pot Cleaning Mitts 10c Aluminum Percolators \$1.98 and \$2.19 Stepladders, 5 and 6 foot, extra strong, \$2.25 and \$2.50 Clothes Props, 9 feet long 35c Wash Boards—zinc rub, 60c; glass rub \$1.00 Corn Brooms 69c Market Baskets 49c, 75c, 85c and 98c Clothes Baskets 98c and \$1.19 Clothes Pegs 4c dozen and 3 dozen for 10c Toilet Paper, Sanit-Crepe 6 for 25c Satisfactory Toilet Paper 2 for 25c Onitlow Toilet Paper 15c Diamond Toilet Paper 30c Sunlight Soap 13 for \$1.00

CHINA AND GLASSWARE

Art Cut Glass Vases 39c and 69c Portable Electric Lamps, special \$8.75 and \$10.00 New Shipment of Trays, special values \$2, \$2.25 to \$5.00 Dinner Sets, 97 pieces, \$19.50, \$21.50, \$25.50, \$35.00, \$37.00 Odd White Cups 2 for 25c Odd Cups, clover leaf 17c Cups and Saucers, clover leaf 17c Glass Tumblers, each 9c Glass Measuring Cups 20c

And well they might be. They have the manly air of refinement. After all a boy doesn't object to being well dressed if he is not conspicuous. These Suits will not offend the most sensitive youth, for they add manliness to his bearing. And in these he will feel free to romp as much as he likes, for they are made as near proof against "wear and tear" as it is possible to make clothes.

Top Coats for Boys \$16.50

For the larger boys a Topcoat is a necessity at this time of year. Let us show these Coats on Saturday, for boys 12 to 16 years. Price \$16.50

Reefers, \$5.95

Tweed and Worsted Reefers for boys, in grey Halifax tweed, plain brown, red and check patterns, made with velvet collars and belts or loose box back. These are exceptional values. Sizes for boys 4, 5, 6 and 7 years. Price \$5.95

Boys' Suits \$11.95

A special showing of New Spring Suits for Saturday in two shades of grey and two shades of brown, for boys 10 to 18 years. Price \$11.95 Other Suits for boys in a great variety at \$8.00 to \$25.00

Underwear for Men

Natural shade Merino Combinations, a splendid line for early spring wear, sizes up to 44. Price \$1.69 suit Shirts and Drawers of same quality at 70c garment Men's Blue Chambray Work Shirts, with collar attached or separate collar. Price \$1.25 each

New and Attractive Neckwear

for men, handsome patterns, in grenadines, silk and silk knitted. Each \$1.00, \$1.50 to \$3.50 each

GRILL SERVICE. Planked Steak for one. Bread and Butter, Pie and Pot of Tea, 80c.