

## SCHOOL BOARD MUST INSIST

### COUNCIL WILL FRAME BY-LAW WHEN COMPELLED

#### A Bit of Red Tape Before Asking Authority to Borrow.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

Red tape has stepped in between the school board and the city council in the matter of the loan by-law which the board at its last meeting decided to ask the city to submit in January. The board has asked in polite terms for the submission of a by-law to raise a loan of \$60,000; the city council refuses point blank. The board will now demand that the by-law be submitted; the council is bound to comply with the demand.

It is desired by the school board that the sum of \$60,000 be raised. Of this \$20,000 will be added to the balance of \$40,000 from the last loan to complete the new Chambers street school. The other \$40,000 will be devoted to building a much-needed school in the south-eastern section, at the corner of Moss street and Fairfield road. A letter asking the council to submit a by-law which will produce \$60,000 net was read at last night's meeting.

The mayor did not think the city could give a net amount. It was for the board to ask for a by-law for whatever sum would, after allowing for the expenses of floating the loan, give them that net sum.

Recalling the fact that the board is short of money for Chambers street school for the reason that its \$70,000 loan last spring netted much less than the \$70,000 which the board expected to have, Aldermen Mable and Pauline wanted to know why this point had not been raised then, and why a sufficient amount of debentures had not been sold to give the board the net sum it required.

Mayor Hall replied that it was because the city was never asked to do so by the board.

Ald. Cameron remarked that the board were profiting by their experience in the spring.

City Solicitor Mana said the council pay the expense of submitting the by-law and floating the loan. The board had to look to it to be financed, and the School Act stated that councils were bound to give school boards the amount they asked for.

Ald. Henderson thought it would be better to follow the course pursued in former years; that is, refuse the request on the grounds that the city had no funds and let the school board, as was its right, demand that the by-law be submitted, which the School Act compelled the council to do.

The mayor took this view also. The city solicitor did not see any necessity for this.

Aldermen Pauline and McKewen moved that the request be granted and a by-law be prepared, and this was carried.

The mayor was still assailed by doubts in regard to the necessity for a petition and so on.

Later in the evening, after a consultation with the city solicitor, he asked council to reconsider the matter, and "I would now request," said his worship, "that a motion be passed disapproving of the school board's request, and that the board be notified accordingly. I will see the chairman of the board and ask that they make a request on us and insist on us putting a by-law, the same as we have always done before."

Ald. Henderson made the necessary motion and it was adopted.

It was understood the school board is meeting this week and the matter will be considered.

Of the world's asbestos supply, nearly nine-tenths is mined in Canada, the mines about Quebec producing 60,000 tons per annum.

## PANAMA CANAL WORKS.

### British Employees Discharged For Refusing to Take Oath.

The Panama correspondent of the Daily Telegraph of Kingston, Jamaica, says that the canal commission contemplates closing down work in December for three months in order to give time to get a grasp of the situation.

The correspondent adds that he has good authority for saying that the reports of the progress of the canal are "moonshine." The commission is discharging British employees holding responsible positions in consequence of their refusal to take the oath of allegiance.

The Panama Canal zone is under the jurisdiction of the United States.

## SAYS HINDU QUESTION

### WILL SOLVE ITSELF

#### Brigadier-General Swayne Declares it Would Be Unwise to Deport Them.

Vancouver, Dec. 14.—Brigadier-General Swayne, governor of British Honduras, came to the conclusion to-day that there is no chance of taking British Columbia Hindus to British Honduras. He will leave for the east in a few days. But he is very strongly of opinion that even if they were deported because of the bad effect the move would have on the unrest in India.

"During my brief investigations I have been unable to find half a dozen indigent East Indians here," said Gen. Swayne after reviewing his interviews at various boarding houses.

"If the Dominion government is anti-Indian, I am not a reactionary. It is paradoxical, but true, that much of the discontent in India is due to over-education, due to England's liberality. If an educated Bengali cannot get civil employment, and this is inevitable, the disappointed office-seeker becomes an agitator.

"But I am not one of those who foresee in the present discontent any possibility of Britain's rule in India being seriously threatened. We met and overcame a situation just as serious less than fifteen years ago. The point to remember is that the native rulers are still loyal, and that the agitators and their followers do not represent the military races.

"It should be remembered also that the artillerymen in India are all whites, save in a few mountain batteries. The white troops control the big centres of population, the lines of communication and ammunition. There will be no general mutiny.

"Thus far the Sikhs have proved absolutely loyal. I would not guarantee a continuance of this feeling if their countrymen in other colonies and dependencies receive ill-treatment. If these soldiers went on the warpath it would take an army of one hundred thousand seasoned white soldiers to subdue them."

COILLERY FUND.

Lady Smith, Dec. 14.—The following are the disbursements of the Wellington Colliery A. & B. Fund for the month ending November 30th: Geo. Smith, \$30; C. Matson, \$30; Ben. Berto, \$25; Robt. Bell, \$5; John Jones, \$5; Mat. Alcott, \$12; Jas. Deeming, \$15; Mitro Potovitch, \$21; Wm. Andrews, \$5; Wm. Russell, \$5; E. Lowe, \$5; Geo. May, \$7; Jas. Shatpe, \$4.

City Council Offers Reward of \$50 for Arrest of Vandal.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

A number of electric light globes have been smashed recently by vandals, and the suspicion is that they are not boys either. The city council has decided to offer a reward of \$50 for their detection, and any who are caught will be severely punished.

At last night's council meeting a letter was read in which the police commissioners recommended that the city offer a reward of at least \$50 for the discovery and conviction of the parties who smashed all the globes along Esquimalt road a week ago.

Mayor Hall explained that there has been a good deal of trouble with the breaking of lamps in the outskirts, and the chief trimmer was of opinion that the culprits were not boys. The commissioner thought a good sized reward would lead to the discovery of the guilty parties, and enable an example to be made. These globes cost \$10 each.

Ald. Norman said he would like to see the reward extended to all public property, in view of the fact that there was a good deal of vandalism.

Ald. Mable moved that the reward be offered for the apprehension of those who smashed light globes in any part of the city and at any time.

The motion was adopted.

CUTTING CORNERS DANGEROUS.

Vancouver Shipmasters Say Large Craft Should "Open Out the Narrows."

An echo of the Charnier's accident was heard at a recent weekly meeting of the Vancouver Shipmasters' Association. It was brought to the notice of the meeting that large steamers operating from that port passed between the spar buoy, marking the Burnaby shoal, and Brockton point, instead of outside it. This practice of cutting corners is considered dangerous and the shipmasters were of opinion that a steamer should "open out the Narrows" before starboard her helm. Accordingly the secretary was instructed to write the department of marine and fisheries and inform it that the shipmasters were of opinion that all vessels over 150 feet in length should be forced to go outside the buoy.

For dispatch carrying, the Russian army has trained falcons, which have a far greater speed than carrier pigeons.

## POLICE OFFICERS AS COURT INTERPRETERS

### Council Decides That They Are Not to Draw Pay for Acting.

Members of the police force on duty must no longer be paid for acting as interpreters in the police court, even though the fee is paid by the defendant or not at all. So the city council decided last night on the motion of Ald. Gleason, who drew attention to the matter some time ago and asked the commissioners stating that the interpreter's fee was part of the fine. To avoid delay police officers sometimes acted as interpreters and got \$1. The regular interpreters got \$2.50. Where the accused goes to prison in default of the fee, in the case of the police officer, is not paid to him, but in the case of a regular interpreter the \$2.50 is paid by the city. Where the fine is paid the fee is paid in all cases by the accused.

Ald. Gleason wanted to know if he understood the purpose of this report, and he said that he did not mean to discontinue the practice.

"We were not asked to discontinue it," replied the mayor. "We were only asked to investigate and report, if the council wants anything further done it is for it to say so and the commissioners will act upon it."

Ald. Gleason insisted that the commissioners were asked to have the practice discontinued, but the mayor advised him, saying that the commissioners did not do so.

Ald. Mable said the whole thing was a matter of officers drawing extra pay, but it was now explained. It was compulsory to have somebody to act as interpreter, and if a police officer did so he was entitled to be paid.

In any case the city never had to pay anything out, although in the case of a regular interpreter it had to pay him where the accused went to jail. It was really a saving to the city to have a police officer to act, and looking at it from the practical standpoint he would leave the matter alone.

Ald. McKewen took the same view, and reminded the council that in many cases pay for extra work was allowed.

Ald. Hall preferred to let an outsider have the little extra, and did not think it right, when there was extra work, for police officers or other employees to charge additional for it.

"If we cut off one we will cut off all," declared Ald. Mable, referring to a recent case in which a city hall official was given remuneration for special work done. "There will be no making fish and flesh here."

Ald. Gleason objected to any police officer getting additional fees, and moved, seconded by Ald. Hall, that in the opinion of the council the practice should be discontinued in the case of police officers while on duty.

Ald. Mable, after further discussion, told the council it was straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel, besides wasting half an hour's time.

The motion was passed, however, and hereafter defendants who happen to have a police officer act as interpreter and pay their fine will be in a dollar.

## GLOBE SMASHER IS BUSY IN CITY

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## MARKET FOR APPLES.

Kamloops, Dec. 14.—Mr. and Mrs. David Hamilton, of Winnipeg are in the city on a visit to Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Gill. Mr. Hamilton, on seeing some specimens of desert apples grown in this neighborhood, expressed considerable surprise at the good and even quality of the fruit shown him. Mr. Hamilton enthusiastically recommended the shipment of a carload of British Columbia apples to one of the great eastern markets to serve the purpose of an introduction.

## ORE SHIPMENT FROM KASLO-SLOCAN MINES

### Output of Silver-Lead and Zinc for Year to Date Nearly 12,000 Tons.

Kaslo, Dec. 14.—The ore shipments through Kaslo for the month of November show a decrease owing to the topping off of the Sandon end of the K. & S. Only one property of the Silver City appears on the list, the 10-ton output for the month was 88 tons, of which 34 were silver-lead and 54 zinc. The latter ore came entirely from the Whitewater Deep, which mine also leads in silver-lead. One new shipper, the Comstock, up South Fork, appears on the list, while the Rambler output is not as large as usual, for which the low price of metals is undoubtedly the cause. But taking the total for the month, the passing in consideration the output of the Kaslo-Slocan section for the year to date is rather encouraging. It is close to 12,000 tons of silver-lead and 10,000 tons of zinc, or a total of 22,000 tons, of which 13,000 by the end of the year. The following are the shipments and output in tons for the month just passed:

Silver-Lead—Whitewater Deep, 123; Rambler, 61; Whitewater, 40; Province, 40; Comstock, 20; Raco, 201, 304; Zinc—Whitewater Deep, 584.

Total Shipments to Date—Silver-lead, 4,854 tons; zinc, 6,555 tons. Total, 11,409 tons.

## GREATEST OF DREDGES TO WORK IN MERSEY

### Will Load With 10,000 Tons of Sand in Fifty Minutes.

The Leviathan, the greatest of dredges, was launched a few days ago at Tranmere-on-Mersey. It is reported to have been broken, but no great amount of damage was done to these protecting walls, the water in most places simply pouring over the top of the dredge. When the breaks were made the damage was caused by logs being "hammered" against the earth by seas and winds. "Men who have lived in the lower Mersey have never seen the tide thrown up by the gate rose fully four feet higher than it was ever known to have done before."

Greenwood, Dec. 14.—A meeting of the bondholders of the Dominion Copper Company, of which P. F. Roosa is the provisional liquidator, was held in New York city at the following is part of the report as given by the Boston Commercial:

"After the appointment of a receiver, our general manager visited the mines at Phoenix and the smelter at Boundary Falls, and inspected the machinery, plant and stores.

"The assets consist of the following: Mining properties, Barroilide, Idaho, Brooklyn, Stewindler, Montezuma, Standard, Mountain and Jackpot mining claims, owned by Dominion Copper Company at date of the trust mortgage, together with mining claims formerly owned by the Montreal and Boston Copper Company, the Morrison Mine, Ltd., and the Atholton Gold and Copper Mining Co., Ltd., and transferred to the Dominion company, including among others the Sunset, C. O. D., and Crown Silver mineral claims, and the Florence and Atholton fractional mineral claims; machinery, plant, tools and equipment; smelter at Boundary Falls and machinery and plant connected; stores having book value of approximately \$500,000.

"It would appear that in addition to bonded indebtedness of \$800,000 and accrued interest there are outstanding claims for about \$75,000, including wages for August and September, aggregating \$20,000. The miners have filed liens against the properties.

"Pending sale the receiver has been authorized to borrow \$20,000 in priority to the trust mortgage securing the bond issue to defray expenses of the receiver, the principal item being cost of power and labor in keeping the mines open, and the receiver estimates that his expenses will aggregate \$4,000 per month.

"It is not possible to say what time will be required to bring the properties to sale."

## ANOTHER MARKET FOR CANADA.

Governor of British Honduras to Seek Extension of Steamship Service to Capital.

Vancouver, Dec. 14.—Brigadier-General Swayne, Governor of British Honduras, will on his return to Ottawa enter into negotiations with the Dominion government for an extension of the Esquimaux Steamship Company's service from St. John, N. B., south as far as Belize, the capital of British Honduras. Great quantities of sugar will be brought north as return cargoes. Flour and pork can be sent from Canada.

## INDUSTRY IN NORWAY IS LANGUISHING

### Owing to Lack of Orders.

The shipbuilding industry in Norway is lifeless at present, and even the most reputable shipyards are practically without orders, writes the Canadian commercial agent in that country. The price of materials, coal and labor is low, so that as a consequence the prices of new ships are going down. This should under ordinary circumstances stimulate building, but as the freight markets of the world are suffering the owners do not in most instances, receive common bank interest on their investments. There is, therefore, no inducement for building.

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## FIRE BRIGADE FOR PORT ESSINGTON

### Meeting Held to Discuss Organization—Man Injured by Explosion.

(Special Correspondence.)

Port Essington, Dec. 10.—An Italian rockman, employed at a Grand Trunk Pacific construction camp up the river, was brought into town on Tuesday suffering from a broken leg and forearm and flesh wounds, the result of being struck by a rock flying from a blast. He was yesterday taken to the hospital at Prince Rupert. The victim of the accident was one of a gang of "station" men engaged on a rock cutting. An old stump near their work had afforded convenient shelter on previous occasions from the rocks flying from the blasts. But the stump was so rotten that when a rock struck it squarely the missile went clean through into the chest of four men who were hiding behind it.

Another effort is being made toward the protection of the town against fire. A meeting was held by the district in the schoolhouse Tuesday night looking toward organization of a fire company, and at least some provision in the way of ladders and buckets for fighting fire, the sentiment prevails that something should be done at once, and this is a start.

The spirit of Christmas is beginning to take possession of the town. The first hint of it came with the passing of the annual subscription list by the children to meet the expense of the Christmas tree. They collected over \$120. Then there is practising in the schoolhouse for the school play, the mission, the organization of an orchestra under C. F. Lallemand's leadership, and finally the revival of the burnt-cork minstrel troupe under the same leader.

## FLOOD IN SQUAMISH VALLEY.

### Logs Swept Against Dikes Which Are Reported Damaged.

Vancouver, Dec. 14.—Blown by a southerly gale, which at times spurred up to the velocity of a hurricane, the sea last Saturday morning invaded the farming lands at the mouth of the Squamish river, the water pouring over the dikes lining the banks of the stream for a distance of about one mile from the point where it empties into Howe sound.

The flooding tide was the highest known since the settlement of the valley. The point where the dikes are reported to have been broken, but no great amount of damage was done to these protecting walls, the water in most places simply pouring over the top of the dredge. When the breaks were made the damage was caused by logs being "hammered" against the earth by seas and winds. "Men who have lived in the lower Mersey have never seen the tide thrown up by the gate rose fully four feet higher than it was ever known to have done before."

At last evening's monthly meeting of St. Andrew's Society, held in Sir William Wallace hall, the officers elected were installed.

The installation was in charge of B. B. Paul, M. A., who after a short speech installed the following: Honorary president, James Taylor; president, P. J. Riddell; 1st vice-president, D. McIver; 2nd vice-president, Edward Wishart; recording secretary, William Wishart; financial secretary, A. Manson; treasurer, James Angus; guard, Robert Wilson; marshal, James McIntosh; pipper major, D. McIver; pipers, N. P. McDonald (sergeant), Donald Cameron, John Ross, A. Chisholm, A. G. Smith, J. G. Burnett, J. Knox, Edward Wishart, and Wm. McIver.

P. J. Riddell thanked the society for electing him to the position of president for the third term. Several of the other officers expressed their thanks also.

The society now is the strongest in the history of Scottish societies in Victoria. The membership totals 160.

A committee was formed to report on the advisability of forming a ladies' auxiliary in connection with the society.

## ANOTHER DRYDOCK NEEDED.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

The need of another drydock at Esquimalt was emphasized this morning when the steamer Tweeddale passed the city by on her way to coast at Comox. Arrangements had been made for the steamer to dock, and she would have been here now only that the steamer Glenfarg has her place in the Dominion government dock. Happenings of this kind are quite common.

The Tweeddale is a large tramp steamer which left Madagascara Bay on November 8th. She will coal at Comox and then load on the Sound.

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## INSTALLING AERIAL TRAM LINE

### Will Connect Volcanic Mountain Mine With Railway

Phoenix, Dec. 14.—An aerial tram line is being installed on the Golden Eagle Mining Company's mine on Volcanic mountain to the tracks of the Kettle Valley lines' north fork branch. The tramway will be a single track affair with a crossing in the middle to permit of the cars passing one another and will be worked by gravitation.

One of the furnaces at the Granby smelter is out of commission at present undergoing repairs. A number of experiments are being made at the smelter in the treating and fluxing of ore and the furnaces are being run slower than usual while the tests are being made. This work of changing the remaining seven furnaces will not commence till after the first of the year.

## STEAMER TRANSIT TORN FROM MOORINGS

### Freighter Compelled to Drop Anchors in Order to Withstand Gale.

Prince Rupert, Dec. 14.—One of the worst wind and rain storms that has occurred on this part of the coast for some years, was experienced last week. For two weeks the weather was perfect and the harbor as calm as a mill pond, but on Thursday a strong southwest wind began blowing, which quickly developed into a hurricane. It caught the water up in sheets and tossed it in every direction until the whole harbor looked like a huge steaming cauldron.

The Inch and a quarter cables with which the steamship Transit was tied to the wharf were snapped as though they had been threads, and the big freighter drifted before the gale. The engines were started and an anchor dropped to hold her until a full head of steam could be got up. Several attempts were made to tie up in shelter of the G. T. P. warehouse, but without success, for the wire cables were snapped as quickly as they could be got ashore. The big ship finally dropped her anchors which held her firmly, and waited until the storm had abated before finishing her loading.

L. Morrow, Company's large floating slaughter house was torn from its moorings by the force of the gale, and drifted to the opposite shore, where it now lies piled upon the rocks. Although there was no cattle on board the loss through damage to the boat will be considerable. The tug native, and McKenzie Bros' tug Escort, which arrived Wednesday with a large load of beam-shovels and engines from New Westminster, tried to save it, but were unable to get within reach before the float drifted into shallow water and grounded.

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