

COUNCIL WILL DISCUSS WATER

NEW RATES TO COME UP FOR CONSIDERATION

Objections Are Raised by Residents Against the Proposed Increase.

Complaints have already reached the city council in regard to the proposed new scale of water rates, which is to be considered by the council at a special meeting, probably on Thursday.

James Ferguson objected to the proposed rates, claiming that under them a poor working man, living in a four-room house without a meter, will be called upon to pay a flat rate of \$1 a month, or about four times as much as a man who lives in a larger house, but is paying by meter.

Senator Macdonald asked that the council consider its determination to levy a water main postage tax of three cents per foot. He considered that the whole of such a rate should not be levied upon property holders, who have already so generously voted money by-law, thereby placing full confidence in the aldermanic body that nothing would be done of an unfair character.

Ald. Cameron took exception to Mr. Ferguson's statement as to the amounts paid. The maximum amount paid by any consumer, with or without a meter, would be \$1 a month. It was the intention of the city to put meters in every house.

Ald. Fullerton and Ald. Norman pressed for early consideration of the new scale, and to a remark that it should not take long, retorted that the matter would take a long time to discuss and a number of points would have to be explained.

Ald. Gleason thought the present council should dispose of the matter, and that the sooner the public was put in possession of the council's policy the better for everybody. The new rates should go into force on January 1st.

It was agreed that a special meeting of the council be held, but the aldermen separated without deciding on a time.

DAIRY RECORDS.

Domestic Agricultural Department Has Issued Valuable Booklet. Report No. 1 of the Canadian Record of Performance for pure bred dairy cattle, has been issued by the livestock branch, Ottawa.

Report No. 1 of the Canadian Record of Performance for pure bred dairy cattle, has been issued by the livestock branch, Ottawa. This report contains a brief history of the Record of Performance work which was undertaken about three years ago for the purpose of securing official records of pure bred cows for full milking periods. The work is carried on according to rules and regulations laid down by the minister of agriculture and agreed to by the several Record Associations interested.

The report gives the rules and regulations, quantities of milk and fat for registration as set by the different Record Associations, copies of the several forms used. It also contains the records of all animals that had qualified for registration up to July, 1906. This record includes 42 cows and heifers of the Ayrshire, French-Canadian and Holstein-Friesian breeds. This report will be of great service to producers of reliable information as to where sires from regular breeding and high producing ancestors may be secured. A large issue of the report has been printed, and will be sent to those who apply for it to J. G. Rutherford, live stock commissioner, Ottawa.

OAK BAY COURT OF REVISION.

Sitting to Be Held in New School House on Monday Evening.

The roads, sewers and bridges committee of the Oak Bay council met Monday afternoon in the office of Clerk Floyd, with Acting Reeve Henderson in the chair, and all the members of the council present. It was decided to instruct the constable to enforce the law in regard to the preservation of the roads from destruction by the use of motor vehicles.

The constable was also instructed to take action against anyone removing gravel from the beach at Shoal Bay, so much having been removed that the banks have been undermined and the roadways made on the beach road.

CLEAN SPORT OR NO MORE FIGHTS

Authorities of N. S. W. Will Not Permit "Brutal" Exhibitions.

Sydney, N. S. W., Dec. 30.—William Wood, chief secretary of New South Wales, in an interview to-day said that the prize fight situation in Sydney was being given serious consideration by the government authorities, as the Burns-Johnson contest last Saturday savored of being more brutal and repulsive than scientific.

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BUSINESS IN REAL ESTATE IMPROVING

Local Firms Report Increase in Business During the Past Few Weeks

While the holidays have had more effect on the realty market making it considerably duller than under normal conditions, there is business being done in certain quarters, and some of the deals reported are fairly large.

Of the largest of the deals is for a couple of blocks of lots in the Rock and Park subdivision. These were sold by the Northwest Real Estate Agency, 23 lots going at \$350 each, and 11 lots for \$3,500 making a total sum of \$11,550 for the 34 lots. The same agency has sold a store at an outlying point recently for \$2,500, and is just closing another deal for \$3,500.

Another firm that has been doing good business within the last month is Heisterman, Forman & Co. During the past month they have done a greater business in real estate than during the previous three months. There seems to be a good demand for properties, both residential and business.

Houses of about eight rooms for rooming purposes are what people seem to be inquiring for in many quarters. There have been few of these houses built recently and there is a demand for them according to those who are in the realty business.

INDIAN CENTENARIAN DEAD.

August, Who Was Born at North Vancouver, Passes Away.

Vancouver, Dec. 30.—Old August, whose age was in the vicinity of 100, died Monday at North Vancouver. August was probably the oldest Indian in British Columbia. His wife is still alive, and is only a few months younger than her husband.

AUSTRALIA WANTS ENGLISHMEN

London, Eng. Dec. 30.—The Daily Graphic regrets the discouragement by the Trades and Labor Congress of the immigration of Englishmen to Canada, which it says comes as a shock, and remarks that the Australian has changed his mind of this subject.

STEREAGE PASSENGERS TO BE PROTECTED

New United States Law Goes Into Effect at Once.

A United States federal law passed the senate last February with the object of protecting the steerage passengers on the immigration steamships and to prevent undue crowding, was finally passed by the House of Representatives a few days ago. This act will go into force the first of the new year.

The bill provides in brief that it shall not be lawful for the master of any vessel whereon steerage passengers have been taken to any port or place in the foreign country or dominion (ports and places in foreign territory contiguous to the United States excepted) to bring such vessel and passengers to or from any port or place in the United States unless the compartments, spaces and accommodations hereinafter mentioned have been provided, allotted, maintained and used for and by such passengers during the entire voyage.

No greater number of steerage passengers shall be carried on a passenger deck than in the proportion of one steerage passenger to every twenty-one clear superficial feet of deck allotted to it. If, however, the height between any passenger deck and the deck immediately above it is less than seven feet and the apertures, exclusive of side scuttles, through which light and air are admitted are less in size than in the proportion of three square feet to every 100 superficial feet of that deck, no greater number of steerage passengers shall be carried on that deck than in the proportion of one steerage passenger to every twenty-one clear superficial feet.

A vessel, whatever be the superficial space of the passenger decks and of the lowest passenger deck, shall not carry a greater number of steerage passengers on the whole than in the proportion of one steerage passenger to every five superficial feet of air or promenade space included in the tonnage and approved by the inspector, and this space shall not be counted or included in the area available for any other passengers or in other areas for steerage passengers prescribed by this section.

It is provided that: "(a) The space in any place appropriated to the use of steerage passengers in which they sleep shall not be less than eighteen superficial feet in the case of the lowest passenger deck and fifteen superficial feet in the case of a passenger deck above it. "(b) Each space so included in the measurement shall be clearly marked to the satisfaction of the inspector as being exclusively appropriated for the use of the steerage passengers.

DUNCAN C. ROSS IS SEEKING A MATCH

Athlete is Now in City and is Willing to Meet All Comers.

Capt. Duncan C. Ross, champion mounted swordsman of the world, and who in addition is a wrestler and all-round athlete, is in Victoria. Captain Ross is now 31 years of age, but he does not look it. At that advanced age he does not pretend to break any records now, but he is still open to nearly all comers.

Accordingly he says he is ready to meet any wrestler or swordsman in the city, and would be glad to arrange with them a match. He is making his headquarters at the Dominion hotel. Capt. Ross will probably stay here some time, as he is anxious to establish a club for training in fencing and various other lines of sport. He makes a specialty of the jiu jitsu method of training. Anyone anxious to arrange a match with this athlete, who has been before the public for nearly half a century, are asked to communicate with him. In 1888, in defeating H. M. Dufur in mixed style wrestling, he won the world's championship. He still holds the title of the world's best swordsman.

SENATOR BERNIER DEAD.

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 30.—Senator Bernier, of St. Boniface, died at noon to-day. He suffered a stroke of apoplexy a week ago.

RESOURCES OF NORTHLAND UNLIMITED

Visitor From Peace River Crossing on Canadian's Undeveloped Heritage.

Vancouver, Dec. 30.—"An undeveloped heritage of vast potentialities" is the way J. K. Cornwall, of Peace River Crossing, describes the vast region lying north of Edmonton and embraced in what is commonly designated as the Mackenzie river basin. It is destined yet to be the home of millions of contented citizens. This region possesses a variety of undeveloped resources that fairly stagger the imagination. It comprises over fifty million acres of arable land, of which seven or eight million acres are situated within the province of British Columbia.

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CHINESE MISSION FORMALLY OPENED

Many Attended Gathering at Methodist Home—Interesting Programme.

(From Thursday's Daily.) A large number of visitors attended the formal opening of the Methodist Chinese mission home and boarding school yesterday afternoon. As the visitors arrived they were received by the matron, Mrs. Snyder, and the teachers, Miss Smith and Miss Martin, and conducted to the spacious schoolroom where an interesting programme of music and speeches was given.

The chair was taken by Rev. John Robson, E. A., of Nanaimo, president of the British Columbia conference of the Methodist church. Rev. Dr. Campbell offered the opening prayer, and Rev. W. L. Clay brought the meetings of the Presbyterian church and offered congratulations to the Women's Missionary Society of the Methodist church upon the acquisition of the handsome new building. Revs. S. J. Thompson and T. E. Holling spoke in high terms of praise of the work accomplished by the ladies in charge of the home.

Mrs. Frank Adams, who had been interested in the work from its inception, told briefly of the early days of the work and of the good that had been done. Mrs. Snyder, matron, gave a short review of the work accomplished by the institution, and told how her heart had been cheered last summer by learning that one of the Chinese women rescued by the home had herself started the same kind of work in Toronto.

The chairman brought the meeting to a close by saying a few words of help and encouragement to the workers. After the meeting the visitors were conducted through the building, every one expressing themselves as delighted with the convenience of the home and the excellence of the design in every respect. Refreshments were served to all visitors.

The new building belonging to the Victoria Methodist Chinese Mission presents a most attractive appearance both inside and out. A large glass screened vestibule opens into a cheery green-carpeted reception hall from which a stairway ascends to the second story. To the right of the hall is a cosy office and quiet rest room, the commodious secretaries and book-case of which are the gift of Mrs. David Spencer. To the left is the drawing room, a large cheerful apartment with a handsome green tiled grate. Here again Mrs. Snyder's generous and kind hand has not been withheld; the green rug on the floor, the delicate lace curtains and a comfortable sleazy holly chair upholstered in crimson tapestry being her gifts.

Opening out of the drawing room is the teachers' dining room, and next to it the one devoted to the children's use in the line on which was donated by missionary auxiliaries of the city. From this a large airy pantry leads to a well appointed, well lighted and ventilated kitchen, where the girls of the mission receive practical instruction in housekeeping.

On the same flat are the children's play room for stormy weather, and likewise the school room fitted with the most up-to-date desks and other appliances. Upstairs are two large dormitories devoted to the children's use, each one capable of accommodating twenty cots. An excellent idea in connection with these is a small swing window opening into them from the matron's and one of the teachers' rooms. By means of these, the latter can readily ascertain the cause of any disturbance during the night, without leaving their own rooms.

The teachers' bed rooms are most cheerful and well lighted. The matron's prettily furnished room represents the gifts of several friends. The teachers are also provided with a large balcony facing the front, and besides nice clothes closets opening off their bedrooms, there is a trunk room as well.

Separate bath and toilet rooms are provided for teachers and pupils, and likewise large linen and clothes closets for the children, one especially pleasing feature being a closet with large drawers and plenty of hooks, where the children's best clothes are kept separate from the others. This is something of which every housekeeper and mother will understand the convenience and comfort.

Taken as a whole the new building is a decided success in every way, and will go far towards enabling those in charge to carry on the good work which for so long they have been efficiently doing under very adverse conditions.

Numerous small donations have already been received, and no doubt many more will follow as visiting ladies notice what is lacking. Mrs. W. J. Pendry recently sent a very handsome white curving set for the teachers' dining table, Mrs. Burkholder an outside door mat, and from five different auxiliaries in the east, came something of which the matron is extremely fond, namely, twenty-six brand new comforters and three pairs of blankets.

MASONIC OFFICERS INSTALLED.

New Lodge Will Shortly Be Formed at New Westminster.

New Westminster, Dec. 30.—The installation of officers of the two local lodges of Masons took place Monday afternoon. H. N. Rich, of Ladner, deputy grand master, acting as installing officer, assisted by the past masters present. A banquet was held in the Masonic hall in the evening. About 150 members and visitors were present, eighteen of whom were past masters. An announcement was made by C. H. S. Wade, P. G. R., of Alberta, regarding the formation of a new lodge in the city to work under the Canadian ritual. He asked the support of the other city lodges. Mr. Wade said that an application would shortly be sent to the grand lodge for its formation.

LUSITANIA'S NEW RECORD.

Though the Atlantic liner Lusitania only reached Liverpool from New York one Thursday morning recently, she kept her place in the Cunard company's time table, and duly departed again with mails and passengers for the United States at the appointed hour on Saturday afternoon. Only shipping people probably realize the extraordinary pressure and heavy work necessitated to accomplish this feat, which is well known as running round the ship. It means not merely the landing of all passengers and baggage and stores duly checked, but also a general cleanup and overhaul of the vessel, and the packing on board of an adequate supply of miscellaneous stores, including the 6,000 tons of coal required, and, not the least item, of the provisions for over a thousand passengers and eight hundred crew.

BRITISH NAVAL WEAPON MOST POWERFUL IN WORLD

Could Sink Dreadnought With a Single Shot—51 Feet in Length.

London, Dec. 31.—The most powerful gun in the world, capable of sending to the bottom of the sea any battleship in existence with a single shot, has been constructed for the British admiralty by Vickers Sons & Maxim, and is to be mounted on the recently launched battleship Collingwood and her sister ships, St. Vincent and Vanguard.

The gun is 51 1/2 feet long and weighs mounted, nearly 30 tons. The projectile of 850 pounds will have a muzzle velocity of 2,010 foot seconds and a muzzle energy of 534,000 foot pounds which means that at a distance of 3,000 yards it will penetrate 33 inches of wrought iron. The most powerful gun possessed by any other navy will at the same distance be liable to go through only 16 inches of iron.

The fire delivery possibilities of the new gun are extraordinary. During the proving tests two guns mounted in one turret got off eight rounds in two minutes, and four guns mounted in two turrets got off 16 rounds in two minutes and 45 seconds, with full service charges.

URGE IMPROVED SYSTEM OF ROADMaking

Ratepayers of Chilliwack Discuss Ways and Means.

Chilliwack, Dec. 30.—In response to a call by the reeve, a public meeting was held in the court house for the purpose of discussing ways and means for municipal improvement. W. C. Hawshaw outlined the scheme he had in mind. From his observations he had come to the conclusion that the present system of roadmaking as adopted by the Chilliwack municipality was a failure. Money was being expended yearly for road improvement that owing to the want of a uniform method being adopted was doing very little good. He had made a careful study of roadmaking as adopted in the older settled provinces and found that their settlement had been that an outlay for a rockcrusher and other roadmaking machinery had been money well spent. Roads made with crushed rock and done under the supervision of a competent road commissioner, had proven most successful. The outlay at the outset perhaps was larger, but the cost of maintenance afterwards was a small matter. A motion was carried that "We recommend to the council the abolition of the statue labor system, and recommend the hiring of a municipal team, or more if required, and a competent overseer for the work up on the roads." A committee was appointed to confer with the reeve and councillors with respect to submitting a plebiscite to the ratepayers at the municipal election.

DISCOVERER OF RICH MINE.

Moyle, Dec. 30.—Peter, the Indian who discovered the St. Eugene mine, was Moyle's this week. It was fifteen years ago last spring that Peter, while hunting along Moyle lake, found some float and carried it to the St. Eugene Mission, where Father Cocolia and James Crossland were stopping. Both of the latter at once knew the sample was that of rich galena ore, and lost no time in coming back with the Indian and staking the claims which are now the St. Eugene group. Father Cocolia sold his share to Fish and Campbell, of Spokane, for \$12,000 and Peter got \$300. The priest built a splendid church and made other improvements at the mission with his money, and the Indian buried a substantial house for his family. Cronin developed the property and made a mine of it, and is now one of the wealthiest residents of Spokane. Peter is now 61 years old.

DROWNED IN DITCH.

Vancouver, Dec. 30.—Coroner Jeffs Monday investigated a drowning case which occurred on Lulu Island Saturday night. Daniel Fraser, aged 55, a native of Nova Scotia, had been employed on the ranch of Mr. Burton, a Vancouver hotelman, and as far as it could be ascertained, he had missed his way in the dark and walked into a ditch about six feet deep near Lulu station, and was drowned.

CABLE RATE CONFERENCE.

London, Eng. Dec. 30.—It transpires that the Liverpool chamber of commerce has been asked to appoint a representative deputation to attend the cable rate conference on Dec. 11th, but after careful consideration of the matter it was decided the chamber would not be represented. At a subsequent meeting, however, the chamber invited Sir Edward Sassoon to visit Liverpool on Saturday, with the council on the subject. Sir Edward Sassoon was one of the speakers at the cable conference.

DR. E. S. ROWE ON PUBLICITY SCHEME

Ratepayers Should Study Necessity of Advertising City.

(From Thursday's Daily.) Dr. Elliot S. Rowe, of the Vancouver Tourist Association, and formerly of Victoria, who is staying at the Dominion hotel while here on private business, in discussing advertising of the city last night said the plebiscite on the appropriation of \$7,500 for year for publicity work was one which which there were diverse opinions. He personally did not agree with the plebiscite, and gives as his reason that the average man has not read deep enough with the necessity for advertising on a large scale. Many ratepayers and members of the community he thinks would not be in sympathy with an advertising appropriation because they do not sufficiently understand it, the reason for this being that the average man does not know the great value of advertising and that the people as a whole are apt to underestimate the necessity of advertising and are given to take an indifferent view of the matter, preferring to leave the increase of population to ships that call from other parts of the world. The utmost publicity, however, should be given the proposition and the necessity which has been mentioned to make ways increases for advertising the city should be made plain to all at every opportunity. Dr. Rowe supports publicity in all forms and as a publicity man himself considers the ratepayers should vote the appropriation, for, he says, the city that does not advertise and advertise well is soon advertised for in the lost columns.

LIBSON SHOALS.

Description of Rocks Where H. B. Coy's Barque Stork Was Wrecked.

Lisbon Shoal, or Lisbon Rock, as it is named on the government geological survey maps, where the Hudson's Bay Company's barque Stork was wrecked, lies thirty miles directly west of Charlton Island, where the Hudson's Bay Company's depot for the distribution of goods and collection of furs for James Bay district is situated. It is about forty-five miles east of Moore's Factory. The vessel which was wrecked is one of the Hudson's Bay Company's fleet engaged in the transport to and from London of furs and supplies.

NEWS STRANGELY RETARDED.

It is somewhat strange that news should have been so retarded in the wreck, for all lives were saved, and either Moose Factory or Rupert's House are within a few days travel of the railway. In order to get out of the ice in the straits it would be necessary, it is usual, to start from Charlton island not later than the end of August. Thus there would seem to have been ample time for the news of the wreck to have been sent out before the rivers were frozen up before Moose Factory and the railway, unless, of course, the crew were cast away for weeks before a rescue party reached them or they were able to reach the coast.

The last wreck of a Hudson's Bay company's vessel in James Bay occurred several years ago, when a valuable cargo of furs went down off Gasquet shoal, situated only forty miles north of the scene of the present disaster. The navigation of James Bay is essentially difficult. Full of shoals and sunken rocks, there is no available first class harbor on the coast, which is why Charlton Island, lying at the bottom of the bay twenty miles from the coast was chosen as the site of the depot.

The Stork was a vessel of about 500 tons burden, chartered by Labrador posts of the company and well known to James Bay. It was used on the trip from London for the Stork and Pelican—the boat which served Churchill and York Factory to accompany each other on the entrance of the straits, when the Stork would call in at the Ungava posts, the Pelican going straight on to Churchill. Leaving the bay, the Stork always left ahead of the Pelican, which does not weigh anchor until some time in September, open water being later in the more northerly and deeper part of the bay.

MACKENZIE KING IN LONDON.

London, Dec. 30.—W. L. Mackenzie King, M. P. for North Waterloo, Canada, one of the British commonwealthers, will be held in England, returned to London to-day from Fallodon, where he had been on a visit to Foreign Secretary Grey. Mr. King leaves in the morning for Marseilles.

NOTHING BUT RUINS

EARTHQUAKE IN MOUNTAIN

Work of Rescued Thousands From

Reggio, Jan. 1.—The earthquake which struck the east coast of Italy but ruins and killed in the earth had fled. There is reason to believe that villages that had perished. A consignment of bread through Bologna by furnished per of small boats, a into the channel coming steamers vessels were com Several of the and a number of War Munit Rome, Jan. 4.—convened on Jan of war says the Messina, which der and millions not been injured while he was at 000 persons were injured and un were saved by t by the British g The Italian gov

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