

## FIRE DISTRICT AND HOTEL CASE WERE DISCUSSED

The question of extending No. 1 fire district to include the block in which the Dufferin hotel is situated and the case of the hotel, which recently was given a permit to erect a wooden building for sample rooms, were discussed before the city council's committee of the whole yesterday afternoon. B. L. Gerow argued that the construction of the proposed building should go forward and H. H. McLellan, chief fire marshal, and Peter Clinch, representing the Insurance Underwriters, urged the extension of No. 1 district. Commissioner Thornton reported that it was his intention to submit a resolution in connection with the matter but the resolution was not ready, due to the absence from the city of the city solicitor. No decision was reached by the committee, consequently, and after both sides had been heard the committee went back into council.

Commissioner Prink presided in the absence of Mayor Schofield and Commissioners Bullock, Jones and Thornton were present.

A petition with a lengthy list of signatures urging that Winter street be paved was referred to the commissioner of public works.

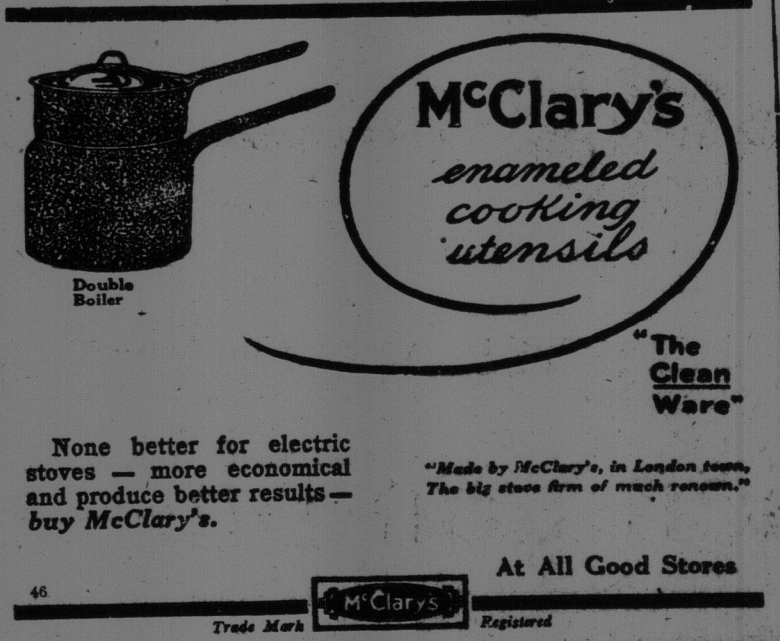
The tenders of the Carrutte Company, offering to supply asphalt at \$24 a ton and that of the Imperial Oil Company, Limited, offering to supply asphalt at \$30 a ton in packages and \$24 a ton in tank cars, were referred to the commissioner of public works.

Payments amounting to \$1,800 were ordered made on account of work already done to the Canadian Welding Works, Limited, which is installing the new stairway in City Hall.

The application of George S. Knowles asking to be appointed a city constable was referred to the mayor.

The report of the commissioner of finance and public affairs, recommending the payment of the usual departmental accounts and reporting payment of \$79,940.85 for the month of March, was accepted.

On account of unavoidable delay for which it was in no way responsible the



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Stephen Construction Company was given an extension of time to June 1 to complete the pile driving at the east side ferry boats.

In the matter of the contemplated extension of the fire district No. 1 and the proposed new sample rooms of the Dufferin Hotel, B. L. Gerow, appearing for the hotel, was heard first. He said that he had come with a counter-proposition on behalf of his clients. It was now their intention, he said, to line the sample rooms with steel, to have the building heated by hot water, the furnace being in the hotel itself, and to have no grates, flues or chimneys of any kind in the proposed building. He was not referring to any legal rights his clients might have. He was simply submitting this proposal.

H. H. McLellan said that the block was fast becoming one of the most dangerous in the city and he was advocating that it be raised from No. 2 to No. 1 fire district. It was essential to the greater safety and prosperity of the city and until it was done there was little hope of any great development. He referred to the bag drying plant in the adjacent block. The city already had two or three disastrous experiences with fires in bag drying plants. There was no greater fire hazard known.

As chief fire marshal, he represented

the people of the province. If he was to be successful he must maintain and reduce, where possible, the rates charged by the companies. The insurance people did not stand the losses; they collected from the people. If the present building was allowed to go up there would be an additional tax on the people of the block.

Peter Clinch said it was a great pity that the section had not been put in No. 1 section long ago; it was a disgrace to the city not to have it in No. 1. He spoke of three garages, two of them wooden ones, in the neighborhood. He would be sorry to see any wooden buildings in Charlotte street for there would be an increase in the rates charged people in the vicinity. He said that there was in Main street a four-story wooden building which was distinctly contrary to the law. He thought the building laws were not very strictly enforced.

Mr. Gerow said he regarded the proposal to stop his clients from building as against all law. The building which was to cost about \$4,000 or \$5,000 was perfectly safe so far as the citizens were concerned. He said that the section of the suppression of fires act under which the marshal proposed to proceed did not apply in this case.

If the by-law incorporating the district into No. 1 were passed what about damages for his clients? They had already spent a good deal of money; lumber had been cut and so forth.

Mr. Thornton said it was not the intention to inflict hardship on any one. Amendments to the by-laws usually caused some one to feel a personal grievance. A start had to be made with the electrical by-laws but now every one seemed satisfied. He felt that the matter could be settled by negotiation between the interested parties.

No. 6 fire station company in West St. John was called out at 5.50 last evening in response to an alarm sent in from box 116 for a chimney fire in a house in King street owned by the Sterling Realty, Ltd. Salt was used and the fire quickly extinguished with practically no damage done.



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## WEAL OF CHINA'S PEOPLE MAY BE REALIZED

Rev. Robt. Jaffray Pays Tribute to Good Intentions of World Statesmen at Washington Conference.

Rev. R. A. Jaffray of Wanchow, South China, arrived in Toronto yesterday, accompanied by Mrs. Jaffray, for a two month's visit. When Mr. and Mrs. Jaffray left their mission station on the West River the heat of the summer was becoming oppressive. On their arrival in Toronto they saw the first snowstorm they had seen in many years.

In an interview granted The Globe a short while after his arrival, Rev. Mr. Jaffray expressed the opinion that the problems of China and the Far East are nearing solution. Mr. Jaffray believes that the leading statesmen who attended the Washington Conference on Disarmament had the ultimate good of the Celestial Empire in view when they drafted the Four-power Pacific Treaty. He thinks that the regeneration of China will come about only when an international board has taken over the administration. Mr. Jaffray is frankly convinced that the intelligent Chinese people will prefer this method of rehabilitation to a Japanese monopoly, with the danger of subversion beneath Japanese militarism.

China's Efforts May Fail.  
He had little hope, he said, of good results from the efforts of Dr. Sun Yat Sen, the President of the Southern Republic, who, according to last despatches, was moving his armies in position to give battle to the armies of the North, in his endeavor to unite the whole of China under a central administration.

"It would be a difficult matter to govern China from one central point under the most favorable circumstances, and this difficulty is accentuated now," said Mr. Jaffray. "The representatives of the great powers at the Washington Conference — such as Mr. Balfour, Mr. Hughes and Mr. Harding — have something at the back of their heads in regard to China, I think. They have agreed to give China her last chance, and are waiting developments from the efforts of Dr. Sun. I think the powers are convinced that China's own efforts will fail. But they are watching Japan, also, in the meantime. They want to determine what Japan's ambitions and plans are since the signing of the Pacific Treaties. Should Japan attack China openly, the United States and Great Britain would step in at once. But, on the other hand, if things go along in the same way, I think there will be a pro-

China in the hands of an international board of Governors at which Japan also would sit in.

Japan is Now Wary.  
"The financial affairs of China are at present administered by a consortium, consisting of representatives of the big powers, and the arrangement of the future would be along similar lines where natural resources and railways are concerned," he concluded. "The Customs in China are administered internationally and successfully, and I think the leading Chinese would prefer such an arrangement to Japanese military domination."

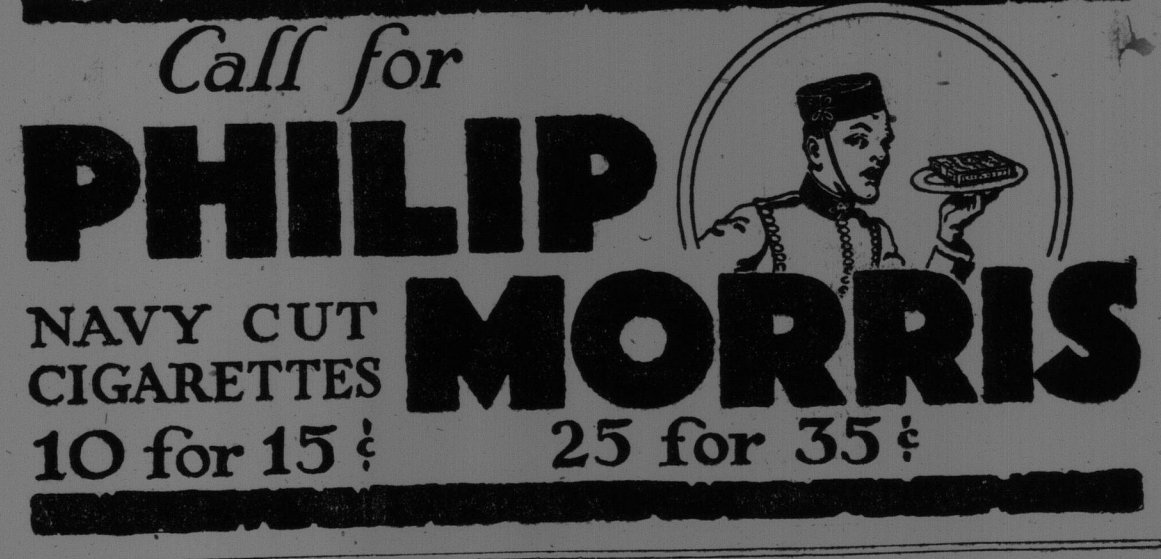
"Japan has made serious inroads upon Chinese territory, in Manchuria and in Chantung," added Mr. Jaffray. "And, although little Nippon is an ambitious nation, I think her appetite for territorial expansion has been checked. Japan will never try to swallow China, because Japanese statesmen know Japan could never digest and absorb China," he added.

"The wave of hostility against Japan, which swept over China, and

which culminated in the boycott of Japanese goods, is receding somewhat," continued Mr. Jaffray. "That boy, would have brought Japan to her knees in the end, a thing which the Japanese will not admit very readily, but it was costing them millions of dollars, and the boycott was broken only through the influence of Japanese gold."

Christianity in Korea.  
Mr. Jaffray, in speaking of Korea and the progress of evangelistic work among the Koreans, said that country was slowly becoming a Christian nation. "There are more genuine conversions to Christianity in that country than anywhere else in the Far East," he said. Asked by The Globe what he thought of China's great Christian soldier, Gen. Feng, who has been spoken of in many quarters in China as one of the great hopes of the nation in her present crisis, Mr. Jaffray said: "Ah! He is a real Christian man."

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BANG!

By "BUD" FISHER